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October-2021

Current Affair

Important Days

Date	Day	Extra Info
Every year, October is observed as Breast Cancer Awareness Month, an annual campaign to raise awareness about the impact of breast cancer. This year's BCAM theme focuses on buddying up with one another because no one should fight cancer alone.		
1 October	International Coffee Day	
2 October	Gandhi Jayanti	
2 – 8 October	Wildlife Week	
2 October	World Day for Farmed Animals	
October 04-10	World Investor Week	
4 October (first Monday of every October)	World Habitat Day	Theme 2021: 'Accelerating urban actionfor a carbon-free world'
4 – 10 October	World Space Week	Theme 2021: Women in Space
5 October	Ganga River Dolphin Day	
7 October	World Cotton Day	
8 October	Indian Air Force Day	
8 October (2nd Friday of October)	World Egg Day	Theme 2021: Eggs for all: Nature's perfect package
9 October	World Migratory Bird Day	Theme 2021: Sing, Fly, Soar – Like a Bird!
10 October	World Mental Health Day	Theme 2021: Mental health in anunequal world
10 October	World Day Against the Death Penalty	Theme 2021: Women Sentenced to Death: An Invisible Reality
11 October	International Day of the Girl Child	Theme 2021: Digital generation. Ourgeneration
12 October	World Arthritis Day	Theme 2021: Don't Delay, ConnectToday: Time2Work. .
13 October	International Day for Disaster Reduction	Theme 2021: International cooperation for developing countries to reduce theirdisaster risk and disaster losses
14 October	World Standards Day	Theme 2021: Standards for sustainable development goals – shared vision for a better world
14 October	International E-Waste Day	Theme 2021: Consumer is the key toCircular Economy
15 October	World Student's Day	Theme 2021: Learning for people, planet, prosperity and peace.
15 October	International Day of Rural Women	Theme 2021: Rural women cultivating good food for all
16 October	World Food Day	Theme 2021: Safe food now for ahealthy tomorrow
17 October	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty	Theme 2021: Building Forward Together: Ending Persistent Poverty, Respecting all People and our Planet
20 October	World Osteoporosis Day	Theme 2021: Serve up Bone Strength
20 October	International Chef's Day	Theme 2021: Healthy Food for theFuture
20 October	World Statistics Day	Theme 2021: Better Data, Better Lives
21 October	National Police Commemoration Day	
22 October	International Stuttering Awareness Day	Theme 2021: Speak the change you wish to see
23 October	International Snow Leopard Day	
23 October	Mole Day	
24 October	United Nations Day	
24 October	International Day of Diplomats	

24 October	World Development Information Day	
24 October	World Polio Day	Theme 2021: Delivering on a Promise
24 - 30 October	Disarmament Week 2021	
27 October	Infantry Day	The Indian Army celebrates October 27 every year as the 'Infantry Day'. This year nation celebrates its 75th Infantry Day.
27 October	World Day for Audiovisual Heritage	Theme 2021: Your Window to the World
26 October – 1 November	Vigilance Awareness Week 2021	Theme 2021: Independent India @75: Self Reliance with Integrity
28 October	International Animation Day	
29 October	World Psoriasis Day	Theme 2021: Uniting for Action
29 October	International Internet Day	
31 October	World Thrift Day	
31 October	Rashtriya Ekta Diwas or National Unity Day	
31 October	World Cities Day	Theme 2021: Adapting cities for climate resilience

MOU/Agreement Countries

- The Seychelles" Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB) programme was launched in partnership with India, the Income-Tax Department said. The focus of the programme will be on Transfer Pricing cases of tourism and financial services sectors.
- The textiles ministry said it has signed a pact with Germany"s GIZ to increase the value addition from sustainable cotton production in India by focusing on sustainable cotton and strengthening downstream processing. It is focussing on 4 majorly cotton-producing states – Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.
- India and Croatia have signed an agreement for academic collaboration in traditional medicine systems, especially in the field of Ayurveda.
- India and Nepal have signed two agreements aimed at boosting cross-border train services.
- India and the US reaffirmed their commitment to raising \$100 billion annually from public and private sector sources to help develop the two countries' efforts to tackle climate change.
- To stabilise prices of Di-ammonium Phosphate (DAP) fertiliser and reduce dependency on the countries like Jordan, Morocco, China, etc, India signed a long-term Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Russia on DAP fertiliser supply.
- India has opened up yet another door in cooperation with its strategic energy partner Russia. Union Minister of Steel, Ram Chandra Prasad Singh, signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Russia's minister of energy Nikolay Shulginov, for collaboration in the mining and steel sectors, with special focus on coking coal.
- Defence Ministry has signed a contract with the US Government under Foreign Military Sale (FMS) for procurement of MK 54 Torpedo and Expendable Chaff and Flares for the Indian Navy.
- India, UK agree to strengthen climate initiatives & further their green partnership.
- Comptroller and Auditor General of India and Auditor General of Maldives have signed a memorandum of understanding to strengthen the audit process of public finance.
- India-Israel Joint Working Group on Bilateral Defence Cooperation has agreed to form a Task Force to formulate a comprehensive Ten-Year Roadmap to identify new areas of cooperation.

MOU Industry/States/Others

- Tata AIA Life Insurance said it has tied up with integrated healthcare company Practo for online medical consultation for its customers.
- Packaged-food major Britannia Industries has collaborated with the global IT and professional services company Accenture to accelerate its digital transformation across multiple retail channels.
- Acuité Ratings & Research became the first local credit rating company to be associated with the Principles

for Responsible Investment (PRI), a United Nations-backed initiative that deals with ESG(Environment Social Governance) credit risk.

- Regional Ayurveda Research Institute (RARI) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Sikkim Manipal University (SMU) to conduct collaborative research in mutually identified areas and promote research activities.
- Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), an organisation under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), AIC STPINEXT Initiatives (STPINEXT) have signed a tripartite non-financial MoU with SINE-IIT Bombay for fostering entrepreneurship and nurturing tech start-ups.
- IISc-incubated startup L2MRail, Society for Innovation and Development (SID), and IISc have signed an MoU with Kerala Rail aimed at enhancing rail safety, especially in risk-prone terrains.
- Sona BLW Precision Forgings Limited (Sona Comstar), an automotive technology company, is collaborating with Future Skills Prime – a MeitY (Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology)-NASSCOM Digital Skilling Initiative to upskill its employees or workforce in cutting edge digital technologies with industry-relevant and government recognised curriculum-based courses.
- Telecom operator Vodafone Idea (VIL) and smart world and communication business of engineering and construction conglomerate Larsen and Toubro (L&T) have joined hands for a pilot project to test 5G- based smart city solutions.
- National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) in collaboration with Bengaluru-based startup Chainflux has launched NSE-Shine, a blockchain platform for gold bullion. The platform will provide a data framework for bullion bar integrity for settlement of Gold derivatives contracts.
- Indian space technology (spacetechnology) startups — Bellatrix Aerospace and Dhruva Space — have each signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Larsen & Toubro Ltd. (L&T), even as they ramp up individual efforts to address the growing global demand for affordable access to space.
- Tata Power inked a pact with IIT Delhi to work together on clean energy and other projects that can be transformed from research and development level to pilot stage.
- MeitY Startup Hub, an initiative of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and Google has announced a partnership to launch a growth and development program called the Appscale Academy.
- The Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) partnered with caller identification platform Truecaller to provide passengers with greater trust in communication.

Appointments and Resignations

Name	Post	Other Info
K V Kamath	Chairperson of the newly set up Rs 20, 000 crore National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID).	
Ranveer Singh	Brand Ambassador for India by National Basketball Association (NBA)	
PK Purwar	Chairman and Managing Director of MTNL	
AK Goel	Chairman of Indian Banks' Association (IBA)	He is UCO Bank Managing Director
Amitabh Chaudhry	Managing Director of Axis Bank	His term extended for 3 years
Baldev Prakash	Managing Director & CEO of J&K Bank	
Pradeep Kumar Panja	Chairman of Karnataka Bank	Succeeds P Jayarama Bhat
Mangu Singh	Managing director of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation	
Sunil Kataria	Chairman of Indian Society of Advertisers (ISA)	
Vinod Aggarwal	President of Automotive Skills Development Council (ASDC)	
Eric Braganza	President of Consumer Electronics and Appliances Manufacturers Association (CEAMA)	

Alok Sahay	Secretary-General and Executive Head of Indian Steel Association	Took over from Bhaskar Chatterjee
Padmaja Chunduru	MD & CEO of National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL)	Succeeds GV Nageswara Rao
Amish Mehta	MD & CEO of CRISIL	Succeeds Ashu Suyash
Air Marshal Sandeep Singh	Vice Chief of the Indian Air Force	Succeeds VR Chaudhari
Air Marshal B. R. Krishna	Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to Chairman of Chiefs of Staff Committee	
BC Patnaik	MD of Life Insurance Corporation of India	
Amitabh Bachchan	Brand Ambassador of CoinDCX	
Homegrown crypto exchange platform CoinDCX has appointed actor Ayushmann Khurana as its new face after actor Amitabh Bachchan paused the commercial deal with CoinDCX until the clarification on the legality of cryptocurrency in India.		
Ranveer Singh	Brand Ambassador of CoinSwitch Kuber	The actor featured for CoinSwitch's 'Kuch Toh Badlega' (something will change) campaign.
Virat Kohli	Brand Ambassador of Indian wearable brand Fire-Boltt	
K L Rahul	Brand Ambassador of Realme	
Deepika Padukone	Brand Ambassador of Adidas	
Competition Commission chief Ashok Kumar Gupta	Additional charge as the chairperson of the National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA).	Succeeds R Sridharan
PL Haranadh	Chairman of Paradip Port Trust	
Wendy Werner	International Finance Corporation's (IFC) India country head	Succeeds Jun Zhang
R. Sheikh	First Director-General of the Ordnance Directorate	
Arun Kumar Mishra	CEO of Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL)	
Amit Khare	Advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi	
Rajnish Kumar	Chairman of BharatPe	
Deepa Malik	Independent director of Oyo	
Sanjay Bhargava	Head of Elon Musk's Starlink satellite broadband venture in India	
Sajjan Jindal	Chairman of World Steel Association	Jindal is the first representative from India to serve as Chairman of the WSA.
Navrang Saini	Additional charge as the Chairperson of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI).	
Sahdev Yadav	President of the Indian Weightlifting Federation (IWLF)	S. H. Anande Gowda and Naresh Sharma were elected secretary-general and treasurer respectively.
Amit Rastogi	Chairman and managing director of the National Research Development Corporation	
Director-producer Imtiaz Ali	Ambassador of the Russian Film Festival in India	
A Balasubramanian	Chairman of mutual fund industry body Amfi	
Radhika Gupta	Vice-chairman of Amfi	
Captain Alok Mishra	Managing Director of India Ports Global Limited (IPGL)	

PK Garg	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS)	
Ramnath Krishnan	MD and CEO of ICRA	Succeeds N Sivaraman
Dr Subhash C Khuntia	Part-time Chairman of Jana Small Finance Bank	
<p>Senior bureaucrats Meera Mohanty and Ritesh Chauhan have been appointed as the joint secretary in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and the chief executive officer of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana respectively as part of a bureaucratic reshuffle effected by the Centre.</p> <p>Uma Nanduri, a 1993-batch Indian Forest Service (IFoS) officer of the Odisha cadre, will be the joint secretary in the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav secretariat under the Ministry of Culture, the order said. Vipul Bansal will be the joint secretary in the Department of Commerce and Ashish Kumar has been appointed as Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs.</p> <p>Pawan Kumar Sain has been appointed as Joint Secretary, Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister, Niti Aayog.</p> <p>Amitesh Kumar Sinha will be Joint Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Sameer Shukla, Joint Secretary, Department of Financial Services, Saumya Gupta, Joint Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Harish Chandra, Joint Secretary, NHRC and Kuldip Narayan will be Joint Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.</p> <p>Vandana Kumar has been named as Joint Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and N Yuvaraj will be Joint Secretary, Department of Pharmaceuticals.</p> <p>SMB Neobank FloBiz ropes in Manoj Bajpayee as brand ambassador for myBillBook</p> <p>The government has approved the reappointment of Shaktikanta Das as Governor of the Reserve Bank of India for a period of three years.</p>		
Dame Sandra Mason	First ever president of Barbados	Removing Queen Elizabeth as head of state.
Najla Bouden Romdhane	1st female prime minister of Tunisia	
Jonas Gahr Store	Prime Minister of Norway	
Abiy Ahmed	Prime Minister of Ethiopia for 2 nd term	
Colonel Mamady Doumbouya	Interim President of Guinea	
Mohamed Beavogui	Prime Minister of Guinea	
Shavkat Mirziyoyev	President of Uzbekistan	
Resignations		
Austria's Chancellor Sebastian Kurz has stepped down, after pressure triggered by a corruption scandal. Announcing this Mr Kurtz said that mystery of the honey-trap video has shook Austria and what's required now is stability.		
K V Subramanian stepped down as Chief Economic Adviser after a 3-year tenure.		
International Monetary Fund (IMF) managing director Kristalina Georgieva has announced that Gita Gopinath, the Fund's first female chief economist and director of the research department, intends to leave in January 2022 and return to Harvard University's economics department as planned when her public service leave ends.		

Awards and Recognitions

Award Name	Person/Institution	
2021 Right Livelihood Award	Delhi-based environmental organisation Legal Initiative for Forest and Environment (LIFE)	for its "grassroots approach of empowering vulnerable communities to protect their livelihoods and claim their right to a clean environment. " The award is known as Sweden's alternative Nobel Prize.
45th Vayalar Ramavarma Memorial Literary Award	Malayalam writer Benjamin	For his book "Mantharirile 20 Communist Varshangal"
22nd Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award	Dr Randeep Guleria	He is pulmonologist and Director of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS)

for Excellence		
Assam Government's biennial Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi Award	Assamese litterateur Dr. Nirod Kumar Baruah and Shillong Chamber Choir at Srimanta Sankardeva Kalakshetra	
Earth Guardian Award	Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation	For foundation's efforts in supporting the conservation of tigers and biodiversity
Sakharov Prize (European Union's top human rights prize)	Imprisoned Russian Opposition leader Alexei Navalny	
Gold Award in Environmental Sustainability category	National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd	
Platinum Award in Environment Management category	Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine	
2021 Peace Prize of the German Book Trade	Zimbabwean author and filmmaker Tsitsi Dangarembga	
Secretary DDR&D and Chairman DRDO Dr G Satheesh Reddy has been conferred the prestigious Aryabhata Award by the Astronautical Society of India (ASI) for his outstanding lifetime contribution to the promotion of astronautics in India.		
Rajiv Nigam (Former Chief Scientist, CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography, Goa, India), Selected as 2022 recipient of J. A. Cushman Award for Excellence in Foraminiferal Research. This award, the highest honor the Cushman Foundation, recognizes Dr. Nigam's outstanding lifetime contributions to the field of foraminifera research.		
Recognitions		
The famed white onion of Alibag in Maharashtra's Raigad district has earned itself a 'Geographical Indication', giving the crop a unique identity and wider markets.		
A variety of rice widely grown in Wada in Palghar district in Maharashtra has been given a 'Geographical Indication' tag, which will give it a unique identity as well as wider markets.		
Edayur Chilli and Kuttiaattoor Mango are the latest to receive the Geographical Indication status from Kerala		
Prominent Indian industrialists Shiv Nadar and Mallika Srinivasan have been chosen by a top India-centric business advocacy group as the recipients of its 2021 Global Leadership Award.		
The US-India Business Council (USIBC) has presented the 2021 Global Leadership Humanitarian Awards to top leaders of Accenture, IBM and Microsoft, for forming the Global Task Force on Pandemic Response (GTF) that helped India fight a brutal second wave of covid-19 infections earlier this year. Julie Sweet, CEO and chair, Accenture; Arvind Krishna, chairman and CEO, IBM; and Brad Smith, president and vice-chair, Microsoft, would be presented the prestigious award during the India Ideas Summit.		
The traditional dye-painted figurative and patterned cloth called Karuppur kalamkari paintings and the wood carvings of Kallakurichi have received geographical indication (GI) tags.		
The unique clove growing in the hills of Kanyakumari district in Tamil Nadu has been awarded a geographical indication (GI) as 'Kanyakumari clove'.		
Indian American Satya Nadella, the Microsoft CEO, is among the corporate leaders to receive this year's prestigious C K Prahalad award for Global Business Sustainability Leadership. Four of Microsoft's top leaders — Nadella along with its president and vice chair Brad Smith, chief financial officer Amy Hood and chief environment officer Lucas Joppa — received the prestigious honour for their collaborative leadership aimed at transforming Microsoft into a carbon negative company by 2030 and to remove all its historical emissions by 2050.		
PETA India has decided to confer on Meghalaya Environment Minister James P K Sangma the Progressive Business Concept Award for his plans to produce 'vegan leather' in the northeastern state.		
The Indian Army won a gold medal at the Cambrian Patrol Exercise held in the UK while competing against 96 teams representing special forces and regiments from around the world.		
A Delhi-based entrepreneur's agricultural waste recycling project was named among the winners of Prince William's inaugural Earthshot Prize, dubbed the "Eco Oscars", at a gala ceremony in London. Vidyut Mohan led Takachar was named the winner of the GBP 1 million prize for its cheap technology innovation to convert crop residues into sellable bio-products in the "clean our air" category.		
The world-renowned Kung Fu Nuns of the Drukpa order of Buddhism have won the prestigious Martial Arts		

Education Prize 2021 from the UNESCO International Centre for Martial Arts for their brave acts of service.
The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has awarded investment promotion agencies (IPA) from Costa Rica, the Netherlands and South Korea for supporting their respective governments to strengthen healthcare systems in the wake of the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.
TVS Motor Company, a reputed manufacturer of two-wheelers and three-wheelers in the world, has been recognised in the category 'Outstanding Renewable Energy User' at the Third Edition of India Green Energy Award 2020 by the Indian Federation of Green Energy (IFGE).
Chennai – Mysore- Chennai Shatabdi Express becomes the first Integrated Management Systems certified train of Southern Railway.
Karnataka Bank is conferred with the prestigious 'Top Organizations with Innovative HR Practices' award at the 19th edition of Asia Pacific HRM Congress held on October 26, 2021 at Bengaluru.

Conference and Summits

Summit	Place	Extra Knowledge
Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) hosted Aadhaar Hackathon 2021 for young innovators. The first theme of the event is 'Enrollment and Update', which covers the challenges being faced by the common man while updating their address. The second theme is the 'Identity and Authentication' solution offered by the Aadhaar team under which UIDAI is seeking innovative solutions to prove Identity without sharing the Aadhaar number and other demographic information.		
COP26 United Nations Climate Change Conference	Glasgow, UK	
The 16th East Asia Summit (EAS) was held via video conference. The Summit was chaired by His Majesty Sultan Haji		

International News

- The Bangladesh economy is projected to grow at 6.4 percent in the fiscal year 2021-22, says the World Bank. The GDP growth rate for the FY 2020-21 is estimated to be 5 percent.
- The World Bank has forecasted that the average annual growth rate of South Asia will be 3.4 percent over 2020-23. This is 3 percentage points less than the four years preceding the pandemic.
- Mahalaya festival was celebrated across Bangladesh with devotion and piety.
- The World Trade Organization (WTO) upgraded its forecast for global merchandise trade volume to an increase of 10.8% in 2021 from the 8% increase projected in March - followed by a 4.7 per cent rise in 2022.
- In a historic move, the World Health Organization (WHO) has endorsed the first anti-malarial vaccine. WHO said it is recommending the widespread use of malaria vaccine among children in sub-Saharan Africa and in other regions with moderate to high P. falciparum malaria transmission.
- More than five billion people globally are expected to face a shortage of water by 2050, a United Nations (UN) agency report has warned. According to figures cited in the report, 3.6 billion people had inadequate access to water at least one month per year in 2018. By 2050, this is expected to rise to more than five billion, "the report titled "The State of Climate Services 2021: Water" said.
- The World Bank warned of a significant 12% rise in the debt burden of the world's low-income countries to a record \$860 billion in 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and called for urgent efforts to reduce debt levels. The report said the external debt stocks of low- and middle-income countries combined rose 5.3% in 2020 to \$8.7 trillion, affecting countries in all regions.
- German rail operator Deutsche Bahn and industrial group Siemens unveiled the world's first automated, driver-less train in the city of Hamburg, billing it as more punctual and energy efficient than traditional trains.
- India has been re-elected to the UN Human Rights Council for a record 6th term with an overwhelming majority.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) and its partners launched the first-ever global strategy to defeat meningitis, a debilitating disease that kills hundreds of thousands of people each year.

- The world suffered huge reverses in progress towards tuberculosis (TB) elimination in 2020, thanks to the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. And, India has been the worst-hit. These are major findings of the Global TB report released by the World Health Organization (WHO). The Philippines and Indonesia were also severely impacted.
- Ecuador, the South American country, has declared a state of emergency over crime wave. Ecuador's President Guillermo Lasso announced a 60-day state of emergency amidst a rise in violent drug crimes.
- An almost USD 4 trillion investment into clean energy is required to meet the Paris Agreement pledge to limit the global temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said in its World Energy Outlook 2021 report.
- India, Israel, United Arab Emirates and the United States have decided to launch a new quadrilateral economic forum.
- Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has retained Pakistan on its Grey List. FATF President Marcus Pleyer announced the decision was after a three-day-long plenary session of the global terror financing watchdog in Paris.
- Three other countries – Turkey, Mali and Jordan have been added to the FATF Grey List.
- Saudi Arabia aims to reach zero-net emissions by 2060 and more than double its annual target to reduce carbon emissions
- A new report by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has rung alarm bells: The amount of plastics in the oceans has been estimated to be around 75-199 million tonnes at present. Without meaningful action, emissions of plastic waste into aquatic ecosystems are projected to nearly triple by 2040. It could more than double by 2030, according to the assessment.
- Invest India has been unanimously elected as the President of the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA) for 2021-2023.
- Invest India is the National Investment Promotion and Facilitation Agency that helps investors looking for investment opportunities and options in India.
- Close to 14 per cent of the world's coral reef have been lost since 2019 as rising temperatures take a toll on marine ecosystems across the planet. The new figures were released as part of the Status of Coral Reefs of the World: 2020 report, which analysed global coral reef health spanning 40 years in 73 countries.
- India, along with Australia, the UK and small island developing states (SIDS) will be launching a new initiative for Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS) on the sidelines of the upcoming Conference of Parties (COP26).
- Australia, India and the UK have committed an initial funding of \$10 million for IRIS. More countries, including Japan, are expected to contribute to the initiative.
- The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy announced that it held the completion ceremony of 'Shinincheon Bitdream Fuel Cell Power Plant' at the Shinincheon Bitdream headquarters of Korea Southern Power in Seo-gu, Incheon.
- The Shinincheon Bitdream Fuel Cell Power Plant is a power plant with a total capacity of 78 MW constructed in four stages since 2017 by using fuel cells supplied by POSCO Energy and Doosan Fuel Cell. It is the world's largest fuel cell power plant currently in operation.
- More than 80 per cent Indians live in districts vulnerable to climate risks, while Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Bihar are states which are most vulnerable to extreme climate events such as floods, droughts and cyclones in India, said the Climate Vulnerability Index released by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW).
- The report has cited Dhemaji and Nagaon in Assam, Chennai in Tamil Nadu, Khammam in Telangana, Gajapati in Odisha, Vizianagaram in Andhra Pradesh and Sangli in Maharashtra among India's most climate vulnerable districts. Overall, 27 Indian states and Union Territories are vulnerable to extreme climate events which often disrupt the local economy and displace weaker communities.
- The US Agency for International Development (USAID) announced the launch of a new, five-year, USD 49 million initiative called the South Asia Regional Energy Partnership (SAREP), which will facilitate collaboration among Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka to improve access to affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy.
- Beijing-based multilateral development bank Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) will co-finance a USD 2 billion loan for India to procure COVID-19 vaccines under ADB's Asia Pacific Vaccine Access Facility (APVAX)
- PayU, a leading online payments solutions provider, announced the launch of its unique tokenisation solution 'PayU Token Hub', which will enable businesses to comply with Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) latest guidelines on online card data storage, while allowing issuing banks to also generate their own

tokens.

- South Asia suffers the most among all regions of the world in terms of loss of human capital due to air pollution, according to the latest The Changing Wealth of Nations 2021 report published by the World Bank.

National News

- India officially joined the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People, a group of more than 70 countries encouraging the adoption of the global goal to protect 30×30.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the 38th PRAGATI meeting, the ICT (Information and Communication Technology) based multi-modal platform for pro-active governance and timely implementation, involving Centre and State governments.
- The Ministry of Defence has enhanced the income criteria for grant of family pension to deceased pensioners' children or siblings with a permanent mental or physical disability.
- Such dependents will be eligible for life-long family pension if "their overall income from sources other than family pension remains less than the entitled family pension at ordinary rate, i. e 30% of the last pay drawn by the deceased government servant or pensioner concerned plus the dearness relief admissible thereon.
- As of now, such dependents are eligible "if their overall monthly income from sources other than family pension is not more than ₹9, 000/- along with dearness relief thereon."
- The government will borrow Rs 5. 03 lakh crore in the second half of the current fiscal in line with the estimate presented in the Budget for the fiscal year, a move that experts said move would cool yields. The government had pegged its gross borrowing target for FY22 at Rs 12. 5 lakh crore in the Union Budget 2021-22, presented by finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman earlier in February.
- The Union Cabinet approved the roll-out of the 'PM POSHAN in Schools' scheme for the five years, from 2021-22 to 2025-26, with a financial outlay of Rs 54061. 73 crores from the central government and Rs 31, 733. 17 crore from the state governments and union territory administrations.
- Indian comic book character Chacha Chaudhary has been declared as the mascot of the government's Namami Gange Programme with an aim of bringing behavioural change among children towards the Ganga and other rivers.
- Union Minister Jitendra Singh has said that the government will set up 75 Science Technology and Innovation (STI) Hubs in different parts of the country.
- Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has released the Multilingual Dementia Research and Assessment (MUDRA) Toolbox in five Indian languages – Hindi, Bengali, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam
- The toolbox includes various cognitive tests to assess different domains of cognition such as attention and executive function, memory, language, and visuospatial functions.
- The Union Cabinet approved setting up of seven Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) Parks with a total outlay of four thousand 445 crore rupees over five years.
- Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya launched ICMR's Drone Response and Outreach in North East (i-Drone). The delivery model is aimed at ensuring that life-saving vaccines reach everyone.
- Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya released UNICEF's global flagship publication – "The State of the World's Children 2021; On My Mind: promoting, protecting and caring for children's mental health" in New Delhi. The report details the significant impact of COVID-19 pandemic on children's mental health.
- The Ministry of Textiles has approved continuation of Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) with a total outlay of ₹160 crore. The scheme will now continue up to March 2026.
- Prime Minister of Denmark Mette Frederiksen arrived in New Delhi on a three-day visit to India.
- In a first of its kind move, Ayushman Bharat, the health insurance scheme, will now offer a healthcare cover to transgender people and support sex-change operations. The addition is part of the National Health Authority's (NHA) revised Health Benefits Package, or HBP 2. 2. The HBP 2. 2 is expected to be rolled out from November, 2021.
- Under the revised HBP 2. 2, rates of health packages have been increased by 20 per cent to 400 per cent. Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) gives a medical cover of Rs 5 lakh per family per year for free treatment at all public and empanelled private hospitals for 53 crore beneficiaries. This benefit will now be extended to transgender people under the government's new scheme, Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise (SMILE). The health cover will include medical support and medical intervention for transgender persons.
- India's power ministry has set a revised policy to use biomass pellets in coal-burning thermal power plants, encouraging use of agricultural waste that is otherwise burnt by farmers, causing air pollution.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Indian Space Association (ISpA), an industry body of

government and private companies which aims to supplement the Centre's efforts in commercial space exploration and space-based communication.

- ISpA is an industry body of government and private companies that aims to supplement the Centre's commercial space exploration and space-based communication efforts.
- Railways has successfully operated two long haul freight trains Trishul and Garuda for the first time over South-Central Railway. Long haul trains, which are twice or multiple times longer than the normal composition of freight trains, provide a very effective solution to the problem of capacity constraints in critical sections.
- Government has set a target to increase the number of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras to ten thousand by March 2024.
- In a landmark event marking a milestone for the infrastructural landscape of India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the 'PM GatiShakti – National Master Plan' for multi-modal connectivity to economic zones in the country.
- The Union Cabinet approved the second phase of the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban and the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation till 2025-26.
- A financial outlay of Rs 1, 41, 600 crore has been finalised for SBM-U 2. 0, including a central share of Rs 36, 465 crore, which is over 2. 5 times the financial outlay of Rs 62, 009 crores in the last phase of the mission.
- Total indicative outlay for AMRUT 2. 0 is Rs 2, 77, 000 crore, including a central share of Rs 76, 760 crore, for five years from FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26.
- Government of India accorded the prestigious 'Maharatna' status to state-owned Power Finance Corporation (PFC), thus giving PFC greater operational and financial autonomy".
- India Needs 5630 GW Installed Solar Capacity to Become Net-zero Nation by 2070. The government has set an ambitious target to scale up its total renewable energy capacity to 450 GW by 2030.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated to the nation seven new defence public sector undertakings (DPSUs), created by incorporating the dissolved erstwhile Ordnance Factory Board (OFB).
- Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri and Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya launched the anthem on India's Covid 19 vaccination. The song has been sung by eminent singer Padma Shri Kailash kher and the song, produced by the Oil & Gas PSUs.
- India will host 'Gen Next' leaders from 75 democratic countries
- The Centre has extended the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package– PMGKP Insurance Scheme for Healthcare Workers fighting COVID-19 for a further period of 180 days so as to continue to provide the safety net to the dependents of health workers who are deputed to take care of COVID-19 patients.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah flagged off 'Modi Van' under the 'Seva hi Sangathan' programme to mark Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 20 years in public life. The special van will operate under the aegis of Kaushambi Vikas Parishad, which is run by BJP's National Secretary Vinod Sonkar.
- Textiles Ministry has issued notification for setting up of seven PM MITRA Parks. The scheme is aimed at realising the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi of building an Aatmanirbhar Bharat and to position India strongly on the Global textiles map.
- PM MITRA is inspired by the 5F vision of Prime Minister. The '5F' Formula encompasses – Farm to fibre; fibre to factory; factory to fashion; fashion to foreign. This integrated vision will help furthering the growth of textile sector in the economy.
- Centre has conceived a project to develop 400 city forest across the country to increase the green cover in urban areas, said Union minister Ashwini Kumar Choubey.
- He said one such "nagar van" (city forest) would also be developed in Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district.
- GAIL (India) Ltd will build India's largest green hydrogen plant in the next 12-14 months, as it looks to supplement its natural gas business with carbon-free fuel.
- India has handed over 34. 9 km long cross-border rail link to Nepal government, that connects Jayanagar in Bihar to Kurtha in Nepal.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Pradhan Mantri Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana (PMASBY), a mega health infrastructure scheme worth over Rs 64, 000 crore, at an event in his Parliamentary constituency Varanasi.
- PMASBY will be one of the largest pan-India schemes for strengthening healthcare infrastructure and will be in addition to the National Health Mission.
- The Indian Railways has ordered to dissolve Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation (IRSDC). These recommendations were part of a report on the Rationalisation of Government Bodies under the

Ministry of Railways prepared by Sanjeev Sanyal, Principal Economic Advisor, Ministry of Finance.

- Sharing the vision of an 'employment ready' young India, the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) in collaboration with a coalition comprising HRH Prince Charles's British Asian Trust, the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation (MSDF), The Children's Investment Fund Foundation, HSBC India, JSW Foundation and Dubai Cares, with FCDO (UK Government) & USAID as technical partners, launched the first-of-its-kind Impact Bond for Skilling.
- Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya launched the 6th edition of National Formulary of India to promote rational use of medicines in the country.
- Union Minister of MSME Narayan Rane launched 'SAMBHAV' a national level awareness programme for promoting entrepreneurship leading to the economic development of the country.

State News

Andaman Nicobar Islands

- As a tribute to the freedom fighters of Manipur, the Union government has decided to rename Mount Harriet, an island peak in Andaman and Nicobar islands. It will now be known as Mount Manipur. It was announced by Union home minister Amit Shah.

Andhra Pradesh

- Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy launched the Swechha programme which aims at the health and hygiene of adolescent girls studying in government schools and colleges by providing quality sanitary napkins at free of cost.

Assam

- The Assam government has set up an eight-member committee to prepare a framework for implementation of all clauses of the 36-year-old Assam Accord, especially the Clause-6 report prepared by a central panel pertaining to protecting the cultural, social and linguistic identity and heritage of the indigenous people.
- Vice-President Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated the Mahabahu Brahmaputra River Heritage Centre on Guwahati's Barphukanar Tila, meaning Barphukan's Hillock in Guwahati, Assam.
- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma launched 'Mission Basundhara' at a programme organised by the Revenue and Disaster Management department in Guwahati. A total of Rs 225 crore will be spent on the implementation of the programme and the mission will enable the rebuilding of all lost land records of the state.
- Assam Fisheries Minister Parimal Suklabaidya launched an application, stated to be India's first e-fish market app. The app – 'Fishwaale' – will provide one-stop solution for aquaculture.
- NABARD has sanctioned Rs 608 crore to government of India for different infrastructure projects in rural areas in Assam.

Chhattisgarh

- The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) approved the Chhattisgarh government's proposal to declare the combined areas of the Guru Ghasidas National Park and Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary as a Tiger Reserve.
- Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel launched Shree Dhanwantri Generic Medical Store Yojna through video conference. Under this scheme, he launched 84 shops in the state.
- Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE), has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Government of Chhattisgarh to spread awareness about the benefits of listing SMEs in the state. This is expected to help in the healthy growth of SMEs.

Delhi

- The government will make the national capital free of air, water and noise pollution in the next three years, Union minister Nitin Gadkari said.
- Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai launched the 'dust pollution control self-assessment portal' for self-monitoring of compliance of dust control guidelines at construction and demolition sites in the capital.
- The northwest district police of Delhi has launched 'Operation Sajag' comprising area domination exercises and their special combings and intensive checking at pickets and arrested 116 criminals in the last two days.

- Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal launched 'Desh ke mentor' programme under which students of Delhi government schools will be provided guidance on career choices by citizens who are successful in their respective fields.
- The Delhi government launched its 'Anganwadi on Wheels' initiative aimed at fulfilling the nutritional and health needs of children.
- The Delhi government launched 'Parents Samvad', a programme aimed at increasing the engagement of parents in the education of their children in government schools.

Goa

- 52nd International Film Festival of India to be held in Goa in hybrid format from November 20 to 28.
- Under the initiative 'Swasth Mahila, Swasth Goa', launched by international cricketing icon and humanitarian Yuvraj Singh's YouWeCan Foundation in partnership with SBI foundation, state government, free breast cancer screening will be done for 1 lakh women in Goa, thereby ensuring that 50 per cent of the age-eligible female population in the state is screened.

Gujarat

- Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel launched 'Go-Green' scheme to provide electric two-wheelers at subsidised rates to construction and industrial workers of the state. Under the scheme, a worker of the organised sector, such as an industrial labourer, would get a subsidy of 30 per cent on the vehicle's price or Rs 30, 000, whichever is less, on the purchase of battery-powered two-wheelers.
- Haryana has banned government employees from participating in politics and elections. A notification has been issued from the office of the chief secretary in this regard.
- Haryana Health Minister Anil Vij launched "Swasth Haryana" mobile app to provide people relief from long queues at civil hospitals.
- Amethi-based flying training institute Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA) and Drone Destination have jointly signed an initial pact with the Haryana Government's initiative DRIISHYA to commence drone training in Haryana.

Jammu & Kashmir

- In a historic move, Jammu and Kashmir administration and the Dubai Government have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for real estate development, industrial parks, super specialty hospital and various business enterprises in the Union Territory.
- Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha e-inaugurated the "Jashn-e-Zafraan", Harvesting Saffron.

Karnataka

- Karnataka Agriculture minister B C Patil has informed that a sum of Rs. 7234 crore is sanctioned by the Government to introduce integrated farming in all the gram panchayats by 2023.
- Bangalore-based solar module manufacturer Emmvee has signed a MoU with Karnataka government to set up an Rs 825 crore solar modules and cells manufacturing plant in the state.
- The Karnataka State Higher Education Council has entered into an MoU with the National Association of Software and Service Companies, NASSCOM to provide industry-suited skill training to the youth.
- The Karnataka State Higher Education Council (KSHEC) entered into an MoU with the National Association of Software and Service Companies (Nasscom), to introduce three new courses.

Ladakh

- World's largest Khadi national flag was installed at Leh in Ladakh on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti on October 2, 2021. It was inaugurated by Ladakh Lieutenant Governor RK Mathur. The tricolor, which is 225-feet long and 150-feet wide, weighs around 1, 000 kg. The flag has been made by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) and was displayed by 57 Engineer Regiment of the Indian Army.
- Union Minister for Fisheries, Dairy, Poultry and Animal Husbandry Purushottam Rupala has announced over Six crore rupees worth fishery projects to Leh.

Madhya Pradesh

- In Madhya Pradesh, common people will now be able to file e-FIR on the citizen portal sitting at home. Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan started it by launching the Citizen Portal at a function organized on the occasion of 20 years of Public Welfare and Suraj.

- Madhya Pradesh government has announced the implementation of Mukhyamantri Ration Aapke Dwar Yojana in the state from next month.
- The objective of Mukhyamantri Ration Aapke Dwar Yojana is to provide ration material to Divyanga and senior citizens near their homes so that they do not need to go to the ration shop of other villages to get their monthly food.

Maharashtra

- Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar launched a mobile application 'Digital Baramati Umbrella' designed to provide all citizen-centric facilities at a single click to residents of Baramati town in Pune district.
- As part of Central Government's target of achieving 100 crore vaccination by 15th of October, Maharashtra Government launched a special seven-day COVID-19 inoculation drive called MissionKavach-Kundal with a target to vaccinate 15 lakh people every day.
- The Maharashtra government will soon launch Mukta scheme to release women prisoners who have been in jail for years and have not been able to pay their bail amounts and fulfill other legal requirements.
- Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray inaugurated India's first wildlife DNA testing lab in Nagpur. He also launched three FastTrack DNA testing units under the Nirbhaya scheme to test human DNA samples, which will increase the efficiency of criminal investigations.
- Maharashtra became the first state to release its own Wildlife Action plan (2021-30). The new plan, which will be implemented over the next 10 years, recognises concerns about climate change impacts on wildlife, coastal ecosystems, marine biodiversity, flora and fauna.
- Global dairy major Lactalis, which operates in the name of Sunfresh Agro Industries Pvt Ltd SAIPL in Maharashtra, and State Bank of India SBI have joined hands to extend financial support to the dairy farmers in the state. Sunfresh Agro owns dairy brand Prabhat.

Manipur

- The Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy, Imphal announced that it is going to organise a 'three- day Festival of Dance and Music (Nata Sankirtana) from September 28 to 30 at the Academy Mandap.
- Tata Technologies and the Government of Manipur have signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) to establish first of its kind center for Invention, Innovation, Incubation & Training (CIIT) on Industrial Experiential Learning & Development at Manipur.
- Chief Minister N. Biren Singh launched the "Chief Minister's Health for All". Door-to-door health screening will be conducted across the State and Jan Aushadhi medicines will be provided to patients free of cost for primary health care under the scheme.

Nagaland

- With decline in COVID-19 cases, the Nagaland government is gearing up to organise the Hornbill festival this year from December one.

Odisha

- The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (Nabard) has sanctioned an assistance of Rs 303 crore to the Odisha government for the construction of 24 bridges in the state.

Punjab

- Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi launched 'Mera Ghar Mere Naam' scheme to give ownership rights to people living in houses within the 'lal lakir' of villages and cities.

Rajasthan

- Atal Community Innovation Center was inaugurated at Vivekananda Global University, Jaipur, Jagatpura. It will be the first centre in the whole of India which will be set up by the Government of India, Atal Innovation Mission. (AIM) and NITI Aayog.
- Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot launched 'Mukhyamantri Paryatan Udyog Sambal Yojana-2021' to provide relief to the entrepreneurs of the tourism and hospitality sector affected by COVID-19 pandemic.
- India's first Atal Community Innovation Center launched by Vivekananda Global University, Jaipur
- To enable access to 22 departments of the local administration for people of the remotest villages in Rajasthan, the state government has launched a mega campaign 'Prashasan Gaon ke Sang'.

Sikkim

- The state of Sikkim has decided to ban packaged mineral water from January 1, 2022.

Tamil Nadu

- Tamil Nadu FibreNet Corporation Ltd (TANFINET) signed the Master Service Agreement for the implementation of BharatNet Project in Tamil Nadu (two packages) with various system integrators.
- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin has launched two web portals that use Tamil computing software to ensure micro governance, ease of doing business and develop a competitive edge for the state's IT and ITES sectors.
- The two web portals are named e-Munnetram and IT Nanban. The e-Munnetram portal will review progress by capturing key details such as the agreement date, start date, cost estimates, project progress. The portal allows Heads of Departments to update the progress periodically.
- Tamilnadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin launched an unique academic scheme, Education at your doorstep at Villupuram. He also released an app related to the scheme and the theme song.

Telangana

- The country's first smartphone-based e-voting solution has been developed by the Telangana government and a dry run will be held in Khammam district soon. The development has also been guided by an expert committee comprising professor Rajat Moona, director of IIT-Bhilai and technical advisor to the Election Commission, and professors from IIT-Bombay and IIT-Delhi.
- The world's largest cricket bat, certified by Guinness World Records was unveiled in Hyderabad. The cricket bat was unveiled by the former captain of the Indian cricket team Mohammed Azharuddin. The bat was a tribute to the Indian cricket team from Pernod Ricard.

Uttar Pradesh

- The Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Shri Parshottam Rupala, launched the River Ranching Programme at Brijghat, Garh Mukteshwar, Uttar Pradesh. Total 5 states (Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, and Tripura) have participated the National Level River Ranching program launching and a total of 8.85 lakh fingerlings were ranched.
- NFDB sanctioned a total budget of Rs 2.81 crore to ranch 97.16 lakh fingerlings to states as a part of Action Plan 2020-21 of PMMSY.
- The Uttar Pradesh government said that it has financed the highest number of units in the country under the Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP).
- Varanasi, the PM Modi's parliamentary constituency, will soon become the first Indian city to use ropeway services in public transportation. The world's third and India's first public transport ropeway is proposed to be constructed from Cantt Railway Station (Varanasi Junction) to Church Square (Godauliya) to ease the traffic congestion.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Kushinagar International Airport in Uttar Pradesh, which will help connect key Buddhist pilgrimage sites.
- Uttar Pradesh government has decided to rename the Faizabad Railway Junction as Ayodhya Cantt.
- The Uttar Pradesh government named actor Kangana Ranaut as the brand ambassador of its ambitious 'one district-one product' programme.

Uttarakhand

- Shah launched 'Ghasiyari Kalyan Yojana' in Dehradun. 2,000 farmers will cultivate maize on about 1,000 acres of land and a plan has been made to make nutritious animal feed in a scientific way, which will benefit about one lakh farmers.

West Bengal

- In view of a much-needed solution for providing effective long-range marine communications, the Radio over Internet Protocol (ROIP) System at Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata was inaugurated.

Finance and Banking News

- The government of India has received about Rs. 1, 426 crore from Coal India Limited as dividend in this Financial year recently.
- The government has received 52 crore rupees from National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited, NBCC as dividend tranches.
- The Reserve Bank removed Indian Overseas Bank from the Prompt Corrective Action Framework (PCAF), following improvement in various parameters and a written commitment that the state-owned lender will comply with the minimum capital norms.
- Stellapps, a dairy-tech start-up, has joined hands with Airtel Payments Bank to enable cashless payment transfers to small dairy farmers.
- Public sector Indian Bank said it has become the official partner bank for the collection of offline and online treasury for the Integrated Financial and Human Resources Management System.
- The Integrated Financial and Human Resources Management System is a portal developed by the government of Tamil Nadu to integrate human resources and finance related services providing a comprehensive management system.
- Suryoday Small Finance Bank informed its customers that it will shut down its automated teller machines (ATMs) from Oct 1, 2021.
- During the first quarter of the current financial year, Bank credit registered 5.8 percent growth compared to last year. Personal loans accelerated to 14.8 percent on a year-on-year basis while bank credit to the industrial sector declined.
- Indel Money has tied up with IndusInd Bank for a gold loan co-lending partnership to offer gold loans at competitive rates.
- NTPC REL has signed its first Green Term Loan agreement of Rs 500 crores at a very competitive rate with a tenor of 15 years with Bank of India for its 470 MW solar project in Rajasthan and 200 MW solar project in Gujarat.
- U GRO Capital has signed a co-lending agreement with IDBI Bank, on the occasion of the bank's 58th Foundation Day.
- The government has kept interest rates on the popular Public Provident Fund (PPF) and other small saving schemes unchanged for the third quarter of current fiscal.
- PPF will continue to earn 7.10%, NSC 6.8%, and Post Office Monthly Income Scheme Account will earn 6.6% interest during the October-December quarter.
- For the Senior Citizen Savings Scheme, the interest rate is 7.4 per cent per annum. Sukanya Samriddhi Account holders will continue to get 7.6 per cent compounded annually on their account balance.
- The 5-year Monthly Income Account Scheme is offering 6.6 per cent payable monthly, while the 5-year NSC continues to offer 6.8 per cent compounded annually. On the 1-year time deposit, the rate of interest stands at 5.5 per cent while on the 5-year deposit, the rate is 6.7 per cent per annum.
- State Bank of India and Indian Navy launched SBI's NAV-eCash card onboard the country's largest naval aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya.
- ESAF Small Finance Bank has launched 'Supreme' a Current account product for Non – Resident Indians.
- Amid growing business ties between India and UAE, the Reserve Bank of India has granted permission to Emirates NBD, the government-owned bank of UAE, to open two more branches in India. Emirates NBD has maintained a representative office in India since 2000 and got permission from RBI to open its first bank branch in Mumbai in 2017.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank said it has partnered with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to launch credit cards on the RuPay network for Indian armed forces personnel.
- Budget carrier IndiGo and private sector lender Kotak Mahindra Bank announced a strategic partnership for a co-branded credit card, Ka-ching, under the 6E Rewards programme.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMBL) and IndiGo announced a strategic partnership for the launch of a co-branded credit card – Ka-ching – under the 6E Rewards program.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank has tied up with Pine Labs to expand its point-of-sale (PoS) services to more merchants, especially retailers.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank becomes 1st scheduled private sector bank to collect direct, indirect taxes. This will help KMBL customers to pay their direct and indirect taxes straight from KMBL's mobile banking, net banking, or via branch banking network.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) granted license to the National Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (NARCL) under Section 3 of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of

Security Interest Act (Sarfasi) Act, 2002.

- Four months after giving an in-principle nod to Centrum Financial Services and BharatPe to establish a small finance bank, the RBI granted a licence to the consortium that had expressed interest to take over the crisis-impacted Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative (PMC) Bank.
- The new SFB has been incorporated as “Unity Small Finance Bank”.
- Fintech company BharatPe, announced its entry into the ‘Buy Now Pay Later’ (BNPL) category with the launch of ‘postpe’. The new platform provides credit to customers to buy now, but pay later from anywhere. Customers using the postpe platform can download the app from Play Store and avail interest- free credit limit of up to Rs 10 lakh.
- Finance Ministry released 40, 000 crore rupees to the States and UTs with Legislature under the back-to-back loan facility to meet the shortfall in GST Compensation. Earlier on 15th July this year, 75, 000 crore rupees was released to the States and UTs with legislature. With the current release, the total amount released in the current financial year as back to back loan in-lieu of GST compensation has reached to 1 lakh 15 thousand crore rupees.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI)’s Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) kept the repo rate unchanged at 4 per cent and the reverse repo rate at 3. 35 per cent. Das also informed that the RBI MPC has also projected India’s GDP Growth for Financial Year 2021-22 has been retained at 9. 5 per cent. This consists of 7. 9 per cent in Q2, 6. 8 per cent in Q3 and 6. 1 per cent in Q4 of 2021-22.
- Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB), sponsored by Canara Bank, has bagged two national awards (‘APY Big Believers’ and ‘Leadership capital’) for significant enrolment under the Atal Pension Yojana (APY) from the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).
- Visa has launched card-on-file (CoF) tokenization services in India, in line with the recently issued Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines. Launched in partnership with mobile-based payments firm, Juspay, the CoF tokenization service will be available across ecommerce companies such as Grofers, Bigbasket, and MakeMyTrip.
- Private sector lender Federal Bank said it has tied up with CredAvenue for portfolio management of its securitisation book and implemented CredPool, an institutional debt platform of CredAvenue.
- With India celebrating 75 years of Independence, the Government of India has launched “Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav” for various outreach activities on financial services, with focal theme of ‘Janta Se Jodna’. In line with the above Government’s initiative, Punjab National Bank, as the country’s second largest Public Sector Bank, has launched a “6S Campaign” encapsulating different schemes such as – Swabhiman, Samruddhi, Sampark and Shikhar, Sankalp and Swagat.
- Bharti AXA Life Insurance, a joint venture between Bharti Enterprises, one of India’s leading business groups, and AXA, one of the world’s largest insurance companies, announced the launch of a new participating savings product – Bharti AXA Life Unnati.
- Ezetap, a digital payments leader, has joined hands with Axis Bank, who has been at the forefront of driving innovation in retail acquiring, to introduce the latest offering My Vyappar to retail businesses in India.
- IIFL Finance has launched instant business loan on WhatsApp, whereby users of the latter will be able to avail loan up to ₹10 lakh with minimum documentation and get approval in five minutes.
- The Reserve Bank of India granted a banking licence to Unity Small Finance Bank Ltd (USFBL), which was established jointly by the Centrum Financial Services Ltd (CFSL) and Resilient Innovations Private Limited (BharatPe), to carry on a SFB business in India.
- Saraswat Bank has tied up with Axis Securities to offer its customers investing services through a 3-in-1 account. The facility will integrate savings bank account maintained by the co-operative bank with the demat and trading account offered by Axis Securities, which is a subsidiary of Axis Bank.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) said it is elevating its ambition to deliver climate financing to its developing member countries by \$20 billion to \$100 billion from 2019–2030.
- IndusInd Bank has been authorised by the Reserve Bank of India for collection of direct and indirect taxes on behalf of the Central Board of Direct Taxes and the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs.
- The Reserve Bank of India(RBI) has authorised Karur Vysya Bank to collect direct taxes on behalf of Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).
- Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd (KMBL) launched Micro ATMs across the country.
- The Department of Posts launched a digital version of the postal life insurance policy – ePLI bond, which subscribers can access through Digilocker. The Postal Life Insurance (PLI) and Rural Postal Life Insurance (RPLI) policy bonds are available in the ‘electronic form’, and the digital copy will be treated as a valid policy document by the department for all transactions.
- Shivalik Small Finance Bank announced a strategic partnership with Bengaluru-based insurtech company,

Go Digit General Insurance, to provide an array of instant, easy-to-understand insurance products through the bank's network of branches across India.

- Indian Bank said it has added a host of new digital wealth management products on its mobile banking app in partnership with Fisdom, a fintech company that offers financial products, such as mutual funds, insurance and National Pension Scheme (NPS) on its platform.
- U GRO Capital and Kinara Capital have entered into a strategic co-origination partnership to offer collateral-free business loans to small business entrepreneurs in India.
- Digital payment platform PhonePe has, in association with NPCI Bharat BillPay Ltd (NBBL), launched ClickPay for its customers.
- PayPal signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT), to jointly launch the India Digital Trade Facilitation Forum (IDTFF) for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).
- Indian Overseas Bank is now integrated with TN Govt's IFHRMS (Integrated Finance Human Resource Management System) portal designed for collection of all treasury receipts.
- Vested Finance, a platform for investing in foreign stocks for Indians has tied up with SBM Bank, the Indian subsidiary of State Bank of Mauritius for facilitating forex transfers.
- The Reserve Bank of India has imposed a monetary penalty of one crore rupees on the State Bank of India and 1.95 crore rupees on Standard Chartered Bank.
- IndiaFirst Life Insurance Company Limited (IndiaFirst Life), promoted by Bank of Baroda and Union Bank of India, has introduced IndiaFirst Life Saral Bachat Bima Plan, a savings and protection cover for the entire family. This non-linked, non-participating, individual, limited premium policy provides a shorter pay commitment of five or seven years while keeping you and your entire family protected for 12 or 15 years.
- Dearness Allowance, DA for central govt employees hiked 3% from 28 to 31%
- Agri-fintech firm Dvara E-Dairy Solutions Pvt Ltd has entered into a partnership with Jana Small Finance Bank (Jana SFB) to service small dairy farmers.
- The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (Nabard) said a ₹ 1,000-crore dedicated fund for providing credit guarantees to 10,000 farmer produce organisations (FPOs) will be housed in "Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for FPOs" (CGFTFPO) under the trusteeship of NABSanrakshan Trustee Private Limited (NTPL).
- Bharti AXA Life Insurance announced its bancassurance partnership with Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Limited (USFBL) for the distribution of life insurance products through the bank's network of branches across the country.
- ITILITE, an all-in-one business travel and expense management platform, announced an exclusive tie-up with ICICI Bank to issue commercial credit cards to businesses in the country.
- With this, companies can now get an 'ICICI Bank Central Travel Account Card (CTA card)' and make travel bookings for employees seamlessly at a discounted rate on the ITILITE platform.
- ICICI Lombard has launched BeFit, a service provided through its ILTakeCare app that gives customers benefits of complete OPD services—that is, doctor consultation, pharmacy, diagnostics services, etc.—on a cashless basis.
- Private sector lender ICICI Bank crossed the market capitalisation of Hindustan Unilever to become the fifth largest company by market value.
- Union Bank of India has entered into an MoU with Centre for Development of Advanced Computing, Hyderabad under which CDAC will assist it to impart cyber security awareness and education to customers and employees.
- The Reserve Bank of India announced a scale-based regulation of non-banking finance companies, which include a ceiling on IPO funding per borrower as well as changes in the minimum net owned fund, classification of non-performing assets, and capital requirements.
- Under the new framework, there will be a ceiling of ₹1 crore per borrower for financing subscription to an initial public offering (IPO). While the overall guidelines shall be effective from October 1, 2022, the instructions relating to the ceiling on IPO funding will come into effect from April 1, 2022.
- AU Small Finance Bank unveiled a sound box that will provide instant voice-based payment alerts to merchant partners. The QR Code Sound Box is aimed at enhancing the bank's reach in digital payments.
- The Reserve Bank came out with a comprehensive draft framework for implementing the Basel III capital adequacy norms for All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs), including Exim Bank, NABARD, National Housing Bank and SIDBI.
- The draft Master Direction, issued by the RBI, seeks to consolidate the existing guidelines on exposure norms, classification, valuation and operation of investment portfolio and resource raising norms issued

to the AIFIs.

- Private sector general insurer Future Generali India Insurance (FGII) has entered into a bancassurance tie-up with the Bank of India (BoI) for further penetration of its general insurance products.
- India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has tied up with HDFC Limited, India's premier housing finance company, to offer home loans to nearly 4.7 crore customers of IPPB.
- In order to celebrate this festive season together, YES Bank has launched its YES Family proposition, which offers services and privileges for the family of an account holder.
- SBI General Insurance has announced a technological collaboration with the digital payments platform Google Pay.
- The Finance Ministry has released 44 thousand crore rupees to the States and Union Territories with Legislature under the back-to-back loan facility in lieu of GST Compensation.
- After taking into account earlier release of one lakh 15 thousand crore rupees, the total amount released in the current financial year is one lakh 59 thousand crore rupees.
- India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) and HDFC has entered into a strategic alliance to offer home loans to nearly 4.7 crore customers of the payments bank.
- The Reserve Bank of India's holding of gold in foreign exchange reserves went up about 11 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y) to 743.84 metric tonnes as on September-end 2021 against 668.25 metric tonnes as on September-end 2020.
- Bank accounts under Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojna (PMJDY) have increased to 44 crore in over 7 years till October 2021.

Business News

- IT services major Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has been selected by NORD/LB, a leading German commercial bank, as its strategic partner for its IT transformation.
- E-commerce major Amazon India announced the launch of Amazon Future Engineer, its global computer science education programme, in India. According to the company, the programme will enable access to quality computer science education and career opportunities for students from underrepresented and underserved communities.
- Facebook launched its largest creator education and enablement programme in India to provide content creators on its platform and Instagram an opportunity to learn, earn and grow their communities. This is the next phase of the company's 'Born on Instagram' program, which was launched in 2019, but will now enable creators across India to learn through a self-paced e-learning course. At the end of the course, they will receive a course completion letter as well.
- The gross GST revenue collected in the month of September was 1,17,010 crore rupees, which included CGST component of 20,578 crore, SGST 26,767 crore and IGST component of 60,911 crore rupees.
- Digital payments major, Paytm, has now acquired a 100% stake in Urja Money Pvt. Ltd., which provides a loan management system through its proprietary solution, CreditMate.
- Federal policy think-tank NITI Aayog tied up with Amazon Web Services (AWS) and Intel to set up a centre that supports innovation and collaboration among government agencies, start-ups, businesses and domain experts.
- After 68 years, Air India is all set to return to the Tata fold. Tata Sons subsidiary Talace Pvt Ltd emerged as the winning bidder for the debt-laden national carrier after quoting an enterprise value of ₹18,000 crore. The government will take a hit of ₹28,844 crore.
- Mukesh Ambani-controlled Reliance New Energy Solar, a wholly owned subsidiary of Reliance Industries (RIL), has acquired REC Solar Holdings (REC Group) from China National Bluestar (Group) Co.
- Adani Group took over the responsibilities of the Jaipur International Airport from the Airports Authority of India (AAI). The airport has been leased out to the group by the government of India for a period of 50 years.
- Welspun Corp becomes first from India to join the H2Pipe Joint Industry Project on Hydrogen Pipelines.
- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) – a PSU under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has announced the launch of "UFill" – a digital customer experience which delivers on BPCL's promise of ensuring that their customers have complete control over Time, Technology and Transparency as part of their fuelling experience.
- Sona BLW Precision Forgings Limited (Sona Comstar), an automotive technology company, is collaborating with Future Skills Prime – a MeitY (Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology)-NASSCOM Digital Skilling Initiative to upskill its employees or workforce in cutting edge digital technologies with industry-

relevant and government recognised curriculum-based courses.

- Tata AIG General Insurance Co. Ltd announced the launch of Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) insurance, and distribution tie-up with TropoGo, a deep-tech startup.
- Ride hailing company Ola has bought out Pune-based geospatial service provider GeoSpoc, for an undisclosed sum.
- The B2B marketplace of Flipkart Group, Flipkart Wholesale, has partnered with Rupifi to offer 'Embedded Buy Now, Pay Later' offering to MSMEs shopping on Flipkart Wholesale.
- SME lender and fintech Rupifi has partnered with non-banking financial company Muthoot Finance aims to power 15 million small and medium-sized enterprises with access to instant credit in the next few years.
- HDFC Bank, Mastercard, US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), and US Agency for International Development (USAID) launched a \$100 million credit facility.
- State-owned India Infrastructure Finance Co. Ltd. (IIFCL) is set to finance infrastructure investment trusts (InVITs), adding a new funding avenue for infrastructure projects.
- The state agency that offers long-term financial assistance to viable infrastructure projects has received approval from the Reserve Bank of India to back InVITs and will spend about ₹4, 000 crore in this segment this fiscal.
- Tech giant Microsoft has launched a programme, Microsoft AI Innovate for scaling, nurturing leveraging Artificial Intelligence (AI).
- Facebook Inc. is re-christening itself Meta, decoupling its corporate identity from the eponymous social network mired in toxic content, and highlighting a shift to an emerging computing platform focused on virtual reality.
- Digital payments and financial services firm Paytm announced that Switzerland-based reinsurance platform Swiss Re will purchase a 23% stake of Paytm Insuretech, Paytm's insurance unit, for about 920 crore rupee (a bit more than \$122. 6 million).
- Max Life Insurance Co. Ltd said it has joined the account aggregator (AA) framework introduced by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in September. Max Life is the first life insurer to do so.

Economy News

- Fitch Ratings slashed its FY22 growth forecast for India from 10% to 8. 7%, citing the severe second COVID-19 wave, which it said would 'delay rather than derail' economic recovery. Accordingly, it raised the growth forecast for FY23 to 10% from 8. 5% estimated earlier.
- World Bank retains India's GDP forecast at 8. 3% for current fiscal. For the next fiscal (FY 2022-23), the projection is 7. 5 per cent, while for FY 2023-24, it is 6. 5 per cent.
- India's GDP is expected to grow at 9. 1% in 2021-22 as economic recovery, post the second wave of the pandemic, seems to be holding ground, FICCI said.
- International Monetary Fund (IMF) has projected that India will continue to be the world's fastest growing major economy, clocking a growth rate of 9. 5 per cent in 2021.
- As per latest IMF projections, Indian economy will grow at 8. 5 percent in 2022. The world economy is expected to grow at 5. 9 per cent in 2021 and 4. 9 per cent in 2022, according to IMF.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) said it has pared down India's potential growth forecast by 25 basis points to 6% due to the impact of the pandemic which hit investments and labour market badly.
- National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) announced the launch of NPCI Tokenization system (NTS) to support tokenisation of cards as an alternate to storing card details with merchants.
- The NPCI Tokenization System (NTS) will support the tokenisation of RuPay cards to further enhance the safety of customers and provide a seamless shopping experience to consumers.

Science & Technology

- Defence Secretary Dr Ajay Kumar launched a website for Republic Day Celebrations – 2022. To showcase the Republic Day Celebrations, which will mark the 75th year of Independence-Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, Ministry of Defence has created a new website: [www. indianrdc. mod. gov. in](http://www.indianrdc.mod.gov.in).
- Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav has launched a web portal – [indianwetlands. in](http://indianwetlands.in) on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti and heralding the Iconic Week of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav of the Ministry. The portal is a single point access to all information relating to wetlands.
- Labour and Employment Minister Bhupender Yadav launched DigiSaksham – a digital skills programme to enhance the employability of youth by imparting digital skills. This joint initiative with Microsoft India is

an extension of the Government's ongoing programmes to support the youth from rural and semi-urban areas.

- The Jobseekers can access the training through National Career Service Portal – www.ncs.gov.in.
- State-run aerospace behemoth Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) said the “heaviest” Semi-Cryogenic propellant tank (SC120- LOX) ever fabricated by it has been delivered to Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
- India and the UK kickstarted a two-week military exercise at Chaubatia in Uttarakhand to further strengthen bilateral defence cooperation between the two countries. The 6th edition of the ‘Ajeya Warrior’ exercise is part of an initiative to develop interoperability and sharing of expertise.
- Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal launched a port mobile application called ‘MyPortApp’ in Kolkata. The App is aimed at promoting transparency and easy access to port-related information.
- Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Minister Giriraj Singh launched Climate Resilience Information System and Planning CRISP-M tool for integration of climate information in Geographic Information System, GIS-based watershed planning under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA along with Minister of State for South Asia and the Commonwealth in the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office Lord Tariq Ahmad through a virtual event.
- Indian Technology Congress Association in Bengaluru focuses on building synergies between academia, industry and research organisations. It has initiated an ambitious programme to commemorate the 75 years of Indian Independence. It has launched 75 Students’ Satellites Consortium: Mission 2022.
- Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur launched MyParkings app in New Delhi. Smart parking solution through app or through card is an effortless solution towards hassle-free parking. The Minister said, booking of online parking slots will enable people to park their vehicles without inconvenience.
- Department of Biotechnology has launched the country’s first ‘One Health’ consortium. This programme envisages carrying out surveillance of important bacterial, viral and parasitic infections of zoonotic and transboundary pathogens in India.
- A bi-lingual mobile application ‘Healthy Smile’ has been launched to spread awareness about maintaining oral hygiene among children, the AIIMS said.
- Nasa launched Lucy spacecraft, the first space mission to study the Trojans Asteroids. Lucy will journey for 12 years, observing one main belt asteroid and seven Trojan asteroids.
- NITI Aayog launched the Geospatial Energy Map of India. The map attempts to identify and locate all primary and secondary sources of energy and their transportation networks to provide a comprehensive view of energy production and distribution in a country.
- China has successfully launched its 1st solar exploration satellite into space from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in northern Shanxi Province aboard a Long March-2D rocket.
- Earth Sciences Minister Dr Jitendra Singh has launched Air Quality Early Warning System on the occasion of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav week. The Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology has developed a new Decision Support System and extended the ability of the existing air quality early warning system to have decision-making capability for air quality management.
- Former US President Donald Trump has announced plans to launch a new social media network, called TRUTH Social.
- China successfully launched a new satellite, Shijian-21, to test and verify space debris mitigation technologies. It was launched from the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in southwest China’s Sichuan Province.
- France has successfully launched a state-of-the-art satellite into orbit, designed to allow all of France’s armed forces across the globe to communicate swiftly and securely. The Ariane-5 rocket carrying the Syracuse 4A satellite took off from Kourou, in French Guiana.
- The Indian Navy has received the 11th anti-submarine warfare aircraft P-8I from the U. S. -based aerospace company Boeing.
- The United States successfully tested hypersonic missile technology in Wallops, Virginia , a new weapons system which is already being deployed by China and Russia, the US Navy said.
- The Election Commission of India (ECI) has launched the Garuda app for digital mapping of all polling stations, to ensure faster, smarter, transparent and timely completion of election work.
- Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari has launched knowledge App and platform CUNSLT. Emphasizing on innovation, entrepreneurship, science technology, research and skill for knowledge transformation, the minister said, conversion of knowledge into wealth is the future.

- Surface to surface ballistic missile, Agni-5 was successfully launched from APJ Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha.
- In a boost to the maritime safety and security of the nation, the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) got a new indigenous ship, named 'Sarthalak'. It was commissioned and dedicated to the nation in Goa by Director General of ICG K Natarajan.
- India's apex food regulator Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) announced the launch of a mobile application to improve connect with consumers and food business operators (FBOs).
- The app, Food Safety Connect, will help food businesses, particularly hawkers, vendors and start-ups, to apply for FSSAI registration through a faster and convenient mode, the regulator.

Defence News

- North Korea test-fired a newly developed hypersonic missile, Hwasong-8, joining a race headed by major military powers to deploy the advanced weapons system.
- The fifth edition of India-Japan Maritime Bilateral Exercise, JIMEX, between the Indian Navy and the Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force, will be held in Arabian Sea.
- Indian Naval Fast Attack Craft (IN FAC) T 80 was decommissioned at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai in an impressive yet poignant ceremony. Rear Admiral Krishna Swaminathan, AVSM, VSM, Chief of Staff, Western Naval Command, was the Chief Guest on the occasion.
- India is set to host its largest naval exercise, Ex Milan, in February 2022 for which 46 countries have been invited.
- INS Ranvijay (D55) and INS Satpura (F48) are participating in Multilateral Maritime Ex Malabar Phase II in Bay of Bengal. The Exercise has the participation of nine ships including US Aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70), Japanese Helicopter Carrier JS Kaga (DDH 184), USS Lake Champlain (CG 57), USS Stockdale (DDG 106), HMAS Sirius (O266), HMAS Ballarat FFH 155) and JS Marasame (DD 101).
- The 17th edition of the Indo-US joint training exercise "Ex Yudh Abhyas 21" commenced at Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson in Alaska.
- The China and Russia joint naval exercises "Joint Sea 2021" kicked off at Russia's Peter the Great Gulf, in the Sea of Japan.
- South Korea has launched its first homegrown rocket, stepping up the country's ambitions in space. The Korean Satellite Launch Vehicle II, known as Nuri, took off from Goheung, about 500km south of Seoul.
- BHIAS - the High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) was successfully flight-tested by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur.
- The sea phase of the maiden bilateral tri-service exercise 'Konkan Shakti 2021' between the UK and Indian Armed Forces commenced off the Konkan coast in the Arabian Sea.
- The 7th Indian Navy Frigate of P1135. 6 class was launched at Yantar Shipyard, Kaliningrad, Russia, the navy said. The ship was formally named as Tushil by Datla Vidya Varmant. "Tushil" is a Sanskrit word meaning Protector Shield.

Sports News

Tournament	Winner	Other Info
Asian Table Tennis Championships	Japan	Indian men's tabletennis team won Bronze medal
FIDE World Women's Team Chess Championship	Russia	India won Silver medal
Durand Cup football title	FC Goa	Win over Mohammedan Sporting in the final in Kolkata.
Meltwater Champions Chess Tour	Magnus Carlsen	
La Nucia Open Chess Tournament	Iniyan Panneerselvam	
Turkish Grand Prix 2021	Valtteri Bottas	
South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship title	India	Defeated Nepal
2021 Indian Premier League title	Chennai Super Kings	Defeated Kolkata KnightRiders
14th Thomas Cup title	Indonesia	Defeated China

Uber Cup	China	Defeated Japan
Julius Baer Challengers Chess Tour	Rameshbabu Pragganandhaa	
National Open Javelin Throw Championships title	Kishore Kumar Jena of Odisha	
Mens' single 2021 Denmark Open Badminton	Viktor Axelson	
Womens' single 2021 Denmark Open Badminton	Akane Yamaguchi	
2021 United States Grand Prix	Max Verstappen	Lewis Hamilton stood second while Sergio Perez came third

Sports

- Sports Minister Anurag Thakur launched a nationwide month-long Clean India Programme from Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh to encourage people's participation in cleaning waste, mainly single use plastic.
- The cleanliness drive, to be organised by the sports ministry, is being taken up as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav and will run from October 1 to 31.
- Tokyo Olympic stars Rupinder Pal Singh, Birendra Lakra, and SV Sunil retire from international hockey.
- Boxing great Manny Pacquiao has announced his retirement from the sport as he shifts focus on becoming the next Philippines President.
- Australia fast bowler James Pattinson has announced his retirement from international cricket ahead of the upcoming Ashes series against England.
- Netherlands all-rounder Ryan ten Doeschate announced his retirement from international cricket after his side failed to qualify for the Super 12 stage of the T20 World Cup.
- England's Fran Wilson announced her retirement from international cricket.
- Nagaland will be hosting the 56th National Cross Country Championship in January 2022.
- In a historic moment in women's cricket, Smriti Mandhana became first Indian woman to score a Test hundred on Australian. She scored 127 runs with 22 fours and a six.
- Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju inaugurated the country's first "Sports Arbitration Centre of India" in Gujarat which will serve as an independent body to fast track disputes in the sports sector.
- The FIH announced that India made a clean-sweep of its annual awards. It's the first time that a country has won in all eight categories. Gurjit Kaur was named as the best woman player while Harmanpreet Singh was the best male.
- Savita Punia and PR Sreejesh were chosen as the best goalkeepers in the world while Sharmila Devi and Vivek Sagar Prasad were elected as the best rising stars.
- Sjoerd Marijne, captain of the the Indian women's hockey team, and Indian men's hockey team skipper Graham Reid too grabbed the highest number of votes in their respective categories.
- India pulled out of the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games' hockey competition stating the risk of contracting COVID-19 and the discriminatory quarantine rules by the United Kingdom (UK) for travellers coming from India.
- Germany has unveiled the logo for 2024 European Championship during a ceremony with a light show in the stadium that will hold the final. The logo features an outline of the Henri Delaunay Cup, the bulbous tournament trophy, set on a colored oval outline that resembles the Olympiastadion's roof.
- It features colors from the flags of UEFA's 55 member nations, set in 24 slices around the trophy to represent the 24 teams that will ultimately qualify for the tournament in Germany.
- Indian grappler Anshu Malik has scripted history as she became the first Indian woman to win a silver medal in the World Wrestling Championships. Anshu lost to Olympic medallist Helen Maroulis of the USA 4-1 in the summit clash of women's 57 kg category at Oslo in Norway.
- A group of 136 countries have signed a landmark global treaty to enforce a corporate tax rate of at least 15% for large multinationals.
- World football body, FIFA unveiled the official mascot of the U-17 Women's World Cup India 2022 "Ibha" an Asiatic lioness representing women power. Ibha aims to inspire women and girls across India and around the world to realise their potential.
- Ireland's Amy Hunter became the youngest player to score an ODI century, striking an unbeaten 121 to take her side to a win against Zimbabwe on her 16th birthday, bettering the record previously held by India's Mithali Raj.

- Child prodigy Divya Deshmukh has become India's latest Woman Grand Master (WGM) at the First Saturday Grandmaster chess tournament in Budapest, Hungary.
- The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) and the Local Organising Committee (LOC) unveiled 'Our Goal for All' as the official tagline of the 2022 Women's Asian Cup to be held in India from January 20 to February 6.
- The ICC has partnered with UNICEF to amplify awareness around mental health and well-being of children and adolescents throughout the men's T20 World Cup.
- India won a whopping 43 medals, including 17 gold, to finish on top of the pecking order in the just-concluded ISSF Junior World Championship at the Las Palmas Shooting range in Lima, Peru. India was followed by the US and Italy.
- Nagaland will host the South Asian Athletics Federation (SAAF) Cross Country Championship in the state capital Kohima on January 15 next year.
- Former Indian batter Rahul Dravid has been appointed head coach of Team India, who will replace Ravishastri, who will lead after the 2021 edition of the T20 World Cup in the United Arab Emirates.
- Fencer Bhavani Devi, who made history at the Tokyo Olympics by becoming the first Indian to compete in the sport at the Games, has won the Charlellville National Competition in France in the individual women's sabre event.
- Ridhima Veerendrakumar bags gold medal in 50m backstroke for group II girls in Bengaluru; breaks 7-year record of Maana Patel.
- India rise one spot to 106th, Belgium hold onto top position. India has also moved one spot ahead to the 106th position after the Sunil Chhetri-led side won the SAFF Championship. The Blue Tigers had defeated Nepal in the summit clash.
- Brazil remain second but are breathing down the neck of Belgium, just 12 points behind. England, meanwhile, dropped two places to fifth.
- Yamaha's Fabio Quartararo became the first Frenchman to win the MotoGP world championship following a fourth-placed finish in the Emilia Romagna Grand Prix as his closest title contender Francesco Bagnaia of Ducati crashed.
- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) unveiled Ahmedabad and Lucknow as the two new teams for the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2022 after CVC Capitals Partners and Sanjiv Goenka's RPSG Group successfully bid for the franchises.
- In a first of its kind move, the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) has signed a 3-year exclusive partnership with sports management firm IOS Sports and Entertainment.
- Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS), Bhubaneswar, in an initiative never before, has launched the world's first-ever FIFA Football for School Programme at KISS. Naveen Patnaik, Chief Minister of Odisha virtually launched the Programme.

ISSF junior world championship

Held in ISSF Junior World Championship in Lima, Peru.

- Women's 10m air pistol: Manu Bhaker won Gold
- Women's skeet team event: Trio of Areeba Khan, Raiza Dhillon and Ganemat Sekhon won Gold
- Men's skeet team event: Trio of Rajveer Gill, Ayush Rudraraju and Abhay Singh Sekhon won Bronze
- Women's 25-metre air pistol event: Naamya Kapoor won Gold
- Men's 50m rifle: Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar won Gold
- Women's 25m Pistol event: Trioka of Manu Bhaker, Naamya Kapoor and Rhythm Sangwan won Gold

Committee

<i>Head of Committee</i>	<i>Purpose</i>
CK Mishra	Gift city regulator International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) constituted an Expert Committee to recommend approach towards development of Sustainable Finance Hub and provide road map for the same.
SP Mukherjee	The Ministry of Labour & Employment has reconstituted the expert group responsible for determining the national floor level minimum wages under the Code on Wages.
J. B. Mohapatra (Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes)	Finance Ministry said, the investigations in cases of Pandora Papers leaks appearing in the media under the name Pandora papers will be monitored through the Multi Agency Group

<p>Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees for 2021-2022 has been reconstituted. Rajya Sabha member V. Vijayasai Reddy of YSR Congress has been appointed as the Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce.</p> <p>The Committee on Health and Family Welfare will be headed by Rajya Sabha MP Ram Gopal Yadav of Samajwadi Party. Rajya Sabha MP and Congress leader Anand Sharma has been appointed as the Chairman of the Committee on Home Affairs while Lok Sabha member PC Gaddigoudar has been appointed as the Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture.</p> <p>Lok Sabha MP Jual Oram has been appointed as the Chairman of the Committee on Defence. Committee on External Affairs will be headed by Lok Sabha MP PP Chaudhary, while the Committee on Finance will be headed by Lok Sabha MP Jayant Sinha.</p>	
<p>The Supreme Court set up a three-member expert committee, to be supervised by a former judge of the top court, to inquire into the alleged use of Israeli spyware Pegasus for surveillance of Indian citizens, as it noted that the issues raised directly concern “the potential chilling effect” on right to privacy and freedom of speech.</p>	
Vijay C Daga	Capital markets regulator Sebi has constituted a four-member high powered advisory committee on settlement orders and compounding of offences.
Vikas Sheel	The government has set up an expert group led by a senior official in the health ministry to prepare a comprehensive tax policy proposal covering all tobacco products from a public health perspective.
Dharmendra Pradhan	The union government has set up a National Steering Committee (NSC) for implementation of the NIPUN Bharat Mission.
Bibek Debroy	The government has reconstituted the seven-member Economic Advisory Council to the PM for a period of two years after its term came to an end last month.

Rankings

Index	India's Rank	Other Information
Digital Quality of Life Index	59	Denmark topped the index for the second year in a row, followed by South Korea and Finland, while the bottom five countries include Ethiopia, Cambodia, Cameroon, Guatemala, and Angola. Index by British Virgin Islands-based cybersecurity company Surfshark.
Henley Passport Index	90	Top – Japan and Singapore Now, Indian passport holders are allowed to travel visa-free to 58 countries. India shares this rank with countries like Tajikistan and Burkina Faso.
Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index	3	Top – USA, 2nd – China, 4th - France
Global Hunger Index	101	Top - Eighteen countries, including China, Brazil and Kuwait
2021 Mercer CFS Global Pension Index survey	40	Top – Iceland
Global Food Security Index (GFSI) 2021	71	Top - Ireland, Australia, the UK, Finland, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Canada, Japan, France and the US
World Justice Project (WJP) Rule of Law Index 2021	79	Top - Denmark
<p>India is ranked at the top in emissions related to crop burning, accounting for 13 per cent of total global emissions for the 2015-2020 period, according to a new report released by climate tech startup Blue Sky Analytics, which is also part of global coalition “Climate TRACE”. Blue Sky Analytics, the Indian climate tech startup founded by an IIT alumnus, also pointed towards a 12. 2-per cent contribution by India to cropland fire emissions in 2020.</p>		
<p>According to a report published by London & Partners and Dealroom. co, India ranks at the ninth spot globally for climate tech investment, with the country's climate tech businesses receiving US\$ 1 billion in venture</p>		

capital funding between 2016 and 2021.

The top 10 countries for climate tech VC investment between 2016 and 2021 are – US (US\$ 48 billion), China (US\$ 18.6 billion), Sweden (US\$ 5.8 billion), UK (US\$ 4.3 billion), France (US\$ 3.7 billion), Germany (US\$ 2.7 billion), Canada (US\$ 1.4 billion), Netherlands (US\$ 1.3 billion), India (US\$ 1 billion) and Singapore (US\$ 700 million).

Rankings (Persons, Cities, Organisations and Others)

- Reliance Industries head Mukesh Ambani has retained the top spot as the richest Indian once again now his 10th year of enjoying the title, according to the Hurun India Rich List 2021 published.
Top 5 richest Indians this year
Mukesh Ambani (Reliance Industries): ₹7, 18, 000 crore net worth
Gautam Adani (Adani Group): ₹5, 05, 900 crore net worth
Shiv Nadar (HCL): ₹2, 36, 600 crore net worth
SP Hinduja (Hinduja Group): ₹2, 20, 000 crore net worth
Lakshmi Mittal (Arcelor Mittal): ₹1, 74, 400 crore net worth
- Tesla's CEO Elon Musk, with a net worth of \$213 billion has pipped Amazon's Jeff Bezos to become world's richest person again, according to Bloomberg Billionaires Index.
- Reliance Industries Ltd, the country's largest company by revenues, profits and market value, has topped Indian corporates in the World's Best Employers rankings 2021 published by Forbes. Reliance was placed at 52 in the overall ranking of 750 global corporates like Phillips, Sanofi, Pfizer and Intel.
The global ranking was topped by South Korean giant Samsung Electronics, followed by US giants IBM, Microsoft, Amazon, Apple, Alphabet and Dell Technologies. China's Huawei was placed as the 8th best employer in the world.
- Four Indian institutes have made it to the Times Higher Education's annual Reputation Rankings, that lists the world's top 200 universities based on votes from leading academics around the world.
Indian Institute of Science Bangalore climbs into the top 100 (91-100 band), leading among the Indian institutes. Indian Institute of Technology Bombay climbs two ranking bands to 126-150th. IIT Madras retains its place in the 176-200 band while IIT Delhi (176-200) appears in the table for the first time.
- Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Telangana have taken the top three slots, emerging winners among the 18 largest states in governance performance, Public Affairs Centre (PAC), a Bengaluru-based nonprofit think tank, announced. While Sikkim, Goa and Mizoram have emerged winners among the small states, Puducherry, Jammu & Kashmir and Chandigarh are the toppers among the union territories.
Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Gujarat have performed well in the overall index, while Maharashtra, Assam, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh have slipped in rankings as compared to last year, the study noted.
- Karnataka has topped the State Energy Efficiency Index 2020 (SEEI), scoring 70 points out of 100 on the back of several initiatives to improve energy efficiency in the state. Rajasthan is on second rank followed by Haryana on third.

Loans from Banks/Countries

- The World Bank said its board of executive directors has approved a USD 150 million (about Rs 1, 112 crore) program to support Tamil Nadu's vision of making Chennai into a world-class city that is more green, livable, and resilient to climate change.
- The World Bank Board of Executive Directors has approved a USD 40 million project that is aimed at improving the quality of health services in Meghalaya and to strengthen the state's capacity to handle future health emergencies, including the COVID-19 pandemic.
- India agreed to a \$200 million Line of Credit support for development projects in Kyrgyzstan, as External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar held "cordial and constructive" talks with his Kyrgyz counterpart Ruslan Kazakbaev on a wide range of bilateral and global issues, including Afghanistan.
- Sri Lanka has sought a USD 500 million credit line from India to pay for its crude oil purchases amid a severe foreign exchange crisis in the island nation.
- The Centre and the Asian Development Bank signed a 4.5 million dollar project readiness financing PRF loan to support project preparation and design activities to improve urban mobility in Aizawl, the capital city of the northeastern state of Mizoram.
- Government of India and Asian Development Bank, ADB signed a 100 million US dollar loan to promote

agribusiness network to boost farm incomes and reduce food losses in the State of Maharashtra.

- The Government of India and the Asian Development Bank signed a 251 million dollar loan for climate-resilient, integrated urban flood protection and management in the Chennai-Kosasthalaiyar basin to strengthen resilience of Chennai city to floods.

Deadlines/ Important Dates

- The government has extended the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Subordinate Debt upto 31st of March next year.

Books

Book	Author
Chronicles from the Land of the Happiest People on Earth	Africa's first Nobel laureate Wole Soyinka
Kathmandu Dilemma: Resetting India-Nepal Ties	Former ambassador to Nepal, Ranjit Rae
Economist Gandhi: The Roots and the Relevance of the Political Economy of the Mahatma	Jaithirth Rao
The Custodian of Trust: A Banker's Memoir	Former SBI Chairman Rajnish Kumar
Quest for a Stable Afghanistan: A View from Ground Zero	Sujeet Sarkar
Sir Syed Ahmad Khan: Reason, Religion And Nation	Shafey Kidwai
Veer Savarkar: The Man Who Could Have Prevented Partition	Uday Mahurkar and Chirayu Pandit
The Stars in My Sky: Those Who Brightened My Film Journey	Divya Dutta
The Origin Story of India's States	Venkataramhavan Subha Srinivasan
Actually... I Met Them: A Memoir	Gulzar
The Origin Story of India's States	Venkataramhavan Subha Srinivasan
Kamala Harris: Phenomenal Woman	Chidanand Rajghatta
A new anthology consisting of some outstanding stories, poems, and essays by award-winning author Ruskin Bond was released recently. "Writing for My Life", an anthology has been released 25 years after the first anthology of Bond titled, "The Best of Ruskin Bond".	
The Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) of NITI Aayog has launched a Digi-book named "Innovations for You". The sector in focus in this Digi-book is Healthcare.	

Obituaries

Name	Profession
Bala V Balachandran	Management guru and founder of Great Lakes Institute of Management (GLIM)
Arvind Trivedi	Actor, best known for playing Raavan on the popular 1986 mythological show Ramayan
Ghanshyam Nayak	Actor, fondly known for playing the role of Nattu Kaka in Sony SAB's 'Taarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah'
Farrukh Jafar	Actor
Yusuf Hussain	Actor
Puneeth Rajkumar	Kannada Actor
Nedumudi Venu	Malayalam film actor
Yesudasan	Cartoonist
Sardar Balvinder Singh Nakai	Chairman of IFFCO
Avi Barot	Cricket Player
Jaya Balaji	News Reader and News Editor
Saranjeet Singh	Former Hockey Player
Dr M Krishnan Nair	Oncologist
Bandula Warnapura	Sri Lanka's first-ever Test cricket captain
Colin Powell	First Black U. S. secretary of state

A. Q. Khan	Scientist known as the father of Pakistan's clandestine nuclear programme
Roger Hunt	Footballer from UK
Roh Tae-woo	Former president of South Korea

Nobel Prize Winners

- Scientists who discovered how our bodies feel the warmth of the sun or the hug of a loved one have won the Nobel Prize in Medicine or Physiology.
David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian, from the United States, share the 2021 prize in Medicine or Physiology for their work on sensing touch and temperature.
They unpicked how our bodies convert physical sensations into electrical messages in the nervous system. Their findings could lead to new ways of treating pain.
- German-born Benjamin List and Briton David MacMillan (Born in Bellshill, United Kingdom and Professor at Princeton University, USA): have been awarded the 2021 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for their work on building molecules that are mirror images of one another.
- Nobel Prize for Physics: Syukuro Manabe, 90, and Klaus Hasselmann, 89, were cited for their work in “the physical modeling of Earth’s climate, quantifying variability and reliably predicting global warming”.
The second half of the prize was awarded to Giorgio Parisi, 73, for “the discovery of the interplay of disorder and fluctuations in physical systems from atomic to planetary scales.”
- Tanzanian Novelist Abdulrazak Gurnah has won the 2021 Nobel Prize in literature for his uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugees in the gulf between cultures and continents. The Nobel Prize in literature is awarded by the Swedish Academy of Stockholm, Sweden.
- The Nobel Peace Prize awarded to journalists Maria Ressa of Philippines and Dmitry Muratov of Russia for their fight for freedom of expression in their countries. The pair were honoured for their efforts to safeguard freedom of expression, which is a precondition for democracy and lasting peace, said the chairwoman of the Norwegian Nobel Committee, Berit Reiss-Andersen.
- A U. S. based Canadian David Card, Israeli-American Joshua Angrist and Dutch-American Guido Imbens won the Nobel Economics Prize for insights into the labour market and “natural experiments”.