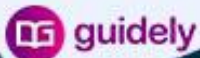


## Monthly One liner Current Affairs PDF – August 2020



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## Monthly One Liner Current Affairs PDF – August 2020

### Financial One Liners

- The six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of Reserve Bank of India held its meeting in New Delhi.
- The repo rate was kept the same at 4%
- The reverse repo rate was kept at 3.35%
- In June, the retail inflation was 6.09%.
- The private sector lender, Kotak Mahindra Bank, has announced the launch of a two-month long campaign called 'Kona Kona Umeed' with huge offers and discounts to lift up hope and optimism among its customers in the midst of the Coronavirus pandemic.
- More than 40 crore bank accounts have been opened under the government's flagship financial inclusion drive Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), launched about six years ago by the Modi-government.
- ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund has announced the launch of ICICI Prudential Alpha Low Vol 30 ETF, an open-ended index exchange traded fund tracking Nifty Alpha Low Volatility 30 Index.



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- Indian Market regulator, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is planning to set up a virtual museum of the securities market to highlight achievements and milestones in the Indian capital market.
- The Reserve Bank of India has launched pilot scheme for small value payments in offline mode. The pilot scheme shall be undertaken till March 31, 2021 only.
- India has contributed the next tranche of \$15.46 million to the India-UN Development Partnership Fund on 4 August 2020, under its commitment to supporting developing nations in their developmental priorities across all the Sustainable Development Goals.
- Three contract manufacturers for Apple iPhones and South Korea's Samsung have applied for large-scale electronics manufacturing rights in India under a \$6.5 billion incentive scheme.
- India has contributed the next tranche of \$15.46 million to the India-UN Development Partnership Fund on 4 August 2020, under its commitment to supporting developing nations in their developmental priorities across all the Sustainable Development Goals.
- Tech Mahindra, has launched Mhealthy, a solution to enable workforce and community safety against COVID-19.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced that it is planning to set up an Innovation Hub in order to promote innovation across the finance sector in India by leveraging on technology.
- The Finance Ministry said 15 proposals worth Rs 6,400 crore of stressed NBFCs and HFCs have been sanctioned under the special liquidity scheme announced as part of the Rs 20.97 lakh crore 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' package.
- RBI has permitted banks to invest in debt instruments through mutual funds or exchange traded funds without allocating additional charges.
- The Reserve Bank of India has barred banks from opening current accounts for customers who have availed cash credit or overdraft facilities, with a view to improve credit discipline.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said it has decided to introduce a mechanism of 'Positive Pay' for all cheques of value Rs 50,000 and above.
- National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) has launched business intelligence and analytics enabled omni-channel multi-branded loyalty platform, nth Rewards.
- The e-commerce major in India, Flipkart, has launched its own startup accelerator program in the country in order to nurture and fund the startups in the country.
- The E-Commerce Form Amazon India has launched its seller-driven campaign known as 'Itna Aasan Hai' in order to highlight how the sellers are thriving on the Amazon ecosystem with ease.
- The Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the platform for "Transparent Taxation - Honoring the Honest" via video conferencing.
- Reliance Foundation has stated that it has partnered US Agency for International Development (USAID) to launch the W-GDP Women Connect Challenge across India this year with an aim to bridge the gender digital divide in the country.
- Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has announced a special scheme to revive lapsed policies named 'Special Revival Campaign'.



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- Mahindra Manulife Mutual Fund has launched a new open-ended arbitrage opportunities fund that will invest in equity, derivatives and debt markets.
- Payment gateway startup Razorpay has introduced a feature that allows micro-entrepreneurs and freelancers to instantaneously accept digital payments online.
- The largest private sector bank in the country, HDFC Bank, launched 'Shaurya KGC (Kisan Gold Credit) Card, a loan product for the armed forces.
- Punjab National Bank has launched a campaign named 'DIGITAL APNAYEN' to encourage customers to use digital banking channels.
- Federal Bank, private sector bank in India, has teamed-up with Fiserv, Inc., global provider of payments and financial services technology solutions, in a bid to support the launch of the Federal Bank credit card.
- The Central Board of the Reserve Bank of India has approved the transfer of Rs 57128 crores as the dividend to the Central government for the accounting year 2019-20 while maintaining the contingency risk buffer at 5.5 per cent.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has introduced "KCC (Kisan Credit Card) Review option" on its digital agricultural solution platform, YONO Krishi.
- SEBI has imposed a fine of Rs 10 lakh on the Bank of Baroda for violating mutual fund regulations for non-compliance of Regulation 7B of SEBI
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) tightened the norms for core investment companies (CICs), based on the recommendations received from the working group which was formed to review the framework.
- Reserve Bank of India has released the 'framework for authorization of pan-India Umbrella Entity for Retail Payments' in India.
- Fino Payments Bank has launched Jan BachatKhata (JBK), which is an Aadhaar Authentication based digital savings account that brings neo-banking experience to consumers.
- National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has launched its wholly-owned subsidiary firm named NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL).
- Lakshmi Vilas Bank (LVB), one of Tamil Nadu's oldest private banks, has launched Lakshmi DigiGo, a digital initiative to enable opening of savings account instantly.
- YES Bank has launched a unique digital solution called 'Loan against Securities' under the bank's loan in seconds platform that enables online lien marking of mutual funds and avail quick and hassle-free loan.
- The 'National Strategy for Financial Education 2020-2025' (NSFE), released by the RBI, has suggested a multi-stakeholder-led approach for creating a financially aware and empowered India.
- The e-commerce giant Amazon has launched the first Indian online pharma delivery service.
- Investment bank Barclays has revised downward the growth projection for India in FY21 (2020-21) to a contraction of 6%. Earlier it had estimated a contraction of 3.2%.
- Multi Commodity Exchange of India (MCX) will launch India's first bullion index named Bulldex, on August 24, 2020.





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- State Bank of India's research report Ecowrap expects the country's GDP to contract by 16.5 per cent during the first quarter of the current fiscal.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) on Tuesday said it has approved a USD 1 billion loan to support construction of modern, high-speed Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System.
- Apple Inc. has become the first publicly traded U.S. company to reach a market capitalization of over \$2 trillion, after its share price climbed above \$467.77 on 19 August 2020.
- India's GDP is likely to contract by 20 per cent during the first quarter of the current fiscal on account of the COVID-19 pandemic-induced disruptions.
- Axis Bank has launched an initiative named 'Gig-a-Opportunities'.
- State Bank of India (SBI) unveiled an online home carnival in partnership with real-time group negotiation e-platform AddaCorner.
- The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (Nabard) has launched dedicated debt and credit guarantee product named Structured Finance and Partial Guarantee Programme to NBFC-MFIs to ensure the unhindered flow of credit in rural areas hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Reserve Bank of India today announced that it will conduct open market operations or OMO of government securities worth ₹20,000 crore in two tranches.
- The State Bank of India (SBI) has introduced a new doorstep ATM service which will allow its customers to withdraw cash without having to leave their homes.
- ICICI Bank uses satellite data to assess the creditworthiness of farmers.
- SBI General Insurance has launched a first-of-its-kind insurance product called 'Shagun – Gift an Insurance', which is a unique gift of Personal Accident policy.
- Paytm Payments Bank has integrated Aadhaar enabled Payment System (AePS) on its platform.
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has unveiled a Structured Finance and Partial Guarantee Programme to Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) and Microfinance Institutions (MFIs).
- Axis Bank has introduced 'Liberty Savings Account' for the Indian Youth, to address the ever-changing lifestyle needs of young and digitally interested Indians.
- HSBC India has launched Omni Collect, a one-stop solution in India.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to dissolve the Banking Codes and Standards Board of India (BCSBI).
- State Bank of India (SBI) has got global recognition for its HR initiative "Nayi Disha" which over the course of 1.5 years has touched more than 2.40 lakh employees.
- Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC) Life Insurance Company Limited (Canara HSBC OBC Life Insurance) and Andhra Pragathi Grameena Bank (APGB) have entered into a strategic tie up virtually.
- The second edition of National Strategy for Financial Education (NSFE): 2020-2025 has been released.
- The Finance Ministry said 24 proposals by stressed non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) and housing finance companies (HFCs) worth ₹8,594 crore have been sanctioned under the special liquidity scheme.



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- On world's entrepreneur day, technology-driven general insurance company Digit Insurance has launched an exclusive do-it-yourself (DIY) advisory tool for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and startups, SME Buddy.
- The Finance Ministry of the Government of India has declared in a series of statements that Businesses with an annual turnover of up to Rs 40 lakh will enjoy GST exemption. Previously the threshold limit was Rs 20 lakh.
- India's largest commodity exchange the Multi-Commodity Exchange of India Ltd (MCX) launched the country's first bullion index, MCX iCOMDEX Bullion, or Bulldex.
- Mastercard has entered an alliance with Goals101.ai, a bank-tech and AI company connecting merchants and issuers using big data, artificial intelligence, and automation to create targeted and personalized offers for bank cardholders.
- IT services major Infosys has launched its AI-driven 'Cognitive Email Workbench' solution that gives enterprises the ability to augment query management and scale their helpdesk operations.
- Private life insurer Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance has launched a new technology service called 'Smart Assist' that provides real-time assistance to customers.
- World's most customer-centric company Amazon.com Inc. founded by Zeff Bezos recently launched a wearable fitness gadget called the Halo Band.
- India's fiscal deficit is expected to touch 7 per cent of GDP in 2020-21 fiscal as against budget estimate of 3.5 per cent, according to Brickwork Ratings.

### Non Financial One Liners

#### National

- In Himachal Pradesh, Union Education Minister, Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank has laid the foundation stone of Indian Institute of Management (IIM) at Dhaula Kuan in Sirmour district.
- Four additional states, namely Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Nagaland and Uttarakhand have been to the One Nation One Ration Card scheme have been integrated with the 'One Nation, One Ration Card' plan of the Central government.
- Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan launched 'Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan, 2020-21.
- Union Minister of State for Human Resource Development, Electronics, Communication, and IT Sanjay Dhotre inaugurated "Bharat Air Fibre Services" at Akola, Maharashtra.
- Ministry of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) approved a programme to benefit the artisans involved in the manufacturing of Agarbatti under 'Gramodyog Vikas Yojana' on 30th July 2020. The aim is to develop the village industry.
- Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Shri Nitin Gadkari has launched the Khadi's Gift Box of Silk Mask.



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- The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, in coordination with Asian Development Bank (ADB), has provided a state-of-the-art Thermal Scanner, to Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad, to simplify operations and minimize handling.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi today performed Bhoomi Poojan and laid the foundation stone of Grand Ram Temple in Ayodhya.
- Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched the Sahakar Cooptube NCDC Channel, a new initiative by National Cooperative Development Corporation.
- In Himachal Pradesh, Union Education Minister, Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank has laid the foundation stone of Indian Institute of Management (IIM) at Dhaula Kuan in Sirmour district.
- The Government is set to launch a National Clinical Registry for COVID-19.
- Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar launched DD Assam 24x7 channel through video conferencing.
- A unique COVID prevention kiosk named 'UV Baggage Bath' has been inaugurated at Bengaluru Railway Station.
- In the fight against the spread of Covid-19 pandemic, the Mumbai Division of Central Railway (CR) has designed a health assistant robot 'Rakshak' who can remotely communicate between doctor and patient.
- The Ministry of Jal Shakti has launched a new version of the India Water Resources Information System (India-WRIS).
- Indian Railways' first Kisan Rail, exclusively meant to transport farm produce, was flagged off by Union Minister of Agriculture Narendra Singh Tomar and Railway Minister Piyush Goyal via videoconferencing on 7 August 2020.
- More than ten lakh houses have been approved under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban).
- Housing and Urban Affairs Secretary Durga Shanker Mishra today launched Letter of Recommendation module for PM SVANidhi Scheme.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate Rashtriya Swachhata Kendra, (RSK).
- Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) under Ministry of Tribal Affairs, has launched its own Virtual Office Network to Spearhead Tribal Socio-Economic Development on the occasion of its 33rd Foundation Day on August 6, 2020.
- The National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) will be organizing a first of its kind, online patriotic film festival from August 7 to August 21, 2020.
- The Prime Minister Narendra Modi is going to launch a financing facility of Rs 1 lakh crore under Agriculture Infrastructural Fund on August 8.
- Minister of Railways Piyush Goyal and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs Pralhad Joshi today dedicated a Railway Museum at Hubballi in Karnataka through video conferencing.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated 2300-kilometre submarine optical fibre cable network between Chennai and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. This project is Union government's commitment for Ease of living. Saying this project will boost tourism in the Islands.



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- Indian Railways has decided to observe 'Cleanliness Week' starting from August 10 till August 15 in order to give the message of the importance and significance of cleanliness for the national transporter.
- The Centre has released Rs 553 crore to states under a scheme to promote mechanization in the agriculture sector.
- The Government is set to launch a National Clinical Registry for COVID-19.
- Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar virtually launched the Krishi Megh (National Agricultural Research & Education System -Cloud Infrastructure and Services).
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a week-long campaign 'Gandagi Bharat Chorho' to free India of garbage and waste.
- The Tribal Affairs Ministry has stated that all the nine museums dedicated to tribal freedom fighters will be completed by 2022.
- The Human Resources Development Minister, Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', has launched the 'Minimum Standards of Architectural Education Regulations, 2020.'
- Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, in collaboration with Dell Technologies has launched Student Entrepreneurship Programme 2.0 (SEP 2.0) for young innovators of Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs).
- Aerospace startup venture Skyroot Aerospace has successfully test-fired an upper-stage rocket engine, thus becoming the first private company in India to demonstrate the capability to build a homegrown rocket engine.
- The Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari addressed the 'India@75 Summit: Mission 2022' on 8 August in New Delhi, via video-conferencing.
- Mumbai has become the first city in India to have women symbols on traffic signals and signage, as a symbolic gesture towards gender equality in public spaces.
- The Swachh Bharat Mission Academy has been launched by the Union Minister for Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.
- Lok Sabha has started a beginner-level course in French for the officials of the Lok Sabha Secretariat at the Parliament House.
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) unveiled the Online Performance Dashboard "Empowering Tribals, Transforming India".
- Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan today inaugurated a Mega Blood Donation Camp dedicated to Corona Warriors at All India Institute Of Medical Sciences, AIIMS in New Delhi.
- India celebrated its 74th Independence Day on 15 August 2020.
- The Ministry of AYUSH launched "Ayush for Immunity" on 14th August through webinar.
- The Group of Finance Ministers has approved bringing the intra-state movement of gold within the ambit of the e-Way bill.
- India has exported 23 lakh Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) to five countries including the UK, the US, and UAE in July 2020, after the Indian government had relaxed the export norms.
- National Thermal Power Corporation, NTPC has developed an infrastructure at Rihand project in Uttar Pradesh to transport fly ash in bulk to cement plants at a cheaper cost.





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- In Tamil Nadu, the webinar on New Education Policy organized by the Rural Outreach Bureau, Government of India in Thanjavur, emphasized the fact that the policy primarily aims at ensuring 100 per cent gross enrolment in schools by 2030.
- India is working to achieve zero road accident fatalities by 2030, said Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari.
- The Government of India has come up with its ambitious plan of trans-national electricity grid, for supplying solar power across the globe.
- The project to connect all the villages of India with optical fibre network will be completed in the next 1,000 days.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on August 15, 2020, announced that the centre has been planning to launch Project Lion and Project Dolphin to replicate the success of Project Tiger.
- The President of India Ram Nath Kovind unveiled the portrait of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, former Prime Minister of India virtually on his second death anniversary, at the headquarters of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).
- President Ram Nath Kovind has given assent to the change in name of the Ministry of Human Resource Development as Ministry of Education.
- The proposed Gwalior-Chambal Expressway will be named Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Chambal Progressway.
- Border Roads Organisation (BRO) constructed a 180-feet bailey bridge in the Jauljibi sector of Pithoragarh district, Uttarakhand.
- India Post has released a set of five commemorative postage stamps and a miniature sheet on UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India on the occasion of 74th Independence Day.
- The Union Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the setting up of the National Recruitment Agency (NRA).
- Union Minister of Law & Justice, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology Ravi Shankar Prasad launched “Swadeshi Microprocessor Challenge- Innovate Solution for #Aatmanirbhar Bharat” on 18 August 2020.
- The tertiary processing centres of “Trifood Project” of TRIFED, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been virtually launched by the Union Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda.
- Shri Arjun Munda, Union Minister for Tribal Affairs e-inaugurated ‘Tribes India Showroom’ in Mumbai.
- Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar, Minister of State (I/C) for Labour and Employment launched the official logo of Labour Bureau on 20 August 2020.
- The Tribal Affairs Ministry launched two tertiary processing centres in Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra to enhance the income of tribal forest gatherers by adding value to non-timber forest products collected by them.
- Central Government has constituted the National Council for Transgender Persons to formulate policies, programmes, legislation and projects for the benefits of the transgender community and help them in achieving equality and have full participation by them.





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- Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has decided to extend the validity of Fitness, Permits, Licenses, Registration or other documents under Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989 till the 31st of December 2020.
- Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has taken a big major leap towards 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' by creating the local and self-employment for the migrant workers through its Honey Mission Programme.
- President Ram Nath Kovind celebrated Van Mahotsav today with planting a Neem sapling in the President's Estate.
- The Centre has constituted a National Council for Transgender Persons through a notification.
- A NITI Aayog task force, headed by Niti Aayog Member (Agriculture) Ramesh Chand, recommended the linking sugarcane prices to sugar rates.
- Government of India is planning to identify the farmers who are illegally receiving benefits of the PM-KISAN scheme by concealing facts that make them ineligible.
- The Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare, DoPPW has decided to integrate the electronic Pension Payment Order, e-PPO generated through PFMS application of Controller General of Accounts, with Digi Locker, to enhance Ease of Living of Central Government Civil Pensioners.
- Phase Six of the Vande Bharat Mission is scheduled to begin on 1st of September.
- The Government has approved 78 new routes under the 4th round of Regional Connectivity Scheme - Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik, (UDAN) to further enhance the connectivity to remote and regional areas of the country.
- Central government's flagship financial inclusion programme Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) has completed six years
- The Ministry of Culture has announced 7 new circles of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).
- NITI Aayog virtually launched the India Component of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) – Transport Initiative for Asia (TIA).
- The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched a 24x7 Mental Health Rehabilitation helpline number under the name 'Kiran' to assist people to cope with mental health issues, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Centre is planning to set up the National e-Assessment Centre (NeAC) and a network of Regional e-Assessment Centres to implement the Faceless Assessment Scheme of the Income Tax Department.
- Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal e-launched the National GIS (Geographic Information System)-enabled Land Bank system (<https://iis.ncog.gov.in/parks>) for six states.
- The central government has set up an expert committee to redefine the role of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) for the current and futuristic defence and battlefield scenarios.
- To establish a transparent and comprehensive 'Performance Rating' System for its Consultants, Contractors and Concessionaires, NHAI has developed a 'Vendor Performance Evaluation System'.
- Contributing towards National Solar Mission, Indian Railway under the chairmanship of Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry Piyush Goyal is all set to become self-reliant and self-sufficient in terms of energy for all its operational work by 2030.



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- Minister for Electronics and Information Technology Ravi Shankar Prasad today launched “Chunauti”- Next Generation Startup Challenge Contest to further boost startups and software products with special focus on Tier-II towns of the country.
- The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) is celebrating its Golden Jubilee Anniversary on 29<sup>th</sup> August.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the College and Administration Buildings of the Rani Lakshmi Bai (RLB) Central Agricultural University through video conference today.
- Minister of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Dr Jitendra Singh has said that three Bamboo Clusters will be developed in Jammu, Katra and Samba areas for making of Bamboo basketry, Agarbatti and Bamboo Charcol.
- NITI Aayog virtually launched the India Component of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)– Transport Initiative for Asia (TIA) on 27 August 2020.
- Narendra Singh Tomar, Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers’ Welfare launched the integration of ICAR-IIHR Seed Portal with the YONO Krishi Web Application of State Bank of India at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
- The Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) has decided to celebrate Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday on September 17 by observing Seva Saptah from 14th to 20th September. Prime minister will turn 70 this year.

### State

- The State Government of Karnataka launched India’s first mobile RT-PCR lab in Bengaluru. The lab was developed by Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru.
- The “Thenzawl Golf Resort” Project has been virtually inaugurated by the Union Minister of State for Culture & Tourism (I/C) Shri Prahlad Singh Patel at Thenzawl & South Zote, District Serchhip and Reiek, Mizoram.
- Goa Skill Development Minister Vishwajit P Rane on Monday announced the launch of online ITI admission process and student data management system.
- Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik has launched ‘Odisha Agni-Shama Seva’ online portal.
- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy on the eve of Raksha Bandhan launched ‘E-Raksha Bandhan’, an online training programme on cybersecurity.
- Rajasthan’s Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot recently directed his officials to commence Indira Rasoi Yojana from 20Th August 2020.
- Uttarakhand will soon have a snow leopard conservation centre.
- In Manipur, government signed an Agreement with nine hospitals based in the State with an aim to implement Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (Aayushman Bharat) and Chief Minister’s Health Scheme (known as Chief Ministergi Hakshel gi Tengbang) fully.
- The Madhya Pradesh Government has organised a public awareness campaign called ‘Ek Mask-Anek Zindagi’ (One Mask-Many Lives) to be conducted from August 1 till August 15.
- The State Government of Karnataka launched India’s first mobile RT-PCR lab in Bengaluru. The lab was developed by Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru.



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- The “Thenzawl Golf Resort” Project has been virtually inaugurated by the Union Minister of State for Culture & Tourism (I/C) Shri Prahlad Singh Patel at Thenzawl & South Zote, District Serchhip and Reiek, Mizoram.
- Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister Dr. C N Ashwathnarayan has launched eight new products that will help mitigate Covid 19 pandemic.
- Himachal Government has decided to start a program in lines with Mann ki Baat for the people of the state.
- West Bengal has planned to provide 100 per cent tap connections to all the households in the State by 2024 under Jal Jeevan Mission.
- Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel launched a social security scheme for tendu leaves collectors in the state, which will benefit over 12 lakh families, mostly tribals and forest dwellers engaged in its collection.
- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar launched” Parivar Pehchan Patras” to enable the citizens to get the benefits of various central and state government schemes.
- The Telangana government has rolled out mobile covid-19 testing centers in containment zones and low income group residential areas across the state.
- The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), along with the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank, is in discussion with the Indian government for part-financing a \$8-billion scheme for improving the health infrastructure at the district level to make the country better prepared for future healthcare challenges.
- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, 23 Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) would be set-up in an effort to augment the school education infrastructure.
- The Andhra Pradesh government is all set to launch ‘YSR Cheyutha’ on August 12, 2020, to benefit the rural economy of the state amid hardships resulting due to Coronavirus pandemic.
- Gujarat Industrial Policy 2020 has been unveiled by the state that aims to provide an estimated Rs 40000 crores as subsidies to the industries within the next five years.
- Delhi government has launched a new electric vehicle policy that aims to boost the economy, creating jobs and reduce air pollution in the national capital.
- Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) will open the Silk Training cum Production Center in the tribal village of Chullyu in Arunachal Pradesh.
- Telangana Cabinet has sanctioned approval for the Growth in Dispersion (GRID) Policy to give incentives to IT companies that will set up their units.
- Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda flagged off “Medicine Van” for flood victims of Bihar.
- The Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel launched” Indira Van Mitan Yojana” on 9 August 2020, on the occasion of the World Tribal Day, to bring prosperity to forest dwellers (especially tribal) by opening up self-employment opportunities.
- The Andhra Pradesh government has announced its new industrial policy that has a focus on the MSME sector.
- The Rajasthan government has announced that it is going to provide free food grains to the beneficiaries under the National Food Security Mission till November 2020.
- Chhattisgarh’s Jagdalpur has become the first municipal corporation of the country, where people of urban area have been provided forest land right certificates.



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- Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar launched the anti-bullying campaign of Faridabad police by unveiling its Instagram, Facebook and Twitter pages to flag the problem of bullying at home, in neighbourhood, schools, colleges and workplace.
- The Gujarat government has launched the 'Mukhya Mantri Kisan Sahay Yojana' as a temporary replacement of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana for a year.
- The Punjab government has decided to start distribution of smartphones to students free of cost, on August 12.
- Haryana's Health Minister Anil Vij said the government will soon launch a sero survey in the state to gauge the penetration of COVID-19 in the population and monitor its transmission trend.
- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, a massive online Integrated Multidisciplinary Professional Advancement Course for Teachers (IMPACT) training programme commenced in Srinagar under Samagra Shiksha.
- In Manipur, the Patriots' Day is being observed today commemorating the 1891 Anglo-Manipuri war during which many Manipuris sacrificed their lives to safeguard the independence of the State.
- Assam State Government launched "Orunodoi scheme", a mega scheme for women's financial empowerment. Under the mega scheme, a district-wise selection of beneficiaries will begin from August 17.
- Goa's traditional festive sweet dish 'Khaje', spicy Harmal Chilli and Myndoli Banana (Moiri Banana) has obtained Geographical Indication (GI) tag from the Geographical Indications Registry.
- Himachal Pradesh state government launched Nutritional Immunity Boosting 'Him Haldi Dudh (Turmeric Latte)' manufactured by MILKFED.
- Leading helmet manufacturing company Studds Accessories said it has commissioned two new facilities at Faridabad in Haryana entailing a total investment of Rs 200 crore.
- Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers Shri DV Sadananda Gowda has announced the establishment of a Price Monitoring and Resource Unit (PMRU) in Karnataka.
- Odisha has topped in the implementation of the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) scheme.
- The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority, in collaboration with the Karnataka State Drug Control Department, has launched the Price Monitoring and Resource Unit in the state.
- The north-eastern states of the country, Nagaland and Manipur observed the 74th Naga Independence Day on August 14, as per their custom and historical significance.
- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Directorate of Social Welfare launched 'Nasha-Mukt Bharat'- Drug free India campaign of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India today with an aim to curb the menace of Drug Addiction in the society.
- The Union Territory of Puducherry celebrated its 59th anniversary of the "De-Jure" day on 16<sup>th</sup> August.
- Gujarat high court has launched e-filing of cases and an online facility to check the status of cases.
- Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu has launched Arunachal Pradesh Entrepreneurship Development Programme to support and encourage local youths to become job creators than job seekers.





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- The Government of India has started the work on the first-of-its-kind Katra (Jammu and Kashmir) – Delhi Express Road Corridor project.
- The West Bengal government has launched a new scheme known as ‘Karma Sathi Prakalpa’ under which one lakh unemployed youth of the state would be provided soft loans and subsidies to make them self-reliant.
- The Telangana government launched the Artificial intelligence for Agricultural Innovation (AI4AI) programme to boost agricultural developments.
- The Goa government has signed a tri-partite agreement to carry out world-class German dual vocational education and training in the Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) of the state.
- The Union Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Steel Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has informed that Odisha will become the epicenter of India’s overall steel industry, to accelerate the development of the domestic steel sector of the country.
- The Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh Bhupesh Baghel has announced the launch of the Padhai Tuhar Para Scheme (Education up to your locality), a new scheme on 15th August, Independence Day.
- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari laid the foundation stones of Rs 3,000-crore highway projects in Manipur and said the government will soon take up additional projects worth Rs 16,023 crore in the state.
- The Punjab Government announced that the state achieved first rank in operationalisation of Health and Welfare Centres (HWCs) as per the latest rankings released by the Centre.
- On the occasion of the 74th Independence Day, Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma said that a “Task Force” on the economy has been formed to suggest reforms for rejuvenating the economy in the short, medium and long-term.
- The West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee launched COVID Patient Management System.
- The Union Home Ministry has approved the renaming of Manduadih railway station in Uttar Pradesh as ‘Banaras’.
- Bangladesh Navy Ship BNS Sangram, a guided missile stealth corvette, made a port call at Mormugao Port, Goa.
- Quality Control Lab has been set up by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) in Porbandar, Gujarat.
- Ladakh Lieutenant Governor R. K. Mathur inaugurated a 60- metre span double lane motorable bridge over river Indus at Choglamsar.
- Uttar Pradesh state government has announced Electronic Manufacturing Policy 2020 in order to invite investment of Rs. 40,000 crores in the next five years as well as to generate four lakh direct employment in the state.
- All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) signed a Memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Delhi Police to extend the Ayurveda Preventive and Promotive health services in the residential colonies of Delhi Police.
- Madhya Pradesh has emerged as the leading state in the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Street Vendors Atma-Nirbhar Scheme-PM Swa-Nidhi.
- Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on August 20, 2020, launched the ‘Indira Rasoi Yojana’ in order to provide quality nutritious food to poor people at just Rs. 8.



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- The state government has decided to distribute ration at minimum price to the non-ration holders in the state from September 1 amid the pandemic.
- Madhya Pradesh Chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced that the state will offer government jobs to youths on the basis of their score in the Common Eligibility Test (CET) conducted by the proposed National Recruitment Agency (NRA).
- The Chhatrapur Police of Madhya Pradesh has been running a campaign “Ek Sankalp-Bujurgo ke naam” in the midst of corona infection in the state.
- In Madhya Pradesh, the Chhatrapur Police has launched a unique campaign named ‘Ek Sankalp – Bujurgo ke naam’ (‘a commitment for elders’), to take care of the elderly and helpless people, from the food to their health, in the midst of deadly corona infection.
- Assam government will launch India’s longest ropeway over Brahmaputra river on August 24, 2020.
- To give a boost to the Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Mission, a handicraft production centre is inaugurated in Guwahati today by Assam Apex Weavers and Artisans Cooperative Federation Limited- ARTFED.
- Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari will inaugurate and lay the foundation stones for 45 Highway projects in Madhya Pradesh.
- Baggage Sanitization & Wrapping machine has been launched by the Ahmedabad Railway Division at Ahmedabad Railway Station, Gujarat.
- WWF-India Kerala State Office is joining hands with the Society for Odonate Studies (SOS) and Thumbipuranam for the first-ever state “Dragonfly Festival” in Kerala, christened ‘Thumbimahotsavam 2020’.
- Uttar Pradesh government has ordered complete ban on organising any cultural and religious meeting in the state till 30th September.
- Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani inaugurated FABEXA 2020- India’s First and Longest Virtual Exhibition organized by one of the oldest cloth markets in the country, Maskati Mahajan.
- Women of Tamil Nadu have topped the list of women borrowers under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) since its inception.
- In Madhya Pradesh, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced Rs. One crore financial assistance to the family of martyred Army soldier Manish Carpenter.
- In Meghalaya, Education Minister Lahkmen Rymbui said that the State Government has constituted a task force to study in detail the National Education Policy which was recently adopted by the Centre.
- Manipur State Health and Family Welfare Minister L. Jayantakumar Singh launched Teleconsultation using eSanjeevaniOPD platform in Imphal.
- Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister Dr. C N Ashwathnarayan has announced opening of degree colleges from first of September.
- Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik approved an assistance package of ₹200 crore to help families affected due to COVID-19.
- The Assam Cabinet has approved the Assam Skill Development University Bill which provides for setting up of Skill University at Mangaldoi at the cost of 900 crore rupees.



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- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has inaugurated 300-bed COVID Hospital in Gonda district.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the launch of National Digital Health Mission (NDHM) during his Independence Day speech earlier this month.
- In a bid to give a boost to the Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Mission, a handicraft production centre is inaugurated in Guwahati by Assam Apex Weavers and Artisans Cooperative Federation Limited- ARTFED.
- Jammu and Kashmir's agriculture department has created an e-auction portal to promote trading of GI-tagged 'Kashmir Saffron'.
- Delhi Government launched the Fitness Campaign – "Healthy Body, Healthy Mind", for the students who are confined in their homes because of the lockdown imposed on Schools and colleges due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Delhi government has recently launched "Healthy Body, Healthy Mind" campaign for students.
- The Chief Minister of Kerala, Shri Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated the first ever marine ambulance named 'PRATHEEKSHA' on 27 August 2020 via videoconferencing.
- The State Government of Uttar Pradesh under Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has launched an ambitious 'NRI unified portal' to provide assistance to overseas Indians and NRIs of the state during any emergency.
- In association with United Nations sustainable development goals (SDGs), Kerala will set up India's first international women's trade centre (WTC), at Angamaly (a city in Kochi, Kerala).
- Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has laid the foundation stones for 375 Surface Minor Irrigation Schemes, 550 Ground Water Irrigation schemes and 151 infrastructure projects to be taken up in different districts through video conference in a mega function held at City Convention Centre.
- The Government of Assam approved the 'Assam Skill Development University Bill', which provides for setting up of World Class Skill University at Mangaldoi, Darrang District at a cost of 900 crore rupees.
- The Assam Cabinet has approved the Assam Skill Development University Bill which allows for setting up a state-of-the-art skill University at Mangaldoi in Darrang district of Assam.
- To extend a big help to the doctors, attending the infected patients, a scientist at Tripura University has designed a robot which can prevent the doctors, nurses and health staff from getting infected while they come in contact with patients infected with the virus. The robot is named as Covid-19 WARBOT.
- Fifty first International Film Festival of India IFFI will be held in Goa, from November 20th to 28th.
- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has announced free travel arrangements for students appearing in the NEET and JEE examinations.
- In Maharashtra, Union Minister for Road Transport, Highways and MSMEs Nitin Gadkari laid the foundation stone and inaugurated National highway projects worth Rs. 777 Cr. in Gadchiroli district.
- Uttar Pradesh (UP) Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya launched 'Major Dhyani Chand Vijaypath Yojana' scheme under which 19 International Players will get road connectivity to their homes.



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### Government Schemes

- The micro-credit scheme of the government, PM Street Vendor's Atmanirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANIDHI) to support the street vendors to meet their working capital requirements to tide over financial woes during the pandemic, has become quite popular in the country.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the National Digital Health Mission on the 74th Independence Day.

### International

- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has made a remarkable achievement by becoming the first country in the Arab World to produce nuclear energy, when the Unit 1 of the Barakah Nuclear Plant in Abu Dhabi, got operational on 31 July 2020.
- Enhancing their science and research collaboration, India and the United Kingdom have partnered to undertake five new research projects to tackle anti-microbial resistance that can be helpful in the global fight against antibiotic-resistant bacteria and genes.
- Former Guyanese housing minister, Mohamed Irfaan Ali has been named as the President of the country.
- Bangladesh will be constructing five more modern food storage systems in the country in addition to the three already under construction with financing support from the World Bank to enhance the storage capacity and improve the efficiency of grain storage.
- US President Donald Trump has signed an executive order that bans federal agencies from hiring foreign workers especially those on H-1B visa on contracting or subcontracting
- National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) has selected Infosys Finacle to digitally transform its transaction banking business.
- The United States Senate has unanimously passed a bill banning the Chinese-owned video-sharing app TikTok on government devices.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a conversation with the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka H.E. Mr. Mahinda Rajapaksa on 6 August 2020.
- The U.K. government has decided to issue a commemorative coin to mark the 150th birthday anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, said Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer Sajid Javid.
- Sri Lanka's former President Mahinda Rajapaksa took oath as the country's Prime Minister on 9 August 2020, after his party secured a landslide victory in the parliamentary elections on 5 August, 2020.
- Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) said it has extended a USD 250-million (about Rs 1,870 crore) line of credit (LOC) to Mozambique for improving power supply quality in the country.
- A "state of environmental emergency" has been declared by the island nation of Mauritius.
- Bangladesh has taken a decision to construct a monument for the Indian soldiers.
- The Prime Minister of Lebanon, Hassan Diab announced his resignation from the top post of the country following outrage over the catastrophic blast in the capital of the country, Beirut, on August 4.





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- President of Belarus, Alexander Lukashenko has won his sixth consecutive term with 80.23 per cent of the vote at the country's presidential election.
- Mohamed Ould Bilal has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of Mauritania.
- Russian President Vladimir Putin launched a coronavirus vaccine, touted as the world's first such vaccine too.
- Russia has proposed to host the first meeting of Russia-India-China (RIC) Defence Ministers in Moscow, Russia in September.
- The former defence minister and retired army general, Walter Roger Martos Ruiz becomes new Prime Minister of the country.
- Russia has decided to name its first COVID 19 vaccine as 'Sputnik V' for the foreign markets since this name is a reference to the first satellite of the world.
- Sinovac Biotech Ltd. of China has launched a phase 3 human trial of COVID-19 vaccine candidate on August 11, 2020, which will involve as many as 1,620 patients in Indonesia.
- The European Union has announced €1.65 million humanitarian aid to support those affected by severe flooding in South Asia, most notably India, Bangladesh and Nepal.
- Israel has shared the 'state-of-the-art artificial intelligence-based technologies and high-end equipment' with AIIMS, New Delhi, as part of the cooperative efforts between India and Israel to combat the deadly COVID 19 Pandemic in the world.
- Moderna Inc has announced that the US government has secured 100 million doses of a novel coronavirus vaccine, mRNA-1273, developed by this biotechnology company.
- Japan has signed its largest ever loan package worth dollar 3.1 billion for Bangladesh.
- Israel-headquartered irrigation equipment maker, Netafim has clinched an \$85 million deal which will involve three new community irrigation projects in Karnataka.
- Saudi Arabia has ended its loan and oil supply to Pakistan, ending the decades-long friendship between the two countries.
- Israel successfully conducted a flight test of the Arrow-2 interceptor on 13 August 2020.
- India has announced that it will fund the implementation of the major connectivity project in the Maldives with \$400 million line of credit and \$100 million grant.
- The Indian government has extended an assistance of USD 1 million to Antigua and Barbuda to combat the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- BRICS partners Russia and Brazil have decided to enter into an agreement to cooperate in the production and marketing of the world's first registered Coronavirus vaccine Sputnik V by Russia.
- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has become the first-ever Gulf country and the third in the Arab world to establish diplomatic relations with Israel.
- In a humanitarian gesture, India has sent 58 tonnes of emergency humanitarian aid to Lebanon in an air force plane to assist the people affected by the explosions in Beirut on August 4.
- The European Union has entered into an agreement to buy at least 300 million doses of AstraZeneca's potential COVID 19 vaccine in the first-ever such deal in advance by the group.



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- Special Olympics Bharat announced that Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan has committed USD 25 million to expand Unified Champion Schools (UCS) to six countries – India, Argentina, Egypt, Pakistan, Romania and Rwanda.
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- New Zealand Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern has decided to delay New Zealand's national elections by four weeks due to the latest coronavirus outbreak in Auckland.
- The President of Mali, Ibrahim Boubacar Keita has announced his resignation on 19 August 2020, three years before his final term was due to end.
- The United States has handed over the second shipment of 100 new and state-of-the-art ventilators to India on August 19, 2020, in its fight against the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- India will supply the COVID-19 vaccine to neighbouring country Bangladesh on a priority basis once it gets the nod and mass production starts.
- Luis Rodolfo Abinader Corona has been sworn in as the 54th President of Dominican Republic.
- India, Australia, and Japan have started the discussions for the launch of a trilateral Supply Chain Resilience Initiative (SCRI) in order to reduce the dependency on China.
- Keith Rowley sworn in as Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for a 2nd consecutive 5-year term. He is from the ruling People's National Movement (PNM).
- Francisco Pascual Eyegue Obama Asue was reappointed as the Prime Minister of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea for 3rd consecutive term.
- The oil-rich United Arab Emirates announced that it has connected its Barakah nuclear power plant to the national grid in a first for the Arab world.
- Iran displayed a surface-to-surface ballistic missile named martyr Qassem Soleimani, that Defence Minister Amir Hatami said had a range of 1,400 kilometres and a new cruise missile, ignoring U.S. demands that Tehran halt its missile programme.
- China has successfully launched a new optical remote-sensing satellite named "Gaofen-9 05" from its Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre.



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- Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan announced on August 21, 2020 that Turkey has discovered 320 billion cubic meters of natural gas, the biggest-ever natural gas reserve in the Black Sea.
- The World Health Organisation has urged wealthier member states to join its Covid-19 vaccine facility by the end of the month, amid fears it may not raise enough money to fund the global inoculation programme.
- The Africa Regional Certification Commission, the independent body, has declared Africa free from wild polio.
- Bangladesh observed the 44th death anniversary of the national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam.
- The Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe has announced to step down from the post on 28 August 2020, because of the poor health conditions.
- India has co-sponsored a security council resolution that calls for full, effective and meaningful participation of women personnel in peacekeeping operations.
- New Zealand's Exchange (NZX) which operates New Zealand capital, risk and commodity markets (stock market) was under cyber-attack for four days.
- A ground-breaking ceremony for development of the Hulhumalé Central Park and renovation of the Arrival Jetty in Maldives financed by India was held marking yet another milestone in Delhi's growing partnership with Male.
- India granted 4th tranche of \$5 million to Myanmar for the development of the India-Myanmar Border Area.

### Ranks & Indices

- Reliance Industries has been ranked second biggest brand after Apple on the FutureBrand Index 2020. The 2020 list is topped by Apple, while Samsung is ranked third, followed by Nvidia, Moutai, Nike, Microsoft, ASML, PayPal and Netflix.
- Apple world's most valuable publicly listed company.
- Reliance Industries has been ranked second biggest brand after Apple on the FutureBrand Index 2020.
- The Indian Institute of Technology, Madras has retained the top position in the 'Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements,' (ARIIA) 2020 for being the best centrally funded institution in India.
- India is home to 30% of the total organic producers and ranks first in the world in number of organic farmers and ranks ninth in terms of area under organic farming, 2.59% of the total organic cultivation area (57.8 million hectares).
- According to Bloomberg Billionaires Index, Mukesh Ambani, the Chairman of Reliance Industries, has become the fourth wealthiest person in the world.
- Reliance Industries, headed by the Indian Billionaire Mukesh Ambani, has jumped 10 places to break into the world's top 100 companies on the Fortune Global 500 list. Reliance is ranked 96th in the 2020 ranking released by Fortune.
- Bollywood actor Akshay Kumar, is the only Indian star to be listed among the top 10 world's highest paid actors of 2020, released by Forbes magazine on 11 August 2020.
- According to a new report published by Purely Diamonds, Delhi and Chennai are the cheapest cities in the country to rent a house. As per the report, Ho Chi Minh city has been found to be the cheapest in the world whereas New York has been found to be the most expensive city to rent, in the entire world.



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- According to Knight Frank report, Bengaluru and the national capital ranked 26th and 27th, respectively, globally in annual price appreciation of luxury residential properties.
- Indore was adjudged India's cleanest city for the fourth straight year in the central government's cleanliness survey.
- As many as 41 lakh youth in the country lost jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic while construction and farm sector workers account for the majority of job losses, according to a joint report by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- India ranks among the lowest in the world in terms of Internet quality, according to a global research released by online privacy solutions provider SurfShark.
- Average income of MGNREGA workers doubled during coronavirus lockdown, as per the CRISIL report.
- NITI Aayog in partnership with the Institute of Competitiveness has released the first edition of the Export Preparedness Index (EPI) 2020 on 26 August 2020.
- Jeff Bezos, Amazon CEO on August 26, 2020, became the first person in the world to hit a net worth of \$200 million.
- Just 24 per cent of Indian households have internet connections to access e-education, and there is a large rural-urban and gender divide that is likely to widen the learning gap across high, middle and low-income families, according to a new UNICEF report titled 'The Remote Learning Reachability'.
- Amul, Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) has been ranked 16th in the Rabobank's Global Top 20 Dairy Companies list.
- The tourism global industry has been devastated by the coronavirus pandemic, with USD 320 billion lost in exports in the first five months of the year and more than 120 million jobs at risk,
- With an average monthly wage of Rs 32,800 (USD 437), India has been ranked a lowly 72<sup>nd</sup> among 106 countries in terms of the average wage per month, while Switzerland topped the chart, according to a global ranking of average wages prepared by Picodi.com, an international e-commerce platform which provides discount coupons.

### Summits & Conferences

- The National Digital Conference on 'Easing Doing Business for Atmanirbhar Bharat' was organised by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in partnership with the Department for Promotion of Investment and Internal Trade (DPIIT) on 30 July 2020.
- The Union Minister of State for Culture & Tourism (Independent charge) Shri Prahlad Singh Patel has virtually inaugurated the world-class "Thenzawl Golf Resort" Project in Mizoram on 4 August 2020, for the development of Golf Tourism in the country and attract both International and domestic tourists.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the Conclave on Transformational Reforms in Higher Education under National Education Policy on 7 August through video-conferencing.
- The India-Canada IC-IMPACTS Annual Research Conference was held on August 6-7, 2020 in order to discuss the ways for taking cooperation between the two countries to a new level.





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- The 4th Session of the BRICS Anti-Drug Working Group comprising of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa was held virtually.
- The 13th Session of the India-UAE Joint Commission Meeting (JCM) on Trade, Economic and Technical Cooperation was held virtually on 17 August 2020 to further strengthen the bilateral ties between the two strategic partners.
- 5<sup>th</sup> World Conference of Speakers of Parliament (5WCSP) was held virtually.
- Minister of State for External Affairs V. Muraleedharan co-chaired the first India-Uzbekistan National Coordination Committee meeting virtually with Uzbek Deputy Prime Minister for Investments and Foreign Economic Relations Sardor Umurzakov.
- The Ministry of External Affairs in partnership with the Foreign Ministry of Thailand has organized the 6th Round Table of ASEAN-India Network of Think Tanks (AINTT) held virtually.
- The International Conference on Aerosol Air Quality, Climate Change and Impact on Water Resources and Livelihoods in the Greater Himalayas is set to be held from September 14 to 16.
- Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa addressed a virtual Indo-Japan business forum from Bengaluru today.
- The 17th meeting of the India-Vietnam Joint Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation was held virtually which was co-chaired by India's External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar and his Vietnamese counterpart Pham Binh Minh.
- The World Economic Forum (WEF) on Wednesday said that the 2021 summit at Davos, Switzerland will be postponed from January to "early next summer" due to the coronavirus pandemic.
- India and China had a candid and in-depth exchange of views on the existing situation in the India-China border areas during the 18th meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination (WMCC) on India-China Border Affairs last week.
- The Industry Ministers of BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) countries held a meeting through video mode on 24 August 2020 to discuss ways to boost cooperation in areas including 5G and Artificial Intelligence.
- The 14th India-Singapore Defence Policy Dialogue (DPD) was held virtually on 28 August 2020 to further boost the defence and security partnership between the two countries, with a special focus on the maritime sphere.
- National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL) has organised the "World Urdu Conference" in New Delhi.
- The 8th East Asia Summit (Economic Ministers' Meeting) was held virtually on 28 August 2020, to strengthen the regional supply chains, become resilient during this challenging time of Covid-19 pandemic, and to spur economic growth

### Agreements & MoUs Signed

- Telecom company Bharti Airtel announced a multi-year strategic collaboration with Amazon Web Services to offer a suite of cloud solutions to businesses in India.



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- The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) to supply mustard oil on 31st July 2020. The move is in line with “Aatmanirbhar.”
- The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) with a joint effort of the health ministry and the AIIMS is planning to set up the National Clinical Registry (NCR) which will help country’s researchers and policymakers understand the efficacy of investigational therapies, adverse effects taking place and generate evidence for improving the treatment of Covid-19 patients.
- Department of Defence (DoD) Ministry of Defence (MoD), Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG), and Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (IITK) signed a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 4th August 2020.
- Telecom company Bharti Airtel announced a multi-year strategic collaboration with Amazon Web Services to offer a suite of cloud solutions to businesses in India.
- The Maharashtra government has announced a partnership with Google for introducing digital education tools in schools across the state.
- The Indian School of Business (ISB) and Andhra’s Economic Development Board (EDB) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in a move to focus on growth monitoring and economic development in the state after the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Andhra Pradesh government signed a pact with three FMCG companies — Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL), ITC and Procter and Gamble (P&G) — for marketing and technology support for economic empowerment of women under two new schemes to be launched soon.
- Serum Institute of India, Pune, and United States-based Novavax have signed an agreement for the development and commercialization of Novavax COVID-19 vaccine candidates in India and other low and middle- income countries.
- The Serum Institute of India (SII) has entered into a partnership with Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to accelerate the manufacture and delivery of COVID vaccine for India and the middle and low-income countries.
- Flipkart has signed an MoU with One District, One Product (ODOP) scheme of the Government of Uttar Pradesh.
- An agreement was signed between CSIR (Council of Scientific & Industrial Research) and FSSAI (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India) for collaborative research and information dissemination in the area of food and nutrition.
- Researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, India, and Imperial College London, UK, have developed a tailored ‘meta-grid’ of nanoparticles that could make light-emitting diodes (LEDs) brighter, energy-efficient and durable.
- The Bihar State Pollution Control Board has signed a ‘Memorandum of Agreement’ (MoA) with IIT Delhi to set up geographical information system (GIS) based platform to check air quality management in the state.
- The Boston Group has signed an MoU with the Andhra Pradesh government to set up an IT company in Visakhapatnam.



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- India and Maldives signed a contract for development of five eco-tourism zones in Addu atoll of the island nation.
- The Rajasthan government and the Small Industrial Development Bank of India (SIDBI) will soon ink an agreement to create newer avenues and growth opportunities for MSME units in the State.
- The Bombay Stock Exchange has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Akola, Maharashtra-based bullion trade and industry associations, Akola Sarafa Association and Akola Sarafa Va Suvarnakar Yuva Sangh.
- Private sector lender IndusInd Bank has acquired 7.82 percent stake in battery maker Eveready Industries by invoking pledged shares following loan default.
- Bombay Stock Exchange, has entered into an agreement with i-Hub, an incubation set up started by the Gujarat Government, in order to encourage and support the startup companies in raising capital.
- The search engine giant Google has joined hands with the Central Water Commission in order to make the flood forecasting in the country more advanced and more effective.
- The National Stock Exchange (NSE) announced the launch of a digital learning platform for investor education.
- The Delhi government, in a bid to enhance road safety in the national capital signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bloomberg Philanthropies, joining 30 world cities in the initiative for global road safety.
- Niti Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) in collaboration with IT industry body Nasscom launched an artificial intelligence-based module for school students to empower youngest minds and drive innovations in the country to the next level.
- Indian Hotels Company Ltd (IHCL) has joined hands with Tata Power for supply of solar energy for its Mumbai hotels as part of strategy to focus on sustainable and cost-efficient business practices.
- Bharti AXA Life Insurance has entered into bancassurance partnership with SBM Bank India for distribution of life insurance products through the latter's network.
- Muthoot Finance has tied up with Kotak Mahindra General Insurance to offer COVID-19 insurance cover of up to Rs 1 lakh against gold loan.
- Andhra Pradesh government has announced teaming up with the National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) and Canara Bank to empower over 15,000 village and ward secretariats with digital payments in the rural areas.
- Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance has partnered with Element AI, a global developer of artificial intelligence-powered (AI) solutions and products, to develop a strategic AI roadmap for the new-age insurer and prioritise investments.
- All India Football Federation (AIFF) has signed a two-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the International Professional Scouting Organisation (IPSO) to deliver a number of courses and webinars with regards to scouting in India.
- India and Israel signed a cultural agreement that outlines a three-year programme of cooperation to further strengthen their strategic bilateral relations today. It aims to promote greater people-to-people exchanges.
- The Union Minister of State for Tourism (IC), Shri Prahlad Singh Patel, a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was virtually signed today by the Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) and FICCI Ladies Organisation (FLO) with the Ministry of Tourism for women empowerment.



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- The Government of Uttar Pradesh has signed a 'plan of cooperation' with the Government of Israel for the management of water resources in Bundelkhand region of the state, which faces potable water shortage in summers.
- The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee has inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) to carry out activities in the field of standardisation and conformity assessment.
- Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog and Business Sweden on behalf of India Sweden Healthcare Innovation Centre are collaborating to promote the disruptive potential of Indian entrepreneurs, and boost the vibrant start-up ecosystem across the country.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed by the Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIM-K) with the Switzerland-based HELP Logistics.
- Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd (RRVL), the subsidiary company of Mukesh Ambani owned Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) has acquired a majority equity stake in online pharmacy Vitalic Health Pvt Ltd and its subsidiaries (commonly known as Netmeds) for a cash consideration of around Rs 620 crore (\$83.08 million).
- Walmart-owned Flipkart said it has entered into a strategic partnership with Nepal's Sastodeal, a move that will help lakhs of Flipkart sellers get access to the neighbouring country's e-commerce market.
- The Karnataka Vikas Grameen Bank (KVGB) and SBI General Insurance Co Ltd have signed an MoU to sell general insurance products through the branches of KVGB.
- Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has signed a loan agreement (with Government of India, the Government of Maharashtra and Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation) for a \$500 million Mumbai Urban Transport Project-III.
- Private lender, RBL Bank has selected Accenture to enhance its IT systems and processes to support its objective of becoming a truly digital bank.
- TVS Automobile Solutions Ltd, part of the USD 8.5 billion TVS Group has selected Google Cloud as its technology partner to build its digital transformation strategy
- Chamber of Marathwada Industries and Agriculture (CMIA) partnered with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on 24 August to set up help desk for MSMEs amid Covid-19.
- Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, has signed Memorandum of understanding (MoUs) with AFC India Limited, and National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI), Delhi.
- IT major Tech Mahindra announced collaboration with NITI Aayog to empower women entrepreneurs in the country.
- The National e-Governance Division (NeGD), Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) has partnered with CSC (Common Service Center) e Governance Services India Limited.
- The Power Grid Corporation (POWERGRID), an enterprise under the government of India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with TATA Memorial Centre (TMC) – Advanced Centre for Treatment Research & Education in Cancer (ACTREC),





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- Greenko Energies Private Limited, hyderabad based energy solution provider entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam (NVVN),
- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology (VSSUT), Burla, Odisha
- A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between the Haryana employment department and M3M Foundation to facilitate students for online preparation for government jobs.
- With the objective to achieve the mission of Atma Nirbhar Bharat, the Indian Institute of Technology's (IITs) Alumni Council has signed an agreement with Russian state-owned companies, Lomonosov Moscow State University and Russoft, to build the world's largest and fastest hybrid quantum computer in India.
- HDFC Bank has announced a strategic partnership with Adobe to enhance the Digital Experiences of its Customers.
- Ericsson partnered with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to map internet connectivity landscape for schools in 35 countries by the end of 2023 to provide digital learning access to the children.
- Energy solutions provider Greenko Energies has entered into an agreement with NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam to explore energy storage and renewable energy power supply solutions.
- Innoviti announced that it had entered a partnership with Visa, the leader in payments technology to develop a platform that will enable issuers to extend credit to their cardholders at face-to-face point-of-sale (In India).
- Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M) has inked a pact with Tel Aviv-based REE Automotive to explore production of electric commercial vehicles for global markets.
- Fair trade regulator Competition Commission of India (CCI) said it approved the proposed acquisition of C&S Electric by Siemens.
- The Centre will sell up to 15% stake in state-owned defence unit Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) which will help it mop up about Rs 5,000 crore.
- Reliance Retail Ventures Limited (RRVL), subsidiary of Reliance Industries Limited will buy Kishore Biyani's Future retail for Rs 24,713 crore.
- ITC on Friday said it is considering merger of its three wholly-owned subsidiaries - Sunrise Foods, Hobbits International Foods and Sunrise Sheetgrah - with itself.

### Committees

- The Government has constituted a National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19, to oversee all the aspects of its COVID-19 vaccination plan, including the identification of the effective vaccine, buying and financing of the purchase, as well as its distribution and administration. The expert committee has been formed under the Chairmanship of by Dr V K Paul, Member Niti Aayog.
- Central Government has formed a search-cum-selection committee to name the new three government nominees on the all-important Monetary Policy Committee (MPC). The committee will be headed by Cabinet secretary Rajiv Gauba.



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- Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau has ordered probe into the Air India Express aircraft crash at Kozhikode airport.
- Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has announced the constitution of a committee to work out modalities for the economic revival of the union territory.
- The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has constituted a seven-member committee of industry experts to suggest ways suggest plans to develop international retail business at the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC).
- The Reserve Bank of India has announced the constitution of an Expert Committee to make recommendations on the required financial parameters to be factored in the Resolution Framework for Covid19-related Stress'. The committee will be headed by Shri K.V. Kamath. (President of New Development Bank)
- Dr G. Satheesh Reddy, the Chairman of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has constituted the five-member expert committee to redefine the role of the DRDO for the current and futuristic defence and battlefield scenarios.

### Appointments

Name	Appointed as	Other Info
Sashidhar Jagdishan	Chief executive officer of HDFC Bank	He will take over from Aditya Puri
Urjit Patel	Additional and independent director of Great Eastern Shipping Company Ltd	
Mr. Jaideep Bhatnagar	Director General, News Services Division of All India Radio	He replaces Ms. Ira Joshi
Ashwini Kumar Tewari	Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of SBI Cards & Payment Services (SBI Card)	Tewari has replaced Hardayal Prasad
Manoj Sinha	Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir	
Girish Chandra Murmu	Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India	He will replace Rajiv Mehrishi
Pradeep Kumar Joshi	Chairman of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)	He succeeds Arvind Saxena
P S Ranipse	Inspector General (IG), in Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).	
Navin Agarwal	MD and CEO of Motilal Oswal Asset Management Company	



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S.N.Rajeswari	Managing Director of Oriental Insurance Company Ltd	
Hardayal Prasad	MD & CEO of PNB Housing Finance	Prasad will take over from Neeraj Vyas.
Harsh Kumar Bhanwala	Executive chairman of the Capital India Finance Limited.	Prior to this, Bhanwala was chairman of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for over six years.
Kamala Devi Harris	Vice-Presidential candidate in the US Presidential Elections	
Soma Mondal	Chairman of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL).	Succeeds Anil Chaudhary
Subhash Sheoratan Mundra	Non-executive chairman of Indiabulls Housing Finance (IBH)	
Dinesh K Tripathi	Director General Naval Operations (DGNO).	
Kaushik Khona	Chief executive officer (CEO) of Go Air	Khona will replace, industry veteran Vinay Dube who took charge as CEO in February.
Rakesh Asthana	Director-general of the Border Security Force (BSF).	
Ashwini Kumar Shukla	Chief Risk Officer of Central bank of India	
G P Garg	Executive director (ED) of Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi)	
Prashant Joshi	Managing Director and Head of National Distribution of DBS Bank	
Rajiv Kumar	Election Commissioner	Replacing Ashok Lavasa
Ashwani Bhatia	MD of State Bank of India	
Dinesh Kumar Khara	SBI chairman	Khara will replace SBI Chairman Rajnish Kumar
Usha Padhee	first woman DG of Bureau of Civil Aviation Security	
Dr Akinwumi A. Adesina	President of the African Development Bank Group	



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- The Lieutenant-Governor of Jammu Kashmir, Girish Chandra Murmu has resigned from his post.
- According to a Personnel Ministry, Ajay Tyagi has been given an 18-month extension, as the chairman of markets regulator SEBI.
- Sameer Gehlaut, the co-founder and Chairman of Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd ( IBHFL) has stepped down as the Executive Chairman of the company, and taken up the role of Non-Executive, Non-Independent Director of IBHFL.
- Noted economist Isher Judge Ahluwalia has stepped down as Chairman of the economic think tank Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) on 8 August 2020, due to declining health.
- Financial technology firm BharatPe announced appointment of Suhail Sameer as group president.
- Ashok Lavasa has resigned from his position as Election Commissioner on August 18, 2020, to join as the Vice-President of the Philippines-based Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- Indian Energy Exchange (IEX), Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Rajiv Srivastava has resigned from the post.
- Renowned Indian scientist, G Satheesh Reddy was given a two-year extension as the chairman of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- TikTok's CEO Kevin Mayer has resigned from the company after just three months. Mayer left his post as the head of Disney to join TikTok on June 1.
- Former Indian Oil Corp (IOC) chairman Sanjiv Singh has joined Reliance Industries Ltd as Group President.

### Defence

- NewsAir Marshal V. R. Chaudhari took over as Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Western Air Command of Indian Air Force.
- Ministry of Defence (MoD) has prepared a draft Defence Production and Export Promotion Policy 2020 (DPEPP 2020) to provide impetus to self-reliance in defence manufacturing.
- India will take part in the multilateral military “Russian Kavkaz 2020” strategic command-post exercise to be held in Astrakhan, Russia.
- The Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has announced that the Department of Military Affairs (DMA), Ministry of Defence (MoD) has prepared a list of 101 defence items for which there would be restriction on the import, beyond the timeline indicated against them.
- The Defence Minister of India will launch the ‘Atmanirbhar Bharat Saptah’ on August 10 to focus more on the vision of the government to shift to local manufacturing and ‘Make in India’.
- Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) has approved procurement proposals worth Rs.8,722.38 crore to strengthen the Armed Forces by relying on indigenous capability to take forward the initiative on ‘Atmanirbhar Bharat’.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched a number of modernization and up-gradation of facilities and new infrastructure creation by Defence Public sector undertakings (PSUs) and Ordnance Factory Board (OFB), through the digital link here.





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- The Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has laid the foundation for a missile-seeker facility and a warhead production unit at Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) at Hyderabad, as part of the ‘Atmanirbhar Bharat Saptah’ being celebrated by the company.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the HAL-IISc Skill Development Centre (SDC) established at the Indian Institute of Science's Challakere campus in Chitradurga district, Karnataka through a video conference on 13 August 2020.
- An Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPV) for the Indian Coast Guard has been launched and re-christened as Indian Coast Guard Ship ‘Sarthak’.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched the Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO) through an online webinar.
- The Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has unveiled four products each by the Ordnance Factory Board and Bharat Earth Movers Limited, two by BEL and one each by HAL, BDL, MDL, GRSE and GSL.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has approved the proposal for a major expansion of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) to cover 173 border and coastal districts, to meet the aspirations of youth in all the border and coastal districts.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has launched Konkurs Missile Test Equipment and Konkurs Launcher Test Equipment, which have been indigenously designed and developed by Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL).
- The ARMY 2020 International Military and Technical Forum has been organised in Moscow, Russia from August 23 to 29, 2020.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has identified 108 systems and subsystems for designing and development by the Indian Industry only.
- Union Minister of Defence Rajnath Singh launched the Directorate General National Cadet Corps (DGNCC) Mobile Training App on 27 August.
- India has withdrawn its participation from the multilateral Military Exercise Kavkaz 2020 to be held in Russia between 15th to 26th September 2020.

### Sports

- The legendary Spanish footballer Iker Casillas, who played as goalkeeper for Real Madrid, has announced his retirement from professional football.
- Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju chaired the first General Council meeting of the Khelo India Scheme on 4th July.
- Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes-Great Britain) has won the Formula One British Grand Prix 2020 held on August 02, 2020. He came first, despite a puncture during the last lap.
- India has withdrawn from the women's world team Squash championship scheduled in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 15th to 20th December, due to lack of preparation, time and match-readiness of its players.
- World Cup winner German footballer, Benedikt Howedes has retired from football.
- IPL 2020 will be played from September 19 to November 10 in the UAE this year.



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- The legendary Spanish footballer Iker Casillas, who played as goalkeeper for Real Madrid, has announced his retirement from professional football.
- Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju chaired the first General Council meeting of the Khelo India Scheme on 4th July.
- A sports gaming platform, WTF Sports has appointed cricketers Harmanpreet Kaur and Suresh Raina as its global brand ambassadors.
- International Cricket Council has confirmed that the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2020 that was postponed due to Covid-19 will be held in Australia in 2022.
- Members of the Indian men's and women's hockey teams bound for Tokyo Olympics will join the National Camp at National Centre of Excellence (NCOE) in Bengaluru
- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has suspended the title sponsorship deal with Chinese mobile phone company Vivo for the upcoming edition of the Indian Premier League.
- Equitas Small Finance Bank announced that it has been appointed as the official retail banking partner for Chennai Super Kings (CSK) IPL team with effect from August 1, 2020.
- The Red Bull racer, Max Verstappen has won the 70th Anniversary Grand Prix.
- India's KN Ananthapadmanabhan has been included in ICC's international panel of umpires following compatriot Nitin Menon's promotion to the elite panel.
- FIFA World Cup 2022 qualifiers in Asia have been rescheduled to 2021.
- "Fit India Freedom Run" would be organised by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports from 15th August to 02nd October 2020.
- Indian Cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni has announced retirement from all forms of international cricket.
- After M.S. Dhoni, Indian cricketer Suresh Raina has also announced retirement from Cricket on August 15, 2020.
- In Football, the Manchester City midfielder Kevin De Bruyne has been named as the Premier League Player of the Season 2019-20.
- Amritsar based e-mobility start-up, eBikeGO has appointed Indian cricketer Harbhajan Singh as its brand ambassador.
- Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes-Great Britain) has won the Formula One Spanish Grand Prix 2020 held at Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya, Spain.
- England off-spinner Laura Marsh has announced her retirement from all forms of cricket. Marsh had decided to retire from international cricket last December.
- Dream11, a fantasy sports platform, has won the title sponsorship rights for Indian Premier League (IPL) 2020. Dream11 has signed a Rs 222-crore deal with BCCI for this.
- The All India Football Federation and Sports Authority of India joined hands to launch E-Pathshala, a web platform to recognise the creativity and "develop interest in football.
- Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic the Hockey India executive board has announced immediate support to 61 athletes across the junior and senior men and women core who are not employed.
- Performance sports eyewear brand Oakley has appointed Indian cricketer Rohit Sharma as its brand ambassador in India for a period of two years.



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- Laura Marsh, England national women cricket team off-spinner, has announced her retirement from all forms of cricket.
- The National Sports Awards Committee has recommended the names of cricketer Rohit Sharma, table tennis champion Manika Batra, Paralympian Mariappan Thangavelu and wrestler Vinesh Phogat for the prestigious Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award.
- Ronnie O'Sullivan defeated Kyren Wilson with a score of 18-8 to win the World Snooker Championship 2020.
- Five sportspersons will be awarded the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award 2020 this year.
- Five-time champion Ronnie O'Sullivan beat world No 8 Kyren Wilson to win the World Snooker Championship 2020 and his sixth overall World Championship title.
- Legendary South African all-rounder Jacques Kallis, Pakistan batting great Zaheer Abbas and Pune-born former Australian captain Lisa Sthalekar were inducted into the International Cricket Council's Hall of Fame in a virtual ceremony.
- World number 304 Sophia Popov became the first female golfer from Germany to capture a major title after winning the Women's British Open by two strokes at Royal Troon in Scotland.
- Australian all-rounder Cameron White has announced his retirement from all forms of professional cricket.
- In Football, German team Bayern Munich defeated French side Paris Saint-Germain 1-0 to win the UEFA Champions League 2019-20.
- James Anderson from England has become the first-ever fast bowler to take 600 wickets in a Test Match Cricket.
- Veteran Indian table tennis player from West Bengal, Poulomi Ghatak, has announced her retirement from the game to shift focus on coaching career.
- India is planning to host BRICS Games 2021, which will be aligned with the Khelo India Games scheduled for next year.
- Australian All-Rounder Cameron Leon White announced his retirement from Cricket at the age of 37.
- The Association of Indian Football Coaches (AIFC) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Football Coaches Australia (FCA) to assist each other in development of football in the two countries.
- Sri Lankan Opening batsman Nishad Tharanga Paranavitana announced retirement from all forms of International Cricket at the age of 38.
- Japanese badminton player, Ayaka Takahashi, who is a doubles specialist has announced her retirement with effect from 31 August 2020.
- On the occasion of the National Sports Day on 29 August 2020, the Ministry of Sports has announced a hike in the award money for four of the seven categories of the National Sports and Adventure Awards.
- Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes-Great Britain) has won the Formula One Belgian Grand Prix 2020 held on August 30, 2020.
- India and Russia have been jointly announced the winner of first-ever FIDE Online Chess Olympiad 2020.
- Arsenal beat Premier League champions Liverpool by 5-4 on penalties to claim the 2020 FA Community Shield after a 1-1 draw.



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- West Indies All-Rounder, Dwayne John Bravo became the first bowler in cricket to scalp 500 wickets in Twenty20 matches
- Para-swimmer Satyendra Singh Lohia of Madhya Pradesh is the first Divyanga Indian sportsperson of the country, who has been awarded today with the Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award.

### Awards and Honours

Name	Awarded as
Ministry of Tribal Affairs	SKOCH Gold Award for its “Empowerment of Tribals through IT enabled Scholarship Schemes”
Defence Institute of Advanced Technology, DIAT	1st prize in Smart India Hackathon, SIH, 2020
Indian Express Journalist Dipankar Ghose and website PARI	2020 Prem Bhatia journalism awards
IIT Kharagpur	‘Gandhian Young Technological Innovation Awards 2020’
Soumya Swaminathan- Chief Scientist of World Health Organisation	Tamil Nadu Chief Minister’s special award
Tirunagari Ramanujam	Dasaradhi Award for 2020
Ravi Solanki	UK’s Royal Academy of Engineering President’s Special Awards for Pandemic Service.
Abhijit Paul	first prize in Online Patriotic Short Film Contest
Anand Mahindra and Shantanu Narayen	2020 Leadership Awards in recognition of their exemplary vision towards promoting US-India bilateral ties
Reshma Mohandas	Tomyas Award
Government of India Navratna, NLC India Limited (NLCIL)	“Swachhta Hi Seva award” for transforming Neyveli Township
Neelakanta Bhanu Prakash	World’s fastest human calculator
Marieke Lucas Rijneveld	International Booker prize
Ms. Sudha Painuli	National Award to Teachers 2020.
Punjab University	Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy for the year 2019.

- The Rotary Club of Madras East has conferred the MS Swaminathan Award for Environment Protection 2019 upon RS Paroda the Founder Chairman of the Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), New Delhi
- Journalists Nitin Sethi and Shiv Sahay Singh were declared winners of the Asian College of Journalism’s (ACJ) Award 2019 for Investigative Journalism and the K. P. Narayana Kumar Memorial Award for Social Impact Journalism, respectively.





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- Chairperson of Infosys Foundation, Sudha Murty and Group Head of Agri and IT Businesses of ITC Ltd, Sivakumar Surampudi are among the winners of the Gramodaya Bandhu Mitra Puraskaras.
- President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, has approved 84 gallantry awards for the personnel in India's armed forces and also the members of the Paramilitary forces for their acts of bravery to protect the country's security and honour.
- Britain's World War II spy, Noor Inayat Khan, became the first Indian-origin woman to be honoured with a memorial Blue Plaque at her former family home in central London.

### Science & Tech

- Scientists from Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR), under Department of Science & Technology, Government of India, and Indian Institute of Science (IISc), have developed a model to scale up the novel tests using an adaptive strategy and the early phase of COVID-19 as an example.
- In Uttar Pradesh, IIT Kanpur has developed indigenous seed balls named BEEG (Bio -compost Enriched Eco-friendly Globule) which will help people and farmers in plantation with safety in Corona times and will also provide employment to people.
- Scientific and Industrial Research Centre (GVP-SIRC) and GVP College of Engineering, Visakhapatnam, has developed an indigenous photonic system for real-time remote monitoring of air quality parameters.
- Microsoft Research Lab, in collaboration with CGNet Swara, an Indian-voice based online portal, has launched an Interactive Neural Machine Translation tool, which translates sentences from Hindi and Gondi and vice-versa.
- The Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT) has developed a Nanofibres of Ayurvedic based Biodegradable face mask which acts as a virus neutralizer to resist against the bacteria/ virus.
- The search engine giant Google has announced new education tools for teachers and students to facilitate learning in the virtual education space.
- a team of researchers from the Indian Space Research Organisation, ISRO and the Indian Institute of Science, IISc in Bengaluru has developed a sustainable process to make space bricks on the lunar surface.
- The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Ropar, has developed a first-of-its-kind UVGI-based room disinfection device 'UVSAFE', which harnesses the germicidal effects of UV-C radiations to inactivate viruses and bacteria including corona viruses.
- The Indian Army successfully test-fired the first ever privately manufactured Pinaka rockets recently from the firing range in Pokharan, which achieved the desired results by accurately hitting targets.
- Scientists at the International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy & New Materials (ARCI), under Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, have developed a cost-effective electrode material for making affordable supercapacitor devices, from waste biomass like tamarind seeds and industrial cotton waste.
- India's first multi-wavelength satellite, AstroSat, has detected an extreme ultraviolet (UV) light from a galaxy, called AUDFs01.



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- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras along with German researchers have developed 'co-composting' methods that can be used to safely dispose of toxic pharmaceutical waste water and sludge.
- In a bid to help people protect themselves against COVID-19, the Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad, has launched a novel respirator mask in the country.

### Portals & Apps

- Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu bordering Gujarat has launched E-Gyan Mitra mobile app for online education.
- Ashfaq Mehmood Choudhary, a 17-year-old boy from Chattyear of Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district, has developed a file-sharing app 'Dodo Drop' which would enable users to share audios, videos, images, and texts between two devices without Internet access.
- In order to improve public Grievances redressal mechanism, Deputy Commissioner of Rajouri, Nazir Sheikh, has launched a mobile app "Awaz-e-Rajouri".
- The Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL), a GMR Group-led consortium, has developed a first-of-its-kind web portal named 'AIR SUVIDHA'.
- On the occasion of the 6th National Handloom Day, Smt Smriti Irani launched the Mobile App & Backend Website for Handloom Mark Scheme (HLM).
- The Union Finance Minister has launched the dashboard of the National Infrastructure Pipeline in order to manage and integrate all the details regarding the projects at one place.
- The Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has launched National Portal on Human-Elephant conflict situation so that it can resolve the dispute the human and the elephant.
- Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched a portal for 'Opportunities for Make In India in Defence' through video conferencing.
- The Defence Minister virtually launched the Department of Defence Production Portal 'SRIJAN' as a part of opportunities for Make in India initiatives in the defence sector.
- On the occasion of Independence Day, the Chief Minister of Nagaland, Neiphiu Rio has launched "Yellow Chain"- a centralized e-commerce platform, to promote local business and entrepreneurship in the State.
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs has launched the e-portal on tribal health and nutrition named 'Swasthya'.
- The Union Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Nitin Gadkari has launched an online farm-to-fork service platform called VedKrishi.com.
- Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda inaugurated the e-portal on tribal health and nutrition named 'Swasthya'.
- IIT Kharagpur has developed an e-classroom software called "DEEKSHAK" for organizations to conduct online classes.
- Environment Information System (ENVIS) of the Department of Environment of Chandigarh Administration has launched a new website.
- Google has launched its employment application named 'Kormo Jobs' in India. It would help millions of Indians to get entry-level jobs.



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- Steel Recycling Business, a division of Tata Steel, has launched FerroHaat, a first-of-its-kind mobile application, to source steel scrap from the traders.
- The Union Minister for road transport and highways Nitin Gadkari has launched a mobile app called 'Harit Path' on 21 August 2020, via video conference while chairing a meeting to review 'New Green Highways Policy (Plantation)' and discuss use of new technologies in road construction.
- Air Chief Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria, the Chief of the Air Staff has launched a mobile application named 'MY IAF'.
- UP has launched an ambitious NRI unified portal that will not only help in investment in the state, but also provide an opportunity for those who want to go abroad.
- Mumbai's iconic Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus is set to get a makeover with world class facilities at a cost of 1,642 crore rupees. Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation (IRSDC).
- Tata Group is launching a new app named "Super App" purported to bring together the country's disparate sales sector to offer a range of consumer goods.
- Jammu and Kashmir's agriculture department has created an e-auction portal to promote trading of GI-tagged 'Kashmir Saffron'.
- The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has launched a mobile application 'Pension Corner' to cater to the needs of all its retired personnels.

### Books & Authors

- The book "The Swachh Bharat Kranti" was officially launched by Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, and Union Minister of Textiles and Women & Child Development Smt. Smriti Irani in New Delhi on 4 August.
- The book, titled "RAW: A History of India's Covert Operations" has authored by investigative journalist and author Yatish Yadav.
- Bihar Chief Minister, Nitish Kumar has released a book titled "Siyasat Mein Sadasyata" authored by Bihar Assembly Speaker Vijay Kumar Choudhary.
- The book, titled "Vishesh: Code To Win", has been written by sportswoman-turned-author Nirupama Yadav and published by the publishing house Bluerose.
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- The book titled 'Amazing Ayodhya' has been authored by Neena Rai.
- The Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Shri Prakash Javadekar unveiled an e-version of the book titled 'Connecting, Communicating, Changing'.



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- Mizoram Chief Minister Zoramthanga has released "Corona Kavithakal", a collection of poems, written by Governor PS Sreedharan Pillai during the lockdown.
- The Tibetan spiritual leader, Dalai Lama, will release a new book titled "Our Only Home: A Climate Appeal to the World" on climate change with German environmental journalist, Franz Alt in November.
- The book, titled "A Bend in Time: Writings by Children on the Covid-19 pandemic", written by award-winning children's author Bijal Vachharajani.
- Retired Air Vice Marshal Arjun Subramaniam has written a book which throws light on comprehensive account of war and conflict in contemporary India over the past five decades next month.
- On the 70th birthday of award-winning author Sudha Murty, publishing house Penguin Random House India announced her latest collection of short stories, Grandparents' Bag of Stories.
- The book titled "India Tomorrow: Conversations with the Next Generation of Political Leaders", has been released recently.
- A book titled "Who painted my lust red?" that has been authored by Sree Iyer has been launched.
- A book titled 'One Arranged Murder' authored by Chetan Bhagat will be released globally on September 28, 2020.
- Union Minister, Jitendra Singh has released a book on cancer named "Gastric Cancer" edited by Dr Ashok K. Vaid.
- The book titled 'Running Toward Mystery: The Adventure of an Unconventional Life' is an account by Tenzin Priyadarshi, president and CEO of The Dalai Lama Center for Ethics and Transformative Values at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, of his lifelong journey as a seeker.
- A book title 'Cricket Drona' on renowned coach Vasudev Jagannath Paranjpe or Vasoo Paranjape will be released on September 2, 2020.
- Indian Army Chief, General Manoj Mukund Naravane has released a book titled "National Security Challenges: Young Scholars' Perspective" penned by university students, ranging from the undergraduate level to doctoral candidates.
- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha today released two Coffee Table Books, one for Labour & Employment Department and another for J&K Entrepreneurship Development (JKEDI) Institute at Raj Bhavan in Srinagar.
- Indian Cricket Coach Gurcharan Singh (85 years old) penned his memoir titled "Pitching It Straight" which is co-authored by sports journalist MS Unnikrishnan and published by Vitasta





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### Days & Themes

Day	Celebrated as	Aim/ Theme
August 1	Muslim Women's Rights Day	
August 1	World Lung Cancer Day	To raise awareness about the causes and treatment of lung cancer and highlight the issues of lack of sufficient research funding for the ailment.
August 3	World Sanskrit Day, (also known as Sanskrit Diwas)	The day commemorates the ancient Indian language of Sanskrit and aims to promote its revival and maintenance.
August 1-7	World Breastfeeding Week	The theme of World Breastfeeding Week 2020 is "Support breastfeeding for a healthier planet".
August 6	Hiroshima Day (Anti-Nuclear Day/ Nagasaki Day)	The Day is observed to advocate, pray and work for a ban on all nuclear weapons and an end to war and violence through anti-war and anti-nuclear discussions and demonstrations around the world.
August 7	National Handloom Day	This day is celebrated to honour the handloom weavers in the country and also highlight the handloom industry.
August 8	Quit India Day (or August Kranti Day)	
August 9	International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples	The theme of 2020 International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples "COVID-19 and indigenous peoples' resilience".
August 9	World Tribal Day	2020 Theme: COVID-19 and indigenous people resilience.
August 10	International Biofuel Day (World Biofuel Day)	The theme for 2020 World Biofuel Day is 'Biofuels Towards Atmanirbhar Bharat'
August 10	World Lion Day	
August 12	World Elephant Day	The main objective of World



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		Elephant Day is to create awareness on elephant conservation, and to share knowledge and positive solutions for the better protection and management of wild and captive elephants.
August 12	International Youth Day (IYD)	2020 Theme: Youth Engagement for Global Action
August 13	International Left Handers Day	
August 13	World Organ Donation Day	
August 19	World Humanitarian Day (WHD)	The theme for 2020 WHD is #RealLifeHeroes.
August 19	World Photography Day	To promote photography as a hobby and also inspire photographers around the globe to share a single photo with the rest of the world.
August 20	World Mosquito Day	To raise awareness about the causes of malaria and how it can be prevented.
August 20	Indian Akshay Urja Day or Renewable Energy Day	
August 20	Sadbhavana Diwas or Harmony Day.	Every year this day is celebrated in the memory of the late Rajiv Gandhi who was the youngest Prime Minister of India at the age of 40 years.
August 21	World Senior Citizen Day	To raise awareness about issues affecting older people, such as deterioration with age and the abuse of the elderly and support, honor and show appreciation to seniors and to recognize their achievements.
August 21	International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism	
August 23	International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition	The theme is 'Confronting Slavery's Legacy of Racism Together'



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August 24-28	World Water Week	The theme for World Water Week 2020 at Home is 'Water and Climate change: Accelerating Action'.
August 26	Women's Equality Day	Women's Equality Day is now often observed across the world to encourage and spread awareness about women's empowerment.
August 29	International Day against Nuclear Tests	The day aims to increase awareness about the effects of nuclear weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions and the need for their cessation as one of the means of achieving the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world
August 29	National Sports Day, (Rashtriya Khel Divas)	To mark the birth anniversary of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand, who is regarded as nation's greatest hockey player of all time.
August 30	International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances	To draw attention towards increase in enforced or involuntary disappearances of individuals in various regions of the world, including arrest, detention and abduction unknown to their relatives and/or legal representatives

### Obituary

Name	Field	Place
Sanjay Gupta	Sitting judge of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court	
Shaankar Sen	Businessman	
Raavi Kondal Rao	Actor, writer, director and producer	Andhra Pradesh
Kansai Yamamoto	Japanese fashion designer	Japan
Anil Murali	Malayalam actor	Kerala
Lee Teng-hui	Former Taiwanese President	Taiwan
Ram Pradhan	Former Union Home Secretary	



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Kamal Rani Varun	Politician	Uttar Pradesh
Mathew McConaughey	Actor	United States
Amar Singh	Politician	Uttar Pradesh
Pydikondala Manikyala Rao	Former Andhra Pradesh Minister	Andhra Pradesh
Shivajirao Patil Nilangekar	Former Maharashtra Chief Minister	Maharashtra
Sameer Sharma	Television actor	Delhi
Shyamal Chakraborty	senior CPI(M) leader and former West Bengal transport minister	West Bengal
Shirley Ann Grau	Novelist	United States
Hasmukhbhai Joshi	Former Saurashtra coach and manager	Gujarat
Nandi Yellaiah	Politician	Telangana
Doris Buffett	Warren Buffet's philanthropist sister	United States
Manitombi Singh	Former India footballer	Manipur
James Harris	Legendry American WWE player	United States
Rahat Indori	Urdu poet	Madhya Pradesh
PK Muthusamy	Veteran Tamil film songwriter	Tamil Nadu
Gopal Krishna Menon	sports journalist	
Simar Dugal	Famous Model and Fashion Designer	New Delhi
Rajiv Tyagi	Politician	Uttar Pradesh
Chunakkara Ramankutty	poet-lyricist	Kerala
Chetan Chauhan	Former Indian cricketer and Uttar Pradesh minister	Uttar Pradesh
Pandit Jasraj	classical vocalist	Haryana
Nishikant Kamat	Director-actor	Maharashtra
Dr B Siva Kumar	Carnatic musician and renowned veena vidwan	
Yadupati Singhania	Uttar Pradesh Cricket Association (UPCA) president	
Russell A. Kirsch	Computer scientist	United States
Angela Buxton	British tennis player	United Kingdom
Konrad Steffen	U.S.-Swiss climate scientist and glaciologist	United States
Bhaskar Maity	Former India goalkeeper	West Bengal
Gopalswamy Iyenger Kasturirangan	Former Cricketer, Administrator and Pitch Curator	Tamil Nadu
Janmejai Singh	Politician	Uttar Pradesh





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A Rahman Khan	Former Tamil Nadu cabinet minister and senior DMK leader	Idukki, Kerala
Pascal Lissouba	Former President of the Republic of Congo	Republic of Congo
A Bhaskar Raj	Malayalam filmmaker	Kerala
Jagdish Chaudhary	Dom Raja of Kashi	
Gail Sheehy	Writer-journalist	
Sangeeta Srivastava	Television actress	
Arnold Meyer Spielberg	Computer Pioneer	
Gail Sheehy	journalist	
Archana Mahanta	singer	
H.Vasantha Kumar	Lok Sabha member	Tamilnadu
Purshottam Rai	athletics coach	
AR Lakshmanan	Former judge of the Supreme Court Justice	
Joe Ruby	co-creator of the cartoon series Scooby-Doo	United States
Chadwick Boseman	American actor	United States

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