



# SSC and Railway Exams Bi- Weekly Current Affairs (1 - 15 Oct) Eng PDF

## Bi-Weekly One Liner Updates 1-15<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear readers,

**Bi-Weekly One Liners Updates** is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the **two weeks** (1-15th) of **October 2021**. This file is important for, **Banking, SSC, Railway & Insurance** exams.

### **Banking & Financial Awareness**

1. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has approved a credit plan for yak husbandry in which state/union territories that will help herders secure loans for the purpose and strengthen their livelihoods\_\_\_\_\_ **Arunachal Pradesh.**

**Note:**

- The scheme was developed by the National Research Centre on Yak (NRCY) at Dirang in West Kameng district.
- The credit plan vetted by NABARD for yak husbandry was found to be feasible for extending advances by commercial banks and has been included in the potential linked credit plans (PLCP) of Tawang.
- The NRCY comes under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

2. Which Small Finance Bank (SFB) signed a pact with the National Bank for Rural and Development (NABARD) to boost ongoing rural development initiatives in Rajasthan \_\_\_\_\_ **AU Small Finance Bank.**

**Note:**

- The memorandum envisages a joint initiative to benefit farmers, Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), Self Help Groups (SHGs), rural artisans, agri-entrepreneurs, and agri-startups in the State.
- “This MoU between NABARD and AU Bank will provide institutional credit support to the ongoing development schemes in the State, which will lead to further prosperity in the rural areas.

3. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has removed Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) from the Prompt Corrective Action Framework. IOB was placed under the PCA framework in \_\_\_\_\_ **2015.**

**Note:**

- IOB was placed under the PCA framework in 2015.
- The Board for Financial Supervision, after review of IOB’s performance, on the basis of the published financial results for 2020-21 found that the bank was not in breach of the PCA parameter.

4. Piramal Enterprises has acquired Dewan Housing Finance Limited (DHFL) by paying an amount of \_\_\_\_\_ **Rs 34,250 crore.**

**Note:**

- This is the first successful resolution of a financial services company under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC).
- DHFL is the first financial services firm to go for bankruptcy proceedings. It is a non-deposit-taking housing finance company.

5. Which bank will give \$150 million loan to support the Tamil Nadu’s Chennai City Partnership: Sustainable Urban Services Program \_\_\_\_\_ **World Bank.**

**Note:**

- The program seeks to help strengthen institutions, improve the financial health of service agencies, and drive significant improvements in the quality of urban services — water supply and sewerage, mobility, health, and solid waste management.
- This program will support the TN in its efforts to transform the city and its services.

6. Which bank and Indian Navy have launched the lender's NAV-eCash card onboard the country's largest Naval Aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya \_\_\_\_\_ **State Bank of India.**

**Note:**

- the unique infrastructure at naval ships inhibits traditional payment solutions particularly when the ship is in high seas where there is no connectivity.
- With dual-chip technology, the country's largest lender said that the card will facilitate both online as well as offline transactions.



7. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted the National Asset Reconstruction Company (NARCL) the licence to register as an asset reconstruction company (ARC), which is seeking to turn around bad loans worth \_\_\_\_\_ **Rs 2 trillion.**

**Note:**

- The licence to NARCL, dubbed as bad bank, was granted by the central bank on Monday, said an official.
- The approval to the entity has been accorded under Section 3 of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act 2002.
- Section 3 of SARFAESI Act states that an entity cannot start the business of securitisation or asset reconstruction without obtaining a certificate of registration, and should have funds of at least Rs 2 crore or an amount not exceeding 15 per cent of the total financial assets acquired or to be acquired by the ARC.

8. Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited has recently reverse merged with which debt-ridden company \_\_\_\_\_ **Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Limited.**

**Note:**

- PCHFL has merged into DHFL with effect from September 30, 2021 pursuant to the reverse merger as contemplated under scheme of arrangement provided under the resolution plan, Piramal Enterprises said in a regulatory filing.
- Upon allotment of equity shares to PEL, DHFL will become a wholly-owned subsidiary of PEL.

9. Under which Act, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted the National Asset Reconstruction Company (NARCL), which is seeking to turn around bad loans worth Rs 2 trillion, the licence to register as an asset reconstruction company (ARC) \_\_\_\_\_ **SARFAESI Act 2002.**

**Note:**

- The approval to the entity has been accorded under Section 3 of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act 2002.
- Section 3 of SARFAESI Act states that an entity cannot start the business of securitisation or asset reconstruction without obtaining a certificate of registration, and should have funds of at least Rs 2 crore or an amount not exceeding 15 per cent of the total financial assets acquired or to be acquired by the ARC.

10. Which life insurance company has tied up with integrated healthcare company Practo for online medical consultation for its customers \_\_\_\_\_ **Tata AIA Life Insurance.**

**Note:**

- As part of the alliance, Tata AIA consumers can avail themselves of online medical consultations from verified doctors anywhere, anytime.
- This includes assistance for common ailments like cold, fever and injury, thereby enabling them to seek immediate medical guidance from the safe and comfortable environment of their home.

11. Which Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) Companies has collaborated with the global IT and professional services company Accenture to accelerate its digital transformation across multiple retail channels \_\_\_\_\_ **Britannia.**

**Note:**

- Accenture, through a digital transformation program, has helped Britannia Industries to accelerate innovation, capture value and improve the customer and supplier experience.
- For Britannia's large network of suppliers, this project will help streamline procurement and supply chain management, using SAP Ariba solutions to expedite digital onboarding, contract management and procurement processes.

12. Which Indian IT company has been selected by NORD/LB, a leading German commercial bank, as its strategic partner for its IT transformation \_\_\_\_\_ **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS).**

**Note:**

- NORD/LB has embarked on a transformation journey that targets a new business model by 2024, and a leaner, more agile operating model. It has partnered with TCS in this journey
- As part of the five-year partnership, TCS will work with the bank to simplify and transform its application estate across businesses—financial markets, wholesale and retail banking, through application consolidation and automation.

13. Which becomes the official partner bank for the collection of offline and online treasury for the Integrated Financial and Human Resources Management System \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Bank.**

**Note:**

- The Integrated Financial and Human Resources Management System is a portal developed by the government of Tamil Nadu to integrate human resources and finance related services providing a comprehensive management system. The public, through the portal, can make a statement.
  - All government services related to Tamil Nadu treasuries and accounts, chief auditor of statutory boards departments, small savings, pension, co-operative audit and government data centre, among many others, at a click of a button.
14. Which bank has shut-down its automated teller machines (ATMs) from 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **Suryoday Small Finance Bank.**
- Note:**
- The bank will give users the option to use their debit card at ATMs of other banks.
  - The lender will shut down its ATMs from October 1.
15. Stellapps, a dairy-tech start-up, has joined hands with which bank to enable cashless payment transfers to small dairy farmers \_\_\_\_\_ **Airtel Payments Bank.**
- Note:**
- Airtel Payments Bank will onboard Stellapps' new partner milk collection centers as banking points.
  - These banking points will enable farmers to open a bank account, withdraw and deposit cash, earn interest on savings, access Aadhaar enabled payments, get government pension schemes, and make bill payments.
16. Indel Money has tied up with which bank for a gold loan co-lending partnership to offer gold loans at competitive rates \_\_\_\_\_ **IndusInd Bank.**
- Note:**
- Under the co-lending partnership agreement, Indel Money will originate and process gold loans based on mutually formulated credit parameters and eligibility criteria.
  - The company will service customers through the entire lifecycle of the loans, including sourcing, documentation, collection and loan servicing.
  - IndusInd Bank will take into its book 80 per cent of the gold loans generated by the co-lending arrangement, while the remaining 20 per cent will be funded by Indel Money.
17. With which bank the U GRO Capital has signed a co-lending agreement \_\_\_\_\_ **IDBI Bank.**
- Note:**
- The co-lending arrangement will work towards providing formal credit to underserved MSMEs, at affordable rates.
  - For the same, it will leverage U GRO Capital's digital technology platform driven by a Data Tripod, which comprises of GST, Banking & Bureau, in addition to the company's deep sectoral understanding, and multi-channel distribution reach.
18. The NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd (NTPC REL) has signed the first green term loan agreement of Rs 500 crore with \_\_\_\_\_ **Bank of India.**
- Note:**
- NTPC REL has signed its first Green Term Loan agreement of Rs 500 crores at a very competitive rate with a tenor of 15 years with Bank of India for its 470 MW solar project in Rajasthan and 200 MW solar project in Gujarat.
19. Which digital payments major has acquired a 100% stake in Urja Money Pvt. Ltd., which provides a loan management system through its proprietary solution, CreditMate \_\_\_\_\_ **Paytm.**
- Note:**
- The Paytm Group will now become 100% beneficial owners of the business.
  - Back in 2017, Paytm had acquired an undisclosed stake in CreditMate parent, Urja Money Pvt. Ltd, to create a loan management system in collaboration with lending partners.
20. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has increased the daily limit of Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) transactions to what amount from earlier ₹2 lakh \_\_\_\_\_ **₹5 lakh.**
- Note:**
- "Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) offers instant domestic funds transfer facility 24x7 through various channels.
  - With RTGS now operational round the clock, there has been a corresponding increase in settlement cycles of IMPS, thereby reducing the credit and settlement risks.
21. Which fintech company has announced its foray into the 'Buy Now Pay Later' (BNPL) segment, with the launch of 'postpe' \_\_\_\_\_ **BharatPe.**
- Note:**
- Using Postpe platform, customers can avail interest-free credit limit of up to Rs 10 lakh.



- It is not only limited to big-ticket purchases but can also be used for micro-purchases.
  - With this, BharatPe aims to facilitate a loan book of \$300 million in the first 12 months for its lending partners.
22. Which becomes the first scheduled private sector bank to received approval from the government for collection of direct and indirect taxes, such as income tax, Goods and Services Tax (GST) etc, through its banking network \_\_\_\_\_ **Kotak Mahindra Bank.**
- Note:**
- With this, the bank becomes the first scheduled private sector bank to receive approval after the announcement by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman allowing all banks to participate in government-related business.
  - Ministry of Finance had announced to allow all private sector banks to participate in govt-related business-like collection of taxes, pension payments and small savings schemes in February 2021.
23. In association with which organization the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) and GIFT City launched I-Sprint'21, the global FinTech Hackathon Series "Sprint01: BankTech", focussed on fintech for the banking sector \_\_\_\_\_ **NITI Aayog.**
- Note:**
- First Sprint of the series is 'Sprint01: BankTech', which focuses on FinTechs for the Banking sector.
  - It has been launches in collaboration with GIFT city and NITI Aayog.
  - Partners for the Hackathon: ICICI Bank, HSBC Bank, iCreate, Zone Startups and Invest-India.
24. What is the theme of the Fourth Cohort under Regulatory Sandbox as announced by the Reserve Bank of India recently \_\_\_\_\_ **'Prevention and Mitigation of Financial Frauds'.**
- Note:**
- Before this, RBI has already launched three cohorts under Regulatory Sandbox.
  - Focus of 4th cohort will be to use technology to reduce the lag between occurrence and detection of frauds, strengthening the fraud governance structure, and minimising response time to frauds
  - RBI has also decided to facilitate on-tap applications for themes of all cohorts
25. According to the Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Report released in October 2021, what will India's GDP growth rate for 2022-23 (FY23) \_\_\_\_\_ **7.8%.**
- Note:**
- RBI releases Monetary Policy Report on a half-yearly basis.
  - RBI has projected India's GDP growth at 9.5% for 2021-22 in the MPC meet of October 2021
26. Which company has taken over the responsibilities of Jaipur International Airport from Airports Authority of India (AAI) \_\_\_\_\_ **Adani Group.**
- Note:**
- Gautam Adani-led Adani Group took over the responsibilities of Jaipur International Airport from Airports Authority of India (AAI) for a period of 50 years.
  - Adani Airports will work on the operations, management and development of the Jaipur airport through PPP mode.
27. Power Finance Corporation Ltd (PFC) was incorporated in which year that was accorded 'Maharatna' status recently \_\_\_\_\_ **1986.**
- Note:**
- It will enable PFC to offer competitive financing for the power sector, which will go a long way in making available affordable & reliable 'Power For All 24x7'.
  - PFC was incorporated in 1986 and is the largest Infrastructure Finance Company exclusively dedicated to Power Sector under the administrative control of Ministry of Power.
28. Which cooperative bank has partnered with which Axis Securities to offer its customers investing services through a 3-in-1 account \_\_\_\_\_ **Saraswat Cooperative Bank Ltd.**
- Note:**
- The facility will integrate savings bank account maintained by the co-operative bank with the demat and trading account offered by Axis Securities, which is a subsidiary of Axis Bank.
  - This facility will make it easier for customers to transfer funds quickly, reduce paperwork and most importantly, provide a comprehensive platform to invest in various investment instruments like equities, derivatives, currency, commodities, MF, IPO, etc.
29. Which becomes the 12th Small Finance Bank (SFB) of India \_\_\_\_\_ **Unity Small Finance Bank.**
- Note:**
- RBI has issued a new bank license after a gap of nearly 6 years.



- The new SFB, has been incorporated as 'Unity Small Finance Bank'.
  - It is the first time ever that two partners are uniting equally to build a Bank.
  - Centrum's MSME and Micro Finance businesses shall be merged into Unity Small Finance Bank.
30. Which small finance bank has partnered with Go Digit General Insurance to offer instant, easy-to-understand insurance products through the bank's network of branches across India digitally \_\_\_\_\_ **Shivalik Small Finance Bank Limited**.
- Note:**
- The insurance products include health insurance plans, motor insurance, home and shop insurance.
  - The Shivalik bank's current customers are generally classified into different segments such as retail, manufacturing and services, housing and real estate, and microfinance.
  - Go Digit General Insurance will support the bank in making the process of buying cover, submitting and receiving claims easier for its customers.
31. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has sanctioned an assistance of Rs 303 crore to which state government for the construction of 24 bridges in the state \_\_\_\_\_ **Odisha**.
- Note:**
- The rural infrastructure projects will improve connectivity for 24.13 lakh people in 823 villages across 13 districts.
32. Which bank has tied up with CredAvenue for portfolio management of its securitisation book and implemented CredPool, an institutional debt platform of CredAvenue \_\_\_\_\_ **Federal Bank**.
- Note:**
- This arrangement, will help the bank digitally monitor its asset-backed securities (ABS) and mortgage-backed securities (MBS) pool assets more efficiently through the technology platform.
  - The partnership entails CredAvenue providing post-transaction fulfilment services and portfolio management for their direct assignment portfolio.
33. Which bank has bagged two national awards ('APY Big Believers' and 'Leadership capital') for significant enrolment under the Atal Pension Yojana (APY) from the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) \_\_\_\_\_ **Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB)**.
- Note:**
- So far, the bank has enrolled (cumulative) 2,30,432 accounts under APY. During 2020-2021, the bank has enrolled 68,961 accounts against the target of 38,160.
  - The bank with jurisdiction over nine district has a business turnover of ₹28,410 crore with a clientele base of nearly 90 lakh.
34. Which bank has launched a "6S Campaign" encapsulating different schemes such as - Swabhiman, Samruddhi, Sampark and Shikhar, Sankalp and Swagat \_\_\_\_\_ **Punjab National Bank**.
- Note:**
- This was launched in line with GoI's "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav" for various outreach activities on financial services.
  - Aim: to drive special awareness campaign for development of financial services and to accelerate credit growth, improve penetration of social security schemes and drive digital banking push.

### Obituaries

1. Renowned personality Shakti Sinha passed away recently he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Bureaucrat**.  
**Note:**
  - Mr. Sinha, a 1979-batch IAS officer, was also former Director of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (NMML).
  - Mr. Sinha worked closely with Vajpayee between 1996 and 1999, and had written a memoir titled Vajpayee: The Years That Changed India.
2. Renowned personality Arvind Trivedi passed away recently, he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Actor**.  
**Note:**
  - He is famously known for his iconic role of demon-king Raavan in Ramanand Sagar's TV serial Ramayan as passed away suffering from age-related issues. He was 82.
  - He has also served as the MP from Sabarkatha constituency in Gujarat from 1991 to 1996.
3. Noted personality Professor Bala V Balachandran passed away recently he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Management Guru**.  
**Note:**



- Balachandran had played an instrumental role in establishing many management institutes in the country. He was honoured with the 'Padma Shri' award by the Centre for his contribution to education.
  - In 2004, he set up the Great Lakes Institute of Management at Manamai, about 45 km from here, which is one of the popular business schools in the country now.
4. Renowned personality Ghanshyam Nayak passed away recently he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Actor**.  
**Note:**
- He played role of Nattu Kaka in Sony SAB's 'Taarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah'.
  - Apart from TMKOC, Ghanshyam had worked in several Gujarati films, Hindi movies and TV shows.
5. Renowned personality Vallilath Madhathil Madhavan Nair passed away recently, he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Diplomat**.  
**Note:**
- Mr. Nair joined the Indian Civil Service or the ICS in 1942 and was allotted to the Bihar Cadre. He was permanently seconded to the Indian Foreign Service on November 1, 1944.
  - His early recruitment into the IFS during World War II meant he was present into the foreign affairs team of Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru from the very beginning of the new India in 1947.
6. Renowned personality Martin J Sherwin passed away recently he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Research Scholar**.  
**Note:**
- In his book titled 'A World Destroyed', challenged support for the U.S. bombing of Japan.
  - He won Pulitzer Prize for his book 'American Prometheus'.
7. Noted personality Sathyajith passed away recently he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Actor**.  
**Note:**
- A few years ago, one of Sathyajith's legs was amputated due to gangrene, and he was relegated to a wheelchair.
  - Born as Syed Nizamuddin, Sathyajith carved a name for himself in the Kannada film industry by playing negative roles.
8. Noted personality Nedumudi Venu passed away recently, he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Actor**.  
**Note:**
- Nedumudi Venu began his career as a theatre artist with the plays of Kavalam Narayana Panicker.
  - He made his debut in films with Thambu, directed by G Aravindan in 1978.
9. Renowned personality Srikanth passed away recently, he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Actor**.  
**Note:**
- In his 40-year career, Srikanth had acted as hero and villain, besides featuring in many character roles as well.
  - 'Vennira Adai' (The white cloth) was directed by late veteran C V Sridhar.
  - The actor is known for his many supporting roles in films starring top stars of Tamil cinema, including the late Sivaji Ganesan, Rajinikanth and Kamal Haasan.

### Important Days

1. What is the theme of the International Day of Older Persons 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **Digital Equity for All Ages**.  
**Note:**
- International Day of Older Persons is observed every year on 1st October to raise awareness about issues affecting the elderly, such as senescence and elder abuse, and appreciate the contributions that older people make to society.
  - The day was adopted by UN General Assembly on December 14, 1990 and was first introduced in 1991.
2. World Vegetarian Day is observed every year on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **1st October**.  
**Note:**
- The day was initiated by North American Vegetarian Society in Scotland in 1977 during World Vegetarian Congress.
  - International Vegetarian Week (IVW) is observed from 1st October to 7th October.
3. The International Day of Non-Violence is observed on \_\_\_\_\_ **2nd October**.  
**Note:**
- The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), in a resolution adopted on June 15, 2007, established the commemoration as an occasion to spread the message of non-violence through education and public awareness.
  - It was in January 2004 that Iranian Noble Laureate Shirin Ebadi proposed the idea for the day.
4. World Animal Day is observed every year on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **4th October**.  
**Note:**



- The main goal of World Animal Day is to "raise the status of animals in order to improve welfare standards around the globe."
  - World Animal Day originated in the year 1925, when cynologist Heinrich Zimmermann organised the first event on 24 March at the Sport Palace in Berlin.
5. What is the theme of the World Teachers' Day 2021 being observed every year on October 5 to focus on appreciating, assessing, and improving the educators of the world and to provide an opportunity to consider issues related to teachers and teaching \_\_\_\_\_ **Teachers at the heart of education recovery.**
- Note:**
- World Teachers' Day (International Teachers Day) is being observed every year on October 5 to focus on appreciating, assessing, and improving the educators of the world and to provide an opportunity to consider issues related to teachers and teaching.
  - This day was established in 1994, to commemorate the signing of 1966 UNESCO/ILO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers.
6. Ganga River Dolphin Day is observed every year on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **5th October.**
- Note:**
- The day was chosen as on this day in 2009, Ganga Dolphin was declared as national aquatic animals.
  - Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) and Uttar Pradesh govt jointly began the dolphin conservation campaign in 2012
  - Gangetic Dolphins are blind, catch their prey with the help of ultrasonic sound waves and can only live in freshwater.
7. The World Cotton Day is observed every year on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **7th October.**
- Note:**
- It was first introduced in 2019 by World Trade Organization (WTO) in Geneva, following an initiative of the Cotton-4 countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali to reflect the importance of cotton as a global commodity.
  - Cotton is a global commodity grown in over 75 countries across five continents and traded worldwide.
8. Which day is celebrated every year on 8th October in India \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Airforce Day.**
- Note:**
- The Indian Air Force is the fourth largest air force in the world.
  - Its Hindon Air Force Station located in UP's Ghaziabad is the largest in Asia.
  - The motto of the IAF is 'Nabha Sparsham Deeptham', which means 'touch the sky with glory'.
9. World Egg Day 2021 was celebrated on \_\_\_\_\_ **8th October 2021 (2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of October)**
- Note:**
- This year's World Egg Day will take place on Friday 8 October and will mark the 25th anniversary of the event.
  - The 2021 celebration will centre around the brilliant versatility of the egg and its multitude of benefits to people at every stage of life.
  - The theme for 2021 World Egg Day is "Eggs for all: Nature's perfect package".
10. World Post Day is celebrated on October every year on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **9th October.**
- Note:**
- This day is celebrated to mark the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) which was started in 1874 in Switzerland.
  - The theme of World Post Day 2021 is "Innovate to recover."
11. The World Day Against the Death Penalty is observed every year on \_\_\_\_\_ **10th October.**
- Note:**
- It is a day to advocate for the abolition of the death penalty and to raise awareness of the conditions and the circumstances which affect prisoners with death sentences.
  - The theme for 2021 is "**Women Sentenced to Death: An Invisible Reality.**"
12. World Mental Health Day is observed every year on \_\_\_\_\_ **10th October.**
- Note:**
- The overall objective of World Mental Health Day is to raise awareness of mental health issues around the world and to mobilize efforts in support of mental health.
  - The theme for World Mental Health Day 2021 is '**Mental health in an unequal world**'.



13. In India, the National Postal Day is celebrated annually on \_\_\_\_\_ **10<sup>th</sup> October**.

**Note:**

- The Day aims to commemorate the role played by the Indian postal department for the past **150 years**, which was founded in **1854** by **Lord Dalhousie**.
- Indian postal service is an integral part of India.

14. The International Day of the Girl Child is observed annually on \_\_\_\_\_ **11<sup>th</sup> October**.

**Note:**

- The date was set by the **United Nations** to urge the global community to embolden gender equality impacts.
- This year, the theme has been set as **“Digital generation. Our generation,”**.

15. The World Arthritis Day (WAD) is celebrated every year on which date to spread awareness about the existence and impact of rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases \_\_\_\_\_ **12<sup>th</sup> October**.

**Note:**

- Arthritis is not a single disease but a broad term for more than a hundred diseases related to joints.
- World Arthritis Day was first observed in 1996 and this year the theme of the day is Don't Delay, Connect Today: Time2Work.

16. The United Nations International Day for Disaster Reduction is held annually on \_\_\_\_\_ **13<sup>th</sup> October**.

**Note:**

- The day is celebrated to promote a global culture of risk-awareness and disaster reduction and also celebrates how people and communities around the world are reducing their exposure to disasters and raising awareness about the importance of reining in the risks that they face.

17. International E-Waste Day (IEWD) is observed every year on which date to promote the correct disposal of e-waste throughout the world, increasing re-use, recovery and recycling rates \_\_\_\_\_ **14<sup>th</sup> October**.

**Note:**

- Theme for 2021 IEWD: Consumer is the key to Circular Economy!
- 2021 is the 4th edition of the International E-Waste Day.

18. What is the theme of the World Standards Day 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **Standards for sustainable development goals – shared vision for a better world**.

**Note:**

- WSD 2021 theme: Standards for sustainable development goals – shared vision for a better world
- It is also known as International Standards Day.
- The day was established on October 14, 1946.

### **New Appointments**

1. Who has been appointed as the has been appointed as the Managing Director and Chief executive officer (MD & CEO) of National Securities Depositories (NSDL) \_\_\_\_\_ **Padmaja Chundururu**.

**Note:**

- She succeeded GV Nageswara Rao.
- Prior to this, she served as MD & CEO of Indian Bank between September 2018 and August 2021.
- NSDL is an Indian central securities depository under SEBI.

2. Under whose chairmanship the International Financial Services Centers Authority (IFSCA) has constituted an Expert Committee to recommend approach towards development of Sustainable Finance Hub at IFSC \_\_\_\_\_ **C.K. Mishra**.

**Note:**

- It will be chaired by C.K. Mishra (Former Secretary for Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change)
- It consists of total 10 members including chairperson and member secretary.

3. Najla Bouden Romdhane has become the first female prime minister of which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Tunisia**.

**Note:**

- She has been named as Prime Minister, two months after President Kais Saied assumed his charge, dismissed the former prime minister and suspended parliament.
- Romdhane was assigned to form a new government in the midst of growing domestic and international discontent regarding president's power seizure.



4. Who has been elected as the new Prime Minister of Japan by the Japanese Parliament Diet \_\_\_\_\_ **Fumio Kishida**.  
**Note:**
- He will be tasked with quickly tackling the pandemic and security challenges before an imminent national election.
  - Mr. Kishida replaces Yoshihide Suga, who resigned with his Cabinet.
5. Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador of Uttar Pradesh govt's ambitious 'one district-one product' programme \_\_\_\_\_ **Kangana Ranaut**.  
**Note:**
- The U.P. government has launched the ODOP programme with the aim to create product-specific traditional industrial hubs across 75 districts of the State.
  - CM Yogi also presented Kangana with a silver coin which was used for 'Ram Janm Bhumi Pujan'.
6. Who has been appointed as first ever brand ambassador of CoinDCX, India's largest and safest cryptocurrency exchange \_\_\_\_\_ **Amitabh Bachchan**.  
**Note:**
- Through this collaboration, CoinDCX will look to increase awareness around crypto and popularize it as an emerging asset class.
  - Bachchan will be the face of a new campaign, which will focus on popularizing crypto as an asset class.
  - CoinDCX is India's largest and safest cryptocurrency exchange
7. Who has been appointed as the new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of credit rating agency CRISIL \_\_\_\_\_ **Amish Mehta**.  
**Note:**
- He succeeded Ashu Suyash.
  - He joined CRISIL in October 2014 as President and Chief Financial Officer and became Chief Operating Officer (COO) in July 2017
  - CRISIL is an Indian analytical company and is a subsidiary of American company S&P Global.
8. Abiy Ahmed has been sworn in as the Prime Minister of which country for a second five-year term \_\_\_\_\_ **Ethiopia**.  
**Note:**
- His oath of office has been administered by Supreme Court Chief Justice Meaza Ashenafi.
  - His party won 410 seats out of 436 contested in the elections
  - Mr Abiy is the 2019 Nobel Peace Prize winner and is serving as prime minister of Ethiopia since 2018.
9. Who has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) of insurance giant Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) \_\_\_\_\_ **B C Patnaik**.  
**Note:**
- He succeeded Mukesh Kumar Gupta, who completed his tenure on 30th September 2021.
  - Prior to this, he served as secretary General at Council for Insurance Ombudsmen(CIO), Mumbai.
  - LIC comprises of chairman and 4 MD. Other MDs: Raj Kumar, Siddhartha Mohanty and Ipe Mini.
10. Who has been appointed as the Brand Ambassador of National Basketball Association (NBA) \_\_\_\_\_ **Ranveer Singh**.  
**Note:**
- Singh will work with the NBA to help grow the league's profile in India throughout its 75th anniversary season in 2021-22.
11. Who has been appointed as the Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences \_\_\_\_\_ **M. Ravichandran**.  
**Note:**
- He is currently Director, National Centre for Ocean and Polar Research, Goa and has been in charge of coordinating several of India's scientific missions to Antarctica and the Arctic.
  - A key thrust of the government is its 'Deep Ocean Mission.'
12. Who has joined has joined the board of Fintech firm BharatPe as its Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ **Rajnish Kumar**.  
**Note:**
- Kumar will mentor the BharatPe team during transition into small finance bank.
  - Kumar was previously appointed as a non-executive director for banking giant HSBC's Hong Kong-headquartered Asia unit.
13. Alexander Schallenberg has been appointed as new Chancellor of which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Austria**.  
**Note:**
- Austrian President Alexander Van der Bellen swore in Alexander Schallenberg.
  - Earlier he was the foreign minister of Austria.



- Career diplomat Michael Linhart became the country's new foreign minister.
14. Who has been appointed as the chief executive officer (CEO) of Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL) \_\_\_\_\_ **Arun Kumar Mishra.**  
**Note:**
- He is a veteran in the energy sector, with more than three decades of experience in NTPC and Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.
  - EESL is a joint venture between NTPC Ltd, Power Finance Corporation, REC and PowerGrid, was set up under the power ministry to facilitate the implementation of energy efficiency projects.
15. Who has been appointed as the Advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for two years on contractual basis \_\_\_\_\_ **Amit Khare.**  
**Note:**
- He is a 1985-batch IAS officer from Bihar-Jharkhand cadre.
  - He is known for his instrumental role in shaping the National Education Policy 2020 and bringing key changes in the I&B ministry, particularly in digital media regulations.
16. Who has been elected as the chairman of the World Steel Association (WSA) for 2021-22 \_\_\_\_\_ **Sajjan Jindal.**  
**Note:**
- With this, Jindal becomes the first representative from India to serve as Chairman of the WSA.
  - WSA acts as the focal point for the steel industry, providing global leadership on all major strategic issues impacting the industry, particularly focusing on economic, environmental, and social sustainability.
17. Who has been appointed as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) \_\_\_\_\_ **Ritesh Chauhan.**  
**Note:**
- Ritesh Chauhan will be the CEO of PMFBY and JS of Agriculture under the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare for a combined tenure of seven years up to September 22, 2023.
  - In 2021, the flagship crop insurance scheme of the Government of India – the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) – has completed five years of its launch.

### Important News – India

1. National Research Centre on Yak (NRCY) is located in which state/union territories \_\_\_\_\_ **Arunachal Pradesh.**  
**Note:**
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has approved a credit plan for yak husbandry in Arunachal Pradesh, which will help herders secure loans for the purpose and strengthen their livelihoods.
  - The scheme was developed by the National Research Centre on Yak (NRCY) at Dirang in West Kameng district.
2. FSSAI has signed a memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with which ministry to support micro food entrepreneurs, farmer producer organisations (FPOs), self help groups (SHGs) and producers cooperatives to improve the standard of food businesses \_\_\_\_\_ **Ministry of Food Processing Industries.**  
**Note:**
- As part of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan, the step will help micro enterprises improve the quality of their food products and become competitive.
  - There will be two areas of collaboration between FSSAI and MoFPI.
3. Who launched “SACRED portal” for senior citizens in India to provide a platform for senior citizens seeking employment opportunities \_\_\_\_\_ **M Venkaiah Naidu.**  
**Note:**
- Portal has been developed by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in order to provide a platform for senior citizens seeking employment opportunities.
  - Full form of SACRED is “Senior Able Citizens for Re-Employment in Dignity.
  - Citizens aged 60 and more can register on this portal and find jobs & work opportunities.
4. Which institution and the Society for Innovation and Development (SID) have signed an MoU with Kerala Rail aimed at enhancing rail safety, especially in vulnerable terrains \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru.**  
**Note:**



- The L2M Rail team and IISc have pioneered Fibre Bragg Grating sensing technology, to develop a Structural Health Monitoring System (SHMS) which will monitor civil engineering structures of Kerala Rail's Silverline project.
  - The team uses FBG-sensor technology to ensure the stability and integrity of structures even in vulnerable areas, which comprise a large part of the terrain covered by the ambitious Silverline project.
5. World's largest national flag, made up of Khadi cloth, has been installed in \_\_\_\_\_ **Leh, Ladakh.**  
**Note:**
- Ladakh Lt Governor RK Mathur inaugurated the flag
  - This Indian tricolor is 225-feet long and 150-feet wide with weight of around 1,000 kg.
  - The flag is made by Khadi Dyers and Printers based in Mumbai, affiliated to KVIC by 57 Engineer Regiment of the Indian Army.
6. Which ministry has launched a website for Republic Day Celebrations – 2022 Ministry of Defense \_\_\_\_\_ **Ministry of Defense.**  
**Note:**
- New website is [www.indianrdc.mod.gov.in](http://www.indianrdc.mod.gov.in).
  - It will be a single-point official source for all the content related to Republic Day Celebrations.
  - It includes features like special RDC Radio, Gallery, Interactive Filters, E-book, Blogs on Indian Freedom Movement, Wars and War Memorials.
7. According to "State of the Education Report (SOER)-2021 for India: No Teachers, No Class" released by UNESCO, what is gross enrolment ratio (GER) for elementary schools in India in 2019-2020 \_\_\_\_\_ **102.1.**  
**Note:**
- As per report, there are around 1.2 lakh single-teacher schools in India. It accounts for 7.15 percent of 11.51 lakh schools. Out of this, 89 per cent are in rural areas.
  - 51 percent of total schools are employing 95 lakh teachers.
8. The Ministry of road, transport & highways launched a scheme for "Good Samaritans" according to which a cash award of what amount will be provided per accident, to those saving the life of a road accident victim by rushing the person to hospital within the 'golden hour' of the accident \_\_\_\_\_ **Rs 5,000.**  
**Note:**
- Scheme will be effective from October 15, 2021 and will run till March 31, 2026.
  - Under the scheme, a cash award of Rs 5,000 will be provided per accident, to those saving the life of a road accident victim by rushing the person to hospital within the 'golden hour' of the accident.
  - Cash award will be provided to motivate the general public in order to help the road accident victims in emergency situation.
9. The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has released the Multilingual Dementia Research and Assessment (MUDRA) Toolbox in how many Indian languages \_\_\_\_\_ **five.**  
**Note:**
- MUDRA Toolbox: Comprehensive tool specifically to diagnose dementia in Indian population.
  - It includes various cognitive tests to assess different domains of cognition.
  - It is an initiative undertaken by ICMR Neuro-Cognitive Toolbox (ICMR -NCTB) consortium.
10. Vice-President, M. Venkaiah Naidu has inaugurated Mahabahu Brahmaputra River Heritage Centre in which city \_\_\_\_\_ **Guwahati, Assam.**  
**Note:**
- This new heritage site has been made by renovating and converting British-era bungalow atop the Barphukanar Tila (Barphukan's Hillock) in Panbazar, which served as the residence of Deputy Commissioner till 2011.
  - Heritage centre will depict the life along the Brahmaputra River and has on display the heritage of boats, an Amphitheatre, an exhibition space, a cafeteria, so on and so forth.
11. The Union Cabinet has approved for setting up for 7 Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel Parks (PM MITRA) with a total outlay of \_\_\_\_\_ **₹4,445 crore.**  
**Note:**
- This was first announced in the Budget this year.
  - Union Minister Piyush Goyal said that ten States — Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Assam, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Telangana — have already expressed interest.
12. The Ministry of Textiles has approved the continuation of the Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) till \_\_\_\_\_ **2026.**



**Note:**

- Total outlay of CHCDS will be Rs 160 crores.
- Aim: Upliftment and development of handicrafts artisans.
- Under the scheme, Infrastructural support, market access, design and technology up-gradation support will be provided to handicrafts artisans.

13. The iconic Indian superhero - Chacha Chaudhary has been declared as the mascot of the which flagship programme \_\_\_\_\_ **Namami Gange Programme.**

**Note:**

- The decision was taken during the 37th Executive Committee meeting of the National Mission for Clean Ganga, NMCG.
- As a step towards this NMCG has tied-up with Diamond Toons to develop and distribute comics, e-comics and animated videos

14. The Industrial Security Agreement summit between India and the US was held in \_\_\_\_\_ **New Delhi.**

**Note:**

- This group will meet periodically to align the policies and procedures expeditiously that will allow the defence industries to collaborate on cutting edge defence technologies.
- The Industrial Security Agreement summit between India and the US was held New Delhi.

15. What is the goal of the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U) 2.0 that was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently \_\_\_\_\_ **'Garbage Free' cities.**

**Note:**

- The two missions have been designed to realize the aspiration to make all cities Garbage Free and Water Secure.
- It will also help in achieving the targets set under the Sustainable Development Goals-2030.
- SBM-U 2.0 envisions to make all cities 'Garbage Free' and ensure grey and black water management in all cities.

16. What is the goal of the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) 2.0. that was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently \_\_\_\_\_ **'Water Secure' cities.**

**Note:**

- The two missions have been designed to realize the aspiration to make all cities Garbage Free and Water Secure.
- It will also help in achieving the targets set under the Sustainable Development Goals-2030.

17. According to a global study by the British Virgin Islands-based cybersecurity company Surfshark, what is India's rank in the Digital Quality of Life Index \_\_\_\_\_ **59<sup>th</sup>.**

**Note:**

- While India has witnessed a drop compared to last year — falling from 57th spot to 59th — it now ranks 17th in Asia and first in the South Asia region. Its e-security has also improved and it now ranks 36th (was 57th in 2020), higher than China which ranks 72nd. According to the index, India ranks 67th on internet quality indicator.
- Denmark topped the index for the second year in a row, followed by South Korea and Finland, while the bottom five countries include Ethiopia, Cambodia, Cameroon, Guatemala, and Angola.

18. 'SVAMITVA' scheme is a central sector scheme that is implemented by which ministry \_\_\_\_\_ **Ministry of Panchayati Raj.**

**Note:**

- It aims to provide property rights to residents in rural areas.
- The scheme will pave the way for using property as a financial asset by villagers for taking loans and other financial benefits, like in urban areas.
- It aims to demarcate inhabited lands in rural areas through the latest surveying drone-technology.

19. Where was the "National Mission on Edible Oil- Oil Palm Business Summit" was held recently \_\_\_\_\_ **Guwahati.**

**Note:**

- Keeping in view the vision of the Prime minister for holistic and balanced progress of North East.
- The conference began under the chairmanship of the Union Agriculture Minister Shri Narendra Singh Tomar.
- The National Mission on Edible Oil – Oil Palm is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme worth Rs.11000 crores which aims to add 6.5 lakh hectares for palm oil by 2025-26.

20. Who has launched the Indian Space Association (ISpA), a private industry body to help boost space technology in India \_\_\_\_\_ **Narendra Modi.**

**Note:**

- ISpA is a private industry body to help boost space technology in India.



- ISpA's founding members include OneWeb, Bharti Airtel, Mapmyindia, Walchandnagar Industries, and Ananth Technology Limited among others.
  - ISpA will participate and work with ISRO and others on the issue of policy around space technology and domain.
21. The Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Shri Parshottam Rupala, launched the River Ranching Programme from which state \_\_\_\_\_ **Uttar Pradesh**.
- Note:**
- At the same time, other 4 states namely, Uttarakhand, Orissa, Tripura and Chhattisgarh also participated nationwide River Ranching program launching.
  - River ranching programme" is introduced as special activity under PMMSY scheme for augmenting and enhancing the fish production and productivity through expansion, intensification, diversification and productive utilization of land and water.
22. Telecom secretary and Chairman of Digital Communications Commission inaugurated its Quantum Communication Lab and unveiled the indigenously developed Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) solution at \_\_\_\_\_ **Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DoT)**.
- Note:**
- QKD is essential to address the threat that rapid advancement in Quantum Computing poses to the security of the data being transported by various critical sectors through the current communication networks
  - The government has allocated USD 1 billion for the National Mission on Quantum Technologies and Applications spanning over a period of 8 years.
23. From railway zone, the Indian Railways has launched two long haul freight trains "Trishul" and "Garuda" -- which are twice or multiple times longer than the normal composition of freight trains \_\_\_\_\_ **South Central Railway**.
- Note:**
- The SCR launched Trishul from Kondapalli station of Vijayawada division to Khurda division of East Coast Railway.
  - SCR followed it up with running of yet another similar train 'Garuda' from Raichur of Guntakal division to Manuguru of Secunderabad division.
24. National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has declared combined areas of Guru Ghasidas National Park and Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary as 4th Tiger Reserve of which state \_\_\_\_\_ **Chhattisgarh**.
- Note:**
- This is the 4th Tiger Reserve in Chhattisgarh, after Udanti-Sitanadi, Achanakmar, and Indravati Reserves.
  - Proposal to declare these two as Tiger Reserve was approved by NTCA's 11th Technical Committee under Section 38V(1) of The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
25. For boosting exports of citrus and its value-added products, which institution has signed an MoU with ICAR-Central Citrus Research Institute, Nagpur \_\_\_\_\_ **APEDA**.
- Note:**
- The MoU envisages promoting export by focussing on creation of product specific clusters along with development of technologies by APEDA and ICAR-CCRI with a focus on efficient and precision farming.
  - The collaboration with two institutes of repute would focus on diversifying the export basket, destinations and boosting high value agricultural products exports through establishing Brand India globally.
26. Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT 2.0) has been approved till \_\_\_\_\_ **2025-26**.
- Note:**
- Union Cabinet has approved Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT 2.0) till 2025-26 to provide reliable and affordable water supply and sanitation services to urban households is a national priority
  - Total indicative outlay for AMRUT 2.0: ₹ 2,77,000 crore
27. Vision Plan 2021-31 for Indian Zoo is related to \_\_\_\_\_ **Central Zoo Authority**.
- Note:**
- Union Environment Minister has released Vision Plan (2021-2031) for Indian zoos by Central Zoo Authority (CZA) to upgrade them to global standards, strengthening Central Zoo Authority.
  - It is committed to making CZA and Indian zoos a greater force for conservation by providing unparalleled animal care, cutting edge research, and immersive visitor experiences that strike meaningful chords with people of all ages.
28. NITI Aayog – United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Handbook on Sustainable Urban Plastic Waste Management is especially launched for \_\_\_\_\_ **Urban local bodies**.
- Note:**



- NITI Aayog Vice Chairman, Rajiv Kumar has launched 'NITI Aayog – United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Handbook on Sustainable Urban Plastic Waste Management' in New Delhi for urban local bodies.
- It provides a comprehensive overview of managing plastic waste by representing and discussing components of the entire plastic waste value chain.

29. India's first indigenous pilot plant to convert high ash Indian coal to methanol has been inducted in which city \_\_\_\_\_

**Hyderabad.**

**Note:**

- India has developed indigenous technology to convert high ash Indian coal to methanol and established its first pilot plant in Hyderabad.
- This technology will help the country move towards the adoption of clean technology and promote the use of methanol as a transportation fuel (blending with petrol), thus reducing crude oil imports.

30. Which among the following is not a pillar of the PM Gati Shakti-National Master Plan for multi-modal connectivity that was inaugurated by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in October 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **Digitization.**

**Note:**

- PM Modi has inaugurated Rs 100 lakh crore PM Gati Shakti-National Master Plan for multi-modal connectivity from Pragati Maidan in New Delhi
- Under this, centralized portal will be set up to bring together infrastructure schemes of around 16 Ministries & State Governments on a common platform.
- It is based on six pillars:
  1. Comprehensiveness
  2. Prioritization
  3. Optimization
  4. Synchronization
  5. Analytical
  6. Dynamic

31. What is India's rank in the 58th edition of EY's 'Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index' (RECAI), 2021 which ranks the world's top 40 markets (nations) on the attractiveness of their renewable energy investment and deployment opportunities \_\_\_\_\_ **third.**

**Note:**

- 2021 RECAI ranked top 40 global markets (nations) of the world on the attractiveness of their renewable energy investment and deployment opportunities.
- Top performer: United States, followed by China

32. Which state's transport department planning to equipped driving licences and vehicle registration certificates with QR codes \_\_\_\_\_ **Delhi.**

**Note:**

- New driving license will have an advanced microchip with features like Quick Response (QR) code and Near Field Communication (NFC).
- It will have the owner's name printed on the front while the microchip and QR code will be embedded at the back of the card.
- It will also enable unification in linking and validating one's information to smart cards with Sarathi and Vahan, the two web-based databases of all driving licenses and vehicle registrations.

33. What is India's rank in the Henley Passport Index 2021, which lists the world's most travel-friendly passports \_\_\_\_\_ **90<sup>th</sup>.**

**Note:**

- The index ranks the passports of countries according to the number of destinations their holders can visit without a prior visa. The rankings are based on the analysis of data provided by the International Air Transport Association (IATA).
- India, which held the 84th rank last year, fell down to the 90th position, with its passport holders allowed to travel visa-free to 58 countries.
- India shares the rank with Tajikistan and Burkina Faso.

34. Government has set a target to increase the number of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras to ten thousand by \_\_\_\_\_ **March 2024.**

**Note:**



- Chemicals and Fertilizers Ministry said, the number of Janaushadhi stores has increased to eight thousand 366 and all the 736 districts have been covered.
- Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana, PMBJP was launched in November, 2008, with an objective of making quality generic medicines available at affordable prices to all.

### Important News – State

1. Festival of Dance and Music “Nata Sankirtana” celebrated in which state \_\_\_\_\_ **Manipur**.

**Note:**

- Nata Sankirtana, which has been recognised as one of the intangible cultural heritages by the UNESCO, is among the dying art forms of the state.
- This art form, which is a combination of dance, music and Pung (drum), gets its place in the list of UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage.

2. Biennial Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi Award for National Integration and National Contribution being conferred by which state \_\_\_\_\_ **Assam**.

**Note:**

- The awards were conferred to the Assam Branch of Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, Assamese litterateur Dr. Nirod Kumar Baruah and Shillong Chamber Choir at Srimanta Sankardeva Kalakshetra.
- The award carries five lakh rupees, a citation and an Angabastram.
- This award is one of the biggest civilian awards in Assam.

3. Which state government has launched ‘Mukhyamantri Paryatan Udyog Sambal Yojana-2021’ to provide relief to the entrepreneurs of the tourism and hospitality sector affected by COVID-19 pandemic \_\_\_\_\_ **Rajasthan**.

**Note:**

- Along with that the Chief Minister also launched a mobile app 'Rajasthan Tourism Official' designed to help tourists visiting Rajasthan in making their tour programmes.
- Beside this, the CM released a collection of various policies, schemes and guidelines issued by the tourism department for tourism development in the state.

4. Which state government has launched a face recognition software to aid police personnel during their investigations \_\_\_\_\_ **Andhra Pradesh**.

**Note:**

- The software would help compare photos of suspects with a data resource of over 5.30 lakh photos uploaded in the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS).
- The software is expected to track down accused persons, suspects, missing persons and unidentified corpses with data from the CCTNS.

5. Kuttiaattoor Mango and Edayur Chilli belongs to which state that have received Geographical Indication tag (GI Tag) recently \_\_\_\_\_ **Kerala**.

**Note:**

- Edayur chilli is a local cultivar of Edayur, Athavanad, Marakkara, Irimbiliyam, Kalpakanchery and Valanchery panchayats in Valanchery block and Moorkanad and Kuruva panchayats in Angadippuram block of Malappuram district.
- Kuttiaattoor mango is a popular and tasty traditional mango cultivar of Kuttiaattoor and the nearby gram panchayats of Kannur district.

6. Famous Alibaug white onion belongs to which state that has been accorded Geographical Indication (GI) tag recently \_\_\_\_\_ **Maharashtra**.

**Note:**



- Now, Alibaug will get worldwide recognition for its unique sweet taste, no-tears factor, as well as medicinal properties white onions.
  - Soil of Alibaug taluka has low sulphur content and so the onion has low pungency, low pyruvic acid, high protein, fat and fibre content, besides high antioxidant
7. According to a global study by the British Virgin Islands-based cybersecurity company Surfshark, which country topped in the Digital Quality of Life Index \_\_\_\_\_ **Denmark**.
- Note:**
- Denmark topped the index for the second year in a row, followed by South Korea and Finland, while the bottom five countries include Ethiopia, Cambodia, Cameroon, Guatemala, and Angola.
  - The countries where the internet is least affordable are Nigeria, Côte D'Ivoire and Mali, where people are required to do approximately a week's worth of work to afford the internet.
8. Which state has decided to ban packaged mineral water from January 1, 2022 \_\_\_\_\_ **Sikkim**.
- Note:**
- Travellers must take note, and not enter the state with any packaged mineral water bottles.
  - The Sikkim government has been working towards helping the environment heal, and save its natural resources.
9. Which state has launched 'Mission Basundhara' at a programme organised by the Revenue and Disaster Management department \_\_\_\_\_ **Assam**.
- Note:**
- The mission is a decisive step towards streamlining land revenue services and facilitating easy access to the public for their land-related work.
  - A total of Rs 225 crore will be spent on the implementation of the programme and the mission will enable the rebuilding of all lost land records of the state.
10. Which state /UT has approved its ambitious Health Information Management System (HIMS) project under which each citizen will have a health card, which will be a repository of their medical information \_\_\_\_\_ **Delhi**.
- Note:**
- The government said doctors will be able to see a patient's medical history using the card and the patients will be able to make appointments from home.
  - The health card will act as a unique health identifier for each individual through which everything from their medical history to appointment dates can be accessed.
  - All citizens between 1 and 18 years would be issued a health card linked to their parent's health card.
11. Wada Kolam Rice (Zini Rice) belongs to which state that has been accorded 'Geographical Indication' (GI) tag recently \_\_\_\_\_ **Maharashtra**.
- Note:**
- Wada Kolam rice is also known as Zini or Jhini rice
  - Grain is off white in colour, with small granules and a peculiar aroma after cooking. It can completely absorb daal and is in demand for these qualities
  - Its price is between Rs 60-70 per kg in domestic markets
  - They are short, soft and easily digestible.
12. In which state the Union Minister of Civil Aviation, Jyotiraditya M. Scindia has virtually inaugurated Greenfield Sindhudurg airport under RCS-UDAN (Regional Connectivity Scheme – Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik) scheme \_\_\_\_\_ **Maharashtra**.
- Note:**
- First flight from Sindhudurg airport takes off to Mumbai.



- With Sindhudurg Airport (Chipi Airport), 381 routes and 61 airports including 5 heliports and 2 Water Aerodromes have become operationalized under the UDAN scheme.

13. Karuppur kalamkari paintings and Kallakurichi Wood carvings belongs to which state/UT those have been awarded the Geographical Indication (GI) tags \_\_\_\_\_ **Tamil Nadu.**

**Note:**

- Karuppur Kalamkari painting is done on pure cotton cloth.
- The 'Kallakurichi Wood Carving' is a unique form of wood carving where the craftsmen are specialized in carving temple related products and furniture.
- Kanyakumari Cloves is known for its rich aromatic oil content, with volatile oil content of 21% (normal 18%) resulting in 86% of eugenol.

14. Which state government has launched mentorship programme 'Desh Ke Mentor' for children studying in Classes IX to XII of government schools \_\_\_\_\_ **Delhi.**

**Note:**

- Delhi govt has launched mentorship programme 'Desh Ke Mentor' for children studying in Classes IX to XII of government schools.
- Under this, students will be mentored by professionals and academicians from across the country for 10-15 minutes daily on issues ranging from career choices to teenage-related concerns.

15. Which state police has launched a patrolling operation called 'Operation Satark' \_\_\_\_\_ **Delhi.**

**Note:**

- Delhi Police officials conducted foot patrolling in the Sarojini Market on October 12 under the operation.
- The patrolling is part of 'Operation Satark' which aims at facilitating a comprehensive check on routine nuisance mongers and instill confidence among the public.

16. Which state Government launched a special seven-day COVID-19 inoculation drive called Mission Kavach-Kundal with a target to vaccinate 15 lakh people every day \_\_\_\_\_ **Maharashtra.**

**Note:**

- Maharashtra Health Minister Rajesh Tope said, 65 per cent of the State's eligible vaccine population received the first dose while 30 per cent have taken both doses.
- The state has sufficient stock to vaccinate 15 lakh persons every day in this drive.

17. The World Bank Board of Executive Directors has approved a USD 40 million project that is aimed at improving the quality of health services in \_\_\_\_\_ **Meghalaya.**

**Note:**

- The MoU is to strengthen the state's capacity to handle future health emergencies, including the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The loan to be sanctioned by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) has a maturity of 14.5 years, including a grace period of 5 years.

18. Bangalore-based solar module manufacturer Emmvee has signed an MoU with which state to to set up an Rs 825 crore solar modules and cells manufacturing plant in the state \_\_\_\_\_ **Karnataka.**

**Note:**

- Coming up at Dobaspet, Karnataka, the plant is an addition to the manufacturer's existing solar modules manufacturing plant of 0.5 GW capacity in Bengaluru district of the state. The plant is expected to provide jobs to 736 local youths.

19. Which State Higher Education Council has entered into an MoU with the National Association of Software and Service Companies, NASSCOM to provide industry-suited skill training to the youth \_\_\_\_\_ **Karnataka.**

**Note:**



- The MoU will benefit over five lakh students studying in the institutions of higher learning in Karnataka every year.
- The skill training courses are designed as per the national occupational standards of the National Skills Qualification Framework.
- Both faculty and students can have free access to the course materials in the online mode.

### Important News – World

1. Which country named the cyclone ‘Shaheen’ that battered Oman lashing the sultanate with high winds and rain and caused 5 people to die \_\_\_\_\_ **Qatar**.

**Note:**

- Cyclone Shaheen made landfall just off from Muscat, Oman’s capital, with winds reaching up to 150 kph (93 mph).
- The name ‘Shaheen’ is given by Qatar which is a part of the member countries for the naming of a tropical cyclone in the Indian Ocean.

2. The 7th G-20 Parliamentary Speakers Summit is scheduled to be held in which city \_\_\_\_\_ **Rome, Italy**.

**Note:**

- An 8-member parliamentary delegation from India including Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh and Secretary Generals of both Houses of Parliament are set to participate in the summit.
- Duarte Pacheco President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) will address the Summit in the opening session and Prime Minister of Italy, Mario Draghi will be the keynote speaker.

3. Which country has successfully test-fired Hypersonic missile from a nuclear submarine for the first time \_\_\_\_\_ **Russia**.

**Note:**

- It previously has been repeatedly test-fired from a navy frigate, most recently in July.
- Zircon is intended to arm Russian cruisers, frigates and submarines. It is one of several hypersonic missiles under development in Russia.
- Missile would be commissioned in to Russian Navy in 2022.

4. What is the theme of the Dubai’s Expo 2020 \_\_\_\_\_ **Connecting Minds, Creating the Future**.

**Note:**

- Main theme of Dubai Expo 2020: Connecting Minds, Creating the Future
- Expo 2020 is the first to be held in Middle East and North Africa & South Asia region.

5. With which bank has the Bangladesh govt signed a USD 400 million agreement for constructing Dhaka-Sylhet highway to improve mobility, road safety and regional trade in northeast economic corridor in Bangladesh \_\_\_\_\_ **Asian Development Bank**.

**Note:**

- It is the first tranche of \$1.78 billion financing facility approved by ADB for South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) Dhaka-Sylhet Road investment project.
- It will be utilized for widening of about 210 kms of Dhaka-Sylhet road from 2-lane to 4 lane highway among other activities.

6. ‘The State of the World’s Children 2021’ is a flagship publication of which organization that was by Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Mansukh Mandaviya \_\_\_\_\_ **UNICEF**.

**Note:**

- Mansukh Mandaviya has released UNICEF’s global flagship publication ‘The State of the World’s Children 2021; On My Mind: promoting, protecting and caring for children’s mental health’
- It says only 41% of young people in India were willing to seek support for mental health problems, compared to an average of 83% among 21 countries surveyed



- The report has found that around 14% of 15 to 24-year-olds in India, or 1 in 7, reported often feeling depressed or having little interest in doing things.
7. First consignment of Geographical Indication (GI) tagged sweet dish Mihidana from Bardhaman, West Bengal has been exported to which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Kingdom of Bahrain.**  
**Note:**
- It is part of the effort to promote indigenous and GI tagged products of India globally.
  - It was exported by APEDA registered M/S DM Enterprises, Kolkata.
  - Mihidana sweet dish got GI tag in 2017.
8. India has been chosen as the Partner Administration for Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB) programme. The TIWB is a joint initiative of \_\_\_\_\_ **UNDP and OECD.**  
**Note:**
- TIWB has launched its programme in Seychelles on 4th October 2021.
  - India will be providing its Tax Expert in support of the initiative.
  - TIWB: Joint initiative of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), since its launch in 2015.
9. Which Arabian country planned to send a probe to land on an asteroid between Mars and Jupiter to collect data on the origins of the universe \_\_\_\_\_ **United Arab Amirate.**  
**Note:**
- It is the latest project in the oil-rich federation's ambitious space programme.
  - The project targets a 2028 launch with a landing in 2033, a five-year journey in which the spacecraft will travel some 3.6 billion kilometres (2.2 billion miles).
  - The project comes after the Emirates successfully put its Amal, or "Hope", probe in orbit around Mars in February.
  - The Emirates plans to send an unmanned spacecraft to the moon in 2024.
10. With which country has India signed MoUs on research in climate change, and setting up a "green hydrogen" electrolyser plant \_\_\_\_\_ **Denmark.**  
**Note:**
- The MoUs were between Reliance Industries and Danish company Stiesdal Fuel Technologies during PM level summit between two countries.
  - This was the first summit-level visit to India since the COVID pandemic, and the first State visit by a Danish leader since a bilateral freeze on ties a decade ago.
11. Which becomes the first BRICS country to officially join the High Ambition Coalition (HAC) for Nature and People \_\_\_\_\_ **India.**  
**Note:**
- HAC for Nature and People is co-chaired by Costa Rica, France and by United Kingdom as Ocean co-chair
  - HAC: It was launched in 2019 as intergovernmental group of more than 70 countries encouraging goal to protect at least 30% of the world's land and ocean by 2030 (30×30 target).
12. Which country has unveiled the world's first automated, driverless train, billed as more punctual and energy efficient than traditional trains \_\_\_\_\_ **Germany.**  
**Note:**
- It is billed as more punctual and energy efficient than traditional trains.
  - The train is controlled by digital technology and is fully automated.
  - The driver remains on the train to supervise the journey with passengers on board.
13. In association with the Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative (OPHI), which organization has released the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **UNDP.**



**Note:**

- The Index considers data from 109 countries and 5.9 billion people.
- These include 26 low-income countries, 80 middle-income countries and 3 high-income countries.
- The index measures each person's deprivations across 10 indicators divided into three equally weighted dimensions.

14. Which international organization has recognized access to a clean and healthy environment as a fundamental right \_\_\_\_\_ **UN Human Rights Council.**

**Note:**

- The vote passed with overwhelming support, despite criticism in the lead-up from some countries, notably the United States and Britain.
- The resolution, first discussed in the 1990s, is not legally binding but has the potential to shape global standards.
- Lawyers involved in climate litigation say it could help them build arguments in cases involving the environment and human rights.

15. Which country has convened G20 Extraordinary Summit on Afghanistan \_\_\_\_\_ **Italy.**

**Note:**

- G20 Extraordinary Summit on Afghanistan was convened by Italy, which currently holds G20 Presidency, and chaired by Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi.
- Focus: issues related to humanitarian situation, concerns relating to terrorism, and human rights issue in Afghanistan following the Taliban's return to power.

16. United Nations Biodiversity Summit is being held in which country \_\_\_\_\_ **China.**

**Note:**

- In the summit the countries met to protect ecosystems and prevent mass extinction weeks before the COP26 climate conference.
- The online summit — setting the stage for a face-to-face meeting in April — will see parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) discuss new targets for protecting ecosystems by 2030.
- During the summit, countries discussed for "30 by 30" plan in order to give 30% of lands and oceans protected status.

17. In 2021 Henley Passport Index, Japan and which country stood at the top position this year \_\_\_\_\_ **Singapore.**

**Note:**

- The index ranks the passports of countries according to the number of destinations their holders can visit without a prior visa.
- The rankings are based on the analysis of data provided by the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

**Honor & Awards**

1. According to the IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2021, Mukesh Ambani continues to be the richest man of India for consecutive year \_\_\_\_\_ **5<sup>th</sup> year.**

**Note:**

- Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani is at second spot with net worth of Rs. 5,05,900 crores, followed by Shiv Nadar & family of HCL technologies with net worth of Rs 2,36,600 crore
- Hurun India Rich List 2021, features as many as 1,007 individuals across 119 cities with net worth of Rs 1,000 crore

2. Along with whom Mallika Srinivasan has been chosen for the 2021 Global Leadership Award by US India Business Council (USIBC) \_\_\_\_\_ **Shiv Nadar.**

**Note:**

- Global Leadership Awards was given annually since 2007 to honor top corporate executives from US and India who have demonstrated exemplary leadership



- Shiv Nadar: Founder and chairman emeritus of HCL Technologies Limited.
- Mallika Srinivasan: Chair and managing director, Tractors and Farm Equipment Limited (TAFE).
3. Who won the Nobel Prize 2021 in Medicine or Physiology \_\_\_\_\_ **David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian.**
- Note:**
- According to Nobel Assembly at Sweden's Karolinska Institute, their findings "have allowed us to understand how heat, cold and mechanical force can initiate the nerve impulses that allow us to perceive and adapt to the world around us.
- The more than century-old prize is worth 10 million Swedish crowns (\$1.15 million).
- The Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine, shared in equal parts this year by the two laureates.
4. Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh felicitated the winners of 'Dare to Dream 2.0', young scientist award 2021. The Contest was organized by \_\_\_\_\_ **DRDO.**
- Note:**
- The Raksha Mantri gave away awards to 40 winners - 22 in Individual category and 18 in Startup category. He also launched 'Dare to Dream 3.0' to promote innovators & startups and provide a platform for the young ignited minds in the country.
- Dare to Dream is DRDO's pan-India contest to promote Indian academicians, individuals and startups to develop emerging defence and aerospace technologies/systems. DRDO provides technical and financial support to the winners for realisation of their ideas under the Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme.
5. Scientist Giorgio Parisi held from which country who won half share of the 2021 Nobel Physics Prize \_\_\_\_\_ **Italy.**
- Note:**
- Manabe and Hasselmann were cited for their work in "the physical modeling of Earth's climate, quantifying variability and reliably predicting global warming".
- The second half of the prize was awarded to Parisi for "the discovery of the interplay of disorder and fluctuations in physical systems from atomic to planetary scales."
- The prestigious prize is worth 10 million Swedish crowns (\$1.15 million) and is given by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.
6. Which group of persons won the 2021 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for their development of asymmetric organocatalysis, a "new and ingenious tool for molecule building \_\_\_\_\_ **Benjamin List and David MacMillan.**
- Note:**
- "Organic catalysts can be used to drive multitudes of chemical reactions," the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said in a statement.
- "Using these reactions, researchers can now more efficiently construct anything from new pharmaceuticals to molecules that can capture light in solar cells."
- The more than century-old prize is awarded by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences and is worth 10 million Swedish crowns (\$1.14 million).
7. Who has been awarded 2021 Nobel Prize in Literature \_\_\_\_\_ **Abdulrazak Gurnah.**
- Note:**
- He writes in English.
- Nobel Prize in literature is awarded by Swedish Academy, Stockholm, Sweden.
- Prize money for Nobel Prize in Literature is worth 10 million Swedish crowns (\$1.14 million).
8. Who occupied second position in the Forbes India Rich list for 2021, that was topped Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) Chairman Mukesh Ambani \_\_\_\_\_ **Gautam Adani.**
- Note:**
- Gautam Adani, with a wealth of \$74.8 billion, is second richest in India with only \$17.9 billion shy of Ambani.
- Shiv Nadar was number three in the list with a wealth of \$31 billion.
- Radhakrishnan Damani, founder of Avenues Supermarts, and Cyrus Poonawalla, chairman of Serum Institute, were placed fourth and fifth with a wealth of \$29.4 billion and \$19 billion respectively.
9. Who has been conferred with the prestigious Aryabhata Award 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **G Satheesh Reddy.**
- Note:**
- The award has been given by Astronautical Society of India (ASI) for his outstanding life-time contribution to the promotion of astronautics in India.
- Dr G Satheesh Reddy is a pioneer in the area of R&D of advanced avionics, navigation and missile technologies.



- He has contributed immensely to strategic and tactical missile systems and helped the country become self-reliant in critical defence technologies.
10. Which group of persons have won the 2021 Nobel prize for Economics \_\_\_\_\_ **David Card, Joshua D Angrist and Guido W Imbens.**
- Note:**
- Canadian-born David Card of the University of California was awarded half of the prize for his research on how minimum wage, immigration and education affect the labor market.
  - The other half was shared by Joshua Angrist from MIT and Dutch-born Guido Imbens from Stanford University for their framework for studying issues that can't rely on traditional scientific methods.
11. Who has been chosen for the fourth Satyajit Ray Award for his overall contribution to the Indian cinema \_\_\_\_\_ **B Gopal.**
- Note:**
- Instituted by the Satyajit Ray Film Society Kerala, a state-based organisation, the award comprises Rs 10,000 cash prize, a memento and plaque.
  - Gopal has directed 30 Telugu films and two Hindi moves in his decades-long tinsel town career.
  - The award would be presented to him in a function to be held in Hyderabad.
12. Who has been conferred with Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence \_\_\_\_\_ **Randeep Guleria.**
- Note:**
- Randeep Guleria (Director of All India Institute of Medical Sciences) has been conferred with Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence.
  - Award was instituted by Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management (LBSIM), Delhi, promoted by Lal Bahadur Shastri Educational Society.
13. Who received the prestigious C K Prahlad award for Global Business Sustainability Leadership for the year 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **Satya Nadella.**
- Note:**
- The award recognises exceptional, globally significant private-sector action, innovation and long-term business success in a globalizing world.
  - Four Microsoft leaders received the award. They are president and vice chair Brad Smith, chief financial officer Amy Hood, chief environment officer Lucas Joppa along with Nadella- for their collaborative leadership aimed at transforming Microsoft into a carbon negative company by 2030 and to remove all its historical emissions by 2050.
14. Renowned writer Benyamin is a writer of which language who bagged the 45th Vayalar Ramavarma Memorial Literary Award for his book 'Manthalirile 20 Communist Varshangal' \_\_\_\_\_ **Malayalam.**
- Note:**
- The award, instituted by the Vayalar Ramavarma Memorial Trust, comprises a cash prize of **Rs 1 lakh**, a sculpture designed by sculptor **Kanayi Kunhiraman** and a **citation**.
  - A political satire, the novel revolves around a nondescript village called **Manthalir** and the influence of religion and politics in its culture in two decades.
15. For which film Director Chaitanya Tamhane has won the best screenplay award \_\_\_\_\_ **The Disciple.**
- Note:**
- The winners in 18 categories were announced at a ceremony hosted by the Asian Film Awards Academy (AFAA) in conjunction with Busan International Film Festival (BIFF) and Asian Contents & Film Market (ACFM) at the Paradise Hotel Busan.
  - 'The Disciple' follows Sharad Nerulkar (Aditya Modak), an Indian classical vocalist.

### Sports News

1. Which countries men's table tennis team created history by winning a medal at the Asian Table Tennis Championship 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **India.**

**Note:**



- The team consisting of Sathiyam Gnanasekaran, Sharath Kamal, Harmeet Desai, Sanil Shetty, and Manav Thakkar won the bronze medal after losing to South Korea 0-3 in the semi-finals.
  - This is India's second medal at Asian Championships since 1976.
  - The Indian team was assured of a medal after beating Iran 3-1 in the quarterfinals.
2. Who became first Indian woman to score a Test hundred on Australian soil \_\_\_\_\_ **Smriti Mandhana**.
- Note:**
- She completed her century to shape up India's first innings on the second day of the first pink-ball day and night One-off Test match being played between India and Australia women at the Carrara Oval in Queensland, Australia.
  - She scored 127 runs with 22 fours and a six.
  - Put into bat, India women were off to a solid start with both openers Mandhana and Shafali Verma scored together a 93-run partnership.
3. Which team has won the 2021 Durand Cup football title held in Kolkata \_\_\_\_\_ **FC Goa**.
- Note:**
- Captain Eduardo Bedia scored the all important goal in the 105th minute after the final match went into the extra time.
  - The Durand Cup crown also marks FC Goa coach Juan Ferrando Fenoll's first-ever trophy on Indian soil.
  - FC Goa got 40 lakh rupees for winning the title, while Mohammedan Sporting received 20 lakh rupees.
4. Who has won inaugural Meltwater Champions Chess Tour (MCCT) to claim the non-fungible token (NFT) trophy, and \$1,00,000 in the finals \_\_\_\_\_ **Magnus Carlsen**.
- Note:**
- It is a 10-month long online chess tournaments, which was held on chess24.com from November 22, 2020 till October 4, 2021.
  - Tournaments are not rated by FIDE
  - MCCT tour comprised of 10 total tournaments.
  - It was the most viewed online chess event in history of the game.
5. Who won a gold medal in the women's 10m air pistol event at the ISSF junior world championship \_\_\_\_\_ **Manu Bhaker**.
- Note:**
- Esha Singh, 16, grabbed the silver medal in a one-two finish for India while Rhythm ended in fourth place in the finals after missing out on a podium by just .2 points.
  - India's Rudranksh Patil claimed the silver medal in the men's 10m air rifle competition. Ramita won bronze in the women's 10m air rifle junior event with a total score of 229.1, even as the well-known Mehuli Ghosh finished fifth in the final and Nisha Kanwar eighth.
6. Name the Indian women wrestler who won a silver medal in the World Wrestling Championships in Oslo, Norway \_\_\_\_\_ **Anshu Malik**.
- Note:**
- 19-year old Anshu becomes India's first-ever woman finalist at the World Championship.
  - Sushil Kumar (2010) remains India's lone world champion wrestler till date.
7. Sarita Mor is associated with which sports who won a bronze medal in a World championship recently \_\_\_\_\_ **Wrestling**.
- Note:**
- Sarita Mor is an Indian Wrestler who won bronze medal in in women's 59kg
  - Sarita ended defeated Sweden's Sara Johanna Lindborg 8-2 in bronze medal play-off
8. Who won Formula 1 Turkish Grand Prix 2021, held at Istanbul Park in Tuzla, Istanbul \_\_\_\_\_ **Valtteri Bottas**.
- Note:**
- This is V. Bottas first victory of F1 season.
  - Max Verstappen (Red Bull - Netherlands) came second, followed by Sergio Perez (Mexico- Red Bull).
  - Lewis Hamilton finished fifth in the race.
9. Which country has the highest medal tally at 2021 International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Junior World Championship \_\_\_\_\_ **India**.
- Note:**
- Indian shooters claimed a historic victory with 43 medals included 17 Gold, 16 Silver and 10 Bronze medal to stand atop in the medal table at 2021 International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Junior World Championship.



- USA finished second on the medal table.
10. Which country pulled out of the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games' hockey competition stating the risk of contracting COVID-19 and the discriminatory quarantine rules by the United Kingdom (UK) for travellers \_\_\_\_\_ **India**.
- Note:**
- The UK has refused to consider India's COVID-19 vaccination certificates and imposed a 10-day quarantine on travellers coming from India even if fully vaccinated.
  - India has also imposed reciprocal rules on all UK nationals arriving in the country following UK's discriminatory quarantine rules.
11. What is the official mascot of the U-17 Women's World Cup India 2022 \_\_\_\_\_ **Ibha**.
- Note:**
- Ibha aims to inspire women and girls across India and around the world to realise their potential.
  - The tournament will be held in India from October 11-30 next year.

### Books and Authors

1. Who authored the book titled 'Chronicles from the Land of the Happiest People on Earth' \_\_\_\_\_ **Wole Soyinka**.
- Note:**
- It has been authored by Wole Soyinka (Africa's first Nobel laureate in Literature).
  - The book has been published by Bloomsbury India
  - He wrote his last novel Season of Anomy in 1973.
  - The book is related to political and social corruption.
2. Who has authored the book titled 'Economist Gandhi' \_\_\_\_\_ **Jaithirth Rao**.
- Note:**
- Jaithirth Rao is popularly known as Jerry Rao and is the founder and former CEO of the software company Mphasis
  - Book examines Mahatma Gandhi's economic philosophy and his hidden facet personality- thoughts on economics and capitalism.
  - It has been published by the Penguin Random House India.
3. Who has authored the book titled "Quest for a Stable Afghanistan" \_\_\_\_\_ **Sujeet Sarkar**.
- Note:**
- The book was published by Rupa Publications.
  - It provides a detailed account of how the haggard and faulty policies of the West have put Afghanistan on the deeper and increasingly worrisome crisis
  - It provides a daring new outlook denouncing several myths that colour common global perception of this war-ravaged country.
4. Who has authored the book titled 'The Custodian of Trust – A Banker's Memoir' \_\_\_\_\_ **Rajnish Kumar**.
- Note:**
- Book has been published by Peguin Random House India.
  - It gave a rare insight of how the financial system in our country works.
  - Custodian of Trust depicts Kumar's journey from a modest house in the old city of Meerut to being a probationary officer in SBI in 1980 and growing to the post of Chairman in 2017.

### Science and Defence

1. NASA is poised to send its first spacecraft to study the Trojan asteroids of which planet \_\_\_\_\_ **Jupiter**.
- Note:**
- The probe, called Lucy after an ancient fossil that provided insights into the evolution of human species, will launch on October 16 from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida.
  - Its mission is to investigate the group of rocky bodies circling the Sun in two swarms, one preceding Jupiter in its orbital path and the other trailing behind it.



2. Which IIT has developed a hydrogel from discarded corneas that can be used as an alternative to Corneal transplantation \_\_\_\_\_ **IIT Hyderabad.**

**Note:**

- Research team was led by Dr Falguni Pati, an Associate Professor at Department of Bio-medical Engineering at IIT-H.
- Hydrogel was developed from discarded corneas of human and bovine sources using novel and simple method.
- The team discovered the most significant feature of this tissue-specific hydrogel in order to prevent cells from scar tissue formation.

3. With which country has India conducted the 8th edition of joint military exercise 'Mitra Shakti 21' \_\_\_\_\_ **Sri Lanka.**

**Note:**

- The 12 days exercise is being conducted at Combat Training School in Sri Lanka's Ampara from October 4-15.
- The aim of the exercise is to promote close relations between armies of both countries and enhance interoperability and sharing best practices in counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations.
- The joint exercise is designed for incorporating the current dynamics of United Nations' peacekeeping operations through tactical exercises and practical discussions.

4. With which country India has conducted the 5th edition of bilateral maritime exercise 'JIMEX-21' in Arabian Sea \_\_\_\_\_

**Japan.**

**Note:**

- JIMEX series of exercises were introduced in January 2012 with special focus on maritime security cooperation.
- It involves weapon firings, cross-deck helicopter operations and complex surface, anti-submarine and air warfare drills will consolidate coordination developed by the two navies.

5. The 6th edition of annual Joint Military Exercise 'AJEYA WARRIOR' was held between India and which country \_\_\_\_\_

**United Kingdom.**

**Note:**

- It is a two-week long military exercise, that will culminate on October 20, 2021
- AJEYA WARRIOR: It is a joint military exercise between India and United Kingdom since 2013
- The exercise will further strengthen bilateral defence cooperation between the armies of the two countries and develop interoperability and sharing of expertise.

6. The Malabar Exercise is associated with which Armed force of India involving US, Japan and Australia \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian**

**Navy.**

**Note:**

- The Malabar series of exercises began as an annual bilateral naval exercise between India and the US in 1992.
- In 2015, Japan Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF) joined Malabar as a permanent member.
- The 2020 edition witnessed the participation of the Royal Australian Navy.
- The second phase of the multilateral maritime exercise was took place in the Bay of Bengal in October 2021.

7. NASA's Perseverance rover sent pictures of 'Jezero crater' revealing it was a quiet lake, the crater is in which planet \_\_\_\_\_

**Mars.**

**Note:**

- Perseverance rover was launched on July 30 last year and arrived at the red planet.
- Perseverance explored the floor of Jezero Crater, which was once a lake and a dried-out river delta at the crater's edge.
- Based on the detailed images sent by the six-wheeler rover on Mars, the team has now published first scientific results about the Jezero Crater delta in the journal Science.

8. India is set to host which naval exercise for which 46 countries have been invited and that would be its largest exercise \_\_\_\_\_

**Exercise Milan.**

**Note:**

- "Ex Milan is being planned for February 2022 and invites have been sent to 46 countries. Several of them have already confirmed their participation.

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