

# 1-15 September 2020 Current Affairs



**1)** The Union Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 2 September 2020 approved the Jammu and Kashmir Language Bill, 2020 to make five languages namely Urdu, Hindi, Dogri, English and Kashmiri as the official language of the Union Territory. Which were the two official languages of the state till now? – **Urdu and English**

(Before the abrogation of Article 370, Urdu and English were the official language of the erstwhile state. Now Hindi, Dogri and Kashmiri have been added. Till the approval, Dogri and Kashmiri were not official language in any of the states in India though they were included in 8th Schedule)

**2)** What is India's rank in the Global Innovation Index (GII) that was released by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) on 2 September 2020? – **48th**

(For the first time, India has ranked among top 50 countries in the Global Innovation Index (GII), the index released annually by the WIPO. India's position in the GII 2020 is 48th and it is at the top position among central and southern

Asian countries. Switzerland acquired the first position followed by Sweden, USA, UK and Netherlands. The top ten positions of the Global Innovation Index were dominated by the high-income countries)

**3)** During September 2020 which company became the first listed Indian company to cross \$200 billion in market capitalization? – **Reliance Industries Limited**

(Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) on 10 September 2020 became the first-ever Indian corporate company to cross \$200 billion in market capitalization (m-cap). Shares of RIL, the oil-to-telecom conglomerate surged over 8% to a record high after media reports that it's offering to sell a \$20 billion stake in Reliance Retail to Amazon)

**4)** What is the name of the flagship scheme for focused and sustainable development of the fisheries sector that was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 10 September 2020? - **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana**

(Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) is the name of the flagship scheme for focused and sustainable development of the fisheries sector launched on 10 September 2020 by the Union Government. With an estimated investment of Rs. 20,050 crore, the investment

under PMMSY is the highest ever in the fisheries sector)

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**5)** The Union Government on 11 September 2020 formed a panel to study the impact of waiver of interest, and moratorium on loan repayments. Who is heading this panel? - **Rajiv**

**Mehrishi**

(Former Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India Rajiv Mehrishi is heading the committee constituted by the Union Government to study the impact of waiver of interest, and interest on loan repayments deferred during the six-month moratorium. Former IIM Ahmedabad professor Ravindra Dholakia and former SBI MD B Sriram are the two other members of this committee)

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**6)** During September 2020 which actor was appointed by the UNICEF as its celebrity advocate for promoting and supporting its work around ending violence against children? -

**Ayushmann Khurrana**

(Popular Hindi film actor Ayushmann Khurrana was appointed by UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) as its celebrity advocate for promoting and supporting its work around ending violence against children. Under this he

will work towards ending violence against children especially in the current scenario of worldwide Covid-19 scenario. The actor will spread awareness and bring the child issue in light for public debates)

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**7)** **Naomi Osaka** of Japan won her second US Open women's singles title on 12 September 2020. She defeated which player in the final? -

**Victoria Azarenka**

(Naomi Osaka defeated Belarus' Victoria Azarenka in three sets, 1-6, 6-3, 6-3, to win her second US Open title in three years, and the third major of her career. She had also won the title in 2018 and the Australian Open of 2019 is her other Grand Slam title)

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**8)** Which state and Union Territory have been named best performers in the startup ranking of states by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, as was announced on 11 September 2020? - **Gujarat and**

**Andaman & Nicobar Islands**

(Gujarat and Andaman & Nicobar Islands have topped the rankings of states and Union Territories that have been able to foster a strong startup ecosystem, showed the second

edition of the State's Startup Ranking report released by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) on 11 September 2020)

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**9)** Who won his maiden US Open singles tennis title on 13 September 2020? - **Dominic Thiem**

(World number three Dominic Thiem of Austria defeated world number seven Alexander Zverev of Germany in US Open 2020 final on 13 September 2020 to win his first-ever Grand Slam title. Thiem became the first player in Open Era to come back from two sets down and win US Open final. Thiem won the match with the scoreline of 2-6, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3, 7-6(8-6))

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**10)** Which entity officially acquired British computer chip designer Arm Holdings from Japanese conglomerate SoftBank in a deal worth \$40 billion? - **NVIDIA**

(US-based graphics card maker NVIDIA on 13 September 2020 officially announced that it has acquired British chip designer Arm Holdings from Japanese conglomerate SoftBank in a

deal worth \$40 billion. Arm was established as Advanced RISC Machine in 1985 as computer chip manufacturing entity)

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**11)** Who was elected as the new Prime Minister of Japan by the ruling party to replace outgoing Prime Minister Shinzo Abe? - **Yoshihide Suga**

(Yoshihide Suga was on 16 September 2020 elected as the country's new Prime Minister in a parliamentary vote conducted in the ruling party. He became the country's first Prime Minister in nearly eight years. The 71-year-old was the chief cabinet secretary under Abe, who had earlier announced his resignation due to medical reasons. Abe has been Japan's longest-serving PM)

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**16-20 September 2020**

**Current Affairs**



**1)** What is the name of the ambitious agriculture reform bill that was passed by the Indian Parliament on 20 September 2020 as

the bill was approved in the Rajya Sabha amidst unprecedented protests by the opposition parties? - **The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020**

(The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020 is the name of the agriculture reform bill that was presented in the Parliament during the Monsoon Session in September 2020. The bill was first passed by the lower house Lok Sabha on 17 September and then by the upper house, the Rajya Sabha on 20 September 2020. The passing of the bill in the Rajya Sabha was marked by unprecedented pandemonium and protests by opposition parties. The ambitious bill permits intra-state and inter-state trade of farmers' produce beyond the physical premises of (Agricultural Produce Market Committee) APMC and other markets notified under the state APMC Acts. It also allows trading in an 'outside trade area' like farm gates, factory premises, warehouses, silos, and cold storages)



2) India was elected a member of which UN body on 14 September 2020 which China failed to secure? - **UN ECOSOC's Commission on the Status of Women**

(India on 14 September 2020 secured the membership to United Nations' (UN) Economic and Social Council's (ECOSOC) Commission on the Status of Women. India, China and Afghanistan had contested the elections, and India and Afghanistan were successful in securing seats while China failed to do so as it got just 27 votes while to win the membership the required majority was 28. Afghanistan secured the highest 39 votes, followed by India with 38 votes. India will be a member of United Nation's Commission on Status of Women for four years, from 2021 to 2025)

3) During September 2020 India joined which maritime group as observer? - **Djibouti Code of Conduct**

(India joined the Djibouti Code of Conduct/Jeddah Amendment as Observer, as was announced by the External Affairs Ministry during September 2020. DCOC is a grouping on maritime matters comprising 18 member states adjoining the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, the East coast of Africa and Island countries in the Indian Ocean Region. It aims at repression of piracy and armed robbery against ships)



4) Which Union Minister resigned from the Union Cabinet of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 17 September 2020? - **Harsimrat Kaur Badal**

(The Union Food Processing Industries Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal belonging to the Shiromani Akali Dal (Badal) resigned from her post on 17 September 2020 to showcase her protest against the three farm sector bills that was introduced to reform the agriculture sector)

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**5)** Which two US companies confirmed a deal with popular Chinese video app TikTok for its US business as was announced on 19 September 2020? – **Oracle and Wal-Mart**

(Popular video app TikTok announced on 19 September 2020 it has proposed an agreement with Oracle as its US technology provider and Wal-Mart as a commercial partner. The deal was later agreed upon by US President Donald Trump on 20 September 2020. Under the deal, Oracle would become TikTok’s “secure cloud provider” and hold on to American data, while Wal-Mart would wield its e-commerce and advertising technology. The deal has thus averted an apparent ban of TikTok in the US)

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**6)** Which international airport became the first airport in the world to earn the 'COVID-19 5-Star Airport Rating' by Skytrax? - **Fiumicino Airport, Rome**

(Rome’s Fiumicino Airport became the first airport in the world to earn the 'COVID-19 5-Star Airport Rating' by Skytrax, an international air transport rating agency. The assessment was based on a combination of procedural efficiency checks, visual observation analysis and several sampling tests)

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## 21-30 September 2020

### Current Affairs



**1)** Which two former republics of the Soviet era in the Central Asian region entered into a full-fledged military conflict during September 2020? – **Azerbaijan and Armenia**

(Azerbaijan and Armenia, the two Central Asian countries which emerged from the erstwhile Soviet Union after its disintegration in 1991, entered into a full-fledged war from the morning of 27 September 2020. The background for this military conflict is the unresolved Nagorno-Karabakh region conflict between the two countries. Nagorno-Karabakh is an Armenian-majority region which is an internationally recognised territory of Azerbaijan. Both countries have claimed ownership of the region and a war between the two countries ended in a truce in 1994. But the issue has been continued to engage Azerbaijan and Armenia

politically and militarily. By 30 September 2020 around a 1000 people from both sides, including civilians, are feared dead in this serious conflict)

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**2) Indian Railway pressed into how many clone trains from 21 September 2020 for the benefit of the wait-listed passengers? – 40**

(40 clone trains of popular trains were pressed into service from 21 September 2020 by the Indian Railway with the help of which waitlisted passengers on high traffic routes can hope to reach their destinations two-three hours before the corresponding parent train. These clone trains - primarily 3-AC trains with fewer halts, higher speeds and a departure time before the parent train- come as a boon for the passengers who have to travel in an emergency or have made last-minute plans)

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**3) Who is poised to become the first woman pilot to fly the Rafale aircraft that was inducted into the Indian Air Force (IAF) during September 2020? - Flight Lieutenant Shivangi Singh**

(Flight Lieutenant Shivangi Singh is set to become India's first woman fighter pilot to fly the French-made Rafale aircraft. 5 of these state-of-the-art aircrafts were inducted in the IAF on 10 September 2020. Shivangi is one of IAF's 10 women fighter pilots and had joined IAF in 2017. She will now join Rafale's 'Golden Arrows' Squadron in Ambala)

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**4) Shareholders of which private-sector bank rejected the proposal to appoint seven directors on the board of the bank on 26 September 2020 after which the RBI approved a 3-member committee to run the bank? – Lakshmi Vilas Bank**

(The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 28 September 2020 a Committee of Directors (CoD) composed of three independent directors to run the day-to-day affairs at Lakshmi Vilas Bank (LVB). The move comes after shareholders of the bank rejected the reappointment of seven directors, including the CEO at the annual general meeting on 26 September 2020. LVB is presently facing problems and is in talks with Clix Capital for a merger)

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**5) Which state government during September 2020 launched a unified portal called 'U-Rise' to**

guide students in learning, career counselling, and getting employment in the state? – **Uttar Pradesh**

(The Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on 24 September 2020 launched a unified portal called ‘U-Rise’ with the primary aim of guiding students in learning, career counselling, and getting employment in the state. ‘U-Rise’ stands for “Unified Re-imagined Innovation For Student Empowerment”. Around 20 lakh students and technical experts will get benefit from this portal who are getting vocational and technical education. UP is the first state in the country to launch a unified portal along with the implementation of National Education Policy (NEP) -2020)

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**6)** What is the name of the body that replaced the Medical Council of India (MCI), as the country’s apex regulator of medical education and profession on 25 September 2020? - **National Medical Commission**

(National Medical Commission (NMC) is the name of the new body that replaced the Medical Council of India (MCI) on 25 September 2020. Now NMC is the apex body to regulate medical education and profession in the country. Earlier the NITI Aayog had recommended to replace the Medical Council of India with National Medical Commission and the National Medical Commission ordinance replaced the Medical Council of India in 2019)

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**7)** The JIMEX 2020 maritime exercise between the navies of Japan and India concluded on 28 September 2020. This 3-day exercise was held at which place? - **Arabian Sea**

(The naval exercise between the navies of Japan and India started on 26 September and concluded on 28 September 2020 at Arabian Sea. In the light of COVID-19 restrictions, the exercise was conducted in a ‘non-contact at-sea-only format’. Indian Navy was represented by indigenously built stealth destroyer “Chennai”, Teg Class stealth frigate Tarkash while the Japanese Navy was represented by an Izumo Class Helicopter Destroyer, a Guided Missile Destroyer “Ikazuchi” and P8I Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft)

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**8)** During September 2020 in which state “Ghar Tak Fiber” scheme was launched in which state? – **Bihar**

(“Ghar Tak Fiber” scheme was launched in Bihar on 21 September 2020 with the primary objective of taking the optical fiber services to households. It will connect 45,945 villages in the state and will enable the digital revolution to reach even to the remote areas of Bihar. Simultaneously nine highway projects were also launched in the state by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The roads will be built at a cost of Rs. 14,250 crore)

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