

1. Nobel Prize 2020 in Economics awarded to Paul R. Milgrom and Robert B. Wilson.

- **Note:** The award is also known as the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences.
- The prize was awarded jointly to Milgrom and Wilson "**for improvements to auction theory and inventions of new auction formats.**"
- They designed new auction formats for goods and services that are difficult to sell in a traditional way, such as radio frequencies. Their discoveries have benefitted sellers, buyers and taxpayers around the world.

2. Rafael Nadal wins French Open Men's Singles Final 2020

- Rafael Nadal Defeats Novak Djokovic to win 13th French Open Men's Singles Final.
- He has won the Wimbledon twice, Australian Open once and the US Open four times.

3. DRDO test-fires Nirbhay Cruise Missile

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation launched the 800-km range Nirbhay cruise missile from Odisha's test facility into the Bay of Bengal.
- **Note:** Nirbhay is a subsonic missile, flying at a speed of 0.7 Mach, with sea-skimming and terrain-hugging capability that helps the missile stay under the enemy radar to avoid detection. The missile's launch is powered by a solid rocket booster developed by DRDO's Advanced Systems Laboratory.

Facts about DRDO:

- **Formed:** 1958
- **Headquarter:** New Delhi
- **Motto:** "Strength's Origin is in Knowledge"
- **Chairman of DRDO:** Dr G. Satheesh Reddy

4. India's DRDO successfully tests indigenous combat drone Rustom-II

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) tested the Rustom-2 medium altitude long endurance indigenous prototype drone. It achieved 8 hours offlying at an altitude of 16,000 feet at Chitradurga in Karnataka.
- **Note:** Rustom-2 is capable of carrying different combinations of payloads, which includes electronic intelligence systems, situational awareness systems and also synthetic apertureradar.

5. United Nations report on Stillbirths



- A report, a **Neglected Tragedy: The Global Burden of Stillbirths** was released by the UNICEF, the World Health Organization, the World Bank and the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs.
- Almost two million babies are stillborn every year – one every 16 seconds, warning that the COVID-19 pandemic could add another 200,000 deaths to a toll is described as devastating. Some 84 % of stillbirths, take place in low and middle-income countries, as a result of a lack of midwives and poor-quality healthcare.
- In 2019, an estimated 1.9 million babies were stillborn at 28 weeks of pregnancy or later, with a global stillbirth rate of 13.9 stillbirths per 1,000 total births.
- Stillbirths were concentrated in a few countries, with the greatest number found in **India, followed by Nigeria, Pakistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia and China**. These 6 countries accounted for half of the estimated global number of stillbirths and 44 % of global live births.
- The report said that without urgent action, the world will have suffered 20 million more stillbirths by 2030.
- **Note:** Stillbirths mean a baby born with no signs of life at or after 28 weeks' gestation.

Facts about United Nations:

- **Formation:** 24 October 1945
- **Headquarter:** New York, USA
- **Secretary General:** Antonio Guterres
- The UN has six principal organs: the General Assembly; the Security Council; the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC); the Trusteeship Council; the International Court of Justice; and the UN Secretariat.

6. Climate change driving butterflies, moths higher up the Himalayas: Zoological Survey of India

- At least 66 species have been found 1000 m higher than their previously recorded average habitat altitudes. Rising average temperatures in the Himalayan region have pushed several dozen species of butterflies and moths to higher mountain habitats.
- The study's results will be used as a baseline indicator to track the impact of climate change on animal species over the next decade. The Himalayas are home to more than 35% of Lepidoptera – the order of insects which includes butterflies and moths – species found in India.

Facts about the Zoological Survey of India

- It is a premier Indian Organisation in zoological research and studies to promote the survey, exploration and research of the fauna in the country.
- **Headquarters:** Kolkata
- **Founded:** 1 July 1916



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- **Director:** Dr. Kailash Chandra
- **Organisation:** Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

7. Delhi Cabinet approves ‘Tree Transplantation Policy’ and 2nd World’s ‘Smog Tower’ installation at Connaught Place.

- The purpose of **tree transplantation policy** is to prevent the felling of trees due to development works in the national capital. It will be a first-of-its-kind policy in the country.
- The government has approved a proposal to install a **smog tower** in Delhi’s Connaught place to control air pollution.
- Smog tower will suck polluted air from the top and release clean air from the bottom part of the tower.
- The **first** such tower was made in 2015, in **Rotterdam, Netherlands**.

8. Uttarakhand Government launches “Mukhya Mantri Saur Swarojgar Yojana.”

- The aim of this scheme is to encourage the production of green energy and to provide self-employment opportunities to the youth of the State and returning migrants. Under this scheme, each beneficiary will be allocated solar plants of 25 KW and 10,000 people will get self-employment.

Facts about Uttarakhand:

- **Capital:** Gairsain (summer) Dehradun (winter)
- **Governor:** Baby Rani Maurya
- **Chief Minister:** Trivendra Singh Rawat

9. International Day for Disaster Reduction: 13 October

- The United Nations General Assembly has designated October 13th as the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction to promote a global culture of disaster risk reduction.
- Its basic objective was to decrease the loss of life, property destruction and social and economic disruption caused by natural disasters such as earthquake, tsunami, floods, landslides, volcanic eruption, droughts locust infestations, and other disasters of natural origin.
- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 adopted at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Japan in March 2015.
- In 2016, “The Sendai Seven Campaign” to promote each of the seven targets over seven years. The 2020 target is Target E: “Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020”
- UN report: Dramatic rise in climate disaster over last twenty years **GENEVA – A UN report** published to mark the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction

on October 13, confirms how extreme weather events have come to dominate the disaster landscape in the 21st century.

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