



SEBI GRADE A GK DIGEST



August 2020

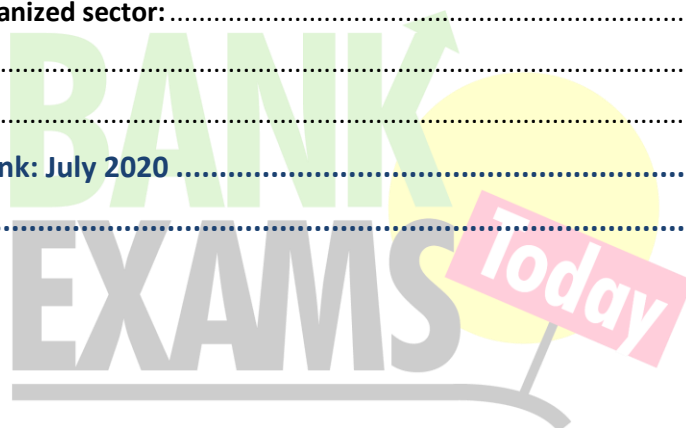
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SEBI GRADE A GK DIGEST: AUGUST 2020

SEBI CIRCULARS: MARCH – JULY 2020

RELAXATIONS DUE TO THE IMPACT OF COVID 19

- ILDS (Issue and Listing of Debt Securities) Regulations, NCRPS (Non-Convertible Redeemable Preference Shares) Regulations, and circulars related to Listing of Commercial Papers (CPs) require an Issuer to inter-alia submit its latest audited financials which should not be older than six months.
- Due to the COVID pandemic, SEBI extended the timelines for submission of financial results for the quarter/half-year/annual financial year for the period ending March 31, 2020, till July 31, 2020.
- SEBI has permitted listed Issuers who have issued NCDs/NCRPS/CPs, on or after July 01, 2020, and intend/propose to list such issued NCDs/NCRPS/CPs, on or before July 31, 2020, to use available financials as on December 31, 2019.
- In March 2020 due to the impact of COVID 19, SEBI had extended the timelines for issuers of Municipal Debt Securities up to June 30, 2020. SEBI has now decided to further extend these timelines to July 31, 2020.
- SEBI had specified guidelines regarding Margin obligations to be given by way of Pledge/ Re-pledge in the Depository System. The provisions of this circular were to come into effect from June 01, 2020. Due to the impact of COVID 19, it has been decided to extend the implementation date of the provision to August 01, 2020.
- SEBI has extended the date of implementation of the Review of Margin Framework for Cash and Derivatives segments (except for Commodity Derivatives Segment) from 1 May 2020 to 1, June 2020.
- If the valuation agencies appointed by AMFI (Association of Mutual Funds In India) are of the view that the delay in payment of interest/principal or extension of the maturity of security by the issuer has arisen solely due to COVID-19 pandemic lockdown and/or in light of the moratorium permitted by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) creating temporary operational challenges in servicing debt, then valuation agencies may not consider the same as a default for the purpose of valuation of money market or debt securities held by Mutual Funds.
- SEBI had introduced a Stewardship Code for all Mutual Funds and all categories of AIFs, in relation to their investment in listed equities. The Code was to come into effect from April 1, 2020. Due to the impact of COVID 19, it has been decided to extend the implementation date of the provision to July 01, 2020

TRANSACTION IN CORPORATE BONDS/COMMERCIAL PAPERS THROUGH RFQ (REQUEST FOR QUOTE) PLATFORM AND ENHANCING TRANSPARENCY ABOUT DEBT SCHEMES

- Mutual Funds shall undertake at least 10% of their total secondary market trades by value (excluding Inter Scheme Transfer trades) in the Corporate Bonds by placing/seeking quotes through one-to-many mode on the Request for Quote (RFQ) platform of stock exchanges.
- The percentage as specified shall be reckoned on the average of secondary trades by value in immediately preceding three months.

- This will be effective from October 1, 2020.

CIRCULAR ON LISTING OF MUTUAL FUND SCHEMES THAT ARE IN THE PROCESS OF WINDING UP

- Currently, every close-ended scheme and units of the segregated portfolio shall be listed on recognized stock exchanges.
- The units of Mutual Fund schemes which are in the process of winding-up shall be listed on recognized stock exchange, subject to compliance with listing formalities as stipulated by the stock exchange.
- Trading in units of such a listed scheme that is under the process of winding up shall be in dematerialized form.
- The AMC, its sponsor, employees of AMC, and Trustee shall not be permitted to transact (buy or sell) in the units of such schemes that are under the process of being wound up. The compliance of the same shall be monitored both by the Board of AMC and Trustee.

SEBI CIRCULARS QUIZ

Q1: SEBI has extended the timelines for submission of financial results for the quarter/half-year/annual financial year for the period ending March 31, 2020, till _____. Which of the following options is correct?

- a. September 30, 2020
- b. December 31, 2020
- c. June 30, 2020
- d. July 31, 2020
- e. March 31, 2021

Sol: d

Explanation: SEBI has extended the timelines for submission of financial results for the quarter/half-year/annual financial year for the period ending March 31, 2020, till July 31, 2020

Q2: What is the implementation date of the Stewardship Code for all Mutual Funds by SEBI?

- a. 1 June 2020
- b. 1 July 2020
- c. 31 July 2020
- d. 1 January 2021
- e. 1 August 2020

Sol: b

Explanation: SEBI had introduced a Stewardship Code for all Mutual Funds and all categories of AIFs, its implementation date is 1 July 2020

Q3: What is the revised implementation date of specified guidelines regarding Margin obligations as issues by SEBI?

- a. September 1, 2020
- b. December 31, 2020

- c. August 1, 2020
- d. July 31, 2020
- e. March 31, 2021

Sol: c

Explanation: SEBI had specified guidelines regarding Margin obligations to be given by way of Pledge/ Re-pledge in the Depository System. It has been decided to extend the implementation date of the provision to August 01, 2020

Q4: Which Mutual Fund Company had currently wound up its few schemes from the Market?

- a. Reliance Nippon
- b. Franklin Templeton
- c. DSP Blackrock
- d. Aditya Birla
- e. Canara Robeco

Sol: b

Q5: Which of the following statement is/are not true regarding SEBI's circular on Listing of Mutual Fund schemes that are in the process of winding up?

- I. Every open-ended scheme and units of the segregated portfolio shall be listed on recognized stock exchanges.
 - II. The units of Mutual Fund schemes which are in the process of winding-up shall not be listed on the stock exchange.
 - III. Trading in units of a scheme that is under the process of winding up shall be in dematerialized form.
- a. Only II and III
 - b. Only I and III
 - c. Only I and II
 - d. Only III
 - e. Only II

Sol: c

Explanation: Every close-ended scheme and units of the segregated portfolio shall be listed on recognized stock exchanges. The units of Mutual Fund schemes which are in the process of winding-up shall be listed on a recognized stock exchange.

Q6: Which of the following entities is not permitted to transact in the units of such schemes that are under the process of being wound up?

- a. Sponsor of AMC
- b. Employees of AMC
- c. Trustees of AMC
- d. Fund Manager of AMC
- e. The AMC itself

Sol: d

Explanation: The AMC, its sponsor, employees of AMC, and Trustee shall not be permitted to transact (buy or sell) in the units of such schemes that are under the process of being wound up.

Q7: Which of the following platform is used for transacting in Corporate Bonds and Commercial Papers?

- a. ResQ
- b. RFQ
- c. E-Kuber
- d. Secu-Save
- e. E-Suraksha

Sol: b

Explanation: RFQ (Request for Quote)

Q8: As per the recent circular of SEBI, Mutual Funds shall undertake at least _____ of their total secondary market trades by value in the _____. Which of the following options is correct?

- a. 5%, Commercial Papers
- b. 5%, Debt Instruments
- c. 10%, Corporate Bonds
- d. 15%, Equities
- e. 10%, Commercial Papers

Sol: c

Explanation: As per the recent circular of SEBI, Mutual Funds shall undertake at least 10% of their total secondary market trades by value in the Corporate Bonds.

RBI NOTIFICATIONS: JULY 2020

IMPLEMENTATION OF INDIAN ACCOUNTING STANDARDS (IND AS)

- The Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS), as notified under section 133 of the Companies Act 2013, are set of accounting principles that are in line with the IFRS (International Financial Reporting Standards) Standards. Ind AS will ensure that the financial statements of Indian companies are in line with global standards.
- As per Ind AS, any net unrealized gains arising on fair valuation of financial instruments, should not be included in owned funds whereas all such net losses should be considered.
- RBI has decided that the unrealized gain/loss on a derivative transaction undertaken for hedging may be offset against the unrealized loss/gain recognized in the capital on the corresponding underlying instrument. If after such offset and netting with unrealized gains/losses on other financial instruments, there are still net unrealized gains, the same should be excluded from regulatory capital.

FAIR PRACTICES CODE FOR ASSET RECONSTRUCTION COMPANIES (ARC)

- An Asset Reconstruction Company (ARC) is a financial institution that buys the NPAs or bad assets from banks and financial institutions so that the banks and financial institutions can clean up their balance sheets.

- In order to achieve the highest standards of transparency and fairness in dealing with stakeholders, Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs) are advised to put in place Fair Practices Code (FPC) duly approved by their Board. **The following points are the minimum criteria in the Fair Practice Code of the ARC:**
 - ✓ ARC shall follow transparent and non-discriminatory practices in the acquisition of assets
 - ✓ The process of selling assets should enable the participation of as many prospective buyers as possible to ensure transparency in the process.
 - ✓ ARCs shall release all securities on repayment of dues or on the realization of the outstanding amount of loan, subject to any other legitimate claim they may have against the borrower.
 - ✓ ARCs should have a Board approved policy on the management fee, expenses, and incentives.
 - ✓ ARCs intending to outsource any of their activity shall put in place a comprehensive outsourcing policy, approved by the Board. It should ensure that outsourcing arrangements neither diminish its ability to fulfill its obligations to customers and the RBI nor impede effective supervision by RBI.
 - ✓ ARCs shall not resort to harassment of the debtor for the recovery of loans.
 - ✓ ARCs are responsible for the actions of their Recovery Agents and they should have a Board approved Code of Conduct for Recovery Agents and obtain their undertaking to abide by that Code.
 - ✓ ARCs should constitute Grievance Redressal machinery within the organization
 - ✓ ARCs shall keep the information strictly confidential and shall not disclose it to anyone including other companies in the group except when required by law or there is a duty towards the public to reveal information or there is a borrower's permission.
 - ✓ The Board should periodically review compliance of the ARC with the Fair Practice Code.

CREDIT FLOW TO MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES SECTOR

- The Government of India has notified new criteria for classifying the enterprises as Micro, Small, and Medium enterprises. The new criteria will come into effect from July 1, 2020. The details are as following:

CLASSIFICATION OF ENTERPRISES

- **An enterprise shall be classified as a Micro, Small or Medium enterprise based on the following criteria:**
 - ✓ **Micro Enterprise:** The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed one crore rupees and turnover does not exceed five crore rupees.
 - ✓ **Small Enterprise:** The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed ten crore rupees and turnover does not exceed fifty crore rupees.
 - ✓ **Medium Enterprise:** The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed fifty crore rupees and turnover does not exceed two hundred and fifty crore rupees

COMPOSITE CRITERIA OF INVESTMENT AND TURNOVER FOR CLASSIFICATION

- If an enterprise crosses the ceiling limits specified for its present category in either of the two criteria of investment or turnover, it will cease to exist in that category and be placed in the next higher category.
- No enterprise shall be placed in the lower category unless it goes below the ceiling limits specified for its present category in both the criteria of investment as well as turnover.
- All units with Goods and Services Tax Identification Number (GSTIN) listed against the same Permanent Account Number (PAN) shall be collectively treated as one enterprise and the turnover and investment figures for all of such entities shall be seen together and only the aggregate values will be considered for deciding the category as a micro, small or medium enterprise.

CALCULATION OF INVESTMENT IN PLANT AND MACHINERY OR EQUIPMENT

- The calculation of investment in plant and machinery or equipment will be linked to the Income Tax Return (ITR) of the previous years filed under the Income Tax Act, 1961.
- In case of a new enterprise, where no prior ITR is available, the investment will be based on self-declaration of the promoter of the enterprise and such relaxation shall end after the 31st March of the financial year in which it files its first ITR.
- Plant and machinery or equipment of the enterprise shall include all tangible assets (other than land and building, furniture, and fittings).
- The purchase (invoice) value of a plant and machinery or equipment, whether purchased first hand or second hand, shall be taken into account excluding Goods and Services Tax (GST), on self-disclosure basis, if the enterprise is a new one without any ITR.

CALCULATION OF TURNOVER

- Exports of goods or services or both shall be excluded while calculating the turnover of any enterprise whether micro, small or medium, for classification.
- Information related to turnover and export turnover for an enterprise shall be linked to the Income Tax Act or the Central Goods and Services Act (CGST Act) and the GSTIN.
- The turnover figures of enterprise which do not have PAN will be considered on a self-declaration basis for a period up to 31st March 2021 and thereafter, PAN and GSTIN shall be mandatory.

In case of an upward change in investment in plant and machinery or equipment or turnover or both, and consequent re-classification, an enterprise will maintain its prevailing status till the expiry of one year from the close of the year of registration. Also, in case of a downward change of an enterprise, the enterprise will continue in its present category until the closure of the financial year.

SPECIAL LIQUIDITY SCHEME FOR NBFCs/HFCs

- The Government of India has approved a scheme to improve the liquidity position of NBFCs/HFCs through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) to avoid any potential systemic risks to the financial sector. **To be eligible under the Scheme, the following conditions should be met:**
 - ✓ NBFCs including Microfinance Institutions should be registered with the RBI under the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, excluding those registered as Core Investment Companies.
 - ✓ Housing Finance Companies that are registered under the National Housing Bank Act, 1987.
 - ✓ The CRAR (Capital to Risk-Weighted Asset Ratio)/CAR (Capital Adequacy Ratio) of NBFCs/HFCs should not be below the regulatory minimum, i.e., 15% and 12% respectively as on March 31, 2019.
 - ✓ The net non-performing assets of NBFCs/HFCs (Net NPA) should not be more than 6% as of March 31, 2019.
 - ✓ They should have made a net profit in at least one of the last two preceding financial years (i.e. 2017-18 and 2018-19).
 - ✓ They should not have been reported under SMA-1 or SMA-2 (Special Mention Account) category by any bank for their borrowings during the last one year before August 01, 2018.
 - ✓ They should be rated investment grade by a SEBI registered rating agency.
 - ✓ They should comply with the requirement of the SPV for an appropriate level of collateral from the entity, which, however, would be optional and to be decided by the SPV.

- SBI Capital Markets Limited (SBICAP), a subsidiary of the State Bank of India has set up an SPV to manage this operation. The SPV will purchase the short-term papers from eligible NBFCs/HFCs, who shall utilize the proceeds under this scheme solely to extinguish existing liabilities.
- The instruments will be CPs and NCDs with a residual maturity of not more than three months and rated as investment grade. The facility will not be available for any paper issued after September 30, 2020, and the SPV would cease to make fresh purchases after September 30, 2020, and would recover all dues by December 31, 2020.

EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION AS NBFC – ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT FUND (AIF)

- Venture capital fund companies, holding a certificate of registration obtained under section 12 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 (Act 15 of 1992) and not holding or accepting public deposit are exempted from certain provisions of the RBI Act, 1934 and also from the applicability of guidelines issued by the Bank for NBFCs.
- RBI has decided to substitute the word “Venture Capital Fund Companies” with “Alternative Investment Fund Companies”, in the exercise of the powers conferred the RBI Act, 1934.

EXTENSION OF THE TIMELINE FOR FINALIZATION OF AUDITED ACCOUNTS - NBFCs

- As per the existing master circular, every applicable NBFC shall finalize its balance sheet within a period of 3 months from the date to which it pertains.
- Due to the impact of COVID 19, RBI has decided that in addition to the above or the NBFCs can finalize its balance sheet within three months of any revised date as notified by SEBI for submission of financial results by listed entities.

REVISED SCHEME OF PENALTIES FOR CURRENCY CHESTS

RBI has issued guidelines for imposing penalty on banks for unsatisfactory services and non-compliance in Currency Chests, the details are as following:

Type of Irregularity	Penalty
The Bank refuses to exchange soiled notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For notes in denomination up to Rs. 50: An amount of Rs. 50 per piece in addition to the loss.• For notes in denomination of Rs.100 and above: Equal to the value of the denomination per piece in addition to the loss.
The bank mixes mutilated notes in soiled notes sent to currency chest	Rs. 50 per piece irrespective of the denomination
The bank is non – compliant with RBI guidelines for operating currency chest	A penalty of Rs. 5000 for each irregularity which will be enhanced to ₹ 10,000 in case of repetition.
The bank violates any norms set by RBI for operating	Rs. 10,000 for any violation of agreement or deficiency of

currency chest.

service and Rs. 5 lakhs in case there are more than 5 instances of violation of agreement/deficiency in service by the branch.

- The Competent Authority to decide the type of irregularity will be the Officer-in-Charge of the Issue Department of the Regional Office under whose jurisdiction the defaulting currency chest/bank branch is located.
- The appeal against the decision of the Competent Authority may be made to the Regional Director/Chief General Manager/Officer-in-Charge of the Regional Office concerned, within one month from the date of debit, who may decide whether the same can be accepted/ rejected.
- Appeals for waiver of penalty made on grounds such as staff being new/untrained, lack of awareness of staff, corrective action having been taken/will be taken, etc. will not be considered.

RBI GRADE B CIRCULARS QUIZ: JULY 2020

Q1: As per IndAS, any net unrealized gains arising on fair valuation of financial instruments, should _____ in owned funds whereas all such net losses should _____. Which of the following option is correct?

- a. Not be Included, Be Included
- b. Be Included, Not Be Included
- c. Be added, be subtracted
- d. Be subtracted, be added
- e. Appear, Not Appear

Sol: a

Explanation: As per IndAS, any net unrealized gains arising on fair valuation of financial instruments, should not be included in owned funds whereas all such net losses should be considered.

Q2: Which of the following instrument has been excluded from the Indian Accounting Standards?

- a. Mutual Funds
- b. Commercial Papers
- c. Corporate Bonds
- d. Derivatives
- e. Foreign Exchange

Sol: d

Explanation: RBI in its latest circular has exempted Derivatives Transaction from a few of Ind AS rules.

Q3: Which of the following statement defines and Asset Reconstruction Company? Choose the most appropriate option.

- a. An Asset Reconstruction Company buys the NPAs from Public and Private Sector Banks.
- b. An Asset Reconstruction Company sells the NPAs to banks and financial institutions.
- c. An Asset Reconstruction Company buys the NPAs from banks and financial institutions
- d. An Asset Reconstruction Company buys the NPAs from loss-making or stressed NBFCs.
- e. An Asset Reconstruction Company sells the NPAs to various eligible firms and corporates.

Sol: c

Explanation: An Asset Reconstruction Company (ARC) is a financial institution that buys NPAs or bad assets from banks and financial institutions.

Q4: Which of the following is not true with respect to the Fair Practice Code of Asset Reconstruction Companies?

- a. ARC shall follow transparent and non-discriminatory practices in the acquisition of assets.
- b. ARCs should constitute Grievance Redressal machinery within the organization.
- c. ARCs should have a Board approved policy on the management fee, expenses, and incentives.
- d. Recovery Agents of ARC are directly licensed by RBI and the ARC is not responsible for their methodology of recovery.
- e. ARCs intending to outsource any of their activity shall put in place a comprehensive outsourcing policy, approved by the Board.

Sol: d

Explanation: ARCs are responsible for the actions of their Recovery Agents and they should have a Board approved Code of Conduct for Recovery Agents and obtain their undertaking to abide by that Code.

Q5: Which of the following is the eligibility for an enterprise to be termed as Micro Enterprise?

- a. The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed one crore rupees and turnover does not exceed ten crore rupees.
- b. The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed one crore rupees and turnover does not exceed two crore rupees.
- c. The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed one crore rupees and turnover does not exceed five crore rupees.
- d. The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed two crore rupees and turnover does not exceed five crore rupees.
- e. The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed five crore rupees and turnover does not exceed ten crore rupees.

Sol: c

Explanation: The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed one crore rupees and turnover does not exceed five crore rupees.

Q6: Which of the following is the eligibility for an enterprise to be termed as Small Enterprise?

- a. The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed five crore rupees and turnover does not exceed fifty crore rupees
- b. The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed fifty crore rupees and turnover does not exceed a hundred crore rupees
- c. The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed twenty crore rupees and turnover does not exceed fifty crore rupees
- d. The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed ten crore rupees and turnover does not exceed fifty crore rupees
- e. The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed ten crore rupees and turnover does not exceed a hundred crore rupees

Sol: d

Explanation: The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed ten crore rupees and turnover does not exceed fifty crore rupees.

Q7: Which of the following is the eligibility for an enterprise to be termed as Medium Enterprise?

- a. The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed fifty crore rupees and turnover does not exceed two hundred and fifty crore rupees.
- b. The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed fifty crore rupees and turnover does not exceed a hundred and fifty crore rupees
- c. The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed a hundred crore rupees and turnover does not exceed two hundred crore rupees
- d. The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed fifty crore rupees and turnover does not exceed a hundred crore rupees
- e. The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed a hundred crore rupees and turnover does not exceed two hundred and fifty crore rupees

Sol: a

Explanation: The investment in plant and machinery or equipment does not exceed fifty crore rupees and turnover does not exceed two hundred and fifty crore rupees.

Q8: Which of the following statement is not true regarding the Composite criteria of Investment and Turnover for classification?

- a. If an enterprise crosses the ceiling limits specified for its present category in either of the two criteria of investment or turnover, it will cease to exist in that category and be placed in the next higher category.
- b. If an enterprise goes below the ceiling limits specified for its present category in both the criteria of investment as well as turnover, it will cease to exist in that category and be placed in the lower category.
- c. All units with Goods and Services Tax Identification Number (GSTIN) listed against the same Permanent Account Number (PAN) shall be collectively treated as one enterprise.
- d. The calculation of investment in plant and machinery or equipment will be linked to the Income Tax Return (ITR) of the previous years filed under the Income Tax Act, 1961.
- e. In case of a new enterprise, where no prior ITR is available, the investment will be based on self-declaration of the promoter of the enterprise and such relaxation shall end after the 31st March of the financial year in which it files its first ITR.

Sol: b

Explanation: No enterprise shall be placed in the lower category unless it goes below the ceiling limits specified for its present category in both the criteria of investment as well as turnover.

Q9: NBFCs including Microfinance Institutions should be registered with the RBI under the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, excluding those registered as _____? Which of the following option fills in the blank correctly?

- a. Development Banks
- b. Payment Banks
- c. Small Finance Banks
- d. Core Investment Companies
- e. Credit Rating Agencies

Sol: d

Explanation: NBFCs including Microfinance Institutions should be registered with the RBI under the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, excluding those registered as Core Investment Companies.

Q10: Which of the following is not a condition for an NBFC to be eligible for Special Liquidity Scheme recently launched by the Government?

- a. The net non-performing assets of NBFCs/HFCs (Net NPA) should not be more than 5% as of March 31, 2019
- b. They should have made a net profit in at least one of the last two preceding financial years (i.e. 2017-18 and 2018-19).
- c. They should not have been reported under the SMA category by any bank for their borrowings during the last one year before August 01, 2018.
- d. They should comply with the requirement of the SPV for an appropriate level of collateral
- e. They should be rated investment grade by a SEBI registered rating agency

Sol: a

Explanation: The net non-performing assets of NBFCs/HFCs (Net NPA) should not be more than 6% as of March 31, 2019

Q11: Which of the following entities have been designated to setup SPV for Special Liquidity Scheme by the Government?

- a. SBI Capital Markets Ltd.
- b. Axis Capital Ltd.
- c. ICIC Capital Ltd.
- d. Aditya Birla Capital Ltd.
- e. HSBC Capital Ltd.

Sol: a

Explanation: SBI Capital Markets Limited (SBICAP), a subsidiary of the State Bank of India has set up an SPV to manage this operation

Q12: Which of the following entities have been recently renamed as Alternative Investment Fund Companies?

- a. Angel Investor Fund Companies
- b. Venture Capital Funds Companies
- c. Crowd Funding Companies
- d. Factoring Fund Companies
- e. Forfeiting Fund Companies

Sol: b

Explanation: RBI has decided to substitute the word "Venture Capital Fund Companies" with "Alternative Investment Fund Companies".

Q13: How much penalty is applicable for violation of any term of the agreement with RBI (for opening and maintaining currency chests) or deficiency in service in providing exchange facilities, as detected by RBI officials?

- a. Rs. 10000 for any violation of an agreement
- b. Rs. 20000 for any violation of an agreement
- c. Rs. 5000 for any violation of an agreement
- d. Rs. 50000 for any violation of an agreement
- e. Rs. 500000 for any violation of an agreement

Sol: a

Q14: How much penalty is applicable for Non-compliance with operational guidelines by currency chests detected by RBI officials?

- a. Rs. 1000 for each irregularity
- b. Rs. 10000 for each irregularity
- c. Rs. 500000 for each irregularity
- d. Rs. 5000 for each irregularity
- e. Rs. 2500 for each irregularity

Sol: d

Q15: As per RBIs circular on penalty for non-compliance, who will be the competent authority to decide the type of irregularity?

- a. Officer-in-Charge of the Issue Department of the Branch Office
- b. Officer-in-Charge of the Issue Department of the Zonal Office
- c. Officer-in-Charge of the Issue Department of the Central Office
- d. Officer-in-Charge of the Issue Department of the Customer Grievances
- e. Officer-in-Charge of the Issue Department of the Regional Office

Sol: e

LIST OF APPOINTMENTS: JULY 2020

Name of the Person	Designation
KK Venugopal	Attorney General of India
Tushar Mehta	Solicitor General
Gudni Johannesson	President of Iceland
Sanjay Dwivedi	Director General of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC)
Shrikant Madhav Vaidya	Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)
Ravinder Bhakar	CEO of the Central Board of Film Certifications (CBFC)
Indra Mani Pandey	Indian envoy to United Nations bodies and other international organisations in Geneva
V Suryanarayan	New MD of Cholamandalam MS General Insurance
G Srinivasan	Head of the panel to study the suitability of Surety Bonds issuance by Indian insurers
Sukhbir Singh	Chairman of National Highway Authority of India

SEBI Grade A GK Digest: August 2020

K S Reddy	Head an 11 member committee to assess COVID-19 impacts on Human Rights
Injeti Srinivas	Chairman of IFSCA (International Financial Services Centers Authority)
Rajeeva Swarup	Chief Secretary of Rajasthan
Jayant Krishna	First India based CEO of UKIBC (UK India Business Council)
Lee Hsien Loong	Prime Minister of Singapore
Gyanendro Ningombam	President of Hockey India
Hemang Amin	Interim CEO of BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India)
Andrzej Duda	President of Poland
Rudrendra Tandon	India's Next Ambassador to Afghanistan
Vikram Doraiswami	India's Next Ambassador to Bangladesh
Vidhu P Nair	India's Next Ambassador to Turkmenistan
Hemant Harichandra Kotalwar	India's next ambassador to Czech Republic
Ashok Lavasa	Vice President of the Asian Development Bank
Brett Lee	Brand Ambassador for Sports Adda
Ossouka Raponda	India's Next Ambassador to Romania
Roshni Nadar Malhotra	New Chairman of HCL Technologies
Chabdrikapersad 'Chan' Santokhi	President of South American Country 'Suriname'
Shyam Srinivasan	MD and CEO of Federal Bank
P Praveen Siddharth	Personnel Secretary to the President Ram Nath Kovind
Ashwini Kumar Tiwari	MD and CEO of SBI Cards
Kulmeet Bawa	President and Managing Director for SAP (Systems, Applications and Products in Data Processing)
Ramesh Boddu	MD and CEO of Karur Vysya Bank
Prof. R Narayanaswamy	Head the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA)
Sumit Deb	MD and CEO of National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)
P C Kandpal	MD and CEO of SBI General Insurance Company Limited
Sanjiv Bajaj	Chairman of Bajaj Finance
Arun Kumar	Vice-Chairman of the UIC (International union of Railways)
Alok Mishra	CEO and Director of Microfinance Institutions Network (MFIN)
Riva Ganguly Das	Secretary East in Ministry of External Affairs
Partha Pratim Sengupta	MD and CEO of Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)
Naveen Tahilyani	MD and CEO of Tata AIA Life Ltd
Sahil Seth	Honorary Advisor for BRICS CCI (Chambers of Commerce Industry)
Vice Admiral MA Hampiholi	Commandant of Indian Naval Academy (INA)
Mahdi Mohammed Gulaid	Interim Prime Minister of Somalia
Hichem Mechichi	Prime Minister of Tunisia
N. Sivaraman	MD and Group CEO of ICRA Limited

Anil Kumar Jha	Head Member of the Expert Appraisal Committee
Naveen Tahilyani	MD and CEO of TATA AIA Life Insurance
Archana Soreng	Member of Antonio Guterres new Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change

LIST OF AWARDS AND HONOURS: JULY 2020

Awardee	Award
C Rangarajan	P C Mahalanobis Lifetime Achievement Award
Siddhartha Mukherjee and Raj Chetty	Carnegie Corporation of New York's 2020 list of 'Great Immigrants'
Freya Thakral	2020 Diana Award
Kritika Pandey	Overall Winner of the 2020 Commonwealth Short Story Prize
Lt Col Bharat Pannu	Virtual Race Across America (VRAAM) 2020
Ratnakar Matkari	Natvarya Prabhakar Panshikar Award
International Olympic Committee	EU Green Building Award 2020
NTPC Ltd	CII-ITC Sustainability Award 2019
Kezang D Thongdok	2020 Dada Saheb Phalke Award
Institute for Human Development (IHD)	'Development Marketplace Award 2020:Innovations to Address Gender-Based Violence'
K Sivan	Von Karman Award 2020 by International Academy of Astronautics (IAA)
Hockey Player Gurubux Singh and Cricketer Palash Nandi	Mohun Bagan Ratna Award
Chhattisgarh CM Darpan website and mobile app	Elites Excellence Award 2020
N Chandrasekaran and Jim Taiclet	US-India Business Council (USIBC) Global Leadership Award 2020
Ved Prakash Dudeja	'Infra Business Leader of the year 2020 award by Rail Infra and Mobility Digital Award (RIMBDA)'
Sachin Awasthi	Global Humanitarian Award 2020
Shahidul Alam (Bangladesh), Mohammad Mosaed (Iran), Dapo Olorunyomi (Nigeria) and Svetlana Prokopyeva (Russia)	CPJ (Committee to Protect Journalists) International Press Freedom Award 2020
Kate Winslet	2020 Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) Tribute Actor Award
Guinean doctor Morissana Kouyate and Marianna Vardinoyannis from Greece	Nelson Mandela Prize 2020
Arnab Chaudhuri	'Legend of Animation'
Greta Thunberg	Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity
Kala Naryanasamy	President's Award for Nurse in Singapore
Jamie Vardy	Premier League Golden Boot Football Award

Sunil YDV SS

'Karamveer Chakra Award'

LIST OF SUMMITS AND CONFERENCES: JULY 2020

Name of the Summit	Organized/Led by	Venue	Aim/Theme
4th Virtual Ministerial Meet on Climate Action	Union Environment Minister, Shri Prakash Javadekar	Video conferencing	The objective of the meet was demonstrating the continued political commitment to global climate action.
India Global Week 2020	United kingdom by India Inc. Group	Video conferencing	Theme: 'Be The Revival: India and a Better New World'
7th SBI Banking & Economics Conclave	Governor Shaktikanta Das	Video conferencing	To deal with the economic crisis being faced by the country amidst COVID-19 lockdown.
5th Conference on Aerospace and Defence Manufacturing Technologies	Tamil Nadu Technology Development and Promotion Centre (TNTDPC), Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)	Video conferencing	Theme: Empowering India with Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Mission
Digital Indo- Italian Business Mission on Food Processing	Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Harisimrat Kaur Badal	Video conferencing	To provide a platform for Indian and Italian food processing industries.
Indo-US Strategic Energy Partnership	Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Steel Dharmendra Pradhan and by US Secretary of Energy Dan Brouillette	Virtual meeting	Both the countries announced to work together in smart grid and energy storage projects.
UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Session, 2020	Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi	New York, United States	Theme: "Multilateralism after COVID19: What kind of UN do we need at the 75th anniversary"
3rd G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meet	Presidency of Saudi Arabia	Video conferencing	The entities participated in the virtual meet, discussed the global economic outlook marked during the pandemic situation of COVID-19.
G20 Digital Ministers Meeting	Union IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad	Video conferencing	Theme: 'Realizing the opportunities of 21st Century for all'
SCO Health Ministers	Russian Federation,	Video conferencing	The health ministries discussed

Digital Meet	Minister of Health Mr.Mikhail Murashko		the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on health of people and on the economy of the countries.
5th Annual Meet of the Board to Governors of AIIB	Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman	Virtual meeting	Theme: 'AIIB 2030- Supporting Asia's Development over the Next Decade'

LIST OF MOUS SIGNED BY INDIA: JULY 2020

Signed Between	Date Signed	Purpose	Venue
CBSE and Facebook	July 5	To launch a curriculum on Digital Safety and Online well-being and Augmented Reality (AR) for students and educators.	-
India and Afghanistan	July 6	Five MOUs to develop educational infrastructure under the high impact community development projects (HICDP) programme being implemented by India.	-
Indian Coast Guard & Indonesia Coast Guard	July 6	Indian Coast Guard & Indonesia Coast Guard signed an agreement to give a boost to maritime relations	-
USAID's SAGE and MNRE's National Technical Institutions	July 8	US Agency for International Development (USAID)- supported South Asia Group for Energy (SAGE) and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)'s National Technical Institutions has signed an agreement for increasing the collaboration of US-India in clean energy development.	-
India & Bhutan	July 15	Opening of new trade route between Jaigaon in West Bengal and Ahlay, Pasakha in Bhutan for easy connectivity and trade.	-
Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, India and UNICEF's platform – YuWaah	July 20	The agreement was signed with an aim to mobilise 1 crore youth volunteers in India for achieving the goals of Atmanirbhar Bharat.	-
India and Maldives	July 20	Government of India and Ministry of Health of Maldives signed an agreement for establishing 'Emergency Medical Services Unit' at Baa Atoll Dharavandhoo Hospital in Male.	Maldives' Ministry of Health
India and European Union (EU)	July 23	The agreement aims at developing biotechnology-based water treatment system for purifying sewage water flowing into the rivers Ganga and Godavari under a joint project SPRING.	-

RBI and Sri Lanka	July 25	Currency Swap facility of 400mn for Sri Lanka. The agreement will be available till November 2022.	-
India and European Union (EU)	July 25	Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation renewed for 5 years i.e. 2020-25	Virtual 15th India-EU Summit
India and Zimbabwe	July 30	The MOU was signed earlier and was approved by the Cabinet on July 30. The MOU has been signed for cooperation in the field of traditional systems of medicine and homeopathy.	-

BANKING AND FINANCIAL AWARENESS DIGEST: JULY 2020

FITCH FORECASTS INDIA'S GROWTH TO 8% FOR FY 2022

- As per the report, India's growth forecast for the financial year 2021-22 is marked at 8%. Initially, it was marked at 9.5% by the Fitch. However, it has reduced it to 8%.
- The reduction in the growth forecast is marked due to the negative impact on economic growth due to pandemic COVID-19.
- For the current fiscal year, the projection of India economy to be contracting by 5% as per Fitch Rating Agency.

SPECIAL LIQUIDITY SCHEME FOR NBFCs AND HFCS THROUGH SPV

- Government of India approved a special liquidity scheme for Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFC) and Housing Finance Companies (HFC) through Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV).
- This Special Liquidity Scheme is set up by SBI Capital Markets Limited (SBICAP) which is the subsidiary of State Bank of India (SBI).
- The finance provided under this scheme to the NBFCs and HFCs will be used to repay existing liabilities and not to expand their assets.

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK JOINS NGFS

- Asian Development Bank has joined as an observer for France based Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS).
- Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS) is a global forum which brings together all the central banks and supervisors around the globe and commits them to manage the financial risks and develop protection and saving opportunities with respect to climate change and environment.

'ZIPDRIVE' INSTANT AUTO LOAN FACILITY—BY HDFC BANK

- HDFC Bank has announced to offer instant auto loan named as 'Zipdrive' to its customers.
- This instant loan facility will be offered to its customers in about 1000 cities i.e. in tier 2 and tier 3 cities of India.
- The Zipdrive loan facility will be offered only for customers with preapproved offers.

INDIAN ECONOMY TO CONTRACT BY 6.4% -- BY CARE RATINGS

- Care (Credit Analysis and Research Limited) Rating has forecasted that Indian Economy to contract 6.4% for the financial year 2020-21.
- This contraction value in GDP is cited because the economic activities are getting continuously hindered due to lockdown situation of COVID-19.
- The rating agency has also expected a positive growth will come from agriculture and government sector.

'BHAVISHYA' SAVING ACCOUNT—BY FINO PAYMENTS BANK LTD

- Fino Payments Bank Limited has launched 'Bhavishya' Saving Account.
- The 'Bhavishya' Saving Account is launched for the minors who are in between the age group of 10-18 years.
- This saving account is launched with an aim to inculcate banking and saving habits in children.

INDIA'S GDP TO CONTRACT BY 3% IN FY21

- BofA Securities, which is a foreign brokerage, has stated that India's GDP will contract by 3% for financial year 2021.
- The lower contraction in GDP is predicted because the country is facing economic crisis due to the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic.
- BofA Securities has also predicted that India's GDP will contract this fiscal with estimates ranging upto 7% negative growth.

TAMIL NADU TOPS IN MARKET BORROWINGS—BY RBI

- As per the data by Reserve Bank of India, Tamil Nadu state has topped in market borrowings among all the states in India.
- Tamil Nadu has raised Rs 30,500 crores in fiscal year 2020-21 which is accounted for 17% of the borrowings done through the issue of the bonds.
- After Tamil Nadu, the ranking is followed by Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan respectively.

7TH SBI BANKING & ECONOMICS CONCLAVE

- RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das addressed the 7th SBI Banking & Economics Conclave.

- The overall capital adequacy ratio for scheduled commercial banks (SCBs) stood at 14.8% as in March 2020, compared to 14.3% in March 2019. The CRAR of PSBs had improved from 12.2% in March 2019 to 13.0 per cent in March 2020.
- The gross NPA ratio and net NPA ratio of SCBs stood at 8.3 % and 2.9% in March 2020, compared to 9.1% and 3.7% as of March 2019, respectively.

PANEL FORMED FOR 'INDIAN PANDEMIC RISK POOL'-- BY IRDAI

- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI), being the regulatory provider has formed a panel which will examine the degree of convenience of 'Pandemic Risk Pool'.
- The panel will be headed by Suresh Mathur, Executive Director of IRDAI.
- The panel will also study the need of setting up Pandemic Risk Pool, will recommend structure and operating model for the pool and will examine other related matter to the subject.

INDIA: SECOND LARGEST FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTOR IN THE UK

- UK Government has released new data in the Department for International Trade (DIT) inward investment statistics for 2019-2020.
- As per the statistical analysis, India has become the second-largest Foreign Direct Investor in the United Kingdom (UK).
- The list is topped by the United States.

FISCAL DEFICIT TO SHOOT UP TO 7.6 PC IN FY21: IND-RA

- According to a report by India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra), fiscal deficit of the Centre is expected to increase to 7.6% in FY21 which is twice the Budget estimate.
- This is because the government has spent more to fight against COVID-19.
- If looking at the combined level, the fiscal deficit of the Centre and states together will be 12.1%.
- The contribution of states in this is 4.5%.

INDIAN ECONOMY TO CONTRACT BY 9.5% IN FY21: ICRA

- According to a forecast by the rating agency ICRA, India's GDP growth is estimated to contract by 9.5% in the financial year 2020-21.
- The agency had earlier projected in May that the Indian economy will contract by 5%.
- This increase has been made considering the effect of nationwide lockdown in the country.
- According to the agency, the output of second quarter is likely to be -12.4% and the country will see a positive growth of 1.3% by the 4th quarter.

NABARD LAUNCHES DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has launched development projects in Andaman and Nicobar Islands to boost Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.
- NABARD will be providing 44 lakhs for these development projects of rural entrepreneurship.
- Under the project, Self-Help Groups (SHGs) will be formed. The projects will help in the skill development of the members of the SHGs who will further promote rural entrepreneurship.

AAI JOIN HANDS WITH BEL FOR COOPERATION IN CIVIL AVIATION INDUSTRY

- Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) have signed an agreement to support the Civil Aviation industry.
- The agreement was signed through video conferencing.
- Under the agreement, AAI and BEL have decided to collaborate and provide support various global opportunities in the airport business.

HEALTH MINISTER LAUNCHED PNB'S CAMPAIGN FOR COVID-19

- Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan launched the campaign of Punjab National Bank (PNB) to distribute face masks & sanitizers to fight against COVID-19.
- The bank will distribute face masks and sanitizers in 662 districts across the country.

RAMESH BABU BODDU BECOMES NEW MD & CEO OF KARUR VYSYA BANK

- Karur Vysya Bank (KVB) has appointed Ramesh Babu Boddu as its new MD & CEO.
- His tenure will be of 3 years.
- Ramesh is the former Deputy Managing Director of SBI and was retired from the post in April 2020.

ADITYA PURI EMERGES AS HIGHEST PAID BANKER IN FY20

- HDFC Bank's Managing Director Aditya Puri has come out as the highest paid banker in FY20.
- His salary and prerequisites in FY20 was Rs 18.92 crore.

GOOGLE WILL BUY 7.73% STAKE IN JIO PLATFORMS

- Google is set to buy 7.73% stake in Jio Platforms.
- Jio Platforms is the subsidiary of Reliance Industries Limited.

- Google will soon seek permission from the Competition Commission of India for buying 7.73% stake in Jip Platforms.
- Google will be investing Rs 33, 737 for the stakes in the company.

ASHOK LAVASA BECOMES VICE PRESIDENT OF ADB

- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has appointed Ashok Lavasa as its new Vice President.
- Lavasa will succeed Diwakar Gupta.
- Lavasa is the Election Commissioner of India.

INSTA CLICK SAVINGS ACCOUNT—BY BANK OF BARODA

- The Bank of Baroda has launched 'Insta Click Savings Account'.
- The 'Insta Click Savings Account' is a paperless digital self-assisted saving account.
- The aim behind launching this 'Insta Click Savings Account' is that BOB is working to digitize its all work by 2023 and become 100% paperless.

RBI RELEASED 21ST ISSUE OF FINANCIAL STABILITY REPORT, JULY 2020

- The Reserve Bank of India has released the 21st issue of Financial Stability Report, July 2020.
- FSR is the study and assessment of FSDC (Financial Stability and Development Council).
- The COVID-19 has affected the fiscal, monetary and regulatory inventions on a large scale. Also, the non-financial sector has affected large economic losses due to the pandemic.
- The report has suggested that the GNPA ratio of all SCBs may rise from 8.5% in March 2020 to 14.8% by March 2021.

RBI SIGNS CURRENCY SWAP FACILITY WITH SRI LANKA

- The Reserve Bank of India has signed an agreement of USD 400 million currency swap facility with Sri Lanka.
- The agreement is signed to help Sri Lanka to meet with its short-term international liquidity requirements.
- The foreign exchange reserves will also be boosted for Sri Lanka which declined due to the COVID-19 in the country.

AMENDMENTS IN INDIAN ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

- During this pandemic situation of Coronavirus, and to support Indian companies, the Government of India has amended certain Indian Accounting Standards (Ind-AS), including the standards and norms relating to leases.

- The ministry of corporate affairs has amended Ind-AS 103 and Ind-As 116 and some other standards.
- The amendment rules were set and finalized by the ministry in guidance and consultation with National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA).

BANK OF MAHARASHTRA PARTNERS WITH UNIKEN

- Bank of Maharashtra has partnered with Uniken, an organisation which works in the field of digital security.
- They have partnered to work and provide Omnichannel security.
- The Omnichannel security will be provided to Bank of Maharashtra's online banking app named as MahaSecure.
- Uniken's REL-ID technology will work to provide Omnichannel security.

BOB FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS LIMITED AND FISERV, INC. TO WORK FOR DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

- The wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda (BOB) named as BOB Financial Solutions Limited and the Fiserv, Inc. , which is the technology based financial services and payment global provider have joined together to have flexible, scalable solution to accelerate the digital transformation of card issuance and its processing.
- They will work together to develop high tech products like contactless credit cards, tokens and integration with branded wallets and virtual credit cards.
- They will work to have loyalty management and will build customer trust on digital payment structures developed by them.

MONTHLY ONE-LINER GK DIGEST: JULY 2020

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

UNICEF and SAP India to Offer Career Counselling

- The **United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF) India** has partnered with **SAP India** which is a software company to provide career counselling to the youths of India.
- The initiative was launched on account of **World Youth Skills Day**.

NATIONAL NEWS

'Swiggy Money'—By Swiggy and ICICI Bank

- Food Tech giant Swiggy has partnered with private bank ICICI Bank to launch its own **digital wallet** called as '**Swiggy Money**'.

- 'Swiggy Money' is powered by ICICI Bank's 'insta wallet service' which is built on the cloud platform along with API integration.

'Hamara Ghar Hamara Vidyalaya'—Madhya Pradesh

- Government of Madhya Pradesh has launched 'Hamara Ghar Hamara Vidyalaya' campaign in order to maintain academic regularity of the students during the lockdown period arisen due to the outbreak of COVID-19.

'NADA App' launched by Sports Minister

- Union Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju has launched the NADA (National Anti-Doping Agency) mobile phone app.
- NADA app will prove to be the one-step guide for all anti-doping and medication related data.

Asia's First Continuous Galvanized Rebar Production Facility in Punjab

- Union Minister for Steel & Petroleum and Natural Gas, Dharmendra Pradhan virtually inaugurated Asia's First Continuous Galvanized Rebar Production Facility in Punjab.
- This facility will produce Continuous Galvanized Rebar (CGR) with annual capacity produce to be 30,000 tonnes.

Dream Kerala Project

- Kerala Government has launched 'Dream Kerala Project' to provide job opportunities and rehabilitation opportunities to the migrants who have returned to the state from abroad or from other Indian states.

'Paudhe Lagao, Paryavaran Bachao'—Delhi

- Delhi Government has launched 'Paudhe Lagao, Paryavaran Bachao' campaign.
- It is basically mega tree plantation drive to be conducted by the Delhi Government.

Drug Discovery Hackathon 2020

- The Union Human Resource Development Minister and Union Health and Family Welfare Minister has launched Drug Discovery Hackathon 2020(DDH2020).

GOI and World Bank to Develop Housing Projects in Tamil Nadu

- Government of India has signed an agreement with World Bank to develop Housing Projects and provide affordable housing to the low- income groups in Tamil Nadu.
- The agreement is signed to develop two housing projects in Tamil Nadu. The two projects accumulates with total loan agreement of \$250 million.

'Elyments'—First Indian Social Media Super App

- Vice President of India, Venkiah Naidu has launched 'Elyments' app which is the first Indian Social Media Super App.
- The app offers high end to end users privacy and offers private and group chats along with audio and video calling functions.

NHAI to Setup InvIT Committee for Investment Manager Board

- National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has decided to establish Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT), which will be India's first government or semi-government trust.

India First Life Insurance Partners Bank of Baroda Financial Services Ltd

- **India First Life Insurance partners with Bank of Baroda** Financial Services Ltd to offer group insurance cover.
- The **partnership will provide financial support to the BOB credit card** supporters in order to carry out hospitalization on COVID-19 diagnosis.

'Mission Vriksharopan 2020' Drive—Uttar Pradesh

- **Uttar Pradesh Government** has launched 'Mission Vriksharopan 2020' drive.
- Under this campaign, more than **25 crore saplings were planted**.

CBSE partners with Facebook

- **Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)** has partnered with tech giant Facebook to launch a training program for teachers and students on digital safety and online well being.
- **During the second phase, 30 thousands students** will be provided training on digital safety.

E-Portal 'LEAD' for Students Launched by Delhi Gov.

- **Government of Delhi** has launched an e-portal 'LEAD' for the students in order to strengthen the online education.
- An e-portal LEAD stands for '**Learning through E-Resources Made Accessible for Delhi**'.

MasterCard Ties Up with SBM Bank India

- MasterCard has partnered with **SBM Bank India** in order to provide its customers with an online real-time domestic and cross border payments facility.
- The online **real-time payment facility** will be done through 'MasterCard Send'.

Rajnath Singh e-inaugurated 6 Bridges in J&K

- **Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh** e-inaugurated 6 bridges in Jammu and Kashmir.
- The bridges are developed under the **Project Sampark by Border Road Organisation**.

Bhubaneswar Land Use Intelligence System (BLUIS)

- **Chief Minister of Odisha** has launched **Bhubaneswar Land Use Intelligence System (BLUIS)** which is the web and mobile based solution to monitor the unauthorized change of land use.
- This system will help to **prevent the encroachment of government lands**.

World Bank Financially Supports Namami Gange Programme

- **World Bank and Government of India** has signed a loan agreement to financially support Namami Gange Programme.
- The **loan amount of \$400 million has been sanctioned by World Bank** to make Ganga a clean and healthy river.

Bharat Dynamics Ltd signs LAToT with DRDO-DRDL

- **Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)** has signed a **License Agreement and Transfer of Technology (LAToT)** with Defence Research and Development Organisation- Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDO-DRDL).

Flipkart to Promote Art, Craft and Handloom Sector of Karnataka

- **E-commerce industry Flipkart** has entered into an agreement with the government of Karnataka to promote arts, crafts and handloom sector of the state.
- For this purpose, the **E-Commerce giant Flipkart** has signed MoU with Department of MSME and Mines of the government of Karnataka.

India's First E-Lok Adalat at Chhattisgarh

- The **decision and development of e-Lok Adalat in Chhattisgarh** has taken place because of the Chhattisgarh State Legal Service Authority and the High Court.
- The E-Lok Adalat is launched with an **aim to carry out court cases via the virtual platform in the pandemic situation of COVID-19 and to maintain social distancing.**

'ATL App Development Module'-- NITI Aayog

- **NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission** has launched the ATL App Development Module for school children across the country.
- The **ATL App Development Module** is an online course, which is completely Free.

#Reimagine Campaign launched by UNICEF India and FICCI

- The campaign will provide support **to the most vulnerable population and children due to current pandemic COVID-19 and its aftermath in India.**

'Digital Choupal' — NABARD

- The **'Digital Choupal'** was conducted by video conference and was participated by various entities with whom NABARD has signed projects.

Indian Railway's Mission 'Green Railway'

- Indian Railways has decided to accomplish its mission of **'Green Railway' by 2030.**
- Under this mission, Indian railways have decided **to achieve net-zero carbon emission.**

'Corosure' Test Kit for Coronavirus—IIT Delhi

- IIT Delhi has developed a **low cost testing kit for the COVID-19.**
- The kit is named as **'Corosure'** and it is considered to be the world's most affordable corona testing kit.

'PRAGYATA' Guidelines for Online Digital Education

- **Union HRD minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'** has released a set of rules, guidelines to be followed for conducting online digital education.

Development Projects in Andaman & Nicobar Island—NABARD

- The **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** has decided to launch development projects in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- The development projects are launched for worth **Rs 44 lakhs.**

CIPET Accredited to Test and Certify PPE Kits

- The CIPET comes under the **Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers.**
- After conducting an online audit of the **PPE Testing kits, NABL has granted the accreditation to CIPET.**

KURMA Mobile App—To Track and Conserve Indian Turtles

- **Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Information and Broadcasting, Prakash Javadekar** has lauded and appreciated a mobile application to track, report and conserve the Indian turtles.

Zoram Mega Food Park—Mizoram

- The **Zoram Mega Food Park** was inaugurated at Mizoram.
- It was inaugurated by **Union Food Processing Minister, Harisimrat Kaur Badal.**

Consumer Protection Act, 2019 Approved and Implemented in India

- The **Consumer Protection Act, 2019** has successfully approved and implemented in India to protect, conserve and enhance rights of Indian consumers.

‘Manodharpan’ Initiative for Students

- The initiative is launched with an **aim** to provide psycho-social support to the students, their parents and teachers.

‘Ola Corporate’—Enterprise Mobility Solution

- India’s human mobility service provider company Ola has launched an **‘Ola Corporate’ solution.**
- It will roll out the enterprise offering the customers in **Australia, New Zealand, and the UK.**

‘UPI Autopay’ Recurring Payment Facility—By NPCI

- **National Payment Corporation of India** has rolled out a feature for recurring payments. The feature is known as ‘UPI Autopay’.

Amazon Pay partners with Acko General Insurance Ltd

- **Amazon Pay (Payment unit of Amazon India)** has partnered with **Acko General Insurance Ltd** to launch vehicle insurance.
- Under this partnership, customers will now be able to purchase **two-wheeler and four-wheeler insurance policy** in less than 2 minutes with no paperwork.

‘Mausam App’ launched by Dr Harsh Vardhan

- The app will provide data **related to the weather forecast, nowcast and warnings on weather disaster if any occurs.**

‘BIS-Care’ Mobile App’

- The app is launched by **Union Minister of Corporate Affairs, Food, Public Distribution, Ram Vilas Paswan.**
- Along with this app, **Standardization, Conformity Assessment and Training Portals** were launched.

India Handed over 10 Broad-Gauge Railway locus to Bangladesh

- The **10 broad-gauge railway locus** was flagged off from the **Gede station** of the Eastern railway in West Bengal's Nanda district and will reach at Darshana on the other side.

'Co-branded Contactless Credit Card' - By IRCTC and SBI Card

- **Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC)** in partnership with **SBI Card** have launched 'Co-branded Contactless Credit Card'.

National Education Policy 2020- A New Education Policy

- Union cabinet has approved the **new education policy** which is named as National Education Policy 2020.
- Under the **National Education Policy 2020**, major reforms are made especially in the higher education sector.

High Throughput COVID-19 Testing Facilities launched by PM Modi

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** launched **High Throughput COVID-19 Testing Facilities** via video conference.
- The facilities will boost and ramp up the testing **capacities for COVID-19 in India**.

BANKING

Fitch Forecasts India's Growth to 8% for FY 2022

- As per the report, **India's growth forecast for the financial year 2021-22 is marked at 8%**. Initially, it was marked at 9.5% by the Fitch. However, it has reduced it to 8%.

Special Liquidity Scheme for NBFCs and HFCs Through SPV

- Government of India approved a special liquidity scheme for **Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFC)** and **Housing Finance Companies (HFC)** through Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV).

Asian Development Bank Joins NGFS

- ADB will fulfil the NGFS goals like tackling **climate change**, **environmental sustainability**, **fostering regional co-operation and integration**, **building climate and disaster resilience** and **strengthening governance**.

'ZipDrive' Instant Auto Loan Facility—By HDFC Bank

- HDFC Bank has announced to offer instant auto loan named as '**Zipdrive**' to its customers.
- This **instant loan facility will be offered to its customers in about 1000 cities** i.e. in tier 2 and tier 3 cities of India.

Indian Economy to Contract by 6.4% -- By Care Ratings

- **Care (Credit Analysis and Research Limited) Rating** has forecasted that Indian Economy to **contract 6.4% for the financial year 2020-21**.

'Bhavishya' Saving Account—By Fino Payments Bank Ltd

- Fino Payments Bank Limited has **launched 'Bhavishya' Saving Account**.
- The '**Bhavishya**' Saving Account is launched for the minors who are in **between the age group of 10-18 years**.

India's GDP to Contract by 3% in FY21

- BofA Securities, which is a foreign brokerage, has stated that **India's GDP will contract by 3% for financial year 2021.**
- BofA Securities has also predicted that **India's GDP will contract this fiscal with estimates ranging upto 7% negative growth.**

Tamil Nadu Tops in Market Borrowings—By RBI

- As per the data by **Reserve Bank of India**, **Tamil Nadu state has topped in market borrowings** among all the states in India.
- **Tamil Nadu has raised Rs 30,500 crores in fiscal year 2020-21** which is accounted for 17% of the borrowings done through the issue of the bonds.

7th SBI Banking & Economics Conclave

- **RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das addressed** the 7th SBI Banking & Economics Conclave.
- In the conclave, the governor delivered various policy measures taken in order to deal with the **economic crisis being faced by the country amidst COVID-19 lockdown.**

Panel Formed for 'Indian Pandemic Risk Pool'-- By IRDAI

- The **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)**, being the regulatory provider has formed a panel which will examine the degree of convenience of 'Pandemic Risk Pool'.
- The panel will be headed by **Suresh Mathur, Executive Director of IRDAI.**

India: Second Largest Foreign Direct Investor in the UK

- UK Government has released new data in the **Department for International Trade (DIT)** inward investment statistics for 2019-2020.
- As per the statistical analysis, India has become the second-largest **Foreign Direct Investor in the United Kingdom (UK).**

Insta Click Savings Account—By Bank of Baroda

- The Bank of Baroda has launched '**Insta Click Savings Account**'.
- The '**Insta Click Savings Account**' is a **paperless digital self-assisted saving account.**

RBI Released 21st Issue of Financial Stability Report, July 2020

- The reports draw the **study of risks to financial stability, resilience to the financial system** in order to develop and regulate the financial sector of the country.

RBI signs Currency Swap Facility with Sri Lanka

- The **Reserve Bank of India has signed an agreement of USD 400 million currency swap facility** with Sri Lanka.
- The agreement is signed to help **Sri Lanka to meet with its short-term international liquidity requirements.**

Amendments in Indian Accounting Standards

- During this **pandemic situation of Coronavirus**, and to support Indian companies, the **Government of India** has amended certain Indian Accounting Standards (Ind-AS), including the standards and norms relating to leases.

Bank of Maharashtra partners with Uniken

- The Omnichannel security will be **provided to Bank of Maharashtra's online banking app** named as MahaSecure.

BOB Financial Solutions Limited and Fiserv, Inc. to Work for Digital Transformation

- BOB Financial Solutions Limited** will use and the Fiserv's First Vision TM, which is an end to end managed service solution to have digital transformation.

REPORTS

'Towards a Clean Energy Economy Report'

- National Institute for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog in collaboration with Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) has released a report on clean energy transition titled as **'Towards a Clean Energy Economy: Post COVID-19 Opportunities for India's Energy and Mobility Sector'**.

Voluntary National Review 2020 Report-- NITI Aayog

- National Institution for Transforming India Aayog(NITI Aayog)** has released India's 2nd Voluntary National Review (VNR) report at the United Nations High-level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development, 2020.

'Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients'—Report by TIFAC

- An autonomous organisation under the **Department of Science & Technology, Government of India** namely **Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC)**, has released a report which describes the list of **Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API)** which are in need of prioritized manufacturing and the associated advantages.

Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) 2020 Report

- Food and Agriculture (FAO)**, the United Nations has released the Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) 2020 report.
- As per the report, **India has received 3rd rank in 10 countries** in terms of gaining forest area during 2019-2020.

'India Report- Digital Education June 2020'—By HRD Ministry

- Union Minister for Human Resource Development** has virtually released a report titled 'India Report- Digital Education June 2020'.
- The report is prepared by **digital division of HRD ministry** by analyzing the data from educational departments of states and UTs in India.

'Implications of AI on the Indian Economy' Report

- **National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) and Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER)** and Google has together released a report titled as 'Implications of AI on the Indian Economy'.

INDEX AND RANKING

11th Global Real Estate Transparency Index 2020

- **United States Property Consultant Jones Lang LaSalle's (JLL)**, India has released 11th Global Real Estate Transparency Index 2020.
- As per the report, **India ranks at 34th position** with a total score of 2.69 under semi-transparent zone.

Global Manufacturing Risk Index 2020

- **Cushman & Wakefield** has released Global Manufacturing Risk Index (MRI), 2020.
- As per the ranking released, India is stood at the **third position in the Global Manufacturing Risk Index 2020**.

Global Skill Index 2020

- The **report of Global Skill Index 2020** was made by 'Coursera', which is the world's largest online learning platform.
- In terms of data **science domain scenario**, India has received rank at 51st Position in global view and 12th rank position in terms of Asia Pacific region view.

APPOINTMENTS

Name of the Person	Designation
KK Venugopal	Attorney General of India
Tushar Mehta	Solicitor General
Gudni Johannesson	President of Iceland
Sanjay Dwivedi	Director General of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC)
Shrikant Madhav Vaidya	Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)
Ravinder Bhakar	CEO of the Central Board of Film Certifications (CBFC)
Indra Mani Pandey	Indian envoy to United Nations bodies and other international organisations in Geneva
V Suryanarayan	New MD of Cholamandalam MS General Insurance
G Srinivasan	Head of the panel to study the suitability of Surety Bonds issuance by Indian insurers
Injeti Srinivas	Chairman of IFSCA (International Financial Services Centers Authority)
Rajeeva Swarup	Chief Secretary of Rajasthan
Sijo Kuruvila George	Member of the Central Government's Expert Committee

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	on Science and Technology policy
Jayant Krishna	First India based CEO of UKIBC (UK India Business Council)
Lee Hsien Loong	Prime Minister of Singapore
Gyanendro Ningombam	President of Hockey India
Hemang Amin	Interim CEO of BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India)
Andrzej Duda	President of Poland
Rudrendra Tandon	India's Next Ambassador to Afghanistan
Vikram Doraiswami	India's Next Ambassador to Bangladesh
Vidhu P Nair	India's Next Ambassador to Turkmenistan
Hemant Harichandra Kotalwar	India's Next Ambassador to Czech Republic
Ashok Lavasa	Vice President of the Asian Development Bank
Brett Lee	Brand Ambassador for Sports Adda
Ossouka Raponda	First Women Prime Minister of Gabon
Roshni Nadar Malhotra	Chairman of HCL Technologies
Chabdrikapersad 'Chan' Santokhi	President of South American Country 'Suriname'
Shyam Srinivasan	MD and CEO of Federal Bank
P Praveen Siddharth	Personnel Secretary to the President Ram Nath Kovind
Ashwini Kumar Tiwari	MD and CEO of SBI Cards
Kulmeet Bawa	President and Managing Director for SAP (Systems, Applications and Products in Data Processing)
Ramesh Boddu	MD and CEO of Karur Vysya Bank
Prof. R Narayanaswamy	Head the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA)
Sumit Deb	MD and CEO of National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)
P C Kandpal	MD and CEO of SBI General Insurance Company Limited
Sanjiv Bajaj	Chairman of Bajaj Finance
Arun Kumar	Vice-Chairman of the UIC (International union of Railways)
Alok Mishra	CEO and Director of Microfinance Institutions Network (MFIN)
Riva Ganguly Das	Secretary East in Ministry of External Affairs
Partha Pratim Sengupta	MD and CEO of Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)
Naveen Tahilyani	MD and CEO of Tata AIA Life Ltd
Sahil Seth	Honorary Advisor for BRICS CCI (Chambers of Commerce Industry)
Vice Admiral MA Hampiholi	Commandant of Indian Naval Academy (INA)
Mahdi Mohammed Gulaid	Interim Prime Minister of Somalia
Hichem Mechichi	Prime Minister of Tunisia

N. Sivaraman	MD and Group CEO of ICRA Limited
Anil Kumar Jha	Head Member of the Expert Appraisal Committee
Naveen Tahilyani	MD and CEO of TATA AIA Life Insurance
Archana Soreng	Member of Antonio Guterres new Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Award	Awardee
P C Mahalanobis Lifetime Achievement Award	C Rangarajan
Carnegie Corporation of New York's 2020 list of 'Great Immigrants'	Siddhartha Mukherjee and Raj Chetty
2020 Diana Award	Freya Thakral
Overall Winner of the 2020 Commonwealth Short Story Prize	Kritika Pandey
Virtual Race Across America (VRAAM) 2020	Lt Col Bharat Pannu
EU Green Building Award 2020	International Olympic Committee
CII-ITC Sustainability Award 2019	NTPC Ltd
2020 Dada Saheb Phalke Award	Kezang D Thongdok
'Development Marketplace Award 2020:Innovations to Address Gender-Based Violence'	Institute for Human Development (IHD)
Von Karman Award 2020 by International Academy of Astronautics (IAA)	K Sivan
Mohun Bagan Ratna Award	Hockey Player Gurubux Singh and Cricketer Palash Nandi
Elites Excellence Award 2020	Chhattisgarh CM Darpan website and mobile app
US-India Business Council (USIBC) Global Leadership Award 2020	N Chandrasekaran and Jim Taiclet
'Infra Business Leader of the year 2020 award by Rail Infra and Mobility Digital Award (RIMBDA)'	Ved Prakash Dudeja
Global Humanitarian Award 2020	Sachin Awasthi
CPJ (Committee to Protect Journalists) International Press Freedom Award 2020	Shahidul Alam (Bangladesh), Mohammad Mosaed (Iran), Dapo Olorunyomi (Nigeria) and Svetlana Prokopyeva (Russia)
2020 Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) Tribute Actor Award	Kate Winslet
Nelson Mandela Prize 2020	Guinean doctor Morissana Kouyate and Marianna Vardinoyannis from Greece
'Legend of Animation'	Arnab Chaudhuri
Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity	Greta Thunberg

SEBI Grade A GK Digest: August 2020

President's Award for Nurse in Singapore	Kala Naryanasamy
Gustave Trouve Award for Excellence in Electric Boats and Boating	Aditya
Premier League Golden Boot Football Award	Jamie Vardy
'Karamveer Chakra Award'	Sunil YDV SS

National Awards for excellence in Earth System Science

Category	Winner
Lifetime Excellence Award	Prof. Ashok Sahni
National Awards for Atmospheric Science and Technology	Dr .S Suresh Babu
National Award for Geoscience and Technology	N V Chalapathi Rao
National Award for Ocean Technology	Dr M A Atmanand
Anna Mani Award for Women Scientist	Dr Lidita D S Khandeparker
Young Researcher Award	Dr Indra Sekhar Sen
National Award for Ocean Science and Technology	Dr V.V. S. S. Sarma

IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme
1 st July 2020	National Chartered Accountants Day	--
1 st July 2020	National Doctors Day	Theme: Lessen the mortality of COVID-19
1 st July 2020	National Poster Workers Day	--
2 nd July 2020	World Sports Journalist Day	--
4 th July 2020	International Day of Cooperatives	--
7th July 2020	World Chocolate Day/ International Chocolate day	--
10 th July 2020	National Fish Farmers Day	--
11 th July 2020	World Population Day	Theme: Putting the brakes on COVID 19: Safeguarding the health and rights of women and girls
12 th July 2020	World Malala Day	--
15 th July 2020	World Youth Skills Day	Theme: 'Skills for Resilient Youth'
17 th July 2020	World Day for International Justice	--
18 th July 2020	Nelson Mandela International Day	--
20 th July 2020	World Chess Day	--
23 rd July 2020	National Broadcasting Day	--
26th July 2020	Kargil Vijay Diwas	--
27 th July 2020	Raising Day of Central Reserve Police	--

	Force (CRPF)	
28 th July 2020	World Nature Conservation Day	--
29 th July 2020	International Tiger Day	--
30 th July 2020	World Day against Trafficking in Persons	Theme: 'Committed to the Cause- Working on the Frontline to end Human Trafficking'

MOUS SIGNED

India and Afghanistan signs 5 Agreements

- India has signed **5 MoU with Afghanistan for High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDP)** programme.
- The MoU signed will help **to develop educational infrastructure in four regions of Afghanistan.**

NMPB signs MoU with ICAR NBPGR

- The MoU between two entities is signed with an **aim to conserve Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Genetic Resources (MAPGRs).**
- The **preservation and conservation of MAPGRs** will take place at ICAR- NBPGR.

CBDT signs MoU with SEBI

- Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has signed MoU with Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** for the purpose of data exchange between two organisations.
- Upon **signing the MoU, both organisations will now be able to transfer** and share the information on an automatic and regular basis.

ADB Renews MoU with IEA

- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has renewed **MOU** with International Energy Agency (IEA).
- The MoU is renewed with the aim **to further increase the collaboration on sustainability with a focus on energy sector resilience in Asia.**

NATGRID signs MoU with NCRB

- The **National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID)** has signed a MoU with National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB).
- Upon signing the agreement, NATGRID will be able **to access the complaints on First Information Reports (FIR) and stolen vehicles.**

BSE signs MoU with IIT Alumni Council

- Bombay Stock Exchange has signed MoU with IIT Alumni Council** in order to boost the number of startups in India and to provide high investing depth to such new startups.

AAI signs MoU with BEL—For Cooperation in Civil Aviation Sector

- **Airport Authority of India** has signed an MoU with **Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)** in order to have cooperation in the Civil Aviation Sector.
- AAI and BEL now will jointly work to **uplift the global opportunities in airport business in Asia** and the Pacific region.

NTPC signs MoU with NIIF

- **National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)** has signed MoU with **National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF)**.
- They have signed MoU with an aim to **explore investment opportunities in order to enhance the renewable energy sector**.

India and Israel to Work in Cyber Security Co-operation

- The **MoU was signed between Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In)**, a unit of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, and Israel's National Cyber Directorate (INCD).

CBDT signs MoU with MSME for Data Sharing

- The **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)** has signed MoU Ministry of MSME.
- The MoU will allow the sharing of data by **CBDT to MSME ministry**.

CBIC signs MoU with CBDT for Bilateral Data Exchange

- The **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)** has signed MoU Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).
- The two entities has signed MoU to **carry out the bilateral data exchange between them**.

UBI and LIC signs Corporate Agency Agreement

- The corporate agency agreement will allow UBI to distribute **LIC Insurance products to its customers**.

Power Finance Corporation signs MoU with IIT Kanpur

- The two entities will be working to **provide training, carry out research activities** and to generate entrepreneurship development for Smart Grid Technology in India.

India's MoU with Zimbabwe

- **Union Cabinet has approved the MoU of India with Zimbabwe** in the field of cooperating in Traditional Systems of Medicines and Homeopathy.
- This MoU will prove beneficial to **both the countries in the sector of traditional medicines**.

Tripartite MoU Signed Between CSIR, UBA IIT Delhi and Vijnana Bharati

- The **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Unnat Bharat Abhiyan-IIT Delhi (UBS-IITD) and Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA), New Delhi (It is RSS linked science body)** has signed MoU which grant access to CSIR developed technologies to attain the objective of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA).

IIT Delhi Partners with TRIFED for Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

- IIT Delhi has signed MoU with TRIFED (Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation of India) for **Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) which comes under the flagship of HRD Ministry, GOI**.

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

PM Scheme for Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises

- **Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal** has launched PM Scheme for Formalization of Micro food processing Enterprises (PM FME).
- The PM FME scheme is named as **‘Sapno Ki Udaan’**. The scheme will be implemented over a period of five years from 2020-21 to 2024-25.

‘Balaram Yojana’—Odisha

- **Government of Odisha** has launched **‘Balaram Yojana’** with an aim to provide agricultural credit of Rs 1.40 crore to landless farmers who are facing problems due to COVID-19.

‘Nekara Samman Yojana’ -- Karnataka

- **Government of Karnataka** has launched a scheme called **‘Nekara Samman Yojana’** for the weaver's community.
- To build this scheme, the **state government** has allotted **Rs 10.96 crore**.

Government's Schemes for Promotion of Bulk Drugs and Medical Devices Parks

- **Union Minister of Chemical and Fertilizers D V Sadananda Gowda** has launched 4 schemes for the promotion of Bulk Drugs and Medical Devices parks.

First UDAN-RCS Heli Service in Uttarakhand

- The UDAN-RCS Heli service in Uttarakhand will **provide aerial connectivity and mobility between Dehradun, New Tehri, Srinagar and Gauchar**.

DEFENCE

Boeing Completed Deliveries of 37 Helicopters to IAF

- **Boeing which is a United States defence equipment manufacturing company** has completed its delivery of AH-64E Apache and CH-47F(I) Chinook military helicopters to the Indian Air Force (IAF) unit.
- Along with this, Boeing has delivered last five of the **15 numbers of CH-47F(I) Chinook heavy-lift helicopters to IAF**.

Acquisition of Raven and Spike Firefly by Indian Army

- **Indian Army is set to increase its weapon and ammunition inventory** by acquiring unmanned aerial vehicle ‘Raven’ from the United States and a variant of Rafael ‘Spike Firefly’ from Israel.
- Thus, the **‘Raven’ and ‘Spike Fly’** are soon to become part of the Indian army's weapon inventory.

P7 Heavy Drop System for IL 76 Aircraft—DRDO

- **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** has developed the P7 Heavy drop system.
- The P7 Heavy drop system is capable of para dropping military stores weighing up to **7 tons from IL 76 aircraft**.

Indian Navy conducted Naval Exercise at Andaman and Nicobar Island

- **Indian Navy has conducted a naval exercise** in Andaman and Nicobar Island.
- The exercise was conducted with aircraft and warships from **Andaman and Nicobar Command and Eastern Naval Command**.

Ministry of Defence signs Contract with BEML

- The **Ministry of Defence has signed a contract agreement** with Bharat Earth Movers Limited to procure Mine Plough (MP) for tank T-90 S/SK.
- A **total 1,512 MP** will be procured under this contract.

India successfully Test Fired 'Dhruvastra' ATGM

- India successfully carried out the firing test of indigenous **Anti-tank Guided Missile (ATGM)** named as 'Dhruvastra'.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

'Mobile Masterjee'—IIT Kanpur

- IIT Kanpur has developed a virtual classroom system named as '**Mobile Masterjee**'.
- It will **enable students to record teacher's lectures** and other instructions by using smartphones.

'Accelerate Vigyan' Scheme and Portal—By SERB

- The **Union Government's Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB)** has launched 'Accelerate Vigyan' Scheme and Portal associated with it.
- 'Accelerate Vigyan' is a scheme for **research internships**.

Waste to Energy Plant to be Developed in Delhi

- An MoU has been signed among **Indian Oil, NTOC and South Delhi Municipal Corporation** to set up A Waste to Energy Plant at Okhala in Delhi.

India's MOM Mission captured Image of Mars Moon Phobos

- **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** has released the images of 'Phobos'. Phobos is a closet and the biggest Moon of Mars.
- The images were captured by Mars Color Camera (MCC) which is on boarded on **India's Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM)**.

Indian Railways Sets up a Solar Power Plant in Bina

- **Ministry of Railways** has decided to set up solar power in Bina, Madhya Pradesh in order to directly power the Railway Overhead line.
- With the help of this initiative, the solar power plant will produce around 25 lakhs unit of energy annually and will save about **Rs 1.37 crore for Indian Railways every year**.

DRDO to set up Research Cell at IIT Hyderabad

- **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** has decided to set up a research cell at IIT Hyderabad.
- The research cell will be named as '**DRDO-IIT-H Research Cell**'.

IIT-Hyderabad partners with NVIDIA

- **Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad** has partnered with **NVIDIA** which is a multinational company to establish research AI centre.
- The centre will be named as '**NVIDIA Artificial Intelligence(AI) Technology Centre**'(NVAITC).

Rewa Solar Project in Madhya Pradesh

- **PM Narendra Modi** inaugurated **Asia's Largest Solar Power Project** in Madhya Pradesh via video conference. The project is named as Rewa Ultra Mega Solar Power Project.
- It is the **750 MW ultra solar power plant** which is comprised of **3 solar generating units of 250 MW each**.

'SHUDH' UV Sanitizing Device— IIT Kanpur

- IIT Kanpur has developed and launched an **Ultraviolet (UV) sanitizing device** named as 'SHUDH'.
- The acronym for **SHUDH** is- **Smartphone operated Handy Ultraviolet Disinfection Helper**.

'Visa Secure' Technology—By Visa and Federal Bank

- The payment technology global holder **Visa** has come up with partnership with **Federal Bank** to launch a modernized technology to the bank account holders to carry out safe banking transactions.

Google Announces Digitization Fund for India

- The global tech giant Google has announced to invest **\$10 billion in India** with an aim to digitize the **Indian Economy**. The funds are allotted under 'Google for India Digitisation Fund'.
- The announcement of this investment was made during the **virtual meeting between PM Narendra Modi and Google CEO Sundar Pichai**.

ASPIRE-- e-portal Based on Automotive Technology

- **International Centre of Automotive Technology (ICAT)** has launched e-portal on automotive technology which is named as ASPIRE.
- The ASPIRE e-portal stands for **Automotive Solutions Portal for Industry, Research and Education**.

KrttiScan -UV Baggage Scan System for Corona Disinfection

- The Vehant Technologies, Noida in partnership with International **Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials (ARCI)**, Hyderabad has developed KrttiScan, UV Baggage Disinfection System.

'Hope Mission' to Mars—By UAE

- **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** successfully launched 'Hope Mission' to Mars.
- Under this mission, the UAE will provide a **complete picture of the atmosphere at mars for the first time**.

India-Russia Joint Technology Assessment & Accelerated Commercialization Programme

- The **Department of Science and Technology (DST)** in partnership with the **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)** launched the India-Russia Joint Technology Assessment & Accelerated Commercialization Programme.

World's Most Surveilled Cities-Comparitech

- Among the **150 major cities around the world, from India**, the list is topped by Hyderabad at 16th rank position having the maximum number of CCTV surveillance.

IIM Kozhikode Develops 'Veli Band'

- It is wearable hand band developed with an aim **to maintain social distancing during this pandemic situation of COVID-19**.

'Implications of AI on the Indian Economy' Report

- The **NASSCOM, ICRIER and Google state that AI intensity** which is measured as the ratio of AI to total sales can give 2.5% enhancement to GDP on an immediate basis term.

IIT-Ropar to provide Skill Development in Punjab Colleges & Institutes

- The **IIT Ropar will provide technical mentorship to the state's engineering colleges** at Gurdaspur and Ferozepur, Sri Guru Gobind Singh Skill Institute, Chamkaur Sahib, Polytechnics and ITI Institutes.

'Tianwen-1'—China's First Independent Mission to Mars

- China has successfully launched its first independent mission to mars named as 'Tianwen-1', which means 'Question to Heaven'.

'BANDICOOT', First Manhole Cleaning Robot in Guwahati, Assam

- First manhole cleaning robot or an automatic sewer cleaning device named as '**BANDICOOT**' is inaugurated at **Guwahati, Assam**.

4th Virtual Ministerial Meet on Climate Action

- The 4th edition of '**Ministerial on Climate Action (MoCA)**' was held virtually.
- The meeting from India was participated by **Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar**.

India Global Week 2020

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has addressed the inaugural session of **3-day virtual India Global week 2020**.
- India Global week 2020 session is based on the theme '**Be The Revival: India and a Better New World**'.

5th Conference on Aerospace and Defence Manufacturing Technologies

- **Union Minister of State for Defence Shripad Yesso Naik** inaugurated the fifth edition of the conference on Aerospace and Defence Manufacturing Technologies.
- The theme for the conference was: **Empowering India with Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Mission**.

Digital Indo- Italian Business Mission on Food Processing

- **Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Harisimrat Kaur Badal** virtually addressed the opening ceremony of Digital Indo- Italian Business Mission on Food Processing.

Indo-US Strategic Energy Partnership

- Both the countries announced **to perform research and uplift the new areas on transformational power generation based on supercritical CO₂ (sCO₂)** power cycles and advanced coal technologies, including carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS).

UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Session, 2020

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** virtually addressed the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Session. The session was held in New York, United States.
- The theme for the session was **"Multilateralism after COVID19: What kind of UN do we need at the 75th anniversary"**.

3rd G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meet

- The **3rd G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meet** was conducted. It was participated by Indian Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

G20 Digital Ministers Meeting

- The **G20 Digital Ministers Meeting** was held on **22nd July 2020** and was addressed by Union IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad via video conference.

SCO Health Ministers Digital Meet

- The **Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Health Ministers Digital Meet** was held on 24th July 2020.
- The meeting was attended by **Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan**.

5th Annual Meet of the Board to Governors of AIIB

- **Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman** attended the virtual 5th Annual Meet of the Board to Governors of AIIB (Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank).

YOJANA MAGAZINE SUMMARY: JULY 2020

TOPIC: SELF-RELIANT INDIA

Self-reliant India does not mean country is reliant on outside in strategic sectors.

- Since the month March 2020, almost all the economies of the world are under stress due to the declining health and economic sector due to the global pandemic coronavirus (COVID-19). To deal with the epidemic, countries around the world adopted a system of complete lockdown to impose restrictions on movement of people, international travel and transportation of goods and services. As a result of this many industries and organizations have either shut down or are operating at minimum capacity, and its impact is now visible globally.

- According to the World Bank's estimate, the growth rate of the Indian economy will be reduced to just 5 % in the financial year 2019-20, while on a comparative basis there will be a huge decline in the growth rate of the economy in 2020-21 which will come down to just 2.8 %. The report said that the epidemic came at a time when the Indian economy was already suffering due to pressure on the financial sector. Corona virus has increased pressure on it.

SELF-RELIANT INDIA MISSION:

- While addressing the nation on May 12, 2020, Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi announced 'Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan (or Self-reliant India Mission)' with Rs 20-lakh-crore stimulus package, equivalent to about 10% of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2019-20.
- This special economic package will help overcome difficult situation and revive the economy, which will help in providing relief to public and private investment (both domestic and international).



- India believes in the concept of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'. Since India is a part of the world, India progresses, so it contributes to the progress of the world.
- The creation of 'self-sufficient India' will not promote globalization exclusion or protectionism but will help in the development of the world.

MISSION STAGES:

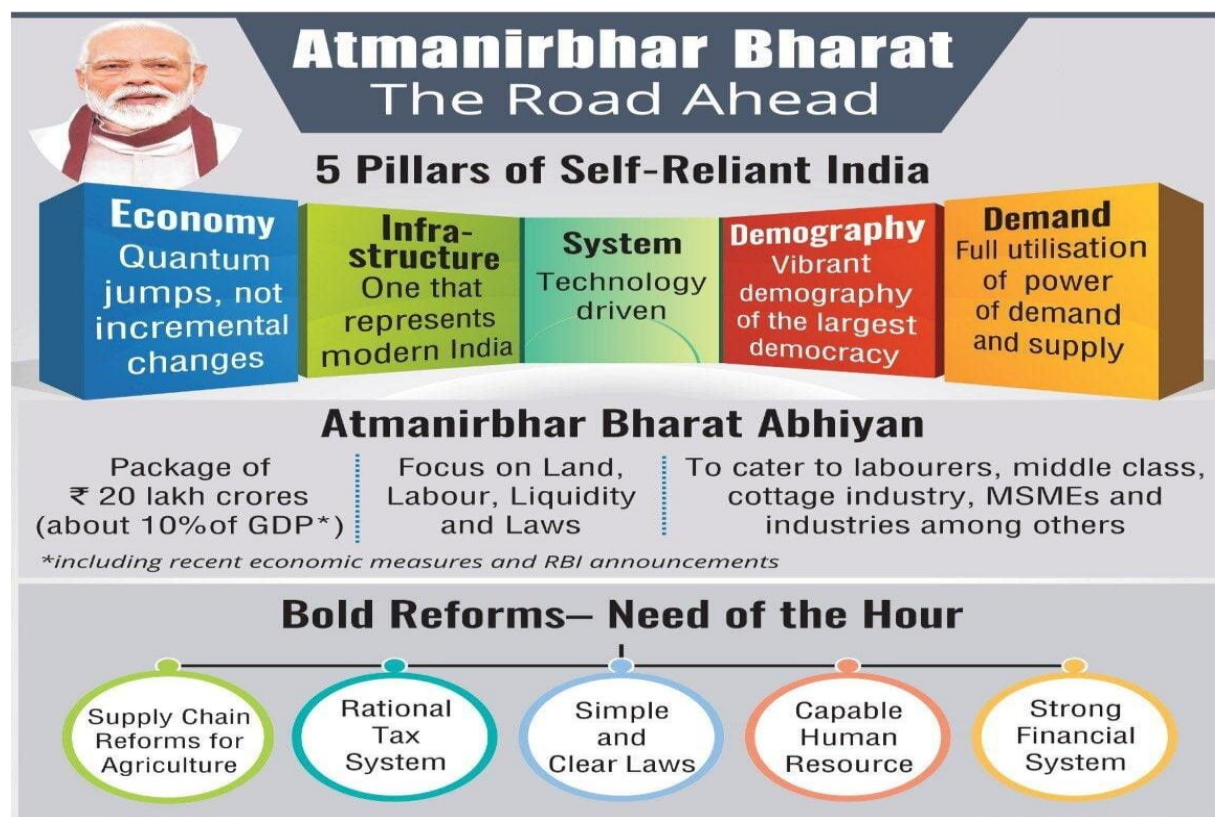
The mission will be implemented in two phases:

- First Stage :** It will encourage sectors like medical, textiles, electronics, plastics, toys to promote local manufacturing and exports.
- Second stage:** In this phase, sectors like gems and jewelery, pharma, steel will be encouraged.

FIVE PILLARS OF SELF-RELIANT INDIA:

Self-sufficient India will stand on five pillars:

- Economy: This is based on Quantum Jump instead of Incremental Change;
- Infrastructure: Infrastructure that becomes the hallmark of modern India;
- System: Systems based on 21st century technology driven systems;
- Vibrant Demography: This is a source of energy for self-reliant India;
- Demand: The full potential of India's demand and supply chain must be harnessed.



ECONOMIC STIMULUS FOR SELF-RELIANT INDIA:

- The Prime Minister has announced a special economic package towards building self-reliant India. This package was done by the government towards the COVID-19 epidemic .
- 20 lakh crore combined with earlier announcements and decisions taken by RBI, which is equivalent to about 10% of India's ' gross domestic product- GDP ' . The package will focus on land, labor, liquidity and laws (Land, Labor, Liquidity and Laws- 4Ls).

ECONOMIC PACKAGE ANALYSIS:

- The announced package is in reality considered to be much lower than the declared price as it also includes earlier announcements made by the RBI as part of the government's 'fiscal' package.
- Direct measures announced by the government under the package include subsidy, direct benefit transfer, payment of salaries, etc. The benefit of which is directly received by the real beneficiary. However, the benefit of indirect assistance from the government, such as 'Reserve Bank of India' loan easing measures, does not reach the beneficiary directly.

- Instead of lending, banks can again protect the assistance given by RBI. Recently Indian banks have deposited Rs 8.5 lakh crore with the central bank.
- Thus, despite the declared amount being 10% of GDP, less than 5% of GDP is expected to reach people directly.

SPECIAL INCENTIVES FOR INDUSTRIES:



Businesses including MSMEs

1. Rs 3 lakh crores Collateral free Automatic Loans for Business, incl MSME	9. Rs 30,000 crores Liquidity Facility for NBFC/HCs/MFIs
2. Rs 20,000 crore Subordinate Debt for MSMEs	10. Rs 45,000 cr Partial Credit Guarantee Scheme 2.0 for NBFC
3. Rs 50,000 cr equity infusion through MSME Fund of Funds	11. Rs 90,000 cr Liquidity Injection for DISCOMs
4. New definition of MSMEs	12. Relief to contractors
5. Global tender to be disallowed upto Rs 200 crores	13. Extension of Registration and Completion Date of Real Estate Projects under RERA
6. Other interventions for MSMEs	14. Rs 50,000 cr liquidity through TDS/TCS reductions
7. Rs 2500 crores EPF support for Businesses and Workers for 3 more months	15. Other Direct tax Measures
8. EPF contribution reduced for Business & Workers for 3 months- Rs 6750 crores	16. Other Direct Tax Measures

CREDIT GUARANTEE FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (MSMES):

- Most of the loans given by banks to MSMEs are given on the basis of assets (as collateral) of MSMEs. But during a crisis, the prices of this property may fall and this may hamper MSMEs' ability to borrow. That is, due to the fall in the prices of assets during a crisis, banks reduce the lending of these enterprises.
- Credit guarantee is given by the government to banks in this regard that if the MSMEs enterprises are not able to repay the loan then the loan will be repaid by the government. For example, if the government gives 100% credit guarantee to a firm for loans up to Rs 1 crore, it means that the bank can lend Rs 1 crore to that firm. If the firm fails to pay back, the government will pay Rs 1 crore to the banks.

CHANGE IN DEFINITION OF MSMEs:

WHY CHANGE THE DEFINITION?

- The definition of MSME has been changed because according to the 'Economic Survey', small enterprises want to remain small as it gives many benefits to these industries. Therefore, there is a continuous demand for change in the definition of MSME.

NEW DEFINITION:

- The investment limit has been revised.
- The turnover of the company has been added as a criterion.
- The gap between construction and service sector has been eliminated.
- However, for the new definition, necessary laws will still have to be amended.

Current MSME Classification

Criteria: Investment in plant and machinery or equipment

Classification	Subtle	Small	Medium
Manufacturing enterprise	Investment <25 lakh rupees	Investment <5 crores	Investment <10 crores
Service enterprise	Investment <10 Lakh Rupees	Investment <2 crores	Investment <5 crores

Modified MSME Classification

Composite Criteria: Investment and annual turnover

Classification	Subtle	Small	Medium
Manufacturing and service	Investment <1 Crore and Turnover <5 Crore	Investment <10 crores and turnover <50 crores	Investment <50 crores and turnover <250 crores

CRITICISM OF THE NEW DEFINITION:

- The new definition of MSMEs will enable enterprises to solve the profitability problem they receive due to their size. However, this change is being criticized, because the definition of the new MSME should be in accordance with the global standard. In the new definition, companies with a turnover of up to Rs 5 crore will be considered small but globally enterprises with a turnover of up to Rs 75 crore are considered small.

POTENTIAL CHALLENGES BEFORE THE SELF RELIANT INDIA MISSION:

COST AND QUALITY

- Currently Indian companies do not have a lot of experience in many areas, so maintaining quality of products and services will be a major challenge in order to stay competitive in the global market while keeping the budget to a minimum.

FINANCIAL PROBLEM

- Recently, the Indian industrial sector saw an increase in cases of active capital and financial liquidity challenge, with the pandemics of COVID-19 adding to industrial activity and reduced market demand leading to problems in the industrial sector.
- In such a situation, the government should promote targeted schemes in different categories to give a boost to the industrial economy.

INFRASTRUCTURE:

- According to experts, one of the main reasons for most companies coming out of China to India is the lack of a strong infrastructure in the Indian industrial sector (especially in terms of technology). In the last few years, Indian producers have been dependent on imports in one way or the other.

GLOBAL STANDARD:

- Assistance provided by the government to local producers and traders can be released only in accordance with the Free Trade Agreements and the World Trade Organization (WTO) standards.

COVID-19'S IMPACT ON THE GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN:

- In the last few years China has emerged as a major producer for the world and during this time China has also received huge amount of foreign investment from many countries.
- Following the challenges posed by the COVID-19 epidemic, many countries in the world have given special attention to reducing their industries' dependence on China and developing local capacity.
- The Government of Japan has decided to provide more than US \$ 2 billion in aid to the Japanese companies operating in China.
- Additionally, many US (United States) companies have started reducing their dependence on China.
- The Indian pharmaceutical industry imports around 70% of its total requirement of 'Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (API)' from China, but after this epidemic, the Indian government, in collaboration with the industrial sector, specialized to encourage API manufacturing in the country.

THE CONCLUSION:

- After the circumstances arising due to COVID-19, there is a need to empower the citizens of the country so that they can solve the problems related to the country and contribute to build a better India. Despite the many challenges facing the Self-Reliant India Campaign, India needs to invest in enterprises that have the potential to emerge as a global force for strengthening the industrial sector. Working in this direction, the government has announced a special economic and comprehensive package of 20 lakh crore rupees under the 'Self-reliant India campaign'.
- Reforms were announced not only in the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises-MSMEs sector, but also through long-term reforms through self-reliance relief packages; these include areas such as coal and mining sectors.

KURUKSHETRA MAGAZINE SUMMARY: JULY 2020

TOPIC: SOCIAL SECURITY

Social security cannot stop due to the large scale human dependence on the program for basic needs.

All kinds of economic activity within the country has come to a standstill due to the ongoing lockdown to prevent the spread of the global pandemic coronavirus (COVID-19) and the Indian economy is under threat of economic slowdown. In the country at the time of this crisis, along with health, people's livelihood is also in danger. In such a situation, obtaining social security in front of the affected people is a difficult task.

- The main feature of the Indian Constitution is the establishment of a welfare state. It is clear from the Preamble of the Constitution and Directive Principles of State Policy that our goal is social welfare. This preamble promises to secure social, economic and political justice for the Indian people. Not only this, under the 'Agenda 2030' for sustainable development, the principle of universality of social security is contained in the various goals related to it. In this context, the imperative of providing universal social security has gained immense importance.

SOCIAL SECURITY MEANS:



SOCIAL SECURITY FOR ALL

Source: www.twitter.com

- According to the International Labor Organization (ILO), social security is a broad concept that provides assurance of providing a minimum income to oneself and their dependents and protects the individual from any form of uncertainty.
- It is described in the American Encyclopedia as "Social Security refers to some special government schemes whose initial goal is to at least liberate all families from poverty by providing means of subsistence and education and medical care.
- **Social security consist of 2 elements, namely:**
 - **Right to a Standard of Living:** It has been adequate for the health and well-being, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services.
 - **Right to Income Security:** It will pave the way in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond any person's control.

WHY THE NEED FOR UNIVERSAL SOCIAL SECURITY?

LARGE UNORGANIZED SECTOR OF INDIA

- The unorganized sector contributes over 80 % of the total workforce, contributing over 50% to the country's economy.
- The unorganized sector of India is basically made up of rural population and consists mostly of people who do traditional work in the village.
- Apart from those who do traditional work in villages, landless farmers and small farmers also fall in this category.
- In cities, these people mostly work in retail business, wholesale business, manufacturing industry, transport, storage and construction industry.
- Most of them are people who go to the villages at the time of sowing and harvesting the crop and seek livelihood to work in cities and metros for the rest of the time.

EXPENSIVE HEALTH SERVICES

- Due to expensive health services, the expenditure on health by the common man has increased tremendously, due to which it is being considered as a major reason for increasing poverty in present times.
- Along with this, the global pandemic COVID-19 has attracted the attention of state policy-makers for making rapid progress towards achieving universal health coverage.
- Universal health coverage is not only the basic condition for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals related to health and welfare, but also other goals such as poverty alleviation (SDG-1), quality education (SDG-4), gender equality and women empowerment (SDG -5), excellent work and economic growth (SDG-8), infrastructure (SDG-9), reducing inequality (SDG-10), justice and peace (SDG-16) etc. are also necessary.

INSUFFICIENT EXPENDITURE ON SOCIAL SECURITY

- Social security programs have a broader purpose in India, but overall public expenditure on social security (excluding public healthcare) is only estimated.

MAJOR PROBLEMS OF UNORGANIZED SECTOR:

- **Extremely low income:** The income of workers in the unorganized sector is not only less than that of the organized sector, but at times it is not even worth the minimum standard of living. In addition, the annual income is often reduced due to non-availability of work throughout the year in agriculture and construction sectors. There is also no minimum wage in this area, which is binding on the employees. Therefore, these workers are forced to sell their labor at prices lower than the minimum wage rates. Anyway, the minimum wage rates in our country are much lower than the global standards.
- **Temporary employment:** Due to lack of employment guarantee in the unorganized sector, the nature of employment is temporary, which discourages workers engaged in this sector. Due to lack of employment stability, the risk of psychosis among them is more than the workers of organized sector. They also do not get the benefit of various government schemes & also ignored by middlemen and their employers.
- **Not covered under labor laws:** Most unorganized workers work in enterprises where labor laws do not apply. Therefore their working condition is also not safe and health hazards are very high for them.
- **There is no protection even in hazardous enterprises:** Child labor, inequality to the extent of injustice with women and their physical, mental and sexual exploitation are common even in hazardous enterprises. The issue of lack of health standards in many businesses is also a challenge to this sector. There are a large number of

child laborers working in matchbox factories, glass industry workers, diamond cutters, polishing on precious stones, junk pickers, brass and bronze utensils and fireworks making enterprises.

- **Increasingly complex economic-social system:** Due to increasing complex economic-social system, the daily life of these workers is much busier and standard of living is much lower. The incompatibility between income and expenditure has not left their economic condition to be able to lead a better life. That is why the government runs many schemes from time to time, but there are many obstacles in front of it, which are hindering the implementation of those plans and policies.

GOVERNMENT EFFORTS:

- **Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM) Pension Yojana:** When the Interim Budget for the financial year 2019-20 was presented, the government introduced 'Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM) Pension Yojana' for the unorganized sector workers with monthly income up to Rs 15,000. In fact, the scope of this scheme can be increased by reducing the amount of monthly income in view of the present circumstances.



Pradhan Mantri Shram-Yogi Maandhan



Mega pension yojana for unorganised sector workers with monthly income of ₹ 15,000 or below



Assured monthly pension of ₹ 3,000 from the age of 60 years

- With this pension scheme, workers of the unorganized sector will be able to get a fixed monthly pension of Rs 3000 from the age of 60 with a small monthly contribution of a small amount.
 - Under this, the unorganized sector workers who join this pension scheme at the age of 29 years will have to contribute only Rs 100 per month till the age of 60 years.
 - Workers joining this pension scheme at the age of 18 have to contribute only Rs 55 per month.
- **The Workers Social Security Act, 2008:** Government enacted the Unorganized Workers Social Security Act, 2008 in relation to giving social security to workers in the unorganized sector in legislative measures. The Act provides some important arrangements to the National Social Security Board. Through this, recommendations are made for the formulation of social security schemes, life and disability cover, health and maternity benefits, old age security and any other benefit which has been set by the government for the unorganized laborers. Apart from this, National Social Security Board has also been formed.
- **Providing Universal Health Coverage:** The Government of India has implemented universal health coverage (UHC) at all levels of governance for management of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana (PM-JAY) based on the recommendation went by the National Health Policy in 2017 to achieve the objective of UHC. The scheme aims to eliminate barriers to the healthcare system at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels. Along with this, efforts are also being made to bring 40 percent population of the country under the coverage of health cover.
- **Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana:** The government has launched Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana (AABY) to provide insurance in the event of death and disability.

- **Prime Minister Employment Generation Program- MNREGA (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act):**

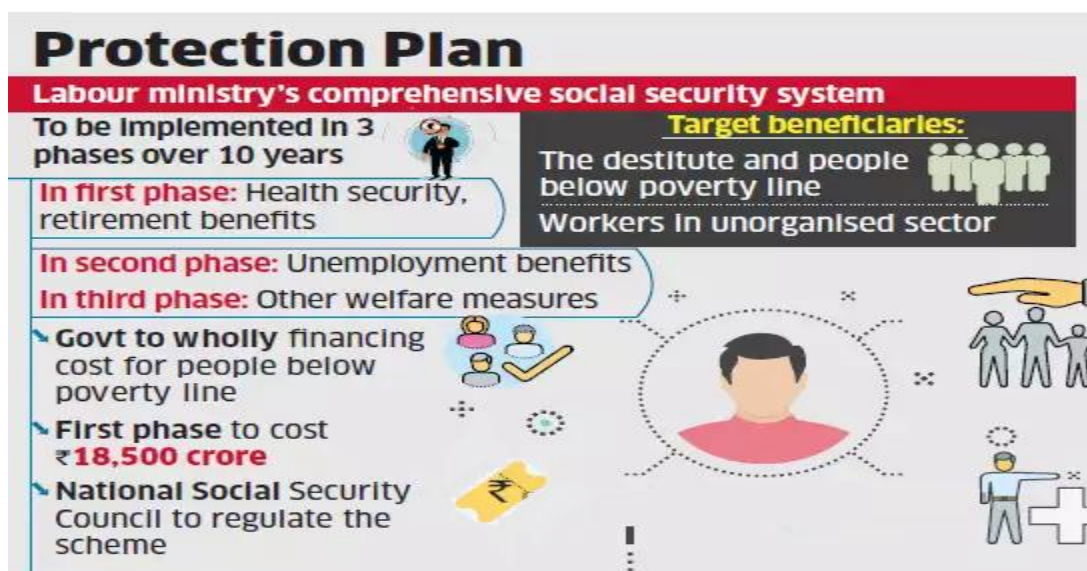


Source: <https://www.newsclick.in/>

- MNREGA is the world's largest social welfare program to guarantee employment to the people at the legal level, making rural India aware of 'dignity of labor'. Under the MNREGA program, a provision of 100 days of guaranteed employment, daily unemployment allowance and transport allowance (in case of distance of more than 5 km) has been made for adult members willing to do unskilled labor of each family. Thus, there is a case for extending this programme to urban areas with municipal bodies being given the responsibility for providing a fixed no of days work to all those seeking it.
- The government is implementing many other employment generation / social security schemes for workers in the unorganized sector, such as **Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana, Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana, , Handloom Weavers Scheme, Handicraft Artisan Comprehensive Welfare Schemes , National Scheme for the Welfare of Fishermen, Training and Extension, Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY), National Family Benefit Scheme etc.**
- The government has established welfare funds to provide social security to certain categories of workers, namely, beedi workers, some non-coal mine workers . Other welfare measures include health care, housing, educational support for children, drinking water supply, etc.

But in spite of all this, the difficulties in identifying the workers in the unorganized sector are a very big problem. Also, due to internal migration, the issue of identity and lack of registration of large number of companies is no less an obstacle.

CONCLUSION:



Source: Economictimes.com

- In spite of all this, the issue of social security of this unorganized class remains a matter of constant concern. Issues such as livelihood insecurity, child labor, maternity protection, care of young children, housing, drinking water, sanitation, leisure benefits and minimum wages become extremely important among the people associated with this sector.
- In such a situation, the government should formulate a holistic policy, which should be implemented in 3 phases over 10 years for the workers of the unorganized sector and give proper participation in the system, acknowledging their contribution to the economy. The government should especially focus on construction sector, domestic servants, laborers working in mandis and street vendors. People working in unorganized sector should participate in policy making and social security should be provided in view of their share in revenue.

CURRENT AFFAIRS QUESTION BANK: JULY 2020

Q.1 The PM Scheme for Formalization of Micro food processing Enterprises (PM FME) Scheme is launched with an outlay of how many rupees?

- Rs 10,000 crore
- Rs 20,000 crore
- Rs 25,000 crore
- Rs 30,000 crore
- None of these

Q.2 With which bank Swiggy has partnered to launch 'Swiggy Money'?

- ICICI Bank
- HDFC Bank
- Axis Bank
- Yes Bank
- None of these

Q.3 Which state has launched 'Hamara Ghar Hamara Vidyalaya'?

- a) Kerala
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Rajasthan
- e) None of these

Q.4 Gudni Johannesson has been reappointed as President of which country?

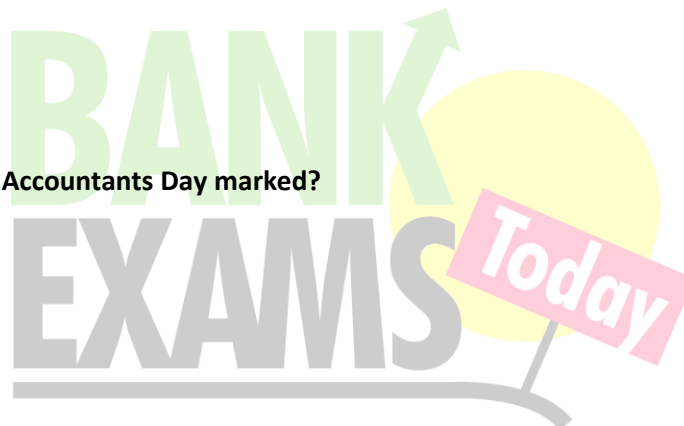
- a) Lesotho
- b) Burundi
- c) Iceland
- d) Ireland
- e) None of these

Q.5 What is the name of the app launched by sports minister for the athletes?

- a) Athlete app
- b) NADA app
- c) Sports India
- d) Indian Athletes
- e) None of these

Q.6 When is National Chartered Accountants Day marked?

- a) 29th June 2020
- b) 12th December 2020
- c) 16th September
- d) 1st July 2020
- e) None of these



Q.7 Where is India's First Lichen Park developed?

- a) Uttarakhand
- b) Manipur
- c) Assam
- d) Sikkim
- e) None of these

Q.8 When is National Doctors Day marked?

- a) 29th August 2020
- b) 27th June 2020
- c) 1st July 2020
- d) 30th January 2020
- e) None of these

Q.9 Which state has launched 'Skill Connect Forum' web portal?

- a) Kerala

- b) Gujarat
- c) Karnataka
- d) Tamil Nadu
- e) None of these

Q.10 Who is conferred with first P C Mahalanobis Award?

- a) Urjit Patel
- b) Rahguram Rajan
- c) Bimal Jalan
- d) C Rangarajan
- e) None of these

Q.11 Where is Asia's First Continuous Galvanized Rebar Production Facility inaugurated by Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan?

- a) Delhi
- b) Punjab
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Chandigarh
- e) None of these

Q.12 GOI and the World Bank have signed an agreement to develop housing projects in which state?

- a) Kerala
- b) Bihar
- c) Uttarakhand
- d) Tamil Nadu
- e) None of these

Q.13 Which organisation has released 'Towards a Clean Energy Economy: Post COVID-19 Opportunities for India's Energy and Mobility Sector' Report?

- a) RBI
- b) NITI Aayog
- c) SIDBI
- d) SEBI
- e) None of these

Q.14 Who is appointed as Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)?

- a) Shrikant Madhav Vaidya
- b) Sanjay Dwivedi
- c) Sanjiv Singh
- d) Indra Mani Pandey
- e) None of these

Q.15 Dream Kerala Project is launched for which of the following purpose?

- a) Agriculture
- b) Food Industries

- c) Employment
- d) Power Sector
- e) None of these

Q.16 Carl Reiner, who passed away recently belonged to which profession?

- a) Politician
- b) Scientist
- c) Comedian
- d) Magician
- e) None of these

Q.17 Where will be India's First Plasma Bank to be set up?

- a) Uttarakhand
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Delhi
- d) Gujarat
- e) None of these

Q.18 Which Bank has launched 'e-Kisaan Dhan' App?

- a) HDFC Bank
- b) ICICI Bank
- c) Yes Bank
- d) Axis Bank
- e) None of these

Q.19 Where will be Waste to Energy Plant developed?

- a) Delhi
- b) Punjab
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Chandigarh
- e) None of these

Q.20 Which of the following organisation has organized 'Accelerate Vigyan' Scheme?

- a) Department of Biotechnology
- b) UGC
- c) SERB
- d) CSIR
- e) None of these

Q.21 Fitch slashes India's growth forecast for FY 2022 to ____% from 9.5%?

- a) 8.5%
- b) 8%
- c) 7.5%
- d) 6%
- e) None of these

Q.22 Which state/UT launched 'Paudhe Lagao, Paryavaran Bachao' campaign?

- a) Chandigarh
- b) Delhi
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Jharkhand
- e) None of these

Q.23 PASSEX Naval Exercise was conducted between India and which other countries?

- a) Japan
- b) Myanmar
- c) Oman
- d) France
- e) None of these

Q.24 Which is the first African Country to submit results of REDD+ to UNFCCC?

- a) Botswana
- b) Congo
- c) Namibia
- d) Uganda
- e) None of these

Q.25 Which institute developed World's First Online B.Sc Degree in Programming and Data Science?

- a) IIT Bombay
- b) IIT Madras
- c) IIT Kanpur
- d) IIT Roorkee
- e) None of these

Q.26 Name the organisation which is set up as a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) and is offering a special liquidity scheme for NBFCs and HFCs?

- a) IDBI Capital Markets Limited
- b) IDBI Capital Markets Limited
- c) SBI Capital Markets Limited
- d) HDFC Capital Markets Limited
- e) None of these

Q.27 Which of the following union minister launched Drug Discovery Hackathon 2020?

- a) Prakash Javadekar
- b) Amit Shah
- c) Kiren Rijiju
- d) Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank
- e) None of these

Q.28 Which of the following organisation joined as an observer for France based Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS)?

- a) New Development Bank
- b) Bank of America
- c) International Monetary Fund
- d) Asian Development Bank
- e) None of these

Q.29 Which institute developed virtual classroom system named as 'Mobile Masterjee'?

- a) IIT Bombay
- b) IIT Madras
- c) IIT Kanpur
- d) IIT Roorkee
- e) None of these

Q.30 Who is appointed as head of the panel to study the suitability of Surety Bonds issuance by Indian insurers?

- a) Dr Uma Lel
- b) V Suryanarayan
- c) Sukhbir Singh
- d) G Srinivasan
- e) None of these

Q.31 India to carry out LPG Business in which of the following country?

- a) Bhutan
- b) Myanmar
- c) Oman
- d) Bangladesh
- e) None of these

Q.32 Which of the following organisation launched Global Bharat Program for India MSMEs?

- a) Microsoft
- b) SAP India
- c) Infosys
- d) Adobe
- e) None of these

Q.33 Which institute develops an AI tool to detect COVID-19 from Chest X-ray images?

- a) IIT Gandhinagar
- b) IIT Madras
- c) IIT Kanpur
- d) IIT Roorkee
- e) None of these

Q.34 When is International Day of Cooperatives marked?

- a) 3rd July
- b) 4th July
- c) 5th July

- d) 6th July
- e) None of these

Q.35 Which Bank offers 'ZipDrive' Instant Auto Loan Facility?

- a) Axis Bank
- b) IDBI Bank
- c) SBI Bank
- d) HDFC Bank
- e) None of these

Q.36 What is the name of First Indian Social Media Super App?

- a) Chat App
- b) Elyments
- c) Connect India
- d) U Connect
- e) None of these

Q.37 Who among the following launched Elyments- First Indian Social Media Super App?

- a) Piyush Goyal
- b) Ravi Shankar Prasad
- c) Venkiah Naidu
- d) Narendra Modi
- e) None of these

Q.38 Which of the following organisation has decided to set up Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT)?

- a) NHAI
- b) NABARD
- c) RBI
- d) NITI Aayog
- e) None of these

Q.39 Care Rating has forecasted that Indian Economy to contract ____% for FY 2020-21?

- a) 7.5%
- b) 4.5%
- c) 6.4%
- d) 5.4%
- e) None of these

Q.40 Lin Dan, has announced his retirement from which sports?

- a) Badminton
- b) Basket Ball
- c) Foot Ball
- d) Boxing
- e) None of these

Q.41 When is 'Dharma Chakra Day' marked?

- a) 3rd July
- b) 4th July
- c) 5th July
- d) 6th July
- e) None of these

Q.42 Which of the following bank partners with Innoviti Payment Solution Pvt Ltd to offer EMIs on Debit Cards swiped on Innoviti POS terminal?

- a) ICICI Bank
- b) Axis Bank
- c) Andhra Bank
- d) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- e) None of these

Q.43 Which state launched 'Balaram Yojana'?

- a) Assam
- b) West Bengal
- c) Odisha
- d) Gujarat
- e) None of these

Q.44 India First Life Insurance partners with whom to offer exclusive COVID-19 and Hospital cash cover insurance facility?

- a) Bank of Baroda
- b) SBI
- c) Union Bank of India
- d) UCO Bank
- e) None of these

Q.45 Which state launched 'Mission Vriksharopan 2020' drive?

- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Punjab
- e) None of these

Q.46 With whom CBSE has partnered to provide training on digital safety to teacher and students?

- a) Intel
- b) Infosys
- c) Amazon
- d) Facebook
- e) None of these

Q.47 Where is unique 'Urban Forest' inaugurated?

- a) Gujarat
- b) New Delhi
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Andhra Pradesh
- e) None of these

Q.48 Jean Castex is appointed as Prime Minister of which country?

- a) Italy
- b) Spain
- c) France
- d) Germany
- e) None of these

Q.49 Recently Indian Railways has set up a solar power plant in which of the following state in order to directly power the Railway Overhead line?

- a) Assam
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Gujarat
- e) None of these

Q.50 Which of the following state/UT government launched e-portal 'LEAD' for the students in order to strengthen the online education?

- a) Gujarat
- b) Jammu and Kashmir
- c) Delhi
- d) West Bengal
- e) None of these

Q.51 In which of the following institute DRDO has decided to set up a research cell?

- a) IIT Kanpur
- b) IIT Lucknow
- c) IIT Gandhinagar
- d) IIT Hyderabad
- e) None of these

Q.52 Who is appointed as Chairman of IFSCA?

- a) K S Reddy
- b) D B Gupta
- c) Rajeeva Swarup
- d) Injeti Srinivas
- e) None of these

Q.53 India signs MoU with which of the following country to develop education infrastructure?

- a) Bangladesh

- b) Bhutan
- c) Afghanistan
- d) Nepal
- e) None of these

Q.54 Which of the following bank launched 'Loan in Seconds' digital solution?

- a) Yes Bank
- b) HDFC Bank
- c) Bank of Maharashtra
- d) Karnataka Bank
- e) None of these

Q.55 Which country launched 'Ofek 16' spy satellite?

- a) Israel
- b) China
- c) France
- d) Germany
- e) None of these

Q.56 Who is the author of the book 'Overdraft: Saving the Indian Saver'?

- a) Raghuram Rajan
- b) Urjit Patel
- c) Shaktikanta Das
- d) Viral Acharya
- e) None of these

Q.57 Which of the following financial support organisation has sanctioned loan amount to GOI for Namami Gange Programme?

- a) AIIB
- b) IMF
- c) Asian Development Bank
- d) World Bank
- e) None of these

Q.58 With whom AYUSH Ministry's National Medicinal Plants Board has signed MoU to conserve Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Genetic Resources (MAPGRs)?

- a) Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute
- b) Central Agroforestry Research Institute
- c) ICAR- National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources
- d) ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region
- e) None of these

Q.59 With which bank MasterCard has partnered to provide its customers an online real-time domestic and cross border payments facility?

- a) Federal Bank

- b) SBM Bank India
- c) RBL Bank
- d) Syndicate Bank
- e) None of these

Q.60 Who is appointed as first India based CEO of UKIBC (UK India Business Council)?

- a) K S Reddy
- b) Jayant Krishna
- c) Rajeeva Swarup
- d) Sijo Kuruvila George
- e) None of these

Q.61 Which state government launched 'Nekara Samman Yojana' for the weaver's community?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Kerala
- c) West Bengal
- d) Karnataka
- e) None of these

Q.62 Which of the following institute developed 'Unisavior' disinfection box?

- a) IIT Delhi
- b) IIT Roorkee
- c) IIT Kanpur
- d) IIT Lucknow
- e) None of these

Q.63 Who won FI Austrian Grand Prix 2020?

- a) Charles Leclerc
- b) Lando Norris
- c) Valtteri Bottas
- d) Sebastian Vettel
- e) None of these

Q.64 Which is the first state in India to have 100% household LPG Gas connection?

- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Himachal Pradesh
- d) Assam
- e) None of these

Q.65 What is the rank of India in 11th Global Real Estate Transparency Index 2020?

- a) 43rd
- b) 55th
- c) 34th
- d) 67th

- e) None of these

Q.66 Which country topped in 11th Global Real Estate Transparency Index 2020?

- a) United Kingdom
- b) Australia
- c) United States
- d) Germany
- e) None of these

Q.67 Which of the following payment bank launched 'Bhavishya' Saving Account for minors?

- a) Airtel Payment Bank
- b) Paytm Payments Bank
- c) Jio Payments Bank
- d) Fino Payments Bank Ltd
- e) None of these

Q.68 Which of the following country/countries co-chaired the 4th Virtual Ministerial Meet on Climate Action?

- a) China
- b) European Union
- c) Canada
- d) All of the above
- e) None of these

Q.69 Which of the following organisation has signed LAToT with DRDO for the purpose of Akash Missile Weapon System of Indian Army Variant?

- a) Bharat Earth Movers Limited
- b) BrahMos Aerospace Limited
- c) Bharat Dynamics Limited
- d) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- e) None of these

Q.70 Who among the following is named as Instagram's highest-paid celebrity?

- a) Kylie Jenner
- b) Ariana Grande
- c) Cristiano Ronaldo
- d) Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson
- e) None of these

Q.71 India signs MoU with which country for 'Maritime Safety and Security' in order to boost Maritime relations?

- a) Indonesia
- b) Malaysia
- c) Bangladesh
- d) Singapore
- e) None of these

Q.72 Which state launched 'SelfScan' App?

- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) West Bengal
- d) Assam
- e) None of these

Q.73 Which country launched 'Digital Haat' platform?

- a) Uzbekistan
- b) Afghanistan
- c) Pakistan
- d) Bangladesh
- e) None of these

Q.74 With whom CBDT has signed MoU for the purpose of data exchange?

- a) AMFI
- b) SIDBI
- c) RBI
- d) SEBI
- e) None of these

Q.75 As per BofA Securities, India's GDP will contract by ___% for financial year 2021?

- a) 2%
- b) 3%
- c) 4%
- d) 5%
- e) None of these

Q.76 Who among the following e-inaugurated 6 bridges in Jammu and Kashmir?

- a) Rajnath Singh
- b) Ajit Doval
- c) Girsh Chandra Murmu
- d) Nitin Gadkari
- e) None of these

Q.77 Which state launched BLUIS system?

- a) Punjab
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Odisha
- d) Assam
- e) None of these

Q.78 As per RBI data, which state topped in market borrowings for fiscal year 2020-21?

- a) Punjab

- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Tamil Nadu
- e) None of these

Q.79 Jagdeep, who recently passed away belonged to which profession?

- a) Magician
- b) Song Writer
- c) Comedian
- d) Social Activist
- e) None of these

Q.80 Raneem El Welily has announced her retirement from which sports?

- a) Squash
- b) Cricket
- c) Tennis
- d) Swimming
- e) None of these

Q.81 With whom IIT Hyderabad has partnered to develop research AI centre?

- a) Infosys
- b) TCS
- c) NVIDIA
- d) IBM
- e) None of these

Q.82 Where is Rewa Ultra Mega Solar Power Project located?

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Uttarakhand
- d) Uttar Pradesh
- e) None of these

Q.83 Who addressed the inaugural session of virtual India Global week 2020?

- a) S Jaishankar
- b) Ravi Shankar Prasad
- c) Narendra Modi
- d) Venkaih Naidu
- e) None of these

Q.84 Who has renewed MoU with International Energy Agency (IEA) with an aim to focus on enhancing energy sector resilience in Asia and the Pacific?

- a) AIIB
- b) Asian Development Bank
- c) IMF

- d) New Development Bank
- e) None of these

Q.85 Who among the following has received the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon Environment award?

- a) DRDO
- b) Indian Navy
- c) ISRO
- d) Indian Battalion
- e) None of these

Q.86 When is World Population Day marked?

- a) 11 July
- b) 12 July
- c) 13 July
- d) 14 July
- e) None of these

Q.87 Which state launched "Pure for Sure" campaign?

- a) Uttarakhand
- b) Rajasthan
- c) Gujarat
- d) Tamil Nadu
- e) None of these

Q.88 Which of the following company delivered 22 Apache and 15 Chinook helicopters to IAF?

- a) Airbus
- b) Boeing
- c) Lockheed Martin Corporation
- d) Bombardier Inc.
- e) None of these

Q.89 Flipkart to promote arts, crafts and handloom sector of which state?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Assam
- c) Karnataka
- d) Kerala
- e) None of these

Q.90 Which e-commerce giant to promote arts, crafts and handloom sector of Karnataka?

- a) Flipkart
- b) Amazon
- c) Snapdeal
- d) Ebay
- e) None of these

Q.91 Lee Hsien Loong is appointed as PM of which country?

- a) Singapore
- b) Thailand
- c) Japan
- d) Malaysia
- e) None of these

Q.92 Who among the following will head the panel 'Pandemic Risk Pool' formed by IRDAI?

- a) Saba Talukdar
- b) M N Manushi
- c) Hitesh Kotak
- d) Suresh Mathur
- e) None of these

Q.93 When is World Malala Day observed?

- a) 11 July
- b) 12 July
- c) 13 July
- d) 14 July
- e) None of these

Q.94 With whom Jharkhand Government has signed MoU Digital Payment Solutions to its Traffic Dept?

- a) Jio Payment Bank
- b) Axis Bank
- c) Airtel Payment Bank
- d) HDFC
- e) None of these

Q.95 Which organisation has released "Decade of Action: Taking SDGs from Global to Local" report?

- a) RBI
- b) NITI Aayog
- c) SIDBI
- d) SEBI
- e) None of these

Q.96 In which state or UT, India's first E-Lok Adalat launched?

- a) Haryana
- b) Delhi
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Chhattisgarh
- e) None of these

Q.97 What is the rank position of India in terms of Foreign Direct Investor in the United Kingdom?

- a) First

- b) Second
- c) Third
- d) Fourth
- e) None of these

Q.98 Which country topped in terms of Foreign Direct Investor in the United Kingdom?

- a) United States
- b) Germany
- c) India
- d) China
- e) None of these

Q.99 Which organisation launched ATL App Development Module for school children across the country?

- a) UGC
- b) CBSE
- c) Ministry of Education
- d) NITI Aayog
- e) None of these

Q.100 Which organisation is awarded CII-ITC Sustainability Award 2019?

- a) ONGC
- b) Coal India
- c) NTPC
- d) GAIL
- e) None of these

Q.101 Who among the following is honoured with Rotary Foundation of Rotary International, Chicago with Paul Harris Fellow recognition?

- a) Nitish Kumar
- b) Pema Khandu
- c) Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy
- d) Edappadi K Palaniswami
- e) None of these

Q.102 Indian Army to purchase Raven and Spike Firefly from which of the following Country/Countries?

- a) United States
- b) Israel
- c) France
- d) Both (a) and (b)
- e) None of these

Q.103 Recently, NATGRID has signed MoU with which of the following organisation?

- a) National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)
- b) Bureau of Police Research and Development
- c) Intelligence Bureau

- d) Central Bureau of Investigation
- e) None of these

Q.104 Which educational and research institute has developed a UV sanitizing device called 'SHUDH'?

- a) IIT Bombay
- b) IIT Delhi
- c) IIT Kanpur
- d) IIT Roorkee
- e) None of these

Q.105 In partnership with whom, Visa has launched 'Visa Secure' technology?

- a) South Indian Bank
- b) RBL Bank
- c) Federal Bank
- d) Indian Bank
- e) None of these

Q.106 Google has announced to invest _____ in India with an aim to digitize the Indian Economy?

- a) \$20 billion
- b) \$15 billion
- c) \$5 billion
- d) \$10 billion
- e) None of these

Q.107 Andrzej Duda, is appointed as President of which country?

- a) Hungary
- b) Ukraine
- c) Poland
- d) Sweden
- e) None of these

Q.108 Avad Bin Hassna, who passed away recently, belonged to which profession?

- a) Cartoonist
- b) Magician
- c) Comedian
- d) Historian
- e) None of these

Q.109 India provided outdoor fitness equipment to which of the following nation?

- a) Sri Lanka
- b) The Bahamas
- c) Mauritius
- d) Maldives
- e) None of these

Q.110 Who has partnered with IIT Alumni Council to improve the listing of startups in India?

- a) Ministry of MSME
- b) BSE
- c) CII
- d) SBI
- e) None of these

Q.111 Which of the following entity/entities has launched #Reimagine Campaign?

- a) IMF
- b) FICCI
- c) UNICEF
- d) Both (b) and (c)
- e) None of these

Q.112 Who among the following conducted 'Digital Choupal'?

- a) TCS
- b) FCI
- c) IIT Kanpur
- d) NABARD
- e) None of these

Q.113 On the occasion of 39th foundation day, NABARD announced Rs _____ of refinancing scheme for banks and financial institutions?

- a) Rs 7,000 crore
- b) Rs 3,000 crore
- c) Rs 5,000 crore
- d) Rs 2,000 crore
- e) None of these

Q.114 By which year, Indian Railway has decided to achieve mission 'Green Railway'?

- a) 2025
- b) 2022
- c) 2027
- d) 2030
- e) None of these

Q.115 Who is appointed as India's next ambassador to Bangladesh?

- a) Hemant Harichandra Kotalwar
- b) Rudrendra Tandon
- c) Vidhu P Nair
- d) Vikram Doraiswami
- e) None of these

Q.116 Who is appointed as India's next ambassador to Turkmenistan?

- a) Hemant Harichandra Kotalwar
- b) Rudrendra Tandon
- c) Vidhu P Nair
- d) Vikram Doraiswami
- e) None of these

Q.117 Brahm Vasudeva, who passed away recently, belonged to which profession?

- a) Businessman
- b) Author
- c) Politician
- d) Historian
- e) None of these

Q.118 When is World Youth Skills Day observed?

- a) 11th June
- b) 14th April
- c) 2nd Oct
- d) 15th July
- e) None of these

Q.119 Which state launched Roko-Toko Campaign?

- a) Gujarat
- b) Uttar Pradesh
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Manipur
- e) None of these

Q.120 Which organisation released 'Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients- Status, Issues, Technology Readiness, and Challenges' report?

- a) CSIR
- b) Bharat Biotech
- c) CII
- d) Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC)
- e) None of these

Q.121 Which of the following institute developed Corosure COVID-19 testing kit?

- a) IIT Delhi
- b) IIT Madras
- c) IIT Kharagpur
- d) IIT Kanpur
- e) None of these

Q.122 Which of the following ministry released 'PRAGYATA' guidelines for Online Digital Education?

- a) Health and Family Welfare Ministry
- b) HRD Ministry

- c) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- d) Ministry of Communication and Information Technology
- e) None of these

Q.123 In partnership with whom Tamil Nadu Technology Development and Promotion Centre (TNTDPC), Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM) organized 5th Conference on Aerospace and Defence Manufacturing Technologies?

- a) SIDBI
- b) ISRO
- c) Confederation of Indian Industry
- d) DRDO
- e) None of these

Q.124 With whom AAI has partnered to boost Civil Aviation Sector?

- a) BEL
- b) HAL
- c) Barat Dynamics
- d) DRDO
- e) None of these

Q.125 Who is appointed as Brand Ambassador for Sports Adda?

- a) Brett Lee
- b) Lewis Hamilton
- c) Ravindra Jadeja
- d) Roger Federer
- e) None of these

Q.126 Which state tops in implementing PM Street Vendor's AatmaNirbhar Nidhi Scheme (PMSVANidhi)?

- a) Gujarat
- b) Uttar Pradesh
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Manipur
- e) None of these

Q.127 Who is honoured with US-India Business Council (USIBC) Global Leadership Award 2020?

- a) N Chandrasekaran
- b) Jim Taiclet
- c) N R Narayan Murthy
- d) Both (a) and (b)
- e) None of these

Q.128 With whom UNICEF has partnered to offer Career Counselling to the Youth of India?

- a) SAP India
- b) Infosys
- c) Wipro

- d) TCS
- e) None of these

Q.129 Which of the following bank has decided to conduct development projects in Andaman and Nicobar Island?

- a) SBI
- b) NABARD
- c) Union Bank of India
- d) J&K Bank
- e) None of these

Q.130 Which of the following organisation developed P7 Heavy drop system for IL 76 aircraft?

- a) HAL
- b) DRDO
- c) ISRO
- d) BHEL
- e) None of these

Q.131 With which finance provider, NTPC has partnered to explore renewable energy opportunities in India?

- a) SIDBI
- b) NIIF
- c) SBI
- d) National Development Bank
- e) None of these

Q.132 When is World Day for International Justice observed?

- a) 15 July 2020
- b) 16 July 2020
- c) 17 July 2020
- d) 18 July 2020
- e) None of these

Q.133 In which state Poba Reserve Forest located?

- a) Assam
- b) Jharkhand
- c) Manipur
- d) Madhya Pradesh
- e) None of these

Q.134 Who among the following has received honorary degree from University of Manchester?

- a) Jessy Lingard
- b) Marcus Rashford
- c) Andy Murray
- d) Rafael Nadal
- e) None of these

Q.135 Which state launched 'CybHer Campaign'?

- a) West Bengal
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Telangana
- e) None of these

Q.136 Which union minister addressed the Digital Indo- Italian Business Mission on Food Processing?

- a) Amit Shah
- b) Narendra Singh Tomar
- c) Nitin Gadkari
- d) Harisimrat Kaur Badal
- e) None of these

Q.137 Recently, India and Israel signed MoU in which of the following field?

- a) Education
- b) Mining
- c) Food Processing
- d) Cyber Security
- e) None of these

Q.138 Which of the following organisation developed ASPIRE e-portal for automotive technology?

- a) International Centre of Automotive Technology
- b) AT&T Communications
- c) Maruti Suzuki
- d) BHEL
- e) None of these

Q.139 What is the ranking position of India in Global Manufacturing Risk Index (MRI), 2020?

- a) First
- b) Second
- c) Third
- d) Fourth
- e) None of these

Q.140 Which country topped in Global Manufacturing Risk Index (MRI), 2020?

- a) USA
- b) China
- c) UK
- d) India
- e) None of these

Q.141 Roshni Nadar Malhotra, is appointed as Chairman of which of the following tech firm?

- a) TCS

- b) Wipro
- c) IBM
- d) HCL
- e) None of these

Q.142 When is Nelson Mandela International Day observed?

- a) 15 July 2020
- b) 16 July 2020
- c) 18 July 2020
- d) 14 July 2020
- e) None of these

Q.143 Which institute developed by 'MediCAB' portable hospital unit?

- a) IIT-Madras
- b) Vellore Institute of Technology
- c) IIT –Kharagpur
- d) Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani
- e) None of these

Q.144 Who has received 2020 Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) Tribute Actor Award?

- a) Leonardo DiCaprio
- b) Johnny Dipp
- c) Camila Morrone
- d) Kate Winslet
- e) None of these

Q.145 Which union minister attended a virtual meeting of Indo-US Strategic Energy Partnership?

- a) Dharmendra Pradhan
- b) Nirmala Sitharaman
- c) Nitin Gadkari
- d) Piyush Goyal
- e) None of these

Q.146 Which of the following organisation has developed KritiScan, UV Baggage Disinfection System?

- a) CSIR
- b) ARCI, Hyderabad
- c) IIT Delhi
- d) DRDO
- e) None of these

Q.147 Who among the following from India addressed the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Session?

- a) President Ram Nath Kovind
- b) Shaktikanta Das
- c) Venkai Naidu
- d) Prime Minister Narendra Modi

- e) None of these

Q.148 What rank position India has received in global skill Index 2020 in the category of data science domain?

- a) 70th
- b) 51st
- c) 33rd
- d) 45th
- e) None of these

Q.149 Which country topped in Global Skill Index 2020 in the category of technology domain?

- a) Belarus
- b) China
- c) Switzerland
- d) Russia
- e) None of these

Q.150 CBSE has partnered with whom to start Artificial Intelligence Course for students of Class XI and Class XII?

- a) TCS
- b) Google
- c) Microsoft
- d) IBM
- e) None of these

Q.151 Which bank sanctioned financial support to West Bengal to rebuild its infrastructure damaged due to Amphan cyclone?

- a) UCO Bank
- b) SBI
- c) NABARD
- d) Bank of India
- e) None of these

Q.152 The third G20 FMCBG Meet was held under whose Presidency?

- a) India
- b) Saudi Arabia
- c) Japan
- d) Brazil
- e) None of these

Q.153 Who among the following has received approval to test PPE kits from NABL?

- a) CSIR
- b) ARCI, Hyderabad
- c) CIPET
- d) DRDO
- e) None of these

Q.154 Where did the Indian Navy conduct the naval exercise recently?

- a) Andaman and Nicobar Island
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Bay of Bengal
- d) Goa Coast
- e) None of these

Q.155 Which country launched 'Hope mission' to Mars?

- a) India
- b) Russia
- c) UAE
- d) China
- e) None of these

Q.156 When is World Chess Day marked?

- a) 20th June
- b) 20th July
- c) 20th August
- d) 20th September
- e) None of these

Q.157 C S Seshadri, who passed away recently belonged to which profession?

- a) Businessman
- b) Surgeon
- c) Lawyer
- d) Mathematician
- e) None of these

Q.158 Which app was lauded and appreciated by Prakash Javadekar recently?

- a) UMANG
- b) GST Rate Finder
- c) Kurma
- d) Arogya Setu
- e) None of these

Q.159 Which organisation signed MoU with MSME ministry for data sharing?

- a) CBDT
- b) SIDBI
- c) NABARD
- d) Exim Bank
- e) None of these

Q.160 Where is Zoram Mega Food Park?

- a) Punjab

- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Delhi
- d) Mizoram
- e) None of these

Q.161 With whom defence ministry has signed contract for the procurement of Mine Plough (MP) for tank T-90 S/SK?

- a) Bharat Dynamics
- b) BEML
- c) BHEL
- d) HAL
- e) None of these

Q.162 Who is appointed as Personnel Secretary to the President Ram Nath Kovind?

- a) Hardayal Prasad
- b) Vikram Singh
- c) Ashwini Kumar
- d) P Praveen Siddharth
- e) None of these

Q.163 Which state launched Renewable Energy Export Policy?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Karnataka
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Punjab
- e) None of these

Q.164 Which is the first state to inspect power lines and transmission towers with the help of drones?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Kerala
- c) Uttar Pradesh
- d) Andhra Pradesh
- e) None of these

Q.165 With which country, India conducted PASSEX Exercise?

- a) China
- b) Russia
- c) Unites States
- d) Japan
- e) None of these

Q.166 Which feature/features, norm/norms are included in Consumer Protect Act, 2019?

- a) Strict E-commerce rules
- b) Central Consumer Protection Authority
- c) Consumer protection Councils
- d) All of the above

- e) None of these

Q.167 Which organisation signed MoU with CBIC for data exchange?

- a) CBDT
- b) SIDBI
- c) NABARD
- d) Exim Bank
- e) None of these

Q.168 What is the name of the psycho-social support initiative launched for students, parents and teacher by Union HRD minister?

- a) Manodarpan
- b) Manoseva
- c) Mentalhealth
- d) Stress free health
- e) None of these

Q.169 What is the name of an enterprise mobility solution launched by Ola?

- a) Ola Mobility
- b) Ola Enterprise
- c) Ola Pick N Drop
- d) Ola Corporate
- e) None of these

Q.170 Who is appointed as MD and CEO of Karur Vysya Bank?

- a) Hardayal Prasad
- b) Vikram Singh
- c) Ramesh Boddu
- d) P Praveen Siddharth
- e) None of these

Q.171 Which state launched Navin Rojgar Chhatri Yojana?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Karnataka
- c) Uttar Pradesh
- d) Punjab
- e) None of these

Q.172 ANASIS-II, is the first military satellite of which country?

- a) Russia
- b) Japan
- c) South Korea
- d) UAE
- e) None of these

Q.173 Where was Anti-tank Guided Missile (ATGM) named as 'Dhruvastra' test-fired by India?

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Odisha
- c) Andaman and Nicobar islands
- d) Goa
- e) None of these

Q.174 What was theme for G20 Digital Ministers Meeting?

- a) Security of Digital economy
- b) Realizing the opportunities of 21st Century for all
- c) Opportunities of Digital economy for all
- d) Building Digital World: A Secured world with vast opportunities for all
- e) None of these

Q.175 Which institute to provide technical skill development training in Punjab colleges and institutes?

- a) IIT Gandhinagar
- b) IIT Roorkee
- c) IIT Patna
- d) IIT Ropar
- e) None of these

Q.176 Which finance organisation rolled out 'UPI Autopay' recurring payment facility?

- a) NASSCOM
- b) PhonePe
- c) Paytm
- d) NPCI
- e) None of these

Q.177 Who is appointed as MD and CEO of SBI General Insurance Company Ltd?

- a) P C Kandpal
- b) Bijendra Kumar
- c) Ramesh Boddu
- d) P Praveen Siddharth
- e) None of these

Q.178 What was the theme for the Air Force Commanders Conference (AFCC)?

- a) IAF: Strong defence sector of India
- b) Upcoming decades for IAF
- c) IAF in the Next Decade
- d) None of the above
- e) None of these

Q.179 India signed MoU with which country to provide Emergency Medical Services?

- a) Sri Lanka

- b) Maldives
- c) Bangladesh
- d) Mauritius
- e) None of these

Q.180 As per Nomura Holdings, India's GDP to contract by ____% for FY 2021?

- a) 5.7%
- b) 7.1%
- c) 6.1%
- d) 4.5%
- e) None of these

Q.181 Recently which bank signed corporate agency pact with LIC, to offer insurance products to the customers?

- a) Punjab National Bank
- b) State Bank of India
- c) Allahabad Bank
- d) Union Bank of India
- e) None of these

Q.182 In which union Territory, DRDO set up COVID-19 Testing facility?

- a) Leh, Ladakh
- b) Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir
- c) Puducherry
- d) Delhi
- e) None of these

Q.183 Which organisation set up COVID-19 Testing facility in DIHAR, Leh?

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) ISRO
- c) NABARD
- d) DRDO
- e) None of these

Q.184 Which bank launched 'Insta Click Savings Account'?

- a) Punjab National Bank
- b) RBL Bank
- c) Bank of Baroda
- d) HDFC Bank
- e) None of these

Q.185 Which country launched 'Tianwen-1', mission to the mars?

- a) Japan
- b) Thailand
- c) Vietnam
- d) China

- e) None of these

Q.186 Who is appointed as CEO and Director of Microfinance Institutions Network (MFIN)?

- a) P C Kandpal
- b) Harsh Shrivastava
- c) Ramesh Boddu
- d) Alok Mishra
- e) None of these

Q.187 When is National Broadcasting Day observed?

- a) 11th January
- b) 23rd July
- c) 18th Oct
- d) 25th June
- e) None of these

Q.188 Annie Ross, who passed away recently belonged to which profession?

- a) Jazz Singer
- b) Author
- c) Economist
- d) Educator
- e) None of these

Q.189 Which country got Observer status from World Trade Organisation?

- a) Tajikistan
- b) Kyrgyzstan
- c) Turkmenistan
- d) Azerbaijan
- e) None of these

Q.190 Who chaired the committee which released the 'Report of the Committee for Analysis of QR (Quick Response) Code'?

- a) AS Ramasastry
- b) Arvind Kumar
- c) Prof Deepak B Phatak
- d) Vishwas Patel
- e) None of these

Q.191 What type of QR Code Payment system supported in India?

- a) Proprietary QR.
- b) Bharat QR
- c) UPI QR
- d) All of the above
- e) None of these

Q.192 In whose partnership, DST launched India-Russia Joint Technology Assessment & Accelerated Commercialization Programme?

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) FICCI
- c) CII
- d) NASSCOM
- e) None of these

Q.193 Which country chaired the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Health Ministers Digital Meet?

- a) China
- b) Russia
- c) Tajikistan
- d) India
- e) None of these

Q.194 Who is appointed as MD and CEO of Tata AIA Life Ltd?

- a) Naveen Tahilyani
- b) Harsh Shrivastava
- c) Sahil Seth
- d) Alok Mishra
- e) None of these

Q.195 Who is appointed as MD and CEO of Indian Overseas Bank?

- a) Vijay Thakur Singh
- b) Karnam Sekar
- c) Sahil Seth
- d) Partha Pratim Sengupta
- e) None of these

Q.196 Which institute/institutes developed 'Smart Wristband' to track COVID-19 positive patients?

- a) AIIMS Nagpur
- b) IIT Nagpur
- c) IIT Jodhpur
- d) All of the above
- e) None of these

Q.197 As per Development Bank of Singapore, India's GDP to contract by ____% for FY 2021?

- a) 7.5%
- b) 6.3%
- c) 6%
- d) 5%
- e) None of these

Q.198 As per 21st issue of Financial Stability Report, July 2020 by RBI, CRAR reduced to ____% in March 2020 from 15% in September 2019?

- a) 14.5%
- b) 13.7%
- c) 14.8%
- d) 12.9%
- e) None of these

Q.199 Which institute/organisation has partnered with TRIFED for Unnat Bharat Abhiyan?

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) IIT Kharagpur
- c) CII
- d) IIT Delhi
- e) None of these

Q.200 With which insurance company, Amazon Pay has partnered to offer vehicle insurance?

- a) IFFCO Tokiyo General Insurance
- b) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- c) Acko General Insurance Ltd
- d) HDFC Ergo General insurance
- e) None of these

Q.201 From India, which country topped in the World's Most Surveilled Cities?

- a) Hyderabad
- b) Bengaluru
- c) Delhi
- d) Mumbai
- e) None of these

Q.202 When is Kargil Vijay Diwas marked?

- a) 26th July
- b) 16th August
- c) 9th Feb
- d) 6th April
- e) None of these

Q.203 Where was 'World Class State of Art Honey Testing Laboratory' inaugurated?

- a) Goa
- b) Sikkim
- c) Gujarat
- d) Madhya Pradesh
- e) None of these

Q.204 National Transit Pass System (NTPS), was launched to offer transit passes for which of the following?

- a) Dairy produce
- b) Farm Produce
- c) Sea Food

- d) Forest Produce
- e) None of these

Q.205 RBI signed a currency swap agreement with which country?

- a) Sri Lanka
- b) Myanmar
- c) Nepal
- d) Bhutan
- e) None of these

Q.206 The Reserve Bank of India has signed an agreement of USD ____million currency swap facility with Sri Lanka?

- a) USD 500 million
- b) USD 300 million
- c) USD 450 million
- d) USD 400 million
- e) None of these

Q.207 Which institute has developed Veli Band to observe social distancing norms?

- a) IIM Kozhikode
- b) IIT Kharagpur
- c) IIM Indore
- d) IIT Delhi
- e) None of these

Q.208 Who among the following launched High Throughput COVID-19 Testing Facilities via video conference?

- a) PM Narendra Modi
- b) Harsh Vardhan
- c) Venkaiah Naidu
- d) Amit Shah
- e) None of these

Q.209 What is the rank of India in Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) 2020 report?

- a) 1st
- b) 2nd
- c) 3rd
- d) 4th
- e) None of these

Q.210 Which country topped in Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) 2020 report?

- a) India
- b) Australia
- c) Vietnam
- d) China
- e) None of these

Q.211 In which state 2021 Khelo India Youth Games will be held?

- a) Punjab
- b) Manipur
- c) Haryana
- d) Gujarat
- e) None of these

Q.212 Who is author of the book 'The Endgame'?

- a) S Hussian Zaidi
- b) Vikram Seth
- c) Amitav Ghosh
- d) Arundhati Roy
- e) None of these

Q.213 Which Indian Accounting standard was amended by GOI recently?

- a) Ind-As 111
- b) Ind-AS 103
- c) Ind-As 116
- d) Both (b) and (c)
- e) None of these

Q.214 With which organisation, Bank of Maharashtra partnered to provide omnichannel security to its digital banking app MahaSecure?

- a) Uniken
- b) KPIT Technologies
- c) Skynet Corporation
- d) ESDS
- e) None of these

Q.215 What is the name of weather forecasting app launched by Dr Harsh Vardhan?

- a) I-flows
- b) UMANG App
- c) Mausam app
- d) Climate data app
- e) None of these

Q.216 Hichem Mechichi, is appointed as Prime Minister of which country?

- a) Jordan
- b) Libya
- c) Tunisia
- d) Algeria
- e) None of these

Q.217 When is Raising day of CRPF observed?

- a) 25th July
- b) 26th July
- c) 27th July
- d) 28th July
- e) None of these

Q.218 What is the theme for World Hepatitis Day which is marked on 28th July?

- a) Free from Hepatitis
- b) Eradicate Hepatitis and become healthy
- c) Fight Hepatitis
- d) Hepatitis: free future
- e) None of these

Q.219 Which state or UT launched 'Rozgar Bazar'?

- a) Kerala
- b) Jammu and Kashmir
- c) Delhi
- d) Assam
- e) None of these

Q.220 Who is author of the book titled as 'The India Way: Strategies for an Uncertain World'?

- a) Viral V Acharya
- b) Pranab Mukherjee
- c) Amitabh Kant
- d) Dr S Jaishankar
- e) None of these

Q.221 Which ministry released a report titled as 'India Report- Digital Education June 2020'?

- a) Youth affairs and sports ministry
- b) Labour and Employment ministry
- c) HRD ministry
- d) Science and technology ministry
- e) None of these

Q.222 Recently Indian railways flagged off 10 broad-gauge railway locomotives to which country?

- a) Indonesia
- b) Iran
- c) Iraq
- d) Bangladesh
- e) None of these

Q.223 Which organisation launched 'Co-branded Contactless Credit Card'?

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) SBI Card
- c) IRCTC

- d) Both (b) and (c)
- e) None of these

Q.224 As per the report titled as 'Implications of AI on the Indian Economy', India's GDP can boost by ____% due to the usage of AI technology?

- a) 2.5%
- b) 3%
- c) 1.5%
- d) 2%
- e) None of these

Q.225 When is International Tiger Day observed?

- a) 24th July
- b) 16th July
- c) 7th July
- d) 29th July
- e) None of these

Q.226 Achyuta Rao, who passed away recently belonged to which profession?

- a) Economist
- b) Child Welfare activist
- c) Scientist
- d) Businessman
- e) None of these

Q.227 To which country, IMF provided a loan amount of USD 4.3 billion to combat COVID-19?

- a) South Africa
- b) Brazil
- c) Nigeria
- d) Namibia
- e) None of these

Q.228 Which ministry is renamed as Ministry of Education?

- a) Ministry of Youth affairs and sports
- b) Ministry of Labour and Employment
- c) Ministry of Human Resource Development
- d) Ministry of Science and technology
- e) None of these

Q.229 What is the name of the manhole cleaning robot used in Guwahati, Assam?

- a) Roomba
- b) Bandicoot
- c) Kittn
- d) Cleaner
- e) None of these

Q.230 In co-ordination with which institute, PFC to uplift the smart grid technology sector?

- a) IIT Bombay
- b) IIT Kharagpur
- c) IIT Kanpur
- d) IIT Roorkee
- e) None of these

Q.231 N. Sivaraman, is appointed as MD and Group CEO of which organisation?

- a) Indiabulls
- b) Fitch Ratings
- c) ICRA Limited
- d) Muthoot Finance
- e) None of these

Q.232 When is World Day against Trafficking in Persons observed?

- a) 24th July
- b) 30th July
- c) 7th July
- d) 19th July
- e) None of these

Q.233 Which district topped in Delta Ranking of Aspirational District made by NITI Aayog?

- a) Sahinganj, Jharkhand
- b) Damoh, Madhya Pradesh
- c) Bijapur, Chhattisgarh
- d) Moga, Punjab
- e) None of these

Q.234 With which country India signed MoU in the field of Cooperation in Traditional Systems of Medicines and Homeopathy?

- a) Zimbabwe
- b) Botswana
- c) Australia
- d) Malaysia
- e) None of these

Q.235 The First UDAN-RCS Heli service is launched in which state?

- a) Assam
- b) Uttarakhand
- c) Manipur
- d) Sikkim
- e) None of these

Q.236 With which institute CSIR and Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA) has signed MoU to grant access to CSIR developed technologies to attain the objective of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA)?

- a) IIT Bombay
- b) IIT Kharagpur
- c) IIT Kanpur
- d) IIT Delhi
- e) None of these

Q.237 With whom BOB Financial Solutions Limited have partnered to have digital transformation of card issuance and its processing?

- a) Global Payments
- b) Apple
- c) JP Morgan Chase
- d) Finserv Inc
- e) None of these

Q.238 Sonam Tshering Lepcha, who passed away recently, belonged to which profession?

- a) Author
- b) Theatre Artist
- c) Folk Singer
- d) Educationist
- e) None of these

Q.239 Which is the first state in India where Green Agriculture Project is launched and implemented?

- a) Jharkhand
- b) Mizoram
- c) Chhattisgarh
- d) Punjab
- e) None of these

Q.240 Rajat Bhatia announced his retirement from which sports?

- a) Golf
- b) Swimming
- c) Tennis
- d) Cricket
- e) None of these

ANSWERS:

Ans.1 (A) Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal has launched PM Scheme for Formalization of Micro food processing Enterprises (PM FME). The scheme has an outlay of Rs 10,000 crore and will help to boost unorganized food processing sector and will provide employment opportunities to about 9 lakh workers.

Ans.2 (A) Food Tech giant Swiggy has partnered with private bank ICICI Bank to launch its own digital wallet called as 'Swiggy Money'. 'Swiggy Money' will enable single-click checkout experience to the users.

Ans.3 (C) Government of Madhya Pradesh has launched 'Hamara Ghar Hamara Vidyalaya' campaign in order to maintain academic regularity of the students during the lockdown period arisen due to the outbreak of COVID-19.

Ans.4 (C) He is reappointed as President of Iceland.

Ans.5 (B) Union Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju has launched the NADA (National Anti-Doping Agency) mobile phone app. The app aims to bridge the gap between NAD agency and athletes.

Ans.6 (D) National Chartered Accountants Day is marked 1st July 2020.

Ans.7 (A) Uttarakhand Forest Department has developed India's First Lichen Park.

Ans.8 (C) National Doctors Day is marked 1st July 2020.

Ans.9 (C) It is a web portal which is launched by the Karnataka Government to bridge the gap between job seeker and employers.

Ans.10 (D) He is former RBI Governor and has been conferred with 1st Prof. P C Mahalanobis Award in Official Statistics for Lifetime achievement.

Ans.11 (B) Union Minister for Steel & Petroleum and Natural Gas, Dharmendra Pradhan virtually inaugurated Asia's First Continuous Galvanized Rebar Production Facility in Punjab.

Ans.12 (D) Government of India has signed an agreement with World Bank to develop Housing Projects and provide affordable housing to the low-income groups in Tamil Nadu. The agreement is signed to strengthen the state's housing sector and associated policies with housing sector.

Ans.13 (B) National Institute for Transforming India (NITI)Aayog in collaboration with Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) has released a report on clean energy transition titled as 'Towards a Clean Energy Economy: Post COVID-19 Opportunities for India's Energy and Mobility Sector'.

Ans.14 (A) He is appointed as Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation (IOC). He will replace Sanjiv Singh.

Ans.15 (C) Kerala Government has launched 'Dream Kerala Project to provide job opportunities and rehabilitation opportunities to the migrants who have returned to the state from abroad or from other Indian states.

Ans.16 (C) He was Writer, Comedian, Director and Actor.

Ans.17 (C) India's First Plasma Bank to be set up in Delhi.

Ans.18 (A) It is launched by HDFC Bank for Indian farmers.

Ans.19 (A) An MoU has been signed among Indian Oil, NTOC and South Delhi Municipal Corporation to set up A Waste to Energy Plant at Okhala in Delhi. These three organisations will be developing waste to energy plant demonstration using Gasification technology.

Ans.20 (C) The Union Government's Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) has launched 'Accelerate Vigyan' Scheme and Portal associated with it. 'Accelerate Vigyan' is a scheme for research internships.

Ans.21 (B) As per the report, India's growth forecast for the financial year 2021-22 is marked at 8%. Initially, it was marked at 9.5% by the Fitch. However, it has reduced it to 8%.

Ans.22 (B) Delhi Government has launched 'Paudhe Lagao, Paryavaran Bachao' campaign. It is basically mega tree plantation drive to be conducted by the Delhi Government.

Ans.23 (A) It is a Naval exercise conducted by the Indian Navy and Japanese Navy in order to promote mutual understanding towards the Malacca Strait in the Indian Ocean.

Ans.24 (D) Uganda became the first African Country to submit results for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) to UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change).

Ans.25 (B) HRD Ministry launched the World's First Online B.Sc Degree in Programming and Data Science. This degree is developed by IIT Madras.

Ans.26 (C) This Special Liquidity Scheme is set up by SBI Capital Markets Limited (SBICAP) which is the subsidiary of State Bank of India (SBI). The finance provided under this scheme to the NBFCs and HFCs will be used to repay existing liabilities and not to expand their assets.

Ans.27 (D) The Union Human Resource Development Minister and Union Health and Family Welfare Minister has launched Drug Discovery Hackathon 2020(DDH2020). DDH2020 is the first national initiative in the support of the Drug Discovery Process.

Ans.28 (D) Asian Development Bank has joined as an observer for France based Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS).

Ans.29 (C) IIT Kanpur has developed a virtual classroom system named as 'Mobile Masterjee'. It will enable students to record teacher's lectures and other instructions by using smartphones.

Ans.30 (D) He is appointed as the head of the panel to study the suitability of Surety Bonds issuance by Indian insurers. He is appointed by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI).

Ans.31 (B) India and Bangladesh signed an agreement to form a 50:50 Joint Venture Company to carry out LPG business in Bangladesh.

Ans.32 (B) Global Bharat Program for India MSMEs is launched by SAP India.

Ans.33 (A) IIT Gandhinagar develops an AI tool to detect COVID-19 from Chest X-ray images.

Ans.34 (B) International Day of Cooperatives is marked 4th July.

Ans.35 (D) HDFC Bank has announced to offer instant auto loan named as 'Zipdrive' to its customers. This instant loan facility will be offered to its customers in about 1000 cities i.e. in tier 2 and tier 3 cities of India.

Ans.36 (B) Vice President of India, Venkiah Naidu has launched 'Elyments' app which is the first Indian Social Media Super App. The app is developed by 1000 IT professionals.

Ans.37 (C) Vice President of India, Venkiah Naidu has launched 'Elyments' app which is the first Indian Social Media Super App. The app is developed by 1000 IT professionals.

Ans.38 (A) National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has decided to establish Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT), which will be India's first government or semi-government trust. The InvIT will be promoted under the Indian Trust Act, 1882 and SEBI Regulations, 2014.

Ans.39 (C) Care (Credit Analysis and Research Limited) Rating has forecasted that Indian Economy to contract 6.4% for the financial year 2020-21. As per the report, two-third of the economic sector will operate at 50-70% by the end of the third quarter for FY 2020-21.

Ans.40 (A) He is a Badminton Champion and has recently announced his retirement from the sport.

Ans.41 (B) 'Dharma Chakra Day' is marked 4th July.

Ans.42 (D) Kotak Mahindra Bank partners with Innoviti Payment Solution Pvt Ltd to offer EMIs on Kotak Debit Cards swiped on Innoviti POS terminal.

Ans.43 (C) Government of Odisha has launched 'Balaram Yojana' with an aim to provide agricultural credit of Rs 1.40 crore to landless farmers who are facing problems due to COVID-19.

Ans.44 (A) India First Life Insurance partners with Bank of Baroda Financial Services Ltd to offer group insurance cover. The partnership will provide financial support to the BOB credit card supporters in order to carry out hospitalization on COVID-19 diagnosis.

Ans.45 (A) Uttar Pradesh Government has launched 'Mission Vriksharopan 2020' drive. Under this campaign, more than 25 crore saplings were planted.

Ans.46 (D) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has partnered with tech giant Facebook to launch a training program for teachers and students on digital safety and online well being.

Ans.47 (B) It is inaugurated at Office of Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) IN New Delhi.

Ans.48 (C) He is appointed as Prime Minister of France. He has replaced Edouard Philippe.

Ans.49 (B) Ministry of Railways has decided to set up solar power in Bina, Madhya Pradesh in order to directly power the Railway Overhead line.

Ans.50 (C) Government of Delhi has launched an e-portal 'LEAD' for the students in order to strengthen the online education. An e-portal LEAD stands for 'Learning through E-Resources Made Accessible for Delhi'.

Ans.51 (D) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has decided to set up a research cell at IIT Hyderabad. The research cell will be named as 'DRDO-IIT-H Research Cell'.

Ans.52 (D) He is appointed as Chairman of IFSCA (International Financial Services Centers Authority) for a tenure of three years.

Ans.53 (C) India has signed 5 MoU with Afghanistan for High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDP) programme. The MoU signed will help to develop educational infrastructure in four regions of Afghanistan.

Ans.54 (A) It is a digital solution for instant loan disbursement launched by Yes Bank.

Ans.55 (A) It is a spy satellite launched by Israel into orbit by using Shavit rocket.

Ans.56 (B) The author of the book 'Overdraft: Saving the Indian Saver' is Urjit Patel.

Ans.57 (D) World Bank and Government of India has signed a loan agreement to financially support Namami Gange Programme. The loan amount of \$400 million has been sanctioned by World Bank to make Ganga a clean and healthy river.

Ans.58 (C) AYUSH Ministry's National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) has signed an MoU with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)- National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR). The MoU between two entities is signed with an aim to conserve Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Genetic Resources (MAPGRs).

Ans.59 (B) MasterCard has partnered with SBM Bank India in order to provide its customers with an online real-time domestic and cross border payments facility. The online real-time payment facility will be done through 'MasterCard Send'.

Ans.60 (B) He is appointed as the first India based CEO of UKIBC (UK India Business Council). He will be replacing Richard Heald.

Ans.61 (D) Government of Karnataka has launched a scheme called 'Nekara Samman Yojana' for the weaver's community. To build this scheme, the state government has allotted Rs 10.96 crore.

Ans.62 (B) It is the disinfection box to sanitize apparels, PPE, medical equipment. It is developed by IIT Roorkee.

Ans.63 (C) He has won FI Austrian Grand Prix 2020.

Ans.64 (C) Himachal Pradesh has become the first state in India to have 100% household LPG Gas connection.

Ans.65 (C) As per the report, India ranks at 34th position with a total score of 2.69 under semi-transparent zone. The report consist of rankings for 99 countries and territories and 163 cities.

Ans.66 (A) United States Property Consultant Jones Lang LaSalle's (JLL), India has released 11th Global Real Estate Transparency Index 2020. As per the report, the list is topped by United kingdom with a score of 1.31 and the United States is ranked at 2nd position with a score of 1.35 points.

Ans.67 (D) Fino Payments Bank Limited has launched 'Bhavishya' Saving Account. The 'Bhavishya' Saving Account is launched for the minors who are in between the age group of 10-18 years.

Ans.68 (D) The meeting from India was participated by Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar. The meeting was co-chaired by the European Union (EU), China and Canada.

Ans.69 (C) Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) has signed a License Agreement and Transfer of Technology (LAToT) with Defence Research and Development Organisation- Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDO-DRDL).

Ans.70 (D) He is a Wrestler turned Actor and has been named as Instagram's highest-paid celebrity. He is having 189 million followers.

Ans.71 (A) India Coast Guard (ICG) and Indonesia Coast Guard signs MoU for 'Maritime Safety and Security' in order to boost Maritime relations between two countries.

Ans.72 (C) It is the document scanning app launched by West Bengal. It is launched as an alternative to CamScanner, which is one of the Chinese apps which is recently banned in India.

Ans.73 (D) It is the platform for online sale and purchase of sacrificial animals ahead of festival Eid-ul-Azha. It is launched in Bangladesh by its government. It is launched to save cattle farmers and traders from financial loss.

Ans.74 (D) Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has signed MoU with Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for the purpose of data exchange between two organisations.

Ans.75 (B) BofA Securities, which is a foreign brokerage, has stated that India's GDP will contract by 3% for financial year 2021.

Ans.76 (A) Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh e-inaugurated 6 bridges in Jammu and Kashmir. The bridges are developed under the Project Sampark by Border Road Organisation.

Ans.77 (C) Chief Minister of Odisha has launched Bhubaneswar Land Use Intelligence System (BLUIS) which is the web and mobile based solution to monitor the unauthorized change of land use.

Ans.78 (D) As per the data by Reserve Bank of India, Tamil Nadu state has topped in market borrowings among all the states in India. Tamil Nadu has raised Rs 30,500 crores in fiscal year 2020-21 which is accounted for 17% of the borrowings done through the issue of the bonds.

Ans.79 (C) He was a Bollywood actor and comedian.

Ans.80 (A) She is Squash Player from Egypt. She has announced her retirement for Squash Sports.

Ans.81 (C) Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad has partnered with NVIDIA which is a multinational company to establish research AI centre. The centre will be named as 'NVIDIA Artificial Intelligence(AI) Technology Centre'(NVAITC).

Ans.82 (A) PM Narendra Modi inaugurated Asia's Largest Solar Power Project in Madhya Pradesh via video conference. The project is named as Rewa Ultra Mega Solar Power Project. It is the 750 MW ultra solar power plant which is comprised of 3 solar generating units of 250 MW each.

Ans.83 (C) Prime Minister Narendra Modi has addressed the inaugural session of 3-day virtual India Global week 2020. India Global week 2020 session is based on the theme 'Be The Revival: India and a Better New World'.

Ans.84 (B) Asian Development Bank (ADB) has renewed MOU with International Energy Agency (IEA).

Ans.85 (D) It has received the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon Environment award.

Ans.86 (A) World Population Day is marked 11th July.

Ans.87 (B) It is launched by Rajasthan to ensure the purity of dairy products.

Ans.88 (B) Boeing which is a United States defence equipment manufacturing company has completed its delivery of AH-64E Apache and CH-47F(I) Chinook military helicopters to the Indian Air Force (IAF) unit.

Ans.89 (C) E-commerce industry Flipkart has entered into an agreement with the government of Karnataka to promote arts, crafts and handloom sector of the state.

Ans.90 (A) E-commerce industry Flipkart has entered into an agreement with the government of Karnataka to promote arts, crafts and handloom sector of the state.

Ans.91 (A) He has become Prime Minister of Singapore.

Ans.92 (D) The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI), being the regulatory provider has formed a panel which will examine the degree of convenience of 'Pandemic Risk Pool'. The panel will be headed by Suresh Mathur, Executive Director of IRDAI.

Ans.93 (B) World Malala Day is observed on 12th July.

Ans.94 (D) Jharkhand Government signs MoU with HDFC to Offer Digital Payment Solutions to its Traffic Dept.

Ans.95 (B) National Institution for Transforming India Aayog(NITI Aayog) has released India's 2nd Voluntary National Review (VNR) report at the United Nations High-level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development, 2020.

Ans.96 (D) The decision and development of e-Lok Adalat in Chhattisgarh has taken place because of the Chhattisgarh State Legal Service Authority and the High Court.

Ans.97 (B) As per the statistical analysis, India has become the second-largest Foreign Direct Investor in the United Kingdom (UK).

Ans.98 (A) UK Government has released new data in the Department for International Trade (DIT) inward investment statistics for 2019-2020. The list is topped by the United States.

Ans.99 (D) NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission has launched the ATL App Development Module for school children across the country. The ATL App Development Module is an online course, which is completely Free.

Ans.100 (C) It has received CII-ITC Sustainability Award 2019 under the category of outstanding accomplishment incorporate excellence category.

Ans.101 (D) He is Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and is honoured by Rotary Foundation of Rotary International, Chicago with Paul Harris Fellow recognition.

Ans.102 (D) Indian Army is set to increase its weapon and ammunition inventory by acquiring unmanned aerial vehicle 'Raven' from the United States and a variant of Rafael 'Spike Firefly' from Israel. Thus, the 'Raven' and 'Spike Fly' are soon to become part of the Indian army's weapon inventory.

Ans. 103 (A) The National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) has signed a MoU with National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). Upon signing the agreement, NATGRID will be able to access the complaints on First Information Reports (FIR) and stolen vehicles.

Ans.104 (C) IIT Kanpur has developed and launched an Ultraviolet (UV) sanitizing device named as 'SHUDH'. The acronym for SHUDH is- Smartphone operated Handy Ultraviolet Disinfection Helper.

Ans.105 (C) The payment technology global holder Visa has come up with partnership with Federal Bank to launch a modernized technology to the bank account holders to carry out safe banking transactions.

Ans.106 (D) The global tech giant Google has announced to invest \$10 billion in India with an aim to digitize the Indian Economy. The funds are allotted under 'Google for India Digitisation Fund'. The announcement of this investment was made during the virtual meeting between PM Narendra Modi and Google CEO Sundar Pichai.

Ans.107 (C) He is re-elected as President of Poland.

Ans.108 (A) He was Cartoonist by profession.

Ans.109 (D) India provides outdoor fitness equipment to island nation the Maldives. The equipment is handed over for 8 million US dollar.

Ans.110 (B) Bombay Stock Exchange has signed MoU with IIT Alumni Council in order to boost the number of startups in India and to provide high investing depth to such new startups. The partnership will look to revitalize the startups in India by providing them a wide range of funds.

Ans.111 (D) The United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF) India has partnered with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry's (FICCI) to launch #Reimagine Campaign.

Ans.112 (D) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), on account of its 39th foundation day organized 'Digital Choupal'.

Ans.113 (C) NABARD announced another Rs 5,000 crore for converting Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), into multi service centers. Of which, 5,000 PACS will be upgraded in 2020 followed by 15,000 PACS in FY 2022 and 15000 PACS in FY 2023.

Ans.114 (D) Indian Railways has decided to accomplish its mission of 'Green Railway' by 2030. Under this mission, Indian railways have decided to achieve net-zero carbon emission.

Ans.115 (D) He is appointed as India's next ambassador to Bangladesh. He has replaced Riva Ganguly Das.

Ans.116 (C) He is appointed as India's next ambassador to Turkmenistan.

Ans.117 (A) He was Chairman of Hawkins Cooker (Businessman).

Ans.118 (D) World Youth Skills Day is observed on 15th July.

Ans.119 (C) It is launched in Madhya Pradesh target the people who do not wear mask and thus distribute mask to such people so as to stop spreading of coronavirus.

Ans.120 (D) An autonomous organisation under the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India namely Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC), has released a report which describes the list of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) which are in need of prioritized manufacturing and the associated advantages.

Ans.121 (A) IIT Delhi has developed a low cost testing kit for the COVID-19. The kit is named as 'Corosure' and it is considered to be the world's most affordable corona testing kit.

Ans.122 (B) Union HRD minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has released a set of rules, guidelines to be followed for conducting online digital education. The set of guidelines is named as 'PRAGYATA'.

Ans.123 (C) The conference was organized by Tamil Nadu Technology Development and Promotion Centre (TNTDPC), Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

Ans.124 (A) Airport Authority of India has signed an MoU with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) in order to have cooperation in the Civil Aviation Sector. The MoU was signed via video conference.

Ans.125 (A) He is appointed as Brand Ambassador for Sports Adda, which is the Indian Sports news and updates platform.

Ans.126 (C) Madhya Pradesh tops in implementing PM Street Vendor's AatmaNirbhar Nidhi (PMSVANidhi) Scheme.

Ans.127 (D) They are honoured with US-India Business Council (USIBC) Global Leadership Award 2020. N Chandrasekaran is the chairman of TATA group and Jim Taiclet is CEO and President of Lockheed Martin.

Ans.128 (A) The United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF) India has partnered with SAP India which is a software company to provide career counselling to the youths of India.

Ans.129 (B) The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has decided to launch development projects in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The development projects are launched for worth Rs 44 lakhs.

Ans.130 (B) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed the P7 Heavy drop system. The P7 Heavy drop system is capable of para dropping military stores weighing up to 7 tons from IL 76 aircraft.

Ans.131 (B) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has signed MoU with National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF). They have signed MoU with an aim to explore investment opportunities in order to enhance the renewable energy sector.

Ans.132 (C) World Day for International Justice is observed on 17th July 2020.

Ans.133 (A) Assam to upgrade Pobitora Reserve Forest in Dhemaji district to a Wild Life Sanctuary.

Ans.134 (B) He is England Footballer. He has received an honorary degree from the University of Manchester.

Ans.135 (D) It is launched in Telangana by Women Safety Wing. The campaign aims to provide cyber safety to women and children.

Ans.136 (D) Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Harisimrat Kaur Badal virtually addressed the opening ceremony of Digital Indo- Italian Business Mission on Food Processing. The event included digital conferences, trade fairs, and Business-to-Business service (B2B) meetings.

Ans.137 (D) India and Israel have signed MoU to work together in the expansion of cooperation in Cyber Security. The MoU was signed between Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In), a unit of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, and Israel's National Cyber Directorate (INCD).

Ans.138 (A) International Centre of Automotive Technology (ICAT) has launched e-portal on automotive technology which is named as ASPIRE. The ASPIRE e-portal stands for Automotive Solutions Portal for Industry, Research and Education.

Ans.139 (C) Cushman & Wakefield has released Global Manufacturing Risk Index (MRI), 2020. As per the ranking released, India is stood at the third position in the Global Manufacturing Risk Index 2020.

Ans.140 (B) The list is topped by China and followed by the United States. As per the index, India is considered to be the third most-suitable location for global manufacturing among 48 countries.

Ans.141 (D) She is appointed as new Chairman of HCL Technologies. She has replaced her father Shiv Nadar.

Ans.142 (C) Nelson Mandela International Day is observed on 18th July 2020.

Ans.143 (A) It is developed by IIT-Madras based start-up named as Modulus Housing.

Ans.144 (D) The award is received by Kate Winslet.

Ans.145 (A) The virtual meeting was co-chaired by Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Steel Dharmendra Pradhan and by US Secretary of Energy Dan Brouillette.

Ans.146 (B) The Vehant Technologies, Noida in partnership with International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials (ARCI), Hyderabad has developed KritiScan, UV Baggage Disinfection System.

Ans.147 (D) Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually addressed the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Session. The session was held in New York, United States. The theme for the session was "Multilateralism after COVID19: What kind of UN do we need at the 75th anniversary".

Ans.148 (B) The report of Global Skill Index 2020 was made by 'Coursera', which is the world's largest online learning platform. In terms of data science domain scenario, India has received rank at 51st Position in global view and 12th rank position in terms of Asia Pacific region view. The category is topped by Russia.

Ans.149 (D) The report of Global Skill Index 2020 was made by 'Coursera', which is the world's largest online learning platform. In terms of data science domain scenario, India has received rank at 51st Position in global view and 12th rank position in terms of Asia Pacific region view. The category is topped by Russia.

Ans.150 (D) CBSE and IBM partnered to start the Artificial Intelligence Course for Class XI and Class XII in the academic year of 2020-2021.

Ans.151 (C) NABARD to provide Rs 795 crore financial support to West Bengal to reconstruct its infrastructure damaged due to Amphan Cyclone.

Ans.152 (B) The 3rd G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meet was conducted. It was participated by Indian Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. The meeting was held under the presidency of Saudi Arabia via video conference.

Ans.153 (C) The Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering and Technology (CIPET) has been accredited by National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) to test and certify Personnel Protective Equipment (PPE) kits.

Ans.154 (A) Indian Navy has conducted a naval exercise in Andaman and Nicobar Island. The exercise was conducted with aircraft and warships from Andaman and Nicobar Command and Eastern Naval Command.

Ans.155 (C) United Arab Emirates (UAE) successfully launched 'Hope Mission' to Mars. Under this mission, the UAE will provide a complete picture of the atmosphere at mars for the first time.

Ans.156 (B) World Chess Day is marked 20th July.

Ans.157 (D) He was Mathematician.

Ans.158 (C) Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Information and Broadcasting, Prakash Javadekar has lauded and appreciated a mobile application to track, report and conserve the Indian turtles. The name of the app is 'KURMA'.

Ans.159 (A) The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has signed MoU Ministry of MSME. The MoU will allow the sharing of data by CBDT to MSME ministry.

Ans.160 (D) The Zoram Mega Food Park was inaugurated at Mizoram. It was inaugurated by Union Food Processing Minister, Harisimrat Kaur Badal.

Ans.161 (B) The Ministry of Defence has signed a contract agreement with Bharat Earth Movers Limited to procure Mine Plough (MP) for tank T-90 S/SK.

Ans.162 (D) He is appointed as Personnel Secretary to the President Ram Nath Kovind. Currently, he is serving as Officer on Special Duty at President's Office. He will be replacing Vikram Singh.

Ans.163 (C) The policy is launched by Andhra Pradesh. The policy will allow the sale of power to the other states. Tenure of the policy is 5 years.

Ans.164 (A) Government of Maharashtra has started to use a drone to inspect the power lines and transmission towers. And thus has become the first state in India to do so.

Ans.165 (C) It is the navy exercise which was conducted between India and the United States.

Ans.166 (D) The Consumer Protection Act, 2019 has successfully approved and implemented in India to protect, conserve and enhance rights of Indian consumers. The Consumer Protection Act, 2019 has replaced the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

Ans.167 (A) The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has signed MoU Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT). The two entities has signed MoU to carry out the bilateral data exchange between them.

Ans.168 (A) The Union Minister for Human Resource Development (HRD) Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank launched an initiative called 'Manodarpan'. The initiative is launched with an aim to provide psycho-social support to the students, their parents and teachers.

Ans.169 (D) India's human mobility service provider company Ola has launched an 'Ola Corporate' solution. 'Ola Corporate' is an enterprise mobility solution service.

Ans.170 (C) He is appointed as MD and CEO of Karur Vysya Bank. He has replaced PR Seshadri.

Ans.171 (C) It is launched by Government of Uttar Pradesh. It is employment and financial assistance scheme for the scheduled caste people.

Ans.172 (C) It is the first military satellite of South Korea. It is launched by SpaceX.

Ans.173 (B) India successfully carried out the firing test of indigenous Anti-tank Guided Missile (ATGM) named as 'Dhruvastra'. The test-firing was conducted by DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organisation) at Chandipur, Odisha.

Ans.174 (B) The theme for G20 Digital Ministers Meeting: 'Realizing the opportunities of 21st Century for all'.

Ans.175 (D) The IIT Ropar will provide technical mentorship to the state's engineering colleges at Gurdaspur and Ferozepur, Sri Guru Gobind Singh Skill Institute, Chamkaur Sahib, Polytechnics and ITI Institutes.

Ans.176 (D) National Payment Corporation of India has rolled out a feature for recurring payments. The feature is known as 'UPI Autopay'. The 'Unified Payment Interface (UPI) Autopay' was launched virtually at Global Fintech Fast event.

Ans.177 (A) He is appointed as MD and CEO of SBI General Insurance Company Limited. He has replaced Pushan Mahapatra.

Ans.178 (C) It was inaugurated in New Delhi by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. The theme for the conference is 'IAF in the Next Decade'.

Ans.179 (B) India signed MoU with the Maldives to provide 'Emergency Medical Services' in Male.

Ans.180 (C) The Japanese brokerage firm named 'Nomura Holdings Inc.' has predicted that India's GDP to contract by 6.1% for FY 2021.

Ans.181 (D) Union Bank of India (UBI) has signed a corporate agency pact with Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC). The corporate agency agreement will allow UBI to distribute LIC Insurance products to its customers.

Ans.182 (A) The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has setup a COVID-19 testing facility at DIHAR (Defence Institute of High Altitude Research) , Leh.

Ans.183 (D) The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has setup a COVID-19 testing facility at DIHAR (Defence Institute of High Altitude Research) , Leh.

Ans.184 (C) The Bank of Baroda has launched 'Insta Click Savings Account'. The 'Insta Click Savings Account' is a paperless digital self-assisted saving account.

Ans.185 (D) China has successfully launched its first independent mission to mars named as 'Tianwen-1', which means 'Question to Heaven'.

Ans.186 (D) He is appointed as CEO and Director of Microfinance Institutions Network (MFIN). He has replaced Harsh Shrivastava.

Ans.187 (B) National Broadcasting Day is observed on 23rd July.

Ans.188 (A) She was Jazz Singer.

Ans.189 (C) It is granted by the World Trade Organisation(WTO) and thus Turkmenistan has become 25th observer of the WTO.

Ans.190 (C) The Reserve Bank of India has released a 'Report of the Committee for Analysis of QR (Quick Response) Code'. The report is released under the chairmanship of Prof Deepak B Phatak. He is an eminent professor of IIT, Mumbai.

Ans.191 (D) The Reserve Bank of India has released a 'Report of the Committee for Analysis of QR (Quick Response) Code'. To prepare this report the committee members examined and reviewed the current system of QR codes in India and its impact in the digital payment system.

Ans.192 (B) The Department of Science and Technology (DST) in partnership with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) launched the India-Russia Joint Technology Assessment & Accelerated Commercialization Programme.

Ans.193 (B) The meeting was attended by Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan. The meeting was chaired by Russian Federation, Minister of Health Mr.Mikhail Murashko.

Ans.194 (A) He is appointed as MD and CEO of Tata AIA Life Ltd. He has replaced Rishi Srivastava.

Ans.195 (D) He is appointed as MD and CEO of Indian Overseas Bank (IOB). He has replaced Karnam Sekar.

Ans.196 (D) It is designed and developed by AIIMS Nagpur, IIT Jodhpur and IIT Nagpur. The smart wristband will track and monitor COVID-19 positive patients.

Ans.197 (C) As per Development Bank of Singapore, India's GDP to contract by 6% for FY 2021.

Ans.198 (C) The Reserve Bank of India has released the 21st issue of Financial Stability Report, July 2020. The report has suggested that the GNPA ratio of all SCBs may rise from 8.5% in March 2020 to 14.8% by March 2021.

Ans.199 (D) IIT Delhi has signed MoU with TRIFED (Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation of India) for Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) which comes under the flagship of HRD Ministry, GOI.

Ans.200 (C) Amazon Pay (Payment unit of Amazon India) has partnered with Acko General Insurance Ltd to launch vehicle insurance. Under this partnership, customers will now be able to purchase two-wheeler and four-wheeler insurance policy in less than 2 minutes with no paperwork.

Ans.201 (A) England based organisation has released a report on World's Most Surveilled Cities. Among the 150 major cities around the world, from India, the list is topped by Hyderabad at 16th rank position having the maximum number of CCTV surveillance.

Ans.202 (A) Kargil Vijay Diwas is marked 26th July.

Ans.203 (C) 'World Class State of Art Honey Testing Laboratory' was inaugurated at Anand, Gujrat by Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar.

Ans.204 (D) It is an online system launched by Environment ministry to issue transit permits for timber, bamboo and other forest produce.

Ans.205 (A) The Reserve Bank of India has signed an agreement of USD 400 million currency swap facility with Sri Lanka. The currency swap facility agreement will be valid until November 2022.

Ans.206 (D) The Reserve Bank of India has signed an agreement of USD 400 million currency swap facility with Sri Lanka. The currency swap facility agreement will be valid until November 2022.

Ans.207 (A) IIM Kozhikode has developed a device called 'Veli Band'. It is wearable hand band developed with an aim to maintain social distancing during this pandemic situation of COVID-19.

Ans.208 (A) Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched High Throughput COVID-19 Testing Facilities via video conference. The facilities will boost and ramp up the testing capacities for COVID-19 in India.

Ans.209 (C) Food and Agriculture (FAO), the United Nations has released the Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) 2020 report. As per the report, India has received 3rd rank in 10 countries in terms of gaining forest area during 2019-2020.

Ans.210 (D) Food and Agriculture (FAO), the United Nations has released the Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) 2020 report. The list is topped by China, followed by Australia and Chile.

Ans.211 (C) Haryana will host the 2021 Khelo India Youth Games.

Ans.212 (A) The author of the book 'The Endgame' is S Hussain Zaidi.

Ans.213 (D) The ministry of corporate affairs has amended Ind-AS 103 and Ind-As 116 and some other standards. The amendment rules were set and finalized by the ministry in guidance and consultation with National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA).

Ans.214 (A) Bank of Maharashtra has partnered with Uniken, an organisation which works in the field of digital security. They have partnered to work and provide Omnichannel security.

Ans.215 (C) Mausam app is developed by International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Indian Institute of Tropical Metrology (IITM), Pune and by Indian Meteorological Department (IMD).

Ans.216 (C) He is appointed as Prime Minister of Tunisia.

Ans.217 (C) Raising day of CRPF is observed on 27th July 2020.

Ans.218 (D) The theme for World Hepatitis Day which is marked on 28th July is Hepatitis: free future.

Ans.219 (C) It is the web portal launched by the government of Delhi to provide employment opportunities to the people.

Ans.220 (D) The author of the book titled as 'The India Way: Strategies for an Uncertain World' is Dr S Jaishankar.

Ans.221 (C) Union Minister for Human Resource Development has virtually released a report titled 'India Report- Digital Education June 2020'.

Ans.222 (D) Indian Railways handed over 10 broad-gauge railway locomotives to Bangladesh. This will help Bangladesh to enhance its railway mode of transport in the country.

Ans.223 (D) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism and Corporation (IRCTC) in partnership with SBI Card have launched 'Co-branded Contactless Credit Card'. The 'Co-branded Contactless Credit Card' is launched on the RuPay platform.

Ans.224 (A) The NASSCOM, ICRIER and Google state that AI intensity which is measured as the ratio of AI to total sales can give 2.5% enhancement to GDP on an immediate basis term.

Ans.225 (D) International Tiger Day is observed on 29th July 2020.

Ans.226 (B) He was a Child Welfare activist.

Ans.227 (A) International Monetary Fund (IMF) provides a loan of USD 4.3 billion to South Africa to combat COVID-19 in the country.

Ans.228 (C) The Ministry of Human Resource Development is renamed as Ministry of Education. Both the decisions were taken in the cabinet meeting chaired by PM Narendra Modi and the announcement of the decisions was made by Union Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank.

Ans.229 (B) First manhole cleaning robot or an automatic sewer cleaning device named as 'BANDICOOT' is inaugurated at Guwahati, Assam. The robot was inaugurated by Guwahati Development Department Ministry.

Ans.230 (C) The Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has signed MoU with IIT Kanpur to work in the upliftment of the smart grid technology. The two entities will be working to provide training, carry out research activities and to generate entrepreneurship development for Smart Grid Technology in India.

Ans.231 (C) He is appointed as MD and Group CEO of ICRA Limited. He has replaced Naresh Takkar.

Ans.232 (B) World Day against Trafficking in Persons is observed on 30th July.

Ans.233 (C) The list is topped by Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh. It is followed by Ri-Bhoi from Meghalaya and Bahraich in Uttar Pradesh at second and third position respectively. The ranking report is analysed and released by NITI Aayog.

Ans.234 (A) Union Cabinet has approved the MoU of India with Zimbabwe in the field of cooperating in Traditional Systems of Medicines and Homeopathy.

Ans.235 (B) The first helicopter service by Pawan Hans under the UDAN-RCS scheme was launched in Uttarakhand by Hardeep Singh Puri, MoS I/C, Civil Aviation. The UDAN-RCS Heli service in Uttarakhand will provide aerial connectivity and mobility between Dehradun, New Tehri, Srinagar and Gauchar.

Ans.236 (D) The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Unnat Bharat Abhiyan-IIT Delhi (UBS-IITD) and Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA), New Delhi (It is RSS linked science body) has signed MoU which grant access to CSIR developed technologies to attain the objective of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA).

Ans.237 (D) The wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda (BOB) named as BOB Financial Solutions Limited and the Fiserv, Inc. , which is the technology based financial services and payment global provider have joined together to have flexible, scalable solution to accelerate the digital transformation of card issuance and its processing.

Ans.238 (C) He was Padma shri Awardee Folk Singer.

Ans.239 (B) Mizoram is the first state where the project is launched and implemented. The project will boost agriculture sector in the states and it is funded by Global Environment Facility (GEF).

Ans.240 (D) He has announced his retirement from Call forms of cricket.

