

## Monthly One liner Current Affairs – October 2020

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### Monthly One Liner Current Affairs - October 2020

#### Financial One Liners

- The Reserve Bank of India has set the limits for Ways and Means Advances (WMA) for the second half of the financial year 2020-21 (October 2020 to March 2021) for Central Government at Rs. 1,25,000 crore.
- The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, NABARD is embarking on a Sanitation Literacy Campaign in Karnataka to create awareness on good hygiene and sanitation practices among rural masses.
- IDBI Bank has become the first bank in India to have implemented the new feature of document embedding facility with 'Letter of Credit' (LC) or 'Bank Guarantee' (BG) messages over the Structured Financial Messaging System (SFMS) platform of IFTAS which is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Reserve Bank of India.
- The government kept the interest rates on small savings schemes, including PPF and NSC, unchanged for the October-December quarter amid moderating bank deposit rates
- Public sector Indian Bank has unveiled its IB-eNote facility, aimed at providing a paperless working environment and to improve the turnaround time considerably.

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- SBI Card has joined hands with American Express to offer global benefits and exclusive privileges for consumers in India.
- The RBI has excluded six public sector banks, including OBC and Allahabad Bank, from the Second Schedule of the RBI Act following their merger with other banks
- The Reserve Bank of India deferred implementation of provisions made under Basel III capital due to uncertainty related to Covid crisis.
- Reliance Industries Limited and Reliance Retail Ventures Limited (RRVL) announced that General Atlantic, a leading global growth equity investor, will invest Rs 3,675 crores into RRVL, a subsidiary of Reliance Industries.
- Planning Board has sanctioned over Rs 15,000 crore loan for projects worth Rs 31,000 crore
- The Shanghai-based New Development Bank (NDB) has approved USD 741 million loan for two projects in India which includes Mumbai Metro and the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) Project.
- The Finance Ministry said banks have sanctioned loans of about Rs 1.86 lakh crore to 50 lakh business units under the Rs 3-lakh crore Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) for the MSME sector, impacted by slowdown due to the coronavirus pandemic.
- The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has announced a special refinance facility for the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) programme to promote sustainable and healthy lifestyle in rural areas.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved a three-member interim committee of directors (CoD), to run the private sector lender, Dhanlaxmi Bank, in the capacity of the Managing Director & CEO till a new MD & CEO takes charge.
- Indian Bank has introduced a Kisan credit card loan scheme for fishermen in Tamil Nadu.
- Punjab National Bank (PNB) launched a financial inclusion and literacy initiative 'Gram Sampark Abhiyan' to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- ICICI bank become the first bank in India to launch debit card option for customers availing Loan against security (LAS) in partnered with VISA.
- With an aim to ease processing of loan applications, the Housing and Urban Affairs Secretary Durga Shanker Mishra has initiated the Application Programming Interface (API), integration between the PM SVANidhi Portal and the State Bank of India (SBI) portal.
- 'MSME Prerana' which is an online business mentoring programme for MSMEs launched by Indian Bank is recently launched by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.
- Axis Bank has partnered with Vistara to launch a co-branded forex card 'Axis Bank Club Vistara Forex Card'.
- IBM in partnership with the government will create an AI centre of excellence e-marketplace during the inaugural session of RAISE 2020 virtual summit.



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- DigitX, India's first business-to-business (B2B) cryptocurrency trading exchange, began its trading operations.
- According to World Bank forecast the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is expected to contract by 9.6 per cent this fiscal.
- On October 9, 2020 the Reserve Bank of India in its Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting held.
- As per the Ministry of Home Affairs, the amended Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act came into force on 29 September 2020.
- To warn investors, investing in mutual fund schemes a new "very high risk" category on its Mutual Funds (MF) riskometer tool introduced by the Market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) will invest Rs 5,512.5 crore in Reliance Industries Ltd's retail arm.
- With an aim to boost solar energy generation capacity in India the Asian Development Bank (ADB) will invest \$15 million in Avaada Energy Private Limited (AEPL).
- With an aim to help small and local businesses the technology giant Google has launched a 'Make Small Strong' initiative in India.
- For the infrastructure projects in India including Delhi-Meerut rapid rail and the Mumbai metro, the New Development Bank (BRICS Bank) has approved funds worth USD 741 million.
- LIC Housing Finance Ltd (LICHFL) launched "Project RED" (Reimagining Excellence through Digital transformation) to improve efficiencies at every level of the organisation.
- A new entry-level credit card named Axis ACE Credit Card launched by Axis bank with an aim to increase the participation of users in the digital economy.
- The banks' maximum aggregate retail exposure limit to entities with turnover up to Rs 50 crore to Rs 7.5 crore by Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has projected the Indian economy to contract by 10.3 percent in 2020-21, from its earlier prediction of -4.5 percent due to rise in Covid cases.
- The World Bank has approved USD 12 billion in financing to help developing countries buy and distribute coronavirus vaccines, tests, and treatments, aiming to support the vaccination of up to 1 billion people.
- National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) partnered with EarlySalary launched Salary Card which is a Zero Touch Digital Card.
- RBI to conduct first-ever Open Market Operations (OMO) Purchase of State Government Securities worth Rs. 10,000 crores.
- Jana Small Finance Bank, a Bengaluru-based small finance bank (SFB), has partnered with Ashoknagar Co-operative Bank Limited under the bank sponsorship programme.
- IDBI Bank will soon launch its banking services on WhatsApp which will be offered through a dedicated WhatsApp verified number ensuring end-to-end encryption, the Bank stated.



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- State-owned Bank of Baroda (BoB) announced a tie up with Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) to enable finance options for the automaker's customers and dealers.
- ICICI Bank has shut down his operations in Sri Lanka after getting approval from the Sri Lankan monetary authority.
- The Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of HDFC Bank Aditya Puri, has stepped down.
- The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) launched 'RuPay Festive Carnival'.
- Merchant payment platform BharatPe has introduced digital gold product on its platform for merchants in association with Safegold.
- IndusInd Bank has become the first bank in India to go live on the new 'Account Aggregator Framework' of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- The Union Finance Ministry announced that the central government will borrow Rs 1.1 lakh crore under a special window to meet the shortfall in the Goods and Services Tax compensation.
- The Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed an agreement of 177 million USD to upgrade 450 km of district roads and state highways in the state of Maharashtra.
- Tata group flagship firm Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) became the most-valuable information technology (IT) company globally, surpassing rival Accenture for the first time.
- The Ministry of Finance has further extended the deadline for filing income tax returns by individual taxpayers for FY 2019-20 by a month till December 31, 2020.

### Non Financial One Liners:

#### National

- The South Eastern Railways (SER) has launched the project, "Operation my Saheli" to enhance the security of women passengers in the train throughout the entire journey from the originating point to their destinations.
- The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has once again extended the last date for filing income tax returns (ITR) for assessment year 2019-20, (financial year 2018-19).
- The Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot launched an initiative called the "Ambedkar Social Innovation and Incubation Mission (ASIIM) through Video Conferencing on 30 September 2020 in New Delhi.
- Prime Minister of India Shri. Narendra Modi will open World's longest highway tunnel 'Atal Tunnel' on 3 October 2020.
- India Post launched Picture Postcard on Sawantwadi Toy to celebrate the occasion of 151 Years of Postcard in India.
- Union Ayush Ministry launched Regional Facilitation Centre for Medicinal Plants Sector in Pune, Maharashtra. Ministry of AYUSH, Secretary, Vaidya Rajesh initiated Regional Cum Facilitation Centre, Western Region (RCFC) of the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) under the Ministry of AYUSH.
- On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, The Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs has planned to organize a webinar titled 'Swachhata Ke 6 Saal, Bemisaal'.





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- Union Minister for Ministry of Tribal Affairs Shri Arjun Munda will launch – India's Largest Market of Tribal Products named Tribes India E-Marketplace on 02 October 2020, on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti.
- India has set up a screening panel to vet all Chinese foreign investment proposals and those considered “non-controversial” could be approved.
- Union Ministry of Power released the Draft Electricity Rules 2020.
- Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Edappadi Palaniswam has distributed One Nation One Ration Card scheme.
- Union Minister for Food Processing Industries, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare inaugurated Kerala's first and nation's twentieth mega food park in Palakkad district.
- The Union Minister of Tribal Affairs Shri Arjun Munda inaugurated the Tribal Entrepreneurship Development Programme on 2nd October 2020 through Video conference.
- The Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi dedicated to the nation Atal Tunnel, on 3rd October 2020.
- The government of India launched 100-day campaign under Jal Jeevan Mission to supply piped water supply to schools and Anganwadi centres.
- The Steel Authority of India (SAIL) has supplied 9,000 tonnes of steel required to build the tunnel.
- The Puducherry airport has become the first airport of the Airports Authority of India (AAI) which is entirely solar-powered.
- The Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare Dr. Harsh Vardhan and Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh inaugurated the Super Speciality Block (SSB) at Motilal Nehru Medical College, Prayagraj on 5 October 2020 via video conferencing.
- The government announced the launch of an ambitious information technology project ‘Sunidhi’ to digitise all provident fund and pension related activities of the Coal Mines Provident Fund Organisation (CMPFO).
- The Indian Army has constructed a memorial in Ladakh to pay tribute for the twenty soldiers who dies in the Galwan Clash between Indian Army and Chinese Army in June 2020 in the Shyok-Daulat Beg Oldi road.
- ‘Ayush Standard Treatment Protocol’ released by Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan.
- The first ever Brand & Logo for Indian Cotton launched by the Union Minister of Textiles and Women & Child Development, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani through Video Conferencing.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Jan Andolan, a campaign for covid-19 appropriate behaviour.
- AMHUB is Advanced Manufacturing hub and is first of its kind in the country.
- The newly constructed buildings of four Kendriya Vidyalayas through video conferencing is inaugurated by the Union Minister for Education Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’.
- The additional charge of Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution has been given to the Union Minister Piyush Goyal.
- Under Svamitva scheme, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will distribute property cards to rural land owners.
- A Website to promote R&D activities in coal sector is launched by the Secretary of Ministry of Coal sector Anil Jain.



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- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will release a commemorative coin of 100 rupees in honour of Vijaya Raje Scindia.
- The Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar has informed that all eight beaches recommended by the Government of India has got the coveted International Blueflag Certification.
- Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Harsh Vardhan inaugurated the “DBT-BIRAC Clean Tech Demo Park” at Barapullah drain site, near Sundial Park, Sarai Kale Khan, New Delhi in a virtual event.
- Dr. Harsh Vardhan Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare announced that FELUDA paper-strip test for SARS-CoV-2 diagnosis will be begun in next few weeks.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will release the autobiography of Dr. Balasaheb Vikhe Patil and rename Pravara Rural Education Society as ‘Loknete Dr. Balasaheb Vikhe Patil Pravara Rural Education Society’.
- The Central Govt permitted 20 States to borrow Rs 68,825 crore open market borrowings for GST Shortfall.
- The Ministry of Food Processing Industries have announced that the transportation subsidy of fruits and vegetables through Kisan Rail Trains increased by 50%.
- To mark the 75th Anniversary of FAO (The Food and Agriculture Organization), our Prime Minister Narendra Modi will release the commemorative coin of Rs 75 denomination.
- Ministry of Ayush (Ayurveda Yoga and Naturopathy Unani Siddha Homoeopathy) has initiated the Regional Raw Drug Repository (RRDR) for Ayush systems of medicine at the National Institute of Siddha in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- India joined with six other countries for the campaign against encrypted social media messages.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has approved the implementation of the Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS) project, as a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme under Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education for improving the quality of education, in the Indian School Education System.
- The Union Education Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ has virtually launched the campaign ‘KAPILA’, which stands for Kalam Program for Intellectual Property Literacy and Awareness campaign on 15th October 2020.
- India has decided to hand over INS Sindhuvir, a Kilo class submarine to the Myanmar Navy by the end of 2020.
- The Union Minister of State for Shipping, Mansukh L Mandaviya has declared that Director-General Shipping will be the final authority for various approvals that are required by the state governments and ship-recycling yard-owners.
- Union Minister for Road Transport, Highways and Micro Small Medium Enterprises laid foundation stone for 16 National Highway projects with a total length of 1411 kms worth Rs 15,592 crore in Andhra Pradesh.
- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Union Minister in PMO, Dr. Jitendra Singh laid the foundation stone of Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya Shiksha Bhawan at Central University of Jammu, Rahya-Sucahni in district Samba in the presence of Vice chancellor Prof. Ashok Aima and others.



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- The Ayushman Sahakar scheme is launched by the Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Shri Narendra Singh Tomar.
- NITI Aayog announced the establishment of a Frontier Technologies Cloud Innovation Centre, CIC with Amazon Web Services, AWS.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> edition of India Energy Forum by CERAWeek, will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The food regulator FSSAI has announced to extend its Food Safety Compliance System (FoSCoS) across the entire country from November 1, 2020.
- The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research Institute of Himalayan bioresource Technology has taken up Heeng cultivation in the Lahaul valley of Himachal Pradesh.
- The National Green Tribunal granted environmental clearance to the Kaleshwaram irrigation project of Telangana.
- Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Minister Narendra Singh Tomar unveiled preparation framework for Block and District development plans
- Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya has e-launched an indigenous software solution for Vessel traffic services (VTS) and Vessels Traffic Monitoring Systems (VTMS).
- The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the adoption of Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj act.
- The State of Global Air report 2020 was released.
- Union Minister for MSME, Nitin Gadkari launched India's first-ever high-quality Khadi Fabric Footwear, designed by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC).
- The South-Central Railway has started the third Kisan rail from the Zone to reach Adarsh Nagar Station in New Delhi.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will virtually launch several important projects in Gujarat on 24<sup>th</sup> of October.
- Standard Chartered GBS is leasing 7.7 lakh square feet at DLF Downtown in Chennai's Taramani to set up its largest office establishment globally.
- 24<sup>th</sup> October Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated three key projects in Gujarat
- The Union Minister of State for Culture and Tourism Shri Prahlad Singh Patel launched 'Life in Miniature' project via video conferencing on 22 October 2020.
- India has assumed the Chairmanship of the Governing Body of International Labour Organization (ILO), after a gap of 35 years.
- As per the directives of Railway Board, the staff of Railway Protection Force in Vijayawada Division launched 'Meri Saheli' initiative in Train No.07225 Amaravathi Express between Vijayawada-Hubli.
- The Department of Posts released a commemorative postage stamp in the presence of External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar on the 75th anniversary of the United Nations.
- The SAI has consented a national coaching camp for table tennis.
- The Ministry of Defence recently approved the land transfer rules.



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- The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) observed its 59th Raising Day on 24 October 2020.
- The Union Minister of State for Shipping (I/C), Shri Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the 'Direct Port Entry (DPE) facility' of V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust in Tamil Nadu on 27 October 2020.
- Two Centers of Excellence (CoE) for Tribal Welfare is launched by the Union Minister of Tribal Affairs, Shri Arjun Munda.
- The Government of India extended the deadline for making payment under the Vivad se Vishwas scheme.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the national conference on vigilance and anti-corruption on October 27, 2020.
- AIM (Atal Innovation Mission), in association with Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), is organizing a two-day hackathon on the circular economy, 'India–Australia Circular Economy Hackathon (I-ACE)', on 7 and 8 December.
- The Feni bridge is 1.8 km long joining Sabrum in India with Ramgarh in Bangladesh.
- Single-use plastic and polythene bags will remain prohibited in Ambala, with effect from November 1.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be on a two-day visit to Gujarat.
- eSanjeevani, the Health Ministry's telemedicine initiative has completed 6 lakh tele consultations.
- The Indian Railways has introduced a new initiative called "Meri Saheli" to provide safety and security to women passengers during their train journeys.
- The cabinet committee on economic affairs has approved Rs 10,211 crore under dam rehabilitation and improvement project (DRIP) phase II and phase III.
- The Indian Government has banned the export of onion seeds with immediate effect.
- Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has launched a limited edition of two-layered 'Happy Diwali' printed face masks made of pure Muslin fabric, high quality and ultra-fine cotton fabric.
- A campaign launched by the Rajasthan police to spread awareness among woman about the crime against them and to educate them of their rights and ways to secure justice if they end up becoming its victims.
- Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has sets a new Guinness World Record for most users taking an online artificial intelligence, AI lesson to 13,000 students from class 8 and above between October 13-14 in 24 hours.
- The Ministry of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy) has launched the Jan Andolan campaign against COVID-19.
- The Government of India has started to identify private facilities and government facilities to create a hub to store COVID-19 vaccines.

### State

- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy launched the YSR Jala Kala Scheme under which free borewells will be drilled for the needy farmers in the state.
- The Maharashtra government has banned the sale of loose cigarettes and beedis, making it the first Indian state to do so.





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- Former Maharashtra Chief Minister and BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis has been appointed as the party's Bihar Assembly Elections in-charge.
- Gujarat Government has announced 25 percent cut in school fees for the current academic year.
- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy along with Union Ministers launched the door delivery of fertilisers to farmers, PoS (Point of sale) version, and SMS gateway from Rythu Bharosa Kendras.
- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched a slum upgradation programme to make the state slum free in three years.
- Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal launched a web portal named 'Kritagyata' on 1st October 2020.
- West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has launched a new scheme called the Pathashree Abhijan on 01 October 2020.
- Sabarmati Central Jail in Ahmedabad has launched 'Radio Prison' on the occasion of the 151st Birth Anniversary of the Father of the Nation.
- On the occasion of World Postcard Day, the Chief Postmaster General, Odisha Circle, has released a picture postcard named "Jau Kandhei" on the theme of 'Traditional Toys of India'.
- A 20-bed tribal unit of the National Institute of Naturopathy was inaugurated in Pune's Ambegaon tehsil by Union AYUSH minister Shripad Naik.
- Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar digitally launched 'Gram Darshan', which will allow accessibility to data of development projects of 6,197 gram panchayats of the state.
- Chhattisgarh State Government has organised Corona Intensive Community Survey Campaign.
- Union Minister for Railways Shri, Piyush Goyal inaugurated Phoolbagan Metro station of East-West Metro.
- the Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal launched a Mega Anti-Pollution Campaign, called "Yudh Prasudushan ke Virudh".
- The Union department of Industry promotion and internal trade has given the GI Tag recently to the "Dalle Khursani" the famous chilli of Sikkim.
- The Goa government released an action plan to support agriculture and animal husbandry under its "Aatmanirbhar" programme.
- Digital Seva Setu Programme for rural areas has been initiated by Gujarat government under the Bharat Net Project.
- Railway Minister Piyush Goyal renamed Naugarh railway station to Siddharthnagar railway station which is situated at Siddharthnagar district in Uttar Pradesh.
- Uttar Pradesh government will launch a special campaign on the safety of women and girls during the Navratri festival.
- Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani e-dedicated online e-Sanjeevani OPDs scheme across Gujarat through videoconferencing.



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- The Gyan Circle Ventures, a MeitY funded Technology Business Incubator (TBI) of Indian Institute of Information Technology, Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh is inaugurated by the Union Minister for Education Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'.
- The Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy has launched Jagan Anna Vidya kanuka scheme.
- Mukhyamantri Saur Swarojgar Yojana recently launched by the Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat which will promote self-employment of the youth. It also promotes production of green energy.
- Goa has become the first state in India to provide 100% tap water connections in rural areas under "Har Ghar Jal State".
- Delhi government announced that the city restaurants will now be allowed to open round the clock and the requirement of tourism licenses will also be removed.
- With an aim to preserve trees for clean and green city, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has passed a first-of-its-kind in India 'Tree Transplantation Policy'.
- "Swa-nirbhar Naari:Atmanirbhar Ason" scheme is launched by Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated 44 bridges and laid the foundation stone of Nechiphu tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh.
- The Forest Department of Madhya Pradesh will invite private investors to work on the establishment of forest-based domestic industries.
- Manoj Sinha the Lieutenant Governor of J&K, inaugurated sports infrastructure worth Rs. 49.78 crore and laid foundation of various projects costing Rs. 10.5 Crore across the Union Territory in a function held at Pologround in Srinagar.
- The chief Justice of Madras High court shri. A.P Sahi inaugurated the Integrated court complex in Karaikal.
- The State of Kerala is the first state in the country to make public education completely digital.
- Anation-wide campaign started by the Rashtriya Kamadhenu Aayog (RKA) named "Kamadhenu Deepawali Abhiyan".
- A toll-free government helpline for mental health" Mann Samvad" was launched by Health Minister Raghu Sharma in Rajasthan.
- The Goa Agriculture department has collaborated with the Postal Department to enroll 11,000 farmers, eligible to avail the benefit of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana (PM-KISAN), under which small and marginal farmers get up to Rs 6,000 per year as minimum income support.
- To determine the quality of potable water a state-of the art-Mobile-Water Testing Laboratory Van of Rs 99-lakh is launched by Haryana Chief Minister (CM) Manohar Lal Khattar.
- The newly formed Trichy Circle of the Archeological Survey of India (ASI) will soon launch a cultural campaign to make youth aware of the country's national heritage.
- The Uttar Pradesh government has launched "Mission Shakti" program which will be dedicated to the coming Navratra festival for women's safety, dignity and empowerment.



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- Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Edappadi K. Palaniswami signed 14 Agreements worth Rs. 10, 055 crore with potential to generate employment in the State.
- PepsiCo, which is an American multinational food, snack and beverage corporation has planned to establish potato chips in Uttar Pradesh with Rs 814 crore investment.
- On 13<sup>th</sup> October, “Sujal”- ‘Drink from Tap Mission’ scheme is launched by Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik.
- The Tribal Affairs Ministry has launched an initiative named ‘Tech for Tribals’ with an aim to focus on imparting entrepreneurship and business skills to tribals in Chhattisgarh.
- Kerala Karshaka Kshemanidhi Board has been launched by Kerala State Government launched for Welfare of Farmers in the State.
- The Memorandum of Understanding for this project was signed with Vedanta Group this evening.
- In J&K, the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development, Dr. Jupaka Madhavi and Additional Superintendent of Police, Ramban, Rajni Sharma inaugurated a “SAKHI” One-Stop Service Centre for women in Ramban district.
- The new integrated passenger terminal building of AAI-run Trichy airport in Tamil Nadu, with enhanced passenger handling capacity, will be functional from March 2022.
- Rs 520 crore a special package approved by the Union Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi for J&K and Ladakh under National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM).
- Chief Minister of Delhi, Shri Arvind Kejriwal launched ‘Red light on, Gaadi off’ campaign to fight air pollution.
- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has ordered to establish women help desks in each and every police station of state.
- With an aim to give the awareness of sanitation practices “hath dhona, roke corona” campaign on the occasion of Global Handwashing Day of launched by Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.
- Karnataka State Government has launched My Family, My Responsibility campaign in Udipi District.
- Country’s First International Institute of Advanced Virology inaugurated in Kerala.
- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari will virtually lay the foundation stone for the first-ever multi-modal logistic park of the country in Assam.
- Assam celebrated the Kati Bihu festival Locals in Bongaigaon celebrated in Assam.
- The Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel inaugurated the ‘Safe City Project’ on 19 October 2020 in Lucknow.
- The Indian farmers fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) joint venture Sikkim IFFCO Organics Limited recently has started the construction work of food processing units in Sikkim.
- Atma-Nirbhar Bharat Training Center has been started in the state of Madhya Pradesh.
- Maharashtra has become the first state in the country to cap the prices of masks.
- Kerala’s first water taxi service launched in the backwaters of Alappuzha. The water taxi is set to ferry passengers.



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- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, the 3rd World Statistics Day on the theme ‘Connecting the world with Data we can Trust’ was celebrated in Budgam.
- Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal laid the foundation stone of Assam Agar International Trade Centre at Golaghat.
- Uttar Pradesh Government has announced to provide financial assistance to labourers for historical and religious tour in a unique step towards welfare of the labourers in state.
- The Tamil Nadu State government is to implement the smart blackboard scheme in more than 80,000 Government schools.
- The Integrated Model Agricultural Village scheme (Ekikrit Adarsh Krishi Gram Yojana) launched by the Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat.
- The Union Ministry of Rural Development has declared the list of tops performing 30 districts in the country for implementing the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).
- ‘YSR Bima’ scheme is launched by Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, YS Jagan Mohan Reddy with an aim to provide financial assistance through insurance cover to beneficiary in case of death or accident of their families members.
- The Asan Conservation Reserve in Uttarakhand has become the first Ramsar site in the state, giving it the status of ‘Wetland of International Importance’.
- In Mizoram, the state government has decided to observe ‘COVID-19 – No Tolerance Fortnight’ beginning from 26th October as a containment measure to flatten the curve of Covid-19 in the state.
- To keep a check on the declining numbers of elephants in the state, the West Bengal government launched marketing campaign to prevent deaths of elephants from electrocution.
- Tamil Nadu government is implementing the Smart Black Board scheme in 80,000 government schools to ensure better teaching environment.
- The air quality in Delhi was recorded in the very poor category.
- Uttar Pradesh Government has decided to establish anti-human trafficking Police Stations in each and every district in a major step towards the security of women and children.
- Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari will lay the foundation stones of nine National Highway projects in Tripura.
- Every year, October 27 is celebrated as Infantry Day by the Indian Army in Jammu & Kashmir (known by nickname, Chinar Corps).
- The phase-II of Rs. 11,000 crore Urban Environment Improvement Programme (UIEP) is virtually launched by the Chief Minister of Punjab, Amarinder Singh.
- To transform the functioning of the Panchayati raj bodies of Jammu and Kashmir, the government is all set to provide digital infrastructure with internet connectivity to all halqa panchayats and Block Development Councils (BDCs).





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- In Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha virtually inaugurated Intellectual Property Facilitation Centre (IPFC) at Jammu and Sub-Centre at Srinagar.
- Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu said that music and dance can provide relief from the anxiety caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Punjab Sports and NRI Affairs Minister, Shri Rana Gurmit Singh Sodhi launched Punjabi version of 'Age Appropriate Fitness Protocols'
- The Young Advocates Welfare Fund has been launched in Tamil Nadu.
- Kerala became the first Indian state to fix Minimum Support Price for sixteen agriculture items.
- Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal launched the Green Delhi mobile application today, on October 29, 2020.
- The Centre has allocated the first tranche of more than Rs. one crore for the paperless project of Odisha Vidhansabha.
- The state government of Karnataka has proposed a ban on government servants acting in films and television programmes.
- Union Territory of Ladakh is celebrating its first raising day.
- Uttar Pradesh, Tripura, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu will get a vulture conservation and breeding centre each, according to the Action Plan for Vulture Conservation 2020-2025.
- The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has partnered with Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) Delhi, JATC (Joint Advanced Technology Centre) and Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

### International

- India and China diplomats conducted 19th meeting of Working Mechanism for Consultation & Coordination (WMCC) of India-China Border Affairs.
- Vice President of India inaugurated the 14th edition of FICCI HEAL which is a annual healthcare conference organized by Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) which is an Industry is an association of business organizations in India.
- India and Bangladesh will construct a High-Level Monitoring Committee.
- The United States has announced a financial aid of USD 1.9 million for India to support vulnerable populations like informal sector workers whose livelihoods have been disrupted due to COVID-19.
- India will build a 100-bedded cancer hospital and a 22,000-seater cricket stadium in Hulhumale, Maldives, under the USD 800 million Line of Credit (LoC) that was extended to the country last year.
- A private company, Origin Space in Beijing (China) is set to send out the world's first asteroid mining robot into space in November 2020.
- NASA (The National Aeronautics and Space Administration) has launched cargo spacecraft to the International Space Station.
- India is currently in advanced talks with Russia to acquire light weight tanks. These are newly developed tanks in Russia.



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- The Government of India contributed 3,000 vials to Myanmar under the framework of India-Myanmar Foreign Office Consultation.
- Sittwe port in the Rakhine state of Myanmar to be operational in the first quarter of 2021 as India and Myanmar is working towards its operationalization.
- Russia successfully test-fired its Hypersonic Cruise missile named TSIRKON (Zircon) in the Barents Sea.
- In order to boost economic ties between US and Bangladesh, the United States government has decided to open a Foreign Commercial office in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- The Kuwaiti government, headed by Prime Minister (PM) Sabah Al Khalid Al Sabah submitted its resignation to Emir Nawaf Al Ahmed Al Jaber Al Sabah.
- Bishr al-Khasawneh has been appointed as New Prime Minister of Jordan which is a Western Asia.
- The Government of India has donated 1.8 million N95 masks to the state of Philadelphia in United States.
- Argentina has approved HB4 drought-resistant GMO wheat, making it the first country in the world to approve a strain of GMO wheat.
- A 16-year-old girl Aava Murto assumed the post of the Prime Minister of Finland for one day, under the “Girls Takeover” program.
- North Korea unveiled what analysts believe to be one of the world’s largest ballistic missiles at a military parade celebrating the 75th anniversary in Pyongyang.
- Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Asia Pacific group has kept Pakistan in its ‘Enhanced Follow Up’ list.
- Pakistan has been re-elected to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) on the basis of votes of member countries.
- India has contributed one million dollars to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestine Refugees in Near East.
- Russia has given regulatory approval to a second Covid-19 vaccine, named ‘EpiVacCorona’ which was developed by the Vector State Research Centre of Virology and Biotechnology
- Kyrgyzstan President Sooronbai Jeenbekov has resigned from his post on 15 October 2020.
- India has been re-elected as the President of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and France as the Co-President for tenure of two years.
- New Zealand elected Jacinda Ardern as Prime Minister for second term consecutive for three-years.
- Singapore recently included facial recognition to its National Identity Database.
- Japan and Vietnam signed agreements to ensure “free and open Indo-Pacific”.
- The North Atlantic Treaty organisation is to setup a new Space Centre in Ramstein, Germany.
- Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) on October 19, 2020 lifted the ban on Chinese video app TikTok after the app management promised to moderate the app content.
- The China Academy of Electronics & Information Technology under the China Electronics Technology Group Corporation recently conducted tests on a fixed-wing drone swarm system.



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- With an aim to help share their country's best practices and technologies for advancements in India's water management and agriculture sectors 2021.
- NASA selected Nokia to build the first ever cellular network on the moon.
- Andorra has joined the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on 16 October 2020, to become its 190th member.
- Lebanon re-appointed Saad Hariri as its Prime Minister.
- Sushil Kumar Singhal, a 2000-batch IFS officer, has been concurrently accredited as the next High Commissioner of India to the Solomon Islands.
- Bangladesh government has decided that no service will be provided to people who don't wear a mask.
- Bolivia has re-elected Luis Arce as its President.
- Republic of Guinea appointed Alpha Conde as its President for the 3<sup>rd</sup> term.
- India and United States on October 27, 2020, held the third India-US 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue and signed the significant defence pact BECA which allows India to use global geospatial maps of the US for accuracy of stand-off weapons.
- Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga has said that the country will achieve zero carbon emissions by 2050.
- India hosted the 19th Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Ministers of Foreign Economy and Foreign Trade on 28 October 2020.
- Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the 4th India Energy Forum by CERAWEEK through video conference and delivered the inaugural address.
- Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the internationally acclaimed Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF) has been rescheduled to January 2021 by West Bengal Government.
- 8th India-Mexico Joint Commission Meeting was held through Video-Conference.

### Summits and Conferences

- Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey, Union Minister for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Ministry and Mr. Barry O'Farrell, Australian High Commissioner to India engaged conference through video conferencing.
- Union Minister for Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar addressed the United Nations Biodiversity Summit.
- The Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the Vaishvik Bhartiya Vaigyanik (VAIBHAV) Summit, a global virtual summit of overseas and resident Indian Researchers and Academicians.
- The 19th round of Foreign Office Consultation was held between India and Myanmar. Due to COVID19 the discussion was conducted through online mode.
- RAISE 2020- 'Responsible AI for Social Empowerment 2020' will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi .
- United Nations General Assembly held Fourth World Conference on Women 2020.



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- Webinar held between India & Russia on the use of natural gas as motor fuel was organized under the aegis of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India and the Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation.
- Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs organized Swachhata ke 6 saal, Bemisaal on the occasion 6th Anniversary Swachh Bharat Mission.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated RAISE 2020, a Mega Virtual Summit on Artificial Intelligence (AI) on 5th October 2020.
- NITI Aayog, The New and Renewable Energy Ministry, and Invest India which is a non-profit venture under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade has organised India PV-Edge 2020 summit.
- Finance Minister Smt Nirmala Sitaraman chaired the 42nd GST Council Meet.
- On 6<sup>th</sup> October, the Foreign ministers of four Quad countries (the United States, Japan, India and Australia) held in Tokyo, Japan.
- Russia will host 12<sup>th</sup> BRICS Summit virtually on 17 November.
- Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is organizing an International Conference on ‘Mental Health – Looking beyond COVID 19’ virtually through Video Conferencing.
- Prime Minister of India to address Invest India Conference in Canada.
- BRICS Ministerial Summit 2020 held through online mode via Video Conferencing.
- Seventh Meeting of Ministers of Justice of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) will be held on October 16.
- The fifth meeting of India Mexico bilateral high-level group on trade, investment and cooperation was held virtually.
- The Sixth Session of India-Norway Joint Commission was held. India was represented by the External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar.
- The Annual Meeting 2021 of the World Economic Forum (WEF) will be scheduled to be held on from May 18 to 21, 2021 instead of the usual January-end each year in in Lucerne-Burgenstock, Switzerland.
- The first edition of Lectures designed to introduce India to foreign diplomats posted in New Delhi was inaugurated by Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla.
- The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare organized Mahila Kisan Diwas through Video Conferencing .
- On 15<sup>th</sup> October, a webinar held between India and Kazakhstan.
- Union Minister of State for Agriculture Shri Parshottam Rupala inaugurated the Two-day 4th India Agricultural Outlook Forum 2020.
- 102nd World Bank Development Committee Plenary Meeting held virtually.
- Ravi Shankar Prasad, the Union Law Minister virtually hosted the 7th Justice Minister’s meeting of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) member states on October 16, 2020.





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- A Webinar conducted on ‘Aatmanirbhar Bharat: Fostering Steel Usage in Rural Economy, Agriculture, Rural Development, Dairying and Food Processing’.
- The Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and external affairs minister Jay Shankar will hold 2+2 dialogue with their United States counterparts as per the plan and Mike Pompeo.
- India and Indonesia are to hold the fifth joint working group on coal.
- The first-ever virtual G20 (Group of Twenty) Youth 20 (Y20) Global Summit was virtually hosted from Al Khobar, Saudi Arabia for exchanging ideas and dialogues for the empowerment of youth Post COVID, where Indian side was represented by Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Kiren Rijiju.
- The 6th edition of India International Science Festival (IISF) 2020 will be held from 22nd to 25th December, 2020.
- The 18th meeting of Prosecutors General of SCO was held on 20 October 2020, via video conference.
- The India Vietnam Business Forum was organised virtually on 20<sup>th</sup> October.
- Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare virtually addressed the World Bank- IMF annual meeting.
- The 6th BRICS Parliamentary Forum has been organised virtually on 27 October 2020.
- The Centre has set up a high-level committee headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to commemorate the 400th birth anniversary of Shri Guru Tegh Bahadur.
- On 28<sup>th</sup> October, second edition of India-Central Asia Dialogue was held virtually.
- Ministry of Tourism organises a webinar on “Bundi: Architectural Heritage of a Forgotten Rajput Capital” under Dekho Apna Desh Webinar Series on October 24, 2020.
- The finance ministry said India and the United Kingdom have agreed to establish a bilateral Sustainable Finance Forum.
- Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Dr. Harsh Vardhan chaired over an inter-ministerial meet with Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on October 15, 2020.
- Narendra Singh Tomar, Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Food Processing Industries, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj virtually inaugurated the India – International Food & Agri Week being organised from 16th to 22nd October 2020.

### Ranks & Indices

- The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), which is the apex body in India for the formulation, coordination and promotion of biomedical research, released the Second Sero Survey Report.
- National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) which is an Indian government agency responsible for collecting and analyzing crime data released the Crimes in India Report for the year of 2019.
- Department of Fertilizers under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers secured the 2nd position among the 16 Economic Ministries and also the department secured the 3rd spot out of the 65 Ministries or Departments.
- The Colombia-born American actress Sofia Vergara, who came to fame with an American TV Show ‘Modern Family’ is the highest paid actresses in the annual list of Forbes’ Highest-Paid Actresses 2020.



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- Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation conducted survey titled Time Use Survey.
- ICMR (The Indian Council of Medical Research) released the What India Eats Report.
- Ravi Santhanam, Chief Marketing Officer (CMO), HDFC Bank has been recognised in the Forbes list of 'The World's Most Influential CMOs'.
- The World Water Development Report 2020 and PCRWR Groundwater Investigation and Mapping report released by the United Nations.
- NCRB (National Crime Records Bureau) has released the report 'safest city for women' in India report.
- The Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) Chairman Mukesh Ambani, has topped the Forbes India Rich list for 2020, released on 8th October 2020.
- The international charitable organisation 'Oxfam International' released a report on 2020 Commitment to Reducing Inequality (CRI) Index.
- According to the Lancet Report, India is expected to be the third largest economy by 2050 and it overtakes China. India will retain the same position in 2100.
- The IIFL Wealth Hurun India 40 & under Self-Made Rich List 2020 announced.
- The State of Climate Services Report 2020 is released by the United Nations World Meteorological Organization (UN WMO).
- As per the latest Arton Capital's World's Most Powerful Passport Index for the year 2020, Indian passport ranked at 58<sup>th</sup> and the US passport ranked 21<sup>st</sup>.
- World Meteorological Organization (WMO) released the State of Climate Services 2020 Report on October 13, 2020.
- Government of India (GoI) released Intellectual Property India annual report on October 15, 2020.
- Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2020 report released on 16 October 2020 in which India has been ranked at 94 among 107 countries
- An Australian think tank the Lowy Institute released the Asia Power Index 2020.
- 44<sup>th</sup> edition of the annual International Migration Outlook report is released by Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
- The Global Hunger Index 2020 was released.
- The Ministry of Tourism released the Indian Tourism Statistics (ITS), 2020 report.
- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and UNICEF released the Anemia Mukht Bharat Index.
- The world economic forum recently released the third edition of the future of jobs report 2020.
- Forbes recently published World's Best Employer 2020 report which is topped by South Korea based Samsung Electronics.
- The Ookla Speedtest Global Index shows the data as of September 2020.
- The Indian Tourism Statistics (ITS), 2020, has announced that as many as 53.6 crore domestic tourists visited Uttar Pradesh in 2019.



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- On 28 October 2020 the 'Electricity Access in India and Benchmarking Distribution Utilities' report was launched.
- NITI Aayog, Ministry of Power, Rockefeller Foundation and Smart Power India launched the 'Electricity Access in India and Benchmarking Distribution Utilities' report.
- The Public Affairs Index, 2020 was released by Public Affairs Centre, a non-profit organisation.
- The World Bank released the migration and development brief report.

### Agreements and MoUs Signed:

- NITI Aayog and the Embassy of the Netherlands, New Delhi, has signed a Statement of Intent (SoI) to support the 'decarbonization and energy transition agenda' for accommodating cleaner and more energy.
- India's leading stock exchange BSE has signed a pact with private sector lender Yes Bank to empower the small and medium enterprises (SMEs) listed on the platform.
- The United States Agency for International Development in India has been selected for funding from the White House-led Women's Global Development and Prosperity (W-GDP) Initiative and it will collaborate with SEWA Bharat to support women entrepreneurs using the funding amount.
- Considering the importance of Carbon Capture, Utilisation & Storage (CCUS) in India's fight against Climate Change and Global Warming, meeting the growing energy demands and building a strong ecosystem to meet commitments under Paris Agreement, Tata Steel and Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) sign MoU to collaborate in the area of Carbon Capture, Utilisation & Storage (CCUS).
- SBI and FMCG major HUL announced a partnership to enable easy access to credit to small retailers and also help them join the digitisation bandwagon in order to "survive in the new world".
- India and the United States have entered into a defence deal worth \$90-million, wherein US would provide equipment, spare parts and logistical support for India's fleet of C-130J Super Hercules cargo aircraft.
- India and France have collaborated to jointly launch the constellation of maritime surveillance satellites for the Indian Ocean Region, to trace illegal spillage of oil by ships.
- To take street food vendors' businesses online, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) signed MoU with Swiggy under PM SVANIDHI Scheme.
- To make textbooks and other study material easily accessible for deaf children through sign language, the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) signed an MoU with the Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC).
- With an aim to showcase and promote new agriculture technology and innovations, Prasar Bharati sign an MoU with IFFCO.
- The Union Cabinet approved the Memorandum of Understanding signed between India and Japan on cyber security.
- India has signed agreements of cooperation in Artificial Intelligence, 5G technology with Japan.
- The Union Territory of Ladakh signed an MoU with the National Dairy Development Board to conduct survey in the rural livelihood of Ladakh.



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- India and France will jointly launch the constellation of maritime surveillance satellites that will be able to trace illegal spillage of oil by ships in the Indian Ocean Region.
- All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) which is a public Ayurveda medicine and research institution located in New Delhi signed agreement with Amity University (Private Research University) to Promote research in Ayurveda.
- Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited has signed MoUs with the corporate companies to develop upcoming metro stations.
- The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath and Zurich Airport International, Switzerland has signed a concessionaire agreement for the development of Jewar Airport in Gautam Budh Nagar, Noida.
- The Meghalaya government has partnered with Israel for setting up a Centre of Excellence (CoE) on high value vegetables in the state in a bid to improve and promote the livelihoods of farmers.
- The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has inked three Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with the State Bank of India (SBI) to extend credit support for various projects in Gujarat.
- Amazon India had partnered with Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) to provide their customers with the facility to book reserved train tickets on its platform.
- Infosys signed an agreement with Blue Acorn iCi to acquire a digital customer experience, commerce and analytics services provider for up to USD 125 million (about Rs 915 crore).
- HDFC Bank and Apollo Hospitals have joined hands to launch The HealthyLife Programme, a holistic healthcare solution which makes healthy living accessible and affordable on Apollo's digital platform, Apollo 24|7.
- The Department of Science & Technology (DST) partnered with IBM India for promoting STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) learning among students and to inspire them towards STEM careers.
- IIT Kanpur and CDAC (Centre for Development of Advanced Computing) signed an MoU to establish a 1.3 peta FLOP supercomputing facility at Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).
- The Government of India's All India Council For Technical Education (AICTE) has partnered with Microsoft to empower learners and educators with future-ready skills.
- Uber tied-up with Amazon Pay that will allow users in India to pay for their rides on the ride-hailing platform using Amazon Pay.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved USD 300 million loan for India to finance the Rajasthan Secondary Towns Development Sector Project.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed loan agreement worth 270 million dollars with India with an aim to improve water supply and integrated storm water and sewage management infrastructure in 64 cities of Madhya Pradesh.





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- Intel India and the State Government of Telangana partnered with each other with an aim to launch of an applied artificial intelligence (AI) research (INAI) center in Hyderabad.
- India and Maldives on October 12, 2020 concluded the Line of Credit (LOC) Agreement of USD 400 million for the implementation of the Greater Male Connectivity Project (GMCP).
- With an aim to foster cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region the National Maritime Foundation of India and Taiwan Asia Exchange Foundation recently signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU).
- The Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) has extended a Line of Credit (LoC) of USD 400 million (about Rs 2,932 crore) to Maldives.
- With an aim to create a successful and innovative workforce from the Atal Tinkering Lab, ATL schools, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) partnered with CGI India.
- Indian Rugby Football Union (IRFU) which is the governing body for rugby union in India signed MoU with Odisha State Government to sponsor the Indian National Rugby Team for tenure of three years (till 2023).
- Indian Bank has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) for payment of subsidy to street vendors under the Centre's SVANidhi Scheme.
- Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) has received Rs 5,550 crore from global investment firm KKR, which has picked up 1.28 per cent stake in its retail arm.
- In collaboration with HDFC bank, Apollo Hospitals initiated a program named 'HealthyLife Programme' for its customers.
- "IKEA Family Credit Card by Citi" is launched by IKEA in collaboration with Citibank India and Mastercard.
- Flipkart-owned PhonePe launched car and bike insurance products on its platform in association with Bajaj Allianz General Insurance.
- IRDAI ordered life insurance companies to launch a standard term insurance policy 'Saral Jeevan Bima' by January 1, 2021 to help customers take informed decisions.
- The IIT Delhi and Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) partnered with each other to find technological solutions to the operational challenges faced by the organization.
- The UNICEF and India's International Advertising Association (IAA India) has been collaborated with each other with an objective to boost the evidence and real time validation-based research on gender representation and stereotypes in TV and advertisements in India.
- Tata Motors has partnered with HDFC Bank for financing of its passenger vehicles.
- The Indian digital payment and technology platform Paytm has partnered with various card issuers to introduce co-branded cards in the market.
- Telangana government along with GlobalLinker has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE).



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- The JK Government signed an historic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with online store Flipkart to provide a platform for local artisans, craftsmen, weavers to reach customers across the globe.
- Stock exchange BSE has signed an agreement with Inventivepreneur Chamber of Commerce and Industries (ICCI).
- World Bank has sanctioned around Rs.3 crore to set up India's first sand dune parks and interpretation centres in Goa.
- Mastercard, the payments technology company has partnered with Atlantis which is a Singapore-based financial technology company to boost the expansion of its Digital First Program in India.
- Indian Bank has collaborated with IIT-Madras Incubation Cell (IITMIC) to launch an initiative called 'IND Spring Board', for funding start-ups.
- Tata Communications was announced appointment of Kabir Ahmed Shakir as Chief Financial Officer with effect from October 21.
- Rohit Sharma has been signed up by India's leading beauty accessories brand, Vega, for its men's personal grooming electronics range under the 'Vega Men' brand.
- Former Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) of India, Bimal Julka, has been appointed as the new Chairman of Federation of Indian Fantasy Sports (FIFS).
- India Post and US Postal Service signed agreement for electronic exchange of data related to postal shipments.
- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jodhpur and National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to share expertise for the betterment of highway infrastructure.
- Microsoft has collaborated with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) to impart digital skills to more than one lakh underserved women in India over the next 10 months.
- As per the agreement, JBIC will provide 60 per cent of the loan amount and the balance will be extended by commercial banks namely Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation, Bank of Yokohama, San-In Godo Bank, Joyo Bank and Nanto Bank, under the JBIC guarantee.
- State Bank of India on Wednesday said it has signed an agreement with Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) for a loan worth USD 1 billion.
- Late Indian actor Om Puri was honoured with a Lifetime Achievement Award at the third edition of the India International Film Festival of Boston (IIFFB 2020).
- Digital India Award formerly known as Web Ratna Awards is an initiative to acknowledge the exemplary initiatives in e-Governance.
- Indian organisation named Global Himalayan Expedition wins UN Global Climate Action Award for combating climate change amid COVID-19 pandemic.
- The SBI Card in association with the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation launched a contactless multi-purpose card that can function as a credit card and as a metro smart card.



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- SVC Bank (SVC Co-operative Bank Ltd.), one of the leading Co-operative Banks in the country, announced the launch of SVC Rewards Program.
- The union cabinet approved the Memorandum of Understanding signed between India and Cambodia on cooperation in the field of medicine and health.
- The Union Cabinet approved the Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) signed between India and Japan on Cooperation in the field of Information and Communication Technologies.
- India and United Arab Emirates recently held a webinar to boost defence production and exports between the countries.
- The Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd and Tech Mahindra signed a contract worth Rs 400 crore recently in Bengaluru for implementation of the Enterprise Resource Planning to support HAL's 'Project Parivartan'.
- Rachana Patil has been made new DM of Munger district while MS Dhillon became new SP of the district.
- India and Netherland Collaborated in E-Health Sector to give digital health facilities and security to Indians and help Netherlands to accelerate the digital transformation of health.
- Tech Mahindra, a leading provider of digital transformation, consulting and business reengineering services and solutions has inked a contract of INR 400 crore for ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) implementation 'Project Parivartan' by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- The United Kingdom (UK) has entered into a strategic partnership to develop India's GIFT City.
- Tech Mahindra acquired 100% equity in two companies—Momenton, a digital enterprise technology firm and Tenzing Ltd.
- Private sector lender RBL Bank announced that the Reserve Bank of India has granted its approval to Maple Group to acquire up to a 9.99 percent stake in the bank

### Appointments

Name	Appointed as	Other Info
Anil Kumar Chaudhary	Head of CII's public sector enterprises council	
Rahul Parikh	Bandhan Bank Digital Head	
Dr Bushra Ateeq, Dr Surajit Ghosh and Dr Ravi Manjithaya	CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI) Award 2020	These scientists have made outstanding contribution in unfolding the knot of Cancer. Director, CDRI, Prof. Tapas Kundu and Ex Director, CDRI, Dr VP Kamboj congratulated the winners.
Sourav Ganguly	Brand ambassador for Bengal Peerless Housing	The former national cricket team captain and current president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India, Ganguly will primarily lead



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		the campaign of the company's residential project Avidipta II on EM Bypass
Apurva Chandra	Secretary of Union Ministry of Labour & Employment.	Earlier he was serving as Special Director General, Defence Acquisition, Ministry of Defence.
Mohit Kapoor	Executive Vice-President and Group Chief Technology Officer of Mahindra Group	
BS Dhanoa	Independent director of Hero Motocorp	Dhanoa served as the Chief of the Indian Air Force from January 1, 2017 to September 30, 2019
Charanjit Singh Attra	Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of SBI	The post was lying vacant after the former Deputy MD & CFO Prashant Kumar, was appointed as the CEO of Yes Bank in March 2020
Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad Al Sabah	Ruling emir	Sheikh Nawaf, 83, had served as the crown prince since 2006, jumping a traditional order of alternating rule between the Al Jaber and the Al Salim branches of the country's ruling family.
Rinki Sethi	New Information Security Head Of Twitter	Sethi had previously worked as the vice president of information security at cyber-security firm Palo Alto Networks Inc.
Bhaskar Ghosh	Chief Strategy Officer of Accenture	Ghosh succeeds Simon Eaves
Dinesh Kumar Khara	Chairman of State Bank of India	Succeeds Khara
M Rajeshwar Rao	Deputy governor of RBI	He replaced NS Vishwanathan
M A Ganapathy	Director General of Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS)	He will hold the position till his superannuation on February 29, 2024.
Arvind Hali	Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of Motilal Oswal Home Finance Limited (MOHFL).	
J Venkatramu	Managing director (MD) and chief	Venkatramu will take over the post





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	executive officer (CEO) of India Post Payments Bank	of Suresh Sethi
Pradeep Kumar Rawat	Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Netherlands.	
Manoj Kumar	Chairman and managing director of Western Coalfields Ltd.	
Bhuvan Bam	first digital brand ambassador of Fashion e-commerce platform Myntra.	
Chaitanya Venkateswaran	British high commissioner to India for a day.	
Manikandan Thangarathnam	Mobility head of Uber in Bengaluru	
Sanjeev Krishan	Chairman of PwC in India	Sanjeev succeeds Shyamal Mukherjee
Constantina Dita	Ambassador for Half Marathon Championships Gdynia 2020	
Dr. Ekta Kapoor	Vice President of the OECD Working Group on GLP	
Rajkiran Rai G	Chairman of Indian Banks' Association (IBA)	He succeeds Rajnish Kumar
Michael Irani	Interim President of The International Weightlifting Federation (IWF)	
Vishal V. Sharma	India's next envoy to UNESCO	He succeeds Shri Jawed Ashraf
M K Das	Special Police Observer for Bye-Elections to Legislative Assembly of Madhya Pradesh	
Seema Mustafa	President of the Editors Guild of India.	Mustafa succeeds Shekhar Gupta
Wavel Ramkalawan	President of Seychelles	
Lewis Hamilton	Ambassador of LG Signature	
Rajendra Prasad Goyal	CFO of NHPC Ltd.	
Priyanka Chopra Jonas	Brand Ambassador of Parle Agro	
Dr Neena Malhotra	Ambassador to the Republic of San Marino	Presently, she is serving as the Ambassador of India to the Republic of Italy.



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B V R Subrahmanyam	Jammu and Kashmir, Chief Secretary	
Nanda Kishore Sahoo	Director General Dental Services and Colonel Commandant of Army Dental Corps	
Rajesh Nambiar	Cognizant India, CMD	
Rachana Patil	DM of Munger district	
MS Dhillon	SP of the Munger district	
Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha	New Chief Information Commissioner	

- Biotherapeutics firm PureTech Health plc has appointment of Biocon Executive Chairperson Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw on its board of directors.
- The government appointed three eminent economists Ashima Goyal, Jayanth R Varma and Shankanka Bhide as members of the rate-setting Monetary Policy Committee of the RBI.
- Madhabi Puri Buch gets One-year Extension as the Whole-Time Member of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- Omar al Razzaz, the Prime Minister of Jordan submitted his resignation to Jordan's King Abdullah.
- Nilesh Shah has been re-elected as the Chairman of Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI).
- The Reserve Bank (RBI) has extended the term of RK Chhibber as the Chairman and Managing Director of Jammu and Kashmir Bank for a period of six months.
- The additional charge of Health and Family Welfare Department has been given to Dr. K Sudhakar.

### Sports

- The Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri Kiren Rijiju launched the new logo of Sports Authority of India's (SAI) at Delhi's Major Dhyan Chand Stadium.
- In Shooting, India's Visnu Shivaraj Pandian has won the 10m air rifle event at the fifth edition of the International Online Shooting Championship held on 3rd October 2020.
- The Indian women's cricket team has overtaken New Zealand to rise to the third spot in the T20 International standings and retained the second position in the ODI chart of the latest ICC rankings.
- Lewis Hamilton has won the 2020 Eifel Grand Prix, held on 11 October 2020.
- The India's first-ever homegrown professional badminton brand "Transform" appointed Commonwealth Games medallist in Badminton, Chetan Anand as the brand ambassador.
- This is Nadal's 20th Grand Slam and 13th French Open title.
- Young Indian Chess player Nihal Sarin has been declared as a winner in the 2020 Junior Speed Online Chess Championship of Chess.com in Chennai.
- The National Basketball Association (NBA) Championship 2020 held on 12 October 2020.



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- All India Football Federation, the apex body for the sport of football in the country, announced the launch of their new motto ‘Indian Football. Forward Together’, defining the new brand direction.
- Robert Lewandowski who is a Polish professional footballer who plays as a striker for Bundesliga club Bayern Munich won the UEFA Men’s Player of the Year Award 2020.
- The famous Pakistani bowler Umar Gul has announced that he will retire from all forms of cricket. The 36-year-old Gul had a cricket career that spanned twenty years.
- An annual badminton tournament the Denmark Open which was organized by Danmarks Badminton Forbund was concluded in Denmark.

CATEGORY	WINNER	Runner -Up
Men’s Single	Anders Antonsen (Denmark)	Rasmus Gemke (Denmark)
Women’s Single	Nozomi Okuhara (Japan)	Carolina Marin (Spain)
Men’s Double	Marcus Ellis and Chris Langridge (England)	Vladimir Ivanov and Ivan Sozonov (Russia)
Women’s Double	Fukushima Yuki and Hirota Sayaka (Japan)	Matsumoto Maya and Nagahara Wakana (Japan)
Mixed Double	Mark Lamsfuss and Isabel Herttrich (Germany)	Chris and Gabby Adcock (England)

- The 2019-20 I-League title won by Mohun Bagan.
- The Odisha Government will pay the Indian Rugby Football Union (also known as Rugby India) ₹3 crore as sponsor of National teams over three years.
- Andrey Rublev joined Novak Djokovic as the only men to win four tour singles titles in the St. Petersburg Open tennis tournament.
- The 2020 Portuguese Grand Prix which is held on 25 October 2020 won by Lewis Hamilton.
- The BCCI has announced the Indian squads for the upcoming tour of Australia, the team’s first international outing since the COVID-19 lockdown forced the home series against South Africa to be called off mid-way.

### Defence

- The Defence Research and Development (DRDO) successfully test-fired BrahMos supersonic cruise missile, with several indigenous features, from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Balasore in Odisha.
- The Indian Coast Guard Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV) ICGS ‘Kanaklata Barua’ was commissioned at the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd in Kolkata on 30 September 2020.
- ISRO is scheduled to launch its Venus mission in 2025 and France will participate in it.



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- The indigenously developed Laser Guided Anti Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) was successfully test fired by DRDO on 1st Oct 2020.
- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully flight tested the Supersonic Missile Assisted Release of Torpedo (SMART) from Wheeler Island off the coast of Odisha.
- Offshore Patrol vessel 'Vigraha', designed and built by the Larsen and Toubro (L&T) Shipbuilding under the 'Make in India' initiative is launched by the Indian Coast Guard at a private shipyard in Kattupalli, north of Chennai on 6th October 2020.
- The Indian Navy conducted a two-day coastal security exercise called "Sagar Kavach".
- The new generation anti-radiation missile named Rudram 1 which has been generated to kill enemy radar is successfully tested in the Balasore test range located off the coast of Odisha in Bay of Bengal.
- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has test-fired indigenously developed Drone RUSTOM II in Karnataka.
- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has test-fired Nirbhay Cruise Missile from Odisha.
- India successfully conducted the night trial of its nuclear-capable Prithvi-2 missile on 16 October 2020 from Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur near Balasore, off Odisha coast.
- On 18<sup>th</sup> October India successfully test fired the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from the Indian Navy's indigenously-built stealth destroyer INS Chennai.
- The eighth edition of annual Indian Navy (IN) and Sri Lanka Navy (SLN) bilateral maritime exercise SLINEX-20 is scheduled be held off Trincomalee in Sri Lanka from 19 to 21 October 2020.
- India successfully test fired the Stand-Off Anti-Tank Missile called SANT.
- The Defence Minister Rajnath Singh approved a new Defence Research Development Organization Procurement Manual, 2020.
- Indigenously built Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) stealth corvettes INS Kavaratti under Project 28 (Kamorta class) will be commissioned into the Indian Navy by Chief of the Army Staff General Manoj Naravane, at Naval Dockyard in Visakhapatnam.
- The Indian Army launched a messaging mobile application called the SAI.
- The 24th edition of the Malabar naval exercise scheduled in two phases in November will see the participation of Indian Navy (IN), United States Navy (USN), Japan Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF), and Royal Australian Navy (RAN).
- Indian Navy test fired the Anti-Ship Missile from INS Kora in Bay of Bengal. The missile hit the destined target successfully.

### Recent Committees





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- SEBI has constituted a Market Data Advisory Committee (MDAC), a Standing Committee – to recommend appropriate policy for access to securities market data, identify segment wise data perimeters, data needs and gaps, recommend data privacy and data access regulations applicable to market data.
- The policy think tank NITI Aayog has constituted a 14-member advisory committee to look into introducing reforms in the urban planning education system.
- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has constituted a Market Data Advisory Committee (MDAC).

### Awards & Honours

Name	Awarded as
Kerala Tourism	PATA Grand Award 2020 in Marketing
Sanjay Singh	‘Gandhi’ Award instituted by the Mahatma Gandhi National Foundation
Nasrin Sotoudeh of Iran, Bryan Stevenson of the United States (US), Lottie Cunningham Wren of Nicaragua and Ales Bialiatski of Belarus	Right Livelihood Award 2020.
Ratan Tata	Indo-American Chamber of Commerce (IACC) lifetime achievement award.
Mumbai Municipal Commissioner I.S. Chahal	Global ‘Covid Crusader Award-2020’
Nityanand Nayak	Sarala Puraskar for his poetry work ‘Setebelaku Nathiba’, published in 2017.
Sarah Hall	BBC national short story award
Indian Navy Ships Sahyadri and Kora	Best Ships in FAF 2020.
Bank of Ghana	Central bank of the year award 2020
Aishwarya Sridhar	Wildlife Photographer of the Year Award
Mangdechhu hydroelectric project in Bhutan	Prestigious Brunel Medal for excellence in civil engineering
Dr Jajini Varghese	Outstanding Young Person of the World 2020

- The Union Science and Technology minister Dr Harsh Vardhan announced the 2020 Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prizes on the occasion of the Foundation Day of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). The award is given for outstanding Indian work in the field of science and technology.
- The Union Minister for Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and the Minister of State for Jal Shakti, Shri Rattan Lal Kataria virtually conferred the Swachh Bharat 2020 Awards to the best performing States/UTs, districts, blocks, GPs in various categories on 2nd October 2020.



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- Rayana Edwards, the South African who started a project to empower women to recycle saris into internationally-acclaimed fashion garments, has been named as a joint winner of this year's Goldman Sachs and Fortune Global Women Leaders award(USD 25,000).

### 2020 Nobel Prize in Physics announced

- On 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2020 Nobel Prize in Physics announced by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.

#### Physics Winners List:

Person Name	Reason	Country
Roger Penrose	for the discovery that black hole formation is a robust prediction of the general theory of relativity	UK
Reinhard Genzel and Andrea Ghez	For the discovery of a supermassive compact object at the centre of our galaxy	USA

### 2020 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine

Person Name	Reason	Country
Harvey J Alter + Charles M Rice + Michael Houghton	for the discovery of the Hepatitis C virus.	

### 2020 Nobel Prize in Chemistry:

Winner	Reason	Country
Emmanuelle Charpentier and Jennifer A. Doudna	“for the development of a method for genome editing.”	France and America

### 2020 Nobel Prize in Literature

Winner	Reason	Country
Louise Glück	“for her unmistakable poetic voice that with austere beauty makes individual existence universal”	American

### Nobel Peace Prize 2020

- The Norwegian Nobel Committee has awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 2020 to World Food Programme (WFP) on 9th October 2020.
- The 2020 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences has been awarded jointly to Paul R. Milgrom and Robert B. Wilson “for improvements to auction theory and inventions of new auction formats”



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- South Central Railway has conferred “Man of the Month” safety awards to 45 employees for taking timely action to prevent unsafe conditions.
- The Earthshot Prize is launched by Prince William and Sir David Attenborough, which offers £50m (US\$65m) in funding for solutions to the environmental and climate crises

### Science & Tech

- The Nagaland government launched a programme to provide skill development training to migrant workers who have returned to the state from other parts of the country due to the COVID-19 outbreak.
- The Minister of Science & Technology, Earth Sciences and Health & Family Welfare, Dr. Harsh Vardhan has launched CSIR Technologies for rural development under a joint initiative of Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA), Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD) and Vijnana Bharti (VIBHA).
- The Indian Council of Medical Research has developed “Purified Antisera”. The antiserum has been obtained from animals.
- Reliance Life Sciences has developed an RT-PCR kit that promises diagnosis of Covid-19 infection in about 2 hours.
- Paytm which is an Indian e-commerce payment system and financial technology company launched mini-app store to support Indian developers with an aim to increase their production.
- India’s fastest HPC-AI Supercomputer ‘PARAM Siddhi will be jointly launched by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) and NVIDIA.
- A telemedicine system ‘iMediX’ to help patients receive assistance from doctors without having to go to hospitals or clinics is recently launched by IIT Kharagpur researchers.
- The Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode will be launching an e-learning hub and library soon as a pilot project for villagers in Mavoor.
- The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research transferred “High Flow Rate Fluoride and Iron removal” technology to a Howrah based private firm.
- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is all set to open its facilities for the private sector.
- The first COVID-19 vaccine, COVAXIN is currently in phase II trials in the country.
- IIT Kharagpur has designed a robotic system which is capable of identifying the diseases plaguing plants through camera-captured image analysis.
- IIT Madras have developed a sustainable antimicrobial wrapping material that can prevent packaged food contamination by bacteria and is biodegradable.
- IIT Delhi-incubated startup Nanosafe Solutions has developed a range of antimicrobial mixing traditional science with nanotechnology i.e. antiviral, antibacterial and antifungal water storage containers and launched it as “AqCure”, which is based on the inherent antimicrobial properties of copper.
- In order to implement the Bharat net project, the BSNL has provided a contract to a private firm Hughes.



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- With an aim to streamline the spectrum allocation process and also make the auction of spectrum an annual calendar event, the Government of India has constituted a panel of secretaries.
- National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Pune.
- The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) will launch Nano Satellite 'India Sat' into Sub-orbit that is made by three Tamil Nadu Students.
- The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the first drug for the treatment of Ebola on October 14, 2020
- Japan began test flights of an unmanned aerial vehicle SeaGuardian with the objective to learn whether it can carry out key duties, including search, rescue and maritime surveillance.
- First-of-its-kind, fully-automated direct payment platform, 'mooPay', for dairy farmers in Rajasthan is recently launched by the IIT-Madras incubated dairy-tech startup named Stellapps.
- Siemens Healthineers will invest Rs 1,300 crore (EUR 160 million) over the next five years in India as the company plans to set up an innovation hub in Bengaluru.
- The researchers at IIT Kharagpur have developed 'COVIRAP,' the Covid-19 diagnostic test technology that can produce results within one hour.
- The Union Education Minister, Shri Ramesh pokhriyal nishank inaugurated the DST-IEST Solar PV Hub.
- IIT Guwahati developed a low-cost method to produce anti-ageing compounds.
- India and US decided to share space situational awareness information.
- The Indian Space Research Organisation is to launch Earth observation satellite, RISAT-2BR2 and nine other customer satellites by November 7, 2020.
- The NASA's Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA) has confirmed, for the first time, water on the sunlit surface of the Moon.

### Web Portals & Apps

- DISHTAVO (Digital Integrated System for Holistic Teaching and Virtual Orientations), an online learning platform involving YouTube channel is launched by Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant.
- The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has launched an online discovery platform for startups called "Startup India Showcase".
- Kisan Rath Mobile App launched by Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal to help farmers.
- The Leather Sector Skill Council (LSSC) has recently announced the launch of the Skill Certification Assessment for Leather Employees (SCALE) India android app in order to provide a single platform to integrate quality assurance across all of its services.
- Odisha chief minister Naveen Patnaik Monday launched the electricity consumer service portal Mo Bidyut and Mobile App through video conference.
- Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri launched the Affordable Rental Housing Complex (ARHC) Portal([arhc.mohua.gov.in](http://arhc.mohua.gov.in)) under PM Awas Yojana via a webinar.





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- Ministry of Union Housing and Urban Affairs has recently launched the 'e-Dharti Geo Portal'.
- Odisha Chief Minister, Naveen Patnaik has launched two web portals named 'Odisha State Scholarship Portal' and 'Sumangal Portal'.
- Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao launched the web portal 'Dharani' for land and property registrations.

### **Books & Authors**

- The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Dr Jitendra Singh released a Coffee Table Book on "Discovering the Heritage of Assam", written by Padampani Bora and having foreword by Amitabh Bachchan.
- The Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi, Manish Sisodia released the book named "Bapu-The Unforgettable".
- Anand Neelakantan has authored his first kid's book titled "The Very, Extremely, Most Naughty Asura Tales for Kids".
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi released the autobiography of former Union Minister Dr Balasaheb Vikhe Patil through video conferencing on 13 October 2020.
- A former intelligence officer with the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW), GBS Sidhu has written the book titled "The Khalistan Conspiracy".
- A handbook on "TB Harega, Desh Jeetega" is launched by the Nagaland Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Mr. S. Pangnyu Phom
- A new book titled "The Battle of Belonging: On Nationalism, Patriotism and What It Means To Be Indian" to be released by the Member of Parliament and author Shashi Tharoor.
- Pradeep Goorha, is all set for the release of his second book "Mr Prime Minister, We Shrank the Dragon".
- A book titled "On the Trails of Buddha: A Journey to the East" authored by Deepankar Aron, IRS Officer is released by the West Bengal Governor, Jagdeep Dhankar.
- Veteran economist and bureaucrat, and the current Chairman of the 15th Finance Commission, NK Singh launched his autobiography, "Portraits of Power: Half A Century of Being at Ringside" in a virtual event on 19 October 2020.
- The book titled "Night of the Restless Spirits: Stories from 1984" authored by Sarbpreet Singh has been released recently.
- West Bengal Governor, Jagdeep Dhankar "On the Trails of Buddha: A Journey to the East" authored by Deepankar Aron, IRS Officer.

### **Important Days & Themes**

Day	Celebrated as	Theme
October 1	International Day of Older Persons	This year is also marked as "Year of the Nurse and Midwife"
October 1	World Vegetarian Day	The full week between October 1–7 is observed as the International



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		Vegetarian Week (IVW).
October 1	International Coffee Day	The theme 2020 of the day is “Coffee’s Next Generation”.
October 1	World Postcard Day	The goal for the World Postcard Day is to bring that joy to as many people as possible.
October 2	World Day for Farmed Animals (WDFA)	The day is dedicated to exposing the needless suffering and death of farmed animals who are raised and slaughtered for food.
October 2	International Day of Non-Violence	The day aims to “spread the message of non-violence, including through education and public awareness.
October month	breast cancer awareness month	WHO promotes comprehensive breast cancer control programmes as part of national cancer control plans.
October 4	World Animal Day	The day aims to raise the status of animals in order to improve welfare standards around the globe.
October 4-10	World Space Week (WSW)	The 2020 theme is “Satellites Improve Life.”
October 5	World Teachers’ Day, also known as International Teachers Day	The Theme for 2020 International Teachers Day is “Teachers: Leading in crisis, reimagining the future”.
October 5 (1 <sup>st</sup> Monday of October )	World Habitat Day	The theme for 2020 World Habitat Day is ‘Housing For All — A Better Urban Future’
October 1-8	Wildlife week	
October 5	‘Ganga River Dolphin Day’	
October 7	World Cotton Day	This day was initiated by the Group of Cotton-4 countries namely Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali to the reflect the importance of cotton as a global commodity.
October 8	Air Force day	
October 9	World Post Day	To create awareness of the role of



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		posts in everyday lives of the people.
second Thursday of October- October 8	World Sight Day	World Sight Day 2020 Theme: Hope In Sight
second Friday of October- October 9	World Egg Day	The theme for 2020 World Egg Day is “Eat your egg today and every day”
October 10	World Mental Health day	The theme for World Mental Health Day 2020 is ‘Mental Health for All’.
October 10	World Migratory day	The theme for World Migratory Bird Day 2020: Birds Connect Our World
October 10	National Post Day	
October 9-15	National Postal week	To generate awareness of the role and activities of the postal services among the public and media on a national scale.
October 5-11	World Investors week	
October 9	Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Day	
October 10	World Day Against the Death Penalty	The theme for 2020 is “Access to counsel – A matter of life or death.”
October 11	International Day of the Girl Child	The theme for 2020 International Day of the Girl Child is “My voice, our equal future”.
October 12	World Arthritis Day	The World Arthritis Day theme 2020 is Time2Work.
October 13	International Day for Disaster Reduction	
October 14	World Standards Day (WSD)	World Standards Day 2020 theme is “Protecting the planet with standards”.
October 14	International E-Waste Day (IEWD)	The theme for 2020 IEWD is Education
October 15	International Day of Rural Women	2020 Theme: “Rural women and girls building resilience”
October 15	Global Handwashing Day (GHD)	Theme of GHD 2020 is Hand Hygiene for All
October 15	World Students Day	This year marks the 89th birth



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		anniversary of the former president and 'Missile Man' Dr APJ Abdul Kalam
October 16	World Food Day (WFD)	Theme 2020: "Grow, Nourish, Sustain. Together"
October 16	World Anaesthesia Day	
October 17	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty	Theme: 'Acting together to achieve social and environmental justice for all'
October 20	World Osteoporosis Day (WOD)	Global WOD Campaign theme is "THAT'S OSTEOPOROSIS".
October 20	World Statistics Day	The World Statistics Day 2020 theme "Connecting the world with data we can trust."
October 20	International Chefs Day	Theme of International Chefs Day 2020 campaign is Healthy Food for the Future.
October 20	National Deworming Day	
October 21	Police Commemoration Day	
October 22	International Stuttering Awareness Day	Theme 2020: "Journey of Words – Resilience and Bouncing Back"
October 23	International Snow Leopard Day	
October 24	International Day of Diplomats	
October 24	United Nations' World Development Information Day	
October 24	World Polio Day	The theme for 2020: "A win against polio is a win for global health."
October 24	United Nations Day	
October 24	World Development Information Day	The theme of World Development Information Day 2020 is "Information and Communications Technologies — New Solutions to Development Challenges".
October 27	World Day for Audiovisual Heritage	The theme of the World Day for Audiovisual Heritage 2020: "Your Window to the World".





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October 27, 2020 and November 2, 2020.	Vigilance Awareness Week	The conference is to be held under the theme: Vigilance Awareness Week
October 28	International Animation Day	to celebrate the art of animation and also recognise the artists, scientists and technicians behind animation.
October 29	World Psoriasis Day	“INFORMED”
October 29	World Stroke Day	
October 29	International Internet Day	
October 31	Rashtriya Ekta Diwas	
October 31	World Cities Day	Valuing our communities and cities.

### Obituary

Name	Profession	Place
Helen Reddy	Singer	Melbourne, Australia
Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad-al Sabah	Ruler of Kuwait	Kuwait
KC Sivasankar	Chandamama Artist	Tamil Nadu
Haji Hussain Ansari	Jharkhand Minister	Jharkhand
Pradeep Maharathy	Former Odisha Minister and senior BJD MLA	Odisha
Mishti Mukherjee	Bollywood actress	West Bengal
Pushpa Bhawe	Veteran social activist	Maharashtra
Anant kumar Surendraray Dave	Former Acting Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court Justice	Gujarat
Mulayam Singh Yadav	Politician	Uttar Pradesh
Vishal Anand	Bollywood actor	Maharashtra
Najeeb Tarakai	Batsman	Afghanistan
M. Gopalakrishnan	Former chairman-cum-managing director of Indian Bank	Tamil Nadu
Prasanth Rajesh	Tamil Nadu Premier League Spinner	Tamil Nadu
Naseeb Pathan	Uttar Pradesh Congress leader	Uttar Pradesh
Ashwani Kumar	Former Governor of Manipur and	



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	Nagaland	
Eddie Van Halen	Guitar virtuoso	Amsterdam, Netherlands
Ram Vilas Paswan	Former Union minister of consumer affairs, food and public distribution	Bihar
Mario Molina	Mexican scientist and a Nobel Prize receipt	Mexico
K K Usha	former Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court	Kerala
Avinash Kharshikar	Marathi actor	Maharashtra
Priscilla Jana	Indian-origin South African human rights lawyer	South Africa
CM Chang	Senior Nagaland Minister	Nagaland
Vinod Kumar Singh	Minister for Backward and Extremely Backward Classes in Bihar	Bihar
B. Vijaya Reddy	Kannada film-maker	Andhra Pradesh
Carlton Chapman	Former India football captain	Karnataka
Sarat Kumar Kar	Former speaker of Odisha Assembly and renowned writer	Odisha
Savithri Vaithi	Renowned philanthropist and social worker	Tamil Nadu
Shobha Naidu	Kuchipudi dancer	Andhra Pradesh
Charlie Moore	Olympic champion	United States
John Richard Reid	Former New Zealand cricketer	New Zealand
Kishore Bhimani	Sports journalist and Cricket commentator	
Bhanu Athaiya	Costume designer	
Akkitham Achuthan Namboothiri	Malayalam poet	Kerala
Kapil Deo Kamat	Politician	Bihar
Kaumudi Munshi	Gujarati singer	Gujarat
Pradip Ghosh	Bengali elocutionist	West Bengal
Puliyur Subramaniam Narayanaswamy	Carnatic Vocalist	
Lee Kun-Hee	Samsung Group Chairman	
Zarina Roshan Khan	Actress	
Naresh Kanodia	Gujarati film musician, singer and	Gujarat



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	former Parliamentarian	
K J Mohammed Babu	Malayalam playback singer, music director and actor	Kerala
Dr. Jayanta Madhab	Assamese economist	Assam
Dr Vijayalakshmi Ramanan	first woman officer Wing Commander (Retd)	
Jashomatinandan Das Ji	President of The International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) temple	
Keshubhai Savdasbhai Patel	Politician	Gujarat
Daniel Menaker	Author	

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