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# CURRENT AFFAIRS

28 September 2020

**Today's Important News**

**Union Health Minister launches vaccine portal for COVID-19.**



## 1. US moves to restrict stay of Chinese journalists to 90 days

- The Trump Administration is seeking to restrict the stay of journalists from China in the US to just 90 days with the provision of another extension for a similar duration.
- Foreign journalists and their dependents would have to leave the country immediately on expiry of their 'I' visa or denial of their extension application. Previously, foreign journalists were admitted in the US for the duration of their employment.
- Four Chinese State-run media outlets -- Xinhua News Agency, China Global Television Network, China Radio International and China Daily- were asked to reduce their total staff of 160 Chinese nationals to 100.



### Foot Notes:

#### About US:

**President:** Donald Trump

**Capital:** Washington, D.C.

**Currency:** US dollar

## 2. IIT Madras launches 'MOUSHIK' Microprocessor for IoT Devices

- Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras have developed ‘MOUSHIK,’ an indigenously-made Microprocessor that can cater to the rapidly-growing IoT devices as they become an integral part of smart cities for a digital India.
- As the researchers shared, MOUSHIK is a processor cum ‘system on a chip’ and was conceptualised, designed and developed at the Pratap Subrahmanyam Centre for Digital Intelligence and Secure Hardware Architecture (PS-CDISHA) of the RISE Group, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, IIT Madras.
- The Project is funded by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India.



#### Foot Notes:

**Minister for Communications, Electronics & Information Technology and Law & Justice:** Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad

### 3. Amit Shah to inaugurated ‘Destination North East-2020’ event to promote tourism and culture.

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated a four-day event to showcase north east India’s various potentials like eco-tourism, culture, heritage and business.
- The inauguration took place via video-conference and Union Minister for Development of North Eastern Region Jitendra Singh was the guest of honour of the event.
- The theme of the event this year was ‘The Emerging Delightful Destinations’. The event, being organised on the day of World Tourism Day, attempts to bring focus to the emerging tourist destinations in the region.



### 4. Durgam Cheruvu cable stayed bridge opened in Hyderabad

- Minister of State for Home G. Kishan Reddy inaugurated the new ‘Cable Stayed Bridge’ constructed across Durgam Cheruvu Lake along with four-lane elevated corridor connecting it with Jubilee Hills in Hyderabad. The bridge is 426 metre long, including the approaches on both ends, and 25.8 metre wide, with a total of 52 stay cables.
- The bridge is one of longest in the country constructed at a cost of over 334 crore rupees. On the occasion, the Minister appreciated the efforts of all workers and engineers involved in the construction of the iconic bridge.



- Telangana Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister K Taraka Ramarao and Hyderabad Mayor B Rammohan also joined the formal launch.

**Foot Notes:**

**About Telangana:**

**Capital:** Hyderabad

**Governor:** Tamilisai Soundararajan

**Chief Minister:** K. Chandrashekar Rao

**5. World Rabies Day observed on September 28, 2020**

- Every year, World Rabies Day is celebrated on September 28 by the Global Alliance for Rabies Control. The day is also celebrated by the World Health Organization and other international organizations.
- The day was endorsed by international organizations such as Pan American Health Organization, World Organization for Animal Health, WHO and the USA Centres for disease control and prevention.
- The day is marked on death anniversary of Louis Pasteur who developed the first rabies vaccine. The day aims to create awareness about the impact of rabies on animals and humans. Also, the day focuses on providing information and advice on preventing the disease.
- This year the World Rabies Day is celebrated under the theme of “vaccination and Collaboration”



**Foot Notes:**

**About WHO:**

**Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland

**Founded:** 7 April 1948

**Heads:** Tedros Adhanom, Soumya Swaminathan, Jane Ellison

The advertisement features a central illustration of a woman in a purple top and black pants standing next to a large smartphone. The phone screen displays the 'make my exam' logo and the text 'Live Course'. To the right of the phone, there is a blue banner with the text 'BANK &amp; SSC LIVE COURSE' and a list of exam types: 'IBPS | SBI | RBI | CGL | CHSL | CPO | MTS'. Below the banner, there are four bullet points: '✓ 120+ Live Classes', '✓ 100+ Mock Tests', '✓ Daily Class Assignments', and '✓ Classes by IBT Expert'. At the bottom right, there is a clock icon with the text 'Starts from 21st Sep.' and a price tag showing '₹2800/-' with a crossed-out price of '₹7999/-'.

## 6. Amit Shah pays homage to Bhagat Singh on 113th birth anniversary

- Home Minister Amit Shah paid tribute to Shaheed Bhagat Singh on his 113th birth anniversary. He expressed his gratitude to the revolutionary freedom fighter for giving a new direction to the Indian freedom struggle and making huge sacrifices to awaken the resolve of independence among the youth of the country.
- It was on this day in 1907, Bhagat Singh was born in Banga village of Lyallpur district of undivided Punjab province. He was a charismatic Indian socialist revolutionary whose two acts of dramatic violence against the British in India and execution at the age of 23 made him a folk hero of the Indian Independence movement. Bhagat Singh was hanged in the Lahore jail along with Shivaram Hari Rajguru and Sukhdev Thapar on March 23, 1931.
- Meanwhile, as the nation pays tributes to Bhagat Singh, Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh will stage a sit-in protest against the Farm Acts on Monday at KhatkarKalan, the ancestral village of Bhagat Singh. Former Uttarakhand Chief Minister and Congress General Secretary Harish Rawat will also be visiting Punjab for the first time since taking charge of state affairs.



## 7. Rajnath Singh releases New Defence Acquisition Procedure

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh released the New Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) at the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) meeting at South Block .
- It has special incentives for products that are designed and developed by Indian vendors. Also, the procedure includes manufacturing category that encourages foreign investors and manufacturers to set up manufacturing facilities in the country.
- The Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP), 2020 replaces the procedure that was released in 2016. The 2020 DAP hosts new ideas such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), special alloys and Made in India high end materials. Under the procedure, the following categories are to be exclusively reserved for Indian vendors.



## 8. Union Health Minister launches Vaccine portal for COVID-19

- Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan inaugurated the vaccine portal for Covid-19 to create awareness among masses. Portal will disseminate vaccine related information regarding Indian efforts towards vaccine development against COVID-19. Currently 3 vaccines are undergoing clinical trials in India for



COVID-19.

- Alongside, the Minister also launched a history timeline of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) displaying key milestones and programme interventions. The timeline depicted 108 year journey of the council. Also, a history book was launched on the 100-year journey of ICMR.
- The Minister also launched a data collection programme called “Mapping of nutrition and health status”. The programme will collect data on dietary intake through crowd sourcing approach.
- A report titled “What India Eats” was also released. The report provided information about dietary patterns in India. This is important for the policy makers to understand the distribution of diet among various population.

**Foot Notes:**

**Union health minister:** Dr Harsh Vardhan

**About ICMR:**

**Headquarters:** New Delhi

**Leader:** Balram Bhargava

**Founded:** 1911

## 9. US judge suspends Trump’s TikTok download ban

- A judge in Washington, temporarily blocked a controversial order by the Trump administration that was set to bar downloads of the popular Chinese-owned short video app TikTok.
- The district judge issued a temporary injunction at the request of TikTok, which earlier the White House had called national security threat claiming that its Chinese parent firm is tied to the Beijing government.
- However, the judge declined to grant an injunction on a separate set of prohibitions scheduled for November 12, 2020, that have been designed to further curb TikTok’s use in the United States.



## 10. SAI to resume sporting activities of Tokyo Olympics bound Para-athletes & athletes in NCOEs

- Stepping up to the next phase of ‘Khelo India Phir Se’, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) has decided to resume sporting activities of Tokyo Olympics bound Para-athletes and athletes in SAI’s National Centre of Excellence (NCOEs) across the country, in a phased manner.



- In the first Phase, SAI in early June had started the training for only the Olympic bound athletes at various SAI centres as SAI infrastructure are captive infrastructure and could ensure protection of our national athletes against COVID 19.
- Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in a statement said that in the next phase, the resumption of sporting activities for Tokyo Olympics bound para-athletes and athletes in NCOEs with a focus on 2024 Paris Olympics and the 2022 Asian and Commonwealth Games, has been planned in stages for nine disciplines. They include para-athletics, para-powerlifting, para shooting, para archery, cycling, hockey, weightlifting, archery, wrestling, Judo, athletics, boxing and fencing.

**Foot Notes:**

**Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports:** Kiren Rijiju

**About SAI(Sports Authority of India):**

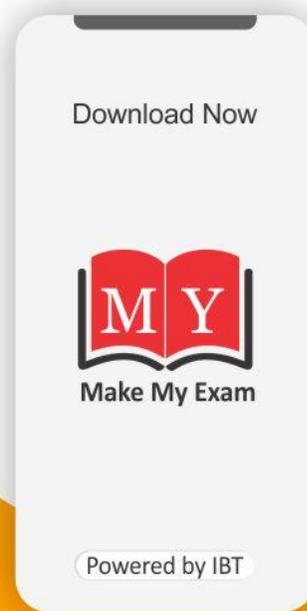
**Founded:** 1982

**Headquarters:** New Delhi

**Director-General:** Sandip Pradhan

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