

1. Two National Premier Ayurveda Institutions to the nation on the 5th Ayurveda Day

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi dedicated two national premier Ayurveda institutions to the nation to mark the celebration of the **5th Ayurveda Day**.

- First is the **Institute of Teaching & Research in Ayurveda (ITRA), Jamnagar** as an Institution of National Importance (INI), and second is the **National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA), Jaipur**.
- **Note:** Director General of World Health Organisation (WHO), Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus announced the setting up of the Global Centre of Traditional Medicine in India.
- The Ministry of AYUSH has been observing 'Ayurveda Day' every year on the occasion of Dhanwantari Jayanti (Dhanteras) since 2016.

2. 8th BRICS STI (Science, Technology and Innovation) ministerial meeting

- The Ministry of Science and Higher Education of Russia organized the meeting on November 13.
- The Meeting unanimously adopts BRICS STI Declaration 2020 and calendar of BRICS STI activities 2020-21.
- The Science, Technology and Innovation Ministers of the BRICS grouping (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) discussed Science & Technology cooperation among the member countries.
- From India, Union Minister for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences and Health & Family Welfare, Dr Harsh Vardhan attended the meeting. Indian Research and Development are working relentlessly to develop effective interventions for combating the pandemic. More than 100 startups have developed innovative products for COVID-19.

3. 'Project Air Care' launched in Gurgaon to control pollution

- Chief Minister of Haryana, Manohar Lal Khattar unveiled 'Project Air Care' in the district, as part of which 65 Wind Augmentation Air Purifying Units (WAYU) will be installed across the district.
- The air purification project is the result of a public-private partnership between the Gurugram Metropolitan Development Authority (GMDA) and GSK Consumer Healthcare. Created by the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute and IIT, Bombay, the air purification units convert pollutants like PM2.5 and PM2.10 particles, volatile organic compounds, and carbon monoxide, into carbon dioxide using a filter.
- The creators of the devices, which can provide purified air in an area of 500 square metres, claim these can reduce PM10 by 60-70 % and PM2.5 by 30-40 % at traffic junctions.

4. Indian astronomers collaborated with Nobel laureate, Andrea Ghez on Thirty Meter Telescope Project

- 2020 Physics Nobel Laureate Prof. Andrea Ghez had worked closely with Indian astronomers on the design of back-end instruments and possible science



prospects of the Thirty Meter Telescope project being installed at Maunakea in Hawaii, which can revolutionized the understanding of the universe and the enigmas in it.

- The Thirty-meter telescope (TMT) project is an international partnership between CalTech, Universities of California, Canada, Japan, China, and India.

5. Armenia, Azerbaijan sign Russia brokered peace deal

- Armenia and Azerbaijan have signed an agreement to end military conflict over the disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh.
- It follows six weeks of fighting between Azerbaijan and ethnic Armenians.
- The peace deal which was signed by Russian President Vladimir Putin, Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev and Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan.
- Under the deal, Azerbaijan will hold on to areas of Nagorno-Karabakh that it has taken during the conflict.
- Armenia has also agreed to withdraw from several other adjacent areas over the next few weeks.
- **Reason for Dispute: Nagorno-Karabakh: the border region claimed by both Armenia and Azerbaijan**

6. Virgin Hyperloop completes first passenger ride successfully

- In the Nevada desert, Virgin Hyperloop tested human travel in a hyperloop pod for the first time.
- The Richard Branson's Virgin Hyperloop has successfully trialed its first journey with two humans sitting in a pod across an airless tube at nearly a speed of 160 kilometers per hour.
- **Note:** The hyperloop is a high-tech way of transportation. This technology aims to make the transport faster than conventional methods but without being a burden on the environment.

7. Aung San Suu Kyi's Democratic Party wins majority in Myanmar Election

- Aung San Suu Kyi's political party National League for Democracy (NLD) has secured a victorious majority in the 2020 Myanmar election, securing enough seats to form the next government.
- The Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP), the military-backed party was, Suu Kyi's main opposition party.
- **Note:** With this win in Myanmar's second only general election since 50 years of oppressive military rule, NLD is set to serve its second term in Parliament. Nobel Laureate Suu Kyi has gained another five years as State Counsellor of Myanmar.

8. Sonu Sood's Autobiography titled 'I Am No Messiah' to release in December

- Titled *I Am No Messiah*, it will be published by Penguin Random House and written with journalist and author Meena K Iyer.



- **About the Book:** Sonu Sood will narrate stories of the miseries and atrocities that were faced by the people during the lockdown which in return made him more dedicated to helping them. In the autobiography, the actor will also share his experience of how his perception towards life changed after he encountered people amid the lockdown.

9. Bangladeshi teen wins International Children's Peace Prize

- A Bangladeshi teen Sadat Rahman has been awarded the International Children's Peace Prize for his work to stop cyber bullying of teens.
- The award was given away by the Nobel Peace Prize laureate Malala Yousafzai during a ceremony in the Netherlands.
- He has created the anti-cyber bullying app 'Cyber Teens' to help teenagers who are sufferers of cyber bullying. The app provides information to the young people about internet safety. It also provides them a channel to safely report the cyber bullying confidentially.
- **Note:** The prize was launched by KidsRights during the 2005 World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates in Rome. Since then, the prize has been presented every year by a Nobel Peace Laureate.

10. November 14, World Diabetes Day

- The theme for World Diabetes Day 2020 is **The Nurse and Diabetes**.
- **World Diabetes Day (WDD)** was created in 1991 by IDF (International Diabetes Federation) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in response to growing concerns about the escalating health threat posed by diabetes.
- World Diabetes Day became an official United Nations Day in 2006. It is marked every year on **14 November**, the birthday of Sir Frederick Banting, who co-discovered insulin along with Charles Best in 1922.
- **Note:** On World Diabetes Day, WHO announces the **Global Diabetes Compact**, a comprehensive and inclusive approach to support countries in implementing effective programmes for the prevention and management of diabetes.

