

Top Current Affairs of 19 August 2020

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Centre extended Partial Credit Guarantee Scheme (PCGS) 2.0 by 3 months till Nov 11, 2020



On August 17, 2020, the Partial Credit Guarantee Scheme (PCGS) 2.0 which was launched on May 20, 2020 as a part of Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan has been extended by three months i.e. till November 11, 2020 in order to widen the coverage to include a larger number of non-banking financial companies (NBFCs), housing finance companies (HFCs) and microfinance institutions (MFIs) With regard to portfolio level, the maximum headroom permissible for purchase of bonds and CPs (Commercial paper), rated AA/AA-, by PSBs under the Scheme is also extended to 50% from the earlier 25% (i.e. Rs 11,250 crore).

Manduadih Railway Station in Uttar Pradesh to be renamed as 'Banaras': MHA



On August 17, 2020, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) approved the renaming of Manduadih Railway Station in Uttar Pradesh (UP) as 'Banaras'. In 2019, Former Union Minister Manoj Sinha had written to UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath requesting the change in name of the Manduadih Railway Station. Manduadih is a place in Varanasi situated about four kilometres from Varanasi Cantonment Station. Manduadih is a place in Varanasi situated about four kilometres from Varanasi Cantonment Station.

President gives Nod for Renaming of HRD Ministry to Ministry of Education



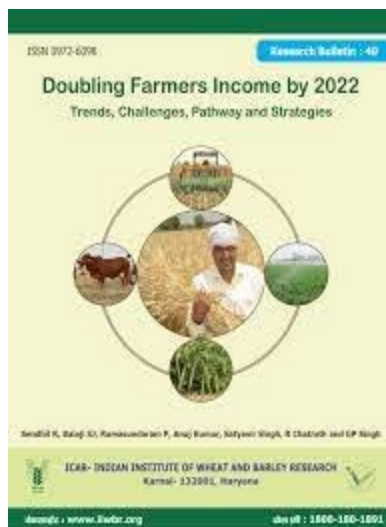
On August 17, 2020, In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (3) of article 77 of the Constitution, President Ram Nath Kovind amended the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961 by **Government of India (Allocation of Business) Three Hundred and Fifty Sixth Amendment Rules, 2020**, thereby, changing the name of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) as Ministry of Education. This renaming of ministry was among the key recommendations of the draft new National Education Policy (NEP), which was also cleared by the Union Cabinet in July 2020.

India, UAE hold 13th Session of the India-UAE Joint Commission Meeting on Trade, Economic and Technical Cooperation



On 17th August, 2020 13th Session of the India-UAE Joint Commission Meeting on Trade, Economic and Technical Cooperation was held virtually. Expanding economic partnership was the key agenda of the meeting.

India ranked 1st in number of organic farmers and 9th in terms of area under organic farming: MoA&FW



In accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW), India ranked first in number of organic farmers and 9th in terms of area under organic farming. Notably, Sikkim was the first state in the world to become completely organic and other states including Tripura and Uttarakhand have set targets to be on the same line. In 2015, two dedicated programs namely Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North East Region (MOVCD) and Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) were launched to encourage chemical free farming.

Dr Harsh Vardhan addressed CII Public Health Conference; India Healthcare Week (Aug 17-21, 2020) launched

On August 17, 2020, Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare; Science & Technology and Earth Sciences virtually addressed the inaugural session of the two-day long CII Public Health Conference, where he inaugurated “**India Healthcare Week**” with the theme “**Redefining Healthcare Ecosystem**” from **17th - 21st August 2020**. The

week has been initiated by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in partnership with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) and the Ministry of Ayush (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy). Along with CII India Healthcare Week, a **3 year-long** CII TB free workplaces campaign to ensure TB free workplace was also launched.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

UAE-Israel agreed for peace agreement namely “Abraham Accord”



On August 17, 2020, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel, and Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the United Arab Emirates have agreed for the Israel–United Arab Emirates peace agreement, or the Abraham Accord to establish full diplomatic ties. In this regard, Israeli will halt further annexation of Palestinian lands. This announcement was made by the United States (US) President Donald John Trump, who acted as mediator of this agreement.

BANKING & FINANCE

Muthoot Finance Partnered with Kotak Mahindra General Insurance to Offer COVID-19 Insurance Cover Against Gold Loan



Muthoot Finance has partnered with **Kotak Mahindra General Insurance** to offer **COVID-19 insurance cover** of up to Rs 1 lakh under the initiative Muthoot Finance Ayush Gold Loan. The cover will be available only for the customers who avail gold loan from Muthoot Finance under the Muthoot Super Loan(MSL) scheme.

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

Flipkart signs MoU with IIT Patna for Industry Focused Research



On 18th August 2020, **Flipkart** signed a memorandum of understanding(**MoU**) with Indian Institute of Technology (**IIT**) Patna to support the industry focused applied research in the fields like Artificial Intelligence(**AI**), Natural Language Processing(**NLP**) and Machine

Learning(**ML**). The MoU aims to create industry focused applied research to support the reach of e-commerce to more consumers and sellers.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Akshay Kumar Ranked 6th, the only Indian Actor in the List, Dwayne Johnson tops: Forbes' list of 'The Highest-Paid Actors 2020'



As per the Forbes' list of **highest paid actors for the year 2020**, Bollywood Actor **Akshay Kumar** ranked **6th** with his estimated earnings of USD 48.5 million and is the only Indian features on the list comprising top 10 actors. The list is topped by Wrestler-turned-actor **Dwayne Johnson** for the consecutive second time, with an estimated net worth of USD 87.5 million followed by Ryan Reynolds(USD 71.5 million) and Mark Wahlberg(USD 58 million).

- Akshay kumar was in 4th spot in last year's(2019) same list.

Forbes List

Rank	Name	Earnings in million
6	Akshay Kumar	USD 48.5
1	Dwayne Johnson	USD 87.5

2	Ryan Reynolds	USD 71.5
3	Mark Wahlberg	USD 58