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JUNE – 2020

COVID – 19 NEWS

| | |
|---|---|
| Coronavirus type (A3i) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The newly identified A3i or Clade I/A3i comprised 41%, making it the second most common coronavirus type in India. ❖ Coronavirus type A2a, making it the most dominant coronavirus clade in India. |
| COVID - 19 Free Country | New Zealand declares itself free from “Coronavirus” |
| Indian National Supermodel | DST initiates Indian National Supermodel to monitor future transmission of COVID -19 infection |
| Ultra Swachh | DRDO develops ‘Ultra Swachh’ <i>to disinfect PPEs, electronics items, fabrics</i> |
| COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (C-TAP) | WHO launches ‘C-TAP’ for equitable access to life-saving tech |
| Delhi Corona App | Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal launches Delhi Corona App to track hospital beds, ventilators |
| Low Cost COVID – 19 testing Kit | IIT Hyderabad develops the Low Cost COVID – 19 testing Kit that delivers results within 20 minutes |
| COVID-19 pandemic in India. | Country is still at risk, says WHO experts WHO Chief Scientist Soumya Swaminathan and WHO Health Emergencies Programme executive director Michael Ryan |
| Census-NPR may be pushed to 2021 due to COVID-19 | Census houselisting and NPR operations that were scheduled to be held during April - September 2020 can be rescheduled for April 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. |
| UVC-based disinfection | UVC-based disinfection cabinet developed by ARCI & Mekins |
| Coro-bot | An engineer from Thane has developed an internet-controlled robot. The bot is first of its kind. The robot addresses the needs of the hospitals treating COVID-19 patients. |



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| COVID BEEP | The Union Minister of India Shri Jitendra Singh recently launched COVID BEEP, the first physiological parameter monitoring system for COVID-19 patients |
| Airborne Rescue Pod for Isolated Transportation (ARPIT). | The Indian Air Force developed Airborne Rescue Pod for Isolated Transportation (ARPIT). The pod is to be used to evacuate critical patients that are suffering from COVID-19. |
| Flyzy App | IIT Guwahati has developed an App for consistent and contactless air travel during the COVID-19 pandemic. |
| ANANYA disinfectant | Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT) has developed “ANANYA” water-based disinfectant spray with nanotechnology assisted formulation. |
| BIN-19 and UV SPOT | Used mask disposal device “BIN-19” & “UV SPOT” launched in Kerala |
| RT-nPCR Test | CCMB have developed a new test to detect novel coronavirus ‘Reverse Transcription nested Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-nPCR) test. |
| Shohojodha | Bangladesh has launched ‘Shohojodha’ an online network to facilitate plasma exchange between recovered patients of COVID-19 treatment. |
| TrueNat Machines | Uttar Pradesh government has launched the TrueNat machines to test COVID-19 |
| GermiKlean | DRDO developed the GermiKlean, a sanitising chamber that can be used to sanitise uniforms of security and police personnel. |
| GermiBAN | The Union Minister of State for Home affairs Launched the GermiBAN it has capability of killing 99.9% of surface and air microbes. |
| Corona warriors | Madhya Pradesh government gives ‘corona warriors’ status to Divyang Anganwadi workers. |
| Ghar Ghar Nigrani App | Punjab Government has launched “Ghar Ghar Nigrani” mobile application to undertake house to house surveillance to |



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| | eliminate COVID-19 pandemic. |
| CAPTAIN ARJUN Robot | Central Railway launches AI enabled robot “CAPTAIN ARJUN” to intensify the screening of passengers and surveillance to keep a watch on anti-social elements. |
| First antigen-based testing kit | ICMR has recommended the use of the first antigen-based testing kit for the faster diagnosis of COVID-19. |
| Dexamethasone Drug | Scientists administering the World Health Organisation’s RECOVERY trial have reported that dexamethasone reduced Covid-19 deaths in severe patients. Dexamethasone is a cheap and widely available steroid drug. |
| First Bell | Kerala has started a virtual class initiative called ‘First Bell’. The virtual classes for state school students are being organised so that education is imparted amid Covid-19 crisis. |
| Karmabhumi Portal | West Bengal has launched a job portal ‘KarmaBhumi’ for IT professionals who have returned to the state amid the COVID-19 pandemic. |
| Halts Hydroxychloroquine | WHO halts Hydroxychloroquine trial for treating COVID-19 patients |
| Infectious Disease Diag Lab (I-Lab) | The government has launched the country’s first mobile I-Lab (Infectious disease diagnostic Lab) for last mile Covid-19 testing access |
| Antiviral Drug Umifenovir | The Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI), Lucknow, has received permission for carrying out Phase III trials for the use of Umifenovir against Covid-19 |
| Mask Day | Karnataka government observed the “Mask Day” on 18 June 2020 . The Mask Day was observed to aware the people about the use of masks, sanitisers, washing hands with soap in order to control the spread of COVID-19 in the state. |
| Air-Venti App | Mumbai Municipal Corporation gets ‘Air-Venti’ App to provide information on ICU beds, ventilators |
| World's largest COVID | Delhi government is planning to build a 10,000-bed makeshift hospital for the treatment of COVID-19 patients under a sprawling |



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| makeshift hospital | tent in South Delhi. This would be the world's largest COVID-19 facility, as it will be as large as over 22 football fields. |
| NavRakshak Kit | ICMR approves User-Friendly PPE Kit "NavRakshak" |
| Cipremi | Cipla's 'Cipremi' gets approval for Treatment of COVID-19 Patients in India |
| Anthropause Period | Researchers have coined the term 'anthropause' to refer to the Covid-19 induced lockdown period and they will study its impact on other species. |
| Surakshit Dada-Dadi, Nana - Nani Abhiyan | 'Surakshit Dada-Dadi, Nana-Nani Abhiyan' has been launched to ensure well-being of Senior Citizens amid COVID-19 pandemic. |
| First Plasma Bank in India | Delhi government has decided to start a 'Plasma Bank' in the national capital for the treatment of COVID-19 patients. Recovered patients to donate their plasma in the bank. |
| Kill Corona | Madhya Pradesh government has announced that it will launch 'Kill Corona' campaign from July 1 in order to screen all the households in the state. |
| Dexamethasone drug | Health Ministry recommends the use of Dexamethasone drug for treating COVID-19 patients |
| COVAXIN | COVAXIN is the first indigenously developed COVID-19 vaccine to be approved for Human Clinical Trials |
| Project Platina | World's Largest Plasma Therapy Trial under Project 'Platina' launched by Maharashtra |

| Name of Country | COVID-19 Free Declaration Date |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| New Zealand | 8 June 2020 |
| Tanzania | 7 June 2020 |
| Vatican | 6 June 2020 |
| Fiji | 1st week of June 2020 |
| Montenegro | 24 May 2020 |
| St Kitts and Nevis | 19 May 2020 |
| Seychelles | 18 May 2020 |
| Timor-Leste | 15 May 2020 |
| Papua New Guinea | 4 May 2020 |



TAMIL NADU

- 1) **DMK MLA, J. Anbazhagan:** He represented the Chepauk-Thiruvallikeni constituency. **He was the first legislator to die of COVID-19 in India.**
- 2) CM Edappadi K Palaniswami released the **Comprehensive Guidelines Book for COVID – 19**
- 3) www.tnprivatejobs.tn.gov.in: Tamil Nadu government launches web portal for jobs in private sector
- 4) **J. Radhakrishnan** replaces Beela Rajesh **as the new Health Secretary of Tamil Nadu**
- 5) An **1 cm Gold Coin (Veerarayan Panam)** belonging to 17th Century has been found near the **Agaram area near Keezhadi Excavation**
- 6) **Skeletal** remains of a child found at **Konthagai village, Keeladi excavation site**
- 7) The State Department of Archaeology, Chennai has identified **250 cairn-circles from the Kodumanal** excavation site in Erode district of Tamilnadu.
- 8) **New Emergency Helpline No. 044-40067108** was launched in Chennai for COVID-19 Emergency
- 9) **Scorpaenopsis neglecta:** The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) have **found a rare Scorpionfish (Scorpaenopsis neglecta) from Sethukarai coast** in the Gulf of Mannar.
- 10) **Vishnu & Jain Sculptures** belonging to 9th & 10th Century **found in the Kanimaarthoppu at Boothaloor near Thanjavur**
- 11) Tamil Nadu CM Edappadi K. Palaniswami has **inaugurated Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) Plant in Namakkal.**



NATIONAL

- 1) **India- China violent face-off in Galwan Valley, Ladakh:** A violent face-off reportedly took place between Indian and Chinese troops at Galwan Valley in Ladakh on the night of June 15 during de-escalation process. **Many of the Indian Soldiers are martyred.**
- 2) **Double stack container Train:** Indian Railways has commissioned the first high rise Over Head Equipment (OHE) and successfully ran a **double stack containers in electrified territory on Western Railway (1st Double Stack Container train).**
- 3) **Assam Gas Leak:** A gas leak has occurred at Baghjan well in Tinsukia district of Assam
- 4) **Kerala:** 1st state to **provide free internet for the poor.** The state govt of Kerala has declared that their ambitious broadband project: Kerala Fibre Optic Network (K-FON) project.
- 5) **Andhra Pradesh Government:** India's first Online Waste Exchange launched
- 6) **Odisha cabinet** gives state anthem status to **"Bande Utkala Janani"**
- 7) **One India, One Agriculture Market:** The Union Cabinet clears ordinance to create the ecosystem *where farmers and traders will have the freedom of choice of sale and purchase of the agricultural produce.*
- 8) **Uttar Pradesh** has become the **top state in India** to provide employment to the workers under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (**MGNREGA**).
- 9) **Green Field Expressway Project:** The Government of India agreed to convert the **Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway** into a green field project. The highway will **connect five historic towns** in the states. They include Goindwal Sahib, Sultanpur Lodhi, Khadoor Sahib and Tarn Taran.
- 10) **Chhattisgarh Police** have launched a **special campaign "Spandan"**. To check mental stress and depression among their personnel by conducting interactive programmes and arranging counselling sessions, music and yoga therapies for them



- 11) **Kerala government** has approved the proposed **Athirapally Hydro Electric Project (AHEP) on the Chalakudy River in Thrissur district**. The project will have an installed capacity of 163 MW.
- 12) **The Bharatmala Pariyojana** that was scheduled to be completed in 2021-22 is **to be completed by 2025-26**.
- 13) **The Jal Jeevan Mission** envisages **providing piped drinking water to all rural households by 2024**.
- 14) The Supreme Court of India has said that **reservation of seats provided to certain communities is not a fundamental right**.
- 15) **Prevalence of diabetes among women high in southern India:**
 - ❖ The number of people with diabetes in India increased from 26 million in 1990 to 65 million in 2016. The prevalence of diabetes in adults aged 20 years or older in India increased from 5.5% in 1990 to 7.7% in 2016.
 - ❖ **The prevalence in 2016 was highest in Tamil Nadu and Kerala**, according to the Global Burden of Disease Study, 2018
- 16) **Gairsain** declared **Summer Capital of Uttarakhand**
- 17) **Jaya Jaitly Task Force Constituted:** The Government of India has constituted **Jaya Jaitly Task Force that will work on the issues of women and child development**.
- 18) A Video Blogging Contest titled **“My Life My Yoga” (also called “Jeevan Yoga”)** has been launched by the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- 19) **Different Colour bands for BS VI vehicles:**
 - ❖ The order makes it mandatory for the BS VI vehicles to carry a green strip of 1 cm width on the top of the existing sticker.
 - ❖ The sticker should carry details of registration of BS-VI vehicle and its fuel type.
 - ❖ The petrol fuel vehicles should hold orange colour and diesel fuel vehicles should carry a blue colour.
- 20) PM Narendra Modi launches CHAMPIONS: **Technology Platform to empower MSMEs**
- 21) PM Narendra Modi reiterated on the need to manufacture products that are **'Made in India' but are 'Made for the World'**.



- 22) **Renaming of Kolkata Port Trust:** The Union Cabinet has given its approval to rename ***Kolkata Port as Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port.***
- 23) Rajya Sabha Elections for pending 18 held on June 19, 2020
- 24) Indian Energy Exchange launched ***to make the power market dynamic via the recently launched real time market.***
- 25) **National Science Technology and Innovation Policy 2020:** To be formulated in bottom-up, decentralized process
- 26) The government of India has launched 'SWADES' (Skilled Workers Arrival Database for Employment Support). To conduct a skill mapping exercise of the Indian citizens returning from overseas under the 'Vande Bharat Mission'.
- 27) The Government of India has launched **Kisan Credit Card (KCC) campaign for 1.5 crore Dairy Farmers.**
- 28) **TULIP Internship programme:** The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development and the Ministry of HRD launched the programme for ***fresh engineering graduates.***
- 29) **STREE programme: Hyderabad police** launches 'STREE' programme to support and empower women victims of domestic violence and abuse.
- 30) **Prevention of Human and Animal Mortality on Highways:** To generate awareness and education among the masses that aim at reducing mortality on the roads.
- 31) **Nagar Van scheme:** The Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar launched the "Nagar Van" scheme. The scheme was launched to mark the Environment Day.
- 32) **"#iCommit" initiative:** To create a robust and resilient energy system in the future by moving towards energy efficiency, renewable energy, and sustainability.
- 33) **Draft Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Rules, 2020:** The draft rules have been issued at a time when the use of drones has increased due to a coronavirus lockdown, for purposes like ***surveillance, disinfection and videography.***



- 34) **18th Bench of Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT):** The Government of India recently inaugurated the 18th Bench of Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) for the Union territories of Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir.
- 35) **Plant Health Clinic: Manipur Government** launches to provide plant health diagnostic services to farmers.
- 36) **Vamsadhara River Water Dispute:** Between **Andhra Pradesh and Odisha** to sharing the Vamsadhara river waters
- 37) **The Karnataka government** is planning to establish a **monkey park** on the uninhabited islands in the Sharavathi backwaters region.
- 38) **National Institutional Ranking Framework: IIT Madras** topped the list followed by IISc Bangalore.
- 39) **Sahakar Mitra: Scheme on Internship Programme (SIP)** The Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare launched the programme **for the welfare of the farmers in the country**
- 40) **Odisha** has become the **1st state in the country to receive ISO certification for hostels meant for tribal students.**
- 41) **Odisha government** has launched the project **Mission Suvidya to provide all the tribal hostels of the state uniform standards of infrastructure, amenities and human resources.**
- 42) **Uttarakhand** opens its biggest **biodiversity park** in **Haldwani**
- 43) **Food Safety Index 2019-20:**



INTERNATIONAL

- 1) The President of Nepal Bidhya Devi Bhandari has approved the controversial Amendment Bill that revises **the Nepal's political map that include three territories of India.**
- 2) **Oil Spill in the Arctic region of Russia: Russia declared state of emergency after oil spilled into Ambarnaya River.** The surface of the river turned crimson red
- 3) **Pakistan** witnesses **highest inflation** in the world during fiscal year 2020
- 4) **India** to be re-elected as **non-permanent member of UN Security Council UNSC**
- 5) **St. Vincent and the Grenadines:** Smallest-ever nation to secure a UNSC seat.
- 6) **Kenya** selected for the African seat in **the UNSC Elections 2020**
- 7) **African American George Floyd:** The United States is facing nation-wide protests over the death of an African American George Floyd.
- 8) **China** will be setting up a **Kohala hydropower project in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).**
- 9) **Myanmar military "Tatmadaw"** has decided to use Facebook again to provide 'accurate' news to people
- 10) USA is postponing the G7 summit to September 2020. **Also, President Trump intends to expand the G7 group to G10 or G11.**
- 11) **A Unique Twin Summit:** The World Economic Forum announced that it is to host its next summit in Davos under the **theme "The Great Reset". The forum has named the summit as "A Unique Twin Summit"**
- 12) **Democratic Republic of Congo** has declared a **new Ebola epidemic** in the western city of Mbandaka.
- 13) China has issued a statement reiterating its long-standing objections to the presence of the **USA's THAAD missile defence system in South Korea.**
- 14) **Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China:** The Alliance was formed by Japan, United Kingdom, Australia, Germany, Lithuania, Norway, Netherlands and USA.



- 15) **Mount Merapi**, an active volcano in **Indonesia**, erupted twice on 21st June, 2020.
- 16) **India and Bhutan** signed a pact for the construction of the **600 MW Kholongchhu joint venture hydroelectric project in Bhutan**.

ECONOMICS

- 1) **Turant Customs: Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)** has launched its flagship programme **“Turant Customs”**. Turant Customs is a mega **reform for the ease of doing business**.
- 2) **ICICI Bank** introduces **‘Insta FlexiCash’ for salary account customers**
- 3) **Airtel Payments Bank** launches **‘Suraksha salary account’ for MSMEs**
- 4) **Karnataka Bank** launches **health insurance to cover COVID-19 pandemic**
- 5) **Universal Basic Income:** To deal with the **economic inequality, unemployment and poverty** created by the Covid-19 pandemic, many advocate **Universal Basic Income (UBI)** programme to be a solution.
- 6) **“Summer Treats” campaign:** HDFC Bank launched to provide offers to both merchants and, salaried and self-employed customers. **Bank will offer no cost EMI and no down payment for large appliances**
- 7) The sovereign rating of India has been downgraded by the Moody’s Investors Service **from Baa2 to “Baa3”**.
- 8) **IndusInd Bank** starts **mobile-based current account opening facility**
- 9) **Border Adjustment Tax (BAT)** is a duty that is proposed to be imposed on imported goods in addition to the customs levy that gets charged at the port of entry.
- 10) **Severely disrupted economic activities due to COVID – 19 outbreak:**
 - ❖ S&P Global Ratings and Fitch Ratings have said India’s economy will shrink by 5% in the current fiscal
 - ❖ While Moody’s has projected a contraction of 4%.



SPORTS

- 1) **India** will host 2022 Women's Asian Cup
- 2) **Gomathi Marimuthu** gets four-year doping ban by AIU
- 3) **Virat Kohli:** Forbes' list of the top 100 highest-paid athletes in the world for the year 2020 – **66th Place**
- 4) **Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award Nominees:** Rani Rampal, Monika, Vandana Kataria, Harmanpreet Singh, Vikas Krishan and Amit Panghal
- 5) **Dronacharya Award Nominees:** Chhote Lal Yadav and Mohammed Ali Qamar
- 6) **FIFA Football Ranking:** India = 108th Rank; Belgium = 1st Rank
- 7) **IM Vijayan:** The All India Football Federation recommended the former Indian Captain IM Vijayan for the fourth highest civilian award in India, the Padmashri
- 8) **Bahrain** to host **4th Asian Youth Para Games 2021**
- 9) **Australia, New Zealand** to jointly host **FIFA Women's World Cup 2023**

SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

| SUMMITS / CONFERENCES | PURPOSE / THEME / OUTCOME | PLACE / By |
|---|--|----------------|
| Virtual Global Vaccine Summit 2020 | Virtual Global Vaccine Summit 2020 was hosted by the UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson. India was represented by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the summit. | Virtual Summit |



SCHEMES / YOJANAS

| SCHEMES / YOJANAS | PURPOSE / Why in News? | MINISTRY / CABINET / STATE |
|---|--|----------------------------|
| PM SVANidhi scheme | PM SVANidhi Scheme (Pradhan Mantri Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi scheme) launched by govt to provide affordable loans to street vendors | The Union Government |
| Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Uttham Mahabhiyam (PM KUSUM) | To provide financial and water security to farmers | The Union Government |
| Mukhyamantri Shahri Path Vyavsayi Utthan Yojana | "Mukhyamantri Shahri Path Vyavsayi Utthan Yojana" for street vendors | Madhya Pradesh |
| Jagananna Chedodu Scheme | To provide financial assistance to tailors, barbers and washermen , who had lost their livelihood due to COVID-19 pandemic | Andhra Pradesh |
| Panchvati Yojana | For the senior citizens of rural areas of the state. | Himachal Pradesh |
| Bal Shramik Vidya Yojana | To educate child labourers | Uttar Pradesh |
| Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ "Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan" will be launched by the Government of India from Village Telihar, Block Beldaur of Khagaria District of Bihar. ❖ It is a massive rural public works scheme that will empower and offer livelihood opportunities to the returnee migrant workers as well as rural citizens. | The Union Government |
| Indira Rasoi Yojna (Indira Kitchen Scheme) | Provide pure and nutritious food to the economically weaker sections of the society | Rajasthan |
| Mukhyamantri Matru Pushti Uphaar | Provide nutrition kits to pregnant and lactating women in order to combat infant and maternal mortality and malnutrition. | Tripura |
| Godhan Nyay Yojana | 1 st Indian state to buy cow dung from cattle owners | Chhattisgarh |

REPORTS / INDICES

| INDEX | PURPOSE / RELEASED BY | INDIA's RANKING | TOP RANKING |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Environment Performance Index | The Yale University | 168 | |
| Nature Index | Springer Nature | 12 | USA |
| World Competitive Index | Institute of Management Development | 43 | Singapore |

DEFENCE & SPACE

| DEFENCE & SPACE | PURPOSE | COUNTRY / STATE / ORGANIZATION |
|--|--|--------------------------------|
| ICGS Kanaklata Barua | 5th and last boat in the series of Fast Patrol Vessels (FPV) for the Indian Coast Guard. | Indian Coast Guard |
| Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle | Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV) was inaugurated at Eastern Naval Command (ENC) , Andhra Pradesh | |

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

| NEW DISCOVERIES | PURPOSE | PLACE / BY |
|---------------------------------|--|---|
| Fifth State of Matter | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Scientists Create Exotic 'Fifth State of Matter' on International Space Station ❖ There are four natural states of matter: Solids, liquids, gases and plasma. ❖ The fifth state is the man-made Bose-Einstein condensates. | |
| Responsible AI for Youth | To empower the youth of India with appropriate new age tech mind-set, hence making them digitally ready for the future. | The Union Minister for Electronics & Information Technology, Communications |



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|---|--|------------------------------|
| | | and Law & Justice |
| Solar Corona's magnetic field | Scientists measured the shape of the coronal magnetic field along with a higher spatial resolution and over a large area than never before. | |
| Low cost Catalyst for Hydrogen Generation | The scientists and researchers at the Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences designed the low cost effective way to generate hydrogen from water using Molybdenum dioxide | |
| 163348 (2002 NN4): A Near - Earth Asteroid | NASA) has announced that a giant asteroid called as 163348 (2002 NN4), passed Earth on 6 th June 2020. | NASA |
| Magnetocaloric material | ARCI develops Magnetocaloric material for cancer treatment | ARCI |
| miR-155 | IIT Madras have identified a specific microRNA (miRNA) called 'miR-155' that is over-expressed in tongue cancer. | IIT Madras |
| Saturn Moon - Titan | Titan is drifting away faster than before. This has been identified by the researchers in NASA and also scientists in Italian Space Agency. | NASA & Italian Space Agency. |

ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY

| SPECIES / PLACES | TYPE / PURPOSE | PLACE / BY |
|--|---|--|
| Sunderbans Damaged in Cyclone Amphan | The Chief Minister of West Bengal highlighted that about 28% of the Sunderbans has been damaged by Cyclone Amphan and launched a drive for planting mangroves and trees to mark the World Environment Day (5 th June 2020). | West Bengal |
| Aerosols Radiative Forcing in Western Trans-Himalayas | Effect of anthropogenic aerosols is much higher over the high altitudes of western trans-Himalayas. | Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES) has found |
| Serotonin triggers desert locust swarms | Malathion is an insecticide sprayed on the locust swarms. There are concerns over the side-effects of | |



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| | using chemical insecticides. | |
| Asiatic Lion population increased | The Asiatic Lion population has increased by 29%. It was 523 in 2015 and has increased to 674 in 2020 | |
| Malabar gliding frog | Recently spotted at Pullad, near Kozhencherry | Kerala |
| Schizothorax sikusirumensis | A new fish species | Arunachal Pradesh |

CYCLONE

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|-------------------------------|---|
| Cyclonic storm Nisarga | India Meteorological Department (IMD) has warned that the cyclonic storm Nisarga, which has turned into a depression in the Arabian Sea, and hit Maharashtra and Gujarat |
| Cristobal | A tropical Cyclone named Cristobal has formed in the southern Gulf of Mexico |

APPS & PORTALS

| | |
|--|---|
| ai.gov.in | National "Artificial Intelligence Portal" of India called "ai.gov.in" has been launched |
| MeraVetan App | Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor has launched a salary tracker mobile app MeraVetan (Version-1) for government employees. |
| http://www.mpurban.gov.in/ | Madhya Pradesh government has started Street Vendor Registration Portal http://www.mpurban.gov.in/ |
| Raj Kaushal Portal | Rajasthan Government launches "Raj Kaushal Portal" to improve availability of opportunities for the migrated workers |
| Aarogyapath Portal | The government has launched an information platform 'AarogyaPath' to provide real-time availability of critical healthcare supplies for manufacturers, suppliers and customers. |
| SATYABHAMA Portal | The Ministry of Mines has launched a portal "SATYABHAMA (Science and Technology Yojana for Atmanirbhar Bharat in Mining Advancement)" to promote research and development in the mining and minerals sector. |
| YUKTI 2.0 Portal | HRD Minister launches 'YUKTI 2.0' Platform. The YUKTI 2.0 |

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|---------------------------|---|
| | portal is for the Higher Education Institutes |
| eBloodServices App | Launched by Union Health Minister for the citizens who require regular blood. |

APPOINTMENTS & PERSONS IN NEWS

| PERSONS | POSITION / DESIGNATION |
|---|--|
| Nethra Mohandass – 13yr old Madurai girl | Appointed as “UNADAP Goodwill Ambassador to the Poor” |
| K.K Shailaja | UN honours Kerala Health Minister K.K Shailaja |
| Urjit Patel | Chairman of the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy. |
| Kathy Sullivan | 1 st woman to reach the deepest point in the earth. |
| Kathy Lueders | 1st female head of NASA’s Human Space Flight Program |
| Arun Singhal | Chief Executive Officer of FSSAI |
| Pradip Kumar Tripathi | Secretary in Ministry of Steel |
| Volkan Bozkir | New president of 75 th UN General Assembly |

AWARDS

| AWARD | PERSON / Organization |
|-------------------------------|---|
| World Food Prize 2020 | Dr. Rattan Lal |
| Gustave Trouvé Award | India’s first solar-powered ferry, Aditya, which became an icon on the Vaikom-Thavanakadavu route in Kerala, has been shortlisted for the Gustave Trouvé Award. |
| Richard Dawkins Award | Javed Akhtar |
| Ramon Magsaysay Awards | Asia’s Nobel Prize-Ramon Magsaysay Awards cancelled due to COVID-19. |



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|----------------------|---|
| Renjith Kumar | NASA Distinguished Public Service Medal |
| Shobha Sekhar | Medal of the Order of Australia |

MILITARY EXERCISE

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Australia in Malabar Exercise | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ India is prepared to expand the Malabar exercise to also include Australia ❖ It is an annual trilateral naval exercise between the navies of India, Japan, and the USA which is held alternately in the Indian and Pacific Oceans. |
|--------------------------------------|---|

OPERATIONS

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Operation Desert Chase | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The Operation is an anti-espionage operation that was started by the Military Intelligence in 2019. ❖ The Rajasthan Police arrested two civil defence employees in Jaipur ❖ They were arrested upon the input that they were passing sensitive information to Pakistan spy agency ISI |
|-------------------------------|---|

COMMITTEE'S

| | |
|---|---|
| Bimal Julka Committee | To Rationale the Film Media units |
| Dr. Prasanna Kumar Mohanty committee | RBI has constituted a five-member Internal Working Group (IWG) to review the extant guidelines related to ownership, governance and corporate structure of private sector banks. |
| M B Lal Committee | The Committee had made 118 recommendations in regards to the safety guidelines to be followed by the oil companies while installing oil wells. According to massive fire at the Baghjan Oil field, Assam |

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|--------------------------|--|
| AR Dave Committee | It made recommendations to make securities and Exchange Board of India enforcement mechanism more robust and efficient |
|--------------------------|--|

BOOKS & AUTHORS

| BOOKS | AUTHORS |
|--|---|
| Letters to Mother Narendra Modi | Translated from Gujarati to English by: Bhawana Somaaya |
| One Year of Modi 2.0 – Towards A Self-Reliant India | Released by: Ministry of Information and Broadcasting |
| Safe online learning in the times of COVID-19 | Launched by the Union Minister for HRD |
| Lockdown Liaisons: Leaving and Other Stories | Shobha De |
| Legend of Suheldev: The King Who Saved India | Amish Tripathi |

FESTIVALS

| S.No. | FESTIVAL | STATE |
|-------|---------------------|--------|
| 1. | Raja Parba festival | Odisha |

IMPORTANT DAYS

| DAYS | EVENTS | THEMES/ SIGNIFICANCE |
|---------------|--|--|
| June 1 | World Milk Day | THEME: “the 20 th Anniversary of World Milk Day” |
| June 2 | Telangana State Formation Day | |
| June 3 | World Bicycle Day | |
| June 4 | International Day of Innocent Children Victims | |



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| | of Aggression | |
| June 5 | World Environment Day | THEME: "BIODIVERSITY: It's time for Nature" |
| June 7 | World Food Safety Day | THEME: "Food safety, everyone's business" |
| June 8 | World Ocean Day | THEME: "Innovation for a Sustainable Ocean." |
| June 9 | World Accreditation Day | THEME: "Accreditation: Improving Food Safety" |
| June 12 | World Day Against Child Labour | |
| June 12 | International Albinism Awareness Day | THEME: "Made To Shine" |
| June 14 | World Blood Donor Day | THEME: "Safe Blood Saves Lives" |
| June 15 | World Elder Abuse Awareness Day | THEME: "Lifting up Voices" |
| June 16 | International Day of Family Remittances | THEME: "Building resilience in times of crisis" |
| June 17 | World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought | THEME: "Food, Feed Fibre - The links between consumption and land" |
| June 19 | International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict | |
| June 20 | World Refugee Day | THEME: "Every Action Counts" |
| June 21 | International Day of Yoga | THEME: "Yoga for Health – Yoga at Home" |
| June 23 | International Olympic Day | |
| June 25 | International Day of the Seafarer | THEME: "Seafarers are Key Workers" |
| June 26 | International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking | THEME: "Better Knowledge for Better Care" |
| June 29 | National Statistics day | THEME: "SDG - 3 (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages) & SDG- 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls)" |
| June 30 | International Asteroid Day | |

