

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2



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Important Awards and Honours

Winner	Prize	Awarded By/Theme/Purpose
Hyderabad International Airport	CII - GBC 'National Energy Leader' and 'Excellent Energy Efficient Unit' award	Carbon Neutral Airport having Level 3 + "Neutrality" Accreditation from Airports Council International
Roohi Sultana	National Teachers Award 2020	'Play way method' to teach her students
Air Force Sports Control Board	Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2020	Air Marshal MSG Menon received the award
NTPC Vallur from Tamil Nadu	AIMA Chanakya (Business Simulation Game) National Management Games(NMG)2020	
IIT Madras-incubated Agnikul Cosmos	TiE50 award	
Manmohan Singh	Indira Gandhi Peace Prize	On British broadcaster David Attenborough
Chaitanya Tamhane's The Disciple	Best Screenplay award at Venice International Film Festival	Earlier, it was honoured with the International Critics' Prize awarded by FIPRESCI.
Chloe Zhao's Nomadland	Golden Lion award at Venice International Film Festival	
Aditya Puri (MD, HDFC Bank)	Lifetime Achievement Award	Euromoney Awards of Excellence 2020.
Margaret Atwood (Canadian writer)	Dayton Literary Peace Prize's lifetime achievement award 2020	

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Rome's Fiumicino Airport (Leonardo Da Vinci International Airport)	First airport in the world to earn "the COVID-19 5-Star Airport Rating"	Skytrax
Michelin-star chef Vikas Khanna	2020 Asia Game Changer Award	Feeding millions across India amid the COVID-19 pandemic through a massive food distribution drive
Udit Singhal	2020 cohort of 17 young leaders for the Sustainable Development Goals	United Nations
Prime Minister Narendra Modi (Second Indian Prime Minister to be awarded the Ig Nobel Prize)	Ig Nobel Prize 2020 for Medical Education (using the COVID-19 pandemic to teach the world that politicians can have a more immediate effect on life and death than scientists and doctors can)	Jointly awarded to Jair Bolsonaro of Brazil, Boris Johnson of the United Kingdom, Andrés Manuel López Obrador of Mexico, Alexander Lukashenko of Belarus, Donald Trump of the USA, Recep Tayyip Erdogan of Turkey, Vladimir Putin of Russia, and Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow of Turkmenistan.
Miranda Giacomini of Canada and Nicholas Rule from the USA	Ig Psychology Prize 2020	Devising a method to identify narcissists by examining their eyebrows
Jineth Bedoya Lima (Colombian journalist)	Golden Pen of Freedom Award	Awarded by World Association of News Publishers (WAN-IFRA)
Shashank Nimkar from the National Institute of Design (Ahmedabad)	James Dyson India Award 2020	For his invention- 'Earth Tatva'
GAIL (India) Limited	Leaders Award in the Mega Large Business, Process Sector category	11th edition of Frost & Sullivan - MEASA and TERI - The Energy and Resources Institute's Sustainability 4.0 Awards 2020.
Kerala	United Nations award	For its "outstanding contribution" towards the non-communicable diseases-related sustainable development goals

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Usha Mangeshkar	Gan Samragini Lata Mangeshkar award for the year 2020-21	Maharashtra government
Sonu Sood	SDG Special Humanitarian Action Award	Awarded by the United Nations Development Programme
Dalmia Bharat Group	18 th FICCI CSR award	Environment Sustainability
Dipankar Ghose	Prem Bhatia awards	People's Archive of Rural India (PARI)
Chingari (Indian Short video platform)	Winner of the government's Aatma Nirbhar App Innovation challenge	
Nitin Sethi of The Huffington Post India	Asian College of Journalism's Award for Investigative Journalism	
Shiv Sahay Singh of The Hindu	P. Narayana Kumar Memorial Award for Social Impact Journalism	
Hyderabad -based Naandi Foundation	Top 10 'Visionaries' in the world for the Food Vision 2050 Prize	US-based Rockefeller Foundation
RS Paroda (Founder Chairman of the Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences)	MS Swaminathan Award for Environment Protection 2019	Rotary Club of Madras East
Akshat Malik (ClickOnCare Founder & CEO)	Indian Achievers Award 2020 for Healthcare Excellence	
Cristiano Ronaldo	Juventus' 'Most Valuable Player of the Year'	
Sudha Murty (Chairperson, Infosys Foundation) and Sivakumar Surampudi (Group Head of Agri and IT Businesses of ITC Ltd)	Gramodaya Bandhu Mitra Puraskaras	Gramodaya Chamber of Commerce and Technology (GCOT)
P Priyankarani Patra of	Suraj Samman	Odisha Chief Minister Naveen



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Digapahandi in Ganjam district, Suchitra Das of Bhubaneswar and Rajalakshmi Das of Delang in Puri district		Patnaik Organ donation
Gagan Arora	CEO of the Year - 2020	IAF India
Soumya Swaminathan (Chief Scientist of World Health Organisation)	Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's special award	Advisory role in combating the COVID-19 pandemic
Department of treasuries	Chief Minister's Best Practices award	Tamil Nadu
Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation	Certificate of appreciation	Tamil Nadu
Greater Chennai Corporation	Second prize - Best Practices award	Tamil Nadu
Poet Tirunagari Ramanujam	Dasaradhi Award for 2020	Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao
St Christopher School, Chessore Village, Nagaland	First-ever Pallikkutam National Award for Innovation in Education	Instituted by Rajagiri Media
DAV Public School, Haryana	Silver award (Pallikkutam National Award)	Instituted by Rajagiri Media
CMI Christ School, Iritty in Kerala	Bronze award (Pallikkutam National Award)	Instituted by Rajagiri Media
Ganesh Vilas Lengare (Solapur)	Star 2020 Certificate	World Book of Records, London
UST Global	PMI-Kerala Community Project of the Year Award for 2020	'Adopt a School' initiative
Global Gene Corp	Roddenberry Prize	Designed to advance the vision of 'Star Trek'
Reshma Mohandas (Ernakulam district)	Tomyas Award	best nurse in the State Kerala
'Am I?' directed by Abhijit	1 st Prize in the Online	Ministry Of Information and

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Paul	Patriotic Short Film Contest	Broadcasting & National Film Development Corporation.
'Ab India Banega Bharat' directed by Debojo Sanjiv	2 nd Prize in the Online Patriotic Short Film Contest	Ministry Of Information and Broadcasting & National Film Development Corporation.
'10 Rupees' directed by Yuvraj Gokul	3 rd Prize in the Online Patriotic Short Film Contest	Ministry Of Information and Broadcasting & National Film Development Corporation.
Mahindra group Chairman Anand Mahindra and Adobe Chairman and CEO Shantanu Narayen	2020 Leadership Awards	US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF)
NLCIL	Swachhta Hi Seva award	Transforming Neyveli Township into plastic-free, green campus
Sonam Gyaltsan	National award	Head Teacher of Middle School Taknak Sakti in Kharu block of Leh - Ladakh
Va Tech Wabag	Global Water Award	45 million litres a day tertiary treatment reverse osmosis (TTRO) plant at Koyambedu in Chennai
Neelakanta Bhanu Prakash of Hyderabad	Won gold for India in Mental Calculation World Championship at Mind Sports Olympiad in London	Fastest human calculator in the world
Kritika Pandey's short story, The Great Indian Tee and Snakes	2020 Commonwealth Short Story Prize	Given by the Commonwealth Writers organisation
Mint (for the front page of the special edition dated 24 May 2019)	Newspaper Front Page Design award	WAN-IFRA's 19th Asian Media Awards
Sunflame	Iconic Brands of India 2020	The Economics Times
Headquarters of International Olympic Committee in Lausanne	European 2020 US Green Building Council (USGBC) Leadership Award	It holds the rigorous LEED Platinum certification



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Sachin Awasthi	Top Publicist honor under Global Humanitarian Award 2020	He hosted a cleanliness drive at Banke Bihari Mandir
Mukhyamantri Darpan and mobile App of Chhattisgarh	IT institution Elites Technomedia under the 'Digital India initiative'	
Suraji Gaon Yojna	Elites Excellence Awards- 2020	
Kezang D Thongdok (Arunachal Pradesh)	Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2020	For the documentary film 'Chi Lupo' on honey hunting
Ratnakar Matkari	Natvarya Prabhakar Panshikar award	Maharashtra Government
Edappadi K Palaniswami	Paul Harris Fellow recognition	
National Thermal Power Corporation	CII-ITC Sustainability Award 2019	
Dr Kailasavadivoo Sivan (ISRO Chief)	2020 Von Karman Award of the International Academy of Astronautics	It will be conferred in March 2021 in Paris. Previous recipient - Charles Elachi
Shahidul Alam (Noted Bangladeshi photojournalist and founder of Pathshala Media Institute)	One of the winners of the 2020 International Press Freedom Awards.	Other Awardees: Mohammad Mosaed (Iran), Dapo Olorunyomi (Nigeria), Svetlana Prokopyeva (Russia)
Gurbux Singh & Palash Nandi	Mohun Bagan Ratna 2020	
Ashok Kumar, Pranab Ganguly (football), Monoranjan Porel(athletics)	Lifetime Achievement Award	
Joseba Beitia	Best footballer (senior) prize	
Sajal Bag (U-18)	Best youth player	
Ved Parkash Dudeja (Vice Chairman, Rail Land Development Authority)	Infra Business Leader of the Year' award for 2020	Rail Infra and Mobility Business Digital Awards
N Chandrasekaran (Tata group chairman) & Jim Taiclet (Lockhead Martin CEO)	USIBC Global Leadership Award	



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Marcus Rashford (Manchester United forward)	Honorary doctorate from the University of Manchester	Joins club greats Alex Ferguson and Bobby Charlton
Marianna Vardinoyannis of Greece and Morissana Kouyate of Guinea	United Nations 2020 Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela Prize	Announced by General Assembly President Tijjani Muhammad-Bande
Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Best research institute of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research	2 nd time CMFRI has bagged the award
Kannan C S Warriar (recipient of the Rolla S Rao National Award)	National Award of Excellence for Outstanding Research in Forestry for the year 2019	Awarded by Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (for releasing three productive clones of casuarina, known as kattadi and savukku)
Lionel Messi	7 th Pichichi award	Break La Liga record
Arnab Chaudhuri (‘Arjun: The Warrior Prince’ - Only animation from India to date to be longlisted for Oscar awards)	Legend of Animation award	Toonz Media Group (TMG) as part of the Animation Masters Summit (AMS) 2020
Kala Narayanasamy	President's Award for Nurses (Singapore)	For serving on the frontline during the COVID-19 pandemic
Greta Thunberg (Swedish Activist)	First Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity	
UST Global	Information Services Group (ISG) Digital recognition	It received the recognition for 2 nd time
Aditya, India's first solar- powered ferry	Gustave Trouve Award for Excellence in Electric Boats and Boating	
Sunil ydv SS	Karamveer Chakra Award	United Nations and International Confederation of NGO (iCONGO)
Kerala Tourism	PATA Grand Award 2020 for Marketing	For its Human by Nature
Harvey J. Alter (New York), Michael Houghton (United	Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2020	For the discovery of Hepatitis C virus



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Kingdom) and Charles M. Rice (Sacramento, US)		
Ratan Tata	Lifetime achievement award	Awarded by Indo-American Chamber of Commerce
Ravi Santhanam (HDFC Bank)	The World's Most Influential CMOs	Recognized in the Forbes list
Roger Penrose, Reinhard Genzel and Andrea Ghez	2020 Nobel Prize in Physics	Black holes and the Milky Way's darkest secret
Tarattech Solutions Private Limited	National Start-Up Awards-2020	Urban Services category
Wealthy Therapeutics	National Start-Up Awards-2020	Health care category
Emmanuelle Charpentier and Jennifer A. Doudna	2020 Nobel Prize in Chemistry	Development of a method for genome editing
Sarah Hall	BBC National Short Story Award	Won the top honour for the story, The Grotesques.
Louise Glück (American poet)	Nobel Prize in Literature for 2020	Unmistakable poetic voice that with austere beauty makes individual existence universal
Nityanand Nayak (Odia poet)	Sarala Puraskar	Setebelaku Nathiba (Published in 2017)
World Food Programme	Nobel Peace Prize 2020	Achievement of food security
Paul R. Milgrom and Robert B. Wilson	2020 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences	Improvements to auction theory and invention of new auction formats
Bank of Ghana	Central Bank of Year award	Governor of the BoG, Dr Ernest Addison
Harish Kotecha	Sandra Neese Lifetime Achievement Award	Needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness
Mrs. Seema Gupta	2020 Gold Stevie Awards for Women in Business	Director Operations POWERGRID
Aishwarya Sridhar	Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2020	Titled 'Lights of Passion'
Sana Hazari	Young Achievers Award 2020	Founder of The Social Corporate
Anika Chebrolu	America's Young Scientist	

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

	Challenge	
Rakayet UI Karim Rakim (Chittagong, Bangladesh) (Theme-'Nature in Your Neighbourhood')	12th edition of the Greenstorm International Nature Photography Contest title	Mohamed Noufal (Sharjah, UAE) and Kartikeya Grover (Ghaziabad)
Pravir Krishna (Managing Director of TRIFED)	CEO of the year and visionary leadership award	Virtual edition of National Awards for Excellence in PSU for Investment in Start-UPS
Dr Jajini Varghese (UK-based Indian-origin plastic surgeon)	Outstanding Young Person 2020	Recognised in the "Medical Innovation" category
India-assisted Mangdechhu hydroelectric project in Bhutan	Brunel Medal for excellence in civil engineering	It built on the Mangdechhu River
Anzar Mustaeen Ali	Special prize in Global Art Competition	Organised by the Indian Council of Cultural Relations
Om Puri (posthumously)	Lifetime Achievement Award	At the third India International Film Festival of Boston
Paul Zacharia	Ezhuthachan Puraskaram	Awarded by Kerala government
Paul Zacharia	Ezhuthachan Puraskaram	Kerala government
Hariharan	JC Daniel Award	Highest honour for lifetime contributions to Malayalam cinema
MM Naravane	Honorary rank of General of the Nepali Army	President Bidya Devi Bhandari
S Hareesh	JCB Prize for Literature 2020	Moustache (translated into English by Jayasree Kalathil and published by HarperCollins India)
Ruskin Bond	Tata Literature Live! Lifetime Achievement Award for 2020	Recognised by the Indian Council of Child Education for his contribution to the growth of children's literature in India
462-metre-high Lakhta Center in St Petersburg	Emporis Skyscraper Award	Designed by GORPROJECT and RMJM
Dr Satish Mishra	Dr.Tulsi Das Chugh Award 2020	Malaria parasite's life cycle

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Sadat Rahman	International Children's Peace Prize	To educate young people about cyberbullying.
K S Subramanian	Fertiliser Association of India Golden Jubilee Award	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University's Director of Research and NABARD Chair
Bhubaneswar	ISO Certification for Faecal Sludge and Septage Management	
Douglas Stuart (Scottish Author)	Booker Prize for fiction	For his novel Shuggie Bain
Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'	Vatayan Lifetime Achievement Award	
Raah Foundation	Palghar CSR Award 2020	Under the category of Village Development
Kohima Smart City Development Limited, KSCDL	ET Government Global Smart Cities Forum 2020	Under the category Best Digital Initiative of the Year
Naseeruddin Shah	2020 Aditya Vikram Birla Kalashikhar Puraskar	Theatre – Central theme
Delhi Crime	Best Drama Series award	At 48 th International Emmys
Pilibhit Tiger Reserve & Uttar Pradesh Forest department	First-ever international award, TX2	
K Sivan	Doctor of Science honorary doctorate	
Vinisha Umashankar (14-year old 9 th class student from Tamil Nadu)	Children's Climate Prize	For designing a mobile ironing cart
Gitanjali Rao	TIME's first-ever kid of the year	Greta Thunberg was named Time's Person Of The Year last year
Ranjitsinh Disale	2020 Global Teacher Prize \$1 million	A teacher at Zilla Parishad Primary School
Anita Anand's 'The Patient Assassin'	PEN Hessel-Tiltman history prize	
Raj Kamal Jha (Indian Writer and chief editor of The	Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize 2020	The City and the Sea



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Express)		
Mondo Duplantis of Sweden	Male World Athletes of the Year	
Yulimar Rojas of Venezuela	Female World Athletes of the Year	
Carolina Araujo	Ramanujan Prize for Young Mathematicians 2020	First non-Indian women mathematician to receive this prize.
Bajrang Punia	Male Sportsperson of the Year award	Presented by the Federation of Indian Commerce and Industry (FICCI)
Elavenil Valarivan	Female Sportsperson of the Year award	Presented by the Federation of Indian Commerce and Industry (FICCI)
Ashraf Patel	Social Entrepreneur of the Year award (Presented by Smriti Zubin Irani)	Instituted by the Schwab Foundation and Jubilant Bhartia Foundation.
Paul Sein Twa	Goldman Environmental Prize 2020 for Asia	The 2020 prize winners are: Kristal Ambrose from The Bahamas, Chibeze Ezekiel from Ghana, Nemonte Nenquimo from Ecuador, Leydy Pech from Mexico, Lucie Pinson from France, Paul Sein Twa from Myanmar.
Steel Authority of India Limited	Golden Peacock Environment Management Award for the year 2020	
Ratan Tata	Global Visionary of Sustainable Business and Peace award	
Sreenivas Karanam of Bangalore	1 st Prize, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Telecom Skill Excellence Awards	
Subrat Kar of New Delhi	2 nd Prize, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Telecom Skill	It was launched in 2017 by DoT

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

	Excellence Awards	
Vidyut Mohan	Young Champions of the Earth winners by United Nations Environment Programme	Other Winners: Nzambi Matee (Kenya), Xiaoyuan Ren (China). Lefteris Arapaki's (Greece), Niria Alicia Garcia, Max Hidalgo Quinto. Fatemah Alzelzela
Lewis Hamilton	BBC Sports Personality of the Year 2020	
Captain Sir Tom Moore	Helen Rollason Award	Presented by BBC Sports
Marcus Rashford	Expert Special Panel Award	Presented by BBC Sports
Jurgen Klopp	Coach of the Year	Presented by BBC Sports
Liverpool FC	Team of the Year	Presented by BBC Sports
Sgt Matt Ratana	Unsung Hero	Presented by BBC Sports
Tobias Weller	Captain Tom Young Unsung Hero	Presented by BBC Sports
Andrea Spendolini-Sirieix	Young Sports Personality of the Year	Presented by BBC Sports
Narendra Modi	Legion of Merit	Presented by Donald Trump
NGO HelpAge India	UN Population Award for 2020	It was established by the United Nations General Assembly
Amar Singh College, in Srinagar	UNESCO Award	It been awarded for cultural heritage protection by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Asia-Pacific in 2020.
NTPC Ltd	CII-ITC Sustainability Awards 2020 in corporate social responsibility	
K. Veeramani (Dravidar Kazhagam President)	Dr.Narendra Dabholkar Memorial Award	
Hemant Kumar Pandey	DRDO's Scientist of the Year Award	
Steel Authority of India	Golden Peacock Environment	

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Limited	Management Award	
Amar Singh College, Srinagar	Award of Merit, 2020 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation	
Ratan Tata	Global Visionary of Sustainable Business and Peace	Honoured by Federation of Indo- Israel Chambers of Commerce
Seeni Viswanathan	Bharathi Award 2020	
Mon District Administration, Nagaland	SKOCH Crucible award, SKOCH Order of Merit for District Response	SKOCH Honorable Mention to Skill Mon Mission
MyGov Corona Helpdesk	People's Choice Covid-19 Overall Winner, Best Innovation for Covid-19 - Society	Awarded at CogX 2020
Raj Chetty	'2020 Great Immigrants' honorees	Named by the Carnegie Corporation of New York
Siddhartha Mukherjee	'2020 Great Immigrants' honorees	Named by the Carnegie Corporation of New York
Freya Thakral	The Diana Award	An App – Recycler, and door-to-door recycling business
Indian battalion	UNIFIL environment award	
Ongole Sub-Division Office of South Central Railway	Water Heroes Award	
Dr. V. V. S. S. Sarma	National Award for Ocean Science & technology	By Ministry of Earth Sciences
Ashok Sahni	Life Time Excellence Award	By Ministry of Earth Sciences
Dr. M. Ravichandran	National Award for Ocean Science & technology	By Ministry of Earth Sciences
Dr. S. Suresh Babu	National Award for Atmospheric Science & technology	
N. V. Chalapathi Rao	National award for	



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

	Geoscience & technology	
Dr. M. A. Atmanand	National Award for Ocean Technology	
Dr. Lidita D. S. Khandeparker	Anna Mani award for woman scientist	
Dr. Indra Sekhar Sen	Young Researcher Awards	
IIT Kharagpur researchers	Gandhian Young Technological Innovation Awards 2020	For generating electricity from wet clothes left under sunlight to dry.
Vattatha Uravakkayi Jalasamrudhi' project	Award for excellence	At the National Water Innovation Summit
State Bank of India	Three Brandon Hall Excellence Awards	For rolling out 'Nayi Disha'
Defence Institute of Advanced Technology	First prize in the Smart India Hackathon	DRISHTI
NLCIL	Township Administration Office – First rank Thermal Power Station-1 – Second rank Mines Sub-Stores—Third rank	Implementation of the Swachhta Hi Seva Programme
Dwijing Festival	Rural Activation of the year. Won 5 awards under Special Event of the Year for Government/Federation/Association, Rural Engagement Property of the Year, Business/B-2-B/Knowledge-Exchange Property of the Year, Special Event of the Decade.	
Jammu and Kashmir Police	1 st place in Police Medals for	

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

	Gallantry	
ABB India	Gold certification	By the Indian Green Building Council
Dasa Sutras	Nominated for SKOCH Awards	
Dr Debjyoti Chakraborty	CSIR Young Scientist Award 2020	
Dr Shubhadeep Chatterjee	Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Biological Sciences	Work focuses on mechanisms that promote or suppress bacterial disease in plants
Dr Vatsala Thirumalai	Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Biological Sciences	Works on neural circuits that control movement during development and adulthood in animals.
Dr Jyotirmayee Dash	Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Chemical Sciences	Works on new methodologies for synthesis of diverse molecules
Dr Subi Jacob George	Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Chemical Sciences	Works on supermolecular synthesis
Abhijit Mukherjee	Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Earth, Atmosphere, Ocean and Planetary Sciences	Works on the exploration of groundwater as a sustainable drinking water source
Dr Suryendu Dutta	Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Earth, Atmosphere, Ocean and Planetary Sciences	
Amol Arvindrao Kulkarni	Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Engineering Sciences	Developing multiphase reactors and microreactors
Kinshuk Dasgupta	Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Engineering Sciences	
Dr Rajat Subhra Hazra	Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Mathematical Sciences	



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Dr Bushra Ateeq	Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Mathematical Sciences	
Ritesh Agarwal	Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Medical Sciences	A fungal infection called Allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis.
Dr Rajesh Ganapathy	Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for physical sciences	
Dr Surajit Dhara	Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for physical sciences	

Emmy Awards 2020

- The Emmy Awards 2020 was hosted by Jimmy Kimmel at an empty theatre in Los Angeles.

Drama Series: Succession

- Supporting Actress in a Drama Series: Julia Garner, Ozark
- Supporting Actor in a Drama Series: Billy Crudup, The Morning Show
- Outstanding Directing for a Drama Series: Succession
- Outstanding Writing for a Drama Series: Succession
- Lead Actress in a Drama Series: Zendaya, Euphoria
- Lead Actor in a Drama Series: Jeremy Strong, Succession
- Limited Series: Watchmen
- Supporting Actress in a Limited Series or Movie: Uzo Aduba, Mrs. America
- Supporting Actor in a Limited Series or Movie: Yahya Abdul-Mateen II, Watchmen
- Outstanding Directing for a Limited Series, Movie or Dramatic Special: Unorthodox
- Outstanding Writing for a Limited Series: Watchmen
- Lead Actor in a Limited Series or Movie: Mark Ruffalo, I Know This Much Is True
- Lead Actress in a Limited Series or Movie: Regina King, Watchmen
- Comedy Series: Schitt's Creek
- Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series: Annie Murphy, Schitt's Creek
- Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series: Daniel Levy, Schitt's Creek
- Outstanding Directing for a Comedy Series: Schitt's Creek
- Outstanding Writing for a Comedy Series: Schitt's Creek
- Lead Actor in a Comedy Series: Eugene Levy, Schitt's Creek
- Lead Actress in a Comedy Series: Catherine O'Hara, Schitt's Creek
- Competition Program: RuPaul's Drag Race



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Variety Talk Series: Last Week Tonight with John Oliver
- Outstanding Television Movie: Bad Education

Moothon, Run Kalyani win big at 20th New York Indian Film Festival

- Malayalam films Moothon and Run Kalyani have won big at the 20th edition of New York Indian Film Festival.
- Run Kalyani, directed by debutant Geetha J, is about a young woman cook, who is trapped in the cycle of mundane routine while taking care of her bed-ridden aunty. Garggi Ananthan, who played Kalyani in Run Kalyani, bagged the Best Actress award at the festival.
- Geetu Mohandas directorial Moothon, which was the closing film of the 20th New York Indian Film Festival, won multiple awards, including Best Film, Best Actor (Nivin Pauly) and Best Child Actor (Sanjana Dipu).
- The other winners of the 20th New York Indian Film Festival are
 - Best Documentary: Tailing Pond
 - Best Feature Documentary: Son Rise
 - Best Short (Narrative): Arabian Nights
 - Best Screenplay: Knock Knock Knock
- Best Director: Achal Mishra, Gamak Ghar

UP govt bags 8 awards in Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhiyan

- Uttar Pradesh government has bagged 8 awards in **Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhiyan (GKRA)** launched by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation. The State has also got overall second rank in implementation of **Gandagi Mukh Bharat scheme**.
- **Prayagraj, Hardoi and Fatehpur** in Uttar Pradesh has bagged first, second and third ranks respectively. In Non-GKRA category, **Bareilly and Aligarh** have secured first and second ranks respectively. **Aligarh** has also received the Special Recognition award.

Apple tops Saudi Aramco as most valuable publicly listed co

- Saudi Aramco had a market capitalisation of \$1.760 trillion as of its last close
- Apple Inc's surged over 10 per cent to a record high after reporting blockbuster quarterly results, helping the iPhone maker eclipse Saudi Aramco to become the world's most valuable publicly listed company.

'Khaje', 'Harmal Chilli' and 'Moirā banana' get GI tag

- Goa's traditional festive sweet dish 'Khaje', spicy Harmal Chilli and Myndoli Banana (Moirā Banana) has obtained Geographical Indication (GI) tag in last three months, thus giving the local producers exclusive brand protection rights.
- Earlier, the State's popular 'Cashew Feni' and 'Khola Red Chilli', had obtained GI tag.

India's 2018 Tiger Census sets Guinness World Record for being largest camera trapping wildlife survey



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The All India Tiger Estimation 2018, released last year, has entered the Guinness World Record for being the world's largest camera trap wildlife survey.
- The quadrennial tiger estimation is steered by the National Tiger Conservation Authority with technical backstopping from the Wildlife Institute of India and implemented by State Forest Departments and partners.

Avni Doshi, an Indian-origin author, on 2020 Booker Prize longlist for debut novel

- Dubai-based Indian-origin author Avni Doshi is among the 13 authors longlisted for the prestigious 2020 Booker Prize for her debut novel 'Burnt Sugar', alongside double Booker winner Hilary Mantel for 'The Mirror and The Light'.
- British and Scottish nominees this year include Gabriel Krauze for 'Who They Was', Douglas Stuart for 'Shuggie Bain' and Sophie Ward for 'Love and Other Thought Experiments'. Zimbabwean writer Tsitsi Dangarembga is nominated for the third novel in her trilogy — 'This Mournable Body'.
- The rest of the longlist is largely dominated by US-based authors, including Diane Cook for 'The New Wilderness', Colum McCann for 'Apeirogon', Maaza Mengiste for 'The Shadow King', Kiley Reid for 'Such a Fun Age', Brandon Taylor for 'Real Life', Anne Tyler for 'Redhead by The Side of The Road', and C Pam Zhang for 'How Much of These Hills is Gold'.

Gajendra Singh Shekhawat gives away Swachh Bharat Awards 2020; Gujarat bags first position under Swachh Sundar Samudayak Shouchalaya category

- The **Swachh Bharat Awards-2020** were given to States, Districts, Blocks and Village Panchayats by Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.
- Under the Swachh Sundar Samudayik Shouchalaya category **Gujarat** bagged the first position at state level whereas **Tirunelveli** in **Tamil Nadu** got the Award for cleanliness at District Level.
- Khachrod block in Ujjain district in Madhya Pradesh was awarded the first position and Chinnanur Village in **Tamil Nadu** bagged the top slot at Gram Panchayat level.
- Under the Samudayik Shouchalaya Abhiyan, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh were awarded as the best performing states whereas **Prayagraj** and **Bareilly** got it for being the best performing districts.
- Under the Gandagi Mukth Bharat Mission, **Haryana** and **Telangana** were awarded the top slot.

Alternate Nobel Prize 2020': Belarus, Iran, US, Nicaragua Activists Awarded the Right Livelihood Award

- Activists from **Belarus**, **Iran**, **Nicaragua** and the United States were awarded the **Right Livelihood Award**, sometimes referred to as the "Alternative Nobel".
- **Nasrin Sotoudeh**, an Iranian lawyer, was given the award "for her fearless activism, at great personal risk, to promote political freedoms and human rights in Iran."
- **Bryan Stevenson** won the award "for his inspiring endeavour to reform the US criminal justice system and advance racial reconciliation in the face of historic trauma."
- **Lottie Cunningham Wren**, the 61-year-old rights and environmental activist of **Nicaragua** won "for her ceaseless dedication to the protection of indigenous lands and communities from exploitation and plunder."



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- 58-year-old human rights activist **Ales Bialiatski** and the non-governmental organisation Human Rights Center Viasna which he heads, won “for their resolute struggle for the realization of democracy and human rights in Belarus.”
- Although the Right Livelihood Award is promoted as an “**Alternative Nobel Prize**”, it is not a Nobel prize.

Billboard Music Awards: Post Malone and Billie Eilish win big, Jonas Brothers rake in 3 wins. Complete winners list

- Walking into the show with **16 nominations**, **Post Malone** won **nine honors** at the 2020 **Billboard Music Awards**.
- He beat out **Eilish** for the top prize, but she was still a winner, taking home **top Billboard 200 album** and top female artist. Other winners included **Lil Nas X**, who was also on-hand to accept top Hot 100 song for “Old Town Road,” which set the record for most weeks at No. 1. After his performance, **Luke Combs** was named top country artist .

Here is the complete winners list at BMAs.

Top Hot 100 song: “Old Town Road,” Lil Nas X and Billy Ray Cyrus

Top Billboard 200 album: Billie Eilish, “When We Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?”

Top artist: Post Malone

Top new artist: Billie Eilish

Top female artist: Billie Eilish

Top male artist: Post Malone

Top streaming songs artist: Post Malone

Top song sales artist: Lizzo

Top radio songs artist: Jonas Bros.

Top duo/group: Jonas Bros.

Top R&B artist: Khalid

Top rap artist: Post Malone

Top country artist: Luke Combs

Top rock artist: Panic! at the Disco

Top Latin artist: Bad Bunny

Top dance/electronic artist: The Chainsmokers

Top Christian artist: Lauren Daigle

Top gospel artist: Kanye West

Top social artist: BTS

Top touring artist: Pink

Chart achievement award: Harry Styles

Icon award: Garth Brooks

ISA Confers the Very First ISA Solar Awards at Third Assembly

- **For the first time**, solar awards were conferred on countries and institutions working for solar.
- **Bharat Ratna M. Visvesvaraya** to the representatives of the countries of Japan, and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The awards went to Japan for the Asia Pacific region and the Netherlands for Europe and other regions.
- The recipients of the **Kalpna Chawla award**, named after the American astronaut of Indian origin.
- The inaugural award in this category was conferred to **Dr. Bhim Singh** from IIT Delhi (India), and **Dr. Aaesha Alnuaimi (UAE)** from Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA).
- The award recognizes outstanding contribution of scientists and engineers working in the field of solar energy.
- **The Diwakar award** has been awarded to Arpan Institute (Haryana) and Arushi Society.
- The award recognises organisations and institutions that have been working for the benefit of differently-abled people and have maximised the use of solar energy in the host country.

'Gully Boy' wins Best Original Music at 14th Asian Film Awards

- The 14th edition of **Asian Film Awards** ("AFA14") was organized by the **Asian Film Awards Academy** ("AFAA").
- **Indian Movie Gully Boy** received the award for the **Best Original Score at the event**. in Gully Boy, Ranveer Singh and Alia Bhatt played leading roles.
- The award was given to The Salvage Audio Collective and Karsh Kale.
- Zoya Akhtar has directed Film Gully Boy and was displayed on cinema screen on 14th February 2019.

Best Actor	Lee Byung-hun – The Man Standing Next (South Korea)
Best Actress	Zhou Dongyu – Better Days (China)
Best Cinematography	Dong Jinsong – The Wild Goose Lake
Best Costume Designer	Pacharin Surawatanapongs– Happy Old Year
Best Director	Wang Xiaoshuai for So Long, My Son (China)
Best Editing	Yang Jin-mo – Parasite
Best Film	Parasite (South Korea)
Best Newcomer	Jackson Yee – Better Days
Best New Director	Hikari – 37 Seconds
Best Supporting Actor	Ryo Kase – To the Ends of the Earth
Best Supporting Actress	Ko Shu-chin – A Sun
Best Screenplay	Bong Joon-ho, Han Jin-won – Parasite
Best Original Music	Karsh Kale, The Salvage Audio Collective – Gully Boy
Best Production Design	Ha-jun Lee – Parasite
Best Visual Effects	Tomi Kijo, Renovatio Pictures – Detention
Best Sound	Yoshifumi Kureishi – Listen to the Universe



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

6 women led startups win COVID-19 Shri Shakti Challenge organized by MyGov in Collaboration with UN Women

- **Six women** led startups have won **COVID-19 Shri Shakti Challenge** organized by **MyGov** in collaboration with **UN Women**.

Top 3 winners are as follows:

- **Dr P Gayatri Hela** - founder of Bengaluru-based Resada Lifesciences Private Limited
- **Romita Ghosh** - Founder of Shimla-based iHeal HealthTech Private Limited
- **Dr Anjana Ramkumar and Dr Anushka Ashokan** - Product manager and co-founder of Kerala based Thanmatra Innovations Private Limited

Stanford University study names five from LVPEI among top 2% scientists of the world

- **L V Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI)** has had **five** of its eminent senior scientists listed among **the top Indian researchers** in a database of 100,000 scientists worldwide.
- This database of top-cited scientists has been created by a team of scientists at **Stanford University, USA**, and is published in the journal PLOS Biology.
- **Gullapalli N Rao, D Balasubramanian, Savitri Sharma, Jill Keefe** under the discipline of 'Ophthalmology', while **S Shivaji** has featured in this list in the 'Microbiology' category.
- Gullapalli N Rao has been ranked as the top scientist in Eye Research from India.

2nd National Water Awards 2019 Distribution Ceremony to be held

- Ministry of Jal Shakti, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation organised the **2nd National Water Awards (NWAs) 2019 Distribution Ceremony**.
- The **National Water Awards 2019** is awarding the participants **98 number of awards** in 16 different categories - Best State, Best District, Best Village Panchayat, Best Urban Local Body, Best Research/ Innovation/ New Technology, Best Education/ Mass Awareness effort, Best TV show, Best Newspaper, Best School, Best Institution/ RWA/ Religious Organisation, Best Industry, Best Water Regulatory Authority, Best Water Warrior, Best NGO, Best Water User Association, and Best Industry for CSR Activity. Each of the categories has sub-categories in different zones of the country.

Ministry of Water Resources to award Maharashtra villager

- The Union **Ministry of Water Resources** has declared an award for a villager of **Sangli Sampatrao Pawar** for his contribution to the revitalization of the **Agrani River**. Mr. Pawar was the first person to come up with the idea of **re-circulating the river** which had disappeared due to mud, soil and bushes.
- Agrani is a tributary of **Krishna river**. It also has a tributary called **Mahakali**.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Dr. Dinesh Katre, Senior Director & HOD at C-DAC Wins 2020 Emmett Leahy Award

- **Dr. Dinesh Katre Wins 2020 Emmett Leahy Award** for his outstanding contributions Accomplishments that Have a Major Impact on the digital information and records management.
- The Emmett Leahy Award Committee recognized the sustained leadership by Dr. Dinesh Katre on issues of **digital stewardship** and preservation over several decades.
- He led the development of the **DIGITĀLAYA**, **e-Library** and Archiving System which played an important role in the ISO 16363 certification of world's first trustworthy digital repository.

Vidya Balan's Short Film Natkhat Becomes Eligible for Oscar Nomination

- **Natkhat**, starring and co-produced by **Vidya Balan**, has **won top prize** at the third edition of **Best Of India Short Film Festival 2020**, which makes it **eligible for Oscar nomination**.
- The film also won a prize money of \$2,500 (approximately Rs 1,85,497) and an opportunity for a television broadcast deal on ShortsTV.

2019 National water awards: Maharashtra adjudged second best in water management

- **Maharashtra** was adjudged **the second-best state** in **water conservation** effort by the Ministry of Jal Shakti at the 2019 National Water Awards.
- **Tamil Nadu** was the top state in overall water conservation efforts, whereas **Rajasthan** settled for third position. In the same category, Mizoram received a special award.
- Aniket Lohiya of Manavlok, an NGO from Beed, won the 'Water Warrior' award.
- **The Sangli district** administration bagged the top prize in the river revival category for contribution in reviving Agrani river.
- **Maharashtra** Water Regulatory Authority (MWRA) won the first prize in the water regulatory authority category.

Queen Mother of Bhutan and HelpAge India receive 2020 UN Population Award

- Her Majesty **Gyalyum Sangay Choden Wangchuck**, **Queen Mother of Bhutan**, was announced as the **individual laureate** for the **2020 United Nations Population Award**. **HelpAge India** was announced as the **award's institutional laureate**.
- Her Majesty Gyalyum Sangay Choden Wangchuck is a longstanding champion of sexual and reproductive health and rights and the need to end violence against women, girls and children in Bhutan.

Education Minister virtually launches AICTE's Lilavati Award-2020

- Education Minister **Ramesh Pokhriyal "Nishank"** virtually launched **Lilavati Award-2020: AICTE's Innovative education program to empower women**. With women empowerment as the theme, the objective of the award is to create awareness about issues like sanitation, hygiene, health, nutrition, literacy, and employment among women.

NFDB confers four awards to Assam for success in fishery sector

- The **National Fisheries Development Board** has conferred **four awards** to **Assam** for the success in the fishery sector. Assam has got the **best state award** under the category of best hilly and North Eastern state. Assam Apex



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Cooperative Fish Marketing and Processing Federation Limited (FISHFED) has been selected under the category of best hilly and North eastern government organization.

- On the other hand, Nagaon district has been selected under best hilly and North Eastern district category while a Nalbari based farmer Amal Medhi is selected under hilly and North Eastern fish farmer category.

20 best performing districts get Swachhata Awards 2020

- Jal Shakti Minister Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Rattan Lal Kataria conferred the Swachhata Awards 2020 on the 20 best performing districts for contributing towards ODF Sustainability and ODF Plus goals. These awards were given at a virtual ceremony organized by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation.
- Phase 2 of the Swachh Bharat Mission - Gramin has been launched early this year. It focuses on ODF sustainability and Solid and Liquid Waste Management aiming at comprehensive cleanliness in villages.

Books by 3 Indian writers feature in 2020 '100 Notable Books' selected by The New York Times

- Critically-acclaimed books by three Indian writers have featured among this year's '100 Notable Books' list of The New York Times that also includes former US president Barack Obama's newly released memoir 'A Promised Land'.
- Editors of The New York Times Book Review selected 100 "notable fiction, poetry and nonfiction" works from around the world. The prestigious list also includes the work of fiction 'A Burning' by India-born Megha Majumdar.
- Djinn Patrol on the Purple Line' by Deepa Anappara, who grew up in Kerala, also features on the list.
- Samanth Subramanian's 'A Dominant Character: The Radical Science and Restless Politics of J. B. S. Haldane' is a nonfiction work.
- Red Pill' by British-Indian author Hari Kunzru also features in the list.

Israeli Prime Minister, Abu Dhabi Crown Prince nominated for Nobel Peace Prize 2021

- The Prime Minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu, and Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan have been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize 2021 for their roles in establishing the strategic and diplomatic ties between the two nations.
- The leaders of both nations have been nominated because of the recent peace agreement which has been signed between Israel, UAE, and Bahrain.

Oscars 2021: Keith Gomes' Shameless is India's official entry in short film category at 93rd Academy Awards

- Keith Gomes' short film 'Shameless' has been selected as India's official entry at the 93rd Academy Awards in the 'Live Action Short Film' category.
- The short film was chosen from a list of five short films that included Trapped, Safar, Aditya Kelgaonkar's 'Sound proof' and Shaan Vyas' 'Natkhah'. Shameless, written and directed by Keith Gomes, had released in April 2019.

'Pandemic' chosen as Word of the Year 2020 by Dictionary.com and Merriam Webster

- For the first time, two dictionary companies on Monday - Merriam-Webster and Dictionary.com - declared the same word as their tops.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Pandemic, with roots in Latin and Greek, is a combination of "pan," for all, and "demos," for people or population.

Cambridge Dictionary Named “Quarantine” as Word of the Year 2020

- Cambridge Dictionary has named “Quarantine” as the Word of the Year 2020 based on its data which showed that the word ‘quarantine’ is one of the most searched words on the Cambridge Dictionary in 2020.
- Runners-up for Word of the year 2020 are, Lockdown and Pandemic. Cambridge’s word of the year 2019 was “Upcycling”.

Serum Institute's Adar Poonawalla Named As 1 Of 6 Asians Of The Year

- Adar Poonawalla, the chief executive of the world's largest vaccine manufacturer Serum Institute of India, is among six people named "Asians of the Year" by Singapore's leading daily, The Straits Times for their work in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Pune-based Serum Institute of India (SII) has collaborated with the University of Oxford and the British-Swedish pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca for making the COVID-19 vaccine, 'Covidshield', and is conducting trials in India.
- The Serum Institute was founded by Adar Poonawalla's father Cyrus Poonawalla in 1966.
- Adar Poonawalla joined the Serum Institute of India in 2001 and became the CEO of Serum Institute with complete control of the day-to-day operations of the company in 2011.
- Sars-CoV-2, the virus that has brought death and hardship to the world's largest and most populous continent, is meeting its tamer in The Virus Busters, the award citation stated.
- The Five others who made it to the list are Chinese researcher Zhang Yongzhen, Major General Chen Wei (China), Dr. Ryuichi Morishita (Japan), Ooi Eng Eong (Singapore) and South Korean businessman Seo Jung-jin.

UNEP announces 2020 Champions of the Earth Award

- The **UN Environment Program (UNEP)** on announced six winners of the 2020 Champions of the Earth Award for their pioneering initiatives aimed at healing the planet amid natural and man-made threats.
 - According to UNEP, the six individuals bagged the prestigious award for demonstrating commitment to restore the health of ecosystems and advance sustainable development.
 - This year's Champions of the Earth Award paid tribute to trailblazers in a range of categories including **Lifetime Achievement, Inspiration and Action, Policy Leadership, Entrepreneur Vision, Science and Innovation**.
1. Policy leadership - Frank Bainimarama (Prime Minister of Fiji)
 2. Inspiration and action - Yacouba Sawadogo (a farmer from Burkina Faso)
 3. Inspiration and action - Nemonte Nenquimo (Ecuadorian female green campaign)
 4. Science and innovation - Fabian Leendertz (German scientist)
 5. Social entrepreneur - Mindy Lubber (an American social entrepreneur)
 6. Earth Lifetime Achievement Award - Robert D. Bullard (American scholar for promoting environmental justice)

ATP awards 2020: Djokovic, Federer, Nadal among winners



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **Novak Djokovic, Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal and Frances Tiafoe** were among the winners of the **ATP's top awards for 2020**.
- Djokovic was the year end No.1 for a record equaling sixth time after winning four titles including a record eighth Australian Open.

Other ATP Winners:

- Player of the Year – Novak Djokovic
- Doubles Team of the Year – Mate Pavic and Bruno Soares
- Coach of the Year – Fernando Vicente (coached Andrey Rublev)
- Tim Gullikson Career Coach Award – Bob Brett (Australia)
- Most Improved Player – Andrey Rublev (Russia)
- Newcomer of the Year – Carlos Alcaraz (Spain)
- Comeback Player of the Year – Vasek Pospisil (Canada)
- ATPTour.com Fans' Favourite – Roger Federer (Switzerland)
- ATPTour.com Fans' Favourite Team – Jamie Murray and Neal Skupski
- Stefan Edberg Sportsmanship Award – Rafael Nadal (Spain)
- Arthur Ashe Humanitarian of the Year – Frances Tiafoe (US)
- Ron Bookman Media Excellence Award – Kevin Mitchell (A sportswriter for The Guardian)

Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize 2020 announced

- The **New India Foundation** announces the shortlist for the third edition of the '**Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize**', recognising and celebrating excellence in non-fiction writings on modern/ contemporary India.
- The Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay Book Prize celebrates high-quality, non-fiction literature by emerging writers from all nationalities, published in the previous calendar year. Established in 2018, the Book Prize carries a cash award of INR 15 lacs and a citation.
- The 6 shortlisted books are a testimony to the quality and diversity of non-fiction writing about India.

The six books shortlisted for the Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize 2020 are:

1. Mobilizing the Marginalized
2. Midnight's Machines
3. The Unquiet River
4. A Chequered Brilliance
5. Bottle of Lies
6. Wild Himalaya

President Kovind Give out Digital India Awards 2020

- President **Ram Nath Kovind** will virtually confer the Digital India Awards 2020 through video conference.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The Digital India Awards 2020 have been announced under six categories including 'Innovation in Pandemic'.
- In line with **Digital India's vision**, this is the **first time** that the entire process of the Digital India Awards is being conducted online from nominations to screening to the final awards ceremony.
- **National Informatics Centre** under Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has been conducting the biennial **Digital India Awards** to promote innovation in **eGovernance** and **digital transformation** of government service delivery mechanism.
- Minister for Communications and IT, **Ravi Shankar Prasad**, and IT secretary **Ajay Sawhney** and other dignitaries would attend the virtual event.

Important MOU's

Vedanta ties up with SBI for long-term syndicated loan of Rs 10,000 cr

- Vedanta Ltd has tied up a long-term syndicated loan facility for Rs 10,000 crore with State Bank of India as facility agent and **SBICAP Trustee Company Ltd** as the security trustee with door to door tenor of seven years.

C-CAMP inks pact with India Sweden Healthcare Innovation Centre to nurture frugal innovations

- The Centre for **Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP)** has signed a pact with the **India Sweden Healthcare Innovation Centre (ISIC)** to jointly identify and nurture frugal innovations and make quality healthcare affordable and accessible.

WhatsApp partners Cyber Peace Foundation to drive cyber safety awareness

- **WhatsApp** has partnered **Cyber Peace Foundation (CPF)** to create awareness on cyber safety among students. The partners aim to reach about **15,000 students** in five Indian states **Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and Maharashtra**.
- This latest initiative builds on a previous partnership under the '**e-Raksha**' programme that reached thousands of students.

IIT Roorkee signs MoU with NIUA for building accessible, safe Indian cities

- **National Institute of Urban Affairs** has signed a MoU with the **IIT Roorkee** for collaboration in areas of universal design principles and inclusive development in the backdrop of '**Building Accessible Safe Inclusive Indian Cities**' (BASIIIC) program.

LEAF, AP Govt ink agreement with focus on food processing

- **Lawrencedale Agro Processing India (LEAF)** has entered into an agreement with the Government of **Andhra Pradesh** to expand the scope of **food processing** in the State.
- **LEAF** has inked an agreement with the **Andhra Pradesh Food Processing Society at Tadepalli, Guntur** to boost the income of marginal farmers with special focus on food processing.

Atal Innovation Mission Partners with Freshworks to empower AIM Startup Innovators



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- To provide robust support to innovators and entrepreneurs in India, Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog, has partnered with **Freshworks Inc.**,

Dell Technologies and NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission Launches SheCodes Innovation Challenge, Aimed at Championing Girl-Led Innovation

- Dell Technologies** in association with NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) launches 'SheCodes Innovation Challenge', aimed to encourage girls to create, tinker, sustain and innovate.

Assam State Rural Livelihoods Mission, NESFB sign MoU

- Assam State Rural Livelihoods Mission (ASRLM)** signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with **North East Small Finance Bank (NESFB)** to work in cohesion in support of Bank Linkage of the **Self-Help Groups (SHGs)** and **Producer Groups/ Enterprises** under ASRLM.

NSDC, LinkedIn partner to impart free digital skills training

- National Skill Development Corporation** and **LinkedIn** have joined hands to provide access to **free LinkedIn Learning resources**. Under the partnership, 10 free LinkedIn Learning paths will be made available for free on eSkill India digital platform until March 31, 2021.

Telangana, UK India Business Council renew partnership to strengthen industrial development

- The **UK India Business Council (UKIBC)** renewed its **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **Industries and Commerce Department, Government of Telangana** to further strengthen ties.

CSIR-CMERI Durgapur and NISE, Gurugram sign an MoU as a Strategic Association to bolster the Solar Energy Sector

- CSIR-Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI)**, Durgapur and **National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE)**, Gurugram joined hands by signing an online **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** as a 'Strategic Association' to **bolster the Solar Energy sector** across the nation.

International Solar Alliance signs MoUs with NTPC, MNRE and World Bank

- The **ISA** has signed an MoU with the **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy** and the **World Bank** to design a plan for implementing 'One Solar One World and One Grid'. The ISA also signed an MoU with **NTPC Limited** for implementing solar energy projects in 47 member countries of ISA. Currently, 121 countries have agreed to be members of ISA. The alliance is headquartered in **Gurugram**.

IIT Roorkee inks MoU with OUAT for cooperation in agricultural research and education

- Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee** has signed a **MoU** with **Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar** to generate frontier technologies and produce quality manpower in the field of agricultural research and education.

France-based EDF Group, VJTI, I2EN ink MoU to establish Centre of Excellence in civil nuclear sector in Maharashtra

- France-based EDF Group** has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding** with **Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute** in **Mumbai** and **International Institute of Nuclear Energy (I2EN)** to conduct a **pre-feasibility study** for the establishment of a **Centre of Excellence** in the civil nuclear sector in Maharashtra.

MoU signed between AYUSH Ministry and WCD Ministry for controlling Malnutrition as a part of POSHAN Abhiyaan



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Ministry of AYUSH and Ministry of Women and Child Development in New Delhi for controlling Malnutrition as a part of POSHAN Abhiyaan.

ITBP Joins Hands With Uttarakhand Govt For Promoting Adventure Tourism At Tehri Lake

- The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and Uttarakhand Tourism Development Board (UTDB) joined hands to promote adventure sports activities at Tehri Lake. Tehri Lake Adventure Institute will now be administered and managed by ITBP for 20 years from now.

J&K administration signs MoU with Army to operationalise Kishtwar airstrip

- In Jammu and Kashmir, the Union Territory Administration has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Army for development and operationalization of Airstrip in Kishtwar.

Virgin Hyperloop, BIAL sign MoU to study feasibility of high-speed corridor

- In Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) and Virgin Hyperloop signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to conduct the study. Virgin Hyperloop had successfully tested hyperloop technology at scale.

PFC signs MoU with Ministry of Power detailing targets for FY 2020-21

- Power Finance Corporation Limited, PFC has signed a performance-based Memorandum of Understanding, MoU with the Ministry of Power detailing various targets to be achieved by PFC during FY 2020-21.

Gujarat govt signs MoU with Denmark in water sector

- Gujarat Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding -MoU with Denmark in the water sector. MoU has been signed for a five-year period in order to set up Indo-Danish Water Technology Alliance in Gujarat and contribute to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal -6.

IIT Kanpur partners with MoD for using AI, ML to redress grievances

- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Defence (MoD) for developing a prompt and predictive grievance redress mechanism using artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning tools.
- The partnership pertains to conducting and developing exploratory and predictive analysis of public grievances received in the portal of Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) using AI, machine learning and statistics.

Reliance Power, JERA ink loan agreement with banks for new power plant in Bangladesh

- Reliance Power and Japanese energy major JERA have inked a pact with a group of banks for full financing, totalling \$ 642 million (approx Rs 4,798 crore), for their new gas-fired thermal power generation project in Bangladesh. Both partners will develop a new 745 MW natural gas combined-cycle power project in Meghnaghat in Bangladesh. Reliance Power hold 51% stake while JERA will hold 49% stake in the joint venture company.

Andhra Pradesh government signs MoUs for women's empowerment

- The state government signed MoUs with ITC Ltd, Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL) and Proctor and Gamble (P&G).



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The government will launch YSR Cheyutha under which SC, ST, BC and minority women aged between 45 and 60 will be given financial assistance of Rs 75,000 (each will get Rs 15,000 per year) in four years.
- Under YSR Cheyutha, Rs 4,500 crore will be distributed, and under YSR Asara, to be launched in September, 90 lakh women of nine lakh self-help groups will be benefited.

Flipkart signs MoU with UP government's one District, One Product scheme

- Flipkart has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the One District, One Product (ODOP) scheme of the Uttar Pradesh government to bring artisans, weavers and craftsmen into mainstream business.
- The initiative called 'Flipkart Samarth' will enable them to break entry barriers by extending time-bound incubation support.

NHAI inks pact with IIT-Delhi to set up centre of excellence for use of AI in decision making

- The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has signed a pact with IIT-Delhi to set up a centre of excellence for the use of artificial intelligence in decision making, the government stated.
- NHAI signed an MoU with the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, to set up a centre of excellence for use of artificial intelligence (AI) in data-driven decision making and the advance data management system for highways, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways stated.

CSIR, FSSAI sign MoU for collaborative research on food and nutrition

- An agreement was signed between CSIR and FSSAI for collaborative research and information dissemination in the area of food and nutrition.
- The two organisations will collaborate towards strengthening the quality assurance of laboratory networks across the country.

Andhra Govt Signs MoU With US Based IT Firm To Setup Centre At Visakhapatnam

- The Andhra government signed an MoU with The Boston Group to set up a facility devoted to research and development (R&D) in the Information Technology sector with focus on learning platforms and leveraging advanced technologies like artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML) and cybersecurity.

Bihar Pollution Control Board signs MoA with IIT, Delhi for air quality management

- The Bihar State Pollution Control Board has signed a 'Memorandum of Agreement' (MoA) with IIT, Delhi for setting up of geographical information system (GIS) based platform for air quality management in the state.

Rajasthan government, SIDBI to ink MoU for cluster-based development of MSMEs

- The Rajasthan government and the Small Industrial Development Bank of India (SIDBI) will soon ink an agreement to create newer avenues and growth opportunities for MSME units in the State.
- A project management unit (PMU) will be set up by SIDBI in Rajasthan to provide assistance to certain sectors which are cluster-based such as textiles in Bhilwara and handicrafts in Jodhpur.

PFC signs MoA for construction of Modular Operation Theatres in Siddharthnagar



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Government-owned Power Finance Corporation Ltd signed an MoA with District Administration of Siddharthnagar in Uttar Pradesh for construction of two Modular Operation Theatre Rooms in the District Hospital, Siddharthnagar. Under the MoA, PFC will provide financial assistance of close to Rupees Ninety Four Lakhs for the execution of the Project to the District Administration, Siddharthnagar under its CSR initiative.

BSE signs MoU with Akola-based bullion associations

- The Bombay Stock Exchange has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Akola, Maharashtra-based bullion trade and industry associations, Akola Sarafa Association and Akola Sarafa Va Suvarnakar Yuva Sangh.

Delhi MoU signed with IIT-B for smog tower at CP

- The Delhi government has signed an MoU with IIT-Bombay and Tata Projects Limited to construct a smog tower in Connaught Place. The smog tower is a 20-metre-high structure fitted with several air purifiers to clean the air.

Goa Government Signs Pact For German Vocational Training In IITs

- The Goa government has signed a tri-partite agreement to carry out world-class German dual vocational education and training in the Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) of the state.
- This will “ensure optimal up-skilling of ITI graduates, including green skilling at par with the latest technological developments in the industry, thereby remarkably enhancing the employability of graduates from these IITs.

Delhi govt inked MoU with Bloomberg Philanthropies to enhance road safety

- The Delhi government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bloomberg Philanthropies to enhance road safety in the national capital.
- The initiative will cover various aspects of road safety including enforcing laws on speeding, drunken driving, wearing helmets and seat belts, and designing and building safer roads and transportation systems.

India-Nigeria signed MoU on space cooperation

- India and Nigeria signed an agreement on space cooperation. The MoU envisages India-Nigeria collaboration in space science, planetary exploration, ground stations, development of micro and mini satellites and joint space research and development, the statement stated.

Flipkart forges academic collaboration with IIT Patna

- Flipkart has entered into MoU with Indian Institute of Technology Patna (IIT Patna) to jointly create industry focused applied research in the areas of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Machine Learning (ML).

IIM Kozhikode ties up with Swiss firm to support humanitarian work

- The Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode and Switzerland based HELP Logistics have inked a MoU to engage in a collaborative partnership and provide consulting services and logistics training.
- The partnership between IIMK and HELP Logistics, a subsidiary company of the Kühne Foundation, Schindellegi, Switzerland.

JCI & NSC inks MoU to provide certified good quality seeds to jute farmers in year 2021-22



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- A Memorandum of Understanding, MoU to provide certified good quality seeds to jute farmers in the year 2021-22 was signed between Jute Corporation of India and National Seeds Corporation. It targets the doubling of farmers' income by 2022.

AIFF signs MoU with IPSO to conduct online scouting workshops in India

- All India Football Federation (AIFF) has signed a two-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the International Professional Scouting Organisation (IPSO) to deliver a number of courses and webinars with regards to scouting in India.

India, Israel sign cultural agreement to further boost people-to-people ties

- India and Israel signed a cultural agreement that outlines a three-year programme of cooperation to further strengthen their strategic bilateral relations today. It aims to promote greater people-to-people exchanges.

Ministry of Skill Development, Ministry of Shipping ink MoU for skill development in port & maritime sector

- A Memorandum of Understanding, MoU was signed between Ministry of Skill Development and Ministry of Shipping for skill development in port and maritime sector.
- The MoU is aimed at skilling, re-skilling and up-skilling manpower for the growing maritime industry and development of coastal community.

AIM, NITI Aayog, Business Sweden collaborate to promote disruptive potential of Indian entrepreneurs

- Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog and Business Sweden on behalf of India Sweden Healthcare Innovation Centre are collaborating to promote the disruptive potential of Indian entrepreneurs. This will boost the vibrant start-up ecosystem across the country.

IIT Roorkee signs MoU with BIS to work on standardisation and conformity assessment activities

- The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee has inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) to carry out activities in the field of standardisation and conformity assessment.

L&T arm signs MoU with NTPC to build CO2-to-methanol demonstration plant

- L&T Hydrocarbon Engineering has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NTPC to build a CO2-to-methanol demonstration plant in an NTPC power station.

Andhra Pradesh inks pact with Reliance, Allana group for empowering women

- Andhra Pradesh government has signed MoUs with Reliance Retail, Jio and Allana group to collaborate in the YSR Cheyutha. The objective of partnerships is to provide more business opportunities for women.

Ministry of Tourism virtually signs an MoU with Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) & FICCI Ladies Organisation(FLO)

- The tourism ministry has virtually signed an MoU with the Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) and the FICCI Ladies Organisation (FLO) to promote tourism as a sustainable livelihood model for the economic empowerment of women.
- The main components proposed under the initiative are to encourage travel to at least 15 destinations within the country under the "Dekho Apna Desh" initiative.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Prahlad Singh Patel virtually inaugurated 1st golf course of Mizoram, “Thenzawl Golf Resort” under Swadesh Darshan Scheme

- Prahlad Singh Patel inaugurated the first golf course of Mizoram i.e. “Thenzawl Golf Resort” under the Swadesh Darshan . The Project was sanctioned under the “Integrated Development of New Eco Tourism” of Swadesh Darshan project (SD) and was constructed by Edufice Infrservices Private Limited of New Delhi. The Golf Course is designed by Graham Cooke and Associates.

APEDA signs MoUs with AFC India Ltd and NCUI, Delhi to utilise their expertise in agri sector

- APEDA signed MoUs with AFC India Ltd, and National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI), Delhi to utilise their expertise in the agri sector. AFC is wholly-owned by commercial banks, NABARD and EXIM Bank.

HDFC Bank partners with Adobe to enhance digital customer experiences

- HDFC Bank announced a strategic partnership with Adobe to deliver personalised digital experiences to existing as well as new customers, at anytime and anywhere. Platforms like Data Management Platform in Adobe Audience Manager will help HDFC Bank develop a deeper understanding of customers.

Innoviti partners with Visa to develop installments platform for face-to-face transactions

- Innoviti had entered a partnership with Visa to provide shoppers the ability to choose how they pay during the purchase with the introduction of a suite of platform capabilities leveraging Innoviti's uniPAYNEXT platform and Visa's APIs.

Ericsson and UNICEF launch global partnership to map school internet connectivity

- Ericsson and UNICEF announced a global partnership to help map school connectivity in 35 countries by the end of 2023. This joint effort is part of the Giga initiative. Launched last year and led by UNICEF and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

MoU signed between Indianoil, NTPC Ltd, and SDMC for Waste to Energy plant in Delhi

- A MoU was signed on **Waste to Energy plant at Okhla, Delhi**, between Indian Oil, NTPC Ltd and South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC).
- This Plant shall process **17500 tons per annum of Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF)** produced from combustible components of Municipal Waste. This Energy plant is expected to bring solutions to the management of **Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) in Delhi**.

NLC India, CIL sign pact to form JV to develop 5,000 MW solar, thermal power assets

- NLC India** stated it has signed a pact with state-owned **CIL** to form a joint venture (JV) to **develop 5,000 megawatts of solar and thermal power assets** across the country.
- The equity participation in the proposed **JV between Coal India Ltd (CIL) and NLC India** will be in the ratio of **50:50**.

Maharashtra Government and UK India Business Council Extend MoU to Foster Sustainable Business Relations Between UK And India

- The **UK India Business Council** signed a MoU\ with **Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation**.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- This business framework between the UKIBC and Government of Maharashtra will help the State to proactively **better its business environment** and strengthen **its collaboration with British business**.

MoU signed between National Medicinal Plants Board and ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources

- **National Medicinal Plants Board** and **ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources** have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding.
- The purpose of MoU is to **conserve the Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Genetic Resources** at designated space of ICAR-NBPGR in long-term storage module in the **National Gene bank**.

CBDT, SEBI sign MoU for data exchange

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)** and the **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** for **data exchange** between the two organizations.
- The MoU will facilitate the sharing of **data and information** between SEBI and CBDT on an automatic and regular basis.

IIT Alumni Council and CSIR-IGIB sign MoU for joint research on COVID-19 and patient data analysis

- The **IIT Alumni Council** has signed an agreement with the **CSIR Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (CSIR-IGIB)** to jointly conduct **research on COVID-19 and patient data analysis**. It may be noted that the council is setting up the world's largest molecular diagnostic lab '**MegaLab Mumbai**'.

EESL signs pact with Noida Authority to install EV charging stations

- **EESL** has signed an agreement with New **Okhla Industrial Development Authority (Noida)** to promote **electric vehicles (EVs)** and install public EV charging stations and related infrastructure.
- The partnership will also facilitate the **creation of an infrastructural ecosystem** to accelerate e-mobility uptake as the nation emerges from the lockdown post-COVID-19 pandemic.

Flipkart signs MoU with Karnataka govt to Promote local art, craft and handlooms

- **Flipkart** has signed an MoU with **Karnataka MSME and Mines department** to **promote the states arts, crafts and handloom sectors** by bringing them on to e-commerce and providing market access. The partnership under the **Flipkart Samarth programme** will enable local artisans, weavers and craftsmen of Karnataka.

T-Hub partners with MeitY, Digital India for hardware start-ups

- **T-Hub**, announced its partnership with the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)** and Digital India for **hardware and IoT startups**. T-Hub will lead **Digital India's Scale Up program** for hardware and **IoT startups** across India.

NATGRID signed MOU with NCRB to access database that links around 14,000 police stations

- The **National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID)** has signed a memorandum of understanding with the **National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)** to **access the centralised online database on FIRs** and stolen vehicles.
- The MoU will give NATGRID access to the **Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS)** database, All State police are mandated to **file First Information Reports (FIR)** in the CCTNS.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

UNICEF INDIA announced its partnership with FICCI for #Reimagine Campaign

- UNICEF INDIA announced its partnership with **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry's (FICCI)**, **Socio-Economic Development Foundation (SEDF)** to jointly develop UNICEF's #Reimagine Campaign to support the most vulnerable populations and children.

NTPC, NIIF to jointly explore business opportunities in India

- State-run power generator **NTPC** and the **National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF)** will now jointly explore business opportunities in India.
- NIIF will be acting through **National Investment and Infrastructure Fund Ltd (NIIFL)** to explore opportunities for investments in areas of **mutual interest with NTPC**, such as renewable energy and power distribution.

UNICEF India and SAP India partner to improve employability of young people

- **UNICEF India** announced its partnership with **SAP India** to provide career counselling to young people in the country. Under the collaboration **UNICEF – YuWaah – SAP** will strengthen the following:
- Improve digital skills and life skills for young people, Provide young people with career options, Reimagine the model in other states with the Government of India, Impacting one million young people by the end of **2022**.

Formal MoU signed between CBDT & MoMSME for sharing of Data

- A formal Memorandum of Understanding, MoU was signed between the **Central Board of Direct Taxes, CBDT** and **Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** for sharing of data by CBDT to the Ministry.
- The MoU will facilitate seamless sharing of certain **Income-tax Return** related information by the **Income Tax Department** to **MSME Ministry**.

CBDT, CBIC sign MoU for data exchange

- A MoU was signed between **Central Board of Direct Taxes, CBDT** and the **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, CBIC** for data exchange between the two organizations.
- This MoU will facilitate the sharing of data and information between **CBDT** and **CBIC** on an **automatic and regular basis**.

Alankit Ltd partners with UTI for PAN Card Services

- **Alankit Ltd** has collaborated with **UTI Infrastructure Technology And Services Limited**, to offer **PAN card services** to the citizens digitally across India at all its facilitation centers.
- Alankit Ltd will be able to offer hassle-free and seamless PAN Card services such as **New PAN Card application, PAN Correction, Duplicate PAN, PAN card of NRIs, Lost PAN, e-PAN Cards** etc.

Airtel Payments Bank partners NSDC to train rural youth for financial services jobs

- **Airtel Payments Bank Ltd** has collaborated with **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)** to train and skill young people in rural areas on **financial services**, enabling them to find jobs and become entrepreneurs in the sector.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Airtel Payments Bank will also use NSDC's training centres to conduct awareness campaign on the importance of digital banking and its benefits.

Amazon Pay ties up with Acko to offer vehicle insurance

- Amazon Pay has launched vehicle insurance in partnership with Acko General Insurance. The product will be available on the Amazon Pay home page.
- Amazon has been selling third-party insurance products. It promises zero paperwork coupled with features like one-hour pick-up and three-day claim servicing.

NHPC, GEDCOL ink pact to develop floating solar power projects in Odisha

- NHPC has inked a MoU with Green Energy Development Corporation of Odisha Limited (GEDCOL) to form a joint venture for developing floating solar energy projects in the state with initial capacity of 500 MW.

ADB, GCF Commit to Partnership to Boost Green Recovery from COVID-19

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) have agreed to partner toward a "green recovery" for members confronting the harsh economic impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.
- Under Strategy 2030, ADB will ensure that 75% of its committed projects will support climate change mitigation and adaptation by 2030.

TRIFED signs MoU with IIT Delhi under govt's 'Unnat Bharat Abhiyan'

- The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) has entered into a partnership with IIT Delhi under the HRD Ministry's flagship 'Unnat Bharat Abhiyan' (UBA) to boost livelihood opportunities and income generation for tribal communities. TRIFED functions under the Tribal Affairs Ministry.

Total, IOC form joint venture to manufacture bitumen derivatives

- French energy giant Total SA and Indian Oil Corp (IOC) announced a 50:50 joint venture to manufacture and market high-quality bitumen derivatives and specialty products for the growing road-building industry in India.
- This joint venture company would bring in the latest technologies and formulations for Polymer Modified Bitumen (PMB).

Gujarat, UK India Business Council sign MoU to strengthen state's industrial growth

- The United Kingdom India Business Council signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Industrial Extension Bureau (iNDEXTb), Industries and Mines Department, Government of Gujarat.
- The MoU will help to boost business and industrial development in the state.

PFC ties up with IIT-Kanpur for research, training in smart grid technology

- Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has signed an agreement with the Indian Institute of Technology- Kanpur for training, research, and entrepreneurship development in smart grid technology.
- The PFC will provide financial assistance of Rs 2.38 crore (Rs 2,38,97,000) to IIT-K under its CSR initiative.

CSIR, UBA-IIT Delhi & Vijnana Bharati signs tripartite MoU



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Unnat Bharat Abhiyan-Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (UBA-IITD) and Vijnana Bharti (VIBHA), New Delhi has signed a tripartite **MoU** with **CSIR**. It will also lay the foundation for cooperation in the area of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan.
- Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) is Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD)'s flagship national program.

NHPC signs MoU with Ministry of Power for FY2021

- **NHPC Limited** has signed **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** with **Ministry of Power, Government of India** for the year 2020-21.
- Generation target under Excellent rating has been set as 27500 MUs as against last year target of 26000 MUs.
- Excellent Targets for Revenue from Operations (Net) has been kept as **Rs. 8900 crore**, Operating Profit as a percentage of Revenue from Operations (Net) has been kept as 38.00% and PAT/ Average Net Worth has been kept as 10.50 %.
- Centre has set an ambitious revenue target of **Rs 36,000 crore** along with various performance-related parameters such as Operating Profit as percentage of Revenue from Operation, PAT as a percentage of Average Network and Non-financial parameters viz., IPDS-related parameters.

SJVN signs MoU with Govt. of India for year 2020-21

- **SJVN Limited** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Govt. of India** for the year 2020-21.
- As per the targets set in MOU, SJVN shall strive to achieve **9680 Million Units** of electricity generation during the year under the 'Excellent' category.
- **SJVN** will have **Capital Expenditure (CAPEX)** target of **Rs.2880 Crores** and Turnover target of Rs. 2800 Crores under 'Excellent' category along with other targets related to operational efficiency and Project monitoring.

Tata Steel & CSIR sign MoU

- **Tata Steel Limited** and the **Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)** have joined hands to work in the field of CCUS.
- These technologies would expedite transition to a **decarbonised economy** in other carbon intensive sectors like Power, Cement, and Fertilizer etc.
- This collaboration would entail work across key areas of CO2 capture, utilization and storage and would be co-led by Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Director NEERI (National Environmental Engineering Research Institute) as the CSIR nodal and Dr. Debashish Bhattacharjee, VP, Technology & New Materials Business, Tata Steel.

CSC partners with HelpAge India to impart digital literacy to elderly citizens

- The **Common Services Centre (CSC)**, a special purpose vehicle under the **Ministry of Electronics and IT**, has partnered with **HelpAge India** to provide digital literacy to citizens above the age of **55 years** through a pilot project in selected states.
- As per the MoU signed between **CSC Academy**, the education arm of CSC, and **HelpAge India**, CSC will provide digital literacy to 1,500 elderly citizens in the three aspirational districts of Karauli in Rajasthan, Birbhum in West Bengal and Ramanathapuram in Tamil Nadu.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The MoU rolled out under the project 'Aalambana' of **HelpAge India** will be implemented in a span of one year and seeks to empower the elderly so that they can digitally avail their entitlements as well as access financial and healthcare services.

ISLRTC & NCERT to ink MoU to make education materials accessible for Deaf children

- A historic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will be signed between **Indian Sign Language Research and Training Center (ISLRTC)** and **NCERT** to make education materials accessible for Deaf children in their preferred format of communication.
- The signing of this MoU is seen as a historic step as availability of NCERT textbooks in **Indian Sign Language** will ensure that **Deaf children** can also now access educational resources in Indian Sign Language.

MoHUA enters into MoU with Swiggy to take street food vendors online under PM SVANIDHI scheme

- The **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** has entered into an **MoU** with **Swiggy**, one of the leading food delivery platforms, to onboard **street food vendors** on its **e-commerce platform**. The MoU aims at giving the street food vendors online access to thousands of consumers and help them grow their businesses. The arrangement has been facilitated under the **Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNibhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme**.

IFFCO, Prasar Bharati sign MoU to broadcast & promote new agriculture technology & innovations

- Prasar Bharati** and **Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited, IFFCO** have signed a MoU to **broadcast** and **promote new agriculture technology and innovations**. According to the agreement, **DD Kisan** will broadcast various innovative techniques being adopted in agriculture field in easy language through 30 minutes program series for the benefit of farmers.
- The MoU will help in achieving this objective. IFFCO's innovations will be shared with farmers in easy language through DD Kisan in approximate 25 episodes.

Bengal govt inks MoU with IIM-C wing to set up technology development centre

- West Bengal government** entered into a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with **Indian Institute of Management Calcutta**-run Entrepreneur & Innovation Park to set up a **Technology Development and Adaptation Centre (TDAC)**.
- The state Department of Science and Technology and Biotechnology and the IIM-run Entrepreneur & Innovation Park have mutually agreed to set up the **TDAC through the West Bengal Science & Technology Council** with the objective of building and nurturing an ecosystem to support S&T-led entrepreneurship, promoting Scientific research and innovation, it stated.

NABARD inks 3 MoUs with SBI to extend credit support for various projects

- In Gujarat, the **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development -NABARD** has inked three Memoranda of Understanding with **Public Sector Bank- State Bank of India** to extend credit support for various projects.
- The MoUs were signed for financing **joint liability groups** and **Self-Help Groups-support** credit inflows to Farmer Producers' Organizations and economic support for watershed development projects. These will help in providing credit support to the different sections of the society including the priority sector.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

FLO, the women wing of FICCI signs MoU with NSDC for empowering women through skill training

- FLO, the Women's Wing of FICCI, signed an MoU with **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)** for empowering women through **skill training** to enhance their employability and promote entrepreneurship.
- FLO and NSDC will work towards supporting **short-term training of women** in various sectors such as healthcare, tourism and hospitality among others; and will aid with domestic and overseas placements.

Amazon ties up with IRCTC for train ticket booking

- Amazon has tied up with IRCTC for **train ticket booking**, giving cashback offers to its prime and non-prime members.
- Customers receive will depend on the booking amount and 'Prime membership' status.
- Prime members will get flat 12 percent back, up to Rs 120 while non-Prime Members will get flat 10 percent back, up to Rs 100.

Zurich firm signs agreement with UP government Jewar airport

- **Uttar Pradesh government** signed the **concessionaire agreement** with **Zurich Airport** to begin the development of **Jewar Airport**.
- In November last year, Zurich Airport International AG had won the bid for building the greenfield airport set to come up in Greater Noida's Jewar.

CII-IGBC partners with Naredco to advance green building movement

- The Confederation of Indian Industry's **Indian Green Building Council (CII-IGBC)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the **National Real Estate Development Council (Naredco)** to accelerate the country's green buildings movement.
- The new partnership will enable networking, capacity building, and sharing of information between the two premier councils and facilitate India's growth as a global leader in green buildings environment.

14 investors sign MoUs with Tamil Nadu govt to invest over Rs 10,055 Cr in various industrial projects

- In **Tamil Nadu**, 14 investors have signed MoUs with the state government to invest over **10,055 crore rupees** in various industrial projects. The MoUs were inked in the presence of the state Chief Minister Edappadi Palaniswamy in Chennai.
- The Apollo Tyres has signed the agreement for expanding its operations at Oragadam in Kanchipuram district. The Hiranandani group establishes an industrial logistics park at Oragadam. The Spanish IT firm Mantra Data Centre established its Data Centre near Chennai.
- **Aosheng Hitech Ltd** has signed the agreement for launching a carbon fibre plates manufacturing unit.

NIT Tiruchirappalli signs MoU with C-DAC Pune for installing state of art super computer

- **National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with **Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Pune** for installing a state of the art super computer in the process of becoming part of the National Super Computing Mission of the Government of India.

J&K Govt inks MoU with Flipkart to provide platform for local artisans, craftsmen, weavers to reach customers worldwide



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- In a significant step to promote the rural economy and to boost the sale of genuine products of **Jammu & Kashmir**, the JK Government signed an historic **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with online store **Flipkart** to provide a platform for local artisans, craftsmen, weavers to reach customers across the globe.
- He stated that partnership with the e-commerce marketplace like Flipkart will enable the **local artisans, craftsmen** and weavers to reach global market and also provide an appropriate opportunity for the momentous growth and development of the respective sectors.

Indian Bank inks MoU with Ministry, SIDBI for street vendors

- **Indian Bank** has signed a **memorandum of understanding (MoU)** with the **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** and with **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)** for payment of subsidy to street vendors under the **Centre's SVANidhi Scheme**.
- The Centre introduced the **Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (SVANidhi Scheme)** to provide loans to the vendors and hawkers, among others.

GreenBase, Tamil Nadu sign MoU to set up industrial, logistics park

- **GreenBase**, a **Hiranandani Group** subsidiary, stated it has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the **Tamil Nadu government** to set up an industrial and logistics park near here at an investment of **Rs 750 crore**.
- The setting up of the park would see creation of multiple direct and indirect jobs besides boosting the socio-economic growth in the region.

Tata Motors partners with HDFC Bank for financing of passenger vehicles

- **Tata Motors** has **partnered** with **HDFC Bank** for **financing of its passenger vehicles**.
- Through the partnership, the company has introduced two new schemes -- '**Gradual Step Up Scheme**' and '**TML Flexi Drive Scheme**'
- **Flexi Drive** scheme offers the option to the consumer to choose any three months every year, where s/he can pay a minimum EMI of Rs.789 per lakh per month, depending on the product and variant as per convenience.

CRPF collaborates with IIT Delhi, DRDO, JATC to augment R&D capabilities

- The **Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)**, the country's largest para-military force deployed for the internal security of the nation, has collaborated with **IIT Delhi**, **Defence Research and Development Organisation**, and **Joint Advanced Technology Centre (JATC)** -- DRDO and IIT Delhi joint initiative -- to augment its **Research and Development capabilities**.
- The force is now working to create a pool of highly specialized technology experts from among its officers.

BSE joins hands with Telangana govt to help MSMEs raise equity funds

- Major stock exchange **BSE** has joined hands with the **Telangana government**, along with **GlobalLinker**, to help **micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs)** raise equity funds.
- As part of the association, the BSE will provide **intellectual and manpower support** to create awareness about the importance and benefits of listing.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Bank of Baroda inks pact with Mahindra & Mahindra for tractor finance

- To push agriculture finance, state-owned **Bank of Baroda (BoB)** stated it has entered into a pact with **Mahindra and Mahindra** for tractor finance business.
- This memorandum of understanding (MoU) will give a boost to agri business and will help farmers in availing hassle-free credit facilities for buying tractors.
- The tractor financing scheme was first piloted in the UP zone for a year and it has been successful, he stated adding that this is being expanded into 11 zones of the bank.
- The bank has tied up with **Gromax** under the **Mahindra stable** as the preferred brand, he added.

BSE inks MoU with ICCI to support SMEs, start-ups in listing

- **BSE** has signed an agreement with **Inventivepreneur Chamber of Commerce and Industries (ICCI)** to support small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and start-ups, and promote their listing on the exchange.
- Through this association, ICCI will offer assistance in evaluating SMEs and start-ups for listing on BSE SME board.
- **Recently, BSE tied up with Telangana government** and SME networking portal GlobalLinker to help MSMEs in raising equity funds.

IIT Kanpur and ASI sign MoU with Italian institutes for restoration of monuments

- The **Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (IIT-K)** and the **Archaeological Survey of India** have signed an agreement with **two institutions from Italy**, seeking restoration and protection of historical monuments.
- The MoU was signed among **IIT-K, Ca'Foscari University of Venice, Soprintendenza Archeologia, Belle Arti E Paesaggio, Venice**, on creating a network and sharing skills for restoration and protection of historical monuments.

Punjab Inks MOU With Game To Support Msmes, In Partnership With Omidyar Network India

- **Punjab Government** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **The Global Alliance for Mass Entrepreneurship (GAME)**.
- The two-year project aims to make Punjab a leading state in India in terms of **ease of doing business (EODB)** for **MSMEs**, by driving simplification, digitization, and decriminalization of compliances. This project builds on a blueprint developed by the GAME MSME Task Force.

J&K Sports Council inks MOU with Cricketer Suresh Raina's Cricket Academy to develop budding Cricketers in UT

- The **Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council** enters into **MOU** with **Cricketer Suresh Raina's Cricket Academy** to develop **budding Cricketers** in the Union Territory.
- The LG observed that the MoU will provide an opportunity to budding cricketers to hone their skills & to showcase their talent in various levels of national & international competitive tournaments.

HDFC Bank, ICCI join hands to support SMEs, start-ups



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **ICCI** will evaluate and recommend potential start-ups /SMEs /MSMEs for investments. ICCI in its endeavour to support SMEs and start-ups, has signed an **MoU** with **HDFC Bank**.
- ICCI will engage, enroll, and support various start-ups /SMEs /MSMEs to facilitate **inter-alia financial** and other facilities to/from HDFC Bank.

MoU signed between SAI and Arunachal Pradesh government

- In order to develop the sports infrastructure at the **National Centre of Excellence** in Itanagar, an MoU was signed between the **Sports Authority of India (SAI)** and **Arunachal Pradesh government**.
- An MOU was signed between SAI and Govt of Arunachal Pradesh to develop infrastructure at the National Centre of Excellence in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh

IISc, IOCL sign MoU for hydrogen-generation technology

- The Bengaluru based **Indian Institute of Science** and **R&D Centre of Indian Oil Corporation** have signed an MOU to develop and demonstrate **biomass gasification** based **hydrogen generation technology** for producing fuel cell-grade hydrogen at an affordable price.

IREDA signs MoU with MNRE, setting key targets for year 2020-21

- **Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)** has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)**, for setting key targets for the year 2020-21.
- The government has set a revenue target of **2,406 crore rupees** under 'Excellent' rating along with various performance-related parameters such as Operating Profit as percentage of Revenue from Operation, PAT (profit after tax) as a percentage of Average Net worth, Loan disbursement, Overdue loan etc.

Prasar Bharati signs MoU to launch 51 education TV channels

- **Prasar Bharati** entered into a Memorandum of Understanding, MoU with **Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-Informatics, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology**. Under the MoU, **51 DTH education TV channels** will be available as DD co-branded channels to all DD FreeDish viewers.
- This move aims to bring quality educational programmes to every household, including those in rural and remote areas.

Bangladesh signs MoU with Indian Company for collecting 3 crore COVID 19 vaccine doses

- An MoU was signed between the government of **Bangladesh**, **Beximco Pharmaceutical Ltd** and the **Serum Institute of India (SII)** for priority delivery of **3 crore COVID 19 vaccine** doses. The process of development of the vaccine is in the final stages at University of Oxford and AstraZeneca.

Karnataka govt signs agreement with c to upgrade 150 Govt ITIs

- The **Government of Karnataka** has entered into an agreement with **Tata Technologies** to upgrade **150 Government ITIs** at a cost of **4,636.50 crore rupees**. The agreement was signed in the presence of Chief Minister B. S. Yediyurappa in Bengaluru.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Along with Tata Technologies, about 20 other companies are contributing 4,080 crore rupees from their CSR funds for this programme. The remaining 657 crore rupees will be provided by the State Government. Each ITI will be upgraded at the cost of 30 crore rupees each.

Atal Innovation Mission And Sirius (Russia) Launch 'AIM-Sirius Innovation Programme 3.0'

- Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)** and **Sirius, Russia**, launched '**AIM-Sirius Innovation Programme 3.0**'- a 14-day virtual programme for Indian and Russian schoolchildren.
- The first Indo-Russian bilateral youth innovation initiative, the **AIM-Sirius programme** seeks to develop technological solutions (both web- and mobile-based) for the two countries.

HIL signs MOU with Department of Chemicals & Petro Chemicals to achieve revenue target of 451 Crore rupees

- HIL (India) Limited**, has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the **Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals** recently to achieve the revenue target of **Rs 451 crore** in the current financial year (2020-21).
- The company has also registered the highest ever sale for the product in the first two quarters and supplied the entire quantity to various institutions like the Ministry of Agriculture's Locust Control Programme and municipal corporations across the country for the vector control.

Dell, AIF and NSDC Collaborate to Launch 'Project Future Ready'

- Dell Technologies** in partnership with **American India Foundation (AIF)**, **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)** and **University of Mumbai** has launched '**Project Future Ready**' to equip the workforce with career skills.
- The project is set to impact over 100,000 students in Mumbai and Delhi NCR, of which 60% are female. This is in line with Dell Technologies' goal that each year through 2030, 50% of the people empowered by our social and education initiatives will be girls, women or underrepresented groups.
- The project aims to **provide skills development** for these **students through career mentoring**, leveraging **online skilling platforms** and providing market aligned **skills training for employability** and inculcating **entrepreneurial mind-set**.

Embassy Group inks pact for developing govt schools

- Embassy Group** has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding** with the **Government of Karnataka, Department of Education** for the all-around improvement of Government Schools in **Bangalore**. The scope of the MoU is to provide educational resources, infrastructural support and holistic health programs for 20 Government Schools at a budget of Rs 15 crores.
- The MoU will be signed for a period of two years, starting from October 2020 to September 2022, renewing the previous MoU, which was signed on November 2018.

India-Nepal Jointly Launch 3rd Integrated Check Post, Aim To Boost Trade & Connectivity

- India and Nepal** launched the construction of a **Rs 147.12 crore** integrated check post (ICP) at **Nepalgunj**.
- Indian Commerce and Industry Minister **Piyush Goyal** and Nepali Minister for Urban Development **Krishna Gopal Shrestha** witnessed the ground-breaking ceremony to mark the beginning of the construction of an **Integrated Check Post**.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

FICCI FLO inks pact with IESC, IIM Shillong to mentor women entrepreneurs

- **FLO**, the women wing of the **Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)**, stated it has signed an agreement with **Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Shillong** and Incubation and Enterprise Support Centre (IESC) to mentor entrepreneurs.

Indian Oil signed MoU with MoPNG for upcoming CBG Plants

- **Indian Oil** signed MoU with **MoPNG** for upcoming **CBG Plants** – An MoU has been signed with the Ministry of Petroleum and gas by the Indian Oil R&D Centre has developed robust technology on **Bio-methanation**, as a technology provider for the upcoming CBG Plants.
- Indian Oil is that the **first company** to plug **Compressed Bio-Gas** from 10 shops spread across Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Gujarat, under the name Indi Green.

NCRTC, BEL join hands to develop indigenous platform screen doors

- **The National Capital Region Transport Corporation** and the **Bharat Electronics Limited** inked a memorandum of understanding to develop **indigenous platform screen doors**, which act as a safety barrier between the passengers and tracks, under the self-reliant India scheme.
- According to an official in the NCRTC, which is tasked to implement the country's first regional rapid transit system (RRTS), platform screen doors (PSD) are currently imported and that the new move will give an impetus to "Atmanirbhar Bharat" (self-reliant India).

India, Finland sign MoU in the field of Environment protection and biodiversity conservation

- India and **Finland** signed an MoU for **developing cooperation between two countries** in the field of **Environment protection** and **biodiversity conservation**.
- The MoU is a platform to further advance Indian and Finnish partnership and support, exchange best practices in areas like prevention of air and water pollution, waste management, and promotion of circular economy.

Cabinet approves MoU between BRICS nations on sports and physical culture

- The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between **BRICS countries** on cooperation in the **field of physical culture and sports**.
- BRICS is the group consisting of five major emerging countries – Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, which together represent about **42 per cent** of the population, **23 per cent of GDP**, 30 per cent of the territory and 18 per cent of the global trade.

Women empowerment: IESC, FLO sign MoU under the aegis of IIM Shillong

- The MoU is signed for the purpose of a mentorship programme for women entrepreneurs.
- Under this MoU contract, **FLO** will create an **independent Entrepreneurial Ecosystem** which will help to empower women and transform them to become job creators.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Eight MoUs announced during ongoing Bengaluru Tech Summit 2020

- During the **Bengaluru Tech Summit**, eight MoUs were announced with **Finland, UK, Sweden, USA and Netherlands**. Karnataka and Finland have decided to come together to work in the areas of Artificial Intelligence for public service in Agriculture, transport, health, safety, governance and service delivery.
- Karnataka and Sweden - To facilitate innovative applications across different sectors,.
- Karnataka and USA -to incubate early stage start ups and generate employment in the Electronics System Design and Manufacturing sector.
- UK & Karnataka - Artificial Intelligence solutions in public service, education, water, energy
- Karnataka and Netherlands - Practices in cyber security and privacy domains

BFIL ties up with Maha govt to provide livestock care

- **IndusInd Bank** subsidiary firm **Bharat Financial Inclusion Ltd (BFIL)** has signed a pact with **Maharashtra government** to enhance **doorstep delivery of livestock care to farmers** in the state.
- The joint initiative "**Maha Pashudhan Sanjeevani**" -- to be implemented under the Mukhyamantri **Pashu Swasthya Yojana** -- will also ensure all **veterinary services available for farmers** at just a phone call and the toll-free number **1962** will be operational **from January 2021**.

Andhra Pradesh Skill Development Corporation signs MoUs with IBM India, three other firms

- The **Andhra Pradesh State Skill Development Corporation (APSSDC)** signed **MoUs** with the four industry/academic partners — **IBM India, Singapore Polytechnic International (SPI), India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) and LV Prasad Film & TV Academy (LVPA)**.
- **IBM India** partnered with the AP government to set up a **Centre of Excellence (CoE)** in IT.
- **Singapore Polytechnic International (SPI)** partnered with the APSSDC for enabling **industry-led courses** in advanced manufacturing, food innovation and processing and entrepreneurship to be offered in skill colleges.
- **LVPA** has partnered with APSSDC to set up and operate a **centre of excellence in the media and entertainment sector in Visakhapatnam**.

Tripartite Agreement Signed between USOF, BSNL and A & N Administration for Operation and Management of CANI-SMC Project

- The Government of India approved the **Chennai-Andaman and Nicobar Islands (CANI) Submarine Optical Fiber Cable project** with an objective to connect Chennai Cable Landing Station (CLS) with Port Blair CLS and seven Islands viz. Swaraj Dweep, Little Andaman, Car Nicobar, Kamorta, Campbell Bay, Long Island and Rangat in **September, 2016**.
- **BSNL** was nominated as the **Implementing Agency** and **M/s NEC Infrastructures India (P) Ltd** was engaged as the Executing Agency for implementing the project at a total project cost of **Rs 1212 Crore**.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

EESL Signs MoU with DNRE Goa to implement the country's first Convergence Project

- **Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)**, a joint venture of PSUs under the **Ministry of Power and Department of New & Renewable Energy (DNRE)**, Goa, have signed a memorandum of understanding to discuss rolling out of **India's first Convergence Project in the State**.
- Under the MoU, EESL and DNRE will carry-out the feasibility studies and subsequent implementation of decentralized solar energy projects.

ISB inks MoU with Indian Council of World Affairs

- The **Indian School of Business (ISB)** and **Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA)** have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).
- As per the MoU, both will work together in the areas of diplomacy, culture, economy and trade, education, international relations, sciences, social sciences, communications, and media.

TASK to train 30,000 students in AI, ML

- The **Telangana Academy for Skill and Knowledge (TASK)** has joined hands with **Microsoft** and **NASSCOM FutureSkills** to roll out the '**March to Million**' initiative in the State.
- The Nasscom initiative is aimed at skilling 10 lakh youth nationally in Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML) and Data Science by 2021.

PwC, UNICEF & YuWaah to upskill 300 Mn people in India

- PwC India has announced the launch of a strategic collaboration with UNICEF and YuWaah (Generation Unlimited in India) to help bridge the digital gap and help upskill 300 million young people in India over the next 10 years.
- This announcement is part of PwC's global collaboration with UNICEF in support of Generation Unlimited; a multi-sector partnership aimed at helping 1.8 billion young people transition from school to work by 2030.

NTPC inks MoU with IIFM-Bhopal for Narmada Landscape Restoration Project

- NTPC has inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal to implement the Narmada Landscape Restoration project.
- The programme is in partnership with a grant in aid from NTPC and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in equal proportions.
- Narmada Landscape Restoration project is a 4 year Project.

SJVN signs MoU with IREDA for green energy projects

- **SJVNL** has inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with **Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)** for **green energy projects**.
- MoU to assist in developing an action plan to create and acquire Renewable Energy projects for the next 5 years.
- SJVNL is developing 100 MW Dholera Solar Power Project & 100 MW Raghanseda Solar Power Project in Gujarat.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Joint Statement on India-Uzbekistan Virtual Summit:

- India and Uzbekistan signed **nine Agreements** and Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs). Nine Agreements are: Solar Energy, Digital Technologies, High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDP), Trade, Economic and Investment Cooperation, Defence and Security, Civil Nuclear Energy, Connectivity, Culture, Education and People-to-People Contacts, Terrorism.
- Government of India approved **448 million US dollar** Line of Credit to be extended by India for four developmental projects in Uzbekistan in the fields of road construction, sewerage treatment and information technology.

India inks with Austria on tech cooperation in road infrastructure sector

- The **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways** has inked a pact with **Austria** for technical cooperation in road infrastructure space.
- Aim** : To create an effective framework for bilateral cooperation in the field of road transportation, road/highways infrastructure development, management and administration, road safety and intelligent transport systems between both countries.

Norway Research Institute signs an MoU with Clean Ganga Mission

- Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research** has signed an MoU with cGanga, a think-tank of National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) for development of **sludge management** framework in India.

Indian Navy, INCOIS sign MoU to share ocean services data

- Indian Navy** has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with **Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS)** for sharing **ocean services data**.
- This MoU is focused on sharing ocean services, data, and expertise in the field of operational oceanography and the same will benefit both Indian Navy and INCOIS in furthering meaningful interactions and professional exchanges in future.

DGT - MSDE inks pact with MICROSOFT and NASSCOM FOUNDATION for digital skilling

- The **Directorate General of Training (DGT)** joined hands with **Microsoft** and **NASSCOM Foundation** to provide digital content for ITI students.
- Nearly 1,20,000 students in around 3000 ITIs across India can be benefited by this digitized e-learning module via the Bharatskills portal.

Karnataka signs three agreements with different firms

- Karnataka signs **three agreements** with different firms to **impart skill training to youths for jobs abroad**.
- The ITI trained youth will be further trained by **Peenya Industrial Association member industries**.
- A **skill university** has come forward to train the apprentice in various trades.
- A learning foundation has come forward to **train ITI students in entrepreneurship**.

APEDA and NABARD signed MoU to Cooperate in Agriculture Activities & Implementing Agriculture Export Policy



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development signed a MoU to address the key interests of Agriculture and allied sectors for bringing better value to the stakeholders and Implementing Agriculture Export Policy.

IAF Signed MoU with CSIR-NML for Research in Material Science, Engineering

- Indian Air Force (IAF) signed a MoU with Council of Scientific & Industrial Research-National Metallurgical Laboratory (CSIR-NML), Jamshedpur, Jharkhand for the research and development in the field of material science and engineering.

NBCFDC, NSFDC sign MoA with Central Bank of India to implement VISVAS Yojana

- National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC) & National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with Central Bank of India for implementation of 'Vanchit Ikai Samooch aur Vargon ki Aarthik Sahayta (VISVAS) Yojana' – an Interest Subvention Scheme of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India.

WCF, NITI Aayog Partner to provide training to Country's Children and Youth on Cybersafety

- WCF (WNS Cares Foundation), the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) wing of Private firm WNS Global Services has partnered with Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL), an initiative under Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog for providing training to India's children and youth on cybersafety.
- WCF will provide digital education through its platform CyberSmart.

WHO, IFRC sign MoU for implementation of Emergency Medical Team (EMT) initiative

- The World Health Organization (WHO) & International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) signed a MoU known as 'Red Channel Agreement' for the implementation of Emergency Medical Team (EMT) initiative.
- EMT initiative will strengthen the delivery of emergency medical and health services during humanitarian crises.

FADA, ASDC partner with Google India to bridge digital skills gap in India's auto dealerships

- Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) & Automotive Skills Development Council (ASDC) announced partnership with Google India to reduce the digital skill gap in India's auto dealership sector.
- The Training programme will be conducted under Google India's 'Grow with Google' initiative.

CII Signs MoU with Amazon India to Bring to MSMEs

- CII signed a MoU with Amazon India to enable benefits of Electronic(e)-commerce to Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in 10 states across India at the 17th CII Global SME Business Summit 2020 organized by CII in partnership with the Ministry of MSME, Government of India under the theme: Reboot to Rebound: Stimulating Demand & Supply Side, this will boost MSMEs in domestic & international trade.

NSDC Signs MoU with BYJU'S to Support Skilling of Teachers and Trainers

- The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with BYJU'S to support the skilling of teachers and trainers.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The partnership is as part of Skill India Mission. This alliance will help to achieve the Digital India vision.
- NSDC has entered into partnership with LinkedIn and the women's wing of FICCI to accelerate the digital skills training for youth and women for digital workforce.

IESA, UNIDO tie up to Boost Energy Storage Innovations in India

- India Energy Storage Alliance (IESA) and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) collaboration was done on the lines of the launch of the 4th round of innovation challenge by UNIDO's Facility of Low Carbon Technology Deployment (FLCTD) to support and encourage new innovations in Indian energy storage and e-mobility space.
- There will be grants of up to USD 50,000 for winning technologies, and recognition from the Bureau of Energy Efficiency, UNIDO and IESA.

UP government and IWAI signs MoU to promote Water Tourism

- Uttar Pradesh State tourism department signed a MoU with Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) to promote water tourism in the state.
- This will allow the operation of 2 Ro Pax Passenger vessels in Varanasi by the tourism department.

Andhra Pradesh, Survey of India sign MoU for implementation of Land Survey

- Andhra Pradesh Government and Survey of India (Sol) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the implementation of 'YSR Jagananna Saswath Bhoo Hakku- Bhoo Raksha Pathakam' – a land resurvey project in Andhra Pradesh. This is the 1st time in 100 years that such a survey is being conducted in India.
- The project is estimated to cost about INR 1, 000 Crore.

Maharashtra Govt Signs 1st of its kind MoU with Cornell University to Set up World-Class Incubation Centre

- Maharashtra Govt signed a 1st of its kind MoU with Cornell University, to set up a world-class incubation centre in Navi Mumbai,
- Maharashtra becomes the 1st state in India to set up an incubation centre.
- Maharashtra Govt signed MoU with XED Institute of Management(Asia Partner for Cornell) to Launch 'Cornell Maha 60', an accelerator programme for entrepreneurs.

Tamil Nadu CM signs 18 MoU's for 24 Projects worth Rs. 24,248 Crores

- Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Edappadi K Palaniswami signed 18 MoU for 24 projects with multiple companies attracting investment in the state, which has the potential to create 54,218 jobs in the state
- Ola has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Tamil Nadu state government to set up a Rs. 2400 crore Electric vehicle manufacturing hub in the state, this turns out to be the world's largest scooter factory.

IndiGrid Collaborates with IBM for Digital Transformation of Critical Power Infrastructure

- India Grid Trust (IndiGrid) and IBM enters into a multi-year collaboration agreement to build asset management platform that is enabled with AI for Digital Transformation of Critical Power Infrastructure.

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The Enterprise asset management (EAM) is important to obtain the insights and the visibility needed to maintain and control intelligent assets and equipment.

MoFPI Signed Joint Communique with MoTA along MoUs with 5 Govt.entities

- Ministry of Food Processing Industries signed a Joint Communique with Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) and also inked MoUs with 5 government entities TRIFED, ICAR, NSFDC, NAFED and NCDL for the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PM-FME) Scheme. MoFPI with Union Bank of India as nodal bank for PM FME scheme.

CGWB and CSIR-NGRI sign MoA for High-Resolution Aquifer Mapping & Management in Arid Region of NW India

- A MoA was signed between Central Ground Water Board and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research–National Geophysical Research Institute (CSIR-NGRI) in Hyderabad (Telangana) for use of advanced heliborne geophysical survey and other scientific studies in parts of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Haryana under the Aquifer Mapping Programme.
- This is the first time MoJS will use the state of the art technology for identification of aquifers in large/semi-arid areas. The estimated cost of phase- I of the project would be Rs 54 Crore.

IBM Collaborates with TASK to offer online Skill Development Programs in Telangana

- International Business Machines announced collaboration with Telangana Academy for Skill and Knowledge (TASK) to offer free degree and polytechnic courses on emerging technologies to empower 30,000 students yearly through IBM's free digital education platform "Open P-TECH" for a period of one year.

UN Women Signs MoU with Kerala Govt's Gender Park for India's first Gender Data Hub

- UN Women signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Kerala Govt's first Gender Park to establish India's Gender Data Hub at the Gender Park at 24-acre Kozhikode campus.
- Gender Park will function as the South Asian hub for gender equality that aims to share knowledge and experiences from the region.

DITECH, Haryana & India Accelerator sign MoU to improve startup ecosystem in Haryana

- Startup Haryana setup by the Department of Information Technology, Electronics, and Communication (DITECH), Government of Haryana has signed a MoU with India Accelerator (IA) to build a strong startup ecosystem in Haryana. The MoU will help in bridging the gap between Industry & startups.

Gujarat, Cerestra Ventures sign MoU to set up Gujarat-Special Education Region at Dholera

- Government of Gujarat & Cerestra Ventures entered into a MoU for the establishment of Gujarat-Special Education Region (G-SER) at the Dholera Special Investment Region (SIR).

Organizations	Purpose
PwC, UNICEF & YuWaah	To help bridge the digital gap
NTPC & IIFM - Bhopal	Narmada Landscape Restoration Project



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

SJVNL & IREDA	Green Energy projects
India & Austria	Road Infrastructure
Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research & Mission for Clean Ganga	Development of sludge management framework
Indian Navy, INCOIS	Sharing Ocean Services data
DGT-MSDE, Microsoft & NASSCOM	Digital Skilling
APEDA and NABARD	To Cooperate in Agriculture Activities & Implementing Agriculture Export Policy
IAF & CSIR-NML	For Research in Material Science, Engineering
NBCFDC, NSFDC & Central Bank of India	To implement VISVAS Yojana
WCF, NITI Aayog Partner	To provide training to Country's Children and Youth on Cybersafety
WHO, IFRC	Implementation of Emergency Medical Team (EMT) initiative
FADA & ASDC & Google India	To bridge digital skills gap in India's auto dealerships
CII & Amazon	To bring MSMEs
NSDC & BYJU's	To Support Skilling of Teachers and Trainers
IESA & UNIDO	To Boost Energy Storage Innovations in India
Uttar Pradesh & IWAI	To promote Water Tourism
Andhra Pradesh, Survey of India	Implementation of Land Survey
Maharashtra Govt & Cornell University	To Set up World-Class Incubation Centre
India Grid Trust & IBM	Digital Transformation of Critical Power Infrastructure
CGWB and CSIR-NGRI	High-Resolution Aquifer Mapping & Management in Arid Region of NW India
IBM & TASK	To offer online Skill Development Programs in Telangana
UN Women & Kerala's	To establish India's Gender Data Hub
DITECH, Haryana & India Accelerator	To improve startup ecosystem in Haryana
Gujarat, Cerestra Ventures	To set up Gujarat-Special Education Region at Dholera

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council & Suresh Raina's Cricket Academy	To develop budding Cricketers in UT
HDFC Bank & ICCI	To support SMEs, start-ups
Sports Authority of India & Arunachal Pradesh	To develop the sports infrastructure at the National Centre of Excellence
Indian Institute of Science & R&D Centre of Indian Oil Corporation	To develop and demonstrate biomass gasification based hydrogen generation technology
IREDA & Ministry of New and Renewable Energy	Setting key targets for the year 2020-21
Prasar Bharati & Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications	To launch 51 education TV channels
Beximco Pharmaceutical Ltd & Serum Institute of India	For collecting 3 crore COVID 19 vaccine doses
Tata Technologies & Karnataka	To upgrade 150 Government ITIs
Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and Sirius, Russia	AIM-Sirius Innovation Programme 3.0
HIL (India) Limited & Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals	To achieve revenue target of 451 Crore rupees
Dell Technologies, American India Foundation, University of Mumbai & National Skill Development Corporation	Project Future Ready
Embassy Group & Government of Karnataka	For developing govt schools
FLO & Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Shillong	To mentor women entrepreneurs
Indian Oil & MoPNG	For upcoming CBG Plants
National Capital Region Transport Corporation & Bharat Electronics Limited	To develop indigenous platform screen doors
India & Finland	For developing cooperation between two countries in the field of Environment protection
BRICS countries	Cooperation in the field of physical culture and sports
IESC, FLO	Women empowerment
Telangana Academy for Skill and Knowledge & Microsoft	To roll out the 'March to Million' initiative



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Energy Efficiency Services Limited & DNRE, Goa	To implement the country's first Convergence Project
USOF, BSNL and A & N Administration	For Operation and Management of CANI-SMC Project
Bharat Financial Inclusion Ltd & Maharashtra government	To provide livestock care
NHPC Limited & Ministry of Power	For FY2021 Generation target
SJVN Limited & Govt. of India	Strive to achieve 9680 Million Units of electricity for FY2021
Tata Steel & CSIR	To work in the field of CCUS
Common Services Centre & HelpAge India	To impart digital literacy to elderly citizens
Indian Sign Language Research and Training Center & NCERT	To make education materials accessible for Deaf children
Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs & Swiggy	Street food vendors online under PM SVANIDHI scheme
Prasar Bharati and Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited & IFFCO	To promote new agriculture technology & innovations
West Bengal & Indian Institute of Management Calcutta	To set up Technology Development and Adaptation Centre
National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development & State Bank of India	To extend credit support for various projects.
FLO & National Skill Development Corporation	Empowering women through skill training
Amazon & IRCTC	For train ticket booking
Uttar Pradesh & Zurich Airport	The development of Jewar Airport.
Indian Green Building Council & National Real Estate Development Council	To advance green building movement
NIT Tiruchirappalli & C-DAC Pune	For installing state of art super computer
J&K Govt & Flipkart	Providing platform for local artisans, craftsmen, weavers to reach customers worldwide
Indian Bank, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs & Small Industries Development Bank of India	Providing loans to the vendors and hawkers under the Centre's SVANidhi Scheme
GreenBase & Tamil Nadu	To set up industrial, logistics park
Tata Motors & HDFC Bank	Financing of passenger vehicles under 'Gradual



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

	Step Up Scheme' and 'TML Flexi Drive Scheme'
Central Reserve Police Force, IIT Delhi, DRDO & JATC	To augment R&D capabilities
BSE & Telangana govt	To help MSMEs raise equity funds
Bank of Baroda & Mahindra & Mahindra	Tractor finance business
BSE & Inventivepreneur Chamber of Commerce and Industries	To support SMEs, start-ups in listing
Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur & Archaeological Survey of India	Restoration and protection of historical monuments.
Punjab & Global Alliance for Mass Entrepreneurship	To Support Msmes, In Partnership With Omidyar Network India
Vedanta Ltd & State Bank of India	Long-term syndicated loan facility worth Rs 10,000 crore.
C-CAMP & Sweden Healthcare Innovation Centre	Nurture frugal innovations
WhatsApp & Cyber Peace Foundation	To drive cyber safety awareness
IIT Roorkee & NIUA	For building accessible, safe Indian cities
LEAF & AP Govt	Food processing
Atal Innovation Mission & Freshworks	Empower AIM Startup Innovators
Dell Technologies & Atal Innovation Mission	SheCodes Innovation Challenge, Aimed at Championing Girl-Led Innovation
Assam State Rural Livelihoods Mission & North East Small Finance Bank	Linkage of the Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and Producer Groups/ Enterprises
NSDC & LinkedIn	Free digital skills training
CSIR-CMERI Durgapur & NISE, Gurugram	Bolstering the Solar Energy sector
International Solar Alliance & NTPC, MNRE and World Bank	Implementing 'One Solar One World and One Grid' (OSOWOG)
IIT Roorkee & OUAT	Cooperation in agricultural research and education
AYUSH Ministry and WCD Ministry	Controlling Malnutrition as a part of POSHAN Abhiyaan
ITBP & Uttarakhand Govt	For Promoting Adventure Tourism At Tehri Lake
J&K administration & Army	To operationalise Kishtwar airstrip



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Virgin Hyperloop & BIAL	To study feasibility of high-speed corridor
Power Finance Corporation Limited & Ministry of Power	Detailing various targets to be achieved by PFC
Gujarat govt & Denmark	Water sector
IIT Kanpur & Ministry of Defence	Predictive grievance redress mechanism using AI
Andhra Pradesh & ITC Ltd, Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL) and Proctor and Gamble	Women's empowerment
Flipkart & Uttar Pradesh's One District, One Product (ODOP) scheme	bring artisans, weavers and craftsmen into mainstream business.
NHAI & IIT-Delhi	Setting up centre of excellence for use of AI in decision making
CSIR and FSSAI	Research on food and nutrition
Andhra Pradesh & Boston Group	Setting Centre At Visakhapatnam
Bihar State Pollution Control Board & IIT, Delhi	Setting up of geographical information system (GIS) based platform for air quality management
Rajasthan & SIDBI	Cluster-based development of MSMEs
Power Finance Corporation & District Administration of Siddharthnagar in Uttar Pradesh	Modular Operation Theatre Rooms in the District Hospital, Siddharthnagar
Delhi government & IIT-Bombay and Tata Projects Limited	Construct a smog tower in Connaught Place
Delhi government & Bloomberg Philanthropies	Enhance road safety
Flipkart & IIT Patna	Applied research in the areas of AI, NLP, ML
IIM Kozhikode & HELP Logistics	Support humanitarian work
JCI & NSC	Provide certified good quality seeds to jute farmers
All India Football Federation & International Professional Scouting	Conduct online scouting workshops in India
Ministry of Skill Development, Ministry of Shipping	Skill development in port & maritime sector
AIM, NITI Aayog, Business Sweden	Promote the disruptive potential of Indian entrepreneurs.
Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee &	Standardisation and conformity assessment



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

BIS	activities
L&T Hydrocarbon Engineering & NTPC	To build CO2-to-methanol demonstration plant
APEDA, AFC India Ltd and NCUI, Delhi	Implementation of agri export policy
HDFC Bank & Adobe	To enhance digital customer experiences
Innoviti & Visa	Installments platform for face-to-face transactions
Ericsson and UNICEF	To map school connectivity in 35 countries by the end of 2023
Indian Oil, NTPC Ltd and South Delhi Municipal Corporation	Waste to Energy plant at Okhla
NLC India & CIL	develop 5,000 megawatts of solar and thermal power assets
UK India Business Council & Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation	To better its business environment
National Medicinal Plants Board & ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	To Conserve the Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Genetic Resources
Central Board of Direct Taxes & SEBI	Data Exchange
IIT Alumni Council & CSIR Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology	To research on COVID-19 and patient data analysis
EESL & New Okhla Industrial Development Authority	To install public EV charging stations and related infrastructure.
Flipkart & Karnataka	To promote the states arts, crafts and handloom sectors
T-Hub & MeitY	Hardware and IoT startups.
National Intelligence Grid & National Crime Records Bureau	To access the centralised online database on FIRs
UNICEF INDIA & Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry	To develop UNICEF's #Reimagine Campaign
NTPC & National Investment and Infrastructure Fund	To explore business opportunities
UNICEF India & SAP India	To improve Employability of young people
Central Board of Direct Taxes & Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	Sharing of Data
CBDT & CBIC	Data Exchange

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Alankit Ltd & UTI Infrastructure Technology	Pan Card Services
Airtel Payments Bank Ltd & National Skill Development Corporation	To train and skill young people in rural areas on financial services
Acko General Insurance & Amazon Pay	Vehicle Insurance
NHPC & GEDCOL	Developing floating solar energy projects
Asian Development Bank & Green Climate Fund	Green Recovery
TRIFED & IIT Delhi	To boost livelihood opportunities and income generation for tribal communities
Total SA & Indian Oil Corp	To manufacture and market high-quality bitumen derivatives
United Kingdom India Business Council & with Industrial Extension Bureau	To boost business and industrial development
Power Finance Corporation & Indian Institute of Technology- Kanpur	For training, research, and entrepreneurship development in Smart grid technology
Unnat Bharat Abhiyan-Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi & Vijnana Bharti with CSIR	CSIR rural technologies for UBA

Important Summit & Conference

India-EU summit to be held through video conference

- The **15th summit between India and the European Union (EU)** was held via video conference.
- India was represented by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**. The EU was represented by Charles Michel, President of European Council, and Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission.
- The summit, which was supposed to **take place in March**, was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Prakash Javadekar Represents India at Fourth virtual Ministerial on Climate Action

- Prakash Javadekar represented India at the **fourth edition of the virtual Ministerial on Climate Action**.
- **Javadekar** called upon developed country parties, once again, to do their part as envisaged under **UNFCCC and its Paris Agreement**.
- The meeting was **co-chaired by European Union, China and Canada** to advance discussions **on the full implementation of the Paris Agreement** under the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**.

India Business Council to host 2020 India Ideas Summit on July 22

- **India Business Council** will host the 2020 India Ideas Summit on July 22nd.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The Summit convenes business and government leaders for discussions on the future of the U.S.-India Partnership and the trends shaping globalization, trade and investment, and the future of work in the COVID-era and beyond.

FM Sitharaman attends 3rd G20 Finance Ministers & Central Bank Governors Meeting

- Nirmala Sitharaman participated in the 3rd G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) meeting under the Saudi Arabian Presidency through Video Conferencing to discuss the global economic outlook amid evolving COVID-19 pandemic crisis along with other G20 Finance Track priorities for the year 2020.
- This G20 Action Plan lays out a list of collective commitments under the pillars of Health Response, Economic Response, Strong and Sustainable Recovery and International Financial Coordination.

Arjun Munda inaugurates e-Symposium “Emergent North-East India: Strategic and Developmental Imperatives in Handicrafts” organized by IIM, Shillong

- Shri Arjun Munda inaugurated an e-Symposium on Handicrafts titled “Emergent North-East India: Strategic and Developmental Imperatives in Handicrafts” organized by Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Centre for Policy Research and Analysis, Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Shillong.
- The e-Symposium on handicrafts is a part of the e-Symposia Series initiated by Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Centre for Policy Research and Analysis, IIM Shillong.

Dr Harsh Vardhan Chairs Session Of Bureau Of WHO Executive Board

- Dr Harsh Vardhan presided over a meeting of the Bureau of the Executive Board as Chairman of the Executive Board of the World Health Organization (WHO), virtually. The Bureau also includes the Vice Chairs of the Executive Board and the Director General of WHO.
- The agenda of the meet included finalization of dates of 32nd session of Program, Budget and Administration Committee (PBAC), and resumed sessions of 73rd World Health Assembly (WHA 73) and 147th Executive Board 147 (EB 147).

Piyush Goyal Inaugurates CII National Digital Conference on “Easing Doing Business for Atmanirbhar Bharat”

- Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal, inaugurated the National Digital Conference on “Easing Doing Business for Atmanirbhar Bharat” organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) to improve the business environment of India.

Prakash Javadekar represents India in 6th BRICS Environment Ministers’ Meeting

- Prakash Javadekar participated in the 6th BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) Environment Ministers’ Meeting under the presidency of Russia along with the Environment minister of Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa. India will assume the Presidency of BRICS in 2021.
- Also, the BRICS Environment Ministers established BRICS Environmentally Sound Technology (BEST) Platform.

India calls for real-time information sharing among BRICS nations to tackle drug menace



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The fourth meeting of the BRICS anti drug working group was held recently. The meeting focused on misuse of darknet and other advanced technologies for drug trafficking. The Working Group comprising Brazil, Russia, China, South Africa and India held fruitful discussions.
- The Indian delegation was led by Rakesh Asthana, Director General, Narcotics Control Bureau.

Indian Solar Alliance to hold World Solar Technology Summit on September 8

- The Indian Solar Alliance which India initiated with France in 2015 will hold the World Solar Technology Summit for the first time.
- The World Solar Technology Summit is an attempt to bring together scientists, engineers and member states to sit down together and think about what the challenges are in realising the dream of making energy affordable and abundant.

LS Speaker Om Birla attends inaugural ceremony of 5th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament

- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla attended the inaugural ceremony of the Fifth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament (5WCSP).
- The two day Conference is being organized jointly by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Geneva and the Parliament of Austria with the support of the United Nations (UN).

International Conference on Climate Change and Its Impact on Himalayan Region From September 14 to 16

- A three-day online international conference on Aerosol air quality, climate change and its impact on water resources and livelihoods in the Greater Himalayas was held.
- The Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES), Nainital and Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University will jointly organise the conference.

17th meeting of India-Vietnam Joint Commission held via video-conference

- The 17th meeting of the India-Vietnam Joint Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation was held via video-conference.
- It was co-chaired by External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar and his Vietnamese counterpart Pham Binh Minh.

Dr. Harsh Vardhan invites stakeholders in country and abroad to participate in formulating STIP 2020

- **Harsh Vardhan** invited stakeholders and the public at large in the country and abroad to participate in formulating an evidence-driven, inclusive **Science Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP 2020)**.
- He also launched the STIP 2020 Page on **MyGov Portal** along with popularisation Quiz for school children in a virtual event.

NCPUL organises "World Urdu Conference" in New Delhi

- Union Education Minister **Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'** virtually addressed the inaugural session of the two days **World Urdu Conference** organised by **National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL)** in New Delhi.

17TH ASEAN-India Economic Ministers' Consultations held



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **Piyush Goyal** and H.E. Tran Tuan Anh co-chaired the **17th ASEAN-India Economic Ministers Consultations** held virtually.
- The meeting was attended by the Trade Ministers of all the 10 ASEAN countries Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

12th Mekong Ganga Cooperation Senior Officials' Meeting reviews progress made since Aug last year

- The **12th Mekong Ganga Cooperation**, MGC Senior Officials' Meeting reviewed the progress in all areas of cooperation. MGC is an initiative by **six countries** - India and five ASEAN countries, namely, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.
- The Meeting held through video conference reviewed progress made since the **10th MGC Ministerial Meeting** held in Bangkok in August last year.

India to host summit of SCO council of heads of government on November 30

- India will host a summit of the **council of heads of government** of the **SCO** on November 30.
- India has been focusing on expanding its cooperation with the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)**, an eight-nation regional grouping that represents around **42 per cent** of the world's population and **20 per cent** of the global GDP.

Prahlad Singh Patel virtually attends 5th BRICS Culture Ministers' Meeting

- Union Minister of State (I/C) for Culture and Tourism **Shri Prahlad Singh Patel** virtually attended **5th BRICS Culture Ministers' Meeting**.
- The **National Gallery of Modern Arts, New Delhi** will host the **BRICS Joint Exhibition** titled '**Bonding Regions & Imagining Cultural Synergies**' under the auspices of the BRICS Alliance of Art Museums and Galleries.

35th FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (APRC)

- The **35th Session** of the **Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific** is being held **virtually** from **1-4 September 2020**, on a videoconferencing platform, on an exceptional basis, in light of the global COVID-19 pandemic and associated public health concerns.
- The Conference decided that the **36th APRC** will be held in **Dhaka, Bangladesh** in **2022**.

3rd Annual Leadership Summit of US-India Strategic Partnership Forum

- PM Narendra Modi shall deliver the **Special Key Note Address** at the **USISPF 3rd Annual Leadership Summit** at, through video conference.
- 3rd Annual Leadership Summit of US-India Strategic Partnership Forum: Theme -The Theme of the 5 day Summit that began on the 31st of August is "**US-India Navigating New Challenges**".

First ever Virtual Buyer Seller Meet organised by GJEPC

- The **Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council of India (GJEPC)**, the apex body for promotion of Gems and Jewellery Exports, inaugurated its **first Virtual Buyer and Seller Meet** for loose diamonds.

1st World Solar Technology Summit



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **World Solar Technology Summit (WSTS)** organised by ISA and FICCI.
- The main objective of WSTS is **to showcase to member countries the state of the art and next-generation solar technologies worldwide.**
- The Summit included signing of **four agreements** between
 - ISA and International Institute of Refrigeration,
 - ISA and Global Green Growth Institute.
 - ISA and National Thermal Power Corporation,
 - A tripartite agreement between India's Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, the World Bank and the International Solar Alliance.
- ISA also launched a **Journal on Solar Energy (I JOSE)** that would help authors from across the globe to publish their articles on solar energy.

MoS V. Muraleedharan attends 10th East Asia Summit Foreign Ministers' Meeting

- Minister of State for External Affairs **V. Muraleedharan** attended the **10th East Asia Summit Foreign Ministers' Meeting**. The Meeting was held virtually.
- The Meeting discussed ways and means to strengthen the Leaders-led **EAS platform** and to make it more responsive to emerging challenges on its **15th anniversary**.

Dr Harsh Vardhan attends 73rd Session Of WHO South East Asia Region through video conferencing

- **Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan** attended the **73rd session** of **WHO South East Asia Region (SEARO)** through video conference . Representing India, Dr. Harsh Vardhan offered two interventions in the ministerial **round table session** on COVID-19 Emergency Preparedness.

Dr. S. Jaishankar co-chairs the ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting

- External Affairs Minister (EAM) of India H.E. **Dr. S. Jaishankar** co-chaired the **ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting** along with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of **Thailand H.E. Don Pramudwinai**.
- The Meeting was held **virtually** and saw the participation of Foreign Ministers of the **ten ASEAN Member States and India**.

Virtual meeting of G-20 Agriculture,Water Ministers held

- A **virtual meeting of G-20 Agriculture and Water Ministers** was held. The meeting was attended by **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat & Parshottam Rupala**. Government of India is implementing the '**Jal Jeevan Mission**' to provide household tap connections to 190 million rural homes, thereby ensuring drinking water security.

10th Defence Technology and Trade Initiative, DTTI Group Meeting held virtually

- As part of the **Indo-US Bilateral Defence Cooperation**, the **10th Defence Technology and Trade Initiative, DTTI Group Meeting** was held virtually. The meeting was co-chaired by **Raj Kumar**.

Vice-President to inaugurate CII global Ayurveda summit



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- CII-Kerala is organising the **4th edition of Global Ayurveda Summit**, a virtual exhibition and conference on emerging opportunities for Ayurveda between **September 15 and October 14** with the theme, “**Ayurveda for immunity**”.
- CII is organising the summit in partnership with Ministry of Ayush, and with the support of Ayurveda Medical Association of India (AMAI), Ayurvedic Medicine Manufacturers Organisation in India (AMMOI) and Ayurveda Hospital Management Association (AHMA).

10th virtual meeting of BRICS NSAs to be held virtually FILE PIC

- **10th Meeting** of the **BRICS High Representatives on National Security** chaired by **Russia**, will be held via video link.
- **India, Russia and China** are members of BRICS, SCO and RIC and act as platform for mutual trust building and cooperation. This year **Russia** is chair of BRICS and SCO.

NSA Ajit Doval attends 10th BRICS' meeting on security issues

- The **10th meeting of the NSAs**, hosted by the current chair of **BRICS Russia**, was attended by China's State Councillor Yang Jiechi and senior security officials from Brazil and South Africa. National Security Advisor Ajit Doval attended a virtual meet.

BRICS Communications Ministers' Meet

- The BRICS Communications Ministers' Meeting, was hosted by **Maxim Parshin**. India will take over the chairmanship of the **next meeting to be hosted in 2021**.
- The minister also highlighted various initiatives taken by the Indian government for COVID-19 management, such as **AarogyaSetu app**, **Covid Quarantine Alert System (CQAS)**, **CovidSavdhan** and **ICT solutions**.

PM Modi to inaugurate and address VAIBHAV summit on 2nd October

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** will inaugurate and address **Vaibhav (Vishwik Bhartiya Vaignaynik) Summit**.
- **Vaishwik Bharatiya Vaigyanik (VAIBHAV) Summit** is a collaborative initiative by **S&T and Academic Organisations of India**.

UN, Britain to co-host a global climate summit on Dec 12

- **United Nations** and **Britain** will co-host a **global climate summit** on December 12, the fifth anniversary of the landmark **Paris Agreement**. **Antonio Guterres** and the UK Prime Minister **Boris Johnson** will co-host the event.
- The summit is intended to increase momentum ahead of the **United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 26)** to be held in **Glasgow** in November 2021.

Shri Piyush Goyal participates in the G-20 meeting of the Trade and Investment Ministers

- **Union Commerce and Industry & Railways Minister Shri Piyush Goyal** took part in the virtual meeting of the **G-20 Trade and Investment Ministers**.

PM Modi to hold virtual bilateral summit with Sri Lankan PM on Sep 26

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** and **Sri Lankan Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa** will hold a **Virtual Bilateral Summit** on 26th of this month.

EAM Dr S Jaishankar participates in Special Ministerial Meeting of FMs of CICA



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- External Affairs Minister **Dr S Jaishankar** participated in the **Special Ministerial Meeting** of Foreign Ministers of the **CICA**.
- **CICA** is the **Conference on Interaction & Confidence Building Measures** in Asia.

Minister of Environment addresses Ministerial Roundtable Dialogue on Biodiversity Beyond 2020 virtually

- Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change **Prakash Javadekar** addressed the **Ministerial Roundtable Dialogue on Biodiversity Beyond 2020: Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth**, virtually hosted by China.
- India aims to restore 26 million hectares of degraded land, and achieve land-degradation neutrality by 2030. India have doubled its number ahead of the deadline of 2022.

PM Narendra Modi to inaugurate AI summit 'RAISE 2020' on October 5

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated a virtual summit on artificial intelligence '**RAISE 2020**', which is being jointly organised by the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology** and the **NITI Aayog**.

Informal Meeting of SAARC Council of Ministers (Virtual Mode)

- The External Affairs Minister of the Republic of India, **Dr. S. Jaishankar**, participated in the annual **Informal Meeting of the SAARC Council of Ministers**.
- The meeting, **chaired by Nepal**, was held in virtual mode and saw participation of all SAARC member states. The **last informal meeting** of the SAARC Council of Ministers held in **New York**.

G20 Leaders' Summit

- This year's **G20 leaders** summit under the theme of "**Realising opportunities of the 21st century for all**" will be held in an online format amid the coronavirus pandemic.
- The summit will be chaired by Saudi Arabian **King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud**.

PM Modi to inaugurate artificial intelligence 'RAISE 2020' Summit

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will inaugurate the **Summit RAISE 2020 - 'Responsible AI for Social Empowerment 2020**. The **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology** and **NITI Aayog** organized the Mega Virtual Summit on Artificial Intelligence.
- The summit will discuss cross-sector subjects like 'Leveraging AI for Pandemic Preparedness', the Impetus that Innovation Places on Digitisation', Inclusive AI and Partnerships for Successful Innovation.

PM addresses international webinar on textile traditions organized by ICCR

- Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi** addressed an **international webinar on textile traditions** organized by **ICCR**.
- The Prime Minister lauded Indian Council for Cultural Relations and Uttar Pradesh Institute of Design for their efforts in bringing people from different countries to participate in the webinar on the theme "**Weaving Relations: Textile Traditions**."

Nirmala Sitharaman to chair 42nd GST Council meeting

- Union finance minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** will chair the **42nd Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council** meeting.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Minister of state (MoS) for finance **Anurag Thakur** and finance ministers of states and union territories (UTs) will also be present at the meeting.

12th BRICS Summit to be held virtually on November 17

- The **12th BRICS Summit** will be held on 17th November 2020 via **video conference**.
- The theme of the Meeting of the Leaders of BRICS countries which includes Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa is “**BRICS Partnership for Global Stability, Shared Security and Innovative Growth**”.
- The **Summit** is being held under the **Chairmanship of Russia** and aims at a multifaceted cooperation between the member countries.

7th Justice Ministers' Meeting of SCO Member States to be hosted by Ravi Shankar Prasad on Oct 16

- The **Seventh Meeting of Ministers of Justice** of the **Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)** Member States will be hosted by **Union Minister of Law and Justice Ravi Shankar Prasad**.
- The Experts Working Group will discuss and share their experiences, best practices and the novel steps taken by them for creating conducive environment for promoting resolution of disputes and other related activities including legal services and forensic activities.

Fifth meeting of BRICS energy ministers to start under Russia's chairmanship

- The **fifth energy ministers' meeting** of the **BRICS group** of countries, namely Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, will take place under **Russia's presidency** in the association.
- The meeting, which starts virtually at 11 am (local time), will be chaired by Russian Energy Minister **Alexander Novak**.
- The BRICS ministers will also come up with a road map for the development of energy cooperation until **2025**.

India, Chile hold first joint commission meeting

- India** and **Chile** held their **first joint commission** meeting and agreed to add new momentum to their relations in a wide range of fields including trade and commerce, agriculture, health and social security, defence and space. The meeting held virtually was co-chaired by **External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar** and his Chilean counterpart Andres Allamand Zavala.
- India welcomed Chile's decision to designate India as a **priority country** in its foreign policy. Chile will also be opening its Consulate General in Mumbai.

India hosts virtual Summit of Ministers of Justice of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation

- India** hosted the **virtual Summit of Ministers of Justice of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, SCO**.
- As part of activities of Justice Ministers' Forum, the Minister urged SCO Member States to promote exchange of ideas, best practices and experiences in identified areas through the platform. He also stressed on widening the spectrum of activities being undertaken in the Forum.

FM Nirmala Sitharaman participates in 102nd meeting of World Bank Development Committee Plenary



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** participated in **102nd meeting** of the **World Bank Development Committee** Plenary through video conference.
- Mrs Sitharaman shared that the Government has announced the first stimulus of **23 billion dollar** to provide direct cash transfers and food security measures to the poor. She also mentioned that the Government has committed **2.03 Billion dollar** for strengthening health infrastructure in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic.

First SCO Startup Forum to be launched on October 27

- The **first-ever SCO Startup Forum** will be launched on **27th October 2020** ahead of the SCO trade ministers meeting on 28th October.
- The forum will lay the foundation for **multilateral cooperation** and engagement among the SCO Member States to develop and hone their startup ecosystems, collectively

Shri Kiren Rijju addresses Y20 Global Summit

- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports **Shri Kiren Rijju** represented India in the **Y20 Global Summit**, aimed at exchanging ideas and dialogues between nations **to empower the youth across the world**.
- The **host country** for the Y20 Summit this year was **Saudi Arabia**.
- The theme of the Summit is '**Government – Youth dialogue on post-COVID-19 opportunities**'.

9th Session Of India-Oman Joint Commission Held

- The **ninth session** of the **India-Oman Joint Commission** was held virtually.
- The meet was co-chaired by Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, **Hardeep Singh Puri**.
- For Oman, India was the **3rd largest source for its imports** and **3rd largest market** for its non-oil exports.

Finance Minister holds 4th review meeting on CAPEX of Central Public Sector Enterprises

- Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs **Nirmala Sitharaman** held a video conference with secretaries of the Ministries of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Coal, along with the chairman cum managing directors of **14 Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSE)** belonging to these ministries, to review the capital expenditure (CAPEX) in this financial year.
- The CPSEs CAPEX review is carried out jointly by Department of Economic Affairs and Department of Public Enterprises, the statement added.

18th meeting of SCO Prosecutors General held via videolink

- India **participated in 18th meeting of Prosecutors General of SCO** via video conference.
- The sides inter alia agreed to strengthen cooperation in preventing and combating corruption, mutual legal assistance, exchange of regulatory legal acts.
- Representing India, **Solicitor General Tushar Mehta** attended the meeting.
- India will host** the next meeting of **Prosecutors General in 2021**.
- The eight member bloc is holding this year's **SCO Council of Heads of Govt** on 30th Nov which will be **hosted by India**.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

6th India International Science Festival to be held in Virtual format from 22nd to 25th December, 2020

- The **6th edition of India International Science Festival (IISF) 2020** will be held from **22nd to 25th December, 2020**.
- This was announced by The Union Minister for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences and Health & Family Welfare, **Dr. Harsh Vardhan**.
- The **fifth IISF** was held in **Kolkata**. ALL these IISFs had generated immense response from people within India and from abroad.

14th session of Food and Agri Week 2020 held

- Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare , Food Processing Industries and Rural Development and Panchayati Raj **Narendra Singh Tomar**, virtually inaugurated the **14th session of the India – International Food and Agri Week 2020**.
- Ministry of Food Processing Industries started **Anna Devo Bhava** awareness campaign to mark the Food & Agri Week. Such campaign are required to raise the awareness about the value of food and to reduce food wastage.

Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by LS Speaker to attend VIth BRICS Parliamentary Forum

- The **VIth BRICS Parliamentary Forum** will be held in **Virtual format**. The meeting will be chaired by the **HE Vyachaslav Volodin**, Chairman of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation.
- The theme of the Forum is BRICS partnership in the interest of global stability, **general safety and innovative growth: Parliamentary dimension**. During the meeting, in the backdrop of the COVID-19, the Forum will have discussions on a wide range of cross-cutting issues related to the following subjects: **Improvement in the quality of life of people of BRICS countries: Parliamentary dimension**.

India hosts 19th Meeting of SCO Ministers of Foreign Economy & Foreign Trade

- India hosted the **19th Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Ministers of Foreign Economy and Foreign Trade**.
- Besides, statement on SCO Cooperation on **Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)** was also adopted which relates to cooperation of intellectual property and include sharing information and experience on legislation and enforcement, cooperation in international organisations and other areas.
- The virtual meeting was attended by the Secretary General of SCO and Ministers from, **Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan**.

Women Startup Summit 2020 gain key focus in KSUM initiative

- As **Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM)** began its **six-day programme** that aims to boost female presence in entrepreneurial ventures, the October 31 '**Women Startup Summit 2020**' gained key focus as a culminating event providing tips for success in businesses.
- The summit, which features a startup competition named '**She Loves Tech India 2020**', is being co-organised by Startup India, TiE Kerala and Indian Women Network of Confederation of Indian Industry.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The programme began with a Hackathon Orientation. Titled 'InnovatHer', it was led by KSUM, ICFOSS and TCS.

Piyush Goyal launches First-ever SCO Startup Forum ahead of SCO trade ministers meeting

- Commerce and Industries minister **Piyush Goyal** launched first-ever **SCO Startup Forum** ahead of the SCO trade ministers meeting to be held virtually.
- The forum will lay the foundation for multilateral cooperation and engagement among the SCO Member States to develop and hone their startup ecosystems, collectively.
- Innovation and Startups** will be the key focus area of SCO Heads of Government meeting which was hosted by India for the first time.
- India is currently the **third-largest startup ecosystem** in the world.

PM Modi to inaugurate VAIBHAV Summit through video conferencing

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will inaugurate **Vaishvik Bhartiya Vaigyanik, VAIBHAV Summit** through video conferencing. The VAIBHAV Summit is a global virtual summit of overseas and resident Indian researchers and academicians.
- The aim of the summit is to bring Indian origin luminaries in **academic institutes and Research and Development organizations** across the world and resident counterparts on a single platform to debate upon collaboration mechanisms to strengthen academic and Science and Technology base in India for global development.

8th meeting of India-UAE High Level Joint Task Force on Investments held in virtual format

- The **eighth meeting** of the **India-UAE High Level Joint Task Force** on Investments was hosted by **India** in virtual format due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- The meeting was co-chaired by Commerce and Industry Minister **Piyush Goyal** and **Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan**, Member of the Executive Council of Abu Dhabi.
- The **Joint Task Force** was created in **2012** as a crucial forum for further deepening the already strong economic ties between the UAE and India.

PM Modi to chair Virtual Global Investor Roundtable

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi** will chair the **Virtual Global Investor Roundtable**.
- The Roundtable is being organized by the **Finance Ministry** and **National Investment and Infrastructure Fund**.
- The Roundtable will witness participation from **twenty** of the **world's largest pension and sovereign wealth funds** with a total Assets Under Management of about 6 trillion dollars.
- These global institutional investors represent key regions including the US, Europe, Canada, Korea, Japan, West Asia, Australia, and Singapore.

PM Modi will lead Indian delegation to 20th Summit of SCO Council of Heads of States

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will lead the Indian delegation to the **20th Summit of SCO Council of Heads of States**, which will be held virtually.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The meeting will be chaired by **President of Russia Vladimir Putin**. Briefing media, MEA Spokesperson Anurag Srivastava stated, this will be the first SCO Summit to be held in virtual format and this is the third meeting that India will be participating as a full member.

India hosts 5th Joint Working Group on Coal between India and Indonesia through video conference

- **India** successfully hosted **5th Joint Working Group (JWG)** on Coal between **India** and **Indonesia** through video conference due to travel restrictions on account of Covid-19 pandemic. The JWG was co-chaired from the Indian side by **Vinod Kumar Tiwari**.
- The Ministry of Coal made presentations on Indian Coal Policy reforms, Coking Coal Exploration and Commercial Mining, followed by presentations by the Indonesian side on Coal Policy and Current Coal Business s, Deep Seated Coal Potential in Indonesia.

OPEC holds 4th High-Level Meeting of the OPEC-India Dialogue

- The **OPEC** Secretariat hosted the **4th High-Level Meeting** of the **OPEC-India Dialogue** via videoconference.
- The Meeting was co-chaired by HE **Mohammad Sanusi Barkindo**, Secretary General of OPEC and the Honourable **Dharmendra Pradhan**, India's **Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas** and **Minister of Steel**.

PM Narendra Modi chaired Virtual Global Investor Roundtable 2020

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** chaired the **Virtual Global Investor Roundtable (VGIR) 2020** which will be attended by heads of 20 top institutional investors from the US, Europe, Canada, Korea, Japan, Middle East, Australia and Singapore.
- **VGIR 2020** will focus on discussions around India's economic and investment outlook, structural reforms and the government's vision for making the country a **USD 5 trillion** economy.
- The VGIR is being organized by the **Ministry of Finance, Government of India, and National Investment and Infrastructure Fund**.

Union Minister Prakash Javadekar chairs 'India CEO Forum on Climate Change'

- Union Minister of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, **Prakash Javadekar** virtually chaired "**India CEO Forum on Climate Change**".
- A '**Declaration of the Private Sector on Climate Change**' is slated to be signed and released during the high-level virtual event.
- As part of its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), India has three quantitative climate change goals viz. reduction in the emissions intensity of **Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** by **33 to 35 percent** by **2030** from **2005** level, achieving about **40 percent** cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel based energy resources by **2030** and creating an additional carbon sink of **2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide** equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by **2030**.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

FM Nirmala Sitharaman attends 1st BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman participated in the **1st BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting** under the **Russian Chairmanship** to discuss the BRICS Economic and Financial Cooperation agenda for 2020.
- Finance Ministry stated, Ms. Sitharaman talked about outcomes and initiatives of **G-20 Saudi Arabia** in 2020 on the Finance Track and highlighted role of BRICS members in reflecting Emerging Market Economies concerns in these initiatives.

Hardeep Singh Puri inaugurates UMI 2020 Conference

- **Hardeep S. Puri**, MoS (I/C), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs inaugurated the **13th Urban Mobility India Conference** on “Emerging Trends in Urban Mobility”.
- The conference focused on innovative measures taken at national and international level to address the challenges posed by Covid-19 pandemic to provide accessible and convenient transport to the people.
- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, had issued the **National Urban Transport Policy, 2006 (NUTP)** to ensure safe, affordable, quick, comfortable, reliable and sustainable access for the growing number of city residents to jobs, education, recreation and such other needs within our cities.

PM Modi to co-chair 17th ASEAN-India Summit

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** along with Prime Minister of **Vietnam Nguyen Xuan Phuc** will co-chair the **17th ASEAN-India Summit**. The leaders of all ten ASEAN Member States will virtually participate in the Summit.
- The Summit will review the status of ASEAN-India Strategic Partnership and take stock of progress made in key areas such as connectivity, maritime cooperation, trade and commerce, education and capacity building.
- The Leaders will discuss ways to further strengthen ASEAN-India engagement and in this context will note the adoption of **ASEAN-India Plan of Action (2021-2025)**.

ISB to organise 3rd edition of Deccan Dialogue on Nov 16

- The **Indian School of Business (ISB)**, in partnership with the **Ministry of External Affairs** will be organising the **third edition of Deccan Dialogue** on November 16, on a virtual platform.
- The theme of the Dialogue is ‘**Crisis and Cooperation — Imperative in times of the pandemic**’.

8th BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation Ministerial meeting unanimously adopts BRICS STI Declaration 2020

- The **8th BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation Ministerial** meeting unanimously has adopted **BRICS STI Declaration 2020**. The meeting was held through a virtual platform.
- The Ministry of Science and Higher Education of Russia organized the meeting, **Russian Federation** being the **Chair** for **12th BRICS Summit**.
- India have recently launched a scheme ‘**SERB-POWER**’ (**Promoting Opportunities For Women in Exploratory Research**) to encourage and support emerging as well as eminent women researchers to undertake R&D activities in frontier areas of science and engineering.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Jaishankar to represent India at East Asia Summit

- **External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar** will represent India at the **15th East Asia Summit (EAS)**, which provides a platform for discussion on important strategic issues in the Indo-Pacific region.
- **Last year, PM Narendra Modi** had represented India at the EAS in Bangkok, Thailand.
- The virtual summit meeting will be chaired by the **Prime Minister of Vietnam, Nguyen Xuan Phuc**.

2nd World Health Expo held in Wuhan, China

- The **Second World Health Expo** is held in Hubei's capital city **Wuhan**. It features 12 different venues for audiences to experience the most frontier health technology, the latest in fitness sports and the most realistically restored anti-epidemic scenes.
- This year's Expo will focus on displaying the most cutting-edge science and technology in the global health industry, and help Wuhan build "city of global health industry".

RCEP: Asia-Pacific countries form world's largest trading bloc

- **Fifteen countries** have formed the **world's largest trading bloc**, covering nearly a third of the global economy.
- The **Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)** is made up of 10 Southeast Asian countries, as well as South Korea, China, Japan, Australia and New Zealand.
- The deal excludes the US, which withdrew from a rival Asia-Pacific trade pact in 2017.
- **Nguyen Xuan Phuc**, prime minister of Vietnam, which hosted the ceremony as **ASEAN chair**.

44th Annual Meeting Of Ministers For Foreign Affairs Of G77 & China

- India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador **T S Tirumurti** represented at the **44th Annual Meeting of the G-77 Foreign Ministers**.
- India has pledged 15 million dollars for GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance, and operationalised the COVID-19 Emergency Fund for India's neighbours with an initial contribution of 10 million dollars.

PM Modi to attend 12th BRICS Summit; to also address Third Annual Bloomberg New Economy Forum

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend the **12th BRICS Summit hosted by Russia**, under the theme **Global Stability, Shared Security and Innovative Growth**. The meeting will be held in a virtual format.
- India will be taking over the **Chairship of the BRICS**, which would be the **third BRICS Presidency for India**. India will host the **13th BRICS Summit** next year.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will deliver an address at the **Third Annual Bloomberg New Economy Forum**.

80th All India Presiding Officers' Conference to be organized at Kevadia

- A two day **80th All India Presiding Officers' Conference** was organized at **Kevadia, Gujarat**. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla stated that the theme of this year's conference is **Harmonious Coordination of Legislative, Executive and Judiciary- Key to a Vibrant Democracy**. He stated, President Ram Nath Kovind will inaugurate the two day conference.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

India to host G20 Summit in 2023

- India is set to host the **G-20 summit** in **2023**, instead of **2022**. Indonesia will assume G-20 presidency in 2022 & Indonesia would also chair the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (**ASEAN**) in **2023**.

Malaysia hosted 2020 APEC Summit

- The **2020 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting** was held under the Chairmanship of Malaysian Prime Minister **Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin**. The APEC 2020 ended with the adoption of the APEC **Putrajaya Vision 2040** and the **2020 Kuala Lumpur Declaration**.
- The APEC Summit 2021 will be hosted by New Zealand. This is the second time Malaysia hosted an APEC meeting, having hosted one in 1998.
- The theme of the APEC Malaysia 2020 was "**Optimising Human Potential Towards a Resilient Future of Shared Prosperity: Pivot. Prioritise. Progress**".

PM Modi to inaugurate RE-INVEST 2020 on Nov 26

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi** will inaugurate the virtual **third Global Renewable Energy Investment Meeting and Expo (RE-Invest 2020)**. The three days summit is organised by the **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy**.
- The theme for RE-Invest 2020 is **Innovations for Sustainable Energy Transition**.

India to host SCO Council of Heads of Government Meeting

- India will host **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Heads of Government Meeting** in virtual format. Vice President **M Venkaiah Naidu** will chair the meeting.
- India** assumed the Chairmanship of the SCO Council of Heads of Government.
- Pakistan will be represented by the Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs.
- Apart from the SCO Member States, the four Observer States of SCO will also participate- including the President of Afghanistan, the First Vice President of Iran, the Prime Minister of Belarus and the Deputy Prime Minister of Mongolia. Turkmenistan has been invited as a Special Guest of the Host.

PM Modi to attend 5th G-20 Leaders Summit at the invitation of King of Saudi Arabia

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi** will be attending the **15th G-20 Leaders Summit** at the invitation of the King of Saudi Arabia. The summit is being chaired by Saudi Arabia on November 21st and 22nd in a virtual format under the theme - **Realising the Opportunities** of the 21st Century for All.

Dr Harsh Vardhan addresses 33rd Stop TB Partnership Board meet in New Delhi through Video Conference

- Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan** has stressed on the need to create a mass movement for elimination of TB with strategized advocacy, thought leadership, disruptive social entrepreneurship, powerful, societal and political commitment. He was addressing the **33rd Stop TB Partnership Board meet** in **New Delhi** through Video Conference.
- Dr Harsh Vardhan highlighted India's "**TB Harega, Desh Jeetega**" campaign that targets to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal target related to TB by 2025, five years ahead of the global target of 2030.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

PM Modi to give inaugural address at virtual IMC 2020

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivered the inaugural address at the virtual India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2020.
- The fourth edition of the three-day telecom industry event will be held online for the first time due to the coronavirus pandemic.
- IMC 2020 is being organised by the department of telecommunications (DoT) and the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) and will be held from December 8-10.
- The title theme for IMC 2020 is Inclusive Innovation - Smart, Secure, Sustainable

India & Uzbekistan to held first bilateral virtual summit

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev held a virtual summit
- This was the first bilateral Virtual Summit between India and a central Asian country.
- The leaders discussed the entire spectrum of bilateral relationship, including strengthening of India-Uzbekistan cooperation in the post-COVID world.

PM to deliver inaugural address at FICCI's 93rd Annual General Meeting and Annual Convention

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** delivered the inaugural address at FICCI's **93rd Annual General Meeting and Annual Convention via video conferencing** and also inaugurate the virtual FICCI Annual Expo 2020.
- The **theme** of this year's **Annual Convention** is **"Inspired India"**

5th India Water Impact Summit begins

- The **5th India Water Impact Summit (IWIS)** began virtually. Theme - **Arth Ganga - river conservation synchronised development.**
- Objective of IWIS 2020 is Comprehensive Analysis and Holistic Management of Rivers and Water Bodies. It is being organised virtually by the **NMCG and the Centre for Ganga River Basin Management and Studies (cGanga).**

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh, addresses ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting Plus online

- Raksha mantri Shri **Rajnath Singh**, attended the **14th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus** organized online at **Hanoi, Vietnam** that marked the 10th anniversary of ADMM Plus.
- **Members** : 10 ASEAN Countries and eight partner countries, Australia, China, Japan, India, Korea, New Zealand, Russia, United States.

The 5th India- Myanmar Bilateral Meeting on Drug Control Cooperation held Virtually

- The **5th India-Myanmar** Bilateral Meeting on Drug Control Cooperation was held virtually.
- The meet was between the **Narcotics Control Bureau**, India and the **Central Committee on Drug Abuse Control, Myanmar**. It was also decided that the **6th India-Myanmar** Bilateral Meeting on Drug Control Cooperation will be held in India in 2021.

9th edition of Sustainable Mountain Development Summit begins in Dehradun

- The **ninth edition** of the **Sustainable Mountain Development Summit (SMDS)** in **Dehradun** has begun.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The theme for 2020 is **Emerging Pathways for Building a Resilient Post COVID-19 Mountain Economy, Adaptation, Innovation and Acceleration**.
- The four-day-long summit was organised by Indian Mountain Initiative (IMI) and hosted by Sustainable Development Forum Uttarakhand (SDFU), Dehradun.

Climate Ambition Summit 2020 held virtually

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** address the **Climate Ambition Summit 2020**, United Nations, United Kingdom and France Virtually Co-hosted.
- The Climate Ambition Summit, held virtually, marked the **five years** of the adoption of the **Paris Agreement on Climate Change**.
- Next UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (**COP26**), which will be hosted by the **UK** next November in **Glasgow**.

1st TWG Meeting between India, Iran, Uzbekistan on joint use of Chabahar Port held virtually

- The **first Trilateral Working Group Meeting** between India, Iran and Uzbekistan on the joint use of **Chabahar Port** was held virtually.
- The Meeting was jointly chaired by Secretary (Shipping), **Sanjeev Ranjan**. This Meeting Mainly Focus Joint Use of Chabahar Port trade and transit purposes along with enhancing regional connectivity.

20th IORA Council of Ministers meeting held in UAE, Virtually

- The **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** hosted the **20th IORA Council of Ministers (COM)** Meeting virtually.
- The theme of the meeting was **Promoting a Shared Destiny and Path to Prosperity in the Indian Ocean**. During the 2020 COM, France was inducted as the 23rd member state of IORA.

India, Vietnam sign seven agreements during virtual summit

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** and the Prime Minister of Vietnam, **Nguyen Xuan Phuc**, jointly addressed the **India-Vietnam Virtual Summit**, held through video conferencing.

Seven agreements :

- Implementing Arrangement on Defence Industry Cooperation between Dept. of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence, India and General Dept. of Defence Industry, Ministry of National Defence, Vietnam.
- Agreement for US\$ 5 million Indian Grant Assistance for Army Software Park at National Telecommunications University, Nha Trang, Vietnam between Embassy of India, Hanoi and Telecommunications University, Ministry of National Defence, Vietnam.
- Implementing Arrangement between Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping Operations, India and Vietnam Dept. of Peacekeeping Operations for Cooperation in United Nation Peacekeeping.
- MOU between India's Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) and Vietnam Agency for Radiation and Nuclear Safety (VARANS).
- MOU between CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum and Vietnam Petroleum Institute.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- MOU between Tata Memorial Centre of India and Vietnam National Cancer Hospital.
- MOU between National Solar Federation of India and Vietnam Clean Energy Association.

12th GRIHA Summit concludes with awards ceremony

- The **12th Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment Summit** was held virtually.
- It was inaugurated by Vice President of India **Venkaiah Naidu virtually**. The theme is **Rejuvenating Resilient Habitats**
- It is the annual flagship event organized by **GRIHA Council**.

Global Indian Scientists & Technocrats (GIST) meet begins at IISF2020

- **Harsh Vardhan** inaugurated the **Global Indian Scientists & Technocrats (GIST)** meet which is being organized as a part of the **Indian International Science Festival (IISF) 2020**.
- That Meet would enable developing long term linkages for creating and effectively applying S&T tools for sustainable development particularly in the rural sector.

Defence Secretary Dr Ajay Kumar launches DGNCC Digital Forum in New Delhi

- The **Defence Secretary Dr Ajay Kumar** launched the **DGNCC Digital Forum** in **New Delhi**.
- This Digital Forum hosted on the DGNCC website, will provide a platform to National Cadet Corps cadets all over the country to share their experiences of various NCC activities.

MoS, External Affairs V Muraleedharan addresses the 6th India-CLMV Business Conclave 2020 held virtually

- Minister of State (MOS), External Affairs V Muraleedharan addressed the 6th India-CLMV (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar & Vietnam) Business Conclave 2020: "Building Bridges for Constructive Development" held in CII (Confederation of Indian Industry) HIVE, the virtual platform of CII.
- The conclave was organised by the CII, in partnership with the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Dharmendra Pradhan virtually represents India at 7th IEF-IGU Ministerial Gas Forum 2020

- Dharmendra Pradhan represented India at the Virtual Ministerial Roundtable of 7th IEF-IGU (International Energy Forum-International Gas Union) Ministerial Gas Forum held from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Forum was hosted by the Government of Malaysia.
- The Theme of the Forum – "Towards Recovery and Shared Prosperity: Natural Gas Opportunities for a Sustainable World".
- It was inaugurated by Muhyiddin Yassin, Prime Minister of Malaysia.

Nityanand Rai Virtually addressed 4th South Asia Forum on SDGs 2020

- UNESCAP (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific) South Asia and Pacific & Government of Maldives organized 4th South Asian Forum of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2020 virtually.
- The Forum is a part of the preparatory process for the 8th Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) to be held in March 2021, which in turn contributes towards the High-Level Policy Forum (HLPF) 2021.

IndUS Entrepreneurs (TIE) Global Summit-2020 held Virtually from Hyderabad



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- World's largest virtual entrepreneurial summit, The IndUS Entrepreneurs (TiE) Global Summit-2020 (TGS 2020) was held. It was hosted by TiE Hyderabad. Vice- President Venkaiah Naidu virtually inaugurated the TGS 2020. Theme of TGS 2020 - 'Entrepreneurship 360'.

6th India-Japan ICT Joint Working Group meet held virtually

- 6th Meeting of Joint Working Group under the India-Japan ICT (Information & Communications Technology) was held virtually. Cooperation in 5G technologies, medical applications of Artificial Intelligence (AI) were some of the key issues discussed during the meeting.
- The virtual meeting was held through VC Solution, a web platform developed by India's C-DOT (Centre for Development of Telematics).

Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh participates in the 14th ADMM/7th ADMM Plus Meeting 2020 held virtually

- Union Minister of Defence, Rajnath Singh attended the 14th ADMM-Plus Meeting (ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Defence Ministers' Meeting)/7th ADMM Plus Meeting 2020 held virtually at Hanoi, Vietnam.
- The meeting was held on the 10th Anniversary of ADMM-Plus. The meeting was hosted by Vietnam. Rajnath Singh welcomed Brunei Darussalam as the new Chair of ASEAN in 2021.

Sports Minister addressed the 10th Global Sports Summit, TRUF 2020

- Union Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju virtually addressed the 10th Global Sports Summit, TRUF 2020, organised by Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI).
- The Minister made the announcement on the establishment of 1000 Khelo India Small Centres in the country.

EAM Jaishankar virtually Addresses the 2020 GTS – 5th Edition organized by MEA, CI

- External Affairs Minister (EAM), Jaishankar virtually addressed the 2020 Global Technology Summit (GTS) – 5th Edition, it was jointly organized by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Carnegie India (CI).
- The Theme of 2020 GTS is "Geopolitics of Technology". GTS is one of the four Flagship annual conferences organized by MEA, the other three are – Raisina Dialogue, the Geo-Economic Dialogue & the Indian Ocean Conference.

8th edition of North East Festival (NEF) 2020 Held in Guwahati, Assam for 1st time

- The 8th edition of the North East Festival (NEF) 2020 was held at Radisson Blu Hotel in Guwahati, Assam.
- It was for the first time that Guwahati hosted this annual two-day event. The inaugural ceremony was graced by Union Minister Jitendra Singh, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) as the Chief Guest of the festival.
- The focus of 2020 was on 'Growth Agenda for North East Post COVID-19'.

PM Narendra Modi addressed IIT-2020 Global Summit

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually addressed the World's largest virtual Summit- IIT-2020 Global Summit on the inaugural day of the summit. The 2 day summit is organised by PanIIT USA. The summit is chaired by Sanjiv Goyal & Co-chaired by Witty Bindra.
- Theme of the IIT-2020 Global Summit – "The Future is Now".

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

MoEFCC Minister Prakash Javadekar represents India at the 2020 Industry Transition Leadership Virtual Summit organized by LeadIT

- Prakash Javadekar represented India at the 2020 Industry Transition Leadership Summit organized by Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT).
- The Meeting was held ahead of the 5th Anniversary of the signing of the 2015 Paris Agreement. The summit focuses on aligning public and private action for implementation of the agendas and targets under the Paris Agreement.

Revision Points

Conference/Summits	Venue	Chaired By/Theme/Others
8th meeting of the India-UAE High Level Joint Task Force	India	Co-chaired by Piyush Goyal and Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan
Virtual Global Investor Roundtable	Organized by the Finance Ministry and National Investment and Infrastructure Fund	Narendra Modi
20th Summit of SCO Council of Heads of States	Virtual	President of Russia Vladimir Putin
5th Joint Working Group (JWG) on Coal between India and Indonesia	India	Co-chaired from the Indian side by Vinod Kumar Tiwari
4th High-Level Meeting of the OPEC-India Dialogue	OPEC Secretariat	Co-chaired by HE Mohammad Sanusi Barkindo
Virtual Global Investor Roundtable (VGIR) 2020	Organized by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, and National Investment and Infrastructure	Narendra Modi



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

	Fund	
Declaration of the Private Sector on Climate Change	Virtual	Prakash Javadekar
1st BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting		Participated by Nirmala Sitharaman
13th Urban Mobility India Conference on "Emerging Trends in Urban Mobility"		Inaugurated by Hardeep S. Puri
17th ASEAN-India Summit	Virtual	Narendra Modi along with Prime Minister of Vietnam Nguyen Xuan Phuc
Third edition of Deccan Dialogue	Virtual	Organized by Indian School of Business & Ministry of External Affairs
15th East Asia Summit		S Jaishankar
Second World Health Expo	Wuhan	
12th BRICS Summit hosted by Russia	Russia	Theme - Global Stability, Shared Security and Innovative Growth
80th All India Presiding Officers' Conference	Kevadia, Gujarat	Theme - Harmonious Coordination of Legislative, Executive and Judiciary- Key to a Vibrant Democracy
G-20 summit in 2023	India	
2020 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting	Malaysia	Theme - Optimising Human Potential Towards a Resilient Future of Shared Prosperity: Pivot. Prioritise. Progress
Third Global Renewable Energy Investment Meeting and Expo		Organised by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Heads of Government Meeting	India	Chaired by M Venkaiah Naidu
15th G-20 Leaders Summit		Narendra Modi (Theme - Realising the Opportunities)
33rd Stop TB Partnership Board meet	New Delhi	
4th India Mobile Congress	Virtual	Inclusive Innovation - Smart, Secure, Sustainable
1st bilateral Virtual Summit between India and Uzbekistan	Virtual	



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

FICCI's 93rd Annual General Meeting and Annual Convention	Virtual	Inspired India
5th India Water Impact Summit	Virtual	Arth Ganga - river conservation synchronised development
14th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus	Hanoi, Vietnam	
5th India-Myanmar Bilateral Meeting on Drug Control Cooperation	Virtual	Indian delegation was led by Shri Rakesh Asthana
9th edition of Sustainable Mountain Development Summit	Dehradun	Emerging Pathways for Building a Resilient Post COVID-19 Mountain Economy, Adaptation, Innovation and Acceleration
Climate Ambition Summit 2020	Virtual	Addressed by PM Modi
1st Trilateral Working Group Meeting between India, Iran and Uzbekistan	Virtual	Chaired by Sanjeev Ranjan
20th IORA Council of Ministers	Hosted by UAE	Promoting a Shared Destiny and Path to Prosperity in the Indian Ocean
12th Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment Summit	Virtual	Rejuvenating Resilient Habitats
Global Indian Scientists & Technocrats meet	Virtual	Inaugurated by Harsh Vardhan
DGNCC Digital Forum	New Delhi	Launched by Dr Ajay Kumar
6th India-CLMV (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar & Vietnam) Business Conclave 2020	Virtual	Building Bridges for Constructive Development
7th IEF-IGU	Virtual	Towards Recovery and Shared Prosperity: Natural Gas Opportunities for a Sustainable World
4th South Asia Forum on SDGs 2020	Virtual	Organized by UNESCAP
The IndUS Entrepreneurs (TiE) Global Summit	Hosted by TiE Hyderabad	Entrepreneurship 360
6th Meeting of Joint Working Group	Virtual	
14th ADMM-Plus Meeting	Virtual	Hosted by Vietnam
10th Global Sports Summit, TRUF 2020	Virtual	Organised by Federation of Indian



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

		Chambers of Commerce & Industry
5th Edition of Global Technology Summit	Organized by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Carnegie India	Geopolitics of Technology
8th edition of North East Festival (NEF) 2020	Guwahati	Growth Agenda for North East Post COVID-19
IIT-2020 Global Summit	Chaired by Sanjiv Goyal & Co-chaired by Witty Bindra	The Future is Now
2020 Industry Transition Leadership Virtual Summit	NA	Organized by LeadIT
RAISE 2020 - 'Responsible AI for Social Empowerment 2020	Virtual	PM Narendra Modi (Organized by The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and NITI Aayog)
International webinar on textile traditions	Addressed by Narendra Modi	Organized by ICCR. Theme -Weaving Relations: Textile Traditions
42nd Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council	-	Chaired by Nirmala Sitharaman
Seventh Meeting of Ministers of Justice of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization	Hosted by Ravi Shankar Prasad	
Fifth energy ministers' meeting of the BRICS group	Hosted by Russia's presidency	Chaired by Alexander Novak
First joint commission meeting (Held between India and Chile)	Virtual	Co-chaired by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar
7 th Summit of Ministers of Justice of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, SCO	Hosted by India	Hosted by Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad
102nd meeting of the World Bank Development Committee	Virtual	Participated by Nirmala Sitharaman



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Y20 Global Summit	Host country - Saudi Arabia	Represented by Kiren Rijju. Theme - Government – Youth dialogue on post-COVID-19 opportunities
9th session of the India-Oman Joint Commission	Virtual	Co-chaired by Hardeep Singh Puri,
18th meeting of SCO Prosecutors General	Virtual	Represented by Tushar Mehta. India will host the meeting of Prosecutors General in 2021
6th edition of India International Science Festival	Fifth IISF was held in Kolkata	Announced by Dr. Harsh Vardhan
14th session of Food and Agri Week 2020	Virtual	Inaugurated by Narendra Singh Tomar
Vlth BRICS Parliamentary Forum	Virtual	Chaired by the HE Vyacheslav Volodin
19th Meeting of SCO Ministers of Foreign Economy & Foreign Trade	Hosted by India	
First-ever SCO Startup Forum	-	Launched by Piyush Goyal
VAIBHAV Summit	-	Inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi
World Urdu Conference	New Delhi	National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL)
17th ASEAN-India Economic Ministers Consultations	Virtual	MGC is an initiative by six countries - India and five ASEAN countries, namely, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam
12th Mekong Ganga Cooperation		
Summit of the council of heads of government of the SCO	India	
5th BRICS Culture Ministers' Meeting	Virtual	Prahlad Singh Patel
35th FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific	Host Country - Bhutan	
3rd Annual Leadership Summit of US-India Strategic Partnership Forum	Virtual	US-India Navigating New Challenges
First ever Virtual Buyer Seller Meet		Organized by Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council of India



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

1 st World Solar Technology Summit		Organised by ISA and FICCI
10th East Asia Summit Foreign Ministers' Meeting	Virtual	Attended by V. Muraleedharan
3rd session of WHO South East Asia Region (SEARO)	Virtual	Attended by Dr. Harsh Vardhan
G-20 Agriculture and Water Ministers	Virtual	Attended by Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Parshottam Rupala
10th Defence Technology and Trade Initiative	Virtual	Co-chaired by Raj Kumar, Secretary, Defence Production
4th edition of Global Ayurveda Summit	Virtual	Ayurvedha for immunity
10th Meeting of the BRICS High Representatives on National Security	Virtual	Chaired by Russia
10th meeting of the NSAs	Hosted by the current chair of BRICS Russia	
Vaibhav (Vishwik Bhartiya Vaignaynik) Summit	Virtual	Inaugurated by PM Modi
Global climate summit	Virtual	Co-host by United Nations and Britain
Session Of Bureau Of WHO Executive Board	Virtual	Dr Harsh Vardhan
5th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament	Virtual	Om Birla
International Conference on Climate Change and Its Impact on Himalayan Region	Virtual	Aryabhatta Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES), Nainital and Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University
7th meeting of India-Vietnam Joint Commission	Virtual	Dr. S. Jaishankar and his Vietnamese counterpart Pham Binh Minh
15th summit between India and the European Union	Virtual	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Fourth edition of the virtual Ministerial on Climate Action	Virtual	Prakash Javadekar
2020 India Ideas Summit	Virtual	Hosted by India Business Council

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

3rd G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors	Virtual	Nirmala Sitharaman
mergent North-East India: Strategic and Developmental Imperatives in Handicrafts	Virtual	Organized by Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Centre for Policy Research and Analysis, Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Shillong.
6th BRICS Environment Ministers' Meeting	Virtual	Prakash Javdekar

Important Defence News

Exercises	Countries
Malabar	India, US, Japan
CARAT Bangladesh 2020	Bangladesh & USA
SITMEX-20	India, Singapore and Thailand
SIMBEX-20	India & Singapore
CORPAT	India & Thailand
Exercise Suraksha Kavach	Army and Police
SLINEX-20	India & Sri Lanka
INDRA	India & Russia
PASSEX	Australia & India
JIMEX	India & Japan
CARAT	US & Bangladesh

BELM bags Rs.842 cr mobility vehicles order for Pinaka project

- Pinaka is a **multi-barrel rocket launcher** developed indigenously for the Indian Army
- BELM**, a Bengaluru-based defence equipment manufacturer, has bagged an order worth **Rs.842 crore** from **Ministry of Defence (MoD)** for the supply of **330 high mobility vehicles**, for Pinaka Project.

11th INDRA NAVY: Bilateral maritime exercise between Indian and Russian Navy

- The 11th edition of exercise INDRA NAVY, a biennial bilateral maritime exercise between Indian and Russian Navy began in the Bay of Bengal. Initiated in 2003, Exercise INDRA NAVY epitomises the long-term strategic relationship between the two Navies.

DRDO develops P-7 Heavy Drop System capable of para dropping military stores

- Defence Research and Development Organization, DRDO** has developed **P-7 Heavy Drop System** which is capable of para dropping military stores up to seven-tonne weight class from **IL- 76** aircraft.



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- It consists of a platform and **specialized parachute system**. The system has been developed successfully with 100 per cent indigenous resources.

For first time, ITBP deploys female doctors at forward locations in Ladakh

- **Indo-Tibet Border Police (ITBP)** has sent **female doctors** to forward operating locations in **Ladakh**.
- From sending troops from Leh to taking care of them at the forward locations, the ITBP female doctors have given all kinds of charge.

India's first Coast Guard academy to come up at Mangaluru

- **India's first Coast Guard academy** will be established at **Mangaluru, Karnataka**.
- Around 158 acres **Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB)** land has been taken over for setting up ICG Academy.

DRDO conducts successful flight test of ABHYAS

- The successful flight test of **ABHYAS - High-speed Expendable Aerial Target** was conducted by **Defence Research and Development Organisation, DRDO** from the Interim Test Range, Balasore in Odisha.
- Abhyas is designed and developed by Aeronautical Development Establishment of DRDO.
- The air vehicle is powered by a small gas turbine engine and has MEMS based **Inertial Navigation System for navigation** along with the Flight Control Computer for guidance and control.

DRDO successfully test-fires Laser-Guided Anti Tank Missile

- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** successfully test-fired the indigenously-developed **Laser-Guided Anti Tank Guided Missile (ATGM)** from the Main Battle Tank (MBT) Arjun at KK Ranges in Ahmednagar in **Maharashtra**.

Kineco flags-off India's first commercial Sonar Dome for Indian Navy

- **Goa-based Kineco Limited** flagged off India's **first-ever commercial Sonar Dome**.
- The Sonar Dome is a critical component of a warship as it houses the **Sonar (Sonar Navigation and Ranging) Array** - which is used for detection, navigation, and ranging.
- The Sonar Dome, manufactured by Kineco was flagged off to its esteemed customer **Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited Mumbai (MDL)**, where it will be mounted on the **Indian Navy's P15 Alpha Warship**.

Indian Navy, Royal Australian Navy Passage Exercise (PASSEX) underway in Eastern Indian Ocean

- **PASSEX** underway between **Royal Australian Navy** and **Indian Navy** in **Eastern Indian Ocean Region**.
- Air Warfare Destroyer **HMAS Hobart**, Stealth Frigate **INS Sahyadri** and Missile Corvette **INS Karmuk** are engaged in complex Maritime Exercises.

India-Japan Maritime bilateral exercise 'JIMEX'

- The fourth edition of **India-Japan Maritime bilateral exercise (JIMEX)** begins in North Arabian Sea. The exercise is conducted biennially between the **Indian Navy** and **Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF)**.



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- 'JIMEX' series of exercises commenced in January 2012. JIMEX 20 will be spread over three days and is being conducted in a '**non-contact at-sea-only format**', in view of COVID-19 restrictions.

Indian Army begins process to grant Permanent Commission to eligible women officers

- Indian Army has kickstarted the process to grant Permanent Commission to eligible women officers, nearly two weeks after the defence ministry approved the proposal.
- It has asked women officers to apply for permanent commission by 31st August 2020.

Indian Armed Forces contingent heads to Russia for war games next month

- India gets ready to participate in the Russian Kavkaz 2020 strategic command-post exercise. All the bilateral and multilateral military exercises had been put on hold due to the global pandemic of COVID-19 and now their resumption is starting gradually.
- The exercise comes at a time when the tensions between India and China are growing along the Line of Actual Control in Eastern Ladakh.

Two light combat helicopters developed by HAL deployed in Ladakh for high altitude IAF operations

- Two Light Combat Helicopters (LCH) developed by the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) have been deployed for operations at high altitude in Leh.
- The two HAL choppers will support the Indian Air Force (IAF) in its high altitude missions.

DAC approves procurement proposals worth Rs 8,722.38 crore

- To take forward the initiative on 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) in its meeting held under the Chairmanship of Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh accorded approval for capital acquisitions of various platforms and equipment required by the Indian Armed Forces. Proposals for an approximate cost of Rs 8,722.38 crore were approved.
- DAC approved procurement of 106 Basic Trainer Aircraft from HAL to address the basic training requirements of the Indian Air Force (IAF).

Anti-drone system developed by DRDO deployed near Red Fort on Independence Day

- An anti-drone system developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) was deployed.
- The DRDO-developed system can detect and jam micro drones up to 3 kilometres and use laser to bring down a target up to 1-2.5 kilometres depending on the wattage of laser weapon.

Indian Coast Guard Launches 27-Meter-Long Interceptor Boat In Surat

- A newly-built "Interceptor" boat of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) was launched in Surat.
- Interceptor Boat 'ICGS C-454', built by Larsen and Toubro, was launched into the service of the Coast Guard.
- The 27-meter-long boat has a maximum speed of 45 nautical miles or 83 kilometers per hour, and has excellent seakeeping, maneuverability and endurance range of 500 nautical miles.

First rockets produced by private sector successfully test fired

- The first ever rockets fully manufactured by the private sector have been successfully test fired by the army.



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- The Pinaka rockets were tested at a firing range in Pokharan and achieved the desired results by accurately hitting targets.
- The rockets have been manufactured by the private sector after a technology transfer agreement with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

Iran unveils locally made ballistic and cruise missiles amid US tensions

- Iran inaugurated a surface-to-surface ballistic missile with a range of 1,400 km and a new cruise missile.
- The surface-to-surface missile, called martyr Qassem Soleimani, has a range of 1,400 km and the cruise missile, called martyr Abu Mahdi, has a range of over 1000 kilometers, Hatami stated.

India Pavilion At Army-2020 Forum Inaugurated In Russia

- The India Pavilion at the Army-2020 International Military and Technical Forum was inaugurated by Secretary (Defence Production) Raj Kumar and Indian Ambassador DB Venkatesh Verma outside Moscow.
- The forum, organised by the Russian Defence Ministry, will be held from August 23-29 at the Patriot Park near Moscow, which has been the venue since 2015.

DRDO expert panel to review charter of labs to cut overlap

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has set up an the five-member committee under the chairmanship of V Ramagopal Rao to review the charter of its laboratories and minimise the overlap of technologies.
- DRDO chief G Satheesh Reddy has constituted and asked the panel to submit its report within 45 days.

INS Viraat to Be Dismantled at Alang in Gujarat

- INS Viraat, the aircraft carrier that served the Indian Navy for 30 years before being decommissioned three years ago, is likely to be towed from Mumbai to Alang in Gujarat's Bhavnagar district next month to be dismantled and sold as scrap.
- It will take around three days for the ship to be towed from Mumbai to Alang. It will be scrapped at the country's first certified eco-friendly ship recycling yard in nine to 12 months.

India withdraws from multilateral war game in Russia's Kavkaz

- India has decided to withdraw from a multilateral war game in Russia's Kavkaz exercise next month.
- India had conveyed to Russia that it will participate in the strategic command-post exercise to be held in the Astrakhan region in southern Russia from 15 to 26 September.

India and Japan conduct naval exercise amid tensions with China

- The **Indian and Japanese navies** have reportedly conducted an exercise in the Indian Ocean amidst ongoing **India-China border tensions in Ladakh**.
- Rajput-class destroyer **INS Rana** and Kora-class missile corvette **INS Kulish** of the Indian Navy participated in the 'goodwill training' exercise.
- The Japanese vessels are **JS Shimayuki** and **JS Kashima**. The **passing exercise** (PASSEX) is considered a significant strategic signalling for China.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Cochin Shipyard Limited signs contract for construction of Autonomous electric vessels for ASKO maritime AS, Norway

- INDIA's largest commercial shipbuilder **Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL)** has signed contracts for construction and supply of two autonomous electric ferries to **Norway-based ASKO Maritime**, with an option to build two more identical vessels.
- CSL is already constructing **23 hybrid electric boats for Kochi Water Metro**. It won this export order after detailed evaluation of various global shipyards and based on its value proposition to the customer.

Defence Research Body Develops Fully Indigenous P7 Heavy Drop System

- **DRDO** has developed **P7 Heavy Drop System** which is capable of para dropping military stores up to 7-ton weight class from **IL 76 aircraft**.
- This system is fully indigenous and being manufactured by **L&T** who makes the platform system, parachutes manufactured by **Ordnance Factory**.
- This system has been made under the **Make in India programme**.

DAC delegates powers for progressing urgent Capital Acquisition Cases upto Rs 300 crore to Armed Forces

- **Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)** has delegated the powers for progressing urgent **Capital Acquisition Cases** upto **Rs 300 crore** to the Armed Forces to meet their emergent operational requirements.
- This will shrink the procurement timelines and ensure placement of orders within six months and commencement of deliveries within one year.

USS Nimitz may conduct Passex with Indian Navy

- The US Navy's nuclear-powered aircraft carrier **USS Nimitz (CVN 68)** may conduct a **passing exercise (Passex)** with the Indian Navy.
- The drill may be held off the coast of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the Malacca Strait.
- It also comes after the **Nimitz Carrier Strike Group** and **Ronald Reagan Carrier Strike Group** carried out high-end dual-carrier exercises in the **South China Sea (SCS)**.

MoD inks contract with BEML for procurement of 1,512 Mine Plough for T-90 tanks

- With an aim to boost '**Make in India**' initiative of the Government, Acquisition Wing of Ministry of Defence signed a Contract with **Bharat Earth Movers Limited, BEML** for procurement of **1,512 Mine Plough for Tank T-90 S/SK** at an approximate cost of **Rs. 557 crore**.
- The contract has Buy and Make (Indian) categorisation with a minimum of **50 per cent indigenous content** in make portion of the contract.

3-day long Air Force Commanders' Conference to begin in Delhi

- The **three day long Air Force Commanders' Conference** began at Air Headquarters (Vayu Bhawan) in New Delhi. The theme of the conference is "**Indian Air Force in the Next Decade**".
- The Air Force Commanders' Conference will be chaired by the **Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhadauria**.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

DRDO provides 'Bharat drones' to Indian Army for accurate surveillance at India-China border

- **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** has provided drones named '**Bharat**' to Indian Army.
- **Bharat Drones- a series of drones** that comes under one of the world's most lightest and agile drone surveillance systems and is made in India only.

Dhruvastra: DRDO test fires 'made in India' anti-tank guided Nag missile

- **Defence Research and Development Organisation** conducts flight trials of the anti-tank guided Nag Missile (HELINA), which has been named now as **Dhruvastra**. Trials were done without helicopter at Interim Test Range, Balasore, Odisha.
- Dhruvastra is the helicopter version of '**Nag Helina**'. The missile in the helicopter-launched configuration has been designated as Helicopter-launched **NAG (HELINA)**. They can be fired from the indigenous '**Dhruv**' **Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH)**, as well as **Rudra (ALH WSI)** attack helicopter. Both these helicopters are made in India by the **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)**.

Largest solar power plant of Navy commissioned in Kerala

- The **Indian Navy's largest solar power plant** has been commissioned at **Ezhimala**, in Kannur district of Kerala. Vice Admiral Anil Kumar Chawla launched plant. The solar plant has an estimated life of **25 years**.
- The project was executed by **Kerala State Electronics Development Corporation Ltd (KELTRON)**. The solar power plant project will help **Naval Station Ezhimala** reduce the carbon footprint.

DRDO Launches 'Dare To Dream 2.0' Contest For Startups With The Aim To Promote Innovators

- The **Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO)** on launched '**Dare to Dream 2.0**' contest for innovators and those looking to launch a startup on the **5th death anniversary of former President of India and noted scientist Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam**.
- The **Dare to dream 2.0 scheme** aims to promote innovators and startup culture in the country.

5 Rafale jets land at IAF Ambala air base

- **Five Rafale jets**, the first of the 36 contracted by India, landed at the **Ambala air base**.
- The fighter jet, to be inducted into the Indian Air Force's '**Golden Arrow**' squadron, is the first imported fighter jet to be inducted into the IAF. The first Su-30 entered IAF service in June 1997.

DRDO successfully test fires Brahmos surface-to-surface cruise missile

- **India** successfully test-fired **BrahMos supersonic cruise missile** with several indigenous features from a test range in **Odisha**, in a major step towards achieving "Atmanirbhar Bharat" pledge.
- **Jointly developed by the DRDO and NPOM**, a leading aerospace enterprise of Russia, the BrahMos missile is a medium-range **ramjet supersonic cruise missile** capable of being launched from **submarines, warships, fighter jets or land**.

Indian Coast Guard ship Kanaklata Barua commissioned in Kolkata



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV) ICGS 'Kanaklata Barua'** of the Indian Coast Guard was commissioned at the **Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd.**, Kolkata.
- ICGS Kanaklata Barua is one of the five FPVs built by GRSE.

DRDO Test Fires Laser-Guided Anti-Tank Guided Missile

- **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** successfully test-fired an indigenously developed **laser-guided anti-tank guided missile (ATGM)** in **Maharashtra's Ahmednagar**.
- The missile was test-fired from an **MBT Arjun Tank** at **KK Ranges** in **Armoured Corps Centre and School (ACC&S)** in Ahmednagar to practice defeating a target located at longer range.
- The laser-guided missile has been developed by **Armament R&D Establishment (ARDE)**, **Pune** in association with **High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL)**, **Pune** and **Instruments Research & Development Establishment (IRDE)**, **Dehradun**.

India successfully test-fires nuclear-payload capable Shaurya missile

- An advanced version of the '**Shaurya**' **surface-to-surface nuclear-capable ballistic** the missile was successfully test-fired, in **APJ Abdul Kalam Island**, **Odisha**.
- '**Shaurya**', which is the **land variant of India's K-15 missile**, has a strike range of **700 km to 1000 km** and is capable of carrying payloads of **200 kg to 1000 kg**.
- It has been **tested** by the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**.

Indian Navy Helicopters Along With GVMC Undertake Aerial Seeding Initiative

- The **Indian Navy** has partnered with **Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC)** to undertake **Aerial Seeding at Visakhapatnam**.
- **Rajya Sabha MP V Vijayasai Reddy** and **Vice Admiral Atul Kumar Jain** flagged off aerial seeding at Visakhapatnam at **INS Dega**.

NASA launches SS Kalpana Chawla Cygnus spacecraft to International Space station

- **Northrop Grumman** launched another flight to the **International Space Station**, this time named after late astronaut '**Kalpana Chawla**'.
- The **Cygnus vehicle S.S Kalpana Chawla** along with **Antares rocket** for **NG-14 mission**.
- The astronauts will connect the **Cygnus to International Space Station** through its robotic arm of **Canadarm2**.
- This space vehicle is also carrying '**SharkSat**' which will **test emerging technologies for 5G networks**.

US approves \$90 million sale of spares, support for C-130J Super Hercules aircraft to India

- The **Pentagon** has approved India's request to buy **USD 90 million worth of equipment, spare parts and logistical support** for its fleet of **C-130J Super Hercules cargo aircraft**.
- The items ordered by India are aircraft consumable spares and repair/return parts; ground support and equipment; Cartridge Actuated Devices/Propellant Actuated Devices (CAD/PAD) fire extinguisher cartridges; flare cartridges; BBU-35/B cartridge impulse squibs.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- India is one of the 17 countries to whom the US has sold its C-130J Super Hercules aircraft.

India conducts successful flight test of SMART

- DRDO conducted a successful flight test of the **Supersonic Missile Assisted Release of Torpedo (SMART)** from **Wheeler Island** off the coast of **Odisha**.
- SMART is a missile assisted release of lightweight Anti-Submarine Torpedo System for anti-submarine warfare (ASW) operations for far beyond torpedo range.

ICG Offshore Patrol Vessel 'Vigraha' Launched to Enhance Coastal Security

- The **seventh offshore patrol vessel** of the **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)**, '**Vigraha**' was formally unveiled at the **Kattupalli port** near **Chennai**.
- The vessel, built by **Larsen and Toubro**, is the last in the series of seven OPVs contracted to the company by the Ministry of Defence in 2015.
- Larsen and Toubro has already designed and built ICGS 'Vikram', ICGS 'Vijaya', ICGS 'Veera', ICGS 'Varaha', ICGS 'Varad', ICGS 'Vajra'.

Russia reports successful test launch of hypersonic missile

- Russian President Vladimir Putin hailed the successful test launch of a **new Zircon hypersonic cruise missile**.
- It took place from the Admiral Groshkov frigate located in the White Sea, in the north of Russia.

India Test-Fires First Indigenous Anti-Radiation Missile "Rudram"

- India successfully test-fired the "**Rudram**" Anti-Radiation Missile, developed by **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**, from a **Sukhoi-30 fighter aircraft** off the east coast.
- The **New Generation Anti-Radiation Missile (Rudram-1)** which is India's first indigenous anti-radiation missile developed by DRDO for **Indian Air Force** was tested successfully at ITR, **Balasore**.

North Korea unveils 'monster' new intercontinental ballistic missile at parade

- North Korea unveiled** a previously unseen '**monster**' missile capable of hitting targets in the USA at a massive military parade.
- This would be one of the **largest road-mobile intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs)** in the world if it becomes operational.

Indian Navy Ships Sahyadri and Kora adjudged as Best Ships in FAF 2020

- Fleet Award Function (FAF)**, 2020 was organised to mark the successful culmination of the **Operational Cycle** of the Eastern Fleet of the Indian Navy at Visakhapatnam.
- The most coveted trophies of Best Ship were awarded to **INS Sahyadri** amongst Capital ships and **INS Kora** amongst Corvettes and similar classes of ships.
- Indian Naval Ships Airavat and Kiltan jointly bagged the 'Best Spirited Ship' displaying indomitable spirit and grit whilst undertaking a plethora of challenging missions.

DRDO fires Nirbhay cruise missile into sea



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** launched the **800-km range Nirbhay cruise missile** from **Odisha's test facility** into the **Bay of Bengal**.
- Nirbhay is a subsonic missile, flying at a speed of 0.7 Mach, with sea-skimming and terrain-hugging capability that helps the missile stay under enemy radar to avoid detection.

Exercise Suraksha Kavach- Joint Anti Terrorist Exercise By Army and Police

- The aim of the exercise was to **harmonize the drills** and procedures of both **Army** and **Police** for activating anti-terrorist **Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs)** to counter any terrorist actions in **Pune**.
- The exercise involved participation of Quick Reaction Teams, Dog Squads and Bomb Disposal Teams of Army as well as Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) and Quick Reaction Team of Maharashtra Police.

India Conducts Successful Night Trial of Nuclear-Capable Prithvi-2 Missile From Odisha Test Range

- A night trial of the **indigenously developed** nuclear-capable missile **Prithvi-2** was successfully conducted as part of a user trial **by the Army** from a test range in integrated Test Range (ITR) at **Chandipur, Odisha**.
- Already inducted into the armory of Indian defence forces in **2003**, the nine-metre tall '**Prithvi**' was the **first missile to have been developed by DRDO** under the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP).

BrahMos missile test-fired from destroyer INS Chennai in Arabian Sea

- India successfully test fired the **BrahMos supersonic cruise missile** from the indigenously-built stealth destroyer **INS Chennai**, with the weapon hitting a pre-designated target **in the Arabian Sea**.
- The 290-km range missile an Indo-Russian joint venture has **land, air and naval variants**.
- Other weapons recently tested by India include a new version of the nuclear-capable hypersonic **Shourya missile** with a range of 750 km and the **anti-radiation missile** to take down enemy radars and surveillance systems.

Indian Navy – Sri Lanka Navy Maritime Exercise SLINEX-20 off Trincomalee

- The **Eighth Edition** of annual Indian Navy (**/N**) – Sri Lanka Navy (**SLN**) bilateral maritime exercise **SLINEX-20** is scheduled off **Trincomalee, Sri Lanka**.
- The Sri Lanka Navy will be represented by **SLN Ships Sayura** (Offshore Patrol Vessel) and **Gajabahu** (Training Ship) led by Rear Admiral Bandara Jayathilaka, the **Flag Officer Commanding Naval Fleet, Sri Lanka Navy**.

ADTL To Build, Run Rs.753 cr. MiG-29 Simulator Centre For IAF

- **ADTL** stated it has signed the **first of two-phase defense contracts**, together worth **Rs.753 crores**, with the **Ministry of Defence and Russia's RAC MiG**.
- The **Bengaluru-based company**, which is involved in military aircraft, electronic devices for the military, and satellite assemblies for ISRO, stated it has been chosen by the two to build, own and maintain two types of simulators for fighter aircraft.

India invites Australia to join Malabar naval exercises in snub to China

- The Centre announced that **Australia will join** the high-level **Malabar naval exercises**.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The annual drill, which **India, Japan and the United States** participated in, will now include the complete “quad” or **quadrilateral coalition**. The announcement came amid India’s border tensions with China.

SANT Missile successfully testfired from Odisha coast

- India has successfully test fired the **Stand-off Anti-tank (SANT) Missile** off the coast of Odisha.
- The Missile is being developed by the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** for the Indian Air Force (IAF) and will have **both Lock-on After Launch and Lock-on Before Launch capability**.

Indigenous stealth corvette INS Kavaratti commissioned into Navy

- Chief of Army Staff General **M M Naravane** commissioned the Anti-Submarine Warfare stealth corvette, **INS Kavaratti**, into the Indian Navy.
- INS Kavaratti is the last in the series of four **Anti-Submarine Warfare Corvettes** built for the Navy by **Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE)**, Kolkata, a leading shipyard, under **Project 28**.
- Along with **INS Kamorta**, **INS Kadmat** and **INS Kiltan** will form a major part of the Eastern Fleet of the Indian Navy.

Indian Navy operationalises first batch of 3 women pilots at Kochi, ready to fly Dornier aircraft

- The **Indian Navy** has operationalized its **first batch of women pilots** on **Dornier Aircraft** by the **Southern Naval Command (SNC)** at Kochi.
- Lieutenant Divya Sharma** (from Malviya Nagar, New Delhi), **Lieutenant Shubhangi Swaroop** (from Tilhar, Uttar Pradesh) and **Lieutenant Shivangi** (from Muzaffarpur, Bihar) are the three women pilots of the first batch.

Indian Navy Missile Corvette INS Prabal launches anti-ship missile

- The **Indian Navy** shared a video showing an **anti-ship missile (ASHM)** launched by its **Missile Corvette INS Prabal** landing home on with deadly accuracy at maximum range and sinking the target ship.

Indian Navy successfully test fires missile INS Kora as part of military drill in Bay of Bengal

- The **Indian Navy** successfully test fired its **anti-ship missile (AshM)** in the **Bay of Bengal** from its **Guided Missile Corvette INS Kora** and hit the target at max range with “precise accuracy”.
- Last week, the Navy had released a video showing the anti-ship missile launched by its **Missile Corvette INS Prabal** hitting a ship and sinking it with “deadly accuracy”.
- The missile was launched as part of a mega drill involving aircraft carrier **INS Vikramaditya**, aircraft and a number of warships, attack helicopters and other assets of the Navy.

Indian Army launches cycling expedition in Gujarat & Rajasthan to commemorate 1971 Indo-Pak War victory

- Konark Corps of Indian Army** has launched a **1971 kilometers cycling expedition** in Gujarat and Rajasthan to commemorate the commencement of the **Golden Jubilee Victory Celebrations of Indian Armed Forces in the Indo-Pak War of 1971**.

Indian Navy inducts two American Predator drones on lease



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The **Indian Navy** has **leased two Predator drones** from an American firm for carrying out surveillance in the **Indian Ocean Region**, a person familiar with the matter stated– in a sign of closer defence and security cooperation between India and the US.

India test-fires land-attack version of BrahMos missile

- India test-fired a land-attack version of the **BrahMos supersonic cruise missile** from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands,. “The target of the missile was on another island there. “The supersonic cruise missile was testfired at 10 AM and it successfully hit its target. The test was conducted by **the Indian Army** which has many regiments of the DRDO-developed Missile system. The strike range of BrahMos missile has now been enhanced to over 400 km,” it added quoting sources.

First phase of four-nation Malabar naval exercise kicks off

- The **24th edition** of the **Malabar naval exercise** is scheduled to be held in two phases in November 2020.
- **Phase 1 of the exercise Malabar 20** involving participation by **Indian Navy (IN), United States Navy (USN), Japan Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF), and Royal Australian Navy (RAN)** is set to commence off Visakhapatnam in **Bay of Bengal from 3-6 November, 2020**
- The Indian Navy participation in Phase 1 will be led by **Rear Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan**, Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet.
- **Phase 2 of Malabar 20** is scheduled to be conducted in **the Arabian Sea in mid-November 2020**.

Indian Naval Ship Airavat reaches Port Sudan as part of 'Mission Sagar-II'

- **Indian Naval Ship, Airavat** reached **Port Sudan** as a part of **Mission Sagar-II**.
- Indian government is providing assistance to Friendly Foreign Countries to overcome natural calamities and COVID-19 pandemic, and towards the same **INS Airavat** is carrying a consignment of **100 Tonnes of food aid for the people of Sudan**.
- Mission Sagar-II, follows the first 'Mission Sagar' undertaken in May-June 2020, wherein India provided food and medicines to Maldives, Mauritius, Seychelles, Madagascar and Comoros.
- As part of Mission Sagar-II, **INS Airavat will deliver food aid to Sudan, South Sudan, Djibouti and Eritrea**.

Indian Coast Guard Ship C-452 To Be Commissioned

- **Rajan Bargotra**, Additional Director General (Western Seaboard), will commission **Indian Coast Guard's (ICG) ship C-452** through video conference in **Ratnagiri, Maharashtra**.
- The ship was indigenously **designed and built by Larsen & Toubro, Surat** complying with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of “Make in India” and “Atmanirbhar Bharat”.
- Earlier in May, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh had commissioned Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) Sachet and two interceptor boats (IBs) **C-450 and C-451 in Goa**.

Australia to join Malabar naval exercise involving India, US, Japan

- **Australia** will join Malabar naval exercise involving India, US and Japan.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The Annual Naval Exercise Malabar-2020 is expected to be held in the **Bay of Bengal** and the Arabian Sea later this year. This year, the exercise has been planned on a '**non-contact-at sea**' format.
- The exercise will strengthen the coordination between the Navies of the participating countries.

Advanced version of Pinaka Rocket System successfully test-fired; 6 rockets launched

- **Pinaka missile** was successfully flight testfired from Integrated Test Range at **Chandipur off the coast of Odisha**. The indigenous Pinaka missile has been developed by **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**.
- A total of **6 rockets were launched** in quick succession and the tests met complete mission objectives.
- An enhanced version of Pinaka rocket **would replace** the **existing Pinaka Mk-I rockets** which are currently under production.
- The design and development has been carried out by **Pune based DRDO laboratories**, namely Armament Research and Development Establishment, ARDE and High Energy Materials Research Laboratory, HEMRL.
- **Rockets tested** have been manufactured by **M/s Economic Explosives Limited, Nagpur**, to whom the technology has been transferred.

Bangladesh, US launch joint naval exercise 'CARAT Bangladesh 2020'

- The **Bangladesh and US Navies** launched the '**Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) Bangladesh-2020**' to expand relationships and broaden maritime awareness between the two countries.
- The exercise demonstrates US's continuing commitment to work with the Bangladesh military to address shared maritime security concerns in the region and strengthen partnership to ensure a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

India's special forces carry out a 'Bull Strike' in Andaman Nicobar Islands

- A **Military exercise** involving **special forces** was carried out in the **Andaman and Nicobar Islands** as the **Army, Navy and Air Force** got together for the war games amid the India-China standoff to test synergy in joint operations.
- **Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC)** conducted a joint services exercise code-named '**Bull Strike**'.
- The major training activities comprised **combat free fall and para drop** from strategic lift **aircraft C-130** by a company of Para Commandos from the mainland, action by **MARCOS of Indian Navy** and **Special Heli Borne Operations (SHBO)** by Indian Army Ghatak Platoons.

Two-day joint coastal security exercise 'Sagar Kavach' begins at Odisha

- A two-day joint coastal security exercise, "**Sagar Kavach**" was launched at **Paradip Coast**.
- The exercise is being carried out by a joint effort of the state of Odisha and West Bengal governments.
- It will run for two days, with red and green forces being formed to infiltrate and prevent attacks. This year for coastal security the exercise was named "**Sagar Kavach**".

DRDO develops fire detection and suppression system for passenger buses

- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** has developed for **passenger buses** a technology called "**Fire Detection and Suppression System (FDSS)**".



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Union Road Transport Minister **Nitin Gadkari** and Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** witnessed at the DRDO Bhawan the demonstration of FDSS -- a technology which can detect fire in buses in less than 30 seconds and extinguish it in 60 seconds.
- DRDO's **Centre for Fire Explosive and Environment Safety (CFEES)**, Delhi has developed the technology.

Indian Navy's fifth Scorpene-class submarine Vagir launched

- **Indian Navy's fifth Kalvari-class Diesel Electric attack submarine INS Vagir** was launched at **Mazgaon Dock** in **Mumbai**.
- A modern and stealthy class of submarines having been built **under Project 75** and whose design is based on the Scorpene class of the submarines.
- The other vessels in the class are **INS Kalvari**, **INS Khanderi**, **INS Karanj**, **INS Vela** and **INS Vagsheer**.
- Like Kalvari – which means Tiger Shark, **Vagir has been named after a Sand Fish**, a predatory marine species.

DRDO successfully test-fires Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missile system

- India has successfully test-fired the **Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile (QRSAM) system** off the coast of **Balasore** in **Odisha**.
- The missile is propelled by a single-stage solid-propellant rocket motor and uses all indigenous subsystems.
- The QRSAM system has been developed by the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** in association with **Bharat Electronics Limited** and **Bharat Dynamics Limited** for the Indian Army

2nd edition of SITMEX-20 underway in Andaman Sea

- **Indian Navy Ships** including indigenously built **ASW corvette Kamorta** and missile corvette **Karmuk** are participating in the 2nd edition of **India, Singapore and Thailand** Trilateral Maritime Exercise **SITMEX-20** in Andaman Sea. The two day exercise got underway.
- First edition of SITMEX, hosted by Indian Navy, was conducted off **Port Blair** in **September** last year.

India - Singapore Bilateral Maritime Exercise SIMBEX-20 to begin in Andaman Sea

- **Indian Navy** is scheduled to host the **27th edition of India - Singapore Bilateral Maritime Exercise SIMBEX-20** from in Andaman Sea.
- The SIMBEX series of exercises between Indian Navy and Republic of Singapore Navy being conducted annually since 1994, are aimed at enhancing mutual inter-operability and imbibing best practices from each other.

Indo-Thai Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT)

- The **30th edition of India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (Indo-Thai CORPAT)** between the **Indian Navy** and the **Royal Thai Navy** conducted. Indian Naval Ship (INS) **Karmuk**, an indigenously built **Missile Corvette** and His Majesty's Thailand Ship (HTMS) **Kraburi**, a **Chao Phraya Class Frigate** along with **Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft** from both the navies are participating in the CORPAT.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- As part of Government of India's vision of **SAGAR** (Security And Growth for All in the Region), the Indian Navy has been involved in assisting countries in the Indian Ocean Region with EEZ Surveillance, **Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)**, and other capacity building and capability-enhancement activities, on their request.

DRDO flags off first Varunastra, a heavy weight torpedo

- G. Satheesh Reddy** flagged off the **first Varunastra, the heavy weight torpedo** that was delivered to the Indian Navy at a ceremony held at BDL, Visakhapatnam Unit.
- Varunastra, the heavy weight torpedo, has been designed and developed by NSTL, Visakhapatnam. BDL, being the production agency, is manufacturing Varunastra at its Visakhapatnam Unit for the Indian Navy.

Indian Navy receives ninth Boeing P-8I surveillance aircraft

- Indian Navy received the **first of the four new P-8I long-range maritime patrol aircraft**.
- In a major boost to its **anti-submarine warfare capabilities**, the Navy received its **ninth P-8I** surveillance plane at the **naval airbase in Goa**.
- The aircraft is the first of four additional planes ordered by India after the initial order for eight such planes was completed.

Malabar Exercise 2020: Second phase begins

- The **second phase of Malabar Exercise 2020** was held 17 in the **Northern Arabian Sea**.
- The exercise will involve coordinated operations between the navies of **India, the US, Australia and Japan**.
- Phase 2 of Malabar Exercise 2020 witnessed joint operations, centred around the **Vikramaditya Carrier Battle Group** of the **Indian Navy** and **Nimitz Carrier Strike Group** of the **US Navy**.
- The **Royal Australian Navy** was represented by **frigate Ballarat** along with its integral helicopter. **JMSDF** participated in the exercise.

Second flight test of QRSAM conducted successfully

- The **second flight test of Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile System (QRSAM)** was successfully conducted from the **Integrated Test Range, Chandipur**, off the coast of Odisha. The first in the series test of QRSAM took place on 13th of this month. The flight test was carried out against the high performance Jet Unmanned Aerial Target called **Banshee**, which simulates an aircraft.

Indian Navy successfully test fires BrahMos Supersonic Cruise Missile in Anti-Ship mode

- Ministry of Defence stated that **BrahMos** is the supersonic cruise missile jointly developed by **DRDO** and **NPOM** of Russia as a Brahmos Aerospace joint venture, which became Brahmos Aerospace Private Limited
- The Indian Navy stated, "Indian Navy hones its combat readiness as BrahMos ASHM launched by **INS Ranvijay** strikes target ship at max range with pinpoint accuracy in Bay of Bengal. **INS Ranvijay** is a Rajput-class destroyer warship of the Indian Navy.

Passage Exercise between Russian Federation Navy and Indian Navy

- The **Indian Navy** undertook a **Passage Exercise** with **Russian Federation Navy** in the Eastern Indian Ocean Region.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The exercise is aimed at enhancing interoperability, improving understanding and imbibing best practices between both the friendly navies, and would involve advanced surface and anti-submarine warfare exercises, weapon firings, seamanship exercises and helicopter operations.
- This **PASSEX** would be another step towards strengthening Indo-Russian defence relations.

Offshore Patrol Vessel 'Sujeet' to be commissioned

- **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)** ship **Sujeet**, the second in the series of five **Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV)** built by **Goa Shipyard Limited**, was commissioned at **Goa**.
- This vessel has been made in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Make in India'. will be commissioned by Secretary of Defence Production **Raj Kumar**.

Indian Navy to conduct coordinated patrol with Indonesian Navy

- The **35th edition of India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol (IND-INDO CORPAT)** between the **Indian Navy** and the **Indonesian Navy** was conducted.
- Indian Naval Ship (INS) **Kulish**, an indigenously built missile corvette along with **P8I Maritime Patrol Aircraft (MPA)** will undertake coordinated patrol with Indonesian Naval Ship **KRI Cut Nyak Dien**, a **Kapitan Pattimura (Parchim I)** class corvette and an **MPA** of the Indonesian Navy.
- As part of Government of India's vision of 'Sagar' (Security And Growth for All in the Region), the Indian Navy has been proactively engaging with countries in the Indian Ocean Region for coordinated patrols, cooperation in EEZ surveillance, passage exercises and bilateral/multilateral exercises, towards enhancing regional maritime security.

Rajnath Singh hands over DRDO Systems

- Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** handed over three indigenously developed systems to **Army, Navy and Air Force** at a function held in Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) **Bhawan**.
- That three systems are
 1. Indian Maritime Situational Awareness System (IMSAS) - Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Karambir Singh
 2. **ASTRA Mk-I Missile** - Air Chief Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria
 3. **Border Surveillance System (BOSS)** - Chief of Army Staff General M M Naravane.
- IMSAS, Astra Mk-1, BOSS have been designed and developed DRDO only.
- Astra Mk - 1 is the first Indigenously developed beyond visual range missile.

India successfully test-fires medium range surface-to air missile off Odisha coast

- India successfully test-fired a **medium range surface-to-air missile (MRSAM)** from **Odisha** coast on December 23, 2020.
- An unmanned air vehicle (UAV), '**Banshee**', was first flown into the air, which was hit by the MRSAM.
- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has jointly developed the missile in collaboration with Israel Aerospace Industries.
- The MRSAM has been manufactured by Bharat Dynamics Ltd.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The missile will significantly enhance the combat effectiveness of the defence forces.

China launches Gaofen-14 – Earth Observation Satellite from XSLC

- China National Space Administration (CNSA) successfully launched Gaofen-14, a New Earth Observation Satellite from the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre (XSLC) in Southwest China's Sichuan province.
- The Satellite was sent into orbit by Long March-3B/G5 Carrier Rocket. This was the first use of the G5 version of the Long March-3B launch vehicle which features a longer fairing.

Indigenous Howitzer – ATAGS developed by DRDO undergoes trial in Ahmednagar

- The Indigenous Howitzer (known as Artillery Guns)- Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS) developed by DRDO underwent Trials at Ahmednagar, Maharashtra.
- The Howitzer has a strike range of around 50 Kms.
- DRDO partnered with Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE), and private companies Bharat Forge Limited, Mahindra Defence Naval System, Tata Power Strategic Engineering Division and Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) for the project.

Japan's Hayabusa2 brings Rocket Samples from Asteroid "Ryugu"

- A small capsule containing First rock samples from beneath the surface of Asteroid 'Ryugu' landed at Woomera in South Australia, it was released by Japanese Spacecraft Hayabusa 2.
- The samples are expected to provide clues regarding the origin of the solar system & life on our planet.
- Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) stated that this is the 1st time that an international spacecraft has visited a celestial body which is under 100 metres in diameter.

Indian Navy finalises procurement of Israeli 'SMASH 2000' Anti-Drone Systems

- Indian Navy has finalised the contract for procurement of a batch of Israeli 'SMASH 2000 Plus fire Control Systems' Anti-Drone Systems which is capable of destroying high-speed enemy drones.
- It is manufactured by Israel Firm 'Smart Shooter'. It will be used in border security, bases and strategic facilities protection.
- The Smash Fire Control Systems Are Electro-optical rifle sights which will be mounted on Assault rifles such as AK-47/103 rifles.
- They are expected to be delivered by 2021.

China successfully launches 2 satellites from XSLC for Gravitational Wave Detection

- China successfully launched the Gravitational Wave High-energy Electromagnetic Counterpart All-sky Monitor (GECAM also called Huairou-1) comprising of 2 satellites for Gravitational Wave Detection from the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre (XSLC), Sichuan Province, China.
- The launch is the 355th Flight of the Long March Carrier Rocket Series and developed by China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC).

DRDO designed submachine gun '5.56X30 mm JVPC' undergoes successful Trials



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- 5.56 X 30 mm Joint Venture Protective Carbine (JVPC) designed by Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE), a lab of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully finished the final phase of user trials.
- The Gun will now be inducted into the Indian Army. JVPC is a Gas Operated Semi Bull-pup automatic weapon and is capable of firing around 700 rpm (rounds per minute).

China becomes 2nd country to Plant its National Flag on Moon

- China's Chang'e-5 probe planted the Chinese National Flag on the Moon's Surface. The United States was the first country to plant its National Flag on the Lunar surface during the manned Apollo 11 mission in 1969.
- Chang'e-5 planted the flag before starting on its return journey from the moon. It is carrying China's first Lunar Samples.

Russia Test Launches 'Angara A5' Heavy Lift Space Rocket from Plesetsk Cosmodrome

- Russia Successfully test launched 'Angara A5' - Heavy Lift Space Rocket from Plesetsk Cosmodrome in Northwest Russia.
- This is the 2nd successful test flight of the vehicle after 1st successful test flight in 2014.
- Angara is a new series of space launchers being built by Russia after the collapse of Soviet Union.
- The Angara Rocket series is developed & manufactured by Khrunichev State Research and Production Space Centre.

ICGS C-454 commissioned in Hazira Plant, Gujarat; Built by Larsen & Toubro

- An indigenously built Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) – C-454 Interceptor boat was commissioned at Hazira, Surat, Gujarat by Surat Police Commissioner Ajay Tomar. The ship has been built by Larsen & Toubro (L&T).
- The ship will be used for tightening security along Gujarat's 1600 km maritime borders. C-454 Interceptor Boat is the 54th boat built by L&T for ICG.

Israel successfully Test fires 3 Missile Defence Systems over Mediterranean Sea

- Israel Missile Defense Organization (IMDO) together with United States Missile Defense Agency (MDA) successfully test fired a series of Israel's 3 multi-range missile defence systems namely – "Arrow", "David's Sling" & "Iron Dome" over the Mediterranean Sea. The tests are being conducted amidst heightening tensions between Israel & Iran.
- "Arrow Missile" – An anti-ballistic missile intercepts long-range missile, "David's Sling" – shoots down medium-range missiles, and "Iron Dome" air defence system to engage incoming rocket fire.

ICG Launches 5th & Final OPV 'Saksham' in Goa

- Indian Coast Guard (ICG) launched the 5th & Final Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) 'Saksham' into water at Vasco da Gama, Goa.
- The OPV is being built by Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) and is expected to be delivered to the ICG by October 2021.

ISRO sets up 'NETRA' – Dedicated Control Centre for Space Situational Awareness



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has set up 'NETRA' (Network for space object TRacking and Analysis) – an dedicated Space Situational Awareness (SSA) Control Centre at ISTRAC (ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network) Campus at Peenya, Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- The main objective of NETRA is to protect Indian Space Assets from Space debris close approaches and collisions.

India successfully test-fires two Prithvi-2 Missiles from Odisha's Balasore Coast

- India successfully fired two Nuclear Capable Prithvi-2 Ballistic Missiles from Balasore, the eastern coast of Odisha.
- Prithvi-2 is a Surface-to-Surface Short-Range Ballistic Missile (SRBM). The Missile is developed by DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organisation) under the Integrated Guided Missile Development Program (IGMDP) and is deployed by SFC (Strategic Forces Command).

Russia launches 36 UK Telecom Satellite into Space

- Russian space agency Roscosmos Space Agency launched a Soyuz rocket carrying 36 UK telecommunications and internet satellites into space from Vostochny launch site.
- The satellites were made by British company OneWeb. This was the first launch of OneWeb satellites from the Vostochny spaceport.

Important Science and Technology News

Indian Railways develops remote-controlled medical trolley 'MEDBOT' to deliver food, medicines to COVID-19 patients

- Indian Railways has developed a remote-controlled medical trolley named 'MEDBOT' to help deliver food and medicines to COVID-19 patients.
- It is providing service in the Central Hospital of the Diesel Rail Engine Factory of Indian Railways.

IIT Bombay students launch AI-based alternative to CamScanner: AIR Scanner

- IIT Bombay, launched **AIR Scanner**, a free-of-cost document-scanning mobile application.
- The AI (Artificial Intelligence) based Reading Assistant and Document Scanner app is developed by **Rohit Kumar Chaudhary and Kavin Agrawal**, both students of IIT Bombay.
- The document scanned using a mobile camera will be saved in PDF format and will be stored in the device only.

CSIR-CMERI develops World's Largest Solar Tree

- CSIR-CMERI has developed the **World's Largest Solar Tree**, which is installed at CSIR-CMERI Residential Colony, Durgapur.
- The installed capacity of the Solar Tree is above **11.5 kWp**. It has the annual capacity to generate **12,000-14,000 units of Clean and Green Power**.
- There are a total of **35 Solar PV Panels** in each tree with a capacity of 330 wp each.

Indian astronomers discover one of the farthest Star galaxies in universe

- Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh stated it is a matter of pride that **India's first Multi-Wavelength Space Observatory 'AstroSat'** has detected **extreme-UV light** from a galaxy located **9.3 billion light-years** away from Earth.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The galaxy called **AUDFs01** was discovered by a team of Astronomers led by Dr Kanak Saha from the **Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics, Pune**.

IIT Madras startup subsidiary launches nano textile coating to inactive Coronavirus

- A subsidiary of a tech startup incubated by **IIT Madras** has launched a **nanotech coating for textiles** that can inactivate the novel Coronavirus within five minutes of contact.
- It continuously destroys or inactivates viruses as small as 30 nanometres and other microbes. At present the particles can be coated on materials like cotton, polyester and cotton – polyester.

India bans PUBG, 117 other Chinese apps for 'stealing, transmitting users' data' to servers outside India'

- The **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology** has received many complaints from various sources including several reports about **misuse of some mobile apps** available on Android and iOS platforms for **stealing and surreptitiously transmitting users' data** in an unauthorized manner to servers which have locations outside India.
- Besides PUBG Mobile, the Centre also banned the recently released PUBG MOBILE Nordic Map: Livik, as well other popular Chinese apps such as WeChat Work, WeChat Reading and Alibaba Group's payment app AliPay.
- These 118 apps join the earlier 59, including TikTok, UC Browser, CAM Scanner, etc, which were banned by the Union government in June this year following a clash in the Galwan Valley in Ladakh.

SpiceJet launches portable ventilator SpiceOxy for patients with breathing issues

- SpiceJet** introduced a portable ventilator for patients '**SpiceOxy**', the compact ventilator was designed by engineers of SpiceJet Technic, a subsidiary of SpiceJet.

IIT Guwahati collaborates with university in Czech Republic for data protection project

- A team of researchers from **Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati**, in collaboration with scientists from the **University of Pardubice, Czech Republic**, is working towards developing **indigenous algorithms** that can protect the **Nation's digital data** from **cyber-attacks** by advanced computers.
- This need has given rise to a new field of research, called **Post-Quantum Cryptography (PQC)** has been working on developing algorithms to secure data from attacks by advanced computers.

IIT Delhi incubated startup launches "Chakr DeCoV" to decontaminate N95 masks

- IIT Delhi incubated startup Chakr Innovation** has launched '**Chakr DeCoV**' to decontaminate N95 masks.
- Chakr DeCoV is built with an innovative decontamination mechanism, which utilises the **high penetrability of Ozone gas** for cleaning the pores of the N95 mask, ensuring complete decontamination of its intricate layers.

DIAT Develops Herbal Based Immunity Boosting Room Freshener 'Healthy Air'

- Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT)**, a Deemed to be University located near Khadakwasla, has developed **herbal-based immunity-boosting room freshener product** named "**Healthy Air**" to contain the spread of Coronavirus disease (COVID19).

IISc researchers develop low-cost, on demand printing technique



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The researchers at the Centre for Nano Science and Engineering in the Bengaluru based Indian Institute of Science have developed a low cost, on demand printing technique. This new technique replaces the nozzles of an inkjet printer with a mesh covered chemically treated nano wires that repel water.

CMERI Durgapur develops solar-powered sprayers for small, marginal farmers

- CMERI Durgapur has developed **two solar-powered spray systems** to help **small and marginal farmers** engage in site-specific irrigation to reduce water wastage.
- The **solar battery-operated sprayers** developed by CSIR-Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI) can also be used for targeted **pest control**, thus reducing environmental pollution.

IIT Guwahati Researchers Design Engineered Surfaces To Detect, Prevent COVID-19

- Researchers at the **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati** have developed methods to **detect and prevent the novel coronavirus** using **bio-interface interactions** between **the virus and the surface spike protein**.

IIT Bombay's robotic submarine Matsya 6 finishes third in RoboSub competition

- A robotic submarine - **Matsya 6** - designed by students of the **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay**, won the third position in presentation at the global RoboSub competition held in California.
- Matsya 6** is the latest in the series of **autonomous underwater vehicles (AUV)** developed by students of IIT Bombay.

SpaceX launches 60 Starlink satellites, inches closer to faster internet

- SpaceX** has successfully sent **60 Starlink internet satellites** aboard the Falcon 9.
- Falcon 9 successfully lifted off with the twelfth Starlink mission, carrying 60 Starlink satellites to orbit. Falcon 9 lifted off from **Launch Complex 39A (LC-39A)** at Kennedy Space Center in Florida," SpaceX stated .Falcon 9's first stage of the mission was carried out in June with the launch of the **GPS III Space Vehicle 03**.
- The satellites are meant to provide '**cheaper and faster**' **internet** to inaccessible areas. The satellites in its initial tests had provided over 100 Mbps speeds.

China just launched a 'reusable experimental spacecraft' into orbit

- China** launched an experimental **reusable spacecraft** into orbit with few details about what the spacecraft will do.A report from Chinese state media's Xinhua stated the launch was successful and that a **Long March 2F rocket** sent the spacecraft into orbit from the **Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center** in the **Gobi Desert**.

IIT Kharagpur Researchers Develop Painless Drug Delivery and Vaccination Device

- Researchers at the Institute's Dept. of Electronics & Electrical Communication Engineering of **IIT Kharagpur** have developed a **micropump and microneedle** which are integral parts of **transdermal drug delivery systems** capable of administering large and viscous drug molecules in a **painless way**.
- The innovation by IIT Kharagpur has **not only reduced the diameter size** of the micro needles but has **also increased the strength** so that they do not break while penetrating the skin.

DRDO successfully tests Hypersonic Technology Demonstrator Vehicle



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The hypersonic air-breathing scramjet technology was successfully demonstrated by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) with a flight test of the Hypersonic Technology Demonstrator Vehicle (HSTDV), which will lead to the development of hypersonic cruise missiles and vehicles in future.
- A ship was also deployed in the Bay of Bengal to monitor the performance during the cruise phase of the hypersonic vehicle.

Reliance-backed Fynd launches mobile game to encourage social distancing

- Reliance-backed eCommerce platform Fynd has launched a new hyper-casual game titled 'Social Doori' to encourage social distancing amid the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The hypercasual game is based on an Avatar selected by the user. The company in April had launched cross-platform game 'Corona Striker,' built on the theme of the global coronavirus pandemic as part of this initiative.

Chandrayaan-3 launch likely to take place in early 2021: Jitendra Singh

- Minister of State for the Department of Space Jitendra Singh stated that Chandrayaan-3, India's mission to Moon, would be launched in early 2021. Singh added that Chandrayaan-3 will be different from Chandrayaan-2 as the former will not have an orbiter, but will include a lander and a rover.

India, U.S. and Israel collaborating in 5G tech

- India, Israel and the United States have begun collaboration in developmental area, and in next generation of emerging technologies, including a transparent, open, reliable and secure 5G communication network.
- The virtual US-India-Israel summit that focused on trilateral partnerships in the strategic, technology and development arenas.

Northrop Grumman names spacecraft in honour of Kalpana Chawla

- Northrop Grumman has named its next space station resupply ship 'S.S. Kalpana Chawla' after Dr Kalpana Chawla, an astronaut of Indian descent.
- Northrop Grumman is proud to name the NG-14 Cygnus spacecraft after former astronaut Kalpana Chawla.

Indian scientists develop machine learning-based practical approach for automatic interpretation of 3D seismic data

- Scientists from Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology(WIHG), an autonomous Institute under the Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India, have developed a neural-based (machine learning-based) practical approach for automatic interpretation of 3D seismic data. This first of its kind approach has been developed by computing a new attribute called meta-attribute.

C-DAC, IIT-Kharagpur developing robot for pesticide spraying

- The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Kolkata, is coordinating a multi-body project with IIT-Kharagpur, funded by the Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, to develop a robot essentially for spraying pesticides in agricultural fields.

IIM, Kozhikode based incubatee start-up launches wearable gadget for implementing social distancing norms



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode** based incubatee start-up has come up with a unique user friendly **wearable device** that alarms proximity for helping implement **social distancing norms**.
- Known as the **Veli Band**, this wearable device has been developed by **Qual5 India Pvt. Ltd**, a startup co-founded by woman entrepreneur **Kiranmayee**.

China launches 9 satellites into space from ocean platform

- **China** launched a **Long March 11 rocket** from an ocean platform in the **Yellow Sea**, successfully sending **nine satellites into orbit**.
- It is the first time however that **China has used new seaport facilities** at **Haiyang** in eastern China. **China** is only the **third country** to perform a sea launch, following the **U.S. and Russia**.
- **Nine Jilin-1 Gaofen-03 (High Resolution-03)** Earth observation satellites were put into roughly 332-mile (535 kilometers) orbits and will provide **data for land resource survey, urban planning, disaster monitoring and other uses**.

Three tech institutions join hands to develop IoT-compatible sensors for agriculture

- Three premier Indian technology institutions – **IIT Bombay, Gauhati University** and the Gandhinagar-based **Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology** – have joined hands to develop **high-tech sensors** for use in agriculture.
- The project was funded by the **Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, the University Grants Commission, the Assam Science Technology and Environmental Council**.

Delhi Metro develops indigenous signalling technology under 'Make in India'

- The **Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC)** has taken a major step towards the development of an **indigenously built signalling technology** for metro trains in line with the government's flagship 'Make in India' initiative.
- **i-ATS, an important sub-system of the signalling system**.
- **ATS (Automatic Train Supervision)** is a **computer based system**, which manages train operations. This system is indispensable for high density operations such as the metro, where services are scheduled every few minutes.

CSIR Collaborates With Aurobindo Pharma To Develop COVID-19 Vaccines

- The **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)** and **Aurobindo Pharma Limited** on announced a collaboration to develop vaccines for COVID-19.
- As per the release issued by the **Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology (CCMB)**, under the signed agreement between **CSIR- CCMB** and **Aurobindo Pharma**, Aurobindo will partner with CSIR for the development of several novel COVID-19 vaccines.

Ashok Leyland, Hindustan Zinc team up with IIT-M to develop Zinc air battery

- Truck major **Ashok Leyland** and **Hindustan Zinc** have (separately) joined hands with **IIT-Madras** in the technology institute's endeavour to develop a **Zinc air battery**.
- At the heart of the battery is the Zinc anode which can be taken out once the battery discharges its power, and replaced. The cathode of the battery is, as for metal air batteries, air. Zinc reacts with the Oxygen in the air to deliver



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

electricity, and becomes Zinc oxide. In an external contrivance, which could be solar-powered, Oxygen is kicked out of the Zinc oxide and the metal is won back —a process called '**electrowinning**'.

IIIT-Bhubaneswar students make first-of-its-kind ventilation device "Swasner" to ease mild breathing issues

- A group of seven engineering students from **IIIT, Bhubaneswar** claimed to have developed a first-of-its-kind **helmet-like ventilation device "Swasner"** that benefits patients suffering from **mild respiratory distress**.
- It can also act as a comfortable alternative to the suffocating PPE kits, the students claimed.

Jupiter-sized planet found orbiting a dead star — a first in space discoveries

- According to findings published in the journal Nature, a planet the size of **Jupiter** is in orbit around a white dwarf ,The white dwarf known as **WD 1856+534** is hosting the newly discovered planet named **WD 1586 b**. — the remnant after a star's death — which is **80 light years** away from Earth. The planet takes merely 1.4 days to complete one orbit.
- The observations were made using **NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS)** and retired Spitzer Space Telescope.

IIT Madras develops AI processing models for 11 local languages

- The **Indian Institute of Technology Madras** has developed **artificial intelligence models** and datasets to process texts in **11 Indian regional languages**. This was taken up jointly with **AI4Bharat**, a platform for building AI solutions for problems of relevance to India.

NASA outlines plan for first woman on Moon by 2024

- The **US space agency (NASA)** has formally outlined its **\$28bn (£22bn)** plan to return to the **Moon** by **2024**.
- As part of a programme called **Artemis**, Nasa will send a man and a woman to the lunar surface in the first landing with humans since 1972.
- Astronauts will travel in an Apollo-like capsule called **Orion** that will launch on a powerful rocket called SLS.

Indigenously developed surface-to-surface Prithvi-II missile test fired

- **India** conducted a successful night testfire of its **indigenously developed** nuclear capable surface-to-surface **Prithvi-II missile** as part of a user trial by the Army from a **base in Odisha**.
- The state-of-the-art missile was testfired from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at **Chandipur, Odisha**.

IIT Madras researchers develop 'MOUSHIK' chip for IoT device

- Researchers at the **Indian Institute of Technology, Madras** have indigenously developed **microprocessor "MOUSHIK"** aimed at serving the **Internet of Things devices**, under the Centre's Digital India "smart cities" initiative.
- The project is funded by the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology**.
- "MOUSHIK" was conceptualised, designed and developed at the **Pratap Subrahmanyam Centre for Digital Intelligence** and Secure Hardware Architecture of the **RISE Group**, department of computer science and engineering, **IIT Madras**.
- The field applications of the microprocessor include -- **smart cards including credit cards, debit cards, electronic voting machines and office management systems**.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Israeli Defence Forces successfully test sea-to-sea missile system

- The Israeli Navy tested a sea-to-sea missile for use in protecting Mediterranean Sea natural gas platforms.
- The **missile system has not been named**. It was developed by Israeli Aerospace Industries, and tested by the Navy and the Defense Ministry's Weapons Development and Technology Infrastructure Administration, known as **MAFAT**.

Central Railway designs robot 'Rakshak' for health assistant

- The Mumbai Division of Central Railway (CR) has designed a health assistant robot 'Rakshak' who can remotely communicate between doctor and patient.
- This medical aid robot was developed in-house at EMU car shed, Kurla in the Mumbai section of the Central Railway and handed over to Bharat Ratna Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Memorial Hospital, Byculla, Mumbai.

Scientists discover active volcanoes on Venus

- A recent study has identified 37 recently active volcanic structures on Venus, the second planet from the Sun. The study provides some of the best evidence yet that Venus is still a geologically active planet.
- The study was conducted by researchers at the University of Maryland and the Institute of Geophysics at ETH Zurich, Switzerland.

INST scientists develop economical nonsurgical prevention of cataract

- A team of scientists from the Institute of Nano Science & Technology (INST) an autonomous institute under the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India has developed nanorods from the nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) Aspirin, a popular medication used to reduce pain, fever, or inflammation and found it to be an effective non-invasive small molecule-based nanotherapeutics against cataract.

IIT Madras and Helyxon develop monitoring solutions for COVID-19

- IIT Madras' Healthcare Technology Innovation Centre (HTIC) and Helyxon, a healthcare startup in IIT Madras Research Park have announced successful deployment of remote patient monitoring solutions for COVID-19 that they have jointly developed.
- The device is a first-of-its-kind in the market that does clinically accurate continuous monitoring of four critical parameters – temperature, oxygen saturation, respiratory rate and heart rate.

SpaceX capsule and NASA crew make first splashdown in 45 years

- Two NASA astronauts returned to Earth in a dramatic, retro-style splashdown, their capsule parachuting into the Gulf of Mexico to close out an unprecedented test flight by Elon Musk's SpaceX company.
- It was the first splashdown by U.S. astronauts in 45 years, with the first commercially built and operated spacecraft to carry people to and from orbit.

SWR Installs 'UV Bag Bath' At Bengaluru Railway Station

- A unique COVID prevention kiosk was inaugurated at KSR Bengaluru Railway Station by Bengaluru Division as a part of its continued fight against COVID-19 pandemic.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The kiosk is in the form of a luggage disinfecting tunnel named 'UV Baggage Bath'. It has been set up to ensure that passenger luggage will be completely sanitized before the passengers board the trains.

US conducts test flight of unarmed Minuteman 3 missile

- An unarmed Minuteman 3 intercontinental ballistic missile was launched from California on a test flight to a target in the Pacific Ocean from Vandenberg Air Force Base .
- Missile's three reentry vehicles travelled 4,200 miles (6,759 kilometers) to the Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands as part of a developmental test.

Godrej Appliances launches Godrej Viroshield, UV-C tech based sanitisation device in Kerala

- Godrej Appliances has launched a UV-C technology-based disinfecting device Godrej Viroshield in the Kerala.
- The product has been tested and certified by ICMR empanelled lab for its UVC Irradiance.

IISC Bengaluru develops mobile RT-PCR covid-19 testing lab

- Karnataka inaugurated a mobile RT-PCR covid- 19 testing lab which was the first in the country and would help ramp up testing in the state.
- The Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, has developed the MITR (Mobile Infection Testing and Reporting) lab, which is capable of conducting 9,000 tests per month.

Duke University Scientists develop low-cost method to test mask effectiveness against viral droplets

- Duke University in the US, have developed a simple method to visualise how effectively different types of masks prevent the spread of droplets that could contain novel coronavirus particles, an advance which could aid small scale mask producers to optimise designs, and help community outreach organisations demonstrate proper mask fitting procedures.

IIT Kanpur develops indigenous seed balls BEEG for farmers

- In Uttar Pradesh, IIT Kanpur has developed indigenous seed balls named BEEG (Bio -compost Enriched Eco-friendly Globule) which will help people and farmers in plantation with safety in Corona times and will also provide employment to people. The BEEG is developed in collaboration with Agnys Waste Management Private Limited (start-up at IIT Kanpur).

Indian Spaceteck Startup Skyroot Aerospace Successfully Test-Fires Rocket Engine

- Aerospace startup Skyroot Aerospace has successfully test fired an upper-stage rocket engine, becoming the first Indian private company to demonstrate the capability to build a homegrown rocket engine.
- The 3-D printed rocket engine – Raman, named after Nobel laureate CV Raman – has fewer moving parts and weighs less than half of conventional rocket engines with a similar capacity.

Microwave device 'Atulya' to disintegrate novel Coronavirus unveiled by Nitin Gadkari

- A microwave device named 'Atulya' that can disinfect any premises in just 30 seconds, disintegrating COVID-19 virus was unveiled by Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Nitin Gadkari in Nagpur.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Certified by the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) and based on French and American standards, the device is 100 per cent Made in India and has been manufactured under the aegis of the MSME.

Israel, US successfully test Arrow-2 ballistic missile defense system

- Israel successfully tested its Arrow-2 ballistic missile interceptor.
- The Missile test was conducted in the test site in Central Israel over the Mediterranean Sea.
- The Missile Defense Agency (MDA) of the United States of America along with Israeli Air Force and Israel Aerospace Industries conducted the testing.
- The Arrow-2 interceptor successfully performed its planned trajectory and destroyed the target.

Israel shares AI-based technology, high-end equipment with AIIMS to help combat COVID-19

- Israel has given state-of-the-art Artificial Intelligence-based technologies and high-end equipment to AIIMS, Delhi as part of Israel-India cooperation to fight the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- It also includes a 12-hour disinfection product called CPD that stays active to protect the surface against new attacks of contamination, a non-invasive remote patient monitoring system which aids as a preliminary screening tool of respiratory indicators of suspected COVID-19 patients and recovering patients and AI-based software for Ultrasound use and designed especially for fighting COVID-19.

NASA satellite finds 66 new exoplanets, 2,100 more 'candidates'

- During its two-year-long primary mission, NASA's planet hunter TESS has found 66 new exoplanets, or worlds beyond our solar system, as well as nearly 2,100 candidates astronomers are working to confirm, the US space agency has stated.
- TESS, short for Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite, scanned about 75 per cent of the starry sky during its primary mission that ended on July 4, NASA stated.

AFK hands over first consignment of grenade launcher ammunition to BSF

- The Ammunition Factory, Khadki (AFK) handed over the first consignment of the indigenously-designed and manufactured 40-millimetre Under Barrel Grenade Launcher (UBGL) ammunition to the Border Security Force (BSF).
- The Department of Military Affairs (DMA) of the Union Defence Ministry has prepared a list of 101 items, for which there would be an embargo on import beyond a certain time in the future.

Goa Shipyard made Offshore Patrol Vessel 'Sarthak' launched

- An Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) for the Indian Coast Guard was launched and re-christened as Indian Coast Guard Ship 'Sarthak'.
- The launching ceremony at Goa Shipyard Limited, GSL, Yard 1236, was conducted through video conferencing from Coast Guard headquarters at New Delhi.
- OPV Sarthak is the 4th in the series of five OPVs. It has been designed & built indigenously by Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) in line with the PM's vision of 'Make in India'.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Defence Minister launches BDL's indigenised Konkurs missile test equipment

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has launched Konkurs Missile Test Equipment and Konkurs Launcher Test Equipment, which have been indigenously designed and developed by Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL).
- The Konkurs Missile Test Equipment is designed for checking the serviceability of Konkurs-M anti-tank guided missiles. Konkurs Launcher Test Equipment is designed and developed for checking the serviceability of Konkurs-M missile launchers.

Rajnath Singh launches online portal 'SRIJAN' to promote indigenisation in defence production

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched an online portal that provides information about defence equipment and items that can be taken up for indigenisation by private sector companies. Ministry of Defence is observing 'Atmanirbhar Bharat Week'.
- The aforementioned online portal that will promote indigenisation of defence items' production is called "SRIJAN".

IIT Ropar develops UVGI-based room disinfection device 'UVSAFE'

- IIT Ropar claims to have developed India's first-of-its-kind UVGI-based room disinfectant device 'UVSAFE'.
- The device ensures zero shadow, provides 360° disinfection and has foldable wings.
- It has been tested and accredited by FICCI and NABL.

"Pavitrapati" Biodegradable Face Mask, Anti-Microbial Body Suit "Aushada Tara" from DIAT

- Pune based Defence Institute of Advanced Technology, DIAT (DU) developed Nanofibres of Ayurvedic based Biodegradable Face Mask which acts as a virus neutralizer to resist against the bacteria/virus, and has named "Pavitrapati".
- Another ToT has been transferred to M/s. Siddheshwar Techtessile Pvt. Ltd., Maharashtra by DIAT for development of anti-microbial bodysuit in the name of "Aushada tara".

Indian scientists develop sustainable process for making brick-like structures on the moon

- A team of researchers from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has developed a sustainable process for making brick-like structures on the moon.
- The process developed by the IISc and ISRO team uses urea which can be sourced from human urine and lunar soil as raw materials for construction on the moon's surface

TERI launches flood and heavy rain warning system for Guwahati, in collaboration with NDMA

- The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) have launched a Flood Early Warning System (FEWS) for Guwahati to alert local authorities about flash floods and/or heavy rainfall.
- Developed under TERI's project supported by the NDMA in collaboration with the India Meteorological Department (IMD) and the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA), the tool can be replicated to predict urban floods in any part of the country.

Chandrayaan-2 captures image of crater on Moon; ISRO names it after Vikram Sarabhai



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Chandrayaan-2 has captured images of the Moon and one of the craters has been named after Vikram Sarabhai, the father of the Indian space programme.
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has sought to pay tribute to him in a special way by announcing that Chandrayaan-2 Orbiter has captured the Moon images of 'Sarabhai Crater'.

IIT Kharagpur Launches DEEKSHAK Platform for Organizations to Conduct Online Classes

- IIT Kharagpur has developed an e-classroom software called "DEEKSHAK" for organizations to conduct online classes.
- The DEEKSHAK platform by IIT Kharagpur utilizes one-way communication for bandwidth efficiency.
- DEEKSHAK is a low bandwidth web-based software that can be accessed using any computer or even on mobile phones.

Zydus Cadila launches India's cheapest remdesivir version Remdac

- Zydus Cadila launches the generic version of Remdesivir, under the brand name Remdac, for treating patients suffering from severe symptoms of Covid-19.
- Priced at Rs 2,800 per 100 mg vial, Remdac is the most economical Remdesivir brand as on date. Zydus is the fifth company to launch generic version of Remdesivir

Astronomers find Milky Way look-alike galaxy 12 billion light-years away

- Astronomers at the Max Planck Institute for Astrophysics have found a look-alike of the Milky Way 12 billion light-years away with the help of the Atacama Large Millimetre/sub-millimetre Array (ALMA).
- The galaxy, called SPT0418-47, does not appear to have spiral arms like our Milky Way but has at least two features that are similar to our galaxy: a rotating disc and a bulge.

DRDO develops UV disinfection tower for sanitising coronavirus-prone areas

- Defence Research and Development Organisation, DRDO has developed an equipment named UV blaster which is a Ultra Violet based area sanitiser.
- Designed and developed by Laser Science and Technology Centre, LASTEC, the Delhi based premier laboratory of DRDO, the equipment is useful for high tech surfaces like electronic equipment, computers and other gadgets in laboratories and offices that are not suitable for disinfection with chemical methods.

SCTIMST & IIT Madras start-up set up portable hospital infrastructure for COVID -19

- Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST) in collaboration with 'Modulus Housing' a start-up incubated by IIT Madras has come up with a solution using decentralised approach to detect, manage and treat COVID-19 patients in local communities through portable microstructures.
- A portable microstructure named as "MediCAB", which is modular, portable, durable, easy to set up and can be customised as per the requirements of the customer.

NASA observing 'dent' in magnetic field 'It is splitting'

- NASA Researchers Track Slowly Splitting 'Dent' in Earth's Magnetic Field



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- A small but evolving dent in Earth's magnetic field can cause big headaches for satellites.
- Earth's magnetic field acts like a protective shield around the planet, repelling and trapping charged particles from the Sun.

ARCI scientists convert tamarind waste & cotton waste to supercapacitor electrodes

- Scientists at the International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy & New Materials (ARCI), an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Govt. of India, have developed a couple of cost-effective electrode material for making affordable supercapacitor devices, from waste biomass like tamarind seeds and industrial cotton waste.

IIT Madras Researchers discover new component to effectively split Water into Hydrogen and Oxygen using Solar Power

- Indian Institute of Technology Madras Researchers have discovered a new material to effectively split Water into Hydrogen and Oxygen using Solar Power.
- This research is expected to create a renewed interest in solar fuels domain, which can potentially bring the conversion and storage part in a single system, thereby reducing the cost per kWh of solar energy.

IIT Bombay, Shiv Nadar researchers develop environment friendly lithium batteries

- Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay and Shiv Nadar University claim to have developed a technology for production of environment friendly Lithium-Sulfur (Li-S) batteries which will be three times more energy efficient and cost effective than Lithium-ion batteries commonly used at present.

China sends a new Earth observation satellite Gaofen-9 05 into space

- China successfully launched a new Earth observation satellite, Gaofen-9 05, from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China.
- The satellite, sent into orbit by a Long March-2D carrier rocket, is an optical remote-sensing satellite with a resolution up to the sub-meter level.

Start up RoDeSo develops gesture controlled robot Astra for remote use in Covid, hazardous environment

- A student start-up RoDeSo of the BITS Pilani Hyderabad Technology Business Incubator (TBI) has developed a voice and gesture controlled robot 'Astra' (Automated Solution for Transportation in Remote Area) which can be deployed in isolation wards for Covid-19 infected cases.
- The rover is an AI-powered, compact, multi motor, gesture and voice controlled transportation solution.

Manipur student develops mobile game 'Coroboi' amid COVID-19

- A class 9 student from Imphal, Baldeep Ningthoujam has developed a mobile game 'Coroboi' amid COVID-19 pandemic.
- "Coroboi", a boy from India (Manipur) is stranded and wants to return home. Wearing Leirum Phee (Manipuri traditional cloth) and a Mask, he will run towards his goal.

IIT Madras, Stuttgart University develop method to dispose pharma waste



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Indian Institute of Technology(IIT), Madras along with German researchers have developed 'co-composting' methods that can be used to safely dispose of toxic pharmaceutical wastewater and sludge.
- Their method converts the waste into compost of high quality and within just 20 days.

Indian Satellite AstroSat Detects Extreme UV Light Coming from Galaxy 9.3 Billion Light-years Away

- AstroSat, India's first multi-wavelength satellite, has detected an extreme ultraviolet (UV) light from a galaxy called AUDFs01 which is 9.3 billion light-years away from Earth.
- A global team led by Pune-based Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA) scientists have achieved the major breakthrough.

ISRO Signs Agreement With Technical Institute In Odisha To Promote Space Research

- Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology (VSSUT), Odisha, signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). Under this agreement a Space innovation centre will be established in the university.
- VSSUT Odisha has become the first university in the country to pen down a MoU with the Indian space agency.
- ISRO will offer technical consultancy support and financial assistance of Rs 50 lakh to the VSSUT for development of infrastructure.

Scientists Develop Technique To Produce Biofuel From Algae To Boost India's Clean Energy Efforts

- Indian scientists have developed low-cost biodiesel from microalgae under the INSPIRE programme of ministry of science and technology. The Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (Inspire) is an innovative programme sponsored and managed by the ministry for attracting talents to research and innovation.

Astronomers trace mystery behind the formation of a star from dwarf galaxy

- According to the study conducted by the ARIES team, the 1420.40 MHz images of several intense star-forming dwarf galaxies indicated that hydrogen in these galaxies is very disturbed.
- While one expects a nearly symmetric distribution of hydrogen in well-defined orbits in galaxies, hydrogen in these dwarf galaxies is found to be irregular and sometimes not moving in well-defined orbits.

IIT Alumni Council to build world's largest, fastest hybrid quantum computer

- The Indian Institute of Technology's Alumni Council has signed an agreement with Lomonosov Moscow State University and Russoft to access and transfer key technologies from Russia to build the world's largest and fastest hybrid quantum computer in India.
- It will also collapse cost of genome testing from over ₹1 lakh per sample to under ₹1,000, facilitating genetics-based personalised medicines.

Tripura University scientist designs WARBOT to protect doctors

- Scientist at Tripura University has designed a robot which can prevent the doctors, nurses and health staff from getting infected while they come in contact with patients infected with the virus. The robot is named as Covid-19 WARBOT.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Atal Dulloo inaugurates NAT-PCR facility at Government Medical College Srinagar

- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Financial Commissioner, Health and Medical Education Department, Atal Dulloo inaugurated State-of-Art Nucleic Acid Testing (NAT-PCR) facility at Government Medical College Srinagar. The NAT-PCR facility aimed at ensuring safer quality blood transfusion is funded under National Health Mission in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

India, France in talks for Mission Alpha-like equipment for Gaganyaan astronauts

- India and France share a robust collaboration in the area of space. Space agencies of the two countries are also collaborating on nearly Rs 10,000 crore Gaganyaan mission that aims to send three Indians to space by 2022.

NBRI Lucknow sets up 'Advanced Virology Lab' for testing COVID-19

- The National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI), Lucknow, has established an "Advanced Virology Lab" for testing COVID-19. The facility has been developed based on the guidelines of the Indian Council Medical Research (ICMR), the World Health Organisation (WHO), and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- It is a **Bio-Safety Level (BSL) 3 level** facility. "Biosafety levels are assigned to a facility depending on the pathogen it deals with. According to ICMR guidelines, **BSL2 level facility is recommended for COVID-19** but this is an advanced version, stated Dr Samir Sawant, Senior Principal Scientist, NBRI.

AIIMS partners IIT-Delhi to launch app for patients needing plasma therapy

- **AIIMS with the help of IIT-Delhi** students have developed a mobile application to track real-time COVID-19 patients in the hospital, who can become potential plasma donors 28 days after recovery along with those who have been discharged.
- The app named **COPAL-19** has details of patients who have already been discharged from AIIMS, those currently undergoing treatment and their blood groups so that patients who require **plasma therapy** can get it in time without any hassle.

IIT Gandhinagar develops AI based tool to detect Covid-19 from chest X-ray

- Researchers at the **Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar (IITGN)** have developed an **Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based deep learning tool** for detection of Covid-19 from Chest X-ray images.
- The tool is developed by **Kushpal Singh Yadav** under the guidance of Prof Krishna Prasad Miyapuram, Associate Professor of Cognitive Science and Computer Science at IITGN.

IIT-Roorkee researchers develop sterilizing system for personal belongings

- **IIT-Roorkee** has developed a disinfection box that can be used for **sterilizing a wide variety of personal belongings** including medical equipment, Personal Protection Equipment, apparels among others, against coronavirus.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Termed as the '**Unisaviour**' box, it comprises a metal coated with specially- designed highly reflective geometry to allow the calibrated passage of UVC light to disinfect personal belongings.
- The device has been developed by a team of researchers at **IIT Roorkee** led by **Professor Soumitra Satapathi**, Laboratory of Integrated Nanophotonics and Biomaterials.

IIT Kanpur develops virtual classroom system 'Mobile Masterjee'

- **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)**, Kanpur has developed an innovative virtual classroom aid titled '**Mobile Masterjee**'.
- The classroom-to-home teaching setup is designed to record the lectures/instructions by the teachers while using smartphones. '**Mobile Masterjee**' can capture the videos in horizontal (table) and vertical (blackboard) positions.

ICMR aims to launch indigenous Covid-19 vaccine by August 15

- **Indian Council of Medical Research**, ICMR is planning to launch indigenous Covid-19 vaccine for public use of all clinical trials. ICMR has partnered with Bharat Biotech International Limited to develop this path breaking, Covid-19 vaccine.
- ICMR has asked **Bharat Biotech** to fast track the clinical trial mechanism.
- This is the first indigenous vaccine being developed in India and one of the top priority projects of the government. The vaccine is derived from a **SARS-COV2 strain isolated by ICMR-National Institute of Virology, Pune**.

UoH-based start-up develops physical distancing monitoring tool

- A start-up firm based at the **University of Hyderabad (UoH)** has developed a tool for monitoring social distancing in a location with large footfalls.
- **MAVEN LABS**, a start-up firm based at the Technology Business Incubator (TBI) at the UoH, has come up with the tool - **SudRz (Sanskrit, meaning - keen-sighted)**.
- The tool (a software) has been developed under **Project METIS** (Medical Engineering Technology Industrial Strategy).

Launch of Russia's next-generation Glonass-K Satellite set for August

- The launch of Russia's next-generation Glonass-K navigation satellite from the **Plesetsk space center**, which was postponed several times before, is now planned for August, a space industry source told Sputnik.
- The **Glonass-K satellite**, the third Russian navigation satellite of the type, is planned to be launched using the **Soyuz-2**.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

IIT-M develops nano-coated filter for COVID warriors

- A nano-coated filter for healthcare workers treating COVID-19 patients has been developed by researchers at IIT-Madras.
- The filter's coating properties are optimised for efficient removal of sub-micron sized dust particles in the air.
- The work of developing the filter has been funded by the Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) and the nano-coated filter is in the process of being field tested in practical applications.

DRDO to set up research cell at IIT-Hyderabad

- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) will establish a research cell at Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad (IIT-H).
- The 'DRDO - IIT-Hyderabad Research Cell' will undertake basic and applied research programmes.
- The MoU is aimed at bringing together the capabilities of DRDO and IIT-Hyderabad, to achieve greater heights in indigenous technology through collaborative research.

Israel conducts surprise launch with Ofek 16 satellite

- The Israeli government and Israel Aerospace Industries conducted a previously-unannounced launch of a reconnaissance satellite using a Shavit-2 rocket to deploy the Ofek 16 satellite into low Earth orbit.
- Ofek 16 is a small electro-optical imaging satellite, which will capture high-resolution images of the Earth for Israel's Ministry of Defence.

BDL signs licence agreement with DRDO for Akash Missile Weapon System

- Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) has signed License Agreement and Transfer of Technology with DRDO (DRDL) for Akash Missile Weapon System (Indian Army Variant).
- BDL is the Lead Integrator for Akash Weapon System (Indian Army).
- The contract was signed by Dr Dasharath Ram Director, DRDL and P Radha Krishna, Director (Production), BDL.

Mylab launches 'Compact XL' to automate molecular diagnostic test for COVID-19

- Pune-based molecular diagnostics company, Mylab Discovery Solutions has launched 'Compact XL', India's first machine to automate the manual processes of molecular diagnostic tests such as RNA/DNA-based tests including COVID-19 RT-PCR tests.
- Compact XL is a cartridge-based machine and can test multiple samples concurrently. Compact XL can be used for a wide range of RNA/DNA-based tests including COVID-19 RT-PCR tests.

Israeli scientists use waste in battle against virus

- Israeli scientists have come up with a "simple" and low-cost method to turn waste into ethanol for use as sanitisers in the battle against the novel coronavirus.
- Now, in response to the global demand for hand sanitisers, they have focused on the production in Israel of ethanol to replace the need to import alcohols.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

IITH, NVIDIA to establish joint AI research centre

- The **Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH)** is collaborating with **NVIDIA**, a multinational technology company, to establish India's first '**NVIDIA AI Technology Centre**' (NVAITC) to accelerate research on Artificial Intelligence and its commercial adoption.
- **IITH already houses two NVIDIA DGX-1TM systems and an NVIDIA DGX-2TM system** dedicated to research being undertaken at the institute.
- The **Telangana State government** recently announced **2020 as the 'Year of AI'**. NVIDIA is already a partner of the government in this endeavour.

IISc Designs Eye Gaze-Controlled Robotic Arm For Speech, Motor Impaired

- An **Indian Institute of Science (IISc)** research team has designed a robotic arm that can be manipulated by eye movement using a computer interface, to help people with **Severe Speech and Motor Impairment (SSMI)**.
- **Eye gaze-controlled computer** interfaces can help them perform various tasks on par with their non-disabled peers.

IIT-Delhi develops device to disinfect N-95 masks in 90 minutes

- The **IIT-Delhi** has developed an **ozone-based decontamination device** to reduce bio-medical waste and **enable safe re-use of N-95 face masks**.
- The device, called **Chakr DeCoV**, will help re-use a mask up to **10 times**.
- The mechanism was developed by an **IIT start-up — Chakra Innovation** — which has been approved by the Indian Medical Council of Research-National Institute of Virology (ICMR-NIV).

Odisha university innovates ultraviolet device for sanitisation

- The **Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology (VSSUT)** in **Odisha** has come up with a robot-assisted device that uses short-wave ultraviolet rays for sanitisation.
- The contactless device- **Ultra Violet Robot-Assisted Sanitiser (UVRAS)**-can be an effective tool in the war against Covid-19.
- This device has a **camera that gives a real-time video of the area** where it will be deployed for sanitisation.

Loyal Textile Mills Limited launched the world's first reusable PPE with Triple Viral Shield Technology

- **Loyal Textile Mills Limited** launched **Viral Shield**, a line of COVID-19 anti-viral, reusable Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), masks and protective fashion wear range.
- The series has been launched in collaboration with **Reliance Industries India and HeiQ** from Switzerland.
- **RElanTM FeelFresh** (from Reliance Industries India) fibre used in manufacturing this fabric is inherently anti-microbial that inhibits any viral or bacterial growth.

ISRO to launch Amazonia-1 satellite of Brazil onboard PSLV next month

- The **Indian Space Research and Research Organisation (ISRO)** gets ready to launch **Brazil's Amazonia -1 satellite** next month onboard PSLV.



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- This Brazilian Satellite has been locally designed, assembled and tested in Brazil and will be the first satellite for Earth Observation. It will be the primary payload and will not be a hitch-hiking satellite.
- The **Amazonia-1** is part of the Framework Agreement signed between India and Brazil in **2004**.

Russian varsity claims successful trials of world's first Covid-19 vaccine

- A **Russian Sechenov First Moscow State Medical University** has claimed the clinical trials of the world's first vaccine against the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) on volunteers have been completed successfully.
- The vaccine was produced by **Russia's Gamaleya Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology**.

IIT Kanpur develops UV sanitizing device 'SHUDH' to make your room COVID free

- Imagineering Laboratory department of **IIT Kanpur** has developed an **Ultraviolet (UV) sanitizing product** named **SHUDH**.
- Smartphone operated Handy Ultraviolet Disinfection Helper that is SHUDH has six UV lights of **15 Watts** each that can be individually monitored from a distance.
- **SHUDH** can assist in killing the spread of corona virus at the highly prone places such as hospitals, hotels, malls, offices and schools.

HRD minister launches 'world's most affordable' Covid-19 test kit developed by IIT Delhi

- Union Human Resource Development (HRD) Minister **Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank** and Minister of State (HRD) **Sanjay Dhotre** launched a **low-cost Covid-19 test developed by Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT) Delhi**.
- The test, **Corosure**, has been billed as the world's most affordable probe free RT-PCR based Covid-19 diagnostic kit. The product is approved by the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** and the **Drug Controller General of India (DCGI)**.

Hyderabad Airport Gets India's 1st and Only Completely Contactless Car Parking Amid Covid-19

- **GMR Hyderabad International Airport Limited (GHIAL)** that operates the city airport is offering fully contact-less airport car parking service.
- **GHIAL** has also scaled up its **NETC (National Electronic Toll Collection) FASTag Car Parking** in collaboration with **NPCI (National Payments Corporation of India)**.

China successfully launches APSTAR-6D telecommunication satellite

- The **APSTAR-6D telecommunication satellite** was launched via a **Long March 3B carrier rocket** from **Xichang Satellite Launch Center**.
- **APSTAR-6D** is designed and manufactured by the **China Academy of Space Technology (CAST)**, a subsidiary of **China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC)**.
- The development of Satellite **APSTAR-6D** was started back in **August 2016** following the launch contract signed by the **APT Satellite Company Limited** with **CGWIC- China Great Wall Industry Corporation**.
- The lifespan of **APSTAR-6D** is of **15 years**.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

IIT Madras-incubated startup develops portable hospital to treat COVID-19 patients

- **Indian Institute of Technology Madras** (IIT-M) incubated start-up Modulus Housing, has developed a portable hospital unit that can be installed anywhere within two hours by four people.
- Called '**MediCAB**,' it aims to decentralize the approach to detect, screen, identify, isolate and treat COVID-19 patients in their local communities through these portable microstructures.
- '**MediCAB**' has been launched recently in **Wayanad District of Kerala** where the units are being deployed to treat COVID-19 Patients.

IIT Kanpur-incubated startups develop device to monitor water quality India

- **IIT Kanpur Incubated Start-ups** i.e Earth-face Analytics Pvt Ltd and Kritsnam Technologies Pvt Ltd have built up a gadget, for dissecting and **observing water quality** through simple to utilize colorimetric test-strip, in view of advanced mobile phone innovation that screens numerous significant water quality boundaries in under two minutes.

UV system for baggage scan disinfection developed

- **Baggage**, an inevitable part of travel involves handling by multiple people and can be contact points for spread of the virus and should be disinfected quickly each time they change hands.
- In order to control spread of infection through baggage, **International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy** and New Materials (ARCI), Hyderabad.

China Prepares To Launch Long March-5 Rocket For Mars Mission

- The **fourth Long March-5 rocket**, to be used to launch **China's first Mars exploration mission**, was vertically transported to the launching area at the Wenchang Space Launch Center in south China's Hainan Province.
- The carrier rocket, coded as **Long March-5 Y4**, is planned to be launched in late July or early August, according to the China National Space Administration.

DCGI nod to first indigenous pneumonia vaccine

- **Serum Institute of India Pvt Ltd** has got the go-ahead from Drug Controller and General of India to manufacture its own indigenously developed pneumococcal vaccine.
- The vaccine maker has also partnered with **AstraZeneca** to support efforts to make a vaccine against Covid-19.
- The vaccine is used for active immunisation against invasive disease and pneumonia caused by **streptococcus pneumoniae** in infants.

IIM-Kozhikode startup develops wearable hand band to ensure social distancing

- The **Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode** (IIM-K), has developed a **wearable hand band** that helps in **maintaining social distancing** by sending out alarm in case of proximity with another person.
- Known as the **Veli Band**, the device has been developed by **Qual5 India Pvt.Ltd**
- The band comes with a rechargeable battery and uses **Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE)** technology for detection.

AIIMS begins e-ICU video-consultation programme to reduce COVID-19 mortality



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- **AIIMS, New Delhi** has started a video-consultation programme with **ICU doctors across the country** called **e-ICU**. The programme aims at holding case-management discussions among doctors who are at the frontline in treating COVID-19 patients in hospitals and COVID facilities around the country.

THSTI Faridabad develops synthetic peptide-based vaccine candidate targeting CoronaVirus

- **Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI)**, Faridabad has developed a synthetic peptide-based vaccine candidate targeting CoronaVirus.
- This approach generates **potential neutralizing antibodies** and also reduces antibody-dependent pulmonary immune pathology.

CMERI develops COVID protection systems for workplaces

- The **Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI)** has come up with a **surveillance kiosk ntelliMAST** which can gauge the body temperature of a person as well as check if he is wearing a face mask through a customised software solution.
- The CMERI, an institute under the **Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)**, has also come up with touch-less faucets that can be used in office spaces.

CIPET gets accreditation by NABL to test PPE kits

- **Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering and Technology** has been accredited by National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories NABL for Testing and **Certification of PPE Kit**.
- The PPE kit includes **Gloves, Coverall, Face Shield, Goggles and Triple Layer Medical masks** in line with **International Standards**.

SpaceX Launches ANASIS-II Military Communications Satellite for South Korea

- SpaceX launched a South Korean military communications satellite, **ANASIS-II**. **Liftoff of the Falcon 9 Block 5 rocket**.
- The launch took place from **SLC-40 at the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida**.
- Army/Navy/Air Force Satellite Information System 2 (ANASIS-II), previously named **KMilSatCom-1**, is a secure communications satellite for the South Korean Agency for Defense Development.

Oxford COVID-19 vaccine early trial shows positive result, India to start trial next month

- The human trial of COVID-19 vaccine candidate developed by the **University of Oxford and backed by AstraZeneca Plc** has shown a positive result. Officially known as **AZD1222**, the vaccine has prompted a protective immune response in hundreds of people who got the shot.
- The vaccine uses a weakened version of chimpanzee adenovirus as a vector, infused with the genetic material of **SARS-CoV-2 spike protein**.

First indigenous nuclear reactor attains criticality at Kakrapar

- **India's first 700 MWe nuclear power reactor** — commissioned at Kakrapar in Gujarat — attained criticality.
- The **unit-3 of Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP-3 - 700 MW)** achieved its first criticality (controlled sustained nuclear fission reaction), July 22, at 09.36 hours.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **KAPP-3** is the first among **16 such 700 MWe reactors** that have been given the go-ahead by the government.

Russia successfully holds flight test of 3D-printed aircraft engine

- **Russia** has for the first time conducted a successful **flight test of a 3D-printed aircraft engine**, and its production is scheduled for **2021-2022**.
- The press service of the **Russian Foundation for Advanced Research Projects in the Defense Industry** told **Sputnik**: **Russia** has for the first time conducted flight tests of the **MGTD-20** gas turbine engine made by **3D-printing**. The flight tests were held at **Kazanbakh aviation center** in **Tatarstan**.

China launches ambitious Tianwen-1 Mars rover mission

- **China's** first fully homegrown Mars mission **Tianwen-1** mission launched atop a **Long March 5 rocket** from **Hainan Island's Wenchang Satellite Launch Center**.
- **Tianwen-1** consists of an orbiter and a lander/rover duo, a combination of craft that had never before launched together toward the Red Planet

IIM Bangalore's NSRCEL launches Women Startup Programme

- **NSRCEL**, the startup and innovation hub at the **Indian Institute of Management Bangalore**, has opened up applications to the third cohort of the **Women Startup Program**.
- The programme focuses on the Centre's vision for a '**Atmanirbhar Bharat**' and '**Vocal for Local**'.
- The program commences with a five-week training through **Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)** to be offered on the **Swayam** platform.

AIIMS Nagpur develops smart band to monitor COVID-19 patients

- The **All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Nagpur**, has developed a smart wrist band.
- The device, designed and developed with the help of teams at **IIT Jodhpur** and **IIIT Nagpur**, works without a smartphone and helps ensure effective monitoring and tracking of confirmed and suspected COVID-19 patients.

IIT Delhi, Wells Fargo sign MoU for home-based Covid-19 testing kit

- The **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi** and **Wells Fargo** have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for development of a **peptide-based ELISA test** for the detection of Covid-19 antibodies.
- **ELISA**, short for **serological enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay**, determines whether or not a person possesses antibodies for Covid-19 in the blood.

BHU Professor launches website to help people in coping up fear of COVID-19

- **Cold and Cough** are one of the symptoms of **COVID-19** and with the change in season many persons who are having cold fear that they could be infected by Corona Virus.
- A professor of Banaras Hindu University (BHU) has launched a dedicated website called **SARDIJUKAM.Com** which will help people in coping up from this fear and will also help in recovery them from depression and other Covid related issues.

DRDO establishes COVID-19 testing facility in Leh



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- The **DRDO** has established a COVID-19 testing facility at the **Defence Institute of High Altitude Research (DIHAR)** in **Leh** for identification of coronavirus cases in the union territory of Ladakh.
- The testing facility, which was inaugurated by **Ladakh Lieutenant Governor R K Mathur**, is capable of screening **50 samples per day**.
- The **DIHAR** is one of the life sciences laboratories of the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** working on cold arid agro-animal technologies.

China launches new high-resolution mapping satellite

- **China** sent a new high-resolution mapping satellite into space from the **Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center** in the northern province of Shanxi.
- The **Ziyuan III 03 satellite** was launched by a **Long March-4B rocket** at 11:13 a.m
- They were developed by the **Shanghai ASES Spaceflight Technology Co. Ltd.**

IIT Kharagpur researchers develop portable device for low-cost Covid-19 rapid test

- **IIT Kharagpur** have developed a novel **portable rapid diagnostic device** to detect Covid-19 infection.
- The test costs only **Rs 400**, taking all components of expenses and business model into account.

IIT Madras startup launches wrist band for detecting COVID symptoms

- A wearable **wrist tracker to detect COVID-19 symptoms** at an early stage will be available in the market next month with its developer, a **IIT Madras** incubated start up, raising a funding of **Rs 22 crore** for the purpose.
- "**Muse wearables**", the start up incubated at **IIT Madras** by an alumni group along with an NIT Warangal alumnus, is planning to launch the trackers in **70 countries**.

Medical bed isolation system 'Aashray' launched to combat Covid-19

- A **Pune deemed to be University** has developed '**Aashray**', a medical bed isolation system to combat COVID-19 by preventing or minimising the spread of the virus.
- This medical bed isolation system developed by **Defence Institute of Advanced Technology, (DIAT)** is a low cost, reusable solution to maintain proper isolation of COVID-19 patients.

CSIO-AMESYS INDIA develops decontamination box 'Suraksha'

- **Central Scientific Instruments Organisation (CSIO)**, along with **AMESYS INDIA** has been developed a microorganism decontamination box. The decontamination device has been named as '**Suraksha**'.
- UVC light and heat are used in the box. It can sanitize an object in **10-15 minutes**. Decontamination box is developed by **AMESYS INDIA** and designed by **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)-CSIO**.

IIT-Hyderabad develops electrodes from corn husk

- Researchers from **Indian Institute of Technology-Hyderabad (IIT-H)**, in collaboration with the **International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials (ARCI)**, have developed an efficient method to derive '**activated carbon electrode**' material from corn husk for high-voltage supercapacitors.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Both the Telugu States combined, which are the second-largest producers of corn in the country, **can produce a large amount of corn husk waste**.

NASA set to launch robotic rover to seek signs of past Martian life

- NASA** is set to launch an ambitious mission to **Mars with the liftoff of its next-generation Perseverance rover**, a six-wheeled robot tasked with deploying a mini helicopter.
- The **\$2.4 billion mission**, slated for liftoff at 7:50 a.m. ET (1150 GMT) from Florida's Cape Canaveral, is planned as the U.S. space agency's ninth trek to the Martian surface.

Iran Launches Underground Ballistic Missiles During Exercise

- Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard** launched **underground ballistic missiles** as part of an exercise involving a mock-up **American aircraft carrier in the Strait of Hormuz**.
- Iranian commandos** fast-rope down from a helicopter onto the replica in the footage aired from the exercise called **"Great Prophet 14."**

IIT-Madras, MIT to develop productive usage of agricultural, industrial by-products

- Researchers at the **Indian Institute of Technology-Madras** and **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)** are working together to develop productive usage of **agricultural and industrial by-products** such as **biomass ash** that remain underutilised due to their complex physio-chemical characteristics. The project aims to address this challenge and contribute to a sustainable future.

Agnibaan rocket by Indian start-up to be test launched from Alaska, USA

- Indian aerospace start-up **AgniKul Cosmos** has signed a **memorandum of agreement** with **Alaska Aerospace Corporation** to test launch their **Indian-made Agnibaan rocket** from the **Pacific Spaceport Complex Alaska (PSCA)** on Kodiak Island in the **United States**. The launch from Alaska is expected to take place **from 2022 onwards**.

National Institute of Nutrition Changes Average Weight, Height Measurements for Indian Men and Women

- The **National Institute of Nutrition (NIN)** has increased the **average body weight** for Indians by **5kg**. Accordingly, the average weight for Indian men has been increased from the **60kg** set in 2010 to **65kg** now, while that of Indian women has been changed from **50kg** from **10 years ago** to **55kg** at present.
- Now, the average height for Indian men is 5.8 feet (177 cm), and that for women is 5.3 feet (162 cm). Earlier, the average heights for men and women were considered to be 5.6 feet (171cm) and 5 feet (152 cm), respectively.
- The definition of a reference Indian adult with regard to age has also been changed to 19-39 years instead of 20-39 years.
- As for dietary intake of carbohydrates, the expert team has suggested a requirement of **100 grams a day** for one-year-old and above, and up to **130 grams** per day.
- Meanwhile, the intake limit for common salt or iodine has remained the same at 5 grams per day, with the sodium intake limited to 2 grams a day.

IIT Kharagpur Launches Telemedicine System iMediX for Corona Care



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- IIT Kharagpur researchers have launched a telemedicine system 'iMediX' to help patients receive assistance from doctors without having to go to hospitals or clinics.
- The technology basically integrates **homecare with healthcare services** from the hospital.
- The system basically helps patients in need receive remote consultation with physicians from their residence. iMediX can be accessed by any standard internet browser and also from tablets, mobiles and laptops.

ICMR, Biological E develop purified equine antiserum

- Indian Council of Medical Research announced that it has, along with **Hyderabad-based Biological E**, developed **blood serum of horses that** contain antibodies **against covid-19** after conducting a study which highlighted it as.
- The bio-medical research agency stated that it could be a potential treatment and prevention of covid-19 and an alternative to convalescent plasma therapy, which is blood serum of humans who have recovered from the respiratory disease.

IIM Kozhikode to launch e-learning hub for villagers

- The **Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode** will soon be launching an **e-learning hub** and library as a pilot project for villagers in Mavoor, one of the five villages adopted by the institute under **Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA)**.
- IIM Kozhikode is a partner institute for the UBA programme and has been actively playing a role in furthering the development agenda and fortifying institutional capacity and giving training relevant to national needs, especially those of rural India.

Indo-French satellites to trace illegal oil spillage

- The **constellation of maritime surveillance satellites** for the **Indian Ocean Region**, to be jointly launched by **India and France**, will be able to **trace illegal spillage of oil by ships**.
- **CNES and ISRO** committed to developing and building a constellation of satellites carrying telecommunications and radar and optical remote-sensing instruments, constituting the first space-based system in the world capable of tracking ships continuously.
- '**Trishna**', a highly precise **thermal infrared observer**, will also be part of the fleet of Indo-French satellites.

C-DAC to Commission India's Fastest HPC-AI Supercomputer PARAM Siddhi - AI with NVIDIA

- **NVIDIA** said that the **Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC)** will commission **India's largest HPC-AI supercomputer, 'PARAM Siddhi – AI'**.
- This initiative will put India among the top countries in global AI supercomputing research and innovation.
- The initiative has been spearheaded by **Abhishek Das**, Scientist and Program Director (HPC-AI Infrastructure Development) at C-DAC, who conceived the idea and designed the architecture for the largest HPC-AI infrastructure in India.
- It was approved by **Ravi Shankar Prasad**; Ajay Prakash Sawhney (Secretary, MeitY), Prof Ashutosh Sharma (Secretary, DST) and recommendation of National Supercomputing Mission (NSM – a government initiative) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) chaired by **Dr V K Saraswat, Member, Niti Aayog**.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

IIT Guwahati Startup Sahara Develops mobile App For Offline To Online Biz Services

- **Sahara, a hyperlocal-tech startup** of the students of the **Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati**, has developed a **mobile application** that lets **offline business owners** create **synergy with customers and potential business partners** on a global platform with the power of **digitalisation**.

IIT Kharagpur designs robotic system to identify diseases plaguing plants

- **IIT Kharagpur** has designed a **robotic system** capable of **identifying the diseases plaguing plants** through camera-captured image analysis.
- The system has been designed under the project “Development of autonomous multipurpose agricultural robotic platform funded by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and run by Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (**C-DAC**) **Kolkata** as the nodal implementing institute along with **IIT Kharagpur, BAU Ranchi** and **KCT Coimbatore**.

Nanosafe Solutions launch anti-fungal water storage container “AqCure”

- The **Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IIT-D)**-incubated startup **Nanosafe Solutions** has developed a range of antimicrobial.
- **AqCure** is a patented technology in which **active nanocopper** is released in a sustainable manner from a polymer matrix.

Advanced version of Sayabot launched

- **Kochi-based** maker Village Startup **ASIMOV Robotics** has **modified its robot, Sayabot**, with add-on features like **checking body temperature of visitors/customers** and **dispensing sanitiser** at the same time.

Trial run of India's first hydrogen fuel cell car successfully conducted by CSIR, KPIT

- The **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)** and **KPIT** successfully ran trials of **India's first Hydrogen Fuel Cell (HFC)** prototype car running on an indigenously developed fuel cell stack at **CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory, Pune**. The fuel cell is a low temperature **PEM (Proton Exchange Membrane)** type **Fuel Cell** that operates at 65-75 degree centigrade, which is suitable for vehicular applications.

Microsoft alerts Android users of new ransomware that could render smartphone useless

- **Microsoft** is responsible for locating and dealing with **potentially dangerous malwares** on their own Windows operating system.
- Microsoft claims that this new mobile ransomware was detected by **Microsoft Defender** for Endpoint as **AndroidOS/MalLocker.B**.
- This new malware is the latest variant of a ransomware family that's been in the wild for a while but has been evolving non-stop, according to the blog.

NASA to Launch Nano Satellite Developed by Three Tamil Nadu Students into Sub-orbit

- An **experimental satellite** by three students from **Tamil Nadu's Karur district** will be launched by the **National Aeronautics and Space Agency** into the sub orbit in June, next on NASA's sounding rocket 7.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Their innovation, **India Sat**, which took more than two years of extensive research, has been deemed **world's smallest and lightest satellite**, made with reinforced graphene polymer is **3 cm in size and weighs 64 gm**.

One American, two Russians blast off to International Space Station

- A Russian Soyuz spacecraft carrying a U.S. astronaut and two Russian cosmonauts blasted off from the Baikonur cosmodrome in **Kazakhstan** and successfully reached orbit, live footage broadcast by Russia's space agency Roscosmos.
- The crew members travelling to the International Space Station (ISS) are **Kate Rubins**, a NASA microbiologist who in 2016 became the first person to sequence DNA in space, and Russian cosmonauts **Sergey Ryzhikov and Sergey Kud-Sverchkov**.

Science-Society-Setu webinar series initiated to strengthen S&T capacity of NGOs & Communities

- DST Secretary **Prof. Ashutosh Sharma** underlined the need to create knowledge that is relevant for different sections of our society at the **Science-Society-Setu for AatmaNirbharBharat (S34ANB)**, a web clinic series by Science for Equity Empowerment and Development SEED Division, Department of Science and Technology (DST).

CSIR-CMERI develops Sustainable Municipal Solid Waste Processing Facility

- **Decentralised Waste Management** technology developed by **CSIR-CMERI** can result in drastic reduction of expenditure related to **Transportation Logistics** and can help reductions in **CO2 emissions**, by reducing fossil fuel usage.
- This **CSIR-CMERI MSW Technology** envisions a **Zero-Landfill and a Zero Waste City** in addition to developing Job-Creation opportunities. This technology will also help create a revived Green Energy reliant India".
- CSIR-CMERI has started an **innovative technology** of producing the Biogas from grass and weeds and Vermi-composting of Slurry of the plant process.

IIIT Hyderabad and NMDA Develop Rapid Visual Screening (RVS) Primer to Mitigate Earthquake Risks

- **International Institute of Information Technology Hyderabad (IIITH)** and **National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)** have developed a **Rapid Visual Screening (RVS) Primer** for better insight into structural safety in the wake of earthquake risks. The primer will serve as a pioneering document to screen various kinds of buildings for their structural stability, and to assess and estimate the possible damage during an earthquake.
- The total number of buildings in India is well over **30.5 Crores**.

NASA's OSIRIS-REx Spacecraft Successfully Touches Asteroid

- In a historic event that unfolded nearly **321 million kilometers** away from the Earth, a Nasa spacecraft successfully touched the surface of an **asteroid** to collect pristine samples to return to the Earth. The **OsirisRex mission** performed a **first-of-its-kind Touch and Go (TAG)** manoeuvre to blast nitrogen to gather regolith (dust and minerals) from the surface of **asteroid Benu**.
- The mission's target is **Benu**, a carbon-rich near-Earth asteroid that is also potentially hazardous to Earth.

IIT Kharagpur's 'COVIRAP' - Novel Technology of COVID-19 Test Gets ICMR Certification



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **'COVIRAP,'** the diagnostic technology developed by **IIT Kharagpur researchers**, has been successfully validated for its efficacy in COVID-19 detection by the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**.
- This COVID-19 Diagnostic Test has been designed to be fairly easy to conduct and affordable as well and can produce results **within one hour**.

DRDO successfully conducts final trial of Nag anti-tank guided missile in Pokhran range

- India successfully carried out the final trial of the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)-developed Nag anti-tank guided missile with a warhead.
- The test was carried out at the Pokhran field firing ranges in Rajasthan. The trial of Nag anti-tank guided missile comes after the DRDO tested the helicopter launched Stand-off Anti-Tank Missile (SANT) with a range beyond 10 km from Balasore testing range in Odisha on 19th October.

IIT in Partnership with TCS Sets New Trends in India's Advanced Manufacturing Sector

- IIT Kharagpur has developed **novel Industry 4.0 technology** for remotely controlled factory operations and real-time quality correction during industrial production, jointly with **TCS** to set a new trend in **India's advanced manufacturing sector**.
- This will make possible for industrial houses to achieve standardized quality goals throughout the production process and reduce rejection hence lowering the cost of production.

Isro to launch earth observation, nine commercial satellites in November

- The **Indian Space Research Organisation** will launch an **Indian earth observation satellite** and **nine commercial satellites**. This is the first launch of **2020** from India's only spaceport in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.

MIT scientists design face mask that can inactivate coronavirus using heat

- Scientists at **MIT** have designed a **novel face mask** that can not only **filter out the SARS-CoV-2 virus**, which causes COVID-19, but also inactivate it using heat.
- The new mask incorporates a **heated copper mesh** and does not need to be decontaminated or thrown away after use, according to the researchers.

IIT Guwahati launches Australia-India Water Centre along with University of Western Sydney

- **Australia-India Water Centre** was inaugurated virtually through a **Webinar**, in view of the pandemic situation.
- The Water Centre is led by **University of Western Sydney from Australia** and **IIT Guwahati from India** along with **21 other partners** from India and Australia.
- The Australia India Water Centre will enable Australian and Indian partners to explore opportunities and create synergy for a longer-term collaboration in research and education between the two countries.

L&T delivers India's 1st launch hardware for Gaganyaan despite Covid-19 restrictions

- **Larsen & Toubro (L&T)** has delivered the **first hardware**, a booster segment, for **Gaganyaan Launch Vehicle to ISRO** ahead of schedule in a virtual flag-off ceremony presided over by Dr. K Sivan, Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Notwithstanding the limitations imposed by COVID-19, the middle segment of the **world's third-largest solid propellant rocket booster – 'S-200,'** has been delivered ahead of schedule with zero-defects.

SpaceX and NASA successfully launch four astronauts to Space

- SpaceX** successfully launched its **first operational space taxi flight** for **NASA**, **Falcon 9 rocket** took to the skies above **Kennedy Space Center** in **Florida**.
- The rocket carrying **four astronauts** in a **Crew Dragon capsule** to orbit, and then **returned to Earth** for a drone-ship landing in the **Atlantic Ocean**.

First ever vaccine listed under WHO emergency use

- WHO** listed the **nOPV2 vaccine (Bio Farma, Indonesia)** for emergency use to address the rising cases of a vaccine-derived polio strain in a number of African and East Mediterranean countries. Countries in **WHO's Western Pacific** and **South-East Asia** regions are also affected by these outbreaks.
- The world has made incredible progress toward polio eradication, reducing polio cases by **99.9%** in the last 30 years.

IIT Kharagpur researchers develop eco-friendly food packaging material from cucumber peel

- Cellulose nanocrystals** derived from **peel** can be used for **making biodegradable** food packaging material with low oxygen permeability
- According to the team of researchers, cucumber peels have greater cellulose content than other vegetable peel. Cellulose nanocrystals derived from these peels can be used for making food packaging material which is biodegradable and has low oxygen permeability.

ISRO to launch Indian earth observation satellite EOS-01, nine international customer spacecraft

- India would launch its latest earth observation satellite **EOS-01** and **nine international customer spacecraft** onboard its Polar rocket **PSLV-C49** from the spaceport of **Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh**, ISRO stated.
- This is the first launch by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) since the COVID-19 induced lockdown came into force in March.
- This will be the **51st mission of ISRO's workhorse** Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle.

IIT Madras students' create online game to spread Coronavirus awareness

- Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M)** researchers have developed a digital game '**IITM Covid Game**' to create **awareness about Covid-19 virus** among the general public, particularly children.
- This game is browser-based and can be played on any device including Personal Computers, laptops, tablets and mobile phones, among others.
- It is available free of cost and can be played from the home page of **www.letsplaytolearn.com**. It is also available on the website of IIT Madras.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

First indigenous Petcoke-based high energy supercapacitor developed by ARCI would benefit EV industry

- The first indigenous **Petcoke-based 1200 F supercapacitor device** has been developed with the help of high performance porous activated carbon electrodes, a move that would be commercially attractive for **Electric Vehicles (EVs) industry**.
- The indigenous supercapacitor device developed by a team of scientists and engineers at International **Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials (ARCI)**.
- The ARCI team plans to scale-up the new technology with higher capacitance (<3000 F) to make modules from these supercapacitor devices for EV applications.

Rare metallic asteroid Psyche may be worth \$10,000 quadrillion

- **Hundreds and thousands of asteroids** are floating in space, but there's one unique metal **asteroid**, rich enough to fetch up to ten thousand times the global economy in 2019. It's worth a whopping **\$10,000 quadrillion** (\$10,000,000,000,000,000,000), reports stated.
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (Nasa) Hubble Space Telescope has discovered a metal-rich asteroid '**16 Psyche**' which is orbiting the Sun, in the main asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter.

IIT Bombay to launch website for students' emotional needs

- **IIT Bombay** announced its plans to release a **self-help website** for students to elevate their emotional well-being. Titled '**Bandhu**', the website will allow for self-exploration through quizzes, stories, and other elements.

IIT Roorkee develops biosensor to detect harmful detergent pollutant

- A **five-member team** from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee have developed the **world's first specific reliable bacterial biosensor** that **can detect** the presence of common environmental pollutant: **Sodium Dodecyl Sulphate (SDS)**.
- Researchers from IIT Roorkee developed a **whole-cell biosensor** using **Pseudomonas aeruginosa PAO1 strain** as a **framework (chassis)**.

IIT-Kharagpur to set up Centre of Excellence for Indian knowledge system, says education minister

- The Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, will set up a **Centre of Excellence for the Indian knowledge system**, the Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank announced while inaugurating the international webinar called '**Bharata Tirtha**' organised by the institute.

ISRO successfully launches EOS01, 9 customer satellites from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota

- **India's PSLV-C49** carrying its latest **earth observation satellite EOS-01** and **nine customer satellites** lifted off from the spaceport in **Sriharikota**.
- The Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C49/EOS-01) blasted off from the **Satish Dhawan Space Centre**.
- This is the **first mission** by the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** this year.
- EOS-01 is intended for applications in agriculture, forestry and disaster management support.
- The **customer satellites** are from **Lithuania (1), Luxembourg (4) and USA (4)**.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Astronomers detect first fast radio burst in our Milky Way galaxy

- **Astronomers** have **detected** a **bright fast radio burst**, which lasted for a **millisecond**, from our galaxy for the first time ever.
- **Fast radio bursts (FRB)** are **bright bursts of radio waves** from astronomical objects across galaxies, and their sources have been a mystery for over a decade.

China successfully sends world's first 6G communications test satellite into orbit from Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center

- **China** has reportedly become the **world's first country** to have successfully sent the **6G communications test satellite** into the **orbit** from the **Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center** in the Shanxi Province.
- The **6G communications test satellite** was launched into the orbit **along with 12 other satellites**.
- The **13 satellites** also included **10 from Argentina** and it is said to be the **351st launch** by the **Long March 6 rocket**.

Pfizer's Early Data Shows Vaccine Is More Than 90% Effective

- The drug maker **Pfizer** announced that an early analysis of its **coronavirus vaccine trial** suggested the vaccine was robustly effective in preventing Covid-19, a promising development as the world has waited anxiously for any positive news about a pandemic that has killed more than 1.2 million people.
- Pfizer, which developed the vaccine with the **German drugmaker BioNTech**, released only sparse details from its clinical trial, based on the first formal review of the data by an outside panel of experts.

Virgin Hyperloop completes first-ever human trial in hyperloop pod in US

- **Virgin Hyperloop** stated it has "successfully" completed the **first-ever human trial** in the **hyperloop pod** at the DevLoop test facility in the US.
- The testing campaign will continue with **Pune native** and **Virgin Hyperloop Power Electronics Specialist**.
- The **Maharashtra government** has deemed **hyperloop a public infrastructure project** and approved the Virgin Hyperloop-DP World Consortium as the original project proponent (OPP) for the Mumbai-Pune hyperloop project.

Indian astronomers collaborated with Nobel laureate on Thirty Meter Telescope Project

- **2020 Physics Nobel Laureate Prof. Andrea Ghez** had worked closely with **Indian astronomers** on the design of back-end instruments and possible science prospects of the **Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) project** being installed **at Maunakea in Hawaii**, which can revolutionized the understanding of the universe and the enigmas in it.
- Some of the Indian astronomers **like Dr. Annapurni Subramaniam**, Director of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) and **Dr. Shashi Bhushan Pandey**, a scientist at Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES) along with many others collaborated with Prof. Ghez in the ongoing research and developmental activities of the TMT project.

IIT Guwahati formulates efficient "pincer" catalytic systems that transform biomass wastes into valuable chemicals

- A research team of **IIT Guwahati** has formulated efficient **"pincer" catalytic systems** that transform **biomass wastes** into **valuable chemicals**. Tiny amounts of these "pincer catalysts" repeatedly convert large amounts of industrial waste such as glycerol into lactic acid and hydrogen.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **China plans** to launch an **unmanned spacecraft** to the moon to bring back lunar rocks in the first attempt by any nation to retrieve samples from **Earth's natural satellite** since the 1970s.
- The **Chang'e-5 probe**, named after the **ancient Chinese goddess of the moon**, will seek to collect material that can help scientists understand more about the moon's origins and formation.

NASA, US and European Partners Launch Mission to Monitor Global Ocean

- A joint **U.S.-European satellite** built to monitor global sea levels lifted off on a **SpaceX Falcon 9** rocket from Space Launch Complex 4E at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California
- About the size of a small pickup truck, **Sentinel-6 Michael Freilich** will extend a nearly 30-year continuous dataset on sea level collected by an ongoing collaboration of U.S. and European satellites while enhancing weather forecasts and providing detailed information on large-scale ocean currents to support ship navigation near coastlines.

IIT-Madras develops solar-powered unmanned survey craft for Indian ports

- Researchers at **IIT-Madras** have developed a **solar-powered Unmanned Autonomous Survey Craft for Indian ports** and inland waterways to undertake autonomous hydrographic and oceanographic surveys and provide real-time data transmission over long distances.
- This system could be equipped with an echo sounder, GPS System, and broadband communication technology, capable of delivering precise depth measurements.

IIT Guwahati Develops Space Optical Communication Using Light Beams

- A research team led by **the Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati (IIT Guwahati)** has developed a **free-space optical communication system** for information transfer.
- The research team has demonstrated the distortion-free transmission of text messages and images over a distance of one kilometre even in the presence of turbulence during stormy weather.

'Quarantine' named Cambridge Dictionary's Word of the Year 2020

- Cambridge Dictionary has named '**quarantine**' as **Word of the Year 2020**. The word has been named the word of the year based on data that showed that it was one of the most highly searched words on the Cambridge Dictionary this year.

IISc researchers develop wastewater treatment, recycling system

- The Bengaluru based Indian Institute of Science researchers have developed an **efficient decentralised wastewater treatment and recycling system for rural areas**. A study on decentralised wastewater treatment systems developed by the premier institute was published in the Journal of water Process Engineering.

India to launch deep-sea exploration exercise, Earth Sciences dept to ally with ISRO, DRDO on mining project

- The **Earth Sciences ministry** plans to launch the exploration mission in **3-4 months' time** to look for **poly-metallic sulphides (PMS)**. Poly-Metallic Sulphides contain iron, copper, zinc, silver, gold, platinum in variable constitutions.
- The International Seabed Authority earlier approved 10,000 sq. km for India with a 15-year PMS exploration plan along the Central Indian Ridge (CIR) and Southwest Indian Ridge (SWIR) region of the Indian Ocean.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine Approved By UK

- **Britain** became the first country in the world to approve the **Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine** for use and stated that it will be rolled out soon.
- The government has accepted the recommendation from the independent Medicines and Healthcare products **Regulatory Agency (MHRA)** to approve **Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine** for use," the government stated.

Instagram launches 'Live Rooms' feature

- **Instagram** rolled out the '**Live Rooms**' feature that allows up to three additional users to go live in the same session. Instagram Live views grew **60%** compared to the week prior, the company stated.
- With the introduction of this feature, an Instagram live session will now be able to hold 4 people instead of 2 which was the previous limit.

China unfurls flag on Moon, becomes second country to achieve this feat after America

- China has become the second country to plant its national flag on the moon's surface.
- The China National Space Administration (CSNA) released pictures of Chinese flag placed on the lunar surface.
- Earlier this was achieved only by the USA, during the Apollo mission in 1969.
- The spacecraft comprises an orbiter, a lander, an ascender, and a returner. It was launched on November 24.

Pixxel to launch remote-sensing satellite on Isro rocket in early 2021

- Pixxel will launch its first remote-sensing satellite on the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) workhorse rocket Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) in early 2021.
- The Bengaluru-based firm has entered into an agreement with NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) under the Department of Space.
- The company's first satellite was scheduled to be launched towards the end of this year on a Russian Soyuz rocket.

HAL-IISc Skill Development Centre in launches its first training programme

- HAL-IISc Skill Development Centre in Challakere of Chitradurga district in Karnataka launched its first training programme offering five courses in virtual mode.
- The programmes offered are in the niche engineering areas of aerospace, mechanical, electrical and electronic sectors, and in line with the "Make in India" mission.
- The Centre is located in IISc's new 1500 acre campus in Challakere, projected as a Science and Technology city.

BSNL ties-up with Skylotech India for Satellite based network

- **Skylotech** India has partnered with **BSNL** to launch a satellite-based **narrowband IoT network** in India.
- That will enable it to provide connectivity for millions of unconnected machines, sensors and industrial IoT devices across the country.
- This solution, developed by Skylo, will connect with BSNL's satellite ground infrastructure and provide pan India coverage, including indian seas.
- This is the **World's first satellite based NB-IoT network**.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **Skylo User Terminal** interfaces with sensors transmits data to Network.

DRDO Conducts Joint Venture Protective Carbine trials

- DRDO designed **5.56x30 mm** Protective Carbine has successfully undergone the final phase of User trials with all the GSQR parameters.
- JVPC has successfully met the stringent performance criteria of reliability and accuracy in addition to quality trials conducted by DGQA.
- The carbine has been designed as per **Indian Army's GSQR**, by **Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE)**, a Pune based laboratory of DRDO.

ISRO to launch Communication Satellite CMS-01 on December 17

- The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** will launch communication satellite **CMS-01** aboard **Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C50)**. This would be India's 42nd Communication Satellite.
- The mission would be the 52nd mission of PSLV and 22nd flight of PSLV in 'XL' configuration (with 6 strap-on motors).
- CMS-01, India's 42nd Communication Satellite, has been envisaged to provide services in the Extended-C Band of the frequency spectrum.
- This will be the 77th launch vehicle mission from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.

Indian-American Raja Chari, Selected By NASA For SpaceX Mission

- **Indian-American US Air Force Colonel Raja Chari** has been selected as the **Commander of the SpaceX Crew-3 mission** to the **International Space Station (ISS)** by **NASA** and the **European Space Agency**.
- Raja Chari, will serve as the commander while NASA's Tom Marshburn will be pilot and ESA's Matthias Maurer will serve as a mission specialist for the SpaceX Crew-3 mission to the ISS, which is expected to launched next year.

India's first hypersonic wind tunnel test facility inaugurated in Hyderabad

- Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** inaugurated the advanced **Hypersonic Wind Tunnel (HWT)** test facility in **Hyderabad**.
- HWT Test facility is free jet facility having nozzle exit diameter of 1 metre. pressure vacuum driven enclosed
- That will simulate **Mach No 5 to 12** (Mach represents the multiplication factor to the speed of sound). After America and Russia, **India is the third country** to have such a large facility.

China's new space carrier rocket successfully launches five satellites

- China's new medium-lift carrier **rocket Long March-8** made its maiden flight on, sending **five satellites** successfully into planned orbit.
- The rocket was launched from the **Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site** in **Hainan**.
- The new rocket, which was developed by the **China Academy of Launch Vehicle Technology (CALT)**

Delhi airport's Terminal 3 installs new passenger tracking system

- **Delhi airport's** Terminal 3 has installed a **new passenger tracking system** that would help manage the flow of people, reduce waiting time and ensure social distancing.

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The Xovis **passenger tracking system (PTS)**, a queue management system, displays live waiting time, taken at various processes like check-in, security check etc., on screens put up at various places.

China launches remote sensing satellite Yaogan-33

- China** has successfully launched a **new remote sensing satellite** into space, on December 27, 2020.
- The satellite was launched from the **Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in northwest China**.
- The satellite, Yaogan-33, was launched aboard a Long March-4C rocket and entered the planned orbit successfully. It was the **357th flight** mission of the Long March carrier rocket series.

DRDO facility develops Quantum Random Number Generator

- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** has achieved a milestone in quantum technology by successfully developing a **Quantum Random Number Generator (QRNG)**.
- The facility has developed a fiber-optic branch path based QRNG.

India launches first remote monitoring system for oil refineries

- Indian Oil Corp** has launched the country's first remote monitoring system for oil refineries' turbines. The project, located in **Hyderabad**, was inaugurated by oil minister **Dharmendra Pradhan**.
- The Remote Monitoring & Operation Centre for Tracking of Indian Oil's Refinery Gas Turbines was implemented by **BHEL-GE Gas Turbine Services (BGGTS)**, a joint venture of BHEL and General Electric.

IIT Bombay Released Urban Quality of Life Index 2020; Mumbai Tops, Patna Ranked Last

- Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT-B) released the Urban Quality of Life (UQoL) Index 2020 which ranked 14 Indian cities in India using 29 indicators grouped into 7 categories.
- In accordance to this, Mumbai (Maharashtra) tops the index followed by Delhi, Kolkata (West Bengal) and Chennai (Tamil Nadu) by providing Highest Quality of Life while Bihar's capital city Patna provides poorest quality of life to its people.
- This is for the first time the index has considered the factor of gender parity under which Chennai is named as the most women-friendly city while Patna stood last.

IIT Kanpur Researchers Develop "Damaru" Inspired Lattice for Vibration Isolation in High Speed Trains and Stealth Submarines

- Under the SPARC project of Ministry of Education, IIT Kanpur researchers develop a 'Dambaru' or 'Damaru' inspired lattice, which shows tremendous application in vibration isolation in high-speed trains, Stealth submarines and Helicopters rotors.
- The hour-glass shaped meta-structure provides superior absorption of electromagnetic and sonic waves.

Revision Points

Institutions/Persons	Things to be Discovered/Developed
UK	Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Instagram	Live Rooms
Pixxel	Remote-sensing satellite on Isro
BSNL & Skylotech India	Satellite based network
Indian Space Research Organisation	CMS-01
Hypersonic Wind Tunnel (HWT) test facility in Hyderabad	Mach No 5 to 12
China	Yaogan-33
DRDO	Quantum Random Number Generator
IIT Kanpur	Damaru
IIT Guwahati	Australia-India Water Centre along with University of Western Sydney
Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru	Decentralised wastewater treatment and recycling system for rural areas
Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati	A free-space optical communication system
IIT-Madras	Solar-powered unmanned survey craft for Indian ports
IIT Guwahati	“Pincer” catalytic systems
Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur	Centre of Excellence for the Indian knowledge system
IIT Roorkee	Biosensor to detect harmful detergent pollutant
IIT Bombay	Bandhu website
IIT Madras	Online game to spread Coronavirus awareness
IIT Kharagpur	Eco-friendly food packaging material from cucumber peel
IIT Guwahati	Australia-India Water Centre along with University of Western Sydney
IIT-Madras & Massachusetts Institute of Technology	To develop productive usage of agricultural, industrial by-products
IIT Kharagpur	Telemedicine System iMediX for Corona Care
ICMR & Biological E	To develop purified equine antiserum
IIM Kozhikode	To launch e-learning hub for villagers
Centre for Development of Advanced Computing	To Commission India's Fastest HPC-AI Supercomputer PARAM Siddhi - AI with NVIDIA
IIT Guwahati Startup Sahara	To develop mobile App For Offline To Online Biz



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

	Services
IIT Kharagpur	Robotic system to identify diseases plaguing plants
Nanosafe Solutions	Anti-fungal water storage container "AqCure"
ASIMOV Robotics	Sayabot
Council of Scientific and Industrial Research & KPIT	Trial run of India's first hydrogen fuel cell car
NASA	Nano Satellite Developed by Three Tamil Nadu Students into Sub-orbit
CSIR-CMERI	To develop Sustainable Municipal Solid Waste Processing Facility
IIIT Hyderabad and NMDA	Rapid Visual Screening (RVS) Primer to Mitigate Earthquake Risks
IIT Kharagpur researchers	COVIRAP
IIT Kharagpur & TCS	New Trends in India's Advanced Manufacturing Sector
Indian Space Research Organisation	Indian earth observation satellite and nine commercial satellites
MIT scientists	Face mask that can inactivate coronavirus using heat
Indian Railways	MEDBOT
IIT Bombay	AIR Scanner
CSIR-CMERI	World's Largest Solar Tree
IIT Madras	Nanotech coating for textiles
SpiceJet	SpiceOxy
IIT Delhi	Chakr DeCoV
Defence Institute of Advanced Technology	Herbal Based Immunity Boosting Room Freshener 'Healthy Air'
IISc researchers	Low-cost, on demand printing technique
CMERI Durgapur	Two solar-powered spray systems
Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati	Engineered Surfaces To Detect, Prevent COVID-19
Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay	Matsya 6
IIT Kharagpur Researchers	Painless Drug Delivery and Vaccination Device



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Fynd	Social Doori
C-DAC, IIT-Kharagpur	Robot for pesticide spraying
IIM, Kozhikode based start-up	Veli Band
Delhi Metro Rail Corporation	i-ATS
Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) and Aurobindo Pharma Limited	To Develop COVID-19 Vaccines
IIIT, Bhubaneswar	Helmet-like ventilation device “Swasner”
Indian Institute of Technology Madras	AI processing models for 11 local languages
Indian Institute of Technology, Madras	MOUSHIK
The Mumbai Division of Central Railway	Rakshak
Institute of Nano Science & Technology team	nanorods from the nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) Aspirin
IIT Madras and Helyxon	remote patient monitoring solutions for COVID-19
Godrej Appliances	Godrej Virosshield
IISC Bengaluru	RT-PCR covid- 19 testing lab
IIT Kanpur	BEEG (Bio -compost Enriched Eco-friendly Globule)
Nitin Gadkari	Atulya
Rajnath Singh	Konkurs Missile Test Equipment and Konkurs Launcher Test Equipment
IIT Ropar	UVSAFE'
Defence Institute of Advanced Technology	Pavitrapati
IIT Kharagpur	DEEKSHAK Platform
Zydus Cadila	generic version of Remdesivir
DRDO	UV blaster
Tripura University scientists	WARBOT
IIT Madras, Stuttgart University	Method to dispose pharma waste
Manipur student	Coroboi
RoDeSo of the BITS Pilani Hyderabad Technology Business Incubator	Astra (Automated Solution for Transportation in Remote Area)
SCTIMST & IIT Madras	MediCAB
National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI), Lucknow	Setting up of Advanced Virology Lab
AIIMS & IIT-Delhi	COPAL – 19 App



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar	Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based deep learning tool
IIT-Roorkee	Developing of sterilizing system for personal belongings
Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur	Mobile Masterjee
Indian Council of Medical Research	Launching of Covaxin
University of Hyderabad	A tool for monitoring social distancing 'MAVEN LABS'
IIT Madras	A nano-coated filter for COVID warriors
Defence Research and Development Organisation	Research cell at Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad
Mylab Discovery Solutions	Compact XL
Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad & NVIDIA	NVIDIA AI Technology Centre
Indian Institute of Science	Eye Gaze-Controlled Robotic Arm For Speech
IIT-Delhi	Ozone-based decontamination device to disinfect N95 masks
Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology in Odisha	Ultra Violet Robot-Assisted Sanitiser
Loyal Textile Mills Limited	Viral Shield
IIT Kanpur	Ultraviolet (UV) sanitizing product named SHUDH
IIT Madras	MediCAB
IIT Kanpur Incubated Start-ups	Monitor water quality India
Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode	Veli Band
Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute	Surveillance kiosk
BHU Professor	SARDIJUKAM.Com
IIT Kharagpur	Portable rapid diagnostic device to COVID 19
IIT Madras	Wrist tracker
Central Scientific Instruments Organisation & AMESYS INDIA	Suraksha
Iit Hyderabad & ARCI	Activated carbon electrode' material from corn husk



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Important Environment News

2 new species of wetland plant discovered in Western Ghats

- Scientists have discovered **two new species of pipeworts**, a type of wetland plant, in areas along the Western Ghats in Maharashtra and Karnataka.
- Scientists from **Agharkar Research Institute (ARI)** claim that the species display different floral characters than previously known species
- The species found in Maharashtra has been named **Eriocaulon parvicephalum** and the Karnataka species is being called **Eriocaulon karaavalense**.

Southern reaches of Western Ghats yield 3 new plant species

- A team of scientists of the **Botanical Survey of India (BSI)** have reported the discovery of three new plant species from the evergreen forest patches of the southern end of the Western Ghats in Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

The three new species found are:

- *Eugenia sphaerocarpa* of the Myrtaceae or Rose apple family. ..
- *Goniothalamus sericeus* of the Annonaceae family of custard apple. ..
- *Memecylon nervosum* of the Melastomataceae (Kayambo or Kaasavu in local parlance) family.

ZSI Lists 20 Species Of Amphibians As 'critically Endangered'

- The **Zoological Survey of India** has posted an updated checklist of Indian amphibians on its website, **listing 20 species as critically endangered and 35 as 'endangered'**,
- Among the amphibians listed, 20 species are 'critically endangered' and 35 species as 'endangered', he stated. These include *Raorchestes resplendens*, a shrubfrog found in the high altitude region around the south Indian peak of Anamudi in Kerala, *Raorchestes kaikatti*, also known as the Kaikatti bush frog found only in the Nelliampathy hills in the Western Ghats of Kerala and *Raorchestes shillongensis* species found in Shillong.
- Besides, *Pseudophilautus amboli*, a rare shrub frog species endemic to the Western Ghats at Amboli in Maharashtra and Jog Falls and Kudremukh in Karnataka, has also been termed as critically endangered, Kulkarni stated.

New grasshopper species discovered after 116 years, named after kerala biologist

- A new species of pygmy grasshopper, discovered after 116 years by a group of foreign researchers in Sri Lanka, has been named after Indian orthopterist (one who studies grasshoppers) and conservation biologist Dhaneesh Bhaskar of Kerala.
- The new species, which was discovered by a group of Croatian and German researchers in Sinharaja rainforests of Sri Lanka, hails from *Cladonotus* genus and has been named as *Cladonotus Bhaskari*.

77 New Butterfly Species Found In Matheran Hill Station Near Mumbai

- As many as 77 new species of butterflies have been found in the ecologically sensitive forest of Matheran hill station near Mumbai during a study conducted there over the last eight years, according to the Bombay Natural History Society.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- With this, the total number of butterfly species in the Matheran forest has now gone up to 140, city-based Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) scientist Mandar Sawant stated.

Rare fish sighted by Andhra University scientists in Sileru

- A rare fish called Mahseer (scientific name Tor) was sighted and fished out from the upper part of Sileru river.
- The specie of fish, which is called the Golden Mahseer is found in the Himalayan region, where the temperature around year does not exceed 20° Celsius.
- Since the Golden Mahseer is found in Sileru and the grey ones are found in the Godavari, the government should explore the possibility of conserving and rearing it for its commercial and medicinal values.

Surviving core of Jupiter-like planet spotted near distant star: Research

- A rocky planet **39 times as massive as Earth** has been spotted orbiting a distant star at breakneck speed, with astronomers concluding it may be the surviving core of a planet once perhaps larger than Jupiter that was stripped of its gaseous atmosphere.
- The planet, **called TOI-849b**, orbits a star a bit smaller and cooler than the sun, **located 730 light years from Earth**. A light year is the distance light travels in a year, **5.9 trillion miles** (9.5 trillion km).

Australian scientists discover ancient underwater Aboriginal sites

- Australia's first underwater archaeological sites** off its west coast dating to more than 7,000 years ago will help with the understanding of the cultural and technology development of its first peoples, according to scientists.
- Archaeologists in Western Australia discovered hundreds of stone tools made by aboriginal people when the seabed was dry, at two ancient sites now submerged in the Dampier Archipelago.

Phobos, the closest and biggest moon of Mars, imaged by MOM: ISRO

- Mars Colour Camera (MCC) onboard Mars Orbiter Mission** has imaged Phobos, the closest and biggest moon of Mars, on 1st July when MOM was about 7200 km from Mars and at **4200 km from Phobos**.
- Spatial resolution of the **image is 210 m**. This is a composite image generated from **6 MCC frames and has been color corrected**.

NASA's SOFIA Discovers Water On Sunlit Surface Of Moon

- Two new studies published in **Nature Astronomy** suggest there could be **much more water** than previously thought, including **ice stored** in permanently shadowed "cold traps" at **lunar polar regions**.
- Using data from the **Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA)** Airborne Telescope, researchers scanned the lunar surface at a more precise wavelength than had been used before -- six microns instead of three.

Rare fish family with lineage going back to Gondwanaland found in Kerala

- A fish believed to have a lineage going back to **Gondwanaland** has been discovered from paddy fields of Kerala. The bony freshwater fish is stated to have survived even after the parting away of the Asian and African continents which began some **120 million years** ago.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The team reached the conclusion that the fish is a 'living fossil'. The research was carried using CT scans and detailed analysis of the specimen.

New perennial woody herb species spotted in Kerala

- A team of researchers have reported a new species of perennial woody herb of the genus *Lepidagathis* from the northern laterite plateaus of Kasaragod district in the State.
- Since this rare plant was spotted in the neighbourhood of the Ananthapura lake temple, it has been named '*Lepidagathis ananthapuramensis*' after the famed temple dedicated to Ananthapadmanabha.
- "Plants of this species are locally called 'Paramullu'. As far as we know, *Lepidagathis ananthapuramensis* is endemic to the region," he stated.
- Lepidagathis ananthapuramensis* is closely related to *Lepidagathis keralensis* reported from Madayippura in Kannur district. Detailed studies have established the former as a hitherto undescribed species, he stated.

IMD launches impact-based cyclone warning system

- The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has launched a dynamic, **impact-based cyclone warning system** aimed at **minimising economic losses** and **damage to property from cyclones** that hit the country's coasts every year.
- It is presented at the **World Space Week** celebrations organised by the Delhi chapter of the Indian Society of Remote Sensing recently.

Longest migrating small bird Willow Warbler spotted in Kerala's Punchakkari

- The bird was spotted by **Nirmal George**, NSS Programme officer of Sree Gokulam Medical College and Research Foundation, in the capital district.
- Willow warbler** (*Phylloscopus trochilus*), one of **longest migrating small bird** which breeds throughout northern and temperate Europe and the Palearctic, sighted for the first time in the country at Punchakkari in the capital.

IISc researchers discover 5 new species of vine snakes

- Researchers from the **Centre for Ecological Sciences (CES)**, IISc, have discovered **five new species of vine snakes**, four from the Western Ghats alone.
- The researchers found four distinct small-bodied and short-nosed species: the Northern Western Ghats vine snake (*ahaetulla borealis*), Farnsworth's vine snake (*ahaetulla farnsworthi*), Malabar vine snake (*ahaetulla malabarica*) and Wall's vine snake (*ahaetulla isabellina*) in the Western Ghats' forests.
- They also found the long-nosed vine snake (*ahaetulla oxyrhyncha*) in the lowlands and drier parts of peninsular India. This snake is much larger and is morphologically distinct.

Deep Depression over South West Bay of Bengal intensifies into cyclonic storm 'Nivar'

- The **Deep Depression** over the **South West Bay of Bengal** has intensified into the Cyclonic Storm "**Nivar**". The cyclone is currently located **410 km east-southeast of Puducherry** and 450 km southeast of Chennai.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- As per the India Meteorological Department, **Cyclone Nivar** is very likely to intensify into a severe cyclonic storm in the next 24-hours. The storm shall cross Tamil Nadu and Puducherry coasts between Karaikal and Mamallapuram around Puducherry.

23 Medicinal Plants Of Karnataka On IUCN's Endangered List

- Around **23 rare medicinal plants** in various **forests of Karnataka** are on the verge of extinction and listed as '**endangered**' on the **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)** list.
- The Karnataka Biodiversity Board and National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) conducted study has revealed that medicinal plants like sandalwood, wild clove, red sanders, **wild Jamun**, wild cinnamon and other species endemic to the Western Ghats have turned endangered on the IUCN list.

Fossil Fuel Production to Exceed Climate Targets: Production Gap Report, 2020

- In accordance with the report titled "The Production Gap, 2020" produced by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) the world is planning to produce more than double the amount of Coal, Oil and gas by 2030.
- It is planning an average annual increase of 2% for coal, oil, and gas production in 2030 as against the requirement of fossil fuel reduction by around 6% per year between 2020 and 2030 to attain warming target of 1.5°C.

2020 set to be among one of the Three Warmest Year Ever Recorded: WMO's State of the Global Climate 2020

- According to the "State of the Global Climate 2020" Interim report released by the United Nations World Meteorological Organization (WMO) based on the temperature data from January-October (of 2020), the year 2020 is set to be among one of the Three Warmest Years Ever recorded. 2020 becomes the 2nd warmest year followed by 2016.

Malayan Giant Squirrel could fall by 90% in India by 2050; ZSI's 1st of its kind Survey

- According to a First-of-its-kind survey conducted by Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Malayan Giant Squirrel or Black Giant Squirrel (*Ratufa bicolor*) could fall by 90% in India by 2050 due to shrinking of its original habitat zone.
- Malayan Giant Squirrel is one of the World's Largest Squirrel species and also one of the 3 Giant Squirrels species found in India.

Global CO2 Emissions expected to fall by 7% in 2020 due to Pandemic: UNEP's Emission Gap Report 2020

- According to 11th Edition of Emissions Gap Report 2020 (Annual report) released by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), The Global CO2 (Carbon Dioxide) Emissions are set to fall by 7% in 2020 owing to Pandemic.
- The report states that emissions of the richest 1% of the Global Population (Countries like United States of America (USA), European Union (EU), Australia and New Zealand) account for more than twice of the share of poorest 50% of countries.

IUCN Report named India's Western Ghats under Significant Concern

- In accordance with the new report by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) namely "IUCN World Heritage Outlook 3", India's Western Ghats, inscribed by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Cultural Organization) in 2012 as a natural world heritage site, is threatened by population pressure, urbanization and climate change. The site is regarded as of significant concern.

New species of Pygmy Grasshopper named “Tettilobus trishula” after Shiva’s Trishul

- A new species of wide-nosed Pygmy Grasshopper documented by researchers in Eravikulam National Park (Idukki, Kerala) in January, 2018 has been named ‘Tettilobus Trishula’ (common name Shiva’s pygmy trishula) as its protrusion in pronotum resembles the three-pronged spear ‘Trishul’ used by Lord Shiva. The discovery has been published in the Journal Zootaxa.

Ischaemum janarthanamii: A New Species of Indian Muraingrasses Discovered in Goa by ARI Researchers

- A team of researchers of Agharkar Research Institute (ARI) led by Dr. Mandar Datar and Dr. Ritesh Kumar Choudhary have discovered a tough novel new species of Indian Muraingrasses (Genus Ischaemum) named Ischaemum janarthanamii in Goa in the Western Ghats.
- The research paper about this species was published in Annales Botanici Fennici, a Finland based journal.

Important Rankings and Indexes

Index	India's Rank	Top	Released By
Climate Change Performance Index	10th	Sweden (4 th) Top 3 empty.	
Human Development Index	131	Norway	United Nations Development Programme
Human Freedom Index	111st	New Zealand	Cato Institute
Global Hunger Index 2020	94 th		Published by Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe
Inflow of Migrants to OECD Countries	2nd	China	Revealed by OECD
Ookla Speedtest Global Index	131 st	Singapore	
Global Economic Freedom Index 2020	105 th	Hong Kong and Singapore	Canada's Fraser Institute
World Bank's Human Capital Index	116th		World Bank

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

World Risk Report 2020	89th spot	Qatar - lowest risk	United Nations University's Institute for Environment and Human Security & calculated by the International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict
Digital Quality of Life (DQL) Index 2020	57th	Denmark	SurfShark
Average wages	72nd	Switzerland	Picodi.com.
Global Real Estate Transparency Index 2020	34 th	UK	Jones Lang LaSalle
Cancer preparedness in Asia-Pacific: Progress towards universal cancer control	8 th	Australia	Economist Intelligence Unit
Global Manufacturing Risk Index	3 rd	China & USA	Cushman & Wakefield
World Intellectual Property Indicators- 2019 Report	10 th	China	WIPO

Amul becomes first Indian dairy company to be in Rabobank's Global Top 20 list; Nestle leads

- **Amul**, Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF), has become the first Indian dairy firm to make a place of **16th** in the global top 20 list released by Rabobank.
- **Switzerland's Nestle topped** the list with a turnover of US \$22.1 billion, followed by France's Lactalis with US \$ 21 billion turnover. Amul has achieved an annual turnover of \$5.5 billion.

India ranks in top 50 countries for 1st time in Global Innovation Index

- **India** ranked in the **top 50 countries** for the **first time** in the **Global Innovation Index**. India jumped four positions to rank at **48th** since 2019. The index compiled by **World Intellectual Property Index (WIPO)** presented the latest global trends and annual innovation ranking for **131 countries**.

Elon Musk is now the third richest person in the world

- **Elon Musk's** net worth is now **\$115 billion**, pushing him past **Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg** on the list of the world's richest people, according to Bloomberg.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Musk's increase in wealth was propelled by Tesla's (TSLA) wild 12% stock gain. This makes the Tesla founder and CEO the **third-richest person** in the world, according to the **Bloomberg Billionaires Index**. He is now only poorer than Bill Gates and Jeff Bezos.
- The world's top five billionaires (in order) are: Jeff Bezos, Bill Gates, Elon Musk, Mark Zuckerberg and Bernard Arnault, the CEO of LVMH in France.

Akash, Isha Ambani Enter Fortune's '40 Under 40' Global List

- The twin children of billionaire Mukesh Ambani, **Akash and Isha**, have made it to the **Fortune's** latest '**40 Under 40**' list of influential people around the world.
- **Byju's** CEO **Raveendran**, 39, made it to the list for showing that it is possible to build a massively successful online education company and **Xiaomi India** Managing Director **Manu Kumar Jain**, among others.

IISc leads 63 Indian institutions in THE World University Rankings 2021

- The **Indian Institute of Science (IISc)**, Bengaluru, maintained its **lead as the country's top** institution in the **Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2021**.
- Following IISc, **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Ropar** and **IIT Indore** retained their second and third spots, respectively.
- While globally, the **UK's University of Oxford** retained the **top spot**, **China's Tsinghua University** became the **first Asian university** to break into the **Top 20** since the current methodology launched in 2011.

Andhra Pradesh tops ease of doing business rankings, Telangana on 3rd spot

- **Andhra Pradesh** has bagged the **first rank** among all the states in the country in the state **business reforms action plan-2019 (BRAP-2019)**, representing ease of doing business for Atmanirbhar Bharat.
- The ranks were announced by the **Department of Industrial Promotion and Internal Trade (DPIIT)**.
- While **Uttar Pradesh** stood in the **second position**, **Telangana** bagged the **third spot** in the overall ranking of the state business process reforms undertaken during 2019.

Hyderabad among top cities for career in AI

- **Hyderabad** is one of the **top five cities** in the country to offer jobs in the field of artificial intelligence (AI), a latest report by job portal site **Indeed** has revealed.
- **Bengaluru** tops the list of destinations for a career in AI, followed by **Mumbai**, **Hyderabad**, **Pune**, and **Chennai**.

Kerala Most Literate State in Country With 96.2% Literacy, Andhra Worst Performer at 66.4%

- A recent report based on **National Statistical Office (NSO) survey** stated that **Kerala** has emerged as the **most literate state in the country** with **96.2 per cent literacy**. On the other hand, **Andhra Pradesh** is at the **bottom** with a rate of **66.4 per cent**.
- The report on **Household Social Consumption: Education in India** provides for state-wise detail of literacy rate among the persons aged seven years and above.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- After Kerala, **Delhi** has the best literacy rate at **88.7 per cent**, followed by **Uttarakhand's 87.6 per cent**, **Himachal Pradesh's 86.6 per cent** and **Assam's at 85.9 per cent**.

Forbes Releases 39th Annual Forbes 400 Ranking Of The Richest Americans

- Forbes released the **39th annual Forbes 400 list**.
- **Jeff Bezos**, CEO and founder of Amazon, remains in the top spot on the 2020 Forbes 400 list followed by **Bill Gates** (USD 111 billion), **Mark Zuckerberg** (of USD 85 billion), **Warren Buffett** (USD 73.5 billion), **Larry Ellison** (USD 72 billion).
- **President Donald Trump** is ranked **339th** on the list with a net worth of USD 2.5 billion.

India is second-fastest-growing freelance market in the world, says report

- India is the **second-fastest-growing freelance** market in the world with a massive increase in the number of freelancers this year, according to a report on '**Freelancing in 2020: An Abundance of Opportunities**' by Payoneer.
- India witnessed a **46 per cent** increase in new freelancers from Q1 to Q2, 2020 as per the report.

India ranks to 105th spot from 79th in global economic freedom ranking

- **India** has been ranked **105th** on the **Global Economic Freedom Index 2020**, falling 26 spots from **79th position** in last year's rankings.
- The **Economic Freedom of the World: 2020 Annual Report** prepared by **Canada's Fraser Institute** has been released in India in conjunction with New Delhi-based think tank Centre For Civil Society.

Startup ranking: Gujarat, Andaman & Nicobar Islands are best performers

- **Gujarat** and **Andaman & Nicobar Islands** have emerged as the **best performers** among states and UTs in the second edition of ranking of the startup ecosystem in the country, followed by **Karnataka** and **Kerala** who were "top performers".
- The **States' Startup Ranking Framework 2019** is based on seven broad reform areas.

India ranks 116th in World Bank's Human Capital Index

- India has been ranked at the **116th position** in the latest edition of the **World Bank's annual Human Capital Index** that benchmarks key components of human capital across countries.
- However, India's score increased to **0.49** from **0.44** in 2018, as per the Human Capital Index report released by the World Bank.

Indian Cities Slip In Global Smart City Index, Singapore On Top

- **The Institute for Management Development**, in collaboration with **Singapore University for Technology and Design**, has released the **2020 Smart City Index**.
- In the 2020 Smart City Index, **Hyderabad** was placed at the **85th position** (down from 67 in 2019), **New Delhi** at **86th rank** (down from 68 in 2019), **Mumbai** was at **93rd place** (in 2019 it was at 78) and **Bengaluru** at **95th** (79 in 2019).

Most valuable brands: HDFC Bank retains 1st position; Reliance Retail leads top risers



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **HDFC Bank Ltd** has again emerged as **the most valuable brand in India in 2020**, despite its ranking seeing an **11 per cent decline from 2019**, **BrandZ Top 75 Most Valuable Indian Brands** rankings, **WPP Plc** and **Kantar** report.
- This is the **seventh consecutive year** when **HDFC Bank** remained the **top-ranked brand in India**.

Ayushmann Khurrana only Indian actor on Time's 100 most influential list

- **Ayushmann Khurrana** has been named among **world's 100 most influential people** by the **Time Magazine**..
- Others Indians on the list include **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**, **Google CEO Sundar Pichai**, London-based Indian-origin doctor **Ravindra Gupta**, and **Bilkis** - a grandmother from **Shaheen Bagh**, a Delhi neighbourhood that became the epicentre of the **anti-CAA protests**. US Vice Presidential nominee **Kamala Harris** also features in the **Leaders category** alongside **Modi**.

QS Global MBA Rankings 2021: IIM Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Calcutta top Indian B-schools

- Placed at the **50th position**, **IIM Ahmedabad** was the **top-ranked Indian B-School** followed by **IIM Bangalore** and **IIM Calcutta** in the latest **QS Global MBA** rankings.
- **IIM Bangalore** was placed at the **54th position** while **IIM Calcutta** was at the **79th position**. **Indian School of Business**, which has campuses in **Hyderabad** and **Mohali (Punjab)**, secured the **93rd position**.

India ranks 89th in World Risk Report 2020

- **India** has been ranked at the **89th spot** among **181 Countries** by **World Risk Index (WRI) 2020**.
- **WRI** has been developed in cooperation with the **United Nations University's Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNUEHS)** and calculated by the **International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict (IFHV)**.
- The **Pacific island state of Vanuatu** leads the index as the country with the **highest disaster risk (49.74)**. **Qatar** has the **lowest risk (0.31)**.

Mukesh Ambani tops Hurun India Rich List for ninth year

- **Mukesh Ambani**, chairman and MD of **Reliance Industries**, ranked at the **top** on the **IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List** for the **ninth consecutive year**, with a total wealth of **Rs 6,58,400 crore**.
- **Ambani** is followed by **London-based Hinduja brothers (SP Hinduja, along with his three brothers)** with a joint wealth of **Rs 1,43,700** and **HCL founder Shiv Nadar** with a wealth of **Rs 1,41,700 crore**. **Radhakishan Damani**, founder of **Avenue Supermarts**, debuted in the **top 10 list** this year with a net worth of **Rs 87,200 crore** that put him at the **7th spot**.

Around 23.8 Million Children May Drop Out of School Due to the Impacts of COVID-19

- **António Guterres** Secretary-General of **United Nations (UN)** launched the report titled "Policy Brief: Education during COVID-19 and beyond" states that around **23.8 million** additional children and youths may drop out or not have access to school in **2021** due to the economic impacts of **COVID-19**.
- The Policy brief was built on **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)**'s data and features recommendations on ways to avoid the emerging disaster.

Reliance Industries ranked second biggest brand globally after Apple



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- Reliance Industries has been ranked second biggest brand after Apple on the FutureBrand Index 2020.
- The 2020 list is topped by Apple, while Samsung is ranked third, followed by Nvidia, Moutai, Nike, Microsoft, ASML, PayPal and Netflix. Reliance ranks 91st on PWC 2020 list.

Mukesh Ambani Now World's 4th Richest Person: Report

- Reliance Industries' chairman, Mukesh Ambani, is now the fourth richest person in the world, according to news agency Bloomberg. With a total net worth of \$80.6 billion, Mukesh Ambani was ranked fourth in the Bloomberg Billionaires Index. Mr Ambani was behind Amazon founder and CEO Jeff Bezos (whose net worth was at \$187 billion), Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates (\$121 billion) and Facebook co-founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg (\$102 billion).

Karnataka tops list of states seeking skilled workforce to resume industrial activities

- Karnataka has topped the list of states seeking skilled workforce to resume industrial activities followed by Maharashtra, Delhi, Telangana and Haryana.
- Majority of candidates registered on the AtmaNirbhar Skilled Employee Employer Mapping (Aseem) portal are from Uttar Pradesh (13.7%), Haryana (7.1%), Tamil Nadu (6.6%), Maharashtra (6.2%) and West Bengal (4.7%).
- Maximum number of candidates registered under the programme are from Bihar (81.3%), Jharkhand (12.1%), Odisha (4.9%) and Madhya Pradesh (1.6%).

Akshay Kumar only Bollywood star among Forbes' highest-paid actors of 2020

- According to Forbes Magazine, Wrestler-turned-movie star Dwayne Johnson clung to the top slot on the list of the world's highest-paid male actors for a second straight year.
- Ryan Reynolds, who co-stars with Johnson in Red Notice, came in second in the Forbes ranking of male stars.
- Actor and producer Mark Wahlberg finished third with \$58 million. Akshay Kumar landed in sixth place with earnings of \$48.5 million.

Punjab Gets First Rank In Health, Welfare Centre Operationalisation

- The Punjab Government announced that the state achieved first rank in operationalisation of Health and Welfare Centres (HWCs) as per the latest rankings released by the Centre.
- A total of 1,600 community health officers have been appointed at HWCs and 823 more candidates will be appointed as CHOs by the end of this year after the completion of the bridge course.

Bengaluru ranks 26th in Knight Frank Prime Global Cities Index Q2

- Bengaluru and the national capital New Delhi ranked 26th and 27th, respectively, globally in 'Prime Global Cities Index Q2 2020', according to Knight Frank report. Mumbai is at 32nd position.
- The Philippines capital Manila leads the index followed by Japan's Tokyo (8.60 per cent) and Sweden's Stockholm (4.40 per cent).



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Thailand's capital Bangkok was the weakest-performing global city in the year to June 2020, with luxury home prices falling by 5.8 per cent.

Mukesh Ambani slips two ranks, now seventh richest in the world

- Mukesh Ambani has dropped two positions to become the seventh-richest man in the world according to Forbes Real Time Billionaires List.
- Ambani's net worth is valued at \$78.3 billion, while Elon Musk was sixth with a marginally high net worth of \$78.6 billion.

Elon Musk gains \$8 billion to become world's fourth-richest person

- Elon Musk is now the world's fourth-richest person after Tesla Inc. shares surged 11 per cent, closing at a record high and boosting Musk's net worth by \$7.8 billion.
- Facebook Inc's Mark Zuckerberg became a centibillionaire this month, joining Bezos and Bill Gates, the second-wealthiest person on earth.

India ranks first in number of organic farmers and ninth in terms of area under organic farming

- India ranks first in number of organic farmers and ninth in terms of area under organic farming.
- Sikkim became the first State in the world to become fully organic and other States including Tripura and Uttarakhand have set similar targets.

IIT Madras bags 1st place in Atal Innovation ranking, 7 IITs among top 10

- The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) at Madras, Bombay and Delhi have bagged the top three positions in the Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovations Achievements (ARIIA).
- The ARIIA is an initiative of the Ministry of Education to systematically rank higher education institutions and universities on indicators related to innovation.
- The Institute of Chemical Technology, Maharashtra, has been ranked top among state-funded universities, followed by Panjab University and Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University.

Delhi, Chennai among cheapest cities to rent for couples and newly-weds

- Ho Chi Minh City is the cheapest in the world while New York is the most expensive
- According to a new report by Purely Diamonds, couples and newly-weds looking to save money on housing should put Ho Chi Minh City, Delhi, and Chennai at the top of their list. These are the cheapest cities for renting houses, says a report.

Indore in Madhya Pradesh declared as the cleanest city in national Swachh Survekshan 2020 awards

- Indore in Madhya Pradesh has been awarded as the cleanest city in the country in the Swachh Survekshan 2020 awards.
- Among the towns along the banks of river Ganga, Varanasi has been awarded the cleanest town award. New Delhi has been awarded as the cleanest capital city in the country. Chhattisgarh was awarded the first place in the states with over 100 cities while Jharkhand bagged it for being the state in the category of states with less than 100 cities.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Jalandhar Cantonment Board was conferred the cleanest cantonment board in the country. Ahmedabad in Gujarat was awarded for being the cleanest city with over 40 lakh population.

Digital Quality of Life Index 2020

- **Digital Quality of Life (DQL) Index 2020** has been released by **SurfShark**, an online privacy solutions provider.
- According to it, **India ranks** among the **lowest** in the world in terms of **Internet quality**.
- **Denmark taking the leading position globally. India ranked 57th.**

Parameters	India's Rank	Topped by
Internet affordability	9 th	Israel
Time to work to afford the cheapest mobile internet (seconds)	5 th	
Time to work to afford the cheapest broadband internet (minutes)	49 th	
Internet quality	78 th	Singapore
Electronic infrastructure	79 th	UAE
Electronic security	57 th	UK
Electronic government	15 th	Singapore

TN women top the list of MUDRA loan scheme beneficiaries

- Over 15 crore loans amounting to Rs.4.78-lakh-crore have been disbursed to women borrowers since the inception of the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) with Tamil Nadu topping the list in availing the loan followed by women in West Bengal and Karnataka.
- As on March 31 women in Tamil Nadu had availed Rs.58,227 crore loan from the scheme followed by West Bengal Rs.55,232 crore, Karnataka Rs.47,714 crore, Bihar Rs.44,879 crore and Maharashtra Rs.42,000 crore loan as per the data provided by the Ministry of Finance to the Rajya Sabha.

Gujarat tops Niti Aayog's Export Preparedness Index 2020

- Gujarat has topped the Niti Aayog's Export Preparedness Index 2020 followed by Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.
- Six of eight coastal states feature in the top ten rankings, indicating the presence of strong enabling and facilitating factors to promote exports.
- Among the landlocked states, Rajasthan has performed the best, followed by Telangana and Haryana.
- Among the Himalayan states, Uttarakhand topped the chart, followed by Tripura and Himachal Pradesh, across Union Territories, Delhi has performed the best, followed by Goa and Chandigarh.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Niti Aayog in partnership with the Institute of Competitiveness released the first Export Preparedness Index (EPI) 2020.

World Bank pauses publication of Doing Business report

- The World Bank has decided to pause the publication of its Doing Business report following a number of irregularities regarding changes to data in previous reports.
- A number of irregularities have been reported regarding changes to the data in the Doing Business 2018 and Doing Business 2020 reports, published in October 2017 and 2019.

India 72nd on global list with average monthly wage of Rs 32,800

- India has been ranked a lowly 72nd among 106 countries in terms of the average wage per month, while Switzerland topped the chart, according to a global ranking of average wages prepared by Picodi.com.
- Switzerland was followed by Luxembourg and the United States, whose citizens on an average earn Rs 3,00,900 (\$4,014) and Rs 2,64,900 (\$3,534), respectively.

RIL only Indian company on global list of 100 firms that prospered during the pandemic

- Billionaire **Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries (RIL)** is the only Indian company to feature on a list of businesses that prospered during the Coronavirus enforced lockdown.
- A list of top 100 companies by **Financial Times** ranked **Mumbai-based RIL at 89**.
- Here are the top 10 companies on Financial Times' list of businesses that performed well during the pandemic: Amazon, Microsoft, Apple, Tesla, Tencen, Facebook, Nvidia, Alphabet, Paypal, T-Mobile.

Bangladesh moves 7 places up on SDG Index

- **Bangladesh** has moved **7 places up in the latest Sustainable Development Index (SDG)** for the year 2020.
- **India stands at 117th place. Sweden** is placed at the **top of the index** with an overall score of **84.7** while Bangladesh has a score of 63.5.
- The report shows that among **17 SDG parameters**, Bangladesh has remained on track in achieving goals relating to poverty alleviation, quality education, decent work and economic growth and climate action.

Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson becomes Instagram's highest-paid celebrity

- **Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson** has dethroned Kylie Jenner as **Instagram's highest-paid celebrity**.
- According to social media marketing firm **Hopper HQ**, Johnson, can charge advertisers roughly \$1,015,000 for a sponsored post.
- **Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson** was also named Hollywood's highest-paid actor of 2019 by Forbes.

India among top 5 nations in e-waste generation: Report

- **India** is among the top five e-waste generating countries in the world besides **China, the US, Japan and Germany**, according to a report.
- Among states, Maharashtra contributes the largest e-waste of **19.8%**, the report released by Assocham and NEC stated ahead of the Environment Day on 5 June.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Tamil Nadu with e-waste contribution of **13% recycled** about 52,427 TPA; Uttar Pradesh (10.1%) recycles about 86,130 TPA; **West Bengal (9.8%), Delhi (9.5%), Karnataka (8.9%), Gujarat (8.8%) and Madhya Pradesh 7.6%.**

India ranks 34th in Global Real Estate Transparency Index 2020 by JLL

- As per **Jones Lang LaSalle's (JLL)** biennial **Global Real Estate Transparency Index**, India ranks **34th globally on the index**, with higher levels of transparency due to regulatory reforms, enhanced market data, and sustainability initiatives.
- The rankings have six Asia Pacific markets – **Mainland China (32nd), Thailand (33rd), India (34th), Indonesia (40th), Philippines (44th) and Vietnam (56th)** – among the top 10 biggest improvers globally.

India ranks eighth for cancer preparedness among 10 Asia-Pacific countries: EIU

- India was ranked **eighth** as regards cancer preparedness among 10 Asia-Pacific countries, according to a new report.
- The **Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)** report on "**Cancer preparedness in Asia-Pacific: Progress towards universal cancer control**", sponsored by Roche, examines the findings from the EIU's Index of Cancer Preparedness.
- The report describes the complexities of the challenge of cancer facing 10 Asia-Pacific countries -- **Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam.**

Mukesh Ambani now is the fifth richest man in the world: Hurun

- Billionaire **Mukesh Ambani** has moved **three notches up to become the fifth richest man** in the world, a position he shares with **Tesla founder Elon Musk and Former Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer.**
- Amazon founder **Jeff Bezos** with a **networth of \$200 billion** still tops the chart, followed by Microsoft co-founder **Bill Gates (\$110 billion)**, while French multi-national luxury goods conglomerate Louis Vuitton SE group head **Bernard Arnault** is third (**\$94 billion**).
- Facebook founder **Mark Zuckerberg (\$89 billion)** in **fourth position** is the other billionaire in the list.

Elon Musk is the 'best' paid CEO, Apple CEO Tim Cook at 2nd spot

- Tesla CEO Elon Musk** grabbed the top spot in the list of highest paid CEOs in US in 2019 while Apple CEO Tim Cook ranked second in the list created by Bloomberg.
- As per the Bloomberg Pay Index, Musk made **\$595.3 million in 2019** making him the highest paid CEO. Meanwhile, Tim Cook made **\$133.7 million in 2019** from Apple.

India 2nd- largest source of FDI for Britain

- India invested in 120 projects and created **5,429 new jobs in the UK** to become the **second-largest source of foreign direct investment (FDI)** after the US in 2019, according to new UK government figures released.
- The US remains the number one source of FDI for the **UK followed by India, Germany, France and China and Hong Kong. Australia and New Zealand** were responsible for 72 projects and the Nordic and Baltic region 134.

Madhya Pradesh tops in implementing Pradhan Mantri Street Vendors Atma Nirbhar Nidhi-PM Swa Nidhi scheme



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **Madhya Pradesh** has emerged on top in implementing the **Pradhan Mantri Street Vendors Atma Nirbhar Nidhi-PM Swa Nidhi** scheme.
- Apart from urban street vendors, a scheme to provide interest free assistance of **Rs. 10,000** is being implemented also for the street vendors of rural areas in the state.

Mukesh Ambani's \$72 billion fortune makes him richer than Elon Musk and Google's Larry Page and Sergey Brin

- India's richest man **Mukesh Ambani** surged past Silicon Valley tech titan **Elon Musk** as well as **Alphabet Inc.** co-founders **Sergey Brin** and **Larry Page** to become the world's sixth-richest person according to the **Bloomberg Billionaires Index**
- Top 1. **Jeff Bezos(US)** with **USD 184billion**, 2. **Bill Gates(US)** with **USD 115billion**, 3. **Bernard Arnault(France)** **USD 94.5billion**.

India Ranks Third In Global Manufacturing Risk Index: Cushman & Wakefield Report

- India ranks **third** in the list of most-suitable locations for global manufacturing among **48 countries in terms of cost competitiveness and operating conditions**, according to property consultant **Cushman & Wakefield**.
- **China and the U.S.** retain the top two positions.
- In cost scenario, India is at **3rd position after China and Vietnam**. However, India ranks 30th in risk scenario.

India among top ten nations in intellectual property filings

- As per **World Intellectual Property Indicators-2019 Report**, India has emerged as the top **tenth nation** in the ranking of the total (resident and abroad) Intellectual Property (IP) filing activity.
- The overall ranking has been topped by **China followed by United States**, Germany, Japan, and Republic of Korea as the top five nations in the list.

India Higher than China in business, technology skills but lags in data science: Global Skills Index 2020

- **Data from the Global Skills Index 2020** by online learning platform **Coursera** showed that India stood 34th in the world when it comes to business skills, outperforming China which was at the 45th spot (emerging category).
- In the data science domain, however, **China outperformed India**. Here, China was the 35th spot globally in the emerging category while **India stood at 51st in the laggard category**.
- In the Asia Pacific (APAC) region, the **Global Skills Index** showed that India and China post similar figures in terms of skills mastery.

HDFC Bank's Aditya Puri highest paid banker for FY20 with Rs.18.92 cr in remuneration

- **HDFC Bank** Managing Director **Aditya Puri** has emerged as the highest paid banker among the **top lenders for FY 2019-20**, with a **38 per cent jump in salary and prerequisites to Rs.18.92 crore**.
- Second largest private sector lender **ICICI Bank's** managing director and chief executive **Sandeep Bakhshi's** gross earnings stood at **Rs.6.31 crore** in his first full year as the head of the lender.
- **Axis Bank's** managing director and chief executive **Amitabh Chaudhry** was paid **Rs.6.01 crore** for FY20 as against **Rs.1.27 crore** for the last three months of FY19.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Indian direct selling industry ranked 15th after recording \$2B sales in 2019

- According to **World Federation of Direct Selling Associations**, The Indian direct selling industry has reported a growth of **12.1% to \$2.47 billion** in 2019.
- The ranking of the direct selling industry improved from **19th a year before to 15th**.
- The **US** has topped the list, contributing 20% of the global direct selling industry.
- It is followed by **China with 13 percent contribution, Korea and Germany** with 10 percent each and 9 percent by Japan.

India ranks among 10 worst countries for working people: ITUC

- **India** is among the 10 worst countries for working people, according to the **seventh edition of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) Global Rights Index** that ranks 144 countries on the degree of respect for workers' rights.
- The **Middle East and North Africa** is the worst region in the world for working people for seven years running due to the insecurity and conflict in Palestine, Syria, Yemen and Libya coupled with the most regressive region for workers' representation and union rights.

Mukesh Ambani now world's 5th RICHEST

- Billionaire **Mukesh Ambani** is now the world's fifth-richest man. The Real-Time Billionaires List by Forbes Magazine shows **Ambani**, the chairman of oil-to-conglomerate Reliance Industries, at the fifth position, just below Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg.
- Ambani's wealth is pegged at **\$75 billion**, meaning **Rs 5.61 lakh crore**. Amazon founder and CEO Jeff Bezos is at the top with a net worth of **\$185.8 billion**.

Mukesh Ambani's Reliance breaks into top 50 most valued firms globally, ranks 48

- Billionaire **Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries Ltd** has broken into the top 50 most valued companies globally after it became the first company with market capitalisation of over **Rs 13 lakh crore**.
- The oil-to-telecom conglomerate is **ranked 48th in market cap globally**, according to stock market data.

Hyderabad is 16th most surveilled city in the world

- Telangana's capital **Hyderabad** has found a place among the **top 50 CCTV-surveilled cities** in the world.
- According to a report published by the **UK tech firm Comparitech**, Hyderabad ranks **16th in the list** and is the top-ranked Indian metropolis.

India among top 10 countries gaining forest area in the world: FAO

- India has ranked third among the top 10 countries that have gained in forest areas in the last decade, the latest **Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA)** brought out by the **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** of the **United Nations**.
- India reported **0.38 per cent** annual gain in forest, or 266,000 ha of forest increase every year at an average.

Reliance overtakes Exxon to become world's 2nd most valuable energy firm



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **Reliance Industries** has overtaken **ExxonMobil** to become the world's second most valuable energy company after its market capitalisation scaled to a record high of over **Rs 14 lakh crore**.
- Reliance was ranked **48th** and was behind **ExxonMobil**. Now it is ranked **46th** globally on market cap
- Globally, **Saudi Aramco** has the highest market cap of USD 1.75 trillion, followed by **Apple (USD 1.6 trillion)**, **Microsoft (USD 1.5 trillion)**, **Amazon (USD 1.48 trillion)**, and **Alphabet (USD 1.03 trillion)**.

Agartala ranks no. 1 among 10 smart cities of Northeast India

- Tripura's capital city **Agartala** has been ranked first amongst the ten smart cities in the **North Eastern Region** after it scaled up from 76 to 54 in the national rankings of the 100 smart cities of India.
- The rankings of other northeastern cities are as follows: Namchi, Sikkim (59), Aizawal, Mizoram (75), Kohima, Nagaland (79), Gangtok, Sikkim (80), Guwahati, Assam (83), Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh (89), Shillong, Meghalaya (92), Imphal, Manipur (93), and Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh (98).

Microsoft, Samsung ranked India's most attractive employer brands by Randstad Research

- **Microsoft India**, has emerged as India's most 'attractive employer brand', according to the findings of **Randstad Employer Brand Research (REBR) 2020**.
- Microsoft India scored high on financial health, strong reputation and utilization of the latest technologies — the **top 3 EVP (Employee Value Proposition)** drivers for the organization.
- **Samsung India** emerged as the runner up, followed by **Amazon India**.

Chhattisgarh's Bijapur tops Niti's aspirational districts ranking for Feb-June 2020

- **Bijapur district in Chhattisgarh** has topped the list of **aspirational districts** ranked by government think-tank **NitiAayog** for the February-June 2020 period.
- **Ri-Bhoi (Meghalaya)** and **Bahraich (Uttar Pradesh)** have been placed at the **second and third positions** respectively.

Mumbai ranks 2nd after Delhi in crimes against women, reveals NCRB data

- According to the latest data released by the **National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)**, **Mumbai** recorded 6,519 cases, after national capital **Delhi** at 12,902 cases during the year 2019. However, there has been a drop of 1.5 per cent in crimes in Maharashtra.
- The **National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)** data has revealed that overall the crime cases against women in Mumbai in last two years have been 6,058 and 5,453 respectively.

Sofia Vergara is Forbes' highest-paid actress of 2020, with Rs 315 crore earnings

- **Sofia Vergara** is the **highest-paid female actor in the world**, according to **Forbes' latest list**. She made \$43 million in a one-year period, which is the equivalent of **Rs 315 crore**.
- Also included in the top 10 are Angelina Jolie (\$35.5 million), Gal Gadot (\$31 million), Melissa McCarthy (25 million), Meryl Streep (\$24 million), Emily Blunt (\$22.5 million), Nicole Kidman (\$22 million), Ellen Pompeo (\$19 million), Elisabeth Moss (\$16 million) and Viola Davis (\$15.5 million).
- **Dwayne Johnson** topped the male list, with \$87.5 million. **Akshay Kumar** was the only Indian actor on either list.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Tamil Nadu tops in road accidents for third year

- With over **156 road accident cases per day**, Tamil Nadu ranks **first for the third year** according to data from the **NCRB**.
- **Tamil Nadu** recorded **57,228 road accidents** in 2019, followed by Madhya Pradesh with 51,641 and Uttar Pradesh 37,537.
- With regards to **deaths on National Highways**, Tamil Nadu stood **third** with 3,921 cases, **behind Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra**.

Tabu, Taapsee Pannu, Anushka Sharma top McAfee's 'Most Dangerous Celebrity' list in India

- Bollywood stars **Tabu, Taapsee Pannu, Anushka Sharma** and **Sonakshi Sinha** are among the **top 10 personalities** generating the riskiest search results online in India, due to the malicious sites and viruses linked to their names, according to a list released by a **cybersecurity company**.
- But it was global football sensation **Cristiano Ronaldo** who claimed the **numero uno** spot on **McAfee's Most Dangerous Celebrity list 2020**.

Forbes India Rich List 2020: Mukesh Ambani remains wealthiest Indian for 13th consecutive year

- **Forbes** has released this year's list of the **top 100 richest Indians**. **Mukesh Ambani** remains the **wealthiest Indian for the 13th year in a row**, adding \$37.3 billion to his net worth.
- Mukesh Ambani (88.7 billion dollar), Gautam Adani (25.2 billion dollar), Shiv Nadar (20.4 billion dollar), Rafhakishan Damani (15.4 billion dollar), Hinduja brothers (12.8 billion dollar), Cyrus Poonawalla (11.5 billion dollar), Pallonji Mistry (11.4 billion dollar), Uday Kotak (11.3 billion dollar), Godrej Family (11 billion dollar), Lakshmi Mittal (10.3 billion dollar).

India to be third-largest economy in world by 2050

- **Indian economy** will become the **third-largest in the world by 2050** after the **United States and China**, a study published in the **Lancet journal**.
- **Currently, India is at fifth spot** followed by France and the United Kingdom.
- As per the study, **India** will become the **fourth-largest economy** in the world by **2030** and subsequently moved to **third spot by 2050**.
- **India will overtake Japan** in the list which is currently at the fourth spot.

After Nearly 125 Years, Rare Day Flying Moth 'Achelura Bifasciata' Sighted in Uttarakhand

- Arun Gour, an enthusiastic lepidopterist who spotted a rare day flying moth named as '**Achelura bifasciata**' in **Devalsari of Tehri district in Uttarakhand**. This moth was spotted after 125 years it was last reported in the forest of Nainital.
- Achelura bifasciata is usually found in the Himalayan belt and its presence in Uttarakhand has been mentioned in old records from Nainital, reported by G F Hampson- a Briton, in a moth book that he wrote in 1893.

New Zealand passport most powerful, US ranked 21, India 58 in Global Passport Index by Arton Capital



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **New Zealand has knocked off Japan for the strongest passport in the world** according to the latest **Global Passport Index** compiled by global financial advisory firm **Arton Capital**.
- The **US passport** ranked **21** and **India, 58**.
- **Japan now holds the second position** along with Germany, Austria, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Ireland, South Korea and Australia.

India recorded the third-highest number of disaster events over the past 20 years: UN Report

- **India ranks third** in the **highest number of disaster** events recorded over the **last 20 years** according to the latest report published by the **United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)**.
- The report "**The Human Cost of Disasters 2000-2019**" records disaster events across the globe along with its impact of human lives and the economy.
- Overall, the top three countries in terms of the highest number of events include "**China (577 events), the United States of America (467 events) and India (321 events)**".

Chandigarh University bags first rank in India as stand-alone institution for filling highest number of patents in a year according to Government of India patent rankings

- **Chandigarh University Gharuan** has emerged as **Top Stand-Alone University in India** for filling highest number of patents in a year.
- The annual rankings for the year 2018-19 was recently released by Office of Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks, Government of India which comprises of Academic Institutions and Multinational Companies.

Global Hunger Index 2020: India ranks 94 out of 107 countries, under 'serious' category

- India ranks **94** among **107 countries** in the **Global Hunger Index 2020**, the report released. According to the report, with a score of 27.2, India has a level of hunger that is "**serious**". India's rank was **102** out of **117 countries** last year.
- In the index, India features behind Nepal (73), Pakistan (88), Bangladesh (75), Indonesia (70) among others. Out of the total 107 countries, only 13 countries fare worse than India including countries like Rwanda (97), Nigeria (98), Afghanistan (99), Liberia (102), Mozambique (103), Chad (107) among others.

India Fourth Most Powerful Country In Asia: Asia Power Index 2020

- **India** has become the **fourth most powerful country** in the **Asia-Pacific region**, according to the Sydney-based Lowy Institute's **Asia Power Index for 2020**, which ranks 26 nations and territories.
- India was on the **fourth spot in the index after Japan**. However, the economic growth potential India lost during a **pandemic** gave an **advantage to China**.
- Although the **US obtained the top position** as the most powerful country influencing the **Asia-Pacific**.
- Lowy estimates India will reach 40 per cent of China's economic output by 2030, compared with the 50 per cent estimate a year ago.

India Ranks Second in Inflow of Migrants to OECD Countries, China Retains Top Spot



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- India ranked **second** in terms of the “total” inflow of **new migrants to OECD countries** during the **year 2018** as well as in the **number of Indians obtaining citizenship of these countries**, a report by **OECD** revealed.
- Notably, **China** continued to retain the **top position** as the largest source country, India overtook Romania to emerge as the second-largest source country.
- Migration from India to OECD countries climbed significantly by 10% and hit 3.3 lakh and it accounted for about 5% of the overall migration to OECD countries.

UP Emerges As The Top Destination For Domestic Tourists In 2019, Secures Third Position In Attracting Foreign Tourists

- **Uttar Pradesh** has emerged at the **top position** for attracting the **highest number of domestic tourists** in 2019.
- Tamil Nadu (21.3%) came second followed by Andhra Pradesh (10.2%).
- The **UP** has also secured the **third position in attracting foreign tourists** with a record footfall of nearly 47 lakh foreigners visiting last year.
- **Tamil Nadu** has **topped the list** with nearly 68 lakh **foreigners** visiting the state in 2019.

India recorded highest air pollution exposure globally in 2019

- India recorded the **highest air pollution exposure** annual average **PM 2.5 concentration exposure** in the **world** last year(2019), according to the **State of Global Air 2020 (SOGA 2020)** report.
- India was followed by Nepal, Niger, Qatar and Nigeria in high PM 2.5 exposures.
- India is also among the top ten countries with **highest ozone (O3) exposure** in 2019. **Qatar** recorded the **highest O3 exposure** followed by **Nepal and India**.
- SOGA, released by US-based Health Effects Institute and Global Burden of Disease (GBD), uses both data from ground monitors and satellite to make their assessments.

Himachal Pradesh: Mandi district bags top position for implementation of PMGSY

- **Himachal Pradesh's Mandi district** has bagged top position among **30 districts** of the country in successful implementation of **Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)**. Himachal Pradesh has also secured **second position** at the national level for construction of roads under PMGSY.
- Mandi district has received top position for constructing roads under PMGSY of maximum length in 2020-21. Six more districts of Himachal Pradesh have also secured position among top 30 best performing districts, which include Chamba, Shimla, Kangra, Una, Sirmour, Hamirpur and Solan.

NTPC ranks first among Indian PSUs in Forbes' 'World's Best Employer 2020'

- NTPC stated it has featured on the top on the list of **Indian PSUs** under the '**World's Best Employer 2020**', published by Forbes.
- The company has initiated an '**NTPC Series**' on success stories beyond official work, '**Ambition, Growth, Success Beyond Work**', a series on the achievements of employees beyond their official assignments.

Haryana tops Anemia Mukht Bharat Index in country

- **Haryana State** has the **best Anemia Mukht Bharat (AMB) Index** with **46.7** among 29 states in the country.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The **Anemia Mukh Bharat**, an initiative of the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** and **UNICEF**, has been launched to reduce the prevalence of Anemia all over India.
- This information came to light during the **8th Governing Body Meeting of the State Health Society of the National Health Mission (NHM)** in Chandigarh.

India ranks 131 out of 138 in global mobile internet speed ranking: Ookla

- **India** has ranked **131 out of 138** in **global mobile internet speed rankings** in **September 2020**, according to Ookla Speedtest Global Index.
- Sri Lanka, Pakistan, and Nepal ranked higher on the list, compared to India, at 102, 116, and 117 respectively.
- **South Korea has topped the list** with an average mobile internet speed of **121.00 Mbps**.
- When it comes to **fixed line broadband Internet speeds**, **India** is placed **70th out of 175 nations** with an average download **speed of 46.47Mbps**.
- **Singapore** has topped this index with the download speed of **226.60 Mbps**.

Samsung Beats Amazon, IBM to Top Forbes List of World's Best Employers

- **Korean tech major Samsung** has become the **best employer in the world this year**, according to the rankings by **US business magazine Forbes**.
- **Samsung beat** some of the most renowned companies including **Amazon, IBM and Microsoft** to rank **No.1** in 2020, taking a giant leap from the previous **76th rank last year** and **106th rank in 2018** on a list of 750 MNCs(Multi National Corporations).
- From India, **HCL Technologies** is top industry in the list. It is placed at **30th rank globally**.
- In Banking sector, **HDFC Bank** is top from India. It is at **176th rank**.
- In addition to this, state-run power giant **NTPC Ltd.** has topped the list among Indian PSUs. Globally it is ranked at **261 rank**.

UP govt secures first rank in disbursing loans under PM Swanidhi Scheme

- **Uttar Pradesh** government has secured the **first rank** in central government's one of the **most ambitious schemes** - the **PM Atmanirbhar Nidhi Scheme (SVANidhi Scheme)** by approving the highest number of loans under the scheme in the country
- State has ranked first in all the categories - Applications, Sanctions and Disbursements of the loans under the scheme.
- Seven cities of the state also find place in the list of top 10 cities of the country. Varanasi, Lucknow and Aligarh are the top three cities in the list even as other cities of the state include Allahabad, Gorakhpur, Ghaziabad and Kanpur.
- The scheme was launched on **June 1, 2020**, by the Central Government to help the street vendors resume their livelihood activities that were impacted by COVID-19.
- It aims at facilitating working capital loan up to **Rs. 10,000** at a subsidised rate of interest. The scheme aims at providing benefits to street vendors or hawkers in urban, pre-urban and rural areas.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

DBS named Asia's Safest Bank for 12th consecutive year

- **DBS Bank** announced that it has been named the '**Safest Bank in Asia**' for the **12th consecutive year** by New York-based trade publication Global Finance.
- DBS' rankings as the **fourth-safest commercial bank** in the world and **14th safest bank** globally remain unchanged from 2019 and 2018.
- DBS Bank India also recently unveiled a new brand campaign around the importance of safety, featuring brand ambassador **Sachin Tendulkar**.

India Ranks 77 in Global Bribery Risk Matrix

- **India** is at **77th position** with a **score of 45** in a global list that measures business **bribery risks of 2020** by TRACE.
- According to this year's data, North Korea, Turkmenistan, South Sudan, Venezuela and Eritrea present the highest commercial bribery risk, while Denmark, Norway, Finland, Sweden and New Zealand present the lowest.
- In 2019, India's rank stood **78 position** with a score of 48.

Delhi Airport achieves new height in Asia Pacific for Carbon Accreditation

- The **Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport** has become Asia Pacific's **first Level 4+ (Transition) accredited airport** under ACI's Airport **Carbon Accreditation programme**.
- The Delhi airport achieved 'Level 3+, Neutrality' in 2016, as the first Carbon Neutral Airport in the Asia Pacific region.
- This year, ACI had revised the programme's levels and added two new levels — **Level 4 (Transformation)** and **Level 4+ (Transition)**.

IIT Delhi Tops Among Indian Institutes In Employability: Survey

- The **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi** has been ranked as the **best institute in India** and **27th** globally, in terms of employability of its students, in the Global Employability Ranking and Survey (GEURS) 2020 results.
- Globally, India has been ranked among the 15 best-performing countries in employability, improving from its 23rd rank in 2010.
- IIT Delhi climbed 27 ranks from 54 in 2019 to 27. Indian Institute of Science (IISc), however, has dropped to 71 from 43 in 2019. The other Indian institutes that made it to the list are IIT Bombay (128), Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad (184), IIT Kharagpur (195), and Amity University (236).

London tops list of World's Best Cities 2021, Delhi ranked 62- Resonance Consultancy

- **London** has topped a new list of **best cities around the world** by Vancouver-based **Resonance Consultancy**.
- The top 10 cities for 2021 in the world are — 1. London, 2. New York, 3. Paris, 4. Moscow, 5. Tokyo, 6. Dubai, 7. Singapore, 8. Barcelona, 9. Los Angeles, and 10. Madrid.
- **India** has **only one representative** on the list, with **Delhi ranked 62**.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Arunachal Pradesh records best sex ratio with birth of over 1,000 girls, Manipur ends up at worst

- The **state of Arunachal Pradesh** recorded the **best sex ratio** in the country this year with the birth of **1,084 females per thousand males**. Arunachal Pradesh was followed by **Nagaland and Mizoram** that recorded over **900 female births**.
- The data was released in the 2018 report named '**Vital statistics of India based on the Civil Registration System (CRS)**'.
- The report is prepared by the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India. The state with the **worst sex ratio** was **Manipur**.

India's AI supercomputer Param Siddhi 63rd among top 500 most powerful non-distributed computer systems in world

- India's Artificial Intelligence supercomputer **Param Siddhi** has achieved **63rd rank** among **top 500 most powerful non-distributed computer systems** in the world. Ministry of Science and Technology stated that the AI system will strengthen application development of packages in areas such as advanced materials, computational chemistry and astrophysics.

Global Terrorism Index 2020

- The **Global Terrorism Index [GTI] 2020** ranks India as **8th** in the world on a list of countries most affected by terrorism in 2019, with 558 incidents that killed 277 and injured 439.
- India ranks 8th in the world on the basis of its score on the GTI - 7.353. It ranks better than **Pakistan** (ranked 7) but lower than the **Democratic Republic of Congo** and the **Philippines**, which rank 9th and 10 respectively.
- Afghanistan ranked 1st, Iraq 2nd, Nigeria 3rd.

India tops bribery rate in Asia region; 46% people used personal connection to access public services

- India has got the dubious distinction of having the **highest bribery rate** in the **Asia region**, with a survey showing the bribery rate of the country at **39 percent**.
- The survey, conducted by **international anti-graft rights group Transparency International**.
- In the survey, titled '**Global Corruption Barometer – Asia**', the agency surveyed 20,000 people across 17 Asian countries in between June and September.
- India was followed by **Cambodia** at **37 percent** and Indonesia stood at **third position** with bribery rate of 30 percent.

PAC Report Finds Kerala, Goa Best Governed States, UP Ranks Lowest

- A report by Public Affairs Centre (PAC) released named **Kerala** as the **best governed state** in the country and placed **Uttar Pradesh** at the bottom of the list.
- Headed by former ISRO chairman **K Kasturirangan**, the PAC report called **Public Affairs Index-2020**, ranked states and Union Territories on governance performance based on a composite index in the context of sustainable development.
- Kerala topped the list with 1.388 PAI Index points, **Tamil Nadu** (0.912), Andhra Pradesh (0.531) and Karnataka (0.468).
- The states that scored the lowest in the same category included, Uttar Pradesh (-1.461), Odisha (-1.201) and Bihar (-1.158). The three states scored negative points.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Goa topped the list among small states with 1.745 points, followed by Meghalaya (0.797) and Himachal Pradesh (0.725). The states that ranked the lowest in the category included, Manipur (-0.363), Delhi (-0.289) and Uttarakhand (-0.277).
- Among Union Territories, **Chandigarh** emerged the best governed union territory in the category of UTs with 1.05 PAI points, followed by Puducherry (0.52) and Lakshadweep (0.003). Dadar and Nagar Haveli (-0.69), Andaman, Jammu and Kashmir (-0.50) and Nicobar (-0.30) ranked the lowest.

Tamil Nadu tops Indian states in new investments in H1FY21: CARE Ratings

- Tamil Nadu leads** Indian states in **attracting investments** during the **first half of FY21**, having managed to **grab 16 per cent** of the funds that came into India during the period, according to **CARE Ratings**.
- Andhra Pradesh** garnered **11 per cent**, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Karnataka have garnered seven per cent each, while the balance went to the other states.
- Last year** during the same period, **Tamil Nadu took third spot**.

Uttar Pradesh among Top 5 in MSME employment generators amid Covid-19

- Uttar Pradesh** has found place **among top five states** of the country for providing employment under the **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)** during Corona pandemic.
- Top 4 states are **Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra**.
- In a recent report of **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**, **Uttar Pradesh** has secured a place ahead of **Karnataka, Rajasthan, Delhi, Haryana and Telangana** in the list of top 10 states.

Telangana top performing state with maximum functional drinking water tap connections

- Telangana and Bihar** emerging as **leading states**, shows data available with the **Jal Shakti Ministry**.
- The JMM aims at providing a functional household tap connection to **every rural household by 2024**. **Goa** has become the **first state in the country** to provide a **tap connection to all rural households**.
- Bihar, which is at second place, has covered 54.38 per cent of rural households, followed by Goa (24.3 per cent), Mizoram (23.19 per cent), Haryana (21.12 per cent), Manipur (20.78 per cent), Himachal Pradesh (19.99 per cent), Maharashtra (15.4 per cent), Uttarakhand (14.97 per cent), and J&K (14.94 per cent).

Body mass index of Indian 19-year-olds among lowest in 200 countries

- India** ranks **third** and **fifth** from the bottom respectively among countries where 19-year-old girls and boys have a **low body mass index**, according to a study in The Lancet to be published. The study provides new estimates for height and **BMI trends in 2019** across 200 countries after analysing data from 2,181 studies.
- World Health Organization** guidelines define a normal BMI range as 18.5 to 24.9, overweight as 25 or higher, and obesity as 30 or higher.

Azim Premji tops the list, Mukesh Ambani ranks third on the EdelGiveHurun India Philanthropy List 2020

- Azim Premji**, the founder and chairman of Wipro, has topped the list of India's philanthropists 2020 with a total donation of **Rs 7,904 crore**.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- According to the seventh edition of **EdelGive Hurun India Philanthropy List 2020**, **Ajit Premji** has been the most generous philanthropist in India for 2020. He has donated Rs 22 crore per day.
- **HCL'S Shiv Nadar**, 75, **ranked second** with **Rs 795 crore donation**. As of 2019, Nadar has invested over \$800 million through the Foundation, impacting over 30,000 students directly.
- With a donation of **Rs 458 crore** by richest India **Mukesh Ambani**, who is the **Chairman of Reliance Industries**, came third.
- **Kumar Mangalam Birla**, who donated Rs 276 crore, ranked fourth.
- The **fifth position** is occupied by the **founder and chairman of Vedanta, Anil Agarwal** who donated Rs 215 crore.

Kerala On Top, Delhi Near Bottom in New Migrant Policy Index

- The states of **Kerala, Goa, Rajasthan** and **Andhra Pradesh** have been most successful in integrating **migrant workers**, while crucial migrant receiving states, including **Delhi**, have done poorly, shows the **Interstate Migrant Policy Index (IMPEX)** that seeks to measure integration of interstate migrants.
- The index could help bureaucrats and stakeholders in evolving policy for **India's 455 million internal migrants** who remain one of the most excluded groups in the country. This figure is from Census 2011, and may have changed between 2011-20.

Launch Of Ukibc's 6th Annual Report On Doing Business In India

- **UK Minister for Investment, Lord Gerry Grimstone**, has released **UK India business council's 'doing business in India report 2020'** at a roundtable with Indian industry captains during his virtual visit to India.
- The report is the **UKIBC's sixth of an annual series** dating back to 2015.
- For the third year running, **Maharashtra** came out as the state with maximum incremental improvement, followed by **Karnataka, Delhi, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu**, in that order. Next in sequence were **Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Chandigarh** and **Haryana** to complete the top ten.

Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu virtually presents 2nd National Water Awards

- **Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu** virtually **presented the Second National Water Awards**.
- The NWAs focus on the good work and efforts made by individual and organisations across the country, and the government's vision for the path to '**JalSamridh Bharat**'.
- **Tamil Nadu** which bagged the **Best State Award**.
- **Maharashtra** secured the **second** and **Rajasthan** got the **third prize**.
- The award ceremony has been organised by the **Ministry of Jal Shakti, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation** through virtual platform.

UP best performer in inland fisheries, Odisha is best Marine state

- **Uttar Pradesh** was awarded as **best performing state** in inland fisheries sector while **Odisha** got the award of the **best Marine state**.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Government of India awarded best performing States for 2019-20 namely, **Odisha (amongst Marine states)**, **Uttar Pradesh (amongst Inland states)** and Assam (amongst Hilly and NE states).
- The Govt. also awarded best Organisations for 2019-20 (Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Ltd. (for Marine); Telangana State Fishermen Cooperative Societies Federation Ltd (for Inland), and Assam Apex Cooperative Fish Marketing and Processing Federation Ltd. (for Hilly region); Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh as best Marine District; Kalahandi, Odisha as best Inland District; Nagaon, Assam as Best Hilly and NE District.

India becomes 4th nation to get IMO nod for navigation satellite system

- **India** has become the **fourth country** in the world to have its independent regional navigation satellite system recognised by the **International Maritime Organisation (IMO)** as a part of the **World Wide Radio Navigation System (WWRNS)**. The other three countries that have its navigation systems recognised by the IMO are the **US, Russia and China**.

Worldwide Cost of Living 2020

- The new edition of the **Worldwide Cost of Living report** shows how the Covid-19 pandemic has changed the cost of living in **about 130 cities** around the world since the start of 2020.
- **Hong Kong** is now joined by **Paris** and **Zurich**. Both cities have overtaken Singapore and Osaka, which have dropped down to 4th and 5th ranks, respectively.
- **Damascus (Syria)**, **Tashkent (Uzbekistan)**, **Lusaka (Zambia)** ranked the last three spot as the most cheapest cities in the list, which comprises of **133 cities**.

Elon Musk Overtakes Bill Gates to Grab World's Second-Richest Ranking

- Tesla co-founder **Elon Musk** is now **the world's second richest person** after he leapfrogged **Microsoft billionaire Bill Gates**, according to the **Bloomberg Billionaire Index**, which tracks the wealth of the world's 500 richest people.
- Musk's net worth has risen by **\$100.3 billion** in **2020**, marking the largest increase among those on the Bloomberg Billionaire Index. In January, Musk ranked 35th.
- The only person ahead of Musk now is Amazon boss **Jeff Bezos**, who took the top spot from Gates in 2017 and has stayed there since.

Kotak Wealth - Hurun Wealthy Women List 2020

- **Roshni Nadar Malhotra**, chairperson of IT major HCL Technologies, topped the list of the richest women in the country with a net worth of Rs 54,850 crore, according to Hurun India and Kotak Wealth Management's 'Kotak Wealth Hurun – **Leading Wealthy Women**' report.

India ranked 10th in Climate Change Performance Index

- Germanwatch has released the 16 th edition of CCPI. The list is prepared by assessing performances of 57 countries and European Union in four categories.
GHG emissions - 40%, Renewable Energy - 20%, Energy Use - 20%, Climate Policy - 20%
- Though India slid one position down from ninth in 2019 to 10 th this year and scored 63.98 out of 100.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- No countries were ranked in top 3 Positions, the top rank in the CCPI 2021 Index is the 4 th Rank.
- Sweden (4th) United Kingdom (5th), Denmark (6th), Morocco (7th), Norway (8th), Chile (9th) were among the top 10 rankers in the index.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman at 41 on Forbes 2020 list of 100 most powerful women

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has made it to the list of the world's 100 most powerful women by Forbes, for the second year in a row.
- Sitharaman is ranked 41st on the list this year. In 2019, she was ranked at 34.
- It has been topped by German Chancellor Angela Merkel for the 10th year in a row.
- European Central Bank head Christine Lagarde is at second position the second year in a row while US Vice President-elect Kamala Harris is at third spot, entering the list for the first time.

Sonu Sood tops '50 Asian Celebrities In The World' 2020 list

- Indian actor Sonu Sood has been named the number 1 Asian celebrity on the planet for 2020, which is published by UK based Eastern Eye newspaper.
- He ranked ahead of global stars, including from Hollywood, the music industry, television, literature and social media, for his inspiring philanthropic work throughout the Covid-19 pandemic.

India Ranks 131 in UN's Human Development Index

- **India** has been ranked 131 among 189 countries in the 2020 human development index, according to a report released by the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**.
- **Norway topped** the index, with a score of 0.957 and followed by Ireland, Switzerland, Hong Kong and Iceland. **Niger** is the **lowest ranked** country at 189, placed among Low human development category, with a score of 0.394.

India Ranks 111 in Human Freedom Index 2020

- **India** was ranked **111th out of 162 countries** in the **Human Freedom Index 2020** report released by the **Cato Institute**, plummeting 17 spots from its position in the last index.
- In 2019, India was ranked 94 on the index.
- The countries that ranked in the top 10 are **New Zealand (8.87)**, Switzerland(8.82), Hong Kong(8.74), Denmark, Australia, Canada, Ireland, Estonia, and Germany and Sweden (with the last two tied in the 9th place). Syrian Arab Republic is the last ranked country with a human freedom score of 3.97 out of 10.

HDFC Bank top among 100 BFSI firms

- **HDFC Bank** is the **top ranked** company among the **100 BFSI** companies in the country, as per the BFSI Movers and Shakers 2020 report by **Wizikey**.
- **ICICI Bank** and **State Bank of India (SBI)** are ranked second and third, respectively
- Yes Bank, PNB, HSBC Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Bank of Baroda, Deutsche Bank and IDBI are the top-10 banks of 2020.
- While Google Pay and PhonePe were the top wallets among the customers.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- In Payments bank Category: Airtel Payments Bank, Paytm Payments Bank, and Jio Payments Bank ranks top.
- In the Neo Banks segment Category YONO, Niyo, Kotak 811 ranks top.

India Tops the List of Sending Most Number of Educated Migrants to OECD Countries: OECD Data

- According to the data released by Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development(OECD) in the Most Common birth countries of Highly Educated Migrants residing in OECD Nations, India came at the top with around 3.12 Million Highly Educated Migrants living in the OECD Nations as of 2015-16 data.
- The Data reveals that around 120 Million Migrant People live in the OECD Member Countries. China with 2.25 Million (48.6 % Highly Educated Migrants) came next to India in the list followed by Philippines – 1.89 Million Migrants.

Fortune's Businessperson of the Year 2020: India's Shantanu Narayen ranked 8th & Ajay Banga ranked 9th; Elon Musk Tops

- The Fortune ranked India's Shantanu Narayen, Chief Executive Officer(CEO) of Adobe in 8th position and Ajay Banga, CEO of Mastercard in 9th position in its list of Businessperson of the Year 2020.
- The list is topped by Elon Musk, co-founder & CEO of Tesla. He is also CEO of Space Exploration Technologies Corp.(SpaceX). Lisa Su, CEO of AMD has been ranked in 2nd spot followed by Jensen Huang, CEO of Nvidia in the 3rd spot.

UNESCO Launched 2020 State of Education Report for India to Support GoI in Youth's Skill Development

- UNESCO has launched the 2nd edition of "State of the Education Report for India 2020: Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)".
- It has been developed by an experienced team of researchers from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai, Maharashtra under the guidance of UNESCO New Delhi.

India records 60% rise in Leopard population across the Country: Status of Leopards in India, 2018 report

- Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC), Prakash Javadekar released the 'Status of Leopards in India, 2018' report.
- The report states that India has recorded a 60% rise in Leopard population across the country and it now has 12, 852 Leopards.
- The states Madhya Pradesh (3, 421), Karnataka (1, 783) & Maharashtra (1, 690) recorded the most number of leopards.

NE states, UP, Bihar top in pandemic management: SBI Study

- According to a study conducted by State Bank of India (SBI) Research, North-Eastern (NE) states topped the list of states in managing Pandemic, Bihar came second, followed by Uttar Pradesh. Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh were placed at the bottom.
- Soumya Kanti Ghosh, SBI Group Chief Economic Advisor was the author of the report. They were ranked based on 2 parameters – i.macro (Fiscal deficit) & Consumer Price Inflation.
- 5 performance of states on Central Government Schemes (one nation one ration card, PM Svanidhi, PM Samman, emergency credit linked guarantee scheme and PM Awas Yojana).

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

India drops to 9th spot in Global Spam Call Tally – 4th Edition of Insights Report by Truecaller

- According to the 4th Edition of Global Insights Report for 2020 released by Truecaller, a Swedish Caller ID and Spam Blocking app, India ranked 9th in the list of countries affected by spam calls in 2020.
- In India, Gujarat received the most spam calls. The list was topped by Brazil, United States & Hungary.

India drops to 2nd Position in BNEF's 2020 Climatescope survey

- According to Climatescope Survey 'Emerging Markets Outlook 2020: Energy Transition in the World's Fastest Growing economies' released by Bloomberg New Energy Finance Limited (BNEF) India dropped to the 2nd position in the 2020 survey due to decline in Clean Energy Investment.
- Chile topped the survey rankings with a score of 2.85, Brazil came third with a score of 2.44. India topped the BNEF's Climatescope Emerging Markets Ranking in 2019.

Low-Paid Workers, Women most impacted due to Wage Gaps created by COVID-19: ILO Report 2020-21

- According to "Global Wage Report 2020-21: Wages and minimum wages in the time of COVID-19" released by International Labour Organization (ILO), Women and Lower-paid workers were impacted the most due to decrease in wages because of reduced working hours during the COVID-19 crisis.
- The report is the 7th in the series of 2020's ILO Global Wage Report, it provides evidence of the effects of the crisis on wages in different countries due to Pandemic.

India only high endemic country to report a decline of 17.6 % in Malaria cases in 2019

- According to the World Malaria Report 2020 released by the World Health Organization, India became the only high endemic country to report a decline of 17.6 % in 2019 compared to 2018.
- India reported the largest fall in Malaria cases in the WHO South-East Asia Region. As per the 'World Malaria Report 2020', Meghalaya has topped the list in reducing malaria cases by 59% in India. Nigeria, Congo, Tanzania, Mozambique, Niger & Burkina Faso accounted for 51% of Global malaria deaths in 2019.

Pandemic has pushed 32 Million People into Extreme Poverty in LDCs : UNCTAD Report 2020

- According to "The Least Developed Countries Report 2020: Productive Capacities for the New Decade" released by UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development), Pandemic has pushed around 32 Million People into Extreme Poverty in the Least Developed Countries (LDCs).
- Due to the Pandemic 32 million people live on less than USD 1.90 per day. These are measured on Three Criteria – Per Capita income, Human Assets Index (HAI), economic and environmental vulnerability index.

Important Books and Authors

Authors/ Released by	Books
Urjit Patel (Published by HarperCollins India)	Overdraft: Saving the Indian Saver
R C Bhargava (Published by HarperCollins)	Getting Competitive: A Practitioner's Guide for India

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

India)	
Tenzin Geyche Tethong (Announced by Roli Books)	His Holiness The Fourteenth Dalai Lama: An Illustrated Biography
A.K. Srikumar (Published by Rupa Publications)	Mahaveer: The Soldier who never died
Stephen King (Published by Hachette India)	If It Bleeds
Ruskin Bond (Published by Penguin Random House India)	A Song of India
Kaling Dabi, Kombong Darang, Rejhoney Borang, Chera Devi, Rumi Deuri (Edited by Lisa Lomdak and Rejhoney Borang)	The Tangams: An Ethnolinguistic Study Of The Critically Endangered Group of Arunachal Pradesh (Executive editor of the book is Prof. S. Simon John)
Baldev Singh Sadaknama (80th martyrdom day of freedom fighter , Sahitya Akademi Awardee)	Suraj Kade Marda Nahi' (sun never dies) (life of Udham Singh) (Sahitya Akademi Award received for his novel Dhaahwan Dilli De Kingre in 2011)
S Hussain Zaidi (Published by HarperCollins India)	The Endgame
Mark Honigsbaum	The Pandemic Century
S Jaishankar (Published by by HarperCollins India)	The India Way: Strategies for an Uncertain World'
Dr Viral V Acharya (Former Deputy Governor of RBI)	Quest for Restoring Financial Stability in India
Released by Harsh Vardhan	Standard Treatment Guidelines for the Management of Substance Use Disorders and Behavioural Addictions
Matthew McConaughey	Greenlights
Nitish Kumar (written by Vinod Bandhu & compiled and edited by Arvind Sharma)	Siyasat Mein Sadasyata (life journey of Bihar Assembly Speaker Vijay Kumar Choudhary)
Edited by Parameswaran Iyer	The Swachh Bharat Revolution (launched by Gajendra Singh Shekhawat & Smriti Irani)
Neena Rai	Amazing Ayodhya
Nirupama Yadav (published by Bluerose)	Vishesh: Code To Win
Yatish Yadav	RAW: A History of India's Covert Operations
PS Sreedharan Pillai (penned at least 13 books in English and Malayalam)	Corona Kavithakal (released by Zoramthanga)
Dalai Lama & Franz Alt	Our Only Home: A Climate Appeal to the World

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh	'Connecting, Communicating, Changing
Published by Alfred A. Knopf in March 2021	The Beauty of Living Twice (Sharon Stone's memoir)
Michael Cohen's memoir	Disloyal: The True Story of the Former Personal Attorney to President Donald J. Trump
Air Vice Marshal Arjun Subramaniam (Rtd)	Full Spectrum: India's Wars, 1972-2020 (Published by HarperCollins India)
Rhonda Byrne	The Greatest Secret
Bijal Vachharajani	A Bend in Time: Writings by Children on the Covid-19 pandemic
Chetan Bhagat	One Arranged Murder
Sudha Murthy	Grandparents' Bag of Stories
Pradeep Chhibber and Harsh Shah (published by Oxford University Press)	India Tomorrow: Conversations with the Next Generation of Political Leaders
Sree Iyer (first book was "Who painted my money white?")	Who painted my lust red?
Monika Arora, Sonali Chitalkar and Perna Malhotra	Delhi Riots 2020: The Untold Story (Publisher - Garuda Prakashan)
Tenzin Priyadarshi, Zara Houshmand	Running Toward Mystery: The Adventure of an Unconventional Life
Jatin along with cricket journalist Anand Vasu.	Cricket Drona (Published by Penguin)
Karan Johar	The Big Thoughts of Little Luv (story of the twins Luv and Kusha)
Ramachandra Guha (co-published by HarperCollins India and William Collins UK)	The Commonwealth of Cricket: A Lifelong Love Affair with the Most Subtle and Sophisticated Game Known to Humankind
Channing Tatum	The One and Only Sparkella' (Feiwei & Friends)
Pope Francis and his biographer Austen Ivereigh	Let Us Dream
Radha Nair	Breaking The Cocoon @ 40
Goonmeet Singh Chauhan (published by Harper Collins-India)	Invertonomics
Manbeena Sandhu (published by Harper Collins, India)	My Story in My Own Words, Nothing To Lose
Gauri Khan	My Life In Design
Claude Arpi	The End of an Era; India Exits Tibet
Arundhati Roy (Published by Penguin Books Limited)	AZADI Freedom. Fascism. Fiction

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Barack Obama (Published by Penguin Random House)	A Promised Land (book will be released in 25 languages)
Romila Thapar (Published by Penguin Random House India and Seagull Books)	Voices of Dissent
Vikas Khanna (Published by Penguin Random House India)	Kitchens of Gratitude (Chef Vikas Khanna has been chosen to be honoured with the prestigious Asia Game Changer Award 2020)
Baljinder Kaur	Fauja Singh Keeps Going
Neena Gupta (Published under Penguin 'Ebury Press' imprint)	Sach Kahun Toh
Anand Neelakantan	The Very, Extremely, Most Naughty Asura Tales for Kids
Dr Krishna Saksena (Launched by Rajnath Singh)	A bouquet of flowers
Manish Sisodia	Bapu - The unforgettable
Padampani Bora (Foreword by Amitabh Bachchan & Published by Penguin)	Discovering the Heritage of Assam
G.B.S. Sidhu	The Khalistan Conspiracy: A Former RAW Officer Unravels The Path To 1984
Pradeep Goorha (1st book - 'Survival Redux')	Mr Prime Minister, We Shrank the Dragon
Shashi Tharoor	Tharoorosaurus
Shashi Tharoor	The Battle Of Belonging: On Nationalism, Patriotism, And What It Means To Be Indian
N K Singh	PORTRAITS OF POWER: Half a Century of Being at Ringside
Sarbjit Singh	Night of the Restless Spirits: Stories from 1984
Dr Pradeep Srivastava (Published by Vigyan Prasar)	Bye Bye Corona (World's first scientoon book) (Dr Nakul Parashar and Nimish Kapoor are the chief editor and editor of the book)
Randeep Guleria (co-written by Chandrakant Lahariya & Gagandeep Kang)	Till We Win (Published by Penguin Random House India)
Tamal Bandyopadhyay (Published by Roli Books)	Pandemonium: The Great Indian Banking Tragedy
Chinmay Tumbe (Published by Harper Collins)	Age Of Pandemics (1817-1920): How they shaped India and the World
Rachna Bisht Rawat (Published by Penguin)	Insomnia: Army Stories
Anupam Kher	Your Best Day Is Today
M. Venkaiah Naidu (Author - Rallabandi)	Thavaasmi: Life and Skills through the lens of Ramayana

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Srirama Chakradhar, co-author, Smt. Amara Sarada Deepthi)	
Nayanjot Lahiri	Archaeology and the Public Purpose: Writings on and by M N Deshpande
Supriya Vani and Carl A Harte	Jacinda Ardern: Leading with Empathy
Ruskin Bond (Published by HarperCollins India)	How to Be a Writer
Rajendra Darda (Released by Bhagat Singh Koshyari)	Majhi Bhint (My Wall)
Published by Radhakrishna Prakashan; Edited by Yashwant Vyas	Boskiyana
Sonu Sood	I Am No Messiah
Prem Prakash (Published by Penguin Random House India)	Reporting India
Rajnath Singh	The Republican Ethic Volume III' and Loktantra Ke Swar
Shashi Tharoor	The Battle of Belonging
PM Narendra Modi (Penned by Kirpal Singh)	Book on the life and ideals of Guru Nanak Dev
A. Sivathanu Pillai (Released by Venkaiah Naidu)	40 Years with Abdul Kalam – Untold Stories
Amish Tripathi (co-authored by Bhavana Roy)	Dharma: Decoding the Epics for A Meaningful Life (published by Westland India)
Madhav Bhandari (released by Devendra Fadnavis)	Ayodhya
PS Sreedharan Pillai	Oh Mizoram (Released by Venkaiah Naidu)
Kailash Satyarthi	Covid-19: Sabhyata ka Sankat aur Samadhan (Covid-19: Crisis of Civilisation and Solutions)
Dr Roopa Chari (Released by Shripad Naik)	Sutranivednachi sutra- ek anav (Konkani Book)
Dr. Stuti Sharma, Manoranjan Vishwas (CO-author)	Element of Quantitative Genetics
Rajindar Sachar	In Pursuit of Justice (The autobiography of late Justice Rajindar Sachar)
Amrit Raj	Indian Icon: A Cult Called Royal Enfield
Alfredo Covelli	Vahana Masterclass

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank	Pioneer of Humanity: Maharishi Arvind
Nidhi Vadhera	Romancing Targets: Get Closer to Selling in 7 Steps
Ms Nitu (Co-author)	The Shaurya Unbound-Tales of Valour of the Central Reserve Police Force
Prem Prakash	Reporting India: My Seventy 0Year Journey As A Journalist

29-year-old Marieke Lucas Rijneveld becomes youngest author to win International Booker Prize

- A 29-year-old Dutch writer Marieke Lucas Rijneveld has become the youngest author to win the International Booker Prize.
- Marieke Lucas Rijneveld's "The Discomfort of Evening," a dark story about a devout farming family in a strict Christian community in the rural Netherlands.

The Meaning of India by Sahitya Akademi Award-winning writer Raja Rao was republished

- The **Sahitya Akademi Award-winning writer Raja Rao** published the book titled The Meaning of India.
- The book has now been **republished (Penguin Random House)** with a foreword by writer and academic **Makarand R Paranjape**. Rao passed away in 2006, at the age of 97.

Important Sports News

Cricket

Australia's Alyssa Healy breaks MSDhoni's T20I record

- Australia women's cricket star Alyssa Healy** surpassed **Dhoni's record** to take the **top position in the list of wicketkeepers with most dismissals in T20i**.
- Dhoni, who retired from international cricket in August, led Indian team to three ICC trophies - 2007 T20 World Cup, 2011 ODI World Cup and 2013 Champions Trophy.

BCCI suspends title sponsorship deal with Vivo for upcoming IPL

- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has suspended the title sponsorship deal with Chinese mobile phone company Vivo for the upcoming edition of the Indian Premier League.
- The BCCI in a statement stated that Vivo will not be associated with the IPL this year. VIVO had won the IPL title sponsorship for five years from 2018 to 2022 for a reported sum of 2190 crore rupees.
- The IPL this year has been shifted to the UAE because of the prevailing COVID-19 situation in India.

India to host 2021 ICC Men's T20 World Cup; Women's ODI World Cup postponed to 2022

- India were retained as hosts for the ICC T20 World Cup 2021, while Australia will host the 2022 edition of the same event.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Additionally, the Women's 50-over World Cup, which was scheduled to between 6 February and 7 March next year, has also been postponed to 2022.
- 13th edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL) from 19 September to 10 November in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) this year.
- Australia will now host the 2022 edition instead of this year. India, meanwhile, remain the host nation for 2023 men's ODI World Cup.

Sri Lanka Cricket Felicitates Two Veteran Umpires On Retirement

- Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) felicitated two renowned cricket umpires -- DN Pathirana and KRP Doolwala -- who retired from officiating duties after a service of over 20 years.
- Doolwala was a former Sri Lanka women's player, who took up to umpiring after her playing days and served as an umpire for over two decades.
- At the time of her retirement, she was a Sara Trophy qualified umpire at SLC.

Kallis, Sthalekar and Zaheer Abbas inducted into ICC Cricket Hall of Fame

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) inducted three retired greats of the game into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame during an absorbing show broadcast around the world via ICC digital channels.
- South Africa's gritty all-rounder Jacques Kallis and talented Australian World Cup-winning all-rounder Lisa Sthalekar were joined by Zaheer Abbas of Pakistan, who was also known as the Asian Bradman.
- Kallis is the fourth South African player inducted and Zaheer the sixth from Pakistan.

Asia Cup Cricket tournament postponed till June 2021

- The **Asia Cup Cricket tournament**, which was scheduled to be held in September this year, has been postponed till June next year by the **Asian Cricket Council (ACC)** owing to an upsurge in COVID-19 cases in the region.
- **Pakistan was to originally host the Asia Cup** this time but due to security reasons, the tournament was later rescheduled to be held in Sri Lanka.

Ben Stokes overtakes Jason Holder to become No.1 all-rounder in ICC Test rankings

- England Test vice-captain **Ben Stokes** has overtaken **Jason Holder** to become the No.1 Test all-rounder in the **ICC rankings**. Stokes went past Holder thanks to his match-winning performance against West Indies in the **Manchester Test**.
- Stokes is the first **England player** since **Andrew Flintoff** to be at the top of the ICC Men's Test Player Rankings for all-rounders. The latest rankings update wasn't all about Stokes though.
- **Dom Sibley**, jumped 29 places to No.35 in the rankings.
- **Chris Woakes** is in the 21st position, his highest since late 2016.

ICC officially postpones World T20 due to coronavirus pandemic

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) officially postponed this year's **T20 World Cup slated to held in Australia**.
- ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021 will be held **October – November 2021** with the final on **14 November 2021**

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2022 will be held **October – November 2022** with the final on **13 November 2022**
- ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 will be held in India **October – November 2023** with the final on **26 November 2023**.
- Also, the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2021 will be held in **February of 2021 at New Zealand**.

IPL 2020 in UAE to start on September 19, final on November 8

- The **Indian Premier League** is all set to begin from September 19 and will continue till November 8 in the **United Arab Emirates (UAE)**.
- IPL Chairman, **Brijesh Patel**, has confirmed the schedule.
- There are **three venues in the UAE–Abu Dhabi, Sharjah and Dubai**—where matches can be staged.

England wins Wisden Trophy

- **England beat the West Indies** by 269 runs to claim a series-clinching win in the third Test at Old Trafford.
- They regain the **Wisden Trophy** because they lost in the Caribbean last year.
- England paceman **Stuart Broad** became just the **seventh bowler** to take **500 Test wickets**.
- Stuart Broad picked up both the Man of the Match and the Player of the Series award.

BCCI announces Jio as title sponsor of Women's T20 Challenge 2020

- **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)** has announced **Reliance Jio** as the title sponsor of the **Women's T20 Challenge 2020**.
- BCCI Chairman **Sourav Ganguly** stated the Board grows the game of cricket across all formats, one key area of focus has been to grow the women's game. The women's T20 challenge is scheduled to run from November 4-9 in **Sharjah**.

ICC Cricket Rankings 2020: ODI Ranking

Team:

RANK	TEAM	RATING
1	England	123
2	India	119
3	New Zealand	116
4	Australia	109
5	South Africa	108

BATTING

RANK	PLAYER	RATING
1	Virat Kohli India	871
2	Rohit Sharma India	855
3	Babar Azam Pakistan	837
4	Ross Taylor New	818

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

	Zealand	
5	Faf du Plessis South Africa	790

BOWLING

RANK	PLAYER	RATING
1	Trent Boult New Zealand	722
2	Jasprit Bumrah India	719
3	Mujeeb Ur Rahman Afghanistan	701
4	Chris Woakes England	675
5	Kagiso Rabada South Africa	665

ALL ROUNDER

RANK	PLAYER	RATING
1	Shakib Al Hasan Shakib Al Hasan Bangladesh	373
2	Mohammad Nabi Mohammad Nabi Afghanistan	301
3	Chris Woakes Chris Woakes England	281
4	Ben Stokes Ben Stokes England	276

Trailblazers beat Supernovas by 16 runs to win Women's T20 Challenge title

- The **2020 Women's T20 Challenge**, branded as **Jio Women's T20 Challenge**, was the **third season** of the Women's T20 Challenge, a **Twenty20** cricket tournament established by the **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)** in **2018**.
- Women's T20 Challenge 2020 between Trailblazers and Supernovas at the **Sharjah Cricket Stadium**.
- So after two years of the Supernovas, the **Trailblazers** are **Women's T20 Challenge champions** for the first time.
- Player of the match goes to Smriti Mandhana.
- Player of the series goes to Radha Yadav.

Dream 11 IPL 2020

- **Mumbai Indians (MI)** beat **Delhi Capitals (DC)** by five wickets in the **Dream11 Indian Premier League (IPL) 2020** final in Dubai and clinched their fifth IPL title.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The league was founded by the **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)** in 2007.
- Mumbai Indians wins DREAM 11 IPL 2020
- This is the 5th title for MI
- Edition: 13th
- Host Country : UAE
- Highest Runs (Orange Cap) : K L Rahul
- Highest Wickets (Purple Cap) : Kagiso Rabada
- Maximum no of Sixes : Ishaan Kishan
- Most Expensive Player : Patt Cummins 15.5 cr (Kolkata Knight Riders)
- First player to score century in DREAM11 IPL 2020 : K L Rahul
- Rahul is now only the third player after Virender Sehwag and David Warner to hit an IPL century both as captain and non-captain.
- KL Rahul Became the fastest Indian (60 innings) to reach 2,000 IPL runs
- Shikhar Dhawan became the first player to hit two consecutive centuries in IPL
- RCB pacer Mohammed Siraj became the first bowler to bowl two maiden overs in an IPL match
- Virat Kohli becomes first cricketer to reach 9000 T20 runs
- The Indian Premier League clash between Rajasthan Royals and Chennai Super Kings in Sharjah saw 33 sixes — a joint record in an IPL match.
- **MS Dhoni became First player to play 200 IPL matches**
- **Rohit Sharma became second player to play 200 IPL matches**
- Shikhar Dhawan became the 4th batsman to score 5000 runs in the IPL.
- David Warner became the fastest overseas batsman and 5th player after Virat ,Raina and Rohit to reach the 5000-run mark in the Indian Premier League.
- Most Valuable Player of IPL 2020: Jofra Archer – 20 wickets, 175 dot balls, 5 catches and 10 sixes.
- Emerging Player: Devdutt Padikkal (RCB) for scoring 473 runs with 5 fifties at a strike rate of 124.80
- Dream XI Game Changer of the Season: KL Rahul – 975 Fantasy Points
- Tata Altroz Super Striker of the Season: Kieron Pollard (Mumbai Indians) – Strike Rate of 191.42
- CRED Power Player of the Season: Trent Boult (Mumbai Indians) – 16 wickets in powerplay
- Fair Play Award: Mumbai Indians

Previous Title Winners

Year	Winner	Runner Up	Venue
2020	Mumbai Indians	Delhi Capitals	UAE
2019	Mumbai	Chennai	Hyderabad



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

	Indians	Super Kings	
2018	Chennai Super Kings	Sunrisers Hyderabad	Mumbai
2017	Mumbai Indians	Rising Pune Supergiants	Hyderabad
2016	Sunrisers Hyderabad	Royal Challengers Bangalore	Bangalore
2015	Mumbai Indians	Chennai Super Kings	Kolkata
2014	Kolkata Knight Riders	Kings XI Punjab	Bangalore
2013	Mumbai Indians	Chennai Super Kings	Kolkata
2012	Kolkata Knight Riders	Chennai Super Kings	Chennai
2011	Chennai Super Kings	Royal Challengers Bangalore	Chennai
2010	Chennai Super Kings	Mumbai Indians	Mumbai
2009	Deccan Chargers	Royal Challengers Bangalore	Johannesburg, South Africa
2008	Rajasthan Royals	Chennai Super Kings	Mumbai

BCCI ropes in MPL Sports as official Kit sponsor for Team India

- The **BCCI formally** announced **MPL Sports apparel and accessories** as the **official kit sponsor** and merchandise partner of both the national men's and women's sides as well as the U-19 team, replacing Nike.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The deal was cleared by the Board's apex council on November 2. Nike had a five-year deal during which they paid **Rs.370 crore** from 2016 to 2020.
- MPL Sports, the sports merchandise brand from Mobile Premier League — an e-sports platform — offers a wide range of sports wear and cricket equipment, along with other accessories such as masks, wrist bands, footwear and headgear.
- As per the newly-inked strategic partnership, MPL Sports has entered into a three-year agreement from November 2020 to December 2023.
- MPL Sports' association with the BCCI begins with India's tour of Australia, which will see Team India sporting the new jerseys.

Cricket: ICC postpones 2022 women's T-20 world cup till February 2023

- The **International Cricket Council** has postponed the **South African edition** of the **Women's T20 World Cup** by **three months** to **February 2023** to avoid a cluster of big-ticket events in 2022.
- ICC stated the tournament, which was scheduled in November 2022, will now be held from February 9 to 26, 2023. The year 2022 will have three major events including Commonwealth Games and 50 over Women's World Cup.
- In August this year, the ICC had postponed the 50 over Women's World Cup slated in New Zealand from 2021 to 2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and women's T20 cricket is also set to make its debut in the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games.

Virat Kohli beats Tendulkar's record

- India captain **Virat Kohli** became **the fastest cricketer** to score 12,000 ODI runs, breaking a record held by legendary compatriot **Sachin Tendulkar**.
- Kohli reached the milestone during the third and final match against Australia in Canberra.

BCCI Clears 10-Team IPL From 2022

- The **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)** confirmed that **10 teams** will take part in the **Indian Premier League** from 2022. The decision was taken in the BCCI AGM meeting in **Ahmedabad**.
- Two new teams will be added to the Indian Premier League (IPL) from the 2022 edition, making it a 10-team league
- In addition to that, former cricketer **Chetan Sharma** has been appointed as the **new chairman** of selectors for national men's cricket team by the **Cricket Advisory Committee headed by Madan Lal**.

The ICC Awards of the Decade winners announced

- The winners of the prestigious **ICC Awards** of the Decade were announced. The ICC Awards of The Decade **recognise the best players across Cricket over the past 10 years**.
- ICC Spirit of Cricket Award of the Decade – **MS Dhoni**
 - Sir Garfield Sobers Award for ICC Male Cricketer of the Decade – **Virat Kohli**
 - ICC Men's ODI Cricketer of the Decade – **Virat Kohli**
 - ICC Men's T20I Cricketer of the Decade – **Rashid Khan**



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- ICC Men's Test Cricketer of the Decade – Steve Smith
- ICC Men's Associate Cricketer of the Decade – Kyle Coetzer
- Rachael Heyhoe Flint Award for ICC Female Cricketer of the Decade – Ellyse Perry
- ICC Women's ODI Cricketer of the Decade – Ellyse Perry
- ICC Women's T20I Cricketer of the Decade – Ellyse Perry
- ICC Women's Associate Cricketer of the Decade – Kathryn Bryce

Football

Gurpreet, Sanju declared winners of AIFF Player of the Year Awards

- Indian football team goalkeeper **Gurpreet Singh Sandhu** and midfielder **Sanju** are the winners of the 2019-20 **AIFF Men's Footballer of the Year Award** and the **AIFF Women's Footballer of the Year Award** respectively.
- **The Blue Tigers custodian** was elected as the winner on the basis of votes from Indian Super League and I-League club coaches.
- **Anirudh Thapa** - AIFF 2019-20 **Men's Emerging Footballer of the Year**.
- The 2019-20 AIFF Award for the **Best Referee** - **L Ajit Kumar Meetei** from Manipur
- **P Vairamuthu** from **Tamil Nadu** - 2019-20 AIFF Award for the **Best Assistant Referee**.
- **AIFF Award for the Best Grassroots Development Programme** - Indian Football Association (West Bengal).

AIFF & SAI join hands to launch E-Pathshala

- All India Football Federation (AIFF) and Sports Authority of India (SAI) joined hands to launch an E-Pathshala, the web platform to recognise the creativity and develop the interest in football.
- E-Pathshala is an Athlete Coaching Program in football for Grassroots and Intermediate. It has been divided into three parts: My Football Culture, My Skills and My Training.

Football: Bayern Munich beat Paris Saint-Germain to win UEFA Champions League

- In Football, German giants Bayern Munich have won the European Champions League for the sixth time after beating French side Paris Saint-Germain 1-0 at the final in Portugal's capital, Lisbon.
- A goal by French winger Kingsley Coman at the 59th minute was enough for the Munich side to dash the Parisians' dream of winning for the first time the UEFA Champions League.

AIFC and Football Coaches Australia sign MoU for development of game in India

- The Association of Indian Football Coaches (AIFC) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Football Coaches Australia (FCA) to assist each other in development of football in the two countries.
- The MoU is introduction of standard contracts for coaches within their country which set out the agreed minimum employment conditions and a structured and resourced process for termination of employment.

FIFA World Cup 2022 schedule announced

- The latest edition of the **World Cup** will be played for the first time in Qatar.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The **FIFA World Cup 2022** will have four games every day in a **12-day group stage** and matches later in the tournament that go into extra time will extend past midnight in Qatar.
- FIFA is looking to stage the draw for the tournament in late March or early April 2022, when **30 of the 32 finalists** will be known.

France Football announce the Ballon d'Or will not be awarded in 2020

- **France Football**, the magazine behind the annual **Ballon d'Or award**, have announced that the prize will not be handed out this year.
- It's the first time since **1956** that the **Ballon d'Or** will not be awarded.

FIFA cancels Women's Under-17 football World Cup; India to host 2022 edition

- The **Women's Under-17 football World Cup** in India, which was initially postponed to next year due to COVID-19 pandemic, was cancelled by **FIFA**, but India was handed the **hosting rights** of the **2022 edition**. The FIFA cancelled both the women's U-17 World Cup and U-20 World Cup which were scheduled to be held in India and Costa Rica respectively but handed both the countries the hosting rights of the 2022 editions.

FIFA cancels U17 and U20 World Cups in 2021

- FIFA has canceled the **Under-17 and Under-20 World Cups** scheduled for next year due to the pandemic. The next editions are now due to be staged in 2023, with **Indonesia still hosting the U20s and Peru the U17s**.
- So **Peru** will host the **FIFA U-17 World Cup in 2023**. The FIFA U-20 World Cup will be held by Indonesia.

Japan to host 7-team FIFA Club World Cup in 2021

- FIFA (Federation Internationale de Football Association) announced that Japan will host the existing Seven-Team format of FIFA Club World Cup in December, 2021.
- It will be the 18th Edition of FIFA Club World Cup.
- The year 2021 will witness 2 FIFA Club World Cup Tournaments - The 2020 Edition FIFA Club World Cup (17th Edition) will be held in Qatar from February 1-11, 2021 and the 2021 Edition of FIFA Club World Cup will take place in Japan in December, 2021.

Others

2020 Chess Olympiad: India, Russia declared joint winners after server malfunction

- **India and Russia** were declared **joint winners** of the **2020 Online Chess Olympiad** after the final was marred by **internet disconnection and server malfunction**.
- **FIDE President Arkady Dvorkovich** made a decision to give **gold medals** of FIDE Online #ChessOlympiad to both teams - **India and Russia**.
- Russia were initially declared winners after two Indian players -- Nihal Sarin and Divya Deshmukh -- lost out on time in the final after suffering a disconnection with the server.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Arsenal defeat Liverpool on penalties in thrilling final to win FA Community Shield

- Arsenal defeated Liverpool on penalties to win the FA Community Shield at the Wembley Stadium in England.
- FA Community Shield is an annual football match played between the winners of the previous season's Premier League winner and the previous season's FA Cup winners.

Sumit Nagal becomes 1st Indian to win grand slam singles main draw match in 7 years

- Sumit Nagal stormed into the second round of the US Open Tennis. Nagal defeated Bradley Klahn of USA 6-1, 6-3, 3-6, 6-1 in the first round of the US Open to progress further into the tournament.
- With this result, the 23-year-old Nagal has become the first Indian to win a singles main draw match at a Grand Slam in the last seven years.

CFI all set to host first-ever Cycling Summit in 2021

- The Cycling Federation of India (CFI) is all set to host the first-ever Cycling Summit in 2021, with an aim to promote the culture of cycling in the country.
- The Cycling Summit 2021 will be hosted in Delhi, Mumbai, and Bangalore and is expected to be a unique confluence of cycling enthusiasts, renowned athletes, and businesses from all over the country.

Indian Grandmaster P Inian Wins World Open Online Chess Tournament

- Indian Grandmaster P Inian won the prestigious Annual World Open online chess tournament.
- Inian defeated Grandmasters Baadur Jobava of Georgia, Sam Sevian, Sergey Erenburg of USA and Nyzhyk Illia of Ukraine.

Ja Morant wins 2019-20 Kia NBA Rookie of the Year Award

- The Memphis Grizzlies' Ja Morant has been named the 2019-20 Kia NBA Rookie of the Year.
- He is the second player to win the Rookie of the Year Award with the Grizzlies, joining Pau Gasol (2001-02).

World Cup host Qatar set to play in Gold Cup next year in US

- World Cup host Qatar is set to play in the Gold Cup next year in the United States
- The Asian Football Confederation issued a statement saying the Asian Cup champion will participate in the 2021 and 2023 Gold Cup tournaments as a guest.

Parachutist Raphael Domjan makes world's first jump from solar-powered plane

- A parachutist Raphael Domjan has completed the world's first jump from a solar-powered aircraft.
- Raphael Domjan reached a speed of 93mph (150kph) before releasing his parachute and landing safely in Payerne, western Switzerland.
- The team's next milestone is to make the first solar-powered flight to the stratosphere, which it plans to complete in 2022.

Novak Djokovic out of US Open 2020 after hitting line judge with ball



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **Novak Djokovic** was kicked out of the **US Open** for accidentally hitting a line judge in the throat with a tennis ball after dropping a game in his fourth-round match, a stunning end to his 29-match winning streak and bid for an 18th Grand Slam title.

Dominic Thiem first since 1949 to win US Open

- **Dominic Thiem** became the **first man in 71 years to win the U.S. Open** after dropping the first two sets of the final.
- Thiem earned his first Grand Slam title **against Alexander Zverev**. The U.S. Open never had been decided by a fifth-set tiebreaker.

Naomi Osaka wins second US Open title after comeback win over Victoria Azarenka

- Japanese Tennis star **Naomi Osaka** beat **Victoria Azarenka** of Belarus to claim her **second US Open** title in three years with a 1-6, 6-3, 6-3 comeback win.
- **Osaka**, a 22-year-old born in Japan and now based in the United States, added to her trophies from the 2018 U.S. Open -- earned with a brilliant performance in a memorably chaotic final against Serena Williams -- and **2019 Australian Open**.

Thomas and Uber Cup Finals postponed to 2021 by BWF

- The **Thomas and Uber Cup** in Denmark postponed to next year by the **Badminton World Federation** following a wave of withdrawals by top teams due to the raging COVID-19 pandemic.

Neymar banned for 2 matches, Layvin Kurzawa banned for 6 matches

- **Layvin Kurzawa** comes away with the biggest suspension, and will miss **6 matches**, after kicking Jordan Amavi. The **Marseille man** receives a **3-match suspension**. Dario Benedetto is the other OM player to receive a suspension, receiving a 1-match ban.
- **Neymar** is banned for **2 matches (+ 1 with a suspended sentence)** after hitting **Alvaro Gonzalez** on the head – **Leandro Paredes** has received the exact same sanction.

Fed Cup renamed as Billie Jean King Cup to honour the legendary player

- The **Fed Cup** will be renamed as **Billie Jean King Cup**, the International Tennis Federation announced.
- The change of name is being done to honour King considered the greatest trailblazer in **women's tennis** for her **lifelong battle for equality and social justice**.

Novak Djokovic wins Men's Singles event in Italian Open

- In tennis, world number one **Novak Djokovic** won a record **36th Masters title** by beating **Diego Schwartzman** in the **Italian Open** at Rome.

Professional tennis player, former cricketer Ashleigh Barty wins golf tournament in COVID-19 break

- **Multi-talented Ashleigh Barty** has conquered tennis, been a **professional cricketer** and has now added another string to her sporting bow by **winning a golf tournament**.
- She has taken a course designed by **Greg Norman**, claiming the **Brookwater Golf Club women's title** near Brisbane, Australia.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Real Madrid and Barcelona Named World Most Valuable Brands in Football

- According to the 2020 Brand Finance Football report, the two most valuable clubs in the world football play are the top two heavyweights of La Liga
- For the second year in a row, Real Madrid lead the way as the most valuable football club brand in the world, closely followed by Barcelona, who have overtaken Manchester United to move from third in the 2019 edition to second in this year's rankings.

Sehwag, Sardar in 12-member selection panel for National Sports Awards

- Former India cricketer Virender Sehwag and hockey stalwart Sardar Singh were included in a 12-member committee constituted by the sports ministry to select this year's National Sports Awards winners.
- It will be headed by Retired Supreme Court Justice, Mukundakam Sharma.
- The other members of the committee include former table tennis player Monalisa Baruah Mehta, boxer Venkatesan Devarajan as well as sports commentator Manish Batavia and journalists Alok Sinha and Neeru Bhatia.

India withdraws from women's world team squash championship

- India has withdrawn from the women's world team championship scheduled in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from December 15 to 20.
- Squash Rackets Federation of India (SRFI) has decided to withdraw from the championship due to uncertainties regarding guidelines for the safe travel of athletes and staff for national and international tournaments coupled with lack of preparation time and match readiness of athletes.

HRD Minister, Sports Minister to launch 'Fit India Talks' to inspire school children

- The government's flagship program Fit India is launching a series of interactive sessions with some of the top sports persons of the country intended to inspire the school children.
- The sessions, titled Fit India Talks, will premiere in the presence of Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank and Kiren Rijiju along with badminton star PV Sindhu and Indian football team skipper Sunil Chhetri.

NSNIS Patiala and CSS-SRIHER, Chennai, launch courses in sports physiotherapy, sports nutrition

- Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports (NSNIS) Patiala and CSS-SRIHER, Chennai, launched six-month online courses in sports physiotherapy and sports nutrition aimed at grassroot-level development in the country.
- It was a part of an MOU signed between the two institutes to launch these certificate courses in sports science which will give an opportunity to young qualified professionals to further specialise in their area of expertise.

Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju chairs 1st General Council meeting of Khelo India Scheme

- Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju chaired the 1st General Council meeting of the Khelo India Scheme.
- The annual competitions being organized at the national level under the Khelo India Scheme, like the Khelo India Youth Games and University Games, have helped to identify sporting talent from all states.

Sports Ministry to organise 'Fit India Freedom Run'



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The Sports Ministry will organise the largest country-wide run, the Fit India Freedom Run from August 15th till 2nd of October,.
- The motto of the 'Freedom Run' is to encourage fitness and help citizens to get freedom from obesity, laziness, stress, anxiety and other diseases.

Dream11 wins IPL title rights at 50 percent discount

- Dream11 will be the title sponsor of the Indian Premier League (IPL) this season after it was awarded the sponsorship rights for Rs 222 crore nearly half the Rs 440 crore Vivo India.
- BCCI has roped in two more associate partners for the IPL in Unacademy and Cred, a credit card billing platform. Tata Altroz and Ceat Tyres remain the other associate sponsors while the Future Group has exited.
- IPL 2020 is to be held in UAE(United Arab Emirates) from September 19 to November 10, 2020.

INOX Group to sponsor Indian team for Tokyo Olympics: IOA

- The INOX group will be the official sponsor of the Indian team for the rescheduled Tokyo Olympics, the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) announced.
- The Tokyo Olympics was rescheduled to next year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It will be held from July 23 to August 8 in 2021.

Rohit Sharma awarded Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award with four others

- Sports Ministry has confirmed 5 names for the prestigious Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award.
- 27 sportspersons will also get the Arjuna Award.
- India's vice-captain Rohit Sharma, who is one of the most established white-ball cricketers in world cricket, is all set to get India's highest sporting award - The Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award.
- The list was approved by the Sports Ministry, where Rohit, along with para-athlete Mariappan Thangavelu, table tennis champion Manika Batra, wrestler Vinesh Phogat and hockey player Rani Rampal were finalised to get the prestigious award.

Complete list of Arjuna Awardees

- Atanu Das (Archery)
- Shiva Keshavan (Luge)
- Dutee Chand (Athletics)
- Satwiksairaj Rankireddy (Badminton)
- Chirag Shetty (Badminton)
- Vishesh Bhrighuvanshi (Basketball)
- Ishant Sharma (Cricket)
- Deepti Sharma (Cricket)
- Lovlina Borgohain (Boxing)
- Manish Kaushik (Boxing)

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Sawant Ajay Anant (Equestrian)
- Sandhesh Jhingan (Football)
- Aditi Ashok (Golf)
- Akashdeep Singh (Hockey)
- Deepika Thakur (Hockey)
- Deepak Niwas Hooda (Kabaddi)
- Sarika Kale (Kho-kho)
- Suyash Jadhav (Para-Swimming)
- Manish narwal (Para-Shooting)
- Sandeep Chaudhary (Para-Athletics)
- Saurabh Chaudhary (Shooting)
- Manu Bhaker (Shooting)
- Sanil Shetty (Table-Tennis)
- Divij Sharan (Tennis)
- Divya Kakran (Wrestling)
- Rahul Aware (Wrestling)
- Dattu Bhokanal (Rowing)

Ronnie O'Sullivan wins sixth World Snooker Championship at Crucible

- Ronnie O'Sullivan won the World Snooker Championship to join Steve Davis and Ray Reardon as a six-time winner at the Crucible.

National Sports Awards 2020 announced: Dhronacharya and Dhyan Chand winners list

DRONACHARYA AWARD

A. Life- Time Category

S. No.	Name of the Coach	Discipline
	Shri Dharmendra Tiwary	Archery
	Shri Purushotham Rai	Athletics
	Shri Shiv Singh	Boxing
	Shri Romesh Pathania	Hockey
	Shri Krishan Kumar Hooda	Kabaddi
	Shri Vijay Bhalchandra Munishwar	Para Powerlifting
	Shri Naresh Kumar	Tennis
	Shri Om Parkash Dahiya	Wrestling

B. Regular Category

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

S. No.	Name of the Coach	Discipline
	Shri Jude Felix Sebastian	Hockey
	Shri Yogesh Malviya	Mallakhamb
	Shri Jaspal Rana	Shooting
	Shri Kuldeep Kumar Handoo	Wushu
	Shri Gaurav Khanna	Para Badminton

DHYAN CHAND AWARD

S. No.	Name of the Sportsperson	Discipline
	Shri Kuldip Singh Bhullar	Athletics
	Ms. Jincy Philips	Athletics
	Shri Pradeep Shrikrishna Gandhe	Badminton
	Ms. Trupti Murgunde	Badminton
	Ms. N. Usha	Boxing
	Shri Lakha Singh	Boxing
	Shri Sukhvinder Singh Sandhu	Football
	Shri Ajit Singh	Hockey
	Shri Manpreet Singh	Kabaddi
	Shri J. Ranjith Kumar	Para Athletics
	Shri Satyaprakash Tiwari	Para Badminton
	Shri Manjeet Singh	Rowing
	Late Shri Sachin Nag	Swimming
	Shri Nandan P Bal	Tennis
	Shri Netarpal Hooda	Wrestling

TENZING NORGAY NATIONAL ADVENTURE AWARDS 2019

S. No.	Name of the Sportsperson	Category
	Ms. Anita Devi	Land Adventure
	Col. Sarfraz Singh	Land Adventure
	Shri Taka Tamut	Land Adventure
	Shri Narender Singh	Land Adventure
	Shri Keval Hiren Kakka	Land Adventure



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

	Shri Satendra Singh	Water Adventure
	Shri Gajanand Yadava	Air Adventure
	Late Shri Magan Bissa	Life Time Achievement

MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD (MAKA) TROPHY

Panjab University, Chandigarh

RASHTRIYA KHEL PROTSAHAN PURUSKAR

S. No.	Category	Entity recommended for Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar, 2020
1.	Identification and Nurturing of Budding and Young Talent	Lakshya Institute Army Sports Institute
2.	Encouragement to sports through Corporate Social Responsibility	Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) Ltd.
3.	Employment of sportspersons and sports welfare measures	Air Force Sports Control Board
4.	Sports for Development	International Institute of Sports Management (IISM)

First female golfer from Germany Sophia Popov wins Women's British Open

- World number 304 Sophia Popov became the first female golfer from Germany to capture a major title after winning the Women's British Open by two strokes at Royal Troon in Scotland.

India plans to host BRICS Games during Khelo India Games in 2021

- India are planning to host BRICS Games in 2021 and may align it with Khelo India Games.
- India will get the chairmanship of the five-nation independent international group in 2021.
- BRICS Games 2021 will be held during same time and at the same venues as of Khelo India Games 2021.

Alexander Kristoff wins first stage of Tour de France

- Norway's Alexander Kristoff won a crash-filled opening stage of the 2020 Tour de France after a sprint finish in treacherous conditions on Nice's Promenade des Anglais, claiming the yellow jersey for the first time in his career.

Para swimmer Satyendra Singh first Divyang sportsperson of country to get prestigious Adventure Award

- Para-swimmer Satyendra Singh Lohia of Madhya Pradesh is the first Divyanga Indian sportsperson of the country, who has been awarded with the Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Para-swimmer Satyendra Singh was also conferred with the Best Sportsperson National Award by Vice President Venkaiah Naidu on World Divyanga Day.
- He has also been awarded the highest sports award of Madhya Pradesh as well as many other national and international honours.

Deep Grace, Jayanti Behera get Biju Patnaik awards on National Sports Day

- Indian women's hockey team defender Deep Grace Ekka and para-athlete Jayanti Behera received the Biju Patnaik sports award for outstanding performance from Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik through video conference on the occasion of the National Sports Day.

Lt. Col. Bharat Pannu creates history by securing a podium place at the first edition of Virtual Race Across America

- **Lt. Col. Bharat Pannu**, a serving Indian Army Officer created history by successfully securing a podium place at the first edition of the **Virtual Race Across America (VRAAM) 2020**.
- He is an Army officer posted with **Army's Aviation Test Team**. The Race Across America (RAAM) is a **5000 km transcontinental race** from the West coast to East coast of the United States of America.
- **Lt. Col. Pannu finished 3rd** on the leaderboard with a total distance of **4086 km in 12 days and total cumulative elevation gain of 71,000 meters**.

India Tennis Star Sumit Nagal Wins PSD Bank Nord Open in Germany

- India tennis star **Sumit Nagal** defeated German Daniel Masur in straight sets to win the **PSD Bank Nord Open in Berlin (Germany)**.
- Nagal is the current top-ranked Indian in men's singles at **127**.

African Cup of Nations postponed from January next year to 2022

- The **Confederation of African Football (CAF)** decided next January's Africa Cup of Nations finals in Cameroon has been postponed by one year and will now take place in **2022**.
- **CAF** has decided to scrap this year's **African Women's Championship**. No new host has been found since Congo withdrew last year.

Sports Ministry to launch TOPS for junior athletes soon

- Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju said his government will soon launch **Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS)** for junior athletes in the country with an aim to produce **Olympic champions by 2028**.
- Rijiju announced the decision during the **"Fit Hai To Hit Hai Fit India"** webinar which was also attended by HRD minister Dr Ramesh Pokhriyal, Olympic medallist shuttler PV Sindhu and India football captain Sunil Chhetri.

Tamil Nadu's G Akash becomes India's 66th chess Grandmaster

- **Tamil Nadu's G Akash** became the country's **66th chess Grandmaster** while his statemate **M Pranesh** and Goa's **Ameya Audi** earned International Master titles.
- **Akash's GM title** was confirmed at the second council meet of **International Chess Federation (FIDE)** for the year **2020** held recently.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- He earned his **third GM norm** at the **National 'A' championship** in **Sikkim** last year and the fourth norm in **Prague** earlier this year.

China Masters and Dutch Open 2020 cancelled by BWF due to coronavirus

- The **China Masters 2020** and **Dutch Open 2020** have been cancelled by the **Badminton World Federation (BWF)** due to coronavirus.
- Two **BWF Tour Super 100** tournaments have been cancelled from the revamped BWF Tournament Calendar for the year - the **Lingshui China Masters 2020** and **YONEX Dutch Open 2020**.
- The **Dutch Open** was slated to take place from **October 6 to October 11** in **Almere, Netherlands**.

AIBA releases rankings in nearly two years, Amit Phangal trumps Olympic champion Zoirov to become World No.1

- **Amit Phangal** has been ranked **no.1** in the **men's 52kg weight category** as per the latest rankings released by the **Amateur Indian Boxing Association (AIBA)**. **Manju Rani** was the highest-ranked **women's boxer**, securing the **second spot in the 48kg category**, while **Mary Kom** was placed third in her category.
- Asian silver-medallist **Kavinder Bisht** was placed at the **fourth position in the 56 kg category**, while **Deepak** earned the **sixth position in the 49kg slot**.

IOC Postpones Dakar 2022 Youth Olympic Games To 2026 Due To COVID-19 Pandemic

- **Senegal** and the **International Olympic Committee (IOC)** have mutually agreed to postpone the **Dakar 2022 Youth Olympic Games (YOG) to 2026** due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.
- Earlier, the **2020 Tokyo Olympics** have been postponed to next year. Now the event will be held from **July 23 to August 8, 2021**.

Real Madrid clinch La Liga title for 34th time as Benzema scores brace in win against Villarreal

- **Real Madrid** were crowned **La Liga** champions for the **34th time** over **Villarreal** which clinched the title with one game to spare.
- **Third-place Atlético Madrid** won **2-0** at **seventh-place Getafe**, while **fourth-place Sevilla** drew **0-0** at **sixth-place Real Sociedad**.

Captain Sourabh Kalia Cup cancelled in Kargil due to COVID- 19

- The most popular **Captain Sourabh Kalia cricket Cup** has also been postponed due to the pandemic in **Kargil**.
- The pandemic has also affected the celebration of this year **21st Kargil Vijay Diwas** both from the **Indian Army Side** as well as from the **Local Level** as no event has been organised.

Rahm wins PGA Memorial to seize World Number One ranking

- **Jon Rahm** became the **first Spaniard since Seve Ballesteros in 1989** to hold golf's world number one ranking, fending off a late challenge to win the **US PGA Memorial** tournament.
- Rahm holed out an amazing **31-foot chip shot at the par-3 16th** and, despite a two-stroke penalty that turned it from a birdie to a bogey, took a three-stroke victory over American **Ryan Palmer** that boosted him over **Rory McIlroy** atop the rankings.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Statement of Intent signed for partnership with UNICEF India, YuWaah India, UN in India

- Youth Affairs Secretary **Usha Sharma** signed a Statement of Intent for partnership with **UNICEF India, YuWaah India and United Nations in India** to work together with young people for empowering them and to make them changemakers with access to aspirational socio-economic opportunities.
- The statement of intent was signed with **UNICEF representative in India Dr Yasmin Ali Haque** in the presence of Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju.

WADA Extends Suspension of India's Dope Testing Laboratory by 6 Months

- The **World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)** has extended the suspension of the country's **National Dope Testing Laboratory (NDTL)** by another six months citing non-confirmation to international standards.
- The **WADA first suspended NDTL** in August last year for a period of **six months**.
- The WADA conducted a second inspection of **NDTL in February**. But corrective measures weren't found to be good enough to revoke the suspension, which is now **extended till January 2021**.

Haryana to host 2021 Khelo India Youth Games after Tokyo Olympics

- **Haryana** will host the **fourth edition of the Khelo India Youth Games** after the **2021 Tokyo Olympics**, the state's chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar and union sports minister Kiren Rijiju announced. The Games will be held in Panchkula.
- **Haryana** finished first in the **2018 Khelo India Youth Games** while in the last edition in Guwahati, it was on the 2nd spot with 200 medals to its name.
- The dates have still not been finalised but the sports minister clarified that Khelo India Youth Games in 2021 will be held after the completion of the **Olympic Games in Tokyo**, which is from 23rd July - 8th August 2021. The **2020 edition of the games stands cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic**.

Divij Sharan-Vijay Sundar Prashanth win doubles title in Surrey

- **Vijay Sundar Prashanth and Divij Sharan** combined well to win the doubles title in the LTA British Tour tennis tournament at the National Tennis Centre in Surrey.
- In Surrey, **Vijay and Divij** won the first two matches in the super tie-break before asserting themselves as the top seeds, with a comfortable win in the final for the loss of three games.
- They defeated **Ryan Peniston & David Stevenson**.

Punjab's Princepal Singh picked for NBA developmental league

- **Dera Baba Nanak village**, has signed to play in the NBA G-League, the National Basketball Association's official minor league, in 2020-21.
- He is the **first NBA Academy** graduate to sign with the NBA G League and first NBA Academy India graduate to sign a professional contract; it was announced by NBA G-League president Shareef Abdur-Rahim.
- He will be the third Indian player after Satnam Singh Bhamara and Amjyot Singh, to play in the NBA G-League.

India's 2018 Asian Games mixed relay medal upgraded to gold after Bahrain's disqualification

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The Indian 4x400m mixed relay team's silver medal in the 2018 Asian Games has been upgraded to gold following the disqualification of original winners **Bahrain** on account of a doping ban handed to one of its runners.
- **Bahrain**, which had topped the 4x400 mixed relay final, was disqualified after **Kemi Adekoya** was handed a four-year ban by the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) for failing a dope test.

Harikrishna finishes 2nd at Biel Chess Festival

- Indian Grandmaster **P Harikrishna** finished second in the rapid section of the **53rd Biel International Chess Festival** in Switzerland.
- The World No. 26 scored 10 points, two less than **Radoslaw Wojtaszek** of Poland, who finished on top.

Sports Minister Riju launches new SAI logo

- Sports Minister **Kiren Rijju** launched a brand new logo of the Sports Authority of India (SAI) and said it represents the aspirations of Indian sportspersons to touch new heights in global sports.
- A logo is the identity of an organisation. It reflects the thought process and the objectives of the organisation.

Visnu Shivaraj Pandian wins gold in 10 meter air rifle event of International Online Shooting Championship

- India's **Visnu Shivaraj Pandian** won the 10m air rifle event at the fifth edition of the International Online Shooting Championship. The 16-year-old Visnu shot 251.4 to win the title by a clear margin of two points.
- The second place was won by world no. 27 **Etienne Germond** of France while Olympic quota winner **Martin Strempfl** of Austria took the third place.

French Open Tennis 2020

- **Rafael Nadal** scripted history by winning a record-extending **13th French Open title** as he lifted his **20th Grand Slam trophy** and equalled Roger Federer's record for most Major titles.
- It was held at the **Stade Roland Garros in Paris, France**.

Category	Winner	Runner
Men's Singles	Spain Rafael Nadal	Serbia Novak Djokovic
Women's Singles	Poland Iga Świątek	USA Sofia Kenin
Men's Doubles	Germany Kevin Krawietz / Germany Andreas Mies	Mate Pavić and Bruno Soares
Women's Doubles	Hungary Tímea Babos / France Kristina Mladenovic	Alexa Guarachi and Desirae Krawczyk

India's Nihal Sarin wins Junior Speed Chess Championship

- Young Indian player **Nihal Sarin** emerged winner in the Chess.com's 2020 Junior Speed Online Chess Championship, beating Russia's world junior No. 6 **Alexey Sarana** in the final.

Hamilton wins Eiffel GP to equal Schumacher's F1 win record

- **Lewis Hamilton** equalled Michael Schumacher's record of **91 Formula One wins** at a frantic Eifel Grand Prix.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **Red Bull's Max Verstappen finished second**, and took a bonus point for fastest lap, with **Australian Daniel Ricciardo third for Renault** in his first podium since 2018 when he was at Red Bull.

NBA finals 2020: Los Angeles Lakers beat Miami Heat to clinch title

- The **Los Angeles Lakers** captured a record-tying **17th NBA Championship** with a 106-93 victory over the **Miami Heat**.
- **LeBron James** of the Lakers' was named the **NBA Finals Most Valuable Player (MVP)** for the fourth time in his career

Odisha to sponsor national rugby teams till 2023

- **Odisha Government** would sponsor the **Indian national rugby team** for the **next three years (2023)** and facilitate high performance training and conditioning of the players.
- An agreement with **Indian Rugby Football Union (IRFU)** was inked here at **Kalinga Stadium**.

Tokyo to host international gymnastics event in November

- **Tokyo** hosted an **international gymnastics tournament**.
- The event is sanctioned by the **International Gymnastics Federation** and will feature 32 athletes from Japan, China, Russia and the United States.

Andrey Rublev wins St. Petersburg Open 2020

- **Russian** third seed **Andrey Rublev** won his **fourth ATP Tour title of the year** when he beat **Croatia's Borna Coric** 7-6(5) 6-4 to lift the **St Petersburg Open trophy**.
- **Andrey Rublev** tied with **Novak Djokovic** as a four-time title winner in 2020.
- The Russian player won the **Qatar** and **Adelaide** titles in January and added the **Hamburg** title last month.

Sheikh Russel Championship: Elavenil wins gold, Shahu Mane bags silver

- World number one **Elavenil Valarivan of India** won **gold** and **Shahu Tushar Mane** bagged a **silver** at the **2020 Sheikh Russel International Air Rifle Championship** organised by **Bangladesh Shooting Sport Federation (BSSF)**.

Nozomi Okuhara clinches Women's Singles title at Denmark Open

- In Badminton, former World Champion **Nozomi Okuhara** clinched the **Denmark Open title** beating three-time world champion **Carolina Marin** in women's singles.
- In the men's singles final, world number seven **Anders Antonsen** of Denmark defeated his compatriot **Rasmus Gemke**. The win means Antonsen moves up to second in the world rankings with Gemke at number three.
- In the mixed doubles, fourth seeds **Mark Lamsfuss** and **Isabel Herttrich** became the first German mixed doubles players to win a Super Series event after defeating **Chris and Gabby Adcock** of England in the final.
- In an all-Japan women's doubles final, top seeds **Yuki Fukushima** and **Sayaka Hirota** downed second seeds **Mayu Matsumoto** and **Wakana Nagahara**.
- **Marcus Ellis** and **Chris Langridge** of England defeated Russian pair **Valdimir Ivanov** and **Ivan Sozonov**, becoming the first England pair to clinch the title of men's doubles in the Denmark Open for 45 years.

Kokrak claims first-ever PGA Tour win at CJ Cup

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- American Jason Kokrak won his **first-ever PGA Tour** victory at the **CJ Cup in Las Vegas, Nevada**, clinching his maiden title on the 233rd try.
- Four-time PGA Tour winner **Xander Schauffele**, who finished second.

Sporting activities to resume in SAI training centres across country from 1st of Nov: Sports Ministry

- Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has stated, with an eye on the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics, sporting activities are being resumed in Sports Authority of India-SAI training centres across the country from 1st of November.

Alexander Zverev wins title in Cologne for 2nd week in a row

- **Alexander Zverev** made it back-to-back **ATP Tour titles** when he beat **Diego Schwartzman** in the final of the **Cologne Championship**.
- It's Zverev's **13th title overall**.
- It was held in Cologne, Germany.

Sabalenka beats sick Azarenka to win Ostrava Open

- **Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus** won the **Ostrava Open WTA tournament** after beating her visibly struggling compatriot **Victoria Azarenka**
- It was Sabalenka's second title this year after a win at the Qatar Open in February, before the coronavirus pandemic broke out.

Kiren Rijiju launches 2nd edition of 'Fit India School Week' program

- **Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju** has launched the **second edition** of **Fit India School Week program**. To participate in the program the schools have to register themselves on www.fitindia.gov.in/fit-india-school-week.
- Mr Rijiju spoke about the importance of fitness in school life and stated students are the driving force behind making India fit. The **Fit India School week program** was launched in **November last year** and saw participation from over 15 thousand schools across the country.

Rublev Claims Fifth Title Of 2020 In Vienna

- The red-hot **Russian Andrey Rublev** beat **Lorenzo Sonego** to win the **Erste Bank Open**, lifting his **ATP Tour-leading fifth title of the season**.
- The 23-year-old is now **tied with World No. 1 Novak Djokovic** atop the **2020 match wins leaderboard with 39**.
- With the Vienna title, Rublev has qualified for the **Nitto ATP Finals** for the first time. There is only one singles spot remaining at the season finale, to be held at The O2 in London from 15-22 November.

Player	Titles
Andrey Rublev	5
Novak Djokovic	4
Cristian Garin	2



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Ugo Humbert	2
Gael Monfils	2
Rafael Nadal	2
Alexander Zverev	2

Ritu Phogat Wins Third Straight MMA title at ONE Championship Inside the Matrix Event

- Former Indian wrestler and now a Mixed Martial Arts star, Ritu Phogat won her third consecutive MMA championship title in Singapore.
- 26-year-old Phogat defeated Cambodia's Nou Srey Pov with a technical knockout win in the second round.
- The match was part of ONE Championship's ONE: INSIDE THE MATRIX event that featured four exciting World Championship contests at the Singapore Indoor Stadium.

Indian boxers Amit Panghal, Sanjeet and Ashish Kumar win gold at the Alexis Vastine International

- Indian boxers Amit Panghal, Sanjeet and Ashish Kumar have won gold medals at the recently concluded Alexis Valentine International Boxing Tournament held in Nantes, France.
- Amit Panghal, silver medalist at the 2019 AIBA World Boxing Championships in the 52 kg-weight category, overcame the challenge from American boxer Rene Abraham.
- Former India Open gold medal winner Sanjeet was up against France's Soheb Bouafia in the 91 kg final bout.
- Ashish Kumar won the gold medal after his opponent from USA, Joseph Gerome Hicks, gave him a walkover due to injury.
- Kavinder Singh Bisht, the boxer in the 57 kg weight category claimed the silver medal, after he lost out in a close bout against Frenchman Samuel Kistohurry.
- Three Indian boxers - Shiva Thapa (63 kg), Sumit Sangwan (81 kg) and Satish Kumar (Over 91 kg) had secured the bronze medals for India.

Daniil Medvedev defeats Alexander Zverev in Paris Masters final to clinch his 8th ATP title

- In Tennis, world number five Daniil Medvedev defeated Alexander Zverev in the Paris Masters final to clinch his eighth ATP title. World number seven, Zverev of Germany, who beat World number two Rafael Nadal in semi-finals, took an early advantage.
- But Russian third seed Medvedev rallied to win in two hours seven minutes. He became the fourth Russian to capture the Paris Masters title after Marat Safin, Nikolay Davydenko and Karen Khachanov.

ITTF Women's World Cup: China's Chen claims maiden title

- World number one Chen Meng beat Chinese compatriot Sun Yingsha to win her maiden ITTF Women's World Cup title in Weihai.
- Chen's victory at the bio-secure Weihai Nanhai Olympic Center made her the first winner of the ITTF's #RESTART series and also took her tally of senior singles titles to 19.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The women's and men's World Cup events were originally set to take place in Bangkok, Thailand and then Duesseldorf, Germany before the ITTF moved them to China.

Younis Khan appointed Pakistan's batting coach until 2022 T20 World Cup

- Former captain Younis Khan will continue as the men's batting coach of Pakistan until the ICC Twenty20 World Cup in 2022.
- The Twenty20 World Cup 2022 is scheduled to be held in Australia.

Novak Djokovic equals Pete Sampras's record of six year-end No.1 trophies

- Tennis star Novak Djokovic has equalled Pete Sampras's record of winning six year-end number one trophies. The Serbian player achieved the feat as he was given the ATP Tour Number One trophy for finishing as the year-end number one. With this, Djokovic has become only the second player in tennis history to do it six times. Before this, Djokovic had finished as world number one in 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015 and 2018.

Jannik Sinner Clinches Maiden ATP Tour Title in Sofia

- Jannik Sinner captured his maiden ATP Tour trophy at the Sofia Open in Bulgaria.
- The 19-year-old battled past experienced Canadian Vasek Pospisil to become the youngest Italian in the Open Era to win an ATP Tour title.
- The last player to have lifted a tour-level trophy at a younger age than Sinner was Kei Nishikori who had earned his maiden ATP Tour title as an 18-year-old at the 2008 Delray Beach Open.
- As a result of his title run in the Bulgarian capital, he will crack the top 40 of the ATP Rankings for the first time at number 37.

Daniil Medvedev beat Dominic Thiem to win ATP Tour Finals in London

- In Tennis, Daniil Medvedev beat Dominic Thiem to win ATP Tour Finals, the biggest title of his career. Medvedev fought back from losing the first set to beat Thiem 4-6, 7-6, 6-4 in a thrilling final in London. Thiem was denied the title second year in a row.
- In the doubles final, Dutch-Croatian duo Wesley Koolhof and Nikola Mektic claimed their first title together edging Jurgen Melzer and Edouard Roger-Vasselin 6-2, 3-6, 10-5.

Sports Ministry restores AAI's recognition after eight years

- Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has granted the annual recognition to Archery Association of India as a National Sports Federation (NSF), validating its elections held for new office-bearers earlier this year.
- This comes after AAI's independent elections and revocation of suspension by the World Archery and Indian Olympic Association. The recognition will be valid for one year. AAI president Arjun Munda welcomed the decision and stated that it will start a new chapter in Indian archery.

Mission Olympic Cell approves Bajrang's one-month training camp in U.S.A



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **Mission Olympic Cell** has approved a one-month training camp in the U.S.A for **wrestler Bajrang Punia**, one of India's biggest medal hopes at the Tokyo Olympics.
- Mission Olympic Cell is a body set up by the Sports Authority of India to select athletes who are to get assistance under the **Target Olympic Podium Scheme**.
- The World No. 2 in 65kg has preferred a stint in the U.S.A over Individual World Cup scheduled in Serbia's Belgrade from December 12 to 18.

ATP Finals: Dominic Thiem defeats 20-time Grand Slam champion Rafael Nadal

- In tennis, **Dominic Thiem** defeated **20-time Grand Slam champion Rafael Nadal** in straight sets at the **ATP Finals** in London. World number three Thiem of Austria clinched a victory over world number two Spaniard Nadal.

Sri Lanka to host Asia Cup in 2021, Pakistan in 2022

- PTI, PCB Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Wasim Khan said, "The next Asia Cup will be hosted in Sri Lanka in June and we have got hosting rights now for the 2022 Asia Cup."
- The tournament which was supposed to take place in Pakistan this year, will now be taking place in Sri Lanka in 2021.

Kiren Rijiju launches 2nd edition of Fit India Cyclothon

- Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju has launched the second edition of Fit India Cyclothon via social media.
- The event will be held across the country in each district and citizens can participate by registering on Fit India website. They may also tag @FitIndiaOff and use the hashtag - FitIndiaCyclothon and #NewIndiaFitIndia.

Madagascar replaces Maldives as host of 2023 Indian Ocean Island Games

- Madagascar has replaced the Maldives as the host of the 2023 Indian Ocean Island Games due to concerns over the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Maldives had requested pushing back the 2023 Games to 2025 but the IOIGF was keen to avoid a six-year void between editions of the multi-sport event. Maldives had received the hosting right of the event in 2019.

Ankita Raina wins ITF doubles title in Dubai

- Top Indian tennis player **Ankita Raina** won her third doubles title of the pandemic-hit 2020 season, clinching the Al Habtoor challenge with Ekaterine Gorgodze.

Odisha to host 2023 FIH Men's Hockey World Cup

- The FIH, **International Hockey Federation** had announced that the **2023 FIH Men's Hockey World Cup** Will be hosted in **Odisha** for a second Consecutive Time.
- This time it will be held in Two venues, namely **Bhubaneswar** and **Rourkela**.
- The 2023 tournament will be **15th edition** of the Men's FIH Hockey World Cup. It will be held at the **Kalinga Stadium** in **Bhubaneswar** and at the **Biju Patnaik Hockey Stadium** in **Rourkela**.
- The Men's Hockey World Cup 2018 was also hosted by **Odisha**.

ICC Announces Womens World Cup Schedule



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** announced the schedule for the **2022 Women's World Cup** in New Zealand with 31 matches to be played across 31 days from **March 4 to April 3, 2022**.
- Six cities in New Zealand will play host to the competition - Auckland, Tauranga, Hamilton, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin.

Doha to host 2030 Asian Games, Saudi Arabia in 2034

- **Doha** will host the **2030 Asian Games** and rival **Riyadh** will stage the event in 2034 following a vote by the **Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)** General Assembly in **Muscat**.
- The second hosting city, for 2034, is **Riyadh**.
- 2030 Asian Games will be the **21st edition** of the multi-sports event, held after every **four years**. It is also known as **Asiad**. Qatar will also host the 2022 World Cup.

Robert Lewandowski and Lucy Bronze win FIFA player of the year awards

- The **Best FIFA Football Awards 2020** was announced on **17th December 2020**, during a virtual event held at **Zurich**.
- The Poland national team captain **Robert Lewandowski** has been named The **Best FIFA Men's Player for 2020**. And he has won the title for the first time in his career.
- **Lucy Bronze** bagged The Best FIFA Women's Player for 2020.

The Best FIFA Awards 2020

- The Best FIFA Men's Coach: Jurgen Klopp (Liverpool)
- The Best FIFA Women's Goalkeeper: Sarah Bouhaddi (France/Olympique Lyonnais)
- The Best FIFA Men's Goalkeeper: Manuel Neuer (Germany/Bayern Munich)
- The Best FIFA Men's Player: Robert Lewandowski (Poland/Bayern Munich)
- The Best FIFA Women's Player: Lucy Bronze (England/Olympique Lyonnais/Manchester City)
- The Best FIFA Women's Coach: Sarina Wiegman (Netherlands)
- FIFA Fair Play Award: Mattia Agnese (Italy)
- FIFA Puskas Award: Son Heung-min (South Korea/Tottenham)
- FIFA Fan Award: Marivaldo Francisco da Silva (Brazil)

Yogasana gets formal recognition as a competitive sport- AYUSH Ministry

- The **Ministry of AYUSH** and **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports** announced the formal recognition of **Yogasana** as a **Competitive Sport**.
- The government's success in getting the United Nations to declare June 21 officially as International Yoga Day was viewed as a significant milestone in its charge to ignite both national and global interest in the practice.

Govt approves inclusion of four indigenous sports in Khelo India Youth Games 2021

- The **Sports Ministry** has approved the inclusion of **four indigenous Games** to be a part of **Khelo India Youth Games 2021**, scheduled to be held in **Haryana**.

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The games include **Gatka, Kalaripayattu, Thang-Ta and Mallakhamba**. Kalaripayattu – Kerala; Mallakhamba - Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra; Gatka - Punjab. Thang-Ta – Manipur;

Boxing World Cup: Indian Boxers Bag 9 Medals, Including 3 Gold

- Indian boxers** bagged **nine medals including three golds, two silver and four bronze** at the **Cologne Boxing World Cup** held in **Koln, Germany**.
- The Cologne Boxing World 2020 was hosted by the **European Boxing Confederation (EUBC)**.
- Gold:** The three gold medals for India were bagged by Amit Panghal (52kg), Manisha Moun (57kg) and Simranjit Kaur (60kg) in their respective categories.
- Silver:** Silver medals were claimed by Sakshi Choudhary (57kg) and Satish Kumar (91kg).
- Bronze:** Sonia Lather (57kg), Pooja Rani (75kg) Gaurav Solanki (57kg) and Mohamed Hussamudin (57kg) claimed the bronze medal in their respective categories.

Indian men to finish 2020 in 4th position, women in 9th in FIH rankings

- The **Indian men and women hockey** teams will finish 2020 in **fourth and ninth** positions, respectively.
- The International Hockey Federation (FIH) confirmed that the Belgium men's team and the Netherlands' women will finish the year at the top of the world rankings.
- Among women, the Netherlands (2631.99 points) are at the top followed by Argentina (2174.61). Germany (2054.28) occupy the third position and India (9th place 1543.00).

Anshu Malik grabs silver in Wrestling, India's first medal at Individual World Cup

- Anshu Malik** has become the **first wrestler** of the country to finish on the podium position at the **Individual Wrestling World Cup in Belgrade, Serbia**.
- The 19-year-old put up a bold and brave fight before she lost to reigning European champion Anastasia Nichita of Moldova in the 57 kg women's freestyle final, bagging a silver.

Yash Vardhan wins Gold at the 6th International Online Shooting Championship (IOSC)

- Yash Vardhan won gold medal in the 10 m air rifle event at the 6th International Online Shooting Championship (IOSC), the event saw the participation of Olympic bound Martin Strempl of Austria who won the silver medal and Oleksandr Halkin from Ukraine won the bronze.

Kenya's Kibiwott Kandie breaks half marathon World Record in Valencia Half Marathon 2020

- Kenya's Kibiwott Kandie smashed the World Record by completing the 13.1 Mile Marathon in 57 minutes 32 seconds at the 2020 Valencia Half Marathon Trinidad Alfonso EDP held at Valencia, Spain.
- With this, Kandie overtook Geoffrey Kamworor's (Kenya) record of 58.01. He also became the First person to finish the Half Marathon in 58 minutes. Jacob Kiplimo (Uganda) came second while Rhonex Kipruto of Kenya finished Third.

Winner	Runner up	Grand Prix
Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes)	Max Verstappen (Red Bull)	Hungarian Grand Prix

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes)	Valtteri Bottas(Mercedes)	Styrian Grand Prix in Austria
Valtteri Bottas(Mercedes)	Charles Leclerc (Ferrari)	Austrian Grand Prix
Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes)	Valtteri Bottas(Mercedes)	Belgian Grand Prix
Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes)	Max Verstappen (Red Bull)	Spanish Grand Prix
Max Verstappen (Red Bull)	Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes)	70th Anniversary Grand Prix, UK
Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes)	Max Verstappen (Red Bull)	British Grand Prix
Valtteri Bottas(Mercedes)	Max Verstappen (Red Bull)	Russian Grand Prix
Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes)	Valtteri Bottas(Mercedes)	Tuscan Grand Prix
Pierre Gasly (Alpha Tauri)	Carlos Sainz Jr (Mc Laren)	Italian Grand Prix
Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes)	Valtteri Bottas (Mercedes)	Portuguese Grand Prix
Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes)	Valtteri Bottas (Mercedes)	Emilia Romagna Grand Prix
Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes)	Sergio Perez (Red Bull)	F1 Turkish Grand Prix
Sergio Perez (Red Bull)	Esteban Ocon (Renault)	Sakhir Grand Prix
Max Verstappen (Red Bull)	Valtteri Bottas (Mercedes)	Abu Dhabi Grand Prix

Important Obituaries

Name	Field
R. Duraikannu	Tamil Nadu Agriculture Minister
Sean Connery	Scottish actor (best known for James Bond)
T N Krishnan	Violinist (Kerala)
Satish Prasad Singh	Former Bihar Chief Minister
Faraaz Khan	Actor
Carlos Gonzalez Valles SJ	Author and Gujarati columnist
Sudarshan Rattan	Filmmaker
Sanchaman Limboo	Fourth chief Minister of Sikkim
Ken Spears	Scooby-Doo co-creator
Satyajit Ghosh	Ex-Mohun Bagan defender
Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa	World's longest serving Prime Minister, Bahrain
Chandrawati	Haryana's first woman MP and former Puducherry Lt Governor
Arjun Prajapati	Padma Shri awardee and sculptor
Jerry Rawlings	Ghana's former president

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Asif Basra	Bollywood actor
John Thomas Goslin Pereira	Indian Navy's former Chief of Materials
Bhanwarlal Meghwal	Rajasthan Social Justice and Empowerment Minister
Ray Clemence	Former England, Liverpool and Tottenham Hotspur goalkeeper
Mridula Sinha	Former Goa Governor
Tarun Gogoi	Former Assam Chief Minister
Shaik Khaja Hussain	Telugu poet, journalist, scriptwriter, and Kendra Sahitya Academy award winner
Ashiesh Roy	TV Actor
Diego Maradona	Football player (Argentina)
Maulana Kalbe Sadiq	Islamic scholar, reformer, educationalist and vice-president of All India Muslim Personal Law Board
Ahmed Patel	Senior Congress leader
Faqir Chand Kohli	First CEO of Tata Consultancy Services (Padma Bhushan Awardee)
James Wolfensohn	Former President of World Bank
Aly Zaker	Bangladeshi actor
Papa Bouba Diop	Senegalese Footballer
Zafarullah Khan Jamali	Former PM of Pakistan
Abhay Bhardwaj	Rajya Sabha MP
Valéry Giscard d'Estaing	Former French President
Maulana Kalbe Sadiq	Shia cleric and Islamic scholar
S Ramakrishnan	Indian Space Scientist and Former VSSC & LPSC Director
Rafer Johnson	Decathlon Champion of 1960 Rome Olympics
Tabaré Vázquez	Former & 1st Socialist President of Uruguay
Mahashay Dharampal Gulati	The owner of MDH Masala, King of Space
Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali	Former Prime Minister of Pakistan
Dineshwar Sharma	Lakshadweep Administrator
G.R Udhvani	Gujarat High Court sitting Judge
Monu Mukherjee	Bengali actor
Ravi Patwardhan	Actor



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Dennis Ralston	Tennis Player, Five-time Grand Slam doubles champion
Narinder Singh Kapany	Father of fiber optics & Sikh activist
Madhukar Gangadhar	Hindi writer
Divya Bhatnagar	TV actress
Narendra Bhide	Music composer
Paolo Rossi	Italian Footballer
Vidyavachaspati Bannanje Govindacharya	Sanskrit Scholar
Chuck Yeager	First person to travel at a speed faster than the speed of sound
Radhika Ranjan Pramanik	Politician and five-time MP
Ambrose Dlamini	Prime Minister, Eswatini
Roddam Narasimha	Eminent aerospace scientist and Padma Vibhushan awardee
Mahbubullah Muhibbi	Deputy governor of Kabul
Shripati Khanchanale	Wrestler and first Hind Kesari
Vice Admiral Srikant	Director General of Project Seabird
Eric Freeman	Former Australia Test all-rounder
Satya Dev Singh	Former Gonda MP
Madhav Govind Vaidya	Ideologue and first spokesperson of RSS
Motilal Vora	Former two-time chief minister of undivided Madhya Pradesh, former Governor of Uttar Pradesh
Sugathakumari	Malayalam poet, Padma Shri awardee
Madan Lal Sharma	Two-Time Congress MP From J&K
Shamsur Rahman Faruqi	Urdu poet
John Edrich	Former England and Surrey batsman
Robin Jackman	Former England cricketer
Jon Huber (Brodie Lee or Luke Harper)	US wrestler
Sunil Kothari	Dance scholar
Kadambur M. R. Janardhanan	Former Union Minister and senior AIADMK leader
Nikhil Nandy	Footballer
Manglesh Dabral	Hindi Poet
Dharmalingam Ethiraj	South Korean director

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Kim Ki-duk	Former Indian Football player
UA Khader	Malayalam writer
Gérard Paul Francis Houllier	Former Liverpool manager & France Football Coach
Carl Reiner	Writer, Actor, Director & Comedy Legend
Rudolfo Anaya	Writer
Sanjeev Kumar Yadav	Delhi Police Inspector, Gallantry Award winner
Upa Rokamlova	Former Speaker of Mizoram Legislative Assembly, rural development Minister of the Lal Thanhawla government
Everton Weekes	Former West Indies cricketer
Dr Hari Krishen Kaul	IIC Librarian, Poet, Author & Bibliographer
Professor Vikas Satwalekar	Alumnus and former executive director of the National Institute of Design
Saroj Khan	Bollywood choreographer, Recipient of three National Awards
Ibidunni Ighodalo	Former beauty queen
Bishnu Prasad Kumar	Journalist
Pascoal DSouza	Councillor of the Mormugao Municipal Council in Goa
Earl Cameron	British film and TV actor
Pokuri Rama Rao	Telugu film producer
Nick Cordero	Broadway Actor
Ennio Morricone	Oscar-winning Italian film composer
Vasudeva Maiya	Former CEO of Sri Guru Raghavendra Co-operative Bank
Dr Suresh Amonkar	Former health minister of Goa
Charlie Daniels	Country Music Hall of Fame in 2016
Jagdeep (Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed Jafri)	Bollywood Actor
Amadou Gon Coulibaly	Prime Minister of Ivory Coast
Jack Charlton	England's 1966 football World Cup player
Brahm Vasudeva	Chairman, Hawkins Cookers
Avad Bin Hassan Jami	Cartoonist
Ranjan Sehgal	TV Actor
Nagindas Sanghvi	Gujarati journalist, columnist, writer (Padma Shri in 2019)
Divya Chouksey	Actress-Singer
P Ramaswamy	Former Minister and MP

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Wim Suurbier	Dutch Footballer
Jyotsna Bhatt (Baroda based)	Ceramic Artist
Neela Satyanarayan	Maharashtra's first woman Election Commissioner
Acharya Shree Purushottam Priyadasji Swamishree	Head of Swaminarayan Sanstha
Ramesh Tikaram	Arjuna awardee and ace para-badminton player (1 st para badminton player)
John Lewis	Civil Rights icon Congressman (US)
C.S. Seshadri	One of the leaders of Indian Mathematics (Received Padma Bhushan in 2009)
C.T. Vivian	Key adviser to the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr
Rajat Mukherjee	Bollywood Director
Juan Marsé	Spanish Novelist
Lalji Tandon	Governor of Madhya Pradesh
Bijoy Mohanty	Odia film actor
Viktor Chizhikov	National artist of Russia (He was known as the author of the Olympic bear MISHA)
Andrew Mlangeni	Struggle stalwart and the last surviving Rivonia Trialist
Annie Riss	Jazz Singer & Actor
Amala Shankar	Dancer and Choreographer
Nusrat Zaheer	Urdu Journalist
Mohammad Shamsuddin (Shams Jalnavi)	Urdu Poet
Benjamin Mkapa	Former President of Tanzania
Peter Green	Blues Guitarist, Co-founder of the band Fleetwood Mac
Bhaskarrao Awhad	Senior advocate and former president of Bar Council of Maharashtra
John Saxon	Actor
Olivia de Havilland	Two time Oscar winning Actor
P Achyuta Rao	Founder and President of Balala Hakula Sangham, Child Welfare Activist
Kansai Yamamoto	Japanese fashion designer
Parvez Khan	Bollywood action director
Shaankar Sen	Chairman and Managing Director of Senco Gold Ltd

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Kumkum	Bollywood Actress
V Bhalan	Former Puducherry MLA and NR Congress General Secretary
Sanjay Gupta	Justice of J & K High Court
Somendranath Mitra	West Bengal Congress Committee president
Ashok Mustafi	Cricket Coach
Anil Murali	Malayalam Actor
Sonam Tshering Lepcha	Folk Musician & Padma Shri awardee
Hasmukhbhai Joshi	Former Saurashtra coach (His book - 'Old Ranji Trophy Players of the Period 1963 to 1969 — my teammates and intimates')
Lee Teng-hui	Former president, Taiwan
RD Pradhan	Former Arunachal Pradesh Governor
Sa Kandasamy	Tamil writer and documentary filmmaker
Anant Shet	Former speaker of Goa
Kamal Rani Varun	Uttar Pradesh's Technical Education Minister (COVID-19)
John Hume	Nobel Peace Prize winner
Sunnam Rajaiah	Former Bhadrachalam MLA, and senior CPI (M) leader (COVID-19)
Ebrahim Alkazi	Theatre legend
Shivajirao Patil Nilangekar	Former Maharashtra Chief Minister
Doris Buffett	Philanthropist
Shirley Ann Grau	Pulitzer Prize-winning fiction writer
Sadia Dehlvi	Delhi-based writer and activist
Shyamal Chakraborty	West Bengal CPM leader and former transport minister (COVID-19)
Mukund Lath (Padma Shri in 2010)	Historian, scholar, and an exponent of the Mewatigharana
Manitombi Singh	Former India defender and Mohun Bagan
Nandi Yellaiah	Senior Congress leader and eight-time MP
James Harris (popularly known as Kamala)	WWE legend
Rahat Indori	Urdu poet and lyricist
V Swaminathan	Tamil producer (COVID -19)

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

GK Menon	Sports journalist
Trini Lopez	Singer and Actor
Sumner Redstone	Viacom CBS head
Yadupati Singhania	Uttar Pradesh Cricket Association
Chunnakara Ramankutty	Malayalam poet and film and drama lyricist
Chetan Chauhan	Former Test batsman
Robert Trump	Donald Trump's younger brother
Dr B Siva Kumar	Carnatic musician & veena vidwan
Pandit Jasraj (Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan awardee)	Vocalist
Nishikant Kamat	Director-actor
Gopalaswamy Kasturirangan	Former cricketer-administrator and the BCCI curator
Ben Cross	British actor (1981 Oscar-winning sports drama 'Chariots of Fire')
Bhaskar Maity	Former India international goalkeeper
AB Raj	Filmmaker
Ashok Sahil	Urdu poet
Pascal Lissouba	President of the Republic of Congo
Gail Sheehy	Journalist, commentator and pop sociologist
Archana Mahanta	Assamese singer
AR Lakshmanan	Former judge of the Supreme Court
H. Vasantha Kumar	Tamil Nadu Congress Committee working president and Kanyakumari MP
Purshottam Rai	Athletics coach (Won Dronacharya Award)
Chadwick Boseman	'Black Panther' star
Purushotham Rai	Former India athletic coach
Pranab Mukherjee	Former President of India (13 th President)
Katyayani Shankar Bajpai	Former diplomat, India's ambassador to the United States, China, and Pakistan
Dr Sivaramakrishna Iyer Padmavati	Cardiologist ('Godmother of cardiology')
David Capel	Former England cricket allrounder
Tom Seaver	Mets legend and Baseball Hall of Famer



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Johnny Bakshi	Producer-director
Dr Mahesh Kumar Dwivedy	Former DIG of BSF (Medical Wing)
Kesavananda Bharati	Petitioner in landmark SC judgement
Jiri Menzel	Czech Film Director
Dr. Govind Swarup	Father of India's Radio Astronomy
Jaya Prakash Reddy	Telugu actor
R J Shahaney	Ashok Leyland's Chairman
Swami Agnivesh	Social activist (In 1981, he founded the organisation Bandhua Mukti Morcha (BMM))
Raghuvansh Prasad Singh	Former Union minister for Rural Development in Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's cabinet
Chanesh Ram Rathiya	Congress leader and former Chhattisgarh minister
Sadashiv Raoji Patil	Former Indian Cricket player (Captained Maharashtra in the Ranji Trophy)
Kapila Vatsyayan (Padma Vibhushan in 2011)	Scholar, author and connoisseur of the arts
P R Krishnakumar ('Padmashri award' in 2009 & 'Dhanwanthari Puraskar' in 2016)	Chairman and Managing Director of the Arya Vaidya Pharmacy (AVP) Coimbatore Limited
Moussa Traore	Mali's former president
Ashok Gasti (COVID-19)	First-time Rajya Sabha MP from Karnataka
Amitabha Ghosh	Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Governor for 21 days
Sachin Deshmukh (COVID-19)	'Mini Gavaskar' in local cricket
Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg (USA)	Second woman appointed to the bench (dubbed the 'Notorious RBG')
John Turner	Former Canadian Prime Minister
Purba Dam	Rabindra Sangeet exponent
Ashalata Wabgaonkar	Marathi actress
Ang Rita Sherpa (snow leopard)	First man to climb Mount Everest 10 times
Bibhuranjan Choudhury	Assam musician, singer, lyricist and actor
Suresh Angadi (COVID-19)	Minister of State for Railways (He was a four-time BJP MP from Belagavi)
Dean Jones	Former Australia cricketer (a part of IPL official broadcaster's commentary panel)

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

SP Balasubrahmanyam	Playback singer
Dr Sekhar Basu (Padma Shri in 2014)	Atomic scientist and former chairman of Atomic Energy Commission
Jaswant Singh	Former Union minister (Minister for Finance, Minister for Defence and Minister for External Affairs)
Isher Judge Ahluwalia	Economist (Stepped down as chairman of Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER))
Syeda Anwara Taimur	Assam's only woman CM
Dr G S Amur	Critic and versatile writer (Sahitya Akademi Award, Rajyotsava Award and Bharatiya Bhasha Award)
Abhilash	Songwriter (best known for the song 'Itni Shakti Hame Dena Daata')
M Gopalakrishnan	Former Indian Bank Chairman and Tamilnadu Yadava Mahasabai president
KC Sivasankar	Artist
Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmed al-Sabah	Kuwait's Emir (Dean of Arab diplomacy)
Pushpa Bhave	Activist, Scholar, Rationalist
Dr A V Shetty	Cardiologist
Pradeep Maharathy	Former Odisha Minister
Haji Hussain Ansari	Jharkhand's minority welfare minister
Anant S Dave	Former acting Chief Justice of Gujarat HC
Mulayam Singh Yadav	Former MLC of Samajwadi Party
Najeeb Tarakai	Afghanistan top-order batsman
Eddie Van Halen	Guitarist
Prasanth Rajesh	Tamil Nadu Premier League leg-spinner
Avinash Kharshikar	Marathi actor
Ram Vilas Paswan	Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Ashwani Kumar	Former chief of the Central Bureau of Investigation (served as Governor of Nagaland & Manipur)
Mario Molina	Mexican scientist (First winner of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1995)
K K Usha	Former Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Priscilla Jana	Indian-origin South African human rights lawyer
Savithri Vaithi	Philanthropist and social worker
Carlton Chapman	Former Indian football captain
CM Chang	Senior Nagaland minister, Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change and Justice and Law
Vinod Singh	Bihar Minister for Backward and Extremely Backward Classes Welfare
Carlie Moore	400-meter hurdles champion at the 1952 Helsinki Olympics
Vangapandu Prasada Rao	Revolutionary balladeer and lyricist
Dr Shobha Naidu	Kuchipudi dancer
Kaumudi Munshi	Singer, Nightingale of Gujarat
Akkitham Achuthan Namboothiri	Malayalam poet & Jnanpith laureate
John Richard Reid	Former New Zealand Cricket all-rounder
Bhanu Athaiya	Costume designer (India's first Oscar winner)
Pradip Ghosh	Bengali elocutionist
PS Narayanaswamy	Carnatic vocalist (Padma Bhushan and Tamil Nadu government's Kalaimamani Award)
Dr. Jayanta Madhab	Economist (Served as the economic advisor (2003-2009) to the Government of Assam)
Vijayalakshmi Ramanan	First woman officer of the Indian Air Force
K J Mohammed Babu	Singer, Music Director and Actor
Jaya C Suvama	Former president of Billawara Association, former chairman of Bharat Co-operative Bank (Mumbai) Limited
Lee Kun-hee	Samsung Electronics chairman
Mahesh Kanodia	Gujarati film musician, singer and former Lok Sabha MP from Patan constituency
Keshubhai Patel	Former Gujarat Chief Minister
Naresh Kanodia	Gujarati actor and ex-BJP MLA
Daniel Menaker (He was known for his collection The Old Left)	Author of fiction and nonfiction
Mesut Yilmaz	Former Turkish prime minister



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Important Peoples' in News

Former Olympic Giant Slalom Champion Viktoria Rebensburg Retires at 30

- Olympic ski champion **Viktoria Rebensburg** retired from the sport, who won the **gold medal** in giant slalom at the **2010 Vancouver Olympics**
- Rebensburg won the season-long World Cup giant slalom title in 2011, 2012 and 2018, and won world championship silver in giant slalom in 2015 and 2019.

Former England batsman Ian Bell announces retirement from cricket

- **Former England batsman Ian Bell** has announced his **retirement from professional cricket**. Bell played 161 one-day internationals and eight Twenty20s.

Police Officer Poonam Khatri crowned Wushu World Champion

- **Indian Wushu stalwart Poonam Khatri** has claimed **World Championship** status after her silver medal at the **Wushu World Championship** last year has been upgraded to a **Gold medal**. Poonam had lost the final to Iranian opponent Mariyam in the Women's 75 kg category but after Mariyam recently failed the dope test, the gold medal has been awarded to **Poonam Khatri**.

Afghanistan bans coach Noor Mohammad for five years on corruption charges

- The **Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB)** has **banned** domestic-level coach **Noor Mohammad 'Lalai'** from all forms of the game for **five years** after he was found guilty of approaching a national team player **to spot-fix matches**.
- The development comes three months after the ACB banned wicketkeeper-batsman **Shafiquallah Shafaq** for six years on match-fixing allegations.

Cristiano Ronaldo becomes second men's player to score 100 international goals

- **Cristiano Ronaldo** became the **second man** to score **100 international goals**, hitting the landmark for Portugal in **UEFA Nations League** match against Sweden.
- The 35 year-old Juventus forward became the first European to reach 100 goals for his country after Ali Daei.

Lionel Messi Remains Ahead of Cristiano Ronaldo as World's Richest Footballer

- According to a list compiled by Forbes, **Messi's** total earnings this year are **126 million dollars - 92 million dollars** from his salary and 34 million dollars in endorsements. Not surprisingly **Cristiano Ronaldo** comes in second.
- **Neymar** comes in **third** on the Forbes list (96 million dollars) with his **Paris St Germain** team mate, 21-year-old Kylian Mbappe, up in fourth spot (42 million dollars).

Navy gets its first women combat aviators

- Sub Lieutenant **Kumudini Tyagi** and Sub Lieutenant **Riti Singh** would be the first women airborne tacticians in India to operate from the deck of warships.
- Both **Tyagi and Singh** passed out of Indian Navy's Observer Course at Southern Naval Command in Kerala's Kochi city.

Flight Lieutenant Shivangi Singh will be first woman fighter pilot to fly Rafale



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Flight Lieutenant **Shivangi Singh** will be the **first woman pilot to fly Rafale**, India's most modern multi-role fighter aircraft.
- Flt Lt Singh, who was commissioned into the IAF in 2017 as part of the second batch of women fighter pilots, is currently flying a **MiG-21 Bison**.
- Once the training is completed, she will join the **Ambala-based 17 Squadron**, home to the Rafale fighters.

Germany's World Cup winner **Benedikt Höwedes** announces retirement

- Benedikt Höwedes, a defender who helped Germany win the World Cup title in 2014, retired from football.
- Höwedes played 44 times for the German national team from 2011-17 and played every minute for his team at the 2014 World Cup in Brazil.

Real Madrid legend **Casillas** announces retirement

- Spanish Iker Casillas has officially announced his retirement at the end of a 22-year playing career, with the legendary Real Madrid goalkeeper hanging up his gloves at the age of 39.
- He also captained his country to World Cup glory in 2010 and sandwiched that success with European Championship wins in 2008 and 2012.

Madhya Pradesh Women Cricketer **Anshula Rao** Fails Dope Test

- Madhya Pradesh women cricket team's Anshula Rao has been provisionally suspended by National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) after failing a dope test.
- The report came last month and NADA served the Adverse Analytical Finding (AAF) notice of charge on the athlete, leading to her suspension.

England all-rounder **Laura Marsh** announces retirement from all forms of cricket

- Former England all-rounder Laura Marsh has announced her retirement from all forms of cricket.
- She was slated to represent Oval Invincibles in the tournament, but the competition has been pushed to 2021 due to the coronavirus pandemic.

MS Dhoni announces retirement from international cricket

- Former India captain and two-time World Cup winner, Mahendra Singh Dhoni announced his retirement from international cricket.
- The Chennai Super Kings captain, though, is expected to feature in the upcoming IPL 2020 in the UAE.
- Dhoni had earlier quit Test cricket in 2014 after the Melbourne Test on the tour of Australia and had handed over ODI and T20I captaincy to Virat Kohli in January 2017.

Suresh Raina Announces Retirement From International Cricket

- Indian batsman Suresh Raina has announced his retirement from international cricket.
- The 33-year-old represented India in more than 300 internationals in a career that spanned over 13 years.
- Raina became the first India batsman to score a century in all three formats of the game. His final international appearance came in a T20I against England in 2018.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Australia all-rounder Cameron White announces retirement from professional cricket

- Former Australia captain and all-rounder Cameron White has announced his retirement from all forms of professional cricket.
- Cameron White also played for Royal Challengers Bangalore and the now-defunct Deccan Chargers in the Indian Premier League between 2007 and 2012. He was later bagged by the Sunrisers Hyderabad for the 2013 season.

England pacer James Anderson becomes 1st fast bowler in history to take 600 Test wickets

- England pacer James Anderson became the first fast bowler in history to take 600 Test wickets. The 38-year-old was seven wickets away from the feat when he started playing the third Test against Pakistan at the Ageas Bowl.
- On Day 5 of the match, he dismissed Pakistan batsman Azhar Ali to claim his 600th wicket.

Poulomi Ghatak retires from Table Tennis, shifts her focus on coaching

- Indian table tennis players Poulomi Ghatak, announced her retirement. She is a seven-time national champion.
- The Kolkata born athlete won both the senior national and junior national championships in 1998. She has represented India at the Commonwealth Games at Melbourne in 2006 and the Commonwealth Championships between 2000 and 2008.

Japan's Olympic doubles champion Ayaka Takahashi announces retirement

- Japan's Olympic badminton champion Ayaka Takahashi will not defend her doubles crown with Misaki Matsutomo at next year's Tokyo Games after announcing she will retire at the end of the month.
- Takahashi and Matsutomo defeated Denmark's Christinna Pedersen and Kamilla Rytter Juhl in the Rio Olympics in 2016 to claim the women's doubles gold medal and secure their nation's first ever badminton title.

Tennis legends Bob, Mike Bryan announce retirement

- Tennis legends Bob and Mike Bryan have decided to retire ahead of the 2020 US Open.
- The pair of 42-year-old identical twins are the most successful doubles duo in the history of the sport.
- They earned an Olympic gold medal together in 2012 to go along with winning a record 16 Grand Slam doubles titles from 2003 to 2014 and, altogether, 119 tour titles together. As a duo, the Bryan brothers were ranked No. 1 in the world for a total of 438 weeks.

Dwayne Bravo becomes first bowler to 500 wickets in T20s

- West Indies all rounder Dwayne Bravo became the first bowler to take 500 wickets in T20 cricket in his 459th match.
- The wicket also happened to be his 100th in the Caribbean Premier League, making him the first man to that mark.
- Sri Lanka's Lasith Malinga is second on the list of T20 wicket-takers, with 390 wickets from 295 matches.

Tharanga Paranavitana Retires From International Cricket

- Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) announced that Tharanga Paranavitana has decided to retire from international cricket.
- Sri Lanka cricketer Tharanga Paranavitana has decided to retire from international cricket. He has officially informed his intention to Sri Lanka Cricket, SLC stated.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

World War 2 spy Noor Inayat Khan first Indian origin woman to get UK memorial plaque

- Noor Inayat Khan, a World War 2 spy and descendant of ruler Tipu Sultan, became the first Indian origin woman to be honoured with the Blue Plaque in the UK.
- The Blue Plaque scheme run by the English Heritage charity honours notable people and organisations by installing a sign in a public place to commemorate the link between the place and the person.
- She was the first female radio operator sent into Nazi-occupied France and is also remembered as Britain's first Muslim war heroine.

Ravindra Jadeja named India's 'most valuable player' of 21st Century

- India all-rounder **Ravindra Jadeja** was named as the country's 'Most Valuable Player' (MVP) of the 21st century by Wisden.
- **Jadeja's MVP rating** was an astounding **97.3**, second only to Sri Lanka's **Muttiah Muralitharan** and thus making him the second most valuable Test player of the 21st century.

Badminton: Lin Dan retired at 36

- Two-time Olympic champion **Lin Dan** announced his retirement aged 36.
- It means that Lin, who won **gold at the Beijing 2008 and London 2012 Games**, will not compete at the **2020 Tokyo Olympics**, which have been pushed back to next year because of coronavirus.
- **Lin was also a five-time world champion** and long-time world number one. He earned the nickname "**Super Dan**" at the peak of his career.

Top-ranked squash player Raneem El Welily ends her career

- Top-ranked women's squash player, **Raneem El Welily**, announced her retirement.
- She will retain the top ranking when current **world No. 2 Nouran Gohar** replaces her compatriot next week.

Quinton de Kock named men's Cricketer of the Year in CSA's virtual awards

- White-ball skipper **Quinton de Kock** was named the men's 'cricketer of the year' at Cricket South Africa's (CSA) annual awards ceremony, held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- This is the **second time de Kock** has won the men's Cricketer of the Year, having claimed the accolade in **2017**.
- **Pacer Lungi Ngidi** was named ODI and T20 player of the year while **David Miller** was voted the fans' favourite player.
- **Anrich Nortje** was adjudged the International men's 'newcomer' of the year.
- **Shabnim Ismail** took home the women's T20 player of the year with left-arm spinner **Nonkululeko Mlaba** was recognised as the **women's 'newcomer' of the Year**.

Stokes becomes 2nd-fastest all-rounder to score 4000 runs, take 150 wickets

- England's stand-in skipper **Ben Stokes** became the second-fastest all-rounder to reach the Test double of **4000 runs and 150 wickets**.
- He achieved the feat during the third day of the first Test match between **England and West Indies at the Ageas Bowl**.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- With the dismissal of Alzarri Joseph, Stokes joined former England all-rounder Ian Botham and four other greats of the game in the club of 4000 Test runs and 150-plus wickets.

Indian Teenager Soham Mukherjee Sets Guinness World Record by Jumping Across Ruler 101 Times In 30 Seconds

- An Indian living in the United Arab Emirates Soham Mukherjee sets a Guinness World Record after performing a total of 101 side-to-side hops over a stationery ruler within 30 seconds.
- Soham Mukherjee, a 17-year-old hailing from New Delhi got successful in breaking the previous record of 96 hops in 30 seconds.

Former Australia Skipper Mile Jedinak Announces Retirement From Football

- Former Australia skipper and Crystal Palace midfielder Mile Jedinak announced his retirement from football at the age of 35.
- He played 79 times for his country, featuring at three World Cups before bowing out of international football in late 2018.

Dubai-based Indian girl breaks world record in performing 100 yoga poses

- A Dubai-based Indian girl has broken the world record for performing 100 yoga poses within minutes in a confined space. This is 11-year-old Samridhi Kalia's third world record entry and the second one in the last one month.
- Her performance was recorded at the iconic Burj Khalifa's viewing deck. On Yoga Day (June 21) this year, Samridhi bagged her second world record -- performing 40 advanced yoga postures in one minute.

World Cup Winner Andre Schurrle Retires

- World Cup winner Andre Schurrle has confirmed his retirement at the age of just 29.
- Schurrle began his career with Mainz, and won club honours including the 2014-15 Premier League with Chelsea, and two DFB-Pokal titles – in 2015 with Wolfsburg and 2017 with Dortmund.

Jordan Henderson named as FWA Footballer of the Year

- Liverpool captain Jordan Henderson has been voted the 2019/20 Football Writers' Association Footballer of the Year.
- He succeeded Steve Gerrard as Liverpool captain in 2015, beat City midfielder Kevin De Bruyne into second place, with Manchester United's Marcus Rashford coming in third after a vote by the members of the Football Writers' Association.

Sri Lanka woman cricketer Sripali Weerakkody retires from international cricket

- Sri Lanka women cricketer Sripali Weerakkody announced to retire from the international cricket with immediate effect.
- The 34-year old fast bowling all-rounder represented the international side in 89 ODIs and 58 T20 internationals.

Young Bangladesh pacer Kazi Anik handed two-year ban for doping violation

- Young Bangladesh pacer Kazi Anik Islam has been handed a two-year ban by the national cricket board for failing a dope test in 2018.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Kazi, who was Bangladesh's leading wicket-taker in the **2018 U-19 World Cup**, tested positive for Methamphetamine, a prohibited substance, during a National Cricket League game in the same year.
- His two-year ban began on **February 8, 2019**.

Jamie Vardy wins Premier League's Golden Boot award

- **Leicester City striker Jamie Vardy** bagged the Premier League's Golden Boot award after netting **23 goals** across the 2019/20 season.
- He is the first **Leicester City player** to claim the award and is only the second Englishman after Harry Kane to take the crown in the last 20 years.
- Manchester City's **Brazilian keeper Ederson** won the Golden Glove award after keeping his 16th clean sheet of the season against **Norwich City to beat Burnley's Nick Pope** to the award.

Veteran All-Rounder Rajat Bhatia Announces Retirement From All Forms Of Cricket

- Veteran domestic all-rounder and former **Kolkata Knight Riders star Rajat Bhatia** has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket.
- The all-rounder started his domestic career with **Tamil Nadu in 1999-2000 season** before moving to Delhi in 2003-04.
- He also played for **Delhi Daredevils** (Delhi Capitals) in the Indian Premier League (IPL).

Corey Anderson retires from international cricket

- New Zealand all-rounder **Corey Anderson** retires from international cricket, signs up with MLC in the USA. Anderson has signed a 3-year contract with Major League Cricket (MLC) in the USA.

Jehan Daruvala creates history, becomes first Indian to win F2 race at Sakhir

- Jehan Daruvala emerged on top in the support race of the season-ending Formula 1 Grand Prix after a thrilling battle against F2 champion Mick Schumacher and Daniel Ticktum.
- His Japanese teammate, Yuki Tsunoda came second and Britain's Daniel Ticktum was in a third position.

Parthiv Patel announces retirement from all forms of cricket

- Former India **wicketkeeper-batsman Parthiv Patel** announced his retirement from all forms of cricket after an 18-years-long cricket career.
- The 35-year-old left-hander, who made his international debut in 2002, played 25 Tests, 38 ODIs and two T20Is for India.
- He last played for India in 2018 during a Test match against **South Africa in Johannesburg**.

Russian badminton player Nikita Khakimov banned for five years over betting, fixing offences

- Russian doubles badminton player **Nikita Khakimov** has received a five-year ban after being found guilty of offences relating to **betting, wagering and irregular match results**, the **Badminton World Federation (BWF)**.

MS Dhoni named captain of ICC Men's ODI and T20I Teams of the Decade, Kohli leads Test side

- The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** announced the **Men's T20I and ODI teams** of the decade and named former India captain **MS Dhoni** as the leader of both sides.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **ICC's T20I Team of the Decade:** Rohit Sharma, Chris Gayle, Aaron Finch, Virat Kohli, AB de Villiers, Glenn Maxwell, MS Dhoni (c), Kieron Pollard, Rashid Khan, Jasprit Bumrah, and Lasith Malinga.
- **ICC's ODI Team of the Decade:** Rohit Sharma, David Warner, Virat Kohli, AB de Villiers, Shakib Al Hasan, MS Dhoni (c), Ben Stokes, Mitchell Starc, Trent Boult, Imran Tahir and Lasith Malinga.
- **ICC's Test Team of the Decade:** Alistair Cook, David Warner, Kane Williamson, Virat Kohli (c), Steve Smith, Kumar Sangakkara, Ben Stokes, Ravi Ashwin, Dale Steyn, Stuart Broad, James Anderson.

Pakistan pacer Mohammad Amir announces retirement from international cricket

- Pakistan fast bowler **Mohammad Amir** has decided to quit international cricket alleging 'mental torture' from the **Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB)**.
- His last appearance for Pakistan came in the T20I series against England in August earlier this year.

Vijaykumar Yo Mahesh, Former TamilNadu and CSK Bowler Announced Retirement from All Forms of Cricket

- Vijaykumar Yo Mahesh, who played for TamilNadu and Chennai Super Kings(CSK) announced retirement from all forms of cricket.
- The right-arm medium-fast bowler(seamer) has also played for Delhi Daredevils.
- He took 108 wickets in 50 first-class games and 93 wickets in List A cricket at an average of 24.67.

Shane Watson to announce retirement from all forms of cricket

- **Shane Watson**, the **former Australia all-rounder** and Chennai Super Kings (CSK) opener, announced his **retirement from all forms of cricket**.
- He made the decision after CSK's final IPL 2020 match against Kings XI Punjab in Abu Dhabi.
- Watson, who has played 59 Tests, 190 ODIs, and 58 T20s at the international level, has won the **ICC World Cup with Australia twice**, in 2007 and in 2015.

Syska Group announces Rajkummar Rao as its new brand ambassador

- Fast Moving Electrical Goods (FMEG) company **Syska Group**, has roped in actor **Rajkummar Rao** as the new face of the brand. Rao will work closely with the company to promote the Syska products across LED and fan segments.
- The company aims to leverage the actor's strong connect with urban audiences, as well as with those from **Tier 2 and 3 markets**, which make up the large segment of its target groups.

West Indies all-rounder Marlon Samuels announces retirement from all forms of cricket

- **West Indies all-rounder Marlon Samuels** has **announced his retirement from all forms of professional cricket**.
- He last played **international cricket** for the West Indies in December **2018** against Bangladesh.
- Marlon Samuels is much celebrated for his match-winning performances in the **two ICC World T20 finals** that the West Indians won.
- Marlon Samuels was honored as one of the **Wisden Cricketers of the year in 2013**. The West Indies Cricket Board also named him the **ODI Player of the Year** and the **Cricketer of the Year in 2016**.

Chacha Chaudhary becomes the Brand Ambassador for Namami Gange Project



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The iconic Indian superhero, **Chacha Chaudhary**, the man whose brain works faster than a computer has now has come forward to join hands with **Namami Gange Programme**, an Integrated Conservation Mission to accomplish the twin objectives of effective abatement of pollution, conservation and rejuvenation of National River Ganga.
- It is a joint initiative by **Diamond Toons** and **Ministry of Jal Shakti**.

Javier Mascherano announces retirement

- Former Barcelona and Argentina great **Javier Mascherano** announced his **retirement from football**.
- Mascherano won one Argentine league title and one Brazilian league title, as well as **many trophies with Barcelona**.

Sudeep Tyagi announces retirement from all forms of cricket

- **Sudeep Tyagi**, who played for the **Indian national cricket team** in four ODIs and a lone T20I as a fast bowler, **announced his retirement** from all forms of the game.
- He was also a part of Chennai Super Kings and Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) in the Indian Premier League.

Yashaswini Singh Deswal wins gold in online shooting meet

- Indian Olympic quota winner **Yashaswini Singh Deswal** won the **10m air pistol** event in the 5th edition of the **International Online Shooting Championship (IOSC)**.
- The **second place** was grabbed by **Ahmed Nabil of Egypt** while his compatriot **Yehya Shams** took the **third place**.

Pakistan fast bowler Umar Gul retires from all forms of cricket at the age of 36

- **Pakistan fast bowler Umar Gul** announced his **retirement** from **all formats of cricket**, bringing an end to a glorious international career which lasted nearly 13 years.
- Gul made his debut for Pakistan against Zimbabwe in an ODI match at Sharjah in April 2003 and went on to play 47 Tests, 130 ODIs and 60 T20Is till September 2016 which was the last time he turned up for the national team.

Supreme Court Appoints One-Man Panel To Monitor Prevention Of Stubble Burning

- The **Supreme Court** appointed a one-man panel of retired apex court judge **Justice MB Lokur** to monitor the steps taken by the neighbouring states **to prevent stubble burning**, while brushing aside objections of the Centre, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana.
- The top court ordered deployment of National Cadet Corps, National Service Scheme and Bharat Scouts and Guides for assisting in the monitoring of stubble burning in the agricultural fields of **Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi-NCR**.

Former HDFC Bank CEO Aditya Puri to join private equity firm Carlyle as senior advisor

- **Aditya Puri** will be guiding global **Carlyle** on investment opportunities across Asia as a senior advisor.
- Puri is widely credited for building **HDFC Bank** from scratch and making it the largest in the private sector space and the most valuable one.

Ramesh Pokhriyal constitutes Task Force to impart Technical Education in Mother Tongue

- Union Minister of Education, Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' constituted a Task Force for preparing a blueprint on imparting Technical Education in Mother Tongue.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The Task Force will be headed by Secretary of Higher Education (Amit Khare).
- The decision was taken by Union Education Minister during a high level meeting on the Implementation of National Education Policy (NEP) – 2020.

CAG to be external auditor of IPU, Geneva for 3 years

- **Comptroller and Auditor General of India** has been elected as the **external auditor of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Geneva for a three-year term**. Girish Chandra Murmu, **the 14th Comptroller and Auditor General of India** will assume the charge from Supreme Audit Institution of Switzerland.
- The election took place at the virtual meeting of the **284th session** of the IPU which is a 179 countries Parliamentarians body, also having 13 associate members.

Organization	Headquarters	Key Person
DBS Bank	Singapore	Piyush Gupta
European Union	Brussels	Ursula von der Leyen
ICAR	New Delhi	Trilochan Mohapatra
National Anti-Doping Agency	New Delhi	Navin Agarwal
IBM	Armonk	Arvind Krishna
United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)	Geneva	Winnie Byanyima
Mobikwik	Gurugram	BipinPreet Singh
HCL Technologies	Noida	C Vijayakumar
World Economic Forum	Cologny, Switzerland	Klaus Schwab
Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)	New Delhi	Thulani Dlamini
United Nations	New York, USA	António Guterres
International Monetary Fund (IMF)	Washington D.C.	Kristalina Georgieva
Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank	Beijing, China	Jin Lique
Competition Commission of India (CCI)	New Delhi	Ashok Kumar Gupta
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)	New Delhi	Rita Teatia
National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)	New Delhi	Manish Kumar
Federation of Indian	New Delhi	Sangita Reddy

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)		
NTPC Ltd	New Delhi	Gurdeep Singh
Board of Control for Cricket in India	Mumbai	Saurav Ganguly
International Cricket Council	Dubai, United Arab Emirates	Shashank Manohar
World Bank	Washington D.C, USA	David Malpass
Asian Development Bank	Mandaluyong, Philippines	Masatsugu Asakawa
NHPC Limited	Faridabad	Abhay Kumar Singh
National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)	Washington DC	James Morhard
African Development Bank Group	Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire	Akinwumi A. Adesina
Coal India Ltd	Chennai	Sarat Kumar Acharya
Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority	New Delhi	Paban K. Borthakur
AIIMS	New Delhi	Harsh Vardhan
International Labour Organization (ILO)	Geneva, Switzerland	Guy Ryder, Juan Somavía
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	New York, USA	Henrietta H. Fore
World Health Organization	Geneva, Switzerland	Tedros Adhanom
Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA)	Zürich, Switzerland	Gianni Infantino
International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF)	Lausanne, Switzerland	Steve Dainton
Citigroup Inc	New York	Anand Selva
NSE	Mumbai	Vikram Limaye
ONGC Videsh Limited	New Delhi	AK Gupta
Vodafone Idea	Gandhinagar	Ravinder Takkar
Prasar Bharati	New Delhi	Shashi Shekhar Vempati
Microsoft	Redmond, Washington	Satya Nadella
Mastercard	Purchase, Harrison	Ajaypal Singh Banga

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Alliance Air	Mumbai	Harpreet A De Singh
Electronics Sector Skill Council of India	New Delhi	PVG Menon
Volleyball Federation of India	Chennai	Achyuta Samanta
Sports Authority of India	New Delhi	Sandip Pradhan
World LPG Association	Neuilly-sur-Seine, France	James Rockall
Air India Express	Kochi	Aloke Singh
HIL (India) Limited	Kochi	Dhirup Roy Choudhary
Defence Research Development Organization	New Delhi	Sateesh Reddy
FlipKart	Bengaluru	Kalyan Krishnamurthy
United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization	Paris	Audrey Azoulay
Indian Council of Medical Research	New Delhi	Balram Bhargava
Google	California, United States	Sundar Pichai
Amazon	Washington, United States	Jeff Bezos
International Finance Corporation (IFC)	Washington, D.C., United States	Philippe Le Hou��rou
Indian Oil	New Delhi	Sanjiv Singh
Dell Technologies	Texas, United States	Michael S. Dell
Myntra	Bengaluru	Amar Nagaram
United Nations Development Programme	New York	Achim Steiner
Bharat Electronics Limited	Bengaluru	Venkateswara Gowtama Mannava
National Capital Region Transport Corporation	New Delhi	Vinay Kumar Singh
Bharat Financial Inclusion Ltd	Hyderabad	Shalabh Saxena
Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd	Bengaluru	R Madhavan
Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)	New Delhi	Anupam Shrivastava
Indian School of Business	Hyderabad	Ankur Warikoo

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Indian Council of World Affairs	New Delhi	Venkaiah Naidu
Energy Efficiency Services Limited	New Delhi	Rajat Sud
IndusInd Bank	Pune	Sumant Kathpalia
Infosys	Bengaluru	Salil Parekh
SpaceX	California, United States	Elon Musk
L & T	Mumbai	S. N. Subrahmanyam
United Nations Environment Programme	Nairobi, Kenya	Inger Andersen
Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)	Bengaluru	K Sivan
Indian Council of Social Science Research	New Delhi	Bhushan Patwardhan
United Nations Environment Programme	Nairobi, Kenya	Inger Andersen
India Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA)	Bengaluru	Rajesh Ram Mishra
FADA	New Delhi	Saharsh Damani
Amul	Gujarat	R.S. Sodhi
Indian Council of Medical Research	New Delhi	Balram Bhargava
Invest India	New Delhi	Deepak Bagla
Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency	New Delhi	Pradip Kumar Das
NASSCOM	New Delhi	Nitin Rakesh
World Health Organization		Byju Raveendran
Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations	New Delhi	Vinkesh Gulati
Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)	New Delhi	Uday Kotak
Byju's	Bengaluru	Byju Raveendran
United Nations Industrial	Vienna, Austria	Li Yong

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Development Organization (UNIDO)		
Amazon	Washington	Jeff Bezos
Ola	Bengaluru	Bhavish Aggarwal
US Food and Drug Administration	Silver Spring	Stephen M. Hahn
Bombay Stock Exchange	Mumbai	Ashishkumar Chauhan
North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)	Brussels, Belgium	Jens Stoltenberg
Hughes Communications India Private Limited	Gurgaon	Partho Banerjee
Bharat Broadband Nigam Limited	New Delhi	Sarvesh Singh
Telecommunications Consultants India Ltd	New Delhi	Rajiv Gupta (Director(Projects))
European Investment Fund	Luxembourg	Alain Godard
Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)	Mumbai	D. Rajkumar
Tech Mahindra	Pune	C. P. Gurnani
Nokia	Espoo, Finland	Pekka Lundmark
PepsiCo	Purchase, Harrison	Ramon Laguarta
Indian Banks' Association	Mumbai	Rajkiran Rai G
Ubon	New Delhi	Mandeep Arora
Defence Research Development Organization	New Delhi	Sateesh Reddy
FlipKart	Bengaluru	Kalyan Krishnamurthy
Central Board of Direct Taxes	New Delhi	Pramod Chandra Mody
Tata Consultancy Services	Mumbai	Rajesh Gopinathan
Uber	San Francisco	Dara Khosrowshahi
Power Finance Corporation	New Delhi	Ravinder Singh Dhillon
International Solar Alliance (ISA)	Gurugram	Upendra Tripathy (Leader)
Indian Sign Language Research and Training	New Delhi	Prabodh Seth

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Center		
Swiggy	Bangalore	Sriharsha Majety
National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)	New Delhi	Hrushikesh Senapaty
Tata Motors	Mumbai	Guenter Butschek
Mahindra & Mahindra	Mumbai	Anand Mahindra
National Real Estate Development Council	New Delhi	Rajeev Talwar
Archaeological Survey of India	New Delhi	V. Vidyavathi
BEML Limited	Bengaluru	DK Hota
Paytm	Noida	Vijay Shekhar Sharma
Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs	New Delhi	M Ajit Kumar
National Technical Research Organisation	New Delhi	Anil Dhasmana
Film and Television Institute of India	Pune	Shekhar Kapur
Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI)	Mumbai	Subhash Kamath
The Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations	Delhi	Vinkesh Gulati
Google pay	USA	Sundar Pichai
Twitter	San Francisco, USA	Jack Dorsey
Vedantu	Bengaluru	Vamsi Krishna
Paytm First Games	Noida	Vijay Shekhar Sharma
Energy Efficiency Services Limited	New Delhi	Rajeev Sharma
National Investment and Infrastructure Fund	Mumbai	Sujoy Bose
National Institute of Food and Agriculture	Washington DC	Rajuv Shah (Founder)
NLC India	Chennai	Rakesh Kumar



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Important Mergers and Acquisitions

Reliance Industries to acquire Future Group's retail business for Rs 24,713 crore

- Mukesh Ambani's **Reliance Industries** announced the **acquisition** of the retail, wholesale, logistics and warehousing businesses of Kishore Biyani's **Future Group** for **Rs 24,713 crore**. The acquisition was done through the company's subsidiary Reliance Retail Ventures.
- The deal will help Reliance Retail accelerate and provide support to millions of small merchants in increasing their competitiveness and enhance their income during these challenging times.

Adani Group buys 74% stake in Mumbai international airport

- The **Adani Group** has acquired **74% stake** in **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport** in **Mumbai**.
- This makes the group the second largest private operator in India after the **GMR group**, which operates the Delhi and Hyderabad airports.
- Gautam Adani's company will buy **50.5% stake** held by **GVK Group** and will take steps to acquire **23.5% stake** of minority partners – **Airport Company of South Africa** and the **Bidvest Group**.

IndiGrid completes Rs 1,080 cr acquisition of GPTL Transmission project

- **India Grid Trust (IndiGrid)** has completed the acquisition of another transmission asset **Gurgaon Palwal Transmission Ltd (GPTL)** from **Sterlite Power** at an enterprise value of **Rs 1,080 crore**.

Infosys acquires US-based Kaleidoscope Innovation for \$42 million

- **Infosys** acquires US-based product design and development firm, **Kaleidoscope Innovation**, for **\$42 million**.
- The company will be able to expand its engineering services portfolio, especially in medical devices, consumer and industrial markets across the US.
- The company acquired **Simplus**, a Salesforce partner, in February for **\$250 million**.

Infosys to acquire Europe-based GuideVision for 30 million euros

- **Infosys Ltd** has entered into a **definitive agreement to acquire** Europe-based **GuideVision** for up to **€30 million (approximately \$35 million)** to augment its **Cobalt portfolio of cloud services** and further strengthen near-shore delivery presence in the European region.
- **Infosys launched Cobalt**, a set of services, solutions, and platforms to help its clients, mostly large enterprises, build new cloud-first capabilities.
- The **acquisition of GuideVision is expected to close** during the **third quarter of fiscal 2021**.

Tech Mahindra sells stake in AltioStar to Rakuten

- Indian IT services company **Tech Mahindra** and **Rakuten Mobile Inc.**, a Rakuten group company responsible for mobile communications, announced an agreement under which the former has been appointed the **preferred partner** for global go-to market opportunities for the **Rakuten Communications Platform (RCP)**.

Bharti Airtel picks up strategic stake in Cloud analytics startup Waybeo



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Telecom major **Bharti Airtel** stated it has picked up a strategic stake in cloud analytics **startup Waybeo** under the Airtel Startup Accelerator Programme.
- Thiruvananthapuram-headquartered **Waybeo**, focused on deep Artificial Intelligence-based analytics for Cloud telephony, is the fifth startup to join the fast-growing **Airtel Startup Accelerator Program**, which helps promising startups unlock their potential.

CCI approves PharmEasy's merger with rival Medlife

- Healthtech sector in India witnessed another big consolidation. After **Reliance's acquisition** of digital pharmacy **Netmeds** in August, the **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** approved the merger between online pharmacy **PharmEasy's** parent company **API Holdings** and rival **Medlife**.

SBI Cap takes over collateral for 56% stake in Jindal Stainless

- **SBICAP Trustee Company** stated it acquired **56.17 per cent stake** in **Jindal Stainless (JSL)**. The latter's promoters had pledged shares as collateral to secure a term loan of **Rs 400 crore** from IndusInd Bank.

Tata Capital Growth Fund to invest USD 30 mn in Biocon Biologics

- Tata Capital Growth Fund will invest USD 30 million (Rs 225 crore) in its subsidiary Biocon Biologics to acquire 0.85 per cent equity stake in the company.
- The firm stated this deal values Biocon Biologics at USD 3.5 billion.

Oman India Joint Investment Fund II buys 1.63% in DCB Bank

- Oman India Joint Investment Fund II (OIJIF) has acquired 5.07 million shares or 1.63% stake in Mumbai based DCB Bank through a block trade on stock exchanges. The stake is valued at ₹42 crore.

LIC acquires close to 5% stake in Yes Bank

- Yes Bank stated LIC had acquired close to 5 per cent shareholding in the bank by purchasing shares from the open market.

IndusInd Bank acquires 7.82% stake in Eveready by invoking pledged shares

- IndusInd Bank has acquired 7.82 per cent stake in battery maker Eveready Industries by invoking pledged shares following loan default.
- The bank also informed about acquiring 7.5 per cent (78,32,253 shares) in tea firm McLeod Russel India Ltd by invoking pledged shares following default by the borrower.

CCI approves proposed deal pertaining to JV formation between Honda Motor, Hitachi

- CCI has approved a combination proposal filed jointly by Keihin Corporation, Nissin Kogyo Co. Ltd., Showa Corporation and Hitachi Automotive Systems Ltd to form a joint venture between Honda Motor Co Ltd (HAMCL) and Hitachi Ltd.
- The transaction entails HAMCL's acquisition of additional shares to convert its affiliates Keihin Corporation, Nissin Kogyo and Showa Corporation as its wholly-owned subsidiaries, following which the entities will amalgamate into HIAMS to form the integrated company.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- HIAMS is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Hitachi Ltd.

CCI approves Siemens' acquisition of C&S Electric

- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved proposed acquisition of C&S Electric Ltd by Siemens Ltd. The proposed combination envisages acquisition of 100 per cent of the share capital of C&S Electric Ltd (C&S) by Siemens Ltd (Siemens India).

People's Bank of China picks up stake in ICICI Bank via QIP issue

- The Chinese central bank People's Bank of China has acquired a very small stake in ICICI Bank through the recently closed Rs 15,000 crore share sale by the country's second largest private sector lender.
- The Chinese central bank has picked up shares worth Rs 15 crore in Rs 15,000 crore qualified institutional placement (QIP) issue. The stake of People's Bank of China in ICICI Bank is about 0.0065 per cent.

Axis Bank to acquire 17% in Max Life Insurance instead of 29%

- Axis Bank has decided to cut down on its investments in Max Life Insurance. It now plans to acquire 17.002 per cent of the equity share capital of the life insurer.
- This will result in total ownership of 18 per cent post the transaction, Axis Bank stated

Cognizant to acquire Tin Roof Software to expand digital engineering services

- Cognizant Technology Solutions Corp. has entered into an agreement to acquire Tin Roof Software, an Atlanta-based custom software and digital product development services company, to expand its digital engineering services capabilities.

Carlyle Group to acquire 25% stake in Airtel's data centre biz for \$235 mn

- US-based **Carlyle Group** will invest **\$235 million** (approximately Rs 1770 crore) for approximately **25 per cent stake in Nextra Data Ltd**, an arm of Bharti Airtel engaged in the data centre business.
- Carlyle invested **\$700 million** during the first half of 2020, excluding **\$235 million** for **25 per cent stake in Airtel's data** which was announced.

Intel Capital to invest Rs 1,894 cr in Jio Platforms

- Reliance Industries Limited and Jio Platform Limited announced that **Intel Capital** will invest Rs. 1,894.50 crore in **Jio Platforms** at an equity value of Rs. 4.91 lakh crore and an enterprise value of Rs. 5.16 lakh crore. Intel Capital's investment will translate into a **0.39% equity stake** in Jio Platforms on a fully diluted basis.
- The deal with Intel Capital — the **12th such investment in 11 weeks** —takes the total stake that RIL sold in Jio Platforms to 25.09 percent.

Adani Transmission acquires Alipurduar Transmission from KPTL for Rs.1,286 crore

- **Adani Transmission Ltd (ATL)** has acquired **Alipurduar Transmission Limited** from **Kalpataru Power Transmission Ltd (KPTL)** for an enterprise value of Rs.1,286 crore.
- Alipurduar Transmission Ltd operates transmission lines aggregating **650 ckt kms in West Bengal and Bihar**. The project was awarded through a competitive bidding process on a build, own, operate, maintain basis.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The project comprises two elements namely **Alipurduar-Siliguri Line (element 1)** and **Kishanganj-Darbhanga Line (element 2)**.

Paytm, CEO Sharma to acquire general insurer Raheja QBE for Rs 568 crore

- Paytm** and the firm's Chief Executive Vijay Shekhar Sharma (pictured) will acquire **Raheja QBE General Insurance** for nearly **Rs 568 crore** to expand the digital payments company's financial services.
- According to regulatory filings made by Prism Johnson, Raheja QBE would be sold "to **QorQI** for an aggregate consideration of **Rs 289.68 crore**".
- Paytm** will acquire Prism Johnson's 51 per cent and QBE Australia's 49 per cent stake in Raheja QBE to become 100 per cent owner.

Qualcomm picks 0.15 per cent stake in Jio for Rs 730 crore

- Qualcomm Ventures** has picked up **0.15 per cent stake in Jio Platforms** for Rs 730 crore, Reliance Industries stated. **Qualcomm is the 12th investor in Jio Platforms** in as many weeks.
- Qualcomm Ventures has committed to invest up to **Rs 730 crore in Jio Platforms** at an equity value of Rs 4.91 lakh crore and an enterprise value of **Rs 5.16 lakh crore**.

Google to pick 7.7 per cent stake in Jio for Rs 33,737 crore

- Reliance Jio-** a \$66 billion, four years old startup led by world's sixth richest man, Mukesh Ambani has raised \$4.5 billion (Rs 33,737 crore) from the search giant, **Google** for a **7.77% stake**.
- This marks the end of the successful \$20.6 billion (Rs 1,52,056 crore) funds raise cycle from 13 investors by **Reliance Jio-** India's largest digital company for a **33% stake** in the firm.

CCI approves Aceso Company's acquisition of 58.92 pc stake in HealthCare Global Enterprises

- The Competition Commission has given its nod to **Aceso Company Pte Ltd's** acquisition of **58.92 per cent stake in HealthCare Global Enterprises Ltd**.
- The **CVC Network** consists of **CVC Capital Partners SICAV-FIS S.A.** and its subsidiaries, and CVC Capital Partners Advisory Group Holding Foundation and its subsidiaries, which are privately owned entities whose activities include providing investment advice and managing investments on behalf of certain investment funds and platforms.

CCI approves Krishnapatnam port acquisition by Adani Ports, SEZL

- The Competition Commission of India has approved the acquisition of **Krishnapatnam Port Company Limited** by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited. The proposed combination envisages acquisition of equity shareholding along with management control of Krishnapatnam Port Company Limited by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited.
- Adani Ports** is a customer-facing integrated port infrastructure services provider currently present across ten domestic ports in **six maritime states of Gujarat, Goa, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Odisha**.

JSW Energy set to acquire GMR's Odisha thermal plant



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **JSW Energy Limited** is expected to sign a deal with **GMR Energy** for acquiring 100 per cent stake in **GMR Kamalanga Energy**.
- The **two sides** had entered into negotiations in October 2019. GMR Kamalanga Energy Ltd owns and operates a 1,050-MW (3x350 MW) thermal power plant in Odisha.

General Atlantic to invest Rs.3,675 crore in Reliance Retail for 0.84% stake

- **General Atlantic**, a leading US-based global growth equity firm, will invest **Rs 3,675 crore for a 0.84 percent stake in Reliance Retail**.
- This is the **second investment by General Atlantic** in a subsidiary of Reliance Industries. Earlier this year, General Atlantic had invested **Rs 6,598.38 crore in Jio Platforms**.
- This investment values Reliance Retail at a pre-money equity value of Rs 4.285 lakh crore.

Japan's Kyokuto Kaihatsu Kogyo acquires Bengaluru-based Satrac Engineering

- Japan's construction equipment manufacturer **Kyokuto Kaihatsu Kogyo** has acquired **Satrac Engineering**, a Bengaluru-based manufacturer of special-purpose vehicles such as truck tipper bodies, trailers, and tank trucks in India.
- The **Nishinomiya, Japan** headquartered company has \$1.1 bn revenue and offers special purpose vehicles such as dump truck, sprinkler truck, Concrete boom pumps, Transit mixers, tailgate lifter, tank truck and pneumatic bulk carrier.
- **Satrac Engineering Private Limited (SEPL)** was incorporated in 1997 by M. C. Bantwal and Geetha Bantwal.

Adani Green completes acquisition of 205 MW solar assets from Essel

- **Adani Group's green energy firm Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL)** has completed the acquisition of 205 MW operating solar assets from **Essel Green Energy Pvt Ltd (EGEPL)** and **Essel Infraprojects Ltd (EIL)**.
- The acquired assets will be held 100 per cent by Adani Renewable Energy Holding Ten Ltd, a **100 per cent subsidiary of AGEL**, the company stated. The assets are located in Punjab, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh.
- All the assets have long term **Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs)** with various State electricity distribution companies.

CCI approves acquisition of solar projects by Adani Green Energy Twenty-Three Ltd

- The **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** has approved the **acquisition of solar energy generation assets of Adani Green Energy Ten Limited (AGE10L)** by **Adani Green Energy Twenty-Three Ltd (AGE23L)**. An official statement stated these approvals are under **Section 31(1)** of the Competition Act, 2002.
- AGE23L is a joint venture company, jointly controlled by Total Solar Singapore Limited and Adani Green Energy Limited. AGE23L (through its subsidiaries) is engaged in the business of solar power generation in the country.

Infosys to acquire Blue Acorn iCi

- **Infosys** stated it has a definitive agreement to **acquire Blue Acorn iCi**, Adobe Platinum partner in the US, and a leader in digital customer experience, commerce and analytics.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The move further strengthens Infosys' end-to-end customer experience offerings and demonstrates its continued commitment to helping clients navigate their digital transformation journey, a statement from the company stated.

Pidilite Industries completes acquisition of Huntsman Group's Indian subsidiary for Rs 2,100 cr

- **Pidilite Industries**, the manufacturers of the popular Fevicol brand of adhesives, stated it has completed acquisition of the **US-based Huntsman Group's Indian subsidiary** for **Rs 2,100 crore**.
- "The company has completed the acquisition of **100 per cent stake** in **Huntsman Advanced Materials Solutions Private Ltd (HAMSPL)**. As such, HAMSPL is now a subsidiary of the company," Pidilite Industries stated in a regulatory filing.

Axis Bank to acquire shares in CSC e-Governance for Rs 36 cr

- **Axis Bank** has acquired over 57,700 shares in **CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd** for **Rs 36.38 crore**, the lender stated.
- Axis Bank has executed a pact for subscribing to 57,743 equity shares of a face value of Rs 1,000 each to be issued by CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd at Rs 6,300 per equity share, the lender stated in a regulatory filing.

Merger of HDFC ERGO Health Insurance with HDFC ERGO General Insurance complete

- The **merger** of **HDFC ERGO Health Insurance**, which was **earlier known as Apollo Munich Health Insurance**, with **HDFC ERGO General Insurance**, has been completed with the **approval from** the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI).
- The merger makes **HDFC ERGO** the **second largest private insurer** in the **accident and health insurance business**, **expanding its product suite to over 50 products** in this segment.

TCS acquires Pramerica Services unit from Prudential

- The IT major will acquire the staff and select assets of **Pramerica Systems Ireland, Prudential Financial Inc. (PFI)**'s subsidiary based in Letterkenny, Ireland.
- PFI is a financial wellness leader and premier active global investment manager with more than **\$1.5 trillion** in assets under management as of 30 September 2020, has operations in the United States, Asia, Europe, and Latin America.

Reliance Retail buys Urban Ladder for \$24.4 million

- **Reliance Retail** has acquired a majority stake in furniture and decor platform **Urban Ladder**, making a broader push into e-commerce as the largest retail chain in India gears up to fight Amazon and Flipkart.
- Reliance Retail stated it had **acquired a 96% stake** in Urban Ladder for about **\$24.43 million**.

NSE arm acquires ed-tech firm Talent Sprint

- The **NSE Academy Limited**, an arm of the **National Stock Exchange**, has acquired a majority stake of **51 per cent** in the Hyderabad-based **TalentSprint**, a deep tech education firm. In the phase-wise acquisition of the stake, the NSE arm would acquire the total stake over a period of three years.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

CCI Approves Acquisition by Reliance Retail Ventures of Retail of Future Group

- The **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** approves acquisition by **Reliance Retail Ventures Limited ("RRVL")**, **Reliance Retail and Fashion Lifestyle Limited ("RRVL WOS")** of the retail and wholesale undertaking and the logistics and warehousing undertaking of the Future Group under **Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002**.

Axis Bank revises stake acquisition agreement with Max Life

- Axis Bank** announced a **revised stake acquisition** agreement with **Max Financial**.
- Axis Bank** will acquire **upto 9%** of the equity share cap of **Max Life**. The bank's subsidiaries **Axis Capital Limited** and **Axis Securities Limited** (together 'Axis Entities') will together acquire **upto 3% of equity of Max Life**. **Axis Entities** will have a right to acquire an **additional stake of upto 7%**.

IRDAI approves Mitsui Sumitomo's Max Life stake swap with MFSL

- Max Financial Services Ltd (MFSL)** stated Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) approved the proposed transfer of **39.47 crore shares** constituting **20.57% of the paid-up equity** share capital of Max Life Insurance held by **Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance** to MFSL.
- This is in exchange for issuance of 7.54 crore shares of MFSL, constituting 21.87% of issued and paid-up share capital of MFSL.

ICICI Lombard gets IRDAI's 'in-principle approval' to acquire Bharti AXA General Insurance

- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) gave an in-principle approval to the **acquisition of General Insurance business** of **Bharti AXA General Insurance Company Limited** by **ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company Limited**, the company stated in an exchange filing.
- Currently, Bharti Enterprises owns 51 percent in Bharti AXA General. The firm has joint venture with French firm AXA which owns 49 percent stake.

Bharti Airtel to acquire 5.2% stake in Avaada MHBuldhana for Rs.4.55 cr

- Bharti Airtel** stated it will acquire **5.2 per cent stake** in solar power company **Avaada MHBuldhana** for **Rs.4.55 crore** in an all-cash deal.
- Avaada MHBuldhana Private Limited is a newly-formed company and developing a captive generating solar power plant in Maharashtra which will become operational by March 2021. It is a subsidiary of Avaada Energy Private Limited (AEPL).

IBM To Acquire Solution Provider TruQua In SAP Channel Play

- IBM stated** it plans to acquire **TruQua Enterprises**, a solution provider focused on the SAP ecosystem.
- With the acquisition of Chicago-based TruQua, IBM is getting a leader in SAP-based transformations in the financial, planning and analysis business, stated Bill Piotrowski, an IBM senior partner and the line leader of the company's Americas enterprise application service business.

ICICI Bank acquires 9.09% stake in ed-tech platform Myclassboard Educational Solutions



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Private sector lender **ICICI Bank** will acquire 9.09 percent stake in educational technology platform Myclassboard Educational Solutions Pvt Ltd for cash consideration of **Rs 4.5 crore**.
- The transaction is expected to be completed by the end of **February 2021**.

UBS Principal Capital Asia Ltd Sells Over 20 lakh shares of IndusInd Bank Ltd Worth Rs 184.51 crore

- UBS Principal Capital Asia Ltd. sold 20,70,000 shares of IndusInd Bank Ltd through open market transaction. The shares were sold at an average price of Rs 891.4 a piece, valuing the transaction at Rs 184.51 crore. BofA Securities Europe SA purchased the shares of IndusInd Bank at the same price.
- As per the shareholding data of IndusInd Bank for September quarter 2020, UBS Principal Capital Asia held 3.22% stake in the bank as a public shareholder.

CCI Approves Acquisition of AES's 49% stake in OPGC by OHPC

- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) gave the approval for the acquisition of the shares of Odisha Power Generation Corporation Ltd (OPGC) by Odisha Hydro Power Corporation Limited (OHPC) under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002.
- CCI gave approval to the acquisition of certain assets of the Prestige Group by affiliates of Blackstone Group Inc.

Central Govt Sells Nearly 1 Crore shares of SUUTI's Stake in Axis Bank; Earns about Rs 600 Crore

- The central government, in the last 2 weeks has sold nearly 1 crore shares of Axis Bank worth around Rs 600 crores held through the Specified Undertaking of the Unit Trust of India (SUUTI).
- SUUTI held 4.33% stake in Axis Bank as on September 30, 2020. After this transaction, SUUTI holds 3.92% stake (11.98 crore shares) in Axis Bank.

Warburg Pincus Sells 4.47% stake in AU Small Finance Bank for Rs 1,247.69 crore

- Redwood Investment Ltd, an entity owned by Warburg Pincus sold a 4.47% stake (13.7 million shares) in AU Small Finance Bank for Rs 1,247.69 crore through open market transactions.
- As per the latest shareholding data, Warburg Pincus held 4.58% of AU Small Finance Bank.

Revision points

Company	Merging Company
ICICI Bank	Myclassboard Educational Solutions (9.09%)
Odisha Hydro Power Corporation Limited	Odisha Power Generation Corporation Ltd (49%)
SUUTI	Axis Bank (3.92%)
IBM	TruQua
Bharti Airtel	Avaada MHBuldhana (5.2%)
Bharti AXA General Insurance Company	ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company Limited
Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance	MFSL (20.57%)



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Axis Bank	Max Financial (90%)
Reliance Retail Ventures Limited	Reliance Retail and Fashion Lifestyle Limited
NSE Academy Limited	TalentSprint (51%)
Reliance Retail	Urban Ladder
TCS	Pramerica Systems Ireland, Prudential Financial Inc.
Pidilite Industries	US-based Huntsman Group's Indian subsidiary
Axis Bank	CSC e-Governance Services
HDFC ERGO Health Insurance	HDFC ERGO General Insurance
Adani Green Energy Ltd	Essel Green Energy Pvt Ltd (EGEPL) and Essel Infraprojects Ltd (EIL)
Kyokuto Kaihatsu Kogyo (Japan)	Satrac Engineering (Bengaluru)
General Atlantic	Reliance Retail (0.84%)
Infosys	Blue Acorn iCi
Reliance Industries	Kishore Biyani's Future Group
Adani Group	Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport in Mumbai (74%)
India Grid Trust	Gurgaon Palwal Transmission Ltd
Infosys	Kaleidoscope Innovation
Bharti Airtel	Waybeo
PharmEasy	Medlife
SBICAP Trustee Company	Jindal Stainless (JSL) (56.17%)
Oman India Joint Investment Fund II	DCB Bank (1.63%)
LIC	Yes Bank(5%)
IndusInd Bank	Eveready Industries (7.82%)
Siemens Ltd	C&S Electric Ltd (100%)
People's Bank of China	ICICI Bank
Axis Bank	Max Life Insurance (17%)
Cognizant Technology	Tin Roof Software
JSW Energy Limited	GMR Kamalanga Energy (100%)
Krishnapatnam Port Company Limited	Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited
Aceso Company Pte Ltd	HealthCare Global Enterprises Ltd (58.92%)
Google	Reliance Jio (7.77%)
Qualcomm Ventures	Jio Platforms (0.15%)

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Paytm	Raheja QBE General Insurance (100%)
Adani Transmission Ltd	Alipurduar Transmission Limited from Kalpataru Power Transmission Ltd
Intel Capital	Jio Platforms (0.39%)
Carlyle Group	Nextra Data Ltd (25%)

Important Web Portals and Mobile Apps

ICICI Prudential Life Insurance introduces customer service chatbot 'LiGo' on Google Assistant

- **ICICI Prudential Life Insurance** has introduced its customer service chatbot 'LiGo' on 'Google Assistant'.
- This would enable the Company's policyholders to have their queries addressed by simple voice commands such as "Ok Google, I want to speak to ICICI Prudential Life LiGo" or "May I talk to ICICI Prudential Life LiGo".

Naveen Patnaik launches citizen-centric apps

- Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched mobile App '**AMA SAHAR**' and '**SWACHHA SAHAR ODISHA**' web app to provide citizen centric services.
- The ULBs will be able to submit utilisation certificate online which will bring better fiscal management.

Punjab launches 'iRakhwali' mobile app to save environment

- **Punjab government** has decided to induct common people as '**Greenery Saviours**' to further strengthen its drive to preserve the environment in the state.
- The state Forest Department has announced to launch a dedicated app '**iRakhwali**' in this regard.

Hyderabad based EFLU app 'English Pro' launched

- **Union Minister for Education Dr Ramesh Pokhriyal** launched a mobile application, '**English Pro**', developed by the Hyderabad-based **English and Foreign Languages University (EFLU)**.
- The app, launched at a virtual meet, has been developed under **University Social Responsibility (USR)**.
- It aims at helping learners develop Indian English pronunciation in the unique '**Bharatiya**' way.

Mahindra Finance's subsidiary set to enter online insurance, will launch portal called PayBima

- **Mahindra Finance** is set to enter the **business of online insurance broking** giving digital services to the customers of its insurance brokerage subsidiary, Mahindra Insurance Brokers, through a soon-to-be launched portal called **PayBima**.

PM Modi digitally launches Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana & e-Gopala App

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi digitally launched the **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)**.
- He also launched the **e-Gopala App**, a comprehensive breed improvement marketplace and information portal for direct use of farmers.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launches Aero India 2021 website, show scheduled in February

- **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh** launched the website of **Aero India 2021** -- <https://aeroindia.gov.in> -- in Delhi.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The 13th edition of **Aero India-21** will be held at Air Force Station, Yelahanka, **Bengaluru in Karnataka** from **February 3 to February 7** next year.

IIT Bombay's Techfest launches mental health awareness initiative

- Techfest**, the annual science and technology festival of the **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay**, launched a nationwide initiative for college-goers to **address mental health concerns** among the youth amid the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) pandemic.
- The festival committee has also launched a section on its **official website** that will connect **students to counsellors** and help fight the stigma attached to mental illnesses. It is called **HOPE (Healing Occurs with Positivity and Expression)**.

Southern Railway's Chennai Division launches Freight Seva app

- The **Chennai Division of Southern Railways (SR)** has launched an in-house mobile application - **Freight Seva** - to **serve customers better**.
- The app will be a one stop destination for information needs, and have requisite details for access by freight customers.

e- Peek Pahani app will reduce hardships of farmers, says Maharashtra CM

- Maharashtra** Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray has stated that **e- Peek Pahani** mobile application of the State Government will reduce **hardships of farmers** and help them get the right price and good market for their produce.

CM Jagan Mohan Reddy launches AP Police Seva app

- Andhra Pradesh** Chief Minister **YS Jagan Mohan Reddy** launched the **AP Police Seva app** in an event which saw a participation of 46,000 police personnel from about 1,000 locations across the state via a video conference.
- The app will enable the public to **register complaints**, **check FIR status** and **e-challans**, file **applications for passports**, **licences** and **no-objection certificates**.

Agriculture minister Tomar launches portal for testing performance of farm machinery

- Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar** launched a **portal** where **manufacturers can online apply for testing and evaluation their farm machineries**.
- The minister launched the '**Centralized Farm Machinery Performance Testing Portal**' to improve services of farm machinery testing institutions and bring out transparency in the entire process of testing and evaluation of machines.

Union Health Minister launches Vaccine portal for COVID-19

- Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan** inaugurated the **vaccine portal** for Covid-19 to create awareness among masses.
- In addition, a first of its kind **ICMR-NIN web portal** also has been developed to collect data which will be useful in the present complicated by COVID-19 pandemic. Health Minister also released Report '**What India Eats**' to know the main dietary patterns in India which is important for nutrition and health policy makers to understand distributions in diets within populations.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Assam govt develops new mobile app for air passengers

- The **Assam government** has developed a **mobile app** through which **air passengers can download forms, fill it up, and show it at airports** to avoid delay in completing formalities for COVID-19 tests.
- The app named '**visitassam**' has been developed to ensure that proper social distancing is maintained.
- The state government has also introduced a change of protocol for arriving passengers at the airports who can now take '**Tatkal RT-PCR**' test on payment of **Rs 2,200** and get the result within 24 hours.

Telangana: Dharani land web portal to be launched on Dussehra

- The **chief minister of Telangana K Chandrasekhar Rao** will launch a web portal named "**Dharani**" for integrated land record management on Dussehra(Oct 26th).

NCRPB launches P-MIS portal

- The **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)** launched the **Project Management Information System (P-MIS)** portal of the **National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB)** to monitor the progress of projects and administering loans.

Dodo Drop: The Indian 'SHAREit' developed by Kashmiri teenager

- **Ashfaq Mehmood Choudhary** has developed a file-sharing app '**Dodo Drop**' which would enable users to share audios, videos, images, and texts between two devices without Internet access.
- The '**Dodo Drop**' application has a transfer rate of up to 480 mbps, which is faster than the **SHAREit** app and is "quite easy" to use.

DNHDD launches E-Gyan Mitra mobile app for online education

- Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu bordering Gujarat has launched **E-Gyan Mitra mobile app** for online education.
- The **E-Gyan Mitra** app launched by the **Education Department of Daman Administration** is becoming popular among the students and parents.

CPCB developed biomedical waste tracking app 'COVID19BWM APP'

- The **Supreme Court** has made it mandatory for all municipal corporations and state pollution control boards to use the '**COVID19BWM APP**' for tracking biomedical waste daily.
- This is to ensure that the waste is collected, transported and sent to a registered common biomedical waste treatment facility.

Web portal for management of development works in Haryana's urban local bodies

- **Haryana** minister **Anil Vij** launched a web portal to manage and monitor development works in all urban local bodies in the state.
- "**Works Management System**" will be completely paperless, centralised and web-based. It will help in bringing the working of all the ULBs on a single platform.

Indian Railways launches an OHE Inspection app



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **Indian Railways** launched an **OHE Inspection app** which monitors technical snags in real-time and sends alerts eliminating delays caused by such defects.
- The OHE Inspection app will capture in real-time OHE (Overhead Equipment) defects and send out quick alerts.

Telangana launches GRID Policy for IT industry development

- **Telangana** Cabinet approved the **GRID (Growth in Dispersion) Policy** to give incentives to IT companies that will set up their units.
- Telangana's information technology industry, which notched up IT and BPO exports worth ₹1.2-lakh crore, is largely attributed to firms located in the Western and South-Western parts of Hyderabad.

SAI launches Khelo India Mobile App online training program for principals, PE Teachers

- The **Sports Authority of India**, in association with Education Boards CISCE and CBSE, will host an online program for training of Physical Education (PE) Teachers from CISCE Schools on "Khelo India Fitness Assessment of School Going Children".

Union Textiles Minister Smriti Irani launches app for weavers on National Handloom Day

- Minister of Textiles, **Smriti Zubin Irani**, announced the launch of a handloom portal.
- '**My Handloom Portal**' is the one-stop platform for information on everything related to handloom. This portal will allow weavers' and other stakeholders to track applications in real-time, thereby enhancing transparency & increasing efficiency. #Vocal4Handmade."

DC Rajouri launches 'Awaz-e Rajouri' mobile app

- **Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Mohammad Nazir Sheikh** launched a mobile app **Awaz-e Rajouri** in presence of the district Officers and media persons.
- The app has been developed by a team of National Informatics Centre Rajouri.

Delhi Airport Develops Air Suvidha Online Portal For International Passengers

- The Delhi airport has developed an online portal Air Suvidha that will allow international passengers to fill a mandatory self-declaration form.
- The online forms have been developed in collaboration with various state governments, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of External Affairs.

5paisa launches free app to guide investors in stock market

- Discount broker has launched a free app to help investors in the stock market understand about safe investment and successful wealth creation.
- The app -- 5paisa school-- focuses on micro-learning and has many one-minute modules to meet expectations of young investors.

Govt launches e-portal on tribal health & nutrition

- Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda inaugurated the e-portal on tribal health and nutrition named '**Swasthya**'. The portal provides all health and nutrition related information of the tribal population of India on a single platform.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

MSDE to soon launch a demand-driven skill portal for workforce

- The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) will soon come up with a demand-driven skilling portal “I want to skill myself”. The portal will provide an opportunity to the workforce to demand the kind of skilling, upskilling and re-skilling they need for themselves.

Nitin Gadkari launches portal for you to buy groceries directly from farmers along with these benefits

- MSME Minister Nitin Gadkari launched an online farm-to-fork service VedKrishi.com promoted by farmers for selling non-toxic farm produce.
- The platform set-up by Nagpur-based farmer producer organization VedKrishi Farmer Producer Company will home deliver grocery products including dairy goods, vegetables, grains, and pulses, apart from pickles, juices, sauces, etc.

Tata Steel launches FerroHaat App for sourcing steel scrap

- Steel Recycling Business, a division of Tata Steel, has launched FerroHaat, a first-of-its-kind mobile application (App) in the world, to source steel scrap from the traders.
- The new App is a major step by the Company to organise India's scrap market while also providing a reliable source of scrap metal for the Steel Industry.
- The FerroHaat App is a LIVE 24x7 market place to sell scrap.

Google launches Kormo app in India to help people find jobs

- Google has expanded its employment application - Kormo Jobs - to India as it is looking forward for helping millions of Indians to land entry-level jobs.
- Google had also made Kormo Jobs available in India under the brand Jobs as a Spot on its payment application - Google Pay.

Nitin Gadkari launches Harit Path app

- The road transport minister Nitin Gadkari also launched a mobile app 'Harit Path' to monitor the plantation along the national highways.
- The minister launched 'Harit Path', a mobile app to monitor the plantations through geo-tagging and web-based GIS enabled monitoring tools.
- The GPS-based app has been developed by NHAI.

Tata Plans 'Super App' To Bring Together Its Consumer Services

- Tata Group is launching a new app purported to bring together the country's disparate sales sector to offer a range of consumer goods in a “super app”.
- The app will offer food and grocery ordering, fashion and lifestyle, consumer electronics and consumer durables, insurance and financial services, education, healthcare and bill payments.

IAF launches mobile app 'MY IAF' to provide career-related information to aspirants

- Indian Air Force (IAF) Chief Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria launched a mobile application, "MY IAF", that will provide career-related information to those who want to join the Indian Air Force.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The application, developed in association with Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), provides career-related information and details for those desirous of joining the IAF.

Uttar Pradesh: CM Yogi Adityanath launches NRI unified portal

- In Uttar Pradesh, the State Government will prepare a database of the migrant workers of the state working in different countries of the world. It will help in providing them assistance during any emergency. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched an ambitious NRI unified portal.
- The website - nri.up.gov.in - will also provide a platform for NRIs keen to know about their roots or those seeking help from the UP Government related to their homes or families in the state.

Government launches 'Open API Service' in Aarogya Setu app

- The Government has introduced 'Open API Service', a novel feature to help the people, businesses and the economy to return to normalcy.

E-auction portal launched to promote trading of GI-tagged 'Kashmir Saffron'

- Jammu and Kashmir's agriculture department has created an e-auction portal to promote trading of GI-tagged 'Kashmir Saffron'.
- The Saffron growers of Kashmir valley and buyers across India have been requested to register themselves as sellers and buyers for E- trading on www.saffronauctionindia.com, so that hassle free e-Trading between registered growers and buyers is ensured.

NHAI develops portal to track performance of developers, consultants

- The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has developed a portal to track the performance of its developers and consultants.
- The portal-based objective assessment has been initiated to track the performance of consultants, contractors and concessionaires for various NHAI projects.
- The portal is available on the NHAI website under Vendor Performance Evaluation System'.

Rajnath Singh launches mobile app for NCC training

- Shri Rajnath Singh launched the Directorate General National Cadet Corps (DGNCC) Mobile Training App.
- The app would be useful for digital learning and help overcome the difficulties posed by the pandemic.
- The DGNCC Mobile Training App aims at providing NCC cadets entire training material (syllabus, précis, training videos and frequently asked questions) on one platform.

CISF launches 'Pension Corner' app for its retired personnel

- CISF has launched 'Pension Corner' app be in touch with all its retired personnel to cater to their needs.
- The pensioners corner app will be available in both web and Android platforms with the facility for pensioners to access their data on the move.

HDFC Bank launches "e-Kisaan Dhan" app for farmers



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- HDFC Bank launched "**e-Kisaan Dhan**" app for farmers across India to access a bouquet of agricultural and banking services on their mobile.
- The app will also provide **value-added services**, like mandi prices, latest farming news, weather forecast, information on seed varieties, SMS advisory, e-pashuhaat and Kisan TV.
- It's part of the bank's "**Har Gaon Hamara**" initiative to reach out to customers in the rural and under-served areas.

Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju launches NADA app to help athletes stay updated on banned substances

- Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju unveiled **National Anti-Doping Agency's first mobile app** to provide information about prohibited substances and their inadvertent use, **calling the initiative an important step towards dope-free sports**.
- The app aims to create a **bridge between athletes and the NADA** by providing easily accessible information on various aspects of sport, and most importantly about prohibited substances and their inadvertent use which may affect the career of athletes.

Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs launches PM SVANidhi Portal

- Shri **Durga Shanker Mishra**, Secretary, Housing & Urban Affairs, launched the Beta version of **PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi "PM SVANidhi"** Portal.
- An integrated IT platform (pmsvanidhi.mohua.gov.in) to provide an end-to-end solution for scheme administration is being developed by **SIDBI**, which is the scheme implementation partner for **PM SVANidhi**.
- The portal will facilitate multiple scheme functions viz. loan application flow, Mobile App, e-KYC of applicants, integration with **UIDAI, Udyamimitra, NPCI, PAISA, lenders, States, ULBs** and other stakeholders, calculation of digital incentives and payment of interest subsidy etc.

Ezetap launches app to help government bodies collect spot fines

- Payment solutions company **Ezetap** announced the launch of an app which it stated would enable government bodies and municipal corporations to accept payments of spot fines easily.
- The **Ezetap Spotfine app** is available for free and mainly focuses on organisations collecting spot fines, the company stated. Government bodies can add up to **10 offences** for which the municipal bodies can customise and generate invoices.

PM Modi launches Aatmanirbhar Bharat App Innovation Challenge

- The Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched **Aatmanirbhar Bharat Innovation Challenge** to identify the best Indian Apps that are already being used by citizens.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged people of tech community to participate in **Aatmanirbhar Bharat App** Innovation Challenge. This will run in two tracks- Promotion of Existing Apps and Development of New Apps.

India's Vice President launches social media super app 'Elyments'

- India's **first social media super application, Elyments**, was launched by the Vice President of India, Venkiah Naidu.
- This app is being seen as a massive boost to **Indian startups** and a major push **towards 'Make in India' initiative**.
- Elyments is available in **eight languages** including Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and English.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Mamata Banerjee launches West Bengal's 'Self Scan' app

- West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee launched a mobile app, indigenously developed by state information technology department, for documents scanning. The app is named - '**Self Scan**'.
- The application will be made available on the app store and will be free and completely safe.

PM SVANidhi app launched to help street vendors apply for micro loans

- The **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** launched the PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (**PM SVANidhi**) App.
- PM SVANidhi Mobile App is a **step towards boosting the use of digital technology** and will enable field functionaries of LIs like **Banking Correspondents (BCs) and Agents of Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)**/ Micro-Finance Institutions (MFIs), who have proximity with the street vendors, to ensure maximum coverage of the Scheme.
- The ministry has already launched the website and the app has all the features similar to the **web portal of PM SVANidhi**.

Researchers develop PROSIT app that tracks mental health by studying phone usage

- The researchers of **Dalhousie University** have come up with a new app that can detect mental conditions like anxiety and depression based on how you use your phone.
- The app is called **PROSIT** and includes tracking features like **exercise, sleep, call frequency, message histories and music tastes**.

KURMA mobile application as a unique tool for tracking and reporting Indian turtles.

- The Mobile Application, **KURMA**, was launched on 23rd May this year on the occasion of World Turtle Day. The citizen science initiative aims at conservation of turtles and tortoises.
- The mobile application has been developed by the **Indian Turtle Conservation Action Network (ITCAN)** in collaboration with the **Turtle Survival Alliance-India and Wildlife Conservation Society-India**.

ICAT launches automotive technology e-portal ASPIRE

- International Centre of Automotive Technology (ICAT)** has announced the launch of the automotive technology e-portal **ASPIRE**, which stands for Automotive Solutions Portal for Industry, Research and Education.
- It further informed that there are five portals being developed for specific sectors by different organizations viz, **BHEL** for power sector equipment, **HMT** for machine tools, **CMFTI** for manufacturing technology, **ICAT** and **ARAI** for the automotive sector.

Actor Sonu Sood launches Pravasi Rojgar app to help migrants find job opportunities

- In Maharashtra, **actor Sonu Sood** has launched a free online platform called '**Pravasi Rojgar**' to help migrants find job opportunities in various sectors across the country.
- The online platform has over **500 reputed companies** related to construction, apparel, health care, engineering, BPOs, security, automobile, e-commerce and logistics sectors, offering job opportunities. The platform will also be offering **specific job training programmes like spoken English**.

IMD launches weather app for real-time updates and warnings across India



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- The **India Meteorological Department (IMD)** launched its own app that will give real-time updates and warnings across 450 cities across the country, the first of its kind official weather app.
- It is designed and developed by the **International Crops Research Institute** for the **Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)**, the **Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM)**, **Pune** and the **India Meteorological Department (IMD)**.

Paswan launches BIS-Care mobile app, 3 portals

- Consumer Affairs Minister **Ram Vilas Paswan** launched a mobile app **BIS-Care**, which consumers can use for checking the authenticity of ISI and hallmark quality certified products.
- The minister also launched **three portals of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)** on standardisation, conformity assessment and training, which consumers and stakeholders can login through www.manakonline.in.

A Startup introduces mobile app for detection, risk assessment of Covid-19 infected individuals

- A **Bangalore based startup** has introduced a mobile app for detection and risk assessment of Covid-19 infected individuals. The technology has been developed with the support of the Department of Science and Technology.
- The Department of Science and Technology has selected **Acculi Labs** to develop a Covid risk assessment profile called **Lyfas COVID score** under the **Centre for Augmenting WAR** with COVID-19 Health Crisis, **KAWACH** initiative.

Microsoft launches new Family Safety app for iOS and Android

- **Microsoft** is launching a new **Family Safety app** for iOS and Android.
- Parents can use the **Family Safety app** to receive reports on app usage and overall screentime and even set app time limits with **the ability for children to request extensions**.

India Post Payments Bank unveil new digital payment app 'DakPay'

- **Department of Posts and India Post Payments Bank** unveiled a new digital payment app **DakPay**.
- The app was launched by Union Minister for Communications, Electronics & Information Technology and Law & Justice **Ravi Shankar Prasad**.

Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri launches E-Sampada web portal and mobile app

- Housing and Urban Affairs Minister **Hardeep Singh Puri** launched **E-Sampada**, a new web portal and mobile app on Good Governance Day.
- The new application provides a **single window for all the services** including allotment for over one lakh government residential accommodations, office space allotment to government organisations in 45 office complexes in 28 cities and booking of 1,176 holiday home rooms.

Amarinder Singh Launches Digital 'PR Insight' Mobile App And Web Portal Platform

- Punjab, Chief Minister Captain **Amarinder Singh** launched Mobile Application and web portal **'PR Insight'** to monitor the feedback and subsequently improve the delivery of citizen centric services to ensure responsive and transparent administration in the State.
- It has been developed by the **Directorate of Information & Public Relations Department, Punjab**.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Union Minister Harsh Vardhan launches Ocean Data Management 'Digital Ocean' developed by INCOIS

- Union Minister for Science and Technology **Harshvardhan** launched the '**Digital Ocean**' platform on December 29, 2020.
- It is developed by Indian **National Centre for Oceanic Information Services (INCOIS)**.

Minister of state for External Affairs Launches Global Pravasi Rishta portal and mobile App

- Minister of State for External Affairs V. **Muraleedharan** launched the Global Pravasi Rishta portal and mobile App, to connect with **3.12 crore** strong diaspora across the world.
- This portal is created to enable the registration of Indian diaspora members i.e. **NRIs, PIOs and the OCIs** which is not just going to facilitate the **Indian government to connect with the overseas Indian community** but also facilitate NRIs, OCIs and PIOs community by connecting them to various **new and existing government schemes** benefiting them in various areas of interest.

ICICI Bank Launches Online Portal Called Infinite India for foreign firms

- **ICICI Bank** has launched an online platform **Infinite India** to support foreign companies to establish or expand business in India.
- Through this initiative, ICICI bank **aims to strengthen** its position in the **multinational corporations (MNC)** segment.
- And also this initiative is part of our strategy to further strengthen our technology enabled offerings aimed to partner with foreign companies coming to india.

ICICI Bank launches iMobile Pay

- ICICI Bank has launched a new version of mobile banking app, called iMobile pay, that offers payments and banking services to customers of any bank.
- iMobile Pay, the app offers a unique combination of facilities of a payment app such as enabling customers to pay to any UPI (Unified Payments Interface) ID or merchants, pay bills and do online recharges among others

Universal Sampo General Insurance Company Launched the Upgraded USGI PULZ Mobile App

- Universal Sampo General Insurance Company Limited, a non-life insurance company launched the upgraded Mobile application – USGI PULZ to enhance service delivery.
- The Universal Sampo General Insurance Company Limited is a joint venture of Indian Bank, Indian Overseas Bank, Karnataka Bank Ltd, Dabur Investment Corporation and Sampo Japan Insurance Inc, a leading general insurer from Japan.

Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik launches PARESHRAM portal with 22 online services of Different Labour Laws

- Naveen Patnaik, Chief Minister of Odisha virtually launched PARESHRAM portal with 22 online services of different labour laws and Employees State Insurance (E.S.I) Department under the 5T initiative of the state govt. 5T– Technology, Transparency, Teamwork and Time Leading to Transformation.
- The portal will provide 52 types of services shortly.

Max Life Launches 'Max Life Critical Illness and Disability Rider', a Health Insurance Rider and 'Max Fit', a Wellness App



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Max Life Insurance Company Limited launched 'Max Life Critical Illness and Disability Rider' is a health insurance rider that offers customers protection from upto 64 critical illnesses.
- The company also launched 'Max Fit' , a comprehensive wellness programme(app).

"JSA II: Catch the Rain" Awareness Generation Campaign Launched by NWM & NYKS

- National Water Mission (NWM), Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS) in collaboration with Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MoYAS) launched the "JSA II: Catch the Rain" Awareness Generation Campaign in New Delhi. JSA stands for Jal Shakti Abhiyan.
- The awareness generation phase of the campaign will run from mid-December 2020 to March 2021 with the tagline "catch the rain, where it falls, when it falls".

A portal for mental healthcare

- To address the growing issue of mental illness during Covid, **Mental Health Foundation of India** has launched an exclusive **web portal** for mental healthcare. Called **MiHOPE**, the portal would be functional from October 10. People can access it for online consultations including with AIIMS doctors.
- The summit focuses on structural barriers to accessing treatment for mental health problems like lack of mental health professionals and inadequate recognition of mental healthcare.

Govt Launches ARHC Portal Under PM Awas Yojana

- **Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri** launched **ARHC portal arhc.mohua.gov.in**, via a webinar.
- **National Report on ANGIKAAR** - a campaign for change management for PMAY (U) beneficiaries through a 3 C strategy- Community Engagement, Convergence and Communication was also launched by Shri Hardeep S. Puri. The report is a recollection of various activities under the campaign. A short movie '**ANGIKAAR 2019...a reminiscence**' that encapsulates the journey of the campaign so far, was also released.

Stellapps launches 'mooPay' for dairy farmers in Rajasthan

- Digital technology solutions provider **Stellapps** announced the launch of a first-of-its-kind, fully-automated direct payment platform — '**mooPay**' — for dairy farmers in Rajasthan.
- The platform is one of the fintech solutions the company has developed for **dairies and dairy farmers**.
- mooPay enables dairy officials to transfer milk payments digitally to member farmers from the dairies' existing bank account to farmers' savings bank account. **NDDB** launches '**Pashu Mitra**' call centre for dairy farmers
- The **IIT-Madras** incubated **dairy-tech startup** and **World Economic Forum's technology pioneer, Stellapps**, launched mooPay in Bhilwara district of Rajasthan on October 15 .

Leather Sector Skill Council launches SCALE India android app

- The **Leather Sector Skill Council (LSSC)** announced the launch of **Skill Certification Assessment for Leather Employees (SCALE)** India android app. Operating under the aegis of the **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship(MSDE)**, LSSC is committed to strengthening its digital capabilities on quality assurance across training delivery, monitoring, assessments, verification and linkages to **ASEEM portal**.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

J&K L-G launches mobile app for Vaishno Devi devotees

- Lieutenant governor **Manoj Sinha**, who is also the chairman of **Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board**, launched a **mobile app** for the cave **shrine devotees** at the civil secretariat in Srinagar.
- Initially, **five links** have been provided in the app including darshan, live aarti, yatra registration parchi, pooja prasad (home delivery) and donations.
- The facility of **booking of various services** like battery operated vehicles, helicopter services, accommodation, online havan, etc. will also be made available on the app shortly.

FSSAI's new food safety compliance platform to become operational across India from November

- Food regulator **FSSAI** stated its **Food Safety Compliance System (FoSCoS)** will become operational in the entire country **from November 1**.
- The system is operational in nine States/UTs -- Tamil Nadu, Delhi, Gujarat, Odisha, Chandigarh, Goa, Manipur, Puducherry and Ladakh since June.
- FSSAI is launching its cloud based, **upgraded new food safety compliance online platform** called FoSCoS(**URL – <https://foscoss.fssai.gov.in>**). It will replace the existing FLRS (URL – <https://foodlicensing.fssai.gov.in>).

Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik launches 'Mo Bidyut' portal, app

- Chief Minister **Naveen Patnaik** launched an **electricity consumer service portal “Mo Bidyut”** and its mobile app to provide **efficient, time-bound and transparent online service** to the people of the State.
- **Electricity services** will now come **under Mo Sarkar**, people now need not run to various offices for new connections, bill payment or grievance redressal.
- The portal, **www.mobidyut.com**, is a bilingual online integrated platform covering all four power utilities of the State such as TPCODL, NESCO, WESCO and SOUTHCO.

Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri launches 'e-Dharti Geo portal'

- **Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri** has launched the '**e-Dharti Geo Portal**' that will integrate legacy drawings such as maps and lease plans in the management information system and make it **geographic information system (GIS)-enabled**, a statement stated.

Delhi CM Kejriwal to launch 'Green Delhi' mobile app to check air pollution

- Amid deteriorating air quality in the national capital, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal will launch "**Green Delhi**" mobile application, which will enable people to register complaints about violation of anti-pollution norms.
- The mobile app is a part of the Delhi government's "**Yudh Pradushan Ke Virudh**" campaign, announced by Kejriwal on October 6, to reduce pollution levels in the national capital.
- There will be a time limit for redressal of the complaints received on the **Green Delhi app**, the Delhi government stated.

Army launches indigenous messaging application similar to WhatsApp, names it SAI



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- **Indian Army** has developed and launched a secure messaging application named the "**Secure Application for the Internet (SAI)**" that supports an end-to-end secure voice, text and video calling services for Android platform over internet, the Ministry of Defence stated.
- According to the statement, the application has been vetted by **CERT-in empaneled auditor and Army Cyber Group**, and the process for filing Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) hosting the infrastructure on NIC and working on iOS platform is currently in progress.

Assam CM launches Kisan Rath Mobile App to facilitate sale of agriculture products

- **Assam** chief minister Sarbananda Sonowal launched the **Kisan Rath Mobile App** in order to facilitate timely sale of **agricultural products by promoting a buyer-seller network**.
- The mobile app is developed, designed and technically maintained by the **National Informatics Centre (NIC)**, will be out to use by the **Assam Agribusiness and Rural Transformation Project (APART)** which will impart training to farmers and other stakeholders on how to use the app.

Assam CM Sarbananda Sonowal launches portal for online pension submission and tracking

- **Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal** launched a portal '**Kritagyata**' an online pension submission and tracking system.
- The portal has been created in line with the '**Bhabhisya**' portal of Government of India.
- Though the portal has been launched as pilot project for the **teachers and employees** under Inspector of Schools of **Kamrup Metropolitan district**, it will be replicated to all government employees of the state in all districts in phases.

MSME Ministry introduces AI & ML for strengthening its single window system portal 'Champions'

- **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises- MSME Ministry** has introduced **Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning** for strengthening its single window system portal '**Champions**' to assist the MSMEs in the country. Champions Portal was launched by the Prime Minister in June this year.
- This multi-modal system also comprises technology equipped physical control rooms at around **69 locations** in the country.
- MSME Ministry is also aggressively working in the direction of **Industry 4.0** to give a boost to the MSME sector.

'Wildlife Rescue' app launched to rescue wild animals in the city

- **Chandigarh UT** administrator **VP Singh Badnore** launched the mobile-based application '**Wildlife Rescue**' for monitoring of wildlife rescue, reporting and release of wildlife online. The app works on all Android smartphones.
- A mobile app has been launched for the people of Chandigarh to report wildlife entering human habitation or in distress, so that the animal can be rescued by the forest department officials.

CM Naveen Patnaik launches Secha Samadhan, online services for farmers

- Chief Minister **Naveen Patnaik** launched '**Secha Samadhan**', a bilingual mobile application, to address the **irrigation problems faced by farmers** without them having to visit the offices concerned.



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

- Farmers can apply for community lift irrigation points under the **Biju Krushak Bikas Yojana (BKBY)** through phones, computers or nearby Jana Seva Kendras using the app. Similarly, the Water Resources department has also developed **Go Swift portal** by which industries can apply for water. The department has also launched the website **www.waterallocationod.nic.in** for distribution of water to commercial establishments and other institutions.

Telangana unveils two mobile apps to monitor Palle Pragathi

- Minister for Panchayat Raj and Rural Development of **Telangana Errabelli Dayakar Rao** unveiled two mobile apps aimed at improving the **functioning and supervision of Panchayat Raj department**.
- Both the apps – **Palle Pragathi Panchayat Secretary app** and **Palle Pragathi Inspection Officer app** – were designed by the State Panchayat Raj department.

Kadalu App to help fishermen launched in Udupi

- The **Coastal Security Police** launched the **Kadalu App for fishermen** that will help them in submitting information about their arrival and departure from the fishing harbour using android mobile phones.
- The Coastal Security Police conceptualised the app and developed it for the **Department of Fisheries**. It was launched by the Minister for Fisheries, Inland Transport Department and Muzrai Kota Srinivasa Poojary at a fishing awareness programme held at Moodukudu, Krishnapura, **near Udupi, Karnataka**.

Govt blocks access to 43 mobile apps

- Government blocked access to **43 mobile apps**. This action was taken based on the inputs regarding these apps for engaging in activities which are **prejudicial to sovereignty and integrity**, defence, security of state and public order.
- Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has issued the order for blocking the access of these apps by users in India based on the comprehensive reports received from **Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Center**.
- Earlier on 29th June Government had blocked access to **59 mobile apps** and on 2nd September, **118 more apps** were banned under **section 69A** of the Information Technology Act.

Abhayam' app for safety of women passengers launched in A.P.

- Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy launched '**Abhayam**' **mobile phone application** which helps women and **children travelling in taxis and auto-rickshaws**, to raise alarm in case of any emergency.
- Launching the app, Mr. Reddy stated the Government accorded top priority to the safety of women and children and that Andhra Pradesh was the first State to bring out a legislation (**Disha Bill**) for security of women.
- Disha police stations** were set up and steps were taken for establishing special courts and posting dedicated public prosecutors to ensure speedy disposal of cases of attacks on women.

Tamil Nadu CM launches 'Thee' app

- The app is for the general public to reach the **Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services** in cases of fires, floods, mishaps in wells, chemical or gas leaks and other accidents
- Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami launched '**Thee**', a mobile phone-based application for the benefit of the general public to reach out to the Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services when in need.

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Prakash Javadekar launches India Climate Change Knowledge Portal

- Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change** **Prakash Javadekar** launched the **India Climate Change Knowledge Portal**. The portal will have all the major steps the Government is taking at both national and international levels to address the climate change issues.

Revision Points

Applications/Web portals	Launched By/Developed By
India Climate Change Knowledge Portal	Prakash Javadekar
Thee app	Tamil Nadu CM
Abhayam	Andhra Pradesh
Kadalu App	Coastal Security Police
Palle Pragathi Panchayat Secretary app & Palle Pragathi Inspection Officer app	Telangana
Secha Samadhan	Naveen Patnaik
Wildlife Rescue	Chandigarh UT administrator VP Singh Badnore
MiHOPE	Mental Health Foundation of India
ARHC portal arhc.mohua.gov.in	Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri
mooPay	Stellapps
Pashu Mitra	NDDB
Skill Certification Assessment for Leather Employees (SCALE) India android app	Leather Sector Skill Council
FoSCoS(URL – https://foscoss.fssai.gov.in)	FSSAI
'Mo Bidyut' portal	Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik
e-Dharti Geo portal	Hardeep Singh Puri
Green Delhi	Delhi CM Kejriwal
Secure Application for the Internet	Indian Army
Kisan Rath Mobile App	Assam CM
Kritagyata	Assam CM
Champions	MSME Ministry
DakPay	India Post Payments Bank
E-Sampada	Hardeep Singh
PR Insight	Amarinder Singh
Digital Ocean	National Centre for Oceanic Information Services



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Global Pravasi Rishta portal	V. Muraleedharan
Infinite India	ICICI Bank
USGI PULZ	Universal Sompo General Insurance Company
iMobile pay	ICICI Bank
PAReSHRAM portal	Odisha CM
Max Fit	Max Life Insurance Company
CO-WIN mobile app	Central Government
LiGo	ICICI Prudential Life Insurance
AMA SAHAR, SWACHHA SAHAR ODISHA	Naveen Patnaik
iRakhwali	Punjab government
English Pro	Hyderabad based EFLU
PayBima	Mahindra Finance
e-Gopala App	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Aero India 2021 -- https://aeroindia.gov.in	Defence Minister Rajnath Singh
HOPE (Healing Occurs with Positivity and Expression)	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay
Freight Seva	Chennai Division of Southern Railways
e- Peek Pahani	Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray
AP Police Seva app	Jagan Mohan Reddy
Centralized Farm Machinery Performance Testing Portal	Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar
Visitassam	Assam government
Dharani land web portal	K Chandrasekhar Rao
Project Management Information System (P-MIS) portal	National Capital Region Planning Board
Family Safety app	Microsoft
BIS-Care	Ram Vilas Paswan
Mausam App	India Meteorological Department
Pravasi Rojgar	Actor Sonu Sood
ASPIRE e-portal	International Centre of Automotive Technology
KURMA	Indian Turtle Conservation Action Network
PROSIT	Dalhousie University
PM SVANidhi App	Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Self -Scan App	West Bengal govt

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Elyments	Venkiah Naidu
Aatmanirbhar Bharat App	Narendra Modi
NADA App	Kiren Rijiju
PM SVANidhi Portal	Durga Shanker Mishra
e-Kisaan Dhan app	HDFC Bank
'Dodo Drop'	Ashfaq Mehmood Choudhary
E-Gyan Mitra mobile app	Education Department of Daman Administration
COVID19BWM	Central Pollution Control Board
Works Management System	Haryana
OHE Inspection app	Indian Railways
GRID (Growth in Dispersion) Policy	Telangana
Khelo India Mobile App	Sports Authority of India
My Handloom Portal	Smriti Zubin Irani
Awaz-e Rajouri	Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Mohammad Nazir Sheikh
Air Suvidha Online Portal	Delhi Airport
5paisa school	5paisa.com
Swasthya	Arjun Munda
I want to skill myself	Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
VedKrishi.com	Nitin Gadkari
FerroHaat	Tata Steel
Kormo Jobs	Google
Harit Path	Nitin Gadkari
'Super App'	Tata
'MY IAF'	Indian Air Force
'Open API Service' in Aarogya Setu app	Government
DGNCC App	Rajnath Singh
'Pension Corner'	CISF

List of Schemes

Scheme/Campaign	Launched by
Bhavishya	Fino Payments Bank



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Accelerate Vigyan	Science and Engineering Research Board
GoMore	GoAir
Gaudhan Nyay Yojana	Chhattisgarh govt
Narva, Garuva, Ghuruwa, Badi	Chhattisgarh govt
Mukhya Mantri Ghar Ghar Ration Yojana	Delhi govt
Mera Pani Meri Virasat	Haryana govt
Himachal Grihini Suvidha Yojana	Himachal Pradesh govt
Mera Ghar Mera Vidyalaya	Madhya Pradesh govt
Balaram Yojana	Odisha
Madhu Babu Pension Yojana	Odisha
One Stop	Rajasthan
SWAMIH	Central government
Bohot Zaroori Hai	Bharti AXA General Insurance
Your Happiness Partner	Fever Network
Paudhe lagao, Paryavaran Bachao	Delhi govt
Intzaar Aap Ka	Madhya Pradesh
Roko - Toko	Madhya Pradesh
Pure for Sure	Rajasthan
CybHER	Telangana Police
Reimagine	UNICEF INDIA & FICCI
Arbitrage Yojana	Mahindra Manulife Mutual Fund
YSR Cheyutha Scheme	Andhra Pradesh
Orunodoi	Assam govt
Shaheed Mahendra Karma Tendupatta Sangrahak Samajik Suraksha Yojana	Chhattisgarh govt
Indira Van Mitra Yojana	Chhattisgarh govt
Padhai Tuhar Para	Chhattisgarh govt
Mukhya Mantri Kisan Sahay Yojana	Gujarat
Parivar Pehchan Patras	Haryana govt
Mukhya Mantri Doodh Uphar Yojana	Haryana govt
Mahila Evam Kishori Samman Yojana	Haryana govt
Punjab Smart Connect Scheme	Punjab
Major Dhyani Chand Vijaypath Yojana	Uttar Pradesh govt

Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Karma Sathi Prakalpa	West Bengal govt
YSR Cheyutha	Andhra Pradesh
Kona Kona Umeed	Kotak Mahindra Bank
Digital Apnayan	Punjab National Bank
Mukti Caravan	Kailash Satyarthi Foundation
Kailash Satyarthi Foundation	Delhi govt
Healthy Body, Healthy Mind	Delhi govt
Ek Mask-Anek Zindagi	Madhya Pradesh
Ek Sankalp - Bujurgo ke naam	Madhya Pradesh
Gandagi, Bharat Chorho	PM Modi
China Quit India	Confederation of all India Traders
Gandagi Mukht Bharat	Jal Shakti Ministry
Ayush for Immunity	AYUSH Ministry
Contactless Connections	SBI Card
SIP in Fixed Income	IDFC Mutual Fund
My Family-My Responsibility	Maharashtra
Poshan Abhiyan	Uttar Pradesh
Asol Chini	Bangladesh
Apna Ghar Dreamz	ICICI Home Finance
Vikas Laghu Suvarna	Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank
YSR Sampoorana Poshana	Andhra Pradesh
YSR Jala Kala	Andhra Pradesh
SVAYEM scheme	Assam
Mukhyamantrir Grammya Paribahan Achoni	Assam
Paryatan Sanjeevani Scheme	Assam
Paryatan Sarathi	Assam
Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana	Bihar
Ghar Tak Fibre	Bihar
Arthika Spandana	Karnataka
Deendayal Antyodaya Rasoi Scheme	Madhya Pradesh
Mukhyamantri Kisan Kalyan Yojana	Madhya Pradesh
Garima	Odisha
Ghar tak fibre	PM Modi



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

Jagananna Vidya Kanuka	Andhra Pradesh
YSR Bima scheme	Andhra Pradesh
Swa-nirbhar Naari: Atmanirbhar Asom	Assam
Yuddh Pradushan Ke Virudh	Delhi
Red Light On, Gaadi Off	Delhi
Digital Seva Setu Programme	Gujarat
'DISHTAVO' YouTube channel	Goa
Swachhta Pakhwada	Haryana
SAKHI	Jammu and Kashmir
My Town My Pride	Jammu and Kashmir
Bhagyalakshmi scheme	Karnataka
Drink from the tap Mission-Sujal	Odisha
Smart Black Board scheme	Tamil Nadu
Mission Shakti	Uttar Pradesh
Mukhya Mantri Saur Swarojgar Yojana	Uttarakhand
Integrated Model Agricultural Village scheme (Ekikrit Adarsh Krishi Gram Yojana)	Uttarakhand
Pathashree Abhijan Scheme	West Bengal
Operation My Saheli	South Eastern Railway
Sunidhi	Central government
My Ganga My Dolphin campaign	National Mission for Clean Ganga, Wildlife Institute of India & Forest Department
Jan Andolan	PM Narendra Modi
Jan Andolan Campaign	Ministry of AYUSH
Thalassemia Bal Sewa Yojna	Dr Harsh Vardhan
'KAPILA' Kalam Program	Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'
Ayushman Sahakar scheme	Narendra Singh Tomar (formulated by National Cooperative Development Corporation)
Meri Saheli initiative	Railway Protection Force, Visakhapatnam
CSIR Ushered Repurposed Drugs (CuRED)	Dr Harsh Vardhan
Life in Miniature	Prahlad Singh Patel
Kisan Suryodaya Yojana	PM Narendra Modi
Arogya Van	PM Narendra Modi
Meri Saheli	Indian Railways



Current Affairs Capsule for SBI/IBPS/RRB PO Mains Exam 2021 – Part 2

SERB-POWER (Promoting Opportunities for Women in Exploratory Research)	Dr Harsh Vardhan
Scheme for distribution of fortified rice through Public distribution System	Chhattisgarh govt
Him Suraksha Abhiyan	Himachal Pradesh govt
Parivarthanam Scheme	Kerala govt
Vocal for Local campaign	Madhya Pradesh govt
Meri Saheli	Railway Protection Force
Poshit Parivar-Suposhit Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh
Tigress on the trail	Madhya Pradesh
Scheme for Chief Minister's Award for Good Governance	Manipur
Kadal Osai FM 90.4	Tamil Nadu
Punjab Divyangjan Shaktikaran Yojna	Punjab
TS-bPASS initiative	Telanganana
Har Ghar Nal Yojna	PM Modi
Plastic Lao MASK LE JAO	Dehradun Municipal Corporation
Nurturing Neighbourhoods Challenge	Hardeep Singh Puri
International 'Satavadhanam program	Vice President Venkaiah Naidu
Sarhad VistarVikasotsav 2020	Amit Shah
Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana	ESIC
Sarhad VistarVikasotsav	Amit Shah
Atmanirbhar Women Gold Scheme	Bank of Baroda
Krishi OD	Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank
Navaratnalu-Pedalandariki Illu	Andhra Pradesh
Jagananna Jeeva Kranthi	Andhra Pradesh
Sharad Pawar Rural Prosperity Scheme	Maharashtra
Prime Minister Wi-Fi Access Network Interface	Central govt
Food Hygiene Rating Scheme	FSSAI
SEHAT	PM Modi

Static – Countries, Capital & Currency List

Countries	Capital	Currency	Head of State
Niger	Niamey	CFA Franc	Mahamadou Issoufou

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Morocco	Rabat	Dirham	Saadeddine Othmani
Denmark	Copenhagen	Krone	Mette Frederiksen
Chile	Santiago	Peso	Sebastián Piñera
Switzerland	Bern	Swiss Franc	Simonetta Sommaruga
Canada	Ottawa	Dollar	Justin Trudeau
Bangladesh	Dhaka	Taka	Abdul Hamid
Myanmar	Naypyitaw	Burmese kyat	Win Myint
Uruguay	Montevideo	Peso	Luis Lacalle Pou,
France	Paris	Euro	Emmanuel Macron
Germany	Berlin	Euro	Frank-Walter Steinmeier
Maldives	Malé	Rufiyaa	Ibrahim Mohamed Solih
UK	London	Pound Sterling	Boris Johnson
UAE	Abu Dhabi	Dirham	Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan
USA	Washington D.C	Dollar	Joe Biden
Nepal	Kathmandu	Rupee	Bidya Devi Bhandari
China	Beijing	Renminbi	Xi Jinping
Russia	Moscow	Ruble	Vladimir Putin
Italy	Rome	Euro	Sergio Mattarella
South Korea	Seoul	Won	Moon Jae-in
Japan	Tokyo	Yen	Yoshihide Suga
Israel	Jerusalem	Shekel	Benjamin Netanyahu
New Zealand	Wellington	Dollar	Jacinda Ardern
Afghanistan	Kabul	Afghani	Ashraf Ghani
Sri Lanka	Colombo	Rupee	Mahinda Rajapaksa
Madagascar	Antananarivo	Ariary	Christian Ntsay
Senegal	Dakar	CFA Franc	Macky Sall
Pakistan	Islamabad	Rupee	Arif Alvi
Australia	Canberra	Dollar	Scott Morrison
Peru	Lima	Sol	Martín Vizcarra
Austria	Vienna	Euro	Alexander Van der Bellen



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Uzbekistan	Tashkent	So'm	Shavkat Mirziyoyev
Cambodia	Phnom Penh	Riel	Hun Sen
Qatar	Doha	Riyal	Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdul Aziz Al Thani
Vietnam	Hanoi	Dong	Nguyen Xuan Phuc
Sweden	Stockholm	Krona	Stefan Löfven
Singapore	Singapore City	Dollar	Lee Hsien Loong
Spain	Madrid	Euro	Pedro Sánchez
Norway	Oslo	Krone	Erna Solberg
Ghana	Accra	Cedi	Nana Akufo-Addo
Romania	Bucharest	Leu	Klaus Iohannis
Venezuela	Caracas	Bolivar	Nicolás Maduro
Kenya	Nairobi	Shilling	Uhuru Kenyatta
Kuwait	Kuwait City	Dinar	Sheikh Nawaf al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah
Iceland	Reykjavík	Krona	Guðni Th. Jóhannesson
Ireland	Dublin	Euro	Michael D. Higgins
Estonia	Tallinn	Euro	Kersti Kaljulaid
Syria	Damascus	Pound	Bashar al-Assad
Brazil	Brasilia	Real	Jair Bolsonaro
Bahrain	Manama	Dinar	Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa
Mexico	Mexico City	Peso	Andrés Manuel López Obrador
Madagascar	Antananarivo	Ariary	Christian Ntsay
Saudi Arabia	Riyadh	Riyal	Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud
Netherlands	Amsterdam	Euro	Mark Rutte
Argentina	Buenos Aires	Peso	Alberto Fernández
Serbia	Belgrade	Dinar	Aleksandar Vucic
Nigeria	Abuja	Naira	Muhammadu Buhari
Taiwan	Taipei	Dollar	Tsai Ing-wen

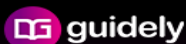
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Indonesia	Jakarta	Rupiah	Joko Widodo
Seychelles	Victoria	Rupee	Wavel Ramkalawan
Guinea	Conakry	Franc	Alpha Condé
Bolivia	La Paz, Sucre	Boliviano	Luis Arce
Kyrgyzstan	Bishkek	Som	Sooronbay Jeenbekov
Jordan	Amman	Dinar	Hani Mulki
Cambodia	Phnom Penh	Riel	Hun Sen
Tanzania	Dodoma	Shilling	Kassim Majaliwa
Burkina faso	Ouagadougou	CFA Franc	Roch Marc Christian Kaboré
Lebanon	Beirut	Pound	Michel Aoun
South Korea	Seoul	Won	Moon Jae-in
North Korea	Pyongyang	Won	Kim Jong-un
Solomon Islands	Honiara	Dollar	Manasseh Sogavare
Turkey	Ankara	Lira	Recep Tayyip Erdogan
Philippines	Manila	Peso	Rodrigo Duterte
Moldova	Chişinău	Leu	Maia Sandu
Ivory Coast	Yamoussoukro	CFA Franc	Alassane Ouattara
Kosovo	Pristina	Euro	Hashim Thaçi
Thailand	Bangkok	Baht	Prayut Chan-o-cha
Trinidad and Tobago	Port of Spain	Dollar	Keith Rowley
Equatorial Guinea	Malabo	CFA franc	Francisco Pascual Obama Asue
Mali	Bamako	CFA franc	Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta
Guyana	Georgetown	Dollar	Irfaan Ali
Belarus	Minsk	Rouble	Alexander Lukashenko
Dominican Republic	Santo Domingo	Peso	Luis Abinader
Antigua & Barbuda	Saint John's	Eastern Caribbean dollar	Gaston Browne
Croatia	Zagreb	Kuna	Zoran Milanovic
Jamaica	Kingston	Dollar	Andrew Holness
Bougainville	Buka Island	PNG kina	Ishmael Toroama
Somalia	Mogadishu	Shilling	Mohamed Abdullahi



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			Farmaajo
Togo	Lome	CFA franc	Faure Gnassingbé
Turkmenistan	Ashgabat	Manat	Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow
Nicaragua	Managua	Cordoba	Daniel Ortega
Poland	Warsaw	Zloty	Andrzej Duda
Suriname	Paramaribo	Dollar	Chan Santokhi
Gabon	Libreville	Central African Franc	Ali Bongo Ondimba
Tunisia	Tunis	Dinar	Kais Saied
Mauritius	Port Louis	Rupee	Pravind Jugnauth



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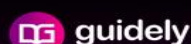
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