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The Most Important Current Affairs July 2020

GoI approves Special liquidity scheme for NBFCs/HFCs

- Government of India has approved the Special liquidity scheme of Rs 30,000 crore for Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFCs)/ Housing Finance Companies (HFCs).
- The scheme aims to improve the liquidity position of NBFCs/HFCs via a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV).
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will offer funds for the Scheme by subscribing to government guaranteed special securities issued by the Trust.
- An unconditional and irrevocable guarantee would be provided by the Government of India, to the special securities issued by the Trust.

About the Special liquidity scheme for NBFCs/HFCs:

- Operations of the Special liquidity scheme would be managed by the Special Purpose Vehicle (SLS Trust) set up by SBI Capital Markets Limited (SBICAP), a subsidiary of the State Bank of India.
- SPV will purchase the short-term papers from eligible NBFCs/HFCs. These eligible NBFCs/HFCs would be allowed to utilise the proceeds under the Special liquidity scheme merely to extinguish the existing liabilities.
- The short term papers can be commercial paper (CPs) and Non-convertible debentures (NCDs) with a residual maturity of not more than 3-months and should be rated as investment grade.
- The facility will not be available for any paper issued after September 30, 2020.
- The SPV would cease to make fresh purchases after September 30, 2020 and would recover all dues by December 31, 2020; or as may be modified subsequently under the scheme.
- The scheme will remain open for a period of 3 months for making subscriptions by the Trust. The period of lending by the Trust shall be for a period of upto 90 days.

To be eligible under the Scheme, the following conditions should be met by the NBFCs/HFCs:

- NBFCs including Microfinance Institutions registered with the RBI under the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, excluding those registered as Core Investment Companies.
- Housing Finance Companies that are registered under the National Housing Bank Act, 1987.
- CRAR/CAR of NBFCs/HFCs should not be below the regulatory minimum, i.e., 15% and 12% respectively as on March 31, 2019.
- The net non-performing assets should not be more than 6% as on March 31, 2019:
- They should have made net profit in at least one of the last two preceding financial years (i.e. 2017-18 and 2018-19).
- They should not have been reported under Special Mention Accounts “SMA-1” or “SMA-2” category by any bank for their borrowings during last one year prior to August 01, 2018.
- They should be rated investment grade by a SEBI registered rating agency.
- They should comply with the requirement of the SPV for an appropriate level of collateral from the entity, which, however, would be optional and to be decided by the SPV.

GoI, Govt of TN & World Bank signs agreements for Housing projects

- Government of India, Government of Tamil Nadu and the World Bank has signed an agreement for two projects of worth $250 million.
- These projects would be executed to help low-income groups in the state of Tamil Nadu get access to affordable housing.
- These projects will strengthen the Tamil Nadu’s housing sector policies, institutions, and regulations.
The two projects of worth $250 million are:

- **The $200 million First Tamil Nadu Housing Sector Strengthening Program** will aid the government’s ongoing efforts to expand the affordable housing availability.
- **The $50 million Tamil Nadu Housing and Habitat Development Project** will support innovations in housing finance. It will also strengthen housing sector institutions in the state.

India-Bangladesh forms LPG joint venture

- **India** and **Bangladesh** has signed an agreement for the formation of a **50:50 Joint Venture Company (JVC)**.
- This 50:50 Joint Venture Company has been formed for LPG business in Bangladesh.
- The agreement was signed between the **RR Holdings Ltd., Ras Al Khaimah, UAE**, the holding company of **Beximco LPG of Bangladesh**, and **IOC Middle East FZE, Dubai**, a wholly-owned subsidiary of **Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)**.
- The JVC will help in reducing the import cost of LPG and provide it to the people of Bangladesh at an affordable price.

World Bank approves $400 mn for rejuvenation of river Ganga

- **World Bank** has signed a loan agreement of **$400 million** with **Government of India** to enhance support for the **Namami Gange programme**.
- The loan agreement aims to make the Ganga a clean and healthy river.
- The loan amount of **$400 million** comprises a loan of **$381 million** and a proposed Guarantee of up to **$19 million**.
- The new project will aim to stem the pollution levels in the iconic river and work towards strengthening the management of the river basin which is home to more than **500 million people**.

India Ranked 31st in INFORM Risk Index 2020

- In accordance with the **“INFORM Report 2020: Shared evidence for managing crises and disasters”** released by research centre INFORM, operating under the European Commission (EU).
- The report has ranked 191 countries based on **“INFORM Risk Index”**.
- This report is produced by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA) on behalf of all INFORM Partners.
Ranks of Top 10 Countries in INFORM Risk Index:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Inform Risk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Central African Republic</td>
<td>8.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>South Sudan &amp; Yemen</td>
<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Chad &amp; Syria</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Congo DR &amp; Iraq</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>Ethiopia, Nigeria &amp; Sudan</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th</td>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>6.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31st</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>5.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

India ranks 34th in GRETI 2020 by JLL

- **Jones Lang LaSalle’s (JLL)** has released its biennial Global Real Estate Transparency Index (GRETI).
- The GRETI is a unique benchmark of real estate market transparency and an essential guide for companies operating in foreign markets.
- It covered **99 countries and territories and 163 cities**.
- The Global Real Estate Transparency Index (GRETI) is based on **210 indicators** which includes additional data on sustainability and resilience, health and wellness, proptech and alternatives.

Here is the list of top ranked countries in the index:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>1.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>1.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>1.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>1.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>1.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>1.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>1.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>1.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>1.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>1.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>2.69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IRDAI allows launch of ‘Corona Kavach’ insurance policies

- **General and Health Insurance companies** has received approval from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) to launch short-term ‘Corona Kavach’ health insurance policies.
- The short-term “Corona Kavach” health insurance policy will cover medical expenses occurred due to coronavirus disease.

About the Corona Kavach policy:

- **IRDAI** has designed a standard Covid specific product which addresses the basic health insurance requirements of insuring public containing common policy wordings across the industry.
- The sum insured amount of the policy ranges from **Rs 50,000 to Rs 5,00,000**.
- Person between the age of **18 to 65 years** can avail the benefits of the policy.
- People will be able to avail the Corona Kavach policy for Self, spouse, parents, parents-in-law as well as dependent children up to **25 years of age**.
India ranks 3rd in Global Manufacturing Risk Index 2020

- The annual Global Manufacturing Risk Index (MRI) report was released by the US-based property consultant Cushman & Wakefield, to rank the most suitable locations for global manufacturing among 48 countries in Europe, Americas, and the Asia-Pacific.
- Each of the countries has been assessed in four key areas: Bounce-backability, Conditions, Costs and Risks.
- China and the United States retain the top two positions respectively in MRI 2020.
- India was ranked 3rd in MRI 2020.

Consumer Protection Act, 2019 comes into force in India

- The Consumer Protection Act, 2019 has been implemented in India since 20th July 2020. It has replaced Consumer Protection Act, 1986.
- The new act has been introduced to offer protection to buyers from traditional sellers as well as from the new e-commerce retailers/platforms.
- It will protect the consumer rights through its various notified Rules and provisions and will empower consumers and hence help them in protecting their rights.

Some of the features of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019:
- It includes Consumer Protection Councils, Consumer Disputes Redressal Commissions, Mediation, Product Liability and punishment for manufacture or sale of products containing adulterant/spurious goods.
- It involves the setting up of the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) which will aim to promote, protect and enforce the rights of consumers.
- It will conduct investigations into violations of consumer rights and institute complaints/prosecution.
- It will order recall of unsafe goods and services as well as discontinuance of unfair trade practices and misleading advertisements.

India successfully tests fires ATGM “Dhruvastra”

- India has successfully conducted flight tests of its indigenously developed anti-tank guided missile ‘Dhruvastra’.
- The flight tests were conducted from the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur in Odisha.
- ‘Dhruvastra’ is an anti-tank guided missile (ATGM) which has been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). It is a helicopter version of ‘Nag Helina’.
- ‘Dhruvastra’, the helicopter-launched ATGM, is meant to be fired from air to destroy enemy bunkers, armoured vehicles and main battle tanks.

RBI releases the Financial Stability Report, July 2020

- The Reserve Bank of India has released the 21st Issue of the Financial Stability Report (FSR).
- The FSR reflects the collective assessment of the Sub-Committee of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) on risks to financial stability and the resilience of the financial system.
- The Report also discusses the issues relating to the development and regulation of the financial sector.

Highlights of the Financial Stability Report (FSR):
- Bank credit, which had considerably weakened during the first half of 2019-20, slid down further in the subsequent period with the moderation becoming broad-based across bank groups.
- Capital to risk-weighted assets ratio (CRAR) of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) edged down to 14.8% in March 2020 from 15.0% in September 2019 while their gross non-performing asset (GNPA) ratio declined to 8.5% from 9.3% and the provision coverage ratio (PCR) improved to 65.4% from 61.6% over this period.
- Macro stress tests for credit risk indicate that the GNPA ratio of all SCBs may increase from 8.5% in March 2020 to 12.5% by March 2021 under the baseline scenario; the ratio may escalate to 14.7% under a very severely stressed scenario.
• Network analysis revealed that total bilateral exposures among entities in the financial system declined marginally during 2019-20; with the inter-bank market continuing to shrink and with the better capitalisation of public sector banks (PSBs), there would be reduction in contagion losses to the banking system under various scenarios in relation to a year ago.

Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2020 released

• The 2020 Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI): Charting pathways out of multidimensional poverty: Achieving the SDGs” was released by the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative at the University of Oxford and the Human Development Report Office of the United Nations Development Programme.

• It measures the complexities of poor people’s lives, individually and collectively, each year.

Features of the Report:
• The report shows that out of 75 countries studied, 65 countries have reduced multidimensional poverty levels between 2000 and 2019.
• Among the 65 countries, 50 countries have reduced the number of people living in poverty.
• Children show higher rates of multidimensional poverty: half of multidimensionally poor people (644 million) are children under age 18.
• One in three children is poor compared with one in six adults.
• About 84.3 percent of multidimensionally poor people live in Sub-Saharan Africa (558 million) and South Asia (530 million).
• The index emphasises on measuring and monitoring progress under the goals to reach ‘zero poverty by 2030-Goal 1 of the SDGs’.

Indian Scenario:
• It states that India recorded the largest reduction in the number of people living in poverty as around 273 million people moved out of the multidimensional poverty over 10 years (from 2005-2006 to 2015-2016).

Union Cabinet Approves National Education Policy 2020

• The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the National Education Policy 2020.
• The National Education Policy 2020 will replace the thirty-four year old National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986.
• National Education Policy 2020 is the first education policy of the 21st century and aims to bring transformational reforms in both school and higher education sectors.
• The new policy is based on the foundational pillars of Access, Equity, Quality, Affordability and Accountability.
• It has a target of 50% Gross Enrollment Ratio by 2035 and provision for multiple entry and exits.

Fleet of 5 Rafale multi-role combat jets arrived in India

• A fleet of five French-manufactured Rafale multirole combat jets arrived in India.
• Rafale Jets landed at the Ambala Air Force base after covering a distance of 7,000 km from the Merignac airbase in French port city of Bordeaux.
• The fleet, which comprises three single seater and two twin seater aircraft, would be inducted into the IAF as part of its Ambala-based No 17 Squadron, also known as the ‘Golden Arrows’.
• Government of India signed a Rs 59,000-crore deal with French aerospace major Dassault Aviation on September 23, 2016 to procure 36 Rafale jets.
• The delivery of all 36 aircraft will be completed on schedule by the end of 2021.
The Monthly Hindu Review|Current Affairs|July 2020

### Schemes for promotion of Bulk Drugs & Medical Devices Parks

- Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers Shri D.V. Sadananda Gowda has launched **four schemes** for the promotion of domestic manufacturing of **bulk drugs** and **medical devices parks** in the country.
- The Department of Pharmaceuticals has formulated four schemes, two each for Bulk Drugs and Medical Devices parks.
- These schemes will work towards the **development of Indian pharmaceutical capacities** and reduce India's dependence on imports, hence making it **self reliant**.

#### The key features of the four schemes are:

- **The scheme will remain open** for applications for a period of **120 days** from the date of issuance of guidelines.
- **The applicants will receive the approval** within **90 days** from the closure of application window.
- **Applications will be received only through an online portal** and the total financial outlay of the scheme is **Rs 6,940 crore**.
- Scheme for promotion of **Bulk Drug Parks** aims for the establishment of **3 bulk drug parks** in the country. **Maximum grant-in-aid** for one bulk drug park is limited to **Rs.1000 crore**.
- Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for promoting domestic manufacturing of Medical Devices aims to boost domestic manufacturing of medical devices in four target segments. This will be achieved by offering financial incentives on sales to a maximum number of 28 selected applicants for a period of 5 years.
- The **Production Linked Incentive (PLI)** schemes aims to boost **domestic manufacturing of 53 bulk drugs**, on which India is critically dependent on imports.

### Ministry of Home Affairs releases Unlock-3 guidelines

- **Ministry of Home Affairs** has released the **Unlock-3 guidelines** which will be **valid upto 31st August 2020**. The new guidelines seeks to re-open more activities in areas outside the Containment zones and to extend the lockdown in containment zones upto 31st August 2020.
- As per the Unlock-3 guidelines, all activities would be permitted outside the containment zones, except the following:
  - Schools, colleges, educational and coaching institutions will remain closed till 31st August 2020.
  - Yoga institutes and gymnasiums would be allowed to function from 5th August 2020 as per the standard operating procedures (SOP) issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW).
  - Cinema Halls, swimming pools, entertainment parks, theatres, bars, auditoriums, assembly halls and similar places will remain closed.
  - International air travel of passengers, except as permitted by MHA.
  - Metro rail; social/ political/ sports/ entertainment/ academic/ cultural/ religious functions as well as other large congregations.

### Indian team’s 2018 Asian Games silver medal upgraded to gold

- The **Indian quartet** of Mohammed Anas, M.R. Poovamma, Hima Das and Arokia Rajiv, who finished second behind Bahrain in the 4×400 mixed relay final have now become the first winner of the event. Hence, the **silver medal** of the Indian 4×400 mixed relay team’s 2018 Asian Games, Jakarta has been upgraded to gold.
- The medal was upgraded to gold following the disqualification of Bahrain squad that finished first in the 4×400 mixed relay final.
- The Bahrain squad was disqualified as **Kemi Adekoya of Bahrain** has been handed a 4-year ban by the Athletics Integrity Unit for failing a dope test.
- Indian runner **Anu Raghavan** has moved from fourth place to **bronze medal position** in the **women’s 400 m hurdles** following the disqualification of Kemi Adekoya of Bahrain.
MoES National Awards for excellence in Earth System Science

- The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) has announced the winners of “MoES National Awards for excellence in Earth System Science”.

Here is the complete list of winners:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.No.</th>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Winner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Life Time Excellence Award</td>
<td>Professor Ashok Sahni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>National Award for Atmospheric Science &amp; technology</td>
<td>Dr. S. Suresh Babu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>National award for Geoscience &amp; technology</td>
<td>N. V. Chalapathi Rao</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>National Award for Ocean Technology</td>
<td>Dr. M. A. Atmanand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Anna Mani award for woman scientist</td>
<td>Dr. Lidita D. S. Khandeparker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Young Researcher Awards</td>
<td>Dr. Indra Sekhar Sen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>National Award for Ocean Science &amp; technology</td>
<td>Dr. V. V. S. Sarma</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Banking and Financial Current Affairs

- **YES Bank** has launched a digital solution, "Loan in Seconds" for instant disbursement of retail loans.

- **Karur Vysya Bank (KVB)** has entered into a partnership with Star Health and Allied Insurance Co to provide a wide range of health insurance options to its customers.

- **Fino Payments Bank Limited** has launched ‘Bhavishya’ savings account for minors aged between 10-18 years. There is not any minimum account balance requirement to open the ‘Bhavishya’ savings account.

- **SBM Bank (India) Ltd** has partnered with Mastercard to revolutionize domestic and cross-border payments and remittances services. The SBM Bank India customers will be able to make real-time domestic business-to-consumer transfers quickly and efficiently using 'Mastercard Send'.

- **Karur Vysya Bank** has signed an agreement with **Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance** to offer life insurance solutions to its customers.

- **NABARD** has announced Rs 5,000 crore of refinance scheme for banks and financial institutions to offer finance to the beneficiaries of its 2,150 watershed development projects.

- **NABARD** has assigned Rs 5,000 crore to transform Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) into multi service centres.

- **Visa**, a global leader in payments technology has tied-up with **Federal Bank** to launch “Visa Secure” to the bank’s cardholders. “Visa Secure” is a modernized technology which is built on EMVCo 3DS (3D Secure) 2.0 protocol, and provides a quicker and frictionless checkout experience to the consumers.

- **UPI AutoPay facility** for recurring payment has been launched by the National Payment Corporation of India. The new facility will enable recurring e-mandate with the help of any Unified Payments Interface (UPI) application for recurring payments like mobile bills, electricity bills, EMI payments etc upto Rs. 2000.

- **Bank of Baroda** has launched ‘Insta Click Savings Account’, a 100% paperless digital self-assisted online savings account.

- **Reserve Bank of India** has signed an agreement for extending a $400-million currency swap facility to Sri Lanka in order to boost the foreign reserves and ensure the financial stability of the country, which is badly hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Economy Current Affairs

- **Fitch** has slashed India's GDP growth forecast from 9.5% to 8% for the Fiscal Year 2021-22, in its June update of Global Economic Outlook report. Fitch has retained its projection of Indian economy contracting by 5% in the FY 2020-21. It has also projected the Indian economy to grow by 5.5% in FY 2022-23.
- Google has announced a $10 billion for “GoogleForIndia Digitisation Fund”. Under the fund, Google will invest roughly Rs 75,000 crore in India over the next 5-7 years.
- Global Bharat program has been launched by the German technology firm SAP India to equip Indian micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) with digital technologies in order to make them globally competitive.

**Business Current Affairs**

- HDFC Bank launches ‘e-Kisaan Dhan’ app for farmers, enabling them to access the services, both banking and agriculture through their mobile phones. It will provide value-added services such as mandi prices, latest farming news, weather forecast, e-pashuhaat, Kisan TV, and more. It will also help with traditional banking services like apply for loans, Fixed Deposits, Recurring Deposits, and Savings Accounts.
- HDFC Bank offers instant car loans to existing customers through an initiative called “ZipDrive”. This solution gives the customer with a pre-approved loan offer to avail an auto loan through net banking or via assistance from the bank’s phone banking team.
- Qualcomm Ventures has acquired 0.15% stakes in Jio Platforms. The transaction costed Rs 730 crores to the Qualcomm Ventures.
- Google to buy 7.73% stake in Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)’s Jio Platforms for Rs 33,737 crores.
- Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved acquisition by Aceso Company Pte. Ltd. (Aceso) in HealthCare Global Enterprises Limited (HCG) under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002.
- India’s first Neobank for teenagers, FamPay has launched India’s first numberless card, “FamCard”. Teenagers can now use FamCard like a debit card to make payments independently, without asking parents for physical cash or their debit/credit card.
- Mobility platform, Ola is rolling out its enterprise mobility solution ‘Ola Corporate’ across global markets. It will be rolling out the enterprise offering to customers across Australia, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom.
- Acquisition of Krishnapatnam Port Company Limited (KPCL) by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited (Adani Ports) has been approved by the Competition Commission of India.
- Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) and SBI Card has launched a new Co-branded Contactless CreditCard on RuPay Platform to ensure a safe, convenient and improved travel experience for the rail passengers.
- Bharti AXA General Insurance has launched a crop insurance campaign titled ‘Bohot Zarooori Hai’ for farmers in Maharashtra and Karnataka to encourage them about their yield protection and financial security. It will also ensure the farmers for a period of 3 years under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna (PMFBY).
- MobiKwik has launched “mpay.me” UPI link service that allows users to send and receive money from any UPI payment app.

**International Current Affairs**

- Micheal Martin has been elected as new Prime Minister of Ireland.
- Gudni Th. Johannesson has been re-elected as the President of Iceland.
- Pakistan Army has appointed Major General Nigar Johar as 1st female lieutenant general. She has been appointed as 1st female Surgeon General of Pak Army.
- French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe has resigned from his post ahead of a government reshuffle.
- President of Russia, Vladimir Putin has recorded a victory in the recently held Presidential polls and he is set to stay in power until 2036.
- The Central Banks and Supervisors Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS) has been joined by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) as an observer.
- Jean Castex has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of France. He has replaced the former french Prime Minister Edouard Philippe who resigned from the post ahead of a government reshuffle.
- United States has formalized to withdraw from the World Health Organization (WHO) on July 6, 2021.
- Israel Defence Ministry has announced the successful launch of a new “Ofek 16” spy satellite into orbit by using a locally-developed Shavit rocket from a launch pad at Palmachim airbase in central Israel. This was the first launch of an Israeli spy satellite into space since the Ofek-11 which entered orbit in September 2016.
• According to the World Health Organisation’s (WHO) South-East Asian Region (SEAR) office, Maldives and Sri Lanka are the first two countries in the WHO South-East Asia Region to achieve measles and rubella elimination ahead of the 2023 target.

• Lee Hsien Loong has become the Prime Minister of Singapore after the ruling People’s Action Party won the General Elections held in the country.

• India has become the second-largest source of foreign direct investment (FDI) in the United Kingdom. India invested in 120 projects and created 5,429 new jobs in the UK. United States remains the number one source of FDI for the UK.

• Andrzej Duda has been re-elected as the President of Poland.

• China has successfully launched “APSTAR-6D” telecommunication satellite via a Long March 3B carrier rocket from Xichang Satellite Launch Center. It has been developed by China Academy of Space Technology.

• Prime Minister of Tunisia, Elyes Fakhfakh has submitted his resignation.

• Indian-origin, Chandriakapersad ‘Chan’ Santokhi has been elected the president of South American country “Suriname”.

• Pakistan and China have signed an agreement for the 700 MW Azad Pattan hydel power project on the Jhelum river in Sudhoti district of Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (PoK).

• Rose Christiane Ossouka Raponda has been appointed as the first woman prime minister of Gabon. She will succeed Julien Nkoghe Bekale.

• A mission titled as "Hope" has been launched to "Mars" by the United Arab Emirates. It will provide a complete picture of the Martian atmosphere for the first time, studying daily and seasonal changes.

• SpaceX has successfully launched South Korea’s first military satellite "ANASIS-II". The satellite was deployed into a geostationary transfer orbit (GTO) by a Falcon 9 rocket. It was launched from the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in the US of Florida.

• China has successfully launched “Tianwen-1” its first independent mission to Mars. A Long March 5 rocket carrying the spacecraft was launched from the Wenchang Space Launch Site in south China’s tropical Hainan province.

• World Trade Organization General Council has granted the “Observer” status to the central Asian country Turkmenistan. Turkmenistan has become the 25th observer of the organization.

• Russia has conducted a successful flight test of an MGTD-20 gas turbine 3D-printed aircraft engine. The flight tests were held at Kazanbash aviation centre in Tatarstan.

• The human trial of COVID-19 vaccine “AZD1222” developed by the University of Oxford and backed by AstraZeneca Plc has shown a positive result. Oxford’s vaccine is designed to reduce disease and transmission.

• International Monetary Fund (IMF) has approved USD 4.3 billion to South Africa in emergency funding to help the country in its fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

• Hichem Mechichi has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of Tunisia.

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National Current Affairs

• World Bank has approved a $750 million MSME Emergency Response program for MSMEs in India to support increased flow of finance in Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) which have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.

• First edition of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Newsletter “MATSYA SAMPADA”, published by the Department of Fisheries, Ministry for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India and the Operational Guidelines of the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), has been launched. It would be published on a quarterly basis starting from the first quarter of the year 2020-21.
• World Bank has approved a $500 million for Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States Program (STARS) which seeks to improve the quality and governance of school education in six Indian states namely Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Rajasthan.

• TRIFED’s new website (trifed.tribal.gov.in) has been launched. The website contains all important information about the schemes as well as initiatives underway to the benefit of tribal communities.

• Vice President of India, M. Venkiah Naidu has launched India’s first social media super application, “Elyments”.

• India’s First No-Permission No-Takeoff (NPNT) compliant drone flight on the A200 Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) has been completed successfully by Quidich Innovation Labs and Asteria Aerospace.

• Prime Minister Narendra Modi has unveiled Asia’s largest 750 MW Rewa ultra mega solar plant in the Rewa district of Vindhya region of Madhya Pradesh. It is one of the largest single-site solar power plants in Asia.

• Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has released $50 million loan to L&T Infrastructure Finance Ltd. This is the first tranche of a $100 mn loan to L&T Infrastructure Finance Ltd for funding Renewable Energy projects in the country.

• U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has announced a partnership for clean energy development. The partnership has been established between the USAID-supported South Asia Group for Energy (SAGE) and MNRE’s National Technical Institutions.

• Boeing India has delivered the last of the five AH-64E Apache attack helicopters to the Indian Air Force (IAF) at the Hindan Air Force Station. With this, Boeing has completed delivery of all 22 new AH-64E Apache to the IAF. Boeing also handed over the last five of the 15 CH-47F(I) Chinook heavy-lift helicopters to the IAF.

• NITI Aayog’s Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) has launched “ATL App Development Module” in collaboration with Indian startup Plezmo, for school students nationwide.

• According to the data of the Union Ministry of Commerce, United States was India’s top trading partner in fiscal year 2019-20. The bilateral trade between 2 countries has increased from $87.96 billion in 2018-19 to $88.75 billion in the fiscal year 2019-20.

• Iran has dropped India from Chabahar rail project which comprises rail line from Chabahar port to Zahedan, along the border with Afghanistan.

• India has handed over outdoor fitness equipment for 61 islands across the Maldives under a cash grant of 8 million US dollars.

• ‘Pragyata’ guidelines have been released for Digital Education. It include 8 steps of online education that is, Plan, Review, Arrange, Guide, Yak(talk), Assign, Track, and Appreciate.

• Indian Railways has launched a ‘Post COVID Coach’ to prevent the spread of COVID-19 virus infection. It has been developed by the Indian Railways’ production unit, Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala.

• Railways Minister has announced India’s first cable-stayed Railways bridge “Anji Khad Bridge” to connect Katra and Reasi in Jammu and Kashmir. It would be developed by Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL).

• India’s first fully indigenously developed Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Conjugate Vaccine (Pneumonia vaccine) has received Drug Controller General of India’s (DCGI) approval. It has been developed by Serum Institute of India Pvt Ltd, Pune.

• National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has launched development projects of worth Rs 44 lakhs in Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Under this, there would be focus on the formation and skill development of Self-Help Groups to promote rural entrepreneurship at micro level.

• Opening session of the Digital Indo-Italian Business Mission on Food Processing was addressed by the Union Minister for Food Processing Industries, Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal.

• First on-line NISHTHA programme has been launched for 1200 Key Resources Persons of Andhra Pradesh. It would be conducted through DIKSHA and NISHTHA portals by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).
• The fourth edition of the **All India Tiger Estimation 2018** has created the Guinness World Record for being the world’s largest camera trap wildlife survey.

• An e-Portal named “**Automobile Solutions Portal for Industry, Research & Education (ASPIRE)**” has been launched by the International Centre for Automotive Technology (ICAT).

• India’s first public **EV (Electric Vehicle) charging plaza** has been inaugurated at Chelmsford Club in New Delhi. It has been established by Energy Efficiency Services Limited in collaboration with New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) to make e-mobility ubiquitous and convenient in India.

• “**Manodarpan**” is an initiative of Ministry of Human Resource Development launched to ensure mental well-being of the students.

• **Asian Development Bank** has approved USD 3 million grant to India from its Asia Pacific Disaster Response Fund to support the government’s emergency response to COVID-19 pandemic.

• The Union Cabinet has approved the change in the name of “Ministry of Human Resource Development” to “Ministry of Education”.

• **India** has handed over 10 broad-gauge railway locomotives to **Bangladesh**. Locomotives were flagged off from the Gede station of the Eastern Railway in West Bengal’s Nadia district while the receiving station will be of Darshana on the other side.

• Three high throughput COVID-19 testing facilities have been launched by the PM Narendra Modi at three testing facilities located at the National Institutes of Indian Council of Medical Research, at **Kolkata, Noida and Mumbai**.

• **International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics**, the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune and the India Meteorological Department has developed the mobile app “**Mausam**” for weather forecasts.

• India-Russia Joint Technology Assessment and Accelerated Commercialization Programme has been launched by the Department of Science and Technology in partnership with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), and Foundation for Assistance to Small Innovative Enterprises (FASIE) of the Russian Federation. DST will fund up to **Rs 15 Crores** to 10 Indian SMEs/Start-ups for a period of two years.

• **Government of India** has extended medical assistance worth about USD 1 million in the form of anti-tuberculosis medicines to **North Korea**. The medical assistance was extended in response to a request received from the WHO.

### States Current Affairs

- **Madhya Pradesh** government has launched “**Hamara Ghar-Hamara Vidyalaya**” to take care of academic regularity of the students during the lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic.

- **Karnataka** government has launched a portal called “**Skill Connect Forum**” to connect job seekers with employers on a common platform.

- **Kerala government** has announced “**Dream Kerala Project**” to tap the potential and experience of those returning from abroad and other states after losing their jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Government of India has declared the entire **Nagaland** as "**disturbed area**" for a further period of six months i.e. till the end of December.

- According to data from the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**, **Tamil Nadu** has raised **₹30,500 crores** in the fiscal 2020-21 and has topped market borrowings among States in the country. Tamil Nadu, which has accounted for 17% of the borrowings done through the issue of bonds (known as state development loans), has been followed by **Maharashtra** **₹25,500 crores (14%)**, **Andhra Pradesh** **₹17,000 crores (9%)** and **Rajasthan** **₹17,000 crores (9%)**.

- A campaign “**Mission Vriksharopan-2020**” has been launched by the Uttar Pradesh government. Under this campaign, more than 25 crore saplings were planted on **5th July in Uttar Pradesh**.
• Madhya Pradesh Tourism board has launched a campaign “Intzaar Aap Ka” on social media platforms to attract tourists to the tourist places of the state.

• Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur has announced that the Himachal Pradesh has become the first state in India where 100% households have LPG gas connections. The feat was achieved by the state with the help of ‘Himachal Grihini Suvidha Yojana’ with the help of which the state government covered the left out families in the state, who were not covered under the Central government’s Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojna.

• West Bengal Chief Minister has launched a new mobile application called “SelfScan”, developed by the state’s information technology department, to scan documents.

• The Women Safety Wing, Telangana State Police has launched the “CybHer” campaign in association with the Legal Aid Centre, Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad to tackle cybercrime against children and women in the state.

• Madhya Pradesh has topped among the other states in the implementation of PM Street Vendor’s AtmaNirbhar Niidi (PM SVAnidhi).

• Madhya Pradesh government will commence a unique campaign titled as “Roko-Toko” to target those people who do not wear masks.

• Chhattisgarh government has organised the first Lok Adalat of India amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

• Uttarakhand government has decided to convert waste generated in the state to electricity under an initiative titled ‘Waste to Energy’.

• Union Food Processing Minister, Harsimrat Kaur Badal has virtually inaugurated the “Zoram Mega Food Park” in Mizoram.

• Chhattisgarh government has launched “Godhan Nyay Yojna” to promote cattle rearing, ensure the safety of livestock, help cattle ranchers earn extra income, help in tackling the problem of open grazing by stray cattle and encourage the use of organic fertilizers as well as boost rural economy.

• Guwahati Development Department Ministry has inaugurated 1st manhole cleaning robot ‘BANDICOOT’ to ensure minimal human involvement to clean the sewers. Guwahati is the 3rd city in the entire country to procure this innovative technology to clean manholes after Gurugram and Coimbatore.

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**Schemes/Committees**

• Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has formed a working group to study and make recommendations on formation of an “Indian Pandemic Risk Pool”. The panel has been tasked to examine the possibility of addressing the different risks which have arisen out of a COVID-19 pandemic with the help of a “Pandemic Risk Pool”.

• Delhi Cabinet has approved ‘Mukhya Mantri Ghar Ghar Ration Yojana’, which will be linked to Centre’s ‘one nation, one ration card’ scheme. The scheme will help the beneficiaries get ration delivered at home. They will not have to come to the ration shops.

• Odisha government has launched ‘Balaram Yojana’ to provide crop loans to landless farmers. Under this, the landless cultivators will get loans through joint liability groups (JLGs).

• Karnataka government has launched a relief scheme “Nekara Samman Yojane” for weavers. State government has allocated a sum of Rs 10.96 crore under the programme. As per the state government, the Silk, cotton, wool and other handloom weavers have been made eligible under the scheme.

• Uttar Pradesh government has launched “Navin Rojgar Chhatri Yojana” for all-round development of the Scheduled Castes. He also transferred financial assistance of 17.42 crore online to 3,484 people under the ‘Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Swarojgar Yojana’.

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**Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**

• Swiggy has launched its digital wallet ‘Swiggy Money’ in partnership with ICICI Bank to provide its users a single-click checkout experience.

• The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has partnered with Facebook to launch a free and comprehensive training program for teachers and students of its affiliated schools.

• NLC India Ltd and Coal India Ltd have formed a joint venture to develop solar and thermal power assets to the tune of 5,000 megawatts of power. Both companies will hold equal 50:50 equity in the joint venture company.

• Indian Railway in collaboration with Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has set up a 1.7 Megawatt solar power plant at Bina, Madhya Pradesh.
• Mobility platform Ola has entered into a partnership with digital payments platform PhonePe to expand payment options for riders.

• Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and Bakamla RI (Indonesian Coast Guard) have signed a MoU on ‘Maritime Safety and Security’ to boost maritime relations.

• Microsoft has partnered with the eSkill India portal of National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) to offer digital skills to India’s youth in the next 12 months amid the COVID-19 crisis.

• Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) and the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has signed an agreement for data exchange.

• Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) has tied-up with a multinational technology company, NVIDIA to establish India’s 1st ‘NVIDIA AI Technology Centre’ (NVAITC) to accelerate research on Artificial Intelligence and its commercial adoption.

• IIT Alumni Council has partnered with the CSIR Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (CSIR-IGIB) to jointly conduct research on COVID-19 and patient data analysis. The IIT Alumni Council is also setting up the world’s largest molecular diagnostic lab ‘MegaLab Mumbai’.

• Flipkart has signed a MoU with the Department of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) and Mines of Government of Karnataka to promote the arts, crafts and handloom sector of Karnataka.

• UNICEF INDIA has tied-up with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry’s (FICCI), Socio-Economic Development Foundation (SEDF) to jointly develop UNICEF’s #Reimagine Campaign.

• Airports Authority of India and Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) has signed an MoU to tap the emerging global markets in the airport business, including the ones in the Asia-Pacific region.

• UNICEF India has partnered with SAP India to improve the employability skills of young people in a COVID-19 as well as post COVID-19 era. Under this initiative, UNICEF has collaborated with YuWaah (Generation Unlimited) to offer digital education as well as occupational skillset to the underserved young people of India.

• Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has signed an MoU with the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India to share certain Income-tax Return (ITR) related information with MoMSME.

• Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has partnered with UNICEF to strengthen the Government of India’s resolution to mobilise 1 crore youth volunteers to attain the goals of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

• Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has signed an MoU with the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) to facilitate smoother bilateral exchange of data.

• India and Maldives have signed an agreement for the establishment of ‘Emergency Medical Services’ in Male, Maldives. The Emergency Medical Service would be financed by India under grant assistance of 20 million USD for neighbouring countries.

• Punjab government has signed an agreement with the IIT Ropar in the area of skill development.

• Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) and Union Bank of India have announced a corporate agency agreement to distribute LIC policies.

• Airtel Payments Bank Ltd and National Skill Development Corporation have collaborated to train and skill young people in rural areas on financial services and helping them in finding jobs and become entrepreneurs in the sector.

• Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ) has become the first Indian port to sign the Science-Based Targets initiative (SBTi). With this, APSEZ has committed to set up science-based emissions reduction targets across their entire value chain.

• Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has signed an agreement with the IIT Kanpur for Training, Research, and Entrepreneurship Development in Smart Grid Technology. Under the agreement, PFC will provide financial assistance of worth Rs 2,38,97000 to IIT-Kanpur.
• Unnat Bharat Abhiyan-IIT, Delhi and Vijnana Bharti (VIBHA), New Delhi has signed a tripartite MoU with CSIR. The signed MoU will offer access to CSIR rural technologies for UBA.

Appointments/Resignations (National & International)

• IAS Vini Mahajan has become the 1st woman chief secretary of Punjab.

• Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the reappointment of Solicitor General Tushar Mehta for a period of 3 years. It has also appointed Chetan Sharma as the Additional Solicitor General (ASG) for Delhi High Court.

• Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the extension of KK Venugopal’s term as the Attorney General of India for a period of one year.

• The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Professor Sanjay Dwivedi as the Director General of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication.

• The Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Indian Overseas Bank, Karnam Sekar has retired on 30th June 2020.

• Sukhbir Singh Sandhu’s tenure as the chairman of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has been extended for a period of six months.

• Injeti Srinivas has been appointed as 1st chairman of the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) for a period of three years.

• Sijo Kuruvilla George has been appointed to the Central Government’s committee on Science, Technology and Innovation Policy 2020 (STIP 2020).

• UK India Business Council (UKIBC) has appointed Jayant Krishna as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the group. He will replace the current Group CEO, Richard Heald.

• The tenure of Justice Bansi Lal Bhat as the chairperson of National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) has been extended by the Government of India.

• Tenure of Union Bank of India’s managing director and CEO, Rajkiran Rai has been extended by two years and he will now be serving till May 31, 2022.

• Manipur’s, Gyanendra Ningombam named as the new officiating President of Hockey India. He will replace Mohd Mushtaque Ahmad.

• Board of Control for Cricket in India has appointed Hemang Amin as its interim chief executive officer (CEO). He will replace Rahul Johri who recently resigned as the CEO of BCCI.

• Government of India has appointed Dr. Vidhu P. Nair as the next Ambassador of India to Turkmenistan.

• Roshni Nadar Malhotra becomes the new chairman of Noida-based IT company, HCL Technologies.

• Rudrendra Tandon has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Afghanistan.

• Vikram Doraiswami has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Bangladesh.

• Ashok Lavasa has been appointed the vice-president Asian Development Bank.

• SBI Cards and Payment Services has appointed Ashwini Kumar Tewari as its new MD & CEO.

• Board of Directors of the Karur Vysya Bank has appointed Ramesh Babu Boddu as MD & CEO of the bank. He has also been co-opted as an Additional Director.

• Sumit Deb has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of National Mineral Development Corporation. He will succeed N Baijendra Kumar who will retire as CMD on 31st July 2020.

• Prakash Chandra Kandpal has been appointed as the managing director and chief executive officer of the Non-life insurer SBI General Insurance. He will replace Pushan Mahapatra who has been appointed as director (strategic investments & digital initiatives).

• Director General of Railway Protection Force (RPF), Arun Kumar has been nominated as the Vice-Chairman of UIC (Union Internationale Des Chemins/International Union of Railways), Security Platform from July 2020 to July 2022. He will take over as Chairman of the Security Platform from July 2022 to July 2024. The decision to nominate Arun Kumar was taken during the 96th UIC General Assembly.

• The present non-executive chairman of Bajaj Finance, Rahul Bajaj has decided to step down on July 31, 2020. He will be replaced by his son Sanjiv Bajaj.
• Microfinance Institutions Network (MFIN) has appointed **Alok Misra** as its new **Chief Executive Officer & Director**. He will take over from the present CEO, Harsh Shrivastava.

• India’s High Commissioner to Bangladesh, **Riva Ganguly Das** is appointed by the Government as the Secretary East, in the Ministry of External Affairs. She will succeed **Vijay Thakur Singh**.

• Government of India has appointed **Partha Pratim Sengupta** as the new MD & CEO of **Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)**. He will replace Karnam Sekar, who retired from the post of the MD and CEO at IOB on June 30, 2020.

• **Naveen Tahilyani** has been appointed by **Tata AIA Life Limited** as its MD & CEO. He will take over from the current CEO **Rishi Srivastava**, who has been appointed as chief executive officer, group agency distribution, AIA Group, Hong Kong.

• **Sahil Seth** has been appointed as an honorary adviser to the steering committee for the **BRICS Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI)** young leaders for the period 2020-2023. He is presently serving as the **Deputy Commissioner of Mumbai Customs**.

• **Paytm Money** has appointed **Varun Sridhar** as its new **Chief Executive Officer**. He will replace former MD and CEO Pravin Jadhav.

• Vice Admiral **MA Hampiholi**, AVSM, NM has assumed charge as the **Commandant, Indian Naval Academy (INA)**. He has replaced the Vice Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi.

• President of India, Ram Nath Kovind has appointed the Governor of Uttar Pradesh **Anandiben Patel** to discharge the functions of the **Governor of Madhya Pradesh**.

• The domestic rating agency, **ICRA** has appointed **N Sivaraman** as its new **managing director** and **group chief executive officer**. He will succeed former MD and Group CEO Naresh Takkar.

• **Hardik Satishchandra Shah** has been appointed the **Private Secretary (PS)** to **Prime Minister** Narendra Modi on co-terminus basis.

### Sports Current Affairs

• **National Anti-Doping Agency’s** first mobile app named as “**NADA App**” has been launched. It aims to bridge the gap between NADA and the athletes by offering easily-accessible information on various aspects of sport, prohibited substances as well as dope-testing.

• India all-rounder **Ravindra Jadeja** has been named as **India’s most valuable Test player** in the 21st century by the **Wisden magazine**. He was also rated as the second-most valuable Test player worldwide behind Sri Lanka legend **Muttiah Muralitharan**.

• Former world number one badminton player and the two-times Olympic badminton champion from China, **Lin Dan** has announced his retirement from the sport.

• At the **Cricket South Africa annual awards 2020**,**Quinton de Kock** was named as the **men’s cricketer of the year**, while **Laura Wolvaardt** was named as the **women’s cricketer of the year**.

• **Mercedes’s, Valtteri Bottas** (Finland) has won the **Austrian Grand Prix 2020** at Red Bull Ring in Spielberg, Austria. This was the first race of 2020 **Formula One season**.
G Akash has become India’s 66th Chess Grandmaster. The second council meet of the International Chess Federation (FIDE) for the year 2020 confirmed Akash’s GM title. Along with him, Ameya Audi of Goa has earned International Master title.

The 31-year-old Egyptian Squash player, Raneem El Welily announced her retirement. She was the world’s top-ranked Women Squash Player.

Lewis Hamilton has won the Styrian Grand Prix 2020 at the Red Bull Ring in Spielberg, Austria.

Asian Cricket Council (ACC) has postponed the Asia Cup cricket tournament until June 2021. Originally Pakistan was to host the Asia Cup 2020, but due to security reasons amid COVID-19 pandemic, it has been rescheduled to be held in Sri Lanka.

Former captain of Australia national soccer team, Mile Jedinak has announced his retirement from the sport.

Youth Olympic Games to be hosted in Dakar in 2022 have been postponed. Games will now be held in 2026.

Real Madrid has been crowned La Liga Champions for the 34th time after defeating Villarreal 2–1 at Estadio Alfredo Di Stefano in Madrid.

The Youth Olympic Games in Dakar will be celebrated in 2026 after Senegal and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) “mutually agreed” to postpone the games to be held in 2022.

Lewis Hamilton won the Formula-1 Hungarian Grand Prix 2020 at Hungaroring, Mogyoród, Hungary.

International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced the T20 Men’s World Cup, scheduled to be played in Australia in October-November 2020, has been formally postponed to 2022 due to COVID-19.

Sri Lankan bowling allrounder, Sripali Weerakkody has announced her retirement from International Cricket with immediate effect.

Haryana will host the 4th edition of the Khelo India Youth Games in 2021.

Bangladeshi cricketer, Kazi Anik Islam has been handed a 2-year ban by the national cricket board for failing a dope test in 2018.

Leicester City striker, Jamie Vardy has bagged the Premier Leagues Golden Boot football award after netting 23 goals across the 2019/20 season. Manchester City’s Brazilian keeper Ederson won the Golden Glove award.

England cricketer, Stuart Broad has become 7th bowler to take 500 wickets in the International Test cricket.

Radoslaw Wojtaszek of Poland, has finished on top in the rapid section of the 53rd Biel International Chess Festival in Switzerland. Indian Grandmaster, P Harikrishna finished second in the event.

Rajat Bhatia has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket. He started his career with Tamil Nadu in 1999-2000 and also played for Delhi Daredevils, Rajasthan Royals, Kolkata Knight Riders and Rising Pune Supergiants in the Indian Premier League.

**Summits And Conferences**

New Zealand has cancelled the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit scheduled to be held in Auckland, New Zealand in 2021. New Zealand has decided to host the summit as a virtual event.

The 36th edition of the biannual ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Summit 2020 was held via video conferencing in Hanoi, Vietnam. The theme of the Summit was “Cohesive and Responsive ASEAN”.

The fourth edition of the virtual Ministerial on Climate Action was co-chaired by European Union, China and Canada. In the meeting, India was represented by the Union Environment Minister, Shri Prakash Javadekar.

The India Global Week 2020 virtual conference was inaugurated by the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The conference has been organised in the United Kingdom with a theme of “Be The Revival: India and a Better New World”.

15th meeting of the India-European Union Summit will be held in virtual mode and will deliberate on India-EU cooperation by covering various aspects such as political and security relations, trade and investment and economic cooperation.

Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Shripad Yesso Naik inaugurated the 5th edition of the conference on “Aerospace and Defence Manufacturing Technologies” which was held with the theme Empowering India with ‘Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Mission’. Tamil Nadu Technology Development & Promotion Centre jointly organised the conference with Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers, and the Confederation of Indian Industry.
• The 3rd G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) meeting was held under the Saudi Arabian Presidency through Video Conferencing. India was represented by Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman in the meeting.

• Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh has inaugurated the Air Force Commanders’ Conference (AFCC) at Air Headquarters (Vayu Bhawan) New Delhi. The conference was held with the theme “IAF in the Next Decade”.

• The 5th Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) was held virtually. The round table discussion was held with the theme ‘AIIB 2030-Supporting Asia’s Development over the Next Decade’.

• Defence Ministers’ Dialogue between India and Indonesia was held in New Delhi. During the dialogue, the Indonesian delegation was led by Defence Minister General Prabowo Subianto and he was honored with ceremonial Guard of Honour.

• Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS) has organised “2nd Empathy e-Conclave” in collaboration with Airport Authority of India (AAI). The theme of 2nd Empathy e-Conclave is “Keep your Liver Safe in COVID times”.

• Siddhartha Mukherjee and Raj Chetty have been included in the list of 38 immigrants named by the Carnegie Corporation of New York as ‘2020 Great Immigrants’ honourees for their contribution in mitigating the COVID-19 health crisis.

• A 13-year-old student of the British School New Delhi, Freya Thakral has received the 2020 Diana Award for her “Recycler App” which was developed to connect users with waste-handlers as a measure to help the ragpickers of Delhi.

• International Olympic Committee has announced that its new headquarters in Lausanne has been awarded the European 2020 US Green Building Council (USGBC) Leadership Award.

• Indian battalion (INDBATT) has stationed with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) has won an environment award for a project that aims to decrease waste generation, reuse plastic, build greenhouses and compost pits.

• NTPC Ltd has been awarded with the prestigious CII-ITC Sustainability Award 2019 under Outstanding Accomplishment in Corporate Excellence Category. It has also secured Commendation for Significant Achievement in Corporate social responsibility (CSR) category.

• Arunachal Pradesh filmmaker Kezang D Thongdok has bagged the Dada Saheb Phalke Award 2020 for a short documentary “Chi Lupo”. Chi Lupo is a short documentary on honey hunting.

• Tamil Nadu’s Chief Minister, Edappadi K Palaniswami has been honoured with Paul Harris Fellow recognition by Rotary Foundation of Rotary International, Chicago.

• According to ATK-Mohun Bagan club, Hockey legend Gurbux Singh and former first-class cricketer Palash Nandi will receive this year’s Mohun Bagan Ratna.

• Sachin Awasthi has been honoured with the “Top Publicist” award in the Global Humanitarian Awards 2020.
Rail Infra and Mobility Business Digital Awards (RIMBDA) has awarded Ved Parkash Dudgeja with the coveted ‘Infra Business Leader of the Year’ award for 2020. He is the vice chairman of Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA).

Tata group chairman, Natarajan Chandrasekaran, and CEO and President of Lockheed Martin, Jim Taiclet will receive the US-India Business Council (USIBC) Global Leadership Award 2020.

The 22-year-old England football player, Marcus Rashford becomes the youngest ever recipient of an honorary degree from The University of Manchester.

Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) has announced the recipients of the International Press Freedom Awards 2020 which includes Shahidul Alam from Bangladesh, Mohammad Mosaed from Iran, Dapo Olorunyomi from Nigeria and Svetlana Prokopyeva from Russia. In addition to them, lawyer Amal Clooney will be honoured with the Gwen Ifill Press Freedom Award 2020.

Guinean doctor Morissana Kouyate and Marianna Vardinoyannis of Greece are the winners of the 2020 Nelson Mandela Prize.

The ‘Legend of Animation’ award instituted by the Toonz Media Group (TMG) as part of the Animation Masters Summit (AMS) 2020 – Digital Edition will be posthumously conferred to the legendary animation director Arnab Chaudhuri.

The 17 year old climate activist from Sweden, Greta Thunberg has been named winner of the inaugural Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity. She has been awarded for her efforts to mobilise younger generations to tackle climate change.

The founder of SS Motivation, Sunil ydv SS was honoured with “Karamveer Chakra Award” by Global Fellowship Award instituted by United Nations and International Confederation of NGO (iCONGO).

India’s first solar-powered ferry, Aditya has won the prestigious Gustave Trouve Award for Excellence in Electric Boats and Boating. The ferry was adjudged the world’s best electric boat in the category of ferries designed for paid passenger service.

Indian-origin nurse, Kala Narayanasamy in Singapore has been conferred with the President’s Award for Nurses for serving on the frontline during the COVID-19 pandemic. Other award winning nurses are: Tay Yee Kian, Patricia Yong Yueh Li, Alice Chua Foong Sin, Chin Soh Mun.

**Important Days**

- **National Chartered Accountants Day** or CA Day is celebrated on **July 1** every year.
- **National Doctor’s Day** is celebrated in India every year on **1st July**. The theme for year 2020 is “Lessen the mortality of COVID 19” and includes awareness about asymptomatic hypoxia and early aggressive therapy. The day also marks the birth and death anniversary of Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy.
- **National Postal Worker Day** is observed on **1st July** every year.
- **World Sports Journalists Day** is observed globally on **2nd July** every year.
- United Nations celebrates the **International Day of Cooperatives** every year on the first Saturday of July. The International Day of Cooperatives 2020 will be celebrated on 4th July. UN has also appealed to spread the word: “#Coops4ClimateAction”.
- **Dharma Chakra Day** was celebrated by the International Buddhist Confederation (IBC), under the aegis of Ministry of Culture on **4th July**. This day commemorates Buddha’s First Sermon to his first five ascetic disciples at the Deer Park, Rsipatana in the present day Sarnath near Varanasi, UP. The day is also observed as Guru Poornima by both Buddhists as well as Hindus as a day to mark reverence to their Gurus.
- **World Chocolate Day** or International Chocolate Day is observed on **7th July** every year.
- **World Population Day** is observed globally on **11th July** every year. This year theme of World Population Day 2020: Putting the brakes on COVID-19: Safeguarding the health and rights of women and girls.
- United Nations has declared **12th July** as **World Malala Day** to honour the young activist, Malala Yousafzai.
- United Nations celebrates **World Youth Skills Day** globally on **15 July** every year. The theme of World Youth Skills Day 2020 is "Skills for a Resilient Youth”.
- **World Day for International Justice** is observed on **17th July** every year to recognise the strengthening system of international justice and also to promote the rights of the victims.
The United Nations observes 18 July every year as Nelson Mandela International Day.

United Nations celebrates World Chess Day globally on 20 July every year. To celebrate the International Chess Day 2020 top chess personalities will participate in a high-level virtual event “Chess for Recovering Better”.

National Broadcasting Day is observed on 23rd July all over India.

National Thermal Engineer Day is celebrated on July 24 to appreciate the contribution of thermal engineers in everyday life.

India celebrates the Kargil Vijay Diwas on 26th July every year to remember the extreme valour, sacrifice and exemplary courage of Indian soldiers during the 1999 Kargil war.

The 82nd Raising Day of Central Reserve Police Force was observed on 27 July 2020. It was founded as Crown Representative’s Police on July 27, 1939 and became the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) on the enactment of the CRPF Act on December 28, 1949.

World Health Organization observes 28th July every year as "World Hepatitis Day". This year's theme is "Hepatitis-free future".

World Nature Conservation Day is observed on 28th July every year.

United Nations observes 30 July every year as World Day Against Trafficking in Persons. The theme of the World Day Against Trafficking 2020 is "Committed to the Cause – Working on the Frontline to End Human Trafficking".

International Day of Friendship is observed globally on 30th July to mark the importance of friends and friendship in life.

Defence Current Affairs

Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) has signed License Agreement and Transfer of Technology (ToT) with Defence Research and Development Organisation–Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDO-DRDL) for Akash Missile Weapon System (Indian Army Variant).

Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) has entrusted capital procurement powers to Armed Forces. With this, the Armed Forces will now be able to progress urgent Capital Acquisition Cases upto Rs 300 crores to fulfil their emergent operational requirements.

Defence Research and Development Organisation has developed the P7 Heavy Drop System which is capable of para dropping military stores up to 7-ton weight class from IL 76 aircraft.

Acquisition Wing of Ministry of Defence (MoD) has signed a contract with Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) for procurement of 1,512 Mine Plough (MP) for Tank T-90 S/SK. The procurement will cost approximately Rs 557 crore.

Indian Navy has conducted a Passage Exercise (PASSEX), a high-end joint naval exercise with the US Navy in the Indian Ocean.

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has provided drones named ‘Bharat’ to the Indian Army to provide accurate surveillance along the Line of Actual Control in high altitude and mountainous terrains of Eastern Ladakh.

Science and Technology

IIT Kanpur has developed a classroom-to-home teaching setup ‘Mobile Masterjee’. It can record the lectures or instructions by the teachers while using their available smartphones.

IIT Gandhinagar has developed an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based deep learning tool for detection of Covid-19 from Chest X-ray images.

The researchers at IIT Roorkee has developed “Unisaviour”, a disinfection box which can be used to sterilize personal belongings, apparels, PPE, medical equipment among others from the COVID-19.

Mylab Discovery Solutions has launched the ‘Compact XL’ system for conducting a wide range of tests, including RT-PCR tests for COVID-19. This is India’s first machine to automate the manual processes of molecular diagnostic tests such as RNA/DNA-based tests including COVID-19 RT-PCR tests.

Indian Space Research Organization will launch Brazil’s Amazonia-1 satellite. This satellite is onboard the Polar Satellite Launch vehicle (PSLV) as a primary payload by August 2020.

IIT Kanpur has developed an Ultraviolet (UV) sanitizing device named Smartphone operated Handy Ultraviolet Disinfection Helper (SHUDH). It will help in killing the spread of coronavirus at the highly prone places such as hospitals, hotels, malls, offices and schools.
Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi has developed the world's most affordable COVID-19 Diagnostic Kit "Corosure".

Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M) start-up Modulus Housing, has developed a portable hospital unit called 'MediCAB'. It was launched recently in Wayanad District of Kerala.

COVID Protection System (COPS) for Workplace has been unveiled by the CSIR-CMERI, Durgapur. It comprises of three units namely contactless Solar Based Intelligent Mask Automated Dispensing Unit cum Thermal Scanner (IntelliMAST), Touchless Faucet (TouF) and 360° Car Flusher.

Kakrapar Atomic Power Plant, Unit-3 (KAPP-3), Gujarat has attained criticality at around 09:36 Hrs on 22 July 2020. It is India's first 700 MWe (megawatt electric) Pressurized Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR) with innovative features.

AIIMS, Nagpur has designed and developed a 'smart wristband' in collaboration with IIT Jodhpur and IIT Nagpur, for effective tracking and monitoring of Covid-19 positive and suspect patients.

Acculi Labs, a Bangalore based startup has been selected by Centre for Augmenting WAR with COVID-19 Health Crisis (CAWACH), an initiative by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) to develop "Lyfas COVID score", a COVID risk assessment profile.

The Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode has developed a wearable hand band named as the "Veli Band". It helps in maintaining social distancing by sending out an alarm in case of proximity with another person.

Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT) has developed 'Aashray', a medical bed isolation system to combat COVID-19 by preventing or minimising the spread of the virus.

A book titled 'His Holiness the Fourteenth Dalai Lama: An Illustrated Biography' is authored by Tenzin Gyeye Tethong. The biography is a memorable portrait of the 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso.

The book titled 'A Song of India' has been authored by Ruskin Bond.

A new book titled "If It Bleeds", a collection of four stories, is authored by Stephen King.

The book titled 'The Tangams: An Ethnolinguistic Study Of The Critically Endangered Group of Arunachal Pradesh' was released. It is based on the Tangams, a critically endangered speech community of Arunachal Pradesh domiciled at Kugging village, Upper Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh.

Crime writer, S Hussain Zaidi has penned a new novel “The Endgame” which talks of politics, betrayal, and unimaginable terror.

Sahitya Akademi Award winner, Baldev Singh Sadaknama has authored a book ‘Suraj Kade Marda Nahi’ (sun never dies).

The book titled “Quest for Restoring Financial Stability in India” is authored by former Reserve Bank of India (RBI) deputy governor Viral V. Acharya.

The former diplomat, and current Minister of External Affairs in the Government of India, S Jaishankar has authored the book “The India Way: Strategies for an Uncertain World”.

Books & Authors

Vice President of India, M Venkaiah Naidu has virtually released a book titled "Future of Higher Education – Nine Mega Trends". The book is authored by V Pattabhi Ram.

Former RBI governor, Urjit Patel has written a book titled 'Overdraft: Saving the Indian Saver'.

The Chairman of Maruti Suzuki, RC Bhargava has authored the book “Getting Competitive: A Practitioner's Guide for India” from his experience as a policymaker and a leading industrialist.
“Continuous Galvanized Rebar” Production Facility has been inaugurated at Mandi Gobindgarh in Punjab. It will support the much awaited need of supplying galvanized rebar to the construction industry.

Delhi government will set up a first-of-its-kind ‘plasma bank’ in the country for treating COVID-19 patients. It will be set up at the Delhi government-run Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences.

The web portal of the Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan has been launched to provide information to the public regarding the various district-wise and scheme-wise components of the Abhiyaan.

Battery Swapping Facility Quick Interchange Service (QIS) has been inaugurated at Chandigarh. A non-binding Strategic cooperation document has been signed between the Indian Oil and M/s Sun Mobility to explore the establishment of Energy infrastructure for Electric vehicle via Battery Swapping model across Indian Oil Retail outlets in select cities.

The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers’ Welfare (DAC&FW), Agriculture Ministry has indigenously developed a vehicle-mounted Ultra-low volume (ULV) sprayer for locust control.

Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), Jharkhand new administrative and the academic building have been named after Bharatiya Jan Sangh founder Late Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee on his 119th birth anniversary.

Indian Army officer, Lt Col Bharat Pannu has secured the 3rd position on the leaderboard at the first edition of the Virtual Race Across America (VRAAM) 2020.

Delhi government will launch a mega tree plantation drive under the ‘Paudhe lagao, Paryavaran Bachao’ campaign.

Delhi Government has launched an e-learning portal “Learning through E-Resources Made Accessible for Delhi (LEAD)”, developed by the Delhi government. The Delhi government will also share its teaching-learning material on the digital platform “DIKSHA” through its e-learning portal “LEAD”.

All India Radio (AIR) has broadcasted a programme titled “Sanskrit Saptahiki”. It is the first ever ‘News Magazine’ programme in Sanskrit which constitutes news from the world of Sanskrit including the prominent developments of the week.

Wrestler-turned-actor, Dwayne ‘The Rock’ Johnson has been named Instagram’s highest-paid celebrity. According to social media marketing firm Hopper HQ, Johnson has 189 million followers.

Himalayan Golden Birdwing butterfly named as India’s largest butterfly, a record an unknown specimen had held for 88 years. The female Golden Birdwing with 194 mm wingspan was recorded at Uttarakhand’s Pithoragarh district’s Didihat town, while the male Golden Birdwing with 106 mm wingspan was recorded at the Wankhar Butterfly Museum (in Shillong).

“Google+” a social networking platform of internet search giant “Google” has been rebranded as “Google Currents”. The platform enables its users to connect with their colleagues, exchange documents and interact with like-minded people who have similar interests.

AI-based “Aatamanirbhar Skilled Employee Employer Mapping (ASEEM)” digital platform has been launched by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. The platform aims to bridge demand-supply gap of skilled workforce across sectors and to improve the information flow.

Nadaun Police Station, Himachal Pradesh has been ranked as one of the best Police Stations of the country and the best Police Station of the State. Nadaun Police Station is situated at Hamirpur district, Himachal Pradesh.

Union Home Minister, Amit Shah has launched the Central Armed Police Force’s (CAPFs) nationwide tree plantation drive.

Ministry of Railways is on a mission mode with the goal of transforming Indian Railways into Green Railways by 2030.

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) organised its first ‘Digital Choupal’ to mark its 39th foundation day.
• Former Australian fast bowler and cricket legend Brett Lee has been signed by SportsAdda as its brand ambassador.
• GMR Hyderabad International Airport (GHIAL) has introduced India’s first-ever fully contactless airport car parking to provide a safe airport amid COVID-19.
• Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad observed “Swachhata Pakhwada”.
• Assam Chief Minister, Sarbananda Sonowal has announced, Poba Reserve Forest in Dhemaji district would be upgraded to a wildlife sanctuary.
• Bollywood actor, Priyanka Chopra Jonas and Bollywood filmmaker Anurag Kashyap have been chosen as the ambassador of the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) 2020.
• The mobile application of PM Street Vendor’s AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) has been launched.
• Punjab National Bank has launched a nation-wide campaign to distribute face masks and sanitizers to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
• In Odisha’s Balasore district, a farmer Basudev Mahapatra has spotted a turtle which is yellow in colour. The turtle is known as the “Indian flap shell turtle”.
• Ministry of Coal organized the “Vriksharopan Abhiyan” along with all Coal/Lignite PSUs. Under this, large scale plantation would be carried out in mines, colonies, offices and other suitable areas of Coal/Lignite PSUs to promote “plantation by the society”.
• A COVID-19 testing facility has been established by the Defence Research and Development Organisation at the Leh based laboratory Defence Institute of High Altitude Research (DIHAR).
• Bollywood actor, Sonu Sood has launched 'Pravasi Rojgar' app to help migrants to find job opportunities across India.
• Kerala-based NBFC, Muthoot Fincorp has launched a portal "RestartIndia" for the Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector in order to restart businesses across the country.
• Lieutenant Governor, Girish Chandra Murmu has announced the launch of a 'Macadamisation Program' for the improvement of roads across Jammu and Kashmir.
• Union Home Minister Amit Shah distributed 100 electric potter wheels to 100 trained artisans in Gandhinagar, Gujarat under the “Kumhar Sashaktikaran Yojana” of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission.
• Delhi government has launched the portal named as “Rozgar Bazar”, a sort of marketplace for job seekers and the people recruiters.
• ‘BIS-Care’, a mobile app of the Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) has been launched along with three portals i.e. the Standardization, Conformity Assessment and Training Portals of e-BIS for consumers, BIS Care app will help the consumers in checking the authenticity of the ISI-marked and hallmarked products as well as lodging complaints.
• Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has launched an innovation contest ‘Dare to Dream 2.0’ on the 5th death anniversary of former President and noted scientist Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.
• Ministry of Earth Sciences has launched the “MoES-Knowledge Resource Centre Network (KRCNet)” under the Digital India initiative of Government of India. MoES has transformed the traditional libraries of the MoES system into a top-notch Knowledge Resource Centres which will be linked with each other and integrated into the KRCNet portal.
• Archana Soreng has been named by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to his new Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change. She has joined six other young climate leaders from around the world who will provide perspectives and solutions to tackle the worsening climate crisis.

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Obituaries

- Former Mizoram Assembly speaker, Upa Rokamlova passed away. He became the speaker of the Mizoram Assembly in 1990.
- Veteran Bollywood choreographer, Saroj Khan passed away.
- West Indies former cricketer, Everton Weekes passed away. He played 48 Tests & scored 4455 runs at an average of 58.62.
- Legendary comedian, writer, director, and actor, Carl Reiner passed away.
- Oscar-winning Italian film composer, Ennio Morricone passed away.
- British film and television actor, Earl Cameron passed away. He was appointed as the Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in the 2009 New Year Honours.
- Veteran Bollywood actor-comedian, Jagdeep passed away. He was born as Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed Jafri, the legendary actor was popularly known as Jagdeep, his stage name.
- Kannada TV actor, Susheel Gowda passed away. He joined the Kannada television serials in 2015 and acted in one or two Kannada films also.
- The former health minister of Goa, Dr. Suresh Amonkar passed away. He was a two-term MLA, being elected to the Goa Assembly in 1999 and 2002.
- Country Music Hall of Fame musician, Charlie Daniels passed away. He was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2016.
- Renowned Gujarati cartoonist, Avad Bin Hassan Jami passed away.
- A member of the England 1966 World-Cup winning team, Jack Charlton passed away.
- Padma Shri award winning veteran Gujarati journalist, columnist, writer and political analyst Nagindas Sanghvi passed away.
- Renowned ceramic artist, Jyotsna Bhatt passed away.
- Dutch Football legend Wim Suurbier passed away. He was a key member of the 1970s squad of Netherlands who played in two World Cup finals.
- Hawkins Cookers Chairman, Brahm Vasudeva passed away.
- First woman State Election Commissioner (SEC) of Maharashtra, Neela Satyanarayan passed away.
- Acharya Shree Purushottam Priyadasji Swamishree passed away due to COVID-19. He was the head of Swaminarayan Sanstha. He was presently incumbent Acharya of Shree Swaminarayan Gadi.
- A civil rights veteran, The Rev Cordy Tindell Vivian who worked alongside the Rev Martin Luther King Jr, passed away.
- Eminent Indian mathematician of the post-Independence era, Professor C S Seshadri, has passed away.
- Bollywood director Rajat Mukherjee passed away.
- Civil Rights pioneer John Lewis passed away. He was a long-time member of the U.S. House of Representatives.
- Madhya Pradesh Governor Lalji Tandon passed away.
- Former Australian test wicketkeeper and ex-International Cricket Council match referee, Barry Jarman passed away.
- Veteran Odia Actor, Bijay Mohanty passed away. His performance in his debut film, Chilika Tire, earned him several accolades including the National Film Award.
- Spanish novelist, Juan Marse passed away. He was the winner of the 2008 Cervantes Prize, the Spanish-speaking world’s top literary award.
- The creator of the brown bear mascot "Misha" for the 1980 Moscow Summer Olympics, Viktor Chizhikov passed away.
- Legendary Jazz Singer, Annie Ross passed away.
- Eminent danseuse and choreographer Amala Shankar passed away. She was honored with the West Bengal government's Banga Bibhusan award in 2011 for her contributions to art.
- Tanzania's Former President, Benjamin Mkapa passed away. He served as the third president of the country, from 1995 to 2005.
- Two-Time Oscar Winner, Olivia de Havilland passed away. She won an Oscar award for the movie 'To Each His Own' under the category Best supporting actress.
The American actor, John Saxon passed away. He won the Golden Globe Award for the new star of the year in 1958 for the movie “This Happy Feeling”.


Bollywood action director, Parvez Khan passed away. Some of his well-known films include Andhadhun, Badlapur, Bullet Raja, Fukrey, Ra-One etc.

Veteran Bollywood actor Kumkum passed away. She has featured in over 100 Hindi films like Mother India, Kohinoor, etc.

Malayalam actor, Anil Murali passed away. He made his silver screen debut with Kanyakumariyil Oru Kavitha in 1993.

Padma Shri awardee folk musician Sonam Tshering Lepcha passed away.

Static Takeaways

• President of Israel: Reuven Rivlin; Capital: Jerusalem; Currency: Israeli Shekel.
• President of Sri Lanka: Gotabaya Rajapaksa; Prime Minister: Mahinda Rajapaksa.
• Capital of Sri Lanka: Colombo; Currency: Sri Lankan rupee.
• President of the Maldives: Ibrahim Mohamed Solih; Capital: Malé; Currency: Maldivian Rufiyaa.
• President of Indonesia: Joko Widodo; Currency: Indonesian rupiah.
• President of Brazil: Jair Bolsonaro; Capital: Brasília; Currency: Brazilian Real.
• President of UAE: Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan; Capital: Abu Dhabi; Currency: United Arab Emirates dirham.
• President of South Korea: Moon Jae-in; Capital: Seoul; Currency: South Korean Won.
• President of Nicaragua: Daniel Ortega; Capital: Managua; Currency: Nicaraguan Córdoba.
• Capital of Senegal: Dakar; Currency: West African CFA Franc.
• Capital of Hungary: Budapest; Currency: Hungarian forint.
### States and their Chief Ministers & Governors:

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<thead>
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<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Chief Minister</th>
<th>Governor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>YS Jagan Mohan Reddy</td>
<td>Biswa Bhusan Harichandan</td>
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<td>Arunachal Pradesh</td>
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<td>Assam</td>
<td>Sarbananda Sonowal</td>
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<td>Bihar</td>
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<td>Chhattisgarh</td>
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<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Vijaybhai R. Rupani</td>
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<td>Haryana</td>
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<td>Himachal Pradesh</td>
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<td>Karnataka</td>
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<td>Kerala</td>
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<td>Madhya Pradesh</td>
<td>Shivraj Singh Chouhan</td>
<td>Anandiben Patel</td>
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<td>Mizoram</td>
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<td>V.P. Singh Badnore</td>
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<td>Rajasthan</td>
<td>Ashok Gehlot</td>
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<td>K Chandrasekhar Rao</td>
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<td>Ramesh Bais</td>
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<td>Trivendra Singh Rawat</td>
<td>Baby Rani Maurya</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>West Bengal</td>
<td>Mamata Banerjee</td>
<td>Jagdeep Dhankhar</td>
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### Union Ministers in News in month of July 2020:

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<th>Sr. No.</th>
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<th>Union Minister</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ministry of Defence</td>
<td>Raj Nath Singh</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Ministry of Home Affairs</td>
<td>Amit Shah</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Ministry of Micro, Small &amp; Medium Enterprises</td>
<td>Nitin Jairam Gadkari</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers</td>
<td>D.V. Sadananda Gowda</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Ministry of Finance</td>
<td>Nirmala Sitharaman</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>Ramvilas Paswan</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Ministry of Rural Development</td>
<td>Narendra Singh Tomar</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<td>Ravi Shankar Prasad</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Ministry of Food Processing Industries</td>
<td>Harsimrat Kaur Badal</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Ministry of External Affairs</td>
<td>S. Jaishankar</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>Harsh Vardhan</td>
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<td>13</td>
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<td>Prakash Javadekar</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Ministry of Railways</td>
<td>Piyush Goyal</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Ministry of Coal</td>
<td>Pralhad Joshi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sr. No.</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Governor of RBI</td>
<td>Shaktikanta Das</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>Ramesh Chand Meena</td>
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<td>President of World Bank</td>
<td>David Malpass</td>
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<td>President of BCCI</td>
<td>Sourav Ganguly</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>Masatsugu Asakawa</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Executive Director of APEC</td>
<td>Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>CEO of Phonepe</td>
<td>Sameer Nigam</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>CEO of Swiggy</td>
<td>Sriharsha Majety</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>CEO of ICICI Bank</td>
<td>Sandeep Bakhshi</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation</td>
<td>Sanjiv Singh</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Chairman of Defence Research and Development Organization</td>
<td>G. Satheesh Reddy</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Managing Director &amp; CEO of L&amp;T Finance Holdings</td>
<td>Dinanath Dubhashi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>President of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank</td>
<td>Jin Liqun</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Director-general of WHO</td>
<td>Tedros Adhanom</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Chairman of CBSE</td>
<td>Manoj Ahuja</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Chairman &amp; Managing Director of Coal India Ltd</td>
<td>Pramod Agrawal</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Chairman &amp; MD of BHEL</td>
<td>Nalin Shinghal</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>CEO of Ola</td>
<td>Bhavish Aggarwal</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Director-General of Indian Coast Guard</td>
<td>Krishnaswamy Natarajan</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>CEO &amp; MD of National Skill Development Corporation</td>
<td>Manish Kumar</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Chairperson of CBDT</td>
<td>Pramod Chandra Mody</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Chairman of Securities and Exchange Board of India</td>
<td>Ajay Tyagi</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Chairman of National Highways Authority of India</td>
<td>Sukkhbir Singh Sandhu</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>President and CEO of NVIDIA</td>
<td>Jensen Huang</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>CMD of Bharat Dynamics Limited</td>
<td>Siddharth Mishra</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>President of International Olympic Committee</td>
<td>Thomas Bach</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Managing Director of HDFC Bank</td>
<td>Aditya Puri</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Yes Bank MD &amp; CEO</td>
<td>Prashant Kumar</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Chairman of Karur Vysya Bank</td>
<td>N. S. Srinath</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>SBM Bank CEO</td>
<td>Parvataneni Venkateswara Rao</td>
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<td>CEO of Mastercard</td>
<td>Ajaypal Singh Banga</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>MD &amp; CEO of Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance</td>
<td>Tarun Chugh</td>
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<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Director General of All India Radio</td>
<td>Ira Joshi</td>
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<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Managing Director &amp; CEO of Maruti Suzuki</td>
<td>Kenichi Ayukawa</td>
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<td>35</td>
<td>CEO of Google</td>
<td>Sundar Pichai</td>
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<td>36</td>
<td>Executive Director of United Nations Population Fund</td>
<td>Natalia Kanem</td>
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<td>37</td>
<td>Director of ISRO</td>
<td>K. Sivan</td>
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<td>38</td>
<td>President and Chief Executive Officer of Boeing</td>
<td>David L. Calhoun</td>
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<td>39</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer of Flipkart</td>
<td>Kalyan Krishnamurthy</td>
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<td>40</td>
<td>Chairman of NABARD</td>
<td>G R Chintala</td>
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<td>41</td>
<td>CMD of Konkan Railway Corporation Limited</td>
<td>Sanjay Gupta</td>
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<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Chairman of Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of</td>
<td>Subhash C. Khuntia</td>
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<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Name and Position</td>
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<td>43</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer of Plezmo</td>
<td>Amol Palshikar</td>
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<td>44</td>
<td>CEO of NITI Aayog</td>
<td>Amitabh Kant</td>
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<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>President of China Aerospace Science and Technology Corp</td>
<td>Xu Qiang</td>
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<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>MD &amp; CEO of Federal Bank Ltd</td>
<td>Shyam Srinivasan</td>
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<td>47</td>
<td>President of Rotary International</td>
<td>Holger Knaack</td>
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<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Executive Director of UNICEF</td>
<td>Henrietta H. Fore</td>
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<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Chairman of Airports Authority of India</td>
<td>Arvind Singh</td>
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<td>50</td>
<td>Chairman &amp; Managing Director of Bharat Electronics Ltd</td>
<td>MV Gowtama</td>
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<td>51</td>
<td>President of Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry</td>
<td>Sangita Reddy</td>
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<td>52</td>
<td>Chairman &amp; Managing Director of RIL</td>
<td>Mukesh D. Ambani</td>
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<td>53</td>
<td>Chairperson of Competition Commission of India</td>
<td>Ashok Kumar Gupta</td>
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<td>54</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Qualcomm</td>
<td>Steve Mollenkopf</td>
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<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Secretary-General of United Nations</td>
<td>António Guterres</td>
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<td>Director-General of World Trade Organization</td>
<td>Roberto Azevedo</td>
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<td>57</td>
<td>CEO of SpaceX founder</td>
<td>Elon Musk</td>
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<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>Executive Director of UNICEF</td>
<td>Henrietta H. Fore</td>
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<td>59</td>
<td>Chairman of Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs</td>
<td>M. Ajit Kumar</td>
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<td>Chairman of Central Board of Direct Taxes</td>
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<td>61</td>
<td>Chairman of Life Insurance Corporation</td>
<td>MR Kumar</td>
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<td>62</td>
<td>MD &amp; CEO of Union Bank of India</td>
<td>Rajkiran Rai G</td>
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<td>MD &amp; CEO of Airtel Payments Bank</td>
<td>Anubrata Biswas</td>
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<td>Manish Kumar</td>
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<td>Dilip Asbe</td>
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<td>MD &amp; CEO of Bank of Baroda</td>
<td>Sanjiv Chadha</td>
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<td>67</td>
<td>Chairman of State Bank of India</td>
<td>Rajnish Kumar</td>
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<td>68</td>
<td>Director General of International Union of Railways</td>
<td>Francois Davenne</td>
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<td>69</td>
<td>President of Hungary</td>
<td>Janos Ader</td>
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<td>70</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer of International Cricket Council</td>
<td>Manu Sahney</td>
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<td>71</td>
<td>President of International Chess Federation</td>
<td>Arkady Dvorkovich</td>
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<td>72</td>
<td>MD and CEO of Punjab National Bank</td>
<td>S.S. Mallikarjuna Rao</td>
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<td>73</td>
<td>CEO of Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd</td>
<td>Karan Adani</td>
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<td>Managing Director of IMF</td>
<td>Kristalina Georgieva</td>
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<td>Chief Economist of IMF</td>
<td>Gita Gopinath</td>
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<td>76</td>
<td>Chairman of Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences</td>
<td>Vijay Kumar Dev</td>
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<td>Arvind Singh</td>
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<td>MD &amp; CEO of Bharti AXA General Insurance</td>
<td>Sanjeev Srinivasan</td>
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<td>79</td>
<td>Director General of Central Reserve Police Force</td>
<td>AP Maheshwar</td>
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<td>80</td>
<td>Director General of Bureau of Indian Standard</td>
<td>Pramod Kumar Tiwari</td>
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<tr>
<td>81</td>
<td>Chairman of Khadi and Village Industries Commission</td>
<td>Vinal Kumar Saxena</td>
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