

***Weekly Current Affairs
Updates
8th -14th June 2020***



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National Affairs

1. Researchers at which IIT have developed a low cost and Artificial Intelligence-based test kit for COVID-19 _____ **IIT Hyderabad**.
Note:
 - These kits can give results in about 20 minutes.
 - The test kits have already been tried at the ESIC hospital and the results are encouraging.
 - The test kits are Reverse Tranion Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR)-free and get rid of many processes.
2. Which institute has developed an artificial intelligence-based computer diagnosis framework for rapid and accurate diagnosis of oral cancers _____ **Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology (IASST), Guwahati**.
Note:
 - The framework developed by the research group at the Central Computational and Numerical Sciences Division, IASST led by Dr. Lipi B Mahanta, will also help grading of oral squamous cell carcinoma.
 - An indigenous dataset was developed by the scientists through collaborations to make for the unavailability of any benchmark oral cancer dataset for the study.
3. Which institution developed a rare-earth-based magnetocaloric material that can be effectively used for cancer treatment _____ **ARCI, Hyderabad**.
Note:
 - A magnetocaloric materials is a substance in which application and removal of a magnetic field causes the materials to become warmer or cooler.
 - A paper on the research work has been published in the Journal of Alloys and Compounds.
 - ARCI is an autonomous R&D Centre of Department of Science and Technology (DST).
4. What is India's rank in the recently released 12th edition of the biennial Environment Performance Index (EPI Index 2020) released by the Yale University _____ **168th**.
Note:
 - The Yale University recently released the biennial Environment Performance Index.
 - In 2018, India scored 27.6 out of 100 and secured 177th rank.
 - Around 32 indicators were considered to create the ranking.
5. Who will chair the task force constituted by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, GoI to work on the issues of women and child development _____ **Jaya Jaitly**.
Note:
 - The task force will examine the matters pertaining to age of motherhood, imperatives of lowering MMR, improvement of nutritional levels and related issues.
 - The Task Force will be provided secretarial assistance by the NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog and will submit its report by 31st July, 2020.
6. The ISRO has signed an agreement with which institution for cooperation in the field of Space Situational Awareness (SSA) and Astrophysics _____ **Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES)**.
Note:
 - The main objective of the MoU is to shield the Indian Space assets from the space debris's conjunction threats and R&D of Astrophysics, solar sciences and space environment are the base for future space exploration projects and the key to progress in the Indian Space sector.
7. Which institution has signed a letter of intent (LoI) with the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) to promote innovation in the country _____ **CSIR**.
Note:
 - The main focus of the agreement is supporting world class start-ups through CSIR Incubators under AIM initiatives and

jointly work on new models of innovation, including setting up of CSIR Innovation Parks

8. Which energy company has won one of world's largest solar contract from Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) to develop 8 GW of solar projects _____ **Adani Green Energy Limited.**

Note:

- Based on the award agreement the 8 GW of solar development projects will be implemented over the next five years.
- The first 2 GW of generation capacity will come online by 2022 and the subsequent 6 GW capacity will be added in 2 GW annual increments through 2025.

9. Which digital learning platform has partnered with the NSDC to provide its training partners access to the Digital Class Room _____ **TCS iON.**

Note:

- The partnership will strengthen NSDC's online content aggregation platform-- eSkill India--through which it enables e-learning amongst skill seekers and will contribute towards strengthening the Skill India mission.

10. Which institute has developed Nano-Technology based disinfectant spray ANANYA to fight against COVID-19 _____ **Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT).**

Note:

- The spray has been prepared based on Nano-Technology assisted formulation. It will not only stop COVID-19 from entering the body but will also kill the virus that comes in direct contact.

11. Which Indian institutions maintains its position as the top institution in India in the QS World University rankings 2021 released recently _____ **IIT Bombay.**

Note:

- IIT-Bombay still maintains its position as the top institution in India in the QS rankings, but has slipped 20 places from 152 to 172 in the global list.
- IISc overtook IIT Delhi to make it to the second place, but still dropped a rank to 185.
- IIT Delhi fell more than 10 places in the rankings to 193 rank, while IIT Madras is at 275. Both IIT Kharagpur and IIT Kanpur crashed out of the top 300.

12. A Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV) Complex was inaugurated in which place _____ **Vishakhapatnam.**

Note:

- Equipped with the state-of-the-art facilities, the complex is designed to accommodate the newly inducted submarine rescue system and store the DSRV assets in the rescue-ready state.
- The DSRV system consists of a submarine rescue vessel, a remote operations vehicle and side scan sonar and associated equipment.

13. Which institutions has developed an anti-microbial five-layered face mask that annihilate pathogenic microorganisms _____ **IIT-BHU.**

Note:

- This face mask can annihilate pathogenic microorganisms that are stuck to its outer surface and thereby limit the spread of secondary infections.
- The mask that is available in the market currently acts as a filter to stop the entry of microbes to oral and nasal airways but does not have any effect on the microbe stuck to the mask surface.

14. The Department of Agriculture Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare (DAC&FW) has allocated Rs. 4000 crores to the state governments for the year 2020-21 for implementing _____ **Per Drop More Crop.**

Note:

- For further allotment of funds, State Governments have identified the beneficiaries to be covered under the programme
- This scheme was formulated on July 1, 2015 with an outlay of Rs. 50,000 crore in five years for extending the water coverage for irrigation under focusing "Har Khet ko pani" and improving water use efficiency aiming at "More crop per drop".

15. The National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with which institutions

Training
(ITI)

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Nangal.

Note:

- Under the MoU, ITI's 12 trades will be taught in the NFL & the theory will be studied at ITI Nangal.
- The MoU was exchanged between Ms Renu R P Singh DGM (HR) I/c, NFL Nangal unit and Sh Lalit Mohan, Principal of ITI, Nangal.

16. Which IT company has announced to launch of 'Summer of Ideas' initiative for university students worldwide, an online learning programme _____ **Infosys**.

Note:

- The global eight-week ideathon, powered by Infosys' digital learning platform Wingspan, will help the global student and academic community overcome the loss of learning opportunities as a result of the disruption caused by COVID-19.
- The initiative will allow students access to Infosys mentorship and specially curated learning materials virtually.

17. What is India's rank in the recently compiled by Nature Research, a division of the international scientific publishing company 'Springer Nature' _____ **12th**.

Note:

- The top five positions have gone to the United States of America, China, Germany, United Kingdom and Japan.
- The Nature Index is a database of author affiliation information collated from research articles published in an independently selected group of 82 high-quality science journals.

18. As per the "26th Annual Cost of Living Survey 2020" released by Mercer which Indian city is the most expensive city in India _____ **Mumbai**.

Note:

- Mercer released its 26th Annual Cost of Living Survey 2020.
- From India, Mumbai city has been ranked 60th most expensive city globally and also 19th in Asia.

19. Which institution has emerged as the top institutions in the list of 'overall ranking' category in the 5th NIRF Ranking 2020 _____ **IIT Bombay**.

Note:

- The rankings are being announced for India's best universities and institutions in 10 categories namely- Overall, Universities, Engineering, Colleges, Management, Pharmacy, Medical, Dental Architecture, and Law.

20. Name the AI enabled robot launched by Indian Railway to intensify the screening and surveillance of railway passengers and railway staff _____ **ARJUN**.

Note:

- The full form of ARJUN is 'Always be Responsible and Just Use to be Nice'.
- This innovation will help Indian Railways to modernise its security measures at the time of covid-19.

21. Name the National Healthcare Supply Chain Portal launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to provide real-time availability of critical healthcare supplies _____ **Aarogyapath**.

Note:

- This national healthcare supply chain portal will remove supply chain bottlenecks during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The vision of this initiative is to set up an information management and forecasting database platform at national level.

22. Which institution has developed a sanitizing chamber named 'GermiKlean' to sanitise uniforms of security forces _____ **DRDO**.

Note:

- DRDO's move came after Delhi Police gave their requirement for sanitizing their uniforms, canes, cane shields, helmets.
- This chamber is designed to sanitise 25 pairs of uniforms within 15 minutes.
- The sanitizing chamber has been set up at Parliament Street Police Station.

23. Which of the following construction company becomes the first of its kind in the construction sector to go fully digital _____ **NHAI**.

Note:

- With the launch of cloud-based and artificial intelligence-powered big data analytics platform Data Lake and Project Management Software, the entire project management workflow of NHAI has been transformed from

manual to the online portal based.

- All project documentation, contractual decisions and approvals are now being done through the portal only.

24. Which IIT has developed an Artificial Intelligence-based cyber-physical system to monitor social distancing in public places _____ **IIT Kharagpur.**

Note:

- The device will play a proximity alert sound through audio output, whenever any violation will occur.
- It captures images of the field view and computes the distance as per criteria set by the government.

25. An Integrated Flood Warning System (IFLOWS) has been launched for which city _____ **Mumbai.**

Note:

- Named as 'Boon' and developed for Mumbai it will help the people in a "big way" as it can predict floods.
- The system was developed by the Ministry of Earth Sciences and Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC).

26. According to "Poonam Avlokkan" survey the population of the Asiatic lion at the Gir sanctuary grew by what per cent approximately _____ **29 per cent.**

Note:

- The Gujarat Forest Department has recently announced that the number of Asiatic lions in the state has gone up till 674 from 523 that were reported in a Lion Census done five years ago. Which shows almost 29 per cent increase in the population.

State Affairs

1. Which state occupied top position in the 'Food Safety Index 2019-20 released by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) among the larger state _____ **Gujarat.**

Note:

- Gujarat is followed by Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra.
- The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) released the results of the second 'State Food Safety Index' to celebrate the World Food Safety Day during a webinar.

2. The World Bank (WB) has granted loan worth of Rs. 1,950 crores to which state for tackling coronavirus (COVID-19) situation and developmental work _____ **West Bengal.**

Note:

- The loan amount has been lend to the West Bengal Government to tackle COVID-19 situation and developmental work in the state.
- Out of the total amount of Rs 1950 crore, West Bengal Government will spend Rs. 850 crore on various Social-Welfare schemes while the remaining Rs 1,100 crore will be spent to create Industrial infrastructures.

3. The colour of water in Lonar lake has changed to pink due to salinity and presence of algae in the water body. The lake is located in which state _____ **Maharshtra.**

Note:

- The lake was formed after a meteorite hit the Earth some 50,000 years ago.
- Located around 500 km from Mumbai, the Lonar lake is in Buldhana district of Maharshtra.
- The lake, which is a notified national geo-heritage monument, has saline water with pH of 10.5.

4. Which state government has launched 'Panchvati Yojana' for the senior citizens of rural areas of the state _____ **Himachal Pradesh.**

Note:

- Under the yojana parks & gardens will be established in every development block with mandatory facilities under Mahatma Gandhi Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) 2005, Scheme of Rural Development Department.

5. Which state government has decided to rename the state's Environment Ministry as 'Environment and Climate Change Ministry' _____ **Maharshtra.**

Note:

- The decision to change the name comes just weeks after the state was hit by a severe cyclonic storm Nisarga on June 3, 2020.
- Maharashtra is one among a few states like Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana in India which have a dedicated department to address climate change.

6. What amount of financial assistance will be provided tailors, barbers and dhobis under 'Jagananna Chedodu' scheme launched by Andhra Pradesh state government _____ **Rs 10,000.**

Note:

- Andhra Pradesh government has launched the 'Jagananna Chedodu' scheme to provide financial assistance to tailors, barbers and dhobis (washermen).
- In total Rs.247 crore was transferred to their bank accounts under financial liability so that bankers cannot use the money to offset the loan repayment balances.

7. Which state government has launched 'Bal Shramik Vidya Yojana' to educate child labourers in the state _____ **Uttar Pradesh.**

Note:

- This scheme has launched, on the occasion of the International Child Labour Prohibition Day.
- The government will give monthly financial assistance of Rs 1,000 and Rs 1,200 to selected boys and girls, respectively.
- If these children pass classes 8, 9 and 10, they will be given an additional amount of Rs 6,000 for clearing each standard.

8. Which state government has launched 'Ghar Ghar Nigrani' app for house-to-house surveillance to contain the spread of COVID-19 _____ **Punjab.**

Note:

- The app, 'Ghar ghar nigrani', was launched by Chief Minister Amarinder Singh through video conference.
- With the help of the application, the Punjab Government is to cover all the persons that are below the age of 30 years.
- The survey will cover persons that have influenza like illness.

9. Which has become the first state in the country to receive ISO certification for hostels meant for tribal students _____ **Odisha.**

Note:

- This feat has been achieved due to 'Mission Suvidya' project which was launched by ST&SC Welfare Department to provide all the tribal hostels of the state uniform standards of infrastructure, amenities and human resources earlier.
- The audit team for certification visited hostels across the state and accorded the certification.

10. What amount has been allocated by central government to Jharkhand for the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in the financial year 2020-21 _____ **572 Crores.**

Note:

- The state is planning cent percent household coverage by 2023-24.
- Out of 54 lakh rural households in the State, only 4.37 lakh have functional household tap connection (FHTC).

11. Which of the following state governments implemented 'Food forest' project in tribal belts of the state _____ **Kerala.**

Note:

- As part of the "Tribal Comprehensive Development Programme in Kerala the "food forest" project is being implemented in cooperation with the Mahila Kissan Sashaktheekaran Pariyojana of the Central Government.
- The project aims to provide food security to 192 tribal villages in Attapadi.

International Affairs

1. An Unmanned submersible of which country dived deep down to 10,907 metres to the world's deepest point Mariana Trench _____ **China**.
Note:
 - A team of scientists left for an expedition on April 23, 2020.
 - The researchers tested acoustic detection, video transmission, high precision depth detection during the deep-sea diving operation.
2. Who became the first woman and the fifth person in history to descend to the deepest known spot in the world's oceans called the 'Challenger Deep' in the Mariana Trench _____ **Kathy Sullivan**.
Note:
 - She was also the first American woman to walk in space in 1984.
 - Sullivan is now the only human who has walked in space and reached the deepest point in the ocean.
 - Challenger Deep is the deepest point in the Earth's sea bed. It is at a depth of 10,902 metres.
3. Italy and which country Italy has signed an agreement demarcating their maritime boundaries, amid tension in the Mediterranean region over rights to natural resources _____ **Greece**.
Note:
 - The agreement signed at the foreign ministry during a visit to Athens by Italian Foreign Minister Luigi Di Maio, tackled an issue that had been pending for 40 years.
 - It demarcates the exclusive economic zone — the maritime area in which a nation has the right of energy exploration and use of marine resources — between the two neighbors, as well as settling fishing rights.
4. Which institute/university maintains its position as the top institution in world in the QS World University Rankings 2021 released recently _____ **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**.
Note:
 - In the QS World University Rankings 2021 feature not a single Indian institute among the top 100 universities across the world.
 - Only three educational institutes from India IIT Bombay (172), IISc Bengaluru (185), and IIT Delhi (193) featured in the top 200 list.
5. Which country has declared that the nation has become free from "Coronavirus" _____ **New Zealand**.
Note:
 - The announcement was made when the last person who was being monitored for coronavirus was released from isolation and regarded as recovered.
 - Hence, New Zealand has announced to lift all the coronavirus measures that were implemented in the country and move to national alert level 1 from midnight on 9 June 2020.
6. Which country has launched an initiative named 'Shohojodha', an online network to facilitate plasma exchange between recovered patients of COVID-19 _____ **Bangladesh**.
Note:
 - The initiative has been launched by the ICT division of the government of Bangladesh in collaboration with Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).
 - The plasma therapy for the Coronavirus patients in Bangladesh is under trial process awaiting final approval from the government.
7. India has signed an MoU with which country to strengthen the cooperation in power sector _____ **Denmark**.
Note:
 - Under the MOU to implement the agreement of the identified areas a Joint Working Group (JWG) will be established and co-chaired by joint Secretary-level officials who will report to a Steering Committee jointly chaired by the Secretary level officers from both the sides.

Obituaries

1. Renowned personality Chiranjeevi Sarja passed away recently, he was a veteran _____ **Actor**.
Note:
 - He has featured in films such as Samhaara, Aadyaa, Khaki, Sinnga, Amma I Love You, Prema Baraha, Dandam Dashagunam and Varadhanayaka among others.
 - He was last seen in the Kannada action-drama Shivarjuna.
2. Ved Prakash Marwah who passed away recently is a former governor of which state _____ **Jharkhand, Manipur and Mizoram**.
Note:
 - Ved Marwah was an alumnus of St. Stephens college.
 - He was the first Secretary of the High Commission of India, London.
 - From 1985 to 1988 he served as the Police Commissioner of Delhi during the repercussions of 1984 anti-Sikh riots and he served as the third Director General of the National Security Guard from 1988 to 1990.
3. Renowned personality Arjun Charan Sethi passed away recently, he was a veteran _____ **Politician**.
Note:
 - He was Water Resources Minister in Atal Bihari Vajpayee Cabinet from 2000 to 2004. He entered Lok Sabha from Bhadrak on a Congress ticket in 1971 and re-elected in 1980, also on a Congress ticket.
 - The veteran politician was also elected to Odisha Assembly twice on Janata Dal ticket in 1991 and 1995 from Bhandaripokhari.
4. Pierre Nkurunziza passed away recently was President of which country _____ **Brundi**.
Note:
 - He was born on 18th December 1964 in Ngozi Province.
 - He was a sports graduate and assistant lecturer at the University of Burundi and after the Civil War he became the leader of Forces for Defence of Democracy (FDD) in 2001.
5. Famous sport person Tony Dunne, passed away recently, he was associated with which sports _____ **Football**.
Note:
 - He joined Manchester United at the age of 18 in 1960 and debuted on 16th October 1960 against Burnley (A) league.
 - He was a part of the winning side of the European Cup in 1968.
6. Famous sportsperson Vasant Raiji passed away recently, he was associated with which sports _____ **Cricket**.
Note:
 - A chartered accountant, he was also a well-known chronicler of cricket, having written books on C.K. Nayudu, Ranjitsinhji, Duleepsinhji, L.P. Jai and Victor Trumper.
 - A Cricket Club of India player, he represented Bombay and Baroda.
 - The cricketer-historian was also a founding member of Jolly Cricket Club in Mumbai.
7. Former Test cricketer Matt Poore passed away recently, he played for which country _____ **New Zealand**.
Note:
 - He is remembered for catching a stray dog during a match in Bengaluru in 1955 and subsequently taking 12 anti-rabies injections.
 - An all-rounder, Poore had a short but colourful 14-Test career between 1953 and 1956 alongside two greats - Bert Sutcliffe and John Reid.
8. Veteran poet and freedom fighter Anand Mohan Zutshi passed away recently, he was a poet of which language _____ **Urdu**.
Note:
 - Anand Mohan Zutshi 'Gulzar' Dehvi was the editor of the 1st Urdu science magazine, Science ki Duniya, published by the Government of India in 1975.
 - He played a prominent role in opening Urdu schools across India & has been a part of a number of mushairas(Poetic symposium), which includes Jashn-e-Rekhta in 2015 and Jigar Fest in 2018.

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. The US International Development Finance Corporation (USIDFC) is planning to invest what amount in India _____ **USD 350 million.**
Note:
 - The investment will be made in finance, health infrastructure, renewable energy and food security space also look to empower smallholder dairy farmers, generate solar power increase access to education.
 - It is one of the largest approvals made by the Board of Directors.
2. What amount of Special Liquidity Facility has been provided to Assam Gramin Vikash Bank by NABARD in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic to support the agricultural activities of the farmers _____ **Rs 270 crore.**
Note:
 - This support & separate line of credit will enable to intensify farmers crop production.
 - NABARD received Rs 25,000 crore to refinance Regional Rural Banks(RRBs), co-operative(co-op) banks and Microfinance Institutions(MFIs) to ensure credit flow to farmers for agricultural operations during COVID-19 pandemic from RBI.
3. Which IT company signed UNGC Initiative to reduce CO2 emissions ____ **Tech Mahindra.**
Note:
 - Mahindra Group has joined 155 global companies by inking a joint declaration with United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) urging governments to align their COVID-19 recovery efforts with the latest climate science.
 - Through this joint declaration, Tech Mahindra aims to reduce carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions
4. The World Bank (WB) has granted loan worth of Rs. 1,950 crores to which state for tackling COVID-19 situation and developmental work _____ **West Bengal.**
Note:
 - Out of the total amount, Rs. 1,100 crores will be allocated for creating Industrial infrastructures and the balance Rs. 850 crore will be spent for various Social-Welfare schemes.
5. Who chaired the Committee on Development of Housing Finance Securitisation Market in India on the recommendation of which RBI draft Framework for Securitisation of Standard Assets _____ **Harsh Vardhan.**
Note:
 - The central bank has proposed significant changes in securitisation norms which are aimed at development of a strong and robust market.
 - The revision in guidelines is an attempt to align the regulatory framework with the Basel guidelines on securitisation that have come into force effective January 1, 2018.
6. Which digital payment platform has partnered with ICICI Lombard to launch first of its kind travel insurance & domestic trip insurance ____ **PhonePe.**
Note:
 - The cost of the insurance is Rs 499/year.It provides 365-day protection & covers all modes of transport.
 - The policy provides affordable annual insurance cover for unlimited trips. This solution eliminates the need to insure each trip separately and will benefit both business and leisure travelers unlike other traditional travel insurance products.
7. What will be the growth of India in FY2020-21 as per World Bank's Global Economic Prospect (GEP) June 2020 ____ - **3.2 per cent.**
Note:
 - It was lower from 4.2% which forecasted in FY2019-20 at the end of March 2020.
 - The growth forecast is 9 percentage lower than the GEP forecasts from January 2020 when the growth was projected as 5.8%.
 - But it also highlights that country's growth is expected to be 3.1% for the FY 2021-22.
8. According to World bank's report, global economy will contract by what per cent in 2020 _____ **5.2 per cent.**
Note:
 - According to the World Bank, the massive shock of the COVID-19 Pandemic and lockdown measures for its containment will lead to a contraction of the global economy by 5.2% in 2020.

9. Name the digital technology company which has partnered with UNDP, HCCB for plastic waste management Project named 'Prithivi' _____ **Recykal**.

Note:

- As part of this partnership, Recykal will leverage its cloud applications, mobile applications to raise consumer awareness on segregation and recycling.
- It will enable collection, channelization of plastic waste from schools, colleges, corporates, RWAs, and bulk generators to connect with recyclers closing the loop of the recycling ecosystem.

10. Which fintech company announced to launch of Payout Links for businesses in Gaming, E-commerce, Rental and other sectors to automate and process instant payouts to customers and vendors without bank account details _____

RazorpayX.

Note:

- The neobanking arm of the fintech giant Razorpay, announced the launch of Payout Links for businesses in Gaming, E-commerce, Rental and other sectors.
- It is designed to automate and process instant payouts to customers and vendors without bank account details.

11. Which entity has partnered with Mastercard to launch "Cardless ATM powered by Mastercard" that enable contact-free ATM cash withdrawals in India _____ **Empays Payment Systems**.

Note:

- With this partnership, Empays will upgrade the basic technology behind the IMT Payment System to incorporate the requirements of Mastercard Cardless ATM enabling a true EMV-capable cash withdrawal transaction.

12. Which company has partnered with First Alliance Bank (Z) Ltd to provide mPOS solution to SME and other businesses _____ **ePaisa**.

Note:

- ePaisa will be the solution provider for First Alliance Bank (FAB), which will further provide it to businesses across Zambia.
- For ePaisa this partnership becomes first global expansion.
- The focus of the partnership for the FAB is to empower all business with POS solution in various industries across Zambia.

13. What will be the growth rate of India in next fiscal (FY 2021-22) as per Fitch ratings _____ **9.5 per cent**.

Note:

- After a contraction in the current financial year, India's economy is forecast to bounce back with a sharp growth rate of 9.5 percent next fiscal, Fitch Ratings has said.
- It has forecast a 5 percent contraction in the GDP in the ongoing financial year.

14. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has barred which Co-operative bank from granting fresh loans and accepting deposits for six months, due to its weak financial position _____ **People's Co-operative Bank**.

Note:

- The central bank has barred the co-operative bank from selling, transferring or disposing any of its properties or assets.
- These directions will remain in force for six months from the close of business on June 10 and are subject to review.

15. As per the Economic Outlook (EO) released by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) what will be growth rate of India's GDP in FY 2020-21 _____ **-3.7 per cent**.

Note:

- The GDP deceleration could further reach to -7.3% in the event of a second Covid-19 outbreak.
- It should be noted that EO, June 2020 has assumed an implementation of shutdowns in the December 2020 quarter (Q3), following another surge of the COVID-19 virus.

16. Who will chair the committee formed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to review the guidelines related to ownership, governance and corporate structure of private sector banks _____ **PK Mohanty**.

Note:

- The panel will be headed by RBI Central Board of Director Prasanna Kumar Mohanty.
- The RBI panel will also examine and review the eligibility criteria for individuals or entities to apply for a banking licence.

17. Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank) has provided a line of credit (LOC) of \$215.68 million to which country for Drinking Water Supply Scheme _____ **Malawi**.

Note:

- This assistance will be used on drinking water supply schemes and other development projects includes supply of irrigation network, tobacco threshing plant, cotton processing facilities, green belt initiative, sugar processing equipment, fuel storage facility and construction of a new water supply system from Likhubula river in Mulanje to Blantyre.

Important Days

1. The World Ocean Day is celebrated every year on which date _____ **8th June**.

Note:

- The Day is celebrated to remind people all over the world about the importance of oceans in everyday life. This year, the World Oceans Day is celebrated under the theme 'Innovation for a Sustainable Ocean'.

2. World Brain Tumor Day 2020 was observed on which date _____ **8th June**.

Note:

- The day is celebrated to improve the care for the patients and to educate the general public about the sufferings and seriousness of brain tumor.
- The grey ribbon is the international symbol for the solidarity with brain tumor patients.

3. 9th June of Every year is celebrated as the _____ **World Accreditation Day**.

Note:

- It is an initiative established by the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and International Accreditation Forum (IAF) to promote the value of accreditation.
- The Theme of World Accreditation Day 2020 is "Accreditation: Improving food safety"

4. The World Day against Child Labour is observed every year on _____ **12th June**.

Note:

- The theme this year is, "COVID-19 - Protect children from child labour now, more than ever".
- According to figures available on the United Nations' website, approximately 152 million children have been pushed into child labour.

5. International Albinism Awareness Day is observed every year on which date _____ **13th June**.

Note:

- This day is observed to educate everyone about the rights of people with albinism and celebrate them.
- The United Nations General Assembly was first perceived this day as a resolution. The theme of the 5th anniversary of International Albinism Awareness Day is "Made To Shine."

6. Every year, the World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is celebrated on _____ **15th June**.

Note:

- The day is celebrated to raise awareness about the neglect and abuse of older persons.
- It also raises awareness of social, cultural, economic and demographic processes that has impacts on elder neglect and abuse.
- The theme of the 'World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 2020 is "Lifting up Voices".

7. The World Blood Donor Day is observed on every on _____ **14th June**.

Note:

- This day tries to create awareness about the need for safe blood and blood products.
- This year (2020) the World Blood Donor Day is celebrated under the theme 'Safe Blood Saves Lives'.

8. World Wind Day or Global Wind is observed every year on which date _____ **15th June**.

Note:

- The day is encouraging and raises awareness on wind energy, which is a natural form of energy and also sheds light on all the ways that wind energy helps to shape the energy systems and the way it encourages economic and other growth in the society. Global Wind Day began in Europe in 2007 and globally in 2009.

New Appointments

1. Who has been appointed as 'Goodwill Ambassador to the Poor' of the United Nations Association for Development And Peace (UNADAP) _____ **Nethra**.
Note:
 - She was recognised for her role in feeding the poor during the COVID-19 lockdown by her father C. Mohan, a salon owner by convincing him to give Five Lakh rupees that he had been saving for her education since 2013.
 - Nethra will speak at the United Nations (UN) conferences in New York and in Geneva addressing Civil Society forums and conferences. She was awarded a Dixon Scholarship amounting to Rs 1 Lakh.
2. Who has been appointed as the chairman of the committee for the welfare of the freedom fighters reconstituted by the union ministry of home affairs _____ **G Kishan Reddy**.
Note:
 - This panel will verify if someone has given affidavits to two or more applicant and also examine the demands to build memorials and museums for freedom fighters.
3. Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador of Patna's Khadi Mall by the Government of Bihar _____ **Pankaj Tripathi**.
Note:
 - Tripathi mentioned that he would not take any salary for this role.
 - The Khadi Mall in Patna is India's first ever Kadhi mall inaugurated by Nitish Kumra, Chief Minister of Bihar in November 2019.
4. The Reserve Bank of India has approved the re-appointment of Kaizad Bharucha as Executive Director of which bank for a period of three years _____ **HDFC Bank**.
Note:
 - Bharucha's re-appointment is subject to the approval of the shareholders at the ensuing Annual General Meeting of the Bank.
 - In his current position, Bharucha is responsible for wholesale banking covering areas of corporate banking, emerging corporate group, business banking, capital markets and commodities business, agri lending, among others.
5. Who has been appointed as the chief executive officer (CEO) of UTI Asset Management Company (AMC) _____ **Imtaiyazur Rahman**.
Note:
 - Two years ago he was appointed as the acting CEO of UTI.
 - Rehman was the internal candidate for the position which fell vacant after Leo Puri completed his five-year term in August, 2018. He joined the UTI Group in 1998 and is with the AMC since 2003.

Honor & Awards

1. Who becomes the first Indian to receive the prestigious Richard Dawkins Award for 2020 for critical thinking _____ **Javed Akhtar**.
Note:
 - Javed Akhtar is a renowned lyricist in the Indian film industry. He was awarded Padma Shri in 1999. He has also won the Sahitya Akademi award and Padma Bhushan.
 - It is to be noted that Javed Akhtar raised voice on social media like twitter, literary events and in interviews about the issues with Citizenship Amendment Act, public policy, reopening of liquor shops after lock down, communism in the society, etc.
2. Name the India's first solar-powered ferry which has been shortlisted for the Gustave Trouve Award _____ **Aditya**.
Note:
 - Gussies Electric Boat Awards were instituted in memory of Gustave Trouvé, a French electrical engineer and pioneer in electric cars and boats.
 - Trouvé was a prolific inventor with over 75 patents. Back in 1881, he developed a 5-m-long prototype electric boat.

3. Which Australian player has been appointed an officer in the Order of Australia, an honour for achievement or meritorious service _____ **Michal Clarke**.
Note:
 - Clarke joined iconic ex-skipper like Allan Border, Mark Taylor, Ricky Ponting, Bob Simpson and Steve Waugh who have received the national recognition.
 - Clarke, who led Australia to the 2015 World Cup title, has been appointed an officer (AO) in the general division of the Order of Australia, an honour for achievement or meritorious service.
4. The Ramon Magsaysay awards, regarded as Asia's version of the Nobel Prize, have been cancelled this year due to the coronavirus pandemic, the award foundation is located at _____ **Manila, Philippines**.
Note:
 - The Manila-based foundation also cancelled the award due to a financial crisis in 1970 and a disastrous earthquake that hit the Philippines in 1990.
 - The awards are named after a popular Philippine president who died in a 1957 plane crash and honor "greatness of spirit in selfless service to the peoples of Asia."
5. Who has been honoured with "NASA Distinguished Service Medal" for his administration to NASA _____ **Renjith Kumar**.
Note:
 - He worked in relationship with NASA for over 30 years and contributed to updating the International Space Stations(ISS).
 - He is CEO Emeritus of the Virginia based Analytical Mechanics Associates(AMA). RK Chetty Pandipati was the First Indian to win this honour in 2002.
6. Who has been conferred with prestigious World Food Prize 2020 _____ **Rattan Lal**.
Note:
 - He was named as the 2020 World Food Prize Laureate for developing and mainstreaming a soil-centric approach to increasing food production that conserves natural resources and mitigates climate change.
 - He will get USD 250,000 as prize money.
 - The first recipient of this prestigious award in 1987 was Indian agricultural scientist Dr M S Swaminathan, the father of India's Green Revolution.
7. Who has been chosen for the 'Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) _____ **Shobha Sekhar**.
Note:
 - She started the Kalakruthi in 1994 affiliated with The Music Academy, Chennai and has been training many aspirants of Carnatic music.
 - The medal of the order of Australia is awarded to the individuals contributing to their community or to Australia globally or domestically.

Sports News

1. The Athletes Integrity Unit (AIU) of the World Athletics has imposed a four-year ban on which Indian player who won the gold medal in 2019 Asian Athletics Championships _____ **Gomathi Marimuthu**.
Note:
 - She won the gold medal in the women's 800 m event at the 2019 Asian Athletics Championships held in Doha, Qatar with her personal best timing. Gomathi had won gold with a timing of 2 minutes and 2.70 second.
2. The doping charge against which Indian sportsperson has been dropped due to "non-conformities" in the handling of her sample _____ **K Sanjita Chanu**.
Note:
 - The IWF made the decision based on the recommendation of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).
 - The 26-year-old, who claimed innocence since the beginning, was informed about the final verdict via an e-mail, signed by IWF's legal counsel Lilla Sagi.

3. In which country the top two women's football divisions have gained professional status _____ **Spain**.

Note:

- Spain's sports council has accepted the change in status for the competitions, which will also be valid for men's and women's futsal.
- The move is another step to promote the development of these competitions that until now were considered amateur football.

4. Former European high jump champion, Alexander Shustov banned for four years by Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), he held from which country _____ **Russia**.

Note:

- This was confirmed by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).
- The Russian Athletics Federation stated that his ban was dated from June 5, and his results had been disqualified for a period from 2013 to 2017.

5. Lightweight boxing champion Oleksandr Gvozdyk also known as "The Nail" announced his retirement held from which country _____ **Ukraine**.

Note:

- He won the Bronze medal in the 2012 Olympic games.
- He won the 2018 World Boxing Councils (WBCs) light heavyweight world title against Adonis Stevenson in Quebec.

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