

AUGUST 2020

Monthly

One-

Liner GK

Digest

**BANK
EXAMS
Today**

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

'State of Environmental Emergency'- by Mauritius

- The island nation Mauritius has declared '**State of Environmental Emergency**'.
- It is declared by the island nation because Japanese bulk carrier "MV Wakashio" ran aground on a Mauritius's reef and has begun leaking of oil into the ocean.

UK launched Innovation Challenge Fund in India

- The United Kingdom has launched **3 million pound Innovation Challenge Fund** in India.

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- The funds will offer finance to **Indian Scientist associated with academics and industries in India** so that they can work to find a solution to tackle COVID-19 and Climate change issue.

NATIONAL NEWS

'MSMESaksham' - Portal by SIDBI and TransUnion CIBIL

- The **Small Industries and Development Bank of India (SIDBI)** in partnership with TransUnion CIBIL has launched a portal named as 'MSMESaksham'.
- The 'MSMESaksham' portal is a comprehensive **financial education and a knowledge platform for MSME sector.**

AIM, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Wadhvani Foundation

- The 'AIM-iCREST' is an incubator capabilities enrichment and enhancement program which aims to build robust ecosystem. It will focus on **startups and will develop innovative skills in India.**

MSME launched Programme for Manufacturing of Agarbatti

- Ministry of MSME has launched a programme **to uplift the artisans who manufacture Agarbatti.**
- The programme is launched under '**Gramodyog Vikas Yojana**'. The program will help to uplift and develop village industries.

ARHCs Knowledge Pack & Mobile App of CREDAI

- **Minister of State (independent charge) for MoHUA (Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs)** has launched Affordable Rental Housing Complexes Pack and an Awaas app for Confederation of Real Estate Developers and Association of India (CREDAI).

'Bharat Air Fibre Services' launched at Akola, Maharashtra

- Union minister for **state for HRD, Electronics and Communication and IT, Sanjay Dhotre** has inaugurated 'Bharat Air Fibre Services' at Akola Maharashtra.
- The Bharat Fiber Service will provide **Wireless fibre internet connection to the residents of Akola.**

Sahakar Cooptube NCDC Channel

- **Union Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar** has launched Sahakar Cooptube NCDC Channel, it is initiative which comes under NCDC (National Cooperative Development Corporation).

India contributes to India-UN Development Partnership Fund

- Government of India has contributed financial support to **India-UN Development Partnership Fund.**
- India has contributed **USD 15.46 million** to the fund which will act as financial support to developing nations.

Bharti Airtel partners with Amazon Web Services

- **Bharti Airtel has entered into a partnership with Amazon Web Services (AWS)** in order to provide cloud solutions to SMEs in India.
- **AWS technical professional services** will be supporting AWS cloud practice which will be developed by Airtel cloud.

India provided Financial Support to Maldives

- India has offered a Line of Credit to the island nation Maldives to support and expand its fishing facility at **MIFCO (Maldives Industrial Fisheries Company)**.
- A-Line of Credit worth **18 million US dollars** is offered by India.

'Pride of Punjab' Programme

- The **Pride of Punjab Programme** is launched by CM of Punjab.
- The programme is launched in partnership between the **Department of Youth Science and Sports and YuWaah** (Joint platform of UNICEF, UN Agencies and Civil society organisations).

Delhi Electric Vehicle Policy

- Government of Delhi has launched '**Delhi Electric Vehicle Policy**'.
- This is the progressive policy which will **boost the economy. Reduce pollution and will create employment opportunities.**

Maharashtra partners with Google

- **Government of Maharashtra has partnered with Google** to start virtual educational classes to the students.
- **1.09 lakh government, private, aided and unaided school** will be given online virtual education by google.

Virtual Office Network to Spearhead Tribal Socio-Economic Development

- The entity of **Ministry of Tribal Affairs, TRIFED (Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India)** has launched Virtual Office Network to Spearhead Tribal Socio-Economic Development.
- The virtual office network was launched on the occasion of **33rd Foundation Day of TRIFED**.

Submarine Cable Connectivity to Andaman & Nicobar Islands (CANI)

- **Submarine Cable Connectivity to Andaman & Nicobar Islands (CANI)** has been launched via video conference by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- This **submarine Optical Fibre Cable (OFC)** will provide a connectivity for Chennai, Tamil Nadu and Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar Island.

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Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Policy 2020-23

- The **government of Andhra Pradesh** has launched its Industrial Development Policy 2020-23 in order to have industrial and corporate sector development in the state.
- The new industrial policy will lead to **regional growth and global investment in the state**.

'Surakhsya' a National Portal on Human Elephant Conflict

- **Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change** has launched a national portal on Human-Elphant conflict. The name of the portal is 'Surakhsya'.
- The portal is launched with an aim **to collect real-time data and to manage the conflicts in real-time basis**.

'Sputnik V'-- World's 1st Coronavirus Vaccine

- Russia has developed and named its **first coronavirus vaccine as 'Sputnik V'**.
- The name 'Sputnik V' is given in **reference and respect to the world's first satellite**.

'nth Rewards'—Launched by NPCI

- **National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI)** has developed and launched a business intelligence and analytics-based omnichannel, multi-branded loyalty platform named as 'nth Rewards'.
- The platform is launched **to grow customer base and become the one-stop-shop for banks**.

'Transparent Taxation-Honoring the Honest' Platform

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched a platform called **'Transparent Taxation-Honoring the Honest'**.
- The platform is launched **to carry forward the direct tax reforms and to honour the honest taxpayers**.

India provides Financial Support to Antigua and Barbuda

- India has offered a financial helping hand to the **government of Antigua and Barbuda**.
- The financial assistance of **USD 1 million** is offered by India.

AYUSH for Immunity Campaign

- Ministry of AYUSH a campaign titled **'AYUSH for Immunity'** which will be carried out for three months.
- 'AYUSH for Immunity' campaign is launched with the aim of **enhancing immunity among people so that they can fight any disease**.

National Digital Health Mission

- On the occasion of **74th Independence Day of India**, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched National Digital Health Mission.
- The aim behind this **National Digital Health Mission** is to revolutionize the health sector of India.

'Fit India Youth Clubs'

- **Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Kiren Rijiji** has launched an initiative called as 'Fit India Youth Clubs'.
- It's a nationwide initiative which aims **to promote importance of health fitness among every citizen of India.**

'Yellow Chain' e-commerce Platform-Nagaland

- The government of Nagaland has launched an **e-commerce platform named as 'Yellow Chain'.**
- The platform will promote **local businesses and entrepreneurs of the state.**

Electronic Manufacturing Policy 2020---Uttar Pradesh

- This policy aims to invite an investment of **Rs 40,000 crores for the upcoming 5 years** in the state.
- The policy also aims **to develop 4 lakh employment opportunities in the state.**

Swadeshi Microprocessor Challenge-Innovate Solution for #Aatmanirbhar Bharat

- **Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad** has launched a challenge which is called as:- Swadeshi Microprocessor Challenge-Innovate Solution for #Aatmanirbhar Bharat.
- The challenge is launched with an aim **to invite startups, innovators and students and their professors** to use microprocessors and carry out research in this field.

National Recruitment Agency approved by Union Cabinet

- **Union Cabinet has approved to set up National Recruitment Agency (NRA)** which will conduct Common Eligibility Test (CET).
- The approval to set NRA was given by union cabinet which is headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the announcement for same was made by **Union Minister Prakash Javadekar.**

'Pavitrapati' and 'Aushada Tara'- Launched by DIAT

- The two products named as '**Pavitrapati**' and '**Aushada Tara**' are launched to combat COVID-19.
- The products are launched by **Defence Institute of Advanced Research (DIAT), Pune.**

'Green Deposit Programme'- HSBC India

- The 'Green Deposit Programme' is launched for corporate clients who will be responsible **to provide finance to the green initiative projects and eco-friendly projects.**

Open API Service Feature in Aarogya Setu App

- An Open API Service feature has been added in the **Aarogya Setu App by GOI.**
- The aim behind the introduction of this new feature is **to help people, businesses and economy** in its efforts to return to normalcy.

'Harit Path' App to Monitor Plantation along National Highways

- **Union Minister for road transport and highways** launched an app called 'Harit Path' app.
- The 'Harit Path' app will **monitor and track the trees plantation** along the national highways.

WHO Urges countries to Join Against COVID-19 'Vaccine Nationalism'

- To provide COVID-19 vaccines worldwide, the World Health Organization (WHO) has urged countries to join its **Covid-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX)** facility by **31st August 2020**, for ensuring less wealthy countries have access to COVID-19 vaccines.

Draft Health Data Management Policy—By National Health Authority

- The draft proposes to **secure electronic health records, electronic medical records** by adopting technical measures and thus to increase data privacy.

NITI Aayog launched NDC-TIA Indian Component

- NITI Aayog has launched an Indian component called as **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)-Transport Initiative for Asia (TIA)**, which is a multi-stakeholder dialogue platform.

7 New Circles of Archaeological Survey of India

- The **Union Ministry of Culture and Tourism** announced 7 new circles of Archaeological Survey of India.
- The new circles belong to the states of **Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, West Bengal and Gujrat**.

'Chunauti'--A Next Generation Startup Challenge Contest

- **Union Minister for Electronics and Information Technology** has launched a next-generation startup challenge contest, titled as 'Chunauti'.
- The contest is launched to **boost and encourage startups and software products** especially in tier-II cities of India.

Uttar Pradesh partners with Israel

- The agreement is signed to solve the water crisis and to **have proper water management in the Bundelkhand region**.
- Hence the **UP government has signed this agreement under 'plan of cooperation'** with Israel's water resource minister.

Ministry of Tourism partners with TAAI and FICCI Ladies Organisation

- Ministry of Tourism has signed an agreement **with Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) and FICCI Ladies Organisation (FLO)**.
- The agreement is signed **for the purpose of women empowerment**.

CMIA partners with UNDP

- The **Chambers of Marathwada Industries and Agriculture (CMIA)** has partnered with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) to form a help desk for the MSMEs in India.

'Pensioners Corner' Mobile App—By CISF

- The **Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)** has developed and launched a mobile app called 'Pensioners Corner'.

Punjab passed a Resolution Against Centre's Farm Ordinance

- The Punjab assembly passed and gave **approval for a resolution against Centre's Farm Ordinance**.
- The resolution was tabled by **Punjab's CM Amarinder Singh**.

Agriota: Tech Driven Agri Commodity Trading and Sourcing e-market

- The platform is launched **to bridge the gap between Indian rural farmers and food industries** of Gulf countries.

BANKING

BOB Financial Solutions Partners with Innoviti Payment

- This will allow BOB credit card holders to access EMIs which will be repaid conveniently via their credit cards. The offers are in terms of **convenient and affordable EMI payment options**.
- The credit card holders all over India can take benefit of this service from over **70,000 Innoviti Payment Solutions across more than 1000 cities**.

Virtual Museum of Security Market

- The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has decided to develop a virtual museum of security markets in India.
- This virtual museum will highlight the **achievements of the capital markets of India**.

RBI Monetary Policy Updates

- The **Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of Reserve Bank of India** has released new updates related to monetary policy rates on 6th Aug 2020.
- As per the announcement by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das, the **repo rate is kept unchanged to 4%**.

Innovation Hub for Financial Sector in India—By RBI

- Reserve Bank of India has announced that it will be setting up an **'Innovation Hub' in India**.
- The aim behind developing an innovation hub is **to increase and deepen financial inclusion and promote banking services effectively and efficiently to the citizens**.

'Smart Plan Shop Package Policy'

- A newly launched insurance product named as '**Smart Plan Shop Package Policy**' is launched by Airtel Payment Bank in partnership with Bharti AXA General Insurance.
- The '**Smart Plan Shop Package Policy**' will offer financial protection **to bank's retailers and merchants.**

RBI sets up Committee to Suggest Financial Parameters to Tackle COVID-19

- The Reserve Bank of India has set up a committee which will work **to tackle the financial parameters which have arisen due to COVID-19 related stressed assets.**
- The **committee is headed by K V Kamath.** The committee will be submitting its solutions and recommendations to RBI in 30 days.

RBI to implement System Based Asset Clarification in Urban Co-operative Banks

- Reserve Bank of India has taken the decision to implement system-based asset clarification in **urban co-operative banks (UCBs).**
- The decision is taken **to improve efficiency, transparency and integrity** on the clarification process of assets in UCBs.

Federal Bank Credit Card

- **Federal Bank has partnered with Fiserv Inc.** to launch its 'Federal Bank Credit Card', which is their first independent credit card.
- For this credit card, Federal Bank will make use of **FirstVision technology of Fiserv Inc.**

'Shaurya Kisan Gold Credit (KGC) Card'

- HDFC Bank has launched '**Shaurya Kisan Gold Credit (KGC) Card**'.
- It is the tri-colour theme-based card which is launched for Indian Armed Forces i.e. **Indian Army, Indian Navy, Indian Air Force and Para Military Forces** and to their families.

'Digital Apnayan' — By Punjab National Bank

- The aim behind launching this campaign is **to encourage customers to prefer digital banking system.**
- The **campaign will be in progress till 31st March 2021** and was launched on the occasion of Independence Day of India.

ADB approved Loan for India's Rapid Transit System

- Asian Development Bank has approved the **loan to construct the modern, high speed Delhi-Meerut, Uttar Pradesh RRTS (Regional Rapid Transit System),** which will be of 82 km long.
- For this purpose, ADB has approved to grant loan of **USD 1 Billion i.e. Rs 7458 crore to India.**

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RBI releases Draft for Self-Regulatory Body for Payment System Operators

- The **Reserve Bank of India has released a draft framework** which will offer a grant of recognition to association of industry to be termed as Self-Regulatory Organisation (SRO) for Payment System Operators (PSO).
- SRO will be responsible **to frame and enforce rules for PSO in order to protect customers** and promote ethics, quality and professionalism.

'Framework for Authorisation of Pan-India Umbrella Entity for Retail Payments'

- The Reserve Bank of India has released **'Framework for authorisation of pan-India Umbrella Entity for Retail Payments'**.
- This **new pan-India umbrella Entity** will be set up with a capital of Rs 500 crore.

'National Strategy for Financial Education 2020-2025'- RBI

- The Reserve Bank of India has released a **national strategy for the financial education** for a period of five years.
- This **National Strategy for Financial Education 2020-2025** aims to create a financial aware and empowered India.

GST exemption to the Businesses with Annual Turnover of upto Rs 40 lakh

- The ministry of finance has made an announcement **to exempt the businesses with an annual turnover of Rs 40 lakh from GST.**
- Earlier the businesses with **an annual turnover of Rs 20 lakh** were exempted from GST.

Debt and Credit Guarantee Programme introduced by NABARD

- The name of the programme or the product is **'Structured Finance and Partial Guarantee Program'**.
- The **'Structured Finance and Partial Guarantee Program'** will provide **partial guarantee on pooled loans offered to NBFCs and MFIs.**

RBI Annual Report 2019-2020

- The **gross non-performing ratio of the banking system has reduced to 9.1%** when compared with March 2019 which was 11.2%.

ICICI Bank uses Satellite Data to Assess Credit worthiness of Farmers

- ICICI Bank is making use of imagery from earth observation satellites i.e. **making use of data from the satellite to Assess Credit worthiness of farmers.**
- Thus by doing so, ICICI Bank has become the **first bank in India to use such an advance technique.**

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Liberty Saving Account—By Axis Bank

- The Liberty Saving Account will address the need of the youth and digitally interested Indians like **changing lifestyles and hospital cash insurance covers.**

National GIS enabled Land Bank System

- The system is developed by **integrating the Industrial Information System (IIS)** to the State's GIS. Until now, six major states are included in this system.

HDFC Bank partners with Adobe

- HDFC Bank has entered into a partnership with Adobe **to offer and enhance the digital experience to its customers.**

'Smart Assist'- By Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Company Ltd

- Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Company Ltd has launched **'Smart Assist'**.
- 'Smart Assist' is a **real-time technology-based** assistant service.

Canara HSBC OBC Life Insurance partnered with Andhra Pragathi Grameena Bank

- The **partnership is made to sell insurance policies related to life, health and pension** of Canara HSBC OBC Life Insurance at branches of APGB.

INDEX AND RANKING

Atal Rankings of Institutions on Innovation Achievements 2020

- As per the rankings, **IIT Madras has retained its top position in ARIIA for this year** as well. IIT Madras is remarked as the best centrally funded institution in India.
- The rankings were declared on the basis of **two broad categories and six subcategories.**

NITI Aayog's Export Preparedness Index 2020

- The **EPI 2020 identifies challenges and opportunities** along with the encouragement of facilitative regulatory framework.
- The ranking for **EPI 2020 is topped by Gujarat.**

APPOINTMENTS

Name of the Person	Designation
Hamed Bakayoko	Prime Minister of Ivory Coast
Urjit Patel	Additional and Independent Director of Great Eastern Shipping Company Ltd

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Varus Sridhar	CEO of Paytm Money
Hardik Satishchandra Shah	New Private Secretary to Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Mohamed Irfaan Ali	President of Guyana
Pradip Shah	Head of the committee which will suggest ways to boost International Retail Businesses in India
Ashwini Kumar Tewari	MD and CEO of SBI Card
Sashidhar Jagdishan	CEO of HDFC Bank
Manoj Sinha	Next Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir
Ajay Tyagi	Chairman of SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India)
G C Murmu	New Comptroller and Auditor General of India
Suresh Raina and Harmanpreet Kaur	Brand Ambassador for WTF Sports
P S Ranipse	Inspector General (IG) in Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)
Pradeep Kumar Joshi	Chairman of UPSC (Union Public Service Commission)
Hardayal Prasad	MD and CEO of PNB Housing Finance Limited
G K Pillai	Head the committee to determine the ceiling rates under remissions of duties and taxes on exported products (RoDTEP) scheme
Mahinda Rajapaksa	Prime Minister of Sri Lanka
Walter Roger Martos Ruiz	Prime Minister of Peru
Alexander Lukashenko	Presidential Election for Belarus
Harsh Kumar Bhanwala	Executive Chairman of Capital India Finance Limited
IRS Patanjali	Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, Mumbai
Mohamed Ould Bilal	Prime Minister of Mauritania
Vice Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi	Director General Naval Operations (DGNO)
SS Mundra	Non-Executive Chairman of Indiabulls Housing Finance (IBH)
Soma Mondal	Chairman of SAIL (Steel Authority of India Limited)
Suhail Sameer	Group President of BharatPe
Kaushik Khona	CEO of GoAir
Rakesh Asthana	Director General of Border Security Force (BSF)
Satya Pal Malik	Governor of Meghalaya
Bhagat Singh Koshyari	Governor of Goa
GP Garg	New Executive Director of SEBI (Securities Exchange Board of India)
Rohit Sharma	Brand Ambassador of Oakley
Rajiv Kumar	Election Commissioner of India
Francisco Asue	Prime Minister of Republic of Equatorial Guinea
Ashwani Bhatia	MD of State Bank of India (SBI)
Vinay M Tonse	MD and CEO of SBI Funds Management Pvt Ltd (SBIFMPL)
Jasneet Kaur	Chief Human resource Officer of BharatPe

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Sandip Patel	Chair the forum on Artificial Intelligence formed by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
Lt Gen Shekatkar	Head the three member committee to review the utilization of Armed Forces Headquarters Civil Services (AFHCS)
Mustapha Adib	Prime Minister of Lebanon

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Award	Awardee
Asian College of Journalism's (ACJ) Award 2019	Nitin Sethi and Shiv Sahay Singh
'Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award 2019	Wing Commander Gajanand Yadava
Rashtritya Khel Protsahan Puraskar 2020	Army Sports Institute, Pune
International Booker Prize 2020 for her debut novel 'The Discomfort of Evening'	Marieke Lucas Rijneveld
National Award to Teachers 2020	Sudha Painuli

IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme
1 st August 2020	Muslim Women's Right Day	--
3 rd August 2020	World Sanskrit Day	--
6 th August 2020	Hiroshima Day	--
7 th August 2020	National Handloom Day	--
8 th August 2020	78th Anniversary of Quit India Movement or August Kranti Din	--
9 th August 2020	International Day of World's Indigenous People	Theme: 'COVID-19 and Indigenous People Resilience'
10 th August 2020	World Biofuel Day	Theme: 'Biofuels towards Atmanirbhar Bharat'
12 th August 2020	International Youth Day	Theme: Youth Engagement for Global Action
12 th August 2020	World Elephant Day	--
13 th August 2020	World Organ Donation Day	--
13 th August 2020	International Left Handers Day	--
15 th August 2020	74th Independence Day of India	--
19 th August 2020	World Humanitarian Day	--
19 th August 2020	World Photography Day	--
20 th August 2020	Renewable Energy Day or Indian Akshay Urja	--
20 th August 2020	Harmony Day or Sadbhavana Diwas	--

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23 rd August 2020	International Day for Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition	--
24 th August To 28 th August 2020	World Water Week 2020	Theme: 'Water and Climate Change: Accelerating Action'
26 th August 2020	Women's Equality Day	--
29 th August 2020	International Day against Nuclear Tests	--
29 th August 2020	National Sports Day	--
29 th August 2020	Telugu Language Day	--
30 th August 2020	International Day of Victims of Enforced Disappearances	--

MOUS SIGNED

KVIC signed MoU with ITBP

- The **Khadi and Village Industries Commissions (KVIC)** has signed an MoU with Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP).
- The MoU is signed to supply **mustard oil under the initiative of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat.**

Predictive Analysis of Public Grievances

- The MoU is signed to **conduct Predictive Analysis of Public Grievances.**
- Under this MoU IIT Kanpur will be developing and **Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) methods.**

NHAI signs MoU with IIT Delhi

- The **National Highway Authority of India** has signed an MoU with **IIT Delhi** to make use of Artificial Intelligence in data-driven decision making and to develop ADMS (Advanced Data Management System for Highways) Highways in the country.

BSE signs MoU with Akola based Bullion Trade Association

- **Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)** has signed MoU with two Akola, Maharashtra based **Bullion Trade Association** namely, Akola Sarafa Association and Akola Sarafa Va Suvarnakar Yuva Sang.
- The MoU is signed to **deepen the commodity derivative market in India.**

PFC Ltd to construct Modular Operation Theatre Rooms

- The **Power Finance Corporation Ltd** has entered with an MoU with **District Siddharthnagar, Uttar Pradesh** to construct two Modular Operation Theatre Rooms.
- Under this MoU, PFC will provide **financial support of Rs 94,00,000.**

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Flipkart Signs MoU with IIT Patna

- The MoU is signed **to work for industry focused research.**
- Under this MoU, industry focused research will be carried out in the field of AI, **Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Machine Learning (ML).**

All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) signs MoU with Delhi Police

- The MoU is signed to **offer Ayurveda Preventive and Promotive Health Services to the police** and their families at their residential colonies in Delhi.
- The Ayurveda services will be offered through a mobile unite which is named as **'Dhanwantari Rath'.**

Atal Innovation Mission Partners with Business Sweden

- **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) of NITI Aayog has partnered with Business Sweden** on behalf of India-Sweden Healthcare Innovation Centre.

Ministry of Skill Development partners Ministry of Shipping

- **Ministry of Skill Development** has signed an agreement with the Ministry of Shipping.
- The agreement is signed **to achieve skill development in the port and maritime sector.**

GOI, Gov. of Maharashtra and MRVC signs MoU with AIIB

- Government of India, **Government of Maharashtra and Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation (MRVC)** has signed a loan agreement with Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB).
- The loan agreement is for **USD 500 million.**

APEDA signs MoU with AFC India Ltd and NCUI, Delhi

- The MoU is signed to uplift the agriculture and allied sectors in order **to bring better value to the stakeholders.**

NeGD signs MoU with CSC E-Governance Services India Ltd

- **National e-Governance Division (NeGD) has entered into MoU** with CSC (Common Service Center) E-Governance Services India Ltd.
- The MoU is signed to offer **UMANG services to citizens.**

IIT Alumni Council signs MoU with Russia to build Quantum Computers

- IIT Alumni Council has signed MoU with **Russia's Lomonosov Moscow State University (MSU) and Russoft** to build the world's largest and fastest hybrid quantum computer in India.

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

Indira Rasoi Yojana- Rajasthan

- **Government of Rajasthan** has launched Indira Rasoi Yojana. The scheme will be initiated from 20th August 2020 in the state.
- The aim of this scheme is to achieve the goal of **'No Hunger No Sleep'**.

'Vidyarthi Vigyaan Manthan 2020-21'

- **Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan** has launched 'Vidyarthi Vigyaan Manthan (VVM) 2020-21' initiative.
- This initiative is launched to make science and technology subject interesting to the students from class 6th to 11th.

'Ek Mask- Anek Zindagi'—Launched in Madhya Pradesh

- **State Government of Madhya Pradesh** has started a campaign 'Ek Mask- Anek Zindagi' (One mask many lives). The campaign is launched by MP's Urban Development and Housing Minister Bhupendra Singh.

Parivar Pehchan Patras-- Haryana

- **Government of Haryana** has launched an identity card named as Parivar Pehchan Patras.
- It is developed by **team members of Chief Ministers Office(CMO)**.

Parivar Pehchan Patras-- Haryana

- **Government of Haryana** has launched an identity card named as Parivar Pehchan Patras.
- The card will be issued to each family of the state and it is said to reach to around 54 lakh families of Haryana.

'Krishi Megh'—Launched by Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar

- The **Union Minister of Agriculture and Family Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar** launched the National Agriculture Research and Education System- Cloud Infrastructure and Services, named as 'Krishi Megh'.
- This agriculture research and its educational system Krishi Megh is **designed with the features of digital agriculture of New India**.

Mukhya Mantri Kisan Sahay Yojana--Gujarat

- The **government of Gujarat** has launched Mukhya Mantri Kisan Sahay Yojana.
- Mukhya Mantri Kisan Sahay Yojana will replace current insurance scheme (Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana) for this current year only.

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'Orunodol Scheme'—Launched by Assam

- The scheme will be available **to the beneficiaries from 17th August 2020.**
- Under this scheme, financial support of **Rs 830 per months** will be credited to the bank account of a female person of the family.

Chhattisgarh launched Various Scheme

- **Government of Chhattisgarh has launched various schemes which are mentioned below:**
 - **'Bultu Ke Bol'**: It is the Bluetooth based programme which will provide study materials to the students living in remote areas where they do not have access to the internet.
 - **Radhabai Diagnostic Centre Scheme**: This scheme aims to offer pathology and other facilities at economically lower price rates to the people.

'Ek Sankalp-Bujurgo ke Naam' Campaign—Madhya Pradesh

- The campaign is launched for **those elder and helpless people who are staying alone in their homes** in the pandemic situation of COVID-19.

'Green Deposit Programme'- HSBC India

- The 'Green Deposit Programme' is launched for corporate clients who will be responsible to provide finance **to the green initiative projects and eco-friendly projects.**

Major Dhyan Chand Vijaypath Yojana—Uttar Pradesh

- **Government of Uttar Pradesh** has launched Major Dhyan Chand Vijaypath Yojana.
- Under this yojana, road connectivity will be **established upto the houses of 19 international players.**

DEFENCE

Anti-Drone System—By DRDO

- **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** has developed and deployed an anti-drone system near Red Fort on the occasion on 74th Independence Day of India.
- This anti-drone system has the capability **to detect and jam micro drones to 3km range.**

'MY IAF' app—By Indian Air Force

- The app will provide data related **to career options to the aspirants who wish to join the Indian Air Force.**

India decides to Pull Out of Kavkaz 2020 Military Exercise

- India has taken the decision to withdraw participation in **Kavkaz 2020 military exercise.**
- Kavkaz 2020 is the **international military exercise** was is to be held in Russia.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

'Paytm All-in-One Portable Android Smart POS'

- India's first Pocket Android POS device named as '**Paytm All-in-One Portable Android Smart POS**' is launched by Paytm.
- The '**Paytm All-in-One Portable Android Smart POS**' will offer a **digital platform to many SME's in the country.**

Air Unique Quality Monitoring (AUM) Photonic System

- The system is titled as '**Air Unique Quality Monitoring (AUM) Photonic System**'.
- The system is developed by **Scientific and Industrial Research Center (GVP-SIRC)** and GVP College of Engineering, Visakhapatnam.

Price Monitoring and Resource Unit (PMRU) -- Karnataka

- **Price Monitoring and Resource Unit (PMRU)** is established in Karnataka.
- The announcement for the establishment of PMRU was made by **Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilisers DV Sadananda Gowda.**

NTPC develops Infrastructure at Rihand Project, Uttar Pradesh

- The **National Thermal Power Corporation** has developed an infrastructure at Rihand Project in Uttar Pradesh.
- The infrastructure is developed **to conduct transportation of fly ash (coal combustion product) to cement plants at low cost.**

'Kormo App' - By Google

- The app is launched **to help people in fading employment opportunities and jobs.**
- The app will prove **beneficial to millions of Indians to get jobs as per their qualification.**

AIR Scanner—IIT Bombay

- The AIR Scanner app is developed with an aim to have a **replacement for Chinese based scanning apps.**
- The app is developed by **Rohit Kumar Chaudhary and Kavin Agrawal**, students from IIT Bombay.

SPORTS

'E-Pathshala'—By AIFF and SAI

- **All India Football Federation (AIFF)** has joined with **Sports Authority of India (SAI)** to launch an e-platform called '**E-pathshala**'.
- The e-platform will provide **athlete coaching program in football to the children.**

SUMMITS AND CONFERENCES

Conference on 'Ease of Doing Business for Aatma Nirbhar Bharat'

- **Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal** inaugurated a conference on 'Ease of Doing Business for Aatma Nirbhar Bharat'.
- This '**Ease of Doing Business for Aatma Nirbhar Bharat**' is national digital conference of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in partnership with Department for Promotion of Investment and Internal Trade (DPIIT).

6th BRICS Environment Ministers Meet

- The **6th BRICS Environment Ministers Meeting** was conducted via video conference. The meeting was participated by all the environment minister of the BRICS nation.
- India was represented by **Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar**.

Conclave on Transformational Reforms in Higher Education under NEP

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the inaugural ceremony of Conclave on **Transformational Reforms in Higher Education under NEP (National Education Policy)**.
- PM Modi stated that upon successful implementation of NEP 2020 will create **major positive reforms in the education sector**.

India Canada IC-IMPACTS Annual Research Conference

- The **India Canada Annual Research Conference** was hosted by IC-IMPACTS (India Canada Centre-Innovative Multidisciplinary Partnership to Accelerate Community Transformation and Sustainability).
- The members in the conference discussed **to make use of Artificial Intelligence in vast applications**.

'India@75 Summit-Mission 2022'

- Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has **organized 'India@75 Summit-Mission 2022'**.
- **Union Minister of MSME and Road Transport and Highway, Nitin Gadkari** addressed the India@75 Summit-Mission 2022'.

4th Meet of BRICS Anti- Drug Working Group

- The meeting was chaired by **Russia** and was participated by respective members of each BRICS nation.
- India was represented by **Rakesh Asthana, who is DG of Narcotics Control Bureau (HQ: New Delhi)**.

13th India-UAE Joint Commission Meet on Trade, Economic, Technical Cooperation

- On 17th August, the **13th session of India-UAE Joint Commission Meet on Trade, Economic and Technical Cooperation** was conducted virtually.

Monthly One-Liner GK Digest: August 2020

- The meeting was conducted between **Union External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar** and **Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan**.

6th Roundtable of ASEAN-India Network of Think Tanks (AINTT)

- The Union Minister of External Affairs participated in **6th Roundtable of ASEAN-India Network of Think Tanks (AINTT)**.
- In this event, he highlighted the need to go beyond orthodox in the **field of trade, politics and security**.

5th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament

- The conference was organized by **Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Geneva** in partnership with Parliament of Austria with a support from United Nations.

National Coordination Committee Meeting between India and Uzbekistan

- In the meeting, the **dignitaries of both the nations discussed their bilateral interest** like Line of Credit projects, trade between them and investment support.

Indo Japan Business Forum

- In order to **boost investment in the electronics manufacturing sector**, CM announced a 25% capital investment subsidy on land.

14th India Singapore Defence Policy Dialogue (DPD)

- India was represented by **Defence Secretary Dr Ajay Kumar** and **Singapore** was represented by Permanent Secretary of Defence Mr. Chan Heng Kee.

World Urdu Conference 2020

- The conference was organized by the **National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL)**.
- The conference was virtually addressed by **Union Education Minister, Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank**.

ASEAN India Business Council Meet

- The **ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) India Business Council Meet** was addressed by union commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal.
- He assured to achieve a target of **\$300 billion by boosting trade activities and businesses** among the ASEAN nations.