

Amendments brought in the Prime Minister's Research Fellowship Scheme



Government of India
**Prime Minister Research
Fellowship Scheme**
PMRF
Ph.D. Students

Recently various amendments have been brought in the Prime Minister's Research Fellowship Scheme by the Ministry of Human Resources and Development to boost research in the country.

Key takeaways:

Now, students from any recognized university can apply for the Fellowship. Earlier it was open only for students from Central Universities, IITs, IISc, NITs, IISERs, IEST and IIITs.

The requirement of **GATE score has also been reduced from 750 to 600.**

There will be two channels of entries i.e direct entry and lateral entry.

National Institute of Technologies (NITs) can also become PMRF Granting institution. NITs appear in top 25 institutions in the National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF).

A dedicated division "Research and Innovation Division" will be formed in the MHRD to boost research.

Prime Minister's Research Fellowship (PMRF) Scheme

It was launched to attract **meritorious students** into research in 2018. A research grant of Rs. 2 lakh per year is provided to each of the Fellows for a period of 5 years to cover their academic contingency expenses and for foreign/national travel expenses along with monthly stipend.

Bengaluru airport voted as best regional airport in India & Central Asia



Kempegowda International Airport of Bengaluru has been voted by customers as the best regional airport in India & Central Asia at the 2020 World Airport Awards. Bengaluru Airport has won this award for the third time in four years.

IIM Bangalore, Only Indian Institute to Feature Among top 50 Global B-schools in FT Executive Education Rankings 2020



The Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB) has been ranked among the Top 50 global schools providing executive education (open plus custom programmes), in the Financial Times (FT) Executive Education 2020 Rankings released on 11 May 2020.

IIMB is ranked at 45th position in this list. This is the second time in row that IIMB is featuring in the list.

IIMB is the only Indian management school to feature in this prestigious global list of executive education providers. IIMB has been ranked at 52nd spot in the custom list, and 55th in the open programmes. **Iese business school, Barcelona (Spain), has topped the combined table for the sixth consecutive year.**

SBI General Insurance Launches Arogya Sanjeevani Health Insurance Policy



SBI General Insurance launches Arogya Sanjeevani health insurance policy

The State Bank of India (SBI) General Insurance has come up with a standard health insurance policy named 'Arogya Sanjeevani Health Insurance Policy SBI General Insurance' to cover the hospitalisation treatment cost of COVID-19. The policy will provide hospitalisation cover anywhere in India with sums insured ranging from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 5 lakhs.

Government Raises Market Borrowing Limit for 2020-21 to Rs 12 Lakh Crore Amid COVID-19

On 08 May 2020, the Government of India has announced an increase in its gross market borrowing estimate to Rs 12 lakh crore for the current financial year 2020-21 to deal with the expected shortfall in revenue due to the impact of COVID-19 crisis on the economy.

This is an increase of Rs 4.2 lakh crore over Rs 7.8 lakh crore announced in the Budget Estimates for FY21.

The government has also increased the weekly borrowing target to Rs 30,000 crore from Rs 21,000 crore planned earlier.

Bank of America Downgrades India GDP Estimate for FY'21 to 0.5%



Bank of America has revised down their GDP growth estimate for India to 0.5 percent for the current fiscal year, 2020-21, from its earlier estimate of 1.5 percent.

The foreign brokerage has also estimated the fiscal deficit to come at 5.8 percent of the GDP in FY21 as against the budget target of 3.5 per cent, after the government's move to raise its

market borrowing programme for the current financial year by Rs 4.2 lakh crore.

Para-athlete Deepa Malik announces retirement, to head India's Paralympic Committee



Para-athlete Deepa Malik has announced her retirement from Paralympics games to hold her post as the president of the Paralympic Committee of India.

As per the National Sports Code, an active athlete cannot hold an official post in any federation.

She is the **first Indian woman** to earn a medal at the Paralympic Games and has won 58 national and 23 international medals.

International Nurses Day: 12 May



The International Nurses Day is celebrated around the world every May 12, to **mark the contributions and hard work of nursing staff around the world.**

The day was created by the International Council of Nurses, and **is celebrated globally since January 1974.**

This day also marks the **birth anniversary of nursing pioneer Florence Nightingale.**

The theme of 2020 International Nurses Day is **Nurses: A voice to lead – Nursing the World to Health.**

The World Health Organization (WHO) has also designated 2020 as International Year of the Nurse to mark the bicentenary (200th birth anniversary) of Florence Nightingale.