Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin): PM to participate in ‘Griha Pravesh’ ceremony virtually

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in ‘Griha Pravesh’ ceremony and virtually inaugurate 1.75 lakh houses in Madhya Pradesh.
- The house of Subhash and Sushila of Urdan village of Betul district of MP has been completed recently under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.

Golden Temple gets FCRA Registration

- The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has approved registration of the Sri Harmandir Sahib under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), 2010 on 9 September 2020.
- Sri Harmandir Sahib is famous as Golden Temple in Amritsar. The registration under FCRA 2010 will allow the Golden Temple to receive foreign funds. The FCRA registration will be valid for a period of five years.

13th Aero India-21 to be held in Bengaluru in Feb 2021

- The 13th edition of Aero India-21 is scheduled to be held at Air Force Station, Yelahanka, Bengaluru, Karnataka from 3 to 07 February 2021.
- Raksha Mantri, Shri Rajnath Singh has launched the website for Aero India 2021, so that the exhibitors can register and book their space online as well as Business and other visitors buy their tickets online to visit the show.
- The website can be accessed at https://aeroindia.gov.in
- Aero India is Asia’s largest air show and aviation exhibition held biennially in Bengaluru since 1996.

Meghalaya launched India’s largest “Piggery Mission”

- The state government of Meghalaya has launched India’s Biggest “Piggery Mission” with an outlay of Rs 209 Crores.
- It is being launched under the aegis of Meghalaya Livestock Enterprises Advancement Society (MLEADS) and funded by the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).
- The main objective of the Piggery Mission is to reduce the annual import of Pork worth Rs 150 Crore and make Meghalaya self-sufficient (“Aatma Nirbhar”) in pork production over the next 3 years.

India, U.S. and Israel collaborating in 5G tech

- India, Israel and the United States have begun collaboration in developmental area, and in
next generation of emerging technologies, including a transparent, open, reliable and secure 5G communication network.

- It was announced at the virtual US-India-Israel summit that focused on trilateral partnerships in the strategic, technology and development arenas.
- The branching out of this trilateral initiative in development and technological arena is a result of the people-to-people collaboration, in particular those by Indian diaspora in the US and Israel, that was initiated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his historic visit to Israel three years ago in July 2017.

**Banking and Economy**

**Reliance Industries becomes first Indian firm to cross $200 bn m-cap**

- Reliance Industries (RIL) on September 10, 2020, became the first Indian company to cross $200 billion in market capitalization (m-cap).
- The market capitalization of Reliance Industries at the close of the stock market on September 10, 2020, was Rs 15.3 trillion ($208 billion).
- The second best after RIL is Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) with an m-cap of Rs 8.75 trillion, ($119 billion).

**Moody’s forecasts India’s GDP at -11.5% for FY21, 10.6% for FY22**

- Ratings agency Moody’s has projected the GDP growth rate for India to contract 11.5 percent in the fiscal 2020-21 (FY21) due to the C-19 pandemic.
- For 2021-22 (FY22), Moody’s projected the economy of India to grow at 10.6 percent.

**Science and Technology**

**Microsoft, Nasscom’s FutureSkills to launch AI-skilling initiative in India**

- Microsoft in collaboration with Nasscom’s FutureSkills will launch a nation-wide initiative in India to skill students in Artificial Intelligence.
- The initiative aims to skill 1 million students by 2021.
- As part of the collaboration, Microsoft and Nasscom experts will skill the students in AI, machine learning and data science through modules such as live demos, hands-on workshops and assignments as part of the AI classroom series.

**Appointments and Resignations**

**UNICEF appoints Ayushmann Khurrana for children’s rights campaign**

- United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) has appointed Bollywood Actor Ayushmann Khurrana as its celebrity advocate for children’s rights campaign, “For Every Child”.
- He will work towards this initiative in India. He will support UNICEF to end violence against children.

**Ranking**

**India ranked 105th in Global Economic Freedom Index 2020; Top- Hong Kong**

- India (Score- 6.56/10) has been ranked 105th in the Global Economic Freedom Index 2020 released by the Fraser Institute, Canada. HongKong (Score- 8.94/10) has topped the ranking
followed by Singapore at the second spot.

- India has fallen 26 spots from 79th spot in last year’s ranking. Venezuela has been ranked last among 162 countries. The rankings are prepared based on the data of the year 2018.
- The index measures the degree to which the policies and institutions of countries are supportive of economic freedom. The Index ranks countries based on five areas—the size of government, legal structure and property rights, access to sound money, freedom to trade internationally, regulation of credit, labour and business.

**International Day for South-South Cooperation**

- International Day for South-South Cooperation is observed globally on 12th September every year. The day celebrates the economic, social and political developments made in recent years by regions and countries in the south.
- Theme for 2020 is “Pathways toward the SDGs through South-South solidarity beyond C-19.”
- It also highlights the UN’s efforts to work on technical cooperation among developing countries.

**World First Aid Day 2020**

- The World First Aid Day is observed on the second Saturday of September every year to create awareness about importance of first aid in preventing injuries and saving lives. The World First Aid Day 2020 is being observed on 12 September.
- The day was started by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 2000 to educate people in the world of the benefits of first aid, need of first aid and the right way to do first aid.

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**National**

**Prime Minister Narendra Modi launches Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana, e-Gopala app**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 10, 2020, digitally launched the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) and e-Gopala app for farmers in Bihar.
- PM also launched several other initiatives for the fisheries and animal husbandry sectors in Bihar.
- The yojana aims to focus on the sustainable and focused development of the fisheries sector in the country. While the e-Gopala app is a breed improvement marketplace and information portal launched for the direct use of the farmers.

**Karnataka CM BS Yediyurappa launches country’s first integrated air ambulance**

- Karnataka Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa unveiled the country’s first integrated air ambulance service jointly launched in the State capital, Bengaluru by the International Critical Air Transfer Team (ICATT) and the Kyathi in the city.
- The ICATT Kyathi’s fixed wing aircraft for long distance emergency medical transport,
combined with helicopter and land ambulance services providing last mile connectivity, will address the growing need for timely and quality emergency medical services in India.

**International**

**Parachutist makes world’s first jump from solar-powered plane**
- A parachutist completed the world’s first jump from a solar-powered aircraft after the plane soared to a height of 1,520 metres (nearly 5,000 ft) over western Switzerland.
- The two-seater prototype plane made the test flight in good weather and to promote renewable energy.
- Parachutist Raphael Domjan reached a speed of 150 kilometres per hour during his jump, landing near the project base in Payerne.

**Banking and Economy**

**Finance Minister launches Doorstep Banking Services by PSBs**
- Union Minister of Finance, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman launched the Doorstep Banking Services by Public Sector Banks (PSBs). All 12 Public Sectors banks have been covered in this scheme.
- The service is available in 11 languages. It aims to deliver the services in 3 hours. For this 100 Doorstep banking centres have been established across India.
- Available Services: Services like Cheques/DD/PO, New cheque book requisition, 15G, 15H forms, IT Challan, Standing Instructions request, A/c Statement, Non-personalised Cheque Books, DD, PO, Prepaid instrument/Gift card, TDS / Form 16 Certificate issuance, Term Deposit Receipt /Acknowledgement can be availed by the customers at their doorsteps.
- The service aims to provide banking services to the customers of Public Sector Banks at their doorstep via three modes -
  - Call Centre (18001037188 or 18001213721)
  - Web Portal (www.psbdsb.in)
  - Mobile App (Doorstep Banking(DSB))
- The targetted customers are - Senior citizens, Defense personnel, CRPF, widows, Divyang individuals, Students, Salaried employees, Corporate clients, Retail shopkeepers and street vendors.

**Crisil projects India’s GDP for FY21 at -9%**
- CRISIL has projected India’s GDP rate at -9% for the financial year 2020-21 (FY21). CRISIL revising its forecast down from 5% owing to uncertainty over the spread of C-19 and lack of adequate financial support from the government.
- For FY22, Crisil has projected India’s GDP to grow at 10%. For the next three years, between fiscals 2023 and 2025, CRISIL projects the Indian GDP to average a growth of 6.2% annually.

**ICICI Bank launches iStartup 2.0, dedicated offering for start-ups**
- ICICI Bank has launched a new product named iStartup 2.0, to cater to the banking needs of startups and entrepreneurs.
- iStartup 2.0 is a startup bank account (in form of current account) that can be opened
Within 10 years of date of incorporation of the business. There are three variants of this current account.

- Eligibility: Partnership Firms and Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs) OR Private and Public Limited Companies and One Person Companies (OPCs).

Appointments and Resignations

Paresh Rawal appointed as new Chairman of National School of Drama

- Veteran actor Paresh Rawal has been appointed as the Chairperson of the National School of Drama (NSD), India’s premier theatre institute. The post had been vacant since 2017.
- The 65-year-old has years of experience in both theatre and cinema. In his career span of over three decades, Rawal has been acknowledged with numerous awards, including the prestigious National Film Award for Best Supporting Actor in 1994 and the Padma Shri in 2014 for his contribution to the entertainment industry.

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National

Child Mortality Rate in India declined substantially between 1990 and 2019: UNICEF Report

- According to the new mortality estimates released by UNICEF, India's child mortality rate has declined substantially between 1990 and 2019.
- The under-five mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births) in India declined to 34% in 2019 from 126% in 1990. The number of global under-five deaths has dropped to its lower point on record in 2019 to 5.2 million from 12.5 million in 1990.
- The Levels & Trends in Child Mortality’ Report 2020 is a joint work of UNICEF, the World Health Organization (WHO), the Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the World Bank Group.

Silver Lake Partners has picked up 1.75 per cent stake in the retail arm of Reliance Industries for Rs 7,500 crore.

- This investment values RRVL at a pre-money equity value of Rs 4.21 lakh crore. Silver Lake’s investment will translate into a 1.75 per cent equity stake in RRVL on a fully diluted basis.
- This marks the second billion-dollar investment by Silver Lake in a Reliance Industries subsidiary after the USD 1.35 billion investment in Jio Platforms announced earlier this year.

Banking and Economy

India Ratings forecasts contraction of 11.8% in FY21 GDP

- The Indian arm of Fitch Ratings, India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) has projected India’s FY21 GDP growth forecast at -11.8% as against its earlier prediction of -5.3%.
- The rating agency estimates the economic loss in FY21 to be Rs 18.44 lakh crore. The rating agency also expects India’s GDP to rebound and grow at 9.9% year-on-year in FY22 primarily due to the weak base of FY21.
Goldman Sachs predicts India’s GDP for FY21 at -14.8%
- Goldman Sachs has predicted India’s GDP for FY21 at -14.8%. For Calendar Year 2020 it has projected a contraction of 11.1%.
- For FY22, Goldman Sachs predicts India’s GDP to grow at 15.7% and for Calendar Year 2021 at 9.9%.

SBI to launch loan product ‘SAFAL’ for organic cotton growers
- State Bank of India is planning to launch a loan product named “SAFAL” for organic cotton growers. The product Safe and Fast Agriculture Loan (SAFAL) is primarily focussed on organic cotton growers who don’t have any credit history.
- It stands for Safe and Fast Agriculture Loan (SAFAL). SBI will use Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) for this purpose.

Awards
Noted English Broadcaster David Attenborough wins Indira Gandhi Peace Prize 2019
- David Attenborough, a natural historian, and a renowned author has been conferred with Indira Gandhi Peace Prize 2019 through a virtual ceremony.
- Mr. Attenborough has been recognized for his contribution through the books and films to awaken the humankind to protect and preserve the biodiversity on our planet. While the Congress President Sonia Gandhi attended the ceremony, former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh presented the prize virtually.

Lifetime Achievements Award to Prof. Aditya Prasad Padhi
- Indian Chartered Accountancy Parivar and Delhi University Ramanujan College Professor Aditya Prasad Padhi, former Vice – Chancellor of Berhampur University has been honoured with “Lifetime Achievements Award” for his outstanding contribution to higher education in India.

Obituary
Telugu Actor Jayaprakash Reddy passes away
- Veteran Telugu stage and film actor Jayaprakash Reddy died of heart attack at his residence in Guntur. He was 74. Jayaprakash Reddy, popularly known as JP, began his career as a school teacher. His passion for acting drove him towards the stage and he played varied roles in countless dramas.
- JP acted in more than 100 films along side the top heroes of Telugu films like Chiranjeevi, Balakrishna, Nagarjuna, Venkatesh, Pawan Kalyan and Mahesh Babu.

Appointments and Resignations
Anil Jain becomes new President of All India Tennis Association
- The All India Tennis Association (AITA) has elected Anil Jain as its new president, while Anil Dhupar was chosen as its secretary-general. India’s Davis Cup captain Rohit Rajpal was elected as the treasurer for a four-year term till 2024.
- All the office-bearers, as well as the new executive committee members, were elected.
unopposed. Anil Jain will replace Praveen Mahajan as AITA president. Dhupar will replace Hironmoy Chatterjee.

Days

World Suicide Prevention Day
- World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD) is observed on 10 September every year, in order to provide worldwide commitment and action to prevent suicides.
- The International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP) collaborates with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH) to host World Suicide Prevention Day with various activities around the world since 2003.
- The theme for 2020 World Suicide Prevention Day is ‘Working Together to Prevent Suicide’.

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National

First World Solar Technology Summit of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) held
- The first-ever World Technology Summit was scheduled on September 8, 2020, and it was organized by the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and FICCI on a virtual platform.
- Dharmendra Pradhan, the Union Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Steel addressed the inaugural session as well as the valedictory session of the summit. More than 26000 participants from 149 countries joined the virtual Summit.
- The first world solar technology summit aims to focus on state-of-art technologies and the next-generation technologies that will help towards harnessing solar energy more efficiently.
- The Summit included signing of four agreements between
  - ISA and International Institute of Refrigeration,
  - ISA and Global Green Growth Institute,
  - ISA and National Thermal Power Corporation,
  - A tripartite agreement between India’s Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, the World Bank and the International Solar Alliance.
- ISA also launched a Journal on Solar Energy (I JOSE) that would help authors from across the globe to publish their articles on solar energy.

Tamil Nadu government releases new Electronic Hardware Manufacturing Policy 2020
- Tamil Nadu state government on September 7, 2020, released a new Electronic Hardware and Manufacturing Policy 2020 which aims at increasing the state’s electronics industry output to $100 billion by 2025.
- The policy will also be undertaking the skill training of over 1,00,000 semi-skilled and skilled people by 2024 in order to meet the incremental human resource requirement.

International

Apple’s first ‘floating’ store to be launched in Singapore
- Technology giant Apple Inc. has announced that it is going to open its first ever “floating”
store, in Singapore on 10th September 2020.

- The floating Apple Store, will be located at Singapore's posh Marina Bay Sands resort. It will be the third retail store of Apple in Singapore.

### Banking and Economy

#### RBI announces OMO for sale, purchase of government securities of Rs 10,000 crore

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will conduct simultaneous purchase and sale of government securities under the Open Market Operation (OMO) for Rs 10,000 crore each on September 10.
- The RBI on August 31 had announced that it would conduct special simultaneous purchase and sale of government securities under OMO for an aggregate amount of Rs 20,000 crore in two tranches of Rs 10,000 crore each as part of its measures to foster orderly market conditions.
- "The first auction is scheduled for September 10, 2020. It would be selling three securities totalling Rs 10,000 crore and also purchasing equal number of securities of the same amount.

#### Fitch Ratings Projects Indian economy to contract 10.5% in FY21

- In its September update of Global Economic Outlook (GEO), the US-based Fitch Ratings has sharply lowered the forecast for the gross domestic product (GDP) growth of India for the current fiscal 2020-21 (FY21) and now expects the GDP to contract 10.5 percent.
- Earlier in June Global Economic Outlook, the rating agency has estimated 5 percent contraction for FY21.
- The downward revision comes after India's GDP shrank by 23.9% year-on-year in the April-June quarter, the worst performance in nearly four decades.
- The rating agency has also revised its forecast for global GDP and expects it to fall by 4.4 percent in 2020, which is a modest upward revision from the 4.6 percent contraction expected earlier.

#### Banks sanction loans of Rs 1.61 lakh crore to MSMEs under credit guarantee scheme

- Banks have sanctioned loans of about Rs 1,61,017 crore under the Rs 3-lakh crore Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) for the MSME sector reeling under the slowdown caused by the C-19 pandemic.
- However, disbursements against this stood at Rs 1,13,713 lakh crore till September 3.

### Summits and Mou’s

#### AIM partnered with Freshworks to empower AIM Startup Innovators

- Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, has partnered with Freshworks Inc., a customer-engagement software company, with an aim to provide robust support to innovators and entrepreneurs in India.
- It also aims to increase the efficiency of several institutions and startups in the AIM portfolio. It also aims to foster innovation and entrepreneurship among startup innovators.
Obituary

Father of Indian Radio Astronomy Govind Swarup passes away

- Father of India’s Radio Astronomy, Prof Govind Swarup passed away. He was the founding director of National Centre for Radio Astrophysics of Tata Institute of Fundamental Research.
- Govind Swarup was the key person behind the concept, design and installation of the Ooty Radio Telescope (India) and the Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT), which established India as one of the leading countries for radio astronomy research.

Ranking

A report on ‘Household Social Consumption: Education’: NSO

- A report on ‘Household Social Consumption: Education’ was published by the National Statistical Office (NSO). As per the report, smaller states have done better than the developed ones.
- Average literacy rate of the country is 77.7%. Kerala scored 96.2% thus has the highest literacy rate among states. Delhi stands at second position with 89% literacy rate. Uttarakhand is at number three with a literacy rate of 87.6% while Assam freezes at number four with 85.9% literacy rate.
- Andhra Pradesh ranked the worst with 66.4% literacy rate. The male literacy rate is 84.7% while the female literacy rate is 70.3%, nationally.

Bengaluru tops the list of cities for career in AI

- Hyderabad is one of the top five cities in the country to offer jobs in the field of artificial intelligence (AI), a latest report by job portal site Indeed has revealed.
- Bengaluru tops the list of destinations for a career in AI, followed by Mumbai, Hyderabad, Pune, and Chennai.
- Job searches in the field have risen 106 per cent in the past year (June 2019 to June 2020), and this has increased further by 20 per cent from March to July 2020, in line with the onset of the pandemic.

Days

International Day to Protect Education from Attack

- International Day to Protect Education from Attack is observed globally on 9th September. In proclaiming the International Day to Protect Education from Attack to be celebrated for the first time in 2020.
- The Day draws attention to the plight of more than 75 million 3-to-18-year-olds living in 35 crisis-affected countries and to their urgent need of educational support.
National

Centre releases draft guidelines on advertising, to treat non-legible disclaimers as misleading ads

- The Central Government has released a draft of the advertising code according to which celebrity endorsements through posts, personal tweets, blogs, or other testimonials must be based on either adequate information about or experience with the service or product being endorsed.
- As per the code, any disclaimers in small font sizes in advertisements and comparative advertising which is not factual will treated as misleading ads and can be penalized.
- The guidelines on advertising have been prepared by the Consumers Affairs Ministry under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019.

Agriculture ministry approves Rs. 4 crore for up-gradation of soil testing labs in Kashmir

- Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare ministry has approved four crore rupees for up-gradation of Soil Testing labs across the Kashmir valley.
- For the quality control laboratory upgradation, 40 lakh rupees have been earmarked during the current year, which will facilitate upgradation and strengthening of fertilizer quality control lab.

J-K LG launches SPARROW system for J-K Administrative Service officers

- The SPARROW system is aimed at bringing more transparency, avoiding loss of Appraisal Reports during the transition, ensuring better monitoring and timely completion of performance appraisals.

Union Minister of Education launches mobile app “EnglishPro”

- Union Minister of Education has launched a free mobile app named as “EnglishPro”. The mobile application has been developed by the English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad under University Social Responsibility (USR).
- The mobile application “EnglishPro” will help learners in developing Indian English Pronunciation in the unique “Indian” way.

Acquisitions and Mergers

Vodafone Idea rebranded as 'Vi'

- Vodafone and Idea brands re-branded themselves under a new brand identity 'Vi' was launched by Vodafone Idea Limited (VIL) on September 7, 2020. The new brand identity has been adopted keeping in mind the future, which is built for and around customers.
- The announcement was made by company’s MD and CEO Ravinder Takkar on 7th September 2020. Now all the products of the company will be available under the new
The integration of Vodafone and Idea marks the culmination of the largest telecom integration in the world.

In an official statement, VIL stated that two of India's most loved brands "Vodafone and Idea" are now 'together for tomorrow' giving birth to a new brand called 'Vi', which is read as 'We'.

Science and Technology

India successfully test fires Hypersonic Technology Demonstration Vehicle

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully test-fired the Hypersonic Technology Demonstration Vehicle at 11 am on September 7, 2020 from the Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Launch Complex at Wheeler Island, off the coast of Odisha.
- The successful flight test of the indigenously-developed Hypersonic Technology Demonstration Vehicle (HSTDV) enabled the successful demonstration of the Hypersonic air-breathing scramjet technology, which is a major technological breakthrough for India.
- The Hypersonic Technology Demonstration Vehicle powers cruise missiles and operate on scramjet engines that can attain the speed of around Mach 6, which is far more advanced than ramjet engines that are used currently.
- India has thus become the fourth country after the United States, Russia and China to develop and successfully test hypersonic technology.

SpaceX launches 60 Starlink satellites for faster internet

- SpaceX has successfully sent 60 Starlink internet satellites aboard the Falcon 9 which is lifted off from Launch Complex 39A (LC-39A) at Kennedy Space Center in Florida.
- The launch was Starlink's first mission of the month. The Elon-musk owned space tech company has conducted sixteen missions this year.
- The satellites are meant to provide ‘cheaper and faster’ internet to inaccessible areas. The satellites in its initial tests had provided over 100 Mbps speeds.

Obituary

Oscar winning Czech Director Jiri Menzel passes away

- Oscar-winning Czech film director, Jiri Menzel passed away. He was born in Prague, Czechoslovakia on 23 February 1938.
- His 1st feature film, 'Closely Watched Trains' won an Academy Award (Oscars) for Best Foreign Language film in 1968.

Sports

US Open 2020: Indo-Canadian pair of Bopanna-Shapovalov enter men's doubles quarterfinals

- The Indo-Canadian pair of Rohan Bopanna and Denis Shapovalov have reached the quarterfinals of the ongoing US Open tennis.
- They defeated the German pair Kevin Krawietz and Andrea Mies in the second-round clash that had lasted for an hour and 47 minutes.
Novak Djokovic disqualified from US Open
- The current world no. 1, Novak Djokovic has been disqualified from the US Open in the most unexpected manner. Djokovic defaulted after a ball hit by him hit the line judge in the throat.
- Djokovic had struck the ball unintentionally but the official was down. The incident happened during Djokovic’s match against Pablo Carreno Busta.

Appointments and Resignations
Vinkesh Gulati appointed as new President of FADA
- Vinkesh Gulati, has been appointed as the 35th President of the Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA).
- He succeeds Ashish Harsharaj Kale and will serve the role of president from 2020 to 2022.
- The FADA is an apex national body representing automobile dealers of India.

Ranking
'The State of Young Child in India’ report released, Kerala tops
- Kerala, Goa, Tripura, Tamil Nadu and Mizoram are among the top five States for well-being of children, according to a report brought out by non-governmental organisation Mobile Creches and launched by Vice-President Venkaiah Naidu.
- It identifies eight States that have scores below the country’s average: they are Assam, Meghalaya, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.
- The index is part of the 'State of the Young Child’ in India report released the 50-year-old NGO.
- The report has also developed another index called the young child environment index to understand the policy and environment enablers that influence a child’s well-being.

International Literacy Day 2020
- International Literacy Day is observed annually on September 8 across the world to highlight the importance of literacy to individuals, communities and societies.
- The theme of International Literacy Day 2020 according to the UN is “Literacy teaching and learning in the C-19 crisis and beyond.” The theme highlights literacy learning from a lifelong learning perspective and therefore focuses on youth and adults.
- The day was declared by UNESCO on 26 October 1966 at 14th session of UNESCO’s General conference. It was celebrated for the first time in 1967.

Books and Authors
'Breaking The Cocoon @ 40’ book authored by Radha Nair
- The book titled “Breaking The Cocoon @ 40” authored by Radha Nair has been released recently.
- “Breaking The Cocoon @ 40” is a delightful collection of select events from her life, which also holds a mirror to the time the incidents are set in.
National

Assam re-launches self-employment scheme SVAYEM worth Rs 1,000 crore

- The state government of Assam re-launched an old scheme titled ‘Swami Vivekananda Assam Youth Empowerment (SVAYEM)’ on 4 September 2020, which aims to provide self-employment to around 2 lakh youths of the state.
- The SVAYEM scheme was launched by the government in 2017-18. This is the biggest self-employment programme launched by any government in Assam since Independence. The scheme has been re-launched with a budget of Rs 1000 crore.
- Under the scheme, the state government would provide Rs 50,000 each as seed money to selected youths to start business ventures.

35th FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific 2020

- The 35th Session of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (APRC 35) was held virtual format due to the global C-19 pandemic.
- The Conference was held under the Chair of the Host Country, Bhutan. The Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Parshottam Rupala represented India in the conference.
- The conference focused on regional priorities and issues such as C-19, the state of agriculture, natural resources management, food security and nutrition.

First-ever cannabis medicine project to come up in Jammu

- Union minister Jitendra Singh announced that the first-ever cannabis medicine project will soon be set up in Jammu.
- The cannabis medicine project will be set up with the collaboration of Canada at the Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIIM) in Jammu.
- It is the first major foreign investment in Jammu and Kashmir after it became a Union Territory (UT).

WhatsApp Partners with CyberPeace Foundation to create awareness on cyber safety among students

- The Facebook-owned WhatsApp has entered into a partnership with the cyber security think tank CyberPeace Foundation to create awareness on cyber safety among students. The awareness campaign has been launched under the “e-Raksha” programme and will be implemented in phases.
- In the first phase 15,000 students will be covered in five regions by the end of 2020. They include Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and Maharashtra.
- CyberPeace Foundation will train teachers, parents and students using a co-created curriculum to arm them with tips and tricks to increase online safety for children in consultation with UNICEF and state police authorities about cyber threats such as cyberbullying, stumbling across child abuse material, cybercriminals disrupting online classes, the spread of misinformation, privacy issues etc.
Banks sanctioned Rs 5,350cr to cos in West Bengal as emergency loans
- Banks in West Bengal have sanctioned Rs 5,350 crore of loans till the last week of August to businesses to tide over liquidity woes amid the C-19 crisis.
- Public and private sector lenders have sanctioned the loans under the Centre’s Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS). At the national level, the amount stood at around Rs 1.60 lakh crore.

Karnataka approves Rs. 600-cr watershed project ‘REWARD’ with World Bank assistance
- The Karnataka Cabinet has approved a project titled ‘Rejuvenating Watersheds for Agriculture Resilience through Innovative Development (REWARD)’.
- The REWARD project is designed to ensure soil and water conservation in 20 taluks with low groundwater levels in Karnataka. The total cost of this project is Rs 600 crore.
- The World Bank will fund 70% of the project amount, which amounts to Rs 420 crore, whereas, 30% of the expenses (Rs 180 crore) will be borne by the state government of Karnataka.

Acquisitions and Mergers
IndiGrid completes acquisition of GPTL from Sterlite Power
- IndiGrid has completed the acquisition of Gurgaon Palwal Transmission Limited (GPTL) from Sterlite Power for ₹1,080 crore.
- IndiGrid, India’s first power sector InvIT, is managed by Sterlite Investment Managers Limited, wherein KKR and GIC jointly own 57 per cent in the InvIT.
- With this acquisition, IndiGrid’s AUM has increased by 9% to INR 133 Bn (USD 1.80 Bn).

Sports
England cricketer Ian Bell announces retirement
- Cricketer Ian Bell from England has announced that he will retire from all forms of cricket at the end of the 2020 domestic season.
- Ian Bell, 38, retired from ODIs in 2015 to focus on Test cricket. He is a five-time Ashes winner and has spent his entire career with Warwickshire.

Pierre Gasly wins F1 Italian Grand Prix 2020
- Pierre Gasly (Scuderia AlphaTauri, France) has won the Formula One Italian Grand Prix 2020 held on September 06, 2020. This is his first Grand Prix win.
- Carlos Sainz Jr. (McLaren, Spain) came second followed by Lance Stroll (Racing Point, Canada) in third place.
- Lewis Hamilton ended at 7th place after he earned a 10-second stop and go penalty. Apart from this, Charles Leclerc crashed out on the exit of Parabolica.

Appointments and Resignations
Bureaucrat Kshatrapati Shivaji takes up India’s top statistical post
- The Government of India has appointed Kshatrapati Shivaji, a 1986-batch Maharashtra cadre IAS officer, as secretary in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
The secretary at this ministry is, by design, known as the chief statistician of India.

The Government has not appointed a full-time Chief statistician yet while Kshatrapati Shivaji will continue to head the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.

Maruti CEO Kenichi Ayukawa elected president of SIAM
- Maruti Suzuki MD and CEO Kenichi Ayukawa has been elected as the new President of the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM). SIAM is the apex body of the Indian automotive industry.
- He will replace Rajan Wadhera and has been appointed for a term of two years. Vipin Sondhi, MD and CEO, Ashok Leyland, has been elected as the new vice president of SIAM.

MV Raja Sekhar takes charge as director (R&D), BEL
- The Bharat Electronics Ltd's (BEL) Board of Directors has approved the appointment of M V Rajasekhar as Additional Director – Director (R&D).
- This comes after the Ministry of Defence on July 6 appointed Rajasekhar as Director – R&D vice Mahesh V, who has retired from services on August 31 on attaining superannuation.

Ranking
Andhra Pradesh tops Ease of Doing Business rankings of States and UTs, followed by UP and Telangana
- Andhra Pradesh retained its top position in ease of doing business ranking 2019, followed by Uttar Pradesh and Telangana, as per the State Business Reform Action Plan Ranking released by the commerce and industry ministry.
- The ranking was based on 180 reform points such as easy access to information, improved labour laws, speedy construction permits, land administration and single window approvals, and 36 states/UTs participated in the action plan that is aimed at improving business environment in states by simplifying procedures, digitization of information and easing compliance burden.
- Till date, State Rankings have been released for the years 2015, 2016 and 2017-18. The latest one is the fourth edition for 2018-19.

Days
International Day of Clean Air for blue skies
- The very first International Day of Clean Air for blue skies will be held on September 7th, 2020.
- The Day aims to: Raise public awareness at all levels—individual, community, corporate and government—that clean air is important for health, productivity, the economy and the environment.
- The United Nations General Assembly adopted the resolution to hold an International Day of Clean Air for blue skies, during its 74th session and invited the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to facilitate the observance of the International Day.

Brazilian Independence Day
- Brazilian Independence Day is celebrated on 7 September every year to commemorate the
birth of the nation. On 7 September, 1822, Brazil got its independence from Portuguese.

- In 1889 Brazil ended up with the monarchical system and became republic but kept 7 September as its Independence Day.

**Current Affairs PDF- September 06, 2020**

**National**

**Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat programme: Goa paired with Jharkhand**
- Under Ek Bharat Shresht Bharat, Goa is paired with Jharkhand. Lot of exchange activities are happening on this front.
- Lokotsav programmes held earlier in Goa in Panaji evoked good response. Stalls of Jharkhand displayed delicacies from that state and Goans enjoyed savouring the same.
- Folk dances presented by Jharkhand artistes also were appreciated by Goan artistes. Later Goan artistes also visited Jharkhand and presented Goan folk dances.

**Sikkim & Delhi paired for cultural exchanges under Ek Bharat Shresht Bharat programme**
- Sikkim is paired with Delhi under Ek Bharat Shresht Bharat for promoting greater mutual understanding amongst them.
- The Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat programme aims to actively enhance interaction between people of diverse cultures living in different States and Union Territories in India.

**Madhya Pradesh paired with Manipur and Nagaland under ‘Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Abhiyan’**
- Madhya Pradesh have been paired with Manipur and Nagaland for implementing the Centre’s ambitious scheme Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Abhiyan.
- The people of three States are involved in various activities for understanding art and culture, education, literature and traditions of each other.
- The ‘Ek Bharat, Shrestha Bharat’ programme aims to actively enhance interaction between people of diverse cultures living in different States and Union Territories in India, with the objective of promoting greater mutual understanding amongst them.

**International**

**Wilmington as the first World War II Heritage City**
- Donald Trump, President of the USA has announced Wilmington (located in southern US state North Carolina) as the first World War II Heritage City.
- The announcement was made at a ceremony held to mark the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II. September 2, 2020 marks the 75th Commemoration of the End of World War II.

**Saudi Arabia chairs G20 Foreign Ministers’ Extraordinary Meeting**
- The G20 Foreign Ministers’ Extraordinary Meeting was held under the current Chair, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in the backdrop of the C-19 pandemic crisis.
- The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, His Highness Prince Faisal Bin
Farhan Al-Saud, chaired the virtual meeting. From India External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar represented the meeting.

- The discussions were held on strengthening international cooperation across borders in wake of C-19 crisis.

**Banking and Economy**

**CII to create a ‘National strategy for future business’ along with DPIIT**
- Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) will create a ‘national strategy for future businesses’ together with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).
- The group will also provide policy inputs, identify new growth segments and establish international partnerships with a focus on growing such businesses.

**RBI ceased the Aditya Birla Idea Payments Bank to be act as a banking company**
- The Reserve Bank of India has issued a notification to all banks on September 03, 2020 stating that “Aditya Birla Idea Payments Bank Limited” has ceased to be a banking company within the meaning of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 with effect from July 28, 2020.
- Apart from this, “Westpac Banking Corporation” also ceases to be a banking company as announced by RBI.

**Awards**

**NTPC wins National Management Games 2020**
- Team of NTPC Limited, the Central PSU under Ministry of Power, has won the All India Management Association (AIMA) Chanakya (Business Simulation Game) National Management Games (NMG) 2020.
- The team from NTPC Vallur, Tamil Nadu won the championship which featured the participation of teams from 112 organisations from different parts of the country.
- AIMA Chanakya National Management Games is an online Business Simulation Game which is conducted every year. The championship aims to ensure that executives participating in the event get the on board experience about the complexities of running an organisation and gain expertise and skills from this event.

**Acquisitions and Mergers**

**Infosys acquires US-based Kaleidoscope Innovation for $42 million**
- Infosys acquires US-based product design and development firm, Kaleidoscope Innovation, for $42 million.
- With this acquisition, the company will be able to expand its engineering services portfolio, especially in medical devices, consumer and industrial markets across the US.

**Appointments and Resignations**

**Rajiv Lall resigns as chairman of IDFC First Bank**
- Dr. Rajiv B. Lall has resigned from his post of Part-Time Non-Executive Chairman of IDFC First Bank.
- He has cited prolonged personal health issues as the reason for resignation. Lall was the founder MD of the erstwhile IDFC Bank.
Books and Authors

Goonmeet Singh Chauhan’s New Book ‘Invertonomics’ Talks about Transforming India
- The book titled ‘Invertonomics’ authored by Mr. Goonmeet Singh Chauhan, and published by HarperCollins Publishers India, is a new way of looking at problem-solving.
- This book is a compilation of methodologies that invert problems into economic opportunities.

Memoir to authorised biography: Two books on Ma Anand Sheela to be published later this year
- Two books on Sheela Birnstiel, popularly known as Ma Anand Sheela, are set to be published. One of the books is an authorised biography, Nothing To Lose by Manbeena Sandhu which will acquaint readers with the woman behind the strong persona. This will be published by Harper Collins, India in October.
- In November, Penguin Random House will come out with Ma Anand Sheela’s memoir titled, My Story in My Own Words. Ma Anand Sheela’s life has been rife with controversies and enigma.
- She was the spokeswoman of the Rajneesh movement and later headlined the Rajneesh commune in Wasco County, Oregon, USA till she was imprisoned for four and a half years.