



CURRENT AFFAIRS

17 September 2020

Today's Important News

Titan partnered with SBI to launch first contactless payment watches "Titan Pay".



1. World Patient Safety Day: 17 September

- The World Patient Safety Day is observed on September 17 to create global awareness for patient safety and urge people to show their commitment to make healthcare safer. The aim of this day is to create a global awareness for patient safety and urge people to show their commitment to making healthcare safer.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) observed the first WPSD in 2019. It was adopted at the 72nd World Health Assembly on 25 May 2019. The theme for 2020 WPSD is 'Safe health workers, Safe patients'.



Foot Notes:

About WHO:

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

Parent organization: United Nations Economic and Social Council

Director-General: Tedros Adhanom

2. Vi launches integrated 4G network GIGAnet to stem loss of customers to rivals

- Vodafone Idea, now known by the new brand name VI, launched GIGAnet- the integrated 4G network post merger of Vodafone India with Idea Cellular. Armed with the new network, the telco aims to stem the loss of customers and attract new ones from rivals Bharti Airtel and Reliance Jio.
- GIGAnet will have the largest spectrum portfolio, huge capacity, and built on many principles of 5G architecture that help in delivering a superior network experience.
- GIGAnet offers faster downloads & uploads, low latency, and real-time connectivity. It is built on many principles of 5G architecture that help in delivering a superior network experience.



Foot Notes:

CEO: Ravinder Takkar

Founder: Kumar Mangalam Birla

Founded: 31 August 2018

Headquarters: Gandhinagar

3. Amazon signs Amitabh Bachchan for its Alexa voice assistant

- Amazon.com has signed up Bollywood actor Amitabh Bachchan for its Alexa voice assistant. Amitabh Bachchan is the first Indian celebrity to lend his voice to Alexa.
- Alexa users will be able to access Amitabh Bachchan's voice on Alexa by purchasing the Amitabh Bachchan voice experience.
- Amazon first used a celebrity voice when Hollywood actor Samuel L. Jackson made a debut on Alexa.
- It has since added professional voice actors who recite Shakespeare, Mark Twain, proverbs and fables.



Foot Notes:

About Amazon:

CEO: Jeff Bezos

Founder: Jeff Bezos

Founded: 5 July 1994, Bellevue, Washington, United States

Headquarters: Seattle, Washington, United States

4. Paytm First Games ropes in Sachin Tendulkar as brand ambassador

- Paytm First Games (PFG), a subsidiary of digital financial service platform Paytm, has roped in cricketer legend Sachin Tendulkar as its brand ambassador.
- Tendulkar would promote the gaming platform PFG and all its fantasy sports (sporting events happening virtually).
- Paytm is the official umpire partner for IPL till 2022 and has been the title sponsor for Indian cricket.



Foot Notes:

About Paytm:

Founder: Vijay Shekhar Sharma

Founded: August 2010

CEO: Vijay Shekhar Sharma

Headquarters: Noida, Uttar Pradesh

5. Thomas and Uber Cup postponed to 2021 due to COVID-19

- This year's Thomas and Uber Cup Finals in Denmark have been postponed until 2021 after the withdrawal of several teams amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Thomas and Uber Cup are major international badminton competitions, while Thomas cup is termed as World Men's Team Championships and Uber Cup is also known as the World Team Championships for Women.
- South Korea and Indonesia pulled out of the biennial championship, joining Australia, Taiwan and Thailand.
- The Finals were originally scheduled for May but were first postponed to August due to the COVID-19 crisis before being moved to Oct. 3-11 when the Danish government extended its ban on large gatherings. alternative dates to reschedule the World Men's and Women's Team Championships is yet to be decided by BWF.



Foot Notes:

About BWF:

Founded: 5 July 1934

President: Poul-Erik Høyer Larsen

Headquarters: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



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6. India joins Djibouti Code of Conduct as observer

- India has joined the Djibouti Code of Conduct as an observer which is expected to provide it a strategic heft in the Indian Ocean region.
- The Djibouti Code of Conduct/Jeddah Amendment (DCOC/JA) is a grouping on maritime issues comprising 18 member states adjoining the Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden and the East coast of Africa.
- The external affairs ministry said India joined the DCOC/JA as an observer following a virtual meeting of the grouping on August 26. In a statement, it said India joins Japan, Norway, the UK and the US as observers of the grouping.



Foot Notes:

External Affairs Minister: Subrahmanyam Jaishankar

About Djibouti:

Currency: Djiboutian franc

President: Ismail Omar Guelleh

Capital: Djibouti City

7. Tata Group Wins Bid to Construct New Parliament Building at Cost of Rs 861.90 Crore

- Tata Projects Ltd has won the bid to construct the new Parliament building at a cost of Rs 861.90 crore. After the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) opened financial bids on for the construction of the new building, Tata Projects Ltd submitted a bid worth Rs 861.90 crore, while Larsen and Toubro Ltd quoted Rs 865 crore.
- The new building will be built as part of the Narendra Modi government's plan to redevelop the Central Vista in New Delhi.
- The ambitious Central Vista project will cover the three-km stretch from Rashtrapati Bhavan to India Gate in Lutyens' Delhi.
- The revamp, announced in September last year, envisages a new triangular Parliament building, with seating capacity for 900 to 1,200 MPs, which is targeted to be constructed by August 2022.



Foot Notes:

About Tata group:

Founder: Jamsetji Tata

Founded: 1868, Mumbai

Chairman: Natarajan Chandrasekaran

8. Titan with SBI launches first contactless payment watches

- Amid the push for more digital transactions in the country, especially during the novel coronavirus pandemic and the way forward to the new normal, Titan Company has partnered with the country's largest lender State Bank of India (SBI) to launch contactless payment watches.
- Known as Titan Pay, Titan and SBI are launching a range of stylish new watches with contactless payment functionality for the first time in India.
- With this launch, SBI account holders can tap their Titan Pay watch on contactless payment POS machine without the need of swiping or inserting their SBI bank card.
- Payments of up to ₹2,000 can be made without entering a PIN.
- A secure certified Near-Field Communication (NFC) chip embedded in the watch strap by Tappy Technologies enables all the functionalities of a standard contactless SBI debit card.



Foot Notes:

About SBI:

Chairperson: Rajnish Kumar

Headquarters: Mumbai

9. Great Learning appoints Virat Kohli as brand ambassador

- Great Learning, an ed-tech company for professional and higher education, has appointed Indian cricketer Virat Kohli as its brand ambassador.
- Great Learning is a leader in the professional learning space and has built a reputation for delivering high-quality education and career transformations.
- Virat will lead the brand's latest 'Power Ahead' campaign, which underlines the importance of lifelong learning.



10. Prominent Ayurveda physician PR Krishna kumar passes away

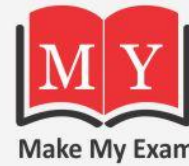
- In Tamil Nadu, prominent Ayurveda physician and Managing Director of the iconic Coimbatore Arya Vaidya Pharmacy, PR Krishna kumar passed away in Coimbatore.
- Krishna kumar, who had done yeomen service for the popularisation of the Ayurvedic system of medicine, had been conferred the Padma Shri award in 2009.
- He had also been the recipient of the National Ayurveda Award instituted by the Government of India.
- Besides being the founder of AVP Research Foundation, Krishna kumar was also the Chancellor of the renowned Avinashilingam University in Coimbatore.



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