

## Current Affairs October 2020

### Current Affairs: 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020

- **National Unity Day or Rashtriya Ekta Diwas** is celebrated on **31st October** every year since 2014 to commemorate the birth anniversary of **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel**. This year marks the **144th birth** anniversary of Sardar Patel, freedom fighter and later a politician who played a major role in the integration of India.
- **World Cities Day 2020** was successfully celebrated across the globe on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October. Theme: **Valuing our Cities and Communities**
- On the occasion of National Unity Day Shri Kiren Rijiju, flagged off 200-km long **'Fit India Walkathon'** on October 31 at **Jaisalmer, Rajasthan**. The event has been organised by Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and will go on for 3 days in which over 100 ITBP jawans and personnel of various central armed police forces (CAPFs) are walking for over 200-km.
- The **first e-resource centre** of India known as **Nyay Kaushal** is located at the Judicial Officers Training Institute in the **Nagpur district of Maharashtra**.

### Current Affairs: 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020

- The Odisha government has **identified around 8,000 schools** in 15 districts which **will be merged with other schools** due to **low enrollment** (less than 20 students). The merger is **being carried out under the NITI Aayog's Sustainable Action for Transforming Human Capital in Education (SATH-E) project**, and has been termed **Consolidation and Rationalisation of schools**.
- Prime Minister Modi inaugurated **"Arogya Van" in Kevadia, Gujarat** on October 30, 2020. The van is spread over 17 acres and has more than 380 selected species.
- The Indian Air Force, on October 30, 2020, has successfully test fired an **air-launched version of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile**. The cruise missile was test-fired from the Sukhoi fighter aircraft in the Bay of Bengal. The missile successfully hit a sinking ship with pin-point accuracy.
- **Indian Oil** has started one common number for **Indane LPG** refill booking across the country for customer convenience. The common booking number for LPG refills for the whole country is **7718955555**. It is available 24x7 for the customers.
- The Supreme Court has applied the principle of **"mirror order"** in a **child custody** case where one of the estranged parents is living abroad in Kenya. The Mirror Order passed Supreme Court means that an order of one jurisdiction that reflects the original order of another jurisdiction. The order is auxiliary or ancillary in character.
- **Harpreet A De Singh** appointed CEO of Alliance Air; **becomes first woman to head an Indian air carrier**.

### Current Affairs: 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020

- **Yashvardhan K. Sinha** appointed new **Chief Information Commissioner of India**
- Ushering in a revolutionary system in the Revenue and Registration departments, the **Telangana government** launched the **Dharani portal**, a first of its kind in the country, for storing digitised land records and registration of properties. This means, property registrations would be done without a human interface from now on, eliminating the scope for corruption
- The **Young Advocates Welfare Fund** has been launched in **Tamil Nadu**. The Young Advocates Welfare Scheme is aimed at helping such fresh candidates to withstand the initial challenges. It provides monthly financial assistance of **three thousand rupees** each for two years to the lawyers who just come out of law colleges.
- Indian Army launched a **secured messaging application platform called 'Secure Application for the Internet' (SAI)** on October 29, 2020. The application was launched in line with PM Modi's 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat Mission'.
- The Chief Minister of Delhi, launched the **Green Delhi mobile application** on October 29, 2020. This app will be used by citizens to bring into government's notice the pollution causing activities. The application can be downloaded from the google play store.
- Former Chief Minister of Gujarat, **Keshubhai Patel** passed away.
- **World's first scientoon book** entitled "**Bye Bye Corona**", written by 'scientoonist' Dr Pradeep Srivastava, former Senior Principal Scientist at CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI), Lucknow, was released by Ms. Anandi Ben, Governor, Uttar Pradesh
- **World Psoriasis Day** is commemorated by **International Federation of Psoriasis Associations (IFPA)** annually on **29th October**. It aims to create awareness and promoting empowerment, taking action regarding improving the quality of life for citizens with psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis. World Psoriasis Day Theme 2020: **INFORMED**.

### Current Affairs: 28<sup>th</sup> October 2020

- With a vision to enhance skills for employability, **Microsoft** announced a **collaboration with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)** to skill more than **1 lakh underserved women** in India over the next 10 months. This initiative is an extension of Microsoft's partnership with NSDC to provide digital skills to over 1 lakh youth in the country.
- Late Indian actor, **Om Puri** was honoured with a **Lifetime Achievement Award** at the third edition of the **India International Film Festival of Boston (IIFFB 2020)**. The award was received by his wife Nandita Puri. The three-day film festival, based in Boston USA. Another highlight of the festival was a conversation with chef Vikas Khanna, recipient of the "**Pride of India Award**".
- The fossils of Pelagornithidae have been discovered on the continent of Antarctica. Pelagornithids also known as bony-toothed birds are an extinct group of large flying birds. They had bony projections, or struts, on their jaws that resemble sharp-pointed teeth, though they are not true teeth.

### Current Affairs: 27<sup>th</sup> October 2020

- The **first SCO startup** forum is the startup incubator of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and was launched by the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal. The Forum shall identify areas of cooperation by launching multiple entrepreneurial activities like start-up showcases through a dedicated virtual platform, mobilizing capital for startups, sharing of best practices, procuring social innovations etc.
- In a bid to ease exports, the Department of Posts and the United States Postal Service, signed an agreement for the electronic exchange of customs data related to postal shipments between **India and the USA**
- **Kerala** on became the first state to **fix the floor price for vegetables**, which would be **20 per cent** above the production cost.
- **Infantry Day** is observed on **October 27** annually in commemoration of the contributions of the Infantry Regiment of the India Army. It is also celebrated to mark the landing of first Indian troops in Jammu and Kashmir in 1947 to push back Pakistan supported intruders.
- The **Vigilance Awareness Week 2020**, is being celebrated from 27 October to 2 November 2020. The is observed every year by the Central **Vigilance** Commission during the **week** in which the birthday of **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel** (31 October) falls.
- The **World Day for Audio-visual Heritage** takes place every 27 October. Theme: **Your Window to the World**
- **India's longest-serving bank CEO Aditya Puri** has retired from HDFC Bank after 26 years on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2020, upon reaching 70 years of age in accordance with RBI regulations
- **PM Narendra Modi** has inaugurated the **4th India Energy Forum** by **CERAWeek** organised by **HIS Markit**. The theme of this edition is "**India's Energy Future in a World of Change**".

#### **Current Affairs: 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

- **Gujarat High Court** became the **first to live stream judicial proceedings on YouTube channel**.
- India has launched **first of its kind Flash Flood Guidance services for India and other South Asian countries — Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, and Sri Lanka**. It is a robust system **designed by the India Meteorological Department (IMD)** to provide the necessary products in real-time to support the development of warnings for flash floods about **6-12 hours in advance at the watershed level with a resolution of 4kmx4km for the Flash Flood prone South Asian countries — India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka**.
- AIM (Atal Innovation Mission), in association with CSIRO, is organizing a two-day hackathon on circular economy, '**India-Australia Circular Economy Hackathon (I-ACE)**
- NASA's Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA) has confirmed, for the first time, **water on the sunlit surface of the Moon**

#### **Current Affairs: 25<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

- **Uttar Pradesh** has bagged the first rank in the PM SVANidhi Scheme with the disbursement of the highest number of loans.
- Indian-Origin Candidate **Wavel Ramkalawan** to Be **Seychelles President**
- **Bangladesh** govt orders 'no mask, no service' policy
- **India's first Sand Dune Park** is all set to come up on the beaches of **Morjim in North Goa and Galgibaga in South Goa**. Here, sand dunes will be preserved along with protecting the fragile and already scanty dune vegetation

### Current Affairs: 24<sup>th</sup> October 2020

- The Union Territory of **Jammu and Kashmir** has become the first UT in the country to **operationalise PFMS** at the district level
- **Honduras** become the 50<sup>th</sup> country to ratify the landmark treaty on the prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)
- North Korean authorities have urged citizens to remain indoors to avoid contact with a mysterious cloud of '**yellow dust**' blowing in from **China**, which they have warned could bring Covid-19 with it. Yellow dust is actually sand from deserts in China and Mongolia that high-speed surface winds carry into both North and South Korea during specific periods every year.
- The **World Polio Day** is celebrated annually on **October 24**, to raise awareness for polio vaccination and eradication of polio. 2020 theme for World Polio Day is "**A win against polio is a win for global health.**"
- The **United Nations Day** is celebrated on 24<sup>th</sup> October every year. Theme: **The Future We Want, the UN We Need: Reaffirming our Collective Commitment to Multilateralism**'.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurate the **Girnar Ropeway in Gujarat**. 2.3-km-long Girnar ropeway is Asia's longest ropeway.

### Current Affairs: 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

- **Arunachal Pradesh** builds a war memorial at **Bum La**
- PM Modi has launched the '**Kisan Suryoday Yojana**' in Gujarat with the aim of providing 16 hours of power supply to farmers in the state every day. Under the scheme the farmers will be given power supply between 5 AM and 9 PM.
- Himachal Pradesh's **Mandi district** has bagged top position among 30 districts of the country in successful implementation of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).
- The Minister of State (I/C) for AYUSH, Shri Shripad Yesso Naik, inaugurated the **Regional Raw Drug Repository (RRDR)** on October 23, 2020 at the **All India Institute of Ayurveda**, New Delhi.

### Current Affairs: 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020

- **Final user trial** of 3rd generation **Anti Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) NAG** was carried out today on 22 Oct 2020 at 0645 hrs from Pokhran range. The missile was integrated with the actual warhead and a tank target was kept at designated range.

### Current Affairs: 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020

- Union Minister for MSME, Nitin Gadkari, launched the **first-ever high quality Khadi Fabric Footwear** of India on October 21, 2020. The footwear has been designed by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC).
- The Union Cabinet have approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the National Space Research and Development agency of Nigeria on October 21, 2020.
- The **Peruvian archaeologists** have discovered a **37-metre-long cat drawing** on the famous Nazca lines of Peru. The Nazca lines of Peru is an UNESCO Heritage site. The recently discovered cat Geoglyph is older than 2000 years.
- The Union Cabinet have approved the adoption of **Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj act** on October 21, 2020.
- Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri has launched the '**e-Dharti Geo Portal**'. The portal will integrate the legacy drawings including the maps and lease plans in the management information system. The portal will make the maps and lease plans **geographic information system (GIS)-enabled**.

#### **Current Affairs: 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

- Minister of State for Shipping (I/C) Shri Mansukh Mandaviya e-launched the development of Indigenous Software solution for Vessel traffic services (VTS) and Vessels Traffic Monitoring Systems (VTMS) in New Delhi

#### **Current Affairs: 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

- India successfully test fired the **Stand-Off Anti-Tank Missile named as SANT** on October 19, 2020. It will be inducted in the Indian Air Force. The missile was test fired from the Chandipur test range. The SANT missile has the capability of lock-on before launch and lock-on after launch.
- The Indian Ministry of Defense issued a release on October 19, 2020 updating about the upcoming **trilateral India-U.S.-Japan Malabar exercises**. The release noted that this year's exercise would be participated by Australia. This was done in the backdrop of India seeking to increase cooperation with other countries in the maritime security domain and increasing defence cooperation with Australia. The Malabar exercise will be organised in the Indian Ocean.
- The Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has launched the **AYUSHMAN SAHAKAR scheme** on October 19, 2020. The scheme has been formulated by the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC). Under the scheme, the NCDC would extend term loans to prospective cooperatives by 10,000 crore in coming years. The scheme would be providing a working capital and margin money to meet operational requirements of the health facilities. It also provides interest subvention of one percent to cooperatives where women are in majority.
- The Japanese Former World Champion **Nozomi Okuhara has won the Denmark Open title in Badminton**. She got the title by beating three-time world champion Carolina Marin in women's singles.

#### **Current Affairs: 18<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

- Indian Navy – Sri Lanka Navy Maritime Exercise **SLINEX-20** off Trincomalee

- **BrahMos, the supersonic cruise missile** was successfully test fired from Indian Navy's indigenously-built stealth destroyer INS Chennai, hitting a target in the Arabian Sea. The missile hit the target successfully with pin-point accuracy after performing high-level and extremely complex manoeuvres.
- **Bangladesh** has invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to join the celebrations of **the 50 years of the country's independence**. The country will complete its 50 years of Independence on **March 26, 2021**.

### Current Affairs: 17<sup>th</sup> October 2020

- The **International Day for the Eradication of Poverty** is observed on October 17 every year by the United Nations. This year, the day is being observed under the **Theme "Acting together to achieve social and environmental justice for all"**
- **Uttar Pradesh government** launched a 6-month long women empowerment programme '**Mission Shakti**' on October 17, 2020. The initiative was launched in order **to raise awareness and tackle crime against women** in the state.

### Current Affairs: 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi released commemorative **coins of Rs 75 denomination to mark the 75th Anniversary of FAO**
- The **World Food Day** is observed on October 16 every year. The theme for World Food Day 2020 is "**Grow, Nourish, Sustain. Together**"
- The Leather Sector Skill Council (LSSC) has recently announced the launch of the **Skill Certification Assessment for Leather Employees (SCALE) India android app** in order to provide a single platform to integrate quality assurance across all of its services.
- India has decided to transfer one of its **kilo-class submarines** named **INS Sindhuvir** to the **Myanmar Navy**. This is a significant step as Myanmar Navy would be getting its first ever submarine.
- **India - International Food & Agri Week** being organised from **16<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020**.
- **Andorra** has joined IMF on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020 as its **190<sup>th</sup> member**.
- The **Global hunger index** was launched on October 16, 2020. It has been jointly prepared by **World Food Programme** and **Concern Worldwide**. This year, **India has been ranked 94<sup>th</sup> out of 107 countries**.

### Current Affairs: 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020

- **Mahila Kisan Diwas** celebrated through Video Conferencing on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2020
- Opening of new market access for **agricultural commodities between India and Bhutan**. The opened market access for **Apple, Potato, Mandarin, Ginger and Arecanut** from Bhutan to India and **Tomato, Onion and Okra** from India to Bhutan.
- The Corps of Electronics and Mechanical Engineers, celebrated its **78<sup>th</sup> Corps Day on 15 Oct 2020**.

- Union Education Minister virtually launched the '**KAPILA**' **Kalam** Program for Intellectual Property Literacy and Awareness campaign on the 89th birth anniversary of former President and Scientist Late Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.
- Work on the **Zozila Tunnel (14.15 Km long)** in J&K began today with ceremonial blasting. The tunnel will provide all-weather connectivity between Srinagar valley and Leh (Ladakh plateau) on NH-1.
- The **World Students Day** is observed every year on the occasion of birth anniversary of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam on October 15. The 2020 version of the day is being celebrated under the Theme: **Learning for people, prosperity and peace.**
- **Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister** Yogi Adityanath launched the "**hath dhona, roke corona**" campaign on October 15, 2020. This campaign was launched while emphasising upon the sanitation practices on the occasion of Global Handwashing Day.
- Chief Minister (CM) of **Kerala**, inaugurated the operations of the first phase of the **International Institute of Advanced Virology** at the Life Science Park at Thonakkal on October 15, 2020
- The unicameral parliament of **Israel**, the Knesset, approved the historic normalization deal or the **peace deal called as the Abraham Accord.** with the United Arab Emirates on October 15, 2020

#### **Current Affairs: 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

- Cabinet approves **MoU between India and Australia** for collaboration in capacity building, research and development and making impact for sustainable groundwater management.
- Cabinet approves Rs. 5718 crore World Bank aided project **Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS)** for Improving School Education
- **India and France** were re-elected as the **President and Co- President** of the **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** for a term of two years at the virtual meeting of the Third Assembly held on 14 October.
- New **wheat variety MACS 6478** helps farmers in a village in Maharashtra double their yield. The newly developed common wheat or bread wheat, also called high yielding **Aestivum**, matures in 110 days and is resistant to most races of leaf and stem rust.
- The Ministry of Food Processing Industries have decided to **extend the subsidy by 50% on the transportation of fruits and vegetables by the Kisan Rail Trains.**
- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (US-FDA) has approved the **first Ebola Virus treatment drug** named **Inmazed** on October 14, 2020. It is a mixture of three monoclonal antibodies namely- **atoltivimab, maftivimab, and odesivimab-ebgn.** This is the first FDA-approved treatment for Zaire ebolavirus (Ebola virus) infection in adult and paediatric patients.
- The Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare has launched the second phase of "**Thalassemia Bal Sewa Yojana**" on October 14, 2020. The scheme has been launched for the underprivileged Thalassemic patients.

#### **Current Affairs: 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

- The United Nations observe the **International Day for Disaster Reduction** on October 13 annually. This day is also called as the **World Calamity Control Day**. The day is observed to spread awareness about how people and communities across the world are reducing their exposure to disasters. This year the day is being observed under the **Theme: Disaster Risk Governance**
- The United States at the recent India-US forum has called for the expansion of QUAD grouping. US stated that like-minded countries and groupings should come together and join hands to protect and ensure a free and open Indo-Pacific ocean. The **QUAD grouping** comprises of four nations namely **US, India, Australia and Japan**.
- On the inaugural session of “**all.ai 2020 Virtual Summit**” on October 13, 2020 the **Intel India announced the launch of an applied artificial intelligence (AI) research (INAI) centre** in Hyderabad. The research centre would be launch in collaboration with the Telangana government, International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad (IIIT-H) and Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) which is the founding healthcare partner in the initiative.
- PM releases the autobiography of **Dr. Balasaheb Vikhe Patil** titled ‘**Deh Vechwa Karani**’

#### **Current Affairs: 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

- The Prime Minister Narendra Modi has released a commemorative **coin of 100 rupees in honour of Vijaya Raje Scindia** on October 12, 2020. The coin is being released on the occasion of birth centenary of Vijaya Raje Scindia.
- The Third edition of the **Oxfam’s 2020 Commitment to Reducing Inequality (CRI) Index report** was released recently. As per the report, India just spent 4% of its budget on the health in the ongoing pandemic situation. The spending by **India stands at the fourth lowest in the world**. In the line, India has been ranked 129 out of 158 countries.
- The **Rashtriya Kamadhenu Aayog (RKA)** has begun the nationwide campaign called “**Kamadhenu Deepawali Abhiyan**” on October 12, 2020.
- **Bangladesh** Cabinet approved a draft law to include **death penalty as the highest punishment for rape**. This will be done by amending the Prevention of Women and Children Repression Act-2000.

#### **Current Affairs: 11<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched **physical distribution of property cards** which act as a legal document under **SVAMITVA** scheme through video conferencing and interacted with the beneficiaries of the scheme.
- **Rafael Nadal** has won the **French Open, 2020** beating **Novak Djokovic** on October 11, 2020. With this, Rafael has won his 13th French open men’s singles title. This is also his 20th Grand Slam.
- The Union Health Ministry have announced on October 11 2020 that India is will roll out its **Feluda Paper Strip test** for Corona Virus in few weeks.
- **The International Day of the Girl Child** is celebrated every year on October 11. This year the day was celebrated under the **theme “My voice, our equal future”**.

#### **Current Affairs: 10<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

- The National **Bank** for Agriculture and Rural Development (**NABARD**) has signed three **MoUs** with the **State Bank of India (SBI)**. The **MoU** is signed to extend credit support for **NABARD** Projects. SBI will offer credit support for **NABARD** projects. The MoU was signed to offer finance for joint liability group, SHG, Farmers Producers Organisations (FPOs) and Watershed development projects.
- **Stethantyx Covida** is a species of Wasp and was discovered by the scientist at the Autonomous University of Tamaulipas in Mexico
- Eight beaches in India have been awarded the coveted 'Blue Flag' certification. The **beaches selected for the certification** are: **Kappad** (Kerala), **Shivrajpur** (Gujarat), **Ghoghla** (Diu), **Kasarkod** and **Padubidri** (Karnataka), **Rushikonda** (Andhra Pradesh), **Golden** (Odisha) and **Radhanagar** (Andaman & Nicobar Islands).
- The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and KPIT Technologies successfully ran trials of **India's first Hydrogen Fuel Cell (HFC) prototype car** running on an indigenously developed fuel cell stack. HFC technology uses chemical reactions between hydrogen and oxygen (from air) to generate electrical energy, eliminating the use of fossil fuels.
- The Delhi Cabinet at a meeting approved the '**Tree Transplantation Policy**' for the preservation of trees in the Capital. A minimum of 80% of trees affected by a development or construction project will be transplanted and as much 80% of the transplanted trees must survive after transplantation.
- The [World Health Organisation](#) recognises **World Mental Health Day** on 10 October every year. This year's **theme is 'mental health for all'**.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to move towards the **Next Generation Treasury Application (NGTA)**. This decision has been taken by the RBI for managing the country's foreign exchange and gold reserves. The NGTA application will help improve the functioning of the central bank.
- **Kerala has become the first state** in the country that have made the **public education completely digital**. Kerala achieved this milestone within two years of the launch of the initiative. Total expenditure on the initiative was Rs 42.36 crores. The project was implemented by Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education.

### **Current Affairs: 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

- India has successfully test-fired the **Rudram - an Anti-Radiation Missile** on October 9, 2020. It has been developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). The missile was test fired from its primary test platform Sukhoi-30 fighter aircraft off the east coast.
- India Post commenced celebration of the **National Postal Week (9<sup>th</sup> October 2020 to 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020)**, starting with **World Post Day** which is celebrated each year on 9<sup>th</sup> October.
- **Goa becomes first 'Har Ghar Jal' State** across the nation by providing tap water connection to every rural household
- **The Nobel Peace Prize 2020** has been awarded to the **United Nation's World Food Programme (WFP)**. The programme has been awarded the prize for its

efforts to fight the hunger specially in the war zones and conflict affected areas. The Norwegian Nobel Committee decided to award the prize to the WEP.

- Two women named **Emmanuelle Charpentier of France**, and **American Jennifer Doudna** have been awarded with the **Nobel Prize in Chemistry**. Charpentier and Doudna were working to develop the technology of genome editing.
- The World Economic Forum (WEF) has announced that it will hold its Annual Meeting in **Lucerne-Burgenstock, Switzerland** from May 18 to 21, 2021.
- Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) has developed the **drone RUSTOM II** and tested it successfully on 09<sup>th</sup> October 2020
- **Uttarakhand** Chief Minister has launched the “**Mukhya Mantri Saur Swarojgar Yojana**”. The scheme is aimed at promoting self-employment of the youth and promoting the **production of Green Energy**. The targeted beneficiaries include **youths and migrant workers**, who returned home after leaving jobs in various parts of the country due to pandemic. The targeted beneficiaries will be allocated Solar Plants of **25 Kilowatts (KW) each**.

### **Current Affairs: 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched a campaign called **Jan Andolan Unite to Fight** for COVID-19 Appropriate Behaviour on October 8, 2020. The campaign has been launched with a key message for people to stay united to fight Corona. The campaign reminds people to wear a mask, to wash hands, to follow social distancing and to practice ‘**Do Gaz Ki Doori**’ to fight the situation.
- Union Minister **Shri Ram Vilas Paswan** passed away on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020.
- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated on October 8, 2020 a new cryogenic oxygen plant that has been commissioned by **INOX Air Products (INOX AP)**. This is the biggest plant in the state and will help to supply oxygen in hospitals.
- Wing Commander **Gajanad Yadava** and Warrant Officer **AK Tiwari** have set a new record of the **highest skydive landing** at Khardungla Pass in Leh at an altitude of 17,982 ft
- **Zurich Airport International AG** has signed an MoU with the Noida International Airport Ltd. for developing the **Jewar airport** in Uttar Pradesh near Delhi
- The Union Minister for Education Ramesh Pokhriyal has inaugurated the **Gyan Circle Ventures** on October 8, 2020. It is a MeitY funded Technology Business Incubator (TBI) developed by the Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), Andhra Pradesh.
- The two-day half-yearly coastal security exercise, **Sagar Kavach**, along the Kerala and Karnataka coasts ended on Thursday. It was organised by Navy and Coast Guard along Kerala, Karnataka seaboard
- **Argentina** has become the first country in the world to **approve genetic modified HB4 drought-resistant transgenic wheat** by biotechnology firm Bioceres SA.
- **Andhra Pradesh** government has launched **Jagananna Vidya Kanuka Scheme** 2020-21 for students on 8th October 2020. Under the Jagananna Vidya Kanuka Scheme, the state government would provide kit consisting of three pairs of

uniforms, textbooks, notebooks, a pair of shoes, two pairs of socks, belts and a school bag to each student of class 1st to 10th in government schools.

- **Bisher Al-Khasawneh**, the policy advisor to the king has been appointed as the **new Prime Minister of Jordan**.
- **Prince William** has launched a 50-million pound **Earthshot Prize** in collaboration with the famed english broadcaster and natural historian **David Attenborough**. The aim of the prize is to fund the most innovative solutions and incentivize climate repair.
- The **Advanced Manufacturing Hub (AMHUB)** which is first of its kind in the country will be jointly set up by **World Economic Forum and Guidance in Tamil Nadu**.
- **The Nobel Prize in Literature for 2020** is awarded to the American poet **Louise Glück** "for her unmistakable poetic voice that with austere beauty makes individual existence universal".

### Current Affairs: 7<sup>th</sup> October 2020

- Under PM SVANidhi Scheme, Shri Durga Shanker Mishra, Secretary of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, had launched the Application Programming Interface (API) integration between the PM SVANidhi Portal and the State Bank of India (SBI) portal on October 7, 2020.
- India gets its first ever **Brand & Logo** for its Cotton on **2nd World Cotton Day**. India's premium cotton would be known as '**Kasturi Cotton**' in the world cotton trade.
- The Government of India has approved a memorandum of cooperation (MoC) in the field of cyber-security between India and Japan.
- Russia has test-fired the **Hypersonic Cruise missile called TSIRKON (Zircon)** successfully in the white Sea on October 7, 2020. The test fire was conducted on the occasion of the **birthday of the former Russian President Vladimir Putin**.
- **J Venkatramu** has been appointed the **managing director and chief executive officer** of India **Post Payments Bank (IPPB)**, according to a personnel ministry order issued on Wednesday. He is presently working as the **chief** digital officer in Equitas Small Finance **Bank**
- The **Meghalaya** government has decided to partner with **Israel** for establishing a **Centre of Excellence (CoE) on high-value vegetables** in the state in order to improve and promote the livelihood of farmers.
- The Union Cabinet today ratified ban on **seven Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)** listed under **Stockholm Convention** and hazardous to health and environment. The Stockholm Convention is a global treaty to protect human health and environment from POPs, which are identified chemical substances that persist in the environment, bio-accumulate in living organisms, adversely affect human health/ environment and have the property of long-range environmental transport.
- The Centre **appointed** RBI's senior-most Executive Director **M. Rajeshwar Rao** as **Deputy Governor**. He succeeds N.S. Vishwanathan, who stepped down in March, three months ahead of his extended tenure on health grounds.

- National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and Union Territory Administration of Ladakh signed an Memorandum of Understanding to promote dairying and rural livelihoods in the Union Territory of Ladakh
- The **results of the first edition of National Startup Awards (2020)** were recently released by the **Ministry of Commerce & Industry**.
- The government appointed senior **banker Dinesh Kumar Khara as chairman of the State Bank of India**.
- The **Chief Minister of Delhi Arvind Kejriwal** will be **among the five urban leaders** from around the world to speak at the 'Daring Cities 2020' conference on 7<sup>th</sup> October.
- **Kozhikode-Wayanad Tunnel** Project is 7-km tunnel, being described as the third-longest in the country, is part of an 8-km road cutting through sensitive forests and hills of the Western Ghats. Its endpoints are at **Maripuzha in Thiruvambady village panchayat (Kozhikode) and Kalladi in Meppadi panchayat (Wayanad)**.

### Current Affairs: 6<sup>th</sup> October 2020

- The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) will commission the India's **largest High Performance Computing and Artificial Intelligence (HPC-AI)** supercomputer, '**PARAM Siddhi - AI**'. This would put India into top countries in the field of global AI supercomputing research and innovation.
- PM spoke with his Israeli counterpart Benjamin Netanyahu on October 6, 2020 and India - Israel agreed to continue and **advance bilateral cooperation in order to fight against the coronavirus in the fields of research**, field trials of diagnostic tools and vaccine development.
- India and Myanmar have agreed to operationalise the **Sittwe port** in the **Rakhine** state by first quarter of 2021.
- The Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan launched the **Ayush Standard Treatment Protocol** at an event held on October 6, 2020 via video conference. The protocol comprises the self-care guidelines on preventive health measures that will help in protecting against COVID-19 pandemic.
- A historic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed today between Indian Sign Language Research and Training Center-**ISLRTC** (a National Institute of DEPwD, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment) and **NCERT** (a National Institute of Ministry of Education) to **make education materials accessible for Deaf children in their preferred format of communication viz Indian Sign Language**.
- The Gujarat State Government launched the "**Digital Seva Setu Programme**" for rural areas on October 6, 2020. It was launched under the Bharat Net Project of the Central government. The **villages will be connected with the 100 MBps optical fibre network** with an aim to make every village a mini Sachivalay. The programme connects the village panchayats. It will provide twenty pro-people services including the delivery of ration cards at door steps.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday launched '**MSME Prerana**', an online business mentoring programme for MSMEs by state-run Indian Bank. The

programme, to be made available in local languages, is **aimed at empowering entrepreneurs through skill development and capacity building workshops**, the bank said in a release.

- **Prasar Bharati and Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO)** signed a MoU on October 6, 2020 in order to **broadcast and promote new agriculture technology and innovations**.
- Delhi CM **Arvind Kejriwal** has announced the launch of the anti-pollution campaign '**Yudh Pradushan Ke Virudh**' to reduce the pollution level in Delhi. An anti-dust campaign is being initiated by the Delhi government to settle the dust.

### **Current Affairs: 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a mega virtual summit on **Artificial Intelligence RAISE 2020- 'Responsible AI for Social Empowerment 2020'** on October 5, 2020
- Scientists from the Agharkar Research Institute (ARI) have recently discovered two new species of pipeworts, a type of wetland plant in the Western Ghats of Maharashtra and Karnataka. The species reported from **Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra** has been named ***Eriocaulon parvicephalum*** (due to its minute inflorescence size), and the other reported from **Kumta, Karnataka** is called **Eriocaulon karaavalense** (named after Karaavali, Coastal Karnataka region).
- **The World Habitat Day** is observed on the first Monday of October month every year. The day is being celebrated under the theme- **Housing for All-A better Urban Future**
- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully flight-tested the **Supersonic Missile Assisted Release of Torpedo (SMART)**. The flight was successfully tested today on October 5, 2020 from the Wheeler Island from the coast of Odisha. This launch is significant to establish the anti-submarine warfare capabilities and is a significant step that comply with the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative.
- MoHUA Joins Hands with **Swiggy** to Take Street Food Vendors Online Under **PM SVANIDHI Scheme**
- Former first female Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court, **Justice KK Usha**, passed away. She served as a judge from **1991 to 2000**.
- Nobel Prize 2020 in **Physiology or Medicine** jointly awarded to **Harvey J. Alter, Michael Houghton and Charles M. Rice for the discovery of Hepatitis C virus**
- The **Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI)** has now been recognised by the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) as **one of the global network of laboratories for a centralised assessment of COVID-19 vaccines**, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) said on Monday
- The **Puducherry airport** has become the first airport of the **Airports Authority of India (AAI)** which is entirely solar-powered. The **500KWp** ground-mounted solar power plant was commissioned on 2nd October 2020. The approx cost of the plant is Rs 2.8 crore
- Japan hosted the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Science and Technology in Society (STS) Forum and India participated at the Science & Technology Ministerial Roundtable

### Current Affairs: 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020

- On 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020, **India – Bahrain** discussed on Bilateral Cooperation in Financial Sector
- The Indian Army has built up a memorial in the honour of twenty soldiers who lost their lives in the Galwan Clash between Indian Army and Chinese Army in June 2020 in the **Shyok-Daulat Beg Oldi road**. The memorial contains the names of the soldiers and they have been mentioned as “**Gallants of Galwan**”.
- **Dalle Khursani**, the famous red hot cherry pepper of **Sikkim**, is set to get a **geographical indication (GI) tag** from the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).
- Recently, scientists from the **Centre for Plant Molecular Biology (CPMB)** have uncovered the mechanism by which a **bacterium called Xoo** interacts with rice plants and causes disease. **Xanthomonas oryzae pv. oryzae (Xoo)** causes a **serious bacterial leaf blight disease in rice**. It is also known as **Bacterial blight**
- The **Delhi-Mumbai expressway** will have India's **first-ever animal overpass**. These will be on **the lines of “animal bridges” in the Netherlands** for safe passage of wildlife. These have been planned to ensure there are no disturbances to the Ranthambore Wildlife Corridor connecting Ranthambhore and Mukundra (Darrah) wildlife sanctuaries in Rajasthan.

### Current Affairs: 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

- Prime Minister inaugurated the **Atal Tunnel** which is the **world longest high-altitude tunnel at Rohtang**. The tunnel is located above the altitude of 10,000 feet (3,000 feet). The tunnel has the **length of 9.02 km**. The tunnel is of 8 metres wide and the overhead clearance is of 5.525 metres. The tunnel is located in the Pir Panjal range of Himalaya under the Rohtang pass.
- Reliance Develops **R-Green kit**- can give COVID results in 2 hours
- India successfully test-fired a new version of **nuclear-capable Shaurya missile** on October 3, 2020 from the coast of Odisha. The missile can strike targets at **around 800 kms**. It is a hypersonic surface to surface tactical ballistic missile with a range of 700 to 1900 km and are capable of carrying a payload of 2000 kg to 1 ton
- A tree species **Madhuca diplostemon** (family Sapotaceae), a threatened species of the Western Ghats rediscovered after a gap of more than 180 years from a sacred grove in **Kollam district**.
- Eco disasters have been observed at **Kamchatka peninsula** also known as **land of fire and ice** in east **Russia**, with the massive death of sea animals at precious Pacific beach.
- India's **Visnu Shivaraj Pandian** won the **10m air rifle** event at the **fifth** edition of the **International Online Shooting Championship** on Saturday. The 16-year-old Visnu shot 251.4 to win the title by a clear margin of two points.

### Current Affairs: 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2020

- Indian Navy (IN) – Bangladesh Navy (BN) Bilateral Exercise **Bongosagar** is scheduled to commence in Northern Bay of Bengal on 03 October 2020.
- PM's address at **Vaishwik Bhartiya Vaigyanik (VAIBHAV) Summit 2020**.

- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs will celebrate **six years of Swachh Bharat Mission** on the occasion of birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on October 2.
- **The International Day of Non-Violence** is observed on October 2 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. United Nations General Assembly started the observance of the day in 2007. This year the day is being celebrated under the **Theme- Shaping Peace Together**.
- The Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Skekhawat presented the **Swachh Bharat Awards, 2020 on October 2, 2020**. The awards were presented under the cleanliness and drinking water categories. **Gujarat** won the **first prize at state level**, **Tirunelveli** of Tamil Nadu got the **first prize at district level**, **Kharchrod** block in Ujjain district, Madhya Pradesh won the **first prize at block level** and **Chinnanur** village of Tamil Nadu got **the first prize a Gram Panchayat level**.
- **World Day for Farmed Animals** was celebrated on October 2, 2020 by the International animals' welfare organization, World Animal Protection along with the Asia for Animals coalition in order to bring the focus on the need to treat farm animals as sentient beings.
- **Northrop Grumman** has launched their next Cygnus vehicle named as **S.S. Kalpana Chawla and a Antares rocket** for the NG-14 mission to the International Space Station (ISS) on October 2, 2020 from Pad 0A at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport in Virginia.
- **Wildlife Week** is annually celebrated across India between **2nd to 8th October** with an aim to protect and preserve the flora and fauna of India. The Wildlife Week 2020 is celebrated from **2nd October to 8th October 2020**. theme **Roar (Roar and Revive) – Exploring Human-Animal Relationships**.

#### Current Affairs: 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020

- October 1 is observed as the **International Day of Older Persons** annually all across the world. The day is observed by the United Nations and several other organizations. 2020 edition of the day marks its 30th anniversary. 2020 edition seeks to promote **"Decade of Healthy Ageing"** (2020-2030).
- The indigenously developed **Laser Guided Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM)** was successfully test fired today on 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 2020 defeating a target located at longer range.
- **NASA has partner with HeroX**, a social network focused on innovation that launched the prize competition **"NASA's Watts on the Moon Challenge"**. NASA seeks to incentivize the development of robust energy solution power sustained human presence on the lunar surface in support of the agency's Artemis program to land the 1<sup>st</sup> woman and the next man on the moon.
- **PD Vaghela**, the new **chairman** of the **Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai)**, took charge on Thursday, a day after **RS Sharma** demitted office after a five-year term, which included an unprecedented two-year extension.
- **Air Marshal Vikram Singh** took over as Senior Air Staff Officer, Headquarters Western Air Command on 01 Oct 20.
- **A 66 MW Dhaulasidh Hydro Project** is proposed on the horseshoe curve of the river **Beas** near the temple at Amla village in Nadaun sub-division of **Hamirpur Himachal Pradesh**

- Defence ministry places order for 10 lakh multi-mode hand grenades for the Army. The **multi-mode hand grenade**(MMHG) has been designed by DRDO/**Terminal Ballistic Research Laboratories (TBRL)** and is being produced by M/s EEL, Nagpur. The grenades have a distinctive design, in that, they can be used in both Offensive and Defensive Modes

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