



CURRENT AFFAIRS 20th November 2021

National News

1. PM Modi to inaugurate 'InFinity Forum' on December 3



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the 'InFinity Forum', a two -day thought leadership Forum on FinTech, on 3rd of December.
- The event is being hosted by International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) under the aegis of Government of India in collaboration with GIFT City and Bloomberg in virtual mode.
- Indonesia, South Africa and the United Kingdom are partner countries in the first edition of the forum.
- InFinity Forum is IFSCA's flagship financial technology and global thought leadership event where pressing problems, progressive ideas, innovative technologies from across the world gets discovered, discussed and developed into solutions.

2. FM Sitharaman to lead Secretaries team to discuss India's maiden IFSC at GIFT city, Gandhinagar



- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will lead a team of Secretaries to discuss matters of development and growth of India's maiden International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) at GIFT City, Gandhinagar today.
- The discussions will focus on the role of GIFT-IFSC as a gateway to global financial services for Indian corporates within India, attracting global financial business to India and growth as Fintech global hub.
- Ms. Sitharaman will also be visiting key infrastructure facilities at GIFT City and interacting with various stakeholders and entities having a presence in the IFSC.
- The visit underlines the commitment of the Centre towards developing GIFT-IFSC as India's premier financial services centre and dominant gateway for global financial flows into and out of India.

3. World's most sophisticated MRI facility launched at National Brain Research Centre in Manesar Haryana



- Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh on Friday launched first of its kind, latest, world's most sophisticated MRI facility at the National Brain Research Centre (NBRC), Manesar in Haryana.
- It is India's premier institute dedicated to Neuroscience Research and Education.
- On the occasion, the Minister said, with this facility, India embarks on new frontiers of human Neuroscience with a unique and powerful 3-T MRI platform of outstanding performance.
- He informed that MRI Scanner Prisma from Siemens, Germany, is being used by several international initiatives, like Brain initiative of USA, the European human brain project.
- Dr Singh said, this new facility can run intense scanning modalities very fast, which reduces the scanning time for patients by almost a quarter from earlier-generation machines.

4. Basant Garh Police Station in Udhampur as 'one among 10 Best Police Stations' in country

4. THE RANK HOLDERS	
1	Sadar Bazar PS, North District, Delhi
2	Gangapur PS, Ganjam, Odisha
3	Bhattu Kalan PS, Fatehabad, Haryana
4	Valpoi PS, North Goa, Goa
5	Manvi PS, Raichur, Karnataka
6	Kadmat Island PS, Lakshadweep
7	Shirala PS, Sangli, Maharashtra
8	Thottiyam PS, Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu
9	Basantgarh PS, Udhampur, Jammu & Kashmir
10	Rampur Chauram PS, Arwal, Bihar

- In a great achievement for the Jammu and Kashmir Police, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs yesterday adjudged Basant Garh Police Station in Udhampur district of Jammu division as 'one among 10 Best Police Stations' in the country in the Annual Ranking of Police Stations for the year 2021.
- Our correspondent reports that as per an assessment by the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Sadar Bazar Police Station of North Delhi tops the list of best-performing Police Stations while Basant Ghar Police Station of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir bagged 9th rank in the list.
- The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) had conducted a Performance Measurement system for grading the Police Stations.

5. Noida's first anti-smog tower along DND flyway becomes operational



- The first anti-smog tower along the Delhi-Noida-Direct (DND) Flyway near Film City in Noida became operational
- Air pollution has reached toxic levels and filtration of the polluted air is the need of the hour, said Noida authority officials. Noida recorded an Air Quality Index reading of 345, in the “very poor”
- The Air Pollution Control Tower (APCT) prototype has been developed by state-run Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (Bhel).
- Mahendra Nath Pandey, Union minister for heavy industries, Krishan Pal Gurjar, Union minister for state for power and heavy industries, local MP Dr Mahesh Sharma, Noida MLA Pankaj Singh, and other officials were present at the launch of this tower.
- UP Capital: Lucknow
- UP Governor: Anandiben Patel
- UP Chief minister: Yogi Adityanath

Banking News

6. Economic Advisory Council to PM projects growth rate of 7% to 7.5% in 2022-23



- Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) has projected a real rate of growth of 7 to 7.5 per cent and a nominal rate of growth of more than 11 per cent in 2022-23.
- Members of the EAC-PM has expressed optimism about real and nominal growth prospects in 2022-23 in a meeting held in New Delhi today.
- Members felt that contact intensive sectors and construction should recover in 2022-23 and once capacity utilization improves, private investments should also recover.

Important Days

7. World Children's Day 2021: 20 November



- World Children's Day is observed annually on November 20 to commemorate the day of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child by the UN General Assembly on the same day in 1959.
- The day is celebrated globally to promote the rights of children besides improving their standard of living.
- It also promotes international togetherness and raises awareness among children to improve their welfare.
- World Children's Day 2021 Theme: A Better Future for Every Child

Defence News

8. PM Modi hands over Light Combat Helicopters to IAF chief



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday handed over the indigenously built light combat helicopters (LCH), developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, to the Indian Air Force chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari.
- He also handed over indigenously developed drones and UAVs during the 'Rashtra Raksha Samarpan Parv' in Uttar Pradesh's Jhansi to the Chief of Army Staff General Manoj Mukund Naravane.
- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited Headquarters: Bengaluru
- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited Founded: 23 December 1940, Bengaluru.

Sports News

9. BWF gives Padukone lifetime achievement award



- **Indian badminton legend Prakash Padukone has been selected for the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award for 2021 by the Badminton World Federation (BWF) Council.**
- **The former world no 1 has already been honoured with the Badminton Association of India's (BAI) Lifetime Achievement Award in 2018.**
- **Badminton World Federation President: Poul-Erik Høyer Larsen**
- **Badminton World Federation Headquarters: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**

Books and Authors

10. Smriti Irani turns author with debut novel 'Lal Salaam'



- **The novel, inspired by the tragic killings of 76 CRPF personnel in Dantewada in April 2010, is a tribute to the exceptional men and women who have given a lifetime of service to the country, especially in confronting the challenges in the red corridor.**
- **It will hit the stands on 29 November.**
- **'Lal Salaam' is the story of a young officer, Vikram Pratap Singh, and of the challenges he faces against a system that is steeped in backroom politics and corruption.**

By Sameer Singhal