

GENERAL AWARENESS-CURRENT AFFAIRS

MONTH OF MARCH-2021

List of Important Days

- March 01 - Zero Discrimination Day.
- March 01 - 45th Civil Accounts Day.
- March 03 - World Wildlife Day. (Theme - "Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet")
- March 03 - World Hearing Day. (Theme - "Hearing care for ALL!: Screen, Rehabilitate, Communicate")
- March 04 - National Security Day.
- March 04 - National Safety Day. (Theme - "Sadak Suraksha (Road Safety)")
- March 08 - International Women's Day. (Theme - "Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world")
- March 16 - National Vaccination Day (also called the National Immunization Day).
- March 18 - Global Recycling Day. (Theme - "Recycling Heroes")
- March 18 - Ordnance Factories' Day.
- March 21 - World Poetry Day.
- March 21 - World Down Syndrome Day. (Theme - "We Decide.")
- March 21 - International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. (Theme - "Youth standing up against racism")
- March 21 - International Day of Forests. (Theme - "Forest restoration: a path to recovery and well-being")
- March 22 - Bihar Diwas.
- March 22 - World Water Day. (Theme - "Valuing Water")
- March 23 - World Meteorological Day. (Theme - "The ocean, our climate and weather")
- March 23 - Martyrs Day (Shaheed Diwas or Sarvodaya Day).
- March 24 - International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims.
- March 24 - World Tuberculosis Day. (Theme - "The Clock is Ticking")
- March 25 - International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members.
- March 25 - International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade. (Theme - "Ending Slavery's Legacy of Racism: A Global Imperative for Justice")
- March 27 - (last Saturday of March) Earth Hour 2021. (Theme - "Climate Change to Save Earth.")
- March 27 - World Theatre Day.

Reserve Bank of India

- Reserve Bank of India has notified that it has included **Fino Payments Bank** in the **Second Schedule** of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.
- The Reserve Bank of India has imposed a **penalty of Rs 15 lakh** on **Fedbank Financial Services Limited**, Mumbai.

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has extended restrictions on withdrawals and deposits in **Punjab & Maharashtra Cooperative (PMC) Bank** till 30 June, 2021.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced that it has **fined** India's largest lending bank "State Bank of India (SBI)" with **Rs 2 crore** after it failed to follow the regulations in payment of remuneration to its employees through the commissions.

State Bank of India

- The **State Bank of India (SBI) Mutual Funds** has launched its first **overseas offering** on 1 March 2021.
 - The fund titled **SBI International Access – US Equity FOF** is an open-ended fund of funds scheme investing in a mutual fund scheme/ETFs that invest in US markets, which are domiciled overseas.
- National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) in association with the **SBI Payments** have announce to launch the '**RuPay SoftPoS**' for millions of Indian merchants.
 - This technology will be helpful in transforming the NFC enabled **smartphones** into merchant Point of Sale (PoS) terminals for retailers.

Other Banks

- Private sector lender **Kotak Mahindra Bank** will handle the **salary account** of the **Indian army** personnel.
- **HDFC Bank** on the occasion of International Women' Day has announced the launch of a dedicated programme named "**SmartUp Unnati**" for mentoring women entrepreneurs by women leaders at the bank.
- Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) has launched '**IOB Trendy**', a savings account customized for the growing millennial population in the country by keeping their banking preferences in mind.

States

- **Uttarakhand** Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat has launched "**Gharoki Paachan, Chelik Naam**" (daughter's name is a home's identity) programme and development schemes worth Rs 42 crore in **Nainital**.
- **Haryana** government has approved the **bill** that will provide **75% reservation** in the **private sector jobs** with a gross salary of up to Rs. 50,000 per month to the **people of the state**.
- The Government of **Arunachal Pradesh** has decided to **develop three model villages** along the Indo-Tibet border area as a pilot project with an allocation of Rs. 30 crores.
- The state of **Madhya Pradesh** has introduced the **night safaris** in the three national parks in Madhya Pradesh.
- The Cyberabad Police has launched India's first-ever **Transgender Community Desk**' at the Gachibowli Police Station in Hyderabad, **Telangana**.
- The **Odisha** government will set up District Investment Promotion Agencies- **DIPAs** in 30 districts in order to promote and facilitate investment across the state.
- **Delhi** Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal announced that Delhi will **bid** to host the **2048 Olympics**.
- **Bihar** Cabinet has approved the Ethanol Production Promotion Policy, 2021, becoming the 1st Indian State to have an **ethanol promotion policy**.
- The Government of **Arunachal Pradesh** launched the '**Dekho Apna Pradesh**' campaign in order to encourage people of the state to visit tourist places within it.
- The state government of **Andhra Pradesh** has decided to set up "India's first government-run **ambulance network**" for **animals**.

- The **Rajasthan** Assembly has passed the demand for grants of Rs 370.60 for the **higher education** by voice vote.

Place in the News

- The **First Forest Healing centre** of the country was inaugurated at Ranikhet in Kalika **Uttarakhand**.
- Asia's largest **Tulip Garden** in **Srinagar**, Jammu & Kashmir, was opened for general public and tourists from March 25, 2021.

Defence and National Security

- The **Indian Air Force** (IAF) is participating in Exercise **Desert Flag-VI**, which has been organized from March 03 to 27, 2021 at Al-Dhafra airbase, **UAE**.
- The Defence Research and Development Organization (**DRDO**) has successfully conducted the successful **flight test** of the Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (**SFDR**) technology.
 - The flight test was conducted from Integrated Test Range at Chandipur off the coast of **Odisha**.
- The Defense Research & Development Organization (**DRDO**) conducted the final development test of Air Independent test of the "**Air Independent Propulsion (AIP)**".
 - The test was conducted a day before the **INS Karanj** attack submarine was inducted into the Indian Navy.
- Joint exercise '**Pabbi-Anti-Terror 2021**' was announced during the 36th meeting of the Council of the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) held in Tashkent, **Uzbekistan**.
 - Pabbi-Anti-Terror 2021: **India, Pakistan** and **China** to hold anti-terror exercise.
- The Ministry of **Defence** signed a deal with **Mahindra Defence Systems Ltd** for the procurement of 1,300 light combat vehicles worth Rs. 1,056 crores for the **Indian Army**.
- Indian Coast Guard Ship **Vajra** was commissioned to the Indian Coast Guard by Chief of Defence Staff, General Bipin Rawat, at Kattupalli in **Chennai**.
- **Pakistan** has successfully test-fired a nuclear-capable surface-to-surface ballistic missile **Shaheen 1-A**.
- In a first, the navies of **India** and **Madagascar** undertook joint patrolling of Madagascar's Exclusive Economic Zone (**EEZ**) and also conducted a Passage Exercise (**PASSEX**).
- **Eritrea** has agreed to **withdraw** its **troops** from Ethiopia's northern **Tigray region** along their mutual border, said Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed on March 26, 2021.
- **Operation Sankalp** - Indian Navy undertakes Passage Exercise with **Bahrain** Navy in Persian Gulf.

Schemes/Initiatives

- The Ministry of **Women and Child Development** has announced to classify all the **major schemes** of the ministry for their effective implementation and programmes under the **three Umbrella** schemes namely, **Mission Poshan 2.0, Mission Vatsalya** and **Mission Shakti**.
- The Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, inaugurates the '**Maitri Setu**' between **India** and **Bangladesh** via video conferencing.
 - He also inaugurates and lay the foundation stone of several infrastructure projects in Tripura on the occasion.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra **Modi** has launched the '**Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain**' campaign on the occasion of World Water Day for conserving water.
 - PM urged that every penny of MGNREGA (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act) funds be spent on rainwater conservation till the monsoon arrives.
- The Union Power and Renewable Energy Minister R.K. Singh launched the **Gram Ujala** scheme in the Lok Sabha constituency of PM Modi, **Varanasi**.

- Under the scheme, the government offers the world's cheapest **LED bulbs** in rural areas at **Rs. 10**.
- Jammu and Kashmir, LG **Manoj Sinha** has e-inaugurated **73 AYUSH Health & Wellness Centres** under Ayushman Bharat across the UT.
- Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, **Nirmala Sitharaman** virtually inaugurated Central Scrutiny Centre (CSC) and Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority's (**IEPFA Mobile App**).
- The United Nations Development Program- UNDP has launched a campaign named '**Sahi Disha**' in order to celebrate **women's livelihoods** and entrepreneurship in the **rural part** of India.
- Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, initiated the project "**Awaam Ki Baat**" - a Radio program by launching its website at Raj Bhavan, Jammu.

Summit/Conference

- PM **Modi** held a virtual **summit** with the Prime Minister of **Sweden Stefan Lofven**.
- Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr Harsh Vardhan, addressed the 7th annual summit of **NATHEALTH**.
 - The summit focused on 'Indian Health system expansion in post-COVID era'.
- The **India-Finland Virtual Summit** was held with the participation of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of the Republic of Finland Ms Sanna Marin.
 - The virtual summit was organised to discuss the entire gamut of bilateral issues as well as other regional and multilateral issues of mutual interest.

Agreement/Deal/Signed

- **Pakistan** has signed a ten-years agreement with **Qatar** over the liquefied natural gas (LNG).
- The Indian Government approved a pact between **India** and **Fiji** for co-operation in **agriculture** and the **allied sectors**.
- The Government of **India** signed a key pact with the **Philippines** for the supply of defence material and equipment which are also likely to include **BharhMos Cruise Missiles**.
- The Union Cabinet has given its approval for the Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) which was signed between **India** and **Japan** for the bilateral cooperation in the field of **water resources**.
- On the occasion of World Water Day, the governments of **Uttar Pradesh** and **Madhya Pradesh** signed an agreement with the Union Ministry of **Jal Shakti** to implement the **Ken-Betwa river interlinking project**.
- **India** and the **United States** agreed to **revamp** the **strategic energy partnership**.
- The Union Cabinet under the Chairmanship of PM Modi apprised of a Memorandum of Understanding between **India** and **Maldives** for sports and youth affairs.
- The State Bank of India (**SBI**) and Indian Oil Corporation Limited (**IOCL**) will be sign the first Secured Overnight Financing Rate (**SOFR**) linked external commercial borrowing (ECB) deal.
 - The deal will be signed because the de facto international benchmark reference rate called the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) will no longer work as the benchmark after December 2021.
- The Information technology companies of **India**, like Wipro and Tech Mahindra, will be collaborating with the companies of **Finland** to develop the **5G and 6G** technologies to use them in India and other markets.
 - The tech company, Nokia has already started working in the rural areas of India so as to expand the 5G applications.

- The Spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs, Anurag Srivastava has informed that **Italy** signed a framework agreement of the **International Solar Alliance** with **India**.
- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (**UNESCO**) has joined the **USO India** and **Toonz Media Group** over the **water conservation** awareness programme for students.

Meet/Visit

- First Strategic and Counter-Terrorism Dialogue was held between **Nigeria** and **India**.
- The **India-Bangladesh Water Resources Secretary-level meeting** took place on March 16, 2021, under the framework of the Joint Rivers Commission.
- The Sixth India-Brazil-South Africa (**IBSA**) **Women's Forum** meeting was held virtually.
- **Russia** hosted the "**Afghan Peace Meet**". The meeting was organized to bring together the government representatives and the Taliban adversaries.

Bills

- The BJP government in **Madhya Pradesh** has introduced the "**Madhya Pradesh Freedom of Religion Bill, 2021**" in the assembly.
- Parliament has passed the "**Finance Bill 2021**".
- Lok Sabha passes **National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development Bill 2021**.
- Rajya Sabha passed the **National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill, 2021**.
- Parliament of **New Zealand** passed the '**Miscarriage bereavement leave law**'.
 - This legislation provides mothers and their partners a "right to paid leave" after a miscarriage or stillbirth.
 - New Zealand has become the second country, following **India**, across the world to pass such legislation.
- President Ram Nath Kovind gave his assent to the **National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill, 2021** on March 28, 2021.
- The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) introduced the "**Government of NCT of Delhi (Amendment) Bill, 2021**" in the Lok Sabha on March 15, 2021.
 - The bill proposes that the "Government" in the national capital territory of Delhi means "Lieutenant Governor" (L-G) of Delhi.
- The **Marine Aids to Navigation Bill 2021** was introduced in the Lok Sabha.
- The Rajya Sabha has approved the "**National Institute of Food Technology Bill, 2019**".
 - This bill declares the National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management, Kundli in Haryana and Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology, Thanjavur in Tamil Nadu as the "National Institutes of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management".
- **Haryana Yog Aayog Bill 2021** was by the Haryana Vidhan Sabha during the ongoing budget session.
- The Parliament has cleared the **Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Bill, 2020**.
- Rajya Sabha has passed the "**National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professional Bill, 2020**" by voice vote.
- **Haryana Assembly** has passed the "**Haryana Recovery of damages to property during disturbance to public Bill, 2021**".

Fund

- The **World Bank** plans to introduce a **\$100-million credit guarantee scheme** to boost India's **rooftop solar programme**, which has not gained enough traction.
 - The scheme will allow micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to avail concessional debt financing for setting up rooftop solar units.
- The Union Cabinet approved **Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Nidhi (PMSSN)** as a single non-lapsable reserve fund for a share of Health from the proceeds of Health and Education Cess levied under Section 136-b of Finance Act, 2007.
- **Sri Lanka** has signed a 10-billion-yuan (about USD 1,5 billion) **currency swap deal** with **China** with the main motive to promote bilateral trade and direct investment between the two countries.
- The Union Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the Revised Cost Estimate of a Comprehensive Scheme in **Arunachal Pradesh** and **Sikkim** at an estimated cost of Rs. 9129. 32 crores.

Economy

- The **Delhi** government presented a **Rs 69,000-crore budget** themed on 'patriotism' or 'Deshbhakti' for the financial year 2021-22.
 - The budget was presented by the Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi, Manish Sisodia.

Companies/Industry

- **Google** and **Intel** have teamed up to develop cloud-based solutions for communication service providers to accelerate the deployment of their **5G** and network edge solutions.
- **Google** has launched a new web platform '**Women Will**' on March 8, 2021 on the occasion of "International Women's Day".
 - This platform will provide its support to 1 million rural women in India in order for them to become entrepreneurs with the help of accelerator programmes, business tutorials and mentorship.
- Power Grid Corporation of India (**POWERGRID**) has launched an "e-Tendering Portal" called '**PRANIT**' to make the tendering process more transparent. Singhraj
- The Finnish telecom equipment maker, **Nokia**, announced that it has partnered with the **Microsoft**, **Amazon** web services and **Google** so as to develop a new cloud-based **5G radio solution**.

Exports/Imports

- The first consignment of '**red rice**' was flagged off to the United States of **America** from **Assam**, giving a major boost to India's rice export potential.
 - The exported rice variety is known as 'Bao-dhaan', which is also an integral part of the Assamese food.

Taxation/Trade

- Markets regulator **SEBI** has **cancelled** the certificate of registration of **Sahara India Financial Corporation Ltd** as a **sub-broker** citing its failure to fulfil the "fit and proper" criteria.

Space

- The **Russian** Space agency, Roscosmos, has successfully launched its first ever **Arctic-monitoring satellite** that will monitor the Arctic's climate and environment.
 - The rocket was blasted off from Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. The Arktika-M spacecraft was launched to the orbit.
- The Indian Space Research Organization- **ISRO** with the US space agency **NASA** completed the development of a **Synthetic Aperture Radar- SAR** which is capable of producing extremely high-resolution images for a joint Earth observation satellite mission.

- The Chairman of ISRO K. Sivan has informed that **India** and **France** have been working on their **third Joint satellite Mission**, even as the bilateral space collaboration has been entering into multiple domains, including the human space flight programme.
- **Russia** has successfully launched **38** foreign satellites for the 18 countries into orbit after the successful launch from Baikonur cosmodrome in **Kazakhstan**.
- The Indian Space Research Organization (**ISRO**) has announced that it has successfully demonstrated its **free-space Quantum Communication** for a distance of 300 metres for the first time in India.
 - It was demonstrated at the Space Applications Centre (SAC) in **Ahmedabad** in between the two line-of-sight buildings within its campus.
- Indian Space Research Organization (**ISRO**) has revised the schedule launch of **geo imaging satellite GISAT-1** on board **GSLV-F10 rocket** after a minor issue occurred with the spacecraft.
 - The spacecraft was scheduled to be launched on March 28. But due to minor issue, it will now be launched on April 18 from Sriharikota spaceport.
- Indian Space Research Organization (**ISRO**) has launched the sounding rocket (**RH-560**) to study altitudinal variations in the neutral winds and plasma dynamics, at Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), Sriharikota Range (**SHAR**).

Science and Technology

- **Indian** Scientists at Aryabhata Research Institute of observational sciences (**ARIES**), **Nainital**, have indigenously designed and developed a low-cost **optical Spectrograph** named as Aries-Devasthal Faint Object Spectrograph & Camera (**ADFOSC**).

Health/Diseases/Drugs

- **Ghana** has become the first country in the world to **receive vaccines** acquired through the United Nations-backed **COVAX** initiative with a delivery of 600,000 doses of the **AstraZeneca vaccine** made by the Serum Institute of India.
- The Union Cabinet on approved COVID-19 **vaccination** for everyone **above 45 years** of age starting from April 1st.
- **El Salvador** is the first country in Central America to be certified **malaria-free** by the World Health Organization.

Energy/Gas/Oil

- Recently, **India** made a deal with **Bangladesh** where Indian companies will develop the transmission lines of **Bangladesh Rooppur Nuclear power plant**.
- The largest **floating solar farm** of the world is being built in **Singapore**.

Environment

- The **Red List** by International Union for Conservation of Nature (**IUCN**) recently showed that, **African elephants** living in forests and savannas are increasingly threatened with extinction.

Education

- The Chief Minister of **Delhi**, Arvind Kejriwal, has announced that the Delhi Cabinet has given approval to constitute the **Delhi Board of School Education**.

Films and Film Festival

- Indian Megastar **Amitabh Bachchan** conferred with the **2021 Film Archive Award** by the International Federation of Film Archives (**FIAF**) at a virtual ceremony.

Festival

- The **International Yoga Festival** was inaugurated by the Agriculture Minister of Uttarakhand Subodh Uniyal, head of Akhil Bharatiya Akhada Parishad (ABAP) Narendra Giri and Patanjali Yogpeeth chairman Acharya Balakrishna in **Rishikesh**.
- 28th Edition of the **Hunar Haat** of indigenous products of artisans and craftsmen was organised at Kala Academy in **Panaji, Goa**.
 - It was organized under the theme- “Vocal for Local”.
- **Uttar Pradesh** government was organized a '**Banana Festival**' in Kushinagar, which has witnessed the participation of at least 35 farmers and entrepreneurs.
 - The state government had in 2018 organised the One District One Product (ODOP) scheme to promote traditional enterprise.

Media /I.T / Telecommunication

- The Parliament of India have merged two of the TV channels namely, **Lok Sabha TV** and **Rajya Sabha TV** into an integrated channel “**Sansad TV**”.

Appointments/Election (or) Latest who is who?

- The former head of the News Services Division of All India Radio, **Jaideep Bhatnagar**, took over as **Principal** Director General of the **Press Information Bureau**.
- Vice Admiral **Ajendra Bahadur Singh** took over as the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief (FOC-in-C) of **Eastern Naval Command** (ENC).
 - He replaces Vice Admiral **Atul Kumar Jain**.
- **Matam Venkata Rao** has taken charge as the new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of **Central Bank Of India**.
- Indian Boxer **Mary Kom** has been appointed as the **chairperson** of the International Boxing Association's (AIBA) champions and veterans committee.
- Senior diplomat, **Manpreet Vohra** has been appointed as **India's next High Commissioner** to **Australia**.
- UN chief **Antonio Guterres** has appointed leading Indian economist **Ligia Noronha** as Assistant Secretary-General and Head of the New York Office of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- Department of economic affairs secretary, **Tarun Bajaj** has been given the additional charge of **revenue secretary**.
 - Present revenue secretary **Ajay Bhushan Pandey** retires on February 28.
- Indian-origin **Naureen Hassan** has been appointed as the first Vice President and Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the New York-based **Federal Reserve Bank**, by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.
- NABARD chairman, **G R Chintala** has assumed charge as the chairman of **APRACA** (Asia Pacific Rural and Agricultural Credit Association).
 - He has taken over from **DPK Gunasekera**, who is also the Chief Executive Officer of Bank of Ceylon.
- Dutch Prime Minister **Mark Rutte** wins fourth consecutive term, becomes EU's third-longest serving leader.
- US President Joe Biden announced that he intends to nominate **Bill Nelson** to serve as the **Administrator** of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (**NASA**).
- **Arindam Bagchi**, an officer of the 1995 batch of the Indian Foreign Service (IFS), has assumed charge as the new **spokesperson** of the Ministry of **External Affairs** (MEA).
 - He is replacing **Anurag Srivastava**, an officer of the 1999 batch of IFS.

- Justice **NV Ramana** to take charge as the next **Chief Justice of India** on April 24.
- **Atish Chandra** has been appointed as Chairman and Managing Director, **Food Corporation of India** in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary.
- Senior bureaucrat, **Saurabh Garg** has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) as part of a bureaucratic reshuffle effected by the Centre.
- IAS **Sanjeev Kumar** has appointed as Chairman of the Airports Authority of India (AAI) under the Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- The longtime president of the Republic of Congo, **Sassou Nguesso** is set for another five-year term after getting over 88% of the vote.
- **Anish Shah** who is set to take over as the managing director and CEO of **Mahindra and Mahindra** from 2 April.
 - **Pawan Goenka** will retire as MD and CEO and member of the board effective April 2.
- **Soma Mondal**, the chairperson of the state-owned Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), was elected the new chairperson of the Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE).
- **Deepak Mishra**, Practice Manager in the World Bank's Macroeconomics, Trade, and Investment Global Practice, has been appointed as the next **director** and chief executive of the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER).
 - He will take the charge of **Rajat Kathuria**.
- Lt General **DP Pandey** has taken over the command of strategic Kashmir-based **15 Corps** from Lt Gen BS Raju, who has been appointed as the new Director-General of Military Operations (DGMO) of the Indian Army.
- Senior IPS officer, **M. A. Ganapathy** was appointed as Director General of **National Security Guard**.
- Dr **Ajay Mathur** has assumed office as the Director-General of the **International Solar Alliance** (ISA) with effect from March 15, 2021.
- Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, **Dr Harsh Vardhan** has been appointed as the **Chairman** of the international body **Stop TB Partnership Board**. Tuberculosis from India by 2025.

Resignation/Dismissed/Retired/Quit

- **Trivendra Singh Rawat** has resigned as the chief minister of **Uttarakhand**, a year before the hill state is scheduled to go to polls.
 - The Bharatiya Janata Party's member of Parliament from Pauri Garhwal, **Tirath Singh Rawat**, will be the next chief minister of **Uttarakhand**.

Deaths

- **Nand Kumar Singh Chauhan**, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP from Khandwa in Madhya Pradesh, has passed away.
- Noted Kannada poet, critic and translator **NS Lakshminarayana Bhatta** has passed away. Popularly known as 'NSL' in the Kannada literary world.
- **M G George Muthoot**, the Chairman and Whole Time Director of The Muthoot Group, has passed away.
- Dhyana Chand National Sports Award-winning veteran Indian athlete **Ishar Singh Deol**, has passed away.
- Noted writer and filmmaker **Sagar Sarhadi**, known for films like "Kabhi Kabhie" and "Bazaar" has passed away.

- Renowned Polish poet **Adam Zagajewski** has passed away.
- Noted Odissi dancer **Laxmipriya Mohapatra**, the wife of legendary classical dancer Kelucharan Mohapatra, passed away.
- Noted journalist and author **Anil Dharker** passed away.
- Veteran Kathakali artist **Chemancheri Kunhiraman** Nair has passed away in Kozhikode, Kerala.
- Former Boxing Champion 'Marvelous' **Marvin Hagler** Passes Away.
- Renowned Padma Bhushan winning painter **Laxman Pai** passes away.
- The Dutch inventor of audio cassette tapes, **Lou Ottens** passed away.

Awards/Honours

- Indian Cricket Team **Virat Kohli** became the first cricketer to hit 100 million followers on social networking platform **Instagram** on March 1, 2021.
- The 30th **Bihari Puraskar** for 2020 will be given to **Mohankrishna Bohara** for his Hindi book of Criticism, titled **Taslima: Sangharsh aur Sahitya**.
- India spinner **Ravichandran Ashwin** was awarded the **ICC Player of the Month** award for February, the International Cricket Council (ICC).
- World rapid chess champion **Koneru Humpy** has won the **BBC Indian Sportswoman-of-the-Year** award.
 - The Lifetime Achievement award went to veteran athlete **Anju Bobby George**.
- 67th National Film Awards:
 - **Sikkim** wins award for **Most Film Friendly State**.
 - An Engineered Dream wins **Best Film** in Non-Feature Film category.
 - Marakkar-Arabikkadalinte-Simham bags **Best Feature Film** award.
 - Maharshi wins **Best Popular Film** Providing Wholesome Entertainment;
 - Anandi Gopal takes the award for Best Film on Social Issues.
 - B Praak wins Best Male Playback Singer for 'Teri Mitti' from the movie Kesari;
 - Oththa Seruppu Size-7 bags Special Jury Award.
 - Dhanush and Manoj Bajpayee share the award for **Best Actor**.
 - Kangana Ranaut wins **Best Actress** award for Manikarnika-The Queen of Jhansi and Panga.
- The **Gandhi Peace Prize** for the year 2019 is being conferred on (Late) His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said Al Said of Oman.
 - On the other hand, Gandhi Peace Prize for the year 2020 is being conferred on **Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman**.
- **Kerala's** tuberculosis eradication programme had won **national** honour as the state bagged the Union government's award for reducing the prevalence of the disease through various systematic initiatives.
- **ESAF Small Finance Bank** had been awarded '**Great place to work**' certification by the Great place to Work Institute.
- A team of four undergraduate students from the **Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur** emerged as winners at the **CoreNet Global Academic Challenge 6.0**, sponsored by Cushman and Wakefield, KI and IA: Interior Architects.

- The team comprised Siddhant Samarth, Pratim Majumdar, Rishita Raj and Utkarsh Agrawal and were guided by Prof. Jenia Mukherjee (Department of Humanities and Social Sciences).
- Legendary singer **Asha Bhosle** will be honoured with the prestigious **Maharashtra Bhushan Award** for the year 2020.
- Renowned Hindi writer Professor **Sharad Pagare** has been selected for the prestigious **Vyas Samman-2020** for his novel 'Patliputra ki Samragi'.
- **HDFC Bank** has adjudged the '**India's Best Bank for SMEs**' at the Asiamoney Best Bank Awards 2021.
- **Mahinder Giri**, range officer of Rajaji Tiger Reserve for being the only ranger from Asia to win the prestigious **International Ranger Award** for his contribution towards conservation.
 - The award has been announced for 10 professionals across the world by the International Union for Conservation of Nature IUCN and World Commission on Protected Areas WCPA.
- The U.S. Consulate honoured Tamil Nadu-based anti-caste activist and human rights defender **Gowsalya Shankar** with a nomination for the **International Woman of Courage (IWOC) Award**.
- **ReNew Power** has been named to the World Economic Forum's (WEF) **Global Lighthouse Network**, which recognizes companies using new technologies to achieve environmentally sustainable, community supportive, profitable growth.
 - ReNew Power is an Indian renewable energy company.
- Tanzanian President **John Pombe Magufuli** passed away at 61.

Sports/Game

- All India Football Federation confirms **Odisha** as the venue for the forthcoming **Hero Indian Women's League 2020-21** edition.
 - This is the fifth edition of IWL, the top division women's league in India.
- The Indian wrestler, **Vinesh Phogat**, has won the **gold** medal in women's 53-kg category.
 - She won the medal at XXIV Outstanding **Ukrainian Wrestlers and Coaches Memorial** in Kyiv, **Ukraine**.
- **Deepak Kumar**, in boxing, has won a **silver** medal at the 72nd **Strandja Memorial Tournament** in Sofia, **Bulgaria**.
- **Mumbai City FC** win **ISL League Football Winners Shield** at the GMC Stadium in **Goa**.
- India's **Varun Kapur** and **Malvika Bansod** clinched the men's and women's singles titles respectively at the 2021 **Uganda International Badminton tournament** in **Kampala**.
- Union Territory of **Jammu and Kashmir** topped the medals tally in the second edition of the **Khelo India Winter National Games**.
 - The event concluded in the famous ski resort of Gulmarg in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.
- Indian wrestler **Bajrang Punia** has regained his **world number one** ranking after clinching a second successive gold medal at the Matteo Pallicone Ranking Series.
- India's ace shuttler **PV Sindhu** has won a **silver** medal in the **BWF Swiss Open Super 300** in the final of the women's singles event held at Basel, **Switzerland**.
- In Boxing, continuing his splendid run, **Manish Kaushik** clinched **gold** as Indian boxers concluded their impressive campaign at the Boxam International Tournament with 10 medals in Castellon, **Spain**.
- **Singhraj**, the Indian para-athlete has won a **gold** medal in the 2021 **Para Shooting World Cup** at Al Ain in the **United Arab Emirates**.
- In Cricket, **India Legends** defeated Sri Lanka Legends to clinch the **Road Safety World Series** final title, held at Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh International Stadium in Raipur, **Chhattisgarh**.

- Japan's **Nozomi Okuhara** has won the **All England Badminton Championships** women's title as she defeated Pornpawee Chochuwong in the finals.
 - In the **men's** category, Malaysia's **Lee Zii Jia** has won the All England Badminton Championships title as he defeated Denmark's Viktor Axelsen in the summit clash.
- India's **Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar** won **gold** in the men's 50m Rifle 3 Positions event at the ISSF World Cup in **New Delhi**.
- In Shooting, **India** won gold in the women's 25m Pistol Team event at the ISSF World Cup in **Delhi**.
- 'In The Dream House: A Memoir' by **Carmen Maria Machado** Wins **The Rathbones Folio Prize 2021**.
- Seven-time Formula One world champion **Lewis Hamilton** battled past Max Verstappen to win the season-opening **Bahrain Grand Prix** and clinched the 96th race win of his career.
- **Mumbai City FC** beat ATK Mohun Bagan to win their maiden **ISL title**.
- Sprinter **S Dhanalakshmi** beat national record holder Dutee Chand to win women's 100m sprint final in the **Federation Cup Senior National Athletics Championships** in **Patiala**.
- Afghanistan's **Hashmatullah Shahidi** became the first batsman from the country to register a **double hundred** in **Test cricket**.

Report

- **Shimla** has been placed at **top** among the cities with **less than 10 lakh** population in the country in the government's "**Ease of Living Index 2020**".
 - This is followed by Bhubaneswar, Silvassa, Kakinada, Salem, Vellore, Gandhinagar, Gurugram, Davangere and Tiruchirapalli.
 - **Bengaluru** has been ranked on **top** among the cities with **more than 10 lakh** population.
- Tesla chief **Elon Musk** bagged the **top** spot on the Hurun **Global Rich List** for the first time.
 - Amazon.com Inc CEO **Jeff Bezos** ranked **second** with \$189 billion in net worth.
 - **Bernard Arnault**, the chief executive of LVMH Moët Hennessy – Louis Vuitton SE, the world's largest luxury-goods company ranked **third** with a net worth of \$114 billion.
- The **US** government funded NGO "**Freedom House**" published its annual report on global political rights and liberties recently.
 - The report titled "Freedom in the World 2021 – Democracy under Siege" published the report on political freedom across the world. **India** declared as '**partly free**'.
- The Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs has released the final rankings of the **Municipal Performance Index (MPI) 2020**.
 - **Indore** and **NDMC** tops Municipal Performance Index (MPI) 2020.
- The 11th edition of the **QS World University Rankings** was released.
 - The **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)**, the **United States** has retained its **top** position as the best university for the ninth year in a row.
- **Kieron Pollard** becomes 3rd Man to Hit 6 Sixes in an over.
 - Other Players: Herschelle Gibbs (South Africa) and Yuvraj Singh (India).
- The United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP) published the "**Food Waste Index Report, 2021**".
 - As per the report, estimated **931 million tonnes** of food were wasted across the world 2019.
- **India** has moved down 13 spots in the latest global **home price index** to finish last at **56th rank** in the quarter ending December 2020.

- **India** has been placed at **139th** position out of 149 countries in the UN **World Happiness Report 2021** released.
 - The World Happiness Report 2021 has been topped by **Finland**, for the fourth consecutive year.
- **China** has the **strongest military force** in the world while **India** stands at number **four**, according to a study released by defence website Military Direct.
 - Top 5: China, USA, Russia, India, France.
 - The U.K. just about makes the Top 10, coming in 9th place with a score of 43.
- **India** ranked **40** among 53 global economies on the latest annual edition of the **International Intellectual Property (IP) Index** released.
- The “**World Development Report 2021: Data for Better Lives**” was released by the **World Bank**.
 - The World Development Report focuses on how data can improve the lives of poor people and advance development objectives, to ensure no one is left behind.
- Indian captain **Virat Kohli** has breached the **3000-run mark** in **Twenty20** Internationals with his last shot in the second T20I against England.
 - He also became the third captain in international cricket to score 12000 runs as a captain. He joined legendary captains Ricky Ponting and Graeme Smith in the elite list.
- **New Delhi** has been adjudged as the **world’s most polluted capital city** for the third straight year in the 2020 World Air Quality Report by Swiss organisation, IQAir.
 - Globally, **New Delhi** is ranked as the **10th** most polluted city in the world.
 - The topmost polluted city in the world is **Xinjiang** in China.
 - This is followed by nine Indian cities as the most polluted cities in the world, which are Ghaziabad, Bulandshahar, Birsakh Jalalpur, Noida, Greater Noida, Kanpur, Lucknow and Bhiwari.
- Norway’s **Oslo** emerged as the city where a bottle of **water** is **most expensive**, costing \$1.85 (Rs.134.50), according to a Bloomberg report citing a survey of 120 cities conducted by travel tech company Holidu.
 - It’s followed by the USA’s Virginia Beach, Los Angeles, New Orleans, and Sweden’s Stockholm.
 - **Bengaluru** featured among the places where water is cheapest, at \$0.13 (₹9.45).
- According to the **World Happiness Report 2021**, **Finland, Iceland, Denmark, Switzerland, Netherlands, Sweden, Germany, Norway, New Zealand** and **Austria** are the top 10 happiest countries in the world.
 - Meanwhile, **Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Jordan, India, Cambodia, Benin, Myanmar, Namibia, Egypt** and **Kenya** have been ranked as the 10 least happy countries in the world in the report.

General - National

- **India** describes **Sri Lanka** ‘Priority One’ as its “**Priority One**” partner in the field of **defence** and security.
- The **Indian** government has welcomed the initiative announced by **Saudi Arabia** to promote **peace** in **Yemen**.

General - International

- **Israel**’s president has formally received the **first-ever ambassador** from the **United Arab Emirates**, following last year’s historic agreement between the countries to normalise ties.
 - UAE envoy **Mohamed Al Khaja**, who arrived in Israel, delivered his credentials to Israeli President Reuven Rivlin at a ceremony in Jerusalem.
- The United Nations General Assembly- **UNGA** has declared **2023** as the **International Year of Millets**.

- The India-sponsored resolution has been adopted by consensus and is supported by over 70 nations.
- **Australian** conservationists have unveiled plans to build the **world's first refuge** for the **platypus**, to promote breeding and rehabilitation as the duck-billed mammal faces extinction due to climate change.
- The government of **Australia** has suspended its defence cooperation with **Myanmar** and has decided to redirect the humanitarian aid which the country was providing to the government of Myanmar.
- **Switzerland** has voted in favour of a proposal **banning full facial coverings** including the burqa and niqab in almost all public places.
- **Saudi Arabia** government has proposed UN-sponsored ceasefire in **Yemen** and is awaiting a response from the rebel Houthi movement.
 - This peace initiative by Saudi Arabia is in line with previous proposals like consultation efforts to end crisis.
- The **Norwegian** Coastal Administration has received the green signal to start working on the construction of the **world's first tunnel**, being built exclusively for **ships**.
 - The tunnel is dubbed as "**Stad Ship Tunnel**" and would be built under the mountainous Stadhavet peninsula in northwestern Norway.
- **Bangladesh** celebrates **50 years** of its **Independence** and National Day on 26 March, coinciding with the grand celebration of the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.
- The Parliament of **Spain** has passed and voted in favour of law that **legalises** the **euthanasia**.
 - Thus, the country has become one among few nations that allow the terminally-ill or gravely-injured patients to end their life.

Books and Authors

- **Anindya Dutta**, a banker turned author, penned a new book titled "**Advantage India: The Story of Indian Tennis**", a chronicle of Indian Tennis.
- The English translation of journalist-author **Anant Vijay's** book "**Amethi Sangram: Aitihasic Jeet Ankahi Dastan**" released on March 15.
 - The book, titled "Dynasty to Democracy: The Untold Story of Smriti Irani's Triumph".
- The autobiography of **Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan**, popularly known as the "Frontier Gandhi", titled "**The Frontier Gandhi: My Life and Struggle**" is set to be published in English.
 - The book was translated into English by **Imitiaz Ahmad Sahibzada**, the former Pakistani civil servant and author.

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TO THE POINTS: MARCH-2021

- Zero Discrimination Day was observed on **March 1**.
- **Pakistan** will remain on FATF 'greylist'.
- **City Innovation Exchange** was recently launched for Fostering Innovation in Urban Ecosystem.
- Jal Shakti Ministry has announced **12** iconic sites for transforming them into Swachh Tourist Destinations.
- Khadi, Village Industry Commission's e-Market Portal has registered over **1** crore turnover in eight months.
- **Harsh Vardhan** has addressed the National Science Day through videoconferencing.
- Civil Accounts Day was observed on **March 1**.
- **Jitendra Singh** has begun the first academic session of MBBS at GMC, Doda.
- **Russia** has launched the first Arctic-monitoring satellite.
- India along with **Brazil** will continue to work together in advance our space collaboration.
- In J&K, 2-day long **6th** Technology Exhibition cum Seed Sale Mela has been inaugurated by LG Manoj Sinha.
- **Consumer Affairs** ministry has launched the India Mobile App for price monitoring of 22 essential commodities.
- Dr. Harsh Vardhan has inaugurated major healthcare projects in **Manipur**.
- **PayTm** has steered India's digital payments with 1.2 billion monthly transactions.
- SBI General Insurance has signed a bancassurance pact with **IOB**.
- Principal Scientific Adviser of Government of India has launched **Swachhta Saarthi**.
- **Federal** bank will launch credit cards in next few months.
- Indian men's skeet team wins bronze in ISSF World Cup held in **Egypt**.
- **Ligia Noronha** has been appointed Assistant Secretary-General of UN.
- **Tarun Bajaj** has received additional charge of the Department of Revenue.
- Vice Admiral R Hari Kumar has taken over oath as **Western** Naval Command Chief.
- **Central Bank of India** has appointed Matam Venkata Rao as MD & CEO.
- **Anindya Basu** has been India Managing Director of KPMG.
- **Chadwick Boseman** has bagged the Golden Globe award posthumously.
- **Narendra Modi** has received the CERAWEEK global energy and environment leadership award.
- **Cochin** Port and FTWZ has signed an MoU for Cryogenic Warehouse, Aviation Fuel Terminal.
- Port Trust has signed MoUs worth Rs **30000** crore with port-led industries and government agencies.
- World Hearing Day 2021 was observed on **March 3**.
- World Wildlife Day 2021 was observed on **March 3**.
- India will be Sending Humanitarian Assistance to **Madagascar** recently.
- **Narendra Modi** will Mark the inaugural session on 'Harnessing Education, Research and Skill Development for Atmanirbhar Bharat'.

- Lok Sabha TV & Rajya Sabha TV merged into one single entity named **Sansad TV**.
- **Nagaland** has launched its first air cargo services from Dimapur airport.
- **Israel** has officially received its first ever UAE ambassador.
- New passenger train service has been started between Dhaka and **West Bengal**.
- Union Cabinet has apprised of the signing of MoU between India and **France** in the field of renewable energy cooperation.
- GST collections are now by 7 per cent to Rs 1.13 lakh cr in February.
- **Madhya Pradesh** organizing a 2-day national seminar on NEP and its Implementation concluded.
- Sebi has eased the listing rules for large IPOs, paving the way for LIC's mega floating a minimum of 5 per cent in the IPO.
- AFI, Verraton has now launched **Tayambak** a new layer of security for online transactions.
- Cashfree has partnered with **Paypal** for a global payment solution.
- In a first, Air Force to participate in Exercise Desert Flag VI being held in **UAE**.
- Nandkumar Singh Chauhan who died at 69 belonged to **BJP**.
- Hurun Global Rich List 2021: Mukesh Ambani is now the **8th** richest in the world, Elon Musk at top.
- Major and Medium Water Resources Minister Ramesh Jarkiholi resigned recently. He was the water resource minister from **Karnataka**.
- **Saurabh Mittal** has been appointed as CTO of retail finance business of Piramal.
- **Susheel Umesh** has been appointed as Chief Commercial Officer of Biocon Biologics.
- **Jallikattu** film has been selected for Golden Reel awards nomination recently.
- **KVGB** recently inked a pact with Our Food.
- **Deepak Kumar** won a silver at Strandja Memorial Tournament in Bulgaria.
- The 2nd ODI National Zone Cricket Championship League for the deaf recently began from **March 1**.
- The bridge on **Chenab** river will be the world's highest rail bridge taller than Eiffel Tower, and will be completed by the end of 2021.
- NPCI enables UPI AutoPay live on **Gaana** app.
- New guidelines for social media intermediaries have been released by **Prakash Javadekar**.
- DGCA offers flight operators to give concessions in ticket prices to travellers who carry no baggage. At present, a traveller can carry up to 7 kilograms of cabin baggage.
- Saras Aajeevika Mela has recently opened at Noida Haat by **NS Tomar**.
- Indian company Omega Seiki to set up an electric vehicle plant in **Bangladesh**.
- The Attukalpongala festival was celebrated in **Kerala**.
- Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik has launched 5 online services of WCD, Mission Shakti Department.
- SIDBI has joined hands with **Andhra Pradesh** for Development of MSME ecosystem.
- Union Health Minister has laid the foundation stone of Mon Medical College in **Nagaland**.
- **Gujarat** government has launched its Budget mobile app.
- Indian economy will contract by 8 per cent in 2020-21 as per NSO.

- E-Daakhil portal for consumer grievance redressal has now been made operational in **15** states and UTs.
- IRDAI has issued guidelines for standard personal accident cover to come into effect from **1 April, 2021**.
- HDFC Bank and Kotak Mahindra Bank will pick up 9.99% stake each in **Ferbine**.
- **Sharad Goklani** has been appointed as the President & CTO At AU Small Finance Bank.
- **Yusuf Pathan** has announced Retirement from All Forms of Cricket.
- **SBI** has joined JPMorgan's blockchain-based payment network.
- **Nirmala Sitharaman** has attended the virtual G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting.
- Michael Somare who passed away at 84 was the first Prime minister of **Papua New Guinea**.
- Vishnunarayanan Namboothiri who passed away recently was an eminent **Poet**.
- Vinay Kumar who announced his retirement recently was a famous **Cricketer**.
- 3rd Jan Aushadhi Diwas was observed on **March 1**.
- Land Ports Authority of India (LPAI) recently celebrated its **9th** Foundation Day.
- Sugamya Bharat App & handbook entitled "Access - The Photo Digest" has recently been launched by **Thawar Chand Gehlot**.
- **Piyush Goyal** took over the chair of the 3rd GCM of BIS.
- The Real-Time Monitoring System of Toll Plazas has recently been launched by **Nitin Gadkari**.
- **6th** edition of the Field assessment of Swachh Survekshan -2021 has been launched by the Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry.
- Villages Merak and Khakted in **Ladakh** will get mobile connectivity.
- **Telangana Grameena Bank & Andhra Pradesh Grameena Vikas Bank** RRB launched digital savings account opening facility through Video-Know Your Customer (KYC).
- PM Jan Aushadhi Kendra has been inaugurated at District Hospital in **Kargil**.
- Fino Payments Bank is now a scheduled bank. It has been included in the **2nd** schedule of RBI.
- **Bank of India** has organized a cricket tournament in Guntur.
- The **3rd** edition of RashtriyaSanskriti Mahotsav has recently begun.
- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Board has approved sale of its **61.65** per cent stake.
- Suryakirans, Sarang and Tejas will take part in **Sri Lanka's** Air Force's 70th anniversary celebrations.
- ISRO has successfully launched Amazonia 1 satellite from **Brazil**.
- Health Minister Harsh Vardhan has inaugurated the **2nd** edition of Global-Bio India 2021.
- **Tom Moody** has been appointed as Director of Cricket, Sri Lanka.
- Book Titled 'Advantage India: The Story of Indian Tennis' has been written by **Anindya Dutta**.
- **Jaideep Bhatnagar** has taken charge as Principal DG, PIB.
- Manpreet Vohra has been appointed India's High Commissioner to **Australia**.
- **Narendra Modi** will receive the CERAWEEK global energy and environment leadership award.
- **Odisha** will host Indian Women's League this year.

- **Nomadland** film won the Best Film Drama at the Golden Globes 2021.
- **Sreekumaran Thampi** has won the Arjunan Master Award.
- **Vinesh Phogat** beat Vanesa Kaladzinskaya to win gold in Ukraine wrestling event.
- National Safety Day was observed on **March 4**.
- **Prakash Javadekar** started meetings with OTT industry representatives.
- Government has amended the Insurance Ombudsman Rules of **2017**.
- Indigenously designed and developed Spectrograph has recently been commissioned in **Nainital**.
- National Security Day was observed on **March 4**.
- Nag River Pollution Abatement Project approved at a cost of over **2,117** crores.
- **Wipro** has joined the World Economic Forum initiative to advance racial justice, social equality.
- **2023** has been Declared As International Year Of Millets As UN General Assembly.
- Separate cell for the National Commission for Women has been commissioned in **Ladakh**.
- Karnataka CM has admired **Bengaluru** for its model of citizen centric initiatives development.
- **Kuldiep Singh** has taken additional charge as CRPF DG.
- **SBI** mutual fund has launched its First Overseas Fund.
- **Kotak Mahindra** Bank has launched a salary account of Indian army personnel.
- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Board approves sale of its **61.65%** stake in Numaligarh Refinery.
- India has bagged the highest ever FDIs of over **67** billion US dollars for first nine months of the current fiscal.
- **111** cities participated in the Ease of Living Index-2020.
- **Mary Kom** has been appointed as Chairperson of AIBA's champions & veterans committee.
- **Virat Kohli** has become the first cricketer to have 100 million followers on Instagram.
- Bihari Puraskar 2020 will be awarded to **Mohankrishna Bohara**.
- **MumbaiFc** has beaten ATK Mohun Bagan to Win 2020-21 ISL League Winners' Shield.
- Indian shuttlers Varun, Malvika has won **Uganda** International titles.
- India Commemorates "Chabahar Day" on **March 4**.
- EPFO board has recommended an unchanged **8.5** per cent interest on deposits for 2020-21.
- **Harsh Vardhan** has launched the "CSIR Floriculture Mission".
- **Australia** is building the world's first platypus sanctuary to promote breeding and rehabilitation.
- The Central government has constituted a National Committee headed by PM Modi to celebrate **75** years of India's Independence commemoration.
- **Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank** has inaugurated the New Delhi World Book Fair 2021 - Virtual Edition.
- **Madhya Pradesh** is one of the top performers in land records digitization.
- New Cultural Centre of the High Commission of India has been inaugurated by **S. Jaishankar**.
- A UN report shows close to **931** million tonnes of food were wasted globally in 2019.
- Reliance Power forms JV with Jera for **745** MW Project in Bangladesh.

- To Build a new school building under Nepal-Bharat Maitri Development Partnership - India has extended a grant of **44.17** million nepali rupees.
- The Women's Trap Team has won silver as India finishes year's first Shotgun World Cup with **2** medals.
- NPCI has joined hands with **SBI** to launch "RuPay SoftPoS" for merchants.
- **Indian** Bank will divest stake in JV ASREC India for asset reconstruction.
- **DRDO** has successfully launched flight test SFDR technology.
- **5th** edition of the India-Sweden Virtual Summit was held recently.
- The chief minister of **Andhra Pradesh** has launched the AP Fact Check website and Twitter account.
- **Federal Reserve Bank of New York** has appointed Indian-origin Naureen Hassan as its first VP, COO.
- **Bangladesh** has announced names of 9 individuals to confer its highest civilian award 'Swadhinta Puraskar'.
- **Textile** Ministry has signed an MoU with the Agriculture Ministry to amplify sericulture activities in the country.
- **J&K** has topped the medals tally at Khelo India Winter National Games in Gulmarg.
- India's first-ever transgender community desk has come up in **Hyderabad** police station.
- India Inc's Business Confidence has witnessed a decadal high of **74.2** per cent in the current round on account of improvement in present conditions.
- **2** Passport Seva Kendras will be transformed as All Women PSKs as recently announced by MoS External Affairs V Muraleedharan.
- PM has listed **5** pillars to celebrate 75 years of Independence.
- **Sanjay Dhotre** has inaugurated the Multifunctional Electronic Materials and Processing (MEMP 2021) virtually on the occasion of 30th foundation day of Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology.
- The Central government has announced that more than **81%** accounts under Stand Up India Scheme belong to women entrepreneurs.
- The Environment ministry has declared **122** NACs identified under National Clean Air Programme.
- **BEL** recently paid an interim dividend of 140 % on its paid-up capital to the Government for 2020-21.
- Indian Navy Ships to visit Bangladesh on **50th** anniversary of 1971 Liberation war.
- **Himachal Pradesh** police recently organized the 'All Women Parade' for International Women's Day.
- **Uttar Pradesh** has launched the 2nd phase of Mission Shakti.
- **SEBI** has cancelled the registration of Sahara India Financial Corporation as Sub-broker.
- **KVGB** has recently launched a new loan scheme for women entrepreneurs.
- **Harsh Vardhan** has addressed the inaugural session of TechBharat 2021.
- The Culture Minister has inaugurated an All-Women's Art Exhibition titled 'Akshya Patra' in **New Delhi**.
- President of India has inaugurated conservation works at Singorgarh Fort in **Madhya Pradesh**.

- Defence & Aerospace sectors has received FDI worth Rs **4191** crore recently.
- Anshuman Singh who passed away recently was the former governor of **Rajasthan**.
- **Nomad Land and the Crown** movie has won big at the 26th Annual Critics' Choice Awards.
- Best SHG award for Stitching masks has been won by **Hazi Ali group**.
- India has finished with **10** medals including one gold at Boxam International.
- **Vinesh Phogat** has reclaimed the World No. 1 rank with gold at Matteo Pellicone.
- PM Modi recently paid tribute to **105th** Birth Anniversary of former Odisha CM Biju Patnaik.
- Union Education Minister has announced opening of **2** new KVs in Punjab and Karnataka.
- Combined Commanders' Conference has started in **Gujarat** recently.
- **IMPCL** has decided to sell products on the Government e-Market portal.
- SpaceX successfully tested **SN10** rocket recently.
- **Narendra Modi** launched a virtual summit with his Swedish counterpart Stefan Löfven.
- **Bangladesh** has launched the national app portal.
- Udaipur Science Centre has recently been inaugurated at Udaipur, Tripura by **Ramesh Bains**.
- **Mumbai** station has become the first railway station to get IGBC Gold Certification recently.
- **Indian Army** has launched the Community Radio Station.
- **Karnataka** has launched an engineering research policy.
- **Meghalaya** has launched an online registration portal for migrant workers.
- The World Bank has planned a **100** guarantee scheme for solar rooftop projects.
- **Amazon** recently changed its app icon.
- India signs pact with **Philippines** for supply of BrahMos missile.
- PNB Housing Finance has signed a strategic co-lending pact with **Yes** bank.
- Cricketer **Rohit Sharma** has been appointed as brand ambassador of Glenmark Pharma.
- **Hyundai i20** has bagged the ICOTY 2021 and Tata Nexon EV bags Green Car award.
- QS World University Rankings has ranked **12** Indian Institutions on securing position in top 100.
- International Women's Day was celebrated on **March 8**.
- **Bangladesh** has observed the 50th anniversary of the historic Speech of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib.
- PM Modi has inaugurated the **7500th** Janaushadhi Kendra at NEIGRIHMS, Shillong.
- India Science Research Fellowship (ISRF) 2021 has Announced **40** Scholars from Six Countries Awarded.
- A National Committee has been set up to commemorate **75** years of India's Independence to hold its first meeting.
- All Helpline numbers of Railways merged into a single number which is **139**.
- 'MaitriSetu' connecting India and **Bangladesh** has been inaugurated by PM Modi.
- Temporary legal residency to Venezuelans has been offered in **US**.
- Digital platform 'Jagrut Tripura' has been launched to boost e-governance. It will have at least **102** schemes of various departments.

- India's biggest Kidney Dialysis Hospital has been inaugurated in **Delhi** at Balasahib Gurudwara.
- Uttarakhand CM has declared an amount of **10,000** each for ASHA, Anganwadi volunteers.
- **Axis** Securities company has launched a platform to make investment in bond, debenture hassle free.
- **HDFC Ergo** has launched a new Business Kishit Suraksha to protect MFIs from natural calamities.
- Ishar Singh Deol Dies who passed away at 91 was a veteran **Athlete**.
- **Bangladesh** has appointed transgender Tashnuva Anan appointed as newsreader.
- WAN-IFRA has named **The Hindu** as 'Champion Publisher of the Year 2020'.
- **19** women achievers have recently bagged the Aarya awards.
- **Koneru Humpy** has bagged the BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year award.
- **India** has beaten England in the final Cricket Test match and Qualified for World Test Championship Final.
- M G George Muthoot who passed away recently was the chairman of **Muthoot**.
- N S Lakshminarayana Bhatta who passed Away at 84 was noted **Poet**.
- Union Ministry of Women and Child Development signed an agreement with **Invest India** in New Delhi.
- World Kidney Day was Observed on **March 11**.
- **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** will chair the Conference of Ministers of States, UTs.
- World Sleep Day was observed on **March 13**.
- **Prakash Javadekar** has initiated the Amrit Mahotsav exhibitions at six places.
- **India** will Chair the First Meeting of BRICS CGETI.
- **20** persons will be conferred with the Sahitya Akademi awards.
- **5** heads of state will participate in the 10 day long celebrations on the occasion of the centenary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib and 50 years of liberation of Bangladesh.
- J&K: Ramban District Administration has developed a mobile app named **e-Suvidha**.
- India's first dedicated express cargo terminal has been launched on **Bengaluru** airport.
- The government has launched **Atma Nirbhar Niveshak Mitra** portal for handholding and facilitation of domestic investors.
- **Nikhileswar** has recently bagged the Kendra Sahitya Akademi Award 2020.
- **Sanjay Goel** has been appointed as Executive Vice President and President American Tower's India operations.
- Joint Earth Observation Satellite Mission Radar has been Developed by **ISRO** along with NASA.
- Cabinet gives nod to amendments in Insurance Act to Increase FDI Limit to **74** per cent.
- **DRDO** has Developed an Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) System.
- **Indian Bank** will divest stake in asset reconstruction JV ASREC India.
- **Mera Ration** app launched by the Union Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution for those ration card holders who migrate to new places in search of livelihood.
- Mithali Raj Becomes 1st Indian Women Cricketer to Score **10,000** International Runs.
- **AS Panneerselvan** has authored a book titled Karunanidhi: A Life.

- Baanjh: Incomplete Lives of Complete Women' has written by **Susmita Mukherjee**.
- **Ranjit Hoskote** has released a new poetry book- Hunchprose.
- NADA's disciplinary panel imposes sanctions on **Madhavan R** - weightlifter & boxer for violating code.
- **Maharashtra** will be holding various programmers related to Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav.
- The Union Government has announced **Apple's** plan to produce smartphones in India will create large numbers of jobs.
- The Labour Minister has launched ESI Scheme with Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY in **113** districts recently.
- The Union government has disbanded claims about Post offices charging Rs. **25** for cash withdrawal.
- **Narendra Modi** has unveiled the Kindle version of Swami Chidbhavanandaji's Bhagavad Gita.
- **Russia** broke Twitter services over 'objectionable' content.
- **J&K** has approved 5500 hectares of high-density plantation schemes in the horticulture sector.
- Shri Kedarnath Dham temple Portals will open from **May 17**.
- **Tirath Singh Rawat** has taken oath as Uttarakhand Chief Minister.
- **APEDA** has launched its first virtual trade fair.
- Nitin Gadkari has initiated **2** Technology Centres, three Extension Centres of MSME.
- **IDBI** Bank has been removed from RBI's PCA framework.
- **Indian** Bank has appointed Imran Amin Siddiqui as its Executive Director.
- **WEF** has honoured Deepika Padukone in the 2021 Young Global Leaders List.
- **2nd** edition of the India – Uzbekistan joint military exercise DUSTLIK II has begun in Uttarakhand.
- The **3rd** Scorpene-Class Submarine INS Karanj has been Commissioned into Indian Navy in Mumbai.
- **Russia** along with China has agreed to build an International Lunar Scientific Research Station.
- **Singapore** has ranked on top at the Economic Freedom Index 2021.
- **Ravichandran Ashwin** has been declared Player of the month for February by ICC.
- PV Sindhu has settled for a silver medal in the BWF Swiss Open Super 300 held in **Switzerland**.
- Frontier Gandhi's autobiography has been released in English. It is an autobiography of freedom fighter **Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan**.
- **Koneru Humpy** has won the BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year award 2021.
- Hamed Bakayoko who passed away recently was the prime minister of **Ivory Coast**.
- Shrikant Moghe who passed away was an **Actor**.
- International Day of Mathematics was observed on **March 14**.
- The government has announced linking of OTPRMS certificates with **Digilocker** app.
- World Consumer Rights Day was observed on **March 15**.
- The Central government has announced a new scheme for tourist vehicle operators where the permit will be issued online within **30** days of application submission.
- **Mizoram** has been paired with Bihar through Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat campaign.

- The I & B Minister has inaugurated Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav exhibitions at **6** places.
- India's first centralized AC railway terminal in **Bengaluru** will be operational soon.
- World's fastest supercomputer named **Fugaku** has been introduced.
- The J&K government has sanctioned interest-free loan worth **2** lakh rupees for PMAYU beneficiaries.
- Covid Tracker helpline has been launched in **Mumbai**.
- New mobile app named **BolSubol** has been launched on poll stats launched for Assembly Elections.
- **Kia** has recently appointed Hardeep Singh Brar as the new National Head Sales & Marketing.
- **Mani Shankar Mukhopadhyay** has bagged the Sahitya Academy Award recently.
- Author V Krishna Vadhyar has been honoured with the Kendra Sahitya Akademi Award. He belongs to **Kerala**.
- Union Culture Minister Prahlad Singh has inaugurated digitization of **4.5** Crore pages of Records.
- The **1st** edition of the Quad Leaders Summit has been held Virtually.
- PM Modi inaugurate Global Ayurveda Festival Virtually to be held between **March 12-19**.
- **J&K** is celebrating the festival of Shivratri 'Herath'.
- ISRO has launched **RH-560** rocket to Study attitudinal variations.
- Marvin Hagler who passed away recently was a former **Boxer**.
- Hemianthus jacinda New insect Species has been named after PM of **New Zealand**.
- Billionaire MP Olivier Dassault who passed away recently belonged to **France**.
- Chemicals & Fertilizer Minister will inaugurate the **11th** edition of India Chem-2021.
- Cabinet has recently approved a bill to set up Development Finance Institution (DFI) with initial capital of Rs **20** thousand crore.
- Cabinet has passed a bill setting the outer limit of **24** weeks for Medical Termination of Pregnancy.
- National Telemedicine Service - eSanjeevani has made recently completed consultations over **30** lakh.
- **Narendra Modi** has recently initiated the International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure.
- The First shipment of food product from India to **Bangladesh** will begin through Inland Waterways.
- The **6th** edition of IBSA Women's Forum meeting was held virtually recently.
- India has recently signed an MoU with **Maldives** on Cooperation in Sports & Youth Affairs.
- CCEA has approved a revised Cost Estimate of Scheme for Distribution of power in **Arunachal Pradesh & Sikkim** recently.
- Uber has offered drivers of **UK** minimum wage, pension and holiday pay.
- **Bangladesh** has renamed the Ministry of Information as the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- Magma HDI General Insurance has given a nod to capital raise of up to Rs. **250** crore by way of preferential issue.
- RBI has imposed a Rs.2 crore penalty on **SBI** recently for contravention of certain provisions of Section 10 of the Banking Regulation (BR) Act, 1949 and the central bank's specific directions issued to the bank on payment of remuneration to employees in the form of commission.
- Indian Army has recently decommissioned **2** Artillery Systems recently.

- **Kiren Rijju** has met IPU President Duarte Pacheco to hold a meeting in New Delhi.
- Dilip Gandhi who passed away recently was a former minister belonging to **BJP**.
- **Bhagat Singh Koshyari** has released the e-book titled Dawn Under The Dome.
- Indra nooyi has published her memoir titled My Life in Full: Work, Family and Our Future. She is the former CEO of **Pepsi**.
- Mohammad Naveed and Shaiman Anwar have been banned from all crickets for 8 years. They played for **UAE**.
- **US** will become India's second biggest oil supplier.
- **India** will Host the Asian Boxing Championships 2021 From May 21 to 31.
- Lloyd J Austin will soon visit India. He is the Defence Secretary of **US**.
- AIM, NITI Aayog and **AWS** have recently announced new initiatives in India to strengthen the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem in the country.
- The Prime Minister of **Bangladesh** has recently inaugurated Amar Ekushey book fair.
- PM Modi will gift 'Made in India' vaccines to **Jamaica**.
- Insurance Amendment Bill, 2021 has been passed in Rajya Sabha with the FDI limit increased from 49 per cent to **74** per cent.
- The World Bank will provide USD **200** million to Bangladesh as financial assistance.
- The Swarnim Vijay Mashaal' stick is out of the 'Akashvani Bhawan' in Kolkata to celebrate the golden jubilee. **4** vijay marshalls were further lit and sent to different parts of the country.
- **Punjab** government will create an integrated technology solution for DBT schemes.
- 'Kaushal Mela' organized by the Department of Technical Education & Skill development has been held in **Kargil**.
- As per Anurag Thakur, the Country's economy is witnessing a **V** shaped recovery.
- Madhya Pradesh CM along with Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has launched **Gramodaya** Mission in the state.
- India will contribute the 2nd batch of 20,000 litres of Malathion 95% ULV pesticide to **Iran**.
- NABARD has set up a Rural Business Incubation Centre in **Gujarat**.
- WE HUB has tied up with **University of Bolton** for women-led startups.
- India has recently signed a Free trade agreement with **UK**.
- Samia Suluhu Hassan has been sworn as the President of **Tanzania**.
- Jan Dhan accounts have now increased to **42** crores with total balance at Rs.1.4-lakh crores.
- Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte led his People's Party for Freedom and Democracy (VVD) to a **4th** victory in a row.
- To Boost Bilateral Cooperation In Research And Development Artificial Intelligence Initiative has been launched by India along with **US**.
- Adani Ports will acquire **31.5** per cent stake in Gangavaram Port for Rs 1,954 crores.
- **KRAS** has rolled out the first batch of MRSAM missile kits for Indian Army.
- **CAIT** has launched a vendor onboarding mobile app for its e-commerce portal 'Bharat e Market'.
- As per the SIRPI REPORT, India's arms imports are down by **33** per cent.
- **Samsung** has set up an innovation lab at Delhi Technological University.

- Rawalpindi's KRL Stadium has been renamed after **Shoaib Akhtar**.
- John Magufuli who passed away at 61 was the President of **Tanzania**.
- National Vaccination Day was observed on **March 16**.
- The Central Government has notified that **LIC** is not being privatized in Lok Sabha.
- In the Lok Sabha Mines & Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill 2021 has been introduced to replace the act of **1957**.
- Agriculture Department of **Jammu & Kashmir** has organized Kisan Mela in Kupwara district.
- In Lok Sabha Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Bill 2021 has been introduced to replace the act of **2015**.
- The IPU President is on a weeklong visit to India. IPU - **Inter Parliamentary Union**.
- PM Modi recently virtually met the Prime Minister of **Finland**.
- **Women & Child Development** ministry has organized a seminar with District Officers.
- For the development of Sewage Treatment Plants in UP's Moradabad - Agreement has been signed between **NMCG** and GA Infra Pvt. Limited.
- Urban Forest Division of **Srinagar** recently observed the Chinar Day.
- **J&K** is organizing the "Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan" programme.
- February WPI inflation has risen to **4.17** per cent recently.
- AU Small Finance Bank has raised **625** crore by QIP.
- Govt will sell **16.12** per cent stake in Tata Communications Ltd via OFS.
- Image-based Cheque Truncation System needs to be implemented in all branches by **September 30** as directed by RBI.
- WEF has honoured **ReNew Power** named as Global Lighthouse Network.
- **ICSI** has recently signed MoU with CUSAT.
- **NPCI** has launched the UPI-Help on BHIM app for BHIM-UPI Users.
- Naval ship **INS Jalashwa** has reached Comoros to Deliver 1,000 Tonnes of Rice as part of the Mission Sagar-IV.
- **HP** has launched the first ever PCs with plastic waste in ocean, a move that builds on the company's sustainability commitment.
- Guru Chemancheri who passed Away at 105 was an eminent **Dancer**.
- **Bhavani Devi** has become the first Indian fencer to qualify for the Olympic Games.
- World class winter sports academy will be set up in **Gulmarg**.
- Laxman Pai who passed away at 95 was a renowned **Painter**.
- Nitin Gadkari will make a statement regarding 'Vehicles Scrapping Policy' soon. The vehicle scrapping policy will lead to a slash of **10** lakh crore expenditure on crude imports.
- **Harsh Vardhan Shringla** from India and Italian Ambassador Vincenzo De Luca recently met for ISA.
- The Union Cabinet has given a nod to shut down Handicrafts and Handlooms Export Corporation thus retiring all **65** its employees.
- **Italy** has signed the International Solar Alliance - ISA Framework Agreement recently.
- India-Bangladesh recently held a Water Resources Secretary level meeting in **Delhi**.

- The Foreign Affairs Minister of **Kuwait** will make a two day visit to India.
- **Manoj Sinha** has recently inaugurated the project “Awaam Ki Baat”.
- Maitri Cycle Rally was recently organized by **BSF**.
- The Government College for Women at Salaheri located in **Haryana** has been renamed as Shaheed Lieutenant Kiran Shekhawat Government College for Women.
- Doodh Duronto special trains have transported 7 crore litres of Milk to National Capital, New Delhi.
- Stop TB Partnership Board has appointed **Harsh Vardhan** as Chairman of its International body.
- Moudud Ahmed who passed away recently belonged to **BNP**.
- Tech Mahindra has planned to buy **70** per cent stake in Perigord Asset Holdings.
- **Sanjeev Kaushik** has recently been nominated for NSDL top post.
- I-T refunds of over Rs **2.1** lakh crore have been issued in FY21.
- **Chirag Gandhi** has been appointed as MD Senior Advisor, Team Head, at Julius Baer India.
- **6th** edition of the India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Women’s Forum has been held Virtually.
- New plant species of *Crotalaria lamelliformis* has recently been found in **Andhra Pradesh**.
- Government forms experts committee for the Startup India Seed Fund Scheme which will be headed by **HK Mittal**.
- The 2020 World Air Quality Report has ranked **New Delhi** as the World’s most polluted capital city.
- **Dhanalakshmi** has Beaten Dutee Chand to Win 100m Gold- Federation Cup Athletics.
- Lou Ottens who passed away recently was the inventor of **Cassette tapes**.
- International Day of Happiness was observed on **March 20**.
- US Defence Secretary Lloyd J Austin recently met **Ajit Doval** to strengthen the United States and India defense partnership.
- **Morarji Desai** institute has started a Yoga Volunteer Training Programme.
- World Oral Health Day was observed on **March 20**.
- The Government has said that **373** Kisan Rail services operated on 43 routes.
- World Sparrow Day was observed on March 20. The first sparrow day was celebrated in **2010**.
- **Singapore** is building the World’s Biggest Solar Farms to Fight Climate Change.
- Tourist arrival in Jammu & Kashmir has touched a **16** year high in 2021.
- The Union Government has received **747** crores from GAIL share buy back.
- First high-level U.S-China meeting will be held in **Alaska**.
- The Labour Bureau has signed a service level agreement with **BECIL** recently.
- The Defence Ministry has signed a contract with BDL to supply **4960** Anti-Tank Guided Missiles to Army.
- For Gaganyaan Mission- data patterns have been delivered to indigenous checkout systems. The ISRO manned mission is scheduled to be launched in **2022-23**.
- MSME book has grown **30** per cent to cross Rs.2-lakh crores in HDFC.
- **Avinash Sable** has set a New National Record in Men’s 3000m Steeplechase.

- World Meteorological Day was observed on **March 23**.
- **Department of Posts** has conducted the International Letter Writing Competition in all States of the country.
- India recently supplied **2** Mobile Harbour Cranes – weighing 100 tons to Iran.
- Foreign Minister of **Afghanistan** recently arrived in India for talks.
- **Bihar** has become the first one to have Ethanol Promotion Policy.
- As per the Central government report more than 57,000 lakh rupees has been disbursed under Atal Pension Yojana till February 2021. The scheme was launched in **2015**.
- The Central Government has launched the 'Gram Ujala Scheme' to offer LED bulbs in rural areas for a price of just **10** per piece.
- **HCL** has announced its support of the RISE model of cloud services in partnership with SAP.
- **BSNL** has launched 4G services with an Rs.1,000-crore investment.
- Recently **Mi** company has given out a one-time hardship bonus to 1,200 employees.
- Jeh Wadia who recently quit his post was the MD of **GoAir**.
- Afghan President has recently appointed **2** ministers, a move made to rejig his Cabinet.
- As per the 67th National Film Awards **Sikkim** has been awarded the most film friendly state.
- Indian Navy undertakes Passage Exercise with Naval Force of **Bahrain**.
- Sagar Sarhadi who passed away recently was an eminent **Filmmaker**.
- As per the Global Home Price Index Q4 2020, India has been ranked at **56th** position.
- **Venkaiah Naidu** has launched the Book "Bringing Governments And People Closer".
- Sports Ministry decides to extend the Khelo India scheme from 2021-22 to **2025-26**.
- As per the Road Safety World Series T-20 **India** Legends has beaten Sri Lanka Legends to win 2020-21.
- **Lee Zii Jia** has clinched the men's title of the All England Badminton Championship.
- Parliament recently passed the Finance Bill 2021 raising the interest earned on PF contribution from 2.5 lakh to **5** lakh rupees.
- PM Modi visited to **Bangladesh**.
- GRAM UJALA programme has been launched in **Varanasi**.
- Asia's largest Tulip Garden has recently been opened in **J&K**.
- The LG of Ladakh has launched the first Solar Lift Irrigation Scheme of KREDA in **Latoo** village.
- NHAI has planned to develop world class 'Wayside Amenities' – more than 600 locations with a target of **130** sites in 2021-22.
- **73** new AYUSH Health & Wellness Centres have been e-inaugurated in J&K by Lieutenant Governor.
- **Naveen Kumar Chaudhury** has inaugurated the 'Pashudhan Mela' in Kathua.
- DS Ravindran has been appointed as additional director of **Karnataka Bank**.
- The CCI has ordered a probe into the new privacy policy of WhatsApp under contravention of **Competition Act, 2000**.
- NABARD has recently organized a credit camp in Samba district of **J&K**.

- CJI Justice has recommended to the Union government to appoint **NV Ramanna** as the next Chief Justice of India.
- Regional SARAS Fair 2021 has been organized by SHGs in **Nagaland**.
- **Zoomcar** has appointed Uri Levine as Board Chairman.
- **Dr Randhir Thakur** has been appointed as head of newly standalone foundry business unit of Intel.
- **Shankar Arumugavelu** has been appointed in Seagate Technology's board.
- New species of diatoms Epithemia agharkarii has been found in **Mula** river.
- **Kerala Agricultural University** has been selected for the Chancellor's Award 2020.
- **JNPT** port trust has signed a MoU with CNB Logitech signing a ink pact for a digital port-yard ecosystem.
- **Pakistan** will hold Pabbi-Antiterror-2021, under the aegis of Shanghai Cooperation Organization later this year.
- ISRO Demonstrated India's First Free-Space Quantum Communication Over a distance of **300** Metres.
- **Russia** has launched 38 Satellites For 18 Countries into orbit.
- Virat Kohli has moved to the **4th** position while Rohit Sharma has moved to 14th as per the ICC T20 Player rankings.
- International Day of Forests and the Tree was observed on **March 21**.
- Under the New Nagar Van Scheme to develop Urban forests in cities **200** urban forests will be developed.
- **Harsh Vardhan** has inaugurated the Advanced High Resolution Microscopy Facility.
- International Day of Elimination of Racial Discrimination was observed on **March 21**.
- **Narendra Modi** will launch the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain campaign.
- World Poetry Day was observed on **March 21**.
- The chief minister of **Haryana** has dedicated various development projects to people worth 1411 crore.
- World Water Day was Observed on **March 22**.
- India will take part in the Nowruz celebrations at SCO which will be held in **Beijing**.
- Maruti Suzuki India has shortlisted **3** new startups by innovation initiative.
- Piramal Capital and Housing Finance Ltd has recently raised **4050** cores through issuance of long term NCDs.
- **3** nature camps were felicitated by the Odisha government for best performance in forest protection.
- Adani Green Energy has recently bought **50** MW solar power project in Canada's Sky Power Global.
- **2** awards were honoured by Topgallant media to Rajan Eye Care Hospital at an event held in New Delhi.
- GV Ramakrishna who passed away recently was the former Chief of **SEBI**.
- World Puppetry Day was observed on March 21. The first celebration was held in **2003**.
- Power Grid Corporation has recently acquired balance **74%** stake in JV Jaypee PowerGrid.

- CCI has recently approved Tata Power's **51** Percent Stake Acquisition in Odisha power utility NESCO from Grid Corporation of Odisha (GRIDCO).
- To Set Up Space Technology Incubation Centre ISRO & **NIT Rourkela** has signed an MoU.
- India's first indigenously developed Appstore, 'Mobile Seva Appstore' which will host more than **965** live apps from various domains and categories of public services.
- Gary Wilson who announced retirement from international cricket belonged to **Ireland**.
- **Prithvi Shaw** has become the first player to score 800 runs in a single edition.
- World Tuberculosis (TB) Day was observed on **March 24**.
- **INS Jalashwa** ship with 1000 MT rice, and one lakh Hydroxychloroquine tablets has reached Madagascar's Port Ehoala.
- India has appreciated the initiative announced by Saudi Arabia – fostering peace in **Yemen**.
- US Senate has confirmed **Vivek Murthy** as President Biden's Surgeon General.
- The CM of **Himachal Pradesh** has inaugurated multiple services: e-Office, e-Heli Service, e-Aagman, e-Lahaul for Lahaul-Spiti district.
- International Day for Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims was Observed on **March 24**.
- As per the Jal Jeevan Mission, **Andaman & Nicobar Islands** has achieved 100% Functional Household Tap Connection coverage.
- The Health Minister of **Nagaland** has launched the 'i-Learn' initiative.
- Fitch Ratings has estimated India's growth to **12.8** per cent for the next fiscal.
- Small Finance Bank **ESAF** has bagged the 'Great Place to Work' Award.
- **Nitin Gadkari** has reported that the Bamboo industry in India will be worth Rs. 25 to 30 thousand crore.
- **PGCIL** has launched the e-Tendering Portal-PRANIT.
- **Jaguar** has recently inaugurated its first all-electric SUV.
- **ICICI** Bank has initiated an instant EMI facility on net banking for high value transactions.
- RBI may soon examine a proposal to merge **2** or more Urban Cooperative Banks.
- **Shyamala Gopinath** will head the RBI panel to examine applications for banks, SFBs.
- SEBI has recently appointed a forensic auditor to **Suzlon Energy** company recently.
- Cabinet has given nod to sign MoC between India & **Japan** in Water Resources field.
- Cabinet approved to signing of MoU between UPSC and IARCSC of **Afghanistan**.
- The Defence Ministry has signed a contract of **1056** crore with Mahindra Defence Systems to supply 1,300 Light Specialist Vehicles to Indian Army.
- The Government has exited from **TCL** by selling its stake of Rs 8,846 crore.
- Nawal El Saadawi who passed away recently was an eminent **Writer**.
- As per defence website Military Direct, India has ranked **4th** & China has topped.
- For the ICC Women's World Cup 2022 'Girl Gang' has announced an official song. The tournament will be held in **New Zealand**.

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CURRENT AFFAIRS : MONTH OF MARCH-2021
MODEL QUESTIONS (MCQ)

List of Important Days

1. What is the theme of Rare Disease Day 2021?
(1) Reframe Rare (2) telehealth (3) Rare is many
(4) Bridging health and social care! (5) None of these
2. What is the theme for National Science Day 2021?
(1) Future of STI: Impacts on Education, Skills, and Work
(2) Women in Science
(3) Science and Technology for a sustainable future
(4) Open Science, Leaving No One Behind
(5) None of these
3. When is Jan Aushadhi Diwas 2021 being celebrated in India?
(1) 1st - 7th March (2) 3rd - 9th March (3) 4th - 10th March
(4) 2nd - 8th March (5) None of these
4. What is the theme of World Hearing Day 2021?
(1) Action for hearing loss: make a sound investment
(2) Don't let hearing loss limit you. Hearing for life
(3) Hearing Care for All: Screen, Rehabilitate, Communicate
(4) Check your hearing
(5) None of these
5. What is the theme of World Wildlife Day 2021?
(1) Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet
(2) Listen to the young voices
(3) Sustaining all life on Earth
(4) Life below Water: for People and Planet
(5) None of these
6. What is the theme for International Women's Day 2021?
(1) Think equal, build smart, innovate for change
(2) Realizing Women's Rights
(3) I am Generation Equality
(4) Choose to Challenge
(5) None of these
7. What is the theme of World Oral Health Day 2021?
(1) Think Mouth, Think Health (2) Act on Mouth Health
(3) Unite for Mouth Health (4) Be Proud Of Your Mouth (5) None of these
8. What is the theme of World Sparrow Day 2021?
(1) I LOVE Sparrows (2) Gauraiya Bachao Abhiyan (3) People and Sparrows
(4) Rise for the SPARROW (5) None of these
9. When is UN French Language Day observed?
(1) March 18 (2) March 20 (3) March 22 (4) March 23 (5) None of these

10. What is the theme of the campaign 'Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain' launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the occasion of World Water Day?
- (1) Catch the Rain, monsoon period
 - (2) Catch the Rain, pre-monsoon and monsoon
 - (3) Catch the Rain till it falls
 - (4) Catch the Rain, where it falls, when it falls
 - (5) None of these
11. When is International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members observed?
- (1) March 26
 - (2) March 27
 - (3) March 28
 - (4) March 25
 - (5) None of these
12. What is the theme of International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade 2021?
- (1) Women and Slavery
 - (2) Confronting Slavery's Legacy of Racism Together
 - (3) Ending Slavery's Legacy of Racism: A Global Imperative for Justice
 - (4) Breaking the Silence, Lest We Forget
 - (5) None of these

Other Banks

13. Which of the following launched first-of-its-kind initiative called 'Yield' an online platform to buy and sell bonds as well as debentures in the secondary market?
- (1) HDFC Securities
 - (2) Yes Securities
 - (3) Axis Securities
 - (4) ICICI Securities
 - (5) None of these
14. Which private sector bank is going to handle the salary account of the Indian army personnel?
- (1) Kotak Mahindra Bank
 - (2) Axis Bank
 - (3) IndusInd Bank
 - (4) IDFC FIRST Bank
 - (5) None of these
15. Nine banks and 2 non-bank entities are going to put in how much amount jointly as initial capital in the proposed bad bank that aims to help extract funds stuck in non-performing loans?
- (1) Rs 5,000 cr
 - (2) Rs 4,000 cr
 - (3) Rs 7,000 cr
 - (4) Rs 2,000 cr
 - (5) None of these
16. Which bank has launched women-centric 'Essence' services that will offer preferentially-priced loans and healthcare benefits, among other services?
- (1) Federal Bank
 - (2) Kotak Mahindra Bank
 - (3) Yes Bank
 - (4) HDFC Bank
 - (5) None of these
17. The total number of basic bank accounts under Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) reached how many as on March 10, 2021?
- (1) 35 crore
 - (2) 61 crore
 - (3) 42 crore
 - (4) 450 crore
 - (5) None of these

States

18. Which digital platform has been launched by Tripura government to boost e- governance in the state?
- (1) Jagrut Tripura
 - (2) Sachet Tripura
 - (3) Sajeiv Tripura
 - (4) Hoshyaar Tripura
 - (5) None of these
19. Which state government launched Engineering Research & Development (Engineering R&D) Policy to raise its contribution to the sector to 45% in the upcoming five years?
- (1) Tamil Nadu
 - (2) Goa
 - (3) Karnataka
 - (4) West Bengal
 - (5) None of these

20. Which state/UT launched mobile app 'ANMOL' to empower auxiliary nursing midwives (ANMs) and frontline health workers in carrying out their day-to-day work efficiently and effectively?
 (1) Andhra Pradesh (2) Rajasthan (3) Delhi
 (4) Jammu and Kashmir (5) None of these
21. Which state has become the first in the country to have a separate Mission Shakti department that would exclusively work for around 70 lakh rural women associated with nearly six lakh women self-help groups?
 (1) Odisha (2) West Bengal (3) Tripura
 (4) Himachal Pradesh (5) None of these
22. Super-75 scholarship scheme is launched in which state/UT on International Women's Day to support the education of meritorious girls from poor families?
 (1) Kerala (2) Maharashtra (3) J&K (4) Himachal Pradesh (5) None of these
23. 'Mahasamruddhi Mahila Sashaktikaran scheme' is recently launched by which state?
 (1) Telangana (2) Maharashtra (3) Andhra (4) Uttar Pradesh (5) None of these
24. In which state/UT is the project "Awaam Ki Baat" - a Radio program launched?
 (1) Delhi (2) West Bengal (3) J&K (4) Chhattisgarh (5) None of these
25. Which state/UT government launched 'Education Mentoring Programme' for Girls of Class 9-12?
 (1) West Bengal (2) Delhi (3) Sikkim (4) Madhya Pradesh (5) None of these
26. Fruit growers in which state have started an innovative 'movement' to promote fresh fruit cakes as a healthier option, instead of the traditional bakery-made cakes?
 (1) Karnataka (2) Haryana (3) Gujarat (4) Maharashtra (5) None of these
27. Which state government launched i-Learn, a capacity building and performance tracking application for Community Health Officers, CHOs in the state?
 (1) Meghalaya (2) Nagaland (3) Arunachal Pradesh
 (4) Sikkim (5) None of these
28. Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur launched e-Office, e-Heli Service, and e-Aagman for which district?
 (1) Keylong (2) Manali (3) Kinnaur (4) Lahaul-Spiti (5) None of these
29. Which state government has announced the universal health coverage scheme called CM Chiranjeevi Yojna to be operational from May 1 2021?
 (1) Himachal Pradesh (2) Bihar (3) Rajasthan
 (4) Madhya Pradesh (5) None of these
30. In which district of Jammu and Kashmir 'Pashudhan Mela' was organized in March 2021 to educate farmers about the latest cattle breeds?
 (1) Kathua (2) Kangra (3) Kulgam (4) Jammu (5) None of these

Place in the News

31. The International Astronomical Union (IAU), an organization that assigns official names and designations to celestial bodies, has recently confirmed the discovery of 18 new asteroids by Indian students as part of a global science programme. Where is the headquarters of IAU situated?
 (1) Rome, Italy (2) California, USA (3) Paris, France
 (4) Singapore (5) None of these

32. The World Customs Organization recognized Central Revenues Control Laboratory CRCL, New Delhi as a regional customs laboratory for Asia Pacific. Where is the HQ of World Customs Organization situated?
- (1) Rome, Italy (2) Sydney, Australia (3) California, USA
(4) Brussels, Belgium (5) None of these
33. Where did the Border Roads Organization (BRO) construct a 200-ft bailey bridge in 26 days to re-establish connectivity with Niti border?
- (1) Sikkim (2) Jammu and Kashmir (3) Uttarakhand
(4) Bihar (5) None of these
34. Where is the first Forest Healing centre of India inaugurated?
- (1) Andhra Pradesh (2) Bihar (3) Haryana
(4) Uttarakhand (5) None of these
35. Where is National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) going to commission India's largest floating solar power plant in May 2021?
- (1) Telangana (2) Goa (3) Karnataka (4) Maharashtra (5) None of these
36. At which Place government is about to set up Winter sports Institute?
- (1) Leh (2) Gulmarg (3) Jammu (4) Dehradun (5) None of these

Defence and National Security

37. DRDO successfully carried out a flight demonstration based on Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) technology from where?
- (1) Bengaluru (2) Balasore (3) Kolkata (4) Chandipur (5) None of these
38. INS Jalashwa reached the port of which country with an Indian Naval training team on-board?
- (1) Madagascar (2) Indonesia (3) Seychelles
(4) Maldives (5) None of these
39. Cochin Shipyard Ltd. delivered MV 'Sindhu' A 500 pax passengers cum 150 MT Cargo Vessel built indigenously for which state/UT?
- (1) Andaman and Nicobar (2) Kerala (3) Goa
(4) Puducherry (5) None of these
40. Which country test-fired a nuclear-capable surface-to-surface ballistic missile 'Shaheen-1A' with a range of 900 kilometres?
- (1) Iran (2) Kuwait (3) Iraq (4) Pakistan (5) None of these
41. For the first time, Indian Navy conducted a Passage Exercise (PASSEX) and a joint patrolling with navy of which country?
- (1) Djibouti (2) Seychelles (3) Comoros (4) Madagascar (5) None of these

Committees/Commissions

42. National Committee to be headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to commemorate 75 years of India's Independence has how many members?
- (1) 259 (2) 253 (3) 262 (4) 267 (5) None of these
43. Who is the head of the committee reconstituted by centre to chalk out a plan for studying the mythical Sarasvati river for the next two years?
- (1) Dharmendra Pradhan (2) Narendra Singh Tomar (3) Hardeep Singh Puri
(4) Prahlad Singh Patel (5) None of these

Schemes/Initiatives

44. Where was the Saras Aajeevika Mela 2021 inaugurated by Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar?
(1) Surat (2) Lucknow (3) Jaipur (4) Noida (5) None of these
45. Which app was launched by Minister for Social justice and Empowerment Thaawarchand Gehlot along with handbook entitled "Access - The Photo Digest"?
(1) Visheshika Bharat App (2) Sugamya Bharat App (3) Shaurya Bharat App
(4) Samridhi Bharat App (5) None of these
46. 'Maitri Setu' inaugurated between India and Bangladesh by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been built over which river?
(1) Muhuri (2) Gomati (3) Juri (4) Feni (5) None of these
47. In which state did Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched the Mission Gramodaya?
(1) Haryana (2) Andhra Pradesh (3) Jharkhand
(4) Madhya Pradesh (5) None of these
48. Under the Gram Ujala programme launched by State-run EESL arm Convergence Energy Services Ltd (CESL), high quality energy efficient LED bulbs will be given at what price per piece?
(1) Rs 12 (2) Rs 10 (3) Rs 8 (4) Rs 15 (5) None of these
49. Which state/UT government has launched the SAAMAR (Strategic Action for Alleviation of Malnutrition and Anemia Reduction) campaign to tackle malnutrition in the state?
(1) Jharkhand (2) Himachal Pradesh (3) Jammu and Kashmir
(4) Karnataka (5) None of these
50. Where was the Shaheed Bhagat Singh Smarak inaugurated by Union Minister of Education, Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'?
(1) Delhi (2) Raipur (3) Ranchi (4) Lucknow (5) None of these

Agreement/Deal/Signed

51. Which state government will join hands with United Nation and other global agencies to empower women?
(1) Delhi (2) Karnataka (3) Punjab (4) Uttar Pradesh (5) None of these
52. Which telecom equipment maker has partnered with Microsoft, Amazon web services and Google to develop new cloud-based 5G radio solutions with its radio access network (RNA) technology?
(1) Nokia (2) Samsung (3) Huawei (4) Ericsson (5) None of these
53. Atal Innovation Mission and NITI Aayog partnered with which of the following to strengthen the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem in India?
(1) Amazon (2) Google (3) Microsoft (4) Facebook (5) None of these
54. Union Jal Shakti Ministry signed a memorandum of agreement with Uttar Pradesh and which other state to implement the Ken-Betwa river interlinking project?
(1) Madhya Pradesh (2) Gujarat (3) Rajasthan
(4) Haryana (5) None of these
55. Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), India signed an MoU with Independent Administrative Reforms and Civil Services Commission (IARCSC) of which country to facilitate sharing of experience and expertise?
(1) Thailand (2) Afghanistan (3) Sri Lanka (4) Malaysia (5) None of these

56. Which sports federation joined hands with United Nations to tackle menace of match-fixing?
 (1) International Tennis Federation (2) International Olympic Committee
 (3) FIFA (4) International Cricket Council (5) None of these
57. Aqua connect has partnered with which of the following for an insurance program for 1.5 lakh shrimp farmers across India?
 (1) Alliance Insurance Brokers (2) Emedlife Insurance Brokers
 (3) Prudent Insurance Brokers (4) Global Insurance Brokers (5) None of these

Meet/Visit

58. Under which country the first Meeting of the BRICS Contact Group on Economic and Trade Issues (CGETI) was held?
 (1) South Africa (2) India (3) China (4) Brazil (5) None of these
59. Name the Inter Parliamentary Union President who arrived in India in March 2021 to attend felicitation ceremony and address Members under the auspices of the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG)?
 (1) Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (2) Houlin Zhao (3) Duarte Pacheco
 (4) Guy Ryder (5) None of these
60. Mohammad Haneef Atmar who arrived in India on a 3-day visit is the foreign minister of which country?
 (1) Qatar (2) Iran (3) Afghanistan (4) Bangladesh (5) None of these

Economy

61. What is the annual rate of interest as recommended by Central Board of EPFO for current financial year?
 (1) 8.2% (2) 7.8% (3) 8.5% (4) 7.3% (5) None of these
62. India received highest ever FDI of over what amount during April-December 2020?
 (1) USD 71 billion (2) USD 92 billion (3) USD 67 billion
 (4) USD 45 billion (5) None of these
63. Retail inflation for the month of February 2021 climbed to what percent?
 (1) 4.09% (2) 5.03% (3) 4.56% (4) 5.65% (5) None of these
64. More than how many loans have been sanctioned to the beneficiaries under the Pradhan Mantri Street Vendors, Atma Nirbhar Nidhi Scheme – PM SVANidhi so far?
 (1) 23 lakh (2) 19 lakh (3) 31 lakh (4) 37 lakh (5) None of these
65. How much amount have been disbursed under Atal Pension Yojana till February this year?
 (1) Rs 76,000 lakh (2) Rs 57,000 lakh (3) Rs 35,000 lakh
 (4) Rs 82,000 lakh (5) None of these

Companies/Industry

66. Which renewable energy firm has now become a part of the World Economic Forum's Global Lighthouse Network?
 (1) ReNew Power (2) Suzlon Energy (3) Tata Power Solar
 (4) Azure Power (5) None of these

Space

67. NISAR (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar), a joint collaboration capable of producing extremely high-resolution images is targeted to launch in which year?
 (1) 2024 (2) 2023 (3) 2021 (4) 2022 (5) None of these

68. Which of the following is going to launch the DMSat-1 satellite, the region's first environmental nanometric satellite?
(1) Sydney (2) Dubai (3) Beijing (4) Paris (5) None of these
69. China along with which other nation have agreed to jointly build a research station on the moon?
(1) USA (2) Russia (3) Japan (4) Australia (5) None of these

Science and Technology

70. Where has the low-cost optical Spectrograph named as Aries-Devasthal Faint Object Spectrograph & Camera (ADFOSC) developed by scientists at Aryabhata Research Institute of observational sciences been commissioned?
(1) Leh (2) Nainital (3) Mussoorie (4) Shimla (5) None of these
71. Naval Science and Technological Laboratory (NSTL) based where has successfully conducted the maiden flight trial of deploying Indigenous Instrumented Torpedo Advanced Light (TAL)?
(1) Visakhapatnam (2) Coimbatore (3) Bengaluru
(4) Nainital (5) None of these

Energy/Gas/Oil

72. Which country has become India's second biggest oil supplier?
(1) UAE (2) Saudi Arabia (3) USA (4) Afghanistan (5) None of these

Transport/Cars/Scooters

73. Indian Railway integrated all its railway helplines into which single number which is Rail Madad Helpline for quick grievance redressal and enquiry during the journey?
(1) 139 (2) 141 (3) 189 (4) 196 (5) None of these
74. Which airport has India's first dedicated Express Cargo Terminal exclusively for export and import of international couriers?
(1) Indira Gandhi International Airport
(2) Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport
(3) Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport
(4) Kempegowda International Airport
(5) None of these
75. Where Indian Railways' 1st fully centralized AC terminal will be started soon?
(1) Pune (2) Vadodara (3) Bengaluru (4) Mysore (5) None of these

Festival

76. Which state has launched 'Kalanamak Rice Festival'?
(1) Madhya Pradesh (2) Uttar Pradesh (3) Andhra Pradesh
(4) Uttarakhand (5) None of these
77. Where was the regional Sale of Articles of Rural Artisans Society (SARAS) fair 2021 organized?
(1) Agartala (2) Dimapur (3) Kohima (4) Imphal (5) None of these

Appointments/Election (or) Latest who is who?

78. Who has been appointed as the Principal Director General of Press Information Bureau?
(1) Kuldeep Singh Dhatwalia (2) Suresh Patnaik (3) Jaideep Bhatnagar
(4) Bishan Swaroop (5) None of these

79. Who is appointed as the CEO of Sansad TV channel which is formed by merging the Lok Sabha TV and the Rajya Sabha TV channels?
 (1) Somesh Chaterjee (2) Harshul Rane (3) Anurag Malik
 (4) Ravi Capoor (5) None of these
80. Who has been appointed as the director general (DG) of CRPF?
 (1) Vinay Awasthi (2) Mahesh Sharma (3) Kuldiep Singh
 (4) A P Maheshwari (5) None of these
81. Who among the following actor from India joined the 2021 list of the Young Global Leaders (YGLs) compiled by the World Economic Forum?
 (1) Aishwarya Rai Bachchan (2) Shilpa Shetty (3) Disha Patani
 (4) Deepika Padukone (5) None of these
82. Which company has appointed Pallav Mohapatra as the new chief executive officer and managing director?
 (1) Asrec (2) Alchemist (3) Arcil (4) Phoenix (5) None of these
83. Ishraq Ali Khan has taken over as executive director (ED) of which bank?
 (1) Bank of India (2) UCO Bank (3) Syndicate Bank
 (4) United Bank of India (5) None of these
84. S Srimathy is appointed as the Executive Director of which bank?
 (1) Indian Overseas Bank (2) Indian Bank (3) Canara Bank
 (4) Dena Bank (5) None of these
85. Who is appointed as the Director-General of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)?
 (1) Vikram Singh (2) Brijesh Nagpal (3) Ajay Mathur
 (4) Ankit Singla (5) None of these
86. Who has been appointed as the managing director and chief executive officer of Mahindra and Mahindra (M&M)?
 (1) Anish Shah (2) Deepak Kataria (3) Harish Sehgal
 (4) Mahesh Awasthi (5) None of these

Resignation/Dismissed/Retired/Quit

87. Whom of the following announced his retirement from international and first-class cricket?
 (1) Pragyans Ojha (2) Ashok Dinda (3) Abhimanyu Mithun
 (4) R. Vinay Kumar (5) None of these
88. Who announced his retirement as Principal Advisor to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi?
 (1) Nripendra Misra (2) Pradeep Kumar Sinha (3) P.K. Sinha
 (4) Pramod Kumar Mishra (5) None of these

Deaths

89. Nand Kumar Singh Chauhan who passed away was related to which profession?
 (1) Filmmaker (2) Politician (3) Choreographer
 (4) Author (5) None of these
90. Shrikant Moghe who passed away following age-related illness was related with which field?
 (1) Actor (2) Author (3) Filmmaker (4) Politician (5) None of these
91. Veteran Indian athlete Ishar Singh Deol who passed away was related with which sport?
 (1) Hockey (2) Tennis (3) Football (4) Cricket (5) None of these

92. M.G. George who passed away was the chairman of which group?
 (1) Muthoot Group (2) Bajaj Group (3) Reliance Group
 (4) Mahindra Group (5) None of these
93. Renowned poet Adam Zagajewski who passed away hailed from which country?
 (1) Poland (2) Madagascar (3) Denmark (4) Estonia (5) None of these
94. Laxmipriya Mohapatra who passed away was related to which of the following?
 (1) Mathematics (2) Politics (3) Singing (4) Dance (5) None of these
95. Anil Dharker who passed away was related to which profession?
 (1) Director (2) Journalist (3) Politician (4) Singer (5) None of these
96. Kamallesh Chandra Chakrabarty who passed away was related to which of the following organizations?
 (1) Reserve Bank of India (2) SEBI (3) NABARD
 (4) NASSCOM (5) None of these

Awards/Honours

97. Which railway station has become the first railway station in Maharashtra to be awarded with Gold certification as per CII's Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) ratings?
 (1) Hazur Sahib Nanded (2) Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus
 (3) Lokmanya Tilak Terminus (4) Pune Junction (5) None of these
98. Mohankrishna Bohara will be awarded Bihari Puraskar 2020 for his which book?
 (1) Rachnakar ka Sankat (2) Samkaleen Kahanikar: Naya Vitan
 (3) Dumchalla (4) Taslima: Sangharsh aur Sahitya (5) None of these
99. Who won the BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year award (ISWOTY) for 2020?
 (1) Mary Kom (2) Dutee Chand (3) Rani Rampal
 (4) Koneru Humpy (5) None of these
100. Who has become the first Indian cinema personality to be bestowed with the FIAF Award for his dedication and contribution to the preservation of the world's film heritage?
 (1) Priyanka Chopra (2) Amitabh Bachchan (3) Akshay Kumar
 (4) Deepika Padukone (5) None of these
101. The 2020 Ibrahim Prize for Achievement in African Leadership has been awarded to Mahamadou Issoufou, president of which country?
 (1) Libya (2) Chad (3) Niger (4) Senegal (5) None of these
102. Who is honoured with the International Woman of Courage (IWOC) Award 2021 by U.S. Consulate?
 (1) Medha Patkar (2) Aruna Roy (3) Gowsalya Shankar
 (4) Vandana Shiva (5) None of these
103. In Haryana, Government College for Women at Salaheri in Nuh district has been renamed after whom?
 (1) Preeti Wadhwa (2) Mayuri Chaudhary (3) Surbhi Rana
 (4) Kiran Shekhawat (5) None of these
104. Which bank has been awarded 'Great place to work' certification by the Great place to Work Institute?
 (1) Ujjivan Small Finance Bank (2) ESAF Small Finance Bank
 (3) Equitas Small Finance Bank (4) Jana Small Finance Bank (5) None of these

105. A team from which institute emerged as winners at the CoreNet Global Academic Challenge 6.0?
 (1) IIT Madras (2) IIT Bombay (3) IIT Kanpur (4) IIT Kharagpur (5) None of these
106. Who will be awarded the Maharashtra Bhushan award as announced by the state government?
 (1) Asha Bhosle (2) Anil Kakodkar (3) Ratan Tata
 (4) Sachin Tendulkar (5) None of these
107. American author Carmen Maria Machado won the Rathbones Folio prize for which of her following books?
 (1) The Mythic Dream (2) In the Dream House
 (3) Her Body and Other Parties (4) The Low, Low Woods (5) None of these

Sports/Game

108. Which state is chosen as the venue for the 2020-21 edition of the Indian Women's League?
 (1) Odisha (2) Maharashtra (3) Goa (4) Assam (5) None of these
109. India got which spot in the latest ICC men's T20 International team rankings topped by England?
 (1) 2nd (2) 3rd (3) 4th (4) 5th (5) None of these
110. Who has become the first Indian woman cricketer and only the second overall to score 10000 international runs?
 (1) Smriti Mandhana (2) Harmanpreet Kaur (3) Mithali Raj
 (4) Jhulan Goswami (5) None of these
111. Which country will host the Asian Boxing Championships 2021?
 (1) India (2) Thailand (3) South Korea (4) Indonesia (5) None of these
112. Who beat Dutee Chand to take the 100m Gold in the competitions at the NIS Campus?
 (1) PT Usha (2) M R Poovamma (3) Vismaya
 (4) Dhanalakshmi (5) None of these
113. Who has become the first ever batsman to make 3000 runs in men's T20I cricket?
 (1) AB de Villiers (2) Virat Kohli (3) Joe Root
 (4) Jasprit Bumrah (5) None of these
114. Who bagged the gold medal for India in the Women's 10 Meter Air Pistol in the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup?
 (1) Yashaswini Deswal (2) Chinki Yadav (3) Tejaswini Sawant
 (4) Anjum Moudgil (5) None of these
115. The Indian Style Wrestling Association of India (ISWAI) has been recognized as a National Sports Federation (NSF) by the Sports Ministry. Where is the HQ of ISWAI situated?
 (1) Lucknow (2) Delhi (3) Chennai (4) Mumbai (5) None of these
116. Virat Kohli was ranked at which position in the latest ICC Men's T20I Player Rankings?
 (1) 4th (2) 7th (3) 3rd (4) 5th (5) None of these

Report

117. Which institute topped the QS World University Rankings by Subject in which 12 Indian institutions made it to the top 100?
 (1) California Institute of Technology
 (2) Harvard University
 (3) Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 (4) Stanford University
 (5) None of these

118. Which state has ranked first in the country for the Land Records Service Index in the ranking given by the National Council for Applied Economic Research?
 (1) Uttarakhand (2) Bihar (3) Madhya Pradesh
 (4) Punjab (5) None of these
119. According to a report by economists at Bank of America, since 1990, gender inequality has cost the world around how much amount?
 (1) USD 80 trillion (2) USD 50 trillion (3) USD 30 trillion
 (4) USD 70 trillion (5) None of these
120. What is the rank of India among the 40 countries in Asia-Pacific in the latest Economic Freedom Index published by a US-based think tank?
 (1) 39th (2) 26th (3) 34th (4) 19th (5) None of these
121. According to PwC Survey, what is India's rank on the list of growth destinations?
 (1) 2nd (2) 3rd (3) 4th (4) 5th (5) None of these
122. According to Stockholm-based defence think-tank SIPRI, India's import of arms decreased by what percent between 2011-2015 and 2016-2020?
 (1) 40% (2) 33% (3) 54% (4) 22% (5) None of these
123. According to international property consultancy Knight Frank, India slipped to which position in home price appreciation?
 (1) 56 (2) 43 (3) 49 (4) 52 (5) None of these
124. According to Hurun India Wealth Report 2020, the 'New Middle Class', a novel household category in India has an average savings of how much amount per annum?
 (1) Rs 10 lakhs (2) Rs 20 lakhs (3) Rs 25 lakhs
 (4) Rs 15 lakhs (5) None of these
125. India has been ranked at which position among countries in the list of UN World Happiness Report 2021?
 (1) 145 (2) 140 (3) 124 (4) 139 (5) None of these
126. According to a study released by defence website Military Direct, India stands at which position in terms of having strongest military force in the world?
 (1) 3rd (2) 5th (3) 4th (4) 2nd (5) None of these

General - National

127. Which of the following has integrated with India's official vaccination registration website, cowin.gov.in?
 (1) MapmyIndia (2) Bharat Maps (3) Maptell
 (4) Indiamap Digital (5) None of these
128. With the support of which country will a centre of excellence for the dairy sector be set up in Rajasthan?
 (1) Singapore (2) Denmark (3) Netherlands (4) Germany (5) None of these
129. How many PSBs are kept out of privatization plan by NITI Aayog?
 (1) 4 (2) 3 (3) 5 (4) 6 (5) None of these
130. Union minister Nitin Gadkari expected to complete the construction work of Dwarka Expressway before 15 August 2022. It will connect Dwarka in Delhi to which region?
 (1) Gurugram (2) Noida (3) Jaipur (4) Agra (5) None of these

131. According to a report released by EY-IVCA Trend Book 2021, the e-commerce sector in India is expected to reach \$99 billion by which year?
(1) 2026 (2) 2024 (3) 2023 (4) 2025 (5) None of these

General - International

132. Which year is chosen as the International Year of Fruits and Vegetables by the United Nations General Assembly?
(1) 2021 (2) 2023 (3) 2024 (4) 2022 (5) None of these
133. Which country celebrated 50 years of its Independence and National Day on 26 March, 2021?
(1) Bangladesh (2) Nepal (3) Sri Lanka (4) Afghanistan (5) None of these

Books and Authors

134. Who is author of the book titled 'Bride of the Forest: the Untold Story of Yayati's Daughter'?
(1) Shrishti Das (2) Madhavi S Mahadevan (3) Namita Munjal
(4) Kriti Upadhyay (5) None of these
135. Who is the author of the book titled "India: A Scamster Born Every Minute"?
(1) Romila Thapar (2) Snigdha Poonam (3) Madhuri Vijay
(4) Anita Desai (5) None of these
136. Who is the writer of the book "Bare Necessities: How to Live a Zero Waste Life", along with sustainability consultant Tim De Ridder?
(1) Kunal Kapoor (2) Anita Dongre (3) Sahar Mansoor@
(4) Saurabh Munjal (5) None of these
137. Who is the author of the book titled "Advantage India: The Story of Indian Tennis"?
(1) Anurag Awasthi (2) Virendra Kumar (3) Kodi Ravichandran
(4) Anindya Dutta (5) None of these
138. Who is the author of the book titled 'The Mystery of the Parsee Lawyer'?
(1) Smiriti Das (2) Shreya Kulkarni (3) Shrabani Basu
(4) Sarat Chandra (5) None of these
139. Who is the author of the book titled 'Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Power'?
(1) Rajiv Malhotra (2) Sanjeev Kapoor (3) Harshul Vaidya
(4) Vivek Awasthi (5) None of these
140. Name Chef Kunal Kapur's new book released in March 2021?
(1) A Chef in Every Home: The Complete Family Cookbook
(2) Kunal Kapur's the Yellow Chilli Cookbook
(3) Kunal Kapur In The Kitchen
(4) No Oil Cooking
(5) None of these
141. Who is the author of the book titled "Karunanidhi: A Life"?
(1) A.S. Panneerselvan (2) N. T. Ramachandran (3) K. D. Kumaraswamy
(4) Edappadi K. Palaniswami (5) None of these
142. Who is the author of the poetry collection titled, 'Hunchprose'?
(1) Ranjit Hoskote (2) Ashok Vajpeyi (3) Sudhir Patwardhan
(4) Manu Parekh (5) None of these

143. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Kindle version of which of the following book?
 (1) Bhagavata Purana (2) Rigveda (3) Mahabharata
 (4) Bhagavad Gita (5) None of these
144. 'My Life in Full' is the memoir of whom?
 (1) Chanda Kochhar (2) Indra Nooyi (3) Chandrika Tandon
 (4) Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw (5) None of these
145. Who is the author of the book titled 'Undertow'?
 (1) Mamoni Raisom Goswami (2) Santwana Bardoloi (3) Rita Chowdhury
 (4) Jahnvi Barua (5) None of these
146. Who is the author of the book titled "Battle Ready for 21st Century"?
 (1) AK Singh (2) NM Kumar (3) K Rana (4) Vikas Pujari (5) None of these
147. Who is the author of the book titled "Names of the Women"?
 (1) Ravinder Singh (2) Aravind Adiga (3) Jeet Thayil
 (4) Manu Joseph (5) None of these
148. Who are the authors of the book titled 'Escaped: True stories of Indian fugitives in London'?
 (1) Shivshankar Menon and Ananth Krishnan
 (2) Rajiv Sikri and Ruhi Khan
 (3) Danish Khan and Ruhi Khan
 (4) Danish Khan and Shivshankar Menon
 (5) None of these

Ans: 1-2, 2-1, 3-1, 4-3, 5-1, 6-4, 7-4, 8-1, 9-2, 10-4, 11-4, 12-3, 13-3, 14-1, 15-3, 16-3, 17-3, 18-1, 19-3, 20-4, 21-1, 22-3, 23-2, 24-3, 25-2, 26-4, 27-2, 28-4, 29-3, 30-1, 31-3, 32-4, 33-3, 34-4, 35-1, 36-2, 37-4, 38-1, 39-1, 40-4, 41-4, 42-1, 43-4, 44-4, 45-2, 46-4, 47-4, 48-2, 49-1, 50-1, 51-3, 52-1, 53-1, 54-1, 55-1, 56-3, 57-1, 58-2, 59-3, 60-3, 61-3, 62-3, 63-2, 64-1, 65-2, 66-1, 67-4, 68-2, 69-2, 70-2, 71-1, 72-3, 73-1, 74-4, 75-3, 76-2, 77-3, 78-3, 79-4, 80-3, 81-4, 82-3, 83-2, 84-1, 85-3, 86-1, 87-4, 88-3, 89-2, 90-1, 91-3, 92-1, 93-1, 94-4, 95-2, 96-1, 97-2, 98-4, 99-4, 100-2, 101-3, 102-3, 103-4, 104-2, 105-4, 106-1, 107-2, 108-1, 109-1, 110-3, 111-1, 112-4, 113-2, 114-1, 115-4, 116-1, 117-3, 118-3, 119-4, 120-2, 121-4, 122-2, 123-1, 124-2, 125-4, 126-3, 127-1, 128-2, 129-4, 130-1, 131-2, 132-1, 133-1, 134-2, 135-2, 136-3, 137-4, 138-3, 139-1, 140-3, 141-1, 142-1, 143-4, 144-2, 145-4, 146-1, 147-3, 148-3.

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