OCTOBER - 2020
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October – 2020 JNANAGANGOTHRI E-Magzine

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GOOD NEWS - **ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಸಬ್–ಇನ್ಸ್‌ಪೆಕ್ಟರ್ (PSI) 2019** ರ ನೇಮಕಾತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಜ್ಞಾನಗಂಗೋತ್ರಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಿಂದ ಅತೀ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ತೇರ್ಗಡೆಗೊಂಡಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಒಟ್ಟು ನೇಮಕಾತಿಯ **25 ಪ್ರತಿಶತ** ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಜ್ಞಾನಗಂಗೋತ್ರಿಯಿಂದ ತೇರ್ಗಡೆಗೊಂಡಿರುವುದು ನಮಗೆ ಹೆಮ್ಮೆ ತಂದಿದೆ. ಈ ಸಾಧಕರ ಯಶಸ್ಸಿನ ಕಾರ್ಯತಂತ್ರವನ್ನು ಜ್ಞಾನಗಂಗೋತ್ರಿ **YouTube** ಚಾನೆಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ವೀಕ್ಷಿಸಿ.

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State

1. **Karnataka registers highest number of sedition cases in the country**

- **About**: Karnataka has recorded the highest number of sedition cases and cases related to crimes against the State in the country in 2019, as per National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data
- Karnataka registered 22 sedition cases against 23 persons, It also registered 14 cases in sections related to other crimes against the State, taking the total number of cases booked for crimes against the State to 36.

2. **Three hospitals bag Kayakalpa award**

- **About**: The Emergency and Trauma Care Centre on Victoria Hospital campus, Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Chest Diseases, and Ballari District Hospital bagged the Kayakalpa award for 2019-2020.
- The award has been instituted by the Union Health Ministry to promote hygiene, cleanliness, and better infection-control practices in hospitals.

3. **13th edition of Aero India**

- **About**: The Karnataka government to host the 13th edition of Aero India in February 2021
- Bengaluru to be chosen to host the aero show, after successfully organizing the event 12 times in the past
- **Chief Minister**: B.S. Yediyurappa
- **Defense Minister**: Rajnath Singh

4. **Karnataka CM executes cabinet reshuffle**

- **About**: Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa has executed a cabinet reshuffle.
- The order approved by the Governor shows that the additional charge of the Health and Family Welfare department has been given to Medical Education minister Dr. K Sudhakar.
- The portfolio of Health and Family Welfare was held by B Sriramulu earlier, who is now given the Social Welfare department.
- The Deputy Chief Minister Govinda Karjol who held the Social Welfare department earlier, has now been given the Public Works department.

5. **Novelist Bhyrappa receives Shivaram Karanth award**

- **About**: Noted novelist S.L. Bhyrappa was on Saturday conferred the prestigious Dr. Kota Shivaram Karanth Huttoora Prashasti-2020.

- The award has been presented in memory of the late Jnanpith award winner Kota Shivaram Karanth annually since 2005.

6. Mysuru railway station awarded as 'Best Maintained Station

- **About**: Mysuru railway station has been adjudged the 'Best Maintained Station' for the year 2019-20 under the category of 'Major' Stations on South Western Railway.
- The Security Department of Mysuru Division has also bagged the Efficiency shield for the year 2019-20.
- The prestigious Swarnajayanthi Weekly Superfast train running between Mysuru and Nizamuddin (New Delhi), was declared as the 'Best Maintained Rake' on South Western Railway for the year 2019-20.

7. Three rare literary works released in Mysuru

- **About**: The Oriental Research Institute (ORI) in the city released three books as part of its efforts to make some of the rare literary works available to the public at low prices.
- Of the three, Manushastravivaranam is reckoned to be a translation from one of the earliest manuscripts, which is dated 8th Century CE
- The second work is titled Khadga Shastra, throws light on the arms and weaponry of ancient India
- Third work is pertains to Mummadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar, is a study of the Mysuru ruler and his taste for literature, culture, and art.
- **Oriental Research Institute (ORI):** at Mysore, started in 1891 under the patronage of Maharaja Chamarajendra Wadiyar X, is a research institute which collects, exhibits, edits, and publishes rare manuscripts written in various scripts like Devanagari (Sanskrit), Brahmic (Kannada), Nandinagari (Sanskrit), Grantha, Malayalam, Tigalari, etc.

8. Rajyotsava Awards

- **About**: On the occasion of the 65th Karnataka Rajyotsava celebrations on November 1, the State government announced its annual Rajyotsava awards for 60 eminent personalities and five organizations (total 65) for their contributions in 25 fields.
- **Rajyotsava Awards**: the second highest civilian honor of the Karnataka state is conferred annually by the Karnataka Government on the occasion of the establishment of the state on 1 November celebrated as the Kannada Rajyotsava.

KAS,FDA,SDA,PSI
KPSC Technical and Non Technical
ಜ್ಞಾನಗಂಗೋತ್ರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ತರಗತಿಗಳು
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ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ– www.iasjnana.com ಗೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿ
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Contact- Jnanagangothri Academy,
Vijayanagar, B'lure
99163-99276; 080-41547999

National

1. BrahMos Missile Featuring Indigenous Booster Successfully Flight Tested

- **About**: BrahMos surface-to-surface supersonic cruise missile featuring indigenous Booster and Airframe Section along with many other 'Made in India' sub-systems was successfully flight tested from ITR, Balasore in Odisha.
- **Secretary DD R&D and Chairman DRDO**: Dr G Satheesh Reddy

2. CSIR-CDRI felicitates young researchers with CDRI Award

- **About**: The CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI), Lucknow felicitated young researchers with CDRI Award for their outstanding contribution in drug discovery and development
- Dr Bushra Ateeq, Dr Surajit Ghosh and Dr Ravi Manjithaya received the prestigious CDRI Award 2020. These scientists have made outstanding contribution in unfolding the knot of Cancer.
- **CDRI Awards:** were instituted in the year 2004 to promote scientific excellence in the country and to recognize outstanding contribution in the area of Drug Research and Development.

3. "Ambedkar Social Innovation & Incubation Mission" (ASIIM)"

- **About**: Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Shri ThaawarchandGehlote-launched the "Ambedkar Social Innovation and Incubation Mission (ASIIM) under Venture Capital Fund for SCs"

Objectives:

- To promote entrepreneurship among the SC Youth with special preference to Divyangs;
- To support (1,000) innovative ideas till 2024 through a synergetic work with the Technology Business Incubators (TBIs) set up by Department of Science and Technology;
- To support, promote, hand-hold the start-up ideas till they reach commercial stage by providing liberal equity support
- To incentivize students with innovative mind-set to take to entrepreneurship with confidence

4. NITI Aayog and Embassy of the Netherlands sign Statement of Intent

- **About**: NITI Aayog and Embassy of the Netherlands, New Delhi, signed a Statement of Intent (SoI) on 28 September 2020 to support the decarburization and energy transition

agenda for accommodating cleaner and more energy.

- The Netherlands is India's sixth largest EU trading partner—as much as 20% of India's exports to the European continent goes through the Netherlands, making it India's 'gateway to Europe'
- Netherland is also the third largest source of Foreign Direct Investment for India.
- **NITI Aayog CEO**: Amitabh Kant

5. Rajnath Singh launches Defense India Startup Challenge

- **About**: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched the Defence India Startup Challenge (DISC 4) and iDEX4Fauji initiative and Product Management Approach (PMA) guidelines.
- **Aim**: at expanding the horizons of Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) ecosystem.
- **iDEX4Fauji:** is a first of its kind initiative, launched to support innovations identified by members of the Indian Armed Forces and will bolster frugal innovation ideas from soldiers and field formations.

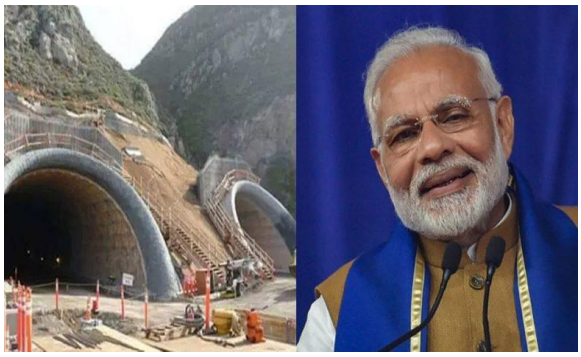
6. Google India launches campaign to drive demand for small businesses:

- **About**: Google India has partnered with third-party online platforms such as Instamojo, Zoho, Swiggy and Dunzo to help small and medium businesses (SMBs) build their digital presence as more and more consumers turn to online purchases amid the pandemic.
- Google will also launch a new show in partnership with state broadcaster Doordarshan called Namaste Digital, serving as a mass media programme for SMBs to educate about Internet and help them grow their business.

7. Special CBI Court acquits all 32 accused in Babri demolition case

- **About**: The Special CBI Court in Lucknow acquitted all 32 accused in Babri demolition case and said that it was not a pre- planned incident instead it was spontaneous.
- Special CBI Judge Surendra Kumar Yadav ruled that demolition happened at the spur of the moment. , there were not enough evidences to prove the allegations made by CBI in this case.
- 28 years after the 16th Century Babri structure was razed by a mob in Ayodhya on 6th of December 1992
- Six senior leaders among the accused were L.K. Advani, Kalyan Singh, Murli Manohar Joshi, Uma Bharti, Nritya Gopal Das and Ashok Pradhan

8. Prime Minister to inaugurate the Atal Tunnel



- **About**: Prime Minister Narendra Modi shall inaugurate Atal Tunnel, Rohtang, Himachal Pradesh on 3rd October 2020.
- **Highlight**: Atal Tunnel is the longest highway tunnel in the World. The 9.02 Km long tunnel connects Manali to Lahaul-Spiti valley throughout the year.
- The tunnel reduces the road distance by 46 Kms between Manali and Leh and the time by about 4 to 5 hours.
- **Background**: The Union Cabinet on 24th December 2019 decided to name the Rohtang Tunnel as Atal Tunnel to honour the contribution made by the former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

9. Arjun Munda to Launch Largest Market of Tribal Products

- **About**: Arjun Munda, Union Minister for Tribal Affairs will launch India's largest handicraft and organic products marketplace, Tribes India E-Marketplace (market.tribesindia.com) on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti(October 2, 2020)
- This initiative of TRIFED under Ministry of Tribal Affairs will showcase the produce and handicrafts of tribal enterprises from across the country and help them market their produce/ products directly

10. Harsh Vardhan launches Decade of Healthy Ageing (2020-2030)

- **About**: Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare restated commitment of the Government to healthy ageing on the occasion of International Day for Older Persons on 1st October.
- **National Programme for the Health Care for the Elderly (NPHCE):** aimed to deliver comprehensive, affordable and quality geriatric care services at primary and secondary levels;
- The Union Health Minister also stated that as 1st October, 2020 is the launch year of Decade of Healthy Ageing (2020-2030), aimed at mainstreaming issues related to elderly and to deliberate upon ways to ensure better and effective delivery of services, making full use of convergence mechanisms.

11. DRDO successfully test fires laser-guided anti-tank missile

- **About**: The indigenously developed Laser Guided Anti-Tank Guided Missile, ATGM was successfully test fired defeating a target located at longer range.
- The test was conducted from MBT Arjun at KK ranges, Armoured Corps Centre and School Ahmednagar
- The ATGM employs a tandem HEAT warhead to defeat Explosive Reactive Armour protected armoured vehicles in ranges from 1.5 to 5 kilometres.

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh

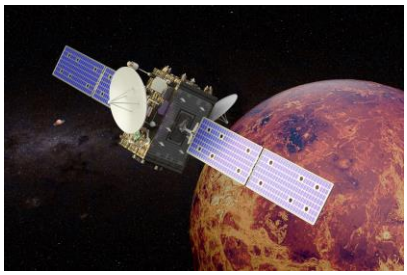
12. Delhi ranks top in crimes against women

- **Data by**: National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB),
- **About**: Overall the crime cases against women in national capital Delhi is at 12,902 and Mumbai recorded 6,519 cases for year 2019.

13. UP becomes first state to undertake over one crore tests

- **About**: Uttar Pradesh has achieved another land mark in testing of COVID samples by becoming first state in the country to undertake over one crore tests to screen Corona virus.
- UP's share in the total tests conducted in the country now stands at 13.6 per cent. State's daily average of testing over the past few days has been 1.5 lakh tests.

14. ISRO to launch Venus mission in 2025



- **About**: ISRO is scheduled to launch its Venus mission in 2025 and France will participate in it.
- The VIRAL (Venus Infrared Atmospheric Gases Linker) instrument co-developed with the Russian federal space agency Roscosmos and the LATMOS atmospheres, environments and space observations laboratory attached to the French national scientific research centre CNRS has been selected by the ISRO
- **ISRO chairman**: K Sivan

15. Survey Report on Data Governance Quality Index

- **Survey by:** Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), Niti Ayog
- **About**: Department of Fertilizers under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers has been ranked 2nd amongst the 16 Economic Ministries / Departments and 3rd out of the 65 Ministries / Departments on Data Governance Quality Index (DGQI)
- **Aim**: to assess different Ministries /Departments' performance on the implementation of Central Sector Schemes (CS) and Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS).
- **Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister**: DV Sadananda Gowda

16. Indian navy - Bangladesh navy bilateral exercise bongosagar

- **About**: The second edition of Indian Navy (IN) – Bangladesh Navy (BN) Bilateral Exercise Bongosagar is scheduled to commence in Northern Bay of Bengal on 03 October 2020.
- **Aim**: at developing inter-operability and joint operational skills through conduct of a wide spectrum of maritime exercises and operations.

- This exercise will be followed by the 3rd edition of IN - BN Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) in Northern Bay of Bengal from 4 to 5 October 2020

17. First ever India-Russia Webinar on Use of Natural Gas as a Motor Fuel

- **About**: The first ever India-Russia webinar on the use of natural gas as motor fuel was organized under the aegis of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India and the Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation.
- **Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, GOI**: TarunKapoor

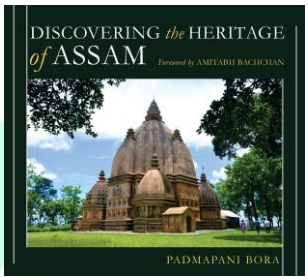
18. PM Modi to inaugurate VAIBHAV Summit

- **About**: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate Vaishvik Bhartiya Vaigyanik, VAIBHAV Summit this evening through video conferencing.
- **VAIBHAV Summit:** is a global virtual summit of overseas and resident Indian researchers and academicians.
- **Aim:** of the summit is to bring Indian origin luminaries in academic institutes and Research and Development organizations across the world and resident counterparts on a single platform

19. ICMR Develop "Antisera" As Potential COVID-19 Treatment

- **About**: The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in collaboration with a Hyderabad-based biopharmaceutical company has developed "highly purified antisera" prepared by injecting inactivated SARS-CoV2 in horses, which can be a potential treatment for COVID-19.
- Antisera are blood serum high in antibodies against specific antigens and are injected in humans to help kickstart the immune system to fight specific infections.

20. 'Discovering the Heritage of Assam'



- **About:** Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh released a Coffee Table Book on "Discovering the Heritage of Assam",
- Book presents an absorbing compilation of heritage, faith, beliefs and traditions of different ethnic tribes and subtribes living in the largest State of the North Eastern Region.
- **Authored by**: Padampani Bora

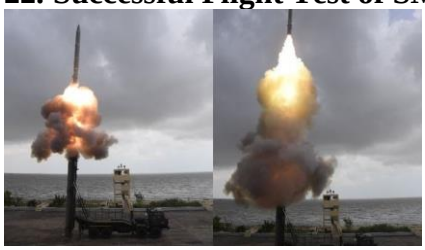
21. Results of National Startup Awards 2020

- **About**: The Results of the first edition of National Startup Awards will be released by

Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry, Piyush Goyal

- The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has conceived the first ever National Startup Awards
- **Objective**: To recognize and reward outstanding Startups and ecosystem enablers that are building innovative products or solutions and scalable enterprises, with high potential of employment generation or wealth creation, demonstrating measurable social impact.

22. Successful Flight Test of SMART



- **About**: Supersonic Missile Assisted Release of Torpedo (SMART) has been successfully flight tested from Wheeler Island off the coast of Odisha.
- **SMART:** is a missile assisted release of lightweight Anti-Submarine Torpedo System for Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) operations far beyond Torpedo range.
- **Secretary DD R&D & Chairman DRDO**: Dr G Satheesh Reddy

23. MoHUA Joins Hands with Swiggy

- **About**: Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has entered into an MoU with Swiggy, food ordering and delivery platform in India, to onboard street food vendors on its ecommerce platform, giving them online access to thousands of consumers and help these vendors grow their businesses.
- **Aim**: to radically transform the business of Street Vendors across cities, by facilitating them to receive orders and serve customers using online mode of business.

24. MoU to be signed Between ISLRTC and NCERT

- **About**: Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will be signed between Indian Sign Language Research and Training Center-ISLRTC and NCERT to make education materials accessible for Deaf children
- NCERT Textbooks, Teachers Handbook and other Supplementary materials and resources of Class I-XII of all subjects of both Hindi and English Medium will be converted into Indian Sign Language in Digital format.
- **Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment**: Dr. ThaawarchandGehlot
- **Union Minister for Education**: Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank

25. Jal Shakti Minister gives away Swachh Bharat Awards-2020

- **About**: Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat gave away the Swachh Bharat Awards-2020 to States, Districts, Blocks and Village Panchayats.
- The awards were given particularly under the drinking water and cleanliness categories. The Union Government had earlier launched three missions under Swachh Sundar Samudayik Shouchalaya, Samudayik Shouchalaya Abhiyan and Gandagi Mukth Bharat.
- **Swachh Sundar Samudayik Shouchalaya**
- Gujarat bagged the first position at state level
- Tirunelveli in Tamil Nadu got the Award for cleanliness at District Level.
- Khachrod block in Ujjain district in Madhya Pradesh was awarded the first position and Chinnanur Village in Tamil Nadu bagged the top slot at Gram Panchayat level.
- **Samudayik Shouchalaya Abhiyan**

- Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh were awarded as the best performing states whereas Prayagraj and Bareilly got it for being the best performing districts.
- **Gandagi Mukth Bharat Mission** Haryana and Telangana were awarded the top slot.

26. India, Myanmar agree to work towards operationalization of Sittwe Port

- **About**: India and Myanmar have agreed to work towards the operationalization of the Sittwe port in the Rakhine state in the first quarter of 2021.
- They also discussed the progress in the ongoing Indian-assisted infrastructure projects such as the Trilateral Highway and the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project.
- India announced a grant of two million US Dollars for the construction of the border haat bridge at Byanyu/Sarsichauk in Chin State that will provide increased economic connectivity between Mizoram and Myanmar.

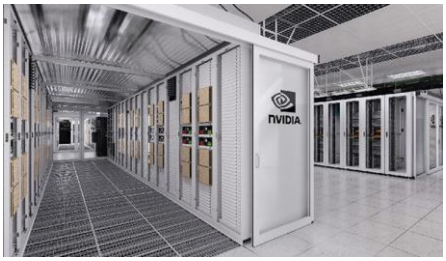
27. Ashima Goyal, Jayanth R Varma, Shashanka Bhide appointed as MPC members

- **About**: The government appointed economists Ashima Goyal, Jayanth R Varma and Shashanka Bhide as members of the rate-setting Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- As per the RBI Act, the three new members would have four-year terms.
- The new members replace Chetan Ghate, Pami Dua and Ravindra Dholakia
- The government moved the interest rate setting role from the RBI Governor to the six-member MPC in 2016.
- The MPC has been given the mandate to maintain annual inflation at 4 per cent until March 31, 2021

28. IIM Kozhikode to launch e-learning hub for villagers

- **About**: The Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode will be launching an e-learning hub and library as a pilot project for villagers in Mavoor, one of the five villages adopted by the institute under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA).
- UBA are aimed at creating a virtuous cycle between society and an inclusive academic system by providing knowledge and practices for emerging professions.
- IIM Kozhikode has adopted five villages — Mavoor, Kuttikkattoor, Narikkuni, Puthur and Puthuppadi — of Kozhikode under the UBA initiative.

29. C-DAC to Commission India's Fastest HPC-AI Supercomputer



- **About**: Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) to Commission India's Fastest HPC-AI Supercomputer 'PARAM Siddhi – AI', Built with NVIDIA DGX A100 Systems Connected with NVIDIA Mellanox HDR InfiniBand Network
- PARAM Siddhi – AI, the State-of-the-Art large-scale HPC-AI scalable infrastructure that will be established under National Supercomputing Mission (NSM) at Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC)
- **Minister of E&IT and L&J**: Ravi Shankar Prasad

30. MOC in the field of Cyber security between India and Japan

- **About**: The Union Cabinet has given its approval for signing a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) in the field of cyber security between India and Japan.
- India and Japan commit to an open, interoperable, free, fair, secure and reliable cyberspace environment and to promote the Internet as an engine of innovation, economic growth, and trade and commerce

31. Cabinet approves Ratification of seven Persistent Organic Pollutants

- **About**: The Union Cabinet has approved the Ratification of seven (7) chemicals listed under Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs).
- It further delegated its powers to ratify chemicals under the Stockholm Convention to Union Ministers of External Affairs (MEA) and Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MEFCC) in respect of POPs
- **Stockholm Convention:** is a global treaty to protect human health and environment from POPs, which are identified chemical substances that persist in the environment
- India had ratified the Stockholm Convention on January 13, 2006 as per Article 25(4)

The regulation prohibited the manufacture, trade, use, and import and export seven chemicals namely:

- Chlordecone
- Hexabromobiphenyl,
- Hexabromodiphenyl ether and Heptabromodiphenylether (Commercial octa-BDE),
- Tetrabromodiphenyl ether and Pentabromodiphenyl ether (Commercial penta-BDE)
- Pentachlorobenzene,
- Hexabromocyclododecane,
- Hexachlorobutadiene

32. MOU between Zoological Survey of India and International Barcode of Life

- **About**: The Union Cabinet was apprised of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in June, 2020 between Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), a subordinate organization under Ministry of Environment and International Barcode of Life (iBOL), a Canadian corporation.
- ZSI and iBOL have come together for further efforts in DNA barcoding, a methodology for rapidly and accurately identifying species by sequencing a short segment of standardized

gene regions and comparing individual sequences to a reference database.
- The MoU will enable ZSI to participate at the Global level programmes like Bioscan and Planetary Biodiversity Mission.

33. Cabinet approves 'Natural Gas Marketing Reforms'

- **About**: The Cabinet Committee Modi has approved 'Natural Gas Marketing Reforms', taking step to move towards gas based economy.
- **Aims:** to provide standard procedure for sale of natural gas in a transparent and competitive manner to discover market price by issuing guidelines for sale by contractor through e-bidding.

34. API integration between PM SVANidhi and SBI portal launched

- **About**: Durga Shanker Mishra, Secretary, Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs launched the Application Programming Interface (API) integration between the PM SVANidhi Portal and the State Bank of India (SBI) portal.
- This integration will facilitate seamless flow of data between the two portals i.e. PM SVANidhi Portal and SBI's eMudra Portal expedite the loan sanctioning and disbursement process, which will benefit the street vendors seeking working capital loan
- **PM SVANidhi:** Scheme since June 01, 2020, for providing affordable working capital loan to street vendors to resume their livelihoods that have been adversely affected due to Covid-19 lockdown

35. Prime Minister to Launch Jan Andolan

- **About**: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch a Campaign on 8th October, 2020, Jan Andolan for COVID-19 Appropriate Behaviour.
- **Aim:** to encourage People's Participation (Jan Andolan). It endeavours to be a Low Cost High Intensity Campaign with the Key Messages of 'Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene'
- The campaign will be launched in view of the upcoming festivals and winter season as well as the opening up of the economy.

36. M A Ganapathy appointed as Director General, BCAS

- **About**: The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of M A Ganapathy to the post of Director General, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security
- The post of BCAS chief fell vacant after Rakesh Asthana was appointed as the Director General of Border Security Force

37. South Central Railway presents "Man of the Month" safety awards

- **About**: South Central Railway presented "Man of the Month" safety awards to 45 employees for showing alertness in the duty and taking timely action to prevent unsafe conditions.
- **South Central Railway Headquarters**: Secunderabad

38. Indian Coast Guard Offshore Patrol Vessel Vigraha launched

- **About**: Indian Coast Guard Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) Vigraha was launched at Kattupalli Chennai.
- OPV Vigraha, the last of the seven series OPV, was built by L&T Shipbuilding under the contract signed between the Ministry of Defence and L&T Ltd on 30 Mar 2015.
- **Highlight**: This was the first time that the contract for building an OPV class of vessel had been given to a private shipyard
- It would be utilized for day and night patrol along with anti-terrorism and anti-smuggling operations in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and coastal security.
- **Indian Coast Guard Director General**: K Natarajan

39. Gujarat CM to launch 'Digital Seva Setu' in villages

- **About**: Under this programme, the citizens will be able to get benefit from various public welfare services at the Panchayat level.
- Digital Seva Setu has been initiated under the Bharat Net Project- an initiative to connect the Village Panchayats through fibre network.
- The citizens can get various documents like duplicate ration card, income certificate, senior citizen certificate, caste certificate at their doorstep under this programme.
- **Chief Minister:** Vijay Rupani

40. My Ganga My Dolphin campaign launched

- **About**: The National Mission for Clean Ganga, the Wildlife Institute of India and the Forest Department launched the My Ganga My Dolphin campaign on the occasion of Ganga River Dolphin Day on October 5th.
- It was started in six sites across the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal.
- In the My Ganga My Dolphin campaign, Dolphin census will be conducted in the 250 km stretch from Bijnore to Narora
- **Jal Shakti Minister**: Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

41. Indo-French satellites to trace illegal spillage of oil by ships

- **About**: The constellation of maritime surveillance satellites for the Indian Ocean Region, to be jointly launched by India and France, will be able to trace illegal spillage of oil by ships.
- In August last year, CNES and ISRO committed to developing and building a constellation of satellites carrying telecommunications and radar and optical remote-sensing instruments
- '**Trishna**', a highly precise thermal infrared observer, will also be part of the fleet of Indo-French satellites.
- France and India are also collaborating on the Gaganyaan, India's first manned space mission and also ISRO's mission to Venus

42. All India Institute of Ayurveda signs MoU with Amity University

- **About**: All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Amity University on 7th October 2020. The MoU focuses on promoting research in Ayurvedic Sciences.

- The MoU envisages collaboration Quality and standardization of Ayurvedic drugs as well as in Ph.D. programmes in natural product chemistry and pharmacy.

43. India's GDP expected to contract by 9.6 per cent this fiscal

- **Report by**: World Bank in its South Asia Economic Focus report
- India's GDP is expected to contract by 9.6 per cent this fiscal which is reflective of the national lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

44. Dinesh Kumar Khara assumes charge as new Chairman of SBI

- **About**: Dinesh Kumar Khara has assumed charge as the new Chairman of the country's largest lender State Bank of India. Mr. Khara took over from Rajnish Kumar
- Mr. Khara has been appointed as SBI Chairman for a period of three years.

45. Tamil Nadu to set up advanced manufacturing hub

- **About**: Guidance, nodal investment promotion and facilitation agency of the state of Tamil Nadu has partnered with the World Economic Forum (WEF) to establish India's first advanced manufacturing hub (AMHUB) in Tamil Nadu.
- This platform focuses on engaging entire regional production ecosystems to identify and address regional opportunities and challenges brought by the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) by amplifying regional success stories

46. M Rajeshwar Rao appointed as deputy governor of RBI

- **About**: The central government has appointed M Rajeshwar Rao as deputy governor of the Reserve Bank of India He is currently the executive director of RBI.
- The central government also appointed three external members Ashima Goyal, Jayanth R Varma and Shashanka Bhide to the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the RBI.

47. 'Calcium Nitrate' & 'Boronated Calcium Nitrate' manufactured in India

- **About**: Union Minister of State for Chemicals & Fertilizers and MoS (I/c) for Shipping MansukhMandaviyalaunched indigenous variety of Calcium Nitrate' & 'Boronated Calcium Nitrate' manufactured by Gujrat State Fertilizers and Chemicals -GSFC India Ltd
- **Highlight**: 'Calcium Nitrate' & 'Boronated Calcium Nitrate is being manufactured for the first time in India. Till now, it was imported from other countries.
- **Calcium nitrate:** is used as a water-soluble fertilizer in agriculture, this product is also used in wastewater treatment and to increase the strength of cement concrete.

48. DRDO successfully flight tests Indigenously Developed Anti-Radiation Missile

- **About**: New generation Anti-Radiation Missile (RUDRAM) was successfully Flight tested onto a radiation target located on Wheeler Island off the coast of Odisha. The missile was launched from SU-30 MKI fighter aircraft.
- **RUDRAM:** is first indigenous anti-radiation missile of the country for Indian Air Force (IAF), being developed by Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO).
- It has INS-GPS navigation with Passive Homing Head for the final attack. Passive Homing Head can detect, classify and engage targets over a wide band of frequencies as programmed.

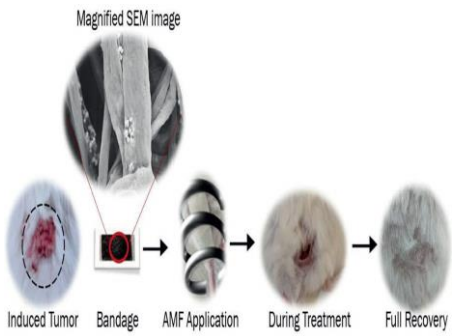
49. Goa becomes first 'HarGharJal' State across the nation

- **About**: Goa has become first 'HarGharJal' State in the country as it successfully provides 100% Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs) in the rural areas covering 2.30 lakh rural households.
- **JalJeevan Mission (JJM)**: aims to improve the quality of life and bring 'ease-of-living' to rural communities
- **Union Minister of Jal Shakti:**Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

50. Goyal gets additional charge of Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

- **About**: Union Minister PiyushGoyalwas assigned the additional charge of Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.
- He was given the additional charge following the death of LokJanashakti Party (LJP) founder and union minister Ram Vilas Paswan.
- Goyal is currently serving as the Minister of Railways and Minister of Commerce and Industry

51. IISc Bengaluru develops non-invasive bandage with to treat skin cancer



- **About**: The Bengaluru based Indian Institute of Science has developed a non-invasive bandage made with magnetic Nano fibers to treat skin cancer.
- Experiments using the magnetic bandage have proved that its application has killed the cancer cells successfully.
- It was found out that the healthy tissue remained intact with no signs of burns, inflammation or thickening.

52. SVAMITVA scheme

- **About**: Prime Minister NarendraModi will launch the physical distribution of property cards under the SVAMITVA (Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas) scheme
- **SVAMITVAscheme:** physical copies of property titles of the villagers' homes and the surrounding areas they own (as opposed to the cultivated land)

53. PM to release autobiography of Dr. Balasaheb Vikhe Patil

- **About**: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will release the autobiography of Dr. Balasaheb Vikhe Patil and rename Pravara Rural Education Society as 'Loknete Dr. Balasaheb Vikhe Patil Pravara Rural Education Society'
- Dr. Balasaheb Vikhe Patil served as Member of Lok Sabha for multiple terms.
- **Autobiography**: titled 'Deh Vechwa Karani' which means 'dedicating one's life for a noble cause
- **Pravara Rural Education Society:** It was established in 1964 at Ahmednagar district, with the aim to provide world class education to the rural masses and empower the girl child.

54. Rajnath Singh dedicates to The Nation 44 Bridges Built by BRO

- **About**: Defense minister Rajnath Singh dedicated 44 major permanent bridges to the Nation. He also laid the Foundation Stone for Nechiphu Tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh. These bridges are of strategic importance and provide connectivity to remote areas.
- The 44 bridges are spread over seven states / union territories, these bridges improved connectivity in the far flung areas of Western, Northern and North East sectors and also meet the transport and logistics requirements of the armed forces throughout the year

55. Jal Jeevan Mission: Lab on wheels

- **About**: Govt. of Haryana has come up with a novel approach by launching a State of the Art Mobile Water Testing Laboratory Van, fully

equipped with multi-parameter system meant for water testing.

- **Jal Jeevan Mission:** of the Ministry of Jal Shakti aims to provide tap water connection to every rural home by 2024.

56. "Tech for Tribals Initiative"

- **About:** TRIFED under Ministry of Tribal Affairs in collaboration with Chhattisgarh MFP Federation and IIT, Kanpur will be launching Tech for Tribals initiative.
- **"Tech for Tribals":** aims at the holistic development of tribals with a focus on entrepreneurship development, soft skills, IT, and business development through SHGs operating through Van Dhan Kendras (VDVKs).

57. PM Modi releases Rs 100 commemorative coin in honour of Vijaya Raje Scindia

- **About**: Prime Minister Narendra Modi released commemorative coin of Rs. 100 denomination to celebrate the Birth Centenary of Rajmata Vijaya Raje Scindia

58. 8 Indian beaches awarded international 'Blue Flag' certification,

- **About**: Eight beaches spread across five states and two union territories in India have been awarded the 'Blue Flag' certification.
- The eight beaches that have received the international 'Blue Flag' certification are Shivrajpur (Dwarka-Gujarat), Ghoghla (Diu), **Kasarkod and Padubidri** (**Karnataka**), Kappad (Kerala), Rushikonda (AP), Golden (Puri-Odisha) and Radhanagar (A&N Islands).
- India has also been awarded the third prize by the jury under the "International Best Practices" for pollution control in coastal regions

Blue flag certification:

- It is a globally recognized eco-label. Blue Flag is accorded by Foundation for Environment Education (FEE), Denmark.
- It is granted based on 33 criteria under four heads -- (i) environmental education and information, (ii) bathing water quality, (iii) environment management and conservation, and (iv) safety and services at the beaches.
- It is granted to beaches, marinas, or sustainable boating tourism operators that meet FEE's set standards on the environment.

59. Shrinking spaces for lesser flamingoes

- **About**: On World Migratory Bird Day (10th October), environmentalists and experts say habitat for flamingos and wetland birds has shrunk to 20%
- A webinar titled, 'The Flight of the Pink – How can Mumbai protect the lesser flamingoes' was organised as a part of the 'Biodiversity by the Bay' campaign, initiated by Ministry of Mumbai's Magic
- After the loss of 2,000 hectares of wetlands for the Navi Mumbai International Airport and JNPT expansions, the habitat for flamingos and wetland birds has shrunk to 20% of what it was.
- **Theme**: Birds connect our world

60. Road tax relief for electronic vehicles in Delhi

- **About**: The Delhi government has exempted road tax on its battery-operated vehicles under its new Electric Vehicle (EV) Policy
- The chief minister Arvind Kejriwal announced the Delhi Electric Vehicle Policy 2020 last month, focus to increase the sale of electric vehicles by incentivizing their purchase. The policy aims to register five lakh electric vehicles in the city by 2024.

61. IIT Madras develops sustainable anti-bacterial, biodegradable food wrapper

- **About**: Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras have developed an Antimicrobial Wrapping Material that is said to reduce bacterial contamination in stored food and also alleviates the problem of post-use wrapper disposal.

62. Intel partners with Telangana govt

- **About**: Intel India has collaborated with the Government of Telangana, International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad (IIIT-H) and Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) to launch INAI, an applied artificial intelligence research Centre in Hyderabad.
- INAI is an initiative that applies AI to population-scale problems in the Indian context, with a focus on identifying and solving challenges in the healthcare and smart mobility segments through strong ecosystem collaboration.

63. Kerala becomes first state to have hi-tech classrooms in all public schools

JNANAGANGOTHRI

- **About**: Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has declared the state public education sector completely digital as Kerala has become the first state in the country to have high-tech classrooms in all its public schools.
- The high-tech classroom project was implemented by Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE) with financial assistance from Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KIIFB).

64. Cabinet approves MoU between India and Australia

- **About**: The Union Cabinet apprised of a MoU signed between Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga rejuvenation, India and Managing Aquifer Recharge and Sustaining Groundwater use through village-level intervention (MARVI) PARTNERS, Australia
- The MoU has been signed to promote cooperation in surface and groundwater training, education and research to achieve water security for agricultural, urban, industrial and environmental purposes.

65. Cabinet approves World Bank aided project STARS

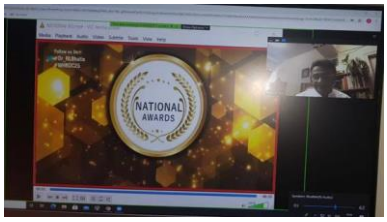
The Union Cabinet has approved the following:

- Implementation of the Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS) project with a total project cost of Rs 5718 crore with the financial support of World Bank amounting to US $ 500 million
- STARS project would be implemented as a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme under Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education. (MOE)
- Setting up and support to the National Assessment Centre, PARAKH as an independent and autonomous institution under Department of School Education and Literacy, MOE.
- **STARS:** project seeks to support the states in developing, implementing, evaluating and improving interventions with direct linkages to improved education outcomes and school to work transition strategies for improved labour market outcomes.

66. New wheat variety

- **About**: Wheat variety called MACS 6478 and developed by Scientists from Agharkar Research Institute (ARI), GOI, has doubled the crop yield for farmers in Karanjkhop, a village in Maharashtra.
- The newly developed common wheat or bread wheat, also called high yielding Aestivum, matures in 110 days and is resistant to most races of leaf and stem rust.

67. Team Trifed Wins National Awards for Excellence in PSU



- **About**: The team of TRIFED initiatives got recognition at the Virtual Edition of National Awards for Excellence.
- The team won two individual awards for the exemplary and inspirational leadership of Pravir Krishna in the CEO of the Year and Visionary Leadership Award categories and a collective award in the Investment in Start-Ups Category.
- **National Awards for Excellence – PSU**: recognizes the outstanding initiatives taken by government departments, Public Sector units and industry leaders

68. Exercise Suraksha Kavach

- **About**: Agnibaaz Division organized a joint exercise, Suraksha Kavach, for both Indian Army and Maharashtra Police at Lullanagar Pune
- The aim of the exercise was to harmonize the drills and procedures of both Army and Police for activating anti-terrorist Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs) to counter any terrorist actions in Pune.

69. IIFL Wealth Hurun India 40 & Under Self-Made Rich List 2020

- **About**: IIFL Wealth and Hurun India released the "IIFL Wealth Hurun India 40 & under Self-Made Rich List 2020"

Key findings of the report:

- With a wealth of ₹24,000 crore, Zerodha's Nithin Kamath (40) and Nikhil Kamath (34) top the list, followed by Divyank Turakhia (38) who registered a net worth of ₹14,000 crore.
- These self-made entrepreneurs aged 40 and under saw their cumulative growth rises by 59% in 2020 to ₹44,900 crore.
- Devita Saraf, 39, founder of Vu Technologies is the only woman in the list
- With 9 individuals, Bengaluru is the most preferred city for Business HQ for these young wealth creators, followed by Gurugram/New Delhi, with 2 each
- Average age is 37 and the youngest is 26
- The list is a ranking of the self-made entrepreneurs with a wealth of ₹1,000 crore, aged forty years and under from India.

70. 75th Anniversary of FAO

- **About**: Prime Minister Narendra Modi released commemorative coins of Rs 75 denomination to mark the 75th Anniversary of Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)
- The Prime Minister also dedicated to the nation 17 recently developed biofortified varieties of eight crops.
- India's proposals for the International Year of Pulses in 2016 and the International Year of Millets 2023 have also been endorsed by FAO
- **FAO:** is a specialized agency of the UN that leads international efforts to defeat hunger and improve nutrition and food security. It was founded in October 1945. The FAO is headquartered in Rome, Italy

71. Narendra Singh Tomar Inaugurates Food and Agri Week 2020

- **About**: Narendra Singh Tomar, Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Food Processing Industries, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj inaugurated the India - International Food & Agri Week being organized from 16th to 22nd October 2020.
- **Organized by**: CII in association with the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Ministry of Fisheries & Animal Husbandry and Ministry of Food Processing Industries
- **Aim**: to create a platform for the benefit of the stakeholders involved in the agriculture & allied sectors.

72. UP CM launches 'hath dhona, roke corona'

About: Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath launched 'hath dhona, roke corona' campaign on the occasion of Global Hand washing Day on 15th October.

73. Raksha Mantri Trophy for Command Hospitals

- **About**: Defense Minister Rajnath Singh presented the Raksha Mantri Trophy for the Best and Second Best Command Hospitals of the Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS) for the year 2019.
- Command Hospital (Air Force) Bengaluru and Command Hospital (Eastern Command) Kolkata were judged as the Best and Second Best Command Hospital for the year 2019 respectively.
- The Raksha Mantri Trophy was instituted in 1989 to recognize excellence in healthcare services provided by Command Hospitals of the AFMS and to foster a spirit of healthy competition among them.

74. '4th India Agricultural Outlook Forum 2020'

- **About**: The two-day '4th India Agricultural Outlook Forum 2020' webinar started in Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
- Union Minister of State for Agriculture Shri Parshottam Rupala congratulates farmers and other stakeholders for their commitment to the agriculture sector which recorded 3.4% growth during the first quarter of 2020-21
- Topics for discussion during the forum are:
- current national and international agricultural economic situation dictated by the pandemic
- game-changer farm sector initiatives;
- converging Indian agriculture with global commitments on sustainable and inclusive farm growth;
- decoding agri-tech potential;
- exploring new channels for rationalising cost structure of Govt. procurement agencies;
- Capacity building for employment opportunities.

75. Union Education Minister virtually launches 'KAPILA' Kalam Program

- **About**: Union Education Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' launched the 'KAPILA' Kalam Program for Intellectual Property Literacy and Awareness campaign on the 89th birth anniversary of former President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.

- Students pursuing education in higher educational institutions will get information about the correct system of application process for patenting their invention and they will be aware of their rights.
- The Institution Innovation Council (IIC 2.0) annual report was also presented on the occasion and the launch of IIC 3.0 was announced.
- It has also been decided to celebrate the week of October 15th to 23rd as 'Intellectual Property Literacy Week'. The IIC 3.0 website was also launched.

76. Zozila Tunnel – the longest tunnel road in Asia

- **About**: Work on the Zozila Tunnel in J&K began with ceremonial blasting. The tunnel will provide all-weather connectivity between Srinagar valley and Leh (Ladakh plateau) on NH-1
- It involves construction of a 14.15 Km long tunnel at an altitude of about 3000 m under Zojila pass on NH-1 connecting Srinagar and Leh through Dras & Kargil.
- The project was first conceived in 2005 and its Detailed Project Report (DPR) was prepared by BRO in year 2013 on BOT (Annuity) mode.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid foundation stone at Leh and commenced the work on 19.5.2018.
- **Minister for Road transport & Highways**: Nitin Gadkari

77. Ministry of AYUSH launches Jan Andolan Campaign on COVID-19

- **About**: This Andolan is regarding "Public Health Response to COVID-19: Campaign for COVID-Appropriate Behaviour" which has been launched by Prime Minister.
- The three key messages which are being highlighted across the sector are - "Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, and Maintain Hand Hygiene.

78. Kerala CM inaugurates International Institute of Advanced Virology

- **About**: Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated operations of the first phase of the International Institute of Advanced Virology at the Life Science Park at Thonakkal in Thiruvananthapuram
- **Background**: In 2017, based on the suggestions of world-renowned scientists, Prof MV Pillai and Dr Saragndharan, the state decided to set up a virology research Centre.

79. 2nd phase of CSR initiative for thalassemic patients

- **About**: Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan launched the second phase of a Coal India CSR initiative to provide financial assistance for treatment of underprivileged thalassemic patients.
- **Thalassemia Bal Sewa Yojana**: Launched in 2017, is a hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) programme, aims to provide a one-time cure opportunity for haemoglobinopathies like thalassaemia and sickle cell disease for patients who have a matched family donor.

80. SLINEX-20

- **About**: The Eighth Edition of annual Indian Navy (IN) – Sri Lanka Navy (SLN) bilateral maritime exercise SLINEX-20 is scheduled off Trincomalee, Sri Lanka from 19 to 21 October 2020.
- SLINEX-20 aims to enhance inter-operability, improve mutual understanding and exchange best practices and procedures for multi-faceted maritime operations between both navies.

81. BrahMos Supersonic Cruise Missile Successfully Test Fired

- **About**: BrahMos, the supersonic cruise missile was successfully test fired from Indian Navy's indigenously-built stealth destroyer INS Chennai, hitting a target in the Arabian Sea.
- BrahMos as 'prime strike weapon' will ensure the warship's invincibility by engaging naval surface targets at long ranges.
- The BrahMos has been jointly designed, developed and produced by India and Russia.

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82. Yogi Adityanath launches 'Mission Shakti'

- **About**: Uttar Pradesh government has launched a 6-month long women empowerment campaign 'Mission Shakti', to raise awareness and tackle crime against women in the state.
- The campaign started on the first day of Shardiya Navratri yesterday and will be continued till Basantik Navratri next year.
- **Mission Shakti**: Under this different awareness and training programs will be conducted regarding various schemes for the protection, respect and self-reliance of women and girls.

83. India gained over 17 years of life expectancy

- **About**: The Lancet medical journal has published a new study in which it said that India has gained over a decade of life expectancy since 1990.
  Highlight:
- According to the new study, life expectancy in India has increased from 59.6 years in 1990 to 70.8 years in 2019.
- However, there are stark inequalities between several states, such as Kerala where life expectancy increased to 77.3 years, while on the other hand, in Uttar Pradesh, it stood at 66.9 years.
- The study assessed over 286 causes of fatalities and 369 diseases in over 200 countries and territories across the globe.
- In 2019 the top five risk factors that caused deaths in India were air pollution, followed by high blood pressure, tobacco use, poor diet and high blood sugar.

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84. Grand ICT Challenge under Jal JeevanMission

- **About**: National Jal Jeevan Mission in partnership with Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) had launched ICT Grand Challenge.
- **Aim**: to create innovative, modular, and cost-effective solution to develop a 'Smart Water Supply Measurement and Monitoring System' to be deployed at the village level.
- **Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM):** Union Government's flagship programme- Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) is being implemented in partnership with States for providing Functional Household Tapwater Connection (FHTC) to every rural household by 2024.

85. Country's first multi-modal logistic park in Assam

- **About**: Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari will lay the foundation stone for the first-ever multi-modal logistic park in Assam.

- It will provide direct connectivity to air, road, rail and waterways to the people. It will be developed under the ambitious BharatmalaPariyojana of the GOI.
- **Chief Minister**: SarbanandaSonowal

86. Asafoetida (Heeng) cultivation in Indian Himalayan region

- **About**: CSIR and Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT), Palampur took up cultivation of asafoetida (Heeng) in Indian Himalayan region, to utilize vast expanses of waste land in the cold desert conditions of the region.
- CSIR-IHBT brought in seeds of asafoetida and developed its agro-technology.
- **Asafoetida:** It is one of the top condiments and is a high value spice crop in India. India imports about 1200 tonnes of raw asafoetida annually from Afghanistan, Iran and Uzbekistan and spends approximately 100 million USD per year.
- The plant prefers cold and dry conditions for its growth and takes approximately five years for the production of oleo-gum resin in its roots, therefore cold desert areas of Indian Himalayan region are suitable for cultivation of asafoetida.

Background:

- Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh announced the introduction and cultivation of Heeng in the state in his budget speech, on March 6, 2020.
- MoU between CSIR-IHBT and State Department of Agriculture, Himachal Pradesh was signed on June 6, 2020 for a joint collaboration for the cultivation of heeng in the State.

87. ITI Aayog &AWS Launch Frontier Technologies Cloud Innovation Center

- **About**: NITI Aayog announced the establishment of a Frontier Technologies Cloud Innovation Center (CIC) with Amazon Web Services (AWS)—the first of its kind in India.
- **CIC**: provides an opportunity for government agencies, non-profits, and educational institutions, to come together on pressing challenges, apply design thinking, test new ideas, and access the technology expertise of AWS.

88. Dr Harsh Vardhan launches website "CUReD"

- **About:** Dr Harsh Vardhan, Minister of Science & Technology, Health and Family Welfare and Earth Sciences, launched a website CURED.
- **CuRED (**CSIR Ushered Repurposed Drugs): the website provides information about the drugs, diagnostics and devices including the current stage of the trials, partnering institutions and their role in the trials and other details that CSIR is engaged.

89. Agriculture Minister launches AYUSHMAN SAHAKAR scheme

- **About**: Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched AYUSHMAN SAHAKAR scheme.
- AYUSHMAN SAHAKAR scheme has been formulated by the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).
- **Aims**: at bringing transformation in the health services primarily in the rural areas, also provides working capital and margin money to meet operational requirements of the health facilities. It provides interest subvention of one percent to women majority cooperatives.

90. Kaleshwaram irrigation project got environmental clearance

- **About**: The National Green Tribunal (NGT) granted environmental clearance to Kaleshwaram lift irrigation project in Telangana "ex post facto" in violation of legal requirements and formed a committee to assess the damage caused as also to suggest restoration measures.
- **Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project:** is a multi-purpose irrigation project on the Godavari River in Kaleshwaram, Telangana. Currently the world's largest multi-stage lift irrigation project,its farthest upstream influence is at the confluence of the Pranhita and Godavari rivers

91. ANT Missile successfully test fired from Odisha coast

- **About**: India successfully test fired the Stand-off Anti-tank (SANT) Missile off the coast of Odisha.
- The Missile is being developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) for the Indian Air Force (IAF) and will have both Lock-on After Launch and Lock-on Before Launch capability

92. India successfully test-fires naval version of BrahMos

- **About**: A NAVAL version of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile was successfully test-fired on from the Navy's indigenously built stealth destroyer INS Chennai, hitting a target in the Arabian Sea
- The present supersonic version could reach a speed of 2.8 times that of sound (2.8 Mach) and hit a target at the range of around 450 km.
- **BrahMos**: An amalgamation of the names of Brahmaputra and Moskva rivers, designed, developed and produced by BrahMos Aerospace, a joint venture company set up by DRDO and Mashinostroyenia of Russia.
- **Defense Minister**: Rajnath Singh
- **Chairperson of DRDO**: Dr G Satheesh Reddy

93. Cabinet approves MOU between India and Nigeria

- **About**: The Union Cabinet apprised of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between India and Nigeria on Cooperation in the exploration and uses of outer space for peaceful purposes.
- This MoU shall enable potential interest areas of cooperation such as, Remote sensing of the earth; Satellite communication and satellite-based navigation; Space science end planetary exploration etc.

94. Cabinet approves MoU between ICAI, India and CPA, Papua New Guinea

- **About**: The Union Cabinet has approved Memorandum of Understanding between the Institute of Chartered Accounts of India (ICAI) and the Certified Practising Accountants, Papua New Guinea (CPA PNG) to work together in capacity building and strengthening the Accounting, Financial and Audit Knowledge base in Papua New Guinea.
- The proposed MoU is expected to consolidate the trust and help to build positive image for Indian Chartered Accountants in Papua New Guinea.
- **Institute of Chartered Accounts of India (ICAI)**: is a statutory body established under "The Chartered Accountants Act, 1949" to regulate the profession of Chartered Accountants in India.

95. Cabinet approves Agreement between ICAI, India and MICPA, Malaysia

- **About**: The Union Cabinet has approved the Mutual Recognition Agreement between the Institute of Chartered Accounts of India (ICAI) and the Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA) to enable appropriately qualified CA (Chartered Accountant) members of either Institute to join the other Institute by receiving appropriate credit for their existing accountancy qualification.

96. 'Kavaratti' to be commissioned at Visakhapatnam

- **About**: The last of four indigenously built Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) stealth corvettes "INS Kavaratti" under Project 28 (Kamorta class) is scheduled to be commissioned into the Indian Navy by General Manoj Mukund Naravane, at Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam
- Kavaratti has a state-of-the-art weapons and sensor suite capable of detecting and prosecuting submarines, the ship also has a credible self defence capability and good endurance for long-range deployments.
- Kavaratti takes her name from erstwhile INS Kavaratti which was an Arnala class missile corvette. The older Kavaratti distinguished herself by operating in support of was Bangladesh's liberation in 1971.

97. Haryana tops Anemia Mukt Bharat Index in country

- **About**: Haryana State has the best Anemia Mukt Bharat (AMB) Index among 29 states in the country.
- **Anemia Mukt Bharat:** an initiative of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and

UNICEF, has been launched to reduce the prevalence of Anemia all over India.

98. Prahlad Singh Patel launches "Life in Miniature" project

- **About**: Union Minister of State for Culture and Tourism (I/C) Shri Prahlad Singh Patel launched "Life in Miniature" project, collaboration between the National Museum, New Delhi, Ministry of Culture, and Google Arts & Culture.
- **Life in Miniature**: The project uses technologies like machine learning, augmented reality and digitization with high-definition robotic cameras, to showcase these special works of art in a magical new way.
- Several hundred miniature paintings from the National Museum, New Delhi can be viewed online on Google Arts & Culture by people around the world in a new project titled
- **Google Arts & Culture**: It puts the collections of more than 2,000 museums at one's fingertips. It's an immersive way to explore art, history and the wonders of the world.

99. DRDO successfully conducts final trial of Nag anti-tank guided missile

- **About**: India successfully carried out the final trial of the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)-developed Nag anti-tank guided missile with a warhead in Rajasthan.
- The Nag anti-tank missile is ready for induction in the Indian Army. It has completed 10 successful user trials as it finds the target and then hit it.
- **Defense Minister**: Rajnath Singh
- **Defense Research and Development and Chairman DRDO**: Dr G Satheesh Reddy

100. Union minister Puri launches "e-Dharti Geo portal"

- **About**: Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri launched the "e-Dharti Geo Portal"
- **e-Dharti Geo Portal**: that will integrate legacy drawings such as maps and lease plans in the management information system and make it geographic information system (GIS)-enabled

101. IIT Kharagpur's low cost coronavirus testing method gets ICMR nod

- **COVIRAP**: A team of researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology in Kharagpur has developed a low-cost portable unit for rapid diagnostics of coronavirus, which produces results in under an hour.
- The unit called COVIRAP has been approved by the Indian Council for Medical Research and various commercial units have already approached them for technology licensing.

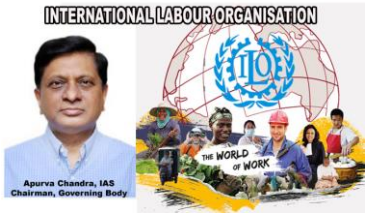
102. Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act Gets Cabinet's Approval

- **About**: The Union Cabinet has approved the adoption of a Home Ministry order modifying

the Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act, 1989.

- The three-tier system was not available in Jammu and Kashmir in the "pre-370 period". Article 370 of the Constitution that was abrogated last year, the article gave special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.
- This will help the people of Jammu and Kashmir elect their representatives at the village, block and district levels

103. India assumes Chairmanship of Governing Body of ILO



- **About**: After 35 years, India has assumed the Chairmanship of the Governing Body of International Labour Organization, ILO.
- Labour and Employment Secretary, Apurva Chandra, has been elected as the Chairperson of the Governing Body of the ILO for the period October 2020- June 2021.
- The Governing Body is the apex executive body of the ILO which decides policies, programmes, agenda, budget and elects the Director-General.
- At present, the ILO has 187 members.

104. Bharat Biotech's Covaxin gets nod for phase 3 clinical trials

- **About**: India's indigenous COVID-19 vaccine candidate, COVAXIN, developed by Bharat Biotech in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has received the nod for Phase-3 clinical trials in the country.
- Besides, Bharat Biotech's COVAXIN, another indigenously developed vaccine candidate by Zydus Cadila Limited is also in Phase -2 of human clinical trials.

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Contact- Jnanagangothri Academy,
Vijayanagar, B'lure
99163-99276; 080-41547999

105. Mandi district bags top position for implementation of PMGSY

- **About**: Himachal Pradesh's Mandi district has bagged top position among 30 districts of the country in successful implementation of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).
- Himachal Pradesh has also secured second position at the national level for construction of roads under PMGSY.
- **PMGSY:** It is a programme funded by the Union government to connect habitations having population of more than 250 in the state.

106. Indian Navy Recruits First Batch Of Woman Pilots

- **About**: The Indian Navy has operationalized its first batch of women pilots on Dornier Aircraft by the Southern Naval Command (SNC) at Kochi.
- Lieutenant Divya Sharma, Lieutenant Shubhangi Swaroop and Lieutenant Shivangi are the three women pilots of the first batch.
- Lt Shivangi was the first to qualify as a naval pilot. Lt Divya Sharma and Lt Shivam Pandey were adjudged 'First in Flying' and 'First in Ground' subjects, respectively.

107. Mizoram adopts zero tolerance measure against COVID-19

- **About**: The Mizoram state will launch an extremely strict measure to start with by imposing "COVID-19 No Tolerance Fortnight" from October 26
- This measure is aimed at breaking the chain of local transmission in Mizoram.

108. Tamil Nadu govt implements Smart Black Board scheme

- **About**: Tamil Nadu government is implementing the Smart Black Board scheme in 80,000 government schools to ensure better teaching environment.
- The Smart Black Board scheme envisages usage of audio visual teaching material that can be fed into the computer screens in classes using widely available pen drives.

109. Dept of Posts to release stamp on 75th anniversary of United Nations

- **About**: Department of Posts will be releasing a stamp in the presence of External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar on the eve of 75th anniversary of the United Nations.
- **UN Day**: The United Nations officially came into existence on 24 October 1945. In 1947, the United Nations General Assembly declared 24 October, the anniversary of the Charter of the United Nations.

110. AIM Launches India–Australia Circular Economy Hackathon(I-ACE)

- **About**: AIM (Atal Innovation Mission), in association with CSIRO, is organizing a two-day hackathon on circular economy, 'India–Australia Circular Economy Hackathon (I-ACE)', on 7 and 8 December.
- I-ACE will focus on identification and development of innovative technology solutions by bright-minded students, startups and MSMEs of both nations.

111. Arjun Munda to launch Two Centers of Excellence for Tribal Welfare

- **About**: Union Minister of Tribal Affairs, Arjun Munda will launch two Centers of Excellence for Tribal Welfare in collaboration between Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Art of Living (AoL)
- The first initiative 'Strengthening PRIs' will be launched in 5 districts covering 30 Gram Panchayts and 150 villages of Jharkhand, in creating awareness among elected representatives of PRI about various Tribal Acts
- The second is about training 10000 tribal farmers in Aurangabad District of Maharashtra on sustainable natural farming based on Go-Adharith farming techniques.

112. PM to inaugurate National Conference on Vigilance and Anti-Corruption

- **About**: The Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the National Conference on Vigilance and Anti-Corruption at 4:45 PM on 27th October, 2020
- **Theme:** Vigilant India, Prosperous India
- **Background**: The Central Bureau of Investigation organizes this National Conference coinciding with 'Vigilance Awareness Week', which is observed in India every year from 27th October to 2nd November.
- Activities in this conference would be focused on Vigilance issues aimed at raising awareness and reaffirming India's commitment to promotion of integrity and probity in public life through citizen participation.

113. PM inaugurates country's biggest cardiac hospital in Ahmedabad

- **About**: Prime Minister Modi e-dedicated country's biggest cardiac hospital at U.N. Mehta Institute of Cardiology and Research Center in Ahemadabad
- He also launched the world's longest temple ropeway project at Girnar in Junagadh, will attract more tourists and pilgrims to this historical place which will boost employment opportunities.

114. IIT Kharagpur, TCS jointly develop new Industry 4.0 solution

- **About**: IIT Kharagpur and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) have jointly developed a novel Industry 4.0 technology for remotely controlled factory operations and real-time quality correction during industrial production in a bid to deliver quality output at low costs.
- Through this innovation, IIT Kharagpur aims to stimulate innovation in advanced manufacturing to boost the capital goods sector.

115. Eighteen more individuals declared as terrorists

- **About**: 18 more individuals have been declared as terrorists under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.
- The Central Government had amended the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 in August 2019, to include the provision of designating an individual as a terrorist.
- Prior to this amendment, only organizations could be designated as terrorist organizations.
- By invoking the amended provision, the Union Government designated four individuals in September last year as terrorist and nine individuals in July this year as terrorists.

- **Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act**: is an Indian law aimed at effective prevention of unlawful activities associations in India. Its main objective was to make powers available for dealing with activities directed against the integrity and sovereignty of India.

116. U.S. and India 2+2 Ministerial dialogue

- **About**: India and the U.S. will sign the last foundational agreement, Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement for Geo-Spatial cooperation (BECA) during the 2+2 ministerial dialogue**,** to expand geospatial information sharing between armed forces of the two countries.
- External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Defence Minister Rajath Singh held the talks with US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Defence Secretary Mark T Esper.
- In the 2+2 dialogue, the two sides deliberated on a host of critical issues including ways to further expand the already close relationship between the militaries of the two countries as well as broader issues of mutual interest in the Indo-Pacific region.

117. India Post and United States Postal Service (USPS) signs Agreement

- **About**: Department of Posts, Government of India (India Post) and United States Postal Service (USPS) have entered into an agreement for Electronic Exchange of Customs data related to postal shipments exchanged between the two countries.
- The agreement will make it possible to transmit and receive electronic data of international postal items prior to their physical arrival at the destination

118. Dr Satish Mishra bags "DrTulsi Das Chugh Award-2020"

- **About:** The Orations & Awards Committee of the National Academy of Medical Sciences (India), has selected Dr Satish Mishra, Principal Scientist, Division of Molecular Parasitology and Immunology, CSIR-CDRI, Lucknow for "Dr.Tulsi Das Chugh Award" for the year 2020
- Award in recognition of his research work on Malaria parasite's life cycle which is a complex process involving two hosts and three invasive stages.
- **National Academy of Medical Sciences (India)**: is a unique institution which fosters and utilizes academic excellence as its resource to meet medical and social goals.

119. India hosts meeting of SCO Ministers handling economy and foreign trade

- **About**: India hosted the 19th Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Ministers responsible for Foreign Economy and Foreign Trade Activities.
- The virtual meeting was attended by the Secretary General of SCO and Ministers from, Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

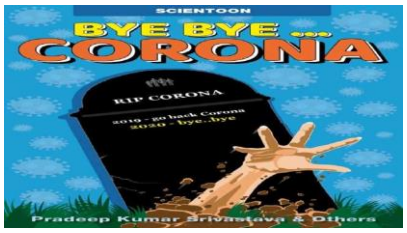
120. Global Art Competition conducted by ICCR

- **About**: A six year old Bangladeshi boy Anzar Mustaeen Ali won a special prize of USD 1000 for his artwork in the global art competition organised by the Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR).
- The ICCR had launched a global painting competition named 'United Against CORONA- Express through Art' which attracted 8000 artwork entries from around the world.

121. IIT-G develops low-cost tech to produce anti-ageing compounds

- **About**: Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology-Guwahati (IIT-G) have developed a low-cost membrane technology to produce psychoactive drugs and anti-ageing compounds from agricultural resources.
- The technology produces caffeine (psychoactive drugs) and flavonoids (anti-ageing compounds) from citrus fruits and peels, berries, ginkgo biloba, parsley, pulses, tea, sea buckthorn, onions and other farm resources.
- Commercially available techniques use costly organic solvents such as chloroform and acetone.
- The new membrane technology could help India reduce the import of flavonoids as camellia sinensis (tea), of which the country is the second largest producer on earth

122. World's first scientoon book "Bye Bye Corona"



- **About**: World's first scientoon book entitled "Bye Bye Corona", written by 'scientoonist' Dr Pradeep Srivastava, former Senior Principal Scientist at CSIR, Lucknow, by Ms. Anandi Ben, Governor, Uttar Pradesh.
- The book is published by Vigyan Prasar, an autonomous agency under the DST, GOI. Dr Nakul Parashar, Director, Vigyan Prasar, and Nimish Kapoor, are the chief editor and editor of the book.
- Book contains comprehensive information on novel coronavirus pandemic, its symptoms and its prevention through precautions.
- A 'scientoon' is a cartoon communication based on science. Scientoons are meant to inform and sensitize people to science and scientific concepts in an intelligible and interesting way.

123. Dr Harsh Vardhan Launches DST initiative SERB – POWER

- **About**: Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences and Health & Family Welfare launched Scheme titled "SERB-POWER (Promoting Opportunities for Women in Exploratory Research)",

- It is a scheme to mitigate gender disparity in science and engineering research funding in various S&T programs in Indian academic institutions and R&D laboratories
- The Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), a statutory body of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India

124. Indian Railways launches OPERATION MERI SAHELI

- **About**: Indian Railways has launched "Meri Saheli" initiative for focused action on security of women across all zones
- **Objective:** to provide safety and security to lady passengers travelling by trains for their entire journey from starting station to destination station.

125. Cabinet approves MOU between India and Cambodia

- **About**: The Union Cabinet has approved the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Cambodia on cooperation in the field of Health and Medicine.
- The bilateral MoU will encourage cooperation between the two countries through joint initiatives and technology development in the health sector.

126. Army launches Secure Application for Internet (SAI)

- **About**: Indian Army has developed a simple and secure messaging application named the "Secure Application for Internet (SAI)".
- The application supports end to end secure voice, text and video calling services for Android platform over internet.

127. Annual Flight Safety Trophy Awarded to Army Aviation Unit

- **About**: For the year 2019-20, 663 Army Aviation Squadron deployed in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir has been adjudged first.
- Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Flight Safety Trophy has been instituted to promote the efforts towards flight safety among Indian Army Aviation Corps units tendering decisive combat edge to the force commanders.
- This trophy is presented to Squadron, Independent flights adjudged first amongst units of Army Aviation Corps in aspects related to ensuring and promoting flight safety.
- **Chief of Army Staff, Gen:** MM Naravane

128. Cabinet approves MOC between India and Japan

- **About**: The Union Cabinet has given its approval for signing Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between India and Japan on bilateral cooperation in the field of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs).
- The MoC will help in cooperation between two countries in various fields like 5G network, telecom security, Submarine cable, standard certification of communication equipment etc.

129. Rythu Bharosa scheme

- **About**: The Andhra Pradesh government has released the second installment of Rs 1,115 crore under the Rythu Bharosa scheme.
- **Rythu Bharosa scheme**: It is a welfare scheme under which the government provides financial assistance of Rs 13,500 to the farmers every year. The Rs 13,500 aid includes Rs 6,000 per year component of the Centre's PM Kisan scheme.
- The state government provides Rs 13,500 to all tenant farmers and those cultivating forest and assigned lands.
- **Chief Minister**: YS Jagan Mohan Reddy

130. Telangana CM launches Dharani portal

- **About**: Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao commissioned the revamped Dharani portal, the one-of-its-kind integrated land record management system
- where land registration and the issuing of pattadar passbooks are done one after the other immediately, obviating the need for farmers to wait for months and grease the palms of revenue staff.

International

1. China to send first-ever 'asteroid mining robot' into space

- **About**: China will send out the world's first mining robot into space by November this year. A private Beijing company, Origin Space, will send out the world's first mining robot — termed as an 'asteroid mining robot'.
- The mission will be a preliminary assessment of the asteroid mining robot's capabilities of identifying and extracting valuable resources, aimed at the eventual mining of asteroids.

2. 12th BRICS Summit

- **About**: The 12th BRICS Summit will be held on 17th November 2020.
- **Theme**: "BRICS Partnership for Global Stability, Shared Security and Innovative Growth"
- **Chairmanship**: Russia
- BRICS countries which includes Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa

3. NASA launches SS Kalpana Chawla Cygnus spacecraft

- **About**: Northrop Grumman launched Cygnus vehicle, the S.S. Kalpana Chawla, and their Antares rocket for the NG-14 mission to the International Space Station.

- The flight will deliver thousands of kilograms/pounds of equipment, crew supplies, and science to the orbital outpost.
- Kalpana Chawla was the first Indian-born woman to travel to space.

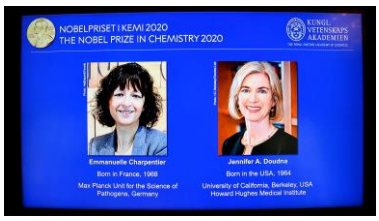
4. 2020 Nobel Prize for Physics

- **About**: The 2020 Nobel Prize for physics has been awarded to Roger Penrose for black hole discovery and Reinhard Genzel and Andrea Ghez for discovering "a supermassive compact object at the centre of our galaxy."
- The three laureates share this year's Nobel Prize in Physics for their discoveries about most exotic phenomena in the universe, black hole

5. Nobel Prize 2020 in medicine

- **About**: The Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institute awarded the 2020 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine jointly to **Harvey J Alter**, **Michael Houghton** and **Charles M Rice** for the discovery of Hepatitis C Virus.

6. Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2020



- **About**: The Nobel Prize in Chemistry was jointly awarded to Emmanuelle Charpentier and Jennifer A. Doudna for their 2012 discovery of one of gene technology's sharpest tools: the CRISPR/Cas9 genetic scissors.
- Using these, researchers can change the DNA of animals, plants and microorganisms with extremely high precision. genome editing.
- The announcement marks the first time a science Nobel has been awarded to two women.
- Dr. Charpentier and Dr. Doudna, only the sixth and seventh women to receive the chemistry prize

7. Russia successfully tests new hypersonic Tsirkon missile

- **About**: Russia has successfully tested a new hypersonic anti-ship cruise missile, Tsirkon missile was fired from the Admiral Gorshkov frigate in the White Sea in the Russian Arctic and successfully hit its target.
- The missile hit its target 450 kilometres (280 miles) away in the Barents Sea and reached a speed of Mach 8 – eight times the speed of sound.

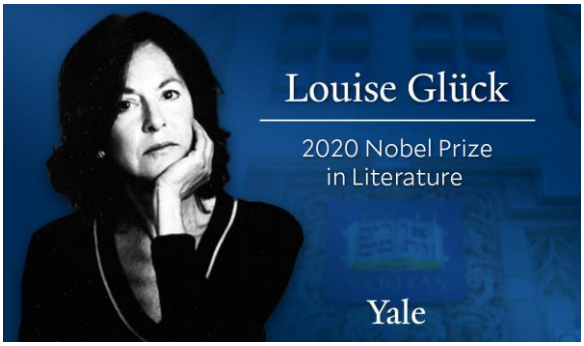
8. UN World Food Programme wins Nobel Peace Prize

- **About**: The 2020 Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP).
- WFP staffs every day bring food and assistance to more than 100 million hungry children, women and men across the world."
- Last year it went to Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, whose peace deal with Eritrea ended a 20-year military stalemate following their 1998-2000 border war.

Nobel Prize:

- It was started in accordance with the will of Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel, with the first award handed out in 1901.
- Nobel Prizes are awarded in several categories to people "who have conferred the greatest benefit to humankind" in the previous 12 months.

9. Louise Glück wins Nobel Prize for Literature



- **About**: Nobel Prize 2020 for Literature has been awarded to the US poet Louise Glück.
- She is the fourth woman to win the prize for literature since 2010, and only the 16th since the Nobel prizes were first awarded in 1901.

10. WEF Annual Meeting to take place in Lucerne-Bürgenstock

- **About**: The World Economic Forum will hold its Annual Meeting 2021 in Lucerne-Bürgenstock, Switzerland, from 18 to 21 May.
- **Theme**: "The Great Reset".

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Contact- Jnanagangothri Academy,
Vijayanagar, B'lure
99163-99276; 080-41547999

11. Armenia, Azerbaijan agree on ceasefire in Nagorno-Karabakh

- **About**: Armenia and Azerbaijan have agreed to a cease-fire in Nagorno-Karbakh. The announcement follows 10 hours of talk between the diplomats in Moscow, which was coordinated by Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov.
- The latest outburst of fighting between Azerbaijani and Armenian forces began on September 27 and left many people dead in the

biggest escalation of the decades-old conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh.

- The region lies in Azerbaijan but has been under control of ethnic Armenian forces backed by Armenia since the end of a separatist war in 1994.

12. Justice Ministers' Meeting of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)

- **About**: The Seventh Meeting of Ministers of Justice of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Member States will be hosted by Ravi Shankar Prasad, Union Minister of Law & Justice, Communication and Electronics & Information Technology.
- The Experts will discuss and share their experiences, best practices and the novel steps taken by them for creating conducive environment for promoting resolution of disputes and other related activities of the Ministries of (Law and) Justice
- The Ministers of (Law and) Justice from India, Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan will be participating in the Meeting.

13. India's health budget spend fourth lowest globally

- **Report by**: Oxfam's 2020 Commitment to Reducing Inequality (CRI) Index
- **About**: India spent just four per cent of its budget on health going into the pandemic, the fourth lowest in the world, with the country ranked 129 out of 158 countries.
- India, Nepal and Sri Lanka are all in the bottom 10, and Bangladesh is 16th from the bottom of Oxfam's CRI 2020 list.

14. Nobel in Economics 2020

- **About**: The Nobel Prize 2020 in Economic Sciences was awarded to **Paul R. Milgrom** and **Robert B. Wilson** "for improvements to auction theory and inventions of new auction formats."

15. Indian economy to contract 10.3% in 2020

- **Report by:** International Monetary Fund(IMF)

Highlights:

- The Indian economy, severely hit by the coronavirus pandemic, is projected to contract by a massive 10.3 per cent this year
- India is likely to bounce back with an impressive 8.8 per cent growth rate in 2021, thus regaining the position of the fastest growing emerging economy, surpassing China's projected growth rate of 8.2 per cent
- China is the only country, among the major economies, to show a positive growth rate of 1.9 per cent in 2020
- America's economy is projected to contract by 5.8 per cent in 2020 and grows by 3.9 per cent the next year
- Global growth would contract by 4.4 per cent this year and bounce back to 5.2 per cent in 2021.

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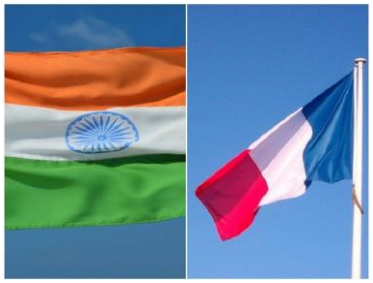
16. India and France re-elected as President and Co- President of the ISA



- **About**: India and France were re-elected as the President and Co- President of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) for a term of two years at the virtual meeting of the Third Assembly held on 14 October. Four new Vice-Presidents were also chosen to represent the four regions of ISA.
- The representatives of Fiji & Nauru for Asia Pacific Region;
- Mauritius & Niger for Africa Region;
- UK & Netherlands for Europe and others Region
- Cuba and Guyana for Latin America and Caribbean Region

ISA

- The ISA is an initiative that was launched by the Prime Minister of India and the President of France on 30 November 2015 at Paris, France on the side-lines of the COP-21.
- Objective of the ISA is to collectively address key common challenges to the scaling up of solar energy in ISA member countries.

17. India joins UK-led campaign against encrypted social media messages

- **About**: India has decided to back the UK-led campaign against end-to-end encryption of messages by social media giants such as Facebook.
- The governments have claimed that this feature acts as an obstacle for law enforcement against illegal activities by blocking all access to them.
- The system also prevents law enforcement investigating and prosecuting against online child sexual abuse, grooming and terrorist content.
- India is among the seven countries to back UK's campaign against the system of encryption, others being USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Japan.
- The call also marks an expansion of the historic "Five Eyes" group of nations by including India and Japan.

Five Eyes (FVEY)

- It is an intelligence alliance with its origin dating back to the post–World War II period.
- The FVET had developed the ECHELON surveillance system in order to monitor the communications of the former Soviet Union and the Eastern Bloc.
- Today the system is used to monitor private communications worldwide.
- FVEY comprises of Australia, New Zealand, Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States

18. Russia approves second COVID-19 vaccine

- **About**: Russian authorities have given regulatory approval to a second coronavirus vaccine after early-stage studies
- **EpiVacCorona**: Vaccine was developed by the Vector Institute in Siberia and tested among 100 volunteers in early-stage
- **Sputnik V**: Russia's first vaccine was developed by the Moscow-based Gamaleya Institute and approved by the government on 11 August.

19. FDA Approves First Treatment for Ebola Virus

- **About**: U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved Inmazeb (atoltivimab, maftivimab, and odesivimab-ebgn), a mixture of three monoclonal antibodies, as the first FDA-approved treatment for Zaire ebolavirus (Ebola virus)
- Zaire ebolavirus, commonly known as Ebola virus, is one of four Ebolavirus species that can cause a potentially fatal human disease.
- Ebola virus is transmitted through direct contact with blood, body fluids and tissues of infected people or wild animals, as well as with surfaces and materials, such as bedding and clothing, contaminated with these fluids.
- The FDA approved Ervebo, the first vaccine for the prevention of Ebola virus disease, in December 2019, with support from a study conducted in Guinea during the 2014-2016 Ebola outbreak.

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ಜ್ಞಾನಗಂಗೋತ್ರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ತರಗತಿಗಳು
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ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ– www.iasjnana.com ಗೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿ
ಮೇಲಿನ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಪರೀಕ್ಷಾ ಸರಣಿ
ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮತ್ತು ಆಫ್‌ಲೈನ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ
ಹೊಸ ಮಾದರಿಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ಪಿಎಸ್‌ಐ ಟೆಸ್ಟ್ ಸರಣಿ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭವಾಗಿದೆ
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20. India to Deliver Submarine INS Sindhuvir to Myanmar Navy

- **About**: India will be delivering a kilo class submarine INS Sindhuvir to Myanmar Navy and this will be the first submarine of the neighboring country.
- The step is in accordance with India's vision of SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region) and also in line with India's commitment to building capacities and self-reliance in the neighbouring countries.

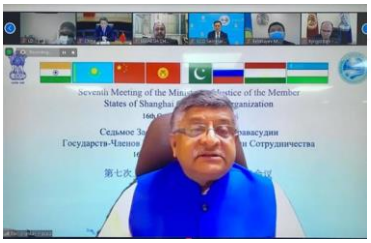
21. New Zealand PM Jacinda Ardern's Labour Party registers victory in elections

- **About**: Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern won in New Zealand's general elections. Ardern's Labour Party won a landslide victory with 49 per cent support, heading to its biggest share of the vote since the 1930s.

22. Kyrgyzstan President resigns

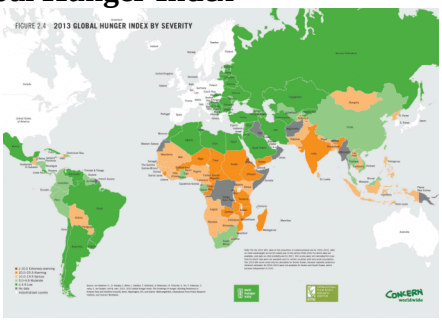
- **About**: Kyrgyzstan President Sooronbay Jeenbekov has resigned after days of protests over a disputed parliamentary election.
- He also called on newly-appointed Prime Minister Sadyr Japarov to take their supporters away from the capital so that peace could return to Bishkek.
- Kyrgyzstan has been in crisis since parliamentary elections on 4 October. Subsequent protests forced electoral officials to annul the results, and also toppled the government.

23. India Hosts Virtual Summit of Ministers of Justice of SCO



- **About**: The Seventh Meeting of Ministers of Justice of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Member States was hosted by Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Minister of Law & Justice, Communication and Electronics & Information Technology on 16th October, 2020.
- The Ministers of (Law and) Justice and senior officials / experts from the Ministries of Law & Justice of India, Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan participated in the three days deliberations.

24. Global Hunger Index



- **About**: India ranked 94 among 107 nations in the Global Hunger Index 2020 and is in the 'serious' hunger category Last year, India's rank was 102 out of 117 countries. **Highlights:**

- Bangladesh ranked 75, Myanmar and Pakistan are in the 78th and 88th position. Nepal in 73rd and Sri Lanka in 64th position are in 'moderate' hunger category
- Seventeen nations, including China, Belarus, Ukraine, Turkey, Cuba and Kuwait, shared the top rank
- According to the report, 14 per cent of India's population is undernourished.
- India recorded a 37.4 per cent stunting rate among children under five and a wasting rate of 17.3 per cent. The under-five mortality rate stood at 3.7 per cent.

GHI score is calculated on four indicators –

- undernourishment;
- child wasting, the share of children under the age of five who are wasted-- who have low weight for their height reflecting acute undernutrition);
- child stunting, children under the age of five who have low height for their age reflecting chronic undernutrition;
- Child mortality - the mortality rate of children under the age of five.

25. India, Chile Hold First Joint Commission Meeting

- **About**: India and Chile conducted their first joint commission meeting on, October 17 and discussed boosting their friendly ties in a wide range of fields including trade and commerce, agriculture, health and social security, defence, and space.

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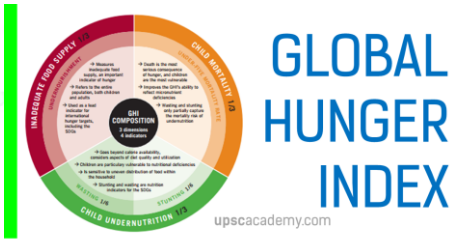

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30. 5 India, Chile Hold First Joint Commission Meeting

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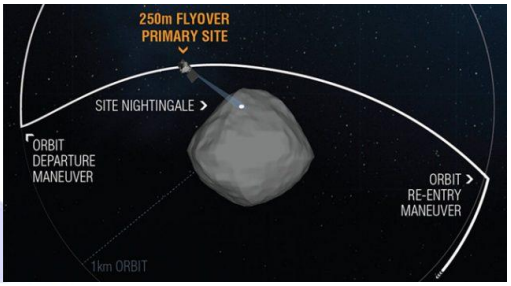
31. Malabar Naval Exercise

- **About**: Australia will participate in the Malabar naval exercise involving India, the US and Japan will take place in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea.
- **Malabar:** series of Naval exercises started in 1992 as a bilateral Indian Navy-US Navy exercise. Japan joined the Naval exercise in 2015.

32. First SCO Startup Forum to be launched

- **About**: The first-ever SCO Startup Forum will be launched on 27th October 2020 ahead of the SCO trade ministers meeting on 28th October.
- The forum will lay the foundation for multilateral cooperation and engagement among the SCO Member States to develop and hone their startup ecosystems, collectively.
- India is currently the third-largest startup ecosystem in the world with over 35,000 startups, close to 25% of which are core technology startups operating in areas of AI, Robotics, Cloud Computing, IoT, Digital Health, Financial & Education Technology.

33. NASA mission successfully touched down on asteroid Bennu



- **About**: After orbiting the near-Earth asteroid Bennu for nearly two years, NASA's OSIRIS-REx spacecraft successfully touched down and reached out its robotic arm to collect a sample from the asteroid's surface.
- That sample will be returned to Earth in 2023.
- To achieve this historic first for NASA, a van-size spacecraft had to briefly touch down its arm in a landing site called Nightingale.
- The mission -- which stands for Origins, Spectral Interpretation, Resource Identification, Security-Regolith Explorer -- launched in September 2016.

34. The Future of Jobs Report 2020 Report by: World Economic Forum Highlights:

- The rise of machines and automation would eliminate 85 million jobs by 2025.

- But at the same time, the WEF expects 97 million new jobs to be created, meaning an overall addition of 12 million jobs.
- Employers could move as much as 44% of their workforce to operate remotely but added 78% of business leaders expect current ways of working to negatively impact productivity as some industries struggle to adapt
- Automation, in tandem with the COVID-19 recession, is creating a 'double-disruption' scenario for workers
- The Covid-19 outbreak has ravaged the global economy, with the International Monetary Fund forecasting a 4.4% contraction in GDP this year

35. Giant cat drawing at a UNESCO World Heritage site in Peru

- **About**: Peruvian archaeologists have uncovered a 37-metre-long (120-foot-long) cat etching in a little-explored area of the country's celebrated Nazca Lines UNESCO heritage site which is home to hundreds of gigantic geoglyphs dating back more than 2,000 years.
- The geoglyph is around 120 feet (37 meters) long and was recently discovered by a drone on a hillside
- **Nazca Lines**: Nazca Lines are a group of geoglyphs, or large designs made on the ground by creators using elements of the landscape such as stones, gravel, dirt or lumber.
- The Lines were first discovered in 1927, and were declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1994. The site is around 450 km away from capital Lima southwards along the South Pan-American Highway.

36. America Approves $1.8 Billion Arms Sales to Taiwan

- **About**: The Donald Trump-led administration has approved the sale of advanced weaponry for Taiwan in a move that is more than likely to enrage China.
- The United States has confirmed the potential sale of three weapons systems including missiles and artillery, to Taiwan that could have a total value of USD 1.8 billion.

China and Taiwan

- The Chinese government has claimed authority over Taiwan for decades and continues to do so.
- Even though Taiwan is not recognized by the United Nations, its government maintains a relationship with the US and does not accept the Chinese authority.

37. G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group

- **About**: Union minister Jitendra Singh in first-ever ministerial meeting of G-20 anti-corruption working group said that India is committed to the policy of zero tolerance against corruption and unaccounted money
- **Presided by**: Saudi Arabia

38. Pakistan to remain in grey list

- **About**: Pakistan will remain on the grey list of global terror financing watchdog, Financial Action Task Force (FATF) as it has not been able to fulfil six out of the 27 mandates to check terror funding.
- The decision was announced by the The FATF strongly urged Pakistan to swiftly complete its full action plan by February 2021.

FATF:

- It is an inter-governmental body set up in 1989 to combat money laundering, terror financing and other related threats to the international financial system.
- It currently has 39 members. These include two regional organizations - the European Commission and Gulf Cooperation Council.
- **President of FATF**: Marcus Pleyer.

39. UN treaty banning nuclear weapons set to enter into force

- **About**: The United Nations announced that 50 countries have ratified a UN treaty to ban nuclear weapons triggering its entry into force in 90 days
- The 50th ratification came on the 75th anniversary of the ratification of the UN Charter which officially established the United Nations and is celebrated as UN Day.

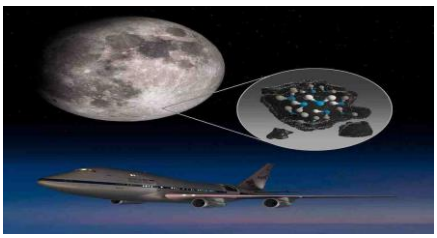
40. Environmental Ministers Ink Deal to Turn No Emission Target

- **About**: European Union Environment Ministers, on October 23, struck a deal to make the bloc to achieve its target of reaching net-zero emissions by 2050.
- Although the lawmakers made a firm decision on the 2050 emission target, they left the decision on their 2030 emissions-cutting target to be discussed in December.

41. Bangladesh govt. orders 'no mask, no service' policy

- **About**: The cabinet meeting Chaired by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina decided that no service will be provided to people who don't wear masks.
- It decided that all offices must install notice boards saying 'no mask, no service' in order to control the spread of COVID 19 virus in the country.

42. NASA's SOFIA Discovers Water on Sunlit Surface of Moon



- **About**: NASA's Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA) has confirmed, for the first time, water on the sunlit surface of the Moon.
- This discovery indicates that water may be distributed across the lunar surface, and not limited to cold, shadowed places.

- SOFIA has detected water molecules (H2O) in Clavius Crater, one of the largest craters visible from Earth, located in the Moon's southern hemisphere.
- Previous observations of the Moon's surface detected some form of hydrogen, but were unable to distinguish between water and its close chemical relative, hydroxyl (OH).
- **Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA)**: is an 80/20 joint project of NASA and the German Aerospace Center (DLR) to construct and maintain an airborne observatory.

43. Japan to achieve zero carbon emissions by

- **About**: Japan's new Prime Minister, Yoshihide Suga, committed his country to reaching a target of zero emissions of greenhouse gases and achieving a carbon-neutral society by 2050, with a "fundamental shift" in policy on coal use.
- Japan, fifth-largest emitter of carbon dioxide, has come under intense criticism from international environmental groups for continuing to build and finance coal-fired power plants
- As per Japan's current energy plan, 56 per cent of its energy requirements come from fossil fuels.

44. ISRO-NASA satellite NISAR expected to be launched by 2022

- **About**: The NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) satellite is expected to be launched by 2022
- The space agencies of the two countries had signed an agreement in 2014 to conduct the joint NISAR mission
- India and the US have also decided to share Space Situational Awareness (SSA) information, which will catalyze efforts to create the conditions for a safe and sustainable space environment
- Space debris, which are tens of thousands currently in the Earth's orbit, pose a threat to space assets. SSA refers to keeping track of objects in orbit and predicting where they will be at any given time.

45. US offer F-18 fighter jets to India

- **About**: The United States of America (USA) has offered its F-18 naval fighter jets for the Indian Navy's requirements of combat jets for its aircraft carriers
- **FA-18**: is a twin-engine, supersonic, all-weather, carrier-capable, multirole combat jet, designed as both a fighter and attack aircraft

46. India's Global Himalayan Expedition wins UN award

- **About**: The Global Himalayan Expedition (GHE) is among the winners of the 2020 UN Global Climate Action Award.
- GHE is one of the world's first organizations using tourism and technology to bring solar energy to remote communities.

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- An Indian organization has won a prestigious UN award for its efforts to combat climate change amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

Sports

1. Kiren Rijiju launches new logo of Sports Authority of India

- **About**: Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju launched the Sports Authority of India's (SAI) new logo at Delhi's Major Dhyan Chand Stadium.
- The new logo signifies SAI's journey of metamorphosis from identifying and nurturing grassroot level sporting talent to creating sporting excellence in the country.
- **Indian Olympic Association President**: Narinder Batra

2. Rafael Nadal wins his French Open Men's Singles title

- **About**: In Tennis, Rafael Nadal beat Novak Djokovic to win his 13th French Open and equal Roger Federer's all-time record of 20 Grand Slam titles.
  World number two Nadal claimed his 100th match win at Roland Garros against just two defeats since his 2005 debut.
- **Women's Singles** Polish teenager Iga Swiatek has become the new French Open Champion. She beat the American Australian Open winner Sofia Kenin in the Women Singles final

3. Nozomi Okuhara clinches Women's Singles title at Denmark Open

- **About**: In Badminton, former World Champion Nozomi Okuhara clinched the Denmark Open title beating three-time world champion Carolina Marin in women's singles.
- In the men's singles final, world number seven Anders Antonsen of Denmark defeated his compatriot Rasmus Gemke.

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Inspiring

Special days

1. International Translation Day 2020

- **About**: International Translation Day is observed on September 30, The day aims to celebrate the work of language translation professionals which facilitates dialogue, understanding, and cooperation, contributing

to the development and strengthening of world peace and security.

- **Theme**: "Finding the words for a world in crisis"

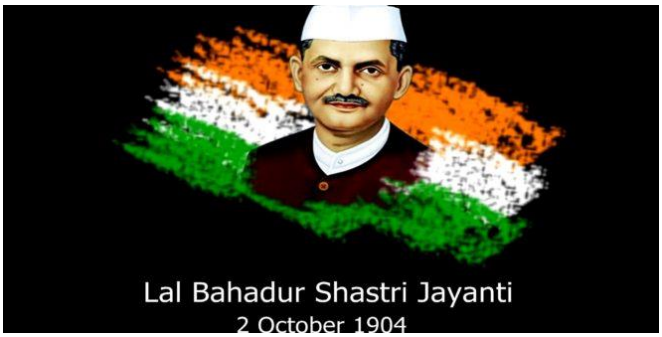
2. International Day for Older Persons

- **About**: International Day of Older Persons is observed on October 1 every year. It is a United Nations designated day to focus on the well-being and special needs of the elderly people.
- **Theme**: "Decade of Healthy Ageing"

3. International Day of Non-Violence

- **About**: October 2 is marked as the International Day of Non-Violence every year by the United Nations. Mahatma Gandhi gave the world the philosophy of non-violence or Ahimsa.
- The UN General Assembly in a resolution on 15 June 2007, commemorated the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi as the International Day of Non-violence.
- The objective of the day is to "disseminate the message of non-violence, including through education and public awareness".

4. Lal Bahadur Shastri's birthday



- **About**: Lal Bahadur Shastri was born on October 2, 1964. He became the second prime minister of India after independence and played a significant role in nation-building.
- Lal Bahadur Shastri also served as Minister of Home Affairs at the time of Jawaharlal Nehru's government and acquired the position of Railway Minister in 1951.
- He also gave the famous slogan Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan during the Indo-Pak war in 1965.
- He was a part of the non-cooperation movement. He also participated in the Salt Satyagraha and got behind the bars in 1930 for more than two years.

5. World Habitat Day

- **About**: The United Nations decided to observe the first Monday (5th October) of October as World Habitat Day.

- The day is commemorated every year worldwide to throw light on the condition of our towns and cities, and on the basic right of all to adequate shelter.
- **Theme**: 'Housing for all: A better urban future'

6. World Cotton Day

- **About**: Minister of Textiles Smriti Irani launched the first ever Brand and Logo for Indian Cotton on Second World Cotton Day on October 7th
- Now India's premium cotton would be known as '**Kasturi Cotton'** in the world cotton trade.
- **Highlight**: India is the second largest cotton producer and the largest consumer of cotton in the world. It produces about six million tonnes of cotton every year which is about 23 per cent of the world cotton.

7. Air Force Day

- **About**: The Indian Air Force is celebrated 88th Air Force Day on, October 8. The day is being marked by the main event comprising a parade and flypast at Hindon Air Force Base.
- On this day Air Force in India was officially raised in 1932 as the supporting force of the Royal Air Force of the United Kingdom, the Air Force now is the fourth largest in the world.
- **Air Chief Marshal**: RKS Bhadauria

8. National Postal Week from 9th to 15th October

- **About**: India Post commenced celebration of the National Postal Week ,starting with World Post Day which is celebrated each year on 9th October, the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in 1874 in Berne.

9. International Girl Child Day

- **About**: The International Day of the Girl Child is being celebrated every year on October 11. The main objective of this day is to empower women and help them to get their rights.
  Theme: "My voice, our equal future,"

9. National Philately Day

- **About**: The National Philately Day is being celebrated on 13th October throughout the country. The day also marks the collection, appreciation and research activities on stamps and other philatelic products.
- The Philately is the study of postage stamps and postal history.

10. International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction 2020

- **About**: International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction is observed on October 13, every year. The day aims to promote a global culture of risk-awareness and disaster reduction.
- **Theme**: "Disaster risk governance"

10. 'Ayurveda for Covid-19' to be the main theme of 5th Ayurveda Day

- **About**: The Ayurveda Day is being observed every year from 2016, on the day of Dhanwantri Jayanti. This year it falls on 13th November 2020.
- The Objective of Ayurveda Day is to focus on strengths of Ayurveda and its unique treatment principles, to work towards reducing the burden of disease and related mortality by utilising the potential of Ayurveda
- **Theme**: 'Ayurveda for Covid-19 Pandemic'

11. Mahila Kisan Diwas celebrated

- **About**: The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare organized Mahila Kisan Diwas on 15th October, 2020.
- **Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare**: Narendra Singh Tomar
- **Union Minister of State for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare**: Parshottam Rupala

12. International Day of Rural Women

- **About**: International Day of Rural Women is observed on 15th October.
- The Day recognizes the critical role and contribution of rural women, including indigenous women, in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty.

13. Global Handwashing Day

- **About**: Global Handwashing Day is observed on October 15 each year to raise awareness and highlight the importance of handwashing as an effective means of disease prevention.

14. World Students' Day

- **About**: The birth anniversary of former President APJ Abdul Kalam on October 15 is observed as World Students' Day.
- After completing his term as the 11th President of India, Dr Kalam went back to teaching on the very next day.

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5. World Food Day

- **About**: World Food Day is observed on October 16 every year to tackle global hunger and strive to eradicate hunger across the world.
- **Theme**: **"Grow, nourish, sustain. Together. Our actions are our future".**

15. International Day for Eradication of Poverty

- **About**: October 17 is observed as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty.
- The World Bank has revealed that, as of 2020 around 1.89 billion people or nearly 36% of the world's population is living in extreme poverty.
- **Theme**: "Acting together to achieve social and environmental justice for all".

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17. Police Commemoration Day

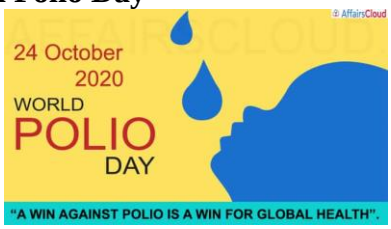
- **About**: Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah laid a wreath and paid tributes to martyred policemen on Police Commemoration Day at the National Police Memorial in New Delhi.
- **Police Commemoration Day:** is observed on 21 October in memory of the ten police personnel who were martyred in an ambush by

heavily armed Chinese troops in Hot Springs in Ladakh on this date in 1959.

18. World Statistics Day

- **About**: The World Statistics Day is being celebrated around the globe on October 20th.
- **Theme:** "Connecting the world with data we can trust".

19. World Polio Day



- **About**: World Polio Day is observed on October 24 every year to raise awareness for polio vaccination and eradication of polio.
- The World Polio Day was established to commemorate the birth of Jonas Salk, who led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis.
- **Theme:** "Stories of Progress: Past and Present"
- The last stronghold of poliovirus is in Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- **Polio prevention & treatment**

- **Inactivated poliovirus vaccine (IPV):** given as an injection in the leg or arm, depending on the patient's age. Only IPV has been used in the United States since 2000.
- **Oral poliovirus vaccine (OPV):** is still used throughout much of the world.

Causes of Polio:

- Polio is caused by an RNA virus, where 85% of the infections are paralytic. Poliovirus is most commonly spread in the areas where there is poor sanitation.
- The virus can be spread through contaminated food and water.

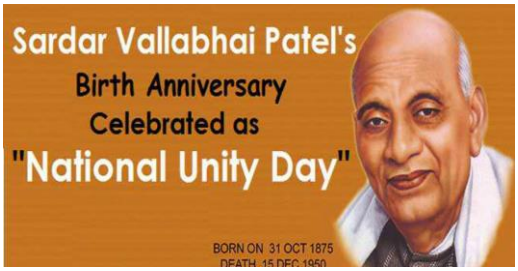
20. World Snow Leopard's Day

- **About**: October 23 is celebrated as World's Snow Leopard Day every year to protect and conserve snow leopards and other wildlife of the Himalayas.
- They are also called the 'ghost of the mountains'.
- Snow leopards are an endangered species, Ladakh is called as Snow Leopard capital of the world

21. Infantry day celebrated

- **About**: Infantry Day to commemorate the contributions of Infantry, the largest fighting arm of the Indian Army was celebrated on 27 October 2020.
- It was on this day in 1947 that Infantrymen from Indian Army became the first troops to land at Srinagar airport, an act which turned back the invaders from the outskirts of Srinagar and saved the state of Jammu and Kashmir from a Pakistan backed tribal invasion.

22. National Unity Day



- **About**: National Unity Day or Rashtriya Ekta Diwas is celebrated on October 31 every year, to mark the birth anniversary of Iron Man of India - Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- Patel played a crucial role in India's freedom movement and in the integration of India from 560 princely states.
- He was the first Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister of independent India. National Unity Day is observed to acknowledge the efforts of Patel to unite the nation.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Statue of Unity in Gujarat. It is the world's tallest statue with a height of 182 metres (597 feet). It is located on the Narmada River in the Kevadiya colony and faces the Sardar Sarovar Dam.

Obituary

1. **Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah passes away**

- **About**: Kuwait's Emir, Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmed al-Sabah, has died at the age of 91
- He had ruled the oil-rich Gulf Arab state since 2006 and had overseen its foreign policy for more than 50 years.
- The emir also often acted as a mediator in regional disputes, including the ongoing diplomatic stand-off between Saudi Arabia, its allies and Qatar.

2. **Union Minister Ram Vilas Paswan passes away**

- **About**: The LokJanshakti Party founder and Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Ram Vilas Paswan passed away in New Delhi. He was 74.
- He was elected to LokSabha eight times and also held the record of winning his constituency, Hajipur, with the highest margin for several years.

3. **Kannada Music Composer Rajan Passes Away at 87**

- **About**: The Kannada Music Composer Rajan passed away at his Bengaluru residence at the age of 87.
- His musical journey with his younger brother, Nagendra, started in 1952.
- Their debut film was Soubhagya Lakshmi. The duo created music and melodies for over 375 films. Around 200 of these were in Kannada films but the rest were in Tamil, Telugu, Tulu, and Sinhala.
- He has written a book called Haado suswara Sangeetha which is about his innovations with musical notations.

4. **India's first Oscar winner Bhanu Athaiya passes away**

- **About**: India's first Oscar winner Costume designer Bhanu Athaiya died at her home in Mumbai after prolonged illness. She was 91.
- She jointly won the Academy Award for Best Costume Design with John Mollo, for Richard Attenborough's "Gandhi" in 1983. The lavish biopic of Mahatma Gandhi swept the Oscars with eight awards.
- In a career of more than five decades, Athaiya won two National Awards -- for Gulzar's mystery drama "Lekin" (1990) and the period film "Lagaan" directed by Ashutosh Gowariker (2001).

5. Popular Carnatic Musician TS Ramaa Passes Away

- **About**: Popular Carnatic vocalist and musician Professor TS Ramaa passed away in Bengaluru. She was 70.
- Ramaa was 'A' Grade artiste at All India Radio (AIR) and she was the head of the department of music at APS College, Bengaluru.
- Ramaa was conferred with the title 'Ganakalasri' by Sangeet Natak Akademi in 2006. She was also felicitated with the Doordarshan Chandana award in the field of Carnatic music in 2017.

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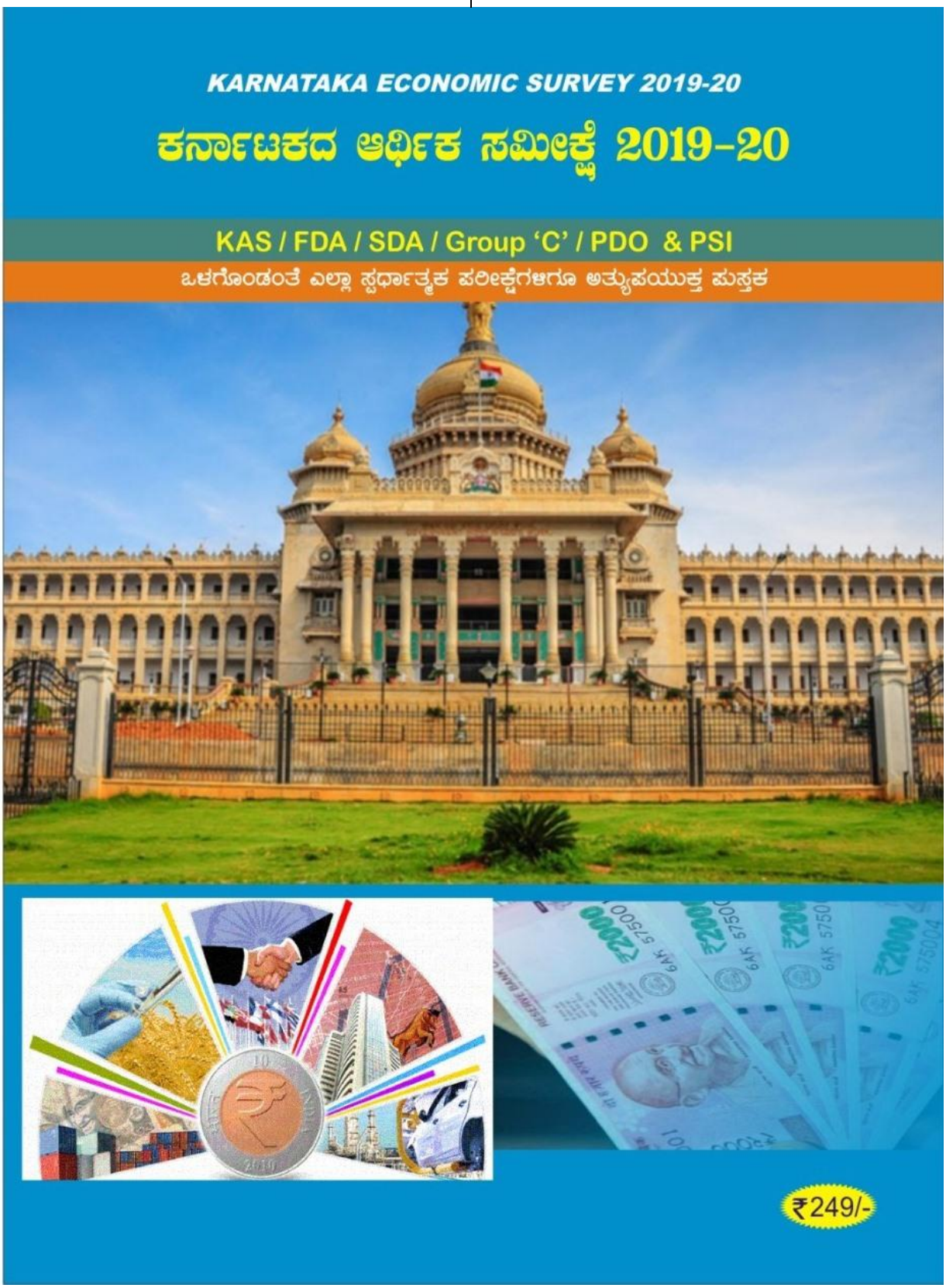
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