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News in Short





KARNATAKA ISSUES

- Karnataka government provided assistance package to various groups suffering due to covid, for which registration on **Seva Sindhu portal** was mandated. Seva Sindhu is an initiative of Govt of Karnataka to **deliver the Government services at the doorsteps** of the citizens.
- The setting up of special training **centre for sports under Khelo India** on the campus of **Shivamogga's Sahyadri College**, the oldest in the city and set up before Independence is being opposed.
- The project of aerial spraying of organic disinfectant, which was to be taken up in Shivajinagar and K.R. Market areas that are thickly populated and congested, was called off.
- **XRAY SETU is Artificial Intelligence (AI)**-driven platform to identify Covid positive patients by **Bengaluru-based startup ARTPARK (AI & Robotics Technology Park)**.
- **FMD disease** outbreak reported in Chickballapur, Bengaluru Urban, and Ramanagaram districts of Karnataka. FMD is an infectious and sometimes **fatal viral disease** that **affects cloven-hoofed animals**, including domestic and wild bovinds.
- The **Kempegowda International Airport** in Bengaluru achieved **net energy neutral status**, saving nearly 22 lakh units of energy during the 2020-21 financial year
- Citizens and Environmentalists are fighting against the proposal to clear over 6,000 trees in Singanayakanahalli to construct a lake under Hebbal-Nagawara Valley Project by Minor Irrigation Department in Karnataka.

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- South Western Railway (SWR) will run **MEMU trains on suburban routes**, including the popular Bengaluru-Tumakuru and KSR Bengaluru-Devenahalli lines. MEMUs are electric multiple unit (EMU) trains that serve short and medium-distance routes in India, as compared to normal EMU trains that connect urban and suburban areas. The acronym stands for "**Mainline Electric Multiple Unit**"
- **Maravoor bridge** on Athrady National Highway 67 connecting **Mangaluru and Mangalore International Airport** has developed cracks
- A 12.5-foot **statue of Adi Shankaracharya**, to be installed at **Kedarnath in Uttarakhand**, from where the philosopher left for his heavenly abode, is getting ready in the Mysuru.
- **Honnali** in Davangere district received clearance for Detailed Project Report (DPR) of two projects worth Rs 582 crore under Phase-II and Phase-III of the **World Bank-sponsored Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP)**.
- In a fresh notification issued on June 20, **Kannada** has been included in the **list of Indian languages** in which training would be imparted to Members of Parliament, legislators and officials. It will be taken up by **PARLIAMENTARY RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACIES**
- Farmers of Karnataka have asked for higher Fair and remunerative price. **FRP** is the minimum price at which rate sugarcane is to be purchased by sugar mills from farmers calculated by **Commission of Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP)**.
- Union ministry of Environment, forest & Climate Change has notified about constituting a **Karnataka Coastal Zone Management Authority**. Notification was issued under **Environment Protection Act, 1986**. It is a 15-member body which will be constituted to protect & improve the quality of coastal environment

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- Karnataka Chief Minister released a **postal envelope** bearing the portrait of **Nadaprabhu Kempegowda**, the founder of Bengaluru city, on his birth anniversary and restarted the construction work of the **Kempegowda Study Centre at Jnanabharati**.
- Much-anticipated **BENGALURU SUBURBAN RAIL project** seems to be taking shape with the state government announcing that work on it will start in 3 months. The project, expected to be completed by 2026, has often been dubbed as “**India's most integrated rail project**”. The project aims to link Bengaluru to its satellite townships, suburbs, and surrounding rural areas by a rail-based rapid-transit system. **The Rail Infrastructure Development Company, Karnataka, (K-RIDE)** — a joint venture of the government of Karnataka and the Union Ministry of Railways — is in charge of conceptualising and implementing the rail project.
- **NAVODAYA** is a Mobile app to identify **senior citizens** who are beneficiaries of pension schemes by Social Security and Pension department, Government of Karnataka.



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NATIONAL ISSUES

- **Justice Arun Mishra** took charge as chairperson of the **National Human Rights Commission** (NHRC). NHRC is an embodiment of India's concern for the promotion and protection of human rights.



- **Telangana** celebrated **8th** formation day on **2 June**. The **Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act (2014)** bifurcated Andhra Pradesh into two separate states, namely, the Andhra Pradesh (residuary) and the Telangana.
- Union Cabinet has approved **“Model Tenancy Act”** for circulation to all States and Union Territories for adaptation by enacting fresh legislation or amending existing rental laws as required.
- **Election Commission** of India released **‘General Elections 2019 – An Atlas’**, Atlas on General Elections 2019. The atlas encompasses all the data and statistical figures of 2019 elections
- Central government issued a notification amending the **Cable Television Network Rules, 1994** thereby providing a **statutory mechanism for redressal of grievances/complaints** of citizens.
- Recently, the Union Cabinet approved **the Inland Vessels Bill, 2021**, which will replace the Inland Vessels Act, 1917 . The Bill will regulate safety, security and registration of inland vessels. A key feature of the Bill is a unified law for the entire country, instead of separate rules framed by the States.
- Union government has appointed **Anup Chandra Pandey**, as **Election Commissioner**. The Election Commission of India (ECI) is an autonomous constitutional authority responsible for administering Union and State election processes in India.
- The e-Committee, **Supreme Court of India** has released the **Draft Model Rules** for Live-Streaming and Recording of Court Proceedings and has invited inputs, feedback and suggestions on it from all the stakeholders.
- The **Lakshadweep administration**, which has been facing widespread protests over its policies, has mooted a proposal to **shift its legal jurisdiction** from the Kerala High Court to the Karnataka High Court. The proposal was initiated by the administration after several litigation were moved before the Kerala High Court against the decisions taken by the islands’ new Administrator Praful Khoda Patel. The jurisdiction of a high court can be shifted only through an act of Parliament, according to the law.



- I&B ministry seeks public comments on proposed amendments to Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill 2021 by 2 July
- India has planned to tighten **rules for e-commerce marketplaces** like Amazon and Flipkart and has proposed several amendments to Consumer Protection (E-commerce) Rules, 2020.
- **Bal Swaraj** is a Portal for children affected due to COVID-19 by the **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights**. The portal shows details of nearly 10,000 children in the country in immediate need of care and protection. They include children aged between zero and 17 orphaned or abandoned during the COVID-19 pandemic since March 2020.
- For the purposes of preventing unfair trade practices in e-commerce, the Central Government had notified the **Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Rules, 2020** with effect from 23 July 2020.
- In all party meet on Jammu Kashmir, the topic on **DELIMITATION** was discussed. Delimitation is the redrawing of boundaries of an assembly or Lok Sabha constituency to reflect changes to the population of a region
- The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) on Thursday submitted to the Supreme Court a 40:30:30 formula for evaluation of marks of Class XII students, which will be based on their Class XII, Class XI and Class X results, respectively.
- Prime Minister launched '**Customized Crash Course programme for Covid 19 Frontline workers**' recently. The programme aims to skill and upskill over one lakh Covid warriors across the country. The training will be imparted to Covid warriors in six customised job roles namely Home Care Support, Basic Care Support, Advanced Care Support, Emergency Care Support, Sample Collection Support, and Medical Equipment Support. The programme has been designed as a special programme under the Central Component of **Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 3.0**



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- **Kerala** cabinet gave the green light to begin acquiring land for **SilverLine**, its flagship **semi high-speed railway** project aimed at reducing travel time between the state's northern and southern ends
- **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** India has released an independent report and lauded **Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP)** as 'a successful model of local area development'
- Recent **AISHE rankings** was released. The survey, undertaken as an annual, web-based, pan-India exercise on the status of Higher Education since 2010-11, covers all the Higher Educational Institutions in the country. The survey collects data on several parameters like teachers, student enrolment, programmes, examination results, education finance, infrastructure, etc.

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- **Draft Master Plan of Delhi 2041** was made open for public scrutiny for next 45 days. It will serve as blueprint for development of Delhi for next two decades.
- **Quacquarelli Symonds** popularly called as QS World Rank of universities was recently released for the year 2022. **22 Indian institutions** in the top 1,000 list compared to 21 last year.



- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has invited youngsters to know about **YUVA: Prime Minister's Scheme For Mentoring Young Authors**, a national scheme for nurturing young learners for future leadership roles.
- The **Education Ministry** has laid down **new guidelines** for producing **digital education** resources for children with disabilities, after a year in which the COVID-driven shift to online education has spotlighted the lacunae in such resources.
- **Haryana** government launched **Pran Vayu Devta Pension Scheme** to provide financial assistance for **maintance of trees 75 years and above**
- **Social Justice and Empowerment Minister** launched Senior care Ageing Growth Engine or **SAGE project**. SAGE project will be launched to select, support and create **"one-stop access" of elderly care products** and services provided by credible start-ups.
- With a notification dated May 31, the Centre has **amended** its **CCS Pension Rules-1972** putting new restrictions of officials of intelligence and security organisations after retirement. Under amended Rule-8(3)(a), officials retired from certain intelligence and security establishments will not be allowed to write anything about their organisation without permission.
- The pension coverage under the **Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) scheme** has been extended to all registered dependents of those who died due to Covid-19. It has also reiterated the announcement of the expansion of the insurance benefits under the Employees' Deposit-Linked Insurance (EDLI) scheme for members registered under the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO).
- India **Cycles4Change Challenge** is an initiative of the **Smart Cities Mission** of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs to inspire and support Indian cities to quickly implement cycling-friendly initiatives in response to COVID-19.
- **Life Insurance Corporation** (LIC) has launched a centralized web-based workflow-based IT platform called **"e-PGS"**.
- **Cochin International Airport (CIAL)** won **Airport Council International (ACI) Director General's Roll of Excellence honour** in Airport Service Quality. Airport Council International (ACI) is a global body of airport operators which established Roll of



Excellence recognition to airports. Cochin International Airport has consistently delivered excellence in customer service by winning multiple awards for five years in past 10 years. It is one among six airports across the world that will receive recognition in 2021.

- Recently, a three-member task force has been formed to help the government in bringing major bureaucratic reforms through its ambitious **“Mission Karmayogi”**. The Centre has recently approved the ‘National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building – Mission Karmayogi’ to effect a transformational shift from rule based training to role-based capacity development of all civil services in the country.
- The results of **ISAC 2020** along with **Climate Smart Cities Assessment Results 2.0** were announced recently. The India Smart Cities Award Contest (ISAC) is organized under the Smart Cities Mission, **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs**, Government of India. This is one of the important activities initiated under the Mission, where pioneering city strategies, projects and ideas are recognized based on innovation, impact and replicability/scalability.
- **World Bank** (IBRD) sanctions funds for **Andhra’s SALT programme**. SALT programme stands for “Supporting Andhra’s Learning Transformation” programme. This programme was launched with the aim of improving learning outcomes, quality of teaching practices and school management in basic education. This aim would be achieved by transforming government schools into vibrant and competitive institutions.
- **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)** and **WhatsApp** has launched its **Digital Skill Champions Programme**. This programme was launched with the aim of training Indian youth on digital skills in order to make them employment ready.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) bulletin noted increase of FDI Inflows.

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- **RDSO** (Research Design & Standards Organization) of Indian Railways has become the **FIRST** Institution to be declared SDO under "One Nation One Standard" mission on BIS (Bureau of Indian Standards) which is Institution under Department of Consumer Affairs. The Research Designs & Standards Organisation (RDSO) is an ISO 9001 research and development organisation under the Ministry of Railways of government of India, which functions as a technical adviser and consultant in respect of design and standardization of railway equipment and problems related to railway construction, operations and maintenance. It is headquartered in Lucknow.
- Government has increased the scope of **Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme** (ECLGS) for three more months overlooking the disruptions caused by second wave of COVID 19 pandemic. Extension will help businesses across several sectors of economy. ECLGS was launched under Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan package in May 2020. It was launched to overcome the distress caused on economy due to lockdown.
- **HORTICULTURE CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME** was launched recently to address all major issues related to the Indian horticulture sector including pre-production, production, post-harvest management, logistics, marketing and branding.
- As on June 3, 2021, 50,000 startups across have been recognized as startups by DPIIT, showing the **sucess of the Start-up India initiative.**
- **Dr. K.P. Krishnan committee on "Variable Capital Company"** has submitted its report to **International Financial Services centres Authority (IFSCA)** regarding feasibility of **Variable Capital Companies** in International Financial Services Centres in India. Variable Capital Company is an alternative form of corporate vehicle which can be used for open-ended as well as closed-ended alternative and traditional fund strategies.
- Union Agriculture Minister launched a **seed Minikit programme** by distributing high-yielding varieties seeds of oilseeds and pulses to farmers.
- Union government announced hike in **MSP for Paddy, Pulses, Oilseeds.** - Minimum Support Price is the rate at which the government purchases crops from farmers, and is based on a calculation of at least one-and-a-half times the cost of production incurred by the farmers. The Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) recommends MSPs




- The Union government extended the subsidy benefits under the amended **New Investment Policy 2012** to Ramagundam Fertilisers and Chemicals Ltd (RFCL), located in Telangana.
- Government will implement **mandatory hallmarking of gold jewellery and artefacts** from June 15, 2021. Gold hallmarking is a purity certification for precious metal. Presently, gold hallmarking is voluntary. Currently, 40 % of the gold jewellery is being hallmarked.
- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has extended **Risk-Based Internal Audit (RBIA) rules** to all deposit-taking and non-deposit taking HFCs (Housing Finance Companies) who are having assets above Rs 5,000 crore. RBIA is an internal methodology, primarily focused on inherent risk involved with activities or system. It provides assurance regarding the management of risk within defined risk appetite level. It is a risk management framework of management which seeks to reinforce responsibility of

management and BOD (Board of Directors) for managing risk at every stage.

- Maharashtra Chief Minister has asked Prime Minister for state-wide implementation of the **'Beed model' of the crop insurance** scheme Pradhan Mantri Fazal Bhima Yojana. Located in the drought-prone Marathwada region, the district of Beed presents a challenge for any insurance company. Farmers here have repeatedly lost crops either to

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failure of rains or to heavy rains. Given the high payouts, insurance companies have sustained losses. The state government had a difficult time getting bids for tenders to implement the scheme in Beed.

- **Retail inflation** hit a six-month high of 6.3% in May, owing to a persistent rise in fuel and edible oil prices. The retail inflation is measured by the **Consumer Price Index (CPI)**, which is released by the **National Statistical Office (NSO)**. The CPI calculates the difference in the price of commodities and services such as food, medical care, education, electronics etc, which Indian consumers buy for use.
- **Security and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has reconstituted its **Takeover Panel**. An acquirer who proposes to acquire shares through a mode which is not specifically covered under takeover regulations may seek exemption from the applicability of the provisions of the offer process by making an application.
- **Ministry of tourism** has released three draft strategies in order to boost tourism sector in aftermath of covid-19 pandemic. Draft strategies were put forward with roadmaps to promote India as a rural and medical tourism destination.
- Cabinet approves **merger of Central Railside Warehouse Company Limited (CRWC) with Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC)**
- **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras** has launched a '**Centre for Research on Start-Ups and Risk Financing**' (**CREST**) which will provide academic & thought leadership in innovation, entrepreneurship and risk capital.
- **Petroleum ministry** pushed for more steps to provide more fillip to **Satat scheme**. Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) is an initiative aimed at setting up of Compressed Bio-Gas production plants and make it available in the market for use in automotive fuels by inviting Expression of Interest from potential entrepreneurs. The initiative was launched in October 2018 by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas in association with Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) Oil Marketing Companies (OMC) viz. Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.



- A species of frog resembling chocolate was recently discovered in the rainforests of New Guinea. The **cocoa-coloured frogs** have turned out to be a new species — and an addition to our knowledge of the animal kingdom. It is called **Litoria mira**, inspired by the Latin adjective mirum, which means surprised or strange, stemming from the scientist's surprise in discovering an undescribed member of the predominately Australian Litoria genus of tree frogs.
- **World bank** recently conducted a research on impact of **Black Carbon on Glaciers of Himalaya, Karakoram and Hindu Kush (HKHK) mountain ranges**. Black carbon (BC) deposits produced by human activity which accelerate the pace of glacier and snow melt in the Himalayan region can be sharply reduced through new, currently feasible policies by an additional 50% from current levels.
- THE **BLUE-FINNED MAHSEER**, which was on the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) red list of endangered species, has now moved to the **'least concern'** status. The success is attributed to conservation efforts made by Tata Power. The group is involved in conservation of the blue-finned and golden mahseer for 50 years in Lonavala.
- **World Environment Day (WED) 2021** is being observed on **June 5** under the theme **"Ecosystem Restoration"**.
- **PYROSTRIA LALJII** is a Tree of Coffee family. The tree was recently discovered in Andaman. Discovery is unusual as they are regularly found in **Madagascar**
- The State government of **Assam** notified **Dihing Patkai** as a National Park, four days after creating the 422-sq. km **Raimona National Park** in western Assam's Kokrajhar district.
- The **Maldives** has made no decision on opening an Indian consulate in its southern **Addu Atoll**. Addu Atoll, also known as Seenu Atoll, is the southernmost atoll of the Maldives.

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- To help out horticulturists who face crop damage due to hailstorms, the **Himachal Pradesh** government will be testing the use of indigenously developed '**anti-hail guns**'. State Horticulture Minister had said on Tuesday that 'anti-hail guns' developed in India will be installed in some areas on a trial basis. An anti-hail gun is a machine which generates shock waves to disrupt the growth of hailstones in clouds.
- Two species of **monals** were sighted together by local wildlife enthusiasts in upper Siang district of central Arunachal Pradesh.
- **Maharashtra Cabinet** cleared an action plan to protect ancient and old trees aged 50 years and above in urban areas by implementing '**Heritage Tree**' concept. Amendment will help in safeguarding green cover across urban landscapes and would also provide a robust mechanism to protect heritage trees.
- **Operation Olivia** was started by the **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)**, first in early 1980s. This operation helps in protecting **Olive Ridley turtles** every year when they start nesting along Odisha coast for breeding in months of November to December.
- Recently, the **UNESCO World Heritage Committee** has recommended that the Australia's **Great Barrier Reef** should be added to a list of "in danger" World Heritage Sites. Placement on the "in-danger list" is not considered a sanction.
- **Hayagriva Madhava Temple** in **Assam** has signed a memorandum of understanding with two green NGOs, the Assam State Zoo-cum-Botanical Garden and the Kamrup district administration for the long-term **conservation** of the **rare freshwater black softshell turtle** or the *Nilssonina nigricans*.
- The **longest day of 2021** for those living north of the Equator is **June 21**. In technical terms, this day is referred to as the **summer solstice**. It occurs when the sun is directly over the Tropic of Cancer, or more specifically right over 23.5 degree north latitude.
- **International Yoga Day (or just Yoga Day)** is observed every year on the **21st of June**. This year, the 7th International Day of Yoga is celebrated. The day of 21st June was suggested by the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his address to the UN because it is the longest day of the year.



- **Rubber Board research farm at Sarutari** which is in Guwhati, **Assam** now sports the **world's first genetically modified (GM) rubber plant** tailored for the climatic conditions in the Northeast.
- German agrochemicals major **Bayer** has commercially launched first-ever **yellow watermelon variety called "Yellow Gold 48" in India** under Seminis brand.
- According to **US India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF)**, India and United States has launched a hydrogen task force under **"Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (SCEP)"** which will boost India's energy security efforts.
- Recently, the **60th anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty** was celebrated. The Antarctic Treaty was signed between 12 countries in Washington on **1st December 1959** for making the **Antarctic Continent a demilitarized zone** to be preserved for scientific research only.
- Prime Minister launched **mYoga app** on the occasion of international day of Yoga and gave the mantra of "Yog se Sahyog Tak". This app is a great example of fusion of modern technology & ancient science.
- Second **sickle cell conclave** was conducted recently. This conclave is held to mark world Sickle Cell Day every year. It is being organised **by Ministry of Tribal Affairs** in association with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), Apollo Hospitals, Novartis, Piramal Foundation etc. It will arrange discussions about latest advances and future trends in treatment of SCD on vulnerable patient population.
- An **experimental monoclonal antibody cocktail, REGEN-COV2**, has been found to be a life-saving treatment for some of the most severely affected Covid-19 patients, results of a clinical trial in the UK have shown. Monoclonal antibodies are artificial antibodies that mimic the activity of our immune systems. They are produced through a process that involves extracting specific antibodies from human blood and then cloning them.



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- Recently, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) announced that it will install **seven new doppler radars in Maharashtra**, including Mumbai in 2021. It is a specialized radar that uses the Doppler effect to produce velocity data about objects at a distance. Based on Doppler principle the radar is designed to improve precision in long-range weather forecasting and surveillance using a parabolic dish antenna and a foam sandwich spherical radome.
- Union Environment Minister recently released **LiDAR-based reports** mapping out the water requirement within forest areas in 10 states. These reports will be used to augment groundwater in forest areas so that animals don't venture out in search of water. The LiDAR (light detection and ranging) technology was used to create 3-D images of the project areas to recommend soil and water conservation structures. The surveys were carried out at forest areas in Assam, Bihar, Chhatisgarh, Goa, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland, and Tripura. Survey was carried out by WAPCOS, a PSU under the Jal Shakti Ministry.
- S N Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences (SNBNCBS) has shown that the geometry of space-time can cause neutrinos to oscillate.
- An inspiring journey of 100 women scientists who returned to science after a break in career has been documented into a book form. The Department of Science and Technology (DST) is implementing '**Knowledge Involvement in Research Advancement through Nurturing (KIRAN)' Scheme** to provide various career opportunities to women scientists and technologists.
- The Union Cabinet has approved the **deep ocean mission**, which among other things involves developing a **submersible vehicle** that will allow a crew to plunge **6,000 metres** into the ocean and hunt the floor for precious metals.





- **Blue Origin** concluded the online auction for the first seat on **New Shepard**. New Shepard rocket system is meant to take **tourists to space**
- **'Project O2 for India'** of the **Office of Principal Scientific Adviser**, Government of India, is to enable stakeholders working to augment the country's ability to meet this rise in demand for medical oxygen.
- Through the **I-STEM** portal academic users in India will now be able to access the **COMSOL Multiphysics software** suite at no cost. The COMSOL Multiphysics software suite, developed by the COMSOL Group, is used worldwide as an indispensable tool for a variety of computer simulations for R&D as well as for learning and instruction.
- A multi-instrument facility established at IISc, Bangalore can determine concentrations of metals and metalloids spanning a concentration range of ≥ 100 ppm to 10 ppt (9 orders of magnitude) in water.
- Scientists with the **Canadian Hydrogen Intensity Mapping Experiment (CHIME)** Collaboration, who include researchers at the Pune-based Tata Institute for Fundamental Research (TIFR) and the National Centre for Radio Astrophysics (NCRA), have assembled the **largest collection of fast radio bursts (FRBs)** in the telescope's first FRB catalogue
- **Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar** has developed a device **'Jivan Vayu'** which can be used as a **substitute of CPAP machine**.
- Pune-based firm Thincr Technologies India Private Limited, comes up with 3D-printed Masks Coated with Anti-Viral Agents
- Researchers would soon have access to four **Cryogenic-Electron microscopy (Cryo-EM) facilities** paving the way towards establishment of leadership in structural biology, enzymology, and drug discovery to combat new and emerging diseases. Cryogenic electron microscopy is an electron microscopy technique applied on samples cooled to



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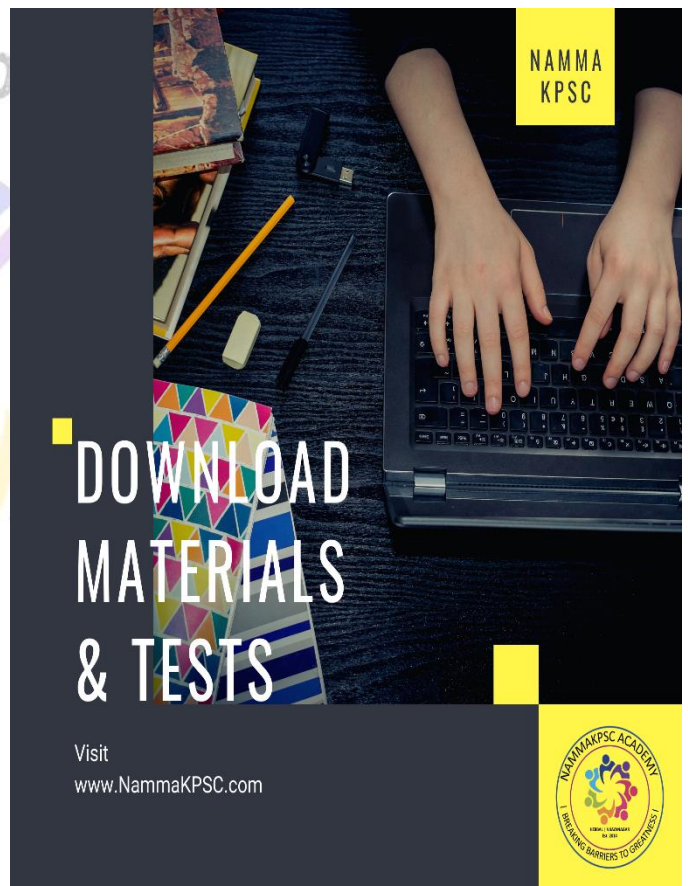


cryogenic temperatures and embedded in an environment of vitreous water. An aqueous sample solution is applied to a grid-mesh and plunge-frozen in liquid ethane or a mixture of liquid ethane and propane.

- Clinical trials of **Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-cell (CAR-T)** therapy was conducted globally. Therapy has emerged as a breakthrough in cancer treatment. It has shown promising results on end stage patients, especially in patients of **Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia**.
- **Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC)** of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has developed three types of **cost-effective ventilators** and an **oxygen concentrator**. 3 ventilators have been named as **Prana, VayU and Svasta** while oxygen cylinder has been named as **Shwaas**.
- In order to cater to the growing demand for cleaner industrial processes, an environmental-friendly process called **micro-arc oxidation (MAO)** has been developed at International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials (ARCI)
- **ICAR-IISR** has developed crop specific designer **micronutrient foliar formulations** for major spices (black pepper, ginger, turmeric, and cardamom) to overcome micronutrient deficiencies and to meet the physiological and metabolic requirements of spice crops. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)-Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR) has received a patent for black pepper micronutrient foliar formulation.
- India launched a global Initiative '**Mission Innovation CleanTech Exchange**' with the aim of creating a **network of incubators** in member countries to boost clean energy innovation.
- India's First Indigenous Tumour Antigen called **ASPAGNIITM-SPAG9** was developed by NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF IMMUNOLOGY.
- **CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory (CSIR-NCL), Pune** has launched a new technique called **SWASTIIK** to disinfect water by using natural oils. It was launched because, water-borne diseases have increased India's disease burden.
- A 41-year-old man in **China's** eastern province of Jiangsu has been confirmed as the first human case of infection with a rare strain of **bird flu known as H10N3**.



- The **EAST reactor** set a new record when it achieved a **plasma temperature of 216 million** degrees Fahrenheit and also managed to run for 20 seconds at 288 million degrees Fahrenheit recently. To put this in perspective, the sun's core only reaches about 15 million degrees Celsius, which means the reactor was able to touch temperatures that are 10 times hotter than that. EAST is one of three major domestic tokamaks that are presently being operated across China.
- Amid the country's battle against covid-19 pandemic and increasing cases of **mucormycosis**, Doctors in Ghaziabad, Mumbai and Gujarat have reported cases of new disease called '**aspergillosis**'. Aspergillosis is a fungal infection, fungal growth or allergic reaction caused due to Aspergillus fungus. The fungus is found indoors as well as outdoors. It lives on decaying vegetation or dead leaves.
- **AmbiTAG** is a device that records real-time ambient temperature during the transportation of perishable products, vaccines and even body organs and blood developed by Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar (IIT Ropar) in Punjab.
- **NASA's Hubble Space Telescope** captured beautiful photo of spiral galaxy called "**NGC 691**".
- **Indian Army** celebrated the **100th anniversary** of the raising of **Army Educational Corps (AEC) on 01 June 2021**.
- The **Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC)** has decided to make public the Bir of **Sri Guru Granth Sahib** that received bullet injury during **Operation Blue Star**. Operation Blue Star was the code name of an Indian military action which was carried out between 1 and 10 June 1984, in order to capture the Sikh leader Jarnail Singh





Bhindranwale and his followers from the buildings of Harmandir Sahib (Golden Temple) complex in Amritsar, Punjab.

- **Largest warship of Iranian navy, KHARG** caught fire and sank in the Gulf of Oman, circumstances are still unclear. It sank near Iranian port of Jask.
- **INS Sandhayak**, the Indian Navy's oldest **Hydrographic Survey Vessel** was decommissioned at Naval Dockyard in Visakhapatnam after serving the nation for 40 glorious years. Hydrographic survey is the science of measurement and description of features which affect maritime navigation, marine construction, dredging, offshore oil exploration/offshore oil drilling and related activities.
- The **Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)**, headed by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh recently approved the issuance of a Request For Proposal (RFP) for the construction of six conventional submarines under **Project-75I**.
- The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** and **Indian Navy** will participate in an exercise with a **US** carrier strike group (CSG) in the Indian Ocean for two days. This is called **PASSAGE exercise**
- **NITI Aayog** recently released **SDG India index**. It is an index that measures the progress at the national and sub-national level in the country's journey towards meeting the Global Goals and targets.
- **Ministry of Human Resources** and development recently released **PERFORMANCE GRADING INDEX** to identify the areas of deficiency in each **state's school education system** so that targeted interventions can be made at every level from pedagogy to teacher training and encourage States and UTs to adopt certain practices like online recruitment and transfer of teachers, electronic attendance of students & teachers etc.
- The **Centre for Science and Environment(CSE)** has released the **State of Environment Report, 2021**. It is an annual publication by the Centre for Science and Environment(CSE) along with **Down To Earth**. It covers aspects such as forests, wildlife, agriculture, rural development, water and sanitation, and climate change. This publication is regarded as the most credible and complete annual survey of India's environment.



- **Pakistan government**, citing the second wave of Covid-19, has denied permission to a group of Sikh pilgrims from India who wanted to visit the historic **Gurdwara Dera Sahib** in **Lahore** to mark the martyrdom day **Guru Arjan Dev**, the fifth Sikh Guru.
- **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)** has found three caves in **Buddhist Caves Complex in Nasik**, Maharashtra. Newly discovered caves are being discovered about two centuries after the British military officer documented Tri-Rashmi Buddhist caves, which is also called as **Pandav Leni**, on a hill in Nashik.
- A Konkani and Hindi version of the film, titled **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Shivrajyabhishek Divas**, was released on social media by **Goa Government** on the occasion of the anniversary of Maratha king's coronation day.
- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has extended his best wishes to the people of Odisha on the auspicious occasion of **Raja Parba**. Raja Parba, also called as Mithuna Sankranti is a 3-day festival celebrating womanhood is being celebrated across **Odisha**. During this period, it is believed that Mother Earth menstruates and prepares herself for future agricultural activities with the arrival of monsoon
- Recently, **Birth anniversary of Ram Prasad Bismil** was celebrated.
- The **Ministry of Culture (MoC)** and **Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW)** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for '**Cooperation in Development of National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) at Lothal, Gujarat**. Lothal is a small mature Harappan settlement near Gulf of Khambhat in Dhalka taluk of Ahmadabad in Gujrat. It was first excavated in 1957 by S R Rao. The notable structures at Lothal include a dockyard, warehouse, workshop for manufacturing of stone beads, evidence of shell working, rice husk and a cemetery.



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- The 67th death anniversary of **Dr. Syama Prasad Mukherjee** was observed as '**Balidan Diwas**'
- **Kabir Das Jayanti** recently celebrated. Sant Kabir Das was a very renowned saint, poet and social reformer of India who lived during the 15th century. His esteemed works and poems describe the greatness and oneness of the Supreme Being
- Bharat Ratna Professor **C.N.R. Rao** has been selected for the **International Eni Award 2020** for **research in energy frontiers**. This is considered to be the Nobel Prize in energy research. The Eni Award is a prize awarded by the Italian oil and gas company Eni with the aim of encouraging better use of energy sources and increased environmental research.
- Veteran journalist **Thomas Jacob** and **Padma Shri Dr. Shashank R Joshi** bagged the 17th P **Kesavadev Awards**, instituted by the P Kesavadev Trust. The awards, named after renowned Malayalam writer P Kesavadev, are presented to two dignified personalities yearly, who have proved their excellence in the field of literature and public health.
- India's famous athlete **Milkha Singh** recently passed away
- **Novak Djokovic** has won his **19th Grand Slam title** in French open 2021 in Men's single category at Roland Garros in Paris.
- OLYMPIC DAY – 23 JUNE EVERY YEAR
- **Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** (MoHUA) organised an online event on June 25, 2021 to commemorate **6 years** of launch of three Urban Missions namely **Smart Cities Mission, AMRUT and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban**.
- **Serbia market** has opened its market for **Indian potatoes, onions, pomegranate, and pomegranate arils**. As per Agriculture and Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA), **phytosanitary certificate** is not required to export pomegranate fruits & arils and onion bulbs growing in India. However, this certificate is required for export of potatoes. A Phytosanitary certificate is an important official declaration which is required for export and import of plants and plant material. This certificate shows that, consignment is free from pests & diseases.
- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has decided to prescribe guidelines on **distribution of dividend** by NBFCs in order to induce a greater transparency and uniformity in practice.



- The Prime Minister paid homage to Rishi **Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay** on his Jayanti. Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay — the legend who gave India its national song Vande Mataram — was a gifted story-teller too.
- **Denmark** has become the **first country** to ratify **International Solar Alliance Framework Agreement (ISA FA)** after amendments in the ISA FA entered into force on January 8, 2021. ISA is an alliance of more than 122 countries initiated by India, most of them being sunshine countries, which lie either completely or partly between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn, now extended to all members of UN.
- **Odisha government** and United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) have partnered to **improve household food and nutritional security**.
- **Ministry of corporate affairs (MCA)** has expanded the definition of **small and medium sized companies (SMCs)**. Small & Medium Companies is an unlisted company, a bank, an insurance or a financial institution with sales up to Rs 250 crore and borrowings up to Rs 50 crore (Earlier limit for sales was Rs 50 crore and for borrowings was Rs 10 crore)
- Government has decided to extend adoption of electric vehicles '**Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles in India Phase II (FAME Phase II)**' by 2 years till **2024**. This scheme is a part of National Electric Mobility Mission Plan. Scheme was launched to

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encourage electric vehicles by providing subsidies. This scheme aims to incentivise all vehicle segments.

- **Goa** has become the **first Rabies-free state of India**. According to Chief Minister, state has not reported a single rabies case in last three years. Rabies is a vaccine-preventable viral disease that occurs in about 150 countries and territories. Dogs act as the source of majority of human rabies deaths. Dogs are responsible for contributing up to 99% of rabies transmissions to humans
- A new-generation nuclear-capable ballistic missile, **Agni-P (Prime)** was successfully test-fired by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) recently. It is **nuclear-capable surface-to-surface ballistic missile** which has a range of 1,000 and 2,000 km.
- **National Statistics Day** is celebrated every year on **29 June** to acknowledge the contributions of **PC Mahalanobis**. He is called as Father of Indian Statistics. He established the Indian Statistical Institute in Calcutta on 17th December 1931, with help from a few colleagues and friends. In 1959, the institute was declared a deemed university and an 'institute of national importance'. Mahalanobis contributed to the field of statistics through his research and findings. He is remembered mostly for the Mahalanobis Distance, which is denoted as D2. D2 is a multivariate distance measure which is used for comparing and grouping populations.
- The Centre has extended the tenure of **NITI Aayog Chief Executive Officer Amitabh Kant** by one year till **June 2022**.
- The central government has extended the term of **K.K. Venugopal** as **Attorney General** (AG) for one more year.



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- The Supreme Court directed all states and Union Territories to implement the **One Nation, One Ration Card (ONORC)** system, which allows for inter- and intra-state portability, by **July 31**.
- World Wide Fund for Nature-India (WWF) found a few tigers inhabiting the **Barnadi Wildlife Sanctuary in Assam**.
- Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWR, RD & GR), recently released the **Glacial Lake Atlas of Ganga Basin**. It can be used as reference data for carrying out change analysis, both with respect to historical and future time periods
- **Atmanirbhar Krishi APP** Launched by the **Office of Principal Scientific Adviser**. The Atmanirbhar Krishi app was created to equip farmers with actionable agricultural insights and early weather alerts.
- **Gujarat** state authorities have started the process of clearing residential properties within the **Sabarmati Ashram** premises to develop a world class memorial as part of a project planned under Project Gandhi Ashram Memorial and Precinct Development.

INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

- Finance Ministers from the **Group of Seven (G7)** nations have reached a landmark agreement in London setting a **global minimum corporate tax rate** to counter tax avoidance through measures to make companies pay in the countries where they do business.
- **World milk day** was celebrated on **June 1**. The day aims to educate people about the importance of milk and focus on activities that are connected to the dairy sector.
- Extending greetings on **24th BIMSTEC Day** on **June 6**, PM Narendra Modi said, BIMSTEC has emerged as a promising regional grouping and made progress on several factors including finalisation of master plan for connectivity. It is a regional multilateral organisation established on June 6, 1997 in Bangkok under the name BIST-EC (Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, and Thailand Economic Cooperation). Myanmar was included to it in 1997



following which group was renamed as 'BIMST-EC' (Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand Economic Cooperation). After Nepal & Bhutan become full members in 2004, BIMSTEC was renamed to its current form.

- **India** was elected to the **United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) for 2022-2024 term**. ECOSOC is a 54-member Economic and Social Council, established in 1954 by a United Nations charter. Being the heart of United Nations system, it helps in advancing economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.
- Recently, the Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare addressed the **42nd session of Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) Conference**. The Conference takes place every two years and is **FAO's supreme governing body**. It determines the policies of the Organization, approves the budget, and makes recommendations to Members on food and agriculture issues

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- US President Joe Biden and British Prime Minister Boris Johnson held meeting recently in Cornwall and inspected documents related to Atlantic Charter and signed a document titled "**New Atlantic Charter**". New Atlantic Charter is an agreement was signed on June



10, 2021 at 2021 G7 summit in England between Boris Johnson and Joe Biden. It is a new version of the Atlantic Charter of 1941. Agreement was signed to redefine Western alliance.

- **UN General Assembly (UNGA)** has approved nomination of **Rebecca Grynspan** to **head United Nations Conference on Trade and development (UNCTAD)**. She will be the first woman and Central American to lead Geneva-based organisation, UNCTAD.
- UN Children’s agency, **UNICEF** has warned about 33,000 severely malnourished children in **Tigray region of Ethiopia** who are at high risk of death. Tigray region has been devastated because of fighting between government forces and rebels in which about 1.7 million people displaced since conflict started in November 2020.
- International Level Crossing Awareness **Day** was observed by “South-Central Railway (SCR)” on **June 10, 2021**. Awareness programmes was conducted for public at level crossing gates.
- United Nations general assembly adopted a resolution on Myanmar where India abstained from voting.
- **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)** member countries in Dushanbe (Tajkistan) agreed to cooperate in the joint fight against the threats of “international terrorism”, “extremism”, “separatism” and “religious radicalism”.
- **Pakistan** was retained on the **greylist**, or the list of countries under “increased monitoring”, by the **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)**. The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is an inter-governmental body established in 1989 during the G7 Summit in Paris. The objectives of the FATF are to set standards and promote effective implementation of legal, regulatory and operational measures for combating money laundering, terrorist financing and other related threats to the integrity of the international financial system.
- **United Nations Public Service Day** is observed on **June 23**, to recognise value and virtue of public service to community



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