



Monthly Current Affair of December, 2020 in English

01-12-2020

The Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Council approved the J&K Communication and Connectivity Infrastructure Policy (JKCCIP) to improve telecom and internet connectivity to fulfil objectives under the National Broadband Mission.

Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has extended the time limit for pensioners upto 28th February next year for submission of Jeevan Pramaan Patra.

Mission Olympic Cell approves Bajrang Punia's one month training camp in USA.

Union Minister Prakash Javadekar said Foreign Direct Investment into India surged by a healthy 15 percent to 30 billion dollars in April - October this year.

Vice President Venkaiah Naidu chaired the 19th meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Council of Heads of Government.

Top security officials of India, Sri Lanka and the Maldives agreed to further strengthen cooperation and ensure peace for common benefit.

The fourth edition of United Economic Forum World Summit along with Trade Expo is scheduled to be held from December 4.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a policy-based loan of US \$ 300 million to a cash-strapped Pakistan to promote macroeconomic stability in the country.

The Red Bull Racing Junior Jehan Daruvala is the first Indian to stand on the podium in an FIA Formula 2 Race.

Sydney Thunder won the Women's Big Bash League (WBBL) title for second time, beating favourites Melbourne Stars by seven wickets at the North Sydney Oval.



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02-12-2020

The US has emerged as the second biggest source of foreign direct investment (FDI) into India, replacing Mauritius, during the first half of the current financial year, according to data of the commerce and industry ministry.

The Centre has announced the third stimulus package of Rs 900 crore for the Mission COVID Suraksha- The Indian COVID-19 Vaccine Development Mission.

8 Track and Field Athletes were included in the core group of the Target Olympic Podium Scheme at the 50th MOC meeting held on November 26.

Chandan Pal was elected unopposed as the president of the Sarva Sewa Sangh (SSS), the apex body of all Gandhian institutes in the country.

India's Visnu Shivaraj Pandian won the bronze medal at the 'Champion of Champions' online event of the President of Indonesia Open Tournament.

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat inaugurated the Suryadhar lake at Doiwala near Dehradun.

K Anwar Sadat, Chief Executive Officer of Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE), has been appointed member of the NCERT Advisory Board.

The UK government has appointed Nadhim Zahawi, an MP for Stratford-on-Avon, as a new health minister to oversee rollout of the Covid-19 vaccine in England.

The second test launch of Russia's Angara-A5 heavy-class carrier rocket from the Plesetsk Cosmodrome is scheduled for December.

Former Australia captain Steve Smith on Sunday became only the fourth batsman to hit three consecutive ODI centuries against India.



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03-12-2020

Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting Prakash Javadekar released a booklet 'PM Modi and his Government's special relationship with Sikhs' along with Union Minister for Civil Aviation and Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated six-lane widening project of the Varanasi - Prayagraj section of NH-19 in Varanasi.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated two flyover bridges in his parliamentary constituency Gandhinagar through video conference from New Delhi.

In its direction of agriculture reforms, the Central Government has launched one lakh crore rupees Agriculture Infrastructure Fund.

US President-elect Joe Biden has appointed former Barack Obama administration's State Department spokesperson Jen Psaki as his White House press secretary.

US President-elect Joe Biden named Janet Yellen as his Treasury Secretary and Indian-American Neera Tanden as Director of Office of Management and Budget, as he announced key members of his economic team.

Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa launched a Learning Management System based on Digital technology for Government colleges.

Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh laid the foundation stone of six projects worth over Rs 117 crore in Sultanpur Lodhi and Dera Baba Nanak.

Renowned historian Vishwa Nath Datta, a professor Emeritus at Kurukshetra University and former general president of the Indian History Congress passed away in New Delhi. He was 94 years old.

Basin Trials of Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IAC) were successfully conducted at Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), marking entry into the final phase of the ambitious warship building project.



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04-12-2020

The government signed a 132.8 million US dollar loan with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to strengthen and modernize the distribution network and improve the quality of power supplied to households, industries, and businesses for Meghalaya.

India successfully test-fired the anti-ship version of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands territory.

Branded as XP100, the premium grade petrol was launched across ten cities by Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Steel.

Department of Posts has decided to deliver Sabarimala 'SwamyPrasadam' to devotees across the country at their doorstep.

BJP Rajya Sabha MP from Gujarat Abhay Bharadwaj died in Chennai. He was 66.

CCI approves the proposed amalgamation of Srikalahasthi Pipes Limited (SPL) with and into Electrosteel Castings Limited (ECL).

CCI approves acquisition of Rivigo Services Private Limited (Rivigo) by Spring Canter Investment Ltd (SCIL) through subscription of compulsorily convertible preference shares.

Banaras Locomotive Works, Varanasi, has surpassed its own record of manufacturing 31 electric locomotives in a month, achieved in July 2020 with the turnout of the 40th 6,000 HP electric locomotive for the month of November 2020.

'Ramayan Cruise Tour' on the Saryu river in Ayodhya will be launched soon.

Arjun Munda, Union Minister for Tribal Affairs, launched the virtual edition of Aadi Mahotsav- Madhya Pradesh.



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05-12-2020

A proposal of Day Care Therapy Center facility under Ayurveda, Yoga, and Naturopathy systems for central government employees and pensioners has been approved by the Ministry of Health and Family welfare.

Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has set up a task force for preparing a roadmap on imparting technical education in Mother Tongue.

The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) obtained membership of International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS).

The World Malaria Report (WMR) 2020 released by WHO, India is the only high endemic country which has reported a decline of 17.6% in 2019 as compared to 2018.

The INR 200 crore municipal bonds issue of the Lucknow Municipal Corporation (LMC) was listed at Bombay Stock Exchange.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India here today signed a \$50 million policy-based loan to improve financial management procedures and operational efficiencies.

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has constituted a high-level inter-ministerial Apex Committee for Implementation of Paris Agreement (AIPA) under the chairmanship of Secretary, MoEFCC.

India International Science Festival (IISF) 2020 is going to be organized during 22-25 December 2020 on virtual platform.

Britain became the first country in the world to approve the Pfizer-BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine for use.

The Union Minister of State for Communication Sanjay Dhotre launched five star village postal scheme in Dehradun for rural areas of Uttarakhand.

Dharampaul Gulati, the owner of MDH Masala, passed away. He was 98.



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06-12-2020

Fifteen-year-old Indian-American Gitanjali Rao, a "brilliant" young scientist and inventor, has been named by TIME magazine as the first-ever Kid of the Year' for her "astonishing work.

Ministry of AYUSH to develop Nisarg Gram campus at Pune as the 21st Century abode of Naturopathy.

India, and the US have signed Memorandum of Understanding on Intellectual Property cooperation.

The Reserve Bank of India has asked country's largest private bank, HDFC, to stop new digital business launches and avoid adding new Credit Card customers.

In a major move, the defence ministry has approved the creation of a new post of deputy chief for military operations and strategic planning in the Army as part of mega reforms in the Army headquarters.

The US has approved India's request to purchase USD 90 million worth of military hardware and services in support of its fleet of C-130J Super Hercules aircraft.

Swiss Food company and drink major Nestle said it would invest around USD 3.6 billion over the next five years to cut greenhouse gas emissions across its manufacturing locations.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivered the keynote address at the IIT2020 global summit.

Roshni Nadar Malhotra, chairperson of HCL Technologies is India's wealthiest women, according to 'Kotak Wealth Hurun-Leading Wealthy Women' List 2020.

Former US Ambassador to India Richard Verma has joined leading financial services company Mastercard as its executive vice-president for global public policy and regulatory affairs.



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07-12-2020

The International Ski Federation canceled several events in China that were supposed to test the venues for the 2022 Beijing Olympics, including next year's snowboarding world championships.

Administrator of Lakshadweep Dineshwar Sharma died in Chennai. He was 66.

Local authorities in north London have formally cleared the operation of Ambedkar House as a museum.

Ukrainian tennis player Stanislav Poplavskyy has been given a lifetime ban for participating in match-fixing activities, the Tennis Integrity Unit said.

Amateur Sneha Singh wins in the seventh leg of Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour at the Noida Golf Course.

Athletics Federation of India (AFI) appointed the vastly experienced Radhakrishnan Nair as its full-time chief coach, filling the post left vacant after the resignation of Bahadur Singh in July.

Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 190 million (over Rs 1,400 crore) loan for modernisation and upgradation of power distribution system in Karnataka's capital city of Bengaluru.

Former Rajasthan chief secretary DB Gupta was appointed as the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) of the state.

US President-elect Joe Biden has tapped his key COVID-19 advisor Indian-American Dr. Vivek Murthy as the next Surgeon General.

The Delhi and Districts Cricket Association (DDCA) named former India player Atul Wassan as the chairperson of the Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) for the upcoming season.



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08-12-2020

Union Road Transport and Highways and MSME Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated, laid the foundation stone for several highway projects in Nagaland and laid the foundation stone for 15 other National Highways (NH) projects of about 266 km and costing around Rs 4127 crore.

The Road, Transport, Highways and MSMEs Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated a major national highway project in Nagaland and laid the foundation stone for 14 others entailing a total cost of about Rs 4,127 crore.

PSU major NHPC Ltd said the 2,000 MW Subansiri hydropower project, will be commissioned by March 2022.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched a "Mera Covid Kendra" mobile application that gives users the locations of free Covid test centres within a radius of five kilometres in the state.

Makkal Needhi Maiam founder Kamal Haasan announced setting up a 'Maiam women's task force,' as part of his party's efforts to ensure equality and more role for them in various activities.

Tata Consumer Products Ltd (TCPL) said its Australia based step-down subsidiary is selling MAP Coffee Business to Buccheri Group for 1.25 million Australian dollar (Rs 6.74 crore).

Adar Poonawalla, the chief executive of the world's largest vaccine manufacturer Serum Institute of India, is among six people named "Asians of the Year" by Singapore's leading daily, The Straits Times for their work in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.

Former deputy speaker of Uttarakhand Assembly and Congress leader Anusuya Prasad Maikhuri died. He was 59.

Indian wrestler-turned-mixed martial arts fighter Ritu Phogat won her fourth consecutive MMA championship title.

The island kingdom of Bahrain has become the second nation in the world to grant an emergency-use authorisation for the coronavirus vaccine made by Pfizer and its German partner BioNTech.

The US Senate has unanimously passed a legislation to name a post office in Houston after slain Sikh police officer Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal, who was gunned down in the line of duty during a routine traffic stop a year ago.



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09-12-2020

Kenya's Kibiwott Kandie broke the men's world half marathon record in Valencia, Spain. The 24-year-old Kandie won the 21-kilometer (13-mile) race in 57 minutes, 32 seconds, bettering the previous mark established by Geoffrey Kamworor in 2019 by 29 seconds.

Seeking to boost the capability of the lower judiciary to hear cases online, funds have been released to set up 'video conference cabins' in 2,506 court complexes across India.

"Soni" fame director Ivan Ayr's second directorial venture "Meel Patthar" has won the best film trophy at Singapore's Silver Screen Awards.

India's agri-research body Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has bagged the prestigious 'International King Bhumibol World Soil Day Award' from the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) for raising awareness about importance of soil health among all stakeholders.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath announced a provision for ex-gratia payment of Rs 5 lakh for serving Home Guard volunteers and its honorary officers in case of their death or disability.

State-run Assam Petro- Chemicals Ltd will commission its methanol and formaldehyde plants by January 2021 to cater primarily to the domestic fuel market.

Singapore-headquartered, private equity firm Everstone Capital has acquired a controlling stake in Calibre, a specialty ingredients player focused on pharma, nutrition and personal care segments, in a reported Rs 1,000-crore deal.

Promising Indian driver Jehan Daruvala created history when he became the first Indian to win a Formula 2 race during the Sakhir Grand Prix.

Veteran Bengali actor Manu Mukherjee died. He was 90.

Noted Hindi and Marathi actor Ravi Patwardhan has passed away at the age of 83.



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10-12-2020

SJVN Limited, a PSU under Ministry of Power has entered an MoU with Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA). IREDA, a PSU under Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, will provide its services to SJVN for Green Energy projects.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated construction work of Agra Metro project in Agra, Uttar Pradesh through video conference.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave the inaugural address at the virtual India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2020 on 08 December 2020 at 10:45 AM.

NTPC signs MoU with Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal for Narmada Landscape Restoration Project.

National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC) and National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) Under M/O Social Justice & Empowerment Enters in to MoA With Central Bank of India.

PwC India announced the launch of a strategic collaboration with UNICEF and YuWaah to help bridge the digital gap and help upskill 300 million youths in India over the next 10 years.

More than 800 peacekeepers from India, including a sole woman officer, serving in the United Nations peacekeeping mission in South Sudan, have been awarded medals for their commendable work in the successful tour of duty in the country.

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has declared 'Invest India' as winner of the United Nations Investment Promotion Award 2020.

Multilateral lending agency Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 2.5 million (about Rs 18 crore) technical assistance to support advanced biofuel development in India.

Greaves Cotton's electric mobility arm Ampere Electric has appointed Thiruppathy Srinivasan as its Chief Technology Officer (CTO) and manufacturing head.



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11-12-2020

National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC) and National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) Under M/O Social Justice & Empowerment Enters in to MOA with Punjab National Bank.

The Competition Commission of India approves acquisition of shares of Odisha Power Generation Corporation Ltd (OPGC) by Odisha Hydro Power Corporation Limited (OHPC).

NITI Aayog in association with Patna High Court, organized the inaugural meeting in a broader engagement on efficient and affordable access to justice for all, through the the interplay of technology, law and innovation in the post pandemic world.

Indian Army celebrated the 260th Corps Day of the Army Service Corps on 08 December 2020.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved USD 300 million (about Rs 2,200 crore) loan to strengthen and improve access to comprehensive primary health care in urban areas in India.

Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 500 million loan to construct new metro rail lines in Bengaluru.

A 90-year-old woman Margaret Keenan from Northern Ireland become the first person in the world to receive the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine.

India donated the final tranche of USD 3 million to complete the construction of Palestine-India Techno Park.

Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju said that the government will start 1000 Khelo India centres in the country to provide employment to retired sportspersons.

Breakdancing became an official Olympic sport. The International Olympic Committee's officially added to the medal events program at the 2024 Paris Games.



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12-12-2020

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Federal Ministry of Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology of the Republic of Austria on Technology Cooperation in the Road Infrastructure Sector.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the New Parliament Building at Sansad Marg.

President of India Ram Nath Kovind 'released' the book titled Manavta ke Praneta: Maharishi Arvind, written by Union Education Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' in Rashtrapati Bhawan.

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully demonstrated communication between its two labs using Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) technology.

Union Cabinet has approved Atmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana at an expenditure of Rs 1,584 crore for the current financial year.

The Cabinet approved setting up of public Wi-Fi networks to provide public Wi-Fi service through Public Data Offices without levy of any License Fee.

The Cabinet gave nod to the proposal of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to sign Bilateral Memorandum of Understanding between India and Luxembourg.

Chhindwara Jail Deputy Superintendent Rajkumar Tripathi of Madhya Pradesh, who lost his life fighting the war against the Corona virus, has been posthumously awarded the 'Tinka-Tinka' award this year.

ShareChat, a social media platform in Indic languages, has appointed Ajit Varghese as its Chief Commercial Officer.

Noted Hindi poet, journalist and Sahitya Akademi Award winner Manglesh Dabral passed away in Delhi at the age of 72.

BJP leader and former Maharashtra tribal development minister Vishnu Savara (70) died.



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13-12-2020

Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Thaawarchand Gehlot e-inaugurated an ADIP Camp for free distribution of assistive aids and devices at Block level for identified Divyangians of Latur District under the ADIP scheme of Government of India through online video streaming.

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) designed 5.56x30 mm Protective Carbine has successfully undergone the final phase of User trials on 7th December 2020 meeting all the GSQR parameters.

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the three lane 1.5 km long Koilwar bridge over Sone river in Bihar through Video Conferencing.

Narendra Bhide, who had composed music for several Marathi films, died in Pune. He was 47.

Contemporary Indian dancer Astad Deboo, renowned for marrying Kathak and Kathakali into a unique form, died. He was 73.

The rail route between Haldibari in West Bengal and Chilahati in neighbouring Bangladesh is all set to reopen after a gap of 55 years on December 17 and prime ministers of the two countries will inaugurate the programme.

Anil Agarwal Foundation has joined hands with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to improve nutrition in India.

The Australian government has invested 4 million Australian dollars for a joint study, along with Indian researchers, into the long-term health effects of COVID-19 and its early detection.

India contributed another USD two million to the UN Palestine refugee agency, fulfilling its commitment of USD five million in aid annually to support its programmes and services, including education, health care, relief and social services for Palestinian refugees.

CSIR-Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology (CCMB) and Apollo Hospitals said they have tied-up to jointly produce and commercialise rapid test kits for COVID-19 detection.

United Spirits Ltd (USL), a part of global liquor giant Diageo, on Thursday appointed Hina Nagarajan as the company's new CEO.



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14-12-2020

US President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris have been named by the prestigious TIME magazine as "2020 Person of the Year" for changing the American story, showing that the forces of empathy are greater than the furies of division and sharing a vision of healing in a grieving world.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed International Bharathi Festival 2020 through video conferencing and paid tributes to the Bharathiyar on his Jayanti.

Union Minister of Education Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' addressed the 26th National Annual Conference of Sahodaya School Complexes as the Chief Guest via video conferencing.

The 5th India- Myanmar Bilateral Meeting on Drug Control Cooperation between the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), India and the Central Committee on Drug Abuse Control, Myanmar was held virtually on 10th December, 2020.

Durga Shanker Mishra, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs launched a programme of Socio-Economic Profiling of PM SVANidhi beneficiaries and their families, as an additional component of PM SVANidhi Scheme.

The Hospital Management Information System (HMIS) has been launched by Dr. B. P Nanda, Director General, Railway Health services, Railway Board through virtual means.

For the month of October 2020, the Quick Estimates of Index of Industrial Production (IIP) with base 2011-12 stands at 128.5.

Luxury sports car maker Ferrari says its chief executive, Louis Camilleri, has resigned for personal reasons.

The convenient 5 kg LPG cylinder has been rechristened 'Chhotu', the nation's top oil firm Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) said.

Ravindra Kumar Jain assumed charge as the managing director of Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd. (DFCCIL).



Monthly Current Affair of December, 2020 in English

15-12-2020

Cash-strapped Pakistan contracted USD 10.447 billion worth of new foreign loans from multilateral institutions and commercial banks during the fiscal year 2019-20, almost one-fourth higher than previous year's USD 8.4 billion.

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal addressed FICCI's annual convention & 93rd Annual General Meeting.

Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare digitally addressed the students of Lady Hardinge Medical College(LHMC) on their convocation ceremony.

The Maharashtra government will observe the birth anniversary of social reformer Savitribai Phule on January 3 every year as "SavitriUtsav".

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated the Kailash Mansarovar Bhawan, built at a cost of Rs 132 crore in Ghaziabad.

Russia's Umar Kremlev was elected president of the International Boxing Association (AIBA) at a virtual congress.

Reserve Bank of India has appointed R Subramanian, RS Ratho and Rohit Jain as executive directors.

Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) has extended a \$448-million line of credit (LOC) for various infrastructure projects in Uzbekistan.

IT firm Zensar has named former Cognizant executive Ajay S Bhutoria as its Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director.

A 43-year-old engineer from Hyderabad has won the prestigious World Quizzing Championship 2020, an annual international competition, which saw the participation of 668 quizzers from across the world.



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16-12-2020

With a view to effectively deal with increasing circulation of banknotes, the Reserve Bank of India has decided to set up an Automated Banknote Processing Centre (ABPC) in Jaipur for receipt, storage and dispatch of currency notes.

Renowned Sanskrit scholar Vidyavachaspati Bannanje Govindacharya died at Ambalpady in Udupi. He was 85.

Santosh Kumar Gangwar, Minister for Labour & Employment (I/C) and G. Kishan Reddy, Minister of State for Home Affairs jointly dedicated new services and equipment at ESIC Medical College, Hyderabad.

Junior Asian champion Yash Vardhan of India won the 10m air rifle event at the 6th edition of the International Online Shooting Championship (IOSC).

Top Indian tennis player Ankita Raina won her third doubles title of the pandemic-hit 2020 season, clinching the AI Habtoor challenge with Ekaterine Gorgodze.

Indian IT startup Thalamus Irwine claims to have developed an Artificial Intelligence and IoT-based solution to complete a sero-survey with 1 crore samples of COVID-19 cases within a week.

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has brought out a book chronicling the valour of its bravehearts, including Kamlesh Kumari who sacrificed her life during the Parliament attack in 2001.

The International Cricket Council (ICC) announced a rescheduled qualification pathway to the 2022 under-19 men's World Cup in the West Indies, where 33 teams will compete for five spots.

Bharti Infratel has received approval from the Registrar of Companies for changing its name to Indus Towers, following the recent merger of the two companies to create a mega tower entity.

Justice Vandana Kasarekar of the Indore bench of Madhya Pradesh High Court died. He was 60.



Monthly Current Affair of December, 2020 in English

17-12-2020

The rate of inflation, based on monthly WPI, stood at (1.55%) (provisional) for the month of November, 2020 (over November, 2019) as compared to 0.58% during the corresponding month of the previous year.

'Himgiri', the first of the three Project 17A ships being built at M/s Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE), Kolkata was launched.

VigyanYatras to promote Scientific Temper among Masses being organised by various institutions ahead of IISF 2020.

Softening prices of food items like cereals, fruits and milk pulled down retail inflation to 6.93 per cent in November.

NITI Aayog released a white paper: Vision 2035: Public Health Surveillance in India.

Eminent aerospace scientist and Padma Vibhushan awardee Roddam Narasimha died. He was 87.

State-owned PowerGrid has entered into a pact with the Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences (SGPGIMS) for setting up tele-ICUs in Uttar Pradesh.

Private sector Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMB) said the RBI has approved the re-appointment of Uday Kotak as managing director of the bank for a further period of three years.

Pawan Singh, the joint secretary general of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI), has been re-elected as member of the Judges Committee of the International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF).

Media executive Uday Shankar has taken over as Ficci President for 2020-2021.



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18-12-2020

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved revised cost estimate of North Eastern Region Power System Improvement Project for six States for strengthening of the Intra-State Transmission and Distribution Systems.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved assistance of three thousand 500 crore rupees for sugarcane farmers.

The Government of India and New Development Bank signed a loan agreement for one billion dollar to provide support to Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan through MGNREGA Scheme.

Extending support to J&K and Ladakh students, AICTE has decided to release the instalment of Rs. 20,000/- as maintenance allowance under Prime Minister's Special Scholarship Scheme (PMSSS).

Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has been awarded with the prestigious Golden Peacock Environment Management Award for the year 2020 in the Steel Sector by the Institute of Directors.

Union Minister of External Affairs Dr. S. Jaishankar laid the foundation stone of 6 squash courts at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium in the presence of Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Shri Kiren Rijiju in New Delhi.

Indian-American Congressman Ro Khanna has been named as Democratic Vice Chair of the Congressional India Caucus.

The Chinese lunar probe Chang'e will be returning to Earth with samples of rock and debris from the Moon.

In a first of its kind initiative, the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) launched a multilingual call centre (helpline number 1800-425-4648) for aquafarmers at Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh.

Prasar Bharati CEO Shashi Shekhar Vempati was elected as the vice president of Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union, one of the largest broadcasting associations in the world.



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19-12-2020

Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina jointly inaugurated a railway link between Haldibari in India and Chilahati in Bangladesh during the PM level virtual bilateral summit.

The Indian Space Research Organisation, ISRO, has successfully launched the country's new communication satellite CMS-01 in the intended orbit in space.

India and Bangladesh signed seven MoUs and agreements after the virtual summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

A webinar and Expo between India and Maldives were held. The Theme of webinar was 'Joint Indo Maldives High Level Defence Engagement'.

Taking a step further to ensure an atmosphere of Clean Sport globally, India has pledged a sum of USD 1 million to the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) towards the global agency's scientific research budget.

Defence Acquisition Council headed by Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh approves proposals to procure equipment worth Rs 27,000 cr from domestic industry.

The Ministry of AYUSH and Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports announced the formal recognition of Yogasana as a competitive sport at a joint press conference.

E-commerce major Snapdeal has partnered with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to allow shoppers to make QR-based digital payments at the time of accepting delivery of their orders.

Cricket Association of Nepal announced the appointment of Former Australian cricketer and Sri Lanka's World Cup-winning coach Dav Whatmore as the head coach of the team.

Russia was banned from using its name, flag and anthem at the next two Olympics or at any world championships for the next two years.



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20-12-2020

Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot launched "One Stop Shop" (OSS) facility of the Bureau of Investment Promotion (BIP) to make available around 100 types of clearances and services pertaining to 14 departments required by investors.

Union Minister for Road Transport, Highways and MSMEs Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid foundation stone for 33 highway projects worth nearly Rs.11,000 crore in Karnataka.

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh handed over three indigenously developed Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) systems to Army, Navy and Air Force at a function held in DRDO Bhawan.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a \$4.21 million project readiness financing (PRF) facility for the preparation of infrastructure development projects in Tripura.

Ministry of Food Processing Industries signed 5 MoUs with Ministry of Tribal Affairs, TRIFED, ICAR, NSFDC, NAFED and NCDC.

The greenfield airport being built in Uttar Pradesh's Jewar has been named Noida International Airport (NIA).

National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories Ltd (NFCSF) said Jaiprakash R Salunke Dandegaonkar has been unanimously elected as President of the sugar cooperatives" body.

Lt General Pradeep C Nair took over as the Director General Recruiting of the Indian Army.

Retail inflation for farm labour and rural workers eased to 6 per cent and 5.86 per cent, respectively, in November, mainly due to lower prices of food items.

Poland's Robert Lewandowski has been voted FIFA's best footballer this year, breaking the dominance of Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo.



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21-12-2020

World silver-medallist Amit Panghal (52kg) notched up a gold medal without having to fight his final bout, while veteran Satish Kumar (+91kg) won silver after an injury prevented him from competing in his summit clash at the Cologne World Cup in Germany.

Ravi Shankar Prasad, Minister of Communications and Electronics & IT and Sanjay Shamrao Dhotre, Minister of State for Communications and Electronics & IT, presented the Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Telecom Skill Excellence Awards.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar announced the selection of 23 Feature and 20 non-feature films in Indian Panorama for the 51st International Film Festival of India, IFFI to be held in Goa in January next year.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the advanced Hypersonic Wind Tunnel (HWT) test facility Hyderabad, making India the third country after the US and Russia to have such a facility.

Senior RSS ideologue and the first spokesperson of the organization Madhav Govind Vaidya died. He was 97.

President Xi, who heads the Central Military Commission (CMC), appointed Gen. Zhang Xudong as the Commander of the Western Theatre Command.

The Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) in collaboration with Ashoka University has started a 'Child Rights Fellowship' to engage young professionals and strengthen the implementation of the rights of the children.

The International Cricket Council (ICC) re-elected Imran Khwaja and Mahinda Vallipuram as its Associate Member Directors.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) appointed former test cricketer Mohammad Wasim as the chairman of its selection committee until the 2023 World Cup.

Five-time Shiv Sena MP from Mumbai, Mohan Rawale, died in Goa. He was 72.



Monthly Current Affair of December, 2020 in English

22-12-2020

US President-elect Joe Biden has named Indian-American Vedant Patel to be the Assistant Press Secretary as he announced the additional members of the White House Communications and Press Staff.

Russia has successfully launched its Soyuz-2.1b carrier rocket, delivering 36 satellites from the UK-based OneWeb company into space.

Indo-Islamic Cultural Foundation unveiled the design of the mosque and hospital to be constructed at the five-acre plot in Ayodhya.

To strengthen the security related infrastructures along the state borders, the Assam government has sanctioned Rs 100 crore.

Rajmohan Pillai, brother of late Biscuit King Rajan Pillai, announced that his business group will support 25 new start-up companies in the country.

President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated a cultural event to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Goa Liberation day in Panaji.

Noted Odia writer Susmita Bagchi and her renowned entrepreneur husband Subroto Bagchi, the co-founder of Mindtree, have endowed a Chair Professorship in public health at Ahmedabad University.

Argentina's Ciudad de La Plata stadium has been renamed Diego Armando Maradona stadium in memory of the late Argentine football legend.

India skipper Virat Kohli ended year without an international century, his first such calendar year in 12 years.

Opening batsman Mayank Agarwal became the third fastest Indian batsman to get to 1000 runs in Test cricket.



Monthly Current Affair of December, 2020 in English

23-12-2020

Bolstering efforts to meet one of the vital essentials- the energy need for AtmaNirbhar Bharat, Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas and Steel dedicated the Bengal Basin, the 8th producing basin of India, to the nation.

The Sports Ministry has approved the inclusion of four Indigenous Games to be a part of Khelo India Youth Games 2021, scheduled to take place in Haryana. The games include: Gatka, Kalaripayattu, Thang-Ta and Mallakhamba.

Minister Narendra Modi delivered the inaugural address at the India International Science Festival (IISF) 2020 on 22 December at 4:30 PM via video conferencing.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the centenary celebrations of Aligarh Muslim University on 22 December, 2020 at 11 AM via video conferencing.

Nepal President Bidhya Devi Bhandari dissolved parliament at the request of Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli's cabinet.

Indian pugilists bagged nine medals including three gold, two silver and four bronze at the Cologne Boxing World Cup ended in Cologne, Germany.

The mutual fund industry of India and the US received "top" grade for robust disclosure practices in areas such as fees and transparency of fund holdings, according to a global study by Morningstar.

The e-courts services project of the Department of Justice has won the Digital India Award 2020.

Gaganjeet Bhullar overcame a bumpy ride for a hard-fought four-under-68 to win his first PGTI trophy in nine years on the final day of the TATA Steel Tour Championship 2020.

Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services (IL&FS) said the Ministry of Corporate Affairs has approved the appointment of Nand Kishore as the group's executive director.



Monthly Current Affair of December, 2020 in English

24-12-2020

HDFC, ICICI Bank, SBI, Yes Bank, PNB and HSBC Bank emerged as the top-10 banks in 2020, while Google Pay and PhonePe were the top wallets among the customers, according to BFSI (banking, financial services and insurance) Movers and Shakers 2020 report.

US President Donald Trump presented the prestigious Legion of Merit to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his leadership in elevating strategic partnership of the two countries and emergence of India as a global power.

Hailing actor Sonu Sood as a "Real Hero", villagers of Dubba Tanda of Siddipet (Telangana) district have built a temple and installed a bust.

The Tripura government has said media personnel in the state will be provided health insurance cover of up to Rs 5 lakh per year.

Engineering and construction major Larsen & Toubro (L&T) has inaugurated the "AM Naik Tower", a corporate office tower located at its Powai campus.

The Asian Development Bank has signed pact with Northern Arc Capital Limited (NACL) to support the livelihoods of microfinance borrowers and MSMEs in India.

Public sector lender Bank of Baroda (BoB) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard under which the bank would offer customised services along with a host of facilities to account holders.

Lee Westwood was voted as the European Tour's golfer of the year for 2020.

Veteran Congress leader Motilal Vora passed away in New Delhi. He was 93.

Veteran journalist Tultul Barua died. She was 88.



Monthly Current Affair of December, 2020 in English

25-12-2020

Veteran industrialist Ratan Tata was conferred the title of "Global Visionary of Sustainable Business and Peace" by the Federation of Indo-Israel Chambers of Commerce (FIICC) for epitomising "unity, peace and sustainability".

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the centenary celebrations of the Visva-Bharati University, Shantiniketan, through video conferencing.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi released a special postal stamp to mark the centenary celebrations of the Aligarh Muslim University.

China's new medium-lift carrier rocket Long March-8 made its maiden flight, sending five satellites successfully into planned orbit.

Smartphone maker Oppo has set up its 5G innovation lab in India which is also the company's first 5G lab outside China.

The India Open Super 500 will be held from May 11 to 16 and will serve as the last qualification event for the Tokyo Olympics, the Badminton World Federation (BWF) confirmed in its new calendar for the upcoming year.

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju virtually inaugurated eight Khelo India State Centre of Excellence (KISCE), including one in Nagaland.

The economic loss due to premature deaths and morbidity from air pollution was Rs 2,60,000 crore or 1.4 per cent of the GDP in India in 2019, according to a new scientific paper.

Novak Djokovic, Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal and Frances Tiafoe were among the winners of the ATP's top awards for 2020.

Bearing maker SKF India has signed a MoU with Tata Community Initiatives Trust (TCIT) to explore and develop skill development initiatives through Tata STRIVE.



Monthly Current Affair of December, 2020 in English

26-12-2020

The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, has approved the proposal for revision of the guidelines for obtaining license for providing Direct-To-Home (DTH) broadcasting service in India.

DRDO conducted the successful trial of the Medium Range Surface to Air MR-SAM missile from Chandipur off the Odisha coast.

Country's largest power producer, NTPC Ltd has been conferred "Excellence" in the prestigious CII-ITC Sustainability Awards 2020 in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Domain.

Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have taken the lead in undertaking the Urban Local Bodies (ULB) reforms.

The Cabinet approved the merger of Films Division, Directorate of Film Festivals, National Film Archives of India, and Children's Film Society, India with National Film Development Corporation.

Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved Rs 59,048 Crore Post Matric Scholarship Scheme for more than 4 Crore Scheduled Castes students in 5 years.

Veteran Congress leader and former minister Madan Lal Sharma passed away in Katra. He was 68.

Atletico Madrid and England defender Kieran Trippier has been banned for 10 weeks and fined £70,000 for breaching betting rules.

Neetal Narang becomes first female president of Softball Federation of India.

Renowned Malayalam poet and activist Sugathakumari passed away at a Thiruvananthapuram. She was 86.



Monthly Current Affair of December, 2020 in English

27-12-2020

The National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) signed an agreement with Apollo Medskills for imparting COVID-19 vaccination training to nurses and pharmacists belonging to other backward classes (OBC) and economically backward classes (EBC).

Prime Minister Narendra Modi pay floral tributes and also released a book titled Atal Bihari Vajpayee in Parliament : A Commemorative Volume on the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi releases 18 thousand crore rupees to over nine crore farmer families under PM Kisan Samman Nidhi through video conferencing.

Union Minister for Road Transport, Highways and MSMEs Nitin Gadkari announced that FASTag is being made mandatory for all vehicles in the country from new year.

The Defence Secretary Dr Ajay Kumar launched the DGNCC Digital Forum in New Delhi.

State-owned Coal India said its board has given in-principle approval for venturing into aluminium and solar sectors and creation of special purpose vehicles (SPVs).

The RBI has cancelled the licence of Subhadra Local Area Bank, Kolhapur, as its affairs were conducted in a "manner detrimental" to the interests of its present and future depositors.

The BCCI's governing body ratified the entry of two new franchises in the IPL to make it a 10-team affair from 2022 during its Annual General Meeting (AGM).

CPI(M)-led Left Democratic government in Kerala announced Rs 10,000 crore worth development projects would either be completed or launched in the next 100 days in the state.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said an agro industrial park will be set up at Singur in Hooghly district to create employment opportunities in the agrarian area.



Monthly Current Affair of December, 2020 in English

28-12-2020

Demand conditions in the manufacturing sector returned to the recovery mode with a softer contraction of 4.3 per cent (Y-o-Y) in the second quarter of this fiscal in terms of nominal sales after shrinking 41.1 per cent in the previous quarter that was hit by countrywide lockdowns due to COVID-19, according to RBI data.

The National Jal Jeevan Mission has launched an innovation challenge in partnership with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade to develop portable devices for water testing, the Jal Shakti Ministry said.

The Indian Institute of Management (IIM)-Ahmedabad has decided to demolish 14 of its dormitories designed by legendary American architect Louis Kahn in the 1960s, saying that they have turned "unsafe" for living due to "dilapidation and structural deterioration".

Union Home Secretary and Secretary, DoPT A.K.Bhalla releases e-HRMS brochure on Good Governance Day.

State-owned power producer SJVN Ltd has been awarded three hydroelectric power projects totaling 501 megawatts (MW) by the Himachal Pradesh government.

Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga's ambitious pledge to go carbon free by 2050 and generate nearly USD 2 trillion growth in green business and investment.

To give a fillip to India's push to usher in a hydrogen-based mobility solutions ecosystem, Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) plans to buy 15 buses that can run on hydrogen fuel.

Seasoned speedster Jaydev Unadkat will lead a 20-member Saurashtra squad at the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy National T20 Championships.

Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) has agreed to buy out IMG Worldwide LLC from their sports management joint venture for Rs 52.08 crore.

Noted scholar Jamal Khwaja, one of the last surviving members of the 2nd Lok Sabha, passed away at the age of 92.



Monthly Current Affair of December, 2020 in English

29-12-2020

The Goa-based National Institute of Oceanography has signed a memorandum of understanding with New Delhi-based National Productivity Council (NPC) to jointly work in the areas of climate change, environment-related data analytics, combating oil spills, and exploration of renewable energy.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) SEHAT scheme for the residents of Jammu and Kashmir.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India's first-ever driverless train operations on Delhi Metro's Magenta Line through video conferencing.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah laid foundation stone of a medical college and nine law institutes in Assam.

The Madhya Pradesh cabinet approved the Religious Freedom Bill 2020, which provides for prison term of up to 10 years and fine of Rs 1 lakh for conversion through marriage or by any other fraudulent means.

The Delhi Police set up a solar energy-enabled "modern beat booth", which is also water, fire and vandalism proof, at the iconic India Gate.

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur unveiled an 18 feet statue of former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee at the historic Ridge Maidan on his 96th birth anniversary.

According to market researcher Omdia, Samsung Electronics to remain the world's leading TV vendor for the fifteenth straight year.

There is an urgent need for India to lower its logistics cost to 7-8 per cent of the GDP, according to a report by Confederation of India Industry (CII) and Arthur D. Little.

Former England fast bowler and cricket commentator Robin Jackman has died at the age of 75.



Monthly Current Affair of December, 2020 in English

30-12-2020

The legendary Mahendra Singh Dhoni was named captain of ICC's ODI and T20 International teams of the decade while Virat Kohli stamped his preeminence in world cricket after being voted the skipper of the Test team.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the "New Bhaupur-New Khurja" section of the Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor on December 29 via video conferencing.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the 100th Kisan Rail from Sangola in Maharashtra to Shalimar in West Bengal through video conferencing.

The President of India, Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated/laid the foundation stone for various developmental projects in Diu.

The Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the e-office and Thoubal Multipurpose Project (Thoubal Dam) in Imphal through virtual mode.

The Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has extended the validity of vehicular documents like DLs, RCs, permits etc till March 31, 2021 in the light of need to prevent spread of COVID-19.

Jagti township housing Kashmiri migrant Pandits near here will get a multipurpose indoor stadium to provide better infrastructure facilities for the training of young sports aspirants.

India women's hockey team player Namita Toppo was conferred with the prestigious 'Ekalavya Puraskar' for her contribution to the game.

Australia captain Tim Paine became the fastest wicketkeeper to reach 150 Test dismissals.

Padma Shri dance historian and critic Sunil Kothari passed away. He was 87.



Monthly Current Affair of December, 2020 in English

31-12-2020

Johnny Mullagh, who was the star player of the 1868 Aboriginal side that was the first sporting team from Australia to tour internationally, has become the first indigenous player inducted into the Australian Cricket Hall of Fame.

Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar virtually hoisted the international blue flags in 8 beaches across the country.

Indian and Vietnamese Navy concluded the two-day naval passage exercise PASSEX in the South China Sea as part of efforts to boost maritime cooperation between the two countries.

Home Minister Amit Shah unveiled a statue of Arun Jaitley and paid tributes to him at the Arun Jaitley Stadium on the occasion of the late minister's 68th birth anniversary.

US President Donald Trump has signed into law a Coronavirus relief and spending package bill, averting a partial government shutdown.

Hero Electric has tied up with e-mobility startup eBikeGO.

Dubai India captain Virat Kohli headlined the ICC top honours for the decade, winning the Sir Garfield Sobers award for the best male cricketer of the past 10 years.

Music record label Tips Industries announced a global deal with social media giant Facebook to license its music for videos and other social experiences across Facebook and Instagram.

Dixon Technologies, a contract manufacturer in electronic goods, said its wholly owned subsidiary Padget Electronics Pvt Ltd has entered into an agreement with Motorola Mobility LLC for manufacturing of smartphones.

Eminent architect Vikram Lal, who designed the iconic Buddha Smriti Park in Patna, has died in Brussels.