

## CURRENT AFFAIRS= 20-03-2020

### Vice Prez Venkaiah Naidu Virtually Announced ARIIA 2020 Results; IIT Madras Topped among Institutes of National Importance

Vice-President of India, **Muppavarapu Venkaiah Naidu**, e-released the Atal Ranking of



Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA) 2020 from New Delhi. He was the chief of the virtual ceremony while Union Minister of Education, Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ and Minister of State (MoS) for Education Sanjay Shamrao

Dhotre were the Guest of Honour.

- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras topped the category of Institute of National Importance while **Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT)**, Khordha (Odisha) topped the category of Private or Self-Financed Universities.
- The rankings were announced in **six categories** viz. Centrally Funded Institutions, State funded universities, State-funded autonomous institutions, Private/Deemed Universities, Private Institutions, and Women (only higher educational institutions). For the first time, ARIIA 2020 had a special prize category for women only higher educational institutions.
- The rankings are premised on **9 parameters**– Budget, Facilities, Awareness, Innovation, Entrepreneurship, Commercialization, Learning Methods, Governance, and Angel and Venture Capital Funding/Investor Linkage.

Following tables show the top ranker’s under all categories:

Rank	Name	State
<b>Higher Educational Institutions Exclusively for Women (only from govt and govt aided category)</b>		

1	Avinashilingam Institute For Home Science And Higher Education For Women	Tamil Nadu
2	Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical University For Women	Delhi
<b>Institute of National Importance, Central Universities &amp; CFTIS</b>		
1	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras	Chennai, Tamil Nadu
2	IIT Bombay	Mumbai, Maharashtra
3	IIT Delhi	New Delhi
<b>Govt and Govt aided Universities</b>		
1	Institute of Chemical Technology	Maharashtra
2	Panjab University	Chandigarh
3	Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University	Haryana
<b>Govt and Govt aided College/Institutes</b>		
1	College of Engineering Pune	Maharashtra
2	People's Education Society (PES) College of Engineering	Mandya, Karnataka
3	Coimbatore Institute of Technology	Tamil Nadu

## Dhanwantari Rath' to bring Ayurveda at Doorsteps of Delhi

### Police Families



Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between **AllIndia Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA)** and **Delhi Police** for extending ayurvedic mode of preventive and promotive health services in the residential colonies of the Delhi

Police through mobile units named '**Dhanwantari Rath**'.

The MoU was exchanged between Commissioner of Delhi Police Shri S N Shrivastava and Shri Pramod Kumar Pathak, Additional Secretary, Ministry of AYUSH. The Dhanwantari Rath was flagged off in the presence of Professor Tanuja Nesari, Director of AIIA.

#### **Dhanwantari Rath:**

The services will be extended through mobile units named 'Dhanwantari Rath' and Police Wellness Centres which are to be catered by AIIA, supported by the Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH).

- i.**The mobile units will consist of Ayush Doctor, paramedic and nursing staff along with local Medical Officers from Urban Health Centre.
- ii.**The idea of 'Dhanwantari Rath' was first implemented by Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation, Gujarat.
- iii.**The mobile medical vans carry all essential medicines including ayurvedic & homeopathic medicines, vitamin supplements, basic testing equipment along with pulse Oxymeter.

#### **AYURAKSHA:**

- i.**AYURAKSHA is a joint venture of AIIA & Delhi Police for maintaining the health of Delhi Police personnel who serve as frontline warriors during COVID-19 through Ayurveda immunity boosting measures.

ii. Under the programme, a AYURAKSHA kit containing 'Kadha' concoction (Herbal Tea), 'Sanshamani' tablet (made from Giloy), Oil to be used as nasal drops, Pack of Chyawanprash are distributed to the Delhi Police.

iii. The kits were distributed to around 80,000 Police Personnel over a period of two months.

iv. The scheme was launched on April 30, 2020 for the Delhi Police Personnel only, now it will be extended to the families of the Delhi Police.

The programme showed positive results as it brought down the incidence and mortality rate of COVID-19 in the Delhi Police Personnel.

## ILO-ADB Report: 41 Lakh Youths Lost Their Jobs in India Due to COVID-19



**The International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) released the joint report titled "Tackling the Covid-19 youth employment crisis in Asia and the Pacific", which stated that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, around 41 lakh youths have lost their jobs in India.**

### Effects of Pandemic:

i. Due to lockdown and travel restrictions has forced many businesses to close or cut down the operations which affected the workers.

ii. Around 220 million young workers (15 to 24 years) in the region are vulnerable due to their short tenure on the job.

iii. The report estimates that around 1 crore to 1.5 crore youth jobs may be lost in the 13 countries in the Asia and Pacific region in 2020.

### Sectors with Major Job Loss:

i. Agriculture, Retail Trade, Hotels and restaurants, Inland transport, Other services, Construction, Textiles and textile products were the 7 key sectors which experienced job loss in the region.

## ADB Approved USD 1 billion loan for Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System, a 1st of its kind in India



The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a **USD 1 billion** (about Rs 7,485 crore) loan to construct the modern, high-speed 82-kilometer **Delhi – Meerut**, Uttar Pradesh Regional Rapid Transit System (**RRTS**) in India, a first of its kind in India. The finance of the Delhi- Meerut RRTS project will be given in 4 tranches between August 2020 and May 2025. The NCR Transport Corporation (NCRTC) will execute the project.

### Key Info

- i. The Delhi-Meerut RRTS network is the 1st of three priority rail corridors in the country's integrated transport network under the National Capital Region (NCR) Regional Plan 2021.
- ii. The project will be implemented in phases between the cities and is expected to be open by March 2025.
- iii. The project will finance the construction of railway tracks, station buildings, maintenance facilities, and traction and power supply.

## St Christopher School in Nagaland won the first ever Pallikkutam National Award for Innovation in Education

**St Christopher School** in Chessore Village, **Nagaland** won the Gold Award along with cash prize of Rs.1 Lakh from the first ever Pallikkutam National Award for Innovation in



Education instituted by **Rajagiri Media**. The awards were announced over a virtual meeting.

- The St Christopher School won the award for ensuring a seamless class for the students with the limited infrastructure and resources in the rural area. The Prize money for Gold Award is Rs.1,00,000.

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- The rural school provided a balanced online and offline activities for the students over the whatsapp.

### About the Award:

- i. The award was sponsored under the CSR initiative of the Federal Bank Ltd.
- ii. The winners of the awards were chosen by an expert jury formed by the Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode (IIM-K).

### Other Winners:

- i. **Silver Award (Rs.50,000)** was presented to **DAV Public School, Haryana** for using simple and innovative approaches based on available applications like virtual Labs, MIT App Inventor, learning 3D design etc.,. They also engaged students in activities like coding, astronomy, robotics and yoga.
- ii. **Bronze Award (Rs.25,000)** was presented to **CMI Christ School, Iritty, Kerala** for their focus on physical activities like gardening, dancing, art etc.,.

## Ganesh Vilas Lengare Awarded Star 2020 Certificate by World Book of Records, London

Solapur based activist Ganesh Vilas Lengare has been awarded **Star 2020 E-citation Certification** by World Book of Records, London. He has been awarded for his efforts to help the poor people during the lockdown caused by Coronavirus.

- i. Ganesh Vilas Lengare launched 21 schemes to assist the people. The Most notable work that he had done was the COVID-19 patient contact tracing, which was implemented with the help of Solapur district authorities.
- ii. Ganesh Vilas Lengare spread awareness about hygiene, wearing masks and social distancing by organising online contests and producing educational videos.
- iii. He provided masks and water bottles to migrant labourers who were returning to their hometown via Solapur-Pune Highway and arranged for free distribution of grocery and vegetables for the poor.
- iv. Ganesh Vilas Lengare spread the spirit of hope and positivity during the tough lockdown phase.

## Luis Rodolfo Abinader sworn in as 54th President of Dominican Republic



**Luis Rodolfo Abinader Corona** has been sworn in as the 54th President of Dominican Republic. Luis Rodolfo Abinader is a businessman who has never held any other elected office. He succeeds **Danilo Medina** of Liberation Party.

i. The 53-year old Luis Rodolfo Abinader was elected to the four-year term on July 5, which ended the 16-year run in power by the Center-

Left Dominican Liberation Party (PLD). He finished second in the 2016 President election.

ii. Abinader's Modern Revolutionary Party (PRM) won the elections with 53% vote, while Gonzalo Castillo who was the candidate of the ruling PLD got 37.7%.

iii. The swearing-in ceremony was attended by US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.

## Ashok Lavasa Resigns as Election Commissioner



On August 18, 2020, Ashok Lavasa, one of the two Election Commissioners of India resigned from his post in order to take charge as the Vice President of Asian Development Bank (ADB) next month.

i. Lavasa still had over two years left in his term at the Election Commission of India and would have retired as the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) in October 2022.

ii. He assumed charge as Election Commissioner of India on 23rd January, 2018.

iii. Ashok Lavasa is a retired Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of Haryana Cadre (Batch 1980) and has served several stints in various government departments such as Union Finance Secretary, Union Secretary Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change and Ministry of Civil Aviation.

## Mali President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita Resigns after Military Mutiny



On 19th August, 2020, Mali President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita announced his resignation with immediate effect following a military mutiny in the Republic of Mali.

i. Ibrahim Boubacar Keita served as sixth President of Republic of Mali from 2013-2018 & was reelected in 2018 as the President.

ii. Boubacar represents the Political Party **Rally for Mali (RPM)** and has served as the sixth Prime Minister of Mali from 1994-2000.

iii. The June 5-Rally of Patriotic Forces Movement (Mouvement du 5 juin Rassemblement des Forces Patriotiques or M5-RFP) has been heading the protests against Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, owing to discontent over refusal to raise wages of Teachers and Doctors and also due to corruption by Ibrahim Boubacar Keita.