LEGEND MAGAZINE

APRIL – 2020

(CURRENT AFFAIRS AND QUIZ, BANKING, ENGLISH VOCABULARY)

Exclusively prepared for RACE students

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NATIONAL NEWS:

Shivraj Singh Chauhan takes oath as CM of Madhya Pradesh for the fourth time:
Madhya Pradesh, senior BJP leader Shivraj Singh Chauhan has become Chief Minister of the state for the fourth time. Governor Lalji Tandon administered him the oath of office & secrecy at a simple ceremony held at Raj Bhavan. He will succeed Kamal Nath. Shivraj Singh Chouhan worked as the CM of the state for almost 13 years.

Flying car PAL-V to be manufactured in Gujarat:
Gujarat government MoU signed with flying car-maker PAL-V (Personal Air Land Vehicle) of The Netherlands gears up to set up a manufacturing unit in India. PAL-V, which stands for Personal Air Land Vehicle, has targeted to commence production at its manufacturing plant in Gujarat by 2021.

IOC becomes 1st company to begin supply of BS-VI fuel across country:
Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) began the supply of the world’s cleanest petrol & diesel across the country. All 28,000 petrol stations of IOC’s across India are dispensing BS-VI ultra-low sulphur grade fuel to reduce the pollution from vehicles in the air.

April 1, 2020 is the deadline for starting supply of Euro-VI.

Bridge constructed by BRO over Teesta River in North Sikkim opened for traffic:
In a major relief to the residents of Lachen in northern Sikkim, the BRO (Border Roads Organisation) opened a 360-feet long Bailey suspension bridge over the Teesta river for traffic in Munshithang near Chungthang town. The roads approaching the bridge have also been constructed.

Gujarat Police becomes first in India to introduce taser guns:
Gujarat Police is equipped with taser guns in order to ensure safety and security of the public. By introducing the taser guns as part of police weapons, Gujarat becomes the first state in India.

IITM hosts India’s first Hyperloop Pod Competition:
Indian Institute of Technology Madras is organising India’s first Global Hyperloop Pod Competition to increase awareness and enthusiasm about Hyperloop in India. Called the ‘Indian Hyperloop Pod Competition,’ the objective is to encourage student teams in India and abroad to develop a Hyperloop Pod and compete to build the fastest, most innovative and efficient
design and prototype of the relevant technologies in the field.

38th district to be formed in Tamil Nadu:
In Tamil Nadu, a new district is going to be formed after bifurcating the Nagappattinam district. The new district will be headquartered at Mayiladuthurai.
Chief Minister Edappadi Palaniswamy made the announcement saying, it would be the 38th district in the state.

In Mumbai, Reliance Industries sets up India's first Covid-19 dedicated hospital:
Reliance Industries in collaboration with the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation has set up India's first COVID-19 dedicated hospital in Mumbai that includes a negative pressure room that helps in preventing cross-contamination and helps control infection.
It is a 100-bedded hospital.

PM Modi allocates Rs 15,000 Cr for healthcare Infra to combat Covid-19 outbreak
PM Modi announced allocation of Rs 15000 crore to strengthen healthcare infrastructure to fight coronavirus in India.
This includes testing facilities, personal protection, isolation beds, ICU beds, ventilators and training medical and paramedical staff.

Last date for filing income tax return for FY 2018-19 extended till June 30:
Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced that last date for filing of income tax return for the financial year 2018-19 has been extended till 30th June of this year.
She said, interest on delayed payment of income tax reduced to 9 per cent from the 12 per cent.

PAN-Aadhar linking have also been extended till 30th June.

Tamil Nadu CM announces new EV and data centre parks:
Tamil Nadu CM Edappadi K Palaniswami said that, to attract new investments into the state, an Electric Vehicle park will be set up at Manalur SIPCOT Industrial Estate near Chennai at an expected cost of Rs 148 Cr.
A NABARD-assisted Rs 2,934 Cr plan is also announced.

Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik launched “Mo Jeeban Programme”:
Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched “Mo Jeeban (My Life) Programme” and urged people to take a pledge to stay indoors.
The objective of the programme is to keep everyone safe in the state due to the dangerous spread of the COVID-19.
Covid-19 treatment to be covered under Ayushman Bharat:
National Health Authority (NHA) has decided to cover Covid-19 treatment of the poorest of the poor in private hospitals under Ayushman Bharat—the central government’s health insurance scheme for the deprived, launched on September 2018.
NHA expects to cover cost under viral infection packages.

Goa partners with Innovaccer to launch first-ever self-assessment tool for Covid-19:
Goa became 1st Indian state to launch a digital self-assessment test tool called Test Yourself Goa for COVID-19 to help people to identify whether they are at risk of being infected by coronavirus without having to physically visit a healthcare facility.
The Goa government has partnered with Innovaccer for this.

“Stay Home India with Books” initiative launched by GoI:
National Book Trust functioning under Ministry of Human Resources and Development launched Stay Home India with Books initiative. Under the initiative more than 100 books can be downloaded from the NBT website

Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana launched to fight COVID-19:
Finance Minister Nirmala Sitaraman launched Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana.
The scheme is an economic help package for people in the country to fight against COVID-19 and its effects. Around 1.7 lakh crore has been allocated under the package.
The scheme is to offer free cylinders under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Scheme. This will benefit around 8.3 crore Below Poverty Line Families.

Scientists of ARI, Pune develop biofortified, high protein wheat variety:
Scientists from Agharkar Research Institute (ARI) Pune, Maharashtra an autonomous institute under the Department of Science & Technology.
Government of India have developed a biofortified durum wheat variety MACS 4028, which shows high protein content.

NTPC’s installed capacity touches 58,816 MW:
NTPC has increased total installed capacity to 58,816 MW with the commissioning of 2nd unit of 660 MW at Khargone Super Thermal Power Project, Madhya Pradesh.
NTPC now has 55 power stations, including 24 coal-based & 7 combined cycle gas/liquid fuel.
Indian Railways focuses on world-class stations. The Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Limited is developing a first-of-its-kind ‘Form Based Codes’ for the development of railway land with support from Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation.

India’s Cleanest City Indore Becomes First city in India to use drones to sanitize the city:

Indore, the cleanest city in India becomes the 1st city in India to use drones to sanitize the city against COVID-19 scare.

Indore Municipal Corporation has hired 2 drones from a private company to sprinkle chemicals with sodium hypochlorite and bio-clean in crowded areas like vegetable markets, streets.

Govt to transfer Rs 2,000 under PM-KISAN scheme to 8.69 Cr farmers in April 1st week:

To provide relief to farmers affected due to the lockdown, government would transfer in the first week of April the first instalment of Rs 2,000 to each of 8.69 crore beneficiaries under the PM-KISAN scheme.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme, the Centre transfers an amount of Rs 6,000 per year, in three equal instalments each Rs 2,000 directly into the bank accounts of the farmers.

PM-KISAN Scheme is effective from 1 December 2018.

Govt offers Rs 1,500 to women Jan Dhan account holders, free cylinders under Ujjwala scheme

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced an ex-gratia amount of Rs 500 per month for the next three months to all the women Jan Dhan account holders to run their households.

Around 20 crore such women account holders will be covered under this scheme.

Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana was launched on 28 August 2014.

Centre signs agreement for sale of Kamarajar Port, THDC and NEEPCO:

Government resorted to ‘virtual signing’ to conclude strategic sales in Kamarajar Port, THDC India & NEEPCO. The Centre will receive Rs 13,500 crore from the three deals.

Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), signed a share purchase agreement to sell the Central government’s 67 per cent stake in Kamarajar Port Ltd to Chennai Port Trust for Rs 2,383 crore.
Govt hikes MGNREGA wages by Rs 2,000 per worker, offers sops to farmers:
Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced that the Centre is considering increasing wages under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (MNREGA) by Rs 2,000 per worker. Each person will get 5 kg of rice or wheat over & above the existing 5 kg being given.

Maharashtra overtakes Tamil Nadu & Telangana in organ donation, transplants for 2019:
For the year 2019, the state of Maharashtra has donated the highest number of organs which resulted beneficial for 449 patients. The state overtook Tamil Nadu and Telangana in the field of organ donation.
Regional Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation-State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (ROTTO-SOTTO) along with four Zonal Transplant Coordination Centre (ZTCC) of Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur, and Aurangabad in Maharashtra were the top performers.

SECI & NTPC to set up 10,000-MW renewable energy parks in Rajasthan:
Solar Energy Corporation of India and NTPC will sign an agreement with the Rajasthan government for setting up two 5,000-MW renewable energy parks.
This arrangement would mark first phase of 25,000 MW Ultra Mega RE Park proposed in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.

Odisha to set up the largest COVID-19 hospital in the country:
Odisha Government announced that it is readying to set up the largest Covid-19 hospital in India due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 in the country.
The state-level hospitals will have 1000 beds in Bhubaneswar, Odisha and will be functional in a fortnight.

Odisha signed 2 agreements with KIMS & SUM Medical College.

JICA & govt sign Rs 15,295-cr loan pacts for major rail projects for public, freight transport:
Japanese government funding agency JICA has signed agreements totalling Rs 15,295 Cr with the Indian government for three mega rail infrastructure projects.
Under these agreements, JICA has granted Rs 8,553 Cr for phase-1 of the Dedicated Freight Corridor.

Home Minister approves over Rs. 5,751 Cr to eight States for calamity damage relief:
High-Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Home Minister Amit Shah has approved additional Central assistance of
over Rs 5,751 Cr under National Disaster Response Fund to 8 States which were affected by floods, landslides, cyclone & drought last year.

Nagpur Municipal corporation with support of HLL Lifecare develops Covid-19 App:

Nagpur Municipal Corporation with the support of HLL Lifecare developed Covid-19 App for the benefit of the symptomatic citizens having problem of cough, fever & difficulty in breathing.

Citizens can fill the information about their symptoms on the app. App is only for the Symptomatic people.

Indian Govt to Launch CoWin-20 App to Track People and Curb Coronavirus Spread:

Government is to launch CoWin-20 to track individuals by their smartphone locations & curb the community spread of COVID-19.

It aims to trace the personal travel histories of individuals & figure out how many people might they have come in contact with.

CoWin-20 app is now in beta testing for both iOS and Android.

Harsh Vardhan launched CoNTeC to connect Doctors in India with AIIMS:

Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare Dr. Harsh Vardhan launched the National Teleconsultation Centre Conceptualised by the Health & Family Welfare Ministry (CoNTeC) & also interacted with Nodal Officers of Medical Colleges of States and other AIIMS of the country & reviewed the COVID-19 preparedness.

Maruti joins hands with AgVa Healthcare to scale up ventilator production:

Maruti Suzuki India will work with AgVa Healthcare to help it rapidly scale up production of ventilators in the country in wake of COVID-19 pandemic.

AgVa Healthcare is an existing approved manufacturer of ventilators. MSI also partnered with Ashok Kapu.

MGNREGA wages up about 11%; yet at least 40% lower than minimum wages:

The average per day wage rate for unskilled work under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme will rise 11% from Rs182 to Rs 202 for the FY 2020-21. The minimum wages are revised twice a year by the Chief Labour Commissioner.

MGNREGA was initially implemented as NREGA on 2006.

Jaipur’s Sawai Man Singh hospital tests serving robot:

Sawai Man Singh (SMS) Government Hospital in Jaipur is conducting the series of
trials on a humanoid robot to provide services to the COVID-19 patients. It is aimed to keep the doctors and nursing staff at a safe distance to protect them against the dreaded coronavirus.

Govt approves Insurance Scheme for health workers fighting to contain COVID-19:

Government approved Insurance Scheme under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package for health workers who are fighting to contain COVID-19.

The scheme will provide an insurance cover of Rs 50 lakh for 90 days to around 22.12 lakh public healthcare providers. Accidental loss of life due to contracting COVID-19 is added.

TRIFED Van Dhan India unleash power of Webinars to Work from Home:

Around 500 officials of TRIFED (The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India) unleashed the power of ‘Webinars’. Through ‘Tech for Tribals’ scheme that was launched in March 2020, around 3.5 lakh tribal entrepreneurs were gathered.

Van Dhan GIS-based website gathered more than 50 lakh people.

West Bengal govt launches app to sell fish online:

People living in Kolkata can order fishes through the State Fisheries Development Corporation app available in Google Play Store. All district officials have been asked to supply fish to as many markets as they can to tackle rising prices amid lockdown.

DRDO develops N99 masks, ventilators and hand sanitizers to help fight against COVID-19:

DRDO (Defence Research Development Organization) has been tracking the spread of the COVID-19 virus since it began to spread in China. Now, the organization has developed four items to help India in its “War against Corona”.

The DRDO has developed hand sanitizer, ventilators, five-layer masks and body suits.

Indian Army launches Operation Namaste:

Army Chief of Indian Army General Manoj Mukund Naravane launched ‘Operation Namaste‘ initiative to protect 1.3 million strong forces from coronavirus and provide all possible assistance to the government to control the pandemic.

EPCH cancels 49th Delhi Fair Spring-2020 in view of present status of COVID-19:
Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH) has cancelled the 49th edition of Delhi Fair Spring-2020 in view of present status of COVID-19. Earlier, the fair was scheduled to be held from 15 to 19th of April. EPCH Director-General- Rakesh Kumar. It was established under Companies Act in the year 1986-87.

IIT Bombay launches ‘CORONTINE’ to track people escaping quarantine:
IIT Bombay has built a platform called “CORONTINE” to track people escaping quarantine. These individuals could positive asymptomatic carriers of COVID-19. CORONTINE allows to geo-fence and automatically generate alerts. It sends text messages and emails if users move out of the zone.

Access to ‘SWAYAM’, National Online Education Platform has tripled:
Access to the National Online Education Platform SWAYAM & other Digital Initiatives has tripled in the last 1 week.

SWAYAM is Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds developed by Ministry of HRD with the help of IIT Madras, NPTEL & Google. SWAYAM was launched in 2014.

Uttar Pradesh: Rs 611 Cr to be transferred in MNREGA labourers accounts:
UP CM Yogi Adityanath will transfer Rs 611 Cr in the accounts of 27.15 lakh MNREGA (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act) labourers. It will be transferred electronically to help the workers in the situation of Lockdown due to COVID-19.

MGNREGA was initially implemented as NREGA on 2 February 2006.

Nagaland CM launches Self Declaration COVID-19 App:
Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio launched the Self Declaration COVID19 Nagaland App. App will be mandatory for any person who entered Nagaland after March 6.

User will be directed to click the menu button & select the nCOVID-19 App from the link-nagalandhealthproject.org.

Himachal Pradesh govt forms ‘HP COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund’ for health workers:
Himachal Pradesh State Government has created a ‘HP COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund’ to provide personal protection equipment to the health workers and other related officials.

Fund will also ensure smooth supply of essential commodities like medicine.

Supreme Court relaxes deadline to transition to BS-VI amid lockdown:
The deadline for a transition to Bharat Stage VI from BS-IV emission standards in India was extended up to **10 days** by the Supreme Court till **1 April 2020**, keeping in mind the nationwide lockdown to curb the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

**Rajasthan police launched a mobile app named “RajCop citizens app”:**

Rajasthan police launched a mobile app called “RajCop citizens app” to enable individuals and company employees in the state take permission for venturing out in necessary conditions which was developed by **Data Ingenious GLocal Limited.**

**National Gallery of Modern Art celebrates 66 years:**

National Gallery of Modern Art has celebrated **66 years** by launching virtual tour of its permanent collection for the visitors to enjoy without having to physically visit the Museum amid lockdown.

It is for the **first time** that a virtual tour is provided.

Director-General of National Gallery of Modern Art: **Adwaita Gada.**

**“Stranded in India” Portal launched to help Foreign Tourists:**

Ministry of Tourism had launched “Stranded in India”, a portal aimed to support foreign tourists.

The portal aims to disseminate information to the **foreign tourists stuck** far away from their **homeland** amidst COVID-19 threats and Lock Down.

The tourists can use the portal to learn information about steps or measures being made by the **Indian Government and the foreign government** to take them home safely.

**EPF (Amendment) scheme, 2020 comes into force; withdrawal of non-refundable advance allowed:**

Employees Provident Fund (Amendment) scheme, 2020, has come into force by amending Employees’ Provident Funds (EPF)Scheme 1952.

A sub-para(3) under para 68L has been added in the EPF scheme, **1952**. This amendment has been made by the **Ministry of Labour and Employment.**

**Ministry of Corporate Affairs introduces the “Companies Fresh Start Scheme, 2020”:**

Ministry of Corporate Affairs has introduced the “Companies Fresh Start Scheme, 2020” and revised the “LLP Settlement Scheme, 2020” to provide
relief to law-abiding companies and Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs).

Assam govt decides to provide Rs 1000 each to 2.78 Lakh construction workers:
Assam government has decided to provide 1 thousand rupees each to 2.78 lakh construction workers and poor without NFSA and ration cards who had to suffer due to lockdown and also decided to give free rice to around 58 lakh BPL households.

Jharkhand launches ‘PRAGYAM’ app to issue e – passes:
Jharkhand Government has launched a mobile app PRAGYAM to issue e-passes to everyone associated with the delivery of essential services during the national lockdown to combat COVID-19.

First Indian made testing tool “Pathodetect Covid-19 Kit”: 
Virologist Minal Dakhave Bhosale from Pune had headed the designing team for the coronavirus testing kit called ‘Mylab PathoDetect COVID-19 Qualitative PCR kit’.

She is the research and development chief of Mylab Discovery Solutions in Pune, the first Indian company have received full approval to make and sell Covid-19 testing kits.

POWERGRID commits Rs.200 Crore to PM CARES Fund
Maharatna CPSE under Ministry of Power, GoI and Central Transmission Utility (CTU) has decided to contribute Rs.130 Crore to Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations (PM-CARES) Fund to support India's fight against COVID-19. It also distributed food packets in slum areas to help the needy.

Panel led by NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant starts working on response strategy:
A panel led by NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant has begun working on a response strategy to contain the spread of COVID-19. The Empowered Committee held a meeting on March 30 and saw attendees from the private sector and industry.

Representatives from ASSOCHAM, NASSCOM, FICCI & CII were present

Govt extended upto Rs 3 lakh crop loan interest benefits to farmers till May 31
Govt extends crop loan interest
Government has extended the benefit of 2% interest subvention (IS) to banks and 3% Prompt Repayment incentive (PRI) to all farmers up to May 31, 2020 for all crop loans up to 3 lakh which have become due or
are becoming due between March 1 and May 31, 2020.
The decision has been taken due to the national lockdown situation to prevent Covid-19 infection.

MakeMyTrip launches 'Stays for Saviours' initiative to support healthcare providers:
Online travel firm MakeMyTrip has launched 'Stays for Saviours' initiative to support temporary accommodation needs of the medical frontline at special rates. It will enable medical practitioners to book from over 900 hotel properties across 200 cities.
Make My Trip CEO – Deep Kalra
Headquarters – Gurugram, Haryana.

HDFC Trustee company acquires 5.45% stake in SpiceJet:
HDFC Trustee Company Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Housing Development Finance Corporation Limited (HDFC), has acquired 3.4 crore shares or 5.45% stake in Indian low-cost airline SpiceJet.

Navaratnalu Pedalandariki Illu Programme: 25 lakh poor to get houses in AP:
Government of Andhra Pradesh modified the guidelines of Navatatnalu-Pedalandariki Illu programme. The scheme is called “Houses for all the poor”.
The guidelines were changed based on the directions of the High Court.

Railways to modify 20,000 coaches to prepare over 3 lakh isolation beds:
Railways are preparing more than three lakh isolation beds for which work has been started to modify 20 thousand coaches. Five thousand coaches are already being modified which will provide 80 thousand isolation beds. One coach is expected to have 16 beds.

India has only 0.7 beds/1000 people and has targeted for 2/1000.

ICCR: “United Against Corona- Express through Art”:
ICCR (Indian Council for Cultural Relations) launched a competition titled “United Against Corona- Express through Art”, the art in the time of Corona.
The aim of the competition is to unite the citizens across the world. The competition was announced by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and this soft-power initiative is being organized by ICCR.

RIL overtakes TCS to become most valued firm:
Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) surpassed TCS to become the most valued domestic firm by market capitalisation.
The market capitalisation (m-cap) of RIL was Rs 7,05,211.81 crore, which was Rs 21,133.32 crore more than that of Tata Consultancy Services’ Rs 6,84,078.49 crore valuation on the BSE.


Rs. 97,597 Crore Of gross GST revenue collected in Mar 20:

Gross GST revenue collected in the month of March 2020 is Rs. 97,597 crore falling way short of Rs 1.15 lakh crore target. Gross GST revenue for the month was 8% lower than that of March 19. GST collection grew by 3.7% in FY19.

Goods and Service Tax is an indirect tax and was passed in Mar17.

Hindustan Unilever completes its merger with GSKCH India:

Hindustan Unilever (HUL), India’s largest fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) company, has completed the merger of Glaxo SmithKline Consumer Healthcare Limited (GSKCH India) with itself.

Vivad Se Vishwas Scheme: Rs 888.09 crores saved by NMDC under the scheme

National Mineral Development Corporation operating under the Government of India announced that it has saved Rs 888.09 crores by adopting Vivad Se Vishwas Scheme.

Jitendra Singh launched DARPG’s National Monitoring Dashboard for COVID-19 Grievances:


The National Monitoring Dashboard developed by DARPG & implemented at https://darpg.gov.in

Arogya Setu: Multi-Lingual Mobile Application launched by GoI to track COVID-19

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has officially launched its 1st comprehensive coronavirus (COVID-19) tracking app called ‘Arogya Setu’ (which translates from Sanskrit to ‘A bridge of health’).

For Android and iOS (iPhone Operating System) users to connect health services with the people to fight the novel coronavirus outbreak.

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology:
Centre released SOPs for transit of COVID-19 negative foreign nationals:
Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) laid down Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the transit of COVID-19 negative foreigners stranded in India on 2 April. Also, the release of quarantined persons after being tested COVID-19 negative will be carried out by the Home Affairs Ministry.

National Book Trust launched “Corona Studies” Book Series:
National Book Trust of India has launched the Corona Studies book series that provide related information about the spreading Corona virus. The book series holds materials suitable for all age groups.

A New Low-Cost Temperature Gun developed by Indian Navy:
Mumbai Naval Dockyard has designed a low-cost IR based temperature sensor. The sensor is to be used to check the personnel entering at the gates of the yard. The instrument was manufactured at less than Rs 1000. The manufacturing cost is fraction of the instruments used in the market. The accuracy of the temperature gun is 0.2 degree Celsius.

SCTIMST ties up with Wipro 3D to manufacture automated ventilators to meet COVID 19 related crisis:
Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology has tied up with Wipro 3D to build a prototype of an emergency ventilator system based on Artificial Manual Breathing Unit (AMBU), developed by SCTIMST. SCTIMST is located in Trivandrum, Kerala.

Bio Suit developed by DRDO for health professionals to fight against COVID-19:
A Bio Suit has been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) to keep the medical professionals working with COVID-19 safe. The Organization has used its expertise in textiles, nanotechnology and coating to bring out the product.

New E-NAM Features launched by the Agricultural Ministry:
Union Ministry of Agriculture launched new features of National Agriculture Market. This aims to strengthen agricultural marketing of farmers. The main objectives of the features are to reduce the congestion at mandis that will help fight against COVID-19. The Ministry has launched new software modules on the E-NAM platform. They include
CCI approves Joint Venture between Adani Green Energy Limited and Total S.A:

Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the formation of Joint Venture (JV) between Adani Green Energy Limited and Total S.A. for solar power generation in India.

Project Prana: Indigenous ventilators developed by IISc Bengaluru scientists and students:

The students and scientists of IISc Bengaluru have developed indigenous ventilators under “Project Prana”. The ventilator was made using pressure sensor that widely finds its application in automobile industry. Apart from the sensor, the scientists also used Reverse Osmosis Water Filters.

Exercise NCC Yogdan launched to fight COVID-19:

National Cadet Corps (NCC) launched “Exercise NCC Yogdan” to offer a helping hand to the authorities fighting against COVID-19.

MoD received USD 8.82 million FDI during 2000-2019 period:

Ministry of Defence (MoD) has received foreign direct investment (FDI) of $8.82 million (around Rs.51.93 crore) during the period April 2000 and December 2019. The Ministry announced it on 1 April. As per the data provided by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, FDI in the defence sector was aggregated at $2.18 million in 2018-19.

Arogya Sanjeevani product to cover COVID-19 treatment:

IRDAI has clarified that the standard health insurance plan Arogya Sanjeevani will also cover the hospitalisation treatment costs. It has issued clearance to 29 general and health Insurance companies to market it.

Policy coverage between: Rs.1 L & Rs.5 L.


MoS HRD and IT, Sanjay Dhotre launches 'Hack the Crisis-India' hackathon:

Hack the Crisis – India is an Online Hackathon to find working solutions & is a part of a global initiative organised by ‘Hack A Cause - India’ and ‘FICCI Ladies Organization Pune’ & supported by MeitY.

FICCI President - Sanjay Khajuria.

Geo-fencing app to locate quarantine violators:

The government has tested an application named, Geo-fencing app to trigger emails and SMS alerts to an authorised government agency, if a person has jumped quarantine or
has escaped from isolation, based on the person’s mobile phone’s cell tower location.

Kerala becomes the first States to use geo-fencing.

National Health Authority partners with Uber:
National Health Authority has partnered with Uber India to provide dedicated transport services to the health care workers that are involved in treating COVID-19 patients.

AICTE comes out with unique helpline portal to support students during lockdown:
In order to support students, All India Council for Technical Education has come out with

MHRD AICTE COVID-19 Student Helpline Portal to address the issues. The website https://helpline.aicte-india.org was launched by HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhariyal Nishank.

Chairman AICTE - Prof. Anil Sahasrabudhe.

Jitendra Singh releases National Corona Survey conducted in 410 Districts of Country:
Minister of MPPG Dr Jitendra Singh released the National Preparedness Survey on COVID19-Responses of District Collectors and IAS Officers. It was conducted in 410 Districts in the Country.

Three Schemes launched to boost Electronic Manufacturing Sector:
Government of India has launched three incentive schemes to boost electronics manufacturing in the country. The scheme will provide incentives of 4% to 6% when a company shows increased sales on electronic products.

The incentives offered under the scheme are of worth Rs 48,000 crores. The companies shall claim the incentives from August 1, 2020. These include

1) Production Linked Incentive Scheme
2) Electronics Manufacturing Clusters 2.0 (EMC 2.0)
3) Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronics Components and Semiconductors (SPECS)

Odisha Government partners with UNICEF to launch ‘Mo Prativa’:
Odisha government in collaboration with the UNICEF has launched an online competition programme ‘Mo Prativa’ to engage the children and youth who are staying at home during the lockdown.

Two themes, ‘Being at home during lockdown’ and ‘My responsibility as a young citizen during Covid-19’. Those in
the age group of **5 to 18** years can participate in art, slogan writing, short story writing

**Bione launches India’s first COVID-19 home screening test kit:**
Bione launched a rapid COVID-19 at-home Screening test kit & is the first healthcare company in India to introduce this. It is priced between **Rs.2000-3000/-**. Bione, based in **Bangalore** is the first company to bring NSG Sequencing to India.
Bione was founded by **Surendra K Chikara**, a renowned genomicist.

**Telangana govt launches website to fact-check false social media posts:**
To keep a strict vigil on the spreading of fake news and misinformation through social media platforms by individuals, the **Telangana** government in partnership with **Factly Media & Research** launched a fact-checking website and dissecting misleading posts.
The portal is first of its kind by a state government.

**MHA approves release of Rs.11,092 cr to states to deal with COVID-19:**
Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** approved the release of **Rs.11,092 crores** to all states under the **State Disaster Risk Management Fund (SDRMF)** for setting up quarantine facilities and arranging other facilities for checking the spread of coronavirus.
Home Secretary- **Ajay Kumar Bhalla**.

**Pune based company develops technology- “Scitech Airon negative ion generator”:**
Jclean weather Technology private limited, company of Science & Technology (Scitech) Park, Pune has developed a technology- “**Scitech Airon negative ion generator”** to control viral, bacterial and fungal infections in closed environments can clean the air & disinfect areas caused by COVID-19 positive cases & suspects.

**IAS, IPS officers' associations form 'Caruna', an initiative to fight Coronavirus:**
Associations representing officers of **Civil Services**, including **IAS & IPS** formed an initiative called 'Caruna' to fight coronavirus. It represents a collaborative platform, on which civil servants, industry leaders, NGOs have come together to contribute.

**FCI sets new record in single day transportation of food grains:**
**Food Corporation of India (FCI)** has set a new record in single-day movement by moving 70 rakes carrying 1,93,000 MT of food grains continuously for 2 days. During the 12 days of lockdown, it has done average
movement of 1,40,000 tonnes of food grain/day.
Among the consuming states, maximum induction was done in Uttar Pradesh.
Maharashtra govt, BMC to launch a 24 X 7 helpline to address mental health during COVID-19:
To alleviate these mental health concerns during a lockdown, Mpower, an Indian mental healthcare institute has partnered with the Maharashtra govt & the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation to launch a toll-free helpline number called ‘BMC-Mpower 1on1’.
Mpower HQ: Mumbai.
Competition Commission of India (CCI) approves stake-buy in Religare Health Insurance by Trishikhar Ventures:
CCI approved the acquisition of 18.95% stake in Religare Health Insurance Company by Trishikhar Ventures under the green channel route. The green channel concept- allows automatic system for speedy approval for certain categories of merger and acquisitions.
Trishikhar HQ: Mumbai Religare HQ: Gurgaon
Kerala has installed Walk-in Sample Kiosks (WISK) for mass collection of samples for COVID-19 testing in Ernakulam district based on the South Korean model. The Walk-in Sample Kiosks are being developed by Doctors of Kalamssery Medical College.
DigiLocker designated as sole National Academic Depository by HRD Ministry:
Ministry of HRD designated DigiLocker as the sole National Academic Depository (NAD). It directed the UGC to implement NAD as a permanent scheme within DigiLocker without levying user charges through MeitY.
DigiLocker is safe to store electronic versions of documents.
Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal announces 5T plan to tackle novel coronavirus crisis:
Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal announced a 5T plan to stop the spread of the novel coronavirus. The 5T plan includes testing, tracing, treatment, teamwork and tracking.
Krishi Vigyan Kendra: Door Delivery of fish Scheme:
Krishi Vigyan Kendra operating under Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute has launched a door delivery scheme in Kerala. Under the scheme, it is
providing door delivery of fishes to several households in Kochi city.
The Door Delivery scheme has gained a good response in the Kochi city with average daily supply hitting 510 kg. Under the scheme, the KVK is catering 350 homes.

Prime Minister, President and MPs Salary reduced by 30% , MPLAD funds suspended for 2 years:
Union Cabinet has approved an ordinance which amends the salary, allowances as well as pension of the members of parliament.
The approved ordinance reduces the allowances and pension by 30% starting from April 1, 2020, for a year due to the impact of the novel coronavirus. All Members of Parliament (MPs), including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Council of Ministers, will face a 30% salary cut from April 1, 2020, for a year.

Ordnance Factory Board to introduce “modified tents” to set up isolation units:
Ordnance Factory Board that governs the defence manufacturing unit spread across India is to introduce “modified tents” to set up isolation units.
The idea of modified tents was brought by the Ordnance Equipment Factory, Kanpur. It aims to create isolation wards that will act as tents.
The tent is to be made of Poly Viscos and is water proof.

Chhattisgarh Police use app ‘Rakhsa Sarv’ to keep an eye on home quarantined people:
Police in Chhattisgarh’s Janjgir-Champa district have created a mobile application to keep tabs on those violating the home quarantine order.
The police, with the help of Noida-based startup Mobcoder, developed the app ‘Rakhsa Sarv’, which enables them to track the quarantined people through Google Map.
Details of the home-quarantined people are being fed in the app's dashboard.

Telangana deploys Covid-19 monitoring app developed by start-up:
Telangana government deployed an automated COVID-19 monitoring system app to identify & undertake live surveillance, track, monitor & provide real-time analytics to the CM & the health department. It has been developed by the start-up Vera Smart Healthcare.

Ministry of Human Resources Development launches “Samadhan” a challenge to fight against covid19 and future challenges:
Innovation Cell of the Ministry of Human Resources Development and All India Council
for Technical Education in collaboration with Forge and InnovatioCuris launched a mega online challenge – SAMADHAN – to test the ability of students to innovate.

Smart Cities partner with medical practitioners to provide online consultation:

According to the guidelines issued by MoHFW in collaboration with NITI Aayog, doctors can write prescriptions based on online consultation without the need for citizens to get out of their houses.

This decision of collaboration was taken on the lines of guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) along with NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog and Indian Medical Council (ICM) to allow remote delivery of medical services during the lockdown period.

The city of Ahmedabad in Gujarat has been ranked as the top Smart City in India for its execution of smart projects in handling COVID-19 pandemic.

Urban areas are expected to contribute 75% of GDP by 2030.

CSIR-CECRI partners with 3D Lycan for Face Shield:

CSIR-Central Electrochemical Research Institute (CECRI) at Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu, has developed a series of lab-made Personal protective equipment (PPEs) to fight COVID-19 pandemic. CSIR-CECRI partnered with 3D Lycan, Bangalore company to increase the mass production of Face Shield. The PPEs prepared by CSIR-CECRI include Hand sanitizer solutions, as per the World Health Organization (WHO).

Larsen & Toubro gets big contract from Indian Army to install state-of-the-art IT enabled network:

Smart World and Communication Business Unit (SW&C BU) of Larsen & Toubro Limited (L&T), an Indian multinational conglomerate company, has received a large order from the Indian Army to install state-of-the-art IT(Information Technology) based state-of-the-art systems, which will be used to operate the armed force network under the ‘Network of Spectrum (NFS)’.

ICCR launches unique Art competition, urges people worldwide to express their emotions:

ICCR (Indian Council of Cultural Relations) with its focus on building cultural links with countries around the world and connecting people through Cultural and Educational exchanges and to express their emotions through this Art competition.
ICCR President – Dr Vinay Sahasrabuddhe.
TRIFED collaborates with UNICEF to launch a digital campaign for Tribal Gatherers safety:
Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) has partnered with United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) to ensure the tribal gatherers carry on their work safely.
The partnership aims to develop a digital communication strategy for promoting a digital campaign for Self Help Groups (SHGs) to highlight the importance of Social Distancing.

Uttar Pradesh govt launches Annapurna, Supply Mitra portals for citizens’ food needs:
Uttar Pradesh government launched two portals for the convenience of the people of the state. The Annapurna Portal will help people get the knowledge of food products and packets. Supply Mitra portal will provide free home delivery of eatables.

Indian Railways uses Timetabled Parcel Trains to boost supply chain:
Indian Railways introduced "Timetabled Parcel Train services" for nationwide transportation of essential commodities and other goods. The move by the Railways is to boost the supply chain across the country amid the major lockdown.
The unhindered services offered by Indian Railways are expected to boost the availability of vital goods required for ordinary citizens, industry, and agriculture.

NCL partners with BEL to speed up the manufacturing of Digital IR Thermometer:
CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory (NCL) Pune, Maharashtra has designed and developed Digital IR Thermometer to held in the help in the mitigation of the Coronavirus outbreak.

NCL has partnered with Bharat Electronics Ltd, Pune (BEL) to speed up the manufacture of the newly designed thermometer. Digital IR Thermometer.

Delhi Launches ‘Operation SHIELD’ across its containment zones:
Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal launched ‘Operation Shield’, a strategy involving sealing, isolation and tracing to contain the spread of the virus.

SHIELD – Sealing; Home-Quarantine; Isolation; Essential Supplies; Local Sanitation; Door to Door Checking.

IndiGrid to acquire Sterlite Power’s asset for Rs.1,050 crore:
India Grid Trus (IndiGrid) is acquiring a transmission asset from Sterlite Power for Rs.1,050 crores. IndiGrid is one of India’s two listed Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT).
CEO of IndiGrid: Harsh Shah.
Headquartes: Mumbai.

Madhya Pradesh railways designs mobile doctor booth called ‘CHARAK’ for zero-contact check-ups:
West Central Railway’s Coach Rehabilitation Workshop (CRWS) in Madhya Pradesh’s (MP) Bhopal city has created a mobile doctor booth called “CHARAK” to eliminate the possibility of physical contact between the doctor and the coronavirus (COVID-19) infected patient.

Indian Railways:
Headquarters– New Delhi
Union Minister– Piyush Goyal.

Government of India launches a training module for management of COVID-19 named ‘Integrated Government Online training’ (iGOT) portal on DIKSHA platform of MHRD
Centre under Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) has launched 1st of its kind Integrated Government Online Training (iGOT) e-learning portal on Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing (DIKSHA) platform of Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) to enhance capacity building of front line workers to effectively manage the COVID-19 pandemic.

Indian Robotics Solution launches Corona Combat Drone to fight COVID-19:
To aid the Delhi Government, Indian Robotics has come up with a Corona Combat Drone (CCD) that can sanitize large congested slums and colonies within a short duration.

Sagar Gupta Naugriya is the founder of Indian Robotics Solution.

Mumbai first city in India to make face masks a must in public:
As community transmission of coronavirus has begun in Mumbai local civic body – Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) -issued a circular making three-ply or cloth mask a must if they are venturing out for any purpose in the city.

BMC chief Praveen Pardeshi.

Govt disburses Rs.15,841 cr to 7.92 cr farmers under PM-KISAN during lockdown:
Govt. has disbursed the 1st instalment of Rs.15,841 cr. to 7.92 cr. farmers under the PM-KISAN scheme, since March 24 ,to curb COVID-19.Under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme, the Centre transfers
an amount of Rs.6,000/yr, in 3 equal instalments.
PM-KISAN Scheme completed one year on February 24, 2020.
Centre launched Aarogya Setu IVRS for non-smart phones in collaboration with TN govt and IIT-Madras:
After the launch of Aarogya Setu app to tackle COVID-19 impact, now Centre government in partnership with Tamil Nadu government and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras has launched its complementary initiative named “Aarogya Setu Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS)”. It is launched by TN Chief Minister (CM) Edappadi Karuppa Palaniswami and Union Minister of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) Ravi Shankar Prasad.
Government of India approved Rs.15000 cr for COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Package:
Indian Government has approved Rs.15000 crores for ‘India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Package’ to build health infrastructure in states and UTs till March 2024. Of the 15,000 crore, Centre would release Rs.7,774 crore for immediate COVID-19 Emergency Response use till June 2020 and the rest will be set for medium-term support of 1-4 years.
MHA issues 5th Addendum to exempt Operations of Marine Fishing/Aquaculture Industry and its Workers:
MHA issued an addendum to the consolidated guidelines. The 5th addendum exempts from lockdown restrictions the operations of the Fishing (Marine)/Aquaculture Industry, including feeding and maintenance, harvesting, processing etc. Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) In-charge:- Amit Shah.
HRD Ministry launches week long Bharat Padhe Online campaign:
HRD Ministry launched a week long Bharat Padhe Online campaign for crowd sourcing of ideas in New Delhi for improving online education ecosystem. Educators across the country can come forward to contribute with their expertise in the field of education. Human Resources Development Minister- Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank.
Flipkart partners with ICICI Lombard & Go Digit to offer two COVID-19 health insurance policies:
Flipkart Private Limited, an e-commerce marketplace in partnership with ICICI

Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan participates in G20 Extraordinary Energy Ministers’ virtual meeting:

Minister Dharmendra Pradhan participated in the G20 Extraordinary Energy Ministers’ virtual Meeting. The meeting was attended by Energy Ministers of G20 countries, guest countries and heads of international organizations including OPEC, IEA and IEF. Meeting chaired by-Saudi Arabia Energy Minister Prince Abdulaziz.

Ordnance Factory Board develops cost-effective solution for isolation wards:

Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) has developed a cost-effective solution for isolation wards, Fumigation Chamber, Hand sanitizers and face masks as a measure to fight against COVID-19 pandemic.

OFB’s measures: Two-Bed Tents: The two-bed tents are fitted with medical equipment for screening, isolation, and quarantine.

Ministry of Human Resource Development Minister launched ‘YUKTI’ in New Delhi:

Union HRD Minister launched a web portal YUKTI to monitor and record the efforts and initiatives of Ministry of Human Resource Development. The portal intends to cover the different dimensions of COVID-19 challenges in a very holistic and comprehensive way.

Young India Combating COVID with Knowledge, Technology & Innovation.

NRLM SHG women to face the challenge of COVID-19 situation in India:

Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), Ministry of Rural Development, has contributed to the challenge of COVID-19 situation in the country. Around 690 lakh women members of around 63 lakh Self Help Groups (SHGs) have emerged as community warriors to contain the spread of COVID-19.

Flipkart partners with Tata for distribution of essential supplies:

E-commerce firm Flipkart and Tata Consumer Products Ltd have partnered to enable access to essential food and beverage products to Indians through a system where the latter’s distributors will list
as marketplace sellers on the former’s platform

More than Rs 5,000 Cr transferred to accounts of 7.15 Cr beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana:

Oil marketing companies initiated the transfer of Rs 5,606 crore to 7.15 Crrore PMUY beneficiary accounts for availing free delivery of LPG cylinder under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan package.

There are over 8 crore PMUY beneficiaries in the country.

Government eases norms for PPF and Sukanya Samriddhi account holders:

Finance Ministry has extended the deadline for mandatory minimum deposit in Public Provident Fund (PPF) and Sukanya Samriddhi Account (SSA) for 2019-20 by three months up to June 30

Small Savings schemes are provided under India Post.

Government approves ex-gratia compensation for FCI officials in case of death:

The government has approved the proposal for grant of ex-gratia monetary compensation to 1,08,714 workers and officers of the FCI including 80,000 labour who are working round the clock to supply food grains across the country amidst the pandemic.
at Minimum Support Price (MSP) from the available funds under MSP for MFP Scheme

Food Bank to help the needy and poor introduced in Manipur:
A new initiative called, Food Bank is introduced in Manipur to provide immediate aid in the form of free food to the poor and the needy. Items to be distributed after proper verification of beneficiaries.

IFFCO organizes continual awareness campaigns ‘Break the CORONA Chain’ on ground zero:
Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO) one of India’s biggest cooperative societies has continuously organized a social awareness campaign, ‘Break the CORONA Chain’ on Ground zero in different states across the country to highlight the preventive and precautionary measures among the people.

Electronic-National Agricultural Market completes four years of service:
Electronic-National Agricultural Market completed four years of implementation. It was developed under the concept of “One Nation One Market”.

E-NAM is managed by the Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC). It provides single service for all APMC (Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee) related activities. Today there are more than 450 APMCs listed under E-NAM for trade.

Goa becomes the first state to integrate allopathy and Ayurveda to treat COVID-19 patients:
Goa Chief Minister (CM) Pramod Sawant announced that Goa becomes the first state to integrate allopathy and Ayurveda to treat COVID-19 patients and those who have been quarantined.

CM also added that although Ayurveda cannot cure COVID-19, it will certainly boost patients’ immunity.

Uttar Pradesh became the first state to start Pool Testing of coronavirus:
Uttar Pradesh became the first state to start the Pool Testing of the coronavirus samples as the number of COVID-19 positive patients reached 558.

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) gave permission for pool testing to the state in order to help maximize the testing of samples on a daily basis. Pool testing is expected to boost the daily testing capacity of the state health department.

Fit India launched Fit India Active Day program for school students:
Fit India, the Government of India’s flagship fitness movement, has launched the Fit India
Active Day program. The new series of fitness sessions will be organized in partnership with the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) for school children from across the country.

“DekhoApnaDesh” webinar series to provide information on many destinations and culture and heritage of Incredible India:
Tourism Ministry launched “DekhoApnaDesh” webinar series to provide information on the cultural & heritage sites. The first webinar was about Delhi titled City of Cities-Delhi’s Personal Diary. It is to be available on social handles of the Ministry.
Tourism Ministry: Prahlad Singh Patel.

CCI approves proposed acquisition of 9.93% stake by Emerald Sage Investment Limited in Apollo Tyres Limited:
The Proposed combination envisages subscription by Emerald Sage Investment Limited to 10.80 cr constituting approx. 9.93% shares of Apollo Tyres Limited.
Emerald is investment holding company under Mauritius. Apollo manufactures and sells automotive tyres.
Apollo Tyres HO: Gurugram.

Agri Ministry launches a call centre for agri logistics:
Agri Ministry has set up a call centre to ease the difficulties in agri logistics, particularly the inter-State movement of perishable vegetables and fruits as well as agri inputs such as seeds, pesticides and fertilisers.

AICTE launches e-learning portal ‘ELIS’: In order to foster digital learning, AICTE launched Enhancement in Learning with Improvement in Skills (ELIS) portal. The e-learning content consists of 26 different courses with the help of 18 leading Ed-tech companies.
AICTE Chairman: Anil Sahasrabudhe.

DRDO develops COVID-19 sample collection kiosk ‘COVSACK’: COVSACK – COVID Sample Collection Kiosk helps health workers to collect samples from patients without PPE kits. It is developed by DRDO & doctors of ESIC. DRDO also developed Personal Sanitation Enclosure (PSE) & Full Face Mask (FFM).
Chairman of DRDO: G Satheesh Reddy.

C-DOT and Telecom Service Providers develop COVID Quarantine Alert System
The Department of Telecommunication and C-DOT (Centre for Development of Telematics) in coordination with Telecom Service Providers have developed and tested COVID Quarantine Alert System application.
which automatically triggers an email (Electronic Mail) or SMS (Short Message Service) if any identified corona positive person moves away from their quarantine location.

Rajasthan govt. launches ‘SMILE’ for e-learning at School:

Rajasthan’s State Education Department launched ‘SMILE’ – ‘Social Media for Learning Engagement’. It is a digital platform to provide online classes and courses through various platforms of Social Media.

Rajasthan Education Minister: Govind Singh Dotasra.

Jim Corbett is India’s first quarantine facility for animals:

India’s oldest Jim Corbett National Park in Uttarakhand has built isolation ward for animals. At least ten quarantine centres are being prepared within the premises to contain animals.

National Tiger Conservation Authority-NTCA was launched in 2005.

External affairs ministry announced COVID-19 training program for healthcare professionals from SAARC countries:

Ministry of External Affairs has announced a training program on COVID-19 from April 17 for healthcare professionals from the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) countries, it will be carried out by the Centre’s Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme.

Telangana CM recommended the implementation of “Helicopter Money”: While formulating strategies to curb the adverse impact of COVID-19, a term “helicopter money” landed on the internet surface. This term has been used by Telangana Chief Minister (CM) K. Chandrashekar Rao during a video-conference with Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi.

Vikram Solar bags 300 MW solar project in Rajasthan from NTPC:

Green Energy provider, Vikram Solar bagged a 300 MW solar plant project for Rs 1,750 cr. From NTPC. The plant is to be spread across 1,500 acres in Rajasthan under the CPSU – II scheme. It is expected to be completed in 18 months.

CEO of Vikram Solar: Saibaba Vutukuri.

Headquarters: Kolkata.

Andhra Pradesh CM Jagan Mohan Reddy launches ‘YSR Nirman’ online platform:

Andhra Pradesh (AP) Chief Minister (CM) Jagan Mohan Reddy launches ‘YSR Nirman’ an online platform on April 6 to help
various departments of the State to procure cement from suppliers for government works such as Polavaram irrigation project, housing and roads & also display availability of cement demand and supply on a real-time basis.

Maharashtra government launches ‘COVID-MADAT’ for tele-screening:
Pune platform for COVID-19 Response (PPCR) with support of Maharashtra state Innovation Society launched ‘COVID-MADAT’, a telemedicine helpline to telescreen people. The caller is expected to answer some questions through an intelligent IVR Platform. Operated by ‘Telemeds Vs COVID-19’, a group of start-up founders.

Aarogya Setu app became worlds fastest app to reach 50 million downloads:
The Central Government’s mobile app “Aarogya Setu” has become the world’s fastest app to reach 50 million downloads in just 13 days. The information was passed by the NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant on 15 April.
The app was developed for tracking COVID-19 patients. The Aarogya Setu app alerts people if any known person or person in their vicinity has tested positive.

Narendra Singh Tomar chairs the National Conference on Kharif crops 2020 by video conference:
Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar chaired the National Conference on Kharif crops 2020 by video conference & stated that all states should aim to achieve the kharif target. And also the doubling of farmers’ income should be taken up in mission mode. DAC (The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing ) & FW (Family Welfare) secretaries and ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research ) and also officers from state governments participated.

Chhattisgarh launched Cghaat website for online essential delivery:
Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh Bhupesh Baghel inaugurated the online delivery website 'Cghaat' on 16 April. Cghaat will facilitate doorstep delivery of fruits and vegetables during the extended lockdown phase due to contain COVID-19 spread

Govt to set up “Suraksha Stores” and “Suraksha Circle” under PPP mode amid COVID-19 lockdown:
In order to provide daily essentials to Indian citizens during the extended lockdown, the government will set up 20 lakh retail shops through public-private partnership (PPP)
namely ‘Suraksha Stores’ across India in the next 45 days.
In this regard, the neighbourhood Kirana (general) stores will be converted into sanitized retail outlets selling daily essentials while adhering to safety norms such as social distancing to control the spread of the novel coronavirus.

GoI launches “Krishi Rath” application for hassle free agri transportation:
Government of India launched the “Krishi Rath” application to help farmers to transport their agriculture produce to the mandis. The farmer has to post the quantity of agricultural produce he wishes to transport. After posting, he will get the availability of truck and price quote for the load. The prices quoted are from the transport aggregators. Once the farmer confirms, he will get details of the transporter. He can then directly connect with him and negotiate for prices.

DRDOs PPE testing facility shifted from DRDE Gwalior to INMAS Delhi:
Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) shifted its testing facility from Defence Research Development Establishment (DRDE), Gwalior to Institute of Nuclear Medicine & Allied Sciences (INMAS), New Delhi. The move is to overcome the time delays and to speed up delivery of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and masks.

NIRDPR and UNICEF training community leaders online to combat COVID-19:
National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR) in collaboration with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), Hyderabad field office, is training over 28.33 lakh community leaders through online programs to practice social behaviours required to control the transmission of COVID-19 cases in villages in association with the governments of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh (AP) and Karnataka.

Delhi Government introduces “Assess Koro Na” application:
Delhi Government launched “Assess Koro Na” application to conduct door to door survey. The application has been launched in COVID-19 containment zones. The data collected is uploaded to the servers in real time. The data are then analyzed immediately. The control centres will access this data and make quick decisions on fulfilling the needs such as ambulance services, medical expert, etc.

Health Minister chairs the 12th Group of Minister meeting on COVID-19:
Union Health Minister Shri Harsh Vardhan chaired the 12th Group of Minister meeting on COVID-19. The meeting was attended by External Affairs minister, home minister for state, shipping and chemical and fertilizer minister for state, member of NITI Aayog, etc.

CBDT refunds over five thousand 204 crore rupees to help MSME:

CBDT informed the Income-tax refunds are obtained over eight lakh small businesses worth over five thousand 204 crore rupees issued in the last ten days. Income tax refunds will help MSME to carry on their business activities without pay cuts and layoffs in COVID-19 pandemic situations. Income tax department issued nearly 14 lakh refunds up to five lakh each to date to help taxpayers. CBDT will issue refunds worth of seven thousand 760 crore rupees.

Renewable Energy Parks to be set up in India:

Ministry of Renewable Energy has initiated big action to set up Renewable Manufacturing parks in India. The Ministry of Renewable Energy initiated manufacturing hubs to meet domestic and global demands. In order to achieve this the central government has directed the states to identify land parcels between 50 acres and 500 acres to set up these parks. The State Governments such as Odisha and Madhya Pradesh have already expressed their interests.

Power Ministry floats draft Electricity Act Bill 2020:

Ministry of Power issued a draft proposal for amendment of Electricity Act, 2003 in the form of the draft Electricity Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 for comments from Stakeholders. National Renewable Energy Policy is proposed to provide for a policy document.

Union Minister Prahlad Singh Patel launches the National List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of India:

Union Minister for Culture (I/C) Shri Prahlad Singh Patel launched the National List of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) of India in New Delhi. List is an attempt to recognize the diversity of Indian culture embedded in its intangible heritage.

13 Intangible Cultural Heritage of the list have also been recognized by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization).

Indian Navy develops air evacuation pod for COVID-19 patients:
Indian Navy’s Southern Command, Kochi has developed an air evacuation pod (AEP) to airlift COVID-19 infected patients safely from remote areas such as islands and ships in a fully sealed patient transfer capsule.

**Government increases loss coverage for micro loan defaults under CGFMU scheme to 75% from 50% earlier:**

Finance ministry has increased coverage of a lender’s loss in case of loan default under the Credit Guarantee Fund for Micro Units scheme to 75% from 50% earlier. CGFMU covers micro loans up to Rs 10 lakh extended under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana. Credit Guarantee Fund for Micro Units scheme was announced in April 2016.

**Uttar Pradesh—First State to Geo Tag Community Kitchens:**

Uttar Pradesh has become the first state in the country to geotag its 7,368 community kitchens and community shelters across 75 districts which produce 12 lakh food packets a day. The state government has also tied up with Google to Geo-map the locations.

**Rajasthan: First Indian to carry out Rapid Testing for Covid-19:**

Rajasthan has started rapid antibody tests, among the first states to do so, as the state capital Jaipur and Jodhpur have emerged as hotspots, reporting more than half the confirmed Covid-19 cases and accounting for 70% of deaths in the state.

**Nirmala Sitharaman attends the 5th Annual Meeting of Board of Governors of NDB**

Union Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman attended the 5th Annual Meeting of Board of Governors of New Development Bank through video-conference in New Delhi.

The NDB was established by the BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) in 2014.

**New Development Bank:**

Headquarters location: Shanghai, China.

Kerala’s Pathanamthitta launches Tiranga vehicle for rapid screening of symptoms:

The vehicle, called Tiranga – Total India Remote Analysis Nirogya Abhiyaan is painted amid the tricolour on the vehicle so that people would immediately recognise it as an initiative of the government and leave the health workers alone.

This is the newly-launched Tiranga initiative, by the Pathanamthitta district administration, to make it easier to screen people for COVID-19, without the risk of exposure.
Union HRD Minister chairs the review meeting on SWAYAM and SWAYAM Prabha in New Delhi:

Union Minister for HRD, Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ held a detailed review of the National online education platform SWAYAM and the 32 DTH Television Education Channels SWAYAM PRABHA in New Delhi. 1902 courses are available currently in SWAYAM (Study Webs of Active-Learning for Young Aspiring Minds).

Government of India released Rs.17,793 crore Under PM-KISAN Scheme farmer families during lockdown:

The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare of Government of India has taken several measures to facilitate the farmers and farming activities at field level during the nationwide lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic. Under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Scheme, over 8.89 crore farmer families have been benefitted.

Road Ministry launched dashboard containing list of Dhabas and Truck Repair Shops on its website:

Ministry of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has created a dashboard link for providing list & details of Dhabas & Truck repair shops available across the country by various organisations like NHAI, States, Oil Marketing companies.

NHAI’s centralized call number 1033 has also been enabled.

Dharmendra Pradhan holds meeting of National Biofuel Coordination Committee:

Union Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas Dharmendra Pradhan held a meeting of National Biofuel Coordination Committee. At the meeting, he discussed ways in which biofuel industry can help the country in stepping-up its fight against COVID-19.

National Biofuel Coordination Committee, set up in the year 2009.

Karnataka government launches GetCETGo for NEET, CET students:

Karnataka government has launched an online crash course programme ‘GetCETGo’ to help students from the state to prepare for Common Entrance Test & National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET). Android application, developed by Sinchu Infotech & Deeksha Online.

Arunachal CM inaugurates Hangpan Dada Bridge online:
Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu inaugurated the revamped strategic bridge over River Subansiri at Daporijo in Upper Subansiri district. This bridge is the only line of communication to Daporijo and other villages located on the other side of Subansiri River.

Madhya Pradesh govt launches ‘Chief Minister COVID-19 Yoddha Kalyan Yojana’ to benefit Anganwadi workers & Assistants:
The state Government of Madhya Pradesh has launched the ‘Chief Minister COVID-19 Yoddha Kalyan Yojana’ to benefit the Anganwadi workers and Assistants of the state. Under the scheme, the state government will provide a special health insurance cover of Rs 50 lakhs. The benefit of this scheme will be given to the warriors under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY), which was launched by the central Government.

Rajasthan government partners with ‘Aayu’ to tackle COVID-19:
The Government of Rajasthan partnered with healthcare app ‘Aayu’ to provide accessibility to quality healthcare and to deliver the medicine to the people in the rural and urban India during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The application and the helpline number- 7816811111 to provide services to the people in both English and Hindi language.

Karnataka launches app for home delivery of essentials in Bengaluru:
Karnataka CM launched ‘Homeline’ an app to home-deliver groceries and vegetables, to cover Bengaluru Urban district and help keep people indoors during the lockdown. Over 3000 delivery partners will now be available for deliveries for a fee of Rs.10.

Tech Mahindra and IBM tie up to set up innovation centres:
Tech Mahindra has decided to set up innovation centres in collaboration with IBM. It is meant to boost digital transformation and encourage adoption of more cloud-based technologies among its global customers.

Dr Harsh Vardhan launches ‘COVID India Seva’, an interactive platform for citizen engagement on COVID-19:
Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare, launched the “COVID India Seva” the initiative is aimed at enabling transparent e-governance delivery in real-time & answering citizen queries swiftly, at scale, especially in crisis situations like COVID 19.

“Saiyam” Mobile application launched by Pune Municipal Corporation:
Pune Municipal Corporation launched “Saiyam” mobile application. The application has been developed to monitor home quarantine citizens. The Pune Municipal Corporation has appointed teams in five different zones. These teams will conduct follow-ups with the home quarantined people on a daily basis.

Third Phase of Gujarat’s “Sujalam Sufalam Jal Sanchay Abhiyan” begins:
Gujarat Government began the third phase of Sujalam Sufalam Jal Sanchay Abhiyan amidst lockdown. The scheme is to continue till June 10. Under the third phase of the scheme, the Gujarat Government has planned to deepen lakes, rivers, check dams before monsoon. It will also remove silts with participation of people under MNREGA.

Uttarakhand government using ‘Sampark Didi’ app to impart virtual classes:
Uttarakhand state education department has started virtual lessons for students through a mobile application named ‘Sampark Didi’. Through the app, students can access animated lectures while they are confined to their homes during the pandemic.

Himachal Pradesh starts to use eSanjeevaniOPD:
The Himachal Pradesh government has started to use “eSanjeevaniOPD” through which free online medical consultation & general health advice will be provided to the people at their residence. It is a Stay Home OPD & is India’s flagship telemedicine technology developed & designed by Health Informatics Group at Centre for Development of Advanced Computing C-DAC centre in Mohali, Punjab.

Karnataka launched Apthamitra helpline and app to fight against coronavirus:
The Karnataka State government launched the "Apthamitra" helpline on 22 April. It was aimed to empower people in the state's fight against coronavirus. It was launched by Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa. Developed by: The system and website are owned by Health and Family Welfare Department and State Disaster Management Authority.

Cabinet approves Rs. 15,000 Crore for "India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Package":
Union Cabinet has approved significant investments to the tune of Rs.15,000 crore.
The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, has sanctioned funds for ‘India COVID-19 Emergency Response & Health System Preparedness Package’. The funds sanctioned will be utilized in 3 Phases and for immediate COVID-19 Emergency Response.

BRO builds 484-meter permanent bridge connecting Kasowal enclave in Punjab with rest of the country:

Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has constructed and opened a new permanent bridge on the river Ravi connecting Kasowal enclave in Punjab to the rest of the country much ahead of its schedule. The bridge costed Rs 17.89 crore excluding the approaches.

484-meter bridge has been built under Project Chetak.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes launches series under Education for Justice initiative:

United Nations Office of Drugs and Crimes launched online dialogues with students and educators on COVID-19.

The organization has launched “Lockdown Learners’ Series” under Education for Justice Initiative. The series aims to sensitize students on the issues such as misinformation, cybercrime, gender-based violence, corruption among others.

Mizoram: Mobile app ‘mCOVID19’ to act as online pass for drivers and handymen:

Mobile app, mCOVID19 will act as the online pass for the drivers & handymen. The truck drivers & handlers coming from outside Mizoram state need to be thoroughly screened to contain the spread of the pandemic & this mPASS will be useful for the purpose.

Mizoram Governor: P S Sreedharan Pillai.

Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ e-launches VidyaDaan 2.0 program on DIKSHA platform:

The Union Human Resource Development Minister, Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ e-launched VidyaDaan 2.0 program on DIKSHA platform to invite e-learning content contributions.

As there is an increasing requirement for e-learning content for students(both school and higher education), particularly in the context of the situation arising from COVID-19.

Minister of HRD launched the “MyBook MyFriend” campaign:

Union Minister of Human Resource Development Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' launched the #MyBookMyFriend campaign on social media on 23 April on the occasion of World Book Day.
Paytm and Vodafone Idea partner to launch ‘Recharge Saathi’ for prepaid customers:
Vodafone Idea has entered into partnership with Paytm. Individuals and small businesses would be able to earn up to an additional Rs 5,000 every month under the ‘Recharge Saathi’ program. Vodafone Idea will offer assured cashback to merchant partners.

MD and CEO of Vodafone Idea: Ravinder Takkar

Madhya Pradesh Anganwadi workers, Assistants to get benefit of CM COVID-19 Yoddha Kalyan Yojana:
Under this initiative, Anganwadi workers and Assistants of the state will also get a special health insurance cover of Rs 50 lakhs. The scheme has been launched by the Central Government for health workers who are fighting against COVID-19 epidemic.

Defense Minister Shri Rajnath Singh inaugurates DRDO developed mobile laboratory to test COVID-19 samples:
Defense Minister Shri Rajnath Singh inaugurated Mobile Virology Research and Diagnostics Laboratory (MVRDL) namely “Mobile BSL-3 VRDL Lab” via video conference.
The lab was developed by DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organisation) in association with ESIC (Employees’ State Insurance Corporation) Hospital, Hyderabad and Private industry. This mobile lab has the testing capacity of more than 1000 to 2000 samples per day.

PM launches e-Gram Swaraj, Swamitva yojana for faster development of villages:
Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched e-Gram Swaraj and Swamitva Yojana, two web portals for accelerating the pace of development in India's villages. The eGram Swaraj app will provide panchayats a single interface to complete development projects.

Swamitva Yojana will use drones in mapping of properties.

World Bank approved Rs 585 cr for Himachal Pradesh State Roads Transformation Project (HPSRTP):
Under tranche-I of HPSRTP, Road construction work of Barotiwalla-Baddi-Sain-Ramshehar with length of 45 kms, Dadol-Ladraurr Road with length of 14.5 kms, Mandi- Riwalsar-Kalkhar of length 28 kms and Raghunathpura-Mandi- Harpura-Bharari road with length of 3.5 kms would be undertaken. Also, the construction of 4,960-km roads has been fixed under Pradhan Mantri Gram SadakYojna (PMGSY) for FY 2020-21 for
which financial allocation of **Rs 1,666 crore** had been made.

**Pralhad Joshi sets 710 MT coal production target for Coal India Limited in FY 20-21:**

Union Minister of Coal and Mines Pralhad Joshi has set the target for **Coal India Limited (CIL)** to produce 710 million tonnes (MT) of coal for FY 2020-2021. The decision has been taken on the lines of achieving 1 billion tonne (BT) coal production by year 2023-24 and also the demand of coal will be accelerated after coronavirus lockdown.

The **Over Burden (OB)** removal target for FY 20-21 was set at 1580 million cubic meters. OB removal refers to the removal of top soil to expose the coal seams making them ready for mining.

**Govt reconstituted National Shipping Board; to be headed by ex DG Shipping Malini Shankar:**

The Ministry of Shipping has given its consent for the reconstitution of the 16-member **National Shipping Board (NSB)**, the highest advisory body on matters related to Indian shipping and its development or other matters arising out of the **Merchant Shipping Act, 1958**.

The reconstituted board will be headed by former Director General of **Shipping Malini Shankar**.

**Uttar Pradesh becomes the 1st state with a software based in-house facility of virtual courts:**

**Uttar Pradesh** becomes the 1st state with a software based in-house facility of **virtual courts**, where a requisite infrastructure in **Allahabad High Court** and all district courts of Uttar Pradesh to hear cases through video conferencing.

The courts can conduct multiple court proceedings through virtual courts within the court premises **without any internet connection**.
INTERNATIONAL NEWS:

India ranks 120th in Index of Economic Freedom 2020:
India ranks 120th globally and 25th among 43 countries in the Asia-Pacific region. Singapore overtook Hong Kong as the world's freest economy for the first time since 1995 in the latest Heritage Foundation Index of Economic Freedom. The Index was first published in 1995 and Hong Kong has topped the charts ever since; that is until 2020.

Cabinet approved extradition treaty between India & Belgium:
The Union cabinet, chaired by PM Narendra Modi, approved signing of an extradition treaty between India & Belgium. The treaty would provide a legal framework for seeking extradition of terrorists, economic offenders and other criminals from and to Belgium.

Belgium Capital- Brussels, Currency- Euro.

UK becomes 1st co-chair of India-led global climate initiative ‘CDRI’:
Government of United Kingdom has become the first co-chair of the Governing Council on the India-led global climate initiative ‘Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI).

World Cities Summit 2020 rescheduled to 20 – 24 June 2021:
Singapore has rescheduled the 7th World Cities Summit (WCS) 2020 to 20 – 24 June 2021 due to the outbreak of COVID-19 which includes, Singapore International Water Week (SIWW) and Clean Environmental Summit Singapore (CESG).
The theme of WCS is “Liveable and Sustainable Cities: Adapting to a Disrupted World”.

Toyota, NTT to invest in each other in smart city tie-up:
Automotive manufacturer Toyota Motor Corp and Nippon Telegraph & Telephone Corporation will form a capital tie-up to work together in smart-city development, making large investments in each other, Japan’s only public broadcaster NHK (Nippon Hoso Kyokai) stated.
NTT is a Japanese telecommunications company.

India’s 1st AI summit ‘RAISE 2020’ postponed to October:
Indian government announced the postponement of the country’s 1st summit on Artificial Intelligence (AI), ‘RAISE 2020– Responsible Artificial intelligence (AI) for Social Empowerment’ to October 5-6, 2020.

IBM, Amazon, Google partner with US govt to provide resources for coronavirus research:
The country’s private sector have joined America's war against coronavirus in a big way.
The public-private consortium will 'unleash the power of American super computing resources' to fight the deadly viral infection.

United Nations to create global coronavirus fund:
UN will create a fund to prevent the spread of COVID-19 & support the treatment of patients globally. Purpose of the fund is to assist developing countries with weak health systems in addressing the crisis as well as to tackle the long-term consequences.

Norway suggested to create the global coronavirus fund.

Amazon teams up with Bill Gates-backed group to deliver coronavirus test kits:
Amazon.com Inc is teaming up with a research program funded by Bill Gates to pick up and deliver coronavirus test kits in Seattle. The Seattle Coronavirus Assessment Network is collecting nasal swabs from a sample of people across King County.

Seattle: Group of medical, health & research organizations.

Cognizant acquires US-based digital marketing firm:
Cognizant Technology Solutions has entered into an agreement to acquire Lev. Lev helps businesses simplify & modernise their marketing campaigns using Salesforce Marketing Cloud to provide data-driven insight & personalisation across the customer journey.

Lev is a privately held, digital marketing consultancy in US.

Hindustan Unilever Ltd to acquire VWash from Glenmark Pharmaceuticals:
Hindustan Unilever signed an agreement with Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Ltd to acquire its intimate hygiene brand VWash. With this acquisition, HUL will be foraying into the niche intimate hygiene category. HUL will be buying only the brand and the business. Chairman & Managing Director of HUL-Sanjiv Mehta.

Adani Transmission buys back NCDs worth Rs 125 Cr:
Adani Transmission Ltd said that it has bought back Non-convertible debentures (NCDs) worth Rs 125 Crore. Adani Transmission- an Adani group company- is the country's largest private transmission firm with a cumulative network of more than 14,800 circuit km.

Moody's assigned Baa2 to Adani’s $400 mn senior secured bonds.

Cabinet approves MoU between India and Germany in Railway sector:
The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi was apprised of a MoU signed between Ministry of Railways and DB Engineering & Consulting GMBH of Germany for technological cooperation in the Railway Sector.

G20 to hold emergency video summit to discuss coronavirus:

Saudi Arabian King Salman is to chair the G20 summit on Corona Virus through a video conference in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

The summit becomes significant as several international organizations are to participate in the summit. India is one of the member of G20.

IMF projects contraction of global output in 2020 and recovery in 2021:

International Monetary Fund projected a contraction of global output in 2020 and recovery in 2021 as it asked the leaders of the G-20 countries to back a doubling of its USD 50 billion emergency financing capacity in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mahindra & Mahindra partners with two PSUs to scale up production of ventilators

Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd (M&M) has teamed up with two public sector undertakings (PSUs) to work with an existing manufacturer of high spec ventilators to help simplify design and scale up capacity, in the wake of the Coronavirus outbreak in the country.

India and France conduct joint patrols for the first time:

For the 1st time India & France conducted joint patrol from the Reunion Island in February 2020 by P-8I aircraft with French Navy personnel to maintain the security of international maritime routes for trade and communications.

During the visit of French Navy Chief Admiral Christophe Prazuck, India and France discussed CORPAT like engagements in November 2019.

Other Exercise Between India and France

Shakthi- Military Exercise Garuda- Air Exercise Varuna- Naval Exercise

France: Capital- Paris Currency- Euro Prime Minister - Edouard Philippe President- Emmanuel Macron

US and UAE troops launch major exercise

Native Fury:

United Arab Emirates — U.S. Marines and Emirati forces held a major military exercise named “Native Fury”.

The exercise saw 4,000 U.S. troops from the Army, Marines and Navy position armored vehicles and other equipment from Kuwait...
and the island of Diego Garcia in al-Hamra using a portable pier system.

*Tata Power’s joint venture clean energy project in Georgia starts commercial production:*

Adjaristsqali Georgia LLC (AGL), a joint venture between Tata Power, Norway’s Clean Energy Invest (CEI) and International Finance Corporation (IFC), has started commercial operation of the 178 MW Shuakhevi Hydro Power Project located in southwest Georgia.

International Monetary Fund launches Government Policy Tracker:

IMF recently launched the ‘IMF Policy Tracker’. The platform will provide all the key economic responses launched by Governments all over the world to fight against Corona Virus. The initial policy tracker includes the G20 and European Institutions.

IMF Managing Director- Kristalina Georgieva.

*India, first in the world to start antibody tests for Corona Virus:*

India is set to start antibody tests for the coronavirus to confirm whether a person had previously been infected with the virus, a move that will help understand the epidemiology of Covid-19 in the nation.

Methodology adopted by India is 1st in the world. It is a serological test.

North Macedonia officially joins NATO as its 30th member:

Republic of North Macedonia has inducted officially as the 30th and newest member of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). This membership comes after North Macedonia’s 2017 deal with Greece under which the former changed its name from Macedonia.

North Macedonia Capital- Skopje, Currency- Macedonian denar.

US announce financial assistance of 174 million USD to 64 countries including 2.9 million USD to India:

US has announced financial assistance of 174 million USD to 64 countries including 2.9 million USD to India to help fight the Corona virus pandemic. This is in addition to the 100 million USD aid announced by the US in February.

US signed the largest-ever stimulus package, worth $2 trillion.

47,400 MW coal fired power projects were cancelled in India in 2019:

47.4 GW coal-fired power projects at different stages were cancelled in 2019 reducing total under development coal capacity to 66 GW.

Apple launches COVID-19 information app, website:
In a bid to provide credible information about the COVID-19 pandemic, Apple has released a new app and website for users across the US. COVID-19 app & website provide the latest information & guidance from the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention.

Expo 2020 Dubai could be postponed by a year:
Expo 2020 is a World Expo to be hosted by Dubai in the UAE, scheduled to be opened on 20th October 2020. The event could be postponed in the light of COVID – 19.

Bureau International des Expositions (BIE) and Dubai organisers to establish the change.

World Expo 2020 Theme: “Connecting Minds; Creating the Future”.

Millions of people could be driven into poverty in East Asia and Pacific: World Bank

World Bank has said that the economic slowdown due to the pandemic could put millions of people into poverty in China and other East Asian-Pacific countries. The World Bank report projected that growth in the region would slow to 2.1% from 5.8%.

IMF had said that the global economy has entered a recession.

Affordable housing firm Aavas gets $60m from ADB:
ADB has signed an agreement to lend up to $60 million to Aavas Financiers Ltd to improve access to housing finance for lower-income borrowers, particularly women.

Aavas CEO – Sushil Kumar Agarwal
Headquarters – Jaipur, Rajasthan.

Finance Minister attends the 2nd Extraordinary G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Virtual Meeting:
Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman participated in the 2nd Extraordinary G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) meeting under the Saudi Arabian Presidency to discuss the impact of COVID-19 on the global economy and coordinate efforts to fight it.

United Nation’s COP 26 climate change summit postponed till next year
UN’s COP26 climate change summit due to take place in Glasgow, Scotland in November has been postponed. Global CO2 emissions needed to drop 45% by 2030 and reach net zero by 2050, to limit temperature
rise to a safe cap of 1.5°C set as a goal in the Paris accord.

World Bank says about 11 million people could be driven into poverty in East Asia and Pacific:
World Bank in its April 2020 Economic Update for East Asia and Pacific (EAP) titled “East Asia and Pacific in the Time of COVID-19” has stated that if the economic situation become worsen further due to COVID-19 consequences then the poverty is estimated to increase by about 11 million people in the EAP region.

The update has projected slow growth in the developing EAP region to 2.1% from an estimated 5.8% in 2019. Growth in China is also projected to decline to 2.3% from 6.1% in 2019.

World Economy To Go Into Recession, Except India And China, UN Says:
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) titled ‘The COVID-19 Shock to Developing Countries: Towards a ‘whatever it takes’ programme for the two-thirds of the world’s population being left behind” the year 2020 will face world recession, mainly developing countries due to COVID-19 pandemic with an exception to India and China.

The exporting countries will face $2 trillion to $3 trillion drop in investment from overseas in the next two years.

India, China exchange messages of felicitations on 70 years of Diplomatic Relations:
President Ram Nath Kovind and Prime Minister Narendra Modi exchanged messages of felicitations with their Chinese counterparts on the occasion the 70th Anniversary of the establishment of Diplomatic Relations between the two countries.

India is first non-Communist country in Asia to establish ties.

IAF transports 6.2 tons of essential medicines to Maldives under ‘Operation Sanjeevani’:
Coronavirus (COVID 19) is causing terrible havoc in the country and the world at this time. In such a situation, India is coming forward to help less capable countries in fighting Covid 19.

In this sequence, the Indian Air Force (IAF) has launched ‘Operation Sanjeevani’ and air-lifted 6.2 tonnes of essential medical supplies to Maldives via transport aircraft C-130J as assistance in fight against the virus.
Google maps partners with government, highlights public food, night shelters across 31 Indian cities:

Google maps will now display public food shelters and public night shelters to users across 31 cities in India. Public Food Shelters and Public Night Shelters can now be found on Google Maps, for 31 cities (more Shelters, Cities being added). Search on Google or Google Maps for “Food Shelter Near Me” or “Night Shelter Near Me” to find the closest shelter,” the centre tweeted from its citizen engagement platform MyGov’s account.

Forbes Publishes 34th Annual List Of Global Billionaires:

Forbes published the 34th annual list of Global Billionaires 2020 which topped Amazon Founder and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Jeff Bezos for the 3rd time, followed by Microsoft co-founder and chairman of Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Bill Gates.

The chairman & managing director of Reliance Industries Mukesh Ambani (17th) topped the Indian list, followed by The founder of Avenue Supermarts Radhakishan Damani & family (65th).

COVID-19 risked 400 mn Indian workers to face poverty: ILO Monitor 2nd edition Report:

The impact of COVID-19 is gaining momentum on the negative front. In order to prevent coronavirus spread and to save lives our Indian economy has put lockdown in the whole nation which is adversely affecting the market and labour specially in the unorganized sectors.

Recently the International Labour Organization (ILO) has released a report titled ‘ILO Monitor 2nd edition: COVID-19 and the world of work- Updated estimates and analysis’ which has also stated that about 400 million people working in the informal economy in India are at risk of falling deeper into poverty due to the coronavirus crisis.

Hindustan Unilever Limited partners with UNICEF to support India’s fight against COVID-19:

Hindustan Unilever Limited collaborated with UNICEF for a mass media campaign titled #BreakTheChain or #VirusKiKadiTodo. It brings together the marketing expertise and scale of HUL & the technical knowledge of UNICEF to create engaging communication tools to help people.

Based on 3 themes: social distancing, handwashing & generosity.

Apple acquires Dark Sky weather app:
Apple has acquired the Dark Sky, a weather app, which states about the time of rain, its iPhone Operating System (iOS) app which costs USD 3.99 will not be modified, and does not allow the users to download it. Its Application Programming Interface (API) service will not accept new signups & will continue to function through the end of 2021, it has also updated its branding on its website as ‘Dark Sky by Apple’. 

ADB assures $2.2 bn support package to India for COVID-19 response: Asian Development Bank (ADB) assured USD 2.2 billion (about Rs 16,500 crore) in immediate assistance to the health sector and to help alleviate the economic impact of the pandemic on the poor informal workers; MSMEs and the financial sector.

UNIDO signs MoU with Consumer Unity Trust Society to counter economic impact of COVID-19: United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN), has inked an memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS), a non-profit organisation based in Jaipur, Rajasthan, to promote consumers to contribute to the global development agenda as well as support their respective governments in times of global crisis like coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

BRO opened Srinagar-Leh highway to allow essential commodities: Border Roads Organisation (BRO) opened the strategic Srinagar-Leh highway. The highway connects Ladakh with the rest of the world. Earlier, few oil tankers and other essential commodities were allowed to move towards Leh/Ladakh from Zojila pass.

The 425 km Srinagar-Leh highway was closed since the month of December 2019 due to heavy snowfall at Zojila pass.

Google and Apple ties-up to create coronavirus contact tracing technology by smartphone: Apple Inc an American multinational technology company, has partnered with Google LLC have jointly create a coronavirus (COVID-19) contact tracing technology using Bluetooth signals.

Government notifies Mauritius as eligible country for Category – I FPIs: Government notified Mauritius as an eligible country enabling its investment entities as Category I FPIs with lower KYC requirements and hence would get the benefit from indirect transfer provisions under the Income Tax Act, 1961.
Mauritius remains the 2nd largest source of FPI money.

OPEC and Russia agreed to cut crude oil production amid Coronavirus crisis:
In view of the fall in crude prices due to the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), an intergovernmental organization of 13 nations, and allies including Russia.
A group known as OPEC+, have agreed to cut crude production by 9.7 million barrels per day (bpd) from May 1, 2020 and will extend through the end of June 2020.

UN releases $2.5 million to help cyclone-ravaged Vanuatu:
United Nations (UN) humanitarian chief Mark Lowcock announced and released 2.5 million dollar from its emergency humanitarian fund to help thousands of people in the South Pacific island nation of Vanuatu affected by Cyclone Harold and offered support to other hard-hit countries.

US clears sale of Harpoon missile and torpedoes priced a total of $155 million to India:
According to the Defense Security Cooperation Agency, the US (United States) President Donald Trump’s administration has approved the sale of Harpoon Block II air-launched missiles & MK 54 lightweight torpedoes priced a total of $155 million to India to combat regional threats and increase the security.

US approved sale of missiles worth USD 155 million to strengthen India:
The US reaffirmed its determination to sell Harpoon air-launched anti-ship missiles and Mark 54 lightweight torpedoes worth $155 million to India. The aim is to enhance India’s deterrent capabilities against regional threats and to strengthen its homeland.
In 2016, the US recognized India as its "Major Defence Partner". This designation allows India to buy more advanced and sensitive technologies from the United States.

GP Global acquires lubricants assets of Nigeria’s Grand Petroleum:
GP Global, an energy-agriculture conglomerate has acquired Nigeria based Grand Petroleum assets to strengthen its presence in Nigeria. It includes a lubricant plant and a blending plant. GP Global plans to set up a new blending plant in India.
GP Global is based on UAE.

GSK and Sanofi join forces to create vaccine:
Two of the world’s largest pharmaceutical giants GSK & Sanofi joined hands to create a vaccine for COVID-19. Even if it’s
successful, it will not be ready until the second half of next year. Vaccines usually take a decade to be developed.

India is the most digitally dextrous country in the world:
The Gartner 2019 Digital Workspace Survey found that India is the most digitally dextrous country in the world followed by UK and USA due to having the largest GenZ workforce along with a desire to learn new skills.

27% of digital workers in India skilled for the work in tech.

Nirmala Sitharaman attended virtual 2nd G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting:
Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, Nirmala Sitharaman attended the virtual session of the 2nd G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG).
The meet was conducted under the presidency of Saudi Arabia. Its objective was to discuss the global economic outlook amid COVID-19 pandemic crisis.

AIIB to finance 500 million USD projects to strengthen National Health Care Systems:
The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank is to finance 500 million USD projects in India to help the country improve its health care systems. AIIB is currently doubling its funds under COVID-19 Crisis Recovery Facility.

India had earlier approached AIIB and the Asian Development Bank for financial assistance to combat COVID-19. The Asian Development Bank recently announced to support India with 2.2 billion USD of funds.

South Korea’s ruling party wins an absolute majority in parliamentary elections:
In South Korea, President Moon Jae-In’s left-leaning party won an absolute majority in Parliamentary elections. According to the results declared by the National Election Commission, the Democratic party and its allies took 180 seats out of 300.

ASEAN leaders to hold special summit on COVID-19 via video conference:
Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) held the Special ASEAN Summit via video conference which was chaired by Nguyen Xuan Phuc, Prime Minister of Vietnam, in his capacity as Chair of ASEAN.
The summit was attended by heads of state or government of the 10 ASEAN members—Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos,
Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.
IMF approves over USD 1.3 billion emergency financing to Pakistan:
The International Monetary Fund (IMF) approved USD 1.3 billion in emergency financing to Pakistan to address the economic impact of the COVID-19 shock.
The Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) approved a purchase of Pakistan under the Rapid Financing Instrument (RFI) equivalent to SDR 1,015.5 million (US$ 1.386 billion, 50 percent of quota) to meet the urgent balance of payment needs stemming from the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

International Monetary Fund (IMF):
Headquarters: Washington, D.C. U.S.
Managing Director: Kristalina Georgieva
Chief Economist: Gita Gopinath

WHO launches interactive COVID-19 service on Facebook Messenger
World Health Organisation has come up with an interactive method which uses Facebook Messenger to eradicate false information being spread about coronavirus.
The users will also be able to ask questions and get a quick response from the WHO’s ‘Health Alert’ service on Messenger.

WHO: Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland
Head: Tedros Adhanom

Microsoft adds five new Indian languages to its Microsoft Translator service:
Microsoft India announced that it will be adding five new Indian languages to its Microsoft Translator. The Microsoft translator now supports ten Indian languages with the addition of Gujarati, Marathi, Kannada, Malayalam and Punjabi.
Translator service is part of Azure Cognitive Services API.

Eros International & Hollywood’s STX Entertainment to merge all share- 1st of its kind:
In a first of its kind deal, Indian movie producer and distributor Eros International announced an all-share merger with Hollywood’s six-year-old, privately-held STX Entertainment to create an equally-held global entertainment company.
Existing shareholders will hold about 42% of the merged entity.

Eros:
Headquarters– Mumbai, Maharashtra
Executive Chairman & CEO– Kishore Lulla.

44th session of World Heritage Committee 2020 of UNESCO in Fuzhou postponed:
44th session of the World Heritage Committee 2020 of UNESCO, scheduled from 29th of June to 9th of July, in Fuzhou of eastern China’s Fujian Province, has been postponed, which was made by the committee’s bureau members and consultations.

UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization):
Headquarters: Paris, France
Head: Audrey Azoulay
Founded: 16 November 1945

TVS acquires Britain iconic sporting motorcycle brand Norton:
TVS Company has acquired Britain’s iconic sporting motorcycle, Norton, in an all-cash deal for a consideration of GBP16 million by acquiring certain assets of Norton Motorcycles (U.K.) Limited through one of TVS Motor’s overseas subsidiaries.

India ranks 142nd on global press freedom index: Norway Tops:
Global Press freedom Index was launched.
India ranked 142nd in the index and had dropped two places.
The World Press Freedom Index says that with no murder of journalists in India in 2019 as compared to 2018, the security situation in the country has improved.

According to the index, there were 6 murders of journalists in the country in 2018.
Norway is ranked first in the Index for the fourth year running.

Facebook Invests $5.7 Billion in Indian Internet Giant Jio:
Facebook made its largest single investment by putting $5.7 billion into Jio Platforms of India. The investment, which requires approval from competition regulators, would give Facebook a 9.99 percent stake in Jio Platforms.

Jio Platforms is a subsidiary of Reliance Industries.

Lebanon becomes 1st Arab nation to legalise cannabis farming:
Lebanon became the 1st Arab nation to legalise cannabis (also known as marijuana) farming for medicinal & industrial use with the aim to boost the exports & to beat the economic crisis created by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

India Approves USD 1 Million To Antigua As Project Outlay:
India has approved USD 1 million to Antigua as project outlay, with immediate assistance of USD 1,50,000 for medical equipment to combat coronavirus crisis. India had earlier announced that it will send
hydroxychloroquine to **55 nations** to fight COVID-19.

**Antigua:** Capital: **Saint John's** Currency: **EC Dollar.**

India participates in SAARC health ministers conference hosted by Pakistan:
India participated in The **South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)** health ministers conference hosted by **Pakistan** to promote great regional cooperation to tackle the coronavirus pandemic.

SAARC countries agreed to enhance cooperation in the health sector, especially in the context of efforts to combat the virus at the regional level.

**Iran launches “Noor” or light military satellite into orbit:**
Iran launched a military satellite into orbit named **“Noor” or light.** The satellite has successfully reached an orbit of 425 kilometers above the Earth’s surface.
It comes amid the tensions between **Tehran** and **Washington** over its collapsing nuclear deal and after a **United States (U.S.)** drone strike killed Guard **General Qassem Soleimani** in January.

**BANKING AND FINANCE:**

RBI announced Repo rate cut by 75 bps to **4.4%**, CRR by 100 bps to **3%**: Reserve Bank of India (RBI) governor **Shaktikanta Das** announced a massive 75 basis points cut in repo rates as a measure to counter the economic slowdown caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Repo & reverse repo rates by **75 and 90 basis points** respectively. Repo rate now stands at **4.40%** from 5.15% and reverse repo stands at **4%** from 4.9% Earlier.

- Repo Rate : **4.40%**
- Reverse Repo Rate : **4%**
- Marginal Standing Facility Rate : **4.65%**
- Bank Rate : **4.65%**
- Cash Reserve Ratio : **3%**
- Statutory liquidity ratio (SLR) : **18.25%**

**Zero charges on Bank of Baroda digital transactions for 3 months:**

**Bank of Baroda** has rolled out its ‘**Stay Safe, Bank Safe**’ initiative to encourage customers to bank digitally.

BoB customers can avail its services from a **remote location** without having to visit a bank branch.

**Karur Vysya Bank launches pre-paid card Enkasu in Karur:**

**Karur Vysya Bank (KVB)** has launched “**Enkasu**”, a pre-paid card in **Karur, Tamil**
Nadu. In response to the digital initiative of the Government of India, the bank undertook a Quit Cash Movement in Karur - a movement to reduce the usage of cash in the district of Karur.

Enkasu works on Near Field Communication Technology.

Goldman Sachs sees 1% drop in global GDP due to ‘coronacrisis’:

Goldman Sachs expects the global real Gross Domestic Product to contract by 1% in 2020, a sharper economic decline than in the year following the 2008 global financial crisis. It sees the real GDP in advanced economies contracting ‘very sharply’ in Q2.

24% drop in the United States for Q2 is predicted.

SBI becomes the 1st bank to launch emergency credit facility:

State Bank of India (SBI), an Indian multinational, public sector bank, became the 1st bank to launch COVID 19 emergency credit line (CECL) to provide funds to businesses affected by the infectious coronavirus.

Reserve Bank’s US treasury holdings touch an all-time high at $164.3 bn:

Reserve Bank, which has been snapping up greenbacks in the past two years, has also been lapping up US treasury bills and the holdings touched a record high in January. The holdings rose by more than $2 billion between December 2019 and January 2020.

RBI follow Safety, Liquidity & Return (SLR) principle.

Indian rupee to average at 77 per US dollar in 2020, 80 in 2021: Fitch Solutions:

Fitch Solutions revised down its forecast for the Indian rupee, saying the currency will average 77 per US dollar in 2020 & 80 in 2021 amid ongoing global risk-off sentiment and likely steep monetary easing.

On lending by banks to NBFCs, HFCs to be part of priority sector in FY21: RBI

RBI said bank credit to registered NBFCs towards agriculture, MSEs & housing sector up to prescribed limits will be treated as priority sector loans during the next FY starting April.

PSL for bank loans to NBFCs for on-lending for 2020-21 extended.

Threshold for default under IBC norms raised from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 1 crore:

The government may consider suspending section 7, 9 and 10 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code for 6 months if the present situation doesn't improve beyond April 30.
Threshold for default under IBC was being raised to **Rs 1 crore** from **Rs 1 lakh** earlier. IBC gives time-bound process to resolve insolvency among firms.

**Jana SFB launches UPI QR-based loan instalment payment facility:**

Jana Small Finance Bank, along with National Payment Corporation of India has launched a **UPI QR-based** loan installment payment facility to its existing 40 lakh plus customers & 5 crore micro finance agencies.

The move comes at a time when banks are advising their customers to operate **maximum banking services** from the safe confines of their home.

Payment mode is available for **P2P & P2M** payments.

**Rating Agency Moody's downgrades Indiabulls Housing Finance with negative outlook:**

International rating agency **Moody's** downgraded **Indiabulls Housing Finance** with a negative outlook, citing challenges in raising funds.

It downgraded the **Corporate Family Rating (CFR)** and foreign-currency senior secured rating of the company to B3 from B2.

Cabinet approves recapitalization of RRBs to improve their Capital to Risk Weighted Assets Ratio:

Union Cabinet approved continuation of the process of recapitalization of **RRBs** by providing minimum regulatory capital up to **2020-21** for those RRBs which are unable to maintain minimum **CRAR of 9%**, as per the regulatory norms prescribed by the Reserve Bank.

**Rs.670 Cr** will be used for the RRBs Recapitalization scheme.

**RBI allows 3-month moratorium on loans:**

RBI said that all banking institutions can offer 3-month moratorium on all loans for a period of **3 months**.

RBI has also allowed banks to restructure the working capital cycle for companies without worrying that these will have to be classified as NPA.

So far, the RBI has infused **Rs 280,000 crore**.

**RBI infuses Rs 374,000cr liquidity shot:**

RBI announced substantial liquidity measures saying it will conduct up to **3-year tenure** for an amount of up to Rs 100,000 Cr at a floating rate linked to policy repo rate. Liquidity must be deployed in investment grade corporate bonds & commercial papers.
RBI offers Rs 11,772 crore to banks through repo auction:
Reserve Bank of India offered Rs 11,772 Crore to banks through a 12-day variable rate repo auction. Before the auction, the RBI enhanced the amount of auction to Rs 50,000 crore from Rs 25,000 crore, announced earlier. RBI received Rs 11,772 crore of bids. Next variable term repo auction of Rs 25,000 Cr is on March 31.

CRISIL and ICRA lower GDP’s growth forecast for FY21:
CRISIL and ICRA sharply lowered their GDP growth forecast for FY21. While CRISIL has lowered growth projection by 170 basis points, ICRA’s cut is in the range of 50-100 bps.

CRISIL slashed forecast for FY21 to 3.5% from 5.2%. ICRA GDP growth to ease from 4.4% in FY20 to 4.2% in FY21.

SIDBI to provide loans up to Rs 50 lakh to MSEs manufacturing medical supplies to fight COVID-19:
SIDBI Assistance to Facilitate Emergency (SAFE) response against coronavirus scheme will offer loans to MSEs at a fixed interest rate of 5 percent and with a maximum loan repayment tenure of five years for fighting the novel coronavirus COVID-19.

Loans are collateral-free & will be sanctioned within 48 hours.

Indian Bank rolls out 5 special emergency loans to Covid 19-hit customers:
Indian Bank has launched five special emergency loans for large corporates, medium enterprises, MSMEs, salaried and pensioners as a support to its customers effecting through economic slump and lockdown because of COVID-19 pandemic. Following are the relief measures taken by bank in form of special emergency loans:

1) IND- COVID Emergency Credit Line (IBCECL)
2) IND- MSE COVID Emergency Loan (INDMSE-CEL)
3) SHG- COVID–SAHAYA LOAN
4) IND- COVID Emergency Salary Loan
5) IND COVID- Emergency Pension Loan

Moody's slashes India GDP growth in 2020 to 2.5%:
Financial services company Moody’s Investors slashed its estimate of India’s GDP growth during 2020 calendar year to 2.5 percent, from an earlier estimate of 5.3 percent. The estimate for 2020 compares to 5% economic growth in 2019.

Economic growth may fall sharply to 2.6 per cent in 2020-21: SBI Ecowrap:
India’s economic growth may fall sharply to 2.6% in 2020-21 due to lockdown amid the COVI-19 pandemic, SBI Ecowrap said. GDP growth for 2019-20 could also see a downward revision from 5% to 4.5%, with growth in Q4 of the current financial year at 2.5%.

The total cost of lockdown is at least Rs 8.03 lakh crore.

Forex reserves fall by $12 bn, the most since 2008 global financial crisis:
The country’s foreign exchange reserves fell by a whopping $11.98-b to $469.909-b in the week to March 20 as the RBI continued to supply dollars into the market to stem fall in the rupee.

The rupee hit an all-time low of 76.15 against the USD on March 23.

Foreign Currency Assets declined by USD 10.256-b.

Merger of 10 state-run banks into 4 to come into force from April 1: RBI
Merger of 10 state-run banks into four will come into force from April 1. Oriental Bank of Commerce & United Bank will be merged into PNB; Syndicate Bank into Canara Bank; Allahabad Bank into Indian Bank; &Andhra and Corporation banks into Union Bank of India.

Amalgamation schemes for 10 banks had notified on 4 March.

Loans and EMIs to be cheaper as SBI to cut repo rate by 75 basis points:
SBI opted to pass on the entire 75 bp repo rate cut announced by RBI. The new rates, to be effective from 1 April, will be applicable for its borrowers availing loans based on External Benchmark-linked lending rate, EBR and Repo-Linked Lending Rate, RLLR.

SBI Chairman- Rajnish Kumar.

State Bank of India raises $100 million in green bonds:
India’s largest lender State Bank of India (SBI) has raised $100 million in green bonds through private placement. This is the bank’s third iteration of green bonds and already has raised such bonds of $700 million.

RBI releases report on ‘Trend and Progress of Banking in India’.

India’s GDP to grow 2% in 2020-21: ICRA
Domestic rating agency ICRA notified that India’s Gross Domestic Product(GDP) is expected to contract by 4.5% in the April-June 2020 quarter & will rise 2% in 2020-21 due to the impact of coronavirus.

ADB commits $ 100 million in Indian infrastructure sector through NIIF:
Asian Development Bank a regional development bank will invest $100 million into the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) of India Fund of Funds (FoF).
With this, the FoF has now received a total of $700 million in commitments.

RBI notifies special series of G-secs under ‘fully accessible route’:
RBI will issue a certain series of government securities (G-secs) under the “fully accessible route”. These special securities will attract FPI limits until maturity and are the first step towards Indian G-Secs being listed on global bond indices.
Issuances of G-secs from FY21-eligible as specified securities.

IMF declared recession in World due to COVID-19 impact: World is now in recession:
International Monetary Fund Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva has declared a global recession driven by the COVID-19 pandemic that could be worse than the 2008-09 global financial crisis.
But recovery is also projected in 2021, if the nations succeed in curbing the coronavirus as well as limiting the economic damage.

Nomura lowers 2020 GDP growth forecast to -0.5%
With nearly 75 per cent of the Indian economy in lockdown, Nomura has lowered 2020 GDP growth forecast to -0.5 per cent from 4.5 per cent. The growth is expected to fall to -6.1%, according to an economist in Nomura.
Nomura is a Japanese financial holding company.

Fitch slashes India’s GDP growth estimate for FY21 to 4.6% from 5.4 %:
Fitch Ratings Inc, an American credit rating agency, has lowered India’s GDP (Gross Domestic Product) growth forecast to 4.6% for the fiscal year FY21 (April 2020 to March 2021) from the previous estimate of 5.4%.

Ind-Ra cuts FY21 growth forecast to 3.6%:
India Ratings (Ind-Ra) cut its FY21 growth forecast to 3.6 per cent amid COVID-related worries. It has assumed that a full or partial lockdown will continue till the end of April and economic activities will be restored only after May.

Govt slashes interest on PPF, NSC and other small savings schemes:
The Centre has slashed interest rates on small savings schemes by 70 to 140 bps for FY21. Interest rates on PPF have been brought down
to 7.1% and for Kisan Vikas Patra to 6.9%.

The interest rate on the girl child-focused Sukanya Samriddhi scheme is 7.6%. Interest rate on small savings schemes are revised on quarterly basis.

Public sector banks announce deferment of EMI payments on loans:
RBI had earlier issued directions asking lending institutions to allow a three-month moratorium on loan payments. Banks like SBI, Punjab and Sind Bank, Canara Bank, BoB have announced the offer of the moratorium to customers.

CNB is providing collateral & margin free loan up to Rs.20L to SHG

FPI limit in corporate bonds enhanced to 15% from 9% for FY21:
Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has increased the foreign portfolio investment (FPI) limit in corporate bonds to 15% of outstanding stock for FY 2020-21 from 9% to strengthen the segment of the corporate bonds. The limit has been increased under sections 10(4) and 11(1) of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (42 of 1999).

ICICI Bank launches banking services on WhatsApp:
ICICI Bank has launched Whatsapp banking to assist its customers in meeting the banking needs from homes during the lockdown. Any existing ICICI Bank Savings Account customer on WhatsApp can access the new service. The customer who has only an ICICI credit card can use the service to block/unblock the card.

The Non-ICICI Bank customers can also use this service to know the nearby location of the Bank’s branches / ATMs.

S&P lowers India’s growth forecast for FY21 to 3.5% from 5.2%:
Standard & Poor (S&P) Global Ratings has slashed down India’s growth forecast to 3.5% from 5.2% for the Financial Year(FY)21. It also expects a sharp growth at 7.3% in the Indian economy 7.3% in FY22 & also has lowered India’s growth rate to 5.2% from 5.7% before lockdown.

BhartPe partners with ICICI Lombard to launch ‘COVID-19 protection insurance cover’ for shopkeepers
For the first time BharatPe a New Delhi-based startup that is doing payment transaction business, has entered into the partnership with ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company Limited, a general insurance company, to offer COVID-19 protection insurance cover for shopkeepers. The insurance cover will be offered at a monthly premium of Rs.12 and will provide a compensation of Rs.50,000 in case of hospitalization or death due to COVID-19.
company in India, to introduce ‘COVID-19 Protection Insurance Cover’ for shopkeepers, who are most affected financially due to Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

**United Nation's COP 26 climate change summit postponed till next year**

UN's COP26 climate change summit due to take place in **Glasgow, Scotland** in November has been postponed. Global CO2 emissions needed to drop 45% by 2030 and reach net zero by 2050, to limit temperature rise to a safe cap of 1.5°C set as a goal in the Paris accord.

**World Bank says about 11 million people could be driven into poverty in East Asia and Pacific:**

**World Bank** in its April 2020 Economic Update for East Asia and Pacific (EAP) titled “East Asia and Pacific in the Time of COVID-19” has stated that if the economic situation become worsen further due to COVID-19 consequences then the poverty is estimated to increase by about 11 million people in the EAP region.

The update has projected slow growth in the developing EAP region to **2.1%** from an estimated **5.8%** in 2019. Growth in China is also projected to decline to 2.3% from 6.1% in 2019.

**World Economy To Go Into Recession, Except India And China, UN Says:**

**United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)** titled ‘The COVID-19 Shock to Developing Countries: Towards a ‘whatever it takes’ programme for the two-thirds of the world’s population being left behind” the year 2020 will face world recession, mainly developing countries due to COVID-19 pandemic with an exception to India and China.

The exporting countries will face $2 trillion to $3 trillion drop in investment from overseas in the next two years.

**India, China exchange messages of felicitations on 70 years of Diplomatic Relations:**

President **Ram Nath Kovind** and Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** exchanged messages of felicitations with their Chinese counterparts on the occasion the **70th Anniversary** of the establishment of Diplomatic Relations between the two countries.

**India** is first non-Communist country in Asia to establish ties.

**ADB expects India's economic growth to slow down to 4% in FY21:**

According to **Asian Development Bank**, India's economic growth is likely to slow down
to 4% for FY21. Also, growth in India will remain subdued after the country suffered a sharp slowdown last year, from 6.1% in fiscal 2019 to 5%.

Asian Development Bank has 68 member countries.

Moody's revises Indian banking system outlook to negative:
Rating agency Moody’s revised the outlook for the Indian banking system to negative from stable, citing disruptions in economic activity caused by the COVID-19 outbreak and an ensuing decline in asset quality.
Chairman of Indian Banks Association: Rajnish Kumar.

World Bank lends USD 1bn to India to combat COVID-19 outbreak:
World Bank’s Board of Executive Directors (ED) has approved $1 billion to India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Project. The project will cover all the States/Union Territories in India.
Aim: The aim of the project is to help India prevent, detect, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Forex reserves surge $5.65 bn to $475.56 bn:
After falling massively, the country's foreign exchange reserves surged by $5.65 billion to $475.56 billion helped by an increase in foreign currency assets, according to the latest data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Special drawing rights with IMF were up by $14 mn to $1.42 bn.

Fitch slashes India growth forecast to 30-year low of 2% for FY21:
Fitch Ratings slashed India's growth forecast for the FY21 to a 30-year low of 2%, from 5.1% projected earlier. Fitch also said MSMEs and the services segment are likely to be among the most affected amid reduced consumer spending.

Moody's cut India's growth forecast for calendar 2020 to 2.5%.

RBI reduces trading timings of currency and debt markets:
In view of the COVID-19 outbreak, beginning April 7th, markets dealing with government securities, call/notice/term money, corporate bonds, foreign currency, Rupee Trades, commercial paper and Certificates of Deposit will be working from 10 AM to 2 PM.
Other banking services (NEFT, RTGS) will continue like before.

RBI announces 3rd targeted LTRO for Rs 25,000 crore:
To ensure adequate liquidity in the system, RBI announced the third Targeted long-term repo operation (TLTRO) for
Rs.25,000 crore and will conduct TLTROs of up to 3-year tenor of appropriate sizes for a total amount of up to Rs.1,00,000 crore. Shorter duration govt bond yields plunged after RBI’s LTROs.

IndusInd Bank taps CPPIB, GIC to raise $500 million:

IndusInd Bank and its promoter the Hinduja Group have initiated talks with sovereign wealth funds and pension funds, including Canada’s CPPIB (Canada Pension Plan Investment Board) and Singapore’s GIC Ltd, to raise $500 million. It has been one of the most impacted banks due to COVID-19. GIC is a Singapore Company.

Government nominates Indian Overseas Bank and HDFC bank for collecting donations for PM Cares Fund:

Indian Overseas Bank has been nominated by the government for collection of funds, which will be used to support the community and will be assigned to PM-Cares Fund. The contributions can be made by RTGS, NEFT etc.,

The HDFC group has contributed Rs.150 crores to the PM-Cares Fund.

SIDBI to provide emergency working capital of up to Rs 1 crore to MSMEs:

Small Industries Development Bank of India will provide emergency working capital of up to one crore rupees to small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). The limit of SAFE loans has been enhanced from 50 lakhs rupees to two crore rupees.

SAFE–SIDBI Assistance to Facilitate Emergency. Interest Rate-5%.

Airtel Payments Bank partners with Bharti AXA General Insurance:

Under the partnership, the insurer has rolled out 2 insurance plans: Bharti Axa Group health Assure & Group Hospital Cash offering lumpsum of Rs.25,000 and daily benefit of Rs.500/day respectively.

MD & CEO of Bharti AXA: Sanjeev Srinivasan.

Head Office: Mumbai.

RBI eases norms for state governments extends overdraft facility:

RBI relaxed norms for state govt facing short-term mismatches by extending the duration of overdraft facility until 30 September. The number of days for which a state or UT can avail this is extended to 21 working days from the current 14 days.

No. of days for a quarter increased to 50 working days from 36.

GDP likely to grow just 2% in 2020-21:

ICRA has sharply revised its forecast for India’s growth in the current fiscal to 2% down from a range of 4.7% - 5.2%. It also
lowered its estimate for GDP growth in FY20 to 4.4% from 4.7% earlier.

ICRA – Investment Information & Credit Rating Agency.
Jobless rate amid lockdown period hits 23.4%:
As per a survey released by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) a leading business information company, the unemployment rate in India climbed to 23.4% as on April 5, 2020. It estimated the jobless rate for March 2020 as 8.7%.

MD & CEO of CMIE: Mahesh Vyas. UN estimated loss of 195 mn jobs.

PNB Housing Finance inks agreement with JICA to raise $ 100 million:
PNBHF partnered with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to raise $75 mn with co-financing of $25mn by CitiBank based on Facility for Accelerating Financial Inclusion in Asia. It will be used for affordable housing to low-income households.
It is JICA’s 1st debt funding in housing finance sector in India.

CCI approves acquisition of GMR Kamalanga Energy Limited by JSW Energy Limited:
Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the acquisition by JSW Energy Limited of GMR Kamalanga Energy Limited under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act. GMR is engaged in generation of power through its coal-based thermal power plant at Odisha.

JSW Head Office: Maharashtra.

CCI approves Hitachi’s proposed acquisition of 80.1% in power grid business of ABB Limited:
CCI approved the proposed acquisition of 80.1% stake by Hitachi in the power grid business of ABB Limited. ABB Management will hold the entire power grid business of ABB.

BoB launches four schemes for Agri Sector:
To help borrowers in the agriculture sector Bank of Baroda has announced schemes where it will offer additional loans of up to Rs.1 lakh to existing self-help group (SHG) borrowers and up to Rs.50,000 to existing crop loan borrowers.

Additional Assurance to SHGs- COVID19
1. Baroda Emergency Credit Line for Farmer Producer Organization (FPO/FPC)
2. Baroda Special Scheme for existing Agriculture Investment Credit borrowers
3. Baroda Special Scheme for existing BKCC borrowers impacted by COVID-19
4. BoB is India’s third largest Public Sector Bank.
HDFC Starts Mobile ATMs in Mumbai, Noida:
HDFC Bank deployed Mobile ATMs in Mumbai, Noida to help customers during the lockdown. They will be open in each location for a specific period.
HDFC CEO: Aditya Puri.
Tagline: We understand your World.
World Trade to slump 13 – 32% in 2020:
According to the World Trade Organisation, World Merchandise trade is set to decline 13-32% in 2020. Exports from North America, Asia hit the hardest. Goods trade volume already fell 0.1% in 2019 on trade tensions.
WTO DG – Roberto Azevedo.
Goldman Sachs slashes India’s FY21 real GDP Growth forecast to 1.6%:
The global research house has lowered its real GDP forecast to 1.6% from 3.3% earlier. It expects a strong economic recovery in the second half of FY21. It also expects a larger hit of up to 95% in recreation and hotel services.
India’s GDP for FY21 to be hit by COVID-19, projected at 4.8%: UN
India’s GDP growth for the current fiscal is expected to slow down to 4.8%, according to a UN report UN Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2020: Towards Sustainable Economies.
UN Head Quarters: New York, US.
Inflation may drop to 2.4% in FY21: RBI
Consumer Price Index (CPI) based inflation is tentatively projected to ease from 4.8% to 2.4% in the 4th quarter, according to RBI’s Monetary Policy Report for the fiscal. It pointed that the nation-wide curb could bring down aggregate demand drastically.
Under the RBI Act, the MPC should at least meet 4 times a year.
IndiGo Enters Brand Finance Top 50 Airlines List:
IndiGo has been recognised as one of the most valuable and strongest airlines as per the Brand Finance Airlines 50 report for 2020. It is ranked 43 as it entered the list for the first time. IndiGo is the only airline from India.
Bank credit growth slumps to 5-decade low of 6.14% in FY20:
According to RBI data, Bank credit growth decelerated to an over five-decade low of 6.14 percent in the fiscal ended March 31, 2020, amid a faltering economy, lower demand and
risk aversion among banks. Earlier in 1962 loans had grown by 5.38 percent.
It was slowest since the fiscal ended March 1962.

Foreign exchange reserves decline $902 mn to $474.66 bn:
According to RBI data, The country's foreign exchange reserves declined by $902 million to $ 474.66 billion in a week,due to a fall in foreign currency assets.During 2020-21, the country's foreign exchange reserves have risen by almost $62 billion.
The gold reserve also declined by $340 million to $30.55 billion.

CPI inflation likely to ease from 4.8% in Q1 to 4.4% in Q2:
The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in its monetary policy report (MPR) has projected Consumer price index (CPI) based inflation to decline from 4.8% in Q1: 2020-21 to 4.4% in Q2, 2.7% in Q3 and 2.4% in Q4.

LIC announces extension of 30 days for payment of premium due:
LIC announced an extension of 30 days for payment of premium due in March and April 2020 to mitigate the hardships being faced by policyholder. The relaxation is allowed up to April 15 for February premiums, where grace period was expiring after March 22

LIC is a 100% Govt owned Subsidiary.

Jana Small Finance Bank rolls out digital banking platform:
Jana SFB, a scheduled commercial bank has launched a digital banking platform, DigiGen where customers can open accounts instantly. It is a 3-step process and customers are eligible for a 4.5% interest rates on the savings account.

Jana Small Finance Bank: MD & CEO–Ajay Kanwal.

World Bank sees FY21 India Growth Rate at 1.5% - 2.8%:
World Bank has scaled down India’s gross domestic growth (GDP) growth projection to 1.5-2.8% for the current fiscal year, which would be the lowest economic expansion since the balance of payments crisis of 91-92 when economic expansion fell to 1.1%.
However, growth is expected to recover to 4-5% next year.

EPFO settles 1.37 lakh PF withdrawal claims worth Rs 280 cr during lockdown:
EPFO has settled 1.37 lakh provident fund withdrawal claims worth Rs 280 crore was disbursed under a new provision especially formulated by amending the EPF Scheme to help subscribers fight COVID-19.
EPFO works under Ministry of Labour & Employment.
India’s Fiscal deficit of 5.07% in February makes it difficult to meet its revised target of 3.8%: GOI
The report released by the Government of India (GOI) stated that the fiscal deficit in February was **5.07%** of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), making it difficult for the government to meet its revised fiscal deficit target of **3.8%** of GDP for FY20.

**Chinese Central Bank’s stake in HDFC crosses 1%; worth around Rs 3000 Crore:**
China’s Central Bank, the People’s Bank of China raised its shareholding in HDFC to over 1%. It now has **17.49 million** shares or 1.01% of HDFC equity capital, according to BSE. HDFC is India’s largest mortgage firm in the private sector.

Yes Bank extends bancassurance tie-up with Max Life Insurance for 5 years:
Private sector life insurer Max Life Insurance and Yes Bank have extended the bancassurance partnership for the next 5 years. Under this, the products of the life insurer would be sold through the branches of Yes Bank.

**Yes Bank:**

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Headquarter- **Mumbai, Maharashtra** MD & CEO- **Prashant Kumar**
Tagline- **Experience our Expertise**

PNB to retain a stake in two life insurance ventures as IRDAI gives a nod:
Following the merger of **Oriental Bank of Commerce** with PNB on April 1, 23% of stake of the former in Canara HSBC OBC Life Insurance stands transferred to the latter. PNB is a promoter of **PNB Metlife Insurance** with the highest stake of 30% since 2012.

PNB MD: **S S Mallikarjuna Rao.**

**Retail Inflation ease to 5.91% in March:**
Retail Inflation slowed to **5.91%** in March due to easing food prices. The retail inflation based on **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** was 6.58% in Feb 20. It is a main factor for RBI while deciding its bi-monthly monetary policy.

**RBI to put 200 bps penalty on banks if failed to invest TLTRO funds in 30 days:**
Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has instructed banks that they need to invest the mandated 50% of the funds raised through **Targeted Long-Term Repo Operations (TLTRO)** route, under the first tranche conducted on March 27, 2020, in corporate bonds or specified securities within a month or 30 working days.
If failed, the interest rate on un-deployed funds will increase to prevailing policy repo
rate plus 200 bps (basis points) additional penal interests will have to be paid for the number of days such funds remain un-deployed.

**IMF slashes FY21 India growth forecast to 1.9% from 5.8%; warns of global recession:**

IMF cut its India’s growth forecast to 1.9% for FY21 from 5.8% projected earlier and predicted a 3% contraction for global GDP warning that the global economy has plunged into the worst recession since the Great Depression.

World likely to lose a collective $9tn output over 2 years: IMF.

**Government launches Sovereign Gold Bonds Scheme 2020-21:**

Government of India in consultation with RBI will launch Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme. The bonds will be issued in six tranches. The bonds will be sold through Scheduled Commercial banks (except SFBs & Payments Bank), SHCIL, BSE, NSE. Bond period - 8 years.

Investment limit for Individual: 1gm – 4 kg of gold.

**India’s GDP to contract by 6.1% in April-June: Japan’s Nomura**

The Japanese brokerage company Nomura has projected a downward revision by 6.1% for Indian economy in the April-June quarter and by 0.5% for the September quarter. It is likely to expand only in the December quarter of 2020 by 1.4%. The economy will grow at 3.2% in the January-March period.

**Nomura:** Headquarters– Tokyo, Japan
President & Group Chief Executive Officer (CEO)– Kentaro Okuda

**Barclays pegs lockdown’s economic cost at $234bn; sees no growth for 2020:**

Barclays pegged the economic cost of the lockdown at $234.4bn (8.1% of the GDP). It also revised its GDP projection for CY 2020 to 0 from 2.5% earlier and 0.8% for FY 21 from 3.5% earlier. Growth for CY21 has been projected at 7.5%.

Nomura expect GDP to contract 0.5%.

**Hindalco closes $2.8bn acquisition of Aleris Group:**

K M Birla’s Hindalco Industries completed the acquisition of Aluminium rolled products maker Aleris Group through its subsidiary Novelis Inc. The enterprise value of the deal is $2.8billion.

Hindalco is now one of the world’s largest aluminium makers.

**BSNL in partnership with SBI launches Bharat InstaPay a UPI-based payment platform:**
Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in partnership with the State Bank of India (SBI) has launched a Unified Payments Interface (UPI) based payment platform, Bharat InstaPay to enable all types of channel partners of BSNL to digitize their payment transactions on a round the clock basis/real-time basis.

RBI cuts reverse repo rate from 4% to 3.75%:
The Reserve Bank of India announced a cut in the reverse repo rate from 4 per cent to 3.75 percent in the wake of coronavirus crisis in the country.
The central bank reduced the reverse repo rate - the rate at which banks park their fund with the central bank - by 25 basis points to 3.75 per cent. And also SLR cuts from 18.50% to 18.00%.

RBI has eased the Liquidity Coverage Ratio from 100% to 80%. The LCR is the assets held by the banks to make sure its ongoing ability to meet short-term obligations are fulfilled.
The RBI will also provide Rs 50,000 crore (Long Term Repo Operation) special finance assistance to institutions such as SIDBI, NABARD, NHB.

RBI released 49th round of OBICUS:
Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released the 49th round of quarterly OBICUS (Order books, inventories, and capacity utilization survey) of the manufacturing sector. The survey includes the reference period January-March 2020.
The survey provides an insight into the demands of the Indian manufacturing sector. The survey is conducted quarterly (4 times a year). It is being conducted since 2008.
The data collected in the survey includes quantitative data on new orders received during the reference quarter, backlog of orders, pending orders, total inventories with a breakup between work-in-progress (WiP) and finished goods (FG) inventories and item-wise production.

IL & FS sells entire stake in IWPSL to ORIX Corp for Rs 6.05 cr:
Cash strapped Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services (IL&FS) sold its 100% stake in IL&FS Wind Power Services Ltd (IWPSL) to Orix Corporation of Japan for Rs 6.05 cr. IWPSL is a wholly-owned subsidiary of IL&FS Energy Development Company.
IWPSL, classified as a ‘green company’ has no outstanding debt.

MS Sahoo panel suggests Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)-
Panel under IBBI chairman MS Sahoo has suggested to set up a national body for valuation professionals. The proposed cadre of valuers (like chartered accountants, etc) will include both the current practitioners and freshers wishing to have a career in valuation.

Insolvency & Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI), Founded in 2016.

HDFC Bank launches safety grid campaign to reiterate Social Distancing:
HDFC Bank launched #HDFCBankSafetyGrid to reinforce #SocialDistancing. Using the outer grid, the bank has created physical markers on the ground to help maintain Social distancing while waiting in a queue at a shop. HDFC Bank: Headquarters– Mumbai, Maharashtra Chairman– Deepak S. Parekh CEO: Aditya Puri.

Kotak Mahindra Bank joins the list of banks providing ‘ATM on Wheels’ Service:
Joining a series of other banks such as HDFC, Axis, ICICI, Kotak Mahindra Bank announced the launch of its first ‘ATM on Wheels’ service. This will bring cash withdrawal facility to various neighbourhoods. It is presently operational in Mumbai. Kotak Mahindra Bank CEO: Uday Kotak. Headquarters: Mumbai.

Paytm Payments Bank ties up with Mastercard:
Paytm Payments Bank will now issue Mastercard Debit Cards to its account holders to enable them to perform online transactions, payments in stores & to withdraw from ATMs. It is to start by issuing virtual cards for safer transactions. Paytm Payments Bank: Headquarters– New Delhi. MD & CEO– Satish Kumar Gupta.

SBI sees FY21 real GDP growth at 1.1%:
SBI has estimated the real GDP growth for the current FY at 1.1% and the nominal GDP growth at 4.2%. The earlier forecast for GDP growth for FY21 was 2.6%. It has also estimated the overall loss for FY21 at about Rs 12.1L cr.

Asia expected to witness 0% growth in 2020:
In IMF’s blog titled ‘COVID-19 Pandemic and the Asia-Pacific Region: Lowest Growth since the 1960s, it has noted that Asia is expected to witness 0% growth in 2020 and that this is the worst performance in almost 60 years.

Tata AIA becomes the 1st Life Insurance company in India to announce additional benefits:
Tata AIA becomes the 1st Life Insurance company in India to announce additional benefits for its policyholders & agents so as to support them during the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Recently Tata Trusts and Tata group have announced their contribution towards the management of COVID-19 in India.

**Tata AIA Life Insurance:** CEO: Rishi Srivastava
Headquarters: Mumbai

**Equitas Small Finance Bank steps up digital banking services:**

Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited is the largest small finance bank (“SFB”) in India in terms of number of banking outlets offers digital banking with Selfe FDs and Selfe savings accounts during the national/regional lockdown with NO physical contact or branch visits.

Customers can open Selfe Fixed Deposit (FD) online for value upto 90,000/- with the Bank by keeping their Aadhaar Number and PAN handy; and then booking their FD online in just three minutes; and enjoying returns upto 7.75%* p.a. for 1 year.

**Over Rs 36,659 Cr transferred by using DBT in bank accounts of 16.01 Cr beneficiaries during lockdown:**

More than Rs 36,659 Cr has been transferred by using Direct Benefit Transfer in the bank accounts of 16.01 crore beneficiaries during COVID 2019 lockdown. Total Direct Benefit Transfer amount disbursed has increased from 22% in 2018-19 to 45% in 2019-20. DBT eliminates leakage and improves efficiency.

**Business sentiment worsened in Q4 FY20:**

NCAER’s Business Confidence Index- an indicator of business sentiments across Indian industry, stood at 77.3 in Q4 of 2019-20. This was the lowest level of BCI recorded since the 25th Round of the BES in 1998, coinciding with the Asian Financial Crisis.

**Covid-19 impact: S&P slashes India growth forecast to 1.8% for FY21:**

Standard & Poor’s slashed FY21 growth estimate for India to 1.8% from 3.5% projected last month on concern that the covid-19 peak in India will come ‘somewhat later’ than most other countries. For the Asia-Pacific region, 2020 growth projection is 0.3%.

**RBI raises WMA limit to Rs.2-lakh crore in H1 FY21:**

Reserve Bank of India (RBI), in consultation with the Government of India, has revised the limit for Ways and Means Advances (WMA) for the remaining part of...
the first half of FY21 (April 2020 to September 2020) to Rs.2-lakh crore.

**Ways and Means Advances** scheme was introduced in 1997.

**ICICI Bank** Launched **Voice banking services on Amazon Alexa, Google Assistant:**

**ICICI bank** has launched voice assistance-based banking services on its integrated **artificial intelligence** (AI) powered multi-channel chatbot iPal with **Amazon Alexa** and **Google Assistant** for its retail banking customers by which they can access a wide range of banking services like check balance, seek credit card details & ask queries through voice commands.

**Singapore Government increases stake in Bandhan Bank to 4.49pc:**

Singapore’s Sovereign Wealth Fund **GIC** increased its stake in NBFC **Bandhan Bank** by 1.1%. GIC, through its affiliate entity Caladium Investment PTE Ltd., earlier held 3.39% stake in the bank.

**Reserve Bank cancels license of Goa’s oldest Mapusa urban co-operative bank:**

**Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has canceled the license granted to the **Mapusa Urban Co-operative Bank of Goa Ltd.**

**Goa** to conduct banking business which includes acceptance of deposits and repayment of deposits as defined in **Section 5 (b)** read with **Section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949**.

**TCS to power Israel's first fully digital bank:**

TCS was selected by **Israel's Ministry of Finance** to transform its banking sector by building a banking service bureau that would serve as a shared, **plug-and-play**, digital banking operations platform -powered by the TCS **BaNCS Global Banking Platform**.

**Chairman of TATA Consultancy Services (TCS):** Natarajan Chandrasekaran

**SBI now holds 48.21% in Yes Bank; HDFC, ICICI Bank 7.97% each:**

State Bank of India (SBI) now holds 48.21 percent stake in the private lender, followed by HDFC and ICICI Bank, which have 7.97 percent each, shows the latest shareholding pattern. **Axis Bank** holds 4.78 % stake, followed by **Kotak Mahindra Bank** (3.61 %).

**Federal Bank approves 4% additional stake in life insurance JV from IDBI Bank:**

Federal Bank is set to buy an additional 4% stake in IDBI Federal Life Insurance Co Ltd (IFLIC) from IDBI Bank, to price finalization & regulatory approvals. This will
increase the total shareholding of IDBI in the life insurance joint venture to 30%.

**RBI allows banks to issue electronic cards for overdraft accounts:**
Relaxing norms, the Reserve Bank of India permitted banks to issue electronic cards to persons having overdraft accounts that are only in the nature of personal loan without any specific end-use restrictions.

RBI Governor - ShaktiKanta Das.

**India’s GDP growth likely to grow at 1.5% in current FY: CII:**
The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in a paper- A plan for economic recovery has stated that India’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth is likely to grow at 1.5% in the current Financial Year Should include cash transfers of Rs 2 lakh crore to Jan Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile (JAM) account holders in addition to Rs 1.7 lakh.

**IOB launches Working Capital Demand Loan for agriculture sector: COVID-19:**
Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) has launched Working Capital demand Loan for agriculture sector (WCDL-Agri), a special credit facility for the agriculture sector & allied activities as a relief measure to fight the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

The loans will be available to all the existing borrowers whose accounts are ‘standard’ and ‘performing’ as of March 2020.

**Bajaj Allianz General Insurance ties up with GOQii under regulatory sandbox:**
Bajaj Allianz General Insurance has launched a preventive healthcare platform in partnership with GOQii under the regulatory sandbox initiative. The premium will range between Rs. 1,895 to Rs. 7,635 for an individual policy holder excluding GST.

**Special Liquidity Scheme for MSMEs launched:**
Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has launched special liquidity schemes to support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) due to lockdown because of the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak.

The schemes will cover all eligible entities with investment-grade ratings irrespective of the entity’s size & the quantum of the loans is 90 days.

**Sri Lanka to seek $400 million debt swap facility from RBI to meet short term financial needs:**
Sri Lanka is set to enter into an agreement with the Reserve Bank of India for a currency swap worth USD 400 million. to boost the foreign reserves and ensure the financial stability of the country.
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:

Microsoft, US CDC tie-up to create ‘Clara’, a COVID-19 self-screening bot:
US (United States) Center of Disease Control partnered with Microsoft’s Azure healthcare bot service has introduced an AI (Artificial Intelligence) based bot named “Clara” [the coronavirus self-checker]. The bot is currently available in the US on the CDS website.

ARCI develop technology to improve fuel efficiency of internal combustion engines:
International Advanced Centre for Powder Metallurgy & New Materials, a R&D Centre of Department of Science & Technology, has developed ultrafast laser surface texturing technology, which can improve the fuel efficiency of internal combustion engines.

IIT Gandhinagar launches Project ‘Isaac’ to engage students in creative projects during Corona lockdown:
IIT Gandhinagar launched Project Isaac to engage students in creative projects to enhance their critical skills while they are confined to their homes due to COVID-19. It is inspired by Isaac Newton, who was similarly sent home due to the Great Plague of London.

Health ministry categorises hydroxychloroquine as schedule H1 drug:
Coronavirus pandemic, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 26B of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 (23 of 1940), has declared hydroxychloroquine (HCQS) drug as a schedule H1 drug— which means it can’t be sold without the prescription of a registered medical practitioner.

ULA’s Atlas 5 launches AEHF-6 communications satellite in its first mission for U.S. Space Force:
United Launch Alliance Atlas 5 rocket lifted EST from Space Launch Complex-41 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, carrying a $1.4-b Advanced Extremely High Frequency communications satellite for US Space Force.
This was the 6th & final satellite of AEHF. And it was ULA’s 138th launch.

IIT Kanpur to develop prototype of portable ventilator to support medical infrastructure:
BioScience of IIT Kanpur has prepared a design of live saver portable ventilator. Prof. A. Bandyopadhyay told that within 3 to 4 days the prototype will be ready & in 1 month
will be able to produce maximum number of ventilators to save the lives of public
Ventilators only provide support and keep the lung inflated.

**NASA to launch SunRISE mission to study Solar Particle Storms:**
US space agency, NASA selected the proposed Sun Radio Interferometer Space Experiment (SunRISE) mission to study how the Sun creates and releases Giant Solar Particle Storms.
SunRISE mission will aid scientists to understand the working of the Solar System. The mission is believed to help protect future astronauts from Solar Storms while going to the Moon or Mars.

**IIT Roorkee develops low-cost face shields for protection of first line healthcare professionals fighting COVID-19:**
IIT Roorkee has developed low-cost face shields for first-line healthcare professionals at AIIMS Rishikesh. The frame of the face shield is 3D printed & can be used along with the protective gear while entering the wards housing patients.
The manufacturing cost per shield is approximately Rs 45.

**Bharat Biotech to develop intranasal Vaccine for Covid-19:**
Bharat Biotech along with virologists of University of Wisconsin and Madison have begun development and testing of a new vaccine called CoroFlu for COVID-19.
The vaccine is to be developed with the M2SR vaccine as the main component. The M2SR vaccine is used against flu. The M2SR is a self-limiting version of the influenza virus. It induces immune response against flu.

**IIT Hyderabad-incubated startup’s low-cost ventilator can be controlled via a phone app:**
IIT Hyderabad-incubated start-up Aerobiosys Innovations developed a low-cost, portable, emergency-use ventilator called Jeevan Lite at a price of Rs.1Lakh. Jeevan Lite can perform both invasive and non-invasive ventilation.
Aerobiosis Co-founders Rajesh Thangavel and Cyril Antony.

**Railways develops low-cost ventilator in Kapurthala, awaits ICMR approval:**
Indian Railways has developed a low-cost ventilator, Jeevan, at its Kapurthala Rail Coach Factory in Punjab. RCF is the premier coach production unit which manufactures the German design Link Hofmann Busch coaches. Prototype is now awaiting ICMR clearance to go into production.
ICMR approves TB machines for COVID-19 testing:
ICMR has recommended the use of Truenat beta CoV test on Truelab workstation validated as a screening test. Truenat is smaller, battery-operated, requires minimal training and is usable even in smaller settings such as the Primary Health Centre. It uses a chip-based technology & takes up to 60 mins to test.

NASA’s Artemis: First human base camp on Moon’s South Pole by 2024:
National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) unveiled its plan to setup ‘Artemis’, the first human base camp on Moon’s South Pole by 2024 through a 13-page report titled “NASA’s Plan for Sustained Lunar Exploration and Development”.

Biofortified carrot variety developed by farmer scientist benefits local farmers:
Madhuban Gajar, a biofortified carrot variety with high β-carotene and iron content developed by Vallabhai Vasrambhai Marvaniya, a farmer in Gujarat. It is a highly nutritious carrot variety. Marvaniya was conferred with National Award & Padma Shri.

CSIR- National Chemical Laboratory (NCL) Pune ties up with Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) for production of medical devices:
CSIR NCL & BEL collaborated to form Digital IR Thermometer & Oxygen Enrichment Unit to mitigate the pandemic. NCL’s incubatee BMEK headed by Mr Pratik Kulkarni developed handheld digital thermometer. OEU been developed by CSIR-NCL and Genrich Membranes.

Indian Immunologicals ties up with Australian university to develop vaccine for Coronavirus:
Hyderabad- based Indian Immunologicals Limited (IIL), a subsidiary of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), has inked agreement with Australia’s Griffith University to develop a Live Attenuated SARS CoV-2 Vaccine or COVID-19 vaccine using the latest codon de-optimisation technology.

Lifeline Udan: 240 tonnes of medical supplies flown across country during Covid-19 lockdown:
Lifeline Udan initiative,167 flights have transported over 248 tonnes of essential medical supplies across the country during lockdown. Air India and Indian Air Force collaborated primarily for Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, North-East and other island region.
Bharat Biotech ties up with FluGen & US virologists to develop intranasal vaccine for coronavirus ‘CoroFlu’:
In view of increasing Coronavirus (COVID-19) cases rapidly worldwide, Bharat Biotech International Ltd, a leading vaccines & biotherapeutics manufacturers in India, India has joined hands with US (United States) FluGen Inc and virologists at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Wisconsin, US, to begin the development and testing of a new intranasal vaccine for COVID-19 called ‘CoroFlu’.

NASA measures wind speed on the surface of a brown dwarf star:
NASA announced a groundbreaking measurement of a brown dwarf star. A brown dwarf is described as an in-betweener that’s not quite a star & not quite a planet. The brown dwarf NASA measured is called 2MASS J10475385+2124234 & is 32 light-years from Earth. Measurements showed winds moving around the planet at 1425 mph.

IIT-Ropar develops UV germicidal irradiation technology-based device to sanitize grocery items, currency notes:
The Indian Institute of Technology Ropar (IIT-Ropar) has developed a trunk-shaped device fitted with ultraviolet (UV) germicidal irradiation technology. The device aims to aid the fight against COVID-19. UV germicidal irradiation technology: The device should be placed at doorsteps and all items brought from outside including grocery and currency notes must be put in it to sanitize them. The trunk will cost around or less than Rs.500.

ICMR approves use of TB diagnostic machine for coronavirus:
Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the apex body in India for the formulation and promotion of biomedical research, has allowed the use of a diagnostic machine used to test drug-resistant TB (Tuberculosis) for conducting coronavirus tests. In this regard, it had recognized the ‘TrueLTM beta COV test on the TruLabTM workstation’ and recommended it as a screening test.

IIT Bombay develops ‘smart stethoscope’ which can hear heartbeats from a distance:
IIT Bombay developed a ‘digital stethoscope’ that can listen to heartbeats from a distance and record them minimising the risk of healthcare workers from contracting coronavirus. It has been developed with inputs from Reliance Hospital and Hinduja Group.
BEL & AIIMS- Rishikesh jointly develops remote health monitoring system for coronavirus cases:
All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS)– Rishikesh (Uttarakhand) and Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), an Indian state-owned aerospace and defence company, have jointly developed India’s 1st remote health monitoring system.

Kerala to start clinical trial of plasma therapy for COVID-19 treatment:
Kerala is set to become the first state in the country to commence convalescent plasma therapy, which uses antibodies from the blood of cured patients, to treat critically ill COVID-19 cases on a trial basis.

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has given its nod to the state government for the first of its kind project, initiated by the prestigious Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST).

NIF developed herbal dewormer “wormivet” for livestock owners:
National Innovation Foundation India (NIF) has developed “wormivet” an indigenous herbal medication (dewormer) in form of commercial product for livestock owners as an alternative to chemical method of treatment of worms.

IIT Guwahati developed an antimicrobial spray-based coating for PPE:
Researchers from IIT-Guwahati have developed an affordable antimicrobial spray-based coating for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and 3D printed Ear Guard for comfortable use of face masks by healthcare workers.
Antimicrobial coating for PPE: The aim of the antimicrobial spray-based coating is to safeguard healthcare workers and citizens from the current coronavirus crisis and other infectious diseases.

Researchers at NIT-Karnataka develops cost-effective disinfectant chamber called ‘ZERO-COV’:
In view of increasing pandemic coronavirus (COVID-19) cases, a team of researchers from National Institute of Technology-Karnataka (NIT-K) at Surathkal.
It has designed a disinfection chamber called ‘ZERO-COV’ to disinfect personal protective equipment (PPE) tools, surgical masks, vegetables, packaged food items, currency notes and other day-to-day items within 15

CeNS to develop a compact solid-state sensor to detect the heavy metal ions in water:
Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences (CeNS) developed a portable device which can help onsite detection of heavy metal ions in remote areas. It can detect lead ions down to 0.4 parts per billion (ppb) for onsite detection. CeNS is located in Bangalore, Karnataka.

IASST develops plasmonic semiconductor nanomaterials to remove toxic materials from water: Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology (IASST), Assam is to develop plasmonic semiconductor nanomaterials for the removal of toxic organic compounds from water by harvesting solar light.

Plasmonic semiconductor nanomaterials are metal-like materials with free electrons on the surface that oscillate collectively when hit by light.

ICAR developed Pusa Decontamination and Sanitizing Tunnel:
PUSA Decontamination and Sanitizing Tunnel are developed by the Division of Agricultural Engineering, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR), New Delhi. The tunnel was inaugurated by the Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare Kailash Choudhary in New Delhi.

Chitra Gene LAMP-N: Diagnostic kit developed by SCTIMST, Thiruvananthapuram: Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Science (SCTIMST), an institute of national importance developed a diagnostic kit. The kit reduces test time by two hours. The cost of the kit is Rs 1000. The time taken by the kit to examine the samples is half as that of the time taken by the RT-PCR tests. Currently, India is using RT-PCR to examine COVID-19 samples. It takes 5 hours for the test to produce results. Also, the test costs Rs 4,500.

Scientists at NASA discovers Earth-like planet ‘Kepler-1649c’ found to be hidden in early Kepler data: A team of scientists at the US (United States) space agency NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration), has discovered an Earth-size exoplanet, called Kepler-1649c, orbiting in its red dwarf star’s habitable zone (an area where water conditions on the planets may be favorable). It was spotted while observing old data of its Kepler space telescope, which the agency retired in 2018.

IIM-Kozhikode team develops one-stop COVID-19 platform for accessing emergency services:
International team led by an IIM Kozhikode student has developed a one-stop COVID-19 platform for accessing emergency services from official government sources. The website - covidfyi.in - is a one-stop digital directory for all COVID-19 related services.

The core team of 16 is led by IIM Kozhikode student Simran Soni.

DRDO innovates automatic sanitiser and ultraviolet devices to fight coronavirus:
From an automatic mist-based sanitiser for use while entering offices to ultraviolet devices that can destroy the genetic material of COVID-19, the DRDO introduced these two new technologies that are aimed at preventing the spread of the coronavirus.

CFEES developed the Sanitiser Dispensing Unit.

IIT-Mandi develops magnetic RAM to enable higher data storage, faster computation:
Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Mandi, have developed a magnetic Random Access Memory (RAM) which is faster, more energy-efficient and capable of storing more information in a smaller volume than existing data storage technologies.

The Spin-transfer torque (STT) based nano spintronic device is expected to put an end to computer data loss due to interruptions of power supply.

Gujarat’s GBRC: 2nd Indian institute to decode COVID-19 genome sequence:
Researchers at the Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre (GBRC) have succeeded in decoding the entire genome sequence of the novel coronavirus after the National Institute of Virology (NIV) in Pune and identified its three new mutations.

CSIR and NAL develop personal protective coverall suit for health workers:
CSIR- National Aerospace Laboratories (CSIR-NAL) with MAF Clothing, Bengaluru developed the protective coverall suit. This suit can be used by doctors to protect from COVID-19.

It is a polypropylene spun laminated multi-layered non-woven fabric-based coverall suit. That suit can be used to ensure the safety of doctors, nurses, paramedical staff, and healthcare workers.

Central Drug Research Institute signs MoU to sequence virus strains:
Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI), has inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with King George’s Medical
University (KGMU) to sequence the virus strains obtained from COVID-19 patients in Uttar Pradesh. It will be under 1st vertical digital & molecular surveillance.

IIA researchers connect Li abundance in interstellar space to new Li-rich red giants:

Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) researchers have discovered hundreds of Lithium (Li)-rich giant stars. This discovery proves Li is being produced in the stars and accounts for its abundance in the interstellar medium.

Demo-2 mission: NASA to launch Astronauts to space first time in 11 years:

NASA and SpaceX are targeting May 27 for the launch of Demo-2. Demo-2 will launch two NASA astronauts to the International Space Station for the first time since the end of the Space Shuttle program nearly a decade ago.

This will be the 1st crewed launch for Elon Musk’s space company.

Indian Scientists Discover model to predict Ionospheric Electron Density:

The Indian Institute of Geomagnetism researchers have developed a model that will predict electronic density of ionosphere. This is highly important for the communication and navigation on the earth. The researchers developed an Artificial Neural Networks based Global Ionospheric Model (ANNIM) to predict ionospheric electron density. The model was developed by using data collected for more than 20 years.

Bangalore-based JNCASR develops predictive model for spread of covid-19:

Bengaluru-based Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR) along with collaborator from IISc, Bangalore have developed a heuristic predictive model for covid-19 that provides short-term predictions about the evolution of the disease.

The model focuses on the ‘Achilles’ heel’ of covid-19 response.

Pune-based ARI develops ‘sensor-based bug sniffer’:

Pune-based (ARI), an autonomous institute under the Department of Science and Technology (DST) has developed a low-cost sensor device to rapidly detect bacteria. The portable device can detect as low as 10 bacteria cells from a sample size of one milliliter in just 30 minutes.
NPPA develops IT platform to monitor sale of hydroxychloroquine and azithromycin:

National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has developed an IT platform to monitor the availability of HCQ and azithromycin tablets at all distribution channel C&F agents or depot, distributors, wholesalers and retailers.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Institute becomes 1st in country to carry out plasma research in view of Covid-19:

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel (SVP) Institute of Medical Science and Research (SVPIMSR) has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) & becomes the 1st authorized study centre in the country to carry out study the plasma research under trial in view of COVID 19.

TDB approves funds for MYLAB for production of COVID-19 diagnostic kits:

MyLab Discovery Solutions, pune based firm selected for the Technology Development Board (TDB) funding to increase the production of PCR based molecular diagnostic kit for Covid-19 screening and testing which is already approved by the ICMR and CDSCO. The funding is to update the manual process facility to automated facility.

Indian herpetologists discover new viper species in Arunachal Pradesh:

Indian herpetologists have discovered a new species of viper family in Pakke Tiger Reserve in Arunachal Pradesh, and the green pit viper species was discovered by a team led by Zeeshan Mirza.

The viper called Trimeresurus Salazar. It has a unique orange to reddish stripe present on the head and body in males.

CSIR-IGIB scientists develop “Feluda” a low-cost coronavirus test strip:

The Scientists at Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology, The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR-IGIB) has developed “Feluda” a low-cost coronavirus test strip

It is developed by Debojyoti Chakraborty and Souvik Maiti & the total time required for the test is less than an hour.

Shilpa Medicare launched the anti-cancer drug Dasashil:

Shilpa Medicare launched its generic version of cancer drug Dasatinib. The monthly therapy cost of Rs.6,440. The company launched the Indian branded generic of Dasatinib, an anti-cancer drug with a brand name "Dasashil".
Swiss astronomers find a Six-Planet System which orbit in Lockstep with each other:
A system consisting of an innermost large rocky planet (a "super-Earth") & 5 small gas giants ("mini-Neptune") that have exceptionally regular spacing b/w them, have been found by Swiss scientists. The planets are well inside the star’s habitable zone.
Discovery was led by, Dr. Nathan Hara.

China’s first Mars exploration mission named Tianwen-1:
China’s first Mars exploration mission has been named Tianwen-1, announced the China National Space Administration, on April 24- China’s Space Day. China plans to launch the Mars probe in 2020, aiming to complete orbiting, landing, & roving in one mission.
Space Day is to mark the launch of 1st satellite Dongfanghong-1.

APPOINTMENTS:
Justice Bhushan P Dharmadhikari as Chief Justice of Bombay High Court:
Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari appointed Justice Bhushan P Dharmadhikari as the Chief Justice of Bombay High Court. He was sworn in at Raj Bhavan.
President of India, Ram Nath Kovind issued a notification for appointing him as Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court.

Government constitutes 21 member committee: COVID-19
Government set up a 21 member high-level technical committee of public health experts to guide the people in preventive & control activities of COVID-19.
The committee is headed by NITI Aayog member V K Paul & is co-chaired by Union Health Secretary- Preeti Sudan, Director General Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)- Balram Bhargava.

Iqbal Singh Bains appointed as Madhya Pradesh Chief Secretary:
Iqbal Singh Bains was appointed as Madhya Pradesh Chief Secretary by the newly-sworn Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan of the state. He was the successor of M Gopal Reddy.
Iqbal Singh, a 1985 batch IAS (Indian Administrative Service) officer, served as the President of Revenue Board, Gwalior, MP.

Walmart appoints Sameer Aggarwal as CEO for India:
Walmart India has elevated Sameer Aggarwal to the position of Chief Executive Officer, Best Price Stores.
He will report directly to Dirk Van den Berghe, EVP and Regional CEO of Asia and Global Sourcing at Walmart. Sameer Aggarwal will succeed Krish Iyer.

IRS officers KM Prasad and SK Gupta appointed CBDT board members:
Appointment Committee of the Cabinet approved the appointment of two Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officers Krishan Mohan Prasad and Satish Kumar Gupta as members of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).

Facebook appoints Robert Kimmitt as lead independent director:
Facebook named the U.S. Treasury's former deputy secretary, Robert Kimmitt, to its board as lead independent director, effective immediately.

Jeffrey Zients, CEO of Cranemere Group Ltd, will not stand for re-election at the annual meeting of stockholders.

Facebook Chief Executive Officer - Mark Zuckerberg.

Shilpa Shetty partners with “Fit India Movement”
Government of India’s flagship fitness movement “Fit India” has teamed up with Bollywood actress and fitness icon Shilpa Shetty Kundra.
The free of cost access of the 21-Day Weight Loss Programme will be available for the Indian as well as global audience via Shilpa Shetty App (SS App).

BP Kanungo re-appointed RBI deputy governor for one year:
BP Kaunungo was reappointed as the RBI deputy governor. Kanungo was executive director of the RBI before being elevated to the post of deputy governor in April 2017. He is in charge of departments like currency management, foreign exchange among others.

Andhra Pradesh appointed Dr.Srinath Reddy as an advisor to the state Government
Andhra Pradesh Government has appointed Dr.Srinath Reddy as an advisor to the state Government
Andhra Pradesh Government on 31 March. Dr.Reddy is the former Head of the Department of Cardiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi.
Pravin Jadhav resigns as MD and CEO of Paytm Money:

Pravin Jadhav, the Managing Director and CEO of Paytm Money, resigned from the company. He will be relieved by the end of April. The reason cited for his resignation was differences over ESOPs, annual salary, and remuneration.

Pravin Jadhav: Jadhav was elevated as MD and CEO in September 2019.

Sudhir Rajkumar resigns from UN Joint Staff Pension Fund:

Sudhir Rajkumar, a senior official from India, has resigned from his position of Representative of the UN Secretary-General for the investment of the assets of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF).

Krishnan S appointed ED at Canara Bank:

Canara Bank appointed Krishnan S as its executive director after its merger with Syndicate Bank. He held the same portfolio at Syndicate Bank since November 2017.

Lakshminarayanan appointed as MD of Sundaram Home Finance

D. Lakshminarayanan, whole-time director of Sundaram Finance Limited, was appointed as the MD (Managing Director) of its wholly owned home finance subsidiary, Sundaram Home Finance.

He will take charge on April 1, 2020 and will replace Srinivas Acharya.

NEC Corporation appoints Aalok Kumar as a new President and CEO:

NEC Corporation and NEC Technologies India have appointed Aalok Kumar as the new President and Chief Executive Officer of NEC Technologies India.

With this appointment, Takayuki Inaba, former Chairman and Managing Director, has been appointed Executive Chairman of NEC Technologies India.

NTPC appointed Dilip Kumar Patel as Director of Human resources:

National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) Limited appointed Dilip Kumar Patel as its Director Human resources on 1 April. Dilip Kumar Patel: Patel has more than three decades of experience in HR functions. He graduated in Mechanical Engineering from NIT, Rourkela.

Justice Rajnesh Oswal sworn in as permanent Judge of High Court of J&K, Ladakh under Indian Constitution:

Justice Rajnesh Oswal was sworn in as a permanent Judge of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh.

He is the first Judge of the High Court to take oath under the Indian Constitution. All
previous Judges had taken oath under the constitution of J&K.

**Government extends tenure of NCLT acting President for another 3 months:**
Government extended the tenure of National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) acting President Bethala Shanta Vijaya (B.S.V.) Prakash Kumar for another 3 months (with effect from 5th April, 2020) or till the joining of new President, whichever is earlier.

**SEBI Whole time member Madhabi Puri Buch gets six-month extension:**
Madhabi Puri Buch, Whole Time Member at SEBI is given a six-month extension by the govt. Buch was appointed in April ‘17 & her 3-year tenure ends in March. Buch is SEBI’s 1st woman WTM and the 1st from the private sector to be appointed a board member.
SEBI Chairman – Ajay Tyagi.

**NASSCOM appoints Infosys' Pravin Rao as chairman:**
National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) has appointed UB Pravin Rao, COO, Infosys as the chairman for the current FY. The newly appointed leader will help the industry body achieve its 2025 vision for the industry.
He was succeeding WNS Global Services Group CEO Keshav Murugesan.

**NASSCOM:** Headquarter- New Delhi
President: Debjani Ghosh.

**Indian-origin Lisa Nandy appointed UK shadow foreign minister:**
Labour Party’s newly-elected Leader, Sir Keir Starmer, named Indian-origin MP Lisa Nandy as his shadow foreign secretary.
Nandy, his contender in the leadership race for Opposition Leader, thanked Starmer for the “opportunity to serve”.

**Anurag Srivastava takes charge as MEA Spokesman:**
Senior diplomat Anurag Srivastava took charge as the Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs, succeeding Mr Raveesh Kumar. Mr Srivastava, an Indian Foreign Service Officer, was serving as India's Ambassador to Ethiopia before this appointment.

**Mini st of State for External Affairs – V Muraleedharan.**

**Shafali Verma named as brand ambassador by PepsiCo:**
Beverage Major PepsiCo has named Shafali Verma, 16 years old, Indian Women Cricketer, as one of its brand ambassadors for one year. Pepsi will be Shafali’s first contract with a major brand. The beverage firm recently signed Bollywood star Salman Khan as its face for 2 years.
TDSAT Chairman’s tenure extended by three months:
Supreme Court of India has extended the tenure of Justice **Shiva Kirti Singh**, as the incumbent Chairman of the **Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT)**. The bench which took the decision to extend the tenure comprised of Chief Justice of India (CJI) **SA Bobde** along with Justices Deepak Gupta and Sanjay Kishan Kaul.

**Maha Prasad Adhikari appointed governor of Nepal Central Bank:**
India-educated **Adhikari** along with **Keshav Prasad Bhattarai** and **Chintamani Siwakoti** were chosen as candidates for the position of the Nepal Rastra Bank governor by the recommendation committee coordinated by Finance Minister **Yubaraj Khatiwada**. He is a former CEO of Nepal Investment Board & a CA from ICAI.

**Bharti AXA Life Insurance appoints Parag Raja as MD & CEO:**
Leading private insurer **Bharti AXA Life Insurance** appointed **Parag Raja** as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, subject to the requisite IRDAI approval. **Raja** will succeed **Vikas Seth**. Parag was one of the founding members of **Max Life Insurance**.

**IFFCO Tokio Insurance names Anamika Roy Rashtrawar MD & CEO:**
**IFFCO Tokio General Insurance** appointed Anamika Roy Rashtrawar its Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer. She replaces Warendra Sinha. She is the first woman to head a large private sector general insurance company in India.

**IMF Appointed Raghuram Rajan to Key Advisory Panel:**
**IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva** named former RBI governor **Raghuram Rajan & 11 others** to her external advisory group to provide perspectives from around the globe on key developments and policy issues, including responses to the exceptional challenges due to corona virus.

**AU Small Finance Bank appoints R V Verma as part-time chairman and Sanjay Agarwal re-appointed as MD and CEO:**
**Raj Vikash Verma** was appointed as part-time Chairman of AU Small Finance Bank for the period of one year where as **Sanjay Agarwal** reappointed as **Managing Director (MD) and CEO (Chief Executive Officer)** of the **AU Small Finance Bank**.
The appointment was approved by RBI (Reserve Bank of India).

**AU Small Finance Bank:** Headquarters – Jaipur, Rajasthan.
Tagline– Chalo Aage Badhe.

Former Miss World Manushi Chhillar raises awareness on coronavirus with UNICEF:

Manushi Chhillar joined hands with the (UNICEF) to raise awareness about the novel coronavirus. She is a part of UNICEF's initiative to make my fellow citizens aware of the tremendous threat that exists if they decide to step outside their homes.


Justice V Kanagaraj appointed new State Election Commissioner of Andhra Pradesh:

Justice V Kanagaraj, a retired judge of the Madras High Court, assumed charge as the State Election Commissioner of Andhra Pradesh with the promulgation of an Ordinance amending Section 200 of the AP Panchayat Raj Act, 1994

Indian Actress Tamannaah Bhatia signed as brand ambassador for MPL:

India’s largest mobile gaming platform, Mobile Premier League (MPL) has brought Tamannaah Bhatia of Baahubali fame, as its brand ambassador, to endorse their gaming platform. Recently, MPL also renewed its association with Indian Cricket Captain Virat Kohli for another one year.

Tata Capital Announces the Elevation of Sarosh Amaria To Managing Director:

The Board of Tata Capital Financial Services (TCFSL), subsidiary of Tata Capital Limited, announced the elevation of Sarosh Amaria to the Managing Director. Sarosh Amaria is currently the Chief Operating Officer of the Commercial & SME Finance Division.

M S Mahabaleshwara reappointed as MD and CEO of Karnataka Bank for 3 more years:

Private sector lender Karnataka Bank received RBI nod for reappointment of Mahabaleshwara M S as MD and CEO for next three years. The regulator has also approved for reappointment of P Jayarama Bhat as part-time (non-executive) chairman.

Sara Ali Khan appointed as the ambassador of JBL:

The Bollywood actress Sara Ali Khan has been appointed as the brand ambassador of the extension of audio equipment maker, James Bullough Lansing (JBL)’s campaign - “Live it Real, Live it Raw” which went live with the 1st commercial featuring Ranveer Singh.

Birupaksha Mishra assumes charge as Executive Director of Union Bank of India:
Shri Birupaksha Mishra took charge as the Executive Director (ED) of Union Bank of India (UBI), after its amalgamation with Corporation Bank and Andhra Bank. Earlier he was the Executive Director at Corporation Bank.

UGC constitutes 2 expert committees for examination & online education:

University Grants Commission (UGC) has constituted 2 expert committees to look after the examinations & academic calendar, and to promote online learning amidst the lockdown due to COVID-19.

1st Committee- It is a 7 member committee headed by the vice-chancellor of the Central University of Haryana- R.C. Kuhad, to look after the examination & academic calendar of students as Indian education system came to a standstill due to suspended classes, postponed examinations, and closed campuses.

2nd Committee is formed in relation to students, teachers and the education system as a whole & also to promote online education.

University Grants Commission:
   Headquarters- New Delhi, India
   Chairman- Dhirendra Pal(D.P.) Singh.

DPIIT constitutes 25-member development council for pulp, paper and allied industries headed by A S Mehta:

Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) a central government department under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. It has constituted a 25-member Development Council for the development of pulp, paper and allied industries (DCPPAI) headed by A S Mehta, the President of J K Paper Ltd, New Delhi, with an objective to increase the growth of this sector.

MS Dhoni Replaces Nawazuddin Siddiqui As PokerStars India’s Brand Ambassador:

PokerStars India has appointed MS Dhoni as its new brand ambassador. The announcement of the endorsement deal was delayed due to the COVID-19’s impact on the world and postponement of the Indian Premier League (IPL) and other sporting events.

Prior to MS Dhoni’s appointment, popular Bollywood actor Nawazuddin Siddiqui was the brand ambassador of the company. Muskan Sethi and Sharad Rao are the other ambassadors of PokerStars India, while
Aditya Agarwal quit the brand in December 2019.

Monaz Noble joins Godrej Industries as Independent Director:
Diversified Conglomerate Godrej Industries announced the appointment of Monaz Noble as Non-Executive Director for 5 years. Noble is the Chief Financial Officer at Novartis Global Service Centre in Hyderabad.

Care Ratings appoints Ajay Mahajan MD, Chief Executive:
Ajay Mahajan who has been working in IDFC First Bank has been appointed as the MD, Chief Executive of Care ratings for a period of five years. He had also worked with Bank of America in which he was the country head. CARE Ratings Head Office: Mumbai.

Lakshmi Vilas Bank appoints Chief Risk Officer:
Lakshmi Vilas Bank appointed S Vaidyanathan as the Chief Risk Officer of the bank for a period of two years. He was the Assistant Vice President of the Risk Department. Lakshmi Vilas Bank HO: Chennai.

Andhra Bank, Syndicate Bank chiefs appointed as OSD in different banks:
Andhra Bank MD J Packirisamy & Syndicate Bank CEO Mruthanjay Mahapatra was appointed as Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in the Union Bank of India & Canara Bank respectively.
Vineet Arora appointed as MD & CEO of Paytm General Insurance:
Paytm, a major digital payment system and financial service platform, appoints Vineet Arora as the Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Paytm General Insurance Limited (Ltd).

Paytm General Insurance Ltd: Headquarters: New Delhi, India.

Chess wizard Viswanathan Anand named ambassador of WWF India:

Rohit Sharma becomes Dubai-based coaching academy’s brand ambassador:
India’s limited-overs Vice-Captain Rohit Sharma is the brand ambassador of ‘CricKingdom’, a cricket academy based in
Dubai. It seeks to merge time tested theories along with modern scientific technologies. It has Mumbai medium pacer Dhawal Kulkarni as one of its mentors.

MNRE appoints IREDA to handle its CPSU Scheme II:
MNRE appointed the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) as the implementing agency for the ministry’s CPSU Scheme Phase II, which is aimed at setting up of 12,000MW grid-connected solar PV power projects with Viability Gap Funding support.

BSNL CMD PK Purwar takes additional charge of MTNL
BSNL’s Chairman and Managing Director PK Purwar took additional charge of MTNL. This isn’t Purwar’s first time heading MTNL — he was appointed thrice as the telco’s CMD in a temporary basis in 2014, 2016, and 2017. Purwar was appointed for a five year term in 2017, but gave up the post in 2019 after being appointed as BSNL’s CMD.

Indian-American Ro Khanna appointed to White House COVID-19 advisory council:
Indian-American Democratic Congressman Ro Khanna has been appointed to the White House coronavirus advisory council to combat the deadly disease in the US, which has seen a record number of deaths in the past two days.

Kapil Dev Tripathi appointed Secretary to President Ram Nath Kovind:
The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet headed by PM Modi has appointed Kapil Dev Tripathi as Secretary to President Ram Nath Kovind. He was heading the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) that does top-level recruitments in the CPSEs.

RBI gives nod to Kamakodi’s reappointment as MD & CEO of City Union Bank:
Private sector lender City Union Bank reappointed N Kamakodi as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Bank. The appointment was approved by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 20 April. Kamakodi’s reappointment is for a further period of three years with effect. The reappointment will be effective from 1 May 2020. He was elevated as MD and CEO in 2011.

US President Trump appoints Indian-American Sudarsanam Babu to country's top science board:
US President Donald Trump appointed Indian-American Sudarsanam Babu to country's top science board. He would be the
third Indian American in this prestigious board. The other two being Sethuraman Panchanathan and Suresh V Garimella.

Former captain Smith appointed South Africa’s director of cricket:

Former captain Graeme Smith has been appointed director of cricket on a permanent basis by Cricket South Africa (CSA). Smith has signed a two-year deal with CSA and is set to remain in the position until April 2022.

Graeme Smith is the only player to captain a team in 100 Test matches.

Infosys appoints Uri Levine as an Independent Director:

Infosys a global leader in next-generation digital services and consulting announced the appointment of Uri Levine as an Independent Director of the Company. The appointment is for a period of three years and is subject to the approval of shareholders.

SAP co-CEO Jennifer Morgan steps down just after 6 months on the job:

SAP SE Co-Chief Executive Officer Jennifer Morgan, appointed in October to the top executive post alongside Christian Klein, will abruptly leave the German software company at the end of April. Klein, 39, will remain in the CEO role.

Klein has been a member of SAP’s executive board since 2018.

Huawei India appoints David Li as new CEO:

Huawei Telecommunications India announced the appointment of David Li as Chief Executive Officer of its operations in the country. David Li succeeds Jay Chen, who moves on to take up a leadership role within Huawei Asia Pacific Region.

Founder and CEO of Shenzhen-based Huawei: Ren Zhengfei.

Indian shuttler PV Sindhu named ambassador for BWF’s ‘I am badminton’ campaign:

BWF names PV Sindhu as one of its ambassadors for the “I am badminton” awareness campaign to create awareness among the young and para-badminton players on the importance of anti-match manipulation and anti-doping and to encourage and provide training to improve their level of playing.

Badminton World Federation:

Headquarters– Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Founded– 5th July 1934

President– Poul-Erik Hoyer Larsen

Membership- 194 member associations

Justice Biswanath Somadder new chief justice of Meghalaya High Court:

The Supreme Court collegium, led by Chief Justice Sharad A Bobde, has recommended
the name of Justice Somadder as the new chief justice of Meghalaya High Court. Justice Mohammad Rafiq has been named as chief justice of Orissa High Court.

IMMA appoints Bajaj Auto Executive Director Rakesh Sharma as its President:
The International Motorcycle Manufacturers Association (IMMA) has recently announced the appointment of Rakesh Sharma, Executive Director, Bajaj Auto as its President. Previously, Rakesh Sharma had been serving as Vice-President at IMMA when he was elected in May 2019. The IMMA Spring Congress that was planned to be held from 20th to 24th April, 2020 in New Delhi was converted to a series of meetings by conference call and correspondence.

Kerala Blasters officially appoint Kibu Vicuna as head coach:
Indian Super League (ISL) side Kerala Blasters appointed Mohun Bagan’s I-League winning coach Kibu Vicuna as their head coach for the upcoming season. Spain’s Vicuna oversaw Mohun Bagan win the title with four rounds to spare. Mohun Bagan merged with ATK to enter the ISL from next season.

Shiv Das Meena takes charge as HUDCO’s CMD:
Shiv Das Meena, additional secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, has been appointed as chairman and managing director of Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) for a period of six months with immediate effect.

Jammu and Kashmir Bank appoints new CFO:
Jammu and Kashmir Bank (J&K Bank) has appointed Satya Narayan Gupta as Chief Financial Officer of the Bank. The exact date of joining along with the necessary documents will be intimated to the Stock Exchanges.

CMD of J&K Bank: R. K. Chhibber
Sanjay Kothari took oath as Chief Vigilance Commissioner:
Sanjay Kothari took oath as Chief Vigilance Commissioner (CVC). The oath office was administered by President Ram Nath Kovind on 25 April 2020 at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu, and others were also present at the ceremony.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Designations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Justice Bhushan P Dharmadhikari</td>
<td>Bombay High Court</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Justice Rajnesh Oswal</td>
<td>Permanent Judge of High Court of Jammu &amp; Kashmir and Ladakh</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Justice Biswanath Somadder</td>
<td>Chief Justice of Meghalaya High Court</td>
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<td>Justice Mohammad Rafiq</td>
<td>Chief Justice of Odisha High Court</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Iqbal Singh Bains</td>
<td>Madhya Pradesh Chief Secretary</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Sameer Aggarwal</td>
<td>CEO for Walmart India</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Krishan Mohan Prasad and Satish Kumar Gupta</td>
<td>Members of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>Robert Kimmitt</td>
<td>Independent director of FaceBook</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Shilpa Shetty</td>
<td>Fit India Movement</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>BP Kanungo</td>
<td>Re-appointed of RBI deputy governor</td>
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<td>11.</td>
<td>Dr. Srinath Reddy</td>
<td>Advisor to the Andhra Pradesh</td>
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<td>Justice V Kanagaraj</td>
<td>Election Commissioner of Andhra Pradesh</td>
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<td>Dilip Kumar Patel</td>
<td>NTPC Director of Human resources</td>
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<td>UK shadow foreign minister</td>
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<td>Shafali Verma</td>
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<td>Governor of Nepal Central Bank</td>
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<td>Parag Raja</td>
<td>MD and CEO of Bharti AXA Life Insurance</td>
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<td>27.</td>
<td>Anamika Roy Rashtrawar</td>
<td>MD and CEO of IFFCO Tokio Insurance</td>
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<td>28.</td>
<td>Raghuram Rajan</td>
<td>Key Advisory Panel of IMF</td>
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<td>29.</td>
<td>Raj Vikash Verma</td>
<td>Part-time chairman of AU Small Finance Bank</td>
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<td>30.</td>
<td>Sanjay Agarwal</td>
<td>MD and CEO of AU Small Finance Bank</td>
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<td>31.</td>
<td>Tamannaah Bhatia and Virat Kholi</td>
<td>Brand Ambassador for MPL</td>
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<td>32.</td>
<td>MS Dhoni</td>
<td>PokerStars India Brand Ambassador</td>
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<td>Viswanathan Anand</td>
<td>Brand Ambassador of World Wide Fund (WWF)</td>
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<td>34.</td>
<td>Rohit Sharma</td>
<td>Brand Ambassador of ‘CricKingdom’, (cricket academy based in Dubai)</td>
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<td>35.</td>
<td>Sarosh Amaria</td>
<td>MD of Tata Capital Financial Services</td>
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<td>Independent Director of Godrej Industries</td>
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<td>Ajay Mahajan</td>
<td>MD and Chief Executive of Care Ratings</td>
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<td>41.</td>
<td>S Vaidyanathan</td>
<td>Chief Risk Officer of Lakshmi Vilas Bank</td>
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<td>42.</td>
<td>Vineet Arora</td>
<td>MD &amp; CEO of Paytm General Insurance</td>
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<td>43.</td>
<td>PK Purwar</td>
<td>Chairman and Managing Director of MTNL(additional charge)</td>
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<td>44.</td>
<td>Kapil Dev Tripathi</td>
<td>Secretary to President Ram Nath Kovind</td>
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<td>45.</td>
<td>N Kamakodi</td>
<td>MD &amp; CEO of City Union Bank</td>
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<td>46.</td>
<td>Sudarsanam Babu</td>
<td>USA top science board</td>
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<td>47.</td>
<td>Graeme Smith</td>
<td>South Africa’s Director of Cricket</td>
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<td>48.</td>
<td>Uri Levine</td>
<td>Uri Levine as an Independent Director of Infosys</td>
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**AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:**

2020 Abel Prize to Hillel Furstenberg and Margulis:
Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters has awarded the Abel Prize for 2020 to Hillel Furstenberg, Hebrew University of Jerusalem & Gregory Margulis, Yale University, USA. Due to the corona pandemic there will not be a physical Laureate ceremony.

Zoya Akhter honoured with IIFTC Tourism Impact Award 2020 held in Mumbai, Maharashtra
Zoya Akhter honoured with IIFTC Tourism Impact Award 2020 during the 8th India International Film Tourism Conclave (IIFTC) held in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

She has promoted tourism through her films like 2011 ‘Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara’ which was shot in Spain, and 2015 comedy-drama ‘DilDhadakne Do’ shot in Turkey.

Author Ruchika Tomar wins PEN/Hemingway Award 2020:
Indian-origin American author Ruchika Tomar is named as the winner of the annual PEN/Hemingway Award 2020 for her 1st novel (debut) “A Prayer for Travelers”.
She hails from California & is currently working as a lecturer at Stanford University.

Mirza Waheed and Santanu Das win The Hindu Prize 2019:
Hindu prize 2019 is awarded to Mirza Waheed’s Tell Her Everything (Fiction)-2019 and Santanu Das’s India, Empire, and First World War Culture: Writings, Images and Songs (Non-Fiction)-2018.

Mirza Waheed’s novel talks about human ethics, noble love & the corrosive nature of companionship & is published by Westland Publications Limited.
Chittaranjan locomotive works of Indian Railways creates world record of making 431 locomotives for FY 20:

Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW), the manufacturing unit of Indian Railways based in Asansol, West Bengal (WB), has set the Limca Book of Records for producing record **431 locomotives** in the financial year **2019-2020 (FY20)** in **292 working days**. It is 2.15 times its installed capacity of 200 locomotives per year.

**Bob Weighton 112-year-old officially recognised as world’s oldest man:**

A Hampshire resident Bob Weighton has been officially recognised as the world’s oldest man by Guinness World Records. Bob Weighton, from the UK, has been officially confirmed as the oldest person living (male) at 112 Years and 1 day as of 30 March 2020. He became the latest man to earn the Guinness World Records designation after Japanese man Chitetsu Watanabe passed away on Feb. 23 at 112 years and 355 days old.

**Indian NGO ARMMAN wins prestigious USD 1.5 million Skoll Award for Social Entrepreneurship:**

ARMMAN, an India-based non-profit organization was awarded the Skoll Award for Social Entrepreneurship 2020 for its work in the maternal and child health space in India. ARMMAN works towards empowering mothers and enabling healthy children in India.

**Founder, Chairperson of ARMMAN - Dr Aparna Hegde**

**Tamil Nadu topped in micro-irrigation coverage under PMKSY for FY 2019-20:**

Tamil Nadu has topped the all-India level for micro-irrigation (MI), under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), with a coverage of 2,06,853.25 ha for the year financial year 2019-20. The state is followed by Karnataka and Gujarat with 1,41,103.56 Ha and 1,08,322.00 Ha of coverage respectively.

**Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik gets PETA award for allocating funds to feed community animals:**

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has been conferred with the ‘Hero To Animals Award’ by animal rights body PETA India after the state government sanctioned Rs 54 lakh to feed stray animals in five municipal corporations and all 48 municipalities.

**American Basketball player Kobe Bryant inducted into Naismith Hall of Fame:**

American Basketball player & 5 time NBA champion Kobe Bryan will be posthumously inducted into the Naismith Memorial
Basketball Hall of Fame, Springfield, Massachusetts on August 29, 2020 along with 8 honourees.

Wisden Cricketers of the year 2020: Ben Stokes, Ellyse Perry bag top honours:

Ben Stokes, who played a crucial role in WC last year is Wisden’s leading cricketer 2020 in the world. He is the 1st English player to win after Andrew Flintoff in 2005. Australian Ellyse Perry named the leading women cricketer.

Before Stokes, Virat Kohli won the award three straight times.

Wisden Five Cricketers of the Year: Pat Cummins, Ellyse Perry, Jofra Archer, Simon Harmer, Marnus Labuschagne.

Wisden Leading Cricketer in the World: Ben Stokes.


Wisden-MCC Photograph of the Year: Ben Stokes at Headingley.

Wisden Book of the Year: Cricket 2.0: Inside the T20 Revolution.

Tata Power bags Edison Award for social innovation:

Tata Power has been conferred with the Edison Award under social innovation category and social energy solutions sub-category. The Edison Awards, named after Thomas Alva Edison, recognises and honours the world’s best innovations and innovators.

It was awarded for 'Club Enerji #SwitchOff2SwitchOn' campaign.

Four Indian – Americans awarded 2020 Guggenheim fellowships:

4 Indian Americans have been awarded the prestigious US fellowship for their accomplishments & exceptional promise. Pradeep Sharma, Kavita Ramanan, Dilip Da Cunha & Mukul Sharma were awarded the 2020 Guggenheim fellowships. The size of the grant varies.

Approximately 175 such fellowships are awarded every year.

International Prize for Arabic Fiction 2020: Abdelouahab Aissaoui of Algeria:

The International Prize for Arabic Fiction (IPAF) has its 1st winner from Algeria for his Novel ‘The Spartan Court’. IPAF is one of the most generous literary awards sponsored by Dept of Culture & Tourism (Abu Dhabi) & the Booker Prize Foundation.

Aissaoui receives $50000 prize; English translation of his book.
BOOKS AND AUTHORS:

Chander Suta Dogra launched a book- “Missing in Action: The Prisoners Who Never Came Back”:
Senior Journalist Chander Suta Dogra launched her 2nd book- “Missing in Action: The Prisoners Who Never Came Back” relies on de-classified records of the Ministry of External Affairs & other sources. It is published by Harpercollins.

Savita Chhabra, Chairperson, HRIPL authors her debut book ‘Legacy Of Learning’:
Chairperson of HRIPL has launched her debut book titled ‘Legacy of Learning’; which offers simplistic and relatable interpretations of the Bhagavad Gita in an attempt to connect the youth of India to the age-old, but relevant scriptures.
The book introduces readers to the importance of performing good karma and nudges them to be conscious about the purpose of their lives in every decision they make.

John Maxwell Coetzee authored a book titled “The Death of Jesus”:
Nobel Laureate John Maxwell Coetzee, who authored the book “The Death of Jesus”, completed his Jesus trilogy (a group of 3 related novels) with the final book. The book explores the meaning of a world empty of memory but brimming with questions.

Shokoofeh Azar authored a book titled- The Enlightenment of The Greengage Tree
Shokoofeh Azar’s The Enlightenment of The Greengage Tree was originally published in 2017 by ReadHowYouWant.com, Limited & has been reprinted by Europa Editions in January 2020.
The book has been named(among 13) in the longlist of Booker Prizes (annual) 2020 for a £50,000 (USD 98,000) prize, which is shared between the author & translator of the winning book.

Padma Vibhushan Montek Singh Ahluwalia authored a book titled- ‘Backstage: The Story Behind India’s High Growth Years’:
Economist, civil servant & Deputy Chairman of the Indian Planning Commission, with the rank of Cabinet Minister, from July 2004 to May 2014 & Padma Vibhushan awardee(2011) Montek Singh Ahluwalia authored a book titled ‘Backstage: The Story Behind India’s High Growth Years’ which captures the essence of policymaking between 1985 and 2014.
Satyarth Nayak authored a book- ‘Sridevi: The Eternal Screen Goddess’: Author & screenwriter Satyarth Nayak authored his 1st non-fiction book titled as ‘Sridevi: The Eternal Screen Goddess’ which is about the late actress Sridevi. It is published by Penguin eBury Press.

Two new books providing better understanding of COVID-19 will release in May 2020:

To provide better understanding and prevention of novel coronavirus (COVID-19), two new books are all set to release in May 2020. The books are:

- “Deadliest Enemy: Our War Against Killer Germs” by epidemiologist Michael Osterholm and author Mark Olshaker.

Both books will be published by Hatchette, United States.

American reporter Mary Jordan authors a book- ‘The Art of Her Deal: The Untold Story of Melania Trump’:


Actor Jim Carrey & writer Dana Vachon authored a novel “Memoirs and Misinformation”:

Canadian American comedian & actor Jim Carrey and writer Dana Vachon authored a novel “Memoirs and Misinformation” a fearless and semi-autobiographical novel about the reconstruction of personality. It is published by Alfred A Knopf, publishing house & will be published on May 2020.

The Book titled ‘The Wizenard Series: Season One’- created by Kobe Bryant & authored by Wesley King:

The book ‘The Wizenard Series: Season One’ is created by American Basket baller Kobe Bryant & authored by Wesley King. The Book titled ‘The Wizenard Series: Season One’ tops the New York Times’ middle-grade hardcover list, which is to be released on April 19, 2020. It is published by Kobe Bryant’s Granity Studios.

HarperCollins publishes a book titled “Shuttling to the Top: The Story of P V Sindhu” authored by Krishnaswamy V:

A book titled “Shuttling to the Top: The Story of P V Sindhu” authored by Krishnaswamy V was published by HarperCollins in Amazon digital platform.
along with other two books, amid the lockdown due to Coronavirus.

The other two books published by Harpercollins include “Shameless” by Taslima Nasreen. The book was translated from Bengali written by Arunava Sinha. The third book is “The Big Questions of Life” authored by Om Swami which marks the way to enlightenment through mindful thinking.


“How the Onion Got Its Layers” marks the first ever audio book by Murty and will be released on World Book Day, i.e., April 23, 2020. This is the second book of the Chapter series by Murty, the first being “How the Sea Became Salty”.

Adam Higginbotham’s Midnight in Chernobyl wins William E. Colby Award 2020: Adam Higginbotham won the William E. Colby Award 2020 for his book “Midnight in Chernobyl: The Untold Story of the World’s Greatest Nuclear Disaster” & won USD 5,000 prize. The award was established in 1999 by William E. Colby Military Writers’ Symposium at Norwich University in Vermont to recognize the 1st work of fiction or nonfiction.

OBITUARY NEWS:

Veteran Tamil actor, writer and director Visu passed away:
Tamil actor, writer & director Meenakshi sundaram Ramasamy Viswanathan, popularly known as Visu, passed away. The actor had reportedly been suffering from age-related health issues. His first on-screen major role was in the film Kudumbam Oru Kadambam. Visu passed away at the age of 75.

Former Real Madrid president Lorenzo Sanz dies of coronavirus:
Lorenzo Sanz died aged 76 after contracting the novel coronavirus Sanz presided over the club between 1995 and 2000, in which they won two Champions League titles and one La Liga crown among other trophies.

Former footballer Abdul Latif passed away at the age of 73:
Former India midfielder Abdul Latif, who was also a key member of bronze medal winning
team at the 1970 Bangkok Asian Games died in Guwahati.


Asterix and Obelix co-creator Albert Uderzo dies aged 92:
Albert Uderzo, co-creator and illustrator of the ‘Asterix’ comic book series, has died at the age of 92. The hugely popular comic follows the adventures of Gaulish warriors.

Veteran Bollywood actress Nimmi passed away at 87:
Nawab Banoo, famous Bollywood actress passed away at the age of 87 in Mumbai, Maharashtra. She was also known as Nimmi, who was popular in the early 1950s & 1960s of Hindi films.
She was born on February 18, 1933 in Agra, Uttar Pradesh .

Renowned chef Floyd Cardoz passes away
Renowned chef Floyd Cardoz, who ran the successful ‘Bombay Canteen’, ‘O Pedro’ and ‘Bombay Sweet Shop’ in Mumbai and was the magician behind New York’s ‘Tabla’, passed away.

Photographer & Padma Shri awardee Nemai Ghosh passed away at 86:
Veteran photographer & Padma Shri (2010) awardee Nemai Ghosh passed away at 86 due to his age-related ailments. He hails from Kolkata.

Rajyogini Dadi Janki passed away:
Rajyogini Dadi Janki, Chief of Brahmakumaris Sansthan, the world’s largest spiritual organisation run by women, passed away at the age of 104 due to illness. In 1970s, she moved to western countries to establish Indian philosophy, Raj Yoga & human values.

Renowned artist Satish Gujral passes away in Delhi:
Artist and architect Satish Gujral, renowned for his versatility across different mediums, has passed away at the age of 94 in New Delhi. Gujral, who was awarded the Padma Vibhushan, was an architect, painter, muralist, sculptor and graphic artist.

Air Vice Marshal Chandan Singh Rathore passed away:
Maha vir Chakra recipient Air Vice Marshall Chandan Singh Rathore died at his Jodhpur residence. His services during the 1962 war and 1971 war were impeccable.

Former Union Minister Beni Prasad Verma passed away at 79:
Beni Prasad Verma, a founding member of the Samajwadi Party & former Union Minister passed away at the age of 79 in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
America’s civil rights leader Joseph Lowery passed away at 98
Joseph Lowery, a leader in America’s civil rights movement, died at the age of 98. Often called the dean of the civil rights movement, he worked hand in hand in the movement’s formative years with the Revs.

German Minister Thomas Schaefer passed away at 54:
Thomas Schaefer, Finance Minister of Hesse (Germany), 54 years old, has committed suicide apparently after becoming “deeply worried” over how to cope with the economic fallout from the Coronavirus.

Tamil folk singer, actress Paravai Muniyamma passed away at 83:
Tamil Folk singer and actress Paravai Muniyamma passed away at the age of 83 Madurai, Tamil Nadu (TN). She was born on June 26, 1937 in Paravai, Madurai, Tamil Nadu (TN).

Manolis Glezos, Greek who tore swastika from Acropolis, dies aged 97:
Manolis Glezos, a prominent Greek was most famous for scaling the steep walls of the Acropolis with a friend in 41 to take down the Swastika and replace it with the Greek’s.

Legendary historian Arjun Dev passes away at 81:
Professor Arjun Dev, the legendary historian and educationist passed away at the age of 81 in Noida, Uttar Pradesh (UP). He was born on November 12, 1938 in Leah, West Punjab (now in Pakistan).

Pape Diouf passed away due to complications from coronavirus:
French football club Olympique de Marseille's former President Pape Diouf passed away at the age of 68. He died due to complications from COVID-19 on 31 March.

Nobel laureate Phillip Anderson passed away at 96:
Philip Warren Anderson, a Nobel Prize-winning physicist who expanded the world’s understanding of magnetism, superconductivity and the structure of matter, passed away at the age of 96 in Princeton, New Jersey, US (United States).

‘The Witches’ actor Vincent Marzello Passes away:
Actor Vincent Marzello, best known for playing the father of the young protagonist in the 1990 adaptation of Roald Dahl’s book “The Witches” has passed away.

Princess Maria Teresa of Spain passes away:
Spanish Princess Maria Teresa of Bourbon-Parma has become the first royal to pass away due to coronavirus complications. She was known for her outspoken views and activist work, which led to her nickname the “Red Princess”.

Star Wars’ actor and ‘Batman Begins’ dialect coach Andrew Jack dies at 76:
Actor Andrew Jack, best known for playing Major Ematt in “Stars Wars” films, has died of coronavirus complications at the age of 76. Jack passed away at a hospital in Chertsey, England.

As a dialect coach in Hollywood, Jack worked on high-profile projects such as "Men in Black: International", "The Lord of the Rings" trilogy, "Thor: Ragnarok" and two of the Avengers movies.

‘DLS method’ cricket fame Tony Lewis passed away at 78:
Tony Lewis, one of the men behind the Duckworth- Lewis- Stern (DLS) method, the mathematical formula used in weather-affected limited-overs cricket matches, passed away at the age of 78.

Padma Shri awardee and Former ‘Hazoori Raagi’ Bhai Nirmal Singh passed away at 62:
Bhai Nirmal Singh Khalsa, Padma Shri awardee and former “Hazoori Raagi” at the Golden Temple, passed away at the age of 62 in Amritsar, Punjab. He was born on April 12, 1952 in Ferozepur, Punjab.

Emmy-winning singer Adam Schlesinger passes away due to COVID-19:
Emmy-winning singer Adam Schlesinger passed away at 52 following complications related to the virus COVID-19. He has received a total of ten Emmy nominations throughout his career for writing satirical songs and has won three of them.

American singer & 3 time Grammy awardee Bill Withers passed away at 81:
American songwriter, soulful singer, guitarist & 3 time Grammy award winner Bill Withers passed at 81, due to heart complications in Los Angeles. He was born on July 4, 1938, in the coal-mining town of Slab Fork, West Virginia, United States.

Former Libya Prime Minister Mahmoud Jibril dies from coronavirus:
Mahmoud Jibril, the former head of the Libyan rebel government that overthrew longtime ruler Muammar Gaddafi in 2011, has died from the coronavirus. He was an economic advisor to the Gaddafi government in its final years, before joining the revolution.
Libya: Prime Minister: Fayez al-Sarraj.
Currency: Libyan Dinar
Capital: Tripoli
Malayalam Music composer M.K. Arjunan passed away at 84:
Famous Malayalam Music Composer M.K. Arjunan (fondly called as Arjunan Master) passed away at the age of 84 in Kochi, Kerala. He was born on March 1, 1936 in Fort Kochi, Kerala.
Former New Zealand Wicketkeeper Jock Edwards passes away:
Former New Zealand wicket-keeper batsman Jock Edwards passed away at the age of 64. Edwards also played six ODIs, between 1976 and 1981.
Former England all-rounder Peter Walker passes away:
Former England and Glamorgan County Cricket Club all-rounder Peter Walker has passed away at the age of 84.
Kannada actor Bullet Prakash passes away:
Popular Kannada comedy actor Bullet Prakash, who was known for his performances in films like Aithalakkadi and Aryan passed away. Prakash was fondly known as Bullet, as he was often seen riding a Royal Enfield Bullet.
American actor Forrest Compton passes away due to COVID-19:
Veteran American actor Forrest Compton, who was popular for playing the role of district attorney Mike Karr in the long-running soap opera “The Edge of Night”, passed away due to COVID-19 complications.
1960s Bond Girl Honor Blackman Passed away at 94:
Honor Blackman, one of the most memorable co-stars of the early James Bond films, has passed away. The actress shot to fame in her late 30s after playing Bond girl in Goldfinger.
Former Real Madrid, Atletico and Barcelona coach Radomir Antic passed away at 71:
Radomir Antic, Serbian football manager and player, the only man to have coached Barcelona, Real Madrid and Atlético Madrid, passed away at the age of 71 in Madrid, Spain. He was born on November 22, 1948 in Zitiste, Serbia.
John Prine, US folk and country songwriter, dies:
John Prine, the US folk and country singer has died due to complications from COVID-19. Prine won two Grammy Awards from 11 nominations and was also given a lifetime achievement award at the 2020 ceremony.
In 2016 he recorded a duets album “For Better, or Worse”.

Italian Olympic 800m finalist Donato Sabia dies of coronavirus aged 56:
The Italian former middle-distance runner Donato Sabia has died from COVID-19 at the age of 56, the Italian Olympic Committee (Coni) has announced. Sabia reached the 800m Olympic final twice.

He is the 1st Olympic finalist in the world to die from virus.

Indian-American veteran journalist Brahm Kanchibotla passed away at 66:
Indian-American veteran journalist Brahm Kanchibotla passed away at 66 due to coronavirus in a hospital on Long Island in New York, United States (US).

Padma Shri Classical Singer Shanti Hiranand passes away at 87:
Shanti Hiranand Chawla, a well-known classical music singer and Padma Shri recipient passed away. She was very well-known within the area of classical music. Apart from music, Shanti Hiranand additionally earned quite a lot of identify in Ghazal.

Veteran Congman RK Dwivedi passes away:
Freedom fighter and veteran Congress leader Ram Krishna Dwivedi passed away. The 88-year-old leader served as minister of state for home in the Congress government in Uttar Pradesh.

Former Gujarat cricketer Walter D’Souza passes away:
Former Gujarat cricketer, Walter D’Souza passed away at the age of 93. He was one of India’s oldest living first-class cricketers, who featured in 16 fixtures for state. D’Souza’s first-class career lasted for nearly 2 decades from 1947-1948 to 1965-1966.

Former South Africa Test Cricketer Jackie du Preez passes away:
Former South Africa spinner and Zimbabwe selector, John Harcourt du Preez, fondly known as Jackie, has died at the age of 77. He was one of the many Zimbabweans to play for South Africa in his country’s pre-independence days. Later years he served as national selector of Zimbabwe Cricket.

Veteran Congress leader MV Rajasekharan dies at 91:
Congress leader and former Union Minister MV Rajasekharan passed away. He was also an agriculturalist and a rural development consultant. He represented Kanakapura constituency in Lok Sabha. He hails from Ramnagara, Karnataka.

Former Chelsea goalkeeper Peter Bonetti dies aged 78:
Bonetti began his professional football career with Chelsea, making a total of 491 appearances for them between 1960 and 1975 and keeping over 200 clean sheets for the club overall.

Japanese filmmaker Obayashi, who portrayed war’s horrors, passed away at 82:
Nobuhiko Obayashi, was a Japanese director, screenwriter, editor films and television advertisements passed away at the age of 82 in Tokyo, Japan. He was born on January 9, 1938, in Onomichi, Japan.

Formula One great Stirling Moss Passed away:
Stirling Moss who ranked as an all-time Formula One great despite never winning the world championship passed away. 4 times a championship runner-up, & also third overall on 3 occasions, no other driver won as many races without taking the title. Moss was the first Briton to win his home Grand Prix.

Padma bhushan awardee and Former Attorney General of India Ashok Desai passes away:
Former Attorney General of India and Senior Advocate Ashok Desai passed away. He was one of the leading lawyers and served as Solicitor General. He was awarded Padma Bhushan and Law Luminary Awards.

He dealt landmark cases like decriminalisation of homosexuality.

Former Pro Golfer Doug Sanders dies aged 86:
Doug Sanders Known as the "Peacock of the Fairways,". Sanders was one of the most colourful personalities on the PGA Tour, capturing 20 titles including the 1956 Canadian Open. Sanders also played in 218 events on the senior Champions Tour.

M V Rajasekharan former Union Minister and Veteran Congress Leader passed away at 91:
Former Union Minister of State of planning and statistics, veteran Congress leader and agriculture and rural development consultant M V Rajasekharan passed away at 91 in a hospital at Bangalore. He was born on 12th September 1928 in Maralawadi in Ramanagara District, Karnataka.

Former Pakistani Cricketer Zafar Sarfaraz passes away at 50:
Former Pakistani first-class cricketer Zafar Sarfaraz became the first professional player in the country to die after contracting COVID-19. Sarfaraz was a middle-order batsman played 15 First-class games and retired in 1994.

Pakistan President: Arif Alvi.
Willie Davis, Pro Football Hall of Famer, dies:
NFL Hall of Famer, Willie Davis, passed away. He was the first black captain for the Packers in 1965 and spent 10 years with the Wisconsin team. Davis never missed a single game of 138 with the packers. Davis was inducted in the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1981.

Veteran Actor Ranjit Choudhry dies in the US:
Veteran Actor, Ranjeet Choudhry died in the US. He was a part of Hindi Classic movies like Khubsoorat, Khatta Meetha, etc., He was also a part of popular American Drama Prison Break.

Legendary ‘Tom & Jerry’ and ‘Popeye’ animator Gene Deitch has died, aged 95:
Oscar-winning illustrator and legendary Tom & Jerry director Gene Deitch has died aged 95. He went on to work with Rembrandt Films through the 1960s to produce a number of Popeye cartoons, as well as a dozen Tom and Jerry shorts for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

Chilean author Luis Sepúlveda dies of coronavirus in northern Spain at 70:
The best selling Chilean writer and journalist Luis Sepúlveda Calfucura, 70 years, passed away at a hospital in Oviedo, northern Spain six weeks after testing positive for coronavirus. He was born on 4th October 1949 in Ovalle, Limari Province, Chile.

Abba Kyari Chief of staff to Nigeria’s president Buhari Passes away:
Abba Kyari, the trusted chief of staff to Nigeria’s president Muhammadu Buhari has passed away from complications related to Covid-19.

Kyari had widely been seen as one of the three most powerful people in Africa’s largest economy.

Renowned Litterateur Ratnakar Chaini Passed Away:
An Odia writer & academician Ratnakar Chaini passed away. He was born at Salepur in Cuttack in 1945. He was an Odia lecturer at Ravenshaw, former president of Sanskar Bharti and Utkal Sahitya Samaj & was felicitated with Sahitya Bharati Samman for the year 2016.

BMW India CEO Rudratej Singh passes away:
Rudratej Singh, the President and CEO of BMW (Bayerische Motoren Werke AG) Group India, passed away. He was 46. His demise comes at a crucial junction when BMW Group India was in midst of implementing strategic measures for strengthening the dealer network across India.
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Former Fiji Prime Minister Laisenia Qarase passed away at 79:
The founder of the Soqosoqo Duavata Ni Lewenivanua Party & former Fiji Prime Minister (2000-2006) Laisenia Qarase passed away at 79 in Oceania Hospital, Suva due to an illness. He hails from Mavana, Vanuabalavu, Lau.

Usha Ganguly, theatre legend and founder of Rangakarmee, passes away:
Thespian Usha Ganguly founder of the famous Hindi theatre group, Rangakarmee , passed away. She was awarded the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for direction in 1998. West Bengal government had conferred her with the Girish Samman honour in 2016.

**SPORTS NEWS:**

Canada becomes first country to withdraw from 2020 Tokyo Olympic:
The 2020 Olympic & Paralympic Games in Tokyo have been thrown into further doubt after Canada became the first major country to withdraw due to the outbreak of COVID-19. Japan's PM Shinzo Abe has admitted for the 1st time that the games could be postponed. The games are currently due to begin on 24th July 2020.

Sunil Chhetri, Indian Football team Captain named for FIFA’s COVID-19 Campaign:
World Governing body FIFA (Federation Internationale de Football Association or International Federation of Association Football) has selected Indian Football Captain Sunil Chhetri among 28 other stars for its campaign.
The campaign is called “Pass the message to kick out Corona Virus”. The campaign is to spread five key steps that are in line with WHO guidance

Indian shot putter Navin Chikara banned for four years for flunking dope test:
Navin Chikara, 23, has been banned for using a prohibited substance and his suspension period is effective from July 27, 2018, the Athletics Integrity Unit of the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF).
Chikara won the silver medal in the 2018 Federation Cup. At the same year, he was runner up in the Inter State Championship.

Tokyo Olympics rescheduled to July 23-August 8 in 2021:
The organisers of IOC (International Olympic Committee) announced the 32nd edition of rescheduled dates of Tokyo Olympics that will be held in Tokyo, Japan
from July 23 to August 8, 2021, almost exactly a year after the games were to commence in 2020.

**IWF President Ajan resigns during corruption investigation:**
Tamas Ajan has resigned as President of the International Weightlifting Federation during an ongoing corruption investigation. Ajan, from Hungary, has been serving as the President for 20 years.

**Ursula Papandrea**, first woman to lead IWF, is **Acting President**.

**The Paralympics dates were also confirmed from August 24 to September 5, 2021.**
The Tokyo Olympics were postponed due to Coronavirus (COVID -19).
The motto of Tokyo Olympics is “United by Emotion”.

**International Olympics Committee (IOC):**
Headquarters– Lausanne, Switzerland. President– Thomas Bach.

**World Athletics Championships rescheduled to 2022 due to Tokyo Olympics**
The 2021 World Athletics Championships in Eugene, Oregon has been shifted to 2022. The move is to accommodate the re-arranged Tokyo Olympics which was postponed due to the Coronavirus pandemic.
The move was made by the World Athletics to support the Japanese organizers and the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

**Wimbledon Tennis tournament cancelled for the first time since World War-II:**
Wimbledon, the oldest Grand Slam tennis tournament, has been cancelled for the first time since World War-II, confirmed the Tournament Organiser, All England Club.
The tournament was due to be played between 29 June & 12 July.

2019 Wimbledon Winner – **Novak Djokovic**

**China to host the 3rd edition of the Asian Youth Games:**
China is to host the third edition of the Asian Youth Games (AYG) in Shantou in November 2021. The announcement was made by the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) on 1 April 2020.
The third edition was supposed to be held in 2017. But was postponed to 2021 by Olympic Council of Asia.

**Official mascots of 19th Asian Games unveiled in Hangzhou, China:**
The Mascots - Congcong, Lianlian and Chenchen which reflect the internet prowess of Hangzhou city and Zhejiang province, were unveiled. The Olympic Council of Asia's
19th Asian Games will be held in Hangzhou from September 10 to 25, **2022**.

The three robot mascots – collectively called Smart triplets.

**FIFA Under-17 Women's World Cup, scheduled in November postponed:**
The FIFA Under-17 Women's World Cup, which was scheduled to be played in **India** between November 2nd and 21st, has been postponed. FIFA Confederations also postponed **Under-20 Women’s World Cup** to be held in **Panama** and **Costa Rica**.

**U-17 Women's Cup was scheduled to be played across 5 cities.**

**Australia’s Stephen O'Keefe retires from 1st class cricket:**
Former Australia Test spinner **Stephen O'Keefe** has retired from first-class cricket. The 35-year-old left-arm, who took 35 wickets in nine tests including 12 in a match against India.

**Thailand, Malaysia banned from weightlifting at Tokyo Olympics:**
Independent Member Federation Sanctions Panel (IMFSP) of IWF imposed disciplinary sanctions on **Thailand and Malaysia** and banned both the countries to from participating in **weightlifting** events at the Tokyo Olympics.

**International Weightlifting Federation (IWF):**
Headquarters: **Budapest, Hungary**.

**East Bengal contracts Indian-origin Iranian footballer Omid Singh:**
East Bengal F.C (Football Club ), a professional football Club based in Kolkata, West Bengal (WB), has signed Iran’s Indian-origin footballer **Omid Singh (29)** for a 2-year deal.

**China’s High Jumper Zhang Guowei retires at 28:**
China’s world silver-medallist high jumper **Zhang Guowei**, 28 years old, renowned for his flamboyant twerking celebrations, announced his retirement in **high jumping**.

**Indian football team static at 108th position in FIFA’s ranking 2020:**
According to the FIFA (Federation Internationale de Football Association)/Coca-Cola World Ranking 2020, released on April 09, 2020, **Indian football team** retained its **108th** position with 1187 points.

While **Belgium** ranked **first** and world champion **France** is in **2nd** place and **Brazil** is at **3rd** spot.

**World Athletics suspends Olympic qualification period until December,2020:**
World Athletics suspended the qualification period for the Tokyo Olympics until December 2020 in wake of the fast-spreading COVID-19 pandemic following consultation with its Athletes’ Commission, Area Presidents and Council.

World Athletics: HQs: Monaco; Membership: 214 member federations.

India to host Asian Boxing Championships 2020:
According to the Boxing Federation of India’s (BFI) Executive Director R K Sacheti, India will host the Women’s and Men’s Asian Boxing Championships 2020 in November-December.

As he expressed confidence that by then the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic would have been completely under control. However, the host city will be decided by BFI after things return to normal.

World’s most famous cycle race tour de France postponed:
World-famous cycling race Tour de France has been postponed in the wake of the pandemic. The 3-week race was to set to start in June but has been postponed to August. The last time the tour was not held was 1946, as the nation was emerging from WWII.

Mascot for Hangzhou 2022 Asian Para Games unveiled:
The Mascot for the 4th Asian Para Games starting in October was unveiled. The design of ‘FeiFei’ is inspired by the motif of the Divine Bird in the Liangzhu culture. It is also viewed as a messenger of joy and cultural distinction.

Three robots - Congcong, Lianlian and Chenchen - were unveiled as the official mascots of the 2022 Asian Games.

India’s No.1 player Table tennis player Sharath Kamal at 31st spot: ITTF world rankings 2020:
India table tennis star Achanta Sharath Kamal has become the top-ranked player at 31st position with 6460 points by beating Sathiyan Gnanasekaran (who slipped one place to number 32). The list has been topped by Fan Zhendong of China with 17915 points.

In the senior women’s rankings, Manika Batra is 63rd position with 4575 points while Sutirtha Mukherjee entered the top-100 for the first time & is ranked 95. Chen Meng of China tops the women’s list with 17915 points.

SAI, AIFF join hands to launch online coaching programme during lockdown:
All India Football Federation (AIFF) in collaboration with the Sports Authority of India (SAI) has arranged for an Online Coach Education Programme.

The 13-day Refresher Course which concludes on May 2, 2020 will be open to all SAI and AIFF Licensed Coaches with around 400-500 coaches being expected to join online.

The 13-day course will see the participants attend sessions on an array of topics, ranging from prevention of injury, to video analysis, to principles of coaching age-group teams, and much more.

World Rugby announces USD 100 million relief fund amid coronavirus crisis:
World Rugby will make almost $100 million available to help nations through the Covid-19 pandemic which it calls an unprecedented threat to the global game.

Most major unions have already been forced to cut players’ salaries and slash administrative costs as the virus outbreak has forced professional competitions around the world to close.

Magnus Carlsen Defeated by 16-year-old Alireza Firouzja in Banter Blitz Cup final:
Magnus Carlsen’s was defeated 8.5-7.5 in the final of the $14,000 Banter Blitz Cup by the tactical skills of 16-year-old Alireza Firouzja. Iran-born Firouzja is the 2nd youngest player to reach the 2700 Federation Internationale des Echecs (FIDE) rating.

FIDE (Federation Internationale des Echecs):
Headquarters- Lausanne, Switzerland.

Indian Premier League (IPL) 2020 Suspended Indefinitely:
BCCI has suspended the Indian Premier League 2020 indefinitely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Earlier, the IPL 2020, was suspended until April 15 after the country went on a 21-day lockdown in a bid to limit the spread of the novel coronavirus outbreak.

World Games Birmingham unveils new logo, title for 2022 edition:
11th edition of World Games which is set to be held in Birmingham, Alabama, US (United States) unveiled an updated logo and title after being delayed a year due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

The World Games 2021 Birmingham has been renamed to “World Games 2022 Birmingham”. The World Games was initially scheduled for July 2021, but it will now be held from July 7 to 17, 2022.

Mairabai Chanu and Jeremy Lalrinnunga qualifies for Tokyo Olympics confirmed by IWF:
International Weightlifting Federation confirms that Mirabai Chanu and Jeremy Larinnuga have been qualified for the Tokyo Olympics 2020 which has been postponed to the summer of next year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Charles Leclerc has won the Chinese Virtual Grand Prix at the Shanghai International Circuit. He defeated Red Bull’s Alex Albon.

Due to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic, the actual F1 races are not being held. In its place, Formula 1 has announced new F1 Esports Virtual Grand Prix series. The virtual races will run in place of every postponed Grand Prix.

**IMPORTANT DAYS:**

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<tr>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>Odisha Day is also known as “Utkal Divas”</td>
<td>NIL</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 2</td>
<td>World Autism Awareness Day</td>
<td>“The Transition to Adulthood”</td>
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<td>International Children’s Book Day</td>
<td>“A Hunger for Words.”</td>
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<td>April 4</td>
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<td>April 5</td>
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<td>April 5</td>
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<td>April 6</td>
<td>International Day of Sport for Development and Peace</td>
<td>let’s BeActive</td>
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<td>April 9</td>
<td>“CRPF Valour Day” or “CRPF Shaurya Diwas”</td>
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<td>April 10</td>
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<td>April 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>April (10 to 16)</td>
<td>World Homeopathy Week</td>
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<td>April 11</td>
<td>National Safe Motherhood Day</td>
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<td>April 11</td>
<td>National Pet Day</td>
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<td>April 12</td>
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<td>April 12</td>
<td>Easter festival</td>
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<td>World Chagas Disease Day</td>
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<td>Tamil New Year</td>
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<td>April 14</td>
<td>Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar on his 129th Birth Anniversary</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 14</td>
<td>World Chagas Disease Day</td>
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<td>World Creativity and Innovation</td>
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<td>April 23</td>
<td>World Book and Copyright Day</td>
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<td>April 23</td>
<td>International Girls in Information &amp; Communication Technologies</td>
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<td>April 23</td>
<td>English Language Day</td>
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<td>April 24</td>
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<td>NIL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
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<td>April 24</td>
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<td>April 24</td>
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<td>World Intellectual Property Day</td>
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<td>World Veterinary Day</td>
<td>“Environmental protection for improving animal and human health”</td>
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<td>World Day for Safety and Health at Work</td>
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<td>April 29</td>
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<td>April 29</td>
<td>Day of Remembrance for all Victims of Chemical Warfare</td>
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<td>International Jazz Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 30</td>
<td>Ayushman Bharat Diwas</td>
<td>NIL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ:**

Q.1) The _____ district of Tamil Nadu headquartered at Mayiladuthurai is formed after bifurcating the Nagappattinam district.
   a) 34th  
   b) 38th  
   c) 37th  
   d) 36th  
   e) 35th

Q.2) Which ministry issued a circular granting one-time dispensation for utilizing funds under the MPLADS to address the challenges in the fight against Coronavirus?
   a) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
   b) Ministry of Commerce and Industry  
   c) Ministry of Labour and Employment  
   d) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

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Official Website: [www.raceinstitute.in](http://www.raceinstitute.in)  
Official Blog: [www.bankersdaily.in](http://www.bankersdaily.in)
e) Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

Q.3) How much is the current interest on delayed payment of income tax levied from citizens?
   a) 10%
   b) 14%
   c) 9%
   d) 20%
   e) 5%

Q.4) First Made in India Test Kit to diagnose COVID-19 got the commercial approval from the CDSCO. What does “S” represent in “CDSCO”? 
   a) Standard
   b) Safe
   c) State
   d) Severe
   e) Service

Q.5) Which state has announced Rs 2,934 Crores amount of NABARD assistance, to create modern infrastructure in the upcoming industrial parks of SIPCOT across six locations in the State?
   a) Tamil Nadu
   b) Kerala
   c) Karnataka
   d) Maharashtra
   e) Kolkata

Q.6) Which company has entered into an agreement to acquire privately held, US digital marketing consultancy Lev?
   a) Accenture
   b) Capgemini
   c) Infosys
   d) Cognizant
   e) Tech Mahindra

Q.7) Invest India has announced a partnership with which financial institution for responding and resolving queries for MSMEs?
   a) SIDBI
   b) RBI
   c) EXIM Bank
   d) SEBI
   e) NABARD

Q.8) Central banks follow the principle of ‘SLR’ for their investment decisions. What does “S” represent in “SLR”? 
   a) Statutory
   b) Safety
   c) Solidarity
   d) Smart
   e) Service

Q.9) Which manufacturing company has signed an agreement with Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Ltd to acquire its intimate hygiene brand VWash?
   a) Colgate Palmolive India
   b) Godrej Consumer Products Limited
c) Hindustan Unilever Limited  
d) Johnson and Johnson  
e) ITC Limited  

Q.10) Adani Transmission Ltd has bought back NCDs worth Rs 125 Crores. What does “C” represent in “NCD”?  
a) Cash  
b) Cumulative  
c) Created  
d) Credit  
e) Convertible  

Q.11) What is the revised threshold for default under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC)?  
a) Rs 1 Crore  
b) Rs 50,000  
c) Rs 1 Lakh  
d) Rs 10 Lakhs  
e) Rs 75,000  

Q.12) Which company in collaboration with the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation has set up India's first COVID-19 dedicated hospital in Mumbai?  
a) Larsen & Toubro Limited  
b) Ranbaxy Laboratories Limited  
c) Tata Consultancy Services  
d) Reliance Industries Limited  
e) Aditya Birla Group  

Q.13) US regulators have lifted import restrictions on which pharmaceutical company in an effort to increase supplies of the malaria drug as a potential coronavirus treatment?  
a) Ipca  
b) Cipla  
c) Lupin  
d) Glenmark  
e) Biocon  

Q.14) Fitch Solutions revised down its forecast for the Indian rupee, saying the currency will average _____ per US dollar in 2020.  
a) 80  
b) 77  
c) 65  
d) 98  
e) 69  

Q.15) Who was honoured with IIFTC Tourism Impact Award 2020 held in Mumbai, Maharashtra?  
a) Mohammad Hussain  
b) Zoya Akhter  
c) Rajaram  
d) Gauruv Kumar  
e) Keshav Singh  

Q.16) Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has constructed a bridge on the _______ river connecting Kasowal enclave in Punjab to the rest of the country.  
a) Beas  

Official Website: www.raceinstitute.in  
Official Blog: www.bankersdaily.in
b) Sutlej  Q.20) Where is the National Innovation Foundation located?
c) Ravi

d) Jhelum  a) Maharashtra
e) Lidder  b) Punjab

Q.17) Which state government launched A throughput helpline and app to fight against coronavirus?  c) Kerala
a) Uttar Pradesh  d) Tamil Nadu
c) Madhya Pradesh  e) Kerala

Q.18) The Technology Department Board (TDB) under Department of Science and Technology (DST) has approved fund for which company for production of COVID-19 diagnostics kit.

a) Biocon Limited
b) Indian Immunologicals Limited
c) Shantha Biotechnics Limited
d) Bharat Biotech
e) MyLab Discovery Solutions

Q.19) Which of the following is World Book Capital for 2020?

a) Seoul, South Korea
b) Beijing, China
c) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

d) Manila, Philippines  b) Amazon
e) New Delhi, India  c) Alibaba
d) Walmart
e) Oracle

Q.24) Abdul Latif, who passed away at the age of 73, was a well-known ___________.
   a) Cricketer
   b) Badminton Player
c) Golfer
d) Hockey Player
e) Footballer

Q.25) How much amount of fund has been recently sanctioned by the Union Cabinet as the central government share for the scheme of Recapitalization of RRBs?
   a) Rs 670 Crores
   b) Rs 496 Crores
c) Rs 810 Crores
d) Rs 728 Crores
e) Rs 500 Crores

Q.26) Which institute has developed an ultrafast laser surface texturing technology, which can improve the fuel efficiency of internal combustion engines?
   a) The Institute of Advanced Study in Science & Technology, Guwahati
   b) Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences, Bangalore
c) Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow
d) International Advanced Centre for Powder Metallurgy & New Materials
e) Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Kolkata

Q.27) The National Health Authority (NHA) has decided to cover Covid-19 treatment of the poor in private hospitals under which of the following schemes?
   a) Swasthya Bima Yojana
   b) Jeevan Jothi Health Insurance Scheme
c) Ayushman Bharat Scheme
d) Sukanya Samrithi Yojana
e) krishi kisan yojana

Q.28) Albert Uderzo, who passed away at the age of 92, was a famous ___________.
   a) Biologist
   b) Fiction Novelist
c) Athlete
d) Pop Singer
e) Cartoon Publisher

Q.29) The Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Limited is developing a first-of-its-kind ‘Form-Based Codes’ for the development of railway land with the support of which of the following foundation?
   a) Shakti Sustainable Energy
   b) Regen Powertech
c) Enercon India
d) Vestas India
e) Orient Green Power
Q.30) Which SFB launches UPI QR-based loan instalment payment facility along with NPCI?
   a) Jana Small Finance Bank
   b) Au Small Finance Bank
   c) Capital Small Finance Bank
   d) ESAF Small Finance Bank
   e) Ujjivan Small Finance Bank

Q.31) Justice Mohammad Rafiq has been named as chief justice of __________High Court.
   a) Meghalaya
   b) Assam
   c) Odisha
   d) Allahabad
   e) Bombay

Q.32) Who is the Author of the Book titled “Missing in Action: The Prisoners Who Never Came Back”?
   a) Arundhati Roy
   b) Chander Suta Dogra
   c) Ruskin Bond
   d) Jhumpa Lahiri
   e) Shashi Tharoor

Q.33) Name the Indian Football Player who has selected for FIFA’s COVID-19 Campaign?
   a) Udanta Singh
   b) Jeje Lalpekhlua
   c) Sandesh Jhingan
   d) Sunil Chhetri
   e) Bhaichung Bhutia

   a) Himachal Pradesh
   b) Manipur
   c) Tripura
   d) Goa
   e) Nagaland

Q.35) BoB aims to sanction an ad hoc limit of Rs _______ or up to 10% of the borrowers’ fund-based working capital limit for corporates to help them in the crisis caused by the Covid-19.
   a) Rs 150 Crores
   b) Rs 200 Crores
   c) Rs 250 Crores
   d) Rs 350 Crores
   e) Rs 100 Crores

Q.36) What is the latest India’s annual GDP forecast for the FY 2021 by rating agency CRISIL?
   a) 5.1%
   b) 4.9%
   c) 4.4%
   d) 3.5%
   e) 3.8%

Q.37) As the COVID-19 epidemic force, the government resorted to ‘virtual signing’ to conclude strategic sales in 3 companies for a Rs 13,500 crore deal. Which are they?
a) Ennore Port, ONGC, SJVN
d) Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana
b) Tuticorin Port, SAIL, POSOCO
c) Kamarajar Port, THDC India & NEEPCO
K.38) Which company has teamed up with
d) Kolkata Port,
e) Annapurna Scheme
two public sector undertakings to work with
b) Mahindra & Mahindra
an existing manufacturer of high spec
c) Bajaj Auto Limited
ventilators in the wake of the Coronavirus
d) Maruti Suzuki
outbreak in the country?
e) Tata Motors
Q.39) What is the IMF's (Internal Monetary
a) Hero MotoCorp
Fund) maximum rapid-disbursing emergency
b) Mahindra & Mahindra
financing amount given to the members?
c) Bajaj Auto Limited
a) USD 50 Billion
d) Maruti Suzuki
d) USD 20 Billion
e) Tata Motors
Q.40) The government announced a package
d) Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana
of Rs 1.7 lakh Cr for the poor who need
d) SICDI
immediate help in the wake of COVID-19.
e) IRDAI
Which is the scheme involved in this?
a) National Family Benefit Scheme
b) Integrated Rural Development Program
c) Gareeb Kalyan Scheme
a) Author
b) Photographer
c) Cricketer
d) Politician
e) Actor

Q.45) ___________ government, recently started virtual lessons for students through ‘Sampark Didi’ app to impart virtual classes.
a) Uttarakhand
b) Jharkhand
c) Maharashtra
d) Bihar
e) Karnataka

Q.46) Which public medical research university has set up a Task Force to build the management protocol for COVID-19?
a) Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, Aligarh
b) All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi
c) Institute of Medical Sciences Banaras Hindu University
d) Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh
e) Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow

Q.47) An Extraordinary Virtual G20 Leaders’ Summit was arranged to discuss the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Who is the current Chair of G20?
a) Japan
b) Indonesia
c) India
d) Saudi Arabia
e) Sri Lanka

Q.48) ___________ becomes first city in India to use drones to sanitize the city?
a) Lucknow
b) Mumbai
c) Chennai
d) Indore
e) New Delhi

Q.49) Which Indian firm has been selected by Israel to power its first fully digital bank?
a) Infosys
b) Wipro
c) Tech Mahindra
d) TCS
e) Mind Tree

Q.50) Huawei Telecommunications India announced the appointment of __________ as CEO of its operations in the country.
a) Ray Li
b) Jay Chen
c) David Li
d) Chen Ray
e) Mitchal Sam

Q.51) Nawab Banoo who passed away recently was related to which field?
a) Politics
b) Acting
c) Writing
d) Sports
e) Painting

Q.52) Name the person who has won William E. Colby Award 2020 for his book titled “Midnight in Chernobyl: The Untold Story of the World’s Greatest Nuclear Disaster”.

a) Robert Graves
b) Alun Lewis
c) Adam Higginbotham
d) Nicholas Monsarrat
e) Edmund Blunden

Q.53) Which municipal corporation has developed “Saiyam” mobile app to track home quarantined people?

a) Pune
b) Hyderabad
c) Lucknow
d) Chennai
e) Cochin

Q.54) What is India’s rank in terms of production of electricity in the world as per International Energy Agency (IEA) data in 2019?

a) 4
b) 5
c) 3
d) 2
e) 1

Q.55) Which company appointed U.S. Treasury’s former Deputy Secretary, Robert Kimmitt to its board as lead independent director?

a) WeChat
b) Face book
c) Skype
d) Twitter
e) YouTube

Q.56) Which is the new app launched by the central government to track individuals by their smartphone locations & curb the community spread of COVID-19?

a) COVID Contact
b) Corona-Pandemic
c) COVID Tracker
d) CoWin-20
e) Corona Medic

Q.57) Adjaristsqali Georgia LLC, which is a joint venture between ______, Norway’s Clean Energy Invest and International Finance Corporation has started commercial operation of the 178 MW Shuakhevi Hydro Power Project in Georgia.

a) Tata Power Company
b) Reliance Power
c) JSW Energy
d) SJVN Limited
e) Torrent Power

Q.58) Which Municipal corporation developed Covid-19 App for the benefit of the
symptomatic citizens with the support of HLL Lifecare?

a) Ahmedabad
b) Indore
c) Nagpur
d) Kota
e) Patna

Q.59) Which state is to set up the largest COVID-19 hospital in India?

a) Madhya Pradesh
b) Kerala
c) Maharashtra
d) Odisha
e) Tamil Nadu

Q.60) Which government department has set up the COVID-19 Task Force for mapping technologies?

a) Department of New & Emerging Technologies
b) Department of Science and Technology
c) Department of Earth Sciences
d) Department of Health
e) Department of Biotechnology

Q.61) Moody's has slashed India GDP growth in 2020 to _________ percent compared with 5 percent in 2019.

a) 4
b) 4.5
c) 2.8
d) 3
e) 2.5

Q.62) The National Book Trust of MHRD has launched which initiative in the wake of preventive measures to contain the spread of Covid-19?

a) #PreventCoronaWithBooks
b) #StayHomeIndiaWithBooks
c) #HomeWithBooks
d) #StayHomePreventCorona
e) #StayHomeWithBooks

Q.63) Which Indian Actress partners with “Fit India Movement” recently?

a) Anushka Sharma
b) Kareena Kapoor
c) Katrina Kaif
da) Alia Bhatt
e) Shilpa Shetty

Q.64) Floyd Cardoz who passed away recently was a famous ________.

a) Writer
b) Singer
c) Chef
da) Doctor
e) Painter

Q.65) US and which country launches a major military exercise named Native Fury?

a) Nepal
b) France
c) UAE
da) Germany
Q.66) Norway topped “The World Press Freedom Index 2020’ compiled by Paris-based Reporters Sans Frontieres (RSF) among 180 countries, what is the rank of India in the index?

a) 142  
b) 44  
c) 19  
d) 77  
e) 89

Q.67) Which International institution recently launched the ‘Policy Tracker’ to provide all the key economic responses launched by Governments all over the world to fight against Corona Virus?

a) United Nations Environment Programme  
b) International Monetary Fund  
c) World Bank  
d) World Health Organization  
e) World Economic Forum

Q.68) Recently Rajyogini Dadi Janki passed away. She was a/an _____.

a) Actress  
b) Spiritual Leader  
c) Journalist  
d) Political Leader  
e) Boxer

Q.69) Ministry of DoNER & North Eastern Council would provide Rs.25 Cr to North Eastern States for gap funding to fight the COVID-19 outbreak. Who is the Minister of Development of North Eastern Region?

a) Kiren Rijiju  
b) Jitendra Singh  
c) Hardeep Singh Puri  
d) Shripad Yesso Naik  
e) Rao Inderjit Singh

Q.70) National Financial Switch is the largest network of _______ in India.

a) Core Banking Solutions  
b) Mutual Funds  
c) Insurance products  
d) Automated Teller Machines  
e) Electronic Fund Transfer

Q.71) How much amount of financial assistance has been announced by US to 64 countries to fight against the coronavirus pandemic?

a) USD 238 million  
b) USD 310 million  
c) USD 174 million  
d) USD 539 million  
e) USD 456 million

Q.72) Which state Government has created ‘COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund’ to provide personal protection equipment to the health workers and other related officials?

a) Himachal Pradesh  
b) Uttar Pradesh
c) Uttarakhand

d) Punjab

e) Haryana

Q.73) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has conceptualised CoNTeC platform. Which is the implementing agency for the same?

a) Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Maharashtra

b) Regional Medical Research Centre, Dibrugarh

c) All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi

d) Regional Institute of Medical Sciences, Manipur

e) National Institute of Biomedical Genomics, West Bengal

Q.74) In a bid to provide credible information about the COVID-19 pandemic, _____ has released a new app and website for users across the US?

a) Walmart

b) Amazon

c) Google

d) Infosys

e) Apple

Q.75) Access to the National Online Education Platform SWAYAM & other Digital Initiatives has tripled during March 2020. Which ministry launched the SWAYAM platform?

a) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

b) Ministry of Communications

c) Ministry of Human Resource Development

d) Ministry of Science and Technology

e) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Q.76) When is the extended deadline for the transition to Bharat Stage VI from BS-IV emission standards in India?

a) April 31

b) April 1

c) March 30

d) June 23

e) May 1

Q.77) Which is the Self Declaration app launched by Nagaland, for tracking and surveillance of high-risk COVID-19 cases?

a) COVID-Self

b) CoWin-19

c) Corona-Track

d) nCOVID-19

e) Corona-N

Q.78) Which automobile manufacturer has partnered with AgVa Healthcare and Ashok Kapu to scale up ventilator and 3-ply masks production?

a) Maruti Suzuki India

b) Ashok Leyland

c) Hindustan Motors

d) Tata Motors

e) Bajaj Auto
Q.79) The minimum wages under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme are revised _______ a year by the Chief Labour Commissioner.
   a) Five times  
   b) Twice  
   c) Once  
   d) Thrice  
   e) Four times  

Q.80) Insurance Scheme under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package will provide an insurance cover of Rs 50 lakh for _______ days to around 22.12 lakh public healthcare providers who are fighting to contain COVID-19.
   a) 110  
   b) 50  
   c) 90  
   d) 100  
   e) 80  

Q.81) Which institute has built a platform called ‘CORONTINE’ to track people escaping quarantine by sending text messages and emails?
   a) IIT Bombay  
   b) IIT Kolkata  
   c) IIT Madras  
   d) IIT Guwahati  
   e) IIT Roorkee  

Q.82) IAAF suspended Navin Chikara for four years for failing a dope test. With which field she is related?
   a) Boxing  
   b) Archery  
   c) Javelin Throw  
   d) Shot put  
   e) Swimming  

Q.83) Which state government has set up ‘Team-11’ comprising of as many inter-departmental committees to fight the coronavirus spread?
   a) Punjab  
   b) Haryana  
   c) Uttar Pradesh  
   d) Maharashtra  
   e) Chhattisgarh  

Q.84) Beni Prasad Verma, who passed away at the age of 79 was a well-known _________.
   a) Footballer  
   b) Musician  
   c) Biologist  
   d) Actor  
   e) Politician  

Q.85) Which of the following banks have raised $ 100 million in green bonds?
   a) Punjab National Bank  
   b) Reserve Bank of India  
   c) Canara Bank
Q.86) Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath will transfer 611 crore rupees in the accounts of 27.15 lakh MNREGA labourers. What is the daily wage per person in MGNREGA (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act) scheme, after the relief package of the government?
   a) 175  
   b) 220  
   c) 100  
   d) 202  
   e) 182

Q.87) The Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts has cancelled the 49th edition of Delhi Fair Spring-2020 in view of the present status of COVID-19. Who is the Director-General of EPCH?
   a) Raj Kumar Malhotra  
   b) Rakesh Kumar  
   c) R. K. Verma  
   d) Dinesh Kumar  
   e) Ravinder Kumar Passi

Q.88) _____ launched ‘Operation Namaste’ to protect strong forces from Coronavirus.
   a) Indian Air Force  
   b) Indian Army  
   c) Indian Navy  
   d) Indian Costal Guard  
   e) Apple

Q.89) Name the Country which has joined as the 30th member of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) in March 2020?
   a) Papa New Guinea  
   b) Hong Kong  
   c) North Macedonia  
   d) Japan  
   e) Belarus

Q.90) Merger of 10 state-run banks into four will come into force from 2020 April 1. Which of the following bank is not in the list?
   a) United Bank of India  
   b) Oriental Bank of Commerce  
   c) Andhra Bank  
   d) Syndicate Bank  
   e) Indian Overseas Bank

Q.91) Name the tech giant company which has acquired 9.99% stake in Reliance Jio for Rs. 43,574 crores (largest FDI in telecom sector).
   a) Facebook  
   b) Twitter  
   c) Microsoft  
   d) Google  
   e) Apple

Q.92) Who among the following has been appointed as the President of International Motorcycle Manufacturers Association (IMMA)?
   a) Indian Air Force  
   b) Indian Army  
   c) Indian Navy  
   d) Indian Costal Guard  
   e) Apple
Q.93) Which state government has recently decided to provide Rs 1000 each to 2.78 Lakh construction workers?
   a) Assam
   b) Odisha
   c) Uttarakhand
   d) Bihar
   e) Maharashtra

Q.94) Jharkhand Government has launched a mobile app ___________ to issue e-passes.
   a) PRAGYAAM
   b) PRAJWALL
   c) PRATAAP
   d) PRAGATI
   e) PATHANJALI

Q.95) Name the Indian badminton player who has been named as one of the ambassadors of Badminton World Federation’s (BWF) ‘I am badminton’ campaign.
   a) Lakshya Sen
   b) PV Sindhu
   c) Srikanth Kidambi
   d) Sai Praneeth
   e) Saina Nehwal

Q.96) _______ recently announced 100 million US Dollars funding for Indian infrastructure sector.
   a) AIIB
   b) WORLD BANK
   c) IMF
   d) ADB
   e) EBRD

Q.97) ______________, recently introduced the “Companies Fresh Start Scheme, 2020”.
   a) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
   b) Ministry of External Affairs
   c) Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises
   d) Ministry of Corporate Affairs
   e) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

Q.98) Fitch ratings inc. has lowered India’s GDP growth for the FY21 from 5.4% to _______.
   a) 4.6%
   b) 2.5%
   c) 3.5%
   d) 2%
   e) 2.6%

Q.99) Who among the following has won the Hindu Prize 2019?
   a) Santanu Das
   b) Navtej Sarna
   c) Mirza Waheed
   d) Both a) and b)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q.100) Name the person who authored the book titled “The Death of Jesus”.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Peter Handke</td>
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<td>b) Patrick Modiano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Doris Lessing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Elfriede Jelinek</td>
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<tr>
<td>e) John Maxwell Coetzee</td>
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<tr>
<th>Q.101) Paravai Muniyamma who died in March 2020 is __________.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Politician</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Folk Singer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Stunt women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Social Activist</td>
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<tr>
<td>e) Environmentalist</td>
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<tr>
<th>Q.102) The amendment made by Union Labour and Employment ministry to EPF (amendment) scheme 2020 comes into force by March 28, 2020. Who is the present Labour and Employment Minister?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) D.V. Sadananda Gowda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Smriti Zubin Irani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Harshimrat Kaur Badal</td>
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<tr>
<td>d) Santosh Kumar Gangwar</td>
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<tr>
<td>e) Pralhad Joshi</td>
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<tr>
<th>Q.103) _________is set to issue certain series of government securities (G-secs) under the “fully accessible route”.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) RBI</td>
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<tr>
<td>b) SEBI</td>
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<tr>
<td>c) NITI Aayog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) NABARD</td>
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<tr>
<td>e) IRDAI</td>
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<tr>
<th>Q.104) Name the app which was developed by Rajasthan police to give permission for movement to people during the lockdown.</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) RajCop people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) RajCop curfew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) RajCop citizens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) RajCop voters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) RajCoprajasthanis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<tr>
<th>Q.105) Thomas Schaefer who died recently. He is the Finance Minister of which Country?</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) United Kingdom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Belgium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Australia</td>
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<tr>
<th>Q.106) Ajoy Mehta got 3-month extension of service as Chief Secretary of Which Indian state?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Gujarat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Maharashtra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Madhya Pradesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) West Bengal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Rajasthan</td>
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</tbody>
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<tr>
<th>Q.107) What is India’s GDP growth for the Financial year 2020-21 as per estimate of India Ratings &amp; Research (Ind-Ra)?</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) 2.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q.108) Australian PM announced 130 bn dollar package to support wages to fight against COVID – 19. Who among the following is current PM of Australia?
   a) Justin Trudeau
   b) Arthur Fadden
   c) Paul Keating
   d) Scott Morrison
   e) Emmanuel Macron

Q.109) Which state government has approved 3rd edition of ‘Sujalam Sufalam Jal Sanchay Abhiyan’ (SSJA) a conservation plan to deepen water bodies in the state.
   a) Punjab
   b) Gujarat
   c) Maharashtra
   d) Bihar
   e) Haryana

Q.110) Which among the following bank will be merged with PNB?
   a) United Bank of India
   b) Oriental Bank of Commerce
   c) Allahabad Bank
   d) Both 1) and 2)
   e) Both 2) and 3)

Q.111) Name the Institute which is 1st in the country to carry out plasma research under trial in view of covid-19 (signed MoU with ICMR).
   a) Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University
   b) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Institute of Medical Science and Research
   c) King George’s Medical University
   d) Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Education and Research
   e) Sri Ramachandra Medical College & Research Institute

Q.112) What was the growth rate projected by the World Bank for the East Asia and Pacific region of the world recently?
   a) 2.4%
   b) 3.4%
   c) 1.2%
   d) 2.5%
   e) 2.1%

Q.113) ADB approved $60 million Loan to which of the following companies?
   a) Sundaram BNP Paribas Home Finance Limited
   b) Aavas Financiers Limited
   c) Aadhar Housing Finance Limited
   d) LIC Housing Finance Limited
   e) PNB Housing Finance Limited
| Q.114) NRIs with an income of more than ________ from Indian Sources are liable to pay Income tax if they had spent more than 120 days in India. | a) Rs. 15 Lakh  
b) Rs. 25 Lakh  
c) Rs. 40 Lakh  
d) Rs. 35 Lakh  
e) Rs. 30 Lakh |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Q.115) Which of the following is to develop a prototype ventilator to support medical infrastructure? | a) IIT Guwahati  
b) IIT Madras  
c) IIT Delhi  
d) IIT Kanpur  
e) IIT Kharagpur |
| Q.116) FM Nirmala Sitharaman attended 2nd Extraordinary Finance Ministers Meet. The chair for the G20 Summit 2021 is ________. | a) Saudi Arabia  
b) India  
c) Argentina  
d) Japan  
e) Italy |
| Q.117) EPCG is an export promotion scheme under which an exporter can import a certain amount of capital goods at zero duty. What does ‘C’ in EPCG stand for? | a) Capital  
b) Capitalisation  
c) Common  
d) Committee  
e) Commission |
| Q.118) Members from CII attended the meeting on response strategy conducted by NITI Aayog. Who is the president of CII? | a) Niranjan Hiranandani  
b) Amitabh Kant  
c) Rajiv Gauba  
d) Vikram Kirloskar  
e) Sanjay Khajuria |
| Q.119) The scientists of Institute of Nano Science and Technology (INST) has developed an efficient, low-cost electro-catalyst from fish gills. INST is located at? | a) Pune  
b) Lucknow  
c) Mohali  
d) Ranchi  
e) Kolkata |
| Q.120) Name the Indian state which has launched eSanjeevaniOPD recently? | a) Himachal Pradesh  
b) Assam  
c) Goa  
d) Telangana  
e) Kerala |
Q.121) Central Govt recently slashed interest rates for Small Savings Schemes. How frequently are the interest rates revised for Small Savings Scheme?
   a) Quarterly  
   b) Annually  
   c) Bi-Annually  
   d) Once in 5 Years  
   e) Half – Yearly

Q.122) Who resigned as the Representative of the UN Secretary-General for the investment of the assets of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF)?
   a) Sudhir Rajkumar  
   b) Syed Akbaruddin  
   c) Nirupama Rao  
   d) Sujatha Singh  
   e) None of the Above

Q.123) Andhra Pradesh appointed _______ as an advisor to the state Government.
   a) Manju Nath  
   b) Srinath Reddy  
   c) Ram Sharma  
   d) Kishore Kumar  
   e) Raj Kumar

Q.124) Arjun Dev passes away at 81. He was a/an_________.
   a) Politician  
   b) Cricketer  
   c) Educationist

Q.125) 2021 World Athletics Championships rescheduled to ______?
   a) 2024  
   b) 2023  
   c) 2022  
   d) 2025  
   e) 2026

Q.126) Who authored a book titled- The Enlightenment of The Greengage Tree?
   a) Montek Singh  
   b) Ravi Kumar  
   c) Shokoofeh Azar  
   d) Ganesh kumar  
   e) Arunthathi Roy

Q.127) Rudratej Singh passed away, recently. He was CEO of___________.
   a) DBS Bank India  
   b) BMW India  
   c) IBM India  
   d) Google India  
   e) Infosys India

Q.128) Name the company whose drug (developed with CSIR support) was approved for trial by Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) for reducing mortality rate in critically ill COVID-19 patients suffering from Gram-negative bacterial sepsis.
   a) Cadila Pharmaceuticals Limited
b) Glenmark Pharma Limited

c) Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Limited

d) Cipla Limited

e) Aurobindo Pharma Limited

Q.129) The Hangpan Dada Bridge over river Subansiri was revamped and inaugurated in which Indian state?

a) Assam

b) Arunachal Pradesh

c) Goa

d) Nagaland

e) Meghalaya

Q.130) Name the Indian ministry which has launched ‘COVID India seva’ twitter handle to engage citizens on covid-19 for answering real time queries.

a) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

b) Ministry of Science and Technology

c) Ministry of Communications

d) Ministry of Home Affairs

e) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

Q.131) Which Company has overtaken TCS to become the most valued domestic firm by market capitalisation?

a) ONGC

b) IBM

c) HCL

d) Reliance Industries

e) Tata

Q.132) Which Private sector bank of India has launched Banking service in WhatsApp?

a) HDFC Bank

b) Axis Bank

c) ICICI Bank

d) IndusInd Bank

e) RBL Bank

Q.133) Nobel Laureate Philip Anderson passed away recently. Which field was he awarded the Noble Prize to?

a) Chemistry

b) Medicine

c) Physics

d) Economics

e) Literature

Q.134) What was the theme of the World Autism Awareness Day 2020 celebrated on April 2?

a) Autism: The Transition of Childhood

b) Autism and Youth

c) Active Participation

d) The Transition to Adulthood

e) Assistive Technologies

Q.135) What is the revised PPF interest rate for 1st quarter of FY21 (lowest since 1977)?

a) 8%

b) 7.7%

c) 6.4%

d) 7.1%

e) 5.2%
Q.136) What is the revised period limit (before expiry of tenure) to submit re-appointment of MD&CEO in Private and Public Banks as per RBI (earlier it was 4 months)?

a) 2 months
b) 9 months
c) 6 months
d) 3 months
e) 12 months

Q.137) Lakshminarayanan has been appointed as the MD of which Home finance company with effect from April 1, 2020?

a) Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd.
b) Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd
c) ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd.
d) Sundaram Home Finance Ltd
e) GIC Housing Finance Ltd.

Q.138) Which of the following payments app launched insurance for COVID-19 in collaboration with Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance?

a) PayPal
b) Google Pay
c) Phone Pe
d) Paytm
e) BHIM

Q.139) Who has written the book named “Backstage: The Story Behind India’s High Growth Years”?

a) Satyendra Nath Bose
b) V. K. Narayana Menon
c) Zakir Husain
d) S. S. Vasan
e) Montek Singh Ahluwalia

Q.140) What is the India’s GDP growth for the FY21 as per S&P Global Ratings (revised on March 31, 2020)?

a) 2.6%
b) 4.5%
c) 2.5%
d) 3.5%
e) 3.9%

Q.141) Name the FMCG company of India which completes its merger with GSKCH India.

a) Britannia Industries
b) Hindustan Unilever Limited
c) ParleAgro
d) ITC Limited
e) Nestle

Q.142) As per report titled “East Asia and Pacific in the Time of COVID-19” the poverty is estimated to rise by 11 million in East Asia Pacific region. Name the Organisation which released the report.

a) World Economic Forum
b) World Bank
c) International Monetary Fund
Q.143) Name the person who heads the advisory committee which recommends increasing the WMA limit by 30% from the current limit for all states & UTs for 1st half of FY21?

a) Tapan Ray
b) TN Manoharan
c) Surjit S Bhalla
d) U K Sinha
e) Sudhir Shrivastava

Q.144) Which institution has developed robots to deliver food and medicines to Covid-19 patients?

a) IIT Hyderabad
b) IIT Roorkee
c) IIT Delhi
d) IIT Madras
e) IIT Guwahati

Q.145) UN's COP26 climate change summit due to take place in Glasgow in November has been postponed. Where is Glasgow located?

a) Hungary
b) Scotland
c) Greece
d) Chile
e) Italy

Q.146) RBI increased WMA limit of States and UTs by 30%. What does 'M' in WMA stand for?

a) Money
b) Means
c) Monetary
d) Measuring
e) Management

Q.147) ____________ CM launched ‘Homeline’, an app to home-deliver groceries and vegetables.

a) Karnataka
b) Bihar
c) Uttar Pradesh
d) Assam
e) Odisha

Q.148) Tech Mahindra has decided to set up innovation centres in collaboration with __________.

a) Google
b) IBM
c) Apple
d) Samsung
e) Amazon

Q.149) Navaratnalu- PedalandarikiIllu (Houses for All Poor) programme is related to which Indian state?

a) Gujarat
b) Karnataka
c) Telangana
d) Kerala

e) Andhra Pradesh

Q.150) How many locomotives was made by Chittaranjan locomotive works of Indian Railways in the FY 20 to create world record?

a) 447
b) 389
c) 399
d) 400
e) 431

Q.151) Name the Central government’s 1st comprehensive COVID-19 tracking app.

a) Aarogya Jeevan
b) Covid-19 check
c) Coronaless India
d) AarogyaSetu
e) Covid track

Q.152) Bhai Nirmal Singh who passed away recently (April 2020) is a/an _________.

a) Actor
b) Politician
c) Spiritual Singer
d) Journalist
e) Freedom Fighter

Q.153) SCTIMST tied up with which of the following to manufacture automated ventilators?

a) Amazon
b) Wipro
c) Tata Consultancy Services
d) Microsoft
e) Google

Q.154) Which of the following developed bio-suit to keep medical personnel safe from contracting COVID-19?

a) ISRO
b) AIIMS
c) DRDO
d) MyLab
e) None of the Above

Q.155) India’s economic growth could slow down to __________ in FY21, according to Asian Development Bank.

a) 5%
b) 1%
c) 3%
d) 2%
e) 4%

Q.156) ‘AarogyaSetu’ is a product of which of the following ministries?

a) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
b) Ministry of Communications
c) Ministry of Home Affairs
d) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
e) Ministry of Women and Child Development

Q.157) Name the 112-year-old man who officially recognised as world’s oldest man?

a) Bob Weighton
b) Chitetsu Watanabe
c) Masazo Nonaka
d) Gustav Gerneth
e) Jiroemon Kimura
Q.158) NTPC appointed ________ as Director of Human resources.
a) Dilip Kumar Patel
b) Vijay Shankar
c) Rajalingam
d) Vikram Kumar
e) Gopal Palaniyappan
Q.159) Which country to host the 3rd edition of the Asian Youth Games?
a) Japan
b) Belgium
c) China
d) India
e) Sri Lanka
Q.160) Which tech firm has appointed Uri Levine as an Independent Director?
a) Wipro
b) TCS
c) Infosys
d) Tech Mahindra
e) Reliance
Q.161) Which nation did Tony Lewis the one who invented DLS method passed away recently belonged to?
a) England
b) France
c) South Africa
d) New Zealand
e) Australia
Q.162) The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the joint venture between Adani green energy limited and Total SA for solar power generation. Who is the current CCI chairman (As on April 3, 2020)?
a) Bhagwant Singh Bishnoi
b) Ashok Kumar Gupta
c) Sangita shetty
d) Sangeeta Verma
e) Ashok Chawla
Q.163) Moody’s revised Indian banking System outlook to negative. Who is the chairman of IBA?
a) Sunil Mehta
b) T L Alamelu
c) Rajnish Kumar
d) Sunil Arora
e) Karnam Sekar
Q.164) ICMR has found that a mixture of three quasi-subspecies of SARS-CoV-2(COVID-19) is in circulation in India. Where is the HQ of ICMR located?
a) Pune
b) Indore
c) New Delhi
d) Hyderabad
e) Lucknow
Q.165) With which healthcare startup has Rajasthan government partnered to tackle covid-19 using integrated solution – Aayu and SehatSathi app?
   a) Netmeds  
b) Practo  
c) Medlife  
d) 1mg  
e) MedCords

Q.166) Which Indian ministry has launched a dashboard link in its website which lists details of Dhabas and Truck Repair Shops across the country?
   a) Minister of Food Processing Industries  
b) Ministry of Home Affairs  
c) Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises  
d) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways  
e) Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment

Q.167) Laisenia Qarase who passed away recently is the former Prime Minister of which country?
   a) Australia  
b) New Zealand  
c) Fiji  
d) Papua New Guinea  
e) Vanuatu

Q.168) Name the vehicle launched in Kerala for rapid testing and screening for symptoms of covid-19 virus?
   a) Rakshak  
b) CovPro  
c) CovGear  
d) Vajra  
e) Tiranga

Q.169) The government of which state is all set to provide free online medical consultation to sick people at their residence through e-sanjeevani-opd?
   a) Kerala  
b) Himachal Pradesh  
c) Uttar Pradesh  
d) Telangana  
e) Delhi

Q.170) Under which section of IT Act, 1961 the Donations for PM-CARES fund granted with 100% exemption?
   a) Section 80A  
b) Section 80J  
c) Section 80F  
d) Section 80C  
e) Section 80G

Q.171) Who launched 'Hack the Cris - India' hackathon to find working solutions for COVID-19?
   a) Sanjay Dhotre  
b) Arjun Ram Meghwal
c) Sanjay Khajuria

d) Ashwini Kumar Choubey

e) V.K. Singh

Q.172) Former Minister Pasang Wangchuk Sona, of which of the following states passes away after a prolonged illness?

a) Sikkim

b) Tiripura

c) Assam

d) Arunachal Pradesh

e) Mizoram

Q.173) Which of the following country recently announced that it will be using AI for Corona Management?

a) India

b) Sri Lanka

c) Bangladesh

d) Pakistan

e) Maldives

Q.174) RBI reduced the currency timings of currency and debt markets. What are the new timings?

a) 10 AM - 2 PM

b) 11 AM - 3 PM

c) 9 AM - 1 PM

d) 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

e) 10:30 - 2:00 PM

Q.175) FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup scheduled to be held in ______ in November is postponed.

a) Japan

b) Brazil

c) China

d) England

e) India

Q.176) To ensure liquidity in the system, RBI has announced a third Targeted LTRO for Rs. __________.

Q.177) Government recently slashed the interest rates of the Kisan Vikas Patra Scheme. What is the maturity period of the scheme?

a) 112 months

b) 118 months

c) 114 months

d) 124 months

e) 113 months

Q.178) 'Lean on Me' fame Bill Wither passed away. He was a/an______.

a) Footballer

b) Politician

c) Painter

d) Singer

e) Actor
Q.179) Who has been sworn in as permanent Judge of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh?
   a) Justice Ramesh Ranganathan
   b) Justice Rajnesh Oswal
   c) Justice Gita Mittal
   d) Justice Ranjana Desai
   e) Justice Ajai Lamba

Q.180) Which company has joined hands with ITC Foods to make home delivery of essential items in view of the current lockdown?
   a) MilkBasket
   b) BigBasket
   c) Lenskart
   d) Flipkart
   e) Dominos

Q.181) Which IIT has developed low-cost face shields for first-line healthcare professionals at AIIMS?
   a) IIT Madras
   b) IIT Roorkee
   c) IIT Guwahati
   d) IIT Bombay
   e) IIT Kanpur

Q.182) Which of the following dignitaries released the 'National Corona Survey on COVID-19' conducted in 410 districts across the country?
   a) Amitabh Kant
   b) Narendra Modi

Q.183) Official mascot of Asian Games was unveiled. The event will be held in_______.
   a) Japan
   b) Russia
   c) India
   d) Kazakhstan
   e) China

Q.184) Odisha government in collaboration with the ____has launched an online competition programme ‘Mo Prativa’.
   a) UNESCO
   b) WORLD BANK
   c) UNICEF
   d) United Nations
   e) IMF

Q.185) National Health Authority partners with which raiding company to provide dedicated transport services to the health care workers.
   a) Ola
   b) Uber
   c) Taxify
   d) Lyft
   e) Red Taxi

Q.186) UNGA adopts resolution calling for global solidarity in the fight against COVID-
19. What is the number of member countries of UNGA?
   a) 193
   b) 189
   c) 200
   d) 198
   e) 180

Q.187) RBI has cancelled the license to conduct banking business of which urban cooperative bank (based on Goa).
   a) The Akola Janata Commercial Co-operative Bank
   b) Mapusa Urban Co-operative Bank
   c) TJSB Sahakari Bank
   d) SBPP Co-operative Bank
   e) Kalyan Janata Sahakari Bank

Q.188) Which institution has designed ‘WardBot’ to deliver food and medicines to Covid-19 patients in isolation wards without human intervention?
   a) IIT-Mandi
   b) IIT-Bombay
   c) IIT-Delhi
   d) IIT-Madras
   e) IIT-Roopar

Q.189) Name the Indian state which has launched ‘Chief Minister COVID-19 Yoddha Kalyan Yojana’ to benefit Anganwadi workers & Assistants.
   a) Haryana

Q.190) Name the Hackathon launched by Sanjay Dhotre (MoS–HRD and IT) to solve the problems due to COVID-19.
   a) Hack Corona crisis – India
   b) Hack for good cause
   c) Hack it for good
   d) Hack and Curb
   e) Hack the Crisis – India

Q.191) Name the initiative launched by civil services officer’s association to fight COVID-19.
   a) Coruna
   b) Koruna
   c) Caruna
   d) Covidna
   e) Kovid-nd

Q.192) Madhabi Puri Buch gets a six-month extension as a whole-time member in SEBI.
   Formerly, in which of the following banks was she an executive Director of?
   a) SBI
   b) HDFC
   c) ICICI
   d) Standard Chartered Bank
   e) HSBC
Q.193) Find the operation which was conducted by Indian Air Force (IAF) to transport 6.2 tons of essentials medicines to Maldives.
   a) Operation Safed Sagar
   b) Operation Sanjeevani
   c) Operation Vijay
   d) Operation Vanila
   e) Operation Rahat

Q.194) Name the Indian NGO which has won the Skoll Award for Social Entrepreneurship 2020 for its exceptional work in the maternal and child health space in India.
   a) MITRA
   b) ARMMAN
   c) MAHER
   d) LEPRA
   e) KATHA

Q.195) Name the company which has launched India’s 1st home screening kit for covid-19 which was approved by ICMR.
   a) Piramal
   b) Bione
   c) GSK India
   d) Bharat Biotech
   e) Mylab

Q.196) Which Indian company has developed a technology named “ScitechAiron negative ion generator” to control virus infections in closed environment?
   a) PureAir
   b) Highland
   c) Panacea
   d) Jclean
   e) Biocon

Q.197) America’s Bill Withers who passed away in April 2020 is _______.
   a) Climate activist
   b) Journalist
   c) Actor
   d) Singer
   e) Freedom Fighter

Q.198) When was International Transgender Day of Visibility was observed annually?
   a) March 8
   b) March 31
   c) February 23
   d) January 18
   e) April 2

Q.199) Which of the following states has launched a website to curb the spreading of fake news against COVID-19?
   a) Telangana
   b) Tamil Nadu
   c) Kerala
   d) Andhra Pradesh
   e) Karnataka

Q.200) Which of the following banks has planned to raise funds from CPPIB and GIC?
   a) HDFC
b) ICICI
c) Yes Bank
d) Axis Bank
e) IndusInd Bank

Q.201) Daporijo bridge has been built over _____ river.
a) Manas River
b) Kameng River
c) Dhansiri River
d) Subansiri River
e) Sutlej River

Q.202) CCI approved the stake buy-in in which of the following companies by Trishikhar Ventures?
a) Religare Life Insurance
b) Bajaj Alliance Life Insurance
c) ICICI Lombard
d) Reliance Life Insurance
e) Life Insurance Corporation

Q.203) New model to predict ionospheric electron density can help communication, navigation has been developed by___________.
a) Indian Institute of Geomagnetism, Navi Mumbai
b) Agharkar Research Institute, Pune
c) Bose Institute, Kolkata
d) Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow
e) Aryabhatta Research Institute of Observational Sciences, Nainital

Q.204) MHA approved the release of Rs.11,092 Crores to states to deal with COVID-19. Which of the following departments does not function under Ministry of Home Affairs?
a) Department of Home
b) Department of Border Management
c) Department of Investment and Public Asset Management
d) Department of Official language
e) Department of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh Affairs

Q.205) FCI sets new record in single day transportation of food grains. In which of the following states maximum induction took place?
a) Bihar
b) Maharashtra
c) Karnataka
d) Goa
e) Uttar Pradesh

Q.206) Maharashtra government, Mpower & BMC launched a helpline to address problems related to mental health. Where is the headquarters of Mpower?
a) Mumbai
b) Pune
Q. 207) ADB to invest $100 million in Infra Sector via NIIF. Who is the MD of NIIF?
   a) Ajaypal Singh Banga
   b) Amit Agarwal
   c) Sujoy Bose
   d) S. S. Sandhu
   e) Harsh Vardhan Shringla

Q. 208) What is the new interest rate of the Small savings Scheme ‘Sukanya Samriddhi Account’?
   a) 7.2%
   b) 7.1%
   c) 7.7%
   d) 7.6%
   e) 7.5%

Q. 209) Name the person who has been conferred with Hero to Animal award given by PETA.
   a) Ashok Gehlot
   b) Naveen Patnaik
   c) Amarinder Singh
   d) Sarbananda Sonowal
   e) Yogi Adityanath

Q. 210) Which among the following railway manufacturing unit has developed low-cost ventilator ‘Jeevan’ to fight COVID-19?
   a) Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala
   b) Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi
   c) Integral Coach Factory, Chennai
   d) Rail Wheel Factory, Bangalore
   e) Chittaranjan Locomotive Works, Chittaranjan

Q. 211) Nasscom appoints Infosys' UB Pravin Rao as its chairman. Who is he replacing?
   a) Keshav Murugesh
   b) Rekha M Menon
   c) NR Narayana Murthy
   d) Debjani Ghosh
   e) Sudha Murthy

Q. 212) Thailand and Malaysia were banned from the Tokyo Olympics from playing which of the following sports?
   a) Cycling
   b) Swimming
   c) Weightlifting
   d) Fencing
   e) Athletics

Q. 213) Aerobiosys Innovations the start-up that incubated at which Indian institute has developed low cost ventilator called “Jeevan Lite”?
   a) IIT Mandi
   b) IIT Delhi
   c) IIT Hyderabad
   d) IIT Madras
   e) IIT Kanpur
Q.214) Name the Sportsperson who has been inducted into Naismith memorial hall of fame?
(a) Roger Federer  
(b) Sachin Tendulkar  
(c) Usain Bolt  
(d) Kobe Bryan  
(e) Simone Biles

Q.215) Anurag Srivastava, who took as charge as the Spokesman of MEA was the Indian Ambassador to which of the following countries?
(a) Egypt  
(b) Ethiopia  
(c) Libya  
(d) Madagascar  
(e) Mozambique

Q.216) Which of the following states is the first in India to install a Wals-in kiosk for COVID-19 testing?
(a) Tamil Nadu  
(b) Maharashtra  
(c) Karnataka  
(d) Uttar Pradesh  
(e) Kerala

Q.217) Cricketer Stephen O’Keefe who retires from 1st class cricket recently, belongs to which country?
(a) Australia  
(b) New Zealand  
(c) England  
(d) South Africa  
(e) Sri Lanka

Q.218) The 44th Session of UNESCO’s World Heritage Committee has been postponed. It was scheduled to be held in which country?
(a) Spain  
(b) Germany  
(c) China  
(d) Italy  
(e) France

(a) Stephen King  
(b) Daniel Defoe  
(c) Michael Crichton  
(d) Paolo Giordano  
(e) Mark Olshaker

Q.220) Kerala’s M.K Arjunan who died recently is _________.
(a) Politician  
(b) Actor  
(c) Musician  
(d) Photographer  
(e) Architect

Q.221) Name the person who authored the book named “Deadliest Enemy: Our War Against Killer Germs” along with epidemiologist Michael Osterholm.
(a) Daniel Defoe
b) Albert Camus  
c) Paolo Giordano  
d) Mark Olshaker  
e) Giovanni Boccaccio

Q.222) Name the Indian state which topped all-India level for micro-irrigation (MI), under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) for FY20 (2019-20).
   a) Punjab  
b) Maharashtra  
c) Karnataka  
d) Tamil Nadu  
e) Telangana

Q.223) Mahmoud Jibril who passed away in April 2020 is the former Prime Minister of which country?
   a) Egypt  
b) Sudan  
c) Niger  
d) Algeria  
e) Libya

Q.224) Name the book which Sudha Murty launched her first-ever audio book?
   a) How the Sea Became Salty  
b) How the Onion Got Its Layers  
c) House of Cards: A Novel  
d) The Upside-Down King: Unusual Tales about Rama and Krishna  
e) The Magic of the Lost Temple

Q.225) ICMR approves TB machines for COVID-19 testing. Who is the chairman of ICMR?
   a) Dr Balram Bhargava  
b) Dr Abhishek Srivastava  
c) Dr Aditi Phulpagar  
d) Dr Ashok Seth  
e) Dr Abhijit Ray

Q.226) Who is reappointed as the MD and CEO of City Union Bank?
   a) Lingam Venkat Prabhakar  
b) N Kamakodi  
c) Challa Sreenivasulu Setty  
d) Sandeep Bakhshi  
e) Pradeep Kumar

Q.227) GoI released _______ Under PM-KISAN Scheme farmer families during the lockdown.
   a) Rs.10,281 crore  
b) Rs.17,793 crore  
c) Rs.15,456 crore  
d) Rs.13,558 crore  
e) Rs.18,858 crore

Q.228) Which of the following has been nominated by the Ministry of HRD as the NAD?
   a) RoboForm  
b) Keeper  
c) DashLane  
d) DigiLocker  
e) KeePass
Q.229) Which of the following initiatives by the HRD Minister invites technology driven solutions to COVID-19?
   a) Samadhan Challenge
   b) Challenge COVID-19
   c) Tech Against Corona Challenge
   d) India Against Corona Challenge
   e) Fight Corona Challenge

Q.230) Honor Blackman who passed away recently was a famous __________.
   a) Actor
   b) Journalist
   c) Writer
   d) Painter
   e) Singer

Q.231) What is the growth projection given by ICRA recently for FY20?
   a) 4.5%
   b) 4.4%
   c) 5.2%
   d) 2.1%
   e) 2%

Q.232) Which of the following entities inked agreement with JICA and CitiBank to raise $100 million?
   a) Aavas Financers Ltd
   b) BNP Paribas Ltd
   c) Punjab Nation Bank Housing Finance
   d) ICICI Lombard
   e) SBI Life Insurance

Q.233) Bharti AXA Payments Bank partnered with which Payments Bank to launch two insurance plans?
   a) Fino Payments Bank
   b) Aditya Birla Payments Bank
   c) Airtel Payments Bank
   d) India Post Payments Bank
   e) Jio Payments Bank

Q.234) RBI extended the overdraft facility in a quarter to how many working days?
   a) 25
   b) 50
   c) 35
   d) 40
   e) 45

Q.235) SIDBI has decided to provide emergency working capital of how much rupees to MSMEs?
   a) 3 Crore
   b) 4 Crore
   c) 5 Crore
   d) 1 Crore
   e) 6 Crore

Q.236) Which of the following companies acquired GMR Kamalanga Energy Limited which was recently approved by CCI?
   a) Suzlon Energy Limited
   b) JCW Energy Limited
   c) ReNew Power
   d) Tata Power Solar
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Option A</th>
<th>Option B</th>
<th>Option C</th>
<th>Option D</th>
<th>Option E</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q.237) Which of the following launched India’s first drive-through Coronavirus Test Centre?</td>
<td>a) Dr Lal Path Labs</td>
<td>b) Dr Dang Lab</td>
<td>c) Lucid Medical Diagnostics</td>
<td>d) MyLabs</td>
<td>e) Bione</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.238) DGFT had imposed export restrictions on 26 APIs. Which was recently removed by the Government. Who is the Director-General of DGFT?</td>
<td>a) Pravin Kutumbe</td>
<td>b) Harsh Vardhan Shringla</td>
<td>c) Anurag Shrivastava</td>
<td>d) Ajay Kumar Bhalla</td>
<td>e) Hitesh Kumar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.240) As of April 5, 2020, what was the unemployment rate of India as per the survey of CMIE?</td>
<td>a) 21.2%</td>
<td>b) 23.4%</td>
<td>c) 24.3%</td>
<td>d) 24.1%</td>
<td>e) 22.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.241) Hitachi acquired 80.1% in power grid business of ABB Limited. Where is the Head Quarters of Hitachi?</td>
<td>a) Singapore</td>
<td>b) North Korea</td>
<td>c) China</td>
<td>d) South Korea</td>
<td>e) Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.242) Which state Police use app ‘Rakhsa Sarv’to keep an eye on home quarantined people?</td>
<td>a) Maharashtra</td>
<td>b) Kerala</td>
<td>c) Chhattisgarh</td>
<td>d) Madhya Pradesh</td>
<td>e) Rajasthan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.243) Who was named as brand ambassador by PepsiCo?</td>
<td>a) Shafali Verma</td>
<td>b) Mithali Raj</td>
<td>c) P V Sindhu</td>
<td>d) Smriti Mandhana</td>
<td>e) Harmanpreet Kaur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.244) Who has been appointed South Africa's director of cricket for a two-year period ending on March 31, 2022?</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
a) Shaun Pollock  
b) Faf du Plessis  
c) Graeme Smith  
d) Jacques Kallis  
e) Makhaya Ntini

Q.245) Gene Deitch who passed away at the age of 95 was the director of which famous cartoon show?  
a) DragonBall-Z  
b) Shin-Chan  
c) Hey Arnold!  
d) Tom and Jerry  
e) Swat Kats

Q.246) ______ Bank Launched Voice banking services on Amazon Alexa, Google Assistant  
a) Axis Bank  
b) HDFC Bank  
c) ICICI Bank  
d) LVB Bank  
e) City Union Bank

Q.247) BoB which recently brought schemes for Agricultural Sector, decided to lend how much to the existing SHGs?  
a) Rs. 4 Lakh  
b) Rs. 2 Lakh  
c) Rs. 1 Lakh  
d) Rs. 5 Lakh  
e) Rs. 6 Lakh

Q.248) Who has been announced the 'Wisden Leading Cricketer of the World 2020'?  
a) Ben Stokes  
b) Steve Smith  
c) Virat Kohli  
d) Rohit Sharma  
e) Adam Smith

Q.249) Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) has partnered with ______ to ensure the tribal gatherers carry on their work safely.  
a) UNSAID  
b) WHO  
c) UNICEF  
d) United Nations  
e) IMF

Q.250) Which Indian city ranked as top Smart City in India for its execution of smart projects in handling COVID-19 pandemic?  
a) Trichy  
b) Indore  
c) Ahmedabad  
d) Hyderabad  
e) Panaji

Q.251) Name the Public Sector Bank which has initiated 4 schemes (for SHG, FPO and farming community) to tackle impact of Covid-19?  
a) Bank of Baroda  
b) Bank of Maharashtra  
c) Punjab National Bank  
d) Syndicate Bank
Q.252) Name the person who has been appointed as MD&CEO of Bharti AXA Life Insurance company.
   a) Vikas Seth
   b) Tapan Singhel
   c) Parag Raja
   d) SCK Huntia
   e) Aditya Sharma

Q.253) Department of Science and Technology sets up Centre for Augmenting WAR with COVID-19 Health Crisis (CAWACH) in Society for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (SINE). SINE is umbrella organisation of which Indian institute?
   a) IIT-Bombay
   b) IIT-Mandi
   c) IIT-Roorkee
   d) IIT-Delhi
   e) IIT-Hyderabad

Q.254) Which Company has signed contract from Indian Army to install state-of-the-art IT enabled network under 'Network of Spectrum (NFS)?'
   a) Larsen & Toubro Limited
   b) TCL Limited
   c) JMC Projects
   d) Gammon India Ltd
   e) HAL Limited

Q.255) Radomir Antic who died in April 2020 is a famous coach in which sports?
   a) Swimming
   b) Hockey
   c) Cricket
   d) Rugby
   e) Football

Q.256) Ratnakar Chaini passed away, recently. He was a renowned__________.
   a) Writer
   b) Cricketer
   c) Actor
   d) Director
   e) Politician

Q.257) Maha Prasad Adhikari is appointed as the Governor of the which Central Bank?
   a) Bangladesh
   b) Myanmar
   c) Nepal
   d) Sri Lanka
   e) Bhutan

Q.258) Which of the following banks has deployed Mobile ATMs amidst lockdown?
   a) HDFC
   b) SBI
   c) Axis
   d) ICICI
   e) IDBI

Q.259) The programmes Annapurna and Supply Mitra introduced for citizen's food
needs are initiatives of the following government's?

| a) Maharashtra | d) Module Innovations |
| b) Kerala | e) Wipro |
| c) Andhra Pradesh | a) Prathiba Brahma |
| d) Telangana | b) Pravir Krishna |
| e) Uttar Pradesh | c) Arjun Munda |

Q.260) What is the expected range of decline in the World Merchandise Trade, as forecasted by WTO?

| a) 12 - 32% | e) Ramesh Chand Meena |
| b) 13 - 32% | |
| c) 9 - 32% | |
| d) 11 - 32% | |
| e) 13 - 35% | |

Q.261) Goldman Sachs slashed GDP forecasts for India recently. What was its earlier estimate for FY21?

| a) 2.6% | e) Rs. 350 |
| b) 1.6% | a) Rs. 500 |
| c) 3.5% | b) Rs. 300 |
| d) 4.3% | c) Rs. 400 |
| e) 3.3% | d) Rs. 700 |

Q.262) CSIR-Central Electrochemical Research Institute (CECRI) partnered with _______ to increase the mass production of Face Shield.

| a) My labs | e) Roberto Azevedo |
| b) 3D Lycan | |
| c) Infosys | |

Q.263) Who is the Chairperson of TRIFED?

| a) Prathiba Brahma | |
| b) Pravir Krishna | |
| c) Arjun Munda | |
| d) Renuka Singh | |
| e) Ramesh Chand Meena | |

Q.264) What was the amount that was announced by the FM that will be deposited in 20 crore Jan Dhan Accounts?

| a) Rs. 500 | |
| b) Rs. 300 | |
| c) Rs. 400 | |
| d) Rs. 700 | |
| e) Rs. 350 | |

Q.265) Where is the CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory located?

| a) New Delhi | |
| b) Mumbai | |
| c) Hyderabad | |
| d) Pune | |
| e) Bengaluru | |

Q.266) Who is the Director-General of WTO?

| a) Roberto Alifano | |
| b) Tedros Adhanom | |
| c) Kristina Georgieva | |
| d) Gita Gopinath | |
| e) Roberto Azevedo | |
Q.267) As per United Nations report, what is the projected India’s GDP for FY21?
   a) 4.3%  
   b) 4.6%  
   c) 4.5%  
   d) 4.4%  
   e) 4.8%

Q.268) Tata Power has been conferred with the _______ Award under social innovation category and social energy solutions sub-category.
   a) Bohr  
   b) Planck  
   c) Edison  
   d) Maxwell  
   e) Kepler

Q.269) Which private insurance firm has appointed Anamika Roy Rashtrawar as its MD & CEO?
   a) ManipalCigna Health Insurance  
   b) IFFCO Tokio General Insurance  
   c) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance  
   d) Acko General Insurance  
   e) Bharti Axa General Insurance

Q.270) Consumer Price Index (CPI) based inflation is tentatively projected to ease from 4.8% to _____% in the 4th quarter, according to RBI.
   a) 3.3  
   b) 3.6  
   c) 3.5  
   d) 3.4  
   e) 2.4

Q.271) IndiGo has entered into Brand Finance Top 50 Airlines List. The airline was ranked at number ____________
   a) 34  
   b) 43  
   c) 51  
   d) 17  
   e) 26

Q.272) Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL) has partnered with __________ to support India's fight against COVID-19.
   a) IMF  
   b) UNCTAD  
   c) UNESCO  
   d) UNICEF  
   e) WHO

Q.273) __________ has designed a "mobile doctor booth" named "CHARAK". It will facilitate zero-contact check-ups in light of the novel coronavirus outbreak.
   a) Google  
   b) Indian Railways  
   c) ISRO  
   d) DRDO  
   e) BARC

Q.274) CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory (NCL) Pune, recently tied up with
Q.278) A book titled ‘The Art of Her Deal: The Untold Story of Melania Trump’ was authored by__________.

a) Amanda Berry  
b) Kevin Sullivan  
c) Gina DeJesus  
d) Mary Jordan  
e) Michelle Knight

Q.275) ____________ has been appointed Secretary to President Ram Nath Kovind.

a) Avinash Kumar Awasthi  
b) Shubharant Kumar Shukla  
c) Pradeep Kumar Mishra  
d) Kapil Dev Tripathi  
e) Rajesh Sharma

Q.276) Which of the following state Launches ‘Operation SHIELD’ across its containment zones for COVID-19?

a) Maharashtra  
b) Jharkhand  
c) Manipur  
d) New Delhi  
e) Karnataka

Q.277) IndiGrid to acquire which Private limited’s asset for Rs.1,050 crore?

a) Sterlite Power  
b) Essar Group  
c) Tata Power  
d) Bharat Aluminium Company  
e) Gateway Distriparks

Q.279) Forbes Publishes 34th Annual List Of Global Billionaires. Who is top in the List?

a) Jeff Bezos  
b) Sundar Pichai  
c) Mukesh Ambani  
d) Bill Gates  
e) Bernard Arnault

Q.280) Donato Sabia recently passed away. He was a/an__________?

a) Singer  
b) Writer  
c) Athlete  
d) Journalist  
e) Politician

Q.281) The Book titled ‘The Wizenard Series: Season One’- created by Kobe Bryant & authored by __________

a) Annie Matthew  
b) Wesley King  
c) Felice Arena  
d) Garry Lyon  
e) Phil Jackson
Q.282) Which Department has launched 1st of its kind iGOTportal in DIKSHA platform of Ministry of Human Resource and Development?
   a) Department of Social Justice and Empowerment
   b) Department of Personnel and Training
   c) Department of School Education and Literacy
   d) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade
   e) Department of Higher Education

Q.283) Hyderabad based Indian Immunologicals Limited (IIL) has signed an agreement with Australia’s Griffith University to develop vaccine for Covid-19. IIL is subsidiary of which Institute?
   a) Central Boardof Exciseand Customs (CBEC)
   b) Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR)
   c) National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)
   d) National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB)
   e) Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB)

Q.284) The CSIR-NCL is located at?
   a) Indore
   b) Pune
   c) Lucknow
   d) Bengaluru
   e) Bhubaneswar

Q.285) US President Donald Trump appointed Indian-American __________ to country's top science board.
   a) Mohini Bhardwaj
   b) Bhicaji Balsara
   c) Nina Davuluri
   d) Sheetal Sheth
   e) Sudarsanam Babu

Q.286) RBI recently raised Ways and Means Advances (WMA) limit to Rs.2-lakh crore in H1 FY21. Earlier it was_________-lakh crore.
   a) Rs.1.9
   b) Rs.1.6
   c) Rs.1.8
   d) Rs.1.2
   e) Rs.1.1

Q.287) ____________ government, recently launched GetCETGo for NEET, CET students.
   a) Uttar Pradesh
   b) Karnataka
   c) Assam
   d) Odisha
   e) Bihar

Q.288) Bangalore-based JNCASR along with__________ has developed predictive model for spread of covid-19.
   a) IIT Gandhinagar
   b) IISc Bengaluru
   c) IIT Madras
   d) IIT Delhi
Q.289) Asian Development Bank (ADB) has assured $______ bn support package to India for COVID-19 response.
   a) 4.1
   b) 2.2
   c) 3.5
   d) 2.4
   e) 3.1

Q.290) World Athletics recently suspended Olympic qualification period until ____________.
   a) November, 2020
   b) December, 2020
   c) October, 2020
   d) November, 2021
   e) March, 2021

Q.291) The legal authority of which state has launched a helpline under ‘Serve-the-Seniors Initiative’ for senior citizens to identify the most vulnerable segment of the society?
   a) Karnataka
   b) Telangana
   c) Jammu & Kashmir
   d) Kerala
   e) Tamil Nadu

Q.292) HRD Ministry, recently launched week long ____________campaign.
   a) Bharat Padhe Online
   b) Bharat Online Adhyayan

Q.293) Find the e-commerce company (Bengaluru based) which ties up with ICICI Lombard & Go digital insurance companies to launch health insurance policies.
   a) IndiaMart
   b) Justdial
   c) Flipkart
   d) Amazon
   e) Brainbees

Q.294) Supreme Court has extended the tenure of Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) chairman Shiva Kirti Singh by 3 months. Where is HQ of TDSAT located?
   a) New Delhi
   b) Mumbai
   c) Kolkata
   d) Gurugram
   e) Hyderabad

Q.295) RBI has approved re-appointment of Sanjay Agarwal as MD & CEO of AU small finance bank (HQ-Jaipur). Who has been appointed as part-time chairman of the bank?
   a) Sumanth Sharma
   b) P R Ravi Mohan
   c) Nitin Chugh
   d) Samit Ghosh
Q.296) Who is the face of RBI’s Twitter campaign to adopt digital modes of payments?
   a) MS Dhoni  
   b) Kareena Kapoor  
   c) Virat Kohli  
   d) Amitabh Bachchan  
   e) Anushka Sharma

Q.297) Name the Mobile company which has acquired the weather app named Dark Sky.
   a) Sony  
   b) Realme  
   c) Apple  
   d) Samsung  
   e) Nokia

Q.298) The central government has launched initiative named “AarogyaSetu Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS)” in collaboration with IIT Madras and which Indian state?
   a) Bengaluru  
   b) Telangana  
   c) Punjab  
   d) Kerala  
   e) Tamil Nadu

Q.299) Name the Indian biotech company which ties up with FluGen and virologists at University of Wisconsin-Madison for the development of Covid-19 vaccine named ‘CoroFlu’.
   a) Indian Immunologicals Limited  
   b) Biogenomics  
   c) Bharat Biotech  
   d) Piramal  
   e) Wockhardt

Q.300) What is the rank of Indian football team in latest FIFA (HQ- Zurich, Switzerland) rankings 2020 released on April 9, 2020(topped by Belgium)?
   a) 107  
   b) 110  
   c) 108  
   d) 98  
   e) 102

Q.301) Indian-American, Brahm Kanchibotla who passed away in April 2020 is _________.
   a) Law maker  
   b) Environmentalist  
   c) Actor  
   d) Sportsperson  
   e) Journalist

Q.302) What is the approved amount under ‘India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Package’ by Government of India?
   a) 5,000 crores  
   b) 10,000 crores  
   c) 25,000 crores
d) 15,000 crores
d) France
e) 20,000 crores
e) United Kingdom

Q.303) RK Dwivedi passed away recently. He was a renowned ____________.
a) Soccer Player
b) Politician
c) Classical Singer
d) Journalist
e) Painter

Q.304) According to RBI data, the country’s foreign exchange reserves declined by $902 million to $ _______ billion in a week.
a) 274.66
b) 374.66
c) 474.66
d) 574.66
e) 774.66

Q.305) New Zealand’s Jock Edwards who passed away in April 2020 is related to which sports?
a) Cricket
b) Rugby
c) Football
d) Hockey
e) Tennis

Q.307) Who among the following chaired the meeting of National Biofuel Coordination Committee?
a) Narendra Modi
b) Rajnath Singh
c) Nitin Gadkari
d) Nirmala Sitharaman
e) Dharmendra Pradhan

Q.308) Which is the loan that is offered at a rate above prime to individuals who do not qualify for prime-rate loans?
a) Sub Prime Loan
b) Secured line loan
c) Prime personal loan
d) Variable prime loan
e) Low credit loan

Q.309) Name the railway station which is 1st in Indian Railways to install sanitizing tunnels?
a) Hyderabad railway station
b) Kolkata railway station
c) Gandhinagar railway station
d) Ahmedabad railway station
e) Indore railway station

Q.310) Name the small finance bank which launched digital banking platform named ‘DigiGen’?
a) China
d) Ahmedabad railway station
e) Indore railway station
b) Russia
c) Dominican Republic
Q.311) Name the person who has been re-appointed as MD & CEO of Karnataka Bank for next 3 years?
   a) Mahabaleshwara M S  
   b) S.S. Mallikarjuna Rao  
   c) PolaliJayarama  
   d) Rakesh Makhija  
   e) Ajay Kumar  

Q.312) Along with which institute of AIIMS – Bharat Electronics Limited has developed India’s 1st remote health monitoring system.
   a) AIIMS-Bhopal  
   b) AIIMS-Jodhpur  
   c) AIIMS-Rishikesh  
   d) AIIMS-Raipur  
   e) AIIMS-Mangalagiri  

Q.313) The Scientists of which space agency has measured wind speed on a brown dwarf.
   a) European Space Agency (ESA)  
   b) Chinese National Space Agency (CNSA)  
   c) Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)  
   d) Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)  
   e) National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)  

Q.314) The Researchers of which institute has developed ‘Digital stethoscope’ which can can listen to hear beats from a distance and record.
   a) IIT Mandi  
   b) IIT Kanpur  
   c) IIT Bombay  
   d) IIT Madras  
   e) IIT Calcutta  

Q.315) With which smartphone company Google ties up to create coronavirus contact tracing technology using Bluetooth signals?
   a) Xiaomi  
   b) Samsung  
   c) Apple  
   d) Lenovo  
   e) Nokia  

Q.316) Zimbabwean Cricketer Jackie du Preez who passed away recently played for which nation (initially)?
   a) Kenya  
   b) England  
   c) New Zealand  
   d) South Africa  
   e) Bangladesh  

Q.317) The Indian Council of Medical Research has approved to use diagnostic
machine of which Disease to coronavirus (on April 10, 2020)?

Q.321) E-commerce firm Flipkart and _______________ have partnered to enable access to essential food and beverage products to Indians.

a) Malaria
b) Tuberculosis
c) Dengue
d) Swine Flu
e) Cholera

Q.318) What is the range of projected growth estimate of the World Bank for India for FY 21?

a) 2.5% - 3.8%
b) 1.8% - 2.5%
c) 1.5% - 2.8%
d) 1.6% - 2.7%
e) 1.7% - 3%

Q.319) What is the name of the web portal that was recently launched by the Union Minister of HRD?

a) BHAKTI
b) MUKTI
c) SHAKTI
d) YUKTI
e) KATHI

Q.320) M V Rajashekaran who passed away recently was a __________.

a) Rural Development Consultant
b) Former Union Minister
c) Congress Leader
d) Agriculturalist
e) All of the above

Q.321) Walter D'Souza recently passed away at the age of 93. He was a __________.

a) Sand Artist
b) Cricketer
c) Footballer
d) Politician
e) Academician

Q.322) Justice V Kanagaraj has been recently appointed as the new State Election Commissioner of which state?

a) Tamil Nadu
b) Odisha
c) Jharkhand
d) Karnataka
e) Andhra Pradesh

Q.323) Justice V Kanagaraj has been recently appointed as the new State Election Commissioner of which state?

a) Tamil Nadu
b) Odisha
c) Jharkhand
d) Karnataka
e) Andhra Pradesh

Q.324) India has become the ________ largest economy by overtaking UK and France with a GDP of 2.94 trillion $.

a) Sixth
b) Seventh
c) Fourth  
d) Eighth  
e) Fifth

Q.325) BRO opened the ______ which connects Ladakh with the rest of the world, after 4 months. It was closed in December 2019.

a) Jammu-Manali Highway  
b) Srinagar-Leh highway  
c) Jammu-Srinagar National Highway  
d) Leh-Manali Highway  
e) None of the Above

Q.326) Which of the following regulates the Capital Market in India?

a) Ministry of Finance  
b) RBI  
c) IRDAI  
d) SEBI  
e) NITI Aayog

Q.327) Banking Ombudsman Scheme was first introduced in India in the year 2006 under which of the following sections of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 by RBI?

a) Section 26 A  
b) Section 35 A  
c) Section 32 A  
d) Section 49 A  
e) Section 42 A

Q.328) Sukanya Samriddhi accounts can be opened by the natural or legal guardian for a girl child of age below ____________.

a) 15 years  
b) 6 years  
c) 10 years  
d) 7 years  
e) 18 years

Q.329) Who is the present Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Minister?

a) Narendra Singh Tomar  
b) Thaawar Chand Gehlot  
c) Ram Vilas Paswan  
d) D.V. Sadananda Gowda  
e) Ravi Shankar Prasad

Q.330) What is the amount of fund released to states and UTs under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)?

a) 10000 crores  
b) 3500 crores  
c) 4100 crores  
d) 7300 crores  
e) 8400 crores

Q.331) BCCI has suspended the Indian Premier League 2020 indefinitely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Who is the Secretary of BCCI?

a) Anurag Thakur  
b) C.K. Khanna
Q.332) Which of the following countries has now recently been eligible for Category I FPIs?
   a) Singapore  
   b) Maldives  
   c) Sri Lanka  
   d) Myanmar  
   e) Mauritius

Q.333) Food Bank has been recently launched in which of the following states?
   a) Manipur  
   b) Mizoram  
   c) Assam  
   d) Sikkim  
   e) Tripura

Q.334) What was the retail inflation level as of March 2020?
   a) 7.81%  
   b) 5.71%  
   c) 5.85%  
   d) 4.67%  
   e) 5.91%

Q.335) Peter Bonetti was related to which of the following sports?
   a) Basketball  
   b) Golf  
   c) Squash  
   d) Badminton  
   e) Football

Q.336) ________ and Yes Bank extended the bancassurance for 5 more years?
   a) Bharti Axa General Insurance  
   b) Max Life Insurance  
   c) Acko General Insurance  
   d) Apollo Munich Health Insurance  
   e) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance

Q.337) Ashok Desai who passed away recently was a __________.
   a) Padma Bhushan Awardee  
   b) Solicitor General  
   c) Advocate  
   d) Attorney Journal  
   e) All the above

Q.338) PNB retains stake in which of the following life insurance firms?
   a) Canara HSBC OBC Life Insurance  
   b) PNB Metlife Insurance  
   c) Life Insurance Corporation of India  
   d) All of the Above  
   e) Both (1) & (2)

Q.339) Who is the youngest self-made billionaire for the second time in a row?
   a) Kobe Bryant  
   b) Kim Kardashian  
   c) Jeff Bezos  
   d) Kylie Jenner  
   e) Bernard Arnault
Q.340) Where is the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) located?
   a) Hyderabad
   b) Kolkata
   c) Bengaluru
   d) Mumbai
   e) New delhi

Q.341) _______organizes continual awareness campaigns ‘Break the CORONA Chain’ on ground zero
   a) IRDAI
   b) FCI
   c) IFFCO
   d) NCLT
   e) NABARD

Q.342) OPEC and which country agreed to cut crude oil production amid Coronavirus crisis?
   a) Japan
   b) Russia
   c) Maldives
   d) France
   e) Germany

Q.343) Who becomes the first state to commence clinical trial plasma therapy treatment?
   a) Kerala
   b) Karnataka
   c) Telangana
   d) Tamil Nadu
   e) Gujarat

Q.344) Which Bollywood Celebrity appointed as the ambassador of JBL?
   a) Salman Khan
   b) Sara Ali Khan
   c) Ranbir Kapoor
   d) Alia Bhatt
   e) Kareena Kapoor

Q.345) Birupaksha Mishra assumes charge as Executive Director of which bank?
   a) Indian Bank
   b) Bank of Baroda
   c) State Bank of India
   d) Union Bank of India
   e) Indian Overseas Bank

Q.346) Which country to host Asian Boxing Championships 2020?
   a) Japan
   b) China
   c) Australia
   d) Canada
   e) India

Q.347) Which institute developed the Automatic Mist Based Sanitiser Dispensing Unit?
   a) Indian Council of Agricultural Research
   b) Defence Institute of Physiology & Allied Sciences
   c) Institute of Nuclear Medicine & Allied Sciences
d) Centre for Fire Explosive & Environment Safety
e) None of the above
Q.348) Which institute has developed the website ‘covidfyi.in’ as a one-stop digital directory for all COVID-19 related services?
a) IIM Bangalore
b) IIM Ahmedabad
c) IIM Kozhikode
d) IIM Lucknow
e) IIM Kolkata
Q.349) Which is the first crewed launch for Elon Musk’s space company SpaceX?
a) Demo-2
b) Skylab
c) Astro-1
d) Project Gemini
e) Artemis
Q.350) Where is Zojila located?
a) Jammu
b) Ladakh
c) Himachal Pradesh
d) Uttarakhand
e) Arunachal Pradesh
Q.351) “DekhoApnaDesh” webinar series is launched by which of the following Ministries?
a) Ministry of Human Resource Development
b) Ministry of Tourism
c) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
d) Ministry of Culture
e) Ministry of Home Affairs
Q.352) What has been the growth projection predicted for India by Barclays for Calendar Year (CY) 21?
a) 7.5%
b) 6.5%
c) 5.5%
d) 7.7%
e) 6.9%
Q.353) Four Indian Americans were awarded the prestigious Guggenheim Fellowships. Who of the following is not one among them?
a) Dilip Da Cunha
b) Mukul Sharma
c) Kavita Ramanan
d) Praveen Sharma
e) Pradeep Sharma
Q.354) The US is to sell Harpoon air-launched anti-ship missiles and Mark 54 lightweight torpedoes worth ________ to India.
a) $ 165 million
b) $ 175 million
c) $ 155 million
d) $ 200 billion
e) $ 240 billion
Q.355) ________ developed affordable 3D printed Ear Guard to combat COVID-19 and
antimicrobial spray-based coating for Personal Protective.
a) IIT-Madras
b) IIT-Kanpur
c) IIT-Guwahati
d) IIT-Bombay
e) IIT-Kharagpur
Q.356) Who became the first state to start Pool Testing of coronavirus?
a) Haryana
b) Uttar Pradesh
c) Uttarakhand
d) Manipur
e) Gujarat
Q.357) Name the person who heads the 7-member committee (Formed by UGC of MHRD) that look after the examination & academic calendar of students that affected due to Covid-19.
a) Omprakash Mishra
b) R.C. Kuhad
c) Kiran Bir Sethi
d) Anil Pradhan
e) Safeena Husain
Q.358) Department of Science and Technology has funded which Start-up to develop Immunodiagnostic kits & Active Virosome (AV)-Vaccine for COVID-19.
a) Mylab
b) Bione
c) Seagull BioSolutions
d) Bharat Biotech
e) Biogenomics
Q.359) Name the person who heads the 25-member development council constituted by DPIIT under commerce and Industry ministry for pulp, paper and allied industries.
a) Prakash Verma
b) T A Vijayan
c) A S Mehta
d) Tapan Roy
e) Rajiv Sharman
Q.360) Who has been appointed as the Non-Executive Director of Godrej?
a) Ardeshir Godrej
b) Monaz Noble
c) Pirojsha Godrej
d) Adi Godrej
e) Azim Premji
Q.361) What is the name of the portal that is launched by AICTE with the help of Ed-Tech companies recently to aid students in online learning?
a) ELAS
b) ELOS
c) ELIZA
d) ELIS
e) ELVIS
Q.362) Who is the brand ambassador of Poker Star?
<table>
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| Q.363) Name the 1st state in India which integrates Ayurveda and Allopathy to boost immunity of covid-19 patients. | a) Goa  
b) Kerala  
c) Tamil Nadu  
d) Gujarat  
e) Andhra Pradesh |
| Q.364) What will be the penalty (in basis points) on banks if they failed to invest TLTRO funds in 30 working days as announced by RBI? | a) 200 bps  
b) 150 bps  
c) 100 bps  
d) 50 bps  
e) 25 bps |
| Q.365) What is the Bank Rate growth of India for the FY20 as per RBI data? | a) 4.49%  
b) 3.35%  
c) 6.14%  
d) 8.97%  
e) 7.15% |
| Q.366) CCI has approved Emerge Sage Investment Limited’s Acquisition of 9.93% stake in which among the following company? | a) CEAT Tyres  
b) Apollo Tyres  
c) MRF Tyres  
d) TVS Tyres  
e) JK Tyres |
| Q.367) Which Smart phone manufacturing company has launched internet-less payment app for feature phones? | a) Nokia  
b) Apple  
c) Samsung  
d) Lenovo  
e) Lava |
| Q.368) Meru Jatra festival was celebrated in which Indian state? | a) Jharkhand  
b) Odisha  
c) Haryana  
d) Madhya Pradesh  
e) Telangana |
| Q.369) What is the bond period of the Sovereign Gold Bonds Scheme 2020-21? | a) 5 Years  
b) 7 Years  
c) 8 Years  
d) 9 Years  
e) 3 Years |
Q.370) Name the Indian ministry which has announced COVID-19 training program for health care professionals of SAARC countries.
   a) Ministry of Human Resource and Development
   b) Ministry of External Affairs
   c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
   d) Ministry of Tribal Affairs
   e) Ministry of Home Affairs

Q.371) Which National park has become India’s 1st Quarantine centre for animals in Uttarakhand?
   a) Nanda Devi National Park
   b) Jim Corbett National Park
   c) Gangotri National Park
   d) Govind Pashu Vihar National Park
   e) Rajaji National Park

Q.372) With which Public Sector Bank, the government telecom operator BSNL has partnered to launch Bharat InstaPay, UPI-based payment platform.
   a) UCO Bank
   b) Punjab National Bank
   c) State Bank of India
   d) Allahabad Bank
   e) Andhra Bank

Q.373) Name the term which is used by central bank under which funds are transferred from the Central Bank to the state and Union governments which empowers the public with money to buy things.
   a) Train Money
   b) Helicopter Money
   c) Bus Money
   d) Ship Money
   e) Jet Money

Q.374) J Packirisamy the MD of Andhra Bank has been appointed as OSD (Officer on Special Duty) in Union Bank of India. Mrutyunjay Mahapatra CEO of Syndicate Bank has been appointed as OSD in which bank?
   a) Canara Bank
   b) Punjab National Bank
   c) Indian Bank
   d) UCO Bank
   e) Bank of India

Q.375) Gulf Petrochem (GP) acquires lubricant’s assets of Grand Petrochem of which country?
   a) Somalia
   b) Madagascar
   c) Bali
   d) Niue
   e) Nigeria

Q.376) Researchers of which Institute has developed the cost-effective disinfectant chamber named ‘ZERO-COV’?
   a) NIT-Hyderabad
   b) NIT-Puducherry
c) NIT-Bhopal

d) NIT-Karnataka

e) NIT-Trichy

Q.377) Which state government launched ‘COVID-MADAT’ app a telescreen helpline to test people for COVID-19?

a) Madhya Pradesh

b) Nagaland

c) Telangana

d) Karnataka

e) Maharashtra

Q.378) CARE Ratings appointed ______ as its MD, Chief Executive.

a) Ajay Kumar Bhalla

b) Madhusan Prasad

c) Ajay Mahajan

d) Sajjal Chakraborty

e) Durga Shanker Mishra

Q.379) Mrutanjay Mahapatra has been appointed as OSD in Canara Bank. He was a former CEO of _________.

a) Syndicate Bank

b) Andhra Bank

c) Indian Bank

d) United Bank of India

e) Allahabad Bank

Q.380) Name the multilingual science communication initiative launched by Government of India.

a) CoGyan

b) CoScience

c) Coviscience

d) CovidGyan

e) GyanCorona

Q.381) Who of the following has been appointed as the Chief Risk Officer of Lakshmi Vilas Bank?

a) Parthasarathi Mukherjee

b) Srinath Mantripragada

c) S Vaidyanathan

d) Prashant Tripathy

e) D Krishnakumar

Q.382) Name the online Platform which was launched by Andhra Pradesh government to help various department of state to procure cements.

a) YSR Nirman

b) YSR Cement

c) YSR Kanuga

d) YSR Nelluvu

e) YSR Samaj

Q.383) Zafar Sarfraz who passed away recently due to COVID-19 is 1st class cricket of which nation?

a) Afghanistan

b) Pakistan

c) India

d) Bangladesh

e) South Africa
Q.384) Name the state government launches ‘SMILE’ for e-learning at School?
   a) Rajasthan  
   b) Maharashtra  
   c) Tamil Nadu  
   d) Goa  
   e) Tripura

Q.385) What is the name of the disinfectant chamber that was developed by a team of researchers in NIT Suratkal?
   a) Eliminate-CoV  
   b) Disinfect-CoV  
   c) Destroy-CoV  
   d) Zero-CoV  
   e) NoMore-Cov

Q.386) Which of the following apps is the first ever to have 50 million users in just 13 days?
   a) Twitter  
   b) Facebook  
   c) AarogyaSetu  
   d) PokemonGo  
   e) Swachh Bharat Abhiyan

Q.387) Willie Davis, who passed away recently was associated with which sport?
   a) Basketball  
   b) Football  
   c) Volleyball  
   d) Table Tennis  
   e) Cricket

Q.388) Vikram Solar is to set up Solar Plant in Rajasthan. Where is its headquarters?
   a) Hyderabad  
   b) Dharwad  
   c) Jaipur  
   d) Ahmedabad  
   e) Kolkata

Q.389) Writer AbdelouahabAissaoui has won the 13th International Prize for Arabic Fiction (IPAF) 2020 for his novel ‘The Spartan Court’. He Belongs to which Country?
   a) Libya  
   b) Tunisia  
   c) Oman  
   d) Egypt  
   e) Algeria

Q.390) Who was Appointed as the MD, CEO of Paytm General Insurance, a subsidiary of Paytm Payments Bank?
   a) Vineet Arora  
   b) Satish Kumar Gupta  
   c) Pravin Jadhav  
   d) Ritesh Agarwal  
   e) Vijay Shekar Sharma

Q.391) The President of IWF, Tamas Ajan resigned recently. Who has been appointed as the Acting President of the Federation?
   a) Ursula Papandrea  
   b) Thomas Beach  
   c) Lindsey Vonn
d) Karin Kildow  

Q.392) _________ is developing plasmonic semiconductor nanomaterials for the removal of toxic organic compounds from water by harvesting solar light.  
a) IIT-Guwahati  
b) Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology (IASST)  
c) IIT-Ahmedabad  
d) S.N Bose National Centre For Basic Sciences  
Q.393) Who is named as the new Ambassador for the World Wide Fund (WWF) India's Environment Education program?  
a) Harikrishna  
b) Viswanathan Anand  
c) Bhaskar Adhiban  
d) Garry Kasparov  
e) Vladimir Kramnik  
Q.394) DRDOs PPE testing facility shifted from DRDE _____ to INMAS Delhi  
a) Chennai  
b) Ahmedabad  
c) Gwalior  
d) Mumbai  
e) Hyderabad  
Q.395) Who developed magnetic Random Access Memory (RAM) which is faster, more energy-efficient and capable of storing more information in a smaller volume than existing data storage technologies?  
a) IIT-Guwahati  
b) IIT-Mandi  
c) IISc, Bengaluru  
d) IIT- Madras  
e) IIT- Bombay  
Q.396) Who developed GeneLAMP-N makes confirmatory test results of COVID-19 possible in 2 hours?  
a) DRDO  
b) NCL  
c) CSIR-CECRI  
d) SCTIMST  
e) National Centre For Basic Science  
Q.397) Who is named the brand ambassador of CricKingdom Cricket Coaching Academies?  
a) Rohit Sharma  
b) Sachin Tendulkar  
c) Virat Kholi  
d) Rahul Dravid  
e) Shikar Dhawan  
Q.398) Which of the following banks recently launched ‘Safety Grid’ to reiterate Social Distancing as prescribed by WHO?  
a) Canara Bank  
b) HDFC Bank  
c) Bank of Baroda  
d) State Bank of India  
e) Axis Bank
Q.399) Who headed the panel which has suggested to set up a National Body for Valuation Professionals?
   a) Pravin Kutumbe
   b) Bibek Debroy
   c) T V Alamelu
   d) S C Garg
   e) M S Sahoo

Q.400) Ranjit Choudhry, who passed away recently was a famous _________.
   a) Actor
   b) Cricketer
   c) Social Activist
   d) Writer
   e) Singer

Q.401) Which country is the most digitally dextrous country in the world?
   a) Japan
   b) China
   c) Australia
   d) USA
   e) India

Q.402) RBI cuts reverse repo rate from 4% to _______.
   a) 3.75%
   b) 3.65%
   c) 3.70%
   d) 3.55%
   e) 3.40%

Q.403) What is the projected growth rate of Asia for the year 2020 by IMF?
   a) 2.3%
   b) 0%
   c) 1.9%
   d) 3.1%
   e) 2.5%

Q.404) What is the name of the mascot released for the 2022 Asian Games to be held in September?
   a) FeiFei
   b) ChenChen
   c) LianLian
   d) CongCong
   e) All (b),(c),(d)

Q.405) IL&FS sells entire stake in IWPSL to ORIX Corporation. Where is the Headquarters of ORIX?
   a) Ohio
   b) Seattle
   c) Pulau Ujong
   d) Seoul
   e) Tokyo

Q.406) Which is the Portal launched by Chhattisgarh government to provide home delivery of fruits and vegetables during the extended lockdown phase?
   a) Cghaat
   b) SMILE
   c) COVSACK
Q.407) Name the 1st Insurance company in India which has announced additional benefits for its policyholders & agents to support them during the COVID-19 pandemic.

a) Canara HSBC OBC Life Insurance Company
b) DHFL Pramerica Life Insurance Company
c) Tata AIA Life Insurance
d) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance
e) DHFL Pramerica Life Insurance Company

Q.408) BSNL Chairman & Managing Director PK Purwar has taken additional charge of which public sector undertaking?

a) BEL
b) BHEL
c) GAIL
d) ONGC
e) MTNL

Q.409) According to the recent announcement made by Reserve Bank of India, Banks are now required to maintain a Liquidity coverage ratio of _______ percent from the earlier requirement of 100 percent.

a) 70
b) 65
c) 75
d) 55
e) 80

Q.410) Name the Indian-American who has been appointed to the White House COVID-19 advisory council.

a) Bas Balkissoon
b) Gulzar Cheema
c) Ro Khanna
d) Bharat Agnihotri
e) Harry Bains

Q.411) The Sports Authority of India (SAI) has joined hands with which organisation to launch an online coaching programme during lockdown?

a) Athletics Federation of India
b) Archery Association of India
c) Aero Club of India
d) All India Sport Federation
e) All India Football Federation

Q.412) Beijing-based AIIB is considering a proposal for financing a $500 million project to strengthen the healthcare system of which country?

a) Bangladesh
b) Sri Lanka
c) Maldives
d) Pakistan
e) India

Q.413) What is the theme of World Voice Day being celebrated on April 16 to celebrate the phenomenon of voice?

a) Occurrence of Voice
b) Focus on Your Voice in 2020

c) Discover Your Voice

d) Empowerment of Voice

e) Making an impact with your voice

Q.414) Name the organisation which has launched an interactive COVID-19 service on Facebook Messenger?

a) Red Cross

b) Global Health Gateway

c) IMF

d) WHO

e) UN

Q.415) Which of the following small finance banks has taken steps to bring in digital banking services like Selfie based Instant fixed deposit account service?

a) Janlakshmi

b) Ujjivan

c) Fincare

d) Capital Local

e) Equitas

Q.416) Luis Sepúlveda Calfucura, the writer and author who passed away recently belongs to which country?

a) Netherlands

b) Ireland

c) Germany

d) Spain

e) Chile

Q.417) What is the amount that will be provided to refinance NABARD, SIDBI & NHB?

a) 1,00,000 cr

b) 25,000 cr

c) 75,000 cr

d) 50,000 cr

e) 30,000 cr

Q.418) Name the transport aggregator app (developed by National Informatics Centre) which was launched by Union Agriculture minister Narendra Singh Tomar for farmers.

a) Kisan truck

b) Kisan App

c) Kisan Rath

d) Kisan Rail

e) Kisan dosth

Q.419) What is the rank of Sharath Kamal in ITTF (International Table Tennis Federation) World Ranking 2020 of senior male players (NO. 1 in India)?

a) 28

b) 31

c) 17

d) 18

e) 14

Q.420) Name the person who authored the book titled “Shuttling to the Top: The Story of P V Sindhu”.

a) Taslima Nasreen

b) Om Swami
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q.421) Name the company which has launched new virtual Braille keyboard named ‘TalkBack’.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Apple</td>
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<td>b) Google</td>
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<td>c) Facebook</td>
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<tr>
<td>d) Microsoft</td>
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<td>e) Samsung</td>
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<tr>
<th>Q.422) A check payment that is written by someone, but has not been cashed or deposited by the payee is known as?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Crossed cheque</td>
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<td>b) Order cheque</td>
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<tr>
<td>c) Anti-dated cheque</td>
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<tr>
<td>d) Outstanding cheque</td>
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<tr>
<td>e) Bearer cheque</td>
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</tbody>
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<tr>
<th>Q.423) Which state government has tied up with Google to Geo-map Community Kitchens?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Uttar Pradesh</td>
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<tr>
<td>b) Uttarakhand</td>
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<tr>
<td>c) Maharashtra</td>
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<tr>
<td>d) West Bengal</td>
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<tr>
<td>e) Haryana</td>
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<tr>
<th>Q.424) Finance ministry has increased coverage of a lender’s loss in case of loan default under the Credit Guarantee Fund for</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) 85.9%</td>
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<td>b) 111%</td>
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<tr>
<td>c) 98.6%</td>
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<tr>
<th>Q.425) Name the Union Culture Minister (I/C) who has launched national list of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) in April 2020.</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Nitin Gadkari</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Harsimrat Kaur Badal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Prahlad Singh Patel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Narendra Singh Tomar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Ram Vilas Paswan</td>
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<tr>
<th>Q.426) Name the 1st Indian state which carried out the rapid testing for covid-19.</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Rajasthan</td>
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<td>b) Goa</td>
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<tr>
<td>c) Kerala</td>
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<tr>
<td>d) Tamil Nadu</td>
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<tr>
<td>e) Uttar Pradesh</td>
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<tr>
<th>Q.427) What is the Business Confidence Index for the 4th quarter of FY 20 as per National Council for Applied Economic Research’s (NCAER) 112th Business Expectations Survey (BES)?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) 85.9%</td>
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<td>b) 111%</td>
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<tr>
<td>c) 98.6%</td>
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d) 77.3%
e) 101.5%

Q.428) Which Indian multinational motor company which has acquired 122-year-old iconic British company Norton Motorcycle (UK) Ltd for Rs 153 crore.
   a) TVS motor
   b) Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India
   c) Suzuki Motorcycle India
d) Bajaj Auto
e) Hero Motocorp

Q.429) Which of the following is India’s 2nd institute which decodes entire genome sequence of Coronavirus (1st – National Institute of Virology)?
   a) Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology
   b) Kalam Institute of Health Technology
c) National Centre for Cell Science
d) Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre
e) Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics

Q.430) Which Indian movie producer and distributor company which has done 1st of its kind all share merger with Hollywood’s STX Entertainment.
   a) Fox Star Studios
   b) Excel Entertainment
c) Eros International
d) Reliance Entertainment
e) AVM Productions

Q.431) Which national program has been launched by the Union HRD Minister to develop and contribute e-learning content for students?
   a) e-Disha 2.0
   b) e-Gyan 2.0
c) VidyaDaan 2.0
d) Diksha 2.0
e) Gyan 2.0

Q.432) NADA has collaborated with which association to conduct an online anti-doping awareness session utilising the lockdown period, ?
   a) Badminton Federation of India
   b) Indian Sports Federation
c) Sports India
d) Athletic Federation of India
e) Boxing Federation of India

Q.433) Which country has legalised cultivation of marijuana for medicinal use with the aim to improve on exports?
   a) Saudi Arabia
   b) UAE
c) Oman
d) Qatar
e) Lebanon

Q.434) ______has been appointed as Chairman and MD of Housing and Urban Development Corporation.
   a) Shiv Das Meena
Q.435) Which General Insurance company has launched a preventive healthcare platform in partnership with GOQii under the regulatory sandbox initiative?

a) Bharti AXA General Insurance
b) Acko General Insurance
c) Cholamandalam MS General Insurance
d) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
e) DHFL General Insurance

Q.436) Satya Narayan Gupta has been appointed as the Chief Financial Officer of _______.

a) Karur Vysya Bank
b) Catholic Syrian Bank
c) Dhanlaxmi Bank
d) Jammu and Kashmir Bank
e) City Union Bank

Q.437) Thespian Usha Ganguly who passed away recently was a well-known _______.

a) Spiritual Leader
b) Theatre legend
c) Cartoonist
d) Biologist
e) Hockey Player

Q.438) Vodafone Idea has entered into partnership with which Online Payments company to launch 'Recharge Saathi' for prepaid customers?

a) PhonePe
b) Google Pay
c) Paytm
d) Free Charge
e) MobiKwik

Q.439) Under CM COVID-19 Yoddha Kalyan Yojana, Anganwadi workers and Assistants of Madhya Pradesh will get a special health insurance cover of Rs _____ lakhs.

a) 10 Lakhs
b) 30 Lakhs
c) 40 Lakhs
d) 50 Lakhs
e) 20 Lakhs

Q.440) Who won the Chinese Virtual Grand Prix?

a) Charles Leclerc
b) Alex Albon
c) Lewis Hamilton
d) Max Verstappen

Q.441) China's first Mars exploration mission has been named _______.

a) Tianjin-1
b) Wuhan-1
c) Tianwen-1
d) Chengdu-1
e) Harbin-1
Q.442) IGIB scientists, recently developed low cost COVID-19 test. It has been named as ‘________’
   a) Feluda
   b) RaySum
   c) Farishta
   d) Fatiman
   e) None of these

Q.443) __________ is set to enter into an agreement with the Reserve Bank of India for a currency swap worth USD 400 mn.
   a) Sri Lanka
   b) Male
   c) Bhutan
   d) Maldives
   e) Bangladesh

Q.444) Marion Hollins has been elected to 2021 class of ________ Hall of Fame.
   a) Hockey
   b) Golf
   c) Cricket
   d) Basketball
   e) Foot ball

Q.445) What is the increase in sown area of summer crops on year-on-year basis in India as per government data?
   a) 20%
   b) 36%
   c) 24%
   d) 42%
   e) 51%

Q.446) Which Indian public sector bank has launched Working Capital demand Loan for agriculture sector (WCDL-Agri)?
   a) Punjab National Bank
   b) Indian Overseas Bank
   c) State Bank of India
   d) Union Bank of India
   e) Canara Bank

Q.447) Under which among the following Google has launched ‘Nearby spot’ to help users find local stores selling essentials?
   a) Google Pay
   b) Google Maps
   c) Google Playstore
   d) Google mail
   e) Google Assistant

Q.448) The 11th edition of world games 2022 is going to be held at which city?
   a) Birmingham, UK
   b) Bejing, China
   c) Bern, Germany
   d) Birmingham, US
   e) Madrid, Spain

Q.449) Saharai Oram who passed away recently is the former minister of which Indian state?
   a) Odisha
   b) Arunachal Pradesh
   c) Jharkhand
   d) Bihar
   e) West Bengal

Q.450) Name the bank which has ranked 5th among ‘Best Large Workplaces in Asia 2020’?
   a) Equitas
   b) Capital Local
   c) Ujjivan small Finance Bank
   d) SBI
   e) HDFC
BANKING AWARENESS QUIZ:

Q.1) What is the maximum FDI limit in the Small Finance Banks?
   a) 35%
   b) 51%
   c) 100%
   d) 74%
   e) 25%

Q.2) The SWIFT international payment network is one of the largest financial messaging systems in the world of USA, as equivalent to that CIPS is of which country?
   a) Russia
   b) France
   c) Japan
   d) China
   e) None of these

Q.3) What is the full form of CIRP?
   a) Central Insolvency Resolution Process
   b) Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process
   c) Company Insolvency Resolution Process
   d) Credit Insolvency Resolution Process
   e) None of these

Q.4) The Definition of ‘Banking’ is given in
   __________.
   a) Negotiable Instrument Act, 1881
   b) Indian Contract Act, 1872
   c) The Banking Regulation Act, 1949
   d) RBI Act, 1934
   e) None of these

Q.5) Real Interest Rate, is an interest rate that is adjusted for ________.
   a) Inflation
   b) Deflation
   c) Reflation
   d) Stagflation
   e) None of these

Q.6) What is an acronym of MUDRA?
   a) Medium-scale Units Developing Research Agency
   b) Management of Units Delivery Research Association
   c) Micro Units Development & Refinance Agency
   d) Middle Unfunded Development & Refinance Agency
   e) None of these

Q.7) Which of the following is not a method of measuring National Income?
   a) Investment Method
   b) Product Method
   c) Income Method
   d) Expenditure Method
   e) None of these

Q.8) SMA is an account that has the potential to become an NPA/Stressed Asset. What does SMA denote?
   a) Special Mention Accounts
   b) Stressed Management Accounts
c) Solvent Monetary Accounts
b) Consortium of Banks
d) Stabilized Monthly Accounts
c) Private Financial Institutions
e) None of these
d) None of these

Q.9) Which is a subsidiary set up for speedier resolution of Non-Performing Assets (NPA) in the MSME sector?
a) RXIL
b) ISARC
c) SVCL
d) ISTSL
e) None of these

Q.10) The difference between the total cost of a project and the sanctioned loan amount is termed as__________
a) Near Money
b) Gross Income
c) Margin Amount
d) Net Amount
e) None of these

Q.11) The RBI is authorized to issue notes with face values of up to _______ and coins up to 1,000 rupees.
a) 5000
b) 10000
c) 15000
d) 20000
e) 12000

Q.12) The Securitization Act does not covers ________:
a) Private Sector Banks
b) Consortium of Banks
c) Private Financial Institutions
d) Chit Fund Companies
e) None of these

Q.13) In which of the following year NEFT was introduced in India?
a) 2002
b) 2003
c) 2004
d) 2005
e) 2008

Q.14) Who prepares the national income estimates in India?
a) Central Statistical Office
b) Finance Commission
c) Commerce and Industrial Ministry
d) Niti Ayog
e) None of these

Q.15) The regulator for Mutual Funds in India is?
a) FIMMDA
b) AMFI
c) RBI
d) SEBI
e) EXIM

Q.16) Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) Scheme was formulated in the year-
a) 1996
b) 1997
c) 1998
Q.17) RBI issued its first banknote in January 1938 bearing the portrait of George IV. What was its denomination?
   a) Rs. 5
   b) Rs. 10
   c) Rs. 1
   d) Rs. 2
   e) Rs. 12

Q.18) Capital adequacy is worked out based on?
   a) Total demand and time liabilities
   b) Net demand and time assets
   c) Risk-weighted assets
   d) Risk-weighted liabilities
   e) None of these

Q.19) Normally banks accept fixed Deposits for a maximum period of:
   a) 5 years
   b) 10 years
   c) 20 years
   d) 15 years
   e) None of these

Q.20) Which was the first Mutual Fund started in India?
   a) Unit Trust of India
   b) SBI Mutual Fund
   c) HDFC Mutual Fund
   d) Muthoot Finance
   e) None of these

Q.21) Balance in a current account is classified as _______.
   a) Hybrid Deposit
   b) Term Deposit
   c) Demand Deposit
   d) Fixed Deposit
   e) None of these

Q.22) The main foreign exchange reserves in the country are?
   a) Foreign Currency assets
   b) Gold Stock
   c) Special Drawing Rights
   d) All of the above
   e) None of the Above

Q.23) Which of the following type of budgeting being used in India?
   a) Balanced Budget
   b) Zero base Budget
   c) Receipts Budget
   d) All of the above
   e) None of the Above

Q.24) For which of the following bank account there is no deduction of TDS?
   a) Saving Bank accounts
   b) Recurring Deposit accounts
   c) Term deposit Accounts
   d) Both A & B
   e) None of these
Q.25) Safe deposit locker – a product offered in the Indian retail banking segment under: –
a) Retail loan products  
b) Retail deposit products  
c) Retail services  
d) Corporate services  
e) None of these

Q.26) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has doubled the minimum investment limit for clients of Portfolio Management Services to _______.
a) Rs 40 lakh  
b) Rs 50 lakh  
c) Rs 80 lakh  
d) Rs 100 lakh  
e) None of these

Q.27) Which of the following became the first company to list its commercial papers on the stock exchanges?
a) Bajaj Finserv  
b) American Express Bank Ltd. India  
c) Aditya Birla Finance Ltd (ABFL)  
d) Edelweiss Securities Ltd  
e) None of these

Q.28) The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI) is considering changing of base year for GDP calculation from 2011-12 to _______.
a) 2014-15  
b) 2015-16  
c) 2016-17  
d) 2017-18  
e) None of these

Q.29) Which of the following instruments is not a Negotiable Instrument, as per NI Act, 1881?
a) Bills of Exchange  
b) Letter of credit  
c) Bank Draft  
d) Promissory Notes  
e) None of these

Q.30) Deposits under Foreign Currency Non-Resident (FCNR) scheme can be accepted for a minimum of _______.
a) 15 days  
b) 3 months  
c) 6 months  
d) 1 year  
e) 2 year

Q.31) Which of the following forms of securing a loan is the safest one?
a) Lien  
b) Assignment  
c) Pledge  
d) Hypothecation  
e) None of these

Q.32) How Many Countries are the member of World Bank?
a) 164  
b) 189
c) 193  
d) 194  
e) 201

Q.33) Marginal cost is dependent upon_________.  
  a) Only fixed cost  
b) Only variable cost  
c) Both fixed cost and variable cost  
d) All the above  
e) None of the Above  

Q.34) Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA) of 1947, was subsequently replaced by Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, _________.  
  a) 1978  
b) 1950  
c) 1984  
d) 1973  
e) 1989

Q.35) Mutual Fund Scheme that operates continuously without any limit entry for subscriptions and redemption is-  
  a) Close Ended  
b) Open-Ended  
c) Mixed Fund  
d) Mutual Fund  
e) None of these

Q.36) Goods and Service Tax, would replace which of the following taxes levied at present?  
  a) Capital gains tax  
b) Corporate tax  
c) Value-added tax  
d) Income tax  
e) None of these

Q.37) Where is the headquarter of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA)?  
  a) Hyderabad  
b) Bangalore  
c) Mumbai  
d) Chennai  
e) Amaravati

Q.38) Maximum age for retirement for MD/CEO of all private banks is__________  
  a) 70  
b) 65  
c) 60  
d) 56  
e) 63

Q.39) Choose the correct pair which comes under LAF –  
  a) CRR and SLR  
b) Repo rate and Reverse Repo Rate  
c) Base rate and MCLR  
d) CRR and Repo Rate  
e) None of these

Q.40) How much FDI is permitted for E-commerce sector in India?  
  a) 49%  
b) 51%
c) 100%
d) 26%
e) 55%

Q.41) What is the maximum deposit limit that can be made in a PPF account in any given financial year?
a) Rs.50,000
b) Rs.1.0 lakhs
c) Rs.1.5 lakhs
d) Rs.2.0 lakhs
e) Rs. 5 lakhs

Q.42) Wholesale Banking is a banking services between ____________ and other financial institutions.
a) Foreign banks
b) Local banks
c) Merchant banks
d) Central banks
e) None of these

Q.43) Who among the following has been appointed as the fourth deputy governor of the Reserve Bank of India?
a) Rabi N. Mishra
b) Michael Patra
c) Deepak Kumar Mohanty
d) M. Rajeshwar Rao
e) None of these

Q.44) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will now allow consumers to give an e-mandate for recurring payments made through Unified Payments Interface (UPI). The limit on such recurring transactions has been set at ________.
a) Rs. 2000
b) Rs. 4000
c) Rs. 15,000
d) Rs. 10,000
e) Rs. 20,000

Q.45) The Difference between Gross Domestic Product and Net Domestic Product is
a) Net Indirect Tax (Indirect Tax Subsidy)
b) Consumption of fixed Capital
c) Net Capital Formation
d) Income Capital Fund
e) None of these

Q.46) What is the objective of the introduction of ‘Marginal Standing Facility’ by RBI?
a) To contain volatility in the overnight inter-bank rates
b) To contain volatility in MIBOR
c) To contain volatility in LIBOR
d) Bank Rate
e) None of these

Q.47) Which among the following types of account can be opened under NRO?
a) Term Deposit
b) Recurring
c) Savings
d) Current
e) Fixed
Q.48) ___________ is known as the difference between the outflow and inflow of foreign currency:
a) Current Account Deficit
b) Fiscal Deficit
c) Foreign Exchange Reserves
d) Balance of Payments
e) None of these
Q.49) Bank branches are established under ___________ of Banking Regulations Act, 1949.
a) Section 20
b) Section 21
c) Section 22
d) Section 23
e) Section 32
Q.50) What is the minimum number of free withdrawals through ATMs in BSBDA?
a) 5
b) 4
c) 2
d) 3
e) 7

VOCABULARY:
1) MOOT (Adjective)
Meaning: subject to debate, dispute, or uncertainty.
Synonyms: debatable, arguable, problematic, contentious
Antonyms: certain, definite
Usage: It is again a moot point whether India’s ASAT test and its positioning as a critical element in India’s strategic defense capability, will have the desired impact that the nation’s leaders hope for.

2) SIEGE (Noun):
Meaning: A military operation in which enemy forces surround a town or building, cutting off essential supplies, with the aim of compelling those inside to surrender.
Synonyms: blockade, barricade, restriction
Antonyms: clearance, opening
Usage: During the siege of the village, the villagers were forced to give up their property.

3) TIZZY(noun):
Meaning: a state of nervous excitement or agitation.
Synonyms: acrimony, animosity, annoyance, chagrin.
Antonyms: calm, calmness, delight, ease
**Usage:** Her mother was in a tizzy over Liz’s divorce.

3) **FARRAGO (noun):**
**Meaning:** a confused mixture.
**Synonyms:** mishmash, jumble, hodgepodge, turmoil.
**Antonyms:** constituent, ravel, sequence, categorization.
**Usage:** The present gun law is a farrago of nonsense as most of it is unenforceable.

4) **HABITUAL( adjective):**
**Meaning:** usual or repeated
**Synonyms:** addicted, perpetual
**Antonyms:** infrequent, occasional
**Usage:** Longer prison Sentences will help keep habitual criminals off the streets.

5) **CONSTERNATION (Noun):**
**Meaning:** a feeling of anxiety or dismay, typically at something unexpected.
**Synonyms:** perturbation, anxiety, distress, disquiet,
**Antonyms:** satisfaction
**Usage:** I sleep in consternation not knowing where my keys are.

6) **ENDURING (adjective):**
**Meaning:** lasting over a period of time; durable.
**Synonym:** undergo, go through
**Antonym:** fade, short-lived
**Usage:** Few of them feel bound by any enduring loyalties.

7) **STIRRING(adjective):**
**Meaning:** causing excitement or strong emotion; rousing.
**Synonym:** exciting, thrilling
**Antonym:** boring, pedestrian
**Usage:** Rhyn looked up, anger stirring again.

8) **HARNESSED (verb):**
**Meaning:** put a harness on (a horse or other draught animal).
**Synonym:** saddle, yoke
**Antonym:** unhitch
**Usage:** The team was harnessed and ready to go.

9) **EPOCHAL (adjective):**
**Meaning:** forming or characterizing an epoch; epoch-making.
**Synonym:** important, significant
**Antonym:** Westinghouse made his epochal invention.

10) **REPUGNANT (adjective) :**
Meaning: extremely distasteful; unacceptable.
Synonyms: abhorrent, repulsive, offensive, nauseous.
Antonyms: appealing, desirable, felicitous, pleasing.
Usage: The racist words were repugnant to everyone in the auditorium.

11) UNTRAMMELED (adjective):
Meaning: not deprived of freedom of action or expression; not restricted or hampered.
Synonyms: unobstructed, unhampered, unrestrained, unfettered.
Antonyms: limited, restrained, restricted, obstructed.
Usage: My mother always encourages me to let my untrammeled dreams run wild.

12) RELEGATE (Verb):
Meaning: assign an inferior rank or position to.
Synonyms: downgrade, banish, exile, degrade
Antonyms: upgrade, promote
Usage: If you don’t want your boss to relegate you to the status of unemployed, you’d better watch what you say on social media.

13) INTERDICT (Noun):
Meaning: an authoritative prohibition, in particular
Synonym: prohibition, ban, bar, veto, prescription,
Antonym: corroborate, support
Usage: Because I failed most of my classes last term, my parents will probably interdict me from working this semester.

14) HEDGE (Verb):
Meaning: limit or qualify (something) by conditions or exceptions.
Synonyms: confine, restrict, limit, hinder, obstruct,
Usage: She was hedged in by her imperfect education

15) QUIRK (Noun):
Meaning: a strange habit
Synonyms: irregularity, a trait
Antonyms: normality,
Usage: His biggest quirk is his love for old marbles.

16) BELITTLE (Verb):
Meaning: dismiss (someone or something) as unimportant.
Synonyms: disparage, denigrate, deprecate, downgrade
Antonyms: praise, magnify

Usage: There is no reason for you to belittle my wardrobe simply because your clothes are more expensive than the ones I own.

17) MANDATE (noun):
Meaning: an official order or commission to do something.
Synonyms: instruction, directive, direction, decree, command
Antonyms: encourage
Usage: They carried out the governor’s mandate to build more roads.

18) DISSIDENCE (Noun):
Meaning: disagreement over a matter
Synonyms: contention, disagreement, discordance, disharmony, dispute
Antonyms: agreement, approval, authorization, concurrence
Usage: So much is said nowadays about the dissidence of the spiritual and intellectual worlds.

19) RATIFY (Verb):
Meaning: sign or give formal consent to (a treaty, contract, or agreement), making it officially valid.
Synonyms: confirm, approve, sanction, endorse, agree to
Synonyms: wreck, deliberately damage
Antonyms: conservation, preservation
Usage: They sabotaged the enemy’s oil fields. Practice with,
23) Flawed(adjective) :
Meaning: having or characterized by a fundamental weakness or imperfection.
Synonym: unsound, defective
Antonym: sound
Usage: As a result, adolescents may display increased introspection and self-consciousness.

24) Protagonists(noun) :
Meaning: the leading character or one of the major characters in a play, film, novel, etc.
Synonym: supporter, upholder
Antonym: opponent
Usage: For the next nine years he was the protagonist of Reform.

25) Culmination(Noun) :
Meaning: the highest or climactic point of something, especially as attained after a long time.
Synonym: climax, pinnacle
Antonym: nadir
Usage: That’s the culmination of the thirty day trial. The Lion, as the symbol of fire

26) Introspection(noun) :
Meaning: the examination or observation of one’s own mental and emotional processes.
Synonym: brooding, self-analysis
Antonym: unthoughtful

27) Indictment(noun) :
Meaning: a formal charge or accusation of a serious crime.
Synonym: charge, accusation
Antonym: acquittal
Usage: She intended the film to be an indictment of the media.

28) Waned(Verb) :
Meaning: (of the moon) have a progressively smaller part of its visible surface illuminated, so that it appears to decrease in size.
Synonym: disappear, decrease
Antonym: increase, grow
Usage: Sadness had long since waned, leaving only a hole that’d never be filled.

29) Plummeted(verb) :
Meaning: fall or drop straight down at high speed.
Synonym: plunge, fall headlong,
Antonym: arise, ascend
Usage: He didn’t even look at her, and her hope plummeted again.

30) BLOVIATE (VERB):
Meaning: to speak or write verbosely and windily  
Synonyms: alleviate, aviate, bloated, blockade, deviate  
Antonyms: be quiet, be silent  
Usage: Many serious individuals do not like people that bloviate, as they hate conversation that does not have a point and takes too long.

31) Castigated(Verb):  
Meaning: reprimand (someone) severely.  
Synonym: reprimand, rebuke  
Antonym: praise, commend  
Usage: You cannot castigate me in front of my son

32) Enforcement(Noun):  
Meaning: the act of compelling observance of or compliance with a law, rule, or obligation.  
Synonym: imposition, implementation  
Antonym: Disregard, ignore  
Usage: That’s something the law enforcement people don’t want to do.

33) Pretense(Noun):  
Meaning: an attempt to make something that is not the case appear true.  
Synonym: make-believe, act,  
Antonym: reality, honesty  
Usage: We tried to keep up the pretense that everything was fine.

34) Unhindered(Adjective):  
Meaning: not hindered or obstructed.  
Synonym: straight, non-stop  
Antonym: Incomplete, indirect  
Usage: Let life go on in it unhindered and let it defend itself

35) Parleys(Noun):  
Meaning: a conference between opposing sides in a dispute, especially a discussion of terms for an armistice.  
Synonym: deliberation, colloquy  
Antonym: quiet, silence  
Usage: who had come to parley with him

36) Stalled(Verb):  
Meaning: stop or cause to stop making progress.  
Synonym: obstruct, impede  
Antonym: proceed, wend  
Usage: She started the vehicle, stalled it,

37) Infusing(Verb):  
Meaning: fill; pervade.  
Synonym: permeate, suffuse  
Antonym: deprive, divest
Usage: She has infused her followers with confidence

38) Cryptic (adjective):
   Meaning: having a Meaning that is mysterious or obscure.
   Synonym: enigmatic, mysterious
   Antonym: straightforward, clear
   Usage: The cryptic response made her hesitate.

39) Isolated (Adjective):
   Meaning: far away from other places, buildings, or people; remote.
   Synonym: obscure, inaccessible
   Antonym: accessible
   Usage: The town remains a very isolated community.

40) Demilitarised (verb):
   Meaning: remove all military forces from (an area).
   Synonym: disarmament
   Antonym: armament, militarization
   Usage: The Dardanelles, Bosporus, the Sea of Marmora, and the adjoining coastal areas, both in Europe and Asia, were demilitarized.

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41) XENOPHOBIC (adjective):
   Meaning: having or showing a dislike of or prejudice against people from other countries.
   Synonyms: racist, racialist, ethnocentric, ethnocentrist.
   Antonyms: bountiful, permissive, thoughtful, lenient.
   Usage: As a result, the new parliament is distinctly more xenophobic and illiberal than its predecessor.

42) INCUR (verb):
   Meaning: become subject to (something unwelcome or unpleasant) as a result of one’s own behavior or actions.
   Synonyms: provoke, earn, arouse, induce.
   Antonyms: avoid, shun, elude, evade.
   Usage: The surgery wasn’t what scared the sick man, it was all of the medical bills he would incur from the procedure.

43) ENCOMPASSING (Verb):
   Meaning: surround and have or hold within.
   Synonym: surround, enclose, ring
   Antonym: Exclude, leave
   Usage: The training will encompass how to administer first aid and CPR.

44) MEAGER (Adjective):
   Meaning: (of something provided or available) lacking in quantity or quality.
Synonym: inadequate, scanty
Antonym: abundant
Usage: supplementing her meager dancer’s pay with work as a runway model.

45) PROSPERITY (Noun):
Meaning: the state of being prosperous.
Synonym: affluence, riches, opulence
Antonym: hardship, failure
Usage: The prosperity of some does not require that others be poor.

46) VAGUE (Adjective):
Meaning: of uncertain, indefinite, or unclear character or Meaning.
Synonym: indistinct, indefinite
Antonym: clear, certain
Usage: She rolled her eyes at the vague response.

47) EXAGGERATION (Noun):
Meaning: a statement that represents something as better or worse than it really is.
Synonym: overstatement, overemphasis
Antonym: play down, understate
Usage: He is notorious for his wilful exaggeration

48) VEST (verb):
Meaning: confer or bestow (power, authority, property, etc.) on someone.
Synonyms: entrust, invest, bestow, confer.
Antonyms: impede, inhibit, disqualify, disbar.
Usage: Extensive powers were vested into the hands of the President who headed the executive branch of government.

49) APARTHEID (noun):
Meaning: a policy or system of segregation or discrimination on grounds of race.
Synonyms: prejudice, bias, bigotry, favoritism.
Antonyms: antidiscrimination, antiracism, antisegregation, assimilationism.
Usage: Incredibly, a decade after the end of apartheid this system still exists.

50) BLATANT (adjective):
Meaning: (of bad behavior) done openly and unashamedly.
Synonyms: flagrant, glaring, undisguised, overt.
Antonyms: imperceptible, inconspicuous, unnoticeable, unobtrusive.
Usage: To credit the newspaper, they did retract the quote once it was exposed as a blatant lie.
51) INCHOATE (adjective):
Meaning: just begun and so not fully formed or developed; rudimentary.
Synonyms: budding, inceptive, incipient, nascent.
Antonyms: developed, full-fledged, evolved, ripened.
Usage: If only you could come up with a complete plan and not just an inchoate idea!

Meaning: (of something bad or unpleasant) utter; complete (used for emphasis).
Synonyms: total, absolute, thorough, perfect, sheer.
Antonyms: inadequate, incomplete, insufficient, unfinished.
Usage: It was downright bad marking that allowed Dermot Shields head past Larkin from six yards for the lead goal.

52) FURLOUGH (noun):
Meaning: leave of absence, especially that granted to a member of the services of a missionary.
Synonyms: break, rest, recess, a day off.
Antonyms: rehire, recall, travail, toil.
Example: I have just learned that Cousin George has got his furlough extended thirty days.

55) REMINISCENT (Adjective):
Meaning: tending to remind one of something.
Synonyms: evocative, suggestive
Antonyms: unreminiscent
Usage: This painting is strongly reminiscent of da Vinci’s “Annunciation”.

56) FORAY (noun):
Meaning: a short visit, especially with a known purpose
Synonyms: descent, invasion
Antonyms: leave, abstention
Usage: I made a quick foray into town before lunch to get my sister a present.

53) WRANGLE : (verb):
Meaning: to express different opinions about something often angrily
Synonyms: altercation, argue, bicker, brabble
Antonyms: concur, consent
Usage: The case dragged on for months because the lawyers had to wrangle over every minor detail.

57) ENSCONCE (Verb):
Meaning: establish or settle (someone) in a comfortable, safe place.
Synonyms: settle, install, establish, entrench
Antonyms: depart, displace
Usage: Clara is comfortably ensconced in a beach chair and has no immediate plans to return to work.

58) GOAD (Verb):
Meaning: provoke or annoy (someone) so as to stimulate an action or reaction.
Synonyms: provoke, spur, prickle, sting
Antonyms: aid, dissuade
Usage: My mother is going to try and goad her dog into getting off the bed by offering him a treat.

59) SURMISE (Verb):
Meaning: suppose that something is true without having evidence to confirm it.
Synonyms: guess, conjecture, deduce, infer
Antonyms: know
Usage: Jason knew it was wrong of him to surmise his brother had stolen his money without actual proof.

60) FAWNING (adjective):
Meaning: displaying exaggerated flattery or affection; obsequious.
Synonyms: sycophantic, ingratiating, subservient, cajoling.

Antonyms: imperious, domineering, peremptory, opinionated.
Usage: Because Larry really wants a promotion, he spends a great deal of time fawning over his boss.

61) DIVULGE (Verb):
Meaning: Make known something, such as a confidence or secret.
Synonym: promulgate, declare
Antonym: conceal
Usage: She does not want to divulge any information regarding the nature of her speech in order to keep the curiosity alive.

62) CULMINATE (Verb):
Meaning: reach a climax or point of highest development.
Synonyms: peak, climax
Antonyms: start, begin
Usage: At the end of the night, the concert will culminate in a huge fireworks display.

63) EXOTERIC (Adjective):
Meaning: Suitable to be imparted to the public
Synonym: Beyond, outmost
Antonym: Middle, Inner
Usage: I just read one exoteric modern novel in my high school.
64) Piquant (Adjective):
Meaning: having a pleasantly sharp taste or appetizing flavour., pleasantly stimulating or exciting to the mind.
Synonym: poignant, intriguing, stimulating, interesting, fascinating, zesty
Antonym: bland, insipid, dull, zestless, insipid
Usage: Gobblezz restaurant has a secret piquant sauce that makes the dish scrumptious.

65) Carcass (noun):
Meaning: the dead body of an animal.
Synonyms: corpse, cadaver, remains, relics.
Antonyms: revival, alive, essence, resurrection.
Usage: There were a couple of dead animal carcasses on the ground as well.

66) Puritanical (adjective):
Meaning: having or displaying a very strict or censorious moral attitude towards self-indulgence.
Synonyms: prudish, puritan, prim, priggish.
Antonyms: lecherous, indulgent, indecent, debauched.
Usage: It just shows that those endless puritanical bromides about the perils of fixating on individual designers are wasted breath.

67) Backstop (noun):
Meaning: an emergency precaution or last resort.
Synonyms: safeguard, preventive measure, insurance.
Antonyms: constraint, limitation, restriction, sanction.
Usage: They want the Democrats to act as a backstop for this wild nonsense.

68) Nudge (Verb):
Meaning: coax or gently encourage (someone) to do something.
Synonyms: prompt, encourage, coax, stimulate
Antonyms: discourage, dissuade
Usage: After her late night out partying, both parents nudge their daughter to wake her up during the church service.

69) Flagrant (Adjective):
Meaning: (of an action considered wrong or immoral) conspicuously or obviously offensive.
Synonyms: blatant, glaring, obvious, overt, evident,
Antonyms: unobtrusive, slight
**Usage:** The bruises on the boy’s legs revealed the flagrant abuse he had suffered at home.

**Sentence:** In a fury, she said that he was too malapert to give her such an answer, and affirmed that both he and they should repent it.

**70) CONTRITION (Noun):**
**Meaning:** the state of feeling sorry for bad behavior: the state of repentance.
**Synonyms:** contriteness, guilt, penitence, regret, remorse, repentance
**Antonyms:** -impenitence, remorselessness
**Usage:** The defendant pled guilty to the crime and expressed heartfelt contrition for the things he had done.

**71) POGROM (noun) :**
**Meaning:** massacre, mass murder.
**Synonyms:** holocaust, slaughter, decimation, carnage.
**Antonyms:** relief, rescue, refuge, support.
**Usage:** It is unthinkable that anyone could design a pogrom as a means for eliminating a group of people.

**72) MALAPERT (adjective) :**
**Meaning:** boldly disrespectful; impudent.
**Synonym:** impertinent, cheeky, rude, brazen.
**Antonyms:** courteous, humble, modest, polite.

**73) SUAVE(Adjective):**
**Meaning:** (especially of a man) charming, confident, and elegant.
**Synonyms:** charming, sophisticated, debonair, urbane
**Antonyms:** unsophisticated, rude
**Usage:** He was tall and suave, careful in dress, careful in behavior.

**74) FRAY (noun) :**
**Meaning:** a battle or fight.
**Synonyms:** skirmish, altercation, tussle, struggle.
**Antonyms:** agreement, truce, harmony, tranquility.
**Usage:** Police officers pushed several against cars to separate them from the fray as the fight spilled into a parking garage.

**75) UNCHARTED (adjective):**
**Meaning:** (of an area of land or sea) not mapped or surveyed.
**Synonyms:** unexplored, undiscovered, unfamiliar, unplumbed.
| Antonyms: familiar, famous, commonplace, known. |
| Usage: Twice more he struck as if he was securing a flagpole into the soil of previously uncharted land. |

76) **TIRADE (Noun):**
- **Meaning:** A long, angry speech of criticism or accusation.
- **Synonyms:** Diatribe, invective, polemic, denunciation, rant
- **Antonyms:** Compliment, praise
- **Usage:** She launched into a tirade against the policies that ruined her business.

77) **QUINTESSENTIAL (Adjective):**
- **Meaning:** Representing the most perfect or typical example of a quality or class.
- **Synonyms:** Typical, prototypical, stereotypical, archetypal, classic
- **Usage:** Paris, the quintessential city of freedom and discretion, he could lead a double life.

78) **POCOCURANTE (Adjective):**
- **Meaning:** Indifferent or unconcerned.
- **Synonyms:** Apathetic, listless, insouciant, nonchalant.
- **Antonyms:** Overprotective, prudent, absorbed, concerned.

79) **BANTER (Noun):**
- **Meaning:** The playful and friendly exchange of teasing remarks.
- **Synonym:** Wisecracks, crosstalk, wordplay, ribbing.
- **Antonym:** Flattery, praise, work
- **Usage:** If the banter between the award presenters is not exciting, no one will watch the show.

80) **AMICABLE (Adjective):**
- **Meaning:** Friendly
- **Synonym:** Cordial, harmonious, amiable, polite.
- **Antonym:** Impolite, uncivil, rude, unfriendly.
- **Usage:** Most customer service agents are amicable people who are good at settling disagreements.

81) **IMPRESARIO (Noun):**
- **Meaning:** A person who organizes and often finances concerts, plays, or operas.
- **Synonyms:** Organizer, manager, producer, controller.
Antonyms: antagonist, opponent, adversary.
Usage: As a nightclub impresario, the promoter tried to get as many people to the parties as possible.

82) STAMPEDE (noun):
Meaning: A sudden panicked rush of a number of horses, cattle, or other animals.
Synonyms: rush, flight, rout, scattering.
Antonyms: retreat, standing.
Usage: The herd was fleeing back to the high land in a wild stampede.

83) VENERATE (Verb):
Meaning: regard with great respect; revere.
Synonyms: revere, adulate, hallow, exalt
Antonyms: despise
Usage: Many people attend church services to venerate God.

84) TELLTALE (adjective):
Meaning: revealing, indicating, or betraying something.
Synonyms: denotative, indicative, reflective, signifying.
Antonyms: cheeseparing, uninformative, unaired, secretive.
Usage: Her nasty tone was a telltale sign of her irritation, even though she didn’t say anything particularly meaningful.

85) USHER (verb):
Meaning: show or guide (someone) somewhere.
Synonyms: escort, accompany, help, assist.
Antonyms: neglect, stop, trail, cease.
Usage: By refusing to discuss euthanasia, they usher in something worse.

86) SALIANCE (Noun):
Meaning: the quality of being particularly noticeable or important; prominence.
Synonyms: prominence, eminence, fame, importance
Antonyms: insignificance, unimportance
Usage: Two board members wanted to discuss the salience of the health care issue, but the others didn’t see the importance.

87) OBFUSCATION (Noun):
Meaning: the action of making something less clear and less easy to understand, especially intentionally
Synonyms: bafflement, confusion
Antonyms: clarity
Usage: She criticized the company’s deliberate obfuscation of its finances.
88) CAPTIOUS (Adjective):
Meaning: always looking for faults; hard to please
Synonyms: critical, rejective
Antonyms: uncritical
Usage: When my captious teacher grades my essays, she always finds a minor error in my work.

89) SCUPPER (Verb):
Meaning: prevent from working or succeeding; thwart.
Synonyms: ruin, wreck, devastate, destroy
Antonyms: further, promote
Usage: They worry it could be used to scupper merger and acquisition deals.

90) ASTUTE (Adjective):
Meaning: having or showing a practical cleverness or judgment
Synonyms: canny, smart
Antonyms: unwise, naive
Usage: A police detective is known to be an astute judge of character.

91) EQUANIMITY (Noun):
Meaning: to stay calm, especially under stress; to maintain composure
Synonyms: calmness, cool

Antonyms: agitation, discomposure
Usage: During the horrible storm, it was hard for us to focus on and maintain our equanimity.

92) CONFOUND (Verb):
Meaning: to mix up or confuse
Synonyms: confuse, puzzle
Antonyms: confirm, verify
Usage: Without instructions, this unusual game will confound anyone.

93) DENUDE (Verb):
Meaning: strip (something) of its covering, possessions, or assets.
Synonyms: divest, deprive, bare, uncover
Antonyms: cover
Usage: He proceeded to denude the statue, fronting the church bishop’s podium.

94) SLUMP (noun):
Meaning: A sudden severe or prolonged fall in the price, value, or amount of something.
Synonyms: decrease, lowering, devaluation, depreciation
Antonyms: upturn, growth, progress, surge.
Usage: The slump in prices was largely attributed to inferior quality tea being produced by various India gardens.
95) FORECLOSE (verb):
Meaning: Rule out or prevent (a course of action).
Synonyms: preclude, prevent, remove, avert.
Antonyms: unbound, permit, allot, cooperate.
Usage: The decision effectively foreclosed any possibility of his early rehabilitation.

96) SORDID (adjective):
Meaning: dirty or squalid.
Synonym: filthy, muddy, grubby, shabby.
Antonym: immaculate, spotless, stainless, unsullied.
Usage: He managed to rise above the sordid streets upon which he grew up.

97) BEWAIL (verb):
Meaning: express great regret, sadness, or disappointment about (something).
Synonyms: bemoan, deplore, lament, mourn.
Antonyms: cheer, laugh, smile, rejoice.
Usage: He invariably spends more time bewailing his predicament than trying to fix it.

98) SMATTERING (noun):
Meaning: a small number
Synonyms: couple, few, handful, sprinkle.

Antonyms: horde, legion, loads, multitude.
Usage: He spoke a smattering of words she didn’t understand.

99) BUCOLIC (adjective):
Meaning: relating to the pleasant aspects of the countryside and country life.
Synonyms: rustic, rural, pastoral, country
Antonyms: urban
Usage: Even though I was born in the city, I still prefer the quiet of a small bucolic village any day.

100) WRETCHED(Adjective):
Meaning: unpleasant or of low quality
Synonyms: abject, deplorable
Antonyms: blessed, bright
Usage: The people live in wretched conditions, with no running water.
CURRENT AFFAIRS ANSWER

1. b, 2. d, 3. c, 4. a, 5. a, 6. d, 7. a, 8. b, 9. c, 10. e, 11. a, 12. d, 13. a, 14. b, 15. b, 16. c, 17. b, 18. e, 19. c, 20. e, 21. c, 22. b, 23. d, 24. e, 25. a, 26. d, 27. c, 28. e, 29. a, 30. a, 31. c, 32. b, 33. d, 34. d, 35. b, 36. d, 37. c, 38. b, 39. a, 40. c, 41. c, 42. e, 43. a, 44. b, 45. a, 46. b, 47. d, 48. d, 49. d, 50. c, 51. b, 52. c, 53. a, 54. c, 55. b, 56. d, 57. a, 58. c, 59. d, 60. b, 61. e, 62. b, 63. e, 64. c, 65. c, 66. a, 67. b, 68. b, 69. b, 70. d, 71. c, 72. a, 73. c, 74. e, 75. c, 76. b, 77. d, 78. a, 79. b, 80. c, 81. a, 82. d, 83. c, 84. e, 85. d, 86. d, 87. b, 88. b, 89. c, 90. e, 91. a, 92. a, 93. a, 94. a, 95. b, 96. d, 97. d, 98. a, 99. e, 100. e, 101. b, 102. d, 103. a, 104. c, 105. d, 106. b, 107. e, 108. d, 109. b, 110. d, 111. b, 112. e, 113. b, 114. a, 115. d, 116. a, 117. a, 118. d, 119. c, 120. a, 121. a, 122. a, 123. b, 124. c, 125. c, 126. c, 127. b, 128. a, 129. b, 130. e, 131. d, 132. c, 133. c, 134. d, 135. d, 136. c, 137. d, 138. c, 139. e, 140. d, 141. b, 142. b, 143. e, 144. e, 145. b, 146. b, 147. a, 148. b, 149. e, 150. e, 151. d, 152. c, 153. b, 154. c, 155. e, 156. a, 157. a, 158. a, 159. c, 160. c, 161. a, 162. b, 163. c, 164. c, 165. e, 166. d, 167. c, 168. e, 169. b, 170. e, 171. a, 172. d, 173. c, 174. a, 175. e, 176. b, 177. d, 178. d, 179. b, 180. e, 181. b, 182. d, 183. e, 184. c, 185. b, 186. a, 187. b, 188. e, 189. d, 190. e, 191. c, 192. c, 193. b, 194. b, 195. b, 196. d, 197. d, 198. b, 199. a, 200. e, 201. d, 202. a, 203. a, 204. c, 205. e, 206. a, 207. c, 208. d, 209. b, 210. a, 211. a, 212. c, 213. c, 214. d, 215. b, 216. e, 217. a, 218. c, 219. d, 220. c, 221. d, 222. d, 223. e, 224. b, 225. a, 226. b, 227. b, 228. d, 229. a, 230. a, 231. b, 232. c, 233. c, 234. b, 235. d, 236. e, 237. b, 238. d, 239. a, 240. b, 241. e, 242. c, 243. a, 244. c, 245. d, 246. c, 247. c, 248. a, 249. c, 250. c, 251. a, 252. c, 253. a, 254. a, 255. e, 256. a, 257. c, 258. a, 259. e, 260. b, 261. e, 262. b, 263. e, 264. a, 265. d, 266. e, 267. e, 268. c, 269. b, 270. e, 271. b, 272. d, 273. b, 274. d, 275. d, 276. d, 277. a, 278. d, 279. a, 280. c, 281. b, 282. b, 283. c, 284. b, 285. c, 286. d, 287. b, 288. b, 289. b, 290. b, 291. c, 292. a, 293. c, 294. a, 295. e, 296. d, 297. c, 298. e, 299. c, 300. c, 301. e, 302. d, 303. b, 304. c, 305. a, 306. c, 307. e, 308. a, 309. d, 310. e, 311. a, 312. c, 313. e, 314. c, 315. c, 316. d, 317. b, 318. c, 319. d, 320. e, 321. a, 322. e, 323. b, 324. e, 325. b, 326. d, 327. b, 328. c, 329. c, 330. d, 331. c, 332. e, 333. a, 334. e, 335. e, 336. b, 337. e, 338. e, 339. d, 340. c, 341. c, 342. b, 343. a, 344. b, 345. d, 346. e, 347. d, 348. c, 349. a, 350. b, 351. b, 352. a, 353. d, 354. c, 355. c, 356. b, 357. b, 358. c, 359. c, 360. b, 361. d, 362. e, 363. a, 364. a, 365. c, 366. b, 367. e, 368. b, 369. c, 370.
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e, 389. e, 390. a, 391. c, 392. b, 393. b, 394.
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d, 437. b, 438. c, 439. d, 440. a, 441. c, 442.
a, 443. a, 444. b, 445. b, 446. b, 447. a, 448.
d, 449. a, 450. c

**BANKING ANSWER**

1. d, 2. d, 3. b, 4. c, 5. a, 6. c, 7. a, 8. a, 9.
b, 10. c, 11. b, 12. d, 13. d, 14. a, 15. d, 16.
d, 17. a, 18. c, 19. c, 20. a, 21. c, 22. d, 23.
d, 31. c, 32. b, 33. d, 34. d, 35. b, 36. c, 37.
a, 38. a, 39. b, 40. c, 41. c, 42. c, 43. a, 44.
a, 45. c, 46. a, 47. d, 48. c, 49. d, 50. b,