



Monthly Current Affair of January, 2021 in English

01-01-2021

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in Rajkot, Gujarat, on December 31 via video conference.

Union Minister of Education Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', virtually laid foundation stone of 'TiHAN-IIT Hyderabad', India's first Test bed for Autonomous Navigation Systems (Terrestrial and Aerial).

Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare has been nominated by the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation (GAVI) as a member on the GAVI Board.

State-run Common Services Centers Special Purpose Vehicle has partnered with IIT- Delhi to establish a design and innovation lab which will conduct reasearch on new products and services for village level entrepreneurs.

A meteorological centre was inaugurated in the Union Territory of Ladakh which would provide localised weather forecasts thus strengthening weather-related early warning system for the region.

Rashtriya Swayam Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat inaugurated 'Kesari Media Studies and Research Centre' at Chalappuram.

The country's first pollinator park with over 40 species of butterflies, honeybees, birds and insects has been developed over four acres at Nainital's Haldwani.

DRDO Young Scientist Laboratory for Quantum Technologies (DYSL-QT) has developed a Quantum Random Number Generator (QRNG) which detects random quantum events and converts those into a stream of binary digits.

Tata Sons will increase its stake in AirAsia India to 83.67%.

A member of 1956 Olympics fourth-place finishing Indian football squad, Nikhil Nandy died. He was 88.



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02-01-2021

The President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, conferred Digital India Awards 2020 via video conferencing in a virtual awards ceremony with participation from multiple locations including Rashtrapati Bhawan & Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi along with four other locations - Bhopal, Chennai, Kolkata and Patna.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Light House Projects (LHPs) under Global Housing Technology Challenge-India (GHTC-India) at six sites across six States on 1st January 2021 at 11 AM via video conferencing.

The DRDO along with the Indian Navy has conducted a successful maiden trial of the SAHAYAK-NG air-droppable container from an IL-38SD aircraft off the coast of Goa.

The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has remembered Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on 75th Anniversary of tricolor hoisting at Port Blair.

Cabinet approved Export of Akash Missile System and Creates a Committee for faster Approval of Exports.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved modified scheme to enhance ethanol distillation capacity in the country for producing 1st Generation, 1G ethanol from feed stocks such as cereals like rice, wheat, barley, corn and sorghum and sugarcane, sugar beet etc.

Ministry of Railways has released a booklet of achievements of Ministry of Railways in the year 2020 with the title "Building an Aatmanirbhar Bharat".

V.K. Yadav, Chairman & CEO, Railway Board, Ministry of Railways has been conferred with the prestigious "Eminent Engineer Award for the Year 2020".

Umesh Sinha has been appointed as the deputy election commissioner in the Election Commission of India.

Sivan K has been given an one-year extension, till January 14, 2022, as the secretary, Department of Space.



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03-01-2021

Bilkis Bano, the octogenarian who was the face of the months-long anti-citizenship law protest in Delhi's Shaheen Bagh neighbourhood, has now found herself on Hollywood star Gal Gadot's list of My Personal Wonder Women.

Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated the Virtual Agri-hackathon 2020.

The entire state of Nagaland has been declared a disturbed area for six more months.

India has started export of Moringa powder keeping in mind its rising global demand.

Assam Assembly has passed 'The Assam Repealing Bill, 2020' to abolish all state-run Madrasas by converting them to general schools.

Former Eastern Railway general manager Suneet Sharma was appointed the new Railway Board Chairman and CEO.

Railway Minister Piyush Goyal launched an upgraded version of the e-ticketing website of the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC), which has personalised features.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide a USD 231-million loan to augment electricity generation capacity in Assam through construction of a 120-megawatt (MW) hydroelectric power plant.

Jubilant Foodworks Ltd (JFL), which operates fast-food chains Domino's Pizza and Dunkin' Donuts in India, will invest Rs 92 crore into Barbeque-Nation Hospitality Ltd (BNHL) for a 10.76 percent equity stake.

The labour ministry has decided to notify 8.5 per cent rate of interest on employees' provident fund (EPF) accounts of over six crore subscribers of retirement fund body EPFO for 2019-20 after receiving the finance ministry's concurrence on that.



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04-01-2021

Defence PSU GRSE has delivered to the Indian Navy the last of the eight landing craft utility (LCU) ships manufactured by it, providing a major boost to the country's defence preparedness.

Chief of Army Staff General MM Naravane has received a Guard of Honour at Republic of Korea Army Headquarters at Gyeryong.

The World Health Organization says it has cleared the Pfizer-BioNTech coronavirus vaccine for emergency use.

On new year eve, Australia has changed one word in its national anthem to reflect "the spirit of unity" and the country's Indigenous population.

The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has extended the deadline for 100 percent collection of toll charges on the National Highway network through FASTag till February 15.

The Union Territory Administration signed a historic MoU with National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) as a game changer for the Horticulture sector.

Senior opener Rohit Sharma was appointed the vice-captain of the Indian Test team for the first time in his career, replacing Cheteshwar Pujara.

Veteran batsman Anustup Majumdar was named Bengal captain for the upcoming Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy T20 tournament, replacing Abhimanyu Easwaran.

Colonel Narendra 'Bull' Kumar (87), a symbol of indomitable courage who waved the tricolor on the world's highest peaks, died.

British rapper MF Doom has passed away at the age of 49.



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05-01-2021

The Bharat Electronics Limited signed a contract with the Indian Navy to supply 20 laser dazzlers, a non-lethal weapon for warning and stopping suspicious vehicles, boats and aircraft.

The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the permanent campus of IIM Sambalpur via video conferencing.

The Union Home Minister Amit Shah released the inaugural issue of the "National Police K-9 Journal" in New Delhi.

Centre has decided to extend Disability Compensation to all serving employees, if they get disabled in line of duty.

The Army set up a 'feedback and grievances' helpline in the Kashmir valley as part of its efforts to strengthen the bond with the people.

The Goa government will install 62 new mobile towers as part of its telecommunication policy to increase network connectivity in the state.

Danish filmmaker Thomas Vinterberg's "Another Round", starring actor Mads Mikkelsen, will be the opening film at the upcoming 51st edition of International Film Festival of India (IFFI).

Former Union minister, ex-MP from Rajasthan and Congress leader Buta Singh passed away. He was 86.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath laid foundation stones for various development projects worth Rs 197.21 crore in Bhadohi district, famous for its carpet industry.

LIC-controlled IDBI Bank has sold 23 per cent stake in life insurance venture to foreign partner Ageas for Rs 507 crore.



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06-01-2021

India's drugs regulator approved Oxford COVID-19 vaccine Covishield, manufactured by the Serum Institute, and indigenously developed Covaxin of Bharat Biotech for restricted emergency use in the country, paving the way for a massive inoculation drive.

Bed-ridden for the last 15 years, a 65-year-old man from Bhadarwah in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district was among three residents of the Union Territory who recently received the 'best construction award' under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY).

Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated the Kochi-Mangaluru natural gas pipeline to the nation via video conferencing.

Justice Mohammad Rafiq was administered the oath as the 26th Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court by Governor Anandiben Patel.

Former Punjab Cabinet minister and five-time legislator from Ferozpur Pandit Bal Mukand Sharma passed away in Chandigarh. He was 90.

51st IFFI is being organised from 16th to 24th January in Goa.

Surgeon Vice Admiral Rajat Datta took over as Director General, Armed Forces Medical Services.

Lt Gen Tarun Kumar Aich on Friday took over as Director General, National Cadet Corps.

The Russian Defence Ministry announced that the country's ground troops have planned to participate in nine military exercises in 2021.

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has imposed a penalty of ₹25 crore and ₹15 crore respectively on Reliance Industries (RIL) and its Chairman Mukesh Ambani for manipulative trading.



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07-01-2021

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a \$100 million loan to modernise and upgrade the power distribution system to enhance the quality and reliability of electricity supply in Bengaluru city in the state of Karnataka.

Trifed signed MoU with Akhil Bhartiya Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram for Setting up of TRIFOOD Parks in Madhya Pradesh.

Union minister of Youth Affairs & Sports Kiren Rijju launched the Assam Rifles Public School (ARPS) in Shillong as a Khelo India Sports School.

The year 2020 was the eight warmest since 1901 but it was "substantially lower" than the highest warming observed in 2016, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha administered the oath of office to justice Pankaj Mithal as the new chief justice of the common high court for the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and Union Territory of Ladakh in Jammu.

Justice S Muralidhar took oath as the 32nd Chief Justice of Orissa High Court.

Sanjay Kapoor was elected president of the All India Chess Federation (AICF) while Bharat Singh Chauhan retained the secretary's post in the polls held online.

In a first of its kind initiative to promote education of the girl child, Assam Education Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has said every school-going girl student will get Rs 100 per day for attending classes.

The Exim Bank is in the international bond market with an over USD 1 billion dollar money issue.

Sequoia Capital-backed Indigo Paints has received capital markets regulator Sebi's approval to raise about Rs 1,000 crore through an initial public offering.



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08-01-2021

Saudi Arabia will open its airspace and land border to Qatar in the first step toward ending a years-long diplomatic crisis that deeply divided US defense partners, frayed societal ties and tore apart a traditionally clubby alliance of Gulf states.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated to the nation the 306 Kilometer New Rewari - New Madar Section of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor.

Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal ' Nishank' inaugurated a virtual toy hackathon named Toycathon 2021 event along with Union Textile Minister Smriti Irani.

Railway Minister Piyush Goyal launched a 'Freight Business Development Portal' as one stop solution for all the needs of freight customers.

Alex Ellis, a British strategic expert, has been appointed as the new UK High Commissioner to India.

Hockey India confirmed Olympian Gregg Clarke's appointment as the new analytical coach of the Indian men's hockey team.

HCL Technologies has completed acquisition of Australian IT solutions firm DWS.

Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC) in Maharashtra's Pune district has signed an MoU with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to co-create "India's first" Social Impact Bond (SIB).

Nicholas Yatromanolakis has become the first ever openly gay cabinet minister in Greece after he was named deputy minister of culture.

Karan Bajwa, who currently leads Google Cloud in India, has been elevated as the company's head for Asia Pacific.



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09-01-2021

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation between Indian and Japan, on a Basic Framework for Partnership for Proper Operation of the System Pertaining to 'Specified Skilled Worker'.

PM CARES Fund allocates Rs 201.58 cr for installation of 162 Medical Oxygen Generation Plants in public health facilities.

Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh have become the first group of States to complete three out of the four citizen centric reforms stipulated by the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance.

The Indo-Tibetan Border Police placed an order worth over Rs 8 crore with the Khadi and Village Industries Commission for procurement of 'khadi durries' or mats for various central paramilitary forces.

Arup Kumar Goswami was sworn in as the Chief Justice of Andhra Pradesh High Court.

Former India cricketer Pravin Amre has joined Delhi Capitals as assistant coach for the upcoming two seasons of the Indian Premier League.

Warnock, senior pastor at the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, will be Georgia's first Black Senator.

The 2021 Grammy Awards will no longer take place this month in Los Angeles and will broadcast in March due to a recent surge in coronavirus cases and deaths.

Colin Bell, one of the best English midfielders of his generation and considered an all-time great at Manchester City, has died. He was 74.

Bob Brett, a tennis coach whose players included Grand Slam champions Boris Becker, Goran Ivanisevic and Marin Cilic, has died. He was 67.



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Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the world's first Double Stack Long Haul 1.5-Kilometre long Container Train hauled by electric traction from New Ateli -New Kishangarh through video conference.

In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha announced the Government of India's approval for a mega Industrial Development Package worth 28,400 crore rupees.

Minister of State for Defence Shripad Yesso Naik handed over One Hundred thousandth Bullet Proof Jacket to Army Chief General M M Naravane in a ceremony held in New Delhi.

Indian Air Force and Institute of Defence Studies and Research - IDSR- an autonomous Institution of Gujarat University have signed a Memorandum of Understanding.

Justice Hima Kohli has become the first woman Chief Justice of Telangana High Court.

Karnataka Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa launched Krishi Sanjeevani vans in Bengaluru.

Indian Institute of Management- Shillong has signed an MoU with Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DICCI) to enhance the employability and entrepreneurial capabilities of the youths of north east region.

Indian-American Dr Raj Iyer has taken over as the first Chief Information Officer of the US Army, after the Pentagon created the position in July 2020.

Ace fashion designer Satya Paul, known for giving the Indian saree a contemporary touch, has passed away. He was 79.

Former Minister and veteran Congress leader K. K. Ramachandran died. He was 78.



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11-01-2021

In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, the Centre has merged J&K cadre for all India Services Viz; IAS, IPS and IFS officers with that of Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram and Union Territory (AGMUT), also called the Union Territory cadre, through an ordinance.

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh launched the Online Portal <https://afd.csdindia.gov.in/> for purchase of items Against Firm Demand (AFD) from CSD Canteens.

The US Congress has certified Joe Biden as the next President and Kamala Harris as Vice President of the country.

Recognising the critical contribution of MSMEs in supporting the economy especially during the present difficult times of COVID-19 pandemic, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, has taken a new initiative to introduce its flagship Liberalised MSME AEO Package.

Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Kiren Rijiju inaugurated a 162 bed air conditioned hostel in the premises of the Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range.

President-elect Joe Biden has picked Rhode Island Gov. Gina Raimondo to lead the Commerce Department, helping set trade policy and promote US opportunities for growth domestically and overseas.

Former HDFC Bank managing director Aditya Puri has joined global pharma major Strides Group as an advisor and will also serve as a director of its associate company Stelis Biopharma.

As part of efforts to increase its presence and collaborations in India's North-East, Israel has appointed an honorary consul in the region who will be based in Assam.

A Hindu organisation in the UK has been honoured by the Chartered Institute of Linguists for its contribution to the development of tools, resources and training to promote the learning of the Gujarati language.

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's niece and eminent academician Chitra Ghosh has died. She was 90.



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12-01-2021

ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR) announced a five day national fair from February 8, through online and offline mode, in order to reach out to maximum farmers across the country with new technologies and innovations.

A coffee table book filled with over hundreds of photographs of Prime Minister Narendra Modi from his "107 overseas and bilateral visits" was released on the eve of the 16th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD).

Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of Science & Technology & Earth Sciences inaugurated Coastal Research Vessel (CRV) 'Sagar Anveshika' at Chennai Port Trust.

Indian universities and colleges with the Institutions of Eminence (IOEs) tag, which include several IITs, will now be able to set up campuses in foreign countries with the University Grants Commission (UGC) issuing fresh guidelines on the same.

Reliance Infrastructure has completed the sale of its entire 74 per cent stake in PKTCL to India Grid Trust for Rs 900 crore.

Bhavesh V Patel, an Indian-American top executive of a multinational chemical company, has been appointed by the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas to its Houston branch's board of directors.

Indian-American Sabrina Singh would serve as Deputy Press Secretary to the Vice President in the White House.

India's fiscal deficit is expected to be around 7.5 percent of the GDP for the current fiscal owing to moderation in revenue collection due to the COVID-19 crisis, experts said.

State-run EESL has entered into a pact with the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for setting up solar power projects.

Former Gujarat Chief Minister and Senior Congress leader Madhavsinh Solanki died in Gandhinagar. He was 93 years old.



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13-01-2021

Alok Sharma, one of the Indian-origin ministers in UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson's Cabinet, relinquished his role as Business Secretary in a mini-reshuffle to take sole charge as President of COP26 - the United Nations climate summit scheduled for Glasgow, Scotland, in November.

Mukesh Aghi, president of the US India Strategic and Partnership Forum (USISPF), and the Federation of Indian Associations along with three others from the US have been conferred the prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award.

A high school student from Gurugram, Aryan Jain, is among the winners of an app development challenge organised by NASA.

Digital consulting firm Adrosonic has entered into a partnership with UK-based SaaS insurance software platform Instanda to accelerate the ongoing digital transformation in the insurance industry.

Gujarat's amendment to the Industrial Disputes Act has received the assent of President Ram Nath Kovind.

Indian Railways has started the New Year by achieving a landmark to enhance the maximum speed to 130 kilometres per hour for 1,280 km length out of 1,612 Km in Golden Quadrilateral - Golden Diagonal route.

Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar has said that over 1,200 crore rupees will be spent by the Road Transport and Highways Ministry to create infrastructure for safe movement of wildlife on the National Highway.

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and Union minister Dharmendra Pradhan jointly launched a project to clean Bindu Sagar lake near Lingaraj temple in Bhubaneswar.

Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard held a naval parade in the Persian Gulf, amid heightened regional tensions over Tehran's nuclear program.

Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa laid the foundation as the first of its kind toy manufacturing cluster in the country at Koppal.



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14-01-2021

Senior Indian shooter Tejaswini Sawant upstaged Punjab's Anjum Moudgil in a battle of two Olympic quota holders to win the women's 50m rifle 3 positions T1 trials at the Dr Karni Singh Shooting range.

Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways & MSME Nitin Gadkari launched an innovative new paint developed by Khadi and Village Industries Commission at his residence.

The Indian Navy conducted a two-day mega defence exercise covering the country's 7516 km coastline and exclusive economic zone.

Harris English went more than seven years without winning on the PGA Tour, and he didn't mind going one extra hole to win the Sentry Tournament of Champions.

Domestic rating agency Icra Ratings said it expects the country's real gross domestic product (GDP) to grow by 10.1 per cent in FY2022.

Justice Siddharth Mridul has been nominated as the chairman of the Delhi High Court Legal Service Committee by Chief Justice D N Patel.

The Heritage Conservation Committee gave its approval for construction of a new parliament building under the government's ambitious Central Vista redevelopment plan.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un was given a new title, "general secretary" of the ruling Workers' Party.

India-born renowned Pakistani Urdu poet and author Naseer Turabi has died in Karachi. He was 75.

Celebrated Indian-American novelist Ved Mehta has died at the age of 86.



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15-01-2021

India skipper Virat Kohli was pushed to the third spot by Australian batsman Steve Smith in the ICC Test rankings for batsmen, but India's middle-order batsman Cheteshwar Pujara gained two places to be number eight.

US President-elect Joe Biden named Indian-American Sumona Guha as senior director for South Asia and Tarun Chhabra as senior director for Technology and National Security.

PNB Housing Finance said its independent director Shubhalakshmi Panse has resigned from her position in the company to continue with her role at its competitor Can Fin Homes.

Supreme Court has put a stay on the implementation of the three farm laws.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed valedictory function of National Youth Parliament.

Home Minister Amit Shah launched 'Single Window Clearance System', for smooth operationalisation of coal mines.

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has adopted 45 Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL) in the first phase out of the total 100 labs.

Telecom company Bharti Airtel and National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) have teamed up to drive the digital transformation of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in India.

The RBI has cancelled the licence of Vasantdada Nagari Sahakari Bank, Osmanabad, Maharashtra as the bank would be unable to pay its present depositors in full in its current financial position.

The National Stock Exchange (NSE) launched derivatives on the Nifty Financial Services Index, which will give more flexibility to institutional as well as retail investors to manage their hedge.



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16-01-2021

Central Board of Direct Taxes has launched an automated dedicated e-portal on the e-filing website of the Department to receive and process complaints of tax evasion, foreign undisclosed assets as well as complaints regarding benami properties.

Kerala has become the 8th state in the country to successfully undertake Ease of Doing Business reform stipulated by the Finance Ministry.

The Union Cabinet has given its approval to the Memorandum of Understanding on scientific and technical cooperation between National Centre of Meteorology of the United Arab Emirates and Ministry of Earth Sciences.

The government has again extended the tenure of Justice B L Bhat as the officiating Chairperson of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT).

Total 11 private Indian firms have made it to the list of 500 most valuable companies across the world, and the country is ranked 10th on the chart, according to a report.

Automotive lubricants company Castrol India Ltd announced the appointment of Jaya Jamrani as vice president – marketing to lead the firm's marketing function for the country.

The country's real gross domestic product (GDP) is likely to expand by 11 per cent in the next financial year due to a faster economic recovery and on a low base, says a report by domestic rating agency Brickwork Ratings.

Declining vegetable prices brought down the retail inflation to a 15-month low of 4.59 per cent in December, government data showed.

The 51st Edition of International Film Festival of India has unveiled the list of films under the World Panorama section.

Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of Health and Family welfare inaugurated the first 'The Grand Finale of the Red Ribbon Quiz Competition' organized by the National AIDS Control Organization and Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.



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17-01-2021

The National Institute of Oceanography and the National Geophysical Research Institute have signed a memorandum of understanding with Russia's V.I. Il'ichev Pacific Oceanological Institute for collaboration on the field of marine sciences and technology.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the rollout of India's Covid-19 vaccination programme on January 16.

The third phase of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY 3.0) launched in 600 districts across all states of India.

NTPC said that its arm THDC India has made its maiden solar project in Kerala commercially operational.

Bengaluru has emerged as the world's fastest-growing mature tech ecosystem in the world since 2016, according to new research released in London.

United States President-elect Joe Biden has named Bangladeshi-American Zayn Siddique to a key position in the office of the White House deputy chief of staff.

Telangana government will set up an Aero Sports Para Motor Adventure Training Centre in Mahabubnagar district, state Tourism Minister V Srinivas Goud said.

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has inked a tripartite pact with IRTE and IDC to promote road safety and collaborate in the areas of traffic management.

NHPC signs Definitive Agreement for implementation of Approved Resolution Plan for takeover of 120 MW Rangit-IV HE Project of JPCL in Sikkim.

Noted social activist and Padma Shri D Prakash Rao passed away in Cuttack. He was 63.



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18-01-2021

US-based Electric car maker, Tesla has incorporated a fully owned subsidiary in Bengaluru as a first step to set up an R&D unit and a manufacturing plant for its electric vehicles in the country.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacted with startups and address 'Prarambh: Startup India International Summit' through video conferencing.

Incoming First Lady Jill Biden has named Indian-American Garima Verma as her digital director and Michael LaRosa press secretary.

An expert on energy and climate change, Sonia Aggarwal, was named by President-elect Joe Biden as the senior advisor for climate policy and innovation.

US President-elect Joe Biden has nominated former US Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power as administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

US President-elect Joe Biden has unveiled a 1.9 trillion dollar Coronavirus emergency relief package.

Indian Premier League franchise Rajasthan Royals announced the appointment of Mike Fordham as its Group Chief Executive Officer.

Google has completed its USD 2.1 billion acquisition of fitness-gadget maker Fitbit.

Science and Technology Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan inaugurated anew institute of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research - CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research in New Delhi.

King Richard Srinivasan, a celebrated biker from Bengaluru, died. He was 45.



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19-01-2021

US President-elect Joe Biden has announced an ambitious goal of inoculating 100 million Americans with Covid-19 vaccines in the first 100 days of his administration, noting that the vaccine rollout in the country, the worst hit by the pandemic, has been a "dismal failure."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off eight trains connecting different regions of the country to Kevadiya tomorrow through video conferencing.

India has the largest diaspora population in the world with 18 million people from the country living outside their homeland in 2020, according to a report by the United Nations.

Seema Verma, one of the highest-ranking Indian Americans in the outgoing Trump administration, has resigned from her top healthcare position.

The U.S. Department of the Treasury imposed sanctions on Cuba's Interior Ministry and its leader, accusing them of serious human rights violations.

Earth Sciences Minister Harsh Vardhan inaugurated the doppler weather radars in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh that will improve forecasts in the hilly states and also for Char Dham and Kailash Mansarovar pilgrimages.

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat inaugurated a Doppler radar weather station at Mukteshwar in Nainital district on the occasion of the 146th foundation day of the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

Rajasthan Governor Kalraj Mishra inaugurated 21 development works in Deoria district of Uttar Pradesh and 11 in Kushinagar district through video conference from Raj Bhawan.

Major Ketan Sharma who sacrificed his life fighting a hardcore Pakistani terrorist was among 15 Army personnel awarded the Sena Medal for their exceptional courage and bravery on Army Day.

Former Union minister and noted businessman Kamal Morarka died. He was 74.



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20-01-2021

Troops of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) have launched an internet tools-based learning centre for school-going children in a Naxal violence affected district of Chhattisgarh.

The country's first Labour Movement Museum, showcasing the history of world labour movement, would be launched in Kerala's houseboat tourism hub, Alappuzha.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the launch of Rs 1,000-crore 'Startup India Seed Fund' to support startups and help budding entrepreneurs pursue innovative ideas.

US President-elect Joe Biden has nominated at least 20 Indian-Americans, including 13 women, to key positions in his incoming administration.

Army marksman and Olympian Gurpreet Singh won the men's 25m rapid fire pistol T1 trials at the Dr Karni Singh Shooting range.

Former BJP MP Mahaveer Bhagora has died in Rajasthan's Udaipur district. He was 73.

BJP's Puducherry unit treasurer and MLA K G Shankar died. He was 70.

Talent manager of Bigg Boss, Pista Dhakad, passed away in Mumbai. She was 25.

Renowned Indian classical musician Ustad Ghulam Mustafa Khan passed away at the age of 89.

Benjamin de Rothschild, who oversaw the banking empire started by his father in 1953, has died. He was 57.



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21-01-2021

US President-elect Joe Biden has named Uzra Zeya, an Indian-American diplomat who quit her State Department job in protest against the outgoing administration's alleged racial and sexist bias, as his Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has laid the foundation stone of Ahmedabad Metro Rail Project Phase-II and Surat Metro Rail Project through video conferencing.

United Kingdom has invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to attend the G7 Summit to be held in June this year.

The Union Home Minister Amit Shah launched several projects in Bagalkot district of Karnataka.

Three Adani Group-owned domestic airports in Ahmedabad, Lucknow and Mangaluru have been accredited in the Airports Council International (ACI) Airport Health Accreditation (AHA) programme.

Infosys Foundation has signed an MoU with the Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) - Tiruchirapalli to construct a 100-bed hostel for girls on their campus.

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) announced it has been selected by Three UK, one of the UK's leading mobile network carriers, to help the latter configure its mobile network for its ongoing rollout of 5G services.

Adani Group said global energy major TOTAL has acquired a 20 per cent equity stake in Adani Green Energy Ltd.

Enterprise blockchain solutions provider DLT Labs will set up a Centre of Excellence at Dr A P J Abdul Kalam Technical University (AKTU) in Uttar Pradesh.

Striker Beauty Dungdung scored a hat-trick as the Indian junior women's hockey team thrashed its Chilean counterparts 5-3 in a high-scoring match to make a successful return to competition following a year-long break due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



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22-01-2021

The BCCI announced a Rs 5 crore bonus for the Indian cricket team after the Ajinkya Rahane-led side won the fourth and final Test against Australia to clinch the series 2-1 and retain the Border-Gavaskar trophy.

Union Government has decided to celebrate the birthday of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose as 'Parakram Diwas' on 23rd of January every year.

The newly inducted Rafale fighter aircraft will feature in India's Republic Day parade on January 26 and culminate the flypast by carrying out the 'Vertical Charlie' formation.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was appointed the new chairman of the trust which manages the world famous Somnath Temple at Prabhas Patan town in Gujarat's Gir-Somnath district.

Senior oncologist and chairperson of the Adyar Cancer Institute Dr. V Shanta passed away. She was 93.

The Noida Commissionerate signed an agreement with the Microsoft company to curb cyber crimes in Noida.

The UK government unveiled new laws to protect England's cultural and historic heritage in the form of statues and monuments to ensure they are not removed "at a whim".

Global property consultant JLL said its India CEO and Country Head Ramesh Nair has quit the company and announced the appointment of Radha Dhir as the new CEO.

Auto components major Motherson Group will acquire a majority stake in Turkey's Plast Met Group, a key supplier of plastic moulded parts, related sub-assemblies and injection moulding tools.

US President-elect Joe Biden named Indian-American Rohit Chopra as the head of a Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.



Monthly Current Affair of January, 2021 in English

23-01-2021

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology is set to establish a Quantum Computing Applications Lab in India, in collaboration with Amazon Web Service (AWS) to accelerate quantum computing-led research and development.

Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Kerala have been ranked as top five states in innovation in Niti Aayog's second Innovation Index released.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi released financial assistance of Rs. 2,691 crore to 6.1 lakh beneficiaries in Uttar Pradesh under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.

Ministry of Railways has rechristened the name of Train No. 12311/12312 Howrah-Kalka Mail as "Netaji Express".

Siddhartha Mohanty has been appointed as the managing director of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC).

Adani Solar Energy Kutchh One Limited, a subsidiary of Adani Green Energy Ltd, has commissioned a 150 MW solar power project in Kutchh, Gujarat.

Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju has been temporarily assigned the charge of the Ministry of AYUSH.

Joe Biden sworn in as the 46th President of the United States and Kamala Harris took oath as the first woman Vice President.

Rajasthan Congress MLA Gajendra Singh Shaktawat died in Delhi. He was 48.

Former Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Mata Prasad, passed away. He was 95.



Monthly Current Affair of January, 2021 in English

24-01-2021

Union Minister for Petroleum, Natural Gas and Steel Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated the first small-scale LNG supply infrastructure of Shell Energy India at its LNG terminal at Hazira in Gujarat.

Bharat Road Network has signed an agreement with India Highway Concession Trust for the sale of a road project in Odisha.

Former President Donald Trump's hand-picked chief of US international broadcasting has quit amid a burgeoning staff revolt and growing calls for his resignation.

Mortgage lender HDFC Ltd has signed an agreement to sell its 24.48 per cent stake in Good Host.

Sri Lankan pacer Lasith Malinga announced retirement from franchise cricket.

Cristiano Ronaldo scored to help Juventus win a record-extending ninth Italian Super Cup by beating Napoli 2-0.

The Indian women's junior hockey team rallied from a goal down to script a stunning 3-2 win over the Chilean senior side at the Prince of Wales Country Club.

Union Minister Rameswar Teli launched an R&D portal for research projects in the food processing sector.

The government will get ₹1,544 crore from the initial public offering (IPO) of Indian Railway Finance Corporation.

The Union Cabinet approved an investment proposal of Rs 5,281.94 crore for the 850 MW Ratle hydro power project on river Chenab in Kishtwar district of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.



Monthly Current Affair of January, 2021 in English

25-01-2021

An MoU between the Indian Army & Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM) was signed to provide further impetus to indigenisation under the Prime Minister's vision of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' and to achieve strategic independence by reducing dependence on foreign origin equipment.

Adani Total Gas and Torrent Gas have become the first strategic investors in IGX (Indian Gas Exchange) by acquiring five per cent stake each, according to the Indian Energy Exchange (IEX).

State-run power producer NTPC said 150 mega watt (MW) unit of Kameng Hydro-Electric Project of its subsidiary North Eastern Electric Power Corporation is commercially operational.

Jackson Mthembu, a central figure in communicating the South African government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, died of complications from the coronavirus. He was 62.

The Arunachal Pradesh government has decided to install Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSAT) in select government schools for facilitating online education.

Jayant N Khobragade, an Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer of the 1995 batch, has been appointed as India's next Ambassador to ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta.

Union Fisheries Minister Giriraj Singh laid the foundation stone for the Aquatic Quarantine facility at Padappai.

Union Minister of Coal & Mines Shri Pralhad Joshi presented "Coal Minister's Award" to three coal companies of Coal India Ltd. - Northern Coalfields Ltd (NCL), Central Coalfields Ltd (CCL) and Western Coalfields Ltd (WCL) in a function held in New Delhi.

Union Education Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' inaugurated newly constructed buildings of Kendriya Vidyalaya Bettiah in Bihar and Kendriya Vidyalaya No. 4 Korba in Chhattisgarh through video conferencing.

The Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the new 4-lane Thaltej-Shilaj-Rancharda railway overbridge, built at a cost of Rs 55 crore, in Ahmedabad city of Gujarat through video conferencing from New Delhi.



Monthly Current Affair of January, 2021 in English

26-01-2021

A tripartite agreement was signed between Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL), Rajasthan State Mines & Minerals Limited (RSMML) and the Department of Mines & Geology (DMG), Govt. of Rajasthan for taking up feasibility studies of Solution Mining of Potash in the state of Rajasthan.

Indian Aerobatic team of Surya Kiran will perform along with Sarang aerobatic team for the first time in the 13th edition of Aero India show to be held from February 3rd in Bengaluru.

Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray inaugurated the reconstructed Patri Pool bridge, which connects Kalyan to Dombivli in Thane district, through video-conference.

Uttar Pradesh chief minister, Yogi Adityanath, inaugurated the newly-built multipurpose indoor stadium in Noida virtually.

President Ram Nath Kovind unveiled a portrait of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on the occasion of the freedom fighter's 125th birth anniversary at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Parakram Diwas celebrations at Kolkata to commemorate the 125th birth anniversary year of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a permanent exhibition and a projection mapping show on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at Victoria Memorial.

The Union Minister of Tribal Affairs Arjun Munda virtually through Video Conference launched "ShramShakti", a National Migration Support Portal at a programme held at Panjim, Goa.

Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Roorkee signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for continuation of MoRTH Professorial Chair focusing on research and development, teaching and training in the area of Development of Highway Infrastructure.

Popular "bhajan" singer Narendra Chanchal, best known for his songs "Chalo bulawa aaya hai" and "Tune mujhe bulaya sherawaliye", died. He was 76.



Monthly Current Affair of January, 2021 in English

27-01-2021

Pakistan is planning to roll out the most advanced 5G internet in 2022-23 which will accelerate the download speed 10 times to one gigabit per second (Gbps) and widen economic activities in the country.

The finance ministry has allocated an additional Rs 660 crore to Madhya Pradesh for capital expenditure to undertake citizen-centric reforms.

SAIL with the help of the Centre is planning to set up India's first gas to ethanol plant at its ferro alloy plant in Chandrapur in Maharashtra.

Export-Import (Exim) Bank of India is looking to raise up to USD 3 billion through bond issues in the next fiscal 2021-22.

Former top-25 player Filippo Volandri was named Italy's Davis Cup captain, ending Corrado Barazzutti's 20-year run in charge.

Sri Lankan batting great Kumar Sangakkara was appointed as the director of cricket by Rajasthan Royals for the Indian Premier League upcoming season.

Telangana Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan contributed Rs 1,00,001 towards the construction of Lord Ram temple at Ayodhya.

New ant species discovered from Kerala named after JNCASR researcher, evolutionary biologist Prof. Amitabh Joshi.

Gorakhpur became the first district in Uttar Pradesh to begin work for providing free coaching to students for the competitive exams.

Rajendra Kumar Bhandari, who laid the foundation of scientific studies on geo hazards, was selected for the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar for 2021 for his work in disaster management.



Monthly Current Affair of January, 2021 in English

28-01-2021

Indian development economist Jayati Ghosh is appointed by the United Nations to a high-level advisory board that will provide recommendations for the UN Secretary-General to respond to the current and future socio-economic challenges in the post-COVID-19 world.

Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray inaugurated an international zoological park in Nagpur on January 26.

Former National Rugby League chief executive Todd Greenberg was appointed as the new chief of Australian Cricketers Association (ACA).

Law minister Ravi Shankar Prasad launched the electronic version of the voter identity card which can be downloaded on a mobile phone or a personal computer.

Danish World War II drama "Into The Darkness" won the Golden Peacock award at the closing ceremony of the 51st edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI).

Renowned astrophysicist and author Dr Jayant Narlikar was elected the president of the 94th All India Marathi Literary Conference (AIMLC) to be held in Nashik from March 26 to 28.

A new, 5,000 Syrian Lira bank note goes into circulation, the largest denomination in the country reeling from a decade of conflict and a crippling economic crisis.

Chennai's Sandeep Kumar and Amir Sayed from Kottayam emerged champions in the Formula LGB 4 and Novice Cup category respectively in the 23rd JK Tyre-FMSCI National Racing Championship.

Haryana's Rohit emerged as the champion in the 65kg category while Delhi's Praveen Chahar took the title in the 86kg event as the men's freestyle national wrestling championships concluded in Noida.

Senior lawyer and former vice-chairman of the Law Commission N M Ghatate died. He was 83.



Monthly Current Affair of January, 2021 in English

29-01-2021

Colonel B. Santosh Babu, who led his troops against the “vicious” Chinese attack in Galwan Valley in eastern Ladakh in June last year, has been posthumously named for the second-highest military award, Mahavir Chakra.

India's gross domestic product (GDP) is expected to contract by 8 per cent in 2020-21, according to the latest round of FICCI's Economic Outlook Survey.

Indian-American Sean Desai has been named new defensive coordinator for Chicago Bears, making him the first National Football League (NFL) Coordinator of South Asian and Indian descent.

Subedar Sanjiv Kumar, who died in an anti-terror operation in Keran sector of Jammu and Kashmir in April last, has been named for Kirti Chakra, India's second highest peacetime gallantry awards.

Former India and Mohun Bagan goalkeeper Prasanta Dora has passed away. He was 44.

The Vice President, M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated two new facilities at Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Missile Complex in Hyderabad.

Raksha Mantri, Rajnath Singh launched a revamped version of the Gallantry Awards Portal www.gallantryawards.gov.in on the eve of the Republic Day 2021.

A large-scale tri-service joint amphibious exercise AMPHEX – 21 was conducted in Andaman & Nicobar group of islands from 21 – 25 Jan 2021.

Former Japanese prime minister Shinzo Abe and late singer S.P. Balasubrahmanyam have been honoured with India's second-highest civilian award Padma Vibhushan this year.

DRDO conducted the successful maiden launch of Akash-NG (New Generation) Missile from Integrated Test Range off the coast of Odisha.

Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' inaugurated the Agri-Food Techathon 2021 virtually.



Monthly Current Affair of January, 2021 in English

30-01-2021

India's senior off-spinner R Ashwin and swashbuckling wicketkeeper-batsman Rishabh Pant were nominated for the newly-introduced player of the month awards by the International Cricket Council.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K. Palaniswami unveils former Chief Minister J Jayalalithaa's memorial at Marina Beach in Tamil Nadu.

Sterling and Wilson Solar has commissioned a 25-MW solar energy project in Oman.

Indian-origin US lawmakers Pramila Jayapal and Raja Krishnamoorthi have been named to key congressional committees on budget and the COVID-19 pandemic by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

Eminent economist Janet Yellen has been confirmed by the US Senate as the first-ever woman treasury secretary of the country.

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla inaugurated the Bharat Parv-2021 in the presence of Culture and Tourism Minister Prahlad Patel.

The Ayodhya mosque project was formally launched on Republic Day, with the unfurling of the tricolour and a tree plantation drive at Dhannipur, around 24 km from the Ram Janmabhoomi.

Admiral (Retd.) D K Joshi, the Lieutenant Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, flagged-off fleet of electric buses.

International Monetary Fund (IMF) projected an 11.5 per cent growth rate for India in 2021.

Two officers of Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs have been selected for grant of Presidential Award of Appreciation Certificates and Medals for Exceptionally Meritorious Service.



Monthly Current Affair of January, 2021 in English

31-01-2021

England cricketers — both men and women — will undergo anti-racism training courses this year after a survey revealed that more than one-third of black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) players have faced prejudice in the game.

Electronics, Information Technology and Communications Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad launched a virtual intelligence tool Tejas.

The Framework for Strategic Partnership between the International Energy Agency (IEA) members and the Government of India was signed to strengthen mutual trust and cooperation & enhance global energy security, stability and sustainability.

U. P. Singh, a 1985 batch Indian Administrative Service Officer (IAS) of Odisha Cadre has taken over as Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India.

A formal Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing ceremony was held between Textiles Committee, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India and Nissenken Quality Evaluation Centre Japan, through video conferencing.

Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare digitally chaired the 148th session of WHO Executive Board, through Video Conference.

Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved Minimum Support Price (MSP) of copra at 10,335 rupees per quintal for 2021 season which is an increase of 375 rupees over 2020 rates.

The Department of Expenditure of Ministry of Finance has released an amount of over 12 thousand 351 crore rupees to 18 States for providing grants to the Rural Local Bodies.

The International Cricket Council (ICC) announced the introduction of the Player of the Month awards.

India has preponed the target of achieving 20 per cent ethanol-blending with petrol by five years to 2025 as it looks to cut dependence on costly oil imports, Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said.