

## **CURRENT AFFAIRS OF FEBRUARY 2021**

### **Defence**

The indigenously built Prabal class missile vessel which is participating in the Naval Defence Exhibition, NAVDEX 21 and International Defence Exhibition, IDEX 21 scheduled from 20 to 25 February 2021 in Abu Dhabi, UAE – **INS Pralaya**

The 16th edition of India-US joint military exercise being held at Bikaner, Rajasthan from 08 Feb to 21 Feb 2021 – **Yudh Abhyas**

### **Persons**

The Governor of Telangana who has been given the additional charge as Lt Governor of Puducherry following resignation of Ms Kiran Bedi – **Tamilisai Soundararajan**

The contestant from Telangana who has been declared the winner of VLCC Femina Miss India World 2020 – **Manasi Varanasi**

The Nigerian-American economist who has been chosen to be the next and first woman and first African Director General of WTO – **Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala**

### **Places**

The city in Madhya Pradesh which has been renamed Narmadapuram as announced by its CM Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan – **Hoshangabad**

The stadium in Sardar Patel Sports Complex, Motera, Ahmedabad also the largest cricket stadium in the world has been named after – **Shri Narendra Modi**

The Indian city which has become the only city in India to be recognised as Tree City of the World along with 119 cities from 63 countries by Arbor Day Foundation and FAO – **Hyderabad**

The places in West Bengal where the eleventh edition of Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav is being held from 14 to 28 February 2021 – **Cooch Behar, Darjeeling and Murshidabad**

The airport in Uttar Pradesh which has been given license to operate international flights thus making it the 3rd international airport in the state – **Kushinagar**

The country which has emerged as India's largest trade partner in the year 2020 thereby replacing United States in the top position – **China**

The country which has rejoined the Paris Climate Agreement two years after it had withdrawn from it in 2019 – **USA**

The city in which India's first wetland centre named Centre for Wetland Conservation and Management has been established on World Wetlands Day – **Chennai**

## **Sports**

The Indian cricketer who has announced retirement from all forms of the game – **Yusuf Pathan**

The place in Jammu and Kashmir where the 2nd Khelo India Winter Games were inaugurated by the PM Shri Narendra Modi – **Gulmarg**

The table tennis player from Tamil Nadu who has won the 82nd Senior National Table Tennis Championship mens' title defeating Anthony Amalraj in the finals – **Sarath Kamal**

The table tennis player from Delhi who has won the 82nd Senior National Table Tennis Championship defeating Reeth Rishya in the finals in Panchkula – **Manika Batra**

The team which has won the 12th edition of Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy 2021 cricket tournament defeating Baroda in the finals at Ahmedabad – **Tamil Nadu**

## **Themes**

The theme of National Science Day observed on 28 February 2021 to mark the birth anniversary of Sir CV Raman – **Future of STI: Impacts on Education, Skills, and Work**

Theme of world thinking day observed on 22 Feb 2021 by World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts – **Peacebuilding**

The theme of World Sustainable Development Summit 2021 held online from 10 to 12 February 2021 – **Redefining our common future: Safe and secure environment for all**

The slogan for Aero India 2021, the biennial air show held in Bengaluru from 03 to 05 February 2021 – **The Runway to a Billion Opportunities**

## **Miscellaneous**

The instant messaging system (similar to Whatsapp) launched by National Informatics Centre, Govt of India is named – **Sandes**

## **EIU Democracy Index 2020**

Released by Economic Intelligence Unit

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Country</b>
1.	Norway	53.	India
2.	Iceland	68.	Sri Lanka
3.	Sweden	76.	Bangladesh
4.	New Zealand	84.	Bhutan
5.	Canada	105.	Pakistan

Note: India has slipped 2 positions from its ranking in 2019.

## **Budget 2021-22**

The Budget proposals for 2021-22 rest on 6 pillars.

1. Health and Wellbeing
2. Physical & Financial Capital, and Infrastructure
3. Inclusive Development for Aspirational India
4. Reinvigorating Human Capital
5. Innovation and R&D
6. Minimum Government and Maximum Governance

### **Highlights**

1. A new scheme, titled PM Atma Nirbhar Swasthya Bharat Yojana, to be launched to develop primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare.
2. Jal Jeevan Mission (URBAN) designed to provide universal coverage of water supply to all households through functional taps in all 4,378 statutory towns in accordance with SDG Goal- 6.
3. 100 new Sainik Schools to be set up
4. 750 Eklavya schools to be set up in tribal areas
5. Proposal to set up a Central University in Ladakh
6. Vehicle scrapping policy to phase out old and unfit vehicles.
7. 100% electrification of Railways to be completed by 2023
8. Metro services announced in 27 cities.
9. National Hydrogen Mission to be launched to generate hydrogen from green power sources
10. No IT filing for people above 75 years who get pension and earn interest from deposits
11. Deposit insurance increased from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 5 lakh for bank depositors
12. Two PSU bank and one general insurance firm to be disinvested this year
13. An IPO of LIC to debut this fiscal
14. A portal to be launched to maintain information on gig workers and construction workers
15. Social security to be extended to gig and platform workers

## Important Days of February

<p><b>World Wetlands Day:</b> 02 February 2021 Designated by: Ramsar Convention Secretariat Theme: Wetlands and Water First Observed in: 1997</p>
<p><b>World Cancer Day:</b> 04 February 2021 Designated by: Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) Theme: I am and I Will (for 2020-21) First Observed in: 2000</p>
<p><b>International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation:</b> 06 February 2021 Designated by: U.N.O. First Observed in: 2013 Theme: No Time for Global Inaction, Unite, Fund, and Act to End Female Genital Mutilation</p>
<p><b>Safer Internet Day:</b> 09 February 2021 Designated by: European Union Theme: Together for a better internet First Observed in: 2004</p>
<p><b>World Pulses Day:</b> 10 February 2021 Designated by: U.N.O. First Observed in: 2020 Theme: Nutritious Seeds for a Sustainable Future</p>
<p><b>International Day of Women and Girls in Science:</b> 11 February 2021 Designated by: U.N.O. First Observed in: 2016 Theme: Women scientists at the forefront of fight against COVID-19</p>
<p><b>World Radio Day:</b> 13 February 2021 Designated by: UNESCO Theme: New World New Radio First Observed in: 2013</p>
<p><b>World Day of Social Justice:</b> 20 February 2021 Designated by: UN General Assembly First Observed in: 2008</p>
<p><b>International Mother Language Day:</b> 21 February 2021 Designated by: UN General Assembly Theme: Fostering multilingualism for inclusion in education and society First Observed in: 2008</p>
<p><b>Rare Disease Day:</b> 29 February 2021 (Last day of February) Designated by: European Organisation for Rare Diseases (EURORDIS) Theme: <b>Rare is many. Rare is strong. Rare is proud!</b> First Observed in: 2008</p>

## Dada Saheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards 2021

Best Actor (Female) – **Deepika Padukone**, Chhapaak

Best Actor (Male) – **Akshay Kumar**, Laxmii

Critic's Best Actress – **Kiara Advani**, Guilty

Critic's Best Actor – **Sushant Singh Rajput**

Best Film – **Tanhaji: The Unsung Warrior**

Best International Feature Film – **Parasite**

Most Versatile Actor – **Kay Kay Menon**

Best Director – **Anurag Basu, Ludo**

Best Actor in a Supporting Role – **Vikrant Massey, Chhapaak**

Best Actress in Supporting Role – **Radhika Madan**

Best Actor in Comic Role – **Kunal Kemmu, Lootcase**

### Australian Open 2021

<b>Title</b>	<b>Winner</b>	<b>Runner-up</b>
Men's Singles	Novak Djokovic (Serbia)	Daniil Medvedev (Russia)
Women's Singles	Naomi Osaka (Japan)	Jennifer Brady (USA)
Men's Doubles	Ivan Dodig (Croatia) and Filip Polasek (Slovakia)	Rajeev Ram (USA) and Joe Salisbury (UK)
Women's Doubles	Elise Mertens (Belgium) and Aryna Sabalenka (Belarus)	Barbora Krejckova and Katerina Siniakova (Czech Republic)
Women's Doubles	Barbora Krejckova (Czech Republic) and Rajeev Ram (USA)	Samantha Stosur and Matthew Ebden (Australia)

### Books in News

The Little Book of Encouragement by **Dalai Lama**

By Many a Happy Accident: Recollections of Life by **Mohammad Hamid Ansari** (former Vice-President)

Unfinished by **Priyanka Chopra**