

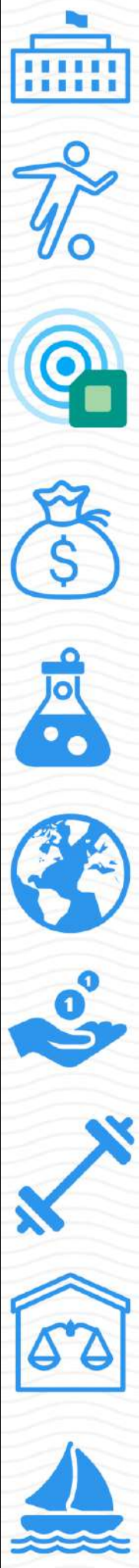
PRACTICE
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BAZOOKA

MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS MAGAZINE

NOVEMBER-2020 COVERAGE



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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

1. The UNESCO has recently included **Panna National Park of Madhya Pradesh** under its list of Biosphere reserves. Along with Panna, Fuvahmulahand Addu Atoll of Maldives was also included under the **World Network of Biosphere Reserves**.
2. On November 2, 2020, the Ganga Utsav was begun virtually. The Ganga Task Force as a part of celebration conducted afforestation drives with NCC cadets. The Ganga Utsav is being organized by the **National Mission for Clean Ganga**.
3. The Chief Minister of Assam, Sabananda Sonowal laid the foundation stone of **Indo-Israeli Centre of Excellence** for vegetables Protected Cultivation in Khetri in the outskirts of **Guwahati**, Assam. The centre will provide exposure to the **latest Israeli technologies** to the farmers of the state.
4. Defence Minister Shri Raj Nath Singh inaugurated the **anti-Satellite Missile System** at Defence Research Development Organization (**DRDO**) headquarters, New Delhi. The DRDO successfully conducted anti-satellite missile test at Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha. Anti-Satellite Weapon It is designed to destroy satellites for military purposes.
5. The **"Go Electric"** campaign was launched by Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) in coordination with the **Andhra Pradesh State Energy Conservation Mission**. The **Andhra Pradesh** State Government is to set up **400 Electric Vehicle charging vehicles** all over the state to promote the usage of electric vehicles.
6. The **Indian Institute of Technology, Madras** has developed **"IITM COVID Game"** to create awareness about the COVID-19 virus. The game mainly focuses on children. It is available in 12 different Indian languages.
7. Indian Navy has commissioned the **ICGS C-452** designed and built by **L&T**. The ship was indigenously built in India under the Make in India initiative. Earlier, Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh had commissioned the **ICGS Sachet** and two other interceptor boats namely C-451 and C-450.
8. Indian **Naval Ship Airavat** has entered Port Sudan as part of **Mission Sagar Phase II**. Under Mission Sagar, India is currently providing assistance to its friendly foreign countries to help them overcome COVID-19 pandemic and natural calamities. **INS Airavat** was carrying a consignment of 100 tonnes of food aid.
9. The **IISc and the Indian Oil Corporation Research and Development Centre** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding to develop **biomass gasification-based Hydrogen Generation Technology** to produce Fuel Cell Grade Hydrogen at an affordable price.
10. The **Election Commission of India** is to organize a three-day **International Virtual Election Visitors Programme**. The programme is meant for foreign election organizations. Over 40 countries participated in the programme. This included Australia, Afghanistan and Bangladesh as well. Apart from these countries the international organizations such as **International IDEA (Institute for Democracy**

and Electoral Assistance), Association of World Election Bodies and International Foundation of Electoral Systems (IFES) also participated in the programme.

11. The **Ministry of Shipping** has recently announced that the government of India is to set up **fourteen more aerodromes** in the country to develop **sea plane tourism** in the country. Recently, PM Modi inaugurated the seaplane service between **Statue of Unity in Kevadia and Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad**.
12. **Prasar Bharati and Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-Informatics** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding. Under the MoU, all the **51 DTH education channels** will be available as DD co-branded channels to all DD Fresh Dish viewers. The 51 DTH channels includes **Swayamprabha, E-Vidya for Class 1 to 12, DigiShala, Vande Gujarat**, etc.
13. **Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)** announced that it will start providing **Malaria outbreak forecast** from next monsoon.
14. Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the **Global Investor Roundtable Conference**. The conference witnessed the participation of twenty of the world largest Sovereign Wealth Funds and pension funds. These participants owned total assets of more than 6 billion USD.
15. The **Atal Innovation Mission-Sirius Innovation Programme** was launched for **India and Russia** school children. The programme aims to develop technological solutions for both India and Russia.
16. The Indian Space Research Organization launched an all-weather **Earth Observation Satellite, EOS-01 using PSLV-C49** rocket along with nine customer satellites. The Earth Observation Satellite launched is a Radar Imaging Satellite. It is the third of the three-spacecraft constellation. The other two are RISAT-2B and RISAT-2BR1.
17. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched **Ro-Pax ferry** service between **Ghogha and Hazira in Gujarat** through video conferencing. The Ro-Pax ferry vessel called the "**Voyage Symphony**" is a three-deck vessel. It has a load capacity to load thirty trucks, 100 passenger cars and 500 passengers.
18. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has renamed the Ministry of Shipping to **Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways**. PM Modi announced the renaming of the ministry at the inaugural virtual event of Ro-Pax terminal at Surat's Hazira.
19. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated various development projects in Varanasi through video conferencing. The projects inaugurated includes sound show, Sarnath Light, Sewerage related works, infrastructure protection for conservation of cows, agriculture produce warehouse, multipurpose seed storehouse, Varanasi city smart lighting works, 102 Gau Ashray Kendras, 105 Anganwadi Kendras.

20. **IIT Alumni Council** has launched "**MegaScope**" for personalized healthcare. MegaScope has been launched to include testing, data analysis and genomics to precisely diagnose infections and to prescribe personalised medicines.
21. **Australia-India Water Centre (AIWC)** has been inaugurated in a virtual event. This Water Centre is led by **IIT Guwahati** from Indian side and **University of Western Sydney** from the Australian side. Along with this, the centre has 21 partners from India and Australia.
22. The **DRDO** has developed fire **detection and suppression system for passenger buses**. The technology can detect fire in buses in less than 30 seconds. Also, it can extinguish the fire in 60 Seconds. The technology was developed by the Delhi based **Centre for fire explosive and environment safety** of DRDO.
23. 13th **Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference 2020** was held virtually on the theme "**Emerging Trends in Urban Mobility**" from New Delhi which was inaugurated by Minister of State Hardeep Singh Puri, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA). During the Conference the Award of Excellence was conferred upon Capital Region Urban Transport (CRUT), Bhubaneswar (Odisha) and Agartala Smart City Limited (ASCL), Tripura.
24. Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) will be starting '**Bharat Darshan–Dakshin Bharat Yatra**' from December 12. The Bharat Darshan Yatra will start from **Hyderabad** and Secunderabad from December 12 to 18. The theme of this yatra will be '**Show India to Indians**'.
25. For the first time in India, the **Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation Ltd.** will lay **vibration-absorbing tracks** on the Colaba-Bandra-SEEPZ Metro Line-3.
26. **Tata Medical and Diagnostics Ltd (TataMD)** have unveiled "**TataMD CHECK**" which is a novel diagnostic testing for COVID-19. It is the **world's first CRISPR CaS-9 based diagnostic tool** and is powered by FELUDA.
27. **World Health Organization** announced that it is to set up a **traditional medicine centre in India**. The announcement of establishing the centre was made during the inaugural ceremony of two future ready Ayurveda institutions. These institutions were inaugurated in **Jamnagar** and **Jaipur**.
28. Indian Navy launched the fifth Scorpene submarine "**Vagir**" at Mazagon Dock of south Mumbai. The submarine is capable of taking missions such as anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface warfare, mine laying, intelligence gathering and area surveillance. Vagir is a part of six Kalvari class submarine.
29. India test fired all-weather **Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air-Missiles** at the Chandipur Test Fire Range. It is called **QRSAM**. The missile is capable of striking aerial target at a height of 15 km.

30. India's first **Sandalwood Museum** is being established in **Mysuru**, Karnataka. The museum is set up by the Regional Forest Department to educate farmers about the significance of cultivation of sandalwood.
31. Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat launched the **country's first solar-based Integrated Multi-Village Water Supply Project** (IMVWSP) in **Arunachal Pradesh**.
32. Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually unveiled the '**Statue of Peace**' to mark the 151st Birth Anniversary Celebrations of Jainacharya Vijay Vallabh Maharaj.
33. **Sur Sarovar** also known as **Keetham Lake in Agra**, Uttar Pradesh and **Lonar Lake** in Maharashtra, the only crater lake of Country has been added to the '**Ramsar Sites**'. These 2 wetlands have been included in the 'List of Wetlands of International Importance' established by Article 2.1 of the convention.
34. **Jai Bhawani women's cooperative textile mill** is set to become the first Textile Mill in Asia that will operate on Solar Power.
35. Bhubaneswar, Capital of Odisha became the First City in the Country and 2nd in the world to get **ISO (International Organization for Standardization) 9001:2015 Certification for Faecal Sludge and Septage Management (FSSM)** services. Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) was the first civic body to implement FSSM regulations in Odisha.
36. **Mumbai** has become the first city in the country with a **gender-specific city's** urban plan which has provisions for designated spaces for the needs of women.
37. Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (**MeitY**), and National Association of Software and Services Companies (**NASSCOM**) unveiled the **FutureSkills PRIME Beta Platform**, a digital learning platform to enhance India's digital talents to benefit the aspirants from Tier II and Tier III cities.
38. The Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Shri Prakash Javadekar recently launched the **India Climate Change knowledge portal**. The portal will hold major information about the steps taken by the government at both National and international levels to address climate change issues
39. **Tribes India** has launched **Saheli**, an eco-friendly **sanitary pad** made by Vasavatribals under Gram Sangathan Kambodiya in Gujarat. It will fall under Forest Fresh Naturals and organics range. It will also be available on Tribes India outlets, mobile vans, Tribes India E-marketplace (tribesindia.com) and e-tailers.

40. Union Information Technology Minister Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad launched the **International version of the UMANG application**. UMANG is Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance. It was launched in UK, US, Australia, Canada, Netherlands, UAE, Australia, Singapore and New Zealand.
41. The cyclone **Nivar** is to make landfall between Mamallapuram and Karaikal of Tamil Nadu. It is to hit the coastal areas of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Puducherry. The National Crisis Management Committee recently reviewed the status of cyclone held through video conferencing.
42. Tenth edition of **National Science Film Festival** has been inaugurated in virtual mode by Deputy CM of Tripura Jishnu Dev Verma. Orgnaiser: VigyanPrasar jointly with Tripura State Council of Science and Technology.
43. **SpiceJet** has launched dedicated freighter services to **Leh** to boost connectivity to the area with the rest of the country. It is the first-of-its-type service by any domestic airlines. Maiden freighter flight was launched from Delhi to Leh, carrying 13 tonnes of cargo supplies. The flight was operated by **SpiceXpress**, whereas a **Boeing 737** freighter has been deployed on this route.
44. The **Defence Research Development Organization** recently flagged off the first **Varunastra**, the heavy weight torpedo. The torpedo was designed and developed by the BDL, Vishakhapatnam Unit of Indian Navy. Varunastra It is a ship launched electrically propelled heavyweight anti-submarine torpedo that is capable of targeting quiet submarines.
45. The Government of India has launched the **National Portal for Transgender** persons. The portal will help the transgender community to apply for identity card and certificate online. It was developed under the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Rules, 2020.
46. **Dept of Telecommunications** in line with TRAI Recommendation on 'Ensuring Adequate Numbering Resources for Fixed Line and Mobile Services' has decided to install prefix '0' for all Fixed to Mobile calls from 15th Jan 2021. However, there will be no change in dialing plan from fixed to fixed, mobile to fixed and mobile to mobile calls. **2539 million numbering series** is expected to be generated from the above that will free up sufficient numbering resources for future use.



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STATES AFFAIRS

47. On the eve of Statehood Day celebrations, on November 1, 2020, the State Government of **Chhattisgrah** launched **Fortified Rice Distribution Scheme**. The scheme was launched to reduce malnutrition and anaemia. Under the scheme, fortified rice is distributed through fair price shops.

48. The Union Minister of Development of the North Eastern Region Shri Jitendra Singh inaugurated the **Mansar Lake Development Plan in Jammu and Kashmir**. The plan is to attract more than 20 lakh tourists every year.
49. Saffron Production under the **National Saffron Mission** that was so far confined to Kashmir is now to be **implemented in the North East**. The plants are to be transported from Kashmir to Sikkim.
50. West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has announced a number of initiatives for the Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and refugee population.
51. Union Minister of State for Tourism and Culture **Shri Prahlad Singh Patel** has inaugurated the **"Tourist Facilitation Centre" at Guruvayur, Kerala**. The centre was constructed under the PRASAD Scheme of Ministry of Tourism.
52. The State Government of **Tamil Nadu** recently notified that it would grant **100% motor vehicle tax exemption** for **Electric Vehicles**. Earlier, the State Government had issued orders for 50% concessional rate to EV taxes. It has now been made to 100%.
53. Uttarakhand CM, Trivendra Singh Rawat inaugurated the **India's longest motorable single lane suspension bridge** of 725-metre-long Dobra-Chanti suspension bridge in TehriGarhwal district over the Tehri Lake.
54. **Uttarakhand** became first state to provide **free high-speed WiFi services** for all government colleges and universities.
55. Uttar Pradesh government has announced that the **International Bird Festival** will be organized in **Gorakhpur** district of Uttar Pradesh (UP) in February 2021.
56. The **Haryana** Government passed a bill which provides a **right to recall an elected member of Panchayati Raj Institutions** if they fail to perform their duties well. The state government also provided 50% reservation to women in these bodies.
57. **Jharkhand** General Assembly passed a resolution demanding a separate '**Sarna Code**' for Tribals. The proposal was tabled by Chief Minister Hemant Soren. The resolution was passed unanimously with voice vote. The Resolution seeks a separate column for followers of Sarna religion in Census 2021.
58. Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched a roadmap to **"Aatma Nirbhar Madhya Pradesh 2023"**. Under the roadmap, special focus will be on health and education in the state. A network of hospitals will be established in the state focusing on the health sector.
59. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (**APEDA**) has confirmed that **Tezpur Litchi** of **Assam** has received the Geographical Indication (**GI**) **Tag**. Tezpur Litchi was granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag certification on 27th March 2015.

60. **Puducherry** Government formally launched a **free breakfast scheme "Dr Kalaingar Mu Karunanidhi Kaalai Sitrundi Thittam"** for Government and Government aided school's students.
61. **Madhya Pradesh** Government has decided to celebrate the **Tribal Pride Day** in Madhya Pradesh on 15th November 2020 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Freedom fighter and martyr **Birsa Munda**.
62. The Punjab Cabinet has approved the '**Punjab Divyangjan Shaktikaran Yojana**' to empower persons with disabilities.
63. First **Moss Garden of India** has been inaugurated at Khurpatal in Nainital district of **Uttarakhand**. This iconic garden has been developed by Uttarakhand forest department and is spread over an area of 10 hectares.
64. **Himachal Pradesh** govt has launched '**Him Suraksha Abhiyan**' to sensitize the people regarding Covid-19 pandemic. The abhiyan will also collect information regarding symptoms of TB, Leprosy, sugar and blood pressure. The campaign will continue till coming 27th December.
65. Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Narendra Singh Tomar has virtually inaugurated **Sukhjit Mega Food Park** (MFP) at Phagwara, Punjab.
66. UP Cabinet has approved **Prohibition of Unlawful Religious Conversion Ordinance, 2020** to ban religious conversion for marriage. This new law will put the responsibility on the defendant to prove that conversion was not for marriage.
67. A Letter of Understanding (LoU) has been signed between the **Rajasthan** govt and the United Nation's World Food Programme (**WFP**) for proposed participation to achieve food and nutritional security goals. On the basis of the signed MoU, WFP authorities have signed the LoU with various government departments to develop a partnership with them.
68. **SIDBI** has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the **Tamil Nadu** government to develop micro, small and medium enterprises ecosystem in the state.

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69. On November 1, 2020, the world strongest **Typhoon Goni** hit the eastern part of **Philippines**. This typhoon is considered as the strongest typhoon in the world. The Typhoon Goni has attained its maximum speed of 315km/hour.
70. The **BRICS Business Forum** was held recently through video conferencing. The BRICS Business council held the forum. The council was formed in 2013 summit in Durban. Since its establishment, the primary task of BRICS Business council is to increase trade and investment among the member countries of BRICS.
71. On November 2, 2020, **Duarte Pacheco** was elected as the new **President of Inter Parliamentary Union**. He will serve as the president of the union between 2020 and 2023. India was represented by the Lok Sabha Speaker Shri Om Birla at the session.
72. The Central Board of Direct Taxes recently exempted the interest, dividend and long-term capital gains made by the **Sovereign Fund MIC Redwood 1 RSC Limited of Abu Dhabi, UAE** (United Arab Emirates). The exemption has been provided under **clause 23 FE of Section 10** of the Income Tax Act.
73. On November 3, 2020, **India and UAE held the High-Level Joint Task Force on Investments**. The task force was created in 2012. The India and UAE sectors with potential for economic growth were identified.
74. **India and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Troika** have held an annual **Political Dialogue**. India was represented by the External Affairs Minister S Jai Shankar at the dialogue. During the dialogue, India requested the members of GCC to ease the return of Indian professionals and workers to the Gulf countries.
75. On November 3, 2020, two resolutions were adopted by United Nations namely **“Convention on Prohibition of the use of Nuclear Weapons”** and **“Reducing Nuclear Danger”**. The resolutions were sponsored by India.
76. Union Cabinet chaired by PM Modi approved the Memorandum of Understanding signed between India and UK. The MoU was signed in the field of **Information Communication Technologies and Telecommunications**. The MoU was signed between Department of Digital, Media and sports of UK Government and Ministry of Communications of India.
77. Union Cabinet chaired by PM Modi approved the MoU signed between India and UK in the field of **medical product regulation**. The MoU was signed between United Kingdom Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency and Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO).
78. Union Cabinet chaired by PM Modi approved the Memorandum of Understanding signed between **India and Israel** in the field of **Health and Medicine**. The MoU covered the exchange and training of medical doctors and other professionals and to assist in setting up of health care facilities.

79. China has launched **13 satellites in a single rocket** successfully. Of these 13 satellites, 10 were from Argentina. This is the biggest launch of foreign satellites by the country.
80. The **Oil India Limited** has recently announced that a new technique snubbing unit is to be brought from **Canada** to control the oil well blowout in Assam's Baghjan. The Oil India Limited owned Baghjan well erupted on May 27, 2020. It has been burning for more than five months now.
81. **India-Indonesia** fifth joint working group on coal was held through video conference. During the meeting, the countries discussed on Indian **Coal Policy** reforms, commercial mining of coal in India and coking coal exploration.
82. Government of **Bangladesh** signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the **Serum Institute** of India for priority delivery of 3 crore COVID-19 vaccine doses. This COVISHIELD Vaccines was developed by AstraZeneca and University of Oxford.
83. On November 5, 2020, the **first India-Nordic-Baltic Conclave** was held virtually. The Conclave was jointly hosted by Ministry of External Affairs and Confederation of Indian Industry. The Conclave focused on clean technologies and renewable energies, Artificial Intelligence, supply chain logistics and block chain.
84. Bangladesh and United States held a joint Naval Exercise CARAT. CARAT is Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training. The exercise was held at Chittagong.
85. The scientists have discovered a **massive detached coral reef in the Great Barrier Reef of Australia**. It is the first to be discovered in 120 years. The reef is taller than the Empire State Building of the United States.
86. Fourth high level meeting of **India-OPEC Energy Dialogue** was held virtually. India was represented by the Oil Minister **Dharmendra Pradhan**. The dialogue is being held since 2015. During the dialogue, India pressed for assessing COVID-19 induced disruptions of oil supply.
87. **United Arab Emirates** announced major changes to its Islamic laws. It includes loosening of alcohol restrictions, **allowing unmarried couples to cohabit** and loosening criminalization of honour killings.
88. PM Modi is to hold a virtual bilateral summit with his Italian counterpart **Giuseppe Conte**. The leaders are to sign **15 pacts in the field of energy, trade, ship building and culture**. The summit is to explore possibilities of Italian investments in India especially in defence.
89. Union Cabinet chaired by PM Modi approved the Memorandum of Understanding signed between **India and Spain**. The MoU will facilitate scientific and technical collaborations between the countries in the field of Astronomy. The MoU was signed between the Instituto de Astrofisica de Canarias of Spain and the Indian Institute of Astrophysics.

90. **United Arab Emirates** announced major changes to its Islamic laws. It includes loosening of alcohol restrictions, **allowing unmarried couples to cohabit** and loosening criminalization of honour killings
91. The Pakistan Gurudwara body, PSGPC (Pakistan Sikh Gurudwara Parbandhak Committee) is to celebrate the first anniversary of the inauguration of Kartarpur Corridor. The Corridor connects Dera Baba Nanak in India with Gurudwara Darbar Sahib.
92. **Aung San Suu Kyi** led National League for Democracy (NLD) party has claimed to have won the Myanmar elections. Around 38 million voted to select the National League of Democracy (NLD) Party for a second term.
93. **Nepal President Bidya Devi Bhandari** has released a special pictorial anthology on **Mahatma Gandhi** to mark the 151st birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. This anthology is written in the Nepali language. The book was launched at a special function held at in Kathmandu in the presence of Indian Ambassador to Nepal, Vinay Mohan Kwatra.
94. **4th India- Philippines Joint Commission** on Bilateral Cooperation was held virtually on November 6. The meeting was co- chaired by India's External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Teodoro Locsin Jr, Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Philippines.
95. US President-elect Joe Biden announced a 12-member Task Force to deal with COVID-19 in the United States of America The task force is to be headed by a former **General Surgeon Vivek Murthy** and other officials from Food and Drug Administration and universities.
96. The **Virgin Hyperloop** that plans to connect **Mumbai and Pune** in 25 minutes has conducted its first successful passenger ride. The test was conducted in Las Vegas. The Hyperloop is a new mode of transport that speeds up to 1000 kilometres per hour. The idea was conceived by Tesla and SpaceX in 2012.
97. **Sudan** was removed from the **list of State Sponsors of Terrorism**. India has welcomed its removal. Also, India welcomed the normalisation of Sudan's relations with Israel. Sudan-Israel After UAE, Bahrain, Sudan became the third country to normalise its relations with Israel in the last two months.
98. India attended first **BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' meet**. The Finance Minister Nirmala Sitaraman represented India at the meet.
99. **India and Maldives** have agreed over **four MOUs** during the visit of India's Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla to Maldives. The four MOUs were signed for **cooperation in sports and youth affairs; connectivity project, setting of plant and soil testing labs**.

100. **China** recently launched the **first 6G experimental satellite**. The satellite will test the technology of Tetrahertz waves in space.
101. **India** attended the **Shanghai Cooperation Organization** Summit. India was represented by PM Modi at the summit. This is the 20th summit of the organization and third for India since it became a member in 2017. India was an observer at the SCO since 2005.
102. The Indian Astronomers have collaborated with 2020 Physics Nobel Laureate Prof Andrea Ghez on the **"Thirty Meter Telescope Project"**. The telescope is being installed at **Hawaii** and is to revolutionise the understanding of the universe. Thirty Meter Telescope Project It is an international partnership project between **India, China, Japan, California and Canada**.
103. The **Second World Health Expo** is being held in **Hubei's Capital City, Wuhan** in China from November 11-14, 2020. The World Health Expo will showcase the Latest Technology in Fitness Sports and the most realistically restored anti-epidemic Scenes. It will feature 12 different venues for audiences to experience the most frontier health technology.
104. **Stanford University**, from United States has released a list of Top 2% Scientists of the world. The list has 1, 59, 683 persons and **1, 492 Indians** have found a place in it. The scientists have been selected in the global list based on their research paper's International Evaluation. The results have been published in **PLOS Biology** and have been classified into 22 scientific fields and 176 sub-fields in the report.
105. The **United Nations** has created a new alliance to prevent COVID-19 food crisis. It was proposed by Italy and led by Food and Agriculture Organization. According to the State of Food Security and Nutrition Report, 2020 more than 690 million people went hungry in 2019.
106. **India** has received the **first commercial shipment** from **Bangladesh** through water route on November 9, 2020. The shipment was received Assam's Karimganj on the Protocol for Inland Water Trade and Transit (PIWTT) route. This is a step towards utilizing the inland waterway connectivity for trade and prosperity between both the countries.
107. **India** attended the **10th BRICS Health Ministers Conference** virtually. Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Harsh Vardhan attended the meeting from the Indian side
108. **India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA)** report on '**Deepening Cooperation in IBSA: Perspectives from Key Sectors**' has been launched by the Economic Relations Secretary of Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Rahul Chhabra.
109. The **INTERPOL** and the **World Customs Organization** conducted **Operation Thunder, 2020** in 103 countries. The operation was conducted **against environmental crimes**.

110. Prime Minister Narendra Modi **cochaired India-ASEAN summit** along with the Vietnamese Prime Minister Ngyuyen Xuan Phuc. ASEAN is Association of South East Asian Nations. During the summit, PM announced that India is to contribute **1 million USD to COVID-19 ASEAN Response Fund**.
111. **China** and **fourteen other countries** signed a deal to set up the **world largest trading bloc** named **Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)**. The negotiations to sign the deal began in 2011. These 15 countries account to 30% of world population and 30% of global GDP. Thus, the deal is the world largest Free Trade Agreement.
112. The **International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)** and the World Customs Organization (WCO) conducted Operation Thunder in 103 countries against environmental crimes. During the Operation, India Customs along with INTERPOL and WCO intercepted an **18-tonne shipment of red sandalwood** destined for the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
113. On November 18-20, 2020, the 30th edition of **India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol** (Indo-Thai CORPAT) between the Indian Navy with Indian Naval Ship (INS) Karmuk and the Royal Thai Navy with Majesty's Thailand Ship (HTMS) Kraburi, was conducted in **Andaman Sea** close to the strategic **Strait of Malacca**.
114. Phase 2 of the 24th Edition of the Four-nation **Naval Exercise Malabar 2020** took place in the Arabian Sea from November 17-20, 2020. This is the First time since 2007, that all the QUAD (Quadrilateral Security Dialogue) Countries (India, United States, Japan, Australia) are participating in the Malabar Naval Exercise.
115. World Health Organization (WHO) listed **nOPV2 (novel Oral Polio Taccine type 2) Polio vaccine** produced by Indonesia's Bio Farma Company for Emergency Use Listing (EUL), this is the first approval by WHO of its kind amidst several outbreaks in several parts of the world.
116. The 12th BRICS (Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa) Summit 2020 held virtually on November 17, 2020 and hosted by Vladimir Putin, President of Russia on the theme "**Global Stability, Shared Security and Innovative Growth**". India was represented by Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi. Vladimir Putin announced the approval of the **Moscow Declaration**, the BRICS Anti-Terrorism Strategy and the BRICS updated strategy for the economic partnership until 2025. Two pillars of this year's summit are the economy and counterterrorism.
117. 4 Indian Cities namely **Bengaluru, Faridabad, Indore and Hyderabad** feature among the 36 global cities selected by World Economic Forum (WEF) for **pioneering a new global policy roadmap for smart cities**. They will be developed by **G20 Global Smart Cities Alliance**. The WEF's Inaugural "Pioneer of Change Summit" is taking place virtually on 16-20 November, 2020.

118. Japanese Prime Minister, **Yoshihide Suga** and Australian Prime Minister, Scott Morrison signed a defence pact "**Reciprocal Access Agreement**" to counter China's growing influence in the South China Sea and over Pacific Island Nations.
119. SpaceX launched Four Astronauts (3 Americans, 1 Japanese) to the International Space Station on the first full-fledged taxi flight for NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) by a private company. They were launched by **Falcon Rocket** from the Kennedy Space Center. The capsule has been named as "Resilience".
120. The **G20 summit of 2020** was hosted by Saudi Arabia recently. The subsequent G20 summits are to be held in Italy in 2021, Indonesia in 2022, **India in 2023** and Brazil in 2024. About G20 summit, 2020 The main focus of the Summit was on resilient, inclusive and sustainable recovery from covid-19 crisis. During the.
121. The **Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation** was recently hosted by **Malaysia**. Several leaders of the cooperation joined the summit. The Summit was attended by the US President Donald Trump as well. The next APEC meeting is to be hosted by **New Zealand**.
122. The **Indian and Singapore Navy** are to hold maritime exercise **SIMBEX-20** in the **Andaman Sea** between November 23, 2020 and November 25, 2020. The exercise is being conducted between the countries since 1994. The exercise aims to enhance mutual inter-operability between the countries.
123. The **trilateral Naval exercise, SITMEX-20** between India, Singapore and Thailand was held in the Andaman sea. The SITMEX-20 Naval exercise was scheduled in a "non-contact at sea only format" due to covid-19 restrictions. The main objective of the exercise is to increase the interoperability between the three navies.
124. **India and European Union** held 6th round of consultations on disarmament and non-proliferation matter. The partners discussed on exchange of information on development in the field of chemical, nuclear and biological disarmament. They also discussed about the development on outer space security, conventional weapons and non-proliferation.
125. The **Defence Ministers of India and Vietnam** recently discussed the collaboration in the defence industry. The discussions include training, capacity building and cooperation in United Nations Peace keeping operations.
126. India and the United States have extended the **Indo-US Civil Nuclear Energy agreement** for another ten years. The agreement is also called the **123 agreement**. India buys the nuclear material from United States based on this agreement. The extension of the agreement was signed at the Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership (GCNEP).

127. **India and Finland** signed Memorandum of Understanding in the field of **biodiversity conservation** and environment protection. The agreement was signed by the Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar and his counterpart Krista Mikkonen of Finland.
128. The Union Minister of External Affairs **Shri S Jaishankar** recently announced at the Geneva Donors conference that India is to construct the Shahtoot Dam across the Maidan river, a tributary of river Kabul in Afghanistan.
129. The **United Arab Emirates** recently became the first and probably the last Arab country to generate **electricity from coal**. The coal plant, Hassyan is to be set up in Dubai at 3.4 billion USD.
130. The **New Zealand** government is to decide soon upon declaration of **climate emergency**. The Prime Minister of New Zealand Jacinda Ardern is to introduce a motion in the Parliament soon. If passed the motion will be a historical step in bringing climate change to the centre of policy making.
131. **China** recently connected its first indigenously developed **third generation nuclear power reactor** called **Hualong** one to its national grid. The Hualong One nuclear power reactor is first of its kind. **Hualong One**, Nuclear Power Plant located in **Fujian** province.
132. The **Hayabusa2 spacecraft of Japan** is nearing the earth after a yearlong journey from asteroid Ryugu. The asteroid is located at a distance of about 300 million kilometres from the Earth.
133. **Scottish** parliament has passed landmark legislation that made period **products like sanitary pads and tampons free of cost** to those people who need them. Bill is titled as 'Period Products (Free Provision) (Scotland) Bill' and was passed unanimously, making Scotland the first country to take such a step.



PRACTICE MOCK

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REPORTS & INDEXES

134. Recently released **World Wide Fund - Water Risk Filter Report** says that nearly **30 Indian cities** are likely to face acute water risks. *This includes Jaipur, Amritsar, Indore, Srinagar, Bengaluru, Kolkata, Mumbai, Vishakhapatnam and Kozhikode.* Of these cities **Jaipur** topped the list. It was followed by Indore, Thane, Mumbai, Kolkata and Delhi. The number of cities affected with water risks will increase to 100 by 2050.
135. The Union Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan recently released the report prepared by **National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER)**. The report was titled "**Estimating the Economic Benefits of Investment in Monsoon Mission and High-Performance Computing Facilities**". According to the

report, 1000 crores of investment in computing facilities in India will bring in 50,000 crores of benefits. This is to mainly get reflected in livelihood of 1.07 crores of people Below Poverty Line and 53 lakhs Below Poverty Line fisher folk households.

136. According to Annual Report on '**Vital Statistics on India based on Civil Registration System 2018**', **Arunachal Pradesh** recorded the Highest Sex Ratio at Birth in the country with 1,084 females born per thousand males. It was followed by Nagaland (965) & Mizoram (964), Kerala (963), and Karnataka (957). The report was released by the Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. **Manipur** (757), Lakshadweep (839), Daman & Diu (877) recorded the Lowest Sex Ratio at Birth in the country.
137. In accordance with the **World-Wide Fund (WWF) Water Risk Filter**, an online tool, co-developed by the WWF for Nature and Germany's Deutsche Investitions- und Entwicklungsgesellschaft (KfW DEG), nearly a **third of the 100 cities in the world susceptible to "water risk"** are in India. 30 Indian cities are expected to suffer increased water risks by 2050. The list of Indian cities was topped by **Jaipur** (Rajasthan) which is followed by Indore (Madhya Pradesh) and Thane (Maharashtra). Globally, populations in areas of high-water risk could rise from 17% in 2020 to 51% by 2050.
138. As per the new report by **World Health Organisation (WHO)** and United States (US) Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) titled "**Progress Towards Regional Measles Elimination Worldwide 2000- 2019**", India is among six countries with the highest number of infants who had not received the vaccine against measles. The other five countries are Nigeria, Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Pakistan, and Philippines.
139. India is at **77th position** in "2020 TRACE Bribery Risk Matrix" was released by an anti-bribery standard setting organisation **TRACE International**, featuring 194 countries, territories, and autonomous and semi-autonomous regions. India at the 78th position in 2019. The list has been topped by **Denmark** for lowest bribery risk which is followed by Norway and Finland. **North Korea ranked last** i.e. at 194th position.
140. The International Air Transport Association recently announced that **Shanghai is the world's most connected city in the world**. Along with Shanghai, three other cities such as Beijing, Chengdu and Guangzhou have emerged as the most connected cities in the world.

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES & PROGRAMMES

141. Around **15 State Governments** have identified districts to implement the Fortification of Rice Scheme. The State Governments have identified the districts where the scheme is to be implemented and have notified the same to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution. The **Department of Food and Public Distribution**, Government of India has been implementing the "Centrally Sponsored Pilot Scheme on Fortification of Rice and its distribution through Public Distribution System". *The scheme is to be implemented for a period of three years between 2019-20 and*

2022-23. The distribution of fortified rice is already being implemented by five states namely Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh and Tamil Nadu.

142. Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that the **one rank one pension scheme** of armed forces has completed 5 years of successful journey. The Government of India has disbursed Rs 42,700 crores to more than 20.6 lakh ex-servicemen in the last five years.
143. Government of India has recently announced that it is to expand the **PLI (Production Linked Incentive) scheme to more than ten sectors**. This includes food processing, leather, textiles, battery manufacturing. The pharmaceuticals (and medical devices) and electronics are already under the scheme. These sectors were suggested by NITI Aayog. The rest four sectors are to be decided soon. *The Government of India in March 2020, introduced the PLI scheme to boost domestic manufacturing and cut down import bills. The central government aims to provide incentives to the companies on incremental sales from products manufactured in domestic units.* So far, the scheme was introduced in mobile and pharmaceutical industries as they are labour intensive and likely to create new jobs.
144. Government of India has announced that over **11 lakh MSMEs** have registered on the new online system of **Udyam Registration**. It was launched in July 2020.
145. The **Wildlife Institute of India** recently released a survey on the Ganges river. According to the survey, **49% of the river is high on biodiversity**. These are results of phase I of the survey. The Gangetic Dolphins and Otters in the river have increased in numbers. The study was conducted by the WII on behalf of National Mission for Clean Ganga undertaken by the Ministry of Jal Shakti. The first phase of the survey was held in 2017-19.
146. The Mumbai based research non-profit **India Migration Now** has recently released "**Interstate Migrant Policy Index**" (**IMPEX**). The index measures integration of interstate migrants. The average IMPEX score of India is 37 out of 100. According to the index, the states of **Kerala**, Goa, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh have been most successful in integrating migrant workers. On the other hand, Delhi has the least Interstate Migrant Policy Index.
147. On November 12, 2020, on the occasion of the **World Pneumonia Day**, the International Vaccines Access Centre released the **11th Annual Pneumonia and Diarrhoea Progress Report**. According to the report, India has achieved the **global target of 90% coverage** of three of five vaccines. These vaccines are DPT Vaccine, Measles vaccine, PCV vaccine, Rotavirus vaccine and Haemophilus Influenzae Type B vaccine. DPT is Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus vaccine. PCV is Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine.
148. International Financial Services Centres (IFSC) **International Retail Business Development Committee** has presented its final report to International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA). The final report has recommendations on **Capital Markets, Banking and Insurance**. The committee also made recommendations for the development of IFSC.

149. A review of **BMI (Body Mass Index)** of various countries' teenagers has been recently published in the international medical journal "**The Lancet**", which placed India at **196th rank with respect to BMI in boys & 198th rank with respect to BMI in girls**. This review covered school-aged children and adolescents for ages **5-19 years** from 1985 to 2019 in 200 countries and territories. India's boys ranked **180th with an average height of 5.46** feet while **girls ranked 182nd with an average height of 5.06 feet**. Netherlands tops in country with Tallest boys and girls.
150. The Fifteenth Finance Commission headed by N K Singh is to submit its report the President of India. The recommendations made by the commission are as follows
- The Commission has recommended that the **states shall get 41% of central tax revenues**. Earlier, the fourteenth Finance Commission had recommended 42%.
 - 4.3 lakh crores for the local governments
 - Rs 1 lakh grant to health care
 - Rs 2.9 lakh crores of revenue deficit grants to 17 states.
 - The commission have recommended the states to keep aside at least 8% of their budget for building health care capacities
151. According to the International Energy Agency's (IEA) report, **Renewables 2020 – Analysis and Forecast to 2025**, India's Renewable Energy sector will see the largest growth after COVID-19. **India will double its green energy capacity addition in 2021 compared to 2020 levels**. Driven by China and the United States, new additions of renewable power capacity worldwide are expected to a record level of almost **200 Gigawatts (GW) in 2020**. Total Installed Wind and Solar PV capacity will surpass natural gas in 2023 and coal in 2024.
152. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has recently issued orders to expand Pradhan **Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM)**. Accordingly, the new target of the scheme has been enhanced to **achieve solar capacity of 30.8 GW by 2022**. This is to be done with the revised central financial support of Rs 34,035 crores.
153. Union Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi approved **Production Linked Incentive Scheme for ten sectors**. The schemes are worth of Rs 1.46 lakh crores. The Gol had earlier announced the scheme for pharmaceuticals and electronic products alone. Ten sectors includes food processing, leather, textiles, battery manufacturing. The pharmaceuticals (and medical devices) and electronics are already under the scheme. These sectors were suggested by NITI Aayog. The rest four sectors are to be decided soon.
154. Finance Minister Smt Nirmala Sitharaman announced the fourth economic stimulus package. During the announcement, the Finance Minister introduced the "**Atma Nirbhar Bharat Rozgar Yojana**". Atma Nirbhar Bharat Rozgar Yojana. The beneficiaries of the scheme include employees in EPFO registered establishments who were on monthly wages less than Rs 15,000.

155. Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs had approved the Continuation and Revamping of the **Scheme for Financial Support to Public Private Partnership in Infrastructure Viability Gap Funding Scheme till 2024-25**. The main objective of the scheme is to promote PPP (Public-Private Partnership) in social and economic infrastructure for proper.
156. The year 2020 marked the Fifth Anniversary of '**One Rank One Pension' (OROP) Scheme** for Defence Forces Personnel, the decision to implement OROP was taken in November, 2015. OROP is aimed at ensuring uniform pensions for veterans retiring in the same rank with the same length of service irrespective of when they retire.
157. Fifteenth Finance Commission led by Chairman NK Singh has recommended for **reprioritising Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) to increase Health Infrastructure Spending**, and Public spending on Health in India. The 15th Finance Commission headed by NK Singh submitted its report titled "**Finance Commission in COVID Time**" to the President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, Prime Minister, Narendra Modi and Union Minister of Finance, Nirmala Sitharaman.
158. As a part of "Operation Green Scheme **TOP to TOTAL**", the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has announced a **50% air transportation subsidy for 41 notified fruits and vegetables** from North East and Himalayan states to any place in the country. In this regard, Airlines will provide the transport subsidy directly to the supplier/ consignor/ consignee/ agent by charging only 50% of the freight charges and will claim the balance 50% from MoFPI as subsidy.
159. Union Minister Dharmendra Debendra Pradhan, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) has signed Memoranda of Understandings (MoUs) with 8 leading oil & gas marketing companies & technology providers to set up **900 Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) plants** with an outlay of **Rs 30,000 Cr** across India under the **Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT)** initiative.
160. **6 Organizations** – International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO), UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) India, Federation of Obstetric and Gynaecological Societies of India (FOGSI), Pregnancy and Obesity Nutrition Initiative (PONI), Alive & Thrive, Nutrition International and ARTIST for Her (Asian Research & Training Institute for Skill Transfer) have partnered to **strengthen the implementation of the POSHAN** (Prime Minister's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nutrition) Abhiyaan. It aims to bring stunting of children in age groups of 0-6 years from 38.4% to 25% by 2022.
161. A Multi-disciplinary Technical Committee that was set up under the **Jal Jeevan Mission** has recommended **five technologies** in order to provide field level solutions to the states.
- What are the technologies?**
- **Grundfos AQPure**: It is a solar energy-based water treatment plant. It uses ultra-filtration as well.

- **Janajal Water on Wheel:** It is an Internet on Things based technology that delivers safe water to the doorsteps of households. It is GPS enabled.
- **Presto Online Chlorinator:** It disinfects water and removes bacterial contamination. It is a non-electricity dependent online chlorinator.
- **Johkasou Technology:** It is an inbuilt sewage and bath water treatment system. It has advanced anaerobic-aerobic configuration and can be installed underground.
- **FBTec:** It is a decentralized sewage treatment system.

162. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the '**Har Ghar Nal Yojana**' (Tap Water to Every Household) for the residents of Uttar Pradesh's **Sonbhadra** and **Mirzapur** district. Government was committed to solving the water scarcity problem and hence the scheme of worth ₹5,555 crores was launched in the state.

163. Union Minister Shri Narendra Singh Tomar approved food processing projects of Rs 234.68 crores. Around seven proposals received **under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana** were approved. The proposals were sent under the Scheme for Creation of Infrastructure for Agro Processing Cluster of PMKSY.

164. The Government of India recently launched **Mission COVID Suraksha** to accelerate **development of vaccine** in the country. It will ensure that the vaccines being developed are brought closer to the market. The mission was introduced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman as a part of 12 announcements made under Atma Nirbhar Bharat.

165. The Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar recently inaugurated a **cooperative programme for the beekeepers and honey collectors**. The programme was launched in 5 states. Under the programme, five farmer producer organisations are to be set up in five states. They are to be established in East Champaran, Bihar; Bharatpur, Rajasthan; Morena Madhya Pradesh; Mathura, Uttar Pradesh; and Sundarbans, West Bengal. The organisations are to be set up by **NAFED**, National agricultural Cooperative marketing federation of India. These farmer producer organisations were launched under the Scheme of Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPO.

166. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare recently launched the **Sahakar Pragya**. The initiative will train the primary cooperative societies in the country. It holds **45 new training modules** of National Cooperative Development Corporation (**NCDC**). It will enhance the training capacity of NCDC through a network of eighteen regional training centres.

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ECONOMY & BUSINESS

167. Government of India released **Rs 2,200 crores to 15 states** to improve Air Quality Measures. The air quality improvement measures are to be executed in more than million plus cities. The amount was released based on the recommendations of the Fifteenth Finance Commission. The fund will help states undertake air quality measures and capacity building in local bodies. The amount was released to states such as Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. **Rs 396.5 crores has been released to Maharashtra**, Rs 357 crores to UP, Rs 202.5 crores to Gujarat and Rs 209.5 crores to West Bengal.
168. The **Ministry of AYUSH and Invest India** will set up **“Strategic Policy and Facilitation Bureau”** to facilitate systematic growth of AYUSH sector. The Bureau will help to make AYUSH systems future ready. It will support in making initiatives under the ministry to its full potential.
169. The Ministry of Labour recently notified the draft rules for the **Industrial Relations Code, 2020**. The rules are to be implemented by **April, 2021**.
The Industrial Relations Rules, 2020 is to supersede the Industrial Tribunal (Central Procedure) Rules, 1949, Industrial Tribunal (Central Procedure) Rules, 1954, Industrial Employment (Standing Order) Central Rules, 1946 and Industrial Disputes (Central) Rules, 1957.
170. **Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy** signed a Memorandum of Understanding to set key targets for the year 2020-21. According to the agreement, the Government of India has set a new revenue target of Rs 2,406 crore from the renewable energy industry. Till November 2, 2020, the IREDA has financed more than 2,700 renewable energy projects in India.
171. Coal Minister Shri **Pralhad Joshi** has announced that the **19 mines were auctioned** during first tranche of coal mine auction. The first tranche of the auction is to generate revenue of Rs 7,000 crores. The auctioned mines have peak rated capacity of 51 million tonnes.
172. Union Cabinet chaired by PM Modi approved the **Rs 1810 crore investment proposal of 210 MW of Luhri Stage I Hydro Power Project**. The hydro power project is to be constructed on River **Sutlej**. The project will generate 758.2 million units of electricity annually.
173. **Microsoft India** has collaborated with **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)** to skill over 1 lakh underserved women in India with digital skills over the next 10 months. This initiative is an extension of the partnership of Microsoft India and NSDC to provide digital skills to over 1 lakh Indian youth.
174. Saffron Production under the **National Saffron Mission** that was so far confined to Kashmir is now to be implemented in the **North East**. The plants are to be transported from Kashmir to Sikkim. So far, saffron production was confined to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

175. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has made **FASTags mandatory for all four-wheelers from January 1, 2021**. The ministry released an official notification regarding this and clarified that it will be applicable to old vehicles also.
176. Coal Minister Shri Pralhad Joshi announced that the **19 mines were auctioned during first tranche of coal mine auction**. The first tranche of the auction is to generate revenue of Rs 7,000 crores. The auctioned mines have peak rated capacity of 51 million tonnes.
177. The Finance Ministry has given its approval for the **creation of national database for unorganised sector**. It will be the first-ever national database for migrant workers. The aim of creating national database is to give a proper platform to migrant labourers.
178. **Hunar Haat** has restarted from November 11 after a gap of around seven months due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To mark the beginning of operations, Union Minister for Minority Affairs Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi inaugurated '**Hunar Haat' at Delhi Haat, Pitampura**. The Hunar Haat is being organized by the India International Trade Fair (IITF), Pragati Maidan from November 11.
179. The Government of India has set up a **22-member inter-ministerial committee** to strengthen Capital Goods Sector. The committee will look into issues. This will help India achieve its goal of becoming a 5 trillion USD economy.
180. The Union Ministry of Textiles has launched a campaign for Diwali- "Local4Diwali". The campaign has been launched to promote the Indian handicraft which is the cultural heritage of the country and also a source of livelihood for many.
181. Credit rating agency, Moody's Investors Service has revised the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) forecast of India to **-8.9 percent** upwards for calendar year 2020 from the -9.6 percent contraction forecasted earlier. The agency forecasted in September 2020 that India's GDP will contract by 9.6%.
182. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced **Mission COVID Suraksha**. Under the mission, the Government of India has **allocated Rs 900 crores to the research and development of COVID-19 vaccines in India**. The funds allocated do not cover the cost and distribution of the vaccines.
183. Finance Minister Smt Nirmala Sitaraman announced the Economic Stimulus Package 4.0. Production Linked Incentive Scheme for 10 sectors. **Rs 1.46 trillion to be provided**. Rs 6,940 crore scheme to promote manufacture of API (Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients). Rs 18,000 crores allocated to Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban).
184. Ministry of Food Processing Industries announced that a **50% transport subsidy is being provided to 41 notified fruits and vegetables** from the Himalayan and the North Eastern states. Earlier, these notified fruits and vegetables were provided with rail subsidies under the Kisan Rail Scheme.

185. Finance Ministry has approved the allocation of **Rs 39,097 crore** under the **Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS)** for the exports made during FY 2019-20. It also approved an allocation of Rs 15,555 crore for MEIS benefits for exports made during the period April 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020.
186. Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (**DIPAM**), which handles government's disinvestment programme, signed an agreement with the World Bank (WB) under which the latter provides advisory services to DIPAM for asset monetization.
187. The **3rd Annual Bloomberg New Economy Forum 2020** was held virtually where India was represented by Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi. The focus of the forum was to restore the economy and to chart a course for the future amid COVID-19 pandemic. The forum was held from November 16 to 19, 2020.
- 188.** Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Department of New & Renewable Energy (DNRE), Government of Goa to discuss the implementation of **India's First 100 MW(MegaWatt)** decentralised solar convergence project under the newly formed **Convergence Energy Services Limited (Convergence) in Goa.**
189. Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (I&B) has issued a notice asking all eligible news websites, portals, aggregators and agencies which are uploading or streaming news and current affairs through digital media to **comply with the 26% foreign direct investment (FDI)** policy for digital news media.
190. Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) virtually inaugurated the **capacity building component of the Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises scheme (PM-FME Scheme).**
191. Union Education Minister, Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' inaugurated 46 **online AICTE Training and Learning** (ATAL) Academy Faculty Development Programmes (FDP). It was launched to train the teachers in higher education institutions association with AICTE (All India Council of Technical Education).
192. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 3rd Global Renewable Energy Investment called the **RE-Invest**. The 3rd Global RE-Invest Renewable Energy Investors Meet & Expo was organised by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Government of India. It is to be held from 26 – 28 November 2020.
193. The Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently chaired the **33rd PRGATI interaction**. During the meeting, projects worth of Rs 1.41 lakh crores were reviewed. These projects were taken up by DPIIT,

Ministry of Railways, Power Minister and Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways. PRAGATI is **Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation**.

194. The **Invest India and the United Nations Development Programme** has launched the sustainable development goal investor map for India. It has laid out 18 Investment Opportunity Areas. This investment opportunity areas are in six critical sustainable development goals that were launched by the United Nations. The map will enable the factors that will help India in achieving its sustainable development goals. It will help India understand how it can reduce the SDG financing gap in the country.
195. The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has approved the construction of the **Song Dam Drinking Water Project** worth Rs 1100 crore in **Dehradun**. This scheme will provide 24-hour drinking water to the city of Dehradun and will give a rebirth to River Rispana.
196. The Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology and **IBM India** collaborated to create a robust education and skilling ecosystem that creates critical thinkers, problem-solvers, and next-generation innovators through the Common Services Centre Academy. It aim to upskill members of the CSC ecosystem in new-age technologies like Artificial Intelligence and Cloud.

FINANCE AND BANKING

197. **National Payment Corporation of India** approved the Facebook owned messaging Application, WhatsApp to “Go Live” on UPI. This is to be achieved through new feature of WhatsApp called “**WhatsApp Pay**”. In order to achieve this, WhatsApp has partnered with five banks namely **ICICI Bank, Indian Bank, Axis Bank, HDFC Bank, State Bank of India**. Apart from these five banks, Jio Payment Bank has also been included.
198. Goods and Services Tax Network (**GSTN**) has launched the facility of **filing NIL statement** in Form GST **CMP-08** for Composition Taxpayers through (short message service) and without logging in to the GST portal.
199. In a bid to develop skill sets of career-oriented individuals, **SBI** (State Bank of India) has entered into a strategic partnership with **edX**, a global non-profit education platform. As part of this partnership, SBI will offer its Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) on the edX platform (edx.org). With this partnership, SBI becomes 1st Corporate Partner of edX from India.
200. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has revised the loan **scheme of the Co-Origination Model between Banks and Non-Banking Financial Companies** – Non-Deposit taking – Systemically Important (NBFC-ND-SIs) launched in September 2018 with the improved “Co-Lending Model (CLM)”. The Scheme CLM helps banks to provide loans along with NBFCs (Non-Banking Financial Companies) including HFCs (Housing Finance Companies) for priority sector borrowers based on a prior agreement.

201. Securities and Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) issued a circular on "**Enhancement of overseas investment limits for mutual funds**" under which the foreign investment limit per mutual fund (MF) house has been doubled to **\$600 million**, from the existing \$300 million, within the overall industry limit of US \$ 7 billion. *SEBI has reserved an amount of \$50 million per fund house. A mutual fund launching a New Fund Offer (NFO) and intending to invest overseas will be required to specify the amount it will invest outside India and use the limit specified within six months.*
202. Securities and Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) introduced '**Flexi Cap Fund**' as a **New Category under Equity Schemes**. The objective is to protect the interests of investors in securities, to promote growth and to regulate the securities market. SEBI has made it mandatory for all open-ended debt mutual fund schemes (with exception) to hold at least 10% of their net assets in liquid assets. With this Flexi Cap Fund the Schemes should have minimum investment of 65% of total assets in the equity & equity related instruments.
203. **Karnataka Bank Ltd.** has launched the **National Common Mobility Debit (NCMC) card**. It is the first-ever contactless debit-cum-prepaid Rupay Card of the bank and is an inter-operable transport card. This debit card has been launched in-line with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs' vision.
204. **Airtel Payments Bank**, headquartered at Mumbai, Maharashtra India's first payments bank partnered with **Bharti AXA General Insurance Co Ltd** to offer 'Smart Drive Private Car Insurance' to offer car insurance for its customers.
205. **HDFC Bank** in Partnership with **Visa** launched '**SmartHub Merchant Solutions 3.0**', India's first comprehensive banking and payment solution for merchants. This first-of-its-kind solution offers the ideal platform for merchants and self-employed professionals to open a current account instantly and to accept payments in-store and online.
206. **Paytm** has launched 'Payout Links', a new initiative under **Paytm Payout**, for businesses. This enables businesses to instantly make payments to the customers, employees & vendors, without the need to collect their bank details.
207. International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has approved the International Financial Services Centres Authority (Banking) Regulations, 2020. The draft banking regulations approved at the meeting opens the way for making rules for the various aspects of banking operations in IFSC.
208. Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (**IRDAI**) has set up a 9-member working group headed by **R Chandrasekaran** to revisit the product structures of engineering tariffs relevant to the retail businesses and provide suitable recommendations to revise them. The committee will submit the report within 3 months.

209. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bhutan Prime Minister **Lotay Tshering** jointly e-launched **RuPay card Phase-II** which will allow Bhutanese card holders to access RuPay network in India.
210. RBL Bank in partnership with Visa launched the latter's processing capability "**Visa Direct**" that allows safe, convenient, real-time and secure funds delivery directly to financial accounts using credit and debit cards.
211. Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited (ESFBL) headquartered at Chennai, Tamil Nadu launched '**Eva**', a unique savings account for Indian women. The product addresses the wellbeing of women in every aspect such as Health, Wealth and Prosperity. **Smriti Mandhana**, Indian Woman cricketer has been appointed as the new brand ambassador of ESFBL.
212. HDFC Bank has launched 'Mooh Band Rakho' campaign to increase awareness on Cyber Frauds.
213. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced the opening of the first cohort under the Regulatory Sandbox (RS) with "**Retail Payments**", as its theme.
- 214.** Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has proposed a draft scheme of amalgamation of the capital starved Lakshmi Vilas Bank Ltd. (LVB) with DBS Bank India Ltd. (DBIL). This decision has been taken after the Central Government has imposed a **one-month moratorium on LVB** on November 17, 2020 that temporarily capped withdrawals at Rs 25,000. The moratorium will be effective upto December 16, 2020. LVB was imposed with 1month moratorium under under **Section 45 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.**
215. **HDFC Bank** and **IndusInd Bank** have been mentioned in the '**red flag**' list, a system used for monitoring Foreign Portfolio Investor (FPI) limits. A red flag will be activated whenever the foreign investment in Indian companies exceeds the permissible limit i.e within 3% or less than 3% of the aggregate NRI/FPI limits or the sectoral cap. As per the data provided by NSDL (National Securities Depository Ltd.) the current **FPI shareholding of HDFC is 71.3%** and 73. 1% for IndusInd Bank. FPIs **can invest up to 74%** in both HDFC Bank and IndusInd Bank.
216. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), National Capital Region Transport Corporation Limited (NCRTC) and New Development Bank (NDB) of BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa) have signed a loan agreement for lending **USD 500 Million** for the '**Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System Project (RRTS)**' in the National Capital Region (NCR). It is expected to be completed by August, 2027.
217. ICICI Bank Ltd in partnership with **Pine Labs** launched '**ICICI Bank Cardless EMI**'. ICICI Bank
218. Government of India, the Government of Meghalaya and the World Bank (WB) have signed a **\$120-million** loan agreement for **Meghalaya Integrated Transport Project (MITP)** to improve and

modernize the transport sector of Meghalaya. The loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), has a maturity of 14 years including a grace period of 6 years.

219. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved a **\$50 million** policy-based loan to boost West Bengal's Digital Platforms for Public Finance Reforms.
220. Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) launched its First Digital Application, '**ANANDA**' (**Atma Nirbhar Agents New Business Digital App**). The digital tool supports the on boarding process to get Life Insurance policy with the help of the Agent / Intermediary without any paperwork.
221. As per Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) first ever estimation based on high-frequency data namely "**nowcast**", India's Gross domestic product (GDP) **contracted 8.6%** in the quarter ended September 2020.
222. The Moody's Investors Service has revised upwards the India's GDP (Gross Domestic Product) for the Fiscal 2020 (April 2020-March 2021) to **-10.6%**(contract by 10.6%) from -11.5% projected earlier. The upward revision is due to the latest stimulus prioritizes manufacture and job creation, and changes the focus to longer-term growth. *It has also projected India's GDP growth for fiscal 2021-22 at 10.8%, against the previous estimate of 10.6%.*
223. Union Cabinet approved **Rs 6,000 crores of capital infusion** into the **National Infrastructure Investment Fund**. This is a part of the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. The move will leverage to create financial pipeline of Rs 1 lakh crore.
- 224. SEBI** has launched an initiative called '**Securities Market Trainers**' (**SMARTs**) **program**, to enhance investor education and awareness. The program was launched during the World Investor Week (WIW), observed from Nov 23 to 29, 2020. The first batch of SMARTs includes 40 individuals across 16 states and union territories, covering 31 districts on a pan-India basis with 4 days of training at **National Institute of Securities Market (NISM)**.
225. The Union Govt's fiscal deficit further widened to **₹9.53 lakh crore**, or close to 120% of the annual budget estimate, at the end of Oct 2020. The deficit widened mainly due to poor revenue realisation. **Fiscal Deficit** is the difference between the Revenue Receipts plus Non-debt Capital Receipts and the total expenditure.
226. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has banned the Manta Urban Cooperative Bank in Jalna district of Maharashtra for six months for payment of money and loan transactions.

Railways
RRB NTPC

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AWARDS & RECOGNITION

227. The Asian Film Awards Academy (AFAA) has announced the winners of the **14th Asian Film Awards (AFA14)** held at **Busan**, South Korea. Karsh Kale and the Salvage Audio Collective won the Best Original Music Award 2020 for the film **Gully Boy** directed by Zoya Akhtar.
228. Vice President Venkaiah Naidu announced the second National Water Awards. **Tamil Nadu** won the first place followed by Maharashtra and Rajasthan at second and third places respectively. Mizoram bagged the topmost position under the special category.
- 229.** Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', Union Minister of Education virtually launched the **Lilavati Award 2020**, an initiative by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to promote women empowerment in India. The Theme of the Lilavati Award 2020 is **"women empowerment"**.
230. Nobel Peace Prize laureate Malala Yousafzai presented the International Children's Peace Prize 2020 award to **17 year old Sadat Rahman from Bangladesh** for his involvement in setting up his social organization and creating mobile application 'Cyber Teens' to end cyberbullying during a ceremony in the Netherlands.
231. New York based **Scottish writer Douglas Stuart** has won the **Booker Prize 2020** for his debut novel **"Shuggie Bain"** published by Grove Atlantic in the United States and Picador in the United Kingdom. He is the second Scottish writer to win the award after James Kelman who won the Booker Prize in 1994 for his book titled **"How Late It Was, How Late"**.
232. The **Pilibhit Tiger Reserve** and the Uttar Pradesh Forest Department bagged the first international award **TX2**. The Pilibhit Tiger Reserve was awarded for doubling its number of tigers in four years. The target set was to double the numbers in ten years.
233. Netflix show, **Delhi Crime** has been conferred with Best Drama Series award at the 48th International **Emmy Awards 2020**.
234. ISRO Chairman **K Sivan** has been conferred with Doctor of Science honorary doctorate at Visvesvaraya Technological University under Government of Karnataka.

PERSON IN NEWS

235. Indian Army Chief Manoj **Mukund Navarne** was conferred with the rank of **honorary General of Nepal Army**. The President of Nepal Bidya Devi Bhandari presented him with a scroll and a sword during the honouring ceremony.
236. **Joe Biden** was declared the winner of US Election, 2020. He is to become **46th President** of the United States beating Donald Trump.
237. The President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind appointed **Shri Yashvardhan K Sinha** as the new **Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) of India**. The post of Chief Information Commissioner was lying vacant over two months after Bimal Julka completed his term in August, 2020.
238. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is to set up a committee to review the existing guidelines of Television Rating Agencies. The committee has been formed with four members under the chairmanship of CEO of Prasar Bharti **Sashi Shekar Vempati**.
239. World's longest serving Prime Minister Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, Bahrain PM, died on November 11. He was 84. He died at the Mayo Clinic Hospital in the United States. He became the Prime Minister of Bahrain on 19 January 1970 but took office on 5 August 1971 after the country's independence.
240. The book titled 'How to Be a Writer' authored by **Ruskin Bond** was published by **HarperCollins** India. The book gives practical advice for every person who is aspiring to write and be published.
241. **Sonu Sood**, an actor and producer is set to pen his autobiography titled "**I Am No Messiah**". The book will be co-authored by Meena Iyer. The book will account the experience of Sonu Sood during the COVID-19 pandemic. The book is set to be published by Penguin Random House India and released in December 2020.
242. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed **Senapathy Gopalakrishnan**, cofounder, and former co-Chairman, Infosys as the **1st chairperson of Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH)**. He is currently the Chief Mentor of Start-up Village, an incubation hub for start-ups.
243. The Election Commission of India (ECI) has approved the appointment of **Sonu Sood as the State Icon of Punjab**. Sonu Sood hails from the **Moga** district of Punjab.
244. Girish Chandra Murmu, 14th Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India elected as the **External Auditor of Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) for 3 years**. He will take charge of this position from the Supreme Audit Institution of Switzerland.
245. Lt Gen Harpal Singh has appointed new Engineer-in-Chief of Indian Army. He is presently the Director-General of Border Roads Organization and would take over his new appointment on 1 December.

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OBITUARIES

246. Veteran **Violinist** and Padma Shri & Padma Bhushan Awardee **Tripunithura Narayanaier Krishnan** (T N Krishnan) passed away at the age of 92 at Chennai, Tamil Nadu. He was born in 1928 in **Kerala**. He received the Padma Shri in 1973 and Padma Bhushan in 1992, India's highest civilian awards, for arts.
247. **Sanchaman Limboo**, Former Chief Minister (CM) of Sikkim passed away at the age of 73 due to prolonged illness in Gangtok, Sikkim. He was born on January 15, 1947 in West Sikkim district, Sikkim.
248. **Satyajit Ghosh**, former football player of India and Mohun Bagan passed away at the age of 62 at Bandel, West Bengal due to cardiac arrest.
249. **Arjun Prajapati**, the renowned **Sculptor and Padma shri awardee** from Rajasthan passed away at the age of 64 in at Jaipur, Rajasthan due to COVID-19. He was popularly known as the "Maharathi of Cloning"
250. Legendary Bengali Actor and Padma Bhushan Awardee **Soumitra Chatterjee** has passed away.
251. **Bhanwar Lal Meghwal**, Rajasthan's Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment and the leader of Indian National Congress of Rajasthan passed away at the He was born on 2nd July 1948 in Sujangarh in Churu district, Rajasthan.
252. **Mridula Sinha**, former and **first Woman Governor of Goa** passed away at the age of 77 at a hospital in Delhi. She was born on 27th November 1942 in Chhapra, Bihar. Mridula Sinha was a proficient Hindi **writer** who contributed to the field of literature and culture.
253. **Tarun Gogoi**, former Chief Minister of **Assam** passed away due to post covid-19 complications. Mr Gogoi was diagnosed with COVID-19 in August 2020.
254. Legendary Argentine footballer, **Diego Maradona** (60 years) passed away following a heart attack. Diego Armando Maradona was regarded as one of the greatest players of all time. He was one of the two joint winners of FIFA Player of the 20th Century award.
255. Senior Congress leader **Ahmed Patel** (71 years) passed away at Medanta Hospital, Gurgaon hospital after COVID infection. He was an Indian politician and Member of Parliament from Indian National Congress, representing Gujarat since eight times in Lok Sabha as well as Rajya Sabha.

256. Indian industrialist **Faqir Chand Kohli** (96 years) passed away in Mumbai due to cardiac arrest. He was the founder and the first CEO of Tata Consultancy Services, and was also associated with Tata Power Company and Tata Elxsi. He served as President of NASSCOM.
257. Noted **Telugu poet**, journalist, scriptwriter **Shaik Khaja Hussain** (70 years) passed away after brief illness in Hyderabad. He was popularly known as Devi Priya. He was conferred with Kendra Sahitya Akademi Award in 2017, for his book Gaali Rangu.

IMPORTANT DAYS

258. Every year, the United Nations marks the **International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists** on **November 2**. This year, the day is celebrated under the theme: **Protect Journalists, Protect the Truth**.
259. Every year, the **International Day for Preventing the exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict** is marked on **November 6**. The resolution to celebrate the day was passed in 2001.
260. Every year India observes **National Cancer Awareness Day on November 7**. Cancer is the second leading cause of death according to the World Health Organization.
261. Every year, **World Diabetes Day** is celebrated on **November 14**. The celebrations of the World Diabetes Day is led by International Diabetes Federation. This year the World Diabetes Day is celebrated under the theme: **Nurses make the difference for Diabetes**.
262. **Public Service Broadcasting Day** is celebrated every year on **November 12** as the remembrance of the first and only visit of Mahatma Gandhi to the studio of All India Radio, Delhi in 1947.
263. United Nations(UN)'s **World Toilet Day** is annually celebrated across the globe on **19th November** to celebrate Toilets and to raise awareness about the 4.2 billion people across the globe who are living without any access to safely managed sanitation. The theme of the 2020 World Toilet Day is **"Sustainable sanitation and climate change"**.
264. Every year, the **International Day for Elimination of violence against women** is marked by the United Nations on **November 25**. The day is celebrated to create awareness that women around the world are subjected to domestic violence, rape and other forms of violence. This year the day is celebrated under the **Theme: "Fund, Respond, Prevent, Collect"**
265. Every year **Constitution Day is celebrated on November 26**. It is also known as Samvidhan Divas or National Law Day. The day is celebrated to mark the adoption of Constitution. The Constitution of India was adopted on November 26, 1949.
266. **National Milk Day** is observed every year in India on **November 26** to commemorate birthday of father of India's White Revolution, Dr. Verghese Kurien, since 2014. It is being celebrated jointly by

National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), Indian Dairy Association (IDA), along with 22 milk federations.

SPORTS

267. British Driver **Lewis Hamilton** (Mercedes) won the 2020 **Emilia Romagna Grand Prix** (officially known as the Formula 1 Emirates Gran Premio dell'Emilia Romagna 2020) held at Autodromo Internazionale Enzo e Dino Ferrari in **Imola, Italy**. This was Hamilton's record extending **93rd F1 victory**. The Championships are organized by Federation Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA).
268. The Ministry of Sports has approved **6 Khelo India Centres of Excellence** in six different states. Khelo India centre of excellence is an initiative of the Sports Ministry to upgrade the existing sports infrastructure in all states and Union Territories.
269. **China's Chen Meng** has been crowned as the winner of the **first-ever ITTF Women's World Cup** title. Chen Meng is the world's No.1 women tennis player at present. She defeated her Chinese compatriot Sun Yingsha by 11-13 11-6 11-9 11-6 11-8 to win the title.
270. On November 10, 2020, **Mumbai Indians** won the IPL 2020 Trophy for the **fifth** time. The team has so far won the title in 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019 and 2020. Rohit Sharma was the captain of the team.
271. The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MoYAS) has introduced an incentivisation structure to **fund 500 private academies**, through the Khelo India Scheme over the next four years starting 2020-21. Under the scheme, SAI (Sports Authority of India) and NSFs (National Sports Federations) will work together to encourage all academies, particularly the private academies to continue to improve the level of infrastructure, resources and sports science support.
272. British Driver Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) won the **Formula 1 DHL Turkish Grand Prix 2020** held at Intercity Istanbul Park, Turkey.
273. Sports Minister **Kiren Rijju** has rolled out second edition of **Fit India School Week program** virtually. Schools have to register themselves on fitindia.gov.in/fit-india-school-week to participate in this program. It aims to encourage kids to inculcate physical activity and sports in their daily routine.
274. Federation Internationale de Football Association (**FIFA**), has released the international rankings for November 2020. India has moved up to **104**, a significant rise of four spots from previously rankings released in October 2020. **Belgium** has kept their place on the top, followed by France, Brazil, England, and Portugal.



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