



Master in Current Affairs

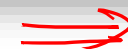
For All Competitive Exams

LIVE

करेंट अफेयर्स

- विश्लेषण
- STATIC GK
- MCQs
- देश दुनिया

2 APRIL 2021 | सुबह 06:30 बजे



@ GSGAWithSanjaySir



लक्ष्य एक होता है, और रास्ते
अनेक, कभी रास्ता **बंद हो जाए**,
तो **रास्ता बदलो**, लक्ष्य नहीं।

Important Day/ महत्वपूर्ण दिवस- March 2021

DATE	DAY(E)	THEME(E)	DAY(H)	THEME(H)
1 April	✓ Utkal Diwas ✓ Odisha Foundation Day		✓ उत्कल दिवस ✓ ओडिशा स्थापना दिवस	
2 April	✓ Good Friday			

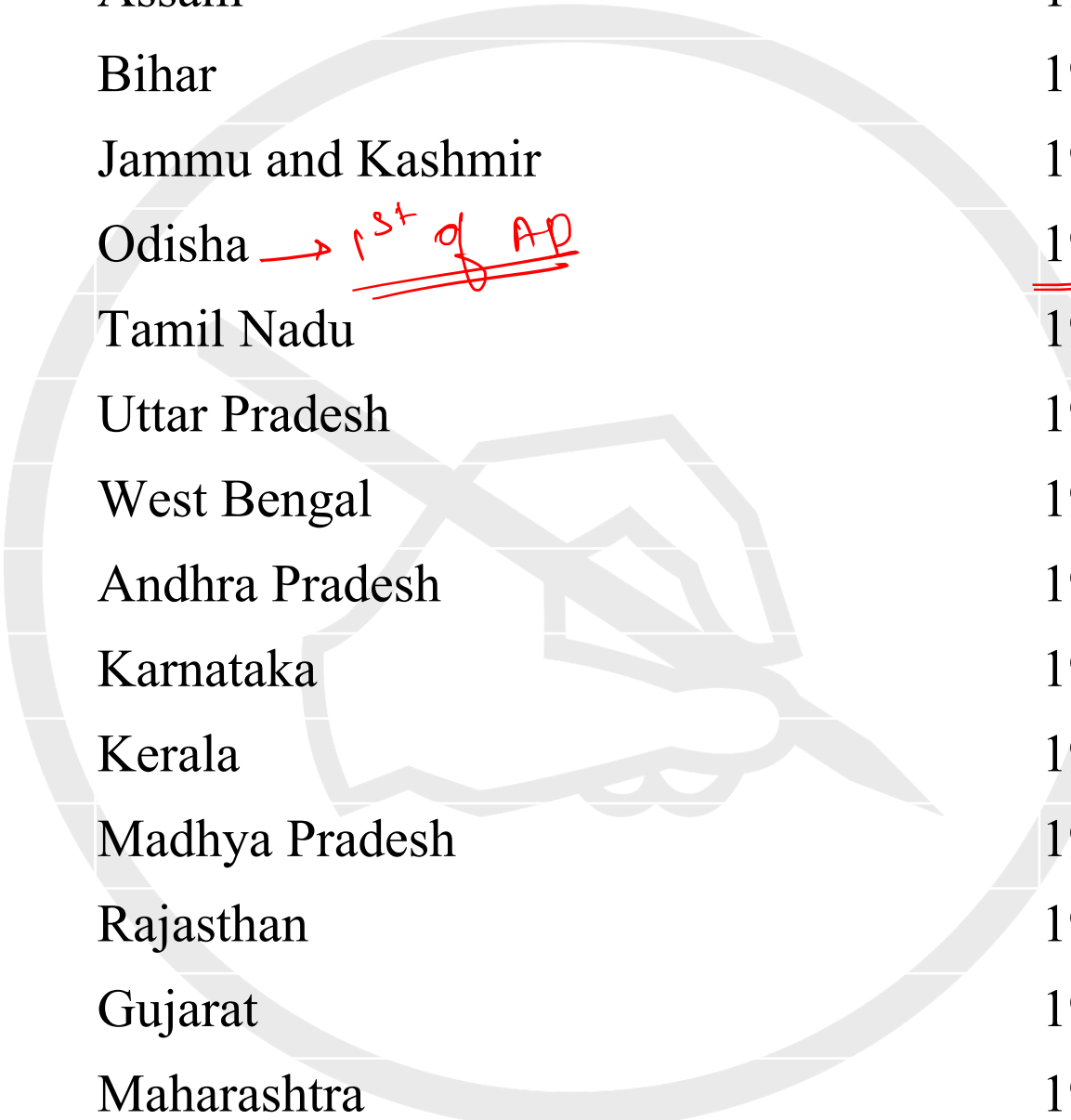


2 अप्रैल - गुड फ्राइडे

2nd April - Good Friday

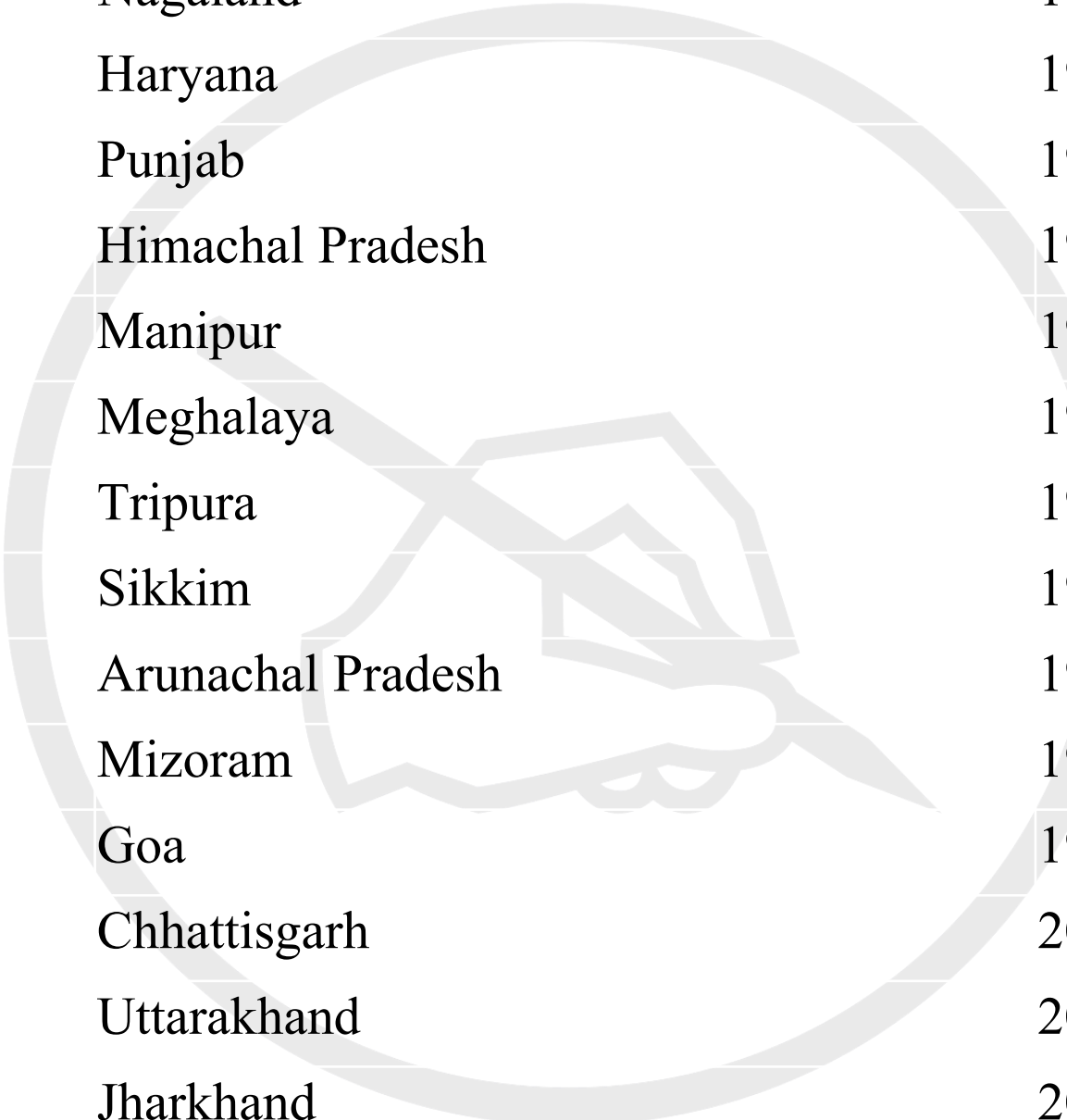
इस वर्ष गुड फ्राइडे 2 अप्रैल को मनाया जाता है, इस दिन को ईसाई धर्म में एक शुभ दिन माना जाता है। गुड फ्राइडे ईसाइयों द्वारा यीशु मसीह के क्रूस पर चढ़ाने के लिए मनाया जाता है और ईस्टर रविवार से पहले शुक्रवार को मनाया जाता है। इस अवसर पर, लोग चर्च में उपवास करते हैं और यीशु मसीह के बलिदान को याद करते हैं। इसे ब्लैक फ्राइडे, होली फ्राइडे, ग्रेट फ्राइडे या ईस्टर फ्राइडे के नाम से भी जाना जाता है।

This year Good Friday is celebrated on 2nd April, This day is considered an auspicious day in Christianity. Good Friday is observed by Christians to **commemorate the crucifixion of Jesus Christ** and is observed on the **Friday** before **Easter Sunday**. On this occasion, people observe fast visit the church and remember the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. It is also known as **Black Friday**, **Holy Friday**, **Great Friday**, or **Easter Friday**.



Statehood

1	Assam	1950, Jan 26
2	Bihar	1950, Jan 26
3	Jammu and Kashmir	1950, Jan 26
4	Odisha → <u>1st of AP</u>	<u>1950, Jan 26</u>
5	Tamil Nadu	1950, Jan 26
6	Uttar Pradesh	1950, Jan 26
7	West Bengal	1950, Jan 26
8	Andhra Pradesh	1953, Oct 1
9	Karnataka	1956, Nov 1
10	Kerala	1956, Nov 1
11	Madhya Pradesh	1956, Nov 1
12	Rajasthan	1956, Nov 1
13	Gujarat	1960, May 1
14	Maharashtra	1960, May 1



15	Nagaland	1963, Dec 1
16	Haryana	1966, Nov 1
17	Punjab	1966, Nov 1
18	Himachal Pradesh	1971, Jan 25
19	Manipur	1972, Jan 21
20	Meghalaya	1972, Jan 21
21	Tripura	1972, Jan 21
22	Sikkim	1975, May 16
23	Arunachal Pradesh	1987, Feb 20
24	Mizoram	1987, Feb 20
25	Goa	1987, May 30
26	Chhattisgarh	2000, Nov 1
27	Uttarakhand	2000, Nov 9
28	Jharkhand	2000, Nov 15

Dr

Brainstorming MCQ



ने मूल्य श्रृंखलाओं और बाजारों तक पहुंच बनाने पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने के साथ ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों और उनकी आजीविका के लिए प्रौद्योगिकियों पर एक ई-प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम आयोजित करने के लिए अफ्रीकी-एशियाई ग्रामीण विकास संगठन के साथ भागीदारी की है।

organise a
with a foc



ment Organization to
& their livelihoods,

A IIT BOMBAY

B IIT MADRAS

C IIT KHARAGPUR

D IIT DELHI

B



Ministry of Education
Government of India

IIT-MADRAS

has begun
e-training on
rural tech



आईआईटी मद्रास और अफ्रीकी-एशियाई ग्रामीण विकास संगठन के उद्देश्य ई-प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम आयोजित करते हैं

- AARDO के सदस्य देशों के बीच नवीन सस्ती तकनीकों को साझा करने के लिए एक मंच प्रदान करना
- ग्रामीण प्रौद्योगिकियों के हस्तांतरण के लिए रूपरेखा और नीतियां विकसित करना
- ग्रामीण लोगों के जीवन स्तर को बढ़ाने के लिए नवीन सस्ती ग्रामीण तकनीकों का उपयोग करना
- पर्यावरण के अनुकूल और जलवायु-लचीली प्रौद्योगिकियों के साथ पारंपरिक / अप्रचलित प्रौद्योगिकियों को बदलने के प्रति जागरूकता पैदा करना।

Objectives of IIT Madras & African-Asian Rural Development

Organization conduct e-training program

↳ 22 March - 1 AD

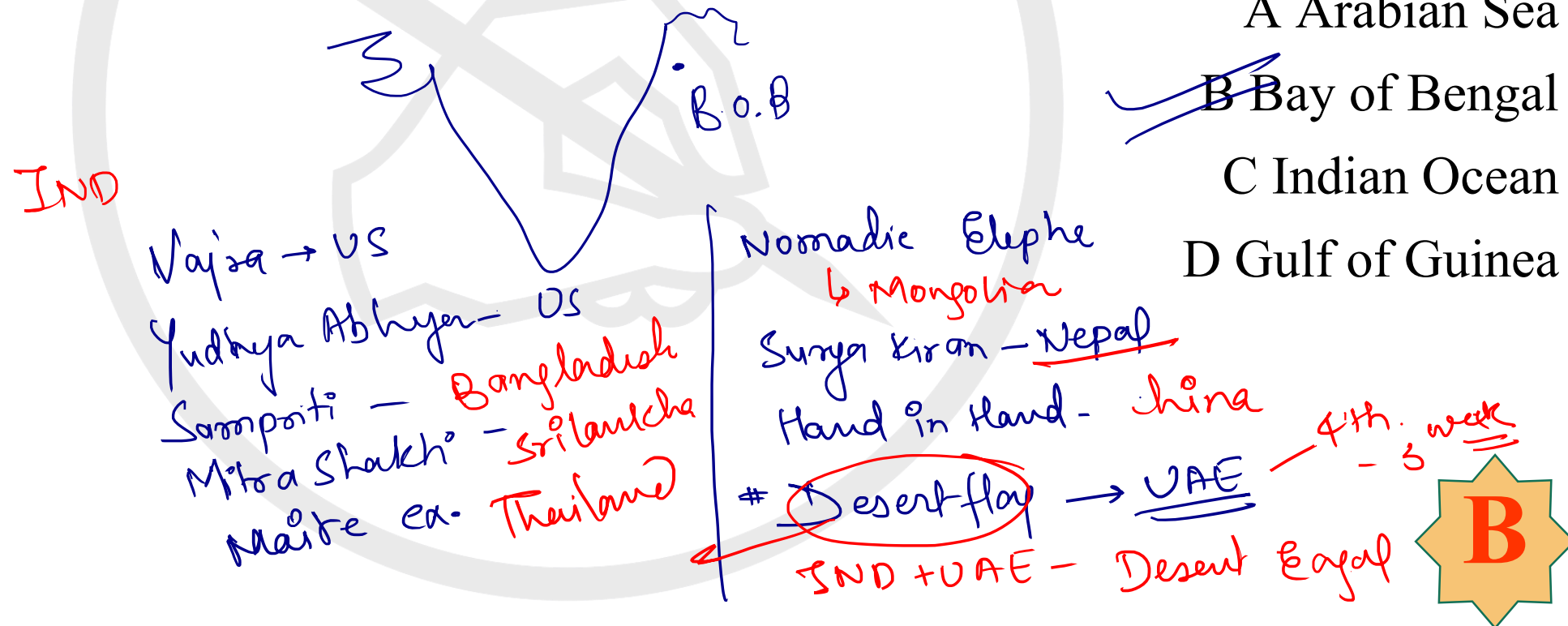
Team

SIDDHANT

- To provide a forum for sharing innovative affordable technologies among AARDO member countries
- To develop framework and policies for transfer of rural technologies
- To use innovative affordable rural technologies for raising the living standard of rural people
- To create awareness towards replacing traditional/ obsolete technologies with environmentally friendly and climate-resilient technologies.

भारत को अप्रैल में _____ शिड्यूल में पहली बार नौसेना अभ्यास "फ्रांस के नेतृत्व वाली नौसेना ड्रिल ला पेरूस" में भाग लेना है।

India is to participate in Naval Exercise "France-led naval drill La Perouse" for the first time in the _____ Scheduled in April.



Quard → Asia Pacific covid-19 UAE |
 भारत को अगले महीने बंगाल की खाड़ी में पहली बार फ्रांस के
 नेतृत्व वाली नौसैनिक ड्रिल ला पेरुस में भाग लेना है।
 ऑस्ट्रेलिया, जापान और अमेरिका भी ला पेरुस में भाग लेंगे,
 लेकिन भारत की पहली भागीदारी को एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम के
 रूप में देखा जाता है। अभ्यास 5 अप्रैल से 7 के बीच निर्धारित
 है, ला पेरुस के बाद, एक और महत्वपूर्ण नौसैनिक अभ्यास,
 भारत-फ्रेंच वरुण अभ्यास भी होगा। इसे बार, इसमें संयुक्त अरब
अमीरात भी शामिल होगा।

Navy = Parsek
Dashlink D
Chief-D S

Taskent Son

Navy → Karanbir Sir → 4th Dec
1612

Army → M M Narver → 15 Jan
1895

Air force — P. RKS Bhaduri's

Ranking

- China
- USA
- Russia
- India
- France

Indian Navy to take part in French Naval Exercise in Bay of Bengal along with other QUAD member Countries

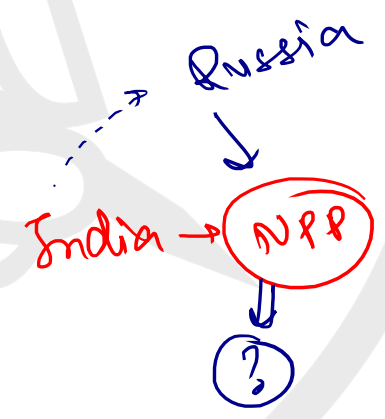
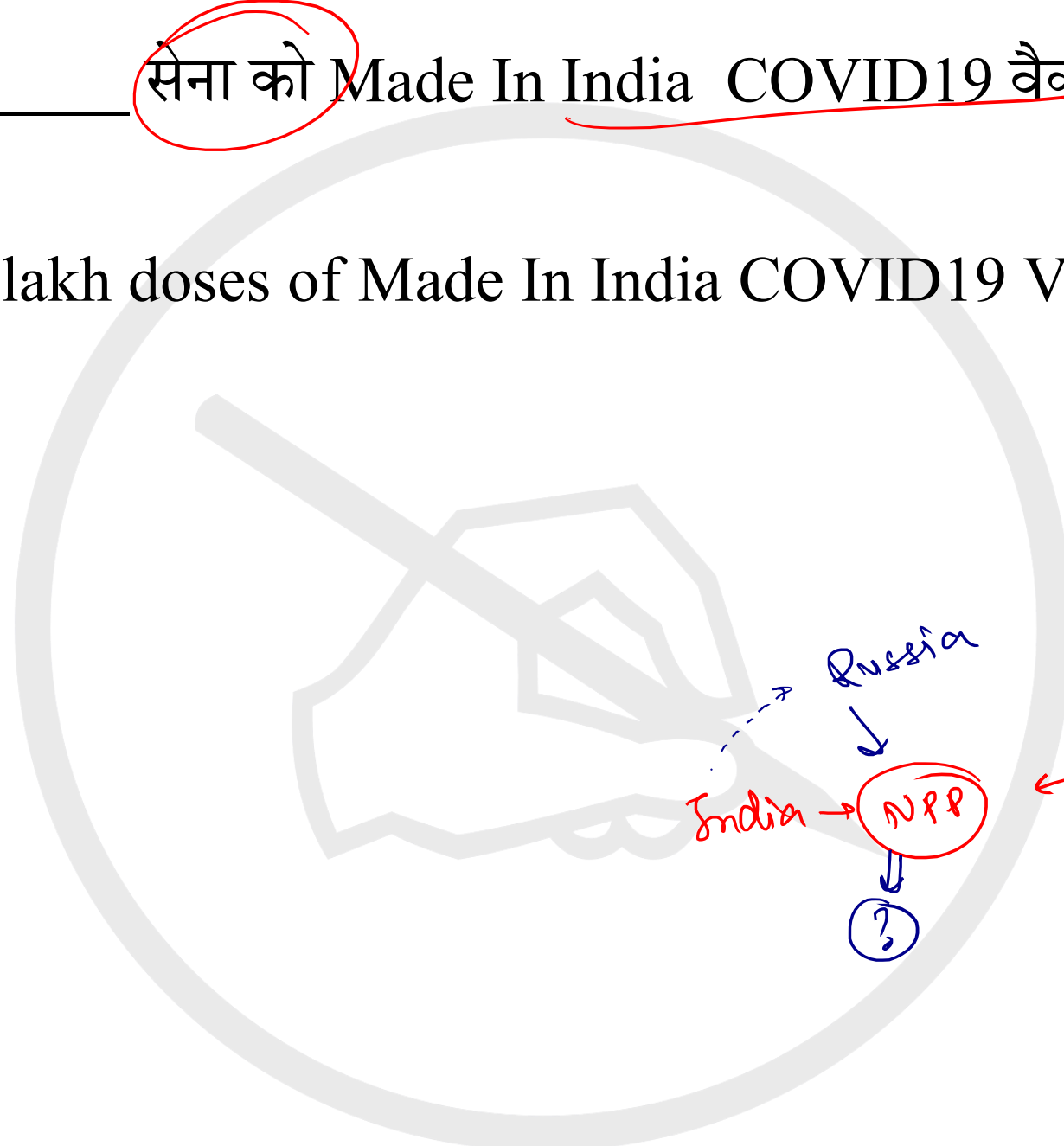
India is to participate in France-led naval drill La Perouse for the first time in the Bay of Bengal next month. Australia, Japan and the US will also participate in La Perouse, but India's first-ever participation is seen as a significant step. The exercise is scheduled between April 5 and 7. After La Perouse, another important naval exercise, the India-French Varuna exercise, will also take place. This time, it will also include the United Arab Emirates.



भारतीय सेना ने सेना को Made In India COVID19 वैक्सीन की 1 लाख खुराक दी।

Indian Army gifts 1 lakh doses of Made In India COVID19 Vaccines to _____ Army.

Shall
like
Sub



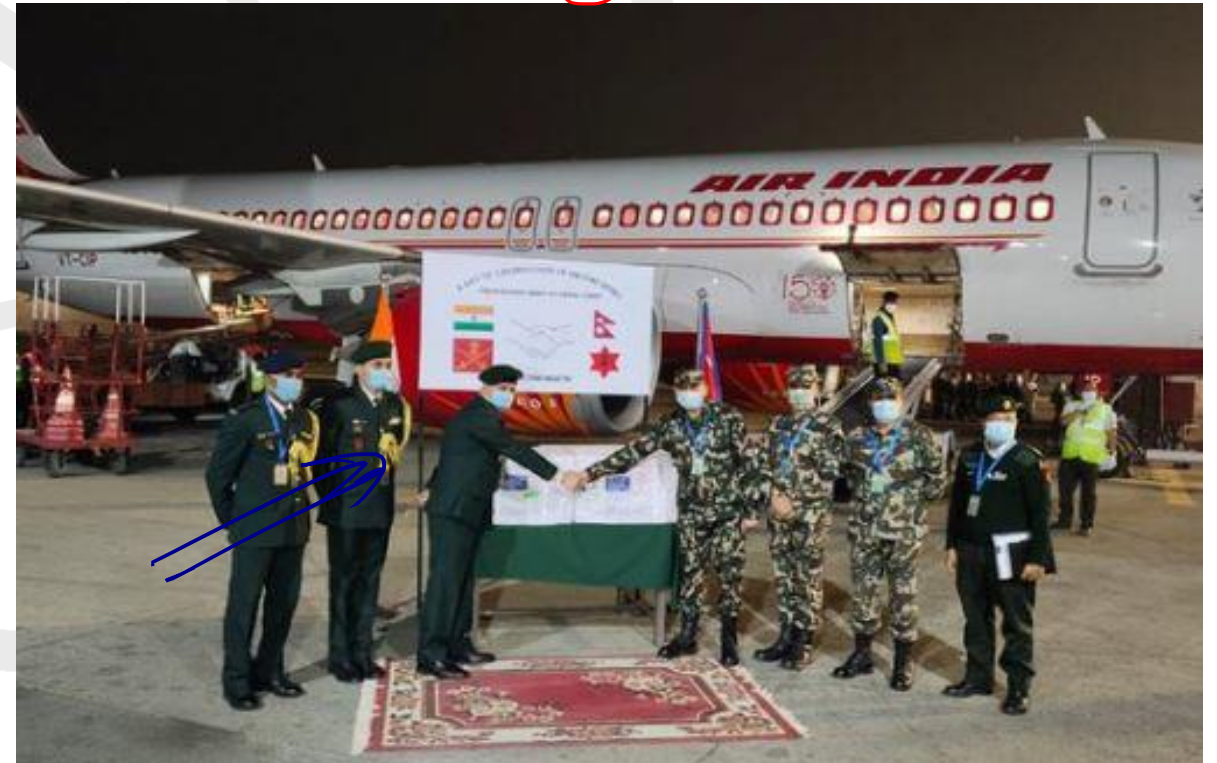
- ☒ A Nepali
- B Chinese
- C Maldives
- ☐ D Bangladeshi



- 1,00,000 doses of #MadeInIndia COVID-19 vaccine gifted by Indian Army to the Nepali Army were received at Tribhuvan Airport," the mission tweeted.

- मिशन ने ट्वीट किया, "भारतीय सेना द्वारा नेपाली सेना को गिफ्ट की गई #MadeInIndia COVID-19 वैक्सीन की 1,00,000 खुराक मिली," मिशन ने ट्वीट किया।

Vaccine
Maitre
→ Covit
→ Covis
Covaxin



~~भारत-बहरीन उच्च संयुक्त आयोग की~~ _____ बैठक की तैयारी
में 31 मार्च को वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों की बैठक आयोजित की
गई थी।

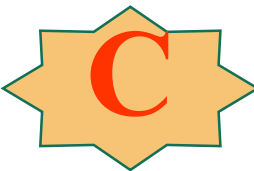
Senior Officials Meeting was held on 31 March in preparation of _____ meeting
of India-Bahrain High Joint Commission,

1st

2nd

3rd

4th



- भारत-बहरीन उच्च संयुक्त आयोग की तीसरी बैठक की तैयारी में, वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों की बैठक 30 मार्च को वर्चुअल मोड में आयोजित की गई। वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों की बैठक की अध्यक्षता विदेश मंत्रालय में सचिव कॉन्सुलर, पासपोर्ट, वीजा और प्रवासी भारतीय मामलों के अध्यक्ष संजय भट्टाचार्य और बहरीन के विदेश मंत्रालय के अवर सचिव डॉ। शेख अब्दुल्ला बिन अहमद अल खलीफा ने की।

Senior Officials Meeting was held in preparation of 3rd meeting of India-Bahrain High Joint Commission

In preparation for the third meeting of the India-Bahrain High Joint Commission, a Senior Officials Meeting was held today in virtual mode. The Senior Officials Meeting was co-chaired by Secretary Consular, Passport, Visa and Overseas Indian Affairs in the Ministry of External Affairs Sanjay Bhattacharyya and Under Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bahrain Dr. Shaikh Abdulla bin Ahmed Al Khalifa.

Both sides highlighted their strong bilateral ties spanning a wide range of areas and which was also reflected in the excellent cooperation between the two countries in handling Covid-19 situation. Both sides also reviewed their cooperation in different areas, including oil and gas, trade and investment, defence and security, food security, healthcare, renewable energy, space, IT, human resource, education and culture.

The third India-Bahrain High Joint Commission will be held in New Delhi on 7th of next month. The meeting will be co-chaired by Minister of External Affairs Dr. S. Jaishankar and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bahrain Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani.



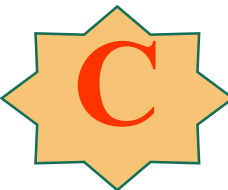
भारत का स्वास्थ्य सेवा उद्योग _____ में 372 बिलियन डॉलर तक पहुंचने की उम्मीद करता है: एनआईटीआईयोग

India's healthcare industry expected to reach 372 billion dollars in _____: NITI Aayog

planning → 8 years → 12th

Date
chair
Dp chair
CEO

- A. 2021
- B. 2022
- C. 2023
- D. 2024



#CEO

भारत के स्वास्थ्य सेवा उद्योग के 2022 में 372 बिलियन डॉलर तक पहुंचने की उम्मीद है। देश का स्वास्थ्य सेवा क्षेत्र पिछले पांच वर्षों में तेजी से बढ़ा है, जिसकी वार्षिक वृद्धि दर लगभग 22 प्रतिशत है।

NITI Aayog ने 30 मार्च को एक रिपोर्ट जारी की जिसमें स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में निवेश के अवसरों की सीमा को रेखांकित किया गया।

इसमें अस्पताल, चिकित्सा उपकरण और उपकरण, स्वास्थ्य बीमा, टेलीमेडिसिन, गृह स्वास्थ्य सेवा और चिकित्सा मूल्य यात्रा शामिल हैं।

राष्ट्रीय कौशल विकास निगम के अनुमान के अनुसार, स्वास्थ्य सेवा 2017-22 के बीच भारत में 27 लाख अतिरिक्त नौकरियां पैदा कर सकती है।

रिपोर्ट को NITI Aayog के सदस्य डॉ। वी के पॉल, सीईओ अमिताभ कांत और अतिरिक्त सचिव डॉ। राकेश सरवाल ने जारी किया।

- India's healthcare industry is expected to reach 372 billion dollars in 2022. The country's healthcare sector has grown rapidly over the last five years, at a compound annual growth rate of around 22 percent.

- NITI Aayog released a report on 30 march outlining the range of investment opportunities in various segments of the healthcare sector.
- This includes hospitals, medical devices and equipment, health insurance, telemedicine, home healthcare, and medical value travel.
- As per estimates by the National Skill Development Corporation, healthcare can generate 27 lakh additional jobs in India between 2017-22.
- The report was released by NITI Aayog Member Dr V K Paul, CEO Amitabh Kant and Additional Secretary Dr Rakesh Sarwal.

वर्ष 2019 के लिए दादा साहेब फाल्के पुरस्कार
से सम्मानित किया जाएगा।

to be honoured with Dada Saheb Phalke Award for the year 2019.

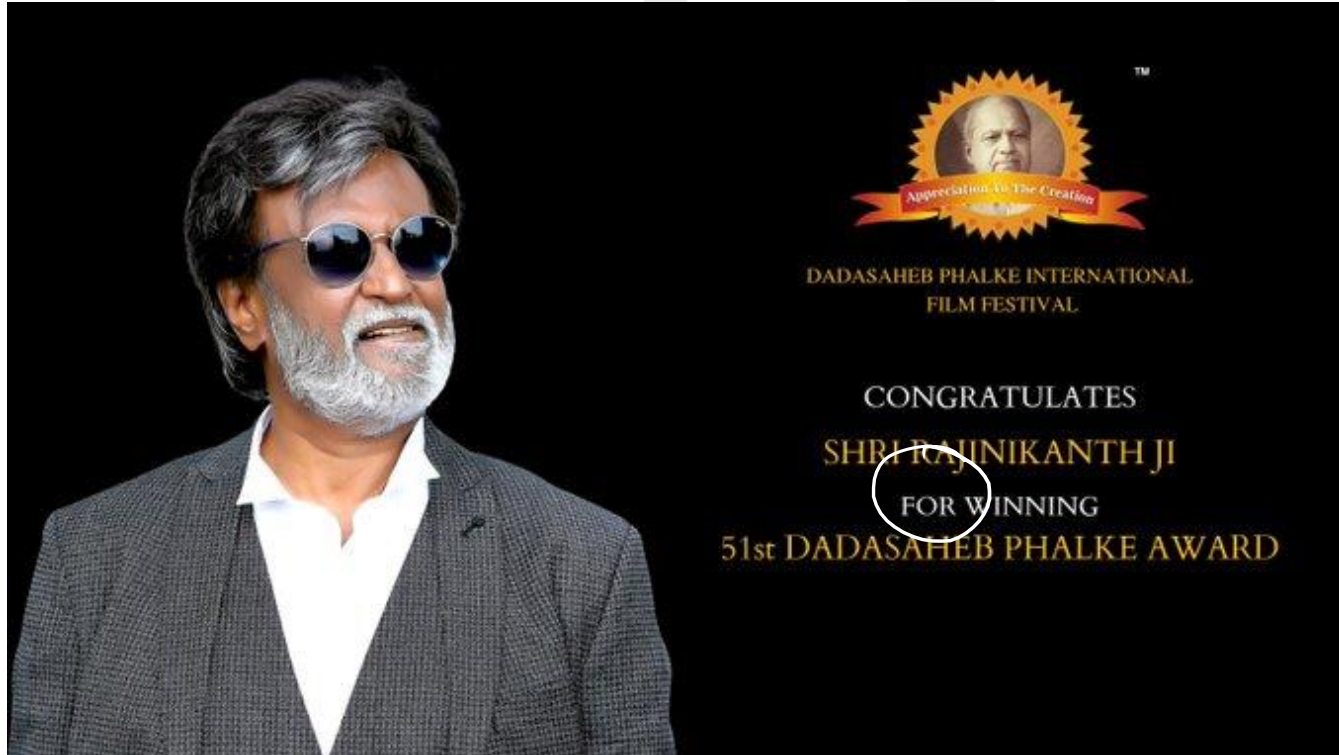
→ Father of Indian Cinema
↳ Raja Harishchandra
(1913)

A Amitabh Bacchan

B Rajnikant

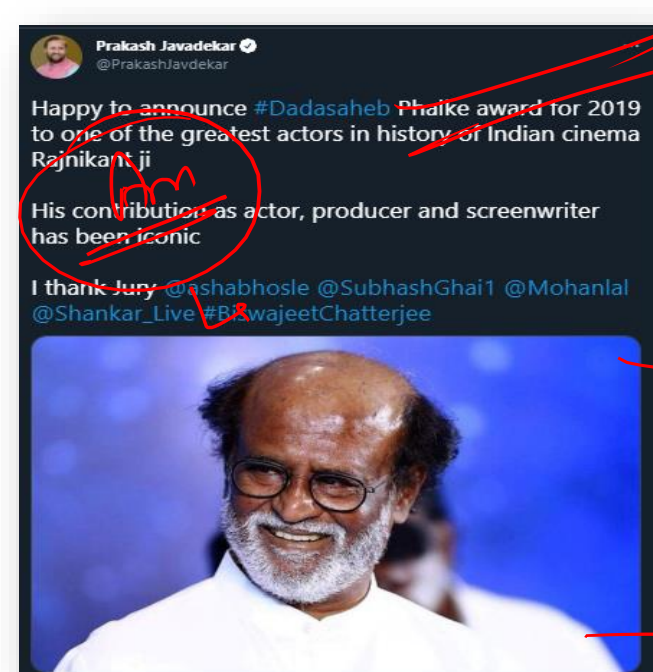
C Kamal Hassan

← D Anupam Kher



1st = 1969
↳ Devika Rani
50 → A
51

B



Rajinikanth has said that he was immensely humbled and honoured to receive the award. In his tweet, he expressed his heartfelt thanks to the Government and the jury for conferring the award.

- Superstar's friend and longtime colleague Actor Politician Kamalhassan congratulated the Superstar on Twitter and said that he deserved the award and told that his mere appearance on the screen will captivate scores of the audience.

- रजनीकांत ने कहा है कि पुरस्कार पाने के लिए वह बेहद विनम्र और सम्मानित थे। अपने ट्वीट में, उन्होंने सरकार और पुरस्कार जीतने के लिए जूरी के प्रति हार्दिक धन्यवाद व्यक्त किया।
- सुपरस्टार के दोस्त और लंबे समय से सहयोगी अभिनेता पॉलिटिशियन कमलहसन ने ट्विटर पर सुपरस्टार को बधाई दी और कहा कि वह पुरस्कार के हकदार हैं और उन्होंने बताया कि स्क्रीन पर उनकी मात्र उपस्थिति दर्शकों के स्कोर को लुभाएगी।

TM

IT →

Dadasaheb Phalke for Rajinikanth

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Centre on Thursday announced the prestigious Dadasaheb Phalke Award for Rajinikanth for his contribution as an actor, producer and screenwriter.

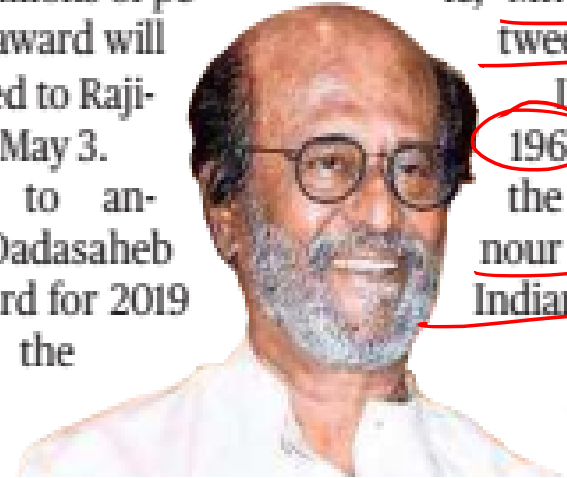
Announcing the decision in New Delhi, Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar said, "For the past 50 years, Rajinikanth has been ruling the

film industry. His work is like the sun. Through his talent and hard work, he has made a space for himself in the hearts of millions of people." The award will be presented to Rajinikanth on May 3.

"Happy to announce #Dadasaheb Phalke award for 2019 to one of the greatest actors in

history of Indian cinema Rajinikanthji. His contribution as actor, producer and screenwriter has been iconic," Mr. Javadekar later tweeted.

Instituted in 1969, the award is the highest honour for an artiste in Indian cinema.



CONTINUED ON
▶ PAGE 8

~~दिल्ली~~ से _____ तक लंबे समय से प्रतीक्षित एक्सप्रेस
1 अप्रैल से चालू हो रही है।

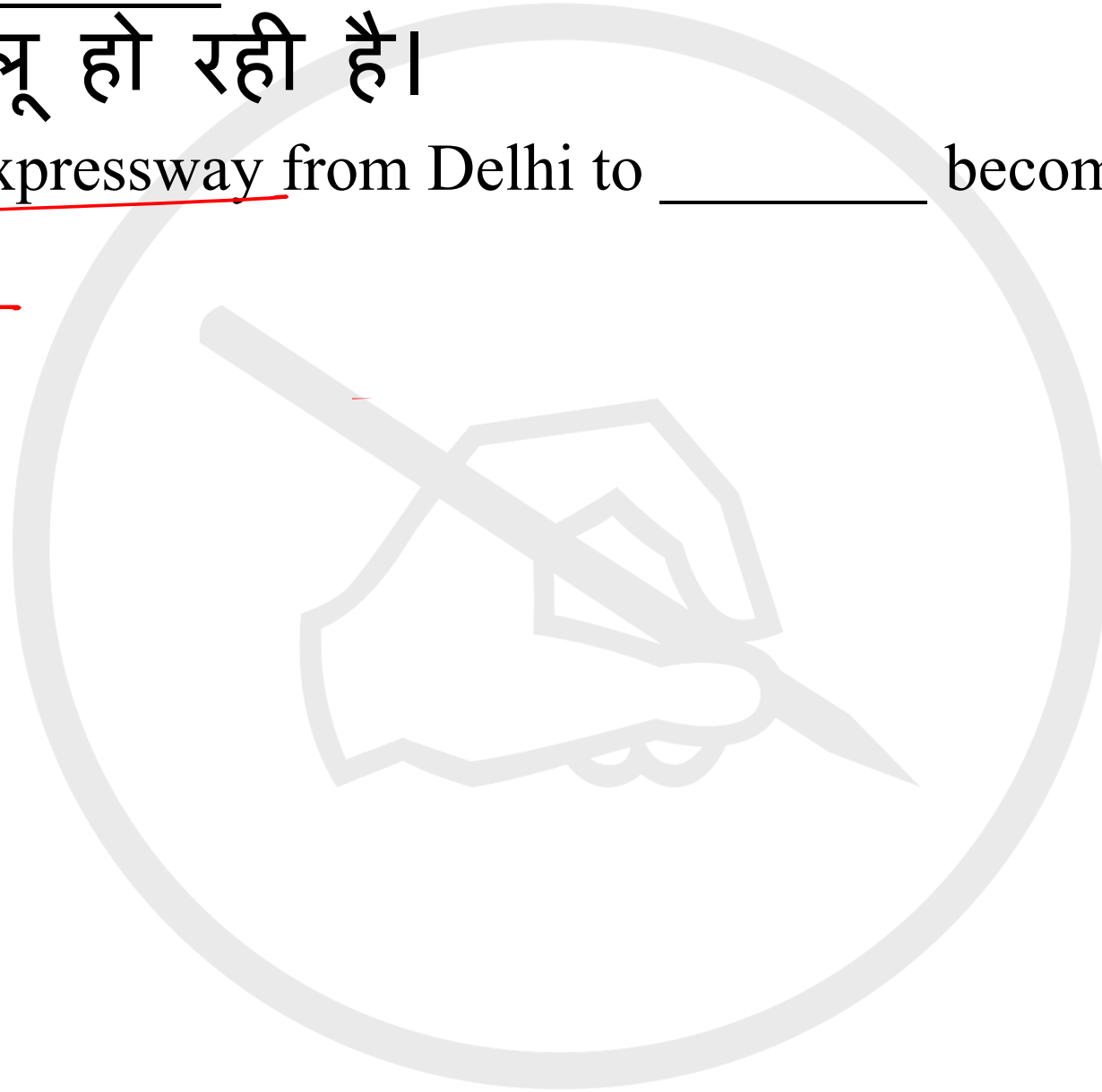
The long-awaited expressway from Delhi to _____ becoming operational
from 1st April 21.

A Agra

B UP

~~C Meerut~~

D Mumbai



Minister for Road Transport & Highways Nitin Gadkari said that the government has fulfilled its promise of reducing travel time between Delhi to Meerut by completing the work of the Expressway. (?)

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने कहा कि सरकार ने एक्सप्रेसवे का काम पूरा करके दिल्ली से मेरठ के बीच यात्रा के समय को कम करने के अपने वादे को पूरा किया है।

The 96 km-long 14-lane expressway will reduce travel time between Meerut and Delhi to 45 minutes. The expressway will also reduce the travel time of commuters from Muzaffarnagar, Saharanpur, Haridwar and Dehradun to Delhi. The expressway has been constructed with over 8 thousand crore rupees and will also help in resolving the problem of congestion and pollution.

Imp

Q-10

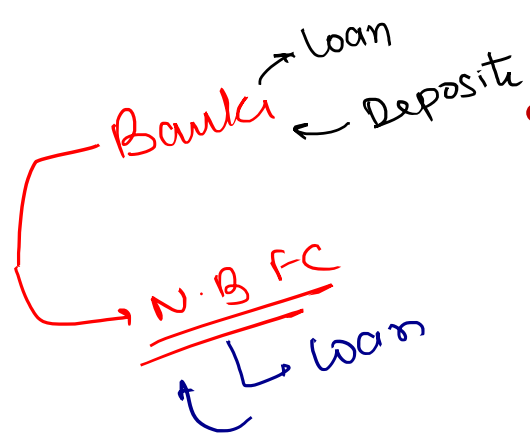
MCA



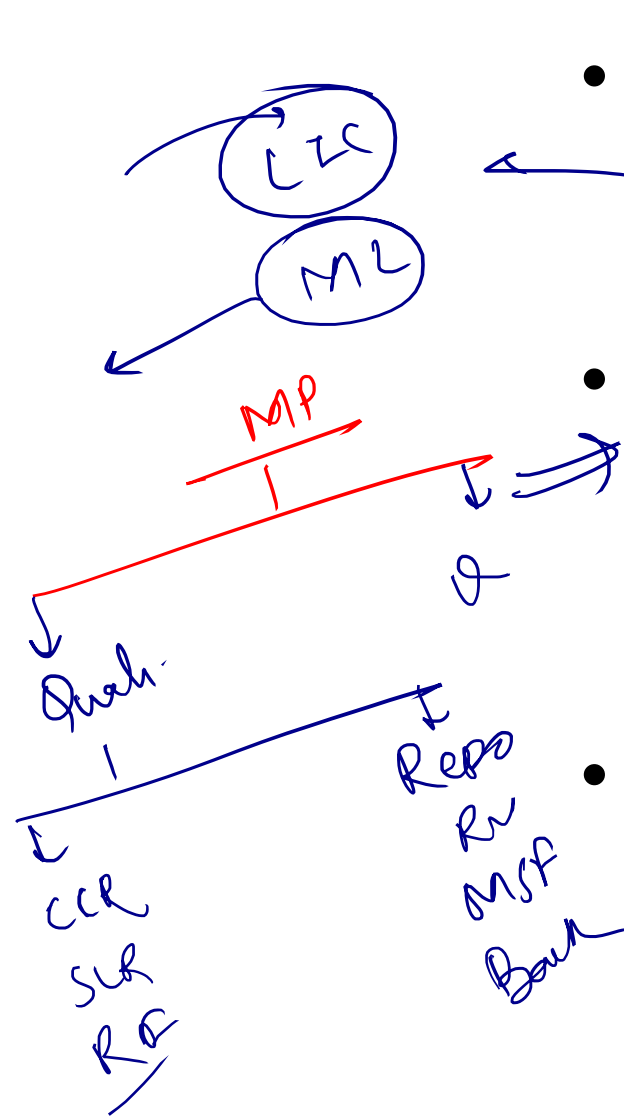
Current Affairs Analysis

करंट अफेयर्स विश्लेषण

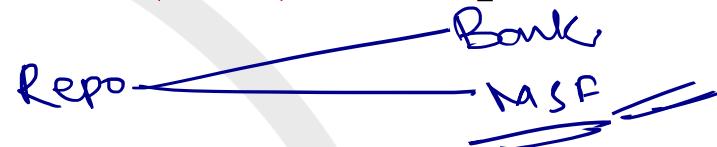




- गैर-बैंकिंग वित्त कंपनियों (NBFC) और माइक्रो फाइनेंस इंस्टीट्यूट्स (MFI) द्वारा दिए जाने वाले विभिन्न ऋण 1 अप्रैल से सस्ते होने की उम्मीद है भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने आज सूचित किया कि लागू आधार दर 7.81 प्रतिशत है।
- मौजूदा तिमाही की तुलना में यह 15 आधार अंक (0.15%) कम है। पिछले साल यह इसी अवधि के दौरान 8.76 थी।
- हर तिमाही के आखिरी कार्य दिवस पर, RBI एनबीएफसी-एमएफआई द्वारा आगामी तिमाही में अपने उधारकर्ताओं को ब्याज दर वसूलने की सलाह देता है।
- यह पांच सबसे बड़े वाणिज्यिक बैंकों की आधार दरों के औसत पर आधारित है



- Various loans offered by **Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFC)** and **Micro Finance Institutes (MFI)** are expected to be cheaper from 1st April
- Reserve bank of India communicated today that the applicable base rate to be charged is **7.81 percent**. It is lower by **15 basis points (0.15 %)** as compared to the current quarter. Last year it was 8.76 during the same period.
- On the last working day of every quarter, RBI advises interest rates to be charged by NBFC-MFIs to their borrowers in the ensuing quarter. It is based on the **average of the base rates of the five largest commercial banks**



World No. 140 from 1971, Geneva 2021

Global Gender Gap Report 2021: WEF

ग्लोबल जेंडर गैप रिपोर्ट 2021: WEF

140th
Iceland 1st Po
156 Afq
Bangladesh - 65

100 -
135

RIFT WIDENS

Highlights of report

▶ According to WEF's Global Gender Gap Report 2021, India has closed 62.5% of its gender gap till date

▶ India's gender gap on economic participation and opportunity sub-index widened by 3% this year

▶ Highest decline on political empowerment sub-index, where India regressed 13.5 percentage points

▶ Women's labour force participation rate fell from 24.8% to 22.3%

▶ Estimated earned income of women is only one-fifth

of men's, which puts India among the bottom 10

▶ India ranks among bottom five in discrimination against women in health and survival sub-index

▶ As Covid-19 impact continues to be felt, global gender gap has increased by a generation from 99.5 to 135.6 years

▶ Iceland is the most gender-equal nation for the 12th time in 15 years

▶ Top 10 gender-equal countries include Finland, Norway, New Zealand, Rwanda, Sweden, Ireland and Switzerland

Govt. sharply cuts rates on small savings instruments

Move comes after retail inflation breaches 6% mark

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The government has sharply slashed the rates on all small savings instruments for the first quarter of 2021-22, bringing the rate of return on the Public Provident Fund down from 7.1% to 6.4% and effecting cuts ranging from 40 basis points (0.4%) to 110 basis points (1.1%) through a notification on Wednesday.

The sharpest cut was seen in the quarterly interest rate paid on one-year term deposits, from 5.5% in the January to March quarter to 4.4% in

this quarter. The rate of return on the Senior Citizen Savings' Scheme was cut from 7.4% to 6.5%, while the Sukanya Samriddhi Account Scheme's return was reduced from 7.6% to 6.9%.

While the government resets the interest rate on small savings instruments every quarter, this round of rate cuts assumes significance as retail inflation has been breaching the 6% mark and the government is keen to lower interest rates to make it easier to execute its borrowing plans for the year and spur growth.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 8

INFLATION TARGET ▶ PAGE 14

CORE SECTOR OUTPUT

CONTRACTS 4.6% ▶ PAGE 14

Instruments	Rates till June 30 (%)	Rates till March 31 (%)
Savings Deposit	3.5	4.0
1-year time deposit	4.4	5.5
2-year time deposit	5.0	5.5
3-year time deposit	5.1	5.5
5-year time deposit	5.8	6.7
5-year recurring deposit	5.3	5.8
Senior Citizen Savings Schemes	6.5	7.4
Monthly Income Account	5.7	6.6
National Savings Certificate	5.9	6.8
Public Provident Fund Scheme	6.4	7.1
Kisan Vikas Patra	6.2 (will mature in 138 months)	6.9 (will mature in 124 months)
Sukanya Samriddhi Account Scheme	6.9	7.6

छोटी बचत पर
कोई ब्याज
कटौती नहीं केंद्र
प्रतिक्रिया के बाद
निकाल लेता है
जाहिरा तौर पर
मार्च 31 क्रम;

No interest cut on small savings

Centre withdraws March 31 order apparently after backlash; FM cites 'oversight'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Hours after notifying significant cuts in small savings instruments' returns for this quarter, the government backtracked and reversed the sharp rate cuts that sent the Public Provident Fund (PPF) return to a multi-decade low.

The rates notified on Wednesday night for the April to June 2021 quarter were 40 basis points (0.4%) to 110 basis points (1.1%) lower on different instruments. This is the first time that the Centre has scrapped the notified interest rates on small savings schemes after switching to a quarterly interest rate setting system for them, beginning April 2016.

"Interest rates of small savings schemes of GoI (Government of India) shall continue to be at the rates which



existed in the last quarter of 2020-2021, i.e. rates that prevailed as of March 2021. Orders issued by oversight shall be withdrawn," Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in a tweet on Thursday morning.

'No change'

While there was no further official clarification on the oversight that led to the pull-back of the rate cuts, by

evening, the Budget division in the Department of Economic Affairs issued a memo in "suppression" of Wednesday's order.

"...It has been decided that the rate of interest on various small savings scheme for the first quarter of FY 2021-22... shall remain unchanged from those notified for the fourth quarter of the FY2020-21. This has the approval of competent auth-

Withheld due to polls: Cong.

Congress leader P. Chidambaram said there was nothing "inadvertent" about announcing a cut in interest rates. Priyanka Gandhi Vadra called the decision to put it on hold "election-driven". ▶ PAGE 9

ority," the memo said.

The ongoing Assembly elections may have influenced the government to rethink the rate cut following a sharp backlash overnight on various social media platforms about the middle class being squeezed further even as retail inflation, and fuel and LPG cylinder prices, are soaring.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 8

Subject: Revision of interest rates for Small Savings Schemes - reg.

In exercise of the powers conferred by Rule 9(1) of the Government Savings Promotion General Rules, 2018, the rates of interest on various Small Savings Schemes for the first quarter of financial year 2021-22 starting from 1st April, 2021 and ending on 30th June, 2021 have been revised as indicated below:

Instruments	Rates of interest from 01.01.2021 to 31.03.2021	Rates of interest from 01.04.2021 to 30.06.2021	Compounding frequency*
Savings Deposit	4.0	3.5	Annually
1 Year Time Deposit	5.5	4.4	Quarterly
2 Year Time Deposit	5.5	5.0	Quarterly
3 Year Time Deposit	5.5	5.1	Quarterly
5 Year Time Deposit	6.7	5.8	Quarterly
5 Year Recurring Deposit	5.8	5.3	Quarterly
Senior Citizen Savings Schemes	7.4	6.5	Quarterly and paid
Monthly Income Account	6.6	5.7	Monthly and paid
National Savings Certificate	6.8	5.9	Annually
Public Provident Fund Scheme	7.1	6.4	Annually
Kisan Vikas Patra	6.9 (will mature in 124 months)	6.2 (will mature in 138 months)	Annually
Sukanya Samriddhi Account Scheme	7.6	6.9	Annually

*No change.

पाकिस्तान भारत से आयात की अनुमति देने की योजना को सम्पूर्ण करता है

350

90

Pakistan freezes plan to allow imports from India

'Normalisation of ties depends on India's move on Kashmir'

SUHASINI HAIDAR
NEW DELHI

Just a day after announcing its plan to allow import of cotton and sugar from India, the Pakistan government on Thursday said it was "deferring" the decision and linked any "normalisation" in ties to moves by New Delhi on Jammu and Kashmir.

The U-turn was seen as an embarrassment for the Imran Khan government and, in particular, for the newly appointed Finance Minister Hammad Azhar, who had addressed a press conference on Wednesday announcing clearances by the Economic Coordination Council (ECC) for imports from India, which have been suspended since August 2019.



Imran Khan

Significantly, Mr. Khan holds the Commerce Ministry portfolio, which moved the proposal at the ECC on Wednesday.

'More debate needed'

Speaking to the media earlier, Mr. Azhar said the move was a commercially based need for Indian sugar and cotton due to the high prices

and low yield in Pakistan last year.

The reversal of the ECC's decision on Thursday was announced by Pakistan Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi, who, in a taped video statement, said the matter needed "further debate".

"An impression was emerging that ties with India are moving towards normalisation and trade has been opened. We had a discussion on this, and the unanimous view of the Cabinet was that until the unilateral decisions taken by India on August 5, 2019, are not reconsidered, it would be impossible to normalise relations with India," Mr. Qureshi said.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 8

INDIA'S TRADE WITH PAKISTAN (IN \$)

Year	Exports	Imports	Trade Balance
2018-19	2.07 billion	494.87 million	1.57 billion
2019-20	816.62 million	13.97 million	802.65 million
2020-21*	240.99 million	2.15 million	238.84 million

*April to January, Source: Ministry of Commerce and Industry

MAJOR PRODUCTS TRADED BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN (IN \$)

India's Top Exports to Pakistan	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21*
Cotton	550.33 mn	64.25 mn	0
Organic chemicals	457.75 mn	273.97 mn	115.92 mn
Plastic and articles thereof	131.19 mn	42.62 mn	1.43 mn
Tanning or dyeing extracts, etc.	114.48 mn	39.47 mn	0.92 mn
Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery, etc	94.88 mn	42.42 mn	1.28 mn
India's Top Imports from Pakistan	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21*
Mineral fuels and oils and products of their distillation, etc	131.29 mn	0.01 mn	N/A
Edible fruit and nuts, peel or citrus fruit or melons	103.27 mn	0.92 mn	0.85 mn
Salt, sulphur, earths and stone, plastering materials, lime and cement	92.84 mn	1.31 mn	0.20 mn
Ores, slag and ash	17.18 mn	0.03 mn	N/A
Raw hides and skin (other than fur skins) and leather	16.27 mn	N/A	N/A

*April to January, Source: Ministry of Commerce and Industry

JNP

CBS

Army
Navy
Air

Rawat launches joint logistics hub

Move to boost tri-service integration

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

As part of measures to boost tri-service integration and resource optimisation, Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat on Thursday operationalised the third joint logistics node (JLN) in Mumbai.

"These JLN's will provide integrated logistics cover to the armed forces for their small arms ammunition, rations, fuel, general stores, civil hired transport, aviation clothing, spares and also engineering support in an effort to synergise their operational efforts," a Defence Ministry statement said.

The initiative would accrue advantages in terms of saving of manpower, economise utilisation of resources, besides financial savings.

"Establishment and operationalisation of JLN's is a very important first step in the direction of logistics integration of our three Services. Acceptance of each other's limitations and learning



General Bipin Rawat releasing the SoP of the logistics hub in Mumbai.

from each other's strengths and best practices is essential to help improve the functioning and efficacy of these nodes," Gen. Rawat said. He also released the standing operating procedure of the JLN.

The government sanction letter for the establishment of the JLN's in Mumbai, Guwahati and Port Blair was signed on October 12, 2020. The JLN's in Guwahati and Tri-Services, Andaman and Nicobar Command, Port Blair, were operationalised in January this year.

Imp
TAFE = ?

IN BRIEF



TAFE's CMD Mallika Srinivasan to head PESB

CHENNAI

Mallika Srinivasan, CMD, TAFE Ltd., has been appointed as the chairperson of the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB). This is the first time a person from the private sector has been made head of the PESB which is responsible for the appointment of personnel in the posts of chairman, CMD and functional directors in public sector enterprises.

Comm
NCD