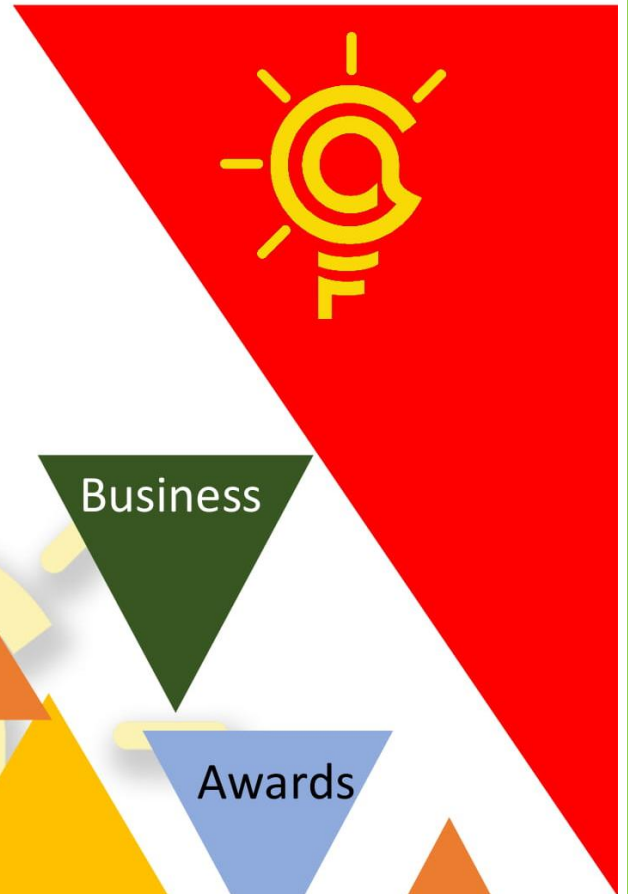


March Monthly Current Affairs



International
Affairs

National
Affairs

Business

Awards

Important
Days

Sports

Banking

Obituary

Ranking

Sports



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IMPORTANT DAYS

NATIONAL IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Edition	Theme
February 1	Raising Day of The Indian Coast Guard (ICG)	45 th	-
February 10	National Deworming Day	-	-
February 13	National Women's Day	-	-
February 20	Arunachal Pradesh Statehood day	35 th	-
February 20	Mizoram Statehood Day	1987	-
February 27	Protein Day in India	2 nd	Right to Protein
February 28	National Science Day	1987	Future of Science and Technology and Innovation: Impact on Education Skills and Work'

INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Edition	Theme
February 2	World Wetlands Day	1971	Wetland and Water
February 4	World Cancer Day	2000	I Am and I Will
February 10	World Pulses Day	2016	#LovePulses
February 11	The International Day of Women and Girls in Science	2015	Women Scientists at the forefront of the fight against COVID-19
February 11	World Unani Day	2017	-
February 13	World Radio Day	2012	-
February 20	World Day of Social Justice	2007	"A call for social justice in the Digital Economy."
February 21	International Mother Language Day	-	Fostering multilingualism for inclusion in education and society
February 27	World NGO Day	2012	-
February 28	Rare Disease Day	2009	-

Week

Week	Day	Theme
February 8-12	Financial Literacy Week	Credit Discipline and Credit from Formal Institutions

Sports

Cricket in News

- **Merv Hughes** - Inducted into Australian Cricket Hall of Fame.
- **Tamil Nadu** - Beat Baroda by 7 wickets to lift second in 12th edition of Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 Trophy.
- **Rishabh Pant + Joe Root + Paul Stirling** – Nominated for the ICC Men's Player of the Month award.
- **Joe Root** - First batsman to score 200 in 100th Test.
- International Cricket Council - Announce **BYJU'S** as global partner until 2023.
- **Ishant Sharma** - 3rd Indian pacer to take 300 Test wickets.
- **Ravichandran Ashwin** - First bowler to dismiss left-handers 200 times in Tests.
- **Ashwin** - 4th highest wicket-taker for India with 599 wickets.
- **Kings XI Punjab** - Rename as Punjab Kings ahead of IPL 2021 auction.
- **Umar Akmal** - Pakistan batsman 18 month-ban eases to one year.

Retirement news in Cricket

- **Ashok Dinda** – from West bengal retirement from all forms of cricket.
- **Naman Ojha** – from Madhya Pradesh retirement from all forms of cricket.
- **R Vinay Kumar** – from Karnataka retirement from 1st-class and International cricket.
- **Faf du Plessis** – from South Africa announce retirement from Test cricket
- **Dharmika Prasad** –from Sri Lanka retirement from international cricket.
- **Upul Tharanga** – from Sri Lanka retirement from international cricket.

News related to Badminton/Tennis

- **Anders Antonsen** - Men's Singles in the BWF World Tour defeated Viktor Axelsen.
- **Tai Tzu-ying**- Women's singles in the BWF World Tour defeated Carolina Marin.
- **Badminton Asia Mixed Team Championship** - Cancel due to COVID-related restrictions.
- **Elise Mertens, Aryna Sabalenka** - Women's doubles title of Australian Open.
- **Ankita Raina** - Maiden WTA title, clinches Phillip Island Trophy doubles.
- **Naomi Osaka** (Japan)- Beat Jennifer Brady to win 2nd Australian Open title.
- **Alfiya Pathan** - India's first gold at Montenegro boxing meet.
- **Djokovic** beaten Humble Medvedev to win 9th Australian Open title, 18th grand slam title.
- **Popyrin** (Australia)- Win maiden ATP title in Singapore.

Other News related to Sports

- **Siddhesh Choudhari** - Gold medal in 400m hurdles in 36th National Junior Athletic Championship.
- **Dutee Chand** - Women's 100m at the season-opening Indian Grand Prix at the National Institute of Sports in Patiala.
- **Haryana's Sonika** - Women's 10-km race in 55th National Cross Country Championship.
- **Bayern Munich** - Beat Tigres 1-0 to win Club World Cup.
- India - Will not participate in **ISSF World Cup in South Korea** owing to 14-day quarantine.
- **ISSF World Cup** - Korea postponed due to mandatory hard quarantine.
- **IOC President** - Weightlifting could be removed from Olympic programme by 2024.
- **Karnataka** - Host Khelo India University Games 2021.
- **Gulmarg** - 2nd edition of Khelo India Winter Games 2021.
- The Indian trio of **Mairaj Ahmed Khan, Angad Vir Singh Bajwa and Gurjoat Khangura** won the bronze medal in men's skeet team event at the International Shooting Sport Federation tournament (ISSF) Shotgun World Cup in Cairo.
- **Deepak Kumar** (Boxing) - Silver at Strandja Memorial Tournament in Bulgaria.

Obituary

National Obituary

Name	Related To	State
Pemmaraju Surya Rao	Vocalist	Andhra Pradesh
Rajiv Kapoor	Actor, Director	Mumbai, Maharashtra
Sujan Singh Pathania	Politician-Congress MLA, ex-Minister	Himachal Pradesh
M Rama Jois	Eminent jurist, former Governor and ex-Chief Justice of HC	Bengaluru, Karnataka
Captain Satish Sharma	Congress leader and Gandhi loyalist	Telangana
Issac Thomas Kottukapally	Adaminte Makan Abu Music director, Script writer	Kerala
Debananda Gupta	Veteran freedom fighter	Odisha
Mohan Delkar	Politician (MP)	Dadra and Nagar Haveli
Rahul Khullar	Former TRAI chief	-
Singamaneni Narayana Rao	Noted story writer	Andhra Pradesh
D Pandian	Veteran CPI leader	Tamil Nadu
Vishnunarayanan Namboothiri	Malayalam poet	Kerala
Shovon Chowdhury	Writer	Delhi

International Obituary

Name	Related To	Country
Ryszard Szurkowski	Cycling	Poland
Hal Holbrook	Actor played MarkTwain, Television Director, Writer	United States
Christopher Plummer	Oscar winner, 'Sound of Music' star	Canada
Bruce Taylor	Cricket-All Rounder	New Zealand
George Shultz	Former Secretary of State	United States
Jean-Claude Carriere	Novelist, Screen writer, Actor	France
Raymond Levesque	Singer	Canada
Arne Sorenson	President & CEO of Marriott International Inc	Washington DC
Ahmed Zaki Yamani	Long-serving oil minister	Saudi Arabia
Lawrence Ferlinghetti	Beat poet, publisher, and bookseller	New York, United States
Arturo Di Modica	Sculptor of Wall Street bull	New York

Ranking

EIU democracy index-Released by Economic Intelligence Unit

Total Number of Countries: 167.

Rank	Country	Score
1	Norway	9.81
2	Iceland	9.37
3	Sweden	9.26
53	India	6.61
167	North Korea	1.08

Global MBA Ranking 2021- Released by Financial Times

Rank	School name	Country
1	Insead	France / Singapore
2	London Business School	UK
3	University of Chicago: Booth	US
23	Indian School of Business	India
35	Indian Institute of Management Bangalore	India
44	Indian Institute of Management Calcutta	India
48	Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad	India
94	Indian Institute of Management Indore	India

- **Telangana, Punjab and Odisha** are three top States that have got maximum benefits of cotton procurement by the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) during the current season 2020-21.
- IBM report - **Indians second-most attacked by cyber criminals** after Japanese in Asia Pacific.

Banking and Finance

Reserve Bank of India in News

- RBI - Appoint external firm to **audit HDFC Bank's** IT infra in view of service outages.
- RBI - **Risk-based audit guidelines** for select NBFCs, urban co-op banks.
- RBI - Impose **Rs 55 lakh penalty** on Pune-based Seva Vikas Cooperative Bank.
- RBI - Fined Bank of Maharashtra with **₹2 cr** for non-compliance of various norms.
- RBI - Give banks three more months to appoint **Chief Compliance Officer**.
- RBI - NBFCs to get funds under on tap **TLTRO scheme** for incremental lending.
- RBI - Restrict withdrawals from **Independence Co-operative Bank**, Nashik.
- RBI - Approve **DHFL resolution plan** from Piramal Capital and Housing Finance.
- RBI - Rs 1,000 withdrawal cap on **Deccan Urban Cooperative Bank**.
- RBI - Extend deadline to apply for **umbrella entity** on retail payments.
- RBI report - **Inflation target** band of **2-6%** appropriate for next 5 years.
- The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) **Monetary Policy**

Rate	Percent
Policy Repo Rate	4.00%
Reverse Repo Rate	3.35%
Marginal Standing Facility Rate	4.25%
Bank Rate	4.25%
Cash Reserve Ratio	3%
Statutory Liquidity Ratio	18.00%



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Public Sector Banks in News

- **SBI + Shapoorji Pallonji** - Sign MoU to offer faster home loan approvals.
- Bank of Maharashtra + LoanTap Credit - **Co-lending to MSMEs**.
- Bank of Maharashtra + Vayana Network - Offer **Channel Financing service for MSMEs**.
- PNB + Indian Oil - Provide up to **₹2 crore loan to dealers**.
- **Indian Bank + IISc-run society** - Fund start-ups and MSME.
- **Indian Overseas Bank + SBI General Insurance** - Retail its insurance products to bank customers.

Private Sector Banks in News

- Federal Bank - **FedFirst** – A special account aimed at inculcating a savings habit amongst children.
- ICICI Bank + Greater Chennai Corporation + Chennai Smart City Limited - Launch '**Namma Chennai Smart Card**'.
- **ICICI Bank + MUFG Bank** - Serving Japanese firms operating in India.
- Axis Bank+ Phonepe - **UPI multi-bank model**.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank - Launch of **Kotak Remit** on mobile.

International Banks in News

- World Bank + Bangladesh - Provide **USD 500 million** for improving Road and Digital Connectivity.
- World Bank + India- **\$68 mn** project for improving education in **Nagaland**.
- World Bank - **\$100 million** - Project to Support Nutrition-Supportive Agriculture in Tribal-Dominated Areas of **Chhattisgarh**.
- World Bank - Provide **USD 200 mn to Bangladesh** for safe water and sanitation services in Rural areas.
- NDB - Commit **USD 100 million** to NIIF Fund of Funds (FoF).
- ADB - Get **₹100 crore to Medanta** in debt financing to provide essential healthcare services during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- ADB - **USD 940 million** assistance for **Bangladesh** COVID vaccination programme.

Insurance Companies in News

- IRDAI - **Standard personal accident cover**, minimum 2.5 lakhs, maximum Rs 1 cr assured.
- IRDAI-'**Mashak Rakshak**'- India's first standardised medical insurance cover for vector-borne diseases from 1st april, 2021.
- Edelweiss General Insurance + Okinawa Autotech - **E-bike insurance**.
- **ICICI Lombard** - Approve to open IFSC unit in Gujarat's Gift city.
- ICICI Lombard + Flipkart - Offer **Hospicash insurance** to consumers.
- ICICI Prudential Life Insurance - new savings product – '**ICICI Pru Guaranteed Income for Tomorrow**'.





- Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance - Hyper-personalized term plan, **ABSLI DigiShield Plan**.
- Bharti AXA General Insurance - **Health AdvantEDGE**.
- IRDAI working group - Introduction of **index-linked insurance** products.
- Star Health Insurance + PhonePe - Offer **Digital Health Insurance**.
- Care Health Insurance + Karnataka Vikas Grameen Bank – **Bancassurance**.
- LIC - Individual savings plan **LIC's Bima Jyoti**.
- Bharti AXA Life Insurance - Smart protection solution **Flexi Term Pro** up to 99 years.
- **Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance** - Pension plan with deferred annuity option.
- Navi General Insurance - '**2-Minutes**' online retail health insurance product.
- IRDAI - approve Axis entities' stake acquisition in Max Life Insurance.

Others in News

- NeoGrowth Credit - **Vendor Finance Express** for SMEs.
- **AGS Transact + Mastercard** - 'contactless' cash withdrawals at ATMs.
- **NPCI** - Hackathon challenge to find alternative UPI authentication modes.
- Equitas Small Finance Bank + MSRDC - **FASTag** powered truck terminal.
- **Stellapps + IPPB** - Digitise milk procurement.
- CREDAI + IPPB - Open bank accounts for **construction workers**.
- **Mastercard + Razorpay** - Drive digital payments for small businesses.
- U GRO Capital - New vertical for **micro credit**.
- SBI Payments - Launch **YONO Merchant app** for low-cost payments.
- **UTI Mutual Fund** - WhatsApp chat service for investors.
- Shriram Housing Finance - Video-based **credit underwriting**.
- Nasscom + Cisco + AICTE - Offer virtual **internships in cybersecurity**.



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Business and Economy

- Coal India - **Rs 2,900 crore** agreements for procurement of 96 dumpers of 240 tonne each.
- Reliance - World's first '**carbon-neutral**' oil from US.
- **Amazon India** + The Directorate General Resettlement for hiring ex-service personnel - Work opportunities across its growing operations network in India.
- Bharat Forge + Paramount - Manufacture **armoured vehicles**.
- **Flipkart + Maharashtra** - Bring local artisans, SMEs into the e-commerce fold.
- **Flipkart + Tamil Nadu** Micro, Small Medium Enterprises Trade and Investment Promotion Bureau - To help small businesses grow.
- January 2021 - 2.3 billion transactions worth **Rs 4.2 trillion** recorded through UPI.
- **PhonePe** - Top position with 42% UPI market share in January.
- **Retail inflation** - Ease to 4.06% in January.
- Essar Power - Set up **90 MW solar plant** in MP for Rs 300 cr.
- Essar + Fulcrum BioEnergy - **£600m** waste-to-fuel plant in England.
- Google - Give **Rs 109 crore** to support SMBs in India.
- Intel + Google Cloud - Accelerate **5G deployment**.
- IEA - India to overtake EU as **world's third largest energy consumer** by 2030.
- IDC - 80% Indian corporate banks to **leverage Cloud by 2024**.
- RBI data - Non-food credit grows 5.7% in January.
- **Facebook** - TikTok-like BARS app for creating, sharing raps.



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Acquisition and mergers

Company Name	Acquired Company	% Stake	Amount
Adani Ports	Dighi Port	100%	₹705 crore (650cr financial creditors+55 cr CIRP Cost)
Adani Group	Mumbai International Airport	23.5%	Rs 1,685 crore
GAIL	IGX Indian Gas Exchange	5%	
ICICI Bank	Thillais Analytical Solutions	9.65%	
Aurobindo Pharma	NVNR (Ramannapet I) Power Plant Pvt Ltd	26%	
ABFRL	Tarun Tahiliani	33.5%	
Axis entities	Max Life Insurance	19%	
HDFC Mutual Fund	Just Dial	2.73%	Rs 108 Crore
Prestige group	Ace Realty Ventures	99%	
Tata Group	Bigbasket	68%	Rs 9,500 crore
Airtel	Bharti Telemedia	20%	₹3,126 crore
Rising Sun Holdings Pvt Ltd	Magma Fincorp	60%	₹3,456 crore
Reliance Industries Ltd	SkyTran	54.46%	26.76 million

Books and Authors

- **'Whereabouts'**- Authored by Jhumpa Lahiri- Published by Penguin India
- **Mapping Love**- Authored by- Ashwini Iyer Tiwari- Published by Rupa Publications
- **'Stories I Must Tell: The Emotional Journey of an Actor'** – Authored by Kabir Bedi– Published by Westland
- **State of Terror** – Authored by Hillary Rodham Clinton + Louise Penny - Published by Pan Macmillan India
- **Indus Basin Uninterrupted**- Authored by Uttam Sinha- Published by Penguin Random House
- **Runway to Skilled India**- Dr Darlie Koshy – Published by DFU Publications.
- **'Rashtra Pratham - 82 varshon ki Swarnim Gatha'**(Nation First- The Golden Story of 82 Years)- Released by Home Minister- Compiled by Delhi University historian Dr Bhuwan Kumar Jha- The book is all about history of CRPF since its raising 1939.
- **The Age of Pandemics**- Authored by Chinmay Tumbe- Published by HarperCollins.

Appointments

National appointments

Name	Designation	Organization	Replaced
Ajay Singh	President	Boxing Federation of India	-
Ayesha Aziz	India's youngest female pilot	-	-
Lt Gen B S Raju	Director General	Military Operations of Indian Army	-
Justice Puligoru Venkata Sanjay Kumar	Chief Justice	Manipur High Court	-
SN Subrahmanyam	Chairman	National Safety Council	-
Aditya Mittal	CEO	ArcelorMittal	-
Marc Llistosella	MD & CEO	Tata Motors	-
Anish Shah	MD and CEO	Mahindra & Mahindra	-
George Victor	MD & CEO	Dredging Corporation	Rajesh Tripathi
Tamilisai Soundararajan	Additional charge as Lieutenant Governor	Puducherry	-
Randeep Hooda	Brand Ambassador	OK life care company	-
Deepika Padukone	Brand Ambassador	Levi's	-
Disha Patani	Brand ambassador	Diamond jewellery Orra	-
Hima Das	Deputy Superiendant of Police	Assam	-
PC Mody	Chairman	Central Board of Direct Tax	Extension 3 months
R Hari Kumar	Cheif	Western Naval Command	Ajit Kumar
Tarun Bajaj	Additional Charge	Revenue Secretary	Ajay Bhusan Pandey
Arun Kumar	Chief Secretary	Bihar	Deepak Kumar
Sitaram Kunte	Chief Secretary	Maharshtra	Sanjay Kumar
VP Joy	Chief Secretary	Kerala	Vishwas Mehta

Banking Appointments

Name	Designation	Organization	Replaced
Viswanatha Gowd	MD & CEO	LICHFL	Siddhartha Mohanty
Satishwar Balakrishnan	MD & CEO	Aegon Life Insurance	-
Matam Venkata Rao	MD & CEO	Central Bank of India	Pallav Mahapatra
Manoj Shenoy	CEO	IIFL Asset Management Company	-
K P Krishnan	Chairman	Shriram Capital Limited	-

International Appointments

Name	Designation	Organization	Replaced
Bhavya Lal	Acting chief of staff	NASA	-
Andy Jassy	CEO	Amazon	-
Bikram Singh Bedi	MD	Google Cloud India	Karan Bajwa
Suzanne Clark	1 st female CEO	US Chamber of Commerce	Thomas J. Donohue
Mario Draghi	Prime Minister	Italy	Giuseppe Conte's
Ligia Noronha	Assistant Secretary General	UN	
Ajay Mathur	Chief	International Solar Alliance	Upendra Tripathy
Preeti Sinha	Lead	United Nations Capital Development Fund	-
Seiko Hashimoto	President	Tokyo Olympics	-
Usha Rao-Monari	Secretary-General and Associate Administrator	UNDP	-
Dr Swati Mohan	Leading Perseverance Rover Landing on Mars	NASA	-
Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala - Nigeria	Director-General	WTO	-
Natalia Vodianova - Russia	Goodwill ambassador	United Nations	-

Committee

Name	Committee	Constituted By	Members
Ranbir Singh	Reforms in criminal laws	Union Home Ministry	5
NS Vishwanathan	To explore consolidation for urban co-operative banks	RBI	8
Justice B. Seshasayana Reddy	To prepare muck dumping action plan on Polavaram, Andhra	NGT	6
Dr VK Paul	Distribution and Administration of COVID-19 vaccines	National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19	-

Awards and Honors

- Oxford Hindi word of the year for 2020- '**Aatmanirbharta**'.
- Sundance Film Festival- Audience award- Debut directors **Rintu Thomas & Sushmit Ghosh** for 'Writing with Fire'.
- **Airports Council International award**- Indira Gandhi International Airport, Rajiv Gandhi International Airport.
- **VLCC Femina Miss India World 2020**- Manasa Varanasi from Telangana.
- **FICCI award 2021**- Bioprime Agrisolutions.
- **John Florio Prize**- Jhumpa Lahiri - Translating Domenico Starnone's Italian novel into English.
- "**Award of Excellence**" in Computer Society of India - Odisha's "Drink from Tap mission" in Puri city.
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs - Award of Appreciation in the **18th CSI SIG E-Governance Awards 2020** for the project category.
- **Raksha Mantri** - Hand over best marching contingent trophies to Jat Regimental Centre and Delhi Police.
- Bharat Biotech - Get Genome **Valley Excellence Award**.
- Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy - **Skoch Chief Minister of the Year Award**.
- Dr Thangjam Dhabali Singh - **Highest Japanese honour the order of rising sun** for promoting ties between 2 nations.
- Hyderabad - Recognition as 2020 **Tree City of the World**.



- Renowned poet Prabha Varma - **Kunchan Nambiar Award** for outstanding contribution to Malayalam language and literature.
- Tamil Nadu - **Kalaimamani awards** for 2019(59 persons), 2020 (65 persons).
- **NTPC** - Four awards at Public Relations Society of India (PRSI) National Awards 2020.
- **PM Modi** – CERA Week global energy and environment leadership award.
- **12 Persons** - Newly-instituted International Anti-Corruption Champions Award.

February 24 - NDA government's flagship programme PM KISAN completes two years
Awards to States/ UTs

Parameter	Category	State	Explanation
Highest % of Aadhar authenticated beneficiaries	Other States	Karnataka	97% Aadhar authenticated data. More than 90% beneficiaries in Karnataka are being paid benefits via Aadhar based payment mode.
Good Performance in Physical verification and Grievance Redressal		Maharashtra	Physical Verification Completed – 99% Grievance Redressal – 60%
Fastest Take off		Uttar Pradesh	Nearly 1.53 crore farmers were registered during the period of Dec'18 to Mar'19
Highest % of Aadhar authenticated beneficiaries	NE States & Hilly Terrain	Arunachal Pradesh	Aadhar Authentication is 98%
Good Performance in Physical verification and Grievance Redressal		Himachal Pradesh	Himachal Pradesh Physical Verification Completed – 75 % Grievance Redressal – 56%



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**Awards to Districts**

Parameter	Category	District
Aadhar Authenticated and Farmers Paid (Weighted Average)	Other States	1. Rupnagar (Punjab) 2. Kurukshetra (Haryana) 3. Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh)
	North East/Hilly Areas	1. Lahaul & Spiti (Himachal Pradesh) 2. Udham Singh Nagar (Uttarakhand)
Grievance Redressal	Other States	1. Pune (Maharashtra) 2. Dohad (Gujarat) 3. SPSR Nellore (Andhra Pradesh)
	North East/Hilly Areas	1. Nainital (Uttarakhand) 2. Sirmaur (Himachal Pradesh)
Physical Verification	Other States	1. Ahmednagar (Maharashtra) 2. Anantapur (Andhra Pradesh) 3. Aurangabad (Bihar)
	North East/Hilly Areas	1. Kangra (Himachal Pradesh) 2. Dehradun (Uttarakhand)





ET Awards

- **Entrepreneur of the year:** Adar Poonawalla, CEO, Serum Institute of India.
- **Lifetime Achievement Award:** Aditya Puri, Former MD, HDFC Bank.
- **Emerging company of the year:** ICICI Lombard General Insurance.
- **Business reformer of the year:** Shaktikanta Das, Governor of RBI.
- **Business Leader of the year:** Pawan Munjal, Chairman, Hero MotoCorp.

Fellows of National Science Academies

- **Four young women fellows** of National Science Academies have been awarded for excelling in science and engineering on the International Day of Women and Girls in Science 2021.
- The SERB Women Excellence Award that has been conferred on them provides a grant of Rs. 15 lakhs for a period of three years to the awardees to pursue their research ideas.

Award Winners

- **Dr. Shobhna Kapoor**, Assistant Professor at IIT Bombay, working in the area of Chemical Biology with expertise in 'Host-Pathogen Interactions and Membrane Biology Chemical Biology and Biophysics'.
- **Dr. Antara Banerjee**, Scientist B National Institute for Research in Reproductive Health, Mumbai, Maharashtra from the Health Sciences area with expertise in Signal Transduction, Biology of Reproduction and Endocrinology.
- **Dr. Sonu Gandhi** Scientist D from National Institute of Animal Biotechnology, Hyderabad from Bionanotechnology area focusing on Nanosensors, Design and Fabrication of Label-free Biosensors.
- **Dr. Ritu Gupta**, Assistant Professor at Indian Institute Of Technology Jodhpur, Rajasthan working on Nanotechnology with expertise in Materials Science, Nanodevices and Sensors, Health and Energy.

Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards

- The Indian film industry, the **third-largest in the world**, is known for its larger-than-life films and diverse filmdom.
- In order to commemorate 'the father of Indian cinema', Dadasaheb Phalke, the Government of India introduced the Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards in **1969**.



Winners of Dadasaheb Phalke Awards

Category	Winner
Best Actor (Female)	Deepika Padukone, Chhapaak
Best Actor (Male)	Akshay Kumar, Laxmii
Critic's Best Actress	Kiara Advani, Guilty
Critic's Best Actor	Sushant Singh Rajput
Best Film	Tanhaji: The Unsung Warrior
Best International Feature Film	Parasite
Most Versatile Actor	Kay Kay Menon
Best Director	Anurag Basu, Ludo
Best Actor in a Supporting Role	Vikrant Massey, Chhapaak
Best Actress in Supporting Role	Radhika Madan, Angrezi Medium
Best Actor in Comic Role	Kunal Kemmu, Lootcase
Best Actor (Web Series)	Bobby Deol, Aashram
Best Actress (Web Series)	Sushmita Sen, Aarya
Best Web Series	Scam: 1992
Album of the Year	Titliyaan
Best Television Series	Kundali Bhagya
Photographer of the Year	DabooRatnani
Style Diva of the Year	Divya Khosla Kumar
Best Actress in Television Series	Surbhi Chandna
Best Actor in Television Series	Dheeraj Dhoopar
Performer of the Year	Nora Fatehi
Outstanding Contribution to Film Industry	Dharmendra
Outstanding Contribution to Literature in Indian Cinema	Chetan Bhagat

National Technology Awards 2020

- A total of **12 companies** have been selected for the National Technology Awards 2020 for commercialization of successful commercialization of innovative indigenous technologies.
- Under 3 categories: **Indigenous technologies, MSME, and Startups.**
- Every year, for furtherance of its mandate, TDB seeks applications for prestigious National awards for commercialization of technologies under these three categories.

Awardees:

Category 1: National award for successful commercialization of Indigenous Technology

This award is given to an industrial concern which has successfully developed & commercialized an indigenous technology. In case, the technology developer / provider and the company commercializing the technology are two different organizations, each is eligible for award of ₹25 Lakh and a trophy.

- (i) Company: M/s L&T Special Steels and Heavy Forgings Private Limited, Surat
Technology Provider: Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL), Mumbai
- (ii) Company: M/s Vinati Organics Limited, Mumbai
Technology Provider: CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (CSIR-IICT), Hyderabad

Category 2: National award for MSME's

The Award, of Rs. 15 lakhs each in this category is given to selected MSME's that has successfully commercialized the product based on indigenous technology.

- (i) **M/s AKS Information Technology Services Private Limited, Noida**
- (ii) **M/s SVP Laser Technologies Private Limited, Chennai**
- (iii) **M/s Kan Biosys Private Limited, Pune**
- (iv) **M/s AlgalR NutraPharms Private Limited, Thanjavur**

Category 3: National award for technology start-ups

This award is given to a technology start-up for promising new technology with potential for commercialization. The award in addition to the trophy includes a cash award of ₹15 Lakh.

- (i) **M/s RAR Engineering Private Limited, Delhi**
- (ii) **M/s Fibroheal Wound care Private Limited, Bangalore**
- (iii) **M/s Althion Tech Innovations Private Limited., Hyderabad**
- (iv) **M/s KBCols Sciences Private Limited, Pune**
- (v) **M/s Shira MedTech Private Limited, Ahmedabad**
- (vi) **M/s Newndra Innovations Private Limited, Jaipur**



Science and Technology

IIT in News

- IIT Kharagpur + National Institute of Urban Affairs - **Build Accessible, Safe and Inclusive Indian Cities.**
- **IIT Kharagpur** - Develop solar-powered pest control system.
- **IIT Mandi** - artificial intelligence-based monitoring application for COVID-19 patients.
- **IIT Madras** - Incubated start-up Pi Beam - Electric two-wheeler.
- **IIT Hyderabad** - Incubated PURE EV - Launch **electric motorcycle** ETRYST 350.
- **IIT Bombay+ Michelin** - Sustainable **mobility research.**
- **IIT Kanpur + HCL Tech** - Capabilities in **cybersecurity.**
- **IIT Guwahati** - Develop advanced techniques for rapid **evaporation of droplets.**
- **IIT Guwahati** - Energy-efficient **cookstove burner** technology.
- **IIT Jammu + J&K govt** - Improve quality of **higher education.**
- **IIT Ropar** - Alternative to **alcohol-based disinfectant.**

IIM/ IISC in News

- IIM Indore + Madhya Pradesh urban development and housing department - **Help in capacity building of its personnel.**
- IIM Indore + Military College of Telecommunication Engineering, Mhow - To establish **exchange and collaboration programs** beneficial to both the Institutions.
- **IIM Ahmedabad** - Centre for transportation and logistics research.
- IIM Bangalore + Maruti Suzuki - Nurture 26 start-ups in **mobility sector.**
- IISc Bengaluru+ Siemens + CMTI - Set up **digital transformation labs.**
- IISc Bangalore + Danfoss Industries- Promote use of **natural refrigerants.**
- IISc Bangalore + Oslo University Hospital + University of Agder - **AI-based software** tool for diagnosis of Covid-19 lung infection.
- **IISC-Bengaluru** - Develop software tool to diagnose Covid-19 severity in lungs.

Other News in Science and Technology

- CSIR-CMERI - Off-grid Solar Biodiesel Hybrid Minigrid of **50KW** peak capacity system.
- CSIR-NAL + BEML - develop **2-seater trainer aircraft.**
- ISRO - Launch Brazil's **Amazonia-1** and 18 co-passenger satellites on Feb 28.
- **ISRO + MapmyIndia** - Offer fully indigenous, mapping portal and geospatial services for India.
- ISRO chief K Sivan - **Chandrayaan-3** launch delayed further to 2022.
- **SpaceX** - Contract to launch NASA's astrophysics mission.
- SpaceX - Announce **world's first all-civilian mission** to space in 2021.
- bluShift Aerospace - Launch 1st commercial **biofuel rocket** from Maine.
- Skyroot + Bellatrix - Use latter's **orbital transfer vehicle.**





- **Germany** - Develop surveillance tool to study SARS-CoV-2.
- UAE - '**Hope**' probe enters Mars orbit in first for Arab world.
- Cambridge University - Develop **antiviral coating for facemasks** that can destroy Covid-19 within an hour.
- Indian Oil + Norway's Greenstat - **Centre of excellence on hydrogen.**
- ISS - Honour "**Hidden Figures**" mathematician Katherine Johnson- Ship named John Glenn.
- IISER Bhopal - A unique '**Crowd and Mask**' Monitoring System to prevent Covid-19 spread
- Mahindra University - **Disinfecting robot MUDRA.**

International Affairs

International Affairs: [Mous, Military exercises, Loc, Conferences...]

India in News

- India - Host **1st meeting of BRICS** Financial Cooperation under its chairmanship.
- India- BRICS chairmanship with inaugural three-day long **Sherpas' meeting.**

Asian Countries in News

- India + Bahrain - **Renewable Energy.**
- India + Afghanistan- Construction of **Shahtoot dam project.**
- India + Indonesia - **Naval exercise** in Arabian sea.
- **India + Nepal**
 - ✓ Reconstruction of six secondary schools in **Himalayan Nation.**
 - ✓ Fund **USD 50M** for restoration of 3 cultural heritage projects in Nepal.
- **India + Maldives**
 - ✓ India-**\$40 million LoC** to boost sports infrastructure in Maldives.
 - ✓ India - **\$50 mn** defence agreement with Maldives to boost maritime capability.
- **Pakistan**
 - ✓ Agree to follow **all ceasefire** agreements along LoC.
 - ✓ Pakistan conducted launch of **surface-to-surface** ballistic missile.
 - ✓ Pakistan - Test-fires surface-to-surface **cruise missile**, third test in 3 weeks.
- **Israel**
 - ✓ Israeli air force - "**surprise**" combat drill along northern border.
 - ✓ Israel - Developing new **Arrow-4 ballistic** missile shield with U.S.



➤ **Japan**

- ✓ External Affairs Minister+ Japan's Ambassador in India - Inspect **water supply project** at Kharghuli in Guwahati.
- ✓ Virtual format - 9th Round of **India-Japan Consultations** on Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Export Control.
- Iran: Iran-Russia **Maritime Security Belt 2021** - India joins two-day navy exercise.
- Bangladesh: Supreme Court - AI based translation software '**Amar Vasha**'.

European Countries in News

- India + Sweden - Host **digital hackathon on mobility**.
- India + EU - High-level dialogue, discuss **ways to promote trade**.
- Russia - Sends Cargo ship to **International Space Station**.
- WHO - '**No-fault compensation**' programme on Covid-19 vaccines.
- **Turkey**
 - ✓ Unveil space program including 2023 moon mission.
 - ✓ Maritime Exercise – USA + Turkey - **Black Sea**.

African Countries in News

➤ **India + Mauritius**

- ✓ **Landmark** economic cooperation agreement.
- ✓ India - **\$100 mn** credit line to Mauritius to procure defence assets.
- ✓ Indian Cabinet - **Okay trade deal** with Mauritius, the first with an African Nation.
- US Rejoin Paris agreement.
- India + Ethiopia = agreements on visa facilitation & leather technology.

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National Affairs

News Related to States

Uttar Pradesh

- Varanasi - Second cruise boat under **PRASAD scheme** of Central government.
- Uttar Pradesh - Launch **Abhyudaya scheme** and interact with registered candidates under the scheme.
- **Ayodhya Airport** - named as MaryadaPurushottamSriram Airport.
- Kushinagar - Nod from DGCA, becomes **third international airport** in UP.

Tamil Nadu

- Provide financial **relief to farmers** affected by crop loss.
- **Chennai** - First Centre for Wetland Conservation and Management.
- Tamil Nadu - Set to create state's **5th tiger reserve**.
- Tamil Nadu - Rs 12,110 crore **crop loan waiver scheme**.
- Tamil Nadu - New industrial policy, targets **Rs 10 trn investment**.
- TN govt - Enhance **retirement age** of its employees to 60 years.
- CM Palaniswami - Intra-state **Cauvery-Gundar river**-linking project.
- **TN CM** - Waive farmers' jewel loans, SHG loans from state co-operatives.

Kerala

- Kerala - 5-year economic package worth **₹7,000 crore for Wayanad**.
- Kerala - **Fibre optic network** for free internet access to 20 lakh families.
- Kerala - Travancore Heritage **tourism project**.
- Kerala - Host annual **folk art fest** from February 20.
- Kerala - India's first **Digital Varsity**.
- Kerala - launch online fish delivery portal.

Assam and Other Northern States

- Assam - Pragyan Bharati scheme for college students, literary bodies.
- Assam - '**Disturbed area**' for next six months.
- Assam - PM Modi Launches '**Mahabahu-Brahmaputra**', Several Development Projects.
- Assam - Centre for Perishable Cargo at LGBI Airport.
- CCEA - Grant-in-aid of **₹100 crore** to Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizers Corporation in Assam.
- Centre - Rs 262 crore to Assam for fight against COVID-19.
- SarbanandaSonowal - first heliport of Assam in Majuli district.
- Manipur CM - **PM FME Scheme**.
- Manipur state announces Rs 10 lakh reward for voluntary destruction of poppy.
- Meghalaya CM - Lay foundation for bridge over **Damring River**.



- NABFOUNDATION + Dalmia Bharat Foundation - Skill mapping program for unemployed youth in the northeast.
- **Tripura** - 39th Agartala International Book Fair

Odisha

- Odisha's Balasore - Get country's first **thunderstorm research** testbed.
- Odisha - **Build memorial** to honour fallen Covid warriors.
- Odisha CM - Foundation stone of country's largest hockey stadium in **Rourkela**.
- Odisha - Enhance incentive for marrying person with disabilities to ₹2.5 lakh.
- Odisha CM - **Rs 200-cr** package for Samaleswari shrine development.
- Odisha - Implement REWARD project with World Bank assistance.

J&K and Ladakh, and Himalayan States:

- Baseer Ahmad Khan - Lay foundation stone of Model **Floriculture Centre** in Jammu.
- J&K LG Manoj Sinha - General Bus Stand cum Shopping complex Cum **Multi Level Parking in Jammu**.
- J&K + UK space agency - Impact-based **flood forecasting**.
- Jammu and Kashmir - Combined Competitive Examination Rules, 2018.
- **G Kishan Reddy** Rajya Sabha - Pass Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill.
- NCW + Social Welfare Department of J&K - First ever **Mahila Jan Sunwai Programme** in Jammu.
- Manoj Sinha - 2-day long 6th **Technology Exhibition** cum Seed Sale Mela.
- NAFED - Develop Integrated Solid Waste Management Project at KotBhalwal, J&K in 2 years.
- Govt - New schemes for industrial development worth **Rs 28,400 crore for J&K**.
- Puga village of eastern Ladakh - India's first geothermal power project.
- JamyangTseringNamgyal - Second edition of Ladakh Winter Conclave 2021.
- Himachal Pradesh CM - Launch '**e-ParivahanVyavstha**'.
- Prahlad Singh Patel - Second phase of **RashtriyaSanskritiMahotsav** begins in Darjeeling.

Andhra Pradesh, Telengana, Karnataka

- Andhra Pradesh - the 2nd State to undertake **Power Sector reforms**.
- JaganYSR[Andhra] - ₹670 cr scheme for economically weak upper caste women.
- SIDBI + Andhra Pradesh govt - Support MSMEs.
- **Robotic Spa** facility - Inaugurate at Visakhapatnam railway station.
- ARBL - Set Up Rs 220 Crore **Solar Power Plant** In Andhra Pradesh.
- Telangana - **₹1,000 crore** scheme for Dalit empowerment.
- Telangana - Set up CoE for horticultural crops
- Yelahanka, Bengaluru - The 13th edition of the Aero India international air show.
- Bengaluru airport - Install disabled aircraft recovery kit.
- Karnataka - sign MoU with 34 aerospace & defence firms at Aero India.





West Bengal

- July 2021 - 45th Kolkata International Book Fair.
- West Bengal - **Maa scheme** to provide meal at Rs 5 to poor people.
- West Bengal - **RashtriyaSanskritiMahotsav** being held from 14th to 28th February.
- Amit Shah - The programme '**Shauryanjali**' organized at the National Library of Kolkata.

New Delhi

- New Delhi - 2nd CCTNS Hackathon and Cyber Challenge 2020-21 of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB).
- Arvind Kejriwal- '**Switch Delhi**' campaign to promote electric vehicles.
- Dharmendra Pradhan - Address Joint Conference of 11th World PetroCoal Congress and World Future Fuel Summit in New Delhi.
- New Delhi , Delhi - 24th edition of India-USA Executive Steering Group meeting.
- Delhi - Launch campaign for registration of construction workers with its welfare board.
- Hardeep Singh Puri - National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second (Amendment) Bill 2021.
- Minority Affairs - Organise **26th HunarHaat** in New Delhi.

Punjab

- Punjab - '**HarGharPani, HarGharSafai**' mission.
- Punjab - Armed forces preparatory institute to come up in Hoshiarpur.
- Punjab - Amend Prison Act, 1894 to strengthen security in prisons and curb criminal acts by inmates.
- Punjab - 13th State to complete One Nation One Ration Card system reform.

Maharashtra:

- Maharashtra - Scheme for Startups To Help File IT Patents.
- Maharashtra cabinet - approve water conservation programme.
- Udhyam Learning Foundation + Maharashtra govt - Train ITI instructors.
- Nitin Gadkari - InterModal Station in Nagpur will be ecological & environment friendly.
- Prakash Javadekar - State wide awareness campaign on COVID19 vaccination and Aatmanirbhar Bharat in Pune.
- Mumbai-based BARC - First research reactor through PPP model.





Gujarat

- Gujarat - Set up Indian Institute of Skills in Gandhinagar.
- President Ram Nath Kovind - Inaugurate **world's largest cricket arena**; Sardar Patel stadium renamed to Narendra Modi stadium.
- Gujarat - mobile app to telecast live proceedings of Budget session.

Goa

- 6th State in country to successfully undertake **Urban Local Bodies reforms**.
- Dr Pramod Sawant - Campaign on COVID vaccination and Atma Nirbhar Bharat in Panaji.

Other States and UT's

- Madhya Pradesh - Becomes first state to **present paperless budget**.
- Rajasthan - 12th state to undertake 'One Nation One Ration Card system reforms'.
- Bihar + UNEP - Chalk out a climate-resilient development pathway.
- Puducherry - Campaign to become Covid-free by February 28.
- Union Cabinet - Approve President's Rule in Puducherry.
- Prakash Javadekar - Introduces Atal Paryavaran Bhavan in Lakshadweep.

News Related to Various Ministries:

Ministry of Finance

- GST collections - Jan 2021 touch all-time high of Rs 1.2 lakh crore.
- Finance Minister - '**PM Aatmanirbhar Swasthya Bharat Yojana**' to strengthen healthcare system.
- The Centre - Hold at least **75 per cent stake** in LIC for the next five years.
- Finance Minister - Revenue Deficit Grant of Rs. 6,195 crore released to 14 States.
- Nabard - Disburse Rs 16,500 cr under RIDF in first 10 months of FY21.
- Finance Minister - Third phase of 'Chah Bagicha Dhan Puraskarmela' in Guwahati.
- Finance Ministry - Infuse Rs 3,000 crore in general insurance companies this quarter.
- Nirmala Sitharaman addressed the Directors of Central Board of RBI 587th meeting.
- Government of India - Rs. 16000 crore for **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)** for 2021-22.
- Govt - Infuse Rs 1,500 cr into Exim Bank next fiscal.
- Govt - Set up national asset monetization pipeline for sale of CPSE assets.
- Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman - Virtual G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting.
- Nirmala Sitharaman - Virtually attends G20 Central Bank Governors' meet.





Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and Ministry of Railways

- NHAH - Fine up to Rs 10 crore for major lapses in structures.
- NHAH - Develop single lane of 4 lane stretch of 25.54 kms road in record time **18 hours Vijayapura to Solapur NH-52.**
- Govt - Approve closure of loss-making state-owned firm Scooters India.
- CMA CGM India + Gateway Rail Freight Ltd - Python train service on Western Dedicated Freight Corridor.
- Nitin Gadkari - Launch India's first **CNG tractor.**
- FASTag- Mandatory from Feb 15 midnight.
- Rajnath Singh - Portal to provide municipal services online to residents of cantonment boards.
- Nitin Gadkari+ R. K. Singh - **Go Electric campaign** launched in India.
- Nitin Gadkari - 6 Lane Korlam-Kantakapalle section of NH-130-CD worth Rs. 772.70 Crore.
- IWAI + MOL - Transportation of LPG through inland waterways.

Ministry of Defence

- Defence Minister - Inaugurate Hindustan Aeronautics Limited's second LCA production line.
- Indian Navy's IL 38SD aircraft - Successfully fire combat anti-ship missile.
- HAL - launch unmanned fighter jet.
- HAL MoU with Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited (MIDHANI) - development and production of composite raw materials.
- Indian Navy - Three Mk III Advanced Light Helicopters from HAL.
- The Mazagaon Dock Limited - **Third Scorpene class submarine** delivered to Indian Navy.
- Defence Ministry+BEL - Sign contract worth ₹1,000 cr at **Aero India 2021** to procure modern radio system.
- Shri Rajnath Singh - Inaugurate Global Chiefs' Of Air Staff Conclave.
- HAL + Israel's Elbit Systems - Supply of digital overhead head up display systems.
- Indian Army - Foundation of 100-foot-high national flag in J-K's Gulmarg.
- Defence Secretary addressed Indian Ocean Region Defence Ministers' Conclave.
- Indian Navy - Combat-readiness **exercise Tropex-21** underway in IOR.
- **BHEL** - Bag order to supply 2 Super Rapid Gun Mounts for Indian Navy frontline ships.
- Centre for Land Warfare Studies - Indian Army National Seminar-cum-Webinar, named Divya-Drishti 2021.
- India - Start trials of **160 km strike range** Astra missile in 2021.
- L&T - 100th K9 Vajra howitzer to Army.
- L&T - **Built Interceptor Boat**, the 17th in series, commissioned at Chennai.
- DRDO - Conduct successful trials of anti-tank guided missile systems.
- **Indian Navy Ship Pralaya** - Arrive in Abu Dhabi, UAE to participate in NAVDEX 21 and IDEX 21.
- DAC - Acquisition proposals worth RS 13,700 cr for Armed Forces.





- DRDO - Two successful launches of Vertical Launch Short Range **Surface to Air Missile**.
- Cochin Shipyard - Lowest bidder for Rs 10,000 crore contract to build missile vessels for Indian Navy.
- Shri Rajnath Singh - DRDO Skill Development Centre for Fire Safety Training

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

- **Dr VK Paul** - High Level Committee for Distribution and Administration of COVID-19 Vaccines.
- Serum Institute of India + UNICEF -long-term supply for Covid-19 vaccines.
- CCRUM - National Conference on **Unani Medicine**.
- Women & Child Development Ministry + MyGov- Online campaign to celebrate Women in science.
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation + CSIR, India - **Promote health research**.
- Health Minister - Mission **Indradhanush 3.0** to focus on children.
- Dr Harsh Vardhan- 2nd edition of Global Bio-India to be organised from 1st to 3rd March.

Other Ministries:

- Government - Earmark Rs 126 crore for **Startup India Seed Fund**.
- Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' - Address inaugural ceremony of ASEAN India Hackathon.
- Power ministry - Launch manufacturing programme for critical equipment.
- Union Ministers (Agriculture, Petroleum, Animal husbandry, Jal shakthi) - Launch unified web portal for monitoring progress of **GOBARDHAN** activities.
- Lockheed Martin + HAL = explore industrial opportunities.
- HAL + Wipro3D + CEMILAC = manufacture India's 1st metal 3D printed aircraft engine component.
- Coal India Limited + EESL - reducing carbon footprint, improving operational efficiency.
- MOHUA + **Zomato** - Take Street Food Vendors Online.
- Culture & Tourism Minister - Co-chair 8th meeting of ASEAN-India tourism Ministers.
- NMIMS + LivNSense Technologies - Set up a joint AI Center of Excellence & Research.
- Rajya Sabha - Pass Major Port Authorities Bill 2020.
- Atal BeemitVyaktiKalyanYojana - Relax benefits extended for 6 more months.
- IEPFA + IGNOU - Utilising tele lecturing facility of **GyanDarshan** channel.
- Petroleum Ministry - Investment corner on revamped site.
- **Intelleca+ TRIF**- Launch platform to promote circularity in agriculture.
- TIFAC - Job portal named '**Saksham**' for placing workers in MSMEs.
- Centre - Approve **Rs 3,113 crore** for five states as disaster relief.
- MSDE - Fellowship under World Bank assisted programme for skill administration.
- Union Textiles Minister - Certified Jute Seeds Distribution Program And Awareness Workshop For Jute Farmers.
- Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs - Pilot **Pey Jal Survekshan**.





- Government - Set up Digital Intelligence Unit to tackle mobile phone loan frauds, unsolicited calls.
- DurgaShanker Mishra - Online enrolment module for **TECHNOGRAHIS**.
- Govt - Approve over **Rs 12000 cr** manufacturing push for telecom equipment.
- Centre - Twenty food processing projects worth Rs 363.4 cr.
- Cabinet - To juvenile justice law amendments.
- ThaawarchandGehlot - **3rd edition of ISL** Dictionary virtually.
- Petroleum Minister - 11th IEA, IEF, OPEC Symposium on Energy Outlooks.
- Gangwar - Software Applications and instruction manuals with questionnaire for five All India Surveys.
- 15 States - Complete **ease of doing business** reforms.
- Eleventh edition - India-EU Macroeconomic Dialogue.
- External Affairs Minister - Unveils India's BRICS website.
- V Muraleedharan - '**DigiLocker**' for MEA's 'Passport Seva' launched.
- Dr. Harsh Vardhan - 'Population versus Planet' Conference.
- Goa Shipyard - Build Navy's Damage Control Simulator in Port Blair.
- CSC - Campaign to promote the use of electric vehicles in rural areas.
- Coal India + CRIS - Sharing of coal freight data.
- TERI + POSOCO - Encourage research in domestic power sector.
- Cochin Port - Sign MoUs worth Rs 2,825 cr at **Maritime India Summit 2021**.
- Rajnath Singh - Inaugurate "**HunarHaat**" at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi.
- Ministry of Corporate Affairs + CBIC - Data exchange.
- Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' - Deliver inaugural address at the 16th FICCI Higher Education Summit 2021.
- Narendra Singh Tomar - **SarasAajeevikaMela 2021**.
- Power ministry - Launch manufacturing programme for critical equipment.
- First ever India Toy Fair - Be organise from 27th February to 2nd March.
- Govt - Extend due date for filing FY20 GST annual returns till March 31.
- Govt - Extend deadline for filing declarations under **Vivaad Se Vishwas scheme till Mar 31**.
- IRCTC - AI-based initiative '**ASK DISHA**' to help govt organisations in answering customer queries.
- Sports Ministry - Restore recognition of Gymnastics Federation of India.




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Schemes and Foundation Laid Down by Prime Minister

- PM Modi - inaugurate '**ChauriChaura**' Centenary Celebrations.
- PM Modi - Launch 'Asom Mala', lay foundation stone of two hospitals.
- Prime Minister - Key Oil, Gas and Road infrastructure projects at **Haldia in West Bengal**.
- PM Modi - Inaugurate World Sustainable Development Summit 2021.
- Prime Minister - Inaugurate Maritime India Summit-2021 on 2nd March.
- PM Modi - Several developmental projects in Tamil Nadu.
- PM Modi - Foundation stone for warrior king Suheldev's statue in Bahraich.
- PM Modi - EnnoreThiruvallur Madurai TuticorinRamanathapuram pipeline project.
- PM Modi - Addresses NASSCOM Technology and Leadership Forum.
- PM Modi - Sixth Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog.
- PM Modi - Foundation stone of Integrated Command and Control Centre at Thiruvananthapuram and Smart Roads Project.
- PM Modi - Kolkata Metro extension from **Noapara to Dakshineswar**.
- PM Modi - Third line between Kalaikunda and Jhargram over a stretch of 30 km.
- PM Modi - 66th Convocation of IIT Kharagpur.
- PM Modi - Foundation stone of Synthetic Athletic Track, Indira Gandhi Sports Complex in Puducherry.
- PM Modi - **India's first toy fair**, pushes for use of less plastic.

Festivals

National Festivals

- Delhi- National Tribal Festival '**Aadi Mahotsav**'- Inaugurated by Venkaiah Naidu.
- Madhya Pradesh - **Mandu festival February 13 to February 15**.
- Madhya Pradesh - **Khajuraho Dance Festival**.
- Tamil Nadu- **Masi Magam**' festival .
- February 19 to 28 - **Jaipur Literature Festival** to be held virtually.
- **International Film Festival of Kerala** - Begin from February 10.

International Festivals

- China - Celebrate **Lunar New Year (Year Ox)**.
- China - Traditional '**Lantern Festival**'.
- Bangladesh - '**Pahela Phagun**' spring festival.
- Bangladesh - 14th International **Children's Film festival** also popularly known as The Golden Elephant.



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