

GENERAL AWARENESS-CURRENT AFFAIRS

MONTH OF AUGUST-2020

List of Important Days

- August 1 - Muslim Women's Rights Day. (to mark the first anniversary of the law against instant triple talaq)
- August 01-07 - World Breastfeeding Week 2020. (Theme - "Support breastfeeding for a healthier planet")
- August 03 - World Sanskrit Day. (marked as Raksha Bandhan)
- August 07 - National Handloom Day.
- August 09 - International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples. (Theme - "COVID-19 and indigenous peoples' resilience")
- August 09 - Quit India Day.
- August 09 - International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples or World Tribal Day.
- August 10 - World Biofuel Day.
- August 10 - World Lion Day.
- August 12 - World Elephant Day.
- August 12 - International Youth Day.
- August 19 - World Humanitarian Day.
- August 19 - World Photography Day.
- August 20 - Indian Akshay Urja Day 2020 or Renewable Energy Day.
- August 20 - Birth anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi is celebrated as Sadbhavana Diwas or Harmony Day.
- August 21 - World Senior Citizen Day.
- August 21 - International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism.
- August 23 - International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition.
- August 24-28 - World Water Week 2020. (Theme - "Water and Climate change: Accelerating Action")
- August 26 - Women's Equality Day.
- August 29 - National Sports Day.
- August 29 - International Day against Nuclear Tests.
- August 30 - International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances.

Reserve Bank of India

- The Reserve Bank of India has directed **core investment companies** to **restrict** the number of layers in their group structure to just two as it seeks to clean up the structure of complex financial groups.
 - Existing firms have been given until the end of **March 2023** to comply with this simplified structure.

Other Banks

- **HDFC Bank** launched '**Shaurya KGC (Kisan Gold Credit) Card**', a loan product for the armed forces. A first-of-its-kind product for over 45 lakh Indian armed forces personnel, it is based on the Kisan Credit Card guidelines by the government.

- **Fino Payments Bank** has launched **Jan BachatKhata (JBK)**, which is an **Aadhaar Authentication** based digital savings account that brings neo-banking experience to consumers.
- **Lakshmi Vilas Bank (LVB)** has launched **LVB DigiGo**, a digital initiative to enable the opening of savings account instantly.
- **'Loan against Securities'** is a unique digital solution launched by the **YES Bank** under its loan in seconds platform.
- **Kotak Mahindra Bank** has announced the launch of a two-month-long campaign called **'Kona Kona Umeed'** with huge offers and discounts to lift up hope and optimism among its customers in the midst of the Coronavirus pandemic.
- **Bandhan Bank** holding firm sells 20.95% stake in the bank to at least seven investors to meet RBI norms.
- More than **40 crore bank accounts** have been opened under the government's flagship financial inclusion drive **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)**, launched about six years ago by the Modi-government.

Insurance

- **Yes Bank** said **LIC** has acquired close to 5 per cent shareholding in the bank by purchasing shares from the open market.
- **Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)** has announced a **special scheme** to revive lapsed policies named **'Special Revival Campaign'**.

Supreme Court

- The **Supreme Court** on August 11, 2020 ruled that **daughters** are entitled to **equal property rights** even if they were not born at the time of the 2005 amendment to the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 or irrespective.

Central Government

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** announced that the centre has been planning to launch **Project Lion** and **Project Dolphin** to replicate the success of Project Tiger.
 - The projects will be launched by the central government for the **biodiversity** conservation of these species.
- The Union Government approved **Khadi Agarbatti Atma Nirbhar Mission** on August 2, 2020 to generate employment and make India self-reliant in **agarbatti production**.

States

- The Energy and Resources Institute (**TERI**) and National Disaster Management Authority (**NDMA**) have launched a **Flood Early Warning System (FEWS)** for **Guwahati** to alert local authorities about flash floods and/or heavy rainfall.
- On the occasion of International Youth Day, the **West Bengal** government launched **'Karma Sathi Prakalpa'** scheme under which one lakh **unemployed youth** would be provided soft loans and subsidies to make them self-reliant.
- The Union Territory of **Puducherry** has celebrated its **59th** anniversary of the **"De-Jure" day** on 16th August.
- Chief Minister of **Nagaland**, Neiphiu Rio has launched **"Yellow Chain"** a centralized e-commerce system to provide the people of the state integrated platform to build **sustainable businesses** either in products or services from their own locations for sustainable economic activity.
- **Chhattisgarh** government has announced to launch a student centric scheme named as **"Padhai Tuhar Para"**. The scheme will enable the school students to study with the help of community in their localities and villages, in view of the suspension of classes due to coronavirus outbreak.

- **Uttarakhand** will soon have a **snow leopard** conservation centre.
 - The conservation centre will be set up in Uttarkashi forest division area.
- **Madhya Pradesh** Urban Development and Housing Minister, Bhupendra Singh has launched a public awareness campaign “**Ek Mask-Anek Zindagi**” from August 1-15.
 - The Scheme will spread awareness about **wearing masks** as prevention from Covid-19 infection.
- **Tamil Nadu** Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami is not seen in agreement with the recently launched **centre’s three-language policy** proposed by the Union government in the National Education Policy 2020.
- **Delhi** government has launched the “**Electric Vehicle Policy**” for the national capital under which will waive registration fee, road tax, and provide an incentive of up to **₹ 1.5 lakh** for **new cars**.
- The **Chhattisgarh** CM Bhupesh Baghel announced about the launch of “**Indira Van Mitan Yojana**” on the eve of International Day of World Indigenous People.
 - It is an initiative to support forest dwellers of Chhattisgarh and achieve self-reliance.
- The **Gujarat** Government launched a new scheme called the **Mukhya Mantri Kisan Sahay Yojana**.
 - The scheme will replace **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana** in the state for the current year alone.
- **Mumbai’s Dadar** has become the first city in India to have **women symbols** on **traffic signals** and signage.
- The **Assam** Government is to identify beneficiaries of new scheme called “**ORUNODOI**”.
 - The scheme is being launched to help in women financial empowerment.

Defence and National Security

- The Defence Minister Raj Nath Singh launched “**SRIJAN**”, an online portal to promote **indigenization of Defence production**.
- Indian Coast Guard (ICG) has launched an **Interceptor Boat ‘ICGS C-454’** in Surat, **Gujarat**.
 - The Interceptor Boat ‘ICGS C-454’ has been built by **Larsen and Toubro** and it has a maximum speed of 45 nautical miles or 83 kilometers per hour.
- **DRDO lab** comes up with **contactless sanitation cabinet** for gadgets, bank notes.
 - The device is called Notesclean.
- Defence Acquisition Council (**DAC**) has approved procurement proposals worth **Rs.8,722.38 crore** to strengthen the **Armed Forces** by relying on indigenous capability to take forward the initiative on ‘**Atmanirbhar Bharat**’.
- The **Indian Armed Forces** have decided to revive “**Project Cheetah**” amidst tensions with China.
 - The project was pending for a long time and the tri-services have now decided to revive the project under Rs 3,500 crores.
 - The proposal of reviving “Project Cheetah” has been sent to a newly formed high-level defence ministry committee under **Ajay Kumar**.
- **Israel** has successfully tested its advanced missile defence system, “**Arrow-2**” ballistic missile interceptor.

Schemes/Initiatives

- PM Modi announced the **Optic Fibre Linking** of **Lakshadweep** Islands with the mainland during his address at the 74th celebrations of Independence Day.
 - The first of its kind was established between Chennai and Port Blair.
- The **Himachal Pradesh** Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur announced that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate “**Atal Tunnel**” by the end of September 2020.

- The tunnel is being built under **Rohtang Pass** in the Pir Panjal range on the Leh-Manali highway.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has announced the “**One Sun, One World, One Grid**” (OSOWOG) plan.
 - Under this, there will be a trans-national electricity grid, for supplying solar power across the globe.
- **Quality Control Lab** has been set up by the **Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA)** in Porbandar, **Gujarat**.
 - The Quality Control Lab will offer tests for seafood processors as well as exporters to confirm to product safety as per international regulatory requirements.
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs has launched the **Tribal Health and Nutrition Portal “Swasthya”** and e-newsletter on health and nutrition “**ALEKH**”.
 - The ministry has also announced the opening of **National Overseas Portal** and **National Tribal Fellowship Portal**.
- Union Minister **Ravi Shankar Prasad** launched “Swadeshi Microprocessor Challenge- Innovate Solution for #Aatmanirbhar Bharat” on 18 August 2020.
- The **longest river ropeway of India** has been inaugurated in **Assam**.
 - The ropeway is 1.8 Km long and connects **Guwahati** and **North Guwahati** over **Brahmaputra River**.
- The **fifth phase of Vande Bharat Mission** started from **August 1, 2020**.
- Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, **Dr. Harsh Vardhan** has launched ‘**Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan, 2020-21**’.
 - It is a national programme which has been launched to popularize science among school students of Class 6th to 11th.
- **E-Gyan Mitra** mobile app has been launched by the Union Territory of **Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu**.
 - The “E-Gyan Mitra” mobile app has been launched to provide online education.
- Union Environment Minister **Prakash Javadekar** launched National Portal on **Human Elephant conflict** called “**SURAKHSYA**”. The portal aims to collect real time information and will also manage conflicts on real time basis.
- The **National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) Online Dashboard** has been inaugurated by the Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, **Nirmala Sitharaman**.
 - The newly launched platform “NIP” will act as one stop solution for all stakeholders seeking for information on infrastructure projects in New India.

Summit/Conference

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will inaugurate the first **World Solar Technology Summit** that will be held on September 8, 2020.
 - The summit is being organized by the International Solar Alliance (ISA) on a virtual platform.
- 5th **World Conference of Speakers of Parliament (5WCSP)** was held virtually.
 - The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), **Geneva**, and the Parliament of **Austria** jointly organized the two-day Conference with the support of the **United Nations (UN)**.
 - Theme - “Parliamentary leadership for more effective multilateralism”.
 - Lok Sabha speaker **Om Birla** attended 5th world conference of speakers of parliament on August 20 via video conferencing.
- Ayush Minister, **Shripad Naik** on July 30 chaired a webinar of AYUSH/health ministers of all the states and UTs in order to review the centrally sponsored scheme of **National AYUSH Mission** and the operationalization of AYUSH Health & Wellness centres.

Agreement/Deal/Signed

- **India and Nigeria** signed an agreement on **space cooperation**.
- **Delhi Police** has signed an Memorandum of understanding (MoU) with **All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA)**, an autonomous Institute under Ministry of AYUSH.
 - The MoU will offer Ayurveda Preventive and Promotive health services in the residential colonies of Delhi Police through a mobile unit named '**Dhanwantari Rath**' and Police Wellness Centres.
- **Bharti AXA Life Insurance** has entered into **bancassurance** partnership with **SBM Bank India** for distribution of life insurance products through the latter's network.
- Walmart-owned **Flipkart** said it has inked an agreement with **IIT-Patna** to help create industry-focused applied research in the areas of **artificial intelligence (AI)**, natural language processing (NLP) and machine learning (ML).
- **Muthoot Finance** has tie-up with **Kotak Mahindra General Insurance** to offer **COVID-19** insurance cover of up to Rs 1 lakh against the **gold loan**.
- **India and Israel** signed a new cultural agreement to strengthen people-to-people exchanges.
 - This agreement was signed by India's Ambassador to Israel, Sanjeev Singla and Israel's Foreign Minister Gabi Ashkenazi.
- **Uttar Pradesh** government has signed a 'plan of cooperation' with **Israel** government to resolve **water crisis** in **Bundelkhand** region.
- The governing body for the Olympic Movement in India, **Indian Olympic Association (IOA)** and **INOX Group** has signed a sponsorship agreement to support **Team India** for **Tokyo Olympics**, which was rescheduled to be held from July 23 to August 8, 2021.
- **IBM** and **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)** joined hands to offer a free **digital education** platform focused on emerging technologies and professional development skills.
 - As a part of the collaboration, IBM will curate online courses from the 'Open P-TECH' platform and offer them to users via NSDC's eSkill India portal to empower the country's youth with various skills to succeed in their future careers.
- **Reliance Power and Japanese** energy major **JERA** have signed an agreement with a group of banks for their new gas-fired thermal power generation project in **Bangladesh**.
 - The signed agreement will provide full finance of about \$642 million (approx Rs 4,798 crore).
- **Bharti Airtel** ("Airtel"), one of India's largest integrated telecom providers, announced a multi-year, Strategic Collaboration Agreement (SCA) with **Amazon Web Services (AWS)** to deliver a comprehensive set of innovative **cloud solutions** to large enterprise and small and medium enterprise (SME) customers in India.
- **Airtel Payments Bank** has partnered with **Bharti AXA General Insurance** to offer "Smart Plan Shop Package Policy" for the financial protection of the bank's retailers and merchants.
- The **Serum Institute of India (SII)** has entered into a landmark partnership with **Gavi**, The Vaccine Alliance and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to accelerate the manufacture and delivery of **COVID vaccine** for India and the middle and low-income countries.
- **Israel** government has provided state-of-the-art **Artificial Intelligence**-based technologies as well as high-end equipment to **AIIMS** to fight the **COVID-19 pandemic**.
- President of **USA**, Donald J. Trump, Prime Minister of **Israel**, Benjamin Netanyahu and Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the United Arab Emirates, Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Nahyan have agreed to the full normalization of relations between Israel and the United Arab Emirates.

Meet/Visit

- The 13th Session of the **India-UAE** Joint Commission Meeting on Trade, Economic and Technical Cooperation was held to review the continuing growth of broad based cooperation between the two countries.
- The 6th **BRICS Environment Ministers' Meeting** was held under the presidency of **Russia**.
 - India will host the next meeting in 2021.

Fund

- An "**Innovation Challenge Fund**" of **£3 Million** has been launched by the government of United Kingdom (UK) in **India**.
 - The newly launched fund aims to support research and development (R&D) proposals to address the challenges posed to the economy and the environment, by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The **Asian Development Bank** (ADB) has approved a **USD 1 billion** (Rs 7,485 crore) loan to construct the modern, high-speed 82-kilometre (Delhi – Meerut) **Uttar Pradesh Regional Rapid Transit System** (RRTS) in India.
- **Unitus Ventures** said it has secured an investment of **Rs 75 crore** (USD 10 million) under **SIDBI's Fund** of Funds for Startups initiative.
 - Unitus has recently invested Rs 8.5 crore (USD 1.1 million) in Masai School, an ed-tech platform.
- **India** gives **USD 15.5 million** to the India-UN Development Partnership Fund, under its commitment to supporting developing nations in their developmental priorities across all the Sustainable Development Goals.
- The Government of **India** has extended Line of Credit of worth **18 million USD** to **Maldives** to expand fishing facilities at Maldives Industrial Fisheries Company (MIFCO).
- The **United Nations** released **6 million USD** in response to the **explosion at Beirut port**.
 - With this, the total UN funding towards relief operation of the explosion has come to **15 million USD**. A catastrophic blast occurred at the **Lebanon capital, Beirut**.

Economy

- The central government comes up with a centralized **e-invoicing scheme** for business having turnover more than **500 crores**.

Companies/Industry

- **Google** and **Central Water Commission** (CWC) of **India** have launched the **flood forecasting** initiatives across India for the past several months.
- **Multi Commodity Exchange of India** (MCX) will launch India's first **bullion index** named "**Bulldex**", on August 24, 2020.
- **Dream11** has won **IPL 2020 title sponsorship** bid for **Rs 222 crores**.
 - This was announced by IPL Chairman Brijesh Patel on August 18, 2020. Dream11, the fantasy sports platform won the IPL Title rights by outbidding the IPL Title Sponsor favourites Tata Sons and educational platforms Byju's and Unacademy.
- RIL announced that its subsidiary **Reliance Retail Ventures Limited** (RRVL) has acquired a majority stake in **Vitalic Health Pvt. Ltd** and its subsidiaries, which are collectively known as '**Netmeds**' for approximately Rs 620 crores.
- A "**Green Deposit Programme**" has been launched by the **HSBC India**.
 - The "green deposit programme" has been launched exclusively for corporate clients.
 - Under this programme, the bank will use the deposits to finance green initiatives and environment friendly projects.

- **Google** has launched its employment application named '**Kormo Jobs**' in India.
 - It would help millions of Indians to **get entry-level jobs**.
- **Adani Enterprises Limited (AEL)** is likely to soon acquire a **74 per cent** stake in **Mumbai International Airport (MIAL)**.
 - With this acquisition, Adani Group flagship will become the largest private operator of airports in the country after **GMR Group**.
- **Paytm** has launched India's 1st **Pocket Android POS** (Point of Sale) Device named 'Paytm All-in-One Portable Android Smart POS' for contactless ordering and payments in India.
- **Reliance Foundation** has launched the "**W-GDP Women Connect Challenge**" across India in association with US Agency for International Development (USAID) and Women's Global Development and Prosperity (W-GDP).
 - The "**W-GDP Women Connect Challenge**" has been launched to bridge the gender divide as well as the digital divide in India.

Stock Market

- Indian Market regulator, **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** is planning to set up a **virtual museum** of the securities market to highlight achievements and milestones in the Indian capital market.

Taxation/Trade

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will roll out the platform for "**Transparent Taxation - Honoring the Honest**".
 - The new platform will carry forward the journey of direct tax reforms and will also reward the honest taxpayers.

Space

- Researchers have stated that **Ceres** looks like an "**Ocean World**".
 - The scientist stated after analyzing the data collected by NASA's Dawn spacecraft.
- The National Aeronautics and Space Administration has launched "**Mars 2020 Perseverance rover mission**" with United Launch Alliance (ULA) Atlas V rocket to the Red Planet "Mars".
 - The Mars 2020 Perseverance rover mission was launched from Space Launch Complex 41, at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in **Florida**.
- Aerospace startup **Skyroot Aerospace** has successfully test fired an **upper-stage rocket engine**, becoming the first Indian private company to demonstrate the capability to build a homegrown rocket engine.
 - The 3-D printed rocket engine - **Raman**, named after Nobel laureate CV Raman - has fewer moving parts and weighs less than half of conventional rocket engines with a similar capacity.

Science and Technology

- A health startup at **IIT Madras** in joint collaboration with **HELYXON** has developed a device called **OXY2**.
 - This newly designed device can easily take vitals of an individual such as heart rate, temperature, oxygen saturation and respiration rate clinically accurate.

Health/Diseases/Drugs

- **Malaysia** has detected a strain of **new Coronavirus** which is **ten** times more infectious.
 - The mutation called **DG14G** was earlier seen in other parts of the world.
- Defence Institute of Advanced Technology, DIAT (DU) has launched **two** products namely "**Pavitrapati**" & "**Aushada tara**" to fight against **COVID-19**.
 - "**Pavitrapati**" is an Ayurvedic based **Biodegradable Face Mask** which will act as a virus neutralizer in order to provide resistance against the bacteria / virus.

- Indian Foreign Secretary **Harsh Shringla** in **Dhaka** on August 19, 2020, informed that **India** will supply the **COVID-19 vaccine** to neighbouring country **Bangladesh** on a **priority** basis once it gets the nod and mass production starts.
- **Russia** is planning to launch a mass **vaccination** campaign against the novel **coronavirus** in October 2020.

Energy/Gas/Oil

- **Turkey** discovered **large natural gas reserves** in the **Black Sea coast**.
 - The announcement was made by the Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.
- Oil-rich Gulf state **UAE** finally starts its first-ever **nuclear reactor “Barakah”** at **Abu Dhabi** on the Gulf coast.

Transport/Cars/Scooters

- **Indian Railways** has launched an **Overhead Equipment (OHE) Inspection app** which will help in minimizing the **train delays** and long waits due to technical snags.
- The **Indian railways** will begin its **“Kisan Rail”** services to transport perishable goods.
 - India’s first ‘Kisan Rail’ will run between **Devlali** in Maharashtra’s Nashik and will reach **Danapur** in Bihar.

Festival

- **Nuakhai Juhar festival** was celebrated in **Odisha, Chhattisgarh** and other neighbouring states.
 - It is celebrated to welcome the new crop of the season.
 - It is also called Nuakhai Parab or Nuakahi Bhetghat.

Media /I.T / Telecommunication

- **“Bharat Air Fibre Services”** has been inaugurated by the Union Minister Shri Sanjay Dhotre.
 - The services were inaugurated at **Akola** in Maharashtra.
 - Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has introduced the Bharat Air Fibre services as part of digital India initiative by the Government of India.

Appointments/Election (or) Latest who is who?

- Electric mobility startup **eBikeGO** said it has roped in Indian cricketer **Harbhajan Singh** as its **brand ambassador**.
- **Kaushik Khona** has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer of **GoAir Airline**.
 - He will replace **Vinay Dube**.
- Indian Idol Fame **Shahzan Mujeeb** signed as first ever National Brand Ambassador of **Aligarh Municipal Corporation**.
- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) has appointed **GP Garg** as executive director (ED).
- Government of India has appointed **Rakesh Asthana** as the new director-general of the **Border Security Force (BSF)**.
 - Currently, DG Indo-Tibet Border Police (ITBP) chief **S S Deswal** was holding the additional charge of BSF since March this year.
- **Satya Pal Malik** was appointed as the **Governor of Meghalaya**.
 - He replaced **Tathagata Roy**. **Mr Malik** served as Governor of Goa previously.
- Sports eyewear brand **“Oakley”** has appointed Indian cricketer, **Rohit Sharma** as its brand ambassador for a period of two years in India.
- **Luis Rodolfo Abinader Corona** has been sworn in as the 54th **President of Dominican Republic**.
 - He succeeds **Danilo Medina** of Liberation Party.

- The Government of India has appointed **Rajiv Kumar** as the new **Election Commissioner** of India.
 - He will succeed **Ashok Lavasa** who has submitted his resignation to the Indian President.
- **Francisco Pascual Eyegue Obama Asue** was reappointed as the **Prime Minister** of the Republic of Equatorial **Guinea** for 3rd consecutive term.
- **Keith Rowley** sworn in as **Prime Minister** of the Republic of **Trinidad and Tobago** for a 2nd consecutive 5-year term.
- The government appointed **Ashwani Bhatia** as the **managing director** of lender **State Bank of India**.
 - Bhatia will be appointed in place of **P K Gupta** who superannuated on March 31.
- Former BJP state president **Satpal Singh Satti** has been appointed **Chairman** of the **Sixth Himachal Pradesh State Finance Commission**.
- **Ivory Coast's** Defence Minister, **Hamed Bakayoko** has been named as the **Prime Minister** of the country.
 - He was presently serving as the as interim PM of the country since the sudden death of former Prime Minister **Amadou Gon Coulibaly**.
- The Reserve Bank of India has approved the appointment of **Sashidhar Jagdishan** as the Managing Director (MD) and CEO of **HDFC Bank**.
 - Mr. Jagdishan will take charge of the outgoing MD **Aditya Puri** on October 27, 2020.
- Former **Guyanese** housing minister, **Mohamed Irfaan Ali** has been named as the **President** of the country.
 - He succeeds David Arthur (A.) Granger.
- **Mr. Jaideep Bhatnagar**, an Indian Information Service Officer of 1986 batch, has taken over the charge as Director General, **News Services Division of All India Radio**.
- Former Chief-of-Staff of the Guyana Defence Force, Brigadier (retired) **Mark Anthony Phillips** has been sworn in as **Prime Minister** of **Guyana**.
 - Meanwhile, former President Bharrat Jagdeo has been sworn in as Vice President.
- **Ajay Tyagi** has been given an **18-month extension**, as the chairman of markets regulator **SEBI**.
- A sports gaming platform, WTF Sports has appointed cricketers **Harmanpreet Kaur** and **Suresh Raina** as its global brand ambassadors.
- Prof. (Dr.) **Pradeep Kumar Joshi** took the oath of office and secrecy as Chairman of **Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)** on 7 August 2020.
 - The oath office was administered by Shri Arvind Saxena, the outgoing Chairman of the Commission.
- **PNB Housing Finance** has announced the appointment of the former SBI Card head, **Hardayal Prasad** as its new managing director and chief executive officer.
- Former Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor, **Girish Chandra Murmu** has been appointed as the new **Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India**. He is the **14th** CAG of India.
 - He will replace **Rajiv Mehrishi**.
- Former President of Sri Lanka, **Mahinda Rajapaksa** took an oath as a **Prime Minister** of the country for the fourth time on August 9, 2020.
- The **JCB Group** announced the appointment of **Deepak Shetty** as Deputy CEO and Managing Director of JCB India Limited.
 - Shetty will take over as MD and CEO from **Subir Kumar Chowdhury** who has announced his retirement.

- The former defence minister and retired army general, **Walter Roger Martos Ruiz** becomes new Prime Minister of Peru.
 - His appointment was confirmed by President of Peru, Martin Vizcarra. Ruiz will succeed Pedro Álvaro Cateriano Bellido.
- **Mohamed Ould Bilal** has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of **Mauritania**.
 - The appointment was made by the Mauritanian President Mohamed Ould Ghazouani.
- President of **Belarus**, **Alexander Lukashenko** has won his sixth consecutive term.
- Former NABARD Chief, **Harsh Kumar Bhanwala** has been appointed as executive chairman of the **Capital India Finance Limited**.
- US Elections 2020 - Joe Biden names **Kamala Harris** as vice-presidential running mate.
- **Soma Mondal** has been selected by the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) as the next **chairman** of **Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)**.
- **Pramod Bhasin** has been appointed as a new **Chairman** of Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER).
- **Cristiano Ronaldo** was named as **Juventus' 'Most Valuable Player of the Year'** for the championship that lasted for almost 11 months.
- Vice Admiral **Dinesh K Tripathi**, AVSM, NM has become the Director General Naval Operations (DGNO).
- Former RBI deputy governor, **Subhash Sheoratan Mundra** has been appointed as non-executive chairman of **Indiabulls Housing Finance (IBH)** with immediate effect.

Resignation/Dismissed/Retired/Quit

- **Suresh Raina**, a renowned Indian Cricket player has announced his retirement from **international cricket**.
 - His announcement came right after MS Dhoni's announcement of retirement from international cricket.
- **MS Dhoni**, the former captain of the Indian cricket team, has announced his retirement from international cricket.
- **Ashok Lavasa** has resigned from his position as **Election Commissioner** on August 18, 2020, to join as the **Vice- President** of the Phillipines-based **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**.
- Lieutenant **Governor** of J&K **Girish Chandra Murmu resigned**.
 - Following his resignation, **Manoj Sinha** has been appointed as the LG of Jammu and Kashmir.

Deaths

- Director-actor **Nishikant Kamat** passed away.
- Computer scientist **Russell Kirsch** who invented the "pixel" and scanned the world's first digital photograph, passed away.
- Former British tennis player, two-time Grand Slam doubles champion and equal rights pioneer **Angela Buxton** has passed away.
- Former Cricketer, Administrator and Pitch Curator, **Gopalaswamy Iyenger Kasturirangan** passed away.
- Rajya Sabha MP and former Samajwadi Party leader **Amar Singh** passed away.
- Cabinet Minister in the Government of Uttar Pradesh, **Kamal Rani Varun** passed away due to COVID-19.

- **John Hume**, the visionary politician who won a Nobel Peace Prize for fashioning the agreement that ended violence in his native Northern Ireland, has died at 83.
- Maharashtra former Chief Minister and Senior Congressman **Shivajirao Patil Nilangekar** passed away.
- The famous fiction writer and Pulitzer Prize-winner, **Shirley Ann Grau** passed away.
- Former wrestler **James Harris**, who was also known as “**Kamala**”, passed away.
- Former Congress leader and eight-time parliamentarian from Telangana, **Nandi Yellaiah** passed away.
- Renowned Urdu Poet and Lyricist **Rahat Indori** passed away.
- **PK Muthusami**, a noted Tamil Film lyricist passed away.
- Congress leader and spokesperson **Rajiv Tyagi** passed away after a heart attack.
- Malayalam poet-lyricist, **Chunakkara Ramankutty** passed away.
- Kanyakumari MP **H Vasanthkumar**, the founder of Vasanth and Co, dies of COVID-19.

Awards/Honours

- President **Ram Nath Kovind** has approved **84 gallantry awards** for defence personnel, including **nine Shaurya Chakra**.
 - The **Kirti Chakra** has been posthumously awarded to **Abdul Rashid Kalas**, Head Constable, Jammu and Kashmir Police.
- The National Sports Awards selection committee has recommended **four** sportspersons for India’s highest sporting honour, **Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award 2020**.
 - Four sportspersons – **Rohit Sharma** (cricketer), **Vinesh Phogat** (wrestler), **Manika Batra** (table tennis player), and **Paralympian M Thangavelu**.
- **National Sports Awards** are conferred every year to recognize and reward excellence in sports.
 - Selection Committee headed by Justice (Retd.) Mukundakam Sharma (former Judge of Supreme Court of India).
- Wing Commander **Gajanand Yadava** has won the ‘**Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award 2019**’ in air adventure category.
 - The Indian Air Force congratulated Yadava for the special award through a post on Twitter.
- A top **US-based** India-centric business advocacy group will honour **Mahindra** group Chairman **Anand Mahindra** and **Adobe** Chairman and CEO **Shantanu Narayen** with its **2020 Leadership Awards** in recognition of their exemplary vision towards promoting US-India bilateral ties.
 - The award, would be presented during the third Annual Leadership Summit, titled “**US-India Week: Navigating New Challenges**”, which will convene virtually from August 31.
- **SKOCH Gold Award** has been awarded to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) for its “**Empowerment of Tribals through IT enabled Scholarship Schemes**” project.
 - MoTA integrated the 5 Scholarship Schemes with DBT Portal under the guidance of DBT Mission in order to align with the larger vision of ‘Digital India’.
- A group of researchers from **IIT Kharagpur** has been conferred the ‘**Gandhian Young Technological Innovation Awards 2020**’ for developing a mechanism for generating electricity from wet clothes left under sunlight to dry.
- **Nitin Sethi** of The Huffington Post India and **Shiv Sahay Singh** of The Hindu bagged the prestigious **Asian College of Journalism’s Award** for Investigative Journalism and the **K. P. Narayana Kumar Memorial Award** for Social Impact Journalism, respectively.
- **Mukesh Ambani** has surged past Europe’s wealthiest man, making him the world’s **fourth-richest person**.

- The **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)** said it has been awarded the '**Food System Vision Prize**' for its '**Eat Right India**' movement's vision, along with nine other finalists.
- Chairperson of Infosys Foundation, **Sudha Murty** and Group Head of Agri and IT Businesses of ITC Ltd, **Sivakumar Surampudi** are among the winners of the **Gramodaya Bandhu Mitra Puraskaras**.
 - The other winners include Padma Bhushan **Vijay Bhatkar**, Padmasri **SP Verma**, **Vilas Shinde** (Director, Sahyadri Farms), **Koosam Rajamouli**, Former Sarpanch of **Gangadevipalli** in Telangana, Brig Pogula Ganesham, Founder of **Palle Srujana**, and **Govinda Rajulu Chintala**, Chairman of the Nabard.

Sports/Game

- **Lewis Hamilton** (Mercedes-Great Britain) has won the Formula One **Spanish Grand Prix 2020** held at Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya, Spain.
 - **Max Verstappen** (Red Bull-Netherlands) came second followed by **Valtteri Bottas** (Mercedes-Finland) at third.
- **Ronnie O'Sullivan** defeated Kyren Wilson to win the **World Snooker Championship 2020**.
 - He has claimed his sixth World Championship title at Sheffield's Crucible Theatre.
- German giants **Bayern Munich** have won the **UEFA Champions League** for the sixth time in the club's history after beating French side Paris Saint-Germain 1-0 at the final in Portugal's capital, **Lisbon**.
- **Sophia Popov**, ranked 304th, Wins Women's **British Open**.
- Mercedes driver, **Lewis Hamilton** has won the **Formula One British Grand Prix 2020** held at the Silverstone Circuit, **United Kingdom**.
 - **Max Verstappen** (Red bull) ended up second in this F1 race while **Charles Leclerc** (Ferrari) came third.
- **IPL 2020** will be played from **September 19 to November 10** this year.
- **India** has **withdrawn** from the **women's world team Squash championship** scheduled in **Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia** from 15th to 20th December, due to lack of preparation, time and match-readiness of its players.
- **Vivo**, the title sponsor of the **Indian Premier League 2020**, has pulled out after a disagreement with the **Board of Control for Cricket (BCCI)**.
- The **International Cricket Council** has confirmed that the **ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2020** that was postponed due to Covid-19 will be held in **Australia** in **2022**.
 - **India** will host the **ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021** as planned.
 - ICC has also decided to postpone the **ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2021** in **New Zealand** till February-March 2022 because of the impact the Covid-19 pandemic has had on cricket globally.
- The Red Bull racer, **Max Verstappen** has won the 70th **Anniversary Grand Prix**.
 - Mercedes racer **Lewis Hamilton** finished the race at second position while another Mercedes racer **Valtteri Bottas** finished third.
- "**Fit India Freedom Run**" would be organized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

Report

- The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare recently announced that **India** ranks **first** in **Organic Farming**.
 - Also, India ranks **ninth** in terms of **areas under Organic Farming**.
 - **Sikkim** was the first state in the **world** to become **completely organic**. The other states that have similar targets include **Uttarakhand** and **Tripura**.

- The **Indian Institute of Technology, Madras** has retained the **top** position in the '**Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements,**' (ARIIA) 2020 for being the best centrally funded institution in India.
 - The 2020 '**Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA),'** was released by Vice President Venkaiah Naidu.
- **India** ranks among the **lowest** in the world in terms of **Internet quality**, according to a global research released by online privacy solutions provider SurfShark.
 - India occupies **79th place**, ranking below countries including Guatemala and Sri Lanka.
- **Indore** topped the list of the **cleanest city** in India for the fourth consecutive time in the **Swachh Survekshan, 2020**, India's annual survey on cleanliness.
 - **Surat** in Gujarat and **Navi Mumbai** in Maharashtra ranked second and third among the cleanest cities with more than a million populations.
- After reporting its blockbuster Quarterly result stock of **Apple Inc** increased 10% to a record high making Apple **world's most valuable publicly listed company**.
- Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's oil-to-telecom conglomerate **Reliance Industries** has been ranked **second** biggest brand after **Apple** on the FutureBrand Index 2020.
- **Forbes** magazine has released "The Highest-Paid Actors Of 2020" list.
 - Bollywood actor, **Akshay Kumar** (sixth place) is the only Indian star to be listed among the top 10 world's highest-paid actors of 2020.
 - The list has been topped by Wrestler-turned-movie star **Dwayne Johnson**. Johnson is also known by his ring name The Rock.

General - National

- Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has e- launched the **Nasha Mukh Bharat Campaign** in 272 most vulnerable Districts of country in terms of substance and **alcohol abuse**.
- The **National Highway Authority of India** launched the mobile application called "**Harit Path**".
 - The application has started creating user IDs for experts. So far 7,800 plants have been geo-tagged using the application.
- **India, Japan** and **Australia** are working on a supply chain agreement to counter **dependence on China** by creating an alternative.
- Ministry of Tourism, Government of India's **DekhoApna Desh** Webinar Series titled, "**Heritage tourism in Gujarat**" on 1st August 2020.
- The **Khadi and Village Industries Commission** is to set up the first of its kind training cum production centre of silk in the state of **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs recently released ranking of states under **AMRUT scheme**.
 - **Odisha** has secured first position by scoring 85.67%.

General - International

- The **United States Food and Drugs Administration** authorized the emergency use of **saliva based diagnostic test** for COVID-19.
 - The testing method has been named "**SALIVA DIRECT**".
- **Taiwan** recently signed an agreement to **buy 66** of the latest **F-16 jets** from the **US**.
 - This is expected to escalate the tensions between US and China further.
- **Japan** marks the **75th** anniversary of the **world's first atomic bomb attack** on the city of **Hiroshima**.
- The island of **Mauritius** declared **environmental emergency** due to **oil spill** caused by Japanese owned ship that was stranded off the coast days ago.

- **Bangladesh** has taken a decision to **construct a monument** for the **Indian soldiers**.
- **Russian** President, Vladimir Putin has announced that a **COVID-19 vaccine** named "**Sputnik V**" developed in the country has been registered for use.
- **Saudi Arabia** has ended its loan and oil supply to **Pakistan**, ending the decades-long friendship between the two countries.
 - Pakistan has also been asked to pay back USD 1 billion to Saudi Arabia, which was given as a part of a \$6.2 billion package announced by Saudi Arabia in November 2018.

Books and Authors

- | Book's Name | Author's Name |
|---|----------------|
| • RAW: A History of India's Covert Operations | - Yatish Yadav |
| • Our Only Home: A Climate Appeal to the World | - Dalai Lama |
| • Union Minister, Jitendra Singh has released a book on cancer named " Gastric Cancer " edited by Dr Ashok K. Vaid . | |

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TO THE POINTS: AUGUST-2020

- World Lung Cancer Day was observed on **August 1** to raise awareness about the causes and treatment of lung cancer.
- Kamal Rani Varun who passed away due to coronavirus was the former education minister of **Uttar Pradesh**.
- **Narendra Singh Tomar** has released the booklet on Best Practices in Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme.
- Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated an upstream carriageway of Mahatma Gandhi Bridge over river Ganga in **Bihar**.
- Anant Shet who passed away recently was the former assembly speaker of **Goa**.
- **Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises** has approved a programme for artisans involved in the manufacturing of agarbatti.
- **AIIB** is in talks with India for financing a \$8 billion health infrastructure scheme at the district level.
- **SEBI** has decided to set up a virtual museum of the securities market.
- **Bangladesh** has received \$202 million from the World Bank to Increase Food Security for 4.5 Million People.
- 11 women entrepreneurs have been chosen for the Women Entrepreneurship and Empowerment award by **Department of Science and Technology**.
- Project Kuiper of **Amazon** has received U.S. Federal Communications Commission approval for over 3,200 internet satellites.
- **Lewis Hamilton** has won his seventh British Grand Prix.
- Sa Kandasamy who passed away recently was a famous **Filmmaker**.
- **CREDAI Awaas App** launched by Housing minister Hardeep Puri to market residential properties.
- Andhra Pradesh's three-capital bills have received the Governor's assent. **Biswa Bhusan Harichandan** is the current Governor of Andhra Pradesh.

- World Sanskrit Day was observed annually on **August 3**.
- **Paisabazaar** has launched the 'Paisabazaar Stack' – to offer completely digital lending solutions.
- **Virender Sehwal** has been included in the 12-member selection panel for National Sports Awards.
- **VR Chaudhari** has taken over as the chief of IAF's Western Air Command.
- **Dr Harsh Vardhan** has launched the 'Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan 2020-21.
- **UAE** has become the first country in the Arab World to produce nuclear energy.
- **Northern** Railway divisions has run it's first-ever Vyapar Mala Express train.
- The Central Government has decided to fund **112** startups to promote Agri Firms in the current financial year.
- **Dr Harsh Vardhan** has chaired the session of the Bureau of the WHO Executive Board.
- **ISA** has amended its framework agreement to enable UN member states to join grouping.
- **Telangana** has launched the iMASQ mobile covid-19 testing centers.
- **Amit Shah** has inaugurated the international webinar on 'Lokmanya Tilak – Swaraj to Self-reliant India' organized by ICCR.
- Swachh Bharat Mission (Rural) has moved towards the 2nd phase called ODF-Plus. The phase will continue till **2024-25**.
- National Bank of Bahrain has selected **Infosys Finacle** for the transformation of the transaction banking business.
- **IIT Kanpur** has partnered with the Ministry of Defence for using AI and ML to redress grievances.
- Sunnam Rajaiiah who passed away due to COVID-19, belonged to **CPI-M**.
- India's tourism ministry has inaugurated the Thenzawl Golf Resort project in **Mizoram**.
- **Narendra Singh Tomar** has launched the Sahakar Cooptube NCDC Channel to encourage farmers and the youth to take benefit of cooperatives.
- Indira Rasoi Yojana is all set to start in **Rajasthan** from August 20 to provide nutritious food for just Rs 8 to poor people.
- The Asian Development Bank will lend \$1.5 billion to **Thailand** for combating covid-19.
- **Aditya Birla Health Insurance** has introduced an array of services and product solutions that will enable customers to take care of their health in such difficult times.
- **Nitish Kumar** has released the book "Siyasat Mein Sadasyata" by Speaker Vijay Kumar Choudhary.
- **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Smriti Irani** has launched the book 'Swachh Bharat Kranti' to capture the remarkable journey of the Swachh Bharat Mission through 35 essays.
- A unique COVID prevention kiosk was inaugurated at **Bengaluru Railway Station** as a part of its continued fight against COVID-19 pandemic.
- Footballer Iker Casillas who announced his retirement recently, played for **Real Madrid**.
- **24** states in the country have been linked to the 'One Nation One Ration Card' scheme.
- **Andhra Pradesh** government has signed MoUs for women's empowerment with ITC Ltd, Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL) and Proctor and Gamble (P&G).
- Ladakh is celebrating its first anniversary of becoming a Union Territory. **R.K Mathur** is the current Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh.

- Ebrahim Alkazi who passed away at 95 was a famous **Theatre artist**.
- **Jaideep Bhatnagar** has taken charge as the Director-General of AIR News.
- The Union HRD minister has released an 8-week alternative academic calendar for **6 to 8** classes.
- Bandhan Bank Ltd has sold **20.95** per cent stake in the bank to meet the norms of RBI and bring down the shareholding to 40% of the paid-up voting equity capital of the bank.
- **Debojyoti Chakraborty** has won the CSIR Young Scientist Award 2020 in the biological sciences category.
- **FAO** has unveiled a new platform to help fight food loss, wastage.
- IFSCA has set up a **7**-member committee for international retail business development.
- **Kiren Rijju** has chaired the 1st General Council meeting of Khelo India Scheme.
- The Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir has approved the creation of a Block Development Fund on the pattern of Constituency Development Fund. **25 lakh rupees** will be placed at the disposal of the Block Development Council.
- Recently the government has appointed **3** new members to the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs.
- **NSNIS Patiala and CSS-SRIHER, Chennai** has launched courses in sports physiotherapy and sports nutrition.
- The Modi government was observing the Muslim Women Rights Day on **July 31**, marking the first anniversary of the passage of the anti-triple talaq law in Parliament.
- World Ranger Day was observed on **July 31** to celebrate the work Rangers to protect the world's natural and cultural heritage.
- **Kotak Mahindra** bank has launched a two-month-long campaign with offers, discounts across a suite of products including loans, savings and current accounts.
- Robot **Rakshak** designed by the Central Railway to remotely communicate between doctor and patient.
- World Breastfeeding Week was celebrated from **1 to 7th** August to encourage breastfeeding and improve the health of babies around the world.
- Hasmukhbhai Joshi who passed away recently was a veteran **Coach**.
- TransUnion CIBIL along with **SIDBI** has launched a financial knowledge platform for MSMEs.
- **Canara bank** has tied up with three insurers to provide Corona Kavach policies.
- **Ketan Patel** has been appointed as the Greater India Managing Director for HP.
- **Urijit Patel** has been appointed as the additional director of Great Eastern Shipping.
- **Hamed Bakayoko** has been nominated as the new Prime minister of Ivory Coast.
- The Grievance System of **West Bengal** has won the Digital India Platinum Award by Skoch Foundation.
- National Mountain Climbing Day was observed on **August 1**.
- **Real Madrid** team has been nominated as the World's Most Valuable Brands in Football.
- World Cup winner Benedikt Howedes who announced his retirement recently, played for **Germany**.
- 'Mr Democracy' Lee Teng-hui who passed away at the age of 97 was the president of **Taiwan**.
- RD Pradhan who passed away recently was the former governor of **Arunachal Pradesh**.

- The Chief Minister of **Odisha** has launched an Online Portal to Issue Fire Safety Certificates.
- ADB has signed a 200-million-dollar financing deal with Reliance for building and operating a power plant in **Bangladesh**.
- **AIM-iCREST** initiative launched by Atal Innovation Mission, in partnership with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Wadhvani Foundation to encourage and enable holistic progress in the incubator ecosystem across the country.
- Tata Capital Growth Fund will invest **30** million dollars to invest in its subsidiary Biocon Biologics to acquire 0.85 percent equity stake in the company.
- Mutual fund company **ICICI Prudential** has launched d'Alpha Low Vol 30 ETF' an open-ended index exchange-traded fund.
- **Navin Agarwal** has been appointed as the MD & CEO of Motilal Oswal Asset Management Company.
- **Jammu & Kashmir** government has ordered the fast-tracking of the Environment Clearance Process in minor minerals mining operations.
- **SN Rajeswari** has been appointed as the chairman of Oriental Insurance.
- As per a recent study, Scientists have discovered active volcanoes on **Venus**.
- **Babita Phogat and Kumari Kavita Devi** have been appointed as deputy directors (sports) under the outstanding sports persons category.
- The Central government has launched the Green-Ag Project in **Mizoram** to reduce emissions from agriculture and ensure sustainable agricultural practices.
- **Madhya Pradesh** is all set to begin the 'Ek Mask-Anek Zindagi' public awareness campaign.
- **Apple** has topped the list of the most valuable publicly listed companies.
- **Uttar Pradesh** government has decided to set up MSME industrial parks.
- **India** has recently withdrawn from the women's world team squash championship scheduled in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from December 15 to 20.
- John Hume, who passed away at the age of 83, won **Nobel Peace Prize**.
- **Pradip Shah** will head the IFSCA panel to suggest ways for the development of the international retail business.
- **Irfaan Ali** has been declared as the new president of Guyana.
- Malayalam films Moothon and Run Kalyani have recently been honoured at **New York Indian film festival**.
- **Tech Mahindra** has launched a 'Mhealthy' solution to screen employees for COVID-19 risk factors at workplaces.
- Scientists from **INST** have developed an economical nonsurgical prevention of cataract using nanorods from the nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID).
- **Ashfaq Mehmood Choudhary** has developed Dodo Drop which would enable users to share audios, videos, images, and texts between two devices without Internet access.
- IIT Madras along with **Helyxon** has developed remote patient monitoring solutions for COVID-19.
- **Bank of Baroda** has partnered with Innoviti to offer EMIs on PoS Terminals.
- Researchers from **IIT Kharagpur** have been awarded for generating power from wet clothes.
- The Chief Minister of **Andhra Pradesh** has launched the e-raksha bandhan program for women safety.

- **Sashidhar Jagdishan** is all set to take over as MD and CEO of HDFC Bank.
- **UK** will soon issue a coin to honour Mahatma Gandhi.
- **Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu** have launched an E-Gyan Mitra mobile app for online education.
- **Sanjay Dhotre** has inaugurated the BHARAT AIRFIBER connectivity solution based on Radio Network.
- **Dalmia Bharat group** has won the FICCI CSR Award for Environment Sustainability.
- **Rajasthan** has added the maximum capacity of solar plants in the country according to a recent survey by JMK Research and Analytics.
- **Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank** will launch the 'Fit India Talks' to inspire school children by bringing interactive sessions with some of the top sportspersons of the country.
- The government has recently come out with the draft Defence Production and Export Promotion Policy 2020. It aims to achieve exports of 35 thousand crores in the Aerospace and Defence goods and services by **2025**.
- As per the Asian Development Bank, the Global Economy could lose **108** Billion dollars in remittances due to COVID-19.
- World Lion Day was observed on **August 10** to raise awareness about lions and educate people about issues concerning their protection.
- **Razorpay** has launched a payment gateway 'Button' to help freelancers to instantaneously accept digital payments online.
- **Karnataka** has topped in the list of states seeking a skilled workforce to resume industrial activities.
- V Swaminathan who passed away due to COVID-19 was a famous **Producer**.
- Theme of International Youth Day observed annually on 12th August - **Youth Engagement for Global Action**.
- **Dadar** has become the first one to have women symbols on traffic signals and signage.
- **Gujarat** has launched a new scheme to compensate farmers for crop loss named Mukhya Mantri Kisan Sahay Yojana.
- Anti-child trafficking drive **Mukti Caravan** launched in Bihar by the Kailash Satyarthi's Foundation.
- **Mahindra Manulife** Mutual Fund has launched the Arbitrage Yojana, an open-ended scheme for investment in arbitrage opportunities available in equity, derivatives and debt markets.
- RBI has announced the 'positive pay' feature to enhance safety of cheque payments for cheque value of **Rs. 50000** and above.
- **Soma Mondal** has been selected as the next chairman of the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB).
- **Harbhajan Singh** has been roped in as the brand ambassador of eBikeGO.
- World Elephant Day was observed on **August 12** to the preservation and protection of the world's elephants.
- Lebanon's Prime Minister and his entire government has resigned after the Beirut explosion. **Hassan Diab** was the Prime Minister of Lebanon.
- **Alexander Lukashenko** has won his sixth consecutive term as President of Belarus.

- **Akshat Malik** has bagged the Indian Achievers Award 2020 for Healthcare Excellence.
- **Dalai Lama** has released the new book titled "Our Only Home: A Climate Appeal to the World".
- **Rajnath Singh** has released the book titled 'Connecting, Communicating, Changing,' chronicling 3 years of office of Venkiah Naidu as the Vice President of India.
- Rahat Indori who passed away recently was an eminent **Poet**.
- National Sons and Daughters Day was celebrated every year on **August 11** to honor the sons & daughters and appreciate all that they do for the family.
- **Narendra Singh Tomar** has launched ICAR's data recovery centre 'Krishi Megh'.
- **Bombay Stock Exchange** has signed an MoU with Akola-based bullion associations to facilitate cooperation, knowledge sharing, education and training.
- **Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank** has launched the Minimum Standards of Architectural Education Regulations, 2020.
- The Jal Shakti Minister has launched **Swachh Bharat Mission Academy** as part of an ongoing week-long behaviour change campaign Gandagi Mukh Bharat.campaign.
- The European Union will provide **1.65** million euro in humanitarian aid in response to severe flooding that has affected South Asia.
- **Patanjali Jha** has taken charge as the Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, Mumbai.
- **KN Ananthpadmanabhan** has been included in the ICC's international panel of umpires.
- **International Financial Corporation** invests \$10 million in Endiya Partners Fund II for product startups.
- **IIT Kanpur** has developed indigenous seed balls named Bio -compost Enriched Ecofriendly Globule (BEEG) for farmers.
- **Rajasthan** government has inked a MoU with SIDBI for cluster-based development of MSMEs.
- **PFC** has signed a MoA for construction of two Modular Operation Theatre Rooms in the District Hospital, Siddharthnagar, Uttar Pradesh.
- **Paytm** has launched the first pocket Android POS device for contactless payments in India.
- 77 New Butterfly Species have been found in Matheran Hill Station near **Mumbai**.
- The Tribal Affairs Ministry has sanctioned **9** museums which will be dedicated to the contributions of the tribal people in India to the freedom struggle.
- World Organ Donation Day was observed every year on **August 13** to motivate normal human beings to pledge to donate organs after death.
- Laura Marsh who has announced her retirement from all forms of cricket, played for **England**.
- The work for the first-of-its-kind Katra-Delhi express road corridor has started and is expected to be completed by **2023** to reduce the time to around six and half hours from Katra to Delhi.
- **Telangana** government has launched its Artificial Intelligence for Agricultural Innovation (AI4AI) programme in collaboration with the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (C4IR), World Economic Forum.
- West Bengal government launched **Karma Sathi Prakalpa** scheme to provide soft loans and subsidies to youth.
- **Goa** government has signed a pact with Industrial Training Institutes to carry out German dual vocational education and training to ensure optimal up-skilling of ITI graduates.

- **Odisha** will award the Suraj Samman to three women on the occasion of the World Organ Donation Day.
- 'Khaje', 'Harmal Chilli' and 'Moira banana' from **Goa** have recently received the GI tag giving the local producers exclusive brand protection rights.
- US along with **Israel** has successfully conducted the test of Arrow-2 ballistic missile defense system.
- **Ammunition Factory, Khadki** has handed over the first consignment of grenade launcher ammunition to the Border Security Force (BSF).
- Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) **Sarthak** for the Indian Coast Guard launched at a ceremony at Goa Shipyard Limited.
- **Punjab** has achieved the first rank in the operationalization of Health and Welfare Centres (HWCs) as per the latest rankings released by the Central government.
- Yadupati Singhania who passed away recently was the President of **Uttar Pradesh Cricket Association**.
- Youm-e-Azadi was observed by **Pakistan** to mark the declaration of its Independence.
- **Punjab** government has launched a scheme to provide 1.74 lakh class XII students with smartphones by November 2020.
- **Anurag Thakur** has launched the Naval Innovation and Indigenization Organization through an online webinar.
- **Gagan Arora** has won the "CEO of the Year" Award, by 'Indian Achievers' 2020.
- The police of **Jammu & Kashmir** has topped in the list of Police Medals for Gallantry (PMG) with a total 81 medal.
- **Fit India Freedom Run** event will be launched by the Sports Ministry to encourage participants of the event to run at their own pace – anywhere and at any time of their convenience.
- The Defence Minister has launched the Konkurs Missile Test Equipment and Konkurs Launcher Test Equipment, which have been indigenously designed and developed by **BDL**.
- **HDFC** bank has launched the Shaurya KGC Card for armed forces for agricultural requirements like production of crop, post-harvest maintenance and consumption needs.
- India has extended USD 1 million in assistance to Antigua and Barbuda to combat COVID-19.
- **UAE** has committed USD 25 million to expand the Unified Champion Schools to 6 countries including India.
- **Israel** has shared its state-of-the-art Artificial Intelligence-based technology and high-end equipment with AIIMS to help combat COVID-19.
- Satellite of NASA **TESS** has found 66 new exoplanets or worlds beyond our solar system.
- **Vikram Kumar Doraiswami** has been appointed as India's next envoy to Bangladesh.
- India has announced 500-million-dollar package for Connectivity project and creation of air travel bubble with Maldives.
- Two over bridges been named after late Arun Jaitley and Sushma Swaraj in **Gujarat**.
- **Prakash Javadekar** has launched the portal on Human-Elephant Conflict on World Elephant Day.
- **Andhra Pradesh** government has signed an MoU with US-Based IT firm to setup a facility devoted to research and development (R&D) in the Information Technology sector.
- **Russia** has recently announced the first coronavirus vaccine, touted as the first in the world.

- India has inked a pact with **Maldives** for the development of five eco-tourism zones in Addu atoll.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has inaugurated the NIP Online Dashboard. The dashboard is being hosted on **India Investment Grid**.
- Khadi's first silk training-cum-production centre is all set to come up in **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- **Indira Van Mitan Yojana** launched by the Chhattisgarh where groups of youth will be formed in 10,000 villages of tribal areas of the state and all forest-based economic activities will be conducted through these groups.
- The Indian Armed Forces will be participating in bilateral and multilateral military exercises next month to be held in **Russia**.
- The Central Government aims to develop **10** craft and handloom villages in India so that tourists from across the globe can visit them and learn the rich legacy of Indian weavers and lend support to the Make in India initiative.
- **RS Paroda** has won the MS Swaminathan Award for environment protection.
- Walter Martos has been sworn in as the new Prime Minister of **Peru**.
- **Max Verstappen** has celebrated a sensational victory in the 70th Anniversary Grand Prix.
- The governor of **Mizoram** has released 'Corona Kavithakal', a collection of poems written during the lockdown period.
- The municipal corporation of **Chhattisgarh** has become the first one to provide forestland right certificates to people of urban area.
- Bihar Pollution Control Board has signed a Memorandum of Agreement with **IIT Delhi** for air quality management in the state.
- The Chief Minister of **Haryana** has launched an anti-bullying campaign to flag the problem of bullying at home, in neighborhood, schools, colleges and workplace.
- Kamala, also known as James Harris who passed away at the age of 70 was a former **Wrestler**.
- International Lefthanders Days was observed on **August 13** to celebrate the uniqueness and differences of the left-handers.
- Trini Lopez who passed away due to COVID-19 was a famous **Singer**.
- The Delhi government has signed a MoU with **IIT-Bombay** and Tata Projects Limited to construct a smog tower in Connaught Place.
- **SS Mundra** has been appointed as the non-executive chairman of Indiabulls Housing.
- 121 Police Personnel will be receiving the Medal for Excellence in Investigation 2020 Award this year. The award was constituted in **2018**.
- The Memoir 'The Beauty of Living Twice' is based on the life of famous actress **Sharon Stone**.
- CCI has approved a proposal deal pertaining to Joint-Venture formation between Honda Motor and **Hitachi**.
- Indian Space tech Startup **Skyroot Aerospace** has successfully test-fired an upper-stage rocket becoming the first Indian private company to demonstrate the capability to build a homegrown rocket engine.
- Two light combat helicopters developed by **HAL** have been deployed in Ladakh for high altitude IAF operations.
- **Akshay Kumar** is the only Bollywood star among the Forbes' highest-paid actors of 2020.

- Women Cricketer Anshula Rao who has been provisionally suspended by National Anti-Doping Agency after failing a dope test played for **Madhya Pradesh**.
- **VK Paul** will chair the Committee formed for Procurement and Administration Of COVID-19 Vaccine.
- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy launched YSR Cheyutha scheme to offer financial assistance to all the SC, ST, BC, Minorities women aged between 45-60. **4700 crore** amount is allocated in the budget for the scheme.
- GK Menon who passed away recently was a veteran **Sports Journalist**.
- **Atulya** device unveiled by Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Nitin Gadkari' to disintegrate novel Coronavirus.
- **Sudha Murthy** is among the winners of the Gramodaya Bandhu Mitra Puraskar.
- **Assam** to launch a mega scheme for women's financial empowerment and will provide Rs 830 per month each to 17 lakh poor families.
- **Himachal Pradesh** government has launched the Nutritional Immunity Boosting 'Him Haldi Dudh' manufactured by MILKFED.
- **Federal Bank** has chosen payments and financial services technology solutions Fiserv to enable digitization of the bank's end-to end card issuance and processing cycle.
- As per recent RBI norms, urban co-operative banks having total assets of **2000 crore** or above as on March 31, 2020, have to implement system-based asset classification with effect from June 30, 2021.
- **Reliance** has partnered with W-GDP and USTATED to bridge the gender digital divide in India.
- **Japan** has signed its largest ever loan package worth dollar 3.1 billion for Bangladesh.
- **Dell** has partnered with NITI Aayog to launch the 2nd student entrepreneurship programme.
- **Isher Judge Ahluwalia** has resigned as the chairperson of ICRIER after being in the position for 15-years.
- **Cristiano Ronaldo** has won Juventus' MVP of the Year award for record 37 goals in a single season.
- Sumner Redstone who passed away at 97 was the head of **Viacom and CBS** Company.
- **Suhail Sameer** has been appointed as the Group President of BharatPe.
- **Assam** government lunched Arunodoi scheme to provide financial assistance to around 17 lakh families from October 2.
- **Narendra Modi** has launched the 'Transparent Taxation - Honoring the Honest' platform to strengthen the efforts of reforming and simplifying India's tax system.
- The Indian Independence Day was celebrated annually on 15 August. India is currently celebrating its **74th** Independence Day.
- **GP Garg** has been appointed as the Executive Director of SEBI.
- Chunakkara Ramankutty who passed away at 84 was a famous **Lyricist**.
- **SS Chahar** will head the 5-member panel to probe into the Kozhikode plane crash.
- **Standard Chartered** bank has entered into strategic collaboration with Airtel Africa to drive financial inclusion across Africa.
- **SBI** has rolled out the KCC (Kisan Credit Card) review option on its digital agricultural solution platform, YONO Krishi, to enable farmers to access their KCC limit in four clicks.

- SEBI has levied a penalty of **10 lakhs** each on LIC, SBI and Bank of Baroda for failing to reduce their stakes in UTI Asset Management Co. (AMC).
- **Michael Cohen** has written the book “Disloyal: The True Story of the Former Personal Attorney to President Donald J. Trump”.
- The Cricket association of **Sri Lanka** has felicitated two veteran umpires on retirement after a service of 20 years.
- **DIAT, Pune** has developed “Pavitrapati” a Biodegradable Face Mask to resist against the bacteria/virus.
- A team of researchers from ISRO and **IISc** have developed a sustainable process for making brick-like structures on the moon.
- Rajnath Singh launched **SRIJAN** portal to promote indigenization in defence production by private sector companies.
- **Manipur** has celebrated its Patriots’ Day to remember the fallen heroes of the Anglo-Manipuri war.
- **IIT Ropar** has developed India’s first-of-its-kind UVGI-based room disinfectant device ‘UVSAFE’.
- The Chief Minister of **Karnataka** has vowed to build a ‘Kalyana Rajya’ with focus on development as the only mantra.
- TERI has launched the flood and heavy rain warning system for **Guwahati** in collaboration with NDMA to alert local authorities about flash floods and/or heavy rainfall.
- **Delhi** government has inked a MoU with Bloomberg Philanthropies to enhance road safety.
- **Karnataka** government has set up a price monitoring and resource unit under the aegis of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority.
- **Israel and UAE** have announced a historic peace deal with the USA and have agreed to a full normalization of relations, including re-establishing diplomatic ties.
- **Kaushik Khona** has been appointed as the CEO of GoAir.
- **Tamil Nadu** government has formed a 12-member panel to study aspects of merits and demerits of the draft Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification.
- **National Health Authority** has approved a proposal to integrate existing health schemes of Central Ministries and public sector undertakings with Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY).
- India has signed a MoU with **Nigeria** on space science, planetary exploration, ground stations, development of micro, and mini satellites.
- RBI Board approved **57,128 crores** as surplus to the central government for the accounting year 2019-20.
- **Dinesh K Tripathi** has assumed charge as the Director General Naval Operations.
- National Handloom Day was observed annually on **August 7** to honor the handloom weavers in the country.
- **OHE Inspection app** launched by Indian Railways to monitor technical snags in real-time.
- Sadia Dehlvi who passed away at the age of 63 was renowned **Author**.
- The Foundation stone for Indian Institute of Management, Sirmour has been laid down in **Himachal Pradesh**.
- Oman India Joint Investment Fund II has bought 1.63% in **DCB Bank**.
- **Chhattisgarh** government has launched a scheme for tendu leaves collectors.

- **Mukhya Mantri Doodh Uphar Yojana** launched by Haryana Chief Minister Khattar to provide fortified flavored skimmed milk powder to children between 1 and 6 years of age.
- **Telangana** government has launched the GRID Policy to provide incentives for IT industry development.
- **Suresh Raina** has been appointed as Global Brand Ambassador of Win Trade Fantasy (WTF) Sports.
- Doris Buffet who passed away at the age of 92 was a famous **Philanthropist**.
- **South India Bank** has recently received the nod from RBI to set up a non-financial subsidiary.
- **Yatish Yadav** has written the book 'RAW: A History of India's Covert Operations'.
- Shirley Ann Grau, **Pulitzer Prize** fiction writer, who passed away at the age of 91.
- The Indian Railways will run the first Kisan Rail special service between **Maharashtra-Bihar**.
- The Government proposes to launch **National Clinical Registry** with the objective to collect clinical data to help in evidence-based clinical practice, research, formulation of guidelines and policy making.
- The Country's first Kisan Special Parcel Train has been flagged off from Devlali Railway Station of **Maharashtra**.
- The Maharashtra government has announced a partnership with **Google** for introducing digital education tools in schools across the state.
- **Praveen Pardeshi** will soon join the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) as global programme coordinator.
- **Hardayal Prasad** has been appointed as the MD and CEO of PNB Housing Finance.
- **SBM Bank India** has collaborated with InstaReM to enhance outbound remittance service offerings from India.
- **Srihari Pabbaraja** has won the Chemical Research Society of India (CRSI), Bronze medal 2021.
- **Harsh Kumar Bhanwala** has been appointed as the Executive Chairman of Capital India Finance Limited.
- **Pradeep Kumar Joshi** has been appointed as the Chairman of UPSC.
- As per the recent statement by Yes Bank, LIC has acquired close to **5** per cent stake in the Bank.
- **Dipankar Ghose** has been chosen for the 2020 Prem Bhatia journalism award.
- BCCI has suspended the title sponsorship deal with **Vivo** for the upcoming IPL.
- **GC Murmu** has become a new CAG of India.
- **NPCI** has launched a loyalty platform 'nth Rewards' to allow users to earn points through various bank transactions and redeem them on various products.
- The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples was observed on **August 9** each year to raise awareness and protect the rights of the world's indigenous population.
- **India** will host the 2021 ICC Men's T20 World Cup.
- **IndusInd** bank has acquired 7.82% stake in Eveready by invoking pledged shares following loan default.
- Nandi Yellaiah who passed away recently belonged to **Congress**.
- **Narendra Modi** has launched the week-long campaign 'Gandagi, Bharat Chorho' till August 15.

- PM Modi has launched **1** lakh crore debt financing Facility under the Agri Infrastructure fund to help the farming community.
- The Indian Railways have committed to integrating with the GeM portal. The portal was launched in **2016**.
- **GK Pillai** will head the panel to fix ceiling rates under duty reimbursement scheme for exporters.
- **CAIT** has launched the 'China Quit India' Campaign in order to Boycott Chinese Goods.
- The Punjab Cricket Association has decided to name its new stadium in Mullanpur after **Maharaja Yadavindra Singh**.
- The Cabinet of **Meghalaya** has approved 50 per cent reservation for women in Village Employment Councils.
- **Delhi** airport has developed an air Suvidha Online Portal for International Passengers to fill a mandatory self-declaration form.
- Crop prediction software from a team of students of **Jamia Millia Islamia** University has won Rs 1 lakh at Smart India Hackathon 2020.
- **Flipkart** has signed an MoU with the One District, One Product (ODOP) scheme of the Uttar Pradesh government to bring artisans, weavers and craftsmen into mainstream business.
- Scientists from **Duke University** have developed a low-cost method to test mask effectiveness against viral droplets.
- Manitombi Singh who passed away recently was a former **Football player**.
- Nagasaki Day was observed on **August 9** to remember the people and innocent children who were killed by the atomic bombs dropped by the United States.
- Theme of World Biofuel Day observed annually on August 10th - **Biofuels Towards Atmanirbhar Bharat**.
- **Rajnath Singh** will launch the Atmanirbhar Bharat Saptah with a focus to promote self-reliant India with increased local manufacturing.
- According to news agency Bloomberg, Mukesh Ambani has now become the world's **4th** richest person.
- **Naandi Foundation** has been selected for the Food Vision 2050 Prize by Rockefeller Foundation.
- The Ministry of Home Affairs in a series of orders have sent several IPS officers to paramilitary forces. **Amrit Mohan Prasad** has been appointed as Additional Director General (ADG) in ITBP.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated a submarine Optical Fibre Cable connecting **Chennai and Andaman & Nicobar Islands**.
- NHAI has inked a pact with **IIT Delhi** to set up a centre of excellence for use of AI in decision making.
- **CSIR** has signed an MoU with FSSAI for collaborative research on food and nutrition.
- **Nitin Sethi** has bagged the Asian College of Journalism's Award for Investigative Journalism.
- **Deepak Shetty** has been appointed as the MD & CEO of JCB India.
- **CDSL** has received approval as the local Authentication User Agency from UIDAI.
- Piyush Goyal and Pralhad Joshi have inaugurated a railway Museum in **Karnataka** through video conferencing.
- **Bangladesh** will construct a memorial for Indian soldiers martyred in the 1971 liberation war.

- Hiroshima Day was observed annually on **August 6** to commemorate the remembrance of the bombing attack on Hiroshima and Nagasaki by the United States.
- **Nirupama Yadav** has written the Biography of India's youngest Basketball captain Vishesh Bhriguvanshi titled "Vishesh: Code To Win".
- Shivajirao Patil Nilangekar who passed away at the age of 88 was the chief minister of **Maharashtra**.
- **Neena Rai** has penned the book 'Amazing Ayodhya' that will shed light on the history of Ayodhya.
- **Haryana** has launched the "Parivar Pehchan Patra" to enable the citizens to get the benefits of various central and state government schemes.
- **Andhra Pradesh** government has tied up with ISB to set up a public policy lab for policy guidance to spur growth.
- **COVID19BWM App** developed by CPCB to track the daily biomedical waste.
- **Haryana** has launched a web portal for the management of development works in urban local bodies.
- The government has extended the term of Ajay Tyagi as SEBI chairman by **18** months.
- Amazon Web Services has collaborated with **Airtel** to help MSMEs as well as large businesses to adopt cloud solutions.
- **US** has conducted a test flight of an unarmed Minuteman 3 missile.
- A new species of pygmy grasshopper has been discovered after 116 years by a group of foreign researchers in **Sri Lanka**.
- Godrej Appliances has launched Godrej Viroshield a UV-C tech-based sanitization device in **Kerala**.
- **IISC Bengaluru** has developed a mobile RT-PCR COVID-19 testing lab to help ramp up the testing efforts.
- India's first snow leopard conservation centre to come up in **Uttarakhand**.
- India has contributed **15.46 million** to the India-UN Development Partnership Fund underscoring the country's commitment to supporting developing nations.
- India has extended 18 million US dollars worth Line of Credit to **Maldives** for the expansion of fishing facilities at MIFCO.
- As per RBI's recent announcement, the National Housing Bank (NHB) and the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) will get the special facility of **5000** crore each.
- **Airtel** Payments Bank has partnered with Bharti AXA General Insurance to secure retailers and merchants.
- Reliance Industries has now been ranked the **2nd** biggest brand globally after Apple on the Future Brand Index 2020.
- Current repo rate is **4 percent** as per the recent monetary policy announcement of the Reserve Bank of India.
- The Medical Education Minister of **Karnataka** has inaugurated the nation's first ICMR approved mobile RTPCR Covid lab.
- RBI set up a five-member panel under the chairmanship of **KV Kamath** for one-time restructuring of loans.

- **BOB Financial Solutions** has partnered with Fiserv Technology for ensuring digitization of their end-to-end card issuance and processing cycle.
- **PayU** has introduced payouts solutions to scale up financial operations for merchants and eliminate the need for constant recharging.
- **Parekh Ashvin** has been named as the Independent Director at Nippon Life India AMC.
- RBI has decided to set up **Innovation Hub** to rope in start-ups for IT solutions for financial inclusion and efficient banking services.
- **National Institute of Disaster Management** has collaborated with the IMD to organize webinar series on “HydroMeteorological Hazards Risk Reduction”.
- **Manoj Sinha** has been appointed as the new Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir.
- Quit India Movement Day was observed on **August 8**.
- EXIM Bank has extended USD 250 million line of credit to **Mozambique**.
- Shyamal Chakraborty who passed away due to Covid-19 was a veteran leader of **CPM**.
- BHEL has begun civil works at 660-MW Sagardighi power plant in **West Bengal**.
- **Delhi** government has launched an electric vehicle policy with incentives of up to Rs. 1.5 lakh.
- **Equitas** Small finance bank has been appointed as official retail banking partner for Chennai Super Kings.
- **Sports Authority of India** has launched the Khelo India Mobile App online training program for principals and PE Teachers.
- **Smriti Irani** has launched the app ‘My Handloom Portal’ for weavers on National Handloom Day.
- Deputy Commissioner Rajouri launched **Awaaz-e-Rajouri** app to improve the public Grievances redressal mechanism in the district.
- **Mahinda Rajapaksa** has registered victory in Sri Lanka’s parliamentary polls.
- **Defence Institute of Advanced Technology, Pune** has won the first prize in the Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2020.
- **Chingari** has won in the AtmaNirbhar Bharat App Innovation Challenge’s social category.
- Mukund Lath who passed away the age of 82 was a prominent **Historian**.
- UNESCO has recognized two villages as Tsunami Ready in **Odishda**.
- The Prime Minister of **Japan** has recently resigned owing to poor health conditions.
- Archana Mahanta who passed away recently was a prominent **Singer**.
- **78** new routes have been approved by the Central government under the Regional connectivity scheme- Udan.
- Bob and Mike Bryan who have announced their retirement recently played **Tennis**.
- **Arunachal Pradesh** has passed a resolution to bring the state under the ambit of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution besides amending Article 371(H) by inserting provisions to safeguard tribes of the state.
- **Bajaj Allianz** Life Insurance provider has launched a new technology service called ‘Smart Assist’ that provides real-time assistance to customers.
- **World Bank** has paused the publication of the Doing Business report following a number of irregularities regarding changes to data in previous reports.

- **HDFC Bank** has partnered with Adobe to enhance the digital customer experience journey of its customers.
- **Innoviti** has partnered with Visa to develop installments platforms for face-to-face transactions.
- Ericsson and UNICEF have launched a global partnership to map school internet connectivity in 35 by the end of **2023**.
- **Marieke Lucas Rijneveld** has become the youngest author to win the International Booker Prize for his book "The Discomfort of Evening".
- IIT Alumni Council has signed an agreement with Universities of **Russia** to build the world's largest, fastest hybrid quantum computer.
- **V Ramagopal Rao** will head the committee set up by DRDO to review the charter of its laboratories and minimize the overlap of technologies they are working on.
- INS Viraat, the aircraft carrier that served the Indian Navy for 30 years will be dismantled in **Gujarat**.
- Researchers from **IIT-Hyderabad** have launched the world's most affordable respirator mask.
- **Rajnath Singh** has launched the mobile app for NCC training to be used for digital learning during the times of the covid-19 pandemic.
- World Water Week aims to provide a forum and opportunity to facilitate exchange of views and experiences. It is organized by **Stockholm International Water Institute**.
- India is planning to host the BRICS Games in **2021** and plans to align it with Khelo India Games.
- Gail Sheehy who passed away recently was an eminent **journalist**.
- **HSBC** bank has introduced the Omni Collect - a one-stop solution to provide multiple payment options on a single platform.
- **NHAI** has developed a portal to track the performance of developers and consultants for various construction projects.
- **Sanjiv Singh** has recently appointed as the Group President of Reliance Industries Ltd.
- A book title **Cricket Drona** on renowned coach Vasoo Paranjape will be released soon on September 2.
- ISRO has signed an agreement with **Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology**, under this agreement a Space innovation centre will be established in the university.
- **Mahindra & Mahindra** has tied up with Israel's REE Automotive to develop commercial EVs.
- **Rajasthan** has topped Niti Aayog's Export Preparedness Index 2020 among the landlocked states.
- **Poulomi Ghatak** has retired from playing Table Tennis and has shifted the focus on coaching new players.
- International Dog Day was observed on **August 26** to draw attention to the plight of canines around the world and encourage adoption.
- **Haryana** government has inked a deal with M3M foundation to provide online classes to students.
- **Axis Bank** has introduced a 'Liberty Savings Account' targeted to cater to the lifestyle requirements of the working class that falls under 35 years of age.
- **NITI Aayog** has released the Export Preparedness Index 2020 with the aim to identify challenges and opportunities and enhance the effectiveness of government policies.
- **Yatinder Prasad** has been appointed on the board of Coal India Limited.

- **National Health Authority** has released the Draft Health Data Management Policy of National Digital Health Mission in the public domain.
- The Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW) has decided to integrate **e-Pension Payment order** generated through PFMS application of Controller General of accounts to enhance Ease of Living of Central Government Civil Pensioners.
- **Cognizant** is all set to acquire Tin Roof Software to expand its digital engineering services.
- **Germany** has decided to issue "green bonds" worth up to \$13 billion this year for clean transportation and renewable energy projects.
- TVS Automobile Solutions has partnered with **Google** in order to digitize the auto aftermarket industry.
- **Badminton** player and Japan's Olympic doubles champion Ayaka Takahashi announced her retirement recently.
- Greenko Energies Pvt Ltd. has partnered with **NTPC** to supply on-demand green energy.
- The Ministry of Culture has announced **7** new circles of Archaeological Survey of India to facilitate and strengthen the process of preservation and registration of archaeological monuments.
- National Sports Day is observed on **August 29** to honor the legendary hockey player Major Dhyan Chand.
- **UTI Infrastructure Technology and Services** has tied up with the National Health Agency to provide the printing services of e-cards for the beneficiaries of the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY).
- 'Pratheeksha', the first marine ambulance will be commissioned in **Kerala** by the Cochin Shipyard Limited.
- Purshottam Rai who passed away at the age of 79 was a veteran **Athlete**.
- Chadwick Boseman who passed away at the age of 43 starred in **Black Panther** superhero movie.
- Piyush Goyal has launched the GIS-enabled national land bank portal for details on industrial belts. Extensive information about industrial belts in **6** states is available on the portal.
- Aadhaar authentication for new goods and services tax (GST) registration has been activated. Now the GST registration can now be obtained in **3** days through Aadhaar authentication.
- The Indian Railways is all set to meet all its energy needs of over 33 billion units by **2030**.
- The Government has approved 78 new routes under the Udan scheme. The scheme was launched in **2016**.
- **Ajay Kumar** co-chaired the 14th India-Singapore Defence Policy Dialogue via video conferencing along with the Permanent Secretary (Defence), Singapore Mr Chan Heng Kee.
- India has co-sponsored a security council resolution that calls for full, effective and meaningful participation of women personnel in peacekeeping operations. India elected as a non-permanent member of the Security Council in **June 2020**.
- As per the UN Chief, the tourism industry has lost **320** billion in exports in the last five months owing to the coronavirus pandemic.
- **Beximco Pharmaceuticals** from Bangladesh has signed a Covid-19 vaccine deal with India's Serum Institute.
- The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region has decided to establish three Bamboo clusters in **Jammu & Kashmir** for making Bamboo basketry, Agarbatti and Bamboo Charcoal.

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced the launch of the latest round of its surveys to capture consumer confidence and inflation expectations from households. The Consumer Confidence Survey is conducted regularly in **13** cities.
- The government of **Delhi** has launched a fitness channel on YouTube for students stuck at home.
- **Dr. Akinwumi Adesina** has been re-elected unanimously as President of the African Development Bank Group.
- Researchers from **Tripura University** have designed WARBOT to help protect doctors which are at the forefront of the fight against covid-19.
- Atal Dulloo has inaugurated the NAT-PCR facility at Government Medical College of **Jammu & Kashmir**.
- **Dwayne Bravo** has become the first all rounder to claim 500 wickets in T20 cricket.
- Tharanga Paranavitana who announced his retirement from international cricket recently played for **Sri Lanka**.
- Former Supreme Court Judge Justice AR Lakshmanan passed away recently. He was a member of **Law Commission of India**.
- International Day against Nuclear Tests is observed on **August 29** to commemorate the tenth International Day against Nuclear Tests.
- **Chunauti** Contest launched by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology To promote and boost startups and software products with a focus on TierII towns of the country.
- Vasantha Kumar who passed away due to COVID-19 belonged to **Congress**.
- International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances was observed on **August 30** to draw attention to the fate of individuals imprisoned at places and under poor conditions unknown to their relatives.
- **Alexander Kristoff** has won the first stage of Tour de France after a sprint finish in treacherous conditions on Nice's Promenade des Anglais.
- **Jayanti Behera** has won the Biju Patnaik award on National Sports Day.
- **Assam** government has approved the setting up of a state-of-the-art skill university.
- **Uttar Pradesh** government has launched the 'Major Dhyan Chand Vijaypath Yojana' under which 19 international players from the state will get road connectivity to their houses.
- **CISF** has launched the 'Pension Corner' app for its retired personnel and will also have an SMS invitation system for the pensioners on important events.
- **Kerala** government will set up India's first International Women's Trade Centre in consonance with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- World War 2 spy Noor Inayat Khan has become the first Indian origin woman to be honoured with the Blue Plaque by **UK**.
- **SBI** has bagged three Brandon Hall Excellence Awards for 'Nayi Disha' over the course of 1.5 years touching more than 2.40 lakh employees.
- India is in talks with **France** for Mission Alpha-like equipment for Gaganyaan astronauts.
- Multilateral war game **Kavkaz** was organized by Russia. India has recently withdrawn from this game.
- India gets **72nd** rank on the global list of average wages prepared by Picodi.com.
- **Lewis Hamilton** has won the Belgian Grand Prix to secure 89th career victory of career.

- **Satyendra Singh Lohia** has become the first Divyang Para swimmer of the country to the prestigious Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award.
- National Small Industry Day was observed on **August 30** to promote small industries across the country.
- Former India athletic coach Purushotham Rai who passed away hours before receiving Dronacharya Award belonged to **Karnataka**.
- **Delhi** government has launched the Niranman Mazdoor Registration Abhiyan for construction workers from August 24 to September 11.
- **Coroboi** app developed by a class 9 student from Imphal which is based on Covid guidelines.
- Cameron White who announced his retirement from professional cricket recently played for **Australia**.
- AB Raj who passed away at the age of 95 was a prominent **Filmmaker**.
- NABARD has introduced a dedicated debt and credit guarantee product for NBFC-MFIs. It has partnered with **Vivriti Capital**.
- **My IAF** app launched by the Indian Air force to provide career-related information to those who want to join the Indian Air Force.
- **VA Tech Wabag** has won the prestigious Global Water Award for its 45 million litres a day tertiary treatment reverse osmosis (TTR) plant at Koyambedu in Chennai.
- **Tech Mahindra** has collaborated with NITI Aayog to support women entrepreneurs in India.
- **Garuda Prakashan** publication house will publish the book "Delhi Riots 2020: The Untold Story" after Bloomsbury India withdrew to publish the book.
- A student Start up RoDeSo at **BITS Pilani** has developed a gesture-controlled robot Astra for remote use in Covid isolation wards.
- IIT Madras has collaborated with **Stuttgart University** to develop a method to safely dispose of toxic pharmaceutical wastewater.
- Cricketer **Jacques Kallis** recently been inducted into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame.
- Dragonfly Festival christened 'Thumbi Maholsavam 2020' was celebrated in **Kerala**.
- DRDO chief has recently received a two-year extension. **G Sathesh Reddy** is the current chief of DRDO.
- The Chief minister of **Uttar Pradesh** has launched NRI unified portal and will help provide assistance during emergency.
- The Government has launched 'Open API Service', a novel feature to help the people, business and economy return to normalcy in **Aarogya Setu** app.
- The Government of India has signed an agreement with **AIIB** for \$500 Million to improve network capacity of Mumbai Suburban Rail.
- **NSE** has launched 'silver options' in the commodity derivatives segment from September 1.
- **Axis** bank is all set to acquire 17% in Max Life Insurance.
- The Chamber of Marathwada Industries and Agriculture (CMIA) has partnered with **UNDP** to set up help desks for MSMEs.
- India along with **Uzbekistan** will co-chair the first National Coordination Committee to meet and discuss projects related to trade and investment.

- The Central government has extended the validity of expiring driving licenses and motor vehicle documents till **December 31** in the wake of the coronavirus crisis.
- The Reserve Bank of India has announced open market operations (OMO) worth **20,000** crores in a bid to tame G-sec yields, which have jumped almost 24 basis points in the last six trading sessions.
- Women's Equality Day was celebrated in the United States on **August 26** to commemorate the 1920 adoption of the Nineteenth Amendment.
- **Tamil Nadu** has topped in the list of availment of loans since the inception of the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana.
- Ashok Sahil who passed away at the age of 64 was a famous **Poet**.
- **ICICI** bank has become the first in India to use Satellite Data to assess farmer loans.
- The Indian Energy Exchange has accepted the resignation of **Rajiv Srivastava** as the MD & CEO.
- **Neelakanta Bhanu Prakash** has won the title of the 'World's Fastest Human Calculator'.
- **Tenzin Priyadarshi** has written the book 'Running Toward Mystery: The Adventure of an Unconventional Life'.
- Indian Satellite **AstroSat** has detected extreme UV Light coming from Galaxy 9.3 Billion Light-years Away.
- Pascal Lissouba who passed away at the age of 88 was the former president of **Congo**.
- The Ministry of Finance has recently announced that businesses with an annual turnover of up to **40 lakh** have been exempt from GST, while with turnover of Rs. 1.5 crore can opt for the composition scheme.
- **Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University** along with the Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences will organize the International Conference on Climate Change and Its Impact on Himalayan Region from September 14 to 16.
- Insurance provider **SBI General** has launched the 'Shagun - Gift an insurance' policy, with a key differentiating feature, that it can be gifted to anyone, which means it is not necessary for the policy buyer to be related to the insured.
- **APEDA** has signed MoUs with AFC India Ltd, and National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI), Delhi to utilize their expertise in the agriculture sector.
- **Vinay Tonse** has become the new MD & CEO of SBI Funds.
- Insurance provider **Bajaj Allianz** has launched its new product for pet dogs of indigenous origin, pedigree, non-pedigree, cross-bred and also exotic breeds.
- **S. Jaishankar** co-chaired the 17th meeting of India-Vietnam Joint Commission held via video-conference.
- Industry ministers of **BRICS** have recently attended a meeting to discuss ways to boost cooperation in the areas including 5G and AI.
- The Jammu & Kashmir agriculture department has created an E-auction portal launched to promote trading of **Kashmir Saffron**.
- In a bid to give a boost to the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Mission, a handicraft production centre has been inaugurated in **Guwahati** by the Assam Apex Weavers and Artisans Cooperative Federation Limited.
- **James Anderson** has become the 1st fast bowler in history to take 600 Test wickets.
- RBI has decided to dissolve the Banking Codes and Standards Board of India. It was set up by the RBI in **2006**.

- As per the recently released report of the RBI, India's projected growth for 2020-21 stands at **-4.5** per cent.
- The World Health Organization has declared **Africa** free of polio after a decadelong campaign to eradicate the disease.
- Rare fish **Mahseer** sighted by the researchers at Andhra University in the upper part of Sileru river.

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MODEL QUESTIONS

- Which edition of Independence Day of India was celebrated on August 15, 2020?
(1) 71st (2) 73rd (3) 74th (4) 75th (5) None of these
- World Photography Day is observed annually on _____.
(1) 19th Aug (2) 18th Aug (3) 15th Aug (4) 25th Aug (5) None of these
- United Nations' World Humanitarian Day (WHD) is observed annually on August 19 since which year?
(1) 2005 (2) 2017 (3) 2009 (4) 2011 (5) None of these
- The world senior citizen is observed every year on _____.
(1) August 21 (2) September 4 (3) October 26 (4) July 18 (5) None of these
- World Gujarati day was observed annually on August 24 to commemorate the birth anniversary of whom?
(1) Raghuvver Chaudhari (2) Dinkar Joshi (3) Dhumketu
(4) Ashwini Bhatt (5) Narmadashankar Dave
- What is the current reverse repo rate as on August 7, 2020?
(1) 3.50% (2) 3.35% (3) 3.75% (4) 4% (5) None of these
- How much was the amount that was approved as dividend to central government by Reserve Bank of India?
(1) Rs 45,842 crore (2) Rs 78,541 crore (3) Rs 57,128 crore
(4) Rs 75,142 crore (5) None of these
- How many percentage was the increase in number of bank fraud cases (1 lakh or above) in FY20?
(1) 14% (2) 18% (3) 28% (4) 21% (5) None of these
- Which bank has collaborated with AddaCorner to launch 'Online Home Carnival'?
(1) State Bank of India (2) Punjab National Bank (3) Canara Bank
(4) United Bank of India (5) Indian Bank
- Name the bank which launched a campaign named 'Kona KonaUmeed' recently.
(1) Axis Bank (2) YES Bank (3) Kotak Mahindra
(4) IndusInd Bank (5) None of these
- Which public sector bank launched "KCC (Kisan Credit Card) Review option" in its platform YONO Krishi?
(1) State Bank of India (2) Punjab National Bank (3) Canara Bank
(4) United Bank of India (5) None of these

12. Find the private sector bank which has partnered with Accenture for its digital transformation journey.
(1) ICICI Bank (2) RBL Bank (3) Yes Bank (4) Axis Bank (5) HDFC Bank
13. Find the bank which has introduced 'Liberty Savings Account' for the Indian youth.
(1) HDFC Bank (2) ICICI Bank (3) IDBI Bank (4) Yes Bank (5) Axis Bank
14. Which bank has launched one stop business solution named, 'Omni collect' in India?
(1) DBS Bank (2) Barclays Bank (3) HSBC India (4) Deutsche Bank (5) None of these
15. Find the company which unveiled 'Special Revival Campaign' to revive lapsed policies.
(1) United India Insurance (2) State Bank of India (3) Bank of Baroda
(4) Life Insurance Corporation (5) None of these
16. Which insurance company was renamed as Care Health Insurance Company recently?
(1) HealthCare Global Enterprises Limited
(2) Religare Health Insurance Company Limited
(3) Indraprastha Medical Corporation Limited
(4) Apollo Hospitals Enterprises Limited
(5) None of these
17. Which insurance company has launched 1st of its kind technology service named 'Smart Assist'?
(1) Reliance Life Insurance Company
(2) TATA AIG Life Insurance Company
(3) ICICI Lombard Life Insurance Company
(4) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Company
(5) None of these
18. Which state government launched "Ek Mask-AnekZindagi" - One mask, Many lives - public awareness campaign recently?
(1) Madhya Pradesh (2) Meghalaya (3) Mizoram
(4) Telangana (5) None of these
19. Which state government launched cybercrime awareness programme named 'E-Raksha Bandhan'?
(1) Karnataka (2) Telangana (3) Andhra (4) Tamil Nadu (5) None of these
20. How much percent reservation was given for More Backward Classes in state judicial service by Rajasthan government?
(1) 27% (2) 11% (3) 5% (4) 13% (5) None of these
21. Which state planned to develop India's 1st snow leopard conservation centre?
(1) Arunachal Pradesh (2) Madhya Pradesh (3) Uttarakhand
(4) Himachal Pradesh (5) None of these
22. Which among the following cities will be developed as smart cities in the union territory of Ladakh?
(1) Leh&Kargil (2) Hemis&Padum (3) Dras&Turtuk
(4) Shey&Nyoma (5) None of these
23. Which state government launched "Mahila Evam KishoriSamman Yojana" & "Mukhya Mantri DoodhUphar Yojana" for girls and women?
(1) Chhattisgarh (2) Punjab (3) Haryana (4) Goa (5) None of these

24. Name the state which launched Shaheed Mahendra Karma TendupattaSangrahakSamajik Suraksha Yojana for tendu leaves collectors?
 (1) Maharashtra (2) Haryana (3) Punjab (4) Goa (5) Chhattisgarh
25. Which is 1st state in India to delink incentives from State Goods and Service Tax (SGST)?
 (1) Gujarat (2) Karnataka (3) Tamil Nadu (4) Kerala (5) None of these
26. The cabinet of which state has approved the policy of reserving 50% seats for women in the village level community institutions?
 (1) Meghalaya (2) Manipur (3) Mizoram (4) Arunachal Pradesh (5) None of these
27. Which state government has launched 'Indira Rasoi Yojana' to provide meals at Rs. 8?
 (1) Karnataka (2) Chhattisgarh (3) Goa (4) Rajasthan (5) None of these
28. Which is 1st Municipal Corporation in India that provides forest land rights certificates to urban people?
 (1) Bruhat (2) Jagdalpur (3) Brihanmumbai (4) Pimpri (5) None of these
29. Which is the first city in India to have female icons on traffic signals?
 (1) Bengaluru (2) Chennai (3) Kolkata (4) Mumbai (5) None of these
30. Which state cabinet has approved financial bid for the implementation of GangadharMeher lift canal system?
 (1) Assam (2) Bihar (3) Jharkhand (4) Odisha (5) None of these
31. Which state government planned to launch country's first electric vehicle park?
 (1) Tamil Nadu (2) Uttarakhand (3) Andhra Pradesh
 (4) Gujarat (5) None of these
32. Which state government has launched 'Orunodoi' scheme?
 (1) West Bengal (2) Bihar (3) Odisha (4) Assam (5) None of these
33. Jharkhand government has introduced the new state emblem recently. What is the state animal of Jharkhand?
 (1) Indian Elephant (2) Leopard (3) Great Indian Bustard
 (4) Indian roller (5) None of these
34. Name the state/UT which has launched Niranman Mazdoor Registration Abhiyan for construction workers.
 (1) J& K (2) Haryana (3) Puducherry (4) Telangana (5) Delhi
35. Which state/UT government has launched 'Healthy Body, Healthy Mind' campaign for students?
 (1) Ladakh (2) Goa (3) Chandigarh (4) Assam (5) Delhi
36. Name the Kerala's 1st marine ambulance which was inaugurated by Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan recently.
 (1) Khukri (2) Pratheeksha (3) Nireeksha (4) Sindhughosh (5) None of these
37. Union ministers Piyush Goyal & Pralhad Joshi has dedicated the railway museum at which city to the nation?
 (1) Bhilaspur (2) Jhansi (3) Virar (4) Kapurthala (5) Hubballi
38. Khutaghat Dam was located in which state?
 (1) Punjab (2) Maharashtra (3) Chhattisgarh (4) Haryana (5) None of these

39. The Indian railways constructing world's tallest pier bridge across Ijai River in which state/UT?
 (1) Uttarakhand (2) Arunachal Pradesh (3) Ladakh
 (4) Goa (5) Manipur
40. The two fly-overs of which city of Gujarat was named after Arun Jaitley and Sushma Swaraj?
 (1) Surat (2) Ahmedabad (3) Rajkot (4) Gandhinagar (5) None of these
41. The Gwalior Chambal Expressway in Madhya Pradesh was named after whom?
 (1) Sushma Swaraj (2) Arun Jaitley (3) Atal Bihari Vajpayee
 (4) Babulal Gaur (5) None of these
42. Name the indigenization portal of Department of Defence Production (DDP) which was launched by Defence minister Rajnath Singh recently.
 (1) SAMRATH (2) SAMADHAN (3) PARIVESH (4) SRIJAN (5) None of these
43. Which aircraft of Indian Air Force flew to Lebanon with 58 MT of emergency humanitarian aid recently?
 (1) IAF A12 (2) IAF C17 (3) IAF E12 (4) IAF B14 (5) None of these
44. Defence ministry has approved the proposed to expand NCC to how many border and coastal districts?
 (1) 215 (2) 156 (3) 122 (4) 173 (5) None of these
45. The Indian coast guard ship C-449 built and designed by M/s Larsen and Toubro Ltd was commissioned in which city?
 (1) Surat (2) Kochi (3) Port Blair (4) Chennai (5) None of these
46. Name the mobile app which was launched by Indian Air Force?
 (1) Proud IAF (2) IAF Duty (3) My IAF (4) Bharat IAF (5) None of these
47. Who heads the committee formed by central government to reconsider the minimum age for marriage for women?
 (1) Vinod Paul (2) Jaya Jaitley (3) Vasudha Kamath (4) Dipti Shah (5) None of these
48. Name the person who launched 'Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan 2020-21'.
 (1) Prakash Javadekar (2) Narendra Modi (3) Pralhad Patel
 (4) Harsh Vardhan (5) None of these
49. PM Modi recently inaugurated submarine Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) connecting Chennai and which city?
 (1) Kolkata (2) Vishakhapatnam (3) Port Blair
 (4) Surat (5) None of these
50. Who launched the booklet on "Best practices of Human-Elephant Conflict Management in India"?
 (1) Prakash Javadekar (2) Nitin Gadkari (3) Narendra Modi
 (4) Amit Shah (5) None of these
51. Who launched KrishiMegh along with the KVC ALUNET recently?
 (1) Prakash Javadekar (2) Narendra Modi (3) Pralhad Patel
 (4) Harsh Vardhan (5) Narendra Singh Tomar
52. Who has launched the Naval Innovation and Indigenization Organization (NIIO) recently?
 (1) Rajnath Singh (2) Amit Shah (3) Nirmala Sitharaman
 (4) Prakash Javadekar (5) None of these

53. 'Nai Udaan' is the scheme launched by which ministry?
(1) Ministry of Home Affairs
(2) Ministry of Finance
(3) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
(4) Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs
(5) Ministry of Minority Affairs
54. Which company partnered with 'Craft Silicon' to innovate and accelerate the digital loan repayment solutions?
(1) M-Pesa (2) eWAY (3) BitPay (4) Amazon Pay (5) PayU
55. India tied up with which country for five new medicinal research projects worth 8 million pounds?
(1) UK (2) Russia (3) China (4) Brazil (5) None of these
56. Axis bank has partnered with which company to deploy multi-lingual bot AXAA?
(1) Day One Technologies (2) Sigma Data Systems (3) 7EDGE
(4) Quytech (5) Vernacular.ai
57. Which organization collaborated with Simplilearn to upskill professionals in digital skills?
(1) National Skill Development Corporation
(2) National Skill Enhancement Agency
(3) Industrial training institute
(4) Tata STRIVE Extension Centre
(5) None of these
58. Which is 1st state in India to partner with Google India to provide learning tools for schools?
(1) Punjab (2) Maharashtra (3) Haryana (4) Odisha (5) None of these
59. Flipkart signed MoU with which state government's One District, One Product (ODOP) scheme recently?
(1) Madhya Pradesh (2) Uttar Pradesh (3) Gujarat
(4) Maharashtra (5) None of these
60. Which country signed contract with India for the development of five eco-tourism zones in Addu atoll?
(1) Mali (2) Sri Lanka (3) Bangladesh (4) Maldives (5) None of these
61. Which foundation partnered with USAID to launch the W-GDP women connect challenge across India?
(1) Foundation for Mother and Child Health
(2) Care Foundation
(3) Bill & Melinda Foundation
(4) Reliance Foundation
(5) None of these
62. Which IIT signed MoU with Bureau of India Standards to cooperate in standardization and conformity assessment?
(1) IIT Mandi (2) IIT Roorkee (3) IIT Delhi (4) IIT Ropar (5) None of these
63. L&T Hydrocarbon Engineering signed MoU with which company to build a CO₂ to methanol demonstration plant?
(1) NTPC (2) NHPC (3) IOC (4) NEEPCO (5) None of these

64. Which private sector bank has partnered with Adobe to enhance the Digital Experiences of Customers?
 (1) HDFC (2) ICICI Bank (3) RBL Bank (4) IDBI Bank (5) None of these
65. Which company collaborated with Nepal's Sastodeal to open new market for MSMEs?
 (1) Amazon (2) Flipkart (3) Snapdeal (4) Myntra (5) None of these
66. Who represented India in 5th BRICS Industry ministers meeting held recently?
 (1) Ashwini Kumar Choubey (2) Som Prakash (3) Arjun Ram Meghwal
 (4) Babul Supriyo (5) None of these
67. Which edition of India-Singapore Defence Policy Dialogue (DPD) was held recently?
 (1) 14th (2) 13th (3) 11th (4) 15th (5) None of these
68. The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal to set up the National Recruitment Agency (NRA) recently. The NRA will be registered under which act?
 (1) Companies Act, 2013 (2) Societies Registration Act, 1860 (3) Public Trust Act, 1950
 (4) Credit Societies Act, 1904 (5) None of these
69. The Export-Import bank of India has extended a Line of Credit of USD 250 million to which country?
 (1) Andorra (2) Monaco (3) Mozambique (4) Angola (5) None of these
70. PM Modi launched the Central Sector Scheme (CSS) of financing facility under the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund worth _____ recently.
 (1) 1 Lakh Crore (2) 25,000 Crore (3) 50,000 Crore
 (4) 5 Lakh Crore (5) None of these
71. India extends assistance of USD 1 Million to Antigua and Barbuda for COVID-19 response. What is the capital of Antigua and Barbuda?
 (1) Castries (2) Saint John's (3) Basseterre (4) Port Louis (5) None of these
72. How much was the amount granted by India to Maldives for Greater Male Connectivity Project (GMCP)?
 (1) USD 500 million (2) USD 400 million (3) USD 300 million
 (4) USD 200 million (5) None of these
73. India has granted the 4th tranche of USD 5 million to which country for the development projects in border area?
 (1) Nepal (2) Bangladesh (3) Mauritius (4) Maldives (5) Myanmar
74. What is the projected growth rate of India for 2020-21 as per Reserve Bank of India's annual report 2019-20?
 (1) -2.7% (2) -4.5% (3) -3.5% (4) -5.2% (5) None of these
75. The Business with an annual turnover of up to _____ are exempted from GST.
 (1) Rs.20 lakh (2) Rs.50 lakh (3) Rs.40 lakh (4) Rs.25 lakh (5) None of these
76. The 'mpay.me' is the personalized UPI payment link launched by which company?
 (1) MobiKwik (2) Paytm (3) FreeCharge (4) PhonePe (5) None of these
77. The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) plans to set up its own warehouse in which country?
 (1) Maldives (2) Thailand (3) Vietnam (4) Tibet (5) None of these

78. Infosys Finacle was selected to digitally transform the transaction banking business of national bank of which country?
(1) Saudi Arabia (2) Bahrain (3) Qatar (4) Iran (5) None of these
79. NITI Aayog has selected which company to help it to modernize IT infra for Aspirational Districts programme?
(1) TCS (2) Oracle (3) Wipro (4) Mphasis (5) None of these
80. Reliance Retail Ventures has bought 100% direct ownership of which online pharmacy company recently?
(1) Myramed (2) Comedz (3) Netmeds (4) Swasthyashopee (5) None of these
81. Name the company which launches Kormo Jobs app in India
(1) Google (2) Microsoft (3) Amazon (4) IBM (5) None of these
82. Tata capital limited has launched new service called, 'Swift Insta Personal Loans' on which platform?
(1) Whatsapp (2) Twitter (3) Instagram (4) Facebook (5) None of these
83. Name the company which has launched 'The Anywhere School' initiative to boost online education.
(1) Facebook (2) Microsoft (3) Google (4) Reliance (5) None of these
84. The Dragon Endeavour is the spacecraft of which space company?
(1) AirLaunch (2) SpaceX (3) KinetX (4) Blue Origin (5) None of these
85. Which country has launched remote sensing satellite named "Gaofen-9 05" recently?
(1) North Korea (2) South Korea (3) Japan (4) China (5) None of these
86. Find the IIT which in collaboration with Imperial College London develops nanoparticle 'meta-grid'.
(1) IIT Ropar (2) IIT Jodhpur (3) IIT Guwahati (4) IIT Bombay (5) None of these
87. Which IIT has developed the e-classroom software named 'DEEKSHAK'?
(1) IIT Delhi (2) IIT Kharagpur (3) IIT Patna (4) IIT Ropar (5) None of these
88. The students of which IIT have discovered '2020 QG', the closest known asteroid to fly by Earth?
(1) IIT Delhi (2) IIT Madras (3) IIT Bombay (4) IIT Guwahati (5) None of these
89. Name the country which collaborates with India to develop rapid testing for COVID-19 in less than 30 seconds.
(1) UAE (2) Israel (3) Kuwait (4) Egypt (5) None of these
90. Which is the 1st country in the world to officially register a COVID-19 vaccine named 'Sputnik V'?
(1) China (2) Russia (3) United States (4) Germany (5) None of these
91. Which continent was declared wild polio free by World Health organization in August 2020?
(1) Australia (2) South America (3) Asia (4) Africa (5) None of these
92. Which PSU has achieved 100 Billion Units (BU) of cumulative power generation recently?
(1) NTPC (2) NHPC (3) IOC (4) NEEPCO (5) None of these

93. Name the country which discovered the large natural gas reserve off Black Sea.
(1) Ukraine (2) Russia (3) Turkey (4) Georgia (5) Bulgaria
94. Which animal was brought under exchange programme from South Africa that arrives at Mysuru zoo recently?
(1) African Rat (2) African Elephant (3) African Cheetah
(4) African Tiger (5) None of these
95. The Lok Sabha has started a beginner-level course in which language recently?
(1) Mandarin (2) French (3) German (4) Korean (5) None of these
96. Pawan Hans Limited (PHL) launched helicopter service in which state recently under UDAN scheme?
(1) Maharashtra (2) Madhya Pradesh (3) Haryana
(4) Odisha (5) Uttarakhand
97. Northern railway's 1st Vyapar Mala Express train ran from Delhi to which state?
(1) Gujarat (2) Haryana (3) Chhattisgarh (4) Assam (5) Tripura
98. The doubling of Lachyan-Hotgi section was completed by South Western Railway recently. The bridge was built over which river?
(1) Krishna (2) Bhima (3) Kaveri (4) Kabini (5) None of these
99. The Katra to Delhi express road corridor is expected to be completed by which year?
(1) 2021 (2) 2024 (3) 2023 (4) 2022 (5) None of these
100. According to Road Transport and Highways minister Nitin Gadkari, India aims to achieve zero road fatalities by which year?
(1) 2022 (2) 2025 (3) 2030 (4) 2027 (5) None of these
101. The Manduadih railway station is renamed as 'Banaras railway station'. Manduadih railway station located in which state?
(1) Madhya Pradesh (2) Gujarat (3) Maharashtra
(4) Uttar Pradesh (5) None of these
102. Name the mobile app which was developed by National Highways Authority of India to monitor highway plantation.
(1) Gora Path (2) Vishwa Path (3) Nova Path (4) Harit Path (5) None of these
103. Which railway station has introduced baggage sanitization and wrapping machine recently?
(1) Mangalore Railway station (2) Kanpur Railway station
(3) Ahmedabad Railway station (4) Chennai Railway station (5) None of these
104. The Indian Railways set to meet its energy consumption of over 33 billion units by which year?
(1) 2030 (2) 2035 (3) 2025 (4) 2023 (5) None of these
105. Name the organization which organized the 1st of its kind online patriotic film festival recently?
(1) Indian Film Production Corporation
(2) National Film Development Corporation
(3) National Corporation for Film
(4) National Film Production Corporation
(5) None of these

106. "Thumbimahotsavam 2020" is the 1st ever dragonfly festival of which state?
(1) West Bengal (2) Odisha (3) Andhra (4) Kerala (5) None of these
107. Hamed Bakayoko has been appointed as the Prime Minister of which country?
(1) Ivory Coast (2) Mali (3) Ghana (4) Burkina Faso (5) None of these
108. Mohamed Irfaan Ali has become the president of which country?
(1) Suriname (2) Guyana (3) Brazil (4) Venezuela (5) None of these
109. Who has been appointed as the MD&CEO of HDFC Bank with effect from October 27, 2020?
(1) Deepak S Parekh (2) Keki M Mistry (3) Sumit Bose
(4) Ranjan Mathai (5) Sashidhar Jagdishan
110. Alexander Grigoryevich Lukashenko has won his sixth consecutive presidential term of Belarus recently. What is the capital of Belarus?
(1) Riga (2) Vilnius (3) Minsk (4) Kyiv (5) None of these
111. Who has become the 1st ever national brand ambassador of Aligarh Municipal Corporation?
(1) Shahzan Mujeeb (2) Sunny Hindustani (3) Rohit Raut
(4) Adriz Ghosh (5) None of these
112. Who has been appointed as the prime minister of Trinidad and Tobago in August 2020?
(1) Keith Rowley (2) Eric Williams (3) George Chambers
(4) Basdeo Panday (5) None of these
113. Who has been appointed as the new Election Commissioner of India with effect from August 31, 2020?
(1) Amitabh Kant (2) Ajit Doval (3) Rajiv Kumar
(4) Ajay Tyagi (5) None of these
114. Name the person who has been appointed as the Managing Director of State Bank of India.
(1) PK Gupta (2) BP Sharma (3) Ashwani Bhatia (4) Arijit Basu (5) None of these
115. Footballer Benedikt Howedes who announced retirement recently belongs to which country?
(1) Portugal (2) Argentina (3) Croatia (4) Russia (5) Germany
116. Shinzo Abe the prime minister of which country has resigned from the post in August 2020?
(1) South Korea (2) Japan (3) China (4) Thailand (5) None of these
117. SA. Kandasamy who passed away recently is a renowned _____.
(1) Politician (2) Writer (3) Painter (4) Architect (5) None of these
118. Nandi Yellaiah who passed away in August 2020 is a renowned _____.
(1) Athlete (2) Actor (3) Politician (4) Singer (5) None of these
119. Pascal Lissouba who passed away in August 2020 is the former president of which country?
(1) Burundi (2) Rwanda (3) Congo (4) Ethiopia (5) None of these
120. Which state government has received SKOCH Gold Award for its Blockchain-based property registration project?
(1) Gujarat (2) Andhra (3) Telangana (4) Punjab (5) None of these
121. Which state government has got SKOCH Platinum award in digital India category in 66th edition?
(1) Karnataka (2) Chhattisgarh (3) Telangana (4) Arunachal Pradesh (5) West Bengal

122. Name the person who received the Karmaveer Chakra of United Nations & iCONGO at ReXConcLIVE.
 (1) Komal S (2) Jadav Payeng (3) Sunil Ydv SS (4) Arsh Shah Dilbagi (5) None of these
123. The Moira bananas, HarmalChillies&Khaje of which state has got GI tag recently?
 (1) Gujarat (2) Karnataka (3) Goa (4) Maharashtra (5) None of these
124. Who among the following was not conferred with Rajiv Gandhi Khel ratna award in national sports awards 2020?
 (1) Rohit Sharma (2) MariyappanThangavelu (3) Manika Batra
 (4) Shashi Malik (5) None of these
125. Name the 1st Indian origin woman who has been honoured with memorial Blue Plaque?
 (1) Noor Inayat Khan (2) ZairaWasim (3) UsaybahBint
 (4) Arwa al-Sulayhi (5) None of these
126. Who is the 1stdivyang sportsperson of the country to get prestigious Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award?
 (1) DevendraJhahjaria (2) MariyappanThangavelu
 (3) Satyendra Singh Lohia (4) Deepa Malik (5) None of these
127. Pacer Qazi Onik who is in news recently belongs to which country?
 (1) Pakistan (2) UAE (3) Bangladesh (4) Oman (5) None of these
128. T20 WC 2022 will be hosted by Australia. Which country is going to host the ICC Men's T20 World cup 2021?
 (1) Bangladesh (2) Sri Lanka (3) New Zealand (4) India (5) None of these
129. The Punjab Cricket Association decided to name its new stadium in the memory of whom?
 (1) Maharaja Ranjit Singh (2) Maharaja Kharak Singh
 (3) Maharaja Yadavindra Singh (4) Maharaja Nau Nihal Singh (5) None of these
130. Which state/UT ranked top in terms of performance in Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)-II as per union minister Jitendra Singh?
 (1) Himachal Pradesh (2) Tamil Nadu (3) Sikkim
 (4) Jammu & Kashmir (5) None of these
131. Which is the most valuable brand in the world as per Future Brand Index 2020?
 (1) Microsoft (2) Google (3) Apple (4) Tencent (5) None of these
132. How many states/UTs have joined One Nation One Ration Card scheme as on August 1, 2020?
 (1) 23 (2) 22 (3) 20 (4) 21 (5) 24
133. How many states/UTs have joined Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN)?
 (1) 30 (2) 32 (3) 31 (4) 29 (5) None of these
134. The foundation stone of Indian Institute of Management Sirmaur was laid at which state?
 (1) Uttar Pradesh (2) Andhra Pradesh (3) Madhya Pradesh
 (4) Arunachal Pradesh (5) Himachal Pradesh
135. Which language was dropped from list of examples of foreign languages in National Education Policy?
 (1) Spanish (2) English (3) Korean (4) Mandarin (5) None of these

136. The Ram temple in Ayodhya will be constructed in which architecture style?
(1) Dravidian Style (2) Mughal Style (3) Nagara Style
(4) Vesara Style (5) None of these
137. Which edition of anniversary of Quit India movement was observed on August 8, 2020?
(1) 74th (2) 49th (3) 78th (4) 89th (5) None of these
138. Central government has abolished Cotton Advisory Board recently. Who is the present textile minister of India?
(1) Prakash Javadekar (2) Pralhad Joshi (3) Nitin Gadkari
(4) Smriti Irani (5) None of these
139. 'Mukti Caravan' is the campaign of which foundation?
(1) Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation
(2) Smile Foundation
(3) Save The Child Foundation
(4) Snehalaya Foundation
(5) None of these
140. How many Indian villages will be connected with optical fibre in next 1000 days (approx)?
(1) 2 Lakh (2) 6 Lakh (3) 3 Lakh (4) 5 Lakh (5) None of these
141. Which ministry has launched 'Nasha-Mukt Bharat' campaign?
(1) Ministry of Home Affairs
(2) Ministry of Health and Family Affairs
(3) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
(4) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
(5) None of these
142. Name the e-newsletter on health and nutrition which was released by Tribal Affairs ministry.
(1) SURAKSH (2) PRAKRIT (3) SWASTH
(4) ALEKH (5) None of these
143. How many percentages of Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) accounts are operative?
(1) 75.5% (2) 86.3% (3) 25.4% (4) 94.3% (5) None of these
144. Which state is going to launch India's 1st International Women's trade centre?
(1) Andhra Pradesh (2) Karnataka (3) Kerala
(4) Madhya Pradesh (5) None of these
145. Which country planned to issue coin in honour of Mahatma Gandhi to mark 150th birth anniversary?
(1) Spain (2) UK (3) Germany (4) South Africa (5) None of these
146. Who authored the book titled 'Greenlights'?
(1) Andrew Sean Greer (2) Katharine Hepburn
(3) Matthew McConaughey (4) Bong Joon-ho (5) None of these
147. Who authored the book titled "A Bend in Time: Writings by Children on the Covid-19 pandemic"?
(1) Kritika Pandey (2) Bijal Vachharajani (3) Avni Doshi
(4) Rudyard Kipling (5) None of these

148. Who authored the book named 'Grandparents' Bag of Stories'?
- (1) SudhaMurty (2) Anita Desai (3) Kamila Shamsie
(4) Kiran Desai (5) None of these
149. Name the person who authored the book titled, 'One Arranged Murder'.
- (1) Arundhati Roy (2) ChetanBhagat (3) Amitav Ghosh
(4) Vikram Seth (5) None of these
150. Who launched the book named "Gastric Cancer" edited by Dr Ashok K. Vaid?
- (1) Jitendra Singh (2) Nitin Gadkari (3) Prahlad Singh Patel
(4) Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi (5) None of these

ANSWERS:

1-3, 2-1, 3-3, 4-1, 5-5, 6-2, 7-3, 8-3, 9-1, 10-3, 11-1, 12-2, 13-5, 14-3, 15-4, 16-2, 17-4, 18-1, 19-3, 20-3, 21-3, 22-1, 23-3, 24-5, 25-1, 26-1, 27-4, 28-2, 29-4, 30-4, 31-1, 32-4, 33-1, 34-5, 35-5, 36-2, 37-5, 38-3, 39-5, 40-2, 41-3, 42-4, 43-2, 44-4, 45-4, 46-3, 47-2, 48-4, 49-3, 50-1, 51-5, 52-1, 53-5, 54-5, 55-1, 56-5, 57-1, 58-2, 59-2, 60-4, 61-4, 62-2, 63-1, 64-1, 65-2, 66-2, 67-1, 68-2, 69-3, 70-1, 71-2, 72-1, 73-5, 74-2, 75-3, 76-1, 77-3, 78-2, 79-2, 80-3, 81-1, 82-1, 83-3, 84-2, 85-4, 86-3, 87-2, 88-3, 89-2, 90-2, 91-4, 92-1, 93-3, 94-3, 95-2, 96-5, 97-5, 98-2, 99-3, 100-3, 101-4, 102-4, 103-3, 104-1, 105-2, 106-4, 107-1, 108-2, 109-5, 110-3, 111-1, 112-1, 113-3, 114-3, 115-5, 116-2, 117-2, 118-3, 119-3, 120-3, 121-5, 122-3, 123-3, 124-4, 125-1, 126-3, 127-3, 128-4, 129-3, 130-1, 131-3, 132-5, 133-2, 134-5, 135-4, 136-3, 137-3, 138-4, 139-1, 140-2, 141-3, 142-4, 143-2, 144-3, 145-2, 146-3, 147-2, 148-1, 149-2, 150-1.

