

November 1th week Current Affairs

National News

India and Israel to set up Task Force on a ten-year roadmap to identify new areas of defence cooperation

- During the **15th India-Israel Joint Working Group meeting** in Tel Aviv, India and Israel decided to form a Task Force to formulate a comprehensive ten-year roadmap to identify new areas of defence cooperation.
- India and Israel reviewed the progress made in **military-to-military engagements**, including exercises and industry cooperation.
- The formation of these sub-working groups would allow for more efficient use of bilateral resources, better technology flow and the sharing of industrial capabilities.

Union Ministry of Rural Development launches an initiative to enable rural self-help group women to earn at least ₹1 lakh per annum

- **Union Ministry of Rural Development** launched an initiative with the goal of enabling **rural self-help group (SHG) women** to earn at least **₹1 lakh** per annum and to put a greater emphasis on pushing women up the economic order.
- Poor women from various classes and castes create self-help groups and associated federations under the National Rural Livelihood Mission, which provides financial, economic and social development services to their members in order to improve their income and quality of life.

Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs inaugurates the 14th Urban Mobility Conference 2021

- Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs & Petroleum and Natural Gas **Hardeep Singh Puri** inaugurated the **14th edition of the Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference 2021** with the theme '**Mobility for All**'.
- This conference focuses on providing equitable access and promoting inclusive urban transportation, which aims to provide affordable, clean, safe, informative, efficient and accessible transportation systems, with special attention to the diverse needs of all segments of society, particularly the disabled, the elderly, women and children.
- Sustainable mobility and universal access are crucial for achieving the 2030 Agenda of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Prime Minister Narendra Modi participates in the 16th G-20 Summit to hold discussions on global economic and health recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic

- Indian Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**, along with the other countries' counterparts, participated in the two-day **16th G-20 Summit** held in **Rome, Italy**.
- Italy currently holds the Presidency of the G20 Summit 2021 under the theme — 'People, Planet, Prosperity' — with a focus on recovery from the pandemic & strengthening global health governance, economic recovery & resilience, climate change & energy transition and sustainable development & food security.

Union Government constitutes a 20-member empowered group of secretaries to monitor the development and implementation of PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP)

- Union Government has constituted an empowered group of secretaries' (EGoS) led by Cabinet Secretary **Rajiv Gauba** to track the development and implementation of the government's **₹100 crore** comprehensive and integrated approach to infrastructure construction under **PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP)**.
- The Empowered Group of Secretaries' mandate is to assess and monitor the plan's implementation in order to determine its logistics efficiency and to establish a framework and rules for making any changes to the plan.
- They will also coordinate any revisions to projects currently included in the plan within the required framework and norms, as well as establish a method and a specific time period for the synchronisation of various operations for road and rail construction.

Union Government approves 8.5% interest rate on employees' provident fund for FY21

- The Union Government has approved **5 per cent** rate of interest on employees' provident fund (EPF) for 2020–21 fiscal (FY21).
- **Union Ministry of Finance** has approved the EPF interest rate for 2020–21 and it will now be credited to the accounts of nearly five crore users.
- The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) cut the interest rate on provident fund deposits to 8.5 per cent for 2019–20, down from 8.65 per cent in 2018–19, in March 2020.

'Vax' was declared as the Oxford English Dictionary's Word of the Year 2021

- **Oxford English Dictionary** has declared 'vax' as 'Word of the Year 2021', which defines vax as vaccine or vaccination when used as a noun.
- As a verb, vax is defined as 'vaccinate' or 'treat (someone) with a vaccine to produce immunity against a disease'.
- This word seeks to encompass the year in a single word that may describe a globe still recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic and discussing vaccines.
- This word's origin can be traced back to the early 1800s term **anti-vax**, which is a shorter form of anti-vaccinist.

Union Education Minister launches the Bhasha Sangam initiative and mobile application for schools

- Union Education and Skill Development Minister **Dharmendra Pradhan** launched the **Bhasha Sangam** initiative for schools, Bhasha Sangam mobile application and **Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat quiz application** on the occasion of Rashtriya Ekta Diwas.
- **Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat quiz application** is available in English and Hindi on Google Playstore and aims to enrich the youth of India about Indian culture, religions, traditions, languages and history.
- Bhasha Sangam is a **Union Ministry of Education initiative** under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat that aims to teach basic phrases in 22 Indian languages.

Narendra Modi launches the 'Infrastructure for Resilient Island States' on sidelines of the climate summit in Glasgow

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the '**Infrastructure for the Resilient Island States' (IRIS)** on the sidelines of the climate summit in Glasgow.
- Its goal is to achieve sustainable development in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) by using a systematic approach to resilient, sustainable and inclusive infrastructure.
- Indian Space Research Organisation will build a special data window for Small Island Developing States to provide them with timely information about cyclones, coral-reef monitoring and coastline monitoring.

Union Ministry of Rural Development signs an MoU with Flipkart to strengthen National Rural Livelihood Mission

- The **Union Ministry of Rural Development** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Flipkart** to sell products created by millions of artisans as part of the **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM)** initiative, especially those that are led by women by bringing them into the e-commerce fold.
- This MoU is a part of **Flipkart's Samarth programme**, which aims to empower skilled but underserved communities of craftsmen, weavers and artisans with national market access as well as focused knowledge and training through the Flipkart marketplace.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah launches 'Ayushman CAPF' health card to provide healthcare services to all CAPF personnels and their dependents

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah has **launched 'Ayushman CAPF'** health card to provide healthcare services to all Central Armed Police Force (CAPFs) personnel and their dependents.
- This scheme is a joint initiative of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) and the National Health Authority (NHA).
- Under this scheme, health cards will be distributed to more than 35 lakh beneficiaries across various CAPFs, including serving force personnel and their family members.

India launches an online dashboard named 'Climate Equity Monitor' for assessing equity in climate action

- India launched an online dashboard named '**Climate Equity Monitor**', at the climate change conference 'COP26', for **assessing equity in climate action**, inequalities in emissions, energy and resource consumption around the world and ongoing climate policies of several countries from the perspective of developing countries at the international level.
- The dashboard has been conceptualised and developed by independent researchers from India, including the Climate Change Group at the **S. Swaminathan Research Foundation**, Chennai and the **Natural Sciences Engineering Department at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS)**, Bengaluru.

Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) launches 'Whistle blower' portal to check frauds and abuse of power

- The **Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)** launched a '**Whistle blower**' portal as a part of the Vigilance Awareness Week 2021.
- Through this portal, IREDA employees can raise concerns related to fraud, corruption and abuse of power.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveils Adi Guru Shankaracharya's statue in Kedarnath

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled a **12-foot statue** of **Adi Guru Shankaracharya** at Kedarnath in Uttarakhand's Rudraprayag.
- The new statue of Shankaracharya was installed just behind the Kedarnath temple.
- After being destroyed in the Uttarakhand floods in 2013, the statue was rebuilt and the construction of the **35-tonne** Shankaracharya statue began in 2019.

Union Government announces no proposal to extend distribution of free ration through the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKAY) beyond 30 November 2021

- The Union Government announced that there was no proposal to extend the distribution of free ration as part of the **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKAY-3)** beyond 30 November 2021 in view of recovery in the economy and good disposal of food grains in the open market.
- The PMGKAY was announced in March 2020 and initially, the scheme was rolled out for April–June 2020 period but was later extended till 30 November 2021.

Department of Telecommunications (DoT) fixes December 2022 as the deadline for transition to new IP address

- The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has fixed **December 2022** as the deadline from 30 June 2022 for **internet service providers** to customise their networks, as well as update modems and routers at customer locations to deliver services using IPv6.
- The IP addresses help in identifying and connecting various devices and servers onto the internet.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi tops in the Global Leaders Approval Ratings

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** has surpassed US President Joe Biden, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and other foreign leaders to become the most popular leader in the world, with a **70%** approval rating among 13 world leaders in the **Global Leaders Approval Ratings**.
- Global Leader Approval Ratings are based on a seven-day moving average of adult residents in each country and samples sizes vary by country and the report is released by **Morning Consult Political Intelligence**.
- Narendra Modi remains at over 60 per cent in approval ratings since Morning Consult started collecting data in 2019.
- Morning Consult Political Intelligence tracks the approval rating for governmental leaders in Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, South Korea, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Union Government amends Packaged Commodities Rules 2011 for enhanced protection of consumer rights

- The Union Government has amended the **Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules 2011** for enhanced protection of consumer rights. These amendments will come into effect from **1 April 2022**.
- The Department of Consumer Affairs under the Union Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution has omitted **Rule 5** of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules 2011 to protect consumers' interests.
- A new provision has been added to identify the unit sale price on pre-packaged commodities, allowing for easy comparison of the costs at the time of purchase.
- The provisions of declarations of maximum retail price (MRP) have been simplified by removing illustration and providing for making the mandatory declaration of MRP in Indian currency inclusive of all taxes. This has allowed the manufacturer to declare the MRP on the pre-packed commodities in a simplified manner.

India and the United States virtually hold the 11th Defence Technology & Trade Initiative Group meeting

- The **11th Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI) Group meeting** between **India** and the **United States (US)** was held virtually in which both India and the US agreed on a **Statement of Intent (SoI)** to bring sustained leadership focus to the bilateral defence trade relationship and create opportunities for co-production and co-development of defence equipment.
- Four joint working groups focused on land, naval, air and aircraft carrier technologies have been established under DTTI to promote mutually agreed projects within their domains.

State News

Kerala celebrates its 65th Formation Day on 1 November

- **Kerala** celebrated its **65th Formation Day on 1 November**. The state of Kerala was created on 1 November 1956 amalgamating the erstwhile provinces of Malabar, Cochin and Thiruvithanchoor.

Kerala

- **Capital:** Thiruvananthapuram
- **Chief Minister:** Pinarayi Vijayan
- **Governor:** Arif Mohammed Khan
- **National Parks:** Anamudi Shola National Park, Eravikulam National Park, Mathikettan Shola National Park, Pambadum Shola National Park, Periyar National Park, Silent Valley National Park

Five states in India observes their formation day on 1 November 2021

- Five Indian states observed their formation day on 1 November 2021. The five states are as follows:

State	Formation Year
Kerala	1956
Madhya Pradesh	1956
Chattisgarh	2000
Karnataka	1956
Haryana	1966

Manipur Chief Minister launches the 'Go to Village 2.0' campaign to deliver the governance at the doorstep

- **Manipur** Chief Minister N. Biren Singh launched the '**Go to Village 0**' campaign at Thoubal district to **deliver governance at the doorstep** and bring inclusive development in Manipur.
- During the campaign, Biren Singh distributed assistance under various schemes, including CM e-Support Scheme, Manipur Start-Up Scheme, Cards under Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) and CMHT, Widows' Pension Scheme, assistance under Prime Minister Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) and Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY).

Manipur

- **Capital:** Imphal
- **Chief Minister:** Biren Singh
- **Governor:** Ganesan

Tamil Nadu sets up the first-ever Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) to manage critical natural conservation missions

- The Tamil Nadu Government has taken a massive step in climate action by setting up the first-ever **Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV)**, Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company.
- Tamil Nadu Climate Change, Tamil Nadu Green and Tamil Nadu Wetlands are the three key natural conservation missions that have been taken up by this project.
- The authorised capital of this SPV will be **₹5 crores**.

Tamil Nadu

- **Capital:** Chennai
- **Chief Minister:** M. K. Stalin
- **Governor:** R. N. Ravi
- **National Parks:** Mukurthi National Park, Guindy National Park, Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park, Indira Gandhi (Annamalai) National Park, Mudumalai National Park

India's first rooftop open-air theatre was opened in Mumbai

- **Reliance Retail** launched India's first rooftop open-air theatre in **Mumbai**, which will be known as '**Jio Drive-In**'.
- The open-air rooftop theatre will be operated and managed by **PVR Limited**.
- Akshay Kumar's Sooryavanshi was the first movie screened at India's first rooftop drive-in movie theatre.
- This drive-in theatre can accommodate around 290 cars.

- The price of the ticket for each car is set to cost around ₹1200 and only four people will be permitted inside one vehicle.

Maharashtra

- **Capital:** Mumbai
- **Chief Minister:** Uddhav Thackeray
- **Governor:** Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- **National Parks:** Chandoli National Park, Gugamal National Park, Nawegaon National Park, Pench (Jawaharlal Nehru) National Park, Sanjay Gandhi (Borivilli) National Park, Tadoba National Park

Uttarakhand celebrates its 21st foundation day on 09 November 2021

- **Uttarakhand** celebrated its 21st state foundation day on 09 November 2021. Uttarakhand was formed in **2000** after joining several districts from the Northwestern part of **Uttar Pradesh** and a portion of the Himalayan mountain range.

Uttarakhand

- Capital: **Dehradun**
- Chief Minister: **Pushkar Singh Dhami**
- Governor: **Baby Rani Maurya**
- National Parks: **Corbett National Park, Gangotri National Park, Govind Pashu Vihar National Park, Nanda Devi National Park, Rajaji National Park, Valley of Flowers National Park**

Mumbai- Karnataka region is set to be renamed as 'Kittur Karnataka'

- The **Mumbai-Karnataka** region consisting of seven districts, has been renamed as '**Kittur Karnataka**'.
- The Karnataka Cabinet has decided to rechristen the Mumbai-Karnataka region, consisting of Uttara Kannada, Belagavi, Dharwad, Vijayapura, Bagalkote, Gadag and Haveri districts, as Kittur Karnataka.
- 'Kittur' is named after a historical taluk in the Belagavi district that was ruled by Rani Chennamma, who had fought against the British before Jhansi Rani Laxmibai did.
- The previous government in 2019 had renamed the Hyderabad-Karnataka region that was previously ruled by Nizams of Hyderabad as 'Kalyana-Karnataka'.

Assam Government and World Bank sign a Memorandum of Understanding for a ₹770 crore loan to promote inland water transport

- **Assam's Inland Water Transport (IWT)** Department has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the World Bank for a **₹770 crore** loan to promote river transportation in Assam.
- The catamaran vessels were launched under a World Bank-funded project to integrate high-quality passenger and vehicle ferry services into Assam's wider transport network system.

World Bank

- **Headquarters:** Washington DC, the United States
- **President:** David Malpass
- **Founded:** 1944

Delhi Government launches the 'Shramik Mitra' scheme to ensure benefits for construction workers

- **Delhi** Government launched the '**Shramik Mitra**' scheme to ensure that **construction workers** receive the advantages of several programmes.
- The Shramik Mitra scheme will appoint at least 3 to 4 Shramik Mitras across all wards who will reach out to workers registered by the construction board at the ward level. The Shramik Mitras will also help workers in applying and availing process of the benefits of these government schemes.

New Delhi

- **Chief Minister:** Arvind Kejriwal
- **Governor:** Anil Baijal

International News

India and the UK's ambitious global solar grid plan 'One Sun, One World, One Grid' was launched

- Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his UK counterpart Boris Johnson jointly launched the **Green Grids Initiative — One Sun, One World, One Grid (GGI-OSOWOG)**, the first worldwide network of global interconnected solar power grids at the UN climate conference (COP26).
- This initiative will be the first international network of global interconnected solar power grids, which will combine large scale solar power stations, wind farms and grids with rooftop solar and community grids to ensure a reliable, resilient and affordable supply of clean energy for all.

India, Indonesia and the Philippines join the coal transition programme

- India, Indonesia and the Philippines will join South Africa as the first recipients of a multibillion-dollar **coal transition programme** aimed at accelerating their transition from coal power to clean energy.
- The four countries are responsible for 15% of worldwide coal emissions, the dirtiest fossil fuel and rapidly reducing their emissions will help the global effort to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

Diwali Day Act was introduced in the United States Congress to declare Diwali festival as a federal holiday

- **Diwali or Deepavali Day Act** was introduced in the **US Congress** to declare the festival of lights as a federal holiday.

- A bill has been introduced in the US House of Representatives to declare Diwali, the festival of lights, as a federal holiday.

The United Kingdom releases a commemorative coin celebrating Mahatma Gandhi on the day of Diwali

- On the occasion of Diwali, the **United Kingdom** Government released a new **£5** coin to honour **Mahatma Gandhi's** life and legacy.
- The £5 coin is a part of the Royal Mint's wider Diwali collection, which includes a gold bar depicting the Hindu goddess of wealth, **Lakshmi**.
- The gold and silver coin contains a depiction of India's national flower, the lotus, as well as one of Gandhi's most famous phrases, '**My life is my message**'.

United Kingdom

- **Capital:** London
- **Currency:** Pound Sterling
- **Prime Minister:** Boris Johnson

India and Bhutan formalise seven additional entry-exit points for trade

- **India** and **Bhutan** will have **seven** additional entry and exit points for trade as part of measures to increase trade connectivity which was announced at the Commerce Secretary-level meeting on trade and transit issues in New Delhi.
- Seven more entry/exit points for trade between India and Bhutan were formalised through Letters of Exchange.
- The additional points include Nagarkata Land Customs Station without commodity restriction, Agartala Land Customs Station, Pandu port (Guwahati Steamerghat) subject to cross border control at Dhubri, Jogighopa port subject to cross border control at Dhubri and also Asian Highway 48 connecting Torsha Tea Garden in India and Ahllay in Bhutan as an additional route corresponding to the Land Customs Station at Jaigaon, Kamardwisa and Birpara.

Banking & Economy

RBI eases current account rules for borrowers with bank exposures of less than ₹5 crores

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has eased the current account rules for borrowers with bank exposures of **less than ₹5 crores**. Borrowers can open current accounts, cash credit accounts and overdraft facilities without any restrictions. They will also not face any curbs on the provision of cash credit or overdraft facilities by banks.
- Borrowers having an exposure of **more than ₹5 crores** will be able to keep their current accounts with any of the banks with which they have cash credit or overdraft facilities, as long as the bank has at least **10%** of the banking system's exposure to that borrower.
- RBI has also permitted banks to open and maintain **inter-bank accounts**, all accounts with institutions like **EXIM Bank, NABARD, NHB and SIDBI**, accounts attached by orders of central or state governments and investigative agencies without any restrictions.

Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

- **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Formation:** 1 April 1935
- **Governor:** Shaktikanta Das
- **Deputy Governors:** K. Jain, M. D. Patra, M. Rajeshwar Rao and T. Rabi Sankar
- **Subsidiaries:** Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC), Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Limited (BRBNML)

Asian Development Bank (ADB) approves \$250 million for developing industrial corridors in India for the National Industrial Corridor Development Program (NICDP)

- **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has approved a **\$250 million** (about ₹1875 crores) loan to support India's **National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP)**.
- This programme aims to create world-class industrial hubs that are supported by efficient urban agglomerations and multimodal connections, such as international gateways like ports and airports, as well as inclusive, climate- resilient and sustainable infrastructure.

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

- **Founded:** 19 December 1966
- **Headquarters:** Mandaluyong, Philippines
- **President:** Masatsugu Asakawa

Bandhan Bank gets empanelled as an agency bank of RBI

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has empanelled **Bandhan Bank** as an **agency bank** to facilitate transactions related to government businesses.
- Bandhan Bank would be able to conduct transactions pertaining to state tax collection, revenue receipts such as GST and VAT, stamp duty collection and pension payments on behalf of the central and state governments as an agency bank.

Bandhan Bank

- **Headquarters:** Kolkata, West Bengal
- **MD & CEO:** Chandra Shekhar Ghosh

State Bank of India launches a pre-approved two-wheeler loan 'SBI Easy Ride' on the YONO application

- State Bank of India (SBI) has launched a pre-approved two-wheeler loan scheme named 'SBI Easy Ride', through its YONO platform in which the eligible customers of SBI can avail end-to-end digital two-wheeler loans through the mobile application without visiting the branch.
- Customers can apply for the easy ride loan for an amount up to **₹3 lakhs** at a competitive interest rate of **5%** per annum onwards for a maximum tenure of 4 years with the minimum loan amount of **₹20,000**.
- The loan will be promptly deposited into the dealer's account. Under this scheme, the customers can get a loan for up to 85% of the vehicle's on-road pricing.

State Bank of India (SBI)

- **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Chairman:** Dinesh Kumar Khara
- **Tagline:** “The Banker to Every Indian”

PhonePe launches ‘PhonePe Safecard’ tokenisation solution for online debit and credit card transactions

- PhonePe has launched a tokenisation solution named ‘**PhonePe Safecard**’ for online debit and credit card transactions.
- PhonePe has joined Visa, RuPay, Razorpay and PayU in introducing tokenisation solutions ahead of the Reserve Bank of India’s (RBI) guidelines for Payment Aggregators (PAs) and Payment Gateways (PGs), which are due to expire on **31 December**.
- This solution would allow PhonePe customers and merchant partners to continue to enjoy the convenience of stored card transactions while also improving security and adhering to the new RBI rules. All major card networks, including Mastercard, RuPay and Visa, are supported by this solution.

PhonePe

- **Headquarters:** Bengaluru, Karnataka
- **Chief Executive Officer (CEO):** Sameer Nigam

Kerala Financial Corporation (KFC) launches a special loan facility for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)

- **Kerala Financial Corporation (KFC)** has introduced a **special loan facility** for the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) sector to help them execute work orders and pay off pending bills.
- Under this scheme, 75 per cent of the cost of work received from government departments, agencies and Public Sector Undertakings will be provided as a loan.
- The amount of money owed to you will be determined by the length of time you worked and when you expect to receive payment from the work awarding body. Starting at 8%, the rate of interest will be related to the MSME’s credit rating score.

Reserve Bank of India revises the Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) Framework for banks to be effective from 1 January 2022

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reviewed and revised the existing **Prompt Corrective Action (PCA)** framework for Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs), with the amendments taking effect on **1 January 2022**.
- **Capital, asset quality and leverage** are the key areas for monitoring in the revised framework.
- The main objective of this exercise is to allow supervisory involvement at the right time, after which the supervised entity is required to implement remedial steps in a **timely way to restore financial stability**.
- According to the Reserve Bank of India’s updated Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework, **stressed banks may be barred from expanding their credit portfolios and**

directed to limit outsourcing activities but are allowed to invest in government securities/other high-quality liquid investments.

- Taking a bank out of the PCA framework and/or withdrawal of restrictions imposed will be considered if no violations in risk thresholds in any of the parameters are observed as per **four continuous quarterly financial statements**, one of which should be Audited Annual Financial Statement.
- The revised framework incorporates a resolution of a PCA bank by Amalgamation or Reconstruction under **Section 45 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949**.
- This framework is applicable to all banks operating in India, including international banks operating through branches or subsidiaries based on the breach of risk thresholds of identified indicators.

Reserve Bank of India is set to launch a web-based supervisory system soon

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is set to launch a **web-based supervisory system** that will allow for off-site and on-site supervision of modern operations such as digital banking and cyber security.
- A web-based and end-to-end workflow automation system has been designed by the RBI for continuous engagement with supervised entities.

Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

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- **Deputy Governors:** K. Jain, M. D. Patra, M. Rajeshwar Rao and T. Rabi Sankar
- **Subsidiaries:** Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC), Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Limited (BRBNML)

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) provides a \$250 million loan to Bangladesh for its COVID-19 recovery programme

- Bangladesh will get a **\$250 million** loan from the **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** to help Bangladesh to implement a sustainable economic recovery programme from the impact of COVID-19.
- This programme intends to create financing opportunities for small, medium and cottage industries deficient in finding sources of funding and also aims to reform and strengthen the public finance management system and expand financial resources.
- The loan will be disbursed as per standard AIIB terms and conditions. The loan is repayable in 20 years, including a three-year grace period.

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

- **Headquarters:** Beijing, China
- **MD & CEO:** Jin Liqun

Asian Development Bank (ADB) approves a \$61 million loan for urban development in Tripura

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a **\$61 million** loan for **Tripura** to improve livability, harness technology and promote new developments to accommodate the expanding population in the city of Agartala.
- This project will upgrade Agartala's urban infrastructure and services and create a livable city that will facilitate economic resilience and improve the quality of life of its residents.

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- **Headquarters:** Mandaluyong, The Philippines
- **President:** Masatsugu Asakawa

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) commits to support financial system 'greening'

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recently published its '**Statement of Commitment to Support Greening India's Financial System –Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS)**' and is committed to integrating climate-related risks into financial stability monitoring as well as exploring the use of climate scenario exercises to identify vulnerabilities in the RBI-supervised entities.
- The RBI joined the Central Banks and Supervisors Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS) as a member on 23 April and aims to learn from as well as contribute to global efforts on green finance.

Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

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- Deputy Governors: **K. Jain, M. D. Patra, M. Rajeshwar Rao and T. Rabi Sankar**
- Subsidiaries: **Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC), Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Limited (BRBNML)**

Junio partners with RuPay for a seamless payment experience

- **Junio**, a kid-focused fintech start-up that allows children to make secure offline and online payments, has launched a smart multi-purpose card named '**Junio RuPay Card**', for **pre-teens** and **teenagers** on the **RuPay**
- This '**Junio RuPay Card**' is thoughtfully designed for kids and can function as a debit card for both their online and offline purchases.

ESAF Small Finance Bank join hands with NABARD for local economic development in Kerala

- **ESAF Small Finance Bank** has launched a state level local sustainable economic development training programme in **Kerala** in collaboration with the **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)**.

- This partnership was aimed at bringing financial empowerment and economic independence at the local level.

Reserve Bank of India approves FPIs to invest in InvITs and REITs

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has approved **Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs)** to acquire debt securities issued by **Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs)** and **Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)**.
- FPIs can acquire debt securities issued by InvITs and REITs under the **Medium-Term Framework (MTF)** or the **Voluntary Retention Route (VRR)**.

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) organises its first global smart hackathon

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has organised its first global hackathon '**Harbinger 2021 – Innovation for Transformation**', with the theme '**smarter digital payments**' and the registration for the hackathon begins from 15 November.
- The RBI invited participants to identify and develop solutions that have the potential to make digital payments accessible to the under-served, enhance the ease of payments and user experience while strengthening the security of digital payments and promoting customer protection for the hackathon.
- **Harbinger 2021** seeks creative solutions to a variety of problems in the payment and settlement systems landscape, such as context-based retail payments that eliminate the physical act of payment.

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Meta launches an online resource centre 'Grow Your Business Hub' to support India's small businesses

- **Meta** (formerly Facebook) has launched the online resource centre '**Grow Your Business Hub**' for small businesses to help find relevant information, tools and solutions curated to cater to their business goals.
- Meta is also looking at creating customised programmes depending on the stage of growth of the business, providing them with relevant training and digital enablement.
- The announcement of this launch was made at the inaugural edition of the '**Grow Your Business Summit**' — an event focused on the growth agenda of India's small and medium businesses (SMB).

Meta

- **Headquarters:** California, the United States
- **Chief Executive Officer (CEO):** Mark Zuckerberg

Reserve Bank of India lifts restrictions on Diners Club International and allows onboarding of new customers

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) lifted business restrictions on **Diners Club International** and allowed it to onboard new domestic customers.
- The RBI had, on **23 April 2021**, imposed restrictions on Diners Club International from onboarding new domestic customers onto its card network from 1 May 2021 due to non-compliance with norms on storage of payment system data.
- Diners Club International is a payment system operator authorised to operate card networks in India under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.

Acquisitions & Mergers

HDFC Life Insurance acquires 100 per cent stake in Exide Life Insurance

- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved **HDFC Life Insurance's** acquisition of 100 per cent shareholding in **Exide Life Insurance** under **Section 31 (1) of the Competition Act, 2002**.
- After the acquisition, Exide Life (which will be a wholly-owned subsidiary of HDFC Life) is proposed to be merged with HDFC Life.

Appointments

Arun Chawla was appointed as the Director-General of the FICCI

- **Arun Chawla** was appointed as the Director-General of the **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)**.
- He joined FICCI in 2011 and is currently serving as the Deputy Secretary-General of FICCI.

FICCI

- **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **Founded:** 1927
- **CEO:** Sangita Reddy

Sharad Sharma was appointed as the Non- executive Director of YES Bank

- YES Bank has appointed **Sharad Sharma** as its Non-executive Director.
- He was the Managing Director of State Bank of Mysore during the period from August 2012 to April 2016, where he was seconded from State Bank of India (SBI).

Indian origin C. S. Venkatakrisnan was appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Barclays

- **S. Venkatakrisnan** from Mysore, India, was appointed as the **Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Barclays** after replacing Jes Staley.
- He was the former Barclays global head of markets and chief risk officer.
- He worked at JPMorgan Chase from 1994, holding senior roles in asset management, where he was chief investment officer for nearly \$200 billion in global fixed income and investment banking and risk.

Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan was appointed as the Chief of Staff of the Western Naval Command

- **Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan** was appointed as the Chief of Staff of the Western Naval Command.
- He was commissioned into the Indian Navy on 1 July 1987 and he is specialised in communication and electronic warfare.
- He is a recipient of the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal and Vishisht Seva Medal.
- He served as the Chief Staff Officer (Training) at the headquarters of the Southern Naval Command in Kochi.

Bhaskar Bhatt was appointed as the head coach of the Indian senior women's boxing team

- **Boxing Federation of India (BFI)** has appointed **Bhaskar Bhatt** as India's head coach of the senior women's boxing team. He replaced **Mohammad Ali Qamar**, who was the first Indian boxer to win a Commonwealth Games gold medal in the 2002 edition.

Rajib Kumar Mishra was appointed as the CMD of PTC India

- **PTC India** has appointed **Rajib Kumar Mishra** as its Chairman and Managing Director with effect from 06 November 2021. He replaced **Deepak Amitabh**.

Morinari Watanabe was re-elected as the President of the International Gymnastics Federation

- **Morinari Watanabe** was re-elected as the **President** of the **International Gymnastics Federation** for a period of **three years**.

International Gymnastics Federation

- Headquarters: **Lausanne, Switzerland**
- Founded: **23 July 1881**

Vice-Admiral R. Hari Kumar was appointed as the next Chief of Naval Staff

- Vice-Admiral **Hari Kumar** is set to be next Chief of Naval Staff, succeeding Admiral **Karambir Singh**.
- He is currently serving as the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Western Naval Command.
- Vice Admiral R. Hari Kumar has been decorated with the Param Vishist Seva Medal, Ati Vishist Seva Medal and Vishist Seva Medal.

Ranks and Indices

Microsoft surpasses Apple to become the world's most valuable company

- **Microsoft** surpassed **Apple** in market capitalisation, making it the world's most valuable **publicly traded firm**.
- Microsoft's market capitalisation stood at \$2.49 trillion, while Apple's market capitalisation stood at \$2.46 trillion.

- Microsoft has surpassed Apple's market capitalisation in previous instances as well. For the first time since 2010, Microsoft surpassed Apple's market capitalisation in 2018 and later in July 2020.

Microsoft

- **Headquarters:** Washington D. C., The United States
- **MD & CEO:** Satya Nadella

Gujarat retains the top spot on the 3rd edition of Logistics Performance Index 2021 by the Union Ministry of Commerce

- **Gujarat** has retained its top spot on the 3rd edition of **Logistics Performance Index (LEADS) 2021**, which is a measure of the effectiveness of logistical services required to promote exports and the economic growth, according to a report by the **Union Ministry of Commerce**.
- Gujarat is followed by Haryana, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra.
- The Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry releases the **LEADS (Logistics Ease Across Different States) 2021** report to identify the problem areas in the logistics ecosystem and prepare policy responses to deal with them.

Gujarat

- **Capital:** Gandhinagar
- **Chief Minister:** Bhupendra Patel
- **Governor:** Acharya Devvrat
- **National Parks:** Blackbuck National Park, Vansda National Park, Gir Forest National Park, Marine (Gulf of Kachchh) National Park

India ranks 18th in the Global Drug Policy Index 2021 and Norway tops the list

- **India** ranked **18** out of 30 countries in the first edition of the Global Drug Policy Index, which was released by the **Harm Reduction Consortium**. **Norway** has topped the index, followed by **New Zealand, Portugal, the United Kingdom (UK) and Australia**.

Bhoopalpalli in Telangana tops the NITI Aayog's aspirational districts rankings in the education sector

- NITI Aayog has announced the top five most improved **aspirational districts in the education sector** for the month of September, in which **Bhoopalpalli in Telangana** topped the ranking.
- It is followed by Chatra and Sahibganj in Jharkhand, Nuapada in Odisha and Jaisalmer in Rajasthan as per NITI Aayog's Delta

NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India Aayog)

- **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **CEO:** Amitabh Kant
- **Chairperson:** Narendra Modi

Sachin Tendulkar is among the 50 most influential people on Twitter: Brandwatch survey

- Indian cricket legend **Sachin Tendulkar** is among the 50 most influential people on Twitter in 2021. He is placed at number 35 according to the research made by **Brandwatch**.
- He was ranked above the American actors Dwayne Johnson and Leonardo Di Caprio and former first lady of the US Michelle Obama.
- American singer **Taylor Swift** is at the number 1 spot and Indian Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** stood **second** in the list.

Agreements and MoUs signed

Axis Bank signs an MoU with the Indian Navy for a defence service salary package

- **Axis Bank** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Indian Navy**, offering a **defence service salary package** with best-in-class benefits and features under its 'Power Salute'
- The benefits include a personal accident cover of up to ₹56 lakhs to all navy personnel, veterans and cadets, additional cover up to ₹8 lakhs children education grant and a total permanent disability cover benefit up to ₹46 lakhs.

Bank of Baroda signs an MoU with NCDEX e Markets Limited to become a clearing bank

- **Bank of Baroda** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **NCDEX e Markets Ltd (NEML)** to become a 'clearing bank' for handling financial transactions in the NeML marketplace and procurement/auction platform.
- This tie-up will increase Bank of Baroda's presence in agri e-commerce through its wide network across India.

India and France agree to expand their partnership on defence and security

- **India** and **France** agreed to expand their defence and security partnership by improving intelligence and information sharing, increasing mutual capabilities, expanding military drills and pursuing new initiatives in the maritime, space and cyber sectors.
- France has emphasised partnership with India as a major pillar of its Indo-Pacific strategy.
- India and France also agreed that emerging trends in global affairs reinforce the need for closer partnership between the two countries, including in the United Nations Security Council and other United Nations' forums.

France

- **Capital:** Paris
- **Currency:** Euro
- **President:** Emmanuel Macron
- **Prime Minister:** Jean Castex

PhonePe partners with Liberty General Insurance to offer motor insurance

- **Liberty General Insurance Limited** has partnered with **PhonePe** to offer **motor insurance** digitally and provide easy accessibility.

- Through PhonePe, Liberty General Insurance's motor insurance policy provides **easy accessibility** to the motor insurance cover, especially to the digitally savvy generation.

India and Israel sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the development of dual-use technologies in defence

- **India and Israel** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at developing dual-use technologies in the defence sector.
- This agreement was signed between India's **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** and Israel's **Directorate of Defence Research and Development (DDR&D)** to promote innovation and accelerated research and development in start-ups and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) of both countries for the advancement of dual-use technologies.
- Under this agreement, start-ups and industries of both India and Israel will work together to bring out next-generation technologies and products in the areas such as drones, robotics, artificial intelligence, quantum technology, photonics, energy storage and natural language processing.

Israel

- **Capital:** Jerusalem
- **Currency:** Israeli Shekel
- **Prime Minister:** Naftali Bennett
- **President:** Isaac Herzog

Awards and Recognitions

National Mission for Clean Ganga sets a Guinness World Record

- On the first day of the **Ganga Utsav** (1 November) – **the River Festival 2021**, the **National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)** was inducted into the **Guinness Book of World Records** for uploading the most images of handwritten remarks to Facebook in an hour.
- The Ganga Utsav from 1 November 2021 to 3 November 2021 was organised to raise awareness on the Ganga rejuvenation and to give impetus to the reach of the River Festival 2021.

South African author Damon Galgut wins the Booker Prize 2021 for his novel 'The Promise'

- South African author **Damon Galgut** has won the 2021 Booker Prize for Fiction for his novel **'The Promise'**.
- He took the prize on his third time as a finalist, for a book the judges called a 'tour de force'. He was previously shortlisted for 'The Good Doctor' in 2003 and 'In a Strange Room' in 2010 but lost both times.
- He is the third South African novelist to win the Booker Prize, after Nadine Gordimer in 1974 and J. M. Coetzee, who won twice, in 1983 and 1999.

India Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay tops the Indian universities in QS Asia University Rankings 2022

- **Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT) Bombay** has been listed as the top Indian institute in the **QS Asia University Rankings 2022** and ranked 42 worldwide.
- IIT Delhi is the only other Indian institution to be featured among the top 50, securing the 45th IIT Madras dropped four places to 54 this year. IIT Kharagpur and IIT Kanpur are at the 60th and 64th positions, respectively.
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) from the USA continues to be the best university for the tenth time in a row.

Puneeth Rajkumar is set to be honoured with the Basavashree Award 2021 posthumously

- Kannada actor **Puneeth Rajkumar** will be posthumously conferred the **Basavashree award 2021**.
- This award recognises individuals who have made significant contributions to society in their particular disciplines while adhering to Lord Basaveshwar's teachings. Chitradurga Bruhanmutt has been presenting this award since 1997. This prize comprises a cash prize of ₹5 lakhs as well as a memento.

Union Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports announces the winners of the Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award 2020

- Union Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports announced the seven winners of the Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award 2020. The awardees are:
- Lieutenant Colonel Servesh Dhadwal – Air Adventure
- Colonel Amit Bisht – Land Adventure
- Jai Kishan – Lifetime Achievement
- Jay Prakash Kumar – Land Adventure
- Priyanka Mangesh Mohite – Land Adventure
- Sheetal – Land Adventure
- Srikaanth Viswanathan – Water Adventure

President Ram Nath Kovind confers Padma Awards for 2020 to the awardees in New Delhi

- **President Ram Nath Kovind** presented the **Padma Awards 2020** in which the list comprises of seven Padma Vibhushan, 16 Padma Bhushan and 118 Padma Shri awards at the Rashtrapati Bhawan in New Delhi.
- Former Union Ministers Arun Jaitley, George Fernandes and Sushma Swaraj were conferred with Padma Vibhushan posthumously.
- Indian Badminton player P. V. Sindhu received the Padma Bhushan.

Srinagar joins the UNESCO Creative Cities Network 2021 under crafts and folk art category

- **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)** has included **Srinagar** city of the Union Territory of **Jammu and Kashmir** in its coveted list of **Creative Cities Network (UCCN) 2021 under crafts and folk art category**.
- UNESCO Director-General **Audrey Azoulay** describes the list of **49 cities** selected in recognition of their commitment to placing the culture and creativity at the heart of their development and to sharing knowledge and good practices.

Wang Yaping becomes the first Chinese woman astronaut to walk in space

- **Wang Yaping** became the first **Chinese woman astronaut** to walk in space as she moved out of the under-construction space station and took part in extravehicular activities for over six hours along with her male colleague **Zhai Zhigang**.

Science & Technology

SpaceX sets up subsidiary in India and plans to launch satellite broadband services

- **SpaceX** incorporated its wholly-owned subsidiary in India to start local broadband operations.
- SpaceX's satellite broadband arm, **Starlink** aims to start broadband services in India from **December 2022**, with 2 lakh active terminals subject to permission from the Indian Government.
- SpaceX now has a 100 per cent owned subsidiary in India. The name is SSCPL – Starlink Satellite Communications Private Limited and the incorporation date is 1 November 2021.

China launches an earth science satellite named 'Guangmu' into space

- **China** launched an earth science satellite named '**Guangmu**' into space from the **Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre** in the northern Shanxi province.
- It was launched by a **Long March-6 carrier rocket** and this was the 395th flight mission of the Long March rocket series.
- This was developed by the **Chinese Academy of Sciences**. The satellite (SDGSAT-1) is the world's first space science satellite dedicated to serving the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- This satellite collects data to help evaluate the sustainable development goals' indicators using thermal infrared, low light level and multispectral cameras.

China

- **Capital:** Beijing
- **President:** Xi Jinping
- **Currency:** Renminbi

Australia aims to launch Water Hunting Lunar Rover in 2024

- A mission conducted by private companies in Australia and Canada, in conjunction with the University of Technology Sydney, may see Australian technology hunting water on the Moon as soon as mid-**2024**.
- It will be the first rover with Australian-made components to make it to the Moon.
- The **Australian Space Agency** had announced a partnership with its American counterpart **NASA** to send a rover to the Moon as early as 2026 to collect lunar soil containing oxygen, which could eventually be used to support human life in space.

Australia

- **Capital:** Canberra
- **Currency:** Australian Dollar

- **Prime Minister:** Scott Morrison

Japan launches Epsilon-5 rocket carrying nine satellites into orbit in space

- The **Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)** launched the **Epsilon-5 rocket** carrying **nine satellites** from the Uchinoura Space Center in Kagoshima Prefecture, southwestern Japan, into space, which were developed by universities and private companies with the aim of putting small satellites into orbit at low cost.
- The rocket measured about 2.6 metres in diameter and 26 metres in length and weighed 96 tons, carrying nine satellites.
- The nine small satellites were released into orbit one by one as scheduled, at an altitude of about 600 kilometres .

Japan

- **Capital:** Tokyo
- **Currency:** Japanese Yen
- **Prime minister:** Fumio Kishida

Defence News

The Air Forces of India and Egypt conduct a two-day exercise 'Desert Warrior'

- The Air Forces of **India** and **Egypt** conducted a two-day exercise '**Desert Warrior**' at the latter's El Berigat airbase to enhance mutual understanding and share an operational experience.

Books & Authors

Sudha Murthy releases her new book titled 'The Sage with Two Horns'

- **Sudha Murthy** released her new book titled '**The Sage with Two Horns**' in which she tells numerous lesser-known and fascinating stories that have been lost in the pages of Indian mythology.
- This is the fifth and last book of her 'Unusual Tales from Mythology' series and the follow-up to 'The Man from the Egg', 'Serpent's Revenge', 'The Upside-Down King' and 'The Daughter from the Wishing Tree'.
- The publisher of this book is **Puffin (Penguin Random House)**.

Sports News

Kashmiri girl Tajamul Islam wins the gold medal in U-14 World Kickboxing Championship in Cairo, Egypt

- Srinagar's **Taijul Islam** won the **gold medal** in the **Under-14 category of the World Kickboxing Championship** that was held in Cairo, Egypt. She defeated Lalina from Argentina in the final.
- She is the first Kashmiri girl to have represented India in the competition.
- She is also a brand ambassador of the '**Beti Bachao Beti Padhao**'

Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports announces the National Sports Awards 2021

- Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports announced the **National Sports Awards 2021** and the awardees will receive their awards from the President of India on 13 November 2021 in New Delhi.

The National Sports Awards 2021 awardees are:

- **Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award 2021** – Neeraj Chopra, Avani Lekhara, Ravi Kumar, Sumit Antil, Lovlina Borgohain, P. R. Sreejesh, Pramod Bhagat, Manish Narwal, Krishna Nagar, Mithali Raj, Sunil Chhetri, Manpreet Singh.
- **Arjuna Awards** – Arpinder Singh, Simranjit Kaur, Shikhar Dhawan, Bhavani Devi, Monika, Vandana Katariya, Sandeep Narwal, Himani Uttam Parab, Abhishek Verma, Ankita Raina, Deepak Punia, Dilpreet Singh, Harmanpreet Singh, Rupinder Pal Singh, Surender Kumar, Amit Rohidas, Birendra Lakra, Sumit, Nilakanta Sharma, Hardik Singh, Vivek Sagar Prasad, Gurjant Singh, Mandeep Singh, Shamsher Singh, Lalit Kumar Upadhyay, Varun Kumar, Simranjeet Singh, Yogesh Kathuniya, Nishad Kumar, Praveen Kumar, Suhas Yathiraj, Singhraj Adhana, Bhavina Patel, Harvinder Singh, Sharad Kumar.
- **Dhronacharya Award (Life Time category)** – P. Ouseph, Sarkar Talwar, Sarpal Singh, Ashan Kumar, Tapan Kumar Panigrahi.
- **Dhronacharya Award (Regular category)** – P. Radhakrishnan Nair, Sandhya Gurung, Pritam Siwach, Jai Prakash Nautiyal, Subramanian Raman.
- **Dhyan Chand Award for Lifetime Achievement in Sports and Games** – C. Lekha, Abhijeet Kunte, Davinder Singh Garcha, Vikas Kumar, Sajjan Singh.
- **Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar 2021** – Manav Rachna Educational Institution (for identification and nurturing of budding and young talent), Indian Oil Corporation Limited (for encouragement to sports through corporate social responsibility).
- **Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy 2021** – Panjab University (Chandigarh)

Jammu and Kashmir team for deaf secures the first position in the World Deaf Judo Championship 2021

- The **Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) team for deaf** secured the first position in the **World Deaf Judo Championship 2021** held at Paris Versailles, France.
- Rakshanda Mehak from the Indian team for the deaf clinched the **bronze medal** by defeating the South Korean team in the semifinal.

Unmukt Chand becomes the first Indian male cricketer to feature in Australia's Big Bash League

- Former India men's U-19 captain **Unmukt Chand** became the first Indian male cricketer to be signed by Australia's **Big Bash League** (BBL).
- He never played at the senior international level but had played for India A and captained India men's Under -19 in the 2012 World Cup in Australia. He scored a century in the final against Australia.

West Indies' all-rounder Dwayne Bravo announces his retirement from international cricket

- West Indies' all-rounder cricketer **Dwayne Bravo** has announced his retirement from international cricket.
- He made the announcement after West Indies was eliminated from the race to semi-finals for the ICC T20 World Cup 2021.

Manu Bhaker and Javad Foroughi win the gold in the 10 m air pistol mixed team event at the inaugural ISSF President's Cup

- **Manu Bhaker** of India and **Javad Foroughi** of Iran won the **gold** medal in the **10m air pistol mixed team event** at the inaugural International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) President's Cup at Wroclaw, Poland.
- In the gold medal match, the Indo-Iranian team defeated the French-Russian team of Mathilde Lamolle and Artem Chernousov.

Indian boxer Akash Kumar clinches the bronze medal at the AIBA Men's World Championships 2021

- Indian boxer **Akash Kumar (54 kg)** clinched the **bronze** medal in the **AIBA Men's World Boxing Championships 2021** at Belgrade, Serbia, after being defeated by Kazakhstan's Makhmud Sabyrkhan in the semifinal.
- He became the seventh Indian male boxer to secure a world championship medal.

Jaspit Bumrah becomes India's leading wicket-taker in T20 Internationals

- India pacer **Jasprit Bumrah** became India's leading wicket-taker in T20 Internationals (T20I) as he surpassed Indian spinner Yuzvendra Chahal's tally of 63 wickets in his 54th
- Jasprit Bumrah now has 64 T20I wickets.
- He picked up India's first wicket of the T20 World Cup 2021 when he dismissed New Zealand batsman Martin Guptill and it was India's first wicket since the 2016 T20 World Cup since India had gone wicketless against Pakistan in 2021 T20 World Cup.

Sankalp Gupta becomes the 71st Chess Grandmaster of India

- Nagpur-based teenager **Sankalp Gupta** became **India's 71st Chess Grandmaster** after finishing second in the GM Ask 3 round-robin event at Arandjelovac, Serbia, with 6.5 points.
- Markarian won the top prize on the basis of a better tie-break score though he finished equal on 6.5 points with Gupta in the 10-player field.

Novak Djokovic beats Daniil Medvedev to win a record 37th Masters title and 6th Paris Masters title

- World number one tennis player **Novak Djokovic** won a sixth **Paris Masters title** and record **37th Masters crown** beating 2020 champion **Daniil Medvedev** in the **2021 Paris Masters** This was his **6th Paris Masters title**.

Rohit Sharma becomes the third cricketer to score 3,000 runs in men's T20I

- Indian batter **Rohit Sharma** has completed **3000** T20 International runs and became the third cricketer in the world to achieve this feat.
- Indian skipper **Virat Kohli** is at the top of the tally with **3227 runs**, which is followed by New Zealand's **Martin Guptill** and India's Rohit Sharma with **3115** and **3008** runs, respectively.

Important Days

National Unity Day – 31 October

- **National Unity Day** or **Rashtriya Ekta Diwas** is observed on **31 October** to pay homage to veteran independence fighter **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel**, India's first Home Minister, whose role in persuading many princely states to join the Union of India after independence is particularly noteworthy.
- This year (2021) marks the 146th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- The Union Government declared to observe 31 October as National Unity Day in 2014.

World Savings Day – 31 October

- **World Savings Day** or World Thrift Day is observed on **31 October** to increase the public's awareness of the importance of savings both for modern economies and for individuals.
- World Savings Day was established on **31 October 1924** during the first International Savings Bank Congress (World Society of Savings Banks) in Milano, Italy.

World Cities Day – 31 October

- **World Cities Day** is observed on **31 October** every year to promote the international community's interest in global urbanisation.
- This day was established on **27 December 2013** by the **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)**.
- It is observed with sustainable development goal to make cities "inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable".
- Theme for 2021: '**Adapting Cities for Climate Resilience**'.

World Vegan Day – 1 November

- **World Vegan Day** is observed on **1 November** every year to celebrate the tradition of eating an entirely plant-based meal free of dairy and animal products.
- This year (2021) marks the 77 years of World Vegan Day.
- This day was established on 1 November 1944 to mark the golden jubilee of the UK Vegan Society to celebrate the term 'Vegan'.

National Ayurveda Day – 2 November

- National Ayurveda Day is celebrated every year on the occasion of **Dhanwantari Jayanti (Dhanteras)** since 2016. This year (2021), it falls on 2 November to create awareness about the health benefits of Ayurveda and to promote the Ayurvedic lifestyle.

- Theme for 2021: 'Ayurveda for Poshan'.
- The aim of this day is to highlight Ayurveda's strengths and unique treatment principles.

World Tsunami Awareness Day – 5 November

- **World Tsunami Awareness Day** is observed on **5 November** every year to raise awareness about the devastating natural disaster (Tsunami) that killed approximately 2,60,000 individuals.
- The theme for World Tsunami Awareness Day 2021 is the '**Sendai Seven Campaign**', which intends to significantly strengthen international cooperation to developing nations via suitable and sustained support to complement their national measures for the execution of the current framework by 2030.

International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict – 6 November

- The **International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict** is observed on **6 November** every year to raise awareness about the damage caused to the environment due to wars and also educate about the protection of the environment and ecosystem in any circumstances. This day also aims to ensure that no harm is done to the environment during armed conflicts.
- This day was declared across the globe by the United Nations General Assembly in 2001.

National Cancer Awareness Day – 7 November

- **National Cancer Awareness Day** is observed on **7 November** to raise awareness about cancer and it is the birth anniversary of Madame Curie, a prominent scientist remembered for her efforts and contribution in the battle against cancer.
- National Cancer Awareness Day was first announced in **September 2014** by then Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan.

World Radiography Day – 8 November

- **World Radiography Day** is observed on **8 November** to raise public awareness of radiographic imaging and therapy, which plays a significant role in the diagnosis and treatment of patients.
- This day is observed to commemorate the discovery of X-radiation or X-rays on 8 November 1895 by German scientist Wilhelm Conrad Rontgen.
- Theme for 2021: '**Interventional Radiology – Active care for the patient**'.

World Urbanism Day – 8 November

- **World Urbanism Day** or World Town Planning Day is observed on **8 November** to recognise and promote the role of planning in creating liveable communities.
- World Urbanism Day also draws attention to the environmental impact resulting from the development of cities and territories.
- This day is celebrated in more than 30 countries on four continents.

National Legal Services Day – 09 November

- **National Legal Services Day** in India is celebrated every year on **09 November**. This day was first started in **1995** by the Supreme Court of India to offer legal services free of charge to people from the weaker and poor sections of society.

International Week of Science and Peace – 09 November to 14 November 2021

- **International Week of Science and Peace (IWOSP)** is celebrated every year from **09 November to 14 November** to encourage people to develop better technology and cultivate peace in their countries.
- IWOSP was first observed in 1986. It was proclaimed by the United National General Assembly in **1988**.

World Science Day for Peace and Development – 10 November

- **World Science Day for Peace and Development** is observed on **10 November** to highlight the importance of science in society and the need to engage the wider public in debates on emerging scientific issues.
- This year (2021) marks the 20th edition of World Science Day for Peace and Development with the theme of **'Building Climate – Ready Communities'**.
- The first World Science Day for Peace and Development was celebrated worldwide on **10 November 2002**.

Obituary

Former Australian all-rounder Peter Philpott passed away

- Former Australian all-rounder **Peter Philpott** passed away at the age of 86.
- He was a former South Wales captain and made his test debut in the 1964–65 series in the West Indies, where he captured 18 wickets.

Senior West Bengal minister Subrata Mukherjee passed away

- Senior West Bengal minister **Subrata Mukherjee** passed away at the age of 75.
- He served as the Mayor of Kolkata from 2000 to 2005.
- He became one of the youngest ministers in the Bengal chief minister Siddhartha Shankar Ray's government in 1972 when he was only 26.

India's most respected cricket coach Tarak Sinha passed away

- Legendary cricket coach **Tarak Sinha** passed away at the age of 71.
- He had coached players like Ashish Nehra, Shikhar Dhawan, Rishabh Pant and many others.
- He was the **fifth Indian cricket coach** after Desh Prem Azad, Gurcharan Singh, Ramakant Achrekar and Sunita Sharma to receive the **Dronacharya Award** in 2018.