

Current Affairs=02-06-2020

Cabinet approvals on June 1, 2020



i. On June 1, 2020, Union Cabinet meet was held which was chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. This was the first meeting of the Union Cabinet after the Central Government entered into its second year in office.

Cabinet approves extension of repayment

date for short term loans for agriculture and allied activities by banks till August 31, 2020

Special Micro Credit Facility Scheme 'PM SVANidhi' for providing affordable loans to street vendors launched-PM SVANidhi (PM स्वनिधि) – PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbharNidhi under which the street vendors, who had their businesses operational **on or before 24 March, 2020** can avail a working capital loan of up to **Rs. 10,000** which is repayable in monthly instalments in the tenure of one year. The loaning will commence from July, 2020.

Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for Kharif Crops for marketing season 2020-21 increased

- **Paddy:** The MSP for paddy (common) has been increased by Rs 53 per quintal, to Rs 1868 per quintal, while that of cotton was increased by Rs 260 per quintal to Rs 5,515 for medium staple variety, and by Rs 275 per quintal to Rs 5,825 for long staple variety.
- **Oilseeds:** The highest increase in MSP is proposed for nigerseed (Rs 755 per quintal), followed by sesamum (Rs 370 per quintal) and urad (Rs 300 per quintal).
- **Cereals:** the government increased the support price of bajra by Rs 150 to Rs 2,150 per quintal for this year, while that of ragi has been raised by Rs 145 to Rs 3,295 per quintal and maize by Rs 90 per

quintal to Rs 1,850 per quintal for the current year. The MSP for jowar has been increased by Rs 70 per quintal for this year.

- **Pulses:** The government has increased the MSP of urad by Rs 300 per quintal to Rs 6,000 per quintal, while that of tur has been raised by ₹200 per quintal to Rs 6,000 per quintal. The MSP of moong has also been increased by Rs 146 per quintal to Rs 7,196 per quintal.

Cabinet approves Upward revision of MSME definition and modalities/ road map for implementing Atmanirbhar Bharat Packages for MSMEs

Category	New Capital	New Turnover	Old Capital	Old Turnover
Micro	1 Crore	5 Crore	25 Lakh	10 Lakh
Small	10 Crore	50 Crore	5 Crore	2 Crore
Medium	50 Crore	250 Crore	10 crore	5 Crore

Rs 20000 crore package for Distressed MSMEs

Rs 50,000 crore equity infusion through Fund of Funds

Kisan Credit Cards campaign launched for 1.5 crore dairy farmers: Government

i. Government under a special drive will provide **Kisan Credit Cards(KCC)** to **1.5 crore dairy**

Kisan Credit Cards for 1.5 Crore Dairy Farmers



KISAN CREDIT CARD किसान क्रेडिट कार्ड

farmers belonging to milk unions and milk producing companies within the next two months (1st June-31st July 2020).

ii. The special drive is part of the Prime Minister's **Atma Nirbhar Bharat** package for Farmers. The Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had announced that 2.5 crore new farmers will be covered under the KCC scheme which provides

additional liquidity of Rs.5 lakh crore to farmers, who have suffered from the recent downturn of economy due to the nationwide lockdown of COVID-19

outbreak.

About KCC scheme:

It was announced in the budget of 1998-99 & launched in August 1998

Aim of the scheme- To provide adequate & timely credit for credit requirements of farmers under single window for their cultivation and to meet the short term credit requirements for cultivation of crops, post harvest expenses, produce marketing loan also the consumption requirements of farmer households among others.

Odisha, Sikkim and Mizoram included in ‘One Nation-One Ration Card’ scheme



The Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution **Ram Vilas Paswan** informed that **Odisha, Sikkim and Mizoram** have joined the ‘**One Nation-One Ration Card**’ scheme on ‘Integrated Management of Public

Distribution System’ (IM-PDS) a total of 20 states/Union Territories(UTs) in the scheme.

Targets made

- All states will be added in the scheme & the scheme will be operational all over India by March 2021
- Three more States namely- Uttarakhand, Nagaland and Manipur will also be added to the national cluster by August 2020.

India ranked 23rd for world’s best startup ecosystems; US topped: StartupBlink Ecosystem Rankings 2020

In accordance with the “**Countries Global Ranking of Startup Ecosystem 2020**” by global innovation mapping and research company **StartupBlink**, India ranked at 23rd position, a drop of 6 places from 17th position in 2019. The ranking has been topped by the United States (US), followed by the United Kingdom (UK), and Israel at 2nd and 3rd position.

Startup Ecosystems Ranking Report 2020

India Drops Six Places to 23rd Spot

i. The ranking has been topped by the United States (US), followed by the United Kingdom (UK), and Israel at 2nd and 3rd position.
ii. India's ranking is contrary to its annual Ease of Doing Business ranking, which continues to be on an improving path.

iii. Among the top 100 startup cities, only four India cities were named in "2020 Cities Global Ranking of Startup Ecosystem".

- Bengaluru (down by three ranks to 14th position),
- New Delhi (up by three spots to 15th position)
- Mumbai (improved by seven spots to 22nd position)
- Hyderabad (falling 21 ranks to disappointing 96th position). Last year, seven cities were ranked in the top 100 list versus four this year.

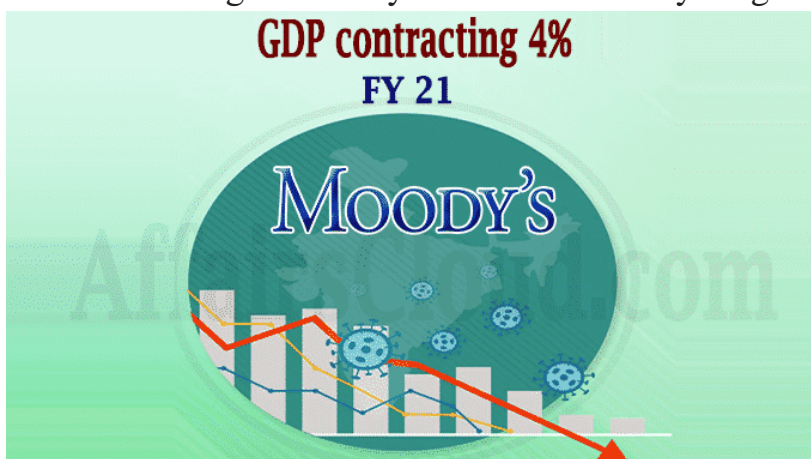
About StartupBlink:

Chief Executive Officer (CEO)– Eli David
Headquarter– Zurich, Switzerland

India's GDP to contract by 4% in fiscal 2021 & downgraded its sovereign rating to 'Baa3' from 'Baa2: Moody's

i. Rating agency **Moody's** expects India's real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to contract by 4% in fiscal 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and related lockdown measures.

ii. India's foreign-currency and local-currency long-term issuer ratings have



been downgraded to Baa3 from Baa2.

iii. Meanwhile India's local-currency senior unsecured rating was also reduced to Baa3 from Baa2, and its short-term local currency rating to Prime(P)-3 from P-2. The outlook remains negative

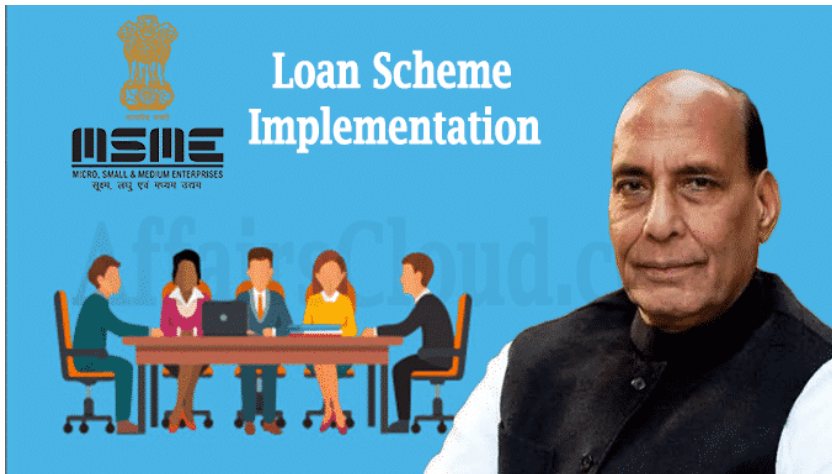
About Moody's:

Headquarters– New York, United States

President & Chief Executive Officer(CEO)– Raymond W. McDaniel, Jr.

PM Modi appoints committee for MSME loan implementation headed by Rajnath Singh

On 31st May 2020, Prime Minister Narendra Modi appointed a committee



headed by Rajnath Singh to solve the difficulties in the implementation of **Rs.3 Lakh crore** collateral-free loan for Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises(**MSME**).
Collateral-free loan scheme:

i. The borrowers can

borrow from the financial institutions without any asset or pledge collateral under this scheme.

Eligibility:The units with Rs.25 Crore outstanding credit and Rs 100 crore turnover

Tenure and rate of interest: 4-year tenure with interest rates capped according to the Finance Ministry and the moratorium will be for 12 months.

ii. FM announced 100% cover to banks and non-banking financial corporations(**NDFCs**) on principal and interest to benefit around 45 lakh MSME units to resume their business and secure their jobs.

PM Modi Launches ‘CHAMPIONS’ portal to empower MSMEs

Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi has launched **CHAMPIONS** (Creation



and Harmonious Application of Modern Processes for Increasing the Output and National Strength) to help the smaller MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) by resolving their

grievances and the complaints received on the portal will also be redressed within the prescribed limit.

The portal has been equipped with Artificial Intelligence (AI), data analytics and machine learning (ML). By this, problems will be solved without the complaint of the traders.

One Year of Modi 2.0 – Towards A Self-Reliant India’ e-book released by Ministry of I&B



i. A 92-page e-booklet called ‘**One Year of Modi 2.0 – Towards A Self-Reliant India**’ on the key achievements of the **Modi government** during its second term was released on June 1, 2020, by the **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (I&B)**.

ii. This marks the first anniversary of the second term of the government.

Highlights in the book-Abolition of Article 370 Article 370 (35a), Settlement of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, Criminalisation of triple talaq, Bodo accord, The amendment to the Citizenship Act (CAA), The Howdy Modi event in the US, the Namaste Trump event in Gujarat and the Mamallapuram Modi-Xi Jinping summit.