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NATIONAL NEWS

1. Maharashtra launched World's Largest Plasma Therapy Trial under Project 'Platina'

- The World's largest Convalescent Plasma Therapy Trial project was launch on 29th June 2020 by the Maharashtra State Government. The name of the project is Platina. The project was virtually launched by the Chief Minister of Maharashtra Uddhav Thackeray.
- For this trial project, the Indian Council of Medical Research has given the approval to conduct plasma therapy in COVID-19 positive patients admitted in the 21 COVID-19 hospitals of the Maharashtra State Government.

2. Concession Agreement Signed between India & Bhutan for Joint Venture Hydroelectric Project

- On 29th June 2020, a concession agreement was signed between the Kholongchhu Hydro Energy Limited and the Royal Government of Bhutan. The Concession Agreement provides the right to Kholongchhu Hydro Energy Limited to operate the Kholongchhu Hydroelectric Project within the jurisdictions of the Bhutanese Government.
- The Concession Agreement signing was conducted at Bhutan's capital city Thimphu. The Agreement signing was attended virtually by the Minister of External Affairs of India Dr. S. Jaishankar.
- The project will be located on the Kholongchhu River in Eastern Bhutan's Trashiyangtse District. The run of the river Hydroelectric Project will of 600 MW and is expected to be completed by the second half of 2025.

3. Bengaluru Becomes India's Only City in Top 30 Global Startup Ecosystems Ranking 2020

- The 'Global Startup Ecosystem Report (GSER) 2020; the New Normal for the Global Startup Economy and the Impact of COVID-19' released by Startup Genome. Bangalore, popularly known as the startup capital of India, has added another milestone as it become the only city in the country to be included in the world's top-30 startup ecosystem ranking & placed 26th position. At the same time, the nation's capital Delhi has been ranked 36th in the list.
- While California's Silicon Valley topped the list, which ranks the top ecosystems by a number of metrics including performance, funding, connectedness, talent and knowledge.

4. Year-long Centenary celebrations of former PM P. V. Narasimha Rao begins

- A year-long Centenary celebrations of former Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao began with people of Telangana state fondly remembering him on his birth anniversary.
- Rao served as the 9th Prime Minister of India between 1991 and 1996.
- He is well known for introducing major economic reforms in the country by ending the license raj.



• The Former Prime Minister laid the foundation for trade liberalisation and the re-integration of the Indian economy with the global economy, especially East Asian economies.

5. PM Modi extends Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana till end of November

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi today extended PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana for a further five months till November-end for distributing free foodgrains to the poor.
- PM Modi said that the government will keep providing free foodgrains to the poor section of the society due to the increased need during the festivals.
- The PM further said that the government will incur an additional expenditure of Rs 90,000 crore to provide 5 kg rice or wheat and 1 kg gram every month to the poor.
- He highlighted that the free distribution of foodgrains to 80 crore people in India could feed 2.5 times the US population, 12 times the UK population and, twice the European Union's population.

6. Indian Govt banned 59 Chinese apps for safety, security and integrity of nation

- India banned 59 Chinese mobile applications amid border stand-off with the neighbouring country. The government has cited national security for banning these apps.
- The ban covers some of the most popular apps in India like TikTok, SHAREIT, UC Browser and WeChat.
- Almost all the apps banned have some preferential Chinese interest and the majority have parent Chinese companies.

7. India named in Switzerland's top-3 partners for info exchange on tax matters

- In accordance with the latest study by OECD's (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development) Global Forum on transparency and exchange of information for tax purposes, referring to the period from July 2015 to June 2018, India was named among the top-three countries as EOI (Exchange of Information) partners along with France and Germany. Means, India is getting detailed information on request, from Switzerland about bank accounts and beneficiary ownership of entities established by its residents.
- India is also rated as 'largely compliant' by this OECD's review. It has also named Italy, Netherlands and Spain among other significant EOI partners for Switzerland.

8. Centralized System of Stamp Duty collection implemented from 1st July 2020

 Through Finance Act 2019, amendments were brought to the Indian Stamp Act, 1899. The amendments made comes into effect from 1st July 2020 onwards. These amendments were made for building a pan-India securities market and to boost Ease of Doing Business.



- A uniform stamp duty across all the states will be imposed for all financial securities transactions.
- For stock exchange, duty on the transaction of securities will be deposited to the Central Government. As per the legal and institutional mechanism, the stamp duty is collected by the State Government, under the uniformity, the Central Government will deposit it to the State Government based on the place from where the trade took place.
- For other financial securities transactions (non-stock exchange), depositories will collect stamp duties on behalf of the State Government.

9. PM Narendra Modi quits his account from Chinese microblogging website Weibo

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has decided to delete his account on Chinese microblogging website Sina Weibo, which he had joined a few years ago. The move comes after the Indian government banned 59 Chinese apps including TikTok and Cam Scanner.PM Modi's account on Weibo went blank on July 1st after his profile photo, posts and comments were removed from the handle.
- Weibo is the largest Chinese microblogging site, similar to twitter. The site has a more complex procedure to quit for VIP accounts.
- The official process was initiated to delete PM Modi's account on the microblogging site and after much delay, basic permission was granted.

10. Union Minister Giriraj Singh launches First Edition of 'Matsya Sampada'

- Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Giriraj Singh has launched the 1st Edition newsletter "Matsya Sampada" fisheries and aquaculture published by the Department of Fisheries and the operational guidelines of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).
- From the first quarter of 2020-21, newsletter Matsya Sampada will be published on a quarterly basis.
- The operational guidelines for the PMMSY scheme have also been published in the first edition of the newsletter.
- The newsletter will serve as a means of communication for educating and providing the latest information and developments related to the fisheries and aquaculture sector to all the stakeholders involved in the sector.

11. Odisha launches 'Balaram' scheme to provide credit to 7 lakh landless farmers

- The Odisha state government has launched 'Balaram' scheme to provide agricultural credit worth Rs 1,040 crore to landless farmers who are facing hardships due to the coronavirus outbreak.
- The scheme is expected to benefit around 7 lakh landless cultivators in the next two years. The decision regarding the same was taken during a high-level meeting chaired by Chief secretary A K Tripathy on July 2, 2020.
- Under the scheme, the landless farmers, who were not able to avail farm credit earlier, will get loans through joint liability groups that will act as 'social collateral'. The scheme has been developed in collaboration with the National



Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). The village agriculture workers will implement the programme at the field level.

12. Yellow dustbins for only corona residual in Indore

- In Madhya Pradesh, to prevent corona infection, the Indore Municipal Corporation is placing Yellow colour dustbins at all major places in the city. This is the third dustbin apart from blue and green colours dustbins and being placed for only corona infected material.
- Indore is among the top 10 COVID 19 infected cities of the country.
- Indore is possibly the first city to place a separate dustbin for the corona residual.
- People throw COVID 19 infected PPE kits, gloves and masks to green and blue litter bins or outdoors after use these days, which can cause the spread of corona pandemic.

13. Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal inaugurates first Plasma bank of the country

- Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal inaugurates the Plasma Bank for the treatment of Covid-19 patients.
- The facility has been set up at Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, New Delhi.
- Plasma Bank will remove the hurdles faced by the patients to get the Plasma therapy.
- He appealed to the people to come forward in large numbers to donate the Plasma.
- The interested donors can call 1031 and can whatsapp at 8800007722 to donate the plasma.
- Only those people can donate the plasma, who was earlier infected with the corona virus and now recovered.

14. Fitch cuts India's growth projection to 8% for FY22

- Fitch Ratings cut India's growth forecast for 2021-22 fiscal to 8% from 9.5% projected last month.
- It, however, retained its projection of Indian economy contracting by 5% in the current fiscal.
- Indian economic growth stood at an estimated 4.2% in 2019-20.
- In May update to the outlook, Fitch had projected 9.5% growth in 2021-22.
- S&P has forecast a 5% contraction in the fiscal year starting April, and the growth to recover to 8.5% next fiscal.
- Moody's expects India's real GDP to contract by 4% in fiscal 2020 due to the shock from the coronavirus pandemic and related lockdown measures, followed by 8.7% growth in fiscal 2021 and closer to 6% thereafter.

15. Sixth Edition of Swachh Survekshan survey will be started from 4th January 2021



- Since its first edition back in 2016, the Swachh Survekshan survey has been conducted every year by making the process for conducting the survey more robust by redesigning it innovatively. The toolkit for the 2021 and the dates for the 6th edition of the Swachh Survekshan survey was launched by Hardeep Singh Puri (Union Minister of State (I/C) of Housing & Urban Affairs) on 3rd July 2020.
- The Toolkit for Swachh Survekshan 2021 Indicators introduced will focus on public participation and encouragement for innovators in the cities.
- The Swachh Survekshan Survey 2021 will be conducted from 4th January to 31st January 2021.

16. Committee for reform in criminal law to start online consultation from July 4, 2020

- From July 4, 2020, Central Committee for reforms in Criminal Law, headed by Ranbir Singh was constituted by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) & is going to start a 3 months long online consultation exercise. The objective of this exercise is to gather opinions by consulting with experts and collating material for their report to the government.
- In this regard, the committee has invited experts in the field of criminal law to participate in the exercise through an online consultation mechanism.
- Questionnaires have been posted online on the possible reforms in the Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and Indian Evidence Act.

<u>INTERNATIONAL NEWS & FOREIGN AFFAIRS</u>

1. Vietnam hosts online 36th ASEAN Summit amid pandemic

- Southeast Asian leaders held their annual summit by video to show unity and discuss a regional emergency fund to respond to the immense crisis brought by the coronavirus pandemic.
- Long-divisive South China Sea conflicts were also in the spotlight.
- The leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations talked online due to regional travel restrictions and health risks.
- Vietnam, the current ASEAN chair, had planned face-to-face meetings, but most member states assessed it was still too risky for leaders to travel.

2. China running Campaign to Slash Birth rates among the Muslim Minorities

- An investigation conducted by the United States-based news agency Associated Press (AP) has found that the Chinese Government has been running a number of in-human campaigns to slash the birth rates among the minority Muslim population in its country. Experts have labeled this Campaign of China as 'Demographic Genocide'. Among the Muslim minorities in China, most belong to Uyghurs ethnic groups.
- The Chinese Government continues to claim that the camps set up at the Xinjiang Autonomous Region of China are for offering voluntary education and training; however, the authorities running these camps have been



instructed by the Government to run these camps as high-security prisons with punishments, no escapes, strict disciplines, etc.

3. Pakistan Army appoints Nigar Johar as first female lieutenant general

- The Pakistan Army has appointed a woman officer as lieutenant general for the first time.
- Major General Nigar Johar, who got the coveted post of a three-star general, has been appointed as the first female surgeon general of the Pakistan Army.
- In 2017, she became the third woman officer in the Pakistan Army to attain the rank of major general.
- The other two women major generals were Shahida Badsha and Shahida Malik.

New Appointments and Person in News

1. President gives UP Governor Anandiben Patel additional charge of Madhya Pradesh

- President Kovind has given Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel additional charge of Madhya Pradesh.
- The UP Governor will now be discharging the functions of the Governor of Madhya Pradesh in addition to her duties. She is taking over the post temporarily in the absence of MP Governor Lal Ji Tandon.
- The 85-year-old Lal Ji Tandon was admitted to Medanta Hospital on June 11 with breathing problems and fever. His condition is said to be improving but he is still on supportive ventilation.

2. Ravindra Jadeja named India's 21st century Most Valuable Player by Wisden

- All-rounder Ravindra Jadeja has been named the Most Valuable Player for India in the 21st century by Wisden.
- The 31-year-old's MVP rating, which was calculated using the cricket data analysis tool CricViz, was 97.3. His rating is second only to Muttiah Muralitharan of Sri Lanka making him the second most Valuable Test Player of the 21st Century.
- Wisden used CricViz, a detailed analysis tool in cricket to analyse his performance.

3. Ravinder Bhakar Assumes Charge as CEO of Central Board of Films Certification

- Ravinde Bhakar, a 1999 batch officer of Indian Railway Stores Service(IRSS), assumed charge as the Chief Executive Officer(CEO) of Central Board of Films Certification(CBFC). He succeeds Anurag Srivastava.
- Prior to this appointment he served as the Secretary & Chief Public Relations
 Officer of Western Railways. He also served as an Indian Engineering
 Services officer.



 He has received many awards including the National award from Minister of Railways for outstanding service & General Manager Award both in Western Railways & Central Railways (CR) for exemplary service.

4. Shrikant Madhav Vaidya Assumes Charge as the Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation

- Shrikant Madhav(S M) Vaidya assumed charge as the chairman of Indian Oil Corporation(IOC). He succeeds Sanjiv Singh who has superannuated.
- In addition to the post, he will serve as the Chairman of Chennai Petroleum Corporation Ltd, refining subsidiary of Indian Oil, and Indian Oil tanking Ltd, a joint venture.
- He is on the board of Ratnagiri Refinery & Petrochemicals Ltd, will take over as its Chairman. He will also be a Director on the Board of Petronet LNG Limited.

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BANKING

1. Swiggy Partnerships with ICICI Bank to Launch 'Swiggy Money'

- Swiggy has launched its own digital wallet, 'Swiggy Money' in partnership with ICICI Bank to enable a 'single-click checkout experience' on its platform. It is an industry- first instant digital wallet. The Swiggy Money is powered by ICICI Bank's 'insta wallet service' which is built on a cloud platform with Application Programming Interface (API)integration.
- Swiggy customer can immediately use the wallet if he/she is an existing ICICI Bank customer.Non-ICICI Bank customers can also use this instantly after providing details of government ID to ICICI Bank.

Books and Awards

1. 24-time Grammy winner Popstar Beyonce to receive Humanitarian Award

- 24-time Grammy winner Popstar Beyonce(38 years old) to receive the Humanitarian Award at 20th edition of annual BET Awards 2020, for her long standing philanthropic work, including her recent COVID-19 relief efforts. The event will be held virtually for the 1st time on June 28.
- The awards will honor 2 personalities namely: Rapper Lil Wayne to give tribute to basketball legend Kobe Bryant, who died in a helicopter crash outside Los Angeles on January 26 along with his daughter and seven others.
- Wayne Brady to honour Little Richard, who died of bone cancer on May 9.



 Nicolas Johnson, Timbaland, Swizz Beatz, and D-Nice to be recognised as 2020 Shine A Light honourees. AssaTraore, French anti-racist activist to be honored with the BET International Global Good Award.

2. Former RBI Governor Chakravarthi Rangarajan Receives the First Prof. P. C. Mahalanobis Award

- On 29th June 2020, On account of National Statistics Day The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) presented the first Prof. P. C. Mahalanobis National Award in Official Statistics'2020 to Dr. Chakravarthi Rangarajan, Former Governor, Reserve Bank of India for his contribution to the National Statistical System (NSS) in India.
- The virtual event of the National Statistics Day was streamed live over various social media platforms.

3. India's AI enabled MyGov Corona Helpdesk wins two global awards

- India's Artificial Intelligence (AI) enabled MyGov Corona Helpdesk has bagged two awards at the Global Leadership Summit and Festival of AI and Emerging Technology, CogX 2020.
- Al enabled MyGov Corona Helpdesk bagged two awards under categories of Best Innovation for Covid-19 - Society People's Choice and Covid-19 Overall Winner.
- The recently held CogX 2020 is a prestigious Global Leadership Summit and Festival of AI and Emerging Technology held annually in London.

4. Padma Awards-2021 nominations open till Sep 15

- The nominations for Padma Awards-2021 will be open till September 2020, as per the latest Home Ministry announcement, The Ministry stated that online nominations and recommendations for the Padma Awards had begun from May 1st onwards. They will be announced on the occasion of Republic Day next year.
- The nominations for Padma Awards will be received online only on the Padma Awards portal www.padmaawards.gov.in.
- The Padma Awards- Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri, are the highest civilian awards of the country. The awards were set up in 1954.
- The civilian awards recognize outstanding work and exceptional achievements in all fields and disciplines including Literature, Art, Sports, Education, Medicine, Science and Engineering, Social Work, Civil Service, Trade and Industry and Public Affairs.

5. Pulitzer Prize Winner Siddhartha Mukherjee and Prof Raj Chetty Named among "2020 Great Immigrants" Honourees

- Carnegie Corporation of New York has named 2 renowned Indian-Americans, Siddhartha Mukherjee, a Pulitzer prize winner and Raj Chetty, Economics Professor at Harvard University among '2020 Great Immigrants' honourees.
- Siddhartha Mukherjee was born in New Delhi. He is a noted biologist, oncologist, and the author of several acclaimed books. He has been a faculty



of Columbia University since 2009. He has educated the public about the coronavirus through essays and through various modes of social media.

- He won the Pulitzer Prize for his book 'The Emperor of All Maladies: A
 Biography of Cancer' in 2011. He received the Padma Shri in 2014. Among
 other honours this book was listed in the Time magazine's "All-Time 100
 Nonfiction Books".
- His other books include The Laws of Medicine: Field Notes from an Uncertain Science (2015), and The Gene: An Intimate History (2016).

6. Vice President of India, Releases a Book "Future of Higher Education – Nine Mega Trends" Virtually

- Vice President of India, M Venkaiah Naidu virtually released a book, "Future of Higher Education – Nine Mega Trends". The book is authored by CA V Pattabhi Ram, a Public Speaker, author and Teacher. The Virtual event was hosted by ICT Academy.
- The book covers the new norms in the key areas of higher education such as Student-Teacher relationship, Learning methods, Laboratories & Examinations among others which has taken a paradigm shift during this COVID pandemic.
- The book is based on a survey of about 5000 educators across India who were part of ICT Academy's "SkyCampus" Digital Knowledge Series.

7. Vice President of India, Releases a Book "Future of Higher Education – Nine Mega Trends" Virtually

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SCIENCE TECH & DEFENCE

1. India likely to get six 'fully-loaded' Rafales by July-end

- India is likely to get six fully-loaded Rafale fighter aircraft by July-end amid the ongoing border dispute with China along the Line of Actual Control (LAC).
 The Rafale jets will be fitted with long-range Meteor air-to-air missiles.
- The fighter aircraft can hit targets at more than 150 km strike range. The aircraft delivery will depend upon the situation and the ongoing training of IAF



pilots in France. The aircraft will be flown in from France and will be made operational within a few days itself.

• The original plan was to get four Rafale fighter jets including three twin-seater trainer versions for training the pilots here at Ambala Air Force station. The airforce station will be the first base of the Rafale fighter jets in India.

2. Govt approves use of Dexamethasone steroid for COVID-19 treatment

- Union Health Ministry has revised clinical management protocol for treating Covid-19 patients.
- Moderate and severe coronavirus patients, in need of oxygen support who
 experience excessive inflammatory response, can now be given
 Dexamethasone steroid as an alternative to Methylprednisolone.
- Dexamethasone is a steroid that has been used since the 1960s to reduce inflammation in a range of conditions, including inflammatory disorders and certain cancers.
- It has been listed on the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines since 1977 in multiple formulations, and is currently off-patent and affordable in most countries.

3. India's first human space mission 'Gaganyaan' will not be affected by COVID-19 pandemic: Dr.Jitendra Singh

- The Union Minister Dr.Jitendra Singh on June 29 stated that the launch of India's first human space mission 'Gaganyaan' will not be affected by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the preparations have been carrying on in the right direction.
- The minister also elaborated about the cabinet's decision to encourage private participation in ISRO activities. He added that the regulatory body 'IN-SPACe' will provide a level playing field to private players and encourage their participation.
- During the briefing, he assured that the launch of 'Gaganyaan' will take place as planned before the 75th anniversary of India's Independence in 2022.

4. NFL launches five Mobile Soil Testing Labs for testing the soil samples at farmers' doorstep

- National Fertilizers Limited- NFL has launched five Mobile Soil Testing Labs for testing the soil samples at the doorstep of farmers free of cost.
- It will give further boost to the Soil Testing facility in the country for promoting appropriate use of fertilizers.
- Chairman and Managing Director of NFL V N Datt flagged off one such Mobile Lab from the premises of NFL Corporate Office in Noida. These Mobile Labs, loaded with the latest soil testing equipment will be used for macro and micro nutrient analysis of soil.

5. FCC designates 2 Chinese companies as National Security Threats



- The US Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has designated two Chinese companies - Huawei Technologies and ZTE Corporation as national security threats.
- FCC Chairman Ajit Pai stated that both Huawei and ZTE have close ties with Chinese Communist Party and China's military apparatus. He stated that the US government will not allow the Chinese Communist Party to exploit vulnerabilities in US communications networks.
- The agency is considering banning these Chinese telephone companies from entering the US market. As per the US, Huawei's equipment could be used by China for spying.

6. IIT Madras launches India's first online BSc degree in programming and data science

- Indian Institute of Technology -Madras has launched the world's first ever online degree (B.Sc) and diploma courses in programming and data science.
- Union HRD minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank launched the programme through a webinar.
- Anyone who has passed class 12th examination can enrol in the online course. Moreover, there are no age restrictions for learners. The online application process will begin soon.

7. Defence Ministry Approves Purchase of 33 new Fighter Jets and Upgradation of existing 59 MiG- 29 Aircraft

- The proposal to acquire 33 new fighter aircraft was approved by the Ministry of Defence on 2nd July 2020. This will help the Indian Air Force in addressing the long-felt need for increasing its fighter squadrons. Along with the purchase of 33 new fighter aircraft, the existing 59 MiG 29 aircraft will also be upgraded. The entire purchase and up-gradation will cost Rs 18,148 crore.
- Among the 33 new aircraft, procurement of new 21 MiG-29 aircraft and upgradation of 59 existing MiG-29 aircraft will be done by Russian Aircraft Corporation 'MiG' (also called Mikoyan) at Rs 7418 crore.
- Also the Su-30 MKI will be procured from HAL at an estimated cost of Rs 10,730 cr.
- Indian Air Force has already three Squadrons of MiG 29 fighter aircraft in service. Russian company Mikoyan is the manufacturer of MiG 29 aircraft. All equipment and radar of the newly procured fighter jets will be as per the latest standards.

SPORTS

1. Sports Minster Kiren Rijiju Launches National Anti-Doping Agency's App, 'NADA INDIA'

 The first mobile app of National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA), "NADA INDIA" was released by Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju. The initiative is an important step



towards dope free sports, providing updates & information about the banned substances and their use to aware the athletes & Coaches.

- The Sports Secretary Ravi Mittal and Director General of NADA Navin Agarwal also attended the launch.
- India is working towards clean sports thus the app helps to create awareness and provide relevant information to athletes.

2. ICC condoles death of legendary WI cricketer Everton Weekes

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) on July 2, 2020 extended its condolences following the passing of legendary West Indies' batsman Everton Weekes.
- Weekes, who was a part of the famous West Indies trio- the three Ws, passed away at the age of 95 years on July 1. He is also a part of the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame.
- Everton Weekes was a top batsman of his era, whose performances have been iconic.
- The Three Ws comprising Frank Worrell, Clyde Walcott and Everton Weekes had dominated the world cricket in the post-war era. Weekes was considered the best batsman among the three and was an integral member of one of the best test sides ever. Weekes had played a total of 48 tests from 1947 to 1958 and amassed a total of 4,455 runs.

3. Shashank Manohar steps down as ICC Chairman's post

- India's Shashank Manohar stepped down as International Cricket Council (ICC) chairman.
- He announced this just one week before the election process for his successor was announced.
- Deputy chairman Imran Khwaja, formerly of Singapore Cricket Association, will be the interim head.
- As per the ICC rules, Manohar could have stayed for another two-year-term as a maximum of three terms is allowed.

OBITUARIES

1. Veteran Kannada novelist Geetha Nagabhushan passes away

- Veteran novelist GeethaNagabhushanpassed away.
- She was suffering from age-related ailments since recent years.
- She started her career as lecturer at Nagareshwar College in Kalaburagi and had retired as principal.
- She had chaired the 76th Akhil Bharat Kannada Sahitya Sammelan held in Gadag in 2010.
- She was the first woman writer to get Nadoja award of Kannada University Hampi, and first Kannada woman writer to be honoured Sahitya Akademi award for her novel 'Baduku' in 2004.



2. Veteran choreographer Saroj Khan dies of cardiac arrest at 71

- Three-time National Award winner, veteran Bollywood choreographer, Saroj Khan, passed away due to cardiac arrest. She was 71.
- She joined the Indian film industry as a child artist, playing the younger Shyama in Nazarana.
- She eventually became a background dancer in 1950s films like Bimal Roy's "Madhumati" under the guidance of dance director B. Sohan lal.
- In a career spanning four decades, Khan choreographed nearly 2000 songs.
- The legendary artiste was a recipient of three National Awards for films Devdas, Jab We Met and Sringaram (Tamil).
- She won Filmfare Awards for movies like Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam, Guru, Khalnayak and Chaalbaaz.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1. National Statistics Day is observed on 29 June

- National Statistics Day is celebrated on 29 June every year. The day is to commemorate the birth anniversary of Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis. The day aims to create awareness among youth about the role of statistics in socio-economic planning and policy formulation. On this day, the nation pays homage to Professor Mahalanobis.
- Its main aim of the day is to popularize the use of Statistics in everyday life.
- The National Statistics Day was first celebrated on 29th June 2007. Indian Government decided to celebrate and honour the outstanding contribution made by Late Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis in the field of economic planning and statistical development. Hence, Gol declared the observation of 'National Statistics Day' on the birth anniversary of Late Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis.

2. MP govt to launch 'Kill Corona' campaign from July 1

- Madhya Pradesh government will launch a 'Kill Corona' campaign from July 1 to control the spread of coronavirus in the state.
- Under the campaign, a door-to-door survey will be conducted and tests would also be done on citizens for other diseases.
- During the 15-day 'Kill Corona' campaign in MP, 2.5 lakh tests will be carried out and 15,000 to 20,000 samples would be collected daily.
- Health department officials informed that the testing capacity in the state will be doubled from 4,000 per 10 lakh people to 8,000 per 10 lakh people.
- The recovery rate in Madhya Pradesh is 76.9 per cent, which is better than the national recovery rate.

3. International Day of Parliamentarism observed on 30 June

 Every year 30 June is celebrated across the world as International Day of Parliamentarism.



- It marks the day of establishment of Inter-Parliamentary Union, the global organization of parliaments in 1889.
- On this day parliaments get the chance to take stock, identify challenges, and find ways to address them effectively.

4. National Doctor's Day is celebrated on 1 July

- It is observed every year to thank the doctors and physicians for their relentless service to humanity. The theme of this year's Doctors Day is 'Lessen the mortality of COVID 19'.
- The first National Doctor's day was celebrated in July 1991. In India, this day marks the birth as well as the death anniversary of Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy.
- He was one of the most renowned physicians in India and former Chief Minister of West Bengal.

5. Van Mahotsav week : 1-7 July 2020

- Van Mahotsav is an annual one week tree planting festival observed from 1-7
 July 2020 in India. During this festival thousands of trees are planted all over
 India.
- In 1950, it was started by K. M. Munshi, the Union Minister for Agriculture and Food at that time.
- It was started to create awareness in the mind of the people for the conservation of forests and planting of new trees.

6. Ladakh pays homage to Col Chhewang Rinchen on his 23rd Death Anniversary

- Ladakh has remembered and paid homage to Col Chhewang Rinchen on his 23rd Death Anniversary. He was one of the six people to be decorated with Two Maha Veer Chakra awards.
- He was the youngest ever recipient of the Maha Vir Chakra, the second highest Indian gallantry decoration.
- On 21 October 2019 Defense Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the Col Chewang Rinchen Setu, India's highest altitude all-weather permanent bridge, in eastern Ladakh just 45 km from the border with China.
- The 1400-ft long bridge on Shyok River, at 14,650 ft is strategically located on the Darbuk–Shyok–DBO Road between Leh and Karakoram Pass.



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VIDEO COURSE

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