



AIR Discussions (December 1st Week)

ALL INDIA RADIO SUMMARY (1 DECEMBER TO 7 DECEMBER, 2020)

SPOTLIGHT

Bharat Ratna Dr. B.R. Ambedkar-The man and His Vision

Context: Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, also known as Babasaheb Ambedkar, was an Indian jurist, economist, politician and social reformer, who inspired the **Dalit Buddhist movement** and campaigned against **social discrimination towards the untouchables**.

Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar was born on April 14, 1891 to Ramji Maloji Sakpal, who was a subedar in the British Indian Army, and Bhimabai Sakpal.

Important highlights of his career:

- In **1930**, he became the **president of the All India Depressed Class Association**.
- In **1936**, he formed an **Independent Labour Party**, which later on turned into **All India Scheduled Castes Federation**.
- On 7th August, 1942, Ambedkar became the **member of the Council for Governor General**.
- In his **chairmanship, the Constitution of India was drafted**.
- On 3rd August, 1949, he took the **charge of the Law Minister** in the Government of India.
- In 1955, he formed **Bharatiya Buddha Mahasabha**.

Famous writings of Ambedkar:

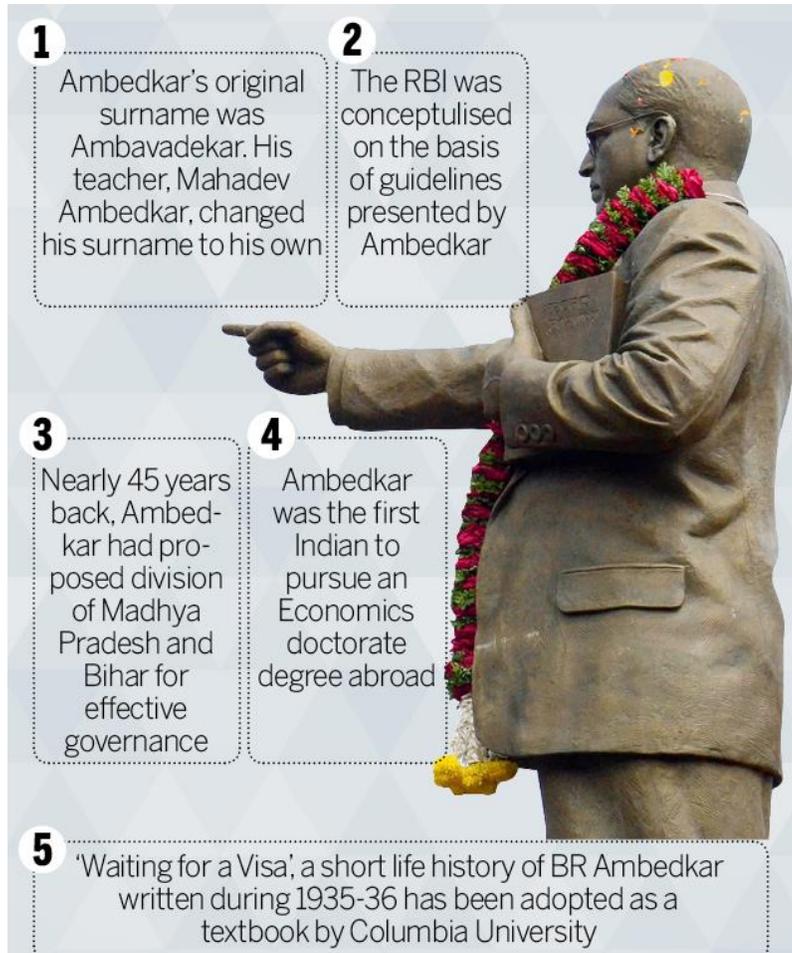
1. The Untouchables, Who are they?
2. Who were the Shudra?
3. States and Minorities
4. Emancipation of the Untouchables
5. Annihilation of Caste



His Contributions:

Mahad Satyagraha:

- We talk about Mahatma Gandhi for Satyagraha and Dandi march movement but even before that 3 years back from that movement on **20 March 1927 Satyagraha was led by Dr B.R. Ambedkar to allow untouchables(Dalits) to use water in a public tank** in Mahad, Maharashtra, India.



RBI's conceptualisation:

- The Reserve Bank of India was conceptualised in accordance with the **guidelines presented by Dr Ambedkar to the Hilton Young Commission** based on his book, **The Problem of the Rupee – Its Origin and Its Solution**.
- Although BR Ambedkar is widely known as the architect of the Indian Constitution, he played a major role in forming the Reserve Bank of India - the country's central banking system.



Savior of Labor Rights in India:

- Under previous Colonial rule in India 14 to 12 Hrs of work by the law, but Dr Ambedkar as a **Labor Minister and as the Labor Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council** between 1942 and 1946 changed this law and **reduced it to 12 to 8 Hrs.**

Rights to women:

- Ambedkar was the one to **introduce the Hindu Code Bill** through which Inheritance of property, Right to adopt children, Right to Divorce, Right to remarry came to our Parliament.
- He worked to **improve the status of women** by granting the **fundamental rights to all the citizens irrespective of caste, creed, race and sex.**
- He also brought the **Mines Maternity Benefit Bill** for women in all over India. Under this act, a woman working in the mine is entitled to maternity benefit for a period of 8 weeks.

<https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/all-you-need-to-know-about-br-ambedkar-on-his-129th-birth-anniversary-2211747>

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/readersblog/wakeup-india/things-you-dont-know-about-dr-b-r-ambedkar-23350/>



OTHER NEWS

Aadi Mahotsav

Context: Tribal Affairs Minister launched the virtual edition of Aadi Mahotsav- Madhya Pradesh.

- The 10-day long festival, was being hosted on the Tribes India website(www.tribesindia.com).
- The main focus is on the tribal craft and culture of **Madhya Pradesh**
- The highlights of the virtual launch included a virtual tour of the artisans' work place and glimpses of the tribal dance and music from Madhya Pradesh.
- It was also announced that the next focus state would be **Gujarat**, following which the spotlight would shift to **Bengal**.

Aadi Mahotsav

- The Aadi Mahotsav – A Celebration of the Spirit of Tribal Culture, Crafts, Cuisine and Commerce – is a successful initiative that was commenced in 2017.
- The festival was an **attempt to familiarise the people with the rich and diverse craft, culture of the tribal communities across the country**, in one place.
- Its an effort to help in the transformation of tribal lives and livelihoods.

<http://newsonair.com/News?title=Arjun-Munda-E-Inaugurates-The-First-Ever-Virtual-Aadi-Mahotsav-%E2%80%93-Madhya-Pradesh&id=405331>

"Child-friendly" police station

Context: A "child-friendly" police station set up in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the **National Commissioner for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)** was launched in Pune.

- This police station will work towards **character building among children** and will also work in **changing the notion that police are not enemies but friends of people**.
- Launched with an **aim to ward off fear among children**, the child-friendly police station will work towards raising high morale.
- The child friendly police station houses books and and toys and will also work towards character building among children.
- It is an innovative concept in the direction of **preventing juvenile crimes and children reforms**.
- Pune police have worked with Hope for Children Foundation to set up this.

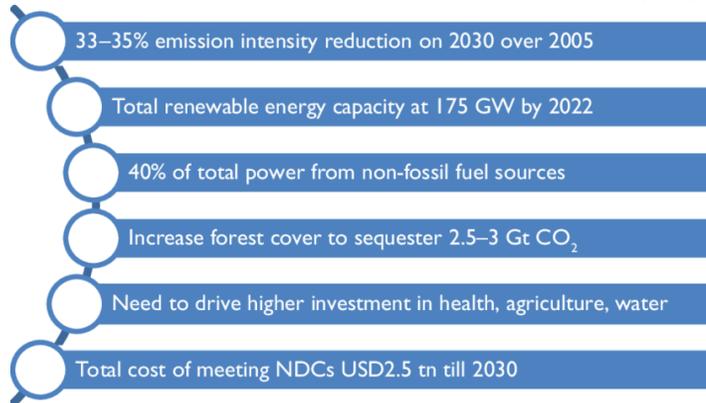
<http://newsonair.com/News?title=%22Child-friendly%22-police-station-launched-in-Pune&id=405321>



High-level Ministerial Committee for implementation of Paris Agreement

Context: Government has constituted a High-level Ministerial Committee for implementation of Paris Agreement.

- The Apex Committee for Implementation of Paris Agreement (AIPA) will be **chaired by Environment Secretary**.
- The **purpose** of AIPA is **to generate a coordinated response on climate change matters that ensures India is on track** towards meeting its obligations under the Paris Agreement.
- Senior officials from fourteen ministries will serve as Members to AIPA who will oversee the progress in implementation of **India's Nationally Determined Contributions (NIC)**.



- The next year would mark the beginning of implementation of the Paris Agreement and constitution of **AIPA is central to strengthening the national systems and institutional arrangements for implementation and monitoring of climate actions**.
- It will also ensure that India maintains its climate leadership as one the few countries in the world whose climate actions are consistent with the goals of the Paris Agreement.

<http://newsonair.com/News?title=Govt-constitutes-High-level-Ministerial-Committee-for-implementation-of-Paris-Agreement&id=405393>

'Damaru' Inspired Lattice that finds applications in stealth submarines

Context: IIT Kanpur researchers have demonstrated how with the use of a micro-structured hour-glass shaped metastructure in the lattice unit, one can get a wider variation of propagation and stop bands.

- The hour-glasses are developed in the Smart Materials Laboratory of IIT Kanpur using **additive manufacturing**.

Additive manufacturing (AM)

- Also known as **3D printing**, is a **transformative approach to industrial production** that enables the creation of lighter, stronger parts and systems.
- Another technological advancement made possible by the transition from analog to digital processes.
- In recent decades, communications, imaging, architecture and engineering have all undergone their own digital revolutions. Now, AM can bring digital flexibility and efficiency to manufacturing operations.
- Additive manufacturing uses **data computer-aided-design (CAD) software or 3D object scanners** to direct hardware to deposit material, layer upon layer, in precise geometric shapes.



- Lattice based meta-structures have shown **tremendous application in electro-magnetic and sonic wave absorption** which could in principle create 'invisibility' of an object either in optical or in acoustic domain.
- Existing lattice and crystal based phononic materials have however, practical limitations in terms of customizability and hence, they can be generally used in a narrow band of frequency.



- Inspiration of the lattice they developed has come from a two-headed drum called '**Dambaru**' or '**Damaru**' **which is used in ancient Hinduism and Tibetan Buddhism.**
- Lod Shiva has produced a special sound through this musical instrument to create and regulate the universe.
- This has wide applications in the field of vibration isolation in high speed trains, stealth submarines and helicopter rotors.
- This work is sponsored by a **SPARC project of MHRD.**

Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC) aims at improving the research ecosystem of India's Higher Educational Institutions by facilitating academic and research collaborations between Indian Institutions and the best institutions in the world from 28 selected nations to jointly solve problems of national and/or international relevance. SPARC proposes to enable productive academic cooperation by supporting the following critical components that can catalyze impact making research, namely

Visits and long-term stay of top International faculty / researchers in Indian Institutions to pursue teaching and research

Visits by Indian students for training and experimentation in premier laboratories worldwide >

Joint development of niche courses, world-class books and monographs, translatable patents, demonstrable technologies or action research outcomes and products

Consolidation of Bilateral cooperation through academic and research partnerships through Indo-X Workshops in India

Publication, Dissemination and Visibility through a high profile annual international Conference in India

<http://newsonair.com/News?title=IIT-Kanpur-Researchers-develop-%e2%80%98Damaru%e2%80%99-Inspired-Lattice-that-finds-applications-in-stealth-submarines%2chigh-speed-trains&id=405410>

India and the US sign MoU on Intellectual Property cooperation

Context: India, and the US have signed Memorandum of Understanding on Intellectual Property cooperation.

- Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry signed the MoU yesterday with US Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce of the US.



- The MoU aims **at increasing IP co-operation between the two countries.**
- It will facilitate exchange and dissemination of best practices, experiences and knowledge on IP among the public, and between and among the industry, universities, research and development organizations, and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises.

<http://newsonair.com/News?title=India-and-the-US-sign-MoU-on-Intellectual-Property-cooperation&id=405471>

Bangladesh signs first Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) since its independence

Context: Bangladesh signed its **first Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) with Bhutan** allowing **duty free access to a range of goods** between the two countries. This is the first PTA Bangladesh has signed with any country in the world.

- The agreement was signed on the occasion marking the 50 years of diplomatic ties between the two countries.
- In 1971, Bhutan was the first country in the world, followed by India as the second, to recognise Bangladesh as an independent country.
- Under the PTA 100 Bangladeshi products will get duty free access to Bhutan. At the same time, 34 items from Bhutan will get duty free access into Bangladesh. Further items can be added in the list later on the basis of discussion between the two countries.
- The trade volume between the two countries is approximately 50 million dollars with 7.56 million of export and 42.09 million import into Bangladesh.
- Bangladesh is expected to sign 11 more PTAs and Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with countries like Indonesia and Nepal by June next year.

[http://newsonair.com/News?title=Bangladesh-signs-first-Preferential-Trade-Agreement-\(PTA\)-since-its-independence&id=405623](http://newsonair.com/News?title=Bangladesh-signs-first-Preferential-Trade-Agreement-(PTA)-since-its-independence&id=405623)

Smuggling in India Report 2019-20

Context: Finance Minister inaugurated the 63rd Founding Day Celebrations of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI).

- On the occasion, the **Smuggling in India Report 2019-20, which analyses organised smuggling trends on Gold and Foreign Currency, Narcotic Drugs, Security, Environment and Commercial Frauds** was released.
- DRI has contributed to the economy of India by actively bringing to light some significant cases of commercial frauds and cross-border smuggling.

The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI)

- It is an **Indian intelligence agency.**
- It is India's **apex anti-smuggling intelligence, investigations and operations agency.**
- The Directorate is run by officers from the **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)** who are posted in its various Zonal Units as well as in Indian embassies abroad as part of the Customs Overseas Intelligence Network.



- It is headed by a Director General of the rank of Special Secretary to the Government of India.
- The Agency works to secure India's national and economic security by preventing the outright smuggling of contraband such as firearms, gold, narcotics, Fake Indian Currency notes, antiques, wildlife and environmental products.
- Moreover, it also works to prevent the proliferation of black money, trade based money laundering and commercial frauds.

<http://newsonair.com/News?title=FM--Nirmala-Sitharaman-releases-the-%e2%80%98Smuggling-in-India-Report-2019-20%e2%80%99&id=405552>

Gwalior & Orchha

Context: Gwalior and Orchha of Madhya Pradesh have been included in the list of World Heritage City by UNESCO.

Orchha

- Orchha located in the **Bundelkhand region of Madhya Pradesh** is famous all over the world for its **temples and palaces**.
- Orchha was the 16th century **capital of the erstwhile Bundela dynasty**.
- Orchha Raj Mahal, Jahangir Mahal, Ramaraja Mandir, Rai Praveen Mahal, Laxminarayan Mandir and many other famous temples and palaces are **famous for a unique confluence of Rajput and Mughal architectural influences**.

Gwalior

- Gwalior city has been the **capital of Gurjar Pratihar, Tomar, Baghel Kachhwahs and Scindia Rajvansh**.
- The ancient signs left by them will be found in the form of monuments, forts, palaces.
- The grand souvenirs of the saved past make this city important from tourism point of view.

After being included in the list of World Heritage, UNESCO will work with the tourism department of the state to preserve and refine these archaeological and historical monuments of Orchha and Gwalior.

<http://newsonair.com/News?title=MP%3a-Gwalior-%26-Orchha-included-in-list-of-World-Heritage-City-by-UNESCO&id=405664>