



**BANK
EXAMS
Today**



**MONTHLY
ONE-LINER
GK DIGEST:
JUNE**



2021

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Curtain Raiser Event for the 7th International Day of Yoga- Ayush Ministry

- The event was organised in association with Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY).
- The event observed the participation of Yoga Gurus and experienced Yoga exponents through a virtual platform.

NATIONAL NEWS

'Goa Institution for Future Transformation (GIFT)'

- GIFT will also monitor sustainable development goals and will evaluate various developmental plans, programmes and schemes.
- It will be mentioned under Article 309 of the Indian Constitution to attain autonomy.

Indus Best Mega Food Park

- The **Union Minister for Food Processing Industries, Narendra Singh Tomar** inaugurated the Indus Best Mega Food Park in a virtual manner.
- It will enhance growth in the **food industries sector and a source of various employment opportunities.**

NTPC joined United Nations Global Compact's CEO Water Mandate

- The **NTPC Ltd (National Thermal Power Corporation Limited)** has signed up to the prestigious United Nations Global Compact's CEO Water Mandate.
- It was developed to guide the **companies to implement and develop water management strategies and frame policies for the same.**

Bill Gates & EU pledge \$1 Billion to Enhance Green Technology

- The **Energy Investment Programme founded by Bill Gates and European Union** jointly have set up a plan to raise up to \$1 billion to launch the low-carbon technologies as Europe is betting on meeting its climate change goals.
- Under this partnership, **Breakthrough Energy** which is founded by Gates will raise capital and philanthropic funds to match funding provided by the EU.

India Elected as Member of ECOSOC for 2022-24

- The **ECOSOC is one of the 6 main firms of the UN and it brings together people and issues to promote collective action for a sustainable world.**
- India is elected as **54th member for ECOSOC, in the Asia-Pacific states category along with Afghanistan, Oman and Kazakhstan.**

Arab-India Energy Forum

- The 1st edition of the Arab-India Energy Forum was held with an **aim to enhance energy cooperation and intra-regional power trading between India and Arab.**
- The **inaugural session was addressed by RK Singh, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Power, Aziz Rabbah, Minister of Energy and Mines of Morocco, and Kamal Hasan Ali, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Affairs of the League of Arab States (LAS).**

Indian Bank partnered with Fisdom

- The **Indian Bank has entered into a partnership with Fisdom**, which is a wealth-tech company.
- They have partnered **to offer wealth management products and services to the bank's customers.**

PayNearby partnered with IndiaFirst Life Insurance

- **PayNearby has partnered with IndiaFirst Life Insurance Company Limited** to launch the 'Poorna Suraksha' insurance solution.
- The 'Poorna Suraksha' is a **cost-effective 3-in-1 insurance solution that will offer financial protection to more than 15 lakh retail partners during the pandemic period.**

Central Athlete Injury Management System (CAIMS)

- The system will grant the best of **sports injury management support and will standardize** the injury treatment protocol for athletes in India.
- The support will commence **for athletes who are a part of the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS)** development group who will be participating in the 2024 games.

'Report it, Don't share it!'--- Facebook

- The initiative creates awareness **for the people to not post and share any child abuse content on the Facebook platform.**
- The initiative is launched by **Facebook in partnership with civil society organisations** like Aarambh India Initiative, Cyber Peace Foundation and Arpan.

PM Modi addressed UN High Level Dialogue on DDL

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually addressed the UN 'High Level Dialogue on Desertification, Land degradation and Drought (DDL)'**.
- PM Modi is the President of the **14th session of the Conference of Parties of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).**

US-India Hydrogen Task Force

- The hydrogen task force was launched under their **Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (SCEP) to enhance India's energy security efforts.**
- The announcement for the **same was made by US India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF).**

Tribal Ministry partnered with NCERT

- The **Ministry of Tribal Affairs have joined hands with NCERT** (National Council of Educational Research and Training).
- They have collaborated **to fulfil the objective of the ministry to attain academic excellence in Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs).**

Airtel and TCS partnered for 5G Services

- The **Bharti Airtel entered into a strategic partnership** with the Tata Group for 5G network solutions.
- Both the entities will **jointly implement 5G Network Solutions for India and will make it available for commercial development from January 2022.**

ICMED 13485 PLUS

- The **Quality Council of India (QCI) has launched 'Indian Certification of Medical Devices 13485 PLUS Scheme (ICMED 13485 PLUS).**
- It was launched **to perform verification of medical devices in the areas like quality, safety and effectiveness.**

World's 1st Green Rating System for HSR

- The **Indian Green Building Council (IGBC)** has collaborated with the **National High-Speed Rail Corporation Ltd (NHSRCL)** to form the world's first exclusive Green Rating System for High-Speed Rail (HSR).
- The **MAHSR (Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail) Corridor** will be inducted for the Green Rating System for High-Speed Rail (HSR).

'Centre for Research on Start-Ups and Risk Financing' (CREST)

- The IIT Madras has launched '**Centre for Research on Start-Ups and Risk Financing' (CREST)**.
- The CREST will offer **academic and thought leadership in areas like innovation, entrepreneurship and risk capital**.

Jio & Google Cloud to Enter Long-Term Strategic Relationship for 5G Technology

- The **Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited and Google Cloud** will be entering into a long-term strategic relationship for the 5G Technology.
- Both the entities will jointly work to **power 5G in the enterprise and consumer segments of India**.

Women's Cancer Shield—Clovia and Alliance Insurance

- Alliance Insurance will be the **insurance partner which will facilitate breast cancer insurance policy**.
- The policy if purchased from **Clovia's website will offer insurance policy cover of Rs 25,000** to the women in the age group of 18-65 years.

Mastercard Partnered with Instamojo

- They have entered into a **partnership to empower and offer digital solutions for MSMEs and gig workers** through an 'easy to use solution' mechanism.
- The solution will support **MSMEs so that they can bring their businesses on online platforms**.

FM announced Rs. 6,28,993 crore Relief Package against COVID-19

- **Union Finance & Corporate Affairs Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman** announced the 'Economic Relief from Pandemic' package of Rs 6,28,993 crore.
- The package will support the **Indian economy to fight the pandemic COVID-19**.

BANKING

India's GDP to be at 7.9% for FY22—SBI Ecowrap

- The SBI economists has revised **India's GDP projections in its 'Ecowrap' report**.
- As per the **SBI Ecowrap report, India's GDP to be at 7.9% for FY22**.

RBI announced FPI Investment limits in G-Secs and SDLs

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced that the limits for Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPI) investment in government securities (G-secs) for the current fiscal year and State Development Loans (SDLs) will be unchanged i.e. will be at 6% and 2% respectively, of outstanding stocks of securities for 2021-22.
- The allocation of incremental changes in the G-sec limit over the two sub-categories of 'General' and 'Long-term' will be retained at 50:50 for FY 2021-22.

Bharti AXA Life Insurance Signed Bancassurance Pact with Shivalik SFB

- The Bharti AXA Life Insurance has signed the bancassurance pact with Shivalik Small Finance Bank.
- This bancassurance pact will allow the distribution of Bharti AXA Life Insurance products through Shivalik SFB.

ICICI Lombard partnered with Microsoft

- India's private sector general insurer ICICI Lombard has partnered with Microsoft.
- The daily service calls made by customer service reps of ICICI Lombard will be screened with the help of Microsoft's artificial intelligence (AI) tool named Azure Speech Services and Natural Language Processing (NLP).

India and ADB signed Loan Agreement

- ADB will grant \$2.5 million project readiness financing (PRF) support.
- The loan was signed for the project called 'Sikkim Major District Road Upgradation Project'.

NR Savings Account Scheme for the Seafarer Segment – Federal Bank

- The Federal Bank launched the NR savings account scheme for the Seafarer segment.
- The services under the schemes are integrated into the digital platform so that digital banking under the schemes can be performed by the mariners.

RBI's June 2021 Policy Review Meeting

- The Governor of RBI, Shaktikanta Das headed the monetary policy committee's (MPC) meeting. The meeting was about the review of policy measures in June 2021.
- During the meet, it was announced to keep key lending rates unchanged for the sixth consecutive time.

ICICI Bank to Offer 'SWIFT gpi Instant' Facility

- The 'SWIFT gpi Instant' facility will help overseas partner banks to send instant remittances on behalf of their customers to the beneficiary in India.
- Due to this facility, the beneficiary will get the credit to the bank account instantly.

WB approved \$500mn Program to Enhance MSME Sector of India

- The \$500 million programs will help GOI to raise liquidity access support to the MSMEs, small businesses which are impacted severely by COVID-19.
- The funds will be utilised to revitalize the MSME sector as it has set the target to improve the performance of 555,000 MSMEs.

RBI imposed Penalty on BoI and PNB

- The penalty was imposed for not following norms related to **Frauds – Classification and Reporting**.
- The Bank of India has imposed a penalty of Rs 4 crore and Punjab National Bank has imposed a penalty of Rs 2 crore, thus totalling Rs 6 crore penalty.

RBI changed the Rules Regarding ATM Cash Withdrawals

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has made changes in the rules pertaining to the cash withdrawal from the Automated Teller Machine (ATM).
- The rules include higher charges on transactions beyond the free permissible limit, a new free ATM transaction limit and a rise in interchange fee.

Kavach Personal Loan for COVID-19 Patients

- The State Bank of India (SBI) has launched the 'Kavach Personal Loan' scheme for COVID-19 patients.
- Under the scheme, SBI will offer collateral-free personal loans up to Rs 5 lakh at an annual interest rate of 8.5% for 60 months which is inclusive of three months moratorium.

New Fund Offer of HDFC Banking and Financial Services Fund

- The fund will invest in companies that are leaders and/or are gaining market shares due to features like superior execution, scale, and better adoption of technology.
- It will focus on new listings like pre-IPO participation in lending, insurance, capital market businesses and fintech.

RBI extended RBIA System

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has extended the Risk-Based Internal Audit (RBIA) system for Housing Finance Companies (HFCs).
- The extension is applicable for all deposit-taking HFCs and non-deposit-taking HFCs having asset size of Rs 5,000 crore and above.

Ujjivan SFB partnered with MoEngage

- The Ujjivan Small Finance Bank (SFB) entered into partnership with MoEngage which is the customer engagement platform.
- They have partnered to provide digital banking experiences in the unserved and underserved areas of the country.

RBI allowed Prepaid Mobile Recharges through BBPS

- The **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** operates BBPS. The BBPS is an interoperable platform for recurring bill payments.
- The decision was announced in regards to **constant development in distinct biller categories and to allow mobile prepaid customers with additional options to recharge.**

ADB grants \$484 million Loan to GOI

- The CKIC project will **grant seamless road connectivity across industrial clusters, transport gateways and consumption centres** which will prove beneficial to the industrial sector of the state.
- The loan amount will also help to **reduce logistics and production costs for CKIC's targeted industries to boost their competitiveness.**

'ICICI STACK for Corporates'

- **India's private sector bank, ICICI Bank** launched 'ICICI STACK for Corporates'.
- The **'ICICI STACK for Corporates'** is a **comprehensive set of digital banking solutions for the corporate sector** and its entire entities like promoters, group companies, employees, dealers, vendors and stakeholders.

RBI approved CFSL to Take Over PMC Bank via SFB

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** gave **'in-principle' approval to Centrum Financial Services Ltd (CFSL)** to form a small finance bank (SFB), which will take over the beleaguered Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative Bank (PMC Bank).
- With this approval, the **Jaspal Bindra-led Centrum Capital (a holding entity for CFSL) and BharatPe will infuse Rs 1,800 crore into the small finance bank.**

India—5th Largest Recipient of FDI in 2020

- **As per the UN Report, named as World Investment Report 2021** which was released by UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), India is the 5th largest recipient of inflows in the world for 2020.
- India received USD 64 billion in **Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in 2020, and thus is placed at 5th position for the same.**

World Bank, GOI and Gov. of Mizoram entered into Loan Agreement

- The **World Bank, Government of India and Government of Mizoram** have entered into a loan agreement for Mizoram Health Systems Strengthening Project.
- The GOI and the **Government of Mizoram have signed a \$32 million loan agreement with World Bank.**

'Pay Your Contact' Feature on KMBL's Mobile Banking App

- The **'Pay Your Contact' feature allows its customers to send money** or make payments to any of their contacts across all payment apps simply by entering the beneficiary's mobile number.

- The feature thus makes **payment transactions easy and simple** and it is associated with **high security**.

'Aarogyam Healthcare Business Loan'-- SBI

- The loan facility offers support to the **healthcare sector during the COVID-19 pandemic situation**.
- The loan facility can be availed by the **entire healthcare ecosystem like hospitals, nursing homes, diagnostic centres, pathology labs, manufacturers, suppliers, importers, logistic firms** which are involved in the healthcare sector.

RBI released New Dividend Payment Norms for NBFCs

- The **Reserve Bank of India issued guidelines on the distribution of dividends** by Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs).
- The guidelines will be effective for the **declaration of dividend from the profits of the financial year ending March 31, 2022, and onwards**.

World Bank approved Loan for Kerala

- The loan amount will be used to **support the state's preparedness against natural disasters, climate change impacts, diseases and pandemics**.
- The loan amount is granted to **support the financially Resilient Kerala Program**.

World Bank approved Loan for SALT Programme in AP

- The lending arm of the **World Bank, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)** has approved the loan to implement the SALT (Supporting Andhra's Learning Transformation) programme in Andhra Pradesh.
- The loan amount of **Rs 1860 crore is approved by the World Bank's IBRD**.

GAME and SIDBI collaborated to Support MSME amidst COVID-19

- The **Global Alliance for Mass Entrepreneurship (GAME) and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)** have collaborated to support the MSME sector during the pandemic situation of COVID-19.
- Both the entities will help to **address challenges faced by MSME due to COVID-19**.

Indian Bank's 'MSME Prerna' launched in Maharashtra

- The 'MSME Prerna' is an **Indian Bank's flagship Business Mentoring Program**.
- It offers **novel, unique and innovative business mentoring support** and empowers MSME Entrepreneurs.

INDEX AND RANKING

CWUR's World University Rankings 2021-22

- The list is topped by **Harvard University**.
- The second and third ranks are marked by the **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Stanford University** respectively.

AIRINC Global 150 Cities Index for Financial Attractiveness Ranking

- The **AIRINC Global 150 Cities Index for financial attractiveness ranking** was topped by Manama, Bahrain for the 3rd consecutive year.
- From India, **New Delhi and Mumbai** are the two cities that have marked positions in the index at **113th and 125th ranks** respectively.

NITI Aayog's 3rd SDG India Index 2020-21

- The **Government think tank NITI Aayog** released the third edition of India's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) index 2020-21.
- The index evaluates **SDG progress** for every states and UTs for the parameters like **social, economic and environmental**.

THE Asia University Ranking 2021

- **Times Higher Education (THE) Asia University Rankings 2021** was released.
- In the top 100 list, **IISc Bangalore, IIT Ropar and IIT Indore** have secured ranks in Asia.

Performance Grading Index (PGI) 2019-20

- The **third edition of the Performance of Grading Index (PGI) for 2019-20** was released by the Department of School Education and Literacy of the Ministry of Education.
- As per the grading index ranks, the **states of Punjab, Chandigarh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andaman and Nicobar** has attained the highest grade (**Grade I ++**) for 2019-20.

QS World University Rankings 2022

- The **Quacquarelli Symonds (QS)** which is based in London has released the QS World University Rankings 2022.
- The ranking compares universities with **various parameters and then ranks Universities from across the globe**.

Global Liveability Index 2021

- The data for the survey was **conducted from 22nd Feb 2020 to 21st March 2021**.
- **New Zealand and Australian cities** have dominated the **Global Liveability Index 2021** because of their strong response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

World Giving Index 2021

- The **Charities Aid Foundation (CAF)** released World Giving Index 2021.
- As per the index ranking, **India is ranked at 14th position in the index among 114 nations**. India is termed to be the 14th most charitable nation in the world with a score of 44%.

World Competitiveness Index 2021

- The **Institute for Management Development (IMD)** released World Competitiveness Index 2021.
- As per the **index rankings, India is ranked at 43rd position.**

15th Global Peace Index 2021

- The **Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP)** of Sydney announced the 15th Global Peace Index (GPI).
- As per the index, **India is ranked at 135th position in GPI among 163 independent states and territories.**

QS Executive MBA Rankings 2021

- The **overall QS Executive MBA Rankings** was topped by France's HEC Paris.
- The **2nd and 3rd position** was marked by **Wharton School** and Spain's IESE Business School respectively.

REPORTS

CSE's State of India's Environment Report 2021

- The **State of India's Environment Report 2021** was released. It was released by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE).
- As per the report, **India is ranked at 117th position on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which were adopted as a part of the 2030 agenda** by 193 United Nations member states in 2015.

Education Minister Released AISHE 2019-20 Report

- **Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'** released the All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2019-20 report.
- The report is annually released by the **Department of Higher Education of the Ministry of Education**. The report highlights key performance indicators for the current status of higher education in India.

APPOINTMENTS

Name of the Person	Designation
Kuldip Singh	Additional charge of DG of National Investigation Agency (NIA)
J B Mohapatra	Additional charge of Chairman of CBDT (Central Board of Direct Taxes)
Nagaraj Adiga	Asia and Oceania Representative in the International Association of Ultrarunners (IAU) Executive Council for 2021-25

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T V Narendran	President of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for 2021-22
Isaac Herzog	President of Israel
Vice Admiral Ravneet Singh	Deputy Chief of Naval Staff
Justice A K Mishra	Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)
Justice Vikramjit Sen	Chairman of the Digital Media Content Regulatory Council (DMRC) by the Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF)
Dr Patrick Amoth	Chairman of the WHO Executive Board
Adar Poonawalla	Chairman of Magma Fincorp
Abhay Bhutada	MD of Magma Fincorp
Vijay Deshwal	CEO of Magma Fincorp
Dr Vinay K Nandicoori	Director for CSIR- Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB)
Paresh B Lal	Grievance Officer for India by WhatsApp
Lt. Gen. Pradeep Chandran Nair	DG of the Assam Rifles
R S Sodhi	Board of the International Dairy Federation (IDF)
Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari	Vice Chief of Air Staff in the Air headquarters
Professor Ajit Mishra	To head the committee to grant technical support and suggestions to fix minimum wages and national floor minimum wages
Vishwavir Ahuja	Managing Director and CEO of RBL Bank
Simone Inzaghi	Coach by Inter Milan for two years
V Bhoopal Reddy	Pro-tem Chairman for the Telangana State Legislative Council
Ranjitsinh Disale	World Bank Education Advisor for the period June 2021 to June 2024
Hitendra Dave	CEO of HSBC India
Sanjeev Sahai	Chairman of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB)
Virendra Nanavati	Member of the International Swimming Federation (FINA) Bureau at the FINA General Congress which was held in Doha, Qatar
Abdulla Shahid	President of the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly
Vice Admiral Rajesh Pendharkar	Director General Naval Operations
Anup Chandra Pandey	Election Commissioner by Union Government for the tenure of 3 years
Kuwait's Husain Al-Musallam	President of the International Swimming Federation (FINA)
Girish Chandra Chaturvedi	Part-time Chairman of ICICI Bank by RBI
Chris Broad	Match referee for the World Test Championship Final of Cricket which will be held between India and New Zealand
Chandra Shekhar Ghosh	MD and CEO of Bandhan Bank by RBI
M K Jain	Deputy Governor of Reserve Bank of India by the

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	Appointment Committee of Cabinet
Michael Patra, MK Jain, Rabi Sankar and M Rajeshwar Rao	Deputy Governors of RBI
Secretary-General António Guterres	UN Chief for the second term beginning 1st Jan 2022 by United Nations Security Council
Choguel Kokalla Maiga	Transitional PM of Mali
Ukhnaa Khurelsukh	6th President of Mongolia
Spoorthi Priya	Grievance Officer for India
M R Kumar	Chairman of LIC
Benedetto Vigna	CEO of Ferrari
Debbie Hewitt	First Chairwoman of England's Football Association
Ashish Saraf	Vice-President and Country Director for India by Thales
Rebeca Grynspan	Secretary-General of UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)
Sanjay Yadav	Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court
Former Justice Arjan Kumar Sikri	Chair the Grievance Redressal Board which is part of the DPCGC (Digital Publisher Content Grievance Council)
Akshay Kumar	Brand Ambassador of Biotechnology Firm Mylab Discovery Solutions
Mukesh Sharma	Honorary Member of WHO's Global Air Pollution and Health-Technical Advisory Group (GAPH-TAG)
Naftali Bennett	13th Prime Minister of Israel
Satya Nadella	Microsoft Corporation appointed CEO Satya Nadella to be their Chairman
Anand Mohan Bajaj	Member of the Board of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
Yuvraj Singh	Brand Ambassador of PUMA Motorsports in India
Aashish Chandorkar	Counsellor in India's Permanent Mission in the World Wide Organisation (WTO)
Antonio Guterres	Secretary of United Nations for the 2nd 5-year tenure
Ebrahim Raisi	President of Iran
N Venkatram	New member of the Takeover Panel set up by SEBI
Montek Singh Ahluwalia	High-level advisory group of sustainable and inclusive recovery and growth formed by the World Bank and IMF
Upasana Kamineni	Ambassador of Forest Frontline Heroes by the World Wide Fund for Nature-India (WWF India)
Jasprit Bumrah	Brand Ambassador of OnePlus Wearables including the OnePlus Watch and the OnePlus Band
Karim Khan	New Chief Prosecutor of the International Cricket Council (ICC)
Dr Tadang Minu	Member of the Coaches Committee of the International Boxing Association (AIBA)
Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari	Acting Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court

Laurel Hubbard	Weightlifter from New Zealand
Mawya Sudan	First woman from Jammu and Kashmir to be inducted as a fighter pilot in the Indian Air Force
Dr Pratima Murthy	Director of the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS)
Manpreet Singh	Captain for India's Men's Hockey Team for Tokyo Olympics
Rani Rampal	Captain for India's Women's Hockey Team for Tokyo Olympics
Suresh N Patel	Acting Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) of India
Karnam Malleswari	First Vice-Chancellor of Delhi Sports University
Vandana Aggarwal	To head the committee set up by International Financial Services Centre Authority (IFSCA) to examine best practices in ship financing and leasing and frame a roadmap to enable these activities from GIFT IFSC
Meenesh Shah	Chairman of the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) for a tenure of 6 months
Praveen Sinha	Special Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)
SD Shibu Lal	Chairperson of task force committee set up to help the government to bring major bureaucratic reforms through mission Karmayogi
Jeremy Kessel	Grievances Officer for India by Twitter
Manesh Mahatme	WhatsApp as the Head of Payments in India
Shambhu Nath Srivastava	Chairman of the Indian Federation of United Nations Associations (IFUNA)

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Award	Awardee
International Dublin Literary Award 2021 for her novel 'Lost Children Archive'	Valeria Luiselli
'WHO Director-General Special Recognition Award'	Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan
International Business Book of the Year Award 2021	Nitin Rakesh and Jerry Wind
International Booker Prize 2021 for 'At Night All Blood Is Black'	David Diop
2021 Nature TTL Photography Awards for his photo of an Orangutan clinging to a tree	Thomas Vijayan
'Gold Recognition' award from ACI (Airport Council International) Asia-Pacific Green Airports Recognition 2021	GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd (GHIAL)
Best film National Award on environment conservation at 67th National Films Awards 2021	Water Burial

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'NSG Counter-IED & Counter-Terrorism Innovator Award 2021'	Prof. Shailesh Ganpule
Land for Life Award by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	Familial Forestry
Global Innovation Partner of the Year by Snowflake	Larsen & Toubro Infotech
Central European University's highest award of Open Society Prize 2021 for her work in public health services	KK Shaileja
India's Best Employers among Nation Builders 2021	NTPC
Airport Council International (ACI) Director General's Roll of Excellence	Cochin International Airport (CIAL)
'Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award' for 2020	Delhi Metro
'The Order of Polar Star'	RK Sabharwal
Japan's Fukuoka Grand Prize 2021	P Sainath

IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme
1 st June 2021	World Milk Day	Theme: Sustainability in the dairy sector with messages around the environment, nutrition and socio-economics
1 st June 2021	Global Day of Parents	--
3 rd June 2021	World Bicycle Day	--
4 th June 2021	International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression	--
5 th June 2021	International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing	--
5 th June 2021	World Environment Day	Theme: Reimagine Recreate Restore
6 th June 2021	UN Russian Language Day	--
6 th June 2021	World Pest Day or World Pest Awareness Day	--
7 th June 2021	World Food Safety Day	Theme: Safe food today for a healthy tomorrow
8 th June 2021	World Oceans Day	Theme: 'The Ocean: Life and Livelihoods'
9 th June 2021	World Accreditation Day	Theme: 'Accreditation: Supporting the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)'
10 th June 2021	International Level Crossing	--

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	Awareness Day	
12 th June 2021	World Day Against Child Labour	Theme: Act now: End child labour!
13 th June 2021	International Albinism Awareness Day	Theme: Strength Beyond All Odds
14 th June 2021	World Blood Donor Day	Theme: Give blood and keep the world-beating
15 th June 2021	World Elder Abuse Awareness Day	--
15 th June 2021	Global Wind Day	--
16 th June 2021	International Day of Family Remittances	--
17 th June 2021	World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought	Theme: 'Restoration. Land. Recovery. We build back better with healthy land'
18 th June 2021	Sustainable Gastronomy Day	--
18 th June 2021	Autistic Pride Day	--
19 th June 2021	International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict	--
19 th June 2021	National Reading Day	--
20 th June 2021	World Refugee Day	Theme: Together we heal, learn and shine
21 st June 2021	International Day of Yoga	Theme: Yoga for well-being
21 st June 2021	International Day of the Celebration of the Solstice	Theme: Yoga for well-being
21 st June 2021	World Music Day	--
21 st June 2021	World Hydrography Day	Theme: One Hundred Years of International Cooperation in Hydrography
23 rd June 2021	International Widows Day	--
23 rd June 2021	International Olympic Day	Theme: Stay healthy, stay strong, stay active with the #OlympicDay workout on 23 June
23 rd June 2021	United Nations Public Services Day	--
25 th June 2021	Day of the Seafarer	Theme: Seafarers: At the core of shipping's future
25 th June 2021	World Vitiligo Day	--
26 th June 2021	International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking	Theme: Share Facts on Drugs, Save Lives
26 th June 2021	International Day in Support of Victims of Torture	--
27 th June 2021	United Nations Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day	Theme: 'MSME 2021: Key to an inclusive and sustainable recovery'
29 th June 2021	National Statistics Day	Theme: End hunger, achieve

		food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
29 th June 2021	International Day of the Tropics	--
30 th June 2021	International Day of Parliamentarism	--
30 th June 2021	International Asteroid Day	--

MOUS SIGNED

Union Cabinet approved MoC between India and Japan

- The **MoC was signed between the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, India, and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport, and Tourism, Japan.**
- The MoC between both nations will **promote deep, long-term, and strong bilateral cooperation in the sector of Sustainable Urban Development.**

Union Cabinet approved Various MoUs

- The **Union Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi approved various MoUs of India** with other nations.
- **Cabinet approved the Model Tenancy Act.** This will help to enhance rental housing in the country. It will lead to creating rental housing market, which will thus raise rental housing stock for all the income groups and the issue of homelessness will be solved.

MoD signed Contract with Mahindra Telephonics Integrated Systems Limited

- The **Ministry of Defence (MoD) has signed a contract with Mahindra Telephonics Integrated Systems Limited, Mumbai.**
- The contract was signed to procure **11 Airport Surveillance Radars with Monopulse Secondary Surveillance Radar for the Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard.**

KIADB signed MoU with HDFC Bank

- This **partnership will attract more investment in Karnataka,** as the partnership will enable the acquisition of industrial lands more affordable.
- The KIADB has thus nominated **HDFC Bank as its banking partner which will finance its customers.**

DIC and ICAR Entered into MoU Agreement

- The **'Demand-based Tele Agricultural Advisories'** will be granted by integrating DIC's Interactive Information Dissemination System (IIDS) with the Kisan Sarathi Program of ICAR.
- The system will be implemented through the **network of ICAR so that it will benefit Indian farmers.**

India and Kuwait signed MoU

- India and Kuwait have signed an MoU agreement to **enhance the cooperation to recruit Indian workers.**
- The MoU will enable **Indian domestic workers who are working in the Gulf nation with legal protection under the law.**

SIDM signed MoU with SOFF

- The **MoU was signed during the webinar titled 'India-Sweden Defense Industry Cooperation'.** The webinar was held under the theme of 'Capitalization of Growth Opportunities'.
- It was organised by the **Department of Defense Production, Ministry of Defence, through SIDM and SOFF.**

SJVN Ltd signed MoU with NIWE

- The **hydroelectric power generation organisation named SJVN Ltd** has signed an MoU with the National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE).
- The MoU was signed **for the purpose of having 'Technical Consultancy Services for development of Solar, Wind, Hybrid (Wind & Solar) and Hybrid (Wind, Solar & Battery Storage) Energy Projects of SJVN.**

MoU between MoPSW and MoCA

- The MoU will lead to **having the development of the Non-Scheduled/Scheduled operation of seaplane services in India.**
- The development will **take place under the RCS-UDAN (Regional Connectivity Scheme- Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik) scheme of GOI.**

MoC signed MoU with MoPSW

- The **MoU was signed for the purpose of developing cooperation in the Development of the National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) at Lothal, Gujarat.**
- The NMHC is the country's first of its **kind complex facility which is meant for the legacy of the maritime heritage of India.**

H-Energy signed MoU with Petrobangla

- **Hiranandani Energy (H-Energy) entered into MoU with Petrobangla,** which is the Oil, Gas and Mineral Corporation of Bangladesh.
- The MoU was signed **for the long-term supply of re-gasified LNG from India to Bangladesh through a cross-border natural gas pipeline.**

India and Bhutan signed MoU

- **India and Bhutan have entered into MoU** with an aim to develop cooperation in the area of the environment.
- Both the nations will cooperate with **each other in the area of climate change, waste management etc.**

Union Bank of India signed MoU with NSIC

- The **Union Bank of India signed MoU** with National Small Industries Corporation Ltd (NSIC).
- The MoU was signed **to grant support to MSMEs through credit requirements.**

India and Fiji signed MoU

- India and Fiji entered into an MoU agreement **to develop cooperation in the field of agriculture and allied sectors.**
- The **MoU was signed by the Union Minister for Agriculture Narendra Singh Tomar** and Fiji's Minister of Agriculture, Waterways & Environment Mahendra Reddy in a virtual manner.

Government of Assam signed MoU with Survey of India

- The **Government of Assam has entered into MoU with the Survey of India (SoI)** which is the National Mapping Agency to implement the SVAMITVA Scheme in Assam.
- The SVAMITVA Scheme aims **to provide an integrated property validation solution for rural areas.**

Denmark Signed Framework Agreement on ISA with India

- The **Kingdom of Denmark signed the framework agreement** on the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and Instrument of Ratification with India.
- The announcement of this was made by **Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Arindam Bagchi.**

MOIL, MP Gov. and MPSMCL signed MoU

- The **Tripartite MoU was signed among the Madhya Pradesh government,** State-owned MOIL and the Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation Ltd (MPSMCL) to explore manganese ore mining in 4 districts of MP.
- The manganese ore mining will be **explored in districts like Balaghat, Jabalpur, Jhabua, and Chhindwara.**

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

NCPCR launched 'Bal Swaraj' Portal

- The 'Bal Swaraj' is basically an **online tracking portal, which tracks and monitors children** who lost either or both parents due to coronavirus.
- The 'Bal Swaraj' consist of a link named **'COVID Care' which allows the officers to upload the data about such children who are in need to be taken care.**

RDSO—1st Standards Body to Join the 'One Nation, One Standard' Scheme

- The **Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO)** has become the first standards body in India to join the 'One Nation, One Standard' scheme of the central government.
- The RDSO works **to set standards for the Indian Railway Sector.**

Agriculture Minister launched Horticulture Cluster Development Programme

- The Horticulture CDP was launched to ensure the **growth of the activities horticulture sector are in a proper manner or not.**
- The Horticulture CDP will be implemented by the **National Horticulture Board (NHB) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.**

SAGE (Seniorcare Aging Growth Engine) Programme and its Portal

- The **Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Thaawarchand Gehlot** virtually launched an initiative called SAGE (Seniorcare Aging Growth Engine) and the SAGE portal.
- The portal will be a **'one-stop access' of elderly care products and services by credible start-ups.**

Ladakh launched 'YounTab Scheme'

- The scheme is an initiative of **the Department of School Education with technical support** from the Information Technology Department.
- The 'YounTab scheme' aims **to offer educational support during a pandemic and the long term technology infusion in the education system.**

E-100 Project launched by PM Narendra Modi

- The E-100 pilot project aims **to develop a network for the production and distribution of ethanol all over India.**
- During the launching ceremony, **PM Modi also launched 'Report of the Expert Committee on Road Map for ethanol blending in India 2020-2025'.**

Knowledge Economy Mission-- Kerala

- The mission aims **to enhance job prospects in the state by supporting knowledge workers.**
- The mission is headed by **Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council (K-DISC)** and they will submit the report describing mission work progress before 15th July.

Haryana Government launched 3 Initiatives

- The **Chief Minister of Haryana, Manohar Lal Khattar** announced three major initiatives or schemes to encourage, promote and protect the plantation of trees in the state.

Chief Minister Sishu Seva Scheme-- Assam

- The scheme was launched **to grant the service to the children who lost their parents due to COVID-19.**
- He also handed over the **cheques of financial assistance support to a few of such beneficiaries.**

'Yuva Shakti Corona Mukti Abhiyan'-- Madhya Pradesh

- The Abhiyan was launched **to make people of the state aware of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.**

- The translation of 'Yuva Shakti Corona Mukti Abhiyan' is 'free from Corona with the help of the youth power campaign'.

'Deep Ocean Mission'

- The mission was proposed by the **Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)**.
- The '**Deep Ocean Mission**' will allow exploring the deep ocean for resources.

'Customized Crash Course Programme for Covid19 Frontline Workers'

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** launched the 'Customized Crash Course Programme for Covid 19 Frontline Workers' via video conference.
- The training session will be **conducted in 111 training centres spread over 26 states. The programme will grant training to one lakh frontline workers.**

PM Narendra Modi launched M-Yoga App

- The app will be comprised of yoga training videos in **different languages for people across the world.**
- The app is launched by **India in collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Ministry of Ayush.**

Two Schemes launched in Bihar for Youth and Women

- The **Chief Minister of Bihar Nitish Kumar** launched two ambitious schemes to support the youth and women of the state.
- Main objective of both the schemes is **to promote entrepreneurship among youth and women of all sections under the state's 'Mukhya Mantri Udyami Yojna' scheme.**

'Ashirbad' Scheme-- Odisha

- **Chief Minister of Odisha, Naveen Patnaik** launched the 'Ashirbad' Scheme.
- The scheme aims to provide financial support **to the orphan children of the state who have lost either or both parents due to Coronavirus.**

'Mukhyamantri COVID-19 Pariwar Aarthik Sahayata Yojana'

- The government of Delhi launched '**Mukhyamantri COVID-19 Pariwar Aarthik Sahayata Yojana**'.
- Under the scheme **Rs, 50,000 ex-gratia will be given to such families along** with additional Rs 2,500 per month if the deceased was the sole breadwinner.

Gujarat CM launched 'Agricultural Diversification Scheme-2021'

- It will benefit **more than 1.26 lakh, vanbandhu farmers,** from tribal areas of the state.
- Under the scheme, the **state government will distribute fertilizer-seed assistance worth Rs 31 crores to tribal farmers.**

Digital Skill Champions Programme—NSDC and WhatsApp

- The Digital Skill Champions Programme was launched by **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and WhatsApp**.
- Under this programme, **both NSDC and WhatsApp will provide training to the Indian youth** about digital skills and make them capable of employment opportunities.

Enforcing Contracts Portal

- The portal aims to **offer ease of doing business and enhance the 'Contract Enforcement Regime' in India**.
- The portal will **grant easy access to the latest information on commercial cases** in courts of Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru and Kolkata.

DEFENCE

DAC approved Rs 43000 cr RFP to Construct Submarines

- The **Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh** approved the Request for Proposal (RFP) of the Indian Navy for a mega submarine tender worth Rs 43,000 crore.
- The DAC also allotted **Rs 6000 crores to modernize the Indian Navy's Air Defence Guns and Ammunition. This was approved under the Buy and Make (India) category.**

IN to Receive Three MH-60 'Romeo' Multi-Role Helicopters from the US

- These **three MH-60 'Romeo' multi-role helicopters** are part of the first set of 24 such multi-role helicopters.
- In Feb 2020, **India and the US had signed a pact worth \$2.4 billion to buy 24 MH-60 Romeo helicopters from Lockheed Martin.**

Indo-Thai CORPAT

- **India is represented by the Indian Naval Ship (INS) Saryu**, which is an indigenously built Naval Offshore Patrol Vessel.
- Thailand is represented by **HTMS Krabi, which is an Offshore Patrol Vessel.**

IN participated in Naval Exercise with the EU Naval Force

- The **Indian Navy participated in a joint naval exercise** with the European Union Naval Force (EUNAVFOR) which was held in the Gulf of Eden.
- The Indian side was **represented by the Indian Naval Ship Trikand.**

DRDO conducted Flight Test of 'Agni P'

- The test operation was conducted from **Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha, Balasore.**
- The Agni-Prime is a **new generation advanced variant of the Agni class of missiles.**

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

'AmbiTAG'--- IIT Ropar

- The IIT Ropar has developed **India's first indigenous temperature data logger** named 'AmbiTAG' for cold chain management.
- It is India's first-of-its-kind IoT based device that will **allow secure transportation of vaccines, blood and body organs, perishable products (food and dairy), etc.**

'Asia Pacific Public Sector Cyber Security Executive Council'

- Microsoft launched the **'Asia Pacific Public Sector Cyber Security Executive Council'**.
- The aim behind this council is **to develop a strong communications channel to address cyber threats and share best practices** to tackle cyber crimes and threats across the globe.

'SWASTIIK' Technology—By CSIR-NCL, Pune

- The **CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory (CSIR-NCL), Pune** has launched a new technology called 'SWASTIIK'.
- The technology boils liquid as a result of pressure reduction or cavitation. **It makes use of natural oils with antimicrobial properties to disinfect water.**

IIT Bombay to Launch 'Koita Centre for Digital Health' (KCDH)

- The **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay** has announced to launch of the 'Koita Centre for Digital Health' (KCDH).
- The KCDH will be responsible **to manage academic programmes, research and industry collaboration in the Digital Health sector.**

'EnVision' Mission to Study Venus

- The **European Space Agency (ESA)** is planning to develop its own mission to study the **planet Venus**. The ESA wants to study the holistic view of Venus from its inner core to the upper atmosphere.
- In this regards, the **ESA has announced to launch of the 'EnVision' mission.**

'Jivan Vayu'--- IIT Ropar

- The **'Jivan Vayu'** is a substitute for CPAP (Continuous Positive Airway Pressure) machine.
- It can deliver **high flow oxygen up to 60 Litres Per Minute (LPM).**

'Windows 11' Launched by Microsoft

- It focuses on a **new user interface, a new Windows Store with improvement** in its performance compared to 'Windows 10' which was launched in July 2015.
- The **'Windows 11' includes a centre-aligned Taskbar and Start button.**

SUMMITS AND CONFERENCES

5th BRICS Working Group Meet on HPC and ICT

- The dignitaries discussed the usage of **HPC and AI to tackle pandemic COVID-19 and to use it in sustainable developmental projects.**
- They assured to **cooperate with each other to use HPC technologies for weather-climate-environment based applications.**

74th WHA Meeting of WHO

- The World Health Organisation (WHO) conducted the **74th edition of the World Health Assembly (WHA) meeting** from its HQ in Geneva, Switzerland.
- The theme for the meeting was: **'Ending this pandemic, preventing the next: building together a healthier, safer and fairer world.'**

1st India-Australia JWG Meeting on Cyber Security Cooperation

- India was represented by **Paulomi Tripathi, Director (Oceania) in the Ministry of External Affairs and Australia** was represented by Rachel James, Special Advisor, Cyber Affairs and Critical Technology at Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
- The JWG on **Cyber Security Cooperation is set up under the framework of arrangement on cyber and cyber enabled critical technology cooperation** between both the nations with an aim to implement a 2021-2025 plan of action under the framework.

NATO Summit 2021

- The **'NATO 2030 Agenda' will be a comprehensive initiative** that will ensure that NATO is ready to face any future challenges.
- The agenda will **strengthen political consultation, the resilience of society, reinforce defence and deterrence.**

5th Global Tech Event VivaTech

- **VivaTech is the largest global tech event** in Europe which was held in Paris.
- It was jointly **organised by Publicis Groupe**, which is a prominent advertising and marketing conglomerate and Les Echos which is a leading French media group.

Conference of BRICS Network Universities

- IIT Bombay is the lead institution of India for **the BRICS Network University.**
- The conference was held as a part of **India's Chairmanship of the 13th BRICS Summit in 2021.**

42nd FAO Conference

- The **42nd session of the Food and Agriculture's Organisation (FAO)** conference was held in a virtual manner.
- The conference was addressed by **Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar.**

G20 Education Ministers Meeting

- The **meeting was held to ensure continuity of quality education** during the pandemic state of COVID-19.
- India was represented by **Minister of State for Education, Sanjay Dhotre**.

BRICS Green Hydrogen Summit 2021

- The **moto of the summit was to discuss and address issues faced in the Green Hydrogen sector** in areas like technology, finance and efficiency.
- At the meet, India mentioned the need **to have a common international standard for green hydrogen**. The standards will help to have safe transportation and storage of new-age emission-free fuel.

Global Investors Roundtable organised by USISPF

- The **event observed the participation from some of the largest foreign investors**, including Mastercard, MetLife, Prudential, Air Products, Dell, SoftBank and Warburg Pincus etc.
- The dignitaries discussed **potential investment opportunities and the role of ongoing policy reforms which will allow Ease-of-Doing-Business in India**.

Ministerial Level Thematic Forum for UN High Level Dialogue on Energy

- It was held **to promote implementation of the energy-related goals** and targets of the 2030 agenda to attain sustainable development.
- The dignitaries discussed **Energy Access, Energy Transition, Enabling SDGs through innovative inclusions, innovation**, technology and data, finance and investment in the energy sector.