

UPPSC- CURRENT AFFAIRS SPECIAL



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GOOD MORNING TIMES

ONE LINERS CA

MARCH TO

SEPTEMBER- 2020

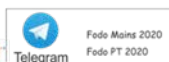
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March 2020 – One Liner Current Affairs

Financial One Liners:

- State Bank of India (SBI) has switched to “Cash Budget Based Assessment (CBBA)” from “Projected Balance Sheet (PBS)” method of Fund Based Working Capital (FBWC) limits for assessment of the working capital requirement for corporates or large advances.
- Indian digital payments platform Paytm’s subsidiary, Paytm Insurance Broking, has received the brokerage licence from the Insurance Regulatory and Authority of India (IRDAI).
- The Union Cabinet led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the consolidation of ten Public Sector Banks (PSBs) into four. The amalgamation of the PSBs will be effective from 1 April 2020.
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has infused Rs.1.46 lakh crore in the rural banking system during the current fiscal.
- Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has lowered the interest rate on PF deposits to 8.5% for the current financial year 2019-20.
- The Central Government of India imposed temporary prohibition of the activity of the capital-starved Yes Bank and capped withdrawals at Rs50,000 per account after considering an application made by the Reserve Bank of India.
- ICICI Prudential AMC (Asset Management Company), one of the leading mutual fund investment companies in India, has entered into the partnership with Saraswat Co-operative Bank, an urban co-operative banking institution, to distribute its products with the latter’s customers base spread across its 280 branches in 6 states.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has announced a rate cut of the fixed deposit rates across multiple tenors for general customers and senior citizens. It has reduced a rate cut up to 50 basis points (bps) in some tenors, and for some tenors, it has announced a reduction of 10 bps.
- The State Bank of India has waived off the minimum balance charges on all savings bank accounts.
- SBI will infuse Rs 7,250 crore into ailing YES Bank to pick up to 49 per cent equity as part of the Reserve Bank of India-mandated bailout plan.
- ICICI Bank approves an investment of Rs1,000 crore to revive capital-starved Yes Bank.
- Axis Bank to invest a sum of up to Rs. 600 crore (Rupees six hundred crore only) for acquiring up to 60 crore equity shares of Rs. 2 each (Rupees two only) of Yes Bank Limited, for cash, at a premium of Rs. 8 (Rupees eight only) per equity share.
- The Department of Posts has introduced a free digital parcel locker service in the city from 11 March for the first time in India.

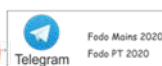
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- HIL (India) Limited, in association with Union Bank of India, launched "Customer Payment Portal" in New Delhi.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has revised the single borrower and group exposure limit for Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs).
- Ministry of Finance reported that all villages were mapped by banks into 1.59 lakh Sub-Service Areas (SSAs) under Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY).
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced that, in the wake of the epidemic Covid-19, the central bank would use Forex swap and long-term repo operations (LTROs) to mitigate the effects of the Covid-19 on the Indian Economy.
- State Bank of India entered into an agreement to acquire 6.825%(6,825 equity shares) stake of Zero Mass Private Limited (Pvt Ltd)
- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) is to start Swavalamban Express on 5 June 2020. The aim is to promote budding business aspirants and entrepreneurs.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) put in place a contingency plan to ensure that crucial information technology (IT) services for the delivery of digital banking, treasury services.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will infuse liquidity of Rs 30,000 crore to maintain financial stability in the Indian economy.
- After Rupay debit cards Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL) announced to issue Visa virtual debit cards to its customers.
- Reserve bank of India extended the regulatory restrictions on Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative Bank (PMC) Bank by another three months.
- The State Bank of India has launched an additional liquidity facility "Covid-19 Emergency Credit Line (CECL)".
- Axis bank will waive off charges for savings account, current account and prepaid card customers (wherever applicable) towards online IMPS and financial and non-financial ATM transactions between March 23 and March 31 (both dates inclusive).
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) reported that the COVID-19 pandemic will cause a global recession in 2020.
- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced that debit cardholders could withdraw cash from any other bank's ATM free of charge for the next three months.
- Karur Vysya Bank has launched India's 1st pre-paid card Enkasu (My cash in Tamil) in Karur, Tamil Nadu under its Quit cash movement.

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- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman today announced various statutory and regulatory compliance relief measures amid a complete shutdown almost all over the country to control the spread of the highly contagious coronavirus or Covid-19 infection.
- The Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) issued guidelines for timely credit of monthly Pension to the Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS) pensioners.
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved to continue the process of recapitalization of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs).
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) provides financial support of Rs 42,313 crore in the Financial Year (FY) 2019-20 for building rural infrastructure.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced that all banks and Non-bank financial institutions (NBFCs) have been permitted to allow a moratorium of 3 months on repayment of term loans outstanding on 1 March 2020.
- Jana Small Finance Bank has rolled out a Unified Payments Interface (UPI) QR-based loan installment payment facility along with National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) for its customers.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) stated that the schemes for the merger of 10 state-run banks into four lenders will come into force from 1 April.
- The Punjab National Bank (PNB) has unveiled a new logo before its merger with the Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC) and the United Bank of India (UBI). The new logo bears the distinct signages of all the three PSU banks i.e. the Punjab National Bank, the United Bank of India (UBI) and the Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC).
- ICICI Bank has rolled out the banking services on WhatsApp. The facility will enable the banks' retail customers to undertake a slew of banking requirements from their home.
- Global agency Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in its report titled "OECD Interim Economic Assessment Coronavirus: The world economy at risk" has trimmed India's real GDP (Gross Domestic Product) growth forecast to 5.1% from the earlier projection of 6.2% for 2020 due to the impact of deadly coronavirus (COVID-19) on the domestic as well as the global economy. For 2021, India's real GDP growth is projected at 5.6% from the earlier forecast of 6.4%.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide a total of USD 4 million (about □29 cro developing countries in Asia and Pacific to fight the outbreak of novel coronavirus (COVID-19).
- Google to open the cloud region in Delhi. It will be made operational by 2021.
- Markets regulator Sebi has launched a mobile application 'Sebi SCORES' for convenience of investors to lodge grievances in Sebi Complaints Redress System (SCORES).
- Zomato, an Indian restaurant aggregator and food delivery startup has acquired Uber's food delivery business in India.

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- In less than a month's time, rating agency Moody's Investors Service has revised downward its baseline growth projections for India to 5.3% for 2020 from 5.4% earlier, cautioning that an extensive and prolonged slump as a result of COVID-19 outbreak will reduce growth in Asia's third largest economy to 5% during the same calendar year.
- Software major Infosys partnered with the US-based chipmaker Qualcomm to offer smart cities solutions through Qualcomm's accelerator program.
- Google India has launched a skill programme for women called 'DigiPivot'. The programme designed for women who are looking to return to their corporate careers after a break or simply planning to make midcareer shifts to digital marketing.
- Indian MarTech Company, AdGlobal360 has been acquired by Japanese company Hakuodo Inc for an undisclosed sum.
- The government today hiked the dearness allowance (DA) by 4%. It means the dearness allowance has been increased from 17% of basic pay/pension to 21% of basic pay/pension for central government employees and pensioners.
- Indian E-commerce company Flipkart has tied up with Aegon Life Insurance to sell comprehensive insurance solutions for customers.
- S&P Global Ratings has reduced India's economic growth forecast to 5.2% for financial year 2020. The economic growth forecast was earlier forecasted at 5.7%.
- "WhatsApp Coronavirus Information Hub" has been launched globally by WhatsApp.
- Fitch Ratings on Friday joined the chorus of international agencies, downgrading its growth forecast for India to 5.1% from 5.6% for 2020-21 as Covid-19 hits sentiment and supply chain disruptions in China impact input-dependent Indian manufacturers.
- ICICI Lombard a private sector non-life insurance company has launched a 1 year-long "COVID-19 Protection Cover".
- Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) on Monday said it has provided an initial support of Rs 5 crore to the Maharashtra Chief Minister's Relief Fund to help tackle the Covid-19 outbreak.
- The United Nations (UN) has announced that it is to create a fund to support the treatment of coronavirus patients worldwide.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has extended the last date for filing GST returns for March, April, and May to 30 June. The previous date for filing of GST returns was March 31, 2020. The deadline for composition returns on GST has been also been extended to 30 June 2020.
- CRISIL has cut its base-case Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth forecast for fiscal 2021 to 3.5% from

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5.2% expected earlier.

- In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) decided to advance the Bi-monthly Monetary Policy meet which was scheduled to be held on 31st March 2020 and the announcement was meant to be made on 3rd April.
- Moody's Investors Service reduced India's GDP growth in 2020 to 2.5 per cent from the earlier estimate of 5.3 per cent.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has joined the Government of India (GOI) and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) as an investor under the instruments of the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) of India.
- The United Nations Trade report titled "The COVID-19 Shock to Developing Countries: Towards a whatever it takes program" stated that the world economy will go into recession in 2020 with a predicted loss of trillions of dollars of global income due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has announced that the world has clearly entered a recession due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Non – Financial One Liners:

National:

- The Union Minister of State PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Jitendra Singh inaugurated the 'Pension Adalat' and National Pension System (NPS) Awareness and Grievance Redressal Programme in Jammu.
- The Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated the Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela 2020 on 1 March.
- Indian Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers has organized "ACREX India 2020" at India Expo Mart Limited, Greater Noida.
- Indian Railways launched its first 'Restaurant on Wheels' at the Asansol Railway station, Paschim Bardhaman district, West Bengal.
- Union Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment Thaawarchand Gehlot inaugurated the "Entrepreneurship, Knowledge, Awareness, Marketing (EKAM) Fest".
- Union Minister of State (IC) for Tourism & Culture Prahlad Singh Patel launched the multilingual Incredible India website in New Delhi.

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- Union Minister for Home Affairs Amit Shah inaugurated the National Security Guard (NSG) Regional Hub campus at Kolkata, West Bengal.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for the Bundelkhand Expressway at Chitrakoot on 29 February.
- Labour of Minister Santosh Gangwar has launched a mobile application named 'Fuel Humsafar' for delivery of diesel at doorsteps of Housing societies, hotels and hospitals in the national capital region.
- Union Minister for Home Affairs Amit Shah inaugurated the National Security Guard (NSG) Regional Hub campus at Kolkata, West Bengal.
- Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) implemented a number of schemes for promoting the folk, tribal art and culture.
- Financial assistance to the tune of Rs 1.51 crore sanctioned to Kaziranga National Park during the fiscal years 2018-19 and 2019-2020 under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA).
- The University Grants Commission (UGC) has developed "Jeevan Kaushal" (life skills) curriculum for undergraduate students at Universities and Colleges.
- Land Ports Authority of India (LPAI) celebrated its 8th Foundation Day on 2 March in New Delhi.
- The 68th All India Police Athletic Championship 2019-20 began at Bhanu in Panchkula District of Haryana on 3 March.
- The National Water Mission organized the inaugural session of the workshop on "Increasing Water Use Efficiency in Industries".
- The Inter-Ministerial Approval Committee (IMAC) held under the Chairpersonship of Union Food Processing Industries Minister Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal approved ten projects in New Delhi.
- The 4th Edition of the Women Transforming India Awards (WTI) is to be awarded on 8 March 2020, the International Women's Day.
- The Fourth Global Ayurveda Festival (GAF) will be held at Kochi in Kerala from 16-20 May.
- The second anniversary of the Centre's Poshan Abhiyaan Poshan Pakhwada was celebrated on 8 March.
- Government is to add more than 14 lakh Self Help Groups (SHG) in order to achieve GoI's plan to achieve 75 lakhs SHGs by 2022.
- A dedicated monitoring cell was inaugurated under Mission Bhagiratha in Bhongir Circle, Telangana.
- The Centre is to make it mandatory for the sanitary napkin companies to provide bio-degradable disposal bags from January 2021.
- Centre approved the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to construct the first phase of a new highway at a distance of almost 170km.

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- The family members of the personnel of paramilitary forces killed in the line of duty were offered jobs under the scheme of compassionate appointment.
- Holi, the Festival of Colors, is a famous festival in India. It is celebrated on different dates every year.
- National Archives of India (NAI) is to celebrate its 130th Foundation Day on 11 March 2020.
- The Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare Dr. Harsh Vardhan chaired the 43rd Annual Day of the National Institute of Health & Family Welfare (NIHFW) on 9 March.
- Government of India has constituted a committee to work out the modalities of 'Kisan Rail.'
- Ministry of Railways has constituted a Group of Secretaries (GoS) to advise the terms and conditions for private passenger train operators.
- The UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has issued a warning that global foreign direct investment (FDI) could drop by up to 15% on previous estimates due to the Coronavirus outbreak.
- GoI has constituted a high-level Group of Ministers (GOM) to review, monitor, and evaluate the current preparedness and measures taken regarding the management of Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19). □The World Health Organization (WHO) declared the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, a "pandemic" on 11 March.
- National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) launched Crime Multi-Agency Centre (Cri-MAC) and National Cybercrime Training Centre (NCTC) on 12 March during the celebration of its 35th Inception Day.
- Anganwadi Workers are provided with Smart Phone through States for Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)-Common Application Software (CAS) developed under POSHAN Abhiyaan.
- Government is planning to approve licence for the persons with Colour blindness. People with a mild or moderate colour vision deficiency may get to drive commercial vehicles too.
- Facebook India has launched its (corporate social responsibility) CSR initiative, Facebook "Pragati" to promote women entrepreneurship in India.
- New coronavirus quarantine facilities have been set up in seven cities located across the nation by the Indian Armed Forces for accomodating nearly 400 Indians who are expected to return from Iran.
- India offered 600 tonnes of rice to flood victims of Madagascar. Indian Naval Ship (INS) Shardul brought the relief material and arrived at Port Antsiranana in Madagascar.
- Government of India brings masks and hand sanitizers under the Essential Commodities Act.
- A Flag-in ceremony of the Ganga Aamantran Abhiyan was organized by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) in New Delhi
- The Minister of State (I/C) for Shipping and Chemical & Fertilizers Shri Mansukh Mandaviya is to inaugurate five projects completed under Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) at JNPT, Mumbai
- Union Cabinet approved a proposal for the construction of 780 kilometer of green highways
- Indian census is the largest single source of a range of statistical data on different characteristics of the people of the country.

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- Welcomgroup Graduate School of Hotel Administration (WGSHA) of Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) entered the Limca Book of Records (LBR) for establishing “India’s First Living Culinary Arts Museum” at WGSHA, Manipal, Karnataka.
- Government hiked the Excise duty on petrol and diesel by Rs.3 per litre on 14 March. The move is due to the fall in international oil prices.
- Government of India pledged \$10 million toward a Covid-19 emergency fund.
- The Chief Justice of India (CJI) ruled out the complete shutdown of the Supreme court (SC) and other courts. SC is to launch virtual courts.
- The Minister of State (I/C) for Power and New and Renewable Energy Shri R K Singh launched the new website of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- Centre is to introduce an Industrial Policy for the rapid economic development of Jammu and Kashmir
- Government of India has urged the people to share technology-driven solutions for COVID-19 on MyGovIndia (@mygovindia).
- Government of India has suspended visas for visitors from all other countries for at least a month in response to the coronavirus pandemic.
- Indian Culture Portal, an online portal of the Ministry of Culture, showcases the information about the rich cultural heritage of India across the globe.
- The Solar Charkha Mission was initiated by the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME).
- The Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) flagged off the first-ever thrice-weekly flight from Indore (Madhya Pradesh) to Kishangarh (Ajmer, Rajasthan) on 16 March Under the UDAN scheme of Government of India.
- Innovate for Accessible India campaign has been launched jointly by Microsoft India and NASSCOM Foundation to empower people with disabilities.
- Ministry of Culture has established an institute named Central Institute of Himalayan Culture Studies (CIHCS) at Dahung, Arunachal Pradesh.
- Ministry of Finance reported that more than Rs.20,466.94 crores of loans had been sanctioned under Stand Up India Scheme to over 91,000 accounts up to 10 March 2020.
- The Health Ministry issued guidelines for notifying COVID-19 in private facilities. The move is to strengthen containment measures amid rising cases of coronavirus.
- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) signed an agreement with the National Health Authority (NHA). The aim is to identify capacities to admit patients from among 19,840 empanelled hospitals under the scheme.

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- Microsoft India and NASSCOM Foundation announced an "Innovate for an Accessible India campaign" to empower persons with disabilities (PwDs).
- Urban Development Minister Hardeep Singh Puri announced that the target of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana will be achieved well before 2022, its scheduled time.

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- The Central government has announced that it has decided to give National Cadet Corps (NCC) Certificate holders Bonus Marks indirect entry examinations for the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), as prevalent in Armed forces examinations.
- Scientists of Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (CSIR-IHBT), Palampur, Himachal Pradesh, has developed a new hand-sanitizer as a preventive measure against Coronavirus.
- The four convicts, Pawan Gupta (25), Vinay Sharma (26), Akshay Kumar (31), and Mukesh Kumar (32), of Nirbhaya Gang Rape were hanged to death in Tihar Jail
- Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resources Development (MHRD), and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) have jointly developed a Comprehensive School Health Programme (SHP) under Ayushman Bharat.
- Union Minister of Textiles Smriti Zubin Irani has proposed a pilot shopping festival at Bengaluru.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced for a Janata Curfew on 22 March 2020.
- Central government has announced a ban on the export of Ventilators, Surgical/Disposable Masks (2/3 ply), and Textile raw material used for masks and coveralls.
- The Union Cabinet approved the inclusion of the AYUSH health and wellness centre component of Ayushman Bharat in National Ayush Mission.
- The Union Cabinet approved a scheme to promote medical device parks for financing common infrastructure facilities.
- The South Asia Association of Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Disaster Management Centre has launched a website for information related to the COVID-19 pandemic in the region.
- Aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) released a slew of measures for airlines and airports on social distancing against COVID-19.
- Actor Priyanka Chopra works jointly with the World Health Organisation (WHO) to spread awareness over COVID-19.
- The Indian government has asked all state-owned lenders to extend emergency credit lines to corporate borrowers, three government and banking sources said, as it rushes to tackle the fallout from the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak that has grounded business across the globe
- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved for continuation of Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) scheme from 1 April 2020.
- India banned exports of anti-malarial drug hydroxychloroquine on 25 March with immediate effect.
- Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced the complete lockdown of the entire nation, as part of government's stringent efforts to tackle coronavirus disease Covid-19. The entire country will be under lockdown from 25 March 2020. This lockdown will be in place for 21 days.

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- Google-owned video streaming giant “YouTube” has decided to reduce streaming quality for users in India until 31st March 2020.
- “Mylab PathoDetect COVID-19 Qualitative PCR kit” has become the first ‘Made in India’ COVID19 Test Kit to get the CDSCO approval.
- The Ministry of information and broadcasting, GoI, directed Chief Secretaries of all state governments and Union territories to ensure the operational continuity of all print and electronic media.
- The Central government directed all public and private companies to ensure that they do not cut the salaries of their staff during the lockdowns imposed to curtail the spread of COVID-19.
- Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) has set up India’s first COVID-19 dedicated hospital in Mumbai.
- The Government of United Kingdom (UK) has become the first co-chair of the Governing Council on the India-led global climate initiative ‘Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)’, which was created by the Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi on September 23, 2019 during the UN (United Nations) Climate Summit in New York, US(United States).
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the construction of Aligarh-Harduaganj flyover.
- The Census 2021 which was scheduled to be conducted in two phases has been postponed by the Government of India due to the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic. The updation of National Population Register (NPR) will be done along with the Phase I of Census 2021 in all the States/Union Territories, except Assam.
- The Government of India is to launch CoWin-20 to curb the community spread of coronavirus. CoWin-20 is a new smartphone app that aims to track individuals by their smartphone locations.
- The Ministry of Railways has extended the cancellation of passenger train services on Indian Railways. The move is to continue the measure taken in the wake of COVID-19.
- Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) has designated 285 beds for isolation wards in handling Coronavirus (COVID-19) cases.
- All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi will start Tele-Consultation facility for the non-Covid19 patients.
- To protect the poor from the economic impact of the 21-day nationwide lockdown, the Narendra Modi government today announced a Rs1.7 lakh crore Prime Minister Gareeb Kalyan Yojana.
- To help tide over hardship caused by the coronavirus lockdown, Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) rules will be relaxed, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced today. EPF subscribers can now withdraw 75% of their PF balance or 3 month wages as a non-refundable advance, whichever is lower.
- The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has set up a CII COVID Rehabilitation and Relief Fund (CRR) for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) to tackle Covid-19.

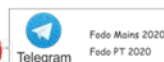
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- The Union Minister of Finance Nirmala Sitharaman announced Rs.1.70 lakh crore relief package under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana.
- Government of India approved an additional Rs.5,751.27 crore as an aid to 8 states that were hit by floods, landslides, cyclone 'Bulbul' and drought in 2019.
- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare issued a directive that restricts the sale and distribution of hydroxychloroquine.
- India is set to begin antibody tests for the coronavirus to confirm whether a person had previously been infected with the virus.
- Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC) has developed a health app named "COVID-19", after the virus itself, under the guidance of Municipal Commissioner, Tukaram Mundhe.
- The Indian Railways have prepared a prototype of train coaches that can be used as isolation units for COVID-19 patients.
- Government e-Marketplace (GeM) has introduced a number of initiatives in the fight against COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the 10th Episode of 'Mann Ki Baat 2.0' on 29 March.
- The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) constituted 10 different high-level committees on 29 March. The committee will suggest measures to ramp up healthcare, put the economy back on track, reduce the problems faced by the people post 21-day lockdown imposed to contain the coronavirus pandemic.
- The Central Government approved the launch of insurance scheme for health workers, who are fighting the COVID-19 outbreak, under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan package.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Prime Ministers' Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations (PM-CARES) fund on 28 March to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Harsh Vardhan launched the 24x7 National Teleconsultation Centre to answer COVID-19 related queries.
- The first prototype of hospital isolation coach have been created successfully by the Northern Railways. The hospital isolation coach have been created in order to fight against the COVID-19 outbreak in the country.
- The Government of India has launched a coronavirus risk-tracking app called 'Corona Kavach.'
- National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA) celebrated the 66th Foundation Day on 29 March 2020. On the occasion, NGMA launched "Virtual Tour of its permanent collection" for the visitors.
- The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has announced an extension on the validity of documents like driving licenses, permits and registration that are expired since 1 February. The Ministry has directed all states and Union Territories (UT) to treat the documents as valid till 30 June.

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- Ride-sharing platform Ola has announced that it is ready to join hands with various state governments to offer mobility help to all the frontline warriors engaged in the battle against novel coronavirus.
- Online travel agent MakeMyTrip on Tuesday said it has launched Stays for Saviours initiative for temporary accommodation of medical practitioners fighting covid-19.

State :

- Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal was conferred the Dr. Syama Prasad Mukherjee award 2020 for Politics.
- Punjab State government announced major changes in the 2020-21 budget. The budget announcement was made by Punjab Finance Minister Manpreet Singh Badal. He presented a Rs.1,54,805 crore budget in the state Assembly.
- In Madhya Pradesh unique Chilli Festival begins at Kasrawad in Khargone district.
- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has launched “Suposhit Maa Abhiyan” in his constituency Kota, Rajasthan.
- The Arunachal Pradesh Assembly went paperless with the implementation of e-Vidhan, a project under the Digital India programme.
- The historic City Chowk in old Jammu was renamed as ‘Bharat Mata Chowk’.
- Antar Rashtriya Yog Mahotsav has been inaugurated in Rishikesh, Uttarakhand by Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.
- The famous Rangotsav celebration began on 3 March at Barsana in Mathura, Uttar Pradesh.
- The 35th edition of AAHAR-the Food and Hospitality fair began in New Delhi on 3 March. The fair will be held from 3-7 March 2020.
- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated and laid foundation stones for 23 development projects worth Rs 2,821 crore at Gautam Buddha Nagar in Noida on 3rd March 2020.
- The state government of Uttarakhand has announced that “Gairsain” will be the summer capital of Uttarakhand. Gairsain is a tehsil located in Chamoli district.
- Jammu and Kashmir government has launched Student Health Card scheme in Jammu on 5 March. □
- Chapchar Kut began in all parts of Mizoram on 5 March 2020.
- ‘Namaste Orchha’ festival begins in Orchha, a town in Niwari district of Madhya Pradesh.
- The government of Jammu and Kashmir adopted a nine pronged strategy to realize the goal of doubling farmer's income by 2022.
- Kerala government decided to offer safe abodes for couples who married across religion and castes.
- The Maharashtra Government renamed Aurangabad Airport as Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj Airport.

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- Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Kiren Rijju inaugurated the first-ever five-day Khelo India Winter Games at Gulmarg.
- Tamil Nadu State government is to host the first-ever regional event "Divya Kala Shakti: Witnessing the abilities in disabilities a unique cultural" event at Kalaivanar Arangam, Chennai.
- Leh is to host the main national event for the sixth International Day of Yoga (IDY) on 21 June 2020. The events on the day will be led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- Maharashtra State government approved the implementation of "happy hour" for autorickshaws.
- The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has launched 'NIGHA' app to ensure 'clean and healthy' elections by curbing the use of money and alcohol in the upcoming local body elections.
- The traditional 'Fagli' festival was celebrated in Yangpa village of Kinnaur district, Himachal Pradesh.
- The Maharashtra state cabinet government approved the renaming Mumbai Central Terminus station as Nana Shankarseth Terminus Station or Jagannath Sunkersett.
- The Assam government to construct 33 stadiums in the state under Uttaran scheme.
- Uttar Pradesh government has launched three ambitious schemes for skill development and employment generation for youths in the state.
- Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has announced the biggest ever scheme for the welfare of sportspersons and artists of the State.
- Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat celebrated the traditional harvest festival "Phool Dei". □ Union Minister of State for Shipping Mansukh Mandaviya was launched 'Ropax' passenger ferry service between Mumbai and Mandwa, Maharashtra.
- The Kerala government has launched a mass handwashing campaign named 'break the chain' to combat coronavirus.
- World's first commercial flying car named 'PAL-V Liberty' will be developed in Gujarat, India. PAL-V stands for Personal Air-Land Vehicle.
- Kamal Nath has resigned as the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh.
- Uttar Pradesh Government has sought a Central Grant of 100 crore rupees for Lucknow University and Kashi Vidyapeeth.
- Uttarakhand government cancelled reservation in promotion for state government employees.
- According to the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, Karuppa Gounder Palanisamy (known as Edappadi K. Palaniswami), a total of 64,583 sanitary personnel employed by urban and rural civic bodies in the State will be called as "cleanliness workers" (Thooimai Paniyalargal in Tamil) to honour their work.

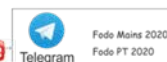
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- Uttar Pradesh govt announced several actions and measures in its fight against coronavirus. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath announced to provide one-month free food grains to poor people along with Rs 1,000 as compensation to daily wage workers who have been affected due to the outbreak of the deadly virus.
- Tamil Nadu state government has announced an Rs.3,280 crore special relief package against COVID-19 on 24 March.
- Shivraj Singh Chouhan was sworn in as Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh. He took oath for the fourth time as Chief Minister.
- The Gujarat Police is now equipped with taser guns as a part of their modernization drive to ensure public safety and security.
- Odisha's Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched Mo Jeeban programme in Odisha.
- The Uttar Pradesh state government has imposed a ban on the production and sale of pan masala during the 21-day lockdown imposed across the country.
- Bihar government has released rupees 100 crore as an assistance package for poor people of the state in view of ongoing lockdown in view of Coronavirus outbreak.
- Odisha government announced today that it readying to set up the largest Covid-19 hospital in India.
- The Maharashtra state government has decided to stamp the left hand of the people who have been kept under quarantine amid coronavirus pandemic in the country.
- The Odisha State government is planning to set up a COVID-19 testing laboratory at a hospital in order to ease the burden as the state has only one facility at Bhubaneswar.
- Indore (Madhya Pradesh), the cleanest city in India becomes the 1st city in India to use drones to sanitize the city against COVID-19 scare.
- The Sawai Man Singh (SMS) Government Hospital in Jaipur is to introduce the usage of humanoid robots to provide services to the COVID-19 patients.
- Government has set up a control room in Bihar Bhawan, New Delhi. The information was passed by the Resident Commissioner of Bihar, Vipin Kumar.
- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath transferred Rs.611 crore in the accounts of 27.15 lakh Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) labourers of the state.
- In Jammu, two hospitals Psychiatry Hospital and Chest Diseases hospital have been exclusively dedicated to treating COVID-19 patients.
- Chief Minister of Nagaland Neiphiu Rio launched the Self Declaration COVID-19 Nagaland App at Kohima on 28 March.
- UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has set up "Team-11" comprising of as many inter-departmental committees to fight the coronavirus spread.

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- Himachal Pradesh State government has unveiled 'Corona Mukht Himachal', a mobile application on 31 March as a measure to protect the State's people.
- Jharkhand state government has launched PRAGYAAM, a Mobile application, on 30 March.
- Andhra Pradesh State government has set up "Mobile Hand-wash facilities" for the benefit of Slum Dwellers amidst lockdown in the state.
- Rajasthan police have launched a mobile app "RajCop citizens app" to enable individuals and company employees in the state take permission for venturing out in necessary conditions.

International:

- The presidency of United Nations Security Council for March 2020 has been taken over by China.
- North Korea launched two short-range missiles into its eastern sea on 2 March.
- Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu claimed victory in Israel's general election 2020.
- Indian-American health policy consultant Seema Verma has been appointed as one of the key members of the White House Coronavirus Task Force constituted by US President Donald Trump.
- The World Bank announced 12 billion USD to assist countries that are grappling with economic impacts of coronavirus.
- Luxembourg, the 7th smallest country in Europe, has been made public transport free to reduce traffic pressure on the road.
- The 20th Session of the senior officials' meeting (SoM) was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on 3 March 2020.
- Bangladesh is to add two new land ports for the Bangladeshi citizens travelling to India.
- Janez Jansa, an anti-immigrant politician, was elected as the new Prime Minister of Slovenia.
- US President Donald Trump signed an 8.3 billion US Dollars measure to help tackle the coronavirus outbreak killed 12 people in the US and infected more than 200.
- The annual festival of St Antony's Shrine begins in Katchatheevu Island of Sri Lanka. □ Ukraine parliament approved Denys Shmygal as a new prime minister of Ukraine.
- The 5th edition of BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) Summit 2020 to be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka in the month of September 2020.
- The High Court of Bangladesh has ordered that 'Joy Bangla' will be the national slogan of Bangladesh. □ Hiding of information about Corona virus infection has been made a punishable offense in Bangladesh.
- Niue has become the world's first whole country recognised as a 'Dark Sky Place' by the International Dark-

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Sky Association's (IDA), which has approved the island's application for the protection of its sky, land and sea.

- The first human trial of a vaccine against coronavirus (COVID-19) began at Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute (KPWHRI) in Seattle, the US.
- The Phillipines has become the first country of the world to suspend all financial markets.
- To ensure sick leave to Americans workers who fall ill from the new coronavirus, President of the United States, Donald Trump has signed a \$100-billion emergency aid package.
- The world's largest streaming media service, Netflix Inc (NFLX.O) has announced the formation of \$100 million fund.
- Indian footballer Sunil Chhetri chosen for FIFA campaign against Covid-19.
- A report from China stated that a man died from Hantavirus.
- United Nations has launched a 2 billion dollar global humanitarian response plan to fight Corona Virus in the world's poorest countries.
- The Government of Sri Lanka has pledged to contribute \$5 million to the SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) Corona Emergency Fund proposed by Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi on March 15, 2020 with an initial grant of \$10 million from India to deal with the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.
- The International Monetary Fund has launched a "Tracker of Policies Governments are Taking in Response to COVID-19".
- The United States has reported more coronavirus cases than any other country with over 82,400.
- The United Nations Space Force has launched an Advanced Extremely High-Frequency satellite (AEHF-6) for its military communications.
- China is planning to launch a Long March-5B carrier rocket, an experimental spacecraft, without a crew in April 2020.
- The Union Minister of Oil Dharmendra Pradhan said that Saudi Arabia has announced to provide uninterrupted liquid petroleum gas (LPG) supplies to India.
- Sudhir Rajkumar, a senior official from India, has resigned from his position of Representative of the UN Secretary-General for the investment of the assets of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF).

Summits and Conferences:

Summit/Conference	Held in	Aim/Theme
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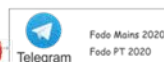
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19th edition of World Productivity Congress (WPC)	Bengaluru, Karnataka	Theme: "Industry 4.0: Innovation and Productivity".
108th Indian Science Congress	Pune	Theme: "Science and Technology for Sustainable Development with Women Empowerment"
International Olympic Committee's (IOC) session	Mumbai	
Pragyan Conclave 2020	New Delhi	The event aims to bring together a cross-domain national and international experts to deliberate on the complex subject of Changing Characteristics of Land Warfare and its Impact on the Military.
"International Conference on Nano Science and Technology" (ICONSAT)	Kolkata, West Bengal	
Kobita Utsav	Kolkata	
PRAGYAN Conclave 2020	New Delhi	
Fourth International Diabetes Summit 2020	Pune	
Wings India 2020	Hyderabad	
39 th GST Council Meeting	New Delhi	
Meeting on Research in Indian Traditional Knowledge Systems	New Delhi	
7th World Cities Summit (WCS)	Singapore	The theme for WCS 2020 is "Livable and Sustainable Cities: Adapting to a Disrupted World".
Virtual G20 Leaders Summit	Saudi Arabia	

- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) organized the Fifth National Conference on Economics of Competition Law at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

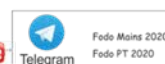
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- The District Employment and Counseling Centre has organized a Workshop-cum-Awareness Programme on the Skill Development for Unorganized Workers. The workshop was held in Kulgam, Jammu & Kashmir.
- A national level Training Workshop on COVID-19 Management for all the states and hospitals was organized in New Delhi.
- Eleventh Bengaluru INDIA Nano conference and exhibition showcased technologies and products developed by academia and companies in nanotechnology.
- The United Kingdom (UK) was confirmed as the first co-chair of the governing council of India-led global Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI).
- Invest India launched a platform named "The Invest India Business Immunity Platform".
- The G20 nations agreed to collectively inject \$5 trillion into the world economy.
- India has proposed to set up a common electronic platform for all South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) nations.
- The Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH) has postponed the 49th edition of Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fair (IHGF)-Delhi Fair Spring 2020.

Ranks and Indices:

- Former Indian PM Indira Gandhi and freedom fighter Amrit Kaur was named by the TIME magazine among the world's 100 powerful women in the last century.
- Bangladesh-based international development organization BRAC retained its position as the top NGO of the world for the 5th consecutive year.
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) released the new Gender Social Norms Index (GSNI) on 5 March.
- As per Government data, Gujarat has topped the list in the installations of solar rooftop plants. It is followed by Maharashtra.
- Bloomberg Billionaires Index reported that Jack Ma became Asia's richest man. Mukesh Ambani, who stood as Asia's richest man, has moved to the second position after oil prices collapsed along with global stocks.
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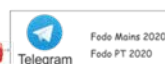
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- India stands as the world's second-largest arms importer as per the "Trends in international arms transfers 2019" report of Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) data.
- Google has shared the data on the most looked-up women on the Internet on the occasion of International Women's Day i.e. on 8th of March 2020. As per the list released by the search engine, Singer Taylor Swift topped the Google's most-searched for woman in music of 2020.
- India gets the second rank in Global Animal Protection Index 2020. This Index was released by International animal welfare charity "World Animal Protection" released.
- India has been ranked 12th in the world as per study titled 'Women On Board 2020'. The list was topped by Norway with 40.72% women on board.
- The World Energy Statistics published by the International Energy Agency (IEA) in 2019 states that India is the 3rd largest producer of electricity in the world.
- United Nations released the World Happiness Report 2020. The World Happiness Report ranks 156 countries by how happy their citizens perceive themselves

Agreements and MoUs:

- Airport Authority of India & Tripura State Government has signed a memorandum of understanding for the construction of 6 equipment hiring centres in Manu Block under the Dhalai District, Tripura.
- Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Haridwar-based Patanjali Bio Research Institute (PBRI) on 1 March.
- The Indian Air Force (IAF) entered into an academic collaboration and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Savitribai Phule Pune University.
- The Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Patanjali Bio Research Institute, Haridwar.
- India private sector bank, RBL Bank (formerly known as Ratnakar Bank Ltd) inks partnership with Online food ordering and delivery app Zomato to launch co-branded credit cards, powered by Mastercard.
- The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Mandi & Enabling Women of Kamand (EWOK) Society has inked a tripartite deal with the National Bank For Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for setting up three Farmer Producer Organization in Mandi, Himachal Pradesh.
- Agricultural and Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA) signed MoUs with specialized institutions namely the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD), Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture (ICFA), SGT University, Pearl Academy, and Quality Council of India (QCI) Delhi, on 4 March 2020.
- The Union Cabinet approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of India and the Ministry of Health and Public Hygiene of Cote d'Ivoire.

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- The desi "Air Force One" will be ready to fly the President or Prime Minister by 2021.
- India and the European Union agreed to work in the Integrated Local Energy System during India's Smart Utility Week 2020.
- Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) that functions under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs signed MoU with Amazon for e-marketing of products made by Self Help Groups (SHGs) across the country in urban areas.
- Hyderabad Metro Rail Ltd in partnership with Paytm has launched a QR-code-based metro ticketing system at Rasoolpura metro station Hyderabad, Telangana.
- The World Bank signed an \$80 million loan agreement with the Government of India, Government of Himachal Pradesh
- PhonePe inks partnership with private sector lender ICICI Bank for UPI transactions.
- An Indian low-cost airline, SpiceJet has signed a pact with GMR Hyderabad Aviation SEZ Limited (GHASL).
- The Government of India, Government of Himachal Pradesh have signed a US\$80 million loan agreement with the World Bank.
- India's second-largest national oil explorer Oil India Ltd (OIL), signed an agreement with Numaligarh Refinery for purchase and sale of crude oil for a term of five years.
- WION (World Is One News), the India's first International News Channel, has organized its 3rd edition of Global summit 2020 based on the theme "Navigating and negotiating global imperatives" at The Oberoi, in Dubai, UAE (United Arab Emirates).
- The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) inked a deal with a disability support NGO Aditya Mehta Foundation, to train its troops, who lost their limbs in operations, in various skills including cyber operations, artificial intelligence and para-sports.
- Manikaran Power Ltd (MPL) has become the first member of India's first gas trading platform which is called the Indian Gas Exchange (IGX).
- L&T Technology Services Limited (LLTS) signed a multi-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IIT Kanpur).
- DBS Bank India has teamed-up with Bharti AXA to launch a complimentary insurance plan which will cover all medical conditions, including Covid-19.
- The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has introduced an AI bot called 'Clara' to help people assess potential symptoms of COVID-19.
- Japanese government funding agency JICA signed Rs.15,295 crore agreement with the Indian government for three mega rail infrastructure projects.

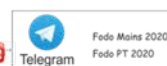
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Appointments:

Name	Appointed as	Additional Info
Pekka Lundmark	Chief Executive Officer & President of Nokia.	Succeed Rajeev Suri
Sudhanshu Pandey	Chairman and Managing Director of Metals and Minerals Trading Corporation (MMTC) Ltd.	He was the successor of Ved Prakash.
Ajay Bhushan Pandey	Finance Secretary	Pandey replaces current Finance Secretary Rajiv Kumar.
Sanjay Kumar Panda	India's Ambassador to Turkey.	He will succeed Sanjay Bhattacharya.
Bimal Julka	Chief Information Commissioner	
Amita Pandove	Information Commissioner, Central Information Commission (CIC).	
Kareena Kapoor	Brand Ambassador of PUMA	
Amrish Rau	CEO of Pine Labs	
Sanjeev Nautiyal	MD & CEO of SBI Life Insurance	Replacing Arijit Basu
Daren Tang	WIPO's Direct General	Succeed Australia's Francis Gurry

Lt Gen KJS Dhillon	Director-General Defence Intelligence Agency (DG DIA)	
Eric Horvitz	Chief Scientific Officer (CSO) of Microsoft	
Prashanth Kumar	MD&CEO of Yes Bank	
Shardul Thakur	brand ambassador of Tata Power	
Hridesh Kumar	Chief Electoral officer of J&K	He will replace Shailendra Kumar
Ravinder Singh Dhillon	Chairman and Managing Director of Power Finance Corporation (PFC).	
Rajiv Bajaj	MD&CEO of Bajaj	
Karan Bajwa	MD of Google Cloud	

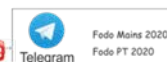
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Ajay Kumar	High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Uganda.	
Satyarup Siddhanta	1 st Indian to complete Volcanic Seven Summit	
Sameer Agarwal	CEO of Walmart India	Replacing Krish Iyer
Ramesh Sobti	MD&CEO of IndusInd Bank retires	
Iqbal Singh Bains	Madhya Pradesh Chief Secretary	

- Former Indian cricketer Sunil Joshi becomes the new chairman of the national selection panel by the BCCI's Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) in Mumbai.
- State Bank of India has been given additional charge of deputy managing director and chief financial officer (CFO) of the bank to Chalasani Venkat Nageswar.
- The current Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) vice president Mahim Verma is to resign from his post.
- Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of Haryana cadre Surjit Singh Deswal took over the additional charge of Director General (DG) of Border Security Force (BSF).
- Microsoft founder Bill Gates stepping down from Microsoft's board of directors.
- The Central Government has nominated Debasish Panda as a Director on the Central Board of Reserve Bank of India.
- Former Chief Justice of India (CJI) Ranjan Gogoi was nominated to Rajya Sabha on 16 March 2020. He was nominated by President Ram Nath Kovind.
- According to the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India (GoI), Justice (Retd.) Bansi Lal Bhat has been appointed as the officiating Chairperson of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) for a period of 3 months with effect from March 15, 2020, or until a regular Chairperson is appointed, whichever is earlier.
- Arundhati Bhattacharya has submitted her resignation from Crisil board.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed former deputy governor R Gandhi and former banker Ananth Narayan on the board of Yes Bank as additional directors for two years.
- The Appointment Committee of the Cabinet approved the appointment of two Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officers Krishan Mohan Prasad and Satish Kumar Gupta as members of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) Board.

Sports:

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- World Number 2 Rafael Nadal wins his first title of the year, defeating unseeded Taylor Fritz in straight sets, 6-3, 6-2, in the final of the ATP Mexico Open.
- Security Printing & Minting Corporation of India (SPMCIL) funded a sum of Rs.1 crore towards the National Sports Development Fund under the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS).
- Khelo India University Games ended in Bhubaneswar, Odisha Panjab University Chandigarh took home the champions trophy-winning 46 medals, including 17 gold 19 silver and ten bronze.
- Rafael Nadal won the Mexican Open 2020 championship at Acapulco. He defeated Taylor Fritz to claim the title.
- Khelo India University Games 2020 was held for the first time at Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha. □Tasnim Mir and Mansi Singh of India has won the bronze medal each in the girls' singles Badminton event at the Yonex Dutch Junior International 2020.
- Sports Authority of India (SAI) has announced the first edition of the Khelo India Women's Hockey League (Under 21) will be held at three different venues across the country in three phases between March-November 2020.
- The Badminton Asia Championships will be held in the capital of Philippines i.e. Manila.
- Defending champions Australia wins Women's T20 World Cup 2020.
- West Indies skipper Kieron Pollard has become the 1st player in the history of T20 (Twenty20) cricket to feature in 500 matches during the field against Sri Lanka for the first T20I in Pallekele, Srilanka.
- Top Indian shuttler PV Sindhu won the BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year 2019.
- Boxers Amit Panghal and Lovlina Borgohain won the bronze medal in the Asian Boxing Olympic qualifiers held in Amman, Jordan.
- American golfer Tiger Woods will be elected in the World Golf Hall of Fame as part of the class of 2021.
- The rise in the number of coronavirus cases has prompted Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to postpone IPL 2020.
- Saurashtra won their maiden Ranji Trophy title after earning a 44-run lead in the first innings against Bengal which eventually ended in a draw in Rajkot, Gujarat. Jaydev Unadkat led the Saurashtra Team.
- Ace Indian paddler of Table Tennis, Achanta Sharath Kamal wins the ITTF Challenger Plus Oman Open men's singles title.
- Viktor Axelsen of Denmark and Tai Tzu Ying of Chinese Taipei have won the men's and women's singles title respectively at All England Championship.
- ATK FC (Football Club) won the ISL (Indian Super League) trophy for the 3rd time following a 3-1 win against Chennaiyin FC in the final match held at the Fatorda Stadium in Goa.

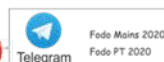
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- The French Open tennis tournament has been postponed by the French Tennis Federation due to the coronavirus pandemic.
- Vrinda Rathi and Janani Narayanan have been named in the International Panel of ICC Development Umpires.
- The number of women matches officials across different International Cricket Council panels has gone up to 12 as Janani Narayanan, and Vrinda Rathi of India was named in the International Panel of ICC Development Umpires.
- Canada has become the first country in the world to withdraw from Tokyo 2020 Olympics.
- Indian football captain Sunil Chhetri has been picked among 28 players for the world governing body FIFA's campaign to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Government of India's flagship fitness movement "Fit India" has teamed up with Bollywood actress and fitness icon Shilpa Shetty Kundra.
- Indian shot-putter Navin Chikara was suspended for four years by World athletics body's (formerly known as International Association of Athletics Federations-IAAF), Athletics Integrity Unit for failing an out-of-competition dope test in 2018.

Defence:

- India won a \$40 million defence deal to supply 4 indigenously-built weapons locating radars to Armenia in Europe.
- Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) Varad was commissioned into the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) by Minister of State for Shipping Mansukh Mandaviya at L&T Kattupalli shipyard, near Chennai.
- The Minister of State for Defence, Shripad Naik has been decided to set up two Defence industrial corridors in the country, one in Uttar Pradesh and another in Tamil Nadu.
- A unit of Indian Army has organized a Self Defence Training demonstration for Women with a theme of "Stronger You Stronger Society".
- State-run aerospace major Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) is planning to set up its logistics bases in four countries, namely Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka.
- National level Search, and Rescue Exercise and Workshop (Exercise SAREX 2020) concluded in the sea at Vasco, Goa.
- The Defence Ministry's Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) approved for the procurement of 83 indigenous Tejas fighter jets for Indian Air Force (IAF) with the more advanced configuration

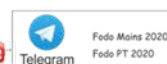
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- Indian Navy has established a Quarantine Camp at INS Vishwakarma in Eastern Naval Command (ENC).
- Ministry of Defence (MoD) signed a capital acquisition contract with Israel Weapons Industries (IWI) for the procurement of 16,479 light machine guns (LMGs).
- US Marines and UAE Emirati forces conducted the biennial exercise, named Native Fury at Abu Dhabi.
- Indian Army has launched an initiative christened 'Operation Namaste' to extend all possible assistance to the government in containing the spread of coronavirus.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has prepared four different items ready to be deployed in the war against Corona as a result of a focused approach.
- The Indian Army has prioritized essential activities that are necessary for its functioning in view of the coronavirus outbreak.
- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has designed a casualty evacuation bag to transport or isolate persons infected with COVID-19.

Books & Authors:

- Union Minister of Women & Child Development Smriti Zubin Irani released a book, titled "Chronicles of Change Champions" at an event held in New Delhi
- Tahira Kashyap Khurrana, writer- producer, professor, announced her 4th book titled "The 12 Commandments Of Being A Woman" on the occasion of Women's Day and the new book will be published by Juggernaut Books, New Delhi.
- Apurva Purohit the President of the Jagran Group, one of India's largest multi-media conglomerates launched her 2nd book- 'Lady, You're the Boss!'
- Odisha Chief Minister (CM) Naveen Patnaik released the comic book titled "The Adventures of the Daredevil Democrat" on the occasion of the 104th birth anniversary of former Odisha CM Late Biju Patnaik in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- "An Extraordinary Life: A biography of Manohar Parrikar" is a book on the life of the former defence minister and Goa chief minister Manohar Parrikar.
- The book titled "My Encounters in Parliament" authored by Bhalchandra Mungekar was released. Bhalchandra Mungekar is an Indian economist, a former member of Rajya Sabha.
- Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways of India, Nitin Gadkari presented a copy of the book 'Invincible – A Tribute to Manohar Parrikar' to President Ram Nath Kovind at the Rashtrapati Bhawan on the first death anniversary of Manohar Parrikar.

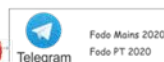
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- A new book entitled 'Messiah Modi: A Great Tale of Expectations' written by senior journalist & author Tavleen Singh has been released.
- Award-winning businesswoman Savita Chhabra has launched her first novel titled 'Legacy of Learning'. Savita Chhabra is the chairperson at Hygienic Research Institute Private Limited (HRIPL).
- The National Book Trust of HRD Ministry has launched #StayIn and #StayHome to encourage people to read books while at home.
- Senior Journalist Chander Suta Dogra has launched a book titled "Missing in Action: The Prisoners Who Never Came Back".
- National Book Trust (NBT) is to launch Corona Studies Series books to provide relevant reading materials for all age-groups for the post-Corona readership needs.

Awards:

Name	Award
Maharaja Ranjit Singh	Greatest world leader in BBC Poll
Amitabh Bacchan	Brand Ambassador of IDFC First Bank
Dr.Paramananda Majumder	Moghai Ojah Award
Ruchika Tomar (Novelist)	2020 PEN/Hemingway Award for Debut Novel, for "A Prayer for Travelers".
Zoya Akhtar	IIFTC Tourism Impact Award 2020

- President Ram Nath Kovind is to confer Lalit Kala Akademi's 61st annual awards to 15 artists on 4 March 2020 at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi.

List of Winners:

- Anoop Kumar Manzukhi Gopi from Thrissur, Kerala
- David Malakar from Kolkata, West Bengal
- Devendra Kumar Khare from Vadodara, Gujarat
- Dinesh Pandya from Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Faruque Ahmed Halder from 24 Parganas in Kolkata, West Bengal
- Hari Ram Kumbhawat from Jaipur, Rajasthan
- Keshari Nandan Prasad from Jaipur, Rajasthan
- Mohan Kumar T from Bengaluru, Karnataka
- Ratan Krishna Saha from Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Sagar Vasant Kamble from Mumbai, Maharashtra

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- Satwinder Kaur from New Delhi
- Sunil Thiruvayur from Ernakulam, Kerala
- Tejaswi Narayan Sonawane from Solapur, Maharashtra
- Yashpal Singh from Delhi
- KPIT announced the winners of KPIT Sparkle 2020 on 4 March. The 30 select teams who presented their ideas on transformative solutions in mobility and energy were awarded.

Winners:

- Army Institute of Technology, Pune, was awarded gold and a cash prize of Rs.5 Lakhs
- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur and Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bengaluru jointly won silver awards of Rs.2.5 Lakhs.
- Dr Jaimanti Bakshi, Professor & Unit Head II, Department of Otolaryngology and Head Neck surgery at PGIMER (Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research), Chandigarh was awarded with “Best Citizens of India”.
- Arfa Khanum Sherwani of “The Wire” and Bengaluru-based freelancer Rohini Mohan have been jointly awarded Chameli Devi Jain Award for outstanding woman journalist.
- Prachi Salve of IndiaSpend and Pradeep Dwivedi of DainikJagran jointly won the top prize in the Road Safety Media Fellowship 2019.
- The Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters named Hillel Furstenberg from Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel and Gregory Margulis from Yale University, the USA as winners of the Abel Prize 2020.

Science & Tech:

- Columbia researchers have discovered 17 new planets by combing through data gathered by NASA's Kepler space telescope.
- The Union Minister Jitendra Singh announced that ISRO's Chandrayaan-III would be launched in the first half of 2021.
- ISRO launch of earth observation satellite GISAT-1 has been postponed due to technical reasons
- Ministry of Home Affairs has approved the automated facial recognition system (AFRS) for the identification of unrecognized bodies, missing children, and criminals.
- Elon Musk-led private space launch company SpaceX plans to send three tourists to the International Space Station (ISS).

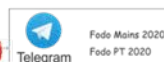
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- Google announced plans to open its second Cloud region in India in Delhi next year and help regulated industries such as healthcare and financial services as well as public sector organizations across the country to achieve their Cloud goal. Google launched the Mumbai region in 2017.
- Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB) launched the Mahatma Gandhi National Fellowship (MGNF) program in collaboration with the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), GoI, and State Skill Development Missions (SSDMs).
- India, for the first time, used a combination of two drugs, namely lopinavir and ritonavir was administered on an elderly Italian couple undergoing treatment at a Jaipur hospital for Covid-19.
- The world's first Digital Solutions Exchange in the cloud "GOKADDAL" has been launched in India.
- Google launched a new Chrome tool that will allow developers to tune their websites for visual impairments like color blindness to help them fix accessibility issues on their sites.
- The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Mandi will establish a Technology Innovation Hub (TIH) under the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS).
- Microsoft has launched a web portal to track the spread of COVID-19 worldwide. The web portal has been launched by Microsoft's Bing team.
- The University Grants Commission (UGC) is to set up 10 Chairs in different fields with an aim to carry out research activities to encourage women.
- The top tech giants of the world will jointly fight against the fake news and misinformation related to COVID-19 on their platforms.
- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh, announced that the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) had planned 36 missions for the fiscal year 2020-21.
- SpaceX has announced that it is to launch its first manned flight to the International Space Station (ISS) in May 2020.
- Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has launched a toll-free helpline on coronavirus safeguards for students.
- International Advanced Centre for Powder Metallurgy & New Materials (ARCI) developed ultrafast laser surface texturing technology.
- Scientists from the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology (WIHG), Dehradun found that glaciers in Sikkim are melting at a higher magnitude as compared to other Himalayan regions.
- Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-Madras) has announced that it is to organize India's first Global Hyperloop Pod Competition.

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- Hyderabad-based CSIR's Centre for Cellular Molecular Biology (CCMB) announced that it is working to sequence the whole genome of the COVID-19 virus that is taken from isolates from people who have tested positive.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) has begun a global mega trial of the four most promising drugs that may cure the novel coronavirus.
- The Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar (IITGN) has launched 'Project Isaac' to engage students in creative projects during the COVID-19 lockdown
- Tech giant Apple has released a new dedicated app and website for users across the US.
- A new space capsule from SpaceX has been picked up by National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to ferry cargo and supplies to the agency's planned lunar space station.
- DheeYantra, the pioneers in Indian languages NLP and conversational AI, has launched "Aham!", a virtual assistant.
- A group of 500 officials from the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) has unveiled Trifed VanDhan GIS-based website, the power of Webinars to keep in touch with each other and keep moving and working.
- A team at IIT Bombay has developed a mobile app named 'CORONTINE'.

Important Days & Themes:

Day	Celebrated as	Aim/ Theme
March 1	Zero Discrimination Day	The day promotes diversity and recognizes that everyone counts.
March 1	World Defence Day	The day is observed to raise awareness of public protection from natural and technogenic disasters and rescue service work.
March 3	World Wildlife Day	The theme of 2020 World Wildlife Day is "Sustaining all life on Earth".
March 3	World Hearing Day	The theme of 2020 World Hearing Day is "Don't let hearing loss limit you. Hearing for life!".

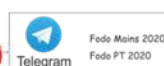
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March 4	National Security Day	The day aims to appreciate the work of security forces as they play a major role in maintaining the peace and security of the people in the country.
March 7	Jan Aushadhi Diwas	The days aims to create awareness and providing thrust to the use of generic medicines
March 8	International Women's Day	Theme: I am Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Rights
March 10	Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) 51 st Raising Day	
March 12	World Kidney Day	The day aims to create awareness and educate people about the importance of kidneys to overall health and to reduce the frequency and impact of kidney disease and associated health problems worldwide.
March 13	World Sleep Day	
March 14	International Pi (π) Day	
March 14	International Day of Action for Rivers	Theme: Women, Water and Climate Change
March 15	World Consumer Rights Day	Theme: The Sustainable Consumer
March 16	National Vaccination Day	
March 18	Ordnance Factories	
March 18	Global Recycling Day	

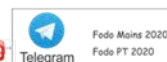
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March 20	International Day of Happiness	Theme: Happiness for All, Together
March 20	World Sparrow Day	
March 20	French Language Day	
March 21	International Day of Forest	Theme: Forests and Biodiversity
March 21	World Poetry Day	
March 21	World Down Syndrome Day	Theme: We Decide
March 21	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	
March 22	World Water Day	The theme for the 2020 World Water Day is 'Water and Climate Change.'
March 22	Bihar Diwas	
March 23	World Meteorological Day	Theme: Climate and Water
March 23	Shaheed Diwas	To pay tribute to martyrs Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev Thapar, and Shivaram Rajguru.
March 24	World Tuberculosis Day	Theme: It's Time

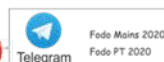
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March 24	International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims	
March 25	International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic slave Trade	
March 25	International Day of Solidarity with detained and missing staff members	
March 27	World Theatre Day	

Obituary:

Name	Field	Location
Joginder Singh Saini	Athletics Coach	Punjab
Balbir Singh Kullar	hockey player	Punjab
Bouddha Kristi Prachar Sangha Sanghanayaka Suddhananda Mahathero	Buddhist Leader	Bangladesh
Javier Perez de Cuellar	UN Chief	Peru
Potturi Venkateswara Rao	Telugu Journalist	
Hans Raj Bhardwaj	Former Union Law Minister and Congress Veteran	Haryana
Max von Sydow	Actor	Sweden
Santu Mukhopadhyay	Actor	West Bengal
Dana Zatopkova	Olympic Javelin Champion	Czechoslovakia
Puthussery Ramachandran	Veteran poet and Malayalam scholar	Kerala
Patil Puttappa	Journalist	
Imtiaz Khan	Bollywood Actor	
Jairam Kulkarani	Marathi Actor	Maharashtra

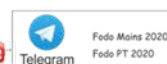
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Roger Mayweather	Boxer	
P K Banerjee	Footballer	West Bengal
Viswanathan	Director- Tamil	Tamil Nadu
Kenny Rogers	Singer	United States
Abdul Latif	Footballer	
Nimmi	Bollywood Actress	
Nemai Ghosh	Photographer	
Floyd Cardoz	Chef	
Sathish Gujral	Architect, Sculptor, Writer	
Rajyogini Dadi	chief of Brahmakumaris Sansthan	
Chandhan Singh Rathore	Air Chief Marshal	
Joseph Lowery	Civil Rights Leader	United States
Beni Prasad Verma	Politician	Uttar Pradesh
Ken Shimura	Comedian	Japan
Paravai Muniyamma	Folk Singer	Tamil Nadu

April 2020 – One Liner Current Affairs Financial One liners:

- The Reserve Bank asked the private sector and foreign banks to intimate it six months in advance in cases of re-appointment of managing director and chief executives as against the present practice of four months.
- Sundaram Finance has announced the appointment of D Lakshminarayanan as the Managing Director of its wholly owned subsidiary, Sundaram Home Finance, effective April 1, 2020.
- The accelerated pace of coronavirus is affecting mankind adversely despite government efforts for curbing the situation. It is posing an additional financial burden on individuals or families to get hospitalization treatment for COVID-19. To provide support for such cases, Digital payments company PhonePe has launched India's first COVID-19 hospitalization insurance policy called Corona Care in collaboration with Bajaj Allianz General Insurance for people who have been infected and hospitalised for covid-19 treatment.
- After the merger of the Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC) and the United Bank of India (UBI) into Punjab National Bank (PNB), the government has designated Chief Executives of OBC and UBI as "officers on special duty" in Punjab National Bank.

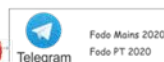
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- State Bank of India has listed green bonds of \$100 million (about Rs 750 crore) on BSE's India International Exchange (India INX).
- The Reserve Bank of India introduced new measures to relax the impact of the COVID-19 induced lockdown.
- Rating company ICRA stated that Banks and Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) will face a bad pileup in bad loans post the moratorium period. It will worsen the credit profile of the Banks.
- Beginning April 7th, markets dealing with government securities, call/notice/term money, corporate bonds, foreign currency, Indian Rupee Trades, commercial paper and Certificates of Deposit will be working from 10 AM to 2 PM. □SBI Mutual Fund has displaced HDFC Mutual Fund to become India's largest fund house, according to quarterly average AUM data released by the Association of Mutual Funds of India (AMFI) for JanuaryMarch.
- Punjab National Bank Housing Finance has partnered with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to raise 75 million dollars.
- The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) will facilitate Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) with emergency working capital of up to Rs 1 crore against their confirmed government orders.
- In a bid to provide financial relief to the agriculture sector which is under distress due to COVID-19, the Bank of Baroda (BoB) has initiated four agro schemes for Women Self Help Groups (SHGs), Farmer Producer Organizations (FPO/FPC) and farming community.
- It is an emergency credit line for FPO/FPC to deal with temporary liquidity mismatches arising out of COVID-19.
- Asian Development Bank assured India of 2.2 billion US dollar support to fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Reserve Bank of India launched a twitter campaign urging bank customers to adopt digital modes of payment that are convenient and safe.
- Jana Small Finance Bank has launched "DigiGen" a digital banking platform where customers can digitally open a savings account and fixed deposit instantly, any time, anywhere.
- The State Bank of India (SBI) has made an announcement that the bank will waive service charges for all ATM transactions made on SBI ATMs. The decision will also be implemented on the other bank ATMs on account of exceeding the free number of transactions up to 30th June 2020.
- Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India(ICICI) bank starts a new feature of voice banking services on Amazon Alexa and Google Assistant for their customers. The service will enable customers to #BankWithTheirVoice and get answers to banking queries, check account balance & transactions, credit card due date and more.

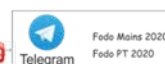
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- The Leading forex and payment solutions provider Transcorp International Limited (TIL), to receive Reserve Bank of India (RBI) nod to enter into co-branding arrangements for prepaid Instruments to be used in over 35 lakh stores and online gateways due to the current outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic.
- State-owned Bank of Baroda on Saturday said it will provide an ex-gratia payment of Rs 10 lakh to the next of kin of business correspondents (BCs) in case of loss of life due to COVID-19. It will also provide health insurance cover of Rs 60,000 to the BCs.
- The banking services have been brought under the Industrial Disputed Act in order to prevent strikes by the employees of banking sector.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced Rs.50,000 crore liquidity support for Mutual Funds (MFs) on 27 April 2020.
- A special borrowing scheme has been launched by the Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) for self help groups (SHGs).
- State-owned Indian Bank announced a cut in its marginal cost of fund-based lending rate (MCLR) by 30 basis points across various tenors in line with market competition.
- The World Bank has offered \$1 billion to the Indian government for a proposed India Covid-19 emergency response and health systems preparedness project.
- India is seeking as much as \$6 billion of loans from multilateral institutions such as the Asian Development Bank to bolster its efforts to fight the coronavirus outbreak.
- Fitch Ratings has trimmed the Indian growth forecast for fiscal year (FY) 2020-2021 to 2% from 5.1% following the economic recession caused due to lockdown amid COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the acquisition of GMR Kamalanga Energy Limited, the target, by JSW Energy Limited, the acquirer.
- The Centre has announced that it is to issue all the pending income-tax refunds up to Rs.5 lakh immediately.
- RBI has stated that the global economy is expected to go into recession after taking into account the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- After falling for two weeks in a row, India's foreign exchange reserves have surged by \$5.65 billion to \$475.56 billion in the week ended on 27th of March.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has projected India's growth to slow down to 4% in the current fiscal year, citing weak global demand and the government's COVID-19 containment efforts.
- Airtel Payments Bank has tied up with Bharti AXA General Insurance to launch a coronavirus insurance policy.
- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) approves the proposed acquisition of 80.1% stake by Hitachi in the power grid business of ABB Limited.

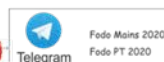
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- The World Trade Organization (WTO) said that the Global trade could drop by a third this year due to the coronavirus pandemic.
- According to a UN report, India's GDP growth for the current fiscal is expected to slow down to 4.8 per cent.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has announced that of \$2.2 billion (about Rs.16,500 crore) support to India in its fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Data released by the Government of India stated that India's fiscal deficit stood at 5.07% of gross domestic product (GDP) in February 2020.
- The UN 'Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) 2020 forecast India's GDP for FY21 at 4.8%. □ An American multinational investment bank and financial services company, Goldman Sachs lowered India's growth forecast for Financial Year (FY) 21 from 3.3% (estimated on March 22, 2020) to 1.6% due to the lockdown & social distancing measures so as to control the COVID-19 pandemic spread.
- GMR Airports Limited will develop & operate Bhogapuram International Airport in Andhra Pradesh.
- The World Bank in its "South Asia Economic Focus report" said that India's economy is expected to grow 1.5% to 2.8% in the 2020-21 fiscal year which started on 1 April 2020.
- The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) stated that it has already issued over 10.2 lakh refunds totalling to around Rs.4,250 crore as of 14 April 2020.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) in its report on the Asia-Pacific region stated that Asia's economic growth in 2020 will grind to a halt for the first time in 60 years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Tata AIA Life Insurance has announced additional benefits related to COVID-19 for Policyholders and Agents at no additional cost.
- Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has announced that it is to finance \$500 million projects in India to help the country improve its health care systems.
- CBDT informed the Income-tax refunds are obtained over eight lakh small businesses worth over five thousand 204 crore rupees issued in the last ten days.
- Amid the nationwide lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic, the Postal employees including Gramin Dak Sevaks are performing various departmental duties as well as serving the social cause in the crisis times. Therefore, it has been decided to grant payment of compensation of Rs. 10 lakhs to all the Postal employees including Gramin Dak Sevaks (GDS) succumbing to the disease while brought on duty.
- TVS Motor Company's overseas subsidiary TVS Motor Singapore Pte. Ltd has acquired the United Kingdom's most iconic sporting motorcycle brand 'Norton'. The iconic sporting motorcycle brand was acquired in an all-cash transaction of £16 million.

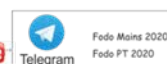
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- Technology Information, Forecasting, and Assessment Council (TIFAC), an autonomous Government of India prepared a white paper to strategize revival of post-COVID 19 Indian economy.
- Reliance Industries Limited (“Reliance Industries”), Jio Platforms Limited (“Jio Platforms”) and Facebook, Inc. (“Facebook”) today announced the signing of binding agreements for an investment of Rs 43,574 crore by Facebook into Jio Platforms.
- Paytm Payments Bank Ltd. (PPBL) said that it has crossed Rs1,000 crore in deposits and has a total of 57 million savings account holders at present.
- The World Bank has stated that remittances to India are likely to drop down by 23% due to COVID-19 which has led to the global recession.
- Singapore’s Caladium Investment has raised its stake in Bandhan Bank by 1.1% from 3.39% to 4.49%.
- The Himachal Pradesh State Roads Transformation Project (HPSRTP) will receive a funding of US\$82 million (Rs 585 crore) from World Bank (WB) for the upgradation of major roads and modernization of the Public Works Department (PWD) in Himachal Pradesh (HP).
- The CARE Ratings has projected the gross domestic product (GDP) of India for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-2021 between 1.1%-1.2% amid nationwide lockdown resulting in disruptions and halting of activities.
- IT group HCL on Friday said it has partnered the Tamil Nadu government to set up a Disaster Management Data Analytics Centre to strengthen the state's disaster management efforts amid the COVID 19 pandemic.
- India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) has predicted India’s GDP growth rate for 2020-21 (FY21) at 1.9%. Earlier this was 3.6%.
- States including Punjab, Kerala, and Delhi have sought the Government of India for extension of goods and services tax (GST) compensation to the states for two years beyond 2022 to overcome the crisis that is expected to be faced post-COVID-19 pandemic.
- HDFC (Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd.) has acquired 6.43% stake in debt-trapped Reliance Capital by invoking pledged shares.
- Fitch Ratings today has slashed India's economic growth projections to 0.8 per cent in the current fiscal saying an unparalleled global recession was underway due to disruptions caused by the outbreak of Corona virus pandemic and resultant lockdowns.
- Country's foreign exchange reserves surged by USD 3.09 billion to USD 479.57 billion in the week to April 17 due to an increase in foreign currency assets.
- Axis Bank has decided to raise its stake in Max Group promoted Max Life Insurance to 30 per cent, a development which values the insurer at over Rs 5,000 crore.

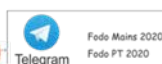
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- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved USD 1.5 billion loan to India to help fund its fight against coronavirus pandemic.
- Nokia and Bharti Airtel has signed a deal of about \$1 billion in order to enhance the network capacity of Bharti Airtel.
- A report by the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Secretariat stated that the APEC region is expected to post a 2.7% economic decline in 2020 due to the impact of COVID-19.
- The New Development Bank will allocate up to USD 15 billion for loans to help the so-called BRICS nations
- Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa - boost their economies amid the coronavirus pandemic
- Moody's Investors Service slashed India growth forecast for calendar year 2020 to 0.2 per cent, from 2.5 per cent projected in March. For 2021, Moody's expects India's growth to rebound to 6.2 per cent.
- UBS has predicted India's GDP growth rate for FY21 (2020-21) at -0.4%. Earlier it had predicted the same at 2.5%.
- Rating agency CRISIL has cut the GDP growth rate forecast for India for 2020-21 (FY21) to 1.8% from the previous prediction of 3.5%.
- The Task Force on National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) submitted its Final Report on the NIP for 2019-25 to the Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman.
- US government, through its aid agency USAID, has announced an additional grant of USD 3 million to help India combat the coronavirus pandemic.

Non-Financial One Liners:

National:

- The Government of India launched "AarogyaSetu", a mobile app developed in public-private partnership (PPP) .
- Government of India (GoI) allowed farmers to directly sell produce from premises of farmers producer organizations (FPO) and selected warehouses through electronic marketing platform Electronic National Agriculture Market (eNAM).
- The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) laid down Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the transit of COVID-19 negative foreigners stranded in India.
- National Cadet Corps (NCC) has offered its volunteer cadets for national duty to fight COVID-19 under

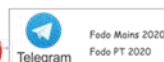
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‘Exercise NCC Yogdan’.

- Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST) has partnered with Wipro 3D, Bengaluru.
- Founders of leading startups, investors, advisors, supporters, investment advisory firms have launched Action COVID-19 Team (ACT).
- Union Health Ministry has placed an order of about ten crore hydroxychloroquine tablets from various pharmaceutical companies for health care workers.
- Students are facing difficulties due to the closure of colleges and hostels due to the COVID 19 Pandemic. AICTE (All India Council for Technical Education) has come out with MHRD AICTE COVID-19 Student Helpline Portal to address the issues.
- National Health Authority (NHA) inked a pact with ride-hailing app Uber to provide transport services for frontline healthcare workers involved in the treatment of COVID-19 patients.
- Associations representing officers of Central Civil Services, including the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) and the Indian Police Service (IPS), have formed an initiative called 'Caruna' to support and supplement the government's efforts in fighting coronavirus
- Food Corporation of India (FCI) has set a record by moving 70 rakes carrying 1.93 Lakh Metric Tonnes (LMT) continuously in single-day movement during the lockdown.
- Indian Railways have begun preparing to resume all its services from April 15 after a 21-day suspension of its passenger trains in the wake of the coronavirus outbreak.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi conducted a joint meeting of the Empowered Groups.
- All major ports and Public Sector Undertakings under Shipping Ministry have decided to contribute 52 crore rupees to Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund (PM-CARES fund).
- NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant chairs Empowered Committee to review coordination between various stakeholders for COVID-19 related response activities.
- Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India has set up a Centre for Augmenting WAR with COVID-19 Health Crisis (CAWACH).
- Trade body Solvent Extractors' Association of India (SEA) reported that India's edible oil imports have declined 32.44% to 9,41,219 tonnes in March 2020.
- Indian Railways has opened a Railway Control Office after the declaration of lockdown amid due to the coronavirus pandemic in order to assist railway passengers, other citizens and help resolve issues in freight operations.
- National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has accomplished the construction of 3,979 km of national highways in the financial Year 2019-20.

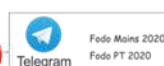
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- Indian Railways has successfully converted 2500 coaches as Isolation Units with limited manpower amid the lockdown due to coronavirus outbreak.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh chaired meeting with the Group of Ministers (GoM) on 7 April in New Delhi.
- The Ministry of Commerce has designed an online platform for the issuance of a key document required for exports to those countries with which India has trade agreements.
- Joint Secretary in Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Lav Agarwal said that three types of health-care facilities will be set up for various categories of COVID-19 cases as a mechanism to provide care to COVID19 patients.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has decided to amend the Salary, Allowances, and Pension of Members of Parliament (MP) Act through an ordinance.
- The Central government has announced that it will deploy more drones to enhance monitoring of the lockdown.
- The Innovation Cell of the Ministry of Human Resources Development (MHRD) in collaboration with All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and Forge and InnovatioCuris launched "SAMADHAN", a mega online challenge, to test the ability of students to innovate.
- Mysore-based Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-Central Food Technological Research Institute (CSIR-CFTRI) has partnered with the district administration of Mysore, Karnataka to provide enough equipment needed for testing of samples.
- The Government of India has relaxed a ban on exports of paracetamol and hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) that are used to treat COVID-19.
- Swasth ke Sipahi pharmacists of Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Kendra (PMJAK) are delivering essential services and medicines at the doorstep of patients and elderly under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) during the nationwide lockdown.
- The Ministry of Human Resource Development has designated DigiLocker as the sole National Academic Depository (NAD).
- WhatsApp has placed new limits on message forwarding as part of an effort to curb the spread of misinformation about the Corona virus pandemic.
- Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) has come up with a unique Art initiative amidst the global battle against novel Coronavirus.
- A report by India Ratings stated that the fuel demand witnessed a fall by around 20% in March amid the lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) announced the launch of a revised version of the existing "Swachhata-MoHUA App".

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- Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) has partnered with United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) to ensure the tribal gatherers carry on their work safely.
- The Supreme Court (SC), in an interim order, directed the government to make COVID-19 testing by private laboratories free of charge.
- Ministry of Finance announced Rs.500 has been deposited in each Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) account held by women for the month of April and Rs.500 more will be given over the month of May in equal installments.
- Union Minister for Human Resource Development Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has launched the 'Bharat Padhe Online' campaign in New Delhi.
- Government of India (GoI) has announced to allocate Rs. 15000 crores for 'India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Package'.
- Government has extended the premium payment period for Postal Life Insurance and Rural Postal Life Insurance till 30th of June this year.
- Employees Provident Fund Organization, EPFO, has processed about 1.37 lakh claims disbursing 279.65 crore rupees under a new provision to help subscribers fight COVID-19.
- The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, Institute of Company Secretaries of India and Institute of Cost Accountants of India, the three Professional Institutes under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, have come forward to donate 28.80 crore rupees to PM CARES Fund for providing assistance to those impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The policy think tank NITI Aayog recommended to the government that the Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) Act be kept in suspended animation for the next 6 months in view of the COVID-19.
- The Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), a statutory body of the Department of Science and Technology (DST) has approved the funding of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay team to develop a Nasal passage gel to limit transmission of the Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARSCoV-2) virus, the causative agent of COVID-19.
- Border Roads Organisation (BRO) opened the strategic Srinagar-Leh highway on 11 April. The highway connects Ladakh with the rest of the world.
- Centre launched a web-portal "Young India Combating COVID with Knowledge, Technology and Innovation" (YUKTI) in New Delhi.
- Government of India has announced pro-poor initiatives under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY).

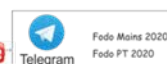
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- Centre has provided over Rs.28,000 crore support through Direct Benefit Transfer to around 32 crore beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY) announced in view of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare announced that the Centre in coordination with the states has ensured the supply of Personal protective equipment (PPE), N95 masks, testing kits and ventilators for the COVID-19 patients.
- The government of India plans to set up a chain of 20 lakh retail shops called 'Suraksha Stores' across India. These 'Suraksha Stores' will provide daily essentials to citizens while maintaining stringent safety norms in the wake of COVID-19.
- India's Public service broadcaster Prasar Bharti has rolled out a new channel called DD Retro. The new channel "DD Retro" would be specifically dedicated to old classics of Doordarshan.
- The National Agriculture Market portal, e-NAM completed four years of implementation .The portal aims to achieve the vision of the "One Nation, One Market" for Agri-produce.
- Ministry of Labour and Employment has set up 20 control rooms under the Office of Chief Labour Commissioner (CLC) across India.
- The Government of India aims to inject Rs.1 lakh crore into villages.
- The Centre is to pass an ordinance which will allow the state governments the flexibility to increase the work hours of employees across establishments to 12 hours per day from eight hours.
- Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog and National Informatics Centre (NIC) have jointly launched Collaborative CAD Software (CollabCAD).
- The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has announced a training program on COVID-19 from 17 April 2020 for healthcare professionals from the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) countries.
- The Government of India decided to divide all districts across the country into hotspots, non-hotspots and green zones.
- The Central Government's mobile app, Aarogya Setu, has become the world's fastest app to reach 50 million downloads in just 13 days.
- The Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, developed mobile application SAHYO, an Integrated Geospatial Platform out of available geospatial datasets, standards-based services, and analytic tools.
- Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan had a detailed meeting with medical officials with Delhi Medical Superintendents of various hospitals in New Delhi.
- Group of Ministers (GOM) reviewed the current status and actions for the management of COVID-19.

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- Home Ministry extended regular and e-visas of all foreigners who are stranded in India due to the coronavirus lockdown till May 3 on a gratis basis.
- The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare of Government of India has taken several measures to facilitate the farmers and farming activities at field level during the nationwide lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- The distribution of 1 kg free pulses every month to every ration cardholder has been started by the government under the National Food Security Act (NFSA).
- In order to check the spread of fake news on social media, Press Information Bureau has set up a dedicated unit to bust rumours getting viral on the social media.
- Indian Railways among the organizations started providing 10,000 water bottles per day to Delhi Police personnel out on the streets in the fight against COVID-19.
- Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Dr. Harsh Vardhan launched the COVID India Seva.
- One of the largest and most awarded private radio networks in India, 93.5 RED FM has come-up with a brand new on-air and digital initiative to help people stay calm during the nationwide lockdown with spiritual guide and educationist.
- Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan starts an interactive platform 'COVID India Seva' to address citizens queries on coronavirus.
- As India enters lockdown2.0 in the on-going fight against COVID-19 pandemic, all citizens have once again been asked to stay indoors and follow social distancing while outdoors.
- Domestic Udan flights operate in a hub and the main focus has been on the North East Region, island territories and the hill states. □Unacademy, India's largest learning platform, on Tuesday evening conducted a Live Class for its learners by veteran cricketer Virat Kohli and talented bollywood actor and producer Anushka Sharma as a part of their second edition of 'Legends on Unacademy'.
- National Highways Authority of India's centralized call number 1033 enabled to answer calls and help drivers/cleaners.
- Arogya Setu app helps people self-assess and track COVID-19 infections more accurately and effectively.
- The Union Cabinet led by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved significant investments to the tune of Rs.15,000 crore for 'India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Package'.
- Human Resources and Development Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank today launched national program VidyaDaan 2.0 for inviting e-learning Content contributions in New Delhi.
- Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has constructed a new permanent bridge on the river Ravi connecting Kasowal enclave in Punjab to the rest of the country.

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- Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology (IIFPT), under the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has taken initiative to manufacture nutrient-rich foods for COVID-19 patients at a time when the need for healthy and immunity-boosting foods is indispensable.
- Union Human Resource Development Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' released the alternative academic calendars at the upper primary stage (Classes VI to VIII) .
- Union Minister of Human Resource Development Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' launched the #MyBookMyFriend campaign on social media on the occasion of World Book Day.
- The Government of India put on hold to the hike in dearness allowance.
- PM Narendra Modi launched E-Gram Swaraj application and 2 portals to accelerate pace of development in villages.
- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare reported that over 1.5 lakh farmers and traders registered on 'Kisan Rath' mobile app, just within one week of its launch.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the 11th Episode of 'Mann Ki Baat 2.0' on 26 April. PM appreciated the resolve of the people as to how at each and every place, people have come forward to help each other during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- India's largest power producer, NTPC Ltd, has invited Global Expression of Interest (EoI) to provide 10 Hydrogen Fuel Cell (FC) based electric buses and an equal number of Hydrogen Fuel Cell-based electric cars in Leh and Delhi.
- NTPC Vindhyachal Power Plant has become the largest power plant in India to achieve 100 percent Plant Load Factor (PLF).
- Under Prime Minister Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, Centre is planning to transport and milling of pulses in the country to distribute one kilogram of pulses to about 20 crore households for 3 months.
- Varanasi Smart City used the spraying of sanitizer in the selected areas of Varanasi City under Smart Cities Mission to contain COVID-19 spread.
- Union Minister of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Narendra Singh Tomar issued guidelines regarding the SVAMITVA scheme, a new initiative of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
- Indian Railways has taken several measures to ensure that the interest of the passengers and all commercial clients are taken care of and national supply chains keep running.
- The government has announced a compensation of Rs 50 lakh for dependent members of port employees in case of loss of life due to COVID-19 while discharging duties.
- The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has permitted the Common Service Centres that operate as banking correspondents (BCs), to provide Aadhaar updation facility.
- Logistics services provider Blue Dart Express announced that it has launched a service through which customers can send medicines to relatives living abroad.

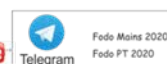
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- Central Public Works Department (CPWD) has issued guidelines on using the central air-conditioners in public buildings during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- India is set to produce indigenous rapid testing and RT-PCR diagnostic kits by the end of May.
- Agartala Smart City used a Mobile COVID-19 sample collection kiosk under the smart city mission.
- During COVID-19 crisis Janaushadhi Sugam Mobile App is helping people in a big way to locate their nearest Pradhan Mantri Janaushadhi Kendra (PMJAK) and availability of affordable generic medicine with its price.
- 411 flights have been operated under Lifeline Udan by Air India, Alliance Air, IAF and private carriers. 237 of these flights have been operated by Air India and Alliance Air.
- The India Meteorological Department (IMD) released a new list with the names of 169 tropical cyclones in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) including Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean.

State News:

- The Andhra Pradesh government has started distributing pensions at the doorstep to 58,44,240 beneficiaries. □ India COVID-19 patients chart Tamil Nadu tops with 411 cases as 102 people tested positive
- Bihar Government has decided to undertake to screen of over one lakh eighty thousand people again who had come from outside after 22nd of March.
- Odisha government, in collaboration with the UNICEF, launched an online cultural competition among children to keep them engaged at home during the lockdown period.
- 'V Safe Tunnel' has been installed in Telangana to sanitize people.
- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar has announced that all school students from class 1 to 8 in the state will be promoted to the next academic session without final examination as the schools are closed due to Coronavirus lockdown.
- Sikkim Governor Ganga Prasad committed to donate 30 per cent of his salary over the next one year to PM CARES Fund in view of the country's collective battle against COVID-19.
- West Bengal state government has asked the Centre to release Rs.5,013 crore as the revenue deficit grant to the state.
- With the closure of educational institutions and suspension of annual examinations due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Odisha government has planned to start online classes for Class 10th students of government schools.
- Bihar government has transferred one thousand rupees each to the bank accounts of over one lakh migrant workers stranded in other parts of the country due to nationwide lockdown.
- In Ladakh, the UT administration has started the process of the establishment of first ever COVID-19 Testing Laboratory.

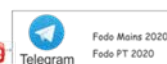
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- Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has announced a 5T plan to stop the spread of the novel coronavirus. □ Andhra Pradesh state government has placed an order for 3 lakh rapid testing kits for COVID-19.
- The Chhattisgarh police developed the app 'Rakhsa Sarv', with the help of Noida-based startup Mobcoder □ The government of Telangana invested swiftly to deploy India's first automated "COVID-19 Monitoring System App" by Vera Smart Healthcare.
- In Karnataka, the Primary and Secondary Education department has come out with a unique idea to start a You Tube channel that can invoke in children a passion for learning and creative activities during the lockdown period.
- Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh had announced to provide Rs. 2000 each to those Manipuri who are stranded outside due to the nationwide lockdown.
- In Madhya Pradesh, the State Government announced an insurance cover of 50 lakh rupees for police personnel and other government employees engaged in the fight against Corona virus.
- In Assam, the state Cabinet has decided to deduct 30 percent of the monthly salaries of the Chief Minister, Ministers and all MLAs for one year.
- Kendriya Bhandar that functions under the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) has taken the unique initiative of providing "Essentials Kits" to needy families in Delhi due to the COVID-19 crisis.
- Arunachal Pradesh government has launched an app called "COVIDCARE".
- Odisha has become the first state to extend the 21-day lockdown till April 30. The 21-day nation-wide lockdown will end
- The Haryana State Government has set up a 24x7 Toll-free helpline facility for procurement during Rabi Season 2020 and also ensuring social distancing norms.
- The Delhi government launched 'Operation SHIELD' in 21 containment zones in the state.
- Haryana state government has announced that it is to double the salary of Doctors, Nurses and other medical professionals dealing with COVID-19 patients.
- The West Central Railway's Coach Rehabilitation Workshop (CRWS) in Madhya Pradesh's (MP) Bhopal city, has created a mobile doctor booth called "CHARAK" to eliminate the possibility of physical contact between the doctor and the coronavirus (COVID-19) infected patient.
- J&K government released Rs.183 crore to the beneficiaries under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA).
- Government of Manipur starts a new initiative titled 'Food Bank' in view of the threat of Coronavirus disease (COVID-19).
- Under Western Railway, Ahmedabad railway station at Kalupur, Gujarat becomes the 1st station of Indian

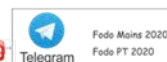
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Railways (IR) to install a “Walk Through Mass Sanitizing Tunnel”.

- The has been set up in India by All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Rishikesh along with Bharat Heavy Electronics Limited (BHEL), a Government of India Navratna company in the defence sector. Kerala becomes the 1st state of India to start clinical trial plasma therapy for COVID-19 treatment.
- Jim Corbett National Park , the India’s oldest forested wildlife sanctuary located in the Nainital district of Uttarakhand, has become the India’s 1st quarantine centre for animals with symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19).
- Uttar Pradesh (UP) Government has launched two portals namely the Annapurna portal and the Supply Mitra portals for the convenience of the food needs for the people of the state during the COVID-19 crisis. Andhra Pradesh (AP) Chief Minister (CM) Jagan Mohan Reddy launches ‘YSR Nirman’ an online platform to help various departments of the State to procure cement from suppliers for government works such as Polavaram irrigation project, housing and roads & also display availability of cement demand and supply on a real-time basis.
- The Delhi Government has launched ‘Assess Koro Na’ mobile application.
- In Madhya Pradesh, the state government has decided that the health workers who are directly engaged in the treatment of Corona patients will be given a service amount of Rs 10 thousand every month as honorarium
- Chandigarh city uses Vehicle tracking applications and GPS (Global Positioning System) enabled smartwatches for waste collection drivers in its fight against COVID-19 pandemic.
- Border Roads Organisation (BRO) constructed bridge over Subansiri river in Arunachal Pradesh in a record span of just 27 days.
- Sikkim State Cooperative Supply and Marketing Federation Ltd (SIMFED) today launched a mobile ration van in Gangtok, for doorstep delivery of essential commodities and food.
- In order to provide health services in the wake of COVID-19 Pandemic, the Himachal Pradesh Health Department has come up with a unique idea of providing free online medical consultation to sick people at their residence through e-sanjeevani-opd.
- The Assorted Condiments kit scheme of the Tamil Nadu State Government was inaugurated by the State Cooperative department Minister Shri Sellu K Raju in Madurai
- Border Roads Organisation (BRO) constructed the Daporijo bridge over the Subansiri river.
- Uttar Pradesh government ordered complete sealing of the Delhi-Noida border till further orders as a precautionary measure to contain the spread of COVID-19 infection in Gautam Buddha Nagar district.
- Pune Municipal Corporation under Smart Cities Mission (SCM) has launched a mobile application named "Saiyam".

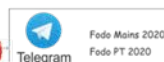
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- Uttar Pradesh government decides to move forward on plasma therapy to treat the patients of COVID 19 and will increase poll testing of the samples.
- TCS iON, an strategic business unit of Tata Consultancy Services a leading global IT services, consulting and business solutions organization, has partnered with the Telangana State Council of Higher Education (TSCHE), a statutory body of the Government of Telangana State, to prepare college students in the state for future job readiness.
- The state government of Rajasthan has partnered with healthcare startup MedCords to launch 'Aayu & Sehat Sathi app to fight against COVID-19.
- Karnataka chief minister BS Yediyurappa launched a pilot project for people to order essential goods either by calling over the phone or using WhatsApp during the lockdown put in place to break the chain of coronavirus infections.
- Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar announced that an assistance of Rs 1,000 will be provided to all families that do not have ration cards but were identified by self-help groups of 'Jeevika' in the state.
- The government of Gujarat has given the approval of the third edition of his government's 'Sujalam Sufalam Jal Sanchay Abhiyan' amid Coronavirus lockdown.
- The Administration of Pathanamthitta district in Kerala has launched a vehicle called 'Tiranga' (Total India Remote Analysis Nirogya Abhiyaan) for rapid screening of COVID-19 symptoms.
- Indian herpetologists have discovered a new species of viper family in Pakke Tiger Reserve in Arunachal Pradesh, and the green pit viper species was discovered by a team led by Zeeshan Mirza.
- The Karnataka State government launched the "Apthamitra" helpline
- Unique and first of its kind facility in the country, a Mobile Virology Diagnostics and Research Laboratory has been inaugurated in Hyderabad at the ESI medical college.
- Himachal Pradesh government has started eSanjeevaniOPD through which free online medical consultation & general health advice will be provided to the people at their residence throughout the state from doctors of different medical colleges from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM on all working days.
- Jammu and Kashmir State Legal Services Authority (JKSLSA) has launched a helpline under 'Serve-theSeniors Initiative'.
- Uttar Pradesh has become the 1st state with a software-based in-house facility of virtual courts, where requisite infrastructure in Allahabad High Court and all its courts for hearing cases through video conferencing.
- Assam government has launched a new scheme named Dhanwantari.
- A government hospital in Ernakulam here has deployed a robot to serve food and medicines to coronavirus patients with an aim to reduce risk of infections for doctors and health workers.

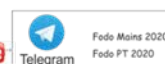
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- Andhra Pradesh (AP) Chief Minister (CM) Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy re-launched zero interest loan scheme for Women Self-Help Groups(SHGs) by releasing a sum of Rs 1,400 crores to 8.78 lakh SHGs (to benefit about 91 lakh members) for the welfare of women.
- Madhya Pradesh government has launched the “Jivan Shakti Yojana” for women and aims at providing homebased employment for women.
- The King George Medical University in Uttar Pradesh became the first government hospital to launch plasma therapy to treat COVID-19. The first dose of plasma therapy was given to a 58-year old patient.
- Minister of State for the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) Jitendra Singh announced that five out of the eight states in the North-East are corona-free now.
- The Andhra Pradesh government has decided to come up with a special package to ensure that not even a single employee out of the nine lakh workforce in Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) is sacked.
- Uttar Pradesh government has banned all public functions till the 30th of June.
- The Assam government announced Rs 50 lakh insurance cover for journalists reporting on the COVID-19 pandemic in the state.
- Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that in this time of Corona crisis it is necessary that every person has good immunity power, so that this virus does not affect us.
- In Gujarat, the government has banned all social and religious gathering and all kinds of public functions in view of Covid 19 pandemic.
- In Madhya Pradesh, a fine of Rs.1000 will be imposed now for spitting in public places in the state.
- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, Y. S.Jaganmohan Reddy has launched the 'Jagananna Vidya Deevena' Scheme today at Tedepalli, in Guntur District in AP.
- Gujarat State Government has launched a unique initiative called ‘Umbare Aanganwadi (means doorstep Aanganwadi) under ICDS (Integrated Child Development Services) programme to reach out to children during the lockdown. □The Medical and Health Department of Andhra Pradesh (AP) has launched ‘Covid Pharma’, a mobile application(app) to keep a track of people buying medicines over-the-counter (OTC) for cough, cold and fever from medical stores across the state.
- AIR Guwahati is broadcasting radio classes for 9th and 10th Standard students in association with Secondary Education Board of Assam.
- In Madhya Pradesh, the state government has decided to set up Deendayal committees at the ward and Panchayat levels to ensure benefits of welfare schemes reach people during the ongoing coronavirus crisis.
- The West Bengal Government has announced more relaxations in 8 Green zone Districts during the ongoing lockdown.

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- Pratirodhi Bondhu are working as volunteers in creating awareness including social distancing across Assam.
- Maharashtra's Kalyan Dombivli Municipal Corporation (KDMC) has recently launched a dashboard about the COVID-19 situation in the KDMC area.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 346 million (around Rs 2,616 crore) loan to Maharashtra state government to provide reliable power connections in rural areas of Maharashtra.
- In Uttar Pradesh, Agra Smart City has created a GIS dashboard which will show various hotspots, heat map, positive cases, and recovered cases.
- In Gujarat, the government today appointed nodal officers for various states to bring back stranded students, travellers, pilgrims and working professionals.
- Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) converted one of its buses into a Mobile Fever Clinic in Mangaluru amid COVID-19 pandemic.
- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has announced that state government offices, including the secretariat, will resume work with 30% staff.

International:

- Sir Keir Starmer, the Labour Party's newly-elected Leader, named Indian-origin MP Lisa Nandy as his shadow foreign secretary
- World Food Programme (WFP) conveyed the rapidly growing novel Coronavirus pandemic so far, having little impact on the global food supply chain, but that could change for the worse if major food importers remain anxious.
- The US government has announced a grant of \$2.9 million to India.
- Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today announced an economic package of Tk 72750 crore to provide stimulus to the economy reeling under the impact of Corona virus.
- Global pandemic COVID-19 has not even left animal kingdom untouched.
- Chief Executive Officer of Twitter, Jack Dorsey has pledged to donate \$1 billion to charities working towards combatting the global COVID-19 pandemic.
- The United States has announced \$2.9 million aid for India through the US Agency for International Development (USAID).
- Pakistan announced that it is to add more sectors like agriculture and tourism in the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).
- The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Development Fund (SDF) has allocated \$5 million for COVID-19 related projects in its member states.
- China has unveiled a new trial protocol for re-testing the recovered coronavirus patients.

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- India exported 5 tonnes of cargo of medicines, including anti-malarial drug hydroxychloroquine to Israel.
- Recently the International Labour Organization (ILO) has released a report titled 'ILO Monitor 2nd edition: COVID-19 and the world of work- Updated estimates and analysis' which has also stated that about 400 million people working in the informal economy in India are at risk of falling deeper into poverty due to the coronavirus crisis.
- North Korea launched multiple short-range anti-ship cruise missiles into the sea. Also, Sukhoi jets fired air-to-surface missiles as part of its ongoing military exercises. The information was passed by South Korea's military.
- Dubai's Supreme Committee of Crisis and Disaster Management announced the extension of the 24-hour National Sterilisation Programme for another week from 4th April to control the spread of COVID-19 in Dubai.
- US President Donald Trump unveiled a three-phase plan to reopen the country's economy following the COVID-19 outbreak.
- IMF chief Kristalina Georgieva confirmed the world economy was already sluggish before the coronavirus outbreak now bound to suffer a "severe recession" in 2020.
- US President Donald Trump announced that he will be signing an executive order to temporarily suspend immigration into the United States.
- US President Donald Trump has appointed Indian-American Sudarsanam Babu to the National Science Board in the United States.
- Iran successfully launched a military satellite and the first satellite of the Islamic Republic of Iran successfully launched into orbit by the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps.
- India and Nepal to fight COVID-19 Pandemic, Ambassador of India to Nepal Vinay Mohan Kwatra handed over 23 tonnes of medicines to Nepal's Minister for Health and Population Bhanubhakta Dhakal in Kathmandu.
- The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) launched a "Lockdown Learners' series of online dialogues with students and educators" in India.
- Sri Lanka is set to enter into an agreement with the Reserve Bank of India for a currency swap worth USD 400 million to boost the foreign reserves and ensure the financial stability of the country which is badly hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- China named its first Mars exploration mission as Tianwen-1 as it celebrated Space Day

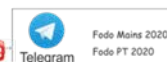
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- India provided medical supplies including hydroxychloroquine tablets to many countries and India approved the 1 million USD to Antigua as a project outlay with 150K USD for medical equipment as immediate assistance from the United States to fight against coronavirus pandemic.
- Lebanon became the 1st Arab nation to legalise cannabis (also known as marijuana) farming for medicinal & industrial use with the aim to boost the exports & to beat the economic crisis created by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.
- Iran launched its first military satellite called "Noor" into orbit.
- The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has cancelled over \$1 trillion debt owed by developing countries amid the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Hubble Space Telescope celebrates the 30th anniversary
- The Australian government has launched a coronavirus tracking app called COVIDSafe that will help to trace people who come into contact with someone with COVID-19.
- The Pakistan Navy successfully test-fired a series of anti-ship missiles in the North Arabian Sea
- India sent 50,000 surgical gloves and one lakh tablets of hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) to Bangladesh to help its fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Saudi Arabia will no longer impose the death penalty on people who committed crimes while still minors.
- Over a million Australians have downloaded the government's coronavirus tracing app within hours of its launch.
- A US Hindu organisation has set up a unique programme for COVID-19 survivors to donate their blood plasma for therapy to save severely ill patients with respiratory failure.
- World Health Organization (WHO) has partnered with Global Fund, UNTAID, Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), etc. and launched the "Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator or the ACT Accelerator."
- President of the United States Donald Trump nominated senior Indian-American diplomat Manisha Singh as America's next envoy to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).
- Australia has informed India that their premier multilateral air combat training exercise Pitch Black 2020 scheduled from July 27 to August 14 has been cancelled due to the COVID-19 situation
- The Pakistani Navy has successfully test-fired a series of anti-ship missiles in the North Arabian Sea from surface ships, fixed and rotary wing aircraft.
- Singapore will enter into a recession this year due to the coronavirus pandemic and the city-state's economic growth could even dip below the forecast range of -4 to -1 per cent to record its worst-ever contraction

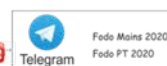
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- Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro has appointed Andrş Mendonça as the new Justice Minister, replacing Sergio Moro who resigned.
- The World Bank approved today a US\$20 million project to help Jordan face the health impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak.
- The World Bank approved additional financing of \$10.4 million from the International Development Association (IDA) to support Benin's efforts to fight COVID-19 (coronavirus) and help the country respond to public health emergencies.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) today announced a \$400,000 (about 900,000 Fijian dollars) grant to the Government of Fiji to help fund priority recovery activities following Tropical Cyclone Harold, which hit Fiji's western, central, and eastern divisions on 8 and 9 April.
- The World Bank will provide \$80 million in financial support to Georgia to help the government's efforts to mitigate and address the health and social impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Professor Wang Rong, director of China Institute for Educational Finance Research of Peking University, was elected director of IIEP Council of UNESCO, with the tenure of four years.
- The United States Navy has said that it will host the world's largest maritime exercises in Hawaii again this year, but the drills will only be held at sea because of the Corona virus.
- India has extended \$ 150 million foreign currency swap support to Maldives to help reduce the impact of the Coronavirus (COVID 19).

Summits and Conferences:

Summit/ Conference	Held in	Aim/ Theme
G20 Extraordinary Energy Ministers' virtual Meeting	Saudi Arabia	The G20 Energy Ministers' focused on ways and means to
		ensure stable energy markets, which are affected due to demand reduction in the wake of COVID19 pandemic and the ongoing surplus production-related matters.

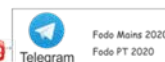
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Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) meeting	Saudi Arabia	The Action Plan was prepared with an aim to protect lives, safeguard jobs and incomes. It also included measures to restore confidence, preserve financial stability, revive growth and recover stronger.
virtual roundtable COVID-19 meet for businesses	United Kingdom	
5th Annual Meeting of Board of Governors of New Development Bank (NDB) through videoconference	New Delhi	
virtual meeting of G-20 Agriculture Ministers.	Video Conferencing	

- Minister of State Electronics & Information Technology, Communications and Human Resource Development Shri Sanjay Dhotre launched Hack the Crisis – India, an Online Hackathon to find working solutions for overcoming COVID 19 pandemic.
- Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH) under the Ministry of AYUSH organized an international webinar on 10 April 2020 on the occasion of World Homoeopathy Day.
- The National Conference on Kharif crops 2020 was held through video conference.
- Union Minister for Human Resource Development (MHRD) Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' held a detailed review of the National online education platform SWAYAM and the 32 DTH Television Education Channels SWAYAM PRABHA in New Delhi on 20 April. During the lockdown, there occurred a tremendous increase in demand and the usage of SWAYAM Courses and SWAYAM PRABHA videos.
- The Fifteenth Finance Commission (XVFC) had online meetings with its Advisory Council on 23-24 April 2020.
- Union Minister of External Affairs S. Jaishankar joins his counterparts from Brazil, Russia, China, and South Africa for a meeting
- Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar represented India in the first virtual Petersberg Climate Dialogue

Ranks and Indices:

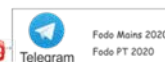
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- The Asian Development Bank has released its annual economic publication “Asian Development Outlook 2020”. In its annual flagship economic publication “Asian Development Outlook 2020”, the Asian Development Bank has projected India’s growth to slow down to 4% in the current fiscal year i.e. 2020-2021
- Forbes has launched the 34th annual world’s billionaires list named as “The Richest in 2020”.
- Doordarshan has emerged among the highest watched channel in India for week ended 3rd April.
- The “Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker” has identified India’s response to Covid-19 as one of the most stringent in the world.
- Global Network Against Food Crises report officially released by the UN World Food program.
- World Press Freedom Index 2020 murders of journalists in India in 2019, as against six in the year 2018 and the security situation for the country's media might seem on the face.
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) published satellite data that shows decreased air pollution in north India.
- The second edition of the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings, was released. In the 2020 THE Impact Rankings, 766 universities from 85 countries have been included.
- In a progressive move, the chemical & petrochemical industry became the Indian top exporting sector for FY 2019-20 as the export of chemicals increased by 7.43% to Rs 2.68 lakh crore during the April-January period of FY 2019-2020 in comparison to the corresponding period of 2018-19.
- National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC) under National Technical Research Organisation (NTRO) assessment states that India's critical sectors may fall prey to inimical forces that could use relaxations in geofencing restrictions granted to employees working from home to make cyber attacks.
- UNESCO has published its most recent figures for out-of-school children, as schools reopen progressively across the globe.
- According to a CRISIL Research report, Karnataka retained its 1st position in terms of total installed renewable capacity in FY20 followed by Tamil Nadu(2nd) & Gujarat(3rd).
- Geneva-based Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) released its Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID) 2020

Agreements and MoUs Signed:

- An online delivery platform, Dunzo has partnered with packaged foods company Britannia Industries to deliver range of products to its consumers.
- Vaccine manufacturer Indian Immunologicals (IIL) partnered with Australia's Griffith University to do research and develop a vaccine for COVID-19.

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- CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory (NCL) Pune, Maharashtra has designed and developed Digital IR Thermometer to help in the mitigation of the Coronavirus outbreak.
- Larsen & Toubro (L&T) signs agreement with the Indian Army for setting up an advanced IT-enabled system to operate the Armed Forces network under the Network of Spectrum (NFS).
- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the proposed acquisition of 80.1% share capital of ABB Management Holding AG by Hitachi Limited from ABB Ltd, where ABB Management will hold the entire power grid business of ABB.
- Hindustan Unilever has partnered with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to support India to combat COVID-19.
- Domino's Pizza has partnered with ITC Foods to launch "Domino's Essentials".
- Flipkart Private Limited inks partnership with ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company Limited & Go Digit General Insurance to launch two health insurance policies.
- Bharat Biotech in tie-up with the US-based company FluGen and University of Wisconsin Madison to develop a vaccine named "Coro-Flu" to fight against COVID-19.
- The Board of the Investment Manager of IndiGrid, India's first Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT) in the power sector, has approved the acquisition of Gurgaon-Palwal Transmission Limited (GPTL), Sterlite power with a value of Rs 1,080 crore.
- United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN), has inked an memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS), a non-profit organisation based in Jaipur, Rajasthan, to promote consumers to contribute to the global development agenda as well as support their respective governments in times of global crisis like coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.
- YES Bank has announced the extension of its strategic bancassurance relationship with the Max Life Insurance.
- Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in partnership with the State Bank of India (SBI) has launched a Unified Payments Interface (UPI) based payment platform, Bharat InstaPay to enable all types of channel partners of BSNL to digitize their payment transactions on a round the clock basis/ real-time basis.
- Central Drug Research Institute has inked an MoU with King George's Medical University, Lucknow to sequence the virus strains obtained from COVID-19 patients in Uttar Pradesh
- The Aditya Birla group's Hindalco Industries Ltd. has acquired Aleris Corporation through its wholly owned subsidiary Novelis Inc. for an enterprise value of \$2.8 billion (Rs 21,295 crores). Hindalco is now one of the world's largest aluminium makers.
- Tata Consultancy Services, a leading global IT services, consulting, and business solutions organization, and

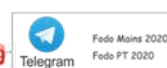
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Amway, a global leader in direct selling, have entered into a strategic partnership to transform the latter's global technology operations.

- Paytm Payments Bank Ltd (PPBL) inks partnership with Mastercard to issue virtual and physical debit cards.
- Tech Mahindra Limited, an Indian multinational subsidiary of the Mahindra Group, has entered into the partnership with US (United States) based IBM (International Business Machines Corporation) to establish innovation centres with the aim to boost digital transformation & encourage adoption of more hybrid cloudbased technologies among its global customers.
- NIIT (National Institute of Information Technology) Limited announced that its US (United States) subsidiary has signed a managed service agreement with a US-based education technology (EdTech) company to provide virtual services to education providers.
- The Federal Bank's board has approved its purchase to acquire an additional stake of up to 4% in the equity capital of IDBI Federal Life Insurance Company Limited (IFLIC) from Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) Bank, increasing the total shareholding in the life insurance joint venture to 30% from 26%.
- Vodafone idea ties up with Paytm have launched the 'Recharge Saathi' program.
- Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT), Hyderabad, has collaborated with Hyderabad-based integrated pharmaceutical company, LAXAI Life Sciences, to develop and manufacture Active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) and drug intermediates.
- The Prudential Mutual Fund Bharat-22 ETF of ICICI picked up share of value Rs.59 Crore in the National Aluminium Company (NALCO) through the open market transaction.
- To raise public awareness on the novel coronavirus, the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) has partnered with Amazon India, to launch the "Fight Against COVID-19 #AwareIndiaSafeIndia; Digital Campaign".
- Nutanix, a leader in enterprise cloud computing, and Wipro Limited, a leading global information technology, consulting and business process services company announced the launch of Wipro's Digital Database Services (DDS) powered by Nutanix Era and Nutanix HCI software.

Appointments:

Name	Appointed as	Other Info
Pravin Rao	Chairman of Nasscom	

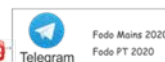
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Anurag Srivastava	Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs	succeeding Mr Raveesh Kumar.
Shafali Verma	Pepsico Brand Ambassador	
Parag Raja	MD & CEO of Bharti AXA Life Insurance	
Anamika Roy Rashtrawar	IFFCO Tokio General Insurance MD & CEO	Succeeding Warendra Sinha
Sanjay Agarwal	MD & CEO of AU Small finance Bank	
Tammanah Bhatia	Brand Ambassador of Mobile Premier League	
Mahabaleswara MS	Karnataka Bank MD & CEO	
Birupaksha Mishra	Executive Director of Union Bank of India	
Sara Ali Khan	Brand Ambassador of James Bullough Lansing (JBL)'s campaign -"Live it Real, Live it Raw"	
Ajay Mahajan	MD & CEO of CARE Ratings	replace Rajesh Mokashi
Vineet Arora	MD & CEO of Paytm General Insurance Ltd	Prior to this, he has served as managing director and chief executive officer of Aegon Life Insurance Company.
MS Dhoni	Brand Ambassador of Pokerstars India	Replaced Nawazuddin Siddiqui

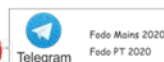
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Justice Dipankar Datta	Bombay High Court Chief Justice	Replaced Justice BP Dharmadhikari
Justice Biswanath Somadder	Meghalaya CJI	Replaced Justice Mohammad Rafiq.
Justice Mohammad Rafiq	Orissa CJI	Replaced Justice Sanju Panda
Rana Ashutosh Kumar Singh	Deputy Managing Director of SBI	
N Kamakodi	MD & CEO of City Union Bank of India	
David Li	Chief Executive Officer of Huawei Telecommunications India.	Replaced Jay Chen
Noel Quinn	CEO of HSBC	
Rakesh Sharma	International Motorcycle Manufacturers Association (IMMA)	
Sanjay Kothari	Chief Vigilance Commissioner	
Shiv Das Meena	chairman and managing director of Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO)	
TS Tirumurti	India's new Ambassador/ Permanent Representative to the UN	
Namrata S Kumar	Indian Ambassador to Slovenia	

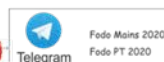
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Jaideep Mazumdar	Indian Ambassador to Austria	
Deepak Mittal	Indian Ambassador to Qatar	
Piyush Srivastava	Indian Ambassador to Bahrain	
Rajiv Kumar	chairperson of the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB)	
Suresh N. Patel	Vigilance Commssioner	
J. Arunkumar	head coach of the USA (United States of America)men's national team.	successor of interim coach James Pamment.

- The term of Madhabi Puri Buch as a Whole Time Member (WTM) at Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has been extended by 6 months.
- The tenure of Justice Shiva Kirti Singh, as the incumbent Chairman of the Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) has been extended by the Supreme Court of India.
- Justice Vinod Chatterji Koul, Justice Sanjay Dhar and Justice Puneet Gupta were sworn in as a permanent Judges of the common High Court for the Union territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh .
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director (MD) Kristalina Georgieva named former Reserve Bank of India (RBI) governor Raghuram Rajan and 11 others to its new External Advisory Group.
- CSB (Catholic Syrian Bank), the private sector bank announced that RBI (Reserve Bank of India) has extended the term of appointment of Madhavan Menon as the part-time Chairman of the Bank till July 21, 2020.
- Jsimple LLC, a US-based company in Artificial Intelligence HR space, announces the appointment of Karnika Bansal as its Business Head for its global operations.
- The Punjab National Bank (PNB) Housing Finance Limited appointed independent director Neeraj Vyas as the Interim Managing Director(MD) and Chief Executive Officer(CEO) for the period of eight months effective from 28th April

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Sports:

- China is to host the third edition of the Asian Youth Games (AYG) in Shantou in November 2021.
- UEFA has postponed all the international matches that had been pushed back to June to further notice.
- The International Olympic Committee (IOC) announced that 29 June 2021 has been set as the new deadline for the qualification period of the Tokyo Olympics.
- FIFA Under-17 Women's World Cup was scheduled to be played in India between November 2nd and 21st postponed due to the Coronavirus pandemic.
- Hockey India donated an additional Rs 75 lakhs towards the PM-CARES Fund to take its total contribution to Rs 1 crore to tackle worsening COVID-19 pandemic in the country.
- The late Kobe Bryant has been selected as a member of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.
- The Independent Member Federation Sanctions Panel (IMFSP) of the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) has banned the Malaysia & Thailand weightlifters from competing in Tokyo Olympics 2020.
- England's all-rounder Ben Stokes has been named as the leading cricketer in the world 2020 by Wisden.
- According to the FIFA (Federation Internationale de Football Association)/Coca-Cola World Ranking 2020, released on April 09, 2020, Indian football team retained its 108th position with 1187 points.
- According to the Boxing Federation of India's (BFI) Executive Director R K Sacheti, India will host the Women's and Men's Asian Boxing Championships 2020 in November-December as he expressed confidence that by then the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic would have been completely under control. However, the host city will be decided by BFI after things return to normal.
- Ferrari's Charles Leclerc wins the Formula One Esports Chinese Virtual Grand Prix championship.
- World Badminton Champion, P V Sindhu has been selected as one of the ambassadors for Badminton World Federation (BWF)'s "I am badminton" awareness campaign.
- The 11th edition of World Games which is to be held in Birmingham, Alabama, US (United States) has unveiled an updated logo and title after being delayed a year because of the Coronavirus pandemic.
- 16-year-old Iranian refugee, Alireza Firouzja beats World Chess Champion Magnus Carlsen in the final of the Banter Blitz Cup 2020 and to claim the \$14,000 prize.
- Former Pakistan skipper and Women Cricket team Captain, Sana Mir announced her retirement from international cricket at the age of 34, ending her 15 year career currently ranking 9th in ICC's ODI and 41st in T20I bowlers list

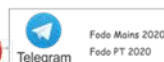
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- Mathias Boe, 39 years old, badminton doubles player from Denmark announced retirement from international badminton.
- The Pakistan Cricket Board has banned Pakistan batsman Umar Akmal from all forms of cricket for a period of three years.
- Indian middle-distance runner, Jhuma Khatun was banned for 4 years for using banned substances (Steroids) by the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) for the doping case from 2018.
- India lost the hosting rights of the men's World boxing championship 2021 to Serbia.
- Deepak Agarwal has been banned by the International Cricket Council (ICC) from all cricket for a period of 2 years.

Defence:

- Ministry of Defence (MoD) has received foreign direct investment (FDI) of \$8.82 million (around Rs.51.93 crore) during the period April 2000 and December 2019.
- The Naval Dockyard at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh has designed 'Portable Multi-feed Oxygen Manifold (MOM)'.
- The Indian Air Force (IAF) has launched 'Operation Sanjeevani' and air-lifted 6.2 tonnes of essential medical supplies to the Maldives via transport aircraft C-130J as assistance in the fight against the COVID 19.
- The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) is to provide COVID-19 protective gear and healthcare paraphernalia for its over 40,000 personnel.
- Ministry of Defence (MoD) has allowed temporary employment of National Cadet Corps (NCC) cadets under 'Exercise NCC Yogdan'.
- Indian Air Force (IAF) has rendered continuous support in the fight against Coronavirus by providing medical supplies to all the states in the country. Medical supplies are transported to equip the state governments/Union Territories (UTs) and supporting agencies to combat the contagion effectively and efficiently.
- Amid 21-days nationwide lockdown in India, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has been using scientific endeavours to develop products in an accelerated manner to combat COVID-19 pandemic.
- The US military has requested an additional \$20 billion fund to strengthen naval, airborne and ground-based operations in the Indo-Pacific region.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah has directed the Border Security Force (BSF) to enhance vigil along the Indian borders with Pakistan and Bangladesh, especially in the non-fenced areas of India.
- Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has launched an e-office application named 'e-karyalay'.

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- Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) report titled "Trends in World Military Expenditure, 2019" stated that India has become the third-largest military spender in the world, after the US and China.

Books & Authors:

- The Pulitzer Prize-winning American reporter for The Washington Post, Mary Jordan has written a book titled 'The Art of Her Deal: The Untold Story of Melania Trump'.
- The book 'The Wizenard Series: Season One' is created by American Basket baller Kobe Bryant & authored by Wesley King tops the New York Times' middle-grade hardcover list, which is to be released on April 19, 2020. It is published by Kobe Bryant's Granity Studios(April 1, 2020).
- Canadian American comedian & actor Jim Carrey and writer Dana Vachon authored a novel "Memoirs and Misinformation" a fearless and semi-autobiographical novel about the reconstruction of personality. □A book titled "Shuttling to the Top: The Story of P V Sindhu" authored by Krishnaswamy V was published by HarperCollins in Amazon digital platform along with other two books, amid the lockdown due to Coronavirus.
- A book titled "How the Onion Got Its Layers" authored by Sudha Murty was published by Puffin.
- Uma Balasubramaniam has authored a biography on "Sayajirao Gaekwad III" titled 'Sayajirao Gaekwad III: The Maharaja of Baroda'.

Awards:

Name	Awarded as
Naveen Patnaik	Hero to Animals Award by PETA
Bob Weighton	World's oldest man by Guinness World Record
Abdelouahab Aissaoui	13th International Arab fiction prize 2020.
Tata Power	Edison Award for social innovation.
UST Global	2020 most innovative AI application award for societal impact from Microsoft.
Adam Higginbotham	William E. Colby Award.

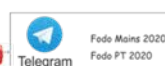
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- Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW), the manufacturing unit of Indian Railways based in Asansol, West Bengal (WB), has set the Limca Book of Records for producing record 431 locomotives in the financial year 2019-2020 (FY20) in 292 working days.
- Goa Institute of Management has collaborated with AIM2Flourish, the world's first higher-education curriculum for the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as part of their Social Responsibility and Action (SRA) course.
- The Texere Publishing Ltd has published its "The Medicine Maker Power List 20 For 2020" consisting of the world's top 60 inspirational leaders under three categories viz. Small Molecules, Advanced Medicines, and Biopharmaceuticals. Each category consisted of 20 influencers from the field of medicines

Science & Tech:

- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) developed a bio-suit for the safety of the paramedical, medical, and other personnel engaged in combating COVID-19 safe from the deadly virus.
- Indian Institute of Science (IISc) scientists have developed a high-quality indigenous ventilator.
- MSME Technology Centres in India have provided masks, medical gowns, ventilators, sanitizers, components of Corona Testing Kits, etc. to combat Coronavirus.
- A scientist from the Pune-based Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology (C-MET) has developed a low-cost indigenous prototype of polymer swab.
- IIT-Roorkee has developed a low-cost portable ventilator called 'Prana-Vayu' in association with AIIMS Rishikesh, which can be manufactured for just Rs25,000.
- Bengaluru based startup Bione, a genetic and microbiome testing firm has launched India's 1st home screening test kit for COVID-19 & is approved by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).
- The University Grants Commission (UGC) has directed all universities and colleges to set up mental health helplines to address psychosocial concerns of students during the lockdown imposed to combat Corona virus.
- Indian Smart Cities namely Bengaluru, Pune, Surat, and Tumakuru are using the integrated data dashboards to provide up-to-date information about the status of coronavirus in different administrative zones of their cities.
- The American space agency NASA has announced that it is working on the Artemis program.
- In view of increasing cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) infection in the country, Aerobiosys Innovations Private Limited, a start-up incubated at The Center for Healthcare Entrepreneurship (CfHE) in the Indian Institute of Technology-Hyderabad (IIT-H)- Telangana, has designed a low cost portable emergency ventilator called 'Jeevan Light'.

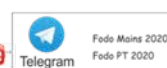
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- Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) of the Department of Science and Technology (DST) is to support and fund a technology by the Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering (DBB), IIT-Bombay to capture and inactivate novel coronavirus.
- Scientists at Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST) have designed and developed a disinfected barrier-examination booth to examine COVID-19 patients.
- FastSense Diagnostics announced that it is currently developing two modules for the detection of COVID-19.
- Centre for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad and Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (IGIB), New Delhi began research on the whole genome sequencing of novel coronavirus for the first time.
- Scientists at Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST) have designed and developed the "Chitra Acrylosorb Secretion Solidification System," a highly efficient superabsorbent material for liquid respiratory and other body fluid solidification.
- The Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, is to launch "iGOT platform," a learning platform to combat COVID-19 for all front-line workers.
- CSIR-Central Electrochemical Research Institute (CECRI) at Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu, has developed a series of lab-made Personal protective equipment (PPEs) to fight COVID-19 pandemic.
- Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has released a new strategy for COVID-19 testing in India, hotspots, cluster, large migration gatherings or evacuees centres.
- Google has announced the launch of a virtual Braille keyboard for Android users with low vision or blindness.
- After the launch of Aarogya Setu app to tackle COVID-19 impact, now Central government , Department of Telecommunication(DoT) in partnership with Tamil Nadu (TN) government and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras has launched its complementary initiative named "Aarogya Setu Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS)".
- Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST), under the Department of Science and Technology (DST), is to explore convalescent-plasma therapy for COVID-19.
- Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) has developed a cost-effective solution for isolation wards, Fumigation Chamber, Hand sanitizers and face masks as a measure to fight against COVID-19 pandemic.
- Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) approved the bioassay laboratory of the Department of Biotechnology's (DBT) Faridabad-based Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI) as an extension of diagnostic facility of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) Medical College and Hospital.

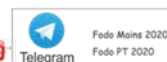
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- CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) based in Hyderabad is currently employing several tools and approaches in the countries to fight against COVID-19.
- Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has developed a double-layered Khadi mask to contain the spread of COVID-19. It has procured orders for supplying it in large quantities.
- The Indian Institute of Technology Ropar (IIT-Ropar) has developed a trunk-shaped device fitted with ultraviolet (UV) germicidal irradiation technology.
- Google and Apple collaborate to fight against COVID-19 through contact tracing technology.
- UPSCGuide e-learning portal has been launched to help UPSC aspirants to study from home during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) stated that over 40 vaccines are under various stages of development.
- CovidGyan, a Science-based website, was launched.
- IIT-Bombay has developed a digital stethoscope called “AyuSynk” to check patients who are infected with COVID-19.
- The University Grants Commission (UGC) has constituted 2 expert committees to look after the examinations & academic calendar, and to promote online learning amidst the lockdown due to COVID-19.
- Defence Research & Development Laboratory (DRDL), Hyderabad of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed COVID-19 Sample Collection Kiosk (COVSACK) to combat COVID-19.
- A team of researchers from National Institute of Technology-Karnataka (NIT-K) at Surathkal, has designed a disinfection chamber called ‘ZERO-COV’ to disinfect personal protective equipment (PPE) tools, surgical masks, vegetables, packaged food items, currency notes and other day-to-day items within 15 minutes.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) developed Automatic Mist Based Sanitiser Dispensing Unit and UV Sanitisation Box and Hand-held UV device to fight against COVID-19.
- Indian Council of Medical Research recently issued an advisory mentioning the protocol for using Rapid Antibody Test kits in COVID-19 hotspot areas across states to use these kits in the affected areas.
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) on April 17 announced that it will launch astronauts Bob Behnken and Doug Hurley to International Space Station (ISS) on May 27, 2020.
- Scientists from the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (CSIR-IGIB) have developed 'Feluda', a low-cost coronavirus test for detection of the pathogen. It will not require any expensive machines.
- Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology (IIIT-Delhi) has developed a mobile app named

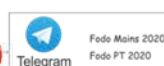
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‘WashKaro’.

- Researchers from Faridabad-based Regional Centre for Biotechnology (RCB) has initiated a study to engineer virucidal coatings to prevent the COVID-19 Transmission.
- Researchers at the Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES) Nainital, under the Department of Science and Technology (DST) found that SN 2010kd, a super-luminous supernova stands out with the amount of mass and Nickel ejected during explosion.
- Department of Science and Technology (DST), Ministry of Science and Technology has approved support for upscaling antiviral nano-coatings as part of Nano Mission program.
- Raksha Mantri, Rajnath Singh has launched India's 1st COVID-19 sample collection mobile Lab launched through video conference.
- An IIT-Roorkee professor, Kamal Jain, has claimed to have developed a software that can help detect COVID-19 within five seconds using an X-ray scan of the suspected patient.
- Shilpa Medicare launched its generic version of cancer drug Dasatinib.
- Union Human Resource Development (HRD) Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' felicitated the team of scientists from IIT-Delhi who are involved in the development of COVID-19 probe free Real-time Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) Diagnostic Kit. COVID-19 Testing kit made by IIT-Delhi is in line with the Make in India initiative
- The Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) and the Institute of Genetics and Integrated Biology (IGIB), along with a few other institutions is currently developing digital and molecular surveillance of the spread of novel coronavirus to understand the biology, epidemiology and disease impact.
- The US space agency NASA engineers have developed "VITAL", a new high-pressure ventilator tailored specifically to treat COVID-19 patients.
- Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST) has developed Chitra Magna, an innovative RNA extraction kit, innovative technology for isolating RNA from swabs for COVID-19 tests.
- Scientists at CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI), Lucknow, have developed a herbal decongestant spray.
- Researchers at the Institute of Nano Science and Technology (INST) have developed carbon nitride quantum dots (g-CNQDs), a low-cost metal-free nanomaterial for visible light microbial disinfection.
- A team from the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT)-Bombay, NIT Srinagar and Islamic University of Science & Technology (IUST), Awantipora, Pulwama, Jammu and Kashmir has developed "Ruhdaar," a lowcost ventilator using locally available materials.
- Littlemore Innovation Labs, a pioneer in paperless digital exams, announced the launch of PEXA Lite, an extended offering on its flagship PEXA platform.

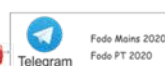
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- IIT-Bhubaneswar has designed a safe and multi-surface sanitizer using UV light for the disinfection of devices in the combat against COVID-19.
- A multi-disciplinary expert group COVIDActionCollab (CAC) is developing a protocol to test sewage for COVID-19 traces in selected densely populated urban residential areas of Bengaluru and Kolkata.
- A low-cost robotic device named as “Hospital Care Assistive Robotic Device (H-CARD)” has been developed by CSIR-Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI), Durgapur.
- ITI Cuttack has designed two robots for monitoring and serving essentials to patients at Covid hospitals.
- The Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT Delhi) have developed a web-based dashboard named ‘PRACRITI’ which can predict the district and state wise transmission rate of COVID-19.
- Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati is collaborating with Hester Biosciences Limited, a pharmaceutical company based in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, to work on the vaccine development against COVID-19.
- IIT Jammu has developed a face-shield that will be handed over to the police for trial amid the COVID-19 pandemic.
- New academic session for freshers to begin in universities from September and for already enrolled students in August informed University Grants Commission.
- Scientists from Jawaharlal Nehru Centre For Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR) have modified the structure of Berberine into Ber-D to use as an Alzheimer's inhibitor.
- CSIR-Central Scientific Instruments Organisation (CSIR-CSIO), Chandigarh, has designed and developed Electrostatic Disinfection Machine, an innovative technology for effective disinfection and sanitization to fight against COVID-19 pandemic.

Important Days & Themes:

Day	Celebrated as	Aim/ Theme
April 1	Utkal Diwas	
April 2	World Autism Awareness Day	Theme: The theme of the 2020 World Autism Awareness Day is "The transition of adulthood."
April 4	International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance	

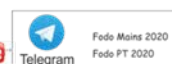
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April 5	International Day of Conscience	The day aims to promote a culture of peace with love and conscience.
April 5	National Maritime Day	The theme for the 57th National Maritime Day is "Sustainable shipping for a sustainable planet."
April 6	Mahavir Jayanti	
April 6	International Day of Sport for Development and Peace.	
April 7	International Day of Reflection	
April 7	World Health Day	Theme: Support Nurses And Midwives.
April 10	World Homeopathy Day	Theme: "Linking research with education and clinical practice: Advancing scientific

		collaborations".
April 11	National Safe Motherhood Day	The day aims to raise awareness about the proper healthcare of women and maternity facilities to pregnant and lactating women.
April 11	National Pet Day	
April 12	International Day of Human Space Flight	
April 14	World Chagas Disease day	The day aims to raise the visibility and public awareness of people with Chagas Disease and the resources needed for the prevention, control or elimination of the disease.

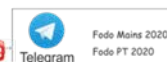
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April 14	Ambedkar Jayanti	
April 18	World Heritage Day	The theme of World Heritage Day 2020 is "Shared Culture", 'Shared heritage' and 'Shared responsibility'.
April 21	Civil Services Day	The Civil Services Day celebrates all the civil servants who dedicated their lives to the cause of citizens.
April 21	World Creativity and Innovation Day	The main objective of the day is to encourage people to use new ideas, make new decisions, and do creative thinking.
April 21	Secretarys Day	The day aims to celebrate the administrative professionals who work as the glue in keeping a business together.
April 22	World Earth Day	'Climate Action'
April 23	English Language Day	
April 23	World Book and Copyright Day	Slogan for 2020: KL Baca – Caring through Reading
April 23	International Girls in ICT Day	
April 24	National Panchayati Raj Day	
April 24	International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy	
April 25	World Malaria Day	Theme: Zero Malaria Starts with me
April 25	International Delegates Day	

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April 25	World Veterinary Day	The theme for 2020 World Veterinary Day is "Environmental protection for improving animal and human health."
April 26	Basava Jayanti	
April 26	World Intellectual Property Day	The World Intellectual Property Day 2020 carves a pathway to a green future. Hence, WIPO organizes a campaign "Innovate for a green future" that aims to create awareness about the need to preserve the environment.
April 26	International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day	
April 28	Workers' Memorial Day	'Stop the Pandemic in the Workplace.'
April 28	World Day for Safety and Health at Work	
April 29	International Dance Day	
April 29	International Guide Dog Day	
April 30	Ayushman Bharat Diwas	The day aims to promote affordable medical facilities in remote areas of the country based on the Socio-Economic Caste Census database
April 30	International Jazz Day	

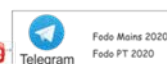
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- The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) celebrated the 55th CRPF Valour Day (Shaurya Diwas) on 9 April 2020.
- 13 April 2020 marked the 101st anniversary of the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre.
- President Ram Nath Kovind, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi have greeted people on the occasion of Baisakhi on 14 April.
- Every year, last week of April is marked as the World Immunization Week.

Obituary:

Name	Profession	Location
Gita Ramjee	Virologist	South Africa
Bill Withers	Songwriter, Singer & Guitarist	United States
Jock Edwards	Cricketer	New Zealand
Mahmud Jibril	Prime Minister	Libya
MK Arjunan	Music Composer	Kerala
Forrest Compton	Actor	
Kalinga Sasi	Actor	Kerala
Prakash	Kannada Comic Actor	Karnataka
Brahm Kanchibotla	Journalist	
Radomir Antic	Real Madrid Coach	Serbia
Honor Blackman	Actress	
Hazarilal Raguwanshi	Politician	Madhya Pradesh
John Prine	Folk Singer	
Ramkrishna Dwivedi	Politician	

Donato Sabia	Sports	Italy
Shanti Hiranand Chawla	Hindustani Classical Singer	
Jackie du Preez	Cricketer	Zimbabwe
Peter Boneti	Goalkeeper	UK
Sir Stirling Moss	Motor Race Driver	
Tim Brooke Taylor	Comedian	UK
MV Rajasekharan	Politician	

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Ashok Desai	Former Attorney General of India	
Rifat Chadirji	Father of modern Iraqi architecture	
Ranjit Chowdhry	Actor	
Gene Deitch	Actor	
Rudratej Singh	BMW India CEO	
Laisenia Qarase	Former FIJI Prime Minister	FIJI
Abba Kyari	The Chief of Staff to Nigeria's president Muhammadu Buhari	
Usha Ganguly	Eminent theatre director, actor and activist	West Bengal
Basanta Das	Former Rajya Sabha member	Odisha
Graeme Watson	cricketer	Australia
Ronny' Roy	Photo Journalist	
Devanand Konwar	Former Governor of Tripura and Bihar	
James M. Beggs	Ex-NASA Administrator	

Bijay Mishra	Noted Odia Dramatist & playwriters	
Irfan Khan	Actor	Jaipur
Michael Robinson	Former Liverpool striker	
Troy Sneed	Singer	

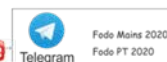
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Rishi Kapoor	Actor	Mumbai
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- Tony Lewis, one of the men behind the Duckworth-Lewis-Stern (DLS) method passed away. **May**

2020 – One Liner Current Affairs Financial One liners:

- Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank(KVGB) has launched ‘Vikas Abhaya’ a loan scheme to provide some relief to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise(MSME) borrowers.
- Reliance Strategic Business Ventures Limited(RSBVL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries Limited(RIL), has increased its stake to 26.3% on a fully diluted basis in US-based SkyTran Incorporated(Inc), a venture-funded technology company which develops modern transport modes including personal rapid transit system.
- The Singapore arm of Manulife, Manulife Investment Management (Singapore) Pte Ltd has acquired 49% stake in Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services’ (Mahindra Finance) wholly-owned subsidiary Mahindra Asset Management Company (AMC).
- Traders' body Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) has announced to launch a national e-commerce marketplace 'bharatmarket' soon for all retail traders in collaboration with several technology partners.
- HDFC Bank has released a song titled #HumHaarNahiMaanenge to keep hopes up amidst the ongoing national lockdown and Covid-19 pandemic.
- The Reserve Bank of India has permitted the country’s payment networks — Visa, Mastercard and NPCI to allow tap-and-go functionality on card payments for all purchases at retail stores and shopping centers.
- The World Bank has approved USD 400 million multi-year financial support to India to enhance and safeguard the coastal and marine resources of the country.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cancelled the licence of “The CKP Co-operative Bank Ltd., Mumbai” due to non-compliance to various sections of Banking Regulation Act and RBI Act.
- Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) have asked the Reserve Bank of India to allow them one-time restructuring of all loans till March 2021, as their borrowers are facing funding issues amid the Corona virus pandemic and the subsequent lockdown.
- The Small Industries Development Bank of India(SIDBI) informed that it will launch ‘India SME Services Platform’, a digital platform to educate stakeholders in the small and medium enterprises(SME) ecosystem and have information on coronavirus-related initiatives for the sector.

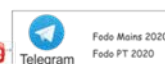
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- A customer engagement technology provider, Ameyo has launched video KYC engagement platform for the banking and finance sector.
- Private sector lender Kotak Mahindra Bank has decided on a 10 per cent pay cut for the employees earning above Rs 25 lakh per annum, in a business sustainability move amid the COVID-19 pandemic
- Public Sector Banks have sanctioned loans worth 5.66 lakh crore rupees for more than 41 lakh 81 thousand accounts during March-April this year
- The country's largest lender, State Bank of India today slashed benchmark lending rate by 15 basis points and introduced Special Deposit Scheme for senior citizens with higher interest rate.
- Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has approved a loan worth of \$500 million for India's 'COVID-19 Emergency Response.
- The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development(NABARD) disburses Rs 12,767 crore to State Cooperative(Co-op) Banks & Regional Rural Banks(RRBs) across the country to increase their resources for extending credit to farmers during the lockdown due to the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic.
- Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) has announced to launch 'Bharatmarket', a national e-commerce marketplace.
- American private equity giant Silver Lake Partners has announced to buy 1.15% stake in Jio Platforms for Rs 5,655.75 crore (\$750 million).
- The BharatPe, a Merchant payment and a leading network provider launched two voice-based applications Paisa Bolega and BharatPe Balance for the account holders to access transactions and balance using without touching the phones in the COVID-19 pandemic.
- DBS Bank has cut India's FY21 GDP forecast to 1% as against 1.5% as predicted earlier.
- The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has extended the last date for filing annual GST return for financial year 2018-19 by three months till September 2020.
- Moody's Investors Service on Friday projected India's growth at 0 percent for the current fiscal 2020-21.
- As part of its efforts to strengthen the State's disaster management efforts in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, HCL has joined hands with the District Administration of Coimbatore to provide vital protection equipment including masks, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), hand sanitizers and hands-free wash basins.
- Analysts at Nomura have lowered their GDP growth forecast for India to a negative 5 per cent / 5 per cent contraction y-o-y (from -0.5 per cent forecast earlier) for 2020, but raised it to 7.9 per cent (from 7.3 per cent forecast earlier) for 2021.

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- The global investment banking group, Goldman Sachs has predicted India's GDP growth for FY21 at -0.4%.
- As per the Reliance Industries Limited's statement, the US-based private equity firm Vista Equity Partners to buy 2.32% stake in Reliance's Jio Platforms, for Rs 11,367 crore which will make Vista the largest investor in Jio Platforms after Reliance Industries and Facebook.
- Data from the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) stated that April Immediate Payment System (IMPS) numbers have reduced to a two-year low.
- State Bank of India(SBI) General Insurance has launched the standard health insurance policy named "Aarogya Sanjeevani Health Insurance Policy".
- Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd has announced the launch of an online vehicle ownership platform named "OwnOnline".
- The Carlyle Group, an United States(US) based private equity firm acquired 74% stake in SeQuent Scientific Limited, the largest animal healthcare company from India for Rs.1,587 crore(\$210 million) for Rs.86 apiece.
- GlaxoSmithKline plc (GSK), a British multinational pharmaceutical company, has sold its 5.7 % stake in Indian FMCG (fast-moving consumer goods) company Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL) for \$3.35 billion (about 254.8 billion rupees) in the stock market through a largest ever block deal.
- The Government of India has announced an increase in its gross market borrowing estimate to Rs 12 lakh crore for the current financial year 2020-21 to deal with the expected shortfall in revenue due to the impact of COVID19 crisis on the economy.
- Bank of America has revised down their GDP growth estimate for India to 0.5 percent for the current fiscal year, 2020-21, from its earlier estimate of 1.5 percent.
- Union Finance Minister Smt Nirmala Sitaraman launched the INR-USD Futures and Options contracts in the BSE and NSE platforms.
- American multinational investment bank, Morgan Stanley has projected India's GDP growth for 2020 at 0% and for 2021 at 7.7%.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced a Special economic and comprehensive package of Rs.20 lakh crores on 13 May 2020, equivalent to 10% of India's GDP, for relief and credit support related to businesses, especially Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), to support Indian Economy's fight against COVID-19 pandemic.
- In continuation to PM Modi's announcement of Rs 20 lakh crore boost to the economy, and the announcement made by her on May 13, 2020

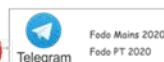
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- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced the third Tranche of Rs.20 lakh Economic Package on 15 May in New Delhi. On 12 May, Prime Minister Modi announced an Economic relief Package of Rs.20 lakh crore with an aim of making it "Atma Nirbhar" or self-reliant.
- The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development(NABARD) has sanctioned Rs 1,500 crores for Punjab to ensure continuous credit flow to farmers, through state cooperative banks, amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Canara Bank has launched a special business vertical dedicated for gold loans to meet the financial needs of its customers as they are in need of immediate credit support to meet their emergency needs due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) released Rs 20,500 crores. The funds will act as front-loading resources to the cooperative banks and the Regional Rural Development Banks (RRBs).
- Kotak Mahindra Bank becomes 1st bank in India to allow video Know your customer (KYC) facility for customers opening savings accounts on Kotak 811 – the banks digital banking platform.
- The Reserve Bank of India has announced that the Know Your Customer (KYC) guidelines/norms will now be applicable to Housing Finance Companies also.
- In April 2020, Franklin Templeton Mutual Fund Company had closed 6 of its debt schemes in consultation with SEBI.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced Rs.15,000 crore line of credit (LoC) to the Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM) on 22 May.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) cuts repo rate by 40 basis points (bps) to 4% from 4.4% on 22 May. The Central Bank also adjusted the reverse repo rate to 3.35% from 3.75%.
- The Government of India amended General Financial Rules to make sure the goods and services that are of value less than Rs 200 crores are procured domestic firms.
- Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India(IRDAI) has approved the proposal of the state owned lender Union Bank of India-UBI(which holds 25.1% stake in Star Union Dai-Chi Life) to continue with its 30% holding in IndiaFirst Life Insurance.
- In continuation to PM Modi's announcement of Rs 20 lakh crore boost to the economy, and the announcement made by her on May 13, 2020, May 14, 2020 and May 15, 2020 the Finance Minister of India, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman has made the announcement of the fourth tranche of economic support the Indian Economy's fight against COVID-19. □ In continuation to PM Modi's announcement of Rs 20 lakh crore boost to the economy, and the announcement made by her on May 13, 2020, May 14, 2020. May 15, 2020 and May 16, 2020 the Finance Minister of India, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman has made the announcement of the fifth tranche (which is the last one) of economic support the Indian Economy's fight against COVID-19.

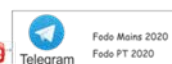
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- Bernstein, an investment management firm based in the United States, has projected India's GDP growth rate for FY21 at -7.0%.
- The global investment banking group, Goldman Sachs has predicted India's GDP growth for FY21 at -5.0%.
- Stock exchanges BSE and NSE have announced to reduce the listing fee for their SME platforms by 25 per cent.
- Reliance Industries Limited(RIL) announced the sale of 1.34% stake in its digital services subsidiary, Jio Platforms to global Private Equity (PE) firm General Atlantic for Rs 6,598.38 crores, to accelerate consumer business and cut debt.
- The Centre has notified the reduction in statutory rate of contributions from 12 per cent to 10 per cent for wage months period from May to July, 2020 for all class of establishments covered under the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.
- Swami Ramdev's Patanjali Ayurveda Limited has launched its e-commerce app named "OrderMe".
- Facebook has announced the launch of a new feature, 'Facebook Shops', on its platform as an important tool for small businesses to create online stores on Facebook and Instagram.
- The Ratings agency ICRA has predicted India's GDP growth for FY 2020-21 at -5.0%. Earlier it has predicted the same at around -1% to -2 %.
- In a bid to boost digital transactions and move towards a less-cash economy, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), a statutory authority functioning under the Department of Revenue in the Ministry of Finance, has exempted firms with a turnover of over Rs 50 crore & engaged in business-to-business (B2B) transactions, from the requirement of accepting payments only by e-payments facilities using debit cards powered by RuPay or BHIM-UPI (Bharat Interface for Money- Unified Payments Interface).
- Tata Power announced that its subsidiary Tata Power International Pte Ltd(TPIPL) has acquired a 10% stake in Adjaristsqali Netherlands BV(ABV) from the International Finance Corporation(IFC) for USD 150,000 (about Rs 1.13 crore).
- The Competition Commission of India has approved 100% acquisition of the total issued and paid-up share capital of Emami Cement Limited(ECL)on a fully diluted basis, by Nuvoco Vistas Corporation Limited(NVCL) for an enterprise value of Rs 5,500 crore.
- Maruti Suzuki India Limited, an automobile manufacturer in India, has joined hands with the Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited (CIFCL) to launch 'Buy Now Pay Later' financing scheme to make the purchase of its cars even more convenient.
- To meet a temporary liquidity mismatch arising out of the COVID-19 outbreak, Canara Bank has announced a new credit support scheme for borrowers affected by the pandemic.

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- Airtel Payments Bank (APBL), India's first Payments Bank, has partnered with Mastercard, leading technology company in the global payments industry.
- The Private sector ICICI bank has introduced a special fixed deposit (FD) scheme for senior citizens called 'ICICI Bank Golden Years FD' which offers an interest rate of 6.55% per annum(p.a) for deposits up to Rs 2 crores with a tenure of more than 5 years(5 years and 1 day) to 10 years.
- The country's largest carmaker Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) has joined hands with ICICI Bank to offer retail financing schemes to its customers.
- The country's largest lender State Bank of India (SBI) has reduced interest rates on retail term deposits by up to 40 basis points (bps) across all tenors.
- Bollywood actor Salman Khan has announced the launch of his own grooming and personal care brand named FRSH.
- Uber India on Tuesday announced to lay off around 600 full time employees due to impact of the coronavirus crisis.
- Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries has launched an online extension of its grocery business under JioMart brand across 200 cities.
- Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has announced the launch of the Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana, which is a social security scheme for senior citizens.
- Rating agency Fitch Ratings has released its latest Global Economic Outlook (GEO).
- SBI Research has slashed India's economic growth forecast in the current fiscal year 2020-21 to contract to 6.8 percent from earlier 4.7 percent.
- S&P Global Ratings has slashed India's GDP growth rate to 5% in the Fiscal Year 2021.
- The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has been penalised with amount of Rs 7 lakh by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has officially launched the facility of instant PAN through Aadhaar based e-KYC on 28 May.
- Union Commerce and Industry Minister, Piyush Goyal on May 28 stated that the total Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in India has grown by 18% to reach 73 billion in FY 2019-20.
- Amazon is offering full-time jobs to 125,000 of 175,000 temporary workers it hired since March to deal with the COVID-19 rush, if employees would like to stay at Amazon long term.
- A massive contraction in manufacturing and construction activities pulled India's GDP growth rate down to 3.1 per cent in the last quarter of 2019-20 from Q3's 4.1 per cent and 5.7 per cent rise reported for the like period of the previous fiscal.

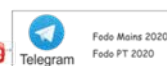
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Non Financial One liners:

National:

- A programme titled AYURAKSHA "Corona Se Jung- Delhi Police Ke Sang" was organized for Delhi Police personnel at New Delhi
- NLC India Limited has commenced the production of Coal for the first time.
- Ministry of Coal (MoC) launched a Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) for the facilitation of early operationalization of coal mines allocated by the Central Government. The move will promote Ease of Doing Business.
- Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways and MSME Shri Nitin Gadkari has launched a portal on "MSME Bank of Schemes, Ideas, Innovation and Research".
- 200 new mandis were added to the e-NAM platform from 7 States.
- The Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Ram Vilas Paswan approved the integration of 5 States and Union Territories (UTs) with the National Cluster under the "One Nation One Ration Card" plan.
- CSIR-Central Road Research Institute (CSIR-CRRI), New Delhi developed Kisan Sabha App to connect farmers to supply chain and freight transportation management systems.
- The 12th session of Dekho Apna Desh of Tourism Ministry was held on 30 April 2020.
- One of the largest and most awarded private radio networks in India, 93.5 RED FM has joined hands with Music Plus to launch a first of its kind initiative 'RISE INDIA Awards' to recognize the selfless efforts of the COVID crusaders.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a telephonic conversation with Prime Minister of Thailand H.E. Gen (ret) Prayut Chan-o-cha.
- Ministry of Shipping has revamped its website and launched its new version on 30 April 2020.
- The second installment of Rs. 500 is being transferred directly into the accounts of women beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojna is being released by the Centre.
- Nation celebrates birth centenary of legendary filmmaker Satyajit Ray today. Ray was born on this day in 1921 . He directed 36 films in his lifetime.
- The Expert Appraisal Committee of the Environment Ministry has approved the construction of the new Parliament building at a cost of Rs.922 crore.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a key meeting on the reforms in the agriculture sector and increase farmers income in India.

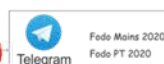
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- The government of India has constituted 20 Central Public Health Teams from the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- The National Mission for Clean Ganga operating (NMCG) under Ministry of Jal Shakti and National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) launched "IDEathon" titled "The future of River Management" to explore how the COVID-19 crisis can shape River Management strategies for the future.
- Union Minister of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Narendra Singh Tomar launched "The Saras Collection" on the Government e Marketplace (GeM) portal in New Delhi.
- The Union Minister of State (IC) for Shipping and Chemicals & Fertilisers Mansukh Mandaviya reported that the Jan Aushadi Kendras are playing a vital role in the COVID-19 situation.
- The Union Minister of Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal held a video conference with the promoters of the completed Integrated Cold Chain Projects on 4 May.
- Centre is to introduce an Agro MSME Policy that will focus on entrepreneurship development in rural, tribal, agricultural, and forest areas for manufacturing products using local raw material.
- The mobile app Aarogya Setu launched by the Government of India has been upgraded to include a new privatepublic partnership initiative called Aarogya Setu Mitra, to provide facilities for online medical consultations, ePharmacy and home lab tests.
- India has been supplying Hydroxychloroquine and essential medicines to other countries □EPFO has 65 lakh pensioners under its pension scheme.
- Civil Aviation Ministry and the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) have launched the Government Authorisation for Relief Using Drones (GARUD) portal.
- Ministry of Finance stated that around 39 crore poor people received financial assistance of Rs.34,800 crore under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package (PMGKP) as of 5 May 2020.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired a meeting of the Task Force on Corona Vaccine Development.
- National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi has presented a virtual program "NGMA KE SANGRAH SE".
- AYUSH Minister Shripad Yesso Naik and Health Minister Harsh Vardhan will jointly launch three AYUSH based studies related to COVID-19 situation at New Delhi on 7 May.
- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare has announced the setting up of integrated soil nutrient management a farmers' movement.
- Aarogya Setu Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) the feature has been implemented in the Aarogya Setu mobile application.
- The Ministry of Tourism launched the 'DekhoApnaDesh' logo design contest on the MyGov platform.
- NITI Aayog has virtually launched a campaign in association with Piramal Foundation to protect senior citizens during COVID-19.

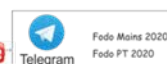
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- In its attempt to take some burden off Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), the Karnataka government on Wednesday waived monthly fixed electricity charges for two months.
- The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has started to include Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Gilgit-Baltistan, and Muzaffarabad in its meteorological sub-division of Jammu & Kashmir.
- The Government of India has launched its biggest ever evacuation exercises named the Vande Bharat Mission, to bring home nearly 15,000 Indian nationals stranded abroad due to the coronavirus lockdown.
- Union Human Resource Development Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' today announced that, to boost research in the country various amendments have been carried out in Prime Minister's Research Fellowship Scheme.
- The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Department of Agriculture Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India, released Advisories to the Fisheries sector in 12 languages.
- The incident of Styrene gas leakage occurred in a chemical plant LG Polymers industry in the early hours at 3 am in RR Venkatapuram village, Gopalapatnam Mandal in Visakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh on 7 May.
- Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Health & Family Welfare Minister launched the mobile application 'AYUSH Sanjivani' App and two AYUSH based studies related to COVID-19 situation.
- Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has announced its target to construct roads worth Rs.15 lakh crore in the next two years.
- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has paid tributes to Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore on his Jayanti. □ While reviewing the Soil Health Programme in New Delhi, Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar has informed that the government will run a mission mode awareness campaign in FY2020-2021 in over 1 lakh villages for promoting use of bio/organic fertilisers and reducing consumption of chemical soil nutrients.
- Ministry of Tourism, Government of India organized the 16th webinar titled "Goa-Crucible of Culture" under the Dekho Apna Desh series on 7 May 2020.
- Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution reported that the Food Corporation of India (FCI) has supplied a total number of 2641 rakes, including Wheat and Rice.
- The Supreme Court (SC) brought cooperative banks under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Act of 2002 (SARFAESI Act) that empowers lenders to seize and sell defaulters' assets.
- Government of India launched "Mission Sagar" on 10 May.
- Indian Railways has decided to operate "Shramik Special" trains.

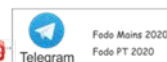
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- Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers reported that National Fertilizers Ltd, a PSU under GoI, registered a 71% growth in fertilizer sales in April 2020.
- The Registration Committee (RC) under the Central Insecticides Board and Registration Committee (CIBRC) recommended a complete ban on the use of antibiotics streptomycin and tetracycline on crops with immediate effect.
- Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has issued Standard Operating Protocol (SOP) to facilitate the movement of persons by train amid lockdown imposed to contain COVID-19 spread.
- Dehradun Smart City Limited (DSCL) has utilized the Integrated Command and Control Centre for monitoring and surveillance activities in the fight against coronavirus.
- Union Minister of Human Resource Development (HRD) Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' launched Central University of Odisha Helpline "Bharosa" and its Helpline Number 08046801010 through a virtual platform in New Delhi on 11 May.
- The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) Potters are using innovative methods to prevent the spread of Coronavirus.
- The government released Rs.6,195.08 crore to 14 states as the second equated monthly installment of the Post Devolution Revenue Deficit Grant on 11 May.
- Atal Pension Yojana (APY) completed five years of its implementation on 9 May 2020. The scheme has achieved the milestone of 2.23 subscribers so far.
- The Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar launched the integration of 177 new mandis with the National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) on 11 May.
- The Department of Consumer Affairs has launched the Suraksha Store initiative.
- Union Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) has launched the CHAMPIONS portal, a Technology-driven Control Room-Cum-Management Information System.
- The Union Health Ministry announced that the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) has initiated a population-based serosurvey to monitor the trend in the prevalence of the infection at the district level.
- Indian Institute of Information Technology Guwahati (IIIT-Guwahati) recently organized a Poster Making Competition under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) Campaign.
- Government of India announced a Rs.20 lakh crore stimulus package, equivalent to about 10% of India's Gross domestic product (GDP).
- National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED), under the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Government of India, procured pulses and oilseeds amid lockdown.

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- Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) announced that all the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) canteens and stores across the country will sell only indigenous products, from 1 June 2020.
- The Ministry of AYUSH and the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) have partnered to validate four Ayush formulations against COVID-19.
- In continuation to PM Modi's announcement of Rs 20 lakh crore boost to the economy, the Finance Minister of India, Smt.
- A musical creation titled "United we Fight" has been unveiled by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).
- The Indian Railways has made the Aarogya Setu app mandatory for the passengers to travel by train.
- Prime Ministers Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations (PM CARES) trust has allocated Rs.3,100 crore for fight against COVID-19 pandemic.
- The apex health research body, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), issued guidance on rapid antibody test kits for COVID-19 and also listed the manufacturers on 14 May.
- Infosys has been selected by GLOBALFOUNDRIES, the world's leading specialty foundry, as its partner for the company's Digital Transformation program.
- The Central Government has set up a new body – Rice Export Promotion Forum (REPF), under the aegis of the Agricultural and Processed Foods Export Promotion Development Authority (Apeda) to promote rice export.
- Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) has developed an eGovernance platform, SAMARTH Enterprises Resource Planning (ERP), under the National Mission of Education in Information and Communication Technology Scheme (NMEICT).
- Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare Dr. Harsh Vardhan dedicated the COBAS 6800, first of its kind, testing machine at the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) to the nation on 14 May.
- The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), an autonomous body under MEA, has unveiled a new song titled "United we Fight" to motivate people to be united, think positive and have never say die attitude in our collective fight against COVID 19.
- The second phase of Vande Bharat Mission is being launched from tomorrow to 22nd of this month.
- Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) issued the guidelines to the National Directives for COVID-19 management. □ Severe Cyclonic storm 'Amphan' over southeast bay and adjoining southwest bay has intensified into a very severe cyclonic storm as it moved northwards.
- The Centre has asked the States to use online portal National Migrant Information System (NMIS) for capturing the information on movement of migrants and for better inter-State co-ordination.
- The government announced an additional Rs 40,000 crore allocation for the rural employment guarantee scheme to help provide jobs to migrant workers returning home.

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- India Post has released a Special Postal Cover dedicated to the migrant workers with an objective of paying tribute to them.
- The Government of India implemented the recommendations made by the Shekatkar Committee to create border infrastructure.
- India provided 2 million USD relief aid to the UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency) to help in welfare of Palestine refugees.
- Indian Railways operationalized the first 12,000 HP electric locomotives.
- The Ministry Human Resources Development recently launched a new mobile application called “National Test Abhyas”.
- The number of beneficiaries of Ayushman Bharat touched 1 crore.
- Union Railway Minister Piyush Goyal said Indian Railways will run 200 non-AC trains daily from 1st of the next month.
- Domestic flights will resume operations from May 25, 2020 in a calibrated manner.
- Union Cabinet given approval to the proposal of the Ministry of Finance to launch a new Special Liquidity Scheme for Non-Banking Financial Companies, NBFCs and Housing Finance Companies, HFCs to improve liquidity position of the NBFCs or HFCs.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) on 20 May 2020.
- The Union Cabinet led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the extension for the welfare of Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY).
- Human Resource Development Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has launched IGNOU's Online Programme, MA (Hindi) through Facebook Live session.
- GoI has launched a scheme for the solarisation of Konark Sun Temple and Konark town in Odisha.
- The Government of India disbursed RS 170 crores to MGNREGA workers. The amounts were disbursed to the beneficiaries through the Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj.
- The Government of India announced that around 6.8 crore free cylinders have been distributed under Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojana.
- Under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, the Coir Geo Textiles are to be used in rural road development.
- The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) explore the possible option of exporting silk and cotton face masks to foreign countries.
- The Textiles Committee operating under Ministry of Textiles has launched testing equipment for Personal Protection Equipment (PPE).

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- Seven services hosted on website of Indian Metrological Department, IMD have been onboarded to UMANG application.
- The Indian Council of Medical Research has revised its advisory on the use of HCQ (Hydroxychloroquine).
- Government of India launched five key initiatives towards conservation of biodiversity during the occasion of International Day for Biological Diversity 2020.
- The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has issued notification for the emission norms for the L7 (Quadricycle) category for BS-VI vehicles.
- Union Environment, Forest, and Climate Change Minister Prakash Javadekar launched the following five key initiatives towards conservation of biodiversity during the virtual celebration of “International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB)” on the theme “Our solutions are in nature”.
- Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers announced that HIL INDIA, a PSU under the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, is to produce and supply the pesticides for the farming community, amid the COVID-19 lockdown. HIL is to supply 25 MT Malathion Technical for supply to locust control programme to Iran under Government to Government arrangement.
- Niti Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar has presented a seven-point model for India's development.
- Union Minister for Road Transport Nitin Gadkari today inaugurated the 440 metre-long tunnel, constructed below the busy town of Chamba as part of the Chardham Connectivity Project.
- Government of India directed the Jal Shakti Ministry and NITI Aayog to study the feasibility of drinking water project for Udayagiri in Andhra Pradesh.
- The Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat campaign is a mantra that gives us motivation and inner strength towards binding our own people with friendship and integrity.
- The government has for the second time extended the deadline for bidding for privatisation of India's secondbiggest oil refiner Bharat Petroleum Corp Ltd (BPCL) by over a month to July 31.
- Ministry of Minority Affairs flagship programme ‘Hunar Haat’ will restart from September 2020 with the theme of “Local to Global”.
- Central Institute of Plastics Engineering & Technology (CIPET) has been renamed as Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering & Technology (CIPET), a premier national institution under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Govt. of India.
- The Indian government lifted the ban imposed on the export of active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) of paracetamol with immediate effect.
- The Ministry of Labour and Employment is to provide Career Skills Training under its National Career Service Project in partnership with TCS.

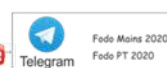
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- The payroll data of the Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) was released. The data says that around 821,000 new members have joined ESIC social security scheme.

State:

- The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan has launched a unique scheme named 'Jeevan Amrit Yojana', to help in boosting immunity system of citizens of the state in order to fight the deadly coronavirus.
- Chhattisgarh has topped the list of states in providing employment to unskilled labourers under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS).
- Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan today transferred Rs 42 lakh honorarium of the month of April to the bank accounts of 2 lakh 10 thousand cooks of the state under the mid day meal programme from Mantralaya through single click.
- Black rice of Manipur, also called the Chak-Hao, Gorakhpur Terracotta and Kadalai Mittai of Kovilpatti bagged Geographical Indication tag.
- The Smart City Operations Centre (COC) of Visakhapatnam operates 24x7 in three shifts to manage COVID-19. Election Commission of India (ECI) has decided to conduct Biennial Election to the Maharashtra Legislative Councils (MLCs) by the members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) on 21 May 2020.
- The State Anand Sansthan has decided to hold 5-Day Alp-Viram session through online conferencing. Individuals interested in taking part in this programme can apply on the website of the sansthan <https://www.anandsansthanmp/>.
- Chief Minister Shri Jai Ram Thakur launching Madhuyastiadi Kashay (Kada), Ayurvedic medicine prepared by the State Aryurveda Department at Shimla on 1 May 2020.
- The Minister for Public Health, Family Welfare and Home Dr. Narottam Mishra launched Corona Helpline and Corona E-Paramarsh Seva to tackle Corona pandemic at Mantralaya
- Post-Lockdown the state government had been preparing the database of close to one million migrant labourers of Jharkhand who were stuck in different parts of the country.
- Karnataka state Government has launched an online application system for workers desiring to leave or return to Karnataka.
- Madhya Pradesh has become the first state in the country to provide mid-day meal ration.
- Tripura government has announced the launch of an agro-based entrepreneurship facilitation desk in a bid to boost primary sectors, such as agriculture, after nationwide lockdown restrictions.

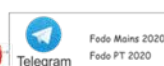
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- Uttar Pradesh state government has made it compulsory to download the Arogya Setu app for those living in hotspot areas of the state.
- Kashmiri saffron received a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- The Maharashtra government has announced the inclusion of state's whole population under the Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Jan Aarogya Yojana.
- The Himachal Pradesh government will launch Mukhya Mantri Shahari Rojgar Guarantee Yojna under which 120 days' assured employment will be provided to people living in urban areas. □ A newly developed android based mobile app named "CHDCOVID" has been launched by the Government of Chandigarh, to provide all information related to COVID-19 in Chandigarh.
- the government of Bihar led by Chief Minister (CM) Nitish Kumar presented Rs 2,11,761 crore state budget for 2020-21 with a special emphasis on education, health and infrastructure.
- Assam government has restricted the movement of individuals between 6 PM and 6 AM throughout the state across all zones from .
- The Delhi state government imposed a 'Special Corona Fee' on liquor.
- The West Bengal government launched an app for people from other states who are stranded in the state due to the lockdown and want to return to their native place,.
- Delhi Government has increased Value-Added Tax on Auto fuels.
- Uttar Pradesh state government unveiled the Ayush Kavach app that will provide health-related tips and information about ayurvedic medicines amid the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Himachal Pradesh State Government is to launch the "Nigah" Scheme to properly sensitize and educate family members of people coming from other states so that social distancing is effectively maintained.
- Rajasthan State Health Minister Raghu Sharma formally launched COVID-19 treatment with plasma therapy at the city's SMS Medical College through video conferencing on 6 May.
- Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa announced Rs.1,610 crore package for farmers, construction workers, weavers, auto and taxi drivers on 6 May.
- The Jharkhand Government has launched three mega employment schemes for its people, especially the migrant labourers who are returning home from various states, in order to boost the rural economy of the state.
- The West Bengal Government has decided to notify Calcutta Medical College and Hospital as full-fledged COVID hospital in the State.
- In Andhra Pradesh, Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has launched a mobile app CMAPP (Comprehensive Monitoring of Agriculture, Price, and Procurement) to monitor the agriculture needs of farmers.

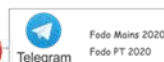
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- The Andaman & Nicobar Administration has provided three months quota of rice and pulses to the poor and needy persons under PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana amid COVID-19 out break.
- In Tripura, Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb has launched an online portal scholarships.gov.in under 'Mukhyamantri Yuba Yogayog Yojana' at the state secretariat on Wednesday.
- In Mizoram, all private schools have decided to reduce the school fees from the students by 50% during the lockdown period.
- A new initiative for supplying hygienic masks, using machines similar to the popular ATMs has been started in the Thuthukudi Municipal Corporation of Tamilnadu.
- Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma inaugurated the biggest 250 bedded Corona Care Centre in the State at Indian Institute of Management, Umsawli, Shillong
- Uttar Pradesh State government passed an ordinance 'Uttar Pradesh Temporary Exemption from Certain Labour Laws Ordinance, 2020' to suspend labour laws for the next three years.
- Smart City Nashik takes several measures and initiatives to fight COVID-19.
- Madhya Pradesh has become the 1st state in the country to provide mid-day meal ration. Distribution of the midday Meal ration with the help of Anganwadi workers, Panchayat representatives and local teachers was taken in sending ration to the students at their home after the school closing in April.
- In Tamil Nadu, the retirement age of the government staff, teachers and those in public sector units has been raised by a year to 59.
- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has announced relief of Rs 5 lakh to the families of each person who died in the train tragedy in Aurangabad.
- Sanjeevani, a unique vehicle developed at the local level in the initiative of Rajnagar administration of Chhatarpur district, Madhya Pradesh to help the healthcare workers.
- The Jharkhand government has banned 11 brands of Pan Masala for one year in the state.
- Tripura Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb has launched an online Scholarship portal on 06 May 2020.
- The Uttar Pradesh government under Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, has launched an app named 'Pravasi Rahat Mitra'.
- The Tamil Nadu government has constituted a high-Level Committee to assess the overall immediate and medium-term impact of COVID-19 on the state's economy.
- Uttar Pradesh has become the first state in India to install ventilator-beds in all the government-run district hospitals in all 75 districts of the state.
- In Madhya Pradesh, the state government is preparing to create huge self-employment opportunities in the state through small and cottage industries.

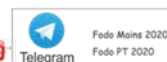
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- The Sikkim Legislative Assembly with a 32-member state legislature passed the budget of Rs 9,100 crores for the fiscal 2020-21 comprising Rs. 7343.60 as revenue expenditure, and Rs. 1756.40 as capital expenditure in the 2nd Session of 10th Assembly (Budget Session 2020-21) on March 24.
- In Tamil Nadu, the popular and efficient Anganwadi scheme under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) of the Government of India has devised novel solutions to overcome challenges posed by the COVID-19 lockdown.
- Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio, who also holds the charge of the finance portfolio, presented a state budget of Rs. 21049.87 crore for the fiscal 2020-21.
- The Bengaluru city corporation, Karnataka has launched Pranavayu programme to create awareness on the need to self examine the respiratory health for the city people.
- Madhya Pradesh state government launched FIR Aapke Dwar Yojana 11 May in Bhopal.
- Tamil Nadu becomes the first state in India to announce a large-scale state-wide partnership with the learning platform.
- Arunachal Pradesh Health Minister Alo Libang today inaugurated the second COVID-19 testing lab at Intermediate Reference Laboratory at Naharlagun, near Itanagar.
- In a major relief to patients facing difficulties in routine medical checkups, the OPD services in Government Medical College and its associated hospitals in Jammu resumed today after 48 days.
- Jammu and Kashmir announced that it will provide a tap water connection to all rural households by December 2022 under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).
- The Gujarat government has mandated the digital payment for all home delivery services in Ahmedabad.
- The Sohrai Khovar painting of Jharkhand and Telia Rumal of Telangana have received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag from the Geographical Indications Registry
- Postal department in Uttar Pradesh has made a record of reaching maximum number of persons in a single day to provide cash at their doorstep.
- Haryana is geared to provide tap water connection to all rural households by December, 2022. The State provided 1.05 lakh tap connections during 2019-20 under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).
- Jammu & Kashmir Government has launched a web portal <http://jkmonitoring.nic.in/> to facilitate its residents stranded in other parts of the country.
- Gujarat-based Macpower unveiled indigenous hot air seam sealing machines for PPE kits.
- Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan transferred a sum of Rs. 44 crore 60 lakh 77 thousand to the bank accounts of 2 lakh 26 thousand 362 women belonging to Sahria, Baiga and Bheria primitive tribes from

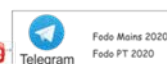
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Mantralay

- Delhi Police launched Thermal Corona Combat Gear (TCCH) through which police personnel will be able to detect the temperature of a large number of people from a distance of 10-15 metres.
- Bhagalpur Smart City Limited (BSCL) has taken several measures to combat COVID-19 using various initiatives.
- Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat has launched a portal named 'HOPE' – Helping Out People Everywhere, aimed at creating employment opportunities for the trained youths of the state.
- In the wake of COVID-19 pandemic the Himachal Pradesh state government has provided special relief to more than 5 lakh social security pension beneficiaries by making advance payment of Rs 217.86 crore.
- Uttar Pradesh government has decided to give 50 percent subsidy on PPE kits to those nursing homes and registered hospitals who will provide treatment to the patients on the rates decided under Ayushman Bharat scheme.
- Gujarat state government is to implement a sensor-based service delivery monitoring system in the rural drinking water sector under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).
- The West Bengal government under Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has launched "Matir Smristi" to utilise 50,000 acres of barren land in six districts of the states, for income-generating activities like horticulture and pisciculture.
- Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa announced a financial package of 500 crore rupees to benefit 10 lakh maize growers in state.
- Kerala launched Mission Grand Care to take care of their elderly people, as the COVID-19 preventive measures enters next stage in the state
- Himachal CM inaugurated the e-udyan portal and IHSMS application developed under World Bank funded Himachal Pradesh Horticulture Development Project for providing services of Department of Horticulture.
- In Madhya Pradesh, in a first of its kind of initiative, Charan Paduka (चरण) campaign has been started for the migrant labourers passing through the state.
- The Andhra Pradesh (AP) state government has formed a 5-member high-powered committee led by Neerabh Kumar Prasad (special chief secretary of environment, forests, science and technology) to probe into the causes behind the leakage of styrene gas from the LG Polymers India Ltd located at RR Venkatapuram in Visakhapatnam.
- Karnataka's Centre of Excellence in Cyber Security (CS-CoE) launched the first cyber security accelerator for startups in India, Hack is an Accelerator for Cyber Security in Karnataka (H.A.C.K)

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inaugurated on 16th May 2020 by Additional Chief Secretary in Charge of Department of IT, BT and S&T, EV Ramana Reddy.

- Uttar Pradesh Government will ensure safe, secure and dignified return of those migrant workers who are stranded at the border areas of state.
- In Himachal Pradesh, Disaster Management Cell, Kullu has been at the forefront of fulfilling its obligation to the emergency services with full responsibility during the global COVID-19 pandemic.
- Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee has started “Langar on wheels” (community kitchen) at around 10 location on Delhi Borders and NCR areas like Noida, Ghaziabad, Seelam puri, Sahadra areas etc
- In Bihar, public mode of transport including auto rickshaw, e- rickshaw and private cabs have resumed operation on an odd - even basis with immediate effect.
- Jharkhand government has come out with three-way retail sale of liquor in the state from today with an additional Special Excise Duty fee of 10 percent to be levied over MRP to cope up with the revenue deficits due to Corona.
- The Union Territory, Ladakh has become corona virus free as the region have not reported any fresh case since 3rd May 2020.
- In Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), the Union territory (UT) administration has initiated a slew of measures under “Samagra Shiksha programme” to facilitate students with complete access to education through technological interventions and other viable means in wake of COVID-19 lockdown.
- Finance Minister Suresh Kumar Khanna presented the Uttar Pradesh(UP) government’s largest ever budget of Rs 5,12,860.72 crores for FY 2020-21 in the presence of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath in the state assembly.
- In order to spread awareness about psychological impact of lockdown and measures to be adopted to overcome them, Department of Information and Public Relations, J&K has started an initiative ‘SUKOON’ - COVID-19 Beat the Stress”.
- “Didi Vehicle Service” has been launched by the women of Rural Livelihood Mission in the tribal-dominated Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh.
- “Mee Annapurna” initiative has been launched in Maharashtra by an IRDA licensed insurance intermediary “Integrated Risk Insurance”.
- the Ranchi district launched the “Tatpar” program to help the migrant workers to get back to their native places on bus instead of tiresome travel by foot.
- The administration in the Union Territory (UT) of Jammu and Kashmir issued a new set of rules named “Jammu and Kashmir Grant of Domicile Certificate Rules 2020” which defines the rules for issuing domicile certificates in the UT.

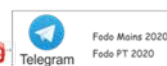
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- Uttar Pradesh government has launched the 'Uttar Pradesh Startup Fund' to encourage the youth of the state for entrepreneurship.
- Madhya Pradesh State Government is to launch Everybody will get employment scheme.
- The Chhattisgarh government has launched the Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana, a scheme to ensure "minimum income availability" to farmers of the state through direct bank transfer.
- Gujarat State Government announced some more relaxations in order to normalize the public life during the lockdown 4.
- On the first day of resumption of intra-district bus service in Maharashtra yesterday, only 11,151 passengers traveled by the buses of the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC).
- Sikkim government has decided to reopen schools for classes IX to XIIth and colleges from 15th June.
- Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation has started operation of buses today on 55 important routes of state, providing great relief to the people.
- The 1345th Birth Anniversary of Mannar Perumpidigu Mutharaiyar is being celebrated on behalf of the Tamil nadu government in Trichy
- Arunachal Pradesh government is in the process of reviving the tourism industry in the state which is one of the most affected sectors due to the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown.
- In Andhra Pradesh, Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has announced Rs 1,110 crore ReSTART package for MSMEs to strengthen the sector during this emergency situation as well as create employment.
- The state government of Chhattisgarh will observe May 25, 2020 as 'Jhiram Shraddhanjali Diwas' or 'Jhiram Tribute Diwas'.
- The Mizoram State Government has recently provided industrial status to Sports.
- The Tamil Nadu government has started preliminary works for implementing the unique Solar Fence Farmland Protection Programme, under the Central Agriculture Improvement Scheme
- The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has decided to set up a Migration Commission for the welfare of migrant labourers returning to UP from different corners of the country.
- In Maharashtra, Jagjivan Ram Hospital (JRH) at Mumbai Central, a 361-bedded tertiary care hospital of the Western Railways has been converted into 172-bed COVID Hospital
- In Uttar Pradesh, the government is giving relaxation in some industrial and economic activities.
- Delhi government has directed private hospitals and nursing homes with a capacity of 50 beds or more to reserve 20 per cent of their total bed strength for COVID-19 patients.
- In West Bengal Inter-District Government bus services have begun
- In Madhya Pradesh, to provide assured employment to the labourers, who have returned from other states, a survey is being conducted in the state.

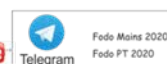
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- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, the Annual Kheer Bhawani Mela on 30th May this year in Tulmulla village of Ganderbal district has been cancelled by the Dharmarth Trust of Jammu and Kashmir because of outbreak of Coronavirus pandemic.
- Rehabilitation package for the “Cyclone Amphan” hit West Bengal & Odisha was announced by the Government of India, after Prime Minister Narendra Modi undertakes aerial survey of the affected states.
- Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat presented the surplus annual budget of Rs 53,526.97 crore for FY20-21.
- Karnataka government on May 27, 2020 announced that it will be launching a new project to maintain a ‘State Health Register’ comprising the database of all its citizens.
- Uttar Pradesh government will develop 800 km roads as Herbal roads in the state.
- Industry and the economy are being hit by the increasing coronavirus (COVID-19) impact in Tamil Nadu (TN) & in the meantime, the state Government is taking various measures to restore the industry which has been hit by the virus.
- The Madhya Pradesh Government is preparing a database under the Swamitva scheme launched on a pilot basis by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 24th April.
- In a major breakthrough in the ongoing process of Employment generation for migrant workers in Uttar Pradesh, stage is now set for employment of 10 lakh workers.
- Ladakh’s Director of Animal, Sheep Husbandry and Fisheries Mohammad Raza inaugurated the 1st Solar Lift Irrigation Plant of Kargil with five kilowatt(KW) Solar Plant and 3 Horsepower(HP) Submersible Pump(installed by Kargil Renewable Energy Agency- KREDA) at Yak Breeding Farm, Bodh Kharboo.
- Uttarakhand chief minister, Trivendra Singh Rawat has inaugurated the “Mukhyamantri Swarozgar Yojana” for returnee migrants.
- Madhya Pradesh Government launched Rojgar Setu Yojana to help migrant workers.
- In Tamil Nadu, the State Government has announced a 300-crore rupee special financial package to accelerate new job generation in villages
- The West Bengal Government has decided to give one thousand 500 rupees each to the 20 lakhs farmers who have been affected due to recent cyclonic Storm AMPHEN in the State
- In West Bengal all Government and Private offices will re-open with 100 percent work force from 8th June.
- The Maharashtra government today hiked the salaries of medical officers, both contractual and those who have signed bond with the government by fifteen thousand rupees.
- Centre has approved 445 crore rupees for implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in Chhattisgarh during 2020-21.

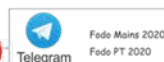
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International:

- The US space agency NASA has partnered with SpaceX, Blue Origin and Dynetics to build lunar landing systems that can carry astronauts to the moon by 2024.
- World Bank Group President David Malpass today announced the appointment of Mouhamadou Diagne as Vice President of Integrity (INT) at the World Bank Group.
- Professor Shobhana Narasimhan from the Theoretical Sciences Unit (TSU) at the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR) has been elected as an International Honorary Member to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.
- The United States Food and Drug Authority (USFDA) has allowed emergency use of the antiviral drug, Remdesivir for treatment of severely ill COVID-19 patients.
- Russia will launch first Arktika-M satellite for monitoring Arctic climate this year at the end of the year, General Director of Lavochkin aerospace company Vladimir Kolmykov told sputnik news agency.
- The US President Donald Trump has nominated Indian-American lawyer Ashok Michael Pinto as a representative to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the World Bank's lending arm.
- Russia announced that it is to launch the country's first Arktika-M satellite from the Baikonur space center on 9 December 2020. at the end of 2020.
- Medical equipment, medicines and other supplies sent from India to Myanmar was handed over by Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Saurabh Kumar to the Ministry of Health and Sports at Yangon Airport.
- US President Donald Trump has nominated senior Indian-American diplomat Manisha Singh as his envoy to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).
- Dubai has announced a new date for the mega Expo event from 1st Oct 2021 to 31st March 2022.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi discussed the COVID-19 pandemic through a phone call with H.E. Antonio Costa, Prime Minister of Portugal on 5 May.
- Russian President Vladimir Putin awarded Kim Jong Un a commemorative war medal to mark the 75th anniversary of the victory over Nazi Germany.
- The Iranian Parliament has announced the decision to replace its currency "Rial" with another basic unit of currency called the "Toman."
- Iraq's Parliament chose an American-backed former Intelligence Chief, Mustafa al-Kadhimi as the new Prime Minister.
- Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister, Dharmendra Pradhan held discussion with Minister of Energy of Russia, Alexander Novak through video conferencing

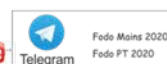
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- China has successfully launched a new rocket named “Long March 5B” into space as it steps up Moon landing plans.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) today approved an additional \$500 million loan to bolster the efforts of the Government of Bangladesh to manage the impact of the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on the country’s economy and the public health.
- China successfully launched its most powerful rocket "Long March-5B" on its maiden voyage into orbit on 5 May.
- Iraq's new Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi assumed office on 6 May after the country's parliament approved a new government.
- The United Nations and its partner agencies launched a \$6.7 billion global appeal to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) and the UN's postal agency have released a commemorative postage stamp on 9 May to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the eradication of smallpox.
- In a significant decision , the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has decided to raise value added tax (VAT) from 5 percent to 15 percent starting from 1st July.
- As part of the Government of India outreach amidst the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Indian Naval Ship Kesari has departed for Maldives, Mauritius, Seychelles, Madagascar and Comoros, to provide Food Items, COVID related Medicines including HCQ Tablets and Special Ayurvedic Medicines with Medical Assistance Teams embarked, on 10 May 20.
- Israel has named a street in Tel Aviv after celebrated Indian poet Rabindranath Tagore as a tribute on his 159th birthday on 08 May.
- World Health Organization and the United Nations Postal Agency released a commemorative stamp to mark 40th anniversary of eradication of small pox.
- The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has announced \$3.6 million to assist the Indian government's fight against COVID-19.
- The Shanghai-based New Development Bank of the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) countries have fully disbursed \$1 billion emergency assistance loan to India to help it contain the spread of COVID-19 and reduce human, social and economic losses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- China successfully launched two satellites into orbit on 12 May 2020, to test the space-based Internet of Things (IoT) communications technology.
- The United Nations has projected the world gross domestic product (GDP) to contract sharply by 3.2 percent in 2020, due to COVID-19 pandemic, the sharpest contraction since the Great Depression in the 1930s.
- Slovenia becomes the 1st nation in Europe to declare an official end to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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- Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu finally swore in his new government on 17 May for the fifth time.
- The United States recently announced that it will donate ventilators to India.
- Japan launched a new space defense unit that will monitor and counter threats to the satellites of Japan.
- The Genoa-based Italian Institute of Technology (IIT) has developed “i-Feel you”, an intelligent bracelet which will help users respect social distancing rules.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has signed a USD7.2 million loan with Lomligor Company Limited (Lomligor), a subsidiary of BCPG Public Company Limited (BCPG).
- The COVID-19 Vaccine by a US based firm Moderna has become the first to show positive results.
- Nepal approved a new map that included the territories of Kalapani, Lipuleh and Limpiyadhura.
- China has announced to provide USD 2 billion over two years to fight the coronavirus pandemic at WHO assembly.
- Lesotho Prime Minister, Thomas Thabane has formally resigned from the post.
- In Abu Dhabi, Al Ain Zoo celebrated ‘World Turtle Day’ to encourage the international humanitarian action to conserve and protect the Oldest Creatures on Earth - turtles.
- United Arab Emirates yesterday sent an aid plane carrying seven metric tons of medical supplies to Afghanistan.
- The World Bank announced emergency operations worth USD (United States Dollar) 160 billion to 100 developing countries over a 15-month period to fight the deadly Coronavirus.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) recently announced eight candidates to enter human trials.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) have teamed up to fight the battle against Covid-19 and have signed an agreement to work together to promote health through sport and physical activity.
- Japan has completely lifted nationwide emergency imposed following Corona Virus pandemic.
- China's first unmanned helicopter drone, AR500C unmanned helicopter, made its maiden flight at an AVIC base in Poyang in East China's Jiangxi Province.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) has warned that countries seeing a decline in COVID-19 infections could still face an "immediate second peak" if they let up too soon on measures to halt the outbreak.
- The European Union (EU) Commission has proposed a 750 billion-euro (\$825 billion) recovery fund "European breakthrough" to help the bloc's economy through the deep recession induced by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Under its Perspective Aviation Complex for Long Range Aviation (PAKDA) programme, Russia has constructed its first Stealth Bomber.

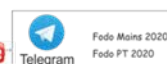
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- US Space agency NASA has announced to name its next-generation space telescope, the Wide Field Infrared Survey Telescope (WFIRST), currently under development, in honor of Nancy Grace Roman, NASA's first chief astronomer, who paved the way for space telescopes focused on the broader universe.
- World Health Organization (WHO) on May 27 announced the creation of the WHO foundation to support critical health needs.
- Saudi Arabia has decided to extend tourist visas, which expired during the lockdown, automatically for a period of three months.
- The Leaders of Group of the seven wealthiest countries in the world had set up Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence.
- United States President Donald Trump has announced that America is terminating its relationship with World Health Organization over its handling of the Corona virus.
- The IMF Executive Board on Friday approved an emergency financial assistance worth dollar 732 million for Bangladesh to address the COVID-19 pandemic in the country.

Summits and Conferences:

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is to participate in a virtual summit of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) on 4 May.
- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Dr. Jitendra Singh, addressed the Bamboo Conclave through Video Conference.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the online Summit of Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Contact Group was held on 4 May 2020 to discuss the response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic crisis.
- The 14th meeting of the High-level Group of Ministers (GoM) on COVID-19 was held at Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi on 5 May.
- The 14th meeting of the High-level Group of Ministers (GoM) on COVID-19 was held at Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi on 5 May.
- Coronavirus Global Response International pledging conference was held virtually on 5 May. The conference began on 4 May and expected to end on 23 May.
- The National Council for Science & Technology Communication (NCSTC), Department of Science & Technology, Government of India, in association with the Gujarat Council of Science & Technology (GUJCOST) has announced to organize a Citizen's Science Webinar Series on "Science Communication in the Time of COVID-19."

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- Ministry of Tourism organized the 17th session of the Dekho Apna Desh webinar on 9 April 2020. The webinar was titled 'Exploring River Nila' was about showcasing meaningful travel experiences for travelers that are offered by relatively unvisited places.
- The Technology Development Board (TDB) a statutory body of the Department of Science & Technology (DST) along with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) will organise a high-level digital conference on 'Rebooting the Economy through Science, Technology and Research Translations (RESTART)' on May 11, 2020, to celebrate the National Technology Day.
- Union Minister of Tribal Affairs Arjun Munda held a video conference with States/UTs on "Tribal livelihoods and safety" in New Delhi on 13 May.
- The Ministry of Tourism organized the 18th Dekho Apna Desh webinar series on 12 May 2020.
- Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) has organised the Indo-Bangladesh "Virtual Conference".
- External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar participated in the virtual meeting of Foreign Ministers of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) member countries on 13 May.
- The Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar held a meeting with representatives of the Pesticide Manufacturing Industry through video conferencing to check the strategy to prevent locust attacks on agricultural fields.
- Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare participated in the 32nd Commonwealth Health Ministers' Meeting through Video Conference on 14 May.
- Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare participated in the 73rd World Health Assembly (WHA) through Video Conference due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Union Finance & Corporate Affairs Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman has announced several initiatives to boost education sector, on 17th May in New Delhi.
- Development of Museums and Cultural Spaces, Ministry of Culture, Government of India hosted a webinar on "Revitalising Museums and Cultural Spaces" on 18 May.
- The AMPHAN Super Cyclone is expected to reach West Bengal by May 20, 2020.
- The union cabinet approved several initiatives under Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan that was launched by PM Modi recently.
- Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan attended Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) through video conference.
- Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh participates in Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Econclave, "Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM) MSME Conclave 2020", jointly organised by SIDM, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Department of Defence Production.

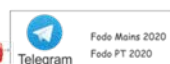
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- Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) E-conclave was chaired by the Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh.
- A Webinar under Know Your Scheme-Lecture Series on “Van Dhan Yojana : Learning For Post Covid-19” was organized today by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of Rajasthan in association with Trifed, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitaraman attended the Special Board of Governors meet of New Development bank through video conference.
- Ministry of Tourism, Government of India’s Dekho Apna Desh Webinar Series titled , “Culture & Tourism- Two sides of Goan economy on 26th May 2020 presented the Culture, history , heritage and architectural marvel that India’s most popular tourist destination ‘Goa’ offers thus bringing the participants face to face with the lesser known places, history, architecture, Culture and heritage waiting to be explored by the tourists.
- The 22nd meeting of Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) through video conferencing is underway in New Delhi.
- The Delimitation Commission held a meeting to review the progress of directions that were provided during its meet in April, 2020.
- The meeting of the Heads of Tax Authorities of the BRICS countries, namely Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa was held
- Ministry of Tourism organized its 25th webinar titled ‘Northeast India for the immersive traveller’ under Dekho Apna Desh Series

Ranks and Indices:

- According to the 7th edition of ‘Open Budget Survey 2019’ conducted by International Budget Partnership (IBP), India has been ranked at 53rd position among 117 nations in terms of budget transparency and accountability with the score of 49 out of 100.
- India’s epic mythological saga of the 1980s, ‘Ramayan’ has created the world record of Highest Viewed Entertainment Programme Globally.
- The National Science and Technology Management Information (NSTMIS), Department of Science and Technology (DST), has conducted a survey on Research and Development (R&D) Statistics and Indicators 201920.
- The Global Network against Food Crisis released the Global Report on Food Crisis (GRFC) 2020.
- Centre for Monitoring of Indian Economy (CMIE) data stated that the unemployment rate in India has climbed to a staggering 27.1% as of 3 May 2020.

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- Amazon has topped the BrandZ Top 75 Most Valuable Global Retail Brands 2020 ranking. BrandZ ranking was unveiled by WPP and Kantar.
- UNICEF released a report titled "Lost At Home" on 5 May.
- Delhi has emerged as the top most state with the highest Internet penetration rate among all the other states of India, according to a study titled 'Digital in India' by Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI).
- In accordance with the Paris-based International Energy Agency (IEA), "Global Energy Review 2020- The impacts of the COVID-19 crisis on global energy demand and CO2 emissions" India's energy demand has faced a 30% decrease due to 40 days lockdown to contain COVID-19.
- Data released by the Registrar General of India stated that India's infant mortality rate (IMR) has improved very marginally from 33 per 1,000 live births in 2017 to 32 in 2018.
- The International Energy Agency (IEA) released the Global Energy Review in 2020.
- The Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB) has been ranked among the Top 50 global schools providing executive education (open plus custom programmes), in the Financial Times (FT) Executive Education 2020 Rankings released on 11 May 2020.
- Two scientific papers of India on child survival by the State-Level Disease Burden Initiative stated that the under5 Mortality Rate in India has dropped by 49% since 2000.
- World Health Organization (WHO) in partnership with the International Council of Nurses (ICN) and Nursing Now has released the first "The State of the World's Nursing 2020" report amid COVID19 pandemic.
- According to the study conducted by Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA), the Carbon dioxide Emissions in India has declined the least in four decades.
- Researchers have found that men seem to be more vulnerable to COVID-19 than women.
- As per the World Economic Forum (WEF) annual rankings, India has secured the 74th position on the global Energy Transition Index (ETI). In the previous year, India ranked 76th.
- The World Health Organization released Global Nutrition Report, 2020.
- Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal participated in the second G-20 Virtual Trade and Investment Ministers Meeting.
- The pair of Indian-origin siblings, Reuben and the Hinduja brothers, shares the second spot in the Britain's annual rich list, with a fortune of 16 billion pounds each.
- Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry today announced the results of star rating of garbage free cities. Centre has declared Ambikapur, Rajkot, Surat, Mysore, Indore and Navi Mumbai as five-star garbage free cities.

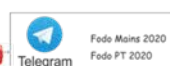
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- The Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) reported that the export from India is expected to fall by 20%, around \$50-\$60 billion, in the current fiscal year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It also suggested a decline in imports.
- India became the second largest producer of Personal Protective Equipment in the world. China is the leading producer of PPE in the world.
- The United Nations listed the KHUDOL initiative of Manipur as one of the top 10 global initiatives to fight against COVID-19.
- The World Steel Association released the World Steel Report. According to the report, the crude steel report of India declined by 65%.
- Uttarakhand state has identified total 1145 plant species ranging from state flower Brahmkamal to mythological 'Sanjivni Booti'. □ India's unemployment rate was a tad higher at 24.3% for the week ended May 24 compared to 24% in the preceding week
- Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan announced that Aarogya Setu has become world's largest contact tracing app reaching over 11 crore 40 lakh people in 40 days.
- The World Gold Council released its report on Retail Gold Insights: India Jewellery Report.

Agreements and MoU signed:

- The University of Oxford has today announced an agreement with the UK-based global biopharmaceutical company AstraZeneca for the further development, large-scale manufacture and potential distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine candidate currently being trialled by the University.
- Facebook has launched a home-to-home fundraiser concert, 'I For India'. 100% proceeds from the fundraiser concert will go to the India COVID Response Fund managed by GiveIndia.
- Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar has joined hands with Central Public Works Department (CPWD) to launch a series of welfare measures for the benefit of migrant laborers working in the construction projects at the Institute.
- Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), a defence Public Sector Undertaking (PSU), has signed an MoU NOCCA Robotics, an incubated start-up of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur for the large-scale manufacturing of ventilators.
- Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), a defence Public Sector Undertaking (PSU), has signed an MoU NOCCA Robotics, an incubated start-up of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur for the large-scale manufacturing of ventilators.

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- CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (CSIR-IGIB) and TATA Sons signed an MoU for licensing of KNOWHOW for FNCAS9 Editor Linked Uniform Detection Assay (FELUDA) for rapid diagnosis of COVID-19.
- Punjab National Bank Housing Finance Limited(PNBHFL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding(MoU) with Indian Institute of Technology(IIT) Delhi to support the research and development of a unique prototype material to be used in the manufacture of washable and reusable Personal Protective Equipment(PPE) surgical gowns and masks by using Jacquard knitting technology(machine knitting with a jacquard attachment that makes patterns by the use of colored yarns).
- Coir Board signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Institute of Technology-Madras, to establish a “Centre of Excellence (CoE) for the application of Coir exclusively or in combination with other natural fibres”.
- Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Art Of Living Foundation (AOL) to help the needy tribes India artisans amid COVID-19 pandemic.
- Coal India signed MOUs with two Russian entities within the areas of coking coal mining within the Russian Far East and therefore the Arctic Region.

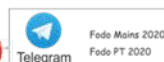
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Good Morning Times 2020

- Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has entered into a tie-up with the India Post for delivery of its coronavirus COVID-19 testing kits.
- Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) partners with Bharat Biotech International Limited (BBIL) for developing indigenous Covid 19 vaccine.
- Indian Institute of Technology Madras Civil Engineering Department has collaborated with Chengalpattu Medical College and Hospital (CMCH) in Tamil Nadu to design and develop 'Doffing Unit' to enable healthcare professionals to safely and effectively remove their Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati (IIT-Guwahati) and the Duke-NUS Medical School, Singapore have partnered and used data science models to analyze and predict the total number of infected people for different States in India in the next 30 days.
- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare stated that India's foodgrain production has been estimated to touch a record of 295.67 million tonnes (MT) in the 2019-20 crop year.
- According to the latest data of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) the international tourism could decline by 60-80% in 2020 when compared with 2019 figures, due to COVID-19 pandemic outbreak which will result in loss of USD 910 billion to USD 1.2 trillion and places millions of livelihoods at risk and threatens to curtail the progress made in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Union Minister for Tribal Affairs Arjun Munda launched the "Going Online As Leaders (GOAL) programme" of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) in partnership with Facebook at a Webinar in New Delhi on 15 May.
- MoneyGram Payment System, a subsidiary of MoneyGram International, global leader in P2P payments tied up with Federal Bank Limited, a private bank in India to provide the customers a cost-effective way to receive deposits directly in their bank accounts in India.
- Indian Institute of Technology Madras is collaborating with industry bodies to understand the impact of COVID19 crisis on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Tamil Nadu.
- National Restaurants Association of India (NRAI) has partnered with fintech start-up DotPe to build its own tech platform.
- Godrej East Africa Holdings Ltd, a subsidiary of FMCG (Fast-moving consumer goods) firm Godrej Consumer Products Ltd (GCPL), has acquired the balance 25% stake in Kenya-based Canon Chemicals Ltd for an undisclosed sum.
- Flipkart partnered with Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company (BAGIC) to offer digital motor insurance policy to customers of e-commerce major.

Good Morning Times 2020

- Directorate General Defence Estates(DGDE), Ministry of Defence & eGov Foundation has signed Memorandum of Understanding(MoU) on May 8 through video conference to implement a cloud-based platform to deliver various citizen services under the program e-Chhawani & to drive e-governance and improved citizen services across all 62 cantonment boards in the country.
- NTPC Ltd., the PSU under Ministry of Power, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), the PSU under Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas on 22 May.
- India & Bangladesh signed the 2nd Addendum to the Protocol on Inland Water Transit and Trade in Dhaka. □United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) partnered with Bharti Airtel’s Africa Arm to support the school children in the coronavirus affected areas and provide them access to remote learning and financial assistance to their families through mobile cash transfer.
- Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL) announced today, the extension of its collaboration with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to support the delivery of essential hygiene products to tea-plantation workers based in the state of Assam in India, in the response to COVID 19.
- IBM (International Business Machines) ties up with the Intellect Design Arena Limited, a full spectrum banking and insurance products company, has launched iTurmeric FinCloud platform through IBM public cloud targeting financial institutions which are looking to switch to the latest tools and technologies.
- State-owned Ircan International Limited (IRCON) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with RZD International L.L.C. (Limited Liability Company), a subsidiary of government-owned Russian Railways Company, to explore opportunities for joint development of railways and other infrastructure projects in Asia, Africa and Latin America.
- Sports Authority Gujarat signed an MoU with the Times Centre for Learning Limited (TCLL) to impart training for personality and skill development for aspiring athletes in the state.
- India-based Fintech startup Zagle has partnered with payments technology major Visa to launch innovative payment solutions for SMEs and startups in the country.
- The Department of Posts, Government of India and Department of Horticulture, Government of Bihar has partnered to supply ”Shahi Litchi” of Muzaffarpur & “Zardalu Mango” of Bhagalpur at the doorstep of people.
- Central Public Sector Undertaking, REC Limited, is spearheading the mission to feed medical staff in key government hospitals as well as poor daily wage labourers across the nation.
- Power Finance Corporation (PFC), the central PSU under Ministry of Power has signed an MoU with Narmada Basin Projects Company Ltd. (NBPCL), a wholly-owned company of Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, to fund various power projects to be executed in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

Good Morning Times 2020

- As part of COVID-19 mitigation mission of Country, CSIR has strategized its R&D to develop, integrate, scaleup, and deploy necessary technological interventions for combating Coronavirus pandemic in the country.
- India's leading web-based business commercial centre Flipkart has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Karnataka State Mango Department and Marketing Corporation, to empower mango farmers to sell their produce online.
- The Power Finance Corporation (PFC), a central PSU under Ministry of Power and India's leading NBFC has entered into an agreement with Narmada Basin Projects Company Ltd. (NBPCL), a wholly-owned company of Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, to fund projects worth Rs.22,000 crore for 225 MW hydro-electric projects & multipurpose projects in Madhya Pradesh.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India today signed a 177 million dollar loan to upgrade 450 kilometers of state highways and major district roads in Maharashtra
- Coca-Cola in India has partnered with United Way Mumbai to augment healthcare initiatives in 48 public hospitals across eight states in the country.
- Vakrangee Limited (VL), a technology company based in Mumbai (Maharashtra), has entered into the Corporate Agency (Registration Code CA0249) partnership with Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) .
- India and Sri Lanka have reaffirmed commitment to further strengthen bilateral relations exploring new avenues of cooperation.
- IIT Alumni Council announced that it will partner Mumbai University in the MegaLab Mumbai initiative that will have a capacity of 10 million tests per month.
- Infrastructure consultancy and engineering company RITES (Rail India Technical and Economic Service) has signed an agreement for acquiring 24% stake in Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation (IRSDC) for Rs 48 crore.
- ITC Limited entered into a Share Purchase Agreement(SPA) to acquire 100% of the equity share capital of Sunrise Foods Private Ltd(SFPL), which is primarily engaged in spices under the trademark 'Sunrise'.
- Ola Electric acquired the Netherlands-based Etergo BV, an innovative electric scooter company for an undisclosed sum, as the former has planned to set its own line of premium electric two-wheelers, both globally and nationally.
- Infosys Limited, a global leader in next-generation digital services and consulting, has entered into the partnership with Avaloq, a Swiss company that develops and provides software for core banking, to offer end-to-end (e2e) products and services as Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) across the world to its clients.

Appointments:

Name	Appointed As	Other Info
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Shikha Sharma	Advisor of Google Pay India	Former Axis Bank CEO
Shri Ajay Tirkey	Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development	succeeds Shri Rabindra Panwar
Maneesh Menda	Head of HR, Royal Bank of Scotland India	
Arvind Kumar Sharma	Secretary, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	Prior to this appointment, Shri Sharma was serving as Additional Secretary, Prime Minister's Office

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		(PMO).
Giridhar Aramane	Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways	Shri Aramane was earlier serving as Additional Secretary in the Cabinet Secretariat. He has also been a Jt Secretary in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas during 2012-14.
Bollampalli Vijaysen Reddy	Telangana High Court judge	
Neeraj Dhawan	Yes Bank - Chief Risk Officer	Replaced Ashish Agarwal
Ramesh Babu	NTPC director operations	Successor of Prakash Tiwari
Lt Gen Raj Shukla	command of the Army Training Command (ARTRAC)	
Tarun Bajaj	director on the Central Board of Reserve Bank of India (RBI).	
Adhir Ranjan Chowdhary	Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC)	
Krishnan Ramachandran	Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Max Bupa Health Insurance	succeeds Ashish Mehrotra.
D P S Negi	Director General (DG) of Labour Bureau in the Ministry of Labour and Employment	replacing B N Nanda.
Dia Mirza	Goodwill Ambassador of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	
NeerajDhawan	Chief Risk Officer(CRO) of Yes Bank	replacing AshishAgarwal
Abidali Z Neemuchwala	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director of Wipro Limited	

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Ajinkya Madhukar Rahane	brand ambassador for India, Middle East, ANZ (Australia & New Zealand) and SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional	
	Cooperation).	
Indu Shekhar Chaturvedi	Secretary, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy	
Manoj Ahuja	chairman of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).	replace Anita Karwal
V. Vidyavathi	Director-General of Archaeological Survey of India(ASI)	
Zubair Iqbal	Managing Director (MD) of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) Bank	
Rajesh Goel	director-general (DG) of the Realtors body National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO).	Prior to this, he was serving as the chairman and managing director, Hindustan Prefab Ltd.
Harsh Vardhan	Chairman of the World Health Organization (WHO) Executive Board	
Dilip Oommen	President of Indian Steel Association (ISA)	
Govinda Rajulu Chintala	Chairman of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).	Presently, Dr. Harsh Kumar Bhanwala is serving as the Chairman of NABARD.
Carmen Reinhart	Chief Economist of World Bank Group	
B R Sharma	Chairman Public Service Commission for the UT of J&K.	

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Ms. Jahnabi Phookan	National President of FICCI Ladies Organization (FLO)	
Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen	2020 Presidential election	
Marcos Troyjo	President of New Development Bank (NDB).	
SN Rajeswari	Chairman and MD of the Oriental Insurance Company (OIC)	
Thierry Delaporte	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and	
	Managing Director (MD) of Wipro	
R Sreelekha	woman Director General of Police in Kerala	
Leo Puri	chairman of JP Morgan, South and Southeast Asia	
Aiman Ezzat	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of French technology major Capgemini Group.	
Bjorn Ulvaeus	President of CISAC	
Sandip Pradhan	Director General of the Sports Authority of India (SAI)	
Venkataramani Sumantran	independent director of airline company IndiGo.	
Deepak M Satwalekar	Independent Director of Wipro	

- The Head of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Roberto Azevedo has announced his resignation, a year before his term expires.
- Alibaba co-founder Jack Ma will be resigning from SoftBank board of directors. Jack Ma serving for nearly 13 years in the board.
- Indian economist Abhas Jha has been appointed by the World Bank to a key position on climate change and disaster management in South Asia.
- Deepinder Goyal, Founder and (CEO) Chief Executive Officer of food ordering platform Zomato has virtually- appointed Mohit Gupta, the CEO- of its food delivery business as one of its co-founder.

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Sports:

- Fédération Internationale de Football Association(FIFA) has launched a campaign called “#WeWillWin”.
- India lost the top spot in the ICC Test rankings to Australia on 1 May. It lost the rank because of the 2016-17 record was eliminated from the annual update as per rules.
- Australia restricts the use of saliva & sweat to shine ball under COVID-19 guidelines. Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) in consultation with doctors has come up with guidelines, restricting the utilization of saliva and sweat to shine the ball.
- Former World Snooker Champion Peter Ebdon has announced his retirement from professional snooker.
- New Zealand Cricket has announced the Annual New Zealand Cricket Awards.

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- Discus thrower Sandeep Kumari has been banned for 4 years by WADA's Athletics Integrity Unit for flunking a dope test.
- Swimming world governing body, Federation Internationale de Natation(FINA) rescheduled the 2021 Fukuoka aquatics world championships to May 2022 to avoid a clash with the postponed Tokyo Olympics.
- Egyptian professional tennis player Youssef Hossam has been banned from professional tennis for life for matchfixing, as per the official notification by the Tennis Integrity Unit on 4 May 2020.
- Former Sri Lanka skipper Kumar Sangakkara is set to serve his second term as the president of Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC).
- The Sports Authority of India (SAI) has formed a six-membered committee that will prepare Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the phased resumption of training of sports after the lockdown due to COVID-19 is lifted.
- International Hockey Federation (FIH) has extended the term of Narinder Batra as President of FIH until May 2021.
- Para-athlete Deepa Malik has announced her retirement from Paralympics games to hold her post as the president of the Paralympic Committee of India.
- The FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup has been rescheduled between 17 February and 7 March 2021.
- French cyclist Remy Di Gregorio has been banned for 4 years by the International Cycling Union (UCI) for using a form of banned blood-boosting hormone EPO (Erythropoietin).
- China has won the first edition of FIDE Chess.com Online Nations Cup against USA.
- Japanese tennis player Naomi Osaka has become the world's highest-paid female athlete.
- Spanish football player and Athletic Bilbao striker Aritz Aduriz has announced his retirement citing medical reasons.
- Sports Authority of India (SAI) has deposited 30,000 rupees each as out of pocket allowance in accounts of 2,749 Khelo India athletes.
- Italy has won UEFA eEURO 2020, beating Serbia in the final to clinch the inaugural virtual European Championship.
- American tennis player and former world number 24 Jamie Hampton has officially announced her retirement from professional tennis, bringing a sudden halt to her career.
- Sri Lankan fast bowler, Shehan Madushanka has been suspended from all forms of cricket with immediate effect for alleged possession of heroin.
- Cricket Australia has announced the dates for India's tour to Australia starting October this year for an assignment comprising four Tests, ODIs as well as T20 Internationals.

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- The 36th National Games, planned for October-November in Goa, was deferred indefinitely due to the COVID19 pandemic.
- Indian Olympic Association (IOA) president Narinder Batra has been designated as a member from the Olympic Channel Commission.
- India's long-distance runner, Kiranjeet Kaur has been handed a four-year ban by World Athletics' anti-doping body for testing positive for a banned substance (Enobosarm).
- The Bundesliga primary football league of Germany becomes the world's first major sports event to resume after COVID-19 lockdown. The Bundesliga games began with empty stadium though the stadium had the capacity to hold more than 80,000 players. Bundesliga means "Federal League".
- India's largest mobile gaming platform Mobile Premier League (MPL) has partnered with Mumbai-based game developer Lifelike Studios to launch Rogue Heist.
- Haryana Government announced, under the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs for containment of COVID-19, all Sports Complexes and Stadiums in the state have been permitted to open.
- Two Indian Powerlifters namely Savita Kumari & Ankit Shishodia have been provisionally suspended by the National Anti Doping Agency (NADA).
- Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology (IASST), Guwahati, developed an electrochemical sensing platform.
- The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has announced that it is to replace hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) with Kangra tea to improve immunity and possibly reduce viral replication, in the revised protocol.
- Indian Institute of Madras (IIT-M) developed 'Parabolic Trough Collector', a new trough collector equipped with enhanced energy to serve industries.
- Researchers at Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences (CeNS), Bangalore developed a cup-shaped design mask that helps to create enough space in front of the mouth while speaking to tackle COVID-19.

Defence:

- The Indian Navy will hold a salutation ceremony in Mumbai and Goa on Sunday to honour the efforts of coronavirus warriors in curbing the spread of COVID-19.
- Civil Aviation Ministry and the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) have launched the Government Authorisation for Relief Using Drones (GARUD) portal.
- Indian Navy launched Operation Samudra Setu, meaning Sea Bridge, as a part of a national effort to repatriate Indian citizens from overseas.

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- Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh has approved the proposal of Engineer-in-Chief of Military Engineering Services (MES) for optimisation of more than 9,300 posts in the basic and industrial workforce. It is in line with the recommendations of the Committee of Experts, headed by Lt General Shekatkar, which had recommended

measures to enhance combat capability and rebalance defence expenditure of the Armed Forces Indian Navy recently designed and produced Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the road link from Dharchula (Uttarakhand) to Lipulekh (China Border) on 8 May.

- Ministry of Defence (MoD) signed a contract with M/s Tata Power SED (TPSED) for Modernisation of Air Field Infrastructure (MAFI) of 37 airfields for the Indian Air Force (IAF), Indian Navy (IN) and Indian Coast Guard (ICG) on 8 May.

- As part of Samudrasetu mission, INS Magar of Indian navy will reach Kochi today bringing back 202 Indian nationals from Maldives.

- Intellectual Property Facilitation Cell (IPFC) of Ministry of Defence, in association with National Research Development Corporation (NRDC), has filed a patent for the low-cost Medical Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) developed by Indian Navy.

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh commissioned Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) Sachet and two interceptor boats (IBs) C-450 and C-451 in Goa through video conferencing from Delhi on 15 May.

- The Indian Air Force Chief RKS Bhadauria announced that it will shelve three main projects of worth Rs 8,000 crores.

- Ministry of Defence approved procurement of 26 defence items to boost “Make in India” initiative. This was done through the amendment of Public.

- The Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh chaired the E-Conclave of Defence MSME (Micro Small and Medium Enterprises). Indian Navy made “NavRakshak” PPE kit made with innovative breathable fabric material, to provide comfort to healthcare workers working against COVID-19 pandemic wearing multi-layered coverall PPE treating patients in the hot and humid condition for more than 12 hours.

- The Indian Association Uganda (IAU) and Indian Military Advisory and Training Team for Uganda Peoples

Defence Forces (UPDF) have jointly set up military war game centre called ‘INDIA’ at the Uganda Senior Command and Staff College in Kimaka in Jinja District of Uganda with a cost of over 1 billion Ugandan shillings or \$2,65,000.

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- The Indian Air Force (IAF) is to operationalize its No.18 Squadron at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu on 27 May. IAF chief, Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhadauria is expected to operationalize the squadron "Flying Bullets" at the Sulur Air Force Station near Coimbatore, TN.
- The Army Commanders' Conference, an apex level biannual event which was scheduled for April 2020 and postponed due to COVID-19 pandemic, will now be organised in two phases.
- Foundation Stone for a Missile Park " AGNEEPRASTHA" was laid at INS Kalinga by Cmde Rajesh Debnath, Commanding Officer, in the presence of Vice Admiral Atul Kumar Jain, PVSM, AVSM, VSM, FOC-in-C (East) on 28 May 20.

Books & Authors:

- Union Culture Minister Shri Prahlad Singh Patel released an e-book "Prof B.B. Lal -India Rediscovered" on 2 May on the occasion of the centenary year of great archaeologist Professor B. B. Lal.
- Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan has launched a multimedia guide on the Covid-19 disease named 'COVID Katha'.
- The biography of Captain Vijayant Thapar, a fourth-generation army officer, who was martyred in the Kargil war in 1999 at the age of just 22, is soon to be released on 15 May 2020.
- A book titled "Fear of God" has been authored by Bommadevara Sai Chandravadhan. He is popularly known as Vadhan.
- The biography of Britain's Prince Harry and wife Meghan Markle "Finding Freedom: Harry and Meghan and the Making of A Modern Royal Family" by royal reporters Omid Scobie and Carolyn Durand has been scheduled to be released worldwide on 11 August.
- The national award winning publishing group in the global publishing of Hindi Literature, Vani Prakashan Group announces its newest acquisition of renowned author Alka Saraogi's latest novel 'Kulbhushan ka naam darj kijiye'. □The book titled as "Wuhan Diary: Dispatches from a Quarantined City" authored by Chinese literary writer Fang Fang is a compilation of online diary entries and social media posts that document 60 days of lockdown during COVID-19, captures the challenges of daily life and the changing moods and emotions of being quarantined without reliable information & is a remarkable record of the extraordinary time.
- Union HRD (Human Resource Development) Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank e-Launched print as well as e-editions of the set of 7 titles on "Psycho-Social Impact of pandemic & lockdown and how to Cope With" under the corona studies series published by National Book Trust (NBT), India.

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- Ruskin Bond's new book titled 'Hop On: My Adventures on Boats, Trains and Planes' was released on his 86th Birthday in an e-book format.
- Sri Adhikari Brothers opens up for audiences yet another classic hit show –'GaltiKiski' –based on the book 'What Went Wrong and Why?', written by super cop & the current Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry – Kiran Bedi.
- Foundation Stone for a Missile Park " AGNEEPRASTHA" was laid at INS Kalinga by Cmde Rajesh Debnath, Commanding Officer, in the presence of Vice Admiral Atul Kumar Jain, PVSM, AVSM, VSM, FOC-in-C (East) on 28 May 20.
- British author J.K. Rowling released first two chapters of her new Children's book "The Ickabog".

Awards:

Name	Awarded As
Thangjam Dhabali Singh	'Order of Rising Sun' by Japan
Thalappil Pradeep	Nikkei Asia Prize 2020
Saurabh Lodha	Young Career Award in Nano Science & Technology for the year 2020.
Joseph J Landsberg (Australia), Richard H Waring (USA) and Nicholas C Coops (Canada)	2020 Marcus Wallenberg Prize
Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru	SKYTRAX Award for Best Regional Airport in India and Central Asia.
Anunta	VMware 2020 Regional Partner of the Year Award for the Services Excellence category.
Lieutenant Commander Akshay Kumar	Vice Admiral G.M. Hiranandani Memorial Rolling Trophy for the year 2020.
Siddharth Varadarajan	Deutsche Welle Freedom of Speech Award
Sania Mirza	Fed Cup Heart Award 2020 for Asia/Oceania zone.
Vinay Badhwar	2019 Alexander Dalrymple Award, by United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (UKHO).
Major Suman Gawani	UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year 2019.
Rajiv Joshi	NYIPLA "Inventor of the Year award" for the year 2020.
Quarraisha Abdool Karim	Christophe Merieux Prize

- A 17-year-old Indian-origin girl Vaneeza Rupani has been earned the honour of naming the NASA's first Mars helicopter, after she submitted her essay into NASA's "Name the Rover" contest.

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- Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Giriraj Singh awarded the winners of "Startup India-Animal Husbandry Grand Challenge" on 8 May.

Science & Technology:

- Researchers from Hyderabad-based National Institute of Animal Biotechnology (NIAB) developed a portable device 'eCovSens'.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed an Ultra Violet (UV) Disinfection Tower for rapid and chemical free disinfection of high infection prone areas.
- The Chennai-based Combat Vehicles Research and Development Establishment (CVRDE) has developed an app called 'Kavasam' to contain the COVID-19 pandemic, which is wreaking havoc in the city.
- Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad has partnered with a Bengaluru-based company, Eystem Research Private Limited, to take up research activities on COVID-19.
- A team from INSPIRE, under the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India, develops nanomaterials based supercapacitors to achieve high energy density and power density of supercapacitors.
- Mumbai has become the first city in the country to get a unique 'Covid-19 Test Bus' that will move around the city to collect test samples for rapid testing.
- An IIT Delhi startup "Nanosafe Solutions" has launched an antimicrobial and washable face mask "NSafe", which is reusable up to 50 launderings, thus greatly cutting down the cost of use.
- Scientists from Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR) have fabricated an economical and energy-efficient wafer-scale photodetector using gold-silicon interface.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has installed its Ultra Violet disinfection chamber at the Cochin International Airport in Kerala.
- Scientists from Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology (WIHG), Dehradun have found a seasonal advancement in 220 surge-type glaciers in the Karakoram Range of Ladakh through a detailed assessment of some major surging glaciers of the Karakoram range using satellite images and thermal data.
- National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) approved 8 laboratories.
- CSIR through the New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiative (NMITLI) program approved a project towards the development of human monoclonal antibodies (hmAbs) that can neutralize SARS-CoV-2 in coronavirus infected patients.

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- Hyderabad based Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) premier lab, has developed Defence Research Ultraviolet Sanitiser (DRUVS), an automated contactless ultraviolet C (UVC) sanitisation cabinet.
- Department of Biotechnology and Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) had invited applications for COVID-19 Research Consortium to urgently develop safe and effective Biomedical solutions against SARS CoV-2.
- The Drug Controller General of India (DGCI) approved the clinical trials of the drugs namely, phytopharmaceutical and favipiravir for the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).
- Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)-National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune has developed and validated the indigenous IgG ELISA test 'COVID KAVACH ELISA' for antibody detection for COVID-19.
- Technology Centres, Bhubaneswar, Jamshedpur and Kolkata of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) are now manufacturing critical parts of Real-Time Quantitative Micro PCR System for AMTZ, Visakhapatnam.
- CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL) Bangalore has developed SwasthVayu, a Non-Invasive Bilevel Positive Airway Pressure (BiPAP) Ventilator in a record time of 36 days to treat COVID-19 patients.
- The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) participated in the launch of the global 'Solidarity' trial by the World Health Organisation (WHO).
- Researchers from Agharkar Research Institute (ARI), Pune developed a new process for the synthesis of quantum efficient and biocompatible quantum dots (QDs).
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has issued a guideline for Reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) based pooled sampling for migrants, returnees from abroad, and green zones.
- Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR) has developed an injectable Silk fibroinbased hydrogel for sustained insulin delivery in diabetic patients.
- INSPIRE under the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India has developed porous carbon materials that have the potential to replace the lead grid in lead-acid batteries.
- India's space agency Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has directed the startups to develop tools and machines for its maiden human space flight Gaganyaan-1 mission.
- Scientists of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) (Indian School of Mines ISM) Dhanbad and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research(CSIR)-Indian Institute of Chemical Biology(IICB) teamed up to find a solution to understand Parkinson's disease which is a common neurodegenerative disease with no cure.

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- International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials (ARCI) and Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute of Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST), Thiruvananthapuram have jointly developed new generation Iron-Manganese based alloys for biodegradable metal implants for use in humans.
- A new parasitic fungus was discovered by a Denmark biologist called “Troglomyces twitteri”.
- Vice Admiral Vinay Badhwar, the National Hydrographer to the Government of India, has been honored with the 2019 Alexander Dalrymple Award, by United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (UKHO).
- The Indian Council of Medical Research is conducting clinical trials to check on the efficacy of Tuberculosis vaccines against COVID-19.
- South Central Railway zone has developed a robotic device, “RAIL-BOT” (R-BOT) to assist in the functions of hospital management to provide better health care to the COVID patients.
- A few sections of people like Doctors and Police are fighting COVID-19 from the frontline, while some other are contributing to the fight against Corona virus through Science and Innovation.
- The All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Raipur has prepared a new test of RT-PCR for Covid-19.
- Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati have discovered a new method to help prevent or reduce short-term memory losses associated with Alzheimer's disease.
- Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST) launched the "Agappe Chitra Magna", a magnetic nanoparticle-based RNA extraction kit for use during testing for detection of COVID-19.
- The Union Minister Prakash Javadekar interacted with the Chief Ministers of the State Governments through video conference.
- The NASA researchers have found high energy particles erupting from ice in the Antarctic region.
- The Research Centre Imarat (RCI), DRDO (Defense Research and Development Organization) laboratory, Hyderabad, Telangana, developed an AI (Artificial Intelligence)-based Attendance application (AINA) which allows non-contact based personnel verification, using facial features of the person in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic.
- Indian Institute of Technology Madras Researchers working with the University of North Texas and U.S. Army Research Laboratory have developed an engineered magnesium alloy with significantly improved properties, which can replace steel and aluminium alloys in automotive and aerospace components.
- The proto-type test samples of Personal protective equipment (PPE) Coveralls in India are tested and certified by 9 authorized laboratories as per the technical specifications prescribed by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

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- Researchers from Tsinghua University, China and the University of Connecticut in the US have jointly discovered two bacterial secreted proteins that can effectively inactivate a series of viruses, including the novel coronavirus, dengue, and the HIV.
- Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology (CIPET) which functions under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers will take up Research and Development initiatives in the areas of Health Care, like Manufacturing and Certifying PPE to deal with COVID-19 pandemic.
- Researchers have identified a region in the genome of a rice, which seems to have the potential for improving productivity.
- Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) stated that a total of 1,61,041 (approximately) COVID-19 samples are being tested in 24 hours.
- Researchers from Tsinghua University, China and the University of Connecticut in the US have jointly discovered two bacterial secreted proteins that can effectively inactivate a series of viruses, including the novel coronavirus, dengue, and the HIV.
- Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati is leading the fight against novel coronavirus.
- Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM), partnered with the University of North Texas and United States Army lab, have developed a magnesium alloy to replace the steel and aluminium in the automobile industry to reduce the carbon footprint and increase fuel efficiency.
- Indian Institute of Technology Mandi researchers have developed two low-cost portable ventilators.
- The Computer Applications Department of the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Trichy has organised a series of web based Online Teaching Strategies workshops.
- VIBGYOR High – Marathahalli has taken the lead with one of its students innovating a contactless hand sanitiser in the times of ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- Scientists from Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology (IASST) an autonomous institute of the Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India have developed a pH-responsive smart bandage that can deliver the medicine applied in the wound at the pH that is suitable for the wound.
- Edelweiss General Insurance launched 'Edelweiss SWITCH', an app-based motor insurance own damage (OD) floater policy under IRDAI's sandbox regulations.
- The Indian short video-sharing app 'Mitron' has reportedly gained the Number Two spot on the Google Play Store within a month of its release.
- Skootr, India's only 'premium managed office space' provider has announced the launch of its new app, SkootrOne for Android mobile devices, soon available on iOS as well.

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- The government has announced opening the source code of its coronavirus tracking app, Aarogya Setu, for scrutiny by the developer community to address privacy concerns and launching a bug bounty programme for finding security flaws.
- The National Payment Corporation of India launched Artificial Intelligence based chatbot called Pai. The Chatbot aims to increase financial inclusion in India
- Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) has launched a “WhatsApp chatbot” to address rights issue queries of its 2.6 million shareholders on the offering.

Important Days & Themes:

Day	Celebrated As	Theme / Aim
May 1	International Labour Day or Worker's day	The day aims to celebrate labourers and the working class. The day promotes international labour associations.
May 2	World Tuna Day	This day is established by the United Nations (UN) to raise awareness about the importance of tuna fish
May 3	World Press Freedom Day	The theme of 2020 World Press Freedom Day is "Journalism Without Fear or Favour."
May 3	World Laughter Day	The World Laughter Day is observed every year on first Sunday of May to raise awareness about laughter and its healing benefits.
May 4	International Firefighters' Day	
May 5	World Asthma Day	The theme of the 2020 World Asthma Day is "Enough Asthma Deaths."
May 5	International Day of the Midwife	The theme for 2020 International Day of the
		Midwife is Midwives with women: celebrate, demonstrate, mobilise, unite – our time is NOW!.

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May 5	World Hand Hygiene Day	The theme for 2020 is 'Save Lives: Clean Your Hands'.
May 6	International No Diet Day	
May 7	Vesak Day	
May 7	World Athletics Day	
May 8	World Red Cross Day	
May 8	World Thalassaemia Day	Theme for 2020 World Thalassaemia Day is "The dawning of a new era for thalassaemia: Time for a global effort to make novel therapies accessible and affordable to patients."
May 9	World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD)	The theme of 2020 World Migratory Bird Day is "Birds Connect Our World."
May 11	National Technology Day	
May 12	International Nurses Day (IND)	The theme for 2020 International Nurses Day is "Nurses: A Voice to Lead – Nursing the World to Health."
May 15	International Day of Families	Theme: Families in Development
May 15	Endangered Species Day	
May 16	International Day of Light	
May 16	National Dengue Day	
May 16	International Day of Living Together	
May 17	World Hypertension Day	Measure your Blood Pressure, Control it, Live Longer
May 17	World Telecommunication Day	Theme: Connect 2030: ICTs for the Sustainable Development Goals
May 18	International Museum Day	Theme: Museums for Equality : Diversity and Inclusion
May 18	World AIDS Vaccine Day	
May 18	International Museum Day	Theme of International Museum Day 2020:
		"Museums for Equality: Diversity and

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		Inclusion”.
May 20	World Bee Day	Theme : “Bee Engaged”.
May 20	World Metrology Day	Theme: World Metrology Day: Measurements for global trade
May 21	National Anti-Terrorism Day	
May 21	World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development	
May 21	International Tea Day	The purpose of International Tea Day is to try to improve the condition of tea producers and tea workers.
May 22	International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB)	The theme for 2020 International Day for Biological Diversity is "Our solutions are in nature".
May 23	International Day to End Obstetric Fistula (IDEOF)	The theme for 2020 IDEOF is "End gender inequality! End health inequities! End Fistula now!".
May 25	International Missing Children’s Day (IMCD)	to commemorate the missing children who have found their way home, remember those who have been victims of crime, and continue efforts to find those who are still missing.
May 25	World Thyroid Day	to promote awareness and understanding of thyroid health and the advances made in treating thyroid diseases.
May 28	World Hunger Day	
May 28	International Day of Action for Women’s Health	The main purpose of this day is to promote the sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) of all women all over the world.
May 28	World Menstrual Hygiene (MH) Day	Theme of MH day, 2020: “Periods in Pandemic – it is time to take action!”
May 29	International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers	2020 Theme: Women in Peacekeeping: A Key to Peace.

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May 29	World Digestive Health Day (WDHD)	The theme of WDHD 2020 is "Gut Microbiome – A Global Perspective"
May 29	International Everest Day	
May 31	World No Tobacco Day	Theme for 2020: Protecting Youth

Obituary:

Name	Profession	Location
Gandhian Hema Bharali	Freedom fighter	Assam
Chuni Goswami	Former Indian Football captain	
Denis Goldberg	South African anti-apartheid activist	South Africa
Ronald Vivian Smith	Eminent historian, author and columnist	Agra
Ajay Kumar Tripathi	Former Chief Justice of Chhattisgarh High Court	
K S Nisar Ahmed	Renowned Kannada poet	Devanahalli, Karnataka
Dalit Ezhilamalai	Former Union Minister	
Rob Gibbs	Director, story artist and writer	
Pandanda Kuttappa	Founder of Kodava Family Hockey Tournament	
Hari Shankar Vasudevan	historian	
Little Richard	Founding father of Rock 'n' roll	
Raja Rangappa Naik	Former Lok Sabha MP and senior Janta Dal(S) leader	
Shafique Ansari	Actor	
Betty Wright	singer	
Sai Gundewar	Actor	
Anisuzzaman	educationist and national Professor	Bangladesh
Debesh Roy	Bengali author	

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Ratnakar Matkari	Marathi dramatist, litterateur, theatre	Mumbai
	personality	
Arthur Summons	Former Australian rugby league captain	
Manmeet Singh Walia	Former national table tennis champion	
Jerry Stiller	US comedian	
Dev Prabhakar Shastri	spiritual leader	Madhya Pradesh
Fred Willard	actor-comedian	
Shyamala G Bhave	vocalist	
Mohit Baghel	Bollywood actor	
R Shanmugam	Former Tamil Nadu football player and coach	Tamil Nadu
Balbir Singh Dosanjh	Former Indian hockey player	
Ashley Cooper	Australian tennis player	
Hana Kimura	Japanese professional wrestler	Japan
Gigi Simoni	Former Inter Milan coach	
Mujtaba Hussain	Urdu author, humorist and satirist	
Ajit Jogi	first Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh	Chhattisgarh
M.P. Veerendra Kumar	Rajya Sabha member	Kerala
Bejan Daruwalla	astrologer	
Yogesh Gaur	lyricist	

June 2020– One Liner Current Affairs

Financial One Liners

- The Reserve Bank of India recently announced that the Government of India has discontinued 7.75% savings bonds.
- State Bank of India has created a new and separate business vertical to focus on financial inclusion and micromarkets (FI&MM).

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- IndusInd Bank has launched first-of-its-kind mobile app-based facility for opening current accounts in a paperless manner.
- The Reserve Bank of India created Payment Infrastructure Development Fund of Rs 500 crores.
- Axis Bank Ltd, Mastercard India & Worldline India partnered to launch a digital point-of-sale(POS) solution 'Soft POS', the 1st financial payments service in India to transform everyday smartphones into merchant POS terminals.
- "Summer Treats" campaign has been launched by the private sector HDFC Bank.
- Moody's Investors Service has downgraded India's sovereign rating one notch to the lowest investment grade (Baa3) from "Baa2", with negative outlook.
- The Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises has once again changed the definition of MSME.
- The Country's largest lender State Bank of India on June 5 reported a standalone profit of Rs 3,580.81 crore in January-March quarter, a growth of over four-fold YoY supported by lower provisions and stake sale.
- The Reserve Bank of India announced on June 5 that it has set up a Payment Infrastructure Development Fund (PIFD) of Rs. 500 Crore.
- HDFC Bank has cut its marginal cost of funds-based lending rate (MCLR) by 5 basis points (bps) across tenors.
- Flipkart-owned digital payments platform PhonePe along with ICICI Lombard, the non-life insurance company launched 'first of its kind' travel insurance, domestic multi-trip insurance to provide a stress-free travel experience to customers by covering risks associated with all modes of travel within the country (road, rail and air within the country) from the time a customer leaves home, till the time of return.
- State-run lenders Bank of Baroda (BoB) and Union Bank of India (UBI) have announced cut in their marginal cost of funds-based lending rates (MCLR) across all tenors.
- Capital markets regulator Sebi imposed a total penalty of Rs 15 lakh on three entities for indulging in fraudulent trading in illiquid stock options on the BSE.
- The Reserve Bank of India recently released draft framework for "Sale of Loan Exposures" and "Securitization of Standard Assets".
- Long-term package motor insurance products that offer third party (TP) and own damage (OD) for two-wheelers (five year policies) and four wheelers (three years) will be withdrawn from August 1, 2020.
- The State Bank of India (SBI) relaunched its Aadhaar-based instant digital savings account facility for customers who want to open an online account using the Yono platform.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has constituted an internal working group to review the rules on ownership and corporate structure for private sector banks.

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- The RBI has proposed an upper age limit of 70 years for CEOs and whole-time directors of banks and a maximum term of 10 years for those belonging to the promoter group, as part of the exercise to improve governance in the banking sector.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has barred Kanpur-based People's Co-operative Bank from granting fresh loans or accepting deposits for a period of six months, due to its weak financial position.
- To support multiple projects in India, the US International Development Finance Corporation (USIDFC) is planning to invest 350 million USD in sectors of finance, health infrastructure, renewable energy and food security space also look to empower smallholder dairy farmers, generate solar power increase access to education.
- Hero MotoCorp, the country's largest two-wheeler maker, on Monday launched an integrated online sales platform, eSHOP, in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.
- The Government of India has allowed taxpayers to fill their NIL GST monthly return form through SMS.
- According to World Bank, India's economy will shrink by 3.2 per cent in the current fiscal. HDFC Bank has cut its marginal cost of funds-based lending rate (MCLR) by 5 basis points (bps) across tenors.
- Flipkart-owned digital payments platform PhonePe along with ICICI Lombard, the non-life insurance company launched 'first of its kind' travel insurance, domestic multi-trip insurance to provide a stress-free travel experience to customers by covering risks associated with all modes of travel within the country (road, rail and air within the country) from the time a customer leaves home, till the time of return.
- S&P Global Ratings has released its report on emerging markets titled "Financial Conditions Reflect Optimism, Lockdown Fatigue Emerges".
- After a contraction in the current financial year, India's economy is forecast to bounce back with a sharp growth rate of 9.5 per cent next year provided it avoids further deterioration in financial sector health
- Traders' body CAIT launched a campaign to boycott Chinese goods with an aim to reduce India's imports of products manufactured in the country by USD 13 billion by December 2021.
- The rating agency "S&P" has kept India's sovereign rating at "BBB-" along with a stable outlook.
- The Finance Ministry announced that the public sector banks have disbursed Rs 12,200.65 crore till June 9, under the Rs 3-lakh crore Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) for the MSME sector, hit hard by the coronavirus-induced lockdown.
- The Forex Reserves of India are increasing and are to hit 500 billion USD soon. In May 2020, the Indian Forex Reserves touched an all time high of 493 billion USD.
- In order to eliminate the use of physical card or touch an ATM PIN pad, amid the spread of coronavirus from contaminated surfaces, Empays Payment Systems has joined hands with Mastercard to launch "Cardless ATM powered by MasterCard" in India based on the standards of EMV (Europay,

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MasterCard, and Visa). With this, India will be the first country outside the United States (US) where this product will be launched.

- US based tech-giant Apple Inc's market capitalization surpassed \$1.5 trillion, making it the first U.S. company to reach that mark.
- The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), in its OECD Economic Outlook, has projected India's economy to contract 7.3 percent in the current fiscal year 2020-21 if there is a second wave of the coronavirus (Covid-19) later this year.
- India's forex reserves have now crossed the \$ 500 billion mark, according to the data released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- ICICI Bank has introduced an online overdraft(od) facility 'Insta FlexiCash' for its salary account customers. Airtel Payments Bank has launched 'Suraksha Salary Account' for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).
- India's 3rd largest lender, Bank of Baroda will completely digitize its lending operations including home, agriculture, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises(MSME), personal and auto loans. The bank has recently completed its merger with Vijaya Bank and Dena Bank.
- ICICI Home Finance Company Limited (HFC) has launched "SARAL" scheme for a special affordable house loan for urban and rural areas.
- With a view to helping customers get their business done in branches without having to wait in queues, Federal Bank introduces a facility for pre-booking their appointments.
- The Reserve Bank of India on 19th June 2020 has extended the regulatory restrictions imposed on the multistate urban Cooperative Bank, Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative Bank Limited (PMC Bank) by another 6 months.
- Franklin Templeton Mutual Fund announced Vodafone Idea Ltd has made an interest payment of about Rs 103 crore and that the amount will be distributed among investors in proportion to their holdings in the segregated portfolios.
- The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) approved 750 million USD loan to India.
- Microsoft has launched the Money in Excel feature for Microsoft 365 Personal and Family subscribers, starting first in the US.
- HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company, the country's third-largest non-life insurance provider has joined hands with UK based tech firm TropoGo Limited to launch India's 1st 'Pay as you Fly' insurance for droneowners in India.

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- Fitch Ratings has revised India's long-term outlook to negative from stable, citing risks due to continued acceleration in the number of new Covid-19 cases as the lockdown is eased gradually in the country.
- India's economy is forecast to contract by 4 percent in 2020-21, as per the latest Asian Development Outlook (ADO) report of the Asian Development Bank released on 18 June 2020, due to the adverse effect of the coronavirus pandemic.
- Ola unveiled an emergency service in its application to serve people after the Tamil Nadu government announced the new phase of lockdown which comes into effect from today.
- United Kingdom oil major "British Petroleum" is going to set up Global Business Service Centre in Pune, Maharashtra to support its global businesses.
- The Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) has reached \$150-billion mark in term of market capitalisation.
- Yes Bank has partnered with fintech startup "Affordplan" to launch 'Swasth Card', a co-branded healthcare card, under Swasth program.
- United Commercial Bank(UCO Bank) partnered with four insurers namely, State Bank of India(SBI) Life Insurance Company, the Oriental Insurance Company and Religare Health Insurance Company, Star Health and Allied Insurance Company to offer various insurance products for its customers.
- Public and Private Sectors banks have sanctioned loans worth over 79 thousand crore rupees so far under Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme.
- The Karnataka Bank has rolled out a new product titled "KBL Micro Mitra" for the Micro entrepreneurs.
- Government of India will bring an ordinance to put all cooperative banks under the Reserve Bank of India supervision.
- President Ram Nath Kovind promulgated the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020.
- Zomato co-founder Pankaj Chaddah and ex-Zomato Chief of Staff Pooja Khanna have announced their entrepreneurial venture Mindhouse, a mental wellness service that offers a variety of guided meditation sessions and techniques. □Leading bourse BSE figures among the world's 10 largest exchanges in terms of cumulative market capitalisation of all companies listed on its platform, as per the latest data from the World Federation of Exchanges.
- Union Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari stated that he believes India will be a manufacturing hub for electric vehicles within the next five years, adding that several countries do not want to deal with China after the COVID-19 crisis which can be an opportunity for India
- The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on launched paperless customs export processing, a move aimed at trade facilitation.

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- Moody's Investors Service has sharply revised its forecast for India's annual GDP growth and has projected the Indian economy to shrink 3.1 percent in the Calendar year 2020, caused by the disruptions due to the coronavirus pandemic.
- India Ratings and Research has projected the GDP growth of India to contract by 5.3% in 2020-21 (FY21).
- The Central Government has extended the deadline for the following for filing income tax returns (ITR) for FY 2018-19 by one month to July 31, 2020; (original as well as revised income tax returns) for linking biometric Aadhaar with PAN till March 31, 2021.
- Covid-19 pandemic is likely to bring down India's per capita income (PCI) by 5.4 per cent in the financial year 2020-21 (FY21) to Rs 1.43 lakh from Rs 1.52 lakh in FY20, suggests the latest report by the economic wing of State Bank of India (SBI).
- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari launched the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Sub-ordinate Debt to provide Rs 20,000 crore of guarantee cover to two lakh micro, small and medium enterprises.
- NTPC Ltd will help Mali develop a 500 MW solar power park, a statement by the state-owned power generator.
- In March 2020, the Reserve Bank of India, had increased the borrowing limit of scheduled banks under the marginal standing facility (MSF) scheme from 2 percent to 3 percent of their Net Demand and Time Liabilities (NDTL) as a temporary measure to deal with cash crunch caused by coronavirus pandemic.
- Flipkart-owned PhonePe has partnered with ICICI Bank on UPI multi-bank model giving its users the option to create and use multiple UPI IDs with ICICI and Yes Bank's handles.
- The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has set up 'Swavalamban Crisis Responsive Fund' to support free onboarding for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) on trade receivables discounting system (TReDS).
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced that it will be conducting a special Open Market Operations (OMOs) on 2nd July 2020.
- The World Bank has approved a \$500 million loan to improve the quality and governance of school education in six Indian states.
- Instamojo, has launched 'InstaCash' to enable merchants to gain access to working capital. Merchants can avail loans for upto Rs 1 lakh, for a period of 7-14 days.
- S&P Global Ratings said Indian economy is in deep trouble with growth expected to contract by 5 per cent this fiscal.

Non- Financial One Liners

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Schemes

- Government of India launched the Pradhan Mantri SVANidhi Scheme for street vendors. Under the scheme, Rs 10,000 of credit is to be provided to street vendors.
- The Government of India has launched a new initiative called SWADES (Skilled Workers Arrival Database for Employment Support) to conduct a skill mapping exercise of the skilled citizens returning to the country under the Vande Bharat Mission.
- The Union cabinet headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken three historic decisions in the field of agriculture to benefit farmers and transform the agriculture sector.
- The Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar launched the “Nagar Van” scheme. The scheme was launched to mark the Environment Day.
- A webinar was organized by the TRIFED (Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India).
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan on 20 June 2020 from Beldaur of Khagaria District of Bihar.

National

- Centre has approved the Bihar State's Jal Jeevan Mission Annual Action Plan.
- Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, has called upon each and every individual at national and international level to participate in the “My Life, My Yoga”(also called “Jeevan Yoga”) Video Blogging Contest, while addressing his monthly Mann Ki Baat program on 31 May 2020.
- The Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal today interacted with the captains of the Pharmaceutical industry, and Office-bearers of the Pharma Associations, through the Video Conference. The meeting was attended by the Ministers of State Shri H.S.Puri and Shri Som Parkash, Secretaries of the Department of Commerce, and Pharmaceuticals, and Officers from Departments of Commerce, Pharmaceuticals and Health.
- National Program for the youth titled “Responsible AI for Youth” has been launched by the Union Minister for Electronics & Information Technology, Communications and Law & Justice, Ravi Shankar Prasad.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched CHAMPIONS, the technology platform on 1 June.
- The Government has announced that it is to provide Kisan Credit Card (KCC) to 1.5 crore dairy farmers belonging to Milk Unions and Milk producing Companies within the next two months from 1 June-31 July 2020, under a special drive.
- Indian Energy Exchange launched Real Time Electricity Market (RTM).

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- The Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Janaushadhi Kendra achieved sales up to Rs 100.40 crores in the first two months of the financial year 2020-21.
- The Union Cabinet approved hike of Minimum Support Price of 14 Kharif crops.
- Union Cabinet led by Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi approved the re-establishment of the Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H) as Subordinate Office under Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH).
- The Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) recently revised Public Procurement Order in order to provide preference to Make in India initiative. □ India is to join the UK-led virtual Global Vaccine Summit.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by PM Modi approved to set up “Empowered Group of Secretaries”.
- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development and the Ministry of HRD (Human Resource Development) launched an internship learning programme called “TULIP”.
- PM Modi participated at the Global Vaccine Summit that was led by the United Kingdom. At the summit, the prime minister announced that India will pledge 15 million USD to GAVI Alliance.
- Microsoft announced the launch of a program for agritech startups in India that are committed to driving transformation in agriculture.
- State-run Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) has partnered with US Agency for International Development's (USAID) Market Integration and Transformation Program for Energy Efficiency (MAITREE) program and launched 'Healthy and Energy Efficient Buildings' initiative.
- The Minister of State (IC) for Power and New & Renewable Energy, Shri R. K. Singh, launched the ‘#iCommit’ campaign, on the occasion of World Environment Day on 5 June 2020, with the aim of building an energy resilient future.
- The Ministry of Urban Affairs released series of advisories on Effective waste management.
- The Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways and MSME, Nitin Gadkari launched the UNDP and MoRTH national awareness campaign on ‘Prevention of Human and Animal Mortality on Highways’ through a video conference on June 5, 2020.
- India is expected to be elected as member of United Nations Security Council for an eighth term.
- India will soon be setting up a coal trading platform as it gears up to bring in commercial mining in the coal sector.
- Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari today announced further extension of the validity date of motor vehicle documents till September this year due to COVID-19 situation in the country.
- Government of India released Rs.6,195 crore to 14 states as a monthly installment of the post-devolution revenue deficit grant on 10 June.

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- The Government of India has allocated Rs 4000 crore to the State Governments under under 'Per Drop More Crop' component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY- PDMC) for the year 2020-21.
- The Government of India has raised the Customs duty on bamboo imports from 10% to 25% with immediate effect.
- The central government on June 10 has decided to continue the export curbs only on the specific reagents, diagnostics kits, and instruments such as the silicon columns, swab sterile synthetic and magnetic stand amid the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Indian government's ambitious Bharamala Project may get delayed by four years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, as per ratings agency ICRA.
- The central government on June 10 has decided to provide its health insurance scheme Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) to the migrant workers across the states, affected by the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Department of Science & Technology (DST), under the Ministry of Science & Technology, has constituted a joint Science Communication Forum to promote common policy & best practices.
- The Tamil Nadu government has issued a notification as per the recommendation of an experts committee for changing the names of 1,018 places, including of many important places, in accordance with how they are exactly pronounced in Tamil.
- The National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has become the first of its kind in the construction sector to go fully digital.

- Sahakar Mitra Scheme on Internship Programme (SIP) was launched by Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare Shri Narendra Singh Tomar.
- Three months after banning foreigners from entering India due to coronavirus situation, the Centre lifted curbs on entry of five categories of foreign nationals to India--those who wish to come to the country on account of family emergencies and could not come due to the lockdown imposed to curb COVID-19.
- The Indian Railways has created a world record by commissioning the first high rise Over Head Equipment (OHE) and successfully running double-stack containers train, in the electrified sections of the Western Railway zone.
- Centre has directed all the 8 North Eastern States to set up e-office in a stipulated timeframe.
- Government of India has launched Aarogyapath, a web-based solution for the healthcare supply chain that provides real-time availability of critical supplies.

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- Railway Protection Force of Central Railway, Pune division, has launched a unique robot named "CAPTAIN ARJUN", for the screening of passengers for COVID-19 infection while they board trains as well as keep a watch on anti-social elements.
- The Central Railway zone of the Indian Railways has launched a body-screening facility "FebriEye thermal cameras" at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus and Lokmanya Tilak Terminus in Mumbai, Maharashtra, to scan passengers for COVID-19 symptoms and ensure contactless entry.
- The Government of India recently reconstituted the advisory panel on corporate insolvency resolution and liquidation process.
- The first disease diagnostic laboratory is ready to be launched.
- The Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Steel Dharmendra Pradhan launched the Indian Gas Exchange (IGX) in an e-ceremony on 15 June.
- Government of India has taken special measures to benefit the welfare scheme for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) amidst the prevailing unprecedented situation faced by the society due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Union Minister of State (MoS) for Personnel, PG and Pensions Dr. Jitendra Singh launched the Feedback Call Centres on Public Grievances on 15 June.
- India and 12 other countries have come together to lead United Nations initiative '#VERIFIED', which aims to counter misinformation on the coronavirus by spreading fact-based content.
- A device named "GermiBAN" has been launched by the Union Minister of State for Home affairs G. Kishan Reddy. □ "e-Office" application has been launched in over 500 CGST and Customs offices across India by the Chairman of Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), M. Ajit Kumar.
- Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has launched a "Multi Location Claim Settlement" facility. □ The central government, as a part of the 'Make in India' initiative, has distributed indigenous ventilators to hospitals across the country in order to fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr. Thaawarchand Gehlot is to inaugurate Composite Regional Centre (CRC) on 17 April through video conferencing amid COVID-19 pandemic.
- India has pledged to construct a Rs.2.33 crore sanitation facility at the Pashupatinath Temple complex in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- The Railway Board recently informed that the Indian Railways has carried 4,450 Shramik trains so far carrying 6 million migrant workers generating revenue of Rs 360 crores.
- The Bombay High court recently sought report on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of Lonar lake from the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) and GSI (Geographical Survey of India).
- The Pune based Serum Institute of India is to supply Pneumonia vaccine to low-income countries.

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- Twitter launched a dedicated search prompt to serve information and updates from authoritative sources around domestic violence.
- Jan Aushadhi Suvidhi Sanitary Napkin is made available in more than 6300 Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushdhi Pariyojna, PMBJP Kendras across the country at a minimum price of Rs.1 per pad.
- For the Financial Year (FY) 2020-21, the Fifteenth Finance Commission had earlier submitted its report for the Rural Local Bodies (RLB), the recommends in the report were accepted by the Government.
- Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi has launched a dedicated Rs 50,000 crore Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan, via video conference, on 20 June 2020 for Migrant workers
- As per the data provided by the Union Finance Ministry on 20th June 2020, through Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package (PMGKP), a total of 42 crore citizens across the country have received financial aid of Rs 65,454 crore to date.
- In a first-of-its-kind initiative by a metro rail system in northern India, the Noida-Greater Noida Metro has decided to convert the Sector 50 station into a “She-Man” station that will have special facilities and employment for the transgender community.
- NITI Aayog in collaboration with International Transport Forum (ITF) is to launch the “Decarbonising Transport in India” project on 24 June. The project intends to develop a pathway towards a low-carbon transport system for India.
- Union Minister of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) Dr Jitendra Singh has reviewed the COVID status and healthcare facility in Aspirational districts with special focus on North East.
- Minister of Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal launched the Food Processing Edition of the Exclusive Investment Forum. Invest India has designed this forum of unique sectoral series to conduct detailed conversations between global industry leaders and key decision makers from the highest levels of the Central and State Governments.
- The Government of India on its way to create an AtmaNirbhar Bharat had allocated Rs 2000 crore for 50,000 Made-in-India ventilators.
- Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers’ Welfare (DAC&FW), under Make in India initiative indigenously develops a vehicle-mounted ULV sprayer for locust control to overcome the limitation of importing equipment.
- India has announced contributing 10 million US dollar to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) over the coming two years.
- “Information about Country of Origin” has been mandated for the sellers by the Government e-Marketplace (GeM), a Special Purpose Vehicle under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

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- On 23rd June 2020, within the next 7 days, the External Affairs Ministry of India has decided to reduce the staff strength of the Indian High Commission in Islamabad by 50% and has also directed the Pakistan Government to implement the same by reducing 50% of its staff from its Pakistan High Commission in New Delhi.
- The Union Cabinet headed by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved setting up of Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF).
- Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) has released the roadmap for NCERT for the year 2020-21.
- Union Cabinet has given International Airport status to Kushinagar Airport in Uttar Pradesh.
- The move to leapfrog India's space activities into the next stage by transforming the Indian Space Sector for the future challenges was made during a meeting of the Union Cabinet on 24th June 2020.
- Secretary Department of Science and Technology (DST) Prof Ashutosh Sharma launched the official Logo for the Golden Jubilee Commemoration Year celebration.
- The Central government has allocated 4125 crore rupees for rejuvenating the Small, Medium and Tiny Industries sector in Tamil Nadu.
- Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar and Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan today paid tributes to Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis on National Statistics Day.
- The government has again extended the deadline to bid for Air India by two months till 31st August.
- Under the fourth phase of 'Vande Bharat Mission' scheduled to commence from 3rd July, Air India will operate 170 flights and bring back Indian Nationals from 17 countries.
- The government has allowed Indian airlines to increase their number of domestic passenger flights from 33 percent to 45 percent of their pre-COVID capacity.
- The National Research Development Cooperation (NRDC) has signed a technology licensing agreement with an Agra-based apparel manufacturing entity, the Indian Garment Company.
- Indian Oil Corp (IOC) will set up a new technology development centre focussed on clean and alternative energy solutions.
- Enterprise software firm, SAP India on Monday launched the Global Bharat initiative for Indian MSMEs by providing them access to global marketplace, digital skilling for the workforce and transforming business processes.
- Centre launched the PM Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PM FME) scheme as a part of Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.

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- On 25th June 2020, a webinar was conducted by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs to mark the 5 years of successful completion of the 3 Schemes.
- The Government of India has launched an ambitious project of 'one nation and one ration card' for migrant workers.
- The government has approved an additional Rs 1,691 crore for highway works by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) in Jammu & Kashmir and Uttarakhand for 2020-21.
- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari announced a new road project Chambal Expressway to facilitate traffic between Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.
- The Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology has announced that "Government of India Bans 59 Chinese mobile apps", which are prejudicial to sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, the security of the state and public order".
- The Union Ministry of Culture has announced on 27th June 2020 that on the call of Prime Minister Narendra Modi the Ministry has decided to celebrate a 2-week long tree plantation campaign called 'Sankalp Parva' from 28th June to 12th July 2020.
- Union Minister of Minority Affairs Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi laid the foundation stone for "Sanskritik Sadbhav Mandap" at Numaish Ground in Rampur, Uttar Pradesh.
- The central government is planning to launch an Aadhar-based database in order to digitize all its farm-oriented schemes and to ensure that farmers are paid procurement prices directly.

State

- The Kerala State government has announced the Kerala Fibre Optic Network (K-FON) project will be commissioned by December 2020.
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has extended Rs 1,050 crore special liquidity facility (SLF) to West Bengal (WB) so far in the current fiscal year (FY 21) for the welfare of farmers and poor people in the state.
- Himachal Pradesh State Government has given status of second language to Sanskrit.
- MP Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan deposited Rs. 145.92 crore towards the amount of 37 days of the Mid-Day Meal Scheme for the month of May and June in the bank accounts of 66.27 lakh students
- Assam State government presented the Annual Action Plan for consideration and approval of the Ministry of Jal Shakti. Government of India (GoI) approved Rs.1,407 crore for 2020-21 under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).

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- Uttar Pradesh has become first state in the country to prepare one lakh beds for COVID-19 patients, with each of the 75 districts having dedicated beds for patients in the respective facilities.
- In Madhya Pradesh, despite the banks opening during the Corona transition period, it is a difficult task to move from rural areas to urban area banks.
- Three more states — Odisha, Sikkim and Mizoram — have joined the 'One Nation-One Ration Card' scheme, taking the number of states and union territories which have joined the scheme to 20,
- The National Association of Software and Services Companies(NASSCOM) announced that it has delivered an end-to-end coronavirus tracking platform for Karnataka, called the Karnataka Listening Dashboard for COVID-19.
- Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur launched Skill Register developed by Information Technology Department to create a sound data base of migrants, who have entered Himachal Pradesh during the lockdown in the wake of Corona pandemic.
- Centre has approved 175 crore rupees for implementation of Jal jeevan mission in Meghalaya during 2020-21.
- Centre has approved 812 crore rupees for implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in Odisha during 2020-21.
- National Jal Jeevan Mission, Ministry of Jal Shakti has approved the Annual Action Plan of Arunachal Pradesh to achieve 100 per cent household tap connections in the state.
- GoI approved the Annual Action Plan of Puducherry for Financial Year 2020-21.
- Odisha government ordered a complete weekend shutdown in 11 migration-prone districts in June.
- In the wake of the COVID-19 situation, the Centre has approved the Tamil Nadu Government's proposal to extend the tenure of the State Chief Secretary K Shanmugham by three months.
- Karnataka has extended invitation to major chip manufacturing company Intel to set up it's unit in the state.
- Under the flagship of the multipurpose Irrigation project; Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project(KLIP), the last and vital Markbook pump house was inaugurated on May 29 2020 by the Chief Minister of Telangana K Chandrasekhar Rao.
- The Kerala government led by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayanhas has announced that its ambitious broadband project 'Kerala Fibre Optic Network (K-FON)' project, envisaged to provide free internet access to the poor, would be rolled out by December 2020.
- Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Girish Chandra Murmu has launched a salary tracker mobile app MeraVetan (Version-1) for government employees.
- On this World environment day, Kerala's first 'food forest' is being prepared at tribal belts of Attapady in Palakkad district.

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- Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani has announced Aatmanirbhar Gujarat package worth 14,000 crore rupees.
- Uttar Pradesh introduces a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU Monitoring Mechanism to achieve efficient implementation of investment proposals by guiding interested investors and to track the signed MoUs.
- The Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced that the work to prepare 'Ekal Nagrik Database' will be started soon in the state.
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development(NABARD) provided Rs 270 crore Special Liquidity Facility(SLF) to Assam Gramin Vikash Bank in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic to support the agricultural activities of the farmers.
- The roads near the border areas are of great importance in the current situation when Indian and Chinese armies are confronting each other in the eastern Ladakh region.
- The Uttarakhand Governor Baby Rani Maurya assented to declare Gairsain as new summer capital. The Gairsain is also called Bhararisen.
- Delhi Government has ordered to set up 24x7 helpdesks in all state-run hospitals to ensure smooth and hassle free admission to needy patients.
- Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), launched its flagship programme Turant Customs, at Bengaluru and Chennai.
- National Green Tribunal has directed Gujarat based chemical company Yashashvi Rasayan Private Ltd to deposit Rs. 25 crore.
- The Government of India has allocated Rs 1,01,500 crores under the MGNREGA programme in the year 2020-21 so far.
- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated the 18th Bench of Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) for the Union Territories (UTs) of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh through a Video Conference on 8 June.
- The Tamil Nadu Government has scrapped public examinations for the Tenth Standard this year due to the looming Covid-19 situation.
- Chief Minister of Manipur N. Biren Singh has inaugurated "Plant Health Clinic" at the Directorate of Horticulture and Soil Conservation, Imphal.
- The state cabinet of Odisha has adopted "Bande Utkala Janani" or Glory to mother Utkala as the anthem of Odisha through video-conferencing.
- The West Bengal government on Monday announced a hike in the salary and stipend of junior doctors, house staff and interns of state-run hospitals to boost their morale during the crisis of coronavirus outbreak.

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- In an innovative move aimed at helping passengers travel safely during the Covid-19 pandemic, the first automated Mask and Sanitizer Dispenser (MSD) machine was commissioned by a Delhi based vendor in the East Central Railways.
- Madhya Pradesh has started a plantation drive named “Thank Mom” on the premises of its Social Justice and Disabled Welfare Directorate on World Environment Day.
- Centre approved Karnataka State government's Annual Action Plan for implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission.
- West Bengal government has received a loan amount of Rs 1950 crore from the World Bank.
- Government of India approved the Annual Action Plan of Madhya Pradesh for 2020-21.
- Kerala government on June 11 has decided to cancel this year's Sabarimala annual festival and has indefinitely postponed the opening of the hill shrine due to COVID-19.
- Uttar Pradesh government has prepared an action plan to provide 10 lakh jobs in the next 6 months.
- Ladakh Lieutenant Governor R K Mathur released the first video on Yoga Asanas in Ladakhi, in Leh. Ahead of International Yoga Day on June 21, the National Research Institute for Sowa Rigpa (NRISR), Leh has made a video on Yoga Asanas in Ladakhi language.
- Karnataka government has decided to ban online classes for the students up to 5th standard in the State.
- Haryana government will construct 1,000 water recharge bores in underground water deficient areas of the state to recharge underground water with rainfall.
- Centre approved Maharashtra's Annual Action Plan for implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in the State.
- The Uttarakhand forest department has opened state's biggest biodiversity park in Haldwani on 5 June 2020, on the occasion of World Environment Day, to encourage conservation of flora, especially medicinal plants. □ Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has launched the ‘Jagananna Chedodu’ scheme to provide financial assistance to tailors, barbers and washermen, who had lost their livelihood due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur has launched “Panchvati Yojana” for the senior citizens of rural areas of the state.
- In Gujarat, Gujarat Council on Science and Technology GUJCOST has started a unique initiative of Digital learning classes for teachers to help them use digital technology in a better way.
- Hyderabad City Police along with Hyderabad City Security Council (HCSC) has launched a programme called “She Triumphs through Respect, Equality, and Empowerment” (STREE) to support and empower women victims of domestic violence and abuse.

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- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, Yogi Adityanath has launched 'Bal Shramik Vidya Yojana' to educate child labourers in the state.
- The Uttar Pradesh Government is to make the TrueNat Machines available in all 75 districts to test COVID19.
- Madhya Pradesh government gives 'corona warriors' status to Divyang Anganwadi workers. These divyang Anganwadi workers are playing an important role in the state during the ongoing Corona crisis.
- In Uttar Pradesh, the State Government has decided to adopt the scheme of Flatted Factory Model which will ensure easy availability of land for industries, and in turn, generate employment also.
- Odisha became the first State in India to receive prestigious ISO (International Organization for Standardization) 9001:2015 certification for its 44 tribal hostels of Keonjhar (32 hostels) and Sambalpur (12 hostels) districts improving their overall infrastructure and standards under Mission Suvidya.
- Uttar Pradesh government, under Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated Bal Shramik Vidya Yojana [Child Labor Education Scheme (BSBY) via video conferencing on June 12, on the occasion of World Day Against Child Labour.
- The Chief Minister of Punjab, Captain Amarinder Singh has launched a mobile based app named 'Ghar Ghar Nigrani', to undertake house to house surveillance in the state, in an effort to check the community spread of COVID-19.
- The Government of Jammu and Kashmir recently launched the Poultry Policy, 2020.
- The private spaceflight company, SpaceX successfully launched its latest batch of 58 Starlink internet satellites into the orbit, in a rideshare mission.
- Uttar Pradesh has become the top state in the country to provide employment to the workers under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme MGNREGA.
- In Gujarat, various events are being organised by the State Yog Board through different social media platforms as part of the International Yoga Day celebrations.
- A state-wide 10-day long special campaign will be launched in Rajasthan to create awareness about COVID19.
- Delhi Government has instructed its Public Works Department to install CCTV cameras in COVID-19 wards of all its Corona virus designated hospitals.
- Raja Parba, Odisha's three-day unique festival celebrating the onset of monsoon and the earth's womanhood has begun.
- West Bengal government has launched a job portal 'KarmaBhumi' for IT professionals who have returned to the state amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

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- The Grand Anicut Dam, on the Cauvery river, near Trichy, was formally declared open by Tamilnadu state ministers Duraikannu, O S Maniyan and Kamaraj.
- Tamil Nadu chief minister Edappadi Palaniswamy has announced a solatium of twenty lakh rupees to the family of the jawan who was martyred in the border skirmish between Indian and Chinese soldiers in Ladakh.
- In Uttar Pradesh, a special commission has been set up for the employment generation and safeguarding the interests of workers.
- To ease the burden on COVID Care Centres, Ahmedabad Hospitals and Nursing Homes' Association, AHNA has launched home care initiative for mild to moderate COVID-19 patients in the city
- A unique project to produce Neera and Palmgur has been rolled out by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) in Palghar district of Maharashtra.
- The Delhi Government is to convert the Radha Soami Spiritua Centre into a COVID-19 care facility. The centre is as large as 22 football fields.
- Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Girish Chandra Murmu formally inaugurated the Yoga Week2020, in connection with the International Day of Yoga (IDY) on 21st of June at a function held at Raj Bhavan in Jammu.
- The Tamil Nadu government's Employment and Training department has started a new portal to assist job seekers in the post Covid 19 scenario.
- On 18 June 2020, Karnataka observed 'Mask Day' to create awareness about the importance of wearing a mask as a preventive measure against Covid-19.
- The Jammu & Kashmir Administration approved the Agriculture Production Department's proposal to change its nomenclature to "Agriculture Production & Farmers Welfare Department" and announced new rules for appointments to various posts.
- Maharashtra Government has launched a new portal which will be useful not only for those who are in search of Jobs but also for those entrepreneurs who are in search of skilled workforce.
- The 19th Great June Uprising Day was observed on 18th June at Kekrupat, Manipur.
- Taking into consideration the situation arising due to the Novel Corona Virus, Gujarat Chief Minister Mr. Vijay Rupani launched online course material for more than 1 lakh students engaged in professional courses at I.T.I.
- In Madhya Pradesh, the Madhya Kshetra Vidyut Vitaran Company has started the Nishtha Vidyut Mitra Scheme for women empowerment in one of its kind of initiatives. In this scheme, women Self-Help Groups at Gram Panchayat level will work as Nishtha Vidyut Mitra.

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- In Rajasthan, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has today launched a statewide public awareness campaign to make people aware of Corona virus.
- One of the eight subsidiaries of Coal India Limited, Sambalpur headquartered Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) on 20th June 2020 has informed that the company has prepared a Rs 60,000 crore investment plan for the state of Odisha.
- The state government of Jharkhand is likely to become the second state after Kerala in the country to launch a job guarantee scheme that will be on the lines of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA).
- The state government of Tripura has decided to start a scheme for school students from 25th June 2020.
- At the centuries-old historic Kamakhya Temple at Guwahati, for the first time in six centuries of record available from 1565, the 5 days Ambubachi Mela will not be organized due by keeping in mind the possibility of spreading the COVID-19 virus.
- In Jammu and Kashmir, the Budgam District Magistrate inaugurated two-day Sensitization-cum-Awareness Workshop yesterday for service providers affiliated with different types of business activities, particularly shopkeepers all across the district.
- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, K. Palaniswami has inaugurated compressed biogas (CBG) Plant in Namakkal.
- Rajasthan state government will soon launch Indira Rasoi Yojana for the poor.
- Among the major states in India, Karnataka has achieved the highest per patient contact tracing at about 47 contacts per patient.
- Uttar Pradesh government will establish Covid help desks at every police station, hospital, collectorate, Block Development Office and major institutions including jails of state.
- Maharashtra government has announced an ex-gratia of Rs. 30 lakh for employees of power department who die due to COVID-19.
- The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) is launching 'Mission Universal Testing' in Mumbai under which one lakh antigen testing kits will be made available.
- The Jharkhand government has launched an employment guarantee scheme for the urban unskilled workers. The scheme will be on similar lines of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA).
- Through the virtual platform, Jitendra Singh (Union Minister of State for Development of North Eastern Region I/C) had inaugurated Border Roads Organisation (BRO) constructed bridges- Devika and Puneja on 24th June 2020.

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- This scheme was announced as a part of the AtmaNirbhar Bharat Package by Finance Minister back on 13th May 2020. On 24th June 2020, the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Sub-ordinate Debt (CGSSD) was launched.
- The Madhya Pradesh Madhya Kshetra Vidyut Vitaran Company Limited(MPMKVVCL) introduced the Nishtha Vidyut Mitra Scheme for women empowerment.
- Maharashtra State Government has introduced “Maha Parwana” plan to attract fresh investment in industries.
- Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Steel, Dharmendra Pradhan has inaugurated a Product Application and Development Centre (PADC) set up by Indian Oil at Paradip, Odisha.
- As per a 2016 Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the State Government of Andhra Pradesh and Gurugram headquartered Apollo Tyres Limited, the company will set up its new manufacturing unit at Chittoor district of the state.
- For 12,247 Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and bigger industrial units (including the textile industry) in the state, the Gujarat Government on 26th June 2020 has launched an online cash aid initiative.
- As a part of one of the five aspects of the revised COVID-19 response plan of New Delhi, the Delhi Government jointly with National Centre for Disease Control will conduct the Sero Survey across the National Capital from 27th June 2020.
- Girish Chandra Murmu, the lieutenant governor of the Union Territory (UT) of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), has rolled out 2 customized loan schemes of J&K Bank namely ‘J&K Bank Business Support Loan Scheme 2019-20’ and ‘J&K Bank Business Support Loan Scheme 2019-20 for Hotels and Guest Houses’ with the aim to overcome business challenges that have stemmed up due to the prevailing conditions.
- Uttar Pradesh government has decided to form a dedicated force for security of courts, metro rail, airports, industrial establishments, banks and other organizations in the state. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has directed officials to constitute the Uttar Pradesh Special Security Force (UPSSF) for this purpose.
- Nagaland Government has notified the implementation of the PM Street Vendor's Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (PMSVANidhi) in the State with immediate effect and till March 2022.
- Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has unveiled a scheme titled ‘YSR Kapu Nestham’ for the welfare of the women from Kapu community.
- The Chhattisgarh government, led by Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has launched ‘Godhan Nyay Yojana’ in the state to make animal husbandry commercially profitable, prevent open grazing by cattle, solve the problem of stray animals on roads and for environment conservation.

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- Arunachal Pradesh state government is to implement Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in the State.
- Madhya Pradesh government will launch a 'Kill Corona' campaign from July 1 to control the spread of coronavirus in the state.
- In Jammu & Kashmir, a massive search operation was launched in several villages near the Line of Control in Kalsiyar area of Nowshera today after reports of some suspicious movement.
- Bhupesh Baghel, Chief Minister of MP announced the launch of “Godhan Nyay Yojana” through an online press conference to promote animal husbandry and make it a commercially profitable practice and to procure the cow dung from the farmers at a fixed rate.
- Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray launched the world's largest plasma therapy trials for the COVID-19 "Project Platina".
- In a bid to attract fresh industrial investments in Maharashtra, the state government announced a new plan called 'Maha Parwana', which will offer several incentives and offer a single-window clearance system for project execution.
- The Delhi government is all set to establish India's first plasma bank in the national capital to fight the novel coronavirus.
- The State Government of Andhra Pradesh will take up the construction of 3 Million (30 lakh) houses under the YSR Jagananna Colonies project after distributing the house sites to the beneficiaries on 8th July 2020.
- Uttarakhand forest department has developed India's first lichen park in Kumaon's Munsiyari, Pithoragarh district. Lichens are found in the Himalayas up to 5000 metres are important species as they are the best bioindicators of the pollution levels. **International**
- The World Health Organization (WHO) has launched an international project named 'COVID-19 Technology Access Pool' (C-TAP) on May 30, 2020.
- United States has finally joined the rest of the G7 countries in the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (AI), in an effort to contain China's influence on AI.
- For the first time in history, NASA astronauts have launched from American soil in a commercially built and operated American crew spacecraft on its way to the International Space Station.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi discussed with His Excellency Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, President of Mozambique.
- The World Health Organization resumed its clinical trials on exploring whether the Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) drug is effective in treating COVID-19.

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- An agreement has been signed between China and Pakistan to implement Kohala Hydroelectric Power project in the region of Pakistan Occupied Kashmir.
- The South African National Space Agency(SANSA) has partnered with National Aeronautics and Space Administration(NASA) to host a deep-space ground station to support human spaceflight missions to the Moon, Mars and beyond.
- The United States issued an order yesterday seeking to suspend passenger flights from China from 16 June. United States President Donald Trump has postponed the G7 Summit 2020 until atleast September 2020.
- The Government of Bangladesh and the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) have launched an app to trace Corona infected people and people near them.
- The G20 countries pledged over 21 billion USD to fight against COVID-19. The countries have so far injected 5 trillion USD in March 2020 to help fight global economic crisis.
- The Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) has started Yoga practice for its officers to make them physically and mentally fit at a time when Coronavirus is spreading rapidly in the country.
- The Health Ministry of South-Pacific nation, New Zealand has declared that the nation has become free from “Coronavirus”.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a discussion with His Excellency Benjamin Netanyahu, PM of Israel over the telephone.
- The Sri Lankan parliamentary election has been finally decided for 5 August 2020.
- China’s unmanned submersible ‘Haidou-1’ has dived to a depth of 10, 907 meters at the world’s deepest ocean point.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB), a regional development bank has constituted a 8-member high-level panel of leading experts in economics, finance, and health, moderated by ADB Vice-President Ahmed M. Saeed, to help ministers, central bank governors, and other senior officials identify solutions for Southeast Asian economies to tap into to quickly recover after the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.
- The Government of Bangladesh has launched an initiative named ‘Shohojodha’, which is an online network to facilitate plasma exchange between recovered patients of COVID 19 and those undergoing treatment for Corona infection in the country.
- Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) has extended a line of credit (LOC) worth \$215.68 million to the Malawi government for drinking water supply schemes and other development projects.
- Pakistan's government said on Friday it expected a fiscal deficit of 7 percent of gross domestic product in the 2020-21 financial year as it announced its annual budget amid a fast-growing coronavirus outbreak.

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- Second Lieutenant Anmol Narang will create history by becoming the first observant Sikh to graduate from the prestigious United States Military Academy at West Point on Saturday.
- The United Kingdom's economy shrank by record 20.4 percent in April, amid strict lockdown to combat COVID-19, revealed official data on June 12, 2020.
- Indian External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar is scheduled to meet his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi at a virtual Russia-India-China (RIC) trilateral meeting on June 22, 2020. This meeting comes amid rising tensions between India and China over border stand-off along the LAC.
- HIL (India) Limited, a PSU under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, has supplied 25MT Malathion 95% Ultra-low volume (ULV) to Iran under Government-to-Government initiative for Locust Control Programme.
- Former NASA astronaut Kathryn D. Sullivan, who became the first American woman to walk in space, has now created another record to become the first woman to reach the deepest point in the ocean.
- The NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) scientists in the International Space Station unveiled the first results of Bose-Einstein condensate experiments under which the particles can be manipulated free from Earthly constraints.
- Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan, Mukhammedkalyi Abylgaziev has resigned from the post.
- WhatsApp has launched its 'WhatsApp Pay' in Brazil, two years after it began testing the payments service in India.
- IT major HCL Technologies has commenced operations in Sri Lanka, and plans to create over 1,500 local employment opportunities in the next 18 months.
- Violent clash broke out between the Indian and Chinese soldiers recently in the Galwan Valley of Ladakh region.
- Saudi national oil company Aramco has donated USD 500,000 (about Rs 3.8 crore) to the Indian Red Cross Society to support its efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19.
- Germany sought to mobilize the public to download a new smartphone app that seeks to help break the chain of coronavirus infections, one of several such apps in Europe that governments hope will revive travel and tourism.
- Kubatbek Boronov was appointed as Kyrgyzstan's Prime Minister. Kyrgyzstan's President Sooronbai Jeenbekov signed an order to appoint him.
- The World Bank has approved dollar 1.05 billion for three projects in Bangladesh to create quality jobs and accelerate economic recovery in the wake of the Corona pandemic.
- A Line of Credit (LOC) of USD 20.10 million has been extended by the Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) on behalf of the Government of India, to the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua. □

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France and India signed an agreement with Paris committing 200 million euros to support Delhi's Covid response.

- The House of Representatives in Nepal on 18th June 2020 had made a constitutional amendment under which the map of Nepal was revised.
- Following a global economic crisis since the COVID-19 was declared a pandemic back in March 2020, the United States Government has decided to suspend 'Green Cards and Non-Migrant Work Visas' till the 31st December 2020 in an effort to protect jobs for the citizens of the United States.
- China announced that it has decided to join the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty (UN-ATT) to regulate its arms sales.
- China launched the satellite of the BeiDou Navigation Satellite System 3 (BDS-3) from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in southwest China's Sichuan Province on 23 June 2020.
- Serbia's President Aleksandar Vucic won the controversial parliamentary election.
- As part of the 6th International Yoga Day commemorations, the world's first yoga university outside India has been launched in Los Angeles, offering programmes that combine scientific principles and modern research approaches to the ancient Indian practice of yoga.
- The Republic of Mali has awarded the Project Management Consultancy contract to NTPC Limited, a central PSU that functions under the Ministry of Power, in an event held on 24 June 2020.
- The World Health Organization (WHO)-led coalition ACT-Accelerator announced that it needs \$31.3 billion over the next 12 months to fight the CVOVID-19 and to develop and roll out tests, treatments and vaccines.
- Russian Company- S.P. Korolev Rocket and Space Corporation Energia (also known as RSC Energia) has announced that it will take the first tourist for a spacewalk in 2023.
- In a setback for Pakistan, the global terror financing watchdog Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has decided to keep Pakistan in the Grey List' for terror financing.
- The World Bank has approved loan worth \$500 million (about Rs 3,700 crore) for Strengthening Teaching Learning and Results for States Program (STARS) on June 24, 2020, to improve quality and governance of school education in six Indian states.
- Russia's Energia space corporation has announced that it is to take the first tourist on a spacewalk in 2023, under the terms of a new contract with a US partner.
- Micheal Martin has been elected as new Prime Minister of Ireland by the lower house of the Irish parliament.

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- Ethiopia's Water Minister has stated that a consensus had been reached between the three countries (Ethiopia, Sudan and Egypt) over the USD 4.5 billion worth Giant Ethiopian Renaissance Dam and the dam will not be filled unilaterally by Ethiopia.
- A Tripartite Power Purchase Agreement (TPPA) was signed for the construction of the 1124 MW Kohala Hydro Power Project on 25th June 2020. □ The National People's Congress Standing Committee (NPCSC) has unanimously passed the National Security Law for Hong Kong on 30th June 2020.
- The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on 26th June 2020 has stated that amid the COVID-19 global pandemic, around 2.4 million (24 lakh) children who are below the age of 5 are facing hunger and malnutrition in Yemen. **Summits and Conferences**
- Union Minister for Commerce & Industry and Railways, Piyush Goyal participated in the Digital Summit on Exports organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) through a Video Conference.
- The think tank of India, NITI Aayog organized convention on agrological and natural farming approaches in the country.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi discussed with His Excellency Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, President of Mozambique.
- The World Health Organization resumed its clinical trials on exploring whether the Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) drug is effective in treating COVID-19.
- An agreement has been signed between China and Pakistan to implement Kohala Hydroelectric Power project in the region of Pakistan Occupied Kashmir.
- The South African National Space Agency (SANS) has partnered with National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to host a deep-space ground station to support human spaceflight missions to the Moon, Mars and beyond.
- The United States issued an order yesterday seeking to suspend passenger flights from China from 16 June.
- PM Modi will hold a virtual bilateral summit with the Australian PM Scott Morrison. This is the first ever virtual bilateral summit to be held by India.
- The Union Minister of Rural Development Shri Narendra Singh Tomar chaired the 21st meeting of the Central Employment Guarantee Council.
- The World Economic Forum announced that it is to host its next summit in Davos under the theme "The Great Reset".
- India and China held high-level talks on 6 June. The talk was initiated by India and was held at the Border Personnel Meeting Point in Maldo on the Chinese side of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Eastern Ladakh.

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- The Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts hosted a four day virtual fair for around 200 Indian Exporters.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivered the inaugural address at the 95th annual plenary session of Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) on June 11, 2020 through video conferencing.
- The External Affairs Minister of India Shri S Jai Shankar is to hold a joint virtual conference with his Russian and Chinese Counterparts on June 22,2020.
- International Workshop on “Good Governance Practices in a Pandemic for International Civil Servants” was inaugurated by the Union Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Jitendra Singh.
- The 45th annual meeting of the United States India Business Council (USIBC) will be marked with the 2020 India Ideas Summit.
- Indian officials, including representatives from enforcement agencies, have participated in the 32nd special Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (EAG) plenary meeting 2020, under the aegis of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).
- The Minister of State (MoS) for Shipping (Independent charge) and Chemicals & Fertilisers Shri Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated India's one the largest first Virtual Healthcare & Hygiene EXPO 2020.
- India is participating at the Cannes Film Festival 2020.The film festival began with the e-inauguration of the Virtual India Pavilion by Union Ministry of Information & Broadcasting Prakash Javadekar.
- The 36th ASEAN Summit held via teleconference in light of the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Shri Piyush Goyal, Commerce & Industry Minister and President of NPC Governing Council chaired the 49th Governing Council Meeting of National Productivity Council (NPC).

Ranks and Indices

- India is poised to emerge as the world’s largest electronics and mobile manufacturing country.
- Brand Finance has released its annual Brand Value Report 5000 for the year 2020.It is for the third consecutive year that Amazon has retained the title of the world’s most valuable brand having brand valuation of \$220,791 million.
- The World Bank recently launched the Global Economic Prospects Report, 2020.
- Time Higher Education (THE) released its annual THE Asia University Rankings 2020 on 03 June 2020, which lists 489 institutions from 30 countries and regions.Among the Indian institutes, Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore is the best institute. Globally it has been placed at 36th rank.
- The National Statistical Office launched the Annual Report of Periodic Labour Force Survey.
- Bollywood Actor Akshay Kumar is the only Indian to feature on Forbes 2020 list of World’s 100 HighestPaid Celebrities.

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- The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has shared the data related to details of tiger deaths during the eight year period between 2012 and 2019.
 - The Yale University recently released the biennial Environment Performance Index. India scored 168th rank out of 180 countries. In 2018, India scored 27.6 out of 100 and secured 177th rank.
 - The Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) has released the State of India's Environment, 2020 report.
 - The World Bank in its latest Global Economic Prospect downgraded its projection of growth of India by -9%.
 - The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has released the Annual Report 2019-20. □
 - The National Statistical Office recently released the Periodic Labour force Survey.
 - The Bloomberg Billionaires Index is a daily ranking of the world's richest people.
 - India's financial capital Mumbai has emerged as the most expensive city in the country for expatriates in terms of cost of living, according to Mercer's '2020 Cost of Living Survey' released on 9 June 2020.
 - Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on June 7 announced that Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, and Maharashtra have topped an index that measured and ranked states ensuring food safety in 2019-20.
 - Indian Institute of Technology, Madras is the best higher education institution in the country, according to the National Institutional Ranking Framework released by Human Resource Development Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank today. Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore has bagged the second position and IIT Delhi is in the third position.
 - PM Modi on Twitter announced about the increase in population of Asiatic Lions.
 - Three institutions of the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India have found places in the Nature Index 2020.
 - The Union Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', virtually released 'India NIRF Rankings 2020' of Institutions of Higher Education on 11 June 2020 in New Delhi.
 - None of the Indian institutions have featured in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2021.
 - India has been ranked 56th out of 200 countries in a comprehensive report on safety and risk assessment of nations tackling Covid-19.
 - The International Labour Organization and the UNICEF have released a report on Child Labour.
 - The country's largest carmaker Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) announced said its entry level small car Alto has become the best-selling model for the 16th year in a row clocking sale of 1.48 lakh units in 2019-20.
 - The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development released its World Investment Report, 2020.
- According to the report, India is the 9th largest recipient of FDI in 2019.

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- The Swedish think-tank launched the SIPRI Yearbook, 2020. According to the yearbook, India and China have increased their nuclear arsenal as compared to 2019.
- The Institute of Management Development recently released the World Competitive Index. India ranked 43rd in the ranking.
- The Ministry of Earth Science recently released its report “Assessment of Climate Change over Indian Region”.
- India was second biggest growth driver of primary energy consumption in the world, according to the 69th annual edition of the BP Statistical Review of World Energy, released by BP, one of the world’s largest energy companies.
- The Ministry of Earth Sciences’ (MoES) has released the report titled ‘Assessment of Climate Change over the Indian Region’, which is the first ever climate change assessment report for different parts of India.
- Mukesh Ambani with a recent soar in net worth has jumped into the exclusive club of the world’s top 10 richest people, as per Forbes Real-Time Billionaire list.

S.No	Country/Person	Net Worth (In Billions)	Company
1	Jeff Bezos	USD 160.1	Amazon
2	Bill Gates	USD 108.7	Microsoft
3	Bernard Arnault & family	USD 103.2	LVMH
4	Mark Zuckerberg	USD 87.9	Facebook
5	Warren Buffet	USD 71.4	Berkshire Hathaway
6	Steve Ballmer	USD 68.9	Microsoft
7	Larry Ellison	USD 68.9	Oracle
8	Amancio Ortega	USD 65.8	Zara
9	Mukesh Ambani	USD 64.6	Reliance Industries
10	Larry Page	USD 64.3	Google

- India becomes 12th Largest Holder of US Government Securities at April 2020 end
- Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Dr. Harsh Vardhan released the annual TB Report 2020 through a virtual event on 24 June.

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- Times Higher Education (THE) has released the world's young university ranking for the relatively newer generation of universities, which are 50 years old or younger.

- Swiss National Bank (SNB) has released 'Annual banking statistics, 2019'. According to the latest SNB data, India has moved down three places to 77th rank in terms of money parked by its citizens.

Agreements and MoUs Signed

- The Tata Sons, holding company of the Tata Group, has entered into an agreement with the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST), Thiruvananthapuram, for commercial production of COVID-19 testing kits.

- The Board of BEML (formerly Bharat Earth Movers Limited) in its 362nd meeting has given its approval for signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with MELCO to study and planning for initiating a joint venture (JV) company between BEML and MELCO.

- Facebook has entered into a global deal with Saregama, one of India's oldest and largest music labels, to license its music for video and other social experiences across Facebook and Instagram.

- DBS Bank India partnered with Transport Corporation of India Limited (TCIL) to facilitate real time payments for truck drivers by DBS RAPID (Real Time Application Program Interface-APIs by DBS) solution to enable them to receive payments instantly.

- Indian PM Modi and the Australian PM Scott Morrison held India's first virtual bilateral summit.

- HCL Technologies (HCL), a leading global technology company, and Google Cloud announced the expansion of their strategic partnership to bring HCL's software offerings, starting with HCL Commerce, to Google Cloud.

- The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and Atal Innovation Mission came together to promote culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in area of mutual interest.

- Private sector lender YES Bank has acquired 24.19 percent stake in Dish TV India Ltd, making it the secondlargest shareholder in the direct-to-home (DTH) company.

- Private sector lender Yes Bank Limited has acquired a 24.19% stake in Dish TV India Ltd, a company providing Direct to Home (DTH) television service in India, following invocation of 44.53 crore pledged shares due to default in payment of debt by Dish TV and some other companies.

- Facebook has announced in April 2020 to acquire 9.9 per cent stake in Jio Platforms, at an investment of USD 5.7 billion (Rs 43,574 crore).

- Abu Dhabi's second-largest investor group, Mubadala will invest \$1.2 billion (Rs 9,093.6 crore) in Reliance's Jio platforms for a 1.85% stake taking the total investments to Rs 87655.35 crore for a combined 19% stake in the digital unit.

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- For the cooperation in the Field of Space Situational Awareness(SSA) and Astrophysic, The Indian Space Research Organization(ISRO), Bengaluru signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Aryabhata Research institute of Observational Science(ARIES),Nainital.
- Wipro Limited on Monday announced a collaboration with IBM through which the Bengaluru-headquartered company would develop hybrid cloud offerings to help businesses migrate, manage and transform missioncritical workloads and applications, with security across public or private cloud and on-premises IT environments.
- India and Denmark signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Indo-Denmark Energy Cooperation to develop cooperation in the power sector.
- Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR) has entered into an MoU with Breathe Applied Sciences for Conversion of Carbon dioxide to clean fuels such as methanol and other useful chemicals on large scale.
- Tech Mahindra has signed a joint declaration with UN Global Compact and hence joined 155 global companies in calling for policies to build resilience against future shocks by supporting the activities targeted to hold global temperature rise to within 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, in order to reach net-zero emissions before 2050.
- Maruti Suzuki India Ltd, the country's largest passenger vehicle manufacturer, has collaborated with nonbanking financial companies (NBFCs) to push sales in the rural areas where demand recovery is expected to be quicker than urban areas.
- National Council Of Educational Research And Training (NCERT) has digitally signed an MoU with Rotary India Humanity Foundation under the guidance and support of Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD).
- With a view to give thrust to the Skill India initiative, National Fertilizers Limited, NFL, a Central Public Sector Enterprise Under Department Of Fertilizers, has started tying up with Industrial Training Institutes located near to its plants to train youth in various trades and to enhance the chances of their employability in heavy and process industry.
- National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) has partnered with Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) to provide its training partners access to the TCS iON Digital Glass Room.
- Tata AutoComp Systems announced that it has tied up with US-based Tellus Power Green to set up electric vehicle charging stations in the country.
- Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) has partnered with the Common Service Centre to provide the facility to submit Digital Jeevan Pramaan for EPS pensioners.
- Facebook has joined hands with Microsoft, Google, Twitter and 14 other tech giants for a new initiative called

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'Project Protect' to help combat child sexual abuse and exploitation online.

- Following the investment of Abu Dhabi's Mubadala Investment Company in Reliance's Jio Platforms, US(United States) private equity company Silver Lake partners announced an investment of Rs 4,546.80 crore for an additional 0.93 % stake in Jio Platforms, a subsidiary of Asia's richest man Mukesh Ambani-controlled Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL).
- Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services Limited (IL&FS) has completed the sale of its 50% stake in Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City).
- Bharti Airtel's wholly-owned subsidiary, Bharti International (Singapore) Pte. Ltd.,(BISPL) directly and through its affiliate entities, has acquired an additional 6.3% stake in Robi Axiata Limited, Bangladesh from Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (NTT) Do Communications over the Mobile network(Docomo) Inc and its group entities for an undisclosed sum.
- India joined the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI or Gee-Pay) as a founding member to support responsible and human-centric development and use of Artificial Intelligence (AI).
- Desperate to restart the economy which has taken a hit by Coronavirus pandemic, the Maharashtra Government has signed Memorandum of Undertaking worth 16,000 crore rupees with companies spanning various industries, including two Chinese units, under its Magnetic Maharashtra 2.0 initiative.
- India and Nepal signed a Memorandum of Understanding to improve infrastructure of the Pashupatinath temple complex.
- Maharashtra govt inks MoUs worth Rs 5,000 crore with three Chinese firms
- Infosys partnered with Amazon and Global Optimism and signed the Climate Pledge, an initiative by Jeff Bezos, founder of Amazon and Christiana Figueres, founder of Global Optimism and former United Nations Climate chief to become net-zero carbon by 2040, ten years ahead of the Paris Agreement.
- Beverages major Coca-Cola has partnered with CARE India to provide food and other essentials to underprivileged and vulnerable groups as part of its commitment of Rs 100 crore towards various COVID-19 relief programmes in India.
- Tata AIA Life Insurance partnered with East Consultancy Services to offer Aadhaar-based paperless offline eKnow Your Customer(KYC) service. This tie up helps to service the customer during the COVID-19 pandemic crisis.
- Karnataka Bank in partnership with Universal Sampo General Insurance Company has launched a health insurance policy. The policy aims to cover the individuals' COVID-19 pandemic related health expenses.
- The Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Lucknow based financial institution SIDBI- Small Industries Development Bank of India on 19th June 2020.

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- Car market leader Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) has partnered with Karur Vysya Bank to offer simpler and flexible financing schemes for new customers.
- Maruti Suzuki India Ltd (MSIL) has partnered IndusInd Bank for vehicle financing to help spur sales after resumption of operations following lockdown relaxations.
- Jio Platforms and Reliance Industries on June 18 announced an investment of Rs. 11,367 crore by Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund.
- Facebook Inc. has acquired Mapillary AB, a Swedish mapping technology startup that crowdsources streetlevel imagery to build immersive and up-to-date maps.
- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the acquisition of Metso Oyj's (Metso) minerals business by Outotec Oyj (Outotec) under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002.
- Coal India Limited (CIL) has agreed to partner with Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog to support proactively the flagship mission's innovation and entrepreneurship initiatives across the country.
- Vijay Khanduja has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Zimbabwe.
- Dr. Panchanathan is the second Indian-American ever to be nominated to the prestigious science position.
- World Athletics on June 22 announced that Laurent Boquillet has been appointed as the Head of Global Development.
- The Education Minister of Haryana has announced that the Haryana State Government has signed an agreement under the Chief Minister's Distance Learning Programme with Reliance Industries Limited's subsidiary company Jio.
- Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and IBM partners to unveil free Digital Learning Platform "Skills Build Reignite".
- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the acquisition of stake in Jio Platforms Limited by Jaadhu Holdings LLC.
- India and Germany held virtual Foreign Secretary level consultations yesterday. Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla and State Secretary of the German Federal Foreign Office Miguel Berger discussed bilateral cooperation in various areas and exchanged views on regional and global issues of mutual interest.
- Hyundai Motor India Limited (HMIL) partnered with HDFC Bank to offer industry 1st online auto retail financing on its end-to-end online automotive retail platform, 'Click to Buy' to the customers.
- Government of India, Government of Tamil Nadu and the World Bank signed an agreement to help lowincome groups in Tamil Nadu State to get access to affordable housing.

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- India and Bhutan signed the first Indo-Bhutan joint venture hydroelectric project on 29 June 2020.

Committees

- The Government of India has constituted Jaya Jaitly Force that will work on the issues of women and child development.
- Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has reconstituted a new committee for the welfare of the freedom fighters.
- The Lieutenant Governor of Delhi Anil Baijal has formed an Expert Advisory Committee to advise the Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA).
- The Union Government has constituted a seven-member 'Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS)', headed by Cabinet Secretary, for attracting investments in India.
- The recent massive fire at the Baghjan Oil field, Assam had caused serious environmental damages and led to migration of 1000s of people in the region.
- The insolvency regulator 'Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India' (IBBI) has reconstituted the Advisory Committee on Corporate Insolvency Resolution and Liquidation process on 12 June 2020.
- The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has set up a Project Development Cell (PDC) to attract more investments into the sector and particularly solar energy sector.
- Niti Aayog has formed a panel to develop a job platform for migrant labourers. **Appointments**

Name	Appointed as	Other Info
RK Chaturvedi	Secretary in the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers	replaced P.Raghavendra Rao
Pradip Kumar Tripathi	Secretary, Ministry of Steel	Prior to this, Shri Tripathi has been posted as Special Secretary and Establishment Officer in Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT).
Adesh Kumar Gupta	new Chief of party's Delhi Unit	replacing Manoj Tiwari.
Vishnu Deo Sai	Chhattisgarh State President	
S Tikendra Singh	Manipur State Chief	
Raveesh Kumar	Ambassador of India to Finland.	Mr. Kumar , a 1995 batch IFS officer was earlier the spokesperson of Ministry of External Affairs.
Sibi George	Ambassador of India to the State of Kuwait.	replace K. Jeeva Sagar

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Sushil Kumar Singhal	High Commissioner of India to the Independent State of Papua New Guinea.	replace Vijay Kumar
Gaitri I. Kumar	High Commissioner of India to the United Kingdom.	replace Ruchi Ghanashyam
Virendra Nath Datt	Chairman and MD of National Fertilizers Limited	
Ravinder Singh Dhillon	Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Power Finance Corporation	succeed CMD Rajeev Sharma
Arun Singhal	CEO of Food Regulator FSSAI	succeed GSG Ayyangar
PR Jaishankar	Managing Director of the India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd (IIFCL)	
Manoj Pande	Commander-In-Chief of Andaman &	
	Nicobar Command	
Anita Kotwani	Chief Executive Officer of Carat India	
Mr. Ankur Jain	Chief Product Officer of BharatPe	
Uday Kotak	President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for the financial year 2020-21.	
Patrick Pichette	Chairman of Twitter's Board	
Krishnendu Majumdar	chairperson of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA)	succeeds Pippa Harris
Rajeev Topno	Senior Advisor to the Executive Director (ED) of World Bank	He was presently serving as the Private Secretary to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi since 2014
Brajendra Navnit	Ambassador and Permanent Representative of India to the World Trade Organisation (WTO)	

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Nethra	Goodwill Ambassador of UNADAP	
Hashmat Ali Yattoo	MD J&K Handloom and Handicrafts Corp	
Javed Iqbal Wani	Judge of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court.	
Anil Valluri	Senior Director for Google Cloud in India.	
R Jeswant	CEO of Funskool India	
Rohit Sharma	IIFL Finance Brand Ambassador	
Rahul Shrivastava	Ambassador of India to Romania.	replace Thanglura Darlong
Monika Kapil Mohta	Ambassador of India to Switzerland	replace Sibi George
B K Manjunath	Lakshmi Vilas Bank (LVB) nonexecutive and independent director.	
Sonu Sood	brand ambassador of Gargo International	
Bollywood actor Pankaj Tripathi	brand ambassador of Bihar Khadi	
Imtaiyazur Rahman	CEO of UTI Mutual Fund	

Shambhu S. Kumaran	Ambassador of India to the Republic of the Philippines.	will replace Jaideep Mazumdar
Kaizad Bharucha	Re-appointment as HDFC Bank Executive Director	
D K Jain	1-year extension as BCCI ombudsman	
Volkan Bozkır	President of 75th UN General Assembly	
Devendra Kumar Singh	new Director of SIDBI	succeeding Ram Mohan Mishra
Dr Sethuraman Panchanathan	Director of the National Science Foundation(NSF).	replace France Cordova

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Dr Nirakar Pradhan	Professional Risk Managers' International Association CEO	
Vikram Pawah	president of BMW Group India	
Vijay Khanduja	Ambassador of India to the Republic of Zimbabwe.	replace R. Masakui
Laurent Boquillet	Head of Global Development.	
T. Rabi Sankar	Chairman of Indian Financial Technology & Allied Services (IFTAS)	
Dr N Rajendran	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Indian Financial Technology & Allied Services (IFTAS)	
Wasim Jaffer	head coach of the Uttarakhand cricket team	
Gaurav Maheshwari	CFO – India of Standard Chartered Bank	taken over from Subhradeep Mohanty
Bollywood actress Priyanka Chopra and filmmaker Anurag Kashyap	ambassadors at TIFF 2020	
Vini Mahajan	Punjab's first woman chief secretary	
Gudni Johannesson	current President of Iceland reelected as the head of the state.	
Lazarus Chakwera	new President of Malawi.	
Anandiben Patel	additional charge as the Governor of Madhya Pradesh	

- The former Miss World 2017 Manushi Chhillar joined Rohit Sharma, Indian star Batsman, Hima Das Sprinter from Assam and Actor Ranveer Singh as the brand ambassador of Adidas.
- After nearly six decades in business, Kushal Pal Singh retired as the Chairman of property firm Delhi Land & Finance Limited (DLF).
- India has been elected as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for a twoyear term during the 2020 UNSC elections held on 17 June 2020.

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- The current Attorney General of India, K. K. Venugopal, is all set to get one-year extension, after he accepted the government's request to serve as the top law officer of the country for one more year.
- The Trustees of the Prime Minister's Citizens Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations (PM CARES) fund has appointed, New Delhi based Chartered Accountants, SARC & Associates, as its auditors for the next three years. **Sports**
- India skipper Virat Kohli is the only cricketer to feature in Forbes' list of the top 100 highest paid athletes in the world for the year 2020.
- Sports Authority of India (SAI), the apex national sports body of India, in association with National Sports Federations (NSF) has launched India's 1st -ever national-level open online coaching and education programme called "Khelo India e-Pathshala" to grassroots players.
- The Asian Football Confederation confirmed that India will host 2022 Women's Asian Cup.
- The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and the Ministry of Sports have collaborated to produce a series of special films to promote 10 indigenous sports of India.
- Athletics Integrity Unit(AIU) has banned Gomathi Marimuthu for 4-years after testing positive for banned substances.
- The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) has banned Former European high jump champion, Alexander Shustov for 4-years for the use or attempted use of a banned substance or method (doping).
- The 33-year-old Ukrainian lightweight boxing champion Oleksandr Gvozdyk also known as "The Nail" announced his retirement. □India's Gomathi Marimuthu will be stripped off her 2019 Asian Athletics Championships gold medal after she was handed a four-year ban by the Athletics Integrity Unit for testing positive for a banned substance.
- The Ministry of Sports has decided to establish 1,000 Khelo India Centers (KIC) at the district level across the country.
- The football club Napoli has won the 2019-20 Coppa Italia cup after defeating Juventus with 4-2 on shootout penalties in the final after a goalless draw.
- India's reigning national tennis champion Niki Kaliyanda Poonacha has been elected by the International Tennis Federation (ITF) to the ITF World Tennis Tour Player Panels
- Wrestling legend and WWE whiz "The Undertaker" has announced his retirement from World Wrestling Entertainment.
- Nagaland State Sports Academy at Indira Gandhi Stadium, Kohima has been selected to be established as Khelo India State Centre of Excellence, KISCE.
- Novak Djokovic, the world's no.1 tennis player, has tested positive for COVID-19. Djokovic recently took part in an exhibition tennis tournament in the Balkans.

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- According to a poll conducted by Wisden India, Rahul Dravid is the greatest Indian Test batsman of all time.
- The FIFA Women's World Cup 2023™ will be hosted by Australia and New Zealand.
- Indian umpire Nitin Menon has been inducted into International Cricket Council's Elite Panel of Umpires
- The presence of Grandmaster P. Harikrishna is sure to see a major spike in Indian interest in the million-dollar Magnus Carlsen Chess Tour that continues with the \$150,000 Chessable Masters.
- Former Germany footballer Mario Gomez has announced his retirement from the sport.

Defence

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) has designed developed and inducted an Airborne Rescue Pod for Isolated Transportation (ARPIT).
- Warship builder Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd (GRSE) delivered the 'ICGS Kanaklata Barua' on 9 June.
- The Indian Navy has inducted the Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV) Complex to provide rescue cover to submarines on the east and west coast of India.
- India would be sending a tri-service military contingent to participate in the Russian Victory Day Parade on June 24, 2020.
- A fast track purchase of 21 additional MiG 29 and 12 Sukhoi Su-30 MKI fighter jets with an estimated cost of around Rs 6,000 crore is likely to be made, though the delivery of the fighter jets may take a couple of years from the date of purchase.
- Within 10 days of the Galwan Valley Clash, the Armed Forces of India and China are set to take part in the 75th Victory Anniversary of the Soviet Union over Nazi Germany at the Red Square in Moscow, Russia on 24th June 2020.
- Following the violent Galwan valley clash on 15th June 2020 and a six-week-long border standoff with the Chinese army, under emergency requirement procurement Rs 500 crore of funds was granted by the Government for the Armed Forces.
- Indian Navy (IN) has inducted indigenously developed Torpedo Decoy System on 26 June 2020.
- The Central Government has granted special financial powers of Rs 500 crore as emergency funds to armed forces for war preparedness amid ongoing border tensions with China.

Science & Technology

- The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has taken several proactive measures to streamline the biosafety regulation and to facilitate researchers and industries which are undertaking research and development in Recombinant DNA (rDNA) Technology and Hazardous Microorganisms.

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- India Observatory, an open-source database, launched a GIS-enabled dashboard, CoAST India(Collaboration/Covid Action Support Group) in collaboration with Anand-based Forest Ecological Security(FES) as its main nodal point, to help administrators, civil society organisations & volunteers to plan urgent steps to get the stranded migrant population to safety & care.
- The Department of Science and Technology operating under Ministry of Science and Technology launched the Indian National Super Model.
- A research project undertaken by the team of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras has helped Chilika lake in Odisha, in tripling the population of the Irrawaddy dolphins.
- The developer team of Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne(Ecole polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne – EPFL) and ETH Zurich (Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich) developed the “SwissCovid”, first of its kind for digital contact tracing app utilizing the Exposure Notification API (Application Programming Interface) of Apple and Google and based on a decentralized approach to track the spread of coronavirus.
- The Defence Research Development Organization (DRDO) developed a disinfection unit called Ultra Swachh.
- Researchers at Durgapur-based CSIR-Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI) have indigenously developed a ventilator to provide help and support to the COVID-19 patients.
- The Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed a device dubbed as SUMERUPACS, which will help wearers of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to feel comfortable without sweating.
- The Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) has approved support for the research and study done by the National Centre for Veterinary Type Cultures (NCVTC), ICAR-NRC from Hisar in Haryana.
- The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in the Banaras Hindu University (BHU) has developed an antimicrobial multilayer face mask.
- The scientists and researchers at the Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences operating under Department of Science and Technology have invented a low cost effective way to generate hydrogen from water using Molybdenum dioxide.
- A UVC-based Cabinet has been co-developed by the International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials (ARCI) and the MEKINS Industries.
- An engineer from Thane has developed an internet-controlled robot.
- Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology-Hyderabad have developed a low cost and Artificial Intelligence-based test kit for COVID-19.

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- Indian Institute of Technology Mandi researchers claims to have developed a technology for making high efficiency masks using waste pet bottles.
- CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIIM) Jammu received IND approval from the New Drugs Division of Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) for a potent anti-cancer, New Chemical Entity (NCE) effective against pancreatic cancer.
- Cochin-based startup VST Mobility Solutions has launched an automated mask disposal machine, named BIN-19, as part of efforts to develop products helping to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT-BHU) have developed an anti-microbial five-layered face mask.
- A new study stated that Saturn's largest moon Titan is now expanding from Saturn at a rate 100 times faster than scientists had previously predicted.
- Researchers at the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) have developed a new low-cost and low-tech required test for the COVID-19 testing.
- The Defence Research and Development Organization has developed 'GermiKlean'. GermiKlean is a sanitising chamber that can be used to sanitise uniforms of security and police personnel.
- The Researchers of IIT Kharagpur have developed an Artificial Intelligence based cyber-physical system to monitor social distancing in public places.
- The Union Minister for Electronics and IT, Law and Justice and Communications Ravi Shankar Prasad launched India's national Artificial Intelligence Portal called www.ai.gov.in, on 30 May 2020, to mark the the first anniversary of the second tenure of the government
- The Union Minister of India Shri Jitendra Singh recently launched COVID BEEP, the first physiological parameter monitoring system of our country for COVID-19 patient.
- Online waste exchange website of Andhra Pradesh Environment Management Corporation (APEMC) has been launched by the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy.
- "Raj Kaushal Portal" and "Online Shramik Employment Exchange" has been launched by the Rajasthan Government.
- Karnataka Revenue Minister R.Ashoka launched Meghasandesha App & Varunamitra web portal to provide real-time information and alerts on weather, rainfall, flooding in Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike(BBMP) jurisdiction.
- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)- Guwahati has developed an application called "Flyzy" for consistent and contactless air travel during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Madhya Pradesh is the first state in the country which has completed the survey of all migrant labourers and started to provide jobs according to their skill.

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- iFLOWS- Mumbai, a state-of-the-art Integrated Flood Warning System for Mumbai was launched jointly by Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Uddhav Thackeray, and Union Earth Sciences Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan on 12 June through video conference.
- The Union Health Ministry has recently included Remdesivir as a part of investigational therapy and updated Clinical Management Protocol of COVID-19 patients.
- India has joined as a founding member and launched the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI or Gee-Pay).
- The Indian Council of Medical Research recommended the use of Rapid Antigen test kits along with RT-PCR in containment zones.
- Union Minister for Science & Technology Dr. Harsh Vardhan inaugurated and flagged off India's first Infectious disease diagnostic lab (I-Lab) for COVID-19 testing in rural and inaccessible areas of India.
- CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI) Lucknow received permission to carry out Phase III randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled trial of efficacy, safety, and tolerability of antiviral drugs Umifenovir.
- The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati in association with RR Animal Healthcare Ltd and Guwahati Medical College and Hospital (GMCH) developed low-cost diagnostic kits.
- Within a month, user-friendly Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Kit known by the name 'NavRakshak' are expected to be available in the Indian market as the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has approved it earlier this week for mass production and use in the country.
- Union Minister for Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs, Pralhad Joshi has launched R&D Portal "Science and Technology Yojana for Aatmanirbhar Bharat in Mining Advancement (SATYABHAMA)".
- The ISRO has initiated a 10,000 crore project- Gaganyaan to send humans to space by 2022, in accordance to which, ISRO has received a patent for its Liquid Cooling and Heating Garment (LCHG) for astronauts to use in space for protection from hot and cold environments.
- IT-Bombay has created Indian beneficiary chip "Dhruva".
- An apparatus for ultraviolet sterilization of surfaces has been developed by Dr BR Ambedkar National Institute of Technology in Jalandhar to kill coronavirus.
- The Union Minister for Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Pralhad Joshi, launched a portal called SATYABHAMA.
- Union Minister of Human Resource Development Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' launched an initiative 'YUKTI 2.0' on 23 June 2020 in New Delhi.

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- Thousands of health service specialists have launched the platform Swasth Telemedicine for corona care. Yes Bank has partnered with UDMA Technologies to launch its digital wallet solution 'Yuva Pay' mobile app.
- Researchers at IIT-Bombay have developed a homegrown receiver chip named Dhruva, that can be used in smartphones and navigation devices to find locations and routes within the country.
- The web portal of the Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan has been launched by the Union Minister of Rural Development, Panchayati Raj and Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar.
- The Union Shri Arjun Munda launched the Trifed Digital Platforms, through Video Conference.
- The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has released an updated Clinical Management Protocol under Dexamethasone was advised as an alternative to Methylprednisolone.
- The Drug Controller General of India (DGCI) has given its approval to the Indian vaccine manufacturer Bharat Biotech's COVID vaccine.
- To promote balanced use of fertilisers, state-owned (NFL) launched five mobile soil testing labs for providing free services at doorsteps of farmers.

Books & Authors

- Union Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions Dr. Jitendra Singh has launched the ebooklet on Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) achievements for the period 30 May 2019 to 30 May 2020.
- The Dry Fasting Miracle: From Deprive to Thrive, a book on the benefits of dry fasting diet by the famous personal lifestyle coach and author, Luke Coutinho and co-authored by a member of UAE's Ajman royal Family, Sheikh Abdulaziz Bin Ali Bin Rashid Al Nuaimi
- The information booklet titled "Safe online learning in the times of COVID-19" has been launched by the Union Minister for Human Resource Development, Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank.
- Union Minister for Human Resource Development (HRD) Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank virtually launched an information booklet titled "Safe online learning in the times of COVID-19" to raise awareness among students and teachers on staying safe online.
- Writer and Columnist Shobhaa De's new collection of stories titled "Lockdown Liaisons" a book reflecting the impacts of COVID-19 on human lives published by Simon & Schuster India and released on May 30, 2020.
- Historian Dinyar Patel's biography of Dadabhai Naoroji, "Naoroji Pioneer of Indian Nationalism" was published by the Harvard University Press in May 2020.

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- Nobel Prize winner(2017) Kazuo Ishiguro(Japan born british author) will release his new novel 'Klara and the Sun' & will be published by Faber & Faber in the United Kingdom, Alfred A. Knopf in the United States and Knopf in Canada on March 2, 2021.
- The Penguin Hamish Hamilton released the "A Burning", debut novel of Megha Majumdar.
- Best-selling author and the Director of Nehru Centre, London(since 2019) Amish Tripathi released his fiction book,"Legend of Suheldev: The King Who Saved India". The book is published by Westland Publications Pvt Ltd.

Awards

Name	Award
Rohit Sharma	nominated for the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Awards
Patna based Indian NGO Socio Economic and Educational Development Society (SEEDS)	World No Tobacco Day Award
Kritika Pandey	2020 Commonwealth short story prize in Asian Region
Kiran Mazumdar Shaw	EY World Entrepreneur of the year 2020
Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA), Hyderabad	ACI Asia-Pacific Green Airports Platinum Recognition 2020
Renjith Kumar	NASA Distinguished Service Medal
Javed Akhtar	Richard Dawkins Award 2020 f
Dr. Rattan Lal	2020 World Food Prize
Shobha Sekhar	"Medal of the Order of Australia".
Chef Angad Singh Rana	QualityNZ Culinary Cup 2020.
Deccan Development Society	Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation Award.
IM Vijayan	Recommended for Padma Shri
ZestMoney and Stellapps	2020 Technology Pioneers list released by the World Economic Forum (WEF)
India's first solar-powered ferry, Aditya	Gustave Trouvé Award
Amartya Sen	2020 Peace Prize of the German Book Trade
Himachal Pradesh	e-Panchayat Puraskar-2020.
Godfrey Phillips	top 50 India's Best Companies to Work For 2020
Weightlifter K. Sanjita Chanu	Arjuna award for 2018.
Popstar Beyonce	BET 2020 Humanitarian Award

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- The Trichy Railway Junction has been given the coveted Gold rating by the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) for implementing various environment friendly measures.
- Himachal Academy Shikhar Samman Award announced for the year 2017-18. Four Shikhar Samman would be given in the field of language, culture and literature for two years and Rs. one lakh each would be given to each awardees.

Awardees:

- i. For the year 2017 Prof. Keshav Sharma would be honoured for contribution in Literature and special achievements.
 - ii. Folk Singer Mohan Rathour would be honoured with Language and Culture Shikhar Samman.
 - iii. For the year 2018, Dr. O.C. Handa would be honoured with Sahitya Shikhar Samman and Dinesh Kumari of Kangra would be honoured in Art and Culture sector.
- National Awards of Panchayat have been announced by the Government of India. As many as 15 panchayats of Madhya Pradesh have been honoured with the awards. Two District Panchayats Neemuch and Mandsaur and 2 Janpad Panchayats of Alot and Hoshangabad along with other 11 Gram Panchayats of the state have received the awards.
 - Reliance Foundation chairperson Nita Ambani became the only Indian to feature in Town & Country magazine's top global philanthropists of 2020 list.

Important Days and Themes

Day	Celebrated as	Theme /Aim
June 1	Global Day of Parents	Theme: "Appreciate all parents throughout the world"
June 1	World Milk Day	Theme: "20th Anniversary of World Milk Day".
June 2	International Sex Workers Day	
June 2	Telangana Day	
June 3	World Bicycle Day	The day aims to motivate and inspire people towards having more tolerance, understanding, and respect for one another.

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June 4	International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression	The main aim of celebrating is to spread the notice about the pain and sufferings faced by the victims as children.
June 5	World Environment Day (WED)	The theme for 2020 is "Time for Nature".
June 5	World Day Against Speciesism	
June 5	International Day for the Fight Against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing	
June 6	Russian Language Day	
June 6	World Pest Day	
June 7	World Food Safety day	Theme 2020: Food Safety, Everyone's Business
June 8	World Oceans Day	The theme of UN World Oceans Day 2020 is "Innovation for a Sustainable Ocean."
June 8	World Tumor Day	
June 9	World Accreditation Day	
June 9	Coral Triangle Day	
June 12	World Day Against Child Labour	The theme for 2020 is "COVID-19 – Protect children from child labour now, more than ever".
June 13	International Albinism Awareness Day	The theme of International Albinism Awareness Day 2020: 'Made To Shine'.
June 14	World Blood Donor Day	Theme: Safe Blood Saves Lives
June 15	World Wind Day	
June 15	World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD)	Theme: The theme in 2020 for WEAAD is "Lifting Up Voices".
June 16	International Day of Family Remittances	theme: "Building resilience in times of crisis"

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June 17	World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought	Theme: Food, Feed Fibre-The links between consumption and land
June 18	Sustainable Gastronomy Day	
June 18	Autistic Pride Day	
June 19	International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict	
June 19	National Reading Day	
June 20	World Refugee Day	2020 Theme: "Every Action Counts"
June 21	International Yoga Day	theme : 'Yoga at Home and Yoga with Family'.
June 21	International Day of the Celebration of the Solstice	
June 21	World Music Day	The aim of celebrating World Music Day is to provide free music to everyone, and also to encourage amateur musicians to showcase their work to the world.
June 21	World Hydrography Day	World Hydrography Day 2020 theme is "Hydrography enabling autonomous technologies".
June 21	World Humanist Day	
June 23	United Nations Public Service Day	
June 23	International Olympic Day	The day is celebrated to ensure that people can all still #StayActive in the safest way possible despite restrictions because of the COVID19 pandemic.
June 23	International Widows' Day	The day aims to address the issue that widows and their children face in several countries.
June 25	Day of the Seafarer.	The 2020 campaign for the day: Seafarers are Key Workers.

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June 25	World Vitiligo Day	
June 26	International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking	The theme of International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking 2020: "Better Knowledge for Better Care".
June 26	International Day in Support of Victims of Torture	
June 27	Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day	
June 29	National Statistics Day	The theme of Statistics Day, 2020 is SDG- 3 (Ensure healthy lives and
		promote well-being for all at all ages) & SDG- 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls).
June 29	International Day of the Tropics	
June 30	International Day of Parliamentarism	
June 30	International Asteroid Day	

Obituary

Name	Profession	Location
Bejan Daruwalla	Astrologer	Gujarat
Wajid Khan	Singer & music composer	Uttar Pradesh
Bobby Joe Morrow	American sprinter	United states
Jayantilal Nanoma	International Archer	Rajasthan
P Namgyal	Politician	Jammu & Kashmir
K. N.Lakshmanan	Former Tamil Nadu BJP President	Tamil Nadu
Wes Unseld	American professional basketball player	United states
Basu Chatterjee	Filmmaker	Rajasthan
Riaz Sheikh	Cricketer	Pakistan
Anwar Sagar	Lyricist	Mumbai, Maharashtra
Anil Suri	Bollywood producer	Mumbai, Maharashtra

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Chandrakanta Goyal	Senior BJP leader	Mumbai, Maharashtra
Hamza Koya	Indian footballer	Kerala
Rupert Hine	British Producer and songwriter	London
Ved Marwah	former Governor of Mizoram, Manipur and Jharkhand	Peshawar, British India
Chiranjeevi Sarja	Kannada actor	Bengaluru, Karnataka
Arjun Charan Sethi	Politician	Odisha
J. Anbazhagan	Politician- Tamilnadu	Tamilnadu
Pierre Nkurunziza	President of the Republic of Burundi	Burundi
Pritam Singh	Former director of Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Lucknow	Uttarakhand
Jagesh Mukati	Television Actor	Mumbai, Maharashtra
A. Vaidyanathan	former member of the Planning	

	Commission	
Anand Mohan Zutshi Gulzar Dehlvi	Urdu poet	Delhi
A Balasamy	footballer	Tamilnadu
Vasant Raiji	cricketer	Gujarat
Sushant Singh Rajput	Actor	Patna, Bihar
Atul Srivastava	Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) Director	
Mrs. Surinder Kaur	former Head of Publications Division and Directorate of Advertising & Visual publicity	
Matt Poore	cricketer	New Zealand
Madhavrao Patil	Former Lok Sabha MP and founder of Janalaxmi Cooperative Bank	Maharashtra
Heera Singh Rana	folk singer	Uttarakhand
Dinu Randive	Senior journalist and freedom fighter	Maharashtra
Achyut Kashinath Sinai Usgaonkar	Former Goa minister	Goa
Arunkumar Ramniklal Mehta	Leading diamantaire	Gujarat

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K.R. Sachidanandan	Malayalam Film director, scriptwriter, and producer	Kerala
B P R Vithal	Noted economist & member of 10th Finance Commission	Andhra Pradesh
Rajinder Goel	Former Left-arm spinner	Haryana
Vidyaben Shah	Padma Shri awardee and a social worker	Gujarat
M Ilaiah Yadav	Former Indian kabaddi player	Telangana
Vera Lynn	British singer	London, UK
Ahmed Radhi	football legend	Iraq
Kirk R. Smith	environmental health giant	California
Lachhman Singh Lehl	Major General (Retd)	Punjab
K Raghunath	basketball star player	Karnataka
Pournima Zanane	Indian shooter and coach	Maharashtra
Vishwa Bandhu Gupta	Former member of parliament (MP) and veteran journalist	Delhi
Steve Bing	Hollywood producer	New York, US
Joel Schumacher	Hollywood Director	New York, US
Tamonash Ghosh	Trinamool Congress MLA	West Bengal
Geetha Nagabhushan	Kannada writer	Karnataka

July 2020 – One Liner Current Affairs

Financial One liners:

- In March 2020, the Reserve Bank of India had increased the borrowing limit of scheduled banks under the marginal standing facility (MSF) scheme from 2 percent to 3 percent of their Net Demand and Time Liabilities (NDTL) as a temporary measure to deal with cash crunch caused by coronavirus pandemic.
- Flipkart-owned PhonePe has partnered with ICICI Bank on UPI multi-bank model giving its users the option to create and use multiple UPI IDs with ICICI and Yes Bank's handles.

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- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced that it will be conducting a special Open Market Operations (OMOs) on 2nd July 2020.
- As per the data by the Ministry of Finance on 30 June 2020, banks from public and private sectors have sanctioned over Rs 1 lakh crore loans under the Rs 3-lakh crore Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) for the MSME sector as of June 26, 2020.
- In March 2020, the Reserve Bank of India had increased the borrowing limit of scheduled banks under the marginal standing facility (MSF) scheme from 2 percent to 3 percent of their Net Demand and Time Liabilities (NDTL) as a temporary measure to deal with cash crunch caused by coronavirus pandemic.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank and Innoviti Payment Solutions Pvt. Ltd. announced that they have collaborated to provide Equated Monthly Installments (EMI) billing options on Kotak Debit Cards which are swiped on Innoviti Point of Sale (POS) terminals.
- HDFC Bank announced that it will offer 'ZipDrive', an online instant auto loan to its customers in 1,000 cities.
- The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has set up 'Swavalamban Crisis Responsive Fund' to support free onboarding for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) on trade receivables discounting system (TReDS).
- The World Bank has approved a \$500 million loan to improve the quality and governance of school education in six Indian states.
- Instamojo, has launched 'InstaCash' to enable merchants to gain access to working capital. Merchants can avail loans for upto Rs 1 lakh, for a period of 7–14 days.
- S&P Global Ratings said Indian economy is in deep trouble with growth expected to contract by 5 per cent this fiscal.
- Indian Oil Corp (IOC) will set up a new technology development centre focussed on clean and alternative energy solutions.
- Enterprise software firm, SAP India on Monday launched the Global Bharat initiative for Indian MSMEs by providing them access to global marketplace, digital skilling for the workforce and transforming business processes.
- Fitch Ratings has cut India's growth forecast for the fiscal year 2021-22 to 8 percent from its earlier projection of 9.5 percent, in its June update of Global Economic Outlook released on 30 June 2020.
- The World Bank has approved loan worth \$750 million to address the immediate liquidity and credit needs of India's micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), severely impacted by the Covid-19 crisis.

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- The World Bank said it has enhanced its support for Government of India's program to rejuvenate Ganga river with a USD 400 million (about Rs 3,000 crore) assistance that will help stem pollution in the river.
- India figures among the top-three countries getting detailed information from Switzerland about bank accounts and beneficiary ownership of entities established by their residents in the Alpine nation, according to the latest study by OECD's Global Forum on transparency and exchange of information for tax purposes.
- The gross state domestic product (GSDP) of all states is likely to contract up to 14.3 per cent in the current financial year due to the impact of Covid-19-induced lockdown on economic activities, says a report. The contraction will be in the range of 1.4 per cent-14.3 per cent.
- Rs 90,917 crore is the gross GST (Goods and Services Tax) revenue collected in the month of June 2020.
- The Government of India has launched a Special Liquidity Scheme worth Rs. 30,000 crore for improving the liquidity position of Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFCs) and Housing Finance Company (HFCs).
- Care Ratings has revised India's GDP growth forecast for the current financial year 2020-21 to contract by 6.4 percent.
- Fitch cuts India's GDP growth forecast to 8% from 9.5% for FY22, in its June update of Global Economic Outlook report.
- United States-based Intel Corporation's investment arm Intel Capital will invest Rs 1,894.50 crores in Reliance Industries Limited's (RIL's) subsidiary company Jio Platform.
- The setbacks to the Indian economy in the first two months of the Financial Year (FY) due to the COVID-19 pandemic seems to be finally over as on 3rd July 2020 the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal informed that merchandise export figures in the month of June 2020 have touched almost 88 percent of the June 2019 figure.
- The Union Bank of India has expanded its insurance distribution channels after the amalgamation of Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank with it with effect from April 1, 2020.
- The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) is setting up its own 'Smart Datacentre' in Hyderabad, Telangana, at an investment of Rs. 500 crore.
- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) on 13th May 2020. ECLGS was announced as a part of the AtmaNirbhar Bharat Package for supporting the Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the country.
- YES Bank has launched a digital solution, "Loan in Seconds" for instant disbursement of retail loans.

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- The Karur Vysya Bank (KVB) has entered into a partnership with Star Health and Allied Insurance Co to provide a wide range of health insurance options to its customers.
- Fino Payments Bank Limited (FPBL) has launched a savings bank account 'Bhavishya' for minor children aged between 10 and 18 years on 7th July 2020 to make children banking ready from early age and inculcate a savings habit among them.
- Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited has launched a facility of opening account through video KYC
- L&T Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd (LTIFCL) has received USD 50 million from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), for funding Renewable Energy projects in the country.
- According to data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Tamil Nadu has raised Rs 30,500 crores in the fiscal 2020-21 and has topped market borrowings among States in the country.
- Deutsche Bank and Google Cloud have agreed to join forces and form a strategic partnership that aims to redefine how the bank develops and offers its financial services.
- SBM Bank India (promoted by Government of Mauritius) and Mastercard have joined hands to facilitate cross-border payments and remittances services by using 'Mastercard Send'.
- World Bank and the Government of India (GoI) signed a loan agreement to enhance support for the Namami Gange programme that seeks to rejuvenate the Ganga river.
- Brokerage firm Citi, has projected India's GDP for FY21 to contract by 6%. The projection has been lowered by Citi, as compared to its earlier estimate of -3.5%.
- RIL added another feather to its cap as its market valuation crossed Rs 12 lakh crore mark, a first by any domestic company.
- The global economy is likely to contract by 5.2 percent in 2020, according to Dun and Bradstreet's (DNB) Country Risk and Global Outlook Report, that covered 132 countries.
- Aditya Birla Sun Life AMC has launched voice-based services for its investors with Google Assistant.
- The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC) is to set up the IFSC Banking Unit at Gujarat International Finance Tec -City, GIFT city in Gandhinagar Gujarat.
- To mark the 39th foundation day of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), it organises 'Digital Choupal'.
- National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has provided credit support of Rs 1,607 crore to West Bengal during the COVID-19 pandemic so far.
- In Karnataka, NABARD has extended grant assistance of 221.89 crore rupees to support 298 watershed projects in over three lakh hectares benefitting 66,500 families. The State has about 75 percent of an rainfed area.

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- The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development launched projects worth of Rs 44 lakhs in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- The National Housing Bank (NHB) has in the last four months (March to June 30, 2020) provided a total refinance assistance of over Rs 25,000 crores to the housing finance companies (HFCs) alone.
- The Income Tax Department launched a new tool for the banks and post offices that will ensure tax deduction at source (TDS) on the cash withdrawals beyond the threshold.
- IndusInd Bank has announced its successful integration with CRMNEXT, the leading enterprise solution provider for banks and financial services.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Qatar-based Education Above All (EAA) Foundation have signed an agreement to carry out \$100 million in joint projects to put out-of-school and at-risk children into quality primary education.
- Google CEO Sundar Pichai announced an investment of Rs. 75 thousand crore in India over the next 5 to 7 years through Google for India Digitisation Fund' to help accelerate country's digital economy.
- Industry body FICCI has projected the Indian economy to contract by (-) 4.5 percent in 2020-21, as per its latest Economic Outlook Survey released on 12 July 2020.
- The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has informed on 12th July 2020 that a new Utility Tool has been launched that will facilitate the Banks and Post Offices across the country with the accurate TDS rate (Tax Deduction at Source) applicable on cash withdrawals.
- A longer wait for a vaccine against Covid-19 virus may lead to a contraction of up to 7.5 percent in the Indian GDP in FY21, a foreign brokerage Economists at Bank of America Securities said.
- Credit Rating agency ICRA has sharply revised the GDP forecast for India and expects the Indian economy to contract by 9.5% (-9.5%) in 2020-21.
- India's foreign exchange reserves have swelled by 3.108 billion dollars to reach a fresh all-time high of 516.362 billion dollars in the week ended 10th July 2020.
- India's third-largest public sector bank, Bank of Baroda (BoB) has launched 'Insta Click Savings Account', a 100 per cent paperless digital self-assisted online savings account.
- The Income Tax Department is all set to start an e-Campaign on voluntary compliance of Income Tax for the convenience of the taxpayers.
- The National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) launched UPI Auto Pay feature for recurring payments.
- The Indian economy is expected to contract by 6.1 percent in the current fiscal (2020-21), as per the Japanese financial services firm Nomura.

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- The subscriber base for Employees' Provident Fund Organization- EPFO has grown by 3.18 lakh new net members during May 2020. It has registered 218 per cent month on month growth.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has signed an agreement for extending a \$400-million currency swap facility to Sri Lanka.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) agreed to partner toward a 'green recovery' for members confronting the harsh economic impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. □Bharti AXA General Insurance has launched a crop insurance campaign titled 'Bohot Zaroori Hai' for farmers in Maharashtra and Karnataka to encourage them about their yield protection and financial security.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved USD 3 million (about Rs 22 crore) grant to India from its Asia Pacific Disaster Response Fund to further support the government's emergency response to COVID-19 pandemic.
- In a bid to secure its Internet banking channels as also mobile, card, call centres and ATMs, among others, against cyber fraud, the state-owned Bank of Maharashtra has joined hands with Uniken, a pioneer in the field of digital security in India.
- Digital wallet company, MobiKwik has launched "mpay.me" UPI link service that allows users to send and receive money from any UPI payment app.
- Biocon Ltd, a global biopharmaceuticals company, announced that the board of its subsidiary Biocon Biologics India Limited has approved a primary equity investment by Tata Capital Growth Fund. **Non**

Financial One Liners

National

- Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar and Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan today paid tributes to Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis on National Statistics Day.
- The government has again extended the deadline to bid for Air India by two months till 31st August.
- Under the fourth phase of 'Vande Bharat Mission' scheduled to commence from 3rd July, Air India will operate 170 flights and bring back Indian Nationals from 17 countries.
- The government has allowed Indian airlines to increase their number of domestic passenger flights from 33 percent to 45 percent of their pre-COVID capacity.
- The National Research Development Cooperation (NRDC) has signed a technology licensing agreement with an Agra-based apparel manufacturing entity, the Indian Garment Company.
- The government has approved an additional Rs 1,691 crore for highway works by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) in Jammu & Kashmir and Uttarakhand for 2020-21.

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- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari announced a new road project Chambal Expressway to facilitate traffic between Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.
- The Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology has announced that “Government of India Bans 59 Chinese mobile apps”, which are prejudicial to sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, the security of the state and public order”.
- The Union Ministry of Culture has announced on 27th June 2020 that on the call of Prime Minister Narendra Modi the Ministry has decided to celebrate a 2-week long tree plantation campaign called ‘Sankalp Parva’ from 28th June to 12th July 2020.
- Union Minister of Minority Affairs Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi laid the foundation stone for "Sanskritik Sadbhav Mandap" at Numaish Ground in Rampur, Uttar Pradesh.
- The central government is planning to launch an Aadhar-based database in order to digitize all its farm-oriented schemes and to ensure that farmers are paid procurement prices directly.
- The National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI), Lucknow, has set up an “Advanced Virology Lab” for testing COVID-19 disease.
- On 30th June 2020, a Bell 206-B3 Helicopter was flagged off with spray equipment for Air Force Station in Rajasthan’s Barmer from the helipad facility in Uttar Pradesh’s Gautam Buddha Nagar.
- The first edition of Fisheries and Aquaculture Newsletter was launched. The name of the newsletter is ‘Matsya Sampada’.
- Through Finance Act 2019, amendments were brought to the Indian Stamp Act, 1899. The amendments made come into effect from 1st July 2020 onwards.
- The Department of Food and Public Distribution has estimated that food grains (Rice and Wheat) and pulses worth Rs 1,48,938 crore will be distributed under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana in the period between 8 months from April to November 2020.
- The Union Minister of Steel Dharmendra Pradhan virtually inaugurated Continuous Galvanized Rebar Production Facility at Mandi Gobindgarh in Punjab on 29 June 2020.
- The Centre has sanctioned Rs 909.85 crore for the construction of permanent campus of the National Institute of Technology in Pauri district of Uttarakhand.
- During the first quarter (April 2020 to June 2020) of the FY 2020-21, despite a nationwide lockdown and restriction on the movement of people due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 19 lakh households in the rural areas across the country were provided with tap water connection.
- President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated Dhamma Chakra Day 2020 celebrations on 4th July 2020.

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- Government of India's flagship program "Fit India" has launched a series of interactive sessions titled "Fit India Talks" with some of the top sportspersons of India on 3 July.
- The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) Shri Hardeep Singh Puri launched the sixth edition of the annual cleanliness survey of urban India, the toolkit for Swachh Survekshan 2021.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that the free grain distribution scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Gareeb Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) will be extended by five months till the end of November, with an additional estimated outlay of Rs 90,000 crore.
- Through video conferencing, Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi will be inaugurating the 750 MW Rewa Ultra Mega Solar Plant on 10th July 2020.
- Indian Railways is taking decisive steps to transform itself as a 'Net Zero' Carbon Emission Mass Transportation Network by 2030.
- India's First No-Permission No-Takeoff (NPNT) compliant drone flight on the A200 Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) has been completed successfully by Quidich Innovation Labs and Asteria Aerospace.
- After months of Controversy, the Assam State Government has decided for the up-gradation of the status of the Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary to National Park.
- The Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), Jharkhand new administrative and the academic building have been named after Bharatiya Jan Sangh founder Late Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee on his 119th birth anniversary.
- A commemorative stamp would be released soon by the Centre in honour of former Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao on his 100th birth anniversary, said by Union Minister G Kishan Reddy.
- Fever Network, the country's leading radio network and house to the most popular radio stations, Fever FM, Radio Nasha and Radio One is now live with its latest campaign – 'Your Happiness Partner'.
- Karnataka Agriculture Minister B C Patil informed that Central Government has sanctioned 4,000 crore rupees under Atmanirbhar programme to improve infrastructure for the Food Parks in the state.
- Private players will begin rail passenger services by April 2023, and they will run only five per cent of the Railways' total mail and express trains.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved a new pan India Central Sector Scheme under Agriculture Infrastructure Fund.
- Union Minister of Science and Technology, Dr. Harsh Vardhan and Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar released the 'Guidelines for Evaluation of Nano-based Agri-input and food products in India' on 7 July 2020.

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- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is to deliver the inaugural address on the first day of India Global Week 2020. For three Public Sector General Insurance Companies, the Union Cabinet under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved a capital infusion of Rs 12,450 crore on 8th July 2020.
- Through video conferencing, Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 750 MW Rewa Ultra Mega Solar Plant on 10th July 2020.
- At a virtual event, White Papers prepared by the Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC) was launched by Dr. Harsh Vardhan (Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare) on 10th July 2020.
- At the Health and Wellness Centres across the country under Ayushman Bharat Yojana, in between 1st February 2020 to 30th June 2020, about 8.8 crore Indian Citizens have availed healthcare services.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah launched the Central Armed Police Forces-CAPFs nationwide tree plantation drive.
- The Ministry of Railways has announced mission mode with the goal of transforming Indian Railways into Green Railways by the year 2030.
- NHAI has approached all IITs, NITs and reputed Engineering Colleges to collaborate and adopt nearby stretches of National Highways on voluntary basis as part of Institutional Social Responsibility.
- Minister for Road Transport, Highways and MSMEs Nitin Gadkari will inaugurate and lay foundation stones for various new economic corridor projects worth over Rs 20,000 crore in Haryana in a web-based function.
- The Iran Government has decided to drop India from the construction of the Chabahar Port-Zahedan Railway Line Project and now will be proceeding with the construction of the Project on its own.
- The Union Human Resource and Development Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' released PRAGYATA guidelines on digital education.
- In a meeting with the 15th Finance Commission, the Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan highlighted that the government aims at gradually increasing the public health expenditure to 2.5 percent of the nation's GDP by the year 2025.
- Shipping Minister Mansukh Mandaviya has approved 107 Crore rupees for augmentation of firefighting facilities on five jetties of Haldia Dock Complex at Kolkata Port.
- The Union Minister of Human Resource and Development Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank launched world's most affordable COVID-19 kit.
- The Indian Railways has launched a new state-of-the-art, 'Post COVID Coach' in an effort to prevent the spread of COVID-19 virus infection.

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- India's first cable-stayed railway bridge 'Anji Khad bridge' is being constructed by the Indian Railways in Jammu & Kashmir to connect Katra and Reasi Section of Jammu-Baramulla line.
- Government launched the implementation guidelines for Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund, AHIDF worth 15 thousand crore rupees.
- Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has opened first-of-its-kind footwear training center in Delhi to train the marginalized community of leather artisans.
- All capitals of North-Eastern states will be connected to the rail network by 2023.
- Union Human Resource Development (HRD) Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' is to launch virtually the Manodarpan initiative of Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) 21 July 2020.
- Union Minister for Power, New & Renewable Energy, Shri R.K Singh, inaugurated India's first public Electric Vehicle (EV) charging plaza at Chelmsford Club in New Delhi on 20 July 2020.
- Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan launched Punjab National Bank's campaign to distribute face masks and sanitizers to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in New Delhi.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah is to launch Vriksharopan Abhiyan in New Delhi on 23 July.
- Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar today virtually launched piloting of the National Transit Pass System at Indira Paryavaran Bhawan in Delhi.
- Government of India (GoI) has announced that it is to take various initiatives to boost the fertilizer sector so that an adequate amount of fertilizers could be made available to farmers during the sowing season.
- Indian Railways is planning to radio-frequency identification tags (RFID) Tag all wagons by the end of 2022.
- The Department of Science and Technology (DST) has launched the India-Russia Joint Technology Assessment and Accelerated Commercialization Programme.
- Department of Posts has extended all small savings schemes up to the branch post office level.
- Government of India (GoI) has amended certain Indian Accounting Standards (Ind-AS), including the standard relating to leases amid the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated the 'World Class State of Art Honey Testing Laboratory' in Anand, Gujarat through Video Conference.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched high throughput COVID-19 testing facilities on 27 July 2020 through video conferencing.
- The Indian Railways is constructing the world's first electrified double-stack container tunnel, between the Aravalli hills, on the railway's Western Dedicated Freight Corridor near Haryana's Sohna Government has banned 47 more Chinese apps.

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- The fifth phase of the Vande Bharat Mission will begin from 1st of next month to rescue Indians stranded abroad. It will continue till 31st August this year.
- The civil aviation ministry has set up a single-window clearance mechanism to expedite various investment proposals in the domestic aviation industry.
- Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) launched a World-Class Knowledge Resource Centre Network (KRCNet) under the Digital India initiative of the Government of India.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has launched its innovation contest 'Dare to Dream 2.0' on 27 July 2020, the 5th death anniversary of former President and noted scientist Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.
- The Cotton Corporation of India is holding surplus stocks of cotton.
- GOI has notified changes in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) norms on civil aviation.
- In view of the situation arising out of COVID-19 pandemic, an additional allocation of 40 thousand crore rupees has also been made for the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme during this financial year.
- Union Government has extended the deadline for filing income tax returns for 2018-19 fiscal by two months till 30th of September.
- The central government is working on a single window portal which will reduce the time for businesses to get clearances, further increasing India's ranking in the ease of doing business.
- Phase Five of the Vande Bharat Mission is scheduled to start from the first of August.

State

- Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has unveiled a scheme titled 'YSR Kapu Nestham' for the welfare of the women from Kapu community.
- The Chhattisgarh government, led by Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has launched 'Godhan Nyay Yojana' in the state to make animal husbandry commercially profitable, prevent open grazing by cattle, solve the problem of stray animals on roads and for environment conservation.
- Arunachal Pradesh state government is to implement Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in the State.
- Madhya Pradesh government will launch a 'Kill Corona' campaign from July 1 to control the spread of coronavirus in the state.
- In Jammu & Kashmir, a massive search operation was launched in several villages near the Line of Control in Kalsiyan area of Nowshera today after reports of some suspicious movement.
- Bhupesh Baghel, Chief Minister of 7 announced the launch of "Godhan Nyay Yojana" through an online press conference to promote animal husbandry and make it a commercially profitable practice and to procure the cow dung from the farmers at a fixed rate.

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- Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray launched the world's largest plasma therapy trials for the COVID-19 "Project Platina".
- In a bid to attract fresh industrial investments in Maharashtra, the state government announced a new plan called 'Maha Parwana', which will offer several incentives and offer a single-window clearance system for project execution
- The Delhi government is all set to establish India's first plasma bank in the national capital to fight the novel coronavirus.
- The State Government of Andhra Pradesh will take up the construction of 3 Million (30 lakh) houses under the YSR Jagananna Colonies project after distributing the house sites to the beneficiaries on 8th July 2020.
- Uttarakhand forest department has developed India's first lichen park in Kumaon's Munsiyari, Pithoragarh district. Lichens are found in the Himalayas up to 5000 metres are important species as they are the best bioindicators of the pollution levels.
- Madhya Pradesh government has launched "Hamara Ghar-Hamara Vidyalaya" over a virtual platform to take care of academic regularity of the students during the Lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath today launched the ambitious piped water project "Har Ghar Jal" that means water to every house for Bundelkhand region.
- Char Dham Yatra begins today in Uttarakhand with restrictions.
- In Mizoram, the 34th anniversary of Mizo peace accord is being celebrated today on 1st July. □The Kerala government has announced "Dream Kerala Project" to tap the potential and experience of those returning from abroad and other states after losing their jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Tamil Nadu Government has decided to establish piped oxygen supply to the beds in 59 state-run hospitals.
- A mega tree plantation drive has been announced by the Delhi Government on 2nd July 2020
- The Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar along with CAG Rajiv Mehri inaugurated the dense urban forest.
- The Government of India has declared the entire Nagaland as "disturbed area".
- Tamil Nadu government on July 2 announced a monthly stipend of Rs. 3000 for the lawyers for the time period of two years.
- Odisha government decided to implement a new initiative 'Sabuja Odisha'.

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- Delhi Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal inaugurated the 1000-bedded Sardar Patel Covid Care Centre and Hospital (SPCCCH) at Radha Soami Satsang Beas in Chhatarpur area, located at Air Force land near airport in Delhi.
- The Administration of the Union Territory of Ladakh launched the Ladakh Food Security Scheme (LFSS) and the Mufti Mohammad Sayeed Food Entitlement Scheme (MMSFES) of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) was discontinued.
- In order to attract tourists in the state, the Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board has started a social media campaign.
- Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) has launched Dhanvantri Rath to take Non-COVID healthcare services to peoples' doorsteps amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- Odisha government has launched 'Balaram Yojana' to provide crop loans to landless farmers. Under the new scheme, the landless cultivators will get loans through joint liability groups (JLGs).
- The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath has inaugurated a programme under which the State Government of Uttar Pradesh has set a target to plant more than 25 crore sapling across the state.
- Karnataka Chief Minister B. S. Yediyurappa launched Weavers Sammaan Yojana today. Under this scheme, 19,744 handloom weavers in the state will get annual financial assistance of two thousand rupees through Direct Benefit Transfer.
- All households in the state of Himachal Pradesh have access to LPG Gas Connection, making Himachal Pradesh the first state in the country to achieve the goal set by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the launch of Ujjwala Yojana for providing a cooking gas connection to every household in the country.
- The Karnataka government has set up a toll-free round-the-clock helpline to lodge complaints about hospitals refusing to accept suspected coronavirus cases.
- All households in the state of Himachal Pradesh have access to LPG Gas Connection, making Himachal Pradesh the first state in the country to achieve the goal set by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the launch of Ujjwala Yojana for providing a cooking gas connection to every household in the the country.
- The Chief Minister of Karnataka B.S. Yediyurappa has launched a scheme for the weaver's community in the state of Karnataka on 6th July 2020.
- Plasma Bank for the treatment of COVID-19 positive patients has been established at the oldest medical college of India- Kolkata Medical College and Hospital.

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- Haryana Cabinet on 6th July 2020 has approved a proposal for drafting an Ordinance under which 75 percent of the jobs with a salary of less than Rs 50,000 per month will be reserved for the locals of Haryana in the state.
- The Chief Minister of Maharashtra Uddhav Thackeray has launched a portal on 6th July 2020 that will bridge the gap between the Industrial Units/Employers and the Workers (Domiciled: Skilled, Semi-Skilled and Unskilled).
- Over the period of next six financial year (2020-21 to 2025-26), an amount of Rs 23,848 crore for the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in the state of Odisha has been recommended by the 5th State Finance Commission of Odisha on 7th July 2020.
- The Jharkhand health department has launched a major campaign to immunize the deprived children.
- The Delhi government will set up a 'COVID-19 War Room', which will 24×7 monitor the city's fight against the novel coronavirus, and suggest measures to effectively deal with the prevailing situation.
- The birth anniversary of Former and the 14th Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Y.S Rajasekhara Reddy is celebrated as Rythu Dinotsavam meaning Farmer's Day.
- Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik unveiled Bhubaneswar Land Use Intelligence System (BLUIS) which would monitor changes in all government lands in Odisha by leveraging high-resolution satellite imagery.
- In Uttar Pradesh, Guru Purnima is being celebrated across the state. This is the festival of showing respect by disciples to their mentors.
- The State Cabinet of the Uttar Pradesh Government has given its approval to an independent and comprehensive 'Startup Policy 2020' on 8th July 2020.
- The Rajasthan state government has launched a week-long campaign "Pure for Sure" to ensure purity of milk and its products.
- Chhattisgarh government has organised the first e-Lok Adalat of India amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The virtual hearings were conducted through video conferencing under the e-Lok Adalat along with its live streaming.
- MP government will now run a Roko -Toko (□□□□ □□□□) means stop and campaign for those who do not wear masks.
- The Nagaland government has banned the import and sale of dog meat in the State.
- In Uttar Pradesh, Swarms of Locusts have caused severe damage to crops at various places in the state.
- In Jammu and Kashmir, District Development Commissioner Anantnag KK Sidha inaugurated "One Nation One Ration Card" at Food Civil Supplies & Consumer and Public Distribution (FCS & CAPD) sale outlet at Nai Basti in Anantnag

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- The first-ever Bus Service in history was started on 10th July 2020 for the people of Swabhiman Anchal (located in Malkangiri district of Odisha).
- Haryana Chief Minister, Manohar Lal has accorded approval to set up 3 new medical colleges in the State and also to start DM Cardiology course at Pt. B.D Sharma Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences (PGIMS), Rohtak.
- Lieutenant Governor of J&K, Girish Chandra Murmu e-inaugurated 10 power projects worth Rs. 19.51 crore and laid foundation stones for 07 others costing Rs. 30.35 crore to boost power sector in Kashmir.
- Lieutenant Governor of J&K, Girish Chandra Murmu has e-inaugurated 15 important infrastructural projects of School Education Department to boost education sector.
- Uttar Pradesh government has expanded the ambit of the emergency police helpline number 112, and linked fire, ambulance, railway police and disaster relief services with it.
- A Comprehensive exercise for mapping of crops under each of the Rythu Bharosa Kendra (RBK) in the state has begun in Andhra Pradesh from 13th July 2020.
- 13th July 2020 marks the 206th Birth Anniversary of Bhanubhakta Acharya, he was the first writer to translate the Great Epic of Ancient India- Ramayan from Sanskrit to Nepali. Bhanu Jayanti is also celebrated across the state of Nepal on 13th July every year.
- Madhya Pradesh has topped in implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Street Vendors Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) by sanctioning an interest-free loan of around Rs 15.50 crore to 15,500 street vendors in the state.
- Trying to facilitate learning among public school children amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the Madhya Pradesh government has started Mera Ghar Mera Vidyalaya Scheme.
- The Minister of State for Shipping Shri Manasukh Mandaviya reviewed the development activities of Vallarpadam terminal at Cochin.
- The Uttarakhand government has decided to convert waste generated in the state to electricity under an initiative titled 'Waste to Energy'.
- Assam Chief Minister, Sarbananda Sonowal has announced, Poba Reserve Forest in Dhemaji district would be upgraded to a wildlife sanctuary.
- Gujarat, Chief Minister Vijay Rupani inaugurated various tourism and pilgrimage project worth 126 Crore rupees during the e-launching event organized in Gandhinagar.
- Human Resources and Development Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank launched the first on-line NISHTHA programme for one thousand 200 Key Resources Persons of Andhra Pradesh.
- The Women Safety Wing, Telangana State Police has launched the “CybHer” campaign in association with the Legal Aid Centre, Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad.

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- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on July 15 inaugurated the first plasma bank for the treatment of serious COVID-19 patients at SCB Medical College.
- Maharashtra government has initiated a measure “HEALTHCARE SERVICE AT YOUR DOORSTEP” in Nashik.
- Odisha Government announced that transgenders are to be included under Madhu Babu Pension Yojana. □Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat inaugurated ‘Smriti Van’ at Asthal village of Dehradun district in memory of late Jeet Singh Negi, famous folk singer of the state on the occasion of Harela festival.
- The Delhi government has extended the ban on manufacture, storage, sale and distribution of gutkha and pan masala for one more year.
- Jammu and Kashmir administration announced life insurance cover of Rs 25 lakhs to all elected members of urban local bodies and panchayati raj institutions.
- The State Government of Andhra Pradesh announced the Andhra Pradesh Renewable Energy Export Policy 2020, which permits the sale of power to the other states of India.
- The Union Minister for Food Processing Harsimrat Kaur Badal today made a virtual inauguration of the Zoram Mega Food Park, set up at Khamrang in Kolasib district of Mizoram.
- In Chhattisgarh, first of its kind scheme of the country- Godhan Nyay Yojana commenced on 20th July.
- Delhi government approved a scheme for door step delivery of ration in the state.
- In a first, the Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Company (MSETCL) has started using drones for inspection of power lines and transmission towers.
- Karnataka State Government approved the formation of the Karnataka Digital Economy Mission.
- Ahmedabad Railway Division has successfully introduced a unique concept of Baggage Sanitization and Wrapping at Ahmedabad Railway Station.
- Rajasthan Government is to set up the first plasma bank of the state in Jaipur.
- Lieutenant Governor, Girish Chandra Murmu has announced the launch of a ‘Macadamisation Program’ for the improvement of roads across Jammu and Kashmir.
- The Himachal Pradesh government is according to high priority to enhance green cover and environmental protection.
- In Madhya Pradesh, state-wide online training is being provided by the Department of Panchayat and Rural Development regarding the role of Panchayats and community in prevention, control and management of Covid-19. This series of division-wise training will run till August 7.

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- In Bihar, Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) will set up two temporary hospitals of five hundred bed to treat Corona patients.
- The Karnataka government will soon lay the foundation stone for a life sciences park
- In a move to intensify surveillance, Assam deployed a Surveillance Quadcopter (Drone) and an antidepredation quick response vehicle.
- The Tamil Nadu government signed MoUs with 16 companies that would bring an investment of Rs. 5,137 crore and provide employment to 6,555 persons.
- The Tamil Nadu government has passed an order to rename three metro rail stations in Chennai after three late Chief Ministers of the State.
- Jammu and Kashmir Government has established 12 AMRIT Pharmacies across the Union Territory to reduce Out of Pocket Expenditure for consumers.
- The Indian Railways has recently installed automatic lighting systems at three railways stations in Madhya Pradesh.
- The Kerala government announced a new Entrepreneurship Development Programme to address the issues of shortage of working capital and availability of credit faced by start-ups and small entrepreneurs in the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic. **International**
- The World Bank has approved loan worth \$500 million (about Rs 3,700 crore) for Strengthening Teaching Learning and Results for States Program (STARS) on June 24, 2020, to improve quality and governance of school education in six Indian states.
- Russia's Energia space corporation has announced that it is to take the first tourist on a spacewalk in 2023, under the terms of a new contract with a US partner.
- Micheal Martin has been elected as new Prime Minister of Ireland by the lower house of the Irish parliament.
- Ethiopia's Water Minister has stated that a consensus had been reached between the three countries (Ethiopia, Sudan and Egypt) over the USD 4.5 billion worth Giant Ethiopian Renaissance Dam and the dam will not be filled unilaterally by Ethiopia.
- A Tripartite Power Purchase Agreement (TPPA) was signed for the construction of the 1124 MW Kohala Hydro Power Project on 25th June 2020. □ The National People's Congress Standing Committee (NPCSC) has unanimously passed the National Security Law for Hong Kong on 30th June 2020.
- The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on 26th June 2020 has stated that amid the COVID-19 global pandemic, around 2.4 million (24 lakh) children who are below the age of 5 are facing hunger and malnutrition in Yemen.

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- A new virus has been discovered by scientists in China that is quite similar to the 2009 Swine Flu that caused a global pandemic.
- Pakistan Army has appointed Major General Nigar Johar as 1st female lieutenant general. She is the 1st female officer to be promoted as Lieutenant General.
- The UK India Business Council announced that Jayant Krishna will take over as its new Group Chief Executive Officer from August 3.
- A new free trade agreement between the United States, Mexico, and Canada comes into effect from 1st July 2020 onwards.
- New Zealand has cancelled the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit 2021, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe has resigned from his post ahead of a government reshuffle by President Emmanuel Macron.
- President of Russia, Vladimir Putin has recorded a victory in the recently held Presidential polls.
- The Central Banks and Supervisors Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS) has been joined by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) as an observer.
- The Manila, Philippines based Asian Development Bank (ADB) has joined the Central Banks and Supervisors Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS) as an observer on 23 June 2020.
- As per the 2020-21 World Bank's Country Classification based on Income level, Nepal's economy has moved to a higher category to become a Lower-middle Income economy while Sri Lanka's economy has moved to a lower category to become a Lower-middle Income economy.
- The Goldman Sachs Group Inc. economists have revised down their estimates for the U.S. economy which is expected to contract 4.6% in 2020, worse than the earlier estimate of 4.2%.
- Sanskrit Vidhyalaya built in Eastern Nepal's Province No 1's Ilam district by India was inaugurated on 6th July 2020 through video conferencing.
- Under the Nepal-Bharat Maitri project, on 16th June 2020, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between India and Nepal under which India will construct a sanitation facility at the iconic Pashupatinath Temple Complex in Nepal's capital city Kathmandu.
- On 6th July 2020, from Central Israel's Palmachim Airbase Israel has successfully launched its intelligence satellite 'Ofek-16' into the Low Earth Orbit (LEO).
- India's & Asia's Largest and World's Second Largest Uptime Tier IV Designed Data Centre was inaugurated virtually on 7th July 2020.
- German lawmakers have finalized the country's long-awaited phase-out of coal as an energy source, backing

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a plan that environmental groups say isn't ambitious enough and free marketers criticise as a waste of taxpayers' money.

- The United States Government has submitted its notice to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to withdraw from the WHO by the 6th of July 2021.

- According to the World Health Organisation's (WHO), South-East Asian Region (SEAR) office, Maldives and Sri Lanka were verified for having eliminated measles and rubella.

- 'Digital Haat' platform has been launched by the government of Bangladesh for online sale and purchase of sacrificial animals ahead of the festival of Eid-UI-Azha.

- On 9th July 2020, except for the Indian State-owned Doordarshan's news channel DD News, Nepal based Multi-System Operators have issued a broadcasting ban on all other Indian News Channels in Nepal.

- From the LaunchPad 3 of the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre, China Great Wall Industry Corporation

(CGWIC- the sole commercial organization for providing commercial satellite launch services of the Chinese

Government) had successfully launched the communication satellite 'APSTAR-6D' on 9th July 2020.

- According to new UK government figures, India invested in 120 projects and created 5,429 new jobs in the UK to become the second-largest source of foreign direct investment (FDI) after the US in 2019.

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

- The Incumbent President of Poland- Andrzej Duda has secured a victory in the 2020 Presidential Election of Poland on 12th July 2020.

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

- The United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism organised its Virtual Counter-Terrorism Week 2020 from 6-10 July 2020.

- On July 9, 2020, China successfully launched the APSTAR-6D satellite- a high-power broadband communications satellite into orbit, to provide broadband internet service.

- The Tunisian PM Elyes Fakhfakh resigned. He presented his resignation to the President of Tunisia Kais Saied.

- The Hope mission launch was further delayed, again due to weather concerns.

- India and Bhutan opened up a new trade route on July 15, 2020, between Pasakha in Bhutan and Jaigaon in West Bengal.

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- Pakistan and China have signed an agreement for the construction of the Azad Pattan Hydel Power Project.
- Rose Christiane Ossouka Raponda has been appointed as the first woman prime minister of Gabon.
- India and Chile join the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations (UN) and co-hosted the official launch of 2021 International Year of Fruits and Vegetables, the side event of 2020 High-level Political forum – “On the road to the International Year of Fruits and Vegetables 2021.
- A mission titled as “Hope” has been launched to “Mars” by the United Arab Emirates.
- SpaceX has successfully launched South Korea’s first military satellite “ANASIS-II”.
- The Japanese Government recently approved Dexamethasone as a second treatment of COVID-19.
- Ola has rolled out its enterprise offering 'Ola Corporate' to Australia, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom.
- South Korea launched its first-ever military communications satellite "ANASIS-II" by private operator SpaceX on 21 July 2020.
- A Dubai-based Indian girl has broken the world record for performing 100 yoga poses within minutes in a confined space.
- China successfully launched a rover to Mars on 23 July 2020, which is another milestone for its space programme.
- Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers stated that HIL (India) Limited, a PSU under the Ministry, has supplied 20.60 Metric tonnes (MT) of DDT (dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane) 75% WP to South Africa for their Malaria control program on 22 July 2020.
- The Central American country, Republic of Nicaragua became the 87th country to sign the International Solar Alliance (ISA) Framework Agreement.
- World Trade Organization (WTO) General Council has granted the “Observer” status to the central Asian country Turkmenistan.
- Government of India (GoI) has sent \$1 million worth of anti-tuberculosis medicine to North Korea per a request from the World Health Organization (WHO).
- India and the United Kingdom virtually held the 14th Joint Economic and Trade Committee meeting on 24 July 2020. It was co-chaired by Minister for Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal and UK Secretary of State for International Trade, HE, Ms Elizabeth Truss.
- NASA has planned to launch a new mission ‘ASTHROS’, to observe wavelengths of light invisible from the Earth, in a bid to find answers about formation of giant stars in the galaxy.

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- Maldives celebrated its 55th Independence Day on 26 July 2020.
- Tunisia's interior minister, Hichem Mechichi has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of the country. □Defence Ministers Dialogue was held in New Delhi between India and Indonesia.
- India handed over 10 diesel locomotives to Bangladesh on July 27, 2020.
- India and the United Kingdom will further extend their existing scientific research collaboration with five new projects that are worth eight million pounds.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Mauritius counterpart will jointly inaugurate the new Supreme Court Building of Mauritius on 30th July through video-conference.
- Somalia President Mohamed Abdullahi Farmajo has appointed country's Deputy Prime Minister Mahdi Mohamed Gulaid as the interim Prime Minister following the removal of Hassan Ali Khaire from the position due to vote of no confidence against him.
- In order to mark 72nd Van-Mahotsa in Jammu and Kashmir, the Wildlife Protection Wing of Forest Department yesterday kick-started Green J&K Drive-2020 at Ramnagar Wildlife Sanctuary.
- In Uttarakhand, the first government-run inter-state chopper service that connects Dehradun to Garhwal hills was flagged off yesterday.
- In Madhya Pradesh, the State Government has decided to conduct a Sero Surveillance study in three major cities i.e. Indore, Bhopal and Ujjain to control the rising cases of Corona infection and to understand the infection rate.
- Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa laid the foundation stone for tunnelling work for phase 2 of the metro rail work between Cantonment and Shivajinagar in Bengaluru .

Summits and Conferences

- Shri Piyush Goyal, Commerce & Industry Minister and President of NPC Governing Council chaired the 49th Governing Council Meeting of National Productivity Council (NPC).
- India's foreign exchange reserves, which currently stand at more than USD 500 billion, are the fifth largest in the world after China, Japan, Switzerland and Russia, as per the International Monetary Fund.
- The fourth edition of the virtual Ministerial on Climate Action was co-chaired by European Union, China and Canada.
- The 15th meeting of the India-European Union Summit will be held in virtual mode.
- NITI Aayog presented India's second Voluntary National Review (VNR) at the United Nations High-level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development 2020.
- On July 15, 2020, the 15th India-European Union Summit was held through video conferencing. The summit aims to strengthen ties between India and European Union.
- The Union Minister of State for Defence Shri Shripad Naik inaugurated the conference on Defence Manufacturing Technologies and Aerospace.

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- On July 15, 2020, the Union Minister of Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurated the Digital Indo-Italian Business mission on Food Processing.
- India and China hold discussions through established military and diplomatic channels to address the prevailing situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC).
- A High-Level Segment of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) session is to be held on 17 July 2020.
- The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) will organise a virtual Tea Conclave from 1st September to 30th November.
- Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi deliver a keynote address virtually at the valedictory session of High-Level Segment of UN ECOSOC (United Nations Economic and Social Council) on July 17 in New York, on the eve of 75th anniversary of the United Nations.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitaraman participated in third G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors meet.
- India Business Council will host the 45th India Ideas Summit 2020 on July 22nd.
- The three-day long Air Force Commanders' Conference conducted with the theme is "Indian Air Force in the Next Decade".
- The Air Force Commanders' Conference (AFCC) was inaugurated by the Union Minister of Defence Rajnath Singh on 22 July 2020 at Air Headquarters, Vayu Bhawan, New Delhi.
- Union Minister of Information Technology Ravi Shankar Prasad is to address the G20 Digital Minister's meeting on 22 July 2020.
- The 75th United Nations General Assembly is to be conducted virtually in 2020 for the first time in its history.
- Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda today inaugurated an e-Symposium on Handicrafts organized by Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Centre for Policy Research and Analysis, Indian Institute of Management, Shillong.
- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, virtually participated in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Health Minister's Digital Meet on 24th July.
- Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS) has organised "2nd Empathy e-Conclave" in collaboration with Airport Authority of India (AAI).
- Telangana's capital Hyderabad has found a place among the top 50 CCTV-surveilled cities in the world.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman attended the 5th Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) through video conference in New Delhi.

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Ranks and Indices

- As per the data for the month of June 2020 released by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), the unemployment rate in June 2020 was 10.9 percent in India (Urban-12.02 % and Rural- 10.52%).
- The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) published the report, COVID-19 and Tourism: Assessing the Economic Consequences stating that the World Tourism sector could lose around 1.2trillion USD or 1.5% of the Global Gross Domestic Product (GDP) because of the 4months lockdown due to global pandemic situation. □ In accordance with the “INFORM Report 2020: Shared evidence for managing crises and disasters” released by research centre INFORM, operating under European Commission (EU), India has ranked at 31st place with an inform risk of 5.4, means risk of humanitarian crises and disasters.
- India's Global Real Estate Transparency Index ranking has improved by one notch to 34 on the back of regulatory reforms, better market data and green initiatives, according to property consultant JLL.India was ranked 35th in the index during 2018 bi-annual survey, while the country was at 36th position in 2016 and 39th in 2014.
- Wrestler-turned-actor, Dwayne ‘The Rock’ Johnson has been named Instagram’s highest-paid celebrity.
- India has been ranked at 117th position in the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Index 2020, released on 30 June 2020.
- From 61st position last year, the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Bangalore has broken into the global top 50 Executive MBA (EMBA) Rankings by QS (Quacquarelli Symonds) this year at 36th position.
- Environmental Groups has launched an Online Tool on 9th July 2020 as per which India’s Capital New Delhi has the most Economic Impact (based on Per Capita) in the World from Air Pollution during the first half of the year 2020.
- Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray e-inaugurated Asia’s largest certified tier IV data centre near Mumbai. Located in Panvel, the Yotta NM1 data centre building, is the largest of its kind in India, as well as the second largest in the world
- The Union Minister of Home Affairs announced the Annual Ranking of Police Stations for 2019 prepared by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India in the Director General of Police’s (DGP’s) conference. Nadaun Police Station of Hamirpur District in Himachal Pradesh is ranked as one of the best Police Stations of India.
- The fourth cycle of the All India Tiger Estimation 2018 has entered the Guinness World Record for being the world’s largest camera trap wildlife survey.

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- As per the data from the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the United States remains as the top trading partner of India during the Financial Year 2019-20.
- The Bloomberg Billionaires Index has ranked Mukesh Ambani, chairman of Reliance Industries Ltd(RIL) as the World's 6th richest man with a worth USD 72.4 billion.
- As per the annual 'State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World' report, by United Nations, almost 690 million people (8.9% of overall population) went hungry in 2019.
- India has emerged as the top tenth nation in the ranking of the total (resident and abroad) Intellectual Property (IP) filing activity, as per World Intellectual Property Indicators-2019 Report.
- India is the third top-most country among 48 nations, in the 2020 Global Manufacturing Risk Index (MRI), for having the most-suitable locations for global manufacturing in terms of cost competitiveness and operating conditions.
- About 273 million Indians were lifted out of multidimensional poverty, a period of 10 years, between 2005-2006 and 2015-2016, according to a study conducted by the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme.
- The International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) has released its Global Rights Index for the year 2020, which ranks countries on the degree of respect for workers' rights.
- HDFC Bank Managing Director Aditya Puri has emerged as the highest paid banker among the top lenders for FY 2019-20, with a 38 per cent jump in salary and prerequisites to Rs 18.92 crore.
- The United Nations Environment Programme and the International Energy Agency released a report on "Cooling Emissions and Policy Synthesis"
- India has been ranked third among the top 10 countries that have gained in forest areas in the last decade (2010-2020) as per the latest Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) released by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).
- Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar released the All India Tiger Estimation Report-2018.
- Union Minister for Human Resource Development (HRD) Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' virtually launched "India Report on Digital Education, 2020".
- Reliance Industries has entered the list of 50 most valued companies in the world.
- Reliance Industries has overtaken ExxonMobil to become the world's second most valuable energy firm with market capitalization scaled to a record high of over Rs 14 trillion.
- With a brand value of \$241.2 billion (a 17% increase year-over-year), Apple has topped the Forbes' annual list of the World's Most Valuable Brands, which looked at the top 100 companies from the fiscal year 2019.

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Agreements and MoUs Signed

- SOLV, a B2B (business to business) digital platform for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), has launched a tailor-made credit card in partnership with Standard Chartered Bank, India.
- Government of India, Government of Tamil Nadu and the World Bank signed an agreement to help low-income groups in Tamil Nadu State to get access to affordable housing.
- India and Bhutan signed the first Indo-Bhutan joint venture hydroelectric project on 29 June 2020.
- A Memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed on Waste to Energy plant at Okhla, Delhi, between Indian Oil, NTPC Ltd and South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) on 30 June 2020.
- The State-owned Indian Oil Corp (IOC) and Bangladesh's Beximco LPG have entered into an agreement for the formation of a 50:50 Joint Venture Company (JVC) for importing liquefied petroleum gas in Bangladesh.
- ICICI Bank in partnership with Computer Age Management Services (CAMS) launched 'Insta Loans against Mutual Funds', a facility for retail customers to avail loans upto Rs 1 crore instantly by pledging their holdings in both debt and equity Mutual Funds (MFs).
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed virtually on 4th July 2020 between the non-profit organization UKIBC- UK India Business Council and the MIDC-Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation. MIDC is the Maharashtra Government's premier agency for industrial infrastructure development.
- A Navratna Company of Government of India- NLC India Limited has signed an agreement with a Maharatna Company- Coal India Limited to form a Joint Venture Company (JVC) for developing Solar and Thermal power assets.
- The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has partnered with social media giant Facebook to launch free and comprehensive training program in virtual mode for teachers and students of its affiliated schools.
- The Indian Railways and RailTel signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for installation of an IP-based video surveillance system at 6,049 railway stations across the country.
- In Afghanistan's Capital City Kabul, on 5th July 2020, 5 Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) were signed under the High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDP) programme.
- Indian Railway in collaboration with Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has set up a 1.7 Megawatt solar power plant at Bina, Madhya Pradesh.
- National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) under the AYUSH Ministry signed a Memorandum of

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Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) - National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR) under Department of Agricultural Research and Education on 6 July 2020.

- The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and Bakamla RI (Indonesian Coast Guard) have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on 'Maritime Safety and Security' to boost maritime relations.

- Microsoft has partnered with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) to offer digital skills to

India's youth in the next 12 months amid the COVID-19 crisis.

- Mobility platform Ola has entered into a partnership with digital payments platform PhonePe to expand payment options for riders.

- Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) and the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for data exchange between the two organizations.

- The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and US Agency for International Development (USAID) have partnered on 7th July 2020 to increase India- US collaboration for clean energy development.

- On 8th July 2020, an agreement has been signed between the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research- Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (CSIR-IGIB) and IIT Alumni Council.

- Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) is tie-up with a multinational technology company, NVIDIA to establish India's 1st 'NVIDIA AI Technology Centre' (NVAITC).

- Manila based Asian Development Bank (ADB) has renewed its 3-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in 2017 with the Paris based International Energy Agency (IEA).

- Flipkart and the Department of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) and Mines of Government of Karnataka signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

- Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) inked an agreement with the New Okhla Industrial Development Authority (NOIDA) to install public Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations & related infrastructure in order to promote the usage of electric vehicles.

- Karur Vysya Bank (KVB) entered into an arrangement with Tata Motors to fund buyers of Tata passenger vehicles.

- Indian e-commerce payment system Paytm & QorQI Pvt. Ltd, a Healthcare startup company with majority shareholding of Paytm founder Vijay Shekhar Sharma, is set to acquire Mumbai (Maharashtra)-based private sector general insurer Raheja QBE General Insurance Company Limited in a deal worth around \$76 million (or Rs 570 crore).

- Jharkhand government signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with HDFC Bank to provide digital payment solutions to the state's transport department.

- National Medicinal Plants Board, NMPB and ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources signed an

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MoU to to conserve the Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Genetic Resources

- UNICEF INDIA has tied-up with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry's (FICCI),

Socio-Economic Development Foundation (SEDF) to jointly develop UNICEF's #Reimagine Campaign.

- The BSE has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with IIT Alumni Council to encourage listing culture for startups and develop a 'high investor depth' startups platform.

- Google has announced its partnership with CBSE to help 1 million teachers conduct classes online by the end of the year.

- The Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Defence Public Sector Unit (PSU) Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

- On World Youth Skills Day, UNICEF India today announced its partnership with SAP India to provide career counselling to young people in the country that will improve their employability skills in a COVID and post COVID era.

- NTPC Ltd, a central PSU under the Ministry of Power and Country's largest power generation company, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) on 16 July 2020.

- India and Israel signed an agreement on July 15 to expand collaboration in dealing with cyber threats.

- Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) has signed a contract with ASKO Maritime AS, Norway for the construction and supply of the two autonomous electric ferries along with an option to build two more identical vessels.

- On July, 17, 2020, India and United States signed Memorandum of Understanding to begin discussions on storing petroleum reserves in the US soil.

- The United States-based Multinational Corporation-Qualcomm has informed on 12th July 2020 that it has invested Rs 730 crore in Reliance Industries' subsidiary company- Jio Platforms.

- Reliance Jio has raised \$4.5 billion (Rs 33,737 crore) from the search giant, Google for a 7.77% stake.

S.No	Investor	Investment Amount (in crores)	Stake Bought
1	Facebook, Inc.	Rs 43,573.62	9.99%
2	Silver Lake Partners	Rs 5,655.75	1.15%
3	Vista Equity Partners	Rs 11,367.00	2.32%
4	General Atlantic	Rs 6,598.38	1.34%
5	KKR	Rs 11,367.00	2.32%
6	Mubadala	Rs 9,093.60	1.85%

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7	Silver Lake Partners (additional investment)	Rs 4,546.80	0.93%
8	Abu Dhabi Investment Authority	Rs 5,683.50	1.16%
9	TPG	Rs 4,546.80	0.93%
10	L Catterton	Rs 1,894.50	0.39%
11	PIF	Rs 11,367.00	2.32%
12	Qualcomm	Rs 730	0.15%
13	Google	Rs 33,737	7.7%

- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved acquisition by Aceso Company Pte. Ltd. (Aceso) in HealthCare Global Enterprises Limited (HCG).
- The Virtual Ministerial meeting of Indo-US Strategic Energy Partnership was held on July 17, 2020.
- The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has integrated a new Artificial Intelligence (AI) course for class XI and XII in the current academic year (2020-2021).
- Ministry of Defence has signed a contract with Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) for procurement of 1,512 Mine Plough (MP) for Tank T-90 S/SK.
- The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India (MoMSME) and the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has signed a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on 20 July 2020.
- The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports have partnered with UNICEF to strengthen the youth volunteers in the country to achieve Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.
- India and Maldives have signed an agreement for the establishment of 'Emergency Medical Services' in Male, Maldives.
- Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) and the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 21 July 2020 with immediate effect.
- The Punjab government has signed an agreement with the Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar, in the area of skill development.
- Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) and Union Bank of India, after its amalgamation with Corporation Bank and Andhra Bank, have announced a corporate agency agreement to distribute LIC policies.

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- Airtel Payments Bank Ltd and National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) have collaborated in order to train and skill young people in rural areas on financial services and helping them in finding jobs and become entrepreneurs in the sector.
- Digital payments major, Amazon Pay has launched vehicle insurance in partnership with Bengaluru-based startup Acko General Insurance.
- Flipkart announced the acquisition of Walmart India.
- Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) has entered into a partnership with IIT-Delhi
- Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ) has signed up for the Science-Based Targets initiative (SBTi) becoming the first Indian port to commit to set science-based emissions reduction targets across their entire value chain that are consistent with keeping global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.
- India & the European Union have renewed its Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation for the next five years, 2020-2025, at the 15th India-EU Summit, held on 15 July 2020.
- The Department of Science and Technology has launched 'India-Russia Joint Technology Assessment and Accelerated Commercialisation Programme'.
- India and the Maldives signed a contract to set up Geydoshu Mas Plant (Neighborhood Fish Processing Plants) at two of the islands – Maradhoo and Hulhudhoo in the Maldives.
- Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) and SBI Card has launched a new Co-branded Contactless Credit Card on RuPay Platform.
- GAIL(India) limited and Carbon Clean Solutions Limited (CCSL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to explore the project development opportunities in the Compressed Biogas (CBG) value chain in India to build a closer strategic partnership by jointly working on the CBG projects in India.

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- Global private equity firm KKR is set to back Mumbai-based InCred Finance, a retail and MSME-focused non-banking finance company (NBFC).
- A tripartite MoU signed between CSIR, UBA-IIT Delhi & Vijnana Bharati to offer access to CSIR rural technologies for UBA.
- Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has signed an agreement with the Indian Institute of Technology-Kanpur for Training, Research, and Entrepreneurship Development in Smart Grid Technology.
- The Union Cabinet today gave ex-post facto approval to Memorandum of Understanding signed between India and Zimbabwe on Cooperation in the field of Traditional Systems of Medicine and

Name	Appointed as	Other Info
Ramnath Krishnan	President of Ratings.	
Indra Mani Pandey	Ambassador and Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations and other International Organisations in Geneva.	Mr Pandey, a 1990 batch IFS officer is presently additional secretary in the External Affairs ministry.
Ravinder Bhakar	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Central Board of Films Certification (CBFC)	He succeeds Anurag Srivastava.
Sanjay Dwivedi	Director General of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC).	He is presently serving as the Registrar of Makhn Lal Chaturvedi National University of Journalism and Communication, Bhopal.
Shrikant Madhav Vaidya	chairman of Indian Oil Corporation (IOC).	He will replace Sanjiv Singh
Nuka Srinivasulu	Director (Finance) of Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), Hyderabad	
Parminder Chopra	Director of Finance in the Government-owned Power Finance Corporation (PFC)	She will replace Shri N.B. Gupta
V Suryanarayanan	New MD of Chola MS General Insurance	
Rajeeva Swarup	Additional Chief Secretary (Home) as the new Chief Secretary (CS) of Rajasthan	replacing D.B. Gupta

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Homeopathy.

Appointments

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Injeti Srinivas	1st Chairman of the International Financial Services Centre Authority (IFSCA)	Injeti Srinivas has retired as the Secretary of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs on 31st May 2020.
Sukhbir Singh	brand ambassador of Luxury Ride	
Gyanendro Ningombam	Officiating President of Hockey India.	Ningombam had served as the CEO of Manipur Hockey between 2009 to 2014, He has also served as the vice president of the sports governing body till 2018.
Dr. Vidhu P. Nair	Ambassador of India to Turkmenistan.	Dr Nair, who is a 2002 batch IFS officer, is presently Director in the External Affairs Ministry.
Rudrendra Tandon	Ambassador of India to Afghanistan.	He will replace Vinay Kumar
Hemang Amin	interim CEO of BCCI	He will replace Rahul Johri
Vikram Doraiswami	Ambassador of India to Bangladesh	He will succeed Riva Ganguly Das
Ashok Lavasa	Vice president of Asian Development Bank	He has now been appointed as Vice President of ADB for Public-Private Partnerships and Private Sector Operations.
Brett Lee	Brand ambassador of SportsAdda	
Chandrikapersad 'Chan' Santokhi	President of South American country "Suriname".	He will succeed Desi Bouterse
Roshni Nadar	Chairperson of HCL Tech	succeeds Shiv Nadar
Priyanka Chopra Jonas	Ambassador of the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) 2020.	
Shyam Srinivasan	Managing director and chief executive officer (MD & CEO) of Federal Bank	
P Praveen Siddharth	Personal secretary to the President of India	He will replace Vikram Singh

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Ashwini Kumar Tewari	Managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO) of the SBI Cards & Payment Services	Replace Hardayal Prasad
Kulmeet Bawa	Managing Director for SAP Indian	He will replace the incumbent Deb
	Subcontinent.	Deep Sengupta
Ramesh Babu Boddu	Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of Karur Vysya bank.	He will succeed PR Seshadri
Sumit Deb	Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)	He will succeed N Bajendra Kumar
Prakash Chandra Kandpal	Managing director and chief executive officer of the Non-life insurer SBI General Insurance	He will replace Pushan Mahapatra
Arun Kumar	Vice-Chairman of UIC (Union Internationale Des Chemins/International Union of Railways)	
Riva Ganguly Das	Secretary East, in the Ministry of External Affairs.	
Alok Misra	Chief Executive Officer & Director of Microfinance Institutions Network (MFIN)	
Partha Pratim Sengupta	Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)	He will replace Karnam Sekar
Rajesh Bhushan	Health Secretary in the Union Health Ministry.	He will succeed Preeti Sudan
Anandiben Patel	Governor of Madhya Pradesh.	Presently, she is also the Governor of Uttar Pradesh.

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Naveen Tahilyani	MD & CEO of Tata AIA Life Insurance	Tahilyani will take over from current Chief Executive Officer, Rishi Srivastav
MA Hampiholi	Commandant, Indian Naval Academy (INA).	
Varun Sridhar	CEO of Paytm Money	He will replace former MD and CEO Pravin Jadhav
Hardik Satishchandra Shah	Private Secretary (PS) to Prime	

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	Minister Narendra Modi	
N Sivaraman	Managing director and group chief executive officer of ICRA	He succeeds former MD and Group CEO Naresh Takkar.

- Fabindia, which operates a chain of stores selling a range of artisans products, announced former Indigo airlines president Aditya Ghosh has been appointed as a member of its board of directors.
- Government extends the term of Rajkiran Rai G as the Managing Director(MD) and Chief Executive Officer(CEO) of Union Bank of India(UBI) by 2 years till May 31, 2022.
- The Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Indian Overseas Bank (IOB), Karnam Sekar has retired on 30th June 2020.
- Telecom industry body Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) has appointed Bharti Airtel chief operating officer for India and South Asia, Ajai Puri, as its new Chairman for 2020-21.
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the extension of the tenure of senior bureaucrat Sukhbir Singh Sandhu as the Chairman of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for a period of six months, beyond July 21, 2020, up to January 21, 2021.
- International Cricket Council (ICC) Chairman, Shashank Manohar has stepped down as the head of the cricket body after two-year tenures.
- The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has extended the term of Justice Bansi Lal Bhat as the acting chairperson of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) by three months.
- The founding CEO of Startup Village and founder of Re-think Foundation, Sijo Kuruvilla George, has been selected as member of Central Government's Expert Committee on Science and Technology Policy.
- Former India wicket-keeper batsman Saba Karim has resigned from his post as the BCCI General Manager Cricket Operations.
- Rahul Bajaj will step down as Non-Executive Chairman of Bajaj Finance on July 31, after being at the helm of the company for over three decades.
- the Deputy Commissioner of Mumbai Customs Sahil Seth was appointed as the honorary adviser of steering committee for BRICS Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI).
- Indian climate activist, Archana Soreng along with six other young climate leaders has been named by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to his new advisory group comprising young leaders.
- The government has appointed former chairman of Coal India, Anil Kumar Jha, as the chairman of a key panel that deals with violation of environment rules.

Committees in News

- National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) is to set up an Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT) with an aim to facilitate investment in the highway sector.

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- The United States-based global investment firm- Kohlberg Kravis Roberts (KKR) & Co. Inc. will buy the majority of 54 percent stake in JB Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals.
- IRDAI sets up nine-member Working Group Headed by G Srinivasan, to study the suitability of offering of Surety Bond by Indian Insurance Industry
- The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has constituted an 11-member expert committee to study the impact of Covid-19 on human rights and future response of the government.
- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has formed a working group to study and make recommendations on formation of an “Indian Pandemic Risk Pool”.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) has set up an independent panel to review its handling of the COVID19 pandemic and the response by governments.

Awards and Honours

Name	Award
Chakravarthi Rangarajan	Prof. P C Mahalanobis Award in Official Statistics for lifetime achievements.
MyGov Corona Helpdesk	CogX 2020 award
Ratnakar Matkari	Natvarya Prabhakar Panshikar award for lifetime contribution to theatre by the Maharashtra government.
Freya Thakral	2020 Diana Award for her “Recycler App”.
International Olympic Committee (IOC)	2020 US Green Building Council (USGBC) Leadership Award.
NTPC Ltd	CII-ITC Sustainability Award 2019
Kezang D Thongdok	Dada Saheb Phalke Award 2020
Institute for Human Development (IHD)	‘Development Marketplace Award 2020:Innovations to Address Gender-Based Violence’
Kailasavadivoo Sivan	Von Karman Award 2020
Chhattisgarh	“Elites Excellence Awards-2020”
Edappadi K Palaniswami	Paul Harris Fellow recognition
Hockey legend Gurbux Singh and former first-class cricketer Palash Nandy	Mohun Bagan Ratna Award 2020
Ved Parkash Dudeja	‘Infra Business Leader of the Year’ award for 2020.
Natarajan Chandrasekaran & Jim Taiclet	US-India Business Council (USIBC) Global Leadership Award 2020.
Arnab Chaudhuri	‘Legend of Animation’ award

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Greta Thunberg	Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity
Kannan C S Warriar	National Award of Excellence for Outstanding Research
	in Forestry for the year 2019
Jordan Henderson	Football Writers' Association (FWA) Footballer of the Year for the 2019-20 Premier League season
Aditya -India's first solar-powered ferry	Gustave Trouve Award for Excellence in Electric Boats and Boating
Sunil ydv SS	"Karamveer Chakra Award" instituted by United Nations and International Confederation of NGO (iCONGO).
Professor Ashok Sahni	Life Time Excellence Award
Shakuntala Devi	Guinness World Records for 'fastest human computation'
Avni Doshi	2020 Booker Prize

- 2011 Pulitzer Prize winner Dr Siddhartha Mukherjee and Harvard University Economics Professor Raj Chetty were listed among the 38 immigrants to be honoured as the '2020 Great Immigrants' by the Carnegie Corporation.
- The commonwealth writers announced Kritika Pandey, the winner of asian region prize as the overall winner of the 2020 Commonwealth Short Story Prize for her story, "The Great Indian Tee and Snakes".
- A WhatsApp chatline named 'SMARTgirl Chatline' was implemented by a Research Team from Cambodian NGO- KHANA Centre for Population Health Research. □Elton John became the second artist to be honored by Britain's Royal Mint with a commemorative coin paying tribute to the decorated British singer-songwriter.\
- The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) Head of Mission and Force Commander Major General Stefano Del Col awarded the annual environment awards of UNIFIL to 7 mission entities.
- A 59-year-old Indian-origin nurse in Singapore has been conferred with the prestigious President's Award for Nurses for serving on the frontline during the Covid-19 pandemic
- This year, the Namami Gange project has been included in the prestigious 'Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration'. **Defence**
- The Ministry of Defence (MoD) cleared the purchase of 21 MiG-29 and 12 Sukhoi-30 MKI fighter aircraft along with 248 indigenous long-range air to air missiles, Astra, among others on 2 July 2020.

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- The Indian and Japanese navies conducted a small exercise PASSEX (passing exercise), towards the Malacca Strait in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).
- Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) has signed License Agreement and Transfer of Technology (ToT) with Defence Research and Development Organisation–Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDO– DRDL) for Akash Missile Weapon System (Indian Army Variant).
- ‘Security and Growth for All in the Region’ –Following this vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Indian Navy began ‘Mission Sagar’ to extend India’s helping hand across the Indian Ocean.
- ‘Samudra Setu’ meaning ‘Sea Bridge’, In an effort to repatriate Indian Citizens from overseas, the Operation Samudra Setu was launched on 5th May 2020 by the Indian Navy.
- On 9th July 2020, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has e-Inaugurated 6 strategic bridges in sensitive border areas of Jammu & Kashmir.
- Indian Navy conducted major Naval exercises in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands led by Sanjay Vatsayan, Chief Rear Admiral of Eastern naval fleet as a display of strategic intents against China amid the current military conflicts in the Northeastern borders in Ladakh.
- The US Navy carrier USS Nimitz conducted maritime drills with Indian warships in the Middle East.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has provided drones named ‘Bharat’ to the Indian Army.
- The Indian armed forces successfully test-fired the helicopter-launched Nag Missile Dhruvastra anti-tank guided missile, erstwhile called Helina, indirect and top attack mode.
- The Ministry of Defence has signed Rs 557 crore contract with Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) for procurement of 1,512 mine plough (MP) for the Indian Army.
- Largest Solar Power Plant at Indian Naval Academy, Ezhimala has been commissioned by the Vice Admiral Anil Kumar Chawla.
- United States (US) based Aerospace Company Boeing, has delivered the last 5 AH-64E Apache attack helicopters to Indian Air Force (IAF) at the Air Force Station, Hindan, Uttar Pradesh.
- The Indian army is to acquire hand-launched, remotely controlled unmanned aerial vehicle Raven from the US and state-of-the-art Israeli Spike Firefly. **Sports**
- Indian umpire Nitin Menon has been inducted into International Cricket Council’s Elite Panel of Umpires.
- The presence of Grandmaster P. Harikrishna is sure to see a major spike in Indian interest in the million-dollar Magnus Carlsen Chess Tour that continues with the \$150,000 Chessable Masters.
- Former Germany footballer Mario Gomez has announced his retirement from the sport.

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- India all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja was named as the country's 'Most Valuable Player' (MVP) of the 21st century by Wisden.
- In order to groom young athletes in the country for the upcoming Olympics of 2024 (Paris) and 2028 (Los Angeles), the Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports will launch- Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) for the junior athletes.
- Former world number one badminton player and the two-times Olympic badminton champion from China, Lin Dan has announced his retirement from the sport.
- Lt Col Bharat Pannu, a serving Indian Army Officer has created history by successfully securing a podium place at the first edition of the Virtual Race Across America (vRAAM) 2020. □ Valtteri Bottas (Mercedes-Finland) has won the Austrian Grand Prix 2020.
- The 23 year-old G. Akash from Chennai, Tamil Nadu becomes the country's 66th Grandmaster with rating of 2495.
- Rising tennis star Sumit Nagal has become the first Indian to win an international tournament in the Covid-19 era after he lifted the PSD Bank Nord Open trophy, a locally organised clay court tournament in Germany.
- Manipur's, Gyanendro Ningombam named as the new Officiating President of Hockey India.
- The 2020 edition of the Asia Cup Cricket tournament has been postponed till June 2021 by the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) due to ongoing increase in COVID-19 cases in the region.
- World's top-ranked women's squash player, Raneem El Welily from Egypt has announced her retirement on 9 July 2020.
- Indian boxer and World Championship silver medallist Amit Panghal has climbed up the leaderboard to the first spot in the rankings released by Amateur International Boxing Association (AIBA), after a gap of almost 18 months.
- The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) adopted a new branding and visual identity, including an institutional and a commercial logo, to celebrate a century of participation of the country's athletes at the Summer Olympics.
- Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes-Great Britain) has won the Styrian Grand Prix 2020, held on 12 July 2020 in Spielberg, Austria.
- West Indies won the first international cricket match since the sport's return after the coronavirus outbreak by defeating England.
- Former Socceroos captain Mile Jedinak has announced his retirement from the sport. Socceroos is the official nickname of the Australia national soccer team that represents Australia in international men's soccer.

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- The Federation Internationale de Football Association announced that the 2022 World Cup is to be held in Qatar.
- The Youth Olympic Games in Dakar will be celebrated in 2026 after Senegal and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) “mutually agreed” to postpone the Games from 2022.
- Spanish professional football club, Real Madrid has been crowned La Liga Champions for the 34th time after defeating Villarreal 2–1 at Estadio Alfredo Di Stefano in Madrid, with one match remaining.
- The Germany forward player & World Cup winner, Andre Schurrle has announced retirement from the sport.
- Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes’ – Great Britain) won the 2020 Formula 1 Hungarian Grand Prix held on 19 July 2020.
- International Cricket Council’s (ICC’s) announced, the T20 Men’s World Cup, scheduled to be played in Australia in October-November 2020, has formally been postponed to 2022 due to COVID-19. □Sahitya Akademi Award winner, Baldev Singh Sadaknama has authored a book ‘Suraj Kade Marda Nahi’ (sun never dies).
- Sri Lankan bowling allrounder, Sripali Weerakkody has announced her retirement from International Cricket with immediate effect.
- Liverpool captain Jordan Henderson has been named the Football Writers’ Association (FWA) Footballer of the Year for the 2019-20 Premier League season. executive officer for three years.
- Veteran Indian domestic allrounder, Rajat Bhatia has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket.
- World Athletics has approved the new dates on July 30 for the World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships Minsk 2020 and World U20 Championship Nairobi 2020.
- Stuart Broad joined one of cricket’s most exclusive clubs when he took his 500th Test wicket as England completed a series-clinching win over the West Indies at Old Trafford.

Science & Tech

- Researchers at IIT-Bombay have developed a homegrown receiver chip named Dhruva, that can be used in smartphones and navigation devices to find locations and routes within the country.
- The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has released an updated Clinical Management Protocol under Dexamethasone was advised as an alternative to Methylprednisolone.
- The Drug Controller General of India (DGCI) has given its approval to the Indian vaccine manufacturer Bharat Biotech’s COVID vaccine.

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- To promote balanced use of fertilisers, state-owned (NFL) launched five mobile soil testing labs for providing free services at doorsteps of farmers.
- Researchers from Raman Research Institute (RRI), an autonomous institute of the Department of Science & Technology (DST), has launched Quantum Key Distribution or QKD.
- Scientists from the Institute of Nano Science & Technology (INST), Mohali, have synthesized a novel inorganic-organic hybrid compound that can inhibit breast, lung, and liver cancer cells.
- Indian Institute of Technology-Gandhinagar IITGn has developed an Artificial Intelligence-based tool to detect COVID-19 from Chest X-ray.
- GoI launched Accelerate Vigyan to strengthen the scientific research mechanism.
- Indian Council of Medical Research's (ICMR) Regional Medical Research Centre (RMRC) located in Lahowal in Dibrugarh district of Assam has successfully isolated the SARS-CoV-2, COVID-19, virus becoming the fourth such facility in the country to achieve the feat.
- For supporting the drug discovery process, a national initiative called Drug Discovery Hackathon 2020 was launched on 2nd July 2020.

- IIT Kanpur has developed a classroom-to-home teaching setup 'Mobile Masterjee'. It will be very helpful to students in rural India.
- The Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM), also known as Mangalyaan mission, of the ISRO, has captured the image of the closest and biggest moon of Mars, named Phobos.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has established a 1000 bed facility in 12 days adjacent to the office of Controller General of Defence Accounts (CGDA) on Ulan Bator Road near Domestic Terminal of Indira Gandhi International Airport.
- Indian Institute of Technology Madras Researchers have developed a nano-coated filter media for healthcare workers treating COVID-19 Patients.
- Global pharmaceutical company Mylan N.V was given approval by the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) for the launch of its generic version of Gilead Sciences Remdesivir drug for the treatment of COVID19 positive patients in India. Mylan N.
- The Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee(IIT-R) announced that the IIT-R researchers team led by Prof. Soumitra Satapathi, Laboratory of Integrated Nanophotonics and Biomaterials, have developed the disinfection box – "Unisaviour" box, which can be used to sterilise various personal belongings to minimise the COVID-19 transmission.
- Pune based molecular biology company- Mylab Discovery Solutions Private Limited has launched a cartridge-based machine named 'Compact XL' on 7th July 2020 that will be able to test and handle multiple samples at the same time.

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- Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), in collaboration with Laxai Life Sciences Pvt. Ltd.
- Mylab Discovery Solutions has launched the 'Compact XL' system for conducting a wide range of tests, including RT-PCR tests for COVID-19.
- The first earth observation satellite to be entirely developed by Brazil will be launch by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
- IIT Kanpur has developed an Ultraviolet (UV) sanitizing product named SHUDH.
- Bengaluru based, VNIR Biotechnologies, a spinoff by Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR) has launched indigenous fluorescence probes and Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) mix for RT-PCR detection of COVID-19.
- The former IAS officer and the first woman election commissioner of Maharashtra Smt Neela Satyanarayan passed away.
- Former Goa health minister, Suresh Amonka passed away at 68 due to COVID-19 infection, while undergoing treatment at ESI hospital in Margao.
- The Youth Olympic Games in Dakar will be celebrated in 2026 after Senegal and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) "mutually agreed" to postpone the Games from 2022.
- Two of the IIT Kanpur Incubated Start-ups namely Earthface Analytics Pvt. Ltd. & Kritsnam Technologies Pvt. Ltd. have developed a device, named as 'PADMAVATI', to analyse and monitor the quality of water.
- Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M) start-up Modulus Housing, has developed a portable hospital unit called 'MediCAB,'.
- Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI), Faridabad has developed a synthetic peptidebased vaccine candidate targeting CoronaVirus.
- Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)-Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI), Durgapur, unveiled the COVID Protection System (COPS) for Workplace to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic.
- International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials (ARCI), Hyderabad, and Vehant Technologies, Noida has jointly developed KritiScan UV Baggage Disinfection System.
- The Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering Technology operating under Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers was accredited by National Accreditation Board for Testing (NABL) and Calibration Laboratories to test and certify Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) kits.

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- With the COVID-19 graph continuing its spike, a startup, incubated at the Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIM-K), has developed a wearable hand band that helps in maintaining social distancing by sending out alarm in case of proximity with another person.
- S.N. Bose National Centre For Basic Sciences (SNBNCBS), Kolkata, has developed an active respirator mask with attached exhalation valve and suspended particulate matter filter for comfortable and hygienic breathing while wearing masks.
- The human trial of COVID-19 vaccine candidate developed by the University of Oxford and backed by AstraZeneca Plc has shown a positive result.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has established a COVID-19 testing facility at the Leh based laboratory Defence Institute of High-Altitude Research (DIHAR).
- A Smart Wristwatch designed and developed by AIIMS Nagpur

Web Portals and Apps

- The web portal of the Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan has been launched by the Union Minister of Rural Development, Panchayati Raj and Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar.
- The Union Shri Arjun Munda launched the Trifed Digital Platforms, through Video Conference.
- Sports Minister Kiren Rijju has launched the National Anti-Doping Agency's first mobile app named as "NADA App".
- Karnataka government has launched a portal called "Skill Connect Forum" to connect job seekers with employers on a common platform.
- HDFC Bank has launched 'e-Kisaan Dhan' App for Farmers in India.
- Billionaire Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries has launched a video conferencing app, JioMeet, with unlimited free calling facility. It is a close competitor of US-owned Zoom app.
- The Union Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) has launched the new fully online process of Classification and Registration of MSME enterprises from 1st July, 2020.
- Honorable Vice President of India, Shri M Venkaiah Naidu, launched an indigenous social media app 'Elyments' on 5th July 2020, through video conferencing.
- The government of Delhi has launched an online education portal named LEAD (Learning through EResources Made Accessible for Delhi) which will provide over 10,000 instructional material and course content for the students of classes 1 to 12.

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- Resident doctors of AIIMS with the help of IIT-Delhi students have developed a mobile application to track real-time Covid-19 patients in the hospital, who can become potential plasma donors 28 days after recovery along with those who have been discharged.
- Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) in partnership with Atal Innovation Mission, Niti Aayog launched Digital India AatmaNirbhar Bharat App Innovation Challenge for Indian tech entrepreneurs and Startups.
- West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee launched a mobile app, indigenously developed by state information technology department, for documents scanning.
- Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based “Aatmanirbhar Skilled Employee Employer Mapping (ASEEM)” digital platform has been launched by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
- “ATL App Development Module” has been launched by the NITI Aayog’s Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) for school students nationwide.
- Government of India announced that five portals are being developed by different organizations to promote innovation in India.
- A mobile application of PM Street Vendor’s Atmanirbhar Nidhi, PM SVANidhi was launched in New Delhi to bring micro-credit facility for street vendors at their door steps.
- On July 19, 2020, the Union Environment and Information Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar hailed “KURMA” application to track and report Indian turtles.
- The researchers of Dalhousie University have come up with a new app that can detect mental conditions like anxiety and depression based on how you use your phone.
- Actor Sonu Sood launched “Pravasi Rojgar App”.
- A portal “Restartindia” has been launched by the Kerala-based NBFC, Muthoot Fincorp.

Books & Authors

- Best-selling author and the Director of the Nehru Centre in London, Amish Tripathi, has released his new book of fiction titled ‘Legend of Suheldev: The King Who Saved India’.
- Hindi literature writer Priyamvad to release his new book, ‘Bharatiya Loktanktra Ka Koras: Kuch Bisari Bikhari Dhvaniyan’ in 2021.
- Vice President of India, M Venkaiah Naidu has virtually released a book titled “Future of Higher Education – Nine Mega Trends“. The book is authored by CA V Pattabhi Ram. The Virtual event was hosted by ICT Academy.

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- Former RBI governor, Urjit Patel has written a book titled ‘Overdraft: Saving the Indian Saver’ will be releasing later this month.
- The Chairman of Maruti Suzuki, RC Bhargava has authored the book “Getting Competitive: A Practitioner’s Guide for India” from his experience as a policymaker and a leading industrialist.
- The book, titled ‘Mahaveer: The Soldier who never died’ is authored by award winning author A.K. Srikumar and his wife, Rupa Srikumar.
- A book titled ‘His Holiness the Fourteenth Dalai Lama: An Illustrated Biography’ is authored by one of the Dalai Lama’s closest aides and advisor of over 40 year, Tenzin Geyche Tethong.
- The book titled ‘A Song of India’ authored by Ruskin Bond to be released on July 20, 2020, which will mark the 70th year of the author’s literary career.
- A new book titled “If It Bleeds”, a collection of four stories, authored by Stephen King has been released.
- Crime writer, S Hussain Zaidi has penned a new novel “The Endgame” which talks of politics, betrayal, and unimaginable terror. **Days and Themes**

Day	Celebrated as	Aim / Theme
July 1	National Doctors’ Day	The theme of 2020 Doctors Day is “Lessen the mortality of COVID 19”.
July 1	National Chartered Accountants Day or CA Day	
July 1	National Postal Worker Day	
July 2	World UFO Day	WUD aims to raise awareness about the existence of UFOs and encouraging people to think about the possibility of us not being alone in the Universe.
July 2	World Sports Journalists Day	
July 3	International Plastic Bag Free Day	
June 28 to July 4	World Allergy Week	The theme of World Allergy Week 2020 is “Allergy care does not stop
		with COVID-19”.
July 6	World Zoonoses Day	

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July 7	World Chocolate Day (also known as International Chocolate Day)	
July 10	"National Fish Farmers Day".	To honor the fish farmers, aquapreneurs & fisher folks in recognition of their accomplishments in the field and their contribution in the growth of the fisheries sector in the country.
July 11	World Population Day	Theme: Putting the brakes on COVID-19: Safeguarding the health and rights of women and girls.
July 12	Malala Day	
July 15	World Youth Skills Day	The theme of World Youth Skills Day 2020 is "Skills for a Resilient Youth".
July 17	World Emoji Day	
July 17	World Day for International Justice	The day marks the anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute on July 17, 1998, the treaty that created the International Criminal Court.
July 18	Nelson Mandela International Day	In 2020, the essence of Mandela Day – take action, inspire change, and make every day a Mandela Day – is more important than ever before.
July 20	World Chess Day	The day marks the date of the establishment of the International Chess Federation (FIDE) in Paris in 1924.
July 20	Science Exploration Day (also called Moon Day)	It was on this day in 1969 that Neil Armstrong and Edwin 'Buzz' Aldrin became the first humans to land on the Moon's surface.

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July 23	“National Broadcasting Day”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On this day in 1927, the first ever radio broadcast in the country went on the air from the Bombay Station under the Indian Broadcasting Company. On 8th of June, 1936, the Indian State Broadcasting Service became All India Radio.
July 26	Kargil Vijay Diwas	The day is dedicated to our Kargil War’s Heroes and is named after the successful Operation Vijay.
July 26	International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem (or World Mangrove Day)	The day was adopted by the General Conference of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2015.
July 28	World Hepatitis Day	Theme of World Hepatitis Day 2020: ‘Find the Missing Millions’.
July 28	World Nature Conservation Day	World Conservation Day is celebrated internationally to increase awareness about the best practices to protect our natural resources.
July 29	International Tiger Day	The Slogan for 2020 International Tiger Day celebration is “Their survival is in our hands”.
July 30	World Day Against Trafficking in Persons.	The 2020 theme for the World Day Against Trafficking: “Committed to the Cause – Working on the Frontline to End Human Trafficking”.

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July 30	International Day of Friendship	The day also advocates the role that friendship plays in promoting peace in several cultures across the world.
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- The United Nations celebrates the International Day of Cooperatives every year on the first Saturday of July to increase awareness of cooperatives.

Obituary

Name	Profession	Location
Geetha Nagabhushan	Writer	Karnataka
Bhupinder Singh Slathia	Senior advocate and former president of Jammu and Kashmir High Court Bar Association	Jammu and Kashmir
Carl Reiner	writer, comedian, director and actor.	United States
Upa Rokamlova	former speaker of the state legislative assembly	Mizoram
Everton Weekes	Cricketer	West Indies
Saroj Khan	Bollywood choreographer	Mumbai
Ennio Morricone	film composer	Italy
Pokuri Rama Rao	film producer	Hyderabad
Susheel Gowda	TV actor	Karnataka
Jagdeep	Bollywood actor-comedian	Madhya Pradesh
Earl Cameron	British film and TV actor	United Kingdom
Dr Suresh Amonkar	former health minister of Goa	Goa
Charlie Daniels	Musician	United States
Amadou Gon Coulibaly	Prime Minister of Ivory Coast	Ivory Coast
Vasudeva Maiya	former Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Sri Guru Raghavendra Cooperative Bank Ltd	
Nagindas Sanghvi	Gujarati journalist, columnist, writer and political analyst	Gujarat
Ranjan Sehgal	Punjabi and Hindi film and television actor	Punjab
Avad Bin Hassan Jami	cartoonist of Gujarat	Gujarat

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Divya Chouksey	Actress, model and singer	Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
Jack Charlton	Footballer	United Kingdom
Jyotsna Bhatt	ceramic artist	Gujarat
Wim Suurbier	Dutch Football legend	Netherlands
Brahm Vasudeva	Hawkins Cookers Chairman	

Neela Satyanarayan	former IAS officer and the first woman election commissioner of Maharashtra	Maharashtra
Suresh Amonka	Former Goa health minister	Goa
Purushottam Priyadasji Swamishree	Incumbent Acharya of Shree Swaminarayan Gadi	
Ramesh Tikaram	Para-athlete, and para-badminton player	
Cordy Tindell Vivian	Civil rights leader	United States
C S Seshadri	Indian mathematician	Tamilnadu
Rajat Mukherjee	Filmmaker	Rajasthan
John Lewis	Civil Rights pioneer	
Lalji Tandon	Madhya Pradesh Governor	Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
Barry Jarman	Wicketkeeper and ex-International Cricket Council match referee	Australia
Bijay Mohanty	Actor	Odisha
Juan Marse	Novelist	Spain
Viktor Chizhikov	Creator of the brown bear mascot "Misha"	Moscow
Annie Ross	Legendary Jazz Singer	England
Amala Shankar	Eminent danseuse and choreographer	Bangladesh
Nusrat Zaheer	Urdu writer and translator	Uttar Pradesh
Mohammad Shamshuddin	Urdu poet	Maharashtra
Achyuta Rao	Child-rights activist	
Benjamin Mkapa	Tanzania's Former President	Tanzania
Olivia de Havilland	Actress	Tokyo, Japan

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Kumkum Zaibunnissa	Bollywood actor	Bihar
John Saxon	Actor	New York, US
Parvez Khan	Bollywood action director	Mumbai
Bhaskarrao Avhad	Senior advocate and author	Maharashtra
Ashutosh Bhakre	Actor	Maharashtra
Anil Murali	Actor	Kerala
Sonam Tshering Lepcha	Folk musician	

August 2020 – One Liner Current Affairs Financial One Liners

- The six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of Reserve Bank of India held its meeting in New Delhi. The repo rate was kept the same at 4%
- The reverse repo rate was kept at 3.35% In June, the retail inflation was 6.09%.
- The private sector lender, Kotak Mahindra Bank, has announced the launch of a two-month long campaign called 'Kona Kona Umeed' with huge offers and discounts to lift up hope and optimism among its customers in the midst of the Coronavirus pandemic.
- More than 40 crore bank accounts have been opened under the government's flagship financial inclusion drive Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), launched about six years ago by the Modi-government.
- ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund has announced the launch of ICICI Prudential Alpha Low Vol 30 ETF, an open-ended index exchange traded fund tracking Nifty Alpha Low Volatility 30 Index.
- Indian Market regulator, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is planning to set up a virtual museum of the securities market to highlight achievements and milestones in the Indian capital market.
- The Reserve Bank of India has launched pilot scheme for small value payments in offline mode. The pilot scheme shall be undertaken till March 31, 2021 only.
- India has contributed the next tranche of \$15.46 million to the India-UN Development Partnership Fund on 4 August 2020, under its commitment to supporting developing nations in their developmental priorities across all the Sustainable Development Goals.
- Three contract manufacturers for Apple iPhones and South Korea's Samsung have applied for large-scale electronics manufacturing rights in India under a \$6.5 billion incentive scheme.
- India has contributed the next tranche of \$15.46 million to the India-UN Development Partnership Fund on 4 August 2020, under its commitment to supporting developing nations in their developmental priorities across all the Sustainable Development Goals.

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- Tech Mahindra, has launched Mhealthy, a solution to enable workforce and community safety against COVID-19.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced that it is planning to set up an Innovation Hub in order to promote innovation across the finance sector in India by leveraging on technology.
- The Finance Ministry said 15 proposals worth Rs 6,400 crore of stressed NBFCs and HFCs have been sanctioned under the special liquidity scheme announced as part of the Rs 20.97 lakh crore 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' package.
- RBI has permitted banks to invest in debt instruments through mutual funds or exchange traded funds without allocating additional charges.
- The Reserve Bank of India has barred banks from opening current accounts for customers who have availed cash credit or overdraft facilities, with a view to improve credit discipline.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said it has decided to introduce a mechanism of 'Positive Pay' for all cheques of value Rs 50,000 and above.
- National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) has launched business intelligence and analytics enabled omni-channel multi-branded loyalty platform, nth Rewards.
- The e-commerce major in India, Flipkart, has launched its own startup accelerator program in the country in order nurture and fund the startups in the country.
- The E-Commerce Form Amazon India has launched its seller-driven campaign known as 'Itna Aasan Hai' in order to highlight how the sellers are thriving on the Amazon ecosystem with ease.
- The Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the platform for "Transparent Taxation - Honoring the Honest" via video conferencing.
- Reliance Foundation has stated that it has partnered US Agency for International Development (USAID) to launch the W-GDP Women Connect Challenge across India this year with an aim to bridge the gender digital divide in the country.
- Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has announced a special scheme to revive lapsed policies named 'Special Revival Campaign'.
- Mahindra Manulife Mutual Fund has launched a new open-ended arbitrage opportunities fund that will invest in equity, derivatives and debt markets.
- Payment gateway startup Razorpay has introduced a feature that allows micro-entrepreneurs and freelancers to instantaneously accept digital payments online.
- The largest private sector bank in the country, HDFC Bank, launched 'Shaurya KGC (Kisan Gold Credit) Card, a loan product for the armed forces.

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- Punjab National Bank has launched a campaign named 'DIGITAL APNAYEN' to encourage customers to use digital banking channels.
- Federal Bank, private sector bank in India, has teamed-up with Fiserv, Inc., global provider of payments and financial services technology solutions, in a bid to support the launch of the Federal Bank credit card.
- The Central Board of the Reserve Bank of India has approved the transfer of Rs 57128 crores as the dividend to the Central government for the accounting year 2019-20 while maintaining the contingency risk buffer at 5.5 per cent.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has introduced "KCC (Kisan Credit Card) Review option" on its digital agricultural solution platform, YONO Krishi.
- SEBI has imposed a fine of Rs 10 lakh on the Bank of Baroda for violating mutual fund regulations for noncompliance of Regulation 7B of SEBI
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) tightened the norms for core investment companies (CICs), based on the recommendations received from the working group which was formed to review the framework.
- Reserve Bank of India has released the 'framework for authorization of pan-India Umbrella Entity for Retail Payments' in India.
- Fino Payments Bank has launched Jan BachatKhata (JBK), which is an Aadhaar Authentication based digital savings account that brings neo-banking experience to consumers.
- National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has launched its wholly-owned subsidiary firm named NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL).
- Lakshmi Vilas Bank (LVB), one of Tamil Nadu's oldest private banks, has launched Lakshmi DigiGo, a digital initiative to enable opening of savings account instantly.
- YES Bank has launched a unique digital solution called 'Loan against Securities' under the bank's loan in seconds platform that enables online lien marking of mutual funds and avail quick and hassle-free loan.
- The 'National Strategy for Financial Education 2020-2025' (NSFE), released by the RBI, has suggested a multi-stakeholder-led approach for creating a financially aware and empowered India.
- The e-commerce giant Amazon has launched the first Indian online pharma delivery service.
- Investment bank Barclays has revised downward the growth projection for India in FY21 (2020-21) to a contraction of 6%. Earlier it had estimated a contraction of 3.2%.
- Multi Commodity Exchange of India (MCX) will launch India's first bullion index named Bulldex, on August 24, 2020.

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- State Bank of India's research report Ecowrap expects the country's GDP to contract by 16.5 per cent during the first quarter of the current fiscal.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) on Tuesday said it has approved a USD 1 billion loan to support construction of modern, high-speed Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System.
- Apple Inc. has become the first publicly traded U.S. company to reach a market capitalization of over \$2 trillion, after its share price climbed above \$467.77 on 19 August 2020.
- India's GDP is likely to contract by 20 per cent during the first quarter of the current fiscal on account of the COVID-19 pandemic-induced disruptions.
- Axis Bank has launched an initiative named 'Gig-a-Opportunities'.
- State Bank of India (SBI) unveiled an online home carnival in partnership with real-time group negotiation eplatform AddaCorner.
- The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (Nabard) has launched dedicated debt and credit guarantee product named Structured Finance and Partial Guarantee Programme to NBFC-MFIs to ensure the unhindered flow of credit in rural areas hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Reserve Bank of India today announced that it will conduct open market operations or OMO of government securities worth ₹20,000 crore in two tranches.
- The State Bank of India (SBI) has introduced a new doorstep ATM service which will allow its customers to withdraw cash without having to leave their homes.
- ICICI Bank uses satellite data to assess the creditworthiness of farmers.
- SBI General Insurance has launched a first-of-its-kind insurance product called 'Shagun – Gift an Insurance', which is a unique gift of Personal Accident policy.
- Paytm Payments Bank has integrated Aadhaar enabled Payment System (AePS) on its platform.
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has unveiled a Structured Finance and Partial Guarantee Programme to Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) and Microfinance Institutions (MFIs).
- Axis Bank has introduced 'Liberty Savings Account' for the Indian Youth, to address the ever-changing lifestyle needs of young and digitally interested Indians.
- HSBC India has launched Omni Collect, a one-stop solution in India.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to dissolve the Banking Codes and Standards Board of India (BCSBI).
- State Bank of India (SBI) has got global recognition for its HR initiative "Nayi Disha" which over the course of 1.5 years has touched more than 2.40 lakh employees.

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- Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC) Life Insurance Company Limited (Canara HSBC OBC Life Insurance) and Andhra Pragathi Grameena Bank (APGB) have entered into a strategic tie up virtually. □The second edition of National Strategy for Financial Education (NSFE): 2020-2025 has been released.
- The Finance Ministry said 24 proposals by stressed non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) and housing finance companies (HFCs) worth □8,594 cr scheme.
- On world's entrepreneur day, technology-driven general insurance company Digit Insurance has launched an exclusive do-it-yourself (DIY) advisory tool for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and startups, SME Buddy.
- The Finance Ministry of the Government of India has declared in a series of statements that Businesses with an annual turnover of up to Rs 40 lakh will enjoy GST exemption. Previously the threshold limit was Rs 20 lakh.
- India's largest commodity exchange the Multi-Commodity Exchange of India Ltd (MCX) launched the country's first bullion index, MCX iCOMDEX Bullion, or Bulldex.
- Mastercard has entered an alliance with Goals101.ai, a bank-tech and AI company connecting merchants and issuers using big data, artificial intelligence, and automation to create targeted and personalized offers for bank cardholders.
- IT services major Infosys has launched its AI-driven 'Cognitive Email Workbench' solution that gives enterprises the ability to augment query management and scale their helpdesk operations.
- Private life insurer Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance has launched a new technology service called 'Smart Assist' that provides real-time assistance to customers.
- World's most customer-centric company Amazon.com Inc. founded by Zeff Bezos recently launched a wearable fitness gadget called the Halo Band.
- India's fiscal deficit is expected to touch 7 per cent of GDP in 2020-21 fiscal as against budget estimate of 3.5 per cent, according to Brickwork Ratings.

Non Financial One Liners

National

- In Himachal Pradesh, Union Education Minister, Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank has laid the foundation stone of Indian Institute of Management (IIM) at Dhaula Kuan in Sirmour district.

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- Four additional states, namely Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Nagaland and Uttarakhand have been to the One Nation One Ration Card scheme have been integrated with the 'One Nation, One Ration Card' plan of the Central government.
- Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan launched 'Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan, 2020-21.
- Union Minister of State for Human Resource Development, Electronics, Communication, and IT Sanjay Dhotre inaugurated "Bharat Air Fibre Services" at Akola, Maharashtra.
- Ministry of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) approved a programme to benefit the artisans involved in the manufacturing of Agarbatti under 'Gramodyog Vikas Yojana' on 30th July 2020. The aim is to develop the village industry.
- Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Shri Nitin Gadkari has launched the Khadi's Gift Box of Silk Mask.
- The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, in coordination with Asian Development Bank (ADB), has provided a state-of-the-art Thermal Scanner, to Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad, to simplify operations and minimize handling.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi today performed Bhoomi Poojan and laid the foundation stone of Grand Ram Temple in Ayodhya.
- Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched the Sahakar Cooptube NCDC Channel, a new initiative by National Cooperative Development Corporation.
- In Himachal Pradesh, Union Education Minister, Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank has laid the foundation stone of Indian Institute of Management (IIM) at Dhaula Kuan in Sirmour district.
- The Government is set to launch a National Clinical Registry for COVID-19.
- Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar launched DD Assam 24x7 channel through video conferencing.
- A unique COVID prevention kiosk named 'UV Baggage Bath' has been inaugurated at Bengaluru Railway Station.
- In the fight against the spread of Covid-19 pandemic, the Mumbai Division of Central Railway (CR) has designed a health assistant robot 'Rakshak' who can remotely communicate between doctor and patient.
- The Ministry of Jal Shakti has launched a new version of the India Water Resources Information System (India-WRIS). □ Indian Railways' first Kisan Rail, exclusively meant to transport farm produce, was flagged off by Union Minister of Agriculture Narendra Singh Tomar and Railway Minister Piyush Goyal via videoconferencing on 7 August 2020.

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- More than ten lakh houses have been approved under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban).
- Housing and Urban Affairs Secretary Durga Shanker Mishra today launched Letter of Recommendation module for PM SVANidhi Scheme.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate Rashtriya Swachhata Kendra, (RSK).
- Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) under Ministry of Tribal Affairs, has launched its own Virtual Office Network to Spearhead Tribal Socio-Economic Development on the occasion of its 33rd Foundation Day on August 6, 2020.
- The National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) will be organizing a first of its kind, online patriotic film festival from August 7 to August 21, 2020.
- The Prime Minister Narendra Modi is going to launch a financing facility of Rs 1 lakh crore under Agriculture Infrastructural Fund on August 8.
- Minister of Railways Piyush Goyal and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs Pralhad Joshi today dedicated a Railway Museum at Hubballi in Karnataka through video conferencing.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated 2300-kilometre submarine optical fibre cable network between Chennai and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. This project is Union government's commitment for Ease of living. Saying this project will boost tourism in the Islands.
- Indian Railways has decided to observe 'Cleanliness Week' starting from August 10 till August 15 in order to give the message of the importance and significance of cleanliness for the national transporter.
- The Centre has released Rs 553 crore to states under a scheme to promote mechanization in the agriculture sector.
- The Government is set to launch a National Clinical Registry for COVID-19.
- Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar virtually launched the Krishi Megh (National Agricultural Research & Education System -Cloud Infrastructure and Services).
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a week-long campaign 'Gandagi Bharat Chorho' to free India of garbage and waste.
- The Tribal Affairs Ministry has stated that all the nine museums dedicated to tribal freedom fighters will be completed by 2022.
- The Human Resources Development Minister, Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', has launched the 'Minimum Standards of Architectural Education Regulations, 2020.'
- Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, in collaboration with Dell Technologies has launched Student Entrepreneurship Programme 2.0 (SEP 2.0) for young innovators of Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs).

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- Aerospace startup venture Skyroot Aerospace has successfully test-fired an upper-stage rocket engine, thus becoming the first private company in India to demonstrate the capability to build a homegrown rocket engine.
- The Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari addressed the 'India@75 Summit: Mission 2022' on 8 August in New Delhi, via video-conferencing.
- Mumbai has become the first city in India to have women symbols on traffic signals and signage, as a symbolic gesture towards gender equality in public spaces.
- The Swachh Bharat Mission Academy has been launched by the Union Minister for Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.
- Lok Sabha has started a beginner-level course in French for the officials of the Lok Sabha Secretariat at the Parliament House.
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) unveiled the Online Performance Dashboard "Empowering Tribals, Transforming India".
- Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan today inaugurated a Mega Blood Donation Camp dedicated to Corona Warriors at All India Institute Of Medical Sciences, AIIMS in New Delhi. ☐ India celebrated its 74th Independence Day on 15 August 2020.
- The Ministry of AYUSH launched "Ayush for Immunity" on 14th August through webinar.
- The Group of Finance Ministers has approved bringing the intra-state movement of gold within the ambit of the e-Way bill.
- India has exported 23 lakh Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) to five countries including the UK, the US, and UAE in July 2020, after the Indian government had relaxed the export norms.
- National Thermal Power Corporation, NTPC has developed an infrastructure at Rihand project in Uttar Pradesh to transport fly ash in bulk to cement plants at a cheaper cost.
- In Tamil Nadu, the webinar on New Education Policy organized by the Rural Outreach Bureau, Government of India in Thanjavur, emphasized the fact that the policy primarily aims at ensuring 100 per cent gross enrolment in schools by 2030.
- India is working to achieve zero road accident fatalities by 2030, said Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari.
- The Government of India has come up with its ambitious plan of trans-national electricity grid, for supplying solar power across the globe.
- The project to connect all the villages of India with optical fibre network will be completed in the next 1,000 days.

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- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on August 15, 2020, announced that the centre has been planning to launch Project Lion and Project Dolphin to replicate the success of Project Tiger.
- The President of India Ram Nath Kovind unveiled the portrait of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, former Prime Minister of India virtually on his second death anniversary, at the headquarters of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).
- President Ram Nath Kovind has given assent to the change in name of the Ministry of Human Resource Development as Ministry of Education.
- The proposed Gwalior-Chambal Expressway will be named Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Chambal Progressway.
- Border Roads Organisation (BRO) constructed a 180-foot bailey bridge in the Jauljibi sector of Pithoragarh district, Uttarakhand.
- India Post has released a set of five commemorative postage stamps and a miniature sheet on UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India on the occasion of 74th Independence Day.
- The Union Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the setting up of the National Recruitment Agency (NRA).
- Union Minister of Law & Justice, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology Ravi Shankar Prasad launched “Swadeshi Microprocessor Challenge- Innovate Solution for #Aatmanirbhar Bharat” on 18 August 2020.
- The tertiary processing centres of “Trifood Project” of TRIFED, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been virtually launched by the Union Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda.
- Shri Arjun Munda, Union Minister for Tribal Affairs e-inaugurated ‘Tribes India Showroom’ in Mumbai.
- Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar, Minister of State (I/C) for Labour and Employment launched the official logo of Labour Bureau on 20 August 2020.
- The Tribal Affairs Ministry launched two tertiary processing centres in Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra to enhance the income of tribal forest gatherers by adding value to non-timber forest products collected by them.
- Central Government has constituted the National Council for Transgender Persons to formulate policies, programmes, legislation and projects for the benefits of the transgender community and help them in achieving equality and have full participation by them.
- Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has decided to extend the validity of Fitness, Permits, Licenses, Registration or other documents under Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and Central Motor Vehicle Rules,

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1989 till the 31st of December 2020. □ Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has taken a big major leap towards 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' by creating the local and self-employment for the migrant workers through its Honey Mission Programme.

- President Ram Nath Kovind celebrated Van Mahotsav today with planting a Neem sapling in the President's Estate.
- The Centre has constituted a National Council for Transgender Persons through a notification.
- A NITI Aayog task force, headed by Niti Aayog Member (Agriculture) Ramesh Chand, recommended the linking sugarcane prices to sugar rates.
- Government of India is planning to identify the farmers who are illegally receiving benefits of the PM-KISAN scheme by concealing facts that make them ineligible.
- The Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare, DoPPW has decided to integrate the electronic Pension Payment Order, e-PPO generated through PFMS application of Controller General of Accounts, with Digi Locker, to enhance Ease of Living of Central Government Civil Pensioners.
- Phase Six of the Vande Bharat Mission is scheduled to begin on 1st of September.
- The Government has approved 78 new routes under the 4th round of Regional Connectivity Scheme - Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik, (UDAN) to further enhance the connectivity to remote and regional areas of the country.
- Central government's flagship financial inclusion programme Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) has completed six years
- The Ministry of Culture has announced 7 new circles of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).
- NITI Aayog virtually launched the India Component of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) – Transport Initiative for Asia (TIA).
- The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched a 24x7 Mental Health Rehabilitation helpline number under the name 'Kiran' to assist people to cope with mental health issues, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Centre is planning to set up the National e-Assessment Centre (NeAC) and a network of Regional eAssessment Centres to implement the Faceless Assessment Scheme of the Income Tax Department.
- Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal e-launched the National GIS (Geographic Information System)-enabled Land Bank system (<https://iis.ncog.gov.in/parks>) for six states.
- The central government has set up an expert committee to redefine the role of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) for the current and futuristic defence and battlefield scenarios.
- To establish a transparent and comprehensive 'Performance Rating' System for its Consultants, Contractors and Concessionaires, NHAI has developed a 'Vendor Performance Evaluation System'.

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- Contributing towards National Solar Mission, Indian Railway under the chairmanship of Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry Piyush Goyal is all set to become self-reliant and self-sufficient in terms of energy for all its operational work by 2030.
- Minister for Electronics and Information Technology Ravi Shankar Prasad today launched “Chunauti”- Next Generation Startup Challenge Contest to further boost startups and software products with special focus on Tier-II towns of the country.
- The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) is celebrating its Golden Jubilee Anniversary on 29th August.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the College and Administration Buildings of the Rani Lakshmi Bai (RLB) Central Agricultural University through video conference today.
- Minister of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Dr Jitendra Singh has said that three Bamboo Clusters will be developed in Jammu, Katra and Samba areas for making of Bamboo basketry, Agarbatti and Bamboo Charcol.
- NITI Aayog virtually launched the India Component of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)- Transport Initiative for Asia (TIA) on 27 August 2020.
- Narendra Singh Tomar, Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers’ Welfare launched the integration of ICARIIHR Seed Portal with the YONO Krishi Web Application of State Bank of India at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
- The Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) has decided to celebrate Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday on September 17 by observing Seva Saptah from 14th to 20th September. Prime minister will turn 70 this year.

State

- The State Government of Karnataka launched India’s first mobile RT-PCR lab in Bengaluru. The lab was developed by Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru.
- The “Thenzawl Golf Resort” Project has been virtually inaugurated by the Union Minister of State for Culture & Tourism (I/C) Shri Prahlad Singh Patel at Thenzawl & South Zote, District Serchhip and Reiek, Mizoram.
- Goa Skill Development Minister Vishwajit P Rane on Monday announced the launch of online ITI admission process and student data management system.
- Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik has launched ‘Odisha Agni-Shama Seva’ online portal.
- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy on the eve of Raksha Bandhan launched ‘E-Raksha Bandhan’, an online training programme on cybersecurity.

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- Rajasthan's Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot recently directed his officials to commence Indira Rasoi Yojana from 20th August 2020.
- Uttarakhand will soon have a snow leopard conservation centre.
- In Manipur, government signed an Agreement with nine hospitals based in the State with an aim to implement Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (Aayushman Bharat) and Chief Minister's Health Scheme (known as Chief Ministergi Hakshel gi Tengbang) fully.
- The Madhya Pradesh Government has organised a public awareness campaign called 'Ek Mask-Anek Zindagi' (One Mask-Many Lives) to be conducted from August 1 till August 15.
- The State Government of Karnataka launched India's first mobile RT-PCR lab in Bengaluru. The lab was developed by Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru.
- The "Thenzawl Golf Resort" Project has been virtually inaugurated by the Union Minister of State for Culture & Tourism (I/C) Shri Prahlad Singh Patel at Thenzawl & South Zote, District Serchhip and Reiek, Mizoram.
- Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister Dr. C N Ashwathnarayan has launched eight new products that will help mitigate Covid 19 pandemic.
- Himachal Government has decided to start a program in lines with Mann ki Baat for the people of the state.
- West Bengal has planned to provide 100 per cent tap connections to all the households in the State by 2024 under Jal Jeevan Mission.
- Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel launched a social security scheme for tendu leaves collectors in the state, which will benefit over 12 lakh families, mostly tribals and forest dwellers engaged in its collection.
- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar launched "Parivar Pehchan Patras" to enable the citizens to get the benefits of various central and state government schemes.
- The Telangana government has rolled out mobile covid-19 testing centers in containment zones and low income group residential areas across the state.
- The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), along with the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank, is in discussion with the Indian government for part-financing a \$8-billion scheme for improving the health infrastructure at the district level to make the country better prepared for future healthcare challenges.
- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, 23 Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) would be set-up in an effort to augment the school education infrastructure.

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- The Andhra Pradesh government is all set to launch 'YSR Cheyutha' on August 12, 2020, to benefit the rural economy of the state amid hardships resulting due to Coronavirus pandemic.
- Gujarat Industrial Policy 2020 has been unveiled by the state that aims to provide an estimated Rs 40000 crores as subsidies to the industries within the next five years.
- Delhi government has launched a new electric vehicle policy that aims to boost the economy, creating jobs and reduce air pollution in the national capital.
- Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) will open the Silk Training cum Production Center in the tribal village of Chullyu in Arunachal Pradesh.
- Telangana Cabinet has sanctioned approval for the Growth in Dispersion (GRID) Policy to give incentives to IT companies that will set up their units.
- Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda flagged off "Medicine Van" for flood victims of Bihar.
- The Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel launched "Indira Van Mitan Yojana" on 9 August 2020, on the occasion of the World Tribal Day, to bring prosperity to forest dwellers (especially tribal) by opening up self-employment opportunities.
- The Andhra Pradesh government has announced its new industrial policy that has a focus on the MSME sector.
- The Rajasthan government has announced that it is going to provide free food grains to the beneficiaries under the National Food Security Mission till November 2020.
- Chhattisgarh's Jagdalpur has become the first municipal corporation of the country, where people of urban area have been provided forest land right certificates.
- Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar launched the anti-bullying campaign of Faridabad police by unveiling its Instagram, Facebook and Twitter pages to flag the problem of bullying at home, in neighbourhood, schools, colleges and workplace.
- The Gujarat government has launched the 'Mukhya Mantri Kisan Sahay Yojana' as a temporary replacement of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana for a year.
- The Punjab government has decided to start distribution of smartphones to students free of cost, on August 12.
- Haryana's Health Minister Anil Vij said the government will soon launch a sero survey in the state to gauge the penetration of COVID-19 in the population and monitor its transmission trend.
- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, a massive online Integrated Multidisciplinary Professional Advancement Course for Teachers (IMPACT) training programme commenced in Srinagar under Samagra Shiksha.

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- In Manipur, the Patriots' Day is being observed today commemorating the 1891 Anglo-Manipuri war during which many Manipuris sacrificed their lives to safeguard the independence of the State.
- Assam State Government launched "Orunodoi scheme", a mega scheme for women's financial empowerment.

Under the mega scheme, a district-wise selection of beneficiaries will begin from August 17.

- Goa's traditional festive sweet dish 'Khaje', spicy Harmal Chilli and Myndoli Banana (Moirā Banana) has obtained Geographical Indication (GI) tag from the Geographical Indications Registry.
- Himachal Pradesh state government launched Nutritional Immunity Boosting 'Him Haldi Dudh(Turmeric Latte)' manufactured by MILKFED.
- Leading helmet manufacturing company Studs Accessories said it has commissioned two new facilities at Faridabad in Haryana entailing a total investment of Rs 200 crore.
- Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers Shri DV Sadananda Gowda has announced the establishment of a Price Monitoring and Resource Unit (PMRU) in Karnataka.
- Odisha has topped in the implementation of the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) scheme.
- The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority, in collaboration with the Karnataka State Drug Control Department, has launched the Price Monitoring and Resource Unit in the state.
- The north-eastern states of the country, Nagaland and Manipur observed the 74th Naga Independence Day on August 14, as per their custom and historical significance.
- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Directorate of Social Welfare launched 'Nasha-Mukt Bharat'- Drug free India campaign of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India today with an aim to curb the menace of Drug Addiction in the society.
- The Union Territory of Puducherry celebrated its 59th anniversary of the "De-Jure" day on 16th August. □Gujarat high court has launched e-filing of cases and an online facility to check the status of cases.
- Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu has launched Arunachal Pradesh Entrepreneurship Development Programme to support and encourage local youths to become job creators than job seekers.
- The Government of India has started the work on the first-of-its-kind Katra (Jammu and Kashmir) – Delhi Express Road Corridor project.
- The West Bengal government has launched a new scheme known as 'Karma Sathi Prakalpa' under which one lakh unemployed youth of the state would be provided soft loans and subsidies to make them self-reliant.
- The Telangana government launched the Artificial intelligence for Agricultural Innovation (AI4AI) programme to boost agricultural developments.

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- The Goa government has signed a tri-partite agreement to carry out world-class German dual vocational education and training in the Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) of the state.
- The Union Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Steel Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has informed that Odisha will become the epicenter of India's overall steel industry, to accelerate the development of the domestic steel sector of the country.
- The Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh Bhupesh Baghel has announced the launch of the Padhai Tuhar Para Scheme (Education up to your locality), a new scheme on 15th August, Independence Day.
- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari laid the foundation stones of Rs 3,000-crore highway projects in Manipur and said the government will soon take up additional projects worth Rs 16,023 crore in the state.
- The Punjab Government announced that the state achieved first rank in operationalisation of Health and Welfare Centres (HWCs) as per the latest rankings released by the Centre.
- On the occasion of the 74th Independence Day, Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma said that a "Task Force" on the economy has been formed to suggest reforms for rejuvenating the economy in the short, medium and long-term.
- The West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee launched COVID Patient Management System.
- The Union Home Ministry has approved the renaming of Manduadih railway station in Uttar Pradesh as 'Banaras'.
- Bangladesh Navy Ship BNS Sangram, a guided missile stealth corvette, made a port call at Mormugao Port, Goa.
- Quality Control Lab has been set up by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) in Porbandar, Gujarat.
- Ladakh Lieutenant Governor R. K. Mathur inaugurated a 60- metre span double lane motorable bridge over river Indus at Choglamsar.
- Uttar Pradesh state government has announced Electronic Manufacturing Policy 2020 in order to invite investment of Rs. 40,000 crores in the next five years as well as to generate four lakh direct employment in the state.
- All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) signed a Memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Delhi Police to extend the Ayurveda Preventive and Promotive health services in the residential colonies of Delhi Police.
- Madhya Pradesh has emerged as the leading state in the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Street Vendors Atma-Nirbhar Scheme-PM Swa-Nidhi.

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- Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on August 20, 2020, launched the 'Indira Rasoi Yojana' in order to provide quality nutritious food to poor people at just Rs. 8.
- The state government has decided to distribute ration at minimum price to the non-ration holders in the state from September 1 amid the pandemic.
- Madhya Pradesh Chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced that the state will offer government jobs to youths on the basis of their score in the Common Eligibility Test (CET) conducted by the proposed National Recruitment Agency (NRA).
- The Chhatarpur Police of Madhya Pradesh has been running a campaign "Ek Sankalp-Bujurgo ke naam" in the midst of corona infection in the state.
- In Madhya Pradesh, the Chhatarpur Police has launched a unique campaign named 'Ek Sankalp – Bujurgo ke naam' ('a commitment for elders'), to take care of the elderly and helpless people, from the food to their health, in the midst of deadly corona infection.
- Assam government will launch India's longest ropeway over Brahmaputra river on August 24, 2020.
- To give a boost to the Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Mission, a handicraft production centre is inaugurated in Guwahati today by Assam Apex Weavers and Artisans Cooperative Federation Limited- ARTFED.
- Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari will inaugurate and lay the foundation stones for 45 Highway projects in Madhya Pradesh.
- Baggage Sanitization & Wrapping machine has been launched by the Ahmedabad Railway Division at Ahmedabad Railway Station, Gujarat.
- WWF-India Kerala State Office is joining hands with the Society for Odonate Studies (SOS) and Thumbipuram for the first-ever state "Dragonfly Festival" in Kerala, christened 'Thumbimahotsavam 2020'.
- Uttar Pradesh government has ordered complete ban on organising any cultural and religious meeting in the state till 30th September.
- Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani inaugurated FABEXA 2020- India's First and Longest Virtual Exhibition organized by one of the oldest cloth markets in the country, Maskati Mahajan.
- Women of Tamil Nadu have topped the list of women borrowers under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) since its inception.
- In Madhya Pradesh, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced Rs. One crore financial assistance to the family of martyred Army soldier Manish Carpenter.
- In Meghalaya, Education Minister Lakhmen Rymbui said that the State Government has constituted a task force to study in detail the National Education Policy which was recently adopted by the Centre.
- Manipur State Health and Family Welfare Minister L. Jayantakumar Singh launched Teleconsultation using eSanjeevaniOPD platform in Imphal.

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- Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister Dr. C N Ashwathnarayan has announced opening of degree colleges from first of September.
- Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik approved an assistance package of □200 cro due to COVID-19.
- The Assam Cabinet has approved the Assam Skill Development University Bill which provides for setting up of Skill University at Mangaldoi at the cost of 900 crore rupees.
- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has inaugurated 300-bed COVID Hospital in Gonda district.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the launch of National Digital Health Mission (NDHM) during his Independence Day speech earlier this month.
- In a bid to give a boost to the Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Mission, a handicraft production centre is inaugurated in Guwahati by Assam Apex Weavers and Artisans Cooperative Federation Limited- ARTFED.
- Jammu and Kashmir's agriculture department has created an e-auction portal to promote trading of GI-tagged 'Kashmir Saffron'.
- Delhi Government launched the Fitness Campaign – "Healthy Body, Healthy Mind", for the students who are confined in their homes because of the lockdown imposed on Schools and colleges due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Delhi government has recently launched "Healthy Body, Healthy Mind" campaign for students.
- The Chief Minister of Kerala, Shri Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated the first ever marine ambulance named 'PRATHEEKSHA' on 27 August 2020 via videoconferencing.
- The State Government of Uttar Pradesh under Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has launched an ambitious 'NRI unified portal' to provide assistance to overseas Indians and NRIs of the state during any emergency.
- In association with United Nations sustainable development goals (SDGs), Kerala will set up India's first international women's trade centre (WTC), at Angamaly (a city in Kochi, Kerala).
- Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has laid the foundation stones for 375 Surface Minor Irrigation Schemes, 550 Ground Water Irrigation schemes and 151 infrastructure projects to be taken up in different districts through video conference in a mega function held at City Convention Centre.
- The Government of Assam approved the 'Assam Skill Development University Bill', which provides for setting up of World Class Skill University at Mangaldoi, Darrang District at a cost of 900 crore rupees.
- The Assam Cabinet has approved the Assam Skill Development University Bill which allows for setting up a state-of-the-art skill University at Mangaldoi in Darrang district of Assam.

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- To extend a big help to the doctors, attending the infected patients, a scientist at Tripura University has designed a robot which can prevent the doctors, nurses and health staff from getting infected while they come in contact with patients infected with the virus. The robot is named as Covid-19 WARBOT.
- Fifty first International Film Festival of India IFFI will be held in Goa, from November 20th to 28th.
- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has announced free travel arrangements for students appearing in the NEET and JEE examinations.
- In Maharashtra, Union Minister for Road Transport, Highways and MSMEs Nitin Gadkari laid the foundation stone and inaugurated National highway projects worth Rs. 777 Cr. in Gadchiroli district.
- Uttar Pradesh (UP) Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya launched 'Major Dhyan Chand Vijaypath Yojana' scheme under which 19 International Players will get road connectivity to their homes.

Government Schemes

- The micro-credit scheme of the government, PM Street Vendor's Atmanirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANIDHI) to support the street vendors to meet their working capital requirements to tide over financial woes during the pandemic, has become quite popular in the country.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the National Digital Health Mission on the 74th Independence Day.

International

- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has made a remarkable achievement by becoming the first country in the Arab World to produce nuclear energy, when the Unit 1 of the Barakah Nuclear Plant in Abu Dhabi, got operational on 31 July 2020.
- Enhancing their science and research collaboration, India and the United Kingdom have partnered to undertake five new research projects to tackle anti-microbial resistance that can be helpful in the global fight against antibiotic-resistant bacteria and genes.
- Former Guyanese housing minister, Mohamed Irfaan Ali has been named as the President of the country.
- Bangladesh will be constructing five more modern food storage systems in the country in addition to the three already under construction with financing support from the World Bank to enhance the storage capacity and improve the efficiency of grain storage.
- US President Donald Trump has signed an executive order that bans federal agencies from hiring foreign workers especially those on H-1B visa on contracting or subcontracting
- National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) has selected Infosys Finacle to digitally transform its transaction banking business.

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- The United States Senate has unanimously passed a bill banning the Chinese-owned video-sharing app TikTok on government devices.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a conversation with the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka H.E. Mr. Mahinda Rajapaksa on 6 August 2020.
- The U.K. government has decided to issue a commemorative coin to mark the 150th birthday anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, said Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer Sajid Javid.
- Sri Lanka's former President Mahinda Rajapaksa took oath as the country's Prime Minister on 9 August 2020, after his party secured a landslide victory in the parliamentary elections on 5 August, 2020.
- Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) said it has extended a USD 250-million (about Rs 1,870 crore) line of credit (LOC) to Mozambique for improving power supply quality in the country.
- A "state of environmental emergency" has been declared by the island nation of Mauritius.
- Bangladesh has taken a decision to construct a monument for the Indian soldiers.
- The Prime Minister of Lebanon, Hassan Diab announced his resignation from the top post of the country following outrage over the catastrophic blast in the capital of the country, Beirut, on August 4.
- President of Belarus, Alexander Lukashenko has won his sixth consecutive term with 80.23 per cent of the vote at the country's presidential election.
- Mohamed Ould Bilal has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of Mauritania.
- Russian President Vladimir Putin launched a coronavirus vaccine, touted as the world's first such vaccine too.
- Russia has proposed to host the first meeting of Russia-India-China (RIC) Defence Ministers in Moscow, Russia in September.
- The former defence minister and retired army general, Walter Roger Martos Ruiz becomes new Prime Minister of the country.
- Russia has decided to name its first COVID 19 vaccine as 'Sputnik V' for the foreign markets since this name is a reference to the first satellite of the world.
- Sinovac Biotech Ltd. of China has launched a phase 3 human trial of COVID-19 vaccine candidate on August 11, 2020, which will involve as many as 1,620 patients in Indonesia.
- The European Union has announced €1.65 million humanitarian aid to support those affected by severe flooding in South Asia, most notably India, Bangladesh and Nepal.
- Israel has shared the 'state-of-the-art artificial intelligence-based technologies and high-end equipment' with AIIMS, New Delhi, as part of the cooperative efforts between India and Israel to combat the deadly COVID 19 Pandemic in the world.

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- Moderna Inc has announced that the US government has secured 100 million doses of a novel coronavirus vaccine, mRNA-1273, developed by this biotechnology company.
- Japan has signed its largest ever loan package worth dollar 3.1 billion for Bangladesh.
- Israel-headquartered irrigation equipment maker, Netafim has clinched an \$85 million deal which will involve three new community irrigation projects in Karnataka.
- Saudi Arabia has ended its loan and oil supply to Pakistan, ending the decades-long friendship between the two countries.
- Israel successfully conducted a flight test of the Arrow-2 interceptor on 13 August 2020.
- India has announced that it will fund the implementation of the major connectivity project in the Maldives with \$400 million line of credit and \$100 million grant.
- The Indian government has extended an assistance of USD 1 million to Antigua and Barbuda to combat the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- BRICS partners Russia and Brazil have decided to enter into an agreement to cooperate in the production and marketing of the world's first registered Coronavirus vaccine Sputnik V by Russia.
- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has become the first-ever Gulf country and the third in the Arab world to establish diplomatic relations with Israel.

- In a humanitarian gesture, India has sent 58 tonnes of emergency humanitarian aid to Lebanon in an air force plane to assist the people affected by the explosions in Beirut on August 4.
- The European Union has entered into an agreement to buy at least 300 million doses of AstraZeneca's potential COVID 19 vaccine in the first-ever such deal in advance by the group.
- Special Olympics Bharat announced that Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan has committed USD 25 million to expand Unified Champion Schools (UCS) to six countries – India, Argentina, Egypt, Pakistan, Romania and Rwanda.
- BRICS partners Russia and Brazil have decided to enter into an agreement to cooperate in the production and marketing of the world's first registered Coronavirus vaccine Sputnik V by Russia.
- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has become the first-ever Gulf country and the third in the Arab world to establish diplomatic relations with Israel.
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- New Zealand Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern has decided to delay New Zealand's national elections by four weeks due to the latest coronavirus outbreak in Auckland.
- The President of Mali, Ibrahim Boubacar Keita has announced his resignation on 19 August 2020, three years before his final term was due to end.
- The United States has handed over the second shipment of 100 new and state-of-the-art ventilators to India on August 19, 2020, in its fight against the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- India will supply the COVID-19 vaccine to neighbouring country Bangladesh on a priority basis once it gets the nod and mass production starts.
- Luis Rodolfo Abinader Corona has been sworn in as the 54th President of Dominican Republic.
- India, Australia, and Japan have started the discussions for the launch of a trilateral Supply Chain Resilience Initiative (SCRI) in order to reduce the dependency on China.
- Keith Rowley sworn in as Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for a 2nd consecutive 5 year term. He is from the ruling People's National Movement (PNM).
- Francisco Pascual Eyegue Obama Asue was reappointed as the Prime Minister of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea for 3rd consecutive term.
- The oil-rich United Arab Emirates announced that it has connected its Barakah nuclear power plant to the national grid in a first for the Arab world.
- Iran displayed a surface-to-surface ballistic missile named martyr Qassem Soleimani, that Defence Minister Amir Hatami said had a range of 1,400 kilometres and a new cruise missile, ignoring U.S. demands that Tehran halt its missile programme.
- China has successfully launched a new optical remote-sensing satellite named "Gaofen-9 05" from its Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre.
- Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan announced on August 21, 2020 that Turkey has discovered 320 billion cubic meters of natural gas, the biggest-ever natural gas reserve in the Black Sea.
- The World Health Organisation has urged wealthier member states to join its Covid-19 vaccine facility by the end of the month, amid fears it may not raise enough money to fund the global inoculation programme.
- The Africa Regional Certification Commission, the independent body, has declared Africa free from wild polio.
- Bangladesh observed the 44th death anniversary of the national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam.
- The Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe has announced to step down from the post on 28 August 2020, because of the poor health conditions.
- India has co-sponsored a security council resolution that calls for full, effective and meaningful participation of women personnel in peacekeeping operations.

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- New Zealand's Exchange (NZX) which operates New Zealand capital, risk and commodity markets (stock market) was under cyber-attack for four days.
- A ground-breaking ceremony for development of the Hulhumalé Central Park and renovation of the Arrival Jetty in Maldives financed by India was held marking yet another milestone in Delhi's growing partnership with Male.
- India granted 4th tranche of \$5 million to Myanmar for the development of the India-Myanmar Border Area.

Ranks & Indices

- Reliance Industries has been ranked second biggest brand after Apple on the FutureBrand Index 2020. The 2020 list is topped by Apple, while Samsung is ranked third, followed by Nvidia, Moutai, Nike, Microsoft, ASML, PayPal and Netflix.
- Apple world's most valuable publicly listed company.
- Reliance Industries has been ranked second biggest brand after Apple on the FutureBrand Index 2020.
- The Indian Institute of Technology, Madras has retained the top position in the 'Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements,' (ARIIA) 2020 for being the best centrally funded institution in India.
- India is home to 30% of the total organic producers and ranks first in the world in number of organic farmers and ranks ninth in terms of area under organic farming, 2.59% of the total organic cultivation area (57.8 million hectares).
- According to Bloomberg Billionaires Index, Mukesh Ambani, the Chairman of Reliance Industries, has become the fourth wealthiest person in the world.
- Reliance Industries, headed by the Indian Billionaire Mukesh Ambani, has jumped 10 places to break into the world's top 100 companies on the Fortune Global 500 list. Reliance is ranked 96th in the 2020 ranking released by Fortune.
- Bollywood actor Akshay Kumar, is the only Indian star to be listed among the top 10 world's highest paid actors of 2020, released by Forbes magazine on 11 August 2020.
- According to a new report published by Purely Diamonds, Delhi and Chennai are the cheapest cities in the country to rent a house. As per the report, Ho Chi Minh city has been found to be the cheapest in the world whereas New York has been found to be the most expensive city to rent, in the entire world.
- According to Knight Frank report, Bengaluru and the national capital ranked 26th and 27th, respectively, globally in annual price appreciation of luxury residential properties.

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- Indore was adjudged India's cleanest city for the fourth straight year in the central government's cleanliness survey.
- As many as 41 lakh youth in the country lost jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic while construction and farm sector workers account for the majority of job losses, according to a joint report by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- India ranks among the lowest in the world in terms of Internet quality, according to a global research released by online privacy solutions provider SurfShark.
- Average income of MGNREGA workers doubled during coronavirus lockdown, as per the CRISIL report.
- NITI Aayog in partnership with the Institute of Competitiveness has released the first edition of the Export Preparedness Index (EPI) 2020 on 26 August 2020.
- Jeff Bezos, Amazon CEO on August 26, 2020, became the first person in the world to hit a net worth of \$200 million.
- Just 24 per cent of Indian households have internet connections to access e-education, and there is a large rural-urban and gender divide that is likely to widen the learning gap across high, middle and low-income families, according to a new UNICEF report titled 'The Remote Learning Reachability'.
- Amul, Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) has been ranked 16th in the Rabobank's Global Top 20 Dairy Companies list.
- The tourism global industry has been devastated by the coronavirus pandemic, with USD 320 billion lost in exports in the first five months of the year and more than 120 million jobs at risk,
- With an average monthly wage of Rs 32,800 (USD 437), India has been ranked a lowly 72nd among 106 countries in terms of the average wage per month, while Switzerland topped the chart, according to a global ranking of average wages prepared by Picodi.com, an international e-commerce platform which provides discount coupons.

Summits & Conferences

- The National Digital Conference on 'Easing Doing Business for Atmanirbhar Bharat' was organised by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in partnership with the Department for Promotion of Investment and Internal Trade (DPIIT) on 30 July 2020.
- The Union Minister of State for Culture & Tourism (Independent charge) Shri Prahlad Singh Patel has virtually inaugurated the world-class "Thenzawl Golf Resort" Project in Mizoram on 4 August 2020, for the development of Golf Tourism in the country and attract both International and domestic tourists.

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- Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the Conclave on Transformational Reforms in Higher Education under National Education Policy on 7 August through video-conferencing.
- The India-Canada IC-IMPACTS Annual Research Conference was held on August 6-7, 2020 in order to discuss the ways for taking cooperation between the two countries to a new level.
- The 4th Session of the BRICS Anti-Drug Working Group comprising of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa was held virtually.
- The 13th Session of the India-UAE Joint Commission Meeting (JCM) on Trade, Economic and Technical Cooperation was held virtually on 17 August 2020 to further strengthen the bilateral ties between the two strategic partners.
- 5th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament (5WCSP) was held virtually.
- Minister of State for External Affairs V. Muraleedharan co-chaired the first India-Uzbekistan National Coordination Committee meeting virtually with Uzbek Deputy Prime Minister for Investments and Foreign Economic Relations Sardor Umurzakov.
- The Ministry of External Affairs in partnership with the Foreign Ministry of Thailand has organized the 6th Round Table of ASEAN-India Network of Think Tanks (AINTT) held virtually.
- The International Conference on Aerosol Air Quality, Climate Change and Impact on Water Resources and Livelihoods in the Greater Himalayas is set to be held from September 14 to 16.
- Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa addressed a virtual Indo-Japan business forum from Bengaluru today.
- The 17th meeting of the India-Vietnam Joint Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation was held virtually which was co-chaired by India's External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar and his Vietnamese counterpart Pham Binh Minh.

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- The World Economic Forum (WEF) on Wednesday said that the 2021 summit at Davos, Switzerland will be postponed from January to "early next summer" due to the coronavirus pandemic.
- India and China had a candid and in-depth exchange of views on the existing situation in the India-China border areas during the 18th meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination (WMCC) on India-China Border Affairs last week.
- The Industry Ministers of BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) countries held a meeting through video mode on 24 August 2020 to discuss ways to boost cooperation in areas including 5G and Artificial Intelligence.
- The 14th India-Singapore Defence Policy Dialogue (DPD) was held virtually on 28 August 2020 to further boost the defence and security partnership between the two countries, with a special focus on the maritime sphere.
- National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL) has organised the "World Urdu Conference" in New Delhi. □ The 8th East Asia Summit (Economic Ministers' Meeting) was held virtually on 28 August 2020, to strengthen the regional supply chains, become resilient during this challenging time of Covid-19 pandemic, and to spur economic growth

Agreements & MoUs Signed

- Telecom company Bharti Airtel announced a multi-year strategic collaboration with Amazon Web Services to offer a suite of cloud solutions to businesses in India.
- The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) to supply mustard oil on 31st July 2020. The move is in line with "Aatmanirbhar."
- The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) with a joint effort of the health ministry and the AIIMS is planning to set up the National Clinical Registry (NCR) which will help country's researchers and policymakers understand the efficacy of investigational therapies, adverse effects taking place and generate evidence for improving the treatment of Covid-19 patients.
- Department of Defence (DoD) Ministry of Defence (MoD), Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG), and Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (IITK) signed a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 4th August 2020.
- Telecom company Bharti Airtel announced a multi-year strategic collaboration with Amazon Web Services to offer a suite of cloud solutions to businesses in India.
- The Maharashtra government has announced a partnership with Google for introducing digital education tools in schools across the state.

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- The Indian School of Business (ISB) and Andhra's Economic Development Board (EDB) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in a move to focus on growth monitoring and economic development in the state after the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Andhra Pradesh government signed a pact with three FMCG companies — Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL), ITC and Procter and Gamble (P&G) — for marketing and technology support for economic empowerment of women under two new schemes to be launched soon.
- Serum Institute of India, Pune, and United States-based Novavax have signed an agreement for the development and commercialization of Novavax COVID-19 vaccine candidates in India and other low and middle- income countries.
- The Serum Institute of India (SII) has entered into a partnership with Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to accelerate the manufacture and delivery of COVID vaccine for India and the middle and low-income countries.
- Flipkart has signed an MoU with One District, One Product (ODOP) scheme of the Government of Uttar Pradesh.
- An agreement was signed between CSIR (Council of Scientific & Industrial Research) and FSSAI (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India) for collaborative research and information dissemination in the area of food and nutrition.
- Researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, India, and Imperial College London, UK, have developed a tailored 'meta-grid' of nanoparticles that could make light-emitting diodes (LEDs) brighter, energy-efficient and durable.
- The Bihar State Pollution Control Board has signed a 'Memorandum of Agreement' (MoA) with IIT Delhi to set up geographical information system (GIS) based platform to check air quality management in the state.
- The Boston Group has signed an MoU with the Andhra Pradesh government to set up an IT company in Visakhapatnam.
- India and Maldives signed a contract for development of five eco-tourism zones in Addu atoll of the island nation.
- The Rajasthan government and the Small Industrial Development Bank of India (SIDBI) will soon ink an agreement to create newer avenues and growth opportunities for MSME units in the State.
- The Bombay Stock Exchange has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Akola, Maharashtra-based bullion trade and industry associations, Akola Sarafa Association and Akola Sarafa Va Suvarnakar Yuva Sangh.
- Private sector lender IndusInd Bank has acquired 7.82 percent stake in battery maker Eveready Industries by invoking pledged shares following loan default.

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- Bombay Stock Exchange, has entered into an agreement with i-Hub, an incubation set up started by the Gujarat Government, in order to encourage and support the startup companies in raising capital.
- The search engine giant Google has joined hands with the Central Water Commission in order to make the flood forecasting in the country more advanced and more effective.
- The National Stock Exchange (NSE) announced the launch of a digital learning platform for investor education.
- The Delhi government, in a bid to enhance road safety in the national capital signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bloomberg Philanthropies, joining 30 world cities in the initiative for global road safety. □ Niti Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) in collaboration with IT industry body Nasscom launched an artificial intelligence-based module for school students to empower youngest minds and drive innovations in the country to the next level.
- Indian Hotels Company Ltd (IHCL) has joined hands with Tata Power for supply of solar energy for its Mumbai hotels as part of strategy to focus on sustainable and cost-efficient business practices.
- Bharti AXA Life Insurance has entered into bancassurance partnership with SBM Bank India for distribution of life insurance products through the latter's network.
- Muthoot Finance has tied up with Kotak Mahindra General Insurance to offer COVID-19 insurance cover of up to Rs 1 lakh against gold loan.
- Andhra Pradesh government has announced teaming up with the National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) and Canara Bank to empower over 15,000 village and ward secretariats with digital payments in the rural areas.
- Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance has partnered with Element AI, a global developer of artificial intelligence-powered (AI) solutions and products, to develop a strategic AI roadmap for the new-age insurer and prioritise investments.
- All India Football Federation (AIFF) has signed a two-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the International Professional Scouting Organisation (IPSO) to deliver a number of courses and webinars with regards to scouting in India.
- India and Israel signed a cultural agreement that outlines a three-year programme of cooperation to further strengthen their strategic bilateral relations today. It aims to promote greater people-to-people exchanges. □ The Union Minister of State for Tourism (IC), Shri Prahlad Singh Patel, a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was virtually signed today by the Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) and FICCI Ladies Organisation (FLO) with the Ministry of Tourism for women empowerment.
- The Government of Uttar Pradesh has signed a 'plan of cooperation' with the Government of Israel for the management of water resources in Bundelkhand region of the state, which faces potable water shortage in summers.

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- The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee has inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) to carry out activities in the field of standardisation and conformity assessment.
- Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog and Business Sweden on behalf of India Sweden Healthcare Innovation Centre are collaborating to promote the disruptive potential of Indian entrepreneurs, and boost the vibrant start-up ecosystem across the country.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed by the Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIM-K) with the Switzerland-based HELP Logistics.
- Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd (RRVL), the subsidiary company of Mukesh Ambani owned Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) has acquired a majority equity stake in online pharmacy Vitalic Health Pvt Ltd and its subsidiaries (commonly known as Netmeds) for a cash consideration of around Rs 620 crore (\$83.08 million).
- Walmart-owned Flipkart said it has entered into a strategic partnership with Nepal's Sastodeal, a move that will help lakhs of Flipkart sellers get access to the neighbouring country's e-commerce market.
- The Karnataka Vikas Grameen Bank (KVGB) and SBI General Insurance Co Ltd have signed an MoU to sell general insurance products through the branches of KVGB.
- Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has signed a loan agreement (with Government of India, the Government of Maharashtra and Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation) for a \$500 million Mumbai Urban Transport Project-III.
- Private lender, RBL Bank has selected Accenture to enhance its IT systems and processes to support its objective of becoming a truly digital bank.
- TVS Automobile Solutions Ltd, part of the USD 8.5 billion TVS Group has selected Google Cloud as its technology partner to build its digital transformation strategy
- Chamber of Marathwada Industries and Agriculture (CMIA) partnered with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on 24 August to set up help desk for MSMEs amid Covid-19.
- Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, has signed Memorandum of understanding (MoUs) with AFC India Limited, and National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI), Delhi.
- IT major Tech Mahindra announced collaboration with NITI Aayog to empower women entrepreneurs in the country.
- The National e-Governance Division (NeGD), Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) has partnered with CSC (Common Service Center) e Governance Services India Limited.
- The Power Grid Corporation (POWERGRID), an enterprise under the government of India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with TATA Memorial Centre (TMC) – Advanced Centre for Treatment Research & Education in Cancer (ACTREC),

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- Greenko Energies Private Limited, hyderabad based energy solution provider entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam (NVVN),
- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology (VSSUT), Burla, Odisha
- A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between the Haryana employment department and M3M Foundation to facilitate students for online preparation for government jobs.
- With the objective to achieve the mission of Atma Nirbhar Bharat, the Indian Institute of Technology's (IITs) Alumni Council has signed an agreement with Russian state-owned companies, Lomonosov Moscow State University and Russoft, to build the world's largest and fastest hybrid quantum computer in India.
- HDFC Bank has announced a strategic partnership with Adobe to enhance the Digital Experiences of its Customers. □ Ericsson partnered with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to map internet connectivity landscape for schools in 35 countries by the end of 2023 to provide digital learning access to the children.
- Energy solutions provider Greenko Energies has entered into an agreement with NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam to explore energy storage and renewable energy power supply solutions.
- Innoviti announced that it had entered a partnership with Visa, the leader in payments technology to develop a platform that will enable issuers to extend credit to their cardholders at face-to-face point-of-sale (In India).
- Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M) has inked a pact with Tel Aviv-based REE Automotive to explore production of electric commercial vehicles for global markets.
- Fair trade regulator Competition Commission of India (CCI) said it approved the proposed acquisition of C&S Electric by Siemens.
- The Centre will sell up to 15% stake in state-owned defence unit Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) which will help it mop up about Rs 5,000 crore.
- Reliance Retail Ventures Limited (RRVL), subsidiary of Reliance Industries Limited will buy Kishore Biyani's Future retail for Rs 24,713 crore.
- ITC on Friday said it is considering merger of its three wholly-owned subsidiaries - Sunrise Foods, Hobbits International Foods and Sunrise Sheetgrah - with itself. **Committees**
- The Government has constituted a National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19, to oversee all the aspects of its COVID-19 vaccination plan, including the identification of the effective vaccine, buying and financing of the purchase, as well as its distribution and administration. The expert committee has been formed under the Chairmanship of by Dr V K Paul, Member Niti Aayog.

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- Central Government has formed a search-cum-selection committee to name the new three government nominees on the all-important Monetary Policy Committee (MPC). The committee will be headed by Cabinet secretary Rajiv Gauba.
- Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau has ordered probe into the Air India Express aircraft crash at Kozhikode airport.
- Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has announced the constitution of a committee to work out modalities for the economic revival of the union territory.
- The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has constituted a seven-member committee of industry experts to suggest ways suggest plans to develop international retail business at the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC).
- The Reserve Bank of India has announced the constitution of an Expert Committee to make recommendations on the required financial parameters to be factored in the Resolution Framework for Covid19-related Stress'. The committee will be headed by Shri K.V. Kamath. (President of New Development Bank)
- Dr G. Satheesh Reddy, the Chairman of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has constituted the five-member expert committee to redefine the role of the DRDO for the current and futuristic defence and battlefield scenarios.

Appointments

Name	Appointed as	Other Info
Sashidhar Jagdishan	Chief executive officer of HDFC Bank	He will take over from Aditya Puri
Urjit Patel	Additional and independent director of Great Eastern Shipping Company Ltd	
Mr. Jaideep Bhatnagar	Director General, News Services Division of All India Radio	He replaces Ms. Ira Joshi
Ashwini Kumar Tewari	Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of SBI	Tewari has replaced Hardayal Prasad
	Cards & Payment Services (SBI Card)	
Manoj Sinha	Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir	

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Girish Chandra Murmu	Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India	He will replace Rajiv Mehrishi
Pradeep Kumar Joshi	Chairman of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)	He succeeds Arvind Saxena
P S Ranipse	Inspector General (IG), in Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).	
Navin Agarwal	MD and CEO of Motilal Oswal Asset Management Company	
S.N.Rajeswari	Managing Director of Oriental Insurance Company Ltd	
Hardayal Prasad	MD & CEO of PNB Housing Finance	Prasad will take over from Neeraj Vyas.
Harsh Kumar Bhanwala	Executive chairman of the Capital India Finance Limited.	Prior to this, Bhanwala was chairman of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for over six years.
Kamala Devi Harris	Vice-Presidential candidate in the US Presidential Elections	
Soma Mondal	Chairman of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL).	Succeeds Anil Chaudhary
Subhash Sheoratan Mundra	Non-executive chairman of Indiabulls Housing Finance (IBH)	
Dinesh K Tripathi	Director General Naval Operations (DGNO).	
Kaushik Khona	Chief executive officer (CEO) of Go Air	Khona will replace, industry veteran Vinay Dube who took charge as CEO in February.
Rakesh Asthana	Director-general of the Border Security Force (BSF).	
Ashwini Kumar Shukla	Chief Risk Officer of Central bank of India	
G P Garg	Executive director (ED) of Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi)	

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Prashant Joshi	Managing Director and Head of National Distribution of DBS Bank	
Rajiv Kumar	Election Commissioner	Replacing Ashok Lavasa
Ashwani Bhatia	MD of State Bank of India	
Dinesh Kumar Khara	SBI chairman	Khara will replace SBI Chairman Rajnish Kumar
Usha Padhee	first woman DG of Bureau of Civil Aviation Security	
Dr Akinwumi A. Adesina	President of the African Development Bank Group	

- The Lieutenant-Governor of Jammu Kashmir, Girish Chandra Murmu has resigned from his post.
- According to a Personnel Ministry, Ajay Tyagi has been given an 18-month extension, as the chairman of markets regulator SEBI.
- Sameer Gehlaut, the co-founder and Chairman of Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd (IBHFL) has stepped down as the Executive Chairman of the company, and taken up the role of Non-Executive, Non-Independent Director of IBHFL.
- Noted economist Isher Judge Ahluwalia has stepped down as Chairman of the economic think tank Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) on 8 August 2020, due to declining health.
- Financial technology firm BharatPe announced appointment of Suhail Sameer as group president.
- Ashok Lavasa has resigned from his position as Election Commissioner on August 18, 2020, to join as the Vice- President of the Philippines-based Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- Indian Energy Exchange (IEX), Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Rajiv Srivastava has resigned from the post.
- Renowned Indian scientist, G Satheesh Reddy was given a two-year extension as the chairman of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- TikTok's CEO Kevin Mayer has resigned from the company after just three months. Mayer left his post as the head of Disney to join TikTok on June 1.
- Former Indian Oil Corp (IOC) chairman Sanjiv Singh has joined Reliance Industries Ltd as Group President.

Defence

- NewsAir Marshal V. R. Chaudhari took over as Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Western Air Command of Indian Air Force.

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- Ministry of Defence (MoD) has prepared a draft Defence Production and Export Promotion Policy 2020 (DPEPP 2020) to provide impetus to self-reliance in defence manufacturing.
- India will take part in the multilateral military “Russian Kavkaz 2020” strategic command-post exercise to be held in Astrakhan, Russia.
- The Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has announced that the Department of Military Affairs (DMA), Ministry of Defence (MoD) has prepared a list of 101 defence items for which there would be restriction on the import, beyond the timeline indicated against them.
- The Defence Minister of India will launch the ‘Atmanirbhar Bharat Saptah’ on August 10 to focus more on the vision of the government to shift to local manufacturing and ‘Make in India’.
- Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) has approved procurement proposals worth Rs.8,722.38 crore to strengthen the Armed Forces by relying on indigenous capability to take forward the initiative on ‘Atmanirbhar Bharat’.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched a number of modernization and up-gradation of facilities and new infrastructure creation by Defence Public sector undertakings (PSUs) and Ordnance Factory Board (OFB), through the digital link here.
- The Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has laid the foundation for a missile-seeker facility and a warhead production unit at Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) at Hyderabad, as part of the ‘Atmanirbhar Bharat Saptah’ being celebrated by the company.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the HAL-IISc Skill Development Centre (SDC) established at the Indian Institute of Science's Challakere campus in Chitradurga district, Karnataka through a video conference on 13 August 2020.
- An Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPV) for the Indian Coast Guard has been launched and re-christened as Indian Coast Guard Ship ‘Sarthak’.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched the Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO) through an online webinar.
- The Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has unveiled four products each by the Ordnance Factory Board and Bharat Earth Movers Limited, two by BEL and one each by HAL, BDL, MDL, GRSE and GSL.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has approved the proposal for a major expansion of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) to cover 173 border and coastal districts, to meet the aspirations of youth in all the border and coastal districts.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has launched Konkurs Missile Test Equipment and Konkurs Launcher Test Equipment, which have been indigenously designed and developed by Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL).

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- The ARMY 2020 International Military and Technical Forum has been organised in Moscow, Russia from August 23 to 29, 2020.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has identified 108 systems and subsystems for designing and development by the Indian Industry only.
- Union Minister of Defence Rajnath Singh launched the Directorate General National Cadet Corps (DGNCC) Mobile Training App on 27 August.
- India has withdrawn its participation from the multilateral Military Exercise Kavkaz 2020 to be held in Russia between 15th to 26th September 2020.

Sports

- The legendary Spanish footballer Iker Casillas, who played as goalkeeper for Real Madrid, has announced his retirement from professional football.
- Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju chaired the first General Council meeting of the Khelo India Scheme on 4th July.
- Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes-Great Britain) has won the Formula One British Grand Prix 2020 held on August 02, 2020. He came first, despite a puncture during the last lap.
- India has withdrawn from the women's world team Squash championship scheduled in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 15th to 20th December, due to lack of preparation, time and match-readiness of its players.
- World Cup winner German footballer, Benedikt Howedes has retired from football.
- IPL 2020 will be played from September 19 to November 10 in the UAE this year.
- The legendary Spanish footballer Iker Casillas, who played as goalkeeper for Real Madrid, has announced his retirement from professional football.
- Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju chaired the first General Council meeting of the Khelo India Scheme on 4th July.
- A sports gaming platform, WTF Sports has appointed cricketers Harmanpreet Kaur and Suresh Raina as its global brand ambassadors.
- International Cricket Council has confirmed that the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2020 that was postponed due to Covid-19 will be held in Australia in 2022.
- Members of the Indian men's and women's hockey teams bound for Tokyo Olympics will join the National Camp at National Centre of Excellence (NCOE) in Bengaluru
- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has suspended the title sponsorship deal with Chinese mobile phone company Vivo for the upcoming edition of the Indian Premier League.
- Equitas Small Finance Bank announced that it has been appointed as the official retail banking partner for Chennai Super Kings (CSK) IPL team with effect from August 1, 2020.
- The Red Bull racer, Max Verstappen has won the 70th Anniversary Grand Prix.

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- India's KN Ananthapadmanabhan has been included in ICC's international panel of umpires following compatriot Nitin Menon's promotion to the elite panel.
- FIFA World Cup 2022 qualifiers in Asia have been rescheduled to 2021.
- "Fit India Freedom Run" would be organised by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports from 15th August to 02nd October 2020.
- Indian Cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni has announced retirement from all forms of international cricket.
- After M.S. Dhoni, Indian cricketer Suresh Raina has also announced retirement from Cricket on August 15, 2020.
- In Football, the Manchester City midfielder Kevin De Bruyne has been named as the Premier League Player of the Season 2019-20.
- Amritsar based e-mobility start-up, eBikeGO has appointed Indian cricketer Harbhajan Singh as its brand ambassador.
- Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes-Great Britain) has won the Formula One Spanish Grand Prix 2020 held at Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya, Spain.
- England off-spinner Laura Marsh has announced her retirement from all forms of cricket. Marsh had decided to retire from international cricket last December.
- Dream11, a fantasy sports platform, has won the title sponsorship rights for Indian Premier League (IPL) 2020. Dream11 has signed a Rs 222-crore deal with BCCI for this.
- The All India Football Federation and Sports Authority of India joined hands to launch E-Pathshala, a web platform to recognise the creativity and "develop interest in football.
- Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic the Hockey India executive board has announced immediate support to 61 athletes across the junior and senior men and women core who are not employed.
- Performance sports eyewear brand Oakley has appointed Indian cricketer Rohit Sharma as its brand ambassador in India for a period of two years.
- Laura Marsh, England national women cricket team off-spinner, has announced her retirement from all forms of cricket.
- The National Sports Awards Committee has recommended the names of cricketer Rohit Sharma, table tennis champion Manika Batra, Paralympian Mariappan Thangavelu and wrestler Vinesh Phogat for the prestigious Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award.
- Ronnie O'Sullivan defeated Kyren Wilson with a score of 18-8 to win the World Snooker Championship 2020.
- Five sportspersons will be awarded the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award 2020 this year.
- Five-time champion Ronnie O'Sullivan beat world No 8 Kyren Wilson to win the World Snooker Championship 2020 and his sixth overall World Championship title.

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- Legendary South African all-rounder Jaques Kallis, Pakistan batting great Zaheer Abbas and Pune-born former Australian captain Lisa Sthalekar were inducted into the International Cricket Council's Hall of Fame in a virtual ceremony.
- World number 304 Sophia Popov became the first female golfer from Germany to capture a major title after winning the Women's British Open by two strokes at Royal Troon in Scotland.
- Australian all-rounder Cameron White has announced his retirement from all forms of professional cricket.
- In Football, German team Bayern Munich defeated French side Paris Saint-Germain 1–0 to win the UEFA Champions League 2019-20.
- James Anderson from England has become the first-ever fast bowler to take 600 wickets in a Test Match Cricket.
- Veteran Indian table tennis player from West Bengal, Poulomi Ghatak, has announced her retirement from the game to shift focus on coaching career.
- India is planning to host BRICS Games 2021, which will be aligned with the Khelo India Games scheduled for next year.
- Australian All-Rounder Cameron Leon White announced his retirement from Cricket at the age of 37.
- The Association of Indian Football Coaches (AIFC) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Football Coaches Australia (FCA) to assist each other in development of football in the two countries.
- Sri Lankan Opening batsman Nishad Tharanga Paranavitana announced retirement from all forms of International Cricket at the age of 38.
- Japanese badminton player, Ayaka Takahashi, who is a doubles specialist has announced her retirement with effect from 31 August 2020.
- On the occasion of the National Sports Day on 29 August 2020, the Ministry of Sports has announced a hike in the award money for four of the seven categories of the National Sports and Adventure Awards.
- Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes-Great Britain) has won the Formula One Belgian Grand Prix 2020 held on August 30, 2020.
- India and Russia have been jointly announced the winner of first-ever FIDE Online Chess Olympiad 2020.
- Arsenal beat Premier League champions Liverpool by 5–4 on penalties to claim the 2020 FA Community Shield after a 1–1 draw.
- West Indies All-Rounder, Dwayne John Bravo became the first bowler in cricket to scalp 500 wickets in Twenty20 matches
- Para-swimmer Satyendra Singh Lohia of Madhya Pradesh is the first Divyanga Indian sportsperson of the country, who has been awarded today with the Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award.

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Awards and Honours

Name	Awarded as
Ministry of Tribal Affairs	SKOCH Gold Award for its “Empowerment of Tribals through IT enabled Scholarship Schemes”
Defence Institute of Advanced Technology, DIAT	1st prize in Smart India Hackathon, SIH, 2020
Indian Express Journalist Dipankar Ghose and website PARI	2020 Prem Bhatia journalism awards
IIT Kharagpur	‘Gandhian Young Technological Innovation Awards 2020’
Soumya Swaminathan- Chief Scientist of World Health Organisation	Tamil Nadu Chief Minister’s special award
Tirunagari Ramanujam	Dasaradhi Award for 2020
Ravi Solanki	UK’s Royal Academy of Engineering President’s Special Awards for Pandemic Service.
Abhijit Paul	first prize in Online Patriotic Short Film Contest
Anand Mahindra and Shantanu Narayen	2020 Leadership Awards in recognition of their exemplary vision towards promoting US-India bilateral ties
Reshma Mohandas	Tomyas Award
Government of India Navratna, NLC India Limited (NLCIL)	“Swachhta Hi Seva award” for transforming Neyveli Township
Neelakanta Bhanu Prakash	World’s fastest human calculator
Marieke Lucas Rijneveld	International Booker prize
Ms. Sudha Painuli	National Award to Teachers 2020.
Punjab University	Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy for the year 2019.

- The Rotary Club of Madras East has conferred the MS Swaminathan Award for Environment Protection 2019 upon RS Paroda the Founder Chairman of the Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), New Delhi □ Journalists Nitin Sethi and Shiv Sahay Singh were declared winners of the Asian College of Journalism’s (ACJ) Award 2019 for Investigative Journalism and the K. P. Narayana Kumar Memorial Award for Social Impact Journalism, respectively.
- Chairperson of Infosys Foundation, Sudha Murty and Group Head of Agri and IT Businesses of ITC Ltd, Sivakumar Surampudi are among the winners of the Gramodaya Bandhu Mitra Puraskaras.

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- President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, has approved 84 gallantry awards for the personnel in India's armed forces and also the members of the Paramilitary forces for their acts of bravery to protect the country's security and honour.
- Britain's World War II spy, Noor Inayat Khan, became the first Indian-origin woman to be honoured with a memorial Blue Plaque at her former family home in central London.

Science & Tech

- Scientists from Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR), under Department of Science & Technology, Government of India, and Indian Institute of Science (IISc), have developed a model to scale up the novel tests using an adaptive strategy and the early phase of COVID-19 as an example.
- In Uttar Pradesh, IIT Kanpur has developed indigenous seed balls named BEEG (Bio -compost Enriched Ecofriendly Globule) which will help people and farmers in plantation with safety in Corona times and will also provide employment to people.
- Scientific and Industrial Research Centre (GVP-SIRC) and GVP College of Engineering, Visakhapatnam, has developed an indigenous photonic system for real-time remote monitoring of air quality parameters.
- Microsoft Research Lab, in collaboration with CGNet Swara, an Indian-voice based online portal, has launched an Interactive Neural Machine Translation tool, which translates sentences from Hindi and Gondi and vice-versa.
- The Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT) has developed a Nanofibres of Ayurvedic based Biodegradable face mask which acts as a virus neutralizer to resist against the bacteria/ virus.
- The search engine giant Google has announced new education tools for teachers and students to facilitate learning in the virtual education space.
- a team of researchers from the Indian Space Research Organisation, ISRO and the Indian Institute of Science, IISc in Bengaluru has developed a sustainable process to make space bricks on the lunar surface.
- The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Ropar, has developed a first-of-its-kind UVGI-based room disinfection device 'UVSAFE', which harnesses the germicidal effects of UV-C radiations to inactivate viruses and bacteria including corona viruses.
- The Indian Army successfully test-fired the first ever privately manufactured Pinaka rockets recently from the firing range in Pokharan, which achieved the desired results by accurately hitting targets.
- Scientists at the International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy & New Materials (ARCI), under Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, have developed a cost-effective electrode material for making affordable supercapacitor devices, from waste biomass like tamarind seeds and industrial cotton waste.

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- India's first multi-wavelength satellite, AstroSat, has detected an extreme ultraviolet (UV) light from a galaxy, called AUDFs01. □ Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras along with German researchers have developed 'co-composting' methods that can be used to safely dispose of toxic pharmaceutical waste water and sludge.
- In a bid to help people protect themselves against COVID-19, the Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad, has launched a novel respirator mask in the country. **Portals & Apps**
- Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu bordering Gujarat has launched E-Gyan Mitra mobile app for online education.
- Ashfaq Mehmood Choudhary, a 17-year-old boy from Chattyear of Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district, has developed a file-sharing app 'Dodo Drop' which would enable users to share audios, videos, images, and texts between two devices without Internet access.
- In order to improve public Grievances redressal mechanism, Deputy Commissioner of Rajouri, Nazir Sheikh, has launched a mobile app "Awaz-e-Rajouri".
- The Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL), a GMR Group-led consortium, has developed a first-of-its-kind web portal named 'AIR SUVIDHA'.
- On the occasion of the 6th National Handloom Day, Smt Smriti Irani launched the Mobile App & Backend Website for Handloom Mark Scheme (HLM).
- The Union Finance Minister has launched the dashboard of the National Infrastructure Pipeline in order to manage and integrate all the details regarding the projects at one place.
- The Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has launched National Portal on HumanElephant conflict situation so that it can resolve the dispute the human and the elephant.
- Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched a portal for 'Opportunities for Make In India in Defence' through video conferencing.
- The Defence Minister virtually launched the Department of Defence Production Portal 'SRIJAN' as a part of opportunities for Make in India initiatives in the defence sector.
- On the occasion of Independence Day, the Chief Minister of Nagaland, Neiphiu Rio has launched "Yellow Chain"- a centralized e-commerce platform, to promote local business and entrepreneurship in the State.
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs has launched the e-portal on tribal health and nutrition named 'Swasthya'.
- The Union Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Nitin Gadkari has launched an online farm-to-fork service platform called VedKrishi.com.
- Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda inaugurated the e-portal on tribal health and nutrition named 'Swasthya'.

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- IIT Kharagpur has developed an e-classroom software called “DEEKSHAK” for organizations to conduct online classes.
- Environment Information System (ENVIS) of the Department of Environment of Chandigarh Administration has launched a new website. □ Google has launched its employment application named ‘Kormo Jobs’ in India. It would help millions of Indians to get entry-level jobs.
- Steel Recycling Business, a division of Tata Steel, has launched FerroHaat, a first-of-its-kind mobile application, to source steel scrap from the traders.
- The Union Minister for road transport and highways Nitin Gadkari has launched a mobile app called ‘Harit Path’ on 21 August 2020, via video conference while chairing a meeting to review ‘New Green Highways Policy (Plantation)’ and discuss use of new technologies in road construction.
- Air Chief Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria, the Chief of the Air Staff has launched a mobile application named ‘MY IAF’.
- UP has launched an ambitious NRI unified portal that will not only help in investment in the state, but also provide an opportunity for those who want to go abroad.
- Mumbai’s iconic Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus is set to get a makeover with world class facilities at a cost of 1,642 crore rupees. Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation (IRSDC).
- Tata Group is launching a new app named “Super App” purported to bring together the country’s disparate sales sector to offer a range of consumer goods.
- Jammu and Kashmir’s agriculture department has created an e-auction portal to promote trading of GI-tagged ‘Kashmir Saffron’.
- The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has launched a mobile application ‘Pension Corner’ to cater to the needs of all its retired personnels.

Books & Authors □ The book “The Swachh Bharat Kranti” was officially launched by Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, and Union Minister of Textiles and Women & Child Development Smt. Smriti Irani in New Delhi on 4 August.

- The book, titled “RAW: A History of India’s Covert Operations” has authored by investigative journalist and author Yatish Yadav.
- Bihar Chief Minister, Nitish Kumar has released a book titled “Siyasat Mein Sadasyata” authored by Bihar Assembly Speaker Vijay Kumar Choudhary.
- The book, titled “Vishesh: Code To Win”, has been written by sportswoman-turned-author Nirupama Yadav and published by the publishing house Bluerose.

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- The book, titled “RAW: A History of India’s Covert Operations” has authored by investigative journalist and author Yatish Yadav.
- The book titled ‘Amazing Ayodhya’ has been authored by Neena Rai.
- The Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Shri Prakash Javadekar unveiled an e-version of the book titled ‘Connecting, Communicating, Changing’. □ Mizoram Chief Minister Zoramthanga has released “Corona Kavithakal”, a collection of poems, written by Governor PS Sreedharan Pillai during the lockdown.
- The Tibetan spiritual leader, Dalai Lama, will release a new book titled “Our Only Home: A Climate Appeal to the World” on climate change with German environmental journalist, Franz Alt in November.
- The book, titled “A Bend in Time: Writings by Children on the Covid-19 pandemic”, written by award-winning children’s author Bijal Vachharajani.
- Retired Air Vice Marshal Arjun Subramaniam has written a book which throws light on comprehensive account of war and conflict in contemporary India over the past five decades next month.
- On the 70th birthday of award-winning author Sudha Murty, publishing house Penguin Random House India announced her latest collection of short stories, Grandparents’ Bag of Stories.
- The book titled “India Tomorrow: Conversations with the Next Generation of Political Leaders”, has been released recently.
- A book titled “Who painted my lust red?” that has been authored by Sree Iyer has been launched. □ A book titled ‘One Arranged Murder’ authored by Chetan Bhagat will be released globally on September 28, 2020. □ Union Minister, Jitendra Singh has released a book on cancer named “Gastric Cancer” edited by Dr Ashok K. Vaid. □ The book titled ‘Running Toward Mystery: The Adventure of an Unconventional Life’ is an account by Tenzin Priyadarshi, president and CEO of The Dalai Lama Center for Ethics and Transformative Values at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, of his lifelong journey as a seeker.
- A book title ‘Cricket Drona’ on renowned coach Vasudev Jagannath Paranjpe or Vasoo Paranjape will be released on September 2, 2020.
- Indian Army Chief, General Manoj Mukund Naravane has released a book titled “National Security Challenges: Young Scholars’ Perspective” penned by university students, ranging from the undergraduate level to doctoral candidates.

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- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha today released two Coffee Table Books, one for Labour & Employment Department and another for J&K Entrepreneurship Development (JKEDI) Institute at Raj Bhavan in Srinagar.
- Indian Cricket Coach Gurcharan Singh (85 years old) penned his memoir titled “Pitching It Straight” which is co-authored by sports journalist MS Unnikrishnan and published by Vitasta

Days & Themes

Day	Celebrated as	Aim/ Theme
August 1	Muslim Women’s Rights Day	
August 1	World Lung Cancer Day	To raise awareness about the causes and treatment of lung cancer and highlight the issues of lack of sufficient research funding for the ailment.
August 3	World Sanskrit Day, (also known as Sanskrit Diwas)	The day commemorates the ancient Indian language of Sanskrit and aims to promote its revival and maintenance.

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August 1-7	World Breastfeeding Week	The theme of World Breastfeeding Week 2020 is "Support breastfeeding for a healthier planet".
August 6	Hiroshima Day (Anti-Nuclear Day/ Nagasaki Day)	The Day is observed to advocate, pray and work for a ban on all nuclear weapons and an end to war and violence through anti-war and anti-nuclear discussions and demonstrations around the world.
August 7	National Handloom Day	This day is celebrated to honour the handloom weavers in the country and also highlight the handloom industry.
August 8	Quit India Day (or August Kranti Day)	
August 9	International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples	The theme of 2020 International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples "COVID-19 and indigenous peoples' resilience".
August 9	World Tribal Day	2020 Theme: COVID-19 and indigenous people resilience.
August 10	International Biofuel Day (World Biofuel Day)	The theme for 2020 World Biofuel Day is 'Biofuels Towards Atmanirbhar Bharat'
August 10	World Lion Day	

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August 12	World Elephant Day	The main objective of World Elephant Day is to create awareness on elephant conservation, and to share knowledge and positive solutions for the better protection and management of wild and captive elephants.
August 12	International Youth Day (IYD)	2020 Theme: Youth Engagement for Global Action
August 13	International Left Handers Day	
August 13	World Organ Donation Day	
August 19	World Humanitarian Day (WHD)	The theme for 2020 WHD is #RealLifeHeroes.
August 19	World Photography Day	To promote photography as a hobby and also inspire photographers around the globe to share a single photo with the rest of the world.
August 20	World Mosquito Day	To raise awareness about the causes of malaria and how it can be prevented.
August 20	Indian Akshay Urja Day or Renewable Energy Day	
August 20	Sadbhavana Diwas or Harmony Day.	Every year this day is celebrated in the memory of the late Rajiv Gandhi who was the youngest Prime Minister of India at the age of 40 years.

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August 21	World Senior Citizen Day	To raise awareness about issues affecting older people, such as deterioration with age and the abuse of the elderly and support, honor and show appreciation to seniors and to recognize their achievements.
August 21	International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism	
August 23	International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition	The theme is 'Confronting Slavery's Legacy of Racism Together'
August 24-28	World Water Week	The theme for World Water Week 2020 at Home is 'Water and Climate change: Accelerating Action'.
August 26	Women's Equality Day	Women's Equality Day is now often observed across the world to encourage and spread awareness about women's empowerment.
August 29	International Day against Nuclear Tests	The day aims to increase awareness about the effects of nuclear weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions and the need for their cessation as one of the means of achieving the goal of a nuclearweapon-free world
August 29	National Sports Day, (Rashtriya Khel Divas)	To mark the birth anniversary of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand, who is regarded as nation's greatest hockey player of all time.

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August 30	International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances	To draw attention towards increase in enforced or involuntary disappearances of individuals in various regions of the world, including arrest, detention and abduction unknown to their relatives and/or legal representatives
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Obituary

Name	Field	Place
Sanjay Gupta	Sitting judge of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court	
Shaankar Sen	Businessman	
Raavi Kondal Rao	Actor, writer, director and producer	Andhra Pradesh
Kansai Yamamoto	Japanese fashion designer	Japan
Anil Murali	Malayalam actor	Kerala
Lee Teng-hui	Former Taiwanese President	Taiwan
Ram Pradhan	Former Union Home Secretary	
Kamal Rani Varun	Politician	Uttar Pradesh
Mathew McConaughey	Actor	United States
Amar Singh	Politician	Uttar Pradesh
Pydikondala Manikyala Rao	Former Andhra Pradesh Minister	Andhra Pradesh
Shivajirao Patil Nilangekar	Former Maharashtra Chief Minister	Maharashtra
Sameer Sharma	Television actor	Delhi
Shyamal Chakraborty	senior CPI(M) leader and former West Bengal transport minister	West Bengal
Shirley Ann Grau	Novelist	United States
Hasmukhbhai Joshi	Former Saurashtra coach and manager	Gujarat
Nandi Yellaiah	Politician	Telangana
Doris Buffett	Warren Buffet's philanthropist sister	United States
Manitombi Singh	Former India footballer	Manipur
James Harris	Legendry American WWE player	United States
Rahat Indori	Urdu poet	Madhya Pradesh

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PK Muthusamy	Veteran Tamil film songwriter	Tamil Nadu
Gopal Krishna Menon	sports journalist	
Simar Dugal	Famous Model and Fashion Designer	New Delhi
Rajiv Tyagi	Politician	Uttar Pradesh

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Chunakkara Ramankutty	poet-lyricist	Kerala
Chetan Chauhan	Former Indian cricketer and Uttar Pradesh minister	Uttar Pradesh
Pandit Jasraj	classical vocalist	Haryana
Nishikant Kamat	Director-actor	Maharashtra
Dr B Siva Kumar	Carnatic musician and renowned veena vidwan	
Yadupati Singhanian	Uttar Pradesh Cricket Association (UPCA) president	
Russell A. Kirsch	Computer scientist	United States
Angela Buxton	British tennis player	United Kingdom
Konrad Steffen	U.S.-Swiss climate scientist and glaciologist	United States
Bhaskar Maity	Former India goalkeeper	West Bengal
Gopaldaswamy Iyenger Kasturirangan	Former Cricketer, Administrator and Pitch Curator	Tamil Nadu
Janmejai Singh	Politician	Uttar Pradesh
A Rahman Khan	Former Tamil Nadu cabinet minister and senior DMK leader	Idukki, Kerala
Pascal Lissouba	Former President of the Republic of Congo	Republic of Congo
A Bhaskar Raj	Malayalam filmmaker	Kerala
Jagdish Chaudhary	Dom Raja of Kashi	
Gail Sheehy	Writer-journalist	
Sangeeta Srivastava	Television actress	
Arnold Meyer Spielberg	Computer Pioneer	
Gail Sheehy	journalist	
Archana Mahanta	singer	
H.Vasantha Kumar	Lok Sabha member	Tamilnadu
Purshottam Rai	athletics coach	
AR Lakshmanan	Former judge of the Supreme Court Justice	
Joe Ruby	co-creator of the cartoon series Scooby-Doo	United States

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Chadwick Boseman	American actor	United States
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