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# July-2021

# Current Affair

## Important Days

<i><b>Date</b></i>	<i><b>Day</b></i>	<i><b>Extra Info</b></i>
July 1	National Chartered Accountant Day	
July 1	National Doctors' Day	The day is observed to commemorate the birth and death anniversary of former Bengal's Chief Minister Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy
July 1	International Fruit Day	
July 1-7	Crop Insurance Week 2021	
July 1	66th Foundation Day of SBI	
July 1	National Postal Worker Day	
July 2	World UFO Day	
July 2	World Sports Journalists Day	
July 3	International Plastic Bag Free Day	
July 4(First Saturday of July)	International Day of Cooperatives	Theme- Rebuild Better Together
July 4	245th Independence day of USA	
July 11	World Population Day	Theme- Rights and Choices are the Answer: Whether baby boom or bust, the solution to shifting fertility rates lies in prioritising all people's reproductive health and rights
July 12	World Malala Day	
July 15	World Youth Skills Day	Theme- Reimagining Youth Skills Post-Pandemic
July 15	National Plastic Surgery Day	
July 17	Day of International Criminal Justice or International Justice Day	Theme- A Call for Social Justice in the Digital Economy
July 18	Nelson Mandela International Day	
July 20	Space Exploration Day	
July 20	International Chess Day	
July 22	World Brain Day	Theme- <b>Stop Multiple Sclerosis</b>
July 22	Pi Approximation Day	
July 23	National Broadcasting Day	
July 25	World IVF Day	
July 25	World Drowning Prevention Day	
July 26	World Mangrove Day	
July 26	Kargil Vijay Diwas,	22nd Anniversary
July 27	83rd CRPF Raising Day	
July 28	World Hepatitis Day	Theme- <b>Hepatitis Can't Wait</b>
July 28	World Nature Conservation Day	Theme- <b>Forests and Livelihoods:Sustaining People and Planet</b>
July 30	World Day Against Trafficking in Persons	Theme- <b>'Victims' voices lead the way.'</b>

## **MOU/Agreement Countries:**

- Cabinet has approved the signing of Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and the Public Service Commission of Gambia on refurbishing personnel administration and governance reforms.
- Union Cabinet approved a pact between India and Russia regarding cooperation on coking coal, a key steel making raw material, for which domestic players remain dependent on imports from a select group of countries.

## **MOU Industry/States/Others:**

- In a big boost to the Indian research community, the government has partnered with Intel India to launch a 'first-of-its-kind' initiative to advance deep tech based research in the country.
- The Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) signed an MoU with DRDO's Defence Institute of Physiology and Allied Sciences (DIPAS) for cooperation in education and research.
- Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) has collaborated with the BIL Ryerson Technology Startups Incubator Foundation (BRTSIF) to accelerate fintech innovation.
- Central Reserve Police Force, CRPF has signed a MoU with Centre for Development of Advanced Computing C-DAC to train the manpower of the force in advanced technologies and undertake joint projects.
- Ministry of Tourism has signed a Memorandum of Understanding, MoU with [Yatra.Com](http://Yatra.Com) to strengthen the Hospitality and Tourism Industry.
- NTPC and ONGC have planned to boost the development of offshore wind energy in India.
- Union Cabinet has approved the Memorandum on Cooperation (MoC) between Competition Commission of India (CCI) and Japan Fair Trade Commission (JFTC) to promote and strengthen cooperation in the matter of Competition Law and Policy.
- Union Territory of Ladakh and Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for forest cover development in the region.
- Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, APEDA signed an MoU with National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd, NAFED for strengthening export linkage of farmer cooperatives and Farmer Producer Organisation, FPOs.
- Ladakh administration has signed an MoU with Sikkim State Organic Certification Agency (SOCCA) to turn the Union Territory into an organic entity.
- IIT Madras Pravartak Technologies Foundation (IITM-PTF) is collaborating with Sony India Software Centre Pvt. Ltd. to conduct a National hackathon called 'SAMVEDAN 2021 – Sensing Solutions for Bharat' to inspire citizens to solve India-specific problems of societal interest using IoT sensor board.
- Delhi government joined hands with tech giant Google to provide real-time information about buses to commuters and make public transport in the national capital more user friendly.
- Fertiliser major IFFCO's arm IFFCO Kisan Sanchar Ltd is setting up 17 Farmer Producer Organisation (FPOs) in Gujarat in association with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).
- Indian Academy of Highway Engineers, IAHE under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has inked an Agreement with University of New South Wales, Australia for setting up a Centre for Advanced Transportation Technology and Systems in Noida, Uttar Pradesh.
- T-Hub, India's pioneering innovation ecosystem, announced its partnership with Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog to foster innovation and entrepreneurship across the healthcare sectors.
- United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) in India and the Rajasthan government have joined hands to improve the Targeted Public Distribution System (TDPS) in the state.
- Interweave has partnered with UN Women, the United Nations entity for Gender Equality and Women's

Empowerment, to enable corporates implement Women's Empowerment Principles in India.

- Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) to boost ongoing developmental initiatives linked to priority sector lending in Maharashtra.
- SAP Labs India and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India have collaborated with the Karnataka government to facilitate increased access to career guidance, employment and entrepreneurship opportunities as well as promote digital skills to empower women and youth.
- An MoU was signed between the Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda and the Gujarat government to pave way for strengthening the education system in all branches of Ayurveda.
- Prasar Bharati and IIT Kanpur will collaborate on NextGen Broadcasting Technology Center of Excellence to spur Aatmanirbhar Bharat in Media and Broadcasting.
- IBM and Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) – operator of Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru (KIAB/BLR Airport) — announced a ten-year agreement under which IBM and Kyndryl will provide best of breed IT solutions to create a new “Airport in a Box” platform.
- Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, APEDA is collaborating with Ladakh officials to boost unique agricultural produce which would increase farmers' income in the region.
- Cisco Networking Academy and the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) have partnered to address the shortage of a tech-proficient workforce in India and create career opportunities for millions in the digital economy.
- GE and Intel, have (separately) joined hands with Government of India's research funding agency Science and Technology Research Board (SERB), to conduct fundamental research in the areas of the companies' interest.
- World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) signed an agreement to work together to foster diversity and equity through global initiatives promoting health and sport for everybody, everywhere.
- United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) in partnership with Atal Innovation Mission – NITI Aayog, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Rabo Foundation has launched the AgriTech Challenge 2021, which aims to help address challenges faced by smallholder farmers across Asia and Africa.
- Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has signed an MoU with the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing C-DAC to train the manpower of the force in advanced technologies and undertake joint projects.
- Government of Arunachal Pradesh signed an MoU with Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Centre for Policy Research and Analysis-IIM Shillong for collaborating as a knowledge partner for capacity building of State Government officers and to set up a satellite centre of IIM-S in the State and for necessary policy interventions.
- Department of MSME, Government of Uttar Pradesh, signed an MoU with government advisory firm Sapio Analytics, to provide licenses of automation software Accloud, worth Rs. 72 crores, to 20,000 MSMEs of the state.
- Maruti Suzuki India Limited has announced a partnership with Maharashtra's Savitribai Phule Pune University to train youth in automobile retail.
- Intel has collaborated with the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) to launch the 'AI For All' initiative, aimed at creating a basic understanding of artificial intelligence (AI) for people in India.

## **Appointments and Resignations:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Post</b>	<b>Other Info</b>
Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi	Deputy Leader of House in Rajya Sabha	
Pushkar Singh Dhami	Chief Minister of Uttarakhand	Will succeed Tirath Singh Rawat
Basavaraj Bommai	23rd Chief Minister of Karnataka	
P.S. Sreedharan Pillai	Governor of Goa	
Satyadev Narayan Arya	Governor of Tripura	

Ramesh Bais	Governor of Jharkhand	
Bandaru Dattatraya	Governor of Haryana	
Thaawarchand Gehlot	Governor of Karnataka	
Hari Babu Kambhampati	Governor of Mizoram	
Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel	Governor of Madhya Pradesh	
Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar	Governor of Himachal Pradesh	
KN Bhattacharjee	New Lokayukta of Tripura	
Amitabh Kant	CEO of NITI Aayog	
Neha Parikh	CEO of Waze	
Shyam Srinivasan	MD, CEO of Federal Bank	
Nitin Gadkari	Brand Ambassador of Khadi Prakritik Paint	
Vinay Prakash	Resident Grievance Officer for Twitter India	
Noopur Chaturvedi	CEO of Bharat BillPay	
Shiv Nadar	MD of HCL Technologies	
Satish Agnihotri	Managing Director, National High Speed Rail Corporation Ltd	
Aramane Giridhar	Chairman, NHAI	
PVSLN Murty	Chairman & Managing Director of North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (NEDFi)	
Sanjay Rai Sherpuria	National Brand Ambassador for SDG Choupal	
Nasir Kamal	Director General of Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS)	
Sanjay Gupta	Chairman of IMAI for the period 2021-23	
Venudhar Reddy	Director General of All India Radio	
Vivek Ram Chaudhari	Vice Chief of the Air Staff	
B K Sinha	Press Attache of India's Olympic contingent	
Rasmi Ranjan Das	Member of the UN tax committee for the 2021 to 2025	
Atul Keshap	US Charge'd Affairs in Delhi	will replace DanielSmith
N.S. Srinivasa Murthy	Honorary Consul General of Vietnam	
Geoff Allardice	Acting CEO of International Cricket Council (ICC)	
Deepak Kabra	First Indian gymnastics judge at Olympics	
Yusuffali MA	Vice-chairman of the apex government body for all businesses operating from the UAE's capital city, Abu Dhabi	
Abdulla Shahid(Maldives)	President of the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly	
Jim Whitehurst	President of IBM	
Stefan Lofven	Prime Minister of Sweden	
Sher Bahadur Deuba	Prime Minister of Nepal	
Cleopas Dlamini	Prime Minister of Eswatini	
Najib Mikati	Prime Minister of Lebanon	
Pham Minh Chinh	Prime Minister of Vietnam	
Ariel Henry	Prime Minister of Haiti	
Joseph Lambert	President of Haiti	
Pedro Castillo	President of Peru	

### **Resignations**

Union ministers Harsh Vardhan and Ramesh Pokhriyal have resigned ahead of the cabinet reshuffle. Health Minister Harsh Vardhan, Labour Minister Santosh Gangwar, Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal, MoS WCD



Deboshree Chaudhary, and Chemicals and Fertilisers Minister Sadanand Gowda resigned ahead of the cabinet expansion. Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad and Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar have also resigned.
Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa has submitted his resignation to Governor Thawarchand Gehlot in Bengaluru.
International Cricket Council (ICC) CEO Manu Sawhney resigned from his position.
UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has accepted the resignation of Henrietta Fore as executive director of UNICEF.
Lebanon Prime Minister-designate Saad Hariri stepped down after failing to form a government for over the past eight months.

- Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's Prosperity Party won the most seats in Ethiopia's parliamentary election.

#### **List of New Cabinet ministers:**

<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Minister Ministry</b>
1.	Rajnath Singh Minister of Defence
2.	Amit Shah Minister of Home Affairs; and Minister of Cooperation
3.	Mansukh Mandaviya Minister of Health and Family Welfare; and Minister of and Fertilizers
4.	Nitin Gadkari Minister of Road Transport and Highways
5.	Nirmala Sitharaman Minister of Finance; and Minister of Corporate Affairs
6.	Narendra Singh Tomar Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
7.	Dr S. Jaishankar Minister of External Affairs
8.	Arjun Munda Minister of Tribal Affairs
9.	Smriti Irani Minister of Women and Child Development
10.	Piyush Goyal Minister of Commerce and Industry; Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; and Minister of Textiles
11.	Dharmendra Pradhan Minister of Education; and Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
12.	Pralhad Joshi Minister of Parliamentary Affairs; Minister of Coal; and Minister of Mines
13.	Narayan Rane Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
14.	Sarbananda Sonowal Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways; and Minister of AYUSH
15.	Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi Minister of Minority Affairs
16.	Dr. Virendra Kumar Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment
17.	Giriraj Singh Minister of Rural Development; and Minister of Panchayati Raj
18.	Jyotiraditya M. Scindia Minister of Civil Aviation
19.	Ashwini Vaishnaw Minister of Railways; Minister of Communications; and Minister of Electronics and Information Technology
20.	Ramchandra Prasad Singh Minister of Steel
21.	Pashu Pati Kumar Paras Minister of Food Processing Industries
22.	Gajendra Singh Shekhawat Minister of Jal Shakti
23.	Kiren Rijiju Minister of Law and Justice
24.	Ra Kumar Singh Minister of Power; and Minister of New and Renewable Energy
25.	Hardeep Singh Puri Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas; and Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs

26.	Bhupender Yadav	Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change; and Minister
27.	Labour and Employment	
28.	Mahendra Nath Pandey	Minister of Heavy Industries
29.	Parshottam Rupala	Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
30.	G. Kishan Reddy	Minister of Culture; Minister of Tourism; and Minister of
31.	Development of North Eastern Region	
32.	Anurag Singh Thakur	Minister of Information and Broadcasting; and Minister of Youth

## **Awards and Recognitions:**

<b><i>Award Name</i></b>	<b><i>Person/Institution</i></b>	<b><i>Extra Knowledge</i></b>
Kuvempu Rashtriya Puraskar	Dr. Rajendra Kishore Panda	
Mohun Bagan Ratna(Posthumously)	Shibaji Banerjee	
Maharashtra Bhushan Award	Asha Bhosle	
Diana Award	Ishan Kapur	He is an Indian-British boy. for his contribution to the social sector during the coronavirus lockdown
Humboldt Research Award for Economics	Kaushik Basu	
Will Eisner Comic Industry Award	Anand Radhakrishnan	
Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam (BKS)'s Literary Award for 2021	Omchery N N Pillai	
Miss India USA 2021	Vaidehi Dongre	
Alexander Dalrymple Award by British Govt.	Vice Admiral Vinay Badhwar	
Best Film Award in the Documentary section (Best Biographical) at the Toronto International Women Film Festival, 2021	Decoding Shankar	about the life and career of the celebrated musician <b>Shankar Mahadevan</b>
8th edition of the National Community Radio Awards	Radio Vishwas(a Community Radio Station operating in Maharashtra's Nashik district	for Its ' <b>Education for All</b> ' Program Amid Pandemic
Oeil d'or (Golden Eye) award for Best Documentary in Cannes Film Festival	Payal Kapadia	for her film ' <b>A Night of KnowingNothing</b> '
National Silver SKOCH award	Cachar district of Barak Valley in South Assam	on the project called " <b>Pushti Nirbhor</b> "
United Kingdoms Commonwealth Points of Light Award	Syed Osman Azhar Maqsusi	for his initiative ' <b>Hunger Has No Religion</b> '
2021 Scripps National SpellingBee	Zaila Avant-garde	<b>first African-American contestant to win the prestigious competition</b>
'Investment Promotion Agency (IPA)' 2021 by OCO Global	Invest India	
IGBC Platinum Rating	Kandla SEZ (KASEZ)	KASEZ is the <b>First Green SEZ to achieve the IGBC Green Cities Platinum Rating</b> for Existing Cities.

Natwest Group Earth Heroes Award in the Earth Guardian category for best management	Satpura Tiger Reserve, Madhya Pradesh	
2021 Airline of the Year by Air Transport World (ATW)	Korean Air	
UNDP Equator Prize 2021	Aadhimalai Pazhangudiyinar Producer Company Limited and Snehakunja Trust	for their work in the field of conservation and biodiversity
Norman Borlaug National Award for Excellence in Agricultural Research	Kajal Chakraborty	
Olympic Laurel at the Tokyo Games	Muhammad Yunus	He is <b>Bangladeshi</b> Nobel Peace Prize winner
ICC Player of the Month Mens for June	Devon Conway, New Zealand	
ICC Player of the Month for June Womens	Sophie Ecclestone, England	
Euro 2020 Golden Boot	Cristiano Ronaldo, Portugal	It is his <b>first European Championship Golden Boot</b>
Differently Abled Sportsman of the Year at Indian Sports Honour for 2019	Pramod Bhagat	<b>World No. 1 para shuttler</b>
AIFF Women's Footballer of the Year 2020-21	Bala Devi	
AIFF Women's Emerging Footballer of the Year 2020-21 Award	Manisha Kalyan	

## **Recognitions**

International Monetary Fund Chief Economist Gita Gopinath and NASA Scientist Kamlesh Lulla are among the 34 immigrants honoured by a prestigious American foundation ahead of the US Independence Day (July 4) "who have enriched and strengthened" the US society and democracy through their contributions and actions.
Reporters Sans Frontières has named Prime Minister Narendra Modi in its list of 37 heads of states who massively cracked down on press freedom. The watchdog labelled them as "press freedom predators".
Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru has been inducted into the Airports Council International (ACI) director general's Roll of Excellence for the year 2020.
Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) increased its tally in international traffic from the fourth position to the third during the period of January-May 2021.
Amir Khan starrer controversial movie 'PK', which released in 2014 and got mired in controversy over hurting religious sentiments of Hindus, has been added to the collection of the National Film Archives of India (NFAI).
In Nature Index 2021 Materials Science tables, Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR) stands 23rd among Top 50 Rising Institutions, the only institution from India to appear in the list.
Madrid's iconic Paseo del Prado and Buen Retiro Park have been added to UNESCO's World Heritage List.
Dholavira, a Harappan-era metropolis, in Gujarat has been inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List.
On the occasion of International Tiger Day, Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav announced that 14 tiger reserves in India have received accreditation of the Global Conservation Assured Tiger Standards (CA TS).

## **Conference and Summits:**

<b><i>Summit</i></b>	<b><i>Place/Host</i></b>	<b><i>Extra Knowledge</i></b>
7th Indian Ocean Naval Symposium	La ReUnion, Italy	
G20 High-Level Tax Symposium on tax policy and Climate Change	Italy	
Two-day 'Central-South Asia conference'	Tashkent, Uzbekistan	

➤ Minister of State (I//C) for Culture and Tourism, Shri Prahlad Singh Patel hosted 6th BRICS Culture Ministers'



Meeting through video conference. Theme- Bonding and Harmonizing Cultural Synergy.

- Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union health minister addressed at the inaugural session of the 17th World Congress for Cervical Pathology and Colposcopy. Theme- Eliminating Cervical Cancer: Call for Action.

## **International News:**

- The first two generating units of the world's second-biggest hydroelectric dam Baihetan Dam on the Jinsha River, were officially turned in southwestern China.
- According to UN Report, the economic impact from the plunge in tourism since the pandemic emerged last year could top 4 trillion Dollar.
- India has joined Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and G20 Inclusive Framework tax deal.
- The number of international migrant workers has risen globally to 169 million, an increase of three percent since 2017, as per a report by the International Labour Organisation.
- World Health Organization (WHO) recently issued its first global report on artificial intelligence in healthcare and six guiding principles for its design and use.
- China was certified as malaria-free by the World Health Organisation.
- Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General MM Naravane will inaugurate the Indian Army Memorial in the famous town of Cassino, Italy.
- Sirisha Bandla has made headlines as the second Indian-origin woman to head to space as part of VirginSpace Ship Unity on July 11.
- In Bangladesh, the first unit of the Maitree Power Project at Rampal will be commissioned in December this year, coinciding with the country's Golden Jubilee Celebration of the Liberation.
- African affordable housing venture called 14Trees has erected the world's first 3D-printed school in the country of Malawi.
- About 11.4 crore jobs were lost worldwide during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has said in a report.
- A sandcastle in Denmark towering 21.16 metres high has reportedly set a Guinness World Record.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has joined with leading public health experts, vaccine regulators and policymakers to form an advisory group to provide its developing member countries (DMCs) with expert technical and scientific advice on the quality, safety and effectiveness of vaccines for coronavirus disease (Covid-19) pandemic.
- All BRICS countries have agreed to the STI-led BRICS Innovation Cooperation Action Plan (2021-24) proposed by India during the 12th Meeting of BRICS Science and Technology Steering Committee.
- International Air Transport Association (IATA) has launched a global Mobility Aids Action Group to examine and improve the transport journey of mobility aids, including wheelchairs, with the objective of improving the handling of this vital equipment for travelers with disabilities.
- External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar unveiled a statue of Mahatma Gandhi in Georgia at a prominent park.
- United Arab Emirates became the first Gulf nation to open an embassy in Israel.
- Singapore unveiled one of the world's largest floating solar panel farms.
- China has officially begun the construction of the world's first commercial modular small reactor 'Linglong One' at the Changjiang Nuclear Power Plant in the country's Hainan Province.
- Around one in three countries where schools are or have been closed are not yet implementing remedial programmes post-COVID-19 school closures, according to a UNESCO, UNICEF, World Bank and OECD global "Survey on National Education Responses to COVID-19 School Closures".
- According to UNICEF, India has the highest number of under-vaccinated or unvaccinated children worldwide at 3.5 million, an increase of 1.4 million from 2019, amid the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak.
- The annual UN-FAO report titled "The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2021" states that between 720 and 811 million people in the world faced hunger in 2020, which is around 161 million more than in 2019.

## Key points of the report:

- Asia: 418 million (More than half of world hunger population)
  - Africa: 282 million (One-third)
  - Latin America and the Caribbean: 60 million
  - Nearly 2.37 billion people did not have access to adequate food in 2020, an increase of 320 million people over 2019.
  - Children under 5 affected by stunting (low height-for-age): 22.0 percent (149.2 million)
  - Children under 5 affected by wasting (low weight-for-height): 6.7 per cent (45.4 million)
  - Children under 5 who are overweight (high weight-for-height): 5.7 per cent (38.9 million)
  - Percentage of women of reproductive age affected by anaemia: 29.9%
  - Percentage of infants aged below 6 months who were exclusively breastfed: 44%.
- 
- International Cricket Council inducted Mongolia, Tajikistan and Switzerland as the newest member countries at its 78th Annual General Meeting.
  - The United States, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Uzbekistan, have agreed in principle to establish a new quadrilateral diplomatic platform focused on enhancing regional connectivity.
  - Saudi Arabia has announced that women can now register for the annual Haj pilgrimage without a male guardian (mahram).
  - Qatar Airways will become the first airline in the Middle East to join the IATA Turbulence Aware platform.
  - Russia successfully test-fired the Zircon hypersonic cruise missile. Russia is set to arm warships and submarines with the Zircon missile.
  - Russia's S-500 next-generation missile system has struck a fast-moving ballistic target in a training exercise at the Kapustin Yar range.
  - China has unveiled a high-speed maglev train with a designed top speed of 600 kms per hour. As per Chinese official media reports, it is stated to be the world's fastest ground vehicle.
  - Liverpool has been stripped of its World Heritage status after a UN committee found developments threatened the value of the city's waterfront.
  - India has scored 90.32 per cent in United Nation's Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific, UNESCAP's latest Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation.
  - Bangladesh government is working to develop a social media platform named 'Jogajog' as an alternative to Facebook.
  - Sweden has ratified the framework agreement for the International Solar Alliance, an initiative of India aimed at promoting renewable energy and sustainable development.
  - China has launched its long-planned national emissions-trading program—a system that would create the world's largest carbon market and double the share of global emissions covered under such programs.
  - World's first 3D-printed steel bridge has been opened to the public in Amsterdam.
  - Russia successfully launched a long-delayed lab module for the International Space Station that is intended to provide more room for scientific experiments and space for the crew.
  - Typhoon In-fa has moved to Shanghai and continued to lash the city after making landfall at the nearby island-city of Zhoushan.
  - Singapore's Sunseap is planning a \$2 billion floating solar project on a reservoir in Indonesia's Batam Island.
  - Philippines became the first country to give green light to grow enriched 'golden rice' Nutrient-enriched "golden rice".
  - Scientists from India, Russia, Brazil and South Africa will collaborate on research that will help develop or repurpose drugs against COVID-19.
  - India will take over the Presidency of the UN Security Council on August 1.

## **National News:**

- Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) introduced a Financial Literacy Textbook for students of Class VI.
- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved a Reforms-based and Results-linked, Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme.
- Union Cabinet gave approval to the stimulus package of 6 lakh 28 thousand crore rupees announced by the Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman as part of the Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Package.
- Centre has allocated Rs 2,479 crore grant to Jharkhand under Jal Jeevan Mission.
- In a major farmer outreach, the government launched a special drive to enrol more cultivators under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). Launching the special drive, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar said that so far 29.16 crore farmers have insured their crops under the PMFBY.
- India's longest running newspaper – Mumbai Samachar has entered its 200th year on July 1.
- Government's flagship programme- Digital India completed 6 years.
- The government has extended the superannuation age of IPO-bound LIC Chairman to up to 62 years by making amendment to the Life Insurance Corporation of India (Staff) Regulations, 1960.
- Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank virtually launched the National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy – NIPUN Bharat.
- Health Ministry has launched COVID GuruKool, an informational video series on its social media platforms. It is aimed at disseminating authentic information on COVID-19 pandemic and its vaccination program.
- Union government announced the creation of a new ministry named the Ministry of Co-operation to implement the vision of 'Sahkar se Samridhi' or prosperity through cooperation.
- The government has merged the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) with the Finance Ministry to give it a better control over state-owned firms and facilitate its ambitious privatisation programme.
- Union Finance Ministry has released the fourth monthly installment of Post-Devolution Revenue Deficit Grant of over nine thousand 871 crore rupees to the 17 states.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that a new package of more than Rs 23,000 crore rupees has been approved to further strengthen the fight against COVID.
- On the occasion of the birthday of Captain Gurjinder Singh Suri, who died during the operation "Birsamunda" in 1999, the Indian Army inaugurated a war memorial in memory of Captain in Gulmarg near the Line of Control (LOC).
- A total over 198 lakh tonnes of food grains have been allocated to States and UTs for next five months from July to November under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana.
- Central Public Works Department (CPWD) under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs will celebrate 167th year of its glorious service to the nation on 12th July.
- The National Research Centre on Yak (NRCY) at Dirang in Arunachal Pradesh's West Kameng district has tied up with the National Insurance Company Ltd. for insuring their livestock.
- Union Cabinet approved the continuation of National AYUSH Mission as a Centrally-sponsored Scheme from 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2026 with financial implication of nearly four thousand 607 crore rupees.
- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved implementation of special livestock sector package consisting of several activities by revising and realigning various components of Government of India's schemes for next five years starting from 2021-22.
- Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave its approval to hike the Dearness Allowance to Central Government employees and Dearness Relief to pensioners from existing 17 percent of the Basic Pay and Pension to 28 per cent.
- The government has borrowed and given to the states Rs 75,000 crore to make up for the shortfall in their revenues because of the GST implementation.
- National Capital Regional Transport Corporation (NCRTC) is implementing an integrated real-time enterprise management system (iDREAMS).
- MSME Minister Narayan Rane launched two new Khadi Products- Khadi Babywear and Unique Handmade Paper Use and Throw Slippers in New Delhi.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched an Artificial Intelligence-powered grievance management application called CPGRAMS in New Delhi. The system was developed by Ministry of Defence with the cooperation of IIT-Kanpur.

- Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved continuation of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary for further five years from 01.04.2021 to 31.03.2026 at a total cost of Rs.9000 crore.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a state-of-the-art convention centre named 'Rudraksh' at his parliamentary constituency of Varanasi.
- Adani Airport Holdings (AAHL) has taken over the management control of Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL) from the GVK Group.
- China-India bilateral trade in the first half of the year totalled USD 57.48 billion, up 62.7 per cent year on year, perhaps the highest in recent years amid the Ladakh impasse and the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The country's first pod taxi will run between Noida Airport to Film City.
- To further enhance the initiatives of Digital India Programme, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has enabled map services in UMANG App ' through Memorandum of Understanding with MapmyIndia.
- Government launched digital platform Kisan Sarathi to facilitate farmers to get right information at right time in their desired language.
- India aims for an over Rs 100 billion Blue Economy through its Deep Ocean Mission and marine resources, Earth Sciences Minister Jitendra Singh said.
- Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda launched "School Innovation Ambassador Training Program" for 50,000 school teachers.
- Arjun Munda, Minister of Tribal Affairs, virtually launched the nationwide campaign "COVID Teeka Sang Surakshit Van, Dhan aur Uddyam" to accelerate the pace of COVID vaccination among tribals, in India.
- Google Cloud launched its new cloud region in Delhi-NCR (National Capital Region) to serve its customers in India and Asia-Pacific.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman informed the Lok Sabha that the government has, on 28th of June, announced a stimulus package of six lakh twenty eight thousand nine hundred ninety three crore rupees.
- India's largest oil firm IOC will build the nation's first 'green hydrogen' plant at its Mathura refinery.
- In July 2021, Government has said that over 30 crore loans amounting to 15 lakh 97 thousand crore rupees have been sanctioned under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana since inception of the Scheme in April, 2015.
- The Sarang Helicopter Display Team of the Indian Air Force is all set to perform for the first time at the MAKS International Air Show held at Zhukovsky International Airport, Russia.
- 2.73 lakh crore rupees have been sanctioned under Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme.
- Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has constructed 13 thousand 327 kilometers of National Highways in 2020-21 which works out to about 37 kilometres per day.
- Maldives Foreign Affairs Minister and President-Elect of 76th General Assembly of United Nations, Abdulla Shahid arrived in New Delhi to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and hold talks with the External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar on key international, multilateral, regional and bilateral issues of mutual interest.
- The government has decided to set up the Indian Institute of Heritage at Noida..
- Union Cabinet has approved Production-linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Specialty Steel with incentives of Rs. 6,322 crore.
- Ministry of Science and Technology will set up a first-of-its-kind Centre of Excellence in the Northeast. The location of the project is at Kimin in district Papum Pare in Arunachal Pradesh.
- Centre has accredited a total of 236 academies across the country under Khelo India Scheme for the training of the Khelo India Athletes.
- Government has decided to set up a National Centre of Excellence for Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comics for creating a world-class talent pool in India to cater to the Indian as well as global industry.
- Government has announced a special economic and comprehensive package of 29.87 lakh crore rupees under Atma Nirbhar Bharat during last financial year.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah along with Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma inaugurated the much-awaited and prestigious "Greater Sohra Water Supply Scheme".
- Unemployment rate for women fell to 4.2 per cent in 2019-20 from 5.1 per cent in 2018-19, according to Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by National Statistical Office (NSO).
- Garima Grihas for the transgender persons are being set up with the help of community-based organizations.
- Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formulated a scheme "SMILE – Support for Marginalized



Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise”, which includes subscheme – ‘Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of Begging’.

- Over 17,500 companies have been struck off as per provisions of section 248 of the Companies act during the period of March 2020 to June 2021. Government has announced fund of 29.87 lakh crore rupees under Atmanirbhar Bharat package as a relief for several sectors.
- Government has said that around one crore 13 lakh houses have been sanctioned under PradhanMantri Awas Yojana – Urban till date.
- Union government will set up over 42 virology research and diagnostic laboratories under a central scheme during the period of 15th Finance Commission (2021-22 to 2025-26) at a cost of Rs324 crore.
- Ministry of Science and Technology is setting up a first-of-its-kind Centre of Excellence in the Northeast.
- Government has released 8257.88 crore to the States and Union Territories towards the India Covid-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Package during 2020-21.
- Twenty-seven percent of the all-India quota admissions for medical and dental courses will be reserved for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) starting this academic year, the Union health ministry said. An additional 10% will be reserved for the Economically Weaker Section (EWS).
- Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) issued an executive order to allow 100 per cent foreign direct investment (FDI) under automatic route for oil and gas PSUs.
- Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar said the government aims to create a national database of farmers and is also in the process of bringing out a data policy for the farm sector.
- Government is proposing to set up a National Research Foundation (NRF) to strengthen the research ecosystem in the country.

## **State News:**

### **Andhra Pradesh**

- Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy launched the ‘YSR Bima’ scheme, under which the government will directly pay insurance amounts to families of the deceased to make the claim settlement easier.
- With an objective to ensure women empowerment and livelihood to six lakh women on a permanent basis through the YSR Cheyutha scheme, the State government exchanged MoUs with 14 companies.
- Andhra Pradesh government will launch a flagship startup promotion scheme Accelerate Startups in AP (ASAP) for early stage startups to offer plug-and-play office space and access to a network of investors and mentors.

### **Assam**

- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma ceremonially launched Assam Tea Industries Special Incentive Scheme (ATISIS) to incentivize the production of Orthodox and specialty tea.
- Assam cabinet decided to create a new department to protect the culture and practices of people belonging to tribal and other indigenous communities.
- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma launched a scheme wherein social and financial security would be provided to women who have lost their husbands to the coronavirus disease. Under the ‘Chief Minister’s COVID-19 Widows Support Scheme’, a one-time assistance of ₹2.5 lakh each will be given to such women whose family income is less than ₹5 lakh.
- Assam CM has promised to provide Government jobs to all forthcoming medal earners of the State in the National Games, along with winners of the Olympics, the Commonwealth Games and Asian Games.
- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma laid the foundation stone of a Bamboo Industrial Park at Manderdisa in Dima Hasao district. The project will be implemented with Rs. 50 crores from DoNER Ministry.

### **Chhattisgarh**

- In Chhattisgarh, people are showing enthusiasm to encourage Indian players participating in the Tokyo Olympic Games. In Raipur, the capital of Chhattisgarh, selfie points have been made at four public places to encourage the Indian players participating in the Tokyo Olympics.

### **Delhi**

- Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal launched a scheme and an online portal to provide financial assistance to families who lost their loved ones to Covid-19 and asked officials not to find faults in their claim applications.



Under the 'Mukhyamantri Covid-19 Pariwar Aarthik Sahayata Yojana', Rs 50,000 ex gratia will be given to every family that lost a member to Covid-19 and an additional Rs 2,500 per month will be given if the deceased was the sole breadwinner.

- DMRC launched the country's first FASTag-based cashless parking facility at the busy Kashmere Gate metro station in north Delhi.
- Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) will set up a 'Bangabandhu Chair' at Delhi University.
- 52nd International Film Festival of India (IFFI) is to be held from 20th to 28th November in Goa.
- Goa government has signed an MoU with edu-tech platform Jio Embibe for adaptive learning based on Artificial Intelligence for students.

### Gujarat

- Gujarat Maritime University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the International Financial Services Centres Authority in GIFT City to promote the Gujarat International Maritime Arbitration Centre (GIMAC).
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the Gandhinagar railway station which is now set to house world-class amenities at par with modern airports.
- Kunariya village of Kutch district in Gujarat has come out with a unique idea of holding Balika Panchayat.
- Banas Dairy, the biggest milk cooperative in Asia has decided to set up a separate cooperative body to generate electricity on its own. The dairy located in Banaskantha district of North Gujarat will install a 50 MegaWatt (MW) solar plant that will help cut electricity cost of the dairy by 25 per cent.
- Gujarat High Court became the first court in the country to formally start live streaming of proceedings.

### Haryana

- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar launched 'Jan Sahayak Aapka Sahayak' mobile app for Government to Citizen (G2C) and Business to Citizen (B2C) services. He also announced a scheme for providing ownership rights to Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) property holders.
- India's first 'Grain ATM' has been set up in Gurugram.
- To encourage and promote small industries in the rural areas, the Haryana government will soon introduce the 'One Block, One Product' scheme.

### Himachal Pradesh

- India's first monk fruit cultivation exercise has begun in Kullu, Himachal Pradesh.
- Bollywood actor Yami Gautam Dhar joined hands with the Himachal Pradesh government for their initiative, 'Baccho Ka Sahara, Phone Humara'.

### Jammu & Kashmir

- State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) inaugurated the 'Sukoon', the union territory's first 24x7 counselling helpline number to provide mental health counselling.
- Government of Jammu and Kashmir took a proactive measure, via Jammu & Kashmir Trade Promotion Organization (JKTPO) under aegis of Department of Industries of Commerce, with the initiative called "HAUSLA" for women entrepreneurs of Jammu & Kashmir..
- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha rolled out the Lieutenant Governor's Sustainable Development Fellowship (LGSDF) for the engineering, management and other graduates of J&K.
- 'Darbar move', the 149-year-old biannual tradition of shifting capitals between Srinagar and Jammu, has come to an end.
- Indian Army has named one of its firing ranges in Kashmir after Bollywood actress Vidya Balan.
- Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has e-launched City Livelihood Centre (CLC) Jammu and laid e-foundation of 80 Crore rupees worth Integrated Solid Waste Management facility at Kot-Bhalwal in Jammu.
- The Department of School Education, Jammu and Kashmir, has topped the country with some 80600 elementary teachers trained on the online platform, NISHTHA, launched by the Ministry of Education, government of India.

### Karnataka

- Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Ltd (IRSDC) in collaboration with HNI Aquatic Kingdom has opened Indian Railways first movable freshwater tunnel aquarium at the Krantivira Sangolli Rayanna Railway Station in Bengaluru for the general public.
- The government boys high school located in Stone Building College in Malleshwaram, will become the first government high school in the country to develop a satellite.
- Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa launched the Electric Bike Taxi scheme in Bengaluru.

### Kerala

- Kerala State government's proposed foray into the online content streaming space with the launch of an over-the-top (OTT) platform is a cultural intervention, rather than something prompted by the market or revenues. The state government has planned to launch it by November 1.
- The special Covid vaccination campaign for pregnant women, "Mathrukavacham" began in Kerala.
- Perumkulam, in Kollam District has been bestowed with the title Kerala's first 'Book Village'.
- Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan formally rolled out the Kerala Police's Pink Protection Project that aims at protecting women in public, private, and digital spaces.

### Ladakh

- NTPC REL, will set up the country's first green Hydrogen Mobility project in Ladakh.
- Centre approved the establishment of an integrated multi-purpose infrastructure development corporation for the Union Territory of Ladakh.
- Union Cabinet has also approved the establishment of a Central University of Ladakh with a cost of 750 crore rupees. Central University will be established in Khaltsi in Leh.

### Madhya Pradesh

- Asia's longest and the world's fifth high speed test track was inaugurated at National Automotive Test Tracks (NATRAX) in Pithampur.
- In Madhya Pradesh, Gwalior and Orchha cities have been selected by UNESCO under 'Historic Urban Landscape Project', which was started in the year 2011, for the inclusive and well-planned development of fast-growing historical cities while preserving the culture and heritage.
- Indore city of Madhya Pradesh, or the cleanest city of India, has become the only city from the country to be selected for International Clean Air Catalyst Programme.
- In Madhya Pradesh, the State Government has prepared the Ayush-based economic upgradation scheme – Devaranya Yojana with the twin objectives of improving people's health and livelihood of tribals.

### Maharashtra

- Union Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the country's First Private LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) plant in Nagpur.
- Maharashtra will be the first state in the country to issue educational documents using blockchain technology.
- Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh launched various welfare schemes implemented under NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development) through video conferencing in Imphal.
- Rajdhani Express from Assam's Silchar railway station – reached the Vaingaichunpao railway station in Manipur for a trial run, putting the state on the Indian Railways map.
- In Manipur, the State Government has decided to appoint Olympic Silver Medalist Saikhom Mirabai Chanu as Additional Superintendent of Police (Sports) in the Police Department.

### Meghalaya

- Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma launched a Mobile App 'Pensioners' Life Certificate Verification' that will offer pensioners a hassle-free interface with the pension disbursing authority to prove that they are alive. For better end-to-end delivery of service, a chatbot called MEDA has also been incorporated in the App.

### Odisha

- Centre has allocated 3,323 crore rupees grant to Odisha under the Jal Jeevan Mission for the current financial year to provide tap water supply to every household.

- People in Odisha's temple town Puri can drink water directly from the tap and there is no need to store or filter the water as the facility is available round the clock.

### Punjab

- Punjab government announced waiver of Rs 590 crore worth of loans under the farm debt waiver scheme for labourers and the landless farming community.
- To manage hearing loss in newborn and young children, Punjab government launched an automated auditory brainstem response system (AABR) under universal newborn hearing screening programme. By doing so, Punjab has become the first state in the country to introduce the system.

### Rajasthan

- Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has given a financial grant of Rs 100 crore to the Rajasthan Cricket Association (RCA) to build India's second-largest stadium in Jaipur.
- Farmers in Rajasthan will get a monthly grant of Rs 1,000 under the 'Kisan Mitra Urja Yojna' which was launched by Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot in the state.
- Now purchase and sale of organic products in Rajasthan can be done online using 'Raj Kisan Organic' mobile application.
- Rajasthan government's Industries Department and the apex industrial development body, the Rajasthan Industrial Development and Investment Corporation (RIICO), have launched a campaign "Mission Nirayata Bano" to help local traders in expanding their businesses to foreign countries.

### Tamilnadu

- The construction work for units 5 and 6 of the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (KKNPP) commenced with the first concrete pouring into the foundation plate of the reactor building.
- Union Government granted a relief package of 800 crore rupees for management of the second wave and prevention of the third wave in Tamilnadu.
- Telangana celebrated the 'Asha Bonalu' festival, one of the biggest traditional folk festivals in the state.
- Telangana government's ambitious Chief Minister's Dalit Empowerment Scheme, now christened "Telangana Dalit Bandhu," will be launched by Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao in Huzurabad Assembly constituency of erstwhile Karimnagar district on a pilot basis.
- India gets its 39th World Heritage Site. The Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple, Telangana has been inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

### Uttarakhand

- India's first cryptogamic garden housing nearly 50 species of lichens, ferns and fungi was inaugurated in Uttarakhand's Dehradun district's Chakrata town.
- The people from the Kumaon region of the state of Uttarakhand and in some parts of Himachal Pradesh celebrate a Hindu festival named Harela every year.

### Uttar Pradesh

- In Uttar Pradesh, the government is planning to establish Health ATMs to provide better health facilities to the people in state.
- Uttar Pradesh government is all set to create a new record by planting 30 crore saplings in the state on the occasion of Van Mahotsav (July 1 and July 7).
- The Manduadih railway station in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh has been finally renamed as Banaras by the North eastern railways (NER).
- The Zurich Airport International signed a shareholder agreement with Uttar Pradesh government entity NIAL in Lucknow for the development of the Noida International Airport.

### West Bengal

- The Government of West Bengal has launched an education loan scheme 'Students Credit Card' for the students aiming for higher studies. The scheme will provide soft loan upto Rs. 10 lakh with simple annual interest.

## **Finance and Banking News:**

- Ujjivan Small Finance Bank has partnered with digital lender LoanTap to provide personal loans to salaried professionals.
- Amazon Web Services, (AWS), the cloud computing arm of e-commerce giant Amazon said that Axis Bank, India's third-largest private sector bank, has selected AWS to accelerate its digital transformation program and meet the growing demand for its digital banking services.
- Innoviti Payment Solutions, India's largest provider of payment solutions to Enterprise merchants, and PhonePe, India's largest digital payments platform announced the pioneering facility of Dual- Display-UPI.
- HDFC Bank launched a SalaamDilSey initiative to show gratitude to doctors for their tireless service during the pandemic, to pay tribute to doctors across the country.
- ICICI Bank announced the launch of the country's most comprehensive banking solutions called 'Salute Doctors' for medical doctors.
- Network People Services Technology (NPST) has availed a registration for the third-party application provider (TPAP) from the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) for its Time Pay solution.
- Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has launched a new annuity plan. The new scheme is called — LIC Saral Pension plan.
- The gross non-performing assets (GNPAs) ratio of banks may rise to 9.8 per cent by March 2022, under a baseline scenario, from 7.48 per cent in March 2021, according to the Financial Stability Report (FSR) released by the Reserve Bank of India.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 25 June issued a notification harmonising the rules for appointment of urban co-operative banks' (UCB) chiefs and whole-time directors (WTDs) with those of private banks.
- With a market-capitalization of over Rs 50,000 crore, The Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) became the second most-valued listed public sector bank in India.
- Paytm announced the launch of Postpaid Mini, small ticket loans that will give users flexibility to access loans ranging from Rs 250 – Rs 1,000, in partnership with Aditya Birla Finance Ltd.
- HDFC Bank has partnered with Creditas Solutions to offer a guided and customised debt management solution for its loan and credit card customers.
- MSME focused digital lending platform [FlexiLoans.com](https://flexiloans.com) announces its collaboration with Google Pay to offer flexible loans to their merchant base.
- Razorpay and Mastercard have launched Mandate HQ, a platform, which the companies said is a safe and secure recurring payment interface.
- PayU, India's online payment solutions provider, has partnered with WooCommerce, an open-source, customizable e-commerce platform, to enable WooCommerce merchants with digital payments infrastructure, and end-to-end digitalization of business processes.
- To cater to Indian students gearing up for admissions in the U.S., Aeldra Financial Inc., a Silicon- valley based pioneering 'digital neo bank', is offering a unique U.S. bank account with a Mastercard Global Debit Card that can be opened and operated from India, even before students get an F-1 visa.
- Bajaj Allianz General Insurance and Bank of India have entered into a corporate agency agreement.
- Reserve Bank of India asked banks and financial institutions to use any widely accepted alternative reference rate (AAR) instead of LIBOR (London Interbank Offered Rates) as the reference rate for entering into new financial contracts.
- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has rolled out various developmental measures for MSMEs on World MSME Day on June 27, 2021. Under its project SAHAS, SIDBI has soft-launched "Swavalamban Chair for MSME Solutions," at Government Engineering College, Thrissur, supported by Swavalamban Resource Facility, set up in partnership with Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office, UK.
- SIDBI has entered into a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Global Alliance for Mass Entrepreneurship to help MSMEs address COVID-19-induced challenges.
- RBI has tweaked the norms for interest on the amount left unclaimed with the bank after a term deposit matures.
- Drip Capital has partnered with SBM Bank India to offer trade financing solutions — customised for small and medium-sized exporters in India.
- Neobank FREO has partnered with HDB Financial Services to offer a credit line and high-ticket personal loans to customers across multiple cities in India.
- Max Bupa has embarked on a Corporate Agency partnership with Axis Bank, India's third largest private sector



bank, to provide comprehensive and best-in-class health insurance solutions to its customers.

- Axis Bank signed MOU with the Indian Army offering a defence service salary package under its “Power Salute” initiative.
- SBI General Insurance, one of India’s leading general insurers, announced the launch of a comprehensive health insurance plan named ‘Arogya Supreme’.
- IndusInd Bank has partnered with TP Central Odisha Distribution Limited (TPCODL), a joint venture between Tata Power and the Government of Odisha to launch a fully digital network for facilitating electricity bill payment across the state.
- NIIT Institute of Finance Banking and Insurance (NIIT IFBI) and Axis Bank have launched a fintech professional programme to build future-ready professionals for the private sector lender.
- Axis Bank announced its first derivative transaction linked to the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR).
- Easiloan Techno Solutions Pvt. Ltd. (www.easiloan.com), a new age fintech start-up has launched “Easiloan Instant Match” application, housing finance industry’s first Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology-based selection and recommendation engine for home buyers.
- Airtel Payments Bank has launched ‘Pay to contacts’ which allows customers to initiate a UPI payment by selecting the receiver’s mobile number from their phonebook.
- Reserve Bank issued a scheme ‘RBI Retail Direct’, a one-stop solution to facilitate investment in government securities by individual investors.
- Reserve Bank barred Mastercard Asia Pacific from onboarding new credit, debit and prepaid card customers with effect from July 22 as it failed to comply with data storage norms.
- Equitas Holdings, the promoter of Equitas Small Finance Bank (SFB), said that the bank has received Reserve Bank of India’s (RBI) nod to apply for amalgamation of the promoter into itself.
- National Asset Reconstruction Company (NARCL) became a legal entity now and has been registered with the Registrar of Companies (RoC) Mumbai.
- Bhutan becomes first neighbouring country to use BHIM UPI.
- RBI has cancelled the license of Dr Shivajirao Patil Nilangekar Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd, Nilanga, Latur.
- BUSY, one of India’s leading business accounting software, has partnered with ICICI Bank for banking solutions.
- RBL Bank has tied up with Visa Worldwide (Visa) to issue credit cards enabled on the Visa payment network.
- Federal Bank launched FEDDY, an Artificial Intelligence-powered virtual assistant to help customers with banking-related queries anytime.
- Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has introduced Arogya Rakshak, a non-linked, non- participating, regular premium, individual, health insurance plan.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Indian Navy for salary accounts.
- State Bank of India has selected Paisalo Digital as its National Corporate Business Correspondent for boosting its financial inclusion drive with the help of kiosk-based banking services.
- ICICI Bank announced the launch of a co-branded credit card with Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) to enable users to get benefits and reward points for using multiple credit cards in one named ‘ICICI Bank HPCL Super Saver Credit Card’.
- U GRO Capital, a non-bank financier, and state-owned Bank of Baroda have partnered for co-lending to the micro, small and medium enterprise (MSME) sector.
- Reserve bank of India is planning to launch Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) in the near future.
- Dhanlaxmi bank announced a strategic alliance with SMC Global Securities Limited for offering online trading services to customers.
- HDFC ERGO General Insurance announced the launch of Optima Secure, a new health indemnity insurance product that seeks to redefine the value customers can get from their insurance plan.
- Multilink, one of India’s fastest-growing fintech companies with a network of 1,00,000+ agents spread across India, said it will begin its strategic partnership with NSDL payments bank to build agent points across India.
- Kerala Bank has launched a loan scheme titled ‘Kerala Bank Samagra’ for the infrastructure development of Primary Agricultural Credit Cooperatives (PACS).
- Max Bupa Health Insurance, backed by private equity firm True North and Bupa, has rebranded itself to Niva Bupa Health Insurance.
- Indian Bank signed the MoU with IIT Guwahati Technology Incubation Centre (TIC) for funding eligible Startups under the “IND SpringBoard” scheme of the Bank.



- In a bid to improve medical infrastructure in non-metros, the National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Ltd (NCGTC) issued operational guidelines for the Rs 50,000-crore credit guarantee scheme announced as part of Rs 6.29-lakh-crore stimulus package last month by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.
- Reserve Bank of India has raised the limit on loans to be sanctioned to directors or associates without board approval for the first time in 26 years to Rs. 5 crore from Rs. 25 lakhs last set in 1996.
- HDFC Bank launched an overdraft facility 'Dukandar Overdraft Scheme' for small retailers in partnership with the government's e-governance services delivery arm CSC SPV that enables government schemes and services through common service centres (CSCs).
- State Bank of India topped the list of public sector banks writing off loans in FY21 followed by Union Bank of India.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cancelled the licence of Goa-based Madgaum Urban Cooperative Bank, with effect from July 29, 2021.
- IFC, along with two investment funds managed by IFC Asset Management Company (IFC Financial Institutions Growth Fund and IFC Emerging Asia Fund) have picked up 4.99 per cent stake in Federal Bank for ₹916 crore.
- Digital payments have recorded a growth of 30.19 per cent during the year ended March 2021.
- Prest Loans (<https://www.prestloans.com>) has signed up a strategic alliance agreement with Mumbai based U GRO Capital (<https://www.ugrocapital.com>), a BSE listed technology enabled NBFC, to provide secured business loans to Micro SME business units.
- ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company and Dr Reddy's Laboratories-owned SVAAS Wellness have joined hands to offer cashless outpatient services to health insurance policyholders.
- SWIFT announced the launch of SWIFT Go, a new service that enables small businesses and consumers to send fast, predictable, highly secure, and competitively priced low-value cross-border payments anywhere in the world, direct from their bank accounts.
- Paytm Payments Bank has become the first bank in the country to achieve the milestone of issuing 1 crore FASTags.
- Reserve Bank of India said that it has allowed non-banks to participate in its Centralised Payment Systems (CPS) through Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) and National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT) systems, in a phased manner.
- Yes Bank and Indiabulls Housing Finance have entered into a co-lending agreement for home loans.
- FamPay, a fintech start-up focused on online and offline card payments for teenagers, has launched India's first Visa prepaid card — FamCard Me — for teenagers with personalised doodles on it.

#### **(For Q-2 of FY2021-22)**

- Return on five-year deposit: 6.7 per cent
- Rate on 12 months' deposit: 5.5 per cent
- National Savings Certificate (NSC) rate: 6.8 per cent
- Interest on senior citizens savings scheme: 7.4 per cent
- Interest on savings deposit for senior citizens: 4 per cent
- Interest on Sukanya Samriddhi account scheme: 7.6 per cent
- Interest on Public Provident Fund (PPF) scheme savings: 7.1 per cent

### **Business News:**

- Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) signed a strategic partnership with Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) to build a chlor-alkali, ethylene dichloride and polyvinyl chloride (PVC) production facility at TA'ZIZ in Ruwais, Abu Dhabi.
- Flipkart has launched Shopsy, an app that will enable Indians to start their online businesses without any investment.
- Indian Navy inked a pact with premier DPSU Bharat Electronics Limited to develop emerging technologies related to artificial intelligence, quantum computing and robotics.
- Arun Jaitley National Institute of Financial Management (AJNIFM) and Microsoft have formed a strategic partnership to build an AI and emerging technologies Centre of Excellence.
- Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the acquisition of SB Energy Holding Limited by Adani

Green Energy Limited.

- Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) has inked a memorandum of understanding with logistics service provider Aramex India to support micro, small and medium enterprise (MSME) exporters in India.
- Eroute Technologies Private Limited, a card-based payment company launched its maiden product offering OmniCard – India's First Omni-channel Pre-paid Card exclusively for YOUNG Generation that aims to step up their lives by making them independent power-packed with an innovative mobile app in the emerging Indian payment industry.
- Sun Pharmaceutical Industries launched a special initiative 'Sunkalp' for the welfare of doctors, their families and the community.
- PhonePe has partnered with Walmart Inc.'s Flipkart to digitise cash-on-delivery services of the e-commerce firm.
- Tech Mahindra has partnered with StaTwig, a Singapore and Hyderabad-based digital supply chain solution provider, to implement vaccine traceability platform 'VaccineLedger' globally.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has notified the inclusion of retail and wholesale trade under the ambit of the MSME (micro, small and medium enterprise) category.
- National Commodity Derivatives Exchange (NCDEX) has launched two agriculture-focused commodity indices NCDEX Guarex and NCDEX Soydex.
- Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) has signed an agreement with the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) to safeguard consumers against misleading claims in food and beverage (F&B) advertisements.
- Amazon India launched its first 'Digital Kendra' in Surat, Gujarat, as part of its commitment to digitise 10 million Indian micro, small and medium enterprises by 2025.
- Facebook, launched its newsletter product Bulletin, a standalone platform for free and paid articles and podcasts that will aim to rival Substack.
- Multi Commodity Exchange of India and European Energy Exchange AG (EEX) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), with the objective of knowledge sharing and exchanging of expertise on electricity derivative products.
- Epsilon Carbon, a coal tar derivatives company, has established India's first integrated carbon black complex with ₹550 crore investment at Bellary, Karnataka.
- Mastercard, Mumbai Metro and Axis Bank announced the launch of 'One Mumbai Metro Card', to ensure contactless and cashless travel for Mumbaikars.
- Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), an organisation under the Indian Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has signed MoUs with six different entities — Bank of Baroda, Yes Bank, Mathworks, Yourstory, Freshworks and PONTAQ (the Fund Manager selected for Next Generation Incubation Scheme).
- India's international financial services centre at the Gujarat International Finance Tech City (GIFT City) has made its global mark by being named among the top three emerging business hubs in the world.
- GIFT city based leasing company established under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan of the Government of India Vman Aviation has signed first aircraft purchase agreement with Airbus Helicopters, marking a new chapter in Indian aviation industry eyeing a chunk in the leasing market.
- Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has recently secured trademark registrations in three countries namely Bhutan, UAE and Mexico.
- Union Cabinet has cleared disinvestment of the country's largest insurer LIC and a panel headed by the finance minister will now decide on the quantum of stake dilution.
- Reliance Retail Ventures, a subsidiary of Reliance Industries, announced the acquisition of 40.95 per cent stake in Just Dial for Rs 3,497 crore.
- CIL has engaged Accenture Solutions as consultant for digitalisation of mine process in seven of its select opencast blocks for accelerated performance enhancement.
- Microsoft has reached a deal to acquire RiskIQ for \$500M.
- Razorpay has acquired artificial intelligence (AI)-based risk analysis platform TERA Finlabs.
- YouTube will acquire Indian video e-commerce platform Simsim, as part of its efforts to help small businesses and retailers in India reach new customers.
- Goldman Sachs has opened a new facility in Hyderabad as part of its commitment to expand its global centre for engineering and business innovation in India.

- Byjus has acquired Singapore-headquartered Great Learning for USD 600 million (about Rs 4,466 crore), and will invest an additional USD 400 million to strengthen its position in the professional and higher education segment.
- HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank and Axis Bank have picked up a stake in blockchain technology focussed start-up IBBIC Pvt Ltd.
- InCred has entered into a strategic partnership with Amazon India to provide collateral-free, working capital loans of up to Rs 50 lakh to Amazon merchants via its seller portal.
- Tata Power Central Odisha Distribution Ltd has partnered with authorities of Common Service Centres (CSCs) under the Digital India Programme to facilitate online payment of electricity bills in rural areas.
- Skylo has partnered with the National Federation of Fishers Cooperatives in India (FISHCOPFED) to improve the safety of fishermen, increase their profitability and bolster ecosystem sustainability.
- India has an estimated 501.83 million tonnes of gold reserves or resources of gold ore, as per the National Mineral Inventory data.
- Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI) has entered into an agreement of cooperation with the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Investment (ACCI).
- Nasscom has collaborated with the UK Government's Department for International Trade (DIT) and the UK India Business Council (UKIBC) to address the digital skills gap in that country.
- LIC Cards Services Limited (LIC-CSL) and IDBI Bank announced that they've launched two new co-branded RuPay Credit Cards.
- DBS and Temasek announced an agreement to jointly launch a \$500 million growth stage debt financing platform EvolutionX Debt Capital or EvolutionX.
- Hughes Communications India Pvt Ltd (HCIPL) has bagged a deal to connect 1,800 branches of Bank of India across the country.

## **Economy News:**

- Credit growth to the industrial sector remained in the negative territory during 2020-21.
- India reported a current account surplus of 0.9 per cent of GDP in the pandemic-hit FY21.
- The country's foreign exchange reserves in nominal terms, including the valuation effects, increased by \$ 99.2 billion during the financial year 2020-21.
- India has recorded the highest ever merchandise export of 95 Billion dollar in the first quarter of April to June this year.
- GST collection dipped below Rs 1 lakh crore in June.
- India's fiscal deficit at the end of May came in at 8.2% of the budgeted estimate for FY22.
- Fitch Ratings lowered its expectations of India's growth to 10% for the ongoing fiscal.
- Online commerce is projected to touch \$188 billion by 2025 up from \$64 billion in 2020 according to FICCI.
- India Industrial Land Bank will achieve pan-India integration by December 2021.
- Reserve Bank of India announced the cut-off yield for the new 10-year bond at 6.10% per annum.
- The wholesale price-based inflation eased marginally to 12.07 per cent in June.
- Asian Development Bank has downgraded India's economic growth forecast for the current financial year to 10%.
- At \$16.3 billion, gold from Switzerland accounted for almost half of India's imports of yellow metal in 2020-21. China remained India's top trading partner. Switzerland replaced Saudi Arabia as India's fourth-largest partner.
- India broke into the top 10 list of agricultural produce exporters in 2019 with a sizeable share in the export of rice, cotton, soya beans and meat, according to a World Trade Organization (WTO) report on the trends in world agricultural trade in the past 25 years.
- According to CARE Ratings, India's gross domestic product (GDP) growth is likely to be 8.8 to 9 per cent in the current financial year.
- International Monetary Fund (IMF) slashed its FY22 growth forecast for India by 300 basis points (bps) from its April projection to 9.5 per cent.

## **Science & Technology:**

- The government launched “Atmanirbhar Krishi App” to provide farmers with actionable agricultural insights and early weather alerts.
- Rafael Advanced Defense Systems unveiled Sea Breaker, a 5th generation long range, autonomous, precision-guided missile system meant to hit high-value maritime and land targets.
- An Indian Navy warship carried out a military exercise with a South Korean vessel in the East China Sea amid China’s growing assertiveness in the region. Indian Navy’s indigenous ASW Corvette INS Kiltan deployed in the Far East undertook Navy Partnership Exercise in East China Sea with Republic of Korea Navy Ship–ROKS Gyeongnam, a Daegu-class frigate.
- Grene Robotics has designed and developed India’s first indigenous drone defence dome called “Indrajaal”.
- A Russian Soyuz rocket carrying 36 UK telecommunication and internet satellites blasted off by Arianespace from the Vostochny cosmodrome in Russia’s Far East.
- Indian Space Research Organisation, ISRO has given its nod to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education to provide technical assistance for satellite TV classrooms in the country to bridge the learning gap due to COVID-induced lockdown.
- AYUSH Minister Kiren Rijiju launched Ayurveda dataset on The Clinical Trials Registry- India CTRI Portal.
- Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Giriraj Singh, launched the Online Course Mobile App Matsya Setu. The app has been developed by the ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Bhubaneswar, with the funding support of the National Fisheries Development Board, Hyderabad.
- In Jammu and Kashmir, the Union Territory Administration accorded sanction to uploading of Geo tagged photographs through ‘PROOF’ (Photographic Record of On-site Facility) mobile application while preferring bills in the concerned Treasuries against the budget allotted through BEAMS application.
- China has launched the new Fengyun-3E (FY-3E) meteorological satellite from the SLS-2 launch site at China’s Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre. The satellite is launched onboard the Long March-4C carrier rocket.
- Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, ICAI launched a mobile app ICAI-BOS for students of foundation, intermediate and final course students.
- Indian Naval Ship Tabar participated in military exercises with a frontline frigate of the Italian Navy.
- The French military used a laser-powered canon to destroy a drone in a test of technology that the government hopes will be used to protect the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.
- Delhi BJP Chief Adesh Gupta launched NAMO app drive for its wider reach to the people who would be able to convey their issues or problems directly to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- Indian Navy has received the 10th anti-submarine warfare aircraft P-8I from the US-based aerospace company Boeing.
- National Thermal Power Corporation, NTPC will set up India’s single largest solar park at Rann of Kutch in Khavada, Gujarat.
- Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) successfully conducted the third long-duration hot test on the liquid propellant Vikas engine that would launch the ambitious Gaganyaan programme.
- Indian Navy accepted the first two of its MH-60R Multi Role Helicopters (MRH) from US Navy in a ceremony held at Naval Air Station North Island, San Diego.
- Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras have developed an Artificial Intelligence-based mathematical model to identify cancer-causing alterations in cells.
- Indian warship INS Tabar was part of a two-day exercise with French frigate FNS Aquitaine and four Rafale fighter aircraft of the French Navy in the Bay of Biscay.
- Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) has launched a new campaign called ‘KALA VISHWA’, from its Mumbai Centre.
- Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Ropar have developed a first-of-its-kind device that can regulate the flow of medical oxygen from cylinder during inhalation and exhalation by a patient, thereby reducing wastage. AMLEX is a system developed specifically for oxygen cylinders.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation, DRDO successfully flight-tested the New Generation Akash Missile, a surface-to-air Missile from Integrated Test Range off the coast of Odisha.
- In a major boost to Atmanirbhar Bharat and strengthening Army, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully flight tested indigenously developed low weight, fire and forget Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM).



- Union Women and Child Development Ministry has launched a web based portal to facilitate submission of applications, identification of children eligible to receive support under the 'PM CARES for Children' scheme. The web portal is [www.pmcaredforchildren.in](http://www.pmcaredforchildren.in).
- NASA selected Elon Musk's SpaceX to launch its probe of Jupiter's moon Europa, which has liquid oceans that could harbour life.
- Women and Child Development Minister Smriti Irani launched a 24/7 helpline number for women affected by violence. The helpline number is – 7827170170.
- Indian Naval Ship (INS) Talwar is participating in Exercise Cutlass Express 2021, which commenced on July 26 along the East Coast of Africa, to improve combined maritime law enforcement capacity and increase interoperability between the regional navies.
- A multipurpose device COVID BEEP has been developed to monitor Oxygen rate, body temperature and heart rate indigenously by ECIL and ESIC Hyderabad.
- Lohum Cleantech, a lithium ion battery maker and a battery recycling solutions company, has firmed up plans to expand its manufacturing capacity of lithium ion batteries from 300 MWh to 1000 MWh (1 GWh) and its recycling capacity 10 times, from 1,000 tonnes per annum to 10,000 tonnes per annum.
- A team of researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad led by Prof Shiv Govind Singh, Department of Electrical Engineering, has developed an Artificial Intelligence-powered Covid-19 test that can be performed at an affordable cost at home, after commercialisation and required ICMR approval.
- NSDL e-Governance Infrastructure Limited is developing the world's first cab-hailing platform.
- SRI International announced that its insurtech venture spinout, Wingsure, is expanding its artificial intelligence (AI) and augmented reality (AR) capabilities to deliver instant access to personalized insurance products for underserved small farmers and communities worldwide.
- China has unveiled plans to build the first-of-its-kind experimental nuclear reactor that will not require water for cooling and is expected to be safer than traditional reactors.

## **Environment:**

- Black-bellied Coral snake has been discovered in forests of Uttarakhand for the first time in history, by a group of researchers.

## **Defence News:**

- The Defence Ministry has implemented SPARSH, an integrated system for automation of sanction and disbursement of defence pension.
- India, Sri Lanka and the Maldives participated in a virtual trilateral table top exercise(TTX-2021) where they discussed best practices and procedures for countering common trans-national maritimecrime like curbing narcotics and assistance in maritime search and rescue.
- Indian Navy and the UK's largest warship HMS Queen Elizabeth and its strike task group carried out a mega wargame featuring a range of complex drills in the Bay of Bengal.
- 12th Edition of Indo-Russia joint Military Exercise INDRA-2021 will be held at Volgograd, Russia from 1st to 13th August.
- 36th edition of CORPAT between India and Indonesia is held in the Indian Ocean region. The Indian Naval Ship (INS) Saryu, an indigenously built Offshore Patrol Vessel and Indonesian Naval Ship KRI Bung Tomo is undertaking coordinated patrol (CORPAT).

## **Sports News:**

<b><i>Tournament</i></b>	<b><i>Winner</i></b>	<b><i>Other news</i></b>
Silver Lake Open Chess tournament, Serbia	Nihal Sarin	defeated Branko Damjanovic
National women online chess title	Vantika Agarwal	
National online chess title in Junior Open Section	VS Raahul	
Wimbledon Mens Singles Title	Novak Djokovic	Beat Matteo Berrettini of Italy
Wimbledon Womens Singles Title	Ashleigh Barty	Beat Karolina Pliskova of Czech Republic



Wimbledon Boys' singles title	Samir Banerjee	Beat Victor Lilov of the USA
Sparkassen Trophy(Chess)	Viswanathan Anand	Beat Vladimir Kramnik
Austrian Grand Prix	Max Verstappen	
British Grand Prix 2021	Lewis Hamilton	
Copa America tournament	Argentina	Beat Brazil
Euro Cup 2020	Italy	Beat England

## Sports:

- Sports Ministry has decided to recognise the WAKO India Kickboxing Federation as a National Sports Federation (NSF), in a bid to promote and develop the sport in the country.
- Singer Ananya Birla has teamed up with music maestro AR Rahman to launch a cheer song for Indian sports personalities as they gear up for Tokyo Olympics. Titled "Hindustani Way", the song has been sung by Ananya and composed by Rahman.
- Haryana government applied brakes on its earlier decision to hold Khelo India Youth Games-2021 in November-December and has now decided to organise the sports show in February 2022.
- Next year's women's Asian Cup in India will be held in Mumbai and Pune.
- India will host the World Badminton Championships in 2026.
- Sudirman Cup in 2023 will be hosted by China.
- MC Mary Kom and men's hockey team skipper Manpreet Singh to be flag bearers at opening ceremony of Tokyo Olympics.
- Indian junior wrestler Priya Malik won a gold medal in the 73-kg category Cadet World Championship held in Budapest, Hungary.
- India won 13 medals, including 5 Golds at the World Cadet Championships in Budapest, Hungary.
- Priya Malik, Tannu, Aman Gulia, Sagar Jaglan, Chirag, Jaideep and Komal won gold medals at the World Cadet Wrestling Championship.
- Pawan Singh, the Joint Secretary General of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI), has been selected as the first ever Indian juror for the upcoming Tokyo Olympic Games.
- In Chess, Abhimanyu Mishra made history by becoming the youngest chess Grandmaster, breaking the record of 12 years and seven months set by Sergey Karjakin in 2002.
- Indian wrestler Sumit Malik has been banned for two years by the United World Wrestling (UWW) after his B sample also returned positive for a prohibited stimulant.
- Rohan Bopanna and Sania Mirza defeated the brand new combination of Ramakumar Ramanathan and Ankita Raina 6-2 7-6 (5) in the historic all-Indian mixed doubles first-round match at Wimbledon.
- Kanchan Ugursandi finished in New Delhi the world's first solo motorcycle expedition covering 18 treacherous passes of northern Himalayan mountain ranges.
- Madhya Pradesh shooter Rubina Francis has set a world record and won herself the gold in the 10- metre air pistol para women event at World shooting Para Sport Cup in Peru.
- Young wrestlers Aman Gulia and Sagar Jaglan emerged the new world champions in their respective categories as India dished out an impressive show on the second day of the Cadet World Championship.
- Former India and Rajasthan pacer Pankaj Singh announced retirement from all forms of cricket.
- Germany midfielder Toni Kroos has announced his retirement from international football after his team's exit from the European Championship.
- Bangladesh all-rounder Mahmudullah has announced his retirement from Test cricket.
- Mithali Raj became the top run-getter in international cricket across all formats, surpassing former England batter Charlotte Edwards.
- Mithali Raj was dethroned from the top spot by West Indies skipper Stafanie Taylor in the latest ICC ODI rankings.
- Mithali Raj is back at the top of the MRF Tyres ICC Women's ODI Player Rankings.
- Mirabai Chanu won India's first medal at Tokyo Olympics with a silver in women's 49kg weightlifting on the first official day of action at the Games.
- International Cricket Council (ICC) has banned a former performance analyst with Sri Lanka Cricket Sanath Jayasundara from cricket for seven years.

- James Anderson reached a remarkable milestone in his career as he scalped his 1,000th first-class wicket during Lancashire's County Championship match against Kent at the Old Trafford Stadium.
- Chris Gayle became the first player in the format's history to cross 14,000 runs.
- Pakistan skipper Babar Azam became the quickest to 14 ODI centuries reaching the milestone in 81 innings at Edgbaston, Birmingham in the third ODI against England.
- Norway's Karsten Warholm broke Kevin Young's 29-year-old 400m hurdles world record when he completed the race in 46.70 seconds in front of his home fans at the Diamond League meeting in Oslo.
- Badminton World Federation (BWF) confirmed that Suzhou, China has been awarded the hosting rights of the Sudirman Cup Finals 2023.
- The International Olympic Committee announced that Australian city of Brisbane will host the 2032 Summer Olympic Games.
- Indian Olympic Association roped in the Adani Group as a sponsor for the Indian contingent at the ongoing Tokyo Games.
- Hockey India has launched its own player-oriented web-based engagement platform, the 'Heroes Connect' in its bid to curate a detailed database of the players who have represented the country in both men and women's game.
- All India Football Federation (AIFF) has nominated Gokulam Kerala FC to represent India in the AFC Club Championship 2020-21.
- Madhya Pradesh all-rounder Anshula Rao created history, but for all the wrong reasons, as she became the first women cricketer to be handed a four-year ban after failing the dope test.
- Sandesh Jhingan was named the AIFF men's Footballer of the Year, while midfielder Suresh Singh Wangjam was picked as the Emerging Player for 2020-21 season.
- Momiji Nishiya won gold in women's street skateboarding at the Olympics, which made her one of the youngest gold medal winners ever. She also became Japan's youngest gold medal winner.

## **Committee:**

<b><i>Head of Committee</i></b>	<b><i>Purpose</i></b>
RS Sharma(By DPIIT)	To Check Digital Monopolies

- Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education, Women, children, Youth Affairs and Sports led by Dr Vinay Sahasrabudhe began its study of various educational institutions in Leh.
- The government has set up a 25-member development council for cement industry under Dalmia Bharat Group CMD Puneet Dalmia which will suggest ways to eliminate waste, obtain maximum production, improve quality, reduce costs and promote standardization of products.

## **Rankings:**

<b><i>Index</i></b>	<b><i>India's Rank</i></b>	<b><i>Other Information</i></b>
Global Cybersecurity Index 2020 (GCI) by International Telecommunication Union (ITU)	10 <sup>th</sup>	Top- <b>USA</b>
Global Startup Ecosystem Index 2021	20 <sup>th</sup>	Top- <b>USA</b>
FIH(Hockey) Rankings	Mens'- 4 <sup>th</sup> Womens'- 10 <sup>th</sup>	Top- <b>Australia</b> (Mens') Top- <b>Netherlands</b> (Womens')

- The US continues to remain in number one position in the latest rankings of top countries in the world where All India Radio Live-streams on NewsOnAir App are most popular.
- United States became the fourth-largest supplier of crude oil to India in 2020, according to BP's latest report.
- India has emerged as the fifth-largest foreign exchange reserves holder in the world after China, Japan, Switzerland and Russia.

## Loans from Banks/Countries:

<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
World Bank	India	USD 500 million (about Rs 3,717.28 crore)	to assist India's informal working class in overcoming the present epidemic distress
NABARD	Odisha	Rs 388 crore	under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for setting up four mega piped drinking water supply projects.
NABARD	Goa	Rs 2891.15 lakh	under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for 'Construction of Phase II Building of Goa Dental College and Hospital, Bambolim, Goa
NABARD	Punjab	Rs 445.89 crore	for drinking water projects
Exim Bank	Senegal	USD 35.26 million	for a power transmission project being executed by Kalpataru Power Transmission in Senegal

- The executive board of the International Monetary Fund approved a \$650 billion expansion in resources to support economically vulnerable nations as they battle the coronavirus pandemic.
- Nepal has signed a USD 1.3 billion deal with India's hydropower major Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) to develop a 679-megawatt hydropower project in eastern Nepal.

## Deadlines/ Important Dates/Years:

- The Supreme Court set a deadline of July 31 for states to implement the 'One Nation One Ration Card' system and for the Centre to create a national database of unorganised workers.
- India has taken a target of creating additional 2.5 billion tonnes carbon sequestration by 2030.
- Union Cabinet has given its approval for availing the benefit under Aatmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana (ABRY) for another nine months from 30th June, 2021 to 31st March, 2022.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has extended the validity of the interest equalisation scheme for pre- and post-shipment rupee export credit by three months through 30 September 2021.
- International Energy Agency (IEA) expects the country to add 26,000 megawatt (MW) of hydropower projects by 2030.
- Central Board of Direct Taxes, CBDT has granted further relaxation in electronic filing of Income Tax Forms 15CA and 15CB and extended the date of filing from 30th June to 15th July, 2021.
- RBI has advised the financial institutions to cease using the Mumbai Interbank Forward Outright Rate (MIFOR), a benchmark which references the LIBOR, latest by December 31, 2021.
- India will have 24 Integrated Check Posts (ICPs) along its land borders by 2025.
- India Will Reduce More Than 33% Carbon Emission Target by 2030 according to Power Minister.
- Timeline given to all States and Union Territories for linking the Aadhaar numbers of beneficiaries with their ration cards has been extended up to 30th of September this year.

## Rankings (Persons, Cities, Organisations and Others):

- Pune and Bengaluru continue to be at first and second positions for the fourth week straight in the latest rankings of top cities in India where All India Radio Live-streams on News On Air App are most popular.

## Books:

<b>Book</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Other Info</b>
Nathuram Godse: The True Story of Gandhi's Assassin	Dhaval Kulkarni	
The Struggle Within A Memoir of the Emergency	Ashok Chakravarti	
Janaksuta Sut Shaurya	Dr. Gauri Shankar Sharma	
India To The Rescue	Sushant Singh & Shruthi Rao	

Operation Khukri	Major General Rajpal Punia & Damini Punia	
The Fourth Lion: Essays for Gopalkrishna Gandhi	Venu Madhav Govindu and Srinath Raghavan	
The Light of Asia	Jairam Ramesh	
The Art Of Conjuring Alternate Realities:How Information Warfare Shapes Your World	Anand Venkatanarayanan and Shivam Shankar Singh	
Pregnancy Bible	Kareena Kapoor Khan	
Urdu Poets and Writers – Gems of Deccan	J.S. Ifthekhar	
The Struggle Within: A Memoir of the Emergency	Ashok Chakravarti	
A New Cold War: Henry Kissinger and the Rise of China	Sanjaya Baru and Rahul Sharma	
Palleku Pattabhishekam	Shri Yalamanchili Sivaji	
Kamala Harris and the Rise of IndianAmericans	Tarun Basu	
The Long Game: How the Chinese Negotiate with India	Vijay Gokhale	
The Stranger In The Mirror	Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra	It is his autobiography
Riding Free: My Olympic Journey	Imtiaz Anees	He is an equestrian Olympian
A Kashmiri Century: Portrait of a Society inFlux	Khemlata Wakhlu	
The India Story	Bimal Jalan	
The Ramayana of Shri Guru Gobind Singh Ji	Baljit Kaur Tulsi	
RSS: Building India Through SEWA	Sudhanshu Mittal	The Chinese translation is by JackBo
Palleku Pattabhishekam	Shri Yalamanchili Sivaji	
Bank with a Soul: Equitas	C K Garyali	
Kashmir Ki Kyari Mein Aag Ki Lapte Aakhir Kab Tak?	Beena Budki	
An Ordinary Life: Portrait of an Indian Generation	Ashok Lavasa	
India Versus China: Why They Are Not Friends	Kanti Bajpai	
Why We Kneel How We Rise	Michael Anthony Holding	
The Great Big Lion	Chryseis Knight	
Renegades: Born in the USA	Barack Obama and Bruce Springsteen	
Over It: How to Face Life's Hurdles with Grit, Hustle, and Grace	Lolo Jones	
The Most Incredible Olympic Storie	Luciano Wernicke	

- India presented English, Russian and Chinese translations of 10 classic works of modern literature written by prominent Indian authors in different languages to the headquarters of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).
- NITI Aayog Chief Executive Officer Amitabh Kant launched the book titled, 'Shifting Orbits: Decoding the Trajectory of the Indian Start-up Ecosystem', co-edited by Professor Rohan Chinchwadkar

## Obituaries

<b>Name</b>	<b>Profession</b>	<b>Other Info</b>
Sharad Tripathi	Former BJP MP	
Virbhadra Singh	Former Himachal Pradesh chief minister and senior Congress leader	
Ganpatrao Deshmukh	The longest-serving MLA of Maharashtra and a senior leader of the Peasants and Workers Party (PWP)	
Dilip Kumar	Actor	
Surekha Sikri	Veteran actress	
Kumar Ramsay	Screenwriter and filmmaker	
Arvind Rathod	Gujarati actor	
Mahesh Kathi	Telugu film critic and actor	
KTS Padannayil	Noted Malayalam film actor	
Jayanthi	Veteran Kannada actress	
Madhav Moghe	Actor and mimicry artist	
Gautam Benegal	National Award-winning writer, painter, cartoonist and animation filmmaker	
Sikkil Shri R Bhaskaran	Noted Carnatic Classical Violinist	
K V Sampath Kumar	Editor Of 'Sudharma' Sanskrit Daily	
Danish Siddiqui	Indian photojournalist	
Urmil Kumar Thapliyal	Veteran theatre personality and litterateur	
Satish Kalsekar	Renowned Marathi poet	
Fakir Alamgir	Folk music legend and freedom fighter	
Swami Prakashananda	Spiritual leader and former head of Varkala Sivagiri Mutt	
Gira Sarabhai	Co-founder of the renowned National Institute of Design (NID)	
Rameshwar Puri	Mahant of Kashi Annapurna Math Mandir	
Bhageerathi Amma	Kerala's oldest learner	
Baselios Marthoma Poulouse II	Supreme Head of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church (MOSC)	
Dr P K Warriar	Doyen of Ayurveda	
Raj Kaushal	Filmmaker	
Yashpal Sharma	Former Indian cricketer	
M Prasannan	Former international footballer	
Nandu Natekar	Legendary badminton player	
Keshav Datt	Two-time Olympic gold medallist in hockey	
Paul Orndorff	Former WWE Wrestler	
Mike Hendrick	Former England bowler	
Richard Donner	Filmmaker	Famous for 'Superman'
Jovenel Moïse	Haitian President	
Mamnoon Hussain	Former Pakistan President	
Shirley Fry Irvin	Tennis Hall of Famer	
Steven Weinberg	Physicist	won the Nobel prize in 1979 with two other scientists for their separate contributions unlocking mysteries of tiny particles and their electromagnetic interaction