



**BANK  
EXAMS  
Today**



**MONTHLY  
CURRENT  
AFFAIRS GK  
DIGEST:  
JUNE**



**2020**

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# MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS GK DIGEST: JUNE 2020

## ONE SUN ONE WORLD ONE GRID—BY MNRE MINISTRY

**Current Context:** Ministry of New and Renewable Energy launched an initiative called 'One Sun One World One Grid'.

### KEY POINTS

- **This initiative is launched to interconnect renewable energy by sharing solar resources with more than 140 countries of West Asia and South East Asia.**
- The interconnection of the grids will be achieved with the help of **African Power Pools**.
- This initiative aims to provide solar power to the nations who are not getting sufficient sunlight so they are unable to make use of solar power. Hence, by building a common transmission system, solar power benefits can be provided to such countries.
- **Static Part:**
  - Minister of the State (IC) for Power, New and Renewable Energy : Raj Kumar Singh

## APPOINTMENTS ON 1ST JUNE 2020

**Current Context:** **PR Jaishankar:** He has been appointed as **MD of India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd (IIFCL)** for a tenure of 3 years. He is appointed by the committee headed by PM Narendra Modi.

### ABOUT

- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of IIFCL: New Delhi
- **Vasantharao Satya Venkata:** He has been appointed as **Deputy MD of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)**.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of SIDBI: Lucknow
- **Harsha Bangari:** She has been appointed as **Deputy MD of EXIM Bank**.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of EXIM Bank: Mumbai
- **Arun Singhal:** He has been appointed as **CEO of FSSAI (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India)**. He has replaced GSG Ayyangar.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of FSSAI: New Delhi
- **Anita Kotwani:** She has been appointed as **CEO of Carat India**.
- **Ravinder Singh Dhillon:** He has been appointed as **chairman and MD of Power Finance Corporation**.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of Power Finance Corporation: New Delhi

## NABARD SANCTIONED RS 1,050 CRORES TO THE FARMERS AND POOR PEOPLE OF WEST BENGAL

**Current Context:** The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has sanctioned an amount of Rs 1,050 crores as a special liquidity facility to the farmers and economically weaker section of West Bengal state.

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- The amount will help to ensure the continuous credit flow to the farmers in the lockdown situation of COVID-19.
- Out of the total amount Rs 300 crore has been sanctioned to Micro Finance institutions and Rs 700 crores has been sanctioned to State Co-operative Bank and Rs 50 crore has been sanctioned to RRBs.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of NABARD: Mumbai
  - Chairman of NABARD: Govinda Rajulu Chintala
  - CM of West Bengal: Mamata Banerjee
  - Governor of West Bengal: Jagdeep Dhankhar
  - **National Parks and Wild Life Sanctuaries in West Bengal:** Buxa NP, Gorumara NP, Neora Valley NP, Sunderban NP, Holiday Island WLS, Ramnabagan WLS, Raiganj WLS

## CHAMPIONS TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM—LAUNCHED BY PM NARENDRA MODI

**Current Context:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a technology platform called CHAMPIONS (Creation and Harmonics Application of Modern Processes for Increasing the Output and National Strength).

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **This platform is for MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises).**
- The technology-based CHAMPIONS platform is based on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and the entire ICT architecture for this platform is developed by the National Informatics Center (NIC) at no cost.
- CHAMPIONS platform aims to support, motivate and solve grievances if the MSME sector
- It is a one-stop-shop solution for MSMEs which will help MSMEs to maintain the current opportunities and to get new ones like medical equipment, PPWE kits, masks etc. the platform thus aims to maintain current market value of MSME as well as improve its value to the national as well as international level.
- CHAMPIONS is a technology-packed control room cum management information system which includes ICT tools, internet, telephone, video conference, AI, Machine learning and data analytics.
- It is based on real-time and its physical infrastructure is built in one of the MSME ministry's rooms in record time.
- **Static Part:**
  - Union Minister of MSME: Nitin Gadkari

## KHELO INDIA E-PATHSHALA—BY SAI AND NSF

**Current Context:** Sports Authority of India (SAI) in collaboration with National Sports Federations (NSF) has launched India's first ever sports e-pathshala named as Khelo India e-Pathshala.

### KEY POINTS

- It is a national level open online coaching and education programme on sports.
- The program was inaugurated by Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Kiren Rijiju and Union Tribal Affairs and Archery Association of India's President Arjun Munda.
- Coaching of total 21 sports will be given via this e-sports learning platform.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of SAI: New Delhi
  - Director General of SAI: Sandip Pradhan

## APPOINTMENTS ON 2ND JUNE 2020

**Current Context: R K Chaturvedi:** He has been appointed as **Secretary in the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, GOI.** He has replaced P. Raghavendra Rao.

### ABOUT

- **Static Part:**
  - Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers : D V Sadananda Gowda
- **Pradip Kumar Tripathi:** He has been appointed as **Secretary in the Ministry of Steel, GOI.** He has replaced Binoy Kumar.
- **Static Part:**
  - Union Minister of Steel : Dharmendra Pradhan
- **Lt Gen Manoj Pande:** He has assumed the charge as the **15th Commander in Chief of the Andaman and Nicobar Command (CINCAN).**
- **Mohandas Pai:** He has been appointed as **Chairman of the committee on Service Provider of IBBI (Insolvency and Bankruptcy of India).**

## KARNATAKA LISTENING DASHBOARD FOR COVID-19- NASSCOM

**Current Context:** National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) has delivered an end-to-end coronavirus tracking platform for Karnataka which is named as Karnataka Listening Dashboard for COVID-19.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- The Karnataka Listening Dashboard for COVID-19 is an analytics driven platform which will assist Karnataka state in recovering industrial economy and help them to recover after the reopening stage of the state.
- It is multi-faceted, open architecture which is based on Artificial Intelligence(AI) and works on real time basis.



- The dashboard will help official to get quick glance of COVID-19 patients in particular area of the state, hospital capacity etc.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of NASSCOM:Noida, UP
  - CM of Karnataka: BS Yediyurappa
  - Governor of Karnataka: Vajubhai Rudabhai Vala
  - **National Parks of Karnatraka:** Nagarhole National Park, Bandipur National Park, Anshi National Park, Bannerghatta National Park, , Malai Mahadeshwara WLS, Melkote Temple WLS, Nugu WLS

## 'RESPONSIBLE AI FOR YOUTH' AND AI PORTAL—LAUNCHED BY RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD

**Current Context:** Union Minister for Electronics and Information Technology, Communications and Law and Justice, Ravi Shankar Prasad launched a National program for youth in India called as 'Responsible AI for Youth'.

### KEY POINTS

- He also launched an India's National Artificial Intelligence (AI) portal called [www.ai.gov.in](http://www.ai.gov.in) which is developed by National e-governance division of Ministry of Electronics and IT and NASSCOM as IT partner.
- **www.ai.gov.in Portal:** The portal is a one-stop-shop for a digital solution for AI, its resources and its application in various fields. The portal will also guide institutes and companies with AI queries and will share documents, case studies, research reports related to AI.
- **Responsible AI for Youth:** The national program will provide a platform to India' youth and will empower them to inculcate AI-based skills and learn AI tools in order to make them digitally strong and ready for Digital future of the nation. Students belonging from class 8th to 12th are eligible for the program and will be able to attend online training sessions based on the training of AI.

## KISAN CREDIT CARD CAMPAIGN —LAUNCHED FOR DAIRY FARMERS

**Current Context:** Government of India has come up with a move to launch Kisan Credit Card (KCC) for Dairy farmers.

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **The Kisan Credit Card (KCC) will prove beneficial to 1.5 crore dairy farmers who come under the category of milk unions and milk producing companies.**
- This action of the government for dairy farmers comes under Atma Nirbhar Bharat Package for farmers in India.
- The KKC application format for the dairy farmers to enroll themselves has been generated by Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying in co-ordination with Department of Financial Service.
- The aim behind this scheme for dairy farmers is to provide adequate credit facility to the dairy farmers so that they can enhance and meet their dairy farming requirements on a timely basis.

## 'ULTRA SWACHH'—BY DRDO

**Current Context:** Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed a disinfection unit called 'Ultra Swachh'.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **The disinfection unit will help to disinfect materials like electronic equipments, fabrics, PPE kits etc.**
- The 'Ultra Swachh' follows International Standards of Industries, Personal and Environmental Safety.
- It is based on two different variants namely Ozonated Space and Trinetra Technology.
- For disinfection, it makes use of the oxidative process and the ozone sealant technology in it ensures the trapping of ozone for the necessary disinfection cycle.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of DRDO: New Delhi
  - Chairman of DRDO: G Satheesh Reddy

## INDIA'S SOVEREIGN CREDIT RATING LOWERED TO BAA3- BY MOODY'S INVESTOR SERVICE

**Current Context:** Moody's Investor Service has lowered India's Sovereign Credit Rating lowered to Baa3.

### KEY POINTS

- **It has been lowered from Baa2 to Baa3.**
- India's Sovereign Credit Rating has been lowered as the nation is facing economic challenges and implementing its policies accordingly in order to reduce the risk of this sustained period arisen due to COVID-1
- **Moody's Investor Service has also expected contraction by 4% in India's real GDP for FY 2021 and also has expected rise in the growth to 8.7% for FY 2022.**
- Sovereign Credit Rating is an analysis of creditworthiness of the country. It provides an analytical view to an investor about the level of risk in investing in the debt of a particular country
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of Moody's Corporation :New York, United States

## IRCON SIGNS MOU WITH NIIFL AND AYANA—TO EXPLORE SOLAR ENERGY USAGE

**Current Context:** Ircon International Ltd has signed a MoU with National Investment and Infrastructure Fund Limited (NIIFL) and Ayana Renewable Power Private Limited (AYANA) which is an NIIF platform to explore solar energy and to work on its opportunities in the country.

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- The organisations will work together to identify and execute solar energy based projects.

- They will also collaborate to work together to find opportunities for solar energy production for India Railways and thus to expand renewable energy projects at vast scale in majority applications.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of IRCON: New Delhi
  - HQ of NIIFL: Mumbai
  - HQ of AYANA: Bangalore, Karnataka

## START-UP ECOSYSTEMS RANKING REPORT 2020

**Current Context:** Startup Blink which is an global innovation mapping and research company has released its Start-up Ecosystems Ranking Report 2020 titled as 'Countries Global Ranking of Startup Ecosystem 2020'.

### ABOUT

- **From the report, India is ranked at 23rd position for 2020. Whereas for 2019 India ranked at 17th position and has thus marked a drop of 6 places for 2020.**
- **The ranking is topped by United States followed by United Kingdom.**
- **Among the cities ranking report titled as '2020 Cities Global Ranking of Startup Ecosystem', only 4 Indian cities have withstood at various ranking position in the report.** The cities are Bengaluru (14th rank), New Delhi (15th rank), Mumbai (22nd rank) and Hyderabad (96th rank).
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of Startup Blink :Zurich Switzerland

## DBS BANK PARTNERS WITH TCIL

**Current Context:** DBS Bank has partnered with Transport Corporation of India Limited (TCIL) to grant real-time payment solution facility to the truck drivers with the help of DBS RAPID (Real-time Application Program Interface of DBS).

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **DBS RAPID (Real-time Application Program Interface of DBS) is an API of DBS Bank which offers a solution to give and receive payments.**
- The bank has also set up Unified Payment Interface (UPI) which is based on real-time payment solutions and is made available to its customers for 24x7x365.
- DBS RAPID is based under the support and guidelines of the National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI).
- **With the help of DBS RAPID, truck drivers will receive an instant credit into their accounts which they can swipe at the terminals or withdraw the cash using ATMs.**
- DBS RAPID has been also considered as a payment solution and adopted by Mahanagar Gas, Lykos, Herbalife and Zolo Stays.
- It is recognized as Best Treasury and Finance Strategies in Asia-Pacific by Corporate Treasure.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of DBS Bank India Limited: Mumbai
  - HQ of TCIL: Gurgaon, Haryana

## GAIL INDIA LTD SIGNS MOU WITH EESL

**Current Context:** GAIL India Ltd, a Natural Gas Company has signed a MoU with Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL) to develop Trigeneration projects in India.

### KEY POINTS

- The MoU was signed through video conference.
- The partnership will develop businesses opportunities in the Trigeneration segment of India.
- **Trigeneration is also termed as Combined Cooling, Heat and Power which involves natural gas fire generators to produce electricity. The waste heat emitted from flue gas is recovered to produce hot water which is used for heating purpose and in absorption chillers for cooling.**
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of GAIL: New Delhi
  - HQ of EESL: New Delhi (EESL is a joint venture of NTPC, PFC Ltd, REC Ltd, Powergrid)

## PAYMENT INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT FUND

**Current Context:** The Reserve Bank of India has launched 'Payment Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF)'.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **The fund has been launched to give boost to the digital payment in India and will be used to create and encourage the acquirers to deploy and adapt Point of Sale (PoS) infrastructure in physical as well as digital modes in tier-3 to tier-6 centers and in north eastern states of India.**
- **The PIDF is set up with an allocation of Rs 500 crore with an initial contribution of Rs 250 crore by RBI which is half-covering of the fund and rest half will be from card issuing banks and card networks operating in India.**
- **Static Part:**
  - Headquarters of RBI- Mumbai, Maharashtra
  - Governor of RBI - Shaktikanta Das
  - Deputy Governors of RBI- Bibhu Prasad Kanungo, Mahesh Kumar Jain, Michael Debabrata Patra.

## VIRTUAL GLOBAL VACCINE SUMMIT 2020

**Current Context:** Virtual Global Vaccine Summit 2020 was conducted on 4th June 2020 and was hosted by United Kingdom.

### ABOUT SUMMIT

- **United Kingdom's Prime Minister Boris Johnson led the Global Vaccine Summit 2020.**
- Over 50 countries along with their business leaders, civil societies, government ministers, UN agencies etc. participated in the summit.
- **India was represented by PM Narendra Modi.**

- **In the summit, India pledged to contribute 15 million US dollars to Gavi. Gavi is an International Vaccine Alliance which co-ordinates vaccinations across the world.**
- PM Modi also contributed his words that India stands in solidarity with the world in this challenging health issue arisen due to COVID-19. He also assured that India not only has capacity to contribute to the global health efforts but also has the will power to do so in a spirit of sharing and caring.
- **Static Part:**
  - CEO of Gavi, vaccine alliance: Dr Seth Berkley

## **'MERAVETAN' MOBILE APP—JAMMU AND KASHMIR**

**Current Context:** Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir has launched 'MeraVetan' Mobile App for government employees.

### **KEY HIGHLIGHTS**

- It is launched to provide salary related information to the employees.
- **The app is developed by National Informatics Center- J&K state which will provide end to end computerization of JK payment system (JKPaySys) application.**
- **Static Part:**
  - Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir: Girish Chandra Murmu

## **HEALTHY AND ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDINGS INITIATIVE**

**Current Context:** Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) has partnered with MAITREE Program (Market Integration and Transformation Program for Energy Efficiency) to launch Healthy and Energy Efficient Buildings Initiative. MAITREE Program is launched by USAID (US Agency for International Development).

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- This Healthy and Energy Efficient Buildings Initiative is a part of India US bilateral partnership between Power ministry of India and USAID.
- **The initiative is launched with an aim to make workplaces, corporate offices etc. healthier and greener.**
- Under this initiative, cost-effective energy efficiency measures will be adopted to create energy-efficient practices within buildings and focus on cooling measures, thus by addressing air quality, improving comfort in terms of energy usage.

## **'TULIP' PROGRAM—A URBAN LEARNING INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

**Current Context:** All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), Human Resource Development Ministry and Ministry of Housing and Urban Development have launched a TULIP Program which is an Urban Learning Internship Program.

## ABOUT PROGRAM

- It is launched with an aim to provide internship opportunities to fresh graduates in the urban areas as well as in smart cities.
- This program will help to generate new ideas of opportunities in the youth and will help them to adapt modern technologies and techniques so that they can utilize their skill sets in the areas they will work.
- Thus this program will add value to the market by developing skills in the upcoming fresh graduates in various fields like transport, urban planning, engineering, municipal finance etc.
- **Static Part:**
  - Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs: Hardeep Singh Puri Union Minister for Human Resource development: Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank

## 'NAGAR VAN' OR 'URBAN FOREST' SCHEME

**Current Context:** On the occasion of World Environment Day 2020 (5th June), the central government has come up with a scheme titled as 'Nagar Van' or 'Urban Forest' Scheme.

### DETAILS

- Under this scheme , forests in the urban areas of the country will be developed within a span of 5 years.
- The scheme was launched by Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar. And he assured to give 'Time for Nature' during the launch of the scheme.
- Thus the World Environment Day was celebrated by giving importance to the theme 'Biodiversity' decided by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and also by launching 'Urban Forest' Scheme as urban forest are the best way to bridge the gap of climate change.

## TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION (THE) ASIA UNIVERSITY RANKING

**Current Context:** In the Times Higher Education (THE) Asia University Ranking report, India has become the third most represented country which is having it's 8 instituted in top 100 lists.

### ABOUT

- From Indian Institutes, the list is topped by Indian Institute of Science (IISc) which is at the rank position of 36th.
- Total 6 IITs and Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT) are featured in the top 100 list.
- The most represented country is Japan in the Times Higher Education (THE) Asia University Ranking report; with about 110 institutes included in it.

## INDIAN ECONOMY TO CONTRACT BY 1.5% IN FY21—BY RBI

**Current Context:** The Reserve Bank of India has released a survey report describing that Indian economy to contract 1.5% for the financial year of 2021.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **The GDP to contract 1.5% for the financial year of 2020-21.**
- But for the next financial year, the GDP is likely to grow by 7.2% as per the survey report of Professional forecasters sponsored by RBI.
- The **real gross fixed capital formation (GFCF)** has registered a negative growth of 6.4% for FY 2020-21. However, it is expected to grow by 5.6% in 2021-22.
- The **real gross value added (GVA)** has also declined by 1.7% for FY 2020-21. The **real private final consumption expenditure (PFCE)** has also declined by 0.5% for FY 2020-21 and will grow by 6.9% for 2021-22.
- The **consumer price index (CPI)** is expected to be 5.6% in quarter first of 2020-21 and then to be moderate to 2.8% for the fourth quarter of 2020-21.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of RBI: Mumbai, Maharashtra
  - Governor of RBI: Shaktikanta Das

## INDIA AND AUSTRALIA VIRTUAL BILATERAL SUMMIT

**Current Context: India and Australia Virtual Bilateral Summit were held between the PM of India Narendra Modi and PM of Australia Scott Morrison.**

## HIGHLIGHTS

- In this summit, India and Australia have signed seven different agreements in various fields.
- **The two nations also announced a joint statement on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between them and also announced joint declaration on shared vision for Maritime co-operation in the Indo-Pacific.**
- **The agreements signed are:**
  1. Framework arrangement on cyber and cyber-enabled critical technology operation.
  2. In the field of mining and processing of critical and strategic minerals
  3. MoU for arrangements concerning mutual logistics support (MLSA)
  4. MoU in the field of co-operation in Defence
  5. MoU for public administration and governance reforms
  6. MoU for vocational education and training
  7. Water resources management
- **Static Part:**
  - Capital of Australia: Canberra
  - Currency of Australia: Australian Dollar

## 'PREVENTION OF HUMAN AND ANIMAL MORTALITY ON HIGHWAYS'

**Current Context: Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari launched a campaign called 'Prevention of Human and Animal Mortality on Highways'.**

## DETAILS

- **The campaign was launched via video conference and aims to reduce deaths causing due to accidents on roads and highways.**
- This campaign was launched because India has witnessed about 5 lakh road accident cases every year in which 1.5 lakh people lost their lives.
- The campaign will generate awareness and will educate people to carry out road safety and following road rules so that there will be stoppage of deaths in humans as well as animals who get injured due to road accidents.
- The campaign aims to reduce this death and injury due to road accidents count by 20-25% by March 2021.
- In this campaign, various measures and actions like identifying the accidents prone black spots and rectifying them, traffic reductions measures, repairing of roads and highways, road safety audit, reconstruction of dilapidated and narrow bridges, highway patrolling, safety during constructions and many more will be carried out.

## LOW COST AND EFFICIENT WAY TO GENERATE HYDROGEN FROM WATER

**Current Context:** Researchers at the Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences (CeNS) has discovered a catalyst called Molybdenum Dioxide which has proven to be low Cost and efficient way to generate hydrogen from water.

### KEY POINTS

- **The Molybdenum Dioxide (MoO<sub>2</sub>) nanomaterials are annealed in hydrogen atmosphere and possess the ability to act as an efficient catalyst.**
- With the help of Molybdenum Dioxide (MoO<sub>2</sub>), hydrogen can be generated from water and produces water on energy generation without any carbon footprint.
- The discovery of Molybdenum Dioxide (MoO<sub>2</sub>) has led to the replacement of currently employed catalyst Pt which is very expensive and is limited in the resource.
- About 80% efficient conversion of electrical energy into hydrogen has been achieved using this catalyst.

## PRESIDENT OF INDIA ANNOUNCES TWO ORDINANCES FOR RURAL AND AGRICULTURE SECTOR

**Current Context:** President of India Ram Nath Kovind has announced two ordinances to boost the rural and agriculture sector of India.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **The two ordinances are:** (a) Farmers Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance 2020. (b) Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Ordinance 2020.
- Both the ordinances will aim to boost rural India and the farmers who are engaged in agriculture and allied activities.



- **Farmers Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance 2020:** This will support the farmers and traders who are engaged in sale and purchase of agricultural produce by providing them facilities at remunerative prices so that they can carry out barrier free trading.
- **Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Ordinance 2020:** This ordinance will provide national framework on farming agreements and will also protect and empower farmers so that they can engage in agri business firms, wholesales export activities etc.

## NABARD PROVIDES RS 270 CRORE TO AGVB BANK

**Current Context:** National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has allocated a special liquidity fund of Rs 270 crore to Assam Gramin Vikash Bank (AGVB).

### HIGHLIGHTS

- The fund has been allocated in the view of COVID-19 pandemic in order to support farmers to carry out their agricultural activities.
- NABARD has facilitated a financial liquidity support of Rs 25,000 crore to all the Co-operative Banks, RRBs and MFIs in order to ensure credit flow to the farmers and rural India in this pandemic situation of COVID-19.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of NABARD: Mumbai
  - Chairman of NABARD: G R Chintala

## ISRO SIGNS MOU WITH ARIES FOR SSA AND ASTROPHYSIC

**Current Context:** The Indian Space Research Organisation has signed a MoU agreement with ARIES (Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Science) for the co-operation in the field of Space Situational Awareness (SSA) and Astrophysics.

### ABOUT MOU

- The aim behind to carry out Space Situational Awareness and its management is to explore aspects like space object orbital tracking space object orbital analysis and space weather study.
- The MoU between ISRO and ARIES will also carry out a future operation like establishing optical telescope for space object tracking and study on space weather etc. in collaboration with each other.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of ISRO: Bengaluru
  - Chairman of ISRO: Dr. K Sivan
  - HQ of ARIES: Nainital

## APPOINTMENTS ON 8TH JUNE 2020

**Current Context:** Rohit Sharma: MD and Co-promoter of IIFL group announced that vice-captain of Indian Cricket Team Rohit Sharma to become the **first brand ambassador of IIFL Finance**.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **M. Nethra:** She is a 13 year old girl from Madurai and has been appointed as **Goodwill Ambassador to the Poor by UNADAP (United Nation Association for Development and Peace)**.
- **Monika Mohta:** She has been appointed as **India's next ambassador to Switzerland**. She will be replacing Sibi George who has been appointed as India's next ambassador to State of Kuwait.
- **Jaya Jaitly:** She will be heading a task force constituted by Women and Child development ministry to evaluate the issues related to infant mortality rate, maternal mortality rate, total fertility rate, sex ratio at the birth and CSR (Child Sex Ratio).
- **Static Part:**
  - Union Minister of Women and Child development: Smriti Zubin Irani
- **Rajiv Singh:** He has been appointed as the **chairman of property firm Delhi Land and Finance Limited (DLF)**. He will be replacing Kushal Pal Singh.
- **Brajendra Navnit:** He is appointed as **India's new ambassador to the World Trade Organisation (WTO)**.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of WTO: Geneva, Switzerland
- **Rahul Shrivastava:** He has been appointed as **India's next ambassador to Romania**. He will be replacing Thangluru Darlong.

## USIDFC TO INVEST \$350 MILLION IN INDIAN FIRMS

**Current Context:** The United States International Development Finance Corporation (USIDFC) will be investing 350 million in Indian Firms to support multiple projects in India.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- The projects supported by USIDFC will be in fields of finance, health infrastructure, renewable energy, food security, dairy farming.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of USIDFC: Washington DC, US
  - CEO of USIDFC: Adam Boehler

## INDO DENMARK ENERGY CO-OPERATION

**Current Context:** India has signed MoU with Denmark in the field on Energy Co-operation in order to develop the power sector.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- The MoU was signed between Power ministry of India and the ministry for energy utilities and climate of Denmark.
- The two countries will boost their power sector on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual benefit.
- The MoU will establish collaboration in the areas like offshore wind, energy planning for future, forecasting energy demand, grid technology, consolidations of grid codes to operate them efficiently for variable generation operations, flexibility in power purchase agreements, incentivize power plant flexibility, renewable energy production and its usage.

- A Joint Working Group (JWG) will be established to implement this agreement smoothly.
- **Static Part:**
  - Capital of Denmark: Copenhagen
  - Currency of Denmark: Danish Krone

## ENVIRONMENT PERFORMANCE INDEX 2020

**Current Context:** Yale University and Columbia University have jointly released Environment Performance Index 2020 (EPI 2020).

### ABOUT INDEX

- **India has ranked at 168th position among 180 countries with a score of 27.6 out of 100 in Environment Performance Index 2020.**
- **The list has been topped by Denmark with a score of 82.5.**
- Under the category of air quality, India has stood at 179th at the 2020 EPI.
- Under the category of biodiversity and habitat, India has stood at 148th at the 2020 EPI.
- Under the category of climate change mitigation, India has stood at 106th at the 2020 EPI.

## COVID BEEP APP – LAUNCHED BY DR. JITENDRA SINGH

**Current Context:** COVID BEEP app is India's first indigenous wireless physiological parameter monitoring system for coronavirus patients.

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Its acronym is Continuous Oxygenation and Vital Information Detection Biomed ECIL ESIC Pod.**
- It is launched by Union Minister of north eastern region (DoNER) Dr. Jitendra Singh.
- **It is jointly developed by ESIC medical college, IIT Hyderabad and Electronics Corporation of India Ltd (ECIL).**
- It can measure vital parameters like body temperature, blood oxygen saturation, heart rate, respiratory rate, ECG and blood pressure of patients.
- These parameters after measuring are remotely displayed on mobile phone or laptops in order to perform monitoring by the doctors upon seeing the measurement results.
- COVID BEEP is incorporated with Non-Invasive Blood Pressure (NIBP) monitoring, ECG monitoring and Respiratory rate.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of ESIC: New Delhi
  - HQ of ECIL: Hyderabad

## TECH MAHINDRA SIGNS UNGC INITIATIVE

**Current Context:** The IT giant Tech Mahindra has signed a declaration of United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) initiative to reduce the carbon dioxide emissions and energy conservation using latest technologies like IoT, AI and blockchain.

## ABOUT

- **Already 155 global companies have inked this initiative of UNGC.**
- Tech Mahindra has assured to raise the target of renewable energy to 50% by 2025.
- It will be supporting the activities targeted to hold global temperature rise to within 1.5 degree Celsius above pre-industrial levels, in order to reach net-zero emissions before 2050.
- Until now Tech Mahindra has taken steps towards a green economy by adopting low emission technology path to increase the use of renewable energy from 1.7% in 2016 to 18% in 2020.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of UNGC: New York, US

## AIRBORNE RESCUE POD FOR ISOLATED TRANSPORTATION (ARPIT)

**Current Context:** The Indian Air Force has designed and inducted Airborne Rescue Pod for Isolated Transportation (ARPIT) for the purpose of evacuation of critical patients suffering from COVID-19 from high altitude, isolated areas.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- The ARPIT rescue pod is light in weight made from aviation certified material.
- Its first prototype was developed at 3 BRD AF and currently, a total of 7 ARPITS are in usage for evacuation process.
- Its costing is Rs 60,000/-.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of Indian Air Force: New Delhi
  - Air Chief Marshal: Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria

## NEW NORMS FOR LOAN SALES AND SECURITISATIONS—BY RBI

**Current Context:** The Reserve Bank of India has released two draft documents titled as 'Draft Comprehensive Framework for Sale of Loan Exposures' and 'Draft Framework for Securitisation of Standard Assets'.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **Draft Comprehensive Framework for Sale of Loan Exposures:** This draft deals with various issues like asset classification of the loans to be transferred, nature of entity purchasing loan and mode of transfer of loans. In this draft, existing conditions for the sale of NPAs are also rationalized. This drafted framework will build a robust secondary market for bank loans that will ensure proper price discovery.
- **Draft Framework for Securitisation of Standard Assets:** This drafted framework will help to align the regulatory framework with the Basel guidelines on securitisation that have come into force from 1st January 2018. The framework describes that only transactions that result in multiple tranches of securities being issued reflecting different credit risks will be treated as securitisation transactions.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of RBI: Mumbai
  - Governor of RBI: Shaktikanta Das

## INDIAN ECONOMY TO CONTRACT BY 3.2% IN FY 20-21

**Current Context:** The World Bank has released its latest edition of Global Economic Prospects (GEP) for the months of June 2020.

### KEY POINTS

- The Global Economic Prospects describes analytical growth of various countries by considering various parameters.
- **As per the report, India's growth to contract by 3.2% for the financial year 2020-21.**
- The growth marked is lower from 4.2% which was forecasted in FY 2019-20 at the end of March 2020.
- The low growth rate is marked due to the situation of lockdown because of the pandemic COVID-19 and has resulted in shunt down of various economical activities in the country.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of World Bank: Washington DC, United States
  - President of World Bank: David Malpass

## WEST BENGAL GETS RS 1950 CRORE LOAN FROM WORLD BANK

**Current Context:** World Bank has granted financial support by providing a loan amount of Rs 1950 crore to West Bengal.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **The loan amount will help West Bengal to tackle the pandemic situation of COVID-19 and to carry out development work in the state.**
- Out of this total loan amount, Rs 850 crore will be utilised for social welfare schemes by West Bengal and rest Rs 1100 crore will be utilised for Industrial Infrastructure.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of World Bank: Washington DC, United States
  - President of World Bank: David Malpass
  - CM of West Bengal: Mamata Banerjee
  - Governor of West Bengal: Jagdeep Dhankhar
  - National Parks and Wildlife sanctuaries in West Bengal: Buxa National Park, Gorumara National Park, Neora Valley NP, Sangalila NP, Sunderban NP, Jaldapara NP, Holiday Island WLS, Lothian Island WLS, Raiganj WLS, Senchal WLS, Ramnabagan WLS

## 'TURANT CUSTOMS'—CBIC FLAGSHIP PROGRAMME

**Current Context:** The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has launched a flagship programme called as 'Turant Customs'.

### ABOUT PROGRAMME

- 'Turant Customs' is a reformative programme in order to ensure **ease of doing business.**
- **The flagship programme will make use of technology for faster custom clearance of imported goods.**

- By this programme, importers will now get their goods cleared from customs after a faceless assessment is performed by the custom officers located outside the port of import.
- It is launched a Bengaluru and Chennai and thus these two places have become the first phase of this 'Turant Customs' reformative programme. Now, the goods imported to Bengaluru may be assessed by the custom officers situated in Chennai and vice versa.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of CBIC : New Delhi
  - Chairman of CBIC: M Ajit Kumar

## PHONEPE LAUNCHED DOMESTIC TRIP INSURANCE WITH ICICI LOMBARD

**Current Context:** PhonePe in partnership with ICICI Lombard has launched first of its kind travel insurance which is domestic multi-trip insurance for all modes of travel within the country.

### DETAILS

- The policy provides affordable annual insurance cover for unlimited trips. At Rs 499, it provides 365-day protection and covers all mode of transport.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of PhonePe: Mumbai
  - CEO of PhonePe: Sameer Nigam
  - HQ of ICICI Lombard: Mumbai
  - MD and CEO of ICICI Lombard: Bhargav Dasgupta

## GOI ALLOTS RS 4000 CR TO STATES UNDER 'PER DROP MORE CROP'

**Current Context:** An annual allotment of Rs 4000 crore has been approved by Government of India to State governments under 'Per drop more crop' component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY-PDMC) for FY 2020-21.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- The 'Per drop more crop' component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY-PDMC) focuses on the effective use of water in the farms with the help of Micro Irrigation Technologies i.e. Drip and Sprinkler irrigation systems.
- The Drip and Sprinkler irrigation systems helps to save water and reduce the use of fertilizers, labour expenses and other costings.
- Also, a Micro Irrigation Fund of Rs 5000 crore has been generated with NABARD in order to facilitate the states with resources in order to expand the usage of Drip and Sprinkler irrigation systems.
- **PMKSY Scheme:** This scheme was launched on 1st July 2015 with an outlay of Rs 50,000 crore in five years in order to extend water coverage for irrigation ('Har khet ko pani') and to improve efficient usage of water in farms ('Per drop more crop').

## TCS ION PARTNERS WITH NSDC

**Current Context:** TCS iON, which is a unit of TCS has partnered with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).

### KEY POINTS

- **The partnership will provide access to the TCS iON digital classroom to the NSDC's training partners.**
- TCS iON digital classroom is a web based digital education platform which provides online vocational skill based trainings to the students and youths across the country
- The partnership will strengthen the eSkill India platform which is NSDC's online content aggregation platform.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of NSDC: New Delhi
  - MD and CEO of NSDC: Manish Kumar
  - Chairman of NSDC: A. M Naik

## APPOINTMENTS ON 11TH JUNE 2020

**Current Context: Javed Iqbal Wani:-** He has been appointed as **Judge of Jammu and Kashmir High Court** by President Ram Nath Kovind.

### ABOUT

- **Anil Valluri:-** He is appointed as **senior director for Google Cloud India.**
- **Static Part:**
  - MD of Google Cloud India: Karan Bajwa
- **G Kishan Reddy:-** He has been appointed as **Chairman for the new 9 member panel which will look for the welfare of freedom fighters.** He is appointed by Ministry of Home affairs.

## QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKING 2021

**Current Context:** Quacquarelli Symonds (QC) World University Ranking for 2021 is released.

### ABOUT RANKING

- **The ranking is topped by Massachusetts Institute for Technology (MIT) followed by Stanford University and Harvard University.**
- Only 3 Indian Institutes are included in top 200 ranking category which are namely, IIT Bombay, Indian Institute of Science Bangalore and IIT Delhi.
- IIT Bombay is ranked at 172nd position, Indian Institute of Science Bangalore is ranked at 185th position and IIT Delhi is at 193rd position.

## EPAISA AND FIRST ALLIANCE BANK TO PROMOTE POS SOLUTIONS IN AFRICA

**Current Context:** ePaisa, a Point Of Sale (POS) solution provider in India has entered into a partnership with First Alliance Bank (FAB) Ltd in Zambia to provide POS solutions in Africa.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- The POS solutions will be offered to small and medium enterprises and other businesses of the country.
- This is the first global partnership for ePaisa and thus will provide a POS solution for FAB.
- The partnership will also create awareness for digital payment systems in Zambia.
- Static Part:
  - CEO of ePaisa: Pravin Kumar Bhandari
  - HQ of First Alliance Bank: Lusaka, Zambia

## 26TH ANNUAL COST OF LIVING SURVEY 2020

**Current Context:** Mercer has released the 26th Annual Cost of Living Survey 2020.

### DETAILS

- **As per the survey report, Hong Kong has topped globally.**
- **From Indian cities, Mumbai is the only city which is under top 100 lists.**
- **Mumbai city has received rank at 60th position in the most expensive city globally and in all over Asia, Mumbai is ranked at 19th position.**
- As per the report, the least expensive cities are Tunisia at 209th position and Namibia at 208th position.
- Whereas New Delhi is ranked at 101st position and Chennai is ranked at 143rd position.
- Bengaluru and Kolkata are the least expensive Indian cities in terms of global ranks at 171st and 185th position respectively.

## IFFCO SIGNS MOU WITH ICAR

**Current Context:** Indian Farmers and Fertilizer Co-operative Ltd (IFFCO) has signed a MoU with Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in order to carry out research, testing and validation of various products through ICAR institutes and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs).

### ABOUT MOU

- The partnership will explore technological advancements through training programs, campaigns, field trials, demonstrations which will prove beneficial to farmers.
- The partnership will reduce chemical fertilizer usage by replacing it with the usage of technology and by training farmers to use this approach in their farms.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of IFFCO: New Delhi
  - Chairman of IFFCO: Balvinder Singh Nakai
  - HQ of ICAR: New Delhi



## JAGANANNA CHEDODU SCHEME—ANDHRA PRADESH

**Current Context:** Andhra Pradesh Government has launched Jagananna Chedodu Scheme to provide financial assistance to tailors, barbers and washermen who have suffered a loss due to coronavirus.

### ABOUT SCHEME

- **The scheme will provide onetime financial assistance of Rs 10,000 each to the tailors, barbers and washermen who were under 60 years of age and has suffered a loss due to coronavirus.**
- The scheme will prove beneficial to about 2.47 lakh beneficiaries.
- Also, the state government has decided to provide school kits and school uniform to the students.
- **Static Part:**
  - CM of Andhra Pradesh: YS Jagan Mohan Reddy
  - Governor of Andhra Pradesh: Biswa Bhushan Harichandan

## INDIAN ECONOMY TO CONTRACT AT 3.7% FOR FY 21 -- BY OECD

**Current Context:** Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development has projected that Indian Economy to contract at 3.7% for FY 2020-2021.

### DETAILS

- This prediction by OECD is released in its economic Outlook.
- Also it has stated that the country's growth will drop further to -7.3% if there is a second outbreak phase of COVID-19.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of OECD: Paris, France

## DEEP SUBMERGENCE RESCUE VEHICLE COMPLEX

**Current Context:** Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV) was inaugurated at Eastern Naval Command (ENC) in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

### ABOUT

- The complex is built to accommodate newly designed submarines and its rescue systems and store DSRV assets.
- DSRV complex, consist of the submarine rescue vessel, remote-operated vehicle and side-scan sonar and it associated equipments.
- It was inaugurated by Vice-admiral Atul Kumar Jain.
- **Static Part:**
  - Chief of Naval Staff: Admiral Karambir Singh

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- **Static Part:**
  - Chief of Naval Staff: Admiral Karambir Singh

## SAHAKAR MITRA—SCHEME ON INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

**Current Context:** Sahakar Mitra is a Scheme on Internship Programme (SIP) of NCDC (National Cooperative Development Corporation).

### ABOUT SCHEME

- **It is launched by Union Agricultural and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar.**
- This scheme will provide practical experience of the co-operative and professional world to the youth of India.
- It will also offer assured project loans on liberalized terms to young professionals in the start-up industry.
- **In this Sahakar Mitra Scheme young professional from academic institutes will be working with NCDC in order to incorporate skills like leadership and entrepreneurship in them by playing the role of FPO (Farmer Producer Organisation).**
- **The co-operatives involved in this, will provide paid internship so that young professional can learn the skills in a self-reliant manner.**
- Fund for the Sahakar Mitra Scheme is created by NCDC which will provide financial support to each intern for a period of months.

- Graduate student in the field on agriculture and allied fields are eligible for this scheme.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of NCDC: New Delhi

## **RBI RESTRICTS PEOPLE'S CO-OPERATIVE BANK TO GRANT FRESH LOANS**

**Current Context:** The Reserve Bank of India has restricted Kanpur, UP based People's Co-operative Bank from granting fresh loans and accepting deposits for six months i.e. from 10th June 2020.

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- The decision has been taken due to the weak financial status of the bank.
- The bank is restricted by RBI from selling, transferring and disposing any of its properties or assets.
- Also, no withdrawal of any amount from all the SA and CA or any other account of depositor will be allowed from the bank.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of RBI: Mumbai
  - Governor of RBI: Shaktikanta Das

## **2020 NATURE INDEX**

**Current Context:** The Nature Index 2020 highlights the ranking of the academic institutions globally. The current released Nature Index 2020 report analyses the institutions in terms of high quality research in the natural science field based on the research data published by them in top journals from 1st Jan 2019 to 31st Dec 2019.

### **KEY POINTS**

- **As per the report, top three institutions are Chinese Academy of Sciences holding 1st rank, followed by Harvard University of USA and Max Planck Society, Germany at rank positions 2nd and 3rd respectively.**
- Top three Indian institutions in terms of global rank holding are Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) (160th rank), IISc Bangalore (184th rank) and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) (260th rank).
- Top three DST institutions among India included are Indian Association for Cultivation of Sciences (IACS) Kolkata, Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNC SR) Bangalore and S.N. Bose National Center for Basic Sciences Kolkata.

## **95TH INDIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (ICC) ANNUAL PLENARY SESSION 2020**

**Current Context:** PM Narendra Modi addressed 95th Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Annual Plenary session 2020 via Video Conference.

## ABOUT

- PM Modi addressed the industry heads to develop a self-reliant economy by strengthening the determination of country.
- PM Modi also cited about the amendments in the APMC and Essential Commodity act and said that these historic changes will help farmers of the country.
- He also focused on reforming changes in MSMEs for the welfare of the industrial sector of the country.
- **PM Modi also urged companies to manufacture products that are 'Made in India' but are 'Made for World'.**
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of ICC: Kolkata
  - President of ICC: Mayank Jalan

## JOINT SCIENCE COMMUNICATION FORUM—BY DST

**Current Context: Joint Science Communication Forum is constituted by DST (Department of Science and Technology).**

## DETAILS

- It is constituted to facilitate interaction, co-operation and co-ordination among various public sector science communication institutions and agencies.
- The forum will be serviced by Secretariat at the National Council for Science and Technology Communication (NCSTC), Department of Science and Technology.
- The forum will work on developing strategies for effective planning and implementation of science communication programmes at macro and micro levels in India.

## NHAI—FIRST 'FULLY DIGITAL' CONSTRUCTION SECTOR ORGANISATION

**Current Context: National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) which comes under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, has become the first fully digitalized organisation under the construction sector category.**

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **NHAI has propelled the use of cloud-based technology and AI-powered big data analytics platform, which is powered by Data Lake and project management services.**
- Thus the organisation has transformed itself from a manual working management process to an online portal management process.
- From now onwards, all the documentation, contractual decisions and approvals will be made through an online portal.
- All this documentation process and the inter organisation will now be performed digitally by using the advanced arrangement in the cloud-based 'Information Lake' connected with GIS labelling and unique project ID, so the task information can be effectively recovered as and when required from any area.
- **Static Part:**
  - Minister of Road Transport and Highways: Nitin Gadkari
  - HQ of NHAI: New Delhi

- Chairman of NHAI: Sukhbir Singh Sandhu

## GHAR GHAR NIGRANI APP—PUNJAB

**Current Context: Punjab Government has launched a mobile app called 'Ghar Ghar Nigrani'.**

### ABOUT APP

- The app is launched to undertake house to house surveillance in order to sustain the spread of coronavirus.
- Ghar Ghar Nigrani app is an initiative of the health department, which is comprised to ASHA workers and community volunteers which carry out the testing process for COVID-19.
- With the help of this app, survey of entire rural and urban population of Punjab above 30 years of age will be done.
- Also, people suffering from co-morbidity and influenza-like illness in any age group will be tested under the survey.
- **Static Part:**
  - CM of Punjab: Captain Amarinder Singh
  - Governor of Punjab: V.P.Singh Badnore
  - **Wild Life Sanctuaries in Punjab:** Abohar WLS, Bir Badson WLS, Bir Bunerheri WLS, Harike Lake WLS, Jhajjar Bacholi WLS, Kathlaur Kushlian WLS, Nangal WLS, Bir Mehaswala WLS.

## AI BASED SYSTEM TO TRACK SOCIAL DISTANCING

**Current Context: Researchers at IIT Kharagpur has developed a cyber-physical system which is based on Artificial Intelligence which will perform the monitoring and tracking the record of social distancing in public places and which will prove beneficial in sustaining spread of COVID-19.**

### HIGHLIGHTS

- It is basically a low-cost device which detects the gap between people in public places.
- It is incorporated with proximity sensors and will play a proximity alert sound via audio whenever social distancing norms are violated in public places.
- It captures the image of the field view and computes the distance as per criteria decided by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

## AAROGYAPATH WEB BASED SOLUTION - BY GOI

**Current Context: Government of India has launched an Aarogyapath which is a web-based solution which provides availability of critical healthcare supply commodities in a real-time basis.**

### DETAILS

- **The web-based solution is made available by GOI on CSIR National Healthcare Supply Chain Portal.**
- The portal will enable manufacturers and suppliers to display their health care commodities and healthcare solutions on Aarogyapath so that the customers will be able to reach the nearby pathological lab, medical store and hospitals effectively.

- It is developed in partnership with Sarvodaya Infotech.
- It is launched to tackle and deal with national health emergency arisen due to the pandemic COVID-19.

## STREE PROGRAMME—HYDERABAD

**Current Context:** STREE Programme is launched in Hyderabad city.

### ABOUT PROGRAMME

- STREE stands for 'She Triumphs Through Respect, Equality and Empowerment'.
- It is a programme launched to support and empower women who are victims of domestic violence and abuse.
- It is launched in partnership between Hyderabad city police and Hyderabad City Security Council (HCSC).
- The programme aims to raise awareness among the women in identifying them with their rights, governmental laws established for their safety and to generate equality and empowerment among them.
- This will be accomplished by engaging women of a different section of the society and local will setup an STREE group for them at the police station.
- A proactive woman will be selected as a volunteer from each group to form as SABALA Shakti.

## RBI SETS UP PANEL TO REVIEW CORPORATE STRUCTURE

**Current Context:** Reserve Bank of India has set up a committee of 5 members which is basically a 5 member internal working group (IWG) to review the ownership and corporate structure of Indian private sector banks.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **The committee will be headed by Dr Prassanna Kumar Mohanty who is Central Board Director of RBI.**
- The committee is expected to submit the review and analysis report by 30th September 2020.
- The IWG will evaluate the extant licensing guidelines and regulations which are related to ownership and control of Indian private sector banks.
- The committee will also review the eligibility criteria for individuals or entities to apply for a banking license.
- The IWG will examine and evaluate present regulations holdings of financial subsidiaries through a non-co-operative financial holding company (NOFHC) and will suggest solutions of migrating all banks to uniform regulations.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of RBI: Mumbai
  - Governor of RBI: Shaktikanta Das

## APPOINTMENTS, EXTENSION AND BRAND AMBASSADOR ON 15TH JUNE 2020

**Current Context: Imtaiyazur Rahman:** He is appointed as **CEO of UTI Mutual Fund**. Initially, he was serving as Chief Executive officer of UTI Mutual Fund.

### ABOUT

- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of UTI Mutual Fund: Mumbai
- **Attorney Gen KK Venugopal:** His tenure as **Attorney General of India has been extended by one year.**
- **Vice Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta:** He has assumed charge as **Chief of Staff, Eastern Naval Command.**
- **Pankaj Tripathi:** He is selected as **brand Ambassador for Bihar Khadi**. He will promote Bihar Khadi and the country's largest Khadi mall in Patna.
- **Static Part:**
  - CM of Bihar: Nitish Kumar
  - Governor of Bihar: Phagu Chauhan

## 'I-FLOWS'- A FLOOD WARNING SYSTEM

**Current Context:** A state of the art flood warning system called 'I-FLOWS' is launched in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- It is launched by **Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Science and Technology, Earth Science Dr, Harsh Vardhan Rathore** along with **CM of Maharashtra Uddhav Thackeray.**
- 'I-FLOWS' is a state of the art **Integrated Flood Warning System.**
- It is launched with an aim to **alleviate and monitor the flood activities by providing early warning in the city during high rainfall and cyclone conditions.**
- It is developed by **India Meteorological Department (IMD), Indian Institute of Tropical Metrology (IITM) and Ministry of Earth Science.**
- The 'I-FLOWS' flood warning system provides estimates of flood situation up to 3 days in advance and also provides 3 hours to 6 hours nowcast describing immediate weather updates and in low lying areas forecasts upto 12 hours in advance.
- It is incorporated with **7 modules** namely, Data assimilation module, flood module, inundation module, vulnerability module, risk module, dissemination module and decision support system module.
- **Static Part:**
  - CM of Maharashtra: Uddhav Thackeray
  - Governor of Maharashtra: Bhagat Singh Koshyari
  - National Parks and Wild Life Sanctuaries in Maharashtra: Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve, Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Chandoli National Park, Gugamal National Park, Navegaon National Park, Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary, Bhamragarh Wildlife Sanctuary, Malvan Marine Sanctuary, Karnala Bird Sanctuary



## EXIM BANK PROVIDES \$215.68 MILLION TO MALAWI GOVERNMENT

**Current Context:** Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank) has provided a line of credit of \$215.68 million to Malawi government.

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **The financial support will be utilised for the welfare of drinking water supply schemes, irrigation projects, sugar processing equipment, cotton processing facilities etc.**
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of EXIM Bank: Mumbai
  - MD and CEO of EXIM Bank: David Rasquinha
  - Capital of Malawi: Lilongwe
  - Currency of Malawi: Malawian Kwacha

## INDIA JOINS GPAI

**Current Context:** India has joined as a founding member and has launched a Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI or Gee-Pay).

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **GPAI is an initiative which aims to create development and increase usage of AI across whole world.**
- GPAI is the first of its kind initiative which focuses and understands revolving opportunities of Artificial Intelligence.
- Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence will help to bridge the gap between theory and practice of AI by supporting and conducting various research approach in practical manners
- Under this initiative of GPAI experts from civil societies, governments, industry and academic institutions will carry out the research on AI.
- India after joining GPAI, will promote global development in AI and will leverage its usage in in the digital technology.
- **Hosting organisation for GPAI will be the Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and two centers of expertise from Montreal and Paris.**

## NEW FRAMEWORK FOR FMI AND RPS--- BY RBI

**Current Context:** The Reserve Bank of India has come up with a new framework with some changes in monitoring structure of Financial Market Infrastructure (FMI) and Retail Payment System (RPS).

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- The new changes in FMI and RPS will result in ensuring more security and stability of the payment structure.
- The new set of terms will treat NPCI and NEFT as FMIs. Now, NPCI will also have to reveal self-assessment of its compliance on an annual basis and distribute data of systems operated by it on monthly, quarterly and half-yearly basis as a part of the audit and onsite inspections by RBI.

- Now, NPCI will also be designated as 'System-Wide Important Payment System (SWIPS)'.
- Whereas, Visa and MasterCard will now also be under the increased regulatory supervision of RBI.
- Thus the new framework will increase transparency in surveillance and will improve regulatory compliance of payment system operator and will also increase customer awareness and will enhance their trust in the banking system as well.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of RBI: Mumbai
  - Governor of RBI: Shaktikanta Das

## 'CAPTAIN ARJUN' AN AI ROBOT—BY CENTRAL RAILWAY

**Current Context: An Artificial Intelligence based technology Robot named as 'Captain Arjun' has been launched by Central Railway zone.**

### KEY POINTS

- The robot has been launched to intensify surveillance and screening of passengers so that it will keep watch on anti-social elements.
- It is incorporated with a motion sensor, PTZ camera and one dome camera installed on it.
- It is also comprised of sensor-based sanitizer as well as masks dispenser, thus it will also protect from COVID-19 infections.
- It also carry out thermal screening and temperature recording of passengers and displays the result on the digital display. If the temperature is above the higher value as per prescribed reference value, it will ring an automatic alarm.

## INSTA FLEXICASH - BY ICICI BANK

**Current Context: ICICI Bank has launched an Insta FlexiCash facility to its salary account customers.**

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **The Insta FlexiCash is an online overdraft facility (OD) by which customers can get approval for OD instantly with a paperless manner.**
- The facility is launched to guard ICICI bank salary account customers against missing their Equated Monthly Installments (EMIs) or cheques bounces.
- **Features of Insta FlexiCash:** (a) The customer can start using OD facility within 48 hours. (b) Credit limit worth up to 3 times their net salary is provided (c) The interest payment must be paid every month only on the actual OD amount utilised and can clear the outstanding limit at their convenience (d) No foreclosure charges are required while repaying OD amount. (e) Auto Sweep facility is also provided.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of ICICI Bank: Mumbai
  - MD and CEO of ICICI Bank: Sandeep Bakshi

## UNION MINISTER G KISHAN REDDY LAUNCHED 'GERMIBAN' DEVICE

**Current Context:** Union Minister of State of Home Affairs G Kishan Reddy has launched 'GerMiBAN' device which kills viruses and other germs by sterilizing, sanitizing and disinfecting in large areas.

### DETAILS

- It also acts as an air purifier in order to contain the spread of COVID-19.
- The innovation idea behind this 'GerMiBAN' device is of NEO Inventronix, Hyderabad.
- It is incubated at Atal Incubation Centre (AIC) Association of Lady Entrepreneurs of India (ALEAP), Women Entrepreneur Hub with the support of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog and GOI.
- It can disinfect room size of about 800sqft and neutralizes air pollution gases like Nitrogen oxides (NOx) and Sulphur oxides (Sox).
- It has UV lights, Ionizer and Ozonizer and B, C, D components which can kill 99.9% air microorganisms which are harmful to health.

## INDIAN GAS EXCHANGE- ONLINE DELIVERY BASED GAS TRADING PLATFORM

**Current Context:** Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Dharmendra Pradhan has launched India's first online delivery based natural gas trading platform named as Indian Gas Exchange (IGX).

### HIGHLIGHTS

- It has been launched with an aim to provide a clean, affordable, sustainable and equitable supply of energy to every citizen.
- **Headquarter of IGX is New Delhi and the Director will be Rajiv Srivastava.**
- Indian Gas Exchange (IGX) will provide seamless trading experience to the customer as it is a fully automated web-based interface.
- It is the wholly-owned subsidiary of the Indian Energy Exchange (IEX), India's energy market platform.
- IGX is India's vision on mega investments on LNG terminals, gas pipelines and City gas distribution infrastructure.

## MULTI LOCATION CLAIM SETTLEMENT FACILITY BY EPFO

**Current Context:** The Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has launched the Multi-Location Claim Settlement Facility.

### ABOUT

- **Multi-Location Claim Settlement Facility has been launched to expedite member claims.**
- **It will be covering claims such as provident fund, pension, partial withdrawal and transfer claims.**
- The new facility will allow EPFO offices to settle online claims from its any regional office, across the country.
- Thus the new facility will be replacing the old one with a system of geographical jurisdiction for the claim process.

- Because of this new facility, there will be no delay in settlement of the claim process and has proven to be beneficial in the lockdown situation of COVID-19.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of EPFO: New Delhi

## MAHARASHTRA SIGNS MOUS WITH DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN COMPANIES

**Current Context:** The Government of Maharashtra has signed total of 12 Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with domestic and foreign companies for FDI worth over Rs 16,000 crores.

### DETAILS

- **The MoUs are the part of Magnetic Maharashtra 2.0 initiative.**
- The MoUs signed are in the field of engineering, automotive part manufacturing, IT, logistics, chemicals and food processing.
- **Some of the companies with whom the MoUs signed are** the US-based ExxonMobil, China-based Hingli, Singapore based Ascendas, India's based Varun Beverages, Hiranandani Group of India, Singapore based APG DC Infra, South Korea based Rack Bank Data Centre, Isambe Logistics from Singapore and China-based Great Wall Motors.
- **Static Part:**
  - CM of Maharashtra: Uddhav Thackeray
  - Governor of Maharashtra: Bhagat Singh Koshyari

## APPOINTMENT AND RESIGNATION ON 17TH JUNE 2020

**Current Context:** The trustees of Prime Minister's Citizen's Association and Relief in Emergency Situation (PM-CARES) fund appointed SARC and Associates, New Delhi based Chartered accountants as its auditors for tenure on next three years.

### ABOUT

- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of SARC and Associates: New Delhi
  - Chairman SARC and Associates: Sunil Kumar Gupta
- **Mukhammedkalyi Abylgazyev:** He is Kyrgyzstan's Prime Minister and has recently announced his resignation from the PM post.
- **Static Part:**
  - Capital of Kyrgyzstan: Bishkek
  - Currency of Kyrgyzstan: Kyrgyzstani Som

## 'SURAKSHA SALARY ACCOUNT FOR MSME'S' – BY AIRTEL PAYMENT BANK

**Current Context:** Airtel Payment Bank has launched 'Suraksha Salary Account for MSME's'.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **With the help of this account, MSME and other organisations will be able to make cashless payments and provide financial security to their employees.**
- The account will facilitate the business to payroll in convenient manner and will help to maintain digital payment records in future for reference.
- Also, the account does not require any minimum balance and an account holder will be able to make cash withdrawals and deposits at Airtel Payment Bank's banking points across the country.
- Also, there is no charge on cash withdrawal upto Rs 50,000 and deposit upto Rs 20,000 in a month.
- The Suraksha Salary Account also offers group accidental cover of Rs 1 lakh and also offers insurance cover which includes Hospicash Insurance and Personal Accidental insurance cover.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of Airtel Payment Bank: New Delhi
  - MD and CEO of Airtel Payment Bank: Anubrata Biswas

## WORLD INVESTMENT REPORT 2020

**Current Context: United Nation Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the UN's trade body has released 'World Investment Report 2020'.**

### ABOUT REPORT

- **As per the report, India has become the 9th largest recipient of Foreign Direct investment for 2019.**
- In 2019, India has received \$51 billion as FDI.
- As compared to 2018, there's been an increase of 20% in FDI.
- As per the report, among South Asian countries, India has topped the list of the largest recipient of Foreign Direct investment for 2019.
- **The overall report is topped by the United States with \$246 billion of FDI in 2019 followed by China with \$141 billion of FDI in 2019.**
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of UNCTAD: Geneva, Switzerland
  - Secretary-General of UNCTAD: Dr Mukhisa Kituyi

## INDIA'S FIRST 'PAY AS YOU FLY' INSURANCE FOR DRONES

**Current Context: India's first 'pay as you fly' insurance for drones is launched by HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company in partnership with UK based tech firm Tropo Limited for drone owners of India.**

### HIGHLIGHTS

- The policy is launched for the commercial drone owners and operators in order to cover the property damage and body injuries which may happen during activities like surveying drones, mapping, monitoring, disaster relief initiatives, festival events etc. to the drones.
- Policyholders under this will be able to claim insurance up to Rs 10 Lakh on Tropo mobile app and they can opt for 4 hours, one day or one month cover to insure themselves against third party liabilities.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of HDFC ERGO: Mumbai

- MD and CEO of HDFC ERGO: Ritesh Kumar

## SEBI PROPOSES MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN ENFORCEMENT AND RECOVERY MECHANISM

**Current Context:** The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has constituted a committee headed by former Supreme Court Judge Anil Dave to strengthen the SEBI's enforcement mechanism and also to improve its system of recovery of siphoned off money.

### KEY POINTS

- **In the report generated by Anil Dave, he has proposed a method of quantification of profit made by the defaulters and loss made by them.**
- The committee analysed the insolvency, recovery and securities laws jurisprudence on India and abroad.
- The committee has suggested changes in Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016 to ensure that insolvency law is not used as a protection, 2020 by defaulters and thus protecting the interest of investors.
- The committee has also recommended changes in intermediaries Regulations to the SEBI.
- The two-tier enquiry process of registration for intermediaries has been replaced with an enquiry process for early completion of the enquiry proceedings.
- Also, the opportunity of the personal hearing will be now given to the Designated Authority (DA) which was earlier given to Designated Member (DM).
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of SEBI: Mumbai
  - Chairman of SEBI: Ajay Tyagi

## IMD WORLD COMPETITIVE INDEX 2020

**Current Context:** Switzerland based International Institute for Management and Development's (IMD) World Competitiveness Centre (WCC) has released a 32nd World Competitive Index 2020 report.

### ABOUT INDEX

- **As per the report, India has stood at the ranking position of 43rd for this year.**
- **The report is topped by Singapore followed by Denmark and Switzerland at 2nd and 3rd rank respectively.**
- In terms of BRICS Nation's ranking, India ranks next to China (20th rank).
- In terms of economic performance, India ranked at 37th position, Government Efficiency at 50th position, Business efficiency at 32nd position and in terms of infrastructure Indian bagged 49th position.

## MARUTI SUZUKI PARTNERS WITH KARUR VYSYA BANK FOR CAR LOANS

**Current Context:** India's car manufacturers Maruti Suzuki has partnered with Karur Vysya Bank to offer car loans for Maruti vehicles.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- The benefit will be available to both existing as well as new customers to avail the loan.
- The loan will be available to both salaried and self-employed customers and the repayment period is up to 84 months.
- An imminent purchaser's exceptional plan of up to 100% on-road funding with six months holiday period on all models except van EECO is made available.
- The loan will be sanctioned within 15 minutes.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of Maruti Suzuki: New Delhi
  - CEO of Maruti Suzuki: Kenichi Ayukawa
  - HQ of Karur Vysya Bank: Karur, Tamil Nadu
  - CEO of Karur Vysya Bank: P R Seshadri

## NEW RULES FOR HFCS BY RBI

**Current Context: The Reserve Bank of India being the regulator of Housing Finance Companies (HFCs) has proposed changes in rules and regulations of HFCs with an aim to increase and address concerns of liquidity and double financing.**

### KEY POINTS

- The changes are prescribed in the draft regulatory framework released by RBI. The new key proposed changes are as follows:
- **Minimum NOF to Rs 20 crore:** Under the section 29A (1) (b) of NHB act 1987, RBI has proposed changes of minimum Net owned Funds (NOF) for HFCs from the current requirement of Rs 10 crore to Rs 20 crore. This move will result in strengthening the capital base for NFCs. Existing HFCs will get one year to reach the level of Rs 15 crore and two years to increase to Rs 20 crore.
- **Increase in CRAR:** Currently, minimum Capital Risk-Weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR) for NFCs is at 12%, it will be increased to 14% by 31st March 2021 and to 15% by 31st March 2022.
- **Classification of HFCs:** Presently, all the HFCs irrespective of their asset size and ownership comes under a common set of regulations. Therefore it is proposed to issue regulations to classify them as systematically important and non- systematically important. For this, Non-deposit taking HFCs (HFC-ND) with an asset size of Rs 500 crore and above and the deposit-taking HFCs (HFC-D), irrespective of asset size will be termed as systematically important. Whereas, HFCs with asset size below Rs 500 crore will be termed as non- systematically important HFCs.
- **Double Financing:** HFC can now either lend to a real estate company or to homebuyers in the projects of group entities, but not to both. Also, HFCs cannot take exposures of more than 15% of owned funds to one company in a group and more than 25% across all companies of the same group.
- **Housing loans must account to at least 50% of the HFCs assets of which at least 75% should be towards individual housing loans.** And the HFCs who will not fulfil this criterion will be termed as **NBFC-Investment and Credit Companies (NBFC-ICCs).**
- **Now onwards, Housing finance definition will not exist.** RBI said that housing finance will now mean **'financing for purchase/ construction/reconstruction/ renovation/repairs of residential dwelling unit'** and some other activities like giving loans to corporate and governmental agencies for employee housing projects.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of RBI: Mumbai

- Governor of RBI: Shaktikanta Das

## APPOINTMENTS AND EXTENSION ON 19TH JUNE 2020

**Current Context: Volkan Bozkir:** He is appointed as new **President of 75th Session of UN General Assembly** which will begin in September 2020. He has replaced Tijjani Muhammad - Bande.

### ABOUT

- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of UN General Assembly: New York, US
- **Kubatbek Boronov:** He is appointed as **Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan**. He has replaced Mukhammedkalyi Abylgazyev.
- **Static Part:**
  - Capital of Kyrgyzstan: Bishkek
  - Currency of Kyrgyzstan: Kyrgyzstani Som
- **D K Jain:** He is first **Ombudsman and an Ethics officer of BCCI**. His tenure is extended by one year.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of BCCI: Mumbai
  - President of BCCI: Sourav Ganguly

## SARAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING SCHEME- BY ICICI HOME FINANCE

**Current Context: ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd, which is an HFC has launched a special affordable housing loan scheme to finance homes in rural and urban areas of India. The name of the scheme is SARAL.**

### HIGHLIGHTS

- The beneficiaries for the scheme are women, lower-middle-income customers and economically weaker sections, with maximum household income up to Rs 6 lakh per annum.
- The loan requires ownership of women in rural areas from Rs 3 lakhs to Rs 6 lakhs.
- **Maximum limit of loan is Rs 35 lakhs with an interest rate starting from 7.98%.**
- The maximum tenure for loan is 20 years.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd: Mumbai
  - Chairman of ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd: Anup Bagchi
  - MD and CEO of ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd: Anirudh Kamani

## INDIA'S FIRST MOBILE LAB FOR COVID-19 LAUNCHED BY DR HARSH VARDHAN

**Current Context: Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Harsh Vardhan has inaugurated India's first mobile disease diagnostic laboratory for COVID-19.**



## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- The infectious disease diag lab (I-Lab), which is a rapid response mobile laboratory has been developed with the support from Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology and Andhra Pradesh Med-tech Zone (AMTZ) under DBT-AMTZ COMManD (COVID Medtech Manufacturing Development) Consortia.
- I-Lab is able to conduct COVID and Non-COVID tests as well.

## MNRE FORMS PROJECT DEVELOPMENT CELL

**Current Context: Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has launched Project Development Cell (PDC) with an aim to generate investment in clean energy that is to increase solar energy usage.**

### HIGHLIGHTS

- MNRE has set up this PDC under its joint secretary Amitesh Kumar Sinha.
- The PDC will be represented by Amitesh Kumar Sinha, Director of MNRE Ruchin Gupta and other official staff of Grid Solar Power Division and Invest India.
- **The PDC will be responsible to offer investments for renewable energy projects, to identify and resolve issues arising in investment in the projects. PDC will also help in works like detailed project report, land availability, internal infrastructure for the for renewable energy projects.**
- A portal will be developed by the officials in order to receive proposals form energy sector which will describe detail procedure for submitting proposals.
- Project Development Cell (PDC) will help to meet center's 175 GW target for green energy capacity by 2022.
- **Static Part:**
  - Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh

## INDIA'S FIRST NATIONAL REPORT ON CLIMATE CRISIS

**Current Context: India has released its first-ever climate national report on the climate crisis.**

### ABOUT REPORT

- The report is titled 'Assessment of climate change over the Indian region'.
- The report is prepared by Ministry of Earth Science (MoES) and it is edited by a scientist at Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune.
- As per the report, the average temperature of India has raised by 0.7 degree Celsius in 1901-2018. This has resulted due to the emission of greenhouse gases and it is projected to rise by 2.7 degree Celsius by 2099 in case of if essential care is taken on climate change and in the worst case it will rise to 4.4 degree Celsius.
- The monsoon in Northern India has reduced by 6% between 1951-2015 because of polluting aerosol 'brown cloud'.
- As compared to the April-June heatwaves between 1976-2005, they are to become four times more by 2099.
- Also, the sea level near Mumbai is rising at a rate of 3 cm per decade and on the Bengal coast, it is 5 cm per decade.
- **Static Part:**

- Union Ministry Earth Science: Harsh Vardhan

## APPOINTMENTS ON 20TH JUNE 2020

**Current Context: Urjit Patel:** He is appointed as new **Chairman of Economic Think Tank Finance and Policy (NIPFP)** for a tenure of 4 years. He has replaced Vijay Kelkar.

### ABOUT

- **Sourav Ganguly and Sunil Chhetri:** They are appointed as **brand ambassadors for JSW Cement.**

## SEBI TO ENHANCE PROMOTER'S SHAREHOLDING

**Current Context: The Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has amended regulation (3) in sub-regulation (2) of SEBI-Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers regulations, 2011 (SEBI-SAST) in order to enhance acquisition limit of promoters.**

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- This amendment will be termed as SEBI-SAST Amendment Regulations, 2020.
- As per this amendment, the promoters who are owning 25% or more shares or voting rights in a company can increase their shareholding up to 10% in a year. Earlier an increase of 5% was allowed.
- SEBI has also relaxed the condition of the time gap between two qualified institutional placements (QIPs) from 6 months to 2 weeks.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of SEBI: Mumbai
  - Chairman of SEBI: Ajay Tyagi

## MOHUA SIGNS MOU WITH SIDBI—PM SAVNIDHI SCHEME

**Current Context: Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has signed an MoU with SIDBI (Small Industries Development Bank of India) for PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SAVNidhi Scheme).**

### KEY POINTS

- **The PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi Scheme aims to provide Special Micro-Credit Facility for Street Vendors.**
- The scheme will be implemented by SIDBI under the guidance of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs along with the management of credit guarantee to the lending institutions through CGTMSE (Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises).
- SIDBI will be providing Project Management Unit (PMU) which will consist of experts from training and capacity building, banking, NBFC, MFI sectors which will ensure effective implementation of the project and its management.
- SIDBI will also leverage the network of lending institutions for the implementation of the scheme. The lending institutions include Scheduled Commercial Banks, MBFCs, RRBs, SFBs etc.
- **Static Part:**

- HQ of SIDBI: Lucknow
- Chairman and MD of SIDBI: Mohammad Mustafa
- Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs: Hardeep Singh Puri

## HERBAL INFUSION TECHNOLOGY—BY IIT MANDI

**Current Context:** Indian Institute of Technology Mandi has developed a Herbal Infusion Technology for the farmers of the mid-Himalayan region.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Herbal Infusion Technology will prove as an income source for farmers.
- The technology is developed by analyzing various herbs growing in the mid-Himalayan region by the researchers of the institute's botanical garden and medicinal plant lab.
- The researchers also analysed the herbs around the villages near IIT Mandi, Kamand region to create value-added products in the form of herbal infusions known for their health benefits.
- The Herbal Infusion Technology is ready to license industries interested in working with Enabling Women of Kamand (EWOK) which is a rural incubator at IIT Mandi.

## GARIB KALYAN ROJGAR ABHIYAN--LAUNCHED BY PM MODI

**Current Context:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyan on 20th June 2020.

- **Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyan aims to provide employment opportunities to the migrant workers who have returned to their native states amidst of lockdown situation and has lost their jobs due to COVID-19 pandemic.**
- The launching of the scheme took place via video conference from village Telihar, Block Beldaur, district Khagaria of Bihar.
- The campaign of Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyan is of **125 days** and will be carried out in mission mode.
- The campaign will be coordinated and managed by 12 different ministries including Panchayati raj, Ministry of road and transport, Petroleum and Natural Gas, Telecom and agriculture etc.
- **A total number of 116 districts will be covered under this Abhiyan. It includes the districts of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Odisha and Jharkhand.**
- **Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyan is a Rs 50,000 crore employment scheme.**

## COAL INDIA LTD PARTNERS WITH ATAL INNOVATION MISSION

**Current Context:** Coal India Ltd (CIL) has partnered with Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) of NITI Aayog.

### KEY POINTS

- **They have partnered to establish innovation and entrepreneurship skills in India.**
- For this purpose, both organisations have signed a Statement of Intent (SoI) between them.

- The CIL in collaboration with AIM will carry out various activities and programs at school and institutional levels via Atal Tinkering Labs and Atal Incubation Centers respectively.
- They will also work together in Atal New India Challenges (ANIC), which is an industrial level AIM program.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of Coal India Ltd: Kolkata
  - HQ of NITI Aayog: New Delhi
  - Chairman of NITI Aayog: PM Narendra Modi
  - CEO of NITI Aayog: Amitabh Kant
  - Vice Chairperson of NITI Aayog: Rajiv Kumar

## 32ND VIRTUAL EAG PLENARY MEETING

**Current Context: Indian officials from various enforcement agencies have participated in 32nd Virtual Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (EAG) Plenary Meeting 2020.**

### ABOUT MEETING

- **The Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (EAG) comes under the aegis of Financial Action Task Force (FATF).**
- The virtual meeting was chaired by Russian Federation by EAG Chairman Mr Yury Chikhachin and was also chaired by EAG Deputy Chairman Mr Farhod Bilolov from the Republic of Tajikistan.
- In the meeting, various points were witnessed and discussed like approval of Money Laundering (ML) and Terrorist Financing (TF) risk assessment methodology in the Eurasian region.
- Discussion on the amendments of current EAG documents also took place among the officials.
- The report on the progress in implementation of the pilot project to co-ordinate the provision of technical assistance for the Republic of Tajikistan, which included interim findings was also presented by the concerned officials.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of FATF: Paris, France
  - President of FATF: Xiangmin Liu

## NITI AAYOG LAUNCHED JOB PLATFORM FOR MIGRANT WORKERS

**Current Context: Government of India's think tank policy, NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog has formed a committee of top executives of companies to develop a job platform which will help migrant workers and blue-collar workers to get better job opportunities who have lost their jobs during a lockdown situation of COVID-19.**

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- The committee will include executives of companies like Google, Microsoft, Tech Mahindra.
- The group of the committee will be chaired by CEO of NITI Aayog Amitabh Kant.
- The job platform developed by NITI Aayog will make use of technology so that there will be public and private participation and will connect job seekers, employers, government agencies and various skill centres who are using technologies like AI and machine learning.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of NITI Aayog: New Delhi

- Chairman of NITI Aayog: PM Narendra Modi
- CEO of NITI Aayog: Amitabh Kant
- Vice Chairperson of NITI Aayog: Rajiv Kumar

## RBI INCREASES WITHDRAWAL LIMIT TO RS 1 LAKH FOR PMC DEPOSITORS

**Current Context:** The Reserve Bank of India has raised the limit of withdrawal from Punjab and Maharashtra Co-operative bank to Rs 1 lakh from Rs 50,000 but has extended a moratorium on the bank for another six months.

### KEY POINTS

- The moratorium was initially imposed till 23rd June 2020. But now it is extended to 22nd December 2020.
- This decision is taken by RBI after reviewing the bank's liquidity position, its ability to pay the desired amount to its depositors and to provide relief on during a pandemic situation of COVID-19 to the bank's customers.
- After this decision, about 84% of the bank's depositors will be able to withdraw the amount.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of RBI: Mumbai
  - Governor of RBI: Shaktikanta Das

## HYUNDAI MOTOR INDIA LTD PARTNERS WITH HDFC BANK

**Current Context:** Hyundai Motor India Ltd (HMIL) has partnered with HDFC Bank which will offer industry-first online auto retail financing on its end to end automotive retail platform 'Click to Buy' to the customer.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- HDFC Bank will offer customized car financing solutions to its customers via online car buying platform.
- 'Click to Buy' is an online purchasing platform launched by Hyundai Motor India Ltd during the lockdown situation of COVID-19 in order to have a safe and contactless car purchasing process.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of HMIL: New Delhi
  - HQ of HDFC Bank: Mumbai
  - Chairman of HDFC Bank: Deepak S Parekh

## APPOINTMENTS ON 22ND JUNE 2020

**Current Context: Sethuraman Panchanathan:** He is an Indian American Scientist and has been **appointed as Director of National Science Foundation (NSF) by US Senate**. He will be replacing France Cordova after a tenure completion of six years.

## ABOUT

- **Niki Poonacha:** He is elected as a **player member to International Tennis Federation Men's Player Panel**. The Men's panel will be headed by Mark Woodforde and Women's panel will be headed by Mary Pierce.

## PROJECT ON 'DECARBONISING TRANSPORT IN INDIA'

**Current Context:** Government of India's think tank policy , NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog along with International Transport Forum (ITF) has decided to launch the project entitled as 'Decarbonising Transport in India'.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **Aim of the project is to develop a pathway to have a low-carbon emission transport system in India.**
- Under this project, a tailor made transport emissions assessment framework for India will be designed and this framework will facilitate the government with a comprehensive comparison between present scenario and future scenario after implementing the project. It will also give data regarding CO2 emissions.
- The 'Decarbonising Transport in India' project is a part of International Transport Forum's 'Decarbonising Transport in Emerging Economies' (DTEE).
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of NITI Aayog: New Delhi
  - Chairman of NITI Aayog: PM Narendra Modi
  - CEO of NITI Aayog: Amitabh Kant
  - Vice Chairperson of NITI Aayog: Rajiv Kumar
  - HQ of ITF: Paris, France

## 'VIRTUAL INDIA PAVILION AT CANNES FILM MARKET 2020'

**Current Context:** Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting Prakash Javadekar electronically inaugurated the 'Virtual India Pavilion at Cannes Film Market 2020'.

## KEY POINTS

- While addressing the e-inauguration ceremony, Prakash Javadekar invited international film fraternity to come as well as shoot in India and sell in international market with an aim to boost entertainment industry globally.
- This Indian Pavilion will at Cannes provide a platform for Indian film makers and associated delegates to interact with the international community and make them experience the variety of Indian Film cinemas.
- This will thus create an interest of international film bodies to do business in India.

## INDIA'S FIRST VIRTUAL HEALTHCARE AND HYGIENE EXPO 2020

**Current Context:** India's first Virtual Healthcare and Hygiene EXPO 2020 was introduced by Minister of State for Shipping (IC) and Chemicals and Fertilisers Mansukh Mandaviya.

## ABOUT

- **The EXPO was organized by Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).**
- The aim behind this expo is to give importance and to boost Healthcare and Hygiene sector and create awareness about Healthcare and Hygiene in people.
- This expo will also create businesses to happen virtually in this health and hygiene sector giving importance to Digital India movement.
- The government of India is also giving incentives for setting up of Bulk Drug Parks and Medical Device Parks in the country which will also boost Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of FICCI: New Delhi

## RAJASTHAN GOVERNMENT SIGNS PACT WITH POWERGRID AND EDCIL

**Current Context: Rajasthan Government has signed a pact with Power Grid Corporation of India and Educational Consultants India Limited (EdCIL) to set up smart classrooms in 100 schools of Rajasthan.**

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The agreement is signed for costing of worth Rs 1.85 crore.
- **The aim behind this is to promote and inculcate students in online education in the lockdown situation of COVID-19.**
- By this initiative, the students from class 1 to 12 will be made available with e-content syllabus and study materials.
- Also, the initiative will train total 4 teachers from each schools and thus the schools will be getting smart classrooms.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of POWERGRID: Gurgaon, Haryana
  - HQ of EdCIL: Noida, Uttar Pradesh
  - CM of Rajasthan: Ashok Gehlot
  - Governor of Rajasthan: Kalraj Mishra

## APPOINTMENTS ON 23RD JUNE 2020

**Current Context: Vijay Khanduja:** He is appointed as **next Ambassador of India to Zimbabwe.** He will be replacing R. Masakui.

## ABOUT

- **Static Part:**
  - Capital of Zimbabwe: Harare
  - Currency of Zimbabwe: US Dollar
- **Nirakar Pradhan:** He is appointed as **new chief of PRMIA (Professional Risk Managers International Association).**
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of PRMIA: Wilmington, Delaware, USn RBI Central Board

- **Natarajan Chandrasekaran:** He is re-appointed as part-time non-official Director for a tenure of 2 years.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of RBI: Mumbai
- **T. Tabi Sankar and Dr. N Rajendran:** The Indian Financial Technology and Allied Services (IFTAS), which is the wholly owned subsidiary of RBI has appointed T. Tabi Sankar as its Chairman and Dr. N Rajendran as its CEO.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of IFTAS: Mumbai

## FOOD PROCESSING EDITION OF EXCLUSIVE INVESTMENT FORUM

**Current Context:** Union Minister of Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal has launched Food Processing Edition of Exclusive Investment Forum.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **It is basically a webinar hosted by Invest in India.**
- This forum allowed leading global companies dealing with food processing sector and various policymakers from six Indian states namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh to interact with each other.
- In order to make India the next global investment hub in terms of the food sector, a discussion was made at the forum.
- The participants discussed critical aspects for investment decisions ranging from policy incentives, industrial zones, infrastructure and special facilitation services.
- GOI has decided to form an Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS) and Project Development Cell (PDC) in ministries and departments to boost domestic as well as foreign investments in the food processing sector.

## RBI EXTENDS RS 50,000 CRORE LIQUIDITY WINDOW BY 3 MONTHS TO YES BANK

**Current Context:** The Reserve Bank of India has extended a special liquidity window of Rs 50,000 crore by another three months to the private sector Yes bank.

### DETAILS

- The decision was taken in order to avoid a shortfall in deposits to be faced by the bank.
- Therefore, now the Yes Bank can access Rs 50,000 crore liquidity window if the outflow of deposits exceeds the accretion of fresh deposits.
- Initially, Yes Bank was provided with special liquidity window in the month of March for three months, which ended in June.
- The RBI has made emergency credit line of nearly Rs 600 billion available when Yes Bank was under a moratorium that restricted deposit withdrawal at Rs 50,000 crore.
- Therefore now this extension allowed by RBI on Yes bank will help Yes Bank to meet regulatory requirement and fund its growth.
- **Static Part:**



- HQ of RBI: Mumbai
- Governor of RBI: Shaktikanta Das
- HQ of Yes Bank: Mumbai
- Tagline of Yes Bank: Experience our expertise
- MD and CEO of Yes Bank: Prashant Kumar

## 'KBL MICRO MITRA' FOR MSMES—BY KARNATAKA BANK

**Current Context:** A new financial support product for Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) has been launched by Karnataka Bank.

### KEY POINTS

- The product is named as 'KBL Micro Mitra'.
- KBL Micro Mitra offers the financial assistance and support of Rs 10 lakhs to micro manufacturing service enterprises as working capital support or investment purpose support with simplified procedure and competitive interest rates.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of Karnataka Bank: Mangalore
  - MD and CEO of Karnataka Bank: Mahabaleshwara M S

## GLOBAL MACRO OUTLOOK 2020-21 RELEASED BY MOODY'S INVESTOR SERVICE

**Current Context:** Moody's Investor Service has released Global Macro Outlook 2020-21.

### ABOUT

- **As per this latest report for the month of June, the rating agency has projected India's GDP to shrink at 3.1% for the financial year of 2020.**
- The reason described for this GDP percent is the outbreak of novel coronavirus in the country which has led to a stoppage in economic growth activities as the country is facing lockdown situation to combat and contain the pandemic.
- However, the rating agency has projected to grow to be at 6.9% for the financial year 2021.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of Moody's Investor Service: New York, United States
  - President and CEO of Moody's Investor Service: Raymond W McDaniel Jr.

## INDIRA RASOI YOJANA—RAJASTHAN

**Current Context:** The Government of Rajasthan has launched a scheme called as Indira Rasoi Yojana.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **The aim of this scheme is to feed the poor people of the state with food.**

- The state government will ensure that **'no one sleeps hungry'**.
- Therefore, pure fresh and nutritious food at affordable rates will be provided to the needy hungry people twice in a day under this scheme.
- The amount sanctioned for this scheme is **Rs 100 crores** and every year this much amount is decided for this scheme.
- **Static Part:**
  - CM of Rajasthan: Ashok Ghelot
  - Governor of Rajasthan: Kalraj Mishra
  - **National Parks and Wild Life Sanctuaries in Rajasthan:** Ranthambor NP, Sariska NP, Keoladeo Ghana Bird Sanctuary, Desert Natural Sanctuary, Kumbhalgarh WLS, Mukundara Hills NP, Darrah NP, Mount WLS

## 'DHURVA' A NAVIGATION CHIP—BY IIT BOMBAY

**Current Context:** A team of researchers from IIT Bombay have created a navigation chip named as 'Dhruva'.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **They have developed this chip as navigation nowadays is an essential feature in today's world of smart devices and IoT and the navigation technology helps the user to manage its territory, protect its borders and manage disaster response.**
- The Dhruva chip can be mounted in smartphones and navigation devices to find places and routes within the country.
- Dhruva sends and receives the radio signals to India's NAVIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation) and to US Global Positioning System (GPS) based satellites to accurately determine navigation under all weather conditions.
- The chip is developed in 18 months and works in multiple frequency bands and can also handle weak signals.
- To develop the chip, Ministry of Electronics and IT and ISRO has provided funds to the institute.

## ALL CO-OPERATIVE BANKS UNDER RBI SUPERVISION

**Current Context:** Government of India has taken the decision to bring an ordinance to put all cooperative banks under the supervision of the Reserve Bank of India.

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **The decision was announced by the Union Minister Prakash Javadekar.**
- **As per this decision 1482, urban cooperative banks and 58 multi-state cooperative banks will come under the supervisory control of Reserve Bank of India.**
- Therefore, the powers which RBI puts on all scheduled banks will now be applicable to cooperative banks as well.
- Because of this decision, more than 86 million depositors will get an assurance that their money which amounts to Rs 4.84 trillion will remain safe.
- The decision to bring cooperative banks under RBI's supervisory control was taken because cooperative banks from a long time are facing weakness in their financial system due to lack of adequate oversight.

- Therefore, under the limelight of RBI, there will be upliftment in the financial system of these cooperative banks.
- The ordinance for the same will implement provision immediately while the law is amended in parliament.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of RBI: Mumbai
  - Governor of RBI: Shaktikanta Das

## 'DISTRESSED ASSETS FUND-SUBORDINATE DEBT FOR MSMEs'

**Current Context:** A 'Distressed Assets Fund-Subordinate Debt for MSMEs' is the credit guarantee scheme for sub-ordinate debt (CGSSD).

### KEY POINTS

- **The scheme is launched by Union Minister for MSME Nitin Gadkari.**
- **The scheme will provide Rs 20000 crore guarantee cover to about two lakh MSMEs.**
- **The 'Distressed Assets Fund-Subordinate Debt for MSMEs' is a part of Atma Nirbhar Bharat package and aims to sub-ordinate the debts to the promoters of operational but stressed MSMEs.**
- The scheme will extend the support to the promoters of the operational MSMEs which are stressed and have become NPA as on 30th April 2020.
- To promoters of such MSMEs will be given a credit equal to 15% as equity of their stake or finance of Rs 75 lakh, whichever is lower.
- Promoters infuse the amount in the MSME unit as equity and enhance the equity and maintain the debt-equity ratio.
- 90% of guarantee coverage for the sub-debt will be given under the scheme and 10% would come from concerning promoters.
- The maximum tenure of repayment is 10 years.

## 'SKILLS BUILD REIGNITE' PLATFORM

**Current Context:** The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) in partnership with tech giant IBM has launched 'Skills Build Reignite' Platform.

### DETAILS

- **The platform will help to facilitate job seekers to end entrepreneurs with access to free online coursework and mentorship support.**
- The 'Skills Build Reignite' will provide personalized coaching to the entrepreneurs, the trained mentors will provide advice and guidance to the trainee in order to establish or restart their businesses.
- This platform will prove beneficial to those whose businesses have suffered loss during the lockdown situation of COVID-19 and now are in the state of getting recovered.
- They will organize a Skills Build Innovation Camp of 10 weeks which will provide structured learning and hands-on project experience to the trainee under the guidelines and volunteer support from IBM.
- **Static Part:**
  - Union Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship: Mahendranath Pandey

## EKTU KHELO, EKTU PADHO—TRIPURA

**Current Context:** The Government of Tripura has launched a scheme called as Ektu Khelo, Ektu Padho.

### KEY POINTS

- **The aim of this scheme is to inculcate activity-based learning in students.**
- The scheme will engage students by disseminating audio and video contents which will provide hands-on learning activities through projects, fun activities and games among the students.
- The initiative will be carried out through WhatsApp or by SMS since the schools are shut down due to Coronavirus pandemic.
- **Static Part:**
  - CM of Tripura: Biplab Kumar Deb
  - Governor of Tripura: Ramesh Bais
  - **National Parks and Wild Life Sanctuaries in Tripura:** Rajbari NP, Clouded Leopard NP, Gumti WLS, Sepahijala WLS, Rowa WLS, Trishna WLS

## WORLD'S FIRST GOLD-BACKED DIGITAL GOLD CURRENCY IN INDIA

**Current Context:** IBMC Financial Professionals Group, which is an international financial service institution and business consultancy has partnered with US Gold Currency Inc and Blockfills in order to launch the world's first monetary gold-backed US Gold digital currency.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **The gold-backed US Gold digital currency is launched for the first time in the world in India, Gulf Corporation Council (GCC), the Middle East and Africa.**
- US Gold Currency Inc is basically the issuer of the US gold digital currency and Blockfills is the transaction platform provider.
- It was launched from Dubai, UAE at a specially designed IBMC Hybrid Event in a virtual way. At the virtual event, officials from US Gold Currency, Asia-Africa Development Council, GSEF and Blockfills USA were present.
- **Each US Gold digital currency is backed by a US American Eagle one ounce (33.931 gram) gold coin, minted by the US Federal Agency, US Mint.**
- The holder or the owner of the currency can redeem their digital assets as physical gold coin or in US dollars from any part of the world.

## 'EBLOODSERVICES' MOBILE APP LAUNCHED BY DR. HARSH VARDHAN

**Current Context:** Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Dr Harsh Vardhan launched a blood donation mobile app called 'eBloodServices'.

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **The app is an application of the Indian Red Cross Society (ICRS).**

- It is developed by E-Raktkosh team of Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC) under the Digital India initiative.
- With the help of this app, four units of blood can be demanded at a time and the blood bank will wait for as long as 12 hours for the person to collect it.
- With the help of the app, the one who wants blood will have to place a request of blood and the requisite unit becomes visible to the IRCS, NHQ blood bank in its E-Raktkosh dashboard.
- This app is thus helpful for those who are in demand for blood especially in the COVID-19 pandemic situation and in other emergency situation since blood demand will be made available within a short time of span to the needy ones.
- **Static Part:**
  - Chairman of IRCS: Dr Harsh Vardhan

### APPOINTMENTS AND AMBASSADORS ON 26TH JUNE 2020

**Current Context: Clare Connor:** She is former England Women's Cricket Team Captain, and now is **appointed as First Female President of Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC)**. She has replaced Kumar Sangakkara.

#### ABOUT

- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of MCC: London
- **Wassim Jaffer:** He is appointed as **Head Coach of Uttarakhand Cricket Team**.
- **Priyanka Chopra and Anurag Kashyap:** They are named as **Ambassador at 45th Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) 2020**. The event will be held virtually from 10th Sep 2020 to 19th Sep 2020.

### 'NAVIGATING THE NEW NORMAL'--- NITI AAYOG

**Current Context: NITI Aayog has launched a behaviour change campaign called 'Navigating the New Normal'.**

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- **In order to develop and launch this campaign, NITI Aayog has partnered with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), Ashoka University, Centre for Social and Behavioral Change (CSBC), Ministry of Health, and with Ministry of Women and Child Development.**
- **The campaign focuses on safety behaviours to be taken during COVID-19 pandemic situation and to combat it.**
- It promotes wearing of masks, using PPE kits, maintain social distancing in order to contain the spread of novel coronavirus.
- NITI Aayog has also launched a website for this campaign and provides safety measures to be taken during the unlocking stage of ongoing pandemic.
- The campaign and website were developed under the guidance of empowered group 6, constituted by GOI under the chairmanship of Amitabh Kant, CEO of NITI Aayog.
- **There are two parts of the campaign:** (1) A web portal (2) A media campaign.
- **The campaign focuses on the easy implementation of key behaviours namely:** mask-wearing, social distancing, hand hygiene, and not spitting in public.
- **Static Part:**

- HQ of NITI Aayog: New Delhi
- Chairman of NITI Aayog: PM Narendra Modi
- CEO of NITI Aayog: Amitabh Kant

## 'MUKHYAMANTRI MATRU PUSHTI UPHAAR' SCHEME—TRIPURA

**Current Context:** The Government of Tripura has announced to launch 'Mukhyamantri Matru Pushti Uphaar' Scheme.

### ABOUT SCHEME

- **The aim of this scheme is to provide nutritious food and kits to pregnant and lactating women.**
- The scheme will help to fight against infant and maternal mortality and malnutrition in the state.
- The scheme will prove beneficial to about 40,000 women of the state.
- The women's health will be tested four times at Primary Health Centers (PHC) and they will be offered with nutrition kits containing food items and grocery supplies like peanuts, soyabeans, mixed pulses, jaggery and ghee.
- **Static Part:**
  - CM of Tripura: Biplab Kumar Deb
  - Governor of Tripura: Ramesh Bais
  - **National Parks and Wild Life Sanctuaries in Tripura:** Rajbari NP, Clouded Leopard NP, Gumti WLS, Sepahijala WLS, Rowa WLS, Trishna WLS

## AATMA NIRBHAR UTTAR PRADESH ROJGAR ABHIYAN

**Current Context:** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated Aatma Nirbhar Uttar Pradesh Rojgar Abhiyan via video conference.

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **The Abhiyan is launched for the migrant workers of Uttar Pradesh state.**
- The Abhiyan aims to provide employment opportunities to the migrant workers who have returned to their native places in Uttar Pradesh during the lockdown situation and have lost their jobs amidst COVID-19 pandemic.
- It is one of the largest employment generating program for the country.
- **It is launched in 31 districts of UP and aims to fulfil the target of providing employment opportunities to about 25,000 migrants.**
- The Abhiyan will provide employment opportunities, will provide entrepreneurship and create a partnership with various private industries in order to give jobs to migrant workers.
- **Static Part:**
  - CM of Uttar Pradesh: Yogi Adityanath
  - Governor of Uttar Pradesh: Anandiben Patel
  - **National Parks, Wild Life Sanctuaries and Bird Sanctuaries in UP:** Dudhwa National Park & Tiger Reserve, Chandraprabha Wildlife sanctuary, National Chambal Sanctuary, Pilibhit Wildlife Sanctuary, Nawabganj Bird Sanctuary, Okhla Bird Sanctuary, Soor Sarovar Bird Sanctuary, Hastinapur WLS

## KARNATAKA AMENDS INDUSTRIES FACILITATION ACT

**Current Context:** The Karnataka Government has amended the ‘The Karnataka Industries Facilitation Act, 2002.

### KEY POINTS

- **The amendment is done at the state cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa.**
- **The amendment is done with an aim to facilitate and attract investment in the state.**
- As per the amendments, the industry does not need statutory permissions for the first three years to set up operations in the state.
- Permissions like approvals under multiple state laws like trade license and building plan approvals which will promote ease of doing business and will create investment in the state.
- **Static Part:**
  - CM of Karnataka: BS Yediyurappa
  - Governor of Karnataka: Vajubhai Rudabhai Vala
  - **National Parks of Karnataka:** Nagarhole National Park, Bandipur National Park, Anshi National Park, Bannerghatta National Park, Malai Mahadeshwara WLS, Melkote Temple WLS, Nugu WLS

## APPOINTMENTS ON 27TH JUNE 2020

**Current Context: Anjan Dey:** He is general manager of New India Assurance and now has been **appointed to head the committee to look into insurance products to be offered to the Drones.**

### ABOUT

- The committee is formulated by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI). The insurance products will cover various risks involved in the use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RAPS) or Drones.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of IRDAI: Hyderabad
  - Chairman of IRDAI: Dr Subhash Chandra Khuntia
- **Justice BP Katakey:** He is appointed as to head the committee to investigate Assam Gas Leak at Assam’s Baghjan Oil well of Oil India Ltd. He is appointed by National Green Tribunal (NGT).

## ‘YUVA PAY’--- BY YES BANK AND UDMA TECHNOLOGIES

**Current Context:** Yuva Pay is a digital wallet solution which has been launched by Yes Bank in partnership with UDMA Technologies Pvt Ltd.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **It is launched to enable contactless payment for its customers.**
- Both organisations have launched this app with minimum KYC regulations.
- The app aims to help the low-income group to access the digital and contactless transactions
- This app will enable broad access to secure electronic payment services.

- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of Yes Bank: Mumbai
  - MD and CEO of Yes Bank: Prashant Kumar
  - HQ of UDMA Technologies: Karnataka

## DEFENCE CONCLAVE 2020 GUJARAT

**Current Context: Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri. Shripad Naik has inaugurated Defence Conclave 2020 Gujarat.**

### ABOUT CONCLAVE

- **Defence Conclave 2020 Gujarat was a two-day digital conference on Defence and Aerospace Manufacturing Sector.**
- **The conclave was jointly organized by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Gujarat and Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM).**
- The conclave was launched with an aim to create jobs in the defence and aerospace manufacturing sector as defence sector is a source of great economic growth of the country and this sector provides and promises sustained business opportunities.
- The conclave also helps to strengthen the 'Make in India' initiative and thus increases defence manufacturing.
- **Static Part:**
  - CM of Gujarat: Vijaybhai R Rupani
  - Governor of Gujarat: Acharya Devvrat
  - **National Parks and Wild Life Sanctuaries in Gujarat:** Blackbuck NP, Gir Forest NP, Vansda NP, Balaram Ramji NP, Gir WLS, Jessore WLS, Gaga Great Indian Bustard WLS, Porbandar Lake WLS, Nal Sarovar WLS

## REJUVENATION OF SMALL, MEDIUM AND TINY INDUSTRY SECTOR IN TAMIL NADU

**Current Context: The Central Government has come up with a decision to rejuvenate small, medium and tiny industry sector in Tamil Nadu.**

### KEY POINTS

- **For this purpose, the central government has allotted financial assistance of Rs 4125 crore to the Tamil Nadu.**
- It thus forms 10% of the total allocation of the scheme.
- The financial support will be effectively utilised in the state to uplift small, medium and tiny industry sector.
- **Static Part:**
  - CM of Tamil Nadu: Thiru Edappadi K Palaniswami
  - Governor of Tamil Nadu: Banwarilal Purohit
  - **National Parks and Wild Life Sanctuaries of Tamil Nadu:** Mudumalai NP, Mukurthi NP, Indira Gandhi NP, Guindy NP, Chitragundi Bird WLS, Kodaikanal WLS, Kanyakumari WLS, Point Calimere WLS Gulf of Manner Marine NP



## 'ANNUAL BANKING STATISTICS 2019 REPORT'

**Current Context:** Switzerland's Central Bank Swiss National Bank (SNB) has released 'Annual Banking Statistics 2019 Report'.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **As per this report, India is ranked at position 77th in terms of money parked by the citizens and enterprises with Swiss Banks in 2019.**
- In 2018, India ranked at position 74th.
- This year, India holds 0.06% of the money deposited in Swiss Bank.
- **The list is topped by the United Kingdom, followed by the United States.**
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of Swiss National Bank: Zurich, Switzerland
  - Chairman of Swiss National Bank: Thomas Jordan

## 'MAHA PARWANA' INITIATIVE —BY MAHARASHTRA

**Current Context:** The State government of Maharashtra has announced the launching of 'Maha Parwana' which is an investment initiative for the industrial sector in the state.

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **The 'Maha Parwana' is an initiative to attract fresh investment in industries with an aim to provide incentives and single-window clearance system for project execution in the state.**
- As per this initiative, the companies with investment proposals of Rs 50 crore or more will get relaxation on getting clearance.
- For this purpose, the respective companies will have to provide an assurance letter of 'Maha Parwana' to the multiple departments.
- Thus the companies will have to apply at Maharashtra Industry, Trade and Investment Facilitation Cell (MAITRI) which is a single-window system and thus will get online permission of clearance within 48 hours.
- **Static Part:**
  - CM of Maharashtra: Uddhav Thackeray
  - Governor of Maharashtra: Bhagat Singh Koshiyari
  - **National Parks and Wild Life Sanctuaries in Maharashtra:** Tadoba Andheri Tiger Reserve, Sanjay Gandhi NP, Chandoli NP, Bhanragarh WLS, Malvan Marine WLS, Karnala Bird Sanctuary, Bhimashankar WLS, Navegaon NP

## INTRODUCTION OF NEW FLOATING RATE SAVING BONDS 2020

**Current Context:** The Government of India has introduced new Floating Rate Saving Bonds (FRSB), which is a taxable scheme in place of 7.75% Saving (Taxable ) Bonds 2018.

## DETAILS

- The new introduction FRSB will be in effect from 1st July 2020.
- The initial 7.75% saving (Taxable) Bonds 2018 were ceased for subscription from the close of banking business recently.
- The FRSB Scheme is going to issue a floating rate, taxable saving bonds for an initial coupon of 7.15% payable on 1st Jan 2021.
- These bonds will be issued by Reserve Bank of India on behalf of Government of India.
- The FRSB scheme will work as an inflation hedge by saving the government from higher cost when rates are low.
- The minimum amount for this scheme will be Rs 1000 with no maximum limit. And the interest on these bonds will be payable semi-annually i.e. on 1st Jan and 1st July every year. The tenure for the bonds is 7 years.

## 'SWAVALAMBAN CRISIS RESPONSIVE FUND'—BY SIDBI

**Current Context:** The 'Swavalamban Crisis Responsive Fund' (SCRF) is set-up by the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **It is an open-ended fund to provide the facility of free onboarding of MSME on Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS) platform.**
- This SCRF comes under Swavalamban Resource Facility which is developed in partnership between SIDBI and DIFD (Department of International Development), United Kingdom.
- SCRF facility will be available till 30th September 2020 and SIDBI aims to attain the target of onboard 10,000 during this predefined tenure.
- Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS) is an electronic platform where receivable of MSMEs are drawn against buyers and they are financed by multiple financiers via an auction.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of SIDBI: Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
  - Chairman and MD of SIDBI: Mohammad Mustafa

## PROMULGATION OF BANKING REGULATION AMENDMENT ORDINANCE 2020

**Current Context:** President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind promulgated Banking Regulation Amendment Ordinance 2020.

## KEY POINTS

- **This step is taken to ensure safety of depositors from all banks by improving governance and oversights.**
- The ordinance will amend the Banking Regulation Act 1949 as applicable to Cooperative Banks.
- The ordinance has extended the control and regulation power of Co-operative banks to RBI.

- The amendments are not applicable to Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) or co-operative societies.
- The amendment has taken place in Section 45 of the Banking Regulation Act and will thus secure proper management even without making an order of moratorium in order to avoid disruption of the finance system.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of RBI: Mumbai
  - Governor of RBI: Shaktikanta Das

## APPOINTMENTS ON 29TH JUNE 2020

**Current Context: Nitin Menon:** He is an Indian Umpire and now has been **inducted to International Cricket Council's Elite Panel of Umpires.**

### ABOUT

- **Vini Mahajan:** She is an IAS Officer and has **appointed as Chief Secretary for Punjab** and has thus become **Punjab's First women Chief Secretary.** She has replaced Karan Avtar Singh.
- **Micheal Martin:** He is elected as new **Prime Minister of Ireland.**
- **Static Part:**
  - Capital of Ireland: Dublin
  - Currency of Ireland: Euro

## G20 EXTRAORDINARY VIRTUAL EDUCATION MINISTER'S MEET

**Current Context: Union Minister of Human Resource and Development, Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank** represented India in the G20 Extraordinary Virtual Education Minister's Meet.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **The virtual meet was organized to address the disruption caused in education sectors in G20 nations due to the outbreak of pandemic COVID-19.**
- The HRD Minister provided a brief review of the actions taken by India to boost education during this pandemic period.
- The meeting was held under the presidency of Saudi Arabia.
- The G20 countries assured to take collaborative measures to improve learning process in the nations.

## AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDIA AND BHUTAN FOR HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

**Current Context: India and Bhutan have signed their first Indo-Bhutan Joint Venture Hydroelectric Project.**

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **It is basically a joint venture between Bhutan Government and Kholongchhu Hydro Energy Limited for 600 Megawatt Kholongchhu Hydroelectric Project.**
- The project will be developed by Kholongchhu Hydro Energy Limited, which is a joint venture company formed between Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Limited (SJVN) of India and Drunk Green Power Corporation (DGPC) of Bhutan.
- The project is expected to complete by the year 2025.
- An underground powerhouse of four 150MW turbines with the water impounded by a concrete gravity dam of 95 meters in height will be developed under this project.
- **Static Part:**
  - Capital of Bhutan: Thimphu
  - Currency of Bhutan: Ngultrum

## WORLD BANK APPROVES LOAN FOR STARS PROJECT

**Current Context:** The International Financial Body, World Bank has approved a loan for India to build STARS Project.

### DETAILS

- **A loan of \$500 million i.e. to about Rs 3700 crore has been sanctioned by the World Bank.**
- **The STARS is basically an Education upliftment project which stands for 'Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for State Program'.**
- STARS Project is undertaken to improve the quality and governance of school education in 6 India states namely Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Rajasthan.
- The project will be executed via Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan.
- **Static Part:**
  - HQ of World Bank: Washington DC, United States
  - President of World Bank: David Malpass

## 'PROJECT PLATINA'—MAHARASHTRA

**Current Context:** Government of Maharashtra has launched 'Project Platina' which is the world's largest plasma therapy trials for COVID-19 patients.

### ABOUT

- In order to develop this project, the state government approved Rs 16.56 crore from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund.
- Under 'Project Platina' the critical patients of COVID-19 will receive two doses of 200 ml of plasma recovered from COVID-19 patients.
- The treatment under this project will be given free of cost.
- The trails of this plasma therapy will be conducted in 17 medical colleges across Maharashtra.
- **Static Part:**
  - CM of Maharashtra: Uddhav Thackeray
  - Governor of Maharashtra: Bhagat Singh Koshyari

- National Parks and Wild Life Sanctuaries in Maharashtra: Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve, Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Chandoli National Park, Gugamal National Park, Navegaon National Park, Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary, Bhamragarh Wildlife Sanctuary, Malvan Marine Sanctuary, Karnala Bird Sanctuary

## APPOINTMENTS ON 30TH JUNE 2020

**Current Context: Lazarus Chakwera:** He is elected as new **President of Malawi**. He has replaced Peter Mutharika.

### DETAILS

- **Static Part:**
  - Capital of Malawi: Lilongwe
  - Currency of Malawi: Kwacha
- **Anandiben Patel:** She is currently Governor of Uttar Pradesh. But also has given an **additional charge as Governor of Madhya Pradesh**.
- **Static Part:**
  - CM of Uttar Pradesh: Yogi Adityanath
  - CM Of Madhya Pradesh: Shivraj Singh Chauhan

## 49TH GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING OF NPC

**Current Context: The 49th Governing Council Meeting of NPC was chaired by Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal. He is also the President of NPC (National Productivity Council).**

### KEY POINTS

- NPC, an autonomous body which comes under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, GOI.
- The 49th Governing Council Meeting of NPC was attended by government officers, leaders of the industry association, industrial captains, trade union leaders, productivity council of states.
- The officials and the concerned members discussed on increasing productivity of India in various sector.
- And has decided to come forward to provide various suggestions on interlinking of academic with industry and vice versa in order to develop skilled labours in various sectors including logistics, agriculture, technology etc.