

GENERAL AWARENESS-CURRENT AFFAIRS
MONTH OF APRIL-2020

List of Important Days

- April 1 - Utkala Dibasa (Odisha Day).
- April 2 - World Autism Awareness Day.
- April 2 - International Children's Book Day.
- April 4 - International Day of Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action.
- April 5 - 1st ever UN International Day of Conscience.
- April 5 - National Maritime Day.
- April 6 - International Day of Sport for Development and Peace.
- April 7 - World Health Day.
- April 9 - CRPF's Valour Day.
- April 10 - World Homoeopathy Day.
- April 11 - National Safe Motherhood Day.
- April 12 - International Day of Human Space Flight.
- April 13 - Jallianwala Bagh massacre (99th Anniversary).
- April 15 - 73rd Himachal Day.
- April 15 - World Art Day.
- April 17 - World Haemophilia Day.
- April 18 - World Heritage Day / International Day for Monuments and Sites.
- April 19 - World Liver Day (WLD).
- April 21 - World Creativity and Innovation Day.
- April 21 - National civil services day.
- April 22 - International Earth Day.
- April 23 - World Book Day / World Book and Copyright Day.
- April 23 - UN English Language Day.
- April 24 - National Panchayati Raj Day.
- April 24 - World Day for Laboratory Animals.
- April 25 - World Malaria Day.
- April 25 - World Penguin Day.
- April 26 - World Intellectual Property Day.
- April 26 (Last Sunday of April) - Pinhole Photography day.
- April 28 - World Day for Safety and Health at Work. (Theme - "Stop the Pandemic at Work")
- April 29 - International Dance Day.
- April 29 - Day of Remembrance for all Victims of Chemical Warfare.
- April 30 - International Jazz Day.
- April 30 - Anti-Child Labour Day (India).

Reserve Bank of India

- Reserve Bank Governor **Shaktikanta Das's** address to the media on 17th April 2020.
 - **60%** of **ways and means advances** allowed to states until September 30, 2020.
 - A special **Rs 50,000 crore** refinance facility for **NABARD** (RS 25,000 crore), **SIDBI** (Rs 15,000 crore) and **NHB** (Rs 10,000 crore).
 - **ATMs** have worked at **91%** capacity during this period.
 - **LCR** requirement brought down from **100% to 80%** with immediate effect.
 - NPA classifications will exclude the three-month **moratorium** period till May-end.
- New Policy Rates and Reserve Ratios of RBI 2020 (as on 17th April).
 - **Repo Rate:** 4.40%
 - **Reverse Repo Rate:** 3.75%
 - **Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate:** 4.65%
 - **Bank Rate:** 4.65%
 - **CRR:** 3%
 - **SLR:** 18%
- As per RBI data, **Bank credit growth** declined to 5 decade low to **6.14%** in FY 20 (2019-20), due to lower demand and risk aversion among banks.
 - Bank deposits grew by **7.93%** to 135.71 lakh crores as against 125.73 lakh crores in 2019.
- RBI increased **foreign portfolio investment (FPI)** limit in corporate bonds to **15%** of outstanding stock for FY 2020-21 from 9% to strengthen segment of corporate bonds.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced a **Special Liquidity Facility** for Mutual Funds (SLF-MF) of **50,000 crore** rupees with a view to easing liquidity pressures on MFs.
- Outstanding loans amounting to **Rs 68,607 crore** of top 50 wilful bank loan defaulters in India including firms of Mehul Choksi and Vijay Mallya have been technically **written off** till September 30, 2019, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said in a RTI reply.

State Bank of India

- **SBI** launched an additional liquidity facility "**Covid-19 Emergency Credit Line (CECL)**" to meet any liquidity mismatch for its borrowers in order to tide over current crisis situation.
 - SBI will facilitate funds up to 200 crores under this.

Other Banks

- Along with **SBI**, **Bank of Maharashtra** and **HDFC Bank** also received mandate for collecting Money on behalf of **PM Cares Fund**.
- Amid COVID-19 Outbreak, **Small Industries Development Bank of India** will provide emergency working capital of up to **1 crore** rupees to small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).
 - Named, **SIDBI SAFE PLUS**, it will be offered collateral free and disbursed within 48 hours, at interest rate of 5 %.
- **Jana Small Finance Bank** launched **DigiGen** digital banking platform, where customers can digitally open a savings account and fixed deposit instantly.
- **People's Bank of China** raised its stake in **HDFC Ltd** from .8 % to **1.01 %** (1.75 crore shares), amid fall in HDFC shares due to COVID-19 Pandemic triggered slowdown.
 - **Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority (SAMA)**, central bank of Saudi Arabia also picked up a 0.7% stake in HDFC.
- **YES Bank** extended its strategic bancassurance relationship with **Max Life Insurance**, for 5-years.
- Mortgage lender **HDFC** announced that it has acquired **6.43%** stake in Reliance Capital by invoking pledged shares.

- Private lender **Axis Bank** has agreed to acquire an additional **29%** stake in **Max Lif Insurance**, which will take its total stake in the country's fourth largest private insurer to 30%.

Insurance

- Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) issued guidelines for health insurance providers to implement **Arogya Sanjeevani Insurance Policy**.
- **Life Insurance Council** announced that all life insurance companies, both public and private, will process all **coronavirus**-related death claims.

High Courts and Sessions Courts

- **Rajasthan High Court** has ordered that a person's caste shouldn't be mentioned in any judicial or administrative matter as it was "against the Constitution" and contrary to a 2018 direction of the court.

Central Government

- Government approved grant of **life insurance** cover to over **1 lakh** workers and officers of Food Corporation of India, who are working to supply food grains across country amidst outbreak of Coronavirus pandemic.
- Government extended benefit of **2 %** Interest Subvention (IS) to banks and **3 %** Prompt Repayment – Incentive (PRI) to all farmers up to May 31, 2020 for all crop loans up to Rs 3 lakh.
- Government launched a training module for management of COVID-19 named '**Integrated Government Online training**' (iGOT) portal (<https://igot.gov.in>) on DIKSHA platform of MHRD.
- Government will set up **20 lakh retail shops** called '**Suraksha Stores**' across India which will provide daily essentials to citizens amid lockdown.
- Govt mandated to issue all pending **income-tax refunds** up to Rs. 5 lakh immediately, to benefit around 14 lakh taxpayers amid COVID-19 pandemic.
- The government has launched **covidwarriors.gov.in** website which links volunteers of social organizations and representatives of local administration.
- The government allowed **inter-state movement** of migrant workers, pilgrims, tourists, students and other persons stranded at different places amid the lockdown.

States

- **Andhra Pradesh** government began distributing pensions to beneficiaries at their doorstep, with help of around 2.5 lakh volunteers.
- **Andhra Pradesh** government purchased portable **Multi-feed Oxygen Manifold (MOM)**, a novel contraption developed by **Navy**, to help meet any emergency requirement of oxygen supply to coronavirus patients.
- **Chhattisgarh** police has developed the app '**Raksha Sarv**', to track quarantined people through Google Maps.
 - Similar app has been developed by Mohali Police in Punjab, named '**COVID Control**'.
- **Delhi** Govt announced **Operation Shield**, in 21 containment zones of National Capital Region.
 - SHIELD - Sealing, Home quarantine, isolation and tracing, essential supply, local sanitation and door-to-door checks.
- Food delivery apps including **Swiggy** and **Zomato** have been disallowed to provide their services in **Telangana** from 21st April as Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao announced to extend lockdown in the state till May 7.
- **Goa** became first state to integrate **allopathy and Ayurveda** to boost immunity of COVID-19 patients and quarantined persons.

- ICMR permitted **Uttar Pradesh** to start pool testing of COVID-19, making UP first to start **pool testing**.
- **Jammu & Kashmir** UT became 12th State / UT to have **Price Monitoring & Resource Unit (PMRU)** set up by National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA). PMRU shall function under State Drug Controller, helping ensure availability of medicines at affordable prices.
- **Odisha** Government launched **“Mo Prativa”** programme in collaboration with UNICEF (United Nations Children’s Funds), to engage children in various activities during lockdown.
- **Telangana** became first state to extend lockdown till May 7.
- **Telangana** Government deployed India’s first automated **“Covid-19 Monitoring System App”**, developed by Hyderabad-based Vera Smart Healthcare, to identify, undertake live surveillance, track, monitor, and provide real-time analytics to Health Department.
- **Uttar Pradesh** govt launched Annapurna, **Supply Mitra portals for citizens’** food needs amid COVID-19 Outbreak.
- **V Safe Tunnel** installed in **Telangana**, that can sanitize people from any possible bacteria and other microbes within 20 seconds to minimize local transmission of Coronavirus.
- **YSR Nirman** and **COVID-19** portals have been launched by **Andhra Pradesh Govt**, to fight against Coronavirus pandemic.
- **Kerala** is using robots to minimize the human interaction in the Covid 19 treatment.
 - The Robot named **“Nightingale-19”**, is being used to provide food and medicines to Covid patients.
- **Andhra Pradesh** Chief Minister, Y. S.Jaganmohan Reddy has launched the **“Jagananna Vidya Deevena”** Scheme at Tedepalli, in Guntur District in AP.
 - Under this scheme, fee reimbursement will be credited directly to mothers’ accounts instead of college accounts in the coming academic year 2020-21.
- **Tripura** Chief Minister **Biplab Kumar Deb** has stated that the lockdown will continue in some form or the other in the state until a vaccine against Covid-19 is invented.
- **Madhya Pradesh** Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has announced that state government offices, including the secretariat, will resume work with **30% staff**.
- **Madhya Pradesh** Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched **Jeevan Amrit Yojana**, a unique scheme to boost **immunity system of citizens** of the state.
 - Under this scheme, the State Government will distribute packet of special Trikut Churna prepared by the AYUSH Department free of cost to the citizens.

Defence and National Security

- Construction Firm **Larsen & Toubro** received a contract from Indian Army, for setting up an advanced IT-enabled system to operate Armed Forces network under the Network of Spectrum (NFS).
- **COVID Sample Collection Kiosk (COVSACK)** has been developed by DRDO's DRDL Hyderabad Unit.
- **Indian Air Force (IAF)** C-130J transport aircraft delivered 6.2 tonne of essential medicines and hospital consumables to **Maldives** under **Operation Sanjeevani**.
- National Cadet Corps (NCC) launched **“Exercise NCC Yogdan”** to help authorities fighting against COVID-19.
- **US** approved Torpedoes lightweight missiles and Harpoon air-launched missiles sales to India, for **155 million USD**.

- The **United States Navy** has announced that it will host **RIMPAC- 2020** the world's largest maritime exercises in **Hawaii** again this year, but the drills will only be held at sea because of the Corona virus.

Committees/Commissions

- **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)** constituted a 25-member Development Council for pulp, paper and allied industries (DCPPAI) headed by **A S Mehta**, President of J K Paper Ltd.
- Government constituted a high level technical committee of **Public Health Experts** for COVID-19 to guide the prevention and control activities in country, headed by NITI Aayog member **V K Paul**.
- The Task Force headed by the Economic Affairs Secretary has submitted its Final Report on the National **Infrastructure Pipeline** (NIP) for 2019-25 to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.
 - This report contains recommendations on general and sectoral reforms relating to Infrastructure for implementation by Centre and States.

Schemes/Initiatives

- Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched **All India Agri Transport Call Centre**, to facilitate inter-state movement of perishables in current situation of lockdown due to COVID-19 threat.
 - Call Centre numbers are 18001804200 and 14488. Call Centers are Operated by IFFCO Kisan Sanchar Limited (IKSL).
- **Arunachal Pradesh** government launched **COVIDCARE** app, to combat COVID-19.
- Associations of civil servants formed an initiative called **CARUNA** (Civil Services Associations Reach to Support Natural Disasters), as a collaborative platform.
- Govt launched **Hack the Crisis – India Online Hackathon** to find working solutions for overcoming COVID 19 pandemic.
- Govt Launched National Monitoring Dashboard on COVID-19, developed by DARPG (Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances), aiming at timely implementations of COVID-19 response and containment activities.
- HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal **“Nishank”** launched a web-portal **YUKTI** (Young India Combating COVID with Knowledge, Technology and Innovation), as a unique portal and dashboard to monitor efforts and initiatives of MHRD.
- **Jan Aushadhi Sugam App** has been launched, that can be used to locate nearest **Pradhan Mantri Janaushadhi Kendra**, established under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJAP). These kendras provide essential medicines at affordable prices.
- Kailash Choudhary (Minister of State for Agriculture and Framers’ Welfare) Inaugurated **Pusa Decontamination and Sanitizing Tunnel**, developed by ICAR- Indian Agricultural Research Institute.
- **MHRD, AICTE and Forge** and InnovatioCuris launched online challenge - **SAMADHAN** - to test the ability of students to innovate, enabling students to suggest measures for tackling COVID-19.
- Ministry of Agriculture launched new features of **National Agriculture Market**, to reduce congestion at mandis and help fight COVID-19.
- Ministry of Civil Aviation launched **Lifeline UDAN**, to help India fight against COVID-19.
- Ministry of Commerce launched an online platform to issue **Certificate of Origin** to the **exporters** and other guidelines, to facilitate shipments during COVID-19 lockdown.
- Ministry of Human Resource and Development launched **MHRD AICTE COVID-19 Student Helpline Portal**, to support students facing difficulties due to closure of hostel and colleges.

- NITI Aayog, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and National Informatics Centre jointly launched **CollabCAD** initiative, aiming to provide a platform to find solutions in terms of 2D drafting and 3D product design.
- Survey of India launched a mobile application called “**Sahyog**” to collect information about COVID-19.
- The government has launched a new app solely for farmers called '**Kisan Rath Mobile App**' to help them identify transport facilities for the movement of farm produce during COVID-19.

Summit/Conference

- UN postponed **Conference of Parties** (COP 26) that was to be held in Glasgow in November 2020, amid threat of COVID-19.

Agreement/Deal/Signed

- **Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited** (BSNL) in partnership with **SBI** has launched a **Unified Payments Interface** (UPI) based payment platform, **Bharat InstaPay** to enable all types of channel partners of BSNL to digitize their payment transactions.
- **CSIR's National Chemical Laboratory** (NCL) Pune tied up with **Bharat Electronics Ltd** (BEL) to produce medical devices in view of COVID19 outbreak.
- E-Commerce Firm **Flipkart** partnered with **ICICI Lombard General Insurance & Go Digit General Insurance** to launched **two** health insurance policies related to COVID-19.
- **Hindustan Unilever** partnered with the **United Nations Children's Fund** (UNICEF) to support India to combat COVID-19, launching '**BreakTheChain**' campaign.
- Hyderabad based Indian **Immunologicals Limited** and **Australia's Griffith University** will joint work to develop a '**Live Attenuated SARS - CoV-2 vaccine**'.
- **ICICI Securities** partnered with **IIM Bangalore's** startup hub **N S Raghavan Centre of Entrepreneurial Learning** (NSRCEL), to support startups in fintech space through a structured program.
- **India** partnered with **World Health Organization** to implement **National Polio Surveillance Network** to contain COVID-19.
- Indo-U.S. Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF) invited Proposals for '**COVID-19 Indo-U.S. Virtual Networks**' that would allow Indian and U.S. scientists and engineers currently engaged in COVID-related research to carry out joint research activities through a virtual mechanism.
- **National Health Authority** has partnered with **Uber India** to provide dedicated transport services to the health care workers that are involved in treating COVID-19 patients.
- Online delivery platform **Dunzo** tied up with packaged foods company **Britannia** to deliver range of products to its customers, during CCOVID-19 Lockdown and further.
- **PNB Housing Finance** signed agreement with **Japan International Cooperation Agency** (JICA) to raise **75 million dollars**. Citibank will be co-financing 25 million dollars.
- Researchers from **Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology Delhi** and **Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology Hyderabad** began working on novel coronavirus genome sequencing, to figure out evolution of virus and its aspects.
- **Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute** for Medical Sciences and Technology signed an agreement with **Wipro 3D**, Bangalore to jointly manufacture automated ventilators.
- IIT Kanpur and IISc Bengaluru are working to build portable and low cost ventilators.

- **TRIFED** collaborated with **UNICEF** for developing a digital communication strategy for promoting a digital campaign for Self Help Groups (SHGs), To ensure tribal gatherers carry on their work safely by highlighting importance of Social Distancing.
- **United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)** and **Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS)** partnered to empower consumers to contribute to global development agenda and support their respective governments in times of global crisis due to COVID-19.

Meet/Visit

- Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, Nirmala Sitharaman participated in virtual session of 2nd **G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG)** meeting under **Saudi Arabian** Presidency, to discuss the global economic outlook amid evolving COVID-19 pandemic crisis.
- Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Steel, Dharmendra Pradhan participated in **G20 Extraordinary Energy Ministers' virtual Meeting**. It was called by Saudi Arabia, as G20 President.

Bills

- **Government Invoked Disaster Management Act 2005** and **Epidemic Diseases Act 1897**, to control and mitigate coronavirus outbreak.
- Ministry of Home Affairs ordered adaptation of **Jammu and Kashmir** state laws to be called as Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization (Adaptation of State Laws) Order 2020.

Fund

- **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** approved loan of **\$60 million** for India's **Aavas Financiers**, enabling it to provide housing finance to women in low-income communities either as primary borrowers or co-borrowers.
- **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has tripled its COVID-19 Response Package to **\$20 Billion**, up from \$6.5 Billion USD Earlier.
- Govt approved package named Covid-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Package, worth **15000 crores** to build on health infrastructure.
- **South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)** Development Fund (SDF) allocated **\$5 million** for Covid-19 related projects in member Nations.
- **Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey** pledged **\$1 billion** as his contribution for relief fund against Coronavirus pandemic.
- **United Nations (UN)** released **2.5 million** USD emergency humanitarian fund to help island nation of **Vanuatu**, which is affected by Cyclone Harold.
- **World Bank** has offered **\$1 billion** help to India for a proposed India Covid-19 emergency response and health systems preparedness project.
- **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** approved a **\$1.5-billion** loan to India to help fund its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The foreign ministers of **BRICS** nations have decided to create a "**special loan instrument**" of \$15 billion to rebuild their economies and to overcome the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - The New Development Bank (NDB), established by BRICS, will provide the loans to help the member states.

Economy

- IMF's April update of **World Economic Outlook (WEO)**.
 - **India's** growth to be to **1.9%** from 5.8% earlier for FY21 (2020-21).
 - Covid-19 pandemic will shrink **world** output by **3%** in 2020.
 - India's growth is seen recovering sharply to **7.4%** in next fiscal year (FY 22 (2021-22)).

- **China** is seen growing **1.2%** in 2020 and **9.2%** in 2021
- United Nations report on **Economic and Social Survey of Asia and Pacific** (ESCAP) 2020.
 - Economic growth rate of **India** stood at **5%** in 2019- 20, forecasted to shrink to **4.8%** in 2020-21 and improve to 5.1 % in 2021-22.
 - **Global economy** is to grow at **2.3%** in 2019-20 and will pick up in 2021.
- American and financial firm **Goldman Sachs** lowered **India's** growth forecast for FY 2020-21 (FY21) to **1.6%**.
- **Asian Development Bank's** Asian Development Outlook 2020 has projected **India's** growth to slow down to **4%** in the current FY 21 (2020-21), and **6.2 %** in FY 22 (2021-22).
 - Growth in **South Asia** will decelerate to **4.1%** in FY 2020-21, and will recover to 6% in 2021-22.
- **Fitch Solutions** expected **India's** fiscal deficit to go up to **6.2 %** of gross domestic product (GDP) in fiscal year FY21 (2020-21).
- **Gross GST** revenue collected in March 2020 is 97597 crores (CGST 19183 crores, SGST 25601 crores, IGST 44508 crores, and Cess 8306 crores).
- Ratings agency **ICRA** revised its forecast for **India's** growth in FY 21 (2020-21) to **2%**.
- United Nations (UN) Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) World Economic Forecasting Model estimates that global economy could shrink by 1% in 2020 due to coronavirus pandemic, compared to earlier forecast of 2.5%.
- **World Bank** April 2020 Economic Update for East Asia and Pacific (EAP) titled "East Asia and Pacific in the Time of COVID-19" stated that **poverty** is estimated to increase by about **11 million people** in EAP region.
 - Growth in developing EAP region will be **2.1%**, from 5.8% in 2019.
 - Growth in China will decline to 2.3% from 6.1% in 2019.

Companies/Industry

- Aditya Birla group's **Hindalco Industries** acquired US Based **Aleris Corporation** through its wholly owned subsidiary Novelis Inc. for an enterprise value of \$2.8 billion (Approx 21000 crores).
- An Integrated Geospatial Platform "**SAHYOG**" has been rolled out by Department of Science and Technology (DST), to help in decision making during COVID-19 outbreak.
- **Apple** acquired **Dark Sky**, a weather app, which forecasts hyper-local weather predictions.
- **Apple** and **Google** teamed up to allow contact tracing on most of world's smartphones.
 - The partnership will allow approx 3 billion people to opt in to **location tracking** through Bluetooth on their smartphones for purposes of **combating Covid-19**.
- Competition Commission of India approved 100% acquisition by **JSW Energy Limited** of GMR Kamalanga Energy Limited.
 - Competition Commission of India approved acquisition of 80.1% stake by **Hitachi** in power grid business of **ABB Limited**.
 - Competition Commission of India approved acquisition of 9.93% stake by **Emerald Sage Investment Limited** in **Apollo Tyres Limited**.
 - Competition Commission of India approved formation of Joint Venture between **Adani Green Energy** and Total S.A. in business of power generation through solar energy in India. Total S.A. is parent entity of Total Group.
- **CovidGyan** initiative has been launched by Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and Tata Memorial Centre (TMC).
 - It aims to bring scientific / factual aspects of COVID-19 pandemic outbreak in public domain.
- **HDFC Trustee Company Ltd**, acquired 5.45% stake in Indian low-cost airline **SpiceJet**.

- **Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL)** completed merger of **GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare Limited (GSKCH)** with itself, a year after this 31700 crores merger was announced.
- **Insurance Australia General (IAG)** sold its entire 26% stake in **SBI General Insurance** for USD 310 million (about Rs 2,325 crore) to Napean Opportunities LLP (an affiliate of Premji invest) and WP Honey Wheat Investment Ltd (Warburg Pincus Group).
- IT Firm IBM introduced '**Watson Assistant for Citizens**' in **India**, free of cost to address COVID-19 queries.
- With increasing global economic crisis due to COVID-19 Outbreak, **Helicopter Money** is a solution being suggested by economic specialists all over world.
 - Helicopter Money term was framed by an American Economist Milton Friedman. It is monetary policy tool used for Quantitative Easing.
- **Maruti Suzuki**, the Automobile giant is now spearheading the production of **low-cost ventilators** in India and helping the government in the fight against COVID-19.
 - The production is going on in **Gautam Bhuddh Nagar of Uttar Pradesh**.
- **Google** has announced that it will be shutting down its hyperlocal social media platform called '**Shoelace**' on May 12.

Exports/Imports

- **India's chemical exports** rose by **7 per cent** to 2.68 lakh crore rupees during April-January period of the last fiscal, and became the top exporting sector in the country for the first time.

Taxation/Trade

- As per WTO, **Global trade** may fall by **13-32 %** in 2020 amid Covid-19. Report states that in 2019, 1.7 % of world exports originated from **India**, while 2.5 % of imports reached India.
- Around 50 Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officers have submitted policy suggestions for reviving India's economy after COVID-19 where they suggested raising the **highest income tax** rate to **40%** for those who earn **over Rs. 1 crore a year**.
 - They also suggested an option to re-introduce **wealth tax** for the people with a net wealth of Rs. 5 crore or more.

Space

- For the first time, **NASA** scientists measured **wind speed** on a brown dwarf (located 32 light-years from Earth), an object larger than Jupiter, but not quite massive enough to become a star.
- NASA issued plans for its **project Artemis**, which aims at placing first woman and next man on moon by 2024.

Science and Technology

- **ICMR** and **National Institute of Virology Pune Study** stated that pathogenic coronaviruses have been found in two species of Indian **bats** - Indian Flying Fox and Rousettes.
- **Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR)** has developed a one-step curable antimicrobial **coating** which, when coated on different surfaces such as textile, plastic and so on could kill a range of virus types including COVID 19.
- **Madhuban Gajar**, a biofortified carrot variety with high β -carotene and iron content developed by Shri Vallabhhai Vasrambhai Marvaniya, a farmer scientist from Junagadh (Gujarat), benefitting local farmers.
- Pune based clean weather **Technology private limited** (Scitech Park) has developed a technology- "**ScitechAiron negative ion generator**" to control viral, bacterial and fungal infections in closed environments can clean the air & disinfect areas caused by COVID-19 positive cases & suspects.

- Researchers at Biomedical Engineering & Technology incubation Centre (BETiC) at **IIT Bombay** has developed a digital stethoscope (Named AyuSynk) that can listen to hear beats from a distance and record them, minimizing risk to doctors and health care professionals who are handling COVID-19 patients.
- Researchers at National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Guwahati developed 2 products that can be great help in the fight against current COVID-19.
 - They are: A 3D-printed hands-free object that could be used to help operate doors or related tasks that require hand touch. A 3D-printed antimicrobial faceshield to control spread of novel coronavirus.
- Researchers at **NIT-Karnataka** developed cost-effective disinfectant chamber called '**ZERO-COV**', that could disinfect personal protective equipment (PPE) kits and other related materials without causing them damage.
- Researchers from **Institute of Nano Science and Technology (INST) Mohali** made computer based designs of nano-materials with superhigh piezoelectricity which can be building blocks of futuristic nano-electronics for applications like ultrathin, next-generation nano-transistors.

Health/Diseases/Drugs

- **AIIMS Rishikesh** and **BHEL** (Bharat Heavy Electronics Limited) has set up India's first remote **health monitoring** system, to be widely used in state of **Uttarakhand** to monitor COVID-19 patients.
- National Innovation foundation developed an indigenous herbal medicine called **Wormivet**, as an alternative to chemical methods that are currently being used to treat worms.
- The **World Health Organization (WHO)** has announced that there is currently no evidence that people who have recovered from COVID-19 and have antibodies are protected from a **second infection**.
- The **King George Medical University**, Uttar Pradesh has become the 1st government hospital in the country to successfully launch the **plasma therapy** treatment for the COVID-19 patients.

Energy/Gas/Oil

- World's major oil producing nations agreed to slash their output, to save market from collapse amid COVID-19 Outbreak.

Environment

- **Jim Corbett National Park**, India's oldest forested wildlife sanctuary located in Nainital district of Uttarakhand, has become the India's **1st quarantine centre for animals** with symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19).

Education

- **Jawaharlal Nehru University** will hold online classes on 'Leadership Lessons from Ramayana' on May 2 and 3 from 4 pm to 6 pm. The webinar will be available for JNU's students and faculty.

Transport/Cars/Scooters

- Amid COVID-19 Outbreak, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has extended **validity of documents** that expired since 1st February 2020, to **30th June 2020**.
- Chitra GeneLAMP-N, developed by **Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology**, has made confirmatory tests results of COVID 19 possible in 2 hours, with 100% accuracy.
- **NHAI** accomplished construction of **3,979 km** of national highways in FY 2019-20, as highest ever highway construction achieved in a financial year by NHAI.

- West Central Railway's Coach **Rehabilitation Workshop Bhopal** designed a "mobile doctor booth" named "**CHARAK**", providing doctors a much needed zero contact check-up facility.

Media /I.T / Telecommunication

- Department of Telecommunication and **C-DOT** in coordination with **Telecom Service Providers** have developed an **Covid Quarantine Alert system**, which alerts authorities when an identified corona positive person moves away from quarantine.
- India's Public service broadcaster **Prasar Bharati** rolled out a new channel called **DD Retro**, specifically dedicated to old classics of Doordarshan.

Appointments/Election (or) Latest who is who?

- **Ajay Mahajan** - MD & CEO, CARE Ratings.
- **Mahabaleshwara M S** - MD & CEO, Karnataka Bank (re-appointment).
- **Pravin Rao** - Chairman, National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM).
- **Birupaksha Mishra** - Executive Director, Union Bank of India (after its amalgamation with Corporation Bank and Andhra Bank).
- **Anamika Roy Rashtrawar** - MD & CEO, IFFCO Tokio General Insurance.
- **Lakshminarayanan Duraiswamy** - MD, Sundaram Home Finance.
- **Madhabi Puri Buch** - Whole Time Member, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- **Shiva Kirti Singh** - Chairman, Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT).
- **Vineet Arora** - MD & CEO, Paytm General Insurance Ltd.
- **Parag Raja** - MD & CEO, Bharti AXA Life Insurance.
- **Moon Jae** - President, South Korea.
- **T S Tirumurti** - India's Permanent Representative to the UN
- Union Government appointed new Secretaries, Special Secretaries and Additional Secretaries in different Ministries and Departments.
 - **Ravi Mittal** - Sports Secretary.
 - **Amit Khare** - Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (additional charge)
 - **Anita Karwal** - Secretary, School Education and Literacy.
 - **Preeti Sudan** - Health Secretary (3 month extension)
 - **Tarun Kapoor** - Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
 - **Tarun Bajaj** - Secretary, Department of Economic in Ministry of Finance
- Eminent banker **Suresh N Patel** took oath as the Vigilance Commissioner in the anticorruption watchdog CVC.
- Ruling democratic party of President **Moon Jae** won South Korean elections 2020. South Korea is first country to hold national elections among COVID-19 pandemic.
- International Monetary Fund (IMF) named several individuals to serve as IMF MD Kristalina Georgieva's External Advisory Group. It Includes former RBI governor Raghuram Rajan.
- US President Donald Trump nominated Indian-American diplomat **Manisha Singh** as the country's next envoy to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).
- Justice **Dipankar Datta** took oath as the new Chief Justice of the **Bombay High Court**.
- Former US Secretary of State **Hillary Clinton** has endorsed Democratic Party's candidate Joe Biden for the 2020 presidential race.

Resignation/Dismissed/Retired/Quit

- Australian Cricketer **Stephen O'Keefe** retired from 1st class cricket.
- International **Weightlifting** Federation suspended **Malaysia & Thailand** weightlifters from competing in **Tokyo Olympics** (Shifted to 2021).
- Noted Chinese world silver- medallist high jumper **Zhang Guowei** announced his retirement.
- **Pakistan** batsman **Umar Akmal** has been banned from all forms of cricket for 3 years over corruption charges.

Deaths

- **Jackie du Preez** - Zimbabwe Cricketer.
- **Bullet Prakash** - Noted Kannada Actor.
- **Bhai Nirmal Singh Khalsa** - Padma Shri Awardee Sikh Hazoori Ragi of Darbar Sahib, Amritsar
- **Arjun Dev** - Noted historian
- **Ashok Desai** - Former Attorney General of India.
- **George Douglas Sanders** - Noted American Golfer.
- **Honor Blackman** - Noted British Actress.
- **Donato Sabia** - Noted Italian distance runner (800 metres)
- **Gene Deitch** - Oscar-winning animator
- **Bill Withers** - American songwriter & 3 time Grammy award winner.
- **Nobuhiko Obayashi** -Noted Japanese filmmaker who devoted his works to depicting war's horrors.
- **Ranjit Chowdhry** - Noted Hindi Actor.
- **MK Arjunan** - Noted Malayalam music composer.
- **M.V. Rajasekharan** - Noted Congree politician
- **Tony Lewis** - Former British Cricketer, co-inventor of Duckworth.
- **Jock Edwards** - New Zealand Cricketer.
- **John Prine** - Noted American folk singer-songwriter.
- **Kalinga Sasi** - Noted Malayalam actor.
- **Walter D'Souza** - Former Noted Gujarati first-class cricketer.
- **Peter Bonetti** - England Footballer (goalkeeper).
- **Philip W. Anderson** - Noted American physicist & Nobel laureate (in 1977)
- **Stirling Moss** - Noted British Formula One racing driver.
- **Shanti Hiranand Chawla** - Padma Shri Awardee classical singer.
- **Tim Brooke Taylor** - Noted British Comedian-actor.
- **Maria Teresa** - Spain Princess (1st royal to die from COVID-19).
- **Roger Chappot** -Noted Swiss ice hockey player.
- **Santiago Lanzuela** - Former President of the Government of Aragon.
- **Rifat Chadirji** - Father of modern Iraqi architecture.

- **Adam Lyons Schlesinger** - American singer songwriter and instrumentalist (Emmy and Grammy Awardee) - who died of COVID-19.
- **Hadi Khosroshahi** - Cleric and diplomat, former Ambassador to the Vatican.
- **Hilary Dwyer** - English Actress.
- **Lukman Niode** - Olympic swimmer.
- **Mahmoud Jibril** - Former Prime Minister of Libya.
- **Noach Dear** - New York Supreme Court judge.
- **Norman Hunter** - Footballer.
- **Zafar Sarfraz** - Former Pakistani first-class Cricketer.
- **Brahm Kanchibotla** - Noted Indian-American journalist.
- **Bob Lazier** - Race car driver.
- **Bruce Myers** - British Actor.
- **Gita Ramjee** - Noted Indian-origin virologist from South Africa.
- **Italo De Zan** - Italian Cyclist.
- **Liang Wudong** - Chinese Doctor (1st Doctor to die)
- **Kobe Bryant** - American Basketballer
- **Zarina Hashmi** - India-born American printmaker
- **Irrfan Khan (53)** - Versatile Bollywood Actor
- **Troy Sneed (52)** - Grammy-nominated gospel singer
- **Rishi Kapoor** - Actor

Awards/Honours

- **Abdelouahab Aissaoui** (The Spartan Court) - International Prize for Arabic Fiction (IPAF) 2020 [1st Algerian Novelist]
- **Club Enerji #Switchoff2SwitchOn' campaign** - Silver Medal at Edison Award 2020
- **Naveen Patnaik** (Odisha CM) - Hero to Animals Award by PETA
- **ARMMAN** (India based Non Profit Organization) - Skoll Award for Social Entrepreneurship 2020
- **4 Indian-Americans** have been awarded with Guggenheim fellowships 2020 for their exceptional creative ability in arts.
 - They are: Pradeep Sharma (University of Houston), Kavita Ramanan (Brown University), Dilip Da Cunha (Harvard University and Columbia University), and Mukul Sharma (Dartmouth College).
- England's **Ben Stokes** is named as leading cricketer in world in 2020 by **Cricket Magazine Wisden**.
 - In Women's category, Australia's **Ellyse Perry** is named Wisden's Leading Female Cricketer in World.
- **GMR Airports Limited** received **Letter of Award** for development and operations of Bhogapuram Greenfield International Airport in **Andhra Pradesh**.
- Indian doctor **Thangjam Dhabali Singh** has been conferred the '**Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays**' by Japan for promoting friendship between Japan and India.
- **Chennai's** famous **Kovilpatti kadalai mittai** has been granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

- The **Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS)** has announced that for the 93rd **Oscar Awards** to be held in 2021, films streamed online will be eligible for entry.

Sports/Game

- **2021 World Games** that were to be held in Birmingham in **Alabama (US)**, are postponed to 2022.
 - **2021 World Athletics Championships** are also pushed to 2022 for the same reason.
- **BCCI** suspended **Indian Premier League 2020** indefinitely, amid COVID-19 Outbreak.
- **China** will host third edition of **Asian Youth Games** in November 2021, as announced by Olympic Council of Asia (OCA).
- **India** will host **Asian Boxing Championships** for men and women in November-December 2020.
- Olympic Council of Asia announced Congcong, Lianlian and Chenchen which are collectively known as "**The Smart Triplets**", as official mascots of **19th Asian Games** to be held in **Hangzhou** in 2022.
- The **Badminton Association of India (BAI)** has announced its readiness to conduct India Open, an Olympic qualifier event, either in December or January, provided the coronavirus pandemic subsides.

Report

- 34th **Forbes'** annual world's **billionaires list** The Richest in 2020.
 - Topped by **Jeff Bezos** (Amazon Founder) for 3rd time in a row, with net worth \$113 billion.
 - Followed by **Bill Gates** (\$98 billion), **Bernard Arnault** (\$76 billion).
 - India's **Mukesh Ambani** with net worth of \$44.3 billion, is top-ranked Indian and 17th globally.
- As per International Labour Organization report COVID-19 and world of work - **40 crore** people are to enter **poverty in India**, wiping out 20 crore Jobs.
 - Reductions of jobs are to be more in Arab countries and in Asia and Pacific.
 - Also, as per Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), unemployment in India has risen over **23%**, due to COVID-19 lockdown.
 - In Americas and Africa, risk percentage of unemployment is **43%** and **26%** respectively.
- Data collection period for **7th economic census** extended by 6 months, till **30th September 2020**, in wake of COVID-19.
- The government has revealed that **14.4%** of the 480 coronavirus deaths in India were of the patients aged between 0 and 45.
 - 10.3% - age between 45-60
 - 33.1% - aged between 60 -75.
 - 42.2% - above 75.
 - 83% of the patients who died had comorbidities.
- The **US, China and India** were the world's 3 biggest **military spenders** in 2019, arms watchdog Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) announced.
 - India's defence expenditure rose by **6.8%** to \$71.1 billion.

General - National

- As per **Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker (OxCGRT)**, **India's** response to COVID-19 pandemic is one of most stringent in world, scoring perfect 100.
- Department of Science & Technology approved setting up of a Centre for Augmenting **WAR** with **COVID-19 Health Crisis (CAWACH)** at cost of 56 Crores, to support start-ups that address COVID-19 challenges.

- Department of Science and Technology funded a health care start up called **Module Innovations**, to develop COVID-19 testing kit that can make testing quicker (10 to 15 minutes), called **nCoVSENSE**.
 - DST also funded Genrich Membranes, for scaling up membrane oxygenator equipment (MOE).
- **France** will grant special financial aid to protect the most vulnerable people in **India** amid COVID-19 crisis, French ambassador Emmanuel Lenain said.
- Ministry of Home Affairs, exempted **fishing** and aquaculture industries from Lock Down. Earlier, only **agricultural** activities were exempted.
- National Informatics Center developed an application “**Arogya Sethu**”, which can alert a person whenever it comes within 6 feet range of a COVID-19 infected person.
- High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh **Riva Ganguly Das** handed over emergency medical supplies consisting of **1 lakh Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ)** tablets and 50 thousand sterile surgical gloves to **Bangladesh**.
- The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) announced that **India** is providing pharma assistance to nearly **85 nations** on a grant basis to support their response to coronavirus pandemic.
- The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions made it compulsory for all **central government employees** to download the government's COVID-19 app '**Aarogya Setu**'.
- Home Ministry has said that New guidelines to fight COVID-19 will come into effect from **4th of May**, which shall give considerable relaxations to many districts.

General - International

- **United Nations** suspended its peace keeping forces till June 30, to mitigate risk of transmission of COVID-19 virus.
- **Russian** President **Vladimir Putin** has signed a bill into a law that shifts the **end date of the World War II** to September 3.
- **US** Secretary of State **Mike Pompeo** praised **India** for lifting export bans on critical medical supplies including pharmaceuticals used to treat COVID-19 patients.

Books and Authors

- **Backstage: The Story Behind India's High Growth Years** - written by Montek Singh Ahluwalia
- **How Contagion Works: Science, Awareness and Community in Times of Global Crisis** - written by Paolo Giordano (Italian physicist)
- **The Enlightenment of The Greengage Tree** – written by Shokoofeh Azar
- **Deadliest Enemy: Our War Against Killer Germs** - written by Michael Osterholm and Mark Olshaker.
- **Sridevi: The Eternal Screen Goddess** - written by Satyarth Nayak
- **Memoirs and Misinformation** - written by Dana Vachon and Jim Carrey
- **The Art of Her Deal: The Untold Story of Melania Trump**, based on Melania Trump - written by American reporter Mary Jordan

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TO THE POINTS: APRIL-2020

- Odisha Foundation Day was observed every year on **April 1**.
- Princess Maria Teresa has become the first royal to pass away due to coronavirus. She belonged to **Spain**.
- The finance ministers of **G20** will hold out virtual talks on the coronavirus crisis to push ahead the economies.
- **7.1 percent** is the new interest rate on public provident fund (PPF) schemes for April-June quarter.
- Tata Power Joint venture has commenced commercial operations of 178 MW Shuakhevi Hydro Power Project in **Georgia**.
- **NASA** has announced a New Sunrise Mission to study Giant Solar Particle Storms.
- **Reliance Industries** has overtaken TCS to become the most valued domestic firm by market capitalization.
- Arjun Dev who passed away recently was a famous **Historian**.
- The government has extended the Foreign trade policy for one year till March 2021. The Exports during April-February fiscal have dipped by **1.5 percent** to 292.91 billion.
- Andrew Jack who passed away at the age of 76 played the role of a major in iconic films **Star Wars**.
- The Tourism Ministry has launched **Stranded in India** Scheme to help foreign tourists stuck in various parts of the country & disseminate information regarding services which can be availed by them.
- The Secretary General of **NATO** has appointed a group of experts to strengthen the political dimension of the group.
- RBI has raised the Ways and Means Advances (WMA) limit for the first half of the financial year 2020-21 to **1.20 lakh crore** from Rs 75,000 crore in the year-ago period.
- **ICICI Bank** has launched banking facilities on WhatsApp to help customers undertake banking facilities from their home.
- IBA has instructed banks to deposit **Rs. 500** in PMJDY accounts of women for three months, as recently announced by the Finance Minister.
- **Aavas** has recently signed an agreement with ADB to lend upto \$ 60 million to improve access to housing finance.
- **Apple** has acquired weather app Dark Sky, and will shut down its Android version in June,2020.
- **IIT Guwahati** has developed robots to deliver food and medicines to Covid-19 patients.
- The World athletics championships will be shifted from 2021 to 2022 to accommodate the rearranged Tokyo Olympics. Event will be held at **Oregon**.
- The government has extended the crop loan interest benefits till **May 31** to repay loan without losing the benefit of interest subvention.
- World Autism Awareness Day was observed annually on **April 2**.
- Vincent Marzello who passed away recently was a famous **Actor**.
- **25 lakh** poor will get house sites in Andhra Pradesh under the Navaratnalu - Pedalandariki Illu (houses for all the poor) programme.
- **Hindustan Unilever** has completed the merger of GlaxoSmithKline after receiving regulatory approval with the NCLT.

- **D. Lakshminarayanan** has taken over the Managing Director of Sundaram Home Finance.
- The United Nation's COP 26 climate change summit has been postponed till 2021. It was scheduled to be held in **Glasgow**.
- **PhonePe** has launched a coronavirus insurance policy offering Rs 50,000 cover at Rs 156.
- Philip Anderson who passed away recently received a Nobel award in **Physics**.
- **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances** has constituted a National Monitoring Dashboard launched for COVID-19 Grievances.
- Prominent Indian-origin virologist **Gita Ramjee** has died from coronavirus in South Africa.
- Wimbledon Tennis tournament has been canceled for the first time since World War II. The tournament scheduled to be played in between **June-July**.
- As per Fitch solutions, India's fiscal deficit may shoot up to **6.2** percent of GDP in FY21.
- According to the RBI announced latest measures to deal with economic fallout of Covid-19, the Ways & Means advances have been increased by **30** percent from the existing limit for all states & UTs.
- **Axis Bank** has offered the EMI deferment on loans for 3 months in wake of Covid 19.
- **Guillaume Cartier** has been appointed by Nissan as the new Chairman for Africa, Middle East and India.
- According to the UN, the Global economy could shrink by **1** percent in 2020.
- **World Bank** has decided to offer \$1 billion for the proposed India Covid-19 emergency and health systems project.
- India's first safety app **DROR** aims to help users record their social distancing score.
- International Children's Book Day was observed annually on **April 2**.
- Bhai Nirmal Singh who passed away recently after testing positive for coronavirus was the recipient of **Padma Shri**.
- **Andhra Pradesh** has decided to buy Multi-feed Oxygen Manifold (MOM) contraption developed by the NAVY for COVID-19 patients.
- Government app **Aarogya Setu** launched to track the coronavirus accurately and assess the risk of catching infection.
- **Pravin Jadhav** has recently resigned from the post of MD & CEO of Paytm Money.
- Tony Lewis who passed away at the age of 78 is credited to have provided **Duckworth-Lewis rain Rules** - famous methods in cricket.
- Railway factory **Chittaranjan Locomotive Works** has set a World Record by producing 431 Locomotives in FY 2019-20.
- **Bob Weighton** has been recognized by Guinness World Records as the World's oldest man.
- Adam Schlesinger who passed away due to COVID-19 was a famous **Singer**.
- **DRDO** has developed a bio suit to keep personnel engaged in combating COVID-19 safe from virus.
- SBI Cards is offering a moratorium of **3** months on credit card dues as per the decision of RBI in view of the hardships faced by customers due to the 21-day lockdown.
- **C-DOT** in coordination with the Department of Telecom and Telecom Service Providers has developed a COVID Quarantine Alert System.

- **Delhi** government has decided to provide financial assistance worth Rs 5,000 each to all auto-rickshaw, taxi drivers amid lockdown situations.
- **Maharashtra** government has launched an online self-assessment tool to better identify and assist Covid 19 patients.
- **Dominos** has joined hands with ITC Foods to make home delivery of essential items in view of the current lockdown.
- The Gujarat government has announced a financial assistance of **25** rupees per day for each animal for the month of April for all registered Gau Shalas.
- According to **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**, India's Economic growth is expected to slow down to 4 per cent in FY21.
- **Indian Bank** has launched three new products to support farmers, poultry players in the informal sector during the current covid 19 pandemic.
- Google has donated **6.5 million** to fact checkers and non-profit organizations to help fight coronavirus misinformation.
- **Justice Rajnesh Oswal** has been sworn in as permanent Judge of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh.
- According to the Asian Development Bank, **\$ 4.1 trillion** could be the cost to the global economy due to the coronavirus pandemic.
- Theme of International Day of Mine awareness celebrated every year on April 4 - **Together for mine action.**
- Passang Wangchuk Sona who passed away recently was a former minister from **Arunachal Pradesh.**
- The government has started using **Geo-fencing** technology in mobile applications in a bid to Locate Quarantine Violators as well as send the information by email or SMS.
- IBM has offered 'Watson Assistant for Citizens' to quickly address covid-19 related queries. Watson assistant for citizens is available in a total of **13** languages.
- **AICTE** has come out with a unique helpline portal to help support students during lockdown.
- **Odisha** government has partnered with UNICEF to launch 'Mo Prativa' to engage children during lockdown amidst COVID-19.
- Acting President of the NCLT **BSV Prakash Kumar** tenure has been extended by the Government for three months.
- **IIT Roorkee** has developed low-cost face shields for protection of first line healthcare professionals fighting COVID-19.
- China will launch the first of its two communications satellites for its space based Internet of things project with one of them being named after **Wuhan** city.
- The Department of Science & Technology (DST) has set up a rapid response centre at **IIT Bombay** to scout and evaluate startups that address Covid-19 challenges.
- The World Bank has decided to roll out **160 Billion** in emergency aid to help nations deal with Covid-19.
- UNGA has adopted a resolution calling for global solidarity in the fight against COVID-19. **188** members co-sponsored the resolution titled Global solidarity to fight the coronavirus disease 2019.
- The FIFA Under-17 Women's World Cup has been postponed due to the ongoing covid-19 pandemic. The event was scheduled to be held in **India.**

- India has sought 6 billion in loans from multilateral institutions including ADB, AIIB to combat Covid-19.
- Finance ministry released **17,287 crore** on account of the state disaster response mitigation fund to fight the outbreak of Covid-19.
- **Sanjay Dhotre** has launched the 'Hack the Crisis-India' hackathon to find working solutions to overcome Covid-19 pandemic.
- RBI has reduced the trading timings of currency and debt markets functioning due to the shortage of staff and restriction on movements. The new timings will begin from **April 7**.
- Fitch ratings have slashed India's growth forecast from 5.1 to a 30-year low of **2 percent** for FY21.
- National Maritime Day was observed annually on **April 5**.
- Rafael Callejas who passed away recently and was involved in the FIFA gate football corruption scandal belonged to **Honduras**.
- **Indian Railways** has developed a prototype of a low-cost ventilator and is ready for mass production after it get clearance from the ICMR.
- SEBI has extended the term of whole-time member Madhabi Puri Buch. She has been given an extension for **6 months**.
- **Naveen Patnaik** has won the PETA award for allocating funds to feed community animals during the lockdown period amidst the coronavirus pandemic.
- International Day of Sport for Development and Peace is the annual celebration of the power of sport to drive social change. It was celebrated on **April 6**.
- **Kobe Bryant** has recently been inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.
- Indian NGO **ARMMAN** has won the prestigious USD 1.5 million Skoll Award for Social Entrepreneurship for its work in the maternal and child health space.
- **Operation Sanjeevani** conducted by the Indian Airforce to airlift medical and hospital consumables for the Maldives as an assistance in fighting against Covid 19.
- The Army Medical Corps has celebrated its 256th Raising Day on **April 3**.
- Bill Withers who passed away recently won **Grammy** award as a famous writer and singer.
- **Amitabh Kant** is the head of the Empowered group constituted by the Government for coordinating COVID-19 related Response Activities.
- The World Games have been postponed until 2022. They were scheduled to be held in **Alabama, US**.
- **Caruna**, formed by IAS and IPS officers to fight the Coronavirus pandemic.
- **Lisa Nandy** has been recently named as the shadow foreign secretary of the United Kingdom.
- **Bione** has launched India's first COVID-19 home screening test kit to display results within minutes.
- MK Arjunan Master who passed away recently was a famous **Malayalam Music director**.
- The IMF has opened a **1 trillion-dollar** war chest to help countries amidst the coronavirus pandemic.
- **Uber** has partnered with the National Health authority to provide dedicated transport service to COVID-19 healthcare workers.
- UAE has requested to postpone the Dubai Expo 2020 to **October** month of the year 2021.

- **Google maps** has partnered with the government to display public food and night shelters across 31 Indian cities.
- The All India Football Federation has submitted India's bid to host the AFC Asian Cup in the year **2027**.
- Theme of the International Day of Conscience for the year 2020 - **Change the World with Conscience**.
- Peter Walker who passed away at the age of 84 was a famous **Cricketer**.
- World Health Day was celebrated every year on **April 7**.
- **UB Pravin Rao** has been appointed as the Nasscom Chairman for 2020-21 succeeding Keshav Murgesh.
- Mahmoud Jibril who passed away after being hospitalized for coronavirus was the former Interim Prime Minister of **Libya**.
- **How Contagion Works: Science, Awareness and Community in Times of Global Crisis Book** will be released in the month of May which talks about Corona and makes an attempt to explore the resources to keep people safe from the disease.
- **IIT Hyderabad** has incubated a startup to develop low-cost & portable ventilators called 'Jeevan Lite'.
- Bobby Mitchell who passed away at the age of 84 was related with **Football**.
- A Safe Disinfectant tunnel has been installed at the DGP's office in the state of **Telangana** by S3V Vascular Technologies private limited.
- Jock Edwards who passed away recently was a former wicket keeper playing for **New Zealand**.
- **Tamil Nadu** has ranked on top at the all India level for micro-irrigation coverage in the financial year 2019-20.
- NHAH has achieved the highest ever construction of National Highways in FY 2019- 20. It has accomplished the construction of **3,979** kilometer of national highways.
- **Anurag Srivastava** has taken charge as the Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs succeeding Ravish Kumar.
- NASA has unveiled a plan for Artemis 'base camp' to land humans on the moon beyond **2024**.
- **Kerala** has installed walk in Sample Kiosks for Covid-19 testing based on the South Korean model.
- The UN Security Council will hold a closed session to discuss the Covid-19 pandemic. **Dominican Republic** has assumed the presidency of the Council.
- The Union Cabinet has approved an ordinance to reduce salaries of PM, Ministers, MPs by **30%** for a year.
- **Dr Dang Labs** has launched India's 1st drive-through coronavirus test centre in the Punjabi Bagh area of the Nation's Capital.
- Tata Power Solar has bagged a NTPC contract for **Rs 1730 crore** for the grid connected solar photovoltaic project.
- **L&T** has bagged a large order from the Indian army to establish a unified network management system.
- **Likee** has launched a dedicated Covid-19 dashboard with WHO-sourced data and the Ministry of Health & Family welfare.

- The Independent Member Federation Sanctions Panel (IMFSP) of the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) has imposed a ban on **Malaysia and Thailand** from participating in weightlifting events at the Tokyo Olympics.
- The Ministry of Human Resources Development has launched a mega challenge named **Samadhan** to fight against covid19 and future challenges.
- The Supreme Court has extended the tenure Of the Telecom Tribunal Chairman by three months. **Shiva Kirti Singh** is the current Chairman of Telecom Tribunal.
- Kalinga Sasi who passed away recently was a famous **Malayali** actor.
- Arvind Kejriwal has announced a 5-T plan to combat coronavirus spread in **Delhi**.
- **Telangana** has become the first one to deploy India's First Automated Covid19 Live Monitoring App.
- The police in **Chhattisgarh** has developed the app 'Rakhsa Sarv' keep an eye on home quarantined people.
- Bullet Prakash who passed away recently was a famous **Actor**.
- Stephen O'Keefe who recently retired from 1st class cricket played for **Australia**.
- L&T has won a 'large' contract from **IOCL** for the capacity expansion at Barauni Refinery.
- Airtel Payments Bank has partnered with **Bharti AXA** to offer simple and health focused health care insurance plans to protect against covid 19.
- SBI has slashed the marginal cost of funds-based lending rate (MCLR) by **35** base points across all tenors.
- **Bank of Baroda** has launched four schemes for the agriculture sector offering additional loans of up to 1 lakh to self-help groups.
- RBI has given states longer overdraft periods with immediate effect to tide over cashflow mismatches. It will be available till **September**.
- Singapore-based Indian-origin man **Dedar Singh Gill** has been appointed as Judge of the High court.
- The Indian economy is pegged to grow at **2** per cent in FY21 as per ICRA Ratings.
- **SIDBI** has agreed to provide an emergency working capital of up to Rs 1 crore to MSMEs to facilitate response against the coronavirus pandemic.
- SAARC Development Fund has allocated **\$ 5 Million** to deal with the covid-19 pandemic.
- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the acquisition of GMR Kamalanga Energy Limited by **JSW Energy Limited**.
- Roger Chappot who passed away due to complications of covid-19 played ice hockey for **Switzerland**.
- **Parag Raja** has been appointed as the MD & CEO of Bharti AXA Life Insurance.
- Brahm Kanchibotla who passed away at the age of 65 was a famous **Journalist**.
- DRDO has collaborated with **Wipro 3D** to develop a full face shield for healthcare personnel and doctors treating COVID-19 patients.
- Former Atletico, Madrid and Barcelona coach Radomir Antic who passed away at the age of 71 belonged to **Serbia**.
- The CCI has approved acquisition of **80.1** percent stake in ABB by Hitachi Limited.

- Honor Blackman who passed away recently was a famous actor and is known for her role in the James Bond Film **Goldfinger**.
- Learning platform **iGOT** launched by the Central government to provide front line workers with the training and help them to cope with the pandemic.
- **Bengaluru** has been voted as the best city to work for IT professionals in terms of career growth and high living standards.
- The Central government has approved a COVID-19 emergency package for states and UTs. It will be implemented in a phased manner from January 2020 to **2024**.
- **Ben Stokes** has been named as the 'Leading Cricketer in the World' in the 2020 edition of the Wisden Cricketers' Almanack.
- **China** has become the World's top patent filer after surpassing the US for 1st time in 4 decades.
- **Bank of Maharashtra** has launched various schemes for the corporate, retail and agriculture sector to ensure financial assistance against the backdrop of covid-19.
- IDBI Bank's board of directors have set a bond borrowing limit of **7500** crore for FY 2020-21 that would be borrowed in way of tranches.
- **Telangana** government has set up 12 Covid-19 'containment clusters' with the aim to contain the spread of the pandemic.
- **IISC** has developed the app GoCoronaGo.
- According to the United Nations, India's projected GDP for FY21 projected stands at **4.8** percent due to the effects of the coronavirus pandemic.
- **Arunachal Pradesh** government has launched the COVIDCARE app to fight COVID-19.
- The World Homeopathy Day was observed annually on **April 10**.
- Hazarilal Raghuvanshi who passed away at the age of 93 belonged to **Congress**.
- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has launched the revised version of **Swachhata-MoHUA** with the aim to handle queries specific to Covid 19.
- **Mary Jordan** has written an unauthorized biography of Melania Trump titled 'The Art of Her Deal'.
- Indian Railways Coach Rehabilitation workshop has developed a mobile doctor booth named **Charak** for zero-contact check-up facility to ensure safety of medical professionals & doctors.
- TRIFED has launched a digital campaign in collaboration with **UNICEF** for self-help groups to ensure that Tribal Gatherers carry on their work safely.
- According to the recently released Forbes Billionaires List 2020, Jeff Bezos has retained the top spot with a net worth of **113** billion dollars.
- **Anamika Roy Rashtrawar** has been appointed as the Managing Director & CEO of IFFCO Tokio General Insurance.
- The Central Government has sanctioned **15,000 crore** for the Covid-19 emergency response and health system preparedness package for the states.
- The Asian Development Bank has assured a sum of **2.2** billion in support package to India.
- **Delhi** government has launched Operation 'SHIELD' in a bid to identify covid-19 hotspots.
- The Singapore based DBS banking group has revised India's GDP estimate to **1.5** percent for FY21.
- A 24X7 Health Channel dedicated to COVID-19 has been introduced in **Andaman & Nicobar** to provide information covering preventive measures against covid-19.

- **Ahmedabad** railway station has become the first one to install a walk-through mass sanitizing tunnel to ensure safety of staff and passengers in view of Covid-19.
- **Ladakh** has launched an IT based application to combat and contain the spread of Covid-19.
- **African Development Bank** has unveiled a \$10 billion Response Facility to curb COVID-19 and assist regional member countries in fighting the disease.
- **SafeSeniors** App to help monitor senior citizens and identify early detection of the Covid-19 disease.
- **Jana Small Finance Bank** has rolled out a digital banking platform to help customers open a savings and fixed deposit account instantly.
- The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) is observing the 'Play Safe on Play True Day 2020' on **April 9**.
- Shanti Hiranand who passed away recently won **Padma Shri**.
- The National Pet Day was celebrated annually on April 11. It was founded in **2006**.
- The Union HRD Minister has launched **Bharat Padhe Online** campaign with the aim to invite ideas to improve the online education ecosystem.
- **ICICI** bank has deployed mobile ATM vans in Delhi NCR and Chennai to overcome the cash crisis during the lockdown.
- **Raj Vikash Verma** has been appointed as the Chairman of the AU Small Finance Bank.
- Biofortified carrot variety named **Madhuban Gajar** has been developed by farmer scientist Shri Vallabhhai Vasrambhai Marvaniya with high β -carotene and iron content benefits.
- India get **108th place** as per the recently released list of FIFA.
- National Safe Motherhood Day is observed on **11** April to raise awareness about proper healthcare of women and maternity facilities.
- Jackie du Preez who passed away at the age of 77 played cricket for **South Africa**.
- The National Commission for Women has launched a WhatsApp number to report cases of domestic violence during the lockdown period. **Rekha Sharma** is current chairperson of the NCW.
- **NIPER-Guwahati** has designed two innovative products which could be used to open & close doors, windows and help in the fight against COVID-19.
- Nobuhiko Obayashi, who was famous for his films portraying the horrors of war, passed away at the age of 82. He belonged to **Japan**.
- **IIT Kanpur** has developed a low cost Personal Protective Equipment which can be produced for less than 100 rupees.
- **IOB** has been nominated by the Central Government for collection of PM Cares Fund for the coronavirus outbreak.
- **Amitabh Bachan** is the brand ambassador of the campaign launched by the RBI to urge customers to adopt digital modes of payment.
- Flipkart has partnered with **Tata Consumer Products** to provide essential food and beverage products for consumers during the lockdown.
- ICICI Lombard and Go Digit has partnered with **Flipkart** to offer COVID-19 focused health insurance policies.
- **Goa**, first state to integrate allopathy with Ayurveda to treat COVID-19 patients and boost their immunity.

- **Ravi Shankar Prasad** has launched the Interactive Voice Response System service feature in Aarogya Setu App launched by the Central Government.
- The International Day of Human Space Flight was observed each year on **April 12**.
- Peter Bonetti who passed away recently played football for **Chelsea** club.
- **Mahabaleshwar MS** has been appointed as the MD & CEO of Karnataka Bank after receiving approval from the Reserve Bank of India.
- **Raghuram Rajan** has been roped in by the IMF among 11 others to an external advisory group to provide perspective aimed at financial help to help manage the Covid 19 pandemic.
- **Maha Prasad Adikari** has been appointed as the Governor of Nepal central bank on the recommendation committee coordinated by the Finance Minister Yubaraj Khatiwada.
- The People's Bank of China has acquired a **1.01** percent stake in the Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC).
- The Union HRD Minister has launched **YUKTI** portal with the aim to monitor and record the initiatives of the Ministry of Human resources & development for the betterment of students.
- Sir Stirling Moss who passed away at the age of 90 years was a famous **Racer**.
- **UGC** has constituted a committee to promote online learning amidst nationwide lockdown.
- **World Bank** in its report has slashed India's growth projection to 1.5-2.8% for the fiscal 2020-21.
- **Manipur** has launched a Food Bank with the aim to help the poor and needy facing scarcity of essential commodities during the lockdown.
- **NABARD** has agreed to refinance farmers, small business and micro enterprises to ease the pressure in the wake of the covid-19 pandemic.
- The Finance Ministry has relaxed norms for deposits in PPF, SSA and Post Office RD. The money can be deposited in these tax saving instruments for fiscal 2019-20 by **June 30**.
- Max Life Insurance has announced the extension of its partnership with **Yes Bank** for a term of five years.
- Apple has collaborated with **Google** to enable the use of Bluetooth technology to bring in contact tracing and help the governments worldwide.
- **Jim Corbett** National Park has become India's first quarantine facility for animals.
- The Central government has planned to set up **20 lac** retail shops called 'Suraksha Stores' with the aim to sell daily essentials to citizens while maintaining safety norms.
- MV Rajasekharan who passed away in Bengaluru at the age of 91 belonged to **Congress**.
- B.R. Ambedkar Remembrance Day is an annual festival observed on **April 14** to mark Dr. Ambedkar's birthday.
- Golfer **Doug Sanders** passed away recently was known as 'Peacock of the Fairways'.
- The festival of Puthandu falls on April 14th and marks the first day on the **Tamil** new year.
- Ashok Desai who passed away recently was the former **Attorney General of India**.
- The energy minister of **Saudi Arabia** recently chaired the G20 Extraordinary Energy Ministers' virtual meeting.
- Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog & National Informatics Centre (NIC) have jointly launched **CollabCAD** with an aim to work on 2D & 3D modelling.
- Glenn Beckert who passed away at the age of 79 played basketball for **US**.

- **IIT Guwahati** has developed an antiviral coating for Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) to protect wearers from infectious virus droplets.
- ASEAN recently held a special summit in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. **Vietnam** holds the current Chair of ASEAN.
- **J Packrisamy** has been appointed as Officer on Special Duty in the Union Bank of India.
- **Telangana** government has decided to credit around 7.4 million bank accounts with Rs 1,500 as a support for the needy during the current lockdown prevailing in the country.
- Zafar Sarfraz who passed away recently due to coronavirus, play cricket for **Pakistan**.
- **North Korea** has fired a barrage of cruise missiles on the eve of its founder's birthday.
- The United States has approved the sale of **Harpoon Block II** along with lightweight torpedoes worth USD 155 million to India.
- The International Monetary Fund has announced an immediate debt relief for **25** poor countries to help them fight and cope up with the Covid-19 pandemic.
- ADB has upped the fight against COVID-19 and has increased its response package to **20** billion to help member countries counter the impact of the disease.
- IFFCO is running **Break the CORONA Chain** campaign on ground zero in different states across the country in a bid to highlight the preventive measures to be taken by the masses in the backdrop of the coronavirus pandemic.
- **CovidGyan** initiative launched Tata Institute of Fundamental Research Science to collaborate on topics covering from diagnostics to innovative technologies to deal with the covid-19 outbreak.
- World Chagas Disease Day was marked every year on **April 14**.
- Walter D'Souza who passed away at the age of 93 was a famous **Cricketer**.
- The National Agriculture Market portal e-NAM has completed four years since its launch. Till now **585** mandis have become operational.
- Four Indian-Americans have been awarded the 2020 Guggenheim fellowships. The fellowship is awarded in **Arts**.
- The Competition Commission of India has approved a **9.93** percent stake in Apollo Tyres by Emerald Sage Investment.
- **INS Dega**, Naval air station is working round the clock to ensure that the joint user airfield at Vizag remains operational during the lockdown period.
- Fit India has partnered with **CBSE** to organize the 1st-ever live fitness sessions for School students.
- **Vineet Arora** has been named as the MD & CEO of Paytm General Insurance Ltd.
- **Jharkhand** will use robots to serve food and medicine to COVID-19 patients in hospitals in a bid to protect healthcare workers.
- **US** has Instructed its administration to stop funding to the World Health Organization after its gross mismanagement & cover up of the spread of coronavirus.
- **Uttar Pradesh** government has decided to promote all students from class 6 to 9 & 11 following the lockdown.
- **Manipur** has launched textbooks in e-comic format for class III to V for Maths, Environment science and English language to make up for the loss in education due lockdown.
- According to the IMF, India along with **China** has registered a positive GDP growth rate despite the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic.

- **Hockey India** has decided to postpone all the scheduled national championships till the end of the lockdown to contain the spread of covid-19.
- Airtel along with **Apollo** has launched an AI based self-assessment tool for Covid 19 risk profiling of people.
- The United Nations has released **2.5 million** to help the people of cycloneravaged Vanuatu and other countries affected by it.
- The Government has launched the Sovereign Gold Bonds Scheme 2020-21 which will be open for subscription from April 20. The tenor of the bond is **8 years**.
- **DRDO** has developed kiosks for COVID-19 sample collection to help doctors & healthcare professionals.
- World Art Day was observed annually on **April 15**.
- **Ajay Mahajan** has been appointed as the MD & CEO of Care Ratings.
- A team of researchers from **NIT-Karnataka** have built Zero-Cov, a cost-effective disinfectant chamber to disinfect personal protective equipment (PPE) kits, surgical masks, vegetables, packed food and other day-to-day items.
- The Ministry of Tourism has launched the “DekhoApnaDesh” webinar series. The first webinar will feature the rich heritage of **Delhi**.
- **Tata Power** bagged the Edison Award for social innovation for its Club Energi campaign.
- **Abdelouahab Aissaoui** won the 13th International Prize for Arabic Fiction for his novel ‘The Spartan Court’.
- **Department of Science & Technology** has created an Integrated geospatial platform to create area-specific strategies & decisions during the COVID-19 outbreak.
- **WHO** launched an interactive COVID-19 service on Facebook Messenger.
- According to the IMF, **0 percent** will be Asia’s growth rate in 2020 due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.
- The Chief Minister of **Karnataka** will inaugurate mobile testing Kiosk for COVID 19 which has been developed by Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences.
- **Uttar Pradesh** has become the first one to get ICMR nod for ‘pool testing’ of samples for coronavirus.
- **Tata AIA**, insurance provider which has become the first one to announce Additional Benefits Related to COVID-19 upto Rs. 5 lac.
- **Equitas** small finance banks has taken steps to bring in digital banking services like Selfie based Instant fixed deposit account service.
- The Ministry of External Affairs has announced the COVID-19 training program for healthcare professionals from **SAARC**.
- **HDFC** has launched the Safety Grid campaign to encourage social distancing while waiting at shops.
- The RBI will soon conduct the fourth tranche of targeted long-term repo operation & will inject **25000** crore liquidity into the banking system.
- Chief of International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) **Tamas Ajan** has resigned amidst corruption probe and doping violations.
- IMF has proposed to deploy **1 trillion** in lending capacity to support countries battling covid 19 pandemic.

- **Google** has launched the 'journalism relief fund,' following in the footsteps of Facebook to help local news outlets.
- Theme of World Voice Day being celebrated on April 16 to celebrate the phenomenon of voice - **Focus on Your Voice in 2020.**
- **Feifei**, mascot for the Hangzhou 2022 Asian Para Games to be held from October 9, 2022 in China.
- **Rohit Sharma** has been appointed as the brand ambassador of Dubai based CricKingdom.
- BSNL Chairman & Managing Director PK Purwar has taken additional charge of **MTNL**.
- The World Haemophilia Day was observed every year on **April 17**.
- Ranjit Chowdhry who passed away at the age of 65 was a famous **Actor**.
- **Viswanathan Anand** has recently been appointed as the brand ambassador of WWF India for Environment Education.
- The Central government has released **7300 crore** to States & Union Territories under MGNREGS to liquidate pending dues of the last financial year.
- According to the recent announcement made by Reserve Bank of India, Banks are now required to maintain a Liquidity coverage ratio of **80** percent from the earlier requirement of 100 percent.
- Indian-American **Ro Khanna** has been appointed to the White House COVID-19 advisory council.
- According to a recent research report by SBI, the Economic growth of India may fall to **1.1** percent in the current fiscal due to the coronavirus induced lockdown.
- The IMF has approved a funding of **1.3** billion dollar to Pakistan to address the impact of Covid-19 shock.
- **MS Sahoo** is the chair of the Government appointed panel dealing with the constitution of the National Institute of Valuers as well as the drafting of the Valuers Bill, 2020.
- China has earmarked **10 million** from its ADB Trust Fund to address the COVID-19 challenges in developing Asia and assist developing member countries.
- The Sports Authority of India (SAI) has joined hands with **All India Football Federation** to launch an online coaching programme during lockdown.
- World Rugby has announced **100 million** as a relief fund amid the coronavirus crisis with the aim to step up the fight.
- World famous cycling race event **Tour de France** has recently been postponed due to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic.
- Beijing-based AIIB is considering a proposal for financing a \$500 million project to strengthen the healthcare system of **India**.
- Theme of the International Day For Monuments and Sites celebrated annually on 18th April - **Shared Cultures, Shared Heritage, Shared Responsibility.**
- Saharai Oram who passed away recently was a former Cabinet minister. He represented **JDU**.
- A New pit viper named after Harry Potter character 'Salazar Slytherin' has been discovered in **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- **Kisan Rath** app launched by the Central government to help farmers transport their agricultural and horticulture farm produce.
- **Chhattisgarh** has launched a website for Home Delivery Of Fruits and Vegetables amidst Lockdown.

- **IIT -Ropar** has designed 'WardBot' to deliver food and medicines to Covid -19 patients in isolation wards without human intervention.
- **Krishnaswamy V** is the author of the book Shuttling to the Top: The Story of P.V. Sindhu.
- Luis Sepulveda who passed away at the age of 70 was an author belonging to **Chile**.
- **DRDO** has introduced products to enhance operations at public places during the covid-19 pandemic.
- Famous lawn tennis championship **Laver Cup** has been postponed until 2021 due to its scheduling conflict with the French Open championship.
- **Sharath Kamal** has become the highest-ranked Indian table tennis player in the latest ranking of ITTF after surpassing G.Sathiyan.
- NASA is set to launch astronauts to space stations from the US soil for the first time in a decade. The spacecraft along with the rocket have been developed by **SpaceX**.
- **TVS** has acquired Norton Motorcycles, one of the most iconic British motorcycle brands for Rs 153 crore.
- **Nirmala Sitharaman** has attended the Plenary Meeting of the International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC) of the IMF through video-conference to discuss measures to combat covid-19.
- The National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR) has joined hands with **UNICEF** to train community leaders online in a bid to combat covid-19.
- **Prahlad Singh Patel** has launched the National List of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) of India in New Delhi in an attempt to recognize the diversity of Indian culture.
- Abba Kyari who passed away recently due to covid-19 was the Chief of staff of **Nigeria**.
- The institute of **Kerala** has developed a diagnostic test kit to confirm covid-19 cases in just two hours at a low cost of around Rs 1,000.
- The Delhi government has developed **Assess Koro Na** app for door-to-door survey in containment zones to speed up real time analysis data in a bid to contain the virus.
- **IIM-Kozhikode** students have developed a one-stop COVID-19 platform for accessing emergency services during the pandemic.
- **Dipankar Datta** has been nominated for elevation as Chief Justice of Bombay high court.
- The 44th Session of UNESCO's World Heritage Committee has been postponed. It was scheduled to be held in **China**.
- The Central government has constituted **6** Inter-Ministerial Central Teams to make on-spot assessment of COVID-19 situation and issue necessary directions to state authorities.
- **Microsoft** has launched plasmabot to encourage COVID-19 recovered patients to donate plasma to help cure patients.
- Facebook has launched a third-party fact checking system in **Bangladesh** to discourage the spread of fake news.
- **Vinod Paul** will head the high-level task force constituted by the Central government to develop vaccines and drugs to tap the rising number of Covid-19 cases.
- Fitch Solutions has cut down India's GDP growth forecast to **1.8** percent on account of contraction in consumption and loss of large-scale income.
- The founders of **Instagram** have launched a COVID-19 tracking website to bring state-by-state updates on the spread of the coronavirus pandemic.

- **Uttar Pradesh** has become the first one to geotag community kitchens to produce around 12 lac food packets a day.
- Scientists have discovered a Six-planet system found in almost perfect orbital harmony in the Draco constellation. The planets were found using the spectrograph at **Haute-Provence Observatory**.
- ADB Ventures has raised **\$50 million** for its new impact assessment platform which exceeds the fund capitalization target.
- **Rajasthan** has partnered with Healthcare App 'Aayu' to Tackle the Coronavirus Pandemic.
- Website **covidwarriors.gov.in** launched by the government to pool in data related to critical human resources for combating and containing COVID-19.
- Gene Deitch who passed away at the age of 95 was the director of **Tom and Jerry**.
- World Liver Day is observed annually on **April 19**.
- **ICICI** has launched voice banking services on Amazon Alexa and Google Assistant for its retail banking customers.
- The National Civil Service Day is observed every year on **April 21** to celebrate the dedication of people who work for the betterment of the country.
- Vehicle **Tiranga** launched in Kerala for rapid testing and screening for symptoms of covid-19 virus.
- IT company **Cognizant** has been hit by 'Maze' ransomware attack resulting in disruption of services to its clients.
- First ever audio book **How the Onion Got Its Layers** released by the popular storyteller Sudha Murty.
- UN Chinese Language Day observed annually on **April 20**.
- **China** has begun testing of its digital currency to move forward with its plan of rolling out a virtual money payment system.
- **Facebook** is all set to roll out its Covid-19 symptom tracking survey globally to identify potential hotspots.
- India has approved USD 1 million to **Antigua** as a project outlay and immediate assistance for medical equipment to combat coronavirus.
- **Kapil Dev Tripathi** has been appointed as the Secretary to President Ram Nath Kovind with the approval of the appointments committee of the cabinet.
- BRO has constructed a bridge over **Subansiri** in Arunachal Pradesh in a record span of 27 days.
- Indian American **Sudarsanam Babu** appointed by US President Donald Trump to head the country's National science board for a six-year term.
- **Himachal Pradesh** is all set to provide free online medical consultation to sick people at their residence through e-sanjeevani-opd.
- RBI has announced the calendar of MPC meetings for the current financial year. The decision of the first meeting will be announced on **June 5**.
- RBI has raised the Ways and Means advances limit in the first half of FY21 to **2 lakh crores** from the earlier limit of Rs.1.2 lakh crore.
- RBI has given nod to appoint **N Kamakodi** as the MD & CEO of City Union Bank with effect from 1st May, 2020.
- The World Creativity and Innovation Day is celebrated every year on **April 21** to raise awareness about the importance of creativity.

- Laisenia Qarase who passed away recently was the former Prime minister of **Fiji**.
- Theme of World earth day celebrated every year on April 22 to demonstrate support for environmental protection - **Climate action**.
- **Madhya Pradesh** has decided to introduce Yoddha Kalyan Yojana to help Anganwadi workers and Assistants who are helping in the fight against the covid-19 pandemic.
- Interactive platform **Covid India Seva** launched by Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan launches to address citizens' queries related to coronavirus.
- **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways** has launched a dashboard on its website to provide 'dhabas and repair shops' details across the country.
- **Agharkar Research Institute** has developed a 'sensor-based bug sniffer' to rapidly detect bacteria and screening water along with food borne pathogens.
- The Pune municipal Corporation has developed **Saiyam** mobile app to effectively track home-quarantined citizens.
- **Federal Bank** is all set to acquire additional stake in IDBI Federal Life Insurance of up to 4 percent of its equity capital.
- India get **142** rank on the recently released Global press freedom index.
- **David Li** has been appointed as the CEO of Huawei India.
- Rudratej Singh who passed away at the age of 46 was the President and CEO of **BMW India**.
- **Iran** has successfully launched its first military satellite vehicle into orbit.
- ADB has sold five-year global benchmark bonds worth **4.5 billion** dollars to be used as part of its ordinary capital resources.
- Facebook has bought a stake worth **9.9** percent in Reliance Jio for Rs 43,574 crore in the largest tech based FDI.
- TCS has partnered with Telangana State Council of Higher Education to prepare college students for future job readiness.
- **Rakesh Sharma** has been appointed as the President of Geneva based International Motorcycle Manufacturers Association.
- **UST Global** has won Microsoft's AI application award for social impact for delivering AI powered personal assistants to each employee.
- **Kuala Lumpur** has been officially recognized as the UNESCO World book Capital 2020.
- **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Institute of Medical Science and Research** institute has become the first authorized study centre in the country to carry out plasma research in view of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The Government of Karnataka has launched **Apthamitra** helpline and app to fight COVID-19 and provide medical guidance for those in need.
- **VidyaDaan 2.0** program has been launched by the Union HRD Minister to develop and contribute e-learning content for students.
- **PV Sindhu** has been named as one of the ambassadors of the 'I am badminton' campaign by the Badminton World Federation.
- **Adam Higginbotham** has won the William E. Colby Award presented for outstanding book on intelligence history.
- **Narendra Singh Tomar** represented India in the G-20 Extraordinary Agriculture Ministers Meeting through Video Conferencing to address issues related to covid-19.

- **IIT-Mandi** has developed magnetic RAM to enable higher data storage , faster computation and bring in energy efficiency.
- **Gujarat** has given the nod to launch the third edition of the water conservation scheme 'Sujalam Sufalam Jal Sanchay Abhiyan'.
- The Union Government has sanctioned **15000 crore** for investment in 'India COVID-19 Emergency Response & Health System Preparedness Package'.
- RBI has announced special Open Market Operations Of Purchase And Sale of Government Securities worth **10000 crore** to improve liquidity in the economy.
- Researchers of **IIT-Delhi** have developed an app that warns about COVID-19 containment zones and filters fake news.
- **TCS** will launch Israel's first fully digital bank to help transform the banking sector of the country.
- **Pakistan** will host SAARC virtual conference on COVID-19 to discuss a strategy to fight the pandemic in the region.
- **NADA** has collaborated with **Boxing Federation of India** to conduct an online anti-doping awareness session utilizing the lockdown period.
- **Lebanon** has legalized cultivation of marijuana for medicinal use with the aim to improve on exports.
- The legal authority of **Jammu & Kashmir** has launched a helpline under 'Serve-the-Seniors Initiative' for senior citizens to identify the most vulnerable segment of the society.
- According to Fitch Ratings, India will grow at **0.8** percent in FY 21 owing to disruptions caused by the ongoing coronavirus.
- The UN English and Spanish language day established by UNESCO on the same day is observed annually on **April 23**.
- **Rajnath Singh** has inaugurated the DRDO mobile testing lab to speed up covid-19 screening and carry out immune profiling of patients.
- SpaceX has successfully launched **60** internet beaming satellites into orbit for its ambitious internet project Starlink.
- **Feluda**, low cost covid-19 test developed by CSIR's Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (IGIB) for the detection of pathogens without any expensive machines.
- Tech Mahindra has tied up with **IBM** to set up innovation centres and boost digital transformation and encourage adoption of cloud-based technologies.
- National Panchayati Raj Day is celebrated every year on **April 24** to celebrate the day the constitution came into force.
- **Charles Leclerc** has won the Chinese Virtual Grand Prix after defeating the Red Bull racer Alex Albon.
- **World Bank** has approved Rs 585 cr for Himachal Pradesh State Roads Transformation Project to upgrade major roads and modernization of public works.
- **Ujjivan** bank has ranked 5th among 'Best Large Workplaces in Asia 2020'.
- **Jammu & Kashmir** has bagged three national awards for outstanding contribution by its Panchayati Raj Institutions towards socio-economic development.
- According to the World Bank's latest report, remittances to India are likely to drop by **23** percent in FY 21.
- **Mangus Carlsen** has won the final of the Banter Blitz Cup after defeating Alireza Firouzja.

- Usha Ganguly who passed away at the age of 75 in Kolkata was a famous **Theatre Artist**.
- Basanta Das who passed away recently was a former rajya sabha from **Odisha**.
- **Bajaj Allianz** insurance company has launched 'BAGIC GOQii Copay Option' under regulatory sandbox approval from IRDAI, to reward customers with a healthy lifestyle.
- **SIDBI** has launched a special liquidity scheme for MSMEs including NBFCs and MFIs.
- The ICT department of **Mizoram** has developed a mobile app 'mCOVID19' to act as an online pass for drivers and handymen to ensure safe transport during the lockdown period.
- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the e-Gram Swaraj portal and Swamitva Scheme on Panchayati Raj Day. The purpose of the Swamitva Scheme - **Drone mapping of villages**.
- Theme of World Malaria Day observed annually on 25 April every year - **Zero Malaria Starts with Me**.
- Former cricketer Graeme Watson who passed away at the age of 75 played for **Australia**.
- The Union Government has declared **Banking industry** as a public utility service for six months till October 21.
- Vodafone has tied up with **PayTm** to launch 'Recharge Sathi' to help individuals and small businesses to earn additional income by selling on the platform.
- **Bank of Baroda** has announced ex-gratia payment of Rs 10 lac to the next of kin of business correspondents in case of loss of life due to covid-19.
- **HCL** will offer tech support to the Tamil Nadu government in tackling the Covid-19 pandemic.
- CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has launched a zero-interest loan scheme providing Self Help groups with **1400** crore to over 8.78 lakh SHGs.
- **CISF** has launched "e-office" application called 'e-kayalay' for movement of files without the need for physical touch.
- **Sanjay Kothari** has been appointed as the new Chief Vigilance Commissioner after taking the oath ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- **UNODC** has launched the 'Lockdown Learners' series for students and teachers of India.
- **IIT-Delhi** has developed a COVID-19 test kit which has got the ICMR's approval for testing patients.

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MODEL QUESTIONS

1. When was World Homeopathy Day 2020 observed?
(1) April 7 (2) April 10 (3) April 8 (4) April 9th (5) None of these
2. When was the World Health Organization established?
(1) April 6 (2) April 7 (3) April 5 (4) April 8 (5) None of these
3. When was the International Day of Human Space Flight 2020 observed?
(1) April 11 (2) April 12 (3) April 13 (4) April 10 (5) None of these
4. When is World Hemophilia Day observed?
(1) April 16 (2) April 17 (3) April 18 (4) April 19th (5) None of these
5. When was World Heritage Day observed?
(1) April 19 (2) April 17 (3) April 18 (4) April 16 (5) None of these
6. When was the English Language Day observed?
(1) April 24 (2) April 22 (3) April 23 (4) April 21 (5) None of these
7. When was the National Panchayati Raj Day observed?
(1) April 24 (2) April 23 (3) April 22 (4) April 21 (5) None of these
8. When is the National Civil Services Day observed?
(1) April 20 (2) April 22 (3) April 21 (4) April 19 (5) None of these
9. When is the World Intellectual Property Day observed?
(1) April 25 (2) April 26 (3) April 27 (4) April 23 (5) None of these
10. When is the International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day observed?
(1) April 26 (2) April 24 (3) April 25 (4) April 23 (5) None of these
11. When is the world immunization week observed?
(1) First week of May (2) Second week of April (3) Third week of April
(4) Last week of April (5) None of these
12. The RBI has reduced Reverse Repo Rate by how many basis points?
(1) 10 basis points (2) 25 basis points (3) 15 basis points
(4) 20 basis points (5) None of these
13. The Chief Executives of which two banks have been designated as 'Officers on Special Duty' in Punjab National Bank?
(1) BOI, Canara (2) Syndicate, Andhra (3) OBC, UBI
(4) Allahabad, Indian Bank (5) None of these
14. Which among the following insurance policies has been approved the Government to enable more people to get health cover?
(1) Arogya Setu (2) Arogya Sanjeevani (3) Samadhaan
(4) Shakti (5) None of these
15. Which among the following is India's first comprehensive COVID-19 tracking application?
(1) COVID tracker (2) Arogya Setu (3) Saksham
(4) Vipasha (5) None of these

16. Government has launched a learning platform for all frontline healthcare professionals to combat COVID-19. What is the platform called?
 (1) IGot (2) INext (3) IStudy (4) ILEAN (5) None of these
17. The Union Government has announced lockdown extension till which date?
 (1) April 30 (2) May 1 (3) May 2 (4) May 3 (5) None of these
18. India will consider easing certain lockdown restrictions depending upon the situation after which date?
 (1) April 25 (2) April 20 (3) April 16 (4) April 30 (5) None of these
19. Which app has become the world's highest downloaded app in just 13 days?
 (1) Zoom (2) Big Basket (3) Sahyog (4) Aarogya Setu (5) None of these
20. Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal has announced how much fund for drivers of auto and other public service vehicles in the national capital during the lockdown period?
 (1) Rs 10000 (2) Rs 1000 (3) Rs 5000 (4) Rs 3000 (5) None of these
21. Which state/UT government has launched a 5T action plan to combat COVID-19?
 (1) Maharashtra (2) Telangana (3) Kerala (4) Delhi (5) None of these
22. Which state/UT has become the first one to extend the lockdown till April 30, 2020?
 (1) Delhi (2) Maharashtra (3) Tamil Nadu (4) Odisha (5) None of these
23. Which state government launched 'Operation Shield' to combat COVID-19?
 (1) Maharashtra (2) Uttar Pradesh (3) Odisha (4) Delhi (5) None of these
24. Which state has become the second one to extend complete lockdown?
 (1) Delhi (2) Uttar Pradesh (3) Punjab (4) Haryana (5) None of these
25. Which state is the first in India that has begun flattening the curve of COVID-19 infection?
 (1) Odisha (2) Telangana (3) Kerala (4) Uttar Pradesh (5) None of these
26. Delhi Government has launched which new application to fight COVID-19 virus?
 (1) Sahyog (2) Zindagi (3) Karo Na (4) Assess Koro Na (5) None of these
27. Which state has become the first in the country to geo-tag community kitchens?
 (1) Uttar Pradesh (2) Maharashtra (3) Madhya Pradesh
 (4) Telangana (5) None of these
28. How many cabinet ministers were inducted into the new Madhya Pradesh cabinet on April 21, 2020?
 (1) Five (2) Four (3) Six (4) Three (5) None of these
29. Which state government has launched "Apthamitra" helpline and App to fight COVID-19?
 (1) Tamil Nadu (2) Karnataka (3) Andhra (4) Telangana (5) None of these
30. Which state has begun the third phase of its 'Sujalam Sufalam Jal Sanchay Abhiyan' scheme?
 (1) Madhya Pradesh (2) Karnataka (3) Gujarat
 (4) Odisha (5) None of these
31. Which city's Municipal Corporation has launched 'Saiyam' Mobile application?
 (1) Delhi (2) Mumbai (3) Hyderabad (4) Pune (5) None of these

32. Which state observed the 'Khongjom Day' on April 23, 2020?
 (1) Assam (2) Manipur (3) Mizoram (4) Meghalaya (5) None of these
33. Which state has extended its curfew till May 17?
 (1) Madhya Pradesh (2) Punjab (3) Delhi
 (4) Odisha (5) None of these
34. Queen Elizabeth II addressed the citizens of the UK in a rare message on April 5, 2020. The Queen had similarly addressed the citizens for the first time in 1991 after which major incident?
 (1) First Gulf War (2) Death of Princess Diana
 (3) Queen Mother's death (4) Invasion of Kuwait (5) None of these
35. Who among the following was born on April 14, 1891?
 (1) Subhas Chandra Bose (2) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
 (3) Jawaharlal Nehru (4) B. R. Ambedkar (5) None of these
36. Who among the following is reported to be "gravely ill"?
 (1) Xi Jinping (2) Donald Trump (3) Moon Jae-in (4) Kim Jong-un (5) None of these
37. Who has developed a new bio suit with seam sealing glue?
 (1) ISRO (2) DRDO (3) HAL (4) Reliance (5) None of these
38. Which nation has approved the sale of Harpoon missiles and torpedoes to India?
 (1) France (2) US (3) Germany (4) Russia (5) None of these
39. Which nation was the top military spender in 2019?
 (1) China (2) India (3) US (4) Russia (5) None of these
40. The Government has formed a high-level task force to enable COVID-19 vaccine development. Who among the following will co-chair the task force?
 (1) Joint Secretary, Health Ministry
 (2) Union Health Minister
 (3) Prime Minister
 (4) Principal Scientific Adviser
 (5) None of these
41. Which Ministry has launched 'Stranded in India' portal for foreign tourists?
 (1) Ministry of Tourism
 (2) Ministry of External Affairs
 (3) Ministry of Home Affairs
 (4) Ministry of Human Resource Development
 (5) None of these
42. The HRD Ministry has launched which portal to monitor and record its efforts to combat COVID-19- related challenges?
 (1) Shakti (2) Yukti (3) Shiksha (4) Sanchay (5) None of these
43. How many people have benefited from the directed benefit transfer scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan package as of April 13, 2020?
 (1) 20 crore (2) 10 crore (3) 32 crore (4) 28 crore (5) None of these
44. The Ministry of Home Affairs issued an advisory calling which among the following apps as "unsafe"?
 (1) Zoom (2) TeamViewer (3) Skype (4) Houseparty (5) None of these

45. The Prime Minister launched which among the following schemes on April 24, 2020?
(1) Swamitva Scheme (2) Samasya Scheme (3) Panchayati Raj
(4) Sahyog scheme (5) None of these
46. UN's COP 26 climate summit has been postponed till 2021. Which city was scheduled to host the summit?
(1) Glasgow (2) Birmingham (3) Bristol (4) Guam (5) None of these
47. Which city was scheduled to host 44th session of World Heritage Committee of UNESCO that has now been postponed?
(1) Fuzhou (2) Okinawa (3) Wuhan (4) Beijing (5) None of these
48. Which smartphone manufacturer along with Google is making a software similar to Arogya Setu to enable COVID-19 contact tracing through phones?
(1) OnePlus (2) Apple (3) Huawei (4) Xiaomi (5) None of these
49. When was the second G20 Finance Ministerial Meeting 2020 held?
(1) April 14th (2) April 15th (3) April 16th (4) April 11th (5) None of these
50. When was the G-20 Extraordinary Agriculture Minister's Meeting?
(1) April 21st (2) April 22nd (3) April 19th (4) April 18th (5) None of these
51. When will PM Narendra Modi hold his third video conference with the Chief Ministers on coronavirus lockdown?
(1) April 25th (2) April 27th (3) April 26th (4) April 29th (5) None of these
52. What is the maximum punishment for attacking health workers, as per the new proposed amendment to Epidemic Diseases Act, 1987?
(1) 7 years Jail Term (2) 5 years Jail Term (3) 10 years Jail Term
(4) 6 years Jail Term (5) None of these
53. The World Bank has offered how much fund for India's COVID-19 response project?
(1) \$1 billion (2) \$1.5 billion (3) \$2 billion (4) \$7 billion (5) None of these
54. Who has approved USD 1 billion Emergency Fund for India to help tackle COVID-19 pandemic?
(1) IMF (2) WB (3) ADB (4) WHO (5) None of these
55. Which fund has been set up for COVID-19 relief?
(1) PM-Covid fund (2) PM-Cares fund (3) Covid se Suraksha
(4) PM- Coronavirus (5) None of these
56. SIDBI has offered how much amount as emergency working capital to the MSMEs manufacturing essential items?
(1) Rs 1 crore (2) Rs 50 lakh (3) Rs 5 crore (4) Rs 25 lakh (5) None of these
57. Who among the following has donated \$1 billion to fight COVID-19?
(1) Sundar Pichai (2) Mark Zuckerberg (3) Jack Dorsey
(4) Kevin Systrom (5) None of these
58. Which nation has stopped its funding to the World Health Organization?
(1) China (2) France (3) Italy (4) US (5) None of these

59. The BRICS nations have agreed to allocate how much amount to the New Development Bank (NDB)?
(1) \$ 15 billion (2) \$ 20 billion (3) \$ 10 billion (4) \$ 25 billion (5) None of these
60. As per the latest UNCTAD report, the world economy will go into recession with the exception of which two countries?
(1) US, China (2) China, India (3) India, Japan
(4) Japan, South Korea (5) None of these
61. IMF has predicted how much growth rate for India in 2020?
(1) 2.3 percent (2) 1.9 percent (3) 3.3 percent (4) 1.1 percent (5) None of these
62. Which among the following is the Indian-American firm that has pledged to donate 3.4 Hydroxychloroquine tablets?
(1) Lupin Ltd (2) Amneal Pharmaceuticals (3) Cipla
(4) Sun Pharmaceutical (5) None of these
63. Facebook has launched third-party fact-checking in which nation?
(1) India (2) Bangladesh (3) Pakistan (4) Sri Lanka (5) None of these
64. Which nation lifted the temporary ban imposed on the export of essential drugs- Hydroxychloroquine, Paracetamol?
(1) US (2) Japan (3) China (4) India (5) None of these
65. Which among the following sectors was India's top exporting sector for the first time during the 2019-2020 fiscal year?
(1) Pharmaceutical (2) Chemical (3) Agriculture
(4) Oil (5) None of these
66. Which app has been launched by the Agriculture Ministry to facilitate transportation of food grains?
(1) Kisan Rath (2) Krishi Samvadan (3) Kisan Rail
(4) Kisan Sathi (5) None of these
67. Government's pan-India Agriculture trading portal e-NAM completed how many years of implementation on April 14, 2020?
(1) Three (2) Four (3) Five (4) Two (5) None of these
68. What is NASA's mission to study Giant Solar Particle Storms called?
(1) Stormy (2) SunRISE (3) Sincerity (4) Solidarity (5) None of these
69. NASA's Artemis Base Camp is expected to work as a gateway to landing humans on which planet?
(1) Venus (2) Mars (3) Jupiter (4) Saturn (5) None of these
70. Who was the first-ever human to journey to outer space?
(1) Yuri Gagarin (2) Neil Armstrong (3) Buzz Aldrin
(4) Alan Shepard (5) None of these
71. Which nation has reportedly launched its first-ever military satellite into the orbit?
(1) Israel (2) Iraq (3) Iran (4) Turkey (5) None of these
72. What is the name of China's first Mars exploration mission?
(1) Tianwen (2) Chiang XI (3) Mario 2 (4) Tangwei (5) None of these

73. Which institution has developed an indigenous ventilator prototype amid COVID-19 outbreak?
(1) IIT Madras (2) IIT Delhi (3) Symbiosis (4) IISc Bengaluru (5) None of these
74. Which among the following IIT branches has developed low-cost ventilator 'Prana-Vayu'?
(1) IIT Madras (2) IIT Delhi (3) IIT Roorkee (4) IIT Bombay (5) None of these
75. An engineering student belonging to which state has developed an internet-controlled robot to deal with patients?
(1) Jharkhand (2) Odisha (3) Chhattisgarh (4) Bihar (5) None of these
76. Researchers used which among the following to develop efficient low-cost electro-catalysts?
(1) Frog saliva (2) Fish Gills (3) Rat Dropping (4) Cow Dung (5) None of these
77. A professor from which among the following universities has developed software that can detect COVID-19 within 5 seconds using X-ray?
(1) IIT-Madras (2) IIT-Delhi (3) IIT-Kanpur (4) IIT-Roorkee (5) None of these
78. The students belonging to which institute developed low-cost ventilator 'Ruhdaar'?
(1) IIT Delhi (2) IIT Madras (3) IIT Bombay (4) IIT Kanpur (5) None of these
79. Who has approved antibody tests in COVID-19 hotspot areas?
(1) Health Ministry (2) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
(3) WHO (4) Delhi Government (5) None of these
80. ICMR has drafted a proposal to explore which therapy to treat critical COVID-19 cases?
(1) Plasma Therapy (2) Eclectic Therapy (3) Forensic Therapy
(4) Jungian Therapy (5) None of these
81. Which among the following pandemics had occurred in 1920s?
(1) The Spanish Flu (2) First Cholera Pandemic
(3) Great Plague of London (4) Great Plague of Marseille (5) None of these
82. Which among the following universities will start human trials of potential Coronavirus vaccine?
(1) Oxford (2) Berkeley (3) Harvard (4) Yale (5) None of these
83. Two cats tested positive for coronavirus in which city of the United States?
(1) Oklahoma (2) Los Angeles (3) Chicago (4) New York (5) None of these
84. Which among the following medical universities have become the first government one to successfully launch plasma therapy for COVID-19 treatment?
(1) King George Medical University
(2) All India Institute of Medical Sciences
(3) Rajiv Gandhi Medical College
(4) Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education
(5) None of these
85. The oil prices in which among the following countries crashed below \$0 mark on April 20, 2020?
(1) US (2) Australia (3) India (4) China (5) None of these
86. The largest number nests of rare leather back sea turtles were spotted in which among the following nations after almost 20 years?
(1) Indonesia (2) Thailand (3) Australia (4) New Zealand (5) None of these

87. What is the name of the world's largest living sea turtle?
(1) Green Sea Turtle (2) Loggerhead Sea Turtle
(3) Olive Ridley Sea Turtle (4) Leather Back Sea Turtle (5) None of these
88. Which airlines operated India's first cargo-on-seat flight?
(1) Air India (2) SpiceJet (3) Indigo (4) Vistara (5) None of these
89. Which judge has become the first judge of J&K High Court to take oath under the Indian Constitution?
(1) Justice Sanjeev Kumar (2) Justice Sindhu Sharma (3) Justice Rajesh Bindal
(4) Justice Rajnesh Oswal (5) None of these
90. Who has been reappointed as RBI Deputy Governor?
(1) S. Vishwanathan (2) B. P. Kanungo (3) S. Mundra
(4) R. Gandhi (5) None of these
91. Nasscom has appointed Pravin Rao as new Chairman of the group. Rao is the Chief Operating Officer of which among the following companies?
(1) Infosys (2) Accenture (3) WIPRO (4) Deloitte (5) None of these
92. Who has become the Democratic nominee for the US Presidential Elections 2020?
(1) Joe Biden (2) Bernie Sanders (3) Elizabeth Warren
(4) Michael Bloomberg (5) None of these
93. Who has been appointed as the Ambassador for World Wildlife Fund India?
(1) Deepika Padukone (2) Alia Bhatt (3) Virat Kohli
(4) Viswanathan Anand (5) None of these
94. Who is the Director General of the World Health Organization?
(1) Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
(2) Kristalina Georgieva
(3) David Malpass
(4) Ursula von der Leyen
(5) None of these
95. Who has been appointed as the new Secretary to President Ram Nath Kovind?
(1) Ravi Sharma (2) Kapil Dev Tripathi (3) Sachin Shekhawat
(4) Suryakant Misra (5) None of these
96. Which Indian shuttler has been named as the ambassador of BWF's "I am Badminton" campaign?
(1) Saina Nehwal (2) Srikanth Kidambi (3) Parupalli Kashyap
(4) PV Sindhu (5) None of these
97. Who has been appointed as the new head of the National Shipping Board?
(1) Malini Shankar (2) Amitabh Kumar (3) Satinder Pal Singh
(4) Capt Piyush Sinha (5) None of these
98. Who represented India at the "Petersberg Climate Dialogue"?
(1) Prakash Javadekar (2) Piyush Goyal (3) PM Narendra Modi
(4) Dr. Harsh Vardhan (5) None of these
99. A noted Indian figure, Nirmal Singh Khalsa passed away due to coronavirus on April 2. He had received the Padma Shri for his contribution in which field?
(1) Handicraft (2) Music (3) Writing (4) Social Work (5) None of these

100. Popular comedy actor Bullet Prakash passed away suddenly on April 6, 2020. He was associated with which film industry?
(1) Telugu (2) Malayalam (3) Tamil (4) Kannada (5) None of these
101. Usha Ganguly, veteran theatre actor passed away on April 23 at the age of 75. She had written the script of which among the following Indian movies?
(1) Raincoat (2) Chokher Bali (3) The Last Year (4) Antarmahal (5) None of these
102. Renowned Bollywood actor Irrfan Khan passed away on April 29, 2020. The Bollywood actor was a part of which among the popular Hollywood films?
(1) Jurassic World (2) Avengers (3) War of the Worlds
(4) The Matrix (5) None of these
103. The World Athletics Championships has been postponed till which year?
(1) Late 2020 (2) 2021 (3) 2022 (4) Mid 2021 (5) None of these
104. What are the new dates for Tokyo Olympics 2020?
(1) May-June 2021 (2) July-August 2021 (3) April-May 2021
(4) January-February 2021 (5) None of these
105. Which among the following tennis tournaments has been cancelled for the first time since World War II?
(1) Australian Open (2) Wimbledon (3) French Open
(4) US Open (5) None of these
106. Which nation will host Asian Boxing Championships 2020?
(1) India (2) China (3) Malaysia (4) Japan (5) None of these
107. Which nation has lost the hosting rights of the 2021 Men's World Boxing Championship?
(1) China (2) India (3) Japan (4) United States (5) None of these
108. Who is the top-ranked Indian billionaire on the Forbes's 2020 list of world's top billionaires?
(1) Sunil Mittal (2) Mukesh Ambani (3) Uday Kotak
(4) Radhakishan Damani (5) None of these
109. Who has topped the Forbes list of World's Billionaires in 2020?
(1) Jeff Bezos (2) Bill Gates (3) Bernard Arnault
(4) Mark Zuckerberg (5) None of these
110. Which among the following is India's first comprehensive COVID-19 tracking application?
(1) COVID tracker (2) Arogya Setu (3) Saksham
(4) Vipasha (5) None of these
111. The President, Vice President, Prime Minister, Governors and Members of Parliament have voluntarily agreed to how much salary cut for one year to deal with the COVID-19 crisis?
(1) 40 percent (2) 50 percent (3) 60 percent (4) 30 percent (5) None of these
112. Which Ministry issued an advisory to the Chief Wildlife Wardens of states/UTs regarding containment of COVID-19 in national parks, tiger reserves and sanctuaries?
(1) Home Ministry (2) Health Ministry (3) WCD Ministry
(4) Environment Ministry (5) None of these
113. Which among the following districts is not among the 15 UP districts that will be sealed started from midnight on April 8, 2020?
(1) Ghaziabad (2) Agra (3) Meerut (4) Aligarh (5) None of these

114. Ministry of Labour and Employment has established how many control rooms to address grievances of migrant workers?
 (1) 20 (2) 15 (3) 25 (4) 10 (5) None of these
115. Who has termed Coronavirus pandemic as the most challenging crisis since World War 2?
 (1) UN Secretary General (2) WHO Director General (3) US President
 (4) Italian Prime Minister (5) None of these
116. Which nation assumed Presidency of United Nations Security Council in April 2020?
 (1) France (2) Italy (3) Spain
 (4) Dominican Republic (5) None of these
117. Which UN body adopted a resolution calling for 'Global Solidarity' to defeat COVID-19?
 (1) UNGA (2) UNHRC (3) UNSC (4) UNEP (5) None of these
118. RMS Titanic sank into the North Atlantic Ocean on which day?
 (1) April 15, 1912 (2) April 13, 1912 (3) April 15, 1913
 (4) April 13, 1910 (5) None of these
119. Which among the following events have been re-scheduled for August 29, 2020?
 (1) IPL (2) French Open (3) Wimbledon (4) Tour de France (5) None of these
120. Who wants to send a team of experts to China to probe Coronavirus outbreak?
 (1) US President (2) UN Secretary General (3) Japan's PM
 (4) WHO Director General (5) None of these
121. Which city has formed a new response team to address anti-Asian harassment amid COVID-19?
 (1) California (2) Toronto (3) Sydney (4) New York (5) None of these
122. Which country has removed thousands of names from terrorist watch list?
 (1) India (2) US (3) Pakistan (4) China (5) None of these
123. Which country's president has decided to temporarily suspend immigration amid COVID-19 outbreak?
 (1) United King (2) United States (3) Canada (4) Australia (5) None of these
124. Which among the following nations recently ended death penalty for crimes committed by minors?
 (1) UAE (2) Qatar (3) Oman (4) Saudi Arabia (5) None of these
125. Which nation's Finance Minister unveiled 100% state-backed 'Bounce Back Loan Scheme' for small businesses?
 (1) US (2) Italy (3) France (4) UK (5) None of these
126. The US Presidential Elections are scheduled to be held on which day?
 (1) November 3rd (2) November 4th (3) November 11th
 (4) November 12th (5) None of these
127. The World Health Organization recently showed parts of Ladakh as which nation's territory?
 (1) Afghanistan (2) China (3) Pakistan (4) Nepal (5) None of these
128. Which nation hosted the 11th session of "Petersberg Climate Dialogue"?
 (1) France (2) Australia (3) Germany (4) India (5) None of these

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

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