



pravahini

Weekly Compendium

SUCCESS MANTRA (GTB Nagar)

PREFACE

It gives us great pleasure to release the monthly edition of the PRAVAHINI - Monthly e-Compendium & Weekly e-Periodicals of Current Affairs. The magazine's members have shown considerable cooperation as well as devotion. We at successmantra.in work tirelessly to create this magazine and bring it to you with a great sense of gratitude.

The PRAVAHINI October-2021 eBook covers the current events that happened in the month of October. Current Affairs is a crucial component of any competitive exams including CLAT, AILET, DU-LLB, HM, CAT, IAS, PCS, SSC, Banking, MBA and various other competitive examinations.

Current Affairs play the bigger role in many competitive and government exams. It holds the power of making or breaking your chance of success. Therefore, the candidates should cover the Current Affairs thoroughly and smartly.

The PRAVAHINI October-2021 eBook is divided into different sections keeping in mind the need of various exams. The sections covered namely International, National, Economy, Ecology and Environment, Science & Technology, Legal Affairs, Sports, States News Makers and few others.

We would also be pleased to receive any suggestion that could assist us with the upcoming editions.

Success Mantra (GTB Nagar, Delhi)

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Our Goal

Our goal at Success Mantra is to provide Quality education at rational price and thereby to create an environment that guides students towards the path of the success. Along with designing the curriculum and delivering the lectures, we work upon the ways the students think and approach problems asked.

B.S. Shanti



Success Mantra (Delhi) is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out, for your accomplishment. Delhi, GTB Nagar, branch of SUCCESS MANTRA Coaching is considered as the paramount choice of Law and Management aspirants, across country. Because, at the end of the day, it is our results which speak !

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

PM MODI LAUNCHED GATI SHAKTI MASTER PLAN



In order to develop multi-modal connectivity, **Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Gati Shakti Master plan**, a Rs 100-lakh crore national master plan to develop infrastructure in the country that will reduce logistic costs and boost the economy.

The **GatiShakti plan** involves the creation of a common umbrella platform through which infrastructure projects can be planned and implemented in an **efficacious manner by way of coordination between various ministries on a real-time basis**.

The project aims to connect two lakh km of national highways, **doubling the gas pipeline network to 35,000 km**, increasing the number of airports, and developing 11 industrial corridors, with an expected investment of Rs 100 lakh crore.

The plan involves creation of a common platform through which infrastructure projects can be **planned and implemented in an efficacious manner by way of coordination between ministries**.

Under the new project:

A **centralised portal** will be set up to bring together the infrastructure schemes (which are to be completed by 2024-25) of as many as 16 Ministries & State Governments on a common platform, for integrated planning and coordinated implementation, instead of planning & designing separately by each ministry and department.

Through the **PM Gati Shakti campaign**, the government aims to lend more **speed (Gati) and power (Shakti)** to infrastructure connectivity projects by connecting all concerned departments on one platform.

INDIA INVITED TO BECOME FULL TIME MEMBER OF IEA



The **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**.

Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri held discussions with IEA Executive Director Fatih Birol.

During the discussion, IEA executive director invited India to **deepen its cooperation with IEA by becoming its full member**.

- International Energy Agency Members: **30 (eight associate nations)**.
- International Energy Agency Full membership: **Colombia, Chile, Israel and Lithuania**.
- International Energy Agency Headquarters: **Paris, France**.

PM MODI TO INAUGURATE KUSHINAGAR INT. AIRPORT

PM Modi will inaugurate Kushinagar International Airport on October 20, 2021. The event will be attended by the **President of Sri Lanka Gotabaya Rajapaksa** and a 125-member delegation from Sri Lanka.



Kushinagar airport will be the third international airport in Uttar Pradesh after **Lucknow and Varanasi**. The international airport at Kushinagar is spread over an area of 590 acres and boasts world-class facilities.

The eight-storied **state-of-the-art Air Traffic Control (ATC) tower** which has been built at the cost of Rs. 17.5 crores, has become fully operational at the airport.

The navigation system for safe landing and take-off flights at the airport has also passed the trial successfully.

Because of the better connectivity, **six Buddhist sites in UP- Sarnath, Kushinagar, and Shravasti-** as well as the Buddhist sites in North Bihar will see a free and easy movement of tourists from countries with large Buddhist populations in East Asia and South-East Asia.

Kushinagar International Airport will facilitate the inflow of international tourists as well as outbound tourism in the coming years due to its strategic location near Buddhists sites in both north Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.

Earlier, the entry point of the **Buddhist tourists was Delhi, Kolkata, Gaya, and Varanasi**, which are situated far away from one another.

Because of lack of connectivity, it was time taking and most of the tourists were not able to complete the circuit in one go.

Historical significance of Kushinagar: Kushinagar is a place where Gautam Buddha attained Mahaparinirvana. **It is a town in the Kushinagar district of Uttar Pradesh.**

Kushinagar is a significant Buddhist pilgrimage site, where the Buddhists believe that Gautam Buddha attained Mahaparinirvana after his death.

PM MODI LAUNCHED INDIAN SPACE ASSOCIATION (ISpA)

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.

Other core members include Godrej, Hughes India, Azista-BST Aerospace Private Limited, BEL, Centum Electronics and Maxar India.

About the board members:

- **First Chairman:** Jayant Patil, L&T-NxT Senior Executive Vice President for Defence
- **Vice-President:** Rahul Vatts, Bharti Airtel's chief regulatory officer
- **Director-General:** Lt Gen. A.K. Bhatt (Retd.)

About the ISpA: 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.

ISpA will work towards boosting space technology in India, with focus on capacity building and space economic hubs and incubators in India.

4TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF INTERNATIONAL SOLAR ALLIANCE

The 4th General Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) will be held virtually from October 18 to

21, 2021, that will deliberate on key initiatives in the solar energy sector including the operationalization of **India's One Sun One World One Grid (OSOWOG) initiative.**

Union Minister for Power, New and Renewable Energy R K Singh and the President of ISA will preside over the Assembly.

The Assembly will also deliberate on the USD 1 trillion Solar Investment Roadmap for 2030 and approval of a **Blended Financial Risk Mitigation Facility.**



OSOWOG, known as the One Sun One World One Grid, is an initiative by India to interconnect global renewable energy systems with the **vision 'The Sun Never Sets'.**

The concept of OSOWOG is simply a single global grid for solar energy. The initiative was outlined by PM Narendra Modi during the **1st General Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) in October 2018.**

OSOWOG aims to build and scale-up inter-regional energy grids to share solar energy across borders, leverage the differences between time zones, seasons, pricing, and resources of different countries.

The initiative will also aid in decarbonizing energy production which is a major source of global greenhouse gas emissions today.

The **International Solar Alliance (ISA) is the nodal agency for implementing India's OSOWOG initiative.**

The task to create the roadmap for the global grid OSOWOG has been given to a consortium led by French state-run power utility firm EDF and AETS (France) and **The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI India).** The 4th General Assembly of the ISA is expected to deliberate on the detailed report on OSOWOG.

ISA was **co-founded by India during the 2015 Climate Change Conference in Paris.** The ISA has taken charge of strengthening India's attempts at a global climate leadership role.

PM MODI TO ATTEND 16TH G20 & COP-26 SUMMIT

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will travel to Rome and Glasgow from 29 October to 2 November to attend the **16th G-20 Summit and the World**



Leaders' Summit of COP-26.

Modi will participate in the 16th G-20 Summit in Rome from 30th and 31st October, the 8th G-20 Summit that the prime minister will be attending at the invitation of **Prime Minister of Italy, Mario Draghi**.

The Summit will also be attended by **Heads of State and Heads of Government of G-20 Member Countries, the European Union** and other invited countries and International Organizations.

India is scheduled to host the G-20 Summit in 2023 for the first time.

The Summit under the Italian Presidency focuses on the theme **'People, Planet, Prosperity, focussing on Recovery from the Pandemic** and Strengthening of Global Health Governance, Economic Recovery and Resilience, Climate Change and Energy Transition and Sustainable Development and Food Security.

PM Modi will travel to Glasgow to attend the World Leader's Summit of the 26th Conference of Parties COP-26 to the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change UNFCCC** at the invitation of the Prime Minister of the UK Boris Johnson.

COP-26 is being held from 31 October to 12 November this year under the **Presidency of the UK partnering with Italy**.

The high-level segment of **COP-26 titled the World Leaders' Summit** will be held on 1st and 2nd November 2021.

COP-26 was initially slated to be held in 2020 but was delayed to 2021 because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The UNFCCC embodies the global will and vision to combat climate change. The Prime Minister last visited the COP-21 in Paris in 2015, when the Paris Agreement ended.

At COP-26, the Parties will work on the completion of Paris Agreement implementation guidelines,

- The mobilization of climate finance
- Actions to strengthen climate adaptation
- Technology development and transfer
- Keeping in reach the **Paris Agreement goals of limiting the rise in global temperatures.**

PM MODI TO ATTEND 18TH ASEAN-INDIA SUMMIT

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend the 18th ASEAN-India Summit Virtually on 28 October in Brunei.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will review the status of the **ASEAN-India Strategic Partnership** and assess

progress made in critical areas including Covid-19 and health, trade, education and culture with his counterparts from **ASEAN nations at the 18th ASEAN-India Summit.**

According to an official statement released by the Ministry of External Affairs, the Summit will be attended by **Heads of State/Government of the ten ASEAN countries.**

Significant regional and international developments, including post-pandemic economic recovery, will also be discussed at the Summit.

At the **India-ASEAN business summit**, **External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar** had remarked that India's ties with ASEAN have grown over the years, connectivity and security being the latest addition to the areas of collaboration.

The ASEAN includes **Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.** ASEAN-India Summits are held every year and provide opportunities for India and ASEAN to engage at the highest political level.

PM AYUSHMAN BHARAT HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE MISSION

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched '**PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission & Release of Operational Guidelines**' on October 25, 2021. **Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath** was also present on the occasion.

The Prime Minister had earlier inaugurated nine medical colleges in Siddharthnagar. PM Modi will also inaugurate various development projects worth more than Rs 5200 crore for Varanasi.



Pradhan Mantri Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana will be one of the largest pan-India schemes that will **focus on strengthening healthcare infrastructure across the country.** It will be launched in addition to the National Health Mission.

The key objective of **PM Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana (PMASBY)** will be to fill critical gaps in public health infrastructure, especially in primary care and **critical care facilities in both urban and rural areas.**

The scheme will provide support to set up 17,788 rural Health and Wellness Centres in 10 high focus states. Besides this, **11,024 urban Health and Wellness Centres will be established in all the States.**

This will enable people to have full access to a wide range of diagnostic services in the Public Healthcare system through a network of laboratories across the country.

Integrated Public Health Labs will be set up across all the districts.

RK SINGH LAUNCHED 'GREEN DAY MARKET AHEAD'



Power Minister RK Singh launched the green day-ahead market (GDAM), In a bid to further deepen the electricity trade in India.

The launch will also present competitive price signals, besides offering an opportunity to the market participants to trade in green energy in the most transparent, flexible, competitive, and efficient manner.

The big industries can go green, and the Government would make efforts to simplify business, and GDAM is a step in that direction. The Centre is working to implement the Green Hydrogen Mission.

The market-based competitive prices will provide another option to renewable generators to sell power and accelerate the renewable capacity.

The distribution utilities would also be able to sell surplus renewable power generated in their area.

The obligated entities would also meet the **RPO target by directly buying green power from the power exchange(s).**

The non-obligated entities will be able to buy power voluntarily and help increase the share of green power.

Green Day Ahead Market

GDAM will operate in an integrated way with the conventional day-ahead market. The Exchanges will allow market participants to submit bids together for conventional and renewable energy through the separate bidding windows.

The clearance will consecutively take place - renewable energy bids will be cleared first with the must-run status by the conventional segment.

This mechanism will allow renewable energy sellers to bid in the conventional segment if their bids remain voluntarily in the green market. **There will be separate price discoveries for both conventional and renewables.**

GOVT. OF INDIA LAUNCHED 'HAR GHAR DASTAK' CAMPAIGN

The Union government will soon start a mega vaccination campaign called 'Har Ghar Dastak' to boost COVID-19 vaccination efforts in the poor-performing districts.

The Har Ghar Dastak campaign aims to achieve full vaccination by November end, informed Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on October 27, 2021.



Under the campaign, the healthcare workers will go door-to-door to vaccinate those who are due to take their **second dose** and also those who have not taken **the first dose**.

The Har Ghar Dastak campaign will be launched over the next one month to administer COVID-19 vaccine to those who have not yet taken it, especially in the poor performing districts.

The campaign aims to encourage people to take **the COVID vaccine**. The health minister stated during the national review meeting that no district should be without **full vaccination**.

The centre further identified around **48 districts where less than 50 percent of the eligible population has been vaccinated against COVID-19.**

ICGS SARTHAK DEDICATED TO THE NATION

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.

About the ICGS Sarthak: **ICGS Sarthak is fourth in the series of five Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs) being built by Goa Shipyard Limited for the ICG, to boost maritime safety and security of India.**

The 105-meter-long ship displacing 2,450 tons is propelled by two 9,100 kilowatt diesel engines designed to attain a maximum speed of 26 knots.

The ship is fitted with state-of-the-art equipment, machinery, sensors and weapons which enables it to function as a **command platform and undertake mandated Coast Guard charter of duties** including search & rescue, combating maritime crimes and preserving & protecting the marine environment.

Indian Coast Guard is a pioneer in inducting indigenous platforms and **ICGS Sarthak is a glowing example of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'**.

KRISHI UDAN 2.0 LAUNCHED BY AVIATION MINISTRY

The Civil Aviation Ministry on October 27, 2021, launched Krishi Udan 2.0 scheme.



While launching the scheme, **Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia** said that the scheme will give significant focus on optimizing and incentivizing air transportation of agricultural produce from

hilly areas, northeastern states, and tribal regions across India.

The scheme is a testament to the commitment of the Indian government towards **doubling farmers' income**.

What is Krishi Udan 2.0?

The **Krishi Udan 2.0 scheme** proposes to optimize and incentivize transport Agri-produce by **air transportation**.

The scheme shows the vision of improving value realization through **better integration and optimization of Agri-harvesting and air transportation and contributing to Agri-value chain sustainability and resilience under** different and dynamic conditions.

The Krishi Udan 2.0 reflects the collaborative approach of the government towards policymaking.

The scheme will boost the growth avenues for the **agriculture sector and help them attain the goal of doubling farmers' income by optimizing the supply chain, logistics, and transportation of farm produce**.

The first phase of the Krishi Udan 2.0 scheme will be implemented across **53 airports in India with the main focus on the Northeast and tribal regions**. Apart from the primary focus on the Northeast region, the scheme will additionally cover the North, entire Western coast, and Southern India (including two islands).

These airports have been strategically selected to offer access to the **regional domestic markets and international markets as well**.

The scheme initially is expected to benefit farmers, freight forwarders, and Airlines. The Civil Aviation Ministry aims to **launch a pilot scheme in 6 months. Based on the results, it will introduce amendments**.



ARTICLE OF THE MONTH

UNION CABINET APPROVED PM-POSHAN SCHEME

Recently, the **Union Cabinet** has approved the **Prime Minister POSHAN scheme or PM-POSHAN** for providing one hot cooked meal in Government and Government-aided schools. The scheme will replace the existing national programme for **mid-day meal in schools or Mid-day Meal Scheme**. It has been launched for an initial period of five years (2021-22 to 2025-26).



MID-DAY MEAL SCHEME

The **Mid-day Meal Scheme (under the Ministry of Education)** is a centrally sponsored scheme which was launched in 1995. It is considered as the world's largest school meal programme aimed to attain the goal of universalization of primary education. Provides cooked meals to every child within the age group of six to fourteen years studying in classes I to VIII who enrolls and attends the school. If the **Mid-Day Meal** is not provided in school on any school day due to non-availability of food grains or any other reason, the State Government shall pay food security allowance by 15th of the succeeding month.

ALL ABOUT PM POSHAN SCHEME

- **Coverage:** The scheme will cover 11.8 crore students enrolled in classes 1 to 8 in over 11.2 lakh schools across the country. **Primary (1-5) and upper primary (6-8) schoolchildren** are currently entitled to 100 grams and 150 grams of food grains per working day each, **to ensure a minimum of 700 calories**. The scheme will be extended to students studying in pre-primary or Bal-vatikas running in government and government aided primary schools. Balvatika is the pre-school that was started in government schools last year to include children aged younger than six years in the formal education system.
- **Nutritional Gardens:** The government will promote nutritional gardens in schools. The gardens are being provided **to offer additional micro-nutrients to students**.
- **Supplementary Nutrition:** The new scheme has a provision for supplementary nutrition for children in aspirational districts and those with high prevalence of anaemia. It does away with the restriction on the part of the Centre to provide **funds only for wheat, rice, pulses and vegetables**. Currently, if a state decides to add any component like milk or eggs to the menu, the Centre does not bear the additional cost. Now that restriction has been lifted.
- **Nutrition Expert:** A nutrition expert is to be appointed in each school whose responsibility is to ensure that health aspects such as **Body Mass Index (BMI), weight and haemoglobin levels are addressed**.
- **Fund Sharing:** The Centre will bear Rs. 54,061 crore of the total estimated cost of Rs 1.3 lakh crore, with the states paying Rs 31,733 crore (Rs 45,000 crore will be released **by the Centre as subsidies for food grains**).
- **Vocal for Local for Aatmanirbhar Bharat:** Involvement of **Farmers Producer Organizations (FPO) and Women Self Help Groups** in implementation of the scheme will be encouraged. Use of locally grown traditional food items for a fillip to local economic growth will be encouraged.

CHALLENGES ASSOCIATED WITH IT

- **Meeting Nutrition Targets:** As per the Global Nutrition Report 2020, India is among 88 countries that are likely to miss global nutrition targets by 2025.
- **Serious 'Hunger' Level:** India has been ranked at 94 among 107 countries in the **Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2020**. India has a level of hunger that is "serious".

- **Menace of Malnutrition:** According to the National Family Health Survey-5, several states across the country have reversed course and recorded worsening levels of child malnutrition. India is home to about 30% of the world's stunted children and nearly 50% of severely wasted children under the age of five.
- **Others:** Corrupt practices and Caste Bias and Discrimination in serving food.

RELATED GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

Anaemia Mukht Bharat (AMB): It has been launched in the year 2018 as part of the **Intensified National Iron Plus Initiative (NIPI) Program** for accelerating the annual rate of decline of anaemia from one to three percentage points. The target groups for AMB are Children 6-59 months, 5-9 years, Adolescent Girls & Boys of 10-19 years, Women of Reproductive Age (15-49 years), Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers.

National Food Security Act, 2013: The basic concept of food security globally is to ensure that all people, at all times, should get access to the basic food for their active and healthy life and is **characterized by availability, access, utilization and stability of food**. Food security can also be derived from the fundamental right to life enshrined in Article 21 of the Constitution, as it may be interpreted to include the right to live with human dignity, which may include the right to food and other basic necessities. In pursuance of this, the enactment of the **National Food Security Act, (NFSA) 2013** marks a paradigm shift in the approach to food security from welfare to the rights-based approach. The **Act legally entitled up to 75% of the rural population and 50% of the urban population** to receive subsidized foodgrains under the Targeted Public Distribution System.

Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana: Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) is a maternity benefit programme being implemented in all districts of the country with effect from 1st January, 2017. It is a centrally sponsored scheme being executed by the **Ministry of Women and Child Development**.

Target Beneficiaries: All **Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers (PW&LM)**, excluding those who are in regular employment with the Central Government or the State Governments or PSUs or those who are in **receipt of similar benefits under any law for the time being in force**.

PM MODI LAUNCHED SBM-URBAN 2.0 & AMRUT 2.0

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched **Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 and AMRUT 2.0**. The missions have been designed to make all our cities 'Garbage Free' and 'Water Secure'. The **Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 has been launched with the aim of making the cities garbage-free**. PM Narendra Modi said while launching the mission "that with the 2nd phase, we also aim sewage and safety management, making cities water-secure and ensuring that dirty nullahs don't merge into rivers."



SWACHH BHARAT MISSION-URBAN 2.0

- **SBM-U 2.0, announced in Budget 2021-22**, is the continuation of SBM-U first phase. The government is trying to tap safe containment, transportation, disposal of faecal sludge, and septage from toilets. **SBM-U first phase was launched on 2nd October 2014 aiming at making urban India Open Defecation Free (ODF)** and achieving 100% scientific management of municipal solid waste. It lasted till October 2019. It will be implemented over five years from 2021 to 2026 with an outlay of Rs.1.41 lakh crore
- **Aim:** It focuses on source segregation of garbage, reduction in single-use plastic and air pollution, by effectively managing waste from construction and demolition activities and bioremediation of all legacy dump sites. Under this mission, all **wastewater will be treated properly before it is discharged into water bodies**, and the government is trying to make maximum reuse a priority.
- **Mission outcomes:** All statutory towns will become ODF+ certified (**focuses on toilets with water, maintenance and hygiene**). All statutory towns with less than 1 lakh population will become ODF++ certified (focuses on toilets with sludge and septage management). 50% of all statutory towns with less than 1 lakh population will become Water+ certified (aims to sustain toilets by treating and reuse of water). All statutory towns will be at least 3-star Garbage Free rated as per MoHUA's Star Rating Protocol for Garbage Free cities.

PROGRESS UNDER SBM-U PHASE-I

4,324 urban **local bodies** have been declared **Open Defecation Free**, which has been made possible through the construction of more than 66 lakhs individual household toilets and over 6 lakhs community/public toilets, far exceeding the Mission's targets. Digital enablements such as Swachhata App, the **digital grievance redressal platform introduced by MoHUA in 2016**, has reinvented the way in which citizen grievance redressal is managed. Swachh Survekshan, the world's largest urban cleanliness survey covering over 4,000 Urban Local Bodies was initiated under SBM-Urban in 2016.



2ND PHASE OF AMRUT MISSION (AMRUT 2.0)

The **Prime Minister** also launched the second phase of **Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT 2.0)**. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) is the nodal ministry for the scheme.

AMRUT MISSION 2.0

It is the **continuation of the AMRUT mission launched in June 2015** to ensure that every household has access to a tap with the assured supply of water and a sewerage connection.

AMRUT 2.0 aims to provide 100% coverage of water supply to all households in around 4,700 **ULBs (Urban Local Bodies)**. It also seeks to promote Atmanirbhar Bharat **through encouraging Startups and Entrepreneurs (Public Private Partnership)**.

Objectives: It will build upon the progress of AMRUT to address water needs, rejuvenate water bodies, better manage aquifers, reuse treated wastewater, thereby promoting a circular economy of water. **It will provide 100% coverage of sewerage and septage in 500 AMRUT cities.** Recycling and reuse of treated wastewater is expected to cater to 20% of total water needs of the cities and 40% of industrial demand. Under the Mission, fresh water bodies will be protected from getting polluted to make natural resources sustainable. **Pey Jal Survekshan will be conducted in cities to ascertain equitable distribution of water,** reuse of wastewater and mapping of water bodies.

PERFORMANCE OF AMRUT PHASE-I

1.14 crore water tap connections have been provided taking total connections to 4.14 crore in AMRUT cities. Credit rating work has been completed in 470 cities. Of which, 164 cities have **received Investable Grade Rating (IGR)**, including 36 cities with rating of A- or above. Rs 3,840 crore has been raised through Municipal Bonds by 10 ULBs. The Online Building Permission System has been implemented in 2,471 cities including 455 AMRUT cities. This reform has helped improve India's rank in **Ease of Doing Business in construction permits to 27 in Doing Business Report (DBR) 2020 of World Bank from 181 in 2018**. 89 lakh conventional streetlights have been replaced with energy efficient LED lights, leading to estimated energy savings per annum & reduction in CO2 emission.



IMPACT OF THE LAUNCH

Swachh Bharat and AMRUT Mission have both succeeded in bringing about transformative changes in the lives of people since their launch. The missions have not only transformed the urban landscape by adopting scientific approach and engaging citizens, **but under Swachh Bharat Mission, urban areas of 35 States/ UTs have become open defecation free.** Besides this, over 73 lakh toilets have been built across India that has improved health and sanitation across the country and about 97% homes have door to door waste collection facilities. The missions signify a step towards effectively addressing the challenges of rapidly urbanizing India. **They will also aim to achieve the targets set under UN's Sustainable Development Goals 2030.**

WHAT IS SWACHH SURVEKSHAN?

Launched as a part of the Swachh Bharat Mission, it is an annual survey of cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation in cities and towns across India. The ranking exercise is taken up by the Government of India to assess rural and urban areas for their levels of cleanliness and active implementation of Swachhata mission initiatives in a timely and innovative manner. Swachh Survekshan-Urban is conducted by **the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs**. Swachh Survekshan-Rural is conducted by **the Ministry of Jal Shakti**. Earlier, it was conducted by the Ministry of Drinking

Water and Sanitation which was merged with the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation to make a new Ministry of Jal Shakti in 2019.



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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

FIRST FEMALE PRIME MINISTER OF TUNISIA



Najla Bouden Romdhane has been named Tunisia's first female prime minister, two months after **President Kais Saied** assumed executive authority, sacked the prime minister and suspended parliament.

Romdhane, 63, was assigned to form a new government amid growing domestic and international discontent about the president's power seizure.

Born in Tunisia's central Kairouan province in 1958, **Romdhane is a geology professor at the National School of Engineers in the capital Tunis.**

There was no immediate reaction from Tunisia's powerful General Labour Union or political parties to Romdhane's appointment.

6TH INDIA-UK JOINT EXERCISE 'AJEYA WARRIOR'

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 **troops of the two countries** will also share the experiences that they have learnt during the conduct of several military operations in their respective countries and overseas engagements.

The exercise will conclude with a gruelling 48 hours exercise to validate the performance of both armies in **conducting joint military operations in a semi-urban environment.**

MITRA SHAKTI: JOINT EXERCISE B/W INDIA & SRI LANKA

India & Sri Lanka, a bilateral joint exercise called **Mitra Shakti's 8th edition** was conducted from **4 October to 15 October** at Ampara in Sri Lanka.

In the joint exercise, **all arms contingent of 120 personnel from the Indian Army** will participate alongside the battalion of the Sri Lankan Army.

Mitra Shakti was conducted to **push close relations between the armies of India and Sri Lanka.** It also seeks to reinforce interoperability and share best practices to counter insurgency and terrorism operations.



It will involve tactical level operations at the sub-unit level. Operations were held in a global Counter Insurgency and Counter Terrorism environment.

The exercise will act as the catalyst to bring synergy and cooperation at the grassroots. **A level between the Indian and Sri Lankan Army.**

INDIA RE-ELECTED TO UNHRC FOR RECORD 6TH TERM

India was re-elected to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) for the 2022-2024 term with an overwhelming majority in the General Assembly.



India's re-election for the record sixth term to the UN body has been described by New Delhi's envoy as a robust endorsement of the **country's strong roots in pluralism, democracy, and fundamental rights** enshrined in the Constitution.

The elections were held by the United Nations General Assembly on October 14 for **18 new members of UNHRC** who will serve for the period of three years, starting in January 2022.

India was re-elected to the **UN Human Rights Council** with 184 votes in a 193-member assembly, while the required majority was 97.

India's current term at UNHRC was to end on December 31, 2021. For the election for the term 2021-24, there were five vacant seats in the Asia-Pacific States Category- India, Malaysia, Kazakhstan, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates.

The 193-member UN General Assembly elected by secret ballot Benin, Argentina, Cameroon, Finland, Eritrea, Gambia, India, Honduras, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Lithuania, Malaysia, Paraguay,

Montenegro, Qatar, UAE, Somalia, and the USA for the 2022-2024 term on UN Human Rights Council.

The **members of the UN Human Rights Council will serve for a period of three years** and will not be eligible for immediate re-election after two consecutive terms.

As of January 2021, **119 of the 193 UN Member states will have served as a member of the Human Rights Council**. As per the United Nations, this broad membership not only reflects the UN's diversity, but it gives the Council legitimacy when speaking out on Human Rights violations in all the countries.

INDIA-JAPAN MARITIME BILATERAL EXERCISE JIMEX-21



The **Indian Navy and Japan's Maritime Self-Defence Force** are all set to mark the fifth edition of India-Japan Maritime Bilateral Exercise, popularly known as **JIMEX-21**.

JIMEX-21 will be held from 6 October to 8 October in the Arabian Sea with special focus on maritime security cooperation.

The JIMEX series of maritime exercises began in 2012 and its last edition was held in September 2020.

JIMEX-21 will see the participation of India's indigenously built **guided missile stealth destroyer Kochi and guided missile frigate Teg**, under the command of Rear Admiral Ajay Kochhar, Flag Officer Commanding Western Fleet.

In addition to the ships, **P8I Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft, Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft, integral helicopters and MiG 29K fighter aircraft** will also participate in the exercise.

It aims to **develop common understanding of operational procedures and enhance interoperability** through conduct of a multitude of advanced exercises, across the entire spectrum of maritime operations."

JIMEX-21 will enhance the cooperation and mutual confidence between the two navies and fortify the long-standing bond of friendship between the two countries.

TURKEY IN FATF'S GREY LIST ALONG WITH PAKISTAN

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**.

The FATF asked Islamabad to investigate and prosecute UN-designated **terror terrorists including Hafiz Saeed and Masood Azhar**. It also asked Pakistan to work to address its strategically important deficiencies.



Pakistan was placed on the Grey List by the FATF in June 2018. Since then, Pakistan continues to be in the list due to its failure to comply with the **FATF mandates**.

Due to its placing on the Grey List, it has become increasingly difficult for Pakistan to get financial aid from the **International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank, Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the European Union**.

COUNTRIES OF CONCERN ON CLIMATE LISTED BY US

India is categorized in the Countries of Concern on climate list by an American Intelligence Community report called **National Intelligence Estimate on climate**.

India was put on this list with 10 other countries- **Afghanistan, Haiti, Colombia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Iraq, North Korea, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua**.

These countries will show the brunt of global warmings such as intensifying & more frequent heat waves & droughts, and water & power scarcity.

Frequent heat waves and droughts will build water supply problems. They might strain their electric utility operations while growing population & economies will increase the electricity demands to handle rising temperatures.

Frequent and intense cyclones will contaminate water sources and increase disease transmission in some 11 countries. The instances of dengue will probably increase in countries like **India, Haiti, Afghanistan, Guatemala, Iraq, Honduras, and Pakistan**.

The National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) report was the first-ever "**National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) on climate**". It was put together by the US Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

SANDRA MASON ELECTED AS 1ST PRESIDENT OF BARBADOS



Sandra Mason was elected as the first-ever President of Barbados, with a two-thirds vote during a joint session of the country's House of Assembly and Senate.

The 72-year-old Mason will replace Britain's Queen Elizabeth II as head of state of Barbados, in a decisive step towards abolishing the monarchy and bringing the nation out of its colonial past.

Mason will be formally sworn in as President on November 30, 2021, on the occasion of the nation's 55th anniversary of independence from Britain.

Sandra Mason has been serving as the eighth governor-general of Barbados since 2018. She is a former jurist and first-ever woman to serve on the Barbados Court of Appeals.

She has formerly also served as a High Court judge in Saint Lucia. She was the first woman to be admitted to the Bar in Barbados.

Barbados Political History

Barbados is a small island country that is located in the southeastern Caribbean Sea, in the Caribbean region of the Americas. It is located towards the east of Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

Initially, in the late 15th century, the Spanish had briefly claimed Barbados but it became an English and later British colony from 1625.

Barbados gained its independence from the British on November 30, 1966. Barbados has since then maintained its historical linkages with Britain by becoming a member of the Commonwealth of Nations.

The nation became a constitutional monarchy and parliamentary democracy with Britain's Queen Elizabeth II as its monarch. It is a member of the United Nations.

The nation is now planning to abolish its constitutional monarchy and become a republic.

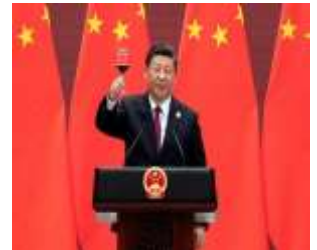
CHINA PASSED NEW LAND BORDER LAW AMID STANDOFF

Amid the military standoff with India in eastern Ladakh, China's national legislature on October 23, 2021, adopted a new Land Border Law for the protection and exploitation of the land border areas.

The law states that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the People's Republic of China are sacred and inviolable. The Land Border Law will come into effect from January 1, 2022.

The Law reflects the growing confidence of China in its capability to manage its 22,000-km land border with 14 countries.

The Land Border Law was approved by the members of the National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee at the closing meeting of the 31st session of the 13th NPC Standing Committee.



The meeting was presided over by the NPC Standing Committee's Chairman Li Zhanshu. President Xi Jinping signed orders to promulgate the law.

The Land Border Law reflects the growing confidence of China in its capability to manage its 22,000-km land border with 14 countries including Russia, North Korea, Mongolia, India, and Bhutan.

China has land border disputes with India (3,488-km along LAC) and Bhutan (400-km) while it has resolved boundary disputes with 12 countries.

The Law states that China shall follow the principle of equality, mutual trust, and friendly consultation.

It will conduct negotiations with neighbouring countries to manage land border-related affairs and resolve longstanding border issues and disputes. Though the law also states that China can close its border if it recognizes a war or any armed conflict as a threat to its border security.

India-China border dispute: India-China border disputes run 3,488-km along the Line of Actual Control (LAC). On June 15, 2020, the India-China border witnessed the worst violence since 1967 that killed 20 Indian soldiers.

The clash occurred in the Galwan Valley which is strategically located between Ladakh on the Indian side of LAC and Aksai Chin on China's side of the LAC.

Following the clash in Galwan Valley, China claimed that the entire valley belongs to China while India termed the claim as exaggerated.

As per experts and scholars, the LAC claims and territorial claims are different. The LAC claims refer to the territory which is under the effective control of each

country. India refers to China's claim to the entire Galwan Valley as unilaterally altering the LAC.

IND, AUS & UK TO LAUNCH IRIS INITIATIVE AT COP-26



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 Conference of Parties (COP26).

The IRIS platform aims at creating an infrastructure that can withstand disasters and lessen economic losses in island nations.

The IRIS initiative will be launched with initial funding of \$10 million from Australia, India and the UK.

The 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) is scheduled to take place from October 31 to November 12, 2021.

TRUMP TO LAUNCH SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM 'TRUTH SOCIAL'

Donald Trump has announced plans to launch a social media platform called TRUTH Social that will be rolled out early next year.



The former US president, who was banned from Facebook and Twitter earlier this year, says his goal is to rival the tech companies that have denied him the megaphone that was paramount to his rise.

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.

PRAVAHINI



ARTICLE OF THE MONTH

INDIA, US, UAE & ISRAEL FORMED A NEW QUAD

Union External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Israel Foreign Minister Yair during a quadrilateral meeting with UAE Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan and US secretary of State Anthony Blinken on October 19, 2021 agreed to establish a joint economic cooperation forum. The four ministers had held talks on possibilities for joint infrastructure projects in the fields of technology, transportation, trade, maritime security and economics. It was decided after the meeting that each minister will appoint senior-level professionals to a joint working group that will form options for cooperation in the areas identified by the ministers. **The ministers aim to hold an in-person meeting in the coming months at Expo 2020 in Dubai.**



WHAT WAS THE AGENDA?

The **Foreign Ministers and Secretary Blinken** discussed expanding economic & political cooperation in the Middle East and Asia through **trade, combating climate change, energy cooperation, and increasing maritime security**. The Ministers also discussed how to support global public health in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic and expand people to people ties in technology and science. The four ministers also held a discussion on possibilities for joint infrastructure projects in the **fields of technology, transportation, maritime security, trade and economics and additional joint projects**. During the talks, Secretary Blinken reiterated the Biden Administration's support for the Abraham Accords and normalization agreements and discussed future opportunities for collaboration in the region and globally. The **Abraham Accords was signed by Israel, UAE and the US in August 2020 to normalise ties between Israel and the UAE**. India had welcomed the agreement, saying it has always been a supporter of peace and stability in our extended neighbourhood.

TRILATERAL COOPERATION

- **India, Israel and the UAE** have also stepped-up trilateral cooperation, especially in trade and investment, after the US negotiated for **Abraham Accords in August 2020 between two West Asian countries**. Under this partnership, an Israel-based company will produce a **robotic solar cleaning technology in India which will be used for a project in the UAE**.
- **Abraham Accords:** Abraham Accords are a joint statement between **Israel, the US and the UAE**. It was signed on August 13, 2020. The term was also used to refer to normalisation agreements **between Israel & UAE and Israel & Bahrain collectively**. It is the first public normalization of relations between any Arab country and Israel since 1994. The accords have been named after Abraham, emphasizing the shared belief between Judaism and Islam. **Both of them are Abrahamic religions which strictly support monotheistic worship of the God of Abraham.**
- **Background:** Union External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar is currently on a five-day visit to Israel at the invitation of **Israel's Alternate Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yair Lapid**. During the visit, he held productive talks with Foreign Affairs Minister Yair Lapid that covered a wide range of regional and global issues.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT ALLIANCES BETWEEN THE NATIONS

AUKUS PARTNERSHIP

The **United States, Britain and Australia** said they would establish a security partnership for the Indo-Pacific that will involve **helping Canberra acquire nuclear-powered submarines**, as Chinese influence over the region grows. **Biden, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison** appeared together virtually to detail the new alliance, which will be called **AUKUS (pronounced AWK-us)**. The three announced they would quickly turn their attention to developing nuclear-powered submarines for Australia.



The new security alliance is likely to be seen as a provocative move by China, which has repeatedly lashed out at Biden as he's sought to refocus US foreign policy on the Pacific in the early going of his presidency. **Washington and its allies are looking for ways to push back against China's growing power and influence**, particularly its military buildup, pressure on **Taiwan and deployments in the contested South China Sea**. The announcement comes just over a week before Biden is to host a first in-person meeting of leaders of the "Quad" group of countries - **Australia, India, Japan and the United States** - that Washington sees as a key means to stand up to China.

WHAT IS AUKUS?

AUKUS is a new enhanced security partnership between three major economies- **Australia, United Kingdom and the United States**. Australian PM Scott Morrison said that AUKUS is a partnership where our technology, our scientists, our industry, and defence force all working together to deliver a safer and more secure region. The **enhanced trilateral security partnership will see Australia build a nuclear-powered fleet of submarines** in a joint endeavor with the US and UK with the main focus being on **interoperability, commonality and mutual benefit**. The joint statement on the formation of trilateral defence partnership between Australia, US and UK read that the three nations are deeply committed to upholding their leadership on global non-proliferation.



AUKUS TO COUNTER CHINA?

The new **trilateral security pact**, AUKUS is perhaps another effort by the US and its allies to counter **China's growing power and influence in the South China Sea**. There was though no mention of China while announcing the partnership.

Background: France already has a substantial Indo-Pacific presence as a key partner & ally in strengthening the security & prosperity of the region. **US President Joe Biden** said that the US looks forward to working closely with **France & other key countries as they go forward**.

FIVE EYES ALLIANCE

The **Five Eyes alliance** is an intelligence-sharing arrangement between five English-speaking democracies: the **US, UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand**. The alliance was created during the Cold War (1946-1991) that was fought between the **United States and the Soviet Union**, as well as their respective allies. The alliance was needed to share sensitive information regarding their adversaries on all possible fronts available. It is often described as the world's most successful intelligence alliance.

QUADRILATERAL SECURITY DIALOGUE (QUAD)

The **Quadrilateral Security Dialogue** is a strategic dialogue between **Japan, India, the US, and Australia**. The significant dialogue between the four nations was initiated in 2007 by the then **Prime Minister of Japan Shinzo Abe, Australian Prime Minister John Howard, US Vice President Dick Cheney, and the Prime Minister of India Manmohan Singh**. The dialogue was ceased after the withdrawal of Australia during Kevin Rudd's tenure as the Prime Minister. However, it was revived again during the 2017 ASEAN Summits, when the four leaders Narendra Modi, Shinzo Abe, Malcolm Turnbull, and Donald Trump agreed to revive the alliance. Quad, the diplomatic and military engagement, was widely viewed as a response to China's growing economic and military power in the Indo-Pacific region.



ALLIANCE OF US, PAK, AFGHANISTAN & UZBEKISTAN

The **United States, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Uzbekistan** have agreed to establish a new quadrilateral diplomatic platform to enhance regional connectivity. All four nations- **the US, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Uzbekistan** intend to cooperate to expand trade, build transit links and strengthen business-to-business ties, recognising the historic opportunity to open flourishing interregional trade routes. The representatives from the four nations will be meeting in the coming months to determine the modalities of the cooperation with mutual consensus. The new diplomatic platform **will work to expand trade, build transit links and strengthen business-to-business ties**.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ALLIANCE

Afghanistan is bordered by **Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan to the north, Pakistan** towards the east and south, **Iran** to the west and **China to the northeast**. The land-locked nation's location has for a long time been seen as a competitive advantage for the country. Afghanistan has since long been the **crossroads of commerce between Asian countries by connecting them to Europe** and enhancing religious, cultural and commercial contacts. Afghanistan is located at the heart of the historic silk road.

Impact on China's BRI Initiative: The new quad group's formation is significant as it comes amid **China's efforts to extend its Belt Road Initiative (BRI) to Afghanistan**. The Belt Road Initiative was launched by Chinese President Xi Jinping when he came to power in 2013. The **Belt Road Initiative aims to link Southeast Asia, Central Asia, the Gulf region, Africa and Europe with a network of land and sea routes**. Afghanistan due to its strategic location can provide China with a strategic base to spread its influence across the world. **Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan** had visited Uzbekistan in the past week for an official two-day visit during which he highlighted the benefits of regional connectivity and invited the nation to become the party to **China's Belt and Road Initiative**.

TURKEY IN FATF'S GREY LIST WITH PAKISTAN

In a major blow to the two nations, the **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)** on October 21, 2021 placed Turkey on its grey list for failing to check terror financing and retained Pakistan as well. Overall, **three countries were added to the grey list this time- Jordan, Mali and Turkey**. The decision was announced at the conclusion of the FATF's three-day plenary session that was **held to discuss key issues in the fight against terror financing and money laundering**.



HOW LONG WILL PAKISTAN REMAIN FATF GREY LIST?

As per FATF President, Pakistan will remain on the grey list till it addresses all items on the original action plan agreed to in June 2018 along with all items on a parallel action plan handed out by the watchdog's regional partner - **the Asia Pacific Group (APG) - in 2019**. However, the FATF President noted that Pakistan has made significant progress **this time as it has largely addressed 26 out of 27 items on the action plan it first committed to in June 2018**. However, the remaining item on financial terrorism still needs to be addressed, which concerns the "investigation and prosecution of senior leaders and commanders of UN-designated terror groups".

HOW DOES 'GREY LIST' IMPACT COUNTRIES?

FATF grey list puts countries under the scanner for not implementing the objectives of the task force. With the entry of a country into the grey list, it can face intense scrutiny from FATF and its members.

Besides denting the country's image, the greylisting can impact a nation's economy as it would make it harder for foreign investors to do business in a country that is blamed for funding terror activities. Grey-listing of a nation lessens the investor's confidence in the country. **Being placed on the FATF grey list also makes borrowing from international debt markets harder and costlier, as it reduces the nation's credibility**.

Pakistan is retained **for failing to effectively implement the global FATF standards** and over its lack of progress on investigation and prosecution of senior leaders and commanders of UN-designated terror groups. Pakistan will remain on the grey list till it addresses all items on the original action plan agreed to in June 2018 as well as all items on a parallel action plan handed out by the **FATF's regional partner - the Asia Pacific Group (APG) - in 2019**. The Pakistan government has two concurrent action plans, with a total of 34 action plan items. It has largely addressed 30 of the items. **Pakistan has made significant progress and it has largely addressed 26 out of 27 items on the action plan it first committed to in June 2018**. The item on financial terrorism still needed to be addressed. The 2019 action plan largely focussed on money laundering deficiencies. The FATF had advised that Pakistan should continue to work to address its six strategically important deficiencies, which included enhancing international cooperation by amending the money-laundering law and demonstrating that assistance was being sought from foreign countries in implementing the UNSCR 1373 designations. **The UNSC Resolution 1373 was adopted on 28th September 2001**. It declares international terrorism a threat to international peace and security and imposes binding obligations on all UN member states.

WHY HAS PAKISTAN BEEN RETAINED ON THE FATF GREY LIST?

Pakistan has been in the FATF grey list since June 2018 for deficiencies in its counter-terror financing and **anti-money laundering regimes**. Pakistan was retained on the grey list repeatedly for failing to effectively implement the global FATF standards. The nation has so far failed to meet the deadlines given to it to fulfill the conditions to get off the list. **Pakistan was in June 2021 given three months** to fulfill the remaining conditions by October. However, it has failed to address all the conditions within the given timeline.



Background: The FATF had issued the 27-point action plan after placing Pakistan on the 'Grey List' in June 2018. The action plan pertains to curbing money laundering and terror financing. **Pakistan was first put on the list in 2008, removed in 2009 and then again remained under increased monitoring from 2012 to 2015.** Pakistan's inclusion in the grey list has adversely impacted that country's prospects of obtaining financial assistance from world bodies such as the International Monetary Fund, World Bank, and Asia Development Bank.

FINANCIAL ACTION TASK FORCE

- **About:** An inter-governmental body established in **1989 during the G7 Summit in Paris**. Assesses the strength of a country's anti-money laundering and anti-terror financing frameworks, however it does not go by individual cases.
- **Objectives:** To set standards & promote effective implementation of legal, regulatory and operational measures for combating money laundering, terrorist financing and other related threats to the integrity of the international financial system.
- **Headquarters:** Its Secretariat is located at the **Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)** headquarters in Paris.
- **Member Countries:** The FATF currently has 39 members including two regional organisations - **the European Commission and Gulf Cooperation Council**. India is a member of the FATF.



LISTS UNDER FATF

- **Grey List:** Countries that are considered safe haven for **supporting terror funding and money laundering are put in the FATF grey list**. This inclusion serves as a warning to the country that it may enter the blacklist.
- **Black List:** Countries known as **Non-Cooperative Countries or Territories (NCCTs)** are put in the blacklist. These countries support terror funding and money laundering activities. The FATF revises the blacklist regularly, adding or deleting entries.
- Currently, Iran and Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) are under High-risk Jurisdiction or black list.
- **Sessions:** The FATF Plenary is the decision making body of the FATF. It meets three times per year.



ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

INDIA & AUSTRALIA AGREED TO END FTA BY 2022



India and Australia agreed to close the trade Agreement, FTA, between the 2 nations by 2022.

The announcement was made by Union Commerce and Industry Minister

Piyush Goyal and Australian counterpart Don Tehan.

Addressing the event as an enormous day for the economic partnership between the 2 countries, agreed on a roadmap towards finalizing the FTA after today's discussion. The 2022 deadline is the conclusion of the FTA.

Under two conditions, **article 24 of the World Trade Organization, WTO allows countries to make customs unions (CUs) or FTAs.** First, members should substantially eliminate all internal trade barriers inside the union; second, external trade barriers shouldn't be raised on average.

The deal leverages the complementarities between the 2 countries and would unlock the trade potential. **India didn't join RCEP because it had not been within the economic interest of RCEP.**

WORLD BANK ESTIMATED INDIA' GDP GROWTH AT 8.3%



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.

India's economy, **South Asia's largest, is expected to grow by 8.3 per cent in the fiscal year 2021-22,** aided by an increase in public investment and incentives to boost manufacturing,".

The World Bank said in its update on **South Asia, titled 'Shifting Gears: Digitization and Services-led Development.**

The GDP growth projection for India in three fiscal years as per World Bank is as follows:

2021-22 (FY22): 8.3%

2022-23 (FY23): 7.5%

2023-24 (FY24): 6.5%

INDIA & ISRAEL TO RESUME FTA NEGOTIATIONS

The **Free Trade Agreement negotiations between India and Israel** are set to resume from November.

India and Israel will negotiate on FTA to conclude a long-pending deal by June 2022. Discussions regarding FTA have been going on between India and Israel for over a decade, and a definite deadline has been set for the first time.



India is the third-largest Asian trade partner of Israel as of 2014 and the tenth-largest trade partner of Israel.

The **bilateral trade between the countries stands at \$4.52 billion**, excluding military sales. Both countries are negotiating a comprehensive bilateral free-trade agreement that focuses on biotechnology, information technology and agriculture.

Israel is represented by an embassy in New Delhi, while consulates in **Mumbai & Bangalore** and **India** have set up their embassy in Tel Aviv.

India is the most comprehensive buyer of military equipment from Israel, while **Israel is the second-largest supplier of military equipment to India, following Russia.**

GITA GOPINATH TO LEAVE INT. MONETARY FUND (IMF)

Gita Gopinath, the first-ever woman chief economist of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is set to leave her post in January 2022. This was announced by **IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva** on October 19, 2021.



The 49-year-old had made history by becoming the first-ever woman chief economist of IMF when she joined the fund in October 2018. She has played a major role in leading IMF's analytical research, **especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.**

She had a significant part in drafting a \$50 billion proposal on ending the Covid-19 pandemic by vaccinating at least 40 percent people of all countries by the end of 2021 and 60 percent by the first half of 2022.

Her proposal later received the backing of the **World Health Organisation, World Bank and the World Trade Organization.**

Gita Gopinath is currently on a public service leave of absence from the university. The leave, which was already extended by one year, is scheduled to end soon.

She will continue to be a part of the IMF to oversee the release of its next **World Economic Outlook forecasts in January 2022.**

Gita Gopinath was appointed as the Chief Economist of IMF in October 2018. Before that, she taught International Studies and Economics at Harvard University.

She had been named as a young global leader by the World Economic Forum in 2011. Gopinath was born in India to Malayalee parents and did her schooling in Kolkata and graduated from the Lady Shri Ram College of Commerce in Delhi.

MICROSOFT BECOMES WORLD'S MOST VALUABLE COMPANY

Microsoft passed Apple in market cap making it the world's most valuable publicly traded company, after Apple missed earnings expectations on Thursday.

Microsoft had a market cap of nearly \$2.49 trillion at market close, while Apple's stood at about \$2.46 trillion.

Microsoft became the second US public firm to surpass a \$2 trillion market value in June, driven by expectations that its dominance in cloud computing and enterprise software will expand further in a post-coronavirus future.

This year, its stock has outpaced Apple and Amazon.com Inc. on forecasts of long-term earnings and revenue growth, as well as expansion in areas such as machine learning and cloud computing.



Microsoft is up more than 49%, Apple is up around 13%, and Amazon is up more than 3%.

Apple was the first company to reach a \$1 trillion and \$2 trillion market cap. It became the world's most valuable publicly traded company when it surpassed state oil giant Saudi Aramco in market cap last year.

Microsoft last topped Apple in market cap in 2020 as the coronavirus pandemic wreaked havoc on supply chains. It first closed above a \$2 trillion market cap in June after revealing the first major update to Windows in more than five years.



ARTICLE OF THE MONTH

TATA GROUP WINS BID FOR AIR INDIA

Tata Sons has been declared as the winning bidder for the **Air India sale** on October 8, 2021, said Tuhin Kanta Pandey, Secretary, Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM). Among the frontrunners to buy Air India, Tata Sons submitted a financial bid worth Rs 18,000 crores. **Tata Sons and SpiceJet Chairman Ajay Singh** had placed their financial bids for Air India. Air India's divestment was a bold plan by the **PM Modi-led government** towards the privatization of **India's flag carrier Air India and the second attempt of the government to sell the loss-making national carrier**. The Tata Sons submitted bids through its **100 per cent arm Talace Private Ltd and SpiceJet CEO Ajay Singh** submitted its bids in his personal capacity along with some investment funds, media reports stated.

Reasons for Disinvestment: It is hoped that with AI passing into the private sector, its operations and costs will get streamlined, services on board will **improve and basic services like wi-fi will also be made available**. A strong international carrier in India will give a boost to the large airports built in **Delhi, Hyderabad, Mumbai and Bengaluru** which along with AI will be able to win back some of the tourist dollars from Indians travelling abroad who are currently travelling on foreign carriers.



A successful turnaround of Air India could also help the Indian economy as it is a well-established fact that aviation has a multiplier effect on the economy. There is a pressure on the government to raise resources to support the **economic recovery and meet expectations of higher outlays for healthcare**.

Significance: It will save taxpayers money from paying for daily losses of AI. It will help push other tough decisions the government is keen on taking. It will possibly give the **option of flying one more low-cost carrier domestically**.

WHO WERE BIDDING FOR AIR INDIA?

Tata Sons, who operate Vistara and AirAsia India is the frontrunner in the bidding process for the sale of Air India. The **Tata Sons submitted bids through its 100 per cent arm Talace Private Ltd**. The shareholders of the Company had approved a fund-raise programme of Rs 40,000 crore via non-convertible debentures to finance acquisitions and invest in businesses. If Tata Sons emerge as the successful bidder, then Air India will be back in the control of its founders. **Tata Group had set the Tata Airlines in 1932** which was renamed Air India in 1946. The Indian government took control of Air India in 1953.

SpiceJet CEO Ajay is making his bid in his personal capacity in the sale of Air India

WHAT WILL THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER GET?

The successful bidder from the sale of Air India will get control of **4,400 domestic and 1,800 international landing and parking slots at domestic airports**. The winning bidder will also get 900 slots across airports overseas. The successful bidder will also get **100 per cent of the low-cost arm Air India Express and 50% of Air India SATS Airport Services Private Limited (AISATS)** which offers cargo and ground handling services at major Indian airports. Other properties such as Airlines House in Delhi, Air India building in Mumbai, Air India's subsidiaries such as **Air India Air Transport Services Limited (AITSL)**, and Air India Engineering Services Limited (AIESL) will be a part of the deal. The bidder will also get 4 acres of land at Connaught Place in Delhi, various housing societies across **Mumbai, Delhi, and other cities for AI employees**.



FINANCIAL DEBT OF AIR INDIA

Air India is currently facing an average daily loss of about Rs 20-25 crore. As per official data, the airlines had an operating revenue of Rs 25,509 crore, operating expense of Rs 30,194 crore and an operating loss of Rs 4,685 crore in the fiscal year 2019. On a net basis, the loss incurred by the airline **was a record high at Rs 8,556 crore in the previous financial year**. Hence, the central government is not keen on giving any more financial support to the airline and has announced its plan to shut it down if the second disinvestment attempt fails. This time, the government has decided

to sell its entire stake in the airline and also remove a large part of its debt and clear its other liabilities. As per industry analysts, even though the overall economic environment remains subdued, there would be significant investor interest for Air India given its wide domestic and international network. **IndiGo is expected to be one of the strong contenders for Air India.**

WHAT IS DISINVESTMENT?

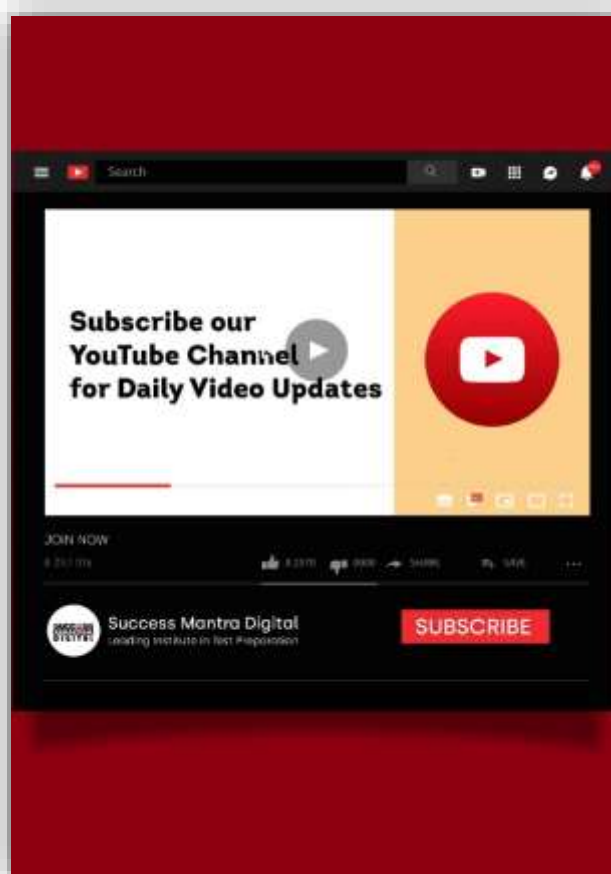
Disinvestment means sale or liquidation of assets by the government, usually Central and state public sector enterprises, projects, or other fixed assets. The government undertakes disinvestment to reduce the fiscal burden on the exchequer, or to raise money for meeting specific needs, such as to bridge the revenue shortfall from other regular sources. **Strategic disinvestment** is the transfer of the ownership and control of a **public sector entity to some other entity (mostly to a private sector entity)**. Unlike the simple disinvestment, strategic sale implies a kind of privatization. The disinvestment commission defines strategic sale as the sale of a substantial portion of the **Government shareholding of a central public sector enterprises (CPSE) of upto 50%**, or such higher percentage as the competent authority may determine, along with transfer of management control. The **Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) under the Ministry of Finance** is the nodal department for the strategic stake sale in the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs).



Strategic disinvestment in India has been guided by the basic economic principle that the government should not be in the business to engage itself in manufacturing/producing goods and services in sectors where competitive markets have come of age. The economic potential of such entities may be better discovered in the hands of the strategic investors due to various factors, e.g. infusion of capital, technology up-gradation and efficient management practices etc.

AIR INDIA SALE: BACKGROUND

In 2018, the government attempted to sell a 76 per cent stake in Air India but failed. Two years ago, the government trying to retain a 26 per cent stake in the loss-making national carrier was a major hurdle in the disinvestment of Air India. The private sector was apprehensive in the airline privatization process with a government-appointed board member. **The government in its second attempt has sweetened the deal to complete the Air India sale by December 2021.** The government in per cent stake in the Air other subsidiaries: **low-cost per cent stake of Air India Private Limited (AISATS).** Air India privatization of **Direct Taxes (CBDT)** the transfer of capital assets company. The total debt of 43,000 crores of which Rs transferred to the **Air India (AIAHL)** and the remaining successful bidder. The amount transferred to transferred to the successful for its Maharaja mascot, is airlines. The national carrier **international network, manpower, large fleet and airports such as London international carrier out of of 18.6 percent.** Its domestic percent in December 2019. fleet of 125 aircraft.



2021 is willing to sell its 100 India airline along with two **Air India Express and a 50 SATS Airport Services** In order to further ease the process, the **Central Board** has also offered tax relief on of Air India to a holding Air India has reached Rs 22,000 crores will be **Asset Holding Limited** will be borne by the government will bear the AIAHL before the airline is bidder. Air India, known one of India's leading has a wide **domestic and traffic rights, technical slots at key foreign and Dubai.** It is the largest India with a market share market share was 11.9 Overall, the carrier has a

APPOINTMENTS

KV SUBRAMANIAN RESIGNED AS CHIEF ECONOMIC ADVISER



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.

KV Subramanian had taken over the charge of Chief Economic Adviser on December 7, 2018. The appointment was made nearly five months after his predecessor Arvind Subramanian had stepped down.

KV Subramanian, earlier in his career, had been part of the expert committees for the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Subramanian has also been well-versed with the private sector, with brief stints in top corporates including ICICI Bank, JPMorgan Chase, and Tata Consultancy Services.

Role of Chief Economic Adviser:

CEA (Chief Economic Adviser) is a post in the Government of India. It is equivalent to the rank of Secretary to the Government of India.

The Chief Economic Adviser is head of the Economic Division of the Economic Affairs Department, Ministry of Finance.

The extent to which the Indian Government takes into account the advice of CEA has generally been considered to be open-ended.

HIGH COURTS OF INDIA TO GET NEW CHIEF JUSTICE



The Government notified the appointments of eight and transfers 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.

ASHOK BHUSHAN APPOINTED AS CHAIRPERSON OF NCLAT

The Centre has appointed former Supreme Court Judge Justice Ashok Bhushan as the new Chairperson of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), for a period of four years or until he attains the age of 70 years, whichever is the earliest.



He was the former Chief Justice of Kerala High Court. NCLAT was formed by the government under Section 410 of the Companies Act, 2013.

Apart from this, Justice Ramalingam Sudhakar has been appointed as the new President of the quasi-judicial body, National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) for five years or till he attains the age of 67 years.

Justice Sudhakar was the former Chief Justice of Manipur High Court.

ANITA ANAND AS CANADA'S NEW DEFENCE MINISTER

Anita Anand, Indian-Origin Canadian politician, announced to be the new Defence Minister of Canada.

The decision was taken in a cabinet reshuffle by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, a month after his liberal party returned to power in snap polls and amid the calls for the major military reforms.

The 54-year old Anita Anand will replace a long time Defence Minister of India-Origin Harjit Sajjan, who has been under criticism for his handling of military sexual misconduct.

The new Cabinet of Canada maintains the gender balance and has 39 members, up one person from before the election. The new Cabinet was sworn in at the Rideau Hall in Ottawa.

The new Defence Minister of Canada, Anita Anand, has a deep background as a corporate lawyer. She has worked extensively on corporate governance, which refers particularly to the laws and rules in place to manage the operations of the business.

Anand was first elected as the rookie Member of Parliament in 2019 representing Oakville in Ontario Province. She served as the procurement minister throughout the Coronavirus pandemic in Canada.

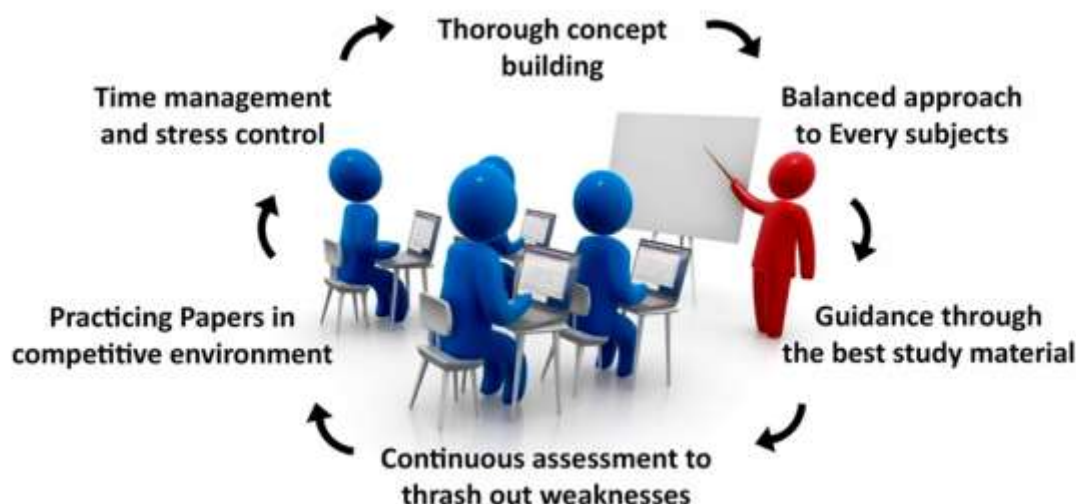
Reportedly, the top priority of Anita Anand as the new Defence Minister of Canada is to make everyone feel safe in the armed forces. Notably, the former Defence Minister Harjit Sajjan was criticized for his handling of sexual misconduct.

Anand has been seen as a strong contender for weeks among the defence industry experts. According to them, moving Anand into the role will send a powerful signal to the survivors and the victims of the military sexual misconduct that the Canadian Government is serious about implementing major reforms.

The latest reshuffling of Canadian Cabinet ministers is being done after Liberal Prime Minister Justin Trudeau made a comeback by winning the recently held parliamentary elections in September 2021.

He won against the Conservative Leader Erin O'Toole, however, Trudeau failed to gain an absolute majority.

IDEAL MENTORING CYCLE BY SUCCESS MANTRA



AWARDS & HONOR

NOBEL PRIZE AWARDED IN PHYSIOLOGY OR MEDICINE



The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2021 was awarded jointly to **David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian** "for their discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch."

These breakthrough discoveries launched intense research activities leading to a rapid increase in our understanding of how our nervous system senses heat, cold, and mechanical stimuli.

The laureates identified critical missing links in our understanding of the complex interplay between our senses and the environment. The announcement was made by a panel at the **Karolinska Institute in Stockholm**.

About the David Julius: David Julius of the University of California utilised capsaicin, a pungent compound from chili peppers that induces a burning sensation, to identify a sensor in the nerve endings of the skin that responds to heat.

About the Ardem Patapoutian: Ardem Patapoutian, who is with Howard Hughes Medical Institute at Scripps Research, used pressure-sensitive cells to discover a novel class of sensors that respond to mechanical stimuli in the skin and internal organs.

The Nobel Prize: 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 AWARDED IN CHEMISTRY (2021)

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2021 was awarded jointly to **Benjamin List and David W.C. MacMillan** "for the development of asymmetric organocatalysis."

This has had a great impact on pharmaceutical research and has made chemistry greener. **The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has decided to award the Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2021.**

Catalysts are thus fundamental tools for chemists, but researchers long believed that there were, in principle, just two types of catalysts available: metals and enzymes.



Benjamin List and David MacMillan are awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2021 because in 2000 they, independent of each other, developed a third type of catalysis. It is called asymmetric organocatalysis and builds upon small organic molecules.

About the Benjamin List: Benjamin List, born 1968 in Frankfurt, Germany. Ph.D. 1997 from Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany. Director of the Max-Planck-Institut für Kohlenforschung, Mülheim an der Ruhr, Germany.

About David W.C. MacMillan: David W.C. MacMillan, born 1968 in Bellshill, UK. Ph.D. 1996 from University of California, Irvine, USA. Professor at Princeton University, USA.

NOBEL PRIZE AWARDED IN PHYSICS 2021

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has decided to award the Nobel Prize in Physics 2021.

Syukuro Manabe, Klaus Hasselmann, Giorgio Parisi jointly won the 2021 Nobel Prize in Physics for groundbreaking contributions to our understanding of complex physical systems.

The Nobel Prize in Physics is awarded by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm, Sweden. The prestigious award comes with a gold medal and 10 million Swedish kronor (over \$1.14 million).



Contribution of Syukuro Manabe and Klaus Hasselmann:

Syukuro Manabe (Princeton University, USA) and Klaus Hasselmann (Max Planck Institute for Meteorology, Hamburg, Germany) awarded for the physical modelling of Earth's climate, quantifying variability and reliably predicting global warming".
Contribution of Giorgio Parisi:

Giorgio Parisi (Sapienza University of Rome, Italy) was awarded for the discovery of the interplay of disorder

and fluctuations in physical systems from atomic to planetary scales.

MARIA RESSA & DMITRY MURATOV WINS NOBEL PEACE PRIZE



Maria Ressa and Dmitry Muratov, journalists whose work has angered the rulers of the Philippines and Russia, were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Maria Ressa uses freedom of expression to **expose abuse of power, use of violence and growing authoritarianism in her native country, the Philippines.**

Dmitry Muratov has for decades **defended freedom of speech in Russia** under increasingly challenging conditions.

The Norwegian Nobel Committee is convinced that freedom of expression and freedom of information are crucial prerequisites for democracy and protection against war and conflict.

The 2021 peace prize laureates are representative of **all journalists who stand up for this ideal in a world in which democracy and freedom of the press face increasingly adverse conditions.**

The prize is the first Nobel Peace Prize for journalists since the German Carl von Ossietzky won it in 1935 for revealing his country's secret post-war rearmament programme.

Muratov is the first Russian to win the peace prize since Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in 1990. Gorbachev himself has long been associated with Novaya Gazeta, having contributed some of his Nobel prize money to help set up the paper in the early post-Soviet days when Russians anticipated new freedoms.

Ressa is the first winner of a Nobel prize in any field from the Philippines.

Rappler, which she co-founded in 2012, has grown prominent through investigative reporting, including into large scale killings during a police campaign against drugs.

NOBEL PRIZE IN ECONOMICS 2021

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has decided to award the **Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2021** with one half to David Card (University of California, Berkeley, USA) "for his empirical contributions to labour economics".

The other half jointly to **Joshua Angrist (Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, USA) and Guido Imbens (Stanford University, USA)** "for their methodological contributions to the analysis of causal relationships".

This year's Laureates – **David Card, Joshua Angrist and Guido Imbens** – have provided us with new insights about the labour market and shown what conclusions about cause and effect can be drawn from natural experiments.



Their approach has spread to other fields and revolutionised empirical research.

About the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences: In 1968, Sveriges Riksbank (Sweden's central bank) established the Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel, founder of the Nobel Prize.

The Prize is based on a donation received by the Nobel Foundation in 1968 from **Sveriges Riksbank on the occasion of the Bank's 300th anniversary.** The **first Prize in Economic Sciences** was awarded to Ragnar Frisch and Jan Tinbergen in 1969.

The Prize in Economic Sciences is awarded by the **Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm, Sweden,** according to the same principles as for the Nobel Prizes that have been awarded since 1901.

TANZANIAN NOVELIST WON NOBEL PRIZE IN LITERATURE

Tanzanian novelist Abdulrazak Gurnah has been awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2021.



The Swedish Academy bestowed on him the honour "for his uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of **colonialism and the fate of the refugee in the gulf between cultures and continents.**"

The 72-year-old author was born in Zanzibar and has written 10 novels and several short stories. All his works are weaved with a common thread – **the experience of refugees, mirroring his own.**

However, his writing reflects his clear-eyed perspective of the past, one that is not dipped in nostalgia.

His first novel was **Memory of Departure** (1987), but his breakthrough work was **Paradise** (1994).

Who is Abdulrazak Gurnah?

The Tanzanian novelist was born in Zanzibar in 1948 and has since lived in the UK and Nigeria. **He writes in English, and his most famous novel is Paradise, which was shortlisted for the Booker prize in 1994.**

Gurnah currently lives in the UK and taught English Literature at the University of Kent.

Until recently, he was Professor of English and Postcolonial Literatures at the University of Kent, Canterbury and has published ten novels and a number of short stories.

MICROSOFT TEAM AWARDED WITH CK PRAHLAD AWARD



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.

The **four top Microsoft leaders have received the Award for their collaborative leadership** to transform Microsoft into a carbon negative company by 2030 and remove all its historical emissions by 2050.

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.**

About C K Prahlad Award: The award was created in 2010 by **the Corporate Eco Forum (CEF)** in honour of its founding Advisory Board member C.K. Prahalad.

The award recognizes winners for exemplifying the fundamental connection between sustainability, innovation and long-term business success in a globalizing world.

PEACE PRIZE OF THE GERMAN BOOK TRADE 2021



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"

It is 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.

Dangarembga is the first black woman to win the German Peace Prize.

She has won the PEN Pinter prize 2021. Her debut novel, *Nervous condition* was the first to be published in English by black women from Zimbabwe.

About German Peace Prize:

Awarded by: Börsenverein des Deutschen Buchhandels, the German Publishers and Booksellers Association, Germany

MAJOR DHYAN CHAND KHEL RATNA AWARD

India's inspiring show at the **Paralympics and Tokyo Olympics** has reflected in an unprecedented 11 recommendations for the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award.

Indian athletes **Neeraj Chopra, Lovlina Borgohain, Ravi Dahiya and Mithali Raj** are among those who have been named for the highest honour.

Apart from Khel Ratna Award, the selection committee has also recommended 35 athletes for Arjun Honour, **which is eight more than the last year's pick.**

Dronacharya Award, on the other hand, will be awarded to **TP Ouseph, Radhakrishna Nair, Sandeep Sangwan** among others.

Athletes recommended for Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award

The 23-year old Neeraj Chopra had become the only second Indian to win an individual Olympic Gold Medal in the recently held Tokyo Olympics 2020.

Besides Chopra, **silver-medal winning wrestler Ravi Dahiya, woman boxer Lovlina Borgohain**, who won a bronze have been recommended for the country's highest sports honour.

Women's Cricket Team ODI and Test Match Captain Mithali Raj and seasoned Hockey Goalkeeper PR Sreejesh has been selected with Sunil Chhetri, who is set to become **India's first footballer to receive Khel Ratna Award.**

Recommendation for Arjuna Award

35 athletes have been recommended for the Arjuna Award. **Para table tennis player Bhavina Patel, cricketer Shikhar Dhawan, para shuttler Suhas Sathitraj and High Jumper Nishad Kumar** are among

those who have been selected for the award for their outstanding performances.

Shikhar Dhawan has become the 57th cricketer to be awarded the Arjuna Honour.

All the members of the men's Hockey team, who won the historic Tokyo Olympics bronze medal, have been recommended for recognition. However, it doesn't include those who have already won the honour.

Major Dhyhan Chand Khel Ratna Award carries a prize of Rs. 25 lakh and a citation, while the Arjun Award winners will receive Rs. 15 lakh each and a citation.

Renaming of Khel Ratna Award

In August 2021, Prime Minister Modi had announced that the **Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award has been renamed as the Major Dhyhan Chand Khel Ratna Award.**

The Prime Minister said that the highest sporting honour in India which was named after the former **Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi** has been rechristened in the **honour of Hockey wizard Major Dhyhan Chand.**

And also the decision of renaming the award has been taken on the requests of citizens from all over the country.

51ST DADASAHEB PHALKE AWARD TO RAJNIKANTH

Legendary actor Rajnikanth was honoured with the 51st Dadasaheb Phalke Award at the 67th National Film Awards ceremony held in Delhi.

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu conferred the prestigious award upon the actor for his outstanding contribution to the world of Indian cinema.

The Dadasaheb Phalke Award for 2019 was supposed to be announced last year along with the **2019 National Film Awards but it was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.**

The Dadasaheb Phalke is awarded for **excellence in cinematic achievement by the union government.** It is India's highest honour in films.



Rajinikanth, who enjoys a demigod status in the south, has now become the **12th South Indian to win the prestigious film award.**

The award has honoured several other legends in the past including **K Balachander, Akkineni Nageshwar Rao and Dr. Rajkumar.**

Rajinikanth was honoured with the Padma Bhushan in 2000 and Padma Vibhushan in 2016.

Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2018 winner: **The 50th Dadasaheb Phalke Award was conferred upon another Legendary Indian actor-Amitabh Bachchan** for his immense contribution to Indian cinema.

The megastar had shared screen space with **Rajinikanth in the 1991 action-drama film 'Hum'.**

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SPORTS

CHENNAI SUPER KINGS WINS 4TH IPL TITLE



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 which is 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 the highest number of times, i.e 5 times.

FIFA UNVEILED MASCOT OF U-17 WOMEN'S WC 2022



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**.

According to a release issued by the global body, Ibha aims to inspire women and girls across India and around the world to realise their potential.

Ibha is a **strong, playful and charming Asiatic lioness** that aims to inspire and encourage women and girls by using teamwork, resilience, kindness and empowering others.

RAHUL DRAVID AS COACH OF SENIOR INDIAN CRICKET TEAM

In one of the **biggest developments in Indian cricket**, Rahul Dravid has agreed to become the coach of the **Indian senior team during the IPL final**.

The development happened in Dubai when BCCI president Sourav Ganguly and secretary Jay Shah held a meeting with Dravid and persuaded him to become the coach of the Indian team after the T20 World Cup in UAE.



As per reports, Dravid, also known as **'The Wall' of Indian cricket**, has been roped in on a two-year contract and he will draw a salary of INR 10 crores.

Team India has also appointed Lieutenant **Paras Mhambrey as their bowling coach**, replacing Bharat Arun.

Even as **Vikram Rathour has been persisted with as the batting coach**, the decision on who should replace fielding coach R Sridhar hasn't been made just yet.

INDIA RANKED AT 106TH FIFA IN MEN'S RANKINGS

Belgium has retained the top rank in FIFA Men's rankings October 2021 with a total of 1832.33 points, followed by Brazil at second rank with 1820.36 points.

Defending World Champions France has moved up the FIFA men's rankings list to the **third position** with 1779.24 points, followed by Italy which has also moved up to the fourth rank with 1750.52 points.



England has dropped two positions to fifth rank with a total of 1750.16 points, **followed by Argentina at the sixth position with 1738.79 points**.

India is ranked at the 106th position with a total of 1182.75 points. India has moved up on the list. Senegal,

which is ranked at the 20th position, is the **best-ranked African nation in the latest FIFA men's ranking list.**

Iran is the highest-ranked Asian nation in the FIFA men's ranking with 22nd rank. 2022 FIFA World Cup host Qatar, the 2019 Asian Cup champion, is ranked at the 46th position.

The **FIFA Men's rankings in October 2021 will likely come to play when FIFA makes the seedings for the 2022 World Cup draw.** So far only, three teams have qualified for the 2022 World Cup and they include **hosts Qatar, Germany and Denmark.**

The **2022 FIFA World Cup** is scheduled to take place in Qatar from November 21- December 18, 2022.

The **World Cup** will be the first one to be held in the Arab world and the second to be held entirely in Asia after the 2002 World Cup hosted by Japan and South Korea.

AHMEDABAD & LUCKNOW TO BE TWO NEW IPL TEAMS

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.**

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DATES & DAYS

GANDHI JAYANTI CELEBRATED ON 2ND OCTOBER



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

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS: 1ST OCTOBER

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.**

History: On 14 December 1990, the United Nations General Assembly designated October 1 as the International Day of Older Persons (resolution 45/106).

This was preceded by initiatives such as the Vienna International Plan of Action on Ageing, which was adopted by the 1982 World Assembly on Ageing and endorsed later that year by the UN General Assembly.

WORLD HABITAT DAY OBSERVED ON OCTOBER 4TH

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 day is commemorated every year worldwide to throw light on the condition of

our towns and cities, and on the basic right of all to adequate shelter.

The day is also intended to remind the world that we all have the power and the responsibility to shape the future of our cities and towns. **The theme for 2021 World Habitat Day is "Accelerating urban action for a carbon-free world".**

History: In 1985 the United Nations designated the first Monday of October every year as World Habitat Day. **World Habitat Day was first celebrated in 1986 with the theme "Shelter is My Right".**

WORLD SPACE WEEK: 4TH TO 10TH OCTOBER



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"!**

History of World Space Week: **WSW was declared by the United Nations General Assembly on December 6, 1999.**

The dates commemorate the launch of the **first artificial satellite, Sputnik I**, on 4 October 1957 and the entry into force of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of **Outer Space including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies** on 10 October 1967.

GANGA RIVER DOLPHIN DAY: OCTOBER'S 5TH



In India, the 'Ganga dolphin Day' is observed each year on October 5 to **raise knowledge and support the protection of Ganga River Dolphins.**

On this day in 2010 the Ganga Dolphins were declared **national aquatic animals**. **WWF, The World Wide Fund for Nature, in 2012** and the Uttar Pradesh government jointly began the dolphin conservation campaign.

The Gangetic Dolphins are included under the primary Schedule of Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. **They have been declared "Endangered" under IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature).**

They're listed under Appendix I as most endangered under the **Convention on International trade in endangered species (CITES).**

The Vikramshila Ganges Dolphin Sanctuary was established in Bihar under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE WEEK B/W 2ND TO 8TH OCT.

National Wildlife Week is annually celebrated across India between 2nd to 8th October to **guard and preserve flora and fauna of India.**



The Wildlife Week 2021 is widely known from 2 October to 8 October. In 2021, **India is commemorating 67th Wildlife Week.**

The National Wildlife Week theme 2021: **"Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet".**

The Indian Board of Wildlife was established, and the Wildlife Week was conceptualized in 1952 to boost awareness about the future goals of protecting the wildlife of India.

Initially, in 1955 the **Wildlife day** was celebrated, later upgraded as **Wildlife Week** in 1957.

The theme shows the central role of forests, forest species and ecosystems services in supporting the livelihoods of many people globally, especially of Inherent and native societies with historical ties to forested and forest-adjacent areas. **This aligns with UN Sustainable Development Goals.**

INDIAN AIR FORCE DAY: 8TH OCTOBER

Every year on 8 October, the country observes the **Indian Air Force Day (IAF)**. The day is celebrated to **raise awareness around the world about IAF as an organisation that works towards strengthening national security.**



As a proud moment for India, this year marks 89 years since the IAF's foundation, because, **on this day in 1932, the Air Force in India was officially recognised** and raised as a supporting force of the **Royal Air Force of the United Kingdom (UK).**

Every year, this special day is celebrated at the **Hindon Air Force Station in Uttar Pradesh's Ghaziabad city.**

The Indian Air Force was recognised and established on 8 October, 1932, by the British Empire. **Also known as Bharatiya Vayu Sena, its first operational squadron or regiment came into being in April 1933.**

Additionally, only after its involvement and participation in World War II, the Air Force in **India came to be identified as the Royal Indian Air Force.**

Among the other armed forces, the IAF is a crucial organ that plays an important role in the wars for the country.

The fourth-largest operational air force in the world, the primary mission of the IAF is to secure the Indian airspace as well as also conducts aerial activities during armed conflicts.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF GIRL CHILD OBSERVED GLOBALLY



International Day of Girl Child was declared by the United Nations to amplify the voices of young girls around the world and increase awareness of issues faced by them.

According to the United Nations, achieving gender equality and women's empowerment is an integral part. The **International Day of the girls is celebrated annually on October 11.**

History of International Day of Girl Child 2021: In 1995, at the World Conference on Women in Beijing, the need for an event focused on young and vulnerable girls was identified.

The initiative began as a non-government international plan of action to address the challenge faced by young women.

A resolution to declare **October 11 as the International Day of the Girls Child was adopted by the UN General Assembly** on December 19, 2011. In 2020, this marked 25 years of the adoption of the Beijing declaration.

Significance of International Day of Girl Child 2021: Women and girls represent half of the world's population and it is crucial to accelerate their development.

The world needs to pledge to empower young girls and women and give them proper healthcare, skill-based

learning facilities and equal opportunities and a world free from gender-based violence and discrimination.

It is celebrated for empowering and amplifying the voices of young girls around the world. **The theme for International Day of Girl Child 2021 is 'Digital generation'. Our generation'.**

The reason behind the celebration of International Day of the Girl Child is to give **proper education, healthcare, learning, opportunities to young girls and women.**

They should be safe from gender-biased violence and discrimination. According to the United Nations, girls are more likely to be cut off, pointing to a gender divide within the digital divide.

It was also stated that girls are less likely than boys to be given devices, **which affects their numbers in tech-related skills and jobs.**

WORLD FOOD DAY OBSERVED ON OCTOBER 16TH

Every year World Food Day is observed on October 16 and is celebrated to raise awareness on the issue of hunger and healthy food habits for all. **It marks the founding day of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).**



World Food Day is celebrated by organisations like **the World Food Programme and the International Fund for Agriculture Development.**

But this year the day will be jointly led by organisations like **FAO, UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, and the World Food Programme (WFP).**

According to the United Nations, this year's events **will take place in around 150 countries across the world** with multiple partners and government involvement.

Originally, the day was marked to celebrate the establishment of **FAO in the year 1979**, as recommended by former Hungarian minister of agriculture and food **Dr. Pal Romany.**

Gradually, over a course of time, it led to raising awareness for hunger, malnutrition, sustainability, and food production.

The theme for World Food Day 2021 is **"Safe food now for a healthy tomorrow"**. The theme of this year is based on appreciating the individuals who have contributed to creating sustainable surroundings where no one is left hungry.

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY OBSERVED ON 10TH OCTOBER

World Mental Health Day is observed on October 10 every year. The day aims to spread awareness about mental health and advocate against the social stigma around mental health issues.

The day was first celebrated in 1992 at the initiative of the World Federation for Mental Health, a global mental health organisation.

World Mental Health Day 2021 theme: This year, the theme of World Mental Health Day is '**Mental Health in an Unequal World**'.



Humans are social beings and what connects us all are bonds of empathy and awareness—skeins of concern through which international fora attempt to mitigate the taboo that once used to shroud discussions on mental health disorders.

While there has been a marked improvement in the landscape of understanding mental health disorders in the past ten years, it is only in the past year that everyone truly understood what it meant to be 'mentally unwell'.

The **unprecedented nature of the pandemic and the conditions** it spawned bore a significant impact on mental health across society. The result was a sharp rise in **fear, paranoia, intense phobias, general anxiety and mood disorders, namely depression.**

The Day provides an opportunity for all stakeholders **working on mental health issues to talk about their work**, and what more needs to be done to make mental health care a reality for people worldwide.

INTERNATIONAL E-WASTE DAY (IEWD): 14TH OCTOBER



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.

2021 is the **fourth edition of the International E-Waste Day.**

This year's International E-Waste Day will focus on the crucial part each of us has in making circularity a reality

for e-products. The theme for 2021 International E-waste day 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.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF RURAL WOMEN: OCTOBER 15TH

International Day for Rural Women is a day that focuses on gender equality and empowering women in rural areas.

It recognises the huge role that **rural mothers, daughters and grandmothers** play in producing food and building agricultural and rural development worldwide.



The **United Nations general assembly** had established this day on December 18, 2007, to stress the importance of equal opportunities for women and girls in rural areas.

The UN believes that structural barriers and discriminatory social norms continue to constrain women's decision-making power and rural political participation in rural households and communities.

Women and girls in rural areas lack equal access to **productive resources and assets, public services such as education, healthcare and infrastructure, including water and sanitation.**

According to the UN, **women make up more than 40% of the agricultural labour force in developing countries.** Despite the same, women face challenges when it comes to land ownership, equal pay, participation in decision-making entities and access to resources, credit and the market for their farms to flourish.

The report further stated that providing these women with **equal opportunities can increase agricultural production by 2.5 to 4%.** It can also reduce the number of people with malnourishment from 12-17%.

Theme: This year, the theme of the day is '**Rural women cultivating good food for all.** The theme aims to eradicate discrimination faced by women in rural areas.

WORLD STUDENT'S DAY: OCTOBER 15TH

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"**.

About A.P.J Abdul Kalam: A.P.J Abdul Kalam was born on 15 October 1931 at **Dhanushkodi, Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu**. His full name was Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam.

In 2002, he was elected as the President of India and before becoming president he was working with the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** and **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** as an aerospace engineer.

As a scientist, he began his career at the **Aeronautical Development Establishment of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**. Also, he had served as the project director of **India's first Satellite Launch Vehicle (SLV-III)** at ISRO.

Lists of Awards and Honours:

A.P.J Abdul Kalam had received several awards including **Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan, Bharat Ratna, Veer Savarkar Award, Ramanujan Award, etc.**

Various educational, scientific institutions and some locations are named in honour of Dr Abdul Kalam like **Uttar Pradesh Technical University (UPTU)** were renamed as **"A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technical University"**, Kerala Technological University was renamed to **A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technological University** after his death etc.

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR ERADICATION OF POVERTY



International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is observed every year on October 17 and aims to raise awareness about people living in poverty.

According to the **United Nations' website**, the day is a chance to acknowledge the efforts and struggles of people living in poverty, a chance for them to make

their concerns heard, and a moment to recognise that poor people are the first ones to fight against poverty.

The day also **reflects the willingness of those living in poverty to utilise their expertise to contribute towards its eradication.**

History of International Day for Eradication of Poverty: The observance of this day goes back to 1987 when more than 100,000 people gathered at the Trocadéro in Paris to honour the victims of extreme poverty, violence and hunger at the unveiling of a commemorative stone by a French priest and humanitarian activist Joseph Wresinski.

Proclaiming that poverty is a violation of human rights, such people affirmed the need to come together to ensure that these rights are respected.

Four years after Wresinski's demise in 1988, the general assembly, **through a resolution adopted on 22 December 1992**, declared October 17 as the **International Day for the Eradication of Poverty.**

All states were invited to present and promote activities regarding the eradication of poverty and destitution.

This year's theme is **"Building forward together: Ending Persistent Poverty, Respecting all People and our Planet."**

INTERNATIONAL SNOW LEOPARD DAY: 23RD OCTOBER

Every year, October 23 has been observed as International Snow Leopard Day.

The International Snow Leopard day was first celebrated in 2014. The day commemorates the **Bishkek Declaration's anniversary**, which celebrates this endangered cat, and raises awareness of its conservation and protection.

On October 23, 2013, political leaders from 12 countries came together to endorse the **'Bishkek Declaration on the conservation of snow leopards.**



Snow Leopard is found in 12 countries - India, Nepal, Bhutan, China, Mongolia, Russia, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

The Snow Leopard, also known as Ghost of the mountains, acts as a symbol of health for the mountain ecosystem.

The Snow Leopard lives at high altitudes in the **steep mountains of Central and Southern Asia** and in a **freezing climate**.

They inhabit the **higher Himalayan and trans-Himalayan landscape** in Jammu and Kashmir's states/union territories, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, and Arunachal Pradesh.

India is a unique country to have a good presence of 5 big cats, including Snow Leopard. **The Snow Leopard capital of the world is Hemis, Ladakh.**

The Hemis National Park is the biggest national park in India and has a good presence of Snow Leopard.

WORLD POLIO DAY CELEBRATED ON 24TH OCTOBER



World Polio Day is celebrated on 24 October to **raise awareness for polio vaccination and eradication of Polio.**

The Day was established by **Rotary International** to **commemorate the birth of**

Jonas Salk, He led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis.

The 2021 theme for World Polio Day is **"Delivering on a Promise."**

Polio is a crippling and potentially fatal infectious disease. There is no cure, but there are safe and effective vaccines. **Polio can be prevented through immunization.**

The Polio vaccine, given multiple times, almost always protects a child for life. **Therefore, the strategy to eradicate Polio is based on preventing infection by immunizing every child** until transmission stops and the world is polio-free.

Polio is caused by an RNA virus, where 85% of the infections are paralytic. **Poliovirus is most commonly spread in areas where there is poor sanitation.**

The use of the poliovirus vaccine and subsequent widespread use of the oral poliovirus, developed by Albert Sabin, led to the **establishment of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) in 1988.** As of 2013, GPEI had reduced Polio worldwide by 99%.

UNITED NATIONS DAY OBSERVED ON 24TH OCTOBER

The 24 October has been celebrated as United Nations Day since 1948 to observe the establishment of the United Nations Organization.

On this day in 1945, the **Charter of the United Nations came into force with the acceptance of the UN Charter** by the majority of its signatories, including the **five permanent members of the Security Council.**



It was declared to be an international observance in 1971 by UNGA and that it should be recognised as a public holiday by United Nations member states.

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 United Nations officially came into existence on **24 October 1945**, when the Charter had been ratified by **China, France, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, the United States, and by many other signatories.**

The name "United Nations" was coined by the United States President **Franklin D. Roosevelt** and was **first used in the Declaration** by the United Nations of 1 January 1942, during the Second World War.

INTERNATIONAL INTERNET DAY OBSERVED ON 29TH OCTOBER

International Internet Day is marked annually on **29 October.**

The day commemorates the **anniversary of the first message that was sent between two computers on 29 October 1969 through ARPANET, the predecessor of the Internet.**



Since then, technology has become an indispensable part of our lives.

The first message exchange through the network was to programmer **Bill Duvall at Stanford Research Institute** by **UCLA professor Leonard Kleinrock** and his student and programmer **Charley Cline.**

The duo attempted to send the word **"login"** as the first message.

However, the system crashed after they wrote the letters **l** and **o**, resulting in the first-ever message sent on the network being the word "lo".

The word "login" was sent an hour later by the programmers.

Since then, the Internet has transformed our lives in a monumental way, making it unthinkable to imagine a world without it. From smartphones and social media to cyber security, the network is present everywhere.

History of the day: **Charley Kline**, a student programmer at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), transmitted the first-ever electronic message 'LO' on October 29, 1969.

The first International Internet Day was celebrated on **October 29, 2005**, to celebrate this momentous event in the history of telecommunications and technology.

IPMAT 2022 One Year Elite Digital Course Deliverables

IPMAT - 2022 (1 Year Online Program)




Program Name

Classic Digital

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Course Structure | <p>Entire course is divided into 3 phases:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coverage of fundamental concepts 2. Quick revision sessions 3. Series of Periodic & Model Tests followed by test analysis and doubt clearing sessions followed by special classes of Rank Improvement Program (RIP). |
| Course Duration | Total teaching hours 350+ Hours including 250+ LIVE Teaching Hours. However, the actual total input provided to the student is more than 400 hours which includes- YouTube Sessions, Concept Building Recorded Sessions, Test Discussion Analysis Sessions, Doubt Clearing Sessions, RIP e.t.c. |
| Study Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grand Masters Package (GMP): An exclusive concept wise fundamental based package of 10+ Funda books, Testing your understanding of the exam subject & Practice work books. 2. Past Papers Archive: Question bank with answers of previous year papers 3. 2000+ Practice Questions on IPMAT Pattern |
| Mobile Application | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EaseVidya: Your Online Knowledge Mentor a mobile application available on Android and Web, ensures 24x7 learning. 2. You can access Monthly e- Magazine 'Pravahini' using this portal. 3. You will perform all Test related activities at this platform. 4. Other features are Video Lesson, e-Book, Quiz, Notification and many more. |
| Test Series | Each phase has exhaustive quizzes and Phase Tests (including 30+ Full length tests, 450+ Sectional tests, access to 10000+ Q bank), 2000+ Q based on latest pattern. This feature does help every student to have a very strong command over fundamental conceptual knowledge, which is very crucial for getting Top ranks. |
| All India Test Series | To be conducted at the National Level on the present & expected pattern of your target exam. Student will receive their score, percentile, All India Rank, analysis of result and suggestions for improvement. |
| Strategy | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emphasis on learning the shortcut techniques, improving your strike rate, leading to optimum performance on the exam day. 2. Empowering you to have your own preparation strategy, laying foundation on problem solving skills, acquiring speed and accuracy. 3. Whole program in sync with school/ college academics, enabling student to excel in competitive exam as well as XII boards or Graduation. |

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REPORT & INDEXES

MUKESH AMBANI TOPPED HURUN INDIA RICH LIST 2021



Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani has topped IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2021 again this year, with about 9 percent change in its total wealth to Rs 7.18 lakh crore.

Under his leadership, **Reliance Industries has become the first Indian company to cross the \$200 billion (INR 15 lakh crore)** market cap driven by retail and telecom operations.

Within four decades of operation, Reliance Industries becomes the **57th most valuable firm in the world according to Hurun Global 500 Most Valuable Companies 2021.**

Raking second on the list is **Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani**, whose wealth rose 261 per cent to Rs 5.05 lakh crore.

He jumped two places to secure the second position on the list. The Adani group has a combined market capitalisation of Rs 9 lakh crore, and except Adani Power, all listed companies are valued at more than Rs 1 lakh crore.

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.**

THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN REPORT 2021

The **Union Health Minister, Mansukh Mandaviya**, Released **The State of the World's Children 2021 Report** on 5 October 2021 in New Delhi.

The **State of the World's Children 2021 Report** is UNICEF's global flagship publication. The report focuses on the impact of the COVID 19 Pandemic on the mental health of children and youth.

This report examines the psychological state of youngsters, adolescents and caregivers. It focuses on dangers and guarding factors at critical moments within the lifetime.

It also delves into the social determinants which ultimately shape psychological state and well-being.

The report pointed out that children and youths might have the COVID 19 impact on their mental health for years to come. The **mental health carried before the pandemic situation** added up to the Pandemic situation had added to the strain on mental health.

In India, Mental health is often undiagnosed, and few are hesitant for seeking help.

UNESCO RELEASED 2021 STATE OF THE EDUCATION REPORT

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".**



This publication is the annual flagship report of UNESCO New Delhi and it is based on extensive research.

This third edition of the State of Education Report focused on the theme of teachers, teaching and teacher education. Access to the internet in schools is 19 per cent all over India.

Key Points of the reports: The Higher proportion of women teachers: **Chandigarh, Delhi, Kerala, Punjab, Tamil Nadu.**

The lower proportion of women teachers: **Tripura, Assam, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Bihar.**

Increase the number of teachers and improve working conditions in **North-Eastern states, rural areas and the 'aspirational districts.**

Increase the number of physical education, music, art, vocational education, early childhood and special education teachers. Provide teachers with meaningful **Information and Communication Technology (ICT) training**.

Develop teaching governance through consultative processes, based on mutual accountability.

INDIA RANKED 90TH IN HENLEY PASSPORT INDEX 2021



The **Henley passport index 2021** was published recently by Henley and Partners, and India ranks 90th position in the list.

Henley Passport Index ranks the most travel-friendly passports of all the countries, and India has been ranked 90th.

Henley Passport Index ranks the passports of nations based on the **number of destinations their holders can visit without getting a visa in advance**.

Rankings are decided by analysing the **International Air Transport Association (IATA)** data. India was at 84th position in 2020. But in 2021, its position has decreased to the 90th position.

India's passport holders can travel to 58 countries visa-free and share this rank with Tajikistan and Burkina Faso.

The **Henley Passport Index** was designed by London-based **Henley and Partners**, a global citizenship and residence advisory firm. It covers 199 passports and 227 destinations.

WHO RELEASED 'GLOBAL TB REPORT FOR 2021'



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.

A **dramatic reduction of 20% TB cases were witnessed in 2020** as compared to 2019, ie; a gap of 4.1 million cases.

The progress in TB detection has gone back to the levels of 2012, with India accounting for 41% of the total case drops in 2020.

- WHO Director General: **Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**.
- WHO Headquarters: **Geneva, Switzerland**.

12TH UNEP EMISSIONS GAP REPORT RELEASED

The **12th edition** of the **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)** Emissions Gap Report 2021 titled '**The Heat is On**' was released on **October 26, 2021**, in an annual series that gives an overview of the difference between where the greenhouse gas emissions are predicted to be in 2030 and where they should be to avert the worst impacts of climate change.

The report comes during a fraught year such as 2021 that has been witnessing extreme weather events around the world including **droughts, floods, wildfires, heatwaves, and hurricanes**.

Five days ahead of COP26, the **Emissions Gap Report 2021** shows that the climate action is still inadequate.

The report clearly states that the world needs to cut greenhouse emissions by half in the next 8 years to reach the **1.5 degrees Celsius target**. This means removing an additional 28 gigatonnes of CO2 equivalent from annual emissions.



UNEP Emissions Gap Report 2021 - Summary

The Emissions Gap Report 2021 confirms the findings of the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)** report that holds the new and updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) as insufficient for the temperature goal of the Paris Agreement.

The Emissions Gap Report 2021 explains that the new climate pledges along with other mitigation measures are putting the world at the risk of a **global temperature rise of 2.7 degrees Celsius by the end of the century**. This level of rise in temperature is way above the goals of the **Paris Climate Agreement**.

The report states that new climate pledges for 2030 have only limited impact on global emissions resulting in a

reduction of projected 2030 emissions by only 7.5 per cent.

Whereas a **30 per cent reduction in emissions is needed to limit warming to 2 degrees Celsius** and a **55 per cent reduction in emissions to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius**.

The report also noted that if countries achieved their net-zero pledges, it could help in limiting warming to about 2.2 degrees Celsius which is closer to the **2 degrees Celsius goal of the Paris Agreement**.

However, the current 2030 commitments and lack of policies **do not put G20 member countries on the track of achieving even their climate pledges**, let alone net-zero pledges.

INDIA RANKED AT 71ST IN GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY INDEX

India has achieved the 71st position within the Global Food Security (GFS) Index 2021 from among a listing of 113 countries.

The GFS Index is meant and constructed by **London-based Economist Impact** and is sponsored by **Cortewa Agri-science**. The general

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.



Over the past 10 years, India's incremental gains in overall food security score were **lagging behind that of Pakistan, Nepal, and Bangladesh**.

The GFS Index measures the factors affecting food insecurity around the world based on 4 main factors and 58 unique food security indicators.

Factors behind the report

- Affordability
- Availability
- Quality and safety
- Natural resources and resilience.

WHY


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💻

FORM FILLING ASSISTANCE FOR

KEY EXAMS

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ARTICLE OF THE MONTH

INDIA RANKED AT 101ST AT GLOBAL HUNGER INDEX 2021

The 2021 Global Hunger Index (GHI) ranked India at 101st out of a total of 116 countries. The 2021 GHI report launched on October 14, 2021, stated that India with a score of 27.5 is facing a level of hunger that is serious. The Global Hunger Index released in 2020 ranked India at 94th among 107 countries. India has also been identified among the 31 countries where hunger has been identified as a serious threat. India has also ranked behind Pakistan (92nd rank), Bangladesh (76th rank), and Nepal (76th rank).



2021 GLOBAL HUNGER INDEX (GHI) – KEY POINTS

As per the current projections in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) report launched on October 14, 2021, it is estimated that the 47 countries in the world will be unable to achieve even low hunger by 2030. Although the GHI scores show that global hunger has declined since 2000, progress has slowed down. **The GHI score on the global basis has fallen 4.7 points that is 25.1 to 20.4 points between 2006 and 2012.** However, it has fallen just 2.5 points since 2012. Even after decades of decline, the global prevalence of undernourishment is increasing. This may be an indication of reversals in other measures of hunger.

Countries with extremely alarming and serious levels of hunger: As per the 2021 GHI report, Somalia has the highest level of hunger. With a score of 50.8 points, **Somalia is facing extremely alarming levels of hunger.** The other 5 countries with alarming levels of hunger are **Yemen, Madagascar, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Chad, and the Central African Republic.** While 31 countries have shown serious levels of hunger, including India.

INDICATORS USED TO CALCULATE GHI 2021

Global Hunger Index uses four key indicators to measure progress toward Zero Hunger by 2030 at global, national and regional levels. Based on the four key indicators, the GHI assesses the level of hunger in a country on a 100-point scale wherein the score 100 is the worst (extreme hunger) and score 0 is the best (low or no hunger). The GHI score of each country is ascertained by severity, from low to extremely alarming.

For the 2021 Global Hunger Index (GHI), the four key indicators are:

- **Undernourishment:** the share of the population with insufficient caloric intake (data are from the UN Food and Agriculture Organization)
- **Child stunting:** the share of children under age five who have low height for their age (data are from UNICEF, the World Health Organization, the World Bank, and the Demographic and Health Surveys Program)
- **Child wasting:** the share of children under age five who have low weight for their height (data are from UNICEF, the World Health Organization, the World Bank, and the Demographic and Health Surveys Program)
- **Child mortality:** the mortality rate of children under age five (data are from the United Nations Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation)

2021 Global Hunger Index (GHI): Country-wise report - India

- As per the GHI report in 2021, India ranked 101st out of a total of 116 countries. With a score of 27.5, India is facing a serious level of hunger. **Only 15 countries ranked worse than India.** These countries are Papua New Guinea (102), Afghanistan (103), Nigeria (103), Congo (105), Mozambique (106), Sierra Leone (106), Timor-Leste (108), Haiti (109), Liberia (110), Madagascar (111), Democratic Republic of Congo (112), Chad (113), Central African Republic (114), Yemen (115) and Somalia (116).
- **Progress of India on Global Hunger Index (GHI):** India has shown significant progress on the GHI score since 2000. The country has witnessed a decrease in the **GHI score of 38.8 points (extreme hunger) in 2000 to 27.5 points (serious hunger) in 2021.** However, child nutrition remains an area of concern for India.

ABOUT THE GLOBAL HUNGER INDEX

- **Annual Report:** Jointly published by Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe. It was first produced in 2006. It is published every October. **The 2021 edition marks the 16th edition of the GHI.**
- **Aim:** To comprehensively measure and track hunger at the global, regional, and country levels.
- **Data Collection:** Undernourishment data are provided by the Food and Agriculture Organisation and child mortality data are sourced from the **UN Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (UN IGME).**
- Child wasting and stunting data are drawn from the joint database of **UNICEF, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Bank**, among others.
- **Global Scenario:** The fight against hunger is dangerously off track. **Based on current GHI projections, the world as a whole - and 47 countries in particular - will fail to achieve a low level of hunger by 2030.** Food security is under assault on multiple fronts. Worsening conflict, weather extremes associated with global climate change, and the economic and health challenges associated with the Covid-19 pandemic are all driving hunger. **After decades of decline, the global prevalence of undernourishment - a component of the Global Hunger Index - is increasing.** This shift may be a leading indicator of reversals in other measures of hunger. Inequality - between regions, countries, districts, and communities - is pervasive and, left unchecked, will keep the **world from achieving the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) mandate to "leave no one behind".** Africa, South of the Sahara and South Asia are the world regions where hunger levels are highest. Hunger in both regions is considered serious.

INDIAN SCENARIO

Since 2000, India has made substantial progress, but there are still areas of concern, particularly regarding child nutrition. **India's GHI score has decreased from a 2000 GHI score of 38.8 points - considered alarming - to a 2021 GHI score of 27.5 - considered serious.** The proportion of undernourished in the population and the under-five child mortality rate are now at relatively low levels. While child stunting has seen a significant decrease - **from 54.2% in 1998-1999 to 34.7% in 2016-2018 - it is still considered very high.** At 17.3%, India has the highest child wasting rate of all countries covered in the GHI. This rate is slightly higher than it was in 1998-1999, when it was 17.1%. According to the Index, only 15 countries are worse than India. India was also behind most of the neighbouring countries. **Pakistan was placed at 92, Nepal and Bangladesh at 76 and Sri Lanka at 65.**

Government of India Stand: The Ministry of Women and Child Development has criticised the report claiming that the methodology used by FAO is unscientific. **According to the Government, the Global Hunger Index Report 2021 and FAO report on 'The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2021' have completely ignored the following facts:** They have based their assessment on the results of a 'four question' opinion poll, which was conducted telephonically by Gallup. The scientific measurement of undernourishment would require measurement of weight and Height, whereas the methodology involved here is based on a Gallup poll, based on a pure telephonic estimate of the population. The report completely disregards Government's massive effort to ensure food security of the entire population during the Covid period such as **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojna (PMGKAY) and Aatmanirbhar Bharat Scheme (ANBS).**

SOME RELATED INITIATIVES BY INDIA

- **Eat Right India Movement:** An outreach activity organised by the **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)** for citizens to nudge them towards eating right.
- **POSHAN Abhiyan:** Launched by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in 2018, it targets to reduce stunting, undernutrition, anemia (**among young children, women and adolescent girls**).
- **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana:** A centrally sponsored scheme executed by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, is a **maternity benefit programme being implemented in all districts of the country** with effect from 1st January, 2017.



- **Food Fortification:** Food Fortification or Food Enrichment is the addition of key vitamins and minerals **such as iron, iodine, zinc, Vitamin A & D** to staple foods such as rice, milk and salt to improve their nutritional content.
- **National Food Security Act, 2013:** It legally entitled up to 75% of the rural population and 50% of the urban population to receive subsidized food grains under the **Targeted Public Distribution System**.
- **Mission Indradhanush:** It targets children under 2 years of age and pregnant women for immunization against 12 Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (VPD).
- **Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme:** Launched on 2nd October, 1975, the ICDS Scheme offers a package of six services (Supplementary Nutrition, Pre-school non-formal education, Nutrition & health education, Immunization, Health check-up and Referral services) to **children in the age group of 0-6 years, pregnant women and lactating mothers**.

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Schemes of the Aptitude Test (AT)

| | IIM Indore www.iimdr.ac.in | | IIM Rohtak www.iimrohtak.ac.in | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Section | Number of Q | Duration | Number of Q | Duration |
| QA (Multiple Choice Q) | 40* | 30* | 40* | 40* |
| QA (Short Answer Q) | 40* | 30* | NA | NA |
| VA (Multiple Choice Q) | 40* | 30* | 40* | 40* |
| Logical Reasoning (Multiple Choice Q) | NA | NA | 40* | 40* |

Each question will carry 4 marks.

There will be a negative marking of 1 negative mark for each wrong answer except Quantitative Ability (SA) Section (these questions will not carry any negative marking).

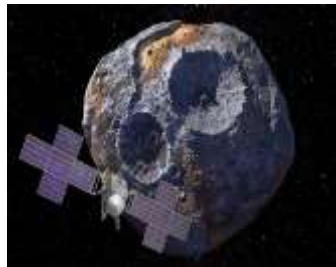
Computation of Composite Score (CS) for Final Merit List

| | IIM Indore www.iimdr.ac.in | IIM Rohtak www.iimrohtak.ac.in |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Component | Weightage (%) | Weightage (%) |
| Aptitude Test Score | 65 | 45 |
| QA (Short Answer Q) | 35 | 15 |
| Past Academics (10th & 12th) | NA | 40 |
| Composite Score: Sum of Above Scores | | |

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

NASA ALL SET TO LAUNCH 'PSYCHE MISSION'



NASA is all set on 'Psyche Mission' to visit the enormous asteroid known as Psyche, considered frozen remains of the molten core of an ancient world.

Psyche is an asteroid orbiting in the central asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter, made of metal according to Earth-based radar and optical telescopes.

The asteroid might have an iron-rich interior from any planetary block that got chipped off by constant collisions in the belt.

The asteroid is 280 Kms wide at its widest point. The Psyche Mission is set to launch in August 2022, which will orbit around the asteroid for 2 years and map the surface. It will also look for ancient magnetic fields, neutrons and gamma rays on the surface.

This is the first mission to explore an asteroid with a surface covering substantial amounts of metal rather than rock or ice. It provides the first-hand opportunity to examine the interiors of a rocky planet.

'DART MISSION' TO BE LAUNCHED BY NASA

NASA is set to launch the Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) spacecraft on November 24, 2021.



NASA's Double Asteroid Redirection Test DART spacecraft will be launched in SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket. The Mission is set to launch on November 24, 2021, from Vandenberg Space Force Base, California.

NASA aims to build advanced technologies to protect the Earth from dangerous asteroid collisions.

There had been numerous warnings from astronomers and scientists that there might be an asteroid Collision without a proper defence system.

The DART mission is based on the idea of developing a defence system against asteroid collisions. It is in the final stages of advancement.

Under the mission, spacecraft will be sent towards the Didymos asteroid system, approximately 109.4 kilometres away from Earth.

DART spacecraft: DART spacecraft comprises compressed Roll-Out Solar Arrays (ROSA) and a Didymos Reconnaissance & Asteroid Camera for Optical (DRACO) navigation.

This suicidal spacecraft will hit the system at the speed of 24,140 Kmph. This spacecraft has been built and improved at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory (APL).

NASA'S LUCY MISSION TO STUDY JUPITER'S TROJAN ASTEROIDS

NASA is set to launch Lucy, the first spacecraft to study Jupiter's Trojan asteroids.



The Lucy spacecraft is scheduled to be launched on an Atlas V rocket from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida.

NASA's Juno spacecraft has been orbiting Jupiter since 2016 but the Lucy spacecraft will be the first expedition by NASA to study the Trojan asteroids that orbit the Sun in two swarms, one leading ahead of Jupiter and other trailing behind the planet.

The spacecraft will be launched on a 12-year mission to help scientists gain an up-close view of the Trojan asteroids.

The study of Jupiter's Trojan asteroids will help scientists to understand how the Solar System and its planets were formed approximately 4.5 billion years ago and why did they end up in the current sequence.

The Lucy spacecraft is designed to travel nearly 4 billion miles. The Lucy spacecraft and a remote-sensing instrument will study geology, physical properties, and surface composition of the Trojan asteroids.

The Lucy mission has been named after the discovered partial skeleton from a human ancestor that is believed to have lived more than 3 million years ago.

The fossilized remains were named Lucy. Just as the fossil remains named Lucy offered insights into human evolution, the Lucy mission to Trojan asteroids is expected to help in understanding the planetary origins and the formation of the Solar System, including Earth, said NASA.

The **Trojan asteroids** have been named after characters in **Greek mythology**. They orbit the Sun in two swarms, one ahead of Jupiter and the other trailing behind it.

These asteroids were formed in the aftermaths of the leftovers of the primordial material from which Jupiter and the other outer planets were formed.

CHINA LAUNCHED FIRST SOLAR OBSERVATION SATELLITE



China launched its first solar observation satellite by a Long March 2D rocket from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre in northern Shanxi province into a 571-km altitude orbit.

The 550-kg Xihe satellite will monitor the Sun for three years. Until now, China has had a solar monitoring network on the ground however it did not get access to the optical data outside the atmosphere.

The Xihe satellite, the first solar observation satellite of China will aid the country to fill that gap.

The Xihe satellite is China's first solar observation satellite. It is equipped with an imaging spectrometer known as the Chinese H-alpha Solar Explorer (CHASE) that will enable observation of the deep-red H-Alpha line of the solar spectrum thereby providing data for scientists to study solar flares or eruptions on the surface of the Sun.

The Xihe satellite has been developed by the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC). The model of the satellite was put up for a showcase at the Zhuhai Air Show in September 2021.

The satellite has been named after a Chinese mythological figure Xihe, the Mother Goddess of the Gods of the Sun.

The Xihe satellite weighing 550-kg (110 lbs) has been designed for a lifespan of three years. It will observe the Sun until the solar maximum in 2025. It will be in a Sun-synchronous orbit around the Earth.

SOUTH KOREA LAUNCHED COUNTRY'S 1ST SPACE ROCKET



South Korea has launched the country's first space rocket, which was designed and produced entirely in the country. However, following its launch, the rocket failed to successfully

release a test satellite into orbit.

Nuri is the name of the rocket. It took off from South Korea's Naro Space Center, which is located on a small island off the country's southern coast.

The rocket, however, failed to deliver the test satellite into orbit, according to Moon. Unfortunately, we fell short of our objective.

The rocket was planned to launch a payload of up to 1.5 tonnes into an orbit 600 to 800 kilometres above the Earth's surface.

NASA SET TO LAUNCH 'DART MISSION'

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is preparing to launch the **Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART)** mission that is a planetary defense-driven test of technologies to prevent collision of Earth with an asteroid.

The Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) mission directed by NASA is the first demonstration of the kinetic impactor technique to change the motion of an asteroid in space.



The target of the DART Mission is the binary near-Earth asteroid (65803) Didymos and its moonlet.

The DART spacecraft will have an onboard camera called Didymos Reconnaissance and Asteroid Camera for OpNav (DRACO).

It will use Roll Out Solar Arrays (ROSA) to supply solar power for its electric propulsion system after launch. The spacecraft will be equipped with advanced autonomous navigation algorithms.

The spacecraft will also test the Evolutionary Xenon Thruster - Commercial (NEXT-C) solar electric propulsion system by NASA.

How will NASA's DART Mission crash benefit?

The kinetic impact caused by the collision will aid to modify the speed of the moonlet in its orbit around the parent asteroid Didymos by a fraction of a percent and alter the orbital period of the moonlet by several minutes. This alteration of the orbital period will be viewed and recorded by telescopes on Earth.

DRDO SUCCESSFULLY TEST-FIRED 'ABHYAS'

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) tested the high-speed expendable aerial target (HEAT) called ABHYAS on 22 October.

ABHYAS high-speed expendable aerial target will be used to estimate several missile systems. It experimented from Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur, off the coast of the Bay of Bengal in Odisha.

ABHYAS has been created and improved by the Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE) of DRDO in Bengaluru.



The flight test of ABHYAS was displayed as a part of developmental flight trials. ABHYAS is powered by a gas turbine engine, which will help the aircraft sustain a long endurance flight at a subsonic speed.

This target aircraft has been provided with a MEMS-based Inertial Navigation System (INS) to navigate with Flight Control Computer (FCC) for guidance and control.

It has been programmed for fully autonomous flight, and the check-out of air vehicles is completed through a laptop-based Ground Control Station (GCS).

ADA was established in 1984 under the Department of Defence Research and Development (DR&D) of the Ministry of Defence. It looks after the growth of India's Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) program.

CHINA LAUNCHED NEW SATELLITE NAMED 'SHIJIAN-21'



China successfully launched a new satellite named Shijian-21 on October 23, 2021, to test and verify space debris mitigation technologies.

The satellite was launched from the

Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in southwest China's Sichuan Province.

Launched aboard the Long March-3B carrier rocket, satellite Shijian-21 is now successfully situated in the Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit.

Though there were no prior announcements, the launch of the Shijian-21 satellite was confirmed by the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC) within an hour of the launch.

The Shijian-21 satellite will test and verify space debris mitigation technologies. Except for the Y83

serial number of the satellite, other details such as weight, final orbit.

The Shijian-21 satellite has been developed by the Shanghai Academy of Spaceflight Technology. This mission has marked the 39th space launch for China in 2021.

The Long March-3B carrier rocket used to launch Shijian-21 is expected to carry out three more launches before January 2022.

About Shijian satellite series of China

The name Shijian translates to 'practice' or 'experiment' in English. It is a series of satellites that are broadly technology demonstration satellites which means these satellites are used to practice, test, verify new technologies.

The Shijian satellite series of China is a scientific and technology demonstration minisatellite series of CAST (Chinese Academy of Space Technology) which was started in the early 1970s. The first Shijian satellite (Shijian-1) was launched in March 1971.

FRANCE LAUNCHES MILITARY COMMUNICATION SATELLITE

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.

Syracuse IV produces a throughput three times higher (1.5 Gbit/sec) than Syracuse III by operating in two bands: X and Ka.

Three satellites are to be placed in orbit: the second in 2022 and the third on an unknown date. The total cost of the Syracuse IV programme is EUR3.6 billion (nearly USD 4.2 billion).

Syracuse IV is the first French military satellite with the ability to detect other satellites that are trying to gather information from it or to destroy it.

DRDO SUCCESSFULLY TEST-FIRED AGNI-5 BALLISTIC MISSILE



DRDO's Agni -5 Ballistic Missile was tested successfully on 27th October.

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully tested the surface-to-surface ballistic missile Agni-5 on 27 October.

The test-fire happened 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. The indigenously-developed surface-to-surface missile, Agni-5, is capable of striking a target of more than 5,000 km.

The missile can carry a nuclear warhead of more than one tonne. The successful test of Agni-5 is in line with India's declared policy to have 'probable least deterrence' that underpins the delegation to 'No First Use'.

Agni-V is the most advanced surface-to-surface indigenously built ballistic missile. It is a three-stage,

solid-fuelled, 17-metre tall missile, and is capable of carrying a nuclear warhead of about 1.5 tonnes.

Agni-V is a fire and forget missile, which once fired cannot be stopped, except by an interceptor missile. It has been developed under the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP).

What is IGMDP?

IGMDP was conceived by Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam to enable India to attain self-sufficiency in the field of missile technology. It was approved by the Government of India in 1983 and completed in March 2012.

The 5 missiles (P-A-T-N-A) developed under this program: Prithvi, Agni, Trishul, Nag, Akash.

Range of all Agni Missiles:

- **Agni I:** Range of 700-800 km.
- **Agni II:** Range more than 2000 km.
- **Agni III:** Range of more than 2,500 Km
- **Agni IV:** The range is more than 3,500 km and can fire from a road-mobile launcher.
- **Agni-V:** The longest of the Agni series, an Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) with a range of over 5,000 km.

Agni-P (Prime): It is a canister missile with a range capability between 1,000 and 2,000 km. It will replace the Agni I missile.

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MISCELLANEOUS

WHO APPROVED FIRST ANTI-MALARIA VACCINE

The **World Health Organization** endorsed the first anti-malaria vaccine.

The WHO said that it recommended the widespread use of the **RTS, S/AS01 (RTS, S) malaria vaccine amidst children in sub-Saharan Africa.**



It is also recommended to other regions with **mild to high P. falciparum malaria transmission, based on ongoing pilot performance in Ghana, Kenya and Malawi.**

The development comes when WHO and its partners have reported winning the fight against Malaria that accounts for the death of 2,60,000 African children periodically under five.

Malaria remains a principal cause of childhood illness and death in sub-Saharan Africa. The vaccine does significantly reduce life-threatening critical Malaria.

The European Medicines Agency was first approved in 2015 by the European Medicines Agency for use in Africa in infants and children.

UNHRC RECOGNIZED 'RIGHT TO CLEAN ENVIRONMENT'



The United Nations Human Rights Council recognized **access to a clean and healthy environment** as a fundamental right.

The move by the global body has added its weight to the global fight against climate change as well as its devastating consequences on humans.

The vote was passed in UNHRC with overwhelming support, despite the criticism in the lead-up from some of the nations, notably the United States and Britain, the highly-developed countries in the world.

The resolution declaring a clean and healthy environment as a fundamental right was first discussed in the 1990s.

Even though the recently passed resolution is not legally binding, it has the potential to shape global standards.

Lawyers who have been involved in the climate litigation said that the resolution can help them in building arguments in cases involving the environment and human rights.

The resolution, **proposed by Costa Rica, Morocco, the Maldives, Switzerland, and Slovenia,** was passed with 43 votes in favour and 4 abstentions from India, Russia, Japan, and China prompted a rare burst of applause in the Geneva Forum.

The UK, which was among the critics of the proposal in recent intense negotiations, voted in favour of, last-minute move. The United States did not vote since it is not currently a member of the 47-member council.

FACEBOOK NAME CHANGED TO 'META'

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.**

Did metaverse derive from?

The metaverse is a term coined in the dystopian novel **"Snow Crash"** three decades ago and now attracting buzz in **Silicon Valley.**

Zuckerberg said the new name, coming from the Greek word for "beyond," symbolized there was always more to build. It refers broadly to the idea of a shared virtual realm that can be accessed by people using different devices.

Why did Facebook change its name?

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.

INDIA COMPLETED 100 CRORE VACCINATION MARK

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.

To mark the occasion, **the Union Health Ministry held a series of events and released a two-minute and four-second** video with rap and visual representation of the country’s fight against COVID-19.

Some important facts about Vaccine drive:

The country took 24 days to reach the 40-crore mark from 30-crore doses and then 20 more days to surpass the 50-crore vaccination mark on August 6. **It then took 76 days to go past the 100-crore mark.**

The top five States which have administered the highest number of doses are **Uttar Pradesh followed by Maharashtra, West Bengal, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.**

The countrywide vaccination drive was rolled out on January 16 with **health care workers (HCWs) getting inoculated in the first phase.** The vaccination of frontline workers (FLWs) started on February 2.

'INNOVATION FOR YOU' DIGI BOOK BY NITI AAYOG

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 **Digi-book** was launched with the aim of serving as an encouragement for upcoming entrepreneurs in order to work on the path of creativity and imagination for addressing some of the pressing challenges in India.

It also aims to showcase the best innovations and entrepreneurs to bring them to the forefront.

NITI Aayog’s Digi Book: NITI aayog has launched the DIGI book, as India is celebrating the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.

Digi-book is a **compilation of 45 health tech start-ups.** These start-ups have been incubated at the Atal Incubation Centres across the country.

These start-ups have been **leveraging technologies such as AI, IoT, ICT** and others for providing socially relevant solutions to health issues like neonatal & child care, mental health, dental care, anaemia and monitoring human vitals.



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MCQ BASED QUESTION

OCTOBER 2021

Q.1 India has been re-elected as the member of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) for 2022-2024. This will be the _____ term of India as the member of the 47-member Council

- A) 8th
- B) 3rd
- C) 4th
- D) 6th

Q.2 Joint Sea 2021 is a joint naval exercise between which of the following two countries?

- A) China and United States
- B) United States and Russia
- C) China and Russia
- D) India and Japan

Q.3 When is the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty observed?

- A) 18 October
- B) 17 October
- C) 16 October
- D) 15 October

Q.4 Name the MD & CEO of the Axis Bank, whose re-appointment to the post has recently been approved by RBI?

- A) Amitabh Chaudhry
- B) Sandeep Bakhshi
- C) Deepak Parekh
- D) Rana Kapoor

Q.5 Which player bagged the Orange Cap title at the 2021 Indian Premier League (IPL)?

- A) Bhagath Varma
- B) Ruturaj Gaikwad
- C) Cheteshwar Pujara
- D) Ravindrasinh Jadeja

Q.6 When is World Sight Day being observed?

- A) Second Thursday of October
- B) Second Friday of October
- C) Second Saturday of October
- D) Second Sunday of October

Q.7 What is the theme of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty in 2021?

- A) Answering the Call of October 17 to end poverty: A path toward peaceful and inclusive societies
- B) Acting together to achieve social and environmental justice for all
- C) Ending Persistent Poverty, Respecting all People and our Planet
- D) Building Forward Together: Ending Persistent Poverty, Respecting all People and our Planet

Q.8 What is the estimated GDP growth rate of the Indian economy as per the World Bank in the fiscal year 2021-22?

- A) 7.2%
- B) 9.1%
- C) 7.5%
- D) 8.3%

Q.9 Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently dedicated 35 Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) Oxygen Plants to the nation. These plants have been developed under which fund?

- A) PM CARES
- B) India Infrastructure Project Development Fund (IIPDF)
- C) Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF)
- D) None of the above

Q.10 In India the Air Force Day is marked every year on October 08. In 2021, which edition of the Air Force Day is being celebrated?

- A) 72
- B) 65
- C) 91
- D) 89

Q.11 Who has won the 2021 Nobel Prize in Literature?

- A) Kazuo Ishiguro
- B) Abdulrazak Gurnah
- C) Louise Gluck
- D) Peter Handke

Q.12 Which state has received the GI Tag for the Palghar's Wada Kolam rice?

- A) Maharashtra
- B) West Bengal
- C) Uttar Pradesh
- D) Gujarat

Q.13 Which company has recently launched the 'postpe' solution based on 'Buy Now Pay Later' (BNPL) platform?

- A) Paytm
- B) BharatPe
- C) Whatsapp
- D) PhonePe

Q.14 Mukesh Ambani has topped the Forbes India Rich list in 2021, to retain his position as the wealthiest Indian for the _____ consecutive year

- A) 17th
- B) 12th
- C) 14th
- D) 9th

Q.15 The Second Friday of October is dedicated to the celebration of which day annually?

- A) World Banana Day
- B) World Vegan Day
- C) World Coffee Day
- D) World Egg Day

Q.16 Name the author of the book titled "Economist Gandhi: The Roots and the Relevance of the Political Economy of the Mahatma"?

- A) Sanjeev Bikhchandani
- B) Ashish Dhawan
- C) Deep Kalra
- D) Jaithirth Rao

Q.17 In 2021, the World Investor Week (WIW) have been organised from October 04 to 10, 2021. Which organisation organises the annual event?

- A) International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO)
- B) Financial Stability Board (FSB)
- C) Financial Action Task Force (FATF)
- D) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Q.18 The FICCI has projected India's GDP growth rate for 2021-22 at _____ percent in its latest Economic Outlook Survey

- A) 7.1%
- B) 8.6%
- C) 10.8%
- D) 9.1%

Q.19 Who has been appointed as the first Chairman of the newly set up Indian Space Association (ISpA)?

- A) Rajesh Tope
- B) Rahul Vatts
- C) Jayant Patil
- D) A.K. Bhatt

View answer

Q.20 The Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) Report is released by which organisation?

- A) UNDP
- B) World Bank
- C) World Economic Forum
- D) International Monetary Fund

Q.21 Name the winners of the 2021 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences!

- A) Paul Milgrom and Robert B. Wilson
- B) Michael Kremer, Esther Duflo and Abhijit Banerjee
- C) David Card, Joshua D. Angrist and Guido W. Imbens
- D) Paul Michael Romer and Richard Thaler

Q.22 Who has been honoured with the Aryabhata Award for 2021 by the Astronautical Society of India (ASI)?

- A) Dr G Satheesh Reddy
- B) K. Sivan
- C) A. S. Kiran Kumar
- D) G. Madhavan Nair

Q.23 Who is the winner of the fourth Satyajit Ray Award in 2021?

- A) Paruchuri Venkateswara Rao
- B) Jaya Prakash Reddy
- C) Bejawada Gopal
- D) Mukesh Rishi

Q.24 The financial inclusion campaign named '6S Campaign' has been launched by which bank?

- A) Canara Bank
- B) Bank of Baroda
- C) Punjab National Bank
- D) State Bank of India

Q.25 Which is the first city in India to use ropeway services in public transportation?

- A) Shimla
- B) Coimbatore
- C) Dehradun
- D) Varanasi

Q.26 Which ministry has launched the scheme of 'Good Samaritan'?

- A) Ministry of Finance
- B) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- C) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- D) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Q.27 World Students' Day is observed every year on which of the following days?

- A) 13 October
- B) 14 October
- C) 15 October
- D) 12 October

Q.28 Exercise Yudh Abhyas 2021 is the 17th edition of the Joint Military Training Exercise between Indian Army and _____

- A) United States
- B) Singapore
- C) Nepal
- D) Sri Lanka

Q.29 Which company has won the bid to acquire Air India?

- A) Mahindra Group
- B) Adani Group
- C) Larsen and Toubro
- D) Tata Sons

Q.30 Government has launched India's first mega consortium on 'One Health', in post-COVID times. The consortium will be led by which institution?

- A) Center of Innovative and Applied Bioprocessing, Mohali

- B) AIIMS Delhi
- C) National Institute of Animal Biotechnology (NIAB), Hyderabad
- D) Kalam Institute of Health Technology, Visakhapatnam

Q.31 Who is the winner of the 2021 C K Prahlad award for Global Business Sustainability Leadership?

- A) Google Team
- B) Microsoft Team
- C) Facebook Team
- D) Apple Team

Q.32 The mobile App Fishwaale is launched by which state as India's first e-fish market?

- A) Assam
- B) Maharashtra
- C) Kerala
- D) Nagaland

Q.33 India's first smartphone-based eVoting solution has been developed by which state in India?

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Telangana
- C) Tamil Nadu
- D) Uttar Pradesh

Q.34 When is the International Day of Rural Women celebrated?

- A) Second Friday of October
- B) 14 October
- C) Second Thursday of October
- D) 15 October

Q.35 India's first 5G network trial in a rural location has been undertaken by which company?

- A) Reliance Jio
- B) Vodafone Group
- C) Bharti Airtel
- D) BSNL

Q.36 What is the theme of the Global Handwashing Day in 2021?

- A) Our Future Is at Hand - Let's Move Forward Together
- B) Hand Hygiene for All
- C) Raise a hand for hygiene
- D) Clean Hands for All

Q.37 Who has been appointed as the chief executive officer (CEO) of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)?

- A) Amitesh Kumar Sinha
- B) Ritesh Chauhan
- C) Meera Mohanty
- D) Vipul Bansal

Q.38 In 2021, what is the theme for the International Day of Rural Women?

- A) Rural women and girls building climate resilience
- B) Building rural women's resilience in the wake of COVID-19
- C) Rural Women Cultivating Good Food for All
- D) Sustainable infrastructure, services and social protection for gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls

Q.39 The Government of India has set up how many new Defence PSUs to restructure Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) into 100 percent Government owned entity?

- A) 7
- B) 5
- C) 9
- D) 6

Q.40 What is the rank of India in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2021?

- A) 81
- B) 101
- C) 116
- D) 94

Q.41 Who has been appointed as the Chairman of the World Steel Association (WSA) for 2021-22?

- A) Gautam Adani
- B) Nirupama Rao
- C) Soma Mondal
- D) Sajjan Jindal

Q.42 Which Indian company has topped the World's Best Employers 2021 ranking of Forbes, among Indian corporates?

- A) Reliance Industries
- B) State Bank of India
- C) Tata Consultancy Services
- D) Life Insurance Corporation

Q.43 Name the newly appointed Chairman of Indian Bank's Association (IBA) for 2021-22?

- A) Rajendra Mal Lodha
- B) Adarsh Sein Anand
- C) AK Goel
- D) P. Sathasivam

Q.44 India's first Atal Community Innovation Center (ACIC) has been launched in which city?

- A) Hyderabad
- B) Jaipur
- C) Ahmedabad
- D) Pune

Q.45 The 'MyParkings' app has been launched by which of these municipal corporations?

- A) New Delhi Municipal Council
- B) Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation
- C) Agartala Municipal Corporation
- D) South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC)

Q.46 How much amount of commitment has been pledged by India and the United States annually for developing countries, raised from public and private sector sources, to tackle climate change?

- A) \$100 billion
- B) \$200 billion
- C) \$300 billion
- D) \$150 billion

Q.47 The Global Hunger Index (GHI) is released annually by which organisation?

- A) Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP), Australia
- B) Welthungerhilfe and Concern Worldwide
- C) Cushman & Wakefield
- D) Transparency International

Q.48 What is the theme of the 2021 World Food Day?

- A) Sustainable Food Systems for Food Security and Nutrition
- B) Grow, Nourish, Sustain. Together
- C) Safe food now for a healthy tomorrow
- D) Social Protection and Agriculture: Breaking the Cycle of Rural Poverty

Q.49 Who has been appointed as the new brand ambassador of the Indian wearable brand Fire-Boltt?

- A) MS Dhoni
- B) Virat Kohli
- C) Neeraj Chopra
- D) AB de Villiers

Q.50 Which company has topped the World's Best Employers 2021 by Forbes?

- A) Samsung Electronics
- B) Apple Inc
- C) Google Inc
- D) Dell Technologies

Q.51 Which among these football players has scripted his name in the Guinness World Records for becoming the highest goalscorer in the men's international football history

- A) Lionel Messi
- B) Neymar
- C) Mohamed Salah
- D) Cristiano Ronaldo

Q.52 The Government of India observes the Hindi Day on which of the following days?

- A) 13 September
- B) 14 September
- C) 12 September
- D) 11 September

Q.53 Which state has recently launched the Millet Mission to become the hub of millet in India?

- A) Chhattisgarh
- B) Gujarat
- C) Odisha
- D) Tamil Nadu

Q.54 India has launched the "Climate Action and Finance Mobilization Dialogue (CAFMD)" with which country?

- A) Australia
- B) Germany
- C) United States
- D) Japan

Q.55 Which of the following players has won the US Open 2021 men's singles title?

- A) Alexander Zverev
- B) Roger Federer
- C) Novak Djokovic
- D) Daniil Medvedev

Q.56 Which of these states has achieved the top position in the installation of off-grid solar pumps under PM-KUSUM?

- A) Rajasthan
- B) Haryana
- C) Punjab
- D) Kerala

Q.57 Aziz Akhannouch has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of which country?

- A) Turkey
- B) Algeria
- C) Morocco
- D) Israel

Q.58 Who has been appointed as the new Acting Chairperson of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT)?

- A) Justice A I S Cheema
- B) Justice Bansi Lal Bhat
- C) Justice M. Venugopal
- D) Justice N. V. Ramana

Q.59 Which among these space-tech startups has become the first private company to formally signed agreement with ISRO for using its expertise and facilities?

- A) Dhruva Space
- B) Agnikul Cosmos
- C) Bellatrix Aerospace
- D) Skyroot Aerospace

Q.60 The Campaign titled Shoonya has been launched by which organisation to promote zero-pollution delivery vehicles?

- A) NITI Aayog
- B) SBI
- C) ISRO
- D) IIT Madras

Q.61 What is the GDP growth rate projection of the Indian economy in Calendar Year 2021 as per the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)?

- A) 9.0%
- B) 8.1%
- C) 6.5%
- D) 7.2%

Q.62 India's first CO₂ capture plant, which extracts CO₂ directly from the blast furnace gas has been launched by which company?

- A) Tata Steel
- B) ONGC
- C) Larsen and Toubro
- D) BHEL

Q.63 India is participating in the 6th Exercise PEACEFUL MISSION -2021, of SCO member states from September 13 to 25, 2021. Which country is hosting the exercise?

- A) Australia
- B) China
- C) Russia
- D) India

Q.64 The Artificial Intelligence-powered project, 'iRASTE' which aims to reduce road accidents, has been launched on pilot basis in which city by the Ministry for Road Transport and Highways?

- A) Ghaziabad
- B) Nagpur
- C) New Delhi
- D) Bengaluru

Q.65 Which country recently tested the indigenously developed submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) and became the first country without nuclear weapon to develop such missile system?

- A) Australia
- B) Israel
- C) South Korea
- D) Germany

Q.66 Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the 16th East Asia Summit (EAS) virtually on October 27, 2021. The Summit was hosted under the Chairperson of which country?

- A) Bahrain
- B) Brunei
- C) Malaysia
- D) Singapore

Q.67 The Green Day Ahead Market (GDAM) is a new market segment launched by which ministry?

- A) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- B) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- C) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
- D) Ministry of Rural Development

Q.68 The Nag River revitalization project, approved by the Expenditure Finance Committee, has been launched for which city?

- A) Nagpur
- B) New Delhi
- C) Chennai
- D) Lucknow

Q.69 Which ministry has launched the e-National Level Awareness Programme 'SAMBHAV'?

- A) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- B) Ministry of Women and Child Development
- C) Ministry of Food Processing Industries
- D) Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME)

Q.70 When is the International Animation Day observed annually?

- A) 25 October
- B) 28 October
- C) 26 October
- D) 27 October

Q.71 DRDO recently test fired the long range nuclear capable ballistic missile 'Agni-5'. The new missile falls under which category?

- A) Surface-to-air
- B) Air-to-surface
- C) Surface-to-surface
- D) Air-to-air

Q.72 Which financial institution has inked the \$251-million loan agreement with India for Integrated Urban Flood Management in Chennai?

- A) Asian Development Bank
- B) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
- C) World Bank
- D) United Nations Development Programme

Q.73 The AI Innovate initiative has been launched by which entity to support the startup ecosystem in India?

- A) Google
- B) Microsoft
- C) Facebook
- D) NPCI

Q.74 Who is the author of the biography 'Kamala Harris: Phenomenal Woman'?

- A) Sunjeev Sahota
- B) Mahmood Mamdani
- C) Megha Rajagopalan
- D) Chidanand Rajghatta

Q.75 The Indian Army is celebrating which edition of the Infantry Day in 2021?

- A) 72nd
- B) 75th
- C) 79th
- D) 77th

Q.76 Which state has topped the State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2020?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Madhya Pradesh
- C) Maharashtra
- D) Karnataka

Q.77 Facebook Inc. has rebranded the company's name. What is the new name of the social media network giant?

- A) Meta
- B) Zip
- C) Lisa
- D) Grep

Q.78 Which Indian state has achieved the feat of becoming the first state of the country to have its own Wildlife Action plan (2021-30)?

- A) Rajasthan
- B) Gujarat
- C) Maharashtra
- D) Haryana

Q.79 The ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is observing the year 2021 as _____ upon the recommendation of the UN-FAO

- A) International Year of Seeds
- B) International Year of Fertilisers
- C) International Year of Pulses and Cereals
- D) International Year of Fruits and Vegetables

Q.80 Who has been named as the Chairperson of the three-member independent expert committee constituted to investigate into Israeli spyware 'Pegasus' snooping?

- A) K. C. Das Gupta
- B) RV Raveendran
- C) R. S. Bachawat
- D) P. Satyanarayana Raju

Q.81 The report titled "Health Insurance for India's Missing Middle" highlights the gap in the health insurance coverage across the country. The report has been released by which body?

- A) ASSOCHAM
- B) Observer Research Foundation (ORF)
- C) NITI Aayog
- D) IRDAI

Q.82 Shaktikanta Das has been re-appointed as the Governor of the RBI for three more years by the ACC. Mr Das is the _____ Governor of RBI

- A) 21st
- B) 25th
- C) 27th
- D) 22nd

Q.83 Union Minister Shri Hardeep S. Puri inaugurated the 14th edition of Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference 2021 through video conferencing. What was the theme of the conference?

- A) Accessible and Liveable Cities
- B) Mobility for All
- C) Smart Cities
- D) Green Urban Mobility

Q.84 Cricket player Ryan ten Doeschate has announced his retirement from international cricket for which country?

- A) South
- B) Zimbabwe
- C) Netherlands
- D) West Indies

Q.85 The sixth edition of the National Formulary of India (NFI) was recently released by which of these ministries?

- A) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- B) Ministry of Defence
- C) Ministry of Finance
- D) Ministry of Education

Q.86 Which player has been adjudged as the ICC Men's Player of the Month for August 2021?

- A) Shakib Al Hasan
- B) Shaheen Afridi
- C) Joe Root
- D) Jasprit Bumrah

Q.87 The Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi has laid the foundation stone of the Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh State University in which city?

- A) Aligarh
- B) Gorakhpur
- C) Lucknow
- D) Agra

Q.88 The National Engineer's Day is celebrated in India on which day?

- A) 12 September
- B) 15 September
- C) 14 September
- D) 11 September

Q.89 Name the winner of Women's Prize for Fiction 2021?

- A) Susanna Clarke
- B) Marleen Beaulieu
- C) Josee Vallee
- D) Barbara Kidd

Q.90 Who is the author of the book "Human Rights and Terrorism in India"?

- A) Shashi Tharoor
- B) Nitin Gadkari
- C) Subramanian Swamy
- D) Jairam Ramesh

Q.91 India's biggest aromatic garden has been inaugurated in which of these places?

- A) Gurgaon
- B) Nainital
- C) Jaipur
- D) Pune

Q.92 India's First Manned Ocean Mission was officially inaugurated by Dr Jitendra Singh in Chennai. What is the name given to the mission?

- A) Neernidhi
- B) Sagaryan
- C) Samudrayaan
- D) Sindhuya

Q.93 The National Commission for Women (NCW) has collaborated with which organization to launch Awareness Program for Women, titled "Empowerment of Women through Legal Awareness"?

- A) Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)
- B) National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)
- C) NITI Aayog
- D) Competition Commission of India (CCI)

Q.94 Which country has recently unveiled the world's largest hydrogen fuel cell power plant?

- A) South Korea
- B) Israel
- C) Germany
- D) Singapore

Q.95 The Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) is marked on which day in India?

- A) 31 October
- B) 30 October
- C) 29 October
- D) 28 October

Q.96 Which financial institution has approved the USD 250 million loan to support the National Industrial Corridor Development Program (NICDP) in India?

- A) World Bank
- B) Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- C) UNDP
- D) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

Q.97 In India, when is the World Savings Day observed?

- A) October 29
- B) October 31
- C) October 30
- D) October 28

Q.98 What is the theme of 2021 World Cities Day (WCD)?

- A) Valuing Our Communities and Cities
- B) Adapting cities for climate resilience
- C) Better City, Better life
- D) Building sustainable and resilient cities

Q.99 Dr M Krishnan Nair who has passed away recently was one of the well known _____

- A) Surgeon
- B) Anaesthetist
- C) Pathologist
- D) Oncologist

Q.100 The Rashtriya Ekta Diwas is marked in India to mark the birth anniversary of which leader?

- A) Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan
- B) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- C) Subhas Chandra Bose
- D) A. P. J. Abdul Kalam

ANSWER KEY

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|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1- D | 11- B | 21- C | 31- B | 41- D | 51- D | 61- D | 71- C | 81- C | 91- B |
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| 2- C | 12- A | 22- A | 32- A | 42- A | 52- B | 62- D | 72- A | 82- B | 92- C |
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| 3- B | 13- B | 23- C | 33- B | 43- C | 53- A | 63- C | 73- B | 83- B | 93- B |
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| 4- A | 14- C | 24- C | 34- D | 44- B | 54- C | 64- B | 74- D | 84- C | 94- A |
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| 5- B | 15- D | 25- D | 35- C | 45- D | 55- D | 65- C | 75- B | 85- A | 95- A |
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| 6- A | 16- D | 26- B | 36- A | 46- A | 56- B | 66- B | 76- D | 86- C | 96- B |
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| 7- D | 17- A | 27- C | 37- B | 47- B | 57- C | 67- B | 77- A | 87- A | 97- C |
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| 8- D | 18- D | 28- A | 38- C | 48- C | 58- C | 68- A | 78- C | 88- B | 98- B |
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|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 9- A | 19- C | 29- D | 39- A | 49- B | 59- D | 69- D | 79- D | 89- A | 99- D |
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| 10- D | 20- A | 30- C | 40- B | 50- A | 60- A | 70- B | 80- B | 90- C | 100- B |
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Meet Our Mentors

We strongly endorse and believe in the fact that our faculty is our asset and one of the strong pillars of Success Mantra. This is the reason, we cherry-pick our faculties in order to fulfil the expectations of the students. Each of our faculty is the master of their subject, thus ensuring the best results across the industry.



Mahesh H Singh

Faculty - Constitutional Law (Polity)

I am a commerce graduate and belong to Mumbai. I have been teaching constitution and PSIR to Law and CSE aspirants for the last 4 years.

My role at Success Mantra is to mentor students to understand the constitution through flow charts and fine examples. I believe in 3 C's (i.e. CONTENT, CLARITY of topics and CONNECTION between students and teacher) are the key elements of effective teaching, what I ensure at success mantra.



Shivendra Pratik

Faculty - Logical Reasoning

I'm a Post Graduate Diploma in Management and a Gold Medalist in Finance and Banking. I have a comprehensive experience of around 8 years in the Corporate & Education industry. For the last 6 years, I have been teaching Logical Reasoning to various competitive entrance exam aspirants majorly CLAT, AILET, DU LLB, HM, BBA, Banking, UPSC, DSSSB etc.



Richa Jha

Faculty - Legal Aptitude

I am Advocate Richa Jha. I'm LLB, LLM from Law Faculty, University of Delhi. Law, as a subject, can be taught with the help of legal theories, their practices and applications which can be substantiated with the help of case studies.

I sincerely believe in imparting a legal education which a candidate can relate to his exam and could become a means to achieve success.



Ankit Jha

Faculty - General Knowledge | Service Aptitude

I'm a hospitality professional and a qualified manager. I've diversified experience of more than six years in different industries. I graduated from the prestigious IHM Pusa Delhi.

I mentor the aspirants of Success Mantra as a Faculty for General Awareness & Service Aptitude. I'm dedicated towards providing the best content in terms of quality & relevancy and always eager to assist the students.



Vipin Sharma

Faculty - Quantitative Techniques

I'm an MBA, LLB, and B.Com (AMU). I have been in association with Success Mantra since 2013. Extensive knowledge of arithmetic mathematics, algebra, geometry, statistics and other areas of mathematics allows me to confidently explain concepts and processes to my students. My lesson plans engage students and help them feel confident in their mathematical abilities.



Deepak Chauchan

Faculty - English Language & Usage

I'm Deepak Chauhan. I'm PG in English. I've more than fifteen years of Experience including teaching experience of eight years. I'm committed to creating a classroom which is stimulating and highly motivated.

I'm highly professional and dedicated towards my work. I've created a huge library of competitive english which I share with my students as and when required. I've passion for English language and my ultimate goal is to help my students to achieve their goal in life.