

Important MoUs & Agreements – March 2020

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March 2020 Important MoUs & Agreements

AAI & Tripura Govt sign MoU for construction of equipment hiring centers

- Airport Authority of India & Tripura State Government has signed a memorandum of understanding for the construction of 6 equipment hiring centres in Manu Block under the Dhalai District, Tripura.
- The project has been taken by the Airport Authority as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility scheme.
- The equipment hiring centres, equipment related to agriculture, animal husbandry and fisheries will be kept.
- The types of equipment will be rented out to the needy farmers, Self Help Groups and to any other needy at a minimal cost.
- The project will be benefited to 6000 families.

Extra Shots:

AAI: The Airports Authority of India or AAI is a statutory body working under the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India is responsible for creating, upgrading, maintaining and managing civil aviation infrastructure in India.

- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Founded: 1 April 1995
- Jurisdiction: India
- Parent organization: Directorate General of Civil Aviation

Tripura:

- Capital: Agartala
- Governor: Ramesh Bais

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- Chief Minister: Biplab Kumar Deb
- Literacy: 87.75%

ICAR, PBRI signs MoU to undertake research work and education

- Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Hardiwar-based Patanjali Bio Research Institute (PBRI) on 1 March.
- The MoU aims to undertake research work, training, and education.
- The MoU was signed by ICAR Director General Trilochan Mohapatra and PBRI CEO Acharya Balkrishna in the presence of Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar.

Aim:

- The MoU aims to foster close interaction in research, technology demonstration, capacity building, seed production, entrepreneurship, and skill development.

MoU provisions:

- ♦ The MoU will provide a new opportunity to include a new arena to work for both organizations.
- ♦ It is expected to promote organic farming practices across the country.
- ♦ Specific plans will be developed under the agreement to work on collaborative research programmes in areas of national interest related to sustainable agriculture development that is suitable for different agro-ecologies in India.
- ♦ The agreement will enable the postgraduate (PG) students of deemed universities and research institutes of ICAR to undertake internships in various areas of specialization with PBRI.
- ♦ As per the agreement, ICAR will assist PBRI in capacity building, technology demonstration, seed production for scaling up popular varieties developed by ICAR so that it can be transferred among the farming community of the country.

Extra Shots:

ICRA: ICRA Limited is an Indian independent and professional investment information and credit rating agency. It was established in 1991, and was originally named Investment Information and Credit Rating Agency of India Limited.

- Headquarters: India
- CEO: Naresh Takkar
- Founded: 1991

IAF, Savitribai Phule Pune University signs MoU to establish Chair of Excellence

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) entered into an academic collaboration and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Savitribai Phule Pune University.
- The MoU aimed to establish a 'Chair of Excellence' at the Department of Defence & Strategic Studies.

Chair of Excellence:

- ♦ The IAF has named it as "Marshal of the Air Force (MIAF) Arjan Singh Chair of Excellence" with an aim to pay tribute to the legend and commemorate the centenary birth year of the MIAF Arjan Singh.
- ♦ The Chair will empower the IAF officers to pursue Doctoral Research and higher studies in Defence & Strategic Studies and allied fields.

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- ◆ The chair will facilitate research and higher studies in the area of National Defence and allied fields of Air Force officers.
- ◆ It will be inculcating a strategic outlook and building a pool of strategic thinkers.

Extra Shots:

IAF: The Indian Air Force is the air arm of the Indian Armed Forces. Its complement of personnel and aircraft assets ranks fourth amongst the air forces of the world. Its primary mission is to secure Indian airspace and to conduct aerial warfare during armed conflict. Wikipedia

- Founded: 8 October 1932, India
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Role: Aerial warfare
- Attack: Jaguar, Harpy
- Commander-in-Chief: President Ram Nath Kovind
- Fighters: Dassault Rafale, Sukhoi Su-30MKI, Dassault Mirage 2000, Mikoyan MiG-29, Mikoyan-Gurevich MiG-21, HAL Tejas

ICAR inks MoU with Patanjali Bio Research Institute

- The Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Patanjali Bio Research Institute, Haridwar.
- As per the MoU, the specific work plans will be developed to work on the collaborative research programmes in the areas of national interest related to sustainable agriculture development suitable to different agro-ecologies of the country.
- The MoU aims to foster close interaction in research, capacity building, seed production, entrepreneurship and skill development.

Extra Shots:

ICAR:

- Headquarters location: New Delhi
- Founded: 16 July 1929

Patanjali Ayurved Limited is an Indian consumer goods company. Manufacturing units and headquarters are located in the industrial area of Haridwar, Uttarakhand while the registered office is located at Delhi. The company manufactures mineral and herbal products. Wikipedia

- Owner: Balkrishna
- Founded: January 2006
- Headquarters location: Haridwar
- Founders: Ramdev, Balkrishna
- Subsidiaries: Advance Navigation and Solar Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Herboved, Inc.

RBL Bank inks partnership with Zomato to launch co-branded credit cards

- India private sector bank, RBL Bank (formerly known as Ratnakar Bank Ltd) inks partnership with Online food ordering and delivery app Zomato to launch co-branded credit cards, powered by Mastercard.

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- This partnership will help the online food delivery platform further cement its position in India's dining market by offering benefits such as Zomato credits on purchases, and increase the reach of its flagship membership program Zomato Gold.
- The card comes under two variants, the basic Edition Classic card and a more premium Edition Card.
- The key features of the basic card include Zomato credits with every use—that are linked to online and offline spend of the credit card users and can be redeemed at restaurants listed on Zomato; and those that accept Gold on dine-in; apart from a complimentary Zomato Gold membership (city variant).

Extra Shots:

RBL: RBL Bank, formerly known as Ratnakar Bank, is an Indian private sector bank headquartered in Mumbai and founded in 1943.

- Headquarters: Mumbai

Zomato is an Indian restaurant aggregator and food delivery start up founded by Deepinder Goyal in 2008. Zomato provides information, menus and user-reviews of restaurants, and also has food delivery options from partner restaurants in select cities.

- Created by: Binny Bansal
- Headquarters: DLF Phase V, Gurugram, Haryana, India
- Founded: July 2008

IIT Mandi signs deal with NABARD for setting up FPOs

- The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Mandi & Enabling Women of Kamand (EWOK) Society has inked a tripartite deal with the National Bank For Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for setting up three Farmer Producer Organization in Mandi, Himachal Pradesh.
- NABARD has sanctioned an amount of Rs 35 lakhs to EWOK Society and IIT Mandi for 3 FPOs to be established in the next 3 years.

Farmer Producer Organization (FPO)

- Farmer Producer Organization is basically a group of farm producers, with members as the shareholders in an organization.
- It is a registered body that deals with business activities related to farm produce and also works for the benefit of the member producers.

Enabling Women of Kamand (EWOK)

- Enabling Women of Kamand (EWOK), is an initiative of IIT Mandi Women's Center to aid rural women set up small enterprises in 5 panchayats of Kataula, Katindhi, Navlaya, Batheri and Kamand in Mandi by giving them proper guidance, training & information.
- According to the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the three sides, IIT Mandi & EWOK Society will identify clusters to set up Farmer Producer Organizations, help establish and register the FPOs, train the CEO & Board of Directors of FPOs, besides making the business development plan & helping them in raising credit.

Extra Shots:

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NABARD: National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development is an Apex Development Financial Institution in India. The Bank has been entrusted with "matters concerning Policy Planning and Operations in the field of credit for Agriculture and other Economic activities in Rural areas in India".

- Founded: 12 July 1982
- Headquarters: Mumbai
- Agency executive: Harsh Kumar Bhanwala (Chairperson)
- Purpose: Development assistance; Poverty Reduction
- Formation: July 12, 1982; 37 years ago

APEDA signed MoUs with various organizations to implement Agri Export Policy

- Agricultural and Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA) signed MoUs with specialized institutions namely the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD), Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture (ICFA), SGT University, Pearl Academy, and Quality Council of India (QCI) Delhi, on 4 March 2020.
- The MoU aims to utilize its expertise to work together to boost the activities in the interest of agriculture and allied sectors to bring better value to the stakeholders.

Cabinet approved MoU between India and Cote d'Ivoire for cooperation in the field of health

- The Union Cabinet approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of India and the Ministry of Health and Public Hygiene of Cote d'Ivoire.
- The MoU was aimed to enhance cooperation in the field of health.

MoU Provision:

- ♦ The MoU will regulate drugs and pharmaceutical products.
- ♦ It covers various areas of cooperation, including the exchange & training of medical doctors, officials, other health professionals, and experts in the field of advanced medical technology, nuclear medicine, renal transplantation, cardiac surgery, nephrology, hemodialysis, and medical research.
- ♦ Both the countries will provide assistance in the development of human resources, setting up of health care facilities, Medical, and health research development.
- ♦ As per the MoU, the countries will work together to Procure generic and essential drugs and assistance in sourcing of drug supplies
- ♦ The MoU provides provision for collaboration and research in the field of HIV/AIDS, development and improvement of the techniques and strategies for epidemiological surveillance, exchange of best practices in the field of primary health care and sharing of know-how on the management of hospitals and community healthcare centers.
- ♦ It will promote public health and share experiences in medical waste management
- ♦ Both the countries will cooperate to promote health, prevent Non-Communicable Diseases, occupational and environmental health, and enhance Medical Research.

Extra Shots:

Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) (Capital/Currency): Yamoussoukro (Political), Abidjan (economic)/ West African CFA franc (XOF)

- President: Alassane Ouattara
- Prime Minister: Amadou Gon Coulibaly

India signs deal with the US for Air Force One

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- The desi "Air Force One" will be ready to fly the President or Prime Minister by 2021.
- It is equipped with advanced missile defence measures.
- India has signed around \$190 million to deal with the US for two self-protection suites (SPS).

Air Force One:

- The system will be retrofitted on the two custom-built Boeing-777 aircraft, which was earlier acquired for long-haul VVIP travel.
- The system has fully-integrated advanced missile approach warning sensors, defensive electronic warfare systems, infra-red (IR) counter-measures, digital radio frequency jammers, and other such contraptions under the overall SPS.
- It has the capability to serve as an airborne command centre to direct military operations during nuclear, chemical, biological (NBC) attacks.
- The two extended-range B-777s will also have encrypted satellite communication facilities.
- It will replace the almost 30-years-old 747-400 jumbo jets being currently used for VVIP flights.
- The SPS will ensure a robust capability for automated detection and jamming of different kinds of missiles.

Extra Shots:

USA (Capital/Currency): Washington, D.C./ United States Dollar

- President: Donald Trump
- Official languages: English

India-EU to work together on Integrated Local Energy Systems

- India and the European Union agreed to work in the Integrated Local Energy System during India's Smart Utility Week 2020.
- As per the agreement, the countries will work upon clean energy and climate.

Highlights:

- The partnership will foresee strengthened cooperation in energy research and innovation, especially in renewable energy and its integration in the energy system.
- The collaboration will make energy supply cleaner, more efficient, and affordable to all.
- The Indo-EU flagship call is in line with both the European Union's and India's involvement in Mission Innovation (MI). MI is a global initiative of the European Commission and 24 countries. MI committed to reinvent and accelerate global clean energy innovation with an aim to make clean energy widely affordable.
- It will also give novel solutions encompassing local integration across various energy vectors and increase renewables share in the energy mix and high energy efficiency.

Extra Shots:

EU: The European Union is a political and economic union of 27 member states that are located primarily in Europe. Its members have a combined area of 4,233,255.3 km² and an estimated total population of about 447 million.

- Headquarters: Brussels, Belgium
- Official scripts: Latin; Greek; Cyrillic
- Population: 51.24 crores (2018) Eurostat
- Capital: Brussels (de facto)

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- Administrative center: Paris Metropolitan Area

DAY-NULM signs MoU with Amazon for e-marketing of products made by SHGs

- Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) that functions under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs signed MoU with Amazon for e-marketing of products made by Self Help Groups (SHGs) across the country in urban areas.

Provisions:

- The partnership aims to provide access to a wider customer base for products made by SHGs and to strengthen the mission of creating sustainable livelihoods in urban areas.
- It is expected to unleash the innate entrepreneurial potential of urban women.
- The presence of women entrepreneurs on the 'Amazon.in' is currently growing, since the inception of its dedicated program Amazon Saheli.

Extra Shots:

National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) is renamed as Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana-(DAY-NULM) and in Hindi as - Rashtriya Shahri Aajeevika Mission. Under the scheme urban areas extends the coverage to all the 4041 statutory cities and towns, there by covering almost the entire urban population

Paytm & Hyderabad Metro tie up for QR-based tickets

- Hyderabad Metro Rail Ltd in partnership with Paytm has launched a QR-code-based metro ticketing system at Rasoolpura metro station Hyderabad, Telangana.
- The new service will enable commuters to travel seamlessly and avoid queues to buy tokens at the metro stations.
- They can now simply purchase a QR ticket on their Paytm app, which can be displayed at the Automatic Fare Collection (AFC) gates to proceed for the journey.
- The feature will help over 14 lakh smartcard holders using the metro service.
- The company plans to extend the service to metro-feeder buses to ensure last-mile connectivity in the city.
- The QR-code-based ticket booking on our app will help in reducing congestion at the ticket counters.

Extra Shots:

Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited:

- Managing Director: NVS Reddy

Paytm:

- Founder: Vijay Shekhar Sharma
- Senior vice-president: Abhay Sharma
- Headquarters: Noida, Uttar Pradesh

GoI, World Bank signs loan agreement on Integrated Project for Source Sustainability and Climate Resilient

- The World Bank signed an \$80 million loan agreement with the Government of India, Government of Himachal Pradesh on 11 March 2020.
- The aim is to improve water management practices and increase agricultural productivity in selected Gram Panchayats in Himachal Pradesh.
- The loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) has a final maturity of 14.5 years, including a grace period of 5 years.

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Highlights:

- The Integrated Project for Source Sustainability and Climate Resilient Rain-Fed Agriculture will be implemented in 428 Gram Panchayats in 10 districts in Himachal Pradesh.
- The project includes setting up of hydrological monitoring stations to monitor water quality and quantity.
- It is expected that it will benefit over 400,000 smallholder farmers, including women, and pastoral communities.
- The project aims to make the best use of all available technologies and resources to increase water-use efficiency.
- The project will enhance the climate resilience of agriculture and its allied activities and also ensure sufficient water is available for sustainable agriculture both in Himachal Pradesh and in downstream states.

Extra Shots:

World Bank: World Bank is a component of the World Bank group. The bank provides loans and grants to poor countries to support infrastructure development and their capital projects.

- Headquarters: Washington, DC, US
- Membership: 189 countries (IBRD), 173 countries (IDA)
- President: David Malpass
- MD & CFO: Anshula Kant
- Parent organization: World Bank Group

It constitutes of 5 international organizations, namely:

- ◆ International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)
- ◆ the International Development Association (IDA)
- ◆ International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- ◆ Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)
- ◆ International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID)

PhonePe inks partnership with ICICI Bank for UPI Transactions

- PhonePe inks partnership with private sector lender ICICI Bank for UPI transactions.
- PhonePe earlier partnered with Yes Bank, but after YES Bank has been placed under moratorium by Reserve Bank of India due to which UPI transactions at PhonePe got disrupted.
- The popular payment app had faced outage for nearly 24 hours after the Reserve Bank of India put a moratorium on March 5.

Extra Shots:

ICICI Bank: ICICI Bank Limited is an Indian multinational banking and financial services company headquartered in Mumbai, Maharashtra with its registered office in Vadodara, Gujarat. As of 2018, ICICI Bank is the second largest bank in India in terms of assets and market capitalisation.

- CEO: Sandeep Bakhshi
- Headquarters: Mumbai

Founder: Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India

SpiceJet to set up warehousing & distribution facility at GAHSL

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- An Indian low-cost airline, SpiceJet has signed a pact with GMR Hyderabad Aviation SEZ Limited (GHASL).
- According to the pact, SpiceJet will set up warehousing, distribution and trading facility in the aerospace and industrial park of GHASL.
- “Ready-to-Use” industrial infrastructure is offered by the park with the flexibility of choosing land within SEZ for business purposes.
- The warehousing, distribution and trading facility set up will be installed within the Free Trade Warehousing Zone of multi-product special economic zone (SEZ).

Extra Shots:

SpiceJet: SpiceJet is an Indian low-cost airline headquartered in Gurgaon, India. It is the second largest airline in the country by number of domestic passengers carried, with a market share of 13.6% as of March 2019.

- CEO: Ajay Singh
- Headquarters: Gurugram

HP to get US\$80 Mn to improve water management practices

- The Government of India, Government of Himachal Pradesh have signed a US\$80 million loan agreement with the World Bank.
- The loan agreement aims to enhance water management practices and to improve agricultural productivity in 428 Gram Panchayats of Himachal Pradesh.
- A US\$80 million loan agreement has been signed by Government of India & Government of Himachal Pradesh with the World Bank.
- The loan amount will be fulfilled by International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD).
- According to the agreement, the loan amount has a final maturity of 14.5 years which also includes a grace period of 5 years.

Extra Shots:

Himachal Pradesh:

- State formed on: 25 January 1971
- Governor: Bandaru Dattatreya
- Chief Justice: Lingappa Narayana Swamy
- Chief Minister: Jai Ram Thakur
- Official language: Hindi

OIL signed agreement with Numaligarh Refinery for crude oil sale

- India's second-largest national oil explorer Oil India Ltd (OIL), signed an agreement with Numaligarh Refinery for purchase and sale of crude oil for a term of five years.
- The agreement was signed by the finance directors of the two companies.

Agreement:

- The Crude Oil Sales Agreement (COSA) will come in effect from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2025.
- The agreement will streamline the sale and purchase transactions of crude oil produced from fields in North East India.

Extra Shots:

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OIL: Oil India Limited is the second largest hydrocarbon exploration and production Indian public sector company with its operational headquarters in Duliajan, Assam, India.

- Headquarters: Noida
- Owner: Government of India
- Founded: 18 February 1959
- CEO: Sushil Chandra Mishra

3rd edition of WION Global Summit 2020 held in Dubai,UAE

- WION (World Is One News), the India's first International News Channel, has organized its 3rd edition of Global summit 2020 based on the theme "Navigating and negotiating global imperatives" at The Oberoi, in Dubai, UAE (United Arab Emirates).

Hightlights:

- It saw the participation of global leaders to engage in dialogue on a common global agenda to underscore the critical challenges of climate change, global governance, economic slowdown, and global crisis that threatens to become the new normal.
- The Summit focused on 4 key sessions namely- India and the Emerging World focusing on the dynamics, Balancing and Recalibrating Pakistan's Diplomatic Strategy, Climate change & Global Leaders forum.
- During the event, Former Pakistan Minister Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri recalled the plan for Sir Creek pact.

Extra Shots:

UAE (Capital/Currency): Abu Dhabi/Dirham

- President: Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

CRPF & Aditya Mehta foundation sign MoU to enable the 'Divyang Warriors'

- The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) inked a deal with a disability support NGO Aditya Mehta Foundation, to train its troops, who lost their limbs in operations, in various skills including cyber operations, artificial intelligence and para-sports.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was formalised between the force and the Aditya Mehta Foundation here in presence of CRPF Director General (DG) A P Maheshwari. The MoU is aimed to create new opportunities for such personnel who remain an integral part of the force.
- A total of 189 CRPF personnel can be trained in varied skills like acquiring working knowledge of the cyberspace, artificial intelligence, para-sports and many other such areas.
- The DG also honoured five such specially-abled personnel of the force with DG's commendation disc and certificates for bringing laurels in the field of para-sports.

Extra Shots:

Aditya Mehta Foundation (AMF):

- Headquarters: Secunderabad, Telangana

Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF):

- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Motto: Service and Loyalty
- Preceding agency: Ministry of Home Affairs
- Minister responsible: Amit Shah, Union Minister of Home Affairs

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Manikaran Power becomes the first member to tie up with IGX

- Manikaran Power Ltd (MPL) has become the first member of India's first gas trading platform which is called the Indian Gas Exchange (IGX).
- IGX is a part of Indian Energy Exchange (IEX). IGX commenced its membership drive in February this year.
- MPL which is already trading member in IEX is the first to join hands with IGX.
- MPL provides an electronic platform for trading of power at Indian Energy Exchange and Power Exchange India Limited, documentation and assistance in bilateral trading of power, REC trading and group captive.
- Its website states that it has close to 2,000 clients in both power trading and RECs.
- Indian Gas Exchange Ltd. (IGX) is India's first automated national level trading platform to promote and sustain an efficient and robust Gas market and to foster gas trading in the country.

LLTS, IIT-Kanpur signed MoU to promote research in cybersecurity programs

- L&T Technology Services Limited (LLTS) signed a multi-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IIT Kanpur).
- The MoU aims to collaborate on research in industrial and infrastructure cybersecurity.
- The MoU was signed by CEO and MD of LLTS, Dr. Keshab Panda, and Deputy Director at IIT Kanpur and Professor Manindra Agarwal in the premises of IIT Kanpur.

MoU Provision:

- As per the MoU, LLTS and IIT-Kanpur will together set-up a Center of Excellence (CoE) in the IIT-Kanpur campus.
- It will conduct research in the areas of Honeypot, blockchain, intrusion detection systems, malware analysis, vulnerability assessment, and penetration testing, and provide cybersecurity awareness and training programs.
- The MoU will both LLTS access to IIT-Kanpur's cutting-edge testbed for critical infrastructure.
- The CoE will be a part of IIT-Kanpur's C3i Center was developed to work on solutions and technologies to protect India's Strategic and Critical Utility Infrastructure.

Extra Shots:

L&T Technology Services Limited is an engineering services company based in Vadodara, Gujarat. It operates as a subsidiary of the conglomerate Larsen & Toubro, and is listed on the National Stock Exchange and the Bombay Stock Exchange.

- CEO: Keshab Panda
- Headquarters: Vadodara

DBS Bank & Bharti AXA teams up for plans covering Covid-19

- DBS Bank India has teamed-up with Bharti AXA to launch a complimentary insurance plan which will cover all medical conditions, including Covid-19.
- The insurance plan will also include up to 10 days of hospitalization along with a cover of Rs 5,000 per day for a 30-day period.
- The health insurance products will be accessible to all the customers of DBS through digibank app.
- It will also offer Emergency Global Medical Assist Program which provides 24×7 access to medical support.

Extra Shots:

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DBS: DBS Bank is a Singaporean multinational banking and financial services corporation headquartered in Marina Bay Financial Centre Tower 3, Marina Bay, Singapore.

- CEO: Piyush Gupta
- Headquarters: Singapore

Bharti Axa General Insurance Company Ltd. is a joint venture between Bharti Enterprises and Axa business Group that operates in India. Bharti Enterprises shares 51% stake in the venture while Axa Group shares 49% stake. The company offers general insurance products to retail and commercial clients.

- CEO: Sanjeev Srinivasan
- Headquarters location: Mumbai
- Founded: 2008
- Area served: India
- Parent organizations: Bharti Enterprises (51%), Axa (49%)

Microsoft & US CDC tie-up to create AI bot 'Clara'

- The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has introduced an AI bot called 'Clara' to help people assess potential symptoms of COVID-19.
- The CDC has partnered up with CDC Foundation and Microsoft Azure's Healthcare Bot service to create Clara, the "coronavirus self-checker" the bot is currently only available in the US on the CDC website.

Extra Shots:

Microsoft Corporation is an American multinational technology company with headquarters in Redmond, Washington. It develops, manufactures, licenses, supports, and sells computer software, consumer electronics, personal computers, and related services.

- CEO: Satya Nadella
- Headquarters: Redmond, Washington, United States
- Founders: Bill Gates, Paul Allen

India, Japan signed major rail projects for public, freight transport

- Japanese government funding agency JICA signed Rs.15,295 crore agreement with the Indian government for three mega rail infrastructure projects.

Aim:

- The agreement aims to cope up with the increase in freight transport demand in India by constructing new dedicated freight railway system between Delhi and Mumbai.
- Agreement Highlights:
- As per the agreement, JICA has granted Rs.8,553 crore for phase-1 of the Dedicated Freight Corridor; Rs.4,262 crore for Mumbai Trans Harbour Link Project-II and Rs.2,480 crore for the Mumbai Metro Line 3 Project-III.
- The project has been scheduled to be completed by
- The project will promote comprehensive regional economic development along the freight corridor. Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) initiative is part of the Japanese-Indian collaborative project aimed at comprehensive regional development.
- The agreement will provide long-term low-cost loans for development projects to various countries.

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