

THE HINDU REVIEW October 2021

CURRENT
AFFAIRS

MONTHLY
CAPSULE



Contents

The Most Important Current Affairs October 2021	3
Banking and Financial Current Affairs	8
Economy Current Affairs.....	9
Business Current Affairs	10
International Current Affairs.....	11
National Current Affairs.....	13
States Current Affairs.....	15
Schemes/Committees	17
Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).....	18
Appointments/Resignations (National & International)	19
Ranks and Reports	21
Sports Current Affairs.....	22
Summits And Conferences.....	24
Awards & Recognition.....	25
Important Days.....	26
Defence Current Affairs	30
Science and Technology	31
Books & Authors.....	31
Miscellaneous Current Affairs.....	32
Obituaries	34
Static Takeaways.....	35

The Most Important Current Affairs October 2021

Nobel Prize Winners 2021: Here's The Complete List Of Awardees

Every year in October, the Nobel Committee recognises and awards individuals or organisations for their contributions in specific fields. Fields considered for the awards include physiology or medicine, physics, chemistry, literature, peace work, and economic science. The Nobel Prize is given to people who "have conferred the greatest benefit to humankind" by a foundation established by Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel in his will, read in Stockholm on 30 December 1896. The prestigious award comes with a gold medal and **10 million Swedish kronor (over \$1.14 million)**. The prize money comes from a bequest left by the prize's creator, Swedish inventor **Alfred Nobel**, who died in 1895. The other prizes are for outstanding work in the fields of **physics, chemistry, literature, peace and economics**.

Nobel Prize winners 2021

Nobel Peace Prize 2021

- **Maria Ressa and Dmitry Muratov** "for their efforts to safeguard freedom of expression, which is a precondition for democracy and lasting peace".

Nobel Prize in Literature 2021

- **Abdulrazak Gurnah** "for his uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugee in the gulf between cultures and continents."

Nobel Prize in Physics 2021

- **Syukuro Manabe, Klaus Hasselmann, Giorgio Parisi** "for groundbreaking contributions to our understanding of complex systems."

Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2021

- **Benjamin List and David MacMillan** "for the development of asymmetric organocatalysis."

Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2021

- **David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian** "for their discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch."

Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences

- **David Card** "for his empirical contributions to labour economics."
- **Joshua D. Angrist and Guido W. Imbens** "for their methodological contributions to the analysis of causal relationships."

Mukesh Ambani tops Hurun India Rich List 2021

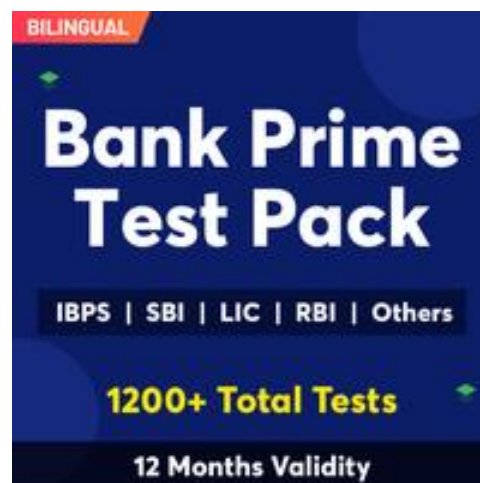
Reliance Industries Chairman, **Mukesh Ambani** has topped the **IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List** for the **10th consecutive year**. In 2021, his total net worth was recorded at Rs 7,18,000 crore. Meanwhile, Adani Group Chairman **Gautam Adani** is in the second spot with a net worth of **Rs. 5,05,900 crore**. Shiv Nadar & the family of HCL technologies are third in the list with a net worth of **Rs 2,36,600 crore**.

About the Hurun India Rich List 2021:

The Hurun India Rich list 2021 has named the richest individuals in the country with a wealth of Rs 1,000 crore or more as on September 15, 2021. The Hurun India Rich List 2021, features as many as 1,007 individuals across 119 cities with a net worth of Rs 1,000 crore. As per the report, India has **237 billionaires**, up 58 compared to last year.

OTHER RICHEST INDIANS IN THE TOP 10:

- **SP Hinduja & family** moved down two positions to the fourth rank in the list.
- **LN Mittal & family** moved up eight positions to the fifth rank.
- **Cyrus S Poonawalla** of Serum Institute of India occupies the sixth position.
- **Radhakishan Damani** of Avenue Supermarts retained the seventh position.
- **Vinod Shantilal Adani & family** moved up twelve places to the eighth rank.
- **Kumar Mangalam Birla & the family** of Aditya Birla Group occupies the Ninth position.
- The tenth position in the list is secured by **Jay Chaudhry** of cloud security company Zscaler.



Gandhi Jayanti 2021: Remembering the Gandhi

Every year **2nd October** is celebrated as a **Gandhi Jayanti** to remember the birth anniversary of the father of our nation **Mahatma Gandhi**. The year 2021 marks the **152nd birth anniversary** of the global peace icon who was born on **2 October 1869**, in Porbandar in Gujarat. This day is referred to as Gandhi Jayanti in India.

On 15 June 2007, the **United Nations General Assembly** voted to establish **2 October** as the **International Day of Non-Violence**. The International Day of Non-Violence is observed on 2 October, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, leader of the Indian independence movement and pioneer of the philosophy and strategy of non-violence. The International Day is an occasion to "disseminate the message of non-violence, including through education and public awareness".

The leadership of Mahatma Gandhi:

Gandhi, who helped lead India to independence, has been the inspiration for non-violent movements for civil rights and social change across the world. Throughout his life, Gandhi remained committed to his belief in non-violence even under oppressive conditions and in the face of seemingly insurmountable challenges. The theory behind his actions, which included encouraging massive civil disobedience to British law as with the historic Salt March of 1930, was that "just means lead to just ends"; that is, it is irrational to try to use violence to achieve a peaceful society. He believed that Indians must not use violence or hatred in their fight for freedom from colonialism.

Gandhi Jayanti 2021: Significance

Gandhi was a preacher of non-violence. He had also played a major role in the Indian independence movement. On 6th July 1944, **Subhash Chandra Bose** addressed Gandhi as "**The Father of the Nation**" and on 28 April 1947, Sarojini Naidu during a conference also referred to Gandhi as "Father of the Nation." Few Important events done by Mahatma Gandhi are listed below:

- 1913 – Gandhi's activism and arrest in South Africa
- 1917 – Gandhi established Sabarmati Ashram
- 1920-1922 – Non-Cooperation Movement
- 1921 – Gandhi was given exclusive authority over the Indian National Congress
- 1930 – Salt (Dandi) March
- 1942 – Quit India Movement
- 1947 – British Declared Indian Independence

Some of the books written by Mahatma Gandhi are:

- The Story of My Experiments with Truth
- The Moral Basis of Vegetarianism
- Peace: The Words and Inspiration of Mahatma Gandhi (Me-We)

RBI Monetary Policy: Status Quo on rates

The **Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)** kept the repo rate unchanged in the fourth bi-monthly policy meet for the financial year 2021-22 headed by RBI Governor **Shaktikanta Das** has maintained the status quo. The meeting was held between **October (6 to 8)**. The remaining will take place in **December (6 to 8)** and **February (7 to 9, 2022)**.

The Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate and bank rates remain unchanged:

- Policy Repo Rate: 4.00%
- Reverse Repo Rate: 3.35%
- Marginal Standing Facility Rate: 4.25%
- Bank Rate: 4.25%
- CRR: 4%
- SLR: 18.00%

RBI Monetary Policy Highlights & Key Decisions:

- FY22 GDP growth forecast maintained at **9.5%**.
- CPI inflation is projected at **5.3%** for the current fiscal year.
- Bond purchases under **G-SAP** stopped.
- Open market operations to continue as needed.
- Internal ombudsman plan for non-bank lenders.
- On-tap special **LTRO** of 3 years worth **Rs 10,000 crore** for small businesses extended till Dec 31.
- Framework planned for retail digital payments in offline mode.
- Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) limited upped from **Rs 2 lakh to Rs 5 lakh**
- No compulsion for banks to park money in variable reverse repo rate (VRRR).

Indian hockey players sweep FIH Stars Awards

Indian hockey players swept the 2020-21 edition of the **FIH Stars Awards**, the international hockey federation (FIH) announced. The winners were decided based on an online poll conducted from **August 23 to September 15** which saw national associations, represented by their respective national captains and coaches, players, media and hockey fans cast their votes. Votes from national associations counted for 50 per cent of the overall result, while fans and players (25 per cent) as well as media (25 per cent), accounted for the other half.

FIH Stars Awards 2020-21: Winners list

- Player of the Year: **Harmanpreet Singh (men)** and **Gurjit Kaur (women)**
- Goalkeeper of the Year: **PR Sreejesh (men)** and **Savita Punia (women)**
- Rising Star of the Year: **Vivek Sagar Prasad (men)** and **Sharmila Devi (women)**
- Coach of the Year: **Graham Reid (men)** and **Sjoerd Marijne (women)**

India slips 6 ranks on Henley Passport Index 2021

India's rank has slipped by six places from last year to **90** on the **Henley Passport Index 2021**, which lists the world's most travel-friendly passports Japan and Singapore hold the first rank on the passport index. The index covers **227 destinations and 199 passports**. The index comes at a time when countries are easing travel restrictions for international visitors after almost two years since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. The rankings are based on the survey of the **International Air Transport Association (IATA) data**.

Top 5 countries in the Index:

- Rank 1: Japan, Singapore
- Rank 2: Germany, South Korea
- Rank 3: Finland, Italy, Luxembourg, Spain
- Rank 4: Austria, Denmark
- Rank 5: France, Ireland, Netherlands, Portugal, Sweden

World's 5 least powerful passports:

- Afghanistan
- Iraq
- Syria
- Pakistan
- Yemen

Eight High Courts to get new Chief Justices

The Government notified the appointments of **eight** and transfer of **five chief justices of high courts**. **Eight High Courts** will get new Chief Justices, and **five Chief Justices** have been transferred. The clearance in the 13 High Courts was considered crucial as some of them have been making do with Acting Chief Justices.

Five Chief Justices have been transferred:

- The government cleared the transfer of Tripura High Court Chief Justice **A.A. Kureshi** to the Rajasthan High Court.
- Justice **Indrajit Mahanty**, Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court, would take over as Tripura Chief Justice.

- Chief Justice **Mohammad Rafiq** of Madhya Pradesh has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court.
- Chief Justice **Biswanath Somadder** of the Meghalaya High Court has been transferred as the Chief Justice of the Sikkim High Court.
- Justice **A.K. Goswami** has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Chhattisgarh High Court. He is presently the Chief Justice of Andhra Pradesh High Court.

Newly appointed Chief Justice:

- Justice **Rajesh Bindal**, Acting Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court, was appointed as the Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court.
- Justice **Ranjit V. More** has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Meghalaya High Court.
- Justice **Satish Chandra Sharma**, Acting Chief Justice of the Karnataka High Court, has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Telangana High Court.
- Justice **Prakash Srivastava**, a Madhya Pradesh High Court judge, has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court.
- Justice **R.V. Malimath** has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court.
- Justice **Ritu Raj Awasthi** has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Karnataka High Court.
- Justice **Aravind Kumar** has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court.
- Justice **Prashant Kumar Mishra** would take over as the Chief Justice of the Andhra Pradesh High Court.

Reliance Industries tops in Forbes World's Best Employer 2021 Ranking

Mukesh Ambani-led **Reliance Industries** has topped the Indian corporates in the **World's Best Employers 2021 rankings** published by **Forbes**. Globally, Reliance is placed at **52nd** position among 750 global corporates. **South Korean giant Samsung Electronics** has topped the overall ranking as World's Best Employers 2021, followed by US giants IBM, Microsoft, Amazon, Apple, Alphabet and Dell Technologies.

About the World's Best Employers 2021:

- The World's Best Employers 2021 has been prepared by Forbes in partnership with market research company Statista.
- The ranking is based upon surveying 1,50,000 full-time and part-time workers from 58 countries working for multinational companies and institutions, where employees rated their employers on numerous points.

- Parameters used during the survey for the ranking include the image, economic footprint, talent development, gender equality and social responsibility.

India ranks 101 in Global Hunger Index 2021

India's rank has dropped to the **101st position** among **116 countries** in the **Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2021**. In 2020, India was placed at **94th** spot, out of 107 countries. The 2021 GHI score of India is recorded at 27.5 out of 50, which comes under the serious category. Neighbouring countries like **Nepal (76)**, **Bangladesh (76)**, **Myanmar (71)** and **Pakistan (92)** are also in the 'alarming' hunger category but have fared better at feeding its citizens than India, according to the report.

Top countries in the Index

A total of 18 countries, including **China, Kuwait and Brazil**, shares the top rank. The GHI score of these 18 nations is less than 5. This means that these countries suffer very less from hunger and malnutrition.

About the Global Hunger Index:

The Global Hunger Index (GHI) measures and tracks hunger at global, regional, and national levels. The index is published jointly by Welthungerhilfe (WHH) and Concern Worldwide. Based on current GHI projections, the index states that the world as a whole will not achieve a low level of hunger by 2030.

GHI scores are determined based on values of four indicators:

- Undernourishment (share of the population with insufficient caloric intake),
- Child wasting (share of children under age five who have low weight for their height, reflecting acute undernutrition),
- Child stunting (share of children under age five who have low height for their age, reflecting chronic undernutrition), and
- Child mortality (mortality rate of children under age five, partly reflecting the fatal mix of inadequate nutrition and unhealthy environments).

IPL 2021 won by Chennai Super Kings

Chennai Super Kings (CSK) has defeated **Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR)** in the finals to win the **2021 Indian Premier League (IPL) title**. This was the 14th edition of IPL which is an India-based Cricket league in 20-20 format. This was the 4th win of **Chennai Super Kings (CSK)** in IPL, having previously won the tournament in 2010, 2011, and 2018.

Here are some important points from exam point of view:

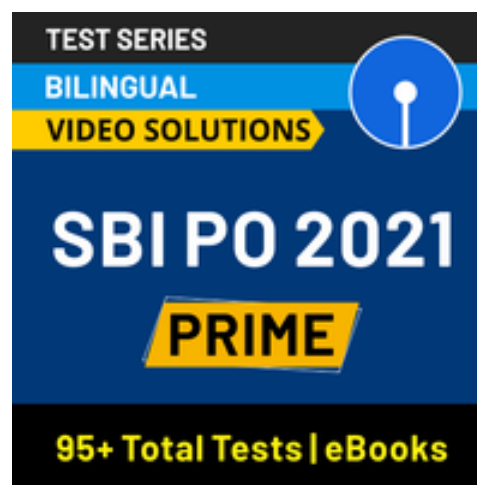
- M.S. Dhoni** is the captain of CSK the winning team.
- Eoin Morgan** is the captain of the Runner up team i.e Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR). He is from England
- The first half of IPL was played in India, while the second half was played in UAE. The finals were held at **Dubai International Stadium**.
- Player of the Tournament: **Harshal Patel (RCB)**
- Highest Run Scorer (Orange Cap): **Ruturaj Gaikwad (CSK) (635 runs)**
- Highest Wicket Taker (Purple Cap): **Harshal Patel (RCB) (32 wickets)**
- Mumbai Indians team has won the IPL title highest number of times, i.e 5 times.

Overview of 2021 BNP Paribas Open held at Indian Wells

The **2021 BNP Paribas Open tennis tournament**, also known as the 2021 Indian Wells Masters, was held from October 04 to 18, 2021 at **Indian Wells, California, US**. This marks the 47th edition of the men's BNP Paribas Open (ATP Masters) and the **32nd Edition** of the women's BNP Paribas Open (WTA Masters).

The list of winners is given below:

- Cameron Norrie** won his maiden ATP Masters 1000 by winning the Men's singles title at the 2021 BNP Paribas Open
- Paula Badosa** defeats Victoria Azarenka to win the Women's Singles Title
- Elise Mertens and Su Wei Hsieh** won the Women's Doubles title
- John Peers and Filip Polasek** won the Men's Doubles title



About BNP Paribas Open:

- The BNP Paribas Open is the largest combined ATP Tour Masters 1000 and WTA 1000 tennis event.
- It is annually held at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden in Indian Wells, California, the USA.

India ranks 71st on 2021 Global Food Security Index

India has achieved the **71st position** in the **Global Food Security (GFS) Index 2021** from among a list of 113 countries. The GFS Index is designed and constructed by London-based Economist Impact and is sponsored by **Corteva Agriscience**. The overall score of India is 57.2 points on the GFS Index 2021.

According to the report, India held 71st position with an overall score of 57.2 points on the GFS Index 2021 of 113 countries, fared better than **Pakistan (75th position)**, Sri Lanka (77th Position), Nepal (79th position) and Bangladesh (84th position). But the country was way behind **China (34th position)**. However, over the past 10 years, India's incremental gains in overall food security score were lagging behind that of Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh.

Globally:

Ireland, Australia, the UK, Finland, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Canada, Japan, France and the US shared the top rank. Their overall GFS score were in the range of 77.8 and 80 points on the index.

About the Index: The GFS Index measures the factors affecting food insecurity around the world based on 4 main factors and 58 unique food security indicators. The factors include affordability, availability, quality and safety, and natural resources and resilience.

THE's World Reputation Rankings 2021 announced

4 Indian institutes have made it to the **Times Higher Education (THE)'s World Reputation Rankings 2021**, the annual ranking of THE that features the top 200 universities based on the votes from leading academics across the globe. **Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru** ranked among the top 100 (91-100) has topped the Indian Institutes. The other 3 Indian institutes are the IIT Bombay, the IIT Delhi, and the IIT Madras.

Harvard University of the United States of America (USA) has topped the 2021 ranking. **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA** and **University of Oxford** from the United Kingdom (UK) has secured the 2nd and 3rd rank respectively.

Globally:

Ranking	Institute
1	Harvard University (US)
2	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (US)
3	University of Oxford (UK)

Ranking of Indian Institutes:

Ranking	Institute
91-100	IISc Bangalore
126-150	IIT Bombay
176-200	IIT Delhi
176-200	IIT Madras

Viktor Axelsen and Akane Yamaguchi won Denmark Open 2021

Danish Olympic champion **Viktor Axelsen** won the **Mens' single 2021 Denmark Open** Badminton held at the Odense Sports Park, Denmark. He defeated world number one Kento Momota of Japan. **Akane Yamaguchi** of Japan won her second title in the women's category defeating An Se-young (South Korea).

List of all winners of Denmark Open 2021:

Category	Winner
Mens' single	Viktor Axelsen (Denmark)
Womens' single	Akane Yamaguchi (Japan)
Men's double	Takuro Hoki, and Yugo Kobayashi (Japan)
Women's double	Huang Dongping and Zheng Yu (China)
Mixed double	Yuta Watanabe and Arisa Higashino (Japan).

Banking and Financial Current Affairs

- **State Bank of India (SBI)** has announced the launch of **SBI's NAV-eCash card** on **INS Vikramaditya**, the largest naval aircraft carrier of India. The new journey envisioned for the card is set to change the payment ecosystem, while the ship is sailing with no dependency on utilisation of any form of cash to avail any of the services on board.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has granted the **National Asset Reconstruction Company (NARCL)** the licence to register as an **asset reconstruction company (ARC)**. The Licence is given under **Section 3 of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act 2002**.
- **Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd (KMBL)** has received approval from the government for the collection of **direct & indirect taxes**, such as **income tax, Goods and Services Tax (GST)** etc, through its banking network. With this, the bank becomes the **first scheduled private sector bank** to receive approval after the announcement by Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** allowing all banks to participate in the government-related business.
- **Punjab National Bank (PNB)** has launched '**6S Campaign**' under a customer outreach programme to extend financial services at a concessional rate during the festival season. The '**6S Campaign**' encapsulates different schemes such as - **Swabhiman, Samruddhi, Sampark and Shikhar, Sankalp and Swagat**.
- The **Reserve Bank of India** has granted a banking licence to **Unity Small Finance Bank Ltd (USFBL)**, which was established jointly by the **Centrum Financial Services Ltd (CFSL)** and **Resilient Innovations Private Limited (BharatPe)**, to carry on a SFB business in India.
- **IndusInd Bank** has announced, that it has been authorised by the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** for the collection of **Direct and Indirect Taxes**, on behalf of the **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)** and the **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)**. With this, its customers will be able to pay their Direct and Indirect taxes through 'Indusnet' and 'Indusmobile' platforms.
- The private lender **Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd** has announced the launch of **Micro ATMs** across the country. Customers of all banks who possess a debit card can use a Kotak Micro ATM for key banking services such as cash withdrawals and checking account balances. A mini version of an ATM, micro ATMs are small handheld devices. The bank will use its extensive **Business Correspondents (BC)** network to launch micro ATMs.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has imposed a monetary penalty of **Rs 1 crore** on India's largest public lender **State Bank of India (SBI)**. The penalty has been imposed for non-compliance with the directions contained in "**RBI (Frauds classification and reporting by commercial banks and select FIs) directions 2016**".
- The **Reserve Bank of India** has authorised **Karur Vysya Bank (KVB)** to collect direct taxes on behalf of the **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)**. After obtaining the approval, KVB has started the integration process with the CBDT to collect direct taxes.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** imposed a fine of **Rs 1.95 crore** on the **Standard Chartered Bank** for failing to report a cyber security incident within the prescribed time period, and failure to credit the amount involved in unauthorised electronic transactions, among other reasons. **Standard Chartered Bank** was penalised also for its non-compliance of RBI's directions on customer protection.
- The **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** has launched the **NPCI Tokenization system (NTS)** to further enhance the safety of customers and provide a seamless shopping experience to consumers. The **NPCI Tokenization System (NTS)** will support the tokenisation of **RuPay cards**, to provide an alternate for storing card details with merchants.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has imposed a penalty of **Rs 1 crore** on **Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL)** over certain specified violations, as referred in **Section 26 (2) of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007**.
- The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)**, has constituted a four-member "**high powered advisory committee on settlement orders and compounding of offences**". The Chairman of the committee will be **Vijay C Daga**, retired judge of the High Court of Bombay. The terms of reference of the Committee will be as per "**Securities and Exchange Board of India (Settlement Proceedings) Regulations, 2018**".

- The **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** has announced the creation of an **Rs. 1,000 crore Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for FPOs (CGTFPO)**, a dedicated fund for providing credit guarantees to FPOs. The fund has been launched under the trusteeship of NABSanrakshan Trustee Pvt Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of NABARD.
- **HDFC Bank, Mastercard, United States International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), and US Agency for International Development (USAID)** launched a **\$100 million credit facility for MSMEs (Micro Small and Medium Enterprises)** in India. The credit facility is part of USAID's global Women Economic Empowerment Fund initiative and its COVID-19 response in India.
- **Bharti AXA Life Insurance Company Limited (Bharti AXA Life)** has entered into a bancassurance partnership with **Utkarsh Small Finance Bank** to ensure distribution of life insurance products through the bank's network across India. This partnership will enable the Bharti AXA life to reach Tier II and Tier III markets with insurance solutions and increase the reach of insurance in India.
- India's Largest **Small Finance Bank AU Small Finance Bank** has launched **QR (Quick Response) Code Sound Box** to boost its digital payments while making it the first bank to launch such a product. The QR Sound Box will help small merchants to run their operations smoothly without the hassle of reading SMS every time when a customer makes a payment. It will be made available in five languages – **Hindi, English, Punjabi, Gujarati and Marathi**.
- Private sector lender **ICICI Bank** has crossed the market capitalisation of **Hindustan Unilever** to become the fifth-largest company by market value. According to BSE data, ICICI Bank's market capitalisation (m-cap) stood at **₹5.83 lakh crore**, just above HUL's **₹5.76 lakh crore**. This follows the bank posting its highest ever quarterly net profit in the July to September 2021 quarter.
- The **Union Bank of India (UBI)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Hyderabad** to launch a 1st of its kind initiative on Cyber Security Awareness. CDAC will assist UBI in educating its employees & customers with awareness on Cyber Security & tips to protect themselves from Cyber fraud. The Bank has previously launched an e-book & an online game '**Spin-N-Learn**', as a part of National Cyber Security Awareness Month (October).

Economy Current Affairs

- According to **FICCI**, India's GDP is expected to grow at **9.1 per cent** in 2021-22 as the economic recovery, post the second wave of the pandemic, seems to be holding ground. FICCI's Economic Outlook Survey also noted that the ongoing festive season would support this momentum.
- **Retail inflation** declined to **4.35 per cent** in **September**, mainly due to lower food prices, according to government data released. The **Consumer Price Index-based (CPI) inflation** was at **5.30 per cent** in August and at **7.27 per cent** in September 2020.
- **ICRA** has revised up the **gross domestic product (GDP)** growth rate of India for the financial year **2021-22 (FY22)** to **9 per cent**. Earlier this rate was **8.5%**. It can be noted that after the **7.3 per cent** contraction in 2020-21, there were expectations of a higher growth number in 2021-22.
- The gross **GST** revenue collected in the month of September was **1,17,010 crore rupees**, which included a **CGST** component of **20,578 crores**, **SGST** is **26,767 crore** and **IGST** component of **60,911 crore rupees**.
- Rating agency **Moody's** Investors Service has upgraded India's sovereign rating outlook to '**stable**' from '**negative**', on October 05, 2021, following an improvement in the financial sector and faster-than-expected economic recovery across sectors. **Moody's expects real GDP growth to average around 6 per cent over the medium term**, reflecting a rebound in activity to levels at potential as conditions normalise.
- The **World Bank** has estimated **India's real Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** in the current fiscal year 2021-22 to grow by **8.3%** in its latest economic update for South Asia.
- **Fitch Ratings** has cut India's economic growth forecast to **8.7%** for the current fiscal but raised GDP growth projection for **FY23** to **10%**, saying the second COVID-19 wave delayed rather than derail the economic recovery.
- **India's GDP** is expected to grow at **9.1 per cent** in 2021-22 as the economic recovery, post the second wave of the pandemic, seems to be holding ground. The survey was conducted in **September 2021** and drew responses from leading economists representing the industry, banking and financial services sector.

- **Retail inflation** declined to **4.35 per cent** in **September**, mainly due to lower food prices, according to government data released. The **Consumer Price Index-based (CPI) inflation** was at **5.30 per cent** in August and at **7.27 per cent** in September 2020. As per the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), the inflation in the food basket eased to 0.68 per cent in September 2021, significantly down from 3.11 per cent in the preceding month.
- The **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** has estimated the Indian economy to grow by **9.5%** in the current fiscal year, i.e **2021-22 (FY22)** and **8.5%** in **FY23 (2022-23)**, in its latest World Economic Outlook report, released on October 12, 2021. Meanwhile, IMF expects the **global gross domestic product (GDP)** to grow by **5.9 per cent** in 2021 and **4.9% in 2022**.
- Online payment services provider, **Paytm** has acquired a **100% stake** in Mumbai-based digital lending startup **CreditMate**. However, the transaction details of the deal have not been disclosed. The Paytm Group will now be the 100% beneficial owners of the business, while the co-founders of CreditMate will exit the business.
- Fintech company **BharatPe**, announced its entry into the '**Buy Now Pay Later**' (BNPL) category with the launch of '**postpe**'. The new platform provides credit to customers to buy now, but pay later from anywhere. Customers using the postpe platform can download the app from Play Store and avail interest-free credit limit of up to **Rs 10 lakh**.
- **Tata Group**, the progenitor of the **Air India** airline, reclaimed it, nearly 60 years after it was nationalised. Tata Sons bid **₹180 billion** for the government's **100% stake in Air India**. The government is seeking to sell 100 per cent of its stake in the state-owned national airline, including Air India's 100 per cent shareholding in AI Express Ltd and 50 per cent in Air India SATS Airport Services Private Ltd.
- **Gautam Adani-led Adani Group** has taken over the responsibilities of the **Jaipur International Airport** from the **Airports Authority of India (AAI)**. The airport has been leased out to the group by the government of India for a period of 50 years. For the last two months, officials from Adani group have been observing operations at the airport.
- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has announced an increase in its climate financing goals **2019-2030** for developing member countries (DMCs) by **\$20 billion to \$100 billion**. Earlier in 2018, ADB had announced an **\$80 billion goal** for climate financing for developing countries in Asia during 2019-2030.

Business Current Affairs

- **Reliance New Energy Solar Ltd (RNESL)**, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL), has acquired **100 per cent** shareholding of **REC Solar Holdings AS (REC Group)**, a Chinese state-owned solar power company. **RNESL** has acquired the REC Group from **China National Bluestar (Group) Co Ltd.**, for an Enterprise Value of **\$771 million**.
- **Gautam Adani-led Adani Group** has taken over the responsibilities of the **Jaipur International Airport** from the **Airports Authority of India (AAI)**. The airport has been leased out to the group by the government of India for a period of 50 years. For the last two months, officials from Adani group have been observing operations at the airport.
- The **crypto industry in India** has the potential to add **\$184 billion** of economic value, in the form of investments and cost savings, by **2030**, according to a report from the country's premier trade body for the tech industry. The report, entitled "**Crypto Industry in India**," was published by the **National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM)** in conjunction with Binance-owned crypto exchange **WazirX**.
- **Muthoot Finance** has joined hands with **Senseforth.ai**, a leader in Conversational AI technology to launch '**Mattu**', an AI-powered virtual assistant. Customers of Muthoot Finance can chat or speak with the AI virtual assistant in both English and Hindi. This virtual assistant is also available on WhatsApp, making it very easy for users to access key services.

NRA-CET Ready

BANK

MAHA PACK

Live Class, Video Course,
Test Series, eBooks

Bilingual (with eBooks)

6 Months Validity

- The **Government of India** has accorded '**Maharatna**' status to the state-owned **Power Finance Corporation Ltd (PFC)**. The new status will give PFC greater operational and financial autonomy. PFC was incorporated in 1986, as an Indian financial institution under the ownership of the **Ministry of Power**. It is the largest Infrastructure Finance Company in India, exclusively dedicated to Power Sector.
- The **Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)** has launched an automated fuelling technology called "**UFill**", to provide a swift, secure and smart experience to its customers at outlets by providing them with control of fuelling.
- **IndiaFirst Life Insurance Company Limited (IndiaFirst Life)**, a joint venture of Bank of Baroda and Union Bank of India introduced "**IndiaFirst Life Saral Bachat Bima Plan**". It is a savings and protection cover plan for the entire family.
- **Reliance Industries Ltd's Reliance Brands Ltd (RBL)** and famous designer **Manish Malhotra** have announced a strategic partnership to acquire a **40 per cent** stake in Malhotra's MM Styles Pvt Ltd. According to a Reliance Brands statement, this "strategic partnership" is the first "external investment" for MM Styles Pvt Ltd.
- The **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** has approved the acquisition of **4.99 percent** of the outstanding equity share capital in **HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company** by private sector lender **HDFC Bank**. HDFC Bank will acquire 3.56 crore shares or 4.99% stake for Rs 1,906 crore from the parent company Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC). HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company is a joint venture between HDFC and European insurer ERGO International AG.
- Private sector general insurer **Future Generali India Insurance (FGII)** has entered into a **bancassurance** tie-up with the **Bank of India (BoI)** for further penetration of its general insurance products. FGII will offer its wide array of best-in-class and innovative insurance solutions to 5,084 BoI branches spread across 28 States and 8 Union Territories.
- **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** approved the acquisition of **Parexel International Corporation** by Phoenix Parentco Inc. Phoenix Parentco is a special purpose investment vehicle that operates solely as an investment holding company. It is jointly controlled by EQT Fund Management S. r.l. and The Goldman Sachs Group Inc.

- **ICICI Lombard**, private general insurance company has introduced **BeFit**, serviced through its **ILTakeCare app**. It provides customers with the benefits of OPD services i.e. doctor consultation, pharmacy and diagnostics services, and physiotherapy sessions in a cashless manner. The solution aims to empower customers to benefit from a host of wellness services.

International Current Affairs

- The **US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC)** and the **United States Agency for International Development (USAID)** are jointly sponsoring a **\$55 million** credit guarantee to address the economic impact of covid-19 by supporting loans to farmer producer organizations, ag-tech companies, and companies engaged in clean energy solutions for the agriculture sector.
- **Najla Bouden Romdhane** has been appointed as the first-ever female **Prime Minister of Tunisia**. The 63-year-old has also become the first female prime minister in the whole Arab world.
- The **World Expo 2020** has been organised at **Dubai** in the **United Arab Emirates** from **1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022**. The main theme of the Dubai Expo 2020 is "**Connecting Minds, Creating the Future**". The theme of the India pavilion at the Expo is "Openness, Opportunity and Growth". It will showcase resurgent India's march to becoming a USD 5 Trillion economy, the exceptional fightback against COVID-19 and the country's emergence as a global business hub presenting huge opportunities for the world.
- The Prime Minister of Ethiopia, **Abiy Ahmed** has been sworn in for a **second five-year term**. He was administered the oath of office by Supreme Court Chief Justice **Meaza Ashenafi**.
- The **Russian military** had successfully test-fired a hypersonic "**Tsirkon**" missile from a submarine for the first time. Hypersonic missiles fly much faster and are more agile than standard ones, making them much more difficult for missile defense systems to stop. The U.S. military conducted its first flight test of a hypersonic missile system in 2011.
- **Alexander Schellenberg** was elected as Austrian Chancellor after the resignation of **Sebastian Kurz**. Sebastian Kurz resigned because of his involvement in a corruption scandal.

- **International Energy Agency (IEA)** has invited **India** to become its full-time member. This membership invitation was given in the light that, India is the world's third-largest energy consumer. If this proposal is accepted, it will require India to increase its strategic oil reserved to 90 days requirement.
- German rail operator, Deutsche Bahn and industrial group, **Siemens** launched the **first automated & driverless train of the world**. The self-driving train was launched in the city of Hamburg.
- **Jonas Gahr Store**, the Leader of the **Labour Party in Norway**, has assumed the charge of the Prime Minister of Norway with effect from October 14, 2021.
- The **Russia and China** joint naval exercises "**Joint Sea 2021**" has kicked off at **Russia's Peter the Great Gulf**, in the **Sea of Japan**, on October 14, 2021. The exercises will culminate on October 17, 2021.
- The **Government of Sri Lanka** has sought a **USD 500 million** credit line from India to pay for its crude oil purchases, as the country is facing a severe foreign exchange crisis in the island nation after the pandemic hit the nation's earnings from tourism and remittances.
- Ecuador's President **Guillermo Lasso** has declared a 60-day state of emergency in the **South American country**, due to the rise in violent drug crimes. President Lasso has pointed to drug trafficking and consumption as the main drivers behind an increase in murders, home burglary, thefts of vehicles and goods, and muggings.
- **India, Israel, United Arab Emirates and the United States** have decided to launch a new quadrilateral economic forum. Quadrilateral builds on ongoing cooperation between U.S., Israel and UAE after the **Abraham Accords** last year. This QUAD grouping had decided to establish an international forum for economic cooperation and discussed possibilities for joint infrastructure projects expanding economic and political cooperation in the Middle East and Asia.
- **Donald Trump** has announced plans to launch a social media platform called **TRUTH Social** that will be rolled out early next year. Truth social will be a product of a new venture called the **Trump Media & Technology Group**. He wants to create a platform that rivals Twitter or Facebook, but that simply won't happen.
- **Barbados** has elected its first-ever president as it prepares to become a republic, removing Queen Elizabeth as head of state. **Dame Sandra Mason**, 72, is set to be sworn in on 30 November, which will mark the country's **55th anniversary** of independence from Britain.
- Global terror financing watchdog **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)** has retained **Pakistan** on its '**Grey List**' of countries. In a briefing, FATF president Marcus Pleyer also said that three new countries **Turkey, Jordan, and Mali** have also been added to the Grey List. In June this year, the FATF had retained Pakistan on its 'Grey List' for failing to check money laundering, leading to terror financing.
- **South Korea** recently launched its first indigenously developed rocket, known as "**Korean Satellite Launch Vehicle II**" or "**Nuri**". The launch vehicle lifted off from the Naro Space Center, in Goheung, built on an island nearly 300 miles (500 kilometres) south of Seoul.
- **China** successfully launched a new satellite named **Shijian-21**. The satellite will be used to test and verify space debris mitigation technologies. Shijian-21 was launched from the **Xichang Satellite Launch Centre** in southwest China's Sichuan Province on a Long March-3B carrier rocket.
- **Shavkat Mirziyoyev**, the incumbent **President of Uzbekistan** has won a 2nd five-year term as the **President of Uzbekistan**. He is a member of the **UzLiDeP (Uzbekistan Liberal Democratic Party)**. Shavkat Mirziyoyev took office in 2016 following the death of Islam Karimov, the first post-independence president of Uzbekistan.
- **France** has successfully launched a state-of-the-art satellite namely '**Syracuse 4A**' into orbit which was carried off by Ariane 5 rocket from **Kourou, in French Guiana**. It is designed to allow France's armed forces across the globe to communicate swiftly and securely. The satellite can survey its close surroundings and move itself to escape an attack.
- Indo-Canadian **Anita Anand** became just the second woman to be appointed Canada's minister of **national defence** as Prime Minister **Justin Trudeau** announced his new cabinet. The ministers were sworn in by governor-general Mary May Simon in a ceremony at Rideau Hall in Ottawa. She is the first woman to serve as defence minister since Kim Campbell in the 1990s.

- The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of **South Korea** held that the '**Shinincheon Bitdream Fuel Cell Power Plant**' at the Shinincheon Bitdream headquarters of Korea Southern Power in **Seo-gu, Incheon** has been completed and inaugurated.

National Current Affairs

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has chaired the **38th PRAGATI** meeting to review multiple projects, grievances and programmes of central and state government. PRAGATI stands for **Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation**. In the meeting, eight projects were taken for review having a cumulative cost of around **Rs 50,000 crore**.
- The **world's largest national flag**, made up of **Khadi cloth**, has been installed in **Leh, Ladakh**, on the occasion of the **152nd birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi** on **October 02, 2021**. The tricolour is 225-feet long and 150-feet wide. It weighs around 1,000 kg.
- The **government of India** has launched a web portal called "**Waste to Wealth**" to enhance cooperation for sustainable development through economy and community participation. The web portal will bring together technology providers, government stakeholders and urban local bodies to find solutions to India's waste problems, mainly plastic waste.
- The Union Minister of Law and Justice, **Kiren Rijiju** has inaugurated the **first Sports Arbitration Centre of India** at **Ahmedabad in Gujarat**. This Sports Arbitration Centre of India (SACI) will serve as an independent body to fast track disputes in the sports sector and serve as a mechanism to redress issues related to sports.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated '**Azadi@75 - New Urban India: Transforming Urban Landscape**' Conference-cum-Expo in **Lucknow** at the **Indira Gandhi Pratishthan** as a part of Azadi@75 celebrations. The theme of the three-day event is "**New Urban India**". It will culminate on **October 07, 2021**. The Conference-cum-Expo is organised by the **Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA)**.
- The **Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB)** has launched its programme in **Seychelles**. India has been chosen as the Partner Administration for this programme. The country will be providing its Tax Expert in support of the initiative. The focus of the 12-month programme will be on Transfer Pricing cases of tourism and financial services sectors.
- Vice President **M Venkaiah Naidu** has inaugurated the **Mahabahu Brahmaputra River Heritage Centre** in the presence of Governor Jagdish Mukhi and Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma in **Guwahati** in the state of **Assam**. The centre was originally served as the residence of the **British deputy commissioner of Kamrup**. Nearly 150 years after it was constructed, the iconic **DC Bungalow of Guwahati** was opened to the public as a heritage centre.
- The Centre has approved the setting up of seven new mega textile parks, or **PM MITRA parks** across the country in an effort to help furthering the growth of the textile sector in the economy and position India strongly on the Global textiles map. The **Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel Parks (PM MITRA)** will be based on the 5F vision of the Hon'ble Prime Minister. The '5F' Formula consists of **Farm to fibre; fibre to factory; factory to fashion; fashion to foreign**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** dedicated **35 Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) Oxygen Plants** to the nation through video-conferencing, during an event at **AIIMS Rishikesh, Uttarakhand**. These 35 PSA Oxygen Plants have been established under PM CARES, across 35 States and Union Territories. Now all districts of the country will now have commissioned PSA Oxygen Plants.
- **India** officially joined the **High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People**, a group of more than 70 countries encouraging the adoption of the global goal to protect at least 30 per cent of the world's land and ocean by **2030 (30x30)**.
- Union Minister of Civil Aviation, **Jyotiraditya M. Scindia** has flagged off the **Doon Drone Mela 2021** in **Dehradun, Uttarakhand**. Minister flagged off the event with a paragliding demonstration and also interacted with the drone companies exhibiting their prototypes at the Doon Drone Mela.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** launched the **Indian Space Association (ISpA)** via videoconferencing. Its founding members include Bharti Airtel, Larsen & Toubro, Nelco (Tata Group), OneWeb, Mapmyindia, Walchandnagar Industries and Ananth Technology Limited. The ISpA is a private industry body that will act as a premier industry body for space and satellite companies in the country. ISpA will be represented by homegrown and global corporations with advanced capabilities in space and satellite technologies.

- The Centre government has launched '**MyPortApp**' in **Kolkata** for digital monitoring of port operation. It has been launched for promoting transparency and to provide port-related information.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has addressed the **28th NHRC Foundation Day programme**, through video conferencing on October 12, 2021, in the presence of Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** and NHRC chairperson.
- With the vision of holistic and integrated infrastructure development in the country, Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated **PM Gati Shakti-National Master Plan**, from **Pragati Maidan in New Delhi**. The **Rs 100 lakh crore** PM Gati Shakti-National Master Plan aims to provide multi-modal connectivity to economic zones in the country.
- The Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, **Anurag Singh Thakur** inaugurated the '**MyParkings**' app. The IOT technology-enabled app has been developed by **Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Limited (BECIL)** with South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) to digitize all authorized parking under SDMC municipal limits.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** dedicated seven new **Defence PSUs**, carved out of OFBs, to the nation. These 7 new companies have been formed following the dissolution of the 200-year-old **Ordinance Factory Board (OFB)** w.e.f October 01, 2021. Under the OFB there were 41 factories and 9 ancillary bodies. The seven new defence PSUs includes: Munition India Ltd, Armoured Vehicles Nigam Ltd, Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Ltd, Troop Comforts Ltd, Yantra India Ltd, India Optel Ltd, Gliders India Ltd.
- **India** has been re-elected to the **United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC)** for a sixth term on October 14, 2021, with an overwhelming majority. The new three-year term of India will be effective from **January 2022 to December 2024**. India received **184 votes** of the 193 votes cast in the election.
- The Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** has flagged off "**Five Mobile Medical Vans**" dubbed as Modi Van on October 19, 2021, in the **Kaushambi district of Uttar Pradesh**. These vans have been launched under the '**Seva Hi Sangathan**' programme of BJP to commemorate Prime Minister Narendra Modi completing 20 years as the Head of Government.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has inaugurated the **Kushinagar International Airport** in **Uttar Pradesh**. The airport has been built at an estimated cost of **Rs. 260 crore**, by the Airport Authority of India. Besides, it has the longest runway in Uttar Pradesh. It will facilitate domestic & international pilgrims to visit the **Mahaparinirvanasthal of Lord Buddha** in **Kushinagar**.
- **India** completed **100 crore doses** of **COVID-19 vaccines** on **21st October**, in about 9 months since the drive began. PM Modi called the achievement "the triumph of Indian science, enterprise and collective spirit of 130 crore Indians". The Prime Minister visited the Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital here and interacted with healthcare workers and people receiving the vaccine.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated the Infosys Foundation made **806-bedded Vishram Sadan** at National Cancer Institute (NCI) in **Jhajjar Campus of AIIMS New Delhi**. The 806 bedded Vishram Sadan is a part of Infosys' Corporate Social Responsibility to provide air-conditioned accommodation facilities to the accompanying attendants of the Cancer Patients. **The Election Commission of India (ECI)** has launched the **Garuda app** for digital mapping of all polling stations, to ensure faster, smarter, transparent and timely completion of election work. Through the Garuda app, Booth Level Officers (BLO) will upload photos and location information of the polling stations, along with data like latitude and longitude of the centre, from their registered mobile numbers. The app will also help in reducing the paperwork.
- **Invest India**, a young startup within the **Government of India** has been unanimously elected as the President of the **World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA)** for 2021-2023. Invest India is the National Investment Promotion and Facilitation Agency to help investors looking for investment opportunities and options in India.
- The **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)** of **NITI Aayog** has launched a Digi-book named "**Innovations for You**". The sector in focus in this Digi-book is Healthcare. "Innovation for you" is an initiative of Niti Aayog to share success stories of Atal Innovation Mission's Startups in different domains.

- The Union Minister for Culture and Tourism, **G.K Reddy** has launched the **Amrit Mahotsav Podcast**, as a part of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav celebration by the ministry. The Amrit Mahotsav Podcast series (**Zara Yaad Karo Qurbani**) is a tribute to the Indian National Army (persons and movements), which significantly contributed to India's freedom struggle, some of which have remained untold and not found a place in the conventional storyline.
- The Union Minister of Power & New and Renewable Energy, **R K Singh** has launched a new market segment, "**Green Day Ahead Market (GDAM)**". This makes India as the only large electricity market in the world to implement a GDAM exclusively for renewable energy.
- Road Transport and Highways Minister, **Nitin Gadkari** has launched a knowledge App and platform **CUNSLT**. Emphasizing innovation, entrepreneurship, science technology, research and skill for knowledge transformation. The app is the first such global facility by which people who need information, advice, counsel, guidance can contact and call up experts in multiple sectors.
- The **CSIR's Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT)** has introduced cinnamon cultivation in **Himachal Pradesh** on a pilot basis. True cinnamon or *Cinnamomum verum* is grown mainly in **Sri Lanka**, while minor producing countries include **Seychelles, Madagascar, and India**.
- The famed white onion of **Alibag** in **Maharashtra's Raigad district** was given the **Geographical Indication (GI) tag** bringing worldwide recognition to its unique sweet taste, no-tears factor, as well as its medicinal properties. The soil of Alibaug taluka has low sulphur content. The NABL-approved lab test report mentions low pungency, sweet taste, 'no tear' factor, low pyruvic acid, high protein, fat & fibre, etc.
- **Andhra Pradesh** Chief Minister **Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy** has launched the '**Swechha**' program to tackle the stigma attached to menstruation, prioritize female personal hygiene, and encourage a healthy dialogue of information. '**Swechha**' (**meaning freedom**) is intended to ensure affordable access to health and menstrual hygiene in adolescent girls and women.
- **Assam** Minister for Fisheries, Environment and Forest and Excise, **Parimal Suklabaidya** launched an **App Fishwaale**, India's first e-fish market. Table size fish such as bhangon, mrigal and rohu and freshwater and seawater frozen fish (icebox) will be available coupled with dry fish packets, dry fish raw, fish pickles and processed fish products.
- The state government of **Maharashtra** has launched a special Covid-19 vaccination drive named as **Mission Kavach Kundal**, with the target of inoculating **15 lakh** people everyday. The week-long drive has been organised from **October 08 to October 14, 2021**. The drive is in line with Centre's target of reaching **100 crore** vaccination mark till **15 October 2021**.
- **National Tiger Conservation Authority** has approved the Chhattisgarh government's proposal to declare the combined areas of the **Guru Ghasidas National Park & Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary** as a **Tiger Reserve**. It is located in the northern part of the state, bordering Madhya Pradesh & Jharkhand. This is the **4th** Tiger Reserve in Chhattisgarh (Udanti-Sitanadi, Achanakmar, Indravati).

States Current Affairs

- Karnataka CM **Basavaraj Bommai** heads panel on **rationalisation GST rates**. Setting the stage for an overhaul of the multiple tax rates under the Goods and Services Tax regime, the government has tasked a group of ministers (GoM) led by Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj S. Bommai with proposing a rationalisation of tax rates and considering the merger of different tax slabs within two months.
- The central government has decided to set-up a weaver Services and Design Resource Centre at **Kullu in Himachal Pradesh**, which will be one of its own kind hub to promote and facilitate the continuous growth of the local handloom projects to compete in the global market.
- The **Uttar Pradesh** government led by Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** has named veteran Bollywood actor **Kangana Ranaut** as the brand ambassador of the ambitious "**One District One Product (ODOP) scheme**" of the state. CM Yogi also presented Kangana with a silver coin which was used for '**Ram Janm Bhumi Pujan**'.

- The nine-day floral festival has begun in **Telangana**. The festival began with excitement as the women were dressed in traditional clothes and colourful processions were carried out in Telangana, the **Bathukamma festival** is celebrated during **Durga Navratri**.
- The unique clove spice grown in the hills of **Kanyakumari district** in **Tamil Nadu** has been awarded a geographical indication (GI) as '**Kanyakumari clove**'. Apart from this, the traditional dye-painted figurative and patterned cloth called **Karuppur kalamkari paintings** and the **wood carvings of Kallakurichi** from Tamil Nadu have also received GI tags.
- Facing farmers' protests over new farm laws for over a year now, the **Haryana government** has banned the participation of its **employees in politics and elections**.
- **Telangana** has developed India's first smartphone-based **eVoting solution** considering the **Covid-19 pandemic**. The system will undergo a dry run in the form of a dummy election being conducted in **Khammam district** with the registration on the application open from October 8-18 and the dummy voting on October 20.
- **Varanasi** of **Uttar Pradesh** will become the **first city in India** to use **ropeway services in public transportation**. Overall, Varanasi will be the third city in the world after **Bolivia and Mexico City** to use ropeway in public transportation. The total cost of the ropeway project is Rs 424 crore. The total distance of 4.2 km will be covered in just 15 minutes.
- In **Punjab**, Chief Minister **Charanjit Channi** launched a new scheme titled '**Mera Ghar Mere Naam**', which aims to confer proprietary rights on the people living in the houses within the 'Lal Lakir' of villages and the cities. The land area which is a part of the village habitation and is used for non-agriculture purposes only is known as Lal Lakir.
- **Rajasthan Government** has launched a mega campaign named '**Prashasan Gaon Ke Sang**' till December 17, 2021, to provide local access to government services in the remotest villages of the state. Officials from **22 Departments** of the local administration will reach out to the rural parts of every gram panchayat to offer on-spot solutions to the applicants.
- The **government of Madhya Pradesh (MP)** has announced the implementation of the scheme "**Mukhyamantri Ration Apke Dwar Yojana**", which will start from November 2021. Under this scheme, the ration will be provided at the doorstep of the villagers where there are no **Fair Price Shops (FPS)**.
- **Chhattisgarh** Chief Minister **Bhupesh Baghel** has virtually launched a new scheme named '**Shri Dhanwantri Generic Medical Store scheme**' to provide low-cost generic medicines and enable seamless healthcare services to the vulnerable people of the state. The scheme will be implemented by the **Urban Administration and Development Department (UADD)**.
- The **2022 South Asian Federation Cross Country Championships** is scheduled to be held in **Kohima, Nagaland** on January 15, 2022. Besides this, the **56th National Cross Country Championships** will also be clubbed with the South Asian Federation Cross Country Championships. This will be the first-ever national athletics event hosted by Nagaland.
- **Uddhav Thackeray**, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, inaugurated India's 1st State government-owned **Wildlife DNA testing analysis laboratory** at Regional Forensic Science Laboratory (RFSL) in **Nagpur, Maharashtra**. On the occasion, he also launched 3 Fast Track DNA testing units in Mumbai & Pune under the Nirbhaya scheme.
- The **Uttar Pradesh government** has decided to rename the **Faizabad Junction to Ayodhya Cantt railways station**. Opened in 1874, the Faizabad railway station comes under the Northern Railway zone.
- **Goa** has achieved **Open Defecation Free (ODF)** and **Electricity** for every household. The original ODF protocol was issued in the year 2016. According to it, a city or ward is notified as ODF city or ward if not a single person is found defecating in the open, at any point of the day.
- **Gujarat** Chief Minister **Bhupendra Patel** has launched the '**Go-Green**' scheme & its Portal to provide electric two-wheelers at subsidised rates to construction and industrial workers of the state. The scheme is aimed at reducing fuel bills and also curbing vehicular pollution.

- During the **17th** meeting of the **State Board for Wildlife (SBWL)**, the government of Maharashtra approved its own **Wildlife Action Plan (2021-2030)**, which will be implemented over the next 10 years. Maharashtra became India's first state to pass its own Wildlife Action Plan. The board has also approved the extension of the boundary of Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve, in the Chandrapur district of the Vidarbha region, by around 79 sq km.
- **Uttarakhand** gets India's largest aromatic garden in the **Nainital district**. The research wing of the Uttarakhand forest department inaugurated the biggest aromatic garden of India in **Lalkuan** of Nainital district.

Schemes/Committees

- **International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)** has constituted an Expert Committee to recommend an approach towards the development of the **Sustainable Finance Hub at IFSC**. The expert committee will be chaired by **C.K. Mishra**, Former Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
- Prime Minister of India, **Narendra Modi** virtually launched the **Jal Jeevan Mission App** and **Rashtriya Jal Jeevan Kosh**, on October 02, 2021, as a part of the flagship Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), launched in 2019. The Jal Jeevan Mission has been empowering women of the country by saving their time and efforts which was earlier consumed in covering long distances to fetch drinking water.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** launched the second phase of the two flagship missions, namely, **Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U)** and **Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT)**, from Dr Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi. The SBM-U 2.0 and AMRUT 2.0 have been designed to realise the aspiration of making all cities 'garbage free' and 'water secure'. The outlay of SBM-U 2.0 is around **Rs 1.41 lakh crore**. The outlay of AMRUT 2.0 is around **Rs 2.87 lakh crore**.
- Chief Minister **Arvind Kejriwal** has launched a programme under which students of **Delhi government schools** will be provided guidance on career choices by citizens who are successful in their respective fields. The '**Desh ke mentor**' programme entails 'adopting' one to 10 government school students who can be mentored by citizens who are successful in their respective fields.

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has launched the "**Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission**" on October 25, 2021, from his parliamentary constituency **Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh**. The Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission is one of the largest pan-India schemes for strengthening healthcare infrastructure across the country and is in addition to the National Health Protection Mission (Ayushman Bharat Yojana).
- **Department of School Education and Literacy** has constituted the **National Steering Committee (NSC)** for the implementation of the **NIPUN Bharat Mission**. It seeks to develop a methodology of assessment to analyze the progress of education and provide feedback to States/UTs. To achieve the goal of universal proficiency in foundational literacy and numeracy for every child by end of Class 3 by 2026-27.
- The **Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME)** has launched an e-National Level Awareness Programme '**SAMBHAV**', to promote engagement of the youth in promoting entrepreneurship. The e-National Level Awareness Programme 2021 '**SAMBHAV**' was launched by Union Minister of MSME **Narayan Rane** in New Delhi.
- The **Central Government of India** has reconstituted the seven-member **Economic Advisory Council to the PM (EAC-PM)**. **Bibek Debroy** continues to be the **Chairman** of the Council. EAC-PM has been reconstituted for a period of **2 years**. EAC-PM was set up in September 2017 with a term of two years and it replaced the erstwhile Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (PMEAC).
- **Supreme Court of India** has appointed a three-member committee to look into allegations of unauthorized surveillance using **Pegasus**, a spyware developed by Israeli firm NSO Group. It will be headed by retired judge **Justice R V Raveendran**. He will supervise the functioning of the technical committee, which will look into the "truth or falsity of the allegations" and will submit a report "expeditiously". Justice Raveendran was part of the **R M Lodha** Committee appointed by the SC in 2015 to reform the BCCI.

Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

- The **Indraprastha Gas (IGL)** inked a memorandum of understanding with the **South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC)** to establish waste-to-energy plant in Delhi to convert municipal solid waste into compressed bio-gas (CBG) for use as fuel for running vehicles. The agreement was signed as part of extension of **SATAT initiative** of the government under synchronisation scheme.
- **Tata Consultancy Services Ltd (TCS)** has bagged a five-year IT transformation contract from **NORD/LB**, a leading German commercial bank that is targeting a new business model by 2024 with a more agile operating model. TCS will work with the bank to simplify and transform its application estate across multiple businesses – financial markets, wholesale and retail banking, etc.
- **ICICI Bank** has partnered with **Amazon India** to offer overdraft (OD) facility of up to **₹.25 lakh** to individual sellers and small businesses registered on the e-commerce player's online marketplace. ICICI Bank has developed the facility that functions on the back of an industry-first scorecard to instantly evaluate credit worthiness of sellers based on their financial profile.
- **Bharti Airtel** has conducted a 5G network trial in partnership with **Ericsson** in a rural landscape, achieving a speed of over 100 Mbps on a smartphone, which was able to connect to the network at a distance of over 10 km from the site. A fixed wireless access (FWA) device at a distance of 10 km from the site recorded a speed of over 200 Mbps.
- **PNB Housing Finance** announced that it has joined hands with **CSC e-Governance Services India** to provide last-mile home loan facilities to individuals living in tier 2 and 3 cities. CSC e-Governance Services India Limited, a Special Purpose Vehicle, has been set up by the Ministry of Electronics and IT under the Companies Act, 1956.
- IT services, consulting & business solutions organisation **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** has announced that its 20-year long partnership with India's largest public lender – **State Bank of India (SBI)** – has been extended for 5 more years as SBI goes ahead with its next leg of growth based on technology, resilience and people. The partnership between TCS & SBI started in 2001.
- In a significant development for the global power sector, **Electricite de France S.A. (EDF)**, one of the world's leading power sector companies headquartered in Paris, and **NTPC Ltd**, India's largest energy integrated company signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to explore potential power project development opportunities in the Middle East, Asia, Europe and Africa.
- **India** announced a **\$200-million** line of credit for **Kyrgyzstan** and signed an agreement to carry out small but high impact projects for community development in the Central Asian state.
- **India** announced a **\$200-million** line of credit for **Kyrgyzstan** and signed an agreement to carry out small but high impact projects for community development in the Central Asian state. The two initiatives were among several measures announced by external affairs minister **S Jaishankar** at the end of a two-day visit to Kyrgyzstan.
- The **Memorandum of Understanding** was signed between **All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) & Croatia's Kvarner Health Tourism Cluster**. AIIA is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Ayush. The MoU with Croatia is a significant step towards bolstering India's ties with other countries and promoting academic research, clinical & educational activities, medical education, etc.
- **Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Shri Sarbanand Sonowal** has announced forming of a Special Purpose vehicle (SPV) for development of a **Multimodal Logistics Park (MMLP)** at VOC Port in Chennai. The MMLP to be developed through PPP with the SPV providing land and connectivity and the actual MMLP infrastructure to be developed by a private developer.
- **NITI Aayog** has launched the **Geospatial Energy Map of India** which will provide a holistic picture of all energy resources of the country. The map has been developed by NITI Aayog in collaboration with the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** and the **Energy Ministries of the Government of India**.
- **RailTel Corporation** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DoT)** to work together in several areas to help expand telecom in the country. RailTel works under the Ministry of Railways while the C-DoT is a research centre that operates under the Department of Telecommunications (DoT).

- The J&K government signed an MoU with Dubai for real estate development, industrial parks and super-speciality hospitals. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed for real estate development, industrial parks, IT towers, multi-purpose towers, logistics, medical college, super-speciality hospitals.
- Agri-fintech firm Dvara E-Dairy Solutions Pvt Ltd has entered into a partnership with Jana Small Finance Bank (Jana SFB) to service small dairy farmers. Dvara E-Dairy hopes to use digital technology to assist small and medium dairy farmers with financial and livestock management solutions. Jana SFB has a large branch network in India's rural and agricultural areas.
- IndiGo and Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMB) entered into a strategic partnership for the launch of a co-branded credit card named 'Ka-ching'. The credit card was launched under IndiGo's 6E Rewards programme and linked with it to enable the members to earn rewards by using the card on IndiGo and other merchants.
- HDFC Ltd and India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) made a strategic partnership to offer HDFC Ltd's home loans to 4.7 crore customers of IPPB through its wide network of 650 branches and over 1.36 lakh banking access points. The partnership helps to promote affordable housing in the remotest locations of India.
- MeitY Startup Hub, an initiative of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), and Google have partnered to launch 'Appscale Academy', a growth and development programme, to train early to mid-stage startups across India. The programme focuses on the emerging startup ecosystem in Tier II and Tier III cities of India to provide them with the help needed to build scalable app solutions.
- SBI General Insurance made a technological partnership with Google Pay to enable users to buy SBI General's health insurance on the Google Pay app. This collaboration marks Google Pay's 1st partnership with an insurer in India to offer health insurance. The users were enabled to buy both individual and family plans under SBI General's Arogya Sanjeevani policy through Google Pay Spot.

Appointments/Resignations (National & International)

- Padmaja Chundur has been appointed as the managing director and chief executive officer (MD & CEO) of National Securities Depositories (NSDL). She has replaced GV Nageswara Rao as the MD & CEO of NSDL.
- The Automotive Skills Development Council (ASDC) has appointed automobile industry veteran Vinod Aggarwal as its president. Aggarwal, who is currently the managing director and CEO of VE Commercial Vehicles Ltd (VECV), replaces Nikunj Sanghi, who will leave ASDC after serving it for four years.
- The newly elected Executive Council of the Indian Society of Advertisers (ISA) has elected Sunil Kataria, Chief Executive Officer, India and SAARC, Godrej Consumer Products Limited as the Chairman of the ISA.
- Amish Mehta has been appointed as the new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of rating agency Crisil with effect from October 01, 2021. He has replaced Ashu Suyash. Crisil is owned by S&P.
- BC Patnaik has taken charge as Managing Director of Life Insurance Corporation of India. He was appointed as Managing Director by the Government of India notification dated July 5, 2021.
- The Indian Steel Association (ISA) has announced that Alok Sahay has assumed office as its new secretary-general and executive head, taking over from Bhaskar Chatterjee. Sahay who is the former executive director of the Steel Authority of India (SAIL) has experience of almost four decades in the steel industry.



- **Sanjay Bhargava**, who had worked with **Elon Musk** as part of a team that had founded electronic payment firm, **PayPal**, will now head the tech billionaire entrepreneur's **Starlink satellite broadband venture in India**. Bhargava joins SpaceX as Starlink's country director (India), as the Musk-led US aerospace company gears up to compete with Bharti group-backed OneWeb.
- **Crypto exchange CoinDCX** has roped in **Amitabh Bachchan** as a **brand ambassador** to spread awareness about **cryptocurrencies**. Through this collaboration, CoinDCX wants to increase awareness around crypto and popularise it as an emerging asset class. CoinDCX wants to ensure that crypto is accessible to everyone.
- The **Consumer Electronics and Appliances Manufacturers Association (CEAMA)** has appointed **Eric Braganza** as its president for a two-year term. He succeeds Godrej Appliances Business Head and Executive Vice-President **Kamal Nandi** for the CEAMA chair.
- **P L Haranadh**, an Indian Railway Traffic Service (IRTS) officer of the 1994 batch, has been appointed as the new **Chairman of Paradip Port Trust (PPT)**.
- **E.R. Sheikh** has assumed charge as **first Director-General of the Ordnance Directorate (Co-ordination and Services)**. It is the successor organization of the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB).
- The Chief Economic Adviser (CEA) **KV Subramanian** has decided to return to academia after the completion of his three-year term in the **Finance Ministry of India**.
- **Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)**, a joint venture of Public Sector Undertakings under the **Ministry of Power** has announced the appointment of **Arun Kumar Mishra** as **chief executive officer (CEO)** on deputation. He will be responsible for EESL's operations across the nation.
- The fintech startup, **BharatPe** has appointed former State Bank of India (SBI) Chairman **Rajnish Kumar** as the **Chairman** of its board.
- Former bureaucrat **Amit Khare**, who last month retired as higher education secretary, has been appointed as **advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi** for two years on contract basis.
- Indian wearable brand **Fire-Boltt** has named cricket captain **Virat Kohli** as its **new brand ambassador**. The skipper will participate in different marketing, ad and endorsement campaigns of the homegrown brand. Fire-Boltt had a few months earlier brought on board actor **Vicky Kaushal** as its first brand ambassador.
- **World Steel Association (WSA)** has elected **Sajjan Jindal**, Chairman and Managing Director of JSW Steel Ltd, as Chairman for the year 2021-22. Jindal is the first representative from India to serve as Chairman of the WSA.
- Hospitality firm **Oravel Stays Ltd (OYO)** has appointed **Deepa Malik**, an Indian athlete and a silver-medalist at the **2016 Paralympic Games**, as an independent director on the company's board of directors.
- Senior bureaucrat **Ritesh Chauhan** has been appointed as the **chief executive officer (CEO)** of the **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)** and Joint Secretary, Agriculture under the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.
- **A K Goel**, managing director and chief executive (MD & CEO) of **UCO Bank** has been elected as the **chairman of Indian Bank's Association (IBA)** for 2021-22. He has replaced **Rajkiran Rai G**, MD & CEO, Union Bank of India.
- **Navrang Saini** has been given the additional charge as the **Chairperson of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)**. The post fell vacant after M.S. Sahoo retired after a five-year tenure on September 30. Saini is a Whole Time Member of IBBI.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has approved the appointment of **Pradeep Kumar Panja** as the **Chairman of Karnataka Bank Ltd**.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** approved the re-appointment of **Amitabh Chaudhry** as **Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer** of private lender **Axis Bank** for a period of three years.
- **Sahdev Yadav**, former Secretary-General of IWLF, was **unanimously elected** as the **President** of the **Indian Weightlifting Federation (IWLF)**.
- Commodore **Amit Rastogi (Retd)** has been appointed as the new Chairman & Managing Director of the **National Research Development Corporation (NRDC)**.
- **Ayushmann Khurrana** has become the latest celebrity to venture into the cryptocurrency space through his association with CoinDCX's '**Future Yahi Hai**' campaign.
- **A Balasubramanian** has been elected as the new Chairman of the **Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI)**.
- Director-producer **Imtiaz Ali** has been roped in as the ambassador of the **Russian Film Festival in India**. As part of the festival, ten notable Russian films of various genres are being premiered for Indian audiences on Disney+ Hotstar from October 16 to November 27.

- The **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC)** has appointed **Captain Alok Mishra** as the Managing Director of **India Ports Global Limited (IPGL)**.
- The **Sports Authority of India (SAI)** appointed **Commodore PK Garg** as the **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of the **Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS)** at the Mission Olympic Cell meeting.
- **Ramnath Krishnan** has been appointed as the new **Managing Director and Group Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of rating agency **ICRA**. He replaces **N Sivaraman**, who resigned with immediate effect citing personal reasons on October 23, 2021. Gurgaon based ICRA is a unit owned by global rating agency **Moody's Corporation**.
- German sportswear brand **Adidas** has roped in Bollywood actress **Deepika Padukone** as global ambassador for women sports. She will represent Adidas women globally.
- **Eicher Motors Ltd** passed the resolution to reappoint **Siddhartha Lal** as the **Managing Director** of the company for five years, starting **May 1, 2021**.
- **FloBiz**, a neobank for **Indian Small to Medium-sized Businesses (SMBs)**, announced **Padma Shri Awardee actor Manoj Bajpayee** as the brand ambassador for its flagship product.
- The government of India has appointed **K V Kamath** as chairperson of the **National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID)**. He is a well-known banker in India and is the first head of the **New Development Bank (NDB)**.
- The **Reserve Bank of India** has approved the appointment of **Baldev Prakash** as Managing Director and CEO of **J&K Bank** for a period of three years from the date of taking charge or April 10, 2022, whichever is earlier. The actual date of appointment of Baldev Prakash as MD & CEO of J&K Bank will be announced by the bank subsequently.
- The **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC)** has approved the reappointment of **Shaktikanta Das** as the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for a further period of three years with effect from **December 10, 2021**.

Ranks and Reports

- Union Health Minister **Mansukh Mandaviya** has released UNICEF's global flagship publication "**The State of the World's Children 2021; On My Mind: promoting, protecting and caring for children's mental health**" in New Delhi. The report details the significant impact of COVID-19 pandemic on children's mental health. As per the report, around **14 per cent of 15 to 24-year-olds in India**, or 1 in 7 of them, reported often feeling depressed or having little interest in doing things.
- The Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) Chairman **Mukesh Ambani** has topped the **Forbes India Rich list for 2021**, released. The list ranks India's 100 richest Indians. He has retained his position as the wealthiest Indian for the **14th consecutive year** on the Forbes India list, since 2008.
- On the Occasion of the **World Teachers' Day (5th October)**, the **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)** launched its 2021 State of the Education Report (SOER) for India: "**No Teacher, No Class**". The Higher proportion of women teachers: Chandigarh, Delhi, Kerala, Punjab, Tamil Nadu. The lower proportion of women teachers: Tripura, Assam, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Bihar.
- The **2021 Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) Report** was jointly released by **UNDP** and the **Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI)**. The report provides estimates on multidimensional poverty across 109 developing countries (with data from surveys ranging 2009-2019/2020); These include 26 low-income countries, 80 middle-income countries and 3 high-income countries.
- **India** has retained the **third position** in the **58th Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index (RECAI)** released by the consultancy firm **Ernst & Young (EY)**. According to the report, the **US**, mainland **China** and India continue to retain the top three rankings and Indonesia is a new entrant to the RECAI.
- The **World Health Organisation (WHO)** has released the '**Global TB report for 2021**, where it highlighted the effects of COVID-19 which led to a huge reversal in the progress of Tuberculosis (TB) elimination. The report also mentioned **India** as the **worst-hit country** in TB elimination, where the detection of new TB cases saw a huge impact in 2020.

- Mercer Consulting, a leading global management consulting firm, has released the **13th edition** of the **Mercer Global Pension Index (2021 MCGPI)**. India has been ranked at **40th** position out of **43 countries** in the 2021 Mercer CFS Global Pension Index survey. In 2020, India was ranked at 34th position out of 39 pension systems. **Iceland** has topped this ranking with an index value of 84.2 followed by the **Netherlands** with 83.5 and **Norway** with 82.0. India had an overall index value of 43.3. **Thailand** had the lowest overall index value at 40.6.
- **India** has ranked **79** out of **139 countries** and jurisdictions in the **World Justice Project's (WJP) Rule of Law Index 2021**. The WJP Rule of Law Index 2021 ranks the countries based on scores ranging from 0 to 1, with 1 indicating the strongest adherence to the rule of law. **Denmark, Norway and Finland** topped the World Justice Project's (WJP) Rule of Law Index 2021.
- In accordance with the report '**Five years on: Global climate tech investment trends since the Paris Agreement**' by London & Partners, and Co, **India** ranked **9th** in the list of top 10 countries for climate technology investment from **2016 to 2021**. Indian climate tech firms received USD 1 billion in venture capital (VC) funding in this period. The report analyzed the trends in the climate sector since the 2016 United Nations Conference of Parties (COP) in Paris, France. The list has been topped by the **United States (US)** with **USD 48 billion** which is followed by **China USD 18.6 billion**.
- **India** has ranked **106th** in the **FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association)** Rankings 2021, the position of team India was increased to one spot. After the victory in the SAFF (South Asian Football Federation) Championship 2021 of team India led by Sunil Chhetri, it has secured the 106th position. The team has defeated Nepal in the summit clash. Under the FIFA Rankings, **Belgium** is at 1st position. **Brazil** holds 2nd position, **France** holds 3rd position.
- **Karnataka** has topped the **State Energy Efficiency Index 2020 (SEEI)**, scoring 70 points out of 100 on the back of several initiatives to improve energy efficiency in the state. **Rajasthan** is on second rank followed by **Haryana** on third. Last year i.e in SEEI 2019 ranking, Rajasthan was on top. The State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2020 was released under the **Ministry of Power**.

Sports Current Affairs

- The Olympic bronze medal-winning Indian hockey player, **Rupinder Pal Singh** has announced his retirement from **international hockey** to make way for young and talented players.
- After 26 years and 72 professional bouts, Former world champion **Manny Pacquiao** announced his retirement from **professional boxing**. He made his professional debut in **1995** at age 16.
- **S V Sunil**, the veteran forward and star striker of **India men's field hockey team** and **Olympic bronze medal-winning** Indian hockey star defender **Birendra Lakra** have announced their retirement from international hockey.
- The **Indian men's table tennis team** claimed the **bronze medal** in the **Asian Table Tennis Championships in Doha, Qatar**, after losing to South Korea 0-3 in the semi-finals. The Indian team was assured of a medal after beating **Iran 3-1** in the quarterfinals. Both the semifinalists secure a bronze.
- **FC Goa** beat **Mohammedan Sporting** to win their maiden **Durand Cup football** title, 1-0, in the final, held at **Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan, Kolkata**. The 2021 Durand Cup was the **130th edition** of the Durand Cup, the oldest football tournament in Asia. The tournament was held from September 05 to October 03, 2021, in West Bengal. 2021 Season awards winners: Golden Glove for the best goalkeeper: Naveen Kumar (FC Goa); Golden boot for top scorer: Marcus Joseph (Mohammedan); Golden ball for the best player: Edu Bedia (Goa).
- In a historic moment in women's cricket, **Smriti Mandhana** became the **first Indian woman** to score a Test hundred on **Australian soil**.
- **World Chess Champion Magnus Carlsen** has won the inaugural **Meltwater Champions Chess Tour**, to claim the non-fungible token (NFT) trophy and **\$1,00,000** in the finals.
- Young Indian shooter, **Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar** smashed the world record in the final to win **gold** in the **men's 50m rifle 3 positions** event at the **ISSF Junior World Championships in Lima, Peru**.
- **Germany** has unveiled the logo for **soccer's 2024 European Championship** during a ceremony with a light show in the stadium that will hold the final. The logo features an outline of the **Henri Delaunay Cup – the bulbous tournament trophy – set on a coloured oval outline that resembles the Olympiastadion's roof**.

- At the **2021 World Wrestling Championships**, Indian wrestler **Anshu Malik** created history as she became the first Indian women finalist at the **World Championship**, and also the first female player from India to claim a **silver medal**.
- Mumbai-headquartered Western Naval Command, the sword arm of the Indian Navy, has won the overall sailing championship hosted by the 3-dimensional blue-water force. The Western Naval Command won the overall championship and Kochi-based Southern Naval Command was the runners-up. A total of 63 personnel from the 3 naval commands (Western, Eastern, Southern) participated.
- **Valtteri Bottas** (Mercedes-Finland) has won the **F1 Turkish Grand Prix 2021**, held on October 10, 2021. This is his first title of this season.
- World football body, **FIFA** has unveiled the official mascot of the U-17 Women's World Cup India 2022 "**Ibha**" an Asiatic lioness representing women power. The tournament will be held in India from October 11-30 next year. The announcement coincided with the International Day of the Girl Child.
- The 2021 International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) **Junior World Championship Rifle/Pistol/Shotgun** was held at **Lima in Peru**. The Indian shooters claimed a historic **win with 43 medals** to stand atop in the medal table. These included **17 Gold, 16 Silver and 10 Bronze** medals.
- Ireland's **Amy Hunter** hit **121** not out on her **16th birthday** against **Zimbabwe**, making her the youngest batter to score an ODI century in either men's or women's cricket. The Belfast batter - who was playing in only her fourth ODI - broke the record previously held by India's **Mithali Raj**, scorer of a century against Ireland in 1999 when she was 16 years 205 days.
- **India** beat **Nepal**, 3-0, to win the **2021 SAFF Championship final title**, held on October 16, 2021, at the **National Football Stadium in Male, Maldives**.
- **Divya Deshmukh** became **India's 21st Woman Grand Master (WGM)** after achieving her 2nd International Master (IM) at Grand Master (GM) in **Budapest, Hungary**.
- Former Indian batter, **Rahul Dravid** has been appointed as **Team India's head coach** and he will be succeeding **Ravi Shastri**, whose tenure at the helm ends after the **2021 edition of the T20 World Cup in the UAE**.
- Ahead of the **2021 men's T20 World Cup** in the **UAE and Oman**, the **International Cricket Council (ICC)** and **UNICEF** have that they would partner to help break the stigma around mental health by raising awareness about the issue amongst children and adolescents.
- Fencer **Bhavani Devi**, who made history at the Tokyo Olympics by becoming the first Indian to compete in the sport at the Games, has won the **Charlellville National Competition** in France in the individual women's sabre event. She is currently ranked **50th** in the world and is the top-ranked fencer from India.
- **China** beat **Japan** 3-1 in a thrilling Uber Cup final in **Aarhus, Denmark**, to reclaim the **Uber Cup title**.
- **Indonesia** lifted the **Thomas Cup trophy** for the first time since **2002** after defeating the defending champions **China** 3-0 in the final match held in **Aarhus, Denmark**.
- Australian fast bowler **James Pattinson** has retired from international cricket after realising that he won't be in the reckoning for the Ashes series due to fitness issues. The 31-year-old, who has played **21 Tests and 15 ODIs**, though will continue to play domestic cricket.
- **Ahmedabad and Lucknow** are the two new teams that will be part of the **Indian Premier League (IPL)** from **2022**. Hence taking the total number of teams in the competition to ten. **RP-Sanjiv Goenka Group (RPSG)** is the owner of the Lucknow team while CVC Capital Partners is the owner of the **Ahmedabad team**. RPSG group has won the bid for **Lucknow at Rs. 7090 crore**, while CVC Capitals a.k.a **Irelia** has won the bid for Ahmedabad at **Rs. 5625 crore**. The IPL's first season was played in **2008**. There have been fourteen seasons of the IPL tournament. The **15th** season will see 10 teams competing for the IPL title.
- **Max Verstappen** (Red Bull - Netherlands) has won the **2021 United States Grand Prix** held at the Circuit of the Americas in Austin, Texas, United States. This is the 8th win for Verstappen in this season. The race was the 17th round of the 2021 Formula One World Championship. **Lewis Hamilton** (Mercedes-Great Britain) stood second while **Sergio Perez** (Mexico- Red Bull) came third.
- Monster Energy Yamaha MotoGP's **Fabio Quartararo** became the "**2021 MotoGP World Champion**". Francesco Bagnaia (Ducati Lenovo Team) secured second and Joan Mir (Team Suzuki Ecstar), finished third. Fabio Quartararo is the sixth-youngest rider to clinch a premier class world title, aged **22 years, 187 days** on race day of the Emilia Romagna GP.

- **Ryan ten Doeschate**, the 41-year-old Cricket all-rounder from the Netherlands, announced retirement from **International Cricket after Netherlands** failed to qualify for the Super 12 stage of the **International Cricket Council (ICC) T20 World Cup**. During the qualifiers, Netherlands lost to Namibia and failed to enter the Super 12 stage, which was his last international match.

Summits And Conferences

- Union Minister of State for Tourism, **Ajay Bhatt** has flagged off the **"Buddhist Circuit Train FAM Tour"** from Safdarjung railway station (part of Delhi Suburban Railways). Ministry of Tourism in association with the **Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation (IRCTC)** has organized the Buddhist Circuit Train FAM Tour as part of the Union government's **"Dekho Apna Desh"** initiative.
- The **International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)** has launched the global FinTech Hackathon Series **'I-Sprint'21'**. The first Sprint of the series is **"Sprint01: BankTech"**, which focuses on FinTechs for the Banking sector. Sprint01: BankTech is organised jointly by **IFSCA and GIFT city** in collaboration with **NITI Aayog**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has participated virtually in the **G20 Extraordinary Summit on Afghanistan**. The Meeting was convened by **Italy**, which currently holds the G20 Presidency, and chaired by Italian Prime Minister, **Mario Draghi**.
- The **Fourth General Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)** has been organised virtually between October 18 and 21, 2021. The Assembly will be presided over by President of the ISA Assembly **RK Singh**, who is also the Union Minister for New and Renewable Energy.

- The **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)** has organised an International Conference and Exhibition on Digital technologies, **"Future Tech 2021- a Journey of digital transformation to technology adoption and acceleration"** from October 19 to 27, 2021. The focus theme of the International conference is **"Driving technologies for building the future, we all can trust"**.
- Government agency **UIDAI** is hosting a Hackathon titled **"Aadhaar Hackathon 2021"**. The hackathon is starting on 28 Oct 21 and would continue till 31 Oct 21. With new challenged and themes, the Hackathon 2021 will have two topics. The first theme is around **"Enrolment and Update"**, which essentially covers some of the real-life challenges being faced by the residents while updating their address. The second theme of the Hackathon is around the **"Identity and Authentication"** solution offered by UIDAI.
- The **Ministry of Food Processing Industries**, under **Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises Scheme** organised the **Food Tech Summit**. The Food Tech Summit 2021 is aimed at setting the stage for all food-tech stakeholders to impart, discuss and acquaint micro enterprises on the new emerging trends in food processing and technological innovation.
- **India, Australia, and the UK** in collaboration with **small island developing states (SIDS)**, have planned to launch a new initiative **"Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS)"**, on the sidelines of the **Conference of Parties (COP26)**. The IRIS platform aims at creating an infrastructure that can withstand disasters and lessen economic losses in island nations.
- The Union Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs **Nirmala Sitharaman** has participated in the **6th Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** through a video conference from **New Delhi**. The theme of the Annual Meeting of AIIB was **"Investing Today and Transforming Tomorrow"**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has participated in the **16th East Asia Summit (EAS)** through a video conference on October 27, 2021, during which he re-affirmed India's focus on a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific and the principle of **ASEAN Centrality** in the region. The 16th EAS was hosted under the Chairmanship of Brunei. This was the 7th East Asia Summit for Prime Minister Modi.



- **Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD) 2021** is being organized as a three-day online event on **27, 28 and 29 October 2021**. IPRD 2021 will focus on the theme 'Evolution in Maritime Strategy during the 21st Century: Imperatives, Challenges and Way Ahead'. It will focus on eight specific sub-themes.
- Prime Minister of India, **Narendra Modi** has attended the **18th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)-India Summit** virtually. This was the **9th ASEAN-India Summit** attended by PM Modi. The Summit was held under the chairmanship of the Sultan of **Brunei**.
- The Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, **Dr Mansukh Mandaviya** participated in the CII Asia Health 2021 summit on October 28, 2021, through video-conferencing. The theme of the two-day summit is '**Transforming Healthcare for a better tomorrow**'. The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has organised the summit to provide a centralised forum to deliberate on the most critical challenges that India and the world face in delivering healthcare, with a focus on the digital transformations that result in improved patient outcomes and experience.
- Professor **Eric A. Hanushek** and **Dr Rukmini Banerji** have been awarded the **2021 Yidan Prize** for Education Development for improving learning outcomes in schools at scale. Yidan Prize is the world's highest education accolade, in recognition of their ground-breaking work addressing a crucial piece of the education puzzle: improving quality of education and outcomes for learners at scale.
- **Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB)**, sponsored by Canara Bank, has bagged two national awards ('**APY Big Believers**' and '**Leadership capital**') for significant enrolment under the **Atal Pension Yojana (APY)** from the **Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)**.
- Well-known Telugu filmmaker **B Gopal**, alias **Bejawada Gopal**, has been chosen for the fourth **Satyajit Ray Award** for his overall contribution to Indian cinema. Gopal has directed 30 films Telugu films and two Hindi movies. The award is instituted by the **Satyajit Ray Film Society Kerala**, a state-based organisation, the award comprises **Rs 10,000** cash prize, a memento, and a plaque.
- Secretary DDR&D and Chairman DRDO **Dr G Satheesh Reddy** has been conferred the prestigious **Aryabhata Award** by the **Astronautical Society of India (ASI)** for his outstanding lifetime contribution to the promotion of astronautics in India.
- Well-known Malayalam writer **Benyamin** has bagged the **45th Vayalar Ramavarma Memorial Literary Award** for his book "**Manthilirile 20 Communist Varshangal**".
- The Vice President **M Venkaiah Naidu** presented the **22nd Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence** to the eminent pulmonologist and Director of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), **Dr Randeep Guleria** at Upa-Rashtrapati Nivas.
- Indian American Microsoft CEO, **Satya Nadella** has won the prestigious **C K Prahlad award for Global Business Sustainability Leadership for the year 2021**, along with three other top leaders of Microsoft. Apart from Nadella, Microsoft's President and Vice-Chair **Brad Smith**, Chief financial officer **Amy Hood** and chief environment officer **Lucas Joppa** have shared the award for Global Business Sustainability Leadership.

Awards & Recognition

- The Delhi-based environmental organisation "**Legal Initiative for Forest and Environment (LIFE)**" has been felicitated with the **2021 Right Livelihood Award**, an international honour, also known as Sweden's alternative Nobel Prize.
- The **US India Business Council (USIBC)** has chosen **Shiv Nadar** and **Mallika Srinivasan** as the recipient of its **2021 Global Leadership Award**. Shiv Nadar is the founder and chairman emeritus of HCL Technologies Limited. Mallika Srinivasan is the chair and managing director, Tractors and Farm Equipment Limited (TAFE).
- Vice President of India, **M. Venkaiah Naidu** has presented **Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi Award** for National Integration and National Contribution. This award has been conferred to eminent writer **Nirode Kumar Barooah**, **Assam Branch of the Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust** and **Shillong Chamber Choir** at a special function in Guwahati.

- A team from **5th Battalion-4 (5/4) Gorkha Rifles (Frontier Force)** representing the Indian Army won the **gold medal** at the **prestigious Cambrian Patrol Exercise** which was held in the **United Kingdom**. The team was praised for their excellent navigation skills, overall physical endurance and delivery of patrol orders.
- **Vidyut Mohan** is among the five global winners for the inaugural '**Earthshot Prize**', also known as the '**Eco-Oscars**', that honours people trying to save the planet. Vidyut has been awarded in the Clean our Air category, for his technology called '**Takachar**', a small and portable device that uses crop residue to convert it into bio-products like fuel and fertilisers to reduce smoke emissions and combat air pollution.
- The well known **Kung Fu Nuns** of the **Drukpa order of Buddhism** has won the inaugural **UNESCO's Martial Arts Education Prize 2021**, for their brave and heroic acts of service and championing of gender equality across the Himalayas. The Nuns empower young girls through martial arts, to defend themselves, build confidence, and take on leadership roles in their communities.
- The **European Parliament** has awarded the European Union's top human rights prize, **Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought for 2021**, to the imprisoned Russian opposition leader **Alexei Navalny**.
- The **Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation** has bagged the **Earth Guardian Award** instituted by the NatWest Group. The eight winners of the award were felicitated by the UN Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora secretary-general **Ivonne Higuero** through a virtual ceremony.
- Hollywood veteran **Martin Scorsese** and celebrated Hungarian filmmaker **Istevan Szabo** will be honoured with the **Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement award** at this year's **International Film Festival of India (IFFI)**. The **52nd edition** of the film festival will be held from **November 20 to 28 in Goa**.
- Actor **Rajinikanth** was honoured with the prestigious **51st Dadasaheb Phalke Award** at the **67th National Film Awards ceremony**, for his contribution as an actor, producer and screenwriter. He received the prestigious award from Vice President **M Venkaiah Naidu** for his stupendous contribution to Indian cinema.
- Former Chief Scientist at CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography (NIO), **Dr. Rajiv Nigam** has been selected for the **2022 Joseph A. Cushman Award** for Excellence in Foraminiferal Research. Dr. Nigam is the first Indian Citizen to be selected for the prestigious award. He has been chosen for his outstanding lifetime contributions to the field of foraminifera (microfossil) research.
- The **Peace Prize of the German Book Trade 2021** has been awarded to the Zimbabwean author and a filmmaker **Tsitsi Dangarembga** for a "**new Enlightenment**", a work on violence in her country and all over the world by Börsenverein des Deutschen Buchhandels, an association of German book publishers and booksellers.
- **TVS Motor Company** has been awarded the '**Outstanding Renewable Energy User**' at the **third Edition of India Green Energy Award 2020** by the **Indian Federation of Green Energy (IFGE)**. The award was presented by Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, **Nitin Gadkari**.

Important Days

- **International Day of Older Persons** is observed globally on **1st October** every year. The day aims to raise awareness about issues affecting the elderly, such as senescence and elder abuse, and appreciate the contributions that older people make to society. The theme of International Day of Older Persons 2021: **Digital Equity for All Ages**.
- **World Vegetarian Day** is observed annually on **October 1** globally to raise awareness about the ethical, environmental, health, and humanitarian benefits of a vegetarian lifestyle.
- The full week between **October 1-7** is observed as the **International Vegetarian Week (IVW)**.
- Every year, **International Coffee Day** is observed on **October 1**, to celebrate and promote the use of coffee. There are many who believe that coffee might pose ill effects on their health, therefore, on this day people are educated about the various benefits of this beverage.
- **World Day for Farmed Animals (WDFa)** is observed on **October 02**, which marks the birth anniversary of **Mahatma Gandhi**. The day is organised by the International animals' welfare organization, World Animal Protection along with Asia for Animals coalition to show the importance and urgency of farm animal welfare.

- **National Wildlife Week** is annually celebrated across India between **2nd to 8th October** with an aim to protect and preserve the flora and fauna of India. The Wildlife Week 2021 is celebrated from **2nd October to 8th October**. In 2021, we are celebrating **67th Wildlife Week**. This year **National Wildlife Week** theme 2021: **"Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet"**.
- The **World Space Week (WSW)** is observed every year from **October 4 to 10**, to celebrate science and technology, and their contribution towards the betterment of the human condition. WSW was declared by the **United Nations General Assembly** on **December 6, 1999**. The 2021 theme is **"Women in Space"**!
- The **United Nations** designated the **first Monday of October** as **World Habitat Day**. In 2021, World Habitat Day is being celebrated on **October 04**. The theme for 2021 World Habitat Day is **"Accelerating urban action for a carbon-free world"**.
- In India, the **'Ganga River Dolphin Day'** is observed every year on **October 5**, to raise awareness and encourage conservation of **Ganga River Dolphins**. It was on this day in 2010, that Ganga Dolphins were declared national aquatic animals. Then, in 2012, the **World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)** and the Uttar Pradesh government jointly began the dolphin conservation campaign in the country.
- **World Teachers' Day**, also known as **International Teachers Day**, is held annually on **October 5** since 1994. The Day aims to focus on appreciating, assessing and improving the educators of the world and to provide an opportunity to consider issues related to teachers and teaching. The Theme for 2021 International Teachers Day is **"Teachers at the heart of education recovery"**.
- Every year the **Breast Cancer Awareness Month (BCAM)** is observed in the month of **October**, from **01 to 31**. The annual international health campaign aims to increase awareness of the disease and to raise funds for research into its cause, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure. The **pink ribbon** is an international symbol of breast cancer awareness.
- **World Cotton Day (WCD)** is observed globally on **7th October**. The international day aims to celebrate the advantages of cotton, ranging from its qualities as a natural fibre to the benefits people obtain from its production, transformation, trade and consumption.
- **Indian Air Force Day** is celebrated every year by the **Indian Air Force** on the **8th of October**. This year Indian Air Force celebrated its **89th anniversary**. Indian Air Force was officially established on 8 October 1932 by the British Empire as the Royal Indian Air Force. The name was changed to Indian Air Force in 1950.
- **World Egg Day** is celebrated worldwide on the **'Second Friday of October'** month each year since 1996. The theme for 2021 World Egg Day is **"Eggs for all: Nature's perfect package"**.
- The **International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO)** is preparing to launch its fifth annual **World Investor Week (WIW)** from **4 to 10 October 2021**.
- **World Post Day** is celebrated each year on **October 9** globally. The purpose of World Post Day is to create awareness of the role of the postal sector in people's and businesses' everyday lives and its contribution to the social and economic development of countries. The theme of 2021 World Post Day is **"Innovate to recover."**
- Every year, **World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD)** is officially celebrated twice in a year since it started in 2006. Firstly it is held on the **Second Saturday of May** and again on the **Second Saturday of October**. In 2021, the WMBBD falls on **May 08, 2021**, and **October 09, 2021**. The theme for 2021 WMBD is **"Sing, Fly, Soar - Like a Bird!"**
- The **World Day Against the Death Penalty** is observed every year on **10 October**. It is a day to advocate for the abolition of the death penalty and to raise awareness of the conditions and the circumstances which affect prisoners with death sentences. The theme for 2021 is **"Women Sentenced to Death: An Invisible Reality."**
- **World Mental Health Day** is observed every year on **10 October** globally for global mental health education, awareness and advocacy against social stigma. The theme for World Mental Health Day 2021 is **'Mental health in an unequal world'**.
- In India, the **National Postal Day** is celebrated annually on **10 October**, as an extension of World Post Day, which is celebrated on **9 October**. The Day aims to commemorate the role played by the Indian postal department for the past **150 years**, which was founded in 1854 by **Lord Dalhousie**.
- The **International Day of the Girl Child** (also known as Day of Girls and the International Day of Girls) is observed annually on **October 11** since 2012. The theme for 2021 International Day of the Girl Child is **"Digital generation. Our generation"**.

- The **World Arthritis Day** is observed every year on **October 12** to raise awareness about arthritis, an inflammatory condition that causes pain and stiffness in joints that can worsen with age. The World Arthritis Day theme 2021 is **Don't Delay, Connect Today: Time2Work..**
- The United Nations **International Day for Disaster Reduction** is held annually on **13 October** since 1989. The theme of the 2021 International Day for Disaster Reduction is **"International cooperation for developing countries to reduce their disaster risk and disaster losses"**.
- **World Standards Day or International Standards Day** is observed globally on **14 October** every year. The day aims to raise awareness about the importance of standardisation to the global economy among consumers, regulators and industry. World Standards Day 2021 theme is **"Standards for sustainable development goals - shared vision for a better world"**.
- The **International E-Waste Day (IEWD)** is celebrated on **14 October** every year since 2018, to promote the correct disposal of e-waste throughout the world with the aim to increase re-use, recovery and recycling rates. The theme for 2021 IEWD is **"Consumer is the key to Circular Economy!"**. The day was developed in 2018 by the WEEE Forum, an international association of e-waste collection schemes, with the support of its members.
- **World Student's Day** is celebrated every year on **October 15**. The day is celebrated in honour of the birth anniversary of the former president of India, Late Dr APJ Abdul Kalam. Since 2010, the United Nations Organisation (UNO) has marked October 15 as World Student's Day in an attempt to acknowledge the efforts of Dr Kalam toward education and his students. The current year's (2021) theme of World Students' Day is **"Learning for people, planet, prosperity and peace"**.
- The **International Day of Rural Women** is observed globally on **15 October** each year. The day recognizes the crucial role of women and girls in ensuring the sustainability of rural households and communities, improving rural livelihoods and overall well-being. In India, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare observes the day as the **Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas** since 2016, to increase the active participation of women in agriculture.
- **World Food Day (WFD)** is celebrated every year on **16 October** across the globe to eradicate worldwide hunger from our lifetime. WFD also commemorates the date of the founding of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in 1945. Theme 2021: **"Safe food now for a healthy tomorrow"**.
- The **International Day for the Eradication of Poverty** is observed every year on **17 October** across the globe. The day aims to raise awareness of the need to eradicate poverty and destitution around the world, particularly in developing countries. 2021 Theme: **Building Forward Together: Ending Persistent Poverty, Respecting all People and our Planet"**.
- The **World Osteoporosis Day (WOD)** is observed annually on **October 20**. The day aims to raise global awareness of the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis and metabolic bone disease. WOD is organized by the **International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF)**, by launch of a year-long campaign with a specific theme. In 2021 the Global WOD Campaign theme is **"Serve Up Bone Strength"**.
- **International Chefs Day** is observed every year on **20 October**. The day aims to celebrate and honour the noble profession and educate people around the world about eating healthy. The theme of the International Chefs Day 2021 campaign is **Healthy Food for the Future**.
- **World Statistics Day** is celebrated around the globe every year on **20 October** to highlight the achievements of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. The celebration of World Statistics Day 2021 is a global collaborative endeavour, organized under the guidance of the United Nations Statistical Commission.
- In India, the **Police Commemoration Day** is observed on **October 21** every year. The day is marked to remember and honour the brave policemen who have laid down their lives in the line of duty.
- Every year **October 22** is observed as **International Stuttering Awareness Day**, since 1998. The day is intended to raise public awareness of the millions of people who have a speech disorder of stuttering or stammering. Theme 2021: **"Speak the change you wish to see"**.

- Every year, **October 23** is observed as **International Snow Leopard Day** since 2014. The day commemorates the anniversary of the **Bishkek Declaration** and to celebrate this endangered cat and raise awareness for its conservation and protection.
- On **23rd October** every year mole day is celebrated which is popular amongst all chemistry enthusiasts. This day is marked to commemorate and honour the Avogadro's number. The theme for the occasion, inspired by the mascot – A Mole. This year the theme is **Dispicamole Me**.
- Every year **24 October** is celebrated as United Nations Day since **1948**. It was on this day in **1945** that the Charter of the United Nations came into force. The year **2021** marks the **76th anniversary** of the United Nations and its founding Charter. The Charter was signed on **26 June 1945** by the representatives of the 50 countries. Poland, which was not represented at the Conference, signed it later and became one of the original 51 Member States.
- The **International Day of Diplomats** is celebrated on **24 October** every year. The day aims to commemorate the contributions made by diplomats in shaping the world since ancient times and in making our planet a better place. It also aims to bridge the gap in perception and reality of diplomats' lives among the general public.
- The United Nations' **World Development Information Day** is held on **October 24** every year. The day aims to draw the attention of world public opinion to development problems and the need to strengthen international cooperation to solve them for overall growth and development. The World Development Information Day was established by the UN General Assembly in **1972**, to coincide with the United Nations Day.
- **World Polio Day** is celebrated annually on **October 24**, to raise awareness for polio vaccination and eradication of polio. The Day was established by Rotary International to commemorate the birth of **Jonas Salk**, who led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis. 2021 theme for World Polio Day is **"Delivering on a Promise."**
- **Disarmament Week** is observed annually to promote awareness and understanding of the issues of disarmament in several countries. The week aims to reduce the use of weapons, specifically nuclear weapons, to bring peace in society. This year, the disarmament week will be starting on **October 24**. The week-long observance will continue till **October 30**. Disarmament Week seeks to promote awareness and a better understanding of disarmament issues and their cross-cutting importance.
- The **Indian Army** celebrates **October 27** every year as the **'Infantry Day'**. This year nation celebrates its **75th Infantry Day** on October 27, 2021. On this day that the **1st Battalion** of the Sikh Regiment landed at Srinagar airbase and displayed resoluteness and extraordinary courage and became 'The Wall' to thwart the evil designs of the Pakistan Army, who had invaded Kashmir with the help of tribal raiders in 1947.
- The **World Day for Audiovisual Heritage** is observed every year on **27 October**. The theme of the World Day for Audiovisual Heritage 2021: **"Your Window to the World"**.
- The **Vigilance Awareness Week 2021** has been organised by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) from **26 October to 01 November 2021**. The annual event is celebrated during the week in which the birthday of **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel** falls, which is held on October 31. The theme of Vigilance Awareness Week 2021: **'Independent India @75: Self Reliance with Integrity'**.
- **International Animation Day** is observed every year on **October 28** to celebrate the art of animation and also recognise the artists, scientists and technicians behind animation. This year marks the **20th International Animation Day**. The day was created in 2002 by **International Animated Film Association (ASIFA)**, an International Animated Film Association, a member of UNESCO.
- **World Psoriasis Day** is observed every year on **29 October** by the **International Federation of Psoriasis Associations (IFPA)** to promote awareness, empowerment, and action for improving the quality of life for people with psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis. The theme for 2021 World Psoriasis Day is **"Uniting for action"**.

- **International Internet Day** is celebrated on **October 29** every year across the world to celebrate the usage of the internet for the first time. The day marks the sending of the first electronic message which was transferred from one computer to another in **1969**. At that time the Internet was known as **ARPANET (Advanced Research Projects Agency Network)**.
- Every year world thrifty is observed on the **31st of October** across the globe. This day is celebrated to promote the importance of savings and how saving money is important in today's world.
- In India, the **Rashtriya Ekta Diwas or National Unity Day** is observed every year on **October 31** since **2014**, to commemorate the birth anniversary of the Iron Man of India, **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel**. This year marks the **146th** anniversary of the great leader who played an instrumental role in India's struggle for independence, and later during the integration of the country.
- The **United Nations General Assembly** has designated the **31st of October** as **World Cities Day**. The global theme of World Cities Day 2021 is "**Adapting cities for climate resilience**", acknowledging that integrated climate resilience policies and action plans will greatly reduce climate-related risks for urban populations.
- The **fifth edition of India - Japan Maritime Bilateral Exercise JIMEX** was held in the **Arabian Sea** from **06 to 08 October 2021**. The Indian Navy is represented by indigenously built Guided Missile Stealth Destroyer Kochi and Guided Missile Frigate Teg, P8I Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft, Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft, integral helicopters and MiG 29K fighter aircraft.
- The **6th Edition of India-UK Joint Company Level Military Training EXERCISE AJEYA WARRIOR** has commenced at **Chaubatia, Uttarakhand**. The exercise is part of an initiative to develop interoperability and sharing expertise with friendly foreign nations. Armies would familiarise themselves with each other's weapons, equipment, tactics, techniques, etc.
- The **17th edition** of the Joint Military Training Exercise "**Ex Yudh Abhyas 2021**" between the Indian Army and the United States Army, is scheduled to take place from **October 15 to 29, 2021** at Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson, **Alaska in USA**. The Indian contingent will comprise of 350 personnel of an Infantry Battalion Group.
- The **National Security Guard (NSG) force**, popularly known as Black Cats, observes its Raising Day on October 16, every year. The year 2021 marks the **37th anniversary** of the establishment of the NSG. NSG is an elite counter-terrorism unit under the Indian Ministry of Home Affairs.

Defence Current Affairs

- Lieutenant General **Gurbirpal Singh** has taken charge as the **34th Director-General** of the **National Cadet Corps (NCC)**. He succeeds **Lt Gen Tarun Kumar Aich**. He was commissioned into the **PARACHUTE REGIMENT** in 1987.
- The **8th edition** of the **India - Sri Lanka** bilateral joint Exercise "**Mitra Shakti-21**" is scheduled to take place at **Combat Training School, Ampara in Sri Lanka** from October 4 to 15, 2021. The aim of the exercise is to enhance interoperability and sharing best practices in counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations between Armies of both countries and further strengthen the relationship between both the South Asian Nations.
- **India and Australia** have participated in the **fourth edition** of the biennial maritime series '**AUSINDEX**'. The exercise will allow the Australian Navy and Indian Navy to strengthen "**inter-operability, gain from best practices**". The maritime exercise is conducted in Australia and India, with the recent one being held in the Northern Australia Exercise Area.
- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** successfully flight-tested the High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT)-**ABHYAS**, from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), **Chandipur** off the coast of Bay of Bengal in **Odisha**.
- **The Indian Navy** has organised an Offshore Sailing Regatta from Kochi to Goa, as a part of the **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations**, and above all, boost the spirit of adventure and ocean sailing among the Navy Personnel.
- The **Armed Forces of India and the United Kingdom (UK)** are undertaking the sea phase of the maiden Tri-Service exercise '**Konkan Shakti 2021**' off the Konkan coast in the Arabian Sea from October 24 to 27, 2021.
- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** carried successful test-firing of surface-to-surface ballistic missile **Agni-5** on October 27, 2021, from **APJ Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha**. Agni-5 is a nuclear-capable intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM), which uses a three-stage solid-fuelled engine. The missile can strike targets at ranges up to **5,000 km** with a very high degree of accuracy.

- In a major outreach to the friendly foreign countries as also to the defence manufacturing industries of the world, Raksha Mantri, **Rajnath Singh** has chaired the **Ambassadors' Round Table for Def Expo 2022**, in New Delhi.
- A new Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) '**Sarthak**' has been dedicated to the nation on October 28, 2021. It will be based at **Porbandar in Gujarat**. The indigenously built ship was commissioned by the Director-General of Indian Coast Guard, K Natarajan, at Goa. ICGS Sarthak is commanded by Deputy Inspector General MM Syed and has a complement of 11 Officers and 110 men.

Science and Technology

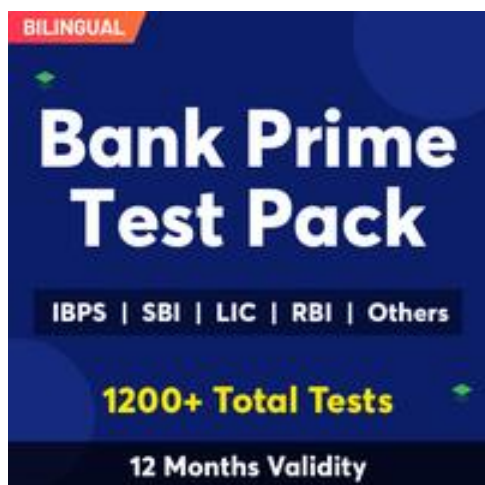
- **World Health Organization (WHO)** is recommending widespread use of the **RTS,S/AS01 (RTS,S)** malaria vaccine among children in sub-Saharan Africa and in other regions with moderate to high *P. falciparum* malaria transmission. The vaccine is developed by British drugmaker **GlaxoSmithKline (GSK)**.
- The Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, **Mansukh Mandaviya**, launched '**i-Drone**', a drone-based vaccine delivery model for **Northeast states**. The i-Drone has been developed by the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**. i-Drone stands for **ICMR's Drone Response and Outreach in North East**.
- A **Russian film crew** are back on Earth after wrapping up scenes for the first movie shot in space. **Klim Shipenko** and actor **Yulia Peresild** left the International Space Station and landed in Kazakhstan - to be met by a crew filming touchdown scenes. The movie has been in its own kind of space race - with Tom Cruise. He is apparently part of a Hollywood filming-in-space project involving Nasa and Elon Musk's SpaceX.
- The US space agency **NASA** has launched a first-of-its-kind mission called '**Lucy Mission**' to study Jupiter's **Trojan** asteroids. The mission life of Lucy is 12-year, during which the spacecraft will fly by a total of eight ancient asteroids to study about solar system's evolution. These will include one main-belt asteroid and seven Jupiter Trojan asteroids.
- **China** has successfully launched its 1st solar exploration satellite into space from the **Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center** in northern Shanxi Province aboard a **Long March-2D rocket**.

- **Microsoft** recently announced the launch of **Microsoft AI Innovate**, a 10-week initiative that will support startups in **India** leveraging Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies, helping them scale operations, drive innovation, & build industry expertise. The program will also enable startups to reach out to newer customers and geographies with Microsoft's sales and partners.
- **Facebook** is now called **Meta**, in a rebrand that focuses on building the "**metaverse**," a shared virtual environment that it bets will be the successor to the mobile internet. The name change, the plan for which was first reported by the Verge, is a significant rebrand for Facebook, but not it's first. In 2019 it launched a new logo to create a distinction between the company and its social app. The name change comes as the world's largest social media company battles criticisms from lawmakers and regulators over its market power, algorithmic decisions and the policing of abuses on its services.
- **Institute of Nano Science and Technology, Mohali**, an autonomous institute under the **Department of Science & Technology, Government of India**, has developed non-toxic metal phosphate-based ink with excitation dependant luminescent properties which are highly stable under practical conditions such as temperature, humidity and light, etc.

Books & Authors

- A novel titled "**Chronicles from the Land of the Happiest People on Earth**" authored by **Wole Soyinka** has been released. Wole Soyinka is Africa's first **Nobel laureate in Literature**.
- Indian Entrepreneur and writer **Jaithirth Rao**, popularly known as **Jerry Rao**, has come out with a book on Mahatma Gandhi titled "**Economist Gandhi: The Roots and the Relevance of the Political Economy of the Mahatma**". Jaithirth Rao is the founder and former CEO of the software company Mphasis.
- Former Chairman of the State Bank of India (SBI) **Rajnish Kumar** has come out with his memoir titled '**The Custodian of Trust - A Banker's Memoir**'. The book has been published by Penguin Random House India.
- Legendary Indian poet-lyricist-director **Gulzar** has come out with his new book title "**Actually... I Met Them: A Memoir**".

- Sahitya Akademi awardee Professor **Shafey Kidwai** has authored a new book titled **"Sir Syed Ahmad Khan: Reason, Religion And Nation"**.
- National Award-winning actress **Divya Dutta** has come up with her second book titled, **"The Stars in My Sky: Those Who Brightened My Film Journey"**.
- Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** launched the book titled **"Veer Savarkar: The Man Who Could Have Prevented Partition"** authored by **Uday Mahurkar and Chirayu Pandit** at Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi.
- The book titled **'The Origin Story of India's States'** is written by **Venkataraman Subha Srinivasan** and published by **Penguin Random House India (PRHI)**.
- **The Contrarian: Peter Thiel and Silicon Valley's Pursuit of Power** book by **Max Chafkin**. In the first major biography of Thiel, **Max Chafkin** traces the trajectory of the innovator's singular life and worldview, from his upbringing as the child of immigrant parents and years at Stanford as a burgeoning conservative thought leader to his founding of PayPal and Palantir, early investment in Facebook and SpaceX.
- **"Writing for My Life"**, an anthology of author **Ruskin Bond** has been released. It contains some of the most exemplary stories, essays, poems and memories of Ruskin Bond. This anthology has been released **25 years** after the first anthology of Bond titled, **"The Best of Ruskin Bond"**.
- Renowned journalist and writer **Chidanand Rajghatta** have authored a new book **"Kamala Harris: Phenomenal Woman"**, a biography of Kamala Harris, the first women Vice President of the United States of America (USA).



- The former Union Minister of Education **Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'** has gifted a copy of his book titled **'AIIMS Mein Ek Jang Ladte Hue'** to Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi in Delhi. The book was written by Pokhriyal while he was battling COVID-19 at AIIMS in Delhi. The book was published by **Prabhat Prakashan Pvt. Ltd.**

Miscellaneous Current Affairs

- E-commerce major **Amazon India** has announced the launch of **Amazon Future Engineer**, its **global computer science education programme** in India. The programme will enable access to quality computer science education and career opportunities for students from underrepresented and underserved communities.
- The iconic Indian comic book cartoon character, **Chacha Chaudhary**, whose brain works faster than a computer, has been declared as the **official mascot** for the centrally-sponsored **NamamiGangeProgramme**. An outlay of **Rs. 2.26 crore** has been dedicated to the project. The comics will initially be launched in **Hindi, English and Bengali languages**.
- Union Home Minister, **Amit Shah** flagged off All India Car Rally **'Sudarshan Bharat Parikrama'** of the **National Security Guard (NSG)** on October 02, 2021, as a part of **'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'**, to celebrate the 75th year of India's Independence. The NSG's car rally was flagged off from the historic **Red Fort in Delhi**. It will end on October 30, 2021, at the Police Memorial in New Delhi.
- The first consignment of **Geographical Indication (GI)** tagged sweet dish **Mihidana**, from Bardhaman, **West Bengal** has been exported to the **Kingdom of Bahrain**. This initiative is part of the effort to promote indigenous & Geographical Identification (GI) tagged products of India globally. The product was exported by APEDA registered M/S DM Enterprises, Kolkata.
- A variety of rice widely grown in **Wada** in the **Palghar district** has been given a **'Geographical Indication' tag**, which will give it a unique identity as well as wider markets. Wada Kolam, also known as **Zini or Jhini rice**, is a traditional variety grown in the Wada tehsil of Palghar, with the grain being off white in colour.

- The **Indian Railways** has launched two long haul freight trains "**Trishul**" and "**Garuda**" – which are twice or multiple times longer than the normal composition of freight trains. These long haul trains provide a very effective solution to the problem of capacity constraints in critical sections.
- India's 1st **Atal Community Innovation Center (ACIC)** was inaugurated at **Vivekananda Global University, Jaipur (VGU)**. It will be the first centre in the country to be set up by the **Government of India, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and NITI Aayog**.
- The **Government of India** has decided to set up a "**Vishwakarma Vatika**" at every "**Hunar Haats**" to protect, preserve and promote India's glorious legacy of centuries-old skills of artisans and craftsmen. The first such "**Vishwakarma Vatika**" has been set up in "**Hunar Haat**" at Rampur, Uttar Pradesh, organised from **October 16 to 25, 2021**. The name is derived from the Hindu deity "**Vishwakarma**" who is worshipped as the God of architects.
- The **International Monetary Fund's** Chief Economist and Director of the Research Department, **Gita Gopinath** will leave the organisation in **January 2022**. She will return to **Harvard University's economics department**. She was on public service leave during her tenure at the organisation, and the leave will end in January 2022.
- Aviation regulator **Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)** has temporarily suspended **SpiceJet's** licence for the transportation of 'dangerous goods' for alleged violations. The suspension is for 30 days, and during this period, SpiceJet will not be allowed to carry dangerous goods, including lithium-ion batteries, on its domestic as well as international flights.
- The **131st** death anniversary of the legendary Sufi saint of Bangladesh **Lalon Fakir** was observed in the country. A programme 'Lalon Smaran Utsab' was organised at the **Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA)** to pay tribute to Lalon on this occasion. During the programme a discussion on life and philosophy of Lalon Fakir was organised at the BSA.
- **Microsoft, Facebook, Netflix** form Merchants Alliance to address Financial Regulation Disparity in India Online merchants that are dependent on fintech and other financial institutions for subscription and revenue models have formed a **Merchants Payments Alliance of India (MPAI)** to address the financial regulation disparity as well as promote financial literacy among consumers. The group's purpose is to be a collaborator to the digital payments policy discourse.
- The Tamil-language drama film **Koozhangal (internationally translated as Pebbles)**, has been selected as India's official entry for the **94th Academy Awards (Oscars 2022)**. The film has been directed by filmmaker **Vinothraj PS** and produced by **Vignesh Shivan and Nayanthara**. The 94th Academy Awards are scheduled to take place in Los Angeles, on March 27, 2022.
- The first IVF calf of "**Banni**" breed of buffaloes, found primarily in **Gujarat's Kutch region**, was born at a farmer's house in the state's **Gir Somnath district**. The process was carried out to enhance the number of genetically superior buffaloes to increase milk production. Banni buffalo is known for its resilience and higher milk-producing capacity in an arid environment.
- Former India captain and now **Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA)** president **Mohd Azharuddin** has unveiled what is certified by the Guinness Book of World Records to be the **biggest cricket bat**, designed by **Pernod Ricard India (P) Ltd**, on Tank Bund. The bat measures **56.10 feet**, weighs **9-tonnes** and is made of poplar wood. This was to convey best wishes to the Indian cricket team and bring back the **T-20 World Cup in Dubai**.
- The **Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port (SPM)** in **Kolkata** has become the first Major Indian Port to get a **Radio over Internet Protocol (ROIP) System**. The ROIP was inaugurated by Vinit Kumar, Chairman of SPM, on October 25, 2021. SPM, Kolkata has been constantly maintaining its pivotal position in Indian Major Ports for the past 152 years.
- State-owned **GAIL (India) Ltd** will build **India's largest green hydrogen-making plant** as it looks to supplement its natural gas business with carbon-free fuel. GAIL Chairman and Managing Director **Manoj Jain** said the company is looking at building a 10-megawatt (MW) electrolyzer capable of generating 4.5 tonnes of green hydrogen daily.

- CBSE launches **Veer Gatha** project in schools to raise awareness on **Gallantry Awards**. Schools affiliated to the **Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)** have been asked to prepare projects and engage in activities based on the Gallantry Award winners.

Obituaries

- Veteran television actor **Ghanashyam Nayak**, who was famous for his role as **Nattu Kaka** in the TV series **Taarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah** has passed away due to cancer.
- **Shakti Sinha**, former bureaucrat, and academician who was private secretary to late prime minister **Atal Bihari Vajpayee**, passed away. Sinha, an IAS officer of the 1979 batch, was also former Director of Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (NMML).
- Veteran television actor **Arvind Trivedi**, who is famously known for his iconic role of demon-king **Raavan** in **Ramanand Sagar's** TV serial **Ramayan**, has passed away.
- **Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan**, the man regarded as the "**Father of Pakistan's nuclear bomb**", has passed away. He was 85. The atomic scientist, Dr Khan was hailed as a national hero for transforming Pakistan into the world's first Islamic nuclear power and for his contributions in enhancing the country's defence capabilities.
- **Abolhassan Banisadr**, Iran's first president after the country's **1979 Islamic Revolution** who fled Tehran after being impeached for challenging the growing power of clerics as the nation became a theocracy, died. He was 88.
- National Award-winning actor **Nedumudi Venu** has passed away. He won three National Film Awards, and six Kerala State Film Awards for his performances.
- National Award-winning actor **Nedumudi Venu** has passed away. He won three National Film Awards, and six Kerala State Film Awards for his performances.
- Fertiliser major IFFCO's Chairman **Balvinder Singh Nakai** has passed away. He was an eminent farmer – cooperator and was deeply involved in providing strength to the Indian cooperative movement for the last three decades. He made pioneering contributions towards empowering farmers.
- **Sri Lanka's** first-ever Test captain **Bandula Warnapura** passed away, following a brief illness. A right-handed batsman, he led his country when it faced **England** in its first-ever Test match in 1982 and played three more Tests, scoring 96 runs overall at an average of 12. He also played 12 ODI matches, scoring 180 runs at an average of 15.
- **Colin Powell**, the trailblazing soldier and diplomat whose sterling reputation of service to Republican and Democratic presidents was stained by his faulty claims to justify the 2003 US war in Iraq, died of Covid-19 complications.
- Former hockey international **Saranjeet Singh** has passed away. The former State Bank of India hockey player, who played for Coronation Club in the local league, represented Hyderabad juniors and seniors for many years in the late 70s and 80s and also played for India, which toured Germany in 1983.
- Padma Shri **Dr Madhavan Krishnan Nair**, an eminent Oncologist and the founding director of the Regional Cancer Centre (RCC), has passed away. He has served as a member of the expert group that prepared the National Cancer Control Plan of India.
- Hiroshima nuclear bomb attack survivor, **Sunao Tsuboi** has passed away. A leading Japanese campaigner against nuclear weapons who survived the world's first atomic bomb attack has died at the age of 96.
- Former South Korean President **Roh Tae-woo**, who took part in a military coup and later won the election that was the country's first move towards democracy before he was imprisoned for corruption, died. He was a key participant in the 1979 military coup that made his army friend and coup leader Chun Doo-hwan president.
- Eminent Gandhian and ambassador of peace in Chambal region, **Salem Nanjundaiah Subba Rao**, passed away in Sawai Man Singh Government Hospital in Jaipur. Rao plunged into the Quit India Movement when he was just 13 years old. The Government of India honoured him with Padmashri Award.



Static Takeaways

- Supreme Court of India Established: 26 January 1950.
- International Atomic Energy Agency Headquarters: Vienna, Austria;
- International Atomic Energy Agency Founded: 29 July 1957.
- Japan Capital: Tokyo;
- Japan Currency: Japanese Yen.
- North Korea Capital: Pyongyang;
- North Korea Supreme leader: Kim Jong-un;
- North Korea Currency: North Korean won.
- National Payments Corporation of India Headquarters: Mumbai.
- National Payments Corporation of India Founded: 2008.
- YES bank HQ: Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- RBL Bank Founded: August 1943;
- RBL Bank Headquarters: Mumbai;
- Indian Overseas Bank Headquarters: Chennai;
- Indian Overseas Bank Founded: 10 February 1939.
- ICRA Founded: 16 January 1991;
- NASSCOM Headquarters: New Delhi;
- NASSCOM Founded: 1 March 1988.
- Headquarters of HDFC Bank: Mumbai, Maharashtra;
- The tagline of HDFC Bank: We understand your world.
- Audit Bureau of Circulations Founded: 1948;
- Audit Bureau of Circulations Headquarters: Mumbai.
- Mastercard Headquarters: New York, United States.
- PTI Headquarters location: New Delhi.
- PTI Founded: 27 August 1947.
- DRDO Headquarters: New Delhi.
- DRDO Established: 1958.
- NCC Founded: 16 April 1948;
- NCC Headquarters: New Delhi.
- United Nations World Tourism Organization Headquarters location: Madrid, Spain.
- United Nations World Tourism Organization Founded: 1 November 1974.
- Headquarters of United Nations: New York, USA; Founded: 24 October 1945.
- The International Federation of Environmental Health was established in 1986 and is based in London, England.
- Global Alliance for Rabies Control Founded: 2007.
- Global Alliance for Rabies Control Headquarters: Manhattan, Kansas, United States.
- UNESCO headquarters: Paris, France;
- UNESCO Founded: 16 November 1945.
- World Heart Federation Founded: 2000.
- World Heart Federation Headquarters location: Geneva, Switzerland.
- International Maritime Organization Headquarters location: London, United Kingdom.
- International Maritime Organization Founded: 17 March 1948.
- Amazon Founded: 5 July 1994.
- President of Tunisia: Kais Saied; Capital of Tunisia: Tunis.
- The currency of Tunisia: Tunisian Dinar.
- Ethiopia Capital: Addis Ababa; Currency: Ethiopian birr.
- SBI Headquarters: Mumbai.
- SBI Founded: 1 July 1955.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank Establishment: 2003;
- Kotak Mahindra Bank Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra;
- Kotak Mahindra Bank Tagline: Let's Make Money Simple.
- Paytm HQ: Noida, Uttar Pradesh;
- Paytm Founded: 2009.
- Headoffice of BharatPe: New Delhi;
- BharatPe Founded: 2018.
- Crisil Founded: 1987;
- Crisil Headquarters: Mumbai.
- LIC Headquarters: Mumbai;
- LIC Founded: 1 September 1956;
- Indian Steel Association Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Indian Steel Association Established: 2014.
- Paradip Port Trust Headquarters: Paradip, Odisha;
- Paradip Port Trust Opened: 12 March 1966.
- Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank founded: September 12, 2005.
- Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank Headquarters: Dharwad, Karnataka.
- World Trade Organization Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland.
- World Trade Organization Founded: 1 January 1995.
- IOSCO Headquarters: Madrid, Spain;
- IOSCO Founded: April 1983.
- Universal Postal Union Headquarters: Bern, Switzerland;
- Universal Postal Union Founded: 9 October 1874.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headquarters of WHO: Geneva, Switzerland. • WHO founded: 7 April 1948. • National Human Rights Commission Headquarters: New Delhi. • Austria Capital: Vienna; • Austria Currency: Euro. • International Energy Agency Members: 30 (eight associate nations); • International Energy Agency Full membership: Colombia, Chile, Israel and Lithuania; • International Energy Agency Headquarters: Paris, France. • Germany Capital: Berlin; • Germany Currency: Euro; • Germany President: Frank-Walter Steinmeier; • Germany Chancellor: Angela Merkel. • Kyrgyzstan Capital: Bishkek; • Kyrgyzstan Currency: Kyrgyzstani som; • Kyrgyzstan President: Sadyr Japarov. • Punjab National Bank Headquarters: New Delhi. • Punjab National Bank Founded: 19 May 1894, Lahore, Pakistan. • The IndusInd Bank Headquarters: Pune; • The IndusInd Bank Owner: Hinduja Group; • The IndusInd Bank Founded: April 1994, Mumbai. • RNESL Headquarters location: Mumbai; • RNESL Founded: 2021. • Adani Group Headquarters: Ahmedabad; • Adani Group Founded: 20 July 1988. • Power Finance Corporation Ltd Headquarters: New Delhi; • Power Finance Corporation Ltd Founded: 16 July 1986; • EESL Headquarters location: New Delhi; • EESL Founded: 2009; • World Steel Association established: 1967; • World Steel Association headquartered: Brussels, Belgium. • The Astronautical Society of India (ASI) was set up in 1990; • Astronautical Society of India HQ: New Delhi. • FIFA Founded: 21 May 1904. • FIFA Headquarters: Zürich, Switzerland. • International Shooting Sport Federation Headquarters: Munich, Germany; • International Shooting Sport Federation Founded: 1907; • Indian Post Headquarters: New Delhi. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Organization for Standardization Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland • International Organization for Standardization Founded: 23 February 1947, London, United Kingdom. • Chief Minister of Delhi: Arvind Kejriwal; Lieutenant Governor of Delhi: Anil Bajjal. • Indian Bank's Association Headquarters location: Mumbai; • Indian Bank's Association Founded: 26 September 1946. • Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd Headquarters: Mumbai; • Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd Founded: 1952. • FICCI Founded: 1927; • FICCI Headquarters: New Delhi; • IMF Headquarters: Washington, D.C. U.S; • United Nations Human Rights Council Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland; • United Nations Human Rights Council Founded: 15 March 2006. • Sri Lanka Capitals: Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte; Currency: Sri Lankan rupee. • Sri Lanka Prime Minister: Mahinda Rajapaksa; Sri Lanka President: Gotabaya Rajapaksa. • Ecuador Capital: Quito; • Ecuador Currency: United States Dollar. • Prime Minister of Barbados: Mia Mottley; • Barbados Capital: Bridgetown; • Barbados Currency: Barbados Dollar; • Barbados Continent: North America. • NITI Aayog Formed: 1 January 2015; • NITI Aayog Headquarters: New Delhi; • Karur Vysya Bank Establishment: 1916; • Karur Vysya Bank Headquarters: Karur, Tamil Nadu; • Karur Vysya Bank Tagline: Smart Way to Bank. • Standard Chartered Bank Founded: 1969, London, United Kingdom. • Paytm Payments Bank Ltd Headquarters: Noida, Uttar Pradesh. • Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India Headquarters: New Delhi; • Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India Founder: Parliament of India; • Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India Founded: 1 October 2016. • Karnataka Bank Headquarters: Mangalore; • Karnataka Bank Founded: 18 February 1924. |
|--|--|

- Axis Bank Headquarters: Mumbai;
- Axis Bank Founded: 3 December 1993, Ahmedabad.
- Indian Weightlifting Federation Headquarters: New Delhi.
- Association of Mutual Funds in India Founded: 22 August 1995;
- Association of Mutual Funds in India Headquarters: Mumbai.
- Sports Authority of India Founded: 1984.
- National Security Guard Headquarters: New Delhi;
- The motto of the National Security Guard: Sarvatra Sarvottam Suraksha.
- Confederation of Indian Industry Founded: 1895;
- Confederation of Indian Industry Headquarters: New Delhi, India.
- WHO Established: 7 April 1948;
- WHO Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland.
- International Osteoporosis Foundation Headquarters location: Nyon, Switzerland;
- International Osteoporosis Foundation Founded: 1998.
- United Nations Statistical Commission Founded: 1947;
- United Nations Statistical Commission Parent organization: United Nations Economic and Social Council;
- ICC Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates;
- ICC Founded: 15 June 1909;
- UNICEF Headquarters: New York, United States of America;
- UNICEF Founded: 11 December 1946.
- Badminton World Federation Founded: 5 July 1934;
- Badminton World Federation Headquarters: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- IndiaFirst Life Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra;
- IndiaFirst Life Founded: 16 November 2009.
- NABARD Founded: 12 July 1982;
- NABARD Headquarters: Mumbai.
- International Space Station Launch date: 20 November 1998.
- Headquarters of NASA: Washington D.C., United States.
- NASA Founded: 1 October 1958.
- China Capital: Beijing;
- China Currency: Renminbi;
- China President: Xi Jinping.
- Election Commission of India Formed: 25 January 1950;
- Election Commission of India Headquarters: New Delhi;
- World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies Founded: 1995.
- South Korea President: Moon Jae-in;
- South Korea Capital: Seoul;
- South Korea Currency: South Korean won.
- Uzbekistan Capital: Tashkent;
- Uzbekistan Currency: Uzbekistani som;
- Uzbekistan Prime Minister: Abdulla Aripov.
- France Capital: Paris;
- France Currency: Euro;
- France Prime Minister: Jean Castex.
- Canada Capital: Ottawa; Currency: Canadian dollar.
- India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) was incorporated as Payments Banking Company under Section 22 (1) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949;
- India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) Headquarters: New Delhi.
- Google Founded: 4 September 1998, California, United States.
- Google Founders: Larry Page, Sergey Brin.
- SBI General Insurance Founded: 24 February 2009;
- SBI General Insurance Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra;
- AU small finance bank Headquarters: Jaipur, Rajasthan;
- Union Bank of India Founded: 1919;
- Union Bank of India Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra;
- Union Bank of India Tagline: Good People to Bank with.
- Jammu & Kashmir(J&K) Bank Headquarters: Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir.
- Indian Coast Guard Headquarters: New Delhi.
- United Nations Headquarters in New York, USA.
- International Animated Film Association Founder: John Halas.
- International Animated Film Association Founded: 1960, Annecy, France.
- International Federation of Psoriasis Associations Founded: 1971.
- International Federation of Psoriasis Associations Headquarters: Sweden.



States and their Chief Ministers & Governors:

Sr. No.	State	Chief Minister	Governor
1	Andhra Pradesh	YS Jagan Mohan Reddy	Biswa Bhushan Harichandan
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Pema Khandu	Brig. (Dr.) B. D. Mishra
3	Assam	Himanta Biswa Sarma	Prof. Jagdish Mukhi
4	Bihar	Nitish Kumar	Phagu Chauhan
5	Chhattisgarh	Bhupesh Baghel	Sushri Anusuiya Uikey
6	Goa	Pramod Sawant	P.S. Sreedharan Pillai
7	Gujarat	Bhupendra Patel	Acharya Dev Vrat
8	Haryana	Manohar Lal Khattar	Bandaru Dattatraya
9	Himachal Pradesh	Jairam Thakur	Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
10	Jharkhand	Hemant Soren	Ramesh Bais
11	Karnataka	Basavaraj S Bommai	Thaawarchand Gehlot
12	Kerala	Pinarayi Vijayan	Arif Mohammed Khan
13	Madhya Pradesh	Shivraj Singh Chouhan	Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel
14	Maharashtra	Uddhav Thackeray	Bhagat Singh Koshyari
15	Manipur	N. Biren Singh	La. Ganesan
16	Meghalaya	Conrad Kongkal Sangma	Satya Pal Malik
17	Mizoram	Pu Zoramthanga	Dr. Kambhampati Haribabu
18	Nagaland	Neiphiu Rio	Jagdish Mukhi
19	Odisha	Naveen Patnaik	Prof. Ganeshi Lal
20	Punjab	Charanjit Singh Channi	Banwarilal Purohit
21	Rajasthan	Ashok Gehlot	Kalraj Mishra
22	Sikkim	PS Golay	Ganga Prasad
23	Tamil Nadu	MK Stalin	R. N. Ravi
24	Telangana	K Chandrasekhar Rao	Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan
25	Tripura	Biplab Kumar Deb	Satyadeo Narain Arya
26	Uttar Pradesh	Yogi Aditya Nath	Smt. Anandiben Patel
27	Uttarakhand	Pushkar Singh Dhami	Baby Rani Maurya
28	West Bengal	Mamata Banerjee	Jagdeep Dhankhar

Union Territories and their Chief Ministers & Lt. Governors:

Sr. No.	Union Territory	Chief Minister	Lt. Governors & Administrators
1	Andaman and Nicobar Island		Admiral D K Joshi (Lieutenant Governor)
2	Chandigarh		Banwarilal Purohit (Administrator)
3	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu		Shri Praful Patel (Administrator)
4	Delhi	Arvind Kejriwal	Shri Anil Baijal (Lieutenant Governor)

Sr. No.	Union Territory	Chief Minister	Lt. Governors & Administrators
5	Jammu and Kashmir		Shri Manoj Sinha (Lieutenant Governor)
6	Lakshadweep		Shri Praful Patel (Administrator)
7	Puducherry	N. Rangaswamy	Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan (Addl. Charge) (Lieutenant Governor)
8	Ladakh		Shri Radha Krishna Mathur (Lieutenant Governor)

Here is the list of New Cabinet ministers:

Sl. No	Minister	Ministry
1	Rajnath Singh	Minister of Defence
2	Amit Shah	Minister of Home Affairs; and Minister of Cooperation
3	Mansukh Mandaviya	Minister of Health and Family Welfare; and Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers
4	Nitin Gadkari	Minister of Road Transport and Highways
5	Nirmala Sitharaman	Minister of Finance; and Minister of Corporate Affairs
6	Narendra Singh Tomar	Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
7	Dr S. Jaishankar	Minister of External Affairs
8	Arjun Munda	Minister of Tribal Affairs
9	Smriti Irani	Minister of Women and Child Development
10	Piyush Goyal	Minister of Commerce and Industry; Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; and Minister of Textiles
11	Dharmendra Pradhan	Minister of Education; and Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
12	Pralhad Joshi	Minister of Parliamentary Affairs; Minister of Coal; and Minister of Mines
13	Narayan Rane	Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
14	Sarbananda Sonowal	Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways; and Minister of AYUSH
15	Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi	Minister of Minority Affairs
16	Dr. Virendra Kumar	Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment
17	Giriraj Singh	Minister of Rural Development; and Minister of Panchayati Raj
18	Jyotiraditya M. Scindia	Minister of Civil Aviation
19	Ashwini Vaishnaw	Minister of Railways; Minister of Communications; and Minister of Electronics and Information Technology
20	Ramchandra Prasad Singh	Minister of Steel
21	Pashu Pati Kumar Paras	Minister of Food Processing Industries
22	Gajendra Singh Shekhawat	Minister of Jal Shakti
23	Kiren Rijiju	Minister of Law and Justice
24	Ra Kumar Singh	Minister of Power; and Minister of New and Renewable Energy
25	Hardeep Singh Puri	Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas; and Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs

Sl. No	Minister	Ministry
26	Bhupender Yadav	Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change; and Minister of Labour and Employment
27	Mahendra Nath Pandey	Minister of Heavy Industries
28	Parshottam Rupala	Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
29	G. Kishan Reddy	Minister of Culture; Minister of Tourism; and Minister of Development of North Eastern Region
30	Anurag Singh Thakur	Minister of Information and Broadcasting; and Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports

Heads of various organizations in News in month of October 2021

Sr No	Head of Organization	Name of Person
1	48th Chief Justice of India (CJI)	Nuthalapati Venkata Ramana
2	National Payments Corporation of India MD & CEO	Dilip Asbe
3	YES bank MD & CEO	Prashant Kumar
4	RBL Bank MD & CEO	Vishwavir Ahuja
5	Indian Overseas Bank CEO	Partha Pratim Sengupta
6	ICRA CEO	N. Sivaraman
7	NASSCOM Chairperson	Rekha M Menon
8	MD and CEO of HDFC Bank	Sashidhar Jagdishan
9	Mastercard President	Michael Miebach
10	Chairman DRDO	Dr G Satheesh Reddy
11	United Nations World Tourism Organization Head	Zurab Pololikashvili
12	Secretary-General of the United Nations	Antonio Guterres
13	Global Alliance for Rabies Executive Director	Louis Nel
14	UNESCO Head	Audrey Azoulay
15	World Heart Federation Chairman	Rajeev Gupta
16	International Federation of Translators President	Kevin Quirk
17	International Federation of Translators Secretary-General	Real Paquette
18	International Maritime Organization Secretary-General	Kitack Lim
19	Amazon CEO	Andrew R. Jassy
20	SBI Chairperson	Dinesh Kumar Khara
21	RBI 25th Governor	Shaktikant Das
22	Kotak Mahindra Bank MD & CEO	Uday Kotak
23	Paytm Founder & CEO	Vijay Shekhar Sharma
25	Chief Executive Officer of BharatPe	Ashneer Grover
26	LIC Chairman	M R Kumar
27	Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank Chairman	Puttaganti Gopi Krishna
28	World Trade Organization Director-General	Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala

Sr No	Head of Organization	Name of Person
29	Chiefs of Air Staff	Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari
30	IOSCO Secretary General	Paul P. Andrews
31	Universal Postal Union Director-General;	Masahiko Metoki
32	Universal Postal Union Founder	Heinrich von Stephan
33	President of the World Health Organisation	Tedros Adhanom
34	Chairperson of National Human Rights Commission	Justice Arun Kumar Mishra
35	Punjab National Bank MD and CEO	S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao
36	The IndusInd Bank CEO	Sumant Kathpalia
37	The IndusInd Bank Founder	S. P. Hinduja
38	Adani Group Founder	Gautam Adani
39	Power Finance Corporation Ltd Chairman & MD	Ravinder Singh Dhillon
40	EESL Chairman	K.Sreekant
41	President of Astronautical Society of India	Dr K Sivan
42	President of FIFA	Gianni Infantino
43	International Shooting Sport Federation President	Vladimir Lisin
44	Indian Post Secretary	Vineet Pandey
45	International Organization for Standardization President	Ulrika Francke
46	CMD Of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd	Arun Kumar Singh
47	FICCI President	Harshavardhan Neotia
48	FICCI CEO	Sangita Reddy
49	IMF Managing Director and Chairman	Kristalina Georgieva
50	IMF Chief Economist	Gita Gopinath
51	United Nations Human Rights Council President	Nazhat Shameem
52	NITI Aayog Chairperson	Narendra Modi
53	NITI Aayog CEO	Amitabh Kant
54	Karur Vysya Bank MD & CEO	B. Ramesh Babu
55	Standard Chartered Bank CEO	Bill Winters
56	Chairman of Paytm Payments Bank Ltd	Vijay Shekhar Sharma
57	MD and CEO of Paytm Payments Bank Ltd	Satish Kumar Gupta
58	DG of National Security Guard	M A Ganapathy
59	Confederation of Indian Industry President	T. V. Narendran
60	Confederation of Indian Industry Director-General	Chandrajit Banerjee
61	WHO Director General	Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
62	International Osteoporosis Foundation President	Cyrus Cooper
63	United Nations Statistical Commission Chair	Shigeru Kawasaki
64	ICC Deputy Chairman	Imran Khwaja

Sr No	Head of Organization	Name of Person
65	ICC Chairman	Greg Barclay
66	UNICEF Executive Director	Henrietta H. Fore
67	Badminton World Federation President	Poul-Erik Hoyer Larsen
68	IndiaFirst Life MD & CEO	M. Vishakha
69	Chairman of NABARD	G R Chintala
70	NASA administrator	Bill Nelson
71	Chief Election Commissioner of India	Sushil Chandra
72	MD and CEO of India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)	J Venkatramu
73	Google CEO	Sundar Pichai
74	SBI General Insurance MD & CEO	Prakash Chandra Kandpal
75	AU small finance bank MD & CEO	Sanjay Agarwal
76	AU small finance bank Chairman	Raj Vikash Verma
77	Union Bank of India MD & CEO	Rajkiran Rai G
78	Director-General of Indian Coast Guard	Krishnaswamy Natarajan
79	President of International Animated Film Association	Sayoko Kinoshita
80	President of International Federation of Psoriasis Associations	Hoseah Waweru



adda247