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**Prelims** 

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- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Ropar (Punjab) developed a device named "Jivan Vayu",
   India's first Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) device that can function without
   electricity.
  - Jivan Vayu can be used as a substitute for the CPAP machine.
- 2. The Ministry of Home (MHA) operationalised the national helpline 155260 and reporting platform via Citizen Financial Cyber Fraud Reporting and Management System for preventing financial loss of individuals due to cyber fraud.
  - These have been made operational by the **Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre** (I4C) under MHA, in cooperation from the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**), all major banks, payment banks, wallets and online merchants.
- 3. **Andhra Pradesh** has generated the highest employment in India under the **IBPS Scheme (India Business Process Outsourcing Promotion Scheme)** by creating 12, 234 new jobs.
  - Tamil Nadu came 2nd by creating 9, 401 jobs, while the remaining jobs were spread across Punjab, Odisha, Maharashtra and others.
  - **Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh** received the distinction for providing employment to a large number of youth under the IBPS scheme.
  - The scheme has generated direct employment for more than 40, 000 people residing in Tier-II and Tier-III cities, out of which 38% are women.
  - The IBPS scheme was launched in 2014 under **Digital India Programme** to incentivize establishment of 48, 300 seats under BPO/ITES (Business Process Outsource/Information Technology Enabled Services) operations across India.
  - It aims to create employment opportunities for the youth, by promoting the IT/ITES industry.

- 4. A 3-day long annual festival welcoming the agricultural year in **Odisha** namely 'Raja Parba' aka 'Mithuna Sankranti' is being celebrated in the state from June 14, 2021 to June 16, 2021.
- 5. **Telangana** Artificial Intelligence Mission (**T-AIM**) launched an accelerator programme named 'Revv Up' to empower Artificial Intelligence (AI) startups.
- 6. **Bihar** Chief Minister Nitish Kumar virtually launched 2 new schemes namely 'Mukhyamantri Mahila Udyami Yojana (MMUY)' & 'Mukhyamantri Yuva Udyami Yojana (MYUY)' to promote entrepreneurship among women and youth of all sections.
- 7. **Odisha** Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched a scheme named **'Ashirbad'** on Father's Day (June 20, 2021) to provide monthly financial support to all **orphan children** who have lost one or both their parents during COVID-19 from April 2020.
- 8. Mamata Banerjee, Chief Minister of West Bengal (WB) relaunched the revised "Krishak" **Bandhu"** scheme, a financial scheme for the farmers of West Bengal.

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### INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

- 9. To address the problem of foodborne illnesses worldwide, the **World Health Organization (WHO)** launched a handbook titled 'Estimating the burden of foodborne diseases: A practical handbook for countries'.
  - It is prepared by WHO Team of Foodborne Disease Burden Epidemiology Reference Group (FERG), Multisectoral Action in Food Systems, and Nutrition and Food Safety.

- 10. European Space Agency (ESA) has announced the launching of its probe called 'EnVision' to study **Venus**. It will probably be launched in early **2030**.
- 11. China is all set to blast off its first human spaceflight namely 'Shenzhou-12' which means 'Divine Vessel'.
  - It will be launched from Gobi Desert on a Long March rocket in the coming days with **three men** onboard.
- 12. In an introductory move, the **European Space Agency (ESA)** will launch the world's first wooden satellite, **WISA Woodsat**, designed and built in **Finland**, on Earth's orbit by the end of 2021.
  - It will be launched on a Rocket Lab's **Electron rocket** from the Mahia Peninsula launch complex in **New Zealand**.
- 13. 31st North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) summit happened at Brussels in Belgium, the leaders of NATO's 30 member countries were participated in the summit.
- 14. In the face of two crises COVID-19 and climate change, The World Bank (WB) and International Monetary Fund (IMF) have launched a "High-Level Advisory Group (HLAG) on Sustainable and Inclusive Recovery and Growth".
  - The HLAG will be jointly led by Mari Pangestu, Managing Director for Development Policy and Partnerships, World Bank, Ceyla Pazarbasioglu, Director, Strategy, Policy and Review Department, IMF, Lord Nicholas Stern of the London School of Economics.
- 15. The Union Minister of State, Santosh Gangwar, Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoL&E) signed a Statement of Intent with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to provide a platform for cooperation between them to implement solutions to tackle the employment and skilling challenges for adolescents and youth in India.
  - **Focus:** Vulnerable population including young people with special needs, youth leaving care institutions, migrant youth, victims of child labour, violence, child marriage and trafficking, etc.
- 16. According to 'Annual Bank Statistics of 2020' released by Swiss National Bank (SNB), the Central Bank of Switzerland – India with Swiss Francs (CHF) 2.55 billion has been placed at 51st place in the list of foreign clients' money in Swiss Banks during 2020.
  - The United Kingdom (UK) topped the list with CHF 377 billion, followed by US (152 billion).

- 17. **India** & **Bhutan** signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for developing cooperation between the two countries in the area of **environment**.
  - It will also enable bilateral cooperation in the area of climate change, waste management etc.
- 18. The United States Department of Energy (DoE), the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Government of India, and the US India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) jointly launched the **US-India Hydrogen Task Force**, under the US-India Strategic Energy Partnership (SEP).
- 19. **Indian Navy** and Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force conducted a joint naval exercise at the Indian Ocean under the motive 'Free and Open Indo-Pacific'.
  - The Indian side was represented by INS (Indian Naval Ship) **Kulish** (P63) while JS (Japanese Ship) **Kashima** (TV3508) and JS **Setoyuki** (TV3518) participated from the Japanese side.
- 20. Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar addressed the 42nd **session** of Food and Agriculture Organization's (**FAO**) Conference which took place virtually from June 14-18, 2021.
  - All the 193 members of the FAO plus the European Union endorsed the new **Strategic Framework 2022-2031** which will support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
  - The conference elected Ambassador **Hans Hoogeveen**, the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to UN Organizations in Rome, as the **new Independent Chairperson of the Council (ICC)** for the next two years (2021-23).
- 21. The inauguration edition of the Joint Naval Exercise between **Indian Navy & European Union** Naval Force Somalia (EU NAVFOR also known as Operation Atalanta) took place at Gulf of Aden from June 18-19, 2021.

**Prelims** 

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### **REPORTS & INDICES**

- 22. Aid Foundation (CAF) has ranked India as the 14th most charitable country in the world (with a score of 44%) out of 114 countries.
  - **Indonesia** topped the Index followed by Kenya & Nigeria.
- 23. According to the 'Financing Clean Energy Transitions in Emerging and Developing Economies' report released by International Energy Agency (IEA), The Annual Clean energy investment in emerging and developing economies needs to increase by more than seven times – from less than USD 150 billion in 2019 to more than USD 1 Trillion by 2030 to put the world on track to reach net-zero emissions by 2050.
- 24. The 'UNESCO Science Report 2021: The race against time for smarter development' released by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) states that India's Investment in Research remains unsatisfactory.
  - India's Gross Domestic Expenditure on Research & Development (GERD) remained at 0.7% of the GDP for several years.
  - India has one of the lowest GERD/GDP ratios among the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) nations.
  - In 2020, the task force drafting India's new Science & Technology Policy set the target date for 2% of GDP for R&D to 2030.
- 25. According to the 'Renewable Energy Market Update Outlook for 2021 and 2022' released by the International Energy Agency (IEA), India will add 17 GigaWatt renewable capacity in 2021 & 19.3 GW in 2022.
  - However, the total Renewable Energy Capacity will be under 140 GW in 2022.
- 26. In the recently released World Competitiveness Index 2021 released by the Institute for Management Development's (IMD) World Competitiveness Center, India retained its 43rd rank **out of 64 nations** (for the 3rd consecutive year).
  - **Switzerland** topped the Index followed by Sweden in the 2nd spot & Denmark in the 3rd spot.

- India's ranking in the 4 parameters are Government Efficiency 46 (from 50 in 2020), the ranking in other 3 parameters remained unchanged compared to 2020 - Economic performance – 37, business efficiency – 32, infrastructure – 49.
- Botswana (61st) was added to the ranking this year 2021.
- 27. The World Health Organisation (WHO) in its new report titled, "Children and Digital **Dumpsites"** estimates the risk faced by children and pregnant women living & working in informal electronic waste (e-waste) processing centers.
  - Over 18 million Children and 12.9 million women work at the e-waste dumpsite every year, mostly from low- & middle-income countries, for dismantling & recycling e-wastes.
- 28. According to the 6th Edition of 'Sustainable Development Report 2021 (SDR 2021)' released by Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), India with a score of 60.1 has been placed at 120th rank out of 165 countries.
  - **Finland** topped the Index followed by Sweden & Denmark.
  - For the 1st time since 2015, all countries have shown a reversal in progress in achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) due to COVID-19 pandemic.
  - SDR 2021 has been written by a group of authors led by Professor Jeffrey Sachs, President of the SDSN and has been published by Cambridge University Press.
  - SDR is an annual report which ranks the 193 UN member countries based on their performance against the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).
  - It has been released since 2015 and is based on official data sources (UN, World Bank, etc.) and non-official data sources (research institutions and non-governmental organizations)
- 29. According to the **15th Edition of Global Peace Index 2021 (GPI 2021)** released by Institute of Economics and Peace (IEP), India with a score of 2.553 has been ranked 135 out of 163 countries, which specifies 'Low State of Peace'.
  - **Iceland** topped the GPI 2021 Index followed by New Zealand & Denmark.
  - The average level of **global peacefulness decreased by 0.07 per cent** in the 2021 Global Peace Index. It has deteriorated for the 9th time in the last 13 years.

- In the 2020 GPI, India was ranked 139th.
- 30. The National Association of Software and Services Companies' (NASSCOM) stated its perspective in the process of hiring and job creation over the IT – Business process management (BPM) sector.
  - As per its forecast, the Indian IT industry is on track to meet its vision of \$300-350 **billion** annual revenues by 2025.
  - The top 5 IT services companies viz, TCS, Infosys, Wipro, HCL, and Tech Mahindra are planning to add over **96,000** employees during FY22.
  - The IT-BPM sector together employs over **5 million** workers as of March 2021.
- 31. According to the 'Global Trends: Forced Displacement in 2020 Report' released by United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) - The number of people fleeing wars, violence, persecution, and human rights violations increased to nearly 82.4 million people in 2020, an increase of 3 million people compared to 79.5 million recorded at the end of 2019.
  - Number of people facing Forced Displacement has increased despite COVID-19 related movement restrictions.
  - The report states that more than 1% of the world's population or 1 in 95 people are now **forcibly displaced**. This compares with 1 in 159 in 2010.
  - This is the 9th straight annual increase in the number of people forcibly displaced.

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- 32. According to the 'World Investment Report 2021' released by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) - India received Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows worth USD 64 billion in 2020 making it the 5th largest recipient of inflows in the world.
  - The **US** with 156 Billion was the top destination for FDI in 2020 followed by **China** (USD 149 billion) & Hong Kong, China (USD 119 billion).
  - Global FDI inflows declined to USD 1 Trillion in 2020 (35% decline) compared to USD 1.5 trillion in 2019 due to pandemic.
  - India's FDI inflow has increased to USD 64 billion in 2020 from USD 51 billion in 2019 (37% increase) due to acquisition in the Information & Communication Technology (ICT) industry.
  - India was ranked 8th in the UNCTAD's 2020 Report based on its FDI Inflows.
  - Countries with Largest FDI outflows are China (133 billion), Luxembourg (127 billion) & Japan (116 billion). India was ranked 18th with USD 12 billion (compared to USD 13 billion in 2019).

### **GOVERNMENT SCHEMES & PROGRAMMES**

- 33. The Union Minister for Tribal Affairs launched the Tribal Livelihoods Initiative 'Sankalp Se Siddhi-Mission Van Dhan'.
  - Along with the initiative, the Union Minister also launched 7 new Tribes India Outlets, Tribes India Coffee table book, Van Dhan website, software application, and new TRIFED Head Office in New Delhi.
  - All the initiatives are aimed at sustainable livelihoods for the tribal population.
  - Sankalp Se Siddhi Mission Van Dhan: Through this scheme, TRIFED aims to expand its operations through convergence of various schemes of different Ministries and Departments and launch various tribal development programs in Mission Mode.
- 34. Malaria No More, a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) in partnership with the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) & Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) established an India Interagency Expert Committee on Malaria and Climate (IEC) to explore and advance climate-based solutions for accelerating malaria elimination in India.

- India has set a target to eliminate Malaria by 2030.
- 35. Union Minister of Tribal Affairs, Arjun Munda launched "Adi Prashikshan" portal, a unique online portal to provide quality training to Tribal population.
  - The portal was jointly developed by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Tribal Research Institute (TRI) Odisha and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
  - To provide quality skill development and capacity building programs to Tribal population across India, and improve their socioeconomic status

### **ECONOMY & BUSINESS**

MOCK

- 36. **Wipro** Limited joined the World Economic Forum's (**WEF**) Partnership for New Work Standards initiative to establish a healthy, resilient and equitable future of work.
  - The initiative aims to build human-first work standards by co-creating new frameworks, and utilizing tools and technologies.
  - Wipro is also undertaking initiatives to support its people with dedicated programmes for physical, social, financial and mental well-being.
  - The WEF was established in 1971 with headquarters at Cologny, Switzerland.
- 37. Retail inflation of India was increased to **6.3 percent** in May 2021, breaching the upper limit of the Reserve Bank of India's inflation target of **2 to 6 percent** for the 1st time in 6 months due to a rise in food and fuel prices.
  - Wholesale price inflation also increased to an 11-year-high of 12.94 percent in May 2021.
     As per the National Statistical Office data, food inflation increased to 5 percent in May 2021 from 2 percent in April 2021.
- 38. **Bharti Airtel & Tata Group** have announced a strategic partnership for implementing 'Made in India' 5G network solutions for India.
  - The 5G Technology will be based on 'O-RAN (Open Radio Access Network)' based Radio and NSA/SA (Non-Standalone/standalone) Core Technology.

### **FINANCE & BANKING**

- 39. The 44th Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council met virtually under the Chairmanship of Union Finance & Corporate Affairs Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman**.
- 40. Under Section 18 read with Section 10(2) of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued regulations for investments in Payment Systems Operators (PSOs) entities from Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Non-compliant by new Jurisdictions (Countries).
  - RBI has not permitted new investors from or through non-compliant FATF jurisdictions to acquire, directly or indirectly, 'significant influence' in PSOs (existing PSOs/ entities seeking authorisation as PSOs).
  - Fresh investments (directly or indirectly) from those non-compliant FATF jurisdictions, in aggregate, should account for less than **20 percent** of the voting power (including potential voting power) of the PSO.
- 41. Under Section 10 (2) read with Section 18 of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007 (Act 51 of 2007), the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) has expanded the scope of the Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS) by permitting the addition of 'mobile prepaid recharges' as an additional biller category in BBPS on a voluntary basis.
  - This was intended to support mobile prepaid customers with more options to recharge and it will be implemented on or before **August 31, 2021**.
- 42. **ICICI Bank** launched a first-of-its-kind initiative, a comprehensive set of digital banking solutions named – ICICI STACK for corporates and their entire ecosystem including promoters, group companies,
- 43. LIC Cards Services Limited (LIC CSL) partnered with IDBI Bank to launch "Shagun", a contactless prepaid LIC gift card powered by the IDBI Bank on the RuPay platform.
- 44. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) revoked the deposit-taking status of Dewan Housing Finance Limited (**DHFL**) and reclassified it as a **non-deposit** taking housing finance company (HFC), before approving the **Piramal group**'s bid to take over it towards the end of the resolution process.
- 45. Government of India virtually signed a \$484 million loan agreement with the Asian **Development Bank** to improve transport connectivity and facilitate industrial development in the Chennai–Kanyakumari Industrial Corridor in **Tamil Nadu.**

- 46. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) granted in-principle approval to **Centrum Financial Services Limited** (CFSL) to set up a small finance bank (SFB).
  - Through this SFB, Centrum will take over crisis-hit **Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative Bank** (PMC) as a separate process.
  - For the setting up of SFB, there will be capital infusion of Rs 1,800 crore by the Centrum **Capital**, holding entity for CFSL, and its partner **BharatPe**.
- 47. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) has issued guidelines for the participation of Mutual Fund (**MF**) schemes in Interest Rate Swaps (**IRS**).
  - SEBI allowed MFs to enter into **plain vanilla IRS** for hedging purposes, but the value of the notional principal in such cases must not exceed the value of respective existing assets being hedged by the scheme.
  - If the MF is entering into the IRS through counter transactions, the counterparty has to be an entity recognized as a market maker by Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- 48. **SBI General Insurance** inked a bancassurance partnership with **IDFC** (Infrastructure Development Finance Company) FIRST Bank for selling its **non-life insurance products**.
  - In this regard, a corporate agency agreement was signed between both the entities.
- 49. ICICI Bank has extended the instant 'Cardless EMI' facility for its pre-approved customers to make **online** purchases across 2,500 e-commerce platforms without using their card.

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### **AWARDS & RECOGNISTION**

50. Familial Forestry, the environment conservation concept of Rajasthan-based climate activist Shyam Sundar Jyani has won the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification's (UNCCD) Land for Life Award for 2021.

- 51. Indian-American chemist, Sumita Mitra won the European Patent Office's (EPO) European Inventor Award 2021 under the Non-EPO countries category for her innovative dental filling invention using Nanotechnology.
- 52. National Thermal Power Corporation(NTPC) Ltd. a Maharatna CPSU under the Ministry of **Power** has been recognised as a 'Great Place to Work' for the 15th year in a row by the Great Place to Work (GPTW) Institute.
  - It was the only PSU to feature consistently among India's Top 50 Best Workplaces.

### **PERSON IN NEWS**

- 53. **Anand Mohan Bajaj**, Additional Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) has been appointed as Member of the Board of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) by the Government of India.
- 54. On 16th June 2021, during the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) Leaders Summit 2021, 10-Global leaders were named as the SDG Pioneers 2021.
  - Sumant Sinha, the Chairman and Managing Director of ReNew Power was recognised as one of the Global leaders working towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) through the implementation of the UN Global Compact Ten Principles on human rights, environment, labor, and anti-corruption.
- 55. Microsoft Corporation appointed its Chief Executive Officer Satya Nadella as its Chairman. He will succeed **John Thompson** who will now serve as lead independent director.
- 56. Jnanpith awardee and Renowned author Amitav Ghosh authored a new book 'The Nutmeg's Curse: Parables for a Planet in Crisis'.
  - This Book is Published by John Murray and will be released on October 14, 2021.
- 57. On June 18, 2021, Antonio Guterres, was re-elected as the Secretary General of United Nations (UN) for a 2nd 5-year term from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2026.
- 58. **Montek Singh Ahluwalia**, former Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission of India and the distinguished person at the Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP), was named as

a member of a 'High-Level Advisory Group (HLAG) on Sustainable and Inclusive Recovery and Growth' formed by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

### **OBITUARIES**

- 59. The National Award-winning **Kannada film actor Vijay Kumar Basavarajaiah Popularly known as Sanchari Vijay** has passed away
- 60. Legendary Indian sprinter Padma Shri **Milkha Singh**, who is popularly known as **'Flying Sikh' in the athletic field**, passed away at the age of 91 in Chandigarh. He was born on 20th November 1929 in Govindpura, Pakistan.
- 61. Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (**DPIIT**) secretary **Guruprasad Mohapatra** passed away due to post-Covid-19 complications in New Delhi. He was born on 22
  April 1962, Bhubaneswar, **Odisha**.

### **IMPORTANT DAYS**

- 62. The United Nations' **World Day to Combat Desertification** and Drought is annually observed across the globe on **17th June** to create and raise awareness regarding prevention of desertification of the soil in arid, semi-arid, and dry sub-humid areas caused due to climate change and human activities.
  - The theme of World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought 2021 is "Restoration.Land.Recovery: We build back better with healthy land".
- 63. The United Nations's **World Refugee Day** is annually observed across the globe on **20th June** to support and protect the refugees across the globe and focus on the inclusion of refugees in Healthcare, education and sports.
  - The theme of World Refugee Day 2021 is "Together we heal, learn and shine".
- 64. The **World Music Day**, also known as **Fête de la Musique** in French, is annually observed across the globe on **21st June** to honour the musicians and singers across the globe.
- 65. **United Nations' International Day of Yoga (IDY)** is annually celebrated on **June 21** all over the world.

- The day aims to raise awareness and promote the benefits of practicing yoga worldwide.
- The theme of IDY 2021 is 'Yoga for well-being'.
- The 1st IDY was celebrated on 21st June 2015.

# **Prelims**

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### **SPORTS**

1. Global sports brand **PUMA** extended its partnership with **former Indian Cricketer Yuvraj** Singh by signing him as the Brand Ambassador of PUMA motorsports in India. He has been associated with the brand for over a decade.

### Other Important PDFs

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