

1-12 May 2020 Current Affairs



1) What is the name given to the mission to the massive air repatriation operation undertaken by Indian government to bring back stranded Indians in different parts of the world in the wake of the Covid-19 crisis? – [Vande Bharat Mission](#)

(Vande Bharat Mission is the name given to the massive scale repatriation operation undertaken by Indian government under which more the 60 non-scheduled commercial flights were pressed into service from 7 May 2020 to bring back around 15,000 Indian citizens stranded in about 12 countries due to ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. The first phase of the mission focuses on Gulf countries, south-east Asian countries and neighbouring countries. The second phase will focus on bringing Indian citizens from Europe and the United States)

3) Who took over as India's new Permanent Representative to the United Nations (UN) on 1 May 2020? - [T S Tirumurti](#)

(T S Tirumurti, who is currently serving as Secretary, Economic Relations in the Ministry of External Affairs, was appointed as India's new Permanent Representative to the UN. On 1 May 2020 he succeeded Syed Akbaruddin who retired on 30 April 2020. Akbaruddin has been serving as India's Permanent Representative to UN since January 2016. Tirumurti is a 1985-batch Indian Foreign Service officer)



2) What is the name given to the mission started by the Indian Navy from 8 May 2020 to repatriate Indian citizens stranded overseas by naval ships? – [“Operation Samudra Setu”](#)

(“Operation Samudra Setu” is the name given to the ambitious operation announced by Indian Navy on 5 May 2020 with the objective of repatriating Indian citizens stranded overseas. This mission was pressed into service from 8 May 2020 and included two naval ships - INS Jalashwa and INS Magar. Under first phase of the mission INS Jalashwa was used to bring back 698 Indians from Maldives. This ship arrived at Kochi with the passengers on 10 May 2020)

4) The first-ever special train to transport migrant labourers was run from which state to which state on 1 May 2020? – [From Telangana to Jharkhand](#)

(The Government of India on 1 May 2020 ran its first special train with 24 coaches to transport 1,200 migrant labourers to Hatia in Jharkhand from Lingampally, Hyderabad in Telangana. The decision to run special train was taken by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) after considering a request of the Telangana government. By 10 May 2020 over 300 such trains were operated by Indian Railway and these trains transported over 3 lakh migrant workers. It is worth mentioning that all passenger train services of Indian Railways have been suspended since 22 March 2020 due to Covid-19. These special trains were called “Shramik Specials”)



5) Indian football legend Chuni Goswami passed away on 30 April 2020 after prolonged illness. He was captain of Asian Games gold medal winning Indian team in which year? – [1962](#)

(Under his captaincy, the Indian football team won gold at the 1962 Asian Games, finished runner-up at the Asian Cup in 1964 and narrowly lost to Burma in Merdeka Cup six months later. It was the golden era of Indian football with PK Banerjee and Goswami at the top of their form. In club football, Goswami always played for Mohun Bagan. Goswami was successful in cricket as well. In 1966, he and Subroto Guha plotted the historic innings defeat of Gary Sobers' West Indies by the combined Central and East Zone team under Hanumant Singh in Indore)

.....

6) The RBI cancelled the banking license of which Maharashtra-based cooperative bank on 2 May 2020? - [CKP Co-operative Bank Ltd](#)

(The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 2 May 2020 cancelled the licence of CKP Co-operative Bank Ltd, with operations in Maharashtra. The cancellation came into effect from 30 April 2020. The RBI maintained that the CKP Co-operative Bank Ltd was not in a position to pay its present and future depositors due to its financial instability. The bank is now prohibited from conducting the business of 'banking' which includes acceptance of deposits and repayment of deposits)

.....

7) Which entity recently snatched most-profitable tag from Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) after 6 years? – [TCS](#)

(Reliance Industries (RIL) has lost the tag of India's highest profit-making company to Tata Consultancy Services (TCS). At Rs 8,049 crore, TCS' reported profit after tax (PAT) during the January-March 2020 quarter was ahead of RIL's reported PAT of Rs. 6,348 crore during the same quarter. RIL reported a sharp 39% year-on-year decline in net profit during the quarter, thanks to inventory losses due to a sharp fall in crude oil prices)

.....



8) 11 persons were killed and over 500 were hospitalised after a chemical gas leakage at a polymer plant near Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh. This plant belongs to which South Korean company? – [LG Polymers India Pvt. Ltd](#)

(A tank used to store chemicals for making a wide variety of plastic products leaked into the air at the plant of LG Polymers India Pvt. Ltd at village RR Venkatapuram near Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh on 7 May 2020. It resulted in a huge health hazard with thousands reporting suffocation and breathlessness. 11 persons died due to this leakage. The company said vapour leaked from a tank containing the chemical styrene, a raw material for polystyrene, which is used in products such as food packaging. Later on 8 May 2020 the National Green Tribunal (NGT) imposed an interim fine of Rs. 50 crore on the company) investing Rs.

.....

9) What are the names of 2 US based private equity firms that during May 2020 announced investing in Mukesh Ambani led Jio Platforms to purchase combined equity of 3.47%? – [Vista Equity Partners and Silver Lake](#)

(US-based private equity firm Vista Equity Partners will invest Rs. 11,367 crore to buy 2.32% stake in Mukesh Ambani led Jio Platforms. This announcement was made on 8 May 2020. A few days earlier another US-based private equity firm Silver Lake announced investing Rs. 5,655.75 crore into Jio Platforms for 1.15% stake. These two deals skyrocketed Jio's market cap to up to Rs. 4.91 lakh crore)

.....

10) What was the name of the top Hizbul Mujahideen commander who was killed by Indian security forces on 6 May 2020? - [Riyaz Naikoo](#)

(Riyaz Naikoo was a leading terrorist and top Hizbul Mujahideen commander was killed on 6 May 2020 in an encounter with security forces in Jammu and Kashmir's Awantipora. He carried a cash reward of Rs. 12 lakh on his head and was a close associate of deceased top terrorist Burhan Wani)

.....

11) What is the name of the Pakistani youth who during May 2020 became the first Hindu to join the Pakistan Air Force (PAF)? – [Rahul Dev](#)

(A Pakistani youth Rahul Dev, came to news during May 2020 as he became the first-ever Hindu to join the Pakistan Air Force (PAF). He was recruited as a General Duty Pilot Officer)



12) Which Indian state is battling the menace of African Swine Fever (ASF) which killed over 13,000 pigs in the state by 11 May 2020? – [Assam](#)

(As the whole of India is battling the Covid-19 pandemic, the north-eastern state of Assam is battling on an additional front as the outbreak of African Swine Fever (ASF) wreaking havoc in the state. Over 13,000 pigs have been killed in 9 districts of the state. Animal resource experts in northeast India suspect that the highly contagious ASF came to the region from Tibet through Arunachal Pradesh. 9 districts of Arunachal were also affected with death of a few hundred pigs in the state)

2) Union Health Minister Dr. Harshvardhan on 10 May 2020 announced that Pune-based National Institute of Virology (NIV) has successfully developed the first indigenous anti-SARS-CoV-2A (Covid-19) human IgG ELISA test kit for antibody detection of the deadly virus. Which private entity has been given the task of mass-scale production of this testing kit? – [Cadila Healthcare](#)

(Cadila Healthcare (Zydus Cadila) is set to make India's first indigenously developed anti-SARS-Cov-2 human IgG ELISA test kit for antibody detection of Covid-19 (novel coronavirus). The Indian Council of Medical Research transferred the technology developed by NIV to Cadila for mass production)

13-19 May 2020 Current Affairs



1) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 12 May 2020 announced Rs 20 lakh crore financial package to revive the Indian economy. What is the name given to this package initiative? – [“Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan”](#)

(The mammoth Rs. 20 lakh crore package announced by PM Modi to revive the Indian economy amidst Covid-19 challenge is the biggest financial stimulus announced in India till date. The value of this package is around 10% of Indian GDP. The package was announced under “Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan” (Self-reliant India Mission. The package focuses on land, labour, liquidity and laws and is expected to revive every branch of the economy - from demand, supply chain to manufacturing)



3) On 14 May 2020 which country became the first European country to officially end its coronavirus epidemic? – [Slovenia](#)

(The government of Slovenia, a tiny country in eastern Europe, on 14 May 2020 became the first country in Europe to officially declare an end to the coronavirus epidemic. This came after authorities confirmed less than seven new coronavirus cases each day for the past two weeks. The government said foreign citizens who show signs of coronavirus infection will still not be allowed to enter the country. Slovenia, a country with around 2 million population, had declared an epidemic on 12 March 2020. It reported 1,464 coronavirus cases and 103 deaths)



4) What is the name given to the powerful cyclonic storm that is the first tropical cyclone of the 2020 North Indian Ocean cyclone season and is threatening the Indian states of Odisha and West Bengal? – [Cyclone Amphan](#)

(Cyclone Amphan is a very powerful tropical cyclonic storm over the Bay of Bengal that is the first super cyclonic storm in the Bay of Bengal since the 1999 Odisha cyclone. It initially developed as a low pressure area in the Bay of Bengal. It was later classified as a super cyclone and is threatening Odisha, West Bengal and Bangladesh as on 19 May 2020)

5) Which sporting event the first major sporting event to restart after Covid-19 lockdown? – [Bundesliga](#)

(Bundesliga, the German football league, resumed from 16 May 2020 and thus became the first major global sporting event to restart after Covid-19 lockdown. It is worth mentioning that the 2019-20 season of Bundesliga was going on till Covid-19 lockdown brought curtain to the event. The last match was held on 11 March 2020)

6) Japan's central bank - Bank of Japan (BoJ) on 11 May 2020 appointed whom as the first female Executive Director in its 138 years of existence? - [Tokiko Shimizu](#)

(55-year old Tokiko Shimizu, who started working for BoJ in 1987, is the first-ever female Executive Director in Bank of Japan. BoJ is the central bank of Japan and is often called Nichigin in short. It came into existence in 1882)

7) Which entity is investing Rs. 6,598.38 crore for a 1.34% stake in Jio Platforms, as was announced on 17 May 2020? - [General Atlantic](#)

(US-based General Atlantic is investing Rs. 6,598.38 crore for a 1.34% stake in Jio Platforms. This investment values Jio Platforms at an equity value of Rs. 4.91 lakh crore and an enterprise value of Rs. 5.16 lakh crore. This is the fourth big investment by a leading technology investor in Jio in under four weeks)

8) The US Space Force successfully launched its sixth unmanned 'secretive' space plane on 17 May 2020. What is the name of this plane that has been dedicated to Covid-19 victims? - ["X-37B"](#)

("X-37B" is the name of the sixth unmanned 'secretive' space plane of the US Space Force was launched aboard the "Atlas V" rocket built by a joint venture between Boeing and Lockheed on 17 May 2020. The plane carried a written dedication to those affected by COVID-19 and frontline workers)



9) Kevin Mayer, the Chairman of Disney's direct-to-consumer and international business, stepped down to become the first CEO of which video-sharing app? – [Tik Tok](#)

(Kevin Mayer became the first Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of video-sharing app TikTok. He has also been named as the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of TikTok's Chinese parent firm ByteDance. Alex Zhu, the current TikTok President is transitioning as Vice President of ByteDance. Mayer had worked on Disney Plus, which rolled out in November 2019 and has about 55 million subscribers)

10) In which state "Charan Paduka" campaign, a unique campaign to provide shoes and slippers to migrant labourers passing through the state, was started during May 2020? – [Madhya Pradesh](#)

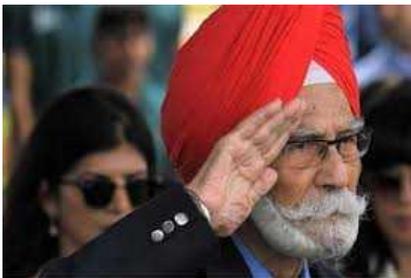
(In Madhya Pradesh, in a first of its kind of initiative, "Charan Paduka" campaign has been started for the migrant labourers passing through the state. Under this campaign, the migrant labourers going barefoot are being providing shoes and slippers to reduce their pain. The most notable thing is that this campaign is being conducted by the police at most places. Thousands of migrant labourers are passing through the state every-day to reach their home state due to lock down)

20-31 May 2020 Current Affairs



1) What was the name of the African-American citizen whose brutal killing by police led to massive protests, demonstrations and violence throughout the United States and plunged the country into a huge crisis? – **George Floyd**

(46-year old George Floyd was an unemployed restaurant security guard in Minnesota. He died as he was handcuffed and put lying face down on a city street during an arrest on 25 May 2020 by Derek Chauvin, a white American Minneapolis police officer, who kept his knee on the right side of his neck for over 8 minutes. His death led to protests that started all over the country in a few days. Later the protests turned violence and an angry crowd even attacked the White House in Washington. The violence on American streets is the most violent one in recent times and President Trump's seeming inflammatory tweets on the issue seemed to have angered the country's black as well as many whites too)



2) Balbir Singh Senior, one of India's biggest sports legends, passed away on 25 May 2020 at the age of 96. Regarded among the greatest hockey players of all time, Balbir Singh led Indian team in which Olympics to win the gold medal? – **1956 Melbourne Olympics**

(Balbir Singh Sr. was a three-time Olympic gold medallist. He played important role in India's gold medals wins in 1948 London Olympics and 1952 Helsinki Olympics. He then led the Indian team to another gold medal in 1956 Melbourne Olympics. His Olympic record for most goals scored by an individual in an Olympic men's hockey final remains unbeaten wherein he scored five goals in India's 6-1 victory over the Netherlands in the final of 1952 Olympics. He was the manager and chief coach of the Indian team for the 1975 Men's Hockey World Cup. He passed away in a hospital in Mohali (Punjab) on 25 May 2020 at the age of 96)



3) What is the name of the new squadron of the Indian Air Force (IAF) that has been equipped with LCA Tejas aircraft during May 2020? - **No. 18 Squadron 'Flying Bullets'**

(Indian Air Force chief Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhadauria on 27 May 2020 operationalised the No. 18 Squadron 'Flying Bullets' at the Sulur Air Force Station near Coimbatore. The squadron will be equipped with LCA Tejas FOC aircraft and will be the second squadron to fly the Tejas)

4) Who took charge as chairman of the World Health Organisation (WHO) Executive Board during May 2020? – **Dr. Harsh Vardhan**

(Union Health Minister of India Dr. Harsh Vardhan on 22 May 2020 took over as the new Chairman of the 34th World Health Organisation (WHO) Executive Board on 22 May 2020. He succeeded Dr. Hiroki Nakatani of Japan)



5) The first of the 12000-horsepower, Prima T8 electric locomotives, were put into operations by the Indian Railways from May 2020. Which private entity has developed these locomotives for Indian Railways? – **Alstom**

(During May 2020 Indian Railways put into operations the first of 800 Prima T8 electric locomotives that have been developed by Alstom India, the Indian subsidiary of French locomotive major. This WAG12 loco 60027 hauled 118 wagons from Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Junction on East Central Railway on 18 May 2020 on its inaugural journey)

6) The total number of beneficiaries of Indian Government's Ayushman Bharat scheme crossed which milestone figure during May 2020? – **1 crore**

(The number of people who have benefited from the 'Ayushman Bharat' scheme crossed the one crore-mark. This was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 20 May 2020. Pooja Thapa from Meghalaya became the 1 croreth beneficiary of the scheme, which has been termed as the biggest government-sponsored healthcare scheme in the

world. The scheme was launched in September 2018)



7) The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) achieved a significant breakthrough by digging up a 440m long tunnel below Chamba town. This tunnel is part of which ambitious project undertaken in Uttaranchal? – **Char Dham Project**

(During May 2020 the BRO managed to link up the north and south portals of the 440-m long tunnel below the densely populated Chamba town on Rishikesh-Dharasu road. This tunnel is part of the Rs. 12000 crore Char Dham Project that aims to connect the char dhams - the four pilgrimage places, which are highly revered by the Hindus- Badrinath, Kedarnath, Yamunotri and Gangotri)



8) During May 2020 Beximco Pharmaceuticals became the world's first company to start selling the generic version of Gilead's antiviral drug remdesivir. This company belongs to which Asian country? – **Bangladesh**

(Bangladesh's Beximco Pharmaceuticals came to limelight as it became the world's first company to start selling the generic version of Gilead's antiviral drug remdesivir. Gilead is an American biopharmaceutical company headquartered in California and is the patent holder of antiviral drug remdesivir, that is being tested as a specific treatment for Covid-19)

9) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das on 22 May 2020 announced that banks will be able to provide moratorium on EMIs and term loan payments to customers for another 3 months. This moratorium will be effective between which period? – **1 June to 31 August 2020**

(It is worth mentioning that the RBI had on 27 March 2020 allowed financial institutions to offer a moratorium of three months on payment of

instalments of all term loans outstanding as on 1 March 2020)

10) What is the new name of Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology (CIPET), as was announced by the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers during May 2020? - **Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering & Technology**

(Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology (CIPET) has been renamed as Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering and Technology (CIPET), a premier national institution under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India. According to the Ministry, now CIPET will be in a position to fully devote itself for the growth of entire petrochemical sector with a focus on Academics, Skilling, Technology Support and Research)



11) Which Indian woman UN peacekeeper was honoured with the 2019 UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award during May 2020? - **Major Suman Gawani**

(UN chief Antonio Guterres on 29 May 2020 honoured Indian woman UN peacekeeper Major Suman Gawani with the 2019 UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award for “inspiring work” in promoting equality in forces. She has recently completed an assignment in South Sudan. Commander Carla Monteiro de Castro Araujo from Brazil was also honoured along with Gawani)