

The background of the entire page is a blurred photograph of a person's hands typing on a laptop keyboard. A large, red, arrow-shaped graphic points from the right side towards the center, containing the main title and date.

Weekly Current Affairs

30 Aug to 05 Sep 2020

make  exam

Download India's No.1
Competitive Exam Preparation App



NATIONAL NEWS

1. India's GDP contracts by 23.9% in Q1 of 2020-21, the worst in Decades

- India's GDP collapsed by 23.9% in April-June Quarter of FY 2020-21, as per the data of the Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. Indian economy posted its worst ever contraction in last four decades due to the COVID-induced slowdown that has hit majorly all the businesses and companies across the world.
- Indian economy grew at 3.1% in January-March quarter of 2019-20 due to the decline in consumer spending, investments and contraction in exports. And the strict nationwide lockdown, imposed soon after the outbreak of novel Coronavirus in India in March, had stalled economic activities across the country and led to job losses and decline in income.

2. India placed 72nd on global list with average monthly wage of Rs 32,800

- In accordance with the global ranking of average wages prepared by Picodi.com, India ranked 72nd among 106 countries with an average monthly wage of Rs 32,800 (USD 437). Picodi.com is an international e-commerce platform, headquartered in Poland, provides discount coupons. Its analysis team looked into earnings of countries around the world and created a global ranking of average wages.
- The ranking has been topped by Switzerland, where the average wage converted into rupees amounts to Rs 4,49,000 (USD 5,989).
- On the other hand the average monthly wage of Cuba is the lowest at Rs 2,700 (USD 36).

3. September to be observed as 'Nutrition Month': PM Modi in Mann ki Baat

- While talking about the importance of following a nutritious diet, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday announced that September will be observed as "Nutrition Month".
- PM Modi mentioned that for our students and children to display their optimum potential and show their mettle, proper nourishment and nutrition play a significant role. He added that September month will be observed as a nutrition month in the entire nation.
- Prime Minister Modi also focused on the need to increase awareness regarding the nutrition of the children of the country. He mentioned that people's participation will be very crucial in the movement of nutrition.

4. 17th ASEAN-India Economic Ministers' Consultations held virtually on 29th August

- Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry & Railways and Tran Tuan Anh, Minister of Industry and Trade of Vietnam co-chaired the

17th ASEAN-India Economic Ministers Consultations held virtually on 29th August 2020. The meeting was attended by the Trade Ministers of all the 10 ASEAN countries Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

- The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to take collective actions in mitigating the economic impact of the pandemic and resolved to ensure macroeconomic and financial stability and resilient supply chain connectivity, particularly the unimpeded flow of essential goods and medicines in the region, in compliance with the WTO rules.

5. India co-sponsors UN security council resolution on women peacekeepers

- India has co-sponsored a security council resolution that calls for full, effective and meaningful participation of women personnel in peacekeeping operations. In a tweet, India's Permanent Mission to the UN said that India is proud to co-sponsor the resolution which was put forth by Indonesia. The mission said UN Security Council Resolution on 'women in peacekeeping' calls for full, effective and meaningful participation of women in peacekeeping operations.
- India is one of the largest troop contributors to UN peacekeeping operations. The mission said India has set for itself during its tenure in the Security Council beginning 2021 that India will continue to push for greater involvement of women in all areas.

6. India's foreign exchange reserves surge by USD 2.296 bn to USD 537.548 bn

- India's foreign exchange reserves rose by 2.296 billion US dollar to reach 537.548 billion US dollar in the week to August 21. The forex kitty had increased by 3.623 billion dollar to reach a record high of 538.191 billion US dollar in the week ended August 7. Foreign Currency Assets rose by 2.618 billion dollar to 494.168 billion US dollar in the reporting week. The apex bank data showed the gold reserves were down by 331 million dollar in the reporting week to 37.264 billion US dollars.
- The special drawing rights with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) rose 2 million dollar to 1.481 billion US dollar.
- The country's reserve position with the IMF also increased by 6 million to 4.634 billion US dollar during the reporting week.

7. PM Modi inaugurates RLB Central Agriculture University

- The newly constructed building of Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agriculture University which is one of its kind got inaugurated by the Prime Minister Shree Narendra Modi. The university is located in Jhansi and is a spectacular institute of the Bundelkhand region. PM's Interaction with the university students followed after the inauguration.

- Established in the year 2014 by the Government of India through the Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University Act- 2014. The act was passed by the Parliament in the same year. The university which conducted its first session in the year 2014 follows a bi-semester system that is two-semester per year. The university offers an undergraduate and postgraduate degree in agriculture, horticulture and forestry. Till now the academic and official work of the university was undertaken in the building of the Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute, Jhansi.

8. India jumps 4 places to rank 48 on Global Innovation Index 2020

- The Global Innovation Index 2020 released on September 2, 2020, has shown India jumped four places to rank at the 48th position. The index has been compiled by the World Intellectual Property (WIPO) along with INSEAD business school and Cornell University.
- The Global Innovation Index (GII) presents the latest global innovation trends and the annual innovation ranking of 131 economies. By moving up 4 positions since 2019, India became the third most innovative lower-middle-income economy in the world.
- In the latest released GII ranking, Switzerland has bagged the first spot, followed by Sweden, the United States of America (USA), the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands.

9. India bans PUBG, 117 other apps with Chinese links; IT Minister cites data privacy concerns

- The Ministry of Information and Technology banned PUBG and 118 other widely popular Chinese mobile applications. PUBG is an online multiplayer shooting game.
- As per the statement by the ministry, a total of 118 mobile apps have been banned by the government as they are prejudicial to the integrity, sovereignty, public order, and defence of India.
- The latest ban by the government will again be a hit for the app industry as the government had earlier banned 59 popular Chinese apps that were hugely popular among the Indian masses. The move can be seen in the light of ongoing tension between China and India in Eastern Ladakh.

10. Union Power Minister RK Singh launches "Green Term Ahead Market"

- Minister of State (MoS) (Independent Charge) for Power and New & Renewable Energy, Raj Kumar Singh launched the Pan-India Green Term Ahead Market (GTAM) in New Delhi virtually, for electricity. GTAM is the World's First Exclusive Product Market for the renewable energy sector.
- GTAM will lead to an increase in the number of participants in the Renewable Energy Sector. It will benefit buyers of Renewable Energy (RE)

by providing them competitive prices, and transparent, flexible procurement.

11. Ladakh, Lakshadweep Integrated In Existing National Portability Cluster Of 'One Nation One Ration Card'

- The Union Territories(UTs) Ladakh & Lakshadweep have been included in the 'One Nation-One Ration Card' scheme on 'Integrated Management of Public Distribution System'(IM-PDS). After the integration of these two UTs, a total 26 States /UTs Connected with the Scheme and will benefit about 65 crore people.
- Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Ram Vilas Paswan has recently approved the integration of Ladakh and Lakshadweep with the scheme in a review meeting chaired by him.

12. Amul becomes first Indian dairy company to be in Rabobank's Global Top 20 list; Nestle leads

- Amul, Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) became the first Indian Dairy Company to enter Rabobank's Annual listing of Global Dairy Top 20, 2020 Companies. Amul was ranked 16th with an annual turnover of USD 5.5 billion (approximately Rs 40,240 Crores). Switzerland's Nestle topped the list.
- Rabobank is a Dutch multinational banking and financial services company.
- Switzerland's Nestle topped the list with a turnover of USD 22.1 Billion, followed by France's Lactalis with USD 21 Billion turnovers

13. Madhya Pradesh govt launches 'Gandagi Bharat Chhodo' campaign

- The Madhya Pradesh government launched a massive 'Gandagi Bharat Chhodo. The campaign was divided into five themes- Cleanliness Oath, Continuous reduction in urban waste emissions, Cleanliness in COVID conditions, Separation of waste from sources of houses and Launching a special cleanliness campaign for public places.
- Around 35 lakh citizens took part in the campaign in 378 urban bodies in Madhya Pradesh.
- More than 7 lakh citizens took the oath of maintaining cleanliness during the campaign.
- While, eight lakh 70 thousand people were approached to make compost from wet waste.
- Four lakh 65 thousand masks were distributed with the help of citizens under the mask awareness campaign.

14. Rajnath Singh leaves for Moscow on 3-day visit to attend SCO Defence Ministers' Meet

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh left for Russia this morning for a three-day visit to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Defence Ministers' Meet. The Defence Ministers of all eight SCO member nations are expected to deliberate on regional security challenges like terrorism and extremism and ways to deal with them collectively in Moscow on Friday.
- Mr. Singh is visiting Moscow at the invitation of Russian Defence Minister General Sergei Shoigu and will also take part in the meeting of Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) and Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). The Defence Minister said in a tweet that he will be meeting his Russian counterpart General Shoigu to discuss bilateral cooperation and issues of mutual interest. He said, India and Russia are privileged Strategic Partners and he is looking forward to further this partnership during the visit.
- It is Mr Singh's second visit to Moscow since June. He had represented India at the Victory Day Parade in Moscow on 24th of June that commemorated the 75th anniversary of the Soviet victory over Nazi Germany in the Second World War. Russia has also invited External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar to attend the SCO Foreign Ministers' meeting on 10th of this month.

15. Uttarakhand and Karnataka paired under “Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat” programme

- Uttarakhand and Karnataka are paired under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat programme to promote national integration through mutual understanding. Both the states have established relations through sports, trade and culture.
- Uttarakhand has inspired people in Karnataka in forest conservation. The famous Chipko Andolan or hug the trees movement of Uttarakhand had inspired Appiko Andolan in Uttara Kannada district of Karnataka.
- Appiko is the Kannada word for Chipko. It was Sunder lal Bahuguna, one of the leaders of Chipko movement who visited the state in 1983 to inspire villagers in Gubbigadde in Uttara Kannada on the non-violent struggle to save trees. The experiences shared by Bahuguna inspired 146 men, women and children to save Kalase forest.

16. UP govt decides to set up exclusive anti-electricity theft police stations in every district

- Uttar Pradesh government has decided to set up exclusive anti-electricity theft police stations in every district of state to address the problem of frequent cases of power theft.
- One police station dedicated to deal with the issue of power theft will be opened in all 75 districts out of which 63 have already started functioning.
- This year, 20,401 cases of power theft were registered and a compounded fine of Rs 2.75 crore was released from the offenders.

17. Odisha govt. passes resolution to request Centre to accord classical status to Odishi music

- The Odisha Government has passed a resolution to request the Centre to accord classical status to Odishi music. The resolution was passed in the Heritage Cabinet meeting under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik.
- The Government of Odisha has already recognised it as a classical form of music since 2008.
- After Odishi dance and Odia language, now is the turn for Odishi music to claim classical status.
- While the world famous odissi dance had been granted the classical status by the government of India way back in 1964, Odia language had to see many of ups and downs before settling down as a classical language in 2014.

18. India's first Regional Voters' Awareness centre to come up in Jaipur

- Election Commission of India (ECI) will set up the country's first regional voters' awareness centre in Jaipur, Rajasthan. It will cater to four states - Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab and Madhya Pradesh.
- The centre will carry out various awareness activities under the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) programme.

19. Real GDP likely to contract by 10.9% in FY21: SBI Ecowrap

- After the country's economy contracted by a record 23.9% in the April-June quarter, real GDP for FY21 is expected to shrink by 10.9%, according to State Bank of India's research report – Ecowrap .It had earlier estimated real gross domestic product (GDP) at (-) 6.8% for the current fiscal.
- The first quarter GDP contraction compares with 3.1% growth in the preceding January-March quarter and 5.2% expansion in the same period a year back.
- It estimates Q2 real GDP decline in the range of (-) 12% to (-) 15%, while Q3 GDP is seen between (-) 5% and (-) 10%. Q4 is expected to be in (-) 2% to (-) 5% range.
- The report said the country's GDP growth plunged to 23.9% in Q1 FY21 due to the nationwide lockdown imposed on March 25, 2020, in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and is much worse than market and its estimates.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS & FOREIGN AFFAIRS

1. Mustapha Adib set to be designated as new Prime Minister of Lebanon

- Lebanon's Ambassador to Germany, Mustapha Adib is set to become the country's next Prime Minister. Adib was named by four former Lebanon Prime Ministers as their choice for the post.
- Former Prime Minister Najib Mikati was the first MP to formally nominate Adib during the consultations at the presidential palace. Adib also reportedly has the support of former Prime Minister Saad al-Hariri, who heads the biggest Sunni party, the Future Movement.
- Lebanon's Prime Minister Hassan Diab had announced the resignation of his government on August 10, 2020 after facing public outrage over the devastating Beirut explosion that caused massive destruction in the capital city, leading to the loss of many lives.

2. Qutub Minar illuminated in Poland's national colour to mark 40th anniversary of Solidarity movement

- Marking 40th anniversary of the creation of Solidarity movement, Embassy of Poland and Polish Institute in Delhi illuminated Qutub Minar in Poland's national flag colours, white and red.
- The year 2020, which marks the 40th anniversary of the creation of Solidarity was celebrated by Embassy of Poland and Polish Institute in New Delhi. The Qutub Minar was illuminated on 30 August and there is also an arrangement of lecture in the India International Centre on 31 August. Dinesh K. Patnaik who is the Director-General of the Indian Council of International Relations will grace the occasion as Chief Guest at the Qutub Minar function.

3. India granted 4th Tranche of US\$5mn to Myanmar for India-Myanmar Border Area Development

- On August 28, 2020, India granted 4th tranche of \$5 million to Myanmar for the development of the India-Myanmar Border Area. In this regard, the Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Saurabh Kumar handed over the ceremonial cheque to Lt-Gen Ye Aung, Minister for Border Affairs, Myanmar.
- This funding is on the lines of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by ex-Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh in 2012 according to which India would grant a total of \$25 million to Myanmar, divided into five tranches of \$5 million each annually, starting 2017, for projects on India-Myanmar border.

- The Myanmar-India Border Area Development Programmes include providing infrastructure and socio-economic development in Chin State and Naga Self-Administered Region.

4. Pakistan's attempt to list four Indian nationals as terrorists in UNSC failed

- India has said Pakistan's attempt to list all four Indian nationals in the UNSC 1267 sanctions list has failed. Pakistan had initiated a move in the UNSC with China's support to designate four Indians as terror operatives.
- Earlier Sino-Pakistani efforts failed to designate two of four – Venumadhav Dongara and Ajoy Mistry. And recently efforts to designate the remaining two – Gobinda Patnaik and Angara Appaji also failed.
- There was a proposal from Pakistan to add Indian nationals to 1267 ISIS and Al Qaeda sanctions list.



New Appointments and Person in News

1. Rajiv Kumar takes over as election commissioner

- Rajeev Kumar assumed charge as the new Election Commissioner of India on September 1, 2020. He has formally joined the Election Commission of India and will be working alongside Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra and Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora.
- Kumar was appointed as the new Election Commissioner by President Ram Nath Kovind on August 21, 2020. The former finance secretary succeeds Ashok Lavasa, who had resigned earlier.

2. Tamil Nadu Appoints India's First-ever Woman Ambulance Driver Under New Initiative by CM Palaniswami

- Tamil Nadu has appointed India's first-ever woman ambulance driver under a new initiative by CM Palaniswami.
- M Veeralakshmi was appointed driver of one of the newly launched '108' ambulances in Tamil Nadu.
- As per the Tamil Nadu government, this is the first such instance in the country.
- Palaniswami on March 24, had announced that to strengthen the 108 ambulance emergency services, '500 new ambulances would be dedicated to the state at a cost of about Rs 125 crore'.

3. Woman IPS Officer “Charu Sinha” To head Srinagar sector for CRPF in a first

- Charu Sinha has become the first female IPS officer to get appointed as the Inspector General (IG) of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in the terrorist-hit Srinagar sector. Charu Sinha is a 1996-batch IPS officer from Telangana cadre. She will now be heading the Srinagar sector for CRPF as the Inspector General.
- However, this is not the first time that Sinha has been assigned such a tough task. Earlier as well, she has worked as Inspector General of CRPF in the Bihar sector and has dealt with Naxals. Under her leadership, several anti-Naxal operations were carried out.
- She was later transferred to IG Jammu in CRPF where she spent a long and successful tenure. Now she has been appointed as the IG Srinagar sector. The Srinagar sector has never had a female officer at IG level. The sector closely works with the Indian Army and the Jammu and Kashmir police and is often involved in anti-terror operations.

4. Myntra appoints Kiara Advani as brand ambassador

- Flipkart-owned fashion marketplace Myntra has appointed Bollywood actor Kiara Advani as its brand ambassador to increase its young customer base across tiers.
- Her mass appeal as an actor and fashion trendsetter is poised to accelerate conversations around Myntra's apparel segments.
- Kiara's engaging social media presence, and high fan following with the youth will help strengthen Myntra's vision of democratising fashion.
- Myntra is one of the largest fashion e-commerce stores in India and has partnered with fashion and lifestyle brands in the country such as Nike, Adidas, Puma, Levis, Wrangler, Arrow, Jealous 21, Diesel, CAT, Harley Davidson, Ferrari, Timberland, US Polo, FabIndia, Biba among others.

5. Cabinet Appointments committee approves restructuring of rail board, current Chairman named CEO

- The Cabinet Appointment Panel has approved the appointment of Railway Board Chairman, Vinod Kumar Yadav as the CEO of the board. This move has started the long-pending organizational restructuring of National transporter.
- In December 2019, the Union Government had approved the restructuring of the Railway Board, which has now been downsized from 8 members to 5.
- As per the plan formulated by the Railway Department, the Chairman and CEO will be the cadre controlling officer who will be responsible for the Human Resources (HR) with assistance from a DG (HR).

6. Ambani scions Akash, Isha make it to Fortune Magazine's '40 under 40' most influential young leaders' list

- Isha and Akash Ambani, Ambani scions, and Jio Board directors have been included by Fortune Magazine in the '40 under 40' list of the most influential young leaders for the year under the technology section.
- As per the US-based publication, after Akash and Isha Ambani joined the Jio Board, the valuation of the business rose to USD 65 billion. Recently, they both have helped in launching Jio mart to challenge other online shopping markets.
- Isha and Akash Ambani are the twin children of Reliance's Chairman and Managing Director, Mukesh Ambani, who is also India and Asia's richest man.

7. K Padmakar, Director (HR) of BPCL took Additional Charge as CMD, as D Rajkumar Retired

- K Padmakar, Director (HR) of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has been given additional charge as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of BPCL until further orders by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. He succeeds D Rajkumar who superannuated after attaining 60 years on August 31, 2020. Ramamoorthy(R)Ramachandran, director refineries also stepped down with D Rajkumar on the same day due to the same reason.
- K.Padmakar is the senior most among the functional directors on the board of BPCL.D Rajkumar has been CMD since 2016. He has been acclaimed as one of the top 100 "Most Influential CEOs" in the world, by the CEOWORLD Magazine.

8. Central Board of Direct Taxes Chairman Pramod Chandra Mody gets 6-Month Extension

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), Government of India (GoI), has approved the extension of the re-appointment of Pramod Chandra Mody as Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes(CBDT) for 6 months with effect from September 1, 2020 to February 28, 2021 or until

further orders, whichever is earlier. His term was to end on August 31, 2020.

- It is a statutory authority which functions under the Central Board of Revenue Act, 1963. It frames policy for the Income-Tax Department. It functions under the Department of Revenue of the Ministry of Finance.

9. Hemant Khatri becomes new CMD of Hindustan Shipyard Limited

- Commodore, Hemant Khatri (Retd) has assumed charge as the Chairman and Managing Director of state-owned defence shipbuilder, Hindustan Shipyard Ltd (HSL) at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- He will replace Rear Admiral L V SaratBabu (Retd). Previously, Hemant Khatri was serving as the Director of Strategic Projects HSL.
- Hemant Khatri was appointed as the CMD of HSL was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) on 27th May 2020 with effective from 1st September 2020 till 31st July 2025 the date of his superannuation or until further orders.

10. Murali Ramakrishnan appointed as MD and CEO of South Indian Bank

- Murali Ramakrishnan will take over as the new managing director & CEO of Kerala-based South India Bank. He retired from ICICI Bank as Senior General Manager at Strategic Project Group on May 30, 2020 and joined the Bank as an advisor on July 1, 2020.
- The bank got the Reserve Bank of India's approval for the appointment for a period of three years with effect from October 1, 2020.

BANKING

1. World Bank to pause publication of Doing Business report

- The World Bank Group has 'paused' the publication of the Doing Business report after irregularities have been reported regarding changes to the data used in the report. The effective suspension of the publication of the rankings has been announced in the wake of a number of reported irregularities regarding changes to data in the 2018 and 2020 reports published in October 2017 and October 2019.
- The policy regime in India places a lot of importance on the rankings. After assuming power in 2014, the Narendra Modi government set a target for India to be among top 50 countries in the rankings. In 2014, India was ranked 142nd. It jumped to the 63rd position among 190 countries in May 2019.

2. Indian Bank announces cut of 5 basis points in MCLR for one-year tenure

- State-owned lender Indian Bank has announced a cut of 5 basis points in its marginal cost of funds based lending rate (MCLR) for one-year tenure. The bank has decided to reduce the MCLR for one-year tenure by 5 basis points to 7.30 per cent effective from September 3, 2020.
- All new retail loans (housing, education, vehicle), credit to MSMEs are linked to RLLR now. The country's second largest lender Punjab National Bank (PNB) had raised its RLLR by 15 basis points to 6.80 per cent, making loans costlier for new borrowers.


3. ICICI Bank announced the launch of 'Home Utsav', a virtual property exhibition

- ICICI Bank announced the launch of 'Home Utsav', a virtual property exhibition that digitally showcases real estate projects by renowned developers from key cities across the country. The exhibition is available for everyone, including ICICI Bank's customers and those who are not customers of the Bank.
- It offers them enhanced convenience, as they can simply browse through these projects online, from the comfort of their home and office.
- They can also avail exclusive offers such as attractive interest rates, special processing fees and digital sanction of loans, on buying a property through this exhibition. The first 'Home Utsav' exhibition has been launched for the Mumbai and Pune region, where over 100 projects by more than 60 developers are being showcased.

BANK ALL EXAMS - BOOKS

**IBPS | SBI | RBI Bank
Pre & Main Exams**

9 Comprehensive Books



₹1350/-

Books and Awards

1. Hyderabad International Airport wins CII-GBC 'National Energy Leader' award

- Hyderabad International Airport won the 'National Energy Leader' and 'Excellent Energy Efficient Unit' awards at the 21st National Awards for 'Excellence in Energy Management'. It was organized by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Godrej Green Business Centre (GBC).
- The award was given during the 19th edition of 'Energy Efficiency Summit', Virtual Conference and Exposition on Energy Efficiency held from August 6-28, 2020.
- The 'National Awards for Excellence in Energy Management' is instituted by CII to recognize significant and innovative practices of the energy efficiency sector, for the energy efficient and sustainable growth of the Indian industry.

2. Indian High Commission gifts books to 100 universities and Colleges to mark Mujib Barsho in Bangladesh

- The High Commission of India gifted books on the life of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the liberation war of Bangladesh to 100 universities and colleges in the country.
- The books have been written by acclaimed authors and historians.
- The High Commission organised the online book gifting session as part of Mujib Barsho- the birth centenary year of Bangladesh's founder president Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

3. Online nominations for Padma Awards 2021 will remain open till Sep 15

- Online nominations for the Padma Awards -2021 will remain open till 15th September. Nominations for Padma Awards to be announced on the occasion of Republic Day, 2021 have started from 1st of May.
- Home Ministry in a statement said, the nominations for the Awards will be received online only on the Padma Awards portal. The Ministry said, already 8 thousand and 35 registrations have been made on the portal against which 6 thousand 361 nominations or recommendations have been completed.

4. J&K LG Manoj Sinha releases 2 Coffee Table Books at Raj Bhavan in Srinagar

- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha released two Coffee Table Books, one for Labour & Employment Department and another for J&K Entrepreneurship Development (JKEDI) Institute.
- The Coffee Table Book of Labour & Employment Department also highlights the labour reforms.
- Further, the Coffee Table Book of J&K EDI highlights the inspirational entrepreneur journey of 50 young boys and girls across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

5. Para swimmer Satyendra Singh first Divyang sportsperson of country to get prestigious Adventure Award

- 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. He is also the first Asian Divyang swimmer to cross the 42-kilometer Catalina Channel in the US in just 11 hours 34 minutes.
- Shri Lohia says, "I have made my problem my strength. Divyang only needs cooperation and respect, not sympathy." Para-swimmer Satyendra Singh was also conferred with the Best Sportsperson National Award by Vice President Venkaiah Naidu on World Divyanga Day. He has also been awarded the highest sports award of Madhya Pradesh as well as many other national and international honours.

6. Ramachandra Guha Authored New book 'The Commonwealth of Cricket: A Lifelong Love Affair with the Most Subtle and Sophisticated Game Known to Humankind'

- Indian writer Ramachandra Guha has authored a new book, 'The Commonwealth of Cricket: A Lifelong Love Affair with the Most Subtle and Sophisticated Game Known to Humankind'. The book portrays the entire arc of the game (cricket) in India, across all levels at which it is played and gives a glimpse of local heroes, provincial emblems and international stars. The book will be co-published by HarperCollins India and William Collins.

7. Bollywood Filmmaker Karan Johar Authored a Children's Book "The Big Thoughts of Little Luv"

- Bollywood Filmmaker Karan Johar authored a children's picture book titled "The Big Thoughts of Little Luv" inspired by his Twins Yash and Roohi. The book will be published by Juggernaut Books.
- The book narrates the story of the twins Luv and Kusha and features the challenges faced by the parents and the difference imposed between the boys and girls by the parents while raising them.

8. Eklavya Model Residential School Teacher selected for National Award to Teachers

- This year's National Award to Teachers 2020 holds special significance for Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) established under Ministry of Tribal Affairs as it witnessed its first NAT Awardee, Ms. Sudha Painuli, Vice Principal, EMRS-Kalsi, Dehradun, Uttarakhand since its establishment.

- Union Ministry of Education (formerly Ministry of Human Resource Development), Department of School Education & Literacy constituted an Independent Jury at National Level to bestow the National Award to Teachers (NAT) for the year 2020. Ms. Sudha Painuli made it to the list of 47 outstanding teachers selected after 3-stage rigorous online transparent process.
- The most unique features about her expedition constitute innovative experiments like initiative of Eklavya Birthday Garden, Theatre in Education, Eklavya Tribal Museum, Skill Development Workshops, and so on. Her steadfast achievement institutes the efforts of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs made in the right direction creating a fine balance between academic education and all-round development of the tribal students.

SCIENCE TECH & DEFENCE

1. CSIR-CMERI develops World's Largest Solar Tree

- CSIR-CMERI has developed the World's Largest Solar Tree, which is installed at CSIR-CMERI Residential Colony, Durgapur. The installed capacity of the Solar Tree is above 11.5 kWp. It has the annual capacity to generate 12,000-14,000 units of Clean and Green Power.
- The Solar Tree has been designed in a manner to ensure maximum exposure of each Solar PV Panel to Sunlight and also creation of the least amount of shadow area beneath.
- There are a total of 35 Solar PV Panels in each tree with a capacity of 330 wp each.

2. India withdraws from multilateral military exercise in Russia next month

- India has announced that it is withdrawing from multilateral Military Exercise Kavkaz 2020 to be held in Russia next month. Defence Ministry said, Russia and India are close and privileged strategic partners and at Russia's invitation India has been participating in many international events.
- However, in view of Pandemic and consequent difficulties in exercise, including arrangements of logistics, India has decided not to send a contingent this year to Kavkaz-2020. The Ministry said, the decision has been conveyed to the Russian side.
- India had earlier planned to send around 150 Indian Army troops, 45 Indian Air Force personnel and a number of Navy officers to the multilateral military exercise to be held in the Astrakhan region in southern Russia from 15th to 26th September.

3. Adani Green ranked world No. 1 solar firm; eyes global partners for rapid growth

- Indian renewable energy company, Adani Green has been ranked as the world's number 1 solar energy company in terms of capacity. The company is currently the world's top solar developer with around 2.3 GW of operational projects.
- Adani Green Energy Limited has another 2 GW projects under construction and 8 GW of awarded projects (with contracted PPAs) for a total capacity of 12.3 GW. The solar capacity of the company exceeds the total installed capacity of the United States as of 2019.
- Adani Group Chairman, Gautam Adani stated on the occasion that the group will further accelerate growth of its clean energy business by building partnerships with global integrated energy players, data center providers and industrialists.

4. Indian astronomers discover one of the farthest star galaxies in universe

- The Department of Space, the Indian government announced that the Indian astronomers have discovered one of the farthest star galaxies in the universe. The galaxy is called AUDFs01.
- The Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh mentioned it as a matter of pride as India's first Multi-Wavelength Space Observatory 'AstroSat' detected the extreme-UV light from a galaxy located 9.3 billion light-years away from Earth.
- The galaxy is estimated to be located 9.3 billion light-years away from the Earth. The finest discovery by the Indian astronomers has also been reported in the International Journal names 'Nature Astronomy' which publishes from Britain.

5. IIT Delhi incubated startup launches "Chakr De CoV" to decontaminate N95 masks

- IIT Delhi incubated startup Chakr Innovation has launched 'Chakr De CoV' to decontaminate N95 masks. Designed in the shape of a cabinet, Chakr De CoV is built with an innovative decontamination mechanism, which utilises the high penetrability of Ozone gas for cleaning the pores of the N95 mask, ensuring complete decontamination of its intricate layers.
- Ozone is a strong oxidizing agent that destroys viruses by diffusing through the protein coat, resulting in damage to the viral RNA.
- Proper dosage and exposure of Ozone can result in inactivation of SARS CoV-2 and a 99.9999 percent reduction in bacterial load, after which an N95 mask can be reused for up to 10 times without any impact on the filtration efficiency.

SPORTS

1. Dwayne Bravo becomes first bowler to take 500 wickets in T20 cricket

- West Indies All-Rounder, Dwayne John Bravo became the first bowler in cricket to take 500 wickets in Twenty20 matches. He achieved the feat in the Caribbean Premier League (CPL) 2020 match between his team Trinbago Knight Riders and St Lucia Zouks.
- Bravo took the wicket of Rahkeem Cornwall (18) to register his 500th wicket. Dwayne Bravo achieved the feat in his 459th match in the shortest format.
- Sri Lanka's Lasith Malinga is the second-highest wicket-taker in T20 cricket with 389 scalps from 339 matches followed by Sunil Narine (383), Imran Tahir (374), and Sohail Tanvir (356).

2. Two players among 13 of Chennai Super Kings tests positive for coronavirus

- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) says 1,998 tests were carried out between 20-28 August and all those affected, as well as their close contacts, are asymptomatic.
- According to ESPN, the two players - one an India international - are among 10 cases at Chennai Super Kings, with support staff, net bowlers and a team official's wife also testing positive.
- Those to test positive are now being monitored at a different hotel and must spend at least two weeks in quarantine.
- All 53 IPL games will be played in the UAE because of the global Covid-19 pandemic.
- The Super Kings, who are three-time champions, arrived on 21 August and the team were scheduled to begin training in Dubai on Friday.
- That session has been postponed to 1 September, with the IPL set to start on 19 September.

3. India and Russia announced as joint winners of FIDE Chess Olympiad

- India and Russia today were announced as joint winners of the FIDE Chess Olympiad as Nihal Sarin and Divya Deshmukh lost connection to their games in the second round and had to forfeit.
- In a first, the olympiad was conducted online. Originally, Russia were declared as the winners, but India filed an appeal and after investigation, both India and Russia were announced as joint winners.
- This was the first time that India reached the finals of the FIDE Chess Olympiad.

4. CFI to host first-ever Cycling Summit in 2021

- The Cycling Federation of India (CFI) will host the first-ever "Cycling Summit" in 2021 across Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru.
- This one-day summit is designed to promote the culture of cycling and exchange knowledge with budding and professional cyclists.
- The Cycling Summit is expected to be a unique confluence of cycling enthusiasts, renowned athletes, and businesses from all over the country.

OBITUARIES

1. Former President Pranab Mukherjee cremated with full state honours

- Former President Pranab Mukherjee was cremated with full state honours at the Lodhi Road electric crematorium in New Delhi on Tuesday afternoon. His son performed his last rites.
- Former Indian President Pranab Mukherjee has passed away at the age of 84, his family said.
- Mukherjee died of multiple organ failure on Monday after being admitted to hospital weeks ago, having also contracted coronavirus.

2. ‘Scooby Doo’ co-creator Joe Ruby passes away at 87

- Joe Ruby, the co-creator of the cartoon series Scooby-Doo, has passed away due to natural causes. Ruby, an American animator, television editor, writer, and producer, created the much-loved characters of beloved kids show Scooby-Doo, along with his creative partner Ken Spears.
- Together, the pair started their own production company Hanna-Barbera Productions and created other memorable cartoons as well.

3. Former England Cricket all rounder David Capel passes away at 57

- Former England all-rounder and legendary cricketer, David Capel passed away. He played 15 Tests and 23 one-day internationals for England from 1987-1990.
- He made 270 first-class appearances for the English countryside, Northamptonshire, from 1981-1998 and became the first cricketer born in the county to play a Test for England in 77 years.
- He had also served as the assistant coach of the England women's cricket team as well as the head coach of the Bangladesh women's cricket team.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1. BJP to celebrate PM Modi's birthday as ‘Seva Saptah’ from Sep 14-20

- The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has decided to celebrate Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday on September 17 by observing SevaSaptah from 14th to 20th September. Prime Minister will turn 70 this year.
- The decision has been taken to avoid any major celebration or mass gathering due to the coronavirus pandemic.
- To observe the Seva Saptah which is a way to extend help, the party will be distributing masks, sanitizers and medicines.

2. President Kovind greets people on eve of Onam

- The President have greeted the people on the eve of Onam. In his message, President Ram Nath Kovind said, the festival of Onam is a symbol of the country's rich cultural heritage. It is also an expression of gratitude to mother nature at the arrival of a new crop.
- Mr Kovind said, in the times of COVID-19 pandemic, people from the weaker sections of the society must be taken care of and adequate measures be taken to protect and safeguard the families and society at large. He hoped that this festival will strengthen the sense of cooperation and brotherhood in the country and pave the way for prosperity while living in harmony with Mother Nature.

3. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla pays tributes to former Lok Sabha Speaker Sardar Hukam Singh on his birth anniversary

- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla paid floral tributes to the portrait of former Speaker of Lok Sabha Sardar Hukam Singh in the Central Hall of Parliament House on his birth anniversary today. Secretary-General of Lok Sabha Snehlata Shrivastava also paid floral tributes.
- Sardar Hukam Singh was an eminent parliamentarian, a noted jurist, a social reformer and an able administrator. He was unanimously elected as the Speaker in the Third Lok Sabha and he chaired the House from 17 April 1962 to 16 March 1967. Later, he was the Governor of Rajasthan from 1967 to 1972. Sardar Hukam Singh passed away on 27 May 1983.

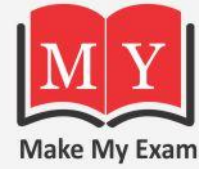
4. National Wildlife Day is observed on 04 September

- National Wildlife Day is observed on September 4 to encourage the awareness of the species around us. This National Day focuses on endangered species, preservation, and conservation efforts around the world.
- Zoos, aviaries and marine sanctuaries provide a variety of ways to get involved.
- Wildlife not just exists in the forest but in the city limits too. It is for us as humans to make a place for them, which they can call their home.

India's No.1 Exam Prep App

Bank, SSC, Railways
Competitive Exams

Download Now



Powered by IBT

 Download Now