

September 2020

BOLT

Monthly Current Affairs



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Banking & Finance

1. European Investment Bank to Invest 650 Million Euro In Kanpur Metro Project

European Investment Bank, EU Bank are set to invest EUR650 mn for the construction of Kanpur's first city metro line, which will enable around 3 million people in the city to benefit from public transport. It is the 2nd metro project supported by EIB in UP. Kanpur is 5th metro rail project to receive EIB funds.

2. S Krishnan appointed as MD & CEO of Punjab & Sind Bank

Krishnan will replace S Harishankar. Earlier to this elevation, S Krishnan was as an Executive Director at Canara Bank. On 24 June 1908, Bhai Vir Singh, Sir Sunder Singh Majitha, and Sardar Tarlochan Singh established Punjab & Sind Bank. Punjab & Sind Bank Headquarters: New Delhi.

3. RBI reviews Priority Sector Lending (PSL) guidelines for inclusive development

Bank finance to start-ups up to 50 crore rupees, loans to farmers for installation of solar power plants for solarisation of grid connected agriculture pumps and loans for setting up Compressed Biogas plants have been included newly under priority sector. PSL- Loans that banks lend to EWS of the society mandatorily.

4. LazyPay launches LazyUPI digital credit card

LazyPay launched a digital credit card that combines UPI and the Buy-Now-Pay-Later concept. Called LazyUPI, the offering enables users to access real-time credit using UPI across omnichannel networks, including offline merchants and e-commerce platforms. PayU – A fintech company which provides payment technology.

5. Exempt NBFC sector from new current account opening guidelines: FIDC

The Finance Industry Development Council (FIDC) raised concerns on the recent norms on the opening of current accounts by banks according to which no bank shall open current accounts for customers who have availed credit facilities in the form of CC/OD. FIDC- Representative body of assets & loan financing NBFCs.

6. KfW IPEX-Bank offers loan of 10 mn euros to Srei Equipment Finance

KfW IPEX-Bank is enabling the export of construction machinery for Srei Equipment Finance Limited (SEFL) to India by providing a framework loan of 10 million euros. The financing is backed by cover from Euler Hermes. Devendra Kumar Vyas - MD SEFL. KfW IPEX-Bank HQ: Frankfurt, Germany. SEFL HQ: Kolkata, India.

7. RBI constituted KV Kamath committee names 26 sectors for restructuring

The KV Kamath committee selected 26 sectors which require restructuring based on its analyses of financial parameters hit due to the economic crash. The committee selected five financial parameters related to leverage, liquidity, debt serviceability etc. RBI had formed a five-member committee under K V Kamath.

8. India, ADB sign 500 million US dollar loan for Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System corridor

India and the ADB signed a 500 million US dollar loan for Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) corridor. This is the first tranche of a total one-billion-dollar facility. The 82-km long corridor will reduce the journey time to one hour. Asian Development Bank HQ: Mandaluyong, Philippines.

9. FM Announces EASE 2.0 Index results

BoB, SBI and erstwhile Oriental Bank of Commerce were felicitated for being the top three in the Top Performing Banks. Bank of Maharashtra, Central Bank of India & erstwhile Corporation Bank were awarded in the Top Improvers category basis EASE 2.0 Index. EASE reform aims to institutionalize clean and smart banking.

10. Public Sector Banks' doorstep banking services launched by FM Nirmala Sitharaman

As part of EASE Reforms, Doorstep Banking Services provide convenience of banking services to customers at doorstep through the universal touchpoints of Call Centre, Web Portal or Mobile App. The service request can also be tracked through these channels. EASE stands for Enhanced Access and Service Excellence.

11. Capital India Finance gets forex business licence from RBI

Capital India Finance Ltd (CIFL) received Authorised Dealer Category II licence from RBI for conducting forex business, the first listed NBFC in India to receive a licence. It is now authorised to build and do forex business under the brand name RapiMoney. MD & CEO of Capital India Finance Ltd: Vineet Saxena.

12. ICICI Bank launches dedicated offering for start-ups

ICICI Bank has launched iStartup 2.0, for start-ups with improved features. Under this, ICICI customers to get a current account in three variants that will offer additional services, salary accounts for employees, dedicated relationship manager, etc., ICICI Bank CEO: Sandeep Bakhshi. HQ: Mumbai.

13. RBI issues guidelines for appointment of CCO in banks

RBI has issued guidelines for the appointment of Chief Compliance Officer (CCO) in banks to ensure a uniform approach with regard to compliance and risk management culture across the banking industry. A person should be a senior executive of the bank. CCO must be appointed for a minimum fixed period of three years

14. Bank of India launched 'Signature Visa Debit Card' for HNIs

Bank of India launched "Signature Visa Debit Card" for the high net worth individuals maintaining an average quarterly balance of ₹10 lakhs and above. This card will have a spending limit of up to ₹5 lakhs on POS & e-commerce and ₹1 lakh on ATM. MD & CEO: Atanu Kumar Das; HQ: Mumbai; Founded: 1906.

15. Aditya Birla Idea Payments Bank ceased to be banking company: RBI

According to the RBI, Aditya Birla Idea Payments Bank has ceased to be a banking company within the meaning of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. It had received the banking license from the RBI in Apr. 2017 for carrying on the business of a payments bank. The Bank was promoted by Grasim Industries & Vodafone Idea Ltd.

16. SBI planning to launch loan product 'SAFAL' for organic cotton growers

SBI is planning to launch a loan product, SAFAL, primarily focused on organic cotton growers who do not have any credit history. SAFAL stands for Safe and Fast Agriculture Loan. The largest lender is to scale up the business using AI and Machine Language. SBI Chairman: Rajnish Kumar.

17. ADB, ENGIE Sign Loan to Support India's Renewable Energy Development

Asian Development Bank and ENGIE group signed a long-term loan of up to 4.66 billion Indian rupees to construct and operate a 200-MW alternating current solar photovoltaic-based power plant at Raghnesda Solar Park in India's western state of Gujarat. ENGIE signed power purchase agreement for 25 years with Gujarat.

18. RBI mandates automated recognition of NPAs, provisioning by June 2021

Reserve Bank of India mandated the automation of bad-loan recognition by banks by June 30, 2021. The processes of provisioning calculation and income recognition will also have to be automated & banks will be required to upgrade their systems accordingly. Manual interventions to have at least 2-level authorization.

19. Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill passed in Lok Sabha to bring cooperative banks under RBI

With this new Bill, the central government aims to bring cooperative banks under the supervision of RBI. It will bring 1,482 urban and 58 multi-state cooperative banks under the supervision of the central bank. The amendments do not apply to PACS. The bill proposed amendments to Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

20. State Bank of India Extends OTP-Based ATM Withdrawal Facility

To safeguard customers from frauds and to minimize unauthorised transactions OTP-based withdrawals of ₹ 10,000 and above will be available 24x7 at SBI's ATMs with effect from September 18. SBI which introduced this for 12 hours on Jan 1 is extended now. Applicable to debit card holders withdrawing Rs 10000 and above.

21. RBI issues draft Rupee interest rate derivatives (IRDs)

RBI proposed allowing foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) to undertake exchange-traded rupee interest rate derivatives transactions subject to an overall ceiling of ₹5,000 crores. IRDs are contracts whose value is derived from one or more interest rates. RBI has sought comments on IRDs by October 15, 2020.

22. Kazakhstan financial regulator cancels licence of PNB subsidiary

Punjab National Bank said the financial regulator of Kazakhstan has revoked licence of its associate for failure to meet prudential standards and other mandatory norms. PNB holds 41.64% in JSC Tengri Bank. JSC Tengri Bank has nine branches in Kazakhstan. Kazakhstan Capital- Nur-Sultan, Currency- Tenge.

23. Canara Bank introduces i-Lead 2.0 to boost customer services

To provide its services to customers irrespective of where they reside, public sector lender Canara Bank has launched lead management system- i-Lead 2.0 (Inspiring Leads System version 2.0). Current LMS is available both in desktop and mobile versions. Canara Bank Headquarters- Bengaluru.

24. Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank launches new gold loan scheme

Dharwad-headquartered KVGB has launched a special gold loan scheme- Vikas Laghu Suvarna- with a reduced interest rate of 7.25%. Under this scheme, the bank is giving 80 per cent of the market value of the gold subject to a maximum of Rs ,3200 a gram. A maximum loan of up to Rs 15 lakh will be provided.

25. State Bank of India starts women self-reliance programme in Assam

To accelerate SHG finance in the Bank, the SBI launched "Mahila Atmanirbharshil Aachani" (Women Self-Reliance programme) in Assam. Aim is to create a strong bonding with the SHG member, extending credit linkages to the women SHGs. It is sponsored by NRLM. SBI Chairman: Rajnish Kumar; HQs: Mumbai

26. State Bank of India launches e-facility for restructuring of retail loans for borrowers

SBI has launched a facility on its website to help retail customers check their eligibility for one-time loan restructuring. Retail borrower who avails restructuring will be required to pay add. interest of 0.35% p.a. for the remaining tenure of the loan. It is in line with 1-time loan restructuring announced by RBI.

27. SBI Life inks pact with Yes Bank to sell insurance policies

SBI Life Insurance has signed bancassurance agreement with Yes Bank to offer comprehensive life insurance solutions to the bank's customers across the nation. Yes Bank aim to provide financial security to its consumers & reduce the protection gap in India. MD & CEO SBI Life: Mahesh Kumar Sharma

28. HDFC Life joins hands with Yes Bank to sell insurance policies

HDFC Life Insurance signed a corporate agency agreement with Yes Bank to offer comprehensive life insurance solutions to the bank's customers across the nation. It includes solutions for protection, savings & investment, retirement & critical illness. Yes Bank CEO: Prashant Kumar Founded in: 2004

29. RBI suggests five-pillared approach to deal with cybersecurity issues in UCBs

RBI brings 5 pillared strategic approach GUARD to deal cybersecurity threats faced by UCB. It comprises Gov. Oversight, Utile Tech. Investment, Appropriate Regulation & Supervision, Robust Collaboration & Developing necessary IT, & cybersecurity skills set RBI Headquarters: Mumbai 25th Governor: Shaktikanta Das

30. Defence PSU, Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders unveils IPO

Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd., a defence PSU, has announced opening of its initial public offering for subscription. The offer is being made through book-building process where the disinvestment will be diluting 15.17% of Govt's stake in the company. DEPT OF INVESTMENT & PUBLIC ASSET MGMT is under Finance Ministry

31. SEBI comes out with guidelines for investment advisors (IA) on client segregation, fees

Under the rules, individual IA will apply for registration as non-individual IA on onboarding 150 clients & will have to enter into an investment advisory agreement with its clients. Max. fees that may be charged will not exceed 2.5% of Asset under Advice SEBI Chairman: Ajay Tyagi; HQ: Mumbai

32. Axis Bank to provide affordable loans via Bayer's Better Life Farming initiative

Axis Bank has joined Bayer's Better Life Farming initiative to provide holistic financial solutions to smallholder farmers and rural farming communities. Through the partnership, Bank will offer a wide range of financial solutions and services. MD & CEO, Axis Bank: Amitabh Chaudhry.

33. Vakrangee gets RBI nod to set up Bharat Bill Payment unit

The Reserve Bank of India has granted Vakrangee Ltd in-principle approval to set up Bharat Bill Payment Operating Unit (BBPOU) under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007 to handle payment services related to bills. Vakrangee Ltd Founder: Dinesh Nandwana; Founded: 1990

34. HDFC Bank launches warehouse commodity finance app

Private sector lender HDFC Bank launched a Warehouse Commodity Finance App. This will enable customers in drawing down and managing the loan against pledge of commodities online without physical intervention or multiple visits to a bank branch. HDFC HQs: Mumbai Founded: August 1994

35. RBI approves 3-Member Committee of Directors to Manage LVB

RBI has given its nod to the appointment of a three-member committee of directors to run the cash-strapped private sector lender Lakshmi Vilas Bank. The committee will be

chaired by Meeta Makhan and will have Shakti Sinha and Satish Kumar Kalra as members. LVB HQs: Chennai Founded: 1926

36. Bandhan Bank ropes in ex-Bajaj Capital CEO as digital head

Bandhan Bank is strengthening its leadership team as part of the next 5 yr growth strategy. It has appointed former Bajaj Capital CEO Rahul Parikh as the bank's digital head as the bank broadens its digital presence to improve customer services.

HQs: Kolkata Founder and CEO: Chandra Shekhar Ghosh

37. RBI allows states to avail short-term relaxations for another 6 months

RBI extended the relaxation in WMAs limits of states for another 6 months to enable them to plan their market borrowings to meet revenue mismatches. In Apr, RBI had hiked the borrowing limit of all states & UTs under the WMA facilities by 60%. WMAs are temp. liquidity support by RBI to govt.



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Economy

1. GDP contracts by record 23.9% in Q1

As per the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the April-June quarter (Q1) slipped by a sharp 23.9 per cent. It is the worst contraction in the history of the Indian economy since Independence. The data released by NSO comes under the MoSPI.

2. GST revenue collection falls to ₹86,449 crores in August

According to Finance Ministry, GST revenue collection in August stood at ₹86,449 crores which is 88% collected in August 2019. After settlement for inter-state transactions, centre collected revenue of ₹34,122 cr while states collected ₹35,714 cr in August. In July, the GST collection stood at ₹87,422 crores.

3. Real GDP likely to contract by 10.9% in FY21: SBI Ecowrap

According to SBI's Ecowrap, real GDP for FY21 is expected to shrink by 10.9%. It had earlier estimated real gross domestic product (GDP) at (-) 6.8% for the current fiscal. India's GDP growth plunged to 23.9% in Q1 FY21 due to the nationwide lockdown. SBI Chairman: Rajnish Kumar.

4. RIL becomes first Indian company to cross \$200 billion in market valuation

The market valuation of Reliance Industries (RIL) hit another milestone by becoming the first Indian firm to cross \$ 200 billion. Apple Inc is the world's most-valued company with a market value of \$2 trillion followed by Saudi Aramco at \$1.9 trillion. In terms of oil & gas companies, RIL ranks 2nd after Saudi Aramco.

5. Global Multidimensional Poverty Index: NITI Aayog to leverage monitoring mechanism

The NITI Aayog will leverage the monitoring mechanism of the Global MPI to push forward reforms in the nation. The Global MPI is part of the government's decision to monitor the performance of the country on 29 select global indices. Global MPI Covers 107 nations Developed by OPHI and UNDP in 2010

6. Moody's projects 11.5% contraction in India's economic growth in FY21

Rating agency Moody's projected 11.5% contraction in India's economic growth in the current fiscal owing to coronavirus pandemic, from (-) 4 per cent estimated earlier. However, it expects economic growth to rebound to 10.6% in FY22 on strong base effect. Moody's HQ: New York, US. CEO: Raymond W. McDaniel Jr.

7. SEBI issues clarification on asset allocation framework for multi-cap MFs

Securities and Exchange Board of India tweaked the categorisation rules for multi-cap funds increasing the minimum equity investment. Multicap funds to invest minimum 75% of total assets in equities with 25% each in large-cap, midcap & small-cap companies. SEBI gave time till January 31, '21 to comply with the circular.

8. Indian economy to shrink by 9% in FY21: Asian Development Bank

According to ADB's Asian Development Outlook (ADO) 2020 Update, India's economy is expected to contract by 9% this year worse than the 4% contraction it had forecast three months ago. However, it expects India to bounce back with 8% growth next year. GDP Growth for Asia: -0.7% this year, 1st -ve growth since 1960s

9. OECD Expects India Economy to see contraction of nearly 10%

OECD expects the Indian economy to contract by 10.2% in FY21 as compared to a drop of 16.7% estimated in its June update. In next fiscal a sharp rebound of 10.7% is

expected which is an increase of nearly 3% compared to the previous estimate. OECD Headquarters: Paris, France.

10. Net direct tax collection dips 31% in April-August

The net direct tax collection during April-August was Rs 1.92 lakh cr., down 31 % over the same period of the last fiscal. The net indirect tax collection during the 5-month period till Aug fell 11 % year-on-year to Rs 3.42 lakh cr. The Budget estimated CGST collection for year at ₹6,90,500 crore

11. India's External Debt Rose by Nearly 3% To \$559 Billion in 2019-20: Finance Ministry Report

Acc. to 'India's External Debt: A Status Report: 2019-2020' India's total external debt rose 2.8% year on year to \$558.5bn as on 31 Mar 2020 due to rise commercial borrowings. Non-financial corporations are biggest debtors, accounting for 42% of total debt External debt as a percentage of GDP rose to 20.6% in FY20

12. AUM of NPS and APY nears Rs 5 lakh crore says PFRDA Chairman

Acc. to PFRDA chairman Supratim Bandyopadhyay, National Pension System, and Atal Pension Yojana's assets under management have nearly touched Rs 5 lakh cr corpus. About 83 % of the total assets are from central and state government employees. APY is for workers in the unorganised sector; Launched: 2015.

13. Asian Development Bank (ADB) approves \$300 million loan to develop Rajasthan's towns

ADB has approved a \$300 mn (₹2,200 crore) loan to finance inclusive water supply & sanitation infrastructure and services in secondary towns of Rajasthan to build citywide access for improved water supply service for about 5.7 lakh people. ADB HQ: Philippines; Rajasthan Governor: Kalraj Mishra.

14. Centre releases first instalment of over Rs. 19,000 Crore for Paddy procurement in three states under MSP Scheme

NCDC has sanctioned 1st instalment funds of ₹19,444cr. to 3 states for Kharif paddy procurement under MSP operations. These amounts have been sanctioned to assist States & State Marketing Alliances in undertaking paddy procurement op. in a timely manner. These states are Chhattisgarh, Haryana and Telangana.

15. DPIIT shares list of 24 key sectors with ministries to work on plan to boost manufacturing

DPIIT has shared a list of 24 key sectors including food processing, toys, furniture, agro chemicals & textiles with resp. ministries asking them to work on an action plan with a view to boost domestic manufacturing and make India a self-reliant country. The DPIIT comes under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

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National

1. Indian Railways develops remote-controlled medical trolley 'MEDBOT' to deliver food, medicines to COVID-19 patients

Indian Railways has developed a remote-controlled medical trolley named 'MEDBOT' to help deliver food and medicines to COVID-19 patients. It is providing service in the Central Hospital of the Diesel Rail Engine Factory of Indian Railways. Indian Railways Chairman: Vinod Kumar Yadav.

2. Nitin Gadkari inaugurates Technology Centre at Bhiwadi in Rajasthan

MSME Minister inaugurated a technology centre at Bhiwadi in Rajasthan via video conferencing. 15 new technology centres are being set up & 18 existing ones are being upgraded to create skilled manpower, as part of efforts to make India a manufacturing hub. The manufacturing sector contributes around 22-24% in GDP.

3. Coal India to invest over Rs 1.22 lakh crore on 500 projects by 2023-24

Coal India to invest over Rs 1.22 lakh crore on development of 500 projects related to coal evacuation, infrastructure, exploration and clean coal technologies. It aims to make India self-reliant & achieve production target of 1 billion tonnes by 2023-24. Coal and Mines Minister: Pralhad Joshi.

4. Cabinet approves 'Mission Karmayogi' for Civil Servants

The Union Cabinet has approved Mission Karmayogi for civil servants across the country to help them meet the challenges in the society. A council headed by PM having CMs as members will approve the civil services capacity building plans under the scheme. It will be delivered through a digital platform – iGOT Karmayogi

5. India Targets 100 MT Coal Gasification By 2030

India aims for 100 million tonnes (MT) coal gasification by 2030 with investments worth over Rs 4 Lakh Crores. Encouraging the use of clean sources on fuel, the government has provided a concession of 20% on a revenue share of coal used for gasification. Union Minister of Coal: Pralhad Joshi.

6. Govt caps key export benefit to Rs 2 crore per exporter till December

The government capped the benefits under the Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS) at Rs 2 crore per exporter on exports made between September 1, 2020, to December 31, 2020, without changing the coverage of the scheme and the applicable rates. The move is aimed to protect genuine exporters.

7. Andhra Pradesh tops Ease of Doing Business rankings of States and UTs

Andhra Pradesh bagged the 1st rank among all the states in the country in the state business reforms action plan-2019 (BRAP-2019), representing ease of doing business for Atma-Nirbhar Bharat. Uttar Pradesh stood in 2nd position, Telangana bagged 3rd spot. DPIIT conducts this exercise for all states & UTs under the BRAP

8. Thaawarchand Gehlot to launch 24x7 Toll-Free Mental Health Rehabilitation Helpline 'KIRAN'

Social Justice & Empowerment Minister Thaawarchand Gehlot launched 24x7 Toll-Free Mental Health Rehabilitation Helpline "KIRAN". It was developed by Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities to provide support to persons with Mental Illness. It will function as a lifeline to provide 1st stage counselling.

9. Prakash Javadekar to chair a webinar on first ever International Day of Clean Air For Blue Skies

Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar to chair a webinar on the first-ever International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies. He will review the progress of the activities under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) during the course of the webinar. PM called for holistic improvement in air quality in 100 cities.

10. 3rd Rashtriya Poshan Maah being celebrated

The 3rd Rashtriya Poshan Maah is being celebrated in the month of September to address malnutrition among young children and women. The objective of the Poshan Maah is to encourage Jan Bhagidaari to ensure health and nutrition for everyone. POSHAN Abhiyaan was launched in 2018 by MoWCD.

11. Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri e-launches Kochi Metro Thykoodam-Petta stretch

Housing & Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri launched Thykoodam-Petta stretch of Kochi Metro through video conference. The launch marks the completion of Phase I of Kerala Metro service which is estimated to be completed at a cost of Rs ₹6218 crore. Kochi metro has a dedicated Automated Fare Collection system.

12. Education Ministry to organise 2 -day conclave on School Education in 21st Century under Shikshak Parv

Shikshak Parv is celebrated from 8th September- 25th September, to felicitate the Teachers and to take New Education Policy 2020 which was approved on July 29, forward. Education Ministry to organise a two-day conclave on School Education in 21st Century. Union Education Minister: Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'.

13. Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurates webinar on Enhancing Water Use Efficiency

Government set target of covering 100 lakh hectares in 5 years under micro-irrigation. Dedicated Micro Irrigation Fund (MIF) of Rs. 5000 crores with NABARD was created to facilitate states in mobilizing resources for expanding coverage of Micro Irrigation. 47.92 lakh ha covered under micro irrigation in last 5 years.

14. Atal Innovation Mission Launches Atma-Nirbhar Bharat ARISE-ANIC Initiative

Atal Innovation Mission launched Atma-Nirbhar Bharat ARISE-Atal New India Challenges, to spur applied research and innovation in Indian MSMEs and startups. AIM in collaboration with four ministries will focus on challenges in 15sectores through this. It will provide funding support of up to Rs50 lakh for start-ups

15. Santosh Kumar Gangwar chairs 227th Meeting of Central Board of Trustees of Employees' Provident Fund

Labour and Employment Minister Santosh Kumar Gangwar chaired the 227th Meeting of the Central Board of Trustees of Employees' Provident Fund. The Central Board has recommended the same interest rate at 8.50% to the Central Government. Virtual hearing facility in quasi-judicial cases was launched.

16. India to host CHG meeting of SCO on 29-30 November in New Delhi

India is scheduled to host the meeting of Council of Heads of Government (CHG) of SCO on 29-30 Nov 2020. This will be the 1st Prime Minister level meeting to be hosted by India since its elevation as a full member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation. SCO HQ: Beijing, China. Secretary-General: Vladimir Norov.

17. India Post launches Five Star Villages Scheme to ensure 100% rural coverage of postal schemes

Department of Posts under Ministry of Communications launched Five Star Villages to ensure universal coverage of flagship postal schemes in rural areas of the country. It seeks to bridge gaps in public awareness and reach of postal products and services. It will be implemented by a team of five Gramin Dak Sevaks.

18. Mansukh Mandaviya launches 'SAROD-Ports'

Union Minister of State for Shipping Mansukh Mandaviya launched 'SAROD-Ports' (Society for Affordable Redressal of Disputes - Ports). SAROD-PORTS aims to resolve the disputes in a fair and just manner. SAROD-Ports consists of members from IPA and IPTTA. SAROD-Ports is established under Societies Registration Act 1860

19. 5 Petroleum and Gas PSUs to join International Solar Alliance

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited, Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited and GAIL Limited to join ISA's Coalition for Sustainable Climate Action (ISA-CSCA) as Corporate Partners. PSUs will be contributing to ISA's Corpus Fund.

20. PM Modi inaugurates Patrika Gate in Jaipur

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Patrika Gate in Jaipur through video conferencing. The iconic gate has been built by the Patrika Group of Newspapers on the Jawaharlal Nehru Marg in Jaipur, Rajasthan. CM: Ashok Gehlot Governor: Kalraj Mishra Capital: Jaipur

21. Home Minister e-launches development projects worth Rs 221 crore in Ahmedabad

Home Minister Amit Shah e-dedicated and e-launched development projects worth Rs 221 crore in Ahmedabad district. The works e-dedicated include Rs 130.91 crore pipeline network to carry water from Vaishnavdevi Circle to Shantipura and Sarkhej. GIFT City located on the banks of the Sabarmati River.

22. Hardeep Singh Puri launches Streets for People Challenge

The Streets for People Challenge is the response to the need for making the cities more walkable and pedestrian-friendly. The Challenge will support cities to develop a unified vision of streets for people in consultation with stakeholders and citizens. All cities in the challenge to use 'test-learn-scale' approach.

23. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launches Aero India 2021 website

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched website of Aero India 2021. The 13th edition of Aero India-21 will be held at Air Force Station, Yelahanka, Bengaluru. The Aero India 2021 website will be a contactless online interface for Asia's largest aero show. It will also host informative content on recent policies of MoD.

24. MoRTH's Orientation and Training Programme of iRAD App

Ministry of Road Transport & Highways is implementing Integrated Road Accident Database Project (iRAD) which will be applicable across India. The development and implementation of iRAD is done by IIT Madras and National Informatics Centre Services Inc. Initially, it has been decided to implement in six States.

25. Prahlad Singh Patel inaugurates Sangeet Sandhya

Prahlad Singh Patel inaugurated Sangeet Sandhya programme as a part of the 550th Birth Anniversary celebrations of Sri Guru Nanak Dev. The Sangeet Sandhya was organised by the Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts under the aegis of Ministry of Culture. The constituency of Prahlad Singh Patel: Damoh, Madhya Pradesh.

26. 16-Member Committee To Study Ancient Indian Culture

Govt formed an expert committee for conducting a study on the origin and evolution of Indian culture 12,000 years ago. The 16-member committee will include KN Dikshit Chairman Indian Archaeological Society & former Joint Director General ASI, among others. Prahlad Singh Patel is the current Minister of Culture.

27. Haryana Orbital Rail Corridor gets nod from cabinet

Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved 121-km Haryana Orbital Rail Corridor, which will connect Palwal and Sonapat. It will be implemented by Haryana Rail Infrastructure Development Corp. Ltd at an estimated cost of Rs. 5,617 crores in 5 years. It can provide connectivity to all routes originating from Delhi

28. Lok Sabha passes bill to cut salaries of MPs by 30 percent

The Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2020 introduced in the Lower House was cleared by the cabinet to reduce salaries of MPs by 30 per cent for 1 year to meet the exigencies arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic. Parliamentary Affairs Minister: Prahlad Joshi.

29. Postage Stamp released on A-SAT: India's First Anti Satellite Missile

A Customized My Stamp on India's First Anti Satellite Missile (A-SAT) launch was released by Department of Posts on Engineers Day. DRDO developed A-SAT Missile successfully engaged an Indian orbiting target satellite in Low Earth Orbit in Hit to Kill mode. A-SAT missile test 'Missile Shakti' was conducted in 2019.

30. Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank presents first ever AICTE Visvesvaraya Best Teacher Awards 2020

Education Minister presented the 1st ever AICTE Visvesvaraya Best Teacher Awards 2020 to 12 faculty members of AICTE approved institutes on the occasion of Engineers Day. The awards were introduced for the first time to identify extraordinary teachers. Chairman of AICTE: Prof Anil D Sahasrabuddhe.

31. Parliament passes 'Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda Bill, 2020'

The Bill provides for the establishment of a state-of-the-art Ayurvedic institution called the Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda (ITRA) at Jamnagar, Gujarat and conferment of the status of Institution of National Importance (INI) to it. ITRA to be 1st institution with INI status in the AYUSH sector.

32. India joins Djibouti Code of Conduct/ Jeddah Amendment as Observer

DCOC/JA is a grouping on maritime matters comprising 18 member states adjoining the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, the East Coast of Africa and Island countries in Indian Ocean Region. India has joined Japan, Norway, the UK and the US as Observers to the DCOC/JA. DCOC established in 2009 aims to repress piracy against ships.

33. Lok Sabha passes two agriculture reform bills aimed at bringing revolutionary changes in the lives of farmers

Lok Sabha passed the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2020 and the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, 2020 with Voice Vote to protect the rights of farmers. The bill will allow electronic trading of farmers' produce.

34. PMGKP Insurance Scheme for health workers fighting COVID-19 extended for another six months

'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package Insurance Scheme for Health Workers Fighting COVID-19' was announced on March 30. The scheme has now been extended for

another 180 days. It provides an insurance cover of ₹50 lakh to healthcare providers. No age limit & individual enrolment required for this scheme.

35. Shikshak Parv: Education Ministry Hosts Webinar On Academic Bank of Credit

National Education Policy 2020 has mentioned the establishment of an Academic Bank of Credit to digitally store the academic credits or marks & grades earned from various educational institutes so that the grades earned in the previous yrs can be awarded. Min. of Edu. organised a 2-week programme -- Shiksha Parv.

36. Medical Council of India dissolved, National Medical Council is now new regulatory authority

National Medical Commission (NMC), in place of the Medical Council of India (MCI), for development & regulation of all aspects of medical education/profession, has been constituted. Dr Suresh Chandra Sharma appointed as President for 3 years period. NMC to have a Chairman, 10 ex-officio & 22 part-time members.

37. Khadi and Village Industries Commission opens outlet in SPG complex to promote 'Swadeshi'

KVIC inaugurated a new Khadi India Sales Outlet within the premises of SPG Residential Complex at Dwarka in Delhi. This outlet will benefit nearly 4,000 families of SPG officers and staff residing in two adjacent residential complexes in the area. SPG is the agency responsible for security of Prime Minister

38. Govt Amends Central Motor Vehicle Rules Allowing Electronic Enforcement, Better Monitoring

Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has notified amendments in the Central Motor Vehicle Rules, allowing the implementation of Electronic enforcement, Maintenance of Vehicular Documents & E-Challans through a portal for better monitoring & enforcement Amendment comes to effect from October 1, 2020

39. Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurates 'Destination North East-2020' through virtual medium

Organised by the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region annually, the objective of the event is to celebrating and showcasing the culture of the northeast region to other parts of the country in order to strengthen national integration. 2020 theme for event: 'The Emerging Delightful Destinations'.

40. Prime Minister will inaugurate "Ganga Avalokan"

Prime Minister will inaugurate "Ganga Avalokan", the first museum on Ganga dedicated to showcase the culture, biodiversity and rejuvenation activities done in Ganga river. The museum is located at Chandi Ghat, Haridwar. A book, 'Rowing down the Ganges', will be launched at the event.

41. Harijan Sevak Sangh celebrates its foundation day

On 30th Sept.1932, Harijan Sevak Sangh was founded, when Gandhi Ji was in Yervada Jail, Pune. Sangh was founded to combat untouchability & a weekly paper, the Harijan, was started. Harijan means children of God, it was Gandhi Ji's term for untouchables. Second Round Table Conference held in London in 1931

42. Health Minister and Labour Minister releases booklet on 'COVID-19- Safe Workplace Guidelines for Industry'

Health Minister & Labour Minister virtually released a booklet on 'COVID-19- Safe Workplace Guidelines for Industry'. These guidelines consolidate all important

measures into a ready reckoner of action points to make the workplace safe. Health Minister- Harsh Vardhan; Labour Minister- S. K. Gangwar.

43. South Eastern Railway launches 'Operation My Saheli'

South Eastern Railway launched Operation My Saheli to provide security to women passengers from originating point to destination. Project has been executed under the framework of the Nirbhaya Fund & does not involve any exp. under the head of Railways Indian Railways Founded: 1853; HQs: New Delhi



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International

1. China's spacecraft returns safely to Earth

China's experimental reusable spacecraft landed safely after orbiting the Earth for two days. It was launched with a Long March-2F rocket from the Jiuquan satellite centre. Details of the craft remain secret but it may act like the US X-37B spaceplane. China's Mars mission Tianwen-1 China's Navigation System: BeiDou

2. SpaceX launches 60 Starlink satellites, inches closer to faster internet

Elon Musk's SpaceX has successfully sent 60 Starlink internet satellites aboard the Falcon 9. The satellites are meant to provide 'cheaper and faster' internet to inaccessible areas. The satellites in its initial tests had provided over 100 Mbps speeds. SpaceX has conducted 16 missions this year.

3. U.S. spacecraft named after late Indian-American astronaut Kalpana Chawla

Northrop Grumman's commercial cargo spacecraft, NG-14 Cygnus bound for the International Space Station has been named after fallen NASA astronaut Kalpana Chawla, the first India-born woman to enter space, for her key contributions to human spaceflight. Cygnus spacecraft to deliver 3,629 kg of cargo to space station

4. Rape declared national emergency in Liberia

Liberian President George Weah has declared rape a national emergency and ordered new measures to tackle the problem after a recent spike in cases. The nation would install a special prosecutor for rape as well as set up a national sex offender registry. Capital: Monrovia; Currency: Liberian Dollar.

5. Japan's ruling party elects Yoshihide Suga as its new leader to succeed PM Shinzo Abe

Japan's ruling party elected Yoshihide Suga as its new leader replacing Shinzo Abe as the country's next prime minister. Suga is currently the chief Cabinet secretary of Abe's government and he will then be confirmed as Prime Minister by a special session. Japan Capital: Tokyo. Currency: Yen.

6. China successfully launches nine satellites into orbit from ship

China successfully launched a solid-propellant carrier rocket, the Long March 11-HY2 from a ship in the Yellow Sea, sending nine satellites into orbit in the second such sea-based launch mission. The nine satellites belong to the Jilin-1 Gaofen 03-1 group. Long March 11 -HY2 is the 10th member of Long March family.

7. Mexico becomes first country to issue \$890m Sustainable Development Goals Bond

Mexico became the first country to issue the ground-breaking seven-year SDG Bond for a total value of USD 890 million, resources that will be transferred from private funds to finance SDG-oriented programs. It a step towards the achievement of the SDGs. UNDP is invited by Mexico to partner with them in the initiative

8. Israel, UAE, and Bahrain sign Abraham Accord

Abraham Accord is the first Arab-Israeli peace deal in 26 years. Egypt was the first Arab State to sign a peace deal with Israel in 1979. Jordan signed a peace pact in 1994. The agreement between Bahrain and Israel makes no mention of Palestinian land. Capitals: Israel-Jerusalem, UAE- Abu Dhabi, Bahrain- Manama.

9. World Leaders Mark UN 75th Anniversary

UN marked its 75th anniversary with an appeal to preserve the longest period in modern history without a military confrontation b/w the world's most powerful nations. UN was created when countries came together after WW II to prevent another such conflict. United Nations Founded: 1945; HQs: New York, U.S.A

10. Tel Aviv-Jaffa aims to be world's first city with network of recharging roads

Tel Aviv-Jaffa announced that it is on track to become 1st city in the world to roll out smart roads that can charge electric vehicles as they drive along. Aimed at reducing air pollution, the electric road does away with the need for recharging stations. Israel's Capital: Jerusalem; Currency: Israeli Shekel.

11. G4 countries call for decisive push for UN Security Council reforms

G4 countries have stressed the urgency of reforming the UN & updating its main decision-making bodies, in order to reflect present realities. G4 voiced concern at the lack of meaningful measure in Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council reform. G4 countries - India, Brazil, Japan, and Germany

12. Magawa the rat, was recently awarded the PDSA gold medal for his life-saving work in Cambodia

Magawa, the HeroRAT is an African giant pouched rat was awarded a gold medal for his gallantry contribution in detecting land mines in Cambodia. For the first time a rat has won a British charity's top civilian award for animal bravery. He has been detecting landmines for the past 5 years.

13. India, US, Japan, Australia hold meet on Indo-Pacific under Quad framework

India,USA,Japan & Australia held a virtual meeting under the framework of Quadrilateral coalition or "Quad", focusing on ways to promote peace,security,stability & prosperity in Indo-Pacific region. ASEAN is a major stakeholder in the Indo-Pacific region. 4 nations are set to hold talks in Tokyo in October 2020.

14. World Bank approves \$200mn loan for safe water & sanitation in Bangladesh

WB has approved a \$200mn loan for Bangladesh to improve access to safe water & sanitation services in rural areas. Project will help prevent diseases by providing better access to Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) facilities at homes & in public places. Bangladesh's Capital: Dhaka; Currency: Bangladeshi taka



Sports

1. Sumit Nagal downs Bradley Klahn, becomes first Indian to win a round at Grand Slam in seven years

Sumit Nagal became the first Indian to win a round at a Grand Slam in 7 years when he downed Bradley Klahn in his US Open first round, setting up a contest against Dominic Thiem. Somdev Devavarmn was the last Indian to win a main draw match at a major. US Open Tennis Championships is a hard court tennis tournament.

2. World Cup host Qatar set to play in Gold Cup next year in US

Asian Football Confederation stated that Qatar will participate in the 2021 & 2023 Gold Cup tournaments as a guest under a MoU signed in Bahrain in 2017, accepting an invitation from soccer's governing body for North and Central America and the Caribbean. Qatar Capital-Doha, Currency- Riyal.

3. Indian GM Iniyar wins World Open online chess tournament

India's Grandmaster P Iniyar became the first Indian to win the annual World Open Chess Tournament last month. A total of 122 participants from 16 countries including India featured in the tournament. It was organised by Continental Chess Association. It was the 48th Annual World Open Chess Tournament.

4. Pierre Gasly wins Italian Grand Prix after Lewis Hamilton penalty

France's Pierre Gasly won an astonishing Italian Grand Prix thriller for Italy-based AlphaTauri. McLaren's Spaniard Carlos Sainz finished a close second. The victory was a first in F1 for Gasly, the first for a French driver since Olivier Panis in 1996. Italian Grand Prix is the fifth oldest national Grand Prix.

5. Police Officer Poonam Khatri crowned Wushu World Champion

Indian Wushu stalwart Poonam Khatri claimed World Championship status after her silver medal at Wushu World Championship last year was upgraded to a Gold medal. Poonam had lost the final to Iranian opponent Mariyam but she recently failed the dope test. Poonam is a 10 – time National Champion & won gold in '19 SAG.

6. Former England batsman Ian Bell announces retirement from cricket

Former England batsman Ian Bell has announced his retirement from professional cricket. Bell, who won six trophies with Warwickshire intends to pursue a coaching career. He is the last player to retire out of all those who featured in 2005 Ashes series. Bell also played 161 one-day internationals and eight Twenty20s.

7. Osaka wins her 2nd US Open title in 3 years

World number nine Naomi Osaka of Japan defeated world number 27 Victoria Azarenka in the US Open women's singles final to clinch her second title in three years at Flushing Meadows. The 22-year-old Osaka clinched her third Grand Slam title. 4 GS tournaments: Australian, French, Wimbledon, and US Open.

8. Dominic Thiem wins maiden Grand Slam with US Open triumph

Dominic Thiem became Austria's 2nd Grand Slam singles champion. He became the youngest Grand Slam champion and 1st maiden Grand Slam champion since Marin Cilic in 2014. He became the 1st player to win from two sets down since Pancho Gonzales in 1949. He defeated Alexander Zverev of Germany.

9. Lewis Hamilton wins first Tuscan GP

Lewis Hamilton took his 90th career victory by beating Mercedes team-mate Valtteri Bottas in an incident-strewn Tuscan Grand Prix. This win was his sixth in nine races

this season and puts him just one behind Michael Schumacher's all-time record of wins. Red Bull's Thai-British driver Alex Albon finished third.

10. Cristiano Ronaldo Becomes 2nd Male Footballer To Score 100 International Goals

Ronaldo became the second male footballer after Ali Daei, to score 100 international goals after scoring against Sweden in Tuesday's UEFA Nations League match. Ali Daei scored 109 times for Iran. Ronaldo also became the first European to score 100 goals. Woman's Football: Canada's Christine Sinclair scored 186 goals.

11. Novak Djokovic wins Men's Singles event in Italian Open

In tennis, world no. 1. Novak Djokovic won a record 36th Masters title by beating Diego Schwartzman in the Italian Open at Rome. The Serb, playing in his first tournament since being disqualified from this month's US Open, won in the final. Capital of Serbia: Belgrade; Currency: Serbian dinar

12. Professional tennis player, former cricketer Ashleigh Barty wins golf tournament

World no. 1 women's tennis player Ashleigh Barty has won the women's golf championship at the Brookwater Golf Club near Brisbane. Barty is also a former cricketer, having featured for Brisbane Heat in the inaugural season of the Women's Big Bash League. Australia Capital: Canberra; Currency: Australian dollar

13. Gurpreet Singh Sandhu and Sanju bag AIFF Player of the Year Awards

India national team goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh Sandhu & Women's team midfielder Sanju were awarded the AIFF (All India Football Federation) Men's Footballer of the Year Award & the AIFF Women's Footballer of the Year Award respectively for 2019-20 season. 1st goalkeeper to win the AIFF prize was Subrata Paul in 2009.

14. Former India cricketer Neetu David appointed as the head of BCCI's All-India Women's Selection Committee

Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), on Saturday, announced the appointment of former India Women's cricketer Neetu David as the head of the new All-India Women's Selection Committee. The women's selection committee will comprise of 5 members She is the 2nd-highest wicket-taker for India in WODIs

15. Valtteri Bottas wins in Russia, Lewis Hamilton misses F1 win record

Bottas won the Russian Grand Prix for Mercedes after Lewis Hamilton collected 2 time penalties for infringements before the starting the race. Hamilton, hoping for a 91st Formula1 victory to equal Michael Schumacher's all-time record, finished third. Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile HQs: Paris, France

16. Final grand slam of the year 'French Open' begins in Paris

In Tennis, final grand slam of the year, the French Open got off in Paris with many changes in place amid COVID-19. Time slot, weather conditions, match balls and the clay-court swing are all different at the Rolland Garros this year. Official match ball has changed from Babolat to Wilson



Agreements & MoUs

1. Vedanta ties up with SBI for long-term syndicated loan of Rs 10,000 cr

Vedanta tied up with State Bank of India for long-term syndicated loan facility worth Rs 10,000 crore. A syndicated loan is offered by a group of lenders who work together to provide credit to a large borrower. SBI has committed Rs 5000 crores as a lender. Vedanta- Mining co. headquartered in Mumbai Founder: D P Agarwal

2. Tata Power and Tata Motors collaborate to set up India's largest solar carport

The solar carport set up by signing Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) will have a capacity of 6.2 MWp and is expected to help the automaker cut down 1.6 lakh ton of carbon emissions in its lifetime. It is expected to generate 96 lakh units per year. It will be set up at Tata Motors factory in Chikhali, Pune.

3. APIIC signs MoU with CSIR-IICT to establish a bulk drug park

CSIR-IICT is the knowledge partner and will offer needed technical backing. Govt of India recently launched a scheme for the development of three bulk drugs and four medical device parks with grants-in-aid to states with a maximum limit of Rs 1,000 crore. Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation Ltd – APIIC

4. WhatsApp partners Cyber Peace Foundation to drive cyber safety awareness

Facebook-owned WhatsApp partnered Cyber Peace Foundation (CPF) to create awareness on cyber safety among students. The partners aim to reach about 15,000 students in five Indian states Delhi, MP, Bihar, Jharkhand and Maharashtra in the first phase. It is based on a previous partnership named 'e-Raksha' programme

5. IIT Roorkee inks MoU with NIUA for collaboration in building accessible, safe and inclusive Indian cities

The National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) has signed an MoU with IIT Roorkee for collaboration in areas of universal design principles and inclusive development in the backdrop of 'Building Accessible Safe Inclusive Indian Cities' (BASIIIC) program. NIUA works under the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs.

6. Atal Innovation Mission partners with Freshworks to empower AIM start-ups

To provide robust support to innovators and entrepreneurs, Atal Innovation Mission of NITI Aayog has partnered with Freshworks to increase the efficacy of the institutions and start-ups in the AIM portfolio and foster innovation among innovators. Freshworks - A cloud-based SaaS (Software as a Service) company.

7. TPT South Africa partners with TCS for logistics supply chain transformation

Tata Consultancy Services partnered with Transnet Port Terminals, state-owned freight transport and handling company to help develop an integrated online marketplace platform by bringing together cargo owners, shipping lines, and road/rail haulers. A new platform named Cargo Connected will also be created.

8. International Solar Alliance signs MoUs with NTPC, MNRE and World Bank

ISA signed an MoU with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and World Bank to design a plan for implementing 'One Solar One World and One Grid'. It also signed an MoU with NTPC Ltd, for implementing solar energy projects in 47 member countries of ISA. Currently, 121 countries have agreed to be members of ISA.

9. ICICI Prudential Life signs corporate agency pact with NSDL Payments Bank

Private Life Insurer ICICI Prudential Life Insurance entered into a corporate agency agreement with NSDL Payments Bank, a subsidiary of NSDL. Under this, the insurer will provide its protection and savings products to customers of NSDL Payments Bank. NSDL Payments Bank CEO: Ashutosh Singh.

10. India, Japan ink mutual military logistics agreement

India and Japan have inked a landmark agreement that will allow their militaries to access each other's bases for logistics support. The acquisition and cross-servicing pact was signed by Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar and Japanese Ambassador Suzuki Satoshi. This comes at a time when India & China are engaged in face-off.

11. CSIR's CMERI, NISE sign pact for boosting association in solar power sector

The Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI), Durgapur, and the National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE), Gurgaon, have signed an MoU, a 'strategic association', to bolster the solar energy sector, skill development of stakeholders. CSIR Founded in 1942. Headquarters: New Delhi.

12. Bengaluru airport and BMRCL ink MoU for two metro stations on airport campus

While BMRCL will construct the airport metro section, along with civil, electro-mechanical, other associated facilities, works and related assets, BIAL will develop, manage and maintain the two metro stations, located within the airport boundary. Hari Marar, managing director and chief executive officer, BIAL.

13. Microsoft joins Nasscom to skill 10 lakh students in Artificial Intelligence by 2021

Microsoft joined hands with Nasscom FutureSkills to launch a nation-wide initiative that aims to skill 10 lakh students in AI by 2021. Partnership is an ext. of Microsoft's global skilling initiative to help 25 mn. people to acquire new digital skills. Intro. sessions will be available to UG students at no cost

14. IIT Roorkee inks MoU with OUAT for cooperation in agricultural research and education

IIT-R has signed an MoU with Odisha University of Agriculture & Technology to generate frontier technologies and produce quality manpower in the field of agricultural research & education for resolving the challenges faced by the rural communities. IIT-R Director: Ajit K Chaturvedi; VC OUAT: Pawan Kumar Agrawal.

15. Liberty General Insurance and SpiceJet to offer travel insurance

Liberty, one of the leading general insurance companies in India and SpiceJet, India's leading airline partnered together to offer 'Liberty Secure Travel' insurance policy to consumers who book airline travel through SpiceJet's website and mobile site. Roopam Asthana - CEO of Liberty General Insurance.

16. HCL Technologies partners with NVIDIA Partner Network

HCL Technologies joined NVIDIA Partner Network (NPN) to pursue expanded opportunities in AI space. HCL to also launch NEXT.ai, HCL's AI Lab, focused on upskilling engineers and architects utilizing AI solutions across hardware & software technology stacks. Chairperson of HCL: Roshni Nadar. HQ: Noida, India.

17. ICICI Lombard announces bancassurance tie-up with Yes Bank

ICICI Lombard General Insurance entered into a bancassurance tie-up with Yes Bank to make insurance more accessible to customers across India. It will provide bank's diverse customer base access to the insurer's portfolio & make insurance more accessible. ICICI Lombard CEO: Bhargav Dasgupta Yes Bank CEO: Prashant Kumar

18. International Financial Services Centre Authority (IFSCA) inks MoU with India Gold Policy Centre of IIMA

IFSCA & IGPC – IIM Ahmedabad signed agreement to provide expertise to facilitate the establishment of International Bullion Exchange in India. IBE is intended to strike an equilibrium to reduce the market inefficiencies that exist in Indian bullion trade. A bullion market is where buyers and sellers trade gold & silver

19. HCL and Google Cloud Expand Partnership to Deliver Accelerated Business Intelligence Platform

HCL & Google Cloud partnered to bring HCL's Actian portfolio starting with Actian Avalanche to Google Cloud. Actian Avalanche is a high-performance hybrid cloud data warehouse designed to power an enterprise's most demanding operational analytics workloads HCL Technologies is an Indian multinational IT Services Company

20. 10th Defence Technology and Trade Initiative, DTTI Group Meeting held virtually

During the 10th Defence Technology and Trade Initiative, DTTI Group Virtual Meeting, India and the US signed a Statement Of Intent (SOI) to strengthen the bilateral dialogue on defence technology co-operation and co-development of military equipment. It was signed by Raj Kumar - Secretary of Defence Production.

21. BHEL ties up with SwissRapide AG to bring Maglev high-speed trains to India

Aimed at expanding its footprint in the transportation sector as part of its diversification initiatives, BHEL entered into a MoU with SwissRapide AG for Maglev Train (magnetic levitation) projects. Maglev Rail system allows operating speeds up to 500 km/h Kolkata Metro –1st in India to have BHEL made propulsion systems

22. Hindustan Copper enters long-term deal to supply concentrate to Hindalco

With this partnership, the companies have moved towards import substitution, reducing the nation's dependence on copper concentrate sourced from abroad. Hindustan Copper Ltd is the only producer of copper concentrate in India. Hindalco is India's largest custom copper producer.

23. MoU signed b/w AYUSH Ministry and Ministry of Women and Child Development for controlling Malnutrition

An MoU was signed between the Ministry of AYUSH & WCD Ministry for controlling Malnutrition as a part of POSHAN Abhiyaan. MoU saw some time-tested and scientifically proven Ayush-based solutions being adopted for controlling malnutrition in the nation. AYUSH-Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy

24. J&K administration signs MoU with Army to operationalise Kishtwar airstrip

J&K has signed an MoU with Army for development and operationalization of Airstrip in Kishtwar. It will provide vital connectivity to benefit both Defence personnel & Civilians, even during the severe winter conditions & for medical and other emergencies Chief of Army Staff: General Manoj Mukund Naravane

25. ITBP ties up with Uttarakhand govt. to promote adventure tourism

Uttarakhand Tourism Dev. Board & Indo-Tibetan Border Police signed an MoU to promote adventure sports activities at Tehri Lake. ITBP will provide training in adventure sports & various courses related to it at the Rajiv Gandhi Adventure Sports Academy. DG ITBP: Surjeet Singh Deswal; Founded: Oct. 24, 1962

26. Railways target to complete 100% electrification of broad gauge routes by 2023

Railway Minister Piyush Goyal stated that Railways has planned for 100 percent electrification of its broad gauge routes by 2023. The Minister informed that around 63 percent broad gauge lines have already been electrified as on 1.04.2020. A total of 23,765 route km lines are yet to be electrified

27. Indian Railways extends pact with IIT-Kanpur to facilitate research on railway modernisation

IIT-Kanpur signed an MoU with Indian Railways for research on railway infrastructure modernisation. MoU will facilitate research in the core areas of electrical locomotive, comm. systems, traction installation, etc. through the Centre for Railway Research. Founded: 16 April 1853 HQs: New Delhi

28. India extends 15 million dollars grant assistance to Sri Lanka for promoting Buddhist ties: MEA

PM Modi has announced grant assistance of \$15 million to Sri Lanka for the promotion of Buddhist ties between India & Sri Lanka. Both nations have also extended the MoU on High Impact Community Development Projects for a 5-year period beginning 2020. Sri Lankan PM: Mahinda Rajapaksa; Currency: SL Rupee

29. India, Denmark ink pact to increase cooperation on Intellectual Property Rights

India & Denmark have inked a Memorandum of Understanding to increase cooperation in the area of intellectual property rights (IPRs) by exchanging best practices & collaborating in training programmes. Both sides will draw up a biennial work plan towards it Denmark Capital: Copenhagen Currency: Danish krone

30. Virgin Hyperloop, BIAL sign MoU to study feasibility of high-speed corridor

Bangalore International Airport Limited & Virgin Hyperloop have signed an MoU to conduct a feasibility study for a proposed Hyperloop corridor from the Kempegowda International Airport. A hyperloop have speeds of up to 1,080 kmph. Chairman, Virgin Hyperloop: Sultan Sulayem; BIAL: T M V Bhaskar

31. PFC signs MoU with Ministry of Power detailing targets for FY 2020-21

Power Finance Corporation Ltd has signed a performance-based MoU with the Ministry of Power detailing various targets to be achieved by PFC during FY 2020-21. The MoU was signed by Power Secretary Sanjiv Nandan Sahai and CMD of PFC R.S. Dhillon. PFC HQs: New Delhi; Founded: July 1986

32. Gujarat govt signs MoU with Denmark in water sector

Gujarat Water Supply & Sewerage Board has signed an MoU with Danish Water Forum through an online platform. This will help in tech. exchange, training, knowledge exchange, co-op. in water supply, wastewater treatment reuse, etc. b/w the 2 organizations. MoU has been signed for 5yrs period & contribute to UN SDG 6.

33. Flipkart, Bajaj Allianz launch cyber insurance to cover online financial frauds

Flipkart & Bajaj Allianz Gen. Insurance have united to offer 'Digital Suraksha Group Insurance' for customers who want a cover against financial losses caused as a result of cyber-attacks or other such malicious activities across various online platforms
Bajaj Allianz Gen. Insurance CEO: Tapan Singhel Founded: 2001

34. BSE signed an MOU with Yes Bank to empower SMEs

Leading stock exchange BSE has signed a pact with private sector lender Yes Bank to empower the small and medium enterprises listed on the platform. The pact aims at empowering the SME segment through awareness and knowledge-sharing programmes. Yes Bank CEO: Prashant Kumar BSE Founded: 1875



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Schemes

1. 27 projects approved under PM Kisan SAMPADA Yojana

In a step towards Atma-Nirbhar, govt gave its nod to 27 projects under PM Kisan SAMPADA Yojana for development of integrated cold chains and value addition infrastructure. It is to generate employment to 16,000 people and benefit nearly 2,57,000 farmers. Union Min of Food Processing Industries: Harsimrat Kaur Badal.

2. Sadananda Gowda launches 8 Nutraceutical-immunity boosting products under PMBJP for sale through Janaushadhi Kendras

Government is also providing one-time grant of Rs 2.00 lakh for store set-up to persons belonging to SC, ST, women & divyang category and to any applicant opening store in North-Eastern States, aspirational districts & Himalayan states. PMBJP-Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Priyojana.

3. Hardeep Singh Puri launched Climate Smart Cities Assessment Framework (CSCAF 2.0) and Streets for People Challenge

MoHUA has launched CSCAF 2.0, along with Streets for People Challenge in a virtual event organized by the Smart Cities Mission. CSCAF is to provide a clear roadmap for cities towards combating Climate Change while planning and implementing their actions. Smart Cities Mission: 2015 Total No. of cities selected: 100

4. PM inaugurates 1.75 lakh houses built under PMAY - Gramin

PM Inaugurated 1.75 lakh houses built under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin in Madhya Pradesh. The scheme has provisions for convergence with other schemes of Central and States for providing LPG & electricity connection and safe drinking water. Under PMAY-G, beneficiary is given a 100% grant of Rs 1.20 lakh.

5. Grand ICT Challenge for Smart supply measurement and monitoring system under Jal Jeevan Mission lauched

National Jal Jeevan Mission in partnership with Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology launched an ICT Grand Challenge to create solution to develop a 'Smart Water Supply Measurement and Monitoring System' to be deployed at the village level. JJM aims to provide tap connection to rural households by 2024.

6. 'Saubhagya' scheme completes three years since its inception

Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana- "Saubhagya" was launched on the 25th Sept, 2017 to ensure electrification of all willing households in the country in rural as well as urban areas. Scheme aims to achieve universal household electrification. The scheme was started with an outlay of 16,320 crore rupees



Appointments & Resignations

1. Charu Sinha becomes first woman IG to lead CRPF in Kashmir

IPS officer Charu Sinha has become the first woman commander to head the Central Reserve Police Force formation in Kashmir. She is appointed as the IG of CRPF's Srinagar sector that oversees the deployment of the paramilitary forces' battalions in Srinagar. CRPF is India's largest paramilitary force.

2. M V Raja Sekhar takes charge as Director (R&D) of BEL

M V Raja Sekhar took charge as Director (R&D) of Navratna Defence PSU Bharat Electronics Ltd. He was a Chief Scientist of BELs Central Research Laboratory-Bangalore & Officer on Special Duty at BELs corporate office. He joined BELs Ghaziabad Unit in 1985. BEL - Aerospace and defence company. HQ: Bangalore.

3. Vice Admiral S R Sarma assumes charge as Chief of Materiel of the Indian Navy

Vice Admiral SR Sarma assumed charge as Chief of Materiel of the Indian Navy. In recognition of his distinguished services, the Admiral was awarded Ati Vishisht Seva Medal and Vishisht Seva Medal. He is also a recipient of Lt VK Jain Gold Medal in 1994. Chief of the Naval Staff: Admiral Karambir Singh.

4. Hemant Khatri takes over as CMD of Hindustan Shipyard

Commodore Hemant Khatri assumed charge as Chairman and Managing Director of Hindustan Shipyard Limited. He was director of HSL and was in-charge of INS Sindhuvir NR and played a key role in the refit of INS Astradharani, both completed ahead of schedule. HSL is a PSU and is headquartered in Vishakhapatnam.

5. Central Board of Direct Taxes Chairman Pramod Chandra Mody Gets 6-Month Extension

Pramod Chandra Mody was given a six-month extension till February next year as the chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes. It was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. CBDT is headed by a chairman and has a maximum of 6 years. CBDT frames policy for the Income-Tax Department.

6. Bureaucrat Kshatrapati Shivaji appointed as Secretary in MoSPI

Government of India appointed Kshatrapati Shivaji, a 1986-batch Maharashtra cadre IAS officer as the secretary in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. Secretary at this ministry, is by design, known as the chief statistician of India. He will also lead the Ministry of Public Grievances & Pensions.

7. Australia appoints cricket icon Matthew Hayden as trade envoy to India

Hayden was one of 3 new appointees to the council, the others being Lisa Singh, a former Labour Party senator, & former Victoria premier Ted Baillieu. Council plays an important role in advancing Australia's foreign & economic policy interests with India. Australia Capital- Canberra, Currency- Australian dollar.

8. Murali Ramakrishnan appointed as MD and CEO of South Indian Bank

The bank got the Reserve Bank of India's approval for the appointment for a period of three years with effect from October 1, 2020. He retired from ICICI Bank as Senior General Manager at Strategic Project Group. He will succeed incumbent VG Mathew. South Indian Bank is headquartered at Thrissur in Kerala.

9. Cabinet approves first restructuring of Railway Board; V K Yadav to be appointed first CEO

Pradeep Kumar has been appointed Member, Infrastructure, PC Sharma has been appointed Member, Traction and Rolling Stock, PS Mishra has been made Member, Operations and Business Development and Manjula Rangarajan has been appointed Member, Finance. IR Medical Service will be renamed as IR Health Service.

10. ASCI appoints Manisha Kapoor as its new secretary-general

Advertising Standards Council of India named Manisha Kapoor as its new secretary-general. She will take over ASCI's secretariat responsibilities, including consumer complaints redressal process marketing, public relations and social media initiatives. She replaces Shweta Purandare ASCI established in 1985.HQ: Mumbai.

11. ITC appoints Supratim Dutta as new CFO

Diversified conglomerate ITC has appointed Supratim Dutta Chief Financial Officer (CFO) as part of its organizational restructuring. He would be replacing Rajiv Tandon. Rajnikant Rai has been made the chief executive of agri-business. ITC CEO: Sanjiv Puri. ITC – An Indian multinational conglomerate based in Kolkata.

12. Former health secy Preeti Sudan appointed WHO panellist

WHO's independent panel for pandemic preparedness and response appointed former health secretary Preeti Sudan as one of its 11 panellists from across the world. The prestigious panel also has former UK foreign secretary David Milliband as a member. The panel is expected to address how the pandemic emerged.

13. FADA appoints Vinkesh Gulati as its new President for 2020-22

Auto dealer's body The Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) appointed Vinkesh Gulati as its 35th President. Manish Raj Singhania was appointed as Vice-President & Chittur Selvakumar Vigneshwar as Secretary. Sai Giridhar to be the treasurer. FADA - apex national body represents automobile dealers of India

14. R Masakui Appointed as Next High Commissioner Of India To Jamaica

Diplomat R Masakui has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to Jamaica. Masakui is presently Ambassador of India to the Republic of Zimbabwe. He has also served as Director in the Ministry of External Affairs. Jamaica Capital: Kingston. Currency: Dollar. PM: Andrew Holness.

15. Justice R F Nariman appointed as chairperson of SC Legal Services Committee

The Central Authority nominated Justice Nariman as the chairperson of Supreme Court Legal Services Committee. SCLSC is constituted for implementing legal services programme insofar as it relates to the Supreme Court. He will replace Justice Arun Mishra. Rohinton Fali Nariman is a Judge of Supreme Court of India.

16. Govt forms three-member expert panel to assist in assessment of relief to bank borrowers

Finance Ministry set up an expert committee to assess the impact of waiving interest payments on loans under moratorium and suggest measures to provide relief to borrowers. It will be headed by former CAG Rajiv Mehrishi. Panel to submit report in a week. Other members of the committee: Ravindra H Dholakia & B. Sriram.

17. Anil Jain is new AITA president, Dhupar secretary general, Rajpal treasurer

The All India Tennis Association (AITA) elected BJP Rajya Sabha member Anil Jain as its new President while Anil Dhupar was chosen as its Secretary-General. India's Davis

Cup Captain Rohit Rajpal was elected as the treasurer for a 4-year term till 2024. AITA - Governing body of Tennis in India. Founded in March 1920.

18. Jane Fraser to Succeed Michael Corbat as First Woman CEO of Citigroup

Citigroup named Jane Fraser as its next chief executive tapping a woman to lead a giant Wall Street bank for the first time. Fraser, who has served as president and CEO of global consumer banking since 2019, will join the board of directors immediately. Citigroup - American multinational investment bank. HQ: New York

19. Paresh Rawal appointed chairperson of National School of Drama

Bollywood veteran Paresh Rawal has been appointed Chairperson of the National School of Drama (NSD), the country's premier institute for theatre students. Rawal replaces veteran theatre artist Amal Allana as the chairperson of the esteemed institution. NSD - Theatre training institute under the Ministry of Culture.

20. Harivansh re-elected as Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha

NDA candidate Harivansh has been re-elected as the Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha. This would be Harivansh's second innings as the Deputy Chairman of the Upper House. Deputy Chairman presides over the proceedings in the absence of the chairman. Harivansh will be the 12th Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha.

21. Rajesh Khullar appointed executive director, World Bank

Appointment Committee of the Cabinet under chairmanship of PM Narendra Modi approved Rajesh Khullar, Secretary to CM of Haryana to World Bank and Sameer Kumar Khare, Additional Secretary in Finance Ministry to Asian Development Bank as Executive Director. ACC decides several top posts under the Government of India.

22. Harsimrat Kaur Badal quits as minister in protest against agri bills

Minister of Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Badal resigned and the President of India, as advised by Prime Minister accepted her resignation from the Union Council of Ministers with immediate effect, under clause (2) of Article 75 of the Constitution. Badal is a member of Shiromani Akali Dal Party.

23. Narendra Singh Tomar given additional charge of Food Processing Industries Ministry

Harsimrat Badal resigned in protest of the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce Bill, 2020. Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has been assigned the charge of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries in addition to his existing portfolios. He also holds the Ministry of Rural Development portfolio.

24. Govt sets up group under cyber security head to probe China Watching

The Government set up an expert committee under the National Cyber Security Coordinator Rajesh Pant. Committee will evaluate the 'implications' of the digital surveillance by Data Information Technology Co. Limited and assess any violations of law. Committee will submit its recommendations within thirty days.

25. Anil Dhasmana appointed as new chief of NTRO

Former Research and Analysis Wing chief Anil Dhasmana has been appointed as the chief of National Technical Research Organisation (NTRO), India's technical body that is responsible for geospatial intelligence and satellite imagery. He succeeds Satish Jha. NTRO Headquarters- New Delhi, Formed on- 2004.

26. Simanchala Dash Appointed as Advisor to IMF Executive Director

The Appointments Committee of Cabinet has approved the proposal to appoint Simanchala Dash as an advisor to Executive Director, International Monetary Fund

(IMF), in Washington. He has been appointed for a period of three years. IMF was established in 1944; Member Countries- 189

27. S Aparna appointed as Secretary, Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP)

S Aparna has been appointed as Secretary, DoP, under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers. She will succeed PD Vaghela. In 2017, she was appointed to the post of ED, World Bank, representing the Constituency of India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. Minister for Chemicals & Fertilizers: D.V. Sadananda Gowda

28. Retired IAS Officer Raghvendra Singh Appointed India's Culture Secretary

Raghvendra Singh has been appointed as the culture secretary in place of Anand Kumar, who has shifted as the secretary of the National Commission for Backward Classes. Singh, at present, is the CEO, Development of Museums & Cultural Spaces. Minister of Culture & Minister of Tourism: Prahlad Singh Patel.

29. 1st time in history, Women officers in helicopter stream of Indian Navy

2 women officers, SLt. Kumudini Tyagi & Riti Singh have been selected to join as Observers (Airborne Tacticians) in the helicopter stream. They would be the 1st set of women airborne combatants who would be operating from warships. Chief of Naval Staff: Admiral Karambir Singh

30. Mohamed Hussein Roble appointed Somalia's new prime minister

Somali President Mohamed Abdullahi Farmaji has appointment the replacement of former Prime Minister Hassan Ali Khaire who was impeached by parliament. The president appointed Mohamed Hussein Roble, a humanitarian, as the country's new prime minister. Somalia's Capital: Mogadishu; Currency: Somali shillings

31. RBI appoints new PMC Bank administrator

The Reserve Bank of India appointed a new administrator of Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative (PMC) Bank. Former general manager of Union Bank of India A K Dixit, will take over from JB Bhoria who is stepping down due to health reasons 25th RBI Governor: Shaktikanta Das; Established: 1935

32. Ex-defence minister appointed Mali interim president

Former Mali defence minister Bah Ndaw was named interim president while the leader of the junta was appointed VP. Ndaw was appointed by a group of 17 electors chosen by the junta for an 18-month transition that will culminate in fresh elections. Mali's Capital: Bamako; Currency: West African CFA franc

33. Ishmael Toroama elected as President of newly formed Bougainville

Former rebel military commander Ishmael Toroama has been elected as president of Bougainville, an autonomous region of Papua New Guinea. The general election was the first since Bougainville voted to separate from Papua New Guinea in 2019. Bougainville, mineral rich & lush group of islands in S. Pacific

34. Uday Kotak's term as IL&FS chairman extended by a year

Govt. extended the term of Uday Kotak as a non-executive chairman of debt-ridden Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services Limited group by one year. Kotak was appointed by the Government as the head of the lender's board in 2018 MD & CEO Kotak Mahindra Bank: Uday Kotak.

35. EESL appoints Rajat Sud as new managing director

Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL) announced the appointment of Rajat Sud as its managing director from immediate effect. Sud takes over from S Gopal, director (commercial), who had taken on the additional charge of interim managing director. EESL Founded: 2009, Ministry: Ministry of Power

36. Citi appoints Arjun Chowdhry as acting head of consumer banking business

Citigroup has appointed Arjun Chowdhry as the acting head of its consumer banking business in India. He currently serves as the head of credit cards, payments, and unsecured lending for the American bank in India. He took charge from Shinjini Kumar. Citigroup CEO-Designate: Jane Fraser; HQs: New York, USA.

37. Star & Disney India's K Madhavan appointed as Indian Broadcasting Foundation president

Star & Disney India's managing director K Madhavan has been elected as the new president of Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF). He will succeed NP Singh of Sony Pictures. Prasar Bharti's CEO Shashi S. Vempati has been elected as the treasurer of IBF. IBF is a not-for-profit industry association.

38. Former Ferrari boss Stefano Domenicali appointed F1 CEO

The Italian Stefano Domenicali will be F1 president with Chase Carey, who led the revamping of the sport following the 2017 ouster of former supremo Bernie Ecclestone, moving to the position of non-executive chairman.

Domenicali is chairman & CEO of Italian sportscar Lamborghini.

39. Reserve Bank ropes in Amitabh Bachchan for customer awareness campaign

RBI has roped in Amitabh Bachchan for customer awareness campaign to prevent gullible account holders from being duped. As part of public awareness, the regulator keeps informing about dos & don'ts that have to be followed to transact safely & securely. Governor: Shaktikanta Das; HQs: Mumbai

40. Ceat Tyres appoints Aamir Khan as brand ambassador

Ceat Tyres has signed Bollywood actor Aamir Khan as its brand ambassador for 2 years. As part of an integrated marketing campaign, Aamir Khan will feature in 2 commercials during the course of the IPL 2020 to promote Ceat's SecuraDrive range of car tyres. The campaign based on the theme 'don't be a dummy'.

41. Acer India signs Sonu Sood as brand ambassador

Acer India has roped in actor Sonu Sood as its brand ambassador. He will be seen endorsing the brand's innovative range of products across media platforms for a campaign to talk about Acer's commitment to improving people's lives through technology. Acer HQs: Taipei, Taiwan; CEO: Jason Chen

42. PD Vaghela appointed as new TRAI chairman

P. D. Vaghela has been appointed as the Chairman of TRAI. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved his appointment. He will replace R.S. Sharma. Mr Vaghela will hold the post for a period of 3yr or until he attains the age of 65 years. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India founded: 20th Feb. 1997

43. Former Mali Foreign Minister Moctar Ouane named transitional PM

Mali's interim President Ndaw has named former Malian Foreign Minister Moctar Ouane as PM. Ouane, 64, served as Mali's ambassador to the United Nations from 1995-2002, and as foreign minister from 2004-2009 during Amadou Toumani Toure's presidency. Mali's Capital: Bamako Currency: West African CFA franc

44. Alapan Bandyopadhyay appointed new Chief Secretary of WB

Alapan Bandyopadhyay has been appointed the new Chief Secretary of West Bengal. He'll take over the role from Oct. 1, succeeding Rajiva Sinha. Rajiva has now been

appointed the Chairman of WB Industrial Development Corporation for a period of 3 years. WB CM: Mamata Banerjee Governor: Jagdeep Dhankhar

45. Entri ropes in Robin Uthappa as its brand ambassador

Local language learning app for jobs Entri, has signed up former Indian & current Rajasthan Royals cricketer Robin Uthappa as its brand ambassador. It has also partnered with Hotstar to run ad campaigns in 5 diff. languages throughout the IPL 2020. Founder & CEO of Entri: Mohammed Hisamuddin.

46. Twitter appoints Rinki Sethi as new information security head

Twitter Inc., the social media company, appointed Rinki Sethi, a former information security executive at IBM, as its chief information security officer. She had previously worked as VP of information security at cyber-security firm Palo Alto Networks. Twitter CEO: Jack Dorsey Founded: 21 March 2006,

47. Shekhar Kapur appointed president of FTII Society & chairman of FTII Governing Council

Noted Filmmaker Shekhar Kapur is appointed as President of Film & Television Institute of India Society & Chairman of FTII Governing Council. He has directed many critically acclaimed films. The Movies include Masoom, Mr. India, Bandit Queen & Elizabeth. FTII was set up by the Government of India in 1960.

48. RBI appoints D K Kashyap as director on board of Dhanlaxmi Bank

RBI has appointed its Gen Manager D K Kashyap as the Additional Director on the board of Dhanlaxmi bank for 2 years. Kerala-based Dhanlaxmi Bank was put under the PCA Framework by the RBI in 2015 and in 2019 it came out of restrictions. Dhanlaxmi Bank HQs: Thrissur Founded: 1927



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Awards

1. Hyderabad International Airport wins CII-GBC 'National Energy Leader' award

The GMR led Hyderabad International Airport was awarded at the 21st National Awards for Excellence in Energy management organised by CII and GBC during the 19th edition of Energy Efficiency Summit, Virtual Conference and Exposition on Energy Efficiency. Pradeep Panicker - CEO, GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd.

2. Air Force Sports Control Board Conferred with 'Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2020'

Air Force Sports Control Board, apex body for planning and conduct of sports activities, was conferred with 'Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2020' for outstanding contribution in helping sportsperson to excel & implement robust sports welfare measures. The award was received from the President of India.

3. Jal Shakti Ministry launches Water Heroes, story contest on importance of water conservation and management

Jal Shakti Ministry has launched the Water Heroes Contest with an aim to reach out to people on the important subject of water conservation and management. Every month from September, this year entries will be invited for consideration of awards. All selected entries will be awarded a cash prize of Rs 10,000.

4. British broadcaster Sir David Attenborough awarded Indira Gandhi Peace Prize at online event

Former PM Manmohan Singh conferred the Indira Gandhi Peace Prize on British broadcaster David Attenborough. The Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development was instituted in 1986 and has a monetary award of Rs 25 Lakh with a citation. David is an English broadcaster and natural historian.

5. Indian film The Disciple wins Best Screenplay award at Venice Film Festival

Chaitanya Tamhane's 'The Disciple' won the Award for Best Screenplay at the 77th Venice Film Festival. Nomadland won the Golden Lion for Best Film. Franco's 'Nuevo Orden' and Kiyoshi Kurosawa won Grand Jury Prize and Award for Best Director, respectively. Award was presented by the Int. Fed. of Film Critics, FIPRESCI.

6. Aditya Puri conferred Lifetime Achievement Award by Euromoney Awards of Excellence 2020

Aditya Puri, MD, HDFC Bank was conferred Lifetime Achievement Award by Euromoney Awards of Excellence 2020. The iconic leader was awarded for his skills in building a world-class Indian bank at a time where there were no similar institutions in existence. He is the 1st Indian corporate leader to win the award.

7. Margaret Atwood Honoured With 2020 Dayton Literary Peace Prize

Renowned author Margaret Atwood won Dayton Literary Peace Prize's lifetime achievement award 2020. It celebrates literature's power to foster peace, social justice and global understanding. She is distinguished for her most notable book The Handmaid's Tale She receives \$10,000 as prize money.

8. Education Minister confers 2nd Utkrisht Sansthan Vishwakarma Award in 14 categories to institutions under AICTE

Ramesh Pokhriyal conferred 2nd Utkrisht Sansthan Vishwakarma Award in 14 categories to the Institutions under AICTE on Vishwakarma Divas Celebration. The Award aims to motivate, recognize and honour AICTE approved institutions to raise

their performance. Utkrisht Sansthan Vishwakarma Awards conferred annually by AICTE

9. Chef Vikas Khanna honoured with Asia Game Changer award for feeding millions in India amid Covid crisis

Michelin-star chef Vikas Khanna will be honoured with the prestigious 2020 Asia Game Changer Award for feeding millions across India amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The Award was launched by Asia Society. Khanna is the only Indian among the six honourees. Asia Society is a US-based non-profit organisation.

10. Colombian reporter Jineth Bedoya Lima honoured with Golden Pen award

The Golden Pen of Freedom is WAN-IFRA's highest honour, presented to a journalist who in writing or deed, contributes to the cause of press freedom. Star Media Group Bhd (SMG) currently sits on the board of WEF. It is also a member of WEF's Asia Chapter. WEF is a Paris-based editors' network within the WAN-IFRA.

11. TV series 'Schitt's Creek' wins all comedy awards at Emmys 2020

Schitt's Creek set a new record for most wins in a single season for a comedy series, winning 7 Emmys in a row including the awards for Outstanding Comedy Series, Outstanding Writing, and Directing. Succession & Watchmen, both from HBO, won 4 awards each. Catherine O'Hara and Eugene Levy won the acting awards

12. President Ram Nath Kovind to confer National Service Scheme Awards for 2018-19

President will confer the NSS Awards for the year 2018-19 virtually from Rashtrapati Bhawan. The NSS Award for the year 2018-19 will be given to 42 awardees in 3 diff. categories like University, NSS Units and their Prog. Officers & NSS Volunteers. NSS is a Centrally Sector Scheme launched in 1969



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Ranks & Reports

1. Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India report for 2019

139,123 people died by suicide & 421,104 were killed in accidents, according to the Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India report for 2019 released by NCRB. In 2018-19, number of people dying in accidents increased by 2.3% while for suicides it was 3.4%. Natural Disasters killed 8,000 people 2% of all deaths.

2. India ranked in top 50 nations in the Global Innovation Index 2020

India is ranked 48 in the Global Innovation Index compiled by World Intellectual Property along with Cornell University & INSEAD. It presents the innovation ranking in 131 economies. Switzerland, Sweden, USA, UK & Netherlands were placed in the top five. India – 3rd most innovative lower middle-economy in the world.

3. THE World University Ranking 2021

A record number of Indian universities (63) qualified for the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Ranking 2021. China's Tsinghua University becomes the first-ever Asian university to make the overall top 20. US was the most represented country. UK's Oxford University placed in top for 5th consecutive year.

4. PayPal & DSCI report on Fraud & Risk Management in Digital Payments

Data Security Council of India and PayPal India released a study report on Fraud & Risk Management in Digital Payments. It discusses the threats in the payment ecosystem and recommendations for various stakeholders involved in the payment ecosystem. DSCI – Premier industry body on data protection. HQ: Noida.

5. China boasts world's largest navy: US Department of Defence report

US Department of defence has released its '2020 China Military Power Report' showing that the People's Republic of China has the largest navy in the world, surpassing the US Navy. China was on course to expand its fleet to 360 vessels by the end of 2020. RIMPAC is the largest international maritime warfare exercise.

6. UN report flags changes in food system to boost climate action

According to the Enhancing Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for Food Systems report published by UNEP, adopting diets and solutions for food loss can boost climate action by 25 per cent. The report identified 16 ways to address the issue. Member countries of Paris Agreement to revise NDC every 5 years.

7. 'The State of Young Child in India' report launched by VP Naidu

Kerala, Goa, Tripura, Tamil Nadu & Mizoram are among the top 5 States for well-being of children according to a report by NGO Mobile Creches. The index was constructed for 2 time periods - 2005-2006 and 2015-2016. India spent ₹1,723 per child in 2018-2019. Jharkhand, MP, Chhattisgarh – Worst Performing States.

8. India's child mortality rate declined between 1990 and 2019: UN

India's child mortality rate declined substantially between 1990 and 2019 but India along with Nigeria, still accounted for almost a third of all under-five deaths last year, according to a new UN report The Levels & Trends in Child Mortality Report 2020. Under-5 mortality rate declined to 34 in 2019 from 126 in 1990.

9. India is yet to take urgent action for eliminating trans fats: WHO report

According to Countdown to 2023 report by WHO 58 countries have introduced laws to protect 3.2 billion people from trans fats by the end of 2021. But more than 100

countries still need to take actions to remove these substances from their food supplies. WHO has set a goal of eliminating trans fats by 2023.

10. Vertebrate Population Saw Average Decline of 68% in 46 Years: Living Planet Report

According to WWF's biennial Living Planet report 2020, drastic changes in land and sea use, overexploitation of species, high pollution levels and climate change has led to an average decline of 68% in the global vertebrate population b/w 1970 and 2016. Living Planet report: Biennial Report WWF Founded in 1961

11. Gujarat, Andaman & Nicobar Islands named best performers in govt's startup ranking

States were awarded according to performances across 7 categories: Institutional Support, Easing Compliances, Relaxation in Public Procurement norms, Incubation support, Seed Funding Support, Venture Funding Support, and Awareness & Outreach. Released by: DPIIT Top Performer: Karnataka, Kerala.

12. India slips 26 places in global economic freedom index

India ranked 105 among 162 countries and territories on the index of global economic freedom, according to the Economic Freedom of the World: 2020 report released by the Fraser Institute in Canada.

India ranked 79th in the previous edition of this report. India did worse in size of govt, regulations & freedom to trade.

13. Global Preparedness Monitoring Board (GPMB) releases report 'A WORLD IN DISORDER'

The report highlights how the social and economic impact of pandemics for the vulnerable and disadvantaged is often underestimated and ignored. It would take 500 years to spend as much on preparedness as the world is currently losing due to COVID-19. GPMB -co-convened by World Bank & WHO Chair: Gro Harlem Brundtlan

14. India ranks 116 in World Bank's human capital index

India's score increased to 0.49 from 0.44 in 2018, as per the Human Capital Index report released by the World Bank. It benchmarks key components of human capital across countries and India is ranked at 116. The index ranks a total of 174 countries. 13th President of World Bank: David Malpass.

15. Indian Cities Slip in Global Smart City Index, Singapore on top

Institute for Management Development, in collaboration with Singapore University for Technology & Design released the 2020 Smart City Index, with key findings on how technology is playing a role in the Covid-19 era. Helsinki & Zurich ranked 2nd & 3rd. Ranks: Hyderabad-85, New Delhi-86, Mumbai-93, Bengaluru-95.

16. World's richest 1% cause double CO₂ emissions of poorest 50%, says Oxfam

The report, compiled by Oxfam and the Stockholm Environment Institute states that The wealthiest 1% of the world's population were responsible for the emission of more than twice as much carbon dioxide as the poorer half of the world from 1990 to 2015. Carbon dioxide emissions rose by 60% over the 25-year period

17. HDFC Bank was ranked as India's tops 2020 BrandZ Top 75 Most Valuable Indian Brands rankings

HDFC Bank was ranked as India's top brand for the seventh consecutive year in a row in the 2020 BrandZ Top 75 Most Valuable Indian Brands rankings. The bank is

estimated to have a brand value of \$20.3 billion. The report was released by WPP & Kantar. LIC is ranked 2nd with a brand value of \$18.3.

18. CRIF India, SIDBI team-up to unveil sector-based insight reports

CRIF India has team up with SIDBI apex financial institution for MSMEs in India, for the launching of sector-based insight reports titled 'Industry Spotlight'. Series of quarterly reports providing data & trends on key industry sectors will be launched. SIDBI HQs: Lucknow Founded: 1990

19. NITI Aayog & IEA released Special Report On Sustainable Recovery

IEA in alliance with NITI Aayog released Special Report on Sustainable Recovery. Part of IEA's flagship World Energy Outlook series, the report proposes a no. of actions that could be taken over the next 3yrs to revitalize economies & boost employment. IEA HQs: Paris, France Founded: Nov.1974

20. UNCTAD forecasts India GDP to contract by 5.9% in 2020

The Trade and Development Report 2020 by UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) forecasts India GDP to contract by 5.9% in 2020 warning that while growth will rebound next year, the contraction is likely to translate into a permanent income loss. UNCTAD expects South Asia to contract 4.8% in 2020; Formed: 1964

21. First-ever annual 'India Happiness Report' released

The 1st ever annual 'India Happiness Report', which is India specific and studies happiness in the 36 states & UTs of India, has been released. In the happiness rankings of states and union territories, Mizoram, Punjab, A&N Islands are the top three. Among big states Punjab, Gujarat & Telangana are top 3.

22. Godrej's Smita V Crishna India's richest woman with ₹32,400 cr wealth: Hurun list

Smita V Crishna has been named as India's richest woman with a wealth of ₹32,400cr, according to IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2020. Biocon Chairperson Kiran Mazumdar Shaw was named India's richest self-made woman with a wealth of ₹31,600cr. Mukesh Ambani topped the IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2020



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Important Days

1. National Nutrition Week 2020: September 1 to September 7

National Nutrition Week celebrated on the first week of September (Sep 1 to Sep 7) was launched by Ministry of Women and Child Development's Food and Nutrition Board in 1982 with an objective to raise awareness on the importance of nutrition for human body Minister of Women & Child Development: Smriti Zubin Irani.

2. World Letter Writing Day: September 1

World Letter Writing Day was established by Richard Simpkin as a tribute to the joy and excitement he felt when a hand-written letter would arrive in his mailbox. This came out as a result of a project he was working on called Australian Legends. It is celebrated on September 1 every year.

3. World Coconut Day: September 2

The first-ever celebration of world coconut day was in 2009. The main objective of celebrating this day is to create awareness across the globe about the importance of the coconut and its benefits. The theme for 2020: Invest in Coconut to save the world. In India, Kerala tops the production in coconut.

4. National Teachers' Day: September 5

Every year on Sep 5 National Teachers' Day is celebrated to honour teachers. This day was designated in 1962 to celebrate one the greatest teachers, Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. National Teachers' Awards is conferred to celebrate contribution of teachers. 47 teachers are selected for the award this year.

5. International Day of Charity: 5 September

International Day of Charity was established to sensitize and mobilize people, NGOs, and stakeholders to help others through volunteer and philanthropic activities. It commemorates the birth anniversary of Mother Teresa, recipient of Noble Peace Prize. Teresa founded the order of Missionaries of Charity in Kolkata.

6. International Day of Clean Air for blue skies: 7 September

September 7, 2020 marked the 1st-ever International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies as part of a resolution taken by UN on December 19, 2019. It intends to emphasize on the ill-effects of air pollution and calls for action against the environmental evil. The theme for 2020 is "Clean Air for All".

7. International Literacy Day: 8 September

At the 14th session of UNESCO's general conference in 1966, the first-ever International Literacy Day was declared and since then it has been celebrated annually on September 8, in an effort to highlight the importance of literacy to individuals. Theme: Literacy teaching & learning in Covid-19 crisis & beyond.

8. International Day to Protect Education from Attack: 9 September

International Day to Protect Education from Attack to be celebrated for the first time in 2020. It draws attention to the plight of more than 75 million 3-to-18-year-olds living in 35 crisis-affected countries & to their urgent need of educational support. Theme for 2020: "Protect Education, Save a Generation".

9. World Suicide Prevention Day: September 10

World Suicide Prevention Day is observed annually on Sep10. In 2003 International Association for Suicide Prevention collaborated with the World Health Organisation and

World Federation for Mental Health to host the first-ever World Suicide Prevention Day. The theme for 2020: Working Together to Prevent Suicide.

10. National Forest Martyrs Day: September 11

Forest Martyrs Day is observed on September 11 every year to remember those who laid their lives for nature. On September 11, 1730 over 360 people of the Bishnoi tribe were killed because they had objected to felling of Khejri trees by the king of Jodhpur. Minister of Environment: Prakash Javadekar.

11. Hindi Diwas 2020: September 14

Hindi Diwas is celebrated on Sep 14 annually. The Constituent Assembly of India had in 1949 recognised and adopted Hindi as the official language. It is one of the 22 scheduled languages of the Republic of India. Hindi and English are 2 official languages. As mentioned in Article 343 Hindi is official language of India.

12. International Day of Democracy: 15 September

In 2007 UN General Assembly resolved to observe 15 September as the International Day of Democracy—with the purpose of promoting and upholding the principles of democracy. In Sep 1997 Inter-Parliamentary Union adopted a Universal Declaration on Democracy. The theme for 2020 is COVID-19: A Spotlight on Democracy.

13. National Engineer's Day: September 15

India celebrated Engineer's Day to mark the Birth Anniversary of the renowned Indian Engineer Bharat Ratna Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya. He was the Chief Engineer of Krishna Raja Sagara dam in Mysuru and also designed a flood protection system for Hyderabad. He was awarded the title of Knight by King George V.

14. World ozone Day: September 16

September 16 is celebrated as World Ozone Day across the world to aware people about the depletion of the Ozone Layer and its impact on life. In 1985, the governments at the global level adopted the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer. 2020 Theme: Ozone for life: 35 years of ozone layer protection.

15. World Patient Safety Day: 17 September

Recognizing patient safety as a global health priority, all 194 WHO Member States at 72nd WHA, in May 2019, endorsed the establishment of World Patient Safety Day to increase public awareness to promote patient safety. 2020 – 2nd edition of the day. 2020 Theme: Health Worker Safety: A Priority for Patient Safety.

16. International Equal Pay Day: 18 September

International Equal Pay Day observed for the 1st time this 18 September under an initiative by the UN, aims at highlighting the importance of achieving equal pay for work of equal value. In India, women earn 19 per cent less than men, according to a survey Focus: Building a better future of work by ensuring pay equity.

17. World Alzheimer's Day

World Alzheimer's Day is observed on September 21 every year to raise awareness, educate about Alzheimer's and Dementia. This day is celebrated to understand the importance of talking about dementia & demystify it. Theme 2020: 'Let's talk about dementia'.

18. International Day of Peace

World Peace Day is observed every year on September 21. A United Nations-designated day, it was first established in 1981. On this day, the world body encourages countries to observe the day by adhering to 24 hours of non-violence. 2020 Theme: Shaping Peace Together. UN HQs: New York, USA.

19. World Rose Day: September 22

Every year on September 22, World Rose Day is celebrated in memory of Melinda Rose. The day is dedicated to spread awareness about the disease that is a result of abnormal cell growth and has the potential to invade or spread to other parts of the body. 2020 Theme: "Changing The Way We Look at Cancer"

20. World Rhinoceros Day: 22 September

World Rhino Day is celebrated on September 22 every year. India is home to the largest number of Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros in the world. On the occasion, Environment Ministry has launched a National Conservation Strategy for Indian One-Horned Rhino. World Rhino Day was 1st announced by WWF-South Africa in 2010

21. International Day of Sign Languages: 23 September

UN observes 23rd September as the International Day of Sign Languages to raise awareness of the importance of sign language in realization of human rights of people who are deaf. It was 1st celebrated in 2018 as part of the International Week of the Deaf. International Week of the Deaf was 1st celebrated in Sept. 1958

22. World Maritime Day: 24 September (last Thursday of September)

World Maritime Day was first held in 1978 to mark the 20th anniversary of the IMO Convention's entry into force. The promotion of sustainable shipping and sustainable maritime development is one of the major priorities of IMO in the coming years. 2020 Theme: Sustainable Shipping for a Sustainable Planet

23. World Pharmacists Day: 25th September

Every year World Pharmacists Day is observed on September 25. It is organised by the International Pharmaceutical Federation(FIP). The aim is to bring attention to pharmacies and the positive benefits they offer. 2020 theme "Transforming global health". FIP was established on 25th September 1912.

24. International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons | 26 September

UN General Assembly declared the International Day in December 2013, as a follow-up to the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament held in New York to seek deeper engagement on nuclear disarmament matters. Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, signed in 1970.

25. World Tourism Day | 27 September 2020

The 2020 edition of World Tourism Day, with the theme of "Tourism and Rural Development", will celebrate the unique role that tourism plays in providing opportunities outside of big cities and preserving cultural and natural heritage all around the world. Nations from Mercosur bloc will serve as joint hosts for 2020.

26. International Day for Universal Access to Information: 28 September

Every year International Day for Universal Access to Information is observed on Sept. 28. In 2015, UNESCO declared 28 Sept. as International Day for Universal Access to Information. In 2020 The Day focuses on to the right to information in times of crisis. UNESCO HQs: Paris, France; Founded: 1945; D-G: Audrey Azoulay.

27. World Rabies Day: 28 September

September 28 is World Rabies Day, a global health observance started in 2007 to raise awareness about rabies and bring together partners to enhance prevention and control efforts worldwide. 2020 theme: End Rabies: Collaborate, Vaccinate. WHO & FAO have pledged to eliminate death from Rabies by 2030.

28. International Day of Awareness on Food Loss and Waste Reduction: 29 September

1st International Day of Awareness of Food Loss & Waste is observed on 29th Sept. 2020. In 2019, UN designated 29 Sept. as Int. Day of Awareness of Food Loss & Waste recognizing the vital role sustainable food production plays in promoting food security. THEME: Stop food loss and waste. For the people. For the planet.

29. World Heart Day: 29th September

Every year World Heart Day is observed on 29th September.

It was created by the World Heart Federation on September 29, 1999 to inform people around the globe that cardiovascular disease is the world's leading cause of death claiming many lives each year. 2020 Theme: Use heart to beat CVD.

30. International Translation Day: 30th September

Each year, translators, interpreters & terminologists celebrate International Translation Day (ITD) on 30 Sept., the feast of St. Jerome, the Bible translator, who is considered the patron saint of translators. In 2017, the UN declared 30 Sept. as ITD. 2020 Theme: Finding the words for a world in crisis



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Summit & Conferences

1. India to host summit of SCO council of heads of government on November

India has been focusing on expanding its cooperation with the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, an eight-nation regional grouping that represents around 42% of the world's population and 20% of the global GDP. India was an observer at the SCO since 2005. India became full member of SCO in 2017.

2. Arjun Munda inaugurates '2 Days National Tribal Research Conclave' being held virtually

Ministry of Tribal affairs is funding 26 Tribal Research Institutes for research under Grant to TRIs and is engaged in quality research in collaboration with various institutes. National Institute for Tribal research is being set up in partnership with IIP IIPA- Indian Institute of Public Administration.

3. Eurasian Foundation organised Indo-Russian Young Scholars International E-Conference 2020

The 3- day long Indo-Russian young scholars International Conference 2020 was organized by Eurasian Foundation in collaboration with Indian Centre under Institute of Oriental Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences and Russian Centre for Science and Culture. 2020 Conference "India-Russia domestic & bilateral developments"

4. First India-France-Australia Trilateral Dialogue held virtually

India, Australia & France held talks for the first time under a trilateral framework focussing on enhancing cooperation in Indo-Pacific. Countries also had an exchange on priorities, challenges and trends in regional and global multilateral institutions. Foreign Secretary represented India in the meeting.

5. MoS V. Muraleedharan attends 10th East Asia Summit Foreign Ministers' Meeting

The East Asia Summit is the premier forum in the Asia-Pacific region to deal with issues relating to security and defence. Since its inception in 2005, it has played a significant role in the strategic, geopolitical and economic evolution of East Asia. India is a founding member of the East Asia Summit.

6. New ASEAN-India Plan of Action adopted for 5 years at Ministerial Meeting

Dr. S. Jaishankar co-chaired the ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting along with his Thailand counterpart. Foreign Ministers of 10 ASEAN member states and India participated in the meeting. New ASEAN-India Plan of Action (2021-2025) was adopted at the Meeting. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations was founded in 1967.

7. Virtual meeting of G-20 Agriculture, Water Ministers held

The meeting was attended by Jal Shakti Minister G.S Shekhawat and MoS for Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare Parshottam Rupala. The Jal Shakti Minister assured about India's commitment to contribute towards the objectives, goals and targets set by G-20. Jal Jeevan Mission provide tap connections to 190mn. rural home

8. India, Brazil, South Africa (IBSA) call for comprehensive reform of UN Security Council

External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar chaired the meeting of IBSA Foreign Minister. IBSA emphasized the need for international community to redouble efforts to achieve tangible progress for accelerated & comprehensive reform of the UN Security Council IBSA was founded in June 2003 in Brasilia, Brazil.

9. Vice-President Naidu inaugurates CII global Ayurveda virtual meet

Inaugurating the CII Global Ayurveda Summit on the theme Emerging Opportunities for Ayurveda during Pandemic, VP Venkaiah Naidu stressed on the need for Ayurveda to connect with technology and target new market segments by using non-traditional means. CII – Confederation of Indian Industry HQ: New Delhi.

10. 10th virtual meeting of BRICS NSAs held

10th Meeting of the BRICS High Representatives on National Security chaired by Russia was held virtually. It is an association of 5 economies: Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa. BRICS was formed in 2009. South Africa was added to BRICS in 2010. Originally, there were four members grouped together as BRIC.

11. 6th BRICS Communication Ministers Meeting held in virtual format

Sanjay Dhotre, Minister of State for Communications, Electronics & Information Technology & Education participated in the meeting on behalf of India during the sixth BRICS Communication Ministers Meeting. Russian minister Maxim Parshin hosted the meeting. BRICS: Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.

12. India to conduct Vaishwik Bharatiya Vaigyanik Summit

The VAIBHAV Summit is a collaborative initiative by Science & Technology and Academic Organisations of India to enable deliberations on thought process, practices and R&D culture with a problem-solving approach for well-defined objectives. PM will inaugurate the VAIBHAV Summit on October 2, 2020.

13. Election Commission of India hosts an International Webinar

The ECI hosted an Int. Webinar on the Theme 'Issues, Challenges & Protocols for Conducting Elections during COVID-19: Sharing Country Experiences' on completion of its 1 year of Chairmanship of the Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB). A-WEB is the largest association of Election Management Bodies.

14. Union Commerce and Industry & Railways Minister participates in the G-20 meeting of the Trade and Investment Ministers

Piyush Goyal took part in the virtual meeting of the G-20 Trade and Investment Minister. He said that India is not in a position to accept the concept of DFFT & Stresses on the importance of small retailers in sustaining food chains and essential supplies. G20 Summit 2020 will be held in Saudi Arabia's capital Riyadh.

15. PM Modi to hold virtual summit with Sri Lankan PM Mahinda Rajapaksa

PM will hold discussions with his Sri Lankan counterpart on Sept. 26 in India's 1st virtual summit in the neighbourhood. Leaders are expected to deliberate on issues like ways to deepen anti-terror cooperation, boost overall defence & trade ties. Sri Lanka's Capital: Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte; Currency: Rupee

16. UN, Britain to co-host a global climate summit on Dec 12

UN & Britain will co-host a global climate summit on Dec 12, the 5th anniversary of the landmark Paris Agreement. The summit is intended to increase momentum ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 26) to be held in Glasgow in Nov. 2021. HQs: New York, US Founded: 1945 Sec. Gen. : António Guterres

17. India holds webinar with Cambodian Army to boost Defence cooperation

Union government held a webinar with officials of the Cambodian Army to boost defence cooperation as part of a series of webinars being organised with friendly foreign countries in order to boost Indian defence exports & achieve the Defence export targets Cambodia Capital: Phnom Penh; Currency: Cambodian riel

18. MeitY & NITI Aayog to organize "RAISE 2020" summit

MeitY & NITI Aayog will organize a Virtual Summit on AI, RAISE 2020- Responsible AI for Social Empowerment 2020 from Oct 5-9, 2020. It will facilitate to exchange ideas & chart course for using AI for social transformation, inclusion & empowerment.

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology Founded: 2016

19. G20 summit to be held virtually: Saudi hosts

Saudi Arabia announced that it will hold the G20 summit virtually in Nov, instead of having leaders of the world's richest nations converge on Riyadh. The 2020 G20 Leaders' Summit will be held on Nov. 21-22 & will be chaired by King Salman bin Saud. G20 Summit will focus on protecting lives and restoring growth



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Science & Technology

1. CSIR-CMERI develops World's Largest Solar Tree

CSIR's Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute has claimed to have developed world's largest solar tree, which is installed at its residential complex in West Bengal and created a model which can be customised for use in agricultural activities. The installed capacity of the tree is above 11.5 Kilowatts peak.

2. Indian Astronomers discover one of the farthest Star galaxies in the universe

India's first Multi-Wavelength Space Observatory AstroSat detected extreme-UV light from a galaxy named AUDFs01, located 9.3 billion light-years away from Earth. It was discovered by a team of astronomers led by Dr Kanak Saha from the IUCAA Pune. IUCAA - Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics.

3. Atmanirbhar Bharat: IIT Delhi incubated startup launches 'Chakr DeCoV' to decontaminate N95 masks

Designed in the shape of a cabinet, 'Chakr DeCoV' is built with an innovative decontamination mechanism, which utilises the high penetrability of Ozone gas for cleaning the pores of the N95 mask, ensuring complete decontamination of its intricate layers. Ozone is a strong oxidizing agent that destroys viruses.

4. Chandrayaan-3 launch likely in early 2021

According to the MoS for Space Jitendra Singh Chandrayaan-3, India's mission to Moon is likely to be launched in early 2021. Unlike Chandrayaan-2, it will not have an orbiter but will include a lander and a rover. Chandrayaan-2 was launched in July 2019. ISRO's maiden mission to moon Chandrayaan-1 was launched in 2008

5. Scientists developed a neural-based practical approach for automatic interpretation of 3D seismic data

To automate the process of interpretation of growing seismic data to explore causes of earthquake, Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology(WIHG) under Dept of Science & Tech developed a neural-based approach for automatic interpretation of 3D seismic data. It is the first approach developed by computing meta-attribute.

6. SCTIMST develops device for prevention of Deep Vein Thrombosis

Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum (SCTIMST), an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology, has developed an indigenous low-cost device for the prevention of Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT). The device by the SCTIMST costs less than 1 Lakh.

7. IPFT develops new Disinfectant Sprays to prevent microbial infections

Institute of Pesticide Formulation Technology, an autonomous Institution under Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals developed alcohol-based Disinfectant Spray for the surface applications and to remove pesticide residues left on fruits & vegetables. IPFT Director: Dr Jitendra Kumar. Established in 1991.

8. IIT-Guwahati develops self-check kiosk to fight Covid

IIT - Guwahati in collaboration with Workspace Metal Solution has developed a self-check kiosk which can detect if an individual is running a temperature or has low blood oxygen levels - symptoms of Covid-19 and other bacterial & viral infections. With this, 99.99% of the virus can be disinfected in 10seconds.

9. Google announces Verified Calls to identify genuine callers, reason for calling

Google announced Verified Calls, similar to Verified SMS that identifies the caller, reason for calling. It will state if a caller is authenticated by Google & will state reason for their calls. It is to be rolled out in US, Mexico, Brazil, Spain & India. Verified Calls can receive competition from Truecaller in India.

10. CSIR Collaborates With Aurobindo Pharma To Develop COVID-19 Vaccines

Council of Scientific and Industrial Research - Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology & Aurobindo Pharma Limited partnered to develop vaccines for COVID-19. Aurobindo is already developing a vaccine through its wholly-owned US subsidiary Auro Vaccines. Aurobindo Pharma HQ: Hyderabad. CCMB is located in Hyderabad.

11. IIM, Kozhikode based incubatee start-up launches wearable gadget for implementing social distancing norms

Known as Veli Band this wearable device was developed by Qual5 India, a start-up co-founded by woman entrepreneur Kiranmayee. It helps to implement social distancing by momentarily buzzing and flashing LED to notify presence of another band within 3 feet. Veli band is omnidirectional and uses Bluetooth for detection.

12. Scientists discovers a Jupiter-sized planet WD 1856 b

Scientists have, for the first time, discovered a Jupiter-sized planet orbiting a white dwarf or a dead star located about 80 light years away. Planet named WD 1856 b, orbits the smaller star remnant every 34 hours. A year on this planet is only 1.4 days. This discovery reveals that white dwarfs can have planets.

13. NASA Publishes Artemis Plan to Land First Woman, Next Man on Moon in 2024

NASA revealed to return astronauts to Moon in 2024 & estimated the cost at \$28bn. \$16bn. would be spent on lunar landing module. 3 projects are competing to build lunar lander that will carry 2 astronauts including 1 woman to Moon from their vessel Orion. National Aeronautics & Space Administration- space agency of U.S

14. Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize 2020: 12 researchers receive India's highest science award

Prize is given to Indian scientists below the age of 45 for outstanding research in 7 fields: Biology, Chemistry, Environment Science, Engineering, Maths, Medicine & Physics. A book & a short film on the contributions of CSIR laboratories & institutes Dr D Chakraborty, was awarded the CSIR Young Scientist Award



Defence

1. MoD inks contracts worth Rs 2,580 cr for supply of Pinaka Regiments to Indian Army

Acquisition Wing of Ministry of Defence inked contracts with Bharat Earth Movers, Tata Power Company and Larsen & Toubro (L&T) for supply of six Pinaka Regiments to the Regiment of Artillery of the Indian Army at an approximate cost of Rs 2,580 crore. Pinaka Multiple Launch Rocket System is developed by DRDO.

2. India, Russia to hold Naval drills in Andaman Sea

India & Russia will hold bilateral naval exercise INDRA 2020 in Andaman Sea, close to strategic Strait of Malacca, while the Indian Navy is on high operational alert due to the standoff with China in Ladakh. 3 Russian Naval ships will take part in this. Russian Capital-Moscow, Currency- Russian ruble.

3. India, Russia finalise AK-47 203 rifles deal

India & Russia finalised a deal for manufacturing AK-47 203 rifles in India during Defence Minister's visit to Russia. AK-47 203 is the latest and most advanced version of the AK-47 rifle. Indian Army has a requirement for around 770,000 AK-47 203 rifles. The rifles will be manufactured in India as part of IRRPL.

4. 11th INDRA NAVY: Bilateral maritime exercise between Indian and Russian Navy

The 11th edition of exercise INDRA NAVY, a biennial bilateral maritime exercise between Indian and Russian Navy conducted in Bay of Bengal. Due to restrictions posed by the pandemic, INDRA NAVY-20 would be undertaken in a 'non-contact, at sea only' format. INDRA NAVY was initiated in 2003.

5. India successfully test scramjet technology for hypersonic missiles

DRDO successfully demonstrated its hypersonic air-breathing scramjet technology. The cruise vehicle attained 6 times the speed of sound. India has now joined a group of nations including the US, Russia & China that have demonstrated hypersonic technology. It was launched from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Launch Complex, Odisha.

6. Govt constitutes EGoM to guide corporatisation of Ordnance Factory Board

To convert Ordnance Factory Board, a subordinate office of Ministry of Defence into one or more than one 100% Government-owned corporate entities, Govt has constituted an Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) under the chairmanship of Minister of Defence. Minister of State for Defence: Shripad Yesso Naik.

7. Govt raises FDI limit in defence sector to 74% through automatic route with 'national security' clause

The centre has relaxed Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) norms in the defence sector by allowing 74% FDI under the automatic route but it reserves the right to scrutinise any investment proposal which it thinks may impact India's national security. National Security Clause added due to sensitivity of the sector.

8. DRDO conducts successful flight test of ABHYAS

The successful flight test of ABHYAS - High-speed Expendable Aerial Target conducted by DRDO from the Interim Test Range, Balasore in Odisha. Abhyas is designed and developed by the Aeronautical Development Establishment of DRDO. DRDO Chairman: Dr. G. Satheesh Reddy; Formed: 1958

9. DRDO successfully test fires Laser-Guided Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM)

The DRDO successfully test-fired Laser-Guided ATGM from the main battle tank Arjun. The test was conducted at the KK Ranges, Ahmednagar. It is developed with multiple-platform launch capability & is currently undergoing technical evaluation trials. DRDO Chairman: Dr. G. Satheesh Reddy; HQs: New Delhi

10. Indian Navy, Royal Australian Navy Passage Exercise underway in Indian Ocean

PASSEX underway between Royal Australian Navy and Indian Navy in Eastern Indian Ocean Region. Air Warfare Destroyer HMAS Hobart, Stealth Frigate INS Sahyadri and Missile Corvette INS Karmuk are engaged in complex Maritime Exercises. Australia Capital: Canberra; Currency: Australian dollar

11. India, Japan 3-day naval exercise JIMEX begins in Arabian sea

4th edition of India - Japan Maritime bilateral exercise JIMEX, which is conducted biennially between the Indian Navy and Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) is being held in the North Arabian Sea in a 'non-contact at-sea-only format'. 'JIMEX' series of exercises commenced in January 2012.

12. Defence Minister launches Defence India Startup Challenge-4 (DISC 4), releases PMA guidelines for iDEX

Def. Minister launched DISC 4 during the iDEX event, featuring the initiatives aimed at expanding the horizons of Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX). He also launched the iDEX4Fauji initiative & Product Management Approach guidelines in the event iDEX4Fauji will bolster innovation ideas from Armed Forces



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Books & Authors

1. Karan Johar debuts as an author for a children's book

The book titled 'The Big Thoughts of Little Luv' revolves around how we differentiate between boys and girls while raising them. In the book, the filmmaker has shared his experience of parenting his twins. It will be published by Juggernaut Books. Karan Johar's autobiography: An Unsuitable Boy.

2. Pope Francis' new book to hit stands in December

The book titled Let Us Dream is a product of the numerous exchanges between Pope Francis and his biographer Austen Ivereigh, in the weeks following the coronavirus outbreak. It will hit the stands on December 1 in English and Spanish editions. Pope Francis is the head of the Catholic Church.

3. Goonmeet Singh Chauhan's New Book 'Invertonomics' Talks about Transforming India

The book dissects 8 specific problems amongst the most pressing issues of the country using a methodology coined by the author as 'Invertonomics' - a model that Invert problems into economic opportunities. The book is published by Harper Collins -India. The author co-founded Design Forum International based in Delhi.

4. UNEP Launches book titled 'The Little book of Green Nudges'

The Little Book of Green Nudges is a quick guide to reducing your campus' environmental impact through a behavioural change in the form of a concise and user-friendly publication. It is UNEP's first book on behavioural science. UNEP - United Nations Environment Programme.

5. Author Radha Nair on her book 'Breaking The Cocoon @ 40'

Radha Nair's 'Breaking The Cocoon @ 40' is a delightful collection of select events from her life, which also holds a mirror to the time the incidents are set in. The book ends with a moving poem written on the eve of her husband's first death anniversary. Book by Nair & her friend -The God Who Rules A Kingdom.

6. Book titled The End of an Era; India Exits Tibet authored by Claude Arpi

How China developed its Tibet playbook that includes encroachment, occupation, and the spinning of a narrative of false claims is examined in rich detail by Claude Arpi in his four volumes on Tibet's relations with India. It is the last book in the series. It focuses on last 5 years of India's diplomatic presence in Tibet

7. The book Azadi: Freedom. Fascism. Fiction by Arundhati Roy

Azadi: Freedom. Fascism. Fiction by Arundhati Roy is a collection of essays which encourages readers to reflect on the meaning of freedom in a world of authoritarianism. It invites readers to view pandemic time as an opportunity to imagine another world. It is published by the Penguin Random House, India.

8. Penguin to release Obama's Memoir 'A Promised Land'

Former President Barack Obama's new memoir will be published in November, shortly after the election, his publisher, Penguin Random House, announced. The 768-page book will be the first of two volumes and will be released in 25 languages. 'Becoming' is the book authored by Michelle Obama.

9. "Voice of Dissent" authored by Historian Romila Thapar

R. Thapar come out with a historical essay, exploring dissent, including articulation & public response to its particular forms with a focus on protests in nation. Penguin

Random House India & Seagull Books will publish the book titled "Voices of Dissent". In 2008, Romila Thapar won Kluge Prize for study of humanity.

10. "Kitchens of Gratitude" authored by Chef Vikas Khanna

Penguin Random House India announced that Star chef will write about his Feed India initiative, one of the world's largest food drives serving meals to the underprivileged amid COVID-19 pandemic. The book, Kitchens of Gratitude, will be released in 2021. He will be honoured with the 2020 Asia Game Changer Award in Oct

11. Defence Minister launches author Dr Krishna Saksena's 'A bouquet of flowers'

Def. Minister launched a book written by Dr Krishna Saksena- 1st lady to get PhD in 1955. Through the book, Dr Saksena, presents a series of anecdotes that allow reader to extract the moral of the stories, rather than a didactic imposition of her views. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is the Lok Sabha MP from Lucknow

Miscellaneous

1. Drug Controller General of India approves commercial launch of COVID-19 test 'FELUDA'

The Tata Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats, CRISPR test, powered by CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (IGIB) FELUDA has received regulatory approvals from the Drug Controller General of India for commercial launch. Test uses indigenously developed cutting-edge CRISPR technology.



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Obituary

1. Former President Pranab Mukherjee passes away

Former President of India Pranab Mukherjee passed away. The Coalition Years, Turbulent Years, The Dramatic Decade are some of the books written by him. He was awarded India's highest civilian honour, the Bharat Ratna by President of India, Ram Nath Kovind. He was the 13th President of India.

2. Former envoy Katyayani Shankar Bajpai dies of COVID-19

Katyayani Shankar Bajpai, former ambassador to China, US and Pakistan and Secretary in MEA passed away. His father Girija Shankar Bajpai was the first secretary-general of the Ministry of External Affairs of a newly independent India. He established an independent think tank, the Delhi Policy Group

3. India's first female cardiologist, Dr Siva Ramakrishna Iyer Padmavati, dies at 103 of COVID-19

Dr Siva Ramakrishna Iyer Padmavati, India's first female cardiologist, passed away at the age of 103 of coronavirus disease (COVID-19)-related complications. She is popularly known as the God Mother of Cardiology. She was the founder of NHI hospital. She also founded the All India Heart Foundation.

4. Former England Cricketer David Capel dies aged 57

David Capel, the former England allrounder and stalwart of Northamptonshire as a player, captain and later coach. He became the first cricketer born in the county to play a Test for England in 77 years when he made his debut against Pakistan in July 1987. He represented England in 15 tests and 23 ODIs.

5. Renowned astronomer, radio-astronomy pioneer Govind Swarup dies

Globally acclaimed scientist Govind Swarup, one of the pioneers in radio-astronomy, passed away. He played a key role in building highly innovative, world-class radio telescopes such as Ooty Radio Telescope and the Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT). He was a Padma Shri, Bhatnagar & Grote Reber awardee.

6. Jiri Menzel: Oscar winning Czech director dies at 82

Oscar-winning Czech director Jiri Menzel has died aged 82. He won an Academy Award in 1968 for the best foreign-language film for World War Two drama Closely Watched Trains. Menzel received a second Oscar nomination for his film My Sweet Little Village. Closely Watched Trains was based on a novel by Bohumil Hrabal.

7. Kesavananda Bharati Swamiji of Edneer Mutt passes away at 80

The seer, known as Srimad Jagadguru Sri Sri Sankaracharya Thotakacharya Kesavananda Bharati Sripadaganlavaru, headed the mutt since 1961. He was a petitioner of the historic judgement of the Supreme Court on a Fundamental Rights case. Edneer Mutt is located at Kasaragod in Kerala.

8. Actor Jaya Prakash Reddy Dies At 74

South actor Jaya Prakash Reddy, who was best-known for his comic and villainous roles in Telugu films, died. Jaya Prakash Reddy featured in a number of Telugu and Tamil films like Brahma Puthrudu, Samarasimha Reddy, Uthamaputhiran, Aaru, etc., Telegu Cinema is also known as Tollywood.

9. Diana Rigg, Avengers and Game of Thrones star, dies aged 82

Diana Rigg, the award-winning British actress who shot to fame in the 1960s television series The Avengers and won new fans in Game Of Thrones, passed away at

the age of 82. She won Emmy, Tony and Bafta awards during her lengthy career. She won the 1994 best actress Tony Award.

10. Arya Samaj leader, Social activist Swami Agnivesh passed away

He founded Bonded Labour Liberation Front in 1981 and worked against bonded labour. He also led numerous movements against alcoholism. Swami Agnivesh also served as president of the Sarvadeshik Arya Pratinidhi Sabha, World Council of Arya Samaj. He served as a Haryana's Cabinet Minister for Education in 1979.

11. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, who rolled out rural job scheme, dead

Veteran Socialist Raghuvansh Prasad Singh represented the state's Vaishali constituency and was the Union Minister for Rural Development in the Congress-led UPA-I govt. He served as the Union MoS for Animal Husbandry, & Food as well as Consumer Affairs. He presided the roll-out of MNREGA as rural development minister

12. Art scholar Kapila Vatsyayan passes away

Scholar, author and connoisseur of arts Kapila Vatsyayan who was awarded the Padma Vibhushan was the founding director of Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts. A former nominated member of Rajya Sabha, she was also chairperson of the Asia Project at IIC. IIC – Indian International Centre is located in Delhi.

13. Sadashiv Patil, the former India allrounder, dies aged 86

Sadashiv Raoji Patil, the allrounder of the 1950s and 1960s who represented India in one Test match in 1955, died. In a 36-match first-class career he captained in the Ranji Trophy - between 1952 and 1964, Patil scored 866 runs and took 83 wickets. Patil mostly played for Maharashtra.

14. Lok Sabha MP Balli Durga Prasad Rao passes away

Tirupati MP and YSRCP leader Balli Durga Prasad Rao passed away after testing positive for COVID-19. Rao had been a three-term MLA in the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly and a minister in the Chandrababu Naidu Cabinet in undivided Andhra Pradesh. AP CM: Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy. Governor: Biswabhusan Harichandan

15. Mali's former president Moussa Traore dies at 83

Mali's former president Moussa Traore seized power in a military coup in 1968, eight years after Mali gained independence from France, and amid growing discontent with then-president Modibo Keita, the country's first president. He ruled Mali for 22 years. He was the sole presidential candidate in elections held in 1985

16. BJP's Ashok Gasti, 1st-Time Rajya Sabha Member Passes Away

Ashok Gasti Rajya Sabha member from Karnataka died. He was a first-time Rajya Sabha member. Gasti, a lawyer by profession & former general secretary of BJP's OBC Cell was also a former chairperson of the Backward Class Development Corporation in Karnataka. He took oath as Rajya Sabha MP on July 22.

17. Prominent Ayurveda physician PR Krishnakumar passes away

P R Krishnakumar, CMD of the Arya Vaidya Pharmacy (AVP) Coimbatore Limited, who had devoted his entire life to creating awareness on Ayurveda, died of Covid-19. He was also the Chancellor of the renowned Avinashilingam University in Coimbatore. He was a recipient of the National Ayurveda Award.

18. Forrest Gump author Winston Groom dies aged 77

Writer Winston Groom, whose novel Forrest Gump was made into the hugely successful Oscar-winning 1994 film starring Tom Hanks, has died aged 77. The book,

about the childlike optimism of a slow thinking but kind-hearted man, won six Oscars. Gump & Co is the sequel to his 1986 novel Forrest Gump.

19. Fashion Designer Sharbari Dutta passed away

Eminent fashion designer Sharbari Dutta was found dead under mysterious circumstances at her Kolkata residence. She was 63. Her label became popular for a unique blend of ethnicity and modernity in fabric and vibrancy in colour. She had established her brand 'Shunyaa' with outlets in Kolkata.

20. Four-time MLA from Mulund Sardar Tara Singh passed away

82 yrs old BJP leader and former MLA from Mulund Sardar Tara Singh passed away due to prolonged illness. Singh developed & was associated with Education Trust & played a proactive role in promoting welfare works of several gurudwaras in Mumbai and Nanded. Maharashtra CM: Uddhav Thackeray; Governor: B.S Koshiyari

21. Veteran Rabindra Sangeet exponent Purba Dam passes away

Veteran Rabindra Sangeet exponent Purba Dam passed away at the age of 85. She was known for songs like "Modhur tomar sesh je /Bhuban jure roilo lege", "Ami phirbo na re". She was Conferred with Sangeet Samman by the State of West Bengal in 2013. CM of WB: Mamata Banerjee; Governor: Jagdeep Dhankhar.

22. Noted Marathi actress Ashalata Wabgaonkar passes away

Marathi actress and Bollywood's veteran character artist Ashalata Wabgaonkar passed away due to Covid 19 infection. The actress had worked in many Bollywood hits including Zanjeer, Namak Halal & Marathi movies like Maherchi Sadi, Vahinichi Maya. CM of Maharashtra: Uddhav Thackeray; Governor: B.S. Koshiyari

23. Ang Rita Sherpa: Everest record-breaker dies aged 72

Ang Rita Sherpa, popularly known as the Snow Leopard, passed away. He was 72. He 1st reached the summit of the world's tallest mountain in 1983. He holds the Guinness World record of climbing Mount Everest ten times without using an oxygen supplement He received Sir Edmund Hillary Mountain Legacy Medal in 2011

24. Railways MoS Suresh Angadi passes away

Minister of State for Railways Suresh Angadi passed away. He was 65. Angadi was a 4 time BJP MP from Belagavi elected to Lok Sabha in 2004, 2009, 2014 and 2019. His political journey started with joining BJP in the year 1996 from Belagavi, Karnataka. India Railways Founded: 16 Apr. 1853 HQs: New Delhi

25. Actor Bhupesh Kumar Pandya passes away

Theatre personality and actor Bhupesh Kumar Pandya, who has starred in several films such as Vicky Donor, Parmanu, Hazaron Khwahishein Aisi, Delhi Crime, passed away after a battle with lung cancer. He graduated from NSD in 2001. NSD was set up by the Sangeet Natak Akademi in 1959

26. Australian cricketer Dean Jones passes away

Former Australia batsman Dean Mervyn Jones passed away. The 59-year-old Jones was part of the 1987 World Cup winning team. He had played 52 Tests and 164 ODIs for Australia. He was in Mumbai with the commentary team for the Indian Premier League. Australia's Capital: Canberra; Currency: Australian dollar

27. Congress MLA Narayan Rao passes away

Congress MLA B Narayan Rao, who was undergoing treatment for coronavirus passed away. The 65-year-old was the MLA from Bidar district in North Karnataka. In the 2018 elections, he defeated Mallikarjun Khutba of the BJP and PGR Sindhia of the JD(S).

Karnataka CM: B.S. Yediyurappa; Governor: Vajubhai Vala

28. Justice Ashutosh Mohunta passes away

Justice Ashutosh Mohunta, former acting Chief Justice of Punjab and Haryana High Court and incumbent member of Punjab State Human Rights Commission passed away. He was 67 years old. He was appointed as a member of Punjab State HRC in Sept. 22, 2016. Punjab CM: Capt. Amarinder Singh; Governor: V.P. Singh Badnore.

29. Renowned nuclear scientist Dr. Sekhar Basu passes away

Veteran atomic scientist and former chairman of Atomic Energy Commission Dr. Sekhar Basu succumbed to COVID-19. Dr. Basu was the brain behind the designing, construction, and operation of nuclear recycle plants at Tarapur and Kalpakkam. Awarded Indian Nuclear Society Award: 2002 & Padma Shri: 2014

30. Singer-actor SP Balasubrahmanyam passes away at 74

Singer-actor SP Balasubrahmanyam passed away following coronavirus complications. He was 74. Over 5 decades, he won 6 National Film Awards for Best Male Playback Singer & 25 Nandi Awards. He won Padma Shri in 2001 Padma Bhushan in 2011. He held a Guinness World record for singing over 40,000 songs.

31. Former Union Minister Jaswant Singh passes away

Former Union Minister Jaswant Singh passed away in New Delhi at the age of 82. One of the founding members of the Bharatiya Janata Party Jaswant Singh served as Minister of Defence, External Affairs & Finance & also Dpy Chairman of Planning Commission. He was a nominee in the Vice Presidential election in 2012.

32. Isher Judge Ahluwalia, 'An Icon For Women Economists', passes away

Renowned economist and Padma Bhushan awardee Isher Judge Ahluwalia passed away. She had served on several national and international committees and boards over her career, including as chairperson of the board of trustees of IFPRI, and ICRIER. She was awarded with the Padma Bhushan in the year 2009.

33. Swami Pratyagbodhananda, Hindu spiritual guru & VP of Vedic Ashram passes away

Swami Pratyagbodhananda, an eminent Hindu spiritual guru at a US-based ashram, imparting Vedic education for past several decades passed away at the age of 69. He was VP of the Arsha Vidya Gurukulam in Pennsylvania. The Gurukulam was founded in 1986 by Swami Dayananda Saraswati

34. 'Itni shakti hame dena daata' songwriter Abhilash passes away

Veteran songwriter Abhilash, who penned down the song 'Itni shakti hame dena daata' from the 1986 film 'Ankush' passed away at 74 due to stomach illness. He had ghazals and stories published under this name before starting his career in the music industry. His real name was Om Prakash.

35. Assam's only woman CM Syeda Anwara Taimur

Syeda Anwara Taimur, 84, the only woman to have become the CM of Assam till now passed away in Australia. Taimur, a Congress politician was the CM from Dec. 1980 to June 1981. She became Rajya Sabha MP twice nominated in 1988 & elected in 2004. Assam CM: Sarbananda Sonowal Capital: Dispur

36. Noted literary critic G. S. Amur passes away

Noted literary critic G. S. Amur, 95, passed away. He was awarded the Kendra Sahitya Akademi award in 1996 & highest literary award of Kannada, Pampa award in 2006. KSRTC announced 2020 Nrupatunga award for lifetime's work in literary criticism to Amur. he has extensively written about works of R K Narayan & Raja Rao

37. Ruler of Kuwait, Sheikh Sabah al-Sabah passes away

Kuwait's emir, Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the architect of the nation's modern foreign policy & one of the region's most influential voices, Passed away. His brother, Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf al-Ahmad al-Sabah, will be sworn in as his successor.

Capital: Kuwait City; Currency: Dinar



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Person in news

1. Elon Musk is now the third-richest person in the world

Elon Musk is now worth \$115.4 billion compared with \$110.8 billion for Zuckerberg according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index. Jeff Bezos's ex-wife MacKenzie Scott became the world's richest woman, passing L'Oreal SA heiress Françoise Bettencourt Meyers. Mukesh Ambani is the world's eighth-richest person.

2. Celton Manx Confirm Dwayne Bravo As SBOTOP Ambassador

Isle of Man betting group Celton Manx has confirmed West Indies cricket icon Dwayne Bravo's appointment as the first cricket ambassador for their flagship brand SBOTOP sportsbook. He is one of the greatest ever all-rounders representing West Indies. Celton Manx provides e-gaming products. HQ: British Isles.

3. Bhuvneshwar Kumar & Smriti Mandhana roped in as brand ambassadors of Playerzpot

Playerzpot founded in 2015 announced the signing of cricketers Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Smriti Mandhana as its Brand Ambassadors. The partnership will see the cricketers in the brand's upcoming campaigns and promote Playerzpot through engagement activities. Founders of Playerzpot - Yogesh Doiphode and Mitesh Gangar.

4. Ayushmann Khurrana joins David Beckham in UNICEF's campaign to end violence against children

UNICEF India roped in actor Ayushmann Khurrana as its celebrity advocate for promoting and supporting its work around ending violence against children. He will work towards this initiative in India and joins the likes of former football star David Beckham. UNICEF representative in India - Dr. Yasmin Ali Haque.

5. Sachin Tendulkar pads up as brand ambassador for Paytm First Games

Digital payments company Paytm said that its gaming subsidiary Paytm First Games (PFG) has roped in cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar as the brand ambassador. The firm in partnership with Tendulkar will increase its reach in smaller cities and towns. Vijay Shekhar Sharma - Founder and CEO of Paytm.

6. EdTech start-up Great Learning ropes in Virat Kohli as brand ambassador

As brand ambassador, Kohli will now lead the brand's latest Power Ahead campaign which underlines the importance of lifelong learning and showcases how high quality learning at the right time can help professionals and students power ahead in their career. Great Learning Founder and CEO: Mohan Lakhamraju.

7. Lionel Messi tops Cristiano Ronaldo as world's richest footballer

Lionel Messi has retained his place at the top of Forbes' list of highest-paid footballers after earning \$126million over the past year, with Cristiano Ronaldo closely behind him in second. Neymar and Kylian Mbappe are third and fourth, respectively. FIFA HQ: Zürich, Switzerland. President: Gianni Infantino.

8. Online poker platform 9stacks signs Suresh Raina as brand ambassador

Founded in 2017, online poker platform 9stacks signed Suresh Raina as brand ambassador. Raina announced retirement from the international cricket last month. The left-handed batsman will be a part of 9stacks' upcoming campaigns & engagement activities. 9stacks claims of over 32 million users.

9. UN names Indian teenager Udit Singhal to 2020 Class of Young Leaders for SDGs

Cohort of young leaders for the SGD is the highest-profile recognition opportunity at the United Nations for youngsters who are leading efforts to combat the world's most pressing issues. Singhal has been named to the 2020 Class of 17 Young Leaders. He is the founder of Glass2Sand, a zero-waste ecosystem.

10. PM pays tributes to Rashtrakavi Ramdhari Singh Dinkar

PM has paid tributes to Rashtrakavi Dinkar on his birth anniversary. Born in Bihar in 1908, Dinkar's nationalistic poetry was considered inspirational during the freedom struggle & his work remained a source of motivation during the Emergency. He was a three-time Rajya Sabha member and passed away in 1974.

11. 17-year-old Surat girl appointed Ambassador for India by UNEP

17-year-old, Khushi Chindaliya from Gujarat's Surat has been appointed as Regional Ambassador for India by the UN Environment Programme Tunza Eco-Generation (TEG). She will be working on various awareness projects with TEG till February 2021. UNEP HQs: Nairobi, Kenya Founded: 5 June 1972

12. Flight Lt Shivangi Singh, set to be the first woman pilot to fly Rafale

Flight Lieutenant Shivangi Singh, who hails from UP's Varanasi, is set to become India's 1st woman fighter pilot to fly the Rafale aircraft. She's being trained to fly Rafale in Ambala. Singh, one of IAF's 10 women fighter pilots, joined IAF in 2017. Rafale aircraft was inducted into the IAF on 10th Sept 2020.

13. 104th birth anniversary: Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya

Deendayal Upadhyaya was born on Sept. 25, 1916 in Mathura. He was a veteran politician and a social thinker. He started the weekly Panchjanya and the daily Swadesh. He was the co-founder of Bharatiya Jana Sangh (forerunner of Bharatiya Janata Party). He made buzz in 1940s when started publication of Rashtradharm

14. Alyssa Healy breaks MS Dhoni's record

Australia's wicket-keeper batswoman Alyssa Healy broke MS Dhoni's record of having most dismissals as a wicketkeeper in the T20 format. Healy now has 92 dismissals in the shortest format of the game, while Dhoni had record of 91 dismissals. Australia's Capital: Canberra Currency: Australian dollar

15. Nation pays homage to revolutionary freedom fighter Bhagat Singh on his 113th birth anniversary

Bhagat Singh was born in Banga village of undivided Punjab province on 28th Sept. 1907. The revolutionary freedom fighter was executed by the British at the age of 23. He was hanged in the Lahore jail along with Rajguru and Sukhdev on Mar. 23, 1931. Popularly he is known as Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh.



Insurance

1. IRDAI sets up panel to study index-linked products for life insurance cos

IRDAI constituted a 6-member working group headed by Dinesh Pant to examine various aspects for allowing life insurance companies to offer index-linked products. The current regulations do not specifically permit insurers to sell index-linked products. The committee to submit the report within two months.

2. IRDAI allows insurance companies to use video-based KYC

India's Insurance regulator IRDAI is set to soon allow insurance companies to use video-based authentication modes to vet customer credentials for new onboardings. Insurers may use Video-Based Identification Process to enhance the ease of doing KYC. Video KYC to permitted for life & general insurance companies.

3. LIC, GIC, New India Assurance identified as Domestic Systemically Important Insurers: IRDAI

Life Insurance Corporation of India, General Insurance Corporation & New India Assurance Co have been identified as Domestic Systemically Important Insurers (D-SIIs) for 2020-21 by insurance regulator IRDAI & will be subjected to enhanced supervisions. D-SIIs are perceived as 'too important/big to fail'.



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India & World

1. Dubai sets up trading platform to boost food imports from India

The UAE has launched Agriota (developed with India's CropData Technology) a new technology-driven agri-commodity trading and sourcing e-market platform that will bridge the gap between millions of rural farmers in India and the Gulf nation's food industry. It was launched by the Dubai Multi Commodities Centre (DMCC).

2. India to receive development assistance loan worth Rs 3,500 Cr from Japan to fight COVID-19

Japan committed an official Development Assistance loan of Rs 3,500 crore for the COVID-19 Crisis Emergency Response Support. The notes were exchanged between the Additional Secretary in DEA Dr C S Mohapatra and ambassador of Japan to India Suzuki Satoshi. JICA – Japan International Cooperation Agency.

3. EAM S. Jaishankar with his Nigerian counterpart holds discussions on bilateral relations

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and his Nigerian counterpart Geoffrey Onyeama recognized and acknowledged the excellent long-standing, multifaceted and strategic bilateral ties between the two countries, based on mutual friendship and cooperation. Nigeria Capital: Abuja. Currency: Naira.

4. India, Japan, Australia to launch supply chain initiative

India, Japan & Australia planned to launch a trilateral Supply Chain Resilience Initiative to build resilient supply chains in Indo-Pacific region to reduce dependence on China. The trio aims to create a free & transparent trade & investment environment. In 2019, cumulative GDP of these 3 countries was \$9.3 trillion.

5. Cabinet approves MoU between India and Japan for cooperation in good quality textiles

MoU would enable M/s Nissenken Quality Evaluation Centre, Japan in assigning Textile Committee as their cooperative Testing and Inspection service providers in India for Textiles & Apparel products including Technical Textiles and any other products. MoU approval was chaired by PM Narendra Modi.

6. Cabinet approves MoU between India and Finland for cooperation in Geology and Mineral Resources

The MoU facilitates cooperation in the field of geology, training, mineral prognostication, 3/4D modelling, Seismic and other Geophysical surveys finalised with the intent of reinforcing and strengthening scientific links between the two Organisations. MoU signed between India & Geological Survey of Finland.

7. Germany launches Indo-Pacific strategy with 'key role' for India

Germany, current EU president and Europe's biggest economy, has launched its Indo-Pacific strategy with India that is expected to play a key role in Berlin's outreach in the region where China's aggressive foreign policy has rattled countries. Chancellor of Germany since 2005 - Angela Merkel.

8. India, Angola hold 1st joint commission meet, agree to diversify trade ties

India and Angola held the first Joint Commission Meeting during which the two sides agreed to diversify their trade relationship and discussed cooperation in health, pharmaceuticals, defence, agriculture, food processing, digitization and telecom. Angola Capital: Luanda. Currency: Angolan kwanza.

9. Rs 25,000 crore plan to cut dependence on China for key chemicals

With the aim to reduce dependence on China for import of chemicals, the India is planning a production linked incentive scheme to boost local manufacturing of some of the key chemicals used in pharmaceuticals, insecticides & in other industrial usage. Scheme will have outlay of Rs 25,000 Cr over the next 5 years.

10. India & Bangladesh agree to resume Joint Coordinated Border Patrolling to reduce criminal activities

India & Bangladesh have agreed to resume the joint coordinated border patrolling to reduce criminal activities like narcotics on the border. The decision was taken during the 50th DG level conference of the border guarding forces of India and Bangladesh. 4-day conference was convened in Bangladesh capital Dhaka.

11. India extends 250 million dollars support to Maldives to mitigate economic impact of Covid-19

India has provided financial assistance of 250mn dollars as budgetary support to the Maldives. The assistance is being routed through SBI, Male for which sovereign guarantee has been provided by GOI. Soft loan has a tenor of 10 yrs. & minimal interest rate It is the only nation to which India has granted such assistance

12. MoU for collaboration on start-up, innovation, between India, Israel

Aiming at creating a platform for collaboration between innovation and start-up ecosystems between India and Israel, an MoU was signed between 2 NPOs – International Centre for Technology and Entrepreneurship (iCreate) and Israel's SNC. Israel's Capital: Jerusalem; Currency: Israeli Shekel

13. Direct cargo ferry service between India & Maldives jointly e- launched

In its maiden voyage, a vessel with a capacity of 200TEU and 3000MT of bulk cargo will sail from Tuticorin to Kochi, from where it will proceed to Kulhudhuffushi port in Maldives and then to Male port. This service is operated by Shipping Corp. of India. Maldives Capital: Male; Currency: Maldivian rufiyaa



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Environment

1. India received 4th highest rainfall in 120 yrs in August 2020

According to IMD India received 27% more rainfall than normal in August. Overall rainfall recorded from June 1 to August 31 was 10% more than normal. Rainfall recorded in August 2020 is the fourth highest in the last 120 years and the highest in 44 years. IMD is an agency of the Ministry of Earth Sciences. HQ: New Delhi

2. World getting closer to passing 1.5-degree Celsius warming limit, UN report

According to UN World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), In the next 5 years, the world has a nearly 25% chance of experiencing a year that's hot enough to put the global temperature at 2.7 degrees (1.5 degrees Celsius) above pre-industrial times. UN WMO Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland Founded in: 1950

3. Global Initiative to reduce Land Degradation and Coral Reef program launched

It was launched during the Environment Ministerial Meeting (EMM) of the G20 countries took place through video conferencing under the Presidency of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Theme of the meeting was 'Realizing Opportunities of the 21st Century for All'. Saudi Arabia assumed G20 2020 Presidency on 1 December 2019.

4. Eight Indian Beaches recommended for Blue Flag International Eco-Label

Blue Flag certification is a globally recognised eco-label accorded by international agency 'Foundation for Environment Education, Denmark' based on 33 stringent criteria in 4 major heads. International Coastal Clean-Up Day is observed on 19th September. BEAMS is the newly launched India's own eco-label.

5. Rising temperatures shrink Arctic sea ice to second-lowest level on record

According to National Snow and Ice Data Center, Arctic sea ice, or the floating ice cover of the Arctic Ocean, has reached its minimum extent for the year, shrinking to the second-lowest extent since record-keeping began in 1978. The Arctic Ocean is the smallest of the world's 5 major oceans.

6. 2 new species of wetland plant discovered in Western Ghats

Scientists have discovered 2 new species of pipeworts, a type of wetland plant, in areas along the Western Ghats in Maha. & Karnataka. Species found in Maha. has been named *Eriocaulon parvicephalum* & Karnataka species is called *Eriocaulon karaavalense*. Western Ghats, also known as Sahyadri. Highest point: Anamudi

Apps & Portals

1. CSC partners with WhatsApp for digital literacy service chatbot

Common Services Centers has partnered with WhatsApp for a chatbot for citizens to receive digital literacy services & resources. People can send a 'Namaste' at CSC Academy's official WhatsApp account +91 99991 89321, to access details & course modules. CSC Special Purpose Vehicle CEO- Dinesh Tyagi.

2. Govt launches portal for updates on COVID-19 vaccine development

Union Health Ministry launched a web portal that will provide all vital info on COVID-19, vaccine development & ongoing clinical trials. "Vaccine web portal" & "National Clinical Registry for COVID-19" have been developed by ICMR. Union Health Minister: Dr. Harsh Vardhan. ICMR Founded: 1911.

Acquisitions & Mergers

1. RJio gets approval for Brookfield deal from DoT, SEBI

Reliance Jio Infocomm, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Reliance Industries received the Department of Telecommunications' approval to sell units worth Rs 25,215 crore in Tower Infrastructure Trust to asset management firm Brookfield Infrastructure Partners. Brookfield Infrastructure Partners HQ: Toronto, Canada.

2. Indigrid acquires GPTL transmission project from Sterlite Power for Rs 1,080 cr

IndiGrid, an Infrastructure Investment Trust, completed acquisition of GPTL transmission project from Sterlite Power at an enterprise value of Rs 1,080 crore. With this acquisition IndiGrid's assets under management (AUM) increased by 9% to Rs 13,300 crore CEO & Whole-Time Director of IndiGrid: Harsh Shah.

3. Niyogin Fintech to acquire 51% stake in iServeU

BSE listed fintech company Niyogin acquired a 51% strategic and controlling stake in financial inclusion solution provider iServeU for Rs 592 million (\$8 mn) in a cash plus stock deal. It will offer Niyogin with deep market access to underbanked India. Niyogin provides unsecured business loans for SMEs in India.

4. Japan's Orix to invest \$980 million in Indian renewables firm Greenko

Orix Corp would invest \$980 mn. in Greenko Energy Holdings. It will take a stake of more than 20% in Greenko within 2020. India has pledged to increase renewable energy, setting a target of producing 175 GW by 2022, compared with a planned 113 GW in 2020. Japan's Capital: Tokyo Currency: Yen

5. Microsoft to acquire ZeniMax for \$7.5 bn in all-cash deal

Xbox maker Microsoft Corp MSFT.O would acquire ZeniMax Media, parent company of Bethesda Softworks, for \$7.5 billion in cash, its biggest gaming acquisition ever as it seeks to strengthen its video game offerings in its rivalry with Sony Corp PlayStation. Microsoft HQs: Washington D.C., USA; CEO: Satya Narayana Nadella

6. HCL tech acquires Australian IT firm DWS

HCL Technologies has announced the acquisition of Australian IT firm DWS Ltd for \$115.8.

DWS provides a wide range of IT services including digital transformation, App development & support, programme and project management, and consulting. Australia Capital: Canberra; Currency: Australian dollar

7. Airtel picks up a stake in cloud communications startup Waybeo

Airtel has picked up a strategic stake in cloud telephony startup Waybeo. Waybeo focusses on deep AI-based analytics for cloud telephony, which is the tech. that moves your business phone system to the cloud. Airtel Startup accelerator prog. Launch: 2019 Startups funded: 5

8. PharmEasy and Medlife's merger gets CCI's approval

India's competition watchdog CCI has approved the merger of online pharmacy startups PharmEasy & Medlife. PharmEasy-parent API Holdings will acquire 100% equity shares of Medlife. Medlife in return get a 19.95% stake in the combined entity. The entity will reportedly be valued at around \$1.2 billion.

9. SBICAP Trustee Company acquires 56.17% stake in Jindal Stainless (JSL)

SBICAP Trustee Co. acquired 56.17% stake in JSL. It is one of the largest integrated manufacturers of stainless steel in India with a capacity of 1.1 MT. JSL's promoters had pledged shares as collateral to secure a term loan of Rs 400cr from IndusInd Bank SBICAP Trustee Co. incorporated: 2005 MD& CEO: Arun Mehta

10. Epic Games acquires Microsoft-backed kidtech platform SuperAwesome

Epic Games has acquired London-based kidtech platform SuperAwesome to build a wide range of kid-safe services. SuperAwesome gives developers the tools to create safer digital experiences for younger audiences. Microsoft's corporate venture fund had invested in SuperAwesome.

11. General Atlantic to invest Rs 3,675cr. in Reliance Retail

US firm General Atlantic will invest ₹3,675cr. in Reliance Retail. The firm will pick 0.84% stake in retail arm of Mukesh Ambani's Reliance. It is the 3rd investment for Reliance Retail following KKR's investment of \$754 mn & Silver Lake Partners' \$1 bn. General Atlantic Founder: Chuck Feeney Founded: 1980

12. Japan's Kyokuto Kaihatsu Kogyo acquires Satrac Engineering

Japan's construction equipment manufacturer Kyokuto Kaihatsu Kogyo has acquired Satrac Engineering, a Bengaluru-based manufacturer of special-purpose vehicles such as truck tipper bodies, trailers, and tank trucks in India at a cost of around \$30mn Capital: Tokyo Currency: Yen



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Agri-Business

1. Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurates 22 bamboo clusters in nine states

Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated 22 bamboo clusters in nine states by virtual mode. Indian Forest Act 1927 was amended in 2017 to remove bamboo for the category of trees so that anyone can undertake cultivation and business in bamboo. A logo for the National Bamboo Mission was also released.

2. India's agriculture technology can grow to \$24.1 billion in 5 years: Report

India's agriculture technology sector has the potential to grow manifold to \$24.1 billion in the next five years, according to a report by Ernst and Young. The report also forecasts startups expanding horizontally to service end-to-end needs of farmers. Ernst & Young HQ; London, UK. CEO: Carmine Di Sibio.

3. Kisan train to transport agri products from Andhra Pradesh to Delhi flagged off

India's second and South India's first Kisan Train was flagged off to provide a seamless supply of perishable produce. The first Kisan Rail flagged off in August 2020 runs between Maharashtra and Bihar. It aims to help in doubling farmers' income by 2022. Kisan Rails were announced in the 2020-21 budget.

4. PM Modi digitally launches Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana & e-Gopala App

PM Matsya Sampada Yojana is a flagship scheme for focused and sustainable development of the fisheries sector in India with an estimated investment of Rs 20,050 crores for its implementation from FY20-FY25. E-Gopala is a breed improvement marketplace. The app will also be an information portal for farmers.

5. Bangladesh gives special permission for export of Hilsa fish to India

Bangladesh imposed ban on the export of Hilsa in 2012. However, as a special measure, last year also export of 500 tonnes of Hilsa to India was permitted around the time of Durga Puja. Hilsa or Ilish is considered a delicacy in Bangladesh & West Bengal. Bangladesh Capital- Dhaka, Currency- Taka.

6. FSSAI constitutes task force on vegan food

The FSSAI constituted a task force to look into guidelines/ provisions for vegan foods in the country. The task force comprises 7 members including Shankar Narayan, founder-president, Satvik Vegan Society (formerly Indian Vegan Society), Bengaluru-Byndoor. Narayan founded the society in 2004 as a charitable trust.

7. MSME Ministry lays out new guidelines for Pottery, Beekeeping

For pottery activity, the government will provide assistance of a pottery wheel, clay blunger, and granulator. For beekeeping activity, the government will provide assistance of bee boxes and tool kits. Scheme proposes to cover a total of 2050 beekeepers. Financial support of Rs 13 crore is allotted during FY2020-21.

8. Govt announces increase in MSPs for six Rabi crops

Union Government has announced an increase in the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for all mandated Rabi crops. MSP of six Rabi crops including Wheat, Chana, Masoor, Mustard, Jowar, and Safflower has been hiked in the range of 50 to 300 rupees. Hike is in consonance with the rec. of Swaminathan Comm's report

External Affairs

1. Rajnath Singh on official visit to Russia from September 3-5

Rajnath Singh is visiting Moscow from September 3 – 5 to attend the combined meeting of Defence Ministers of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO) and Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) member States. It is organised on 75th Anniversary of victory in World War II.

2. Bangladesh to host FAO Asia-Pacific regional conference for the first time

Bangladesh to host the 36th Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) the first time since it joined the organisation in 1973. The 35th FAO Asia-Pacific regional conference was organised by Bhutan this year. The first regional conference was held in India, in 1953.

3. India-Bangladesh to hold Joint Consultative Commission meeting

India and Bangladesh have agreed to hold the 6th meeting of the Joint Consultative Commission (JCC) to review the bilateral relationship. The last JCC meeting was held in New Delhi in February 2019 and signed 4 MoUs to strengthen multifaceted cooperation. Bangladesh Capital: Dhaka. Currency: Bangladeshi taka.

4. India beats China to become member of UN's Commission on Status of Women

India is elected as a member of UN's Commission on Status of Women, a body of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). India, Afghanistan and China had contested the elections. This year is 25th anniversary of the famous Beijing World Conference on Women. India to be a member for four years from 2021 – 2025.



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FinTech

1. ICICI Prudential Life launches AI-powered voice chatbot on Google Assistant

ICICI Prudential Life Insurance introduced a chatbot service LiGo on Google Assistant to help policyholders' queries answered by voice commands such as Ok Google, I want to speak to ICICI Prudential Life LiGo or May I talk to ICICI Prudential Life LiGo. LiGo to be available in Indian English & 9 Indian languages.

2. Mahindra Insurance Brokers launches digital insurance portal PayBima

Mahindra Insurance Brokers (MIBL) has launched a digital insurance portal, PayBima to help customers directly buy insurance policies online providing end-to-end services. Customers will be able to buy car, two-wheeler, health and life insurance products. Mahindra Insurance Brokers Limited – Jaideep Devare.

3. SBI Modernizes its Payment Switching System with ACI Worldwide Technology

ACI Worldwide, a leading global provider of real-time digital payment software and solutions, has modernized payments infrastructure for ATM and point-of-sale (POS) at State Bank of India, India's largest bank with more than 440 million account holders. ACI Worldwide is a payment systems company. HQ: Florida, USA.

4. Mastercard launches Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) testing platform

Mastercard announced a proprietary virtual testing environment for central banks to evaluate CBDC use cases. The platform enables the simulation of issuance, distribution and exchange of CBDCs between banks, financial service providers and consumers. CBDC is the digital form of a country's fiat currency.

5. Titan Company With SBI Launches India's First Contactless Payment Watches

Titan & SBI launched a range of stylish new watches with contactless payment functionality for the 1st time in India. With this SBI account holders can tap their Titan Pay watch on contactless payment POS machine without swiping or inserting SBI bank card. Payments up to Rs 2,000 can be made without entering a PIN.

6. SBM Bank India, Mastercard launch Debit Card For High Net Worth Customers

SBM Bank India announced its collaboration with Mastercard to launch SBM World Debit Card – a premium and exclusive card available to SBM Private Wealth customers on request. The World Debit Card also has the highest standards of safety and security. SBM Bank HQ: Port Louis CEO: Parvataneni Venkateswara Rao.

7. DBS Bank India unveils online loan platform for SMEs, offers credit up to ₹20 cr

DBS Bank India launched DBS Digital Business Loans for SMEs for making loans available to small and mid-size businesses in a hassle-free manner, with credit facility up to ₹20 crore. The platform auto-generates an e-offer letter if lending criteria is met. DBS Bank HQ: Singapore. CEO: Piyush Gupta.

8. ICICI Home Finance launches home loan scheme for skilled workers in Delhi

ICICI Home Finance launched a new loan scheme Apna Ghar Dreamz, with credit amount from ₹ 2lakh to 50lakh for skilled workers employed in Delhi. The customers

should have a minimum account balance of ₹1500 for loan up to 5lakh & ₹3000 for loan above 5lakh. Tenure of Loan: 20 Years.

9. Google Pay introduces tap-to-pay option for SBI Card users in India

SBI Card made a collaboration with Google to enable customers to use their cards on Google Pay platform. Users will be able to make card payments using GPay app on their Android smartphones in 3 modes: tap & pay, by scanning QR code and online payments. SBI Card is India's largest credit card issuer

10. Tech Mahindra and Rakuten Mobile collaborate to bring Rakuten Communications Platform

Tech Mahindra & Rakuten Mobile announced that the 2 companies have reached an agreement in which Tech Mahindra has been appointed as a preferred partner for global go-to-market opportunities for the Rakuten Communications Platform (RCP). MD & CEO, Tech Mahindra : CP Gurnani; Incorporated:1986.

11. Bajaj Finserv enters wellness ecosystem with launch of health tech business

Bajaj Finserv has entered into the healthcare sector with the launch of Bajaj Finserv Health. It aims to integrate the fragmented service delivery of the healthcare system & make healthcare accessible to consumers by extending its reach & accessibility. India spends only 7% of its total exp. on preventive healthcare.

12. BOB Financial Solutions Limited partners Signzy to unveil its 'Video KYC'

BOB Financial Solutions Ltd (BFSL) has selected RegTech firm Signzy, to digitize its customer verification through 'Video KYC'. It will enable BFSL a quick, zero-contact & paperless KYC that omits the requisite for physical submission of documents. BFSL is a NBFC established in 1994. MD & CEO: Shailendra Singh.

13. IDFC First Bank to launch 'on phone'contactless debit card transaction facility

IDFC First Bank is set to launch SafePay, a digital facility that allows contactless debit card payments by simply waving one's smartphone against a Near Field Communication (NFC)-enabled POS terminal. SafePay embeds NFC tech. to enable secure payments . IDFC First Bank CEO: V. Vaidyanathan HQ: Mumbai



Legal

1. Government amended the public procurement order 2017

Govt amended the Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India) Order, 2017 enabling nodal Ministries/ Departments to alert higher minimum local content requirement for Class-I & Class-II local suppliers which was earlier fixed at 50% & 20% respectively. The local content is the value added in India.

2. DPIIT extends date of implementation of Toys (Quality Control) Order, 2020 to 1st January 2021

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry issued notification extending the date of implementation of Toys (Quality Control) Order, 2020 as 1st January 2021 in place of 1st September 2020. DPIIT was established in 1995 & was reconstituted in 2000.

3. Rajya Sabha passes Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (2nd Amendment) Bill, temporarily suspending initiation of Corporate Insolvenc

The Insolvency Bankruptcy Code (IBC) Bill is helping to resolve the dispute much before it is entering the National Company Law Tribunal. The NCLT is a quasi-judicial body in India that adjudicates issues relating to Indian companies. NCLT HQ- New Delhi. NCLT was formed under section 408 of the Companies Act, 2013.

4. Lok Sabha passes Companies (Amendment) Bill to decriminalise various corporate offences

Bill decriminalises several technical & filing-related corporate offences. It also allows direct listing of Indian companies on foreign stock exchanges & revokes the criminal provisions added to the Companies Act for violations of provisions of CSR rules. LS also passed Taxation Bill to provide relief to taxpayers.

5. Lok Sabha (LS) passed the Bilateral Netting of Qualified Financial Contracts Bill, 2020

The Bill seeks to provide a legal framework for bilateral netting of qualified financial contracts which are over the counter derivatives contracts. It will reduce the net exposure & reduces the credit exposure of banks and other financial institutions. 1st LS Speaker: G.V. Mavalankar; Current LS speaker: Om Birla

6. Parliament nods Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Act, 2020

Bill seeks to amend the FCRA, 2010 which regulates the acceptance & utilisation of foreign contribution by individuals, assoc., NGOs and comp. in the nation. Bill prohibits transfer of foreign contribution received by any entity in the nation to any other. Bill adds public servants among the list of entities prohibited

7. Parliament passed the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill ,2020

Parliament passed seven key bills including the crucial Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill. The Bill removes cereals, pulses, oilseeds, edible oils, onion, and potatoes from the list of essential commodities and removes stockholding limits on them. The Bill amends the Essential Commodities Act, 1955



PSUs

1. Cabinet approves asset monetization of subsidiaries of PGCIL through Infrastructure Trust

Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved Asset Monetization of subsidiaries of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited through Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT). It will undertake monetization of its Tariff Based Competitive Bidding assets. InvIT facilitates investment in the infrastructure sector.

2. ONGC exits Sudan oilfields

ONGC exited Sudan oilfields after it refused to pay for oil it lifted from the fields. ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL), the overseas investment arm of the state-owned firm, as also its Chinese partner CNPC and Malaysia's Petronas have withdrawn from the block. Sudan's dues towards OVL totalled \$430.69 million.

3. GAIL wins leader award at Frost & Sullivan, TERI's Sustainability 4.0 Awards

GAIL has won the leader award in mega large business process sector category in 11th edition of Frost & Sullivan and The Energy and Resources Institute Sustainability 4.0 Awards 2020. The award recognises corporates in sustainable development practices. GAIL (India) Ltd.: Maharatna CPSE; Chairman & MD: Manoj Jain.



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States/UTs

Andhra Pradesh

1. Andhra Pradesh CM launches YSR Jala Kala scheme

Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy will launch YSR Jala Kala. Under the scheme, borewells will be dug free of cost to the needy farmers. The scheme is estimated to bring in five lakh acres under cultivation through groundwater irrigation CM: Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy; Governor: Biswabhusan Harichandan.

2. Andhra Pradesh to float India's largest solar tender for 10 GW capacity

AP govt to float India's largest solar tender for setting up 10 GW capacity. AP has around 7.7 GW of solar and wind projects & has India's second-largest installed capacity of clean energy. AP Green Energy Corporation Ltd (APGECL) to be the nodal agency. This mega solar bid aims to entail a ₹35,000 crore investment.

3. AP signs MoUs with Dutch govt, 8 others in food processing sector

Andhra Pradesh govt signed an MoU with 8 companies including the Netherlands government in the food processing sector. The govt is focussing on the maximum utilisation of aqua base in the state. It has also proposed Fisheries University in West Godavari. National Research Centre for Banana also signed MoU with govt.

4. UiPath ties up with APSSDC to train youth in robotic skills

Robotic Process Automation software company UiPath partnered with the Andhra Pradesh State Skill Development Corporation as part of its academic alliance programme which is designed to build RPA resiliency among more than 50000 students in the coming year. UiPath HQ: New York, USA. Founder & CEO: Daniel Dines.

5. AP launches schemes to provide nutritious food to women, children

Andhra Pradesh CM launched two nutrition schemes 'YSR Sampoorna Poshana' & 'YSR Sampoorna Poshana Plus' which aim at providing nutritious food to pregnant women, lactating mothers, and children. Govt. will spend ₹1,863 cr. P.a. to supply nutritious food. CM: YS Jagan Mohan Reddy; Governor: Biswabhusan Harichandan.

6. AP CM launches YSR Asara scheme to empower 87 Lakh women

Andhra Pradesh CM Jaganmohan Reddy launched YSR Asara scheme to empower women socially and economically. The beneficiaries will have the full freedom on how they would like to utilize the amount. Total allotment for the scheme is Rs. 27,169 crores. AP also signed MoUs with HUL, ITC, Reliance, etc.,

Assam

1. Assam govt to provide loan to entrepreneurs to revive tourism sector

Under the 'Paryatan Sanjeevani Scheme', loan between ₹1 lakh & ₹20 lakh will be extended to interested local youths to take up new initiatives so that the tourism sector gets a fresh lease of life. The advances will be provided for a period of 5 years. Assam CM: Sarbananda Sonowal; Governor: Jagdish Mukhi.

2. Assam Assembly passes bill to protect tangible heritage

The Assam Assembly passed a bill to protect, preserve and restore tangible heritage, which is currently not covered under any national or state law. Assam Heritage (Tangible) Protection, Preservation, Conservation and Maintenance Bill, 2020 was passed. Assam CM: Sarbananda Sonowal. Governor: Jagdish Mukhi.

3. Assam re-launches self-employment scheme worth Rs 1,000 crore

Called Swami Vivekananda Assam Youth Empowerment (SVAYEM), the scheme worth Rs 1000 crore, would provide Rs 50,000 each as seed money to selected youths to start business ventures. It aims to provide self-employment to around 2 Lakhs youth in the state. Applicants to be below 40 years with matriculation qualification.

Bihar

1. PM Modi to lay foundation stone of 9 highway projects in Bihar through video conferencing

PM had declared a special package for infrastructure development of Bihar in the year 2015. PM will also inaugurate the Optical Fibre internet services. This would entail implementation of one wi-fi and 5 free of cost connections to Govt Institutions. Chief Minister of Bihar- Nitish Kumar, Governor- Phagu Chauhan.

2. PM launched project to connect all villages in Bihar with OFC Internet

Bihar will be the 1st Indian State to Connect all Villages by OFC Internet. This project will be completed by 31.03.2021 at approx. cost of ₹1,000cr. through CSC SPV. This will enable the digital revolution to reach the farthest corner of the State. OFC project has been launched by Dept of Telecommunications, GOI

3. Bihar Assembly Elections to be held in three phases from Oct 28

Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora said the elections will take place in 3 phases starting from the 28th of next month. The counting will take place on the 10th of November for the 243-member Bihar assembly polls. Candidates to have option to deposit a security amount online.

4. PM dedicates to the Nation three key projects related to Petroleum sector in Bihar

PM dedicated 3 key projects related to the Petroleum sector in Bihar. The projects include the Durgapur-Banka (D-B) section and 2 LPG Bottling Plants in East Champaran and Banka. It will empower the 'Atmanirbhar Bihar' by meeting the rising demand for LPG. D-B is the ext. of 679km long Paradip-Haldia-Durgapur pipeline.

5. PM Modi launches seven urban infrastructure projects in Bihar

PM Modi to lay the foundation stone of Munger & Jamalpur water supply scheme under AMRUT Mission to help residents get pure drinking water 24 hours. Implementation of the projects has been undertaken by BUIDCO – Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corp. Bihar CM: Nitish Kumar. Governor: Phagu Chauhan. Capital: Patna.

Chhattisgarh

1. Centre sanctions ₹108cr. under UDAN scheme for 3 Airports in Chhattisgarh

The Central Govt has sanctioned ₹108cr. under Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik scheme for upgradation of 3 Chhattisgarh Airports. ₹48cr. have been allocated for Jagdalpur, ₹27cr. for Ambikapur and ₹33cr. for Bilaspur under UDAN scheme for upgradation and development UDAN scheme is a part of National Civil Aviation Policy

Goa

1. Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat programme: Goa paired with Jharkhand

Under EBSB programme, every State and UT in the country would be paired with another State/UT for a year, during which they would carry out a structured engagement with one another in the spheres of language, literature, cultural events, tourism etc. PM Modi announced EBSB scheme on 31st October 2015.

2. 51st IFFI to be held from 16th to 24th January next year in Goa

The 51st Edition of the International Film Festival of India, IFFI will be held from 16th to 24th Jan 2021 in Goa. Earlier it was scheduled to be held from 20th to 28th Nov 2020. The festival will be conducted in a Virtual and Physical format. Goa CM: Pramod Sawant; Governor: Bhagat Singh Koshyari.

Gujarat

1. Gujarat & SIDBI sign MoU to help 35 lakh MSMEs amid Covid-19 outbreak

The aim is to accelerate technology transfer and innovation in state MSMEs through training & capacity building programmes. Small Industries Development Bank of India will handhold the MSME units to create digital platforms to keep pace with world trends. SIDBI Chairman- Mohammad Mustafa, HQ-Lucknow.

2. Gujarat forms Task Force to study & implement NEP-2020 for school education

The Gujarat government formed a Task Force to study and implement the National Education Policy-2020 for school education. It comprises of 15 politicians, administrative officials and academicians. It is to study NEP-2020 and take implementation measures. It aims to be the first state to implement NEP-2020.

3. Gujarat government announces state's first Heritage Tourism Policy

The policy has provisions to permit use of pre-1950 historical buildings such as heritage palaces and forts, as heritage hotels, heritage museums, heritage banquet halls and heritage restaurants, provided that basic heritage structure is not disturbed. Capital: Gandhinagar CM: Vijay Rupani Governor: Acharya Devvrat.

Haryana

1. Haryana launched an educational WhatsApp chatbot 'Apka Mitra'

Haryana CM launched a unique initiative 'Apka Mitra' a WhatsApp chat-bot to resolve any admission related queries of the students. Students shall send a message on WhatsApp chatbot no. 7419444449 to get any info regarding admissions, scholarships, etc. CM: Manohar Lal Khattar; Governor: Satyadeo Narain Arya.

Himachal Pradesh

1. Himachal Pradesh, World Bank sign \$82 mn loan deal for HP State Roads Transformation Project

HP and the World Bank signed \$82 million loan for the implementation of HP State Roads Transformation Project. It aims to strengthen transport and road safety by improving the condition, safety, resilience, and engineering standards of state road network. World Bank Founded in: 944 Headquarters: Washington D.C., USA.

Karnataka

1. Karnataka CM launches 'Arthika Spandana' loan disbursal scheme

CM B.S. Yediyurappa launched Arthika Spandana programme of disbursing loans of ₹ 39,300 crore through various cooperative institutions. Under this, ₹15,300 crore to be disbursed to agriculture sector while ₹24,000 crore is for non-agricultural sector. Karnataka Capital: Bengaluru. Governor: Vajubhai Vala.

2. Karnataka approves new IT policy, incentives for proposed ESDM cluster

Karnataka cabinet approved a new Information Technology (IT) policy to help the state increase its contribution towards the goal of a trillion-dollar digital and create six million jobs during the policy period. It aims to boost IT penetration & renovation. The state aims to contribute 30%.

3. Karnataka clears Rs 600 crore watershed project

Karnataka approved Rs 600 cr project- Rejuvenating Watersheds for Agriculture Resilience through Innovative Development (REWARD) for the benefit of 20 taluks with low groundwater levels. 70% of the project to be funded by World Bank 30% by the state govt. It will benefit farmers to cultivate in 10 lakh hectares of land.

4. Karnataka CM Launches India's First Integrated Air Ambulance Service With ICATT

Karnataka CM B.S. Yediyurappa unveiled India's first integrated air ambulance service jointly launched by the International Critical Air Transfer Team (ICATT) and the Kyathi in the city. The ambulance is equipped with state-of-the-art German Isolation Pod. The fixed-wing air ambulance to be stationed at HAL airport.

5. Hubballi railway station to be renamed after Shree Siddharoodha Swamiji

Hubballi railway station headquarters of South Western Railway is being changed for the second time in last 5 years. It was changed in 2015 from Hubli to Hubballi. It is being renamed after Shree Siddharoodha Swamiji who was a Hindu Guru and Philosopher. Hubli (or Hubballi) is a city in Karnataka.

Kerala

1. Kerala wins UN award on prevention, control of non-communicable diseases

Kerala bagged a UN award for its outstanding contribution towards the non-communicable diseases-related SDGs. Award recognises achievements during 2019 on the multi-sectoral action in the prevention and control of NCDs, mental health & NCD-related SDGs. UNIATF award this year was announced by WHO.

Ladakh

1. In a first, ITBP deploys female doctors at forward locations in Ladakh

For the first time, the Indo-Tibet Border Police (ITBP) has sent female doctors to forward operating locations in Ladakh. The doctors deployed in different strategic locations at the border area to take care of troops along with other para-medics. ITBP - India's patrol organization with its border with Tibet.

Madhya Pradesh

1. Madhya Pradesh targets household tap connections in all rural areas under JJM by 2023

Rural families of MP will be provided with clean drinking water through tap connection. Approx ₹197cr. have been approved in State govt's rural tap water scheme. 2023 is the Target year to complete the scheme in the rural areas under the Jal Jivan Mission. JJM aims to provide FHTCs to every rural household by 2024.

2. 'Mukhyamantri Kisan Kalyan Yojana' to be start in MP

Mukhyamantri Kisan Kalyan Yojana is started in Madhya Pradesh on the lines of Pradhanmantri Kisan Samman Nidhi. Under this scheme, additional financial assistance of Rs. 4,000 will be given to the eligible beneficiaries of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi. PM Kisan is CSS with 100% funding from GOI; Effective from 2018

3. Madhya Pradesh CM launches Mukhyamantri Kisan Kalyan Yojana in Bhopal

Under the Mukhyamantri Kisan Kalyan Yojna, Samman Nidhi of Rs 4000 will be given by the state government in 2 equal installments to the beneficiary farmers of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana. Every farmer will now get a total of Rs 10000 per year. MP CM: Shivraj Chauhan; Governor: Anandiben Patel.

4. Madhya Pradesh govt launches campaign 'Gandagi Bharat Chhodo'

Gandagi Bharat Chhodo campaign is divided into 5 themes- Cleanliness Oath, Continuous reduction in urban waste emissions, Cleanliness in COVID conditions, Separation of waste from sources of houses & launching a cleanliness campaign for public places. It is a 15-day campaign. Urban bodies to be ranked by performance.

5. Madhya Pradesh: Central discom first to adopt e-office in India

Madhya Kshetra Vidyut Vitran Company Bhopal is the first power distribution company in India in which e-office system is operated from corporate office to local circle offices level. It has implemented e-file & e-correspondent system through NIC e-office. It helps consumers get quick results of their complaints.

Maharashtra

1. Maharashtra approves free treatment scheme for road accident victims

The scheme, named after Shiv Sena founder Bal Thackeray will provide free treatment up to Rs 30,000 to any person injured in a road accident. Around 74 types of treatment that are needed in case of road accidents have been included in the scheme. It is created on the lines of Mahatma Phule Jan Arogya Yojana.

2. Maharashtra launches chemo recovery kits containing Ayurvedic formulation.

Maharashtra Gov. has launched chemo recovery kits containing Ayurvedic formulation in Mumbai. The kit has been dev. by the Integrated Cancer Treatment and Research Centre of the Bharatiya Sanskriti Darshan Trust with financial assistance from Tata Trusts. Governor: Bhagat Singh Koshiyari; Capital: Mumbai

3. Maharashtra, first in country to ban sale of loose cigarettes

Maharashtra has banned the sale of unpackaged loose cigarettes and beedis, making it the first Indian state to do so. The move is aimed at ensuring that customers see the graphic, public health warnings mandated on cigarette packaging. Maharashtra has the lowest smoking rate in the country

4. Maharashtra announces Gan Samragini Lata Mangeshkar award for 2020-21

Maharashtra announced the Gan Samragini Lata Mangeshkar award for the year 2020-21 to veteran female playback singer Usha Mangeshkar. Award is given by cultural dept of the state govt. She has sung songs in Marathi, Hindi & several Indian language films. Lata Mangeshkar is nicknamed as the Nightingale of Bollywood.

5. SIDBI, Maharashtra govt ink MoU to develop MSME ecosystem

A Project Management Unit (PMU) to be deployed by SIDBI with the govt of Maharashtra. PMU will design schemes/programmes in areas of equity support, interest subvention, resolution of stressed MSMEs and facilitate other need-based intervention. SIDBI appointed an expert agency for setting up PMU in 11 states.

6. Maharashtra CM announces 'My Family-My Responsibility' campaign to fight Covid-19

My Family, My Responsibility campaign aims to achieve effective health care education for the control of Covid-19 outbreak. A team comprising a health worker and two others will survey and inspect every person and suggest available services for the disease. The campaign will be conducted in two phases.

7. Maharashtra govt accords ambulance status to vehicles carrying medical oxygen for one year

For an uninterrupted supply of oxygen, vehicles carrying oxygen cylinders for medical use will be treated at par with ambulances as emergency vehicles in Maharashtra for a period of 1 year. The notification was issued under Disaster Management Act, 2005. Maharashtra CM: Uddhav Thackeray. Governor: Bhagat Singh Koshyar.

Meghalaya

1. India's largest piggery mission launched in Meghalaya

India's largest piggery mission worth Rs 209 crores was launched in Meghalaya by Union MoS for Agriculture Kailash Choudhary. It is funded by the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NDC). It aims to benefit 35,000 pig farmers in the state. It will provide regular source of income to 300 PACCS members.

2. HIKAI Online academic classes inaugurated in Meghalaya

Online academic classes of HIKAI (Hybrid Interactive Knowledge Assimilation Initiative) were inaugurated at Ramakrishna Mission Secondary School demonstrating the technological capability of conducting online classes in a no-internet zone by using intranet. The platform makes use of a Wi-Fi zone and local server.

Nagaland

1. Nagaland launches livelihood generation programme for returnees

Nagaland launched a dedicated online portal Livelihood Generation Programme for Returned Migrant Workers due to Covid-19. Scheme will provide awareness & re-orientation prog., re-skilling of identified beneficiaries & seed money or monetary assistance. Capital: Kohima Governor: RN Ravi.

2. Nagaland gets its first 'Naga Tele health', a telemedicine platform

Using Naga Tele Health, citizens can directly connect with medical officers and specialist doctors and seek general and specialized teleconsultation at their doorstep free of cost. It is an initiative of Nagaland govt supported by USAID NISHTHA Jhpiego. Nagaland Capital: Kohima. CM: Neiphiu Rio. Governor: R N Ravi.

Odisha

1. Odisha Govt. Launch Radio Pathshala program

Odisha launched Radio Pathshala program for students upto class 8. The program will be broadcast from AIR stations in the state for 15 minutes daily. The audio of the program will also be made available on the online DIKSHA platform. Capital: Bhubaneswar Governor: Ganeshi Lal.

2. Naveen Patnaik launches citizen-centric apps

As a part of the 5T mandate, Odisha CM launched mobile App 'AMA SAHAR' and 'SWACHHA SAHAR ODISHA' web app to provide citizen-centric services. With this, ULBs will be able to submit utilization certificate online which will bring better fiscal management. Odisha Chief Minister: Naveen Patnaik. Governor: Ganeshi Lal.

3. Odisha Govt Launches "GARIMA" Welfare Scheme for Sanitation Workers

Odisha govt launched GARIMA a new Scheme, first of its kind by any state to ensure Safety and Dignity of Core Sanitation Workers of the State. About 20,000 core sanitation workers and their families covering one lakh population are likely to be benefitted. A dedicated corpus fund initially with Rs 50 crore to be created.

Punjab

1. Punjab Govt Launches 'I Rakhwali' App To Make Citizens 'Greenery Saviours'

To further strengthen its drive to preserve and maintain the environment in Punjab and make people stakeholders in the process, the State Forest Department on Thursday launched 'I Rakhwali' application to help netizens to become 'Greenery Saviours'. It aims to safeguard the state forest area.

2. Punjab launches smart ration card scheme

Punjab CM launched a Smart Ration Card Scheme for providing subsidised food grains to 1.41 crore beneficiaries in the state. He also announced a separate state-funded scheme to provide subsidised rations to 9 lakh beneficiaries not covered under the NFSA. CM: Amarinder Singh; Governor: VP Singh Badnore.

Tamil Nadu

1. Tamil Nadu becomes first state to unveil ethical AI, block-chain, cybersecurity policies

Tamil Nadu became the first state in the country to come out with policies on AI, Blockchain & Cybersecurity policies. The project will be implemented by establishing the State Family Data Base & Block-Chain Backbone infrastructure. The policies were unveiled during 19th edition of Connect 2020.

2. Nutrition park to be set up in Chandrasekharapuram, Namakkal

Steps are being taken up to set up a nutrition park in Chandrasekharapuram, Namakkal. This is part of the National Nutrition Month programme undertaken in Tamil Nadu. 3acre ground has been identified for organic drumstick cultivation in Namakkal district. CM: Thiru E. K. Palaniswami; Governor: T. Banwarilal Purohit.

3. Virudhunagar district of Tamil Nadu selected as fully Digital Economy district

Virudhunagar district of Tamil Nadu, which houses a large number of small and medium enterprises, especially in the firecrackers and allied sectors, has been selected by the Central Government as the state's first Fully Digital Economy district. Nagpur is India's first digital district.

4. Tamil Nadu CM releases state's Electronic Hardware Manufacturing Policy-2020

Tamil Nadu government announced a new electronics & hardware manufacturing policy to increase the State's electronics industry output to \$100 billion by 2025. It hopes to contribute 25 per cent of India's total electronic exports to the world by 2025. It undertakes skill training for more than 1Lakh people by 2024.

Telangana

1. KT Rama Rao launches web portal of Pothgal PACS

Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society of Pothgal village in Telangana became the 1st PACS to come up with a web portal serving the needs of its members. The PACS website furnishes the details of loans, loan processes, and services offered by the society PACS plays a very important role in the rural credit system.

2. 'Cable Stayed Bridge' constructed across Durgam Cheruvu Lake in Hyderabad inaugurated

Minister of State for Home G. Kishan Reddy inaugurated the new 'Cable Stayed Bridge' constructed across Durgam Cheruvu Lake along with four-lane elevated corridor

connecting it with Jubilee Hills in Hyderabad. Telangana CM: KCR Rao; Governor: T Soundarajan.

3. Telangana, UK India Business Council renew partnership to strengthen industrial development

The UK India Business Council (UKIBC) renewed its MoU with the Industries and Commerce Department, Govt of Telangana to boost business investment, accelerate improvements in the ease of doing business, facilitate UK-Telangana business partnerships. UKIBC – An NGO to foster trade between UK & India. HQ: London.

Tripura

1. Tripura receives first ever inland shipping cargo from Bangladesh

The Daukandi (Bangladesh) - Sonamura (Tripura) Inland Waterway Protocol route was operationalised under the Protocol for inland Water Trade & Transit (PIWTT) which was signed between India and Bangladesh in 1972 to provide inland waterways with the NER. Sonamura - Daudkhandi stretch is in the Gumti river (93 km).

Uttar Pradesh

1. UP to get special security force with powers to search and arrest without any warrant

UP Special Security Force will be able to arrest any person without the orders of a magistrate or a warrant. Five battalions of the force to be constituted in the first phase and it will be headed by an ADG-ranked officer at an expense of Rs 1747 crore. The UPSSF will have the powers to search without any warrant.

2. UP govt launches unified portal 'U-Rise'

UP has launched a unified portal called 'U-Rise' to guide students in learning, career counselling, and getting employment in the state. About 20 lakh students, getting vocational and technical education, and technical experts will benefit from this portal CM Yogi Adityanath launched the portal in Lucknow

3. UP's first conservation centre for vultures to come up in Gorakhpur

UP will get its 1st conservation centre for endangered vultures. The Jatayu Conservation & Breeding Centre would be set up in the Bhari Baisi village in Gorakhpur. Centre will be the 1st in India which will be dedicated to red-headed king vulture. It is to be formed on the lines of Haryana's Pinjore VCB centre.

4. UP govt decides to set up exclusive anti-electricity theft police stations in every district

Uttar Pradesh government decided to set up exclusive anti-electricity theft police stations in every district of state to address the problem of frequent cases of power theft. One police station dedicated to deal with the issue of power theft to be opened. Enforcement teams have also been increased from 33 to 88.

5. UP govt to allocate outlets under Public Distribution System to women SHGs

In an attempt to expedite distribution of food grain to the needy, UP government has identified over 950 Self-help Groups to run Public Distribution Systems outlets lying unattended in the state. There are more than 2,000 PDS shops ready for reallocation. Uttar Pradesh Capital: Lucknow. Governor: Anandiben Patel.

6. Yogi Govt Signs MoU with UN for Take Home Ration Supply

The Uttar Pradesh government signed MoU with United Nation World Food Programme for manufacturing and distribution of take-home ration with the help of Self-Help

Groups. SHGs will provide its products to the Uttar Pradesh Child Nutrition Department. UP CM: Yogi Adityanath. Governor: Anandiben Patel.

7. Food processing minister inaugurates Organic India unit in Uttar Pradesh

Food Processing Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal through video conferencing inaugurated Organic India Pvt Ltd's plant at Barabanki in Uttar Pradesh that has been set up at a cost of Rs 55 crore. The food processing sector is growing at 8.5 percent annually. CM: Yogi Adityanath Governor: Anandiben Patel Capital: Lucknow.

Uttarakhand

1. PM to inaugurate 6 mega projects in Uttarakhand under Namami Gange Mission

PM will inaugurate 6 mega projects in Uttarakhand under Namami Gange Mission through video conf. Projects include construction of 68MLD Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), upgradation of the existing 27 MLD at Jagjeetpur & construction of 18 MLD STP at Sarai. Uttarakhand Capitals: Dehradun (Winter), Gairsain (Summer)

West Bengal

1. WBTC introduces unique tram library in Kolkata

In Kolkata, a unique tram library is being introduced by the WB Transport Corp. Library is a special tram with books & magazines that can be read while travelling. In addition to books, free Wifi will be provided to passengers to read online. WB CM: Mamata Banerjee; Governor: Jagdeep Dhankhar.

2. Bengal govt bags WSIS award for its Sabuj Sathi scheme

After Kanyashree scheme another West Bengal government project has received a global prize. The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) handed over the winner prize '20 to the state government for Sabuj Sathi project under the e-government category. Under Sabuj Sathi bicycles are given to students.

Delhi

1. Delhi Metro launches first indigenous signal system

Delhi Metro took a major step towards development of an indigenously built communication-based train control launching i-ATS, the first Made-in-India signalling system. It is a computer-based system which manages train operations such as running & halting. i-ATS – Indigenous Automatic Train Supervision.

2. India's first and exclusive private jet terminal opens at Delhi's IGI airport

This will make movement of business jets & chartered aircraft easier, a long-pending demand of Indian billionaires seeking friendlier skies with a network of airports just for private jets. The new terminal will be able to handle over 50 passengers/ hour. New terminal will allow movement of 150 jets daily.

3. Delhi govt relaunches mass awareness campaign against dengue

The Delhi government will once again launch a mass awareness campaign "10 hafte 10 baje 10 din" aimed at preventing dengue as well as other vector-borne diseases. The government's campaign will continue every Sunday for the next 10 weeks. The campaign was first launched in 2019.

4. Delhi CM launches online portal for filing of consumer complaints

CM Arvind Kejriwal inaugurated the government's online portal for e-filing of consumers' complaints. It has been developed by National Informatic Centre (NIC) in coordination with SBI which is providing payment gateway for payment of fees digitally. Delhi is the first state to have this system.

5. India's first Coronavirus airport testing facility launched in Delhi

India's first Coronavirus airport testing facility was launched at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport. The facility at the T-3 of the airport offers a walk-in option and ensures a safe journey to all the passengers entering the city. The test results will be available within four to six hours.

Jammu and Kashmir

1. J&K Horticulture Dept launches "Backyard Horticulture" programme under CAPEX scheme in Jammu district

In Jammu & Kashmir, Horticulture Department launched Flagship programme Backyard Horticulture under CAPEX scheme. Under the programme at least three fruit plants costing Rs. 200 will be distributed among the farmers at 90% subsidy covering 600 households. It aims to promote organic fruit production for home consumption.

2. J-K Lt Guv e-inaugurates career education platform for students

In line with New Education Policy 2020 online process-based standardised and scalable, globally certified, career education platform under career education initiative for students was launched by the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha. It intends to enable curiosity and creative thinking in youth.

3. J&K launches NGDRS for online registration in sale or purchase of land

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha launched the National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS), marking a major shift from the existing manual registration system to online registration for transactions in sale or purchase of land. Included districts: Srinagar, Jammu, Samba, Kathua & Udhampur.

4. J&K L-G announced Rs 1,350 cr economic package

J&K L-G Manoj Sinha announced a ₹1,350cr package for the business sector and a 50% rebate on electricity and water bills for a year for all sectors in the UT. The package is apart from the ₹1,400cr. announced for J&K under the Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. J&K summer capital: Srinagar; winter capital: Jammu.

5. Government sets-up Council to document J&K biodiversity

J&K Bio-Diversity Council will document biodiversity, by maintaining Peoples Biodiversity Register with the help of representatives from local governance bodies. Term of office of the non-official members of the council will be for a period of 3 years. National Biodiversity Authority Headquarters- Chennai.

6. Hindi, Kashmiri and Dogri to be official languages of Jammu and Kashmir: Cabinet approves Bill

J&K Official Languages Bill, 2020, will be introduced in the upcoming Monsoon Session of Parliament. The Bill received the Cabinet nod at a meeting presided by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. 8th Schedule of Constitution lists 22 scheduled languages as official. Urdu & English will remain as the official languages of J&K.

7. J-K LG Launches SPARROW System For J-K Administrative Service Officers

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha launched Smart Performance Appraisal Report Recording Online Window (SPARROW) system for Jammu & Kashmir Administrative Service officers. It aims to bring more transparency, timely completion of performance appraisals, etc., It is implemented by J&K e-Governance Agency along with NIC.

8. J-K LG inaugurates State Council of Education, Research and Training

J&K LG Manoj Sinha e-inaugurated the State Council of Education, Research and Training to help the administration in implementing policies for human resource

development. He also launched Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme via online mode. SCERTs came into existence on 5th January 1979.

9. Jammu and Kashmir announce Rs 5 lakh annual health insurance for residents

Lt Gov Manoj Sinha announced Jammu and Kashmir health scheme intended to provide universal health insurance cover. It will have the same benefits as available under AB-PMJAY with an annual health insurance cover of Rs. 5 lakh per family on floater basis. Aims to cover 15 lakh families with annual cost of Rs 123 crore.

QUICK LEARNERS

BANKING

POLICY/EXCHANGE RATE & RESERVE RATIO	PERCENTAGE
Repo Rate	4.00%
Reverse Repo Rate	3.35%
Marginal Standing Facility Rate (MSF)	4.25%
Bank Rate	4.25%
Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)	3.0%
Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)	18.0%

ECONOMY

ORGANIZATION/ PARAMETERS	RATE/ FIGURES
National Statistical Office data (India's GDP)	Slipped by a sharp 23.9% in Q1
SBI Ecowrap (India's real GDP)	Shrink by 10.9% (FY21)
Moody's (India's economic growth)	11.5% contraction (FY21)
Asian Development Bank (India's economic growth)	Shrink by 9% (FY21)
OECD (India's economic growth)	Contract by 10.2% (FY21)
Net direct tax collection during April-August	Dips 31%
Finance Ministry Report (India's External Debt)	Rose by Nearly 3% (2-10-20)



APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

APPOINTMENT	POST
Charu Sinha	First woman IG to lead CRPF in Kashmir
M V Raja	Director (R&D) of BEL
S R Sarma	Chief of Materiel of the Indian Navy
Hemant Khatri	CMD of Hindustan Shipyard
Pramod Chandra Mody	CBDT Chairman Gets 6-Month Extension
Kshatrapati Shivaji	Secretary in Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
Matthew Hayden	Australia's trade envoy to India
Murali Ramakrishnan	MD and CEO of South Indian Bank
V K Yadav	First CEO of Indian Railways
Manisha Kapoor	ASCI secretary-general
Supratim Dutta	ITC Chief Financial Officer
Preeti Sudan	Appointed in WHO panellist
Vinkesh Gulati	FADA President
R Masakui	High Commissioner of India To Jamaica
R F Nariman	Chairperson of SC Legal Services Committee
Rajiv Mehrishi	Head of 3-member expert panel to assist in assessment of relief to bank borrowers
Anil Jain	AITA president
Anil Dhupar	AITA Secretary-General
Rohit Rajpal	AITA treasurer
Jane Fraser	First Woman CEO of Citigroup
Paresh Rawal	Chairperson of National School of Drama
Harivansh	Re-elected as Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha
Rajesh Khullar	Executive Director of World Bank
Sameer Kumar Khare	Executive Director of ADB
Harsimrat Kaur Badal	Minister of Food Processing Industries resigns
Narendra Singh Tomar	Additional charge of Food Processing Industries Ministry
Anil Dhasmana	New chief of NTRO
Simanchala Dash	Advisor to IMF Executive Director
S Aparna	Secretary, Department of Pharmaceuticals
Raghvendra Singh	India's Culture Secretary

Kumudini Tyagi & Riti Singh	Observers in the helicopter stream of Indian Navy
Mohamed Hussein Roble	Somalia's new prime minister
A K Dixit	PMC Bank administrator
Bah Ndaw	Mali interim president
Ishmael Toroama	President of newly formed Bougainville
Uday Kotak	Term as IL&FS chairman extended by a year
Rajat Sud	EESL managing director
Arjun Chowdhry	Citigroup's acting head of consumer banking business
K Madhavan	Indian Broadcasting Foundation president
Stefano Domenicali	F1 CEO
Amitabh Bachchan	Reserve Bank ropes in for customer awareness campaign
Aamir Khan	Ceat Tyres brand ambassador
Sonu Sood	Acer India brand ambassador
PD Vaghela	TRAI Chairman
Moctar Ouane	Mali transitional PM
Alapan Bandyopadhyay	Chief Secretary of West Bengal
Robin Uthappa	Entri brand ambassador
Rinki Sethi	Twitter information security head
Shekhar Kapur	President of FTII Society & Chairman of FTII Governing Council
D K Kashyap	Director on board of Dhanlaxmi Bank

AWARDS

WINNER	AWARD
Hyderabad International Airport	CII-GBC 'National Energy Leader' award
Air Force Sports Control Board	Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2020
Sir David Attenborough	Indira Gandhi Peace Prize
Indian film 'The Disciple'	Best Screenplay award at Venice Film Festival
Aditya Puri	Lifetime Achievement Award by Euromoney Awards of Excellence 2020
Margaret Atwood	Dayton Literary Peace Prize's lifetime achievement award 2020

Chef Vikas Khanna	Asia Game Changer award
Jineth Bedoya Lima	Golden Pen award
TV series 'Schitt's Creek'	All comedy awards at Emmys 2020

IMPORTANT DAYS

DATE	DAY	THEME
September 1 to September 7	National Nutrition Week	NA
September 1	World Letter Writing Day	NA
September 2	World Coconut Day	Invest in Coconut to save the world
September 5	National Teachers' Day	NA
5 September	International Day of Charity	COVID-19 and indigenous peoples' resilience
September 7	World Forgiveness Day	NA
7 September	International Day of Clean Air for blue skies	"Clean Air for All".
9 September	International Day to Protect Education from Attack	"Protect Education, Save a Generation".
8 September	International Literacy Day	NA
September 10	World Suicide Prevention Day	NA
September 11	National Forest Martyrs Day	Youth Engagement for Global Action
September 14	Hindi Diwas	NA
September 15	International Day of Democracy	COVID-19: A Spotlight on Democracy
September 15	National Engineer's Day	NA
September 16	World Ozone Day	Ozone for life: 35 years of ozone layer protection.
17 September	World Patient Safety Day	Health Worker Safety: A Priority for Patient Safety
18 September	International Equal Pay Day	NA
September 21	World Alzheimer's Day	'Let's talk about dementia'
September 21	International Day of Peace	Shaping Peace Together
September 22	World Rose Day	NA
22 September	World Rhinoceros Day	NA

23 September	International Day of Sign Languages	NA
24 September (last Thursday of September)	World Maritime Day	Sustainable Shipping for a Sustainable Planet
25 September	World Pharmacists Day	Transforming global health
26 September	International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons	NA
27 September	World Tourism Day	Tourism and Rural Development
28 September	International Day for Universal Access to Information	NA
28 September	World Rabies Day	End Rabies: Collaborate, Vaccinate
29 September	International Day of Awareness on Food Loss and Waste Reduction	Stop food loss and waste. For the people. For the planet.
29 September	World Heart Day	Use heart to beat CVD
30 September	International Translation Day	Finding the words for a world in crisis

OBITUARY

OBITUARY	RELATED FIELD
Pranab Mukherjee	Former President of India
Katyayani Shankar Bajpai	Former ambassador to China, US and Pakistan
Dr Siva Ramakrishna Iyer Padmavati	India's first female cardiologist
David Capel	Cricketer
Govind Swarup	Astronomer
Jiri Menzel	Oscar-winning Czech director
Kesavananda Bharati Swamiji	Petitioner of the historic judgement of the Supreme Court on a Fundamental Rights case
Jaya Prakash Reddy	Actor
Diana Rigg	British actress
Swami Agnivesh	Social activist
Raghuvansh Prasad Singh	Veteran Socialist
Kapila Vatsyayan	Art scholar

Sadashiv Patil	Cricketer
Balli Durga Prasad Rao	Lok Sabha MP
Moussa Traore	Mali's former president
Ashok Gasti	Rajya Sabha member
PR Krishnakumar	Ayurveda physician
Winston Groom	Author
Sharbari Dutta	Eminent fashion designer
Mulund Sardar Tara Singh	Former MLA
Purba Dam	Veteran Rabindra Sangeet exponent
Ashalata Wabgaonkar	Marathi actress
Ang Rita Sherpa	Everest record-breaker
Suresh Angadi	Minister of State for Railways
Bhupesh Kumar Pandya	Theatre personality and actor
Dean Mervyn Jones	Australian cricketer
Narayan Rao	Congress MLA
Ashutosh Mohunta	Former acting Chief Justice of Punjab and Haryana High Court
Dr. Sekhar Basu	Nuclear scientist
Sripathi Panditaradhyula Balasubrahmanyam	Singer-actor
Jaswant Singh	Former Union Minister
Isher Judge Ahluwalia	Renowned economist
Swami Pratyagbodhananda	Hindu spiritual guru
Abhilash (Om Prakash)	Veteran songwriter
Syeda Anwara Taimur	Assam's only woman CM
G. S. Amur	Noted literary critic
Sheikh Sabah al-Sabah	Ruler of Kuwait



IMPORTANT STATIC & CURRENT INFO

INDIAN STATES, CAPITALS, CHIEF MINISTERS & GOVERNORS

STATE	CAPITAL	CHIEF MINISTER	GOVERNOR
Andhra Pradesh	Amaravati	Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy	Biswa Bhusan Harichandan
Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	Pema Khandu	Brigadier BD Mishra (retd)
Assam	Dispur	Sarabananda Sonowal	Jagdish Mukhi
Bihar	Patna	Nitish Kumar	Phagu Chauhan
Chhattisgarh	Raipur	Bhupesh Baghel	Anusuiya Uikey
Goa	Panaji	Pramod Sawant	Bhagat Singh Koshyari
Gujarat	Gandhi Nagar	Vijaybhai R. Rupani	Acharya Devvrat
Haryana	Chandigarh	Manohar Lal Khattar	Satyadev Narayan Arya
Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	Jai Ram Thakur	Bandaru Dattatraya
Jharkhand	Ranchi	Hemant Soren	Draupadi Murmu
Karnataka	Bengaluru	B S Yediyurappa	Vajubhai Rudabhai Vala
Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	Pinarayi Vijayan	Arif Mohammed Khan
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	Shivraj Singh Chauhan	Anandiben Patel
Maharashtra	Mumbai	Uddhav Thackrey	Bhagat Singh Koshyari
Manipur	Imphal	N Biren Singh	Najma Heptulla
Meghalaya	Shillong	Conrad Sangma	Satya Pal Malik
Mizoram	Aizawl	Pu Zoramthanga	P S Sreedharan Pillai
Nagaland	Kohima	Neiphiu Rio	RN Ravi
Odisha	Bhubaneshwar	Naveen Patnaik	Ganeshi Lal
Punjab	Chandigarh	Amarinder Singh	V P Singh Badnore
Rajasthan	Jaipur	Ashok Gehlot	Kalraj Mishra
Sikkim	Gangtok	Prem Singh Tamang (PS Golay)	Ganga Prasad

Tamil Nadu	Chennai	Edappadi K. Palaniswami	Banwarilal Purohit
Telangana	Hyderabad	K. Chandrasekhar Rao	Tamilisai Soundararajan
Tripura	Agartala	Biplab Kumar Deb	Ramesh Bais
Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	Yogi Adityanath	Anandiben Patel
Uttarakhand	Dehradun	Trivendra Singh Rawat	Baby Rani Maurya
West Bengal	Kolkata	Mamata Banerjee	Jagdeep Dhankhar

UNION TERRITORIES, LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS & ADMINISTRATORS

Union Territory	Lt. Governor & Administrator
Andaman and Nicobar Island (UT)	Admiral D K Joshi (Lieutenant Governor)
Chandigarh (UT)	V.P. Singh Badnore (Administrator)
Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu (UT)	Praful Patel (Administrator)
Delhi (NCT)	Anil Baijal (Lieutenant Governor)
Jammu and Kashmir (UT)	Manoj Sinha (Lieutenant Governor)
Lakshadweep (UT)	Dineshwar Sharma, IPS, (Administrator)
Puducherry (UT)	Kiran Bedi, IPS, (Retd.) (Lieutenant Governor)
Ladakh (UT)	Radha Krishna Mathur (Lieutenant Governor)



UNION MINISTERS, PORTFOLIO & CONSTITUENCY

Union Minister	Portfolio	Constituency
Narendra Modi	Ministry of personnel, public grievances and pensions	Varanasi, UP
Rajnath Singh	Ministry of Defence	Lucknow, UP
Amit Shah	Ministry of Home Affairs	Gandhinagar, Gujarat
Nitin Gadkari	Ministry of Road Transport and Highways & Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium enterprises	Nagpur, Maharashtra
DV Sadananda Gowda	Ministry of Chemical and Fertilizers	Bangalore North, Karnataka
Nirmala Sitharaman	Ministry of Finance & Ministry of Corporate Affairs	Rajya Sabha
Ram Vilas Paswan	Ministry of Consumer affairs, food and public distribution	NA
Narendra Singh Tomar	Ministry of agriculture and farmers welfare, Ministry of Rural Development & Ministry of Panchayati Raj	Morena, M. P
Ravi Shankar Prasad	Ministry of Law and Justice, Ministry of communications & Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology	Patna Sahib, Bihar
Harsimrat Kaur Badal	Ministry of Food Processing Industries	Bathinda, Punjab
Thaawar Chand Gehlot	Ministry of Social justice and empowerment	Rajya Sabha (M.P)
Dr Subrahmanyam Jaishankar	Ministry of External Affairs	Rajya Sabha (Gujarat)
Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'	Ministry of Human Resource Development	Haridwar, Uttarakhand
Arjun Munda	Ministry of Tribal Affairs	Khunti, Jharkhand
Smriti Zubin Irani	Ministry of Women and child Development & Ministry of Textiles	Amethi, UP
Dr Harsh Vardhan	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Science and Technology & Ministry of Earth Sciences	Chandni Chowk, Delhi
Prakash Javadekar	Ministry of environment, forest and climate change & Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	Rajya Sabha (M.P)

	Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprise	
Piyush Goyal	Ministry of Railways & Ministry of Commerce and Industry	Rajya Sabha (Maharashtra)
Dharmendra Pradhan	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Ministry of Steel	Rajya Sabha (M.P)
Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi	Ministry of Minority Affairs	Rajya Sabha (Jharkhand)
Pralhad Joshi	Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Ministry of coal & Ministry of Mines	Dharwad, Karnataka
Dr Mahendra Nath Pandey	Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	Chandauli, UP
Giriraj Singh	Ministry of Animal Husbandry, dairying and fisheries	Begusarai, Bihar



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