

## Important Weekly Current Affairs PDF 15 to 21 December

Dear Readers, Here we have given the list of Important Weekly Current Affairs 3<sup>rd</sup> week of December 2020. Candidates those who are preparing for Upcoming IBPS, SBI and other competitive exams can make use of it.

### CURRENT AFFAIRS: DAYS

- International Tea Day 2020 Observed On **December 15**, with the **Theme** of Harnessing Benefits for all From Field to Cup. **India** is the **Second Largest** Producer of tea after **China**.
- Vijay Diwas also called Victory Day is celebrated in India every year on December 16.
- The **International Migrants Day** is observed on **18 December** every year. The **theme** of International Migrants Day 2020 : 'Reimagining Human Mobility'.
- The **Minorities Rights Day** is observed in India every year on **December 18**. The Minorities Rights Day is celebrated by the **National Commission for Minorities (NCM)**.
- **World Arabic Language Day** is celebrated every year on **18 December since 2012**.
- Goa Liberation Day is observed on **December 19** every year in India
- **International Human Solidarity Day** is observed on **December 20** to celebrate the unity in diversity and raise awareness about the importance of solidarity.

### CURRENT AFFAIRS: NATIONAL

- Centre has **exempted Handicraft and Geographical Indications toys from Quality Control Order**. Order will come into effect from **1st January next year**.
- Health minister **Harsh Vardhan** on released the **5th National Family Health Survey (NFHS)** which contains detailed information on population, health and nutrition for India and its states and UTs.
- The **United Kingdom** has confirmed that **Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson** will be the chief guest at **Republic Day Parade in January 2021**.
- **Himgiri**, which is the first of the **three Project 17A** ships being built at **Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE), Kolkata** was launched on **December 14**.
- The government of Maharashtra's Unified Development Control and Promotion Regulations (UDCPR) are expected to bolster real estate development.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** laid the foundation stone of the **world's largest renewable solar and wind energy 30,000 megawatts (MW)** Ultra Mega Hybrid Park in **Gujarat's Kutch**.
- The **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** has set up a dedicated Space **Situational Awareness (SSA)** Control Centre, at its ISTRAC campus at **Peenya, Bangalore**.
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has approved assistance of about **Rs. 3,500 crore** (US\$ 476.10 million) for sugarcane farmers (Ganna Kisan).
- **Quality Council of India (QCI)** at the behest of the FSSAI has come out with a Scheme for approval of **Hygiene Rating Audit Agencies** to scale up Hygiene Rating by increasing the number of recognised Hygiene Rating Audit Agencies in the country.

## Important Weekly Current Affairs PDF 15 to 21 December

- **India and Bangladesh** reopened the **55 years old Chilahati-Haldibari rail link** between the two nations. The inauguration took place during a virtual bilateral summit between **PM Modi** and **PM Sheikh Hasina** on December 17, 2020.
- CCEA (Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the Revised Cost Estimate (RCE) of North Eastern Region Power System Improvement Project (NERPSIP) at an estimated cost of Rs 6,700 crore
- British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has invited India to attend the **G7 Summit next year**.
- **India and Bangladesh** signed **seven MoUs** and agreements during the virtual summit between Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** and Prime Minister **Sheikh Hasina**.
- External Affairs Minister **S Jaishankar** launched a dedicated **economic diplomacy website**.
- Aim : To provide critical and relevant information on major economic indicators, central and state government policy updates as well as the latest business news and trade data.
- **The Government of India and New Development Bank** signed a loan agreement for **one thousand million dollars** to provide support to Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan through **MGNREGA Scheme**.
- **Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)** meeting, headed by Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh**, approved proposals to procure equipment worth **Rs 27,000 crore** from the domestic industry.
- To commemorate **Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's 125th birth anniversary** on **23rd January**, the Union Culture Ministry was planning a museum in **Kolkata**.
- Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways and MSMEs **Nitin Gadkari** has stated that the Government has finalised **GPS-based(Global Positioning System)** technology toll collection to ensure seamless movement of vehicles across the country.
- The **Nehru Zoological Park** in Hyderabad has become the **first zoo in the country** to receive the **ISO 9001:2015** Quality Management Standards Certification from the Accreditation Services for Certification Bodies (ASCB), UK.
- The Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad has also become the **first zoo in the country to get ISO certificate**.
- Chief Minister **Naveen Patnaik** launched 'Pareshram' Portal along with **22 online services** of **Labour and Employees State Insurance Department**.
- Road Transport and Highways Minister **Nitin Gadkari** will inaugurate and lay the foundation stone for **33 highway projects** in Karnataka.
- **Skill India** has established the **first Centre of Excellence for Skill Development in the Power Sector** in the campus of **National Institute of Solar Energy, Gurugram Haryana**.
- In **Uttar Pradesh**, Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will be the **chief guest** at the **virtual centenary celebrations of Aligarh Muslim University** .
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** is set to address the **India-Japan Samvad Conference** on **December 21**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will deliver the inaugural address at the **India International Science Festival (IISF) 2020** through video conferencing.

## Important Weekly Current Affairs PDF 15 to 21 December

### CURRENT AFFAIRS: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- **The State of the Education Report for India 2020:** Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), was launched virtually by UNESCO New Delhi.
- **Singapore's** tradition of communal dining at hawker centres, has been recognised by **UNESCO** for its **cultural** significance.

### CURRENT AFFAIRS: STATE NEWS

- In **Uttar Pradesh**, the government has launched a **special campaign to curb property & land-related disputes in rural areas**.
- A **mega leather park** will come up in **Ramaipur village** of **Kanpur** with an investment of **Rs 5,850 crores**. The park which is part of the mega leather cluster project is likely to create **50,000 jobs**, for **5 lakh people**.

### CURRENT AFFAIRS: BANKING & FINANCE

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has decided to set up an **Automated Banknote Processing Centre (ABPC)** in **Jaipur**.
- Rating agency **CRISIL** has lowered the contraction rate of **India's GDP**, and now expects the growth rate of Indian economy to **contract 7.7%** in the ongoing **fiscal 2020-21**, compared to the **9%** forecast in September 2020, due to **faster-than-expected** recovery in the second quarter.
- **IFSCA** has notified **International Financial Services Centres Authority Regulations 2020**
- Coming out with corrected **Doing Business rankings** following review of data irregularities, the **World Bank** has announced that **China's ranking** would have been lower by **seven notches** in the index for 2018.
- The **World Bank** has approved **4 India projects** worth **\$800 million** to **support development initiatives**.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has imposed a monetary penalty of **₹00 lakh** on **The Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd** in **Kerala**.
- **S&P Global Ratings** has raised India's growth projection for the current fiscal to **(-) 7.7 %** from **(-) 9 %** estimated earlier.
- **Department of Posts and India Post Payments Bank** unveiled a new digital payment app **DakPay** on **December 15, 2020**.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has approved the re-appointments of **Uday Kotak** as **MD & CEO** of **Kotak Mahindra Bank** for further three years, with effect from **January 1, 2021**.
- India's GDP growth is expected to be at **(-) 7.4 per cent** in **FY21** on better than projected recovery, stated a **SBI** research report, upgrading its earlier forecast of **(-) 10.9 per cent**.
- Domestic rating agency **ICRA Ratings** expects the technical recession in the country's economy to end in the fourth quarter of the current fiscal, limiting the contraction to **8%** in the **financial year 2021**.

### CURRENT AFFAIRS: BUSINESS NEWS

- The **SoftBank-backed firm Ola Electric** has announced a **Rs 2,400-crore** (\$320 million) investment plan to set up, what it calls, the **'world's largest' electric scooter (e-scooter)** manufacturing plant in **Hosur, Tamil Nadu**.

## Important Weekly Current Affairs PDF 15 to 21 December

- An indigenously-built interceptor boat joined the Indian Coast Guard on December 15 at a function in Hazira in Surat district in Gujarat.
- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari stated the National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP), infrastructure projects worth ₹ 44 lakh crore are under implementation.

### CURRENT AFFAIRS: SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will launch communication satellite CMS-01 aboard Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C50) on December 17, 2020.
- 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.

### CURRENT AFFAIRS: SUMMITS & CONFERENCE

- The ninth edition of the Sustainable Mountain Development Summit (SMDS) in Dehradun has begun from December 11 to 14.
- 9<sup>th</sup> SMDS Theme is Emerging Pathways for Building a Resilient Post COVID-19 Mountain Economy, Adaptation, Innovation and Acceleration.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi address the Climate Ambition Summit 2020, United Nations, United Kingdom and France Virtually Co-hosted.
- The first Trilateral Working Group Meeting between India, Iran and Uzbekistan on the joint use of Chabahar Port was held virtually On Dec 14.

### CURRENT AFFAIRS: SCHEMES

- Housing and Urban Affairs Secretary Durga Shanker Mishra launched a programme of Socio-Economic Profiling of PM SVANidhi Scheme.
- AICTE has decided to release the instalment of Rs 20,000 as maintenance allowance under Prime Minister's Special Scholarship Scheme (PMSSS) for the students of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

### CURRENT AFFAIRS: AGREEMENTS

- 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.
- The Government of India and the World Bank have signed a 400 million dollar project to protect India's poor and vulnerable from the impact of COVID-19.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a \$300 million loan to upgrade rural power distribution networks to provide reliable electricity supply to consumers in the state of Uttar Pradesh.

### CURRENT AFFAIRS: AWARDS

- The UN Environment Program (UNEP) on announced six winners of the 2020 Champions of the Earth Award range of categories including Lifetime Achievement, Inspiration and Action, Policy Leadership, Entrepreneur Vision, Science and Innovation.
- IUCN Asia Regional Office congratulates Paul Sein Twa, recipient of the Goldman Environmental Prize 2020 for Asia

## Important Weekly Current Affairs PDF 15 to 21 December

- **Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)** has been awarded with the prestigious **Golden Peacock Environment Management Award for the year 2020** in the Steel Sector by the Institute of Directors.
- The chairman emeritus of the Tata group **Ratan Tata** will be honoured with the **Global Visionary of Sustainable Business and Peace** award during the launch of the **Federation of Indo-Israel Chamber of Commerce's** international chapter in **Dubai on December 21**.
- Prime Minister, **Narendra Modi** addressed the '**ASSOCHAM Foundation Week 2020**' via video conferencing on **19th December 2020**.
- **Ravi Shankar Prasad**, Minister of Communications and Electronics & IT and **Sanjay Shamrao Dhotre**, Minister of State for Communications and Electronics & IT, presented the **Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Telecom Skill Excellence Awards** including cash award.
- In **Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Telecom Skill Excellence Awards First Prize** – **Sreenivas Karanam** of Bangalore – Rs 50,000 **Second Prize** – **Prof. Subrat Kar** of New Delhi – Rs 30,000
- **Vidyut Mohan** was one of the **Young Champions of the Earth** winners by **United Nations Environment Programme**.

### CURRENT AFFAIRS: BOOKS

- **Amish Tripathi**, has announced his second non-fiction book titled **Dharma: Decoding the Epics for A Meaningful Life**. The book will be released on **December 28, 2020**.

### CURRENT AFFAIRS: APPOINTMENTS

- **Prasar Bharati CEO Shashi Shekhar Vempati** has been elected as the **Vice President of Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU)**, one of the largest broadcasting associations in the world.
- **National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)** chairman **Sukhbir Singh Sandhu** has received a **six months extension** in his central deputation. He was due to end his second extension term on **January 21 next year**.

### CURRENT AFFAIRS: DEFENSE NEWS

- **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)** ship **Sujeet**, the second in the series of five **Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV)** built by **Goa Shipyard Limited**, will be commissioned at **Goa on December 15**.
- The **35th edition of India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol (IND-INDO CORPAT)** between the **Indian Navy** and the **Indonesian Navy** will be conducted between **December 17 and 18**.
- 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**.

### CURRENT AFFAIRS: RANKING

- **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)**.
- **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.

### CURRENT AFFAIRS: SPORTS

- 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
- Pakistan fast bowler **Mohammad Amir** has decided to quit international cricket alleging 'mental torture' from the **Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB)**.
- 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.
- 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**.
- The **Best FIFA Football Awards 2020** was announced on **17th December 2020**, during a virtual event held at
- The **Ministry of AYUSH** and **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports** announced the formal recognition of **Yogasana** as a **Competitive Sport**.

### CURRENT AFFAIRS: OBITUARIES

- Veteran politician and **five-time MP Radhika Ranjan Pramanik** died. He was 88.
- **Ambrose Dlamini**, the Prime Minister of **Eswatini**, a country in Southern Africa, has passed away due to coronavirus. He was 52.
- **Eminent aerospace scientist and Padma Vibhushan awardee Roddam Narasimha** passed away on December 14, He was 87.
- In Afghanistan, **deputy governor of Kabul Mahbubullah Muhibbi** has been killed in a sticky bomb **attack in the capital city** on December 15.
- Veteran wrestler and first Hind Kesari Shripati Khanchanale passed away on December 14. He was 86.
- Vice Admiral Srikant, the senior most submariner of the Indian Navy, died due to COVID-19 related complications. He was the Director General of Project Seabird.
- Former Australia Test all-rounder Eric Freeman has passed away at the age of 76.
- Former BJP MP, **Satya Dev Singh**, one of the senior-most leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party, has passed away. He was 75.
- Senior **Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS)** ideologue and first spokesperson of the organization, **Madhav Govind Vaidya** passed away. He was 97.