Dear Readers, Here we have given the list of Important Weekly Current Affairs 3rd week of November 2020. Candidates those who are preparing for Upcoming SBI Clerk, RBI Assistant and other competitive exams can make use of it.

CURRENT AFFAIRS: DAYS

World Philosophy Day

- **World Philosophy Day** is observed on the **third Thursday of November** every year to strengthen people’s commitment to philosophy by fostering philosophical analysis, research, and studies on major contemporary issues. The 2020 edition of World Philosophy Day, to be celebrated this year on November 19.

Women's Entrepreneurship Day

- **Women's Entrepreneurship Day (WED)** is a day on which the work of women entrepreneurs is observed and discussed, held on the **November 19** of each year.

World Television Day

- The United Nations’ (UN) **World Television Day** is **annually observed** in many places around the world on **November 21**.

World Fisheries Day

- **World Fisheries Day** is being celebrated. The day is observed every year on **21st of November** to demonstrate solidarity with all fisher-folk communities, fish farmers and concerned stakeholders throughout the world.

World Children’s Day 2020

- **World Children’s Day** is being celebrated, **November 20**. It was first celebrated in 1954 as Universal Children’s Day to promote international togetherness and awareness among children worldwide, and for improving children’s welfare.

Africa Industrialization Day-20 November


World Antimicrobial Awareness Week 2020

- **World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW) -18-24 November every year** aims to increase awareness of global antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and to encourage best practices among the general public, health workers and policy makers to avoid the further emergence and spread of drug-resistant infections. The theme for the human health sector for WAAW 2020 is “**United to preserve antimicrobials**”.

National Cadet Corps to celebrate its 72nd Raising Day

- National Cadet Corps (NCC), the largest uniformed youth organisation in the world, will celebrate its **72nd Raising Day**.

Martyrdom Day of Guru Tegh Bahadur being observed

- **Martyrdom Day of Guru Tegh Bahadur**, the *ninth Guru of Sikhs*, is being observed across the country on **24th November**.

International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women- 25 November
• The UN Secretary-General’s UNiTE to End Violence against Women campaign, a multi-year effort aimed at preventing and eliminating violence against women and girls. This year’s theme for the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women is “Orange the World: Fund, Respond, Prevent, Collect”.

National Pharmacy Week 2020

• The 59th National Pharmacy Week (NPW) was celebrated throughout the country from November 16-22, 2020. The theme of the NPW 2020 is “Pharmacists: Frontline Health Professionals”.

AAI observes Aviation Safety Awareness Week 2020

• Airports Authority of India (AAI) is observing the Aviation Safety Awareness Week 2020 from 23 November to 27 November 2020. The week-long celebration is being observed at all airports and ANS locations managed by AAI across India.

Constitution Day being celebrated across the country

• Constitution Day is being celebrated across the country to mark the adoption of the Indian Constitution by the Constituent Assembly. The day is also known as National Law Day and commemorates the adoption of the Constitution in India. On 26th November in 1949, the Constituent Assembly of the country formally adopted the Constitution of India which came into force on 26th January 1950.

National Milk Day: 26 November

• National Milk Day is celebrated across the country on November 26 every year on the birthdate of Dr Verghese Kurien. This day marks the birth anniversary of Verghese Kurien, the Father of White Revolution in India.

Guru Nanak Jayanti being celebrated with traditional fervour

• Guru Nanak Jayanti or Gurpurab is being celebrated with religious fervour across India and the world on 30th November. It marks the birth of the first Sikh Guru, Guru Nanak, who laid the foundation of Sikhism. This year marks the 551st birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev.

National Organ Donation Day

• The 11th Indian Organ Donation Day was celebrated by the Union Health Ministry in New Delhi.

International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People- 29 November

• In 1977, the General Assembly called for the annual observance of 29 November as the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (resolution 32/40 B). On that day, in 1947, the Assembly adopted the resolution on the partition of Palestine (resolution 181 (II))
Palestine
- Capitals: Ramallah, East Jerusalem;
- Currency: Shekel, Dinar

CURRENT AFFAIRS: NATIONAL

Union IT and Communications Minister Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad releases "My Stamp on Chhath Puja"
- Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Union Minister of Communications, Electronics & Information Technology and Law and Justice released a "My Stamp on Chhath Puja".

PM Modi virtually inaugurates five state-of-the-art facilities to mark 8th convocation of PDPU at Gandhinagar
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has virtually inaugurated five state-of-the-art facilities to mark the eighth convocation of Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University - PDPU at Gandhinagar.

Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurates Seismic Survey Campaign by Oil India Ltd
- Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated the Seismic Survey Campaign by Oil India Limited. The survey under the Open Acreage Licensing Policy, OALP, will be undertaken in 5 blocks of 8 districts of Odisha in the Mahanadi basin and nearby areas.

Health Minister chairs an event to mark National Newborn Week 2020
- Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan chaired an event to mark the National Newborn Week 2020, being observed from 15th to 21st November to reinforce the importance of newborn health as a key priority area of the health sector and to reiterate the commitment at the highest level.
- This year, the theme of National Newborn Week is 'Quality, Equity, Dignity' for every newborn at every health facility and everywhere.

RailTel bags e-office phase 3 project from Indian Railways
- RailTel has bagged Indian Railway's e-office phase 3 project from the Indian Railways. Under the project, RailTel will implement e-office for Zonal Railways (Phase 3) using cloud enabled e-office application developed by NICs (National Informatics Centre) on November 11, 2020.

Centre launches Safai Mitra Suraksha Challenge in 243 cities
- Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri launched the Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge, aimed to ensure that no person needs to enter a sewer or septic tank, unless absolutely unavoidable in the interest of greater public hygiene.
- The virtual event witnessed participation of representatives from 243 cities across the country, coming together to take a pledge to mechanize all sewer and septic tank cleaning operations by 30th April 2021.

Health Minister Harsh Vardhan addresses Boston Center of Excellence for Health & Human Development
- Health Minister Harsh Vardhan addressed the Boston Center of Excellence for Health and Human Development through Video Conference.

Ministry of Tourism organizes a webinar on "India's Hidden Gems" under Dekho Apna Desh Webinar Series
• The Ministry of Tourism's Dekho Apna Desh Webinar series titled "India's Hidden Gems" on 21st November 2020 focused on hidden gems of India. India is truly like a kaleidoscope, where every twist and turn will present you with a different pattern of landscape, colour, cuisine and culture.

Govt Extends Period For Submission Of Life Certificate By Central Govt Pensioners Till 28th Feb 2021
• Government has extended the period for submission of Life Certificate by Central Government pensioners till 28th February next year.
• Earlier, the government had extended the timeline for submission of Life Certificate from 1st of November to 31st of December, 2020.

Education Minister inaugurates 46 online ATAL Faculty Development Programmes
• Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' inaugurated 46 online AICTE Training and Learning (ATAL) Academy Faculty Development Programmes (FDPs) to train teachers of higher education institutions. The FDPs will be conducted in 22 Indian states.

India, EU hold 6th round of consultations on disarmament & non-proliferation matters
• India and the European Union held the sixth round of consultations on disarmament and non-proliferation matters in a virtual format.

Ravi Shankar Prasad launches international version of UMANG App
• To mark the occasion of 3 years of UMANG and 2000 plus services milestone, an online conference was organized under the chairmanship of Minister for Electronics and Information Technology, Ravi Shankar Prasad. The UMANG mobile app -Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance is a Government of India all-in-one single, unified, secure, multi-channel, multi-lingual, multi-service Mobile App.

HM Amit Shah inaugurates mobile COVID-19 RT-PCR Lab at ICMR in New Delhi
• Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated a mobile COVID-19 RT-PCR Lab at the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in New Delhi. It has been jointly developed by Spice Health and the ICMR.

Govt. aims to replace safeguard duty with custom duty to protect local manufacturers of solar equipment, says Power Minister R K Singh
• Minister of State for Power and New and Renewable Energy R K Singh has stated, India is going to replace the safeguard duty with the custom duty to protect the local manufacturers of solar equipment. He stated, some countries are dumping solar equipment at very low prices in our country to destroy local manufacturers.

Agriculture Minister unveils ‘Sahakar Pragya’ to impart training to primary cooperative societies in rural areas
• Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar unveiled Sahakar Pragya. The 45 new training modules of Sahakar Pragya of the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) will impart training to primary cooperative societies in rural areas of the country along with Lakshmanrao Inamdar National Cooperative Research and Development Academy.

Govt approves 7 proposals of Food Processing Projects worth over Rs 234 cr
• The government has approved seven proposals of Food Processing Projects worth over 234 crore rupees. It also includes grants-in-aid of 60.87 crores rupees in Meghalaya, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, and Maharashtra.
Tenth edition of National Science Film Festival kicks off in virtual mode

- Tenth edition of prestigious science film festival got off in a virtual mode. VigyanPrasar, an autonomous agency under the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, has been organizing the four-day long festival as a part of its science popularization endeavour.

Expert panel recommends 5 technologies for drinking water, sanitation

- A high-level multi-disciplinary technical panel in the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation has recommended five technologies, three for safe drinking water and two for sanitation, an official statement stated. The panel was headed by K VijayRaghavan, the principal scientific adviser to the government.

Cabinet approves infusion of 6000 crore rupees in NIIF; Lakshmi Vilas Bank to be merged with DBS Bank India Limited

- Union Cabinet has approved equity infusion by Government of 6000 crore rupees in NIIF Debt Platform sponsored by National Investment and Infrastructure Fund, comprising Aseem Infrastructure Finance Limited and NIIF Infrastructure Finance Limited.
- Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar informed that Cabinet has approved Scheme of Amalgamation of Lakshmi Vilas Bank (LVB) with DBS Bank India Limited.

PM Narendra Modi chairs 33rd PRAGATI interaction

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the PRAGATI meeting. It marked Prime Minister’s thirty-third interaction through PRAGATI - the ICT based multi-modal platform for Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation, involving Central and State governments.

All fixed to mobile calls to be dialed with prefix ‘0’ from Jan 15

- Communications Ministry has stated all Fixed to Mobile calls will be dialed with prefix ‘0’ from 15th January next year. There will be no change in dialing plan from fixed to fixed, mobile to fixed and mobile to mobile calls.

NITI Aayog Forms Panel To Study Feasibility Of Hyperloop Tech In India

- Government think-tank NITI Aayog has formed a high-level panel to explore the technological and commercial viability of the Virgin Hyperloop technology for ultrahigh speed travel in India, weeks after its first test was completed with humans on board.
- The committee has NITI Aayog member VK Saraswat as its Chairman and Adviser (Infrastructure Connectivity, Niti Aayog) Sudhendu Jyoti Sinha as its convener.

Cabinet minister Narendra Singh Tomar virtually inaugurates Phagwara mega food park in Punjab

- Union Food Processing Industries Minister Narendra Singh Tomar virtually inaugurated the Rs 107.83 crore mega food park at Phagwara in Kapurthala district of Punjab which is likely to generate 5,000 jobs.

Railway launches completely digitized online Human Resource Management System

- Indian Railway has launched a completely digitized online Human Resource Management System (HRMS). HRMS is a high thrust project for Indian Railways to leverage improved productivity and employee satisfaction. It is a move to improve efficiency and productivity of the Railway system.

Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot E-Launches ‘National Portal for Transgender Persons’ and E-Inaugurates Garima Greh: A Shelter Home for Transgender Persons in Gujarat

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Nitin Gadkari inaugurates Highway projects worth over Rs 7400 Cr in Uttar Pradesh
- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid the foundation stones of 16 National Highway projects worth 7477 crore rupees in Uttar Pradesh.

APEDA holds Virtual Buyer Seller Meet with Germany
- Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, APEDA, continued its endeavour to promote export of agricultural products through the virtual medium. Several virtual buyer seller meets were organised with the importing countries in association with the Indian Missions abroad.

India has emerged as fourth largest producer of renewable energy in world: PM Modi
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi stated India’s renewable power capacity is the 4th largest in the world and it is growing at the fastest speed among all major countries. He stated, the renewable energy capacity in India is currently 136 Giga Watts, which is about 36 percent of the country’s total capacity.

Railways Minister Piyush Goyal inaugurates newly electrified Dhigawara-Bandikui section of NW Railway
- Minister of Railways Piyush Goyal inaugurated the newly electrified Dhigawara-Bandikui section of North Western Railway. He also flagged off the first train on this newly electrified route at the function organized at Dhigawara station.

Govt. announces Rs 900 crore package for COVID-19 Vaccine Development Mission
- The Centre has announced the third stimulus package of Rs 900 crore for the Mission COVID Suraksha- The Indian COVID-19 Vaccine Development Mission.

PM Modi to inaugurate six-lane widening project of Varanasi-Prayagraj section of NH-19
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Varanasi and dedicate to the nation the six-lane widening project of the Handia (Prayagraj) - Rajatalab (Varanasi) section of National Highway 19. During the tour, the Prime Minister will attend Dev Deepawali, undertake a site visit of Kashi Vishwanath Temple Corridor Project and also visit the Sarnath Archaeological Site.

EPFO extends deadline for submission of Jeevan Pramaan Patra to February 28, 2021
- Taking into consideration the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the vulnerability of the elderly population to the virus, the Employees’ Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has extended the date for submission of Life Certificate (Jeevan Pramaan Patra-JPP) to February 28, 2021.
• Union minister of Science and Technology, Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Minister of Earth Sciences: Dr. Harsh Vardhan
• Constituency: Chandni Chowk

Indian Railways:
• Headquarters: New Delhi, India
• Piyush Goyal (Minister of Railways)
• Vinod Kumar Yadav (Chairman, Railway Board)

MoHUA:
• Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs and Civil Aviation: Hardeep Singh Puri
• Constituency: Amritsar

Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions:
• Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India and Minister of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
• Jitendra Singh, Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions

European Union:
• President of the Commission: Ursula von der Leyen
• Capital: Brussels

Ministry of Home Affairs:
• Amit Shah, Minister of Home Affairs
• Constituency: Gujarat

Ministry of New and Renewable Energy:
• Raj Kumar Singh: Minister of State (Independent Charge)
• Constituency: Arrah

National Cooperative Development Corporation:
• Headquarters: New Delhi, India
• Sundeep Kumar Nayak, Managing Director

Minister of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare:
• Narendra Singh Tomar, (Cabinet Minister)
• Constituency: Morena, Madhya Pradesh
• Parsottambhai Rupala, (Minister of State)

Ministry of Food Processing Industries:
• Narendra Singh Tomar, Minister of Food Processing Industries
• Constituency: Morena, Madhya Pradesh
• Rameswar Teli, Minister of State for Food Processing Industries

Ministry of Jal Shakti:
• Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Cabinet Minister
• Constituency: Jodhpur
• Rattan Lal Kataria, Minister of State

National Investment and Infrastructure Fund:
• National Investment and Infrastructure Fund is India's first infrastructure specific investment fund that was set up by the Government of India in February 2015.
• Headquarters: Mumbai, India
• Sundeep Kumar Nayak, Managing Director

MEITY:
• Union Minister of the Law and Justice, Electronics and Information Technology and Communications: Ravi Shankar Prasad
• Constituency: Patna Sahib, Bihar

Niti Aayog:
• Headquarters: New Delhi
• Narendra Modi, (Chairperson)
• Rajiv Kumar, (Vice Chairperson)
• Amitabh Kant, (CEO)

MoA&FW:
• Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Food Processing Industries and Rural Development and Panchayati Raj: Narendra Singh Tomar
• Constituency: Morena, Madhya Pradesh

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment:
• Thaawar Chand Gehlot, Cabinet Minister
• Constituency: Madhya Pradesh
• Krishan Pal Gurjar, Minister of State
Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority:
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Chairman: Dr. M. Angamuthu
- Parent organization: Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

Germany:
- Capital: Berlin
- Currency: Euro

Ministry of Railways:
- Piyush Goyal, Minister of Railways
- Constituency: Maharashtra
- Vinod Kumar Yadav, Chairman and CEO

MoH&FW:
- Minister of Science and Technology, Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Minister of Earth Sciences: Dr. Harsh Vardhan
- Constituency: Chandni Chowk, New Delhi

EPFO:
- Founded: 4 March 1952
- Headquarters: New Delhi, India
- Sunil Barthwal: Central Provident Fund Commissioner

CURRENT AFFAIRS: INTERNATIONAL

UNICEF lays plans to deliver Covid-19 vaccine to 92 low-income countries
- United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) has started collaborating with airlines, shipping lines, and freight operators, among other logistics, to deliver lifesaving coronavirus vaccine as quickly as possible, stated. With such collaborations, UNICEF aims to manage the purchase and delivery of vaccines in 92 low- and lower-middle-income economies.

India announces launch of Phase-IV of High Impact Community Development Projects in Afghanistan
- India has announced the launch of Phase-IV of the High Impact Community Development Projects in Afghanistan. It envisages more than 100 projects worth 80 million dollars that India would undertake in Afghanistan.

UN release $25 mn for women-led projects fighting gender-based violence
- The United Nations humanitarian chief has released 25 million US dollars from its emergency fund to support women-led organisations that prevent and respond to gender-based violence.

UNDP, Invest India launch SDGs Investor Map for India
- United Nations Development Programme, UNDP and Invest India have launched the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Investor Map for India. It laid out 18 Investment Opportunities Areas in six critical SDG enabling sectors, that can help the country push forward on the trajectory of Sustainable Development.

4th NSA-level meeting held between India, Sri Lanka and Maldives
- The fourth National Security Advisor Level Meeting on Trilateral Maritime Security Cooperation was held between India, Sri Lanka and Maldives in Colombo

STATIC GK

UNICEF:
- Headquarters: New York, United States
- Head: Henrietta H. Fore

Afghanistan:
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• Capital: Kabul
• President: Ashraf Ghani
• Currency: Afghan afghani

**United Nations:**
• Headquarters: New York, United States
• Founded: 24 October 1945
• Secretary general: António Guterres

**Maldives:**
• Capital: Malé
• Currency: Maldivian rufiyaa
• President: Ibrahim Mohamed Solih

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**CURRENT AFFAIRS: BANKING AND FINANCE**

**LIC launches digital application tool for agents**
• Life Insurance Corporation of India has launched a digital application for agents for on boarding to get a life insurance policy.
• The Digital Application is called “ANANDA”, which is an acronym for Atma Nirbhar Agents NewBusiness Digital Application.

**Moody’s revises India’s 2020-21 GDP contraction to 10.6%**
• Moody’s Investors Service has revised its GDP projection for India in 2020-21 to a 10.6% contraction compared to a 11.5% drop it had estimated. The rating agency has also marginally elevated its forecast for 2021-22 GDP growth from 10.6% to 10.8%.

**Mastercard, USTATED join hands for Project Kirana to empower women through financial inclusion**
• Global payments technology major Mastercard has joined hands with the United States Agency for International Development (USTATED for Project Kirana that will help increase revenue streams, expand financial inclusion and digital payments adoption of kirana shops that are owned or operated by women.

**SBI Signs Pact With Luxembourg Stock Exchange**
• State Bank of India (SBI) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Luxembourg Stock Exchange (LuxSe). The MoU will help SBI and LuxSE set up a long-term cooperation mechanism, and promote ESG (Environmental, Social, and Corporate Governance) and green finance.

**RBI Imposes Over Rs 5.78 Crore Fine on Six Entities Including PNB, Sodexo and PhonePe**
• The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a total fine of over Rs 5.78 crore on six entities, including PNB, Sodexo and PhonePe, for violating regulatory guidelines. In exercise of powers vested under Section 30 of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, the RBI has imposed monetary penalty on these entities for non-compliance of regulatory guidelines, it stated.

**RBI panel proposes to raise promoters cap to 26% in private banks**
• An internal working group set up by the RBI has proposed to raise the cap on promoters’ stake in private banks from the current 15 per cent to 26 per cent in 15 years.

**ADB approves $50 mn loan to improve resource planning in West Bengal**
• The Asian Development Bank stated it has approved a USD 50 million loan to improve operational efficiencies and resource planning and management in West Bengal.

South Indian Bank, Canara, Axis, Indian Bank purchase stake in IBBIC
• Canara Bank, Axis Bank, Indian Bank and South Indian Bank have acquired 6.67% stake each in financial technology firm, IBBIC, at Rs 10 per equity share for a cash consideration of Rs 5 lakh each.
• Canara Bank (down 0.27%), Axis Bank (down 1.54%), Indian Bank (up 0.40%) and South Indian Bank (up 4.56%) advanced.

StashFin Partners With Visa To Launch Co-branded Prepaid Cards With Credit Lines
• Singapore-based neobanking startup StashFin announced to have partnered with Visa with an aim to launch co-branded prepaid cards with credit lines and expand its digital banking footprint in existing and new geographies.

Infibeam Avenues collaborates with Bank Muscat for digital payment services
• E-commerce and online payments services provider Infibeam Avenues Limited announced its collaboration with Bank Muscat, Oman’s biggest bank, to offer high-end payment gateway services to merchants in Oman.

HDFC Bank rolls out ‘Mouth Shut’ campaign against cyber frauds
• HDFC Bank has launched the ‘Mouth Shut’ campaign across Tamil Nadu to increase awareness about cyber frauds. The bank plans to conduct Secure Banking workshops, numbering about a hundred across the State in the next four months.

Muthoot Finance, Bajaj Allianz in tie-up for gold jewellery insurance
• Muthoot Finance has tied up with Bajaj Allianz General Insurance to provide insurance on gold jewellery as part of their new initiative, Muthoot Gold Shield, which is backed and powered by Group Affinity All Risk policy of Bajaj Allianz General Insurance.

ESIC extends ABVKY scheme up to June 2021
• ESI Corporation (ESIC) has announced the extension of the “Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana” (ABVKY) by another one year up to June 30, 2021 and relaxed the eligibility conditions for the period between March 24, 2020 and December 31, 2020.

NSDL Payments Bank, HDFC ERG Join Hands To Offer Customised Insurance Solutions To Customers
• HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company has tied up with NSDL Payments Bank Limited to offer a range of general insurance products to the bank’s customers, a company statement stated. NSDL Payments Bank Limited is a subsidiary of National Securities Depository Ltd.

Home Ministry relaxes FCRA account norms for NGOs
• The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has relaxed the norms for the NGOs mandated to maintain FCRA account under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) with the State Bank of India.

IPPB ties-up with PNB MetLife to extend PMJJBY Insurance
• India Post Payments bank (IPPB) has tied-up with PNB MetLife India Insurance, for its customers availing the Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY).
HDFC Life, HDFC Ergo partner for complete cover against Covid -19

- HDFC Life Insurance and HDFC Ergo Health Insurance have partnered to launch a combi product that aims to provide a complete financial protection package in the current Covid-19 pandemic.

Mercedes-Benz joins hands with SBI to target HNI customers

- Mercedes-Benz has joined hands with State Bank of India (SBI) to offer financial benefits to the lender’s High Net Worth Individual (HNI) customers.

CBDT will validate UDIN generated from ICAI portal at the time of upload of Tax Audit Reports: Finance Ministry

- Finance Ministry has stated, CBDT will validate Unique Document Identification Number (UDIN) generated from ICAI portal at the time of upload of Tax Audit Reports.

FDI surges to 30 billion dollars in Apr-Oct this year

- Union Minister Prakash Javadekar stated Foreign Direct Investment into India surged by a healthy 15 percent to 30 billion dollars in April - October this year.

IRDAI approves Mitsui Sumitomo’s Max Life stake swap with MFSL

- Max Financial Services Ltd (MFSL) stated Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irda) 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.

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.

Sebi launches SMARTs program to strengthen investor education framework

- Markets regulator Sebi launched the Securities Market Trainers (SMARTs) program, an initiative aimed at enhancing investor education and awareness. The launch of SMARTs program comes amid World Investor Week being celebrated across the country.

**STATIC GK**

| LIC: | • Chairperson: Rajnish Kumar |
| • Headquarters: Mumbai | • Headquarters: Mumbai |
| • Chairperson: M R Kumar | • Founded: 1 July 1955 |

| Moody’s Investors Service: | • Headquarters: New Delhi |
| • CEO: Raymond W. McDaniel Jr. | • CEO: S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao |
| • Headquarters: New York, New York, United States | | |

| Mastercard: | • Governor: Shaktikanta Das |
| • CEO: Ajaypal Singh Banga | • Deputy Governors: BP Kanungo, MK Jain, MD Patra and M. Rajeshwar Rao. |
| • Headquarters: New York, United States | | |
• Headquarters: Mumbai

ADB:
• Headquarters: Mandaluyong, Philippines
• President: Masatsugu Asakawa

Indian Bank:
• Headquarters: Chennai
• CEO: Padmaja Chunduru
• Tagline: Your Own Bank, Banking That's Twice As Good

Axis Bank:
• CEO: Amitabh Chaudhry
• Headquarters: Mumbai
• Founded: 1993, Ahmedabad

Visa:
• CEO: Alfred F Kelly Jr
• Headquarters: San Francisco, California, United States

HDFC:
• CEO: Aditya Puri
• Headquarters: Mumbai

Muthoot Finance:
• Headquarters: Kochi, Kerala, India
• M. G. George Muthoot: (Chairman)

Employees' State Insurance Corporation:
• ESIC is a Statutory and an Autonomous Body under the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India.
• Founded: 24 February 1952
• Headquarters: New Delhi, India

HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company:
• CEO: Ritesh Kumar
• Headquarters: Mumbai

India Post Payments Bank:
• Headquarters: New Delhi, India
• Pradeep Kumar Bisoi: (Secretary, Department of Post)

J Venkatramu: (MD & CEO)

HDFC Life Insurance:
• CEO: Vibha Padalkar
• Headquarters: Mumbai

HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company:
• CEO: Ritesh Kumar
• Headquarters: Mumbai

Mercedes-Benz AG:
• Headquarters: Stuttgart, Germany
• Ola Källenius, Chairman of the Board of Management

CBDT:
• Headquarters: New Delhi
• Chairman: Pramod Chandra Mody

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India:
• Headquarters: New Delhi, India
• President: Atul Kumar Gupta

Foreign Direct Investment:
• A foreign direct investment (FDI) is an investment made by a firm or individual in one country into business interests located in another country. Generally, FDI takes place when an investor establishes foreign business operations or acquires foreign business assets in a foreign company.

Max Group:
• Headquarters: New Delhi, India
• Analjit Singh (group chairman)
• Rahul Khosla (group president)

IRDAI:
• Headquarters: Hyderabad
• Chairperson: Subhash Chandra Khuntia

ICICI Lombard:
• CEO: Bhargav Dasgupta
• Headquarters: Mumbai

SEBI:
• Founded: 12 April 1992
CURRENT AFFAIRS: BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

CCI approves Reliance-Future deal
- 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.

Indian Oil successfully tests ‘zero-emission e-mobility’
- Indian Oil Corporation Ltd has successfully conducted a ‘Proof of Concept’ feasibility study on ‘zero-emission electric mobility’ at one of its fuel stations in Bengaluru.

SpiceJet launches dedicated freighter services to Leh in Ladakh
- Airline major SpiceJet launched dedicated freighter services connecting Leh with the rest of the country.
- Accordingly, the airline operated its first freighter flight from Delhi to Leh carrying 13 tonnes of cargo supplies. The flight was operated by SpiceXpress, the dedicated cargo arm of SpiceJet.

Honey FPOs will help in achieving the goal of increasing income of small farmers: Narendra Singh Tomar
- The Honey FPO Programme of National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd was inaugurated by Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar. The inauguration programme was hosted online and attended by the new Honey FPOs, farmers and FPOs from various parts of the country.

Flipkart, GiveIndia Foundation provide 50,000 PPE kits to UP
- E-Commerce Company Flipkart in collaboration with GiveIndia Foundation provided 50,000 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) kits to the state government.

STATIC GK

Indian Oil Corporation:
- Chairperson: Shrikant Madhav Vaidya
- Headquarters: New Delhi

SpiceJet:
- CEO: Ajay Singh
- Headquarters: Gurugram

National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd:
- Founded: 2 October 1958
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Chairman: Bijendra Singh

Flipkart Private Limited:
- CEO: Kalyan Krishnamurthy
- Headquarters: Bengaluru, Karnataka
CURRENT AFFAIRS: STATES

Rajasthan govt to give Rs 6,000 to women becoming mothers for second time

- Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot stated Rs 6,000 will be given to women becoming mothers for the second time under a new government scheme. He stated the beneficiary women will get the amount directly in their bank accounts in five phases.

Karnataka aims to become a $50-bn bio-economy by 2025

- Karnataka aims to become a $50-billion bio-economy by doubling the $22.6-billion sector in five years, stated the state government at the Bengaluru Tech Summit.

India International Cherry Blossom Festival in Shillong cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic

- India International Cherry Blossom Festival, the calendar event of Meghalaya which attracts record number of tourists annually in Shillong, has been cancelled this year in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic. The capital, Shillong hosts the only Cherry Blossoms festival in India.

Odisha Assembly passes ‘Odisha Essential Services (Maintenance) Amendment Bill-2020’

- Odisha Essential Services (Maintenance) Amendment Bill-2020 was passed by the state assembly. The bill seeks to amend the existing Act of 1988 to prohibit strikes by employees of essential services in the state.

Country’s first moss garden comes up in Uttarakhand’s Nainital district

- The Uttarakhand forest department dedicated the newly-built Moss Garden to the people, claiming that it is the country’s first such garden, spread over 10 hectares in Kumaon’s Nainital district.

HP govt launches ‘Him Suraksha Abhiyan’ to sensitize people about Covid-19 pandemic

- In Himachal Pradesh, the state government launched ‘Him Suraksha Abhiyan’ to sensitize the people regarding Covid-19 pandemic and also to collect information regarding symptoms of diseases like TB, Leprosy, sugar and blood pressure by door to door campaign throughout the State.

Goa CM Pramod Sawant launches WhatsApp helpline for women in distress

- Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant launched a Whatsapp helpline for women in distress in the state here at Police Headquarters, Panaji. As an additional measure of safety for women in distress, an exclusive Whatsapp helpline number 7875756177 is launched.

First cow hospital of Northeast inaugurated in Assam’s Dibrugarh

- A cow shelter in Assam’s Dibrugarh inaugurated Northeast’s first-ever cow hospital, on the occasion of Gopashtami.

UP govt passes ordinance to ban unlawful religious conversions for marriage

- Uttar Pradesh government has passed an ordinance to ban unlawful religious conversions for marriage. Unlawful conversion for the sake of getting married through force, deceit, undue pressure or by way of alluring into marriage will come into category of non-bailable offence and can lead to imprisonment of a maximum of 10 years and penalty of 50 thousand rupees.

Bengaluru’s Bowring Medical College Named After Atal Bihari Vajpayee

- The Bowring and Lady Curzon Medical College and Research Institute in Bengaluru has been named after former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
Ayodhya Airport to be renamed as Maryada Purushottam Sri Ram Airport, Yogi Adityanath govt decides

- Uttar Pradesh Cabinet led by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has cleared the proposal to rename the Ayodhya airport as Maryada Purushottam Sri Ram Airport, Ayodhya.

Uttarakhand wildlife board clears proposal to de-notify elephant reserve

- The Uttarakhand State Wildlife Advisory Board approved the de-notification of Shivalik Elephant Reserve as an elephant reserve to pave way for the expansion of the Dehradun airport project, stated forest officials.

West Bengal govt accepts expert panel’s recommendation to reduce syllabus for classes 10th and 12th for 2020-21

- The West Bengal government has accepted the recommendations of an expert panel to reduce the curriculum at secondary and higher secondary levels due to the pandemic, Education Minister Partha Chatterjee stated.

UP Government Okays Ambitious Ganga Expressway Project Worth Rs. 36,402 Crore

- The Uttar Pradesh government has approved an ambitious 594-km Ganga Expressway project worth Rs. 36,402 crore running along the river from Hardwar to Allahabad.

Ladakh gets largest solar project at Leh IAF station

- The Union Territory of Ladakh has got the largest solar power project setup under the Centre's 'Make In India' initiative at Leh IAF station to provide sustainable energy alternative to fossil fuel and traditional methods of energy generation.

LG Manoj Sinha releases Panchayat Newsletter "Parivartan" first ever publication in five official languages of J&K

- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha has released Panchayat Newsletter "Parivartan" - a first ever publication in five official languages of J&K at Raj Bhavan, Jammu.

Haveri rly station renamed Mahadevappa Mailara Railway station

- The Karnataka government has issued a notification, renaming Haveri Railway station as Mahadevappa Mailara Railway Station. It has been a long-standing demand of the public and representatives from Haveri District to name the Haveri station after Mahadevappa Mailara, a freedom fighter from the district, South Western Railway stated.

PM Modi launches ‘Har Ghar Nal Yojna’, 3,000 villages in Uttar Pradesh to benefit

- Prime minister Narendra Modi launched ‘Har Ghar Nal Yojna’ (tap water to every household), for Sonbhadra and Mirzapur in Vindhya region of Uttar Pradesh via video conference, while chief minister Yogi Adityanath was present in Sonbhadra.

Assam proposes 6th national park in militancy ravaged forest

- The Assam government has proposed setting up a national park in a militancy ravaged reserve forest, which, if approved, would make it the state’s sixth national park.

Trifed of m/o tribal affairs and state of Goa to implement ‘Goatribal plan’

- TRIFED under Ministry of Tribal Affairs held a virtual meeting with Goa Administration to finalize the Goa Tribal Development Plan. The main agenda of the meeting was to finalise the Tribal Development Plan for the state of Goa for the establishment of 25 Van DhanVikas Kendras, 1 Tribal food park, 2 showrooms in North and South Goa.

India’s first IoT enabled Smart Trolleys at GMR Hyderabad International Airport
GMR Hyderabad International Airport has gone digital by envisioning an airport platform using the Internet of Things (IoT).

The GMR Hyderabad has deployed 'IoT enabled smart baggage trolleys', for the comfort of passengers. It will make it easier for the passengers to track and maintain the baggage trolleys in real-time across the airport.

**STATIC GK**

**Rajasthan:**
- Governor: Kalraj Mishra
- Capital: Jaipur (Executive Branch)
- Chief minister: Ashok Gehlot

**Karnataka:**
- Capital: Bengaluru
- Governor: Vajubhai Vala
- Chief minister: B. S. Yediyurappa

**Meghalaya:**
- Capital: Shillong
- Governor: Satya Pal Malik
- Chief minister: Conrad Sangma

**Odisha:**
- Capital: Bhubaneswar
- Governor: Ganeshi Lal
- Chief minister: Naveen Patnaik

**Uttarakhand:**
- Governor: Baby Rani Maurya
- Capitals: Dehradun (Winter), Gairsain (Summer)
- Chief Minister: Trivendra Singh Rawat

**Himachal Pradesh:**
- Governor: Bandaru Dattatreya
- Capitals: Shimla (Summer), Dharamshala (Winter)
- Chief minister: Jai Ram Thakur

**Goa:**
- Capital: Panaji (Panjim)
- Governor: Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- Chief Minister: Pramod Sawant

**Assam:**
- Capital: Dispur
- Chief minister: Sarbananda Sonowal
- Governor: Jagdish Mukhi

**Uttar Pradesh:**
- Governor: Anandiben Patel
- Capital: Lucknow
- Chief minister: Yogi Adityanath

**Uttarakhand:**
- Governor: Baby Rani Maurya
- Capitals: Dehradun (Winter), Gairsain (Summer)
- Chief Minister: Trivendra Singh Rawat

**West Bengal:**
- Governor: Jagdeep Dhankhar
- Capital: Kolkata
- Chief Minister: Mamta Banerjee

**Ladakh:**
- Lieutenant Governor, R K Mathur
- Capital: Leh, Kargil

**MoTA:**
- Minister of Tribal Affairs: Arjun Munda
- Constituency: Khunti, Jharkhand

**CURRENT AFFAIRS: APPS AND PORTALS**

*Govt blocks 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.
Important Weekly Current Affairs PDF 21 to 30 November

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.

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.

Prakash Javadeker 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.

STATIC GK

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology:
- Ravi Shankar Prasad, Cabinet Minister
- Sanjay Shamrao Dhotre, Minister of State

Andhra Pradesh:
- Governor: Biswabhusan Harichandan
- Chief minister: Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy
- Capital(s): Visakhapatnam (executive), Amaravati (legislative), Kurnool (judicial)

Tamil Nadu:
- Capital: Chennai
- Chief minister: Edappadi K. Palaniswami
- Governor: Banwarilal Purohit

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change:
- Prakash Javadekar, Cabinet Minister
- Babul Supriyo, Minister of State

CURRENT AFFAIRS: MOU

Eight MoUs announced during ongoing Bengaluru Tech Summit 2020
- During the ongoing 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.

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, Government of India as a technology provider for the upcoming CBG Plants.

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.

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.

HDFC Bank, ICCI join hands to support SMEs, start-ups
• ICCI will evaluate and recommend potential start-ups /SMEs /MSMEs for investments. ICCI (Inventivepreneur Chamber of Commerce and Industries), in its endeavour to support SMEs (small and medium enterprises) and start-ups, has signed an MoU with HDFC Bank.

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.

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.

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.

STATIC GK

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas:
• Dharmendra Pradhan, Cabinet Minister
• Constituency: Madhya Pradesh

BEL:
• Headquarters:Bengaluru, Karnataka
• M V Gowtama;(Chairman & MD)

J&K:
• Capitals: Jammu (Winter), Srinagar (Summer)
• Lt. Governor: Manoj Sinha

Inventivepreneur Chamber of Commerce and Industries:
• Headquarters: New Delhi
• Dr Ritika Yadav: Chairperson

Finland:
• Capital: Helsinki
• Prime minister: Sanna Marin
• Currency: Euro
• President: Sauli Niinistö

FLO & FICCI:
• President of FLO: Jahnabi Phookan
• HQ of FICCI: New Delhi

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• President of FICCI: Sangita Reddy

**CURRENT AFFAIRS: ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS**

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.

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 Pietrowski, an IBM senior partner and the line leader of the company’s Americas enterprise application service business.

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**.

**STATIC GK**

**Bharti Airtel:**
- CEO: Gopal Vittal
- Headquarters: New Delhi

**IBM:**
- CEO: Arvind Krishna
- Headquarters: Armonk, New York, United States

**Competition Commission of India:**
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Ashok Gupta, Chairman
- P K Singh , Secretary

**CURRENT AFFAIRS: APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS**

Oriental Insurance Chief SN Rajeswari appointed as a Member of IRDAI

• Oriental Insurance Company Limited's (OICL) Chairperson & Managing Director **SN Rajeswari** has been appointed as **Whole-Time Member (Distribution)** of the insurance regulator **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)**.

Francisco Sagasti Sworn-In As Peru's Interim President

• Peruvian politician **Francisco Sagasti** has been sworn-in as the country’s interim President. The Congress of the Republic of Peru impeached the previous president **Martin Vizcarra**.

Indian-American Mala Adiga Appointed As Jill Biden's Policy Director

• US President-elect **Joe Biden** appointed an Indian-American, **Mala Adiga**, the policy director of his wife **Jill Biden**, who will be the First Lady.
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 Murlu, the 14th Comptroller and Auditor General of India will assume the charge from Supreme Audit Institution of Switzerland.

Achyuta Samanta elected President of Volleyball Federation of India
- Prof. Achyuta Samanta, MP Kandhamal and Founder, KIIT and KISS has been elected unopposed as the President of Volleyball Federation of India (VFI). He is the first person from Odisha to be elected for this highest and prestigious post.

OneWeb emerges from bankruptcy, announces new mgmt with Sunil Mittal as Exec Chairman
- OneWeb, the Low Earth Orbit (LEO) broadband satellite communications firm, also announced new management with telecom czar Sunil Mittal at the helm as Executive Chairman.

Vijay Kumar Sinha elected as Bihar Assembly Speaker
- Senior BJP leader and NDA nominee Vijay Kumar Sinha was elected as the new speaker of Bihar Assembly. Protem Speaker Jitan Ram Manjhi announced the election result of Assembly speaker.

New Zealand's Greg Barclay elected as new chairman of International Cricket Council
- New Zealand's Greg Barclay has been elected as the new independent chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC). Imran was interim chairman after Shashank Manohar stepped down from the post in July this year. Barclay is the second independent chairman of the world body, after Shashank Manohar of India.

Tata Chemicals appoints N. Chandrasekaran as chairman of board
- Chandrasekaran also chairs the boards of several group operating companies, including Tata Steel, Tata Motors, Tata Power, and TCS.

Lt Gen Harpal Singh appointed new Engineer-in-Chief of Indian Army
- Lt Gen Harpal Singh has been appointed as the new Engineer-in-Chief of the Indian Army. He is presently the Director-General of Border Roads Organisation and would take over his new appointment on December 1.

Burkina Faso president Roch Marc Christian Kabore re-elected
- President Roch Marc Christian Kabore will serve another five years as Burkina Faso’s president, according to provisional results announced by the National Independent Electoral Commission.

Rajnish K Jenaw appointed as CMD, NSFDC
- Rajnish K Jenaw (IP&TA&FS 1992-Batch) has been posted as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of National Schedule Castes Finance & Development Corporation (NSFDC) under the Department of Social Justice & Empowerment for a period up to August 31, 2024, which is the date of his superannuation.

Indian oil Chairman Shri SM Vaidya taken charge as VP of the World LPG Association
- Shri SM Vaidya is appointed as the Vice President of the World LPG Association (WLPGA). Shri SM Vaidya currently is the Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation.
**Peru**
- Capital: Lima
- Currency: Sol

**Inter-Parliamentary Union**
- Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland
- President: Gabriela Cuevas Barron

**Bihar**
- Governor: Phagu Chauhan
- Chief minister: Nitish Kumar
- Capital: Patna

**International Cricket Council**
- CEO: Manu Sawhney
- Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates

**Tata Chemicals**
- CEO: Ramakrishnan Mukundan
- Headquarters: Mumbai

**Indian Army**
- Chief of Defence Staff (CDS): General Bipin Rawat
- Chief of the Army Staff (COAS): General Manoj Mukund Naravane

**Burkina Faso**
- Capital: Ouagadougou
- Currency: CFA franc

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**CURRENT AFFAIRS: AWARDS AND HONORS**

**Bhubaneswar Becomes First City in India to Get ISO Certification for Faecal Sludge and Septage Management**
- *Bhubaneswar* has become the first city in the country to receive the ISO Certification for Faecal Sludge and Septage Management (FSSM). This has been informed by the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC).

**Scottish writer Douglas Stuart wins Booker Prize for debut novel 'Shuggie Bain'**
- Scottish author Douglas Stuart won the Booker Prize for fiction with his first novel *Shuggie Bain*, with judges saying his tale of love and alcoholism set in Glasgow in 1980s was destined to be a classic.

**Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' To Be Conferred With Vatayan Lifetime Achievement Award**
- Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' will be conferred with the Vatayan Lifetime Achievement Award at a virtual ceremony on November 21, 2020. This award will be conferred to the Minister for writing, poetry and other literary works.

**Raah Foundation wins Palghar CSR Award 2020**

**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’.

**Nagaland: KSCDL declared winner at ET Govt Global Smart Cities Forum 2020**
- In Nagaland, Kohima Smart City Development Limited, KSCDL has been declared Winner at the ET Government Global Smart Cities Forum 2020 under the category Best Digital Initiative of the Year (Technology) for Kohima City Wifi Phase-I Project.
Naseeruddin Shah honoured with Aditya Vikram Birla Kalashikhar Puraskar
- Veteran actor Naseeruddin Shah has been honoured with the 2020 Aditya Vikram Birla Kalashikhar Puraskar at annual Sangit Kala Kendra Awards. Alongside, two emerging stars, in the firmament of theatrics - Neel Choudhary and Irawati Karnik were awarded the Aditya Vikram Birla Kalakiran Puraskars. "Theatre" is the central theme, for this year's awards.

Indian web sequel 'Delhi Crime' wins International Emmy award for Best Drama Series
- 'Delhi Crime' has bagged a major win for Indian web series, winning the Best Drama Series award at the 48th International Emmys. This was the first-ever Emmy for an Indian program.

Pilibhit Tiger Reserve gets global award for doubling tiger population
- The Pilibhit Tiger Reserve (PTR) and the Uttar Pradesh Forest department have bagged the first-ever international award, TX2, for doubling the number of tigers in four years against a target of 10 years. PTR was the first to receive the award among 13 tiger range countries.

ISRO Chairman K Sivan receives Doctor of Science Honorary Doctorate
- Karnataka Governor Vajubhai Vala presented Doctor of Science honorary doctorate upon ISRO Chairman K Sivan. The Visvesvaraya Technological University has conferred the doctorate to him.

TN School Girl Wins Award For Designing Solar Powered Ironing Cart
- A 14-year-old class 9th student from Tamil Nadu has won the prestigious Children's Climate Prize for designing a mobile ironing cart that uses solar panels to power a steam iron box instead of using conventional charcoal.

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.

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.

STATIC GK

Odisha
- Capital: Bhubaneswar
- Governor: Ganeshi Lal
- Chief Minister: Naveen Patnaik

Nagaland
- Capital: Kohima
- Governor: RN Ravi
- Chief minister: Neiphiu Rio

ISRO:
- Headquarters: Bangalore, Karnataka, India
- Chairman: Kailasavadivoo Sivan

CURRENT AFFAIRS: SUMMITS AND CONFERENCE

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PM Narendra Modi addresses the India-Luxembourg bilateral virtual summit via video conferencing

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a Bilateral Summit with H.E. Xavier Bettel, Prime Minister of Grand Duchy of Luxembourg in virtual format.

Nirmala Sitharaman attends G20 Finance Ministers' virtual meeting

- Finance Nirmala Sitharaman virtually participated in the G20 Finance Ministers meeting in New Delhi. Finance Ministers of the G20 countries gathered to discuss their views on the global economic outlook and downside risks in wake of the COVID-19 crisis and how G20 could carry forward the collective global action initiated during the crisis.

80th All India Presiding Officers' Conference to be organized at Kevadia on Nov 25

- A two day 80th All India Presiding Officers’ Conference will be organized at Kevadia, Gujarat on 25th of this month. 
  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. President Ram Nath Kovind will inaugurate the two day conference.

India to host G20 Summit in 2023

- India is set to host the G-20 summit in 2023, instead of 2022 — the 75th year of Independence. Indonesia will assume G-20 presidency in 2022 after a swap with India. G20 leaders announced that India will host the summit of the high-profile grouping in 2023 – a year later than what was decided earlier.

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 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.

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.

STATIC GK

Luxembourg

- Capital: Luxembourg
- Currency: Euro

G20 Countries:

- The G20 is an international forum for the governments and central bank governors from 19 countries and the European Union.
  - Founded: 26 September 1999
  - Leader: Salman of Saudi Arabia (2020)
• Chairman: King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud (2020)

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation:
• The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation is an intergovernmental forum for 21 member economies in the Pacific Rim that promotes free trade throughout the Asia-Pacific region.
• Headquarters: Singapore
• Chairperson: Muhyiddin Yassin

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation:
• The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, or Shanghai Pact, is a Eurasian political, economic, and security alliance, the creation of which was announced on 15 June 2001 in Shanghai, China by the leaders.
• Headquarters: Beijing, China
• Founded: 15 June 2001
• Secretary General: Vladimir Norov

CURRENT AFFAIRS: RANKING
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 on the occasion of 'World Fisheries Day' observed by the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India.

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.

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.

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. Nearly half of the people, who paid bribes, stated they were asked to do so, it revealed.
• India was followed by Cambodia at 37 percent and Indonesia stood at third position with bribery rate of 30 percent. India’s neighbouring nation Nepal was much lower on the list at 12 percent.

Global Terrorism Index 2020
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. A higher score, and thus a higher rank (1 being the worst) shows a country more severely affected by terrorism.

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. 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.

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.

STATIC GK

Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying:

- Giriraj Singh, Cabinet Minister
- Constituency: Begusarai
- Sanjeev Kumar Balyan, Minister of State
- Pratap Chandra Sarangi, Minister of State

International Maritime Organization:

- Headquarters: London, United Kingdom
- Head: Secretary-General Kitack Lim

Transparency International:

- Headquarters: Berlin, Germany
- Chairperson: Delia Ferreira Rubio

CURRENT AFFAIRS: BOOKS AND AUTHORS

Shashi Tharoor's latest book "The Battle of Belonging" launched by Prabha Khaitan Foundation

- Shashi Tharoor's latest book “The Battle of Belonging” was formally launched at the Prabha Khaitan Foundation’s signature event Kitab.

PM Modi Releases Book On Life And Ideals Of Guru Nanak Dev

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi released a book on the life and ideals of Guru Nanak Dev, the founder of Sikhism and first of its ten gurus.

CURRENT AFFAIRS: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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.

China to launch moon probe, seeking first lunar rock retrieval since 1970s

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• 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.

**IIT-Madras develops solar-powered unmanned survey craft for Indian ports**

• In a boost to the **indiginisation of Indian maritime sector**, 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.

**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.

**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.

**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,”** on 24 November 2020. The cyclone is currently located **410 km east-southeast of Puducherry** and 450 km southeast of Chennai.
• As per the India Meteorological Department, **Cyclone Nivar** is very likely to intensify into a severe cyclonic storm in the next 24-hours.

**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.

**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).
China:
- Capital: Beijing
- President: Xi Jinping
- Currency: Renminbi

NASA:
- Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States
- Administrator: Jim Bridenstine

International Union for Conservation of Nature:
- Headquarters: Gland, Switzerland
- CEO: Grethel Aguilar

CURRENT AFFAIRS: DEFENCE

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.

30th India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol Took Place Between Nov 18-20
- The 30th edition of India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (Indo-Thai CORPAT) between the Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy took place from November 18-20.
- 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.

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.

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. It will continue till 25th of this month.

Indian Navy gets 9th P-8i anti-submarine warfare aircraft
- Indian Navy has got its ninth Boeing P-8I long-range maritime reconnaissance and anti-submarine warfare aircraft, part of the nearly $1 billion deal with the US for four additional planes signed in 2016. India, which had first signed a contract for eight such aircraft in 2009, is also negotiating a deal for six more P-8Is with the US under the government-to-government route.

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 is being conducted from 18 – 20 November 2020. 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.

DRDO flags off first Varunastra, a heavy weight torpedo
• G. Satheesh Reddy, Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman, DRDO flagged off the first Varunastra, the heavy weight torpedo that was delivered to the Indian Navy at a ceremony held at BDL, Visakhapatnam Unit.

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

• 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.

CURRENT AFFAIRS: SPORTS

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.

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.

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.

Mission Olympic Cell approves Bajrang’s one-month training camp in U.S.A
• 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.

STATIC GK

MoYA&S:
• Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and Minister of State in the Ministry of Minority Affairs of India: Shri Kiren Rijiju
• Constituency: Arunachal West

CURRENT AFFAIRS: OBITUARY

Former Assam Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi Dies At 86
• Former Assam chief minister Tarun Gogoi, who had been battling for his life with post-Covid complications in a hospital for weeks, died of multiple organ failure.
• Born in 1934, Mr. Gogoi served as the Chief Minister of Assam from 2001 to 2016.

Sahitya Academy award winner Shaik Khaja Hussain passes away
• Noted Telugu poet, journalist, scriptwriter, and Kendra Sahitya Academy award winner Shaik Khaja Hussain, popularly known as Devi Priya, passed away. He was born in Tadikonda in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh.

Actor Ashish Roy passes away due to kidney failure
• Popular TV actor Ashish Roy passed away at his Mumbai residence due to kidney ailment. He was 55. Ashish had worked in several shows, including Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise Bhi, and others.

Football Legend Diego Maradona Dies Of Heart Attack At 60
• Diego Maradona, one of the greatest footballers of all time, died at the age of 60, plunging his sport and his native Argentina. Renowned along with Pele as one of the greatest players ever to play the game, the Argentine World Cup-winning captain died of a heart attack, having undergone brain surgery earlier this month.

Prominent Islamic scholar Kalbe Sadiq dies at 83
• Prominent Islamic scholar, reformer, educationalist and vice-president of All India Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB) Maulana Kalbe Sadiq, 83.

Congress Veteran Ahmed Patel Dies at 71 After Battling Covid
• Senior Congress leader Ahmed Patel, who was the political secretary to Congress President Sonia Gandhi, has passed away, after testing positive for Covid-19. He was 71.

FC Kohli, founder of TCS and father of India’s IT industry passes away at 96
• Padma Bhushan awardee, Faqir Chand Kohli, who was the founder and first CEO of Tata Consultancy Services, has passed away after reportedly suffering from a heart attack. He was 96.

James Wolfensohn, former World Bank president, passes away

• James Wolfensohn, who served as the president of the World Bank for 10 years and was a guiding force for a couple of the most well-known cultural institutions in the US, has died. He was 86.

Legendary Bangladeshi actor, Liberation War fighter Aly Zaker passed away

• Eminent Bangladeshi actor and cultural personality Aly Zaker passed away in Dhaka. He was 76. He had been fighting cancer for the last several years.