

GENERAL AWARENESS-CURRENT AFFAIRS MONTH OF MAY-2020

List of Important Days

- May 01 - International Workers' Day or Labor Day or May Day.
- May 03 - World Press Freedom Day. (Theme - "Journalism without Fear or Favor.")
- May 04 - International Firefighters' Day.
- May 05 - International Midwives Day. (Theme - "Midwives with women: celebrate, demonstrate, mobilize, unite - our time is NOW!")
- May 08 - World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day.
- May 08 - World Thalassaemia Day. (Theme - "The dawning of a new era for thalassaemia: Time for a global effort to make novel therapies accessible and affordable to patients")
- May 10 (2nd Sunday of May) - Mother's Day.
- May 11 - National Technology Day.
- May 12 - International Nurses Day. (Theme - "Nursing the world to health")
- May 16 - International Day of Living Together in Peace.
- May 16 - Sikkim Statehood Day.
- May 17 - World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD 2020). (Theme - "Connect 2030: ICTs for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)")
- May 18 - International Museum Day. (Theme - "Museums for Equality: Diversity and Inclusion")
- May 21 - World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development.
- May 21 - Anti-Terrorism Day being observed across India.
- May 22 - International Day for Biological Diversity. (Theme - "Our Solutions Are In Nature")
- May 23 - World Turtle Day. (Theme - "American Tortoise Rescue")

Reserve Bank of India

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has cancelled the license of **CKP Co-operative Bank Ltd**, with operations in **Maharashtra**, with effect from the close of business on April 30, 2020.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced that over **99 per cent** of **CKP Co-Op Bank's 1.32 lakh depositors** will get full money through Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC).
- RBI's **Monetary Policy Committee** has **cut the repo rate** by **40 basis** points to **4%**, Governor Shaktikanta Das announced.
 - **Repo rate** - 40 basis points
 - **Reverse Repo** - 3.35 percent.
 - **Loan moratorium extended for 3 months** India GDP growth in 2020-21 is estimated to remain in **negative** territory.
- The RBI has extended a **Rs. 15,000-crore** line of credit to the **Export- Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank)** for a period of **90 days** to help meet its foreign exchange requirements amid the coronavirus pandemic.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a **Rs. 4-crore** penalty on **Citibank**.
 - The regulator said it fined Citibank for not complying with the directions related to customer credentials at the time of opening current accounts.

- Earlier, RBI imposed penalties of Rs. 5 crore on **Bank of India**, Rs. 1.2 crore on **Karnataka Bank** and Rs. 30 lakh on **Saraswat Cooperative Bank** for non-compliance with various rules.

State Bank of India

- India's largest lender, **State Bank of India (SBI)** **slashed** benchmark **lending** rate by **15 basis points** and introduced Special Deposit Scheme for **senior citizens** with higher interest rate.
 - With that, the marginal cost of funds-based lending rate comes down to **7.25 per cent**, from 7.40 per cent with effect from 10th of May.
- India's largest lender **State Bank of India (SBI)** has **reduced interest rates** on retail term deposits by up to **40 basis points (bps)** across all tenors.
 - This is the **second reduction** in fixed deposits interest rates by the lender in May.

Other Banks

- In a major development, **Kotak Mahindra Bank (Kotak)** has announced the introduction of **Video KYC** to open a full-fledged Kotak 811 savings account – a first in Indian banking.
- Private lender **Yes Bank** has acquired a 24.19% stake in Dish TV India, by invoking pledged shares after loan defaults by several companies.
 - **Dish TV** is a direct-to-home (DTH) entertainment service provider, operated by the Zee Group and the Videocon Group.

Insurance

- **Maharashtra** has announced to provide **free health cover** to all its citizens under the **Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Jan Arogya Yojana**.
 - With this, Maharashtra became the 1st state to provide **free and cashless health insurance** to its citizens.

Supreme Court

- The Supreme Court exempted lawyers appearing in **virtual hearings** from wearing black coats and robes, in view of medical advice stating that there is a greater possibility of COVID-19 spread through this attire.

High Courts and Sessions Courts

- The **Andhra Pradesh HC** has passed an interim order to **seize** the premises of **LG Polymers** after the **gas leak** at its chemical plant in Vizag killed at least 11 people.
- The **Andhra Pradesh High Court** has directed the state government to reinstate State Election Commissioner **Nimmagadda Ramesh Kumar** who was dismissed on 10th April 2020.

Election Commission

- The **Election Commission** has granted permission for holding elections to the **Legislative Council** in **Maharashtra**.

Central Government

- Government has notified new sets of **specified health warnings** for all **tobacco product** packs.
 - The new set of health warnings will be applicable w.e.f. **September 1, 2020**.
- The government has announced it will **stop selling** its **savings bonds** that offered an interest rate of **7.75%** on a taxable basis, also known as **RBI 7.75% bonds**.
- The Government **extended** the lockdown in containment zones till **June 30** and said all economic activities can restart in a phased manner outside those zones.

States

- **Andhra Pradesh** Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy announced that **English** as a medium of education in government schools will be introduced. **Telugu**, however, will remain the compulsory language subject.
- The **Haryana** government announced a complete ban on the purchase of **new vehicles** including cars and jeeps.
- **Madhya Pradesh** CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan relaunched the **Sambal Yojana**.
 - Under this, the state government will bear the education expenses of children from poor families from Class 1 to PhD.
- To provide **job** to every labourer, **Madhya Pradesh** CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the **Shram Siddhi campaign** in every Panchayat.
 - Job cards will be given to labourers after a door-to-door survey and then they will be given jobs.
 - Unskilled labourers will be provided work under MGNREGA and skilled labourers will be provided with work according to their ability.
- **Kerala** has made it mandatory for those coming into the state on special trains starting to apply for digital passes on Covid-19 Jagratha portal.
- **Jammu and Kashmir** is going to provide **tap water** connection to all rural households by December, 2022 under the **Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)**.
- **Home delivery** has been made mandatorily cashless in **Ahmedabad** to prevent the spread of COVID-19 through currencies.
 - Cash on delivery (COD) will not be allowed in the city starting May 15.
- To salute the coronavirus frontline warriors, **Delhi Police** is organizing 'Dil Se Shukriya' virtual concert.
- The **Uttar Pradesh** government has **banned** all transfer of officers and employees in view of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Work for **National Population Register (NPR)** 2021 has been postponed in Uttar Pradesh in view of the coronavirus pandemic.

Personalities

- **Russian** Prime Minister **Mikhail Mishustin** announced that he has tested positive for coronavirus and has informed President Vladimir Putin about the same.
 - Mishustin proposed that First Deputy Prime Minister **Andrey Belousov** should serve as acting prime minister in his absence.
- Senior US diplomat **Alice Wells** said **India** will have to reduce tariffs and adopt more welcoming policies to build trusted supply chain relationships in the post-coronavirus world.
- To commemorate the 115th Birth Anniversary of **Ramkinkar Baij** on 26th May 2020, the Ministry of Culture's National Gallery of Modern Art will organize virtual tour titled "Ramkinkar Baij | Journey through silent transformation and expressions".
- Embattled liquor tycoon **Vijay Mallya** has exhausted all his legal options in the UK after his application for permission to appeal his extradition in the Supreme Court was rejected.

Defence and National Security

- The **Indian Armed Forces (IAF)** expressed their gratitude to the '**corona warriors**' across the country.

- In one of the largest evacuation exercises named the **Vande Bharat Mission**, the government will operate **64 flights** from May 7 to May 13 to bring home nearly 14,800 Indian nationals stranded abroad due to the coronavirus lockdown.
 - Nearly 700 distressed Indians fly back on special flights from Kuwait, Sharjah and Oman under the Vande Bharat Mission.
 - Meanwhile, **Navy** has also sent **three** of its ships under **Operation Samudra Setu** to get back stranded citizens from Maldives and UAE.
- The **Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)** has installed its **Ultra Violet** disinfection chamber at the **Cochin International Airport** in Kerala.
- The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** is set to operationalize its **squadron** called the **Number-18 - Flying Bullets** with a fleet of the Light Combat Aircraft, **LCA Tejas** at its **Sulur** base near **Coimbatore**.
- Human resource management issues, studies pertaining to ammunition management, merger of co-located training establishments and merger of **Military Training Directorate** with **HQ Army Training Command** were also discussed.
- Foundation Stone for a Missile Park "**AGNEEPRASTHA**" was laid at **INS Kalinga** by Cmde Rajesh Debnath, Commanding Officer, in the presence of Vice Admiral Atul Kumar Jain.
- **India** and **China** are talking to each other at military and diplomatic levels to resolve the standoff in Ladakh, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh announced.
- In order to give a boost to domestic defence and aerospace manufacturing, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has approved the launch of **Defence Testing Infrastructure Scheme (DTIS)** with an outlay of Rs 400 crore for creating state of the art testing infrastructure for this sector.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh commissioned Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) Sachet and two interceptor boats (IBs) **C-450 and C-451** in **Goa** via video conference.

Committees/Commissions

- **Assam** Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has set up a 8 Member Consultation Committee to revive the **state economy**.
 - Head of this Committee - **S C Das** (Retired IAS officer)
- In order to provide employment to the migrant labourers returning to the state amid coronavirus lockdown, **UP** government has decided to set up a '**Migration Commission**'.
- The **Sports Authority of India (SAI)** has formed a committee to prepare a **Standard Operating Procedure** to resume training in all **SAI Centres** in all sporting disciplines after the lockdown is lifted.
 - Headed by: Rohit Bharadwaj (Secretary, Sports Authority of India)
- Government has accepted and implemented 3 important recommendations of Committee of Experts (CoE) under the Chairmanship of Lt General **D B Shekatkar** (Retd) relating to **border Infrastructure**.

Schemes/Initiatives

- A new public-private initiative called '**Aarogya Setu Mitr**' has been launched on the government's Aarogya Setu app.
- Union Minister of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Narendra Singh Tomar launched "**The Saras Collection**" on the Government e Marketplace (GeM) portal in **New Delhi**.
 - The Saras Collection showcases daily utility products made by rural self-help groups (SHGs) and aims to provide SHGs in rural areas with market access to Central and State Government buyers.
 - It is a unique initiative of GeM and the Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).

- The **Civil Aviation Ministry** and **DGCA** have launched the **GARUD** (Government Authorization for Relief Using Drones) portal for providing fast track conditional exemptions to government agencies for COVID-19 related drone operations.
- Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** inaugurated the **Link Road to Kailash Mansarovar** via video conferencing.
 - The link road connects **Dharchula to Lipulekh, China Border** which is known as **Kailash-Mansarovar Yatra Route**.
- Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs **Smt. Nirmala Sitaraman** launched **INR-USD Futures and Options contracts** on the two International Exchanges, viz **BSE's India INX** and **NSE's NSE-IFSC**, at **GIFT International Financial Services Centre** at **Gandhinagar** through video conference.
- In the Union Territory of **Jammu and Kashmir**, Adviser to Lieutenant Governor Baseer Ahmad Khan inaugurated a first of its kind **Infectious Disease Block facility** at **Sher-e-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS)** at **Soura** in **Srinagar** for the treatment of COVID-19 and other pathologies infected patients.
- The government will launch **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)** for integrated, sustainable, inclusive development of marine and inland fisheries.
 - An estimated Rs. 11,000 crore will be earmarked for marine, inland fisheries and aquaculture, while Rs. 9,000 crore will be allocated for infrastructure related to fishing harbours, cold chains, markets, etc.
 - An Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund worth Rs. 15,000 crore will be created by Govt.
- Tribal Affairs Minister **Arjun Munda** has launched the **"GOAL (Going Online As Leaders)"** programme of his Ministry in partnership with Facebook at a Webinar in New Delhi.

Summit/Conference

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has participated in a virtual summit of the **Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)** on COVID 19 pandemic.
 - The Summit has been organized at the initiative of Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev to enhance coordination of member states in fight against COVID-19.
- To celebrate the National Technology Day, a **high-level digital conference** on 'Rebooting the Economy through Science, Technology and Research Translations titled **RESTART**' will be organized by **Technology Development Board (TDB)** a statutory body of the Department of Science & Technology (DST) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) on 11th May 2020.
- 1st phase of the **Army Commanders' Conference**, concluded in **New Delhi**.

Agreement/Deal/Signed

- The **Coir Board** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Indian Institute of Technology-Madras**, to establish a "Centre of Excellence (CoE) for the application of Coir exclusively or in combination with other natural fibers".
- Officials from **India** and **Israel** recently held discussions on scientific cooperation between the two countries to develop **rapid diagnosis for COVID-19** based on AI.
- US President **Donald Trump** signed an executive order aimed at **regulating social media** companies 2 days after Twitter added factcheck label to his tweets.

Meet/Visit

- Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan chaired the 14th high-level **Group of Ministers (GoM)** meeting in **New Delhi**.

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** hold a meeting with the **State Chief Ministers** through video conferencing on May 11.
 - The meeting will also be attended by Home Minister Amit Shah, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharman and Health Minister Harsh Vardhan including other senior officials.
- To discuss issues including credit offtake to help uplift the economy amid the coronavirus crisis, Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** meet **CEOs of PSUs** on May 11.
- **India** and **Bangladesh** have added **5 new ports** of call on either sides and increased protocol routes from 8 to 10 to boost trade.
 - The two countries signed the **Second Addendum to Protocol on Transit and Trade** through inland waterways in **Dhaka**.
- Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare **Dr. Harsh Vardhan** participated in the 32nd Commonwealth **Health Ministers' Meeting** through Video Conference.
 - Theme: Delivering a coordinated Commonwealth COVID-19 response.

Bills

- **Uttar Pradesh** government has invoked the **Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA)** that bans strikes in all government corporations and departments for 6 months.

Fund

- The **US** has announced an additional grant of **\$3 million** to help **India** fight coronavirus.
 - This takes the total assistance provided by the US Agency for International Development (USAID) to India to **\$5.9 million**, including the \$2.9 million sanctioned on April 6.
 - The USAID is providing these funds to **Partnerships for Affordable Healthcare Access and Longevity (PAHAL)** project.
- The **United Nations** and partner agencies have launched a **6.7 billion US dollar** global appeal to fight the **COVID-19 pandemic**, more than trebling an earlier appeal made by the UN chief, with special focus on more vulnerable countries and combating food insecurity and gender-based violence.
- The Government of **India** and the **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** signed a **US\$ 500 million** "COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Project" to help India to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and strengthen its public health preparedness.
 - This is the first ever health sector support from the Bank to India.
- The **World Bank** has agreed to grant **Pakistan a \$500 million loan** to help it reduce the impact of coronavirus crisis and improve healthcare quality.
 - Pakistan's public debt-to-GDP ratio is expected to increase from 85% to 90% of GDP.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** announced a **Rs. 20 lakh crore** economic package amid the coronavirus pandemic.
 - The package is worth nearly 10% of India's GDP.
- The **New Development Bank** of the BRICS countries has said that it has fully disbursed a **\$1 billion** emergency assistance loan to **India** which was approved by the bank's board on April 30.
- The **World Bank** has approved **\$1 billion** aid to support India's efforts at providing social assistance to the poor and vulnerable households impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Government of **India**, **West Bengal** Government and the **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** signed a loan agreement for a **145-million-dollar** project to improve irrigation services and flood management in the Damodar Valley Command Area in West Bengal.

Economy

- **China** will reportedly start trials of its new digital currency, **e-RMB**, in four cities namely, Shenzhen, Suzhou, Chengdu and Xiong'an.

- Analytics firm **CRISIL** said lockdown due to COVID-19 is expected to cause a permanent **loss of 4% of GDP** for India.
 - GDP growth may go towards 0 in 2020-21 if lockdown is extended, CRISIL added.
- **India's manufacturing** activity fell to a record **low in April**, as many businesses temporarily closed during the lockdown.
 - The **IHS Markit India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)** fell to **27.4** from 51.8 in March, marking the sharpest deterioration since readings began 15 years ago.
- **India's services activity** plunged to lowest on record in April with **Nikkei/IHS Markit Services Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)** falling to **5.4** from March's 49.3.
- American business and financial services company, **Moody's** has said **India** is expected to see **0% GDP** growth in 2020-21 due to the coronavirus pandemic while the fiscal deficit may rise to **5.5%** of GDP.
 - The agency added that the growth may bounce back to 6.6% in 2021-22.
- **India's foreign exchange reserves** has increased by **1.622 million** dollars to reach **481.078 billion** dollars in the week ended 1st May.
 - RBI press release has informed that foreign currency assets, a major part of the overall reserves rose by **1.752 billion dollars** to 479.455 billion dollars.
- **Canada's inflation** turned negative and dropped **0.2%** in April for the first time since the 2009 recession amid the coronavirus pandemic.
 - The fall comes amid a record 39.3% drop in gasoline prices and a 23.7% drop in energy prices.
- India's economy is estimated to have grown at **1.2%** for the quarter ended March 2020, said the **SBI's Ecwrap** report.
 - Subsequently, it projected the annual GDP growth for 2019-20 to be around 4.2%.
- **India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** grew **3.1%** in the January- March quarter from a year ago, slowing from downwardly revised 4.1% in the prior three months.
- **Japan's** fiscal support stands at **21% of GDP**, while the **US** has rolled out spending worth 13% of its output.
- India's fiscal deficit may expand to **7.9%** in the current financial year from the previous estimate of 3.5% of the GDP, a report released by the State Bank of India (SBI) said.
- **Japan's economy** (world's 3rd-biggest economy) has slipped into recession amid the coronavirus crisis.
 - The shrank **3.4%** in the first three months of 2020 compared to a year ago, its biggest slump since 2015.

Companies/Industry

- Traders' body **CAIT** (Confederation of All India Traders) unveiled its nationwide e-commerce platform, **bharatemarket**, to be launched next month for local stores.
- **WhatsApp Pay** will launch in **India** by May-end.
 - It will be launched initially in partnership with three private banks, namely Axis Bank, HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank in the first phase.
- The **International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN)** has launched a **WhatsApp** chatbot to combat **COVID-19 misinformation**.
- The government is seeking to lure over **1,000 US companies**, including medical devices firm Abbott Laboratories, to **relocate from China** by offering incentives.
 - India is prioritizing medical equipment suppliers, food processing units, textiles and auto part makers among over 550 products.

- After **Twitter**, Canadian e-commerce website **Shopify** has also announced that it will allow its **employees to work** from home **permanently**.
- American freeware, cross-platform messaging and Voice over IP (VoIP) service **WhatsApp** in its latest **beta version** is testing a feature which will allow users to add contacts through scanning **QR codes**.
- **LATAM Airlines Group**, Latin America's largest carrier, has announced that the company and its affiliates in Chile, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador and the US have filed for bankruptcy protection in the US.
- The world's second-oldest continually operating airline, **Avianca**, has filed for bankruptcy in a US court after failing to meet a bond payment deadline.
- Facebook CEO **Mark Zuckerberg** announced that Facebook's video-conferencing tool, **Messenger Rooms**, is now available to users in US, Canada and Mexico.
- **Reliance Industries** has announced that its Rs. 53,125 crore rights issue will open for subscription of shareholders on May 20 and close on June 3.
- Social Networking giant **Facebook** is going to acquire GIF-making and sharing website Giphy and will integrate GIF library with Instagram.

Exports/Imports

- **India's Gold imports** plunged **99.95%** in April to their lowest in nearly three decades.
- The government **banned** the **export** of **Alcohol-based hand sanitizers** to boost its availability in the domestic market amid coronavirus pandemic.
- The Directorate General of **Foreign Trade** has removed **restrictions** on the export of **Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs)** of paracetamol.

Taxation/Trade

- India's **trade ministry** is proposing a **Tax holiday** for companies bringing in new investments in order to support the economy amid the coronavirus pandemic.
 - The proposal includes a 10-year full tax exemption to companies making new investments upwards of \$500 million.
 - It requires firms to begin operations within three years from June 1.

Agriculture/Production

- **Procurement of wheat** by the government agencies surpassed last year's figures of **341.31 Lakh Metric Tonnes (LMT)** to touch 341.56LMT on 24th May 2020, surmounting all impediments created due to the spread of COVID-19 virus and the country wide lockdown.
 - **Punjab** is leading the wheat procurement with 104.28 LMT procurement followed by Haryana with 50.56 LMT and Madhya Pradesh with 48.64 LMT.
 - Regarding **paddy**, maximum procurement has happened in **Telangana**.
- Union Agriculture Minister **Narendra Singh Tomar** has said that Centre is making efforts to control crop-damaging **locust swarms** that have entered several states.
- The **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** has warned of successive locust invasions until July in **Rajasthan** with eastward surges as far as Bihar and Odisha.
 - However, the swarms are less likely to reach south India, Nepal and Bangladesh, the UN agency said.

Space

- **Vaneeza Rupani**, a 17-year-old Indian-origin girl from the US, has named NASA's first Mars helicopter '**Ingenuity**'.

- **Russia** is going to launch 1st **Arktika-M satellite** for monitoring **Arctic** climate this year at the end of the year, General Director of Lavochkin aerospace company Vladimir Kolmykov announced.
 - The satellite will be launched by **Soyuz -2,1b** carrier rocket with frigate booster.
- As part of its manned space program, **China** successfully launched its largest carrier rocket, **Long March-5B**, at the Wenchang Space Launch Center in the southern island province of Hainan.
- Elon Musk's SpaceX will be launching two **NASA** astronauts, **Robert Behnken** and **Douglas Hurley**, in its Crew Dragon to the International Space Station.
 - This will be the first crewed flight to launch from the US since 2011.
 - Using data from NASA's MAVEN spacecraft, researchers have created the first-ever map of the electric current systems in the Martian atmosphere.
- The US Space Force has conducted the 6th successful launch of its unmanned 'secretive' space plane, named "**X-37B**".
 - It was launched aboard the "**Atlas V**" rocket built by a joint venture between Boeing and Lockheed, and carries a written dedication to those affected by COVID-19 and frontline workers.

Science and Technology

- Studying a skeleton discovered in **Morocco**, researchers have discovered the 1st evidence that a **dinosaur** swam and lived underwater **100 million years ago**.
- A new **high-pressure ventilator** developed by **NASA** engineers, specifically to treat COVID-19 patients, has been approved by the **US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)** for emergency use.
- To fight Covid 19 pandemic, the **Laser Science & Technology Centre (LASTEC)**, one of the cluster laboratories of DRDO with the help of **M/s New Age Instruments and Materials Private Limited, Gurugram**, has developed an equipment titled **UV Blaster**.
- Researchers from **Australia's** Monash, Swinburne and RMIT universities have recorded the **fastest internet data** speed of 44.2 Terabits per second (Tbps).
 - They achieved it by using a device that replaces around 80 lasers found in existing telecoms hardware, with a single equipment known as a 'micro-comb'.
- **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)** discovered a 9th-century monolithic sandstone **Shiva Ling** during the ongoing conservation project at **Vietnam's Cham Temple Complex**.
- The world's largest **all-electric plane** took its first successful flight, that lasted for about 30 minutes.
 - The '**eCaravan**' aircraft is a Cessna 208 Caravan plane, which was fitted with a 750-horsepower electric motor made by US-based startup **MagniX** and modified by aerospace engineering firm **AeroTEC**.
- The **National Institute of Virology Pune** has successfully developed India's first indigenous antibody detection kit for coronavirus.
- **National Institute of Technology, (NIT) Tiruchirappalli** has been sanctioned a cutting edge Super Computer at a cost of **Rs 17 crores**, by the Union Ministry of Science and Technology.
- **Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)** is developing a low-cost, portable and battery-operated device to test coronavirus, the varsity announced.
- Health Minister **Dr. Harsh Vardhan** visited the **National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC)** and dedicated the COBAS 6800 testing machine to the nation.
 - COBAS 6800 is a sophisticated machine enabled with robotics that minimizes the chance of contamination as well as the risk of infection to the health care workers since it can be operated remotely with limited human intervention.

Health/Diseases/Drugs

- Covid-19 cases has reached 1 lakh 73 thousand 763 in India.
 - But there is a silver lining that the overall **recovery rate** has reached **47.40** in the country and a total of 82 thousand 370 patients have been cured so far.
- **African Swine Fever** has been reported in **India** in **Assam** where the disease has killed around 2,500 pigs across 306 villages.
- Union Government has started **Aarogya Setu IVRS services** to cater to people having feature phone or landline.
 - Available across India, Arogya sethu is a tollfree service, where citizens are asked to give a missed call to the number 1921 and they will get a call back requesting for inputs regarding their health.
- **Italy** became the **3rd** country to record at least **30,000 deaths** due to coronavirus.
 - Only the **US** and **the UK** have reported more deaths from the virus.
- A **new coronavirus case** has been reported in **China's Wuhan**.
- The positive coronavirus cases have crossed 5 million globally, while the number of deaths due to it has exceeded 3,28,100.
 - At least 188 countries/regions have reported cases and over 18,99,300 patients have recovered globally.
 - The **US** has recorded the most number of coronavirus cases, followed by **Russia** and **Brazil**.
- **Brazil** has surpassed **Russia** to report the **second-highest cases** of coronavirus globally after it reported 16,508 new virus cases in the past 24 hours, taking the total cases to over 3.47 lakh.
 - Brazil is the worst coronavirus-hit country in Latin America.
- **Russia** has reported 11,012 new cases of coronavirus, bringing the nationwide tally to 2,09,688.
 - With this, **Russia** became the **5th country** in the world to report **over 2 lakh** cases of coronavirus.
 - Other Countries US, Spain, UK, and Italy
- **India** now has the world's **9th worst coronavirus** case count as number of those infected in the country rose to 1,65,799.

Energy/Gas/Oil

- Taking advantage of **low oil prices**, India has stockpiled **32 million tonnes** of oil, said Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan.
 - India, the world's **third**-biggest oil importer, buys 80% of its oil requirements from overseas markets.
- **NTPC Ltd**, a central PSU under Ministry of Power and India's largest power generator, has achieved **100 percent Plant Load Factor (PLF)** on 9th May 2020, at three of its thermal power stations.
 - NTPC Vindhyachal (4760 MW) in Madhya Pradesh, NTPC Talcher Kaniha (3000 MW) in Odisha & NTPC Sipat (2980 MW) in Chhattisgarh achieved 100 percent PLF, demonstrating exceptional operational efficiency and optimum capacity utilization despite lockdown on account of COVID-19 pandemic.
- Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has announced India is looking at storing some low-priced US oil in facilities there as the local storage is full.

Environment

- **India** witnessed the 1st year-on-year reduction in **CO2 emissions** in 4 decades amid COVID-19 pandemic, according to an analysis by environmental website Carbon Brief.
 - The emissions fell by around 1% in the fiscal year ending March 2020.

- The emissions fell by an estimated 15% during the month of March and are likely to have fallen 30% in April, it added.
- The Cyclonic storm "**AMPHAN**" over Southeast Bay of Bengal and neighborhood moved slowly northwestwards.

Education

- The **National Institute of Technology, Trichy** and **6 Central Universities** have been selected for the prestigious **Prime Minister's Research Fellows (PMRF)** scheme 2020.
- **Cambridge University** has become the 1st British university to cancel all **face-to-face lectures** until summer 2021 due to 'rigid social distancing'.
- The **National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)** has suggested that **schools in Orange and Green Zones** could be **opened** and students from **Classes 8 to 12** can be brought in a staggered manner when the lockdown is lifted.
- The Govt announced that PM **eVIDYA programme** for multimode access to digital/online education will be launched immediately.
 - As part of the programme, there will be one earmarked TV channel per class from 1 to 12.
 - There will also be special content for visually and hearing impaired.
 - The government is taking proactive steps to help children who don't have internet access.
 - **Swyam Prabha DTH** channels have been launched to support and reach those who don't have internet access and 12 school education-related channels will be added to it.

Transport/Cars/Scooters

- The **Railways** announced that its **passenger train services** will remain suspended till **May 17**, in view of extension of lockdown to control coronavirus spread.
 - However, movement of migrant workers, pilgrims, tourists, students and others stranded at different places shall be carried out by '**Shramik**' special trains.
 - Freight and parcel train operations will also continue.
- To help in contact tracing if required later, the **Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC)** has started taking the destination address of all passengers booking tickets online.

Festival

- **Eid-ul-Fitr** is being celebrated across the country.
 - Shahi Imam of Delhi Jama Masjid Sayyed Ahmad Bukhari has appealed to people not to come to mosques to offer prayers and offer namaz at home in view of the pandemic.

Appointments/Election (or) Latest who is who?

- **Tarun Bajaj** assumed charge as the Secretary of the **Department of Economic Affairs (DEA)**.
 - He has replaced **Atanu Chakraborty**, who retired.
- **Hotel** startup **OYO** has appointed former **Starbucks Chief Operating Officer Troy Alstead** as an **independent member** of the board of directors.
- The **Yes Bank** board of directors have appointed **Neeraj Dhawan** as the Chief Risk Officer of the bank with immediate effect for a 3-year period.
 - **Mr Dhawan** has replaced Ashish Agarwal.
- Indian e-commerce company, **Flipkart** has appointed **Sriram Venkataraman** as Chief Financial Officer for Flipkart Commerce.
- Jammu and Kashmir Government appointed former Chief Secretary, of J&K, **B R Sharma** as Chairman **Jammu & Kashmir Public Service Commission (PSC)**.

- US President **Donald Trump** has nominated the following Indian- Americans for various posts in US: **Saritha Komatireddy** as the Judge of the US District Court for the Eastern District of New York.
 - **Ashok Michael Pinto** as a representative to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD).
 - **Manisha Singh** as his envoy to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).
- The government has appointed Economic Affairs Secretary **Tarun Bajaj** as a Director on the central board of **Reserve Bank of India** (RBI).
 - Bajaj replaces **Atanu Chakraborty**, who retired on April 30.
- Former **Iraqi** intelligence chief **Mustafa al-Kadhimi** has been sworn as **Prime minister** of the country by lawmakers amid an economic crisis due to falling oil revenues and the coronavirus pandemic.
- A Pakistani youth, **Rahul Dev**, has become the 1st **Hindu** to join the **Pakistan Air Force** (PAF), having been recruited as a General Duty Pilot Officer.
- Bollywood Actress **Dia Mirza's** tenure as United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) National **Goodwill Ambassador** has been extended till the year 2022.
- The **World Bank** has named former Bear Stearns executive **Carmen Reinhart** as its Chief Economist.
- **J&K Government** has appointed **B R Sharma**, former IAS Officer, as Chairman Public Service Commission for the UT of J&K.
- **Franklin Templeton Trustee Services** has appointed **Kotak Mahindra Bank** as an adviser to assist the mutual fund in monetizing portfolios of six debt schemes that were shuttered in April.
- Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan took charge as the **Chairman of the World Health Organization** (WHO) Executive Board.
 - He has replaced **Dr Hiroki Nakatani** of Japan, who formerly headed the 34-member WHO Executive Board.
- The **Vodafone Group** has named Heineken CEO **Jean-Francois Van Boxmeer** as its new chairman.
 - He will take over from November 2020 and will replace **Gerard Kleisterlee**.
- Indian economist, **Abhas Jha**, has been appointed **World Bank's Practice Manager** for Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management for South Asia.
- **Benjamin Netanyahu** has become the 1st serving Israeli PM to go on trial.
- The **Pakistan Cricket Board** (PCB) is set to appoint former spinner **Saqlain Mushtaq** as coach for international players at the National High-Performance Centre in **Lahore**.
- **Govinda Rajulu Chintala** took charge as Chairman of the **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development** (NABARD).
 - The government has also appointed KV Shaji (General Manager, Canara Bank) and PVS Suryakumar (Chief General Manager, NABARD) as Deputy Managing Directors (DMDs) of NABARD.
- **Marie Cau**, a transgender woman in **France**, won an election in her village in northern France to become the country's first openly **transgender mayor**.
- Bengaluru-based IT services giant **Wipro** has appointed Capgemini's Chief Operating Officer **Thierry Delaporte** as its MD & CEO with effect from July 6.
- 1987 Batch IAS officer of Jharkhand cadre, **Indu Shekhar Chaturvedi** (IAS) assumed charge as new Secretary, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy.
 - He has replaced **Anand Kumar** who earlier took charge Secretary, Ministry of Culture.

- **Bank of Japan** (BoJ) appointed 55-year-old **Tokiko Shimizu** as the 1st female Executive Director in its 138 years of existence.
- 1990 batch IAS officer of Odisha cadre **Manoj Ahuja** has been appointed the new Chairman of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).
 - He is going to replace **Anita Karwal**, who is appointed as Secretary at the Department of School Education and Literacy.
- **Maharashtra** Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray and **8 others** were elected unopposed to the State Legislative Council.
- **India** was elected to the WHO's Executive Board.
 - Botswana, Colombia, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Madagascar, Oman, Republic of Korea, Russia and the UK are the other nations elected to the Executive Board.

Resignation/Dismissed/Retired/Quit

- **Colin Graves**, the chairman of the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), has decided to step down from the post after the new 100-ball tournament, The Hundred, was postponed over the coronavirus pandemic.
 - Graves will be replaced by Ian Watmore.
- **KV Kamath's** five-year term as the president of the **New Development Bank** led by the five BRICS member countries came to an end.
 - **Brazil's Marcos Troyjo** will be replacing Kamath as its new president while India's **Anil Kishora** will be the new vice president.
- **British** independent manufacturer of luxury sports cars and grand tourers **Aston Martin** has announced that its CEO **Andy Palmer** stepped down and will be replaced by CEO of Mercedes-AMG **Tobias Moers** on August 1.
 - **VP Keith Stanton** will serve as the interim CEO until Moers takes over.
- **Deepa Malik**, the 2016 Paralympics silver medallist, announced her retirement to hold her post as the **President** of the Paralympic Committee of India (PCI) in accordance with the National Sports Code.
- **Roberto Azevêdo**, the Director-General of World Trade Organization (WTO), has announced he will step down on 31st August 2020, a year before his term ends.
- **Kevin Mayer**, the Chairman of Disney's direct-to-consumer and international business, is stepping down to become the 1st CEO of video-sharing app **TikTok**.

Arrests/Jailed

- Rwandan genocide suspect **Felicien Kabuga** (84), who had a \$5 million US bounty on his head, was arrested near Paris after 25 years on the run.

Deaths

- Ex-India football captain and first-class cricketer **Chuni Goswami** (82) passed away after suffering a heart attack.
- Producers Guild of India CEO **Kulmeet Makkar** (60), passed away after suffering a heart attack.
- **Rob Gibbs** (55), the story artist for animated films like 'Up', 'Toy Story 2', 'Monsters, Inc' and 'WALL.E', passed away.
- South African anti-apartheid activist **Denis Goldberg** (87), who stood trial alongside Nelson Mandela in 1963-64 and was imprisoned for 22 years, passed away.
- Mexican protest singer **Oscar Chávez** (85), passed away from coronavirus-related pneumonia.

- Former Chief Justice of the Chhattisgarh High Court and Lokpal member **Ajay Kumar Tripathi** passed away at AIIMS trauma centre due to Covid 19.
- **Sam Lloyd** (56), known for his role as lawyer Ted Buckland in TV show 'Scrubs', passed away due to complications from lung cancer.
- Most wanted Kashmiri terrorist and top Hizbul Mujahideen commander **Riyaz Naikoo**, who carried a reward of Rs.12 lakh on his head, was killed in an encounter with security forces in Jammu and Kashmir's Awantipora.
- **8 people died** and around 200 people fell sick in a major leak of **Styrene vapour** from a private Polymers Limited plant in **Visakhapatnam**, Andhra Pradesh.
- Former Health Minister of **Greece** and heart surgeon **Dimitris Kremastinos** (78) died after contracting coronavirus.
- Indian hockey legend and 3-time Olympic gold medallist **Balbir Singh Sr** (96) passed away.
- Former Chief Justice of Himachal Pradesh High Court and former acting Governor of Himachal Pradesh, Justice **Viswanathan Rattanam** (87) passed away due to coronavirus.
- World's oldest man **Bob Weighton** (112 years) died from cancer in the UK.
- Ex-Chhattisgarh Chief Minister **Ajit Jogi** (74) passed away.
- Rajya Sabha member and Malayalam newspaper Mathrubhumi's Managing Director **MP Veerendra Kumar** (83) passed away in Kozhikode.
- Astrologer **Bejan Daruwalla** (88) died due to coronavirus at an Ahmedabad hospital.
- **Lyricist Yogesh Gaur** (77), who wrote the lyrics of songs like 'Kahin Dur Jab Din Dhal Jaye' and 'Zindagi Kaisi Hai Paheli', passed away.
- Noted historian **Hari Vasudevan** (68) has died of coronavirus at a private hospital in Kolkata.
- American comedian-actor **Jerry Stiller** (92), who played Frank Costanza from 1993 to 1998 in comedy TV series 'Seinfeld', has passed away due to natural causes.
- Screenwriter **Shafique Ansari** (52), who starred in the TV show 'Crime Patrol', passed away.
- Famous saint **Swami Virakt Anand ji Maharaj alias Shobhan Sarkar** passed away in Shivli area of Kanpur Dehat district in Uttar Pradesh.
- Noted literary personality, educationist and national Professor **Anisuzzaman** (83) passed away in Dhaka.
- Former underworld don **Muthappa Rai** (68), who had turned to social activism in the recent years, passed away in Bengaluru after a yearlong battle with brain cancer.
- American filmmaker **Lynn Shelton** (54), who helmed a few episodes of 'New Girl', 'Fresh Off the Boat', 'Little Fires Everywhere' and 'Mad Men', passed away due to an unidentified blood disorder.
- National Award-winning Marathi writer **Ratnakar Matkari** (81), passed away due to COVID-19.

Awards/Honours

- With 7.7 crore viewers, Ramanand Sagar's '**Ramayan**' has become the **world's most watched** entertainment show on April 16.
- **Ross Taylor** has been named **New Zealand's overall cricketer of the year**, winning the NZ Cricket's top award, **Sir Richard Hadlee Medal**, for the 3rd time at the annual awards, held over video conferencing.
- The winners of the **Pulitzer Prize** for 2020 have been announced.

- **3 Indian photographers** Channi Anand, Mukhtar Khan and Dar Yasin of The Associated Press jointly won the prize in Feature Photography category for their coverage of Jammu and Kashmir lockdown after Article 370 was revoked.
- American novelist **Colson Whitehead** has won the Prize in **Fiction category** for his book titled "**The Nickel Boys**".
 - With this, he became only the 4th writer ever to win the Pulitzer Prize for fiction twice.
- **Russia** has awarded **North Korean** leader **Kim Jong-un** a commemorative medal marking the 75th anniversary of Russia's victory in World War II.
- Indian Army Major **Suman Gawani** will be the 1st Indian recipient of the UN Military Gender Advocate award.
- Indian-American scientist **Rajiv Joshi** has bagged the "**Inventor of the Year Award**" in recognition of his "pioneering work in advancing the electronic industry and improving artificial intelligence capabilities" by the New York Intellectual Property Law Association.
- **Sania Mirza** became the 1st Indian to win the **Fed Cup Heart Award** for showing exceptional courage in her return to the tennis court after giving birth.
 - Sania has announced donating the prize money to Telangana coronavirus relief fund.
- The **All India Tennis Association (AITA)** is set to nominate India's top-ranked women's singles player **Ankita Raina** and 2018 Asian Games doubles gold medallist **Divij Sharan** for Arjuna Awards.
 - The national tennis federation is also planning to nominate former Davis Cup coach **Nandan Bal** who won two ATP titles in the 2019 season, for the **Dhyan Chand Award**.
- US President Donald Trump honored a 10-year-old Indian-American girl, **Sravya Annappareddy**, for donating cookies to nurses and firefighters and sending personalized greeting cards to healthcare workers amid COVID-19 pandemic.

Sports/Game

- **India** have been displaced from top of **Test rankings** for the first time since October 2016, with **Australia** taking over as the **top**-ranked side with 116 points.
 - India are now **third** with 114 points, while **New Zealand** are **second** with 115 points.
- The **2021 Badminton World Championships** has been postponed from August to **November** to avoid a clash with the rescheduled **Tokyo Olympics**.
- The **Commonwealth Games Federation** announced the rescheduling of the **2021 Commonwealth Youth Games** to avoid clash with the Tokyo Olympics, which has been pushed back by a year due to the coronavirus pandemic. They will now be held in 2023.
- The **International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF)** extended the period of **suspension** of all competitions until the end of **July 2020** over the coronavirus pandemic.
- **International badminton** is set to return to action with **Hyderabad Open** on August 11, according to the revised Badminton World Federation calendar.
 - **India Open**, which was scheduled to place from March 24 to 29 but was suspended over COVID-19, will now be held from December 8 to 13.
 - **Syed Modi India International** will be held from November 17.
- **Crickets Australia** announced the dates for India's tour of Australia.
 - India will be playing a 3-match T20I series from 11th to 17th October 2020, while the 4-Test series will begin on 3rd December 2020 in Brisbane and the Day-Night Test will take place in Adelaide from 11th December 2020.
 - India will further play three ODIs from 12th to 17th January 2020.

- The **FIFA Under-17 Women's World Cup**, which was earlier scheduled to be held in November in **India**, will now take place between February 17 to March 7 in 2021.
- 4-time Formula One world champion **Sebastian Vettel** will leave Ferrari at the end of the season, the Italian team announced.

Report

- **India's** coronavirus lockdown forced **12.2 crore people** out of **jobs** last month, according to estimates from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE).
 - The **unemployment** rate increased to **27.1%** in the week ended May 3.
- **Aarogya Setu** became the **7th most downloaded non-game app** worldwide in April.
 - Earlier, the government had said that Aarogya Setu had close to **90 million** downloads by May 4.
 - **Zoom** was the most downloaded non-game app worldwide with close to 131 million installs, a 60 times growth from April 2019.
- **Ministry of Textiles** announced that **India** has become world's **second-largest manufacturer** of personal protective equipment body coveralls, next only to **China**, within two months.
- India captain **Virat Kohli** remained the only cricketer to be included in the list of top 100 highest-paid athletes of 2020 by Forbes magazine.
 - He is also the only **Indian athlete** to be featured in the list.
 - Swiss tennis great **Roger Federer** topped the list.

General - National

- The nationwide corona-virus lock-down extended by 2 weeks after May 4, the government has said.
 - **Uttar Pradesh** has highest number of **red zones** followed by Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Delhi.
- In spite of problems in procurement & logistics due to COVID-19 lockdown, **Pradhanmantri Bhartiya Jan aushadhi Kendras - PMBJAK**, achieved a record sales turnover of **52 crore** rupees in the month of April 2020 compared to 42 crore rupees in March 2020.
- Human Resource Development Minister Ramesh **Pokhriyal Nishank** announced that **JEE Main exam** will be held on July 18, 20, 21, 22 and 23 while medical entrance test NEET will be conducted on July 26.
- **National Fertilizers Ltd**, a PSU under the ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers registered a **71 percent** growth in fertilizer sale in the month of April 2020.
- **India Post** has resumed booking for **international speed post** to **15 countries** and international tracked packet services to already available destinations amid COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Arogya Setu**, India's Covid-19 contact tracing, syndromic mapping and self-assessment mobile app is now open source.
- A total of 8503 Indians have been flown back to India in 43 inbound flights operated by Air India and Air India Express under **Vande Bharat Mission** in 6 days beginning from 7th May 2020.
- The Ministry of Tourism's **Dekho Apna Desh** webinar series, titled, 'Odisha-India's Best kept secret' took the participants on a virtual journey into Odisha.
 - The webinar was 18th webinar under Dekho Apna Desh Webinar Series.
- **India** overtook **China** in fintech funding in the first quarter of 2020 for the first time in five quarters, CB Insights reported.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman gave details about the second tranche of relief measures under the **Aatma-Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan**.

- 'One Nation One Ration Card' will be implemented, which will benefit 67 crore people in 23 states covering 83% of the PDS population by August 2020. '
- Migrants who are neither NFSA or State Card beneficiaries in the state they are stationed will be provided 5-kg grains/person and 1- kg chana/family/month for free for next 2 months.
- She further said Centre will spend Rs. 3,500 crore on this.
- Prompt payees of **MUDRA-Shishu** loans of up to Rs. 50,000 will receive an interest subvention of 2% for a period of 12 months.
- This will be applicable after the three-month moratorium granted by the RBI ends.
- This will result in a relief of Rs. 1,500 crore to MUDRA-Shishu loanees, the FM added.
- 12,000 self-help groups have jointly produced 3 crore masks and 1.20 lakh litres of sanitiser.
- As many as 63 lakh loans worth Rs. 86,600 crore were approved in agriculture sector between March 1 and April 30 this year.
- Support of Rs. 4,200 crore was provided under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund to states during March 2020 for rural infrastructure.
- **IIT-Kanpur** along with **ALIMCO** (Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India) developed **Techno Advanced Disinfectant Tunnel** to disinfect external surfaces and public places of coronavirus.
- **India** opposed a move by **Pakistan and China** to build the Diamer-Bhasha dam on the Indus River in Gilgit-Baltistan.
- Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan appealed all states and UTs to **ban** the **sale of tobacco** products and spitting in public places to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

General - International

- **Germany** banned all activities of **Lebanese** group **Hezbollah** in the country and designated it as a terrorist organization.
- **Italy** eased the nationwide lockdown imposed due to COVID-19 pandemic after 56 days.
- **Dubai** has announced a new date for the **mega Expo** event from 1st Oct 2021 to 31st March 2022.
- **Israeli** lawmakers approved the formation of a unity government between Prime Minister **Benjamin Netanyahu** and his erstwhile election rival **Benny Gantz**.
- The **World Health Organization** (WHO) and the **UN's postal agency** have released a commemorative **postage stamp** on the 40th anniversary of the eradication of **smallpox**.
- **Nepal** said that India's decision to inaugurate the **link road** connecting to **Lipulekh pass**, which it claims to be part of its territory, is a breach of an agreement between the two countries.
- The **United States** has awarded a **\$275 million** border wall contract for construction of 22.5 kilometres of barriers in **South Texas** starting January 2021.
 - An Alabama-based company, **Caddell Construction** won the contract.
- The **Chinese** city of **Wuhan**, where coronavirus was first detected, has imposed a **ban on wildlife trade** and consumption for 5 years.
- **US Senate** has passed a bill to **delist Chinese companies** from **American stock exchanges**.
- **New Zealand** may distribute **free cash directly** to individuals as a way of policy stimulus to help boost the economy reeling from a COVID-19 pandemic driven contraction, Finance Minister Grant Robertson announced.
- **China** will **not set** an **economic growth target** for the current year due to the "great uncertainty" caused by coronavirus pandemic, Premier Li Keqiang announced.
- **Japan** has added **India** and 10 other countries to its entry **ban** list to contain the spread of coronavirus, PM Shinzo Abe announced.

- **Chinese** parliament has voted and passed a decision which paves the way to directly impose **national security legislation** on **Hong Kong**.
- US President **Donald Trump** announced that the United States is terminating its relationship with **World Health Organization (WHO)**.
- The **World Health Organization (WHO)** along with 37 nations and numerous partners has launched a '**COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (CTAP)**' which aims to make vaccines and other key COVID-19 tools accessible to all.
- **Brazil** has deployed its military to protect the **Amazon** rainforest and started an operation to halt illegal logging and mining activities near the **Bolivian border**.
- The **German** parliament has passed a law making the **burning of flags** from foreign countries, including that of the European Union, a punishable offence.
- **Slovenia** has become the 1st European country to proclaim an end to the coronavirus epidemic at home.

-- x --

TO THE POINTS : MAY-2020

- The International Jazz Day is celebrated every year on **April 30** to enhance cooperation and dialogue among people and create awareness about the virtues of jazz.
- Freedom Fighter Hema Bharali who passed away recently belonged to **Assam**.
- **Dr. Thangjam Dhabali Singh** has been conferred with the 'Order of Rising Sun' by the Japanese government for promoting strong Indo-Japan ties.
- Alabama teen **Vaneeza Rupani** has named NASA's pioneering Mars Helicopter "Ingenuity" which will be the first aircraft to fly to the planet.
- **John Bolton** has written the book 'The Room Where It Happened: A White House Memoir'.
- **Chhattisgarh** has topped in the list of states providing employment to unskilled labourers under MGNREGA.
- **Nitin Gadkari** has launched the bank of schemes, ideas, innovation & research portal on MSMEs to provide access to all schemes of Union, States and UTs and upload ideas and researches in the sector.
- **Juan Ferrando** has been appointed as the new head coach of FC Goa football club.
- **Jacqueline Hughes** has taken charge as the Director-General of International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT).
- Fintech firm **HAPPY** has launched the 'Lockdown Loan' scheme for MSMEs to tide over the Covid-19 crisis.
- **Defence Institute of Advanced Technology, Pune** has developed a Microwave sterilizer named Atulya to disintegrate COVID-19 using differential heating the range of 56 to 60 degrees Celsius temperature.
- **Shikha Sharma** has been named as an advisor to the digital payment app Google pay.
- The Delhi police Commissioner has launched **Ayuraksha** initiative to maintain the health of front line Covid warriors by ensuring immunity boosting measures are in place.
- The Chief minister of **Sikkim** launched a portal to gather public feedback & suggestions on government schemes and general administration.

- Chuni Goswami who passed away at the age of 82 was a famous **Footballer**.
- **Suresh K Reddy** has been named as India's new ambassador to Brazil.
- **Japan** has decided to Support ADB Developing Member Countries' Response to COVID-19 Challenges by providing \$150 million through its fund for poverty reduction.
- **Sania Mirza** has become the First Indian to get nominated for Fed Cup Heart Award from the Asia/ Oceania zone.
- Chak-Hao from Manipur has recently received a GI tag. It is a variety of **Rice** which has been used in Manipur over centuries.
- Anti-apartheid activist Denis Goldberg who passed away recently belonged to **South Africa**.
- The government of **Tripura** has launched an Agri entrepreneur facilitation desk to boost primary sectors of the economy after lifting of the nationwide lockdown.
- The National Board for Wildlife has permitted coal mining in the forest area of **Dehing Patkai Elephant Reserve, Assam**.
- The CSIR has launched **Kisan Sabha App** to connect farmers to the supply chain and freight transportation Management System.
- The Department of Science & Technology has launched **YASH** program to address health risks related to COVID-19.
- **Girish Kuber** has written the book 'Shivaji in South Block: The Unwritten History of a Proud People'.
- RV Smith who passed away recently was a famous **Author**.
- **T Pradeep** has been chosen for the Nikkei Asia Prizes 2020 for clean water technology.
- **Ross Taylor** has bagged the New Zealand Cricketer of the year award.
- The Government has raised the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Minor Forest Produce (MFP) of 49 items in view of circumstances arising out of Covid 19. The prices are revised every 3 years by the pricing cell of the Ministry of Tribal affairs.
- TV serial **Ramayan** has set the world record for becoming the most viewed entertainment programme globally.
- **Ajay Tirkey** has assumed charge as the Secretary of Women and Child development Ministry.
- **Maharashtra** has become the first one in the country to provide free and cashless insurance premium to people of the state.
- **CAIT** has launched a national e-commerce marketplace 'bharatmarket' to help retail traders provide services to customers.
- **Australia** get top place in the ICC Test rankings for first time since October 2016.
- **Saffron** from Kashmir has recently been given the geographical indication by the GI registry.
- **3** Indians have been selected for the prestigious membership of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences for 2020.
- The World Tuna Day is observed annually on **May 2** to raise awareness about the importance of tuna.
- Theme of the World Press Freedom Day observed annually on May 3 - **Journalism without Fear or Favor**.
- World Laughter Day is observed on the first Sunday of May every year. The day was first celebrated in **1998**.

- The Coal Miners Day is observed annually on **May 4** to honor the sacrifice of coal miners.
- A recent campaign 'IDEAthon' has been launched by the Central Government. The campaign focuses on **River management**.
- PM Narendra Modi is all set to participate in Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) virtual summit on coronavirus. It is being organized at the initiative of **Azerbaijan**.
- **Neeraj Dhawan** has been appointed as the Chief Risk officer of Yes Bank.
- The International Firefighters Day is observed on **4** May to remember the firefighter's who have died while serving the community.
- **Ramesh Babu** has been appointed as the Director (operations) of NTPC.
- The International Dawn Chorus Day is being celebrated on **May 3** in 2020 to encourage people to listen to the sound of birds.
- The 13th webinar of the Ministry of Tourism focused on **Sariska Tiger reserve** in the "Dekho Apna Desh" series.
- **Prahlad Patel** has released an e-book on "Prof. B. B. Lal -India Rediscovered" who is known for his immense contribution to the field of archaeology.
- The International Spring Astronomy Day is celebrated on **May 2** and again on **September 26** to create awareness among people about the beautiful universe.
- Justice Ajay Kumar Tripathi who passed away due to breathing problems was a member of **Lokpal of India**.
- The CSIR has launched **Kisan Sabha** app to help farmers connect to the supply chain and resolve agriculture related issues.
- RBI has cancelled the licence of **CKP Cooperative Bank** as a result of the bank's weak financial position.
- **Uttar Pradesh** has made the Arogya Setu app a must for those in hotspot areas.
- Peter Ebdon who retired recently after having a spinal surgery was related with **Snooker**.
- **Australia** has banned the use of saliva used to shine the cricket ball via release of guidelines for gradual return of professional and recreational sport.
- The Union Health minister Dr Harsh Vardhan has launched **Covid Katha** multimedia guide to educate and strengthen public understanding of science and health.
- **HDFC** bank has released a song amidst the ongoing national lockdown to keep hopes up amidst Covid-19 pandemic.
- The Commonwealth Youth Games 2021 have been rescheduled to **2023** due to the clash of dates with Tokyo Olympics.
- The World Championships 2021 which has been postponed to November-December will be held in **Carolina Marin Stadium, Spain**.
- **Russia** is all set to be the first one to Launch a Satellite for monitoring Arctic Climate this Year.
- Theme of World Asthma Day observed every year on the 5th of May - **Enough Asthma Death**.
- **Himachal Pradesh** has decided to launch the Mukhya Mantri Shahari Rojgar Guarantee Yojna guaranteeing at least 120 days of employment to people living in the urban areas.
- Chandigarh has launched **CHDCOVID** mobile app for COVID-19 to provide access to all information related to Covid-19.

- **BharatPe** has launched two voice-based apps to curb the need to touch handsets for checking transactions amidst the covid-19 outbreak.
- The Aarogya Setu app launched by the government has introduced **Mitr Portal** for telemedicine services and consultation to people.
- “The Saras Collection” launched on the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) portal showcases **Daily utility products made by Self Help Groups**.
- **IIT Hyderabad** has partnered with the Hong Kong Financial Capital Firm to Create a global network as well as a Venture Ecosystem.
- **Facebook** has collaborated with the actors from Bollywood to put together a fundraiser concert ‘I FOR INDIA’.
- India get **3rd place** in the publication of scientific journals.
- Discus thrower **Sandeep Kumari** has been slapped with a four-year ban by WADA for flunking a doping test.
- Poet and Writer Nissar Ahmed who passed away recently belonged to **Karnataka**.
- **DRDO** has developed an Ultra Violet Disinfection Tower for rapid and chemical free disinfection of high prone areas.
- DBS Bank has slashed India’s FY21 GDP forecast to **1** percent from its earlier 1.5 percent projection.
- **Ashok Michael Pinto** has been nominated by President Trump as a representative to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.
- **West Bengal** has launched an exit app for stranded people of other states who want to return to their native place.
- ICMR has decided to leverage **Watson** - virtual agent - to enable rapid response to Covid19 testing facilities and bolster rapid response to India’s frontline testing facilities.
- **Sriram Venkataraman** has been appointed as the new Chief Financial officer of Flipkart and Myntra.
- **Rahul Chhabra** has been appointed as the new economic relations secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs.
- American private equity firm **Silver Lake** has decided to buy a stake in Jio Platforms.
- Sport governing body FINA has postponed the 2021 Fukuoka world championships to **May 2022** due to the Covid 19 pandemic.
- **3** photojournalists from India have won the Pulitzer 2020 prize.
- Youssef Hossam who has been banned for life for match fixing after his brother was also excluded on corruption charges, is related with **Tennis**.
- Theme of the International Midwives’ Day observed annually on 5th of May every year - **Midwives with women: celebrate, demonstrate, mobilize, unite – our time is NOW!**
- **Jharkhand** has launched three schemes – Birsa Harit Gram Yojana, Neelambar Pitambar Jal Samridhhi Yojana and Poto Ho Khel Vikas scheme to boost rural employment in a bid to revive the economy after lockdown.
- **Yegna Priya Bharat** is the head of the Irdai panel on drafting standard professional indemnity policy for insurance intermediaries.
- The Ministry of Corporate Affairs has constituted a **7-member** panel to enhance audit independence and improve accountability.

- The Uttar Pradesh government has launched **Ayush Kavach-Covid** app to help people get health remedies and tell users on how to use kitchen ingredients to improve the body's immunity.
- **Krishnan Ramachandran** has been appointed as the MD & CEO of Max Bupa Health Insurance.
- Indian-American attorney **Saritha Komatireddy** has been nominated by US President Donald Trump as a US federal court judge.
- **Kim Jong-Un** has been awarded a commemorative war medal marking the 75th anniversary of the victory over Nazi Germany by Vladimir Putin.
- The Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) has tied up with **Eyestem Research Private Limited** to take up research activities related to Covid-19.
- The Indian Navy has launched **Samudra Setu** operation to repatriate Indian citizens from overseas.
- Portal **GARUD** launched by DGCA to provide fast-track approval to COVID-19 related drone operations.
- **Himachal Pradesh** is planning to launch a new programme 'Nigah' in order to educate the people in the state about social distancing and quarantine measures.
- The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), constituent lab Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (IGIB) have signed an MoU with **Tata Sons** for licensing of KNOW-HOW related to rapid and accurate diagnosis of COVID-19.
- **Tarun Bajaj** has been nominated by the Government on the board of the Reserve Bank of India.
- **Suryoday Small Finance Bank** has launched a new working capital product to help customers meet the urgent liquidity requirements during the lockdown.
- NABARD has disbursed **12,767** crores to State Co-operative Banks and Regional Rural Banks across the country to augment their resources for extending credit to the farmers.
- The Chief minister of **Andhra Pradesh** has launched an app to monitor the agriculture needs of farmers.
- **Shrenik Ghodawat** has been honored with the 40 Most Influential Asian Under 40 recognition.
- PNB Housing Finance has signed an MoU with **IIT Delhi** to support R&D activities related to covid-19.
- Theme of the World Hand Hygiene Day observed annually on 5th May - **Save Lives: Clean Your Hands.**
- **NITI Aayog** is all set to start a campaign to 'protect' senior citizens during COVID-19.
- **Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury** has been reappointed as the Chairperson of the Parliament's public accounts committee.
- **DPS Negi** has been appointed as the new Director General of the Labour Bureau in the Ministry of Labour and Employment.
- **Mustafa al-Kadhimi** has been chosen as the new Prime Minister by the Iraqi Parliament.
- World Athletics Day is observed annually on **May 7.**
- **Saurabh Lodha** has received the Young Career Award in Nano Science And Technology by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India.
- **IIT Kanpur** has joined hands with Bharat Dynamics Ltd for the development of affordable ventilators for Covid-19 treatment.
- **Jitendra Singh** has addressed the Bamboo Conclave via Video-conference to discuss the use of bamboo reserves and its role in strengthening the country's economy.

- International No Diet Day is celebrated on May 6 annually. It was first celebrated in **UK**.
- The Biography of Captain Vijyant Thapar “Vijyant at Kargil: The Life of a Kargil Hero” has been released by **Penguin** publishing house.
- Ex-Union min Dalit Ezhilmalai who passed away recently belonged to **AIADMK**.
- The Central Government has extended the one-time limit for filing annual GST returns for financial year 2018-19 till **September 30**.
- **Tripura** has launched an online portal scholarships.gov.in to provide scholarships to students in the final year of college or universities.
- IIT alumni have launched a Covid-19 Test Bus in **Mumbai** to carry out rapid testing in the dense urban areas.
- The Tamil Nadu state government employee retirement age has been increased from 58 to **59**.
- **Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank** has launched an emergency loan facility for farmers with a maximum loan of up to Rs 50000.
- **Punjab National Bank** has opened an emergency credit line for MSMEs to enhance liquidity in the current coronavirus crisis.
- The Vesak Day 2020 is observed globally on **May 7** annually to commemorate the birth of Lord Buddha.
- E-commerce platform **DOT** has launched a QR-based contactless payments solution for merchants as well as consumers.
- The World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day is observed every year on **May 8** to commemorate the birth anniversary of the founder of Red Cross.
- Theme of the World Thalassaemia Day observed annually on the 8th of May - **The dawning of a new era for thalassaemia: Time for a global effort to make novel therapies accessible and affordable to patients.**
- Iran’s currency Rial is set to get a new name and will be re-named **Toman** along with being re-valued.
- **Madhya Pradesh** has a Unique vehicle “Sanjeevani” been developed at the local level to investigate suspected patients without coming in contact with them.
- **Dr. Harsh Vardhan** has launched the ‘AYUSH Sanjivani’ App and two interdisciplinary studies involving AYUSH interventions for COVID 19.
- The tenure of Dia Mirza as UNEP Goodwill Ambassador has been extended till **2022**.
- **Delhi** has ranked on top in terms of Internet penetration according to a study by the IAMAI.
- According to the latest data by the CMIE, Unemployment rates have soared to **27.11** percent amid the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Vande Bharat** Mission launched by the Central Government to bring back stranded Indians from abroad due to the coronavirus lockdown.
- The UN has launched a \$ **6.7** billion-dollar global appeal to fight the covid19 pandemic, thereby trebling an earlier appeal made by the UN with a focus on vulnerable countries.
- **SBI** has cut its benchmark lending rate by 15 basis points and also introduced a special deposit scheme for senior citizens with a higher interest rate.
- IMF has approved \$18 Billion in Emergency Financing for **50** Countries during the coronavirus pandemic.

- ADB has approved \$500 million for **Bangladesh** to bolster the efforts of the government to manage the impact of COVID-19.
- The estimated economic growth rate of India in FY21 as per Moody's Investors Service is **0 percent**.
- Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank has decided to offer a loan of \$ **500** million to aid India's Covid 19 efforts and expand its response capacity.
- IIT Delhi start-up **Nanosafe Solutions** has developed masks which can be reused up to 50 times and complies with standards of breathability.
- **Leela Samson** will head the five-member jury for awarding the JCB Prize for Literature 2020.
- Indian Cricketer **Ajinkya Rahane** has become the brand ambassador for edtech company ELSA Corporation.
- Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated 80 km long road curtailing **Kailash-Mansarovar** pilgrimage time to less than 6 days from before.
- **Pravasi Rahat Mitra** app launched by Yogi Adityanath to help migrant citizens coming to Uttar Pradesh by providing them information related to government schemes and livelihood opportunities.
- TRIFED has collaborated with **Art of Living** to provide Free Ration Kits to Needy Tribes India Artisans.
- Vista Equity Partners will invest Rs 11,367 crore in Jio platforms for **2.32** percent stake in the company. It is the third deal after Facebook and Silver Lake's share acquisition plans.
- Cardiologist and university professor Dimitris Kremastinos who passed away recently held **Health Minister** position in the Greek Government.
- China's new space capsule **Long March 5B** has landed safely to end its 1st uncrewed test flight.
- According to Japanese Brokerage Nomura the Indian economy may contract **0.4** percent in FY21 on account of the coronavirus pandemic.
- FM Nirmala Sitaraman has launched **INR-USD** contract on BSE's India INX & NSE's NSE-IFSC at GIFT City in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- The World Bank has approved a **400** million loan to help Afghanistan deal with COVID-19 crisis and sustain the pace of economic reforms in the country.
- **SBI General Insurance** has launched the Aarogya Sanjeevani Health Insurance Policy providing hospitalization cover anywhere in India with sums ranging from Rs 1 to Rs 5 lacs.
- **India Post** has partnered with the ICMR for delivery of COVID-19 testing kits to 200 labs in the country.
- The Ministry of Defence has inked a **1200** crore with Tata Power for modernizing 37 air bases belonging to the air force, navy and coast guard.
- **Tata Consumer Products** has tied up with Domino's and Zomato to deliver essential goods to the doorsteps of customers who need them.
- The World Migratory Bird Day is celebrated twice a year in May and in October with a focus on bird conservation. It was first celebrated in **2006**.
- Hari Shankar Vasudevan who passed away at the age of 68, was a famous **Historian**.
- National Technology Day is observed every year on **11** May across the country to celebrate the anniversary of Pokhran nuclear tests of 1998.
- The WHO and the UN postal agency has released a Commemorative Stamp on the 40th Anniversary of the eradication of **Smallpox**.

- **Mission Sagar** Launched by India to assist island nations in Eastern Indian Ocean by providing food items and medicines amidst the Covid 19 pandemic.
- **Tamil Nadu** government has formed a panel under ex-RBI Governor R Rangarajan to advise measures to bring the economy back on track in wake of economic challenges triggered by the covid-19 pandemic.
- **Mahindra & Mahindra** has launched a Digital Car Buying Platform 'OwnOnline' To Boost Sales Amid Covid-19 Crisis.
- Narinder Batra's Term as the President of International Hockey Federation has been extended to **2021**.
- The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has launched **Animal Husbandry Startup Grand Challenge** to scout for innovative and commercially viable solutions to address problems related to the animal husbandry & dairy sector.
- CII along with the Technology Development Board of the Department of Science & Technology will organize a Digital Conference on re-booting the economy through Science, Technology And Research Translations.
- **Omid Scobie and Carolyn Durand** has written the biography on Prince Harry & Meghan Markle titled 'Finding Freedom'.
- **TreeShade Books** is the publisher of Vadhan's new book "Fear of God" which deals with corruption vigilantism law and courtroom drama.
- International Mother's Day is observed every year on **May 10**.
- **Rohit Bharadwaj** will head the 6-member panel formed by the Sports Authority of India to prepare a Standard operating procedure for phased resumption of training across sporting disciplines after the national lockdown is lifted.
- Country's 1st indigenous antibody-based testing kit **COVID KAVACH ELISA** developed by the National Institute of Virology.
- **DRDO** has developed an automated UV system DRUVs to sanitize electronic gadgets, papers & currency notes.
- CSIR has approved **Development of human monoclonal antibodies** which will be useful to neutralize SARS-CoV-2 in patients.
- The Central government has set up a **6-member** panel to review production sharing contracts owing to the fall in crude oil prices.
- **Anil Bhansali** has been appointed as the VP Engineering of Google Cloud, India.
- Singer Betty Wright won **Grammy awards** who passed away at 66.
- Amid the Covid-19 pandemic, Government has hiked the 2020-21 Market Borrowing Limit to Rs **12** lakh crore.
- **Bengaluru** has launched the Pranavayu programme with an aim to create awareness on the need to self-examine respiratory health.
- ICMR has collaborated with **Bharat Biotech** to come up with Indian COVID-19 vaccine.
- Theme of International Nurses Day celebrated annually on 12th May - **A Voice to Lead - Nursing the World to Health**.
- **Madhya Pradesh** has recently launched the country's first ever 'FIR Aapke Dwar' Yojana.
- **Indu Shekhar Chaturvedi** has assumed charge as Secretary in the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy.

- Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has launched the 'Bharosa' helpline in **Central University of Odisha** to help students in distress and provide relief amidst the covid 19 pandemic.
- **Siddharth Varadarajan** is one of the recipients of the Deutsche Welle Freedom of Speech Award.
- Former Minister Ratnakar Rao who passed away recently belonged to **Congress**.
- **CSIR - National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL), Bengaluru** has developed a Non-Invasive Ventilator named BiPAP to treat COVID-19 patients.
- The education department of **Jharkhand** has collaborated with Doordarshan to start online classes for School children.
- The airport of **Bengaluru** has been voted as the best regional airport in India & Central Asia.
- **IIM Bangalore** has been ranked among the top 50 global B-schools in executive education in the Financial Times Executive Education 2020 Rankings.
- Paralympian **Deepa Malik** has recently announced retirement to head India's Paralympic Committee.
- Former JDS MP Raja Rangappa Naik who passed away the age of 61, represented **Raichur** constituency in the Lok Sabha.
- **Sania Mirza** has won India's maiden Fed Cup Heart Award.
- **Thanjavur Netti Works** from Tamil Nadu has been recently awarded with the GI tag.
- The Centre has released **6,195** crores to 14 states to fight the coronavirus crisis pandemic.
- **Macpower** has recently unveiled the country's first indigenous hot air seam sealing machine used to manufacture PPE kits at half price of the imported ones.
- Comedian Jerry Stiller who passed away recently is known for his role in **Seinfeld** popular TV series.
- The MSME Ministry has launched **Champions portal** to address grievances of small enterprises in the country.
- China has launched 2 satellites Xingyun-2 01 and 02 via **Kuaizhou-1A** carrier rocket from Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in northwest China.
- **Kerala** has brought down the infant mortality rate from 10 to a single digit of 7 per 1000 live births.
- **China** has won the inaugural FIDE Chess.com Online Nations Cup.
- Shafique Ansari who passed away recently was a famous **Actor**.
- Prime minister Narendra Modi has announced a special economic package worth Rupees **20** lakh crore to kick start the economy and make the country self-reliant.
- **Jammu & Kashmir** Government has launched a portal to facilitate its residents stranded in other parts of the country.
- **Manoj Ahuja** has been appointed the new chief of CBSE.
- **Maharashtra** government has launched online OPD services for people to resolve their difficulties during lockdown.
- FIFA Under-17 women's world cup has been rescheduled to February 17, 2021. It will now be held in **India**.
- India has received USD 1 billion loan from **BRICS New Development Bank** to help fight against the covid-19 pandemic.
- **Akhil Kumar** has been re-inducted into the National Anti-Doping Agency's Disciplinary Panel.

- **Safejob and Seekify** startups with Consumer Affairs Department has partnered to power the Suraksha Store initiative' designed to cater for the health and safety of citizens during and after the lockdown.
- The Government has announced the first tranche of stimulus package which is equivalent to **10** percent of the national GDP.
- In a recent announcement made by the Finance minister, a **25** percent cut has been done in TDS and TCS rates till 31st of March 2021.
- Israel has named a street in Tel Aviv after **Rabindranath Tagore** on his 159th Birthday.
- The Chief minister of Uttarakhand has launched the **HOPE** portal to help unemployed youth get jobs as well as offer skill development opportunities.
- **Madhya Pradesh** government has decided to pay for education of poor children from Class 1 to PhD.
- **Haryana** government has geared to provide tap connections to all rural households by December, 2022.
- TVS Group, Sundaram Med and **IIT-Madras** have jointly developed a low cost automated respiratory assistance device.
- **Sohrai Khovar** from Jharkhand has been recently awarded a GI tag.
- India has moved up two positions to reach the **74th** rank with a score of 51.5% on a WEF's global energy transition index.
- According to the latest Lance paper, **68 percent** of the under-five deaths in India are caused due to child and maternal malnutrition.
- **Odisha** was the highlight of the Tourism Ministry's Deko apna desh webinar series.
- India will participate in SCO foreign ministers' virtual meet on coronavirus. **Russia** will host the conference.
- According to the United Nations, India's growth rate is projected to slow to **1.2** percent in 2020.
- The Finance Minister has announced liquidity support for stressed NBFCs. The decision includes a Special liquidity scheme of **30,000** crore.
- The National Rifle Association of India has nominated **Anjum Moudgil** for the Khel Ratna award.
- **The Indian Council for Cultural Relations** has released the new song 'United We Fight' To Strengthen India's Fight Against COVID-19 amid the coronavirus pandemic.
- The US Centres for Disease and Control and Prevention has committed **3.6** million to India to help combat the coronavirus pandemic.
- Theme of the International Day of Families observed every year on May 15th - **Families in Development: Copenhagen & Beijing + 25**.
- The Central government has set up a New Body to Promote Rice Exports under the Agricultural and Processed Foods Export Promotion Development Authority (Apeda). India get **2nd** rank in the world in case of rice production.
- **West Bengal** govt has launched a scheme to utilize 50,000-acre barren land in six districts for income generating activities include horticulture and pisciculture.
- **Federal Bank** has tied up with MoneyGram for a direct-to-bank account credit service option for customers.
- **V Vidyavathi** has been recently appointed as the Director General of Archaeological Survey of India.

- **Lieutenant Commander Akshay Kumar** has been awarded the Vice Admiral G.M. Hiranandani Memorial Rolling Trophy for the year 2020.
- The National Endangered Species Day is observed every year on **Third Friday** of May.
- Sai Gundewar who passed away due to brain cancer was a famous **Actor**.
- **Dr Harsh Vardhan** participated in the 32nd Commonwealth Health Ministers' meeting through video conference.
- The Indian Council for Medical Research is all set to participate in the Global Solidarity Trial by WHO for COVID-19 treatment. The trial will evaluate **4** potential antiviral agents.
- The Chief Minister of **Gujarat** has announced the Atma Nirbhar Gujarat Sahay Yojana for small shopkeepers and self-employed people.
- The World Bank has approved a **1-billion-dollar** package for India's urban poor and migrant workers during the coronavirus pandemic.
- **Piyush Goyal** has participated in the virtual session of G20 trade ministers.
- Bob Watson who passed away recently was related to **Baseball**.
- IBM has tied up with **Intellect Design Arena** to launch cloud services for banks and financial institutions to modernize and ensure business continuity.
- The Armed Forces Day in 2020 is being celebrated on **May 16**.
- The Ministry of Human Resource development, has come up with **SAMARTH** Enterprises Resource Planning to provide quality education to students across all universities and institutions.
- The Tribal Affairs Ministry in partnership with **Facebook** has launched the 'Goal' programme for Digital Skilling of Tribal Youths in the country.
- The government has introduced an interest subvention of **2** percent on Working Capital Loans for the Dairy sector with an additional incentive of 2% interest subvention of prompt repayments.
- Veteran Bengali author Debes Roy who passed away recently won **Sahitya Akademi**.
- The World Bank has signed an agreement with **West Bengal** for a loan agreement of USD 145 million project to improve irrigation in the state.
- The Government has launched the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana for **20000** crore to develop marine & inland fisheries.
- **Rajnath Singh** has approved the launch of Defence Testing Infrastructure Scheme with an outlay of 400 crore rupees.
- **Jammu & Kashmir** has launched the Samagra Shiksha programme to promote e-learning and facilitate students with complete access to education.
- **Facebook** has acquired the famous GIF-making website GIPHY.
- The Finance Minister has announced a **1.63** lakh core package for agriculture, fisheries and allied activities.
- **IIT Gandhinagar** has developed an interactive dashboard to help contain COVID-19 community infection post lockdown.
- **Infosys** has been selected as the Digital Transformation Partner for GLOBALFOUNDRIES' Digital Leadership Program.
- **Bajaj Finance Limited** has launched the Digital Health EMI Network Card to make medical expenses affordable.
- India observes the National Dengue Day on **May 16**.

- Theme of the World Hypertension Day observed every year on May 17 - **Measure Your Blood Pressure, Control It, Live Longer, to increase high blood pressure (BP) awareness in all populations around the world.**
- As per the latest measures of economic support which have been announced by Finance Minister, the borrowing limit of states has been increased to **5** percent for 2020-21 only.
- The National Restaurants Association of India has partnered with **DotPe** company to build its own tech platform for online payments and digital ordering.
- **Zubair Iqbal** has been appointed as the New Managing Director of J&K Bank.
- Theme of the International Museum Day observed every year on May 18 - **Museums for Equality: Diversity and Inclusion.**
- Benjamin Netanyahu is all set to lead Israel with a historic win as a prime minister. He will now be serving for **5th** term.
- International Day of Light is celebrated every year on 16 May. The first anniversary was celebrated in **1960** for the successful operation of lasers by physicist Theodore Maiman.
- The Union HRD Minister has e-Launched seven titles on “Psycho-Social Impact of Pandemic & Lockdown and How to Cope With”. The series has been published by **NBT India.**
- Theme of the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day observed year on May 17 - **Connect 2030: ICTs for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).**
- The low-profile ceremony to commission the Seventh MK IV Landing Craft Utility, IN LCU L57 was held in **Port Blair.**
- **Hinduja brothers** has shared the second spot with Reuben brothers in UK Rich List 2020.
- The UN General Assembly declared the International Day of Living Together in Peace on **May 16** in an effort to mobilize the international community to promote peace.
- Former Rugby league captain Arthur Summons who passed away recently belonged to **Australia.**
- The Centre has launched an online dashboard to monitor movement of migrant workers. **NDMA** developed the online dashboard.
- The Madhya Pradesh government has launched **Charan Paduka** to provide shoes and slippers to migrant laborer going barefoot.
- Health Minister Harsh Vardhan will represent India at the WHO's **73rd** World Health Assembly to be held on May 18.
- **Manodarpan** announced by the Finance Minister to provide psychological support to students, teachers and families for their mental health and emotional wellbeing.
- **Dr. Tatyrao Lahane** will head the AYUSH task force which has recently been constituted by the Maharashtra government.
- Alibaba's Jack Ma has recently resigned as the board member of **SoftBank.**
- **South Central** division of Railway has developed a robotic device 'Rail-Bot' to strengthen hospital care and help in hospital management functions.
- According to Goldman Sachs, India's GDP is likely to fall by **45** percent in the June quarter against an earlier estimated contraction of 0.4 percent.
- World AIDS Vaccine Day is observed annually on **May 18** to spread awareness regarding the importance of HIV vaccine.
- Billionaire Saleh Abdullah Kamel who passed away recently, belonged to **Saudi Arabia.**

- India Post Mumbai has released a Special Postal Cover which has been dedicated to **Migrant Workers**.
- US-Based General Atlantic is all set to buy **1.34** percent stake in Jio Platforms for Rs 6,598 Crore.
- **Laila Khan and Sravya Annappareddy** two girls recognized by US President Donald Trump as 'coronavirus heroes' in the US.
- The Ministry of Culture hosted a webinar on 'Revitalizing Museums and Cultural Spaces' on the International Museum Day. International Museum Day observed on **May 18**.
- Government has implemented the recommendations of **Shekatkar** committee related to creating border infrastructure.
- **Japan** has launched a new unit to step up defence in outer space.
- **Kotak Mahindra Bank** has launched its India's 1st zero-contact, video KYC savings account.
- BSE and NSE have cut the annual listing fee for SMEs by **25** percent amidst the challenges faced by SMEs due to the coronavirus pandemic.
- Ratnakar Matkari who passed away recently was a famous **Writer**.
- **Financial Software and Systems** digital payments company has launched the eFinclusiv AEPS 2.0.
- NABARD has extended a **20,500-cr** rupees special liquidity facility to cooperative banks and RRBs in various states.
- **Keva Bain** has been appointed as the new president of the World Health Assembly.
- **Tata Consumer** is all set to acquire PepsiCo's stake in NourishCo Beverages with the focus on building a strong packaged beverages market.
- NADA has provisionally suspended **Savita Kumari and Ankit Shishodia** -two athletes - for violating anti-doping rules.
- **Vice Admiral Vinay Badhwar** has won the 2019 Alexander Dalrymple Award.
- **Karnataka** has recently launched a cyber security incubator programme 'H.A.C.K' for startups in India.
- Theme for World Metrology Day observed annually on 20 May - **Measurements for Global Trade**.
- Purushothaman who passed away recently, was a famous **Musician**.
- World Bee Day is celebrated every year on **May 20** to raise awareness about the role of bees in keeping the planet healthy.
- The Nepal government has decided to publish new maps which includes **Lipulekh and Kalapani** India's regions amid an escalating border row between the two countries.
- **National Test Abhyas** app has been launched by the Union HRD Minister to take mock tests for JEE Main, NEET 2020.
- The Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs has announced the results of the Star Rating of Garbage Free Cities. **6** cities have been certified as 5-Star in the list.
- **Club First** has made several types of robots to help the medical staff and masses amid the coronavirus pandemic.
- Flipkart has announced a partnership with **Vishal Mega Mart** for the home delivery of essential items through a safe supply chain in 26 cities.
- **Anil Kumble** is the head of the ICC Committee which has recommended the ban on use of saliva to shine the ball to mitigate risks posed by the covid-19 virus.

- Spiritual leader Dev Prabhakar Shastri, popularly called 'Daddaji' passed away recently. He belonged to **Madhya Pradesh**.
- The Central government has announced the reduction in EPF contributions from 12 percent to **10** percent from May to July this year.
- **Chattisgarh** is all set to launch the Rajiv Gandhi Nyay Yojana for farmers on May 21, on the former PM's death anniversary.
- Flipkart has tied up with **Bajaj Allianz General Insurance** to offer digital motor insurance policy for its customers.
- India has pledged **2 million** to the UN agency working for Palestinian refugees in support of its core programmes and services.
- **Dr Harsh Vardhan** has recently been appointed as the new WHO Executive Board chairman.
- **Canara Bank** has launched a special gold loan business vertical aimed at providing hassle free credit in times of financial emergency.
- UNICEF has partnered with **Airtel Africa** to support children and families affected by Covid-19 across sub-Saharan Africa.
- Facebook has launched new e-commerce venture **Shops** to promote small business via setting up online stores for free.
- **Jammu & Kashmir** has started the SUKON-Covid 19 initiative to beat the physiological impact of lockdown.
- **Estonia** has become the world's first to bring in digital immunity passports seeking a safer return to workplaces after the lockdown.
- National Anti-Terrorism Day is observed annually on **May 21** to spread the message of peace and humanity among the people.
- Writer **Ruskin bond** released his new "Hop On: My Adventures on Boats, Trains and Planes".
- Material **Coir geo-textiles** is all set to be used in rural road construction under PMGSY-III.
- **Jharkhand** has launched the 'Tatpar' Scheme to collect information about migrant workers walking on national highways and provide them with a transport facility.
- Maharashtra government has launched **Mee Annapurna** which focuses on the welfare of the farmers across the state.
- **Uttar Pradesh** has launched the 'Startup Fund' to encourage youth for entrepreneurship.
- **Rajesh Goel** has been appointed as director general of NAREDCO.
- **Thomas Thabane** has recently resigned as the Prime minister of Lesotho.
- **Dilip Oommen** has been named as the new President of Indian Steel Association.
- **Govinda Rajulu Chintala** has been appointed as the new chairman of NABARD.
- The central government has approved the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana for boosting the fisheries sector worth **20,500 crore**.
- The Union HRD Minister has launched IGNOU's Online programme for **MA Hindi**.
- **BR Sharma** has been appointed as the Chairman of J&K Public service commission.
- **Fino Payments Bank** has partnered with NBFCs to source loans in rural areas.
- **ICICI** has launched a special FD scheme for senior citizens which offers an interest rate of up to 80 basis points.

- **10,000 crore** is the outlay of the new scheme approved by the Cabinet for Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises.
- International Tea Day is observed annually on **May 21** to create awareness among people on the health benefits of tea.
- The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has launched a scheme for solarization of **Konark Sun Temple** in the country.
- The Central government has cleared the plan of drilling for hydrocarbon exploration in **Dibru Saikhowa National Park**.
- Rural Livelihood Mission begun Didi Vehicle Service for safe delivery of rural women in **Madhya Pradesh**.
- Baba Ramdev Led Patanjali has launched E-Commerce Platform **OrderMe** to Supply Swadeshi Goods and made-in-India items in the country.
- Theme of the International Day for Biological Diversity observed annually on May 22 every year - **Our solutions are in nature**.
- Franklin Templeton has appointed **Kotak Mahindra Bank** to assist trustees in monetizing assets of 6 wind-up schemes.
- World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development is held annually on May 21. It was adopted in **2001**.
- **IIT Guwahati** has discovered new ways to prevent memory loss or reduce short term losses related to Alzheimer disease.
- In a recent announcement made by the RBI, the repo rate has been cut by **40** basis points, bringing the repo rate to 4 percent.
- According to Rating agency ICRA, the Indian economy is likely to contract by **5** percent in FY 21.
- **Carmen Reinhart** has been named as the Chief economist and Vice President of the World Bank.
- The Andhra Pradesh government has come up with a scheme **ReStart** to help revive MSMEs and improve the livelihood of those affected.
- The RBI has deferred interest on working capital facility which can be converted into funded interest on term loan till **March 31, 2021**.
- RBI extended **15,000 crore** to the EXIM bank to help meet its foreign currency resource requirement.
- **Edelweiss Mutual Fund** is all set to launch the second tranche of Bharat Bond ETF.
- The Union Government has extended the 'Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana' by **3 years**, with a focus on providing a minimum pension to senior citizens.
- Airtel has acquired **10** percent stake in AI startup Voicezen, in an all cash deal.
- World Turtle Day is observed annually on **May 23** to spread awareness about turtles and tortoises.
- Shyamala G Bhave who passed away recently was renowned **Vocalist**.
- **Jahnabi Phookan** has been appointed as the National President of FICCI Ladies organization.
- KKR has agreed to buy 2.32% stake in Jio Platforms for **Rs.11,367 crore**.
- IRDAI has allowed **Union Bank of India** to continue with 30% holding in India First Life Insurance with the condition that the lender will hold no control in the insurer's management.
- Researchers at **IIT-Madras** have developed a new trough collector to provide sustainable energy solutions for agriculture and industrial processes.

- **India** has become the second largest producer of PPE coveralls after China.
- ONGC has signed an MOU with **NTPC** to set up a joint venture for renewable energy business.
- The chief minister of **Madhya Pradesh** has inaugurated 'Everybody will get employment' scheme through video conferencing to ensure MNREGA job cards are distributed among laborer.
- The U.S has decided to pull out of **Open Skies treaty** as it allowed unarmed surveillance flights over member countries.
- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister has inaugurated **Shram Siddhi Abhiyan** scheme to provide jobs to labourers under skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled categories.
- Prakash Javadekar launched **Biodiversity Samrakshan Internship Programme** to engage students with postgraduate degrees for a period of one year through an open, transparent, online competitive process.
- **HSL India** has recently won the Economic Times Iconic Brand for Year 2019- 20.
- Tennis star Jamie Hampton who announced his retirement recently, belongs to **US**.
- **Naomi Osaka** has become the highest paying female athlete in the world.
- Theme of the International Day to End Obstetric Fistula observed annually on May 23 - **End gender inequality! End health inequities! End Fistula now.**
- **Rajesh Bhushan** is the chairperson of the High-level panel formed to recommend reforms in India's drug regulatory system.
- Footballer Aritz Aduriz who announced his retirement recently, belonged to **Spain**.
- Four-time Grand Slam singles champion Ashley Cooper passed away recently. He belonged to **Australia**.
- **Chattisgarh** observes May 25 as Jhiram tribute day to pay tribute to congress leaders killed in maoist attack.
- **Abhas Jha** has been appointed to key a position on climate change and disaster management in the World Bank.
- **Uttarakhand** has become the first one, to release a unique report highlighting conservation efforts to save over 1,100 rare plants from extinction.
- R Shanmugam who passed away recently was a famous **Footballer**.
- International Missing Children's Day is observed annually on **May 25**.
- **Tamil Nadu** has begun its work on implementing the Solar Fence Farmland Protection Programme.
- **Uttar Pradesh** government has decided to set up a migrant commission to map skills of migrant labourers and provide them employment.
- **Canara Bank** has announced credit support for all their borrowers who have been affected by covid-19.
- Bank of Baroda has decided to sanction **10,000** crore emergency working capital facility for Covid-19 affected businesses including MSMEs.
- The World Bank has approved a loan of **500** million dollars for Pakistan to help the cash strapped country mitigate adverse impact of the coronavirus pandemic.
- The UN Secretary General Envoy on Youth has listed Khudol of **Manipur** as one of the Top 10 Global Initiatives to fight COVID-19.

- World Thyroid Day is observed annually on **May 25** to spread awareness on the gland that causes such thyroid disease.
- **Justice AK Sikri** has launched the Indian Dispute Resolution Centre to provide a paperless dispute resolution environment.
- The Navy of **US** has successfully tested a laser weapon that can destroy aircraft mid-flight.
- Personal care and grooming brand **FRSH** launched by Salman Khan.
- Fintech startup **Zaggle** has tied up with Visa for innovative payments solutions for SMEs and startups.
- UEFAs e-Euro 2020 conducted by **Italy** with 16 nations coming together to compete in the biggest international virtual soccer championship.
- Former Football Inter coach Simoni who passed away recently belonged to **Italy**.
- **Mizoram** has granted 'industry' status to sports with the main aim of the decision is to professionalize sports in the state.
- Application **AINA** developed by DRDO based on Artificial intelligence to allow non-contact-based personnel verification using facial features.
- **3 years** is the term duration of the modified PM Vaya Vandana Yojana launched by the Life Insurance Corporation of India.
- India has built a state-of-the-art training facility for the defence forces of **Uganda**.
- RITES has signed an agreement for acquiring **24** percent stake in Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation (IRSDC) for Rs 48 crore with Rail Land Development Authority and IRCON International being the other equity partners.
- **Rajiv Joshi** has been named as the Inventor of the Year for his work in advancing the electronic industry and improving artificial intelligence capabilities.
- **Major Suman Gawani** has been honored with the UN Military Gender Advocate award.
- Nitin Gadkari has recently inaugurated **Chamba Tunnel** under the 'Chardham Pariyojana' through a video conference.
- **Airtel Payments Bank** has tied up with Mastercard to develop customized products catering to customers in the underbanked category including farmers and SMEs.
- Indian start-up **VAMS Global** has come up with the world's first contactless visitor management software with temperature scanner and mask detection.
- **REC Limited** has tied up with TajSATS to provide meals for the medical staff and healthcare workers.
- Maruti Suzuki has partnered with **ICICI** to offer retail financing schemes to customers with low EMI, to help them overcome the liquidity stress due to Covid-19.
- Squadron **Number-18** will soon be operationalized by the Indian Air force to operate the modern multi-role light fighter aircraft LCA Tejas.
- BSE has launched e-KYC services on **StAR MF platform** to provide for onboarding of mutual fund investors, stock brokers and other intermediaries.
- According to Rating Agency Crisil, India's GDP will likely contract by **5** percent of GDP in FY21.
- Ola Electric has acquired **Etergo BV** with a focus on improving its engineering and design capabilities.
- Children book **The Ickabog** released by JK Rowling and is freely available online to read.

- Bengaluru-based startup **Gnani Collection Voicebot** has launched a multilingual conversational voice bot to enable dialogue between customers and financial institutions.
- **Adidas** has hosted a global virtual sports event to fight COVID-19 and has collaborated with a number of tracking apps like Garmin, Zwift and Polar.
- The Researchers at **IIT Delhi** have developed a lighter, breathable PPE kit to fight Covid-19.
- **Periasamy Kumaran** has recently been appointed as India's High Commissioner to Singapore.
- The term of Sandip Mukund Pradhan, Director-General of Sports Authority of India (SAI) has been extended for a period of **2** years and will come into effect from June 6,2020.
- **JJ Tax** app launched by two aspiring Chartered Accountants Mehak Malik and Leesha Arya which offers a wide range of taxation solutions to customers in real-time.
- **Rajasthan** along with TRIFED and DST launched a Webinar on "Van Dhan Scheme".
- **Leo Puri** is all set to be the next Chairman of JP Morgan.
- PFC has signed an MoU with Narmada Basin Projects Company Ltd. to fund 225 MW hydro-electric projects and Multipurpose projects in **Madhya Pradesh**.
- According to S&P Global Ratings estimate, the Indian economy will shrink by **5** percent during FY21.
- **Uttar Pradesh** is working to develop 800 km roads as Herbal roads which will have medicinal and herbal trees on both sides.
- **Karnataka** is all set to launch a project to maintain a health database of all its citizens.
- **Tsai Ing-wen** has taken the oath as the President of Taiwan for the second term.
- IL&FS has got an approval from the NLCT to sell **50** percent stake in GIFT City to the Gujarat government.
- NASA has renamed its Wide Field Infrared Survey Telescope after 'Mother of Hubble' Nancy Grace Roman, the US space agency's first chief astronomer. It is set to be launched in **2025**.
- Researchers at **IIT Madras** have developed a light-weight alloy to replace steel and aluminium in cars and aerospace components.
- Facebook has launched **CatchUp** app to make it easier for friends and family to coordinate phone calls and set up group calls with up to 8 people.
- **Flipkart** has signed an MoU with the Karnataka Mango Board to enable farmers sell produce online.
- Tamil Nadu has inked **17** MoUs with firms totaling investments of Rs.15,128 crore in the presence of Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami and the rest through video conference.
- FIFA has collaborated with **WHO** to launch a campaign to help domestic violence victims amid the coronavirus lockdown.
- **Secure Cam IT Solutions** is all set to launch a surveillance campaign in India with plans to install around 10,000 cams for free in one city.
- Arogya Setu, India's Covid-19 contact tracing, syndromic mapping and self-assessment mobile app is now open source. The app was launched on **April 2nd**.
- Noted **Padma Shri Awarde** and Urdu writer & satirist Mujtaba Hussain who passed away recently.
- World Hunger Day is observed annually on **May 28** to spread awareness about the malaise of chronic hunger.

- The CIPET has been renamed As Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering And Technology. The Institute comes under **Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers**.
- World Digestive Health Day is celebrated every year on **May 29** to mark the anniversary of the creation of the World Gastroenterology Organization.
- Kargil's first Solar Lift Irrigation Plant has been inaugurated in Ladakh. The plant has a capacity of 5 KiloWatt.
- **Tamil Nadu** has decided to offer Free online coaching for NEET aspirants from June 15.
- **Vakrangee Ltd** has tied up with LIC to distribute micro insurance products in unserved and underserved areas through its centres across the country.
- AI virtual assistant **Vakrangee Ltd** launched by the NPCI to create awareness around its products like FASTag, RuPay, UPI, AePS on a real time basis.
- The Banks Board Bureau has selected **SN Rajeswari** as the CMD of Oriental Insurance Company.
- **Marcos Troyjo** has been elected as the next president of the New Development Bank.
- **Narinder Batra** has been appointed by the Indian Olympic Association as a member of the Olympic Channel Commission.
- Food delivery unicorn Zomato has elevated **Mohit Gupta** as its cofounder.
- 'Hunar Haat' is all set to make a comeback in September 2020 after a gap of over - months due to COVID-19. It is an initiative of **Ministry of Minority Affairs**.
- Theme of the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers commemorated on May 29 annually - **Women in Peacekeeping - A Key to Peace**.
- Sri Lankan bowler **Shehan Madushanka** has been suspended from all forms of cricket for alleged possession of illegal drugs.
- CSIR-IIIM has partnered with **Reliance Industries Limited** to develop RT-LAMP based tests for Coronavirus.
- The Finance Minister has launched a free instant e-PAN card facility through Aadhaar. The Aadhar is a **12-digit** unique identification number.
- **Quarraisha Abdool Karim** has won the R10m French prize for her work on the AIDS programme.
- **Om Birla** has nominated the Associate Members of Delimitation Commission for the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir along with Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Manipur.
- **Madhya Pradesh** is preparing a database under the 'Swamitva' scheme to provide land ownership rights to people in rural areas.
- ADB has signed a 177 million dollars loan to upgrade major roads and highways in **Maharashtra**.
- The UP government has decided to sign MoUs with industry associations in order to create **10** lakh jobs for migrant workers and give a boost to the MSME sector.
- **US** has joined the G7 artificial intelligence group to counter China.
- RBI has imposed a penalty on **3** lenders for non-compliance with certain provisions of the directions issued by it on 'Income Recognition, Asset Classification (IRAC) and provisioning pertaining to advances.
- M P Veerendra Kumar who passed away at the age of 84 was Rajya Sabha MP from **Kerala**.
- **Madhya Pradesh** has decided to create the 'Rojgar Setu Yojana' in an effort to employ migrant workers.
- **Thierry Delaporte** has been appointed as the CEO & Managing Director of Wipro.

- **SwissCovid** app launched by Switzerland to utilize the Exposure Notification API developed by Apple and Google.
- Stanley Ho who is known as the 'King of Gambling' built a casino empire in **Macau**.
- Theme of the World Menstrual Hygiene Day observed annually on May 28 - **Periods in Pandemic**.
- Ajit Jogi who passed away recently was the first chief minister of **Chhattisgarh**.
- **Uttarakhand** has launched the Mukhyamantri Swarozgar Yojana to retain the migrants who have returned to the state during the lockdown.
- Infosys has partnered with **Avaloq** to provide for digital wealth management services.
- **R. Sreelekha** is set to become the first woman DGP of Kerala.
- **Aiman Ezzat** has been appointed as the new CEO of Capgemini.
- **Ravinder Singh Dhillon** has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of the State-run Power Finance Corporation.
- Application software **Swagatam- Gateway to visit Government** launched by the Dibrugarh District administration to enable citizen centric services.
- **Anish Kapoor** has topped the Hurun List 2020 of "Most Successful Indian Artists Alive Today".
- NABARD has sanctioned an amount of Rupees **1050** crore credit support to West Bengal.
- IIT Madras dredging methodology has helped to triple Irrawaddy Dolphin population in **Chilka Lake**.
- Missile Park **Agniprastha** is devoted to officers, sailors and assistant workers of INS Kalinga who served as an operation support base since 1981.
- **English Premier League** is all set to restart from June 17 with all safety requirements in place.
- International Everest Day observed every year on **May 29** in the memory of Sherpa Tenzing Norgay and Edmund Hillary.
- Yogesh Gaur who passed away at the age of 77 was a famous **Lyricist**.
- **US** has decided to terminate its relationship with the WHO over its handling of the Coronavirus.
- IMF has approved 732 million emergency assistance for **Bangladesh** to address the covid-19 pandemic.
- The Central government has approved a sum of Rs **445** crore for the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in Chhattisgarh.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman recently chaired the 22nd Meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC). FSDC formed on **2010**.
- The Indian Navy has set up a UV sanitization bay to decontaminate things like tools, masks and clothes at Western Navy Command in **Mumbai**.
- **P.R.Jaishankar** has assumed charge as the Managing Director of IIFCL.
- **S Gopalakrishnan** has recently been appointed as additional secretary in the Prime Minister's Office.
- TCS has won two Stevia in the 2020 American Business Awards, for the 2019 TCS New York City Marathon App.
- With investments worth USD 14.67 billion **Singapore** was the top source of FDI for India in fiscal year 2019-20.

-- x --

MODEL QUESTIONS

1. When is the National Anti-Terrorism Day observed?
(1) 6 May (2) 12 May (3) 18 May (4) 21 May (5) None of these
2. Recently RBI cancelled the license of The CKP Co-operative Bank Ltd. It is based in which city?
(1) Mumbai (2) Kolkata (3) New Delhi (4) Chennai (5) None of these
3. Recently which company launched RBI compliant video KYC engagement platform?
(1) Newgen (2) Sudan (3) Matrix (4) Ameyo (5) None of these
4. Recently RBI imposed a penalty of Rs. 5 cr on which bank for non-compliance with certain provisions, including those related with NPA?
(1) Central Bank of India (2) Bank of India (3) IDBI Bank
(4) SBI (5) None of these
5. Which bank released a song #HumHaarNahiMaanenge to keep up hopes up amidst the ongoing national lockdown and coronavirus pandemic?
(1) HDFC Bank (2) ICICI Bank (3) Yes Bank
(4) SBI (5) None of these
6. Recently Paytm Payments Bank crossed how much amount in fixed deposits?
(1) Rs. 100 cr (2) Rs. 400 cr (3) Rs. 500 cr (4) Rs. 600 cr (5) None of these
7. Which Bank has launched special FD scheme "Wecare Deposit" for senior citizens?
(1) SBI (2) IDBI (3) PNB (4) BOB (5) None of these
8. Recently which bank has launched a special business vertical dedicated for gold loans?
(1) SBI (2) Bob (3) IDBI Bank (4) Canara Bank (5) None of these
9. Which Bank became the first Indian lender to allow video KYC of customers?
(1) Kotak Mahindra Bank (2) IDBI Bank (3) Federal Bank
(4) SBI (5) None of these
10. Recently which bank got approval from IRDAI to continue with its 30% holding in India First Life Insurance?
(1) Union Bank of India (2) SBI (3) IDBI Bank
(4) PNB (5) None of these
11. Which Bank has introduced a special fixed deposit (FD) scheme for senior citizens called Golden Years FD?
(1) IDBI Bank (2) HDFC Bank (3) ICICI Bank (4) SBI (5) None of these
12. Which Company has launched the standard health insurance policy - Arogya Sanjeevani Health Insurance Policy?
(1) SBI General Insurance (2) IDBI Federal (3) Max Bupa
(4) NiacI (5) None of these
13. Recently government started which services to cater to people having feature phone or landline via Arogya Setu?
(1) IVRS (2) IMPS (3) ICMR (4) IRVS (5) None of these

14. Recently government started which mission to bring Indians stranded abroad amid Coronavirus?
(1) Samudra Setu (2) Bharat Desh (3) Vande Mata
(4) Vande Bharat (5) None of these
15. Recently India launched which mission to assist island nations in Eastern Indian Ocean?
(1) Shalimar (2) Sagarmatha (3) Agni (4) Sagar (5) None of these
16. The Government hiked market borrowing limit to how much amount for FY21?
(1) Rs. 20 lakh cr (2) Rs. 15 lakh cr (3) Rs. 10 lakh cr
(4) Rs. 12 lakh cr (5) None of these
17. Which became the first state in India to provide free & cashless insurance cover to its people?
(1) Telangana (2) Odisha (3) Andhra Pradesh
(4) Maharashtra (5) None of these
18. Which state government launched the Ayush Kavach app that will provide health-related tips and information about ayurvedic medicines to people during the coronavirus crisis?
(1) UP (2) Bihar (3) Assam (4) Telangana (5) None of these
19. Which state launched Birsa Harit Gram Yojana (BHGy), Neelambar Pitambar JAL Sammridhi Yojana (NPJSY) and Veer Sahid Poto Ho Khel Vikas Scheme (VSPHKVS) to add jobs in the rural economy?
(1) Karnataka (2) Bihar (3) Jharkhand (4) Uttar Pradesh (5) None of these
20. Which state government has launched an online portal scholarships.gov.in under 'Mukhyamantri Yuba Yogayog Yojana'?
(1) Odisha (2) Tripura (3) Assam (4) Telangana (5) None of these
21. Which state government launched programme 'Nigah' to aware family members of migrant returnees?
(1) Himachal Pradesh (2) Uttar Pradesh (3) Karnataka
(4) Tamil Nadu (5) None of these
22. Which has become the first state in the country to provide mid-day meal ration?
(1) Assam (2) Bihar (3) MP (4) UP (5) None of these
23. In which state, a unique vehicle named Sanjeevani has been developed at local level?
(1) Madhya Pradesh (2) Bihar (3) Uttar Pradesh
(4) Assam (5) None of these
24. Which state government recently raised the age of superannuation of its employees to 59 years from 58?
(1) Tamil Nadu (2) Maharashtra (3) Uttar Pradesh (4) Bihar (5) None of these
25. The country's first ever 'FIR Aapke Dwar' Yojana was launched by which state government?
(1) Telangana (2) Maharashtra (3) Assam (4) Madhya Pradesh (5) None of these
26. Which state has launched the first indigenous seam sealing machine, which helps in manufacturing PPE kits at half the price of the imported one?
(1) Telangana (2) Maharashtra (3) Bihar (4) Gujarat (5) None of these
27. Which state government has re-launched the ambitious Sambal Yojana aimed to strengthen the lives of the poor and the SC and ST communities?
(1) Odisha (2) Bihar (3) UP (4) MP (5) None of these

28. Which state governments have geared up to provide tap water connections to all the rural households in the area by December 2022?
 (1) Haryana and J&K (2) Odisha and Bihar (3) UP and Telangana
 (4) Punjab and Delhi (5) None of these
29. Which state government launched "Matir Smristi" scheme?
 (1) Telangana (2) Assam (3) West Bengal (4) Maharashtra (5) None of these
30. Which state government announced Aatmanirbhar Sahay Yojana?
 (1) Gujarat (2) Uttar Pradesh (3) Maharashtra (4) Sikkim (5) None of these
31. Which state police has inducted in service India's first thermal detection headgear that will enhance the social distancing while still enabling the policemen to perform their duties?
 (1) Delhi (2) Maharashtra (3) Tamil Nadu (4) Assam (5) None of these
32. Which state launched Charan Paduka campaign for migrant labourers?
 (1) Maharashtra (2) Assam (3) Chhattisgarh (4) MP (5) None of these
33. Which state to provide potable piped water to all rural households by 2022?
 (1) UP (2) Assam (3) Punjab (4) Meghalaya (5) None of these
34. Which state district administration launched "Tatpar" scheme to transport migrant workers?
 (1) Bihar (2) Assam (3) Maharashtra (4) Jharkhand (5) None of these
35. Which state government have started Didi Vehicle Service for rural women for the safe delivery?
 (1) Bihar (2) Assam (3) Uttar Pradesh (4) MP (5) None of these
36. Which state government launched 'Mee Annapurna' - An inclusive program for welfare of farmers?
 (1) Kerala (2) Karnataka (3) Assam (4) Maharashtra (5) None of these
37. Which state started initiative SUKON - COVID-19 Beat the Stress?
 (1) J&K (2) Uttar Pradesh (3) Assam (4) Maharashtra (5) None of these
38. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Adityanath launched the 'UP Start-up Fund'. It will be managed by which organization?
 (1) NASSCOM (2) SIDBI (3) NABARD (4) IRDA (5) None of these
39. Which state government launched Rajiv Gandhi Nyay Yojana for farmers?
 (1) Chhattisgarh (2) New Delhi (3) Haryana
 (4) Bihar (5) None of these
40. Recently which state cabinet has granted "industry" status to "sports"?
 (1) Maharashtra (2) Mizoram (3) Assam (4) Karnataka (5) None of these
41. Which state government has launched a new programme christened 'ReStart' to support the MSME sector in the State?
 (1) Sikkim (2) Assam (3) Mizoram (4) Andhra Pradesh (5) None of these
42. Which state government inaugurated the 'Everybody will get employment' scheme through video conferencing?
 (1) Madhya Pradesh (2) Uttar Pradesh (3) Assam
 (4) Sikkim (5) None of these

43. Centre government launched scheme for 100% solarization of Konark Sun Temple & Konark town. It is situated in which state?
 (1) Maharashtra (2) Telangana (3) Assam (4) Odisha (5) None of these
44. Recently Indian Navy launched which operation to repatriate Indian citizens from overseas?
 (1) Samudra Setu (2) Thrissur (3) Arogya Setu
 (4) Suraksha Setu (5) None of these
45. Who headed the panel formed by IRDAI to draft standard professional indemnity policy for insurance intermediaries?
 (1) Surbhi Goel (2) Kasturi Sengupta (3) Umesh Rathod
 (4) Yegnapriya Bharat (5) None of these
46. Which state government has set up a high-level committee headed by former Reserve Bank of India governor C Rangarajan to examine fiscal challenges facing the state?
 (1) Telangana (2) Bihar (3) Tamil Nadu (4) Maharashtra (5) None of these
47. Who headed the high-powered committee on setting up of panel to consider pleas seeking 4G in J&K?
 (1) Swati Chaturvedi (2) AK Bhalla (3) Nishi Vishnoi
 (4) Sakshi Joshi (5) None of these
48. Who will head the high-powered committee to probe into the causes behind the leakage of styrene gas from the LG Polymer plant?
 (1) RS Bansal (2) RK Meena (3) Vinay Chand
 (4) Neeraj Kumar Prasad (5) None of these
49. Who will head the panel that has proposed land pooling to corporatize agri, merging MNREGA with skilling programme?
 (1) Thawar Chand Gehlot (2) Narendra Modi (3) Smriti Irani
 (4) Rajnath Singh (5) None of these
50. Who will head the committee that has been formed to recommend reforms in India's drug regulatory system?
 (1) Rajesh Bhushan (2) Ramesh Singh (3) Srinivasan SK
 (4) Naresh Sharma (5) None of these
51. Which state government launched Jagananna Vidya Deevena', scheme?
 (1) Odisha (2) Bihar (3) Andhra (4) Telangana (5) None of these
52. Which state government launched Jeevan Amrit Yojana' scheme to boost immunity system of citizens?
 (1) Bihar (2) Assam (3) Karnataka (4) Madhya Pradesh (5) None of these
53. Which department has launched a programme on health and risk communication 'Year of Awareness on Science & Health (YASH)' with focus on COVID-19?
 (1) Department of Fisheries (2) Department of Science and Technology
 (3) Department of Health (4) Department of HRD (5) None of these
54. Which application was launched by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) to connect farmers to supply chain, transportation Management System?
 (1) Kisan Sabha (2) Kisan Dev (3) Kisan Desh
 (4) Kisan Jeevan (5) None of these

55. Recently Traders' body Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) has announced to launch which national e-commerce marketplace for all retail traders?
 (1) Bharatmarket (2) Desh ka Market (3) India Market
 (4) Hindustan Setu (5) None of these
56. Recently which application launched two new features in its app to curb need to touch handsets for checking transactions?
 (1) Mobikwik (2) Paytm (3) PhonePe (4) BharatPe (5) None of these
57. How much amount has been disbursed to 9.13 crore farmers under the PM-KISAN scheme during the ongoing nationwide lockdown?
 (1) Rs. 15764 cr (2) Rs. 20786 cr (3) Rs. 17689 cr (4) Rs. 18253 cr (5) None of these
58. Recently how many exchanges were launched by Nirmala Sitharaman to take on offshore currency market?
 (1) 5 (2) 4 (3) 3 (4) 2 (5) None of these
59. Which city has launched Pranavayu programme to create awareness on the need to self-examine the respiratory health?
 (1) Bangalore (2) Chennai (3) Lucknow (4) Mumbai (5) None of these
60. The government's flagship social security scheme, Atal Pension Yojana (APY), has achieved the milestone of how many subscribers as it completes 5 years?
 (1) 2.23 cr (2) 2.50 cr (3) 3.00 cr (4) 3.21 cr (5) None of these
61. Recently which organization paid a tribute to migrant workers by releasing a special postal cover dedicated to them?
 (1) IndiaPost (2) NASSCOM (3) Niti Aayog (4) IPPB (5) None of these
62. Recently the government extended which scheme for senior citizens for three years till March 2023?
 (1) Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana
 (2) Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana
 (3) Pradhan Mantri Vayu Yojana
 (4) Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Yojana
 (5) None of these
63. Recently NCDEX launched India's first agri futures index. Name it?
 (1) AGRINDIA (2) AGRINC (3) AGRIFI (4) AGRIDEX (5) None of these
64. Who inaugurated the 440 metre-long tunnel, constructed below the busy town of Chamba as part of the Chardham Connectivity Project?
 (1) Ramesh Nishank (2) Smriti Irani (3) Narendra Modi
 (4) Nitin Gadkari (5) None of these
65. The All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), under Ministry of AYUSH organized AYURAKSHA Programme in which city?
 (1) Bhopal (2) New Delhi (3) Indore (4) Lucknow (5) None of these
66. Who participated in the online Summit of Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Contact Group held to discuss response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic crisis?
 (1) Smriti Irani (2) Narendra Modi (3) Amit Shah
 (4) Nitin Gadkari (5) None of these

67. Which Indian Institute is going to collaborate with New Frontier Capital Management, a financial firm based in Hong Kong with offices in Tokyo and Singapore, to establish a global network for ventures as well as to create a venture ecosystem?
 (1) IIT Hyderabad (2) IIM Lucknow (3) IISc Bengaluru
 (4) IIT Kanpur (5) None of these
68. Government think tank NITI Aayog in association with which organization launched a campaign focused on ensuring wellbeing of senior citizens during the COVID-19 pandemic?
 (1) Amazon (2) Melinda Gates Foundation
 (3) Sarthak Foundation (4) Piramal Foundation (5) None of these
69. Which state education department in collaboration with Doordarshan started online classes and educational programs?
 (1) Himachal Pradesh (2) Jharkhand (3) Uttar Pradesh
 (4) Assam (5) None of these
70. Union Minister for Tribal Affairs Arjun Munda launched the "GOAL (Going Online As Leaders)" programme of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) in partnership with which company?
 (1) Google (2) Wechat (3) Whatsapp (4) Facebook (5) None of these
71. National Restaurants Association of India (NRAI) has partnered with which company to build tech platform for online payments and ordering?
 (1) Mobikwik (2) Mphasis (3) dotPe (4) PhonePe (5) None of these
72. The country's largest carmaker Maruti Suzuki India announced partnership with which company to provide customized auto retail financing solutions to retail buyers?
 (1) Cholamandalam Investment & Finance Company
 (2) New India Assurance Company Limited
 (3) IDBI Federal Company
 (4) ICICI Prudential
 (5) None of these
73. The country's largest carmaker Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) has joined hands with which bank to offer retail financing schemes to its customers?
 (1) ICICI Bank (2) HDFC Bank (3) IDBI Bank (4) SBI (5) None of these
74. Which payments bank has partnered with MasterCard to build customized solutions for payments such as tap-and-pay NFC?
 (1) AU Small Finance Bank (2) Paytm Payments Bank (3) Fino Payments Bank
 (4) Airtel Payments Bank (5) None of these
75. Which e commerce company has partnered with Karnataka State Mango Development and Marketing Corporation Ltd. enabling farmers to sell their fresh produce online?
 (1) Dailyobjects (2) Amazon (3) Ebay (4) Flipkart (5) None of these
76. Which company has tied up with Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) to distribute micro insurance products in unserved and underserved areas through its centres across the country?
 (1) Vakrangee (2) Tech Mahindra (3) Mphasis (4) Simon (5) None of these
77. Which Indian minister participated in BRICS Foreign Ministers meeting on coronavirus through video conferencing?
 (1) S Jaishankar (2) Narendra Modi (3) Rajnath Singh
 (4) Nitin Gadkari (5) None of these

78. Which country hosted the eleventh session of Petersberg Climate Dialogue through video conference?
(1) India (2) Germany (3) China (4) Russia (5) None of these
79. The 32nd Commonwealth Health Ministers Meet held via Video Conference was held in which city?
(1) New Delhi (2) Pune (3) Mumbai (4) Chennai (5) None of these
80. How much amount was sanctioned by centre under the MGNREGA in the current financial year?
(1) Rs. 33300 cr (2) Rs. 32000 cr (3) Rs. 34500 cr
(4) Rs. 37500 cr (5) None of these
81. USAID announced how much additional support to support India's efforts to combat COVID-19?
(1) USD 3 million (2) USD 4 million (3) USD 6 million
(4) USD 5 million (5) None of these
82. How much amount was approved by World Bank to improve and safeguard its coastal and marine resources?
(1) \$100 million (2) \$200 million (3) \$300 million (4) \$400 million (5) None of these
83. How much amount of loan was approved by Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) to support India's fight against COVID-19?
(1) USD 300 million (2) USD 100 million (3) USD 200 million
(4) USD 500 million (5) None of these
84. How much amount of loans were sanctioned by PSBs during March April as per Finance Minister?
(1) Rs. 6.00 lakh cr (2) Rs. 5.98 lakh cr (3) Rs. 5.55 lakh cr
(4) Rs. 5.66 lakh cr (5) None of these
85. How much amount of package was announced by PM Narendra Modi under Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan?
(1) Rs. 30 lakh cr (2) Rs. 10 lakh cr (3) Rs. 15 lakh cr
(4) Rs. 20 lakh cr (5) None of these
86. How much amount of package was announced by FM Nirmala Sitharaman to boost housing sector?
(1) Rs. 80000 cr (2) Rs. 60000 cr (3) Rs. 50000 cr (4) Rs. 70000 cr (5) None of these
87. How much amount has been committed by US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to assist Indian government's fight against COVID-19?
(1) \$3.1 million (2) \$4.0 million (3) \$2.5 million (4) \$3.6 million (5) None of these
88. How much amount of package was announced by government for agriculture and allied sectors aimed at strengthening infrastructure, logistics and capacity building at farm gate?
(1) Rs. 1.85 lakh cr (2) Rs. 2.00 lakh cr (3) Rs. 1.90 lakh cr
(4) Rs. 1.63 lakh cr (5) None of these
89. How much amount was allocated for MGNREGS to help provide jobs to migrant workers returning home?
(1) Rs. 25000 cr (2) Rs. 30000 cr (3) Rs. 35000 cr (4) Rs. 40000 cr (5) None of these

90. How much amount of loan agreement was signed between Government of India, West Bengal Government and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank to improve irrigation in West Bengal?
 (1) USD 100 million (2) USD 135 million (3) USD 140 million
 (4) USD 145 million (5) None of these
91. How much aid was given by India to UN Agency working for Palestinian refugees?
 (1) USD 5 million (2) USD 4 million (3) USD 3 million
 (4) USD 2 million (5) None of these
92. Which country announced to provide USD 2 billion over two years to fight the coronavirus pandemics at WHO Assembly?
 (1) China (2) India (3) USA (4) Russia (5) None of these
93. How much amount was approved by the government for the scheme in fisheries sector?
 (1) Rs. 24757 cr (2) Rs. 22060 cr (3) Rs. 21000 cr (4) Rs. 20050 cr (5) None of these
94. The Union Cabinet gave nod to launch a special liquidity scheme worth how much amount for stressed non-banking financial companies and housing finance companies?
 (1) Rs. 11000 cr (2) Rs. 10000 cr (3) Rs. 20000 cr (4) Rs. 30000 cr (5) None of these
95. How much amount of Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) for the MSME was approved by the cabinet?
 (1) Rs. 5 lakh cr (2) Rs. 1 lakh cr (3) Rs. 2 lakh cr (4) Rs. 3 lakh cr (5) None of these
96. How much amount of aid was given by a World bank to 100 nations to fight Coronavirus?
 (1) \$120 billion (2) \$100 billion (3) \$150 billion (4) \$160 billion (5) None of these
97. How much loan was granted to India to upgrade 450 kms of state highways and major district roads in Maharashtra by Asian Development Bank?
 (1) \$180 million (2) \$300 million (3) \$200 million (4) \$177 million (5) None of these
98. As per ICRA, India's GDP might contract by as much as how much percent in June quarter?
 (1) 18% (2) 15% (3) 12% (4) 20% (5) None of these
99. As per Nomura and Goldman Sachs, Indian economy may contract by how much percent in FY21?
 (1) 0.4% (2) 0.5% (3) 0.6% (4) 0.7% (5) None of these
100. As per World Economic Situation and Prospects report, UN forecasted world economy to shrink by how much percent?
 (1) 3.1% (2) 3.2% (3) 3.3% (4) 3.6% (5) None of these
101. As per rating agency Standard and Poor, Indian economy to contract by how much percent in FY21?
 (1) 5% (2) 3% (3) 2% (4) 1% (5) None of these
102. As per CARE ratings, India's GDP Growth Likely to be at how much percent in Jan March 2020?
 (1) 2.5% (2) 3.9% (3) 2.4% (4) 3.6% (5) None of these
103. Recently which startup has launched an antimicrobial and washable face mask that can be reused up to 50 launderings?
 (1) Thomas Pharma Limited (2) Myrid Labs (3) Mysus
 (4) Nanosafe Solution (5) None of these

104. Which Company has introduced Own-Online' digital sales platform?
 (1) Maruti (2) Mahindra (3) Ford (4) Honda (5) None of these
105. Which company has acquired Byte Prophecy, a big data company?
 (1) Infosys (2) Accenture (3) TCS (4) Wipro (5) None of these
106. Which company has launched the voicebot "TIA" on WhatsApp?
 (1) Tata Capital (2) National Insurance Company
 (3) Zaggie (4) Paytm (5) None of these
107. Which artificial intelligence (AI)-based chatbot was launched by National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) to create awareness around its digital payment platforms like FASTag?
 (1) Mai (2) Tai (3) Sai (4) PAi (5) None of these
108. Recently Central Board of Direct Taxes has amended which rule of Income-tax Rules, 1962 for making an application to invoke the mutual agreement procedure in Form no. 34F?
 (1) 44G (2) 34A (3) 52D (4) 42H (5) None of these
109. Which Indian Institute have developed a magnesium alloy with significantly improved properties, that can replace steel and aluminium in automotive and aerospace components?
 (1) IIT Madras (2) IIT Bombay (3) IIT Delhi (4) IIT Kanpur (5) None of these
110. Recently which two regions were included by Indian Meteorological Department in its daily weather bulletin?
 (1) Siachen and Leh (2) Muzaffarabad and Leh (3) Leh and Ladakh
 (4) Gilgit and Muzaffarabad (5) None of these
111. Which body launched a Cyber Safety Handbook for the students of Classes 9 and 11 to ensure healthy digital habits in students?
 (1) NITI Aayog (2) CBSE (3) CISCE (4) NASSCOM (5) None of these
112. Which Institute name was recently changed to Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering & Technology?
 (1) Central Institute of Plastics Engineering & Technology
 (2) Central Institute of Public Engineering & Technology
 (3) Central Institute of Plasma Engineering & Technology
 (4) Central Institute of Platelets Engineering & Technology
 (5) None of these
113. Recently Railways announced how many shramik trains to ferry stranded migrant workers, students?
 (1) 6 (2) 5 (3) 4 (4) 7 (5) None of these
114. In which state, India's first Covid-19 test bus was launched?
 (1) Bihar (2) Maharashtra (3) Uttar Pradesh (4) Odisha (5) None of these
115. The ministry of road transport and highways has set a target of constructing roads worth how much amount over the next two years?
 (1) 20 lakh crore (2) 10 lakh crore (3) 12 lakh crore (4) 15 lakh crore (5) None of these
116. Recently the Indian Council for Cultural Relations has unveiled a musical creation bringing together composers, musicians and singers from across India. Name it?
 (1) Muskarega India (2) Win Corona (3) United All Stand
 (4) United We Fight (5) None of these

117. Which singer sang a song titled as JAYTU BHARATAM saluting the spirit of Atma Nirbhar Bharat?
(1) Lata Mangeskar (2) Asha Bhosle (3) Sonu Nigam
(4) Arijit Singh (5) None of these
118. Who has assumed charge as director operations at NTPC?
(1) Aviral Chaturvedi (2) Ridesh Shaw (3) M Singh
(4) Ramesh Babu V (5) None of these
119. Who has been appointed as the new managing director of Jammu and Kashmir Bank?
(1) Zubair Iqbal (2) Mohammed Shoaib (3) Rana Kapoor
(4) MS Sinha (5) None of these
120. Who has been appointed by the World Bank to a key position on climate change and disaster management in South Asia?
(1) Abhas Jha (2) Manurima Chaturvedi (3) Sanjay Singh
(4) KV Kamath (5) None of these
121. Who has been appointed as National President of FICCI Ladies Organization?
(1) Jahnabi Phookan (2) Harjinder Kaur Talwar (3) Sneha Ranade
(4) Priyal Pokhariyal (5) None of these
122. Recently Peter Ebdon announced her retirement from which sports?
(1) Tennis (2) Football (3) Cricket (4) Snooker (5) None of these
123. Recently Aritz Aduriz has announced his retirement from which sports?
(1) Hockey (2) Football (3) Cricket (4) Tennis (5) None of these
124. Recently Balbir Singh SR passed away, He was related to which field?
(1) Journalist (2) Sports (3) Actor (4) Virologist (5) None of these
125. Recently Chak-Hao, the scented glutinous rice popularly known as Black Rice got GI tag. It is cultivated in which state?
(1) Odisha (2) UP (3) Assam (4) Manipur (5) None of these
126. Who became the first Indian to be nominated for the Fed Cup Heart Award from the Asia/Oceania zone?
(1) Sania Mirza (2) PV Sindhu (3) Abhinav Bindra
(4) Leander Paes (5) None of these
127. How many Indians have been elected for the prestigious membership of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences?
(1) 3 (2) 4 (3) 5 (4) 6 (5) None of these
128. Recently Kashmir saffron got GI tag. Which country is the largest producer of saffron?
(1) China (2) South Korea (3) Iran (4) India (5) None of these
129. The United Nations listed the KHUDOL initiative of which state as one of the top 10 global initiatives to fight against COVID-19?
(1) Mizoram (2) Sikkim (3) Assam (4) Manipur (5) None of these
130. Recently who has become the highest paid female athlete in the world?
(1) Naomi Osaka (2) Serena Williams (3) Venus Williams
(4) Sania Mirza (5) None of these

131. Which country replaced India in latest ICC Test Rankings?
 (1) England (2) South Africa (3) Australia (4) New Zealand (5) None of these
132. Recently FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup has been rescheduled to next year. It will be played in which country?
 (1) India (2) Brazil (3) Australia (4) New Zealand (5) None of these
133. According to data released by the Union Rural Development Ministry, which state topped the list of states in providing employment under MGNREGS?
 (1) Karnataka (2) Telangana (3) Kerala (4) Chhattisgarh (5) None of these
134. According to the Open Budget Survey, conducted by International Budget Partnership (IBP), what is the rank of India among 117 nations in terms of budget transparency and accountability?
 (1) 53 (2) 55 (3) 51 (4) 59 (5) None of these
135. What is the rank of India in scientific publication as per survey on Research and Development Statistics Indicators 2019-20 conducted by NSTMIS (National Science and Technology Management Information System)?
 (1) 1st (2) 2nd (3) 3rd (4) 6th (5) None of these
136. According to the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), India's unemployment rate soared to how much percent amid Covid 19 crisis in May?
 (1) 32.98% (2) 23.90% (3) 25.10% (4) 27.11% (5) None of these
137. What is the rank of India on WEF's global energy transition index?
 (1) 70th (2) 72nd (3) 75th (4) 74th (5) None of these
138. Recently India settled up military war game centre 'INDIA' in which country?
 (1) Iraq (2) Afghanistan (3) Germany (4) Uganda (5) None of these
139. Which country has become the world's second-largest manufacturer of PPE body coveralls in two months?
 (1) India (2) Pakistan (3) Russia (4) China (5) None of these
140. What will be theme of Hunar Haat which is to restart from Sep 2020?
 (1) Global Access to Market (2) Natural Making (3) Local to Global
 (4) Showcase Art Globally (5) None of these
141. Which application has become the world's largest contact tracing app?
 (1) Vayu Setu (2) Bhim (3) Umang (4) Arogya Setu (5) None of these
142. Recently which country decided to change its national currency from rial to the Toman?
 (1) Iran (2) Iraq (3) Afghanistan (4) Israel (5) None of these
143. Which organization in collaboration with UN postal agency have released a commemorative postage stamp on the 40th anniversary of the eradication of smallpox?
 (1) WHO (2) ILO (3) UNICEF (4) UNESCO (5) None of these
144. Which country named a street after Rabindranath Tagore to honour him on his 159th anniversary?
 (1) Israel (2) Iran (3) Afghanistan (4) China (5) None of these
145. Which became 1st European country to become coronavirus-free?
 (1) France (2) Slovenia (3) Germany (4) Spain (5) None of these

-- x --

Ans: 1-4, 2-1, 3-4, 4-2, 5-1, 6-4, 7-1, 8-4, 9-1, 10-1,11-3, 12-1, 13-1, 14-4, 15-4, 16-4, 17-4, 18-1, 19-3, 20-2, 21-1, 22-3, 23-1, 24-1, 25-4, 26-4, 27-4, 28-1, 29-3, 30-1, 31-1, 32-4, 33-3, 34-4, 35-4, 36-4, 37-1, 38-2, 39-1, 40-2, 41-4, 42-1, 43-4, 44-1, 45-4, 46-3, 47-2, 48-4, 49-1, 50-1, 51-3, 52-4, 53-2, 54-1, 55-1, 56-4, 57-4, 58-4, 59-1, 60-1, 61-1, 62-1, 63-4, 64-4, 65-2, 66-2, 67-1, 68-4, 69-2, 70-4, 71-3, 72-1, 73-1, 74-4, 75-4, 76-1, 77-1, 78-2, 79-1, 80-1, 81-1, 82-4, 83-4, 84-4, 85-4, 86-4, 87-4, 88-4, 89-4, 90-4, 91-4, 92-1, 93-4, 94-4, 95-4, 96-4, 97-4, 98-4, 99-1, 100-2, 101-1, 102-4, 103-4, 104-2, 105-2, 106-1, 107-4, 108-1, 109-1, 110-4, 111-2, 112-1, 113-1, 114-2, 115-4, 116-4, 117-1, 118-4, 119-1, 120-1, 121-1, 122-4, 123-2, 124-2, 125-4, 126-1, 127-1, 128-3, 129-4, 130-1, 131-3, 132-1, 133-4, 134-1, 135-3, 136-4, 137-4, 138-4, 139-1, 140-3, 141-4, 142-1, 143-1, 144-1, 145-2.

-- x --

