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LEGEND MAGAZINE

AUGUST – 2020

**(CURRENT AFFAIRS AND QUIZ,
BANKING & ENG VOCABULARY)**

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NATIONAL NEWS:

Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan attends Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Health Ministers' meeting:

Union Health Minister **Dr. Harsh Vardhan** attended the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)** Health Ministers' meeting and highlighted India's efforts to combat the impact of COVID-19 pandemic.

Arjun Munda inaugurates e-Symposium "Emergent North-East India: Strategic and Developmental Imperatives in Handicrafts":

Union Minister for Tribal Affairs **Arjun Munda** has inaugurated an e-Symposium on Handicrafts titled "**Emergent North-East India: Strategic and Developmental Imperatives in Handicrafts**" organized by Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Centre for Policy Research and Analysis, **IIM Shillong**.

Haryana to host the 4th edition of Khelo India Youth Games in 2021:

Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports **Kiren Rijiju** and Haryana Chief Minister **Manohar Lal Khattar** announced Haryana as the host state for the fourth edition of **Khelo India Youth Games (KIYG)**, which is currently scheduled to take place after Tokyo Olympics. The Games will be held at **Panchkula** in Haryana.

Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar releases the Financial Management Index for Rural Development:

Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Minister **Narendra Singh Tomar** released a "**Financial Management Index for Rural Development Programmes**" to rank the performance of the States. It would promote the spirit of competitive, cooperative federalism amongst States.

India Set To Propose World Solar Bank & Mobilize \$50 Billion In Solar Funding:

MNRE is likely to propose to the govt. to set up a **World Solar Bank**. It may propose that the World Solar Bank disburse **\$50 billion** over the first ten years. The bank will require \$10 billion in equity capital and \$2 billion in paid-up capital.

Consumer Affairs Minister Ram Vilas Paswan launches Bureau of Indian Standard's Mobile App BIS-Care:

Consumer Affairs Minister **Ram Vilas Paswan** launched the Bureau of Indian Standard's Mobile App **BIS-Care**. He also launched three portals on Standardization, Conformity Assessment and Training of e-BIS. Customers can also **lodge complaints** using this App.

Road in Lucknow named after former MP Governor Lalji Tandon:

Lucknow Municipal Corporation, Uttar Pradesh(UP) , has named a road **Lucknow-Hardoi** as **Tandon Marg** and a crossing Chauk Chauraha as **Lalji Tandon Chauraha** after former Madhya Pradesh(MP) Governor Lalji Tandon.

Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal, launched a free website portal named '**Rozgaar Bazaar**' for job seekers, employers:

Delhi chief minister **Arvind Kejriwal** launched a free website <http://jobs.delhi.gov.in> named '**Rozgaar Bazaar 2020**' via video conference. The portal connects the job seekers and the recruiters on one platform.

These measures are finalized by a 12-member committee headed by the vice chairman of Dialogue and **Development Commission of Delhi (DDC)** , **Jasmine Shah**.

Indian Railways to cover all wagons under RFID for tracking by 2022:

Indian Railways said that it will use **Radio-Frequency Identification Tags (RFID)** for tracking of all wagons by 2022. "A total of 23,000 wagons have been covered under the RFID project so far and the target is to cover all wagons by **December 2022**".

Deadline For Mandatory Hallmarking Of Gold Jewellery Extended Till June 1 2021:

Government has extended the deadline for mandatory hallmarking of **gold jewellery** and artefacts by over four months till **June 1, 2021**, Gold hallmarking is a purity certification of the precious metal and is voluntary in nature at present.

Ministry of Earth Sciences announces the National Awards for excellence in Earth System Science:

Ministry of Earth Sciences has announced the National Awards for excellence in Earth System Science. The Ministry has awarded the Lifetime Excellence Award 2020 to **Professor Ashok Sahni** for his major contribution in the field of **Biostratigraphy, Geology** and **Vertebrate Paleontology**.

Cabinet Approves New National Education Policy, HRD Ministry Renamed As Education Ministry:

A panel led by former **Indian Space Research Organisation** chief **K Kasturirangan** had submitted the draft of the new NEP to Union Human Resource Development Minister **Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'**. The existing NEP was framed in 1986 and revised in 1992.

First five Rafale jets land at Ambala air force station; India welcomes the 'Golden Arrows':

The first batch of **five Rafale jets** landed in **Ambala**. It was a historic moment as they were greeted with water cannon salute at **Ambala Air Force base**. Rafale jets were escorted by two **Sukhoi 30 MKI** supersonic fighters as they entered Indian airspace.

Union HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' launches India Report- Digital Education June 2020:

Union Minister for HRD **Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'** virtually launched **India Report on Digital Education, 2020**. Shri Pokhriyal said that the report elaborates on the innovative methods adopted by Ministry of HRD, Education Departments of States and Union Territories for ensuring accessible and inclusive education to children at home and reducing learning gaps.

Chhattisgarh's Bijapur Tops Niti Aayog's Aspirational Districts Ranking for Feb-June 2020:

Bijapur district in Chhattisgarh has topped the list of aspirational districts ranked by government think-tank **Niti Aayog** for the February-June 2020 period.

Ri-Bhoi (Meghalaya) and **Bahraich** (Uttar Pradesh) have been placed at the second and

third positions respectively and **Nawada** (Bihar) has been ranked fourth and **Moga** (Punjab) is at the fifth place.

Ayush Minister launches dedicated Web-Portal for National AYUSH Mission:

Ayush Minister **Shripad Yesso Naik** reviewed the centrally- sponsored scheme of National Ayush Mission and operationalization of **AYUSH Health and Wellness Centers** during a webinar of Health and Ayush Ministers of all states.

Namami Gange project included in 'Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration':

Namami Gange project has been included in the prestigious **'Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration'**.

National Mission for Clean Ganga, NMCG, **DG Rajiv Ranjan Mishra** instructed District Magistrates and other officials associated with the District Ganga Committees to submit their nominations for this year's prestigious award.

Agartala ranks no. 1 among 10 smart cities of Northeast India:

Tripura's capital city **Agartala** has been ranked first amongst the ten smart cities in the **North Eastern Region** after it scaled up from **76 to 54** in the national rankings of the 100 smart cities of India.

The rankings of other northeastern cities are as follows: Namchi, Sikkim (59) , Aizawal, Mizoram (75) , Kohima, Nagaland (79) , Gangtok, Sikkim (80) , Guwahati, Assam (83) , Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh (89) , Shillong, Meghalaya (92) , Imphal, Manipur (93) , and Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh (98) .

Telangana launches iMASQ mobile covid-19 testing centers:

Telangana government rolled out mobile covid-19 testing centers in containment zones and low-income group residential areas across the state. Buses are built with '**Intelligent Monitoring Analysis Services Quarantine**'(iMASQ) technology by Vera Smart Healthcare.

Piyush Goyal Inaugurates CII National Digital Conference on "Easing Doing Business for Atmanirbhar Bharat":

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry **Piyush Goyal** has inaugurated the National Digital Conference on "**Easing Doing Business for Atmanirbhar Bharat**" organized by the **Confederation of Indian Industry** (CII) with the **Department for Promotion of Investment and Internal Trade** (DPIIT) to improve the business environment of India.

Kerala plans to provide tap connections to all rural households by 2023:

Kerala government has planned to provide **tap connections** to every rural household by **2023**. Out of total 67.15 lakh rural households, the state is making efforts to achieve the target of 21.42 lakh FHTCs in **2020-21**.

Sanjay Dhotre inaugurates BSNL's Bharat Air Fiber High-speed Broadband Service at Akola in Maharashtra:

Union Minister of State for HRD, Electronics, Communication, and IT **Sanjay Dhotre** inaugurated "**Bharat Air Fiber Services**" at Akola in **Maharashtra**. With the launch of Wireless Bharat Air Fibre, more connections will be provided on demand in a very quick time.

Nitin Gadkari inaugurates upstream carriageway of Mahatma Gandhi bridge in Bihar:

Union Minister for Road Transport, Highways and MSMEs **Shri Nitin Gadkari** inaugurated the upstream carriageway of **Mahatma Gandhi bridge** over **river Ganga** through video conference in **Bihar**. This over 5.5 km four-lane bridge lies at NH-19 between **Patna** and **Hajipur**. It is being constructed at a cost of **Rs 1742 crore**.

Odisha CM Launches Online Portal To Issue Fire Safety Certificates:

Chief Minister **Naveen Patnaik** launched the Odisha **Agni-Shama Seva** online portal for issuance of fire safety certificates to different categories of buildings through online mode. As many as eight services would be available to the public through online mode. He asked the Fire Service Department to include all other services by October 2 this year.

Rajasthan solar sector shines bright amidst gloom, adds max capacity in India:

According to a recent survey of states by **JMK Research and Analytics**, **Rajasthan** has added maximum capacity of **1,745 megawatt** solar plants in the country in 2019-20, followed by **Karnataka** (1,443 MW) and **Tamil Nadu** (1,342 MW). The pipeline of projects also remains robust at 23,176 MW.

Madhya Pradesh to begin 'Ek Mask-Anek Zindagi' public awareness campaign:

A public awareness campaign called '**Ek Mask-Anek Zindagi**' means one mask-many lives will be conducted till August 15 in many districts of **Madhya Pradesh**.

Union Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan launches 'Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan 2020-21':

Health Minister **Dr Harsh Vardhan** launched **Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan 2020-21** which is a national programme for popularizing

science among students of Class 6th to 11th. It was designed to identify bright minds with a scientific attitude among the students.

Northern Railway runs first-ever Vyapar Mala Express train:

Northern Railway ran first-ever **Vyapar Mala Express** train to help small traders in moving their cargo via Railways in a short time, cost-effective, convenient & environment-friendly mode of transportation. Railways earned more than ₹ **94 Lakhs** from this. It will cover a distance of 2,673 km from Punjab to Tripura.

Central Railway designs robot 'Rakshak' for health assistant:

Mumbai Division of **Central Railway (CR)** has designed a health assistant robot '**Rakshak**' who can remotely communicate between doctor and patient.

This medical aid robot was developed in-house at EMU car shed, Kurla in the Mumbai section of the Central Railway and handed over to Bharat Ratna Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Memorial Hospital, **Byculla, Mumbai**.

Amit Shah inaugurates international webinar on 'Lokmanya Tilak - Swaraj to Self-reliant India' organized by ICCR:

Home Minister **Amit Shah** inaugurated 2-day international webinar on the theme '**Lokmanya Tilak - Swaraj to Self-reliant**

India' organized by **Indian Council for Cultural Relations** on 100th death anniversary of the freedom fighter Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak.

Tilak gave slogan "**Swaraj is my birthright and I shall have it**".

Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri launches ARHCs Knowledge Pack and Launches mobile app of CREDAI:

Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) , **Hardeep Singh Puri** released the Affordable Rental Housing Complexes Pack through Video Conferencing on July 31, 2020. Union Cabinet approved ARHC as a sub scheme under Pradhan **Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban)** as part of **Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan**. The scheme is estimated to benefit 3.5 Lakh people.

Defence Ministry formulates draft Defence Production & Export Promotion Policy 2020:

DPEPP-2020 is envisaged as overarching guiding document of **Defence Ministry** to provide a focused, structured and significant thrust to defence production capabilities of the country for **self-reliance** and **exports**. The DPEPP 2020 will make the defence sector more '**Atmanirbhar**'.

Andhra Pradesh government ties up with ITC, HUL and P&G for women's economic empowerment:

Andhra Pradesh government signed a pact with three **FMCG companies Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL)** , ITC and **Procter and Gamble (P&G)** for marketing and technology support for economic empowerment of women under two new schemes to be launch.

Andhra Pradesh CM Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy launched cybercrime awareness programme 'E-Raksha Bandhan':

Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, **Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy** launched a one-month long virtual cybercrime awareness programme '**E-Raksha Bandhan**' in **Amaravati**. The Aim of the Programme is to create awareness among women, youth and children on Cyber Crimes across the state.

Ministry of Tourism holds its 44th webinar on "Heritage Tourism in Gujarat" under Dekho Apna Desh series:

The state encompasses some sites of the ancient **Indus Valley Civilisation**, such as **Lothal, Dholavira** and **GolaDhoro**. Lothal is believed to be one of the world's first seaports. Gujarat's coastal cities, chiefly Bharuch and Khambhat, served as ports.

Rajiv Gandhi International Airport receives UNICEF-funded mass fever screening system:

To enhance the efficacy of the screening process at **Rajiv Gandhi International Airport**, the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, in coordination with **Asian Development Bank**, has provided a state-of-the-art Thermal Scanner - a Mass Fever Screening System, funded by **UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)**.

Union Tourism Minister Prahlaad Singh Patel virtually inaugurates Mizoram's first golf resort:

Union Tourism Minister **Prahlaad Singh Patel** virtually inaugurated Mizoram's first golf course and resort at Thenzawl in Serchhip district, about 90 km from **Aizawl**.

The Project was sanctioned under the Integrated Development of New Eco Tourism under **Swadesh Darshan**- North East Circuit at Thenzawl & South Zote, District Serchhip and Reiek, Mizoram with a sanctioned amount of **Rs.92.25 Crores**.

Defence Ministry signs MoU with IIT-Kanpur, DARPG for AI-based public grievance redressal:

Defence Ministry said it signed a tripartite MOU with the Indian **Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur** and the

Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) to develop artificial intelligence and machine learning techniques to conduct predictive analysis of public grievances.

Unique COVID prevention kiosk "UV Baggage Bath" inaugurated at Bengaluru railway station:

A unique kiosk named **"UV Baggage Bath"** was inaugurated at the **Bangalore railway station**, South Western Railway, by the Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Bengaluru Division, AN Krishna Reddy and Additional Divisional Railway Manager (Admin), Bengaluru Division, Kalyani Sethuraman.

Uttar Pradesh government to set up MSME industrial parks:

Uttar Pradesh government will set up industrial parks for **Micro, Small And Medium Enterprises (MSME)** in six of its most industrialized districts, including Varanasi and Kanpur, and has invited proposals from consultants for it.

The state government has also started work on a detailed project report (DPR) for the proposed **601km-long Ganga Expressway** between **Meerut** and **Prayagraj**.

Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju chairs 1st General Council meeting of Khelo India Scheme:

Kiren Rijiju urged the states to organize State-level **Khelo India Games** annually with an effort to identify a larger number of grassroots-level & spoke of the **5 zonal** talent scouting committees that are being planned for **East, West, North, South & North East India**.

Andhra Government Inks MoU With Indian School of Business To Drive Economic Growth:

Andhra Pradesh Government virtually signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) through the **Economic Development Board**, with the Hyderabad-based **Indian School of Business (ISB)** in order to work with various economic departments in the state.

The MoU was signed by Chief Executive (CEO) of Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board, **J V N Subramanyam** and ISB Dean **Rajendra Srivastava**.

Haryana Minister Anil Vij Launches "Works Management System" Web Portal to its ULBs:

Haryana's Urban local bodies and Home Minister **Anil Vij** launched the first of its kind **"Works Management System"** a web-

based, paperless and centralized web portal for the management and monitoring of the development works in the **Urban Local Bodies(ULB)** in **Haryana**.

Indira Rasoi Yojana to start in Rajasthan from August 20:

Chief Minister **Ashok Gehlot** directed officials to start the **Indira Rasoi Yojana** in urban areas of Rajasthan from August 20. The scheme, named after former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

The state government would spend Rs **100 crore** per year on it. The poor would get quality nutritious food for just **Rs 8**.

Uttarakhand to develop India's first snow leopard conservation centre in Uttarkashi district:

Uttarakhand is all set to develop **India's first Snow Leopard** Conservation Centre near **Bhaironghati bridge** in **Uttarkashi district**. Uttarakhand CM **Trivendra Singh Rawat**, along with state forest minister and officials had a meeting regarding the conservation centre.

According to the officials, the centre will be developed by the Uttarakhand forest department along with **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**.

CDSL gets UIDAI nod for e-KYC Aadhaar authentication:

Central Depository Services Ltd has received clearance from **UIDAI** to carry out e-KYC authentication using Aadhaar & act as a local Authentication User Agency or e-KYC User Agency. Once registered as KUA, they can open accounts using **Aadhaar-based e-KYC**.

India's first 'Kisan Rail' flagged off from Devlali Railway Station of Maharashtra:

Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare **Narendra Singh Tomar** flagged off the country's first '**Kisan Rail**' train from **Deolali** in **Nashik** to **Danapur** in **Bihar**, through video-conferencing.

This is the 1st ever multi commodity train of **Indian Railways** that carries fruits like Pomegranate, Banana, Grapes etc and vegetables like Capsicum, Cauliflower etc.,

PM Modi releases sixth installment of Rs 17,100 crore under PM-KISAN scheme:

Under the 6th instalment of PM-Kisan scheme, **₹17,000 crore** of **PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi** has been deposited into bank accounts of 8.5 crore farmers with a single click. Under **PM-KISAN scheme**, the government is providing annually **₹6,000** in 3 equal instalments. PM-KISAN scheme was launched on **1st December 2018**.

PM Modi inaugurates Rashtriya Swachhata Kendra in Delhi's Raj Ghat:

PM Modi inaugurated the **Rashtriya Swachhata Kendra**, an interactive experience centre on **Swachh Bharat Mission** & "**Gandagi Mukht Bharat**" (dirt-free India) campaign on the occasion of centenary celebrations of Gandhiji's Champaran Satyagraha, at Raj Ghat.

Union Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal "Nishank" to Inaugurate the Global Virtual Conference on Reimagining and Transforming the University:

OP Jindal Global University (JGU) and **International Institute for Higher Education Research and Capacity Building (IIHED)** present to the world a truly global conference on '**Reimagining and Transforming the University**.'

KVIC set to open first Silk Training cum Production Center in Arunachal Pradesh:

Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is set to open the first-of-its-kind training-cum-production centre of **silk** in a far-flung tribal village of **Chullyu** in **Arunachal Pradesh** in the first week of September. It is a first of its kind in the state.

Delhi Airport Develops Online Portal 'Air Suvidha' For International Passengers:

Delhi International Airport Limited has developed an online portal '**Air Suvidha**' will allow international passengers to fill a

mandatory **self-declaration form**. Eligible passengers can apply for exemption from compulsory institutional quarantine for corona virus.

Railway Museum Inaugurated In Hubballi, Karnataka:

Railways Minister **Piyush Goyal** & Coal Minister **Pralhad Joshi** dedicated **Railway Museum** at **Hubballi** in **North Karnataka**. This Rail Museum is first of its kind in North Karnataka and second in **South Western Railway** after historic Mysuru Rail Museum at **Mysuru**.

Meghalaya Cabinet approves 50 percent reservation for women in Village Employment Councils:

Meghalaya approved Policy on Reservation of seats for Women in **Village Employment Councils (VECs)** . It brought policy of reserving at least **50%** seats for women in grassroots VECs which are apolitical organizations formed for implementation of **MGNREGA** works.

PM Modi to launch submarine cable connectivity for Andaman & Nicobar:

Prime Minister **Modi** inaugurates the submarine **Optical Fibre Cable (OFC)** connecting between **Chennai and Port Blair**. The submarine cable will also connect Port Blair to Swaraj Dweep (Havelock) , Little

Andaman, Car Nicobar, Kamorta, Great Nicobar, Long Island, and Rangat.

Union Minister of Textiles Smriti Irani launches Mobile App and backend Website for Handloom Mark Scheme:

Union Textile Minister **Smriti Irani** launched mobile app & backend website for **Handloom Mark Scheme (HLM)** . She also inaugurated the 'My Handloom' portal for individual weavers and organizations for applying for various benefits, handloom marketing assistance & awards.

Andhra Pradesh Signed an MoU with The Boston Group to Setup Centre at Visakhapatnam:

Andhra government signed an MoU with **Boston Group** to set up a facility devoted to research and development in IT sector with focus on learning platforms and leveraging advanced technologies like **artificial intelligence, machine learning and cybersecurity**.

Chhattisgarh's Jagdalpur becomes country's first municipal corporation to provide forestland right certificates to people of urban area:

Chhattisgarh's **Jagdalpur** became the **First Municipal Corporation** in India where people of an **urban area** have been provided **forest land right certificates**. Jagdalpur is

among the few municipal corporations, jurisdiction areas of which includes forestlands.

Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel Launches Indira Van Mitan Yojana:

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister **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.

IIT Delhi and Bihar Pollution Control Board signs MoA for GIS based Air Quality Management:

IT Delhi and **Bihar Pollution Control Board(BPCB)** have joined hands in introducing GIS(Geographical Information System) based platform aiming at the management of air quality across the state of Bihar.

A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was signed between **IIT Delhi** and BPCB which emphasizes on identifying the sources of **PM 2.5** at a very high resolution to help **BPCB** to take measures accordingly.

Haryana CM launches anti-bullying campaign of Faridabad Police:

Haryana chief minister **Manohar Lal Khattar** launched the **anti-bullying**

campaign by unveiling Instagram, Facebook and Twitter page of **Faridabad Police** to flag the problem of bullying in home, neighbourhood, schools, colleges and workplace and implement targeted programs to counter the menace.

Finance Minister launches an Online Dashboard for the National Infrastructure Pipeline:

Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs **Ms Nirmala Sitharaman** inaugurated the **National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP)** Online Dashboard here today through video conferencing. It will be a one-stop solution for all stakeholders looking for information on infrastructure projects in India. It is being hosted on the **India Investment Grid**.

Union Minister Prakash Javadekar launches “SURAKHSYA” portal on Human Elephant Conflict on World Elephant Day:

Minister for Environment and Forest **Prakash Javadekar** released a document on Best Practices and launched a portal on Human-Elephant Conflict named **SURAKHSYA** for World Elephant Day 2020. The world Elephant Day is observed on 12th August every year.

Assam council of ministers approves “Assam Non-Government Education

Institutions (Regulation of Fees) Rules 2020":

Assam council of ministers approved the **Assam Non-Government Education Institutions (Regulation of Fees) Rules 2020**.

This would regulate the fees structure of the private educational institutes. The council of ministers meeting also approved the **Assam Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) scheme 2020**.

Gujarat Government Launches New Scheme "Mukhya Mantri Kisan Sahay Yojana" to Compensate Farmers For Crop Loss:

Gujarat government launched a scheme '**Mukhya Mantri Kisan Sahay Yojana**' under which farmers facing crop losses due to drought, excess rain or rain to get compensation without the collection of any premium from them. It replaces **PM Fasal Bima Yojana**.

Union Education Minister launches Minimum Standards of Architectural Education Regulations, 2020:

Union Education Minister launched the "**Minimum Standards of Architectural Education Regulations, 2020**". It has been prepared by the experts of the **Council of Architecture (CoA)** to address major

concerns in the human habitat and built environment in India.

Union Minister of MSME addressed India@75 Summit- Mission 2022:

Union Minister of MSME **Nitin Gadkari** addressed the **India@75 Summit – Mission 2022**, which was organised by the **Confederation of Indian Industries (CII)**. He stressed the need for looking beyond metros and urged industries to develop **tribal areas**.

PFC signs agreement to construct Modular Operation Theatres at District Hospital Uttar Pradesh:

Government-owned **Power Finance Corporation Ltd (PFC)**, India's leading NBFC signed a MoA with District Administration of **Siddharthnagar** in **Uttar Pradesh** for construction of two Modular Operation Theatre Rooms in the District Hospital, Siddharthnagar.

Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launches ICAR's data recovery centre 'Krishi Megh':

Agriculture Minister **Narendra Singh Tomar** launched **ICAR's** data recovery centre - **Krishi Megh**. It is aimed at protecting the data of Indian Council of Agricultural Research. It has been set up at **National**

Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM) in Hyderabad.

Tribal Affairs Ministry develops nine 'Tribal Freedom Fighters Museums:

Tribal Affairs Ministry is developing "Tribal Freedom Fighters Museums" dedicated to the contributions of the tribal people in India to the freedom struggle. Out of the nine, two are under near completion. All museums set to come into existence by **2022**.

Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat launches Swachh Bharat Mission Academy:

Union Minister for Jal Shakti **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** launched the **Swachh Bharat Mission(SBM) Academy**, an **Interactive Voice Response (IVR)** based free mobile online training course with modules on the **Open Defecation Free (ODF)** Plus programme at an event in New Delhi.

The SBM academy was launched during the current week-long behaviour change campaign '**GandagiMukt Bharat**'.

Assam government to roll out Arunodoi scheme to provide financial assistance from October 2:

Assam government is all set to roll out **Arunodoi Scheme** from October 2, 2020, with an aim to provide financial assistance to around 17 lakh families in the state.

As per the Finance Minister, **Himanta Biswa Sarma**, under the scheme an amount of **Rs. 830 per month** will be given to the eligible **17 lakh families** to buy the essential items of food.

Goa signs MoU with NSDC for setting up World-Class Skill Development Institute:

Goa government signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the **National Skill Development Corporation** (NSDC) for setting up an institute to provide advanced skills training.

Union Minister for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship **Mahendra Nath Pandey** and Goa Skill Development Minister **Vishwajit Rane** were present for the ceremony to sign the MoU, which was executed online.

Himachal Pradesh CM Jai Ram Thakur launches nutritional immunity boosting Him Haldi Dudh:

Chief Minister **Jai Ram Thakur** launched Nutritional Immunity Boosting '**Him Haldi Dudh(Turmeric Latte)** ' manufactured by MILKFED and also distributed incentive to the **Milk Producers** of Mandi, Shimla and Kullu district under the **National Programme for Dairy Development** and also interacted with them through video conference from Shimla.

Rajasthan government and SIDBI to ink MoU for cluster-based development of MSMEs:

Rajasthan government and the **Small Industrial Development Bank of India** (SIDBI) will soon ink an agreement to create newer avenues and growth opportunities for **MSME** units in the State.

A project management unit (PMU) will be set up by SIDBI in Rajasthan to provide assistance to certain sectors which are cluster-based such as textiles in **Bhilwara** and **handicrafts** in **Jodhpur**.

Corporate Affairs Minister Rajesh Verma Released Report of the Committee on Business Responsibility Reporting:

An expert panel set up by the ministry of corporate affairs has proposed a new reporting framework called as "**Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report (BRSR)**" for businesses to report how sustainable and responsible they are in addition to being compliant with the law.

The panel led by **Gyaneshwar Kumar Singh**, a joint secretary in the ministry

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launches Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation:

Defence Minister launched **Naval Innovation and Indigenisation**

Organisation (NIIO). It puts in place dedicated structures for the end-users to interact with academia and industry towards fostering innovation and indigenisation for self-reliance in defence.

Andhra CM Jagan Mohan Reddy Launches Welfare Scheme 'YSR Cheyutha' for Poor Women:

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister **YS Jagan Mohan Reddy** launched the **YSR Cheyutha scheme** which gives financial assistance and livelihood to poor women of **SC, ST, OBC** and other minority communities in the age group of **45 to 60 years**. It aims to benefit **23 Lakh** women.

Delhi-Katra Express Road Corridor To Be Completed By 2023; Union Minister Jitendra Singh:

Union Minister for Development of North Eastern Region (M-DoNER) **Jitendra Singh** informed that work has started on the first-of-its-kind **Katra** (Jammu and Kashmir) - **Delhi** Express Road Corridor which will be ready by **2023**.

The express Corridor is expected to reduce the travel time between Katra and Delhi to around **six and half hours**, the total outlay of the project is **Rs. 35, 000 crores**.

Goa Government Signs Pact with GIZ India and Siemens Limited For German Vocational Training:

Government of **Goa** signed a tripartite memorandum of understanding (MoU) with **Siemens Limited** and **Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)** India to provide world class German dual vocational education and training in Goa's **Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs)** .

Sports Ministry to organize 'Fit India Freedom Run' from August 15:

Sports Ministry organizes the largest country-wide run, **Fit India Freedom Run** from **August 15 till 2nd of October**. The government has decided to encourage participants of the event to run at their own pace - anywhere and at any time of their convenience.

Supreme Court gives equal inheritance right to daughters from 1956:

Three judges Bench of **Supreme Court (SC)** headed by Justice **Arun Mishra** and comprised of Justices **S Abdul Nazeer** and **Mukeshkumar Rasikbhai Shah**, the daughters will have equal inheritance rights as of sons in the properties of fathers, grandfathers and great-grandfathers right from the codification of the law in **1956**.

Goa's 'Khaje', 'Harmal Chilli' and 'Moira banana' get GI tag:

Goa's traditional festive sweet dish '**Khaje**', spicy **Harmal Chilli** and **Myndoli Banana** (Moira Banana) has obtained **Geographical Indication (GI)** tag from the Geographical Indications Registry.

A GI tag protects the produce from being illegally used, and ensures benefits to the local growers' community.

Telangana Government ties up with WEF for Artificial intelligence-led innovation in agriculture:

Telangana government launched the **Artificial intelligence for Agricultural Innovation (AI4AI)** programme, in collaboration with the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution, India (C4IR) , and **World Economic Forum**. The government of **Telangana** has declared **2020** as the Year of AI to accelerate AI readiness

West Bengal Government Launches 'Karma Sathi Prakalpa' scheme to Provide Soft Loans and Subsidies to Youth:

West Bengal chief minister **Mamata Banerjee** said that the state government will provide soft loans and subsidies to make the youth self-reliant.

It also launched '**Matir Smristi**' scheme to utilise **50,000 acres** of barren land in 6 districts for income-generating activities like horticulture and pisciculture involving the locals.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launches SRIJAN portal for Indigenization in Defence Sector:

Defence Minister has launched a portal "**SRIJAN**" which is a one-stop-shop online portal that provides access to the vendors to take up items for indigenization. This is to help industry partners to play an active role towards self-reliance in **defence sector**.

FM Nirmala Sitharaman holds 3rd review meeting of CPSEs on capital expenditure:

Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** held 3rd review meeting of **Central Public Sector Enterprises**, CPSEs on capital expenditure for the current financial year.

Secretaries of the Ministries of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways, Housing and Urban Affairs, Defence and Department of Telecommunications along with the CMDs of **7 CPSEs** were also present during the meeting.

Odisha retains top spot in effective implementation of AMRUT Scheme:

Odisha has retained the top rank in the country in the effective implementation of

Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) scheme this year all-India ranking released by the Union Ministry of **Housing and Urban Affairs**.

Odisha has topped the list by securing 85.67 per cent of marks. **Chandigarh** and **Telangana** have secured second and third positions with 75.08 and 74.04 per cent respectively.

National Health Authority board Approves to integrate central health schemes with Ayushman Bharat:

Governing board of **National Health Authority (NHA)** 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)** chaired by Union health Minister **Harsha Vardhan**.

Two over bridges of Ahmedabad named after late Arun Jaitley and Sushma Swaraj:

In Gujarat, two over bridges of **Ahmedabad** city have been named after late **Arun Jaitley** and **Sushma Swaraj**. The Railway over the bridge in Ranip area of the city will be known as **Atmanirbhar Gujarat Railway Flyover**. The newly built flyover at the Income Tax circle will be known as **Arun Jaitley flyover**,

while another flyover at Anjali crossroad will be known as **Sushma Swaraj Bridge**.

Punjab CM launches 'Smart Connect Scheme' gives smartphones to students:

Punjab government took a major digital leap forward with the statewide launch of its **Rs 92 crore 'Punjab Smart Connect Scheme'** by Chief Minister **Amarinder Singh**, who handed over smartphones to six Class XII students in a symbolic gesture.

Punjab achieved 1st rank in operationalisation of Health & Wellness Centers (HWCs) :

Punjab has achieved **1st** rank in operationalisation of **Health & Wellness Centers (HWCs)** as per the latest ranking of states released by the Government of India. This scheme was launched in the state in the year 2019.

India aims to have zero road fatalities by 2030:

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways **Nitin Jairam Gadkari** while addressing the **Indo-Australian Chamber of Commerce** and **Womenovator** on Trade Investment and collaborations in Road infrastructure has underlined India's initiatives to achieve **Zero Road Fatalities** by **2030**.

President approves 84 gallantry awards for Defence personnel:

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 awards include **Kirti Chakra, Shaurya Chakras, Bar to Sena Medals, Sena Medals, Nao Sena Medals & Vayu Sena Medals**.

Indian Railways constructing world's tallest pier bridge across river Ijai in Manipur:

North East Frontier Railway zone has constructed the **world's tallest pier bridge** in the North-Eastern state of **Manipur** to provide connectivity. It is constructed across **River Ijai**. Its tallest pier height will be of **141 meters**. The total length of the bridge will be **703 meters**.

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju begins Fit India Youth Clubs initiative:

Minister of Youth and Sports Federation **Kiren Rijiju** launched the **"Fit India Youth Club"** initiative. The Fit Youth Club of India is a national plan to promote the fitness of every citizen. The plan envisages using the power of

youth across the country to raise public awareness of the relevance of fitness.

Nagaland cm launches e-commerce platform 'Yellowchain':

Nagaland Chief Minister **Neiphiu Rio** launched an e-commerce platform '**Yellowchain**' during the State level celebration of India's Independence Day at Secretariat Plaza, Kohima.

Yellowchain is a single window e-commerce platform developed by **Investment & Development Authority of Nagaland (IDAN)** to promote local business and entrepreneurship, a DIPR report informed.

European Union launches Project Nirmanshree to empower 3000 women-led households in Odisha and Maharashtra:

With an aim to enhance women's entrepreneurial skills in **low-cost** and green housing related services, and to strengthen the delivery of such services through government and private sector in India, Habitat for Humanity India launched **Project Nirmanshree**, funded by the **European Union**.

Government aims to create five crore jobs in MSME sector: Nitin Gadkari:

Speaking at **SWAVALAMBAN** E-Summit 2020 organized by **"Lets Endorse**

Development" NGO in Delhi, MSME Minister said that government will increase MSME exports to **60%** from **48%** & create 5 crore jobs in next **5 years**. According to him 11 crore jobs were created so far.

Karnataka CM B S Yediyurappa vows to build a 'Kalyana Rajya':

Karnataka Chief Minister **B S Yediyurappa** has vowed to build a '**Kalyana Rajya**' a Welfare state with the avowed principle of 'development' as the only mantra.

Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa informed that the government has come to the rescue of farmers in distress by buying **Rs 3,175 crore** worth of farm products such as green gram, tur dal, groundnut, chickpea and copra under the minimum support price programme from **5.82 lakh farmers**.

PM Modi to inaugurate First World Solar Technology Summit to be held on Sept 8:

The First World Solar Technology Summit will be organized by **International Solar Alliance** on 8th of September virtually. Nobel Laureate **Dr M. Stanley Whittingham** will present the Key-note Address during the inaugural ceremony.

Andhra Pradesh teams up with NPCI and Canara Bank for digital payments in Rural Areas:

Andhra Pradesh government has announced teaming up with the **National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI)** and **Canara Bank** to empower over 15,000 village and ward secretariats with **digital payments** in the **rural areas**.

Chhattisgarh CM announces fund for contribution towards Ram Van Gaman project:

Chhattisgarh will create a dedicated fund for contributions from people towards the development of the state government's ambitious '**Ram Van Gaman Tourist Circuit**' project. Nine sites have been selected in the first phase of the project

Chhattisgarh Government Launched 'Padhai Tuhar Para' scheme for school students:

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister **Bhupesh Baghel** announced the launch of a special scheme "**Padhai Tuhar Para**" under which **school students** will be able to learn in their respective localities in view of the suspension of classes due to the Coronavirus outbreak.

Ministry of Tribal Affairs launches Tribal Health & Nutrition Portal 'Swasthya':

Tribal Affairs Minister **Arjun Munda** launched e-portal on tribal health & nutrition, "**Swasthya**". It provides all health-related

information of the tribal population on a single platform.

The ministry partnered with **Facebook** for **Going Online As Leaders (GOAL)** programme. An e-newsletter on health and nutrition "**ALEKH**" was also launched.

Gwalior-Chambal Expressway to be named after Atal Bihari Vajpayee:

Gwalior to Chambal Expressway is to be named as **Atal Bihari Vajpayee Chambal**. The announcement was made by **Madhya Pradesh** Chief Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** while paying tribute to the former Prime Minister on his second death anniversary.

Indian Railways Deploys Ninja Drones For Better Security And Surveillance Of Railway Assets:

Indian Railways has started deploying drones for better security and surveillance of its assets including station premises, track sections, yards and workshops.

"Mumbai Division of **Central Railway** in Indian Railways has recently procured two **Ninja UAVs** for better security and surveillance in Railway areas like station premises, Railway track sections, yards, workshops, etc.

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari launches farm-to-fork service portal VedKrishi.com:

Union Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) , **Nitin Gadkari** has launched an online farm-to-fork service platform called **VedKrishi.com**. The platform will connect farmers to the consumers.

Using the portal VedKrishi.com, farmers would be able to sell their **non-toxic farm** produce directly to consumers. The platform has been set-up by Nagpur-based farmer producer organization **VedKrishi Farmer Producer Company**.

Uttar Pradesh's Manduadih railway station to be renamed as Banaras:

Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) approved the renaming of **Manduadih Railway Station** in **Uttar Pradesh** as '**Banaras**'. In 2019, Former Union Minister Manoj Sinha had written to UP Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** requesting the change in name of the Manduadih Railway Station.

Ministry of Electronics and IT launches Swadeshi Microprocessor Challenge:

Union Ministry of Communications, Electronics and Information Technology has launched the "**Swadeshi Microprocessor Challenge- Innovate Solutions for #Aatmanirbhar Bharat**" to provide further

impetus to the strong startup ecosystem, and drive innovation and research in the country.

IIT Madras and **Centre for Development of Advance Computing (CDAC)** have developed two microprocessors named **SHAKTI** (32-bit) and **VEGA** (64-bit) respectively using Open Source Architecture.

'Dhanwantari Rath' to bring ayurveda at doorsteps of Delhi Police families:

A MoU was signed between the **All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA)** and the **Delhi Police** for extending **Ayurvedic Mode** of preventive and promotive health services in the residential colonies of the force. Supported by the **AYUSH ministry**, these services will be provided by AIIA through a mobile unit named '**Dhanwantari Rath**' and Police Wellness Centres.

Madhya Pradesh government to provide poor people Rs. one per kg wheat, rice, salt from Sept 1:

Madhya Pradesh CM announced **Rs 1 per kg** wheat, rice & salt for as many as **37 lakh** such poor people across the state not covered under the national food security scheme. Apart from this 5 kg per person free ration to be provided to poor families by November.

'Ek Sankalp - Bujurgo ke naam' campaign proves to be boon for senior citizens amid corona pandemic:

In **Madhya Pradesh**, a unique campaign '**Ek Sankalp – Bujurgo ke naam'**. A commitment for elders is being run by the **Chhatarpur Police** in the midst of corona infection in the state.

This unique campaign is proving to be a boon for the **Elderly People** living alone in homes during the global pandemic COVID-19.

J&K govt publishes its work done under 'Back to Village (B2V) ' programme:

In a first of its kind, government of **Jammu & Kashmir** published its work done under **Back to Village (B2V)** programme. All 1930 projects finished during the financial year 2019-20 have been showcased in an e-book recently released by the Finance department.

Uttar Pradesh govt introduces new electronics manufacturing policy:

Government of **Uttar Pradesh** has unveiled a new electronics manufacturing policy to become a global electronics hub and attract international investors looking to shift their base to India. PM's vision of achieving **ZERO imports of electronics goods**.

The policy aims at inviting investments of **Rs 40,000 crore** in five years and creating four lakh direct jobs.

Government to set up National Recruitment Agency to hold common

exam for various government and bank jobs:

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has approved the proposal to set up a **National Recruitment Agency (NRA)**. NRA will be the nodal agency to conduct the **Common Eligibility Test (CET)** for jobs in the government and state-owned banks.

The score in these exams would be valid for **three years** and the candidate would have the option of taking the exam again to improve the score.

Harsh Vardhan launches interactive first-of-its-kind video game 'Corona Fighters' to spread awareness:

Harsh Vardhan launched first-of-its-kind game on COVID-19, **Corona Fighters**. It presents a new & creative way to teach people the right tools and behaviors to fight Covid-19. He launched two new videos urging adherence to key COVID Appropriate behaviours.

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla participates in 5th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament:

The two day conference was organized virtually for the first time due to COVID-19. The event was organized by the **Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)**, Geneva,

jointly with the Parliament of **Austria** and with the support of the **United Nations (UN)**

.

The theme of the conference was ***"Parliamentary leadership for more effective multilateralism that delivers peace and sustainable development for the people and planet"***.

Chandigarh administration launches new website:

Environment Information System (ENVIS) of the Department of Environment of **Chandigarh** Administration has launched a new website. The URL of the website is **<http://chandigarhenvvis.gov.in>**.

The website which has been developed on the latest technologies is designed as per guidelines issued by the **Central Government**.

Ministry of Skill Development and Ministry of Shipping ink MoU for skill development in port & maritime sector:

The Memorandum of Understanding signed between the **Ministry of Skill Development** and **Ministry of Shipping** aims at skilling, re-skilling and up-skilling manpower for the growing maritime industry and development of the **coastal community**.

Jharkhand government launches new state emblem:

Jharkhand unveiled a **new logo** which is circular in size with the **Emblem** of India representing cooperative federalism placed at the centre. Logo is encircled with **green colour**, which depicts the greenery of the state and symbolizes happiness and prosperity.

Madhya Pradesh emerges as leading state in implementation of Pradhan Mantri Street Vendors Atma-Nirbhar Scheme:

Madhya Pradesh has emerged as the leading state in the implementation of **Pradhan Mantri Street Vendors Atma-Nirbhar Scheme-PM Swa-Nidhi**. PM Swa-Nidhi is a Central Sector Scheme to facilitate street vendors to access affordable working capital loan for resuming their livelihoods activities.

Tribal Affairs Minister launches "Trifood Project" in Raigad, Jagdalpur:

The tertiary processing centres of **"Trifood Project"** of **TRIFED**, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been virtually launched by the Union Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda. The Trifood project has been launched in **Raigad, Maharashtra** and **Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh**. This project is expected to help in encouraging the tribal entrepreneurship.

Andhra Pradesh inks pact with Reliance, Allana group for empowering women:

Andhra Pradesh government has signed MoUs with **Reliance Retail, Jio** and **Allana group** to collaborate in the **YSR Cheyutha**, a scheme for empowering women.

Reliance Retail will help women in running groceries **retail shops** and train them besides providing them provisions at competitive prices.

Uttar Pradesh Govt Inks Deal with Israel for Bundelkhand water crisis solution:

Government of **Uttar Pradesh** has signed a '**Plan Of Cooperation**' with the Government of **Israel** for the management of water resources in **Bundelkhand** region of the state, which faces potable water shortage in summers.

The plan of cooperation for the '**India – Israel – Bundelkhand Water Project**' was signed by the Israeli ambassador to India, Ron Malka, and UP's Agriculture Production Commissioner Alok Sinha on 20 August, the day on which 'India Day' is celebrated in Israel.

MEA in partnership with Foreign Ministry of Thailand organize 6th Round Table of AINTT:

Theme of the 2-day Round Table ASEAN-India Network of Think Tanks which was conducted

through video conferencing was '**ASEAN-India: Strengthening Partnership in the Post COVID Era**'. AINTT was established in the **7th ASEAN-India Summit** in **Thailand** in 2009. Current Chairmanship is holding by **Vietnam**.

National Cancer Registry Programme Report 2020:

National Cancer Registry Programme Report 2020 released by **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) & National Centre for Disease Informatics & Research (NCDIR)** predicts **13.9 lakh** cases of cancer in India in 2020 and is likely to rise to **15.7 lakh** by **2025**

Government announces Tax exemptions for businesses with annual turnover of up to Rs 40 lakh:

According to the Ministry of Finance businesses with an annual turnover of up to **Rs 40 Lakh** are **GST exempt**. Initially, this limit was Rs 20 Lakh. Additionally, those with a turnover up to Rs 1.5 crore can opt for the Composition Scheme and **pay only 1% tax**.

Government launches 'Open API Service' in Aarogya Setu app:

The team handling **Aarogya Setu** has introduced **Open API Service** to help the people, businesses and the economy to return to normalcy. This can be availed by

organizations and business entities, who are registered in India with more than 50 employees.

Validity of Motor Vehicle documents extended till December 31, 2020:

Ministry of **Road Transport and Highways** has decided to extend the validity of Fitness, Permits, Licenses, Registration or other documents under Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and Central **Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989** till the **31st of December 2020**.

Central Government constitutes National Council for Transgender Persons:

Under section 16 of **Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2019**, **National Council for Transgender Persons** is constituted. Social Justice and Empowerment Minister to be the ex-officio Chairperson & Minister of State to be ex-officio ViceChairperson.

India's Longest River Ropeway Over Brahmaputra Opens In Guwahati:

India's **longest river** ropeway connecting north and south banks of **Brahmaputra river** was inaugurated in **Guwahati**. The 2-km long ropeway built at a cost of **Rs 56 crore** is for the first time ropeway towers were made deep inside the bed of India's major river.

Delhi government launches campaign for registration of construction workers:

Delhi government launched **Niraman Mazdoor Registration Abhiyan**, under which a mega registration campaign will be held for construction workers from **August 24 to September 11**.

Delhi Employment and Labour Minister **Gopal Rai** said that the government will set up camps at 70 schools for registration of construction labourers at all the **70 assembly constituencies**.

Himachal Pradesh government signs ₹110 crore MoU for setting up electronics manufacturing unit in Baddi:

Himachal Pradesh Government signed an MoU worth ₹ **110 crores** with **Micro Tek New Technologies Private Ltd** for setting up a manufacturing unit of thermometers, online/offline UPS, high capacity invertors, oximeters and other electrical products in Solan.

Kerala's first-ever Dragonfly Festival to be held soon:

WWF-India State unit joined hands with **Society for Odonate Studies (SOS)** and **Thumbipuranam** for the first-ever State Dragonfly Festival in Kerala, christened Thumbi Mahotsavam2020. Dragonfly backyard watch is announced to enhance the participation of people. **Pantalu** is the MASCOT of the festival.

3 day Nuakhai festival celebrated in western parts of Odisha:

Nuakhai is a festival observed in **Odisha** to celebrate the reaping of new crops. Nuakhai is celebrated in **western Odisha** and some parts of Chhattisgarh as a **harvest festival**. People of western Odisha worship their presiding deity on Nuakhai as a mark of gratitude for a bumper crop, good rain and favourable farming weather.

Odisha introduces scheme to promote bio-floc fish farming technology:

Fisheries & Animal Resources Department of **Odisha** Government rolled out a new scheme to promote intensive Aquaculture through **bio-floc** technology in **fisheries**. It aims to support fish farmers & young entrepreneurs for generation of income and livelihood support.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS:

India announces 400-million-dollar currency swap for Sri Lanka:

Reserve Bank of India has signed necessary documents for extending a **400-million-dollar** currency swap facility with the **Central Bank of Sri Lanka**. This currency swap arrangement will remain available till November 2022.

India and EU renew Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation till 2025:

India and **European Union** have renewed its Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation for the next five years till **2025**. The Agreement was initially signed on 23rd November in 2001 and renewed two times in 2007 and 2015.

Reliance Industries overtakes Exxon to become world's No. 2 energy company:

Reliance Industries Ltd controlled by Asia's richest man, toppled **ExxonMobil Corp.** to become the world's largest energy company. Ambani's dealmaking has lured investments from Google to Facebook Inc. into his digital platform in recent months.

India extends medical assistance worth about USD 1 million to North Korea:

India has extended medical assistance worth about **USD 1 million** to **North Korea** in response to a request received from the World Health Organisation (WHO), the Ministry of External Affairs stated.

India is sensitive to the shortage of medical supply situation in the **Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)** and decided to grant a humanitarian assistance of USD 1 million in the form of anti-tuberculosis medicines.

FM Sitharaman attends 5th Annual Meeting of Board of Governors of AIIB:

Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** attended the 5th Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** through a video conference in New Delhi.

Theme: "**AIIB 2030-Supporting Asia's Development over the Next Decade**".

India hands over 10 broad gauge locomotives to Bangladesh:

India provided **10 railway** locomotives to **Bangladesh** as grant assistance, with the leadership of the two sides committing themselves to more connectivity and infrastructure initiatives to boost trade and create new supply chains.

India to set up Solar Power Plant in Sri Lanka:

India plans to build a solar power park in **Sri Lanka** as part of a strategy to project its presence in the **Indian Ocean Region (IOR)** amid **Chinese** attempts to lure nations into its '**Belt and Road**' initiative aware of the development.

IMF Executive Board Approves US\$4.3 Billion in Emergency Support to South Africa:

IMF has decided to grant **South Africa \$4.3 billion** in emergency funding, the largest

amount given to any country yet to fight the **corona virus** pandemic.

The funds "support the authorities' efforts in addressing the challenging health situation and economic impact of the COVID-19 shock".

Cabinet approves MoU between India and Zimbabwe in the field of traditional system of medicine and Homoeopathy:

Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, **Narendra Modi** has given ex-post facto approval to Memorandum of Understanding signed between the **Republic of India** and the **Republic of Zimbabwe** on cooperation in the field of traditional system of **Medicine** and **Homoeopathy**.

India and Indonesia Defence Ministers' Dialogue held in New Delhi:

Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** led the Indian delegation while the Indonesian delegation was led by their Defence Minister **General Prabowo Subianto**. Defence Ministers' Dialogue between **India** and **Indonesia** was held in **New Delhi**.

ADB sanctions \$3 million to India to fight against Covid-19:

Asian Development Bank (ADB) has announced that it approved **\$3 million** to **Indian** government to combat Covid-19. The fund has been granted out of its **Asia Pacific**

Disaster Response Fund (APDRF) which will provide helping hands to the government's emergency.

India, Mauritius PMs To Inaugurate New Supreme Court Building in Port Louis, Mauritius:

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** and his **Mauritian** counterpart **Pravind Jugnauth** will jointly inaugurate Mauritius' **new Supreme Court building** which has been constructed with Indian assistance.

The Supreme Court building has been constructed with Indian grant assistance of **US\$ 30 million** and is the first India-assisted infrastructure project within the capital city of **Port Louis**.

SABIC chemical plant to become first of its kind to operate on 100% renewable power:

Polycarbonate facility of **SABIC** in **Spain**, is set to become the **World's first large scale industry** to completely run on renewable power on signing a major agreement with **Iberdrola**, an electricity utility company to secure power from solar power projects.

The Facility is expected to become fully operational by **2024** and support SABIC to achieve its clean energy target by **2025**.

Prakash Javadekar participates in 6th BRICS Environment Ministers' Meeting:

Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change **Prakash Javadekar** participated in the **6th BRICS Environment Ministers Meeting** under the presidency of **Russia** along with the Environment minister of Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa over a virtual platform from **New Delhi**. India will assume the BRICS Presidency in **2021**.

UAE launches Arab world's first nuclear power plant:

United Arab Emirates (UAE) had successfully opened a nuclear power plant, becoming the **first Arab country** to produce nuclear energy.

The **\$22.4 billion** (€19 billion) Barakah plant on the Gulf coast west of Abu Dhabi is being developed by a consortium led by the **Korea Electric Power Corporation**.

Bangladesh Receives \$202 million from World Bank to Increase Food Security:

World Bank's Board of Executive Directors today approved **\$202 million** in additional financing for the Modern Food Storage Facilities Project to increase the storage capacity of **Bangladesh's** national strategic grain reserves by 535,500 tons for 4.5 million households.

ADB signs Dollar 200 million financing deal with Reliance for power plant in Bangladesh:

Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a **\$200** million financing deal with **Reliance Bangladesh LNG and Power Limited** (RBLPL) to build and operate a **718-megawatt** combined-cycle gas-fired power plant in Bangladesh. It is to ease ongoing energy shortages.

AIIB in talks with India for financing \$8 billion health infrastructure scheme:

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is in discussion with the Indian government for financing a **USD 8-billion** scheme for improving health infrastructure at the district level to make the country better prepared for the future healthcare challenges.

UK to issue coin in honour of Mahatma Gandhi to mark 150th birth anniversary:

Chancellor of the Exchequer **Rishi Sunak's** office confirmed that **Mahatma Gandhi's** image on a coin is being considered as part of efforts to celebrate achievements of non-white individuals such as Indian-origin British spy Noor Inayat Khan and Jamaican British nurse Mary Seacole.

Sunak has written to the **Royal Mint Advisory Committee (RMAC)** that recommends themes and designs of coins, supporting a campaign called "We Too Built Britain," which seeks representation of non-white icons on **British currency**.

India contributes over \$15 mn to India-UN Development Partnership Fund:

India has contributed **USD 15.46 million** to the **India-UN Development Partnership Fund**, underscoring the country's commitment to supporting developing nations in its developmental priorities across all the Sustainable Development Goals.

India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador **T S Tirumurti** handed over a **cheque** of USD 15.46 million to the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) Director **Jorge Chediek**.

Exim Bank extends \$250 million line of credit to Mozambique:

Export-Import Bank of India has extended a **\$250-million** (about ₹1,870 crore) line of credit to **Mozambique** for improving power supply quality in the country. Exim Bank till date has extended 14 LOCs to Mozambique, taking their total value to **\$772.44 million**

India and Canada IC-IMPACTS 2020 Annual Research Conference held Virtually:

India-Canada IC-IMPACTS Annual Research Conference was held on 6-7 August 2020. **IC-IMPACTS** hosted the 2020 Annual Research Conference online this year. The Conference was organized virtually by the **India-Canada Centre for Innovative Multidisciplinary**

Partnership to Accelerate Community Transformation and Sustainability (IC-IMPACTS) .

India and Maldives ink contract for development of five eco-tourism zones in Addu atoll of island nation:

India and **Maldives** signed a contract for development of five **eco-tourism** zones in **Addu atoll** of the island nation. Maldives foreign secretary **Abdul Ghafoor**, MPs representing Addu city and Indian high commissioner **Sunjay Sudhir** participated in the ceremony.

Bangladesh to get largest ever dollar 3.1 billion loan package from Japan:

Japan has signed its largest-ever loan package worth dollar 3.1 billion for **Bangladesh**. The loan is being provided under Japan's **Official Development Assistance (ODA)** for seven projects of Bangladesh under concessional terms.

India extends assistance of USD 1 million to Antigua and Barbuda to combat COVID-19 pandemic:

Indian government has extended an assistance of **USD 1 million** to Antigua and Barbuda to combat the ongoing **COVID-19 pandemic**. The provided assistance is aimed at improving health capacities and infrastructure in the Caribbean country.

Donald Trump announces peace deal between UAE and Israel to establish full diplomatic relations:

United States President **Donald Trump** announced that Israel and the **United Arab Emirates** have reached an agreement to work towards "**Full Normalization Of Relations**" in exchange for Israel suspending annexation of occupied West Bank territory sought by **Palestinians**.

India and Nigeria sign MoU on space cooperation:

Government of **India** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on **Space Cooperation** with the Federal government of **Republic of Nigeria** at the Federal Ministry of **Science and Technology** headquarters in **Abuja, Nigeria**.

The MoU enhances the **Socio economic development, space exploration, environmental safety** and **trade** between India and Nigeria.

India's External Affairs Minister and Foreign Minister of UAE Co-Chairs 13th India-UAE Joint Commission Meeting:

The **13th** Session of the **India-UAE** Joint Commission Meeting (JCM) on Trade, Economic and Technical Cooperation was held virtually on 17 August 2020 to further

strengthen the bilateral ties between the two strategic partners.

The Meeting was co-chaired by Union Minister of External Affairs, **Subrahmanyam Jaishankar** from India's side and UAE's Minister of Foreign Affairs **Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan**.

The next Session of the India-UAE Joint Commission Meeting will be held in **Abu Dhabi** in **2021**.

ADB approves \$1 billion loan for Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System construction:

Phillipines-based **Asian Development Bank** (ADB) has approved **\$1 billion** loan for construction of the modern, high-speed **Delhi-Meerut** Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) in India.

The **82-kilometre** Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut **RRTS** will be implemented in phases between the cities. It will be implemented in four tranches between **August 2020** and **May 2025**.

India Post Issued Stamps on UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India:

India Post has released a set of **five commemorative postage stamps** and a miniature sheet on **UNESCO World Heritage Sites** in India on 15th August 2020 on the

occasion of 74th Independence Day. This is the third part of the series.

The stamps depicts following five cultural sites of India- Historic City of **Ahmedabad**, Churches and Convents of **Goa**, Group of Monuments at **Pattadakal**, **Khajuraho** Group of Monuments, **Qutub Minar**.

UAE connects first Arab nuclear plant to power grid:

UAE has announced that it connected its **Barakah Nuclear Power Plant** to the national grid in a first for the Arab world. The milestone follows the successful start-up of the plant's first reactor to meet **25%** of its electricity needs from nuclear power. UAE is **3rd largest** oil-producing in the **OPEC**.

Apple Becomes First U.S. Company to reach \$2 Trillion Market Cap:

Apple Inc. has become the first publicly traded **U.S. Company** to reach a market capitalization of **over \$2 trillion**, after its share price climbed above \$467.77 on 19 August 2020. Apple is also the world's only second company to hit \$2 trillion in market cap.

Before this, Oil Major **Saudi Aramco** was the world's first and only publicly listed company to reach a \$2 trillion market value in December 2019.

41 lakh young Indians lost jobs due to COVID-19 crisis: ILO-ADB Report

As many as **41 lakh youth** in the country lost jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic while construction and farm sector workers account for the majority of job losses, according to a joint report by the **International Labour Organization (ILO)** and the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**.

India, Israel sign cultural agreement to further boost people-to-people ties:

Israel's Foreign Minister **Gabi Ashkenazi** and India's Ambassador to **Israel, Sanjeev Singla** signed the agreement. Programme of cooperation between the 2 countries for the years 2020-23 is based on the cultural agreement signed between them on 18 May 1993.

India, Uzbekistan hold first meeting of the National Coordination Committee:

India and **Uzbekistan** held their first meeting of the National Coordination Committee for monitoring implementation of mutually agreed projects between India and Uzbekistan.

It was held under the co-chairmanship of Minister of State for External Affairs, **V. Muraleedharan** and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Investments and Foreign Trade of Uzbekistan, **Sardor Umurzakov**.

AIIB and India sign agreement of USD 500 million for Mumbai Urban Transport Project-III:

Maharashtra government and **Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation** has signed a loan agreement of **USD 500 million** dollars with the **Asian Infrastructure Investment bank (AIIB)** for **Mumbai Urban Transport Project-III**.

The project aims at improving the **service quality, network capacity** and **safety** of the suburban railway system in Mumbai.

BANKING AND ECONOMY:

RBI estimates gross NPA of banks may rise to 12.5% by March 2021:

Reserve Bank of India released the **Financial Stability Report (FSR)** that "reflects the collective assessment of the sub-committee of the **Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC)** on risks to financial stability".

Gross non-performing assets (GNPA) ratio of the country's scheduled commercial banks (SCBs) may increase from **8.5 percent** in **March 2020** to **12.5 percent** by **2021**.

SBI Funds Management gets RBI nod to buy up to 10 pc in CSB Bank:

Reserve Bank of India has given approval to **SBI Funds Management Pvt Ltd** to

acquire shares up to **10 per cent** of the paid-up capital of **CSB Bank** through various schemes of the SBI Mutual Fund. SBI Mutual Fund currently holds 4.734 per cent in the paid-up capital.

Bank of Maharashtra joins hands with Uniken for Omni-channel security:

One of the leading cyber security companies in **India - Uniken** has been chosen by the state-owned **Bank of Maharashtra** for its innovative and unique REL-ID technology to secure not just their internet banking channels but also mobile, card, call centres, ATM etc. using REL-ID's **Omni-channel** verification mechanism.

Banks sanctions about Rs 90,000 crore concessional credit to 1.1 crore Kisan Credit Card holders:

Banks have sanctioned **Rs 89,810 crore** to about 1.1 crore **Kisan Credit Card (KCC)** holders to help farmers meet finances for kharif sowing and allied activities. This marks an increase of Rs 26,940 crore over Rs 62,870 crore sanctioned.

Tata AIA Life Insurance launches "Express Claims" Service That Promises Payouts In 4 Hours:

Private sector **Tata AIA Life Insurance** has announced a new facility that promises to process life insurance claim pay-outs within

four hours of registering them. "Tata AIA Life's **Express Claims** within four hours is the fastest claims pay-out by any life insurer in the country".

Bharti AXA Insurance launches 'Bohot Zaroori Hai' campaign for crop insurance:

Bharti AXA Life Insurance, a joint venture between **Bharti Enterprises**, one of India's leading business groups, and AXA, one of the world's largest insurance companies, has launched its crop insurance campaign - '**Bohot Zaroori Hai**' - for farmers in Maharashtra and Karnataka to encourage them about their crop protection and financial security.

SBI Card and IRCTC launch co-branded contactless credit card on RuPay platform:

SBI Card and **Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd (IRCTC)** launched the IRCTC SBI Card on **RuPay platform**. The card is equipped with **Near Field Communication (NFC)** technology. Customers can simply tap their cards at a secure reader for convenient, secure and faster transactions.

SBI providing USD 16 million liquidity support for local businesses in Maldives:

State Bank of India (SBI) is providing liquidity support of **USD 16.20 million** for local businesses and deferred loan repayment for over 200 retail accounts, the Indian High Commission in the **Maldives**.

Bank of Baroda's Credit Card Arm Readies for Digital Transformation with Implementation of Fiserv Technology:

BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL), a wholly owned subsidiary of **Bank of Baroda**, has chosen **Fiserv, Inc.** a leading global provider of payments and financial services technology solutions, to enable the digitization of their end-to-end card issuance and processing cycle and support the launch of several new and high-tech products including contactless **credit cards**, **tokenisation** and integration with branded **wallets**, and **virtual credit cards**.

Axis Bank launches AI-powered conversational voice BOT for IVR:

Private sector lender **Axis Bank** unveiled as **Automated Voice Assistant 'AXAA'**, which is an artificial intelligence-powered conversational voice BOT.

AXAA operates like a humanoid and has power to change the paradigm of customer experience from conventional **Interactive Voice Response (IVR)** system to a new era

of call steering and precise response with very high degree of accuracy and consistency.

Sundaram Mutual Fund launches 'Any-day SIP':

Sundaram Mutual has given investors the freedom to select a date on which their **systematic investment plan (SIP)** needs to be deducted from bank account rather than choosing from the six different dates usually fixed by the fund houses.

'**Any-day SIP**', which is available in all open-ended schemes, will be available for transactions made through the Sundaram Mutual website starting July 29.

SIDBI and TransUnion CIBIL launch knowledge platform MSME Saksham:

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) in association with **TransUnion CIBIL** has launched **MSME Saksham**, to support the revival of India's economy and strengthen Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). It is a comprehensive financial education and knowledge platform for MSMEs.

Kotak Mahindra Bank Launches 'Kona Kona Umeed' a Two-Month Campaign with Offers and Discounts:

Kotak Mahindra Bank has launched a special two-month campaign, '**Kona Kona Umeed**' with offers and discounts across its

suite of products to make banking and shopping more rewarding for the customers so as to boost consumer demand and lift people's enthusiasm during this pandemic situation.

Paisabazaar.com launches Paisabazaar Stack for digital lending solutions:

With this a large section of **Paisabazaar** customers would be able to access credit more rapidly from their homes, with no physical interaction. **Digital Stack** integrations with banks & NBFCs will provide unsecured loans within **3-5 hrs** as against **3-7 days**.

Craft Silicon and PayU announce strategic tie-up to advance digital loan repayment:

A global financial software solution provider **Craft Silicon** has entered into a strategic partnership with **PayU**, India's online payment solutions provider to innovate and accelerate the digital loan repayment solutions for small finance banks, micro-lending institutions and **Non Banking Financial Company (NBFC)**.

MobiKwik launches personal UPI payment link mpay.me:

Digital wallet company, **MobiKwik** has launched "**mpay.me**" UPI link service that allows users to send and receive money from

any UPI payment app. This single link created using mpay.me can be shared anywhere to **send** and **receive money** and will work seamlessly on mobile as well as desktop.

Bandhan Bank holding firm sells 20.95% stake to meet RBI norms:

Bandhan Bank has met the promoter holding norms of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) after its holding company **Bandhan Financial Holdings Ltd (BFHL)** sold **20.95%** stake in the bank to at least seven investors. GIC is an existing shareholder of Bandhan Bank.

Bank of Baroda Credit Card offers EMIs on PoS Terminals in partnership with Innoviti:

Bank of Baroda Credit Card customers get another unique offering in terms of convenient and affordable **EMI** options, as BOB Financial Solutions Limited ties up with **Innoviti Payment Solutions**. Bank of Baroda credit cardholders pan India can receive the service from over **70,000 Innoviti** POS terminals across more than 1,000 cities.

Listed entities get 3 years to meet criteria of minimum 25% public shareholding:

Government has notified changes in the **Securities Contracts** (Regulation) Rules,

1957, providing more time to listed entities to meet criteria of minimum public shareholding of **25 per cent.**

"In the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Rules, 1957, in rule 19A, in sub-rule (1) , in the proviso, for the words '**Two Years**' the words '**Three Years**' shall be substituted".

Canara Bank ties up with three insurers to provide Corona Kavach policies:

Canara Bank said it has tied-up with three insurance companies to sell short-term **Corona Kavach** policy to cover COVID-19 related health expenses.

The bank has tied up with **New India Assurance Company Ltd, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Co Ltd** and **HDFC ERGO Health Insurance** as part of social commitment to indemnify the unprecedented expenses of common man.

National Bank of Bahrain Selects Infosys Finacle to Digitally Transform its Transaction Banking Business:

National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) the Kingdom's leading provider of retail and commercial banking services, and Infosys Finacle, part of EdgeVerve Systems, a wholly-owned subsidiary of **Infosys** announced the bank's decision to adopt the **Finacle Cash Management Suite** to digitally transform its transaction banking business.

NPCI launches omni-channel loyalty platform 'nth Rewards':

National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) has launched its own business intelligence and analytics enabled omni-channel multi-branded loyalty platform, '**nth Rewards**'.

The loyalty rewards platform allows users to earn '**nth**' points through various bank transactions and redeem them faster on various exciting products, e-vouchers, donations, hotel and flight bookings.

SBM Bank collaborates with InstaReM to enhance outbound remittance:

InstaReM has partnered with **SBM Bank India** on outbound remittances from India. InstaReM says it will work closely with SBM Bank India as its licensed banking partner to facilitate international **money transfers** from India.

South India Bank gets RBI nod for setting up non-financial subsidiary:

Private sector lender **South Indian Bank (SIB)** said the RBI has given an in-principle approval for setting up a **wholly owned non-financial subsidiary**.

SIB has been struggling to come out of its large bad loans trap, seems to be preparing the ground to set up subsidiaries or associate companies in order to try its hand at other

areas including **retail financing, insurance, reinsurance etc.**

South Indian Bank gets RBI approval to start non-financial subsidiary:

South Indian Bank has received approval from the **Reserve Bank of India** to set up a wholly-owned **Non-Financial Subsidiary**. The subsidiary would commence operations once the bank completes the related formalities and after obtaining final approval from the regulators.

Paytm launches 'India's first Pocket Android PoS device for easy and contactless payments:

Paytm launched an Android-based **pocket-sized** point of sale (POS) device named '**Paytm All-in-One Portable Android Smart POS**' that is enabled with integrated billing software, camera for QR scanning and supports 4G SIM cards Wi-Fi and Bluetooth connectivity. It is available for an introductory monthly rental of ₹ **499**.

BSE join hands with bullion trade associations to deepen commodity derivatives market:

Leading Stock Exchange **BSE** signed an MoU with **Akola Sarafa Association** and Akola Sarafa Va Suvarnakar **Yuva Sangh**, two bullion trade associations for deepening commodity derivatives market. They

represent members engaged in retail sale and trade of bullion.

Razorpay launches payment gateway 'Button' to digitise freelancers, NGOs:

Payment gateway startup **Razorpay** has introduced a feature that allows micro-entrepreneurs and freelancers to instantaneously accept digital payments online, a move attempted to corner the market of the rapidly digitising small businesses amid the ongoing pandemic.

The feature called the '**Payment Button**' will enable businesses and freelancers to add a single line of code on a website or blog and go live with a payment gateway within a few minutes.

RBI announces 'positive pay' feature to enhance safety of cheque payments:

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to introduce a mechanism of '**Positive Pay**' for all cheques of value **Rs 50,000** and above.

The limit of Rs 50,000 will cover approximately **20 per cent** of transactions by volume and **80 per cent** by value.

RBI to implement system-based asset classification in urban co-operative banks:

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to implement system-based asset classification in **urban co-operative banks (UCBs)**,

prescribing a timeline based on their asset size.

UCBs having total assets of **₹2,000 crore** or above as on March 31, 2020, have to implement system-based asset classification with effect from June 30, 2021.

Federal Bank and Fiserv partner to launch their First Independent Credit Card 'Federal Bank Credit Card':

Federal Bank, private sector bank in India, has teamed-up with **Fiserv, Inc.**, global provider of payments and financial services technology solutions, in a bid to support the launch of the "**Federal Bank credit card**". This initiative is also taken to enable the digitization of the bank's end-to-end card issuance and processing cycle.

HDFC Bank launches Shaurya KGC card for armed forces:

HDFC Bank has launched the "**Shaurya KGC card**" for the armed forces. The product is based on **KISAN CREDIT CARD** guidelines by the government and will provide armed forces personnel with finance for agricultural requirements like production of the crop, etc.,

RBI Tightens Corporate Governance Norms For Core Investment Firms:

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released a revised set of guidelines for **core investment companies (CICs)** tightening corporate

governance and disclosure norms to Review the Regulatory and Supervisory Framework for Core Investment Companies (CICs) , constituted under the Chairmanship of **Tapan Ray**, former Secretary, **Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)** .

RBI Board approves transfer of Rs 57,128 crore as surplus to government:

RBI Board approved the transfer of **Rs 57,128 crore** as surplus to the government for the accounting year 2019-20 while maintaining the Contingency Risk Buffer at **5.5%**. This was decided at the 584th meeting of the Central Board of RBI chaired by the Governor.

SBI introduces Kisan Credit Card review feature on YONO Krishi:

SBI added a new feature called **Kisan Credit Card** Review on **YONO Krishi** to make the lives of farmer customers easier by offering them technology-backed solutions. With this, farmers need not visit a bank branch to apply for a revision in their KCC limit.

Punjab National Bank launches "Digital Apnayan" campaign to promote digital banking:

State-owned **Punjab National Bank** launched "**Digital Apnayan**" campaign to encourage customers to use digital banking channels.

Under the campaign 'DIGITAL APNAYEN', the bank will contribute **Rs 5** towards the **PM CARES Fund** on behalf of each customer conducting the first financial transaction to activate their **RuPay Debit card** either on **point of sale (PoS)** or e-commerce platform.

RBI approved a dividend of Rs 57,128 crore to Central Government headed by Shaktikanta Das:

Reserve Bank of India has approved a dividend payout of **Rs. 57,128 crores** to the government for its fiscal year. It has decided to maintain a **Contingency Risk Buffer** of **5.5 percent** at the minimum threshold recommended by the **Jalan committee** to review RBI's capital framework.

Multi Commodity Exchange of India to launch India's first bullion index, Bulldex:

Multi Commodity Exchange of India (MCX) will launch India's first bullion index named Bulldex. The Bulldex will have a market lot size of **50** and **gold** and **silver** will be underlying. It will be a cash-settled futures contract.

RBI unveils framework for umbrella entity to manage payment systems:

RBI unveiled the framework to set up a **Pan-India Umbrella Entity** with a **Minimum**

capital of Rs 500 crore, which will set up, manage and operate new payment systems in the retail payment space & invited applications from eligible companies by Feb 26, 2021.

Minimum net-worth of **Rs 300 crore** to be maintained at all time. The umbrella entity shall be a Company authorized by **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** under **Section 4 of the PSS Act, 2007.**

RBL Bank partners with Accenture for Digital Transformation Journey:

Mumbai based **RBL Bank** has signed on information technology (IT) services and consultancy firm **Accenture** for its digital transformation initiatives. Accenture will help RBL bank to upgrade its IT systems to improve operational efficiency.

Government modifies partial credit guarantee scheme 2.0, extends it by three months:

Partial Credit Guarantee Scheme (PCGS) 2.0 was launched by Central Government. Purpose of Partial Credit Guarantee Scheme (PCGS) 2.0 to provide Portfolio Guarantee for purchase of **Bonds** or **Commercial Papers** (CPs) with a rating of AA and below issued by NBFCs/HFCs/ MFIs by **Public Sector Banks (PSBs)** .

At the portfolio level, AA and AA- investment sub-portfolio under the Scheme should not exceed **50%** (instead of **25%** stipulated earlier) of the total portfolio of Bonds/ CPs purchased by PSBs under the Scheme.

Lakshmi Vilas Bank launches "LVB DigiGo" instant account opening facility:

Lakshmi Vilas Bank launched "**LVB DigiGo**" a digital initiative to enable opening of savings account instantly to help people to avail the most required banking services through website. It can be converted to a fully-featured account, upon visiting a branch.

Fino Payments Bank launches Aadhaar authentication based digital savings account "Jan BachatKhata":

Fino Payments Bank has launched **Jan BachatKhata (JBK)** an Aadhaar authentication based digital savings account that it said would bring neo-banking experience to consumers.

The primary target segment would be low income household families and beneficiaries of government's **Direct Benefit Transfer**.

Kotak Mahindra Bank Goes Live with CRMNEXT to Deliver Faster Customer Fulfillment and Deeper Engagement:

Kotak Mahindra Bank has implemented **CRMNEXT** to enable the bank to deliver **End-To-End Digital** and **paperless** journeys to

serve customers. This new unified digital platform enhances digital capabilities to sell and services customers across any touchpoint.

World Bank sees higher GDP fall in India than 3.2% it projected for FY21:

World Bank said it was likely to project a steeper contraction in India's economy than the **3.2 per cent** it had forecast for the current financial year, given the rising number of Covid-19 cases & lockdowns. The revised projections will be made available in October 2020.

NPCI launches international unit to expand reach of UPI:

National Payments Corporation of India launched international unit, **NPCI International Payments Ltd** to expand real-time payment system **Unified Payments Interface & card payment network RuPay** in other countries. UPI & RuPay are already present in **Singapore & UAE**.

Tata Capital launches 'Swift Insta Personal Loans' on WhatsApp:

Tata Capital, the financial services arm of the Tata Group announced the launch of its new service called '**Swift Insta Personal Loans**' (**SIPL**) on **WhatsApp**. The chatbot was recently launched on WhatsApp as a service platform to facilitate customer

requests including queries on EMI details or updating customer records.

YES Bank launches unique facility 'Loan against Securities':

'Loan against Securities' is an unique digital solution launched by the YES Bank under its loan in seconds platform. "Loan against Securities" will enable customers to avail loan facility against the securities that they hold. The customers are required only to pledge the securities and not selling them.

Edelweiss Tokio Life partners with Element AI for AI transformation journey:

Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance Company Limited has partnered with Element AI, a global developer of AI (Artificial Intelligence) -powered solutions and products, to develop, design and implement a strategic AI roadmap for the new age insurer and prioritise their investments into AI.

NPCI launches its subsidiary firm – NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL) :

National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has launched its wholly-owned subsidiary firm named NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL) . **Ritesh Shukla** has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of NIPL.

The primary focus of NIPL would be the internationalization of **RuPay** and **UPI**, along with a few more offerings of **NPCI**.

IRDAI group recommends setting up loss prevention entity for non-life insurers:

A working group constituted by the **Insurance Regulator** has recommended the setting up of a non-profit company to reduce insurance losses arising from property and motor related liabilities for the industry.

The ten-member committee headed by IRDAI member **T L Alamelu** has recommended the regulator and industry participants to join hands in establishing this company.

RBI Releases National Strategy for Financial Education 2020-2025:

National Strategy for Financial Education (NSFE: 2013-2018) the revised NSFE (2020-2025) has been prepared and the document for the same was released by **Mahesh Kumar Jain**, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on August 20, 2020.

The document recommends adoption of a '**5 C**' approach viz. **Content, Capacity, Community, Communication** and **Collaboration**.

HSBC India Becomes 1st Foreign Bank in India to launch a 'Green Deposit Programme' for Corporate Clients to Finance Green Initiatives:

HSBC has announced the launch of its **Green Deposit programme** in India for its corporate clients. The first-of-its-kind product for the Indian market, the Green Deposit will enable the bank's clients to support greener more sustainable projects.

Digit Insurance Launches SME Buddy to Simplify Insurance for SMEs and Startups on World Entrepreneurs' Day:

On world's entrepreneur day, technology-driven general insurance company **Digit Insurance** has launched an exclusive do-it-yourself (DIY) advisory tool for **Small And Medium Enterprises (SMEs)** and **startups, SME Buddy**. Digit recently won 'Insurance Start-up of the Year-India' Awards by Insurance Asia.

Religare Health Insurance to be renamed as Care Health Insurance:

Religare Health Insurance is an Indian health insurance firm established by Religare enterprise limited, **Union Bank of India** and **Corporation Bank**. The company is headquartered in **Gurgaon, Haryana**.

SBI General Insurance launches 'Shagun – Gift insurance' policy:

SBI General Insurance, one of the leading general insurance companies in India, today announced the launch of first-of-its-kind

offering, '**Shagun – Gift an Insurance**', a unique gift of Personal Accident policy.

This product was filed by SBI General under **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority's (IRDAI)** Sandbox regulations.

Unitus Ventures secures investment of Rs 75 crore from SIDBI bank:

Unitus Ventures has secured an investment of **Rs 75 crore** (USD 10 million) under **SIDBI's** Fund of Funds for Start-ups initiative. Funds received from SIDBI will strengthen the deployment of Unitus' second fund that was launched in 2018.

Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank and SBI General Insurance Co Ltd Signed MoU to Sell General Insurance Products:

Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB) and **SBI General Insurance Co Ltd** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in **Dharwad, Karnataka** to sell general insurance products through the branches of KVGB.

ICICI Lombard and Bharti AXA ink agreement to combine their non-life insurance business:

ICICI Lombard and **Bharti AXA** is to combine their non-life insurance business portfolio. The proposed transaction will make it as third largest among non-life insurers,

take it total Rs 164.47 billion annual premium with a combined market share **8.7%**.

ESIC extends unemployment benefit scheme 'Atal Bimit Vyakti Kalyan Yojna' up to June 30, 2021:

Atal Bimit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana is being implemented by **Employee State Insurance Corporation**, approved under the Employees State Insurance Act, 1948. The scheme provides **25%** of average per day earning in the previous four contribution periods.

Axis Bank launches hiring initiative named 'Gig-a-Opportunities':

Axis Bank has launched an initiative named '**Gig-a-Opportunities**'. The initiative aims to attract skilled talent that can work with the bank remotely, from anywhere in the country. This hiring model comprises two working patterns. One is the full-time **permanent job** and the second is based on the duration of a project and is temporary in nature.

SBI Partners with AddaCorner to Launch 'Online Home Carnival':

State Bank of India (SBI) has partnered with India's First Real-Time Group Negotiation E-Platform, **AddaCorner** to launch '**Online Home Carnival**', which will help in boosting the Real Estate market in Bangalore. Along with the launch of 'Online Home Carnival', AddaCorner was also launched.

NABARD launches credit guarantee programme for NBFC-MFIs:

NABARD introduced dedicated debt & credit guarantee product to ensure flow of credit. **Product Structured Finance & Partial Guarantee Programme** to **NBFC-MFIs** provides partial guarantee on pooled loans extended to small & mid-sized micro finance institutions.

Paytm Payments Bank enables banking services through Aadhaar cards:

Paytm Payments Bank (PPBL) enabled banking services through **Aadhaar** by integrating with AePS. Customers can access to basic banking services such as cash withdrawal, balance enquiry, etc., via business correspondent of any banking & financial institution.

ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS:

TRIFED Signs MoU With IIT Delhi Under Govt's Flagship 'Unnat Bharat Abhiyan':

Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (**TRIFED**) under the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs** entered into a partnership with IIT Delhi under the HRD Ministry's flagship '**Unnat Bharat Abhiyan**' (**UBA**) to increase livelihood opportunities and income generation for tribal communities.

PFC Signs Agreement With IIT-Kanpur For Smart Grid Technology:

A Government-owned NBFC **Power Finance Corporation** (PFC) has signed a memorandum of agreement (MoA) with **Indian Institute of Technology- Kanpur** (IIT-K) for training, research, and entrepreneurship development in smart grid technology.

Under the MoA, PFC will provide financial assistance of **Rs.2.38 crore** under its **Corporate Social Responsibility** (CSR) to IIT-Kanpur.

Gujarat and UK India Business Council signs MoU to strengthen state's industrial growth:

United Kingdom India Business Council signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Industrial Extension Bureau (iNDEXTb)** , **Industries and Mines Department**, Government of **Gujarat**. It will help to boost business and industrial development in the state of Gujarat.

Atal Innovation Mission launches 'AIM-iCREST', in partnership with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Wadhvani Foundation:

NITI Aayog's **Atal Innovation Mission** (AIM) , has launched **AIM iCREST** – an Incubator Capabilities enhancement program for a

Robust Ecosystem focused on creating high performing Start-ups. This is a first of its kind initiative for advancing innovation at scale in India.

Praj Signed MoU with ARAI to jointly develop application technology for green fuels:

Praj Industries (Praj) and **Automotive Research Association of India** (ARAI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to jointly develop application technology for advanced biofuels for usage in industry and transportation.

Biofuels developed for mobility sector will have a positive impact on environment by way of reduced carbon footprint and improved tailpipe emissions.

Reliance Power and JERA sign loan deed for full financing of gas-fired thermal power project in Bangladesh:

Reliance Power has now signed a loan agreement for full financing totaling **\$642 million** with a group of banks that includes the **Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC)** . The project company agreed an EPC contract with Samsung C&T in July 2020.

Khadi and Village Industries Commission signs MoU to supply mustard oil to ITBP:

Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) headquartered in **Mumbai** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to supply mustard oil to **ITBP**. This development is seen as another major step towards making India **Atma-Nirbhar**.

Airtel and AWS join hands to accelerate digital transformation of businesses in India:

Bharti Airtel 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.

IIT Delhi and NHAI sign MoU to set up Centre of Excellence for Advance Data Management System for Highways:

National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to set up a **Centre of Excellence (CoE)** on Advance Data Management System for Highways (ADMS Highways) in **IIT Delhi**.

The MoU was signed in the presence of **Dr. Sukhbir Singh Sandhu**, Chairman NHAI and Director of IIT Delhi **Dr V Ram Gopal Rao**.

Life Insurance Corporation of India acquired 4.23% Stake of YES Bank:

Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has acquired **4.23%** Stake(105.98 crore shares) of **YES Bank** by purchasing from the open market. With this acquisition, the hold of LIC in YES Bank has increased from 0.75%(19 crore shares) to 4.98%(125 crore shares) .

Simplilearn and NSDC Announce Collaboration to Upskill Professionals in Digital Skills:

To support the continuity of digital skilling of the Indian workforce, Simplilearn, a global provider of digital skills training announced its partnership with **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)** .

Through this collaboration, **Simplilearn** will host more than **1,000 hours** of free learning in **Digital Skills** and technologies for learners across India.

Flipkart signs MoU with UP government's one District, One Product scheme:

E-commerce marketplace **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 under the initiative named '**Flipkart Samparth**'.

CSIR and FSSAI signs MoU for collaborative research on food and nutrition:

An agreement was signed between **CSIR** and **FSSAI** for collaborative research & information dissemination in the area of food and nutrition. The collaboration between the two institutions of India is to contribute fulfilling the vision of **New Food System 2050**.

IndusInd Bank acquires 7.82% stakes in Eveready and 7.5% in McLeod Russel shares:

IndusInd Bank has acquired **7.82%** stake in battery maker **Eveready Industries India Ltd** by invoking pledged shares following a loan default. The bank also informed about acquiring **7.5%** (78,32,253 shares) in tea firm **McLeod Russel India Ltd** by invoking pledged shares following default by the borrower.

CCI Approved Proposed Combination Pertaining to JV Formation between Honda Motor and Hitachi:

Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the proposed combination filed jointly by **Keihin Corporation**(KC) , **Nissin Kogyo Co., Ltd.**(NKCL) , **Showa Corporation** (SC) and **Hitachi Automotive Systems, Ltd.**(HIAMS) to form a Joint

Venture(JV) between **Honda Motor Co. Limited**(HAMCL) and **Hitachi Limited**.

Universal Sompo General Insurance and BSE EBIX join hands to sell General Insurance products:

Universal Sompo General Insurance has partnered with **BSE Ebix Insurance Broking Private Limited**, a joint venture between BSE and Ebix Fincorp Exchange, to sell **General Insurance products** using distribution network of BSE Ebix in a digitized environment.

IIM-Bangalore join hands with NSE to offer platform for investor education:

NSE has announced a digital learning platform for **investor education**. The platform, launched by **SEBI's** executive director **Nagendra Parakh** is an online investor education resource centre, developed jointly by NSE Investor Protection Fund Trust & IIM-Bangalore.

Google partners Central Water Commission for flood forecasting initiative:

Google in association with **Central Water Commission**, functioning as an attached office under **Ministry of Jal Shakti**, took **Flood Forecasting** initiative over the past several months & sent numerous public alerts to people in impacted regions across India.

Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode inks pact with Swiss firm:

Against the backdrop of emerging challenges post-COVID-19, Indian **Institute of Management Kozhikode** and Switzerland-based **HELP Logistics** inked an MoU to engage in a partnership & provide consulting services & logistics training for humanitarian community.

Bharti AXA Life partners with SBM Bank India for insurance distribution:

Bharti AXA Life Insurance announced its bancassurance partnership with **SBM Bank India**. Under this agreement, the insurer will offer its life insurance products, including protection, health, savings and investment plans, to customers of **SBM Private Wealth**.

Flipkart signs MoU with IIT Patna for Industry Focused Research:

E-commerce giant **Flipkart** signed an MoU 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)** and help build critical national capabilities.

Muthoot Finance Partnered with Kotak Mahindra General Insurance to Offer COVID-19 Insurance Cover Against Gold Loan:

Muthoot Finance has partnered with **Kotak Mahindra General Insurance** to offer COVID-19 insurance cover of up to **Rs 1 lakh** under the initiative **Muthoot Finance Ayush Gold Loan**. The cover will be available only for the customers who avail gold loan from Muthoot Finance under the **Muthoot Super Loan (MSL)** scheme.

Atal Innovation Mission partners India-Sweden Healthcare Innovation Centre:

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) , **NITI Aayog & Business Sweden** on behalf of India Sweden **Healthcare Innovation Centre** are collaborating to promote the disruptive potential of Indian entrepreneurs. It aims to boost the vibrant start-up ecosystems across India.

IIT Roorkee Sign MoU with BIS to Cooperate in Standardisation and Conformity Assessment:

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee and **Bureau of India Standards (BIS)** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for collaboration in areas of Standardization and Conformity Assessment based on equality and reciprocity.

L&T Hydrocarbon Engineering signs pact with NTPC for CO2-to-methanol plants:

L&T Hydrocarbon Engineering (LTHE) has signed a memorandum of understanding with state-run **NTPC** to build a **carbon dioxide (CO₂)** to **methanol demonstration** plant in NTPC Power Station.

Under this pact, LTHE and NTPC will further collaborate to accelerate the development and subsequently commercialize CO₂-to-methanol plants.

NSC and JCI sign pact for supply of certified jute seeds to farmers 2021:

State-owned **National Seeds Corporation (NSC)** and **Jute Corporation of India (JCI)** entered into a pact for supply of 10,000 quintals of certified jute seeds to farmers next year, a move that will help improve production and yield of raw jute in the country.

The MoU was signed virtually in the presence of Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, **Narendra Singh Tomar** and Union Minister for Textiles, **Smriti Zubin Irani**.

IBM partners with NSDC to offer free digital education platform to students:

IBM announced its collaboration with **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)** to offer 'Open P-TECH', a free digital education platform, focused on emerging technologies and professional development skills.

The open **P-TECH (Pathways to Technology Early College High School)** platform was launched in India in March 2020 to equip young learners and educators with foundational technology competencies and emerging areas of technology.

CCI approves proposed acquisition of C&S Electric by Siemens Limited:

Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the proposed acquisition of **C&S Electric Limited** by **Siemens Limited**. The proposed combination envisages the acquisition of **100 per cent** of the share capital of C&S Electric Limited (C&S) by Siemens Limited (Siemens India) .

Adani Group to acquire 74% stake in Mumbai International Airport:

Gautam Adani-led **Adani Group** is set to acquire a **74%** stake in **Mumbai International Airport (MIAL)** which operates the country's second-largest airport, with the current operator settling its disputes with its minority partner and exiting the venture.

CMIA partners with UNDP to set up help desk for MSMEs:

Chamber of Marathwada Industries and Agriculture (CMIA) has joined hands with the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** to set up a help desk

which will provide support to **MSMEs**. It will support MSMEs through in-person & telephonic consultation.

Tech Mahindra and Niti Aayog's WEP partner to support women entrepreneurs in India:

IT services major **Tech Mahindra** has collaborated with the Niti Aayog's **Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP)** to support women entrepreneurs across the country. Tech Mahindra will provide mentorship, co-create solutions leveraging new-age technologies and support in developing a go-to-market strategy.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:

India's first NABL-accredited honey testing lab inaugurated:

Union Agriculture Minister **Narendra Singh Tomar** inaugurated India's first **National Accreditation Board for Testing & Calibration Lab (NABL)** honey testing lab set up by **National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)** at **Anand, Gujarat**. The new lab will test honey as per the norms specified by the food safety regulator **FSSAI**.

Indian Railways constructing world's first electrified tunnel to run double-stack containers:

Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd (DFCCIL) has conducted a tunnel-breaking ceremony was held on the completion of caving work for the **one-kilometre** long tunnel of **Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC)** through Aravalli mountain range, near Sohna in Haryana. The tunnel connects **Mewat & Gurugram** district of Haryana.

IIT Madras startup launches wrist band for detecting COVID symptoms:

A wearable wrist tracker to detect COVID-19 symptoms at an early stage will be available in the market next month with its developer a **IIT Madras** incubated start up, raising a funding of **Rs 22 crore** for the purpose.

"Muse wearables", the startup incubated at IIT Madras by an alumni group along with an **NIT Warangal** alumnus, is planning to launch the trackers in 70 countries.

IMD launches weather app for real-time updates and warnings across India:

Earth Sciences Minister **Dr. Harsh Vardhan** announced a weather app that aims to provide weather forecasts and warnings in India.

"Mausam" (weather) developed by **India Meteorological Department (IMD)** launched as part of the 14th Foundation Day celebrations of Union Ministry of Earth

Sciences on Android and iOS. It will give real-time updates and warnings across 450 cities across the country

DRDO launches 'Dare to Dream 2.0' contest to promote innovators on 5th death anniversary of Kalam:

DRDO launched a contest to promote innovators in the fields of defence and emerging technologies in India to mark the fifth death anniversary of former President **A P J Abdul Kalam**.

Defence Ministry said the winners of "**Dare to Dream 2.0**" contest would be decided after due evaluation by an expert committee.

Guwahati gets "BANDICOOT" the first manhole cleaning robot in Northeast:

Guwahati Development Department Minister Siddhartha Bhattacharya inaugurated city's **first manhole** cleaning robot to ensure minimal human involvement to clean the sewers. Guwahati is the first city in the entire Northeast region to get a manhole cleaning robot. Named '**BANDICOOT**', the automatic sewer cleaning device has been procured by the **Guwahati Municipal**.

Iran Launched the Underground Ballistic Missiles During 'Great Prophet 14' Military Exercise:

Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) , a paramilitary force, launched the underground ballistic missiles from the depths of the Earth in a completely camouflaged way during the last day of '**Great Prophet 14**'(code name- "**Payambar e Azam 14**") military exercise near Gulf waters.

IIT Hyderabad Researchers use corn husk to produce carbon electrode for high-voltage super capacitors:

Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad Researchers have developed a simple and cost-effective method to derive '**Activated Carbon Electrode**' material from cornhusk for **high-voltage supercapacitors**. Their electrode showed better electrochemical performance (High energy density and high-power density) when compared with conventional supercapacitors. **INST scientists develop low cost non-surgical prevention of cataract:**

A team of scientists from the **Institute of Nano Science & Technology (INST)** , an autonomous institute under the Department of Science & Technology, has developed nanorods from the **nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drug (NSAID)** Aspirin, a popular medication used to reduce pain and fever, found to be an effective non-invasive

small molecule-based **nanotherapeutics** against **cataract**.

IIT Kharagpur researchers awarded for generating power from wet clothes:

A group of researchers from **IIT Kharagpur** has conferred the '**Gandhian Young Technological Innovation Awards 2020**' for developing a mechanism for generating electricity from wet clothes left under sunlight to dry.

The '**Gandhian Young Technological Innovation (GYTI) Awards**' was instituted by the **Society for Research and Initiatives for Sustainable Technologies and Institution (SRISTI)**.

IIT Madras Collaborates With Healthcare Start-Up On Patient Monitoring Solutions:

Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) has collaborated with a healthcare startup "**HELYXON**" to develop a device and deploy it for remote monitoring of COVID-19 patients. The device monitors four critical parameters including temperature, oxygen saturation, respiratory rate and heart rate.

US conducted test flight of unarmed Minuteman 3 missile:

United States (US) Air Force conducted a scheduled test launch of an **LGM-30G**

Minuteman III, an **Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM)** carrying a load of three unarmed reentry vehicles, from **Vandenberg Air Force Base** in California, US to a target in the Pacific Ocean.'

IIT Guwahati collaborates with Imperial College London to develop nanoparticle metagrid for boosting LED performance: Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati and Imperial College London, United Kingdom, have developed nanoparticles the 'Meta-Grid' or 'Metamaterial Grid' that makes the Light-Emitting Diodes (LED) brighter, energy-efficient and durable.

DC Rajouri launches 'Awaz-e Rajouri' mobile app:

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri **Mohammad Nazir Sheikh** launched a mobile app **Awaz-e Rajouri** in presence of the district Officers and media persons. The app has been developed by a team of **National Informatics Centre Rajouri**.

IIT Kanpur develops indigenous seed balls BEEG for farmers:

IIT Kanpur developed indigenous seed balls named **BEEG (Bio -compost Enriched Eco-friendly Globule)** which will help people and farmers in plantation with safety in Corona times. It was developed in collaboration with

Agnys Waste Management Private Limited.

Russia launches world's first registered COVID-19 vaccine 'Sputnik V':

Russian President Vladimir Putin announced approval of a coronavirus vaccine for use, claiming it as a world first. Developed by the Moscow-based **Gamaleya Institute**, it has been named "**Sputnik-V**" a reference to the world's first satellite by Soviet Union.

Delhi Gov Signed an MoU with IIT-Bombay and Tata Projects Limited for Smog Tower:

Delhi government has signed an MoU with **IIT-Bombay** and **Tata Projects Limited** to construct a smog tower in Connaught Place following Supreme Court orders. The smog tower is a **20-metre**-high structure fitted with several air purifiers to clean the air.

Reliance Foundation launches "W-GDP Women Connect Challenge":

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) .

Hyderabad Based Startup Skyroot Aerospace Becomes First Private

Company To Test Upper Stage Rocket Engine:

Hyderabad-based startup **Skyroot Aerospace** successfully tested an **Upper-Stage Rocket Engine** becoming the first Indian private company to build a homegrown rocket engine. The 3-D printed rocket engine has been named **Raman**.

Atal Innovation Mission launches second edition of student entrepreneurship programme:

Niti Aayog's **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)** , in collaboration with **Dell Technologies** launched the second edition of its **Student Entrepreneurship Programme (SEP)** for young innovators of **Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs)** .

Indian Coast Guard Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) 'Sarthak' launched:

An offshore patrol vessel for **Indian Coast Guard** was launched and rechristened as '**Sarthak**'. It is the 4th in the series of five OPVs deployed by the Coast Guard to enhance maritime security. The launching ceremony was held at **Goa Shipyard**.

Microwave device 'Atulya' to disintegrate novel Coronavirus unveiled by Nitin Gadkari:

A microwave device named "**Atulya**" that can disinfect any premises in just 30 seconds,

disintegrating COVID-19 virus was unveiled by Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises **Nitin Gadkari** in **Nagpur**.

DIAT develops face mask "Pavitrapati", anti-microbial body suit "Aushada tara":
Pune-based **Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT)** developed a biodegradable face mask named **"Pavitrapati"** which acts a virus neutralizer and an anti-microbial body suit named **"Aushada tara"**. Both were manufactured by Kolhapur-based textile company M/s Siddheshwar Techtessile Pvt. Ltd., **Maharashtra**.

Israel and US successfully test Arrow-2 ballistic missile defense system:

Israel Defence Minister **Benny Gantz**, announced that Israel has successfully tested their advanced missile defence system, **Arrow-2**, a ballistic missile interceptor, which serves as the top tier integrated Israeli shield built to withstand various missile salvoes, was built with the support of the **United States of America**.

BEML teams up with IIT-Kanpur for pilotless aircraft & Unmanned Aerial Vehicles:

Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) collaborated with **IIT-Kanpur** for joint

indigenous development of pilotless target aircraft (PTA) and tactical **Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs)** . They would synergies respective capabilities and undertake testing & development.

ISRO and IISc Bengaluru develop sustainable process to make "Space Bricks" on Lunar Surface:

Indian Space Research Organisation and the Indian Institute of Science in **Bengaluru** has developed a sustainable process to make space bricks on the lunar surface. The process enables making load bearing bricks by using **lunar soil, bacteria** and **guar beans**.

IIT Ropar develops UVGI based 'room disinfection' device "UVSAFE":

Indian Institute of Technology Ropar (IIT-R) in collaboration with Momentum India Private Limited developed **"UVSAFE"** a state of the art room disinfection device based on Singular **Ultraviolet Germicidal Irradiation (UVGI)** .

ISRO shares image of moon crater captured by Chandrayaan-2, names it 'Vikram Sarabhai':

Indian Space Research Organisation announced that Chandryaan-2 captured images of the Moon & named one of the craters after **Vikram Sarabhai**. Sarabhai Crater is around 250 to 300 kilometres east

of the crater where the Apollo 17 and Luna 21 Missions landed.

DRDO Successfully Test Fires First Pinaka Rockets Produced by Economic Explosives Ltd (EEL) :

Indian Army successfully test-fired the first ever privately manufactured Pinaka rockets recently from the firing range in **Pokharan**, which achieved the desired results by accurately hitting targets.

The rockets have been manufactured by **Economic Explosives Ltd (EEL)** and are the first ammunition of its kind made by the private sector in India.

Google launches Mobile app 'Kormo' in India to help people find entry-level jobs:

Google has launched its employment application named '**Kormo Jobs**' in India. It would help millions of Indians to get entry-level jobs.

Kormo Jobs will help to provide **Entry-Level Jobs** to thousands of people, to help those who have lost their jobs during the coronavirus and young professionals who are looking for jobs.

NHAI develops mobile App 'Harit Path' to facilitate creation of Green Highways across country:

National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) , a PSU under the Ministry of Road

and Transport, has developed a mobile App, '**Harit Path**' to facilitate creation of Green Highways across the country.

The App will also be used to **monitor location, growth, species details, maintenance activities, targets** and achievements of each of the PSU's field units for every plant under the Highway plantation projects.

DRDO lab develops 'NOTESCLEAN' sanitization device:

Hyderabad based, **DRDO** lab has developed '**NOTESCLEAN**' sanitization device, where one has to place the loose currency notes at the input slot of the device. It picks the notes one by one and makes them pass through a series of **UVC lamps** for complete disinfection.

China launches optical remote-sensing satellite Gaofen-9 05:

China has successfully launched a new optical remote-sensing satellite named "**Gaofen-9 05**" from its Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre. The satellite was sent into orbit by a **Long March-2D** carrier rocket. Along with it, another satellite named Tiantuo-5 and one multifunctional test satellite was also launched by the rocket.

IIT Madras Researchers discover new component to effectively split Water into

Hydrogen and Oxygen using Solar Power:

Indian Institute of Technology Madras Researchers have discovered a new material to effectively split Water into **Hydrogen** and **Oxygen** using Solar Power.

This research is expected to create a renewed interest in **solar fuels domain**, which can potentially bring the conversion and storage part in a single system, thereby reducing the cost per kWh of solar energy.

Indian Air Force launches 'My IAF' App for aspirants:

Indian Air Force (IAF) Chief **Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria** launched the 'My IAF' mobile app. The My IAF app was launched as a part of the '**Digital India**' initiative on August 24, 2020.

The app will provide **career-related information** to all those aspirants who wish to join the Indian Air Force and make a career in it.

IIT Bombay, Shiv Nadar researchers develop environment friendly lithium batteries:

Researchers at the **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay** and **Shiv Nadar University** claim to have developed a technology for production of environment friendly **Lithium-Sulfur (Li-S)** batteries

which will be three times more energy efficient and cost effective than Lithium-ion batteries commonly used at present.

Google Launches 'The Anywhere School' to Boost Online Learning:

Google launched '**The Anywhere School**' initiative in more than **250** countries around the world. The initiative is expected to benefit millions of students who have switched to learning from home, due to the pandemic.

Tamil Nadu Chief Secretary Commissions Indian Coast Guard Ship C-449:

Indian Coast Guard Ship C-449 was commissioned in **Chennai** by Tamil Nadu Chief Secretary **K. Shanmugam**. The ship is the Forty Ninth Interceptor Boat of the series, which are indigenously built and designed by M/s Larsen and Toubro Ltd, Hazira (Surat) .

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS:

Air Marshal VR Chaudhary appointed new chief of Western Air Command:

Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhary has been named as the new head of **Western Air Command** of **Indian Air Force**, which looks after the country's defence in North India, including Ladakh region. He will take over from Air **Marshal B Suresh**.

Bharathi Airtel Appoints Ganesh Lakshminarayanan As New Chief for Enterprise Business:

Bharti Airtel Ltd has appointed **Ganesh Lakshminarayanan** as chief executive officer (CEO) of the company's enterprise business. He will succeed **Ashish Arora**, who has been promoted as the CEO for global business. Ganesh takes over from Ashish Arora will now be CEO.

Senior bureaucrat Rajesh Bhushan succeeds Preeti Bhushan as Union Health Secretary:

Centre has appointed senior bureaucrat **Rajesh Bhushan** as the Union Health Secretary as part of a minor top-level bureaucratic reshuffle. Bhushan will replace **Preeti Sudan** who was given a three-month extension in April. She demits office on July 31.

He is a 1987 batch Bihar cadre IAS officer bestowed with the responsibility of Officer on Special Duty.

IISc Appoints Professor Govindan Rangarajan As New Director:

Indian Institute of Science has appointed Professor **Govindan Rangarajan** as the new director of the institute. Professor Rangarajan has been formally appointed by the Governing Council of the Institute as the next Director of

IISc with effect from August 1, 2020, after obtaining approval from the President of India.

Former Coal India chief Anil Kumar Jha appointed member of key green panel:

Government has appointed former chairman of Coal **Anil Kumar Jha**, as a member of a key panel that deals with violation of environment rules. Panel's tenure has now been extended till **June 2021**.

Somalia's deputy PM Mohammed Gulaid appointed as acting prime minister:

Somalia's Deputy Prime Minister **Mahdi Mohammed Gulaid** has announced his appointment as the interim prime minister following the vote of no confidence against the previous head of government, **Hassan Ali Khaire**.

Tunisia Appoints Interior Minister Hichem Mechichi As The New Prime Minister:

Tunisia's Interior Minister **Hichem Mechichi** has been appointed to form the next government, the president's office said, amid political tensions among major parties in the North African country. The 46-year-old lawyer succeeds **Elyes Fakhfakh**, who resigned as prime minister earlier this month.

Croatian parliament approves new government led by incumbent Prime Minister Andrej Plenkovic:

Croatian parliament approved the new government led by Prime Minister **Andrej Plenkovic** whose Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ) party won the most parliamentary seats in the general election held on July 5, 2020.

Andrej Plenkovic was the prime minister of the previous government that was also led by his HDZ.

UN Chief Names Young Indian Activist Archana Soreng To New Climate Change Advisory Group:

United Nations Secretary-General **António Guterres** announced an Indian origin youth climate change activist on his board of advisory. Hence, he appointed **Archana Soreng** and seven other people from across the world, aged 18 to 28, to advise him on global warming issues.

Former Renault chief Thierry Bollore named new CEO of Jaguar Land Rover:

Former Renault executive **Thierry Bollore** will be taking over as the new CEO of British luxury carmaker **Tata Motors**-owned **Jaguar Land Rover**. Bollore was appointed Renault's chief executive only in January 2019.

Indian-origin Politician Pritam Singh Becomes First Leader of Opposition in Parliament:

Indian-origin politician **Pritam Singh** was designated as the Leader of the Opposition in **Singapore**, the first such appointment in the history of the city-state. Mr Singh who is also a lawyer is the Secretary-General of Workers' Party.

Paytm Money appoints Varun Sridhar as CEO and Amit Kapoor as VP and CFO:

Paytm Money announced the appointment of **Varun Sridhar**, as the new Chief Executive Officer of **Paytm Money**. He will lead the launch & development of the equity brokerage other than growing the already successful mutual funds, NPS and Gold services.

ICRA Appoints N Sivaraman As Managing Director And Group CEO:

Board of directors at investment information firm **ICRA** has appointed **Larsen & Toubro (L&T)** veteran **N Sivaraman** as its Managing Director and Group Chief Executive Officer. He succeeds former MD and Group CEO **Mr. Naresh Takkar**.

Jin Liqun re-elected Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank President:

Board of governors of **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)**, elected **Jin Liqun** for a second term as President. His

second five-year term will begin on **January 16, 2021**.

Liqun was re-elected as President during the 2020 AIIB Annual Meeting. The board of governors also approved the United Arab Emirates to host the **2021** AIIB Annual Meeting, which will take place October 27-28, 2021, in **Dubai**.

S N Rajeswari appointed CMD of Oriental Insurance:

S N Rajeswari has been appointed the Chairman-cum-Managing Director of **Oriental Insurance Company Limited (OICL)**, according to a Personnel Ministry order. She is currently General Manager of New India Assurance Company Limited.

Haryana govt appoints wrestler Babita Phogat & Kabaddi player Kavita as sports deputy directors:

Kavita Devi a Kabaddi player was a member of the India national Kabaddi team that won the gold medal in 2014 in the Incheon Asian Games. International wrestler **Babita Phogat** is the daughter of Mahavir Phogat, a noted wrestling coach.

East Bengal appoint young Goan coach Francisco:

"East Bengal is delighted to confirm the signing of new coach **Francisco Jose Bruto Da Costa**," the red-and-gold brigade

announced on their official Twitter handle. Francisco was the deputy to Nelo Vingada at Northeast United FC in ISL 2016.

Ivory Coast defence minister Hamed Bakayoko Appointed as new prime minister:

Republic of **Ivory Coast** President **Alassane Ouattara** has appointed Defence Minister **Hamed Bakayoko** as Prime Minister(PM) after acting as an interim PM since the sudden death of **Amadou Gon Coulibaly**. Hamed Bakayoko will also hold his position as **Defence Minister**.

Great Eastern Shipping appoints former RBI Governor Urjit Patel as additional director:

Great Eastern Shipping Company Ltd has appointed former RBI Governor **Urjit Patel** as an additional and independent director for a term of five years. Patel served as the 24th governor of the **Reserve Bank of India** from September 2016 to December 2018.

Rajnish Verma appointed as Commandant of Air Force Administrative College in Coimbatore:

Air Commodore **Rajnish Verma** assumed office as the Commandant of Air Force Administrative College (AFAC), **Coimbatore**. He took the charge from Air Commodore **S.R. Menon**, who assumed charge of AFAC in May

2018 and retired after completing 33 years of service.

Air Marshal V R Chaudhari takes over as chief of IAF's Western Air Command:

Air Marshal **V. R. Chaudhari** took over as Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of **Western Air Command** of **Indian Air Force**. He was commissioned into the fighter stream of the IAF in 1982 as fighter pilot. The Air Marshal took over command from **Air Marshal B Suresh**.

Mohamed Irfaan Ali elected as President of Guyana:

Former Guyanese housing minister **Mohamed Irfaan Ali** has been named as the President of the **Guyana**. He is a member of the opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP). He succeeds **David Arthur(A.) Granger**.

Sashidhar Jagdishan to succeed Aditya Puri as HDFC Bank CEO:

Sashidhar Jagdishan will be the new CEO of **HDFC Bank** to replace the private lender's long-serving leader **Aditya Puri**. Jagdishan was one of three candidates shortlisted for approval by the **Reserve Bank of India**.

Jaideep Bhatnagar appointed as Director General of AIR News:

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**. He replaces **Ms. Ira Joshi**, who superannuated as Principal Director General, AIR News.

Government appoints 3 members of Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs:

Bureaucrats **Ajay Jain, Vivek Johri & Sungita** Sharma have been appointed as members of the **Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs**. The board, top policy making body for indirect taxes, is headed by a chairperson. It can have a maximum of **six members**.

IFSCA Set Up Expert Committee headed by Pradip Shah to Suggest Ways to Develop of International Retail Businesses:

The committee will recommend a roadmap for the future growth of international retail business in **IFSC**. The committee, headed by **Indasia Fund Advisors** Pvt Ltd Chairman **Pradip Shah**, may invite industry experts as special invitees on need basis.

Dr Rajesh Kumar becomes new Chief Secretary of Manipur:

Dr. Rajesh Kumar, IAS has been appointed as the next Chief Secretary of the state of Manipur by Manipur Governor **Najma**

Heptullah The current Chief Secretary **J.Suresh Babu** who retired on 31st July, 2020. Rajesh Kumar is a 1988 batch IAS officer of Manipur Cadre.

Alice G. Vaidyan appointed to the Board of Geojit Financial Services Ltd:

Geojit Financial Services Ltd has announced the appointment of **Alice G. Vaidyan** as Independent Non- Executive Director to the Company's Board of Directors. Ms Vaidyan started her career with **New India Assurance Co. Ltd** in 1983.

Former Union Minister Manoj Sinha Appointed New J&K Lieutenant Governor After G C Murmu Resigns:

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor **Girish Chandra Murmu** has resigned from his post and will now be replaced by former minister of state for Railways **Manoj Sinha**. **GC Murmu** was the first Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir.

SEBI Chairman Ajay Tyagi Gets 18 Month Extension till February 2022:

Chairman of **Securities and Exchange Board of India** (SEBI) **Ajay Tyagi** has been granted an extension for next **18 months**. Earlier, in February this year, he was given six months extension.

Former BMC chief Praveen Pardeshi to head UN crisis response team:

Former BMC Commissioner **Praveen Pardeshi** will soon join **United Nations Institute for Training and Research** (UNITAR) as global programme coordinator. The Appointments Committee of the cabinet of the Central government has approved his UN posting.

Capital India Finance limited appoints former NABARD chairman Harsh Bhanwala as Executive Chairman:

NBFC, **Capital India** Finance has appointed **Dr Harsh Kumar Bhanwala**, former NABARD chairman as Executive Chairman of the Board. Formerly he was the MD of Delhi State Cooperative Bank from 1999-2005 and as chairman and at NABARD.

Parekh Ashvin named as Independent Director at Nippon Life India AMC:

Nippon Life India Asset Management (NAM India) , the Asset Manager of **Nippon India Mutual Fund (NIMF)** has named **Parekh Ashvin**, as its Independent Director on the Board of Directors of Nippon Life India Asset Management Limited for tenure of **5 years**. He has more than **40 years** of rich experience.

Educationist Pradeep Kumar Joshi appointed UPSC Chairman:

Educationist **Pradeep Kumar Joshi** was appointed the chairman of the **Union Public**

Service Commission (UPSC) , which conducts the civil services examination to select the country's bureaucrats and diplomats. He served as Director of the **National Institute of Educational Planning** and Administration.

Owen Coyle appointed as head coach of Jamshedpur FC:

Indian Super League side **Jamshedpur FC** has confirmed the appointment of **Owen Coyle** as their new head coach ahead of their **2020-'21** campaign. **Coyle** was in charge of Chennaiyin FC during the 2019-'20 ISL season.

Former J&K lieutenant governor G C Murmu appointed new CAG:

Former **Jammu and Kashmir** lieutenant governor **Girish Chandra Murmu** has been appointed the new **Comptroller and Auditor General** (CAG) of India. He succeeds **Rajiv Mehrishi** who completes his term on August 8, 2020 as he attains the age of 65.

PNB Housing Finance appoints Former SBI Card Head Hardayal Prasad as New MD and CEO:

PNB Housing Finance announced that **Hardayal Prasad**, the former SBI Card head who left the card issuer company last month, has been appointed as its new MD and CEO. Prasad will take over from **Neeraj Vyas**, the

current interim CEO of PNB housing finance on 10th August 2020.

Mahinda Rajapaksa-led SLPP registers landslide victory in Sri Lanka's parliamentary polls:

Prime Minister **Mahinda Rajapaksa** staged a political comeback as his party registered a landslide victory in the twice-postponed general elections, according to the final results released by the elections commission. The official results declared showed that the **Sri Lanka People's Party (SLPP)** alone had won 145 seats and with its allies have 150 seats, a two thirds majority in the 225-member parliament.

JCB India appoints Deepak Shetty as its new deputy CEO and MD:

JCB Group has announced the appointment of **Deepak Shetty** as Deputy CEO & Managing Director of **JCB India Ltd.** He will take over as MD and CEO from **Subir Kumar Chowdhury**.

Government Forms Panel Under RoDTEP Scheme for Exporters to be Headed by G K Pillai:

Government of India has set up a **three-member committee** for determination of ceiling rates under **Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP)** scheme.

The Committee will be headed by Secretary (retired) **G. K. Pillai** and two other members **Y G Parande**, retired Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs member and **Gautam Ray**, retired chief commissioner of custom and central excise.

Belarusan President Lukashenko wins sixth term:

Belarusian President **Alexander Lukashenko** won his sixth term with 80.23 per cent of the vote. Lukashenko garnered 80.23 per cent of the vote, while opposition candidate **Svetlana Tikhanovskaya** his main rival, won nearly 9.9 per cent.

Walter Martos sworn in as new Prime Minister of Peru:

President of **Peru Martin Vizcarra** appointed **Walter Roger Martos Ruiz**, the former defence minister and retired army general, as the country's new Prime Minister. He succeeds Pedro **Álvaro Cateriano Bellido**.

Mohamed Ould Bilal Appointed as Prime Minister of Islamic Republic of Mauritania:

Mohamed Ould Bilal has been appointed as the new **Prime Minister** of **Mauritania**. The appointment was made by the Mauritanian President **Mohamed Ould Ghazouani**.

Mohamed Ould Bilal is a veteran **public administrator** and has served as the head of

the country's national water agency, a presidential aide and a cabinet minister.

Senior IRS Officer Patanjali assumes charge as I-T Principal Chief Commissioner in Mumbai:

Senior Indian Revenue Service officer **Patanjali** has assumed charge as **Principal Chief Commissioner** of Income Tax, Mumbai. Prior to this, he was holding the post of Director General of Income Tax, Bengaluru for the state of **Karnataka & Goa**. The 1986-batch officer has also worked in Bhopal, Indore, Bengaluru and Gwalior.

Public Enterprises Selection Board selects Soma Mondal as the next chairman of SAIL:

Soma Mondal has been selected by the Public Enterprises Selection Board as the next chairman of public sector steel major **Steel Authority of India** Limited. Apart from being the first woman chairperson of SAIL, she will also be the **first woman** to head a major steel company in the world.

Lebanon PM Announces Resignation Of Government Over Deadly Beirut Blasts:

Lebanon's Prime Minister **Hassan Diab** announced his government's resignation amid popular outrage over deadly **Beirut** port explosion that has reignited angry street protests. During a cabinet meeting, several

cabinet ministers made it clear they would quit.

Indian-origin senator Kamala Harris named US Vice Presidential candidate for Democratic party:

United States, Democratic Presidential nominee **Joe Biden** named Indian-origin senator **Kamala Harris** as his **Vice-Presidential** running mate. Joe Biden made history by selecting the **first black woman** to compete on a major party's presidential ticket. Harris is currently the US Senator from California.

Isher Judge Ahluwalia resigns as ICRIER chairperson after 15-year stint:

Isher Judge Ahluwalia has stepped down as chairperson of think tank Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) due to health reasons. She had been in this position for 15 years. **Pramod Bhasin** will now be the new chairman.

Startup eBikeGO ropes in cricketer Harbhajan Singh as brand ambassador:

Electric mobility startup **eBikeGO** has roped in Indian cricketer **Harbhajan Singh** as its brand ambassador. It is aiming to build mass appeal, positive voice and widespread adoption for electric mobility thereby looking to capture **10%** of electric two wheeler market share by **2022**.

Vice Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi assumes charge as Director-General Naval Operations:

Vice Admiral **Dinesh K Tripathi**, an alumnus of **National Defence Academy Khadakwasla**, has assumed charge as **Director General Naval Operations (DGNO)**. He has commanded **INS Vinash**, **INS Kirch** and **INS Trishul** and he has also been awarded the **Thimmaiya Medal**.

Former RBI deputy governor S S Mundra appointed as non-executive chairman of Indiabulls Housing:

Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd stated that former deputy RBI governor **Subhash Sheoratan Mundra** has been appointed as non-executive chairman of the company with immediate effect. Mundra had joined the board of **Indiabulls Housing Finance** in 2018 as an independent director. He succeeds **Sameer Gehlaut**.

BharatPe appoints Suhail Sameer as Group President:

BharatPe has appointed **Suhail Sameer** as Group President. Sameer along with CEO & Co-Founder **Ashneer** Grover will have the overall responsibility for building the organization, merchant network, business, and revenue. He was the Winner of Economic Times Most Promising Leader of Asia Award.

Diplomat Vikram Kumar Doraiswami appointed India's next envoy to Bangladesh:

Indian Foreign Service officer **Vikram Kumar Doraiswami** has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of **India** to **Bangladesh**, according to a statement from the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) .

Singer Shahzan Mujeeb Signed As First Ever National Brand Ambassador Of Aligarh Municipal Corporation:

Aligarh Municipal Corporation (AMC) has recently roped in Indian Idol Season 11 Finalist and **Oscar Nominated** Playback Singer **Shahzan Mujeeb** as its First-Ever National Brand Ambassador for **Swachh Bharat Abhiyan** Campaign at National and International level.

SEBI Appoints G P Garg as Executive Director:

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has appointed **G P Garg** as executive director (ED) . Prior to his promotion as ED, Garg was Chief General Manager in SEBI and has handled several assignments since joining in January 1994.

Kaushik Khona to replace Vinay Dube as CEO of GoAir:

Vinay Dube has quit GoAir with immediate effect **Kaushik Khona** is new CEO of **GoAir**.

Dube, who was earlier the CEO of Jet Airways was appointed as the CEO of GoAir after being appointed as a consultant for the airline. **Khona** has more than 32 years of corporate experience and all at CXO level.

IPS officer Rakesh Asthana takes charge as the 27th Director-General of Border Security Force:

Rakesh Asthana is appointed as the Director-General of Border Security Force, **BSF**. He is presently working as the Director-General of Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, BCAS. He will continue to hold the additional charge of DG, **Narcotics Control Bureau**.

Central bank of India appoints Ashwini Kumar Shukla as Chief Risk Officer:

Central bank of India has appointed **Mr. Ashwini Kumar Shukla** as Chief Risk Officer. As part of reform agenda announced by Ministry of Finance last year August 2019, the Central bank of India is first one to appoint a CRO from market.

Satya Pal Malik appointed as Meghalaya Governor:

Satya Pal Malik has been transferred as the **Governor of Meghalaya**, replacing **Tathagata Roy** who completed his five-year tenure on the post in the northeastern state, from Goa. **Bhagat Singh Koshyari** who is a

Governor of Maharashtra state has been provided additional charge of **Goa**.

Melange by Lifestyle announces Deepika Padukone as Brand Ambassador:

Lifestyle International Pvt Ltd appointed **Deepika Padukone** as brand ambassador of **Melange**. Part of Dubai based retail and hospitality conglomerate, The Landmark Group, Lifestyle retails apparel, footwear, handbags, fashion accessories and beauty products.

Ashok Lavasa resigns as Election Commissioner to join ADB as Vice-President:

Ashok Lavasa who was expected to take over the poll body from **Sunil Arora** next year resigned and would be soon joining the Philippines based **Asian Development Bank** as its **Vice-President**. He has worked as Secretary in the Union Finance Ministry.

Rohit Sharma appointed Oakley's brand ambassador in India:

Sports eyewear brand "**Oakley**" has appointed Indian cricketer, **Rohit Sharma** as its brand ambassador for a period of two years in India. As a part of the partnership, Sharma will be sporting Oakley eyewear equipped with patented Prizm technology created specifically for sports lenses.

Chief Secretary of Gujarat Anil Mukim gets 6 Month Extension:

Central government has approved the proposal of the **Gujarat Government** to extend the tenure of 29th Gujarat Chief Secretary, **Anil Mukim** for **6 months**(i.e., from September 1, 2020 to February 28, 2021) in view of the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak. He was due to superannuate on August 31, 2020.

DBS Bank India appoints Prashant Joshi as Managing Director and Head of National Distribution:

DBS Bank India announced the appointment of **Prashant Joshi** as **Managing Director & Head of National Distribution**. Joshi brings with him close to three decades of experience in the banking sector across consumer, SME, and corporate banking with leading banks and financial institutions.

Luis Rodolfo Abinader sworn in as President of Dominican Republic:

Luis Rodolfo Abinader has been sworn in as 54th President of the **Dominican Republic**. The 53-year-old economist and businessman Abinader succeeds **Danilo Medina**, who served the country from 2012 to 2020.

Mali President Ibrahim Boubacar Kita resigns amid military coup:

Mali's President **Ibrahim Boubacar Keita** resigned hours after soldiers (National Committee for the Salvation of the People) seized him as part of a coup following months of mass protests against alleged corruption and worsening security in the country.

Cyril George assumes charge as new Dy Chairman of Cochin Port Trust:

Deputy Chairman Chennai Port Trust **Cyril C. George** has joined **Cochin Port Trust** as Deputy Chairman. **K. Mehera**, Deputy Chairman, Cochin Port Trust has been transferred to Kolkata Dock System, **Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Trust, Kolkata.**

Kishor Rungta assumed charge as Chairman of Fertilisers Association of India:

Kishor Rungta, C&MD, The FACT Ltd, assumed charge as Chairman of **Fertilisers Association of India, Southern Region.** It represents the fertiliser manufacturers, distributors, importers, equipment manufacturers, research institutes and suppliers of inputs.

Dhanlaxmi Bank appoints 4 new directors to the Board:

Dhanlaxmi Bank has appointed **PK Vijayakumar** and **G Rajagopalan Nair** on the Board of the Bank. Last month, the Bank had appointed **G Subramonia Iyer** and

Suseela Menon R also as Additional Directors (Independent Category) to the Board.

Francisco Asue reappointed as Prime Minister of Equatorial Guinea:

Francisco **Pascual Eyegue Obama Asue** was reappointed as the Prime Minister of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea for 3rd consecutive term. The Asue government tendered the resignation to President **Teodoro Obiang**, following the criticism of the president.

The government was dissolved to resolve the economic situation. Francisco Asue was first appointed as the Prime Minister of **Equatorial Guinea** on 23rd June 2016.

Karnataka Bank appoints Justice A V Chandrashekar and Mr. Pradeep Kumar Panja as Additional Directors:

Karnataka Bank Ltd. has appointed Justice **A V Chandrashekar** and **Mr. Pradeep Kumar Panja** as Additional Directors. Justice AV Chandrashekar is a former Judge of Karnataka High Court. Pradeep Kumar retired as Managing Director (Corporate Banking) of SBI.

Kishor Rungta assumes charge as Chairman of Fertilisers Association of India:

Kishor Rungta, C&MD, The **Fertilizers And Chemicals Travancore Ltd** (FACT) has assumed charge as Chairman of Fertilisers Association of India, Southern Region (FAI SR). The '**FAI SR**' covers stakeholders from the states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh & Telangana.

Keith Rowley Becomes Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago for a 2nd Consecutive Term:

Keith Christopher Rowley sworn in as Prime Minister of the **Republic of Trinidad and Tobago** for a **2nd** consecutive 5 year term at the President's House, following victory in general elections held recently.

Former Finance Secretary Rajiv Kumar Appointed New Election Commissioner:

Central government appointed retired bureaucrat **Rajiv Kumar** as the new **Election Commissioner**. The Ministry of Law and Justice in a notification said Kumar, a 1984 batch IAS officer of the Jharkhand cadre, will take charge the day Election Commissioner **Ashok Lavasa** leaves office on August 31.

Satpal Singh Satti appointed as chairman of 6th State Finance Commission of Himachal Pradesh:

Former President of BJP's Himachal Pradesh unit, **Satpal Singh Satti** is appointed as Chairman of 6th **State Finance Commission**.

The committee will review financial position of panchayats and municipalities and devolution of resources to these institutions.

Ashwani Bhatia appointed as managing director of State Bank of India:

Ashwani Bhatia has been appointed as the managing director up to the date of his superannuation that is May 31, 2022, the order stated. Bhatia will be appointed in place of **P K Gupta** who superannuated on March 31.

Bhatia is currently working as the managing director and chief executive officer at **SBI Mutual Fund**.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:

Liverpool's Henderson crowned FWA Footballer of the Year for captain heroics in title win:

Liverpool captain **Jordan Henderson** has been named the **Football Writers' Association (FWA)** Footballer of the Year for the 2019-20 Premier League season.

The **Reds midfielder** played a central role as the Anfield club stormed their way to the Premier League title, their first English top-flight crown in 30 years.

Jamie Vardy wins Premier League's 'Golden Boot':

Leicester City's **Jamie Vardy** won the Premier League's Golden Boot after most number of goals in the 2019-20 seasons. At 33, Vardy is the oldest player to win the **Golden Boot award** and the first from Leicester City. Vardy finished the season with **23 goals**.

SS Motivation Founder & CEO Sunil ydv SS Honored with Karamveer Chakra Award of United Nations and ICONGO:

Sunil ydv SS, founder & CEO Of SS Motivation, which is the most Subscribed Motivational Channel on Telegram, has been honoured with "**Karamveer Chakra Award**" instituted by United Nations and International Confederation of NGO (iCONGO) .

He received the award for his relentless contribution to society through his Telegram channel "**SS Motivation.**"

Indian Origin Author Avni Doshi's 'Burnt Sugar' on 2020 Booker Prize:

Dubai-based Indian-origin author **Avni Doshi** is among the 13 authors longlisted for the prestigious **2020 Booker Prize** for her debut novel "**Burnt Sugar**", alongside double Booker winner Hilary Mantel for **The Mirror and The Light**.

A version of the same novel has been published in India under the title "**Girl in White Cotton**".

India's First Solar-Powered Ferry Aditya Wins Global Honour:

Aditya, India's first solar-powered ferry that commenced operations in **2017** in Kerala's **Vembanad** backwaters, has won the **prestigious Gustave Trouve Award** for Excellence in **Electric Boats and Boating**.

The ferry was adjudged the **world's best electric boat** in the category of ferries designed for paid passenger service.

Virender Sehwag and Sardar Singh in 12-member selection panel for National Sports Awards:

Former India cricketer **Virender Sehwag** and hockey stalwart **Sardar Singh** were included in a **12-member committee** constituted by the sports ministry to select this year's National Sports Awards winners.

The other members of the committee include former table tennis player **Monalisa Baruah Mehta**, boxer **Venkatesan Devarajan** as well as Paralympic silver-medallist **Deepa Malik**, Sports commentator **Manish Batavia** and journalists **Alok Sinha** and **Neeru Bhatia**.

Dalmia Bharat Group wins FICCI CSR Award for Environment Sustainability:

Dalmia Bharat Group has won an award for Environment Sustainability at **18th FICCI CSR award** ceremony, organized by **FICCI**.

The award recognizes efforts of companies in integrating and internalizing Corporate Social Responsibility.

Ministry of Tribal Affairs received SKOCH Gold Award for Empowerment of Tribals through IT-enabled Scholarship Schemes:

Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) was awarded the SKOCH Gold Award for its **"Empowerment of Tribals through IT-enabled Scholarship Schemes"**. It is the project of the Scholarship Division of the Ministry. MoTA chose to participate in Digital India & E-Governance-2020 Competition.

The theme of the 66th SKOCH 2020 Competition was **"INDIA RESPONDS TO COVID THROUGH DIGITAL GOVERNANCE."**

CRSI Bronze Medal for IICT Scientist Dr Srihari Pabbaraja:

Dr Srihari Pabbaraja, Senior Principal Scientist, working in Department of **Organic Synthesis & Process Chemistry (OSPC)**, CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Hyderabad, has been selected for the **CRSI Bronze medal 2021** for his contributions on the total synthesis of natural products and method development for new chemical entities.

UNESCO Recognizes two Odisha villages Venkataipur & Noliasahi as 'Tsunami Ready':

Odisha has become the first state in the country to get two of its coastal villages **"Venkataipur and Noliasahi"** recognised as **"Tsunami Ready"** from the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of **UNESCO** (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) after taking into accounts their overall preparedness to face the calamity.

Rockefeller Foundation picks Naandi Foundation for Food Vision 2050 prize:

Rockefeller Foundation has selected **Naandi Foundation**, Hyderabad-based non-profit, as one of the **'Top 10 Visionaries'** in the world for the **Food Vision 2050 Prize**, announced in New York. The recognition fetches Naandi a prize money of \$200,000.

Pune's Defence Institute of Advanced Technology wins first prize; Smart India Hackathon 2020:

Pune-based **Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT)** has won the first prize in the **Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2020**, a national-level digital product building competition.

The Defence Ministry said DIAT's team of six members provided a solution titled

"DRISHTI" to recognise face, expression and gesture using **artificial intelligence (AI)** .

Mukesh Ambani now **4th richest man in world; Bloomberg Index:**

Mukesh Ambani with a personal wealth of **\$80.6 billion** in 2020 has surpassed **Bernard Arnault**, chairman and CEO, LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton. **Jeff Bezos**, **Bil Gates** and **Mark Zuckerberg** rounded out the top three spots.

FSSAI's 'Eat Right India' movement wins 'Food System Vision Prize':

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has been awarded the **'Food System Vision Prize'** for its **'Eat Right India'** movement's vision, along with nine other finalists. It recognizes organizations with a vision of regenerative and nourishing food system that they aspire to create by **2050**.

Nitin Sethi Wins The ACJ Investigative Journalism Award For HuffPost Series On Electoral Bonds:

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**.

Jamia student's crop prediction software 'Monks' wins Rs 1 lakh at Smart India Hackathon 2020:

A team of six students from **Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI)** under the name **'Monks'** won Software Edition in problem statement NS275. The team had built a software system that could **Predict Crop Production** for the next year and could help the government to plan their policies by anticipating problems of low rainfall and flood, even before they happen.

Mumbai becomes the first city to have female icons on traffic signals:

Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) installed **traffic signals** that display female icons sporting triangular frock, a shift from default representation of men. **Mumbai** has become the **first city** in India to do so.

Cristiano Ronaldo wins Juventus MVP of the Year award for record 37 goals in single season:

Cristiano Ronaldo was named as **Juventus 'Most Valuable Player of the Year'** for the championship that lasted for almost 11 months. He ended the 2019-20 season with **37 goals**, broke the record for scoring most goals in a single season across competitions.

Infosys's Sudha Murthy and ITC's Sivakumar bags Gramodaya awards:

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.

Akshay Kumar only Bollywood star on Forbes list of highest-paid actors:

Bollywood actor **Akshay Kumar** has yet again made it to the Forbes list of highest-paid male actors, scoring the 6th spot, slipping two places since 2019. With estimated net worth of **\$48.5 million**, this is Kumar's fifth consecutive year of being featured on the list. Wrestler-turned-actor **Dwayne Johnson** tops the list for the second year in a row with the estimated net worth of **87.5 million**. Deadpool star **Ryan Reynolds**, with a net worth of \$71.5 million. Third, fourth and fifth spots have gone to actors **Mark Wahlberg** (\$58 million) , **Ben Affleck** (\$55 million) and **Vin Diesel** (\$54 million) , respectively.

Vertex Global Services CEO Gagan Arora wins "CEO of the Year" Award by 'Indian Achievers' 2020:

Gagan Arora was recently named as "CEO of the Year – 2020" by **Indian Achievers Forum India**. He is the CEO & Strategic Growth Leader of Vertex Global Services.

WHO Chief Scientist Soumya Swaminathan honoured with TN CM's special award:

Chief Scientist of World Health Organization **Soumya Swaminathan** was conferred with the **Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's special award**, in recognition of her advisory role in combating the COVID-19 pandemic in the state.

Manchester City midfielder De Bruyne wins Premier League Player of the Season 2019-20:

Manchester City midfielder **Kevin De Bruyne** has been named as the Premier League Player of the **Season 2019-20**.

He is the only third Belgian footballer to win the award for the league's top performer, after Eden Hazard (2014-15) and Vincent Kompany (2011-12) . He scored 20 goals in the 2019-20 seasons.

Other awards included:

- Young Player of the Season – **Trent Alexander-Arnold** (Liverpool)

- Manager of the Season – **Juergen Klopp** (Liverpool)
- Goal of the Season – **Son Heung-min** (Tottenham Hotspur)
- Premier League 2 (PL2) Player of the Season – **Curtis Jones** (Liverpool)

Telangana CM honours poet Tirunagari Ramanujam with Dasaradhi Award for 2020:

Telangana Chief Minister **K Chandrashekhar Rao** honoured well-known poet **Tirunagari Ramanujam** with the **Dasaradhi Award for 2020**. Among his well-known works include Bala Veera Sathakam, Aksharadhara, and Tirunagareeyam.

Swachh Survekshan 2020: Indore cleanest city for the fourth time:

Indore emerged as the cleanest Indian city **fourth time** in a row in the **Swachh Survekshan 2020** conducted by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) . The second and the third position was taken by **Surat** and **Navi Mumbai**, respectively. **Varanasi** was adjudged the best 'Ganga Town' in the survey.

Ganesh Vilas Lengare awarded Star 2020 Certificate by World Book of Records, London:

Solapur based social activist **Ganesh Vilas Lengare** has been awarded the Star 2020

Certificate by the **World Book of Records, London**. The organization, found in 2017, honors personalities for their outstanding contribution towards humanity and universal peace.

Rohit Sharma, Mariappan Thangavelu, Vinesh Phogat, Rani Rampal & Manika Batra: to be honoured with Khel Ratna Award:

Rohit Sharma, Manika Batra, Vinesh Phogat, Mariyappan Thangavelu, Rani Rampal will be awarded **Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award**. Rohit Sharma is among five recipients who will be awarded India's highest sporting honour — the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award for 2020.

Another 29 were selected for the **Arjuna award** by the sports ministry's selection committee.

Jacques Kallis, Zaheer Abbas & Lisa Sthalekar inducted into ICC Hall of Fame:

Jacques Kallis is one of **South Africa's** highest run-getter in Tests & ODIs. He is also a great all-rounder. **Lisa Sthalekar** is a former **Australian** cricketer and became a World Cup winner in 2005 and 2013. **Zaheer Abbas** is the only Asian batsman to hit 100 first-class centuries.

Anand Mahindra, Shantanu Narayen to receive 2020 Leadership Awards from USISPF:

US-based India-centric business advocacy group to honour **Mahindra group** Chairman **Anand Mahindra** and **Adobe Chairman & CEO Shantanu Narayen** with its 2020 Leadership Awards in recognition of their exemplary vision towards promoting US-India bilateral ties.

Abhijit Paul's 'Am I' wins first prize in Online Patriotic Short Film Contest:

A Short film titled 'Am I?' directed by **Abhijit Paul** won the first prize and a cash award of one lakh rupees in the **Online Patriotic Short Film Contest** organized by the **Ministry Of Information and Broadcasting** along with National Film Development Corporation, NFDC.

Wabag Wins Prestigious Global Water Award For Project In Chennai:

Water technology major **Va Tech Wabag** has won the prestigious Global Water Award for its 45 million litres a day **Tertiary Treatment Reverse Osmosis (TTRO)** plant at Koyambedu in Chennai.

The plant bagged the distinction award under '**Wastewater Project Of The Year**' category.

NLCIL bags "Swachhta Hi Seva award" for transforming Neyveli Township:

Government of India **Navratna, NLC India Limited** (NLCIL) has bagged the award for making an extremely valuable contribution in the implementation of the "**Swachhta Hi Seva Programme**".

Rakesh Kumar, CMD of NLCIL hailing the efforts of NLCIL in transforming the entire Neyveli into a plastic-free, clean and green campus, and announcing the "**Swachhta Hi Seva 2019**" Award.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS:

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar unveils new book on India's 'struggle gaining influence in foreign policy':

"**The India Way: Strategies for an Uncertain World**" a book authored by External Affairs Minister **Dr. S Jaishankar**, argues about the standards of India in the global order.

The book was published under the **HarperCollins India publications**. The book centers about the three burdens that India's foreign policy carries.

RBI deputy governor Viral V.Acharya authored a new book titled "**Quest for Restoring Financial Stability in India**":

The book titled **"Quest for Restoring Financial Stability in India"** authored by former Reserve Bank of India(RBI) deputy governor **Viral V.Acharya**. The book portrays his quest to restore financial stability in India and offers a concrete plan for sustained improvement. The book is published by **SAGE Publications India Pvt Ltd**.

Dr. Harsh Vardhan released ebook titled "Standard Treatment Guidelines for the Management of Substance Use Disorders and Behavioural Addictions":

Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare (MoH& FW) , **Dr. Harsh Vardhan**, released an ebook, titled **'Standard Treatment Guidelines (STG) for the Management of Substance Use Disorders (SUD) and Behavioural Addictions'** virtually.

The book was released in the presence of State Minister of (MoH & FW) , **Ashwini Kumar Choubey**.

Narendra Singh Tomar releases booklet on Best Practices in Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme:

Union Minister of Rural Development **Narendra Singh Tomar** released a booklet on **"BestPractices in Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP) "** of Department of Land

Resources based on the presentations made since inception of the programme.

Oscar Winner Matthew McConaughey to Publish His First Book named 'Greenlights':

'Greenlights' the debut book authored by Oscar-winning actor **Matthew McConaughey** published by **Crown Publishing Group** is set to be released on 20th October 2020. The book was described as "not a traditional memoir but a playbook" based on the adventures and life experiences of McConaughey.

Union Ministers Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Smriti Irani launch the book 'Swachh Bharat Kranti':

The book **"The Swachh Bharat Revolution"** edited by Parameswaran Iyer, Secretary of Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation has been translated into Hindi and published by as the Swachh Bharat Kranti.

The book was officially launched by Union Minister of Jal Shakti, **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat**, and Union Minister of Textiles and Women & Child Development **Smriti Irani** in New Delhi.

Biography of India's youngest Basketball captain "Vishesh: Code To Win" set to release:

A new book on the inspirational story of **Vishesh Bhriguvanshi**, India's **youngest basketball** team captain, will hit stands on August 29, the National Sports Day, announced publishing house Bluerose. It is written by sportswoman-turned-author **Nirupama Yadav**.

A book titled "Siyasat Mein Sadasyata" authored by Vijay Kumar Choudhary:

Bihar Chief Minister **Nitish Kumar** has released a book titled **"Siyasat Mein Sadasyata"** authored by Bihar Assembly Speaker **Vijay Kumar Choudhary**. The book is a compilation of the author's views, three dozen articles on different important issues and his life journey. The book was published by **Bihar Assembly Secretariat**.

Yatish Yadav's new book 'RAW: A History of India's Covert Operations':

Journalist and author **Yatish Yadav's** new book **"RAW: A History of India's Covert Operations"** is a window into the heroic covert operations carried by India's external spy agency **Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)**.

Mizoram Governor Sreedharan Pillai writes 13 books during coronavirus lockdown:

Mizoram Governor P S Sreedharan Pillai from Kerala, penned **13 books** including one

of the poems titled **"Corona Kavithakal"**. Two more books, **"Republic Day 2020"** and **"Thus Speaks the Governor"** written by Pillai, were also released by Gauhati High Court Chief Justice **Ajai Lamba**. He has already written over **120 books**.

Union Defence Minister to release a book chronicling the Vice President's third year in office:

A book chronicling the third year in office of the Vice President of India, **M. Venkaiah Naidu** titled **'Connecting, Communicating, Changing'** to be released by Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh**. VP Naidu completes three years in office on August 11.

A Book titled 'A Bend in Time': Pandemic through the eyes of children Penned by Bijal Vachharajani:

Book titled **"A Bend in Time"**: Writings by Children on the Covid-19 pandemic is a collection of 12 engrossing stories and essays by children and young adults from across India. Its introduction is written by award-winning children's author **Bijal Vachharajani**. It is published by **Talking Cub (children's imprint of Speaking Tiger)**.

A Book titled "Our Only Home: A Climate Appeal to the World" authored by Dalai Lama:

The **Tibetan spiritual leader Dalai Lama** will release a new book on climate change with German environmental journalist Franz Alt in. The book has been titled **"Our Only Home: A Climate Appeal to the World"**.

Sharon Stone to Release Memoir 'The Beauty of Living Twice':

The actress and human rights activist **Sharon Stone's** memoir **"The Beauty of Living Twice"** will be published by Alfred A. Knopf in March 2021, Knopf Publisher Reagan Arthur. The book will be released simultaneously as a hardcover, ebook, and audiobook read by **Stone herself**.

Former Vice Marshal Arjun Subramaniam pens book titled "Full Spectrum: India's Wars, 1972-2020":

Retired Air Vice Marshal **Arjun Subramaniam** has written a book which throws light on comprehensive account of war and conflict in contemporary India over the past five decades next month.

The book titled **"Full Spectrum: India's Wars, 1972-2020"** is a sequel to his previous book **"India's Wars: A Military History, 1947-1971"**. It has been published by **HarperCollins India** and will be released in September 2020.

A Book titled 'The Greatest Secret' author Rhonda Byrne's 'Greatest Secret' out in November:

Rhonda Byrne's **"The Greatest Secret"** is coming out Nov. 24. "The Greatest Secret" takes readers on a journey that provides the most direct way out for those experiencing hardship and the path to end pain and suffering endured by so many.

Byrne's new book, like "The Secret," will be released through publisher **Judith Curr**.

A Book titled "India Tomorrow: Conversations with the Next Generation of Political Leaders" authored by Pradeep Chhibber:

The book will give a snapshot of contemporary **Indian politics** through interviews with 20 of the country's most prominent next-generation politicians. The book includes interviews of Politicians below the age of 50 years only and released in August, 2020.

The book is written by American academicians **Pradeep Chhibber** and Harsh Shah and published by **Oxford University Press (OUP)**.

Penguin announces Sudha Murthy's next book 'Grandparents' Bag of Stories' on her 70th birthday:

The new book titled '**Grandparents' Bag of Stories**' aims at entertaining children featuring 20 stories. **Penguin Random House** announced a new children's book by author and philanthropist **Sudha Murthy** to mark her 70th birthday.

Michael Cohen book '**Disloyal: The True Story of the Former Personal Attorney to President Donald J. Trump**' to be published:

Michael Cohen is completing the last two years of a three-year prison sentence at home after pleading guilty to campaign finance charges and lying to Congress. **Skyhorse Publishing** is the publisher of the book.

A Book Titled 'One Arranged Murder' Authored by Chetan Bhagat to be released:

A Book Titled '**One Arranged Murder**' authored by **Chetan Bhagat** will be released worldwide on September 28, 2020. The fiction book portrays a murder mystery in the backdrop of an arranged marriage. The book will be published by **Westland Publications Ltd**. It is the author's **9th** novel and **11th** book overall.

Book titled "Who painted my lust red?" authored by Sree Iyer launched:

A book titled "**Who painted my lust red?**" that has been authored by Sree Iyer has been

launched. This is the second book in this series of **Sree Iyer's** Money Trilogy series. The first book was "**Who painted my money white?**".

Garuda Prakashan to publish book on "**Delhi riots : The Untold Story**" authored by **Monika Arora**

Garuda Prakashan will publish "**Delhi Riots 2020: The Untold Story**", a day after Bloomsbury India announced withdrawing the upcoming book following outrage over a virtual pre-publication launch event featuring BJP leader **Kapil Mishra**.

RANKINGS:

India Ranks 3rd among top 10 countries gaining forest area in the world: FAO:

India has been ranked **third** among the top 10 countries that have gained in forest areas in the last decade (2010-2020) as per the latest Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) released by the United Nations **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** .

Top 5 countries which recorded the maximum average annual net gains in forest area during 2010-2020 are **China, Australia, India, Chile and Vietnam**.

Hyderabad Ranked 16th in World's most Surveilled Cities 2020 & Taiyuan, China tops:

Hyderabad with over three lakh surveillance cameras has been ranked **16th** among the top 20 most surveilled cities in the world, according to an annual report published by the UK-based **Comparitech**, a firm that reviews technology services like VPN, anti-virus and apps. The List was topped by **Taiyuan, China**.

Chennai(21st rank) and **Delhi** (33rd rank) made into the top 50 list. Delhi ranked 2nd & **Tokyo** tops in the **20 most populated cities** in the world.

IIT Madras Tops Atal Rankings (ARIIA) 2020 for second straight year:

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.

IIT Bombay, IIT Delhi, IISc Bengaluru and IIT Kharagpur are the among the top five centrally funded institutions in the list respectively.

Bengaluru ranks 26th in Knight Frank Prime Global Cities Index Q2:

Bengaluru and the national capital **New Delhi** ranked **26th** and **27th**, respectively, globally in '**Prime Global Cities Index Q2 2020**', according to Knight Frank report. Mumbai is at 32nd position.

The Philippines capital **Manila** leads the index with prime home prices rising by 4 per cent over the 12 months to June 2020, followed by Japan's **Tokyo** (8.60 per cent) and Sweden's **Stockholm** (4.40 per cent) .

Thailand's capital **Bangkok** was the weakest-performing global city.

India ranks 1st in number of organic farmers and 9th in terms of area under organic farming; Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW) :

India ranks **first** in number of **organic farmers** and **ninth** in terms of **area under organic farming**, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.

"Sikkim became the first State in the world to become fully organic and other States including **Tripura** and **Uttarakhand** have set similar targets.

In 2015, **Mission Organic Value Chain Development** for North East Region (MOVCD) and **Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)** were launched to encourage chemical free farming.

India ranked 57th in Digital Quality of Life Index 2020; Report by SurfShark:

2nd edition of global research "**Digital Quality of Life (DQL) Index 2020**" released by online privacy solutions provider **SurfShark**, India ranked **57th** out of 85

countries in terms of overall category **"Digital Quality of Life 2020"** with 0.5 index points which has been topped by **Denmark** with 0.79 points.

OBITUARY NEWS:

Tanzania's Former President Benjamin Mkapa Dies at 81:

Tanzania's former president **Benjamin Mkapa** (81), died at a hospital in Dar es Salaam, **Tanzania** on 24 July 2020, where he was admitted for an undisclosed illness. He was born on November 12, 1938.

Noted dancer-choreographer Amala Shankar passes away:

Amala Shankar, the renowned dancer died in Kolkata at the age of 101. She was awarded **Banga Vibhushan** by the **West Bengal** government in 2011 for her contributions in the field of art. Not only dance, she was a painter and writer as well.

Olivia de Havilland, Golden Age of Hollywood star, dies at 104:

Olivia de Havilland, a two-time Oscar winner and for decades the last surviving star of **"Gone With the Wind"** has died at the age of 104. Olivia Mary de Havilland was born July 1, 1916, in Tokyo to British parents.

American Actor John Saxon passed away at 83:

American actor **John Saxon** passed away at the age of 83 at his residence in **Murfreesboro, Tennessee** due to pneumonia. He was born on 5th August 1936 as Carmine Orrico in Brooklyn, New York, United States of America.

Child welfare activist Achyuta Rao passes away due to COVID:

P Achyuta Rao, Founder and President of **Balala Hakula Sangham** passed away due to COVID-19. Mr Rao was a well known child rights activist, and had founded Balala Hakula Sangham in 1984.

Bollywood action director Parvez Khan passes away at 55:

Famous Bollywood action director **Parvez Khan** who has worked in films such as **Andhadhun** and **Badlapur**, has passed away after suffering a massive heart attack. He was 55. Parvez had been working in the film industry since 1986.

Veteran Bollywood Actor Kumkum Passed Away at 86:

Veteran Bollywood **Actor Kumkum** due to age related ailments passed away at the age of 86 in her residence in **Bandra, Mumbai, Maharashtra**. She was born as Zaibunnissa on 22nd April 1934 in Sheikhpura district, Bihar.

West Bengal Congress president Somendra Nath Mitra dies at 78:

West Bengal Congress president **Somendra Nath Mitra** died. He was elected legislator from the **Sealdah constituency** in central Kolkata seven times. Mitra was the face of the old political culture that was marked by decency and courtesy.

Justice Sanjay Gupta passes away at 59:

Justice Sanjay Gupta of **J&K High Court** passed away due to illness. He was 59. In 2004, Justice Gupta was selected as a direct recruit in the higher judicial service and posted as Additional District and Sessions Judge Doda.

Padma Shri awardee Sonam Tshering Lepcha dies at 92:

Folk Musician, composer, Lyricist and Padmashree awardee **Sonam Tshering Lepcha** passed away at the age 92, at Kalimpong, West Bengal due to old age ailments. He was born on 3rd January, 1928 at Bong Busty, Kalimpong, **West Bengal**.

Malayalam Actor Anil Murali passed away at 51:

Veteran Malayalam actor **Anil Murali** has acted in more than 200 movies in Tamil, Malayalam and Telugu, passed away at the age of **51** at the hospital in Kochi, Kerala where he was admitted due to liver ailments

on 22nd July 2020. He hails from **Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala**.

Uttar Pradesh Cabinet minister Kamal Rani Varun passes away:

UP's Cabinet minister for Technical Education **Kamal Rani Varun** succumbed to COVID-19. Currently, Kamal Rani was MLA from Ghatampur in Kanpur. In the past, she was also a Member of Parliament in the Lok Sabha twice.

Sahitya Akademi Awardee Sa. Kandasamy passed away at 81:

Famous writer and documentary Filmmaker **Sa. Kandasamy** passed away at the age 81, in **Chennai, Tamil Nadu** due to heart ailments. He was born in 1940, Mayiladuthurai district, Tamil Nadu. He won the **Sahitya Akademi** award for his Novel 'Visaranai Commission.'

Rajya Sabha member Amar Singh passes away at 64:

Rajya Sabha MP and former **Samajwadi** Party leader **Amar Singh** passed away. Singh's political career was known for his contacts across sectors, his managerial skills and fund-raising capabilities. He was once called 'Corporate Thakur' by a rival leader.

Theatre maestro Ebrahim Alkazi passes away:

Considered the father of modern Indian theatre **Ebrahim Alkazi** the first Director of **National School of Drama (NSD)** passed away. He was 94. Also an art connoisseur, collector and gallery owner, he founded Art Heritage Gallery in **New Delhi**.

Nobel Peace Prize Winner John Hume Passed Away at 83:

Nobel Peace Prize winner(1998) and prominent Northern Ireland politician **John Hume** passed away at 83 in a Londonderry nursing home due to a long period of illness. He was born on January 8, 1937 in Derry Northern Ireland(a part of the United Kingdom- UK) .

Former Arunachal Pradesh Governor R.D. Pradhan passes away at 92:

R.D. Pradhan, a veteran bureaucrat and former Governor of Arunachal Pradesh passed away in **Mumbai**. He was an IAS officer of the Maharashtra cadre who served in Gujarat, Maharashtra, at the Centre and global positions.

Former Maharashtra CM Shivajirao Patil Nilangekar passes away in Pune:

Former **Maharashtra** chief minister **Shivajirao Patil Nilangekar** (89) passed away at Pune. Nilangekar, a Congress leader, who belonged to Latur in the Marathwada

region, was Maharashtra CM between June 1985 and March 1986.

Co-creator of computer mouse William English passes away aged 91:

William English, the engineer behind the **modern computer mouse** first demonstrated in 1968, has died at 91. He built the first mouse in 1963, with the help of the sketches made by Doug Engelbart while they were working on early computing.

Writer and activist Sadia Dehlvi Passes away at 63:

Writer and activist **Sadia Dehlvi** died of cancer at the age of 63 at **Delhi**. She was born in 1957, came from the royal '**Shama**' family, edited the Urdu women's journal Bano.

Former West Bengal Transport Minister Shyamal Chakraborty passed away at 76:

Former **Communist Party** of India – Marxist (CPM) and former **West Bengal** Transport Minister **Shyamal Chakraborty** passed away at the age 76 in Calcutta. He served as the three-time transport minister of West Bengal from 1982 to 1996.

Padma Shri awardee author Giriraj Kishore passes away at 82:

Veteran writer and academician **Giriraj Kishore** passed away at his residence here following a prolonged illness. He was 82-

years-old. A Padma Shri awardee, Giriraj had written '**Pahla Girmitya**'.

Former MP Nandi Yellaiah passes away:

Veteran Congress leader **Nandi Yellaiah** was elected to Lok Sabha six times & Rajya Sabha twice died. He began his political career as a corporator of **Hyderabad Municipal Corporation**. He was a close associate of former Chief Minister Marri Channa Reddy.

Noted Kashmiri academician Agha Ashraf Ali passed away at 98:

Ashraf Ali worked tirelessly for many decades for the education of people of Kashmir. He is believed to responsible for the education revolution among Muslims in **Kashmir**. He was a renowned public orator and spoke on history, education and politics.

Former Indian Footballer Mani Tombi Singh Passes Away at 39:

Former India international footballer **Laishram Mani Tombi Singh** passed away. He was from Manipur. Representing the Blue Tigers in 2002, he was part of the famous **India U-23 squad** that won the LG Cup. He also played in the Asian Games.

Renowned lyricist & Urdu poet Rahat Indori passes away:

In Madhya Pradesh, Noted Urdu poet & lyricist **Rahat Indori** died of cardiac arrest in **Indore**. He was tested positive for COVID-19.

With a 50-year career in poetry, Indori was known for the lyrics of hit films like Munnabhai MBBS, Kareeb, Ghatak and Ishq.

Noted Tamil film lyricist P K Muthusami passes away:

Noted Tamil film lyricist **PK Muthusami** passed away in **Namakkal**. He was to complete his 100th birthday this year. Famous songs composed by Muthusami include 'Mapilai vandar' and 'Chinna chinna nadai nadandu' etc.

Human Rights Activist and Author Ilina Sen Passes Away:

Author, activist and academic **Ilina Sen** who had been suffering from cancer for several years, passed away. Ilina, who spent many years in Chhattisgarh and worked with several trade unions and **Adivasi organizations**, had moved to academics a decade ago.

Legendary WWE wrestler James 'Kamala' Harris passes away at 70:

Legendry American WWE player, **James Harris**, popularly known as James "**Kamala**" **Harris**, has passed away. He was nicknamed as "**The Ugandan Giant**". Harris made his debut with the World Wrestling Federation (WWF) in 1984.

ViacomCBS head Sumner Redstone passes away at 97:

Media magnate Sumner Redstone who headed **Viacom Inc** and **CBS** has passed away. He has been credited with building a media empire and heading many high-profile takeovers in his career. He was the chairman of the board of the National Amusements theatre chain.

Congress leader and spokesperson Rajiv Tyagi dies after heart attack:

Congress spokesperson **Rajiv Tyagi** died of a heart attack shortly after he finished an intense discussion on a Hindi news channel on the violence in **Bengaluru**. He was regularly participating in TV debates. Tyagi was 52 years old.

Model and designer Simar Dugal Passed away at 52:

Model turned designer **Simar Dugal** passed away after a battle with cancer. Tributes poured in from the fashion and film industry. She also modelled for Kumar's book *The Costumes and Textiles of **Royal India*** apart from her signature Tree of Life designs.

UPCA president Yadupati Singhania passes away in Singapore:

Uttar Pradesh Cricket Association (UPCA) president and noted Industrialist **Yadupati Singhania** died in **Singapore**. He was 67. Singhania is suffering from kidney disease.

Veteran sports journalist GK Menon passes away at 93:

Veteran sports journalist **GK Menon** passed away. He worked with the **Indian Express** and The **Times of India** and ended his freelance career in the early 1990s.

Singer and Actor Trini Lopez passes away at 83:

Trini Lopez, the singer whose hits included "If I Had a Hammer" and "Lemon Tree," has passed away at 83 of complications due to COVID-19. After receiving a Grammy nomination in 1963, he went on to star in a variety-show special for NBC and act in 1965's **Marriage on the Rocks** and 1967's **The Dirty Dozen**.

Computer scientist and Digital imaging inventor Russell Kirsch dead at 91:

Russell Kirsch research from the 50's underlies the entire field of digital imaging, died. His famous accomplishment is the **first scanned digital image** – decades before the first digital camera. Kirsch continued to work on early AI until retirement.

Veteran Malayalam Poet and Drama Writer Chunakkara Ramankutty Passed Away at 84:

Malayalam poet, lyricist and drama writer **Chunakkar Ramankutty** passed away at the age of 84 due to old age related ailments in a

hospital at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. He hails from Chunakkara, **Alappuzha, Kerala.**

Former Indian cricketer and Uttar Pradesh Minister Chetan Chauhan passes away:

Former **Indian cricketer** and **Uttar Pradesh** minister **Chetan Chauhan** passed away following multiple organ failure. He was 73 and was tested positive for COVID-19. Chauhan was Minister of Sainik Welfare, Home Guards, PRD and Civil Security in the UP Cabinet. He played **40 Tests** scoring **2084 runs** with 16 half-centuries.

US President Donald Trump's younger brother Robert Trump dies at 71:

Donald Trump's younger brother, **Robert Trump**, a businessman known for an even keel passed away after being hospitalised in the ICU. He started his career on Wall Street but later joined family business, holding as top executive in the **Trump Organisation.**

Filmmaker and actor Nishikant Kamat dies at 50:

Nishikant Kamat was best-known for directing the Hindi remake of Malayalam hit *Drishyam*. He also directed Irrfan Khan in *Madaariand* Mumbai Meri Jaan, and John Abraham in *Force* and *Rocky Handsome*. He also acted in *Rocky Handsome* and some other films.

Legendary Indian classical vocalist Pandit Jasraj passes away:

Legendary Indian classical vocalist **Pandit Jasraj** passed away. His music career spanned over 8 decades. He was honoured with Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan & Sangeet Natak Academy Award. He also lent vocals to Oscar-winning movie, *Life of Pie*.

Former India goalkeeper Bhaskar Maity dies at 67:

Former India goalkeeper **Bhaskar Maity** died due to brain haemorrhage. He represented India against Iraq during the 1978 Asian Games in Bangkok. He played for Maharashtra from 1975 to 1979 in the Santosh Trophy. He was the coach of RCF Football team.

British Tennis legend Angela Buxton passes away at 85:

Former **British tennis player**, two-time Grand Slam doubles champion and equal rights pioneer **Angela Buxton** has passed away. She was 85. Buxton won the women's doubles alongside Althea Gibson. at both Roland Garros and Wimbledon in 1956.

Former India international goalkeeper Bhaskar Maity passes away:

Former India international goalkeeper **Bhaskar Maity**, who suffered a brain stroke,

passed away at the age of 67. The goalkeeper was an integral part of the Indian national team at the 1978 Asian Games wherein India was ousted from the semifinal group stage.

DMK Veteran And Former Minister A Rahman Khan passes away:

Former **Tamil Nadu** cabinet minister and senior DMK leader **A Rahman Khan** passed away. Rahman, 77, was undergoing treatment in a private hospital in Chennai.

Rahman was a five-time MLA and secured a hat-trick victory from the Chepauk constituency, in 1977, 1980, and 1984. He successfully contested from Poonga Nagar in 1989 and from Ramanathapuram in 1996.

Uttar Pradesh BJP MLA Janmejai Singh passes away at 75:

In Uttar Pradesh, Bharatiya Janata Party sitting **MLA Janmejai Singh** from Deoria Sadar seat died of heart attack in Lucknow last night. He was 75.

Singh, who was first elected to the House in a by-election in 2000, was again elected in the 2012 and 2017 state polls.

Veteran cricketer Gopalaswamy Kasturirangan passes away:

Veteran cricketer **Gopalaswamy Kasturirangan** passed away due to heart attack. Kasturirangan was a former cricketer-administrator and the BCCI curator. He had

mostly played his matches for Mysore in Ranji Trophy as the right-arm medium pace bowler from 1948 to 1963.

SPORTS NEWS:

India's 2018 Asian Games mixed relay team's silver upgraded to gold, Raghvan also gets bronze:

Indian **4x400m** mixed relay team's **silver** medal in the 2018 Asian Games has been upgraded to gold. This decision has been taken after the disqualification of original winners **Bahrain** due to doping ban.

Anu Ragavan's fourth place in the women's 400m hurdles has been upgraded to Bronze medal after this.

Sri Lanka woman cricketer Sripali Weerakkody retires from international cricket:

Sri Lanka women cricketer **Sripali Weerakkody** announced to retire from the international cricket with immediate effect. The 34-year old fast bowling all-rounder represented the international side in 89 ODIs and 58 T20 internationals.

Bangladesh Fast Bowler Kazi Anik Islam Handed Two-Year Doping Ban:

Young Bangladesh pacer **Kazi Anik Islam** has been handed a two-year ban by the national cricket board for failing a dope test in

2018. Kazi, who was Bangladesh's **leading wicket-taker** in the **2018 U-19 World Cup**, tested positive for Methamphetamine, a prohibited substance, during a National Cricket League game in the same year.

Divij Sharan-Vijay Sundar Prashanth win doubles title in LTA British Tour:

Vijay Sundar Prashanth and **Divij Sharan** combined well to win the doubles title in the **LTA British Tour** tennis tournament at the National Tennis Centre in Surrey. They defeated **Ryan Peniston & David Stevenson**.

Indian Grandmaster P Harikrishna Finishes Second in Rapid Event at Biel Chess Festival:

Indian Grandmaster **P Harikrishna** defeated **David Anton Guijarro** of Spain in the seventh and final round of the Classical event at the **53rd Biel International Chess Festival** in Switzerland.

Domestic cricket stalwart Rajat Bhatia announces retirement from all forms of the game:

Rajat Bhatia, a stalwart in **Indian domestic cricket**, announced his retirement from all forms of the game. Bhatia, 40, last played a first-class game in 2018 for **Uttarakhand**.

The former Delhi cricketer played **112 first-class games** in his 21-year-long domestic

career. The all-rounder scored 6482 runs at an average of 49.10 and bagged **137 wickets**. In List A cricket, Bhatia amassed 3038 runs and bagged 93 wickets.

Hamilton wins British GP to close in on Schumacher's record:

Lewis Hamilton held on to win the **British Grand Prix** despite a puncture on the last lap to clinch an 87th career win and move within four of Michael Schumacher's Formula One record. Hamilton set a track record & secured a record-extending 91st career pole.

World Cup winner and Schalke legend Benedikt Höwedes retires at 32:

German footballer **Benedikt Howedes** retired from football. He was part of the 2014 world-cup winning Germany team. He was one of the 3 players who had played every minute for the team in the tournament.

Real Madrid Named World Most Valuable Brands in Football:

According to the 2020 **Brand Finance Football** report, the two most valuable clubs in the world football play are the top two heavyweights of **La Liga**.

For the second year in a row, **Real Madrid** lead the way as the most valuable football club brand in the world, closely followed by **Barcelona**, who have overtaken **Manchester United** to move from third in

the 2019 edition to second in this year's rankings.

Sandro Wagner retires from football at the age of 32:

Former Bayern Munich and Germany striker **Sandro Wagner** has surprisingly hung up his boots at the age of 32. Wagner also appeared for Werder Bremen, Hertha BSC and Hoffenheim among others. Wagner won the UEFA U21 2009 European Championships.

India withdraws from Women's World Team Squash Championship 2020:

Squash Rackets Federation of India (SRFI) has withdrawn from the **Women's World Team Squash Championship 2020**, due to lack of preparation, time and match-readiness of athletes, which is scheduled in **Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia** from December 15 to 20, 2020.

Legendary Spain and Real Madrid goalkeeper Iker Casillas announces retirement:

Spain's World Cup-winning goalkeeper **Iker Casillas** announced his retirement on Tuesday, after being sidelined for more than a year with a heart problem.

Casillas, 39, also won the European Championship twice with his country in a trophy-laden career which included more than **700 games** for **Real Madrid**.

India retains T20 World Cup in 2021; Australia to host in 2022:

India has retained the rights to host the **2021** men's T20 World Cup while **Australia** will host the **2022** edition. ICC also postponed the **2021 women's** ODI World Cup which was scheduled in **New Zealand**. 2021 event will be hosted in India between October-November.

SAI launches Khelo India mobile app online training program for PE Teachers: **Sports Authority of India (SAI)** in association with Education Boards **CISCE** and **CBSE** will host an online program for training of Physical Education (PE) Teachers from CISCE Schools on "**Khelo India Fitness Assessment of School Going Children**".

Punjab Cricket Association names Mullanpur stadium after Patiala's last ruler Maharaja Yadavindra Singh:

Punjab Cricket Association (PCA) has decided to name its **Mullanpur International Cricket Stadium** after the last ruler of **Patiala**, late **Maharaja Yadavindra Singh**, who had played a test match for India in 1934. He is the father of Punjab **CM Amarinder Singh**.

ICC Include Indian Umpire KN Ananthapadmanabhan In Panel Of International Umpires:

Indian umpire **Nitin Menon** was promoted by the ICC to the elite panel of umpires, his fellow compatriot **KN**

Ananthapadmanabhan has been included in the panel of international umpires of the ICC.

He had an illustrious first-class career for Kerala over the span of 1988 to 2004, taking **344 wickets** with his leg-spin and scoring **2,891 runs** in 105 matches before taking to umpiring, joins fellow Indians **C Shamshuddin, Anil Chaudhary and Virender Sharma** in the international panel.

Max Verstappen Wins F1 70th Anniversary Grand Prix 2020:

Max Emilian Verstappen from Netherland had won F1 70th Anniversary Grand Prix at the Silverstone Circuit, Silverstone, United Kingdom and became the first **non-Mercedes driver** to win a race in the 2020.

Anshula Rao Becomes First Woman Cricketer In India To Fail Dope Test:

Madhya Pradesh women cricket team's **Anshula Rao** has been provisionally suspended by **National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA)** after failing a dope test. She is a senior member of the team, tested positive for a prohibited substance, 19 **Norandrosterone**.

England all-rounder Laura Marsh announces retirement from all forms of cricket:

Former **England** all-rounder **Laura Marsh** has announced her retirement from all forms of cricket. She was slated to represent Oval Invincible in the tournament, but the competition has been pushed to 2021 due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Mercedes Lewis Hamilton won F1 Spanish Grand Prix 2020:

Mercedes-Great Britain's Formula One Racer **Lewis Hamilton** has received the Formula One Spanish Grand Prix 2020. the race was held at Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya, **Spain**. this was his **4th** win during this season and he achieved 88th win.

Max Verstappen (Red Bull – Netherlands) came second followed by **Valtteri Bottas** (Mercedes-Finland) at third.

Former captain MS Dhoni Retired From International Cricket:

The former captain of Indian Team **MS Dhoni** has decided to take retirement from international cricket. He had already retired from Tests in 2014. Dhoni has **quicksilver stumpings** and **helicopter-sixes**. he was the part of **2007 World T20, 2011 World Cup and 2013 Champions Trophy**.

Suresh Raina retires from International Cricket:

Indian batsman **Suresh Raina** has declared his retirement from the International Cricket. He played his 1st international match against Sri Lanka in 2005 and played 226 ODIs, 78 T20Is and 18 Tests in his cricketing profession that crossed more than **13 years**.

He scored **7,787 runs** into all the formats of cricket. He additionally got 167 catches.

AIFF and SAI join hands to launch E-Pathshala:

All-India Football Federation and **Sports Authority of India** joined hands to launch **E-Pathshala**, a web platform to recognize the creativity and develop interest in football. It will act to develop interest in football through painting, building blocks, etc.

Asian Boxing Championships in India Postponed to 2021 Due to Coronavirus Pandemic:

Asian Boxing Championships, which was to be held in India in November-December, has been postponed to **2021** owing to the disruption caused by the coronavirus pandemic, the national federation's Secretary General **Jay Kowli**.

Dream11 is new IPL 2020 title sponsor with winning bid of Rs 222 crore:

Dream11 have made a **three-year** winning bid to bag the **Indian Premier League (IPL)** title rights. The fantasy sports platform – a start-up pioneered by two Indian entrepreneurs have made a bid for three years, subject to Vivo's return next year.

AIFF signs MoU with IPSO to Conduct Online Scouting Workshops in India:

All India Football Federation (AIFF) signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **International Professional Scouting Organization (IPSO)** to conduct online Scouting Workshops throughout India.

INOX Group to sponsor Indian team for Tokyo Olympics: IOA

INOX group will be the official sponsor of the Indian team for the rescheduled Tokyo Olympics, the **Indian Olympic Association (IOA)**. The **Tokyo Olympics** was rescheduled to next year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It will be held from July 23 to August 8 in 2021.

Ronnie O'Sullivan wins sixth World Snooker Championship after defeating Kyren Wilson":

English Professional Snooker Player **Ronnie O'Sullivan** won the **World Snooker Championship** for the **6th** time by winning the 2020 World Snooker Championship at **Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, England**. He

defeated England's **Kyren Wilson** (18-8) in the final of the **Betfred World Snooker Championship**.

Bayern Munich beat Paris Saint-Germain to win UEFA Champions League:

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. Paris Saint-Germain reached finals for the first time.

First female golfer from Germany Sophia Popov wins Women's British Open:

Sophia Popov became the **first female golfer** from **Germany** to capture a major title when she won the Women's British Open by two strokes. **Ranked No. 304**, Popov had never won a senior professional event. This was just Popov's fourth appearance at a major.

Australian all-rounder Cameron White announces retirement from all professional cricket:

Australian all-rounder **Cameron White** has announced his retirement from all forms of professional cricket. The 37 year-old Australian player will however, continue to play at the Premier Cricket level as the captain of the Melbourne Cricket Club.

He played **91** ODIs scoring **2,072 runs**. In T20 Internationals, he scored 984 runs from 47 matches, while he played four Tests for Australia, scoring 146 runs.

IMPORTANT DAYS:

DATE	IMPORTANT DAY	THEME
August 1	World Lung Cancer Day	-
August (1-7)	World Breastfeeding Week	"Support breastfeeding for a healthier planet"
August 3	World Sanskrit Day	-
August 6	Hiroshima Day	-
August 9	International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples/ World Tribal Day	"COVID-19 and indigenous peoples' resilience"
August 9	Quit India Movement Day	-
August 10	World Lion Day	-
August 10	World Biofuel Day	"Biofuels towards Atmanirbhar Bharat"

August 12	International Youth Day	"Youth Engagement for Global Action"			Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism	
August 12	World Elephant Day	-		August 21	World Entrepreneurs Day	-
August 13	International Lefthanders Days	-		August 23	International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition	-
August 13	World Organ Donation Day	-		August 23	European Day of Remembrance for Victims of Stalinism and Nazism/ Black Ribbon Day	-
August (13-20)	Organ Donation Week	-		August 26	Women's Equality Day	-
August 15	Indian Independence Day	-		August 29	National Sports Day	-
August 16	Bennington Battle Day			August 30	Small Industry Day	-
August 19	World Humanitarian Day	#RealLifeHeroes.		August 31	Hari Merdeka (Malaysia National Day)	-
August 19	World Photography Day	-				
August 20	World Mosquito Day	-				
August 20	Akshay Urja Diwas (Renewable Energy Day)	-				
August 21	World Senior Citizen Day	-				
August 21	International Day of	-				

ENGLISH VOCABULARY:

Q.1) SLUMP (verb) :

Meaning: undergo a sudden severe or prolonged fall in price, value, or amount.

Synonyms: plummet, plunge, tumble, decline.

Antonyms: rise, ascend, grow, soar.

Usage: When the task force was putting together its original report, the world price of oil had slumped as low as \$10 a barrel.

Q.2) HETERODOX (adjective) :

Meaning: not conforming with accepted or orthodox standards or beliefs.

Synonyms: separatist, heretical, nonconformist, iconoclastic.

Antonyms: orthodox, agnostic, devout, nonsectarian.

Usage: He argues that this ignores the complex interaction between orthodox intellectual culture and heterodox expression.

Q.3) PURLOIN (verb) :

Meaning: steal (something) .

Synonyms: loot, pilfer, steal, embezzle.

Antonyms: bestow, contribute, donate, purchase.

Usage: Sometimes it's impossible to not purloin an excerpt from another person's blog.

Q.4) SIEGE (Noun) :

Meaning: a military operation in which enemy forces surround a town or building, cutting off essential supplies, with the aim of compelling those inside to surrender.

Synonyms: blockade, barricade, restriction

Antonyms: clearance, opening

Usage: During the siege of the village, the villagers were forced to give up their property.

Q.5) GLOAT (Verb) :

Meaning: dwell on one's own success or another's misfortune with smugness or malignant pleasure.

Synonyms: exult, rejoice, relish

Antonyms: commiserate, sympathize

Usage: If you are the winner of a contest, you should not gloat and make your competitors feel inferior.

Q.6) TIZZY:

Meaning: a state of nervous excitement or agitation.

Synonyms: acrimony, animosity, annoyance, chagrin.

Antonyms: calm, calmness, delight, ease

Usage: Her mother was in a tizzy over Liz's divorce.

Q.7) STENTORIAN (adjective) :

Meaning: (of a person's voice) loud and powerful.

Synonyms: booming, clangorous, piercing, roaring.

Antonyms: soothing, muffled, muted, softened.

Usage: When my father speaks in a stentorian voice, I know I'm in trouble.

Q.8) FARRAGO (noun) :

Meaning: a confused mixture.

Synonyms: mishmash, jumble, hodgepodge, turmoil.

Antonyms: constituent, ravel, sequence, categorization.

Usage: The present gun law is a farrago of nonsense as most of it is unenforceable.

Q.9) STRAY (verb) :

Meaning: move away aimlessly from a group or from the right course or place.

Synonyms: digress, deviate, wander, drift.

Antonyms: stay, belong, remain, exist.

Usage: She went for a long walk and strayed into the forest.

Q.10) Indigenous(adjective) :

Meaning: originating or occurring naturally in a particular place; native.

Synonyms: native, innate, inborn, primitive, congenital

Antonyms: alien, foreign

Usage: They were our indigenous peoples, our first peoples, our first speakers and our first hearers.

Q.11) Quandary (noun) :

Meaning: a state of perplexity or uncertainty over what to do in a difficult situation

Synonyms: dilemma, plight, bewilderment, uncertainty

Antonyms: enhance, certainty

Usage: Finds himself in the most awkward quandary situation.

Q.12) Futuristic(adjective) :

Meaning: having or involving very modern technology or design.

Synonyms: innovative, modern, cutting edge, visionary

Antonyms: old, retro.

Usage: It almost seems futuristic in design, but you can have it right now.

Q.13) Intimidate(verb) :

Meaning: frighten or overawe (someone) , especially in order to make them do what one wants.

Synonyms: dishearten, dismay, terrify

Antonyms: please, praise

Usage: Her boss intimidates her.

Q.14) Quandary (noun) :

Meaning: a state of perplexity or uncertainty over what to do in a difficult situation

Synonyms: dilemma, plight, bewilderment, uncertainty

Antonyms: enhance, certainty

Usage: Finds himself in the most awkward quandary situation.

Q.15) COUP (noun) :

Meaning: an instance of successfully achieving something difficult.

Synonyms: accomplishment, achievement, attainment, triumph.

Antonyms: debacle, failure, downfall, fiasco.

Usage: Since our team is usually eliminated early in the competition, we considered it a major coup when we won the championship.:

Q.16) MELLOW (adjective) :

Meaning: (especially of a sound, flavour, or color) pleasantly smooth or soft; free from harshness.

Synonyms: dulcet, euphonious, melodious, mellifluous, mellifluent.

Antonyms: rugged, abrading, gruff, abrasive, harsh.

Usage: His mellow voice and his qualitative speech made everyone applaud him.

Q.17) REPINE (verb) :

Meaning: feel or express discontent; fret.

Synonyms: mope, languish, despondent, lament.

Antonyms: complacent, fulfilled, rejoice, contented.

Usage: The soldiers repine for their families when they are stationed overseas.

Q.18) PRECARIOUS (adjective) :

Meaning: dependent on chance; uncertain.

Synonyms: unsure, unpredictable, doubtful, dubious.

Antonyms: certain, stable, confirmed, definite.

Usage: As Finance Secretary I found that the finances of the state were in a precarious condition.

Q.19) SMUG (adjective) :

Meaning: having or showing an excessive pride in oneself or one's achievements.

Synonyms: bighead, complacency, egotism, vainglory.

Antonyms: diffidence, bashfulness, demureness, shyness.

Usage: Because Rocky had a smug attitude during his meeting with the principal, he projected the image he was proud of his misdeeds.

Q.20) JEER (noun) :

Meaning: a rude and mocking remark.

Synonyms: hoot, ridicule, scuff, taunt

Antonyms: compliment, praise, flatter

Usage: Virat Kohli asked the crowd not to jeer Steve Smith

Q.21) Corroborate (Verb) :

Meaning: Give evidence for, Back up with evidence.

Synonyms: Validate, support, confirm, verify, endorse.

Antonyms: Reject, Disapprove, contradict

Usage: Every one hastened to corroborate this verdict with some piece of evidence.

Q.22) Ephemeral(Adjective) :

Meaning: Lasting for short time

Synonyms: Temporary, Short-lived, transient.

Antonyms: long-lived, enduring, everlasting, eternal, perpetual.

Usage: time is ephemeral so don't waste it.

Q.23) Approbation (Noun) :

Meaning: Official Approval.

Synonyms: Approval, Favor.

Antonyms: disapprobation, disapproval, disfavor.

Usage: Government gives its approbation to his selection.

Q.24) Altruist (Noun) :

Meaning: who make charitable donations

Synonyms: beneficent, benevolent, charitable, humanitarian, philanthropist, generous

Antonyms: self-centered, self-concerned, selfish.

Usage: Animals can have more altruistic behavior than humans.

Q.25) Ardent(Adjective) :

Meaning: Characterized by strong enthusiasm

Synonyms: Passionate, enthusiastic, zealous

Antonyms: apathetic, dull, calm.

Usage: One should be an ardent supporter for the right cause.

Q.26) Mundane (Adjective) :

Meaning: Found in the ordinary course of events

Synonyms: dime, stale, sober, humdrum, day-to-day

Antonyms: unusual, Exciting, extraordinary.

Usage: The list included many mundane, routine tasks.

Q.27) Ameliorate(Verb) :

Meaning: To make better

Synonyms: Amend, better, improve, upgrade

Antonyms: worsen, reduce, diminish

Usage: The editor ameliorated the manuscript with his changes.

Q.28) Quirk(Noun) :

Meaning: a strange habit

Synonyms: irregularity, trait

Antonyms: normality,

Usage: His biggest quirk is his love for old marbles.

Q.29) Repercussion (Adjective) :

Meaning: the effect that an action, event, or decision has on something, especially a bade effect:

Synonyms: aftermath, consequence

Antonyms: loyal

Usage: Any decrease in tourism could have serious repercussions for the local economy.

Q.30) Sanguine (Adjective) :

Meaning: optimistic or positive, especially in an apparently bad or difficult situation.

Synonyms: optimistic, bullish, hopeful, buoyant, positive

Antonyms: pessimistic, gloomy

Usage: They are less sanguine about the company's long-term prospects.

Q.31) GLOAT (Verb) :

Meaning: dwell on one's own success or another's misfortune with smugness or malignant pleasure.

Synonyms: exult, rejoice, relish

Antonyms: commiserate, sympathize

Usage: If you are the winner of a contest, you should not gloat and make your competitors feel inferior.

Q.32) LOUSY (adjective) :

Meaning: very bad

Synonyms: awful, horrible

Antonyms: good, great Example: The pizza was so incredibly lousy that she wouldn't even give it to her worst enemy.

Q.33) INCERTITUDE (noun) :

Meaning: Uncertainty; doubt

Synonyms: Confused, Suspicious

Antonyms: Assurance, Belief

Usage: The incertitude of his position in life caused him to postpone his marriage.

Q.34) COGNIZANCE (noun) :

Meaning: To take notice of and consider something, especially when judging

Synonyms: Awareness, Familiarity

Antonyms: Unfamiliar, Ignorance

Usage: The lawyer asked the jury to take cognizance of the defendant's generosity in giving to charity.

Q.35) VOLITANT (adjective) :

Meaning: flying or moving about rapidly

Synonyms: floating, soaring

Antonyms: slow, grounded

Usage: Volitant birds have taken over the beach and quickly fly about the area looking for food.

Q.36) DOWNTRODDEN (adjective) :

Meaning: Oppressed or treated badly by people in power.

Synonyms: persecuted, exploited, repressed, tyrannized.

Antonyms: protected, respected, guarded, favored.

Usage: His claim to be a representative of the downtrodden masses is, of course, completely bogus.

Q.37) INCONCEIVABLE (adjective) :

Meaning: not capable of being imagined or grasped mentally; unbelievable.

Synonyms: implausible, improbable, incredible, incogitable.

Antonyms: plausible, reasonable, tenable, conceivable.

Usage: When I looked at my outrageous hospital bill, I blinked at the inconceivable amount

Q.38) DILATORY (adjective) :

Meaning: slow to act

Synonyms: sluggish, slothful, lax, slack.

Antonyms: fast, prompt, brisk, quick.

Usage: They were dilatory in providing the researchers with information.

Q.39) DERISIVE(adjective) :

Meaning: mocking and ridiculing

Synonyms: cheeky, scornful

Antonyms: polite, respectful

Usage: The bully let out a derisive laugh when mocking his classmate's nerdy glasses.

Q.40) REPROBATE (noun) :

Meaning: an unprincipled person.

Synonyms: rogue, scoundrel, villain, wretch.

Antonyms: upright, virtuous, principled, righteous

Usage: Although the old man pretended to be a reprobate in public, in private he did a lot of good deeds for the homeless.

Q.41) EXCORIATE (verb) :

Meaning: to criticize harshly and usually publicly.

Synonyms: assail, castigate, lambaste, vituperate, imprecate.

Antonyms: acclaim, laud, praise, glorify, admire, exalt.

Usage: The stern judge will excoriate the behavior of the repeat offender by sentencing him to thirty years in prison.

Q.42) Quagmire: (noun) :

Meaning: a difficult, puzzling, or embarrassing situation from which there is no easy escape

Synonyms: bind, corner, dilemma, fix, hole, impasse, jam, mire, pickle, predicament, spot

Antonyms: advantage, solution, agreement, contentment

Usage: He's caught in a quagmire of debt.

Q.43) Subtler: (adjective) :

Meaning: clever at attaining one's ends by indirect and often deceptive means

Synonyms: artful, beguiling, cagey, crafty, cunning, cute, designing, devious, foxy, guileful, scheming, shrewd, slick, sly, tricky, wily

Antonyms: artless, guileless, ingenuous, innocent

Usage: There have been many subtler, more original and more systematic thinkers about the conditions of the social union.

Q.44) Proffer: (verb) :

Meaning: to put before another for acceptance or consideration

Synonyms: extend, offer, tender, propose, give in, submit.

Antonyms: decline, deny, disallow, disapprove, negative, reject.

Usage: It is the ultimate manifestation of the marketplace of ideas; the more people who proffer their ideas to the world, the better the outcome will be for us all.

Q.45) Hoary: (adjective) :

Meaning: dating or surviving from the distant past

Synonyms: age-old, aged, ancient, antediluvian, antique, dateless, hoar, immemorial, old, venerable

Antonyms: modern, new, recent

Q.46) CONCOMITANT (adjective) :

Meaning: naturally accompanying or associated.

Synonyms: attendant, collateral, linked, accessory, auxiliary.

Antonyms: unassociated, unconnected, unrelated, indifferent, unbound.

Usage: That it is apparently devoid of psychical concomitant need not imply that the impressions concerned in it are crude and in elaborate.

Q.47) STULTIFY (verb) :

Meaning: cause to lose enthusiasm and initiative, especially as a result of a tedious or restrictive routine.

Synonyms: hamper, impede, obstruct, thwart, suppress, smother, repress, counteract, trammel, restrain.

Antonyms: consolidate, augment, glorify, exacerbate, exalt, stir, elevate, accentuate, strengthen.

Usage: By referencing actual statistics, he was able to stultify his opponent's argument.

Q.48) NIHILISM (noun) :

Meaning: the rejection of all religious and moral principles, in the belief that life is meaningless.

Synonyms: cynicism, rejection, repudiation, abnegation, disbelief, skepticism.

Antonyms: belief, faith, approval, discipline, ratification.

Usage: The rebels urged the people to grab hold of nihilism and remove all government officials from office.

Q.49) BADINAGE (noun) :

Meaning: humorous or witty conversation.

Synonyms: banter, chaff, jesting, repartee, barb, gambit.

Antonyms: bullying, criticism, argument, fight.

Usage: The president was in a good mood as he walked through the crowd and made several voters laugh with his witty badinage.

Q.50) MELLOW (adjective) :

Meaning: (especially of a sound, flavour, or color) pleasantly smooth or soft; free from harshness.

Synonyms: dulcet, euphonious, melodious, mellifluous, mellifluent.

Antonyms: rugged, abrading, gruff, abrasive, harsh.

Usage: His mellow voice and his qualitative speech made everyone applaud him.

Q.51) STRIDE (noun) :

Meaning: A long step or stage in making progress.

Synonyms: clump, tramp, stomp, stalk.

Antonyms: amble, meander, ramble, wander.

Usage: In two bounding strides the woman was in the street, kneeling over her friend.

Q.52) VEXATIOUS (adjective) :

Meaning: Causing or tending to cause annoyance, frustration, or worry.

Synonyms: annoying, irksome, infuriating, exasperating.

Antonyms: pleasing, soothing, aiding, assisting.

Usage: This vexatious problem was resolved, incompletely, by civil war and secession.

Q.53) STODGY (adjective) :

Meaning: Dull and uninspired; lacking originality or excitement.

Synonyms: uninteresting, uninspired, monotonous, humdrum.

Antonyms: exciting, entertaining, breathtaking, enthralling.

Usage: Most of my students used informal, asymmetrical balance, as formal balance can seem stodgy and dull.

Q.54) DODDER (verb) :

Meaning: tremble or totter, typically because of old age.

Synonyms: stumble, stagger, sway, lurch.

Antonyms: steady, fix, stay, still, remain.

Usage: The old woman doddered from the bed to the table.

Q.55) AGAPE (adjective) :

Meaning: (of a person's mouth) wide open in surprise or wonder.

Synonyms: agog, breathless, enthusiastic, raring.

Antonyms: apathetic, indifferent, unimpressed, uninterested.

Usage: When I first saw the sunset in the Grand Canyon, I could only stand staring with my mouth agape.

Q.56) TORPOR (noun) :

Meaning: a state of physical or mental inactivity; lethargy.

Synonyms: listlessness, languor, stagnation, idleness.

Antonyms: eagerness, keenness, spiritedness, vigor.

Usage: During the winter, the bears fall into an intense torpor.

Q.57) PRECARIOUS (adjective) :

Meaning: dependent on chance; uncertain.

Synonyms: unsure, unpredictable, doubtful, dubious.

Antonyms: certain, stable, confirmed, definite.

Usage: As Finance Secretary I found that the finances of the state were in a precarious condition.

Q.58) CONFABULATE (verb) :

Meaning: to talk informally.

Synonyms: chitchat, gossip, patter, schmooze.

Antonyms: be silent, be quiet, listen.

Usage: Guests gathered in the hallway to confabulate about the weather and make small talk.

Q.59) EERIE (adjective) :

Meaning: strange and frightening.

Synonyms: sinister, ghostly, creepy, haunting.

Antonyms: normal, ordinary, prosaic, routine.

Usage: An eerie feeling came over us as we watched the scary movie.

Q.60) SUCCINCTLY (adverb) :

Meaning: in a way that expresses what needs to be said clearly and without unnecessary words.

Synonyms: brief, compendious, concise, terse.

Antonyms: circumlocutory, diffuse, long-winded, prolix.

Q.61) Downtrodden (adjective) :

Meaning: oppressed or treated badly by people in power.

Synonyms: distressed, exploited, needy

Antonyms: rich, wealthy, happy

Usage: In the first place, she was a poor, downtrodden woman; in the second, she was their broker.

Q.62) Epidemic (noun) :

Meaning: a widespread occurrence of an infectious disease in a community at a particular time.

Synonyms: contagious, endemic, infectious

Antonyms: limited

Usage: Then, too, when our artist friend was with us we were in the grasp of an epidemic of cholera.

Q.63) Troop (noun) :

Meaning: soldiers or armed forces.

Synonyms: army, contingent, crew, delegation

Antonyms: individual, one

Usage: Gen. Marion had rallied a troop there, and checked the pursuit.

Q.64) Dominion (noun) :

Meaning: sovereignty or control.

Synonyms: bailiwick, command, commission

Antonyms: submission, subordination

Usage: John had been under her dominion, and proceeded to persuade her.

Q.65) Opacity (noun) :

Meaning: the quality of lacking transparency or translucence.

Synonyms: darkness, murkiness, obscurity

Usage: The cause of this opacity is generally quick boiling while the meat is in.

Q.66) Isolation (noun) :

Meaning: the process or fact of isolating or being isolated.

Synonyms: confine, detach, disconnect

Antonyms: attach, combine, connect

Usage: Like Hermione, he wished to isolate Vere, to preserve her as she was in character.

Q.67) Finality (noun) :

Meaning: the fact or impression of being final and irreversible.

Synonyms: certitude, completeness, decisiveness

Antonyms: fraction, incompleteness

Usage: "The stolen goods were found in her locker," Gilder declared in a tone of finality.

Q.68) Revamp (verb) :

Meaning: give new and improved form, structure, or appearance to.

Synonyms: clean, overhaul, refurbish

Antonyms: break, damage, destroy

Usage: She would learn how to keep her own bank-account and revamp her arithmetic.

Q.69) Antithesis (noun) :

Meaning: a person or thing that is the direct opposite of someone or something else.

Synonyms: antipode, contra, contradictory

Antonyms: same, similarity

Usage: He was only misled by his love of antithesis into a hasty and illogical remark.

Q.70) Pandemic (adjective) :

Meaning: (of a disease) prevalent over a whole country or the world.

Synonyms: broad, catholic, common

Antonyms: abnormal, exclusive, extraordinary

Usage: Uranian Aphrodite was distinguished from her Pandemic sister by chastened lust-repelling loveliness.

Q.71) ENVIRON (verb) :

Meaning: surround; enclose.

Synonyms: encircle, envelop, cloak, swathe.

Antonyms: unbridle, free, open, release.

Usage: The stone circle was environed by an expanse of peat soil.

Q.72) MANDATE (noun) :

Meaning: an official order or commission to do something.

Synonyms: instruction, directive, direction, decree, command

Antonyms: encourage

Example: They carried out the governor's mandate to build more roads.

Q.73) INCIPIENT (Adjective) :

Meaning: in the beginning stages.

Synonym: nascent, basic, beginning, commencing, elementary, fundamental

Antonym: developed, grown, mature

Example: He, too, was found to be suffering from incipient tuberculosis.

Q.74) Dearth (Noun) :

Meaning: A scarcity or lack of something.

Synonym: meagreness, scantiness

Antonym: abundance, a surfeit

Usage: A dearth of nutritious food is a serious problem.

Q.75) EERILY (adverb) :

Meaning: in a strange and frightening manner.

Synonyms: hauntingly, creepily, scarily, spookily.

Antonyms: dulcetly, pleasingly, pleasantly, agreeably.

Usage: In front of him stood a masked man clutching a knife in one hand, grinning eerily at him.

Q.76) SUBVERT (verb) :

Meaning: undermine the power and authority of (an established system or institution) .

Synonyms: destabilize, unsettle, overthrow, depose.

Antonyms: dignify, exalt, honor, ameliorate.

Usage: She subverted my noble desire to do a good deed without reward.

Q.77) USHER (verb) :

Meaning: show or guide (someone) somewhere.

Synonyms: lead, accompany, conduct, assist.

Antonyms: retract, conclude, cease, stop.

Usage: A nurse ushered us into the hospital room.

Q.78) SUBTERRANEAN (adjective) :

Meaning: secret; concealed.

Synonyms: covert, subversive, sunken, private.

Antonyms: aboveground, surface, open, palpable.

Usage: The robbers are digging a subterranean path that will allow them to enter the bank from underneath the vault's floor.

Q.79) SACK (verb) :

Meaning: dismiss from employment.

Synonyms: bounce, discharge, dismiss, terminate,

Antonyms: recruit, employ, engage, hire.

Usage: Any official found to be involved would be sacked on the spot.

Q.80) CLINCH (verb) :

Meaning: to make final, definite, or beyond dispute.

Synonyms: settle, conclude, finalize, wrap up.

Antonyms: confuse, unsettle, release, unfasten.

Usage: Her work on the project should clinch her a promotion.

Q.81) HEAVE (Verb) :

Meaning: lift or haul (something heavy) with great effort.

Synonyms: haul, pull, lug, drag

Antonyms: push

Example: After he tried to heave the heavy weight above his head for the third time, the weak lifter decided to give up.

Q.82) Wrangle: (verb) :

Meaning: to express different opinions about something often angrily

Synonyms: altercation, argue, bicker, brabble

Antonyms: concur, consent

Example: The case dragged on for months, because the lawyers had to wrangle over every minor detail.

Q.83) SKIRMISH (Noun) :

Meaning: an episode of irregular or unpremeditated fighting, especially between small or outlying parts of armies or fleets.

Synonyms: fight, battle, clash, conflict, encounter

Antonyms: accord, concord

Example: Several players got into a skirmish following the first play of the game.

Q.84) Credulous (Adjective) :

Meaning: having or showing too great a readiness to believe things.

Synonym: gullible, naive, impressionable, trusting,

Antonym: worldly, suspicious

Example: When she was younger, my baby sister was incredibly credulous and fell for all my tricks.

Q.85) INFAMOUS(adjective) :

Meaning: having a negative reputation

Synonyms: hateful, vile

Antonyms: gentle, good

Example: The singer is infamous for his loud costumes.

Q.86) INEFFABLE(adjective) :

Meaning: too great or extreme to be expressed or described in words.

Synonyms: inexpressible, indescribable, marvelous, wonderful

Antonyms: definable, describable, utterable

Example: I breathed an air of ineffable sweetness.

Q.87) Isolated (Adjective) :

Meaning: far away from other places, buildings, or people; remote.

Synonym: obscure, inaccessible

Antonym: accessible

Example: The camp is located in an isolated area.

Q.88) Credulous (Adjective) :

Meaning: having or showing too great a readiness to believe things.

Synonym: gullible, naive, impressionable, trusting,

Antonym: worldly, suspicious

Example: When she was younger, my baby sister was incredibly credulous and fell for all my tricks.

Q.89) PROCLIVITY (Noun) :

Meaning: a tendency to choose or do something regularly; an inclination or predisposition towards a particular thing.

Synonyms: liking, inclination, tendency, leaning

Antonyms: disinclination, dislike, antipathy, hate

Example: His proclivity for cooking made him a big hit in the homeowner's association.

Q.90) LEEWAY (Noun) :

Meaning: the amount of freedom to move or act that is available.

Synonyms: freedom, scope

Example: My boss grants me leeway to make my own decisions.

Q.91) INDELIBLE (adjective) :

Meaning: not able to be forgotten.

Synonyms: ineradicable, enduring, stubborn, permanent

Antonyms: delible, destructible, erasable, impermanent

Example: The blood had left an indelible mark on her shirt.

Q.92) TEDIOUS (adjective) :

Meaning: too long, slow, or dull; tiresome or monotonous.

Synonyms: dull, unexciting, unvaried, mundane

Antonyms: exciting, interesting

Example: The meeting was so long and tedious, he was ready to climb the wall.

Q.93) PROWESS (noun) :

Meaning: skill or expertise in a particular activity or field.

Synonyms: skill, expertise, ability, ability

Antonyms: inability, ineptitude

Example: He was famous for his prowess as an athlete.

Q.94) PETULANT (adjective) :

Meaning: (of a person or their manner) childish sulky or bad-tempered.

Synonyms: cranky, fractious, irritable, perverse

Antonyms: agreeable, cheerful, patient, willing

Example: I was made to feel like a petulant child who has flown into a temper because his favorite toy was removed.

Q.95) BYZANTINE (adjective) :

Meaning: (of a system or situation) excessively complicated, and typically involving a great deal of administrative detail
Synonyms: daedal, complicated, convoluted, devious

Example: They are built on the Byzantine pattern, in small scale, and have painted fresco decoration.

Q.96) BUCOLIC (adjective) :

Meaning: relating to the pleasant aspects of the countryside and country life.

Synonyms: rustic, rural, pastoral, country

Antonyms: urban

Example: There was a certain bucolic look to the faces of the cart drivers.

Q.97) LAUDABLE (adjective) :

Meaning: (of an action, idea, or aim) deserving praise and commendation.

Synonyms: praiseworthy, commendable, admirable, meritorious

Example: Faith ceases to be laudable when it is blind faith.

Q.98) RAPACIOUS (adjective) :

Meaning: aggressively greedy or grasping.

Synonyms: grasping, greedy, avaricious, acquisitive

Antonyms: generous

Example: It was a horrendous, rapacious strategy that they had used to gain control of their own home system.

Q.99) BOLSTER (verb) :

Meaning: support or strengthen.

Synonyms: strengthen, support, reinforce, boost

Antonyms: undermine

Example: He is making a bold attempt to bolster the territory's confidence.

Q.100) GERMANE (adjective) :

Meaning: relevant to a subject under consideration.

Synonyms: relevant, pertinent, applicable, apposite

Antonyms: irrelevant

Example: He asks questions that are germane and central to the issue

CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ:

Q.1) Which country builds world's first electrified rail tunnel that fits double stack containers?

- a) Germany
- b) India
- c) China
- d) Japan
- e) Russia

Q.2) Who among the following has been appointed as the Union Health Secretary?

- a) Rajesh Bhushan
- b) Anand Gupta
- c) Surender singh

d) Preeti Sudan

e) Sushil Kumar

Q.3) Amala Shankar who passed away at the age of 101 was a famous _____.

a) Actor

b) Dancer

c) Singer

d) Writer

e) Journalist

Q.4) Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated the 'World Class State of Art Honey Testing Laboratory' at which state?

a) Tamil Nadu

b) Gujarat

c) Uttar Pradesh

d) Sikkim

e) Karnataka

Q.5) Reserve Bank of India signed USD 400 million currency swap facility for which of the following country?

a) Myanmar

b) Bangladesh

c) Sri Lanka

d) Maldives

e) Nepal

Q.6) As per FAO, India has ranked _____ among the top 10 countries that have gained in forest areas in the last decade.

a) Seventh

b) First

c) Third

d) Fifth

e) Fourth

Q.7) As per RBI financial stability report, Gross NPA of bank may rise to _____ by March 2021.

a) 7.25%

b) 14.75%

c) 18.5%

d) 12.5%

e) 8.5%

Q.8) Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhary has been named as the new head of _____ Air Command of Indian Air Force.

a) Central Air Command

b) Western Air Command

c) Eastern Air Command

d) Southern Air Command

e) South Western Air Command

Q.9) Which Indian state will host the 4th Khelo India Youth Games that is scheduled after Tokyo Olympics in 2021?

a) Rajasthan

b) Madhya Pradesh

c) Uttarakhand

d) Haryana

e) Gujarat

Q.10) TRIFED has entered a partnership with which of the following institute to implement the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) scheme?

- a) IIT-Delhi
- b) IIT-Kharagpur
- c) IIT- Bombay
- d) IIT-Madras
- e) IIT-Kanpur

Q.11) Which city ranked top among India cities on world's most surveilled cities 2020 list released by Comparitech (Taiyuan, China topped overall ranking) ?

- a) Chennai
- b) Lucknow
- c) Patna
- d) Mumbai
- e) Hyderabad

Q.12) Indian Navy's largest solar power plant with an estimated life of 25 years has been commissioned in which state?

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Telangana
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Andhra Pradesh
- e) Kerala

Q.13) Who among the following has been named as FWA Footballer of the Year?

- a) Sadio Mané
- b) Jordan Henderson
- c) Steve Gerrard
- d) Kevin Brune
- e) Mohamed Salah

Q.14) Indian Railways is constructing the world's first electrified tunnel to run double-stack containers in which of the following state?

- a) Gujarat
- b) Kerala
- c) Haryana
- d) Assam
- e) Mizoram

Q.15) Who has been authored the book titled "The India Way: Strategies for an Uncertain World"?

- a) Ram Nath Kovind
- b) Sudha Krishnamurthy
- c) S Jaishankar
- d) Ruskin Bond
- e) Arun Jaitley

Q.16) Hichem Mechichi has been appointed as the new prime minister of which country?

- a) Algeria
- b) Tunisia
- c) Argentina
- d) Egypt
- e) Libya

Q.17) Indian climate activist _____ has been named to the new advisory group of UN formed to provide solutions to tackle the worsening climate crisis.

- a) Ramya Subramaniam
- b) Archana Soreng

c) Anushka Shetty

d) Amutha Jagan

e) Lakshmi Sundaram

Q.18) Who among the following won the Premier League's Golden Boot after scoring highest number of goals in the 2019-20 season?

a) Cristiano Ronaldo

b) Mohamed Salah

c) Jamie Vardy

d) Lionel Messi

e) Steve Gerrard

Q.19) Name the person who written the book named "Quest for Restoring Financial Stability in India".

a) B.P. Kanungo

b) M. K. Jain

c) Viral V. Acharya

d) N. S. Vishwanathan

e) Shaktikanta Das

Q.20) An early-stage startup at which institution has launched wrist band for detecting COVID symptoms?

a) IIT Roorkee

b) IIT Madras

c) IIM Ahmadabad

d) IIM Bangalore

e) IIT Delhi

Q.21) Benjamin Mkapa who passed away recently was the president of which country?

a) Ethiopia

b) Tanzania

c) Zambia

d) Nigeria

e) Uganda

Q.22) Name the mobile app which was launched by Union Minister of Earth Sciences, Harsh Vardhan.

a) Cloudy

b) AccurateWeather

c) Mausam

d) Dark Sky

e) Climate

Q.23) Which state/UT government launched a free website portal named 'Rozgaar Bazaar' for job seekers, employers?

a) Madhya Pradesh

b) Tamil Nadu

c) Chhattisgarh

d) Delhi

e) Jammu & Kashmir

Q.24) Who has been appointed as new Prime Minister of Croatia?

a) Miroslav Skoro

b) Andrej Plenkovic

c) Davor Bozinovic

d) Sharif Sheikh Ahmed

e) Omar Sharmarke

Q.25) Indian railways set the target to use Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tag for tracking wagons by which year?

- a) 2023
- b) 2022
- c) 2030
- d) 2021
- e) 2026

Q.26) Who has been named as the new CEO of British luxury carmaker Jaguar Land Rover?

- a) Thierry Bollore
- b) Oliver Zipse
- c) Makoto Uchida
- d) Markus Duesmann
- e) Kookhyun Shim

Q.27) Indian-Origin Politician Pritam Singh has been appointed as the First Leader Of Opposition In the Parliament of _____.

- a) Malaysia
- b) Philippines
- c) Singapore
- d) South Africa
- e) Thailand

Q.28) Who launched the Bureau of Indian Standard's Mobile App, 'BIS-Care' recently?

- a) Nitin Gadkari
- b) Nirmala Sitharaman
- c) Amit Shah
- d) Ram Vilas Paswan
- e) Narendra Modi

Q.29) Who has been Honored with Karamveer Chakra Award of United Nations and ICONGO?

- a) Rakesh Kumar
- b) Sarath Sharma
- c) Sunil ydv SS
- d) Michel Foucault
- e) Sanjay Gupta

Q.30) Power Finance Corporation signed agreement with which IIT for training, research and Entrepreneurship Development (ED) in smart grid technology?

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

Q.31) Which district tops NITI Aayog's overall delta ranking of aspirational districts for February-June 2020?

- a) Ri-Bhoi, Meghalaya
- b) Moga, Punjab
- c) Nawada, Bihar
- d) Bahraich, Uttar Pradesh
- e) Bijapur, Chhattisgarh

Q.32) A panel led by former Indian Space Research Organisation chief _____ submitted the draft of the New National Education Policy.

- a) Shailesh Nayak
- b) A. S. Kiran Kumar

- c) K Kasturirangan
d) S. Radhakrishnan
e) G. Madhavan Nair
- Q.33) UK India Business Council (UKIBC) signed MoU with which state government to strengthen the industrial development?
- a) Karnataka
b) Maharashtra
c) Gujarat
d) Madhta Pradesh
e) Bihar
- Q.34) Who has been appointed as the MD & group CEO of ICRA Limited recently?
- a) Naresh Takkar
b) Arun Duggal
c) N. Sivaraman
d) Ravichandran
e) Aravind Sagar
- Q.35) Which of the following players have won the doubles title at the LTA British Tour tennis tournament in Surrey?
- a) Purav Raja and Divij Sharan
b) Purav Raja and Vijay Sundar Prashanth
c) Vijay Sundar Prashanth and Divij Sharan
d) Ryan Peniston & David Stevenson
e) Rohan Bopanna and Divij Sharan
- Q.36) Who among the following has launched 'Dare To Dream 2.0' Contest For Startups With the Aim To Promote Innovators?
- a) HAL

- b) BEL
c) DRDO
d) GRSE
e) ISRO
- Q.37) Who has won life time excellence award in National Awards for excellence in Earth System Science recognized by Ministry of Earth Sciences?
- a) Ashok Sahn
b) M. Ravichandran
c) Khandeparker
d) Atmanand
e) Chalapathi Rao
- Q.38) Cabinet recently approved MoU between India and _____ on Cooperation in the field of Traditional System of Medicine and Homeopathy.
- a) Zimbabwe
b) Kenya
c) Nepal
d) Maldives
e) Thailand
- Q.39) Which country is going to host the 6th annual meeting of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) in 2021?
- a) China
b) Australia
c) UAE
d) Japan
e) Brazil

Q.40) Who authored the book named "Burnt Sugar" or "Girl in White Cotton"?

- a) Sunil Mehta
- b) Tulika Mehrotra
- c) Rahul Singh
- d) Avni Doshi
- e) Kritika Pandey

Q.41) Who among the following has launched the India Report on Digital Education, 2020?

- a) Anurag Thakur
- b) Nirmala Sitharaman
- c) Narendra Modi
- d) Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank
- e) Amit Shah

Q.42) PM Narendra Modi along with Mauritius PM Pravin Jugnauth inaugurated the Supreme Court building in _____.

- a) Port Louis
- b) New Delhi
- c) Grand Port
- d) Mumbai
- e) Gujarat

Q.43) Which institution has developed an efficient method to derive 'activated carbon electrode' material from corn husk for high-voltage supercapacitors?

- a) IIT Mandi
- b) IIM Ahmedabad
- c) IIT Madras
- d) IIT Hyderabad

e) IIT Delhi

Q.44) Which among the following city has been ranked number 1 among 10 smart cities of Northeast India?

- a) Shillong
- b) Gangtok
- c) Aizawl
- d) Kohima
- e) Agartala

Q.45) Who released the e-book titled 'Standard Treatment Guidelines for the Management of Substance Use Disorders and Behavioural Addictions'?

- a) Prakash Javadekar
- b) Harsh Vardhan
- c) Nirmala Sitharaman
- d) Narendra Modi
- e) Narendra Singh Tomar

Q.46) The SABIC chemical plant in 'which' country set to become the world's first large scale chemical production plant to completely run on renewable power?

- a) Germany
- b) France
- c) Spain
- d) Argentina
- e) Netherlands

Q.47) Which of the following company has signed MoU with Automotive Research

Association of India (ARAI) to jointly develop advanced biofuels application technology?

- a) Praj Industries
- b) Technophil Industries
- c) Libra Techon Industries
- d) Petrocil Industries
- e) Tripod Projects

Q.48) Which of the following government appointed Wrestler Babita Phogat and Kabaddi player Kavita as sports deputy directors?

- a) Gujarat
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Haryana
- d) Assam
- e) Manipur

Q.49) Which of the following is the initiative launched by AIM in partnership with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Wadhvani Foundation to enable the incubation ecosystem?

- a) AIM-iCaptain
- b) AIM-iCREST
- c) AIM-Incu -Bill
- d) AIM-Gates
- e) AIM-Ecos

Q.50) Name the India's first Solar Powered ferry which has won 1st 'Gussies' electric boat awards ('Gustave Trouvé Award').

- a) Akash

- b) Vamsi
- c) Dhanush
- d) Aditya
- e) Jeevan

Q.51) 'Great Prophet 14' is the military exercise conducted by which of the following country?

- a) Kuwait
- b) UAE
- c) Iraq
- d) Iran
- e) Egypt

Q.52) Name the Indian chess player who finished 2nd in grandmaster triathlon tournament at 53rd Biel International chess festival.

- a) Krishnan Sasikiran
- b) Koneru Humpy
- c) Baskaran Adhiban
- d) P. Harikrishna
- e) Harika Dronavalli

Q.53) Somendra Nath Mitra passed away recently. He is the former Lok Sabha MP from which state?

- a) Odisha
- b) Maharashtra
- c) West Bengal
- d) Rajasthan
- e) Uttar Pradesh

Q.54) Which of the following state has been chosen to implement Green-Ag Project with an aim to reduce emissions from agriculture?

- a) Uttarakhand
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) West Bengal
- e) Uttar Pradesh

Q.55) which of the following state governments launched iMASQ mobile COVID-19 testing centres?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Telangana
- d) Manipur
- e) Gujarat

Q.56) Who has been appointed as the Commandant of Air Force Administrative College (AFAC) located in Coimbatore?

- a) Nardeep Naithani
- b) Rajnish Verma
- c) R K Singh Bhadauria
- d) Rajnath Singh
- e) Sanjay Mehta

Q.57) Which of the following companies signed a loan deed with JERA for full financing of a gas-fired thermal power project in Bangladesh?

- a) Power Grid Corporation Of India Ltd
- b) Adani Power Ltd

c) Reliance Power Ltd

d) NTPC Ltd

e) L & T Limited

Q.58) Hamed Bakayoko has been appointed as the Prime Minister of which country?

- a) Ivory Coast
- b) Serbia
- c) Ghana
- d) Malta
- e) Guinea

Q.59) Who has been appointed as the additional and independent director of Great Eastern Shipping Company Ltd?

- a) S Jaishankar
- b) Viral Acharya
- c) BP Kanungo
- d) Urjit Patel
- e) Raghuram Rajan

Q.60) Environment minister Prakash Javadekar represented India in 6th BRICS Environment Ministers' Meeting hosted by which country?

- a) Brazil
- b) Russia
- c) India
- d) China
- e) South Africa

Q.61) Sonam Tshering Lepcha who passed away in July 2020 is a renowned _____.

- a) Folk Musician

b) Politician

c) Football Player

d) Painter

e) Architect

Q.62) Kerala Government has planned to provide tap connections to all rural households by _____.

a) 2023

b) 2021

c) 2025

d) 2024

e) 2026

Q.63) Which of the following districts have topped Niti's aspirational districts ranking for Feb-June 2020?

a) Lucknow

b) Mandi

c) Belgaum

d) Mangalore

e) Bijapur

Q.64) Which of the following railways ran its first-ever Vyapar Mala Express train(August 2020) ?

a) South Western

b) Northwestern

c) Northeast

d) Nothern

e) Southern

Q.65) Which of the following country recently announced the start-up operations of its first nuclear power plant?

a) Qatar

b) Kuwait

c) Oman

d) Bahrain

e) UAE

Q.66) Which state government launched "Ek Mask-Anek Zindagi" (One mask, Many lives) public awareness campaign recently?

a) Mizoram

b) Karnataka

c) Madhya Pradesh

d) Telangana

e) Uttar Pradesh

Q.67) Name the robot designed by the Central Railway to remotely communicates between doctor and patient.

a) Smart

b) Healthy

c) Nirvay

d) Peace

e) Rakshak

Q.68) The Grievance System of which state has won the Digital India Platinum Award by Skoch Foundation?

a) Karnataka

b) Assam

c) West Bengal

d) Haryana

e) Rajasthan

Q.69) Who among the following clinched the 2020 British Grand Prix?

a) Lewis Hamilton

b) Max Verstappen

c) Charles Leclerc

d) Lando Norris

e) Valtteri Bottas

Q.70) Which of the following ministry receives SKOCH Gold Award in digital India category for "Empowerment of Tribals through IT enabled Scholarship Schemes" in 66th edition.

a) Ministry of Home Affairs

b) Ministry of Coal

c) Ministry of Commerce and Industry

d) Ministry of Tribal Affairs

e) Ministry of Human Resource Development

Q.71) Who among the following authored the book titled 'Greenlights'?

a) Andrew Sean Greer

b) Katharine Hepburn

c) Matthew McConaughey

d) Bong Joon-ho

e) Sigrid Nunez

Q.72) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission signed an MoU to supply mustard oil to which of the following defence force?

a) Sashastra Seema Bal

b) Border Security Force

c) Indo-Tibetan Border Police

d) Central Industrial Security Force

e) Central Reserve Police Force

Q.73) Who among the following organization bagged the Environment Sustainability award at 18th FICCI CSR award ceremony, organized by FICCI?

a) Dalmia Bharat Group

b) Birla Corporation

c) Ambuja Cements

d) UltraTech Cement

e) ACC Limited

Q.74) Which financial institution has approved a dollar of 202 million additional financing for the modern food storage facilities project in Bangladesh?

a) Asian Development Bank

b) International Monetary Fund

c) World Bank

d) New Development Bank

e) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank

Q.75) Which of the following teams has been nominated as the World's Most Valuable Brands in Football?

a) Manchester City

b) Leganes

c) Villareal

d) Real Madrid

e) Granada

Q.76) The Chief Minister of which state has launched an Online Portal To Issue Fire Safety Certificates?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Uttar Pradesh
- c) Odisha
- d) Haryana
- e) Madhya Pradesh

Q.77) Who has launched 'CREDAI Awaas App' and NAREDCO's online portal 'HousingforAll.com' recently?

- a) Pralhad Joshi
- b) Shripad Yasso Naik
- c) Hardeep Singh Puri
- d) Narendra Singh Tomar
- e) Nitin Gadkari

Q.78) Footballer Benedikt Howedes who announced retirement recently belongs to which country?

- a) Portugal
- b) Argentina
- c) Croatia
- d) Russia
- e) Germany

Q.79) World Breastfeeding Week (WBW) is observed annually on August 1-7. What is the theme for WBW 2020?

- a) "Support Breast feeding for a healthier planet"
- b) "Empower Parents, Enable Breastfeeding"

c) "Breastfeeding: Foundation of Life"

d) "Sustaining Breastfeeding Together"

e) "Breastfeeding: Family Health"

Q.80) Who has been appointed as the new CEO of HDFC Bank?

- a) Shyamala Gopinath
- b) Umesh Chandra Sarangi
- c) Shashidhar Jagdishan
- d) Aditya Puri
- e) Sandeep Patel

Q.81) Researchers from which among the following university have been awarded for generating power from wet clothes?

- a) IIT-Kanpur
- b) IIT-Madras
- c) IIT-Kharagpur
- d) IIT-Mumbai
- e) IIT- Delhi

Q.82) Which state government launched cybercrime awareness programme named 'E-Raksha Bandhan'?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Telangana
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Tamil Nadu
- e) Kerala

Q.83) Which country has recently withdrawn from the women's world team squash championship scheduled in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from December 15 to 20?

a) Thailand

b) Japan

c) China

d) India

e) Russia

Q.84) Who among the following will head the IFSCA panel to suggest ways for the development of the international retail business?

a) Rajesh Kumar

b) Pradip Shah

c) Siddhartha Sengupta

d) Shyamal Mukherjee

e) Amit Shah

Q.85) Who among the following has been declared as the new president of Guyana?

a) David Cooper

b) Mohabir Anil Nandlall

c) Bharrat Jagdeo

d) Mohamed Irfaan Ali

e) David Arthur

Q.86) Which state signed a pact with Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL), ITC and Procter and Gamble (P&G), for marketing and technology support for economic empowerment of the women?

a) Andhra Pradesh

b) Kerala

c) Telangana

d) Tamil Nadu

e) Karnataka

Q.87) Rajesh Kumar has been appointed as the chief secretary of which state?

a) Tripura

b) Manipur

c) Karnataka

d) Meghalaya

e) Sikkim

Q.88) Who among the following has been included in the 12-member selection panel for National Sports Awards?

a) Vinod Kambli

b) MS Dhoni

c) Sachin Tendulkar

d) Rahul Dravid

e) Virender Sehwag

Q.89) Who among the following has taken over as the chief of IAF's Western Air Command?

a) Girish Chowdry

b) Kamal Singh

c) VR Chaudhari

d) Satinder Saini

e) Ravinder Pal

Q.90) Who has been appointed as the Director General of News Services Division of All India Radio?

a) Rajeev Kapoor

b) Jaideep Bhatnagar

c) Rajiv Joshi

d) Sherya Maurya

e) Jagdeep Singh

Q.91) Sandro Wagner, who recently announced his retirement is related with which of the following fields?

a) Football

b) Badminton

c) Cricket

d) Hockey

e) Wrestling

Q.92) Kamal Rani Varun who passed away in August 2020 is the cabinet minister in which state?

a) Madhya Pradesh

b) Uttar Pradesh

c) Punjab

d) Haryana

e) Gujarat

Q.93) Who among the following has released the booklet on Best Practices in Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme?

a) Narendra Modi

b) Amit Shah

c) Narendra Singh Tomar

d) Prahlad Patel

e) Ravi Shankar Prasad

Q.94) Which of the following state government has decided to set up MSME industrial parks?

a) Madhya Pradesh

b) Maharashtra

c) Haryana

d) Uttar Pradesh

e) Assam

Q.95) Which of the following country will soon issue a coin to honour Mahatma Gandhi?

a) Switzerland

b) UK

c) Japan

d) Russia

e) France

Q.96) The book titled "The Swachh Bharat Revolution" has been edited by _____.

a) Prahlad Singh Patel

b) Vishesh Arunagam

c) Parameswaran Iyer

d) Giri Keshav

e) Ramesh Soti

Q.97) India's tourism ministry has been inaugurated Thenzawl Golf Resort project in which state?

a) Sikkim

b) Arunachal Pradesh

c) Maharashtra

d) Mizoram

e) Karnataka

Q.98) Which of the following institute has signed with Defence Ministry recently joined

Hands For 'Predictive Analysis Of Public Grievances'?

- a) IIT Kanpur
- b) IIT Delhi
- c) IIT Bombay
- d) IIT Madras
- e) IIT Kharagpur

Q.99) Iker Casillas officially announced retirement. He played for which of the following nations?

- a) Italy
- b) France
- c) Spain
- d) Belgium
- e) Brazil

Q.100) Who has been appointed to the Board of Geojit Financial Services Ltd?

- a) Mohan Rajan
- b) Sundar Varatharajan
- c) Keshav Kumar
- d) Alice G. Vaidyan
- e) Sunil Sharma

Q.101) Biography of India's youngest Basketball captain, _____ is set to release.

- a) "Vishesh: Play To Die"
- b) "Vishesh: Wealthy Life"
- c) "Vishesh: Code To Win"
- d) "Vishesh: Mode To Win"
- e) "Vishesh: Long Journey"

Q.102) Which of the following railway station has inaugurates Unique COVID prevention kiosk "UV Baggage Bath"?

- a) visakhapatnam railway station
- b) Bengaluru railway station
- c) Kanpur railway station
- d) Lucknow railway station
- e) Chattrapathi sivaji railway station

Q.103) The draft Defence Production and Export Promotion Policy 2020 (DPEPP 2020) aims to achieve USD 25 billion defence turnover by which year?

- a) 2025
- b) 2022
- c) 2030
- d) 2027
- e) 2023

Q.104) Nobel Prize winning politician John Hume from Northern Ireland has passed away. He won the Nobel prize in which field?

- a) Peace
- b) Literature
- c) Mathematics
- d) Physics
- e) Chemistry

Q.105) The newly installed Mass Fever Screening System, at the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad has been set up by Union Health Ministry in association with _____

a) USAID and UNICEF

b) IMF & UNICEF

c) World Bank and UNICEF

d) ADB and UNICEF

e) AIIB and UNESCO

Q.106) Which state planned to develop India's 1st snow leopard conservation centre?

a) Andhra Pradesh

b) Madhya Pradesh

c) Uttarakhand

d) Gujarat

e) Uttar Pradesh

Q.107) Which of the following state government signed MoU with Indian School of Business (ISB) recently?

a) Tripura

b) West Bengal

c) Gujarat

d) Andhra Pradesh

e) Telangana

Q.108) Who among the following has launched the book 'Swachh Bharat Kranti' to capture the remarkable journey of the Swachh Bharat Mission through 35 essays?

a) Smriti Irani and Narendra Singh Tomar

b) Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Smriti Irani

c) Prahlad Patel and Smriti Irani

d) Narendra Singh Tomar and Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

e) Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Prahlad Patel

Q.109) Who among the following has won the CSIR Young Scientist Award 2020 in the biological sciences category?

a) Srihari Pabbaraja

b) Uma Maheswari

c) Thamarai Selvi

d) Nandhini Devi

e) Pavitra Raman

Q.110) Who among the following has chaired the 1st General Council meeting of Khelo India Scheme?

a) Narendra Modi

b) Prahlad Patel

c) Kiren Rijiju

d) Prakash Javadekar

e) Amit Shah

Q.111) Manoj Sinha has been appointed as the Lieutenant Governor of which among the following Union Territory?

a) Andaman and Nicobar Islands

b) Jammu and Kashmir

c) Lakshadweep

d) Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu

e) Puducherry

Q.112) Which of the following states has launched the "Parivar Pehchan Patra" to enable the citizens to get the benefits of

various central and state government schemes?

- a) Chhattisgarh
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Haryana
- d) Kerala
- e) Assam

Q.113) India has extended Line of Credit worth \$18 million to the Government of _____ for the expansion of fishing facilities at MIFCO.

- a) Mongolia
- b) Maldives
- c) Myanmar
- d) Morocco
- e) Madagascar

Q.114) Which of the following state government has announced a partnership with Google for introducing digital education tools in schools?

- a) West Bengal
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Haryana
- d) Maharashtra
- e) Gujarat

Q.115) Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal laid the foundation stone of Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Sirmaur at which state?

- a) Uttar Pradesh

b) Himachal Pradesh

c) Madhya Pradesh

d) Arunachal Pradesh

e) Andhra Pradesh

Q.116) Which of the following state has launched Shaheed Mahendra Karma Tendupatta Sangraha Samajik Suraksha Yojana for tendu leaves collectors?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Chhattisgarh
- c) Punjab
- d) Maharashtra
- e) Haryana

Q.117) Which is the most valuable brand in the world as per FutureBrand Index 2020?

- a) Microsoft
- b) Google
- c) Apple
- d) TCS
- e) Reliance Industries

Q.118) Which state government launched "Mahila Evam Kishori Samman Yojana" & "Mukhya Mantri Doodh Uphar Yojana" for girls and women?

- a) Chhattisgarh
- b) Haryana
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Assam
- e) Maharashtra

Q.119) Who has been appointed as the ambassadors of Win Trade Fantasy (WTF) Sports recently?

- a) Suresh Raina
- b) Ravindra Jadeja
- c) Harmanpreet Kaur
- d) Both 1) and 2)
- e) Both 1) and 3)

Q.120) Name the Malayalam film which has won best film award at the 20th edition of New York Indian Film Festival (NYIFF) .

- a) Forensic
- b) Moothon
- c) Shylock
- d) Kappela
- e) Anjaam Pathiraa

Q.121) To rope in start-ups for IT solutions for financial inclusion and efficient banking services, the RBI has decided to set up _____.

- a) Innovation Hub
- b) Marketing Hub
- c) Research & Development Hub
- d) IT solutions Hub
- e) Cyber cell Hub

Q.122) Odisha coastal villages Venkatraipur and Noliasahi are the 1st in Indian Ocean Region termed as 'Tsunami Ready' by which organization?

- a) UNESCO

b) WHO

c) UNICEF

d) UNDP

e) WEF

Q.123) Which of the following country will host the 2022 edition of Men's T20 Cricket World cup?

- a) Australia
- b) England
- c) UAE
- d) India
- e) Brazil

Q.124) Which of the following organization collaborated with Simplilearn to upskill professionals in digital skills?

- a) Tata STRIVE Extension Centre
- b) National Skill Enhancement Agency
- c) Industrial training institute
- d) National Skill Development Corporation
- e) Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Agency

Q.125) Export-Import bank of India has extended a Line of Credit of USD 250 million to which country?

- a) Maldives
- b) Thailand
- c) Mozambique
- d) Angola
- e) Malawi

Q.126) Who has been appointed as the Chairman of UPSC?

- a) Pradeep Kumar Joshi
- b) Ajay Tyagi
- c) Harsh Kumar Banwala
- d) Puneet Joshi
- e) Ram Prasad

Q.127) Who among the following has written the book 'RAW: A History of India's Covert Operations'?

- a) Karan Kapoor
- b) Mohan Tiwary
- c) Praveen Thambe
- d) Rahul Sharma
- e) Yatish Yadav

Q.128) The Indian Railways will run the first Kisan Rail special service between which two states?

- a) Haryana and Bihar
- b) Maharashtra and Bihar
- c) Bihar and Madhya Pradesh
- d) Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra
- e) Haryana and Assam

Q.129) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) signed MoU with which IIT to strengthen data-driven decision making?

- a) IIT Delhi
- b) IIT Kanpur
- c) IIT Madras
- d) IIT Kharagpur

e) IIT Bombay

Q.130) Who has been appointed as the 14th Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India?

- a) Hardayal Prasad
- b) Arvind Saxena
- c) Pradeep Kumar Joshi
- d) Rajiv Mehrishi
- e) Girish Chandra Murmu

Q.131) who has been appointed as the MD&CEO of PNB housing finance?

- a) Hardayal Prasad
- b) Arvind Kumar
- c) Pradeep Kumar Joshi
- d) Rajiv Mehrishi
- e) Rajiv Kumar

Q.132) Who among the following has been chosen for the 2020 Prem Bhatia journalism award?

- a) Suhasini Haider
- b) Neerja Chaudhury
- c) Dipankar Ghose
- d) Raj Chengappa
- e) Sainath Sundar

Q.133) The three-member committee to determine the ceiling rates for reimbursement of taxes and duties to exporters under RoDTEP scheme is formed under the chairmanship of _____.

- a) G K Pillai

b) Gautam Sharma

c) K V Kamath

d) Shiva Kumar

e) Ajay Tyagi

Q.134) KVIC's first-ever training-cum-production centre has been set up in which of the following states?

a) Meghalaya

b) Arunachal Pradesh

c) Maharashtra

d) Gujarat

e) Himachal Pradesh

Q.135) Which of the following won the first prize in the Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2020?

a) Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT)

b) Indian Institute of Technology, Madras

c) Centre of Excellence in Cryptology

d) High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL)

e) Armaments Research & Development Establishment (ARDE)

Q.136) Who among the following bagged the prestigious Asian College of Journalism's Award for Investigative Journalism?

a) Siddharth Shahi

b) Nitin Sethi

c) Shivpal Malik

d) Arun Ketkar

e) Naveen Jagan

Q.137) Who has launched the app "My Handloom Portal" for weavers on National Handloom Day?

a) Anurag Thakur

b) Narendra Modi

c) Smriti Irani

d) Prahlad Patel

e) Amit Shah

Q.138) Which of the following was awarded the Food Systems Vision Prize for its 'Eat Right India' movement?

a) Akshaya Patra

b) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India

c) Fight Hunger Foundation

d) No Hungry Child

e) Healthy Food Foundation

Q.139) Flipkart signed an MoU with One District One Product (ODOP) scheme of which of the following states?

a) Madhya Pradesh

b) Karnataka

c) Uttar Pradesh

d) Maharashtra

e) Telangana

Q.140) Who has been appointed as Deputy CEO and MD of JCB India?

a) Suman Rajan

b) Deepak Shetty

c) Narasimhan Rao

d) Vinayak Shastri

e) Rakesh Sharma

Q.141) Find the IIT which in collaboration with Imperial College London, develops nanoparticle 'meta-grid'.

a) IIT Madras

b) IIT Jodhpur

c) IIT Guwahati

d) IIT Bombay

e) IIT Kanpur

Q.142) Which International Airport Limited developed "Air Suvidha" portal for all international arriving passengers across India?

a) Mumbai International Airport Limited

b) Ahmedabad International Airport Limited

c) Bengaluru International Airport Limited

d) Delhi International Airport Limited

e) Hyderabad International Airport Limited

Q.143) Union minister for Education, Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has inaugurated global conference on "Reimagining and Transforming the University" hosted by which university?

a) Amity University

b) Birla Institute of Technology and Science

c) Punjab Professional University

d) O.P. Jindal Global University

e) SRM Institute of Science & Technology

Q.144) Which of the following is the first Municipal Corporation in India to provide forestland Right Certificates to people of urban area?

a) Jagdalpur

b) Korba

c) Raigarh

d) Ambikapur

e) Dhamtari

Q.145) Punjab Cricket Association decided to name its new stadium in the memory of whom?

a) Ranjit Kumar

b) Kharak Singh

c) Maharaja Yadavindra Singh

d) Ram Nau Nihal Singh

e) Shekwhat Singh

Q.146) Name the state government which has announced the launch of "Indira Van Mitan Yojana" to support forest dwellers?

a) Karnataka

b) Chhattisgarh

c) Kerala

d) Madhya Pradesh

e) Tripura

Q.147) Which of the following university has won Smart India Hackathon 2020?

a) Delhi University

b) Aligarh Muslim University

c) Jawaharlal Nehru University

d) Symbiosis Law School

e) Jamia Millia Islamia

Q.148) Which of the following state signed Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with IIT Delhi to set up a Geographical Information System (GIS) based platform?

a) Rajasthan

b) Gujarat

c) Maharashtra

d) Bihar

e) Assam

Q.149) Walter Roger Martos Ruiz succeeds Pedro Cateriano as the Prime Minister of which country?

a) Bolivia

b) Malawi

c) Brazil

d) Peru

e) Chile

Q.150) Anti-Bullying Campaign, a part of 'Teen Age Police' programme is an initiative of which of the following Police?

a) Faridabad Police

b) Delhi Police

c) Chennai Police

d) Bhopal Police

e) Hyderabad Police

Q.151) Who has been appointed as the 16th Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania?

a) Mohamed Ould Bilal

b) Martin Vizcarra

c) Mohamed Al Cheikh

d) Pedro Álvaro

e) San Jose

Q.152) Who has been appointed as the first woman chairman of SAIL, the largest steel-making company in India?

a) Gagandeep Kang

b) Hina Jaiswal

c) Soma Mondal

d) Lakshmi Devi

e) Divya Karnad

Q.153) Who has been elected as the President of Belarus?

a) Svetlana Tikhanovskaya

b) Sergei Chechen

c) Andrei Dmitriyev

d) Alexander Lukashenko

e) Aron Kanopatskaya

Q.154) 'Connecting, Communicating, Changing' is a book chronicling which of the following person?

a) Manmohan Singh

b) Venkaiah Naidu

c) Ram Nath Kovind

d) Pranab Mukherjee

e) Narendra Modi

Q.155) Which among the following institution has developed indigenous seed balls BEEG

(Bio -compost Enriched Eco-friendly Globule)
for farmers?

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

Q.156) Who among the following has
launched "SURAKHSYA" portal on Human-
Elephant Conflict on World Elephant Day?

- a) Prakash Javadekar
- b) Nitin Gadkari
- c) Smriti Irani
- d) Amit Shah
- e) Ramnath Kovind

Q.157) Which is the first city in India to have
female icons on traffic signals?

- a) Bengaluru
- b) Mumbai
- c) Kolkata
- d) Chennai
- e) Pune

Q.158) Which state government has launched
"Mukhya Mantri Kisan Sahay Yojana" by
replacing "Pradhan Mantri Fasal BimaYojana
(PMFBY) " for FY21?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Arunachal Pradesh
- c) Mizoram
- d) Gujarat

e) Uttarakhand

Q.159) Who has been won the 70th
Anniversary Grand Prix 2020 held at
Silverstone in UK?

- a) Charles Leclerc
- b) Lewis Hamilton
- c) Max Verstappen
- d) Sebastian Vettel

e) Valtteri Bottas

Q.160) Which of the following companies
launched a portable Android-based Pocket
POS device recently?

- a) Reliance Jio
- b) Paytm
- c) Microsoft
- d) Google Pay
- e) Phone Pe

Q.161) Who among the following has become
the first-ever woman Vice President of the
United States?

- a) Seema Verma
- b) Pramila Jayapal
- c) Nikki Haley
- d) Manka Dhingra
- e) Kamala Harris

Q.162) Which of the following state has
signed MoA with Power Finance Corporation to
construct 2 modular operation theatre rooms?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Uttar Pradesh

c) Madhya Pradesh

d) Maharashtra

e) Gujarat

Q.163) Which of the following country has recently announced the first coronavirus vaccine, touted as the first in the world?

a) Israel

b) Russia

c) Germany

d) USA

e) India

Q.164) Kamala, also known as James Harris who passed away at the age of 70 was a former _____.

a) Director

b) Actor

c) Wrestler

d) Singer

e) Writer

Q.165) Who among the following has authored the book titled 'A Bend in Time'?

a) Deepak Chopra

b) Bijal Vachharajani

c) Dalai Lama

d) Ram Dass

e) Sri Chinmoy

Q.166) What is the theme of the 2020 International Youth Day observed on 12th of August?

a) Youth Civic Engagement

b) Safe Spaces for Youth

c) Youth Building Peace

d) Youth Engagement for Global Action

e) Transforming education

Q.167) Which company along with NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission released the 2nd edition of Student Entrepreneurship Program?

a) Wipro Technologies

b) Dell Technologies

c) Tata Consultancy Services

d) Tech Mahindra

e) Oracle Financial Services

Q.168) Which of the following organization partnered with USAID to launch the W-GDP womenconnect challenge across India?

a) Foundation for Child Health

b) Reliance Foundation

c) Bill & Melinda Foundation

d) Care Foundation

e) None of the Above

Q.169) Arunodoi scheme to provide financial assistance to around 17 lakh families has been launched in which of the following states?

a) Assam

b) Manipur

c) Bihar

d) Mizoram

e) West Bengal

Q.170) Which state has signed MoU with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) for setting up a World-Class Skill Development Institute?

- a) Haryana
- b) Gujarat
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Goa
- e) Punjab

Q.171) Delhi government has signed MoU with Tata projects limited and which IIT to construct smog tower?

- a) IIT Kanpur
- b) IIT Madras
- c) IIT Bombay
- d) IIT Faridabad
- e) IIT Calcutta

Q.172) Who heads the "National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration" formulated by central government?

- a) Amitabh Kant
- b) AjitDoval
- c) Rajiv Kumar
- d) Ajay Tyagi
- e) VK Paul

Q.173) Name the first private aerospace company of India to test upper-stage rocket engine named Raman.

- a) Antrix
- b) Skyroot

- c) Speck
- d) Agnikul
- e) Bellatrix

Q.174) Name the person who has become the new chairman of Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER).

- a) Isher Judge Ahluwalia
- b) Rajat Kathuria
- c) Pramod Bhasin
- d) Amrita Goldar
- e) Shyam Mukherjee

Q.175) Corporate Affairs secretary Rajesh Verma released the "Report of the Committee on Business Responsibility Reporting". Who chairs the committee which framed the report?

- a) Rajesh Verma
- b) Gyaneshwar Kumar Singh
- c) Carol Browner
- d) Injeti Srinivas
- e) Vinita Bali

Q.176) Who has been named as the Juventus MVP of the Year award?

- a) Gonzalo Higuaín
- b) Lionel Messi
- c) Leonardo Bonucci
- d) Cristiano Ronaldo
- e) Alex Sandro

Q.177) Competition Commission of India has approved proposed combination pertaining to Joint Venture formation between Honda Motor and which company?

- a) Mahindra
- b) Aditya Birla
- c) Hitachi
- d) Hinduja
- e) Gitanjali

Q.178) Rajiv Tyagi who passed away recently was a _____.

- a) Cricketer
- b) Politician
- c) Writer
- d) Actor
- e) Economist

Q.179) Which state has launches nutritional immunity boosting "Him Haldi Dudh"?

- a) Himachal Pradesh
- b) Gujarat
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Arunachal Pradesh
- e) Punjab

Q.180) Delhi-Katra expressway being built at a cost of Rs 35,000 crores is to be completed by which year?

- a) 2021
- b) 2024
- c) 2023
- d) 2022

e) 2025

Q.181) Who among the following has been appointed as the non-executive chairman of Indiabulls Housing?

- a) Raghuram Rajan
- b) SS Mundra
- c) MK Jain
- d) R Gandhi
- e) C Rangarajan

Q.182) The Memoir 'The Beauty of Living Twice' is based on the life of which famous actress?

- a) Scott Morris
- b) Sharon Stone
- c) Nicole Kidman
- d) Ann Hathaway
- e) Scarlett Johanson

Q.183) Who among the following are beneficiaries of the YSR Cheyutha scheme?

- a) Senior Citizens
- b) Taxi Drivers
- c) Women Entrepreneurs
- d) Street Vendors
- e) Unemployed Youths

Q.184) Who was recently appointed as the Director-General Naval Operations (DGNO) ?

- a) Hampiholi
- b) Sunil Gupta
- c) SN Ghormade
- d) SR Sarma

e) Dinesh K Tripathi

Q.185) Who heads the three-judge bench of Supreme Court which passed judgement that daughters have equal birthright to inherit property with retrospective effect?

- a) Arun Mishra
- b) Vineet Saran
- c) Indu Malhotra
- d) Deepak Misra
- e) Krishna Murari

Q.186) Who among the following is the only Bollywood star among the Forbes' highest-paid actors of 2020?

- a) Salman Khan
- b) Amir Khan
- c) Amitabh Bachan
- d) Akshay Kumar
- e) Shahrukh Khan

Q.187) The Moira bananas, Harmal Chillies & Khaje of which state has got GI tag recently?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Karnataka
- c) Goa
- d) Gujarat
- e) Assam

Q.188) Which state government planned to launch country's first electric vehicle park?

- a) Gujarat
- b) Uttarakhand

c) Andhra Pradesh

d) Tamil Nadu

e) Karnataka

Q.189) Find the state which has launched 'Karma SathiPrakalpa' scheme to provide soft loans and subsidies to youth.

- a) Karnataka
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) West Bengal
- d) Gujarat
- e) Madhya Pradesh

Q.190) Who among the following will chair the Committee formed for Procurement and Administration Of COVID-19 Vaccine?

- a) Amit Shah
- b) Harsh Vardhan
- c) VK Paul
- d) Ramesh Chand
- e) Amitabh Kant

Q.191) GK Menon who passed away recently was a veteran _____.

- a) Jazz Dancer
- b) Folk Singer
- c) Actor
- d) Chief Economist
- e) Sports Journalist

Q.192) Name the Microwave device unveiled by Union Minister Nitin Gadkari' to disintegrate novel Coronavirus.

- a) Vishwas

b) Abhinay

c) Atulya

d) Akshay

e) Ashray

Q.193) Who among the following is among the winners of the Gramodaya Bandhu Mitra Puraskar?

a) Niranjana Aggarwal

b) Rakesh Sharma

c) Anand Gupta

d) Sudha Murthy

e) Praveen Singh

Q.194) Who has been appointed as the Group President of BharatPe?

a) Sunil Mehta

b) Suhail Sameer

c) Manish Gupta

d) Anil Sharma

e) Raj Srivastava

Q.195) Which bank has partnered with Fiserv to Support Launch of their 1st Independent Credit Card?

a) Federal Bank

b) Axis Bank

c) Yes Bank

d) IndusInd Bank

e) RBL Bank

Q.196) Name the portal that was launched by the Union Defence Minister for indigenization in the defence sector?

a) DEFEND

b) SRIJAN

c) FIRE

d) LEAD

e) SAFTEY

Q.197) Which of the following state government launches "Smart Connect Scheme" for School Students?

a) Karnataka

b) Gujarat

c) Assam

d) Punjab

e) Madhya Pradesh

Q.198) Laura Marsh who has announced her retirement from all forms of cricket, played for which country?

a) West Indies

b) Australia

c) South Africa

d) England

e) New Zealand

Q.199) Name the Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) for the Indian Coast Guard launched at a ceremony at Goa Shipyard Limited.

a) Sarnath

b) Nirbhay

c) Sarthak

d) Abhinav

e) Ajay

Q.200) Which state has achieved the first rank in the operationalisation of Health and Welfare Centres (HWCs) as per the latest rankings released by the Central government?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Punjab
- c) Haryana
- d) Gujarat
- e) Kerala

Q.201) BEML has partnered with which of the following organization to develop tactical unmanned aerial vehicles?

- a) IIT Kanpur
- b) IIT Delhi
- c) IIT Madras
- d) IIT Mandi
- e) IIT Kharagpur

Q.202) Who among the following has won the "CEO of the Year" Award, by 'Indian Achievers' 2020?

- a) Rakesh Kumar
- b) Gagan Arora
- c) Arvind Gupta
- d) Sunil Mehta
- e) Manas Sharma

Q.203) Which of the following state/ UT Police has topped in the list of Police Medals for Gallantry (PMG) with a total 81 medal?

- a) Madhya Pradesh

b) Maharashtra

c) Jammu & Kashmir

d) Haryana

e) Chhattisgarh

Q.204) Which bank has launched the Shaurya KGC Card for armed forces for agricultural requirements?

- a) Federal Bank
- b) ICICI Bank
- c) Axis Bank
- d) Bandhan Bank
- e) HDFC Bank

Q.205) Who has been appointed as India's next envoy to Bangladesh?

- a) Sidharth Sandhu
- b) Vikram Kumar Doraiswami
- c) Sandeep Kumar
- d) Pavan Kapoor
- e) Birendra Singh

Q.206) Which of the following state have two over bridges been named after late Arun Jaitley and Sushma Swaraj?

- a) Chhattisgarh
- b) Uttar Pradesh
- c) Gujarat
- d) Haryana
- e) Madhya Pradesh

Q.207) Which of the following Institution develops UVGI based 'room disinfection' device "UVSAFE"?

a) IIT Kanpur

b) IIT Delhi

c) IIT Ropar

d) IIT Mandi

e) IIT Kharagpur

Q.208) Which state has retains top spot in Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) scheme?

a) Haryana

b) Gujarat

c) Odisha

d) Maharashtra

e) Assam

Q.209) Who among the following will head the panel set up by RBI for Core Investment Firms?

a) Tapan Ray

b) S S Mundra

c) Arvind Panagariya

d) Abdul Rashid

e) Bibek Debroy

Q.210) ISRO and which institutions develop sustainable process to make "Space Bricks" on Lunar Surface?

a) IIT Kanpur

b) IISc Bengaluru

c) IIT Ropar

d) IIT Mandi

e) IIT Kharagpur

Q.211) The e-commerce platform 'Yellow Chain' has been launched by which state to provide an integrated platform for product and services to the people?

a) Nagaland

b) Assam

c) Chhattisgarh

d) Gujarat

e) Gujarat

Q.212) Who has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer of GoAir?

a) Vinay Dube

b) Kaushik Khona

c) Jehangir Wadia

d) Rahul Bhatia

e) Suresh Kumar

Q.213) Who has won the Formula One Spanish Grand Prix 2020?

a) Max Verstappen

b) Valtteri Bottas

c) Lewis Hamilton

d) Charles Leclerc

e) None of the Above

Q.214) Who has been appointed as the Executive Director of SEBI?

a) Anand Kumar

b) Amarjeet Singh

c) Narendra Batra

d) GP Garg

e) S Ravindran

Q.215) Which state has vowed to build a 'Kalyana Rajya' with focus on development as the only mantra?

- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Chhattisgarh
- c) Karnataka
- d) Haryana
- e) Madhya Pradesh

Q.216) Who has become the 1st ever national brand ambassador of Aligarh Municipal Corporation?

- a) Damial Ghosh
- b) Sunny Hindustani
- c) Rohit Sharma
- d) Shahzan Mujeeb
- e) Shakthi Mukherjee

Q.217) National Stock Exchange of India and which institute have jointly developed and launched Platform for Investor Education (PIE) ?

- a) IIT Madras
- b) IIM Indore
- c) IIT Bombay
- d) IIM Lucknow
- e) IIM Bangalore

Q.218) The world's tallest pier bridge is to be constructed across river Ijai in which state?

- a) Arunachal Pradesh
- b) Manipur
- c) Tripura

d) Sikkim

e) Mizoram

Q.219) What is the name of the crater given by ISRO that was captured by Chandrayaan - 2?

- a) Vikram Sarabhai
- b) S N Bose
- c) Chandran
- d) C V Raman

e) Bhabha Ramav

Q.220) Name the e-portal on tribal health and nutrition launched by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs

- a) Swasthya
- b) Sehat
- c) Arogya
- d) Neerog
- e) Sangyam

Q.221) Who has been appointed as the Director-General of the Border Security Force (BSF)

- a) Sudhir Kumar
- b) Rajesh Ranjan
- c) Udyan Banerjee
- d) Rakesh Asthana
- e) Nitish Kumar

Q.222) Bulldex is India's first bullion index. It has been launched by _____

- a) Central Depository Services
- b) Multi Commodity Exchange of India

c) National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange

d) National Spot Exchange

e) Bombay Stock Exchange

Q.223) Who has been the winner of Premier League Player of the Season 2019-20?

a) Curtis Jones

b) Juergen Klopp

c) Trent Alexander-Arnold

d) Kevin De Bruyne

e) Neymar

Q.224) Gwalior Chambal Expressway in Madhya Pradesh was named after whom?

a) Atal Bihari Vajpayee

b) Arun Jaitley

c) Babulal Gaur

d) Sushma Swaraj

e) Manohar Parrikar

Q.225) Which state government has launched 'PadhaiTuhar Para' scheme for school students?

a) Karnataka

b) Haryana

c) Chhattisgarh

d) West Bengal

e) Assam

Q.226) Who is the author of the book titled 'Full Spectrum: India's Wars, 1972-2020'?

a) Arjun Subramaniam

b) Sreedharan Pillai

c) Anand Neelakantan

d) Ilina Sen

e) Sudha Murthy

Q.227) Which of the following institute has partnered with the Swiss Firm, HeLP for logistics training for the humanitarian community?

a) IIT Kanpur

b) IIM Kozhikode

c) IIT Madras

d) Iisc Bangalore

e) IIM Lucknow

Q.228) Which organisation has joined hands with the Sports Authority of India to launch E-Pathshala?

a) Board of Cricket Control in India (BCCI)

b) Archery Association of India (AAI)

c) Boxing Federation of India(BFI)

d) National Rifle Association of India(NRAI)

e) All India Football Federation(AIFF)

Q.229) Who among the following has been honoured with the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's special award, in recognition of her advisory role in combating the COVID-19 pandemic?

a) Nandini Mudukar

b) Soumya Swaminathan

c) Kamini Rao

d) Nanda Devi

e) Kamala Harris

Q.230) Which of the following company joined hands with Central Water Commission of India for flood forecasting initiatives.

- a) Wipro
- b) Google
- c) Microsoft
- d) Facebook
- e) Amazon

Q.231) Who is the 1st Indian cricketer, who retired recently to score century in all the 3 formats (Test, ODI, T20) ?

- a) Virat Kohli
- b) Rohit Sharma
- c) Suresh Raina
- d) Sourav Ganguly
- e) MS Dhoni

Q.232) Nishikant Kamat who passed away recently was a _____.

- a) Politician
- b) Director
- c) Footballer
- d) Economist
- e) Vocalist

Q.233) RBI has released the 'framework for authorization of pan-India Umbrella Entity for Retail Payments' in India. What shall be the minimum paid-up capital of the umbrella entity?

- a) Rs 500 crore
- b) Rs 200 crore

- c) Rs 300 crore
- d) Rs 400 crore
- e) Rs 700 crore

Q.234) Which institute has topped the 'Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements,' (ARIIA) 2020?

- a) IIT Delhi
- b) IIT Madras
- c) IIT Bombay
- d) IISc Bengaluru
- e) IIT Mandi

Q.235) Who was the representative from India side in the 13th Session of the India-UAE Joint Commission Meeting (JCM) on Trade, Economic and Technical Cooperation?

- a) Piyush Goyal
- b) Nirmala Sitharaman
- c) Subrahmanyam Jaishankar
- d) Rajnath Singh
- e) Harsha Vardhan

Q.236) Satya Pal Malik has recently been appointed as the Governor of which state?

- a) Nagaland
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Goa
- d) Meghalaya
- e) Arunachal Pradesh

Q.237) Name the farm-to-fork service online portal launched by the Ministry of MSME to

allow farmers directly sell their produce to consumer?

- a) Annapurna.com
- b) VedKrishi.com
- c) NavaJyoti.com
- d) DhariKrushak.com
- e) KisanKrishi.com

Q.238) Manduadih railway station is renamed as 'Banaras railway station'. It is located in which state?

- a) Haryana
- b) Uttar Pradesh
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Gujarat
- e) Madhya Pradesh

Q.239) Muthoot finance has partnered with which insurance company to offer COVID-19 insurance cover against gold loan?

- a) IFFCO Tokio General Insurance Company
- b) National Insurance Company
- c) Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company
- d) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company
- e) United India Insurance Company

Q.240) Flipkart has signed MoU with which IIT to support the industry focused applied research?

- a) IIT Madras
- b) IIT Patna
- c) IIT Delhi

d) IIT Bombay

e) IIT Calcutta

Q.241) Which of the following city has been ranked 26th in the Knight Frank Prime Global Cities Index?

- a) Chennai
- b) Bengaluru
- c) Pune
- d) Mumbai
- e) Chandigarh

Q.242) RBL Bank has sought help from which of the following companies for its digital transformation initiatives?

- a) Wipro
- b) Accenture
- c) TCS
- d) Mind Tree
- e) FlipKart

Q.243) Who has been appointed as the MD and head of national distribution of DBS Bank India Ltd?

- a) Manish Pandey
- b) Vikram Gupta
- c) Rajesh Kumar
- d) Prashant Joshi
- e) Karnan Mahesh

Q.244) Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador of 'Oakley'?

- a) Rishab Pant
- b) Rohit Sharma

c) Virat Kohli

d) Suresh Raina

e) KL Rahul

Q.245) What is India's rank based on the number of organic farmers (9th in terms of area under organic farming) ?

a) Second

b) Fourth

c) Fifth

d) Third

e) First

Q.246) Which company has been appointed as the sponsor for the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2020?

a) Dream11

b) Patanjali Ayurved

c) Paytm

d) Vivo

e) Junglee Rummy

Q.247) World Humanitarian Day is observed every year on which day?

a) August 15

b) August 18

c) August 19

d) August 17

e) August 13

Q.248) Ibrahim Boubacar Keita has given resignation from President Post. he was the President of Which country?

a) Nigeria

b) Mali

c) Ivory Coast

d) Ghana

e) Maldives

Q.249) Who has launched "Swadeshi Microprocessor Challenge- Innovate Solutions for #Aatmanirbhar Bharat" to support start-ups?

a) Piyush Goyal

b) Ravi Shankar Prasad

c) Pralhad Joshi

d) Giriraj Singh

e) Raj Kumar Singh

Q.250) Former cricketer Laura Marsh has announced her retirement from all forms of the games recently. She played for which country?

a) Australia

b) New Zealand

c) England

d) South Africa

e) Ireland

Q.251) Who among the following has assumed charge as the new Deputy Chairman of Cochin Port Trust?

a) Rashmi Gupta

b) Anand Tiwary

c) Sunil Sharma

d) AK Mehera

e) Cyril George

Q.252) Find the private sector bank which in collaboration with KFin Technologies Private Limited launched a unique digital solution called 'Loan against Securities'.

- a) YES Bank
- b) HDFC Bank
- c) ICICI Bank
- d) RBL Bank
- e) IndusInd Bank

Q.253) Which state has launched the 'Ek Sankalp – Bujurgo ke naam' campaign for the elderly people living alone in homes during the global pandemic COVID-19?

- a) Arunachal Pradesh
- b) Karnataka
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Haryana
- e) Madhya Pradesh

Q.254) Which state/UT's police has signed MoU with All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) for 'Dhanwantari Rath'?

- a) Kerala Police
- b) Delhi Police
- c) Uttar Pradesh Police
- d) Gujarat Police
- e) Maharashtra Police

Q.255) Which zone of Indian railways has procured 2 Ninja Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) recently?

- a) Southern Railway

b) Northern Railway

c) Central Railway

d) Eastern Railway

e) Western Railway

Q.256) Who was the representative from India in the 5th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament 2020, held through video mode?

- a) Venkaiah Naidu
- b) Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury
- c) Om Birla
- d) Sumitra Mahajan
- e) Rajnath Singh

Q.257) Kormo Jobs is an application to provide entry-level jobs option. The app has been launched by which company?

- a) Google
- b) Apple
- c) Facebook
- d) Microsoft
- e) Infosys

Q.258) Which city has topped the Swachh Survekshan 2020 ranking for being the cleanest city of India?

- a) Surat
- b) Chennai
- c) Indore
- d) Navi Mumbai
- e) Pune

Q.259) Luis Rodolfo Abinader has been appointed as the new President of which of these countries?

- a) Belgium
- b) Dominican Republic
- c) Nicaragua
- d) Cuba
- e) Equatorial Guinea

Q.260) Who has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of newly launched NIPL?

- a) Gaurav Garg
- b) Avinash Sandhu
- c) Mohit Gupte
- d) Ritesh Shukla
- e) Harish Kumar

Q.261) Name the first ever US based company to reach the market capitalization mark of \$2 trillion?

- a) Amazon
- b) Walmart
- c) Apple
- d) Berkshire Hathaway
- e) American Express

Q.262) Which IIT signed MoU with Bureau of India Standards to cooperate in standardization and conformity assessment?

- a) IIT Kanpur
- b) IIT Roorkee
- c) IIT Delhi

d) IIT Ropar

e) IIT Madras

Q.263) Which of the following publishing houses has announced the launch of Sudha Murthy's next book 'Grandparents' Bag of Stories'?

- a) Aleph
- b) Hachette
- c) Harper Collins
- d) Penguin
- e) Infosys

Q.264) Who will head the ten member committee set up by IRDAI to recommend setting up loss prevention entities for non-life insurers?

- a) Surya Kumar
- b) TL Alamelu
- c) Suresh Mathur
- d) Ranjan Gogai
- e) Ramesh Kumar

Q.265) Who among the following has been awarded the Star 2020 Certificate by World Book of Records, London?

- a) Sunil Sharma
- b) Ganesh Vilas Lengare
- c) Ramesh Singh
- d) Paravesh Kumar
- e) Bandhar Kavathe

Q.266) L&T Hydrocarbon Engineering signed MoU with which company to build a CO₂ to methanol demonstration plant?

- a) IOC
- b) HPCL
- c) NTPC
- d) NEEPCO
- e) PFC

Q.267) Who has been appointed as the prime minister of Trinidad and Tobago in August 2020?

- a) Basdeo Panday
- b) Eric Williams
- c) George Chambers
- d) Keith Rowley
- e) Kamla Bissessar

Q.268) What is India's rank in Digital Quality of Life 2020 index released by SurfShark (Denmark tops the index) ?

- a) 44
- b) 37
- c) 55
- d) 15
- e) 57

Q.269) The government of which state will provide poor people Rs. one per kg wheat, rice, salt from September 1?

- a) Chhattisgarh
- b) Uttar Pradesh
- c) Karnataka

d) Madhya Pradesh

e) Haryana

Q.270) Who among the following has assumed charge as the Chairman of Fertilisers Association of India?

- a) Sandhosh Kumar
- b) Anand Verma
- c) Kishor Rungta
- d) Prashant Kumar
- e) Kiren Raju

Q.271) Uttar Pradesh government has signed an agreement with which country for the Bundelkhand Water Management Project?

- a) France
- b) Israel
- c) Russia
- d) Japan
- e) Thailand

Q.272) Name the company which partnered with National Skill Development Corporation to offer a free digital education platform for skill development.

- a) Google
- b) Microsoft
- c) IBM
- d) Amazon
- e) Apple

Q.273) The government of which state has launched a new state emblem, twenty years after the state was formed?

a) Uttar Pradesh

b) Karnataka

c) Chhattisgarh

d) Madhya Pradesh

e) Jharkhand

Q.274) Name the first nuclear power plant of the Arab world which was connected to the national grid recently as announced by United Arab Emirates?

a) Hanul nuclear power plant

b) Kashiwa nuclear power plant

c) Barakah nuclear power plant

d) Hanbit nuclear power plant

e) Sheik nuclear power plant

Q.275) Pradeep Chhibber and who other is the author of the book titled 'India Tomorrow: Conversations with the Next Generation of Political Leaders'?

a) Keerat Irani

b) Arjun Rai

c) Harsh Shah

d) Deepak Kumar

e) Ram Kumar

Q.276) The first ever Pallikkutam National Award for Innovation in Education instituted by Rajagiri Media was won by St Christopher School in _____.

a) Kerala

b) Madhya Pradesh

c) Nagaland

d) Haryana

e) Tripura

Q.277) Who has won the 2020 world snooker championship (at Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, England) ?

a) Neil Robertson

b) Graeme Dott

c) John Higgins

d) Ronnie O'Sullivan

e) Mark Williams

Q.278) Name the person who authored the book titled, 'One Arranged Murder'.

a) Arundhati Roy

b) ChetanBhagat

c) Amitav Ghosh

d) Vikram Seth

e) JhumpaLahiri

Q.279) Who has been appointed as the Managing Director of State Bank of India (SBI) to replace P K Gupta?

a) Ganesh Natarajan

b) Ashwani Bhatia

c) Purnima Gupta

d) Mrugank M Paranjape

e) Ramesh Sobti

Q.280) ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company has announced its merger with which insurance company?

a) HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company

b) Bharti AXA General Insurance Company

c) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company
d) IFFCO Tokio General Insurance Company
e) United India Insurance Company
Q.281) Name the mobile app launched by the NHAH to monitor the plantation and transplantation of trees along the highways?
a) Prakriti Path
b) Vanaspati Path
c) Harit Path
d) Parivesh Path
e) Sureksha Path
Q.282) Who among the following has been selected for the 2020 Leadership Awards by the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) ?
a) Anand Mahindra and Shantanu Narayen
b) Uday Kotak and Ajaypal Singh Banga
c) Mukesh Ambani and Indra Nooyi
d) Gautam Adani and Rajeev Suri
e) Indra Nooyi and Anand Mahindra
Q.283) Which bank has launched the initiative named 'Gig-a-Opportunities' ?
a) ICICI Bank
b) HDFC Bank
c) IDBI Bank
d) Axis Bank
e) Yes Bank
Q.284) Who has been named as the Chairman of 6th State Finance Commission of Himachal Pradesh?

a) Anil Kumar Khachi
b) Satpal Singh Satti
c) Bandaru Dattatreya
d) Ram Sunder
e) NK Singh
Q.285) Who among the following won the UEFA Champions League for the sixth time recently?
a) Bayern Munich
b) Paris Saint-Germain
c) Barcelona
d) Real Madrid
e) Liverpool
Q.286) Who has become the first female German golfer to win the Women's British Open?
a) Lexi Thompson
b) Stacy Lewis
c) Sophia Popov
d) Laura Davies
e) Inbee Park
Q.287) Which regional rural bank has partnered with SBI General Insurance Company to sell general insurance products?
a) Chaitanya Godavari Grameena Bank
b) Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank
c) Assam Gramin Vikash Bank
d) Allahabad UP Gramin Bank
e) Andhra Pradesh Grameena Vikas Bank

Q.288) The Researchers from which institute have discovered a new component to effectively split Water into Hydrogen and Oxygen using Solar Power?

- a) IIT Hyderabad
- b) IIT Roorkee
- c) IIT Mandi
- d) IIT Delhi
- e) IIT Madras

Q.289) Which bank has collaborated with AddaCorner to launch 'Online Home Carnival'?

- a) United Bank of India
- b) Punjab National Bank
- c) Canara Bank
- d) State Bank of India
- e) Indian Bank

Q.290) How much amount has been approved as loan by the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank for Mumbai Urban Transport Project-III?

- a) USD 300 million
- b) USD 250 million
- c) USD 100 million
- d) USD 500 million
- e) USD 150 million

Q.291) The longest River Ropeway of India has been launched over which river?

- a) Brahmaputra
- b) Ganges
- c) Yamuna

d) Narmada

e) Satlej

Q.292) ICC has recently inducted three former players in the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame. Choose the player who is not the part of the list?

- a) Jacques Kallis
- b) Zaheer Abbas
- c) Shaun Pollock
- d) Lisa Sthalekar
- e) All of the Above

Q.293) Cameron White has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket. He played for which team?

- a) New Zealand
- b) South Africa
- c) Australia
- d) England
- e) Zimbabwe

Q.294) Bio-floc fish farming technology was rolled out in which of the following states?

- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Odisha
- c) Chhattisgarh
- d) Bihar
- e) Goa

Q.295) Which of the following is the mascot of Kerala's first-ever Dragonfly Festival?

- a) Gapilio
- b) Pandiyana

c) Pantalu

d) Syranthe

e) Nomona

Q.296) Name the company which has launched 'The Anywhere School' initiative to boost online education.

a) Facebook

b) Microsoft

c) Google

d) Reliance

e) TCS

Q.297) Name the state/UT which has launched Niraman Mazdoor Registration Abhiyan for construction workers.

a) Jammu & Kashmir

b) Delhi

c) Puducherry

d) Telangana

e) Haryana

Q.298) Which company has bagged the "Swachhta Hi Seva award" for transforming Neyveli Township into a plastic-free, green campus?

a) NTPC

b) NLCIL

c) BHEL

d) ONGC

e) Indian Oil

Q.299) Researchers at Shiv Nadar University and which institution have developed a

technology for the production of environment friendly Lithium-Sulfur (Li-S) batteries?

a) IIT Mandi

b) IIT Roorkee

c) IIT Madras

d) IIT Delhi

e) IIT Bombay

Q.300) Nuakhai festival to celebrate the reaping of new crops is being celebrated in which state?

a) Chattisgarh

b) Odisha

c) Madhya Pradesh

d) Haryana

e) Uttar Pradesh

BANKING AWARENESS QUIZ:

Q.1) Which of the following public sector bank partnered with Uniken to secure its Internet banking channels?

a) Punjab National Bank

b) Bank of Maharashtra

c) Union Bank of India

d) Bank of Baroda

e) State Bank of India

Q.2) RBI recently gave nod to SBI Funds Management to acquire up to ____ pc stake in CSB Bank.

a) 20

b) 12

c) 14

d) 10

e) 19

Q.3) Which of the following Insurance Company launched 'Express Claims' for claim pay-outs within four hours?

a) Tata AIA Life Insurance

b) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance

c) Max Life Insurance

d) ICICI Prudential Life Insurance

e) HDFC Life Insurance

Q.4) IRCTC and _____ together launched their new Co-branded Contactless Credit Card on RuPay Platform.

a) Standard Chartered Bank

b) Pay Pal

c) HSBC Bank

d) Indian Bank

e) SBI Card

Q.5) Which general insurance company launched crop insurance campaign, 'Bohot Zaroori Hai' for farmers in Maharashtra and Karnataka?

a) Aegon Life Insurance Company

b) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company

c) Bharti AXA General Insurance Company

d) Paytm General Insurance Limited

e) Reliance General Insurance Company

Q.6) Which of the following bank provided liquidity support of USD 16.20 million as a COVID-relief for the Government of Maldives?

a) Union Bank of India

b) Bank of Baroda

c) State Bank of India

d) Bank of Maharashtra

e) Punjab National Bank

Q.7) Who has been appointed as the CEO and Director of Microfinance Institutions Network (MFIN) ?

a) Sunita Narain

b) Harsh Shrivastava

c) Naveen Kumar

d) Alok Misra

e) Biswajit Basu

Q.8) CRAR is the ratio of a bank's capital to its risk. What does "A" represent in CRAR?

a) Assessment

b) Adequacy

c) Automated

d) Adjusted

e) Assets

Q.9) Who has been appointed as CEO of Paytm Money?

a) Amit Nayyar

b) Ranjana Aggarwal

c) Shekhar Mande

d) Ranjith Shekar

e) Varun Sridhar

Q.10) Which of the following company has collaborated with Fiserv, Inc. for digital transformation?

- a) PNB Financial Solutions Limited
- b) BOB Financial Solutions Limited
- c) SBI Financial Solutions Limited
- d) IOB Financial Solutions Limited
- e) ICICI Financial Solutions Limited

Q.11) Which of the following insurance firm appointed S N Rajeswari as its Chairman-cum-Managing Director?

- a) Oriental Insurance Ltd
- b) Star Health and Allied Insurance
- c) Acko General Insurance
- d) New India Assurance
- e) United India Insurance

Q.12) Which bank has launched an AI-powered conversational voice BOT for Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system?

- a) BOB
- b) HDFC
- c) Axis
- d) SBI
- e) ICICI

Q.13) Which of the following Institute in collaboration with TransUnion CIBIL launched financial knowledge platform named "MSMESaksham" for MSMEs?

- a) Securities and Exchange Board Of India (SEBI)

b) National Housing Bank (NHB)

c) Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)

d) Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI)

e) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

Q.14) Which company partnered with 'Craft Silicon' to innovate and accelerate the digital loan repayment solutions?

- a) Phone Pe
- b) PayU
- c) BitPay
- d) Google Pay
- e) eWAY

Q.15) Which of the following Bank launched a campaign named 'Kona Kona Umeed' (July 2020) ?

- a) HDFC Bank
- b) YES Bank
- c) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- d) IndusInd Bank
- e) ICICI Bank

Q.16) Which of the following companies launched a digitization stack through which one can avail unsecured loans within 3-5 hours?

- a) Paisabazaar
- b) Bajaj Finserv
- c) Max Bhupa
- d) Mobikwik

e) Muthoot Finance

Q.17) Which of the following company has launched personal UPI payment link service mpay.me?

- a) Freecharge
- b) Flipkart
- c) MobiKwik
- d) Paytm
- e) OlaPe

Q.18) Which of the following company partnered with Innoviti Payment Solutions Pvt. Ltd to launch the new credit card Equated Monthly Installments offering on POS terminals?

- a) PNB Financial Solutions Limited
- b) IOB Financial Solutions Limited
- c) SBI Financial Solutions Limited
- d) BOB Financial Solutions Limited
- e) Axis Financial Solutions Limited

Q.19) Which of the following bank has holding firm recently sold 20.95% stake to meet RBI norms?

- a) RBL Bank
- b) Bandhan Bank
- c) HDFC Bank
- d) Yes Bank
- e) Axis Bank

Q.20) Which among the following organization has launched a business intelligence & analytics enabled multi-

branded loyalty platform called 'nth Rewards'?

- a) Employees State Insurance Corporation
- b) National Payments Corporation of India
- c) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority
- d) National Company Law Tribunal
- e) Reserve Bank of India

Q.21) Which bank has partnered with consumer and SME brand InstaReM, to improve existing outbound remittance service offerings from India?

- a) Royal Bank of Scotland
- b) State Bank of Mauritius
- c) Standard Chartered Bank
- d) Barclays Bank
- e) Deutsche Bank

Q.22) Which financial services platform has appointed Harsh Bhanwala as its Executive Chairman?

- a) Cholamandalam Finance Company
- b) Capital India Finance
- c) Bajaj Finance
- d) Muthoot Finance
- e) United India Insurance

Q.23) Which company has announced multi-year Strategic Collaboration Agreement with Amazon Web Services (AWS) ?

- a) AMR Telecom Limited
- b) Bharti Airtel Limited

c) Vodafone-Idea Limited

d) Tata Sky Limited

e) Jio Platforms Limited

Q.24) Which Payments Bank has tied up with Bharti AXA General Insurance to offer Shop Insurance for its retailers and merchants?

a) Aditya Birla Idea Payments Bank

b) India Post Payments Bank

c) Jio Payments Bank

d) Paytm Payments Bank

e) Airtel Payments Bank

Q.25) Who among the following will head the panel set up by the RBI for one-time restructuring of loans?

a) R Gandhi

b) Sunil Mehta

c) UK Sinha

d) C Rangarajan

e) KV Kamath

Q.26) Ajay Tyagi has got extension as chairman of which organization till February 28, 2020?

a) Forward Market Commission of India

b) Securities and Exchange Board of India

c) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India

d) Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority

e) Reserve Bank of India

Q.27) Which bank has recently received the nod from RBI to set up a non-financial subsidiary?

a) Karur Vysya Bank

b) Bank of Maharashtra

c) Bandhan Bank

d) South India Bank

e) Axis Bank

Q.28) Life Insurance Corporation of India has acquired 4.23% stake in which bank?

a) Axis bank

b) YES bank

c) HDFC bank

d) IDBI bank

e) RBL bank

Q.29) Which Small finance bank has been appointed as official retail banking partner for Chennai Super Kings?

a) Ujjivan Small finance bank

b) AU Small finance bank

c) ESAF Small Finance Bank

d) Capital Small Finance Bank.

e) Equitas Small finance bank

Q.30) Find the bank which obtained in-principle approval from the RBI to set up a wholly owned non-financial subsidiary.

a) Axis Bank

b) South Indian Bank

c) Yes Bank

d) HDFC Bank

e) ICICI Bank

Q.31) RBI announces which feature to enhance safety of cheque payments?

- a) Positive Pay
- b) Pay Run
- c) Energy Pay
- d) Negative Pay
- e) Easy Pay

Q.32) RBI has mandated urban co-operative banks (UCBs) with assets of _____ or above as on March 31, 2020 to implement system-based asset classification from 30 June 2021.

- a) Rs 3,000 crore
- b) Rs 1,500 crore
- c) Rs 2,000 crore
- d) Rs 2,500 crore
- e) Rs 1,000 crore

Q.33) 'DIGITAL APNAYEN' campaign has been launched by which bank to encourage its customers for digital banking?

- a) Union Bank of India
- b) Bank of Maharashtra
- c) Canara Bank
- d) Punjab National Bank
- e) State Bank of India

Q.34) RBI has maintained the Contingency Risk Buffer at _____ percent

- a) 4.9%
- b) 7.1%
- c) 5.5%

d) 6.4%

e) 6.1%

Q.35) Which Insurance company join hands with BSE EBIX to sell General Insurance products?

- a) United India Insurance
- b) PNB MetLife India Insurance
- c) Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance
- d) Universal Sompo General Insurance
- e) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance

Q.36) Ashwini Kumar Shukla has recently been appointed as the Chief Risk Officer of which bank?

- a) Punjab National Bank
- b) Canara Bank
- c) Central Bank of India
- d) Union Bank of India
- e) Indian Bank

Q.37) Andhra Pradesh and NPCI and which of the following bank have tied up to empower over 15,004 village secretariats with UPI?

- a) State Bank of India
- b) Bank of India
- c) Canara Bank
- d) Union Bank
- e) HDFC Bank

Q.38) In the modified Partial Credit Guarantee Scheme (PCGS) 2.0, what is the limit set for the AA and AA- investment sub-portfolio at

portfolio level, of the total portfolio of Bonds/CPs?

- a) 35%
- b) 50%
- c) 40%
- d) 45%
- e) 55%

Q.39) Aadhaar Authentication based digital savings account Jan BachatKhata (JBK) has been launched by which Payments bank?

- a) Indian Post Payments Bank
- b) Fino Payments Bank
- c) Airtel Payments Bank
- d) Paytm Payments Bank
- e) Jio Payments Bank

Q.40) What does 'L' in MCLR stand for?

- a) Letter
- b) Labour
- c) Lending
- d) Lender
- e) London

Q.41) Which Bank has launched an instant account opening facility to help people avail the most required banking services instantly through the website?

- a) HDFC Bank
- b) Lakshmi Vilas Bank
- c) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- d) Bandhan Bank
- e) Axis Bank

Q.42) Which insurance company has entered into Bancassurance agreement with SBM Bank India recently?

- a) Future Generali India Life Insurance
- b) Reliance Nippon Life Insurance
- c) Bharti AXA Life Insurance
- d) HDFC Standard Life Insurance
- e) PNB MetLife India Insurance

Q.43) Who among the following has resigned as the Election commissioner to join the Asian Development Bank as Vice President?

- a) Swaminathan
- b) Akash Chopra
- c) Sunil Arora
- d) Ashok Lavasa
- e) OP Rawat

Q.44) Which Bank has appointed four new directors to its Board?

- a) HDFC Bank
- b) Lakshmi Vilas Bank
- c) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- d) Dhanlaxmi Bank
- e) Axis Bank

Q.45) Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance has partnered with which company for AI infrastructure?

- a) Microsoft
- b) Mind Tree
- c) Element AI
- d) Infosys

e) Intellias

Q.46) Name the private sector bank which is in collaboration with KFin Technologies Private Limited launched a unique digital solution called 'Loan against Securities'.

- a) RBL Bank
- b) HDFC Bank
- c) ICICI Bank
- d) YES Bank
- e) IndusInd Bank

Q.47) As per the World Bank India is likely to see a steep contraction in GDP than the _____ per cent forecast projected for FY21.

- a) 4.4
- b) 3.2
- c) 3.7
- d) 2.5
- e) 2.9

Q.48) Which is the first foreign bank in India to have launched a green deposit programme for its corporate clients?

- a) DBS Bank
- b) Royal Bank of Scotland
- c) Standard Chartered Bank
- d) HSBC Bank
- e) Bank of America

Q.49) Which General Insurance company has launched 'Shagun-Gift an insurance' policy?

- a) IFFCO Tokio General Insurance
- b) Kotak Mahindra General Insurance

c) ICICI Lombard General Insurance

d) SBI General Insurance

e) HDFC ERGO General Insurance

Q.50) Which bank has launched DigiGo, a digital initiative to enable opening of savings account instantly?

- a) Lakshmi Vilas Bank
- b) South Indian Bank
- c) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- d) IndusInd Bank
- e) HDFC Bank

BANKING ANSWER KEY

1) b, 2) d, 3) a, 4) e, 5) c, 6) c, 7) d, 8) e, 9) e, 10) b, 11) a, 12) c, 13) c, 14) b, 15) c, 16) a, 17) c, 18) d, 19) b, 20) b, 21) b, 22) b, 23) b, 24) e, 25) e, 26) b, 27) d, 28) b, 29) e, 30) b, 31) a, 32) c, 33) d, 34) c, 35) d, 36) c, 37) c, 38) b, 39) b, 40) c, 41) b, 42) c, 43) d, 44) d, 45) c, 46) d, 47) b, 48) d, 49) d, 50) a

AUGUST CA ANSWER KEY

1) b, 2) a, 3) b, 4) b, 5) c, 6) c, 7) d, 8) b, 9) d, 10) a, 11) e, 12) e, 13) b, 14) c, 15) c, 16) b, 17) b, 18) c, 19) c, 20) b, 21) b, 22) c, 23) d, 24) b, 25) b, 26) a, 27) c, 28) d, 29) c, 30) b, 31) e, 32) c, 33) c, 34) c, 35) c, 36) c, 37) a, 38) a, 39) c, 40) d, 41) d, 42) a, 43) d, 44) e, 45) b, 46) c, 47) a, 48) c, 49) b, 50) d, 51) d, 52) d, 53) c, 54) a, 55) c, 56) b, 57) c, 58)

a, 59) d, 60) b, 61) a, 62) a, 63) e, 64) d, 65) e, 66) c, 67) e, 68) c, 69) a, 70) d, 71) c, 72) c, 73) a, 74) c, 75) d, 76) c, 77) c, 78) e, 79) a, 80) c, 81) c, 82) c, 83) d, 84) b, 85) d, 86) a, 87) b, 88) e, 89) c, 90) b, 91) a, 92) b, 93) c, 94) d, 95) b, 96) c, 97) d, 98) a, 99) c, 100) d, 101) c, 102) b, 103) a, 104) a, 105) d, 106) c, 107) d, 108) b, 109) a, 110) c, 111) b, 112) c, 113) b, 114) d, 115) b, 116) b, 117) c, 118) b, 119) e, 120) b, 121) a, 122) a, 123) a, 124) d, 125) c, 126) a, 127) e, 128) b, 129) a, 130) e, 131) a, 132) c, 133) a, 134) b, 135) a, 136) b, 137) c, 138) b, 139) c, 140) b, 141) c, 142) d, 143) d, 144) a, 145) c, 146) b, 147) e, 148) d, 149) d, 150) a, 151) a, 152) c, 153) d, 154) b, 155) b, 156) a, 157) b, 158) d, 159) c, 160) b, 161) e, 162) b, 163) b, 164) c, 165) b, 166) d, 167) b, 168) b, 169) a, 170) d, 171) c, 172) e, 173) b, 174) c, 175) b, 176) d, 177) c, 178) b, 179) a, 180) c, 181) b, 182) b, 183) c, 184) e, 185) a, 186) d, 187) c, 188) d, 189) c, 190) c, 191) e, 192) c, 193) d, 194) b, 195) a, 196) b, 197) d, 198) d, 199) c, 200) b, 201) a, 202) b, 203) c, 204) e, 205) b, 206) c, 207) c, 208) c, 209) a, 210) b, 211) a, 212) b, 213) c, 214) d, 215) c, 216) d, 217) e, 218) b, 219) a, 220) a, 221) d, 222) b, 223) d, 224) a, 225) c, 226) a, 227) b, 228) e, 229) b, 230) b, 231) c, 232) b, 233) a, 234) b, 235) c, 236) d, 237) b, 238) b, 239) c, 240) b, 241)

b, 242) b, 243) d, 244) b, 245) e, 246) a, 247) c, 248) b, 249) b, 250) c, 251) e, 252) a, 253) e, 254) b, 255) c, 256) c, 257) a, 258) c, 259) b, 260) d, 261) c, 262) b, 263) d, 264) b, 265) b, 266) c, 267) d, 268) e, 269) d, 270) c, 271) b, 272) c, 273) e, 274) c, 275) c, 276) c, 277) d, 278) b, 279) b, 280) b, 281) c, 282) a, 283) d, 284) b, 285) a, 286) c, 287) b, 288) e, 289) d, 290) d, 291) a, 292) c, 293) c, 294) b, 295) c, 296) c, 297) b, 298) b, 299) e, 300) b.