

Monthly Master Key Points - April 2021

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Monthly Master Key Points - April 2021

Master Key point Index–April 2021

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Monthly Master Key Points - April 2021

Banking & Finance

Policy Repo Rate → 4.00%

Reverse Repo Rate → 3.35%

Marginal Standing Facility Rate → 4.25%

Bank Rate → 4.25%

- Reserve Bank of India, RBI → extended the deadline to process recurring online transactions with additional factor of authentication AFA → 30th September of this year
- World Bank Board of Executive Directors → approved USD 32 million project → improve management capacity and quality of health services in Mizoram.
- RBI → twin the deposit limit of payments banks → Rs.2 lakh from Rs.1 Lakh
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) → decided to enhance the aggregate limit of ways and means advance (WMA) limit → all States and Union Territories to Rs.47,010 crore → which is an increase of 46 per cent from the current limit of Rs.32,225 crore.
- RBI → mandatory interoperability of full KYC prepaid instruments
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) → provide refinance aggregating Rs.50,000 crore → All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs) → The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development will get Rs.25,000 crore, National Housing Bank Rs.10,000 crore, and Small Industries Development Bank of India Rs.15,000 crore.
- The Reserve Bank of India → publish → Financial Inclusion Index annually
- Jeep India + Axis Bank jointly → Jeep Financial Services
- China Development Bank → extend loan to Sri Lanka → USD 500 million
- Leading German lender Deutsche Bank AG will lend €68.87 million (nearly ₹600 crore) → National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)
- Paytm Payments Bank → records 970 m digital transactions → March
- National Housing Bank (NHB) → Rs.10,000-crore 'Special Refinance Facility-2021' (SRF-2021) → provide short term refinance support to housing finance companies (HFCs) and other eligible Primary Lending Institutions (PLIs).

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- HDFC Bank said it is planning to raise up Rs 50,000 crore → next 12 months → through issuing bonds.
- Eight institutions and individuals have applied → on-tap licenses → set up universal banks and small finance banks.
- Food delivery platform Swiggy is set to raise up to \$500 million from SoftBank Vision Fund 2 at a market valuation of nearly \$5.5 billion → according to reliable industry sources.
- The government of Bangladesh → agreement for USD 250 million financing from the World Bank → help create more and better jobs, recover faster from the COVID-19 pandemic and build resilience to future crises.
- Reserve Bank of India h → restrictions → American Express Banking Corp and Diners Club International Limited → adding new customers to their card networks from 1st May.
- Paytm → launched → new video-based wealth community → Paytm Wealth Community.
- Budget proposal not affected ULIP (Unit Linked Insurance Plan) segment of ICICI Pru Life → MD and CEO NS Kannan
- Blackstone said → acquire a majority stake in Mphasis Ltd.
- DBS Bank → buy Citi's consumer banking business in India
- Neobank Fi → partnership → Federal Bank → open instant savings account
- RBI → Introduction of a bad bank → monitoring movement of funds between banks and ARCs
- Punjab Govt pays → Rs.10,085 cr online directly to farmers → buying wheat
- RBI allows → 15-year tenure for MD & CEO → private banks
- Uttar Pradesh-based Shivalik Small Finance Bank → commenced operations as a small finance bank → effect from April 26 → according to the Reserve Bank of India.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) → issued guidelines → appointment of Statutory Central Auditors (SCAs)/Statutory Auditors (SAs) in commercial banks, urban co-operative banks and non-banking finance companies from FY22 onwards → whereby they will have to appoint SCAs/SAs for a continuous period of three years.

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- Tamilnad Mercantile Bank (TMB) → reported an impressive performance on many parameters in FY21 → Tuticorin-based bank's net profit grew 48 per cent at Rs.603 crore in 2020-21 as compared to Rs.408 crore in 2019-20.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) → provided \$ 1.5 billion to India → deal the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Indian Bank MoU Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited → provide seamless telecom services to the bank at a competitive rate.

Business & Economy

- Central Government → proposed up to 25 percent tax concession → purchase of new vehicles on submission of scrappage certificate.
- United Payments Interface (UPI) → processed Rs 5.04 lakh crore in transaction value → an all time high during March 2021 → showed data shared by regulator National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).
- India has attracted → total FDI inflow of USD 72.12 billion → April 2020 to January, 2021.
- International Monetary Fund (IMF) → growth projection for India → 12.5 per cent for the Financial Year 2021-22.
- International Monetary Fund → projected a 5 percent growth rate → Bangladesh for the year 2021.
- Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana → completed six years → It is a scheme under which loans of upto 10 Lakh rupees are provided to the non-corporate, non-farm, small and micro enterprises → Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana was launched on 8th April 2015
- Digital healthcare platform → Practo launches → online consultations in 15 vernacular languages
- CRISIL → reported India's GDP rate at -7% for FY21 and 11% for FY22
- The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) → GDP growth rate of India at 7% in 2021-22

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- The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) → transferred all its Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS) transaction business → NPCI Bharat BillPay Limited (NBBL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of NPCI.
- Flipkart + Adani Group → create 2,500 direct jobs
- Facebook + Google → launch 2 new undersea internet cables from US West Coast to Singapore and Indonesia
- Microsoft → obtain speech-recognition firm → Nuance for USD 16 billion
- FM N Sitharaman → virtual meet with President World Bank Group David Malpass → India and India's strategy of green resilient and inclusive development.
- Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation provides → India's First Green Bonds of 150 crore cost of 8.1 percent through the issuance of green bonds.
- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari → American electric car major Tesla → to set up its manufacturing facility in India given the country's thrust on e-vehicles.
- Wipro will embark on a robust hiring plan (with a YoY growth in recruitments) → offer skill-based bonuses and salary increments for senior employees after the IT services firm adopted a new operating model last quarter with a more linear structure.
- E-commerce giant Amazon → USD 250 million (about Rs 1,873 crore) fund → focus on digitising small and medium businesses, and driving innovation in the areas of agri-tech and health-tech in India.
- India's pharmaexports → jumped over 18 percent to 24.4 billion dollars → during the last financial year in comparison to the 2020 fiscal year.
- DoT Department of Telecom gets → Rs 2,307 cr from Jio, Airtel by assigning some spectrum
- Elon Musk's SpaceX bags → \$2.89 billion moon lander contract → by NASA
- The Cabinet gave → ex-post facto approval for the Government amendments to the Finance Bill, 2021 enacted on 28th March this year as the Finance Act, 2021.
- India's export of Agricultural and allied commodities → expressed an impressive increase of 18.49 per cent during 2020-2021
- Hero MotoCorp + Taiwan's Gogoro Inc → develop electric vehicles for the Indian market.

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- ReNew Power projects → 105-megawatt solar project → Gujarat
- Ola Electric → it will bring its electric scooter to the Indian market in July this year → working on setting up a 'Hypercharger Network' to include one lakh charging points across 400 cities.
- India Ratings and Research → FY22 real GDP growth forecast to 10.1 per cent, from earlier projection of 10.4 per cent,
- Bharat Biotech → ready to sell Covaxin at Rs 600 to States, Rs 1200 → private hospitals
- Govt extends deadline → making payment for Vivad Se Vishwas scheme → June 30
- Agriculture Infrastructure Fund → marks its applications cross → Rs. 8,000 crore
- ADB projected → India GDP growth → 11% in FY21-22, moderate to 7% in FY22-23
- Government has left the GPF and other non-government PF interest rates unchanged → 7.1 percent.
- LinkedIn list → best workplaces for 2021 → top spot bags by TCS, Cognizant, Accenture
- Govt acquires → 258 lakh tonnes of Wheat → benefiting more than 25 lakh farmers so far in States and Union Territories.
- IRDAI → demands insurers to settle Covid related cashless insurance claims → within 1 hour (60 minutes)
- Hero MotoCorp → unveils virtual showroom → sell vehicles amid coronavirus pandemic
- Vedanta Chairman Anil Agarwal → pledges Rs 150 crore → help India fight against COVID-19
- ICICI Bank → unveils contactless banking platform for merchants

National News

- The Union Cabinet → approved the Central Sector Scheme called “Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industry (PLISFPI)” → with an outlay of Rs.10900 crore → Scheme will be implemented over a six year period from 2021-22 to 2026-27.
- Savings deposit rate has been revised → 4 per cent to 3.5 per cent annually
- Public Provident Fund rate has been cut down → 6.4 per cent from 7.1 per cent annually.
- The interest rate on National Savings Certificates has been reduced → 5.9 per cent from existing 6.8 percent and Kisan Vikas Patra → give a yield of 6.2 percent and mature in 138 months.

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- The girl child savings scheme Sukanya Samridhi Yojana → 6.9 percent interest rate instead of earlier 7.6 per cent
- Senior citizen savings schemes rate → 6.5 per cent quarterly.
- The Ministry of AYUSH → invited applications → for the Prime Minister's Yoga Awards (PMYA).
- Stand-Up India Scheme → About Rs.25,586 crore Loans has been sanctioned by banks since 2016
- Dutch development bank FMO → will invest \$137 million in Green Growth Equity Fund (GGEF) → managed by EverSource Capital, that invests in India's green energy space such as clean energy, transportation, resource efficiency and energy services.
- Government launched → All-India Survey of Migrant Workers and All-India Quarterly Establishment-based Employment Survey.
- The Information and Broadcasting Ministry → urged private TV channels → generate greater awareness on the message of Dawai Bhi Kadai Bhi by disseminating messages for COVID-appropriate behavior and vaccination of eligible persons.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi → lauded the completion of Arch closure of the Chenab Bridge → It is the world's highest Railway Bridge in Jammu and Kashmir.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi → chair a meeting of the High-Level Committee → commemorate the 400th Birth Anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur through video conferencing.
- Union Ministers Dr Harsh Vardhan and Arjun Munda jointly inaugurates → Tribal Health Collaborative → 'Anamaya'
- Union Cabinet → approved Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme → 'National Programme on High Efficiency Solar PV Modules' for Air Conditioners and LED Lights → with an outlay of Rs 4,500 crore.
- The first online Pre-Departure Orientation Training, PDOT Programme for migrant workers → launched today → supplement physical training being held in PDOT Centres.
- Minister of State for Development of North Eastern Region, DoNER Dr. Jitendra Singh → said that more than Rs. 250 crore → sanctioned for augmenting healthcare facilities in the North-Eastern States for effective management of COVID-19.

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- Minister of State in PMO Dr. Jitendra Singh → flagged off India Russia Friendship Car Rally 2021 → organized by International Friendship Car Rally Association, IFCRA in New Delhi → The Car rally will take place in Russia from 18th to 20th April.
- Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank → launched an initiative SARTHAQ → which will help in the implementation of National Education Policy in the country.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh → congratulated DRDO and DMSRDE Kanpur → developing a LightWeight BulletProof Jacket.
- Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (Independent charge) Mansukh Mandaviya → launched a new cruise service connecting Hazira port in Surat and Diu Island.
- The second meeting of the Sherpas of G7 and guest countries Concluded → India's G7 Sherpa Suresh Prabhu attended the meeting.
- TRIFED under Ministry of Tribal Affairs → launched "Sankalp se Siddhi" - Village and Digital Connect Drive → It is a 100 day drive which was started from 1st of this month.
- The government → declared → Ambedkar Jayanti, the birth anniversary of Dr BR Ambedkar which falls on 14 April every year, as a public holiday with effect from 2021 → under Section 25 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 → On 14 April 2021, India will celebrate the 130th birth anniversary of Babasaheb Ambedkar.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi → India and the Netherlands are working together for a supply chain in Indo-pacific region.
- India and the Netherlands → strategic partnership in the water sector → further intensify ongoing cooperation and better coherence in the area.
- NITI Aayog → first-of-its kind Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) handbook in India.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh → meeting with the Defence Minister of Kazakhstan Lieutenant General Nurlan Yermekbayev in New Delhi → During the meeting, the two Ministers exchanged views to further strengthen bilateral defence cooperation in various fields.
- Minister of State in PMO Dr. Jitendra Singh → called for celebrating the Teeka Utsav by facilitating vaccination among those who are entitled to receive the jab.

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- Prime Minister Narendra Modi appealed to everyone → follow a fourfold principle → 'Each One, Vaccinate One', 'Each One, Treat One', 'Each One, Save One' → as the nation kick-starts four day special vaccination drive, Teeka Utsav.
- Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu → released a commemorative postage stamp → in the memory of former Chief of Brahma Kumaris Rajyogini Dadi Janki in New Delhi.
- Minister for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions Dr Jitendra Singh → launched 75 series Pension awareness → mark 75 years of India's independence.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh → inaugurated → First bi-annual Indian Air Force, IAF Commanders' Conference 2021 at Air Headquarters Vayu Bhawan in New Delhi.
- NITI Aayog + Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Centre for Social and Behaviour Change, Ashoka University → launched Poshan Gyan → a national digital repository on health and nutrition.
- EdCIL (India) Limited, a Mini Ratna Category-I Central Public Sector Enterprises under Ministry of Education, → paid a highest ever dividend of 12.5 Crore rupees for the year 2019-20.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi → Interacted with Chief Executive Officer of Intel, Pat Gelsinger through video conferencing → Both had extensive discussions on the role of technology in furthering human progress.
- The Siachen Warriors → celebrated the 37th Siachen Day with tremendous zeal and enthusiasm.
- Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan → launches Aahaar Kranti mission → designed to address the peculiar problem of hunger and diseases in abundance, being faced by India and the world.
- Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad v launched the Online Grievance Management Portal of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes.
- Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal → chaired the first meeting of the National Startup Advisory Council → The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade had constituted this Council to advise the Government on measures needed to build a strong ecosystem for nurturing innovation and startups in the country.

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- Union Health Ministry → said that 100 new Hospitals in the country will have their own Oxygen plant → under Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations (PM-CARES) Fund.
- Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology Ajay Prakash Sawhney → inaugurated three path breaking initiatives for National Internet Exchange of India, NIXI → These initiatives are IP Guru, NIXI Academy and NIXI-IP-INDEX.
- Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri → launched the EatSmart Cities Challenge and Transport 4 All Challenge through video conferencing.
- Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank → launched World 1st affordable and long-lasting hygiene product DuroKea Series.
- Tourism and Culture Minister Prahlad Singh Patel → inaugurated the first-ever online exhibition on Ramayana → The weblink for the online exhibition is www.nmvirtual.in/Virtual_Tour/Ramayan.
- The dedicated Covid hospital re-established by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) will become operational → The hospital has been established near Domestic Airport Terminal in New Delhi. It has 500 ICU beds.
- The Health Ministry → 162 Pressure Swing Adsorption, PSA oxygen plants have been sanctioned by Government of India → installation in public health facilities in all States and these will augment medical oxygen capacity by over 154 Metric Tonnes.
- Gallantry Awards portal → Innovative Tributes to Bravehearts competition
- Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal → launched → Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS) → The Fund aims to provide financial assistance to startups for proof of concept, prototype development, product trials, market entry and commercialization.
- Air Force chief RKS Bhadauria → five day visit to France for defence cooperation
- Indian Oil → begun the supply of 150 Metric Tonnes of Oxygen at no cost to various hospitals in Delhi, Haryana and Punjab.
- Centre → increase insurance scheme for health workers → under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package for one year

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- Prime Minister Narendra Modi → lauded the efforts of Tata Group for importing 24 cryogenic containers to transport liquid oxygen and help in easing the oxygen shortage in the country.
- Labour Ministry → restarts 20 Control Rooms → diminish problems of migrant workers
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi → address Leaders' Summit on Climate → The two-day summit will be held virtually → Theme - Our Collective Sprint to 2030.
- Covishield → cost Rs 400 for state govt hospitals and Rs 600 for govt hospitals
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi → Addressing Leaders' Climate Summit → announced a US-India partnership → clean energy and climate change.
- The Center has directed States and Union Territories → ensure that there should be no restriction imposed on the movement of Medical Oxygen between the States and transport authorities shall be instructed to allow free inter-state movement of oxygen-carrying vehicles.
- 1st Oxygen Express with Liquid Medical Oxygen tankers → journey for Mumbai from Visakhapatnam → Ro-Ro service of Railways.
- PM Modi greets US President Joe Biden → joining India-Sweden climate initiative → the Leadership Group for Industry Transition LeadIT
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi → launch the distribution of e-property cards → under the SVAMITVA scheme.
- Indian Navy → processing the mission of → 'Oxygen Express' to Island territories
- External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar → expressed grief → over the demise of an Indian nuclear scientist → Krishnamurthy Santhanam.
- Responding to the need of fresh guidelines in the face of the emergence of the second wave of the pandemic → Ministry of Ayush released revised guidelines for Ayurveda and Unani Practitioners → COVID-19 Patients in Home Isolation and Ayurveda and Unani Preventive Measures for self-care during COVID-19 Pandemic.
- China's state-run Sichuan Airlines → does a "U-Turn" - plan to resume → cargo services to India
- Ministry of Steel → Over 3,130 MTs of Liquid Medical oxygen supplied by steel Plants to various states → provide better educational opportunities for Ladakhi students

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- Railways → 4,000 Covid Care coaches with almost 64,000 beds
- Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan → inaugurated blood donation camps at 13 different locations in Chandigarh, Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh.
- National Fertilizers Limited → ordered to setting up of four Oxygen plants → Noida, Lucknow, Gorakhpur and Bhopal → Each plant will have a capacity of 70 cylinders per day.
- Serum Institute of India → drop the price of Covishield from Rs 400 to Rs 300 for states
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi → sanctioned the procurement of one lakh Portable Oxygen Concentrators from the PM Cares Fund → improve Liquid Medical Oxygen Supply for COVID management.
- The Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga → under Ayush Ministry is offering → online Yoga training programmes → These online Yoga training programmes are health-promoter and anxiety-relieving.
- The President has appointed → Justice Vimla Singh Kapoor, Additional Judge of the Chhattisgarh High Court → to be a Judge of the Chhattisgarh High Court.
- Defence Research & Development Organisation, DRDO → set up 500 Medical Oxygen Plants within 3 months → under the PM CARES Fund.
- The Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi → approved the signing and ratification of an Agreement between India and the United Kingdom on Customs Cooperation and Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters.
- Bharat Biotech 's Covaxin Prices for State govts → reduced from 600 to 400 rupees
- The National Commission for Women → launched a WhatsApp helpline number for providing emergency medical assistance to pregnant women → 9354954224.
- Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad → represented India → under the Digital India programme at the G-7 Digital and Technology Ministerial Meeting

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State News

- Union Government → approved → 780 Crore rupees project for upgradation of Kargil Zaskar road.
- Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu → arrived at capital Bhubaneswar on a two days visit to Odisha → attended 600th birth anniversary of Adikavi Sarala Das → also attend as chief guest at the convocation of Utkal University in Bhubaneswar.
- In Kargil Ladakh → Rural Development Department Kargil → organised one-day Training and Awareness Programme for Self Help Groups → under National Rural Livelihood Mission at Sankoo block.
- Rajasthan → Marked first state to launch → “Health Insurance for All” its residents → under medical insurance scheme titled “Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Swasthya Bima Yojana”
- Rajasthan → First state to commission → Farm Based Solar Power Project → under PM-KUSUM Scheme
- Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Ltd (RRECL) → commissioned the country’s first farm-based solar- power project → under the Kusum scheme in Kotputli having 1 megawatt capacity spread over on 3.5 acre semi-barren land.
- The Chief Electoral Officer of West Bengal Ariz Aftab → launched two SVEEP Trams in Kolkata → increase voters’ awareness and to encourage more and more eligible electors to exercise their democratic rights.
- Union ministry of skill development and entrepreneurship or MSDE → organize the first regional workshop → understand provisions of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 3.0 or PMKVY 3.0 and to effectively implement the scheme in the NorthEast Region (NER) at Gangtok, Sikkim.
- Uttar Pradesh government → launched a unique gift scheme → promote covid vaccination in the state.
- Maharashtra → Shistura Hiranyakeshi in Sindhudurg Became → Fifth Biological Heritage Site
- In Leh, Ladakh Lieutenant Governor RK Mathur → launched a National Training programme on Packaging → organized under ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’ in association with National Institute of

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Electronics & Information Technology (NIELIT) and Indian Institute of Packaging for products from UT Ladakh.

- Various regions of the country are celebrating → traditional New Year in the form of Ugadi, Gudi Padava, Chaitra Sukladi, Cheti Chand, Vishu, Puthandu and Bohag Bihu.
- Second Shahi Snan takes place at Kumbh Mela in Haridwar → on the auspicious occasion of Somavati Amavasya.
- Haryana Chief Minister, Manohar Lal → approved the purchase of 200 acres of land for the AIIMS to be set up in Rewari
- Tamizh Puththaandu → the first day of the Chithirai month marks the beginning of the → Tamil Calendar.
- Keralites across the globe are celebrating → Vishu → the festival of harvest and prosperity.
- The 77th Anniversary of Flag Hoisting Day → observed at INA Martyr's Memorial Complex at Moirang of Manipur with Chief Minister N. Biren Singh → unfurling the Indian Tricolour Flag and led the other in paying floral tribute to the Statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose installed inside the complex.
- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy → launched AP Amul Project in Guntur district and outlined Rs.4,000 crore plans to strengthen the milk supply chain.
- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha → will share his thoughts through the first episode of the monthly Radio Broadcast titled → "Awaam Ki Awaaz".
- Union Chemicals & Fertilizers Minister Sadananda Gowda → said that cooperative fertilizer company IFFCO's new oxygen plant at Kalol in Gujarat → will enhance the daily production capacity of medical grade Oxygen by 33 thousand litres per day.
- Uttar Pradesh government → said that it will invoke National Security Act and Gangster Act on those persons who are involved in black marketing and holding of necessary medicines, oxygen and injections required for covid treatment.
- In Jharkhand → "Health Safety Week" begins from April 22 – 29 → break the chain of COVID-19 infection.
- ITBP-run → Sardar Patel Covid Care Centre → became operational in Delhi

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- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir → five Gram Panchayats have bagged prestigious National Panchayat Awards-2021.
- Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh → announced ex-gratia compensation of 50 lakh rupees, along with a government job each to the family of Sepoy Prabhjit Singh and Sepoy Amardeep Singh of 21 PUNJAB, who laid down their lives in the line of duty.
- Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani → encouraged the state health and Ayush department for maximum use of Ayurvedic and Homeopathic medicines to win the war against Covid19.
- Tamilnadu Government after considering the urgent need for increased oxygen production → decided to reopen Vedanta's oxygen manufacturing plant at Tuticorin.
- The Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik → announced free vaccination for people above 18 years of age two thousand crore rupees to meet the goal.
- Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupnai → free vaccinations for all above 18 years of age from 1st of May.
- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan → said that large oxygen plants are to be set up in all divisional headquarters of the state.
- Meghalaya → planned to achieve the target of Har Ghar Jal by December next year under Jal Jeevan Mission.
- Union Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari → inaugurated a mobile Covid RT-PCR test laboratory in Nagpur → Operated by Spice Health and Nagpur Municipal Corporation
- Maharashtra government → asked everyone to celebration Maharashtra Day in a simple manner → May 1.

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International News

- External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar → discussions with Tajikistan Defence Minister Colonel General Sherali Mirzo → held on the sidelines of the Heart of Asia Ministerial conference in Dushanbe → focused on further strengthening defence and security cooperation between India and Tajikistan.
- India's Ambassador to China → Vikram Misri → interacted with representatives of Indian industry in Shanghai → He will also launch India@75 celebrations in Shanghai.
- 2000 Bangladeshi students to receive → Muktijoddha Scholarships → under 'Muktijoddha scholarship scheme'
- Russia → World's First Covid-19 Vaccine For Animals → 'Carnivac-Cov'
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Seychelles President Wavel Ramkalawan → jointly inaugurate a range of Indian projects in Seychelles virtually → The high level event will feature joint e-inauguration of the new Magistrates' Court Building, and handing over of a Fast Patrol Vessel to Seychelles Coast Guard.
- Minister of State for Education, Shri Sanjay Dhotre → addressed at the consultation meeting of Education Ministers of E9 countries on E9 initiative → Scaling up digital learning to accelerate progress towards SDG4
- Russian Foreign Minister, Sergey Lavrov → two-day visit to India → discuss aspects of bilateral ties and review preparations for the pending India-Russia annual summit later this year.
- ICCR Foundation Day → celebrated at Indian Embassy in Seoul → Ambassador Sripriya Ranganathan, highlighted the role of ICCR in promotion of Cultural Diplomacy and India's Soft Power.
- A Sanskrit learning app → 'Little Guru' → launched in Bangladesh by the Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC) of the High Commission of India.
- "Little Guru" app → launched at Indian Embassy in Beijing

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- Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan → launched the construction of an international center for trade and economic cooperation → named 'Central Asia' on the borders of the two countries, the Uzbek Government.
- PM Narendra Modi → inaugurate Raisina Dialogue 2021 → President of Rwanda Paul Kagame and Prime Minister of Denmark Mette Frederiksen will also join the inaugural session as Chief Guests → Prime Minister of Australia Scott Morrison will also participate in the conference, in one of the subsequent sessions → The theme for the 2021 Edition is "#ViralWorld: Outbreaks, Outliers and Out of Control".
- EAM Jaishankar meet and talk with French counterpart Jean-Yves Le Drian French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs in New Delhi → bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest.
- Haitian Prime Minister → Joseph Jouthe → resigned
- Bui Thanh Son → new Foreign Minister of Vietnam
- Australia opens travel bubble with New Zealand → first time in more than a year.
- Italy → First ever mega Food Park & Food processing unit in India
- US State Department spokesperson Ned Price → said that External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his US counterpart Anthony Blinken have agreed that the two nations will coordinate on efforts to promote stability in Afghanistan.
- India-EU Leaders' Meeting → virtual format → May 8th
- A webinar cum expo → organized between the Ministry of Defence and Ministry of National Defence Vietnam → theme : Vietnam Defence Cooperation.
- India's demographic advantage → overtake China's by 2035, reported by China's central bank
- Nine Bangladeshis feature → in the Forbes 30 under 30 lists of innovators in 10 industries for Asia.
- Chinese President Xi Jinping → took part in US-led Climate Summit
- The Head of the Military government of Myanmar Senior General Min Aung Hlaing → first foreign visit after the coup to Indonesia to participate in the ASEAN leaders meeting in Jakarta
- European Union EU → global standards for Artificial Intelligence AI

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- UK → consider digital currency → 'Bitcoin'
- A UN-led global immunization strategy → unveiled to reach more than 50 million children who have missed lifesaving jabs against measles and other diseases because of COVID-19 disruption by 2030
- External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar → conversation with Foreign Minister of Portugal Augusto Santos Silva through video conference → the preparation for India-European Union Summit.

Summits & Conferences

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh → inaugurated First bi-annual Indian Air Force, IAF Commanders' Conference 2021 → held at Air Headquarters Vayu Bhawan in New Delhi.
- Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare → chaired ICMR's International Symposium → titled 'One Health in India: Research informing biosafety, preparedness and response' through video conference.
- The 'Infant Toddler and Caregiver-friendly Neighbourhoods (ITCN) Training and Capacity Building Programme' → launched virtually by the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) → partnership with Bernard van Leer Foundation (BvLF).
- To boost Seychelles' maritime security → India gifts Rs 100 crore patrol vessel PS Zoroaster to Seychelles
- Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman → participated in the 103rd Development Committee Meeting of World Bank-IMF → through video conferencing.
- Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman → participated virtually in the Second G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) meeting → restore strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth.
- The Indian Air Force Commanders' Conference 202 → Theme : 'Reorienting for the Future' → concluded at Air headquarters in New Delhi.
- National Telecommunications Institute for Policy Research, Innovation and Training (NTIPRIT), the apex training institute of Department of Telecommunications, Government of India → conducted a

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webinar → "NavIC Opportunities for the Telecom Industry" in collaboration with ISRO and Telecom Industry

Ranks & Indices

- World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report 2021 → India ranks 140 among 156 nations → Finland Tops
- 35th Forbes' Billionaire list → Jeff Bezos tops → Mukesh Ambani ranks 10th
- India is world's 3rd largest military spender in World in 2020 → US Tops → Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)
- Chandler Good Government Index (CGGI) → India 49th → Finland has topped the CGGI 2021 list.

Appointments

- Subhash Kumar → Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)
- Mukhmeet S. Bhatia → Director General of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC)
- Manjinder Singh → Chief of Staff, Headquarters Western Command.
- Urijit Patel → Additional Director of Britannia Industries
- Shivashankarappa S Sahukar → Chairman of Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC)
- Virat Kohli → Brand Ambassador of Digit Insurance
- Justice N V Ramana → 48th Chief Justice of India
- Pham Minh Chinh → Vietnam's next Prime Minister
- Nguyen Xuan Phuc → President of Vietnam
- Chintan Vaishnav → Mission Director of Atal Innovation Mission
- Ajai Seth → Economic Affairs Secretary
- Aravind Viswanathan → Chief Financial Officer of Tanla
- S Ramann → Chairman and Managing Director of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).
- Virat Kohli → Brand ambassador of Vivo

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- KN Selvakumar → Vice-Chancellor (V-C) of the Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (TANUVAS).
- Vjosa Osmani → President of Kosovo
- Subha Tatavarti → chief technology officer of Wipro
- Ouhoumoudou Mahamadou → Prime Minister of Niger
- Sushil Chandra → Chief Election Commissioner of India
- Vivek Kanade → Managing Director Operations of Siemens Healthcare India
- Kalpana Sampat → managing director and CEO of Private life insurer Pramerica Life Insurance
- K. Madhavan → President of the Walt Disney Company India and Star India
- Poonam Gupta → Director General of “National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER)”.
- Smriti Mathur → Pega India Head of People Organization
- Krishna Prasad → Group Editorial Officer of The Hindu Group Publishing Pvt. Ltd. (THGPPL),
- Ajai Seth → Economic Affairs Secretary in the Finance Ministry.
- Manish Sisodia → ‘Nodal Minister’ for Covid-19 situation in the national capital
- Shaukat Tareen → new finance minister in Pakistan cabinet reshuffle
- Sivasubramanian Ramann → Chairman and Managing Director of SIDBI
- Miguel Díaz-Canel → President of Cubasucceed Raúl Castro
- Rajeev Srivastava → Head - Products and Business Development of HDFC Securities
- Atanu Chakraborty → Part time Chairman, HDFC Bank
- Rekha M Menon → first woman chairperson of Nasscom
- Neeraj Dhawan → MD of Experian India
- NV Ramana → 48th Chief Justice of India Succeeds Justice SA Bobde
- GC Murmu → External auditor of the Hague-based Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).
- Roland Bouchara → CEO & MD of automaker Stellantis India operations
- James Gerard Ryan → President – Controls & Cables Global Operations (except India) of Suprajit Engineering

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- Martin Uhlarik → Global Design Head of the Indian car manufacturer Tata Motors
- T V Somanathan → Finance Secretary
- Milind Kulkarni → Chief Technical officer (CTO) of Vikram Solar
- Niraj Bajaj → Bajaj Auto chairman Succeeds Rahul Bajaj
- Olusegun (Segun) Ogunsanya → MD and CEO of Airtel Africa
- Ola Electric → Yongsung Kim → head of global sales and distribution, overseeing India and international markets.
- SsangYong Motor CEO → Byung Tae Yea → quits
- Retired Telangana bureaucrat BP Acharya → advisor of the National Animal Resource Facility for BioMedical Research (NARFBR) by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
- Deepika Bhan → President, Packaged Foods, Tata Consumer
- Cyient's Executive Chairman → B V R Mohan Reddy → steps down
- Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) → Ernst & Young as digital consultant
- Haryana State Govt → HSIIDC MD Anurag Agrawal & Director MSME, Dr. Vikas Gupta → mapping of liquid oxygen manufacturing plants
- Biocon Ltd → announced → executive Chairperson Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw → appointed to the Board of Trustees of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSK)
- Border Roads Organisation → First Women Executive Engineer (Civil) → Vaishali S Hiwase → command Road Construction Company
- Dr Darez Ahamed → Guidance Bureau Executive Director monitor Covid hospitals
- Axis Bank → re-appointment → Amitabh Chaudhry → MD & CEO

Agreements and MoUs signed

- National Commodities Management Services Limited (NCML) → MoU with Agriculture Skill Council of India → skill development in agriculture sector.
- Maruti Suzuki India + Karnataka Bank → offer vehicle financing options for potential car buyers.

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- Spices Board India under the Ministry of Commerce → MoU with Industry and UNDP India's Accelerator Lab → to build a blockchain based traceability interface for Indian spices to enhance transparency in supply chain and trade.
- Byju's, → acquired Blackstone Group-backed Aakash Educational Services (AESL) → estimated \$1 billion cash and stock deal.
- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) → approved → acquisition of Principal Asset Management Private Limited, Principal Trustee Company Private Limited and Principal Retirement Advisors Private Limited by Sundaram Asset Management Company Limited.
- Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd (HDFC) → acquired 9.9 per cent stake in Kerala Infrastructure Fund Management Ltd.
- Axis Bank Ltd → co-promoters of Max Life Insurance Company Limited, after completion of the acquisition of 12.99% stake collectively by the Axis Entities in the company.
- The Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, and Centre for Innovations in Public Systems (CIPS) → collaborated → reinforce the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem in India by developing a database of innovations in public systems for improving public services.
- Vedanta → MoU with research institutes → value-creation from bauxite residue (red mud)
- Bharti group-backed low earth orbit (LEO) satellite communications company OneWeb + Kazakhstan government → accelerate connectivity in the country.
- Atal Innovation Mission and NITI Aayog → agreement with Dassault Systemes Foundation → jointly work towards providing a digitally rich ecosystem of Innovation among aspiring young minds across the country.
- To raise farmers income → Agriculture Ministry → MoU with Microsoft → pilot project in 100 villages of six states
- Oberoi Group → MoU with Energy Efficiency Services Limited EESL → augment its sustainability initiatives
- Facebook + Mumbai-based clean energy company, CleanMax, → set up 32 megawatts (MW) wind power project in Karnataka.
- Flipkart → acquiring Cleartrip, an online travel technology company.

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- Indian space agency, ISRO → agreement France CNES → cooperation in its first human space mission, Gaganyaan.
- Indian Oil → partnership with Consumerfed → sale of a free trade licence (FTL) 5-kg LPG cylinders at the M/s Pilot Service Station (IOCL petrol bunk) on the Bandar Road.
- Quess Corporation → acquire 30% stake in Conneqt from Tata Sons for Rs.208 crore
- India +Germany → agreement → Technical Cooperation on Cities combating plastic entering the marine environment
- The Cabinet approved → Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) → between the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) and Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand, (CA ANZ) → develop mutually beneficial relationships in the best interest of members, students and their organizations and is expected to provide an opportunity to the ICAI members to expand their professional horizons and to foster working relations between the two accounting institutes.
- Cabinet approved → MoU between Competition Commission of India (CCI) and Administrative Council → Economic Defense of Brazil, (CADE).
- The Cabinet → approved → Memorandum of Understanding MoU between the Director General of Trade Remedies, India and the Bangladesh Trade and Tariff Commission → establishment of a framework of cooperation in the area of trade remedial measures signed on 27th of last month at Dhaka.
- Indian Bank + Chennai Angels → start-up financing
- Switch Mobility + TVS Supply Chain → sustainable logistics network
- The Assam Government → MOUs with Bhutan and Nagaland → procurement of oxygen.

Sports News

- Uzbekistan's capital Tashkent → host 2023 Men's Boxing World Championships
- 2021 Miami Open Tennis Tournament → Men, Hubert Hurkacz of Poland and Women, Ashleigh Barty of Australia wins
- The Great Khali → WWE Hall of Fame Class of 2021.
- Nethra Kumanan → first Indian woman sailor to qualify for the Olympics

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- FIFA → suspended → Pakistan Football Federation (PFF) and Chadian Football Association (FTFA) after concerns over the governance of the two member associations.
- Union Minister for Sports & Youth Affairs Shri Kiren Rijju → inaugurated Khelo India State Centre of Excellence for Rowing discipline at the Jammu & Kashmir Sports Council Water Sports Academy in Srinagar.
- Indian Army's Lieutenant Colonel Bharat Pannu → earned two Guinness World Records for his fastest solo cycling.
- Bhuvneshwar Kumar(India) and Lizelle Lee (South Africa) → ICC Players of the Month for March 2021
- Asian Wrestling Championships 2021 → India clinches one Gold, two Bronze medals → Sarita Mor clinched the sole gold medal for India by defending the women's 59 kg title → Two other Indian women wrestlers-Seema Bisla (50kg) and Pooja (76kg) won Bronze
- Max Verstappen (Red Bull – Netherlands) → Emilia Romagna F1 Grand Prix 2021 → held in Imola, Italy.
- The 2021 Senior 34th Asian Wrestling Championships → held in Almaty, Kazakhstan →The medals include 5 Gold, 3 Silver & 6 Bronze Medals → Iran and Kazakhstan topped the medal tally with 17 medals each.
- 2021 Rolex Monte Carlo Masters singles title, In Tennis → Stefanos Tsitsipas (Greece) beat Andrey Rublev (Russia) in a straight-sets 6-3 6-3 first ATP Masters 1000 trophy of his career.
- A Water Sports and Adventure Institute (WSAI) → established by the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) → Tehri Dam in Uttarakhand.
- Global sportswear brand Puma → Indian cricketers Washington Sundar and Devdutt Padikkal → brand ambassador.
- Tamil Nadu teenager Arjun Kalyan → India's 68th Chess Grandmaster.
- 2021 AIBA Youth World Boxing Championships → India Clinches Historic Win with 11 Medals (8 gold & 3 bronze) → held in Kielce, Poland
- Houston, US → Host Table Tennis World Championships → November 2021
- Rafael Nadal → 12th Barcelona Open Title defeated Stefanos Tsitsipas

Monthly Master Key Points - April 2021

- Indian Archery → Atanu Das and Deepika Kumari won individual gold medals at the ongoing Archery World Cup Stage 1 in Guatemala.

Defence News

- Indian Army → participate → Multinational Military Exercise namely SHANTIR OGROSHENA - 2021 → held in Bangladesh
- The 8th India-Kyrgyz Joint Special Forces Exercise → 'Khanjar' → inaugurated at the Special Forces Brigade of National Guards of Kyrgyz Republic in Bishkek.
- The 19th edition of the Indian and French Navy bilateral exercise → 'Varuna-2021' → started in the Arabian Sea.
- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) → developed single crystal blades that are used in helicopter engines.
- DRDO → successfully fired the 5th generation Python-5 Air-to-Air Missile (AAM) from Tejas aircraft → Goa.

Awards & Honours

- Suman Chakraborty → 30th GD Birla Award for Scientific Research.
- S Sathish → International Ranger Award.
- Bhuvneshwar Kumar (India) → ICC 'Player of the Month' award for March
- Lizelle Lee (South Africa) → 'Player of the Month' award for March
- New Zealand men's captain Kane Williamson → Sir Richard Hadlee Medal
- Dr Vajrala → Mana Telugu Tejam Award
- Roberto Benigni → Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement at the 78th Venice International Film Festival
- Marathi film "Puglya" → Best Foreign Language Feature award at Moscow International Film Festival, 2021.
- Rumana Sinha Sehgal → 'Nelson Mandela World Humanitarian Award 2021'
- Mar Coorilos → Maiden Golden Lantern Award
- election-fraud film "Absolute Proof" → 2021 Razzie Awards

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- Pramod Payyannur → Thilakan Smarakavedi's "Thilakan Award"
- Kovai.co → Bootstrapped SaaS startup of the Year
- Biocon Biologics' New Monoclonal Antibodies → ISPE's 2021 Facility of the Year Honorable Mention Award.
- Super Star Rajinikanth → 51st Dadasaheb Phalke Award
- Filmmaker Chloe Zhao → Directors Guild of America (DGA) Awards for her feature film "Nomadland"
- Andhra CM Jagan Mohan Reddy → Presented best performing volunteers With awards Seva Mitra, Seva Ratna and Seva Vajra Awardson the eve of Ugadi.
- Union Minister of Education Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' → presented the AICTE Lilavati Awards 2020 on women empowerment to the winners in New Delhi.
- One Million for One Billion (1M1B) Foundation → Lead Z Teacher Awards
- Six firms for investment deals → selects by Indywood Startup Awards 2021
- FICCI Tamil Nadu State Council in association with IIM-Trichy → hosted the first-ever Awards ceremony which felicitated the HR Managers and the team who had excelled in their fields.
- Railway Minister Piyush Goyal → announced 50 thousand rupees award for Mayur Shelke for exemplary acts of bravery.
- The Andra Pradesh State Panchayat Raj department → 17 awards announced by the Union Panchayat Raj Ministry.
- Chloe Zhao's meditative drama → "Nomadland" continued its winning streak this award season by bagging best picture, best director and other awards at the 36th annual Film Independent Spirit Awards.
- Actor-filmmaker → Emerald Fennell, "Another Round" and Daniel Kaluuya were the early winners at the 93rd Academy Awards → Fennell won best original screenplay Oscar for her #MeToo drama "Promising Young Woman", while best adapted screenplay Academy Award went to Christopher Hampton and Florian Zeller for their Anthony Hopkins-Olivia Colman-starrer "The Father".

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Science & Technology

- Bharat Dynamics Limited → Starts flags off Akash Missile for Delivery to Indian Army
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) → developed a lightweight bullet-proof jacket for Indian Army.
- Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union health minister → virtually launched the Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP). → The Integrated Health Information Platform is the next generation highly refined version of the presently used Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP).
- The Supreme Court unveiled → Artificial Intelligence (AI) portal SUPACE → designed to make research easier for judges, thereby easing their workload.
- The Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar → launched Madhukranti portal and Honey Corners of National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation, NAFED in New Delhi → Madhukranti portal is an initiative of National Bee Board
- Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' → launched the "MyNEP2020" Platform of the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) → Digital Consultation
- Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' → launched NanoSniffer → the world's first Microsensor-based Explosive Trace Detector (ETD) developed by → NanoSniff Technologies.
- Scientists from the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) → Speckled a New Avian Species three-banded rosefinch → Arunachal Pradesh
- Union Education Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' → launches 'SARTHAQ'(Students' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement through Quality Education) → NEP (National Education Policy (NEP) 2020) Implementation Plan for School Education
- Defence Research and Development Organisation, DRDO → set up a Covid-19 hospital with 500 beds equipped with ICU facilities in Delhi Cantonment.
- China → opened a 5G signal base at the Ganbala radar station in the remote Himalayan region of Tibet → it is the world's highest manually operated radar station at an elevation of 5,374 meters.
- Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal → virtually inaugurated e-SANTA → It is an electronic marketplace providing a platform to connect aqua farmers and buyers.

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- The Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India Prof. K VijayRaghavan → virtually launched the “MANAS” App (Mental Health and Normalcy Augmentation System) → promote wellbeing across age groups.
- NITI Aayog → Launches Poshan Gyan’ → a Digital Repository on Nutrition Information
- Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar → launched a 'National Nursery Portal' → connect nursery operators with consumers.
- Sh. Ajay Prakash Sawhney, IAS, Secretary Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) & Chairman NIXI → inaugurated three path breaking initiatives for National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) → Three Initiatives are :IP Guru, NIXI Academy, NIXI-IP-INDEX
- RBL Bank + Mastercard → Pay by Bank App → mobile-based consumer-friendly payment solution that will be the first of its kind in India.
- Union Minister of Education Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ → launched “World 1st affordable and long-lasting hygiene product DuroKea Series Virtually → developed by IIT Hyderabad researchers.
- Iran celebrated its National Day of Nuclear Technology → with an event held simultaneously in Tehran and in nuclear sites in different Iranian cities, in which advanced IR-6 centrifuges started operating.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) → developed SpO2 (Blood Oxygen Saturation) supplemental Oxygen Delivery System for soldiers posted at extreme high-altitude areas → Developed by Defence Bioengineering & ElectroMedical Laboratory (DEBEL), Bengaluru of DRDO.
- The 40th Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctica (40-ISEA) → hosted by the Ministry of Earth Sciences successfully returned to Cape Town, after completing a journey of around 12 thousand nautical miles in 94 days.
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) → support eight joint research projects mooted by the space technology cell (STC) of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi.
- Russian space agency Roscosmos → announced that it will launch its own space station in 2025.

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- NASA and Elon Musk's commercial rocket company SpaceX → launched a new four-astronaut team on a flight to the International Space Station the first crew ever propelled into orbit by a rocket booster recycled from a previous spaceflight.
- Professor Halil Ibrahim → discovered a new insect species named Potamophylax coronavirus → Kosovo's western Bjeshket e Nemuna (Accursed Mountains) national park.
- China's first Mars rover → named Zhurong after a traditional fire god → rover is aboard the Tianwen-1 probe that arrived in Mars orbit on February 24 and is due to land in May to look for evidence of life.
- OneWeb, a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite communications operator → launched another batch of 36 satellites by Arianespace from the Vostochny cosmodrome in Russia.
- China launched → NEO-01 into low earth orbit → The NEO-01, which looks into deep space and observes small celestial bodies, was launched by the government's Long March 6 rocket with a small number of satellites.
- Microsoft + United Kingdom's Meteorological Office → build the most powerful supercomputer in the world → forecast weather and climate change. → operational in 2022.

Books & Authors

- 'Manohar Parrikar: Brilliant Mind, Simple Life' → authored by Nitin Gokhale → published by Bloomsbury.
- Vice President Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu → released a book titled 'Suparipalana' → written by retired civil servant Dr Shailendra Kumar Joshi → published by Shri Maruthi.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi → release the Hindi translation of the book 'Odisha Itihaas' → written by 'Utkal Keshari' Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab
- Venkaiah Naidu → released the book 'Neelimarani- My Mother, My Hero' → Written by Dr. Achyuta Samanta
- The updated version of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's book → 'Exam Warriors' was launched.

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- A new book Akhtari: The Life and Music of Begum Akhtar to remember about the life and singing experience of Indian singer Begum Akhtar → Edited by Yatindra Mishra → Published by HarperCollins India.
- The autobiography of Suresh Raina, titled 'Believe – What Life and Cricket Taught Me' → co-authored by Raina and sports author Bharat Sundaresan → published by the publishing house, Penguin India.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi → address the Association of Indian Universities' 95th Annual Meet and National Seminar of Vice-Chancellors through video conferencing.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi → launch four books related to Dr BR Ambedkar → authored by Shri Kishor Makwana.

Four books List :

- Dr. Ambedkar Jivan Darshan, Dr. Ambedkar Vyakti Darshan, Dr Ambedkar Rashtra Darshan, Dr. Ambedkar Aayam Darshan
- Harry Potter author JK Rowling → release a new children's book entitled → The Christmas Pig → Published by Hachette Children's Group and Scholastic in different territories.
- On the occasion of Earth Day on April 22, 2021, Aakash Ranison → launches an eBook "Climate Change Explained – for one and all.
- Whereabouts → written by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jhumpa Lahiri → published under the Hamish Hamilton imprint of Penguin Random House.
- Book Titled "The Living Mountain: A Fable for Our Times" → by Amitav Ghosh → published by HarperCollins Publishers India.

Important Days & Themes

- April 1 → Odisha Day, also Utkala Dibasa
- April 2 → International Children's Book Day (ICBD) → Theme 2021: "The Music of Words."
- April 2 → World Autism Awareness Day → Theme 2021: "Inclusion in the Workplace: Challenges and opportunities in a Post-Pandemic World".
- April 4 → United Nations' International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action 2021 → Theme – "Perseverance, Partnership, and Progress"
- April 5 → National Maritime Day → Theme: Sustainable Shipping beyond COVID-19

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- April 5 → International Day of Conscience → 2021 Theme: “Let Conscience Light up our World”.
- April 6 → International Day of Sport for Development and Peace
- April 7 → World Health Day → Theme 'Building a fairer, healthier world'.
- April 9 → Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Valour Day (Shaurya Diwas)
- April 9 → ICCR 71st Foundation Day
- April 10 → World Homeopathy Day → Theme: “Homoeopathy – Roadmap for Integrative Medicine”
- April 10 → Surveyors Day
- April 11 → National Safe Motherhood Day
- April 11 → World Parkinson’s
- April 12 → International Day of Human Space Flight
- April 13 → Jallianwala Bagh Massacre
- April 14 → Ambedkar Remembrance Day or Ambedkar Jayanti or Bhim Jayanti
- April 14 → World Knowledge Day
- April 14 → World Chagas Disease Day
- April 15 → World Art Day
- April 15 → National Titanic Remembrance Day
- April 10-16 → World Homeopathy Week
- April 16 → World Voice Day → Theme ; ONE WORLD MANY VOICES.
- April 17 → World Haemophilia Day → Theme : 'Adapting to Change, sustaining care in a new world.'
- April 18 → World Heritage Day → Theme : 'Complex Pasts: Diverse Futures'.
- April 20 → UN Chinese Language Day
- April 21 → National Civil Service Day
- April 21 → Administrative Professionals Day
- April 21 → World Creativity and Innovation Day (#WCID)
- April 22 → National Earth Day → Theme: "Restore Our Earth"
- April 23 → World Book Day → Theme: 'To share a story'.
- April 23 → UN English Language Day and UN Spanish Language Day
- last Saturday of April → World Veterinary Day → Theme: 'The Veterinarian Response to the Covid-19 Crisis'
- April 24 → National Panchayati Raj Day
- April 24 → International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace
- April 24 → World Day for Animals in Laboratories
- April 25 → National DNA Day
- April 25 → World Malaria Day
- April 25 → International Delegate’s Day

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- April 26 → World Intellectual Property Day
- April 28 → World Day for Safety and Health at Work → Theme: “Anticipate, prepare and respond to crises – Invest Now in Resilient Occupational Safety and Health Systems”.
- April 28 → Workers' Memorial Day → Theme 2021: ‘Health and Safety is a fundamental workers right.’
- April 29 → International Dance Day → Theme : ‘Purpose of dance’.
- April 30 → National Honesty Day
- April 30 → International Jazz Day

Obituaries

- Digvijaysinh Zala → Former Union Environment Minister and Gujarat MLA
- Shashikala Om Prakash Saigal (née Jawalkar) → Actress
- Isamu Akasaki → Japanese physicist
- Bhagwati Singh → Founder member of the Samajwadi Party (SP) and former UP minister
- Radheshyam Khemka → president of Gita Press
- Chandra Nayudu → India’s first female Cricket commentator
- Fatima R Zakaria → Renowned Journalist-author
- Prince Philip → husband of Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom
- Sanjay Chakravarty → shooting coach
- Satish Kaul → Punjabi Mahabharat actor
- IA Rehman → Pakistani human rights defender and journalist
- Yogesh Praveen → Eminent Historian and an expert on Awadh
- Balbir Singh Junior → Hockey Player
- Ranjit Sinha → Former CBI director
- Dr. Kakarla Subba Rao → Renowned radiologist and former Director of Nizam’s Institute of Medical Sciences in Hyderabad
- G.V.G. Krishnamurthy → Former Chief Election Commissioner
- Vinay Agrawal → Chief Executive Officer of Angel Broking
- Vivek → Tamil film actor and Padma Shri awardee
- Sara Begum Kabori → Bangladeshi actor
- Ahmed Hussain → Former India international footballer
- G Venkatasubbaish → Kannada lexicographer
- Bachi Singh Rawat → Former Union minister and senior BJP leader
- Sumitra Bhave → 7-time National Award winner Marathi film-maker and writer
- Charles Geschke → Adobe co-founder and PDF developer
- Maidavolu Narasimham → Former Reserve Bank of India Governor

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- Walter F Mondale → former vice-president and liberal leader
- Shankha Ghosh → Bengali poet
- Kishore Nandlaskar → Actor
- Idriss Deby Itno → President of the Republic of Chad
- Farid Sabri → qawwali singer, Gwalior
- Amit Mistry → Gujarati and Hindi film actor
- M. Shantanagoudar → Supreme Court judge Justice
- Arun Chaudhary → Former Sashastra Seema Bal chief
- Rajan Mishra → classical music singer
- Jagdish Khattar → Former managing director of Maruti Suzuki India
- Krishnamurti Santhanam → Indian nuclear scientist
- Dadudan Pratapdan Gadhvi → Gujarati poet and folk singer
- Manoj Das → Odia and English writer
- Sanjay Kumar → Senior Indian Information Service officer
- Michael Collins → American astronaut

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