



05.03.2021

This CURRENT AFFAIRS bulletin is prepared to help students learn DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS within 10 MINUTES
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NEWS IN SHORT

- NEWS ①:** CSIR laboratories in India under the “CSIR Floriculture Mission”
- NEWS ②:** “Empat Mitra Indika Tenaga Surya” a JV company to establish integrated solar & Electric Vehicles charging projects.
- NEWS ③:** Fast-track Courts to Clear Dishonoured Cheque Cases – proposed by SC
- NEWS ④:** EPFO Interest Rate for 2020-21 – 8.5%
- NEWS ⑤:** First consignment of ‘red rice’ flagged off to United States.
- NEWS ⑥:** UP CM Yogi Adityanath has launched ‘Path Pradarshak’.
- NEWS ⑦:** World food price index released
- NEWS ⑧:** 11th edition of QS World University Rankings released.
- NEWS ⑨:** Technology And Innovation Report 2021 released by UNCTD
- NEWS ⑩:** HDFC ERGO General Insurance launched “Business Kisht Suraksha”.

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

“CSIR Floriculture Mission”

- The Union Health Minister, **Dr Harsh Vardhan**, has asked the scientists of **CSIR laboratories in India** to develop land available at each laboratory to set up as a model under the “**CSIR Floriculture Mission**”.

“Empat Mitra Indika Tenaga Surya”

- Fourth Partner Energy** entered into a partnership with Indonesian Energy major, **Indika Energy** to set up a joint venture company, “**Empat Mitra Indika Tenaga Surya**”.
- It will establish integrated **solar, & Electric Vehicles charging projects** in Indonesia.

Fast-track Courts to Clear Dishonoured Cheque Cases

- A Constitution Bench of the **Supreme Court** has proposed setting up **fast-track courts** for a limited time to clear **dishonoured cheque cases**.
- If the bank refuses to pay the amount to the payee, the cheque is said to be dishonoured.

EPFO: Interest Rate for 2020-21

- The **Employees Provident Fund Organisation** recommended that subscribers be given **8.5% interest rate** for **Provident Fund contributions** (under Employees’ Provident Funds Scheme) for **2020-2021**.

STATE AFFAIRS

Red rice

- The **first consignment** of ‘red rice’ was flagged off to the **United States**. The red rice is **rich in Iron** and is grown in the **Brahmaputra valley of Assam**.
- It is grown without using any **chemical fertilisers**. This variety of rice is called as the ‘**Bao-dhaan**’.

‘Path Pradarshak’

- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** has launched ‘**Path Pradarshak**’ free coaching facility for **Competitive exams** under the ‘**Mukhyamantri Abhyudaya Yojana**’.

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

World food price index

- The **World food prices** have **increased** for the **ninth consecutive month** in **February 2021**.
- The **Food and Agriculture Organisation** stated that the food prices have increased because of **jumps in prices of sugar and vegetable oils**.

QS World University Rankings

- The **eleventh edition** of the **QS World University Rankings** was released. The report was compiled by **Quacquarelli Symonds**.
- **IIT Bombay** was **ranked at 41st** for **mineral engineering** while **IIT Kharagpur** was ranked at **44th** position for **mining engineering**.

Technology And Innovation Report 2021

- The report was released by the **United Nations Conference on Trade and Development**. **India's actual index ranking is 43**, while the estimated one based on **per capita income is 108**.
- India performed well in research and development.

BUSINESS & ECONOMY

"Business Kisht Suraksha"

- **HDFC ERGO General Insurance** has launched the **"Business Kisht Suraksha"** cover with an aim of protecting the **balance sheet of Micro finance Institutions (MFIs)**, financial institutions and banks if any catastrophe or natural disaster occurs.

Kotak Mahindra Bank signed a MOU with the Indian Army

- **Kotak Mahindra Bank** signed a **Memorandum of Understanding** with the **Indian Army** at New Delhi for providing **salary accounts to all the active and retired army personnel**.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

International Data Corporation report

- The **International Data Corporation** reported its latest **"worldwide quarterly wearable device tracker"**.
- It highlighted that the **spread of the Covid-19 pandemic** led to the increase in **demand for ear wear devices** for the purpose of **remote working and learning**.

Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet

- The **DRDO** has successfully conducted the **successful flight test of the Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet technology**.
- It is a missile propulsion system that comprises of the thrust **modulated ducted rocket** along with the **reduced smoke nozzle-less missile booster**.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

"Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Power: 5 Battlegrounds"

- **Rajiv Malhotra, Computer Scientist** specializing in Artificial intelligence has authored a new book titled **"Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Power: 5 Battlegrounds"**.
- The book features both the **positive and negative impacts of AI**.

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Safety Day

- The **National Safety Day 2021** was observed on **March 4**. This year, the day was observed under the theme: **"Sadak Suraksha" (Road Safety)**.
- The campaign for the National safety day was started on **March 4, 1972**.

Rashtriya Suraksha Diwas

- The **National Security Day** which is also known as the **Rashtriya Suraksha Diwas** is annually observed across India on **4th March** to acknowledge and **appreciate the works of the security forces** of the country.