

PRACTICE

MOCK

**WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**SEP 2020  
3rd Week**

**SEPTEMBER 16-23**

**PracticeMock**

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## NATIONAL

1. Minister of State Hardeep Singh Puri, Ministry of Civil Aviation inaugurated **India's first General Aviation Terminal** at Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport, Delhi to handle the flight operations and movement and processing of passengers flying through of private jets or chartered flights.
2. Union Minister of Chemical and Fertilizers, D.V. Sadananda Gowda announced that India will be self **reliant in fertilizer production by 2023** while addressing a webinar on Self-Reliant India and Sustainable Agriculture Organized by cooperative Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) for farmers of Karnataka.
3. Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology in partnership with National Jal Jeevan Mission, has **launched ICT Grand Challenge for Development of 'Smart Water Supply Measurement & Monitoring System'** to be deployed at the village level.
4. to promote "Make in India" initiative, the Central Government has amended the Public Procurement Order, 2017 on September 16, 2020. The notification in this regard was issued by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Minister of Commerce and Industry.
5. India has launched the **First Ever Direct Cargo Ferry Service** between India and Maldives. The Ceremony was attended by representatives from Tuticorin and Cochin ports and Officials from Maldives Ports Limited (MPL) and Foreign Ministry of Maldives.
6. Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (**DMRC**) launched **i-ATS (Automatic Train Supervision)**, the first Made-in-India signalling system.
7. **Tata** group will launch India's 1st CRISPR COVID-19 test, kit named '**FELUDA**'

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## STATES

8. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the historic Kosi Rail Mahasetu in Bihar.
9. The Government of India announced an increase in Scholarship amount for the students of Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) under the '**Pragati**' and '**Saksham**' Scholarship Schemes. The amount has been raised from Rs. 5, 000 Per Annum to Rs. 50, 000 Per Annum from the Current Academic Year (2020-21).

10. The Government of Rajasthan signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Small Industries Development Bank of India (**SIDBI**) to develop its micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) ecosystem.
11. **Madhya** Pradesh government has launched a '**Poshan Sarkar**' program with an Objective of ensuring active participation of local Bodies-Gram Panchayats and Urban bodies in the Nutrition Campaign.
12. **Maharashtra** Cabinet approved the implementation of Balasaheb Thackeray Road Accident Insurance Scheme.
13. **Karnataka** has launched '**Arthika Spandana**' programme to disburse loans of Rs 39,300 crore through various cooperative institutions.
14. **Mukhyamantri Mahila Utkarsh Yojana** scheme for providing interest-free loans of Rs 1 lakh to women's groups was launched in **Gujarat**.
15. Tamil Nadu has released Tamil Nadu Cyber Security Policy 2020, Tamil Nadu Blockchain Policy 2020 and Tamil Nadu Safe and Ethical Artificial Intelligence Policy 2020.

## INTERNATIONAL

16. India & Afghanistan were elected as Members of **the United Nations (UN) Commission on Status of Women**, a body of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).
17. **Mexico** became the first country in the world to inaugurate sustainable financing program for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by issuing a seven-year Sovereign SDGs Bond.
18. Institute for Management Development (IMD), in collaboration with Singapore University for Technology and Design has released the 2nd edition of "Smart City Index (SCI) 2020". The index was topped by **Singapore** followed by Helsinki (Finland) and Zurich (Switzerland) in the second and the third place respectively.

## REPORTS & SCHEMES

19. As per the 2nd Global Preparedness Monitoring Board report titled "A World in Disorder", the world will take 500 years to spend on preparing for pandemics due to the loss driven by the COVID-19. The GPMB is the joint arm of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Bank.

20. The 2020 Human Capital Index (HCI) is a collaboration between the Human Development Practice Group and the Development Economics Group of the World Bank released the report titled "The Human Capital Index 2020 Update: Human Capital in the Time of COVID-19" on September 16, 2020. India has been placed at the **116th** position among 174 countries in the Human Capital Index 2020 with score increase to 0.49 from 0.44 in 2018 in comparison to 115 out of 157 countries. The country of Singapore topped the score with 0.88 followed by Hong Kong at 0.81 and Japan at 0.80.

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### ECONOMY & BUSINESS

21. The Central Government has shown its efforts in giving a digital push in the health sector by initiating two types of telemedicine services viz. Doctor-to-Doctor (eSanjeevani) and Patient-to-Doctor (eSanjeevani OPD) Tele-consultations in 2019. Since then the tele-consultation by 'eSanjeevani' has been implemented by 23 states.
22. Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved an increase in the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for all mandated Rabi crops for marketing season 2021-22.
23. According to "Asian Development Outlook (ADO) 2020 Update-September 2020" by Asian Development Bank (ADB), India's GDP (gross domestic product) growth will **contract 9% in** FY2020-2021 due to COVID-19 induced slowed economic activity.
24. As per 'OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) Interim Economic Assessment Coronavirus: Living with uncertainty', India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for FY20-21 is projected to **contract by 10.2%**.
25. WhatsApp has partnered with Common Services Centers (**CSC**) for a **WhatsApp** chatbot to empower rural communities by providing digital skills at their doorstep, and to create livelihood through promotion of rural entrepreneurship.
26. The Centre has set up a high-level committee headed by Ajay Tirkey, secretary of the department of land resources under the ministry of rural development to prepare a roadmap for regularisation of land leasing in the agriculture sector.

### FINANCE AND BANKING

27. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued circular advising banks to switch to **automatic** identification of nonperforming assets **(NPAs) by June 30, 2021**.
28. SBI General Insurance Company and YES Bank signed a corporate agency agreement to distribute the products of SBI General Insurance to the customers of YES bank across India.
29. Titan Company Limited in collaboration with State Bank of India (SBI) has introduced Titan Pay, powered by YONO (You Only Need One) SBI.
30. An Awareness & Sensitization programme was launched by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for the newly proposed Farmer Producer Organizations (FPO) along with district administration to aid the farmers to form FPO's and sell their product on reasonable rates by avoiding brokers.
31. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued Draft Rupee Interest Rate Derivatives (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2020 under Section 45 W of the RBI Act, 1934 to allow foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) to undertake exchange-traded rupee interest rate derivatives transactions subject to an overall ceiling of Rs 5,000 crore.
32. SBI Card (SBI Cards and Payment Services Limited) has collaborated with Google to enable customers to use their SBI Credit Cards to make card payments using the Google Pay app on their Android smartphones.
33. The ICICI Home Finance launched "Apna Ghar Dreamz", its new home loan scheme for skilled labourers like electricians, mechanics, painters, grocery store owners etc in the informal sector of Delhi. The credit amount of this loan ranges from Rs 2. lakh to 50 lakhs.
34. State Bank of India (SBI) Life Insurance signed a bancassurance agreement with YES Bank to provide a range of insurance solutions to the customers of YES Bank across the nation.
35. HDFC (Housing Development Finance Corporation) Life and Yes Bank entered into a Corporate Agency Arrangement (CA). As part of the arrangement, HDFC Life will provide a diverse range of insurance products to customers of Yes Bank.
36. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) constituted the Technical Group under the Chairmanship of Harsh Kumar Bhanwala, former Chairman of NABARD to develop a framework for onboarding non-profit organisations and for-profit enterprises.

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### AWARDS & RECOGNITION

37. On 15th September 2020, on the occasion of National Engineers Day, Union Minister of Education presented the first ever "AICTE Visvesvaraya Best Teachers Award 2020" to the 12 faculty members of All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) approved institutions over a virtual ceremony.

### PERSON IN NEWS

38. **Udit Singhal** a 18 year young boy has been named to the 2020 Cohort of young leaders for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by the United Nations (UN).

39. **Rajesh Khullar** is appointed as Executive Director of World Bank & **Sameer Kumar Khare** as Executive Director of ADB.

40. The Central government appointed **Anil Dhasmana**, former chief of Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW) as the new chief of National Technical Research Organisation (NTRO).

41. **Yoshihide Suga** was formally elected as Japan's New Prime Minister. He will succeed Shinzo Abe, who was Japan's Longest serving Prime Minister and stepped down due to health problems.

### OBITUARIES

42. **Amitabha** Ghosh, former governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) passed away recently.

### IMPORTANT DAYS

43. United Nations (UN)'s **International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer** on 16th September to create and spread awareness on the importance of Ozone layer and the effective ways to protect it. The theme for the 2020 is "**Ozone for life: 35 years of ozone layer protection**".

44. United Nations (UN)'s **1st International Equal Pay Day** is observed on **18 September 2020** as a step towards eliminating the gender pay gap and to overcome the sexual discrimination against women in

the employment sector. This day promotes equal pay to everyone and the rights to receive equal remuneration for equal work regardless of the gender.

45. The World Rhino Day is celebrated annually on **September 22** by the World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF) and other international organizations. Theme for World Rhino Day is "**Five Rhino Species Forever**".

## SPORTS

46. Paytm First Games , a subsidiary of digital financial service platform Paytm, has appointed cricketer Sachin Tendulkar of India as its brand Ambassador.
47. The 77th Edition of **Italian** Open 2020 took place from September 14-21, 2020 at Foro Italico Court, Rome, Italy. Men's single winner was **Novak** Djokovic (Serbia).

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