

July 2021

MONTHLY ONE-LINER GK DIGEST



www.BankExamsToday.com

CONTENTS

International News.....	1
National News.....	2
Banking.....	5
Reports.....	10
Index and Ranking.....	10
Appointments.....	11
Awards and Honours.....	12
Important Days.....	13
Mous Signed.....	14
Government Schemes.....	16
Defence.....	19
Science and Technology.....	20
Summits and Conferences.....	21

MONTHLY ONE-LINER GK DIGEST: JULY 2021

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

US announced USD 41 million COVID-19 Assistance Support to India

- The support will help India to strengthen its economy and be prepared for future health emergencies.
- The financial support of USD 41 million is granted through United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

'Vision for Everyone'

- The 'Vision for Everyone' will address the impact of vision loss on sustainable development.
- Its objective will be to grant eye care services to at least 1.1 billion people suffering from vision issues by 2030.

NATIONAL NEWS

'Fund for Industrial Research Engagement (FIRE)'

- The **'Fund for Industrial Research Engagement (FIRE)'** was launched by Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) in partnership with Intel India.
- The Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) is a **statutory body of the Department of Science and Technology (DST)**.

Flipkart Partnered with PhonePe

- The e-commerce platform Flipkart partnered with PhonePe to launch a contactless **'Scan and Pay'** feature for Flipkart's pay-on-delivery orders.
- Earlier, the customers of Flipkart used to use PhonePe's QR code solution for cash on delivery and used to pay digitally through any UPI app.

New Cabinet Ministers and Their Portfolios

- The **Union Cabinet headed by PM Narendra Modi** was expanded with the addition of a new council of ministers.
- The **43 Ministers, including 15 new Cabinet Ministers and 28 Ministers of State (MoS)**, took the oath of office at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in the presence of President Ram Nath Kovind and Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

GOI Forms 25 member Development Council for the Cement Industry

- The **25 member DCCI will be headed under the chairmanship of Puneet Dalmia**, CMD in Dalmia Bharat Group.
- The council will recommend measures to **eliminate waste, obtain maximum production, improve quality, reduce costs and promote standardization of products**.

UP Population (Control, Stabilization, and Welfare) Bill, 2021

- The government of **Uttar Pradesh** announced a new population bill called as **'Uttar Pradesh Population (Control, Stabilization, and Welfare) Bill, 2021'**.
- The bill aims to **tackle the population menace in the state**. The UP's population is around 220 million and is India's most populous state.

Assam Gov. to setup New Dept. to Protect Indigenous Faith and Culture

- The cabinet of Assam announced that it will create a new department that will work to **protect the culture and practices of tribal people and other indigenous communities**.
- The **new department will make sure that the indigenous population of the state** will get the right to preserve their faith and traditions and will offer the requisite support for the same.

16 National Highway Projects in Manipur

- The **Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways, Nitin Gadkari** inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for 16 national highway projects in Manipur.
- The total cost of the projects is **Rs 4,148 crores and will cover the length of 298 km.**

'iDREAMS' -- NCRTC

- The **National Capital Regional Transport Corporation (NCRTC)** announced that it will be implementing 'Integrated Real-time Enterprise Asset Management System (iDREAMS)' in Indian Railways.
- The iDREAMS will **offer digital solutions in asset management. The digital solution will be in a cost-effective manner.**

T-Hub partnered with AIM

- They have **collaborated to enhance innovation and entrepreneurship** in the healthcare sector.
- They also launched a **3-month cohort-based program called as 'AIC T-Hub Foundation'.**

Interweave partnered with UN Women

- The **Diversity consulting organisation named Interweave** partnered with **UN Women** which is the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.
- They have entered into partnerships **to help corporate sectors to implement United Nations Women's Empowerment Principles (UNWEP) in India.**

India's First Grain ATM

- India's first 'Grain ATM' was set up as a **pilot project in Gurugram, Haryana.**
- India's first 'Grain ATM' is called an **'Automated, Multi Commodity, Grain Dispensing Machine'.**

BUSY Accounting Software partnered with ICICI Bank

- The **business accounting software called BUSY** has collaborated with ICICI Bank to offer banking solutions.
- The ICICI Bank's **current account holders will be able to securely connect their bank account to BUSY Accounting Software.**

CESL partnered with WRI India

- The subsidiary of **state-owned Energy Efficiency Services Ltd** named **Convergence India Services Ltd (CESL)** has signed an MoU with World Resources Institute (WRI) India.
- They have collaborated **to help state governments to frame strategies for the transition to electric mobility in the coming years.**

PM Modi inaugurated Railways Projects in Gujarat

- **PM Modi** also inaugurated a **5-star hotel at the Gandhinagar railway station.** The hotel was constructed at the cost of Rs 790 crore.

- The Mahesana-Varetha line was converted to an electrified broad gauge line with the required cost of approx. Rs 367 crore.

IOC to setup India's 1st 'Green hydrogen' Plant in UP

- This 'green hydrogen' plant will make India prepare for the future in terms of oil and cleaner forms of energy.
- For this, the IOC will utilise 250 MW of electricity which it produces from renewable sources like solar power.

Cisco Networking Academy partnered with NSDC

- They have partnered to uplift the Indian workforce in the digital domain, develop a tech-proficient workforce and create career opportunities in the digital economy sector.
- The partnership will grant access to Cisco Networking Academy courses through the eSkill India platform of NSDC.

'Project CAVACH'—NSE Foundation, NITI Aayog and UNICEF

- The subsidiary of the National Stock Exchange (NSE) named NSE Foundation in partnership with NITI Aayog and UNICEF launched 'Project CAVACH'.
- The 'Project CAVACH' is a programme launched to create awareness on COVID-19 vaccination in India.

GE, Intel partnered with SERB

- They have partnered to conduct research work within the areas of companies interests.
- They have partnered under SERB's new Fund for Industry Research Engagement (FIRE) initiative project.

Renewables Integration in India 2021

- The report is based on the results of workshops that were held with the state governments of Karnataka, Maharashtra and Gujarat.
- The workshops were held to understand the energy transition challenges which are happening in these states.

APEDA partnered with Ladakh Officials

- The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has partnered with officials of the horticulture, agriculture, commerce and industry departments of Union Territory of Ladakh.
- Thus the objective of the partnership will be executed by DIHAR, Officials from the agriculture and horticulture department of UT, Sher-e Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology of Jammu and other entrepreneurs.

National CoE for Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comics

- The **National Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comics** will soon be set up by the Union Government.
- It will help to provide a platform for **Indian talent to be a part of the Indian and Global sector of Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comics.**

National Farmers Database

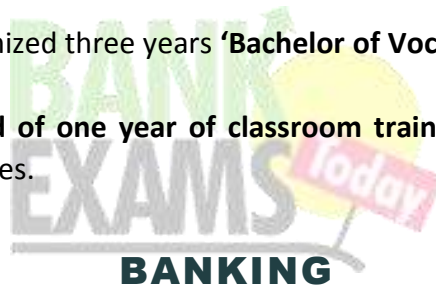
- The **Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar** announced that GOI is planning to frame and set up National Farmers Database.
- The National Farmers Database will be **comprised of data of India's digitized land records.**

'COVIHOME'-- India's First Rapid Electronic Covid-19 RNA Test Kit

- The **Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH)** has developed the country's first Rapid electronic Covid-19 RNA Test kit named 'COVIHOME'.
- The 'COVIHOME' allows people to **perform self-testing for COVID-19 at home itself.**

Maruti Suzuki India partnered with Savitribai Phule Pune University

- The entities will offer a customized three years **'Bachelor of Vocational Studies in Retail Management' course to students.**
- The **course will be comprised of one year of classroom training and then two years of on-the-job training at Maruti Suzuki centres.**



Ujjivan SFB collaborated with LoanTap

- The **Ujjivan Small Finance Bank (SFB)** has entered into a partnership with LoanTap Financial Technologies Pvt Ltd.
- Under this partnership, the **bank service will be extended to its customers via LoanTap's platform which is fast and secure.**

'Salute Doctors'—Banking Solution for Doctors by ICICI Bank

- The **ICICI Bank has launched 'Salute Doctors'** which is a comprehensive banking solution for medical doctors.
- The 'Salute Doctors' banking solution **grants customized banking as well as value-added services to the doctors.**

GOI kept Interest Rates on Small Savings Scheme Unchanged for Q2 2021-22

Monthly One-Liner GK Digest: July 2021

- To grant the relief to savers, the **GOI announced to keep interest rates on small savings schemes including NSC and PPF** unchanged for the second quarter of 2021-22. The decision was taken amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Public Provident Fund (PPF) will continue **to carry an annual interest rate of 7.1%**.

'Salaam Dil Sey' Initiative—HDFC Bank

- The initiative shows gratitude **to the doctors for their tireless service during the pandemic and are fighting bravely** with the pandemic by risking their lives. It pays a tribute to the doctors of India.
- For this initiative, the **HDFC Bank launched a web platform 'www.salaamdilsey.com'**.

NABARD Sanctioned Rs 388 crore for Projects in Odisha

- The state will use the amount to **set up four mega piped drinking water supply projects and upgrading 20 village roads across 15 districts in the state.**
- The four mega piped **drinking water supply projects will be developed in districts of one in Koraput, one in Balasore and two in Malkangiri district.**

RBI Imposed Penalty on Punjab and Sind Bank

- The penalty of **Rs 25 lakh is imposed on the Punjab and Sind Bank.**
- The penalty is imposed for not following directions under **'Cyber Security Framework in Banks'**.

Changes in Government Securities Auction Methodology

- The changes in benchmark securities of tenor **2-year, 3-year, 5-year, 10-year, 14-year tenor and Floating Rate Bonds (FRBs)** are announced by the central bank.
- The decision was taken according **to the review of market status, market borrowing program of the government.**

'Postpaid Mini' – By Paytm and Aditya Birla Finance Ltd.

- The facility is basically an extension of the **'Buy Now, Pay Later' service of Paytm.**
- **With the facility of 'Postpaid Mini', the customers will be able to avail of loans ranging from Rs 250 - Rs 1,000 along with Paytm Postpaid instant credit of upto Rs 60,000.**

FlexiLoans Partnered with Google Pay

- FlexiLoans, which is the **digital lending platform has entered into a partnership with Google Pay.**
- They have partnered to **grant digital and feasible loans to SMEs.**

NABARD sanctioned Rs 2891.15 lakh to Goa

- The **NABARD has sanctioned Rs 2891.15 lakh** as a loan amount to the state government.
- The loan amount was sanctioned for **'Construction of Phase II Building of Goa Dental College and Hospital, Bambolim, Goa'.**

'MandateHQ'—By Razorpay and Mastercard

- The 'MandateHQ' is a **payment interface which help card-issuing banks to enable** recurring payments for their customers.
- The MandateHQ will be integrated with **more than 50 banks in the next 12 months.**

FREO partnered with HDB Financial Services

- The **country's first credit led Neo bank, FREO** has entered into a partnership with HDB Financial Services (HDBFS).
- They have partnered **to grant a credit line and high-ticket personal loans to customers in India.**

Axis Bank signed MoU with the Indian Army

- The MoU was signed **to offer a defence service salary package to the India Army under its 'Power Salute' initiative.**
- The officers belonging to **all the ranks who are serving defence personnel and defence pensioners** will be included under this MoU.

'Arogya Supreme'--- SBI General Insurance

- The SBI General Insurance launched **'Arogya Supreme', which is the health insurance plan.**
- **The policy grants sum insured options up to Rs 5 crore.** The customers can select any one of 3 options i.e. Pro, Plus, and Premium based on the sum insured and coverage features.

'One Mumbai Metro Card'

- The **Mumbai Metro One Private Ltd (MMOPL) in partnership with Mastercard** and Axis Bank launched 'One Mumbai Metro Card'.
- It will **ensure contactless and cashless travel for communities living in Mumbai.**

RBI Issued 10 year G-Sec at 6.10%

- The **Reserve Bank of India announced to have cut-off yield** for the new 10-year bond at 6.10% per annum.
- RBI sold 3 auctions like **new 10 years G-Sec 2031 at 6.10% for Rs14,000 crore, 2023 G -Sec at 4.3% for Rs 3000 crore** and 2061 G-Sec at 7.18% for Rs 9000 crore.

RBI approved Equitas SFB for Amalgamation of the Promoter into itself

- As per RBI's rules for SFB, a **promoter of SFB can exit or cease to be a promoter after the mandatory initial lock-in period of five years.**
- And in the situation of Equitas SFB, **the lock-in period for Equitas Holdings will expire on 4th Sep 2021.**

EXIM Bank to Grant Loan for Kalpataru Power Transmission Senegal Project

- The **Export-Import (Exim) Bank of India has granted a loan for a power transmission project** being executed by Kalpataru Power Transmission in Senegal.

- A loan of **USD 35.26 million** was granted for the same.

'RBI Retail Direct' Scheme

- The scheme will also **support investment in Government Securities (G-Sec) by retail investors.**
- Under this scheme, the retail investors will be able **to open and maintain their glit securities account named as 'Retail Direct Glit Account'** or simply RDG Account via an online portal with RBI.

Mastercard Asia Pacific Pte Ltd banned to On-board New Domestic Clients

- The **Reserve Bank of India has imposed restrictions on Mastercard Asia Pacific Pte Ltd** from onboarding new domestic customers of debit, credit or prepaid onto its card network.
- The reason for the restrictions was **defined as non-compliance with the storage of data in India.**

Expected Loss (EL) based Rating Scale for CRAs

- The standard will **help to protect the interest of investors in the security market.**
- The EL based rating will be used by **CRAs when they will be rating projects or instruments** related to the infrastructure field.

Dhanlaxmi Bank partnered with SMC Global

- They have entered into a partnership **to offer online trading services to customers.**
- Both the entities will **offer an integrated 3-in-1 account. The account will be comprised of Savings, Demat and Trading account.**

'Arogya Rakshak' Health Insurance Plan -- LIC

- The **Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)** launched a health insurance plan called 'Arogya Rakshak'.
- It is a **non-linked, non-participating, regular premium based, individual health insurance policy.**

'Optima Secure' Health Policy -- HDFC ERGO General Insurance

- Under the '**secure benefit**' feature, the **insurance cover is doubled instantly** and automatically on the purchase of a policy.
- Under the '**plus benefit**' feature, the **base coverage is raised automatically by 50% after one year and to 100% after two years, even if there is a claim.**

U GRO Capital partnered with Bank of Baroda

- They have collaborated for **co-lending to the MSME sector of India at the competitive rate of interest** and reduced turnaround time.
- They have partnered on the **occasion of 114th Foundation Day of Bank of Baroda.**

Amendments in IBBI Regulations for More Transparency

- The **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)** has amended Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) Regulations, 2016.

- The amendments will **grant discipline, transparency, accountability in corporate insolvency processes.**

RBI allows Loans upto Rs 5 cr. to other Bank's Directors

- The **Reserve Bank of India has raised the loan amount to be granted to the directors of other banks or associates without any approval from the board.**
- As per new rules, the **RBI has allowed banks to extend personal loans up to Rs 5 crore to any director of other banks**, all loans to the relatives of the bank's own director, relatives of director of other banks, companies or firms linked with them.

IFC Granted loan to HDFC Ltd

- The IFC has offered a loan of **\$250 million (Rs 1875 crore) to HDFC Ltd.**
- The loan was offered **to promote affordable green housing finance for low and middle-income borrowers.**

OD Facility upto Rs 10 lakh launched by HDFC and CSC

- The **HDFC Bank in partnership with Common Services Centres e-Governance India Ltd**, Special Purpose Vehicle (CSC SPV) launched an OverDraft (OD) facility for small retailers.
- The facility will help **shopkeepers and merchants to ease their financial requirements.**

India's Economic Growth to be at 9.5% for FY22--IMF

- The **International Monetary Fund (IMF) has reduced the economic growth forecast for India** in its recent projections by 300 basis points.
- As per IMF, **India's economic growth is to be at 9.5% for the current financial year of FY22.**

SVAAS Wellness partnered with ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company

- The **wellness solution for outpatients will be provided by ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company** through its ILTakeCare mobile app.
- And SVAAS Wellness will **offer facilities like doctor consultations, pathology labs, diagnostic centres, pharmacies and insurances to the outpatients.**

RBI Imposed Penalty of Rs 5 crore on Axis Bank

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a **monetary penalty of Rs 5 crore on Axis Bank.**
- The Axis Bank has not followed **certain provisions pertaining to the corporate customer, cybersecurity, and financial inclusion.**

'SWIFT Go' Service

- The 'SWIFT Go' is a new solution **for the SME (Small Medium Enterprises) sector.**
- It will allow seamless **Low-Value Cross Border Payments facility anywhere in the world through their bank accounts.**

FamPay Partnered with Visa

- The FamPay has entered into a partnership with Visa to launch India's first Visa Prepaid Card for teenagers with personalized doodles on it.
- The **card will allow teenagers to perform Near-field Communication (NFC)** based contact payment transactions through the Visa network in India.

Madgaum Urban Co-operative Bank Limited License Cancelled

- The **license was cancelled because the bank's financial position** was not able to pay its present depositors.
- The **Madgaum Urban Co-operative Bank Limited does not have adequate capital and earning prospects.**

REPORTS

ILO Report on International Migrant Workers

- The report is titled '**ILO Global Estimates on International Migrant Workers: Results and Methodology**'.
- As per the report, the **international migrant workforce has increased to 169 million in 2019**. There is a 5 million increase in the value of the total count compared to 2017. There is a rise of 3% in the number of the international migrant workforce compared to 2017.

INDEX AND RANKING

Global Startup Ecosystem Index 2021

- As per the Index ranking, **India is ranked at 20th position among 100 countries with a score of 8.833**.
- The report mentions that **India needs to be better in infrastructure and Internet speed** in order to boost its start-up ecosystem.

Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) 2020

- The **4th edition of the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) 2020** was released by International Telecommunication Union (ITU).
- As per the index, **India is ranked at 10th position with a score of 97.5**.

India Ranked 9th in Agricultural Produce Exporters--WTO

- **India is holding a share of 3.1% in global agricultural produce exports in 2019**.
- The 1st position is marked by **European Union with the global share of 16.1% in agricultural produce exports in 2019**.

APPOINTMENTS

Name of the Person	Designation
Amitabh Kant	CEO of NITI Aayog
Apurva Chandra	Chairman of Governing Body of the International Labour Organization (ILO)
Justice Ravi Vijaykumar Malimath	Chief Justice of Himachal Pradesh High Court
Advocate Kalyan Narayan Bhattacharya	New Lokayukta of Tripura
Pushkar Singh Dhami	Chief Minister of Uttarakhand
Shambhu Nath Srivastava	Chairman of the Indian Federation of United Nations Associations (IFUNA)
Satish Agnihotri	MD of National High-Speed Rail Corporation Ltd. (NHSRCL)
Andy Palmer	Executive Vice Chairman and CEO of electric vehicle arm Switch Mobility of Ashok Leyland
Sudhanshu Mittal	President of Kho Kho Federation of India (KKFI) during the Annual General Meeting (AGM)
Nilotpal Gupta	Head of Data Science Unit of ICICI Securities (I-Sec)
Thawarchand Gehlot	Governor of Karnataka
Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel	Governor of Madhya Pradesh
Dr Hari Babu Kambhampati	Governor of Mizoram
Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar	Governor of Himachal Pradesh
P.S. Sreedharan Pillai	Governor of Goa
Satyadev Narayan Arya	Governor of Tripura
Ramesh Bais	Governor of Jharkhand
Bandaru Dattatraya	Governor of Haryana
Union Minister Nitin Gadkari	Brand Ambassador of Khadi Prakritk Paint
Neha Parikh	CEO of Waze
PVSLN Murty	Chairman and MD of North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Limited (NEDFi)
Daren Sammy and Saint Lucian	Brand Ambassador of Fun88
Stefan Lofven	Prime Minister of Sweden
Pawan Singh	Joint Secretary of NRAI (National Rifle Association of India)
Vinay Prakash	Resident grievance officer for India by Twitter
Shyam Srinivasan	MD and CEO of Federal Bank
Sher Bahadur Deuba	Nepal's Prime Minister for the fifth time
NS Srinivasa Murthy	Honorary Consul General of Vietnam for Bangalore
Cleopas Dlamini	Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Eswatini
Jose Pedro Castillo Terrones	President-Elect of the Republic of Peru
Ariel Henry	Prime Minister of Haiti
Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi	Deputy Leader of the House in the Rajya Sabha
Rasmi Ranjan Das	Member of the UN tax committee from 2021-2025

Monthly One-Liner GK Digest: July 2021

C Vijayakumar	MD of HCL Technologies
Nasir Kamal	Director-General of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS)
Sanjay Rai 'Sherpuria'	Brand Ambassador for SDG Choupal
M A Yusuff Ali	Vice-Chairman of Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ADCCI)
Basavaraj S Bommai	New Chief Minister of Karnataka
Najib Mikati	New Prime Minister-Designate of Lebanon
Rakesh Asthana	Commissioner of Delhi Police
Abdulla Shahid	Presidency of the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)
Pham Minh Chinh	Re-elected as Prime Minister of Vietnam
Ramesh Nair	CEO for India and managing director, market development, for Asia for Colliers which is the Property consultant company
Noopur Chaturvedi	CEO for Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS)

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Awards	Awardee
Best Film Award in the Documentary section (Best Biographical)	'Decoding Shankar'
Kuvempu Rashtriya Puraskar	Dr Rajendra Kishore Panda
Investment Promotion Agency 2021 award by OCO Global	Invest India
'Air Transport World's (ATW) 2021 Airline of the Year'	Korean Air
Humboldt Research Award in Economics	Kaushik Basu
Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam (BKS)'s Literary Award for 2021	N N Pillai
Olympic Laurel at the Tokyo Games	Muhammad Yunus
Oeil d'Or (Golden Eye) award for best documentary at the 74th Cannes Film Festival	Director Payal Kapadia's, 'A Night of Knowing Nothing'
Alexander Dalrymple award by the British Government for his work in hydrography and nautical cartography	Vice Admiral Vinay Badhwar
UN Food Systems Summit Competition called 'Best Small Business: Good Food for All'	Edible Routes Private Limited, Oorja Development Solutions India and Taru Naturals
Natwest Group Earth Heroes Award 2021 in the category of Earth Guardian for its best management role	Satpura Tiger Reserve

Monthly One-Liner GK Digest: July 2021

IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme
1 st July 2021	National Doctors Day	--
1 st July 2021	National Postal Worker Day	--
1 st July 2021	National Chartered Accountants Day	--
1 st July 2021	66th Foundation Day of State Bank of India (Founded in 1955)	--
2 nd July 2021	World Sports Journalists Day	--
2 nd July 2021	World UFO Day	--
3 rd July 2021	International Day of Cooperatives	Theme: Rebuild better together
1 st to 7 th July 2021	Crop Insurance Week	--
6 th July 2021	World Zoonoses Day	--
7 th July 2021	World Chocolate Day or International Chocolate Day	--
10 th July 2021	National Fish Farmers' Day	--
11 th July 2021	World Population Day	Theme: 'The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on fertility'
12 th July 2021	World Malala Day	--
15 th July 2021	World Youth Skills Day	Theme: 'Reimagining Youth Skills Post-Pandemic'
17 th July 2021	World Day for International Justice or Day of International Criminal Justice or International Justice Day	--
18 th July 2021	Nelson Mandela International Day	--
20 th July 2021	Science Exploration Day	--
20 th July 2021	International Chess Day	--
22 nd July 2021	World Fragile X Awareness Day	--
22 nd July 2021	Pi Approximation Day (22/7)	--
22 nd July 2021	World Brain Day	Theme: Stop Multiple Sclerosis
23 rd July 2021	National Broadcasting Day	--
24 th July 2021	Income Tax Day (Aaykar Diwas)	--
25 th July 2021	World Drowning Prevention Day	--
26 th July 2021	Kargil Vijay Diwas	--
26 th July 2021	International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem or World Mangrove Day	--
27 th July 2021	83rd Raising Day of CRPF	--
28 th July 2021	World Nature Conservation Day	--
28 th July 2021	World Hepatitis Day	Theme: 'Hepatitis Can't Wait'
29 th July 2021	Global Tiger Day or International Tiger Day	Theme: 'Their Survival is in our hands'
30 th July 2021	World Day Against Trafficking in	Theme: 'Victims' Voices Lead the

	Persons	Way.'
31 st July 2021	World Ranger Day	--

MOUS SIGNED

AJNIFM signed MoU with Microsoft

- The **Arun Jaitley National Institute of Financial Management (AJNIFM)** signed MoU with Microsoft to develop a strategic partnership to build an AI and emerging technologies Centre of Excellence (CoE) at AJNIFM.
- The CoE at AJNIFM will be a **central research body that will allow research in AI scenario envisioning and tech-led innovation.**

CRPF signed MoU with C-DAC

- The **Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)** entered into MoU with the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC).
- The MoU was signed to **grant training to the manpower of the CRPF about advanced technologies and perform jointly on projects.**

Ministry of Tourism signed MoU with Yatra

- The MoU was signed during the event organised by the **Ministry of Tourism and the Quality Council of India (QCI).**
- In order to enhance the tourism sector, the **MoU will provide support for accommodation units.**

India and Gambia signed MoU for Cooperation in Governance Reforms

- The signing of the **MoU announcement was made by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions.**
- To frame a **work plan for the proper execution of the MoU**, a joint working group meeting will be held soon.

Nepal signed Deal with India's SJVNL

- **Nepal has entered into a deal agreement with India's hydropower major Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd (SJVNL)** to develop a 679-megawatt hydropower project in the East part of Nepal.
- A deal of **USD 1.3 billion was signed between the entities.**

MoU signed between ICCR and Delhi University

- **Delhi University will have a 'Bangabandhu Chair'.** The 'Bangabandhu Chair' will be framed to have a better understanding of developmental projects in Bangladesh.
- The MoU for the same was signed between the **Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) and Delhi University in Dhaka to frame this Chair at Delhi University.**

NTPC REL signed a MoU with the UT of Ladakh

- The NTPC REL which is the arm of **State-run power giant NTPC** signed an MoU with the **Union Territory of Ladakh**.
- The MoU will allow **NTPC to support Ladakh to develop a carbon-free economy that is based on renewable resources and green hydrogen**. This will fulfil PM Narendra Modi's vision of 'Carbon Neutral' Ladakh.

APEDA signed MoU with NAFED

- The **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)** signed an MoU with the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd (NAFED).
- The MoU was signed **to help the exporters with the assistance under various government schemes** and to help cooperatives to sell their products globally and enhance their building capacity.

Cabinet approved MoU between India & Russia on Coking Coal

- The **Union Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi** approved the MoU between India and Russia to enhance cooperation on coking coal.
- Coking coal is a key steelmaking raw material; **also called Metallurgical coal, and for this many domestic entities are dependent on imports from selective groups of nations**.

Ladakh signed MoU with Sikkim

- The **Union Territory of Ladakh Organic, administration of Ladakh** signed tripartite MoU with Sikkim State Organic Certification Agency (SOCCA).
- The MoU was signed **to implement Prampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Development Initiative (MODI) in UT Ladakh**.

Union Cabinet approved MoU with Denmark

- The **Union Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi** approved the MoU of India with Denmark to boost the Cooperation in the field of Health and Medicine.
- The MoU was signed between **the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare of India and the Ministry of Health of Denmark**.

IAHE signed Pact with University of New South Wales, Australia

- The entity under **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways** called **Indian Academy of Highway Engineers (IAHE)** has signed a pact with the University of New South Wales, Australia.
- The pact was signed **to set up the Centre for Advanced Transportation Technology and Systems (CATTS). It will be setup in Noida, Uttar Pradesh**.

DBT signed MoU with MoES

- It will allow to bring out the **expertise and services of both entities under one platform**.
- They will jointly **work to address issues associated with polar biology**.

BoM signed MoU with NABARD

- The MoU was signed to enhance developmental initiatives associated with priority sector lending in Maharashtra.
- Both the entities will execute initiatives that will benefit farmers, farmer producer organisations, joint liability groups, self-help groups, rural artisans, weavers, Agri start-ups, MSMEs of the state.

MeitY signed MoU with MapmyIndia

- The significance of UMANG is 'Unified Mobile Application for New Age Governance'.
- This partnership will enhance support to the Digital India Programme and Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

MECL signed MoU with DMG, Goa

- The Mineral Exploration Agency under the Ministry of Mines named Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd (MECL) signed MoU with the Directorate of Mines & Geology (DMG), Goa.
- The MoU was signed to explore iron ore reserves in Goa state.

Indian Bank signed MoU with IIT Guwahati

- The support will be granted under Indian Bank's loan product called 'IND Spring Board'.
- The MoU is the step forward by the Indian Bank to fulfil its commitment towards the economical upliftment of the entrepreneurs in Assam and NE India.

WHO signed MoU with IPC

- The MoU was signed to cooperate in promoting diversity and equity in the health and sports area by conducting various global initiatives.
- Both the entities will look to increase global access to rehab quality and technology which is assistive for health coverage.

Sapio Analytics partnered with Government of UP

- The MoU was signed to provide a license of Accloud which is an automation software for MSME.
- Under this MoU, the Accloud software which costs Rs 72 crores will be granted to MSME's of the state free of cost for 1 year.

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

'Atmanirbhar Krishi App'

- The app will provide data to the farmers about actionable agricultural insights and weather alerts.
- The data relating to farmers which are released by various government departments 'KisanMitr' platform will now be displayed on 'Atmanirbhar Krishi App'.

'HAUSLA- Inspiring Her Growth'

- The '**HAUSLA- Inspiring Her Growth**' is a comprehensive programme for enhancing Women Entrepreneurship.
- The programme aims **to eradicate the gap between women and men entrepreneurs by involving and motivating women to become entrepreneurs.**

'NIPUN Bharat Mission'

- The '**NIPUN Bharat Mission**' is a new scheme **to improve numeracy, foundational reading, and understanding for early-stage students.**
- It will offer **to enable the environment to ensure the universal acquisition of foundational literacy and numeracy.**

Central Gov. launched 6 Technology Innovation Platforms

- The Government launched the **six technology innovation platforms** which will focus on the development of technologies for globally competitive manufacturing in the country.
- Platforms will be the source of the **exchange of information in the technology domain.**

Online Course Mobile App 'Matsya Setu'

- The app was developed by the **ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR-CIFA), Bhubaneswar** and the funds for the same was received from National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), Hyderabad.
- The app aims **to disseminate the latest freshwater aquaculture technologies to the aqua farmers of the country.**

MoD Implemented 'SPARSH' System

- The system will help **to automate sanctioning and disbursement of defence pension.**
- It is a **web-based system that can process pension claims and credits pension** directly into the bank accounts of defence pensioners.

'Mathru Kavacham' Campaign-- Kerala

- The campaign aims **to provide vaccinations against COVID-19 to all pregnant women in the state.**
- The announcement **for the same was made by the Health Minister of the state, Veena George.**

'CPGRAMS'—AI based Grievance Management Application

- The '**CPGRAMS**' signifies **Centralized Public Grievance Redress And Monitoring System.** It is an Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) powered grievance management app.
- It was developed by the **Ministry of Defence and IIT Kanpur.**

New Electric Vehicle Policy-2021-- Maharashtra

- The main moto of the **new policy is to enhance the usage of Battery Electric Vehicles in the state**. It was introduced with an aim to mark Maharashtra as the 'topmost producer of battery-powered electric vehicles in India'.
- It was announced by **State Environment Minister, Aaditya Thackeray**.

School Innovation Ambassador Training Program

- The **Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and Union Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda** launched School Innovation Ambassador Training Program (SIATP).
- The program was **launched for 50,000 school teachers**. The teachers will be offered training.

'Raj Kisan Organic' Mobile App

- The app will help **farmers and consumers to perform online purchases and sale activities** of organic products in the state.
- The app was developed by the **Agriculture Department of Rajasthan**.

'Historic Urban Landscape Project'

- The **Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Shivraj Singh Chouhan** launched the 'Historic Urban Landscape Project' of UNESCO.
- These cities are inducted under the **project as the 8th and 9th cities in Asia Pacific Area**.

Agritech Challenge 2021

- The Agritech Challenge 2021 was launched **to tackle challenges and issues faced by smallholder farmers communities in Asia and African regions**.
- The challenge will help **to enhance the agritech and Agri fintech sectors**.

Green Sohra Afforestation Campaign

- The **campaign was launched under the slogan of 'Evergreen Northeast'**, which highlights tree plantation and afforestation in NE India.
- The Green Sohra Afforestation Campaign will be **jointly executed by Assam Rifles and the Meghalaya Government**.

'MyGov-Meri Sarkar' Portal

- The portal will help the **state government to get feedback from the people** and also to offer information to the people about the various government schemes.
- The portal will be responsible **to offer information services in an efficient manner**.

Devaranya Yojana-- Madhya Pradesh

- The Devaranya Yojana is the **Ayush-based economic upgradation scheme**.

- It is having two main objectives of **improving the health of the people and improving the livelihood of the tribal community** through Ayurveda.

'Niryatak Bank'-- Rajasthan

- The **Industries Department of Rajasthan in partnership with Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation (RIICO)** launched the 'Niryatak Bano' mission in Rajasthan.
- The main objective of 'Niryatak Bano' mission is **to promote aspiring exporters in the state by helping them in export-related activities.**

DEFENCE

BDL signed Contract with IAF to Supply Akash Missiles

- **Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) entered into a contract** with the Ministry of Defence to manufacture and supply Akash missiles to the Indian Air Force (IAF).
- A contract worth **Rs 499 crore was signed between the entities for the same.**

Indian Navy received 10th Anti-Submarine Warfare Aircraft P-8I

- The **Ministry of Defence had signed a contract for eight P-8I aircraft in 2009** and in 2016 the contract for four additional P-8I aircraft was signed.
- The rest of **the two aircraft are expected to be delivered in the last quarter of 2021.**

'TTX-2021'

- The defence officials of India, **Sri Lanka and the Maldives held the Trilateral Tabletop Exercise 'TTX-2021'** in a virtual manner for two days.
- The main focus of the **exercise was on maritime crimes like curbing narcotics and gaining assistance in maritime search and rescue operations.**

High Strength Titanium Alloy-- DRDO

- It is **developed for application in aerospace structural forgings.** It will be used to manufacture intricate components of aerospace.
- It is basically developed by **DRDO's lab called Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory (DMRL) which is based in Hyderabad.**

DRDO successfully Tested MPATGM

- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** successfully flight tested indigenously developed 'Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM)'.
- The missile successfully hit the target and destroyed it in direct attack mode. The flight test was performed with **the minimum range and the mission objectives were attained. For the maximum range, the missile was already tested.**

ARMEX-21

- The expedition was flagged off on **10th March 2021 at Karakoram Pass in Ladakh.**
- The ARMEX -21 was held **to showcase and promote the adventure activity of the Indian Army.**

Exercise Cutlass Express 2021

- The **Indian Naval Ship (INS) Talwar is representing India in the exercise.** It visited Mombasa, Kenya to participate in the exercise.
- The exercise is sponsored by **US Africa Command and is being conducted by US Naval Forces Africa.**

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

ISRO to Implement Satellite TV Classrooms for School Students

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has approved **to help the Government of India to implement satellite TV Classrooms for school students.**
- In this regard, the **ISRO gave approval to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education** to offer technical support for satellite TV classrooms in India.

'Space Data Integrator (SDI)'-- By Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

- The **United States' Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)** has developed 'Space Data Integrator (SDI)' which is a new tool.
- The SDI will help **to track rocket launches and space vehicles returning to the Earth in a more accurate manner.**

'SAMVEDAN 2021 – Sensing Solutions for Bharat'

- The name of the **National hackathon is 'SAMVEDAN 2021 – Sensing Solutions for Bharat'.**
- The hackathon will **inspire people of India to solve India-specific problems of societal interest** using an IoT sensor board.

'NBDriver'--- IIT Madras

- The **Researchers of the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras)** has developed an Artificial Intelligence (AI) tool called 'NBDriver (Neighbourhood Driver)'.
- The 'NBDriver' is a **mathematical model based AI tool.** It is basically termed as an AI algorithm that can detect changes in cells that cause cancer.

'AMLEX'--- IIT Ropar

- The **Researchers of the Indian Institute of Technology Ropar (IIT Ropar)** has developed an Oxygen Rationing Device named 'AMLEX'.
- It is basically a **first-of-its-kind Oxygen Rationing Device that is used to save oxygen which gets wasted due to unnecessary reasons.**

IIT Kanpur launched Technology Innovation Hub

- The **technology innovation hub** was launched to define cybersecurity solutions for anti-drones technologies, intrusion detection systems, block-chain and cyber-physical systems.
- Around 13 start-ups and **25 R&D principal investigators** were shortlisted after rigorously verifying the application process.

'AI For All' Initiative—Intel and CBSE

- **Tech giant and Chipmaker, Intel** has partnered with the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) to launch the 'AI For All' initiative
- The 'AI For All' initiative aims to create an understanding of AI (Artificial Intelligence) among Indians.

14 Tiger Reserves in India received CA|TS Accreditation

- The 14 tiger reserves in India have received **Global Conservation Assured Tiger Standards (CA|TS) accreditation**.
- The announcement was made by **Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav**.

SUMMITS AND CONFERENCES

7th Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS)

- The **7th Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS)** was hosted by the French Navy at La Réunion.
- The Indian delegation was represented by **Admiral Karambir Singh, Chief of the Naval Staff, Indian Navy** through a virtual manner.

6th BRICS Culture Ministers Meeting 2021

- The dignitaries held discussions to **exchange the knowledge of culture and assured to protect the cultural heritage of the respective countries**.
- The proposal was presented to **conserve and preserve ancient manuscripts through digital means**.

17th World Congress for Cervical Pathology and Colposcopy

- It was inaugurated by **Vice President Shri Venkaiah Naidu** and addressed by **Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr Harsh Vardhan**.
- The event observed the participation of **eminent doctors, professors of medical science and stalwarts of the medical fraternity specializing in Cervical Pathology and Colposcopy**.

CoWin Global Conclave

- The conclave was held to **share India's experience regarding universal vaccination to combat COVID-19** through CoWin.

- While addressing the conference, PM Modi mentioned that India aims to offer **CoWIN as a digital public good to the entire world to fight the coronavirus.**

2nd India-Ghana Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) 2021

- The **2nd edition of India-Ghana Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) 2021** was held recently at the capital of Ghana, named Acra.
- The Indian side was represented by **Rahul Chhabra, Secretary of Economic Relations.** The Ghanaian side was represented by Kwaku Ampratwum Sarpong, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs.

India & EU participated in a Meeting to Enhance Cooperation in Agriculture

- With an aim to **boost cooperation in the Agriculture sector,** India and the European Commission participated in a virtual meeting.
- The meeting was held between **Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar** and Member of European Commission-Agriculture, Janusz Wojciechowski.

16th Annual Conference on Road Development in India

- **Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari** participated in the conference via video conference.
- It was held by **India Infrastructure Publishing, which is a provider of information about the infrastructure sector.**

21st India-Italy Joint Commission for Economic Cooperation Session

- The Indian side was represented by **Union Minister Commerce & Industry, Piyush Goyal** and Italy's side was represented by Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Luigi Di Maio.
- Both the dignitaries **discussed bilateral trade, investment and economic cooperation for the areas like Food Processing, Textiles, Leather, Railways, startups, SMEs.**

7th BRICS Labour & Employment Ministers' Meeting

- The **Union Minister for Labour Employment Bhupender Yadav** chaired the 7th edition of the BRICS Labour & Employment Ministers' Meeting.
- The meeting was arranged to **exchange views on the impact of Covid-19 on the global labour market.**

CII's 2nd 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat Renewable Energy Manufacturing'

- The **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)** arranged the 2nd edition of the Conference and Exhibition of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat- Self Reliance for Renewable Energy Manufacturing' in a virtual manner.
- For this conference and exhibition, **CII had partnered with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).**

World Universities Summit 2021

- The WUS 2021 was organized by **O.P. Jindal Global University, which is in Haryana.**

- The summit was held under the theme of: **'Universities of the Future: Building Institutional Resilience, Social Responsibility and Community Impact'**.

11th Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) Meeting

- The **11th edition of the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) meeting** was addressed by Union External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar.
- While addressing the meeting, **he highlighted having a collective and collaborative response to tackle the pandemic situation of COVID-19.**

G20 Energy and Climate Joint Ministerial Meeting

- The **G20 Energy and Climate Joint Ministerial Meeting** was held recently in a virtual manner.
- India's delegation was led by **Union Minister of Power and New and Renewable Energy, RK Singh along with energy department ministers of G20 nations.**

UN Food Systems Pre-Summit 2021

- The **United Nations Food System Pre-Summit 2021** was virtually addressed by Union Minister of **Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** Narendra Singh Tomar.
- While addressing the event, **Narendra Singh Tomar mentioned the vital role of agriculture to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030.**

