

Daily Current Affairs January 2021

Current Affairs: 31st January 2021

- The **last Sunday of January** is celebrated as the **World Leprosy Day every year**. The day is observed all across the world.
- The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, will address the **125th anniversary celebration 'Prabuddha Bharata'** which is scheduled to be organized on January 31, 2021

Current Affairs: 30th January 2021

- The **Larsen & Toubro (L&T) has bagged** a contract worth Rs 1390 crore for the **Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project**. This project is India's first such project. L&T has bagged the contract for the project from the National High-Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL).
- President Ram Nath Kovind on January 30, 2021 launched the countrywide Pulse Polio Programme for 2021 by administering polio drops to children less than five years old at the Rashtrapati Bhawan. **The Polio National Immunization Day (NID), also known as the "Polio Ravivar", will be observed on January 31.**
- The **73rd death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi** was observed as Martyrs' Day on January 30, 2021. He was assassinated on this day in 1948.
- In Kargil Ladakh, the **first ever Zaskar Winter Sports and Youth Festival, 2021 concluded at Munskit Chumik Zaskar** on January 30, 2021. The Festival featured various cultural and sports activities like ice hockey, snow skiing, horse riding, yak riding, ice climbing, snow sculpture, archery matches.

Current Affairs: 29th January 2021

- **Rajasthan has become the 5th state** in the country to successfully **complete the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) reforms**.
- Recently, India joined the **world and Light Up Qutub Minar** as a sign of unity to combat the Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD)
- The government has announced for **the launch of Start-up India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS)** on January 29, 2021. The scheme will be launched with a corpus of Rs 945 crore. The scheme was launched with the aim of providing the financial assistance to start-ups for the product trials, market-entry, proof of concept, prototype development and commercialization.
- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman tabled **the Economic Survey 2020-21 in the Lok Sabha on January 29, 2021**

Current Affairs: 28th January 2021

- The Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, will address the **Davos Dialogue of World Economic Forum** on January 28, 2021
- **The Reliance Jio venture of billionaire Mukesh Ambani has become the fifth strongest brand** globally. It now stands behind the brands like Ferrari and Coca-Cola

- **India's rank has slipped six places to 86th among 180 countries in corruption perception index (CPI) in 2020.** For 2020, Transparency International (TI)'s Corruption Perception Index (CPI) was released on January 28, 2021. The index, which ranks 180 countries and territories by their perceived levels of public sector corruption according to experts and business people. **New Zealand and Denmark were ranked first.**
- The Indian Naval Fast Attack Craft, **IN FAC T-81, of the Super Dvora MK II class was decommissioned** on January 28 2020 in Mumbai.
- On 28th January 2021, Department of Economic Affairs under the Ministry of Education and World Bank Signed **Strengthening Teaching Learning and Results for States Programs (STARS)**

Current Affairs: 27th January 2021

- Recently, the Google workers from all around the globe have formed an international union called the "**Alpha Global**". The new union has been named after Google's parent company Alphabet.
- The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) observed the **International Customs Day on January 27, 2021.** Theme "**Customs bolstering Recovery, Renewal and Resilience for a sustainable supply chain**".
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved hike in **the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for milling copra and ball copra**
- The **West Bengal Transport Corporation has launched the First Young Readers' Boat Library.** The library has been launched in collaboration with a heritage book store. It has been launched on a boat making it first of its kind initiative
- **The International Holocaust Remembrance Day was observed on January 27** at the Bengaluru International Centre. Theme: "**Facing the Aftermath: Recovery and Reconstitution after the Holocaust**".

Current Affairs: 26th January 2021

- **Elon Musk's SpaceX** has created a new world record. It **has launched 143 satellites on a single rocket called Falcon 9 rocket.** With the new record, SpaceX has broken the record of Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) that has deployed 104 satellites on a single launch in February 2017.
- The annual event **Bharat Parv** that celebrates the spirit of India is being organised virtually from January 26, 2021 till January 31, 2021. Bharat Parv is being organised with the overall theme focusing on **the Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat**
- **Akshay Kumar** launched the mobile action game '**Fearless and United Guards (FAU-G).**
- **India celebrated its 72nd Republic Day.** The Republic Day Parade this year was though muted amid the COVID-19 pandemic and no chief guest was invited.
- **Rajasthan has launched a new School of Public Health.** The school was launched in order to make the policy intervention to build the public health capacity and skills. It will also help in bridging the gaps between education and practices in Rajasthan

- **International Customs Day 2021** was observed on 26th January.

Current Affairs: 25th January 2021

- The **National Voters' Day (NVD)** was celebrated on **January 25, 2021** to encourage, facilitate and maximize enrolment, especially for the new voters. The Day is celebrated on the 25th of January every year since 2011, to mark the foundation day of Election Commission of India (ECI) that was set up on the 25th January 1950. Theme: '**Making Our Voters Empowered, Vigilant, Safe and Informed**'.
- **India on January 25, 2021 successfully test-fired the Akash-NG (new-generation) surface-to-air missile** from an integrated test range off the Odisha coast. The missile will be used by the Indian Air Force to intercept high-maneuvring low radar cross-section aerial threats.
- Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad launched the **e-EPIC (Electronic Electoral Photo Identity Card)** programme on the occasion of National Voters' Day (NVD) on January 25, 2021. e-EPIC, a digital version of the Elector Photo Identity Card can be accessed through the Voter Helpline App and websites.
- **Himachal Pradesh** celebrated its **50th Statehood day on January 25, 2021**
- The Oxfam has recently published its report titled "**The Inequality Virus**". In its report, the Oxfam finds that the COVID-19 pandemic has deepened the existing inequalities in India and across the world.
- The government of Maharashtra has decided to start a '**jail tourism**' from the **Yerawada prison of Pune**. It will start on January 26, 2021. This initiative is being launched in the state with the aim of facilitating the people to visit and see the historical prisons in the state.
- The United States Senate on January 25, 2021 confirmed economist and former Federal Reserve Chairperson **Janet Yellen as first woman Treasury Secretary of the United States**.

Current Affairs: 24th January 2021

- Union Home Minister, Amit Shah, attended the **first BTR (Bodoland Territorial Region) Accord Day celebration at Kokrajhar in Assam**. The first BTR was celebrated on January 24, 2021. Shah assured the Bodo people on preserving the Bodo language and the culture & political rights of Bodo people.
- The **National Girl Child Day is celebrated every year on January 24, 2021**. It is an initiative of the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- The **International Day of Education was observed on January 24, 2021**. The United Nations General Assembly had adopted the resolution proclaiming 24 January as International Day of Education on December 3, 2018
- The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has launched **ShramShakti**. It is a national migration Support Portal. It would help in the easy formulation of state and national level programs for migrant workers.
- From 21-25 Jan 2021 a tri-service joint exercise **AMPHEX-21** took place in Andaman & Nicobar group of Islands. The exercise involved participation of troops of Army, Navy and Indian Air Force.

- Madhya Pradesh has launched a new scheme **PANKH Abhiyan**. The letter **PANKH stands for Protection, Awareness of their Rights Nutrition Knowledge and Health**

Current Affairs: 23rd January 2021

- Uttar Pradesh will launch a state-wide, free coaching programme named **'Abhyudaya' from February**. This coaching programme will help students to prepare for various competitive examinations.
- **The first commercial flight services between Delhi and Sikkim commenced on January 23, 2021** with a Bombardier Q400 aircraft of SpiceJet airline. The flight landed at Pakyong airport in the Himalayan state with 57 passengers.
- **Spain and France have recently signed an agreement to build 590 MW of solar power plant**. This will be the largest solar power plant in Europe
- **The Operation Sard Hawa was launched by the Border Security Force** in the western border of Rajasthan. The main purpose of the operation is to check the instances of infiltration due to dense fog in the region. The Operation has also been launched to enhance the security ahead of Republic Day

Current Affairs: 22nd January 2021

- On January 22, 2021, the Department of Science and Technology announced that India is currently in **third position in scientific publications after China and US**. According to DST, the initiatives such as National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations have played a crucial role to reach this position.
- On January 22, 2021, the popular **Bhajan Singer Narendra Chanchal** died at the age of 80.
- On January 22, 2021, the first treaty to ban nuclear weapons called the **"Treaty on Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons" came into force**. The treaty was approved by United Nations General Assembly in 2017. It was supported by 120 members of the UN. However, none of the nine members of the UN that possess nuclear weapons supported it. **These nine countries are US, Britain, Russia, China, France, Pakistan, India, Israel and North Korea.**

Current Affairs: 21st January 2021

- NASA recently shared the picture of a **huge cluster of galaxies** called **Abell 370**. It is a galaxy cluster located four billion light years away from the earth. The galaxy cluster is located in the constellation called Cetus. The core of Abell 370 is made of more than hundred galaxies
- On January 21, 2021, **Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura celebrated their statehood day**. The three states gained their statehood on January 21, 1972.
- The larger scale **joint military exercise Kavach** involving Indian Army, Indian Navy and Indian Air Force is to be held in January 2021 under the Andaman and Nicobar Command.
- On January 21, 2021, the HAL successfully test fired the **Smart Anti Airfield Weapon, SAAW** from the Hawk aircraft.

- On January 21, 2021, a major fire broke out at the building of **Serum Institute of India in Pune**. The Manjri facility located in the outskirts of Pune is where the COVISHILED vaccine is produced.
- On January 21, 2021, the Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan inaugurated the seventh edition of “**MASCRADE 2021**”. MASCRADE is Movement against Smuggled and Counterfeit Trade. It is organised by FICCI.
- On January 21, 2021, **India and French Air Forces conducted Exercise Desert Knight 21** in Jodhpur. The Rafale fighter jets participated in the exercise.

Current Affairs: 20th January 2021

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** was chosen as the **new chairman of the trust that manages the world famous Somnath Temple in Gujarat**. Prime Minister Modi is the second person to hold the post after the former Prime Minister Morarji Desai.
- The **Uttarakhand** government recently announced that it is increasing the working days under the **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act from hundred to 150**.
- **Iran and six other countries have lost their voting rights in the United Nations General Assembly** as they had not paid their dues. The other countries that lost their voting rights were Niger, South Sudan, Zimbabwe, Congo Brazzaville, Central African Republic and Libya.
- The **Gujarat** Government is to patent the **Dragon Fruit in the name of “Kamalam”**. Kamalam is also the name of the BJP state party headquarters in Gujarat. Dragon Fruit The Dragon fruit is a cactus variety fruit. It is widely cultivated in South east Asia, United States, Australia, India, Caribbean islands and Mesoamerica.
- **Karnataka topped India Innovation Index of NITI Aayog**. Maharashtra ranked second and Tamil Nadu ranked third respectively.
- The Union Cabinet recently approved the **Ratle Hydro Power project on River Chenab** on Jammu and Kashmir.
- **Pakistan recently test fired Shaheen III missile**. The missile is of 2,750 kilo metres range. It is a surface-to-surface ballistic missile.
- The Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa recently launched **Avalokana software**. The software will enable the state government to access data on expenditures and sanctions incurred on 1,800 programmes. It is a transparent e-governance tool that will provide Assembly constituency wise release of government grants and allocations to different government programmes
- India celebrated **Guru Gobind Singh Jayanti on January 20, 2021**
- The Gujarat chief Minister recently announced the “**Horticulture Development Mission**”. It is also called “**Bagayat Vikas Mission**”. The main objective of the mission is to double the income of the farmers involved in horticulture and medicinal farming.

Current Affairs: 19th January 2021

- **Bilkis dadi**, the face of the Shaheen Bagh anti-CAA protests, and social activist and writer Harsh Mander of Karwan-e-Mohabbat were presented the **Quaide Milleth**

Award for Probity in Political and Public Life at the India Islamic Cultural Centre, New Delhi.

- The Jammu and Kashmir Government recently sought **GI tag for Gucho mushroom**. The Gucho mushrooms are highly expensive and are full of health benefits. 500 grams of Gucho mushrooms cost Rs 18,000
- A **bird festival is to be organised at Mahananda wildlife Sanctuary** in West Bengal. The festival is first of its kind. It is to be organised by Darjeeling Wildlife Division. The Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary has been identified as an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Chinese President Xi Jing Ping are to participate in the **Davos Agenda Summit**. The Davos Agenda Summit is organised by the **World Economic Forum**. The “Great Reset Initiative” of the World Economic Forum is to be launched during the Davos Agenda Summit. The theme of the Davos Agenda Summit, 2021 is “**Stakeholders for a cohesive and sustainable world**”.
- The Government of India recently announced that the **birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose is to be celebrated as “Parakram Diwas”**. Parakram means Courage.
- On January 19, 2021, the Reserve Bank of India said that **SBI, ICICI and HDFC banks continue to be Domestic Systematically Important Banks**.
- On January 19, 2021, India announced that it will **supply covid-19 vaccines to Maldives, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Seychelles and Myanmar**.

Current Affairs: 18th January 2021

- The **Aero India-21 mobile application** was recently launched by the Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. The mobile app will act as a handy interactive interface for all the issues related to Aero India 2021. The application has features to support the attendees, exhibitors and media of Aero India 21
- The state of **Tamil Nadu celebrates Thiruvalluvar Day** during Pongal celebrations. Every year, the **Thiruvalluvar Day is celebrated on the second day of Tamil month “thai”**. Thiruvalluvar Thiruvalluvar is a Tamil poet and is best known as the author of Thirukkural.
- On January 18, 2021, the Institute of Nuclear medicine and allied Sciences (INMAS) operating under DRDO handed over **21 bike ambulances called Rakshita** to the Central Reserve Police Force. The ambulances have been created on Royal Enfield Classic motorcycles.
- **India and France are to conduct a 5-day air exercise Ex-Desert Knight 21** near Jodhpur, Rajasthan. The exercise will provide operational exposure and will share best practices towards enhancing combat capability.
- The **National Road Safety Week** is observed every year in the 2nd week of January. It is observed by the ministry of Road Transport & Highways. But in 2021 **GOI decided to observe National Road Safety Month from 18th January 2021 to 17th February 2021**

Current Affairs: 17th January 2021

- **India's first voter Shyam Saran Negi** (103) voted in the panchayat elections in Kinnaur district of **Himachal Pradesh** on January 17, 2021. Believed to be the first voter in the 1952 General Election, Negi was born on July 1, 1917 and retired as a schoolteacher.
- Legendary **Indian classical musician Ustad Ghulam Mustafa Khan died in Mumbai** on January 17, 2021 at the age of 89. He was awarded the Padma Shri in 1991, followed by Padma Bhushan in 2006 and Padma Vibhushan in 2018. In 2003 he was awarded the Sangeet Natak Akademi award.
- Union Education Minister **Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'** was honoured by the **Hindi Writers Guild, Canada** for his literary work on January 16, 2021. Nishank was conferred with the "**Sahitya Gaurav Samman**" through a virtual programme. India's High Commissioner in Canada Ajay Bisaria was also present on the occasion.
- The **country's first Labour Movement Museum**, showcasing the history of world labour movement, would be **launched in Alappuzha, Kerala**. The museum will feature a huge repository of documents and exhibits that shaped the labour movements across the continents, state Tourism department said on January 17, 2021.
- UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson has **invited his Indian counterpart Narendra Modi for the G7 summit** on January 17, 2021 for the high-level meeting to be presided over by Britain in Cornwall between June 11 and 13.
- The Ministry of Railways recently **approved a new Iron Ore Policy**. The policy is to come into effect on February 10, 2021. The Iron Ore Policy governs the allocation of rakes and transportation of iron-ore.
- On January 17, 2021 NASA has launched the most powerful rocket in the world the **Space Launch System**
- **Nazhat Shameem Khan** has been elected as the president of the human rights council for 2021.
- **Yes Bank** has joined hand with **Aditya Birla Financial Services** to launch wellness themed credit cards.
- **Kerala** have started **one school one IAS program**.

Current Affairs: 16th January 2021

- Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda will virtually **receive SKOCH Challenger Award** conferred to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for e-Governance on January 16, 2021.
- Pakistan recently issued special permits to Dubai ruler Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al-Maktoum and five other members of their family to **hunt Houbara Bustard** during the 2020-21 hunting season.
- With the assembly elections are to be held in Tamil Nadu in 2021, **Jallikattu**, a traditional bull-taming sport of the state has caught the attention of the political parties in the country.
- The 51st edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI), Goa has conferred **Biswajit Chatterjee**, veteran actor, producer, director and singer of Hindi and Bengali cinema, with the **Indian Personality of the Year Award**.

Bangladesh has been announced as the country in Focus for 51st edition of the International Film Festival of India

- The **Karnataka Prevention of Slaughter and Preservation of Cattle Ordinance, 2020**, to ban slaughter of cattle, will come into effect from January 18. The State government issued a notification to this effect on January 16. The Ordinance bans slaughter of cows, bulls, and bullocks of all ages, besides he or she buffaloes aged below 13.
- The Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA) of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Ministry on January 16, 2021 launched **month-long mass awareness campaign 'SAKSHAM'** to spread awareness about green and clean energy. The pan-India campaign will focus on adoption of cleaner fuels.
- Uganda's Electoral Commission said on January 16, 2021 that **President Yoweri Museveni** won a **sixth five-year term**, extending his rule to four decades.

Current Affairs: 15th January 2021

- On January 15, 2021, the **Government of India is to launch the third phase of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana**. The third Phase is to be implemented by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. Under the third phase of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, 729 Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra are to be established and more than 200 ITIs are to be rolled out under Skill India mission. This will build a robust pool of skilled professionals.
- The **two-day 'Prarambh' Start-up India International Summit** is being organised in **New Delhi** on January 15-16, 2021. Members of BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) countries participated in the inaugural event. The summit is being organized by the **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade**.
- **India and Japan signed** a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance cooperation in the **field of Information and Communications Technologies** on January 15, 2021
- **BEML**, a defence public sector equipment manufacturer under the Ministry of Defence (MoD), on January 15, 2021 unveiled '**Driverless Metro Car**' for Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA). Defence Minister Rajnath Singh unveiled 'Driverless Metro Car' at a function held at BEML's Bangalore Complex.
- **Russia announced on January 15, 2021 it was pulling out of the Open Skies treaty**, saying that the pact, which allows unarmed surveillance flights over member countries, had been seriously compromised by the withdrawal of the United States. The US left the Open Skies arms control and verification treaty in November, accusing Russia of violating it.
- **Indian Army Day is observed on 15th January** annually.
- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar inaugurated the **country's first small aircraft air taxi service. The air taxi service in its first phase will function from Chandigarh to Hisar**. The service will be operated from Chandigarh under UDAN scheme of the central government.
- **Financial Software and Systems(FSS) has cooperated with India Post Payments Bank** to advance monetary consideration among underserved and unbanked portions.

- **Bihar's first state-level bird festival 'Kalrav'** will be held at the world famous **Nagi-Nakti bird sanctuaries** in the Jamui district from January 15. The three - day event is expected to draw experts and bird lovers from all over the country.
- **Bhawana Kanth** will be the first woman fighter pilot to take part in republic day parade.

Current Affairs: 14th January 2021

- **National Informatics Centre and Central Board of Secondary Education, CBSE** will jointly launch **CollabCAD Software** on January 14, 2021 to provide a total engineering solution for students and Faculty of Engineering Graphics Curriculum. This initiative aims to provide a platform to students across the country to create and modify 3D digital designs.
- On January 14, 2021, the Union Science and Technology minister Dr Harsh Vardhan laid the **foundation stone of CSIR- National Institute of Science communication and policy research in New Delhi**. The institute has been formed by merging CSIR-NISCAIR and CSIR-NISTADS.
- On January 14, 2021, **Armed Forces Veterans day was celebrated**. The armed forces day marks the retirement day of Field Marshal Cariappa. Cariappa was the first Indian commander in chief of the Indian armed forces. He retired on January 14, 1953.
- The Indian army and the defence Research Development organisation DRDO has developed India's **first indigenous 9 mm machine pistol called ASMI**.
- On January 14, 2021, the **75th foundation day of the Food Corporation of India** was celebrated.
- On January 14, 2021, the president of Supreme Court bar association **Dushyant Dave** resigned from her post.
- On January 14, 2021 the ministry of external affairs announced that there will be **no chief guest at the Republic Day celebrations** due to global situation arising because of covid-19. The decision has been taken after the British Prime Minister Boris Johnson cancelled his visit to India to attend the Republic Day celebrations due to the pandemic.
- On January 14, 2021, **Google reviewed hundreds of personal loan apps in India**. That it giant then remove those Apps that were found to be violating uses safety policies.

Current Affairs: 13th January 2021

- The Supreme Court on January 13, 2021 took **suo motu cognizance of pollution in the Yamuna after Delhi Jal Board (DJB)** alleged that water containing high pollutants is being released in the river from Haryana. Suo Moto has been mentioned under Article 32 and Article 226 of Indian Constitution
- Social activist and 2019 Padma Shri awardee **D. Prakash Rao passed away in Cuttack** on January 13, 2021 at the age of 63.
- The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has launched an e-portal for filing complaints about tax evasion, **'benami' properties** and undisclosed assets overseas.
- On January 13, 2021, the Supreme Court of India ordered the state and union territories to **reopen Anganwadi centres**. The centre for closed during lockdown.

- On January 13, 2021, **Donald Trump became the first president of United States to be impeached twice.**
- On January 13, 2021, **Snapchat permanently banned the United States President Donald Trump** from the platform.
- On January 13, 2021, the United States announced a ban on the entry of **tomato and cotton products from the Xinjiang region of China.**
- **Sagar Anveshika** is a coastal Research Vessel recently launched by the union Science & technology Minister.
- Sometimes seen in the news **LiDAR** which stands for **Light Detection and Ranging**. It is a remote sensing method that uses light in pulse laser form to calculate different distances to the earth.
- Flipkart ecommerce company has collaborated with NITI Aayog for the enhancement of the women entrepreneurship platform.

Current Affairs: 12th January 2021

- **Every year National Youth Day is celebrated on January 12.** It is also called the “**Yuva Diwas**”. The National Youth Day is celebrated to create awareness about rights of people in India. It educates people to behave properly in the country.
Theme: Utsah Naye Bharat Ka.
- The **Henley Passport Index** was launched by the **International Air Transport Association**. Around 227 different travel destinations are considered to launch the index. The index is released based on the number of destinations the holders can access without visa. **India ranked 85th in the Henley Passport Index.** India scored 58 in the Henley Passport Index.
- The United States recently designated **Cuba as a state sponsor of terrorism.**
- **Consumer Price Index (CPI)**-based inflation eased to 4.59% in December 2020 compared to 6.93% in November, according to government data released on January 12, 2021.
- **Bandhan Bank** has launched **Shaurya Salary Account** to provide banking facility services to the personnel of Armed Forces and Paramilitary services.
- The martial art form of **Kalaripayattu** is associated with the state of Kerala and is considering among the oldest surviving martial art of the country.
- The **Ken-Betwa link project (KBLP)** is a **river interlinking projects**. The objective of the project is to transfer surplus water from the Ken river in Madhya Pradesh to the Betwa river in Uttar Pradesh.
- The government of India has merged the cadres of J&K officers with the cadre of **AGMUT** which comprises of Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram and Union Territory.

Current Affairs: 11th January 2021

- On January 11, 2021, Niti Aayog, Atal innovation mission and the Indian Space Research Organization announced that the **ISRO will be adopting 100 Atal tinkering lab**. This is being done to promote space education and space Technology related innovations for school students.
- The Indian Navy is to organise a **mega defence exercise called Sea Vigil-21**. The exercise will cover the 7516 kilometres of coastline and the Exclusive Economic

Zone. This exercise is to check the efficacy of safety procedures put in place after 26/11 attack 2008.

- On January 11, 2021, the **Kerala government waved entertainment tax for Cinemas** to help the film industries in the state.
- On January 11, 2021, the ministry of **coal launched single window clearance portal**. It is a unified platform to facilitate approvals required for starting a coal mine in India.
- **Pope Francis** recently changed the **Church laws to allow women to do more things during Mass**. The law that defines proceedings during Mass and in Altar is called Code of Canon Law. This law has now been amended to allow women to serve in Altar
- The **One Planet Summit** was held on January 11, 2021. The summit aims to advance the protection of nature. The One Planet summit is an international event that focused on biodiversity to mobilize commitments to protect the ecosystems and make links to human health.
- The **Manipur Govt. started organizing the Chery Blossom Mao festival** every year at Senapati district marking the beginning of pink season.
- **Gujarat Government** has decided to **create a new Prant called the Bagasara Prant**.
- **Faustin-Archange Touadera** has been re-elected as **President of the Central African Republic**
- Recently in **Jammu & Kashmir Satark Nagrik mobile application** was launched.
- **An all-female Indian pilot team** made history, after they **completed the longest non-stop commercial flight** ever operated by an Indian national airline. Air India flight 176 -- a Boeing 777 -- departed from San Francisco on January 11, and arrived in Bengaluru, in southern India, on Monday at 3.07am India Standard Time (4.37pm ET), covering a distance of more than 8,600 miles

Current Affairs: 10th January 2021

- On January 10, 2021, the Government of India announced that **CoWIN will monitor covid-19 vaccine delivery** and form the foundation of anti-coronavirus inoculation drive.
- The **World Hindi Day was observed on January 10**. The day is celebrated every year to promote the use of Hindi language abroad.
- The Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal recently **flagged off 25 buses under "Bhraman Sarathi" scheme for senior citizens and women**. The beneficiaries can travel for **free in the buses within the Guwahati city**.
- **African Runners won Dhaka Marathon 2021**. It was organised to commemorate the return of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman from Pakistan jail to Bangladesh in 1972.
- The Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari is to launch "**Khadi Prakritik Paint**". The Khadi Prakritik Paint is a non-toxic eco-friendly paint with anti-bacterial and anti-fungal properties. It is the first-of-its kind product.
- The Geological Survey of India has found promising concentrations of **Vanadium in the Tamang and Depo areas of Arunachal Pradesh**. According to Geological

Survey of India, the Vanadium mineralisation is geologically similar to the “Stone Coal” Vanadium deposits of China.

- NASA has announced the winners for this year’s **Artemis Next-Gen STEM – Moon to Mars App Development Challenge**, and **Indian high school Student Aryan Jain** is part of the team that won the prestigious coding challenge.
- On January 10, 2021, commander **Abhilash Tomy** retired from Indian Navy. He was the **first Indian to circumnavigate the globe solo and unassisted in a sail yacht**.
- **Raj Iyer** has taken charge as the **US Army’s first Chief Information Officer**.
- **R Giridharan** a general manager at RBI is the author of the novel **Right Under Your Nose**.
- On 10 January 2021, **Sadyr Nurgozhoevich Japarov** was elected as **President of Kyrgyzstan**. Japarov has been described as a nationalist and a populist.

Current Affairs: 09th January 2021

- Every year the **Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is celebrated on January 9. Theme:** Contributing to Atma Nirbhar Bharat. It is celebrated to mark the contribution of overseas Indian community towards the development of India.
- A **passenger plane of Indonesia’s Sriwijaya Air** carrying 62 people on board **crashed into waters off Jakarta** on January 9, 2021.
- **Agnes Keleti, the oldest living Olympic champion, turned 100** on January 9, 2021. She won 10 medals for Hungary in gymnastics at the Olympic Games including 5 golds — 1 at Helsinki in 1952 and 4 at Melbourne in 1956.
- The combat vehicles research and development establishment in Chennai operating under **DRDO recently handed over the retractable landing gear system for TAPAS unmanned aerial vehicle**. These tears systems are to be used by the Indian Navy.
- **Avian influenza or Bird Flu is caused by influenza Type A viruses**. It is highly infectious viral disease which generally affects poultry birds such as chickens and turkeys.
- **Caracal** recently in news is a **medium sized wildcat** found in some parts of Rajasthan and Gujarat. It has been added into the list of critically endangered species.
- **G Kishan Reddy Committee** which is recently in news is related to **Protect the language, culture and land of Ladakh**.
- **LASI** which is recently in news stands for **Longitudinal Ageing Study of India**. It is a full scale national survey of scientific investigation of the economic, health and social reasons and consequences of population ageing in India.

Current Affairs: 08th January 2021

- The **Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)** got a new chief in **Subodh Kumar Jaiswal**, who took over as the new Director General of the force on January 8, 2021
- The **National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI)** announced that it will **offer a free Internationalized Domain Name (IDN)** in any of the preferred 22 official Indian languages along with every IN domain booked by the registrant. Applicant will also get a free email in local language.

- The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on January 8, 2021 **launched Government of India's digital calendar and diary for 2021**, instead of printing them.
- West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on January 8, 2021 virtually inaugurated the **26th Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF)** that will conclude on January 13 and allowed full occupancy of cinema halls in the state with adherence to COVID safety protocols.
- Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's **niece and eminent academician Chitra Ghosh died** at the age of 90 on January 8, 2021. She was the former head of the political science department at Lady Brabourne College in Kolkata.
- 5-year-old **Presha Khemani has set a world record by naming 150 countries** along with their capitals and identifying the flags in just four minutes and 17 seconds.
- **Tesla and SpaceX CEO Elon Musk** was recently become the world's richest person, overtaking Amazon chief Jeff Bezos.
- **The Dzuko valley** is a valley located at the borders of the states Nagaland and Manipur.
- **Cyclone Yasa** caused severe damage to Fuji.
- The countries that comprise the **Horn of Africa** are **Ethiopia, Djibouti, Somalia and Eritrea**.
- **The Chattergala tunnel** recently in news will connect **district Kathua with district Doda in J&K**. It will enroute the new highway via Basohli-Bani through Chattergala to touch Baderwah and Doda.
- The middle eastern countries of Qatar and Saudi Arabia are separated by the Persian gulf.
- RBI has introduced the **Legal Entity Identifier(LEI)** which is a **20-digit number** and will be used for tracking large value transactions. The number has been made mandatory for all funds transfers **amounting over and above Rs 50 Crore** on all transactions done via NEFT and RTGS

Current Affairs: 07th January 2021

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently dedicated **the Rewari-Madar section of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor**. The Prime Minister also flagged off the **world's first double stack long haul 1.5 km container train**. It is situated between Haryana(Ateli) and Rajasthan(Kishangarh). It runs for 227 km in Rajasthan.
- Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh announced a slew of welfare schemes, including **free sanitary pads for girls studying in high school and colleges in the state**. According to a statement, the CM dedicated the **month of January to the girl child** and paved the way for the distribution of 2,500 sports kits among youngsters.
- On January 7, 2021, the union Education Minister Ramesh pokhriyal nishank inaugurated at today virtual International Akhand conference **EDUCON 2020**. **Theme:** envisioning education for transforming youth to restore global peace.

- On January 7, 2021, **Pakistan** successfully completed the test flight of an **indigenously developed rocket system named Fatah-1**. It is capable of delivering conventional warheads with a **maximum range of 140 kilometres**.
- On January 7, 2021, justice **Hima Kohli** become the first women to sworn in as the **chief Justice of High Court of Telangana**.
- Social media giants **Twitter and Facebook temporarily locked the accounts of US President Donald Trump** from posting to their platforms following the storming of the US Capitol by his supporters. Capitol Hill building of the United State known for Seat of the legislative branch of the US federal government
- The **Kisan Suryoday Yojana** is a scheme implemented by the state of Gujarat and will cover 4000 villages by the end of January 2021. Under this scheme, the state government is providing day time agriculture power supply to the farmers.
- In a boost to their combat capabilities **Israel and India successfully tested a Medium-Range Surface-To-Air Missile (MRSAM)** defence system.
- **Shivalik Mercantile Co-operative** Bank in Uttar Pradesh has become the **1st urban co-operative bank to receive licence from Reserve Bank of India to operate as a small Finance Bank**.
- The two day **Asian Waterbird Census 2020** has been started in **Andhra Pradesh** under the direction of experts from the Bombay natural History Society.

Current Affairs: 06th January 2021

- The **UJALA (Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All)** and **SLNP (Street Lighting National Programme)** completed six years of successful implementation. The two programmes revamped household and public lighting system across the country. Under UJALA consumer can purchase the LED on EMI payment as well.
- The **World Bank recently released the Global Economic Prospects report**. According to the report the **Indian economy is to contract by 9.6% in 2020-21**
- The Delhi Government recently issued guidelines to reduce the weight of school bags of students in the National Capital Region under its **Delhi School Bag Policy**. According to the new Delhi School Bag Policy, **the weight of the school bag of students between Class 1 and Class 10 should not be more than 10% of their body weight**.
- The IRDAI is to introduce standard products covering the risk of fire and allied perils. The policy being introduced is to replace the Standard Fire and Special Perils Policy. It has three main components namely **the Bharat Griha Raksha, Bharat Laghu Udyam Suraksha and Bharat Sookshma Udyam Suraksha**
- The Union Cabinet recently approved the **Memorandum of Understanding between India and Japan on "Specified Skilled Worker"**. Under the agreement, India will send skilled labours to Japan.
- An International Team of researchers led by University of Oxford have developed a new approach to **survey African Elephants using satellite images and Artificial Intelligence**.
- The **National Board of Wildlife** recently **approved the advisory for management of human wildlife conflict**. The advisory envisages to empower the gram panchayats to deal with human wildlife conflict under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

- On January 6, 2021, the **Khadi and Village Industries Commission** signed a **Memorandum of Understanding** with the **Indo Tibetan Border Police** to supply **1,72,000 cotton durries every year**.
- **India provided a grant assistance of 30.66 crore** Nepalese Rupees (nearly INR 19.21 crore) to **Nepal** as part of its commitment towards **reconstruction of educational institutions damaged during the 2015 earthquake**

Current Affairs: 05th January 2021

- **Justice Pankaj Mithal** was **sworn in as the new Chief Justice** of the common court of the **Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh**. Justice Mithal replaces Gita Mittal, who retired last year.
- **Vietnam, the world's third biggest exporter of rice**, has started **buying the grain from rival India for the first time** in decades after local prices jumped to their highest in nine years amid limited domestic supplies.
- **Five new countries — India, Mexico, Norway, Ireland and Kenya** — formally joined the U.N. Security Council at a time of **growing polarization** in the body charged with keeping world peace and security.
- On January 5, 2020, the **Supreme Court allowed the Central Vista Project** to go ahead. The **Central Vista project aims to renovate 86 acres of land in the Lutyen's Garden in New Delhi**. It includes Landmark structures of Indian government such as Rashtrapati Bhavan, Parliament, India Gate and North and South Block.
- The Government of India is to construct the **largest floating solar energy project** in the world. The project is to be constructed at **Omkareshwar Dam on Narmada river**. The project will begin its power generation by 2022 to 2023.
- More than **371,500 babies were born worldwide on New Year's Day** and India is estimated to have recorded the highest number of births at around 60,000, according to the UN's children's agency
- The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) recently released its Statement on Climate of India during 2020. According to IMD, **2020 was the eight warmest year on record since 1901**
- The **World bank, Government of India and Government of West Bengal recently signed a 105 million US the agreement**. The fund has been allocated to the West Bengal inland water transport, logistics and special development project
- **First an All women NDRF team was recently deployed on the banks of Ganga River** for contingency duties in **Uttar Pradesh**
- The British government recently appointed **Alexander Ellis as the new high commissioner to India**. He is succeeding Sir Philip Barton.
- **Pablo Caesar of Argentina** was announced as the **head of the international jury of International Film Festival of India**. The Other jury members are present from shrilanka, Priyadarshan of India, Abu Bakr of Austria and Rubaiyat Hossain of Bangladesh.
- Railway Minister Piyush Goyal launched an exclusive portal to promote and develop the railways' freight business. **The Indian Railways' freight business**

development portal will act as a "one-stop, single-window" solution for all the needs of its freight customers

- On January 5, 2021, the Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated of **450 km long Kochi koottanad Bengaluru LNG pipeline** through video conferencing.
- The **Rashtriya Kamadhenu Aayog** recently announced that it is to conduct a **National-level "Kamdhenu Gau-Vigyan" (Cow Science) online exam**. This is being done to generate interest among the students and public about the indigenous cow and its benefits. The exam is to be held on February 25, 2021.
- **Congress Launches Campaign 'Hello'** to Woo Urban Voters Ahead of Gujarat Local Body Polls
- The **Reserve Bank imposed a penalty of Rs 2.5 crore on Bajaj Finance Limited, Pune** for violation of various directions, including on recovery and collection practices.

Current Affairs: 04th January 2021

- **Every year, the World Braille Day is celebrated on January 4** by United Nations and several other international organizations. The day is celebrated to create awareness of the importance of Braille as a means of communication in the realization of human rights for the blind.
- A perfectly preserved **woolly Rhinoceros** was found by scientists in **Yakutia in Russia**. The Ice Age Rhino was discovered on the bank of **Tirekhtyakh river**
- In order to solve the problem of **space debris, Japanese researchers are to launch wooden satellites by 2023**. These satellites are made of wood. They will burn up without releasing harmful substances into the atmosphere when they plunge back to the earth.
- The United States recently passed the **Malala Yousafzai Act for Pakistani Women**. The Act requires the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to **award at least 50% of scholarship to Pakistani women** between 2020 and 2022. It also requires that USAID to leverage investments by Pakistani private sector in the United States.
- Delhi government recently announced that it is to **set up a Tamil Academy to protect the Tamil language and culture**. N Raja has been made the vice-chairman of the Tamil Academy set up the Delhi Government.
- The Prime Minister Narendra Modi is to dedicate the **Kochi-Mangaluru Natural Gas Pipeline** to India on January 5, 2021. The **pipeline is 444 kilometres long**. The pipeline is to carry natural gas from the Liquefied Natural Gas regasification terminal at Kochi to Mangaluru. GAIL has built Kochi-Mangaluru Natural Gas Pipeline.
- Ministry of Commerce and Industry is organizing Udyog Manthan. It will start from 4th January 2021 to 2nd March 2021.
- Ministry of ports, shipping and waterways under Government of India is to initiate the project of **Sagarmala Seaplane Services** on selected routes. The project **aims to provide air connectivity to numerous tourist, religious, remote and unexplored locations** near water bodies. This is to make the journey easier and simulate tourism on these new locations. Ultimately the project will contribute to boost the GDP of the country in the long run

- On January 4, 2021, the Council of scientific and Industrial Research-National Physical Laboratory organised the **National Metrology Conclave**. During the conclave the Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated the **National Atomic Time Scale and Bhartiya Nirdeshak Dravya to the nation**. Atomic Time provides the exact speed at which the clock ticks. In technical words, it measures the actual length of a second. **Theme:** Metrology for the Inclusive Growth of the Nation
- On January 4, 2021, **40th Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctica** was launched. The expedition was flagged off from Goa with 43 members.
- On January 4, 2021, the Union Minister for youth affairs and sports Kiren rijiju launched the **Assam Rifles Public School in Shillong**. It is the Sports School.
- The **TRIFED** (Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India) operating under Ministry of Tribal Affairs signed a memorandum of understanding with Akhil Bhartiya vanvasi Kalyan Ashram to setup **TRIFOOD parks in Madhya Pradesh**

Current Affairs: 03rd January 2021

- DRDO Young Scientist Laboratory for Quantum Technologies (DYSL-QT) has developed a **Quantum Random Number Generator (QRNG)**
- **Kazakhstan recently abolished the death penalty** making permanent early to freeze on capital punishment in the authoritarian Central Asian country.
- The Assam assembly recently passed the **Assam Ease of Doing Business (Amendment) Bill, 2020**. The bill makes amendments to the Assam ease of doing business act, 2016. **The amendment will avail 0.25% additional borrowing from the centre.**
- The International Financial Services Centres Authority recently became an associate member of the **International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO)**. The IOSCO works closely with the Financial Stability Board (FSB) and the G20 nations, to set up the standards that strengthen the securities markets
- **The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India** recently announced that all edible refined oils, vegetable fat spreads, Vanaspati, margarines, Bakery shortening and mixed fat **spreads can contain only 3% or less trans fats**. This is to be implemented by January 2021. By January 2022, this is to be further reduced to 2%.
- **Teimour Radjabov** won **200,000 USD Airthings Masters online rapid chess final** on January 3, 2021.

Current Affairs: 02nd January 2021

- More than **400 migratory birds were found** dead in Maharana Pratap Sagar, also known as **Pong Reservoir or Pong Dam Lake** in Himachal Pradesh.
- Former Union minister and senior Congress leader **Buta Singh (86) passed away** on 2nd January 2021.
- **Argentina** recently became the **largest Latin American country to legalize abortion**. Under the new law Argentina has legalised abortion up to the 14th week of pregnancy. In India, abortion is legal till 24th week of pregnancy according to medical termination of pregnancy (Amendment) act, 2020

- The Government of India recently announced that the benefits of **RoDTEP (Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products)** scheme is to be extended to all goods. The RoDTEP Scheme was launched in 2020 to boost exports of India in International markets. Under the scheme, a mechanism will be created for reimbursement of levies, taxes or duties at central, state and local levels. Prior to the scheme, the reimbursements were not done under any mechanism.
- On January 2, 2021, the home minister of India Shri Amit Shah released the **National Police K-9 Journal in New Delhi**. The publication is first of its kind in the country on the subject of **police service K9s, police dogs**, etc
- The Government of India has recently prepared a **bill to increase the age of shopkeepers selling cigarettes and tobacco products from 18 years to 21 years**.

Current Affairs: 01st January 2021

- On January 1, 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid **Foundation stone of 6 Light house projects as a part of Global Housing Technology Challenge India initiative**. The programme aims to build thousand houses in cities such as **Indore, Rajkot, Chennai, Ranchi, Agartala and Lucknow**.
- **DRDO** on 1st January 2021 observed the **63rd Foundation Day** of its establishment.
- **Shri Suneet Sharma**, has taken over the charge of new **Chairman & Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Railway Board (Ministry of Railways)** and ex-officio Principal Secretary to Government of India.
- On January 1, 2021 the Union Minister Jitendra Singh announced that the **disability compensation has been extended to all the Central Government employees who get disabled in the line of Duty**. These employees are retained in service in spite of such disablement.
- **IndiGo said its servers were hacked** earlier in December and that possibly some internal documents may get uploaded by hackers on public websites and platforms.
- On January 1, 2021 the capital market regulator **SEBI imposed penalties on Reliance Industries Limited and its chairman Mukesh Ambani** and two other entities for actions of manipulate trading in the shares of Reliance Petro Limited in 2007. **A fine of 25 crores of Rupees and 15 crores of Rupees** were imposed on the Reliance Industries Limited and on Mukesh Ambani respectively.
- On January 1, 2021, the **Reserve Bank of India launched the Digital Payment Index with March 2018 as base period**. The index comprises of five broad parameters such as **payment enablers** (weight 25%), **payment performance** (weight 45%), **payment infrastructure – demand side factors** (weight 10%) **and supply side factors** (weight 15%) **and consumer centricity** (weight 5%).
- The **Asian Development Bank and the Government of India** recently signed a **10 million USD project** to support the horticulture in **Himachal Pradesh**.
- On January 1, 2021, the petroleum and natural gas and Steel Minister Dharmendra Pradhan launched the **missed call facility for LPG customers**. The customers can use single **missed call number 845 495 5555** for refill booking.

- **Soma Mondal** has taken over as the **new chairperson of Steel Authority of India Limited, SAIL** from January 1, 2021.
- The **Australian government** has **changed a word in its national anthem** to honour the indigenous population of the country. **The words “for We Are Young and free” has been changed to “for We Are One And free”.**
- **Algeria’s** president Abdelmadjid Tebboune **signed the country’s new constitution** into law.
- **China** has recently deployed **underwater drones called Sea Wing Glider** in the Indian Ocean region. The Sea Wing Glider Drone is used for **Naval surveillance**. It can operate for months under the sea.
- **Britain abolished** the so-called **“tampon tax”** on 1st January 2021, eliminating sales taxes on women's sanitary products.
- The **World Health Organization** says it has **cleared the Pfizer-BioNTech** coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine for emergency use.
- The CBI has booked Delhi-based **Shakti Bhog Foods Limited** and others for allegedly **cheating a consortium of 10 banks to the tune of ₹3,269.42 crore**.
- A **fly ash rake** from Simhadri Super Thermal Power Plant (NTPC), Visakhapatnam, was transported for the first time by the Waltair Division of East Coast Railway (ECoR).
- **TiHAN-IIT Testbed** for autonomous navigation systems has been set up at IIT-**Hyderabad**. It is India’s first Testbed for Autonomous Navigation System. **TiHAN stands for Technology Innovation Hub on Autonomous Navigation Systems**.
- The Ministry of Defence recently signed an agreement with the Bharat Electronics Limited to supply **ten LYNX U2 GFCS**. It is a **Naval Gun Fire Control System**. It has been designed to track and engage targets amidst sea clutter. It can accurately track air and surface targets. Also, it can generate required target data to predict weapon aiming points. The target engagement is done using Russian A190, AK176 and AK630.
- The headquarter of **International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO)** which is recently in news is located in **Madrid, Spain**.