

Monthly Current Affairs August 2021



Monthly Current Affairs August 2021

Important News: State

'No helmet, no petrol' campaign launched in Nashik

- The campaign 'No Helmet, No Patrol' has been launched in Nashik from 15th August, 2021.
- Objective of the campaign: Saving the lives of the citizens.

Mumbai High Court partially stayed on new IT rules

- The Mumbai High Court adjourned the rules, citing important observations on Rule 9 (1) and Rule 9 (3) of the new IT rules of the Central Government.
- At the same time, Rule 14 and Rule 16 have not been adjourned by the bench.

Assam Becomes First State to Adopt Model Tenancy Act 2021

- The Assam Legislative Assembly passed the Model Tenancy Act of 2021 on August 13, and named it the Assam Tenancy Act 2021.
- Minister for the Department of Housing and Urban Affairs Ashok Singhal said that with this, Assam has become India's first State to adopt and implement the Model Tenancy Act.
- The Assam Tenancy Act 2021 will repeal the Assam Urban Areas Rent Control Act of 1972. Under the Assam Tenancy Act, a rent authority will be established to regulate the renting of premises and protect the interests of both landlords and tenants.

Tamil Nadu presents its separate agricultural budget

- Tamil Nadu will become the third state -- after Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh -- to have a separate agricultural budget.
- The tradition of having an exclusive budget for agriculture was started by Karnataka in 2011-12 in order to give a focused approach to the sector.
- Andhra Pradesh followed in 2013-14, terming it as a policy paper on agriculture.
- Though states like Telangana, Rajasthan and Bihar too had similar plans, they did not take off due to various legal and technical reasons.

Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation's zero waste resolution

- Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation has decided to have zero waste for a waste free city.
- **Objective:** The 'Zero Waste Slum Model', which disposes of slum waste in the same place, will now be implemented in all slum areas as well as villages and sector areas. So far, the scheme has been implemented in four slum areas of the city.
- **Duration:** The upcoming clean survey will start from 2nd October and preparations are underway. The survey will be conducted in three phases from August 15 to October 2, October 2 to December 31 and January 1 to April.

Digi locker at CSMT station

- For the safety of passengers' luggage, Central Railway has started digital smart clock rooms (Digi lockers) at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, Dadar and Lokmanya Tilak Terminus stations from August 15.

- This is the first project in the railways, a Central Railway official said. The service is made available to passengers through secure lockers, digital payment facility, use of RFID tags and online receipt creation.
- There will be a charge of Rs 30 per bag for 24 hours. Passengers can choose the locker according to the size of the luggage.
- Users will receive a receipt with a unique code. Upon showing this receipt, the concerned passenger will be given his bag again. Fully automated machines will require passenger travel details and scanning tags from the RPF.

Ghaziabad is the second most polluted city in the world

- In 2020, Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh was declared the second most polluted city in the world out of the 50 most polluted cities in the world, according to a report prepared by the British company Housefresh. Ghaziabad recorded an average air quality index (AQI) of 2.56 particulate matter (PM) at 106.6 micrograms per cubic meter.
- Prior to Ghaziabad, the Chinese city of Hotan in Xinjiang Province was declared the most polluted city with a PM_{2.5} of 110.2 g / m³. According to the report, air pollution in Hotton has caused sandstorms, resulting in the world's largest changing sand desert near the Taklimakan Desert.
- Of the 50 most polluted cities in the world, 49 are in Bangladesh, China, India and Pakistan. According to the report, Bangladesh was the most polluted country in the world in 2020, followed by Pakistan, India, and Mongolia. Meanwhile, Judbury in Australia tops the list of clean air cities with a PM_{2.5} level of 2.4µg / m³.

Inauguration of the first public charging station in the state in Mumbai

- The first public charging station for electric vehicles in the state was inaugurated in Mumbai. The centre was inaugurated by Environment Minister Aditya Thackeray.
- He announced that another public charging station would be set up in Mumbai soon. The car park has seven chargers of two types, four DC and three AC. With this, about 72 vehicles can be charged in 24 hours. This will include two-wheelers, three-wheelers and four-wheelers.
- Citizens can book and reserve parking online through the Autopark mobile app.

Important News: India

Maha e-crop survey launched, to be effective from 15 Aug, 2021

- Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray launched the e-crop survey initiative which will become effective in Maharashtra from August 15, 2021.
- The project, which was initially introduced as a pilot in two districts, is jointly implemented by the departments of revenue and agriculture along with the Tata Trust.
- **Objective:** This initiative to reduce the hardships of the farmers as it would provide them crop-related information without hassles.

Kaziranga Park is India's first national park to provide satellite phones to forest rangers

- Kaziranga National Park in Assam has become the first national park in India to be equipped with satellite phones. About 10 satellite phones have been donated to the forest workers of Kaziranga National Park.

- **Objective:** To promote anti-poaching measures.
- These satellites will be used in six categories of phone parks that have no wireless or poor mobile connectivity. So, it will help to take timely measures.

Union Minister Dr. Virendra Kumar showed the flag to 'Operation Blue Freedom'

- On the occasion of 75th Independence Day, Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Dr. Virendra Kumar showed the green flag to the world record campaign 'Operation Blue Freedom' from the Dr. Ambedkar International Center in New Delhi.
- Objective: Operation Blue Freedom involves a team of people with disabilities from across the country to reach the Siachen Glacier, to set a new world record, the largest team of people with disabilities to reach the world's highest battlefield.

4 more places in India were added to the Ramsar list

- Four more wetlands in India have been added to the list of Ramsar sites, which have been accorded the status of 'Wetlands of International Importance'.
- With this, the total number of Ramsar sites in India has reached 46, with a surface area of 1,083,322 hectares.
- These places have been recognized as wetlands of international importance under the Ramsar Sites
- Two of these sites are in Haryana, while the other two sites are in Gujarat.
- Four sites that have been included are:
 1. Thol from Gujarat
 2. Wadhvana from Gujarat,
 3. Sultanpur from Haryana and
 4. Bhindawas from Haryana.

Union government notified the Plastic Waste Management Reform Rules, 2021

- The government notified the Plastic Waste Management Reform Rules, 2021
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is all set to get rid of single use plastics by 2022. Considering the adverse effects of plastics on both terrestrial and aquatic environment, the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India has notified plastic waste management.
- Amendment rules, 2021, which prohibit single use plastic goods with low consumption and high waste capacity until 2022.
- The production, import, storage, distribution, sale and use of the following single-use plastics, including polystyrene and expanded polystyrene, will be prohibited from 1 July 2022.

Supreme Court allows girls to appear for NDA entrance exams

- Taking another important step towards gender equality, the Supreme Court opened the doors of the National Défense Academy (NDA) for girls. Criticizing the mentality of depriving girls of this opportunity, the court allowed them to take the NDA entrance test. The court also directed the Central Public Service Commission (UPSC) to issue a notification in this regard.
- One can enter the army through the three mediums 'NDA', 'IMA' and 'OTA'.

Review tour by the Parliamentary Standing Committee of the Ministry of Home Affairs in Jammu and Kashmir

- The four-day review tour of Jammu and Kashmir was initiated by the Parliamentary Standing Committee of the Home Ministry.

Purpose:

1. This committee will interact with the representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions and Urban Local Self Government Institutions.
2. Infrastructure, development and employment opportunities, trade, tourism, government schemes and various other issues will be discussed.

Participation:

1. Mayor of Srinagar city
2. Chairman of various Municipal Committees
3. President, Vice President of Zilla Vikas Parishad
4. President of Block Development Councils

Committee Leadership: MP Anand Sharma (Congress Leader)

Other Members: A total of 28 members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha

7-member panel set up to study hydrocarbon projects

- The Tamil Nadu government has set up a seven-member committee to study the discovery of hydrocarbon projects, which will be chaired by Sultan Ahmed Ismail, a part-time member, State Development Policy Council.
- The Department of the Environment said the committee, set up on August 17, would have the freedom to study areas other than the protected agricultural sector as the terms of reference have been amended.
- The study will be conducted in areas other than the Cauvery Delta region and will evaluate the impact of drilling techniques such as hydrofracturing on groundwater and the environment.
- The committee will also study whether the drilling will affect the ground as well as whether the tectonic plates below the research area have been destabilized.
- The impact of the project on the livelihood of the people in the area will also be the subject of study.

India's largest floating solar PV project launched in Andhra Pradesh

- NTPC has launched India's largest floating solar PV project with a capacity of 25 MW on the reservoir of Sinhadri Thermal Station at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh.
- Under the Flexibilization Scheme, the first solar project to be set up.
- The Central government notified this scheme Government in 2018.

- NTPC plans to set up a hydrogen-based micro-grid system at Sinhadri on an experimental basis.

About Floating Solar PV Project:

- NTPC's floating solar installation covers 75 acres of the surface of the Sinhadri reservoir.
- It will generate electricity from more than one million solar PV modules to light 7,000 homes.
- The project will save 46,000 tons of CO₂ emissions per year and save 1,364 million litres of water, which is enough to meet the needs of 6,700 households a year.

India, ADB sign 500 million loans to expand metro rail network in Bangalore

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India have signed a 500 million loan to expand the metro rail network in Bangalore with the construction of two new 56 km long metro lines.
- The project will create two new metro lines, mainly elevated, Outer Ring Road and National Highway 44, along with the Central Silk Board and Kempegowda International Airport with 30 stations.
- The new metro lines will further strengthen safe, affordable, and green mobility in Bangalore, positively impacting quality of life, sustainable increase in urban population, and livelihood opportunities.
- ADB President: Masatsugu Asakawa; Headquarters: Manila, Philippines.

Assam celebrates Vanchuwa Festival 2021

- The Tiwa tribes participate in the Vanchuwa festival in Assam and perform their traditional dances with ease. This festival is celebrated by the Tiwa tribes on the occasion of their good harvest. It is a group of songs, dances, rituals and people are dressed in their original costumes.
- Tiwa, also known as Lalung, is a tribal community living in the states of Assam and Meghalaya and is also found in parts of Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur. They are known as Scheduled Tribes in the State of Assam. They zoom or migrate farming.
- Governor of Assam: Jagdish Mukhi;
- Chief Minister of Assam: Himant Biswa Sarma.

Important News: India

Inauguration of India's highest herbal park in Uttarakhand

- India's tallest herbal park has been inaugurated at Mana village in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district.
- The herbal park is 11,000 feet high and is close to the Indo-China border.
- Mana is the last Indian village in Chamoli bordering China and is adjacent to the Badrinath Temple.
- The herbal park is home to about 40 species in the high alpine areas of the Himalayan region.

About the park

- The main purpose of this high-altitude herbal park is to conserve a variety of medicinal and culturally important alpine species and to conduct research on their propagation and

habitat environment.

- The park has been developed on an area of three acres given by the Man Forest Panchayat by the Research Branch of the Uttarakhand Forest Department.
- It has been developed in three years under the Compensation Forestry Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) scheme of the Central Government.
- According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) red list, as well as the State Biodiversity Board, many of these species are endangered and endangered.
- It also contains many important medicinal plants.

Committee to double handloom production

- The government set up an eight-member committee to double production and quadruple handloom exports in three years to boost the textile sector, which generates employment.
- The textile ministry set up a committee headed by Sunil Sethi, chairman of the Fashion Design Council of India, and said the panel would submit a final report within 45 days.
- Textile Minister Piyush Goyal has set a target to increase handloom production from Rs 60,000 crore to Rs 125,000 crore and handloom exports from Rs 2,500 crore to Rs 10,000 crore in three years.

About the committee

- It will suggest a policy and strategic framework to double the production and improve the quality of handloom products with the aim of increasing the income of weavers and suggest ways for partnership and collaboration of handloom weaver agencies to purchase designers, houses, and organizations.

The right of states to give reservations to the socially and economically backward classes

- President Ramnath Kovind has approved a bill that would give states the right to give reservations to the socially and economically backward classes.
- Parliament had approved the bill in the recently concluded session.
- The bill was introduced by the Ministry of Law and Justice.
- With the conversion of this bill into law, the state will get the right to bring the Maratha community in the state under the purview of the backward classes.
- The President has also approved the General Insurance Business Nationalization Amendment Bill.

MyGov and UN Women Nectar Festival contract to launch Women's Empowerment Challenge 2021

- MyGov and UN Women under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology have joined hands to launch the Amrit Mahotsav Stree Shakti Innovation Challenge 2021.
- This challenge aims to promote technological measures developed by women entrepreneurs related to the safety and empowerment of women.
- This initiative will promote 'Women Empowerment and help women achieve their full potential. Amrut Mahotsav is being implemented under Shri Shakti Challenge 2021 Multi-Partner Trust Fund (COVID-19) program.

Copenhagen tops the EIU's Safe Cities Index in 2021

- In the Safe Cities Index 2021 released by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), the Danish capital Copenhagen has been named as the safest city in the world out of 60 global cities. Copenhagen scored 82.4 points out of 100, topping the fourth edition of the EIU's biennial index, which measures the level of urban safety. Yangon is at the bottom of the index as the least safe city with 39.5 points.
- From India: New Delhi and Mumbai are ranked in the index. New Delhi is ranked 48th with 56.1 points, while Mumbai is ranked 50th with 54.4 points.

Top 10 safest cities in the world

1. Copenhagen
2. Toronto
3. Singapore
4. Sydney
5. Tokyo
6. Amsterdam
7. Wellington
8. Hong Kong
9. Melbourne
10. Stockholm

About Safe City Index 2021

- The EIU's Safe Cities Index is a global, strategic benchmarking tool developed to measure global, urban security. The index was first released in 2015.
- In 2021, cities are ranked based on 76 security indicators in five broad columns: digital, health, infrastructure, personal and environmental.
- Environmental protection is a new addition to the list of safety parameters for 2021.

Cities score between 0 and 100 where scores represent security in the following ways:

1. 0-25-less security
2. 25.1-50-Medium security
3. 50.1-75-High security
4. 75.1-100-Very high security

NCDEX launches GUAREX, India's first agricultural sector index

- Launched by GUAREX National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange Limited (NCDEX), India's first Regional Index of Agricultural Commodities Basket.
- GUAREX is a price-based sectoral index that tracks movements in guar gum refined splits and guar seed futures contracts. This index will give a lot of opportunity to the product value chain.
- The weightage of guarseed and guar gum refined splits will be 63 per cent and 37 per cent respectively. Index futures will be cash-settlement.
- Initially, Guarex futures contracts ending in September and October will be made available for trading.
- India is the world's largest producer of guar accounting for 80-85 per cent, while Rajasthan is the top producer in the country with 80 per cent market share.
- Guar seeds have been sown on 1.81 million hectares so far this year as against 2.25 million hectares in the same period last year.
- NCDEX CEO: Vijaykumar Venkataraman
- Establishment of NCDEX: 15 December 2003

- NCDEX Headquarters: Mumbai.

Ministry of Water Resources launched the 'Sujalam' campaign

- The Ministry of Water Resources has launched a 100-day campaign called Sujalam to create more open defecation free (ODF) plus villages by taking up wastewater management at the village level.
- The campaign will help manage wastewater and, in turn, help rehabilitate reservoirs through 1 million soak-pits and other gray water management initiatives.
- The campaign, which started on August 25, 2021, is part of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations.

Three focus areas:

1. Construction of 10 lakh soaked pits;
 2. Retrofitting of toilets and
 3. Access to toilets for new homes.
- Minister for Water Power: Gajendrasinh Shekhawat

Ministry of Electronics and IT launched a SAMRIDH program

- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has launched MeitY's Start-up Accelerator for the "Product Innovation, Development and Growth (SAMRIDH)" program.
- The program was inaugurated by Union Minister Shri Ashwini Vaishnav. The SAMRIDH program aims to create a conducive platform for Indian software product start-ups to grow their products and secure investments for their businesses.

About the event:

- The program is run by MeitY Start-up Hub (MSH). Over the next three years, the focus will be on accelerating 300 start-ups by providing customer connectivity, investor connectivity and international immersion. The investment will be paid up to Rs 40 lakh to start-ups by select accelerators.

Children's Climate Risk Index: UNICEF

- Recently, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in collaboration with Fridays for the Future released a report entitled 'The Climate Crisis is a Child Rights Crisis: Introducing the Children's Climate Risk Index'.
- This is the first comprehensive analysis of climate risk from a child's perspective.
- Children's Climate Risk Index: Sorts countries based on children's exposure to weather and environmental shocks, such as hurricanes and heat waves, as well as vulnerabilities to those shocks, based on access to their essential services.
- Pakistan (14th), Bangladesh (15th), Afghanistan (25th) and India (26th) are among the four South Asian countries where children are most at risk of the consequences of the climate crisis.

Indian Context

- India is one of the four South Asian countries where children are most at risk from the effects of climate change on their health, education and protection.
- It is estimated that more than 600 million Indians will face 'severe water scarcity' in the next few years, while flash floods will increase significantly in most urban areas of India as global temperatures rise by more than 2 degrees Celsius.
- In 2020, 21 of the 30 most polluted cities in the world were in India.

Important News: World

Taliban rule across Afghanistan, including Kabul

- Afghanistan has finally fallen to the Taliban. Afghan President Ashraf Ghani has left the country.
- Along with Gani, other leaders including NSA Hamdullah Mohib have also left the country. All of these leaders are said to have taken refuge in neighboring Tajikistan.
- Capital of Afghanistan: Kabul
- Parliament : Shura-e Milli (The National Assembly)



Meeting of BRICS Group's Agricultural Action Group chaired by India

- **Theme:** 'BRICS Partnership to Strengthen Agricultural Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition Security'
- The Ministers of Agriculture of Brazil, Russia, India, BRICS countries met under the chairmanship of India on 14 August 2021 through the Virtual System
- The Joint Declaration of the BRICS meeting between China and South Africa and the BRICS countries' Action Plan for Agricultural Cooperation for 2021 to 2024 were discussed at the meeting.
- **BRICS:** Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. The group was founded in 2006.

Piyush Goyal presides over the 5th meeting of BRICS Industry Ministers

- Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal called for expanding the horizons of the New Development Bank (NDB) under the chairmanship of the fifth meeting of BRICS industry ministers.
- India has the presidency of BRICS for 2021.
- Subject: This year, India elected Intra BRICS Cooperation for Sustainability, Consolidation and Consensus as its President.

Key highlights of the meeting

- The BRICS ministers said there was a need to adopt emerging new technologies, recognizing them as an important tool for modernizing and transforming the industry and promoting economic growth.
- He pledged to play a constructive role in the promotion of IPR and expressed his intention to cooperate with the NDB.

- The meeting concluded with ministers committed to working together as a group, sharing best practices and moving forward in a positive and constructive manner to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

'Unit Aware' technology announced to protect UN peacekeepers

- Foreign Minister Jaishankar chaired the UN Security Council's open discussion on maintaining peace at the UN headquarters in New York.
- He expressed India's support to the United Nations for launching United Aware, a technology platform for peacekeeping operations.

World Athletics U20 Championships in Nairobi

- The 2021 edition of the World Athletics U20 Championships has kicked off in Nairobi, Kenya.
- The Board of Governors said in a press release that Covid's impact on travel teams and the supply of critical equipment around the world has proven to be a challenge.
- The event was originally planned for 2020.
- The World U20 Championships are being held from 17 to 22 August 2021.

Sustainable Development Impact Summit of the World Economic Forum 2021

- The annual Sustainable Development Impact Summit of the World Economic Forum will be held on 20-23 September 2021 in Geneva, Switzerland.
- This year's program will focus on inclusive revival economies. The UN General Assembly Summit is organized under "An Equitable, Inclusive and Sustainable Recovery".
- It will welcome all leaders in a sustainable, business and civil society who will work together to act and accelerate for a more sustainable and inclusive future.
- The meeting will examine four interdependent areas and bring communities together to move forward with ongoing project work.

Impact sessions and briefings will focus on:

1. Revival of economies
2. Advancing comprehensive recovery
3. Enhancing weather action
4. Shaping the future food system

World's first fossil-free steel firm in Sweden

- Swedish green steel venture HYBRIT, the world's first consumer distributor of steel produced without coal.
- The steel hydrogen breakthrough was made using ironmaking technology, which uses 100% fossil-free hydrogen instead of coal and coke.
- The venture has begun distributing fossil-free steel to the Volvo Group.
- The hybrid project was established in 2016 and is owned by SSAB, energy firm Watanfall and LKAB, a mining and mineral group.
- The Swedish state owns both Watanfall and LKAB. The idea behind the hybridization is to use "100% fossil-free hydrogen" instead of coal and coke in steel production.

Dubai has set up a special court to deal with money laundering

- A Dubai court has announced the establishment of a special court to deal with money laundering and a special court of appeal.
- This court has been added to a string of initiatives aimed at reducing economic crime and follows the establishment of an executive office against recent money laundering and terrorist financing.
- This step will enable our stakeholders to effectively implement the National AML / CFT Policy and National Action Plan and increase their efficiency in achieving its goals through a robust and sustainable system.

Ajit Doval presides over the 11th BRICS NSA Virtual Meeting

- The 11th meeting of the BRICS High Representative for National Security was held via video conferencing. India's National Security Adviser Ajit Doval chaired the 2021 BRICS Summit. The 15th BRICS Summit will be held in September 2021. The BRICS meeting of the NSA provided a platform for the five countries to strengthen political-security cooperation.
- Russia's Security Council Secretary-General Patrushev, Chinese Politburo member Yang Jiechi, South African Minister of State for Security Nosediso Gudenoff Kodawa and General Augusto Helno Ribeiro Pereira, Minister of State and head of the Brazilian President's Institutional Security Cabinet were present. High level meeting.
 1. At the BRICS NSA meeting, the BRICS Summit adopted and recommended the BRICS Counter-Terrorism Action Plan for consideration.
 2. NSA Ajit Doval and other senior BRICS security officials discussed the situation in Afghanistan and developments in Iran, West Asia and the Gulf region.
 3. The purpose of the Plan of Action is to finance and combat terrorists, to prevent terrorists from misusing the Internet, to curb the movement of terrorists, border control, protection of soft targets, exchange of information, capacity building, and strengthening existing mechanisms of cooperation in regional and regional areas. International cooperation.

Greater Male Connectivity Project: Maldives

- Recently, the Indian company Afcons has signed a contract for the largest infrastructure project in the Maldives, the Greater Malley Connectivity Project (GMCP).
- The project is the result of bilateral consultations between India and the Maldives and has been under discussion since the Indian Foreign Minister's visit to Male in September 2019.
- It will have a 6.74 km long bridge and causeway link between Male and the nearby islands of Willingly, Gulifalhu and Thilafushi. It will use renewable energy.
- The project is funded by a grant of US 100 million and a Line of Credit (LOC) of US 400 million.
- This is the largest project India is doing in the Maldives.

Important News: Economy

Reserve Bank announces 'Financial Inclusion Index'

- The annual index was announced on Tuesday to measure the country's financial inclusion and assess the ongoing reforms. This was stated by the central bank at its first bi-monthly credit policy review meeting in April this year.
- By capturing information on various aspects of financial inclusion, the index will be a

measure of its quality. The Financial Inclusion Index (FI Index) will be released in July each year. The Government and the regulators of the sector will be consulted on the basis of details collected from various financial services components such as banking, investment, insurance postage as well as pensions.

- What will be achieved from the index?
- The universality of financial services and tools, whether they are accessible and available to all, and their use and the quality of service will be measured.

RBI revokes license of Karnala Nagari Sahakari Bank in Raigad

- RBI revokes license of Karnala Nagari Sahakari Bank in Raigad
- The Reserve Bank of India has revoked the license of Raigad-based Karnala Nagari Sahakari Bank Limited in Maharashtra.
- According to the Reserve Bank of India, Karnala Nagari Sahakari Bank's license was revoked due to insufficient capital and earning potential and its continuation would adversely affect the depositors. An appointment has been requested.
- The RBI has said that 95 per cent of depositors will get the full amount of their deposits from the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation.
- Each depositor will be entitled to receive a deposit sum assured of up to a financial limit of Rs. 5 lakhs.

Four-tier structure for urban co-operative banks proposed

- Recently, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has proposed a four-tier structure for Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs).
- The central government in June 2020 approved an ordinance to bring all urban and multi-state co-operative banks under the direct supervision of the RBI.
- The RBI amended the Supervisory Action Framework (SAF) for UCBs in January 2020.

Classification of civic co-operative banks

- Depending on the cooperative banks, availability of capital and other factors, UCB can be classified into four levels for regulatory purposes:
 1. Tier 1: All unit UCBs and salaried UCBs (regardless of deposit size) and all other UCBs with deposits up to Rs 100 crore.
 2. Tier 2: UCB with deposits of Rs 100 crore to Rs 1,000 crore.
 3. Tier 3: UCBs with deposits of Rs 1,000 crore to Rs 10,000 crore.
 4. Tier 4: UCB with deposits of over Rs 10,000 crore.
- For this the minimum capital to risk-weighted asset ratio can vary from 9% to 15% and there may be Basel III prescribed standards for 4 UCBs.

RBI includes beneficiaries of PM Swanidhi Yojana under PIDF scheme

- The Reserve Bank of India has announced the inclusion of Tier-1 and Tier-2 centre vendors as beneficiaries of the Payment Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) scheme as part of PM Street Vendor's Self-Reliance Fund (PM Swanidhi Yojana).
- The Payment Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) scheme was launched by the RBI to encourage the deployment of Points of Sale (POS) infrastructure (both physical and digital modes) in tier-3 to tier-6 centres and northeastern states.
- So now the RBI has allowed road vendors, especially Tier-1 and Tier-2 centres, to be part of the PIDF scheme. Path vendors from Tier-3 to Tier-6 centres will be covered under the scheme by default. PIDF currently has Rs. 345 crores.

Important News: Defense

HAL tested Hindustan-228 aircraft

- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), a public sector undertaking of the Ministry of Defence, has successfully tested the ground for the construction of a Hindustan-228 civil aircraft.
- It is a 19-seat multirole utility aircraft. It is based on the existing frame of the military aircraft Dornier 228. This civilian version will be used for recreational activities such as air ambulance, VIP transport, passenger transport, cloud seeding, flight inspection role and para jumping, photography.
- Hindustan-228 aircraft has been manufactured for the purpose of supporting the UDAN-Regional Connectivity Scheme. It will be used by civil operators and the state government for their inter-state and inter-state connectivity by providing support for their training and maintenance and logistics.

INS Tabar participates in Exercise Konkan 2021 with the British Royal Navy

- INS Tabar is participating in a bilateral exercise between the Indian Navy and the Royal Navy in the UK to enhance military cooperation between the two sides.
- The Konkan 2021 exercise began with a maritime intervention exercise with HMS Westminster before arriving in the port of Portsmouth on 12 August.

Indian Navy conducted bilateral naval exercises with Vietnam

- Objectives: The Indian Navy and the Vietnam People's Navy (VPN) conducted bilateral naval exercises in the South China Sea to strengthen defense ties between the two navies.
- Participation: From India, INS Ranvijay and INS Kora participated in the exercise and VPNS Ly Thai To (HQ-012) frigate participated in the drill from Vietnam People's Navy (VPN).

"Jajba-e-Tiranga" relay marathon in Jammu and Kashmir

- In Jammu and Kashmir, the Army conducted a 400 km "Jajba-e-Tiranga" relay marathon. The event was flagged off.
- Leadership: Major General Rajiv Puri was the General Officer Commanding of the Spads Division leading the relay.
- Participation: More than 300 troops, including the Indian Tricolor, participated in the Line of Control (LoC).
- Objective: The race evoked a sense of brotherhood, as each soldier carried the national flag, a symbol of comradeship in the area of responsibility (AOR), which he handed over to other units standing shoulder to shoulder in battle.

Rajnath Singh launches Defense India Startup Challenge - DISC 5.0

- Defense Minister Rajnath Singh launched the Defense India Startup Challenge on 19 August 2021 in New Delhi under the Defense Innovation Organization (iDEX -DIO) initiative. Challenge - DISC) 5.0 launched.
- The Ministry of Defense has allocated Rs 1,000 crore for domestic procurement through

iDEX initiative for the financial year 2021-2022.

- The Department of Defense Production, Ministry of Defense has sanctioned budgetary support of Rs 498.80 crore for iDEX for the next 5 years from 2021-22 to 2025-26.
- DISC: DISC is a platform where governments, services, think tanks, industries, startups and innovators can help the defense and aerospace sectors reach their full potential by creating a strong, modern and well-equipped military and equally capable and self-reliant defense industry.

Malabar naval exercise

- The navies of India, US, Australia, and Japan are ready to conduct Malabar naval exercises from 26 August 2021.
- The sea exercise will be conducted on the island of Guam, which is a territory of the United States. It is 2,500 km east of the Philippines.
- The annual exercise will be four days.
- It will be organized with the objective of enhancing inter-efficiency, gaining best practices and developing a general understanding of the procedures required for maritime security operations.
- A series of complex surface, underwater and aerial operations will be conducted as part of the drill.

About Malabar Exercise

- Malabar Exercise is an annual naval exercise in the navies of India, Japan, Australia and the USA. It is held alternately in the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean.

Indo-Qatar joint naval exercise, "Zair-al-Bahr"

- The 2nd edition of the joint naval exercise 'Zaire-al-Bahr' between the Indian Navy and the Qatari Emir Naval Forces (QENF) was held from 9 to 14 August.
- This version of the exercise consisted of a two-day sea phase followed by a three-day port phase.
- The marine phase includes strategic maritime exercises, including surface operations, air defence, anti-piracy exercises, maritime surveillance, SAR exercises, and boarding operations.
- The Indian Navy's stealth frigate INS Trikand in the sea phase of the exercise, QENF's Barzan and Damsah range missile boats, MRTP 34 class fast-attack craft and Raphael fighter jets.
- Qatar Capital: Doha (Doha); Currency: Qatari Rial.
- Prime Minister of Qatar: Sheikh Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdulaziz Al Thani (Sheikh Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdelaziz Al Thani).

"KAZIND-21" Exercise

- The 5th edition of the Indo-Kazakhstan Joint Training Exercise, "Kazind-21" will be held from 30 August to 11 September 2021 at Training Node, Ayesha BB, Kazakhstan.
- The joint training exercise will boost bilateral ties between India and the Kazakh military. The exercise is also a platform for the armed forces of India and Kazakhstan to train for counter-insurgency / counter-terrorism operations in mountainous, rural conditions as ordered by the United Nations.

- The detachment of the Indian Army, represented by a battalion of the Bihar Regiment, consists of a total of 90 jawans led by a contingent commander.
- The company group will represent the Kazakh army. The scope of the joint exercise includes professional exchange in counter-terrorism environment at sub-unit level, planning and execution of operations and sharing skills in weapons, combat shooting and experience in counter-insurgency / counter-terrorism operations.
- Prime Minister of Kazakhstan: Askar Mamin, Capital: Nur-Sultan, Currency: Kazakhstani Tenge.

Schemes

Pradhan Mantri Gatishakti Yojana announced

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced a Rs 100 lakh crore 'Pradhan Mantri Gatishakti Yojana' to provide employment opportunities to the youth of the country. Through this scheme, along with employment, the country's infrastructure will be strengthened.

"Ubharte Sitaare Fund " scheme

- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman launched an ambitious " Ubharte Sitaare Fund" scheme for export-oriented companies and start-ups in Lucknow.
- Purpose: The purpose of this fund is to provide funds to micro, small and medium enterprises. The fund has been raised by Exim Bank and SIDBI.
- In last year's budget speech, Sitharaman had said that micro, small and medium enterprises (SMEs) have an important role to play in boosting the economy.
- These industries create jobs, create innovation, and take risks.
- Today we are seeing the positive results of the steps taken by the Central Government in the last 2 years and the position of our country in the world has become stronger.
- Every district in Uttar Pradesh will benefit from the "Emerging Stars Fund" scheme.
- He also lauded the 'One District One Product' scheme in Uttar Pradesh.

Awards and Honours

International Tabla Competition held in Qatar

- The Indian team achieved spectacular success at the Skills Development Center in Qatar.
- The International Online Tabla Competition organized by the Indian School of Music, Bangalore in September 2020.
- The competition organised in three groups:
 1. sub-junior (5 to 8 years),
 2. junior (9 to 12 years) and
 3. senior (13 to 16 years).

Qatar's group winners are as follows:

- Sub-Junior: Arav Gaikwad (No. 1), Shashank Karunakaran (No. 4), Ishaan Parkhi (No. 5)
- Junior: Sneha Savalia (No. 3), Manjunath Vijay, Adinath Rajiv (No. 4), Sarthak Kankaria (No. 5)
- Senior Group: Pranjali Mulik (2nd), Hrishikesh Rupakula (3rd), Aarit Koshti (5th)

A new world record set by Lieutenant Colonel Laxmidhar Bhuyan

- Lieutenant Colonel Laxmidhar Bhuyan set a world record by setting an hour-on-wheel on a 20 feet high ladder in Nashik.
- Dignitaries present at the occasion:
Laxmidhar set up this unbreakable record in front of observers of Guinness Book of World Records, Asia Book, Limca Book, America Book of Records.

Geeta Samota became the first CAPF officer to measure the height of Mount Elbrus

- CISF's Geeta Samota became the first Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) officer to scale Mt Elbrus, which is the highest peak in Europe.
- Sub Inspector Geeta Samota has scaled Mount Elbrus in Russia, the highest peak in Europe, the CISF.
- With this, the 31-year-old became the first Central Armed Police Forces officer to achieve the feat.

Maharashtra Police wins 67 Presidential Medals

- On the eve of Independence Day, the Home Department announced the Police Bravery, Quality Service and Presidential Medals, in which the Maharashtra Police won 67 medals.
- Award winners: State Intelligence Commissioner Ashutosh Dumbare, Nashik Rural Sub-Inspector of Police Ashok Ahire, Yavatmal Highway Security Squad Sub-Inspector Vinod Kumar Tiwari have been awarded the President's Police Medal for outstanding service.

Maharashtra State Mahakavi Kalidas Sanskrit Sadhana Award announced

- Sanskrit awards announced, Maharashtra State Mahakavi Kalidas Sanskrit Sadhana Award announced.

Award winners:

- 2018: Pt. Krishnashastri Joshi, Pt. Dattatraya Muravane, Dr. Hema Dole, Dr. Vijaya Joshi, Dr. Indu Deshpande, Dr. Rajni Joshi, Sanjeev Labhe, Dr. Harshdev Madhav,
- 2019: Pt. Srihari Dhayagude, Pt. Ravindra Paithane, Dr. Jyotsna Khare, Dr. Pragya Deshpande, Dr. Madhusudan Penna, Dr. Mahesh Deokar, Dr. Ajay Nilangekar, Pvt. Pushpa Dixit,
- 2020: Pt. Rajeshwar Vishwa Shastri Deshmukh Ghodjekar, Pt. Deshik Narayan Kasture, Dr. Gajanan Ambhore, Dr. Madhavi Joshi, Dr. Malhar Kulkarni, Dr. Kalpana Athalye, Tarangini Khot, Anand Tirtha Vagaspinge have been awarded.

2021 Young Scientist Award To Rakesh Joshi

- Insect infestation costs farmers crores of rupees every year. Also, farmers have to lose their lives due to ingestion of pesticides. As a solution to this, the biochemist at the National Chemical Laboratory, Dr. trying to find chemicals that can only be applied to insects. Rakesh Joshi is doing it.
- For this contribution, he was awarded the 'Young Scientist: 2021'

award by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).

- Originally from Nashik, Dr. Joshi completed his degree in KTHM Biotechnology. He did his post graduate education at Modern College, Pune. He then did his PhD in NCL. Savitribai Phule was a Professor in the Department of Bioinformatics and Biotechnology (IBB) at Pune University for five years.
- The award honours scientists under the age of 35 in the country and who have done remarkable work in research. This year, seven young scientists were honoured

Honouring two teachers from the state at the national level

- Two teachers from Zilla Parishad schools in the state have been honoured at the national level. Khurshid Sheikh from Gadchiroli district and Umesh Khose from Osmanabad district have been awarded the National Teacher Award by the Union Ministry of Education.
- The Union Ministry of Education announced the National Teacher Awards on Tuesday. This year, a total of 44 teachers have received the award. Due to Corona's outbreak, the award process was conducted online again this year. Khurshid Sheikh and Umesh Khose were the recipients of the award. Therefore, the success achieved by teachers in rural areas has been significant.

Raunak won the Spielbergo Open

- Young Indian Grandmaster Raunak Sadhwani won the 19th Spillimbergo Open Chess Tournament here on Sunday with seven points from nine rounds. The 15-year-old Sadhwani (Elo 2579) remained unbeaten in the tournament, winning five and drawing four. The fourth-ranked Indian faced five GMs in the tournament, defeating Oscar Vizorek of Poland and drawing his game against four others. His victories were against Joshua Capelleto of Italy, Aaron Pasti of Hungary, Lorezno Lodici of Italy and Loic Travadon of France.
- He played in the ninth and final round against Hungarian GM Adam Kozak. Sadhwani and Italy general manager Pierre Luigi Baso were level on seven points after nine rounds, but the Indians topped the standings on the basis of good tiebreak points.
- The Indian GM had won the St. Viter Jacques Lemon Open international rating competition in Austria last month. Indian Grandmaster R Vaishali is 14th with six points and was the best in the women's event. He recorded four wins except one draw and one defeat.
- His victory was overshadowed by Italy's top-ranked GM Michel Godena. More than 120 players took part in the tournament.

Books and Authors

A book on "Operation Khukri" was published by CDS General Rawat

- CDS General Bipin Rawat was presented with the book "Operation Khukhari" by authors Major General Rajpal Punia and Mrs. Damini Punia.
- The book sheds light on the Indian Army's successful rescue operation in Sierra Leone as part of the United Nations.
- The year was 2000, Sierra Leone in West Africa, devastated by years of civil strife.
- Due to the UN intervention, two companies of the Indian Army were deployed at Kailahun as part of the UN peacekeeping operation.

Important Days



Puducherry celebrated De-Jure Transfer Day

- De Jure Transfer Day is being celebrated today in Puducherry. Assembly Speaker R. Selvam laid a wreath at a monument built in the remote village of Kijur in Puducherry. The transfer of power took place on this day in 1962.
- The Memorandum of Understanding between the French and Indian Governments was ratified by the French Parliament on 16 August 1962. So on that day the "de-jury" (legal merger of the Union Territory) came into force. The referendum was attended by 178 delegates with 170 voting in favor of joining India and 8 against.

Sports

World Cup archery 2021

- The Indians continued their impressive performance on the last day of the Youth World Cup in Wroclaw, Poland. Earned a whopping five gold medals.
- In the compound division, the Indians won three gold, two silver and two bronze medals in the under-18 and under-21 age groups. Today, Indian archers won gold in the under-18 recurve event.
 - India's gold medalists
 - Cadets: Vishal Chengmei, Amit Kumar, Vicky Rahul
 - Cadet Mixed: Tamanna and Bishal Chengmai
 - Junior boys Sandhik Partha: Salunkhe, Aditya Chaudhary, Dheeraj Bomdev
 - Junior Mixed Team: Komalika Bari, Parth Salunkhe
 - Junior Girls: Komalika Bari

Hockey star Vandana Kataria becomes Uttarakhand Women and Child Development Ambassador

Hockey star Vandana Kataria becomes Uttarakhand Women and Child Development Ambassador

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama has announced that Vandana Kataria, a member of the Indian women's hockey team, will be the state's brand ambassador for women's empowerment and child development. The announcement was made at an event organized to honor the winners of the Tilu Routledge Award and Anganwadi Sevika Award. Earlier, Dhama had announced a cash prize of Rs 25 lakh to Indian women's hockey player Vandana Kataria for her outstanding performance in the Tokyo Olympics.

India's mixed team won the relay bronze medal

- India's mixed relay team won a bronze medal in the 4x400m World Youth (Under-20) Athletics Championships.
- The medal winners of the World Youth Athletics Championships are as follows
- B. Sridhar, Kapil Priya Mohan, Sumi - Mishra Relay - 2021 - Bronze

Reports and Indexes

India ranks second in the global manufacturing risk index

- India has emerged as a global manufacturing hub and has effectively overtaken the US to become the second most sought-after manufacturing hub in the world.
- It reflects the growing interest in India by producers compared to other countries, including

the United States and the giant country in the manufacturing sector, China.

- Cushman & Wakefield's 2021 Global Manufacturing Risk Index ranks India. There are 47 countries in the index in Europe, America, and the Asia Pacific.

About the Global Product Risk Index

- Based on the most favourable locations for international production, Cushman & Wakefield's Manufacturing Risk Index report ranks countries by several factors:
 1. Risk and cost factors
 2. Political and economic risks
 3. Market conditions and labour costs market access

Target to include 100 seismic observatories

- The government has recently announced that another 35 seismic observatories will be set up in India by the end of 2021 and aims to include 100 seismic observatories by 2026.
- The announcement was made at the opening ceremony of the joint scientific conference of the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronautics-IAGA-International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth Interior-IASPEI.

About the Earthquake Observatory:

- The National Center for Seismology (under the Ministry of Earth Sciences) is the nodal agency of the Government of India for monitoring seismic activity in the country.
- There are currently only 115 seismic observatories in India.
- The most important aspect of an earthquake observatory is to accurately predict the timing of an earthquake.

New Appointments

SC Collegium has recommended the names of 3 women judges

- Among these three women judges recommended by the Collegium of the Supreme Court
 1. Karnataka High Court. Justice B.V. Nagarathana
 2. Telangana High Court Justice Hema Kohli
 3. Gujarat High Court Justice Bela M Trivedi
- Karnataka High Court Justice B. V. Nagarathana could become the next and first woman Chief Justice (CJI) in 2027.
- Telangana High Court Justice Hima Kohli is the first woman Chief Justice of the state. She was sworn in as the Chief Justice of the Telangana High Court on 07 January 2021. Earlier, she was a judge of the Delhi High Court.

Justice Vidyasagar Kanade became the new Lokayukta of Maharashtra

- Justice Vidyasagar Muralidhar Kanade was sworn in as the new Lokpal of the state at Raj Bhavan. He was administered the oath of office by Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari.
- Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray and Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar were present on the occasion.
- Former Lokayukta: Justice ML Tahaliyani's term as Lokayukta ended in August 2020 and has been vacant ever since.
- Justice More information about Kanade
- Justice Kanade started his career as a lawyer in the Mumbai High Court.
- Judge in Mumbai High Court Kanade was appointed on October 12, 2001.
- He was appointed as the Chief Justice in charge of the Mumbai High Court from December 2 to December 9, 2015 and from January 15 to January 20, 2016.

- Judgment has been made in 34000 cases in his career
- Legal reports cite more than 1,200 results.

Appointment of Shantilal Jain as MD and CEO of Indian Bank

- Shantilal Jain has been appointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Indian Bank for a period of three years.
- He will replace Padmaja Chundurur as MD and CEO of Indian Bank. He is currently the Executive Director (ED) at Bank of Baroda.
- The Cabinet Appointments Committee (ACC) has appointed Jain as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Indian Bank for a period of three years from the date of assumption of office or from 1st September 2021.
- The proposed services of the Department of Finance have been approved. Jain's appointment can be extended for two years, depending on his performance, or until he reaches retirement age (January 31, 2024).

Appointment of Nakul Chopra as Chief Executive Officer of BARC India

- The Television Monitoring Agency Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC) has announced the appointment of Nakul Chopra as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) with effect from 25 August 2021.
- Former CEO Sunil Lulla has resigned to fulfill his ambitions as an entrepreneur.
- Chopra joined the BARC India board in 2016.
- In January 2020, he was appointed a member of the BARC's oversight committee.
- A veteran of the media and advertising industry, he has previously served as CEO of Publicis Worldwide in India and South Asia for more than a decade.

Indian Army has promoted 5 women officers to the rank of Colonel

- The Indian Army has promoted five women officers to the rank of colonel. These women officers have received this honour in recognition of their service to the Army during their 26 years of service.
- This is the first time that female officers serving in Signal Corps, Electronic and Mechanical Engineers Corps and Corps of Engineers have been approved for the post of Colonel.
- Earlier, only female officers of the Army Medical Corps, Judge Advocate General and Army Education Corps were promoted to the rank of Colonel.
- Women officers serving in various branches of the Indian Army will be given more opportunities for their work by paving the way for their promotion.

Abhay Kumar Singh appointed as Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Co-operation

- Abhay Kumar Singh has been appointed as Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Co-operation. The ministry has recently been set up with the aim of strengthening the co-operative movement in the country. The appointment of Abhay Kumar Singh has been approved by the Cabinet Appointments Committee headed by Prime Minister Modi.
- Singh, a 2004-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer from the Bihar cadre, has been appointed joint secretary in the ministry.
- Union Minister for Co-operation: Amit Shah.

Sandeep Bakshi appointed as Director, ICICI Bank



- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the reappointment of Sandeep Bakshi as MD and CEO of ICICI Bank.
 - It will apply from 15 October 2021 to 3 October 2023.
 - At the Annual General Meeting held on August 9, 2021, the stakeholders had already approved the appointment of Mr. Bakshi for an effective period from October 15, 2021.
 - Following the exit of his predecessor Chanda Kochhar following the ICICI Bank-Videocon loan dispute, his mentor- K.V. Bakshi, selected by Kamath and N. Waghul, took office in October 2018.
1. ICICI Bank Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
 2. ICICI Bank Tagline: Hum Hai Na,; Khayal Apka

Hitendra Dave appointed as CEO of HSBC India

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the appointment of Hitendra Dave as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of HSBC Bank (India).
- The RBI has approved it for a period of three years from August 24, 2021.
- In June 2021, HSBC announced the appointment of Hitendra Dave as the Chief Executive Officer of HSBC India.
- Dave replaces Surendra Rosha, who is moving to Hong Kong after three years as co-chief executive of HSBC, Asia-Pacific.
- Hitendra Dave was formerly Head of Global Banking and Markets at HSBC India.
- HSBC Bank India Headquarters: Mumbai
- Establishment of HSBC Bank India: 1853

Obituaries

Veteran writer Chandrakant Mahamine passed away

- Senior writer Chandrakant Mahamin passed away in Nashik today.
- He was 87 years old.
- Traveling in various fields of literature, Mahamin wrote about a hundred books of comedy plays, plays and stories.
- He had received many awards like State Government's Best Literary Award, Tararani Modak Award, Jeevan Gaurav Award of Nashik Public Library.
- He has written autobiographies from Khanawal to Lihinwal.

Miscellaneous

'IndiGau', India's first Cattle Genomic Chip

- Recently, National Institute of Animal Biotechnology (NIAB), Hyderabad has launched a chip called IndiGau.
- It is India's first Cattle Genomic Chip for the conservation of pure varieties of indigenous cattle breeds like Gir, Kankrej, Sahiwal, Ongole etc.
- NIAB is an Indian autonomous research establishment of the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology.

August 14 will be celebrated as Partition Horrors Remembrance Day:

- Pakistan was created as a Muslim country after the partition of India by the British in 1947. Millions were displaced and millions lost their lives in religious violence.
- August 14 will now be commemorated as **Partition** Horrors Remembrance Day to commemorate the struggles and sacrifices of the people.

'TAPAS' Online Platform

- The Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched an online website / forum / portal called **TAPAS** Training for Augmenting Productivity and Services.
- **Objective:** The main objective of the training is to develop the skills of the trainees by involving them in training and enhancing their knowledge and abilities.

Highlights

1. The match has been developed in collaboration with the National Institute of Social Security (NIC) and the Ministry.
2. It can be used by anyone who wants to increase their knowledge in a subject. There will be no charge for this,
3. Persecution of Addicts Caring for the Elderly, Care and Management of Dementia sufferers Third party questions and comprehensive study on social protection are the 5 basic courses.
4. It contains embodied lectures and e-courses. This includes forums for help to encourage trainees and course participants to interact with each other.

Announcement of 'My Metro Festival 2021'

- Like every year, Mumbai Metro One Private Limited (MMOPL) has announced 'My Metro Festival 2021' and this year my Metro Festival based on the concept of 'Rang De Metro' will be held.
- **Purpose:** This provides citizens, students and artists with the opportunity to paint a metro station from their concept.
- **Duration:** The festival will start from Tuesday, August 17 and those interested can register for it. The festival will run until December 17.
- When did it start? Versova-Andheri-Ghatkopar Metro 1 'route was launched in June 2014. Since the launch of 'Metro 1', MMOPL has been implementing 'My Metro Festival'.

The HCL Foundation launched the 'My e-Hat' portal to empower artisans

- The HCL Foundation, the corporate social responsibility arm of HCL Technologies, has launched the online portal 'My e-Hat' to empower artisans and strengthen the value chain of the handicraft sector in the country.
- **Purpose:** The platform will enable artisans and primary manufacturers to show their products directly to customers and showcase them, thereby reducing informal intermediaries and long supply chains.
- Currently, more than 30 partners from eight states are listed on the portal with over 600 products.

Door darshan started the second season of the travelogue program "Rag Rag Mein Ganga"

- Door darshan started the second season of the travelogue program "Rag Rag Mein Ganga"
- Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting Shri Anurag Thakur today unveiled the second episode of the successful travelogue Rug Rug Mein Ganga along with Union Minister for Water Resources Shri Gajendrasinh Shekhawat and Union Minister of State for Water and Food Processing Industries Shri Pralhad Singh Patel.
- The 26-part travelogue is presented by well-known actor Rajiv Khandelwal and will air every Saturday and Sunday night from 21st August 2021 on DD National at 8:30 p.m.
- Minister Anurag Thakur noted that the series 'Ramayana' and 'Mahabharat' were very popular among the audience during the lockdown as they connected people to their heritage.
- He said, 'Rug Rug Mein Ganga' season-1 was also watched by a large audience.
- He mentioned that proper content should be created so that television can catch more eyeballs.
- In the next three to four years, Door darshan will become the most watched channel, the Minister said.
- He further said that the channel will create the right content for the platform to bring viewers to television.

AIIMS became the first hospital in the country to have a fire station on the Delhi campus

- AIIMS became the first hospital in the country to have a fire station on the Delhi campus
- The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi has become the first hospital in India to set up a fire station in the hospital premises to deal with any emergency situation.
- AIIMS has partnered with the Delhi Fire Service (DFS).
- AIIMS will provide the infrastructure for the fire station, while fire tenders, equipment and manpower will be managed by DFS.
- Director of AIIMS: Randeep Guleria.

Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha launched the 'Proof app'

- Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha has unveiled a mobile application called PROOF (Proof) to bring more transparency and accountability in the administration system.
- PROOF stands for 'On-Site Facility Photographic.
- Main Objective: It will monitor the projects in a timely manner and complete them on time. Details of all the projects in this application along with complete geo-tagged photographs will now be available to the public through the Empowerment Portal.
- The app will provide a complete pictorial view of the work along with its geographical index i.e. latitude and longitude and user comments on the progress of the work.

Hurun Global 500 Most Valuable Companies list 2021 Apple tops

- According to the Hurun Global 500 Most Valuable Companies List 2021, Apple is the world's most valuable company (USD 2,443

billion). The world's top six valuable companies remained unchanged as Apple, Microsoft, Amazon, Alphabet, Facebook and Tencent.

- Globally, with 243 US-led companies, up one place; It is followed by China with 47, down four places, Japan with 30 and the UK at fourth with 24. Whereas India is ranked 9th with 12 companies.

Sanskrit Week 2021 between 19th to 25th August

- In 2021, India is celebrating Sanskrit Week from 19th to 25th August 2021 to increase, popularize and preserve the importance of ancient languages.
- In 2021, Sanskrit Day will be celebrated on 22nd August 2021.
- This day is celebrated on the full moon day of the month of Shravan, which is also celebrated every year on the occasion of Rakshabandhan.
- In 1969, the Government of India declared the first World Sanskrit Day on the occasion of Raksha Bandhan.

Delhi-Chandigarh Highway India's first EV-friendly highway

- With a network of solar-based electric vehicle charging stations, the Delhi-Chandigarh highway has become the first EV-friendly highway in the country.
- Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) had set up a network of stations under the FAME-1 (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid) and Electric Vehicles) scheme of the Ministry of Heavy Industries.
- Union Heavy Industries Minister (MHI) Mahendranath Pandey remotely inaugurated a state-of-the-art charging station at Karna Lake Resort.

Inauguration of the country's first smog tower

- Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal will inaugurate the country's first smog tower on August 23, 2021 at Baba Kharak Singh Marg, Connaught Place.
- The smog tower will clean 1,000 cubic meters of air per second and reduce PM2.5 and PM10 levels in Delhi.
- The smog-tower, built at a cost of Rs 20 crore, will go a long way in this regard.
- The smog tower will work at full strength after the rains.
- Scientists from the Delhi Pollution Control Committee will evaluate the tower's performance accordingly and submit monthly reports. ”

BPCL launches AI-enabled chatbot 'URJA'

- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) launched an AI-enabled chatbot called Urja to provide customers with a seamless self-service experience and a platform for quick resolution of queries/problems.
- URJA is the first chatbot in the oil and gas industry in India.
- URJA is launched under BPCL's Project Experience and currently supports 13 languages.
- Intending to make BPCL's customer interface comprehensive and integrated digital, energy chatbot is now available on the company's website for both B2B and B2C queries.
- Under Project URJA, Energy represents an integrated communication platform that connects all BPCL communications to any channel, bringing together all customer contact points with a single and unified voice.

"Yuktadhara" portal

- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Jitendra Singh of the Union Ministry of Science and Technology launched a new geospatial planning portal under Bhuvan called "Yuktadhara" to enable new MGNREGA assets using GIS-based information and remote sensing.
- The portal has been jointly developed by the efforts of the Ministry of Rural Development and ISRO.

About Yuktadhara:

- Yuktadhara is involved in various national rural development programs such as MGNREGA, Integrated Watershed Management Program, More Drop More Crop and National Agricultural Development Plan, and farm photographs.
- The tactical portal will ensure planning quality, enable long-term monitoring of assets built over the years for relevance, and facilitate identifying new works for resource allocation.
- Shri Jitendra Singh with the Minister of State in the Ministry of Earth Sciences and the Union Prime Minister's Office; Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; There is also the Department of Atomic Energy and the Department of Space.

World Water Week 2021: 23-27 August

- World Water Week has been an annual event organized by the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) since 1991.
- In order to address global water issues and concerns related to international development, World Water Week 2021 is being held in full digital format between 23-27 August.
- The theme of World Water Week 2021 is 'Building Resilience Faster'.
- SIWI Executive Director: Torgani Holmgren.
- SIWI Headquarters: Stockholm, Sweden.

Bharatpe launches P2P lending app '12% Club'

- BharatPay has launched a "12% Club" app that will allow customers to invest and borrow at 12% annual interest or the same rate.
- BharatPe has partnered with LenDenClub (RBI-accredited NBFC) for this app and loan arrangement.
- Customers can invest their savings anytime by choosing to pay on the "12% Club" app.
- In addition, customers can avail collateral free loan up to Rs 10 lakh on 12 per cent Club app for a period of 3 months.
 1. Chief Executive Officer of India: Ashneer Grover
 2. Headquarters of India: New Delhi
 3. Establishment of BharatPe: 2018

World's highest observation wheel 'Ain Dubai'

- The world's largest and tallest observation wheel will be unveiled on October 21, 2021 in Dubai, UAE. The height of the observation wheel, known as 'Ain Dubai', is 250 meters (820 feet),
- Which is on Bluewater Island.
- The record-breaking wheel is 42.5 meters (139 feet) taller than the current world's highest observation wheel high roller in Las Vegas, 167.6 meters (550 feet).
 1. UAE Capital: Abu Dhabi

2. UAE Currency: United Arab Emirates Dirham
3. UAE President: Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

India's first green hydrogen electrolyzer gigafactory

- US-based Ohmium International has launched India's first green hydrogen electrolyzer manufacturing unit at Bangalore, Karnataka.
- The factory will manufacture India-made Proton Exchange Membrane (PEM) hydrogen electrolyzers. Green hydrogen is made from non-fossil sources as opposed to blue hydrogen made from fossil sources.
- Making green hydrogen in India will give producers a lucrative advantage instead of importing it.

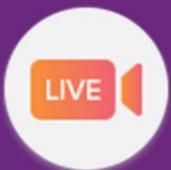
About Gigafactory:

- Gigafactory will manufacture Indian-made proton exchange membrane (PEM) hydrogen electrolyzers with an initial generation capacity of about 500 MW per year and increase to 2 GW per year.
- The PEM hydrogen electrolyzer is the main equipment for the production of green hydrogen as it breaks down water into hydrogen and oxygen using electricity generated from renewable sources.



Prepare for Maharashtra State Exams

MPSC COMBINED | MPSC RAJYASEVA MAHARASHTRA POLICE BHARTI



Live +
Recorded Classes



E-Books
for All Subjects



50+
Mock Tests



PDF
Notes After Classes



Complete
Syllabus Coverage



Practice
Questions

ENROL NOW

JOIN BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!