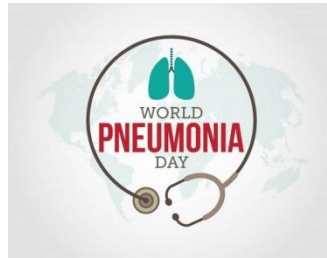


Current Affairs Today –13.11.2020

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CURRENT AFFAIRS: DAYS

World Pneumonia Day



- **World Pneumonia Day** is observed on **12 November** each year.
- This day was first established in **2009** to raise awareness about this condition.
- In 2020, the theme for World Pneumonia Day is **“Every Breath Counts”**

CURRENT AFFAIRS: NATIONAL

Centre brings OTT platforms, online news portals under Information & Broadcasting ministry



- The **ministry of information and broadcasting** has brought **digital audio-video content**, including **films and web shows on OTT platforms**, as well as **news and current affairs online platforms** under its ambit.
- This means that online streaming portals like Netflix, Amazon Prime among many others will now come under the purview of I&B headed by **Union Minister Prakash Javadekar**.
- In September, the I&B ministry had informed the Supreme Court that digital media needs to be regulated as it has a larger reach, and through apps like Facebook and WhatsApp, a wider audience can be reached.
- Presently, India does not have an autonomous body that governs online content. In October, the Supreme Court had issued a notice to the Central Government based on a petition on OTT platforms.
- The petition, filed by an advocate, **Shashank Shekhar Jha**, looked for setting up an autonomous body to monitor and filter content on these OTT portals.
- Exercising the powers conferred by clause (3) of Article 77 of the Constitution, the President of India called for amended to the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961.
- These rules may be called the **Government of India (Allocation of Business) Three Hundred and Fifty-Seventh Amendment Rules, 2020**.

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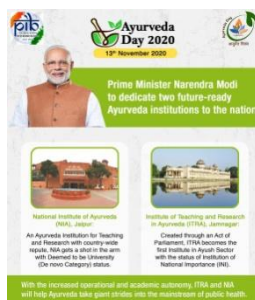
- Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Minister of Information and Broadcasting and Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprise: Prakash Keshav Javadekar
- Constituency: Maharashtra

PM Narendra Modi unveils Swami Vivekananda's statue on JNU campus



- Prime Minister Shri **Narendra Modi** unveiled a **statue of Swami Vivekananda** in **JNU Campus, New Delhi** through video conferencing.
- The event was also attended by Union Minister for Education Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank and JNU vice-chancellor Jagadesh Kumar.
- It took renowned **sculptor Naresh Kumawat** seven months to complete this statue of Swami Vivekananda on the JNU campus. Located about 300 metres from a statue of India's first prime minister, the statue of Swami Vivekananda is about three feet taller than that of Jawaharlal Nehru.

Prime Minister to dedicate Two Ayurveda Institutions to the nation at the 5th Ayurveda Day on 13th November

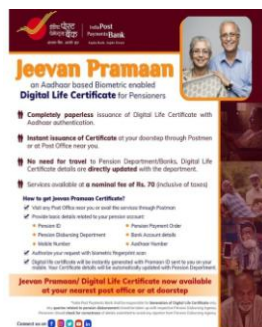


- The **Prime Minister will dedicate two future-ready Ayurveda institutions** to the nation at the **5th Ayurveda Day on 13th November, 2020.**
- These are the **Institute of Teaching & Research in Ayurveda (ITRA), Jamnagar** and the **National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA), Jaipur.**
- Both the institutes are premier institutions of Ayurveda in the country. The former has been conferred the status of an Institution of National Importance (INI) by an Act of Parliament and the latter that of an Institution Deemed to be University (De novo Category) by the University Grants Commission (UGC)
- Ministry of AYUSH, **since 2016**, has been observing '**Ayurveda Day**' every year on the **occasion of Dhanwantari Jayanti (Dhanteras).** This year, it falls on **13th of November.**

About Ministry of AYUSH

- Union Minister of State in the Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy and Minister of State for Defence : Shripad Yesso Naik
- Constituency: North Goa

India Post Payment Bank launches doorstep service to submit digital life certificate



- **India Post Payments Bank, IPPB** have **successfully launched** the **initiative of doorstep service** for **submission of Digital Life Certificate through Postman**.
- The facility to **submit life certificate online through Jeevan Pramaan Portal** was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in November, 2014 with the objective to provide a convenient and transparent facility to pensioners for submission of Life Certificate.
- In order to make this facility available across the country, **Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare roped in the India Post Payments Bank to utilise its huge network of Postmen and Gramin Dak Sevaks** in providing doorstep facility to pensioners for submission of life certificate digitally.

CURRENT AFFAIRS: NATIONAL

Turkey bans smoking in public places to curb virus spread



- **Turkey's interior ministry** has **banned smoking in public places across the country** to **curb the spread of COVID-19**.
- **Smoking** would be **banned in busy streets, bus stops and public squares** when necessary.
- The nationwide mask mandate in public spaces, which has been in effect for several months, must be followed at all times and smokers were routinely violating the mask rule.

About Turkey:

- Capital: Ankara
- Currency: Turkish lira
- President: Recep Tayyip Erdoğan

CURRENT AFFAIRS: STATES

Odisha government adds fish nutrition to anganwadi diet chart



- **Odisha government** introduced **fish and fish-based products** in **Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP)** on a pilot basis in order **to reduce malnutrition** among the vulnerable people in the hard to reach areas of the State.
- Initially, the fish based products will be added in the SNP diet chart for children, aged between three and six years, pregnant and nursing women and adolescent girls in 50 Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) of **Mayurbhanj district**.
- The **Department of Women and Child Development** and **Mission Shakti (WCD&MS)** inked a pact with **WorldFish** for a **five-year technical collaboration** to pilot and scale it up as part of the SNP. The **US Agency for International Development (USAID)** is **supporting the pilot project**.
- As per the initiative, dried fish products will be provided in the Take Home Ration (THR) to adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women for six months. It will be scaled up on the basis of the outcome.
- WorldFish will provide technical support for the initiative and improve the livelihoods of women and local communities through fish and aquatic foods.

About Odisha

- Capital: Bhubaneswar
- Governor: Ganeshi Lal
- Chief minister: Naveen Patnaik

Haryana CM launches Project Air Care in Gurugram to fight pollution



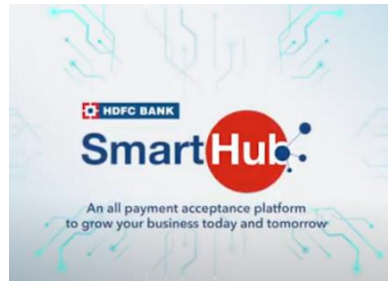
- **Haryana CM** Manohar Lal Khattar has **unveiled Project Air Care** in Gurugram due to **rising levels of air pollution**.
- Under the **project**, **65 Wind Augmentation Purifying Units (WAYU)** will be **installed** at **around 8-10 locations** with **high AQI levels** through public-private partnership.
- **WAYU** can **reduce PM10 by 60-70%** and **PM2.5 by 30-40%** at **traffic junctions**.

About Haryana:

- Capital: Chandigarh
- Governor: Satyadev Narayan Arya
- Chief minister: Manohar Lal Khattar

CURRENT AFFAIRS: BANKING AND FINANCE

HDFC Bank Launches SmartHub Merchant Solutions 3.0



- **HDFC Bank** announced the launch of India's first comprehensive banking and payment solution for merchants – **SmartHub Merchant Solutions 3.0**.
- This first-of-its-kind solution allows merchants and self-employed professionals to instantly open a current account and start accepting payments in-store, online, and on-the-go.
- SmartHub 3.0 offers the ideal platform for small merchants and self-employed professionals to join the digital ecosystem through an easy, convenient and secure solution.
- It allows users to accept payments in multiple forms, including QR and our newly launched tap to phone solution, allowing millions of merchants to offer a superior customer experience and grow the business.
- For the merchants, SmartHub 3.0 will be available in multiple forms – app based, web based and also a range of PoS devices. The comprehensive solution will enable efficiencies in the business for them.
- People can join SmartHub 3.0 by clicking on "https://hdfcbank.com/smarthub".
- HDFC Bank is the leading player in the merchant acquiring space in the country.
- It processes 48 per cent of the overall card transactions at the merchant level in terms of volumes and about a fourth through a unified payments interface.

About HDFC

- Headquarters: Mumbai
- MD and CEO : Sashidhar Jagdishan

Sebi forms expert group to review norms related to share-based staff benefit, issue of sweat equity



- Markets regulator **Sebi** has set up an **expert group** to review the **framework of share-based employee benefit and issue of sweat equity**.
- The **seven-member expert group** would be chaired by **Sandip Bhagat** Partner at S&R Associates.
- The expert group would revisit the framework of share-based employee benefit and suggest policy changes.
- Further, the panel has been mandated to revisit the framework of sweat equity regulations vis-a-vis the Companies Act, and recommend any policy changes.
- They have to suggest whether it is advisable to combine both the regulations. In case, these norms can be combined, the panel would provide draft rules in this regard.
- Sweat equity shares, generally, issued by a company to its employees at a discount or for consideration other than cash.

- Other members of the panel are Santosh Haldankar, company secretary of HDFC Bank; Vikram Shroff of Nishith Desai Associates and Narayan Shankar, company secretary of Mahindra & Mahindra.
- Further, Pavan Vijay, founder of Corporate Professionals; M Sanaulla Khan, company secretary of Wipro; and Sebi's Chief General Manager Jeevan Sonparote are also members of the panel.

About SEBI

- Founded: 12 April 1992
- Headquarters: Mumbai
- Ajay Tyagi (Chairperson)

SBM Bank India set to launch a neo banking platform



- **SBM Bank India**, which is the **wholly-owned subsidiary** of **State Bank of Mauritius**, is focussing on technology to reach out to customers and is **set to launch a neo banking platform**.
- SBM Bank has tied up with a fintech, the bank is looking at collaborative banking in a lot of other segments as well where companies may have access to large number of customers but do not have a banking license.
- SBM are piloting with fintech PayNearby. SBM have launched a service called Nivesh which is a recurring deposit platform.
- It was the first foreign bank in India to obtain a banking licence from RBI in January 2019

About SBM

- Founded: 1973
- Headquarters: Port Louis, Mauritius
- Parvataneni Venkateswara Rao (CEO)

CURRENT AFFAIRS: APPOINTMENT AND RESIGNATION

M.M. Murugappan steps down as chairman of Tube and Chola mandalam Investments



- **Noted industrialist** and **chairman** of diversified conglomerate **Murugappa Group** **M M Murugappan** has **stepped down** from **two** of the **group entities'** to **pursue philanthropy** and **other interests**.
- **Meanwhile**, the **board** appointed **M.A.M. Arunachalam** as **additional director** (non-executive, non-independent) and **K.R. Srinivasan** as **additional director** (executive) of the **company** with **immediate effect**.

- **Srinivasan** was also **appointed** as **president** and **whole time director (key managerial personnel)** for a **three year period**.

CURRENT AFFAIRS: MERGER AND ACQUISITION

Merger of HDFC ERGO Health Insurance with HDFC ERGO General Insurance complete



- The **merger** of **HDFC ERGO Health Insurance**, which was **earlier known** as **Apollo Munich Health Insurance**, with **HDFC ERGO General Insurance**, **has been completed** with the **approval** from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI).
- The merger makes **HDFC ERGO** the **second largest private insurer** in the **accident** and **health insurance business**, **expanding** its **product suite** to **over 50 products** in **this segment**.

About HDFC ERGO General Insurance

- Founded: 2002
- Headquarters: Mumbai
- Ritesh Kumar (CEO)

CURRENT AFFAIRS: APPS AND PORTALS

Telangana unveils two mobile apps to monitor Palle Pragathi



- Minister for Panchayat Raj and Rural Development of **Telangana Errabelli Dayakar Rao** unveiled two mobile apps aimed at improving the **functioning and supervision of Panchayat Raj department**.
- Both the apps – **Palle Pragathi Panchayat Secretary app** and **Palle Pragathi Inspection Officer app** – were designed by the State Panchayat Raj department.
- Panchayat Secretary app includes daily activities such as cleaning of roads, drainages, and government offices, maintenance of street lights and collection of household garbage.
- On the other hand the app also deals with monthly activities such as Palle Pragathi works, cleaning of water tanks, conduction of gram panchayat and gram sabhas, birth, death and marriage registrations, revenue and expenditure of the panchayat, receipts of salaries paid, bank accounts of employment guarantee committees. The details posted by the secretary will be ported to the inspector's login that will scrutinize and validate the entry. The inspection officer will have to complete the work in stipulated time.
- The inspection app will deal with sanitation work, cleaning of government offices, status of use off Vaikuntadhamams, dumping yard details, nursery works, approvals and certificates, financial dealings, issued

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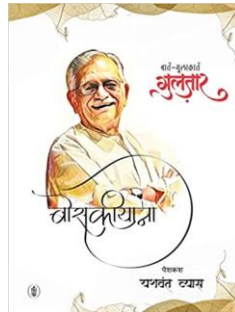
cheques, maintenance of records, ranking of gram panchayats and others. The inspection app helps the officers to rank the panchayats based on their performance.

About Telangana

- Capital: Hyderabad
- Governor: Tamilisai Soundararajan
- Chief minister: K. Chandrashekar Rao

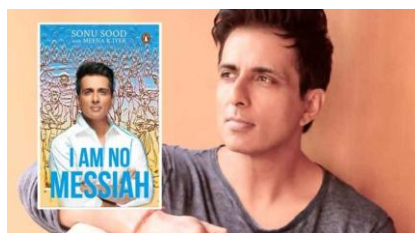
CURRENT AFFAIRS: BOOKS AND AUTHORS

‘Boskiyana’: A New Book On Gulzar Unveiled



- “**Boskiyana**”, a new book in Hindi, brings out the personality of the veteran poet-lyricist through detailed conversations and opens up readers to his thoughts and vision of the world, its publisher **Radhakrishna Prakashan**.
- Some of Gulzar’s most defining interviews and free-wheeling conversations compiled from the last thirty years have now found their way to readers in the form of a new book.
- The 228-page book, which navigates Gulzar’s life through his films, poetry, philosophies, lifestyle, likes and dislikes, has been edited by **Yashwant Vyas**.
- Gulzar said the book shares the same name – ‘Boskiyana’-- as his house in Mumbai.

Sonu's autobiography titled 'I Am No Messiah' to release in December



- **Actor Sonu Sood**, who has been **helping people amid the COVID-19 pandemic**, announced on social media that his **autobiography titled 'I Am No Messiah'** will **release in December**.
- Sharing the cover of his upcoming book, the actor wrote, "This is a story of my life, as much as it is of the thousands of migrant workers."

CURRENT AFFAIRS: BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

Abu Dhabi’s SWF is first notified fund to get 100% income-tax exemption



- Finance Ministry announced **Abu Dhabi's Sovereign Wealth Fund (SWF) - MIC Redwood 1 RSC Limited** - has become the **first foreign SWF** that has been notified and granted **100% income-tax exemption** for the **long-term investments** to be made in the specified priority sectors in India.
- This 100% income-tax exemption facility was well received by the SWFs and Pension Funds across the globe and a large number of SWFs and Pension Funds have shown interest in making investment in India's infrastructure sector
- The Government of India had issued a notification on 6th July 2020 to broaden the scope of this exemption and made all sub-sectors of Harmonised Master List of the infrastructure eligible for this income-tax exemption.

CURRENT AFFAIRS: MOU

Tata AIA Life Insurance partners with PayBima to drive Life Insurance Protection through Digital sales



- **Tata AIA Life Insurance (Tata AIA Life)**, one of India's leading providers of Pure Protection Solutions, announced that it has partnered with **PayBima**, the digital arm of Mahindra Insurance Brokers Ltd., as a Broker to **distribute its industry-leading life insurance solutions**.
- The association is in line with Tata AIA Life's mission to provide Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) to its customers and aims to make the process of buying life insurance solutions simple, easy, and convenient.
- As part of the agreement, PayBima.com will offer the life Insurance solutions of Tata AIA Life on its platform. PayBima will leverage its analytics skill to offer personalised life insurance solutions best suited to the needs of its customers.
- PayBima will be fully integrated with Tata AIA Life digitally-led ecosystem to offer a seamless Online buying experience by eliminating the need for physical documents.

About Tata AIA Life Insurance

- CEO: Rishi Srivastava
- Headquarters: Mumbai

CURRENT AFFAIRS: RANKING

Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu virtually presents 2nd National Water Awards



- **Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu** virtually **presented** the **Second National Water Awards**.
- The NWAs focus on the good work and efforts made by individual and organisations across the country, and the government's vision for the path to '**JalSamridh Bharat**'.
- The winners will be felicitated with trophies/citation. Except for three categories i.e. 'Best State', 'Best State' and 'Best Water Regulatory Authority', winners from the rest thirteen categories will be awarded cash prizes, too.
- **Tamil Nadu** which bagged the **Best State Award**.
- **Maharashtra** secured the **second** and **Rajasthan** got the **third prize**.
- The award ceremony has been organised by the **Ministry of Jal Shakti, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation** through virtual platform.
- Water is a scarce natural resource which is fundamental to life, livelihood, food security and sustainable development.

CURRENT AFFAIRS: SPORTS

ITTF Women's World Cup: China's Chen claims maiden title



- World number one **Chen Meng** beat Chinese compatriot **Sun Yingsha** to win her maiden **ITTF Women's World Cup title in Weihai**.
- Chen's victory at the bio-secure Weihai Nanhai Olympic Center made her the first winner of the ITTF's #RESTART series and also took her tally of senior singles titles to 19.
- The women's and men's World Cup events were originally set to take place in Bangkok, Thailand and then Duesseldorf, Germany before the ITTF moved them to China.

About ITTF

- Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland
- President: Thomas Weikert
- CEO: Steve Dainton

Younis Khan appointed Pakistan's batting coach until 2022 T20 World Cup



- **Former captain Younis Khan will continue as the men's batting coach of Pakistan until the ICC Twenty20 World Cup in 2022.**
- **The Twenty20 World Cup 2022 is scheduled to be held in Australia.**
- Younis had earlier accompanied Pakistan to England this summer and will now continue with his responsibilities for the upcoming series in New Zealand for which the side departs on 23 November.

DAILY CA NOV 12TH

- **National Education Day or Rashtriya Shiksha Diwas is celebrated every year on November 11.**
- **The North East Centre For Technology Application and Reach (NECTAR) has undertaken a pilot project to explore the feasibility of growing saffron in North East region of the country.**
- **India and the Maldives signed four agreements, including one for a \$100-million grant for a connectivity project, as visiting foreign secretary Harsh Shringla and the Maldivian leadership discussed ways to boost economic recovery amid the Covid-19 pandemic.**
- **Insurance sector regulator IRDAI has set up a working group to revisit product structures of engineering tariffs relevant for the retail category in the wake of continuous advancement in technology. The nine-member panel headed by R Chandrasekaran.**
- **Jacinda Ardern: Leading with Empathy” is a biography of New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern be authored by Supriya Vani and Carl A Harte.**
- **The book “How to Be a Writer” by Ruskin Bond**
- **Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari released the book ‘Majhi Bhint’ (My Wall) authored by former Maharashtra Education Minister Rajendra Darda.**
- **2020 Physics Nobel Laureate Prof. Andrea Ghez had worked closely with Indian astronomers on the design of back-end instruments and possible science prospects of the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) project being installed at Maunakea in Hawaii. Some of the Indian astronomers like Dr. Annapurni Subramaniam, and Dr. Shashi Bhushan Pandey, along with many others collaborated with Prof. Ghez in the ongoing research and developmental activities of the TMT project.**
- **Australia-India Water Centre was inaugurated virtually through a Webinar, in view of the pandemic situation. The Water Centre is led by University of Western Sydney from Australia and IIT Guwahati from India along with 21 other partners from India and Australia.**
- **The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed for passenger buses a technology called "Fire Detection and Suppression System (FDSS)".**
- **Trailblazers beat Supernovas by 16 runs to win Women's T20 Challenge title at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium.**
- **Mumbai Indians (MI) beat Delhi Capitals (DC) by five wickets in the Dream11 Indian Premier League (IPL) 2020 final in Dubai and clinched their fifth IPL title.**

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- **Scooby-Doo co-creator Ken Spears** passed away at the age of 82.
- Ex-Mohun Bagan defender **Satyajit Ghosh** passed away due to a heart attack morning. He was 62.
- **Public Service Broadcasting Day** is being observed. The day is celebrated every year to commemorate the only visit of Mahatma Gandhi to the studio of All India Radio, Delhi in 1947.
- Home Minister Amit Shah will inaugurate “**Sarhad VistarVikasotsav 2020**” at Dhordo village situated in the forward border area in Kutch district of Gujarat.
- To mark the 12th anniversary of declaring the **Ganga as a national river** — having come to an end, the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) in the second phase of its survey of the entire main stem of the Ganga river (the main river without its tributaries), has found that **49 per cent of the river** has high biodiversity and that biodiversity sightings
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, CCEA, has approved continuation and revamping of the Scheme for Financial Support to **Public Private Partnerships in Infrastructure Viability Gap Funding Scheme** till 2024-25 with a total outlay of eight thousand 100 crore rupees.
- International Financial Services Centres Authority, IFSCA has approved **draft Banking regulations** for banking operations at IFSCs.
- As part of MSCI’s (Morgan Stanley Capital Index) semi-annual review of indices, **Muthoot Finance** will be added to the **MSCI India Domestic Index** from the close of November 30.
- India’s border areas with Pakistan in Rajasthan would be illuminated with renewable energy as the state government will soon ink an MoU with **National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)** and Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) to establish Ultra Mega Renewal Energy Power Park, government officials stated.
- **Maharashtra** will observe the **National Unity Week** from **19th to 25th of November**.
- In **Madhya Pradesh**, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan will release a **roadmap-2023 of Atmanirbhar Madhya Pradesh** in Bhopal. **Madhya Pradesh** is the first state in the country, which has prepared a roadmap for Atmanirbhar State
- In Madhya Pradesh, the Handicrafts Development Corporation has launched a unique initiative- **local4Diwali hashtag** under the ‘**Vocal for Local**’ campaign in the festive season
- **Gorakhpur** is all set to host the **International Bird Festival** in the month of February. The main focus of the government is eco-tourism, as there is a lot of potential for eco-tourism in Gorakhpur
- Indian-American **Kash Patel** has been named as the Chief of Staff to the Acting US Defence Secretary Chris Miller, the Pentagon has announced.
- The National Academy of Medical Sciences (India) has selected the Principal Scientist, Division of Molecular Parasitology and Immunology, (CSIR-CDRI)-Lucknow, **Dr Satish Mishra** for “**Dr.Tulsi Das Chugh Award 2020**”. He is awarded for his research work on Malaria parasite’s life cycle which is a complex process involving two hosts and three invasive stages.
- **Maharashtra** was adjudged the second-best state in water conservation effort by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, at the 2019 National Water Awards. Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu, who attended the event virtually, gave away the awards.
- UK Minister for Investment, Lord Gerry Grimstone, has released UK India business council’s ‘doing business in India report 2020’. For the third year running, **Maharashtra** came out as the state with maximum incremental improvement, followed by Karnataka, Delhi, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu, in that order.
- **The Indian School of Business (ISB)**, in partnership with the **Ministry of External Affairs** will be organising the **third edition of Deccan Dialogue** on November 16, on a virtual platform.

- The world's longest serving Prime Minister, **Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa of Bahrain**, passed away. He was 84.

DAILY CA NOV 13TH

- **World Pneumonia Day** is observed on **12 November** each year. The theme is “**Every Breath Counts**”
- The **ministry of information and broadcasting** has brought **digital audio-video content**, including **films and web shows on OTT platforms**, as well as **news and current affairs online platforms** under its ambit.
- Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi** unveiled a **statue of Swami Vivekananda** in **JNU Campus, New Delhi** through video conferencing.
- The **Prime Minister will dedicate two** future-ready **Ayurveda institutions** to the nation at the **5th Ayurveda Day** on **13th November, 2020**. These are the **Institute of Teaching & Research in Ayurveda (ITRA)**, **Jamnagar** and the **National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA)**, **Jaipur**.
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