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Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

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Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Nutrition Week

- In India, **National Nutrition Week** is observed every year from **September 1 to September 7** to raise public awareness about nutrition and healthy eating habits.
- The week is observed to make people understand the **importance of nutritional and adaptive eating habits** so that they can maintain a healthy lifestyle.

History:

- In **1975**, the members of the **American Dietetic Association (ADA)**, now called the **Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics**, started **National Nutrition Week** in **March**.
- It was observed to raise public awareness about good nutrition and also to promote the profession of dietitians.
- The initiative received such a warm response that the week-long celebration went on for a month in **1980**.
- In India, the **history of National Nutrition Week** dates back to **1982** when the government launched a campaign **1982** to educate individuals about the importance of nutrition and urged them to maintain a healthy and sustainable lifestyle.
- The government of **India** launched '**POSHAN Abhiyan**' in **2018** to educate people about health and nutrition as they play a significant role in overall human development and social infrastructure.

2nd September - World Coconut Day

- Every year on **September 2**, **World Coconut Day** is commemorated to raise awareness of the value of this crop in eradicating poverty.
- This day also honors the **Asian Pacific Coconut Community's** founding day (**APCC**).

History

- This day was **first celebrated** in **2009** by the **Asia Pacific Coconut Community**.
- Since then, there has been no going back.

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- Collaborating with UN-ESCAP (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for the Asia Pacific), APCC goes on to highlight its versatility and how it plays an important role in keeping us healthy.
- India also celebrates this day with great gusto.
- The Coconut Development Board promotes this in various states such as Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Goa, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, etc.

3rd September - Skyscraper Day:

- Every year, September 3 is observed as National Skyscraper Day 2022.
- Across the globe, skyscrapers have defined people's vivid imagination and creativity.
- A skyscraper is a tall habitable building with multiple floors.
- These high-rise buildings are around 100 meters or 150 meters in height.

HISTORY:

- National Skyscrapers Day is celebrated every year on September 3, on the birth anniversary of Louis H. Sullivan, often called the 'father of modern skyscrapers'.
- This name was coined in the 1880s for the high-rise buildings of the United States.
- Sullivan is known as the 'father of modern skyscrapers' as he was the chief architect behind famous buildings such as the Wainwright Building, the Bayard-Condict Building, the Krause Music Store, and more.
- As per guinnessworldrecords.com, the world's first skyscraper came up in Chicago in 1885.
- It's a 10-story building, with its peak at 138 feet.
- It was called the 'Home Insurance Building'.

International Day of Charity- September 5

- September 5th is recognized as the International Day of Charity.
- In 2012, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed it.
- Mother Teresa, who had always worked in charity, was remembered on September 5 to mark her passing anniversary.
- For “work undertaken in the struggle to overcome poverty and distress, which also constitute a threat to peace” Mother Teresa was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979.

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- The main goal of the Worldwide Day of Charity is to increase awareness and offer a common platform for charity-related events for people, charitable, philanthropic, and volunteer groups to use for their own goals on a local, national, regional, and international level.

Teachers' Day 2022- September 5

- **Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan's birthday, September 5, is commemorated each year in India with Teachers' Day 2022.**
- He was a **Bharat Ratna winner, academic, and former president of India.**
- When Dr. Radhakrishnan took office as the **second President of India in 1962**, his students approached him to seek permission to celebrate September 5 as a special day.
- Dr. Radhakrishnan instead requested them to observe September 5 as Teachers' Day, to **recognize the contribution of teachers the society.**
- Ever since then, September 5 is celebrated as Teacher's Day across schools, colleges, universities, and educational institutions. Students put on performances, and dances and host elaborate shows for their most-loved teachers.

8 September - International Literacy Day

- **International Literacy Day** is an international observance, celebrated each year on **8 September**, that was declared by **UNESCO on 26 October 1966 at the 14th session of UNESCO's General Conference.**
- The day spread awareness about the importance of literacy for individuals, communities, and societies and the need for intensified efforts toward more literate societies.

History:

- **UNESCO designated September 8th as Worldwide Literacy Day in 1966** to remind the international community of the value of literacy for people, communities, and societies, as well as the necessity for further efforts toward a more literate society.
- For the **first time, it was observed in 1967.**

8 September - World Physical Therapy Day

- **World Physical Therapy Day** is celebrated every year on **September 8**

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- Every year, World Physical Therapy Day 2021 is celebrated to raise awareness about the important role of physiotherapists in keeping people fit and well.
- On this day, the contribution of physiotherapists in society and how they motivate people to stay fit and independent is celebrated.

History:

- World Physical Therapy Day was founded on September 8 in 1996.
- It was designed to mark the solidarity of the global physiotherapy community in 1951.
- On this day, the work of physical therapists is acknowledged.
- It emphasizes advancing and promoting the profession and expertise.

World Suicide Prevention Day- 10 September

- World Suicide Prevention Day is an awareness day observed on 10 September every year, to provide worldwide commitment and action to prevent suicides, with various activities around the world

Themes:

- The three-year theme for World Suicide Prevention Day from 2021 to 2023 is "Creating hope through action."
- This theme attempts to instill hope and brightness in all of us by serving as a reminder that there are alternatives to suicide.

History:

- The International Association for Suicide Prevention and the World Health Organization (WHO) created World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD) in 2003.
- Since then, every year on September 10th, organizations, governments across the globe, and the common people participate to increase awareness of the issue, decrease stigma, and give a clear message that suicide can be avoided.

11 September - National Forest Martyrs Day

- National Forest Martyrs Day is marked on September 11.

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- The day as the name suggests is observed to pay tributes to those who laid down their lives to protect the jungles, forests, and wildlife across India.

HISTORY

- After the Ministry of Environment and Forest made the declaration, this day officially came into existence and it was in the year 2013.
- The ministry selected this date (11 September) because, on this day in 1730, the Khejarli massacre took place in the country.
- On the orders of the then king Maharaja Abhay Singh of Rajasthan, the soldiers started cutting trees to provide wood for a new palace.
- During that time, a woman identified as Amrita Devi offered her head instead of the sacred Khejarli tree.
- Angry over the act, people in that village rose in protest and offered their lives in place of trees.
- After beheading her, the soldiers went on to slaughter over 350 people including Amrita's children. On hearing this massacre, the shocked king instantly ordered his soldiers to stop killing the people and apologized to those who belonged to the Bishnoi community.
- Along with his apology, King Maharaja Abhay Singh made a declaration stating that no cutting of trees and killing of animals will take place in areas that are around the Bishnoi villages.

World First Aid Day

- World First Aid Day is celebrated every year on the **second Saturday of September**.
- This year, World First Aid Day falls on **September 10**.
- It is celebrated to raise public awareness of how First Aid can save thousands of lives in everyday crises.

History

- The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) established World First Aid Day in 2000.
- Henry Dunant, a young Geneva trader, endured terrible suffering and torment on **June 24, 1859**, during the battle of Solferino.

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- Nevertheless, the man helped build temporary hospitals and acquired the equipment and materials they required.
- His 1863 book- A Memory of Solferino served as the impetus for the creation of the **International Committee of the Red Cross**
- According to the book, Dunant suggested establishing a separate group that would offer prompt assistance to soldiers who were injured.
- He is regarded as a co-founder of the **International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)**, which was established after his articles went viral.

Grandparents' Day- 11 September

- **Grandparents' Day** is celebrated each year on the **first Sunday after Labour Day**.
- This year it **falls on September 11**.
- To mark this day by remembering the contribution of our grandparents to our lives.

History:

- The story starts with a **9-year-old boy, Russell Capper**, who sent a letter to **President Richard Nixon in 1969**.
- The letter, reportedly, asked the president to set aside a day to celebrate the presence of grandparents.
- In 1977, senators passed a joint resolution to the senate and requested the president to set aside a **National Grandparents' Day**.
- Congress passed the resolution.
- In 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed the proclamation.
- The **first National Grandparents' Day** was celebrated on **September 10, 1978**.

Hindi Diwas- September 14

- **Every year on September 14, Hindi Diwas or Hindi Day** is celebrated to honor Hindi's use as an official language in India.
- According to **Article 343 of the Indian Constitution**, the language was accepted.

History:

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- It was observed for the **first time** on **September 14, 1953**.
- Later, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru said that the nation will observe this day as Hindi Diwas.
- There are 22 scheduled languages in India, although only Hindi and English are formally utilized at the level of the Union government of India.
- The **fourth most often spoken language** worldwide is Hindi.
- As a result of the Constituent Assembly of India's adoption of Hindi written in Devanagari script as the official language of the Republic of India on this day in 1949, Hindi Divas is observed on **September 14**.

Engineer's day in India- 15 September

- Every year **15th September** is celebrated as **National Engineer's Day** to mark the birth anniversary of **Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya**.
- Engineer's Day is celebrated to pay tribute to Bharat Ratna Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya.

History

- In **1968**, the Indian government declared **Sir M Visvesvaraya's birth anniversary** as **Engineers' Day**.
- Since then, this day is celebrated to honor and acknowledge all engineers who have contributed and still do so to build a modern and developed India.

International Day of Democracy- September 15

- The **International Day of Democracy** also known as **World Democracy Day** is observed every year on **15 September**.
- It is a day that highlights the importance of the participation of all members for the proper functioning of a democracy.
- According to the **United Nations (UN)**, the **International Day of Democracy** provides an opportunity to **review the state of democracy in the world**.

History

- According to **Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)**, the International Day of Democracy was established through a resolution passed by the **UN General Assembly** in **2007**.

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- It further states that the first International Day of Democracy was observed by 46 national parliaments on 15 September 2008.

16 September - World Ozone Day

- World Ozone Day is observed on September 16 every year to spread awareness among people about the depletion of the Ozone Layer and find possible solutions to preserve it.
- On this day, people from all over the world hold talks and seminars on the ozone layer.
- Educators teach students about the benefits of the Ozone layer and special events and activities are organized to spread awareness.

World Ozone Day 2022 Theme

- "Montreal Protocol@35: global cooperation protecting life on earth" is the theme of World Ozone Day 2022.

World Ozone Day History

- It was in 1994 when the UN General Assembly declared 16 September as the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer OR World Ozone Day.
- As mentioned earlier, the date commemorates the signing of the 'Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer' which was signed on 16 September 1987.

International Red Panda Day

- International Red Panda Day is celebrated every year on the third Saturday of September.
- This year, the day falls on 17 September.
- International Red Panda Day is commemorated to raise awareness about the red panda conservation issues.

History:

- International Red Panda Day (IRPD) was launched by Red Panda Network (RPN) in 2010.
- More than 16 schools and zoos from around the world participated in its launch.
- Currently, more than 60 zoos take part in the celebration of International Red Panda Day.
- Many conservation organizations and schools also celebrate this day by conducting various types of events like having informational presentations and seminars about the red panda.

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World Bamboo Day- September 18

- Every year on **September 18**, **World Bamboo Day** is marked as a day of celebration to raise global awareness of bamboo.
- Bamboo has been an everyday usage wood in areas where it grows naturally, but its use does not seem to be sustainable owing to exploitation.

HISTORY:

- The World Bamboo Organization was formally recognized on **September 18, 2009**, during the **8th World Bamboo Congress in Bangkok**. Delegates from almost 100 countries attended the event and agreed to designate September 18 as World Bamboo Day, which was unanimously supported by all attendees.
- In addition, the day is also marked as the **Royal Thai Forestry Day**.
- In 2009 on this day, the Deputy Governor of Bangkok as a representative of the Royal Thai Government, Ms. Susanne Lucas, Executive Director of WBO, and Mr. Kamesh Salam, President of WBO, along with others named the day World Bamboo Day.

21 September- Alzheimer's Day

- Every year on **September 21**, people all across the world mark **World Alzheimer's Day**.
- The purpose of the day is to **increase public awareness of the stigma associated with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias**.
- To commemorate our tenth anniversary, World Alzheimer's Day was established at the start of ADI's annual conference in Edinburgh on **September 21, 1994**.
- Alzheimer's is a progressive illness, meaning that over many years, the symptoms of dementia gradually get worse.
- Alzheimer's disease causes **modest memory loss** in its early stages, but by the disease's latter stages, people are unable to converse or react to their surroundings.
- This illness is a degenerative brain disorder that impairs memory and makes thinking coherently challenging or practically impossible.

International Day of Peace- September 21

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- The **International Day of Peace**, also officially known as **World Peace Day**, is a United Nations-observed annually on **21 September**.
- this year 2022 the slogan is: "**End Racism, Build Peace**".
- The **United General Assembly** declared **September 21**, as **World Peace Day**, in 1981.
- The date initially chosen was the regular opening day of the annual sessions of the General Assembly.
- The day aims to promote and maintain peace among all people and 24 hours of global ceasefire and non-violence for groups in active combat.

22 September- World Rose Day

- **World Rose Day** is annually celebrated on **September 22** in dedication to the welfare of cancer patients.
- On this day, people around the world work towards bringing cheer and hope into the lives of all those people who have been affected by cancer.
- More importantly, it seeks to remind patients and their caregivers, that they are not alone in this battle against the deadly disease.

History:

- **World Rose Day** for cancer patients is observed in honor of **Melinda Rose**, a **Canadian girl**, who was diagnosed with **Askin's Tumour**, a rare blood cancer when she was just 12 years old.
- Doctors said that she only has a few more weeks to live, but because of her undying spirit and hope, she went on to **live for six months**.
- She spent this time cheering up other cancer patients by sharing poems, letters, verses, e-mails, etc, with them.
- Her kindness and hope in such difficult times of her life worked as an inspiration for World Rose Day.

23 September-International Day of Sign Languages

- The **International Day of Sign Languages** is observed on **September 23** every year.
- It is a unique opportunity to support and protect the linguistic identity and cultural diversity of all deaf people and other sign language users.

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Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

History

- The **first International Day of Sign Language** was observed across the world on **September 23, 2018**, with the theme **“With Sign Language, Everyone is Included!”**
- The day was celebrated as part of the **International Week of the Deaf**, which will take place on **24-30 September**.
- The International Week of the Deaf was first celebrated in September 1958 and has since evolved into a global movement of deaf unity
- The **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)** has proclaimed 23 September as the **International Day of Sign Languages (IDSL)** intending to raise awareness of the significance of sign language in the full realization of the human rights of people who are deaf.

25 September-World Pharmacists Day

- **Every year on September 25, World Pharmacist Day** is observed.
- This yearly remembrance aims to recognize the work of pharmacists in promoting world health.
- It is also intended to stimulate and support global healthcare initiatives.

Themes:

- **“Pharmacy united in action for a healthier world”** is the theme of World Pharmacists Day on 25 September 2022.

History:

- Every year on September 25, the world celebrates World Pharmacist Day.
- On this day in 2009, the **World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences** saw the official opening of the **International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) Council**.
- On the same day in **1912 when the FIP was founded**, World Pharmacist Day is observed.
- By commemorating this day, the FIP hopes to raise awareness of the importance pharmacists play in advancing global healthcare.

25 September- World River Day

- **World Rivers Day** is celebrated on the **fourth Sunday of September every year**
- This year it falls on **September 25**, to increase public awareness about rivers and to encourage their conservation.

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- The day celebrates Earth's waterways, in which over 60 countries participate every year.

History of World Rivers Day:

- In 2005, **Mark Angelo**, an internationally-celebrated river conservationist, approached the United Nations during its Water for Life campaign — a decade-long initiative to raise awareness about threatened water resources across the planet.
- Angelo advocated for an annual World Rivers Day to help anchor the campaign.
- **World Rivers Day was seen by agencies of the United Nations** as a good bet for the aims of the World for Life decade and other proposals.
- The **first World Rivers Day was celebrated in over a dozen countries**.
- Now, the annual event is marked by celebrations in more than 60 countries and the participation of millions of people.

25 September- Antyodaya Diwas

- **Antyodaya Diwas is observed on September 25th each year** in India.
- It commemorates the **birth anniversary of Indian leader Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya** and is held to remember his life and legacy.
- He was one of the most famous figures in Indian political history.
- This year's **Antyodaya Diwas commemorates Upadhyaya's 105th birthday**.
- He was a Bharatiya Janata Sangh (BJS) co-founder and a Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) theorist.
- **Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya was born on September 25, 1916**, in the village of Chandrabhan near the town of Fareh in Mathura, Uttar Pradesh.
- He grew up in a Brahmin family.

26 September-World Contraception Day

- **World Contraception Day 2022 is held on September 26** to raise awareness about various contraceptive techniques and to empower young people to make educated decisions about their sexual and reproductive health.

History:

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- It was established on September 26, 2007, by ten international family planning organizations to raise awareness about contraception and to assist couples in making educated decisions about starting a family, so that every pregnancy is desired.

26 September- World Environmental Health Day

- September 26 is observed annually as World Environmental Health Day across the globe.
- It was established that year by the International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH), a body of 44 member states, to raise awareness regarding the health of our environment.

Themes:

- World Environmental Health Day theme 2022 is “Strengthening Environmental Health Systems for the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals”

History:

- The International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH) recognized September 26 as World Environmental Health Day in 2011.
- On this day in 2011, the Federation established the day during a meeting in Indonesia.

26 September- World Day of the Deaf

- World Deaf Day is celebrated every year on the last Sunday of September.
- This year World Deaf Day was celebrated on the 26th of September.
- The last week of September is celebrated as the International Week of the Deaf by the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) and its national associations all over the world.

History

- The World Federation of the Deaf initiates World Deaf Day in the year of 1958.
- This day falls on the last Sunday of September.
- The first World Conference of the World Federation of the Deaf took place in Rome, Italy in 1951.
- The last week of September is observed as the International Week of the Deaf and International Day of Sign Language.
- In 1959, the United Nations and World Health Organization recognized the World Federation of the Deaf.

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- In 2018, International Sign Language is recognized during the last week in September along with World Day of the Deaf.

World Tourism Day: September 27

- **World Tourism Day** is celebrated on the **27th of September every year**.
- World Tourism Day is celebrated to pay tribute to the tourism industry and encourage people to travel and honor those who were working in the tourism sector.

Theme 2022:

- This year the **host country** is **Indonesia** and the **World Tourism Day Theme 2022** is **“Rethinking Tourism”**.

History

- The **United Nations World Tourism Organization** celebrated World Tourism Day as an **International Observance on 27th September 1980**.
- The statutes of the United Nations World Tourism Organization were adopted in the year 1970 on 27th September.
- So, this date is chosen as World Tourism Day.
- At its **Twelfth Session in Istanbul, Turkey, in 1997**, the United Nations World Tourism Organization General Assembly decided to select a country as a host each year to act as the Organization’s partner in the celebration of World Tourism Day.
- The late **Ignatius Amaduwa Atigbi, a Nigerian** was the one who proposed the idea of making 27th September a World Tourism Day.
- The **color of World Tourism is Blue**.

World Rabies Day 2022: September 28

- **World Rabies Day** is celebrated on **28th September** of every year.
- Rabies is a deadly virus that spreads to people from the saliva of infected animals.
- World Rabies Day is celebrated to raise awareness about the deadly disease and educate people on how to fight against this disease.

Theme:

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- World Rabies Day 2022 Theme is “Rabies: One Health, Zero Deaths”.

History

- The **Global Alliance for Rabies Control (GARC)** established World Rabies Day in 2007.
- This day was recognized by the **World Health Organization (WHO)**.
- They choose the date 28th September to observe World Rabies Day to remember the **French Scientist Louis Pasteur**.
- In 1895, the French Scientist Louis Pasteur passed away on this day (28th September) created the vaccination for rabies

International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste: September 29

- The **International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste** is observed on **29th September** of every year.
- International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste is observed to raise awareness about food loss and food waste.

History

- In 1945, **The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations** was established.
- In 2019, the **United Nations General Assembly** declared the 29th of September as the International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste.
- **Andorra and San Marino** played an important role in the proposal of the International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste.
- This day is observed to raise awareness about food wastage and food loss.
- This day also recognizes the fundamental role of sustainable food in food production security and nutrition.

World Heart Day: September 29

- **Every year World Heart Day** is celebrated on **29th September**.
- The main objective of World Heart Day is to inform people about cardiovascular disease (CVD) including heart disease and stroke.
- Every year around 18.6 million people die all over the world due to heart disease, stroke, and CVD.

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Theme:

- World Heart Day Theme 2022 is “**Cardiovascular Health for Everyone**”.

History:

- In 1999, The World Heart Federation (WFH) along with the World Health Organization (WHO) established World Heart Day.
- The idea to celebrate World Heart Day was proposed by Antoni Bayes de Luna, who was the president of WFH from 1997 to 1999.
- The first celebration of this day took place on 24th September 2000.
- Until 2011, World Heart Day was celebrated on the last Sunday of September.
- In 2012, the leaders in the world committed to reducing the worldwide mortality from non-communicable diseases by 25 percent by 2025.

World Maritime Day 2022:

- World Maritime Day is celebrated on the last Thursday of September of every year.
- This year 2022 World Maritime Day falls on the 29th of September.
- World Maritime Day is celebrated to spread the importance of shipping safety, the Maritime environment, and its security.

Theme:

- World Maritime Day theme 2022 is “**New technologies for greener shipping.**”

History:

- The International Maritime Organization (IMO) established World Maritime Day.
- The International Maritime Organization (IMO) started in the year of 1948.
- It came into force on March 17, 1958.
- After twenty years of the IMO came into action, World Maritime Day was first celebrated in March of 1978 and eventually, it moved to the end of September.
- With the slogan, “Safe, Secure, and efficient shipping on clean oceans”, the IMO members strive to take care of the safety and natural resources in the Maritime Industry.

International Translation Day- 30 September

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- **International Translation Day** is observed on **September 30** every year across the globe to raise awareness about language professionals and bring awareness about languages.
- **International Translation Day 2022** also aims to pay tribute to the work of language professionals.

Themes:

- The theme of International Translation Day is '**A World Without Barriers**.'

History

- September 30, according to the **UN**, celebrates the feast of **St. Jerome**, the Bible translator, who is considered the patron saint of translators.
- **St. Jerome**, United Nations add, was a priest from North-eastern Italy, who is known mostly for his endeavor of translating most of the Bible into Latin from the Greek manuscripts of the New Testament.
- He also translated parts of the **Hebrew Gospel into Greek**.
- He learned Latin in school and was fluent in Greek and Hebrew, which he picked up from his studies and travels. Jerome died near Bethlehem on September 30, 420, the UN added.
- **On May 24, 2017**, the **General Assembly** adopted a resolution on the role of language professionals in connecting nations and fostering peace, understanding, and development, and declared **September 30** as **International Translation Day**.

IMPORTANT BANKING & ECONOMY NEWS

SEBI overhauls preferential allotment rules for REITs, InvITs

- The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** overhauled the pricing norms for preferential allotment of units by **Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)** and **Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs)**.

Key Highlights:

- Under the new framework, the pricing formula for allotment of units under preferential issue would be the **Volume-Weighted Average Price (VWAP)** of weekly highs and lows for **90 trading days** or **10 trading days**, whichever is higher.

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- Now, the pricing formula in a preferential allotment is the VWAP of the last two weeks or the last **26 weeks**, whichever is higher.
- The preferential issue of units to "institutional investors" not exceeding five will have to be made at a price not less than the **10 trading days'** VWAP of the related units quoted on a stock exchange preceding the relevant date.
- The preferential issue of units would not be made to any person who has sold or transferred any units of the issuer during the **90 trading days** preceding the relevant date.
- At the present, the limit is **six months**.
- Also, SEBI has defined frequently traded units as the units of REIT or InvIT.
- Those are units in which the traded turnover on a stock exchange during the **240 trading days** preceding the relevant date is **at least 10%** of the total number of issued and outstanding units.
- Post allotment, the REIT or InvIT concerned would have to make an application for listing of the units and the same would be listed within **2 working days** from the date of allotment & currently, the period is **7 days**.
- In **November 2019**, the SEBI came out with guidelines for preferential issues as well as institutional placement of units by REITs and InvITs.
- REIT comprises a portfolio of commercial real assets, a major portion of which is already leased out, InvITs comprise a portfolio of infrastructure assets such as highways, and power transmission assets.

About SEBI:

- Established: on 12 April 1988 as an executive body and was given statutory powers on 30 January 1992 through the SEBI Act, 1992.
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Chairman: Madhabi Puri Buch
- SEBI is the regulatory body for securities and commodity markets in India under the ownership of the **Ministry of Finance**, Gol.

NABARD allocates Rs 230 crore for rural infra projects in Mizoram

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- The **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** has approved an allocation of **Rs 230 crore** for rural infrastructure projects in **Mizoram** under the **Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) XXVIII**.
- NABARD started functioning in Mizoram as a **sub-office** in **1989** which was upgraded to a **full-fledged Regional Office** in **1992**.
- Since the inception of the RIDF in **1995-96**, NABARD has sanctioned aggregate loans amounting to **Rs 1744.51 crore** involving **677 projects** for critical rural infrastructure like rural roads, bridges, drinking water, health infrastructure, etc of which **Rs 1071.81 crore** has been disbursed so far.

About NABARD:

- Established: 12 July 1982
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Chairman: Dr. G.R. Chintala
- NABARD is an apex regulatory body for the **overall regulation of regional rural banks** and apex cooperative banks in India.
- It is under the jurisdiction of the **Ministry of Finance**, Gol.

About Mizoram:

- Governor: Kambhampati Hari Babu
- Chief Minister: Zoramthanga
- Capital: Aizawl

SBI net profit drops 7% to Rs 6,068 cr in Q1

- India's biggest lender **State Bank of India (SBI)** reported a **7% decline** in standalone net profit at **Rs 6,068 crore** for the first quarter of the current financial year due to a fall in income.
- SBI had reported a net profit of **Rs 6,504 crore** in the April-June quarter of 2021-22.

Key Highlights:

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- SBI's standalone total income fell to **Rs 74,998.57 crore** for the quarter that ended **June 30, 2022**, as compared to **Rs 77,347.17 crore** recorded in the corresponding quarter of the last year.
- The operating profit of the bank slipped by **33%** to **Rs 12,753 crore** from **Rs 18,975 crore** in the April-June quarter of the previous fiscal, impacted by **Mark to Market (MTM)** losses on its investment book.
- SBI's Return on Asset and Return on Equity, which was **0.48%** and **10.09%**, respectively, were negatively impacted by the MTM hit.
- However, the interest income of the SBI moved up to **Rs 72,676 crore** as against Rs 65,564 crore earlier.
- Also, net interest income increased to **Rs 31,196 crore** from Rs 27,638 crore in the first quarter of the previous fiscal.
- Net interest margin rose to **3.23%** as against **3.15%**.
- SBI's **gross non-performing assets (NPA)** ratio improved to **3.91%** from **5.32%** at June-end of 2021.
- Similarly, net NPAs declined to **1.02%** in June 2022 from **1.7%** in June 2021.
- The provisions for bad loans declined to **Rs 4,268 crore** from Rs 5,030 in the same period a year ago.

About SBI:

- Founded: 1 July 1955
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Chairman: Dinesh Kumar Khara

Forex Reserve At 2-Year Low To \$564 billion:

- The most recent information provided by the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** shows that the nation's foreign exchange reserves decreased by **\$6.69 billion** to **\$564 billion**.
- Since October 2020, the reserves have fallen to their lowest point.
- The **foreign exchange reserves** decreased by over **\$9 billion** during the past two weeks.
- The loss was primarily caused by a decline in **foreign currency assets**, by **\$5.8 billion**, followed by a decline in gold reserves, by **\$704 million**, according to figures issued by the RBI.

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

Maharashtra govt to take Rs 4000 cr loan from ADB to set up medical colleges in 12 districts

- The Maharashtra government would take a loan of 4,000 crore rupees from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for setting up medical colleges in 12 districts of Maharashtra.
- There are 12 districts in the state without a single medical college.
- The 12 districts are Jalgaon, Satara, Alibaug, Sindhudurg, Usmanabad, Parbhani, Amravati, Ratnagiri, Gadchiroli, Bhandara, Ambarnath & Nashik Super Speciality hospital.
- The state government will soon complete the technical procedures to receive the funds.
- He directed that the medical education department should prepare a plan to set up a medical college and hospital in every district in the next two years.

About Maharashtra:

- Governor: Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- Chief Minister: Eknath Shinde
- Capital: Mumbai

About ADB:

- Founded: 19 December 1966
- Headquarters: Manila, Philippines
- President: Masatsugu Asakawa
- Membership: 68 countries

RBI imposes a penalty on 8 cooperative banks

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed monetary penalties on eight cooperative banks for different violations, including non-adherence to exposure norms, income recognition, asset classification, and KYC norms.

List of 8 Banks:

1. Visakhapatnam Co-operative Bank Ltd, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh - ₹55 lakh (**Highest Penalty**)
2. Bharat Heavy Electricals Employees' Co-operative Bank Ltd., Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu - ₹10 lakh
3. Darussalam Co-operative Urban Bank, Hyderabad, Telangana - Rs 10 lakh

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4. Nellore Co-operative Urban Bank Limited, Gandhi Nagar, Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh - Rs 10 lakh
5. Kakinada Co-operative Town Bank Ltd, Kakinada, East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh - - Rs 10 lakh
6. Ottapalam Co-operative Urban Bank Ltd, Ottapalam, Palakkad District, Kerala - Rs 5 lakh
7. National Urban Co-operative Bank Limited, Pratapgarh, Uttar Pradesh - Rs 5 lakh
8. Kendrapara Urban Cooperative Bank, Kendrapara, Odisha - Rs 1 lakh

About RBI:

- Founded: 1 April 1935
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Governor: Shaktikanta Das
- Deputy governors: Mahesh Kumar Jain, M. Rajeshwar Rao, Michael Patra, and T. Rabi Shankar

IndiGo joins the WEF's sustainability initiative "Clear Skies for Tomorrow":

- **Clear Skies for Tomorrow:** IndiGo, the country's largest airline, announced that it has joined an environmentally friendly initiative run by the World Economic Forum (WEF).
- The IndiGo airline has signed on as a signatory to the **Clear Skies for Tomorrow, India Coalition effort.**
- The commitment of IndiGo to implementing sustainable measures would assist SAF (Sustainable Aviation Fuel) reach a critical mass and becoming cost-effective for widespread use in India.
- **From Toulouse, France, to New Delhi, IndiGo flew its brand-new A320 neo aircraft using a 10% SAF mix.**
- The industry has a real and proactive road to achieving carbon-neutral flying because of "Clean Skies for Tomorrow," which was introduced in January 2019.

Reliance Industries to build the world's largest carbon fiber plant:

- **Mukesh Ambani, the chairman of Reliance Industries, revealed plans to build one of the biggest carbon fiber mills in the world in Hazira, Gujarat.**

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- Based on feedstock Acrylonitrile, the plants will have a capacity of 20,000 MTPA.
- **Ambani Ambani** announced an overall investment of **Rs 75,000 crore over the next five years** in the **Oil to Chemical segment (O2C)** to **increase capabilities** in both existing and new value chains.
- These value chains are the **Polyester, Vinyl, and New Materials** chains.
- The plant's initial phase will be **finished in 2025**.
- To create carbon fiber composites, **the company will further combine its composites business with carbon fiber**.
- In addition to its many other uses, carbon fiber composites are employed to address the constantly expanding lightweight demands of the mobility and renewable energy industries.
- Ambani emphasized that Carbon Fibre so promises to be a multi-decade growth engine for O2C.
- **Reliance has started on its path to becoming net carbon neutral by 2035** with several practical steps.

About Reliance Industries Limited (RIL):

- Founded: 8 May 1973
- Founder: Dhirubhai Ambani
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- CMD: Mukesh Ambani
- Director: Nita Ambani

Muthoot FinCorp ties up with IME India for money transfer service to Nepal

- **Muthoot FinCorp Ltd**, the flagship company of Muthoot Pappachan Group (also known as Muthoot Blue), has tied up with **IME India Pvt Ltd** (Erstwhile IME Forex India Private Limited) to expand its money remittance services between **Indo Nepal Corridor**.
- Muthoot FinCorp has been assisting the Nepali community in India in remitting money through their existing partner – **Prabhu Money Transfer Pvt Ltd**.

Key Highlights:

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- Nepali migrants can now transfer money instantly from **3600+ branches** of Muthoot FinCorp Ltd to their families in Nepal without opening any bank account in India.

Banking partners:

- **IDFC First Bank, India, and Global IME Bank Ltd., Nepal** are the banking partners to facilitate Indo-Nepal remittance service.
- It is estimated that about **15%** of the total remittance received by Nepal is from India.
- IME India has been in the Indo-Nepal remittance business since **2020** and reaching out to the Nepalese migrant population spread across India.
- This facility is expected to benefit **5 million Nepalese migrants**.

About Muthoot FinCorp Ltd:

- Founded: 1887
- Headquarters: Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
- CEO: Shaji Varghese
- Chairman & Managing Director: Thomas John Muthoot

About IME India Pvt Ltd:

- CEO: Goutam Naithani

In September GST rises 28 pc in August to Rs 1,43,612 crore:

- **GST mop-up rises 28 pc in Aug to Rs 1.43 lakh cr** Collections from Goods and Services Tax (GST) rose 28 percent to Rs 1.43 lakh crore in August, the Finance Ministry.
- GST collection has remained over the **Rs 1.4-lakh-crore mark for the sixth straight month in August.**
- Better reporting coupled with economic recovery has been having a positive impact on the GST revenues consistently
- The gross **GST revenue collected in August 2022 stood at Rs 1,43,612 crore** of which Central GST is Rs 24,710 crore, State GST is Rs 30,951 crore, Integrated GST is Rs 77,782 crore (including Rs 42,067 crore collected on import of goods), and cess is Rs 10,168 crore (including Rs 1,018 crore collected on import of goods), the ministry said.

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- The revenues for August 2022, registered a 28 percent increase from the GST revenues of Rs 1,12,020 crore collected in August 2021.

SBI Card Launches First-Of-Its-Kind 'CASHBACK SBI Card'

- India's largest pure-play credit card issuer, SBI Cards & Payment Services Ltd (SBI Card) has launched the 'Cashback SBI Card', which is the first-of-its-kind comprehensive cashback credit card in India.
- Consumers across India, including tier 2 and 3 cities, can easily get CASHBACK SBI Cards instantly through the digital application platform 'SBI Card SPRINT'.
- The card offers a simple, seamless, and completely digital joining experience.

About 'Cashback SBI Card':

- The Cashback SBI Card customers will earn unlimited 1% cashback on all spends and the cashback will increase to 5% on all online spends, up to a maximum of Rs 10,000 for each monthly statement cycle.
- The card has an automatic cashback credit feature which allows automatic credit of the authorized cashback to the account within two days of statement production
- It is free for the first year till March 2023.
- The annual renewal fee of the card is Rs 999 plus applicable taxes.
- The cardholders will also get four complimentary domestic airport lounge visits each year (one visit per quarter).

About SBI Card:

- Founded: October 1998
- Headquarters: Gurugram, Haryana
- MD & CEO: Rama Mohan Rao Amara

BoB Financial & Snapdeal Launch Co-Branded JCB RuPay Contactless Credit Card

- BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL) & Snapdeal in partnership with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and JCB International Co. Ltd (JCB) have launched the Snapdeal BoB JCB RuPay Credit Card.

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About Snapdeal BoB JCB RuPay Credit Card:

- Users of the co-branded credit card will receive up to **5% unlimited cashback** (accrued as 20 reward points on every INR 100 spent) on the Snapdeal app and website.
- Activation of the card **within 30 days of issuance** will entitle the cardholder to shopping benefits on Snapdeal worth up to **INR 500**
- The card also offers **10 Reward points per INR 100** spent on online, grocery, and departmental store spending.
- For purchases in all other categories, customers will get **4 reward points for every INR 100 spent**.
- The cardholders will also enjoy free Add-On cards for family members, a waiver of a **1% fuel surcharge**, easy EMI options (pre and post-purchase), and periodic offers across merchants.
- The card will also be usable at international merchants and ATMs through the extensive JCB global network.

Note:

- JCB global network is the **only international payment brand based in Japan**.

About BFSL:

- Founded: 1994
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- MD & CEO: Mr. Shailendra Singh
- It is a non-banking Financial Company, the wholly owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda (BoB).

SBI trims GDP growth forecast to 6.8% for FY23

- The State Bank of India (SBI) chief economist Mr. Soumya Kanti Ghosh has revised down India's full-year GDP growth forecast to **6.8** for the financial year FY23.
- Earlier, the growth forecast was **7.5%**.

Key Highlights:

- For Q1FY23, the economist had forecasted GDP growth at **15.7%**.

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- In the remaining quarters, Ghosh expects GDP growth to be at **6.9%** in Q2FY23, further dropping to **4.1%** in Q3 followed by a **4%** rate in Q4.
- The SBI chief economist highlighted that at **13.5%** real GDP growth has contracted by **9.6%** sequentially, but the seasonally adjusted real GDP growth series shows a pick-up in economic momentum, with higher growth at **5.6%** sequentially in Q1 compared to **-4.1%** in Q1FY22 and **1.9%** in Q4FY22.
- During the first quarter of FY23, the manufacturing sector recorded a growth of **4.8%** sharply down from **49%** in Q1FY22.
- The **growth rate** in construction stood at **16.8%**, a steep drop from **71.3%** in Q1FY22.
- Also, mining and quarrying growth declined to **6.5%** from **18%** in Q1 of FY22.

Recent News:

- The **National Statistical Office (NSO)**, released the data for the **April-June quarter (Q1)** of 2022-23, where the economy showed a growth of **13.5%** lower than **20.1%** in Q1 of FY22.

About SBI:

- Founded: 1 July 1955
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Chairman: Dinesh Kumar Khara

IndusInd Bank Partners With Asian Development Bank To Promote Supply Chain Finance Solutions in India

- **IndusInd Bank** announced a strategic partnership with the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** for a **partial guarantee program** with an initial outlay of **USD 70 million (Rs 560.0 crore)**.

Aim:

- To support and promote **Supply Chain Finance (SCF)** solutions in India.
- To grow its **Micro Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) financing** & strengthen its strategies for the MSME sector.
- The bank has initiated a host of strategic efforts including the launch of new product structures for SCF.

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- Recently, IndusInd Bank launched a state-of-the-art digital portal for SCF – ‘early credit’ enabling 24*7 seamless processing of SCF transactions for corporates, suppliers & dealers.

About IndusInd Bank:

- Founded: April 1994
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- MD & CEO: Sumant Kathpalia

About ADB:

- Founded: 19 December 1966
- Headquarters: Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines
- President: Masatsugu Asakawa
- Membership: 68 countries

SEBI Restructures Panel on Cyber Security; Expands To 6 Members

- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has restructured its high-level panel on cyber security that suggests measures to safeguard the capital markets from cyber attacks.
- The committee, which now has six members, will be chaired by Mr. Navin Kumar Singh, Director General at National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Center (NCIIPC).
- Earlier, the committee had only four members.

Other Members:

- **Sanjay Bahl** Director General at Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In)
- **H Krishnamurthy**, who was a chief research scientist at IISC Bangalore.
- **Sandeep Shukla** and **Debdeep Mukhopadhyay** -who are professors at the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at IIT Kanpur and IIT Kharagpur, respectively,
- **Sugata Gangopadhyay** head of the department of Computer Science and Engineering at IIT Roorkee

About the Committee:

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- The committee would provide recommendations for the strengthening of processes to audit cyber security and cyber resilience setups in the Indian securities market.
- It will engage in continuous dialogues with relevant external agencies, such as CERT-In, **National Cyber Coordination Center (NCSC)**, **Department of Telecommunications (DoT)**, **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)**, & leading academic institutions and organizations, among others, to further strengthen cyber security and cyber resilience.
- It has been entrusted with the task of overseeing and providing overall guidance on cyber security initiatives for Sebi as well as for the entire capital market.
- In May 2017, the capital markets regulator set up the panel, which was headed by the **whole-time member Mr. Madhabi Puri Buch**, currently the chairperson of Sebi.

About SEBI:

- Established: on 12 April 1988 as an executive body and was given statutory powers on 30 January 1992 through the SEBI Act, 1992.
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Chairman: Madhabi Puri Buch
- SEBI is the **regulatory body** for securities and commodity markets in India under the ownership of the **Ministry of Finance, Gol**.

RBI launches pilot project to digitize Kisan Credit Card in MP, Tamil Nadu

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has launched the pilot project for end-to-end digitalization of lending via Kisan Credit Cards (KCC).

Aim:

- To transform the rural credit delivery system.
- It is developed by the **Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH)** in association with the **Rural Bank of India (RBI)**.
- The pilot will commence in **September 2022** in select districts of **Madhya Pradesh** and **Tamil Nadu** with **Union Bank of India** and **Federal Bank**, respectively.

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- The project is being launched as a part of the initiative for the **digitalization** of Rural Finance in India.

Key Highlights:

- The pilot project would **entail the automation** of various processes within banks and the integration of their systems with the service providers.
- The proposed digitalization of the KCC lending process will make it more efficient, reduce costs for borrowers and **reduce turnaround time (TAT)** significantly.
- The TAT from loan application to disbursement has also been rather high, ranging from **2 to 4 weeks**.
- At present, the process for getting such finance requires customers to visit a bank branch in-person along with **proof of land ownership** and other documents.

About KCC:

- The Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme is a credit scheme introduced in **August 1998**.
- It was prepared by the **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** on the recommendations of the **R. V. Gupta Committee**

About RBI:

- Established: 1 April 1935
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Governor: Shaktikanta Das
- Deputy governors: Mahesh Kumar Jain, M. Rajeshwar Rao, Michael Patra, and T. Rabi Shankar

India's exports contracted by 1.15 percent to USD 33 billion in August:

- India's exports contracted by 1.15 percent to USD 33 billion in August, for the first time in over 20 months, while the trade deficit more than **doubled to USD 28.68 billion** due to increased **crude oil imports**.

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- According to the preliminary data released by the commerce ministry, **imports rose by 37 percent to USD 61.68 billion in August this year.**
- The trade deficit in August 2021 stood at USD 11.71 billion.
- During April-August 2022-23, exports registered a growth of 17.12 percent to USD 192.59 billion.
- Imports during the five months of this **fiscal grew by 45.64 percent to USD 317.81 billion.**
- The trade deficit widened to USD 125.22 billion in April-August this fiscal as against USD 53.78 billion in the same period last year.

NPPA Launched Apps for Enhancing Ease of Business:

- During the celebration of the silver jubilee on August 29, 2022, the **National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA)** unveiled the **Pharma Sahi Daam 2.0 app** and **Pharmaceutical Database Management System 2.0.**
- The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority has always offered high-quality goods.
- During the opening ceremony, the **Pharma Sahi Daam 2.0 app** and **Pharmaceutical Database Management System 2.0** were released.
- The **Integrated Pharmaceutical Database Management System 2.0 (IPDMS)** is a cloud-based application that is developed by NPPA with the technical support of the **Centre for Advance Computing (C-DAC).**

RBI issues new guidelines on digital lending to protect borrowers

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** issued **official guidelines to all lenders/ Regulated Entities (RE)**, including banks in a move to protect the borrowers from unscrupulous lending practices.
- These new guidelines will apply only to existing customers taking fresh loans, and to new customers getting onboarded from **Sep 2, 2022.**
- The registered entities have to comply with the digital lending guidelines by **November 30, 2022.**
- The guidelines issued by the RBI cover the following regulated entities: **all commercial banks, urban co-operative banks, state co-operative banks, district central co-operative banks; and non-banking financial companies (NBFCs), including housing finance companies (HFCs).**

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About RBI:

- Established: 1 April 1935
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Governor: Shaktikanta Das
- Deputy governors: Mahesh Kumar Jain, M. Rajeshwar Rao, Michael Patra, and T. Rabi Shankar

RBI partially devolves 7-year paper on PDs

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) partially devolved the 7-year Government Security (GS) on primary dealers (PDs) to maintain the normal 5-6 basis points spread between this paper and the 10-year paper.

Key Highlights:

- At the auction, while the 7.10% GS 2029 partially devolved on the underwriters, the remaining three papers (6.69% GS 2024; 7.26% GS 2032; & 6.95% GS 2061) sailed through, with the government raising the overall notified amount of ₹33,000 crore
- The RBI devolved about 36% of the notified amount of ₹7,000 crores, which the government wanted to raise via the 7-year paper.
- The cut-off yield of the 7-year paper and the 10-year paper came in at 7.1632% & 7.2195% respectively, with the spread between the two papers being maintained at about 6 bps.

28th Edition of Status Report on India's External Debt 2021-22 Released:

- The 28th edition of the Status Report on India's External Debt for the years 2021–2022 has been published by the External Debt Management Unit (EDMU) under the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance.
- At US\$ 620.7 billion as of the end of March 2022, India's external debt increased by 8.2% from US\$ 573.7 billion as of the end of March 2021.
- The second greatest portion of it, estimated at 31.2%, was owed in Indian rupees, while 53.2% of it was in US dollars.
- As of the end of March 2022, the external debt to GDP ratio decreased slightly from 21.2 to 19.9 percent.

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- As of the end of March 2022, the ratio of foreign currency reserves to external debt was 97.8 percent, down from 100.6 percent a year earlier.

Bank of India becomes 1st Public Sector Bank to go live on new Direct Tax Collection System Tin 2.0

- Bank of India (BOI) has become the first public sector bank (PSB) to go live on Income Tax Department's new Direct Tax Collection System Tin 2.0.
- Tax Information Network, TIN 2.0 (e-filing) is the official portal of the Income Tax Department, Ministry of Finance (MoF), Government of India (GoI).

About Tax Information Network, TIN 2.0 (e-filing):

- The portal has been developed by the Income Tax Department as a Mission Mode Project under the National E-Governance Plan.

Objective:

- To provide the taxpayers with **single window access** to income tax-related services including tax payments.
- With this, taxpayers will now get a **single platform** for their tax payments as well as e-filing of tax returns.
- The process is **simple and fast**, making it easier for taxpayers to make the payments at their convenience in just a few clicks.

Recent News:

- In July 2022, BOI became the first bank to launch a **Unified Payment Interface (UPI)** enabled digital platform for the onboarding of the **National Pension System (NPS)** in collaboration with **K-fintech**.
- The digital journey starts with the scanning of the **QR code**, **Aadhar verification** through **Digilocker**, and payment through UPI.

About BOI:

- Founded: 7 September 1906
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- MD & CEO: Atanu Kumar Das
- Tagline: Relationship Beyond Banking

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

IDFC FIRST Bank joins the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)

- Private sector lender IDFC First Bank has become a participant of the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), an initiative of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI), to enable early adoption of the network among its customers.

Key Highlights:

- The Bank has enabled a platform for buyers which will help them discover sellers in the ONDC Network.
- The Bank has started onboarding **small merchants**, who are its current account customers, onto a partner app registered with ONDC.
- The app helps small merchants carry out transactions over **ONDC's electronic network** and step up their digital footprint.

About ONDC:

- The Indian government launched ONDC as an **alternative to dominant global giants Amazon and Flipkart in April 2022**
- ONDC, a **section 8** company, has been set up to democratize e-commerce and will transition e-commerce from a platform-centric model to an open network model, similar to the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) for payments.

About IDFC FIRST Bank:

- Founded: October 2015
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- MD & CEO: V. Vaidyanathan
- IDFC FIRST Bank was formed by the merger of erstwhile IDFC Bank, and the leading technology Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC), Capital First.

Reliance General Insurance & Policybazaar launches Reliance Health Gain Policy

- One of India's leading General Insurance companies, **Reliance General Insurance**, has launched one of its most flexible and popular products – **Reliance Health Gain Policy** – on Policybazaar's online platform.

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- The Policy Launched in **May 2022**.
- The policy gives its customers the freedom to choose and personalize their health policies as per their requirements.
- The non-life insurance penetration in India is about **1% of GDP** which is quite low in comparison to the global average of **4.1%**.

About the Reliance Health Gain Policy:

- The Policy is one of the most flexible and customizable health insurance policies in the industry.
- It is available in **three** different plans – **Plus, Power, and Prime** – and has an array of features to facilitate the customization of policy for each customer.
- The policy comes loaded with **38 industry-leading features** like
- Double Cover that provides twice the amount of sum insured to be used during the same claim
- Unlimited reinstatement to restore the base sum insured amount as many times as it gets exhausted during a policy year
- Guaranteed Cumulative Bonus, which protects against loss of cumulative bonus post claim
- The benefit is to **reduce Pre-Existing disease** waiting period from **3 years to 2 or even 1 year**.

About Reliance General Insurance:

- Founded: 17 August 2000
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- CEO: Mr. Rakesh Jain

ESAF SFB launches 'rainbow account' for the transgender community

- **ESAF Small Finance Bank Ltd (ESAF SFB)** has launched a '**Rainbow Savings Account**' exclusively for the transgender community offering a host of features, including **high savings rates** and **advanced debit card facilities**.
- Many transgenders from different parts of Kerala participated in the launch of Rainbow Savings Account's logo event, which was organized in association with the **Navodaya Movement**.

About Rainbow Savings Account:

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- The Rainbow Savings Account is an effort to promote a trans-friendly or inclusive labor culture.
- The account provides a default credit of interest.
- In 2015, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) directed banks to add a distinct column labeled "third gender" to all of their applications and forms.

About ESAF SFB:

- Founded: 10 March 2017
- Headquarters: Thrissur, Kerala
- Chairperson: P. R. Ravi Mohan
- MD & CEO: Kadambelil Paul Thomas
- Tagline: Joy of Banking

Digital Rupee to Reduce Time, and Cost in Cross-Border Business:

- According to Reserve Bank Deputy Governor T. Rabi Sankar, the central bank digital currency (CBDC), which is set to be introduced this year, might be used to speed up and lower the cost of international transactions.
- According to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's Budget announcement, the RBI has recommended beginning operations on a trial basis this year.
- The finance minister had stated that the RBI would launch a digital equivalent to the rupee in the current fiscal year in the Union Budget for 2022–2023.
- CBDC is a digital or virtual currency but differs from private cryptocurrency in that it is backed and issued by a sovereign state.
- Private virtual currencies don't represent any person's debt or liabilities as there is no issuer.
- India's own CBDC was first announced by Nirmala Sitharaman in the 2022 Budget

Agribazaar Launches 'Kisan Safalta Card' for Agri Financing

- Agribazaar, a private electronic Agri mandi, has introduced the 'Agribazaar Kisan Safalta Card'.
- The card will be available to farmers in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, and the Delhi National Capital Region (NCR) in the first phase.

About 'Agribazaar Kisan Safalta Card':

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- The card is a **quick and hassle-free instrument** that helps farmers meet their **pre- and post-harvest farm requirements** and allied expenses.
- Farmers can use this card to obtain **financial facilities** when needed.
- The funds can only be used to **purchase farm inputs**.
- The card has a **12-month repayment period**.
- The repayment plan can be **rescheduled** if crop damage occurs as a result of a **natural disaster** or if **crop yield is low**.
- The card amount is adjustable for marginal farmers, ranging from **Rs 10,000 to Rs 50,000**.
- The **maximum limit** of the card can be increased annually following an annual review based on the most recent crop yield and farmer repayment history.

About agribazaar:

- Founded: 2016
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Co-Founder & CEO: Amith Agarwal

HDFC bank launches “Bank on Wheels” in Gujarat

- Private lender, **HDFC Bank** has launched its state-of-the-art '**Bank on Wheels**' van in **Gujarat**, to offer **banking services** in **unbanked locations**, around **Ankleshwar**
- The van was flagged off by **Shri Dhavalkumar R Patel**, Taluka Development Officer at a function organized in **Ankleshwar Taluka Panchayat office**
- As part of the Bank's newly carved Rural Banking business, the van will visit remote villages located **10 – 25 km** from the nearest branch, to further financial inclusion.
- Customers can access **21 banking products** as well as services.
- The van will be operational at each location for a specific period and will cover **3 villages in a day**.

Note:

- **HDFC Bank** is the **First bank** to **translate Financial Literacy Material** into the **Gujarati language** in **Gujarat**.

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Axis Bank Partners with PayNearby to enhance PSL Lending

- **Axis Bank** has partnered with technology-based company **PayNearby** to boost its **credit growth** in **Priority Sector Lending (PSL)** targets.
- Banks are required to provide **40%** of their total lending to priority sectors, which includes lending to the **agriculture** and **MSME** sectors.

About the Partnership:

- PayNearby, which offers **distribution-as-a-Service (DaaS)**, has a network of over **50 lakh micro-entrepreneurs**.
- Through this tie-up, Axis Bank will be able to reach out to potential customers in remote regions and provide banking solutions digitally.
- This will simplify banking for **retail shop owners** and **individual customers**, and further eliminate the need for them to travel long distances to operate their bank accounts.
- As of now, Axis Bank has about **2,100 branches** which are classified as Bharat Bank branches.

About PayNearby:

- Founded: 2016
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- MD & CEO: Anand Kumar Bajaj

About Axis Bank:

- Founded: 3 December 1993
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- MD & CEO: Amitabh Chaudhry

Lord's Mark Industries gets direct insurance broking license from IRDAI

- **Lord's Mark Insurance Broking Private Limited**, the insurance division of **Lord's Mark Industries**, has received a **direct insurance broking license** from the **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)** for **selling life** and **general insurance products**.

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- Lords Mark Insurance Broking plans to partner with leading insurers for the launch of life and general insurance products on its **Policy King platform**.

About Policy King:

- Policy King which can be downloaded and installed on the smartphone and will facilitate its customers to compare all available insurance offers apart from help and **expert guidance** to **choose the right life insurance, term life insurance, health insurance, motor insurance, etc.**
- It will work on an **innovative operating model** which is based on a digital customer acquisition and engagement system along with a traditional insurance delivery framework
- With Policy King, the company will penetrate the under-served market segment in **Tier-II and Tier-III cities** of the country besides catering to clients in **metro cities**.

About Lord's Mark Industries Pvt. Ltd:

- Founded: 1998
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- MD & CEO: Sachidanand Upadhyay

Agribazaar Launches Kisan Safalta Card for Agri Financing:

- The "**Agribazaar Kisan Safalta Card**" was introduced by Agribazaar, a private sector electronic **Agri mandi**.
- Farmers may quickly and easily take care of their pre-and post-harvest agricultural necessities as well as related costs with the **Agribazaar Kisan Safalta Card**.
- The **Agribazaar Kisan Safalta Card** may be used by farmers to get finance.
- The granted monies may only be used to purchase farm supplies and requirements.
- The card offers a 12-month payback period, which gives you plenty of time to pay off your debt.
- Each farmer's crop production sets the **card's maximum, financing scale, and maintenance fees**.
- The card's value is modifiable for **marginal farmers, ranging from Rs.10,000 to Rs.50,000**.
- The Agribazaar Kisan Safalta Card's **maximum limit can be extended annually based on crop productivity and repayments**.

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Adani Group to build Giga factories as part of \$70 bn investment in clean energy by 2030:

- **Gautam Adani, Asia's richest man, will develop three Giga plants to manufacture solar panels, wind turbines, and hydrogen electrolyzers as part of a USD 70 billion investment in sustainable energy by 2030.**
- **Adani Group is increasing its investments across the green energy value chain to become the world's leading producer of renewable energy by 2030.**
- **The new gigafactory for power electronics will be added to the four gigafactories announced last year for manufacturing integrated solar PV modules that will produce electricity from sunlight, electrolyzers that will produce hydrogen from water, fuel cells and batteries to store energy from the grid, and 20 GW of solar energy capacity by 2025 for captive needs.**

SBI & WAARE collaborate to Fund Projects for Customers and Channel Partners

- **WAAREE, India's largest Solar Panel manufacturer, has entered into an Agreement with the State Bank of India (SBI) for Solar Projects.**
- **It allows WAAREE to receive unsecured financing for solar projects through Surya Shakti Solar Finance Scheme & provide working capital for Channel Partners under EDFS (Electronic dealer finance scheme).**

About Surya Shakti Solar Finance Scheme:

- **Through the scheme, WAAREE plans to leverage a credit line of more than \$500 million and offer loan borrowers a digital platform for a simple application process.**
- **The Economic Times has named WAAREE “India's Best Brand” in the renewable energy sector.**

About WAAREE:

- **It provides EPC services, project development, rooftop solutions, and solar water pumps & is an Independent Power Producer.**

About SBI:

- **Founded: 1 July 1955**
- **Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India**
- **Chairman: Dinesh Kumar Khara**

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

SEBI gives in-principle approval to Helios Capital to launch mutual fund business

- Helios Capital Management PTE Limited Founder Mr. Samir Arora has received in-principle approval for mutual funds (MF) from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- Helios Capital, which is the business of portfolio management services, applied for a mutual fund license with the SEBI in February 2021.
- He was the Chief Investment Officer of Alliance Capital's Indian mutual fund business.
- Arora quit Alliance Capital Mutual Fund after 19 years and is now looking to enter the Rs 37 trillion Indian mutual fund industry.
- Recently, SEBI granted in-principle licenses for mutual fund forays to Zerodha Broking, Bajaj Finserv, and Frontline Capital Services.

About SEBI:

- Established: on 12 April 1988 as an executive body and was given statutory powers on 30 January 1992 through the SEBI Act, 1992.
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Chairman: Madhabi Puri Buch
- SEBI is the regulatory body for securities and commodity markets in India under the ownership of the Ministry of Finance (MoF), GoI.

Vehicle Dispatches Rise 21% As Chip Supply Improves:

- According to the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers, increased semiconductor supply and seasonal demand led to a 21% yearly surge in passenger car wholesales in India in August.
- According to the most recent information provided by the industry group Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM), deployments of passenger vehicles (PVs) to dealers were 2,81,210 units in August 2018 compared to 2,32,224 units in August 2021.
- According to SIAM, wholesale sales of passenger cars increased by 23% last month to 1,33,477 units from 1,08,508 units in the same time the previous year.
- In August, utility vehicle dispatches increased by 20% to 1,35,497 units from 1,12,863 units in the same month a year prior.

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- Similarly, total two-wheeler wholesales grew by 16% last month to 15,57,429 units from 13,38,740 units in the same time the previous year.

HSBC commits Rs 125 cr to green causes, energy transition projects in India over the next five years

- Foreign lender Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC) has committed **Rs 125 crore** over the **next 5 years** to support green causes like **wetland conservation** and **energy transition projects** in India.
- The measures are being taken as part of its efforts to **limit the impact of climate change**.
- Under the commitment, it has divided the works into **two broad themes**, including **energy transition** and **nature-based solutions**.
- The nature-based solutions will support **sustainable agriculture**, **restore landscapes**, and **safeguard and revitalize wetlands, mangroves, and forests**.
- Energy transition will include renewables and/or energy efficiency programs to support the shift towards renewables and scale efficiency initiatives in sectors like **healthcare, dairy cold chain**, and for productive energy use by communities.
- It has teamed up with the nonprofit organizations **WWF India** and **India Resources Trust (WRI India)** to launch initiatives in **8 states**.
- In **Jharkhand, Maharashtra, West Bengal, and Assam**, the partnership with **civil society organizations** intend to provide integrated **300 kW clean energy solutions** to healthcare institutions.
- HSBC has also launched a discussion platform called '**CEOs on Sustainability**'.

Aim:

- To bring together business executives from the public and private sectors, as well as decision-makers, think tanks, and financial institutions to exchange ideas and share best practices.

About HSBC:

- Founded: 25 March 1991
- Headquarters: London, England, UK
- Group CEO: Noel Quinn
- Group Chairman: Mark Tucker

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- Chief Executive Officer of HSBC India: Hitendra Dave
- HSBC Holdings plc is a **British multinational universal bank and financial services holding company**.

Max Life launches Smart Flexi Protect Solution

- **Max Life Insurance Company Ltd** has launched 'Smart Flexi Protect Solution', a 3-in-1 offering that provides **health and enhanced life cover**, along with **market-linked investment returns**.

About Smart Flexi Protect Solution:

- Max Life's Smart Flexi Protect Solution is designed as a go-to choice for earning individuals, especially for **self-employed profiles**.
- The 'Smart Flexi Protect Solution' is a combination of **Max Life Flexi Wealth Plus & Max Life Critical Illness and Disability Secure Rider**.

Max Life Flexi Wealth Plus:

- Flexi Wealth Plus will help **create financial protection with enhanced life cover plus savings with market-linked returns**.
- It offers **5 different investment strategies and 11 funds** along with a return of mortality charges at maturity.

Max Life Critical Illness and Disability Secure Rider:

- The Critical Illness and Disability Secure Rider acts as a financial net, offering a specific coverage amount to financially secure one against **64 critical illnesses and total permanent disability**.

Key highlights of Max Life's Smart Flexi Protect Solution:

- **Enhanced Death Benefit:** Max Life's Smart Flexi Protect Solution has enhanced death benefits, offering the nominees an **extra layer of financial protection** in the event of the unfortunate demise of the insured.
- **Investment Benefit:** The solution can help policyholders meet investment objectives through **market-linked returns**.

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- **Frictionless Onboarding:** The solution is differentiated by its simplified onboarding experience and easy issuance with **video medical examination** and **relaxed financial documentation**.
- **Tax Benefits:** Tax benefits may be available as per the **prevailing tax laws**.

About Max Life Insurance Company Ltd:

- Founded: 2001
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi
- MD & CEO: Prashant Tripathy
- Max Life Insurance Company Limited is a Joint Venture between **Max Financial Services Limited** and **Axis Bank Limited**.

HDFC Bank issues India's first Electronic Bank Guarantee

- India's largest private sector bank, **HDFC Bank** has become the **first bank** in the country to issue an **Electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG)** in partnership with **National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL)**.
- e-BG has been developed in consultation with **NeSL, Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)-Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) committee**, and **Indian Bank's Association (IBA)** to simplify the process and **eliminate** the possibility of **fraud** and **manipulation**.
- e-BG will be issued on the NeSL portal through an API-based digital workflow.
- The **paper-based, the time-consuming process** has been eliminated with the **new electronic bank guarantees** that can be processed, stamped, verified, and delivered instantly with enhanced security.
- MD & CEO of NeSL: Debajyoti Ray Chaudhuri

About HDFC Bank:

- Founded: August 1994
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- MD & CEO: Sashidhar Jagdishan

LIC introduces New Pension Plus Plan

- The **Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)** has launched a **new non-participating, unit-linked, individual pension plan** called LIC's '**New Pension Plus**' (NPP).

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- The product was launched at Hotel Trident in the function of the **Insurance Week Celebration (Sep 01 to 07, 2022)**.
- The **Unique Identity Number (UIN)** for this plan is **512L347V01**.
- The plan will help build a corpus of systematic and disciplined savings which can be converted into regular income by the purchase of an annuity plan on completion of the term.

About LIC's NPP:

- The investment options available are **Pension Bond Fund, Pension Secured Fund, Pension Balanced Fund, Pension Growth Fund, and Pension Discontinued Fund**.

Eligibility conditions of LIC's NPP:

Entry Age:

- The minimum entry age is **25 years**
- The maximum entry age is **75 years**.

Vesting Age:

- The **minimum vesting age or the minimum age** at which one may opt to get a regular annuity is **35 years** & the **maximum vesting age** is **85 years**.

Policy Term:

- The minimum policy term is **10 years** and the maximum is **42 years**.

Premium Payment Options:

- There are **two premium payment options**
 1. Single premium
 2. Regular premium.

Minimum & Maximum Premium:

- The minimum premium varies with the frequency of payment.
- For monthly payments, the minimum premium is **Rs 3,000**, for quarterly **Rs 9,000**, for half yearly **Rs 16,000**, and yearly payments, the minimum premium is **Rs 30,000**.
- There is **no cap** on maximum premium.

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Guaranteed Additions:

- On the in-force policies, guaranteed additions of up to **15.5%** of annualized premium on **regular premium plans** and up to **5%** on **single premium plans** will be added at the end of the **6th year**, **10th year**, and every subsequent year from the **11th year** till the end of the policy term.

Insurance Cover:

- In case of the unfortunate death of a policyholder during the policy term, an amount higher of the fund value and **105%** of the **total premium paid (excluding taxes, interest on late payment, and charges, if any)** will be paid to the nominee.

Commutation:

- At the time of vesting, up to **60%** of the fund value may be commuted and the rest will be utilized to purchase immediate or deferred annuity plans.

Purchase of Annuity Plan:

- **At least 40%** of the fund value will have to be utilized to purchase Annuity Plans from the LIC of India or any other **Insurance Regulatory & Development Authority of India (IRDAI)**-the regulated insurance company.

About LIC:

- Founded: 1 September 1956
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Chairperson: M R Kumar
- Managing Directors: B C Patnaik, Smt. Ipe Mini, Siddharth Mohanty, Rajkumar

HDFC Bank signs MoU with Institute of Economic Growth

- The largest private lender **HDFC Bank** has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **Institute of Economic Growth (IEG)** to fund a **chair** to carry out independent research.
- It would be known as '**HDFC Bank Chair of Banking and Finance** and would be housed at the **IEG campus, New Delhi, Delhi**.
- The MoU was signed in the presence of **Atanu Chakraborty**, chairman, of **HDFC Bank**, and **Ramesh Chand**, a member of the **Niti Aayog** and the chairman of **IEG**.

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- The bank will support IEG for this chair for over **5 years** with funding support of **₹6.75 crores**, with effect from **1 September 2022**.

About IEG:

- IEG is widely recognized as a **Center of Excellence**, and one of India's leading think tanks in the fields of economic and social development.
- It specializes in **long-term research** that encourages the faculty to develop deep expertise in an area.

HPCL collaborates with the Indian Army for CSR Project:

- Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) and the Indian Army have partnered to conduct a CSR initiative in Kargil to train and mentor underprivileged lady students.
- The project is called '**Kargil Ignited Minds**,' and it seeks to prepare 50 female students for national-level engineering and medical admission exams.
- The Kargil Ignited Minds initiative will **focus on empowering poor girls who live in harsh weather conditions and have little resources**.
- Students must go through numerous stages to be a part of the Kargil Ignited Minds initiative, including screening, preliminary examinations, and interviews.
- The initiative attempts to improve the student's knowledge, abilities, and personality.
- The **Kargil Ignited Minds project's MoU signing** event was held at the 14 Corps Headquarters in **Leh**.

Retail Inflation Resurges To 7% As Food Prices Increase:

- The Indian economy experienced a resurgence of **price pressures in August**, with **retail inflation rising to 7%** from a five-month low in July.
- The rise, led by food prices, marks the ninth consecutive month that **retail inflation** has remained over the central bank's upper tolerance ceiling of 6%, bolstering the argument for more monetary tightening.

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- Retail inflation fell to 6.7% in July, according to a poll of 22 analysts, and August inflation is expected to be 6.9%.
- The Reserve Bank of India forecasts 6.7% inflation based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) year 2022-23.

HDFC Life launches Click2Protect Super term insurance policy

- HDFC Life Insurance Company Ltd has launched a term insurance plan Click2Protect Super.

Aim:

- To enable customization as per the protection needs and policyholders only pay for the benefits/plan options that they have chosen.

About Click2Protect Super:

- It is a non-linked, non-participating, individual, pure risk premium/ savings life insurance plan that provides you with multiple flexibilities such as changing life cover, extending the policy term, and getting coverage for accidental death and terminal illness.
- The plan provides comprehensive financial protection to your family & Customers can choose a cover that fits their needs from three plan options:

1. Life
2. Life Plus
3. Life Goal

About Life plan:

- This provides life cover for the coverage term chosen & also allows customers to increase the cover amount to ensure financial independence for their family in your absence.

About Life Plus:

- In addition to life cover, this option enhances cover against accidental death and terminal illness.

About Life Goal:

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- This plan ensures optimum **coverage by offering flexibility** to vary customer life cover for the desired term thereby safeguarding your loved ones from any liabilities and/or expenses

About HDFC Life Insurance Company Ltd:

- Founded: 2000
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- MD & CEO: Vibha Padalkar
- It is a joint venture between **Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd (HDFC)**, one of India's leading housing finance institutions, and **Abrdn**, a global investment company.

Canara HSBC Life Insurance launches “iSelect guaranteed plan”

- **Canara HSBC Life Insurance** has launched an individual, non-linked, non-participating, savings and protection life insurance plan called ” **iSelect Guaranteed Future**”

About iSelect Guaranteed Future Plan:

- It comes with a host of features and has been customized to cater to **short-term** and **long-term** financial requirements.
- The policy comes in multiple options to choose from – **iAchieve** and **Flexi iAchieve**, **iAssure** and **Flexi iAssure**, and **Easy iAchieve**.

About iAchieve and Flexi iAchieve plan:

- The premium payment terms can be either **5, 7, or 10 years**.

About iAssure and Flexi iAssure plan:

- The maximum entry age for either of these policies is **65 years**.
- The policy terms can be **10 and 15 years** for a **5-year premium payment term**.
- Customers will be **12 and 14 years** for a **7-year premium paying term**, and **15 and 20 years** for a **10-year premium paying term**.

About Easy iAchieve:

- It comes with a **single premium payment term** along with a guaranteed lump sum on maturity.
- The policy term can be **10, 12, 14, 15, or 20 years**.
- The maximum age for the option is **45 years**.

About Canara HSBC Life Insurance:

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- Founded: 2008
- Headquarters: Gurugram, Haryana, India
- MD & CEO: Anuj Mathur
- It was a joint venture between **Canara Bank (51%)**, **HSBC Insurance (Asia Pacific) Holdings Limited (26%)**, and **Punjab National Bank (23%)**.

Google Cloud Partners with HDFC ERGO to digitize insurance buying in India

- **HDFC ERGO General Insurance**, one of India's leading insurance companies has partnered with **Google Cloud** to create a technology platform that will help digitize insurance purchasing and services in India.
- HDFC ERGO aims to fully migrate to the cloud by **2024**.

About the Partnership:

- The new platform will enable HDFC ERGO to launch innovative product offerings, offer digitally enabled customer experiences, build more agile systems, leverage data to identify insurance risk, deliver personalized insurance products, and respond to regulatory changes in a quicker way.
- Google Cloud will assist HDFC ERGO across customer experience, IT systems integration, data (including analytics, artificial intelligence (AI), and machine learning (ML))

Note:

- Managing Director of Google Cloud India: Bikram Singh Bedi

About HDFC ERGO:

- Founded: 2002
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- MD & CEO: Mr. Ritesh Kumar
- HDFC ERGO is a **51:49** joint venture firm between **Housing Development Finance Corporation Limited (HDFC)** and **ERGO International AG**, one of the insurance entities of the Munich Re Group.

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Axis Bank & Square Yards launched the Open Door platform for hassle-free home buying

- Axis Bank, India's third largest private sector bank, and Square Yards, India's largest integrated Real Estate platform, have launched a jointly branded home buyer ecosystem called "Open Door".
- The platform will ensure that the entire process of finding and purchasing a dream house is **hassle-free, effective, and enjoyable** for clients.

About Open Door:

- Open Doors is a groundbreaking, integrated platform created to handle all consumer inquiries around residential real estate.
- It will give **cost-effective end-to-end home purchasing support**, exclusive builder inventory access, seamless home loan processing, and additional ecosystem services like rental and property management, home furnishing, and legal and technical services.
- The joint offers from Square Yards and Axis Bank on **home buying, home loans, interior design, property management**, and other related property services will be included in the real estate inventory displayed on the Open Doors platform.

About Axis Bank:

- Founded: 3 December 1993
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- MD & CEO: Amitabh Chaudhry

About Square Yards:

- Headquarters: Gurugram, Haryana
- Founder & CEO: Tanuj Shori

SBI joins 5-trillion market cap club; stock surges 26% in 3 months

- Public sector lender and India's largest Public Sector Bank (PSB) **State Bank of India (SBI)** has joined the **5.03 trillion market capitalization (market cap)** for the **first time** after its shares touched a record high of **Rs 564.45** on the **Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) Index**.
- According to the data from BSE, With a market cap of **Rs 5.03 trillion**, SBI stood at the **7th position** in the overall market cap ranking.

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- With this, SBI has become the **third lender** in the country to cross the market cap of **Rs 5 trillion**.
- India's largest private lender, **HDFC Bank**, holds **1st rank** in this list, with a market cap of **Rs 8.38 trillion**, followed by **ICICI Bank**, which has a market cap of **Rs 6.33 trillion**.
- In the past 3 months, SBI has outperformed the market by surging **26%**, as against a **13.9%** rise in the S&P BSE Sensex.
- During the same period, **ICICI Bank** has rallied **32%**, while **HDFC Bank** has gained **15%**.

About SBI:

- Founded: 1 July 1955
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Chairman: Dinesh Kumar Khara

ICICI Lombard introduces digital voice agent to track claim status

- A private non-life insurance company, **ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company Limited (ICICI Lombard)** launched an **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** powered digital voice agent in collaboration with **Skit.ai**, an **AI-based Software as a Service (SaaS)** voice automation platform.
- The new feature will assist customers with the status of their insurance claims for **health and motor insurance policies**.
- The augmented voice intelligence platform is integrated with ICICI Lombard's **customer relationship management (CRM) systems**.
- It will enhance the **speed, accuracy, and ease of conversation**.

Note:

- CEO, and co-founder of Skit.ai: Sourabh Gupta

About ICICI Lombard:

- Founded: 2001
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- MD & CEO: Bhargav Dasgupta

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

Govt Forms Expert Panel to Identify Measures to Scale VC/PE Investments

- As per a circular issued by the **Ministry of Finance**, the government has constituted an expert committee to suggest ways for scaling up **venture capital and private equity (VC/PE) investments**.
- The **six-member panel** will be headed by **M Damodaran**, the former chairman of the **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)**.

Other members of the panel:

- **G Mahalingam** (former RBI wholetime member)
- **Nagendra Kumar** (former member Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) DP)
- **Ashish Verma** (former chief commissioner of income tax)
- **Poonam Gupta** (director general of National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER)
- **Prabhat Ranjan Acharya** (director of Arun Jaitely National Institute of Financial Management (AJNIFM))
- In **2021**, Venture capital and private equity invested more than **INR 5.5 Lakh Cr** facilitating one of the largest startup and growth ecosystems.

About the Panel:

- The panel will “**comprehensively study**, using a systems approach, the **end-to-end frictions & potential accelerants** from regulatory policy and taxation to facilitate ease of investing, as well as to encourage investments in India.
- It will also **review issues** and suggest further changes to accelerate the **growth of capital inflow** from the VCs and PEs.
- The committee has also been entrusted with the task of recommending measures to further accelerate investments into startups and other sunrise sectors.
- It will also suggest “**forward-looking measures and future-ready regulatory practices**” to the government.

Wholesale Inflation Slowed To 11-Month Low At 12.4% In August:

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- The **wholesale price index-based inflation rate** fell for the third month in a row in August, to an 11-month low of **12.41 percent**, as pricing pressure from **manufactured and fuel products reduced despite an uptick in food inflation**.
- In August, **core WPI inflation fell to a 17-month low of 7.9 percent**.
- Food inflation accelerated to **12.37 percent** in August, according to industry department data, as prices for wheat, vegetables, fruits, and protein-rich goods increased compared to a year before.
- Inflation has slowed for both fuels (33.67%) and manufactured (7.51%) items.

Exports Dip to A 9-Month Low After Growth Slows:

- **After rising at a strong 22% in the first quarter** of the current fiscal year, **India's goods export growth has slowed** dramatically in the months thereafter.
- According to data from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, **export growth fell to 2.1 percent in July before dropping by 1.2 percent in August** to a nine-month low of **\$33 billion**.
- **Exports fell for the first time in 18 months** in August.
- In comparison, goods imports have continued to expand rapidly, increasing by roughly **37% in August**.
- While imports of fossil fuels (petroleum and coal) have increased, non-energy imports (such as electronics and machinery) have also increased.
- Non-oil imports have increased by **32%** over the last five months, indicating robust local demand.
- The goods trade imbalance (April-August) has more than quadrupled over the same period the previous year due to sluggish exports and rapid import growth.

Karnataka Bank becomes part of Khajane-II

- **Karnataka Bank Ltd** has become part of the **Karnataka Government's integrated financial management system (IFMS) Khajane-II (K2)** for implementing a **single nodal agency (SNA)** account system for Centrally-sponsored schemes.

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- The Bank will help in implementing various sponsored schemes by the Government for the disbursement of cash benefits to the targeted beneficiaries via direct credit to their bank accounts in a **safe, secure & speedier manner**.
- The bank, through its technology and digital-led solutions, will continue to engage and partner with the Government of Karnataka for implementing its various initiatives towards the **welfare of the public**”.

About Karnataka Bank:

- Founded: 18 February 1924
- Headquarters: Mangaluru, Karnataka, India
- MD & CEO: Mahabaleshwara M. S

Fitch cuts India FY23 GDP growth forecast to 7%

- Global rating agency Fitch has lowered India's economic growth forecast for fiscal 2022-23 (FY23) as measured by **gross domestic product (GDP)** to 7% from its June 2022 estimate of 7.8%.
- It now expects the GDP to slow further to **6.7% in FY24** as compared to its earlier forecast of 7.4%.
- The (Indian) economy recovered in 2Q22 with a growth of **13.5% year-on-year (y-o-y)**, but this was below our June expectation of an increase of **18.5% y-o-y**.
- Seasonally adjusted estimates show a **3.3% quarter-on-quarter (q-o-q) decline** in 2Q22.

Global growth:

- Fitch now expects world GDP to grow by **2.4% in 2022** revised down by **0.5 percentage points (ppt)** since the June 2022 assessment & by just **1.7% in 2023**, a cut of 1 ppt.
- The **eurozone** and the **United Kingdom** are now expected to enter recession later this year and Fitch forecasts that the US will suffer a mild recession in **mid-2023**.
- The **United States (US)** growth has also been revised down to **1.7% in 2022** and **0.5% in 2023**, revisions of **1.2pp** and **1.0pp** respectively.

Nippon Life India Asset Management & DWS join hands to launch a European-listed Indian Government Bond ETF

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- **Nippon Life India Asset Management (Singapore) Pte. Ltd** (a wholly owned subsidiary of Nippon Life India Asset Management Limited) has collaborated with **DWS** to provide portfolio management and investment advisory services to the **European-listed Indian Government Bond Exchange Traded Funds (ETF)**.

About the Partnership:

- Through this collaboration, the clients of **DWS Group** will access the **attractive Indian bond market**.
- DWS is continuously developing its range of ETFs to meet the ever-evolving needs of investors.

Key Highlights:

- The market size for securities issued by the Indian government is **more than USD 1 trillion** as of **August 2022**.
- This ranks it between the corresponding markets in **Canada** and **Spain**.
- **India's treasury market** is only **second to China's** in the emerging market local currency arena

About FAR:

- The **Fully Accessible Route (FAR)** is a **separate channel** established by the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**, in consultation with the **GoI**, through which eligible investors can invest in specified Government securities without any investment ceilings.
- The instruments comprise **FAR-eligible fixed-rate** and **zero-coupon bonds**.

Note:

- Executive Director & CEO of Nippon Life India Asset Management Limited: **Sundeep Sikka**

Reliance General Insurance partners with Paytm to offer customizable health policy

- **Reliance General Insurance Firm Ltd.**, an India-based private insurance company, has partnered with **Paytm**, India's leading digital payments and financial services company, to provide the public with **Reliance Health Gain Policy**, a customizable health insurance solution.

About Reliance Health Gain Policy:

- Reliance Health Gain Policy was launched in **May 2022**.

Aim:

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- To enhance **insurance penetration** in the country with greater accessibility.
- The health insurance policies are offered in **three distinct plans - Plus, Power, and Prime** - with an assortment of features to allow for policy customization for each consumer.
- The policy includes **38 features**, such as Double Cover, which provides twice the amount of sum insured.

About the 3 distinct plans:

- Plus plan: A **maximum of two adults (self and spouse)** and **six children** can be covered.
- Power plan: A **maximum of four adults** (self, spouse, and one set of dependent parents or parents-in-law) and **six children** can be covered.
- Prime plan: A **maximum of six adults** (self, spouse, set of dependent parents, and set of parents-in-law) and **six children** can be insured.
- Dependent children can be covered from **91 days to 25 years** of age under a floater cover.

About Reliance General Insurance Company Limited:

- Founded: 17 August 2000
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- CEO: Rakesh Jain

India Ratings lowers India's FY23 GDP growth forecast to 6.9% from 7%

- India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) has lowered its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth forecast for the Fiscal Year 2022-23 (FY23) to 6.9% from its earlier forecast of 7.0%.
- Quarterly, Ind-Ra expects the growth to decline to 7.2%, 4.0%, and 4.1% in Q2 FY23, Q3 FY23, and Q4 FY23, respectively
- Global rating agency Fitch also lowered India's economic growth forecast for FY23 to 7% from its June 2022 estimate of 7.8%.
- It now expects the GDP to slow further to 6.7% in FY24 as compared to its earlier forecast of 7.4%.

Edelweiss General Insurance partners with Repco Home Finance to offer property insurance cover

- Digital insurer Edelweiss General Insurance (EGI) has tied up with Repco Home Finance Ltd (RHFL) to offer insurance solutions to all home loan customers of RHFL.

About the Partnership:

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- Through this partnership, EGI will offer **property insurance cover and loan protection cover** to RHFL's customers through their branches spread across India.
- As per the Edelweiss General Insurance, a property insurance cover is for protecting a home against **fire and all-natural calamities**, while a loan protection cover helps **safeguard the customer's repayment of loans** in case of any unforeseen accident.
- EGI will offer **customized, affordable, and convenient insurance solutions** to financially protect loan borrowers.

About Edelweiss General Insurance:

- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- MD & CEO: Shanai Ghosh

About RHFL:

- Founded: 2000
- Headquarters: Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India
- CEO: K. Swaminathan

India's CAD Likely to Remain Within 3% of GDP:

- A **weak currency and high gasoline costs** will keep India's current account deficit (CAD) under strain, with economists expecting it to be about **3% of GDP** in FY23, up from 1.2% in FY22, putting pressure on government finances.
- Subsidy spending is expected to climb far above projections.
- **Higher oil import bills** as a result of the weak currency would affect various industries, including fertilizers and metals, as well as fewer dividend collections from state-run gasoline dealers, whose margins will be impacted.
- In intraday trade, the rupee fell to a historic low of **80 versus the US dollar**, before ending at **79.95**.

SBI WeCare FD scheme for senior citizens extended till March 31, 2023

- The **State Bank of India (SBI)** has extended the deadline to invest in its senior citizen FD scheme, SBI WeCare FD up to **March 31, 2023**.
- In 2022, SBI, launched the special FD scheme "SBI WECARE" to **secure senior citizens' income** by paying additional interest on term deposits.

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- The scheme is offered for **new deposits as well as the renewal of maturing accounts.**

Features of the scheme:

- **Period of Deposit:** Minimum- 5 years. Maximum- 10 years
- **Interest Rate:** Additional premium of **30 bps** (over and above existing premium of 50 bps) over card rate for Public i.e. **80 bps** over card rate for Public.
- **Payment of Interest:** Term Deposit – At monthly/ quarterly interval Special Term Deposit- On maturity Interest, net of TDS, shall be credited to Customer Account
- **Loan Facility:** Available.
- Apart from SBI, lenders like HDFC Bank, and ICICI Bank had also introduced this special FD scheme for senior citizens.

SBI join hands with Remitly for secure and easy remittance to India

- The nation's largest lender, **State Bank of India (SBI)**, has collaborated with **Remitly** for **safe and simple remittances to India.**
- The collaboration now enables NRIs to send money through SBI via Remitly to their family members while relaxing at home using mobile and web applications.
- Depending on the form and amount of transfers, Remitly provides **superior exchange rates, immediate credits, and no remittance charge.**
- With this Partnership, NRIs can now transfer money to **17 Remitly nations.**

Key Highlights:

- Remitly is **only a partner of SBI and not part of SBI.**
- The current partnership is only for processing the remittances upon receiving from Remitly and crediting to the beneficiary accounts in India through Direct Credit, **National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT) / Immediate Payment Services (IMPS) / Real-Time Gross Settlement (RTGS), etc.**
- Remittances initiated through Remitly may not necessarily be routed through SBI and it may depend on Remitly internal policy."

About SBI:

- Founded: 1 July 1955

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- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Chairman: Dinesh Kumar Khara

Union Bank of India launches digitization of Kisan Credit Card

- Union Bank of India (UBI) launched an Industry-first, farmer-focused end-to-end digitization of the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) product as part of the flagship digital transformation project 'Sambhav'.

Aim:

- To digitize the KCC lending process, making it **more efficient** and **farmer-friendly**.
- It was launched by **Ms. A Manimekhalai, MD & CEO, Union Bank of India** in **Harda District of Madhya Pradesh, as a Pilot Project**
- Digitization of KCC is a fintech initiative of UBI in collaboration with **Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH)**, aimed at overcoming the challenges faced by farmers like in-person visits to a bank branch, submission of land ownership and other documents, and high turnaround time in getting the KCC.

About UBI:

- Founded: 11 November 1919
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- MD & CEO: A Manimekhalai
- Tagline: Good People to Bank with

Singapore central bank, India's IFSCA to pursue cross-border FinTech innovations

- The **Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS)** and the **International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)** signed a **FinTech Co-operation Agreement (CA)** to facilitate **regulatory collaboration** and partnership in **FinTech technology**.
- The agreement was signed by the Chief FinTech Officer of MAS, **Sopnendu Mohanty**, and Chief Technology Officer of IFSCA, **Joseph Joshy**, and witnessed by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, and Deputy Chairman of MAS, **Lawrence Wong**, and Finance Minister of Gujarat, **Kanubhai Desai**, Chairperson of IFSCA, **Injeti Srinivas**, Chairman of GIFT Company Ltd., **Sudhir Mankad**, and Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of GIFT Company Ltd., **Tapan Ray**.

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Key Highlights:

- The agreement is expected to leverage existing **regulatory sandboxes** in their respective jurisdictions to support experimentation of technology innovations.
- It will include the referral of companies to each other's regulatory sandboxes and enable innovative cross-border experiments in both jurisdictions.
- This CA builds on the **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Supervisory Cooperation** signed between **MAS** and **IFSCA** in **July 2022**.

About MAS:

- Established: 1 January 1971
- Headquarters: Singapore
- Chairman: Tharman Shanmugaratnam
- MAS is the **central bank** and **financial regulatory authority** of Singapore.

About IFSCA:

- The IFSCA is a **unified authority** for the development and regulation of financial products, financial services, and financial institutions in the **International Financial Services Centers in India**
- It is housed in Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) in **Gandhinagar (Gujarat)**.
- GIFT-IFSC is the **maiden International Financial Services Centre in India (IFSC)**.

Federal Bank launches pilot for instant KCC developed by RBIH

- **Federal Bank** has launched the pilot for instant **Kisan Credit Card (KCC)**, which facilitates **agriculture loans in minutes**.
- The pilot of this strategic initiative, developed by the **Reserve Bank Innovation Hub**, was **launched in Chennai, Tamil Nadu**.
- The **first-of-its-kind digital facility** introduced in **Tamil Nadu (TN)** to facilitate loans through KCC will be gradually extended to all the southern states, where Federal Bank has a **75%** presence in India.
- The digital loan scheme for agricultural lending will offer a new experience to the farmers when compared to the conventional method of lending in terms of **convenience** and **turnaround time**.
- The platform has built-in capabilities to enable an end-to-end digital and paperless journey.

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- It uses digital capabilities such as eKYC (Know Your Customer) and eSign, APIs (Application Programming Interfaces) developed by the Tamil Nadu E-Governance Agency (TN-eGA), and machine learning (ML) capabilities.

About Federal Bank:

- Headquarters: Aluva, Kochi, Kerala, India
- MD & CEO: Shyam Srinivasan
- Tagline: Your Perfect Banking Partner

Gross Direct Tax Collection Registered Growth of 30% in 2022-23:

- According to a statement from the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), net direct tax collections have reached 700,669 crores so far, this fiscal year, up 23% from 568,147 crores at this point last fiscal year.
- The sum includes corporation tax in the amount of 368,484 crore and personal income tax, including securities transaction tax, in the amount of 330,490 crores.
- The total amount of direct taxes collected to date (before accounting for refunds) is Rs 836,225 crore, up from Rs. 642,287 crores during the same period last year, representing a 30% increase.

Wheat and Rice Increase Inflation:

- As a result of rising food and manufactured goods prices, inflation rose above the 1% barrier to 1.21 percent for the week ending in September from 0.92 percent the previous week.
- Before its Monetary Policy Committee meeting, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) may still be concerned about wheat and rice prices, despite a decrease in agricultural commodity prices.
- The heat wave seen this year across the nation has sparked worries from several stakeholders and experts over India's own production and procurement.
- However, the government moved ahead and approved wheat exports from the private sector.
- Farmers reportedly received a 10% premium over the wheat Minimum Support Price (MSP) as a result of the decision.

Kotak Mahindra Bank partners with IIT Madras to Launch "Kotak IITM Save Energy Mission"

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- **Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited (KMBL)** and the **Indian Institute of Technology-Madras (IITM)** announced their **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** partnership to launch **Kotak IITM Save Energy Mission**.
- Union Minister of Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship **Shri Dharmendra Pradhan** formally rolled out the initiative at an event in **Chennai, Tamil Nadu (TN)**.

Aim:

- To encourage the adoption of various energy conservation measures in the **Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME)** sector.

About the Partnership:

- Under **Kotak's CSR Project on Environment and Sustainable Development**, KMBL is funding IITM to establish **5 centers** across India to promote energy efficiency for the **Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME)** sector.
- **IIT Madras (IITM)** at the **Chennai campus** will be the hub of **Kotak IITM Save Energy Mission**, which in turn will engage with **IIT Bombay (IITB)**, **IIT Gandhinagar (IITG)**, **IIT Indore (IITI)**, and **IIT Ropar (IITR)** to establish **4 satellite centers** for carrying out energy efficiency and performance audits and encouraging adoption of various energy conservation measures in the Indian MSME sector.

About KMBL:

- **Founded:** February 2003
- **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- **Chairman, MD & CEO:** Uday Kotak

Yes Bank approves sale of Rs 48,000 cr stressed loans to JC Flowers ARC

- Private lender **Yes Bank's board** has approved the **transfer of stressed assets worth ₹48,000 crores** to private equity firm **JC Flowers Asset Reconstruction Company (ARC)**.
- **YES, Bank** will also pick up a **19.99% stake** in the ARC, subject to regulatory approvals.
- **JC Flowers ARC** won **Yes Bank's non-performing loan portfolio** for **₹11,183 crores** in a **Swiss Challenge auction**, after a consortium of **Cerberus Capital and Asset Reconstruction Company of India (ARCIL)** withdrew its bid.

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- The ARC will have to pay ₹1,677 crore within 60 days of Yes Bank formally approving the offer.
- It had paid an earnest money deposit of \$50 million at the time of submitting the bid.
- Yes, the bank had already provisioned for over 80% of the total loan value, which will now be transferred to JC Flowers.
- Yes, Bank's gross NPA was 13.4% in June 2022, compared to 15.6% during the corresponding period of 2021.

About Yes Bank:

- Founded: 2004
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- MD & CEO: Prashant Kumar

ADB cuts India's GDP growth forecast for FY23 to 7%

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) in its second supplement to Asian Development Outlook Report 2022 (ADO 2022), has slashed India's economic growth projection for FY 22-23 to 7% from 7.2% earlier, citing higher than expected inflation and monetary tightening.
- India's economy grew 13.5% year-on-year in the first quarter of 2022-23, reflecting strong growth in services.
- ADB releases the flagship ADO report in April every year.
- It had then projected the Indian economy to grow at 7.5% in FY23 and 8% in FY24.
- In the first supplement to ADO 2022 in July, it however trimmed the growth forecast for FY23 to 7.2% and FY24 to 7.8%.
- ADB in its latest report has also cut China's GDP forecast to 3.3% in 2022 from the 5% projected earlier.

About ADB:

- Established: 19 December 1966
- Headquarters: Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines
- President: Masatsugu Asakawa
- Membership: 68 countries

Kotak Mahindra Bank Launches Everyday Savings Account

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- Private sector **Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMBL)** launched a **one-of-a-kind Everyday Savings Account (Daily Savings Account)** which will help customers in **spending and saving every day**.
- In this account, the customer can do **30 transactions** of any value in a month and the monthly amount can be waived maintenance charges or can choose to maintain an average monthly amount of **Rs 20,000**.
- This account comes with a power-packed **Everyday RuPay Platinum Debit Card**

About Everyday RuPay Platinum Debit Card:

- The Card will enable customers to avail every day offers on popular brands like **Mitra, Swiggy, One MG, MakeMyTrip, and Licious** on general categories like **groceries, medicines, apparel, food delivery, and travel**.
- It offers customers a **higher daily limit of Rs 3,00,000** which has higher ATM withdrawal limits of **Rs 1,00,000** for transactions in India and abroad.
- It also offers free unlimited transactions at Kotak Bank ATMs and **10 free ATM transactions per month** at other bank ATMs.

RBI Lifts Prompt Corrective Action Restrictions On Central Bank Of India

- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has removed the **Central Bank of India** from the **Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework** on complying with parameters like **net non-performing assets (net NPAs)** and **capital ratios**.
- The Central Bank of India has provided a written commitment that it would comply with the norms of **Minimum Regulatory Capital, Net NPA, and Leverage ratio** on an ongoing basis.
- Of the **three state-owned lenders** under the RBI's PCA framework, **Indian Overseas Bank and UCO Bank** were removed from the watchlist in **September 2021**.
- The Central Bank of India was put under the PCA framework in **June 2017** due to its high net **non-performing assets (NPAs)** and **low Return on Assets**.

About PCAF:

- PCA is a framework under which banks with **weak financial metrics** are put under watch by the RBI.
- The RBI introduced the PCA framework in **2002**

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- To check the problem of **Non-Performing Assets (NPAs)** in the Indian banking sector.
- The framework was reviewed in **2017** based on the recommendations of the working group of the **Financial Stability and Development Council on Resolution Regimes for Financial Institutions** in India and the **Financial Sector Legislative Reforms Commission**.

About RBI:

- Established: 1 April 1935
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Governor: Shaktikanta Das
- Deputy governors: Mahesh Kumar Jain, M. Rajeshwar Rao, Michael Patra, and T. Rabi Shankar

About Central Bank of India:

- Founded: 21 December 1911
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- MD & CEO: Matam Venkata Rao

ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund launches first Auto Index Fund

- ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund has launched India's first open-ended auto index scheme, ICICI Prudential Nifty Auto Index Fund, focusing on the blue-chip auto and auto ancillary sector.
- The Fund will try to replicate the Nifty Auto Index which has grown at over 14% annually since August 2012.
- The new fund offer (NFO) opens on September 22, 2022, and closes on October 06, 2022.
- The index comprises 15 listed companies and also represents auto-related sectors such as auto ancillaries and tyres.

About ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund:

- Founded: 1993
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- MD & CEO: Mr. Nimesh Shah

Govt signs MoU with Bank of Baroda, HDFC Bank to expand the reach of SPARSH initiative

- The Defence Accounts Department (DAD) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bank of Baroda (BoB) and HDFC Bank, to onboard them as Common Service Centres

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(CSC) under the **System for Pension Administration (Raksha) (SPARSH)** initiative, across more than **14,000 branches** throughout India.

- The MoU will onboard more than **7900 branches of BoB** and **6300 branches of HDFC Bank** as Service Centres to provide last-mile connectivity to pensioners, especially those who live in remote areas of India.

Objective:

- To bring **17 lakh pensioners** out of the total 32 lakh defense pensioners on SPARSH by the end of September 2022

Key Highlights:

- The total number of pensioners onboard SPARSH has crossed over the **one million mark** with **11 lakh beneficiaries**, which is about **33%** of total defense pensioners in India.
- **More than 4.5 lakh Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs)** will also assist Defence Pensioners, as part of the Common Service Centres (CSC) network.
- Access to these service centers would be provided free of cost to the pensioners, with nominal service charges being borne by the Department.

About SPARSH:

- SPARSH is a **web-based system** for processing pension claims and crediting the pension directly into the bank accounts of defense pensioners without any external intermediary.
- This system is administered by the **Defence Accounts Department** through the **Principal Controller of Defence Accounts (Pensions), Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh (UP)**.
- It caters to all **three Services** and allied organizations.

About DAD:

- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi
- Controller Basic of Protection Accounts (CGDA): Avinash Dixit

Japan's MUFG Bank injects ₹3,000 crores in India biz

- Japan's Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group (MUFG) Bank has boosted the capital of its branches within India by **₹3,000 crores** to expand its **India business**.
- As a result of this capital injection, the total capital of MUFG Bank in India will rise to **₹5,207 crores**.

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- With the help of the funds, MUFG Bank will strengthen its financial base in India and better respond to the diverse financing needs of its clients.
- In March 2022 MUFG Ganesh Fund was established which is a **\$300-million fund** to invest exclusively in seeding Indian start-ups and in September the fund marked its first investment.
- MUFG has also expanded its presence by opening a branch at **Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City)**.

Federal Bank Partners with BBPS for Utility Bill Payment Services for NRI

- One of India's leading private sector banks, **Federal Bank**, has associated with **Bharat BillPay Limited (NBBL)**, the wholly-owned subsidiary of **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) & Lulu Financial Group** to facilitate utility bill payment services for **non-resident Indian Diaspora**.
- This arrangement enables **overseas remittance partners (Exchange Houses and Banks)** to pay Indian utility bills of over **20,000 billers** in more than 20 categories in a cost-effective and convenient option.

Note:

- CEO of NPCI Bharat Bill Payments Ltd: **Noopur Chaturvedi**

Recent News:

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**, permitted foreign inward remittances to be received under the **rupee drawing arrangement (RDA)** through the **Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS)**.

About Federal Bank:

- Founded: **23 April 1931**
- Headquarters: **Aluva, Kochi, Kerala, India**
- MD & CEO: **Shyam Srinivasan**

NPCI Launches UPI payments via RuPay Credit Cards

- The **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** has announced a feature enabling the linkage of **RuPay credit cards** to the **unified payments interface (UPI)**.
- Till now, **only debit cards** were allowed to be linked to the UPI IDs.

Key Highlights:

- The RuPay credit card will be linked to a **virtual payment address**, also known as the **UPI ID**, and will directly enable secure payment transactions.

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- The customers of Punjab National Bank (PNB), Union Bank of India (UBI), and Indian Bank will be the **first** to be able to use RuPay Credit Card on UPI with **Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) App**.
- Also, another important feature launched by the NPCI is the **UPI Lite**, which will provide users with **faster low-value transactions**.
- The NPCI also launched the '**UPI 123Pay**' facility for feature phones, which will be seeing traction in some early use cases.

About UPI Lite:

- At present, **50% of UPI payments** are below Rs 200.
- It is expected to **reduce the debt load** on the core banking system, thereby improving the success rate of transactions further, and enhancing the user experience.
- The upper limit of the UPI Lite payment transaction will be **₹200** while the total limit of UPI Lite balance for an on-device wallet will be **₹2,000** at any point in time.
- **8 banks** are live with the feature including **Canara Bank, HDFC Bank, Indian Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Punjab National Bank, State Bank of India, Union Bank of India, and Utkarsh Small Finance Bank**.

About NPCI:

- Founded: 2008
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- MD & CEO: Dilip Asbe

HDFC Bank signs multi-year data and technology agreement with Refinitiv

- **HDFC Bank** signed a **multi-year data and technology agreement** with **Refinitiv**, a London Stock Exchange Group business, as the Mumbai-based lender looks to reach **more customers** and **cut costs**.
- HDFC Bank will also enable its users with **Refinitiv Workspace**, which will offer access to tools including **real-time market data, news, and fundamentals data**.
- **Thomson Reuters**, which owns Reuters News, has a minority shareholding in LSEG.

About HDFC Bank:

- Founded: August 1994

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- MD & CEO: Sashidhar Jagdishan

About Refinitiv:

- Founded: 2018
- Headquarters: New York City, United States
- CEO: David Craig
- Refinitiv is an **American-British global provider of financial market data and infrastructure.**

RBI cancels license of Solapur-based Laxmi Co-operative Bank

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has canceled the license of Solapur (Maharashtra) based **The Laxmi Co-operative Bank Limited** as the lender does not have adequate capital and earning prospects.

Reasons for canceling the license:

- The bank does not comply with the provisions of **Section 11(1) and Section 22 (3) (d) read with Section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.**
- The bank has failed to comply with the requirements of Sections 22(3) (a), 22 (3) (b), 22(3)(c), 22(3) (d), and 22(3)(e) read with Section 56 of the **Banking Regulation Act, 1949**
- The continuance of the bank is prejudicial to the interests of its depositors
- On liquidation, every depositor would be entitled to receive a deposit insurance claim amount of his/her deposits up to a monetary ceiling of **Rs 5 lakh** only from the **Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC).**
- About **99%** of the depositors are entitled to receive the full amount of their deposits from the DICGC.
- As on September 13, 2022, the DICGC has already paid **Rs 193.68 crore** of the total insured deposits under the provisions of **Section 18A of the DICGC Act, 1961.**

About RBI:

- Established: 1 April 1935
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Governor: Shaktikanta Das

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- Deputy governors: Mahesh Kumar Jain, M. Rajeshwar Rao, Michael Patra, and T. Rabi Shankar

TerraPay and NPCI collaborate for merchant payments via UPI-enabled QR codes

- Cross-border payments company TerraPay headquartered in Amsterdam, Netherlands partnered with the National Payments Corporation of India's (NPCI) international arm NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL) to allow merchants in India with Unified Payments Interface (UPI) ID to make and accept cross-border payments

About the Partnership:

- With the partnership, customers with active UPI IDs (350 million bank accounts) will be able to transact at QR locations enabled by TerraPay globally.
- The initiative will speed up the usage of UPI apps across different geographies thereby further enhancing the digital drive for **cashless transactions**.
- Furthermore, UPI payments & QR transactions are customer-initiated with **two-factor authentication**.
- UPI is an instant **real-time payments (RTP) system** developed by the National Payments Corporation of India.
- According to Statista, the **person-to-merchant (P2M) market** in India was estimated to reach **Rs 84 lakh crore** by the **financial year 2025** from around **Rs 18 lakh crore** in FY19 with Paytm, PhonePe, Google Pay, etc., among key players.
- In **2021**, UPI enabled commerce worth **940Bn (~39Bn transactions)**.
- In **August 2022 alone**, the volume of transactions crossed **6.56Bn**.

About NIPL:

- Founded: 2020
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- CEO: Ritesh Shukla

World Bank approves 150 million dollars loan for Punjab to improve finances & service delivery

- The World Bank (WB) has approved a loan of \$150 million (nearly ₹1,200 crores) to Punjab to help it better manage its **financial resources** and **improve access to public services**.

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- The USD 150 million loans have a maturity of **15 years** including a grace period of **six months**.

Key Highlights:

- The WB would support Punjab's efforts to strengthen the institutional capabilities of various government departments, **manage fiscal risks**, and **make informed policy choices to support sustainable growth**.
- The project will pilot **two initiatives** that will introduce a performance-based grants system to incentivize municipal corporations to improve service delivery, and it will demonstrate the delivery of **24x7 water supply** in select areas in the cities of Amritsar and Ludhiana.
- The new project will support Punjab's development goals by **strengthening planning, budgeting, and monitoring functions** and **leveraging digital technology**,
- It will also increase accountability in the public procurement systems by supporting the state-wide implementation of new legal and policy reforms.

About WB:

- Established: December 1945
- Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States
- President: David Malpass
- MD & CFO: Anshula Kant
- Chief Economist: Carmen Reinhart
- The WB is the collective name for the **International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)** and **International Development Association (IDA)**.

About Punjab:

- Governor: Banwarilal Purohit
- Chief minister: Bhagwant Mann
- Capital: Chandigarh

Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance launches ABSLI Akshaya Plan

- **Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance (ABSLI)**, the life insurance subsidiary of Aditya Birla Capital Limited (ABCL), has launched a **new-age savings solution ABSLI Akshaya Plan**, a non-linked participating individual savings life insurance plan offering immediate liquidity option through **cash bonus facility**.

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- This plan provides the benefit of a comprehensive life insurance cover and a **regular source of income** to ensure the fulfillment of your family's growing needs.

About ABSLI Akshaya Plan:

- ABSLI Akshaya plan provides competitive returns with **high flexibility**.
- Policyholders can avail the benefits of this plan on a **long-term basis (25, 30, 35, 40 years) or whole life basis (till the age of 85 or 100)**.
- The **maximum entry age** to avail ABSLI Akshaya Plan is **55 years**, while the **minimum age is 30 days**.
- The **minimum annualized premium is Rs. 24,000** Policyholders can choose from multiple premium payment term options ranging from 6, 8, 10, 12 & 15 years.
- The plan enables the policyholder to draw cash bonus from the **end of the first policy year**, providing a regular source of income

About ABSLI:

- Founded: August 4th, 2000 (Commenced operations on January 17th, 2001)
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- MD & CEO: Kamlesh Rao
- Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance Company Limited (ABSLI) is a **subsidiary of Aditya Birla Capital Ltd (ABCL)**.
- ABSLI is a **51:49 joint venture** between the **Aditya Birla Group and Sun Life Financial Inc., a leading international financial services organization in Canada**.

RBI bars Mahindra Finance from using third-party recovery agents

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has barred **Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services** from using **third-party recovery agents**.
- The RBI has, in the exercise of its powers under **section 45L(1)(b) of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934**, directed Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Ltd. (MMFSL), Mumbai, to immediately cease carrying out any recovery or repossession activity through outsourcing arrangements, till further orders.
- The decision follows the death of a **pregnant woman (27) in Jharkhand's Hazaribagh district who was allegedly crushed to death under the wheels of a tractor by recovery agents**.

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- The MMFSL is a non-banking finance company (NBFC).

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare the first advance estimates of production of major Kharif crops for 2022-23:

- The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare released the first advance estimates of production of major Kharif crops for 2022-23, with the total food grain production estimated to reach a new high of 149.92 million tonnes.
- The food grain production of 149.92 million tonnes is estimated in the Kharif season.
- Record rice production of 104.99 million tonnes is estimated in the Kharif season.
- It is higher by 4.40 million tonnes than the previous five years' average Kharif rice production of 100.59 million tonnes.
- Nutri or Coarse Cereals production is estimated to be 36.56 million tonnes, record Maize 23.10 million tonnes, Pulses 8.37 million tonnes, Tur 3.89 million tonnes, Oilseeds 23.57 million tonnes, Groundnut 8.37 million tonnes, Soyabean 12.89 million tonnes, Cotton production of 34.19 million bales of 170 kg each, Jute and Mesta 10.09 million bales of 180 kg each and record Sugarcane production of 465.05 million tonnes.

UCO Bank becomes the first lender to get RBI's approval for rupee trade

- Public sector lender UCO Bank has become the first bank to receive the approval from Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to open a special Vostro account with Gazprombank of Russia for trade settlement in Indian rupees (INR).
- On July 11, 2022, the RBI issued a circular allowing trade settlements between India and other countries, including Sri Lanka and Russia, in rupee.
- The RBI had stated that the exchange rate between the currencies of the two trading partner countries is to be market determined.
- Gazprombank is a Russian lender, which was set up by the world's largest gas producer and exporter Gazprom to provide banking services for gas industry enterprises and has been operating since 1990.
- UCO Bank was chosen by the Union government in 2012 as the payment bank for oil imports from Iran after the United State tightened the earlier rounds of sanctions.

About UCO Bank:

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- Founded: 6 January 1943
- Headquarters: Kolkata, West Bengal, India
- MD & CEO: Soma Sankara Prasad
- Tagline: Honors Your Trust

SBIF and WWF India join hands for Red Panda Transboundary Conservation in Sikkim and Kalimpong District of West Bengal

- On the Occasion of International Red Panda Day (third Saturday of September- Sep 17, 2022) the **State Bank of India Foundation (SBIF)** and **WWF India** entered into a partnership to **generate fine-scale information** on the species at a transboundary level and engage with communities in **safeguarding key habitats** of the Red Panda in the **Khangchendzonga landscape of Sikkim and Darjeeling, Kalimpong district in West Bengal**.
- An event was organized at the **Himalayan Zoological Park in Gangtok** to celebrate International Red Panda Day.
- Himalayan Zoological Park is the **first-of-its-kind**, where animals are kept in their **natural habitat**.
- **Dr. Sandeep Tambe, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (APCCF) /Chief Wildlife Warden (CWLW), Sikkim**, was also present at the event.
- The event was hosted to **raise awareness** about the **endangered species among young visitors**.
- The day was also celebrated with the support of the **State Education Departments of Sikkim** and the **Gorkhaland Territorial Administration**.
- A short program was also conducted at **Kagyu Thekchen Ling Monastery, Lava, West Bengal**, for the student monks, students of **Lava High School**, and **Red Panda Guardians**.

About SBI Foundation:

- Founded: 2015
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- President & COO: Mr. Lalit Mohan

HDFC ERGO partners with HDFC Life to launch Click2Protect Optima Secure

- **HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company Limited** has joined hands with **HDFC Life**, to offer **Click2Protect Optima Secure**.

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- This is a **comprehensive insurance plan** providing **holistic protection** to customers.

About Click2Protect Optima Secure:

- Click2Protect Optima Secure combines the benefits of **life and health insurance solutions** under one roof.
- In this plan, the term life insurance component will protect customers against uncertainties of life with a minimum sum assured of **Rs. 50,000**.
- Under the health insurance component, customers can avail of a sum insured ranging from **Rs. 5 Lacs to Rs. 2 cr.**
- It comes with '**Individual**' and '**Family Floater**' options.
- It will be serviced by **HDFC ERGO** and **life insurance by HDFC Life**.

Other key benefits of the plan:

- **Life Insurance Protection:** Covers up to **85 years of age**; in the floater's policy, the eldest member of the family is covered.
- **Plus Benefit:** Offers additional coverage equivalent to **100%** of the Base Sum Insured in 2 years, irrespective of a claim
- **Attractive Premium Discounts:** **2.5% loyalty discount** for existing HDFC ERGO retail customers, Long Term Discount of **7.5%** and **10%** on **2-year and 3-year policies**, and **10% family discount**, if two or more family members are covered under the same '**Individual**' policy
- **Pre & post-hospitalization medical expenses:** Covers medical expenses for consultations, investigations, and medicines incurred up to **60 days prior** and up to **180 days post-hospitalization**.
- **Out-of-pocket expenses:** Per day hospital cash benefit ranging from **Rs. 500 to Rs. 10,000** for each continuous and completed 24 hours of hospitalization.
- **Critical Illness (add-on):** Provides comprehensive coverage by offering a '**Lumpsum**' payout on diagnosis of any of the listed **51 critical illnesses**.

About HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company Limited:

- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- MD: Mr. Ritesh Kumar

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- HDFC ERGO is a **51:49 joint venture firm** between HDFC and ERGO International AG, one of the insurance entities of the Munich Re Group in Germany.

About HDFC Life:

- Founded: 2000
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- MD & CEO: Vibha Padalkar
- It is a joint venture between **Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd (HDFC)**, one of India's leading housing finance institutions, and **Abrdn**, a global investment company.

SEBI permits REITs and InvITs to issue Commercial Papers

- Capital markets regulator **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** allowed emerging investment vehicles, **Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT)** and **Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT)**, to issue commercial papers.
- The move came after **Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Commercial Paper Directions** in Aug 2022 indicated that InvIT and REIT having a net worth of at least **Rs 100 crore** are eligible to issue commercial paper
- At present, there are **3 listed REITs** Embassy Office Parks REIT, Mindspace Business Parks REIT, and **Brookfield India Real Estate Trust** on Indian stock exchanges, but all these are of leased office assets.
- The issuance of listed CPs should be within the overall debt limit permitted under the REITs and InvITs rules.
- While a REIT comprises a portfolio of **commercial real assets**, a major portion of which is already leased out, InvITs comprise a portfolio of infrastructure assets such as highways and power transmission assets

About CP:

- CP in market parlance refers to a **short-term debt instrument** issued by companies to garner funds generally for a period of up to **one year**.

About SEBI:

- Established: on April 12, 1988, as an executive body and was given statutory powers on 30 January 1992 through the SEBI Act, 1992.

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- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Chairman: Madhabi Puri Buch
- SEBI is the **regulatory body** for securities and commodity markets in India under the ownership of the **Ministry of Finance, Gol.**

World Bank approves USD 350 million loans to Gujarat for better health services

- The **World Bank's Executive Board of Directors** approved a **\$350 million loan** to Gujarat to improve the quality and access of its **public healthcare services**, with a special focus on **adolescent girls and disease surveillance.**
- The funding will come from the **World Bank arm International Bank of Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)**, carrying a **maturity of 18 years** including a **grace period of 5.5 years.**
- The loan amount will be utilized through the state government's **Systems Reform Endeavours For Transformed Health Achievement In Gujarat (SRESTHA-G)** program which will enable more people to access a wider range of high-quality health services.

About SRESTHA-G:

- The Program will support a population-based screening process with help from local **Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA)** and **Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANM).**
- It will help Gujarat develop surveillance systems for the **early detection of disease outbreaks.**
- The Program will lay a special focus on improving the health and nutrition of adolescent girls and boys.
- This will be prioritized in **14 districts** where **more than 70% of adolescent girls are anemic.**
- **69% of adolescent girls & 36% of adolescent boys** in Gujarat suffer from **anemia & also, and 10% of rural and 5% of urban residents** in Gujarat suffer from **mental health issues.**

About WB:

- Established: December 1945
- Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States
- President: David Malpass
- The WB is the collective name for the **International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)** and **International Development Association (IDA).**

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Union Bank of India launches Ethical Hacking Lab in Hyderabad

- Union Bank of India inaugurated the 'Ethical Hacking Lab' at the Cyber Security Centre of Excellence (CCoE) in Hyderabad, Telangana.
- The Lab was inaugurated by Union Bank of India Managing Director and CEO Ms. A Manimekhalai in the presence of Executive Directors Mr. Nitesh Ranjan, Mr. Rajnish Karnatak, and Mr. Nidhu Saxena.

Aim:

- To create a **cyber defense mechanism** to protect the bank's information systems, digital assets, channels, etc. from potential cyber threats.
- The lab strengthens the **cyber ecosystem** in India.
- It will establish multiple cyber security centers to strengthen the bank's security posture and collaborate with cyber defense industries and government bodies for implementing new technologies.

About UBI:

- Founded: 11 November 1919
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- MD & CEO: A Manimekhalai

Rupee Drops to Record Low At 81.67, Destabilizing Markets:

- As a result of the strengthening of the **US dollar abroad** and investors' risk aversion, the rupee fell 58 paise to settle at an all-time low of 81.67 against the US dollar.
- Additionally, **the turmoil in Ukraine**, a downward trend in local equities, and substantial outflows of foreign funds eroded investor interest, according to currency dealers.
- Before that, the rupee plunged 30 paise to end the day at 81.09, setting a new record low.
- The native currency has now lost 193 paise to the American dollar for the fourth session running.

S&P Global projects India's FY23 GDP growth at 7.3%

- S&P Global Ratings has retained India's gross domestic product (GDP) growth projection at 7.3% for the financial year 2022-23.
- Wholesale price inflation remained in double digits for the 17th straight month and was at 12.41% in August 2022.

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Other Projections:

- **Fitch Ratings** slashed the growth estimate to **7%** for the current fiscal from 7.8% pegged earlier.
- **India Ratings & Research** too had reduced its projections to **6.9%** from 7% earlier.
- The **Asian Development Bank** has cut the projection to **7%** from 7.5% earlier.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** expects the Indian economy to grow by **7.2%** in the current fiscal (April-March).

Yubi partners with SBI to enable higher credit access to priority sector

- **Yubi**, formerly known as **CredAvenue**, has partnered with **India's largest bank, the State Bank of India (SBI)**, to help grow the **bank's co-lending portfolio**.

Aim:

- To facilitate **seamless and faster credit** to the priority sector and **reduce the country-wide credit gap**.
- As per the partnership, SBI will be integrated with **Yubi Co.Lend**, the co-lending platform of Yubi, that provides an **end-to-end solution** and enables lenders to collaborate with multiple partners with a quick one-time **application programming interface (API) integration**.

About the Partnership:

- The partnership has the potential to unlock **\$1 trillion** in capital for Priority Sector Lending in **tier 2,3,4 cities, small enterprises, and farmers**.
- On Yubi's co-lending platform, SBI can choose its co-lending partners including **NBFCs, HFCs, or fintech**, create its co-lending product program, and digitally manage operations.
- Yubi will also build, manage and monitor **SBI's co-lending portfolio**.
- The platform will also ensure all compliance to enhance the user experience.

About SBI:

- Founded: 1 July 1955
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Chairman: Dinesh Kumar Khara
- Tagline: Pure Banking, Nothing Else

About Yubi:

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- Headquarters: Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- Founder & CEO: Gaurav Kumar

Moody's Projects the Global Economy To Grow At 2.7% In 2022 And 2.3% In 2023

- **Moody's Analytics** predicted the **Global real GDP (gross domestic product)** is forecast at **2.7%** in **2022** in the Moody's Analytics September 2022 baseline, down from **4.2%** in our January 2022 forecast.
- GDP for 2023 has also been revised lower to **2.3% 2023** from **3.6%**.
- According to the report, the performance remains uneven among the world's major economies the US, China, Japan, India, and the five largest economies in Western Europe.

Bank of Baroda rolls out 'Khushiyon ka Tyohaar' as the Festive Season begins

- India's leading public sector bank **Bank of Baroda (BOB)** has launched 'Khushiyon ka Tyohaar' an **annual festive campaign** with a range of offers as the **festive season starts**.
- During this campaign, the bank will offer attractive interest rates on **home loans** and **car loans**, in addition to waiver/discount on processing charges and other benefits.

Key Highlights:

- BoB home loans are available at a competitive interest rate beginning at **7.95% p.a. with no processing charges**.
- The Bank car loans are being offered at a special rate starting from **7.95% p.a. a 25 basis points concession**.
- Under Khushiyon ka Tyohaar, customers will receive several other benefits such as no pre-payment/part payment charges, concessional processing charges, and **longer repayment tenure of 7 years**.
- The bank has also launched a digital lending campaign with a range of digital loans including pre-approved personal loans, personal loans, auto loans, home loans, education loans, mudra loans, MSME loans, gold loans, and the **Baroda Kisan Credit Card (BKCC)**.
- In addition to the festive offers on loan products, customers also have the opportunity to earn **higher interest** with the Baroda Tiranga Deposit scheme.

About Baroda Tiranga Deposit scheme:

- It is a **special fixed deposit** that offers higher interest rates.

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- The Deposits are available in two tenor buckets offering interest rates of **5.75% p.a.** for 444 days and **6.00% p.a.** for 555 days.
- Senior citizens earn an additional interest rate of **0.50% p.a.**, while Non-Callable Deposits above **Rs.15 lakh** will get **0.15% p.a. extra.**
- The scheme is available throughout the festival season and closes on **Dec 31, 2022.**

About BoB:

- Founded: 20 July 1908
- Headquarters: Vadodara, Gujarat, India
- MD & CEO: Sanjiv Chadha
- Tagline: India's International Bank

OECD retains India's GDP growth forecast of 6.9% for FY23, lower than RBI's target

- The **Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** has retained its projection of **6.9% growth** in India's GDP for the current financial year **FY23.**
- OECD expects the growth to be at **5.7% for FY24.**
- Notably, OECD's forecast for India's economic growth is lower compared to RBI's estimate of **7.2%** for the overall FY23 fiscal year.
- As per the report, global growth is projected to remain subdued in the second half of 2022, before slowing further in 2023 to annual growth of just **2.2%."**

About OECD:

- Founded: September 1961
- Headquarters: Paris, France
- Secretary General: Mathias Cormann
- Membership: 38 countries

UCO Bank & Yes Bank to collaborate with two Russian banks for a payment system

- **UCO Bank** and **Yes Bank** have entered into a **partnership** with **two Russian banks** to conduct business with Russia.
- UCO Bank has partnered with **GazpromBank**, while Yes Bank has also formed an arrangement with **Russia's Petersburg Social Commercial Bank (PSCB).**

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- The deal between Uco Bank and GazpromBank comes as the Reserve Bank of India implements a system to facilitate international payments through **special Vostro accounts**.

Why are Indian Banks Partnering with Russian Banks?

- **Due to economic sanctions on Russia** over the attack on Ukraine, Indian exporters are finding commercial prospects and opportunities in Russia.
- Russia's biggest exports include medicines, food products, textiles, and telecommunications equipment.
- In the April-July **2022 quarter**, exports to Russia declined by around **30% to \$714 million**.

About UCO Bank:

- Founded: 6 January 1943
- Headquarters: Kolkata, West Bengal, India
- MD & CEO: Shri Soma Sankara Prasad
- Tagline: Honors Your Trust

About Yes Bank:

- Founded: 2004
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- MD & CEO: Prashant Kumar
- Tagline: Experience Our Expertise

Samsung India & Axis Bank launches co-branded Credit Card

- **Samsung**, a consumer electronics company, and **Axis Bank** have partnered to launch an **exclusive co-branded credit card**, powered by **Visa**, and named it the **Samsung Axis Bank Credit Card**.

About Samsung Axis Bank Credit Card:

- With the Card, consumers will get **10% cashback** across all Samsung products and services round the year.
- The 10% cashback offer through the Card will be over and above existing Samsung offers, on both **EMI and non-EMI transactions**.
- The offer applies to the company's services such as **Service Centre payments, Samsung Care+ mobile protection plans, and extended warranties**.

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- The Card also comes with complimentary airport lounge access, fuel surcharge waiver, dining offers, and access to a bouquet of offers from Axis Bank and Visa.

Features:

- The card comes in two variants:
 1. Visa Signature
 2. Visa Infinite.
- The annual cashback on the two is up to ₹10,000 and ₹20,000 respectively, while the respective monthly cash back limits are ₹2,500 and ₹5,000.
- The annual fee for the **Signature variant** is ₹500 (plus taxes) while that of the **Infinite variant** is ₹5,000 (plus taxes).
- On completion of the first 3 transactions, Signature cardholders will get ₹2,500 'Edge Reward Points' worth ₹500, while Infinite cardholders will get 30,000 points worth ₹6,000.

About Axis Bank:

- Founded: 3 December 1993
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- MD & CEO: Amitabh Chaudhry
- Tagline: Badhti Ka Naam Zindagi

Mastercard to launch 'carbon calculator' for Indian consumers

- Global payments and technology company Mastercard will launch the Carbon Calculator feature with Indian banks for offering consumers an **estimated carbon footprint** for each of their purchases.
- Mastercard Carbon Calculator, developed in collaboration with **Swedish fintech Doconomy**, is currently used in over **25 countries**.
- Banking partners can embed the tracking tool in their websites or mobile apps.

About Carbon Calculator:

- Carbon Calculator is a service and personalized **carbon footprint tracker** that can tell users the cumulative effect of carbon footprint across a variety of spending categories in a month.

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IMPORTANT STATE NEWS

NHPC signs pact with Himachal Pradesh for 500 MW Dugar hydro project

- State-owned hydropower giant National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Private Limited (NHPC) has inked a pact with the Govt of Himachal Pradesh (HP) for the implementation of 500 Mega Watt (MW) Dugar Hydroelectric Project in Chamba, HP.
- The Project is expected to generate 1,759.85 million units in a year.
- The document was signed by Suresh Kumar, General Manager (E), NHPC, and Harikesh Meena, Director (Energy), Directorate of Energy (DoE), Himachal Pradesh.
- The project was issued by CEA on April 26, 2022, & the clearances of Forest & environment are in process.
- On September 25, 2019, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the 449 MW Dugar Hydro Electric Project was signed between NHPC and the government of HP.
- NHPC carried out detailed surveys and investigations, and techno-economic studies and submitted a detailed project report for an enhanced capacity of 500 MW to Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

About NHPC Limited:

- Founded: 1975
- Headquarters: Faridabad, Haryana
- Chairman & Managing Director: Abhay Kumar Singh
- NHPC Ltd is an Indian government hydropower board under the ownership of the Ministry of Power, Gol.

About Himachal Pradesh:

- Governor: Rajendra Arlekar
- Chief Minister: Jai Ram Thakur
- Capital: Shimla (Summer), Dharamshala (Winter)

50th All Manipur Shumang Leela Festival 2021-2022 Begins in Imphal

- The 50th edition of All Manipur Shumang Leela Festival 2021-2022 started at Iboyaima Shumang Leela Shanglen in Imphal, Manipur.

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- Manipur Governor **Shri La Ganesan** and Chief Minister **Shri N. Biren Singh** attended the inaugural function.
- During the festival, the Governor also distributed medals to the winners of the **49th All Manipur Shumang Leela Festival 2020-21**

About Shumang Leela:

- Shumang Leela is a **traditional form of theater** in Manipur.
- The roles of female artists are all played by male actors and male characters are played by female artists in the case of female theater groups.
- At present, it has been trying to focus on the issues of moral values, **unity, and integrity**.
- It has also been trying to strengthen the bond of brotherhood and friendship among various communities in Manipur.

About Manipur:

- Governor: La. Ganesan
- Chief minister: N. Biren Singh
- Capital: Imphal

Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal launches India's First Virtual School

- Delhi Chief Minister **Shri Arvind Kejriwal** launched India's first Delhi Model Virtual School (DMVS).
- The school will be affiliated with the **Delhi Board of School Education** formed in 2021.
- The platform was created by two globally recognized organizations, **Google** and **Schoolnet India**.

About DMVS:

- The virtual school will be helpful for students who cannot get enrolled in traditional schools and attend physical classes **due to lack of time, familial responsibilities, long-distance traveling, or any other hindrance**.
- The classes will be online and recorded lectures will also be uploaded online.
- The DMVS will be for classes **9-12** and also prepare students for competitive exams like **Joint Entrance Examination (JEE), National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET), and Common University Entrance Test (CUET)**.

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- The application process for the 2022-23 academic session started and students can apply through www.dmv.ac.in.
- Any child aged between 13 and 18 who has completed class 8 from any recognized school can apply for admission to class 9.

About Delhi:

- Chief minister: Arvind Kejriwal
- Capital: New Delhi

CM Shri Ashok Gehlot starts Rural Olympic Games in Rajasthan

- Rajasthan chief minister Shri Ashok Gehlot inaugurated a month-long Rajiv Gandhi Rural Olympic Games in Jodhpur, Rajasthan.
- The village Olympics is anticipated to see the participation of **44,000 villages** throughout Rajasthan, with almost **30 lakh people** across various age groups already registering themselves for the games.
- Out of the 30 lakh participants, **9 lakh are women**.
- Games like volleyball, hockey, tennis ball cricket, and kho kho will be part of the events.
- The rural Olympics organized in **11,000-gram panchayats** across Rajasthan is an outreach to the rural population, especially the rural youth.

Note:

- Rajasthan Sports Minister: Ashok Chandana
- Rajasthan state Sports Council Chairman: Krishna Poonia

About Rajasthan:

- Governor: Kalraj Mishra
- Chief minister: Ashok Gehlot
- Capital: Jaipur

Nagaland gets 2nd railway station after over 100 years

- Nagaland got its second railway station after a gap of more than 100 years with the commissioning of a new facility at **Shokhuvi**.
- Chief Minister **Shri Neiphiu Rio** flagged off the Donyi Polo Express from **Shokhuvi Railway Station**.

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- The first railway station was set up at Dimapur Railway Station & it was inaugurated in 1903.

Key Highlights:

- The Donyi Polo Express runs daily between Guwahati in Assam and Naharlagun in Arunachal Pradesh.
- The train service has now been extended to Shokhuvi, a few kilometers from Dimapur.
- Shokhuvi Railway station is part of the Dimapur-Zubza Railway project.
- It is an alternative train route for Nagaland and Manipur passengers to Guwahati.
- The foundation stone for the 90-km-long broad gauge route from Dhansiri in Assam to Zubza in the Kohima district of Nagaland was laid in 2016, & work is underway.
- The deadline was extended from 2020 to 2024.

About Nagaland:

- Governor: Jagdish Mukhi
- Chief Minister: Neiphiu Rio
- Capital: Kohima

Alappuzha became 5th fully digital banking district in Kerala

- Alappuzha has become the 5th fully digital banking district in Kerala.
- The declaration was made by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Kerala and Lakshadweep Regional Director Thomas Mathew
- The project was initiated by the RBI with the support of the State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) & respective district administrations as part of the Union government's Digital India project.
- Banking services in Thrissur (Aug 2021), Kottayam (Feb 2022), Palakkad, and Kasaragod have already become digital.

About Kerala:

- Governor: Arif Mohammad Khan
- Chief minister: Pinarayi Vijayan
- Capital: Thiruvananthapuram

Uttarakhand Education Department Launches 'Samarth' E-governance Portal

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- **Uttarakhand's education department** launched an **e-governance portal "Samarth"** which will provide all **administrative and educational updates**, including information on entrance examinations, salary structures, and appointments from **5 state universities** and **140 public schools**.
- In addition, to provide quality education to students, a teacher-sharing format that will connect multiple private and government schools across India will also be introduced soon.
- The portal also provides access to **40 academic study modules**.
- 200 assistant professors of science subjects will be sent to the **Indian Institute of Science (IIS) Bengaluru** for special training, while state university teachers receive training in IIM Kashipur.
- The **new education policy (NEP-2020)** will be implemented in **Uttarakhand** from **September 2022**.

About Uttarakhand:

- Governor: Gurmit Singh
- Chief Minister: Pushkar Singh Dhami
- Capitals: Dehradun (Winter), Gairsain (Summer)

Telangana AI Mission's 4 startups to represent India at G20 DIN

- The **Telangana AI Mission (T-AIM)** has revealed that **4** of its **startups** have been selected by the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)** to represent India at the **G20 Digital Innovation Network (DIN)**.
- T-AIM is an initiative of the Government of Telangana, supported by the **National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM)**.
- 4 startups: **Arficus, Edubuk, Eunimart, and MayaMD** supported by the **Revv Up** program.
- **Revv Up** is a **free-of-equity-or-cost acceleration program** by T-AIM that is exclusively designed for early-stage AI startups.
- The program has been supporting **80 startups** built on **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**.

About G-20 DIN:

- The G-20 DIN will be held from **2nd September-4th September 2022** at **Bali International Convention Center, Bali, Indonesia**.

Aim:

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- To facilitate and advance meaningful collaboration between governments and businesses, such as; start-ups, venture capitals, and corporations in the digital ecosystem.

About Telangana:

- Governor: Tamilisai Soundararajan
- Chief Minister: K. Chandrashekar Rao
- Principal Secretary of Telangana, Jayesh Ranjan
- Capital: Hyderabad

J&K Police launches online mobile application 'JK ECop'

- The Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) Police have launched the online mobile application "JK ECop", an easy-to-use interface to facilitate common people

About JK ECop:

- The Mobile App enables the citizens to use a host of services ranging from registering a complaint to downloading a copy of the **First Information Report (FIR)**.
- Through this Mobile App, the citizen can make requests like obtaining a **character certificate, employee verification, event performance, or tenant or PG verification**.
- Details about **missing persons and unidentified dead bodies** etc can also be obtained through this portal.
- Other services regarding the traffic police are also available to the citizens & these services range from reporting a traffic violation to reporting an accident.
- Also, Information about the **Highway status** in the app will help the citizens to plan their travel.

About J&K:

- Lieutenant Governor: Manoj Sinha
- Capital: Srinagar, Jammu
- Director General of Police, J&K: Dilbag Singh

WRI India & AEDA launches online geospatial platform in Guwahati, Assam

- The **World Resources Institute (WRI) India** in collaboration with the **Assam Energy Development Agency (AEDA)** launched an online, open-source, and interactive geospatial platform called the **Energy Access Explorer (EAE)** for Assam.

About EAE:

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- The platform will help visualize the extent of energy access in **Assam's health education and livelihood infrastructure**.
- It claims to assist policy-makers, renewable energy industry entrepreneurs, investors, and researchers from the development sector to make integrated and impactful decisions to expand energy access in Assam.
- The Govt's **Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS)** attempts to provide quality and reliable power for both rural and urban areas.
- While Assam has made great strides in electricity provisioning to homes in the past decade, **37.7% of health sub-centers** and **41% of schools** in rural Assam lack access to reliable and sustainable power.

About WRI India:

- CEO: Om Prakash Agarwal

About AEDA:

- Headquarters: Guwahati, Assam
- Director: Mrinal Krishna Chaudhury

About Assam:

- Governor: Jagdish Mukhi
- Chief Minister: Himanta Biswa Sarma
- Capital: Dispur

Rajasthan govt launches 'Mahila Nidhi' to help women entrepreneurs

- Rajasthan Chief Minister Shri Ashok Gehlot launched 'Mahila Nidhi', a loan scheme for the **social and economic development of women** through loans.
- The Scheme was launched on the occasion of **Women's Equality Day** on **Aug 26, 2022**.
- Rajasthan is the **second state** in India after **Telangana**, where Mahila Nidhi has been established.

About 'Mahila Nidhi':

- Under the program, loans up to **Rs.40, 000** will be put in the group's members' bank accounts within **48 hours**, & loans over **Rs.40,000** would be deposited in their accounts **within 15 days**.

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- In **33 districts**, **2.70 lakh self-help groups** have currently been established, and **30 lakh families** are interconnected.
- **50,000 self-help groups** emerged in **2022–2023**, serving around **6 lakh families**.
- In the budget **2022-23**, the government will establish 'Mahila Nidhi' through **Rajasthan Rural Livelihood Development Council**.
- It has been established to help women's self-help groups get loans from banks, increase the income of poor and marginal women, and social and economic progress of women through skill development.
- A total of **36 lakh families** in Rajasthan will get benefits from Rajasthan Mahila Nidhi in a phased manner.

About Rajasthan:

- Governor: Kalraj Mishra
- Chief minister: Ashok Gehlot
- Capital: Jaipur

Delhi airport launches beta version of DigiYatra app for Android platform

- The **Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL)** has launched a **beta version** of the '**DIGI YATRA**' app for the **Android platform**.

Aim:

- To provide a paperless and seamless travel experience to the passengers.
- The Delhi Airport is among the first airports to introduce this system in India.
- DIAL had installed the required facility at **Terminal 3 of Delhi Airport** and already conducted its trials.

About 'DigiYatra':

- The 'DigiYatra' is a **Biometric Enabled Seamless Travel experience (BEST)** based on **Facial Recognition Technology**.
- The app will use facial features to establish a **traveler's identity**, which will be linked to the boarding pass.
- The app has been rolled out under the **Digi Yatra Central Ecosystem (DYCE)**, formed by the **Digi Yatra Foundation (DYF)** set up as a JV in 2019.

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- While the **5 airports** hold a **74% share** in DYF, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) holds a **26% share** in DYF.
- The DIGI YATRA project will also be rolled out at **Pune, Vijayawada, Kolkata, and Hyderabad** airports by **March 2023**.

About Delhi:

- Lt.Governor: Vinai Kumar Saxena
- Chief Minister: Arvind Kejriwal
- Capital: New Delhi

Meghalaya CM launches 'Rural Backyard Piggery Scheme' for the welfare of farmers

- Meghalaya Chief Minister **Shri Conrad K Sangma** launched the "Rural Backyard Piggery Scheme" launched under **National Livestock Mission** at **Byrnihat** in **Ri-Bhoi** district, Meghalaya.
- The scheme was launched in **Samanda** block in **East Garo Hills** district, Meghalaya.

Aim:

- To ensure that the farmers earn a **sustainable livelihood** through different livestock farming activities.

About Rural Backyard Piggery Scheme:

- Under this scheme **4 piglets, 3 female and 1 male piglet** will be distributed to farmers to promote pig breeding to provide regular income to farmers.
- This livestock package is worth **Rs 25,000** per beneficiary.
- It is envisaged to benefit **6000** poor and marginal farmers and also increase pork production in Meghalaya.

Financial Structure:

- Under **phase 1** of the scheme, the government has earmarked **Rs 15.18 crore** under which **4 high-yielding improved varieties** will be distributed to **6000 families**.
- Under the **2nd phase** of the program, additional **Rs 25 crore** will be earmarked to roll out.
- To make the state self-sufficient in pork, the government is implementing one of the largest piggery development programs, the '**Meghalaya Piggery Mission**'.
- Under this mission, zero interest loan is provided for setting up fattening and pig breeding.
- So far **250 piggery cooperative societies** have availed loans amounting to **Rs 43.67 crore**.

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- He informed that Meghalaya acquires **18,000 MT** of pork from different States and there is a huge shortfall in supply and demand, through the piggery scheme the state envisions addressing the shortage of pork supply.

About Meghalaya:

- Governor: Satya Pal Malik
- Chief minister: Conrad Sangma
- Capital: Shillong

Center Approves UP Family ID Plan - Parivar Kalyan Card

- The Central Government has granted permission to the **Uttar Pradesh (UP)** government's proposal of releasing **family IDs** to its residents and application for **Aadhaar authentication** for their details through the **ministry of electronics and information technology (MEIT)**.
- With this, the UP government is set to issue a **family identity card (Parivar Kalyan Card)** to map each family in the state and is expected to launch its portal for application within the **next 2 weeks**.

About Parivar Kalyan Card Scheme:

- After its implementation, the Card will be a **12-digit card** that will help the state govt to map all the families and the benefits of several govt schemes received by a family.
- Through this scheme, the UP government will **identify a family unit** and its members & also qualify them as beneficiaries for various government schemes ranging from employment, pensions, and housing benefits among others

How will UP Parivar Kalyan Card work:

- The UP Parivar Kalyan Card will be issued to family units based on their **Aadhaar Data**.
- Currently, registration for the Card Scheme has been kept **voluntary** & only those seeking to avail govt scheme benefits will be required to register for it.
- Under the program, family units will be allowed to register to receive a 12 Digit Family ID based on which different persons within the family would be identified to receive benefits under government schemes.
- The Ministry had specified that no person will be denied any service or benefits on account of the failure of Aadhaar-based authentication.

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- The UP Government has also consulted the governments of Haryana and Karnataka, who have launched similar schemes under banners of 'Parivar Pehchan Patra' and 'Kutumba Card', respectively.

Karnataka govt launches Global Startup Challenge 'VentuRISE'

- The Karnataka government launched the Global Startup Challenge "VentuRISE" to recognize, reward, and support growth-stage startups in manufacturing and sustainability-related sectors.
- VentuRISE is a part of the flagship event Global Investors Meet - "Invest Karnataka 2022" from 2nd – 4th November 2022 at Bangalore, Karnataka.
- Minister for Large and Medium Industries Shri Murugesh R Nirani Unveiled the logo of VentuRISE.

Aim:

- To promote Karnataka as the preferred destination for startups in the manufacturing and sustainability sectors.
- The Department of Industries and Commerce has collaborated with Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE) to conduct the Startup Challenge.

About VentuRISE:

- The Global Challenge will provide budding entrepreneurs across the globe with a platform to showcase their innovative products/solutions and connect with potential investors.
- The Startup Challenge will be a 3-round challenge that will be conducted over 2 months.

About Karnataka:

- Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot
- Chief minister: Basavaraj Bommai
- Capital: Bengaluru

Mohla-Manpur-Ambagarh Chowki Becomes 29th District of Chhattisgarh

- Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Shri Bhupesh Baghel inaugurated Mohla-Manpur-Ambagarh Chowki as the 29th district of Chhattisgarh.
- He is scheduled to inaugurate Sarangarh-Bilaigarh and Khairagarh-Chhuikhadan-Gandai as the 30th and 31st districts of Chhattisgarh

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- To reduce the travel distance for the people to reach the headquarters, it has been carved out of Rajnandgaon district, by reducing **170 kilometers to 70 kilometers**.
- There are **three tehsils** in the newly formed district – Ambagarh Chowki, Mohala, and Manpur and three development blocks and Janpad Panchayat – Ambagarh Chowki, Mohala, and Manpur.
- During the Launch, the map of the new district was inaugurated as well as development works projects worth **Rs 160 crore** were unveiled by CM Shri Bhupesh Baghel.

About Chhattisgarh:

- Governor: Anusuiya Uikey
- Chief minister: Bhupesh Baghel
- Capital: Raipur

Generation global program launched for students in A.P. and Tamil Nadu

- United Kingdom (London) based Tony Blair Institute (TBI) for Global Change and Canadian Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Children Believe have jointly launched a 'Generation Global Programme' for schools and colleges in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, at the Zilla Parishad High School at Ragimanupenta in Bangarupalem Mandal, Andhra Pradesh.
- Tony Blair Institute for Global Change Director Lucy Hayter, launched the program.

Aim:

- To transform the mindset of school and college students in the age group of **13 to 17 years**, and to make them 'global citizens'.
- The program was organized by the Rural Organization for Poverty Eradication Services (ROPES).
- More than 1,000 students from Bangarupalem and Palamaner mandals took part in the event.
- It will cover a maximum number of educational institutions in India in a phased manner.

Odisha's nua Khai festival celebrated in western Odisha

- Nua Khai is an annual harvest festival in Odisha, celebrated to welcome the season's new rice.
- It is the most auspicious and important social festival in Western Odisha and the neighboring areas of Simdega in Jharkhand.

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- The festival was celebrated by Chauvan Raja Ramai Deo at Patanagarh which is currently known as the Bolangir district of Odisha.

About Nua Khai:

- The word 'nua' translates to **new** and 'Khai' means **food**.
- It is observed on **panchami tithi (the fifth day)** of the lunar fortnight of the month of **Bhadrapada** or **Bhadraba (August–September)**, the day after the **Ganesh Chaturthi** festival.
- **Nabanna (new rice)** is offered to **Maa Samaleswari**, the presiding deity of Sambalpur, at the stipulated lagna as per rituals

About Odisha:

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

Bhartaul becomes the first village in UP to Provide RO Water To Every Household

- **Bhartaul**, in **Uttar Pradesh's Bareilly** district, has become the **first village** in **UP** to achieve the distinction of supplying **RO (Reverse Osmosis) water** to every household.
- The village has a population of around **7,000 people** and every house is now provided with clean RO water.
- The ROs have been installed under the **Centre's Adarsh Gram Panchayat** initiative.
- So far, **4 RO plants** have been brought up in the village and plans are underway to set up more in the following days.
- These plants have been connected to the main supply tanks which help to provide **clean water** to every household.
- It will **save people from water-borne diseases**.

About UP:

- Governor: Anandiben Patel
- Chief minister: Yogi Adityanath
- Capital: Lucknow

India's 1st 3D-Printed Post Office To Come Up In Bengaluru, Karnataka

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- India's first 3D-printed Post Office is coming up in Cambridge Layout in the Halasuru area of Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry has given clearance for the construction.
- Its construction will be carried out by the Indian multinational conglomerate, Larsen and Toubro (L&T).
- The project is being carried out in collaboration with IIT Madras.

Merits of constructing a 3D-post office:

- The 3D post office would cut down construction costs to an extreme extent.
- It does not take longer than a month to get completed.
- The area of the building would be a 1000-square-feet.
- The 3D post office will cost less than Rs. 25 lakh.
- This cost reduces the usual construction price by 25%.
- Earlier, in 2021, India's first 3D-printed house was built by the IIT-Madras campus, in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

Note:

- Larsen & Toubro is the only company currently in India utilizing 3D printing technology for construction.

About Karnataka:

- Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot
- Chief minister: Basavaraj Bommai
- Capital: Bengaluru

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Shri M.K Stalin Launches Footwear & Leather Goods Policy 2022

- Tamil Nadu (TN) Chief Minister Shri M K Stalin launched the Footwear and Leather Products Policy 2022 at the Tamil Nadu Footwear and Leather Sector Conclave 2022.

Aim:

- To transform Tamil Nadu into a favored destination for footwear and leather products manufacturing in Asia.
- The Conclave was organized by the TN government investment promotion agency, Guidance Tamil Nadu.

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- The policy will offer a special package for **footwear and leather products (FLP)** manufacture and incentives for FLP Design Studios.

About footwear and leather products policy 2022:

- The Tamil Nadu footwear sector accounts for **26% of India's manufacturing output** and **48% of exports**.
- It will offer a special package for footwear and leather products manufacturing and incentives for such **“design studios”**.
- Tamil Nadu's major hubs for leather and leather goods production are **Vaniyambadi, Vellore, Tiruchirappalli, Ambur, Ranipet, Peranampattu, Dindigul, Erode, and Chennai**.
- International brands like Louis Vuitton, Giorgio Armani, Gucci, Bugatti, Prada, Zara, Coach, Tommy Hilfiger, etc. get their raw materials from the state or are directly manufactured in Tamil Nadu.
- He also signed **5 memoranda of understanding (MOUs)** with companies namely **KICL, Walkaroo, KIC, KICL SEMS, and Wagon International**, for an investment worth **Rs 2,250 crore** in the footwear and leather sector to generate employment for **37,450 persons**.
- The CM also laid the foundation stone for the mega footwear manufacturing park at **Panapakkam, Ranipet costing INR 400**.
- Considering the labor-intensive nature of FLP manufacturing, the eligibility criteria for firms applying for incentives will be relaxed under the **“Special Package for FLP Manufacturing”**.
- For leather FLP and standalone non-leather footwear, the eligibility is a minimum investment of **Rs 50 crore** and minimum employment of **2,000 people** for component cluster **₹300 crore** and **3,000 persons** and for allied footwear industries (outside the cluster) **₹150 crore** and **100 persons**.
- 'Large' FLP manufacturing projects in “B” and “C” category districts (₹300 crore+) will be eligible for Special Packages, while **'Mega' projects** in “A” category districts (₹500 crores +) will be eligible for a **'Structured Package of Assistance'** as per the **Tamil Nadu Industrial Policy (TNIP) 2021**.

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Turnover-based subsidy:

- To Consider the higher turnover-to-asset ratio in FLP manufacturing, a turnover-based subsidy will be applicable as a percentage of the turnover in each financial year.

Fixed Capital Subsidy:

- Industries allied to footwear manufacturing or component industries located outside the clusters will be eligible for a **Fixed Capital Subsidy** of **10%** of investment in Eligible Fixed Assets to be disbursed in **10 equal annual installments**.

Note:

- **Tamil Nadu** is the **only state in India** that has implemented **Zero Liquid Discharge** in tanneries.

About Tamil Nadu:

- Governor: R. N. Ravi
- Chief minister: M. K. Stalin
- Capital: Chennai

Tamil Nadu CM rolls out Pudhumai Penn Scheme for girl students

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Shri M K Stalin launched the 'Pudhumai Penn' (modern woman) scheme for the state's girl students.
- Under this scheme, all girl students, who studied from **Classes 6 to 12** in government schools, will get **Rs 1,000 per month** to pursue higher education.

Aim:

- To **reduce child marriages** and will make women independent.

About 'Pudhumai Penn' Scheme:

- Under the scheme, money will be **directly transferred to the bank accounts** of students to ensure that they do not face any difficulty in pursuing education.
- Through this program, approximately **6,00,000 girl students** could potentially benefit each year & **Rs 698 crore** has been allocated in the budget for its implementation.
- 'Thagaisal Palligal' and 'Mathiri Palligal' are the official Tamil names for the **SoE and Model Schools**.
- He also announced that **Rs 25 crore** will be allocated to **Bharathi Women's College** for constructing new classrooms and developing infrastructure facilities.

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About TN:

- Governor: R. N. Ravi
- Chief minister: M. K. Stalin
- Capital: Chennai

Airtel Partners With Odisha Power Utility for Bill Payment

- **Bharti Airtel** has launched a pilot project in partnership with **Tata Power Northern Odisha Distribution Limited (TPNODL)**

Aim:

- To offer **bill payment solutions** to more than 2 million customers of the utility.
- The pilot project will **mobilize 4,000 Airtel Payment Banks (APBs)** in northern Odisha to facilitate bill payments.
- While the front end solutions will be managed through Airtel Payments Bank & the back-end connectivity will be powered by **Airtel IQ**, which is the **world's first network-integrated Communication Platform as a Service (CPaaS)** ecosystem that allows an enterprise to embed voice, messaging (Text and WhatsApp), video in mobile/ web application.
- Airtel IQ is a **unit of Airtel's enterprise**.
- TPNODL has enabled electricity bill payment through various physical avenues like Mo Seba Kendra, and CSC, along with digital payment options through BBPS, TPNODL Website, and My TATA POWER App.

About Bharti Airtel:

- Founded: 7 July 1995
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India
- MD & CEO: Gopal Vittal

About Odisha:

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

India's first Bio-Village set up in Daspara Tripura

- Tripura Government has set up **India's 1st Bio-Village** at Daspara in Sepahijala district.

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- The bio-villages have been set up in Tripura by the **Directorate of Bio-Technology** under the **Science and Technology department**.
- The bio villages are examples of **sustainable development goals (SDG)** in some of the remotest areas of Tripura.
- The concept of 'Bio-Village' was first introduced by the Directorate of Biotechnology, Government of Tripura in **2018** with the primary objective of **promoting organic farming**.

About Daspara Bio-Village:

- The Daspara Bio-Village has been developed as a hamlet consisting of **64 families** solely dependent on agriculture and fishery.
- The village farmers have also decided to **reduce the use of chemical fertilizers for agricultural activities**.
- Daspara is one of the first bio-villages that has been developed based on the **bio-village 2.0** conceptualized in Tripura.
- The concept has been designed to help **mitigate the climate change effects**.

Key Objectives:

- To ensure total socio-economic development of rural communities
- Spur economic growth and development with the benefit of **Rs 5000/- per month**
- Incorporate renewable energy sources within the village
- Promote usage of solar-powered agricultural equipment, energy-saving electrical devices, biogas, and biofertilizers
- Provide sustainable livelihood and food security
- Demonstrate successful use of compatible sustainable technologies
- For this project, more than **500 households** have benefitted.

About Tripura:

- Governor: Satyadev Narayan Arya
- Chief Minister: Manik Saha
- Capital: Agartala

Odisha government launches Rs 270 crore CHHATA rainwater harvesting scheme to improve groundwater table

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- The Odisha government launched the **Community Harnessing and Harvesting rainwater Artificially from Terrace to Aquifer (CHHATA)** scheme - a rooftop rainwater harvesting system with an investment of Rs 270 crore.

Aim:

- To reinvigorate groundwater resources and improve the water table.
- The new scheme was approved by the State Cabinet In **Aug 2022**.
- Besides, a rooftop rainwater harvesting monitoring committee will be constituted at the **Urban Local Bodies (ULB)** level, which will review the progress of the scheme and submit the report to the department and collectors of the respective districts.

About CHHATA Scheme:

- It will be implemented through the existing manpower of the **department of Water Resources (DoWR)** for **5 years**.
- The rainwater harvesting structures will be constructed on the roofs of **29,500 private buildings** and **1,925 government buildings** covering **52 water-stressed blocks** and **27 urban local bodies**.
- An estimated **373.52 crore liter of water** will be harvested during the scheme period between 2022-23 and 2026-27.
- The Odisha government will provide a subsidy of **Rs 55,000** or **50 percent** of the cost of the structure,

About Odisha:

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

Rajasthan launches 100-day urban employment guarantee scheme

- Rajasthan chief minister Shri Ashok Gehlot launched the 'Indira Gandhi Urban Employment Scheme' at the Ambedkar Bhawan, Jaipur, Rajasthan.

Aim:

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- To provide **100 days of employment** to needy families in urban areas on the lines of the rural employment guarantee scheme **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)**.
- The Government of Rajasthan has allocated **Rs 800 crore** for the scheme.

About 'Indira Gandhi Urban Employment Scheme':

- **More than 2.25 lakh families** have already registered for the scheme.
- The scheme would cover works like environment protection, water and heritage conservation, garden maintenance, removing encroachments, illegal sign boards, hoardings, banners, Sanitation, cleanliness, etc.
- People from the age group of **18 to 60** are eligible for the scheme.
- Payments will be made in the bank accounts of the beneficiary **within 15 days**.

Other welfare projects:

- The Rajasthan Government had made treatment free under the **Chiranjeevi scheme**.
- He also highlighted the government's initiative to open **Mahatma Gandhi English Medium schools** to provide education to children in English, and a scheme to **distribute free sanitary napkins to women**

About Rajasthan:

- Governor: Kalraj Mishra
- Chief minister: Ashok Gehlot
- Capital: Jaipur

Meghalaya CM Conrad Sangma launches Meghalaya Residents Safety and Security Act online portal

- **Meghalaya Chief Minister Shri Conrad K Sangma** has launched the online portal of the **Meghalaya Residents Safety and Security Act (MRSSA) 2016**.

Aim:

- To ensure the **safety and security** of the **residents**, gathering intelligence inputs and to better the process of delivery of numerous government services.
- The URL of the web application is **<http://megrssa.nic.in>**.

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- The web-based system is first being rolled out in **7 localities** of **Shillong**.
- The first phase is being implemented in the localities of **Nongrim Hills, Lapalang, Nongmysong, Nongrah, Pohkseh, Riat Laban, and Wahdienglieng**.

Salient features of the online system:

- The digitization process would connect **more than 6,000 villages** and localities across Meghalaya to the online system.
- **Electoral Picture Identity Card (EPIC)** is being used to identify the landlord
- The web application has been designed and developed to enable the landlords, tenants, and local authorities of the localities and sub-localities to register and enter the details of the residents (i.e., landlords/tenants') rental units as a provision in Form B of the Act.
- The '**Dorbar Shnongs**' (**traditional village institution of the village**) have also been adopted for the security of the residents in their respective localities.

About MRSSA:

- The **Government of Meghalaya** has introduced the **Meghalaya Resident Safety and Security Act (MRSSA) 2016**.
- To ensure & enhance the security of the citizens of the state by making a careful and thorough examination of tenants residing in Meghalaya.
- To implement the Act, the state government in collaboration with **National Informatics Centre (NIC)** has taken the initiative to design and develop an online application.
- The implementation of the Act will prevent **anti-social elements** from gaining shelter.

About Meghalaya :

- Governor: Satya Pal Malik
- Chief minister: Conrad Sangma
- Capital: Shillong

Delhi Police become the first police force in India to make forensic evidence mandatory

- **Delhi Police** has become the **first police force in India** to make the **collection of forensic evidence mandatory** for offenses punishable with more than six years.

Aim:

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- To boost the **conviction rate** and **integrate** the criminal justice system with forensic science investigation.

Key Highlights:

- Apart from Delhi police's **own mobile crime vans**, a **forensic mobile van** shall be allocated to all districts to provide scientific and forensic assistance on the spot to IOs
- The forensic vans shall be fully equipped with the **necessary tools** and **assistants** shall be detailed.
- These vans shall not be under the administrative control of the police and be an independent entity responsible to the court of law.
- These vehicles shall visit the crime scenes whenever called by any **station house officer (SHO)** or **investigation officer (IO)**.

Note:

- The recently released **NCRB report** showed a **40% increase** in **crimes against women** in Delhi, which is the **highest among all metropolitan cities** in the country.

About Delhi:

- Chief Minister: Arvind Kejriwal
- Lt. Governor: Vinai Kumar Saxena
- Capital: New Delhi

Nagaland celebrates the first ever Naga Mircha Festival at Seihama

- In a first of its kind in Nagaland, **Naga Mircha (Naga King Chili) Festival 2022** was organized at **Seiyhama Village** under Kohima district.
- The festival was hosted and organized by **Seiyhama village Council** and **Seiyhama Naga Mircha Growers** and sponsored by the **Department of Horticulture**.
- The **President of the Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP) 11th Northern Angami (NA)-II Assembly Constituency, Vibeilietuo Kets** inaugurated the **one-day festival**.

About Naga Mircha Festival:

- **Naga Mircha (King Chili)** has constantly been placed on the **top 5** in the list of the world's hottest chilies based on the **Scoville Heat Units (SHUs)**.
- It is also referred to as '**Raja Mircha**', '**Bhoot Jolokia**' or '**Ghost Pepper**',

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- Naga Mircha attained **Geographical Indication (GI)** certification in 2008.
- It belongs to the genus **Capsicum** of the family **Solanaceae**.
- Naga Mircha is an indigenous crop of Nagaland believed to have originated from Nagaland's **Zeliangrong** region.

Note:

- **Naga Mircha** was the **first product** to receive a **GI tag** from Nagaland among the **4 GI Products** of Nagaland.

About Nagaland:

- Governor: Jagdish Mukhi
- Chief Minister: Neiphiu Rio
- Capital: Kohima

Govt of Chhattisgarh to launch New Scheme - Mukhyamantri Govansh Mobile Chikitsa Yojana

- The **Chief Minister (CM)** of Chhattisgarh **Shri Bhupesh Baghel** will launch a scheme **Mukhyamantri Govansh Mobile Chikitsa Yojana**.

Aim:

- To establish **Mobile Veterinary Units (MVU)** to provide **medical aid** to **cattle** on the lines of **health clinics** being run for citizens in **urban and rural areas** of **Chhattisgarh**.
- In the first stage of the scheme, **1 or 2 mobile veterinary units** with veterinarians will be provided in each district
- Healthcare services for livestock are being provided at government-run veterinary hospitals and '**gauthans**' established under the **Suraji Gaon Yojana**.
- The Chhattisgarh government has been running '**Mukhyamantri Slum Swasthya Yojana**' in urban areas and '**Mukhyamantri Haat-Bazaar Clinic Yojana** in rural areas to ensure that all citizens, have access to affordable and quality healthcare facilities through mobile medical units.
- In **July 2020**, the **Chhattisgarh** government launched a **cow dung procurement scheme** to promote cow rearing, ensure the safety of livestock and provide financial benefits to cattle-rearers.

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- In July 2022 a cow urine procurement scheme was launched in selected places of Chhattisgarh.

About Chhattisgarh:

- Governor: Anusuiya Uikey
- Chief minister: Bhupesh Baghel
- Capital: Raipur

TN Government notifies Nanjarayan Tank as 17th bird sanctuary

- The Government of Tamil Nadu (TN) issued a government order (GO) to establish the 17th bird sanctuary in Tamil Nadu at Nanjarayan tank, in Tirupur district, Tamil Nadu (TN).
- The announcement was made in the state Assembly by Forest Minister K Ramachandran on April 25, 2022.

Key Highlights:

- The bird sanctuary will be established at the cost of Rs 7.5 crore.
- The 125.86 hectares of land located near Neruperichal and Sarkar Periyapalayam villages of Tiruppur North & Uthukuli taluks in Tiruppur district, will be the 17th bird sanctuary in TN.
- Earlier in December 2021, the MK Stalin-led DMK government declared the Kazhuveli wetland located near Villupuram as the 'Kazhuveli Birds Sanctuary'.

About TN:

- Governor: R. N. Ravi
- Chief minister: M. K. Stalin
- Capital: Chennai

Karnataka Government Signs MoU with Dell Technologies to Impart Cyber Safety Practices

- Karnataka government's cyber center of excellence in cyber security 'CySeck' and Dell Technologies have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to create enhanced cybersecurity practices in Karnataka, especially among students.
- The MoU was signed in the presence of Karnataka Higher Education Minister C N Ashwath Narayan and vice-president Manish Gupta, Dell Technologies, along with Ripu Bajwa, director

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sales and general manager–Data Protection Solutions, Dell Technologies at Vikasa Soudha, Bangalore, Karnataka.

About the MoU:

- The agreement would facilitate cyber security awareness and practices in student circles, startups, and public offices, and would also benefit both **small- and medium-scale enterprises (SMEs)**.
- Under the MoU, Dell would provide learning of cyber safety practices through its interactive courses available in **Kannada and English**.
- Dell aims to contribute to the startup ecosystem through its '**Ascend**' initiative which will help in expanding the startup market.

About Karnataka:

- Governor: Thawarchand Gehlot
- Chief Minister: Basavaraj Bommai
- Capital: Bangalore

Odisha to Get 5G Service in First Phase of Launch: Ashwini Vaishnaw

- Telecom Minister Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw announced that Odisha will get 5G service along with other cities in the first phase of its launch.
- It will provide users with **10 times the speed of 4G**.
- Around **13 cities** are likely to get 5G telecom service across India in the first phase.
- He stated that a **5G lab** has been developed at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras, Tamil Nadu (TN).
- Vaishnaw also informed us that India is looking at developing hydrogen-powered trains by **2023**.

About Odisha:

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

Bihar CM inaugurated India's longest rubber dam on Falgu River - Gayaji Dam

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- Bihar Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar has inaugurated India's longest rubber dam 'Gayaji Dam' on the Falgu River in Gaya, near Vishnupad temple in Bihar, India.
- The Dam has been constructed by Rubina Company of Austria in collaboration with Nagarjuna Construction Company of Hyderabad on the advice of experts from IIT Roorkee.
- The dam has been built at an estimated cost of Rs 324 crore.
- Earlier, CM Shri Nitish Kumar laid its foundation stone on 22 September 2020.

About Gayaji Dam:

- The rubber dam is 411 meters long, 95.5 meters wide, and 3 meters high.
- The dam is made of 17 mm thick rubber.
- After the construction of the dam, its water will be stored for about two and a half kilometers.
- It is bulletproof and experts claim that it will not deteriorate for 100 years.
- It will provide an uninterrupted water supply to Vishnupad Temple in Gaya throughout the year.

About Falgu River:

- Falgu River originates in the Palamu district of Jharkhand.
- The river passes through the holy city of Gaya in Bihar and has significance in Hindu and Buddhist religions.
- The length of the Falgu river in Bihar is about 135 km & it starts near Gaya at the confluence of Lilajan River and Mohana River and finally joins Punpun River, Bihar.

About Bihar:

- Governor: Phagu Chauhan
- Chief Minister: Nitish Kumar
- Capital: Patna

Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal Unveils Delhi Model School Plan In TamilNadu

- Delhi Chief Minister Shri Arvind Kejriwal unveiled the establishment of 26 Schools of Excellence (SoE) and 15 Model Schools in Tamil Nadu (TN) in an event held at the Bharathi Women's College in Chennai, Tamil Nadu (TN).
- During this inauguration Tamil Nadu CM Shri M K Stalin also attended.

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- 'Thagaisal Palligal' and 'Mathiri Palligal' are the official Tamil names for the SoE and Model Schools.

About TN:

- Governor: R. N. Ravi
- Chief minister: M. K. Stalin
- Capital: Chennai

About Delhi:

- Lt Governor: Vinai Kumar Saxena
- Chief minister: Arvind Kejriwal
- Capital: New Delhi

UP tops the chart among states in trials pending in fast-track courts

- According to data shared by Law Minister Shri Kiren Rijiju with the chief justices of the high courts, Uttar Pradesh (UP) accounts for more than 70% of the 13.81 lakh pending trials in fast-track courts in cases of heinous crimes against women, children, and senior citizens.

Key Highlights:

- According to the details, more than 9.33 lakh cases are pending in the fast-track courts of UP, followed by over 1.4 lakh cases in Maharashtra, 1.06 lakh cases in Tamil Nadu, 71,260 cases in West Bengal (WB) & 12,538 cases in Telangana.
- With more than 60,000 cases pending in the Fast-Track Special Courts (FTSC), UP also tops the list of the states where trials in rape cases and matters under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act are yet to be concluded.
- It is followed by Maharashtra has nearly 43,000 cases pending in the FTSCs, West Bengal 35,653, Bihar (22,592), Tamil Nadu (20,037), Odisha (19,214), Rajasthan (18,077), Kerala (14,392), Gujarat (12,347) and Telangana (12,248).
- As many as 3,28,556 cases are pending in the FTSCs across 28 states and Union territories (UTs).
- FTSCs were set up under a centrally-sponsored scheme for an expeditious trial of rape and POCSO Act cases.

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About UP:

- Governor: Anandiben Patel
- Chief Minister: Yogi Adityanath
- Capital: Lucknow

Delhi & Punjab join hands to curb stubble burning through bio-decomposer

- The governments of Delhi and Punjab have joined hands to use Pusa bio-decomposer, a microbial solution that can decompose paddy straw in 15 to 20 days on 5,000 acres to prevent stubble burning, a major cause of air pollution.
- As part of a pilot project to be implemented with the help of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), bio-decomposer will be sprayed over 5,000 acres or 2,023 hectares of land in Punjab.
- The spraying of bio-decomposer costs just Rs 30 per acre.
- According to the IARI, Punjab had reported 71,304 farm fires between September 15 and November 30, 2021, and 83,002 farm fires in the corresponding period in 2020.

Background:

- In July 2022, the Delhi and Punjab governments jointly sent a proposal to the Center and the Commission for Air Quality Management to help them give cash incentives to farmers in the agrarian state for not burning stubble.

About Delhi:

- Lt.Governor: Vinai Kumar Saxena
- Chief Minister: Arvind Kejriwal
- Capital: New Delhi

About Punjab:

- Governor: Banwarilal Purohit
- Chief minister: Bhagwant Mann
- Capital: Chandigarh

Center & Govt of Assam signs tripartite peace accord with 8 tribal outfits

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- The **Center and Assam government** signed a tripartite peace accord with eight tribal outfits of **Assam**.
- The accord was signed in the presence of **Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah**.

The 8 rebel groups include:

- Birsa Commando Force (BCF)
- Adivasi People's Army (APA)
- All Adivasi National Liberation Army (AANLA)
- Adivasi Cobra Military of Assam (ACMA)
- Santhali Tiger Force (STF)
- The remaining three outfits are splinter groups of BCF, AANLA, and ACMA.
- These 8 tribal militant groups have been in a ceasefire with the government since **2012**
- The accord was signed **10 years** after the peace process started.
- The agreement will prove to be another milestone in the direction of making **North East region extremism free by 2025**.
- In an arms-laying ceremonial function held at **Srimanta Sankardev Kalakshetra** in **Guwahati**, **169 insurgents** of the **United Gorkha People's Organisation (UGPO)** and **77 insurgents** of the **Tiwa Liberation Army (TLA)** laid down their arms.

About Assam:

- Governor: Jagdish Mukhi
- Chief Minister: Himanta Biswa Sarma
- Capital: Dispur

Manipur CM N. Biren Singh launches 'CM Da Haisi' web portal to address public grievances

- Manipur Chief Minister Shri N Biren Singh has launched a web portal named **CM Da Haisi'** (**Let's Inform the CM**) in Imphal, Manipur.

Aim:

- To enable people to **redress their grievances**, and provide a platform to raise corruption-related issues
- **3 phone numbers**, including 2 meant for the anti-corruption cell, have been made available on the portal 'CM da Haisi' (Let's inform the CM).

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- The public can raise their grievances in the web portal by logging on to www.cmdahaisi.mn.gov.in & the complainants can also check the status of their complaints.
- The Public Grievance Redressal and Anti-Corruption Cell have received a total of **134 complaints** since March 2022 and out of which **85%** of the complaints have been resolved and communicated to the complainants.
- It will **enable fast redressal of public grievances** and also provide a platform to raise corruption-related issues.
- This will further enable the government to bring transparency and accountability in governance and delivery of public services.

About Manipur:

- Governor: La. Ganesan
- Chief Minister: N. Biren Singh
- Capital: Imphal

Gujarat Govt announces first-ever Cinematic Tourism Policy 2022-2027 in Ahmedabad

- The Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel announced Gujarat's first-ever 'Cinematic Tourism Policy' 2022-2027 in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

Aim:

- To **promote cinematic tourism** through the development of film infrastructure and the creation of attractive opportunities for cinema in Gujarat.

Key Highlights:

- The policy will help in **strengthening the film infrastructure** in Gujarat.
- It will also bring all the service providers associated with filmmaking on one platform and will boost tourism activities in Gujarat.
- It will create viable opportunities for **film production** in Gujarat and also provide **employment opportunities to local people**.
- Gujarat is a **policy-driven state** and has become the **first choice destination** for global investors.
- **Four Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** worth **Rs. 1022 crore** for investments in various subjects including filmmaking, studio infrastructure, and acting schools in Gujarat were signed by some investors with the tourism department.

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About Gujarat:

- Governor: Acharya Devvrat
- Chief minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel
- Capital: Gandhinagar

Bihar Govt to initiate 'no-bag day', & compulsory games period in schools

- The Government of Bihar is set to introduce a 'no-bag day' rule in schools & a mandatory games period at least once a week to reduce the burden on students.

Objective:

- To engage students in various activities which can positively impact their learning.
- The weekly “no-bag day” will have **task-based practical classes**.
- At least once a week, students will come to school only with their lunch boxes & they do not need to carry books.
- The day will be devoted to **practical and experiential learning**.
- The initiative is in line with the **National Education Policy 2020** and will be implemented in both state-run and private schools.

About Bihar:

- Governor: Phagu Chauhan
- Chief minister: Nitish Kumar
- Capital: Patna

Meghalaya signs MoU with TN for recruitment & training of medical professionals

- The Meghalaya government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Tamil Nadu government through which Tamil Nadu has agreed to support Meghalaya for the **recruitment and training of medical professionals**.
- This is a **first-of-its-kind medical partnership** between the two Indian states for knowledge sharing, capacity building, and improving health service delivery.
- The MoU was signed by **Principal Secretary of Health Shri Sampath Kumar** and his Tamil Nadu counterpart **Shri P Senthil Kumar**, in the presence of **Health Minister Shri James PK Sangma**.

About the MoU:

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- The MoU is an element of Meghalaya's efforts to enhance its well-being indicators & is one of the numbers of packaged interventions together with the **Chief Minister's Safe Motherhood Scheme (CM-SMS)** beneath the rescue mission initiative to scale back MMR and IMR, aimed toward strengthening and making certain protected deliveries in distant areas.
- It will facilitate the **training of doctors**, especially in **remote community health centers**, to overcome the scarcity of certified and trained medical professionals for several critical functions, including **ultrasonography, obstetrics & gynecology**, and **anaesthesiology**.
- The intent behind this is to provide better antenatal and postpartum care to expecting women and to women after delivery, especially at public health facilities in remote locations.
- It is targeted at upgrading all CHCs in Meghalaya as **First Referral Units (FRUs)** by overcoming the shortage of medical specialists in the CHCs.

About Meghalaya:

- Governor: Satya Pal Malik
- Chief Minister: Conrad Sangma
- Capital: Shillong

About TN:

- Governor: R. N. Ravi
- Chief minister: M. K. Stalin
- Capital: Chennai

West Bengal govt to give Lol to Adani Group on Tajpur deep sea port development

- **West Bengal (WB)** approved a proposal for issuing a **letter of intent (Lol)** to **Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (SEZ)** for the development of a **greenfield deep sea port** at **Tajpur, West Bengal**.
- The estimated cost of the project is **Rs 25,000 crore**.
- The port would entail an investment of **Rs 15,000 crore**.
- The related port-led infrastructure development would involve another **Rs 10,000 crore**.
- The **West Bengal Maritime Board (WBMB)** will issue the Lol to the Adani group, which was the **highest bidder** for the mega project.

Key Highlights:

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- The Project would create around **25,000 jobs directly** and more than one lakh jobs indirectly.
- The Greenfield port will provide quick access to the world markets to **Bengal-based industries**.

Features of the proposed port:

- The port will be set up **5 km from National Highway (NH)-116B** and around **170 km from Kolkata**.
- The nearest Railway station is **Rajnagar** at a distance of **nearly 8 km**.
- **Deep Draft of 12.1m** with an **18-km channel** and with **tidal support of 3.9m** leading to a net **16m draft facility** enabling large capesize vessels of one lakh DWT.

About WB:

- Governor: La. Ganesan
- Chief Minister: Mamata Banerjee
- Capital: Kolkata

Haryana, Rajasthan, Delhi & UP sign pact for passenger vehicle movement

- Haryana, National Capital Territory (NCT)-Delhi, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh (UP) signed the **Status of Combined Reciprocal Common Transport Agreement, Contract Carriage, and Stage Carriage, (CRCTA)**.

Key Highlights:

- There will be **single-point taxation** for all motor cabs/taxis/auto rickshaws; all **Stage carriage buses**, and all **State Transport Undertakings (STUs)** of NCR, including city bus services.
- It will encourage shifts of traffic from private vehicles to mass public transport vehicles and will help to ease traffic congestion and **reduce air pollution**.
- This agreement will ensure the seamless movement of passenger vehicles in the NCR.
- During the meeting, Inter-state road/linkages connectivity among **National Capital Region (NCR) states**, road safety, and possibilities of **Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)/Electric buses in the region** were also discussed.
- The meeting discussed ensuring operational vehicle location tracking devices and speed governors in all such vehicles under CRCTA.
- The meeting also focused on **road safety issues**.

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- NCR states were requested to compile data on the black spots in the region along with locations of PTZ cameras, and emergency trauma care centers along MDR, National Highways, State Highways, and Expressways in NCR.

About Haryana:

- Governor: Bandaru Dattatreya
- Chief minister: Manohar Lal Khattar
- Capital: Chandigarh

About Rajasthan:

- Governor: Kalraj Mishra
- Chief minister: Ashok Gehlot
- Capital: Jaipur

About Delhi:

- Lt. Governor: Vinai Kumar Saxena
- Chief Minister: Arvind Kejriwal
- Capital: New Delhi

About UP:

- Governor: Anandiben Patel
- Chief minister: Yogi Adityanath
- Capital: Lucknow

Chhattisgarh CM announces campaign 'Hamar Beti, Hamar Maan' for women's safety

- The Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Shri Bhupesh Baghel announced the launch of an innovative campaign 'Hamar Beti-Hamar Maan' (Our Daughter - Our Pride) for the women's safety and their empowerment in society

About 'Hamar Beti-Hamar Maan':

- Women officers and employees of the Chhattisgarh police will communicate, guide, and teach the daughters in schools and colleges about their legal rights, good touch, bad touch, molestation, sexual abuse, cyber crime, protection from social media crimes, and their rights.
- Under the campaign, a helpline number will also be issued so that prompt action could be taken on the crimes against any woman after they complain about it through that number.

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- A **special team of police** will patrol the girl's schools, colleges, and other prominent places with the specific presence of females.
- Moreover, the **Inspector General (IG) Range** will be responsible for ensuring that the probe in such matters is completed within a stipulated time and a challan is also presented.

About Chhattisgarh:

- Governor: Anusuiya Uikey
- Chief Minister: Bhupesh Baghel
- Capital: Raipur
- Famous Dance: Pandwani, Raut Nacha, Panthi and Soowa
- Every year **1st Nov** is celebrated as **Chhattisgarh Foundation Day**.

Govt of Nagaland to launch its health insurance scheme CMHIS on 1st October

- The **Government of Nagaland** will launch its **health insurance scheme** called the **Chief Minister's Health Insurance Scheme (CMHIS)** on the **1st of October, 2022**.

Aim:

- To **reduce out-of-pocket expenditure on hospital care** for all bonafide citizens of Nagaland.

Beneficiaries:

- The scheme will cover **two beneficiary categories: State government employees and pensioners** including legislators/ex-legislators and their dependents, and all the Indigenous and or Permanent residents of the State who are not beneficiaries under **AB PM-JAY** or any public-funded insurance scheme.
- It provides free health insurance coverage of up to **5 lakh rupees per family per year**.

About Nagaland:

- Governor: Jagdish Mukhi
- Chief Minister: Neiphiu Rio
- Capital: Kohima
- Festivals: Hornbill Festival, Mim Kut, Sekrenyi, Aoleng, Moatsii Mong, Bushu Dima

Govt of Assam to use portable device 'SAANS' to stop neonatal deaths

- The **Assam government** has decided to use the **air pressure machine** named **SAANS** to reduce neonatal mortality.

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- It is developed by a Bangalore-based start-up, InnAccel Technologies.

About SAANS:

- The 'SAANS' system is a portable, easy-to-use, robust, neonatal **Continuous Positive Air Pressure (CPAP) device**.
- It is designed to provide short-term breathing support for infants suffering from **Respiratory Distress Syndrome (RDS)** in hospital settings as well as during travel.
- InnAccel Technologies has joined hands with **SAMRIDH Healthcare Blended Finance Facility** to strengthen respiratory support for infants and the pediatric population in Assam.

About SAMRIDH:

- SAMRIDH is a **multi-stakeholder innovation and funding platform** operated by IPE Global and supported by the **United States Agency for International Development (USAID)**.

Note:

- **Assam has the third-highest infant mortality rate in India, with 40 fatalities per 1,000 live births.**
- InnAccel Technologies Co-Founder and CEO: Siraj Dhanani

About Assam:

- Governor: Jagdish Mukhi
- Chief Minister: Himanta Biswa Sarma
- Capital: Dispur
- Festivals: Bohag Bihu, Ali-Ai-Ligang, Baikho, Rongker, Bohaggiyo Bishu, Ambubashi Mela
- Dances: Sattriya, Bagurumba, Jhumur

Batukumma festival begins in Telangana

- The **floral festival of Telangana Bathukamma** is celebrated predominantly in Telangana and some parts of Andhra Pradesh.
- The state festival will be celebrated in a grand manner across Telangana from **September 25 to October 3, 2022**.

About Batukumma festival:

- 'Bathuku' means **life** and Amma means **Mother** & it is a festival to worship the 'Life Giver', the **universal energy - Goddess Shakti**.
- It is celebrated for **9 days** during Durga Navratri.

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Name of 9 day Festival:

- Day 1: Engili pula Bathukamma
 - Day 2: Attukula Bathukamma
 - Day 3: Muddappappu Bathukamma
 - Day 4: Nanabiyyam Bathukamma
 - Day 5: Atla Bathukamma
 - Day 6: Aligina Bathukamma (alaka Bathukamma)
 - Day 7: Vepakayala Bathukamma
 - Day 8: Vennae muddala Bathukamma
 - Day 9: Sadhula Bathukamma
-
- Every year this festival is celebrated as per the Sathavahana calendar starting with **Pitru Amavasya**, usually in **September–October** of the Gregorian calendar.
 - It is made up of **7 concentric layers of flowers** that are arranged in a pyramid shape.
 - As it is a festival of women, they dance around it singing Bathukamma Paatalu (i.e. songs praising Bathukamma).
 - On the **10th day** of the celebration, the goddess is immersed in the local waters after performing the rituals.

About Telangana:

- Governor: Tamilisai Soundararajan
- Chief Minister: K. Chandrashekar Rao
- Capital: Hyderabad
- Dances: Kuchipudi, Perini Thandavam
- Festival: Bonalu Festival, Ugadi, Sankranti,

UP Govt Gives Nod to Bundelkhand's First Tiger Reserve

- In a bid to promote tiger conservation, the Uttar Pradesh (UP) cabinet led by Chief Minister Mr. Yogi Adityanath gave a green signal for the development of the **first tiger reserve** in the Bundelkhand region.

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- The UP cabinet approved the notification of Ranipur Tiger Reserve under Section 38(v) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act of 1972.

About the Ranipur Tiger Reserve:

- The Ranipur Tiger Reserve has tropical **dry deciduous forests** and is home to fauna such as tigers, leopards, sloth bears, spotted deer, sambhar, chinkara, and several birds and reptiles.
- It will span **529.89 square kilometers (sq km)**, with a 299.58 sq km buffer zone and 230 sq km core area, which was already notified as the RWS in 1977.
- It will be the **4th in UP**, after **Dudhwa Tiger Reserve** in Lakhimpur, Pilibhit, and Amangarh in **Bijnor district (buffer of Corbett Tiger Reserve)**.
- It will also be the first in the Up's portion of the Bundelkhand region, which it shares with **neighboring Madhya Pradesh**.
- A **Ranipur Tiger Conservation Foundation** will also be established for the protection and conservation of tigers in the region.

About UP:

- Governor: Anandiben Patel
- Chief Minister: Yogi Adityanath
- Capital: Lucknow
- Dance: Khayal, Nautanki Naqal

Maharashtra cabinet approves naming of Chipi airport after Nath Pai

- The **Maharashtra Cabinet** chaired by Chief Minister **Shri Eknath Shinde** gave the nod to name the **Chipi greenfield airport** in **Sindhudurg district** after a prominent socialist leader, freedom fighter, and former Member of Parliament (MP) **Barrister Nath Pai**.
- The Chip Airport was formally inaugurated on **March 5, 2019**.

About the Airport:

- The airport is situated in **Vengurla, 27 km** away from the **Mumbai-Goa highway** in the **coastal Sindhudurg district** of Maharashtra.
- Commercial flights started operations at the Chipi airport on **October 9, 2021**.

About Barrister Nath Pai:

- **2022** is the **birth centenary year** of Nath Pai.

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- Pai hailed from Vengurla, Maharashtra.
- He represented the **Rajapur Lok Sabha constituency** from 1957 to 1967 as Praja Socialist Party leader.
- He was also a **votary of Konkan Railway**.

About Maharashtra:

- Governor: Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- Chief Minister: Eknath Shinde
- Capital: Mumbai
- Festival: Pavri Nach, Lavani, Gondha

IMPORTANT NATIONAL NEWS

NITI Aayog to establish 500 Atal Tinkering Labs in J&K:

- More than 500 **Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs)** will be set up in **Jammu and Kashmir** by the **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)** and **NITI Aayog** to foster an inventive mentality among high school students.
- The Center's **AIM created its flagship program, ATL**, to foster an innovative mentality among high school students throughout India.
- **The Atal Tinkering Labs in J&K**, where inventive students showcased their models and discussed the difficulties they encountered while developing these ideas.
- The government has instructed the Department of School Education to actively include pupils in various experiments and scientific activities to foster a scientific mindset among them in fields like machine learning and artificial intelligence.

Indian Railway installed 'Meghdoot' machines at Mumbai stations:

- **Meghdoot machines** have been installed by Indian Railways in **Dadar, Thane, and other Mumbai Division stations**.
- Innovative technology is used by the special "**Meghdoot**" devices to turn airborne **water vapor into drinkable water**.

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- **Maithri Aquatech Pvt Ltd.** has been given the contract for installing 17 "MEGHDOOT" Atmospheric Water Generator Kiosks throughout the Mumbai Division of Central Railway for a term of 5 years under NINFRIS policy.
- Meghdoot machines are research-driven and it does not need to source water
- **Maithri Aquatech's MEGHDOOT – AWG** uses innovative technology to convert water vapor in the air into fresh and clean drinking water".
- The company has also collaborated with the **CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT), Hyderabad**, to produce the highest quality water.

Union Home Minister has inaugurated a 2-day National Security Strategies (NSS) Conference 2022 in New Delhi

- Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated a two-day National Security Strategies (NSS) Conference 2022 in New Delhi.
- The Conference is being attended by 600 officers from across the country, physically and virtually.
- On the first day of the Conference, deliberations were held on various aspects of national security, including counter-terrorism, radicalization, issues about cryptocurrencies, counter-rogue drone technology, and challenges posed by Maoist outfits.
- The home minister also inaugurated the **National Automated Fingerprint Identification System**.
- This system will help in the quick and easy disposal of cases with the help of a centralized fingerprint database.

Govt sets target to eliminate Kala-azar by 2023 from country:

- The Government has set the target to eliminate Kala-azar by next year from the country.
- Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare **Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar** said, out of 633 Kala-azar endemic blocks, 625 blocks have achieved the elimination target last year.
- World Health Organisation (WHO) Neglected Tropical Diseases Road map has the target set for Kala-azar elimination in 2030.
- The Government has taken several remedial steps for Kala-azar elimination.

Ministry of Women and Child Development is celebrating the 5th Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2022:

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- **Ministry of Women and Child Development** is celebrating the **5th Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2022** across the nation from **1st September to 30th September**.
- This year, the objective of the Poshan Maah is to trigger Poshan Maah through Gram Panchayats as Poshan Panchayats with a key focus on **“Mahila aur Swasthya”** and **“Bacha aur Shiksha”**.
- Rashtriya Poshan Maah serves as a platform to bring **focus to the discourse of nutrition and good health**.
- In the 5th Rashtriya Poshan Maah, the aim is to convert **Jan Andolan into Jan Bhagidari** to fulfill the **Prime Minister's vision of a Suposhit Bharat**.
- Correspondent reports that the Prime Minister’s Overarching Scheme for **Holistic Nutrition- POSHAN Abhiyaan** is the Government of India’s flagship program to improve nutritional outcomes for **children under six years of age**, adolescent Girls, pregnant women, and lactating mothers.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the program from **Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan on 8 March 2018**.
- Focusing on the aims of POSHAN Abhiyaan, the government has **launched Mission Poshan 2.0 as an integrated nutrition support program**.
- During the Poshan Maah, intensive activities across the country will be organized for creating awareness about nutrition with a special focus on pregnant and lactating women, children below six years, and adolescent girls to realize the vision of ‘Swasth Bharat’.
- Under the State level activities, **‘Amma ki Rasoi’** or **Grandmother's Kitchen** of traditional **nutritious** recipes will be organized.

Coal Ministry has aimed to enhance coal production to 1.23 billion tonnes by 2024-25:

- The **Coal Ministry** has aimed to **enhance coal production to 1.23 billion tonnes by 2024-25** to ensure the energy security of the country.
- To support the vision, **Coal India Limited** has adopted an **integrated planning approach** by strengthening evacuation infrastructure for one billion tonnes of production and seamless transportation of coal to the end users.

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- North Karanpura Coalfield is a major coalfield in Jharkhand, falling within the command of Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) having a coal resource of about 19 billion tonnes.
- CCL has a projected production contribution of about 135 million tonnes by 2025, out of which about 85 million tonnes are likely to be produced from North Karanpura Coalfield.
- Tori - Shivpur double railway line has been created by CCL, which will provide up to 125 Million Ton coal evacuation capacity.
- The development of the third line on the same alignment is under construction at an additional capital of 894 crore rupees, which is likely to be operationalized by May next year.

Home Minister Amit Shah will unveil the “CAPF eAwas” web portal in Delhi:

- The Central Armed Police Forces' web portal for CAPF eAwas was presented by Home Minister Shri Amit Shah.
- In remarks given on the occasion, Mr. Shah said that the Central Armed Police Forces had always served as a strong foundation for the country's internal security.
- Since Independence Day, more than 35,000 police officers have perished protecting internal security, and because of their sacrifices, people may rest easy at night and feel secure.
- A unified web portal called “CAPF eAwas” has been created to operationalize the improved policy of allocation and to also increase transparency in the allocation process.
- To provide better medical treatment to the families of slain troops, the Indian government started the "Ayushman CAPF" program.
- As a result of this CAPF eAwas scheme, more than 35 lakh Ayushman Cards have been distributed to 10 lakh military personnel.

The unemployment rate surges to an 8.3% yearly high:

- Data from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) show that in August, India's jobless rate rose to a one-year high of 8.3% while employment decreased by 2 million to 394.6 million.
- In July, there were 397 million people employed and the unemployment rate was 6.8%.
- In rural India, the jobless rate increased from 6.1% in July to 7.7% in August.
- More significantly, the employment rate dropped from 37.6% to 37.3%.

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- As the monsoon season progresses, the delayed monsoon will enhance agricultural activity, which might result in a decrease in the rural unemployment rate.

Blue Energy Motors has unveiled India's first LNG-fuelled green truck:

- Blue Energy Motors has unveiled India's first LNG-fuelled green truck by launching a manufacturing plant at Chakan, Pune.
- The facility was inaugurated by the Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari.
- Blue Energy Motors' trucks will be Liquefied Natural Gas-fuelled, long-haul, heavy-duty trucks.
- Blue Energy Motors has already signed an agreement with FPT Industrial, the global powertrain brand of Iveco Group.
- The market entry of the LNG-fuelled trucks will start with the introduction of the 5528 4x2 tractors as the first model.
- Blue Energy Motors trucks have been designed and tested by the demanding Indian transport industry's duty cycles.
- Powered by FPT Industrial engines generating high torque, these trucks deliver best-in-class TCO and offer unmatched ride comfort and safety for the drivers for long hauls.
- Anirudh Bhuwarka, CEO, Blue Energy Motors.

PLFS: Unemployment Rate Decreases From 7.6% in April to June this Year

- According to the National Statistical Office (NSO), the unemployment rate for urban residents of India who are 15 years of age or older decreased from 12.6% in April to June of last year to 7.6% in April to June of this year.
- The country had substantial unemployment from April to June 2021, mostly as a result of the crippling effects of Covid-related regulations.
- The most recent figures, which highlighted a reduction in the unemployment rate together with an improvement in the labor force participation rate, hint at a prolonged economic recovery from the pandemic's aftereffects.

Central govt female staff to get 60-day maternity leave in early child death:

- Female employees of the Central Government would receive special 60-day maternity leave.

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- If a baby is lost before or during delivery, or if the child dies soon after birth, the leave will be given.
- **The Department of Personnel and Training** issued a directive about this.
- The choice was made in agreement with the **Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions**.
- The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions claim that the choice was taken taking into account any potential emotional harm brought on by a stillbirth or the loss of a child soon after birth, which might have a significant impact on the mother's life.

Nation's first-ever "Night Sky Sanctuary" to be set up in Ladakh:

- According to Union Minister of Science and Technology **Jitendra Singh, Hanle, Ladakh will soon become home to India's first-ever "night sky sanctuary."**
- The Indian government is taking an original and groundbreaking approach to this.
- The proposed dark sky reserve would be situated in Hanle, Ladakh, and will promote **Astro-tourism in India**, according to a statement issued by the **Union Ministry of Science and Technology**.
- The **second-largest natural reserve** in the world, **Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary**, will include the night sky sanctuary when it is completed.
- The new undertaking will house optical, infrared, and gamma-ray telescopes at one of the highest elevations on the whole planet.

Gol announces to rename the Rajpath as Kartavya Path:

- **Rajpath and Central Vista lawns** will now be known as **Kartavya Path**, according to the Indian government's announcement.
- According to reports, the choice will erase all traces of the **British colony in India**.
- The choice was made during a special meeting that was called to rename the **Rajpath and Central Vista lawns**.
- The name of the street where the Prime Minister's home is located was previously changed from Race Course Road to Lok Kalyan Marg by the Modi administration.
- From the **Netaji Statue to the Rashtrapati Bhavan**, the entire route and surroundings are referred to as the **Kartavya Path**.

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- The **National Stadium in Delhi** is reached through a path that passes through **Vijay Chowk, India Gate, and Rashtrapati Bhavan on Raisina Hill.**
- Following Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address to the country on Independence Day, in which he emphasized the circumstances leading to the elimination of symbols and emblems associated with the colonial mindset, the decision was made.

In comparison to the previous year, preventive detentions increased by more than 23.7% in 2021:

- According to the most recent crime figures issued by the **National Crime Records Bureau, preventative detentions increased by over 23.7% in 2021** compared to the previous year, with over 1.1 lakh persons being held in preventive detention.
- Nearly half (241) of these 483 detentions made by the **National Security Act were still being held as of the end of 2021.**
- The number of persons held under preventative detention reached over 24,500 as of the end of last year, which is a record high since the **NCRB began keeping track of this information in 2017.**

CCRAS 'SPARK' Program to Support Innovative Research in Ayurveda:

- The **Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS)** offers an innovative approach to aid the **research endeavors of India's up-and-coming bright minds.**
- The **Studentship Program for Ayurveda Research Ken (SPARK)** has been created by CCRAS for BAMS students studying Ayurveda at accredited Ayurveda colleges.
- The CCRAS has created the **SPARK program to nurture students' developing minds** and to further the tradition of Ayurvedic research that is supported by scientific facts.
- **The SPARK Program will encourage the students' research ideas** and help them build a research mindset.
- The SPARK Program seeks to assist young, rising students in all **Indian Ayurveda institutions with their research ideas.**
- The SPARK Program application procedure will be conducted online.
- Under this fellowship, financial assistance in the amount of Rs. 50,000 would be given to the chosen students.

PM Narendra Modi announced PM-SHRI Scheme for upgrading 14500 schools:

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- The Pradhan Mantri Schools For Rising India (PM-SHRI) Yojana, a new initiative by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, aims to establish and upgrade 14,500 schools nationwide.
- PM-SHRI schools will develop into role models that fully embody the National Education Policy.
- The officially supported program will be put into action by enhancing current schools chosen among those run by the federal government, states, union territories, and local organizations.
- These schools' objectives will include **not only top-notch instruction, cognitive growth, and learning** but also the development of the whole, well-rounded people who possess essential 21st-century abilities.

India's First Intranasal COVID Vaccine by Bharat Biotech gets DCGI Approval:

- The Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) approved Bharat Biotech's first intranasal Covid vaccine for primary vaccination against the injection for adults over the age of 18.
- It is the first nasal COVID-19 vaccine produced in India.
- Mr. Mansukh Mandaviya, the union minister for Health and Family Welfare, described the vaccination as a "Big Boost" for India's COVID-19 immunity.
- The developer of vaccines for infectious illnesses and a world leader in vaccine creation is Bharat Biotech International Limited (BBIL).
- The development of the intranasal COVID vaccine (BBV154) has been licensed for limited use in an emergency, according to a BBIL announcement.
- The iNCOVACC is a pre-fusion stabilized spike protein-vectored, recombinant, replication-deficient adenovirus vaccine.
- Clinical studies for this vaccine in stages I, II, and III were effective in their evaluation.
- Nasal drops were used to administer the vaccination intravenously.
- It is made to be economical in low- and middle-income nations.

Warangal in Telangana & Thrissur and Nilambur in Kerala Joins UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities 2022

- The Indian cities, Nilambur (eco-tourism destination in Kerala) and Thrissur (cultural capital of Kerala) in Kerala & Warangal in Telangana have gained recognition from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) after becoming India's first entrants in the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities (GNLC).

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- The group of global cities also includes cities like **Beijing, Shanghai, Hamburg, Athens, Incheon, Bristol, and Dublin.**
- As per UNESCO, **77 cities from 44 countries** join the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities (GNLC) in recognition of their outstanding efforts to make lifelong learning a reality for all at the local level
- Other cities that have joined the network are the **Ukrainian capital Kyiv, Durban in South Africa, and Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates (UAE)** among others.
- Nilambur aims to ensure employment opportunities and **United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2, 'zero hunger'.**

About UNESCO GNLC:

- The UNESCO GNLC is an international policy-oriented network providing **inspiration, know-how, and best practice.**
- The Network supports the achievement of **all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, in particular, **SDG 4 ('Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all)** and **SDG 11 ('Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable).**

According to UNESCO, a learning city is

- Effectively mobilizes its resources in every sector to promote inclusive learning from basic to higher education
- Revitalizes learning in families and communities; facilitates learning for and in the workplace
- Extends the **use of modern learning technologies**
- Enhances quality and excellence in learning
- Fosters a culture of learning throughout life.

About UNESCO:

- Founded: 16 November 1945
- Headquarters: Paris, France
- Director-General: Audrey Azoulay
- Membership: 193 Members and 11 Associate Members
- UNESCO is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN).

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Aim:

- To promote world peace and security through international cooperation in education, arts, sciences, and culture.

Ministry of Education launches Shikshak Parv to advance NEP:

- Launch of **Shikshak Parv** by the **Ministry of Education** To honor teachers and progress the new **National Education Policy (NEP)**, Union Ministers Annapurna Devi and Rajkumar Ranjan Singh launched Shikshak Parv
- The inauguration of **Shikshak Parv** was celebrated with an inaugural colloquium sponsored by the **Ministry of Education, CBSE, AICTE, and the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.**
- According to the **Minister of State (MoS) for Education Annapurna Devi**, instructors would have to develop a future action plan with the idea of an integrated and multidisciplinary approach under NEP 2020.

PM Modi to unveil a statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, dedicate Kartavya Path:

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** will dedicate the newly called **Kartavya Path**, which connects **Rashtrapati Bhavan and India Gate** and has red granite paths with flora all around, refurbished canals, state-specific food booths, new utility blocks, and vending kiosks.
- Prime Minister Modi will **dedicate** a monument commemorating **Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.**
- The government says it reflects a shift from the previous Rajpath, which functioned as a representation of authority, to the Kartavya Path, which serves as an example of **public ownership and empowerment.**
- Five vending zones with a maximum of 40 vendors each have been constructed by the CPWD, as well as two blocks near the **India Gate with a maximum of eight retailers** each.
- A few states have shown a desire to establish food booths.

Health Sector in India to Reach \$50 Billion By 2025:

- **By 2025**, the Indian healthcare sector is anticipated to **develop into a \$50 billion market**, according to **Union Minister Jitendra Singh.**
- The minister added that during the past two years, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, healthcare has become more focused on innovation and technology.

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- The minister was speaking at the 14th CII Global MedTech Summit, "Seizing the Global Opportunity."
- Around 80% of the healthcare system plans to boost investment in digital healthcare instruments in the next five years.
- The government is to **reduce import dependence from 80% to below 30%** in the next 10 years and ensure a self-reliance quotient of 80% in med-tech through Make in India with SMART milestones.

Union Cabinet approved the PM Schools for Rising India scheme (SHRI) scheme:

- The Union Cabinet approved the **PM Schools for Rising India project (SHRI)**, a new centrally funded scheme aimed at developing around 14500 schools across the country by improving chosen existing schools overseen by all levels of government.
- In PM SHRI schools, the emphasis will be on the **learning outcomes of every child in every grade, and student** evaluations will be based on conceptual comprehension and the application of knowledge in real-life circumstances.
- Students will be evaluated using a **School Quality Assessment Framework (SQAF)** that is currently being developed.
- It will define the key performance indicators that will be used to assess outcomes. Linkages with Sector Skill Councils and local industry will be explored to improve employability and provide greater employment possibilities at these schools.

Mr. Gadkari to Inaugurate Conference Manthan in Bengaluru:

- **Shri Nitin Gadkari**, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, will launch 'Manthan' in Bengaluru.
- General Dr. VK Singh, Union Minister of State for RT&H and Civil Aviation, and Shri Basavaraj Bommai, Chief Minister of Karnataka, will accompany him.
- The theme of Mathan is 'IDEAS TO ACTION: Towards a smart, sustainable, road infra, mobility, and logistics ecosystem.'
- Manthan is a three-day invitation conference and public EXPO conducted by the Ministry of Road, Transport, and Highways.

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- Mathan intends to meet with the state and address a variety of concerns and possibilities in the road, transportation, and logistics sectors.
- During this program, the **41st Meeting of the transport development council** will also take place.
- **M Parivahan, the Next-Gen Mobile App** will be launched during the event.

President Droupadi Murmu to launch 'TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan':

- The **Pradhan Mantri TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan** will essentially be introduced by **President Draupadi Murmu**.
- **By 2025, India's tuberculosis epidemic will be over**, according to the Pradhan Mantri TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan.
- Years ahead of the **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) deadline of 2030**, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has made a strong plea to abolish tuberculosis in India.
- Murmu will also introduce the **Ni-Kshay Mitra initiative**, which is a crucial part of the Campaign, along with this Presentation.
- The Ni-Kshay Mitra project will give **contributors a platform to assist TB patients who are receiving treatment**.
- The donors will go by the name Ni-Kshay Mitras, and the contribution will include assistance with volcanic eruptions, extra diagnostic testing, and nourishment.
- The occasion emphasizes the requirement for a social strategy that unites individuals from all backgrounds to **eradicate TB from the nation by 2025**.
- **Shri Mansukh Mandaviya**, the union's minister of health, **Bharati Pravin Pawar**, other Union ministers, governors, and other dignitaries will go with President Murmu.

CJI inaugurated NALSA Centre for Citizen Services:

- **Uday Umesh Lalit, the Chief Justice of India**, launched the **National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) Centre for Citizen Services**.
- The area in Jaisalmer House that was made available to NALSA will be used to set up a **Legal Assistance Center for Citizens, a Legal Assistance Center for NRIs, a Training Center, and a Digital Command Center** to offer cutting-edge legal services across the nation.
- On November 9, 2021, the NALSA office, which had previously been located in **Jamnagar House**, was moved to the **Supreme Court of India's Additional Building Complex**.

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- The area in Jaisalmer House that was made available to NALSA will be used to set up a Legal Assistance Center for Citizens, a Legal Assistance Center for NRIs, a Training Center, and a Digital Command Center to offer cutting-edge legal services across the nation.

India's first RRTS corridor to use an app-based token-free ticketing system:

- India's first RRTS corridor The Delhi-Meerut RRTS line will have an automated fare collection (AFC) system and tickets with QR codes for passengers.
- It would be the first Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) in the country.
- The National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) has said that it has invited bids in compliance with the "Make In India" guidelines of the Modi administration to acquire the AFC system.
- With the AFC system, contactless entrance and departure will be smooth, pleasant, easy, and quick.
- Tickets with QR codes, which may be created digitally on a website or mobile application, will also be available through the NCRTC.
- Similar to the Delhi Metro's token system, commuters would be able to buy paper QR tickets from ticket vending machines for a single ride between two stations.

I-STEM Initiative Launched Women in Engineering, Science, and Technology (WEST):

- A new I-STEM (Indian Science Technology and Engineering Facility Map) initiative is Women in Engineering, Science, and Technology (WEST).
- Dr. Pravinder Maini, Scientific Secretary, Office of Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA), Government of India, announced the WEST initiative.
- The WEST program strives to provide women with the tools they need to participate in the system of science, technology, and innovation.
- I-STEM is a national web platform used to share research facilities and equipment and serves as the umbrella organization for several initiatives aimed at fostering R&D partnerships and technical innovation within and between academia and industry.

Union Cabinet approved a policy on a long-term lease of railway land

- The Union Cabinet approved a policy on a long-term lease of railway land, as well as a proposal to build 300 Gati Shakti freight facilities over the next five years.

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- According to a senior source, the Railways expects freight services to generate at least 30,000 crores per year after the **300 Gati Shakti cargo facilities** are operational.
- The 300 terminals planned by the **Union Cabinet** are expected to generate employment for **30,000 people directly** and **90,000 indirect jobs**.
- The target of 300 terminals is very achievable.
- They already have 150 firm proposals, about 93 applications have been received to build terminals and about 65 entities have expressed their interest.

PM to unveil Central Vista: Erratic path to the megaproject

- **Delhi's Central Vista's** new appearance was introduced by the prime minister.
- A new Parliament building, a consolidated central secretariat, and a modernized version of the **three-kilometer Kartavya Path** between **Rashtrapati Bhavan** and the India Gate will be built as part of a dramatic transformation of India's power corridor beginning in **December 2020**.
- The **86-acre area of Lutyens' Delhi** that is home to some of India's most recognizable buildings, such as the South and North blocks of the Central Secretariat, Parliament House, and Rashtrapati Bhavan, is the subject of a plan being spearheaded by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- The project is anticipated to be **completed in 2024**.

NITI Aayog and WRI launched India's first National Electric Freight Platform- E-FAST India:

- The **World Resources Institute (WRI)** and **NITI Aayog** introduced **E-FAST India (Electric Freight Accelerator for Sustainable Transport-India)**, the country's first national electric freight platform
- With the assistance of the **World Economic Forum, CALSTART, and RMI India**, several stakeholders are brought together through the **National Electric Freight Platform**.
- The platform's goal is to increase public awareness of freight electrification, supported by a ground-level demonstration pilot and research that is supported by data.
- It would help scale experiments and provide information for initiatives meant to hasten India's freight electrification.
- Participating in the launch of **E-Fast India** were significant players in the automotive, logistics, development banking, and fintech industries.
- It will aid in fortifying the collaboration and in **identifying and promoting freight solutions**.

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SETU program introduced in the US by Mr. Piyush Goyal:

- The SETU(Supporting Entrepreneurs in Transformation and Upskilling) initiative was developed by Mr. Piyush Goyal, the minister of business and industry, to connect Indian entrepreneurs with investors in the US
- Through SETU, US mentors keen to encourage entrepreneurship may interact with Indian businesses that are just getting started.
- The concept was discussed to specific issues with India's startup environment.
- The meeting's primary subjects were how to encourage domestic incorporation and the successful diaspora residents' mentoring of young Indian businesses in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- By linking Indian companies to investors and professionals in the US startup ecosystem, the project would offer mentorship and help in a variety of areas, including investment, market access, and commercialization.

Railway's Revenue Up 38 % to Rs 95,486.58 Cr:

- Indian Railways' entire income at the end of August was Rs. 95,486.58 crores, up Rs. 26271.29 crores (38%) over the same time the previous year.
- According to official records of movers provided by the ministry of railways, the income from passenger traffic was Rs. 25,276.54cr, a rise of 13,574.44 cr (116%) over the similar time of last year.
- According to the data, passenger traffic grew in both the reserved and unreserved sectors compared to the previous year.
- Long-distance reserved mail express train growth has been more rapid than that of passenger and suburban trains.
- According to train Mistry statistics, other coaching revenue totaled Rs. 2437.42 cr, up Rs. 811.82 cr. (or 50%) over the same time last year.

The finance minister offers some advice for preventing fraudulent loan applications:

- The Indian Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman, has decided to take some actions to control the operation of illegal lending applications in light of the surge in incidents of digital fraud after reviewing some related issues in a meeting.

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- **Most mobile lending applications function** independently and are not registered with any central banks.
- There have been an increasing number of documented incidents of borrowers committing suicide due to **harassment by a small percentage of the proprietors of online lending services.**
- Following a meeting presided over by the minister, it was decided that the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)** would ensure that only approved apps were made accessible on app stores, while RBI would compile a whitelist of all approved apps.

PM has inaugurated Centre-State Science Conclave at Science City in Ahmedabad:

- **Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated Centre-State Science Conclave at Science City in Ahmedabad**
- The two-day conclave will strengthen Centre-State coordination to **build a robust science, technology & innovation ecosystem across the country.**
- **Union Home Minister Amit Shah** will attend the concluding session of the conclave on 11 September 2022.
- The **two-day Conclave is being organized** at Science City, Ahmedabad.
- It includes sessions on different thematic areas including STI Vision 2047, doubling Private Sector investment in R&D by 2030, etc.

The government has imposed a 20 percent export duty on non-basmati rice:

- After imposing a **20 percent export duty on non-basmati rice**, the government has banned the **export of broken rice to increase domestic availability**, according to a government notification.
- "Export policy of broken rice is amended from 'Free' to 'Prohibited'," the **Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)** said in a notification.
- The notification comes into **effect on September 9, 2022.**
- Provisions under the Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020 regarding the transitional arrangement shall not apply to this notification.
- India, the **world's second-largest rice producer after China**, commands a 40 percent share in global trade.
- The country exported 21.2 million tonnes of rice in 2021-22, of which 3.94 million tonnes was basmati rice.

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- Rice production rose to a record 130.29 million tonnes in the last crop year as against 124.37 million tonnes in 2020-21.
- The government has already restricted exports of wheat.

The World Dairy Summit 2022 will be opened by PM Modi at Greater Noida:

- The International Dairy Federation's World Dairy Summit (IDF WDS) 2022 was officially opened by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the India Expo Center and Mart in Greater Noida.
- The exhibition was local, and Prime Minister Modi went there as well.
- The prime minister said during the rally that the dairy industry's potential will not only strengthen the rural economy but also serve as a significant source of income for millions of people worldwide.
- The Indian dairy sector is distinctive in that it is built on a cooperative model that helps tiny and underprivileged dairy producers, especially women.
- As a consequence of the government's efforts to strengthen the dairy sector, milk output has grown by more than 44% in the previous eight years.

Government healthcare spending per person has increased by 74% from 2013–14:

- Since 2013-14, per capita, government spending on healthcare has climbed by 74%.
- According to the National Health Accounts Estimates India 2018-19, per capita government spending in 2013-14 was 1,422 rupees, which has now climbed to 1,815 rupees.
- According to the report, the government's portion of total health spending in the country is gradually growing.
- The government's share of current health expenditure has risen from 23.2% in 2013-14 to 34.5% in 2018-19.
- Since 2013–14, the government has spent more on primary healthcare.
- In that time, the government spent around 51% of its total health budget on primary care; in 2018–19, that figure has risen to more than 55%.
- Since 2013–14, the nation's per-capita out-of-pocket spending has also reduced by 8%.

Cyber Crime Investigation and Intelligence Summit 2022:

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- The **4th Cyber Crime Investigation and Intelligence Summit-2022** are being organized by the **Madhya Pradesh Police** to advance the skills of police sub-inspectors and senior investigating officers to **successfully prevent cybercrimes**.
- The State Cyber Police Headquarters' Additional Director General of Police, **Yogesh Deshmukh**, announced during the **summit's curtain-raiser event** that **more than 6000 persons** had registered to attend.
- The Madhya Pradesh Police, in cooperation with **Softclicks Foundation, Cleartel Technology, and UNICEF**, organized the largest knowledge-sharing, thought-leadership, and **cybercrime investigation and intelligence summit (CIIS 2022)** in India from **September 12 to 22, 2022**.
- The event is taking place in the **Madhya Pradesh city of Bhopal**.
- The **RSVP Noronha Academy of Administration** in Bhopal will conduct a ten-day summit, part of which will be a **three-day offline summit**.

National Maritime Heritage Complex to be built in Gujarat:

- The **National Maritime Heritage Complex** is being constructed in **Gujarat's Lothal**, a historic center of the **Indus Valley civilization**, for a total of **3500 crore rupees**.
- This center, the first-of-its-kind building in India, will highlight the country's extensive and varied marine history.
- **Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi** lay the cornerstone for the **NMHC project**, and in **March 2019**, the master plan received approval.
- A museum with five galleries and a naval gallery will be constructed on **35 acres of land** in phase 1A for a **cost of Rs 774.23 crores**.
- The remaining components of the museum, such as the galleries, lighthouse, 5D dome theater, Bagicha Complex, and other infrastructure, will be constructed in phase 1B.
- It is suggested that this phase be created using the **EPC approach**.

India Becomes Power Surplus Nation:

- As a result of our efforts to **upgrade the distribution system** and connect the entire nation to a single grid, **the country now has a surplus of electricity**.
- These actions have extended **electricity availability to 22 hours** in rural regions and **23.5 hours** in urban areas.

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- The next stage is to transfer it to a 24 x 7 reliable power source at a reasonable cost.
- **Union Minister R K Singh** has advised states to be financially sustainable in light of power production firms' rising outstanding debts.
- According to him, this would assist attract investments in the power industry while also benefiting customers through lower electricity costs and enhanced consumer services.

The Centre has set up a panel to recommend measures to boost venture capital and private equity investments:

- The government has set up a panel to recommend measures to boost venture capital (VC) and private equity (PE) investments.
- Among the primary concerns that the government hopes to address are the tax policies applicable to such investments.
- PE players have been asking for lower tax rates.
- The six-member committee will be headed by **M Damodaran**, former chairman of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- In the Budget for 2022-23, finance minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** said the government planned to set up a working group to suggest ways to boost PE/VC investments.

Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya will launch Raktdaan Amrit Mahotsav:

- Union Health Minister **Mansukh Mandaviya** will launch **Raktdaan Amrit Mahotsav**.
- This special voluntary blood donation drive will be organized from 17 September to 1 October 2022 across the country.
- This blood donation drive has been launched as part of the **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav**.
- **National Voluntary Blood Donation Day** is observed on **1st October**.
- Registration for the Raktdaan Amrit Mahotsav has started on the **E-Raktkosh portal** and **Aarogya Setu app**.
- Blood collected from donors is separated usually into red blood cells, platelets, and plasma.
- People having O- type blood are universal donors while AB+ blood group people are considered universal acceptors.

NITI Aayog hosts first Shoonya Forum to commemorate first-anniversary Shoonya Campaign

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- The NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India) hosted the first Shoonya Forum to commemorate the first anniversary of India's zero pollution e-mobility campaign in Delhi.
- G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant, NITI Aayog CEO Param Iyer, MyGov CEO Abhishek Singh, Delhi Government Principal Secretary Ashish Kundra, and Mahindra Electric Mobility CEO Suman Mishra attended the event.

About Shoonya Campaign:

- Shoonya initiative promotes **zero-pollution delivery vehicles** by working with consumers and the industry.

Aim:

- To accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles in the urban deliveries segment and create consumer awareness about the benefits of zero-pollution delivery.
- Urban freight vehicles account for **10%** of freight transportation-related carbon dioxide emissions in India, and these emissions are expected to grow by **114% by 2030**.
- EVs emit **no tailpipe emissions**, which can contribute immensely to improved air quality.
- The EVs emit **15-40% less carbon dioxide (CO₂)** than internal combustion engine counterparts and have lesser operational costs during the manufacturing process.
- During the event, the **National Programme on Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) Energy Storage (Part III) report** was also launched.

About the report:

- The report highlights that India's **\$2.5-billion Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme** for **Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC)** energy storage is critical for meeting the projected cumulative battery demand of **106–260 GWh by 2030** to successfully realize the country's vision for EV adoption and grid decarbonization

About NITI Aayog:

- Established: 1 January 2015
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India
- Chairperson: Shri Narendra Modi (Prime Minister of India)
- Vice Chairperson: Suman Bery

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- CEO: Parameswaran Iyer

Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park in Darjeeling was named the best zoo in India

- The Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park (PNHZP) of Darjeeling, West Bengal (WB) has been recognized as the **best zoo** in India.
- As per the list, the **Arignar Anna Zoological Park** in **Chennai** has secured the **second position**, followed by the **Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens** in **Mysore, Karnataka**.
- While **Kolkata's Alipore Zoological Garden** has secured the **fourth position**.
- The ranking list was released by the **Central Zoo Authority (CZA)** during the **zoo directors' conference** held at **Bhubaneswar** in **Odisha**.
- Darjeeling Zoo scored the highest percentage of **83%** to rank first

About PNHZP:

- Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park (also known as **Darjeeling Zoo**) was established on **August 14, 1958**.
- The park is internationally recognized for its breeding and conservation programs of endangered animal species of the eastern Himalayas, including the **Snow Leopard** and the **Red Panda**.

The Election Commission of India has launched BLO e-Patrika:

- During an interactive session with BLOs from across India, the **Election Commission of India** published a **new digital magazine** called '**BLO e-Patrika**.'
- 50 BLOs from adjacent states of **Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, and Delhi** physically attended the event at the **India Habitat Centre** in **New Delhi**.
- The meeting was attended by around 350 BLOs via videoconference from the office of **Chief Electoral Officers (CEO)**.
- The BLOs took part in the interactive session with the Commission and shared their experiences, difficulties they encountered while carrying out their tasks, and triumphs.
- The Commission's direct communication with BLOs around the nation was a first of its type.

India launches 'Urban Wastewater Scenario in India' at World Water Congress and Exhibition 2022:

- At the **World Water Congress and Exhibition** in **Copenhagen** in 2022, **India and Denmark** released a joint whitepaper titled "**Urban Wastewater Scenario in India**."

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- **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** of Jal Shakti, **Lea Wermelin** of Denmark's Ministry of the Environment, and **Flemming Moller Mortensen** of Denmark's Ministry of Development Cooperation organized the "**Urban Wastewater Scenario in India.**"
- **By 2024**, India will invest more than 140 billion dollars in the water industry.
- In the "Urban Wastewater Scenario in India," according to Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, **at least 10% of the money is given by the community** in each scheme, ensuring community ownership and engagement.

India's First Forest University to be Established in Telangana:

- The **first Forest University** will be established in India.
- The **Telangana Assembly adopted the Forestry Universities (UoF) Act 2022.**
- First of its type in India, the **University of Forestry (UoF).**
- **After China and Russia**, it will be the third university of forestry in the world.
- The **Forestry College and Research Institute (FCRI)** in Hyderabad will be expanded, according to the Telangana government.
- The FCRI will be converted into a **full-fledged University.**
- Additional 18 programs, including Ph.D., Diploma, and certificate programs in Urban Forestry, nursery management, agro-forestry, tribal livelihood enhancement, forest entrepreneurship, climate-smart forestry, and forest park management are planned to be introduced when FCRI is upgraded to a university.

Mr. Dharmendra Pradhan launched Ramkrishna Mission's Awakening program:

- **Shri Dharmendra Pradhan**, Union Minister for Education, Skill Development, and Entrepreneurship, launched the **Ramkrishna Mission 'Awakening' Program** for kids in grades I to V.
- **Swami Shantatmanada**, Secretary of the Ramkrishna Mission, **Smt Nidhi Chibber**, Chairperson CBSE, and other KVS, NVS, and Ministry officials attended the event.
- According to **Shri Dharmendra Pradhan**, NEP 2020 is influenced by **Swami Vivekananda's worldview.**
- One of the primary purposes of education is social reform, and ideals and knowledge are more essential than mere prosperity.

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- **Ramkrishna Mission** has a long history of providing practical education.

Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has declared Andaman and Nicobar Islands as India's first Swachh Sujal Pradesh:

- Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has declared Andaman and Nicobar Islands as India's first Swachh Sujal Pradesh.
- He handed over the certificate to Lieutenant Governor Admiral DK Joshi.
- Now, all villages of Andaman and Nicobar Island have been certified as Har Ghar Jal and verified as open defecation free - ODF plus.
- As per numerous efforts, the sanitation level of the country has widened and ODF status has been achieved before the set target as per Sustainable Development Goals, which is a remarkable achievement.
- He further stated that now the focus has been shifted to basics like water, toilets, and sanitation as more than one lakh 10 thousand villages became ODF plus.

PM has launched the world's first Cheetah Rehabilitation Project:

- Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi** has released wild cheetahs in Kuno National Park and initiated the world's first Cheetah Rehabilitation Project.
- **Cheetahs from Namibia** are being introduced into India as part of Project Cheetah, the world's first inter-continental large wild carnivore translocation project.
- The Prime Minister's release of wild Cheetahs is part of his efforts to revitalize and diversify India's wildlife and habitat.
- There are five female Cheetahs and three males among the eight Cheetahs.
- Mr. Modi released two cheetahs in Kuno National Park.
- He also interacted with Cheetah Mitras, the Cheetah Rehabilitation Management Group, and students at the event.

India's 1st lithium-ion cell factory inaugurated in Andhra Pradesh:

- **Mr. Rajeev Chandrasekhar**, Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology, has inaugurated India's first lithium-ion cell manufacturing facility in Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.
- **Munoth Industries Limited**, based in Chennai, spent Rs 165 crores to build this cutting-edge facility.

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- The factory is located in one of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's two Electronics Manufacturing Clusters established in the **temple town** in 2015.
- The facility now has a capacity of **270 MWh** and can generate **20,000 cells of 10Ah capacity per day**.
- These cells are utilized in power banks, and their capacity is approximately 60% of India's current requirement.
- Cells for various consumer gadgets such as mobile phones, hearables, and wearables will also be manufactured.
- Currently, **India imports all of its lithium-ion cell requirements from China, South Korea, Vietnam, and Hong Kong.**

Andaman & Nicobar becomes India's first UT/State to achieve 100 percent coverage of precautionary dose:

- **Andaman and Nicobar Islands** were the **first Indian state/UT to attain 100% preventive dose coverage.**
- More than **2,87,216** beneficiaries aged 18 have received a preventive dose of vaccination.
- Vaccination rates increased after July 15th, when the government decided to offer free preventative shots in honor of '**Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.**'
- To ramp up the campaign, healthcare workers visited houses and established many camps.
- The camps were **held in urban and rural regions and were highly accepted.**
- The aim was met before the **time limit of September 30th.**
- The Nicobar district has been fully immunized as a preventive measure.
- **Later, North, Middle, and South Andaman** districts were entirely vaccinated.
- **Corbevax and Covishield** were among the preventive doses.

USAID and UNICEF launch series titled 'Door Se Namaste':

- At a ceremony in **New Delhi**, the **Doordarshan and YouTube** series "**Door Se Namaste**" was officially launched by **UNICEF and the US Agency for International Development.**
- During the occasion, a theatrical version of **Duur Se Namaste** was presented, taking the audience through the major plot and demonstrating how the entertainment education series

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has incorporated both the message of vaccine promotion and **COVID-19 Appropriate Behaviour (CAB)**.

- In a post-pandemic society, a new television show called **Door Se Namaste** encourages **healthy behaviors**.
- It is a **made-up Hindi television program** that highlights the difficulties of living in a post-pandemic society and encourages the development of healthy habits.
- Every **Sunday from 11 AM to 12 PM**, the program will be broadcast.
- The series is made by **Elleeanora Images Pvt. Ltd.**, the production company of Padmashee, a National Film Award winner, and Nil Madhav Panda.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched National Logistics Policy (NLP):

- Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi** launched **National Logistics Policy (NLP)** in New Delhi.
- The need for a National Logistics Policy was felt because of the high logistics costs in India as compared to other developed countries.
- **Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP)** is an important initiative under the **National Logistics Policy (NLP)**.
- ULIP will bring all the digital services related to the transportation sector into a single portal.
- Under the policy, a new digital platform is **Ease of Logistics Services (E-Logs)**.
- The National Logistics Policy will assist in lowering India's logistical expenses to increase the competitiveness of Indian goods in the global market.
- It aims to bring down the **logistics cost from 13 percent of the GDP to 7.5 percent of the GDP**.
- The growth in **exports will increase by 5 to 8%**, as a result of the decline in logistics costs.
- National Logistics Policy will address the issues by laying down an interdisciplinary, cross-sectoral, and multi-jurisdictional framework for the development of the entire logistics ecosystem.
- The National Logistics Policy will give a boost to the **GatiShakti National Master Plan**.
- According to the (latest available) World Bank Logistics Index of 2018, India is ranked 44th in logistics costs, lagging behind countries like China and Vietnam, which are at the 26th and 39th positions, respectively.

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- The logistics cost in India is estimated at 13-14% of GDP, compared to 7-8% in developed economies.

The center is planning to launch the PM Promotion of Alternate Nutrients for Agriculture Management Yojana:

- The Centre is planning to launch the PM Promotion of Alternate Nutrients for Agriculture Management Yojana or PM PRANAM. The scheme will incentivize the states
- PM PRANAM scheme will pass on **50% of subsidy savings** as a grant to the state that saves the money.
- Of this grant, the states have to use **70% on creating assets** that would lead to the technological adoption of alternate fertilizers.
- The remaining **30% can be used by the states to reward and encourage farmers**, panchayats, farmer-producer organizations, and self-help groups involved in generating awareness and helping in reducing the use of fertilizer.
- There will be no separate budget for the PM PRANAM scheme.
- PM PRANAM scheme will be financed through the savings of existing fertilizer subsidies provided by the department of fertilizers under various schemes.

India's first MotoGP to be held in Noida's Buddh circuit in 2023:

- In 2023, India will hold its first MotoGP World Championship race at the Buddh International Circuit in **Greater Noida**.
- Dorna, the owner of the **MotoGP commercial rights**, and Noida-based race producers **Fairstreet Sports** inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to **host India's top two-wheel racing event for the next seven years**.
- Riders from as many as 19 countries will take part in the event, which will boost trade and tourism in the country while also creating jobs.
- MotoGP also has plans to also **introduce MotoE into the Indian racing scenario**, which will not only be a **first in Asia** but a significant green initiative with net zero carbon emission.

Central Universities UG Admission Web Portals have released:

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- Approximately 81 CUET 2022 participating universities will admit students to undergraduate programs through the Common University Entrance Test (CUET Admission 2022), formerly known as CUCET.
- The Web portal has been launched by the universities.
- Five new universities have recently accepted CUET, including Lakshmibai National Institute of Physical Education, RNGB Global University, NIIT University, and National Rail and Transport Institution.
- North Eastern Hill University (NEHU) will not take the CUET 2022 exam.
- Instead of CUET, NEHU's affiliated universities will employ their present admission procedures to enroll students in their undergraduate programs.

Cabinet Approves an Additional PLI Plan for Solar Cells:

- The Union cabinet approved the second tranche of the Performance Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme on the 'National Program on High-Efficiency Solar PV Modules' for reaching Giga Watt (GW) manufacturing capacity to enhance manufacturing of solar photovoltaic (PV) modules in India, Union minister Anurag Thakur revealed in a press conference.
- The second tranche of the PLI scheme for the national program on 'high-efficiency solar PV modules has been approved with an outlay of Rs.19,500 crore.
- The government has also set a goal of 500GW of installed non-fossil electricity capacity by 2030, which equates to around 280-300GW of solar energy capacity.

Agriculture Minister Shri Narendra Singh Tomar addresses the Leeds-2022 conference:

- Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, the union minister for Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare, virtually addressed the Leeds-2022 conference in New Delhi, which was hosted by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).
- The conference was briefed by the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare that despite being affected by a worldwide pandemic, India's agriculture industry has had a growth of 3.9%.
- Given its rapid progress toward becoming a global leader in the agriculture industry, India can supply a significant portion of the world's food demands.
- India's exports of agricultural goods surpassed the Rs. 4 lakh crore milestone.

Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launched the app in Chennai:

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- Union Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launched the **SCALE (Skill Certification Assessment for Leather Employees)** app at **Central Leather Research Institute, Chennai**.
- It is a one-stop solution for the skilling, learning, assessment, and employment needs of the leather industry.
- The **SCALE** app has been developed by the **Leather Skill Sector Council**.
- People interested in leather craft can access online live-streamed classes through the app.
- The Ministry of **Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, NSDC, CLRI, and Leather Sector Skill Council** will collaborate to set up Common Facilities and Skilling Centre across India.
- Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan lauded the role of CSIR-CLRI for playing an important role in the development of the leather sector.
- The Indian leather industry contributes around 13 percent to the world's leather production of hides/skins.
- The major production centers for leather and leather products in India are located in the state of **Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, and Uttar Pradesh**.

The government of India recently unveiled an ambitious plan to be a world leader in tourism by 2047:

- For the tourism sector, the **Government of India** recently unveiled an ambitious plan for **recovery to pre-pandemic levels by 2024**, a \$250 billion contribution to **GDP by 2030**, and a **world leader by 2047**, with a long-term revenue goal of **\$1 trillion by 2047**, when the country turns 100.
- This plan is part of the '**Dharamshala Declaration 2022**,' which was adopted after the three-day **National Tourism Conference**.
- The Tourism sector generated Rs 16.91 lakh crore (USD 240 billion) or 9.2% of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2018 and has supported around 42.67 million jobs or **8.1% of total employment**.
- The new National Tourism Policy will be released before the next Budget session.
- Several projects have been sanctioned under the **Swadesh Darshan Scheme** for building tourist infrastructure across various themes.
- The Ministry of Tourism has recently launched the **Swadesh Darshan Scheme 2.0 to develop sustainable and responsible destinations** following a tourist and destination-centric approach.

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- The **PRASHAD Scheme** aims to strengthen the **tourist facilities** around **spiritual locations**, under which 39 projects have been sanctioned in 24 States.
- According to the Ministry of Tourism, the financial assistance to the tourism sector, which is the biggest sufferer due to Covid 19, continues to be extended up to 31st March 2023.

The Dharamshala Declaration 2022:

- The Conference ended with the adoption of the “Dharamshala Declaration” which affirms commitment toward developing “sustainable and responsible tourism” and positions India as a “global leader in the tourism sector by 2047”.

Union Finance Minister has launched an e-learning platform, Bharat Vidya:

- Union Finance Minister Smt **Nirmala Sitharaman** launched an e-learning platform, **Bharat Vidya**.
- Bharat Vidya is an e-learning platform for **Oriental and South Asian studies**.
- This e-learning platform has been designed and developed by the **Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute (BORI)**.
- It is the **first-of-its-kind online platform to provide free and paid courses** covering various aspects of Indology related to art, architecture, philosophy, language, and science.

Six courses:

- Veda Vidya, Bharatiya Darshanshashtra, Sanskrit learning, 18 Parvas of Mahabharata, Fundamentals of Archaeology, and Kalidasa and Bhasha will be provided through this platform.
- The courses have been designed as per the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**.

About Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute (BORI):

- It was founded on 6 July 1917.
- It is famous for its collection of old Sanskrit and Prakrit manuscripts. It is located in Pune, Maharashtra.

Cabinet approved modifications in the Programme for Development of Semiconductors and Display Manufacturing Ecosystem in India:

- Cabinet approved modifications in the “Programme for Development of Semiconductors and Display Manufacturing Ecosystem in India”.

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- The government will provide financial support of **50% of the Project Cost** under the modified program to **establish Semiconductor Fabs**.
- Under the modified program, fiscal support of 50% of Capital Expenditure will be provided for setting up compound semiconductors/ sensors / Discrete semiconductors fabs and ATMP/OSAT.
- An **Advisory Committee was formed** for the development of the semiconductors and display manufacturing ecosystem in India.
- The India Semiconductor Mission acts as the nodal agency for the efficient and smooth implementation of the schemes in the Semiconductors and Display ecosystem.

Three applicants

- A Vedanta-Foxconn joint venture, international consortium ISMC, and Singapore-based IGSS Ventures — have been approved for setting up semiconductor fabs.
- The Vedanta-Foxconn joint venture recently signed an agreement with the Gujarat government for setting up a USD 20 billion semiconductor and display manufacturing plant in the state.
- ISMC, backed by Abu Dhabi-based Next Orbit and Israel's Tower Semiconductor, and Singapore-based IGSS Ventures are setting up in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, respectively.
- Vedanta and Elest have submitted applications for setting up display manufacturing.

PM to inaugurate the National Conference of Environment Ministers, Gujarat:

- Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi** to inaugurate the **National Conference of Environment Ministers** in Ekta Nagar, Gujarat.
- The main aim of the Conference is to create further synergy between the Central and State Governments to implement policies for the elimination of plastic pollution and climate change.
- The conference will promote cooperative federalism for resolving environment-related challenges.
- The two-day Conference will be organized on **September 23-24**.
- India's per capita plastic consumption is 11 kg while the global average of plastic per capita consumption is 28 kg.
- It will have **six thematic sessions** based on different topics, the topics given below:
 - Combating Climate Change

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- PARIVESH (Single Window System for Integrated Green Clearances)
- Forestry Management
- Prevention and Control of Pollution
- Wildlife Management
- Plastics and Waste Management
- LiFE- Lifestyle for Environment

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar inaugurated the third edition of the Lok Manthan program:

- Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar inaugurated the third edition of the Lok Manthan program at Srimanta Sankardeva Kalakshetra in Guwahati.
- The theme for this year's program is Lokparampara (Lok traditions).
- This will emphasize how Lok traditions have kept our cultural consciousness intact and strengthened our feeling of National Selfhood.
- Kerala Governor Arif Muhammad Khan will be the Chief Guest at its concluding session on 24 September 2022.
- Lokmanthan is an occasion where artists, intellectuals, and academicians from different parts of the country brainstorm on the questions that face society.

Union Ministry of Food Processing Industries has launched a Joint Convergence Portal:

- The Union Ministry of Food Processing Industries has launched a Joint Convergence Portal for its various schemes.
- The portal has been launched between Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF), Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) scheme, and Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
- The convergence portal was launched in the presence of Union Minister, of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar, Union Minister, of Food Processing Industries Pashupati Kumar Paras, Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Kailash Choudhary; along with the senior officials of both the Ministries
- The objective of the joint portal is that all the government ministries and departments together serve the country's people according to their capacity.

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- This is a step towards realizing the Prime Minister's dream of a self-reliant India and will also promote the concept of 'Vocal for Local'.

About Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF):

- The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is implementing AIF for the creation of post-harvest management infrastructure and community farm assets.
- It is a medium to long-term credit financing facility launched on July 08, 2020.

About the PMFME scheme:

- Ministry of Food Processing Industries launched a centrally sponsored PPMFME scheme to enhance the competitiveness of individual micro-enterprises in the unorganized segment & promote the formalization of this sector.
- It was launched on June 29, 2020, as a part of "Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan."

About PMKSY:

- It is a Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.
- It is envisaged as a comprehensive package and helps in the creation of a modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management, from farms to retail outlets.

Ministry of Tourism and Culture has announced a special tourist train to cover the "Ambedkar Circuit":

- Union Ministry of Tourism and Culture has announced a special tourist train to cover the "Ambedkar Circuit".
- The modalities — such as the date of the journey, ticket price, and the number of passengers —are still in the works.
- The government first proposed the Ambedkar Circuit, or Panchteerth, in 2016.
- The journey will include meals, ground transportation, and entry to the sites.
- The government had identified 15 tourist circuits under the Swadesh Darshan scheme in 2014-15.
- In terms of train collaboration, the Ramayana, Buddhist, and North East Circuits are already active, while Ambedkar will be fourth.
- The Panchteerth would include Janma Bhoomi, Ambedkar's birthplace in Madhya Pradesh's Mhow; Shiksha Bhoomi, the place in London where he stayed while studying in the UK;

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Deeksha Bhoomi in Nagpur where he embraced Buddhism; Mahaparinirvan Bhoomi or the place of his demise in Delhi; and Chaitya Bhoomi, the place of his cremation, in Mumbai.

- The idea is to attract tourists beyond the Dalit community, who mostly visit these places as a pilgrimage.

The second phase of the ambitious dairy development project is set to kick off in April 2023:

- The second phase of the ambitious dairy development project, the **National Dairy Plan (NDP-II)**, with the support of the **World Bank** is set to kick off in April next year, with a targeted focus on the unexplored dairy-potential areas in the country.
- This comes about three years after the first phase of NDP-I ended with the financial closure in **March 2020**.

About The NDP-II:

- The outlay for the second phase of the dairy plan will remain the same.
- It will be focused on forming dairy cooperatives (in new areas), enabling testing equipment, etc.
- **NDDB** is the implementing agency for the **NDP that was first started in 2012 with World Bank support to increase the productivity of milch animals** and improve market access of milk producers in project areas.
- The **phase-I outlay was ₹2,242 crore**, while the **second phase is expected to be about ₹1,500 crore**.
- The productivity enhancement programs continued parallelly irrespective of the NDP but with the Central support under the **Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM)**.
- Milk production per animal increased from a baseline of 5.03 liters per day in 2012 to 6.09 litres per day in 2019
- Share of milk sold to the organized sector up from 45 percent in 2012 to 75 percent in 2019.

Corporate Affairs Ministry (MCA) has revised the cap on the fees for impact assessment

- **Corporate Affairs Ministry (MCA)** has revised the cap on the fees that could be paid by corporates for impact assessment.
- It has also provided clarity on the entities through which **CSR obligations could be fulfilled**.
- Corporates can now pay more than **₹50 lakh** for impact assessment.

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- In January 2021, impact assessment was made mandatory for companies with a CSR budget of ₹10 crores or more in a fiscal year and projects with outlays of ₹1 crore or more.
- As per the rules, companies cannot carry out a self-assessment on the impact of their CSR spending.
- Under the revised norms, expenses on impact assessment are capped at 2% of total CSR spend or ₹50 lakh, whichever is higher.
- MCA has also said that companies shall have CSR Committee even in cases where the amounts transferred to an 'unspent CSR account' is less than ₹50 lakh.

Shri Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated an international conference on Consciousness.

- Union Minister Ayush Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated an international conference on Consciousness.
- It has been organized under the theme, "Exploring Consciousness- From Non-Locality to Non-Duality: The Man- Machine Debate" at NIMHANS, Bengaluru.
- It has been organized by India Foundation and NIMHANS and supported by the Ministry of Ayush.
- The conference aims to bring eminent researchers and inventors in the areas of physics, biology, neuroscience, artificial intelligence, etc. on one platform.
- Sarbananda Sonowal also inaugurated the Centre of Excellence project as part of the "Ayurswasthya Yojana" at NIMHANS.
- The Centre of Excellence (CoE) will strengthen the competencies of Ayush professionals in Education Technology, and Research & innovation.

Ministry of Textiles recently cleared 23 strategic research projects worth around Rs 60 crores:

- The Ministry of Textiles recently cleared 23 strategic research projects worth around Rs 60 crores in Specialty fibres, Sustainable Textiles, Geotextiles, Mobiltech, and Sports textiles under the National Technical Textiles Mission.
- Technical textiles are functional fabrics that have applications across various industries including automobiles, civil engineering, construction, agriculture, healthcare, industrial safety, personal protection, etc.

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- **National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM)** was approved in 2020 by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) with a total outlay of Rs.1480 Crore.
- The implementation period is four years, from FY 2020-21 to FY 2023-24.
- The mission aims to position India as a global leader in Technical Textiles by taking the domestic market size from USD 40 billion to USD 50 billion by 2024.
- It also supports the 'Make in India' Initiative promoting domestic manufacturing of related machinery and equipment.

India launched the "Innovation Roadmap of the Mission Integrated Biorefineries":

- India launched the "Innovation Roadmap of the Mission Integrated Biorefineries" at Global Clean Energy Action Forum-2022.
- "Innovation Roadmap of the Mission Integrated Biorefineries" has been developed from the leads and results received from Brazil, Canada, EC, and the UK.
- The main goals of the initiative are to increase global cooperation and boost funding for R&D in the energy sector.
- "Innovation Roadmap of the Mission Integrated Biorefineries" aims to fill the identified gaps and resolve the current challenges in biorefining value chains.
- It will also provide a strategic framework for policymakers to move toward research and development over the next five years.
- A pilot plant of 10 Tons/day capacity plant with integrated enzyme production will be commissioned at Panipat, Haryana by 2022.
- It will be the first indigenous technology for on-site enzyme production.
- During the conference, India agreed to reach 500-Gigawatt non-fossil energy capacity and reduce the carbon intensity of the economy by 45% over 2005 levels.

Union Health Minister has inaugurated Arogya Manthan in 2022:

- Health Minister Shri Mansukh Mandaviya will inaugurate Arogya Manthan 2022.
- Arogya Manthan 2022 will be inaugurated to celebrate the completion of four years of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana and one year of implementation of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM).
- AB-PMJAY completed four years of its implementation.

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- Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) will celebrate its first anniversary on 27 September 2022.

About AB-PMJAY:

- The AB-PMJAY scheme aims to benefit more than 10 crores of poor families across the country by providing them with an annual health insurance coverage of five lakh rupees.
- It was launched in September 2018 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- Global and national healthcare professionals, as well as members from academia, think tanks, industry, and media, will attend the two-day event.
- NHA will also present the Ayushman Utkrishtata Puraskaar 2022 (Ayushman Excellence Awards) to felicitate the top performing states, PMAMs (Pradhan Mantri Arogya Mitra), and public hospitals under the AB PM-JAY.
- Best-performing states/ UTs, districts, private & government health facilities, and digital health solutions will be felicitated under ABDM.

The Central Bureau of Investigation conducted 'Operation Meghachakra' in 56 different places:

- The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has carried out 'Operation Meghachakra' at 56 locations in 20 states against the circulation and sharing of child sexual abuse material online.
- CBI launched the exercise code 'Operation Meghachakra' using the inputs from the Interpol unit of New Zealand.
- CBI carried out a similar exercise "Operation Carbon" in 2021 at 76 locations across the country.
- CBI is the first probe agency to set up a cybercrime unit for the investigation of cybercrimes in the country.

About Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI):

- It works under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions.
- It was established on the recommendation of the Santhanam Committee.
- Subodh Kumar Jaiswal is the current Director.

The Union Ministry of Environment will launch a single-window system:

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- The Union environment ministry will launch a **single-window system** for environment, forest, wildlife, and coastal regulation zone clearances by the end of the year to **reduce the time taken to process green nods for various infrastructure projects.**
- **Pro-Active and Responsive facilitation** by Interactive and Virtuous Environment **Single-window Hub or Parivesh** is a **single window system** for environment, forest, wildlife, and coastal regulation zone clearances.
- The government now intends to unveil **Parivesh 2.0** by the end of the year.
- During the National Conference of ministers of environment, forest, and climate change **held in Ekta Nagar, Gujarat**
- Provision has been made for every state to create a land bank in advance so that as soon as the proposals come to the state they can take immediate actions for required compensatory afforestation.

The Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs will launch the Swachh Toyathon:

- **Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry** will launch **Swachh Toyathon**, a unique competition to **make toys from waste.**
- The competition will be open to individuals and groups to bring forth innovation in toy designs using dry waste.
- It will focus on efficient designs that can be replicated at a larger scale, and toys that comply with minimum safety standards.
- The competition will be **hosted on MyGov's Innovative India portal.**
- Center for **Creative Learning, IIT Gandhinagar** is the knowledge partner for the initiative.

National Action Plan for Toys 2020:

- It was introduced to promote the Indian toy industry including traditional handicrafts and handmade toys to establish India as a global Toy hub.
- The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade along with 14 Ministries of Central Government is currently implementing various aspects of the National Action Plan for Toys.

Union Minister Shri G. Kishan Reddy inaugurates the 'SymphoNE' Virtual Conference:

- Union Minister **Shri G. Kishan Reddy** launches **Virtual Conference 'SymphoNE'** to boost **Tourism Sector in North East India.**

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- **SymphoNE** is the start of a series of dialogues on the North Eastern Region's Development Conference comprised of a broad range of Policy Thinkers, Stakeholders & Influencers to boost the Tourism Sector in the North Eastern Region.
- The Virtual Conference 'SymphoNE' is being organized on the 24th & 27th of September 2022 by the **Ministry of Development of the North Eastern Region** on the occasion of **World Tourism Day**.
- This two-day conference will aim to **create a roadmap to showcase the unexplored beauty of North East India** & boost the tourism Sector in the North Eastern Region.
- SymphoNE aims to **develop a one-stop solution to eliminate all obstacles** that are being faced by the tourists, and the tour operators while carrying out the operations for the visitors.

The upcoming DefExpo 2022, which is slated to take place in Gandhinagar

- The forthcoming **DefExpo 2022**, scheduled to be held in **Gandhinagar** from **October 18 to 22**, will host the **second edition of the India-Africa Defence Dialogue** with invites extended to **53 African countries**.
- A separate **Indian Ocean Region plus (IOR+)** conclave with the participation of approximately 40 countries is also on the anvil.
- The Expo, earlier scheduled to be held in March, **was postponed due to "logistical challenges"**.
- For DefExpo 2022, Indian companies, Indian subsidiaries of foreign Original Equipment Manufacturers, a Division of a company registered in India, and exhibitors having joint ventures with an Indian company will be considered Indian participants.
- The **theme of DefExpo 2022 is 'Path to Pride'**, aiming to showcase the needs of the domestic defense industry, which is now powering the 'Make in India, Make for the World' resolve of the Government and the nation at large.

Indian government introduces "Sign Learn" smartphone app:

- The Center produced the **"Sign Learn" smartphone app**, a lexicon of 10,000 words for **Indian Sign Language (ISL)**.
- The app was introduced by **Pratima Bhoumik**, a minister of state for social justice and empowerment.

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- Sign Learn is built on the lexicon of the 10,000-word Indian Sign Language Research And Training Centre (ISLRTC).
- On the program, which is available on Android and iOS platforms, you can search for any term in the ISL dictionary using Hindi or English.
- This year, ISL e-content for the NCERT textbooks for class 6 was released.
- The Center published some "Veergatha" volumes from the National Book Trust's "Veergatha" series in ISL as a part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- For the "Sign Learn" smartphone app, ISLRTC and NCERT worked together to release 500 academic words in Indian Sign Language.

Shri Amit Shah to Inaugurate Dairy Cooperative Conclave in Gangtok:

- Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah are expected to inaugurate a day-long dairy cooperative congress of the eastern and northeastern zones in Sikkim.
- The National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India (NCDFI) is organizing the colloquium
- According to NCDFI Chairman Mangal Jit Rai, Shah's office has confirmed his presence in the Gangtok conclave.
- The function's honoree will be Sikkim Chief Minister P S Tamang.
- Top officials from Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, and West Bengal's cooperative milk unions and state dairy federations are likely to participate, according to Rai.
- The event is expected to draw 1,200 participants from these 12 states.

India's first e-marketplace for fuels and biomass supply platform for biomass supply.

- BiofuelCircle, a Pune-based startup, launched its platform for biomass supply.
- India's first e-marketplace for fuels and biomass supply has been launched.
- It took one year for BiofuelCircle to build its platform.
- In January-June 2021, it launched a pilot before launching its services.
- The company aims to address the challenges related to the bioenergy supply chain.
- A start-up under the Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT) has developed e-trading platforms to introduce online auctions in the Indian fisheries sector.

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has launched the "Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan":

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- **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change** is planning to launch the "Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan."
- It is being launched to reduce air pollution by 40% by 2025-26.
- For this survey, **131 cities have been divided into three groups** based on population.
- The first group consists of 47 cities with a population of more than one million.
- The second group consists of 44 cities with populations ranging from three to one million.
- The third group includes 40 cities with a population of fewer than three lakhs.
- **NCAP was launched in 2019** by the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India.
- By the **Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981**, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) will execute this nationwide program.
- The new target was conveyed to states during the recently held national conference of Environment Ministers in **Ekta Nagar, Gujarat**.

Ministry of Rural Development has launched JALDOOT App:

- **JALDOOT App** has been launched by the Ministry of Rural Development.
- The app has been developed to track the water level in selected wells in villages across the country.
- The app has been launched in **New Delhi**.
- The **Gram Rozgar Sahayak** will measure the **water level of selected wells** twice a year - before and after the monsoon, through the Jaldoot app.
- The ministry has said that the data of this app will help in making a better action plan.
- Groundwater level data will be helpful in **Gram Panchayat Development Plan and Mahatma Gandhi planning exercises**.
- This includes watershed development, afforestation, water body development, renovation, and rainwater harvesting.

The Centre has extended the period of Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20:

- The government has extended the period of **Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20** on the demand from **Export Promotion Councils and leading exporters**.

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- The decision of extending the Foreign Trade Policy has been taken by the government due to **rising inflation and uncertainty** due to geopolitical development.
- Foreign Trade Policy was launched in 2015 and was **valid for five years – till 2020**.
- This is for the second time that **the current policy period has been extended since its launch in 2015**.
- It is a framework to increase exports of goods and services.
- It also emphasizes improving the ease of doing business.

President has inaugurated The Integrated Cryogenic Engines Manufacturing Facility of HAL:

- The **Integrated Cryogenic Engines Manufacturing Facility of HAL** in Bengaluru has been inaugurated by **President Droupadi Murmu**.
- President Droupadi Murmu also laid the **foundation stone of the South Zonal Institute of Virology**.
- The Integrated Cryogenic Engines Manufacturing Facility of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) is spread over an area of 4,500 square meters.
- It has more than 70 hi-tech equipment and testing facilities for **manufacturing cryogenic (CE20) and semi-cryogenic (SE2000) engines of Indian rockets**.
- The facility will full fill the **entire Rocket Engine requirement of ISRO** under one roof.
- It will boost self-reliance in the manufacturing of **Hi-thrust Rocket engines**.
- President Droupadi Murmu will **inaugurate the cutting-edge ICMF**, which has been constructed over a 4,500 square meter space and houses over 70 high-tech tools and testing facilities for the production of cryogenic (CE20) and semi-cryogenic (SE2000) engines for Indian rockets.
- **An MOU was signed with ISRO in 2013** for the establishment of a facility to produce cryogenic engine modules at HAL's Aerospace Division.
- It was later updated in 2016 to allow for the establishment of the ICMF with an investment of **₹208 crores**.
- Cryogenic engines are mostly used in launch vehicles for launching satellites.
- Only the **USA, France, India, Japan, China, and Russia** have cryogenic technology.
- President inaugurated the new campus of the Indian Institute of Information Technology in Dharwad, Karnataka, and St Joseph University.

The government launched a Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment:

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- The government launched a **Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment** scheme for **2022-23**.
- States Governments will receive financial assistance under this scheme in the form of a 50-year interest-free loan for capital investment projects.
- Under this scheme, **Rs 3000 Crore** is earmarked for **capital projects on Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) network**.
- Recently, the Department of Expenditure has approved proposals of **four States** namely **Uttarakhand (50 cr), Jharkhand (84 cr), Haryana (65 cr), and Karnataka (156 cr)**.
- Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** in her 2022-23 Budget speech announced **total financial assistance of Rs 1 lakh crore for states in the form of 50-year interest-free loans for capital investment projects**.
- The financial assistance provided under the Scheme will be over and above the normal borrowing ceiling allowed to the States.
- The Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment for 2022-23 has a **total of seven parts**.

Dr. Jitendra Singh launched the One Week One Lab theme-based campaign in September 2022:

- Union Minister **Dr. Jitendra Singh** launched the **One Week One Lab** theme-based campaign.
- The campaign has been launched to **showcase technological breakthroughs and innovations**.
- The campaign will be launched in **37 laboratories and institutes of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)** across the country.
- CSIR's achievements in **Drone, Heliborne technology, state-of-the-art Sewage cleaning machines, and Aroma Mission** have opened new opportunities.
- Union Minister **Dr. Jitendra Singh** addressed the **first-ever CSIR Leadership Meet**.

About Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR):

- It is India's largest research and development organization and an autonomous body.
- Its current Director-General is **Dr. Nallathamby Kalaiselvi**.
- It was established on **September 26, 1942**.

HCL has launched its new brand identity and logo:

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- IT services major **HCL Technologies** has launched its new brand identity and logo, which seeks to embrace a distinct global brand identity while retaining connectivity with HCL Group.
- The company's new 'HCLTech' brand and logo will be at the heart of its go-to-market strategy and represent its differentiated portfolio of services and products that supercharge digital transformation for enterprises at scale.
- **C Vijayakumar, CEO & Managing Director, HCLTech.**
- "For HCLTech, Supercharging Progress is about accelerating the digital transformation for our clients every day as well as the ethos of the organization to advance the aspirations of the people.
- The company also launched its new **employee value proposition (EVP)** - 'Find Your Spark'.
- Built on the broad tenets of opportunity, respect, and trusted employment, HCLTech's EVP emphasizes its commitment to helping both current and prospective employees maximize their career potential and ambitions.

IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL NEWS

IndiGo joins WEF's sustainable initiative

- India's largest carrier **IndiGo** has joined a sustainable initiative spearheaded by the **World Economic Forum (WEF)**.
- The airline has become a signatory to the **Clear Skies for Tomorrow (CST), India Coalition** campaign.

Key Highlights:

- IndiGo's commitment to the deployment of sustainable initiatives will help in achieving a significant scale for **SAF (Sustainable Aviation Fuel)** to gain a critical mass and bring in **cost-efficiency** for widespread adoption in India.
- On **February 18, 2022**, IndiGo operated its brand new **A320 neo plane** from **Toulouse, France** to **New Delhi** with a 10% blend of SAF.
- The goal is to have commercially viable SAF production (both bio and synthetic) at scale for industry-wide adoption by **2030** to support aviation's overall **net-zero pathway by 2050**.
- The global coalition now has **more than 80 members**.

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- In July 2022 IndiGo had a domestic market share of 58.8%.

About CST:

- Clean Skies for Tomorrow, launched in **January 2019**.
- It provides a crucial mechanism for top executives and public leaders, across and beyond the aviation value chain.
- It is aligned on a transition to sustainable aviation fuels as part of a meaningful and proactive pathway for the industry to achieve **carbon-neutral flying**.

About IndiGo:

- Founded: 2005
- Commenced Operations: 4 August 2006
- Headquarters: Gurgram, Haryana, India
- CEO: Rono Dutta
- Founder & MD: Rahul Bhatia
- IndiGo, is an **Indian low-cost airline** & It is the largest airline in India by passengers carried and fleet size.

About WEF:

- Founded: January 1971
- Headquarters: Cologny, canton of Geneva, Switzerland
- Founder & Executive Chairman: Klaus Schwab

India Contributes Rs 3 Crore to Voluntary Trust Funds For Protection Of UN Human Rights

- India's Permanent Mission to the United Nations (UN), Geneva, Switzerland revealed that India has contributed \$ 400,000 (over Rs 3 crore) to 4 Voluntary Trust Funds.

List of 4 Voluntary Trust Funds:

1. Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture
2. Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation
3. Voluntary Fund for financial and technical assistance for the implementation of Universal Periodic Review
4. Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to support the participation of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDs) in the work of the council.

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Note:

- In **2007**, **India** became the **first country** to deploy an **all-women contingent** for the Formed Police Unit to the **UN peacekeeping mission** in **Liberia**.

About Voluntary Trust Funds:

- A special UN program called the **"Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture** provides direct assistance to victims of torture and their families.
- The General Assembly established it in **1981** to draw attention to the concerns of torture victims on a global scale.
- The Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights was founded by the **UN Secretary-General** in **1987**.
- The Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance in the implementation of the universal periodic review came into force in **2007** by **Human Rights Council resolution 6/17**, which got further enhanced by **resolution 16/21** in **2011**.
- The Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund was established in **2012** by **Human Rights Council resolution 19/26** to encourage the involvement of **Small Island Developing States (SIDS)** and **Least Developed Countries (LDCs)** in Council activities.
- The fund has been supported by voluntary donations from UN member states.
- The goal of the fund is to make sure that LDCs and SIDS, particularly those without a permanent representation in Geneva, may take part in and contribute to the Council's work.
- In addition to that, India contributes **USD 800,00 (Rs 6 crore)** to promote the use of the **Hindi language** at the UN
- In support of this initiative, the **"Hindi @ UN"** project was started in **2018** in partnership with the **UN Department of Public Information**.

Goal:

- To expand the United Nations' public engagement in Hindi and raise awareness about global concerns among millions of Hindi-speaking people worldwide.

About UN:

- Founded: 1945

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- Headquarters: New York, United States
- Secretary General: António Guterres
- Membership: 193 member states

India & UK conduct Counter Ransomware Exercise for 26 Nations

- India's National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) and the Government of the United Kingdom (UK) in collaboration with BAE Systems successfully designed & conducted the Cyber Security Exercise for 26 Countries
- The exercise is a part of the India-led International Counter Ransomware Initiative- Resilience Working Group, which is being led by India under the leadership of the National Cyber Security Coordinator (NCSC).

Aim:

- To simulate a large, widespread cyber security incident affecting organizations within a Country.
- All 26 invitees for the exercise are from CRI Partner Nations and their respective organizations that include Cyber Security, National Crisis Management, National Security Policy, Critical National Infrastructure, and Law Enforcement Agencies.

About the Exercise:

- The exercise has been facilitated by BAE Systems via the Immersive Labs platform.
- The theme of the exercise is based on the Energy Sector in which the respective National Cyber Crisis Management Teams of the CRI Partner Nations will have to deal with a ransomware attack on multiple electricity distribution companies.
- The exercise explores the complexity of decision-making around response to ransomware on Critical National Infrastructure.
- It demonstrates the benefit of sharing information and collaborating during a major incident; provides opportunities for the CRI Nations to share their approaches to countering ransomware.

PM Shri Narendra Modi to Attend SCO Meeting With Putin And Xi:

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will go to Samarkand, Uzbekistan, for the summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).

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- After the SCO summit in **Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan**, in **June 2019**, this will be the **first summit** to take place in person.
- According to the current vacation itinerary, the Prime Minister will probably leave for **Samarkand on September 14** and return on **September 16**.
- India's participation at the summit is crucial since, after the **Samarkand summit**, it will take up the rotating chairmanship of the SCO.
- Up to **September 2023**, **Delhi** will rule over the organization for a **full year**.
- Thus, **India** will host the SCO summit the following year, which will include participation from the **presidents of China, Russia, and Pakistan**, among others.
- **Chinese President Xi Jinping, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, and Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi** are among the leaders expected at the summit.

Indian students receive the most student visas from the US in 2022

- In **2022**, the **United States (US)** awarded a record **82,000 student visas** to Indians, more than any other country.
- This is according to the **United States (US) Embassy in India**.
- **Patricia Lacina**, charge d'affaires of the US Embassy in India, claimed.
- This shows that the majority of Indian families continue to choose the US as their primary destination for **higher education**.
- The fact that Indian students will receive the majority of student visas from the US in 2022 highlights the important contributions that Indian students make to our two countries as they develop long-lasting relationships with American peers to support and grow international collaborations and work together to address current and upcoming global concerns.
- There were **1,67,582 Indian students** in the **2020–2021** academic year, making up around **20%** of all overseas students studying in the **United States**, according to the **Open Doors report from 2021. (US)**.
- The **Minister Counsellor for Consular Affairs, Don Heflin**, expressed his happiness at having helped Indian students pursue a top-notch education.

India & Madagascar sign MoU on the training of diplomats

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- India and Madagascar signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the training of diplomats between India and Madagascar.

Signatories:

- The MoU was signed between Foreign Affairs Minister of Madagascar Richard Randriamandrato and Indian Ambassador to Madagascar Abhay Kumar during a special ceremony organized at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Madagascar.
- The MoU was signed between the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSIFS) & the Foreign Affairs Ministry of Madagascar.

About the MoU:

- The MOU will enhance cooperation between India and Madagascar, the crucial arena of training diplomats.
- It will encourage the exchange of information and content of training programs for diplomats.

About SSIFS:

- Established: 1986
- Location: New Delhi, Delhi, India
- Dean: Arun Kumar Chatterjee
- The Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service is the civil service training institute in New Delhi where Indian Foreign Service officers are trained.
- The institute functions under the Ministry of External Affairs, GoI.

About Madagascar:

- President: Andry Rajoelina
- Prime Minister: Christian Ntsay
- Capital: Antananarivo
- Currency: Ariary

India to assume G20 presidency for 1 year starting from December 2022

- India will assume the presidency of the G20 (Group of Twenty) for one year starting 1 December 2022 to 30 November 2022.

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- Under its Presidency, India is expected to host over **200 G20 meetings** across the country, beginning in December 2022.
- The G20 Leaders' Summit at the level of Heads of State / Government is scheduled to be held on **09 and 10 September 2023** in New Delhi.

About G20:

- The G20, or Group of Twenty, is an intergovernmental forum of the world's major developed and developing economies.
- It comprises **19 countries** (Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the UK, USA) and the European Union (EU).
- The G20 accounts for **85% of global GDP**, **75% of international trade**, and **two-thirds** of the **world population** making it the premier forum for international economic cooperation.
- India is currently part of the **G20 Troika** (current, previous, and incoming G20 Presidencies) comprising Indonesia, Italy, and India.
- During India's Presidency, **India, Indonesia, and Brazil** would form the troika.
- This would be the **first time** when the troika would consist of three developing countries and emerging economies

Mastercard Partners with UNDP on free of charge startup program – Lighthouse MASSIV

- **Mastercard** has partnered with the **United Nations Development Program (UNDP)** on **Mastercard's Lighthouse MASSIV**: a free start-up partnership program designed to help **1 billion people** lead more prosperous and secure lives by **2025**.

Aim:

- To support impact tech companies on their impact measurement and management and connect them to the broader United Nations network and initiatives
- Mastercard & UNDP will focus on the sustainability, monetary inclusion, and social effect of targeted firms to achieve **2030 Sustainable Growth Objectives (SDG)**.

About Mastercard Lighthouse MASSIV:

- MASSIV - **Make and Scale Social Impact Vision**.
- The Mastercard Lighthouse MASSIV program was launched in **2019**

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- It has featured scale-ready companies focused on solving some of the most complex global challenges, including **climate change, poverty, and social and economic exclusion**.
- It focuses on the Nordic and Baltic regions, and to date, it has helped **27 impact tech companies** from Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Estonia to scale through partnerships.

First inter-modal digital TIR-based transport from India to Iran flagged off

- The **first intermodal digital Transports Internationaux Routiers or International Road Transports (TIR)-based pilot transport** along the **International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) corridor from India to Iran** was flagged off from **Nhava Sheva (Jawaharlal Nehru Port), Mumbai, Maharashtra**.
- It will facilitate seamless and **paperless cross-border transit of goods**, under the customs guarantee of the TIR system.

About TIR:

- It helps in the facilitation of trade and transport, preventing delays in border crossing operations by minimizing the formalities, which **decreases transportation costs**.
- According to the **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)**, Globally, such a system has been a successful model for reducing trade transaction costs & facilitating higher growth of intra-regional and inter-regional trade.
- As per FICCI, This system provides many benefits by simplifying the movement of national and international transport, giving access to over **64 TIR operational countries**.

About INSTC:

- The INSTC is India's vision and initiative to reduce the time taken for **EXIM (Export-Import) shipments** to reach Russia and Europe, and enter the Central Asian markets.
- The **Chabahar Port**, which has been developed with Indian assistance, is the commercial transit center for the region, especially **Central Asia**.
- India is participating in the development of the first phase of the **Shahid Beheshti Terminal** at Chabahar Port in cooperation with the Iranian government.

About Iran:

- President: Ebrahim Raisi

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- Capital: Tehran
- Currency: Iranian rial

World's first public database on fossil fuels launched

- According to the **Carbon Tracker and Global Energy Monitor**, The world's first database for tracking global fossil fuel production, oil and gas reserves, and emissions is named **Global Registry of Fossil Fuels** and is set to launch.
- The registry was jointly developed by **Carbon Tracker**, a nonprofit think tank that researches the energy transition's effect on financial markets, and the **Global Energy Monitor**, which tracks a range of global energy projects.

Key Highlights:

- The inventory includes data from **more than 50,000** oil, gas, and coal fields in **89 countries**, covering **75% of global production**.
- It also makes previously disparate or hard-to-access data publicly available, including to investors, experts, and activists.
- It was released to coincide with the **two important international climate talks** – the **UNGA**, which is set to commence in **New York on September 13, 2022**, and **COP27**, which will be organized in **Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt in November 2022**.
- The inventory would help remove gaps in knowledge about the global supply of oil, gas, and coal and enable policymakers to better manage their phase-out.
- According to this inventory, burning of the world's remaining fossil fuels would release **3.5 trillion tonnes** of greenhouse gas emissions.
- This is **7 times** the remaining carbon budget to keep the global **temperature at 1.5 °C**.

Note:

- Founder of Carbon Tracker: Mark Campanale

Indo-Danish Hon'ble Ministers launch White Paper highlighting 'Urban Wastewater Scenario in India' at IWA World Water Congress in Copenhagen, Denmark

- Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti **Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat**, Hon'ble Minister **Ms. Lea Wermelin**, Minister of Environment, Denmark, and Hon'ble Minister **Mr. Flemming Møller Mortensen**, Minister of Development Co-operation, Denmark along with the Indian Delegation

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launched a Whitepaper on 'Urban Wastewater Scenario in India' at International Water Association (IWA) World Water Congress & Exhibition 2022 in Copenhagen, Denmark.

About the Whitepaper:

- It was prepared by an interdisciplinary team which was formed with partners from Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, Ministry of Jal Shakti and National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), international agency Innovation Centre Denmark (ICDK) and academia Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB).
- The whitepaper holistically captures the **current status of wastewater treatment in India** and potential pathways for future treatment structures, co-creation and collaborations collectively produced.
- It is an **outcome of the Green Strategic Partnership** with a focus on **green hydrogen, renewable energy, and wastewater management** between India and Denmark.
- Further, it highlights some success stories, the need for wastewater treatment, the scope for improvement and augmentation in existing infrastructure and technologies, methods for public participatory approach, financing and co-financing options, smart technologies for rapid data collection and dissemination and building capacity via training and stakeholder apex bodies.
- India has committed investments of more than **US \$ 140 Billion** by **2024** in the water sector.
- Also, the Gol adopted a community-centric approach whereby **at least 10% of funds** are contributed by the community in every program ensuring community ownership and participation.
- **Next Generation Water Action (NGWA)** is an international initiative with the ambition to **engage young talents** from leading universities and innovation hubs before, during, and after the IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition 2022.

MEPs: Hungary is no longer a full democracy becomes an 'electoral autocracy

- The **Members of the European Parliament (MEPs)** declared in a non-binding but highly symbolic report, that Hungary is no longer a fully functioning democracy.
- Hungary should be considered a "hybrid regime of electoral autocracy" in which elections are regularly held but without respecting basic democratic norms.

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- A resolution was passed against Hungary with the support of **433 members**, while **123 members voted against the resolution & 28 abstentions**.
- This is the **first time** an EU institution declares a member state is not a proper democracy, an essential prerequisite to join the **European Union (EU)**.

Key Highlights:

- Led by **Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield, a French MEP** who sits with the Greens, the report examines the developments that have taken place in Hungary since the hemicycle triggered the **Article 7 procedure** in 2018.
- The European Commission launched in **April 2022** is a new system that can freeze a country's allocated share of the EU budget when the bloc's financial interests are potentially endangered.
- The European Commissioner for Budget, **Johannes Hahn**, has proposed a **70% cut** in Hungary's funding if the government fails to implement the necessary measures to strengthen democratic standards and effectively fight corruption.
- Earlier, **Prime Minister Viktor Orbán** signed a decree to establish an **anti-corruption agency**, together with a separate task force with both governmental and non-governmental delegates.

Saudi Arabia overtakes Russia to become India's second-biggest oil supplier in August 2022

- The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) has overtaken Russia by a narrow margin to become India's second-biggest supplier of oil behind Iraq in August 2022 after a three-month gap.
- Iraq remained the top oil supplier to India in August 2022.
- India, the world's third-biggest oil importer and consumer, shipped in 863,950 barrels per day (bpd) of crude from Saudi Arabia, up 4.8% from Aug 2022, while purchases from Russia fell 2.4% to 855,950 bpd.
- The share of oil from the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries in India fell to 59.8%, the lowest in at least 16 years as India cut African imports.
- In August 2022, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) stayed at No. 4 while Kazakhstan replaced Kuwait to become the 5th-largest oil supplier to India, followed by the United States (USA).
- India's overall crude imports in August 2022 declined to a five-month low of 4.45 million bpd, down 4.1% from July, due to maintenance at some refineries

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- A higher intake of **Caspian sea oil**, mainly from **Kazakhstan, Russia, and Azerbaijan**, has hit India's purchases from Africa and other countries.
- African oil's share in August halved to **4.2%** while Latin America's share fell to **5.3%** from about **7.7%**.

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Kazakhstan renames capital to Astana & extends the presidential term to 7 Years

- The president of Kazakhstan Mr. Kassym-Jomart Tokayev signed constitutional amendments that extended the presidential term to 7 years from 5 years and officially changed the name of the capital Nur Sultan to Astana.
- The changes are among political and economic reforms that President has called for after violent protests in January 2022, killing more than 200 people.
- The Amendment bar any president from running for a second term in office.
- Astana became the capital of Kazakhstan in 1997 when Nazarbayev, led the country for 3 decades under the Soviet Union.
- In 2019, Tokayev, moved to name it Nur-Sultan in honor of Nazarbayev, who retained enormous influence as head of the country's ruling party and security council.

About Kazakhstan:

- President: Kassym-Jomart Tokayev
- Prime Minister: Älihan Smayilov
- Currency: Tenge

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UNEP & Reef-World Foundation launches new worldwide digital platform to encourage sustainable marine tourism

- The **United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP)**, along with **UK-based charity Reef-World Foundation**, launched the **Green Fins Hub**, a global digital platform.

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- It would give **sustainable marine tourism** a 'major boost'.

About Green Fins Hub:

- The Green Fins Hub is the **first-ever global marine tourism industry platform**.

Aim:

- To help diving and snorkeling operators across the world to **make simple, cost-efficient changes** in their daily practices by implementing international best practices that promote the sustainability of marine tourism.
- It would also help them keep track of their **annual improvements** and **communicate** with their communities and customers.
- Green Fins Hub will host **two types of membership**.
- **Digital membership** is available for diving, snorkeling, and liveaboard operations globally.
- **Green Fins Certified Members** will continue to be assessed annually and trained in person at their operation (**0-330 point system**, with a low score implying the low impact of a business on coral reefs).
- It is expected to scale up to a potential **30,000 operators** worldwide from about **700 operators across 14 countries**.

About UNEP:

- Founded: 5 June 1972
- Headquarters: Nairobi, Kenya
- Executive Director: Inger Andersen

5 Asian countries, including India, join hands to form a palm oil alliance

- Edible oil trade associations from **five palm oil importing countries** in **South Asia India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Nepal** for the **first time** allied with, **Asian Palm Oil Alliance (APOA)**.

Aim:

- To work worldwide to ensure that palm oil is recognized as a high-quality, economical, and healthy vegetable oil and to change the negative image of palm oil, a statement by India's edible oil industry body **The Solvent Extractors' Association of India**.

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- APOA held its first general body meeting on the sidelines of the Globoil Summit held in **Agra, Uttar Pradesh (UP)**
- In the first general body meeting of the Alliance, **Atul Chaturvedi, the President of the Solvent Extractors Association (SEA)**, was elected as the **first Chairman**.
- The next meeting of APOA is expected to be held in **Indonesia in early 2023**.
- The Alliance is expected to safeguard the economic and business interests of the palm oil-consuming countries and create a level playing field for all fats and oils used in food, feed, and oleochemicals in Asia.
- Also, the **5 country Alliance members** separately held a meeting with the **10-member delegation** from the Indonesian Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs and Indonesia, the **Indonesian Palm Oil Association (GAPKI)**, and the **Indonesian Sustainable Palm Oil (ISPO) Secretariat** to explore joint research to scientifically demonstrate the health benefits of palm oil and also launch joint consumer campaigns in Asian markets.

Note:

- India's annual imports of edible oil are around **13-14 million tonnes (MT)**.
- Around **8 MT** of palm oil is imported from **Indonesia** and **Malaysia**, while other oils, such as soya and sunflower, come from Argentina, Brazil, Ukraine, and Russia.
- Asia accounts for around **40%** of the **global palm oil consumption** while **Europe** accounts for **12%** of the palm oil trade.
- **Indonesia** and **Malaysia** are the **biggest palm oil exporters** in the world.
- **India** is the **largest importer** of palm oil in **Asia**, accounting for **15%** of global imports, followed by **China (9%)**, **Pakistan (4%)**, and **Bangladesh (2%)**.

Vitamin Angels India & UNICEF India Partner For Poshan Maah 2022

- **Vitamin Angels India** has announced a partnership with **United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) India** for **Poshan Maah 2022**.

Aim:

- To implement a comprehensive, unified outreach and awareness program to **enhance nutritional content**, delivery, outreach, and outcomes with a renewed focus on fostering health, wellness, and immunity to disease and undernutrition.

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About Poshan Innovation Platform (PIP):

- The Poshan Innovation Platform aims to develop **continuous sandboxing of ideas**, mentoring by experts, and seed funding by the private sector.
- In **January 2023**, the PIP to **combat undernutrition** will be launched in the Country.
- The initiative calls for ideas for innovations around **Maternal, Infant, and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN)** interventions from across the country.
- The **5th National Family Health Survey (2019-2021)** has indicated a slight improvement in undernutrition indicators, several other associated factors like **anemia** and **vitamin A deficiency** in children continue to be major challenges.

Note:

- President of Vitamin Angels India: Sunish Jauhari

About UNICEF:

- Headquarters: New York, United States of America
- Executive Director: Catherine Russell

G4 countries highlight 'urgent need' for reform in U.N. Security Council

- On the sidelines of the **76th session of the UN General Assembly**, the G-4 comprising **India, Japan, Germany, and Brazil** highlighted the '**urgent need**' for reform in the U.N. Security Council (UNSC).
- The United Nations requires urgent and comprehensive reforms while emphasising that the Security Council must be reflective of the "**aspirations and perspectives of the developing world**" that form the majority of UN global membership.
- India emphasized its concerns in a statement of **32 countries** highlighting the urgency to push reforms in the UN Security Council.

Note:

- Foreign Minister of Brazil: **Mr. Carlos Alberto Franco França**
- Federal Foreign Minister of Germany: **Ms. Annalena Baerbock**
- Minister for External Affairs of India: **Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar**
- Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan: **Mr. Yoshimasa Hayashi**

About UNSC:

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- Founded: 24 October 1945
- Headquarters: New York, United States
- Membership: 15 countries (5 permanent members: the **United States**, the **Russian Federation**, **France**, **China**, and the **United Kingdom**)
- The UNSC is **one of the six principal organs** of the United Nations & is charged with ensuring international peace and security, recommending the admission of new UN members to the General Assembly, and approving any changes to the UN Charter.

About G4:

- Founded: 2005
- Headquarters: United Nations
- Membership: India, Germany, Brazil, and Japan

India Supports Hanimaadhoo International Airport Project in Maldives With Concessional Line Of Credit

- The **Government of Maldives** signed the agreement with JMC Projects (India) Ltd. for the development of **Hanimaadhoo International Airport**.
- The agreement was signed by the **Managing Director of Regional Airports, Mr. Mohammed Rizvi**, on behalf of the Maldives government, and **JMC's Vice-President, Mr. KS Reddy**, signed the agreement on behalf of the company
- It is the **first-ever major infrastructure project** to be undertaken outside the **Greater Male region** and is funded under the **USD 800 million concessional Line of Credit (LoC)** extended by the Government of India to the Maldives.
- The total contract value is approximately **USD 136 million**.
- The project is scheduled to kick off later in 2022 & will be **completed in 2024**.

About the Project:

- The Hanimaadhoo airport development project will include a **2.46 km runway** and a brand new terminal with the capacity to cater to **1.3 million passengers per annum**.
- The project will be funded through India EXIM Bank's line of credit, which was signed earlier in **2019**.
- Once completed, the airport will be able to serve **Airbus A320** and **Boeing 737 aircraft** for international flights.

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About Maldives:

- President: Ibrahim Mohamed Solih
- Capital: Malé
- Currency: Maldivian rufiyaa, United States dollar

India Attends 'Blue Pacific' Event as Observer In the US

- India as an observer attended the **Blue Pacific Partners (PBP) Foreign Ministers Meeting**, during which the partners aimed to support the Pacific region and committed to working with the region to consider other potential initiatives, including areas such as education and infrastructure.
- **6 prospective Lines of Effort and initial projects** for PBP were discussed, aligned with the thematic areas of the **Forum's 2050 Strategy**.

An in-depth discussion on these issues

- Climate change resilience, adaptation, and disasters
- Secure and flexible technology and connectivity, protecting the ocean and the environment
- People-centered development, resource, and economic development and political leadership, and regionalism
- Apart from India, Australia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Japan, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, United Kingdom, Vanuatu, Canada, France, Germany, Representatives from the Republic of Korea, the Pacific Islands Forum and the European Union attended.

IMPORTANT MOU's & AGREEMENTS

AAI and Sweden Sign an MoU for Sustainable Aviation Technology:

- A **Memorandum of Understanding** was signed between the **Airports Authority of India (AAI)** and the **Swedish company LFV Air Navigation Services** in New Delhi.
- The agreement between **Sweden and the Airports Authority of India (AAI)** brings together two **air navigation service providers**, India and Sweden, who have a history of developing and implementing the most recent generation of **environmentally friendly aviation technology**, to investigate smart aviation solutions.

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- This MoU will pave the way for **bilateral sharing of aviation technology** and know-how between the two countries.
- Swedish ingenuity and expertise may be used to help Indian enterprises expand more quickly.
- Under the aegis of the MoU, the firms may collaborate in areas of mutual interest.

ONGC inks agreement with ExxonMobil for deepwater exploration in India:

- **Indian oil explorer and producer Oil and Natural Gas Corp** signed a Heads of Agreement (HoA) with global petroleum giant **ExxonMobil Corp** for **deepwater exploration in India's East and West coasts**.
- The Heads of Agreement document was signed in the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas by **Rajesh Kumar Srivastava**, Director (Exploration), ONGC, and **Monte K Dobson**, CEO & Lead Country Manager, ExxonMobil India in the presence of **Pankaj Jain**, Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas.
- The collaboration areas focus on the **Krishna Godavari and Cauvery Basins** in the eastern offshore and the Kutch-Mumbai region in the western offshore.
- There has been a scientific exchange of exploration data in the last few years, which has led to this partnership
- Collaboration between **ONGC and ExxonMobil** will be a **strategic fit** where ONGC's knowledge and experience in these areas will be coupled with ExxonMobil's global insights

CDRI and Gol signed the Headquarters Agreement (HQA) in New Delhi:

- In New Delhi, the **Government of India (Gol)** and the **Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)** signed the **Headquarters Agreement (HQA)**, establishing CDRI as an **"Independent and International Legal Entity."**
- The HQA is signed with CDRI to provide exemptions, immunities, and privileges in line with Section 3 of the **United Nations (Privileges & Immunities) Act, 1947**, which designates CDRI as an **"International Organization."**
- It will provide CDRI with a legal identity that is independent and worldwide, enabling it to carry out its duties more successfully and effectively on a global basis.
- **Amit Prothi**, the director general of CDRI, and **Noor Rahman Sheikh**, the joint secretary of the ministry of external affairs, both signed the HQA.

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CERT-In in collaboration with the Cyber Security Agency of Singapore:

- **Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In)** under the Ministry of Electronics and IT, in collaboration with the **Cyber Security Agency of Singapore**, successfully designed and conducted the **Cyber Security Exercise “Synergy” for 13 Countries**
- It was a part of the **International Counter Ransomware Initiative- Resilience Working Group**.
- The Group is being led by India under the leadership of the **National Security Council Secretariat**.
- The theme of the exercise was **“Building Network Resiliency to counter Ransomware Attacks”**.
- The exercise scenario was derived from real-life cyber incidents, in which a domestic-level (limited impact) ransomware incident escalates to a global cyber security crisis.
- The Exercise **“Synergy” was hosted by CERT-In** on its exercise simulation platform. Each State participated as a **National Crisis Management Team** composition from different government agencies.
- The specific objective of the exercise was to **Assess, Share and Improve** strategies and practices among Member-States to build network resiliency against ransomware & cyber extortion attacks.

About Indian-Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In):

- It is an office under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
- It is the nodal agency to deal with cyber security threats like hacking and phishing.
- It was established on 19 January 2004.
- Its headquarters is located in New Delhi.

POSCO signed a MoU with ZeroC to make green hydrogen and to jointly pursue opportunities in renewables:

- **Global steelmaker POSCO** signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with **ZeroC**, a subsidiary of renewable energy company Greenko to make **green hydrogen**, and to jointly pursue opportunities in renewables, and other derivatives of green hydrogen.
- That this MoU will contribute toward the mission of making **India a green hydrogen hub**.

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- Under a memorandum of understanding signed at a trade fair on the northwestern outskirts of Seoul, POSCO Holdings and Greenko will carry out a feasibility study on green hydrogen production after discovering a proper site by the end of 2022.
- Greenko, which is majority owned by Singapore's sovereign wealth fund GIC, runs about 7.5 gigawatts capacity of renewable energy facilities in India
- In April this year, Greenko Group and Belgium's John Cockerill finalized the terms of a 50:50 joint venture to set up two alkaline electrolyzer factories of a gigawatt each in India over the next 12 to 18 months to make the lowest cost hydrogen in the country for industrial users.

BEL signed a MoU with Smiths Detection, for offering advanced, high-energy scanning systems to the Indian market:

- **Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)**, a public sector undertaking announced the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with **Smiths Detection**, a threat detection, and security inspection technologies company, to offer advanced, high-energy scanning systems to the Indian market.
- BEL will handle front-end requirements in the market, supporting the localization of projects.
- Smiths Detection will provide its expertise and screening technology for the project.
- **The MoU is for five years** and can be extended further by mutual consent.
- To facilitate the ease of doing business and enhance safety, **the Indian government is investing in port and land border security.**
- Also, the requirement for high-energy scanning technology is being driven by defense installations, which screen large volumes of vehicles and impose restricted entry to sensitive areas.

About BEL:

- Bharat Electronics Limited is an Indian Government-owned aerospace and defense electronics company.
- Headquarters: Bengaluru
- Founded: 1954.

Tata Steel and Punjab govt inked an MoU to establish a steel facility in Ludhiana:

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- Punjab Government and Tata Steel sign an MoU of 0.75 million tonnes per year (MnTPA) long products steel factory with an **electric arc furnace (EAF)** fuelled by scrap will be built by the **Tata Steel Company and the Punjabi government.**
- Tata Steel decided to construct the brand-new facility at Kadiana Khurd in the Hitech Valley of Ludhiana as part of its commitment to **promoting a circular economy and moving to the production of low-carbon steel by recycling steel.**
- According to the company, its objective of has **Net Zero carbon emissions by 2045.**
- Tata Steel's flagship retail brand, "**Tata Tiscon,**" would be produced by the cutting-edge EAF-based steel mill, allowing the corporation to significantly expand its market share.

Adobe and AICTE collaborate to promote digital literacy in India:

- The **All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and Adobe** have partnered to **strengthen the nation's capacity for digital innovation.**
- To give children the core creative and digital literacy skills they need to flourish in today's digital-first world, **the agreement's conditions include that Adobe will educate teachers, offer courses, and integrate digital creativity into the curriculum.**
- The collaboration aims to provide essential digital creativity skills to more than 75,000 educators working in 10,000 institutions of **higher education by 2024.**
- If India aspires to become the world's talent capital, the key is to foster digital and creative capacities.
- Adobe hopes to boost the nation's skilling ecosystem through our relationship with AICTE and provide teachers and students with the cutting-edge skills they need to thrive in the post-pandemic, digital-first future.

KCCI signed an MoU with BSMES in Manama, Bahrain:

- The **Kashmir Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) Srinagar** signed an MoU with **Bahrain Small & Medium Enterprises Society (BSMES) in Manama, Bahrain.**
- Focusing on MSME development the pact aims to **create and deliver suitable services and programs** for the member clients of the Bahrain SME Society and KCCI.
- Initially, Kashmir can offer medical packages to the citizens of Bahrain as Kashmir has one of the best doctors in the country, suggested the ACS.

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- **BSMES delegation can act as ambassadors of India in general and Kashmir in particular so that more and more people would visit J&K and added that the MoU signing is a step in that process.**

IIT Madras is collaborating with MDA to offer a remediation program for children with dyslexia studying in Tamil medium:

- **The National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL), IIT Madras, is collaborating with Madras Dyslexia Association (MDA) to offer a remediation program for children with dyslexia studying in Tamil medium.**
- **This program is being offered in online mode, completely free of charge through NPTEL.**
- **Dyslexia, a language-based processing difficulty, manifests itself as a difficulty in processing not just English but other languages as well; hence, MDA has designed and developed ‘Tamil Vazhi Payirchi’ to provide support to children studying in Tamil medium primary schools.**
- **MDA has designed and developed ‘Tamil Vazhi Payirchi’ - a complete package to address the remediation needs of such children.**
- **It includes a screening tool that can be administered in a Tamil medium primary class, a remedial kit, and a training program that equips the teachers with strategies they can impart to children with dyslexia.**

NIESBUD, IIE, and ISB Signs MoU to offer Entrepreneurial Programmes to India’s Youth:

- **Under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), the National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD) and the Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) separately with the Indian School of Business (ISB), a top-ranked global business school, to provide top management education through entrepreneurial programs aimed at youth and job-seeking entrepreneurs.**
- **The collaboration will allow ISB academics and other industry specialists to create and implement two programs: Business Foundation & Entrepreneurial Skills and the Behavioral Skills Programme.**
- **To participate in the two training programs, NIESBUD and IIE will begin enrolling students in the ISB LMS.**

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- Upon successful completion of the course, the participants will each get a joint certification.

Vedanta and Foxconn to Invest 1.54 Lakh Crore In Gujrat For Chip Manufacturing:

- **Vedanta Limited**, managed by **Anil Agarwal**, and the **Foxconn Group** would contribute more than **Rs 1.54 lakh crore** to **Gujarat's semiconductor ecosystem development**.
- The **oil-to-metals conglomerate** announced that **Vedanta Displays Limited** will establish a display fabrication unit with an investment of **Rs 94500 crore** and **Vedanta Semiconductors Limited** will establish an integrated semiconductor fabrication unit and **OSAT (Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test) facility** with an investment of **Rs 60000 crore**.
- Thus, two MoUs will collectively attract investment totaling more than **Rs. 1.54 trillion** and create almost **1 lakh new job opportunities** in the state.

MeitY Startup Hub and Meta Collaborate to speed up XR technology startups in India:

- **MeitY Startup Hub (MSH)** and **Meta** will collaborate to launch a program to support and accelerate **XR technology entrepreneurs in India**.
- **Joel Kaplan**, vice president of global policy at **Meta**, and **Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar**, minister of state for electronics and information technology, skill development, and entrepreneurship, will also be present at the event.
- This partnership is one of the government's initiatives to promote **technologically advanced and future-focused talents**.
- India is well-positioned to play a significant role in the metaverse because of its large talent pool of artists and developers and burgeoning technological ecosystem.

IBM and IIT Madras collaborate to promote quantum computing in India:

- **International Business Machines (IBM)** and the **Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IIT-Madras)** have partnered to advance **quantum computing research and talent development in India**.
- Through this partnership, **IIT Madras** joins the worldwide membership of the **IBM Quantum Network**, which consists of more than **180 organizations**.
- In addition, **IIT Madras** becomes the **"first Indian university"** to join the worldwide network of **Fortune 500 companies**, start-ups, academic institutions, and research laboratories that use **IBM Quantum technology** to advance quantum computing and look into business use cases.

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- The partnership will open up new opportunities to collaborate with business partners to accelerate research and make quantum real in areas like supply chain improvements, logistics, and the modeling of financial data, among other things.

NSDF signed an MoU with NTPC and REC Foundation for the development of sports in the country:

- **National Sports Development Fund (NSDF)** of the Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports signed a historic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **NTPC (National Thermal Power Corporation) Foundation** and **REC (Rural Electrification Corporation) Foundation** for the development of **sports in the country**.
- The MoU was signed in the presence of **Union Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur** and Union Minister of Power and New and Renewable Energy **RK Singh**.
- The financial support to be given by **NTPC is Rs 115 Crores over the next 5 years** and they will be supporting Archery discipline in India
- **REC Foundation** has also committed an amount of **Rs 100 Crores over 3 years** to support **Women's Hockey, Athletics, and Boxing**.
- The support towards NSDF has come through its **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** mandate.
- The support from NTPC and REC Foundation will cover the following: Grassroots development of the sports, training of identified talent, training of elite talent, coach development, sports science support, advance training, and more.

Indian Navy signed an MoU with Amity University for Academic Cooperation:

- **Amity University Uttar Pradesh** inked an MoU with the **Indian Navy** to establish a **long-term academic collaboration connection**.
- The Memorandum of Understanding between Amity University and the Indian Navy will **improve educational credentials, increasing the likelihood of 'in-service'** acceptable nautical assignments and better postings in retirement from the Indian Navy.
- The MoU between Amity University and the Indian Navy calls for specialized courses in **specialized sectors for the Indian Navy**.
- **5G Technology and IoT, Control System Integration, AI, Blockchain, Machine Learning, Cryptology, Data Science, Big Data Analysis, Digital Marketing, Computer Networks, Anti**

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Drone Warfare, Cyberwarfare, Security, Automation, Surveillance, and Tracking are among the different fields.

- This will also help to improve the 'Scholar Warriors,' who will be able to think more clearly and adapt to future war problems.
- This training will help naval people get better postings.

India and Egypt signed an MOU to enhance cooperation between their defense industries:

- India and Egypt agreed to enhance cooperation between their defense industries.
- The MoU has been signed by Defence Minister Shri Rajanath Singh and his counterpart, General Mohamed Zaki.
- Defence Minister Shri Rajanath Singh was on a two-day visit to Cairo, Egypt.
- India and Egypt also agreed to enhance the conduct of joint exercises and exchange of personnel for training.
- Both sides also exchanged views on regional security and acknowledged the contribution of both countries to peace and stability.
- Rajnath Singh invited his Egyptian counterpart to the India-Africa Defense Dialogue and Indian Ocean Region (IOR) Defense Ministers' conclave.

About India-Egypt:

- India and Egypt friendship started with the signing of the Friendship Treaty in 1955.
- India-Egypt's Bilateral Trade Agreement has been in operation since March 1978.
- Egypt participated in the Multinational Training Exercise for friendly African countries held at Pune in March 2019.
- The first ever IAF-EAF Joint Tactical Air Exercise, Desert Warrior, was held in October 2021.
- The first ever Special Forces exercise "Cyclone 1" between India and Egypt planned in Jodhpur in January 2022 stands postponed.

Defence Ministry has signed an MoU with Bank of Baroda, and HDFC Bank under SPARSH- an initiative to cover 17 lakh, defense pensioners.

- Defence Ministry has signed an MoU with the Bank of Baroda, HDFC Bank.
- This MoU has been signed under SPARSH- System for Pension Administration initiative to cover seventeen lakh, defense pensioners.

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- According to **Defence Secretary Dr. Ajay Kumar**, 17 lakh pensioners out of the total 32 lakh defense pensioners will be added to SPARSH by the end of this month.
- The remaining pensioners will be brought under SPARSH at the earliest.
- The Ministry said MoU will onboard over 14,000 bank branches as Service Centres to provide an effective medium for pensioners to perform profile update requests, register grievances, and seek redressal.

About SPARSH:

- SPARSH is an initiative of the Ministry of Defence.
- It aims to provide a comprehensive solution to pension administration for the Defence pensioners.

Hero MotoCorp tie-up with HPCL to set up EV charging infrastructure:

- Hero MotoCorp has partnered with Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd to establish **charging infrastructure** throughout the country for **electric two-wheelers**.
- The **two firms will first develop charging infrastructure** at Hindustan Petroleum Corporation's (HPCL) existing network of stations as part of the effort, with the possibility of later widening the relationship for more business prospects.
- The charging stations will be set up in select cities, which will then be expanded to other key markets to establish a **high-density of EV charging station network across the country**.

About Hero MotoCorp

- Founded: 19 January 1984
- Founder: Brijmohan Lall Munjal
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- CEO: Pawan Munjal

NCC and UNEP sign an agreement in presence of the defense minister:

- The **National Cadet Corps (NCC)** and the **United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)** signed a Memorandum of Understanding in front of defense minister Rajnath Singh.
- To **battle plastic pollution and attain the goal of clean water bodies**, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed to combine the **Tide Turners Plastic Challenge initiative** and the **Puneet Sagar Abhiyan**.

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- It seeks to organize activities that encourage young people to support clean water bodies.
- The Resident Representative of the UN World Food Programme, Bishow Parajuli, and Director General of the NCC, Lieutenant General Gurbirpal Singh, signed the Memorandum of Understanding.

About Puneet Sagar Abhiyan:

- The NCC launched the Puneet Sagar Abhiyan on December 1st, 2017.
- The campaign's goals are to clean up plastic and other waste from seashores and to make people aware of how vital cleanliness is.

TSSC has launched a center of excellence with Huawei Technologies:

- **Telecom Sector Skill Council (TSSC)**, a skill development institution for the telecom industry, has launched a **center of excellence with Huawei Technologies at NIT Patna for capacity building**.
- The center which will come up under the aegis of the ministry of skill development and entrepreneurship will cater to roles in information and communications technology, cyber security, electronics, and communication including technical, services, and allied fields.
- The **MoU, which has been signed for five years**, is aimed at skilling, reskilling, and upskilling aspiring students to enhance their employability through training in innovative technologies.

IIT Madras has partnered with Accenture to set up a Centre of Excellence:

- **The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras** has partnered with information technology (IT) consulting firm **Accenture** to set up a **Centre of Excellence (CoE)** to undertake collaborative research projects.
- They will also jointly develop intellectual properties and thought leadership focused on digital engineering and manufacturing across industries.
- Specific areas of collaboration will include **autonomous robotics systems (ARS), industrial internet of things (IIoT), digital twins, and advanced automotive technologies** such as electric mobility services, according to a joint statement.
- The CoE will also work as an incubator and identify disruptive early-stage startups to drive innovation and research in these areas.

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- Earlier in September, International Business Machines (IBM) partnered with the IIT-Madras to advance quantum computing skills development and research in India.
- Also, Accenture collaborated with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru to establish Accenture Centre for Advanced Computing.
- University collaboration has been the key to Accenture's innovation agenda.

AMTZ has signed an MOU with NSIC for cooperation in the healthcare sector:

- Andhra Pradesh Med Tech Zone (AMTZ), India's largest life-saving medical devices manufacturing cluster, has signed a memorandum of understanding with the National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) for cooperation in the healthcare sector.
- Union Minister for MSME Narayan Rane, the MoU is a significant step for enhancing the competitiveness of MSMEs in the healthcare sector.
- Both organizations can leverage their expertise and create excellent opportunities for MSMEs in the healthcare sector to form global alliances and get access to the latest medical technologies along with creating skilled manpower for this sector.

Airlines have signed an MOU with CSIR-IIP to collaborate and work together on research:

- Airlines under the Tata umbrella have signed a memorandum of understanding with the Council of Scientific And Industrial Research-Indian Institute Of Petroleum (CSIR-IIP) to collaborate and work together on research, development, and deployment of sustainable aviation fuels.
- The focus of the MoU is the exploration of Single Reactor HEFA Technology for Drop-in liquid Sustainable Aviation and Automotive Fuel (DILSAAF).
- The MoU was signed by Air India, AirAsia India, and Vistara airlines with CSIR-IIP.
- Sustainable aviation fuel is made from sustainable resources, such as forestry and agricultural waste and used cooking oil, and can be blended with fossil jet fuel to reduce emissions.
- It is a 'drop-in' fuel, meaning it can be added with no changes needed to the aircraft.
- In December last year, IndiGo partnered with CSIR-IIP on sustainable aviation fuel, including work on single Reactor HEFA Technology for Drop-in liquid Sustainable aviation and Automotive Fuel (DILSAAF).

Additional Info:

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- In 2016, the **International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)** adopted a global market-based mechanism, the **Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSA)**, to address CO2 emissions from international aviation.
- CORSA aims to stabilize net carbon emissions from international civil aviation using offsetting programs.
- Under this, from 2021 until 2026, only flights between states that volunteer to participate will be subject to offsetting requirements.
- The countries that have volunteered cover about 77% of all international aviation activity.
- Beginning in 2027, virtually all international flights will be subject to mandatory offsetting requirements, representing more than 90% of all international aviation activity.
- Until September 2021, 107 states have volunteered to join CORSA for 2022.

CIL inked an MoU with BHEL, IOC, and GAIL

- Easing the way for **setting up coal-to-chemical projects** through Surface Coal Gasification (SCG) route, **Coal India Limited (CIL)** inked a Memorandum of Undertaking (MoU) with **Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, Indian Oil Corporation and GAIL (India)**.
- Through the SCG route, **coal is converted into syngas** that can be subsequently processed for downstream production of value-added chemicals.
- These are otherwise produced through **imported natural gas or crude oil**.
- Envisaged end products would be **di-methyl ether, synthetic natural gas, and ammonium nitrate**.
- The upside of the proposed projects is reduced forex outgo and direct and indirect employment generation to the tune of 23,000.
- With the twin objectives of self-reliance and energy independence, the Ministry of Coal has **set a target for achieving 100 million tonnes of coal gasification by 2030**.

About CIL:

- Headquarters: Kolkata
- CEO: Pramod Agrawal
- Founded: November 1975

About BHEL:

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- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Founded: 13 November 1964
- CEO: Nalin Singhal

About GAIL

- CEO: Shri Manoj Jain
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Founded: 1984

BPCL has signed an MOU with Petrobras for sourcing crude oil:

- State-owned Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) has signed an agreement with **Brazilian national oil company Petrobras** for sourcing crude oil from the Latin American nation as part of plans to diversify its sourcing needs.
- BPCL imports a large volume of crude oil which is turned into fuel such as petrol and diesel at its **three oil refineries at Mumbai, Bina in Madhya Pradesh, and Kochi in Kerala.**
- The firm, which gets the majority of its supplies from west Asian nations such as **Iraq and Saudi Arabia**, is looking to diversify its sources of supply in an attempt to cut down reliance on any particular region.
- Company chairman and managing director **Arun Kumar Singh** and Petrobras CEO **Caio Paes de Andrade** signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) in Brazil.
- Bharat PetroResources Limited (BPRL), the upstream oil and gas exploration and production subsidiary of BPCL, **plans to invest USD 1.6 billion** to develop an oil block in Brazil.

Additional Info.:

- On July 27, the **Union Cabinet approved** the firm to invest an additional USD 1.6 billion in the **Brazilian oil block BM-SEAL-11.**
- The block is to start production from 2026-27.
- BPRL has a 40 percent stake in the block.
- Brazil's national oil company Petrobras is the operator with 60 percent interest.
- Multiple oil discoveries have been made in the block, which is being developed now.

Air India Signed an MOU With Willis Lease for Aircraft Engines:

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- **Air India** announced a **definitive sale and leaseback agreement** with **Nasdaq-listed Willis Lease Finance Corporation** for **34 CFM56-5B engines** installed on its **Airbus A320 family fleet**.
- The engines will be covered by **Willis Lease's ConstantThrust**, which will provide considerable dependability and cost savings over a standard **MRO (Maintenance, Repair, and Operations) shop visit program**.
- **13 Airbus A321 aircraft and four Airbus A320 aircraft** will be powered by 34 engines that Willis Lease will buy from Air India as part of the sale side of the deal.
- Willis Lease will supply replacement and standby spare engines through the program, enabling the airline to avoid potentially expensive and unpredicted service visits on engines powering a fleet of transitional aircraft.

Eve Air Mobility has signed an MoU with FlyBlade to bring eVTOLs to India by 2026:

- **Embrex's Eve Air Mobility** has signed an **MoU with FlyBlade India** to bring at least **200 electric vertical take-offs and landing (eVTOLs)** to India by 2026.
- **eVTOL aircraft** is a type of **VTOL aircraft** that uses electric power to hover, take off, and land vertically.
- They are designed to pick up passengers from rooftops of their apartment blocks to ferry them across the city to their respective offices or entertainment centers.
- **FlyBlade India** was **incorporated on 26 October 2018**.
- **BLADE India** is a facilitator which provides a common platform to members who wish to avail of helicopter carriage services.
- It is a joint venture between **BLADE USA** and **Hunch Ventures**.

ISA and ICAO signed an MoU:

- **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** and the **International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)** signed an MoU.
- On the sidelines of the **42nd Session of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Assembly**, ISA and ICAO have signed an MoU.
- The MoU has been signed by **Juan Carlos Salazar, Secretary-General, ICAO**, and **Joshua Wycliffe, Chief of Operations, ISA**.

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- The idea of making ICAO a partner organization of ISA was mooted by Jyotiraditya M. Scindia during his visit to **Montreal in May 2022**.
- With this MoU, ICAO has become a partner organization of ISA.
- The partnership between ISA and ICAO will help in developing **building capacity to use solar energy**.
- The MoU will work towards providing information, providing advocacy, capacity building, and demonstration projects
- ICAO is committed to reducing carbon emissions in the aviation sector through various initiatives.
- India, with the support of France, has invited countries to invest in solar projects.

NHPC Limited and IIT Jammu have signed a pact for availing services:

- **NHPC Limited and IIT Jammu** have signed a pact for availing services of the latter for **undertaking R&D activities in the field of science, engineering, and technology**.
- NHPC has an established R&D division undertaking various innovative initiatives in different fields of construction, operation, and maintenance of hydropower projects/stations.
- **S L Kapil**, Executive Director (R&D), and **Prof Manoj Singh Gaur** (Director, IIT Jammu) signed the agreement on behalf of **NHPC Limited and IIT Jammu, respectively**.

IMPORTANT MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS

CCI approves merger of Aditya Marketing & Manufacturing into Umang Commercial

- The **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** approves the **merger of Aditya Marketing and Manufacturing Private Limited into Umang Commercial Company Private Limited**.
- **Umang Commercial Company Private Limited (Acquirer)** is a part of Aditya Birla Group, an Indian multinational conglomerate.
- The Acquirer is an investment holding company and holds shareholding in various entities on behalf of Mr. Kumar Mangalam Birla.
- The Acquirer is registered with the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** as a **Non-banking Financial Company (NBFC)**
- **Aditya Marketing and Manufacturing Private Limited (Target)** is a part of B K Birla Group, a diversified group having businesses in various industry sectors.

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- The proposed combination involves the merger of Target into Acquirer by the Scheme of Amalgamation under **Sections 230 and 232 of the Companies Act, 2013**.
- The Acquirer group will acquire control over the below listed and unlisted entities:
- Padmavati Investment Private Limited
- Piloni Investment and Industries Corporation Limited
- Century Textiles and Industries Limited
- Century Enka Limited; and
- Ganesh Tubes and Services Private Limited.

About CCI:

- Established: 14 October 2003
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India
- Chairman: Ashok Kumar Gupta
- Secretary: P K Singh
- CCI is the chief national competition regulator in India.

CCI approves acquisition of shares in Olam Agri Holdings Pte. Ltd. by SALIC International Investment Company

- The **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** approves the acquisition of **35.43% stake shares** in **Olam Agri Holdings Pte. Ltd. (Olam Agri / Target)** by **SALIC International Investment Company (SIIC / Acquirer)**.

About SIIC:

- SIIC is an unlisted limited liability company based in **Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**.
- It is fully owned and controlled by **Saudi Agricultural and Livestock Investment Corporation (SALIC)**.
- SALIC is a Saudi Arabian investment company, active in the agricultural and food industries with investments both in Saudi Arabia and other countries.

About Olam Agri:

- Olam Agri is a company incorporated and headquartered in **Singapore** and operates as a merchant and processor of agricultural goods.

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- Olam Agri, both directly and indirectly, undertakes the sale of various agri-commodities, including rice in India, both at the wholesale and retail levels.

CCI Approves Acquisition of 7.49% Stake in Aditya Birla Fashion & Retail Limited

- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) approves the acquisition of approximately 7.49% shareholding in Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Limited on a fully diluted basis by Caladium Investment Pte. Ltd(GIC Investor) by way of preferential issues of equity and warrants.
- Caladium Investment Pte. Ltd. (Acquirer/GIC Investor) is wholly owned by Lathe Investment Private Limited, an entity that is in turn wholly owned by GIC (Ventures) Private Limited (GIC Ventures).
- The GIC Investor is a special purpose vehicle organized as a private limited company in Singapore that is part of a group of investment holding companies managed by GIC Special Investments Private Limited (GICSI).
- Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Limited (Target/ABFRL) is a publicly listed company that along with its subsidiaries is engaged in the manufacture and retailing of branded apparel, footwear, and accessories (AFA).

About CCI:

- Established: 14 October 2003
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India
- Chairman: Ashok Kumar Gupta
- Secretary: P K Singh
- CCI is the chief national competition regulator in India.

CCI approves the acquisition of 100% of the equity share capital of Indialdeas.com Limited (IIL) by

PayU India

- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) approves the acquisition of 100% of the equity share capital of Indialdeas.com Limited (IIL) by PayU Payments Private Limited (PayU India) under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002.
- The CCI has approved payments major PayU's \$4.7 billion acquisition of online payments firm BillDesk.

About the Acquisition:

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- PayU India primarily provides payment aggregation services that enable merchants (and other entities) to receive payments from their customers across various digital payment methods.
- The shares of PayU India are indirectly held by **Prosus N.V.** (“Prosus”).
- Prosus is a global consumer internet group and one of the leading technology investors in the world.
- Prosus has a primary listing on Euronext Amsterdam. Naspers Limited holds **73.6%** voting rights in Prosus.
- Naspers is listed on the **Johannesburg Stock Exchange**.
- IIL is an unlisted public limited company.
- It uses the name “**BillDesk**” as its trading/ business/ brand name in India.
- The PayU-BillDesk deal is pegged as the second-largest buyout in the Indian internet sector after Walmart’s **\$16 billion acquisition** of e-commerce major Flipkart in 2018.

About CCI:

- Established: 14 October 2003
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India
- Chairman: Ashok Kumar Gupta
- Secretary: P K Singh
- The CCI is the **chief national competition regulator** in India.
- It is a statutory body within the **Ministry of Corporate Affairs**.

RIL to acquire 79.4% stake in US-based solar energy software maker for \$32 million

- **Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)** will acquire a **79.4% stake** in California-based solar energy software developer **SenseHawk** for **USD 32 million** (around Rs 256 crore)
- Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Reliance, **Mr. Mukesh Ambani**, partners with SenseHawk to revolutionize the **green energy sector** and has the vision to enable **100 GW** of solar energy by **2030**.

About SenseHawk:

- Founded: 2018
- Headquarters: Saratoga, California
- CEO and co-founder: Swarup Mavanoor

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- President and co-founder: Rahul Sankhe
- SenseHawk is an **early-stage California-based developer of software-based management tools** for the solar energy generation industry with operations in the US, UAE, and India.
- SenseHawk's **Software Digitization Platform (SDP) SaaS** helps with process optimization, automation, and asset information management.

About RIL:

- Founded: 8 May 1973
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Chairman & MD: Mukesh Ambani
- Director: Nita Dalal Ambani

CCI approves the acquisition of a stake in Apraava Energy Private Limited by CDPQ Infrastructures Asia II Pte. Ltd.

- The **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** approves the acquisition of a stake in **Apraava Energy Private Limited (Target)** by **CDPQ Infrastructures Asia II Pte. Ltd. (Acquirer)** under **Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002.**

About the Acquisition:

- The Proposed Combination pertains to the acquiring an additional **10%** shareholding in the Target from **CPL GPEC (Mauritius) Holding Limited.**
- The Acquirer presently holds a **40%** shareholding in the Target.

About CDPQ Infrastructures Asia II Pte. Ltd:

- It is incorporated in **Singapore** and is a direct and **wholly owned subsidiary of Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec**, a long-term institutional investor with net assets of approximately **CAD 420 billion** invested globally that manages funds primarily for public and para-public pension and insurance plans.

About Apraava Energy Private Limited:

- It is a foreign investment in the Indian power sector with an investment spread across renewable energy (including wind and solar), transmission, supercritical coal, and gas-fired generation.

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- It entered the country in **2002** and has since expanded its portfolio of operating conventional and renewable assets.

LIC cuts stake in Glaxo Pharma to 4.357%

- **Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)** has diluted its stake in **GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals** from **6.402%** to **4.357%**.
- In a disclosure to the stock exchanges, LIC has sold about **34.20 lakh shares** or **2.045%** of its holding in the global pharma major during **September 2018-22 period**.
- The stake sale took place at an average price of **₹1,549.40**
- Shares of insurance coverage mainly closed **1% decrease at ₹663.20**, whereas those of **Glaxo** slid **0.55%** at **₹1,409.90**.
- According to the June-end shareholding pattern, besides LIC, General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC), holds a **1.42% stake** in GSK Pharma.

About LIC:

- Founded: 1 September 1956
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Chairman: M R Kumar
- Managing Directors: B C Patnaik, Smt. Ipe Mini, Siddharth Mohanty, Rajkumar

Google to acquire cybersecurity firm Mandiant for \$5.4 billion

- **Google Cloud Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Thomas Kurian** announced that **Google** has completed the **\$5.4 billion** acquisition of **cyber-security firm Mandiant**.
- Mandiant will join Google Cloud to help organizations improve their **threat, incident, and exposure management**.
- Mandiant is known for unearthing the **SolarWinds hack** that shook the world.
- Several big companies, including tech giants like **Intel, Cisco, VMware, and Nvidia**, suffered part of the **SolarWinds hack** allegedly orchestrated by **Russia-backed cybercriminals**.
- Google Cloud will retain to hold the Mandiant brand & continue Mandiant's mission to make every organization secure from cyber threats and confident in their readiness

About Mandiant:

- Founded: 2004

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- Headquarters: Reston, Virginia, U.S
- CEO: Kevin Mandia

ADIA to invest Rs 665 cr in Aditya Birla Health Insurance gets CCI nod under green channel route

- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has given its approval for ₹665-crore primary capital infusion in Aditya Birla Health Insurance (ABHI) by an entity controlled by the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA).

Key Highlights:

- The proposal has been approved by the competition watchdog under the green channel route.
- Once the transaction is complete, ADIA will own a 9.99% stake, Aditya Birla Capital Limited 45.91%, and Momentum Metropolitan Holdings 44.10% stake in Aditya Birla Health Insurance.

About ABHI:

- ABHI is a 51:49 joint venture between Aditya Birla Capital Ltd (ABCL) and Momentum Metropolitan Strategic Investments (Pty) Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of South Africa-based Momentum Metropolitan Holdings Ltd.

Adani Group acquires Ambuja & ACC to become India's second-largest cement maker

- The Adani group has completed the acquisition of major cement players Ambuja Cements Limited and ACC Limited, becoming India's second-largest cement player.
- After the transaction, Adani holds a 63.15% stake in Ambuja Cements and 56.69% in ACC (of which 50.05% is held through Ambuja Cements).
- The acquisition of Ambuja Cements and ACC is the largest acquisition ever by the Adani Group, and India's largest ever in the infrastructure and materials space.
- Ultratech Cement is the largest player with a market valuation of over Rs 1.87 lakh crore.
- The Gautam Adani-led group has paid \$6.4 billion (over 51,000 crores) in cash to acquire Switzerland-based Holcim.
- The transaction involved the acquisition of Holcim's stake in Ambuja and ACC along with an open offer in both entities as per SEBI [Securities and Exchange Board of India] regulations."
- Ambuja Cements and ACC currently have a combined installed production capacity of 67.5 Million Tonnes Per Annum (MTPA).

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State Bank of India to acquire balance stake in SBI Global Factors

- The State Bank of India (SBI) has acquired 13.82% (ie 2,20,98,780 equity shares) stake of SBI Global Factors Ltd (SBIGFL) from its existing shareholders Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) 6.53%, Union Bank of India (UBI) 2.95% and Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) 4.34%.
- The transaction entailed cash consideration of Rs 67.84 crore (Rs 30.70 per share).
- The transaction is expected to be completed in **September 2022**.

About SBI:

- Founded: 1 July 1955
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Chairman: Dinesh Kumar Khara

Canadian Pension fund OTPP to buy 30% of Mahindra arm for Rs 2371 crores

- Canadian fund Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Board is picking up a 30% stake in Mahindra Susten Private Limited, the renewable energy player for Rs 2,371 crore (\$300 million).
- The proposed transaction envisages the establishment of an infrastructure investment trust, InvIT.
- The InvIT will initially include Mahindra Susten's operating renewable portfolio of around 1.54 GWp.

Key Highlights:

- As part of the deal, shareholder loans of Rs 575 crore advanced by Mahindra Group to the platform would also be repaid.
- The Mahindra group will receive an inflow of around Rs 1,300 crore (\$165 million) from the deal
- The Mahindras and Ontario Teachers will jointly explore the sale of an additional 9.99% stake in Susten by May 31, 2023.
- It will deploy Rs 3,050 crore (Rs 1,300 crore from the stake sale and an additional Rs 1,750 crore) into the business and InvIT over the next 7 years.
- On its part, OTPP will infuse an additional amount of up to Rs 3,550 crore during the same period.

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About OTPP:

- Founded: January 1, 1990
- Headquarters: Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- Chairman: Steve McGirr
- CEO: Jo Taylor
- The OTPP is an independent organization responsible for **administering defined-benefit pensions** for school teachers in the Canadian province of Ontario.
- The plan is a **multi-employer pension plan**, jointly sponsored by the **Government of Ontario** and the **Ontario Teachers' Federation**.

CCI approves merger of Jio Cinema OTT platform with Viacom18

- The **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** has approved the **amalgamation** of the **over-the-top platforms Jio Cinema with Viacom 18 Media**.
- This nod by the national competition regulator follows an investment by **BTS Investment 1 Pte. Ltd. (BTS1)** and **Reliance Projects and Property Management Services Limited (RPPMSL)**.
- BTS1 is a company incorporated under the **laws of Singapore**.
- This approval comes after Reliance Industries and Viacom18 announced their strategic partnership in April with **Bodhi Tree Systems (BTS)** to form one of the largest TV and digital streaming companies in India.
- BTS, along with a host of investors, announced that it will invest **Rs 13,500 crore** in Viacom18 to launch the entertainment platform and lead the transformation of the media landscape to a **'streaming first' approach**.

About RPPMSL:

- RPPMSL is a **wholly owned subsidiary of Reliance Industries**.
- It is engaged in the provision of IT support services, business and infrastructure support services, manpower support services, and the erection and commissioning of telecom facilities.
- Bodhi Tree Systems, a newly formed platform between Lupa Systems Founder and CEO **James Murdoch** and **Uday Shankar**.

About CCI:

- Established: 14 October 2003

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- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India
- Chairman: Ashok Kumar Gupta
- Secretary: P K Singh
- The CCI is the **chief national competition regulator** in India.
- It is a statutory body within the **Ministry of Corporate Affairs**.

Mahindra & Mahindra to acquire Swaraj Engines' 17.41% stake from Kirloskar Industries

- **Mahindra & Mahindra(M&M)** will acquire 21,14,349 equity shares constituting a **17.41% stake** in **Swaraj Engines Ltd (SEL)** from **Kirloskar Industries Ltd (KIL)** for **Rs 296 crore**.
- The acquisition will result in increasing the M&M stake in Swaraj Engines (SEL) to **52.13%** from **34.72%**.
- The paid-up equity share capital of SEL from KIL at **Rs 1,400 per share**.
- Consequently, SEL, which is currently an associate of the company, would become a **subsidiary of M&M**.

About Mahindra & Mahindra:

- Founded: 2 October 1945
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Chairman: Anand Mahindra
- MD & CEO: Dr. Anish Shah

About SEL:

- Headquarters: Mohali, Punjab
- SEL is in the **business of manufacturing diesel engines** and their components.

Ageas Federal Life Insurance becomes the first life insurer to have a 74% stake held by a foreign shareholder

- **Ageas Federal Life Insurance (AFLI)** has become the **first life insurance company** in India to have a **74% stake** held by a foreign partner after **Belgium-based Ageas Insurance International** completed the acquisition of the **25% stake** in the **life insurance joint venture (JV)** from **IDBI Bank**.
- Ageas has acquired the **additional 25% stake** of **IDBI Bank** in **Ageas Federal Life Insurance** for a total cash consideration of **Rs 580 crore**.

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- After the acquisition of the additional 25% stake, Ageas' shareholding in the JV rose to **74%** from the **earlier-held 49%**.
- **Federal Bank** continues to hold a **26% stake** in the life insurer, while IDBI Bank exited as a shareholder.

About AFLI:

- Founded: 2007
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- CEO & Whole Time Director: Vighnesh Shahane
- AFLI (Formerly known as IDBI Federal Life Insurance) is a joint venture of **Federal Bank**, which is a private sector bank in India and Ageas.

Axis Bank to Acquire Up To 9.94% Stake In Go Digit-Life Insurance

- India's 3rd largest private sector lender **Axis Bank** has entered into an **indicative and non-binding term sheet** with **Go Digit-Life Insurance** for a proposed investment of **Rs 49.90 to Rs 69.90 crore** for a **9.94% stake** in the **Initial Public Offering (IPO)** bound **Go Digit**, a firm backed by **Canada-based Fairfax Group**.
- The company proposes to carry out life insurance business in India, subject to the grant of a certificate of registration by the **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)**.
- The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** stated in a public disclosure on its website on Monday that the "issuance of observations (has been) kept in **abeyance**" about the IPO of Go Digit.
- Axis Bank along with its two subsidiaries **Axis Capital** and **Axis Securities** owns a **12.99% stake** in **Max Life Insurance**.

IMPORTANT APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS NEWS

Mr. Santosh Iyer appointed as MD & CEO of Mercedes-Benz India

- German luxury carmaker **Mercedes-Benz** has appointed **Mr. Santosh Iyer** as the **Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of the Indian operations with effect from **January 1, 2023**.

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- He succeeds **Mr. Martin Schwenk** who will take up the position of President and CEO, of Mercedes-Benz Thailand.

About Mr. Santosh Iyer:

- Mr. Santosh Iyer has been with the Mercedes-Benz brand since **2009**.
- In 2016, he was appointed as **Vice President - Customer Services and Retail Training Business**.
- Currently, he is working as **Vice President, Sales & Marketing at Mercedes-Benz**.
- During his tenure, Mercedes launched its **first electric car in India**, introduced key ICE products, and successfully implemented the '**Retail of the Future**' business model in India.

Note:

- Santosh Iyer will be the **youngest & first Indian** to serve as the **head of Mercedes-Benz India operations**.

About Mercedes-Benz:

- Established: 1926
- Headquarters: Stuttgart, Baden-Württemberg, Germany

MP Shri Anurag Sharma elected as CPA treasurer

- Lok Sabha Minister of Parliament (MP) Shri Anurag Sharma from the Jhansi-Lalitpur parliamentary constituency, has been elected as the **International Treasurer** of the **Parliamentary Association Conference (CPA)** at the **65th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference in Halifax, Canada**.
- Mr. Sharma is the **second Indian office-bearer** in the CPA, the **world's largest and oldest International Parliamentary Association**.
- He will be handling annual funding of millions of pounds and the trust funds, ensuring their smooth and effective utilization.
- He is all set to add that extra mile of **ROI (return on investment)** and showcase the Indian effectiveness of India in this global responsibility.
- Sharma is a **member** of the delegation of Indian parliamentarians, led by **Lok Sabha Speaker Shri Om Birla**, to the conference.

About Anurag Sharma:

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- Sharma did his management studies at the **Harvard Business School**, in **Boston, Massachusetts**.
- He took over as **Executive Director** at Shree Baidyanath Ayurvedic Bhavan as a reputed industrialist.

About CPA:

- Founded: 1911
- Headquarters: London, United Kingdom

Mission:

- To promote the advancement of parliamentary democracy by enhancing knowledge and understanding of democratic governance, youth engagement in democracy, gender equality, and equal representation

Shri Nagesh Singh was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Thailand

- **Shri Nagesh Singh** has been appointed as the **next Ambassador of India** to the **Kingdom of Thailand**.
- He will replace the incumbent ambassador **Shri Suchitra Durai**.
- Bilateral relations between India & Thailand continued to strengthen during 2021, marked by cooperation at regional and sub-regional levels within the framework of **ASEAN, Mekong Ganga Cooperation**, and **BIMSTEC** as well as at other multilateral fora.

About Shri Nagesh Singh:

- Shri Nagesh Singh is a 1995 batch officer of the **Indian Foreign Service (IFS)** who has served as **Consul General of India** in **Atlanta**.
- Currently, he is working as a **Joint Secretary** in the **Ministry of External Affairs**.

About Thailand:

- Prime Minister: Prayut Chan-o-cha
- Capital: Bangkok
- Currency: Baht

Acefour Accessories appointed Jasprit Bumrah as brand ambassador for Uppercase

- The travel accessories company, **Acefour Accessories**, has appointed **Indian cricketer Jasprit Bumrah** as **brand ambassador** for its eco-friendly luggage brand “**uppcase**” for **two years**.

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- Jasprit Bumrah, managed by rising Worldwide, a Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) initiative and India's largest sports and entertainment company.
- He will lead the D2C brand's 'Never Ordinary' campaign.

Shri MV Iyer appointed as an additional charge of CMD Gail

- Shri MV Iyer has been given additional charge as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of State-run GAIL (India) Limited.
- He has been appointed to the post for three months with effect from September 1, 2022
- His appointment comes after former CMD Shri Manoj Jain superannuated from the services of GAIL.

About Shri MV Iyer:

- Shri Iyer is Director of the GAIL's new Joint venture company Indradhanush Gas Grid Limited (IGGL) for the implementation of the North East Gas Grid.
- He had worked as Executive Director (Projects) with the GAIL.
- Currently, he is working as Director (Business Development), Additional Charge of Director (Marketing) of GAIL (India) Limited.

About GAIL (India) Limited:

- Founded: 1984
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India
- GAIL (India) Limited is a government-owned natural gas explorer and producer responsible for natural gas processing and distribution in India.
- Its operations are overseen by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

Kriti Sanon becomes first brand ambassador for Heads up for Tails

- Pet-care brand Heads Up For Tails (HUFT) has announced Bollywood actor, a passionate animal lover Kriti Sanon as their first brand ambassador.

About HUFT:

- Founded: 2008
- Headquarters: Gurgaon, Haryana
- Founder: Rashmi Narang

Aim:

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- To help remove hunger and provide health, safety, and shelter for street animals.

Starbucks appoints Indian-origin executive Mr. Laxman Narasimhan as CEO

- The world's biggest coffee chain, Starbucks has appointed Mr. Laxman Narasimhan as the next chief executive officer (CEO) and a member of the Starbucks Board of Directors.
- He will replace its long-time head, Mr. Howard Schultz.
- Mr. Narasimhan will be joining the company on October 1, 2022, & will completely take over the helm in April 2023.
- Mr. Howard Schultz will continue as interim CEO until April 1, 2023.

About Mr Laxman Narasimhan:

- Mr. Laxman Narasimhan was born on 15 April 1967 in Pune, Maharashtra, India.
- He was the Chief Commercial officer (CEO) of PepsiCo.
- He is an Indian-American business executive who was the Chief Executive Officer(CEO) of Reckitt Benckiser, a multinational consumer health, hygiene, and nutrition company.
- He is the trustee of the Brookings Institution and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.
- He has served as a member of the UK Prime Minister's Build Back Better Council and is a member of Verizon's Board of Directors.

About Starbucks:

- Founded: March 30, 1971
- Headquarters: Seattle, Washington, United States
- Chairperson: Melody Hobson

Government appoints Mr. Rajesh Kumar Srivastava as interim chairman of ONGC

- India's top oil and gas producer, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd (ONGC) appointed Mr. Rajesh Kumar Srivastava as an additional charge of Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) for a period of 4 months with effect from September 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022.
- Srivastava succeeds Mr. Alka Mittal who superannuated on Aug 31, 2022.
- He is the third interim chief of ONGC.

Other Appointments:

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- **Mr. Subhash Kumar**, the then senior-most director on the ONGC board & the director for finance, was named officiating head after **Mr. Shashi Shanker** superannuated on March 31, 2021.
- After the retirement of Mr. Kumar on December 31, 2021, **Mr. Alka Mittal**, Director for Human Resources, was given the additional charge.

About Mr Rajesh Kumar Srivastava:

- Mr. Srivastava joined ONGC as Geologist in 1984 at Krishna Godavari Basin, Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh.
- He played a key role in the formulation of 'Hydrocarbon vision-2030 for North East India' driven by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

Awards & Honors:

- He was honored with the **National Mineral Award** in 2009.

About ONGC:

- Founded: 14 August 1956
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India
- ONGC is without a regular chairman and managing director since April 2021.

Mr. Yamuna Kumar Chaubey gets charge as Chairman & MD of NHPC

- State-owned hydro power giant **NHPC Limited** announced that **Mr. Yamuna Kumar Chaubey** has been given the charge of **Chairman and Managing Director (CMD)** for 3 months beginning **September 1, 2022**.
- He succeeded **Mr. Abhay Kumar Singh** who superannuated on August 31, 2022.

About Mr Yamuna Kumar Chaubey:

- Chaubey, 59, joined **NHPC Limited** in 1985 as a Probationary Executive (Civil) at 540 MW **Chamera Hydro-Electric Project**, now **Chamera-I Power Station**, Himachal Pradesh.
- He served as **Chairman** on the board of **Bundelkhand Saur Urja Ltd** & was appointed as nominee director on the boards of **Chenab Valley Power Projects Private Limited** and **Ratle Hydroelectric Power Corporation Ltd** from October 1, 2020, and June 1, 2021, respectively.
- Currently, he is the **Director (Technical)** of **NHPC** and is also holding the **additional charge of Director (Personnel)**, of **NHPC**.

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

About NHPC Limited:

- Founded: 1975
- Headquarters: Faridabad, Haryana
- NHPC Ltd is an Indian government hydropower board under the ownership of the **Ministry of Power, Gol.**

IAS Officer Mr. Paban Kumar Borthakur took charge as the new Chief Secretary of Assam

- Senior IAS officer Mr. Paban Kumar Borthakur took charge as the new chief secretary of Assam.
- He replaced Mr. Jishnu Barua, who retired from service on Aug 31, 2022.
- Mr. Barua will continue as the chairman of the Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL) for two years or till further orders.

About Mr. Paban Kumar Borthakur:

- Mr. Borthakur, a 1989-batch Indian Administrative Service officer.
- He served as the **additional chief secretary** to the state government in the transformation and development, cultural affairs, and tourism departments.
- He is also the **chairman of the Assam Administrative Tribunal.**

About Assam:

- Governor: Jagdish Mukhi
- Chief Minister: Himanta Biswa Sarma
- Capital: Dispur

Serbian President Nominated Mr. Ana Brnabic as PM of Serbia

- Serbian President Mr. Aleksandar Vucic has nominated Mr. Ana Brnabic as Prime Minister of Serbia for the **second consecutive time.**

Note:

- Mr. Ana Brnabic became the **first woman & the first openly gay person** to hold the Position.

About Mr. Ana Brnabic:

- Brnabić was born in **Belgrade, Serbia.**
- In 2016, She entered government as the **minister of public administration and local self-government.**

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- She is the **president** of the **Council for Innovative Entrepreneurship and Information Technologies** of the Government of Serbia.
- She has served as the **prime minister** of **Serbia** since 2017.

About Serbia:

- President: Aleksandar Vučić
- Capital: Belgrade
- Currency: Serbian dinar

Mr. Kalyan Chaubey becomes the new AIFF President, beats Bhaichung Bhutia

- Indian politician of **Bhartiya Janta Party** & a former professional Indian football player **Mr. Kalyan Chaubey** has become the new **All India Football Federation (AIFF)** President after beating former India captain **Bhaichung Bhutia** 33-1 in polls.
- He succeeds **Mr. Praful Patel (2009-2022)**
- Out of the 36 state associations in India, **34** were allowed to vote, barring Ladakh and Jammu & Kashmir.

About Mr Kalyan Chaubey:

- Mr. Chaubey graduated from **Tata Football Academy** in 1995 & became a professional football player.
- He was a member of the Indian teams at **U-17 Asian Youth Championship** in 1994 in Iran and **U-20 Asian Youth Championship** in South Korea in 1996, and the senior Indian national team from 1999 to 2006.
- He took over as the **CEO of Mohun Baagan Academy** from 2010 to 2013.

Awards & Honors:

- He played as a goalkeeper and won the award – "**Indian Goalkeeper of the Year**" in 1997–98 and 2001–02.
- He won the **South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship** in 1999 & 2005 with India.
- He also won the **South Asian Games Bronze medal** in 1999.

Note:

- Mr. Chaubey became the **first Indian former footballer** to become the **president** in the **85 years** of **AIFF's** existence.

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About AIFF:

- Founded: 23 June 1937
- Headquarters: Dwarka, Delhi
- AIFF is the governing body of football in India under the jurisdiction of the **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Gol.**

Senior IIS officer Dr. Vasudha Gupta was appointed as DG of the News Services Division of AIR

- Senior Indian Information Service (IIS) officer, Dr. Vasudha Gupta has been elected as the **Director General of the News Services Division, All India Radio.**
- He Succeeded **Mr. N Venudhar Reddy** who Supernaut on Aug 31, 2022.

Other Appointments:

- **Mr. Rajesh Malhotra**, Director General of the Press Information Bureau (PIB), was promoted to the rank of **Principal Director General.**

About Dr. Vasudha Gupta:

- Dr. Gupta joined the Indian Information Service in **1989.**
- She has served in different capacities in the **Ministry of Information & Broadcasting** during her 32-year career.
- Before this appointment, she served as **Director General of the Press Information Bureau (PIB).**

About AIR:

- Established: 1936
- Headquarters: Sansad Marg, New Delhi, Delhi, India
- Owner: Prasar Bharati

Secretary General Lok Sabha Utpal Kumar Singh gets charge of Sansad TV; Ravi Capoor relieved as Sansad TV CEO

- **Rajya Sabha Chairman and Lok Sabha Speaker** jointly decided that **Utpal Kumar Singh**, currently holding the post of **Secretary General Lok Sabha**, will additionally discharge the functions of **Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Sansad TV.**
- Meanwhile, **Ravi Capoor** has been **relieved** of his duties as the CEO of Sansad TV.

About Sansad TV:

- Launched: September 2021 after merging the **Lok Sabha TV** and **Rajya Sabha TV** channels.

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- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India
- The channel was launched by the Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi, Vice President of India Shri Venkaiah Naidu, and Speaker of Lok Sabha Shri Om Birla

Actor Kiccha Sudeep Appointed as Brand Ambassador of Punyakoti Dattu Yojana

- The Karnataka government has appointed Kannada star Kiccha Sudeep as the brand ambassador for its 'Punyakoti Dattu Yojana' (cattle adoption scheme).
- The announcement was made by Animal Husbandry Minister Shri Prabhu B Chavan.

Aim:

- To promote and publicize the Punyakoti cattle adoption scheme which is implemented to promote people's partnership in cow conservation.
- Sudeep is known for his remarkable role in films such as "Pailwan", "Eega (Makkhi)", "Vikrant Rona", "Sparsha", "Huchcha", and "No 73 Shanthi Nivasa".

About 'Punyakoti Dattu Yojana':

- The Karnataka government has launched the 'Puknyakoti Dattu Yojane' to facilitate the adoption of cows from Goshalas.

Aim:

- To encourage adoption by the public to rear cattle in 'goshalas' (cow shelters).
- Under this initiative, Individuals may adopt cattle by paying rupees 11,000 per animal, for the year.
- However, anyone can also choose the length of time, which can be anywhere from 3 months to 5 years.

The President nominates Dr. Justice D. Y. Chandrachud as an Executive Chairman of NALSA

- The President of India Shri Droupadi Murmu has nominated a second senior-most judge in the Supreme Court, Dr. Justice DY Chandrachud as the next executive chairperson of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA).
- The term of Mr. Justice Chandrachud to the post would last till November 8, 2022.
- He has replaced Shri Justice U.U. Lalit was elevated as the 49th Chief Justice of India.

Note:

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- According to the Bar and Bench, after CJI Lalit's retirement, Justice Chandrachud will take over as the **50th Chief Justice of India** in November 2022.

About NALSA:

- Established: 9 November 1995
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India
- The NALSA was formed under the **authority of the Legal Services Authorities Act 1987**.

Purpose:

- To provide free legal services to eligible candidates & to organize Lok Adalats for the speedy resolution of cases.
- The Chief Justice of India is the **patron-in-chief** of the NALSA.

TMB appoints Mr. S Krishnan as MD-CEO

- The **Board of Directors** of Tuticorin-based Tamilnad Mercantile Bank has appointed veteran banker Mr. Krishnan Sankarasubramaniam as the **Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** for three years.
- Mr. Sankarasubramaniam **succeeds incumbent MD-CEO K V Rama Moorthy** ended on September 3, 2022.

About Mr. S Krishnan:

- Mr. Krishnan started his banking career in **January 1983 at Indian Bank**.
- He served as **Executive Director of Syndicate Bank** from November 1, 2017, to March 31, 2020.
- He served as **MD and CEO of the company Punjab and Sind Bank** from September 4, 2020, to May 31, 2022.
- He was the **executive director of Canara Bank** from 1st April 2020 to 3rd September 2020.
- He was the **Executive Secretary of the Board of the Bank of India**.
- He is also a **Certified Fellow of the Indian Institute of Bankers (CAIIB)**.

About TMB:

- Founded: 11 May 1921
- Headquarters: Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu, India
- Founder & Chairman: M V Shanmugavel Nadar

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Captain Mr. Binesh Kumar Tyagi takes over as the new CMD Shipping Corporation of India

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has appointed Captain Mr. Binesh Kumar Tyagi as the new chairman and managing director of Shipping Corporation of India Ltd (SCI) for 5 years.
- He Succeeded Mr. Harjeet Kaur Joshi, who take over the charge of CMD of SCI in Sep 2019.

About Mr. Binesh Kumar Tyagi:

- Mr. Tyagi joined SCI in 1990 as Trainee Nautical Officer (TNO).
- He was heading the Liner and Passenger Services Division as Director (L&PS) since January 7, 2021, in SCI
- Currently, he is the **director** looking after the liner and passenger services division at SCI which is in the process of being privatized by the government.

About SCI:

- Founded: 2 October 1961
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- The SCI is a government corporation that operates and manages vessels servicing both national and international lines.
- Under the **Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways**, SCI is the largest shipping company in India.

President Draupadi Murmu Appoints Justice Mr. M. Duraiswamy as the Acting Chief Justice Of Madras High Court

- In the exercise of the power conferred by **Article 223 of the Constitution**, the President of India **Shri Draupadi Murmu** appointed the senior-most judge, **Justice Mr. M Duraiswamy** as the **Chief Justice of the Madras High Court** with effect from September 13, 2022.
- He will take over after the retirement of the current Chief Justice of the Madras High Court, **Mr. Muneeshwar Nath Bhandari**.
- The appointment was issued by the **Ministry of Law and Justice, Gol.**

About Justice M Duraiswamy:

- Justice M Duraiswamy got enrolled as an **Advocate** in the **Bar Council of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry** in 1987.

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- He worked as a **Junior** under **Justice A.S.Venkatachala Moorthy**, former Chief Justice of **Chhattisgarh High Court**.
- He practiced as an **Advocate** in the **Madras High Court**.
- He was appointed as **Central Government Standing Counsel** for the period 1997-2000.
- He was then elevated as an **Additional Judge of Madras HC** in 2009.
- In 2011, Duraiswamy was appointed as the **Judge of the High Court of Madras**.

Mahanagar Gas Ltd appoints Mr. Mahesh V Iyer as the new Chairman

- An Indian natural gas distribution company, **Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL)**, has appointed **Mr. Mahesh Vishwanathan Iyer** as the new chairman of MGL.

About Mr. Mahesh Vishwanathan Iyer:

- Mr. Iyer is an electrical engineer with more than 36 years of experience in the execution of projects in the areas of **gas pipelines, LNG terminals, city gas distribution projects, renewables**, etc, amounting to **Rs.40,000 crore**.
- He is the **chairperson of Konkan LNG Limited and Central U.P. Gas Limited** in addition to holding a directorship in **ONGC Tripura Power Company Limited**.
- He was also a member of the core team **Gail** for the implementation of various long-term and short-term strategies.
- Until Aug 2022, Iyer worked for **GAIL (India) Limited** as the **director of business development**.

About Mahanagar Gas Ltd:

- **Founded: 1995**
- **Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India**
- MGL is an enterprise of **GAIL (India) Limited (Maharatna Company of Government of India)** and the **Government of Maharashtra**.

Queen Elizabeth II Appoints Liz Truss as New Prime Minister of the UK

- **Conservative Party leader Liz Truss** was formally appointed as the **56th prime minister of the United Kingdom** by **Queen Elizabeth II** at the **Balmoral estate in Scotland, UK**.
- She has succeeded **PM Boris Johnson (2019-22)**, who will tender his resignation to **Queen Elizabeth II**

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- Truss, 47, will become Britain's **third female prime minister**, after **Thatcher**, who governed from 1979 to 1990, and **Theresa May**, who held office from 2016 to 2019.
- This is the **first time** in **Queen Elizabeth's 70-year reign** that the handover of power is taking place at Balmoral, rather than Buckingham Palace in London.
- She has defeated Indian-origin former chancellor **Rishi Sunak**
- She won a vote share of **57.4% or 81,326 votes** versus Sunak's **42.6% or 60,399 votes**.
- Truss is the **15th Prime Minister** to serve during Queen Elizabeth II's reign, the first being **Winston Churchill** in 1952.

About the UK:

- Capital: London
- Currency: Pound sterling

Aviation industry veteran Mr. Pieter Elbers takes charge as IndiGo's new CEO

- **InterGlobe Aviation**, the parent company of **low-cost carrier IndiGo** has appointed aviation industry veteran **Mr. Pieter Elbers** as its **Chief Executive Officer**.
- Mr. Elbers will join IndiGo on **October 1, 2022**.
- He has replaced 71-year-old **Mr. Ronojoy Dutta** who will be **retiring on 30 September 2022**.

About Mr Pieter Elbers:

- Mr. Elbers was born in **Schiedam, Netherlands**.
- He started his career at KLM in 1992 at their Schiphol hub.
- He had been president and **CEO** of the **Netherlands' flag carrier airline, KLM**, from 2014 until he was appointed CEO of IndiGo.
- He served as an **advisor** for the restructuring of **Air Canada, US Airways, and Hawaiian Air** and was also the **President of United Airlines** between 1999 and 2002.
- He is also a **member** of the **executive committee** of the **Air France – KLM Group**.

About IndiGo:

- Founded: 2005
- Commenced Operations: 4 August 2006
- Headquarters: Gurgaon, Haryana, India
- Managing Director: Rahul Bhatia

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Mr. Shaji Prabhakaran appointed as the new Secretary General of AIFF

- Newly elected All India Football Federation (AIFF) President Mr. Kalyan Chaubey chaired Executive Committee and has appointed Dr. Shaji Prabhakaran as the new Secretary General of the AIFF.
- As per the new AIFF President's proposal, Mr. Sunando Dhar was also unanimously appointed as the new Deputy Secretary General of the AIFF.
- Dr. Shaji's previous experience as FIFA Regional Development Officer will bring in new and fresh ideas which will provide the much-needed fillip to Indian Football.
- The President, vice President Mr. NA Harris, Treasurer Ajay Kipa, all other newly elected Executive Committee members, and the six eminent footballers co-opted in the Committee, except Bhaichung Bhutia, were present in the meeting.
- The Committee decided to appoint IM Vijayan as the chairman of the new AIFF Technical Committee.
- Meanwhile, former India captain Shabbir Ali was unanimously named chairman of the Advisory Committee.

About AIFF:

- Founded: 23 June 1937
- Headquarters: Dwarka, New Delhi, Delhi, India
- President: Kalyan Chaubey
- Vice President: N. A. Haris
- The AIFF is the governing body of football in India under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Gol.

MEA appoints Mr. Sanjay Verma as India's next High Commissioner to Canada

- Senior diplomat Mr. Sanjay Kumar Verma has been appointed as India's next high commissioner to Canada.
- Verma, 57, succeeds Acting High Commissioner Mr. Anshuman Gaur.

Other Appointments:

- Meanwhile, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) informed that IFS Shri Amit Kumar is appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Korea.

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- Earlier, the position was held by **Sripriya Ranganathan**, a 1994 batch IFS officer.

About Mr. Sanjay Kumar Verma:

- Verma is a **1988 batch officer** of the Indian Foreign Service (IFS)
- He has served in Indian missions in Hong Kong, China, Vietnam, and Turkey.
- He has also served as **Consul General of India** in Milan, Italy.
- Currently, he is the **ambassador of India to Japan**.

About Shri Amit Kumar:

- Amit Kumar joined the **Indian Foreign Service** in 1995.
- Earlier, he served as the **Deputy Chief of Mission** in the **Embassy of India, Washington DC** with Ambassador-rank.
- He served as **Joint Secretary for Development Partnership Administration** and as **Joint Secretary for Human Resources Management** in the **Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi**.
- Presently, he is **Consul General, Consulate General of India, Chicago**

About Canada:

- Prime Minister: **Justin Trudeau**
- Capital: **Ottawa**
- Currency: **Canadian dollar (\$) (CAD)**

Indian FMCG Company Pintola appoints Sunil Chhetri as brand ambassador

- Indian superfood brand **Pintola, Fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG)** has announced an **Indian Football captain Sunil Chhetri**, who will endorse their products as a **brand ambassador**.
- This will be **Chhetri's first partnership** with an **FMCG company** in the nation.
- **Sunil Chhetri and Pintola** embody similar values of rootedness, perfection, consistency, and performance and most crucially promote the idea of a healthier India to this generation.
- **Pintola** boasts of a basket size of **21 products** and aims to cater to a consumer size of **100 million** soon.

Mr. Volker Turk appointed as the new UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

- **United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres** appointed **Mr. Volker Turk of Austria** as the next **United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights**, following approval by the **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)**.

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- He replaces Mr. **Verónica Michelle Bachelet Jeria**, a Chilean politician who served at the office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) from 2018 to 2022.

About Mr. Volker Türk:

- He had served with the UN refugee agency in Malaysia, Kosovo and Bosnia Herzegovina, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Kuwait.
- From 2019 to 2021, he served as Assistant Secretary-General for Strategic Coordination in the UN chief's Executive Office.
- He served as the Assistant High Commissioner for Protection at UN refugees, UNHCR, in Geneva from 2015 to 2019 where he played a key role in the development of the landmark Global Compact on Refugees.

About OHCHR:

- Established: 20 December 1993
- Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland
- New York City, United States

Mr. Dinesh Kumar Batra takes charge as Chairman & Managing Director of BEL

- Mr. Dinesh Kumar Batra, Director (Finance) & CFO, has taken additional charge as Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of Navratna Defence PSU Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)

About Mr. Dinesh Kumar Batra:

- Mr. Batra is the Chairman of BEL Optronics Devices Limited.
- He is credited with BEL entering into Li-ion battery packs for automobiles to support the e-Mobility program of the Govt.
- He is a member of the Board of BEL subsidiaries, BEL-Thales Systems Limited (BTSL) and BEL Optronics Devices Limited (BELOP).
- He also played a pivotal role in obtaining necessary approvals for BEL's highest-ever payout of 450% Dividend.
- He steered BEL to achieve its highest ever turnover of Rs. 15,044 Crores and PAT of Rs. 2,349 Crores in FY 2021-22 as Director (Finance) & CFO.

About BEL:

- Founded: 1954

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- Headquarters: Bengaluru, Karnataka, India
- BEL is an Indian Government-owned aerospace and defense electronics company.
- It is one of nine PSUs under the Ministry of Defence of India.

Mr. Gervais Ndirakobuca was appointed as the new PM of Burundi

- Burundi's President Mr Evariste Ndayishimiye has appointed Mr Gervais Ndirakobuca as the Prime Minister of Burundi.
- He succeeds Mr. Alain-Guillaume Bunyoni.
- The 113 members of Parliament (MPs) approved the proposal.

About Mr Gervais Ndirakobuca:

- Mr. Gervais Ndirakobuca was born in 1970 in Bukinanyana in the Cibitoke Province of Burundi
- He is a Burundian former rebel commander and police commissioner.
- His nickname was "Ndakugarika" meaning 'I will kill you in the Kirundi language.
- He joined the National Police of Burundi and rose to the rank of Commissioner (lieutenant-general).
- He served as the Minister of Interior, Public Security, and Community Development.
- He is known for his violent crackdown on the 2015 civil protest in Burundi
- He was under United States and European Union sanctions for human rights violations when President Évariste Ndayishimiye appointed him security minister.

About Burundi:

- President: Évariste Ndayishimiye
- Capital: Gitega
- Currency: Burundian franc

Indian refiner Nayara Energy appoints Mr. Prasad K Panicker as chairman

- Rosneft-owned Nayara Energy has appointed Mr. Prasad K Panicker, director and head of the refinery, as the chairman of the company, effective 3 October 2022.
- Mr. Panicker will succeed Mr. Charles Anthony (Tony) Fountain, whose five years of service helped to improve the level of performance and financial performance of Nayara Energy.

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- In his new role, he will deploy his **outstanding technological experience & excellent knowledge** of the **local Indian market** to lead Nayara Energy through a new set of strategic priorities with a strong focus on development projects.
- In addition to that Mr. Panicker will also continue to be the **Head of the Refinery** to support **Nayara Energy's development program**.

About Nayara Energy:

- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- CEO: Alois Virag

Aim:

- To focus more on the implementation of its **cutting-edge asset development program** to transform itself into an **integrated petrochemical producer**.
- Nayara owns and operates **India's 2nd largest single-site refinery** at Vadinar in Gujarat with a current capacity of **20 million tonnes** & is also the largest fuel retailer in the private sector with over 6,000 outlets across India.

Mr. Joao Lourenco is Re-Elected as President of Angola

- The **National Electoral Commission (CNE)** announced that **Angola's incumbent President Mr. João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço** won a **second term** as the **President of Angola** after the ruling **People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA)** party was declared the winner of **Angola's general election**.
- According to official results, the **MPLA** garnered **51.17%** of the vote while the main opposition party, the **National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA)**, got **43.95%**.

About Mr Joao Lourenco:

- Mr João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço was born 5 March 1954 in **Luanda, Angola**.
- He served as the **president of Angola** from **Sep 2017 to 2022 (First term)**.
- He also served as the **Minister of Defence** from **2014 to 2017**
- In **Sep 2018**, he became the **Chairman of the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA)**, the ruling party.
- He was the party's **Secretary-General** from **1998 to 2003**.

About Angola:

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- Capital: Luanda
- Currency: Angolan kwanza

Chief Justice Mr. Munishwar Nath Bhandari appointed as chairman of the PMLA appellate tribunal

- The Chief Justice of Madras High Court, Justice Mr. Munishwar Nath Bhandari has been appointed as Chairman of the Appellate Tribunal under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).
- He was appointed for **4 years**, or till attaining the age of 70 years, or until further orders in terms of Tribunal (Conditions of Service) Rules, 2021 read with Tribunal Reforms Act, 2021.
- The order was issued by the **Department of Revenue** under the **Ministry of Finance**.
- The post of the Chairperson of the Tribunal was vacant since **September 2019**.
- The Tribunal for Forfeiture of Property under the **Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators Act (SAFEMA)** & the **PMLA (Prevention of Money Laundering Act) Appellate Tribunal** were merged in **2016** through the **Finance Act, 2016**.

About Justice Mr. Bhandari:

- Justice Mr. Bhandari was appointed a **judge** of the **Rajasthan High Court** in **July 2007**.
- He was then transferred to the **Allahabad High Court** in **March 2019** and was appointed the **Acting Chief Justice** of that high Court in **June 2019**.
- In **February 2022** he was appointed as the **Chief Justice** of the High Court.
- Justice Bhandari who was appointed the **Chief Justice of Madras High Court** on **14th Feb 2022** is set to retire on **13th September 2022**.
- Recently, **Justice Mr. M Duraiswamy**, who is the senior-most judge of the Madras High Court has been appointed as the **Acting Chief Justice of Madras High Court**.

American Express Appoints Mr. Sanjay Khanna as CEO & Country Manager for India

- The American Express Banking Corporation (AEBC) has appointed Mr. Sanjay Khanna as the **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** and **Country Manager for India**.

About Mr. Sanjay Khanna:

- Khanna has spent about **27 years** with American Express, joining as manager of finance in **1996**.

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- He held many leadership positions in the company, including head of Global Financial Operations, India Center Lead for Finance, and **chairman of the American Express India Pvt Limited Legal Entity Board.**
- Currently, Khanna heads the **Country Executive Team (CET)** & is responsible for driving growth across the organization's consumer and commercial businesses.

Note:

- Executive vice president, international card services, American Express: Rob McClean

Minister Piyush Goyal appointed Abhishek Mishra as a member of the FCI Consultative Committee

- The Minister of Textiles, Commerce and Industry, and Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Shri Piyush Goyal has appointed Mr. Abhishek Mishra, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival (DPIFF) as the Member of the Consultative Committee, Food Corporation of India (FCI), Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Government of India.
- At the age of 18, he became the **Youngest CEO** of the DPIFF
- Abhishek Mishra also served as the **Advisory Panel Member of the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC)**, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Gol.

Senior Advocate Mr. Mukul Rohatgi to be appointed as next Attorney General of India

- The **senior advocate Mr. Mukul Rohatgi**, is set to be appointed as the **14 Attorney General (AG)** of India.
- He was succeeded by **Mr. K. K. Venugopal.**
- This will be Mr. Rohatgi's **second time as AG**, after his **first** stint between **June 2014 and June 2017.**
- Mr. Rohtagi will take the seat of AG from **1st October 2022.**

About Mr Mukul Rohtagi:

- Mr. Mukul Rohatgi is the **son of former Delhi High Court judge, Justice Awadh Behari Rohatgi.**

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- He was designated as a **senior counsel** by Delhi HC in 1993 and was later appointed as **Additional Solicitor General of India** in 1999.
- He represented the 2002 Gujarat riots case where he appeared before the court for the government of Gujarat.

Who is the Attorney General?

- The Attorney General is the Indian government's **chief legal advisor** and is its **principal Advocate** for the **Supreme Court of India**
- The AG for India is appointed by the **President of India** on the advice of the Union Cabinet and holds office at the pleasure of the President.
- The person must be qualified to be appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Sanjay Kumar Rakesh appointed as Managing Director of CSC SPV

- State-managed **CSC SPV (Common Service Centre Special Purpose Vehicle)** has appointed former Indian Administrative Officer (IAS) **Mr. Sanjay Kumar Rakesh** as the **Managing Director (MD)** of **CSC SPV**.
- He Succeeded **Mr. Dinesh Tyagi** who played a key role in the scaling up of CSCs from 60,000 in 2014 to over 5 lakh at present.
- The decision to this effect was taken at the **52nd Board Meeting of CSC** held at the Ministry of Electronics & IT under the chairmanship of Secretary, IT, **Mr. Alkesh Kumar Sharma**

About Mr. Sanjay Kumar Rakesh:

- Rakesh is a 1990-batch IAS officer of the **Tripura cadre**.
- Before joining CSC, he was the **additional chief secretary** in **Tripura**.
- He has served as **joint secretary** at the **Ministry of Electronics and IT (Meity)** where he led several initiatives for '**Make in India**' in the electronics sector.
- He has also served the **Ministry of Rural Development**, looking after **Indira Awas Yojana** and **Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana**.
- He took over as the **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of **Common Service Centre Special Purpose Vehicle (CSC SPV)** in **November 2020** after taking voluntary retirement from IAS.

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BharatPe appoints Shri B. P. Kanungo & Shri Kaushik Dutta as new independent

directors

- India's leading fintech company, BharatPe appointed Shri B. P. Kanungo, Former Deputy Governor of RBI, and Shri Kaushik Dutta, current Chairman and Independent Director at Zomato, as Independent Directors to its Board.
- The appointments are in line with BharatPe's aim to build a world-class institution & being the torchbearer of corporate governance in the start-up world.
- BharatPe's board will now consist of **two executive directors**, Shashvat Nakrani (Founder) and Suhail Sameer (CEO).
- Others include **five non-executive directors** Rajnish Kumar (former chairman of State Bank of India) and **four investor nominees** and **two independent directors**.
- Shri Kanungo has been the **Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** from 2017-2021.

About Bharatpe:

- Founded: 20 March 2018
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- CEO: Suhail Sameer

President Biden appoints Dr. Renee Wegrzyn as Inaugural Director of ARPA-H

- The **United States (US) President Mr. Joe Biden** has appointed **Dr. Renee Wegrzyn** as the inaugural director of the **Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H)**, which is housed within the **Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)** for 5 years.

Note:

- **Dr. Renee Wegrzyn** the first Director of the **Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H)**.

About Dr. Renee Wegrzyn:

- **Dr. Renee Wegrzyn** is a **biologist** and **former government scientist**.

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- From 2016 to 2020, she served as a **program manager** in the Biological Technologies Office of **Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)**, where she specialized in synthetic biology and biosecurity.
- In 2018, she became a senior advisor to the **Nuclear Threat Initiative**.
- Currently, She is serving as the **vice president of business development** at **Ginkgo Bioworks** and **Head of Innovation** at **Concentric by Ginkgo**.

About ARPA-H:

- Established: March 2022
- The ARPA-H operates under the **National Institutes of Health** and supports the development of transformative technologies and approaches to improve public health.

Purpose:

- To seek innovative solutions to biomedical problems.

UAE healthcare leader Burjeel Holdings appoints Shah Rukh Khan as brand ambassador

- A leading private healthcare services provider in the MENA region and one of the largest in the UAE, **Burjeel Holdings**, has partnered with **Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan** as its **new Brand Ambassador**.
- The partnership was confirmed during a ceremony held in **Abu Dhabi**.
- He will appear in a region-wide, multi-platform advertising campaign for the healthcare Group that will be unveiled in the coming weeks.
- He was the **first Indian celebrity** to have received the **UAE golden visa**.

Additional Info:

- Burjeel Holdings has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)**'s **Ministry of Investment**, which will see it seek opportunities to invest up to **USD \$1 billion** in the Kingdom by 2030.

About Burjeel Holdings:

- Founded: 2007
- Founder & CEO: Dr. Shamsheer Vayalil

Shri Prakash Chand appointed as India's ambassador to Eritrea

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- Senior diplomat **Shri Prakash Chand** has been appointed as the next ambassador of India to the State of Eritrea.
- Before Shri Prakash Chand, **Shri Subhash Chand** was the Ambassador of India to Eritrea.

About Shri Prakash Chand:

- Shri Chand, a 2004 Indian Forest Service (IFS) officer
- He served in various capacities in the Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi as well as in the Indian Missions in Uganda, the UK, Egypt, China, and Austria.
- He served as First Secretary (Consular) in the Philippines from 2010 to 2014.
- He worked as Deputy Chief of Protocol (Conferences/Facilities) from 2008 to 2010 in New Delhi
- He has worked as Director (Consular) in the Consular, Passport, and Visa Division in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).
- Chand has been the Consul General of India in Indonesia's Bali since 2019.

About Eritrea:

- President: Isaias Afwerki
- Capital: Asmara
- Currency: Eritrean nakfa

Shri A N Shamseer elected as 24th speaker of Kerala assembly

- Thalassery MLA **Shri A N Shamseer** was elected as the 24th Speaker of Kerala Legislative Assembly after defeating UDF MLA **Anwar Sadath** by 56 votes in the election.
- Shamseer replaced **Shri M B Rajesh**, who became Minister of excise and Local Self Government departments.
- In the election, Shamseer got 96 votes while opposition Congress candidate **Anwar Sadath** received 40 votes in the 140-member Assembly.
- Deputy Speaker **Chittayam Gopakumar** headed the election procedures.

About Shri A N Shamseer:

- Shri A N Shamseer was born on 24 May 1977, in Thalassery, Kannur, Kerala
- He has represented Thalassery State Assembly Constituency since 2016.

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- He was the former President of the Kerala lobby of the Democratic Youth Federation of India (DYFI).

IndusInd Bank re-appoints Mr. Sumant Kathpalia as MD & CEO for 3 years

- IndusInd Bank has re-appointed Mr. Sumant Kathpalia as its Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for three years with effect from March 24, 2023, up to March 23, 2026.
- The re-appointment is subject to approval from the lender's shareholders and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

About Mr. Sumant Kathpalia:

- Mr. Kathpalia was appointed as MD & CEO of IndusInd Bank in March 2020.
- Before joining IndusInd Bank, Mr. Kathpalia had stints with Citibank, Bank of America, and ABN Amro.
- He led the Core Executive Team of the Bank which has successfully affected the Bank's business turnaround.

About IndusInd Bank:

- Founded: April 1994
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Tagline: We Make You Feel Richer

Senior IAS Mr. BVR Subrahmanyam appointed as next CMD of ITPO

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approved the appointment of IAS Officer Mr. BVR Subrahmanyam as the new Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of the India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO).
- He has been appointed to the post on a contractual basis for two years.
- He will replace Mr. LC Goyal.

About Mr BVR Subrahmanyam:

- Mr. Subrahmanyam is a 1987 batch Indian Administrative Services (IAS) officer of the Chhattisgarh cadre.
- He belongs to Andhra Pradesh.
- He has a management degree from London Business School.

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- He worked in the **PMO** between 2004–2008 and March 2012–March 2015, serving under Prime Minister Shri Manmohan Singh and Shri Narendra Modi
- He was appointed by the ACC as the **Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir** in place of **BB Vyas** in 2018 following the collapse of the PDP-BJP coalition government.
- Currently, Mr. Subrahmanyam is working as the **Secretary of, the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.**

About ITPO:

- Founded: 1 April 1977
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India
- It is the nodal agency of the Government of India under the aegis of the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry (India)** for promoting the country's external trade.

UNICEF appoints climate activist Ms. Vanessa Nakate as Goodwill Ambassador

- A 25-year-old **climate activist from Uganda**, Ms. Vanessa Nakate was appointed as the newest **goodwill ambassador** of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF).

About Ms. Vanessa Nakate:

- Ms. Vanessa Nakate was born on **15 November 1996** in Uganda.
- She began her activism in **January 2019** with a protest with her siblings and cousins on the streets of Kampala, inspired by **Greta Thunberg**.
- She founded the **Rise Up Movement**, a platform to **elevate the voices of African climate activists**, as well as the **Green Schools Project** to install solar panels in rural Ugandan schools.
- Globally, approximately **1 billion children** and nearly **half the world's 2.2 billion children** live in one of the **33 countries** classified by UNICEF's Children's Climate Risk Index as at "extremely high risk" of the impacts of climate change.
- According to UNICEF, the **top 10 countries are all in Africa**

About UNICEF:

- Headquarters: New York, United States(US)
- Executive Director Catherine Russell

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Swedish PM Magdalena Ms. Andersson announces resignation after losing the election

- Sweden's Social Democratic Prime Minister Ms. Magdalena Andersson resigned from the post after her center-left bloc lost narrowly to a bloc of right-wing parties, 176 seats to 173, with 99% of the votes counted.
- She will continue in **caretaking** until a new government is formed.
- **Moderate Party** leader Ulf Kristersson is now expected to form a government.

Note:

- Ms. Magdalena Andersson was Sweden's first female prime minister

About Ms. Magdalena Andersson:

- Ms. Magdalena Andersson is a **Swedish politician** and **economist**
- She joined the **Swedish Social Democratic Youth League** in 1983.
- She served as **Prime Minister of Sweden** and **leader of the Swedish Social Democratic Party** since 2021.

About Sweden:

- Capital: Stockholm
- Currency: Swedish krona

Govt appoints Mr. Thomas M Devasia as member of IRDAI

- The **government** has appointed **Mr. Thomas M Devasia** - a senior executive from the private sector - as a **member (non-life)** of the **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)**.
- He has appointed a consolidated pay package of **Rs 4 lakh** with effect from the date of assumption of charge of the post till attaining the age of **62 years** until further order, whichever is earlier.
- Currently, Mr. Thomas M Devasia is a **technical expert** at **Marsh Insurance Brokers India** working in **Kochi, Kerala**.
- This is the **first time** that the Government has appointed a **senior executive** from the **private sector** as a member of IRDAI.

About IRDAI:

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- Established: 1999
- Headquarters: Hyderabad, Telangana
- Chairperson: Debasish Panda
- IRDAI is a **regulatory body** under the jurisdiction of the **Ministry of Finance, Government of India**, and is tasked with regulating and licensing the insurance and reinsurance industries in India.
- It was constituted by the **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999**, an Act of Parliament passed by the Gol.

Mr. Prasanna Kumar Motupalli selected as CMD of NLC India Limited

- The public enterprise selection board (PESB) selected Mr. Prasanna Kumar Motupalli as the **Chairman and Managing Director** of NLC India Limited.
- In the selection meeting, PESB interviewed **3 others** apart from her including **Suresh Chandra Suman** Director (Mining) from NLC India Limited, **T S C Bosh**, Executive Director, of Rural Electrification Corporation, and **Sanjay Kulshrestha**, Executive Director, of Rural Electrification Corporation.

About Mr Prasanna Kumar Motupalli:

- He is a **gold medalist** in Mechanical Engineering and a Master of Business Management in Operations Mgmt., HR Management, Marketing Management, and Financial Management
- Currently, Mr. Prasanna Kumar Motupalli is serving as the **Executive Director of NTPC limited**.

About NLC India Limited:

- Founded: 1956
- Headquarters: Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India

CSB Bank appoints Mr. Pralay Mondal as the MD & CEO

- On the approval received from the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**, CSB Bank Limited (erstwhile **Catholic Syrian Bank Limited**) has appointed Mr. Pralay Mondal as the **Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of the Bank for a period of **3 years up to September 14, 2025**.

About Mr. Pralay Mondal:

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- With 30 years of experience, Mr. Mondal has headed multiple businesses and functions including retail assets, retail liabilities, business banking, products, and technology.
- Mr. Mondal joined the CSB Bank as **President (Retail, SME, Operations, and IT)** on September 23, 2020, and was appointed as the **Deputy Managing Director of the Bank** with effect from February 17, 2022.
- He held the position of **interim Managing Director & CEO of the CSB Bank** with effect from April 1, 2022.
- Before CSB Bank, Mondal was associated with **Axis Bank** as the **Executive Director & Head of Retail Banking**.
- He worked with a range of companies namely **Yes Bank, HDFC, Standard Chartered Bank, Wipro, and Colgate**.

About CSB Bank Ltd:

- Founded: 26 November 1920
- Headquarters: Thrissur, Kerala, India

Shri Vijoy Kumar Singh was appointed as Secretary, of Ex-Servicemen Welfare

- The **Ministry of Defence** announced that **Senior bureaucrat Shri Vijoy Kumar Singh** assumed charge as **Ex-Servicemen Welfare Secretary**.

About Shri Vijoy Kumar Singh:

- Shri Singh is a **1990-batch IAS officer of the Punjab cadre** & he has an experience of more than 32 years in administration.
- He recently served as a **special secretary in the Ministry of Textiles**.
- Before this appointment, he had served as **joint secretary in the Department of Personnel & Training**.
- He had extensive interactions with serving as well as retired **Armed Forces personnel** during his career in Punjab.

Senegal's president appoints former economy minister Mr. Amadou Ba as PM

- **Senegalese President Mr. Macky Sall** reinstated the post of **Prime Minister (PM)** appointing a former economy minister **Mr Amadou Ba** as the **PM of Senegal**.
- Ba's appointment re-establishes the position of **PM** following its abolition in **April 2019**.

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- The president appointed a new government that included **38 ministers**.
- Key ministers from the previous government including **defense, interior, foreign affairs, and finance**, were maintained.
- A notable change was **Oulimata Sarr**, regional director of UN Women, who was appointed minister of economy & planning.

About Mr. Amadou Ba:

- Mr. Amadou Ba is a **Senegalese politician** who was born on 17 May 1961, in **Dakar, Senegal**.
- He served as the **Foreign Minister of Senegal** from 2019–2020.
- He was **Minister of Finance and Economy** from 2013–2019.

About Senegal:

- President: Macky Sall
- Capital: Dakar
- Currency: West African CFA franc

Govt appoints Ratan Tata, 2 others as trustees of PM CARES Fund

- **Veteran industrialist Mr. Ratan Tata**, former Supreme Court judge **Mr. KT Thomas**, and former deputy Lok Sabha speaker **Mr. Kariya Munda** have been nominated as **trustees** of the **Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund (PM CARES Fund)**.
- The decision was announced a day after **Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi** chaired a meeting of the **Board of Trustees of the PM CARES Fund**.
- The government also decided to nominate **three eminent persons** for the constitution of the advisory board to the PM CARES Fund, they are,
- Former Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) **Mr. Rajiv Mehrishi**
- Former Infosys Foundation chairperson **Mr. Sudha Murthy**
- Former CEO of Indicorps and Piramal Foundation **Mr Anand Shah**.
- During the meeting, a presentation was made on the various initiatives undertaken with the help of the PM CARES Fund, including the **PM CARES for Children scheme** which is supporting **4345 children**.

About PM CARES Fund:

- Established: 27 March 2020

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- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India

ESAF Small Finance Bank re-appointed Mr. PR Ravi Mohan as Chairman

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the reappointment of Mr. PR Ravi Mohan as the Chairman of ESAF Small Finance Bank for a further period of three years from December 21, 2022.
- He is a certified associate of the Indian Institute of Bankers.
- Previously, he was employed as a chief general manager in the department of banking supervision of the RBI.
- He was a resident advisor in financial sector supervision with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), AFRITAC South, Mauritius.

About ESAF Small Finance Bank:

- Founded: 10 March 2017
- Headquarters: Thrissur, Kerala
- MD & CEO: K. Paul Thomas

Center appoints Justice Mr. T Raja as Acting Chief Justice of Madras High Court

- In the exercise of the power conferred by Article 223 of the Constitution of India, the Ministry of Law and Justice notified the appointment of the senior-most judge of the Madras High Court, Justice Mr. T Raja as Acting Chief Justice (ACJ) of Madras High Court (HC).
- He will succeed Justice Mr. M Duraiswamy.

About Justice Mr. T Raja:

- Justice Mr. T. Raja was born on May 25 1961 in a village in Thenur, Madurai District, Tamil Nadu (TN).
- He started a law practice in the Madras High Court in June 1988
- He served as Standing Counsel for Dr. M.G.R. Medical University for about 10 years in the Supreme Court
- He served as Standing Counsel for Supreme Court Legal Services Society for all Civil and Criminal matters for about 6 years.
- He was appointed as an Additional Advocate General at Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court on February 9, 2008.

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- He was appointed as **Additional Judge of Madras High Court** on **March 31, 2009**.

Max Life Insurance Appoints Cricketer Rohit Sharma & Ritika Sajdeh As Brand Ambassadors

- **Max Life Insurance Company** announced **sports icon** and the **captain of the men's Indian cricket team Rohit Sharma** & his wife **Ritika Sajdeh**, as its **brand ambassadors**.
- Max Life has signed a **two-year partnership** with **Rohit Sharma & Ritika Sajdeh** who are making their debut on-screen together.

Aim:

- To promote the Max Life brand ethos of valuing the 'self' to determine the right financial value to protect themselves and their family.
- The mantra is to prepare ahead **mentally, physically, and financially** for **unforeseen challenges**.

About Max Life Insurance:

- **Founded: 2001**
- **Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India**
- **MD & CEO: Prashant Tripathy**
- Max Life Insurance Company Limited is a life insurance company in India with a joint venture (JV) between **Max India Ltd** and **Axis Bank**

SC appoints ex-judge Justice Mr. L Nageswara Rao for amending the constitution of IOA

- The **Supreme Court** appointed former apex court judge **Justice Mr. L Nageswara Rao** for amending the **constitution of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA)** and preparing the electoral college.

Roles & Responsibility:

- The apex court asked Justice Rao to prepare a road map for amending the constitution and holding elections by **December 15, 2022**.
- A bench headed by **Justice Mr. D Y Chandrachud** announced the ex-top court judge would ensure a fair and development-oriented approach for the future of the Olympics in India.
- It also gave its permission to **Mr. Rajeev Mehta**, who is **currently the secretary general of IOA**, and **Mr. Adille Sumariwalla**, vice president of IOA, to participate in the meeting with the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

Background:

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- On 8th September 2022, The IOC issued a **final warning** to IOA to resolve its governance issues and hold elections by **December 2022** failing which the world sports body will ban India.

Mr. Anil Khanna resigns as Indian Olympic Association acting president

- Senior sports administrator Mr. Anil Khanna resigned as acting president of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA).
- Mr. Khanna took charge of IOA after a court ruling ended **Narinder Batra's** reign as chief of the apex sports body in the country.

About IOA:

- The IOA is the body responsible for **selecting athletes** to represent India at the **Olympic Games, Asian Games**, and other international athletic meets.
- It also acts as the **Indian Commonwealth Games Association**, responsible for selecting athletes to represent India at the Commonwealth Games

Former captain of Indian hockey Mr. Dilip Tirkey elected as Hockey India president

- Former India captain Mr. Dilip Tirkey has been elected unopposed as the **new president** of Hockey India (HI).
- The **International Hockey Federation** has approved Dilip Tirkey and his team's appointments
- Mr. Bholu Nath** was elected as the **secretary general** of Hockey India.
- Mr. Tirkey who filed his nomination as President of Hockey, Odisha, was elected after **Uttar Pradesh Hockey chief Mr. Rakesh Katyal** and **Jharkhand's Mr. Bholu Nath Singh** withdrew nominations.

Note:

- Mr. Dilip Tirkey became **Hockey India's First player president**.

About Dilip Tirkey:

- Dilip Tirkey was born on 25 November 1977, in Sundergarh, **Odisha**, India
- He made his debut in 1995 against England.
- He represented **India** at the **Olympic Games** in Atlanta in 1996, Athens in 2004, and Sydney in 2000.
- He is the **only tribal hockey player** to represent India in three Olympics
- He served as the **chairman** of Odisha Tourism Development Corporation (OTDC).

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- Currently, he is working as the **chairman** of the **Odisha Hockey Promotion Council**

Awards & Honors:

- Dilip Tirkey has been awarded **Padma Shree** in 2004 and **Arjun Award** in 2002.
- He won the **Showcase Odisha Awards** in 2012.

Dr. Rajiv Bahl appointed as the new director general of ICMR

- The **Central government** appointed **Dr. Rajiv Bahl** as a **Director General** of the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) cum- Secretary Department of Health Research (DHR)** for 3 years.
- The order of his appointment was issued by the **Secretariat of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet Ministry of Personnel Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Personnel and Training, Gol.**
- He will replace **Dr. Balram Bhargava**, who was appointed to the post in April 2018 for 4 years.
- Mr. Bahl currently serves as head of research in the **maternal, newborn child, and adolescent Health-cum-Newborn unit** of the **World Health Organization (WHO)** in **Geneva**.

About ICMR:

- Founded: 1911
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India

NPCI re-appoints Mr. Dilip Asbe as MD and CEO for five years

- The shareholders of the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** approved the re-appointment of **Mr. Dilip Asbe** as the **Managing Director (MD)** and **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** for **5 years** with effect from **Jan 8, 2023, to 7th Jan 2028**.

About Mr. Dilip Asbe:

- Mr. Dilip Asbe joined **NPCI** in **January 2010** as **Chief Technology Officer (CTO)** & later served as **Chief Operating Officer** from 2013 to 2018.
- He took over as **CEO** from former **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** executive **Abhaya Prasad Hota** in **2018**.

About NPCI:

- Founded: 2008
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- MD & CEO: Dilip Asbe

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- The NPCI is the specialized division of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) which is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Finance, GoI.

Dr. M Srinivas was appointed as the new director of AIIMS, New Delhi

- Son of a retired tahsildar Ashappa, a resident of Gandhi Nagar in Yadgir city, Dr. M. Srinivas was appointed as Director of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) for 5 years or till attaining the age of 65 or until further orders, whichever is earlier.
- The order was issued by the Under Secretary, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.
- He will succeed Mr. Randeep Guleria who has been holding the post since March 2017.

About Dr. M Srinivas:

- Dr. Srinivas was a professor in the Department of Pediatric Surgery at AIIMS-Delhi before he joined ESIC Hospital and Medical College in Hyderabad in 2016.
- At the time of his appointment, he was working as the Dean of the Employees State Insurance Company (ESIC) Hospital and Medical College in Sanathnagar in Hyderabad.

About AIIMS:

- Established: 1956
- President: Mansukh Mandaviya
- The institute is governed by the AIIMS Act, 1956, and operates autonomously under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Lux Cozi appoints Mr. Sourav Ganguly as Brand Ambassador

- Lux Industries Limited, known for its innovative and customer-demand-driven product offerings, has appointed a cricketer & former Captain of the Indian Cricket Team, Mr. Sourav Ganguly, as the brand ambassador of Lux Cozi.
- Mr. Sourav Ganguly joins alongside Mr. Varun Dhawan as the brand ambassador of Lux Cozi.
- Through this collaboration, Lux Cozi aims to achieve greater heights and create a deeper connection with its consumers.
- The company has also released a new advertisement campaign #PorleEMonKhushi with the former international cricketer.

About Lux industries:

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- Founded: 1957
- Headquarters: Kolkata, West Bengal, India
- Chairman: Ashok Todi

Shri Bandaru Wilsonbabu was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Madagascar

- Indian diplomat **Shri Bandaru Wilsonbabu** has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Madagascar.
- He will be replacing ambassador **Shri Abhay Kumar**.

About Shri Bandaru Wilsonbabu:

- Shri Bandaru Wilsonbabu is a **2004 batch IFS officer**.
- He has served as the **joint Secretary** in the **Eurasia division**.
- Presently he is serving as the **joint secretary** of the **Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)**.

About Madagascar:

- President: **Andry Rajoelina**
- Prime Minister: **Christian Ntsay**
- Capital: **Antananarivo**
- Currency: **Malagasy ariary**

Mr. Sanjai Kumar appointed as the new Chairman & MD of Railtel

- **Mr. Sanjai Kumar** has been appointed as the **Chairman & Managing Director** of **RailTel**.

About Mr. Sanjai Kumar:

- He has around **30 years** of varying experience in railroad operations, project management, and marketing.
- He is an officer of the **Indian Railway Service of Signal Engineers** and joined the service on **November 30, 1992**
- Previously, he held the position of **Director (Network Planning & Marketing/NPM)** at **RailTel**, along with the added responsibility of **Director (Project, Operations & Maintenance/POM)**.

About Railtel:

- Founded: **September 2000**
- Headquarters: **New Delhi, Delhi, India**

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- It is under the ownership of Indian Railways, **Ministry of Railways**, Gol.
- RailTel is a "Mini Ratna (Category-I)" Central Public Sector Enterprise is an **information and communications technology (ICT) provider**
- As on 30 June 2022, the Government of India holds a **72.84% stake** in the company.

Igor Stimac is set to remain India's head coach till AFC Asian Cup next July 2023

- Croatian Igor Stimac is set to continue as Indian football team head coach with the **Technical Committee of All India Football Federation (AIFF)** recommending the extension of his contract till the end of the **AFC Asian Cup in July 2023**.
- The technical committee, which met here under the chairmanship of legendary striker **IM Vijayan**, discussed the performance of the Indian men's team under Stimac and recommended it to the AIFF executive committee.
- This will be Stimac's **third contract** extension after he took charge of the national men's team in May 2019 on a two-year tenure.
- In 2021, he was given a contract extension of a few months till September 2021.
- He was then given another tenure extension of 1 year which was to end this month.

Note:

- The 2023 AFC Asian Cup will be held from **June 16 to July 16, 2023**.

Ms. Giorgia Meloni to become Italy's first female PM in the far-right election win

- Far-right leader of the Fratelli d'Italia (Brothers of Italy) Ms. Giorgia Meloni has become the **first woman prime minister of Italy**, after defeating Mr. Mario Draghi by a huge margin.
- Giorgia Meloni won **114 seats**.

About Ms Giorgia Meloni:

- Ms. Giorgia Meloni was born on 15 January 1977 in **Rome, Italy**.
- She joined politics at age 15 in 1992, joining the **neo-fascist Social Movement**.
- She has also served as a **youth minister in Berlusconi's 2008-2011** government before founding the Brothers of Italy in 2012.
- She was the **youngest-ever minister** in the history of united Italy

Note:

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- The **Italian Parliament** is composed of the **Chamber of Deputies** (with **630 members** or deputati elected on a national basis) & **Senate of the Republic** (with **315 members** or senators elected on a regional basis).

About Italy:

- President: Sergio Mattarella
- Capital: Rome
- Currency: Euro

Center elevates IOB's Executive Director Mr. Ajay Kumar Srivastava as MD & CEO

- The **Center** promoted the present **Executive Director** of **Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)**, **Mr. Ajay Kumar Srivastava**, as the public sector lender's **Managing Director (MD)** and **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** for **3 years** with effect from **January 1, 2023**.
- Further, the Union Government has reappointed Mr. Srivastava as ED for a period beyond his currently notified term which expires on **October 8, 2022**, until he assumes the charge as MD and CEO, IOB said in a regulatory filing.
- The incumbent **Mr. Partha Pratim Sengupta** ends on **December 31, 2022**.

About IOB:

- Founded: 10 February 1937
- Headquarters: Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India

Britannia Industries appoints Mr. Rajneet Kohli as CEO, Mr. Varun Berry as new executive VC

- Packaged foods company **Britannia Industries Ltd** has appointed **Mr. Rajneet Singh Kohli** as the company's **Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer (CEO)**.
- Meanwhile, the company's current managing director, **Mr. Varun Berry**, has been appointed as **Executive Vice-Chairman and Managing Director** of the cookie maker with immediate effect.

About Mr. Rajneet Singh Kohli:

- Mr. Rajneet Singh Kohli has over **24 years of experience** in the food and retail industry.
- He worked at **Asian Paints** for 6 years, at **Coca-Cola** for 14 years, and for more than 3 years at **Jubilant FoodWorks**.

About Britannia:

- Founded: 1892

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- Headquarters: Kolkata, West Bengal, India

Saudi Arabia's crown prince Mr. Mohammed bin Salman named prime minister

- Saudi Arabia's powerful Crown Prince Mr. Mohammed bin Salman has been appointed prime minister (PM) by a royal decree.
- He is being replaced as defense minister by his younger brother, Mr. Khalid bin Salman, who was deputy defense minister.
- The royal decree reaffirmed all the other senior ministers in their posts, including Foreign Minister Prince Mr. Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud, Finance Minister Mr. Mohammed al-Jadaan, and Investment Minister Mr. Khalid al-Falih.

About Mr. Mohammed bin Salman:

- He is widely known by the acronym **MBS** and has taken the lead on **Vision 2030**, the kingdom's wide-ranging plan to transform its economy and end its dependency on oil.
- He is the **7th son of King Salman**.
- He serves as the **chairman of the Council of Economic and Development Affairs** and **chairman of the Council of Political and Security Affairs**.
- Before he was appointed PM, he served as **minister of defense from 2015 to 2022**.

About Saudi Arabia:

- King: Salman of Saudi Arabia
- Capital: Riyadh
- Currency: Saudi riyal

Stashfin Appoints Former SBI Card MD And CEO Mr. Vijay Jasuja As Non-Executive Cum Independent Director

- Leading Fintech platform Stashfin has appointed BFSI (Banking, Financial Services, and Insurance) expert and former Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of SBI Cards, Mr. Vijay Jasuja as Non-Executive Independent Director.

About Mr. Vijay Jasuja:

- Mr. Jasuja, an industry veteran, has more than 40 years of BFSI experience in leadership positions across Indian and overseas markets and has been the **MD and CEO of SBI Cards**, and **director, of PNB Cards**.

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- He has held multiple leadership positions at SBI including General Manager, Hyderabad; General Manager (IBG), Mumbai; Country Head and CEO, Maldives and Regional Head, Sub-Saharan Africa.

About Stashfin:

- Founded: 2016
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi
- CEO and Founder: Tushar Aggarwal
- Stashfin is a **neo-banking platform** with a mission to deliver seamless and transparent financial services to consumers across a wide spectrum.

Aim:

- To empower the customers by improving their financial health, which will lead to inclusivity, growth, and economic independence.

Senior IAS officer Mr. Rajendra Kumar appointed as Director General of ESIC

- According to an order issued by the Personnel Ministry, Senior bureaucrat Mr. Rajendra Kumar has been appointed as the **director general** of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC).

About Mr. Rajendra Kumar:

- Mr. Kumar is a 1992-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Tamil Nadu cadre.
- Currently, he is an **additional secretary** in the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

Other Appointments:

- As per the order, **Mr. T Natarajan**, a 1996-batch IAS officer of Gujarat cadre, will be an **additional secretary** in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance.
- **Mr. V Hekali Zhimomi** has been appointed as **additional secretary** in the Department of Health and Family Welfare.
- **Mr. Ashish Srivastava**, Additional Secretary and Financial Adviser in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have been named as an adviser in the **Inter-State Council Secretariat**, Ministry of Home Affairs.

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- **Mr. Jaideep Kumar Mishra**, who is currently an additional secretary in the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, will now be the **additional secretary and financial adviser to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**, replacing Srivastava.
- **Mr. Nitishwar Kumar** has been appointed as **additional secretary and financial adviser in the Ministry of Women and Child Development**, by temporarily upgrading a vacant post of joint secretary and financial adviser in the ministry.
- **Mr. L Satya Srinivas**, Additional Secretary in NATGRID, Ministry of Home Affairs, will be an **additional secretary in the Department of Commerce**,
- **Mr. V Radha**, Additional Secretary in the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade has been named as **additional secretary in NITI Aayog**.
- **Mr. Ranjana Chopra**, a 1994-batch IAS officer of Odisha cadre, has been appointed **additional secretary and financial adviser in the Ministry of Culture**.

About ESIC:

- Founded: 24 February 1952
- ESIC is one of the two main statutory social security bodies under the ownership of the **Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India**, the other being the **Employees' Provident Fund Organisation**.

IMPORTANT AWARDS & HONOURS NEWS

67th Filmfare Awards 2022:

- The **Times Group** held the **67th Filmfare Awards** event, which recognized the year's top Hindi-language films from India.
- The 67th Filmfare Awards, presented at **Jio World Centre**, honor movies that were released in 2021.
- **Jitesh Pillai**, the editor of **Filmfare** magazine, announced **Wolf777news** as the headline sponsor during a press conference.
- **Arjun Kapoor** and **Ranveer Singh**, two stars from **Bollywood**, were announced as co-hosts.

List of Winners:

- Best Film: **Shershaah** (Dharma Productions)

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- Best Director: Vishnuvardhan (Shershaah)
- Best Actor: Ranveer Singh (83) as Kapil Dev
- Best Actress: Kriti Sanon, Mimi as Mimi Rathore
- Best Supporting Actor: Pankaj Tripathi (Mimi)
- Best Supporting Actress: Sai Tamhankar (Mimi)
- Filmfare Lifetime Achievement Award: Subhash Ghai

Karnataka's Divita Rai crowned this year Miss Diva Universe:

- Divita Rai, a 23-year-old from Karnataka, was crowned Miss Diva Universe 2022.
- In a magnificent event marking the prestigious pageant's tenth anniversary, she was crowned by the current Miss Universe 2021, Harnaaz Sandhu.
- Rai will represent India in the 71st Miss Universe competition; Harnaaz Sandhu was the previous year's victor.
- Telangana's Pragnya Ayyagari was named Miss Diva Supranational 2022.
- Miss Universe 2000 Lara Dutta, Miss India 1964 Meher Castelino, Miss India 1980 Sangeeta Bijlani, and Miss India Universe 2004 Tanushree Dutta also made an appearance at the event.

64th Ramon Magsaysay Award 2022 announced:

- In a recent worldwide announcement ceremony, the Ramon Magsaysay Awards Foundation (RMAF), popularly considered the "Nobel Peace Prize of Asia," named the recipients for this year.
- Sotheara Chhim (Cambodia), Bernadette Madrid (Philippines), Tadashi Hattori (Japan), and Gary Benchehib (Indonesia) are the recipients of the 2022 Ramon Magsaysay Awards.

About the recipients:

- ❖ **Sotheara Chhim**-He is a Cambodian mental health activist. He is a prominent proponent of the trauma syndrome in Cambodia. He is being honored for "his calm courage in overcoming profound trauma to become the healer of his people." Before the Khmer Rouge's control came to an end in 1979, he was made to work in camps for more than three years as a youngster.
- ❖ **Tadashi Hattori**-He is a Japanese humanitarian who works to save sight. He is being praised for his amazing compassion and straightforward humanity both personally and professionally.

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

At age 15, he decided to become a doctor after seeing the indignity with which his cancer-stricken father was treated in a hospital.

- ❖ **Gary Benchehib** is an Indonesian spokesman against plastic waste. For "his remarkable campaign against marine plastic waste," he has received an Emergent Leadership Award.
- ❖ **Bernardine J. Madrid**- A Filipino advocate for children's rights, she is being honored for "her unpretentious and unwavering devotion to noble and arduous causes. She has been in charge of the Philippine General Hospital's first child safety center in Manila since 1997. Up until last year, it has assisted more than 27,000 kids.

Barack Obama won an Emmy Award for the best narrator Emmy:

- **Obama won the best narrator Emmy** for his work on the **Netflix documentary series, Our Great National Parks.**
- The former president won an Emmy Award to go with his two Grammys.
- The five-part show, which features national parks from around the globe, is produced by **Barack and Michelle Obama's production company, "Higher Ground."**
- He was the biggest name in a category full of famous nominees for the award handed out at night's Creative Arts Emmys, including **Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, David Attenborough, and Lupita Nyong'o.**
- Barack Obama is the second president to have an Emmy. Dwight D. Eisenhower was given a special Emmy Award in 1956.
- **Barack Obama previously won Grammy Awards** for his audiobook reading of two of his memoirs, **The Audacity of Hope** and **"A Promised Land.**
- Michelle Obama won her own Grammy for reading her audiobook in 2020.
- EGOT refers to a special category of entertainers who have won an Emmy, a Grammy, an Oscar, and a Tony.
- The late Chadwick Boseman also won an Emmy for his voice work.
- **The Black Panther actor won for outstanding character voiceover** for the **Disney+ and Marvel Studios** animated show **"What If...?"**
- On the show, **Boseman voiced his "Black Panther" character T'Challa** in an alternate universe where he becomes Star-Lord from Guardians of the Galaxy.

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- It was one of the last projects for Boseman, who died in 2020 of colon cancer at age 43.

President Droupadi Murmu confers National Awards to distinguished teachers:

- President Droupadi Murmu presented national awards to 45 chosen teachers from throughout the nation at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
- India is commemorating National Teachers' Day for the 50th time.
- Every year on September 5, the day honors Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, India's second president and a scholar, philosopher, and recipient of the Bharat Ratna award.
- The National Award to Teachers (NAT) for the year 2022 will be presented by an Independent Jury at the National Level, which was established by the Union Ministry of Education's Department of School Education & Literacy.
- After a three-stage rigorous online transparent procedure, **Sh. Sidharth was chosen as one of 45 excellent teachers from all over India.**

Awardees:

- Pradeep Negi and Kaustubh Chandra Joshi (Uttarakhand), Sunita and Durga Ram Muwal (Rajasthan), Neeraj Saxena and Om Prakash Patidar (Madhya Pradesh), Saurabh Suman and Nishi Kumari (Bihar), G Ponsankari and Umesh TP (Karnataka), Mala Jigdal Dorjee and Sidharth Yonzon (Sikkim) are among the selected teachers.
- Yudhveer, Virender Kumar and Amit Kumar (Himachal Pradesh); Harpreet Singh, Arun Kumar Garg and Vandana Shahi (Punjab); Shashikant Sambhajirao Kulthe, Somnath Waman Walke and Kavita Sanghvi (Maharashtra); Kandala Ramaiah, T N Sridhar and Sunitha Rao (Telangana)
- The other awardees include Anju Dahiya (Haryana), Rajni Sharma (Delhi), Seema Rani (Chandigarh), Maria Murena Miranda (Goa), Umesh Bharatbhai Vala (Gujarat), Mamta Ahar (Chhattisgarh), Iswar Chandra Nayak (Odisha), Buddhadev Dutta (West Bengal), Mimi Yhoshii (Nagaland), Nongmaithem Gautam Singh (Manipur), Ranjan Kumar Biswas (Andaman and Nicobar), among others.

Mahadevikadu Kattil Thekkethil chundan wins Nehru Trophy Boat Race:

- The Mahadevikadu Kattil Thekkethil Chundan of Pallathuruthy Boat Club won its first race in the snake boat division of the Nehru Trophy boat racing at Punnamada Lake in Alappuzha.

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- **Santhosh Chacko's team** finished its hat-trick of victories.
- This year's Nehru Trophy included a total of 77 boats competing, including 20 snake boats.
- NCDC Boat Club of Kumarakom's Nadubhagom and Punnamada Club's Veeyapuram came in **second and third, respectively.**
- **Chambakkulam** of the Police Boat Club finished fourth.
- The Champions Boat League competition for the next year will include the top nine finishers.

Lok Nayak Foundation Sahitya Puraskar awarded to Tanikella Bharani:

- **Tanikella Bharani**, a writer and performer in Telugu, received the **18th Loknayak Foundation Award**, the foundation's annual Sahitya Puraskar, during a ceremony held at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh's Kalabharathi Auditorium.
- Along with actor Manchu Mohan Babu and other guests, the chief guest for the event, Kambhampati Haribabu, presented Tanikella Bharania with her award.
- Additionally, the present was retired Supreme Court Justice Jasti Chelameswar.
- The award is popularly referred to as **'Andhra Jnanpith'**.
- It carries a cash prize of **Rs 2 lakh.**
- Indian actor, screenwriter, poet, dramatist, and director Tanikella Bharani primarily create Telugu films.
- He has participated in over 750 Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, and Hindi films.
- He got three State Nandi Awards from Andhra Pradesh.

West Bengal bags International Travel Award 2023 For 'Best Destination for Culture':

- The **Pacific Area Travel Writers Association (PATWA)**, an affiliate member of the **United Nations World Tourism Organization**, has granted West Bengal the International Travel Award 2023 for Best Destination for Culture (UNWTO).
- On **March 9, 2023**, in Berlin, Germany, at the World Tourism and Aviation Leaders' Summit, the **award** will be given out.
- The Republic of **Cuba** has been named the **Caribbean's Leading Cultural Destination in 2022** by **World Travel Awards** for the second consecutive year.
- The Pacific Area Travel Writers Association (PATWA) is a professional travel writers' organization established in 1998.

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Singapore awarded the 'Meritorious Service Medal' to Sunil Lanba, Former Navy Chief of India:

- Admiral Sunil Lanba, a former chief of the naval staff of India, has received the Pingat Jasa Gemilang (Tentera), also known as the Meritorious Service Medal (Military) (MSM(M)), from President Halimah Yacob.
- The award was given to Admiral Lanba in recognition of his excellent efforts to strengthen the long-standing bilateral defense ties between the Indian Navy and the Republic of Singapore Navy.

Hindi writer Dr. Asghar Wajahat awarded with 31st Vyas Samman:

- Well-known Hindi author Dr. Asghar Wajahat received the 31st Vyas Samman at a ceremony in New Delhi.
- For his play Mahabali, he has been given the coveted honor.
- Dr. Wajahat centers his drama Mahabali on the poet Tulsidas and the Mughal emperor Akbar.
- He tries to determine if Mahabali the poet or Mahabali the monarch is the actual Mahabali via the play.
- The K K Birla Foundation awards the Vyas Samman for exceptional Hindi literature written by an Indian citizen and published during the previous ten years.
- It comes with a plaque, a citation, and a prize worth Rs.4 lakhs.
- The Initiation took place in 1991.
- In 1991, Ram Vilas Sharma's book "Bharat ke Pracheen Bhasha Parivar aur Hindi" earned him the first Vyas Samman.
- The 30th Vyas Samman was given to Professor Sharad Pagare in recognition of his book, "Patliputra ki Samragi."

Jal Shakti Ministry Announces Winners of 'Water Heroes: Share Your Stories Contest':

- The Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti has launched the 'Water Heroes: Share Your Stories' contest.
- The 3rd edition has been launched on 01.12.2021 and will end on 30.11.2022 on the MyGov portal.
- The 1st edition was launched from 01.09.2019 to 30.08.2020.
- The 2nd edition was launched from 19.09.2020 to 31.08.2021.

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- The objective of the contest is to promote the value of water, in general, and for supporting country-wide efforts on **water conservation and sustainable development of water resources**.
- For August 2022, there are **six winners**, will get a cash prize of Rs. 10,000/- and a certificate, details given below:

Divyansh Tondon:

- He is from Meerut, associated with the campaign named “Paani Panchayat” under which they go to various villages, streets, towns, schools, and localities and make the public aware.

Vinay Vishwanath Gawas

- He is a Project Director from Goa, campaigning about Rooftop Rainwater Harvesting and borewell recharge in Kelawade village, Keri sattari, Goa.

Amit

- He is a Gram Pradhan in Malakpura, Jalon, UP, and was a Journalist in Delhi. He has done various activities for development such as providing healthy foods in the primary school of the village, working in plantation work, environment protection, and Water purification through sedimentation activities

Babita Rajpoot Ghuwara

- She is from Chattarpur, Madhya Pradesh. She is involved in the construction of four check dams and two outlets and made bori bandahan.

Anurag Patel

- Anurag Patel, District Magistrate, Banda in a considerable effort to conserve water ran two significant campaigns- ‘Jal Sanchay, Jeevan Sanchay’ and ‘Jal Kumbhi Hatao-Talab Bachao Abhiyan’.

Snehlata Sharma

- Snehlata Sharma from Shivpuri District Block Badarwas, Piparodha Village has been doing a considerable and praiseworthy job in the field of water conservation and management for the past 1 year.

74th Primetime Emmy Awards 2022:

- The **74th Primetime Emmy Awards** were held, to recognize **some great American television performances till mid-2022**.

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- There are more than 40 categories in all, and between June 1, 2021, and May 31, 2022, authors, performers, directors, and editors received recognition for their outstanding work.
- **Kenan Thompson** served as host of the **74th annual Emmy Awards** at the Microsoft Theater in **Los Angeles**.

CATEGORY	WINNER
OUTSTANDING LEAD ACTRESS IN A COMEDY SERIES	Jean Smart- Hacks
OUTSTANDING LEAD ACTOR IN A COMEDY SERIES	Jason Sudeikis- Ted Lasso
OUTSTANDING COMEDY SERIES	Ted Lasso
OUTSTANDING LEAD ACTOR IN A LIMITED OR ANTHOLOGY SERIES OR A MOVIE	Michael Keaton- Dopesick
OUTSTANDING LEAD ACTRESS IN A LIMITED OR ANTHOLOGY SERIES OR A MOVIE	Amanda Seyfried- The Dropout
OUTSTANDING LIMITED OR ANTHOLOGY SERIES	The White Lotus
OUTSTANDING LEAD ACTRESS IN A DRAMA SERIES	Zendaya- Euphoria
OUTSTANDING LEAD ACTOR IN A DRAMA SERIES	Lee Jung-Jae- Squid Game
OUTSTANDING DRAMA SERIES	Succession
SUPPORTING ACTOR IN A COMEDY SERIES	Brett Goldstein- Ted Lasso
SUPPORTING ACTRESS IN A	Sheryl Lee Ralph- Abbott Elementary

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COMEDY SERIES	
GUEST ACTOR IN A DRAMA SERIES	Colman Domingo- Euphoria
GUEST ACTRESS IN A DRAMA SERIES	Lee You-mi- Squid Game
SUPPORTING ACTOR IN A DRAMA SERIES	Matthew Macfadyen- Succession
SUPPORTING ACTRESS IN A DRAMA SERIES	Julia Garner- Ozark
SUPPORTING ACTOR IN A LIMITED SERIES OR TV MOVIE	Murray Bartlett- The White Lotus
SUPPORTING ACTRESS IN A LIMITED SERIES OR TV MOVIE	Jennifer Coolidge- The White Lotus
TELEVISION MOVIE	Chip 'n' Dale: Rescue Rangers
GUEST ACTOR IN A COMEDY SERIES	Nathan Lane- Only Murders in the Building
GUEST ACTRESS IN A COMEDY SERIES	Laurie Metcalf- Hacks
OUTSTANDING WRITING FOR A COMEDY SERIES	Abbott Elementary- Quinta Brunson
OUTSTANDING WRITING FOR A DRAMA SERIES	Succession- Jesse Armstrong
OUTSTANDING WRITING FOR A LIMITED OR ANTHOLOGY SERIES OR MOVIE	The White Lotus- Mike White
OUTSTANDING WRITING FOR A VARIETY SERIES	Last Week Tonight With John Oliver

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OUTSTANDING WRITING FOR A VARIETY OF SPECIAL	Jerrold Carmichael: Rothaniel
OUTSTANDING WRITING FOR A NONFICTION PROGRAM	Lucy And Desi
OUTSTANDING COMPETITION PROGRAM	Lizzo's Watch Out for the Big Grrrls
STRUCTURED REALITY PROGRAM	Queer Eye
UNSTRUCTURED REALITY PROGRAM	Love on the Spectrum
HOST FOR A REALITY OR COMPETITION PROGRAM	RuPaul- RuPaul's Drag Race
VARIETY SKETCH SHOW	Saturday Night Live
VARIETY SPECIAL (LIVE)	The Pepsi Super Bowl LVI Halftime Show Starring Dr. Dre- Snoop Dogg- Mary J. Blige- Eminem- Kendrick Lamar And 50 Cent
VARIETY SPECIAL (PRE-RECORDED)	Adele: One Night Only
SHORT-FORM COMEDY, DRAMA, OR VARIETY SERIES	Carpool Karaoke: The Series
SHORT-FORM NONFICTION OR REALITY SERIES	Full Frontal With Samantha Bee Presents: Once Upon A Time In Late Night
DOCUMENTARY OR NONFICTION SPECIAL	George Carlin's American Dream
DOCUMENTARY OR NONFICTION SERIES	The Beatles: Get Back
EXCEPTIONAL MERIT IN	When Claude Got Shot

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DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKING	
ACTOR IN A SHORT-FORM COMEDY OR DRAMA SERIES	Tim Robinson- I Think You Should Leave With Tim Robinson
ACTRESS IN A SHORT-FORM COMEDY OR DRAMA SERIES	Patricia Clarkson- State of the Union
ANIMATED PROGRAM	Arcane
SHORT-FORM ANIMATED PROGRAM	Love- Death + Robots
CHARACTER VOICE-OVER PERFORMANCE	Chadwick Boseman- What If...?
NARRATOR	Barack Obama- Our Great National Parks
HOSTED NONFICTION SERIES OR SPECIAL	Stanley Tucci: Searching for Italy
OUTSTANDING DIRECTING FOR A COMEDY SERIES	Ted Lasso- MJ Delaney
OUTSTANDING DIRECTING FOR A DRAMA SERIES	Squid Game- Hwang Dong-hyuk
OUTSTANDING DIRECTING FOR A LIMITED OR ANTHOLOGY SERIES OR MOVIE	The White Lotus- Mike White
OUTSTANDING DIRECTING FOR A VARIETY SERIES	A Black Lady Sketch Show- Bridget Stokes
OUTSTANDING DIRECTING FOR A VARIETY OF SPECIAL	Adele: One Night Only- Paul Dugdale
OUTSTANDING DIRECTING FOR A DOCUMENTARY/NONFICTION PROGRAM	The Beatles: Get Back- Peter Jackson

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OUTSTANDING DIRECTING FOR
A REALITY PROGRAM

Lizzo's Watch Out For The Big Grrrls-
Nneka Onuorah

Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh presents INSPIRE awards to 60 startups:

- Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh awarded INSPIRE Awards to 60 entrepreneurs, as well as financial assistance to 53,021 students, on behalf of the Ministry of Science and Technology.
- The prize is sponsored by the Government of India's Department of Science and Technology (DST), and these innovators will receive full incubation assistance throughout their entrepreneurial journey.
- In 2020-21, the annual INSPIRE Awards MANAK (Million Minds Augmenting National Aspiration and Knowledge) competition drew an unprecedented 6.53 lakh ideas and inventions from all states and UTs.
- The scheme attained an unprecedented level of inclusivity by representing the ideas and innovations of 702 districts (96%), including 123 out of 124 aspirational districts, 51% representation from girls, 84% participation from schools in rural areas of the country, and 71% of schools run by State/UT Governments.

GRSE has been awarded the prestigious 'Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar' for 2021-22:



- Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineering Limited (GRSE), Kolkata, has been awarded the 'Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar' by the Government of India's Ministry of Home Affairs.
- The Government of India recognized GRSE for the finest application of official language in public sector undertakings in Region 'C' for the fiscal year 2021-22.
- Shri Ajay Kumar Mishra, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Home, received the 'Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar.'
- The prize was awarded during the Surat Hindi Diwas Celebration.

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- **Shri Amit Shah**, Hon'ble Union Minister of Home Affairs and Corporation presided over the Hindi Diwas Celebration.
- **Shri Bhupendra Bhai Patel**, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat, and **Shri Nishith Pramanik**, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, as well as other Union and State Cabinet Ministers, MPs, and MLAs presided over the event.

Swati Piramal was conferred with top French civilian honor:

- **Vice Chair of the Piramal Group, Swati Piramal**, has received the **Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur** title (Knight of the Legion of Honour).
- The **highest civilian honor in France** is given to Piramal in honor of his great accomplishments and contributions to commerce and industry, research, medicine, art, and culture on a national and international level.
- On behalf of **President Emmanuel Macron**, the honour was given to her by **H.E. Catherine Colonna**, France's Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs.
- She also received the **second-highest civilian honour in France**, the **Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite** (Knight of the Order of Merit), in 2006.
- Swati Piramal is a proponent of creating frameworks and policies to support women in leadership roles and a winner of the **Padma Shri**, one of India's highest civilian honors.

Gujarati film 'Chhello Show' becomes India's official entry for Oscars 2023:

- India's official entry for the **95th Academy Awards or Oscars** is the Gujarati film "**Chhello Show**," a coming-of-age drama about a young boy's love of cinema in a village in Saurashtra, according to the **Film Federation of India (FFI)**.
- The **Pan Nalin**-directed movie, titled "**Last Film Show**" in English, will debut in theatres across the nation on **October 14**.
- The **95th Academy Awards** are slated to take place in **Los Angeles** on **March 12, 2023**.

Alia Bhatt receives the Prestigious "Priyadarshni Academy's Smita Patil Memorial Award":

- **Alia Bhatt**, a 29-year-old actress, won the renowned **Priyadarshni Academy Smita Patil Memorial Award for Best Actor**.

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- At the 38th-anniversary celebrations of the top non-profit, socio-cultural, and educational organization, **Priyadarshini Academy**, she receives this honor for her remarkable contribution to Indian cinema.
- The recipients of this honor get annual recognition for their great performance and significant contributions to their respective fields on a national and worldwide level.
- At the **Academy Awards presentation ceremony** this year, great achievers were recognized online by **Union Ministers, Government of India, via a webinar set.**

Four leaders are honored by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation with the 2022 Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards:

- As part of its yearly Goalkeepers program, the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** recognized four changemakers with the **2022 Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards.**
- The honor recognizes their efforts to achieve the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations (UN)** in their local communities and globally.
- The **sixth Goalkeepers Report** from the Gates Foundation, titled "**The Future of Progress,**" was published.
- Bill and Melinda Gates, co-chairs of the foundation, contributed as authors.
- **Tumelo Mothotoane**, the senior anchor of South African news station eNCA, hosted the event.
- The **Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards ceremony** was held at **Lincoln Center in New York, USA (US).**
- The goalkeeper is a campaign launched by the Gates Foundation to accelerate progress toward Sustainable Development Goals (Global Goals).

Name of the Award	Presented by	Awardee	Country
2022 Global Goalkeeper Award	Bill Gates and Melinda French Gates	Ursula von der Leyen	Germany
2022 Campaign	Malala Yousafzai	Vanessa Nakate	Uganda

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Award			
2022 Changemaker Award	Angelina Jolie	Zahra Joya	Afghanistan
2022 Progress Award	Lilly Singh	Dr. Radhika Batra	India

India has won a UN award for its "India Hypertension Control Initiative":

- India has won a UN award for its "India Hypertension Control Initiative", IHCI which is an important achievement and recognition of the nation's efforts to fight hypertension.
- IHCI is a large-scale initiative under the National Health Mission.
- The IHCI has been honored for its outstanding contributions to India's primary healthcare system.
- The IHCI has been awarded the '2022 UN Interagency Task Force and WHO Special Programme on Primary Health Care Award' at a side event of the UN General Assembly held in New York, USA.
- The award has been given for India's exceptional efforts to prevent and control Non-Communicable Diseases.
- In 2017, this initiative was launched in a phased manner to cover over 130 districts across 23 states.
- Under this initiative, more than 34 lakh hypertensive patients are being treated in government health facilities including Ayushman Bharat Health Wellness Centres.

9th NLEPC for the INSPIRE Awards – MANAK has commenced:

- The Ninth National Level Exhibition and Project Competition (NLEPC) for the INSPIRE Awards – MANAK (Million Minds Augmenting National Aspiration and Knowledge), has commenced.
- It is aligned with the 'Start-up India' initiative and is being executed by DST (Department of Science and Technology) with the National Innovation Foundation – India (NIF), an autonomous body of DST.

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- Financial support of Rs 10,000 each would be provided so that they could develop prototypes of the ideas which they submitted for the scheme.
- **The INSPIRE Awards were presented to 60 Start-Ups and financial support was provided to 53,021 students.**
- It touched an unparalleled level of inclusivity by representing ideas and innovations of 702 districts of the country (96%) including 123 out of 124 aspirational districts, with 51% representation from girls, 84% participation from schools located in rural areas of the country and 71% of the schools run by the State / UT Governments.

About INSPIRE:

- "Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE)" is an innovative program sponsored and managed by the Department of Science & Technology to the attraction of talent to Science.
- The basic objective of INSPIRE is to communicate to the youth of the country the excitement of the creative pursuit of science, attract talent to the study of science at an early age and thus build the required critical human resource pool for strengthening and expanding the Science & Technology system and R & D base.

Daniel Spielman has won the Breakthrough Prize in mathematics:

- **Daniel Spielman** has been announced as the winner of the **Breakthrough Prize in mathematics**.
- He got the award for his contributions to theoretical computer science and mathematics.
- **Breakthrough Prize Foundation** has announced the winners in the three categories — **fundamental physics, mathematics, and life sciences**.
- The winners of the prizes are known as "laureates".
- The Breakthrough Prizes was instituted by a group of Silicon Valley entrepreneurs in 2010.
- The winner receives a prize of \$3 million.
- It is also known as the "Oscars of Science".

President Draupadi Murmu has presented the NSS Awards:

- President **Draupadi Murmu** presented the **National Service Scheme (NSS) Awards 2020-21**.
- President Draupadi Murmu presented a **total of 42 awards**.
- Two universities, ten NSS units, and 30 volunteers received the awards.

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- The National Service Scheme Award is conferred by the Department of Youth Affairs every year.
- It is given for the outstanding contributions made by universities and Colleges, NSS units, NSS Volunteers, program Officers, etc. for voluntary community service.
- At present, the NSS has about 40 lakh volunteers across the country.

About NSS:

- **NSS is a Centrally Sector Scheme** launched in the year **1969**.
- Its main objective is to develop the personality and character of the youths through voluntary community service.
- National Service Scheme (NSS) Awards: It is conferred every year on NSS Foundation Day (24 September).
- It was instituted by the **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports** during 1992-93.

Meena Kandasamy has won the Hermann Kesten Prize:

- **Meena Kandasamy** has been announced the **winner of the Hermann Kesten Prize**.
- The award will be given at a **ceremony in Darmstadt on 15 November 2022**.
- Meena Kandasamy is a **feminist and anti-caste activist**.
- She works on issues related to gender, caste, sexuality, patriarchy, and oppression by the Brahmanical system.
- Her novels have been selected for the Women's Prize for Fiction, the International Dylan Thomas Prize, the Jhalak Prize, and the Hindu Lit Prize.
- Tamil Tigresses (2021), Touch (2006), Gypsy Goddess (2014), and Ms. Militancy (2010) are some famous works of Meena Kandasamy.
- This year, a special award will be also given to the website "**Weiter Schreiben**" to encourage **writers from conflict zones**.
- Hermann Kesten Prize is given to personalities, who stand up for the rights of persecuted authors and journalists.
- The winner receives an amount of €20,000 (\$19,996) as prize money.

Asha Parekh to be bestowed with the 52nd Dadasaheb Phalke award:

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- The **Dadasaheb Phalke award for 2020** has been given to veteran actress **Asha Parekh**, making her the **52nd winner** of the distinction.
- **Mr. Anurag Thakur**, the union minister for Information and Broadcasting, revealed her identity.
- She participated in over 95 films, and from 1998 to 2001, she served as chair of the Central Board of Film Certification.
- She was also given the Padma Shri by the Indian government in 1992 for her contributions to cinema.
- Asha Parekh also worked in Gujarati, Punjabi, and Kannada films.
- In the late 70s and 80s, she was relegated to what was called 'character roles' back then
- The most recent **Dadasaheb Phalke award** went to Southern film legend **Rajinikanth**.

Suella Braverman has won the Queen Elizabeth II Woman of the Year award:

- In Britain, Indian-origin Home Minister **Suella Braverman** has been nominated for the **Queen Elizabeth II Woman of the Year award**.
- This is the first ever award in this category.
- Suella Braverman's parents collected the award on her behalf at a ceremony in London.
- **Suella Braverman** has been recently appointed as **Home Secretary** by **British Prime Minister Liz Truss**.
- Suella Braverman was **previously Attorney General between 2020-2022**.
- She is a British lawyer of Indian heritage.
- Queen Elizabeth II Woman of the Year Award is sponsored by **@AxiomDWF**.

Asha Parekh has received the Dadasaheb Phalke Award for the year 2020:

- **Legendary actress Asha Parekh** will receive the **Dadasaheb Phalke Award** for the year 2020, according to a recent announcement from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- The award will be presented at the **National Film Award ceremony** in New Delhi.
- The Minister also announced that **Smt. Droupadi Murmu**, the President of India, will preside over the **68th National Film Awards**, which will take place on **30 September 2022**.
- The best actor award for 2020 is shared between **Ajay Devgan** and **Suriya** for the movies **Tanhaji: The Unsung Warrior** and **Soorarai Pottru**, respectively.
- **Manoj Muntashir** got the award for **Best Lyrics** in the Hindi movie **"Saina"**.

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- Dada Saheb Phalke award was introduced by the Government of India to celebrate Dada Saheb's contribution to Indian cinema.
- He directed the first full-length feature movie of India, Raja Harischandra in 1913.
- The award consists of a Swarna Kamal medallion, a shawl, and a cash prize of 10 lakhs.
- Devika Rani was the first winner of this award.

About Asha Parekh:

- Asha Parekh is an accomplished Indian classical dancer as well as a well-known actress, director, and producer in the film industry.
- She began her acting career as a child actor.
- Parekh is a winner of Padhma Shri, awarded to her in 1992.
- She also served as the head of the Central Board for Film Certification from 1998-2001.

IMPORTANT DEFENCE NEWS

Indian Coast Guard conducts 10th edition of national maritime search and rescue exercise-22 in Chennai

- The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) conducted the 10th National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise SAREX -22 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India.
- The two-day exercise was inaugurated by Dr. Ajay Kumar, Defence Secretary, Government of India.
- The theme of the biennial exercise is "Capacity Building Towards Marine Passenger Safety".
- The exercise will be conducted under the aegis of the National Maritime Search and Rescue Board (NMSARB), which is hosted by the Indian Coast Guard as the nodal maritime SAR coordinating agency for the Indian Search and Rescue Region (ISRR).
- In addition to 51 participants from national maritime SAR stakeholders, the exercise will be attended by 24 foreign observers from 16 friendly foreign countries.
- The 9th edition of SAREX-20 was inaugurated by Dr. Ajay Kumar, Defence Secretary, in Goa.

About ICG:

- Founded: 1 February 1977 by the Coast Guard Act, 1978 of the Parliament of India.
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India

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- Director General: Virender Singh Pathania
- It operates under the **Ministry of Defence (MoD)**.

Indian Army joins elite list set to possess quantum communication technology

- The **Indian Army** is set to possess **advanced quantum communication technology**, thereby joining an elite list of nations with **indigenous quantum technology**.
- It will equip troops with a **high-end secured defense system**.
- With the support of **Innovation for Defence Excellence (iDEX)**, and **Defence Innovation Organisation**, the QNu Labs which is a Bangalore-based deep tech start-up has innovated advanced secured communication through **Quantum Key Distribution (QKD)**.
- The leading countries in the QKD systems are **China, the US, Canada**, and other **European countries**.

About the QKD system:

- A QKD system allows the creation of a **quantum-secure secret pair of symmetric keys** between 2 endpoints, separated by a certain distance [in this case, over 150 km] in **terrestrial optical fiber infrastructure**.
- The QKD helps create a **non-hackable quantum channel** for creating un-hackable encryption keys, which are used to encrypt critical data/voice/video, across the endpoints.
- The Indian Army has initiated the procurement process of QNu Labs' developed QKD systems by issuing a commercial **Request For Proposal (RFP)**.

About the Indian Army:

- Founded: 26 January 1950
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India
- Chief of the Army Staff: General Manoj Pande

About QNu Labs:

- Founded: 2016
- Headquarters: Bengaluru, Karnataka, India
- CEO: Sunil Gupta
- QNu Labs (or QuNu Labs Private Limited) is a **cybersecurity company**.

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- It is credited to be the **first firm** in India to successfully develop commercial cybersecurity products using quantum physics.

Cabinet Committee on Security approves Tejas Mark-2 Project

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi-led Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) has approved the **Tejas Mark-2 project** to boost India's push for **indigenous fighter aircraft**.
- The CCS has sanctioned **6,500 crores** for designing and developing of Tejas Mark-2 fighter jet with prototypes, flight testing, and certification in addition to the existing **2500 crore** sanctioned to Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- Tejas 2.0 will be a more capable version of the **indigenous Tejas light combat aircraft (LCA)**.

About Tejas Mark-2:

- Tejas 2.0 will be equipped with more powerful **GE-414 engines** in the **98 Kilonewton** thrust class.
- The payload capacity of the Tejas Mark-2 jet will be **4 tonnes** as compared to 3 tonnes of the existing version.
- This would pave the way for designers to develop an advanced **17.5-tonne single-engine aircraft**.
- It is expected to replace fighters like the **Mirage-2000s, Jaguars and MiG-29s** in the IAF's **combat fleet**.
- The new jet will also be equipped with an indigenously developed **Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) radar**, which will be a major upgrade from the existing ELTA EL/M-2032 multi-mode radar.
- The government is also planning on approving the **fifth-generation advanced medium combat aircraft (AMCA)** with stealth features and supercruise capabilities.

Indian Army contingent participates in Ex Vostok-2022 in Russia

- The Indian Army contingent of the Gorkha Regiment troops began the multilateral strategic and command Exercise Vostok - 2022 at the training grounds of the Eastern Military District of Russia which will take place **Sep 01 to 07 2022**.

Aim:

- Interaction and coordination amongst other participating military contingents and observers.

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- The Indian Army contingent of troops from **7/8 Gorkha Rifles** had arrived at the exercise location & will undertake joint manoeuvres to include joint field training exercises, combat discussions, and firepower exercises.

About Exercise Vostok - 2022:

- The Vostok 2022 exercise will be held at **7 firing ranges** in Russia's Far Eastern Federal District of Russia & the **Sea of Okhotsk** and the **Sea of Japan**.
- The 7-day drills have land, air, and sea components.
- The exercises will allow the armies of the participating countries to “**practice defensive and offensive operations**”.
- It involved **50,000 troops** and **more than 5,000 items of armaments & military hardware**, in particular, **140 aircraft**, **60 combat ships**, **gunboats**, and **support vessels**.
- The exercise will engage troops from **China, India, Laos, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Syria**, and several ex-Soviet nations like **Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan**.

About the Indian contingent:

- According to the **Ministry of Defence**, the Indian Army Contingent will share practical aspects and also put into practice the validated procedures, drills, and through discussions to practice amalgamation of new technology and also tactical exercises.
- The warships of the **Russian Navy's Pacific Fleet** and the **Chinese People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN)** will however be participating in the drill to take place in the Sea of Japan and Sea of Okhotsk.

Indian Navy & SAC ISRO signed MoU for Cooperation on Satellite-Based Naval Applications in Oceanology & Meteorology.

- The **Indian Navy** signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **Indian Space Research Organisation's Space Applications Centre (SAC)**, Ahmedabad, Gujarat on **data sharing and cooperation on Satellite-based Naval Applications in Oceanology and Meteorology**.
- The MoU was signed by **Nilesh M Desai**, Distinguished Scientist, Director of SAC & **Commodore G Rambabu**, Naval Oceanology & Meteorology (NOM).

Major areas of cooperation include;

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- Sharing of non-confidential observational data
- Operation exploitation weather products generated by SAC
- Provisioning of Subject Matter Experts (SME) in processing the satellite data for the development of new tools
- Calibration and validation of ocean models.
- This MoU is the extension of the last MoU signed in 2017.

About SAC:

- Established: 1972
- Headquarters: Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- SAC is an institution of research under the parent head of the **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)**.
- It was founded by **Dr. Vikram Sarabhai**.

DRDO & Indian Army completes 6 flight tests of QRSAM system off Odisha coast

- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** and **Indian Army** have completed **six flight tests** of the **Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile (QRSAM)** system from **Integrated Test Range (ITR) Chandipur** off the Odisha coast.
- The flight tests were conducted as part of evaluation trials by the **Indian Army**.

About QRSAM:

- QRSAM is a **short-range Surface Air Missile (SAM) system**, primarily designed and developed by the DRDO to provide a protective shield to the moving armored columns of the Army from aerial attacks.
- The flight tests were carried out against **high-speed aerial targets** mimicking various types of threats to evaluate the capability of the weapon systems under different scenarios, including long-range medium altitude, short range, high altitude maneuvering targets, low radar signature with receding & crossing targets, and salvo launch with two missiles fired in quick succession.
- The system performance was also evaluated under day and night operation scenarios.
- The performance of the system has been confirmed from the data captured by a Range of instruments like **Telemetry, Radar, and Electro-Optical Tracking Systems (EOTS)** deployed by ITR.

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Recent News:

- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** and Indian Navy successfully flight tested the **Vertical Launch Short Range Surface-to-Air Missile (VL-SRSAM)** from the **Integrated Test Range (ITR)**, Chandipur off the coast of Odisha.

About the Indian Army:

- **Founded:** 26 January 1950
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi, Delhi, India
- **Chief of the Army Staff:** General Manoj Pande

DRDO Successfully Test-fires Pinaka Extended Range Rocket In Pokharan, Balasore

- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** successfully conducted trials of the **enhanced range Pinaka Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher (MBRL)** at **Balasore and Pokhran, Rajasthan**.
- **Munitions India Limited and Economic Explosives Limited**, the manufacturers of the system.

About Pinaka rockets:

- The Pinaka MBRL is a **multiple rocket launcher** produced in **India** for the **Indian Army** and comprises a **free-flight artillery rocket**.
- It is designed by the **Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE)**, a **laboratory** of the **DRDO**.
- Pinaka Mark-I has a **maximum range** of **40 kilometers** while the Mark-I enhanced version has a maximum range of **60 kilometers**.
- In **May 2022**, **DRDO** completed trials of the **Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS)** conducted at **Pokhran Field Firing Range (PFFR)**, **Rajasthan**.
- The **ATAGS** is a completely **indigenous towed artillery gun system project** undertaken in mission mode by the **DRDO**, as part of the **artillery modernization program** of the **Indian Army**.
- **Indian firms Bharat Forge and Tata Advanced Systems Limited** have produced the **ATAGS**.
- On **April 9, 2022**, **Pinaka Mark I Enhanced and Pinaka Area Denial Munition (ADM)** was fired from the **Army Test Range at Pokhran** for consistency and accuracy, as part of developmental tests.

About DRDO:

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- Established: 1958
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India
- Chairman: Dr. Sameer V Kamath
- DRDO is the premier agency under the **Department of Defence Research and Development** in the **Ministry of Defence** of the GoI.

US Military Successfully Tests Minuteman III Intercontinental Ballistic Missile

- The **Air Force Global Strike Command Airmen** launched an **unarmed LGM-30G Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM)** equipped with **3 test re-entry vehicles** from the **Vandenberg Space Force Base** in **California**
- It will be the **second** such US nuclear defense drill in less than a month after the launch of Minuteman III ICBM in Aug 2022.

About Minuteman III ICBM:

- The LGM-30 Minuteman is an **American land-based ICBM** in service with the **Air Force Global Strike Command**.
- The Minuteman III has been in service for 50 years and is currently the **only land-based ICBM** in the **US nuclear arsenal**.
- The missiles are housed in silos on **three US military bases** in **Wyoming, North Dakota, and Montana**.
- The US arsenal also includes **Trident submarine-launched ballistic missiles** and nuclear weapons carried by strategic bomber aircraft.
- In **1970**, Minuteman III became the **first deployed ICBM** with **multiple independently targetable reentry vehicles (MIRV)**.

Indian Army & Indian Air Force conduct joint exercise 'Gagan strike' in Punjab

- **Indian Army's Kharga Corps** and the **Indian Air Force (IAF)** conducted a joint exercise '**Gagan strike**' in Punjab.
- The joint exercise, spearheaded by **General Officer Commanding Khagra Corps, Lt Gen Pratik Sharma**, was conducted over **4 days**.
- **Lt Gen Nav K Khanduri**, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Command, witnessed the exercise.

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About the joint exercise 'Gagan strike':

- The exercise comprised the deployment of attack helicopters as the aerial arm in support of ground forces carrying out drills, practicing annihilation of enemy defenses and deep penetration
- It validated the Apache 64E and Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Weapon System Integrated (WSI) as potent weapons delivery platforms.
- The exercise also showcased the precision firepower of the attack helicopters in coordination with ground forces' mechanized columns.

Indian Navy launches stealth frigate Taragiri, built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd

- The Indian Navy launched Taragiri, the Third Stealth Frigate of P17A in Mumbai, Maharashtra by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL).
- Taragiri has been named after a hill range in the Himalayas situated at Garhwal, Uttarakhand.
- The ship was named Smt. Charu Singh, President Navy Wives Welfare Association (NWWA) in Mumbai & it is expected to be delivered by August 2025
- Vice Admiral Ajendra Bahadur Singh, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command was the Chief Guest.
- The frigate is designed by the Indian Navy's in-house design organization, the Bureau of Naval Design.

Key Features of Taragiri:

- Launch weight: approximately 3510 Tons.
- Length & Width: 149.02 M long & 17.8 M wide ship
- It is propelled by a CODOG combination of two Gas Turbines and two Main Diesel Engines.
- Speed: 28 knots
- Displacement: approx. 6670 Tons

About Taragiri:

- It will have state-of-the-art weapons, sensors, an advanced action information system, an integrated platform management system, world-class modular living spaces, a sophisticated power distribution system, and a host of other advanced features.

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- The steel used in Hull construction of P17A frigates is indigenously developed **DMR 249A** which is a **low carbon micro-alloy grade steel** manufactured by **Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)**.
- It will be fitted with a **supersonic surface-to-surface missile system**.
- **Two-30 mm rapid-fire guns** will provide the ship with close-in-defense capability while a **Super Rapid Gun Mount (SRGM) Gun** will enable her to provide effective naval gunfire support.
- A total of **7 ships**, under the P17A program with **4 at MDL** and **3 at GRSE** are still under construction.
- The first ship of Project 17A, '**Nilgiri**', was launched on **September 28, 2019**, and is expected for sea trials in the first half of 2024.
- The second ship of the '**Udaygiri**' class under the project was launched on **May 17 2022** & it is expected to start sea trials during the second half of 2024.

6th edition of India-Japan maritime Bilateral exercise 'JIMEX' takes place in the Bay of Bengal

- The sixth edition of **Japan India Maritime Exercise 2022 (JIMEX 22)** was hosted by the **Indian Navy** & commenced in the **Bay of Bengal**.

Represents:

- The Indian Navy is represented by **three** indigenously designed and built warships; **Sahyadri**, a multi-purpose stealth frigate, and Anti-Submarine Warfare Corvettes **INS Kadmatt** and **INS Kavaratti**.
- The **Japan Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF)** ships are being led by **R Adm Hirata Toshiyuki**, **Commander Escort Flotilla Four** & Indian Naval ships by **R Adm Sanjay Bhalla**, **Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet**.
- The **JIMEX 22** edition marks the **10th anniversary** of **JIMEX**, which began in Japan in **2012**.
- It also coincides with the **70th anniversary** of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Japan.
- The Indian Naval ships welcomed **JMSDF ships Izumo**, a **Helicopter Carrier**, and **Takanami**, a **Guided Missile Destroyer**, on their arrival in the Bay of Bengal.

About JIMEX 22:

- **JIMEX 22** involves **two Phases**; exercises at sea and a harbour phase at **Visakhapatnam**

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- Additionally, Guided Missile Destroyer Ranvijay, Fleet Tanker Jyoti, Offshore Patrol Vessel Sukanya, submarines, MIG 29K fighter aircraft, Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft, and ship-borne helicopters are also participating in the exercise.

BSF's first female camel riding squad ready to be deployed along the India-Pakistan border in Rajasthan and Gujarat

- The **Border Security Force's (BSF's) first female camel riding squad** is ready to be deployed along the India-Pakistan border in Rajasthan and Gujarat.
- The squad participated for the **first time** in the **BSF Raising Day Parade** on **1st December 2022**.
- This Squad will be the **first of its kind** in the world.
- Intensive training was given to this squad at the Bikaner Regional Headquarters of BSF under the supervision of skilled trainers.

About BSF:

- Founded: 1 December 1965
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India.
- Director General: Pankaj Kumar Singh
- It is one of the **seven Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF)** of India.
- It is the **only CAPF** to have a **Water Wing**, **Air Wing**, and an **Artillery Regiment**.
- It comes under the **Ministry of Home Affairs**.
- The BSF is the **only force in the country** to have the **Camel Contingents** and the **Camel Mounted Band**.

Army Chief Gen Manoj Pande reviews exercise Parvat Prahar in Ladakh

- **Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Manoj Pande** who is on a **2-day visit** to Ladakh, reviewed **exercise Parvat Prahar** and took a brief on operational preparedness by commanders on the ground.

About the exercise Parvat Prahar:

- The exercise involved elements of the **Mathura-based 1 Strike Corps** of the Indian Army.
- It was held on the **Ladakh plateau** at an **altitude of 14,000 feet**

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- The Exercise, which included **infantry soldiers, T-90S and T-72 tanks, mechanized infantry, K-9 Vajra, Bofors, and M-777 howitzers, helicopters, and aircraft**, took place in the high-altitude region.
- The **17 Mountain Strike Corps**, with its headquarters at Panagarh in West Bengal, in turn, is focused on eastern theater with China, including the Chumbi Valley opposite Sikkim.
- The visit of General Pande comes amid the ongoing disengagement process between India and China in the Gogra-Hot Springs area on the **Line of Actual Control (LAC)**.
- This disengagement process follows the **16th round** of talks between the corps commanders of India and China that was held at **Chushul Moldo Meeting Point** on July 17, 2022.
- Both sides have now agreed on disengagement in the area of **Gogra-Hot Springs (PP-15)**.

INS Satpura & P8I Maritime Patrol Aircraft to Participate in Multinational Naval Ex Kakadu 2022 in Australia

- **Indian Naval Ship (INS) Satpura** and **P8I Maritime Patrol Aircraft** have arrived in **Darwin** in **Australia** to participate in a **multinational naval exercise, Kakadu 2022 (KA22)** being hosted by the **Royal Australian Navy**.
- KA22 is being conducted in Darwin & the **Northern Australian Exercise Area (NAEA)** from **September 12 to September 24, 2022**.
- The **theme** for Exercise Kakadu 2022 is '**Partnership, Leadership, Friendship**'.

About KA22:

- The **two-week-long Exercise**, both in harbor and sea, involves ships and maritime aircraft from **14 Navies**.
- During the harbor phase of the exercise, the ship's crew will engage in operation planning interactions and sports activities with participating Navies.
- The exercise brings together around **3,000 personnel, 15 warships, and more than 30 aircraft** from **22 countries**.
- The inaugural edition of the Exercise Kakadu was held in **1993**.

About INS Satpura:

- INS Satpura is a **Shivalik-class stealth multi-role frigate** that has better stealth and land attack capabilities than the Talwar-class frigates.

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- It was built at the Mazagon Dock Limited in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- It was inducted into the Eastern Naval Command headquartered at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

Indian Navy decommissions INS Ajay after 32 years of service

- Indian Navy has decommissioned INS Ajay after rendering 32 years of glorious service to the nation at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- The chief guest for the ceremony was Vice Admiral Ajendra Bahadur Singh, Western Naval Command and Flag Officer Commanding-in-chief.
- The first Commanding Officer of the ship, Vice Admiral AG Thapliyal AVSM Bar (Retd) was the Guest of Honour.

About INS Ajay:

- INS Ajay was commissioned on January 24, 1990, at Poti, Georgia in the erstwhile USSR.
- It was part of the 23rd Patrol Vessel Squadron under the operational control of Flag Officer Commanding, Maharashtra Naval Area.
- The ship joined various naval operations including Op Talwar during Kargil War and Op Parakram in 2001.
- INS Ajay was also known by the name 'the submarine hunter' due to its formidable armament of long-range torpedoes and anti-submarine rockets.
- Over 400 personnel including Flag Officers, IAF, senior officers from the Army, CG, officers, and men of the commissioning crew, ship's present crew, the crew of previous commissions, and families attended the ceremony

ICG & US Coast Guards hold joint exercise off Chennai coast, Tamil Nadu

- The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and United States Coast Guards (USCG) conducted a joint exercise, Abhyas-01/22, which was held off the Chennai coast, Tamil Nadu (TN).
- The exercise focussed on acquainting the Coast Guards with each other's capabilities and strengthening their working level relationship towards enhancing interoperability in the field of maritime search and rescue, boarding operations, and other maritime law enforcement duties.

Highlights of the exercise:

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- The exercise encompassed various fleet maneuverers, the scenario of the **hijacking of a vessel**, and the subsequent rescue of its crew in a coordinated anti-piracy joint operation of both countries.
- Interdiction of pirated vessels, coordinated joint Boarding operations, SAR demonstration, and external fire-fighting to salvage burning ships were the other highlights of the exercise.

About ICG:

- Founded: 1 February 1977
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India
- Director General: Virender Singh Pathania

About USCG:

- Founded: 28 January 1915
- Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States

Indian Coast Guard Inducts 'Samarth'

- The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) inducted '**Samarth**' in its fleet, to **strengthen the coastal security mechanism**.
- The ship has been based at Kochi from Goa under the operational command of Coast Guard District Headquarters-4 (Kerala & Mahe), Kochi

About ICGS Samarth:

- ICGS Samarth is a **105-meter-long ship** and can attain a **maximum speed of 23 knots (approx 43 Kmph)**.
- The ship will enhance the Coast Guard maritime domain operational efficacy in the area including the **Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)** and **Lakshadweep/ Minicoy Islands**
- The ship is equipped with an **integrated bridge management system (IBMS)**, **integrated platform management system (IPMS)**, **power management system (PMS)**, and a **high-power external fire fighting (EFF) system**.
- The ship is designed to carry a **twin-engine helicopter** and **4 high-speed boats**, including two inflatable boats for boarding operations, search and rescue, law enforcement, and maritime patrol.
- It has a modern surveillance system and has the power to contain **oil spills in the sea**.

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Note:

- Recently a new capital ship **Saksham** joined the **Coast Guard fleet** in Kerala.

About ICG:

- Established: 1 February 1977 by the Coast Guard Act, 1978 of the Parliament of India
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India
- Director General: Virender Singh Pathania
- The ICG is a **maritime law enforcement** and **search and rescue agency** of India.
- It operates under the **Ministry of Defence (MoD)**.

Indian Navy launches 2 indigenous Diving Support Vessels in Visakhapatnam

- The Indian Navy has launched **first-of-its-kind two** indigenously designed and built **Diving Support Vessels (DSVs) - Nistar and Nipun** in Visakhapatnam.
- The two vessels have been manufactured by **Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL)**.
- The vessels were launched by **Kala Hari Kumar**, in the presence of **Admiral R Hari Kumar**, Chief of the Naval Staff, who presided over the ceremony as chief guest
- Kala Hari Kumar, president of the **Navy Wellness and Welfare Association (NWWA)**, performed the traditional honour and named these ships.

About DSVs Nistar and Nipun:

- The vessels are **118.4-m-long**, and **22.8 m** at the **broadest point** and will have a **displacement of 9,350 tonnes**.
- These ships would be deployed for **deep-sea diving operations**
- With the **Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV)** embarked, the DSVs are designed to undertake submarine rescue operations, in case a requirement exists.
- These ships will be **capable of sustained patrolling, conducting search and rescue operations, and carrying out helicopter operations** on the high seas.

About Indian Navy:

- Founded: 26 January 1950
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India
- Chief of the Naval Staff: Admiral R. Hari Kumar

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MOD signs a deal for dual role Surface-to-Surface BrahMos missile with BAPL

- The **Ministry of Defence (MOD)** signed a contract with **M/s BrahMos Aerospace Pvt. Ltd. (BAPL)** for the acquisition of **additional dual-role capable Surface to Surface BrahMos missiles** at an overall **approximate cost of ₹ 1700 Crore** under the **“Buy-Indian” Category**.
- The induction of these **dual-role capable Missiles** is going to significantly enhance the operational capability of **Indian Navy (IN) fleet assets**.
- BAPL increased the new generation of **Surface-to-Surface Missiles (SSMs)** with enhanced range and dual role capability for land as well as anti-ship attacks.
- This contract is going to give a further boost to **indigenous production of critical weapon systems and ammunition** with the active participation of indigenous industry.

About BAPL:

- **Founded:** February 12, 1998
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi, Delhi, India
- **MD & CEO:** Atul Dinkar Rane
- It was founded as a joint venture between **India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** and **NPO Mashinostroyenia of Russia**.
- The company's name is a portmanteau formed from the names of two rivers, the **Brahmaputra of India** and the **Moskva of Russia**.

India's 1st Avalanche Monitoring Radar installed in north Sikkim

- The **Indian Army** and the **Defence Geoinformatics and Research Establishment (DGRE)** have jointly installed the **Avalanche Monitoring Radar**, the first of its kind in India, in north Sikkim.
- The radar was made operational by the **DGRE** of the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**
- DRDO is an organization involved in forecasting and mitigation of avalanche hazards faced by the Indian Army in the **Himalayan Region**.
- The radar was inaugurated by **Lieutenant General Tarun Kumar Aich (AVSM)**, **General Officer Commanding TriShakti Corps** at one of the Forward Posts of the Indian Army at an altitude of **15,000 feet** in North Sikkim.

About the Radar:

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- The radar can detect avalanches **within three seconds** of their trigger and will assist in saving the valuable life of troops and **reducing damage** to property in **super high altitude areas**.
- It can see through snow, and fog as well as at night, making it an all-weather solution.
- It covers an area of **2 square km** obviating the requirement to place additional instruments in dangerous avalanche-prone areas.
- The radar is also linked to an **alarm system enabling automatic control** and warning measures in case an avalanche is triggered.
- Images and videos of the event are automatically recorded for future analysis by the experts.

About the Indian Army:

- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India
- Chief of the Army Staff: General Manoj Pande

About Sikkim:

- Governor: Ganga Prasad
- Chief minister: Prem Singh Tamang
- Capital: Gangtok
- Festivals: Maghe Sankranti, Losar, Sonam Lochar
- Dance: Rechungma, Maruni, Singhi Chham

TATA Advanced Systems Ltd developed indigenous loitering munition successfully test fired at Pokhran, Rajasthan

- An indigenous loitering munition, named ALS 50 has been successfully demonstrating its **strike capability during tests** conducted at Pokhran, Rajasthan.
- It is developed by TATA Advanced Systems Limited (TASL), the autonomous system is designed for **Vertical to Take Off and Landing (VTOL)** and will soon be inducted into the armed forces.
- The system was able to hit the designated ground target accurately during trials

About ALS 50:

- The ALS 50 has an **autonomous targeting system** that can accurately identify and home into a **predetermined target**.
- The system can be scaled up to **increase range and payload capability**, as per the requirements of the armed forces.

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- It is capable of operating from difficult terrain and **high-altitude area**
- It can take off like a quadcopter and transition into fixed wing mode during flight for **long-distance travel**.
- The VTOL capability gives the system the ability to operate in areas where limited space is available, like narrow valleys, fortified mountain positions, small jungle clearings, and the decks of warships.
- Also in earlier **2022**, ALS 50 demonstrated its ability to operate from **high-altitude areas during tests in Ladakh**

INS Sunayna participates in Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) Exercise at Seychelles

- The Indian Naval Ship (INS) Sunayna participated in the **capacity-building exercise Operation Southern Readiness** conducted by **Combined Maritime Forces (CMF)** at **Seychelles** which was held between **24th September and 27th September 2022**.
- The Indian Navy was welcomed to the CMF by **Vice Admiral Brad Cooper, US NAVCENT**.
- This is the maiden participation of an Indian Navy ship in the CMF exercise.
- The event was coordinated as part of the Distinguished Visitor's demonstration and witnessed by **Mr. Wavel Ramkalawan**, the Hon'ble President of the Republic of Seychelles, and senior officials of member countries of CMF.
- A live demonstration of **Visit Board Search & Seizure (VBSS)** operations was also conducted onboard HMS Montrose.

About INS Sunayna:

- INS Sunayna is the **second Saryu-class patrol vessel** of the **Indian Navy**, designed and constructed indigenously by **Goa Shipyard Limited**.
- It is designed to undertake fleet support operations, coastal and offshore patrolling, ocean surveillance and monitoring of sea lines of communications and offshore assets, and escort duties.

IMPORTANT SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

Shri Narayan Rane chairs the 18th meeting of the National Board of MSME (NBMSME)

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- Union Minister of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), Shri Narayan Rane headed the 18th meeting of the National Board of MSME (NBMSME).
- Shri Rane inaugurated the portal for the scheme for the promotion of MSMEs in the North East Region (NER) and Sikkim.

Key Highlights:

- He launched the integration of Udyam and NCS portals, which was announced in Budget 2022.
- The integration of the portal of Udyam with that of the National Career Service (NCS) is an opportunity for the MSME sector to have access to the employable manpower database of NCS.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was also signed between the Ministry of MSME and the Common Service Centre (CSC) in connection with the Udyam Registration Portal.
- The MoU will expand the handholding support to enterprises residing in remote areas and help them to avail benefits of Government schemes and Priority Sector Lending

About Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises:

- Cabinet Minister: Narayan Rane
- Minister of State: Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma

IMPORTANT SCHEMES NEWS

Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhama Launches scheme Mukhya Mantri Udiyaman Khiladi Unnayan Yojana for upcoming players

- Uttarakhand Chief Minister Shri Pushkar Singh Dhama launched a scheme Mukhya Mantri Udiyaman Khiladi Unnayan Yojana during the program was organized at Police Lines, Dehradun., Uttarakhand.

Aim:

- To promote upcoming sports persons in Uttarakhand on the occasion of National Sports Day.

About Mukhya Mantri Udiyaman Khiladi Unnayan Yojana:

- Under the Scheme, a monthly scholarship of Rs 1,500 will be given to budding sports persons aged between 8 and 14 years.

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- Every year, a total of 3,900 budding sportspersons 1,950 boys and an equal number of girls will be given the scholarship.
- The CM also appointed **8 sports coaches** in each district.
- The CM announced that a **Chief Minister Sports Development Fund** would be set up to give quick financial benefits to the players by rules and a **4% reservation** for skilled players in state services.
- He felicitated the sportspersons with **Rajya Khel Puraskar, Uttarakhand Dronacharya Puraskar, Dev Bhoomi Khel Ratna, and Himalayan Khel Ratna Puraskar.**

About Uttarakhand:

- Governor: Gurmit Singh
- Chief minister: Pushkar Singh Dhami
- Capitals: Dehradun (Winter), Gairsain (Summer)

Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, the Gujarat Top States In Implementing Poshan Abhiyaan scheme:

NITI Aayog

- According to a **Niti Aayog analysis**, among bigger states, **Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, and Gujarat** have been listed as the **top three states** for overall Poshan Abhiyaan implementation.
- The **greatest performer** among the **tiny states** was **Sikkim**.
- In addition, 12 out of 19 sizable states achieved implementation scores of over 70%, according to the paper titled "**Preserving Progress on Nutrition in India: Poshan Abhiyan in Pandemic Times.**"
- According to a government think tank assessment, **Punjab and Bihar** performed the **worst among major states** in terms of the overall implementation of the Poshan Abhiyaan, with **Dadar and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu** topping the list of Union Territories (UTs).

Uttar Pradesh Tops in Use of e-Prosecution Portal: Digital India Mission

- With **9.12 million cases**, **Uttar Pradesh** leads the way in terms of **case disposition and admission** into the e-Prosecution site operated by the Union government under its Digital India Mission.
- **Madhya Pradesh** came in **second** with **2.31 million instances**, followed by **Bihar** with 859,000, **Gujarat** with 487,000, and **Chhattisgarh** with 383,000.

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- **UP** also ranks first in the disposal of online cases on this platform, with around 470,000 entries, followed by 170,000 for MP and 125,000 for Gujarat.
- The site, which was introduced by states two years ago, is an effort of the home, IT, and law ministries to assist courts and the prosecution system in speeding criminal trials in severe crimes.

Bank of Maharashtra launches new FD scheme - Maha Dhanvarsha

- The **Bank of Maharashtra** has launched a new fixed deposit scheme known as the "Maha Dhanvarsha"
- As per the Scheme, the **highest interest rate** on this special deposit will be **5.50%** for regular people and 6% for senior citizens.
- The interest rate is only valid for a **400-day term**.
- With effect from August 22, 2022, the BOM revised the interest rates on fixed deposits under **Rs 2 crore**.
- The bank offers fixed deposit terms ranging from **7 days to 10 years** with interest rates ranging from **2.75% to 5.40% (currently 5.50%)**.

For Senior Citizens:

- For all maturities slabs of 91 days and above, senior citizens would only be offered an extra rate of **0.50% interest rate** for deposits up to **Rs 2 crore**.

About FD Penalty:

- On premature withdrawal of term deposits for deposits up to 1-year maturity (tenure at the time of opening the account) there will be **no penalty**.
- Interest rates of prematurely withdrawn term deposits with a maturity period of **more than 1 year** will be 1% below the applicable rate.

About BOM:

- Founded: 16 September 1935
- Headquarters: Pune, Maharashtra, India
- MD & CEO: A. S. Rajeev
- Executive Director: A. B Vijayakumar, Asheesh Pandey
- Tagline: Ek Parivaar, Ek Bank (One Family One Bank)

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IMPORTANT SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

India's first indigenously-developed vaccine for cervical cancer prevention to be launched

- India's first indigenously developed quadrivalent Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccine for the prevention of cervical cancer will be launched in the next few months and will be available in the price range of Rs 200-Rs 400.
- The vaccine for Cervical cancer "CERVAVAC", will be launched by Union Minister of State Science and Technology Shri Jitendra Singh.
- The vaccine was developed by the Serum Institute of India (SII) & the Department of Biotechnology (DBT).
- The SII received clearance from the Drugs Controller General of India in July 2022 for the vaccine.
- The Union government plans to target the age of 9-14 years of girls for vaccination against cervical cancer.
- By Dec 2022, SII reported that the center can supply 1 crore doses of qHPV.

Note:

- Cervical cancer in India ranks as the second most frequent cancer among women between 15 and 44 years of age.
- SII CEO: Adar Poonawalla

China launches Yaogan-33 02 satellite

- China has launched a new remote sensing satellite Yaogan-33 02 from Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in Northwest China.
- It was launched aboard a Long March-4C carrier rocket and has successfully entered its planned orbit.
- It will be used for scientific experiments, land resource surveys, crop yield estimation, and disaster prevention and relief.
- This was the 435th flight mission for the Long March series rockets.

About China:

- President: Xi Jinping

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- Capital: Beijing
- Currency: Renminbi

ISRO successfully demonstrates Inflatable Aerodynamic decelerator tech to land payloads on Mars, Venus

- The Indian Space research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully conducted tests of an Inflatable Aerodynamic decelerator (IAD) that will be used for landing payloads on Mars and Venus in the future.
- IAD was test-flown today in a Rohini-sounding rocket from Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station (TERLS) in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

About IAD Technology:

- IAD Technology is designed and developed by ISRO's Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC).
- It is being developed for aerodynamically decelerating an object descending through the atmosphere.
- IAD is made from Kevlar fabric, coated with Polychloroprene.
- It can be packed into a small volume of **15 liters**, available in the nosecone of the RH300.
- When inflated, IAD takes the shape of three concentric toroids with an overall diameter of **1.3m** that generates high aerodynamic drag and stability.

New elements being tested in the mission:

- Micro Video Imaging System
- Software Defined Radio Telemetry-Dual Transmitter (SDRT-DTx)
- Acoustics Processing Unit with mini-IMAS (Indigenous MEMS Acoustic Sensors)
- New software for wind compensation for TERLS
- Modified nosecone separation system
- Modified FLSC separation system for RH300
- Improved 1s delay detonator for spin rocket separation
- Thermally conducting and electrically insulating potting compound ATCAP-75-7030

About ISRO:

- Established: 15 August 1969
- Headquarters: Bangalore, Karnataka, India

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- Chairman: Sreedhara Panicker Somanath
- ISRO is the national space agency of India, and operates under the Department of Space (DOS).

HAL-L&T consortium bags Rs 860-crore contract to build 5 PSLV rockets

- A space consortium formed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Larsen & Toubro (L&T) has won an Rs 860 crore deal from NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) to build 5 Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) rockets over 4 years.
- The contract was exchanged between HAL and NSIL during the inaugural session of the 7th edition of the biennial Bengaluru Space Expo 2022 (BSX-2022) at the Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC)

Key Highlights:

- The ISRO's workhorse, PSLV, has carried out more than 52 successful flights and the rocket has attained operational status.
- In September 2016, a PSLV placed a record-breaking 104 satellites into orbit.
- The NSIL reportedly also has plans to produce an entirely-built GSLV-Mk III rocket from Indian industry partners.
- In June 2022, the Union Cabinet approved the transfer of 10 in-orbit communication satellites from the GoI to NSIL.
- The government had also approved increasing the authorized share capital of NSIL from Rs 1,000 crore to Rs 7,500 crore.

About the 7th edition of the biennial BSX-2022:

- It is being organized by the industry body Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), in association with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe), and Space PSU NewSpace India Limited (NSIL).

NASA & Axiom Sign 2nd Private Astronaut Mission to Space Station Order

- The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and Axiom Space have signed a mission order for the second private astronaut mission - Axiom Mission 2 (Ax-2) to the International Space Station (ISS) to take place in the second quarter of 2023.

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- The spaceflight will launch from **NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida** and travel to the space station.
- NASA and Axiom mission planners will coordinate in-orbit activities for the private astronauts to conduct in coordination with space station crew members and flight controllers on the ground.

About Axiom Mission 2 (Ax-2):

- For the Ax-2 mission, Axiom Space will submit **four proposed crew members** and four backup crew to the station's **Multilateral Crew Operations Panel** for review.
- Following review and approval from NASA and its international partners, the prime crew members for the mission will be named.
- Under Ax-2, 4 private astronauts would spend **10 days** aboard the orbiting laboratory and conduct several science experiments.
- Through the mission-specific order, Axiom is obtaining from NASA services such as **crew supplies, cargo delivery to space, storage**, and other in-orbit resources for daily use.
- The **Ax-1 mission** Launched on **April 8, 2022**, lasted for **16 days** wherein four private astronauts from **NASA's Kennedy space center** were the first all-private crew to arrive at the Space Station.
- In **December 2021**, NASA announced the selection of Axiom Space for negotiations for the second private astronaut mission.

About NASA:

- Established: July 29, 1958
- Headquarters: Washington, D.C, US
- Administrator: Bill Nelson
- NASA is an independent agency of the US federal government responsible for the **civil space program, aeronautics research, and space research.**

About Axiom Space:

- Founded: 2016
- Headquarters: Houston, Texas, United States
- CEO: Michael T. Suffredini
- Founders: Michael T. Suffredini, Kam Ghaffarian

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- Axiom is an American privately funded space infrastructure developer

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari unveils the prototype of a drone for human organ transport

- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari unveiled India's prototype of drone transportation of human organs to facilitate quick organ transplant in hospitals.
- Prashanth Rajagopalan, director of MGM Healthcare, has co-created the prototype drone technology.
- At present, drones can be used to move the box containing the organs up to a distance of 20 km.
- Road infrastructure projects like the **Bharatmala Pariyojana**, a new umbrella program for the highways sector, will be a great asset to transport organs across India.
- MGM Healthcare has treated over **350 ECMO patients** which is the highest in India.
- The team also performed over **100 pediatric transplants** & over 4,600 interventional cases, free of cost in association with **Aishwarya Trust - 'Caring for Little Hearts'** and completed over 220 procedures under the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme.

About MoRT&H:

- Cabinet Minister: Nitin Gadkari
- Minister of State: General V. K. Singh

India's first intranasal COVID vaccine by Bharat Biotech gets DCGI approval

- The Indian drug regulatory authority **Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI)** approved India's first intra-nasal Covid-19 vaccine **INCOVACC** (also known as **BBV154**) by **Bharat Biotech International Limited** for use as **primary immunization** against the Covid infection for patients above the age of 18.
- The vaccine has been developed in partnership with **Washington University School of Medicine** in **St. Louis**.
- The **iNCOVACC** can be used as a primary dose & as a heterologous booster dose for subjects, who have previously received two doses of **Covishield** and **Covaxin**.
- The **Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO)** also granted permission to conduct a **phase-3 clinical trial** would be conducted at **9 sites**.

About INCOVACC:

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- **inCOVACC** is a **chimpanzee adenovirus vector recombinant nasal vaccine**.
- It has been specifically formulated to allow **intra-nasal** delivery through nasal drops.
- It produces local antibodies in the **upper respiratory tract**, providing the vaccine with a higher potential to **reduce infection and transmission**.
- It enables faster development of variant-specific vaccines and easy nasal delivery that enables mass immunization to protect from emerging variants of concern.
- The vaccine is stable at **2-8°C**.
- **More than 86 crore Indians** have received **two doses** of the **Covid-19 vaccines** so far, but the uptake of the precautionary **3rd shot** remains low with just about **17 crore** population receiving it so far.

About DCGI:

- DCGI is the head of the department of the **Central Drugs Standard Control Organization** of the Gol.
- It is responsible for the approval of **licenses** of specified categories of drugs such as **blood and blood products, IV fluids, vaccines, and sera** in India.
- It comes under the **Ministry of Health & Family Welfare**.

Union Minister Shri Jitendra Singh announces financial aid of Rs 3.29 crore to a Hydrogen StartUp from Maharashtra for indigenous development of Hydrogen Sensing & Analysis Technology

- **Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh** announced the **financial aid of Rs 3.29 crore** to a **Hydrogen StartUp** from Maharashtra for **indigenous development of Hydrogen Sensing & Analysis Technology**.
- The Hydrogen startup funding is in tune with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of the **National Hydrogen Mission (NHM)** launched on **India's 75th Independence Day**.

Aim:

- To aid the government in meeting its climate targets and making India a **green hydrogen hub**.
- This will help in meeting the target of production of **5 million tonnes of Green hydrogen** by **2030**.

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- Dr. Jitendra Singh presided over the signing of an **MoU** between the **Technology Development Board under DST** and **M/s Multi Nano Sense Technologies Private Limited, Maharashtra** to support the manufacturing of Hydrogen sensors indigenously.
- The patented hydrogen gas sensor and analyzer are based on a core sensor; which has been conceptualized, developed, manufactured, and serviced entirely in India.
- At Present all core sensor elements are imported from **China, the USA, the UK, Japan, and Germany.**
- TDB is supporting startup 'M/s Multi Nano Sense' for the development and production of highly advanced leakage detection sensors to detect hydrogen leakage, and to enhance the safety and security of the systems”.
- The Minister added that as per NITI Aayog's report titled '**Harnessing Green Hydrogen: Opportunities for Deep Decarbonisation in India**' Hydrogen will provide a pathway to accelerate the emergence of a green hydrogen economy, which is critical for India to achieve its **net-zero** ambitions by **2070**.

Indian rocket maker Agnikul Cosmos gets patent for single-piece 3D printed rocket engines

- Indian space-tech startup **Agnikul Cosmos Private Limited** has secured a patent from the Central government, for the **design and manufacturing of single-piece rocket engines** using **3D printing technology**.
- **Agnilet**, one such single-piece engine, is the **world's first single-piece 3D printed rocket engine** fully designed and manufactured in India, it was successfully test-fired in early 2021.
- Since **2019**, Agnikul has raised a total funding of **Rs 105 crore (\$15 million)** from Mayfield India, pi Ventures, Speciale Invest, and a host of others including prominent angels such as Anand Mahindra and Naval Ravikant.

About Agnikul Cosmos:

- Founded: 2017
- Headquarters: Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India
- Co-founder & CEO: Srinath Ravichandran
- It is an Indian aerospace manufacturer based in the **National Center for Combustion R&D (NCRD)** of IIT Madras, Chennai

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Over 75 lakh cases were settled during the third National Lok Adalat

- As part of the **third National Lok Adalat of 2022**, the **State Legal Services Authorities of Rajasthan and Maharashtra** launched the **Digital Lok Adalat** in the respective states.
- Rajasthan and Maharashtra became the **first states** to use **end-to-end digital platforms** during the third National Lok Adalat of the year that saw **75 lakh cases** settled across India including **16.45 lakh pending** and **58.33 lakh pre-litigation cases**.
- The Digital Lok Adalat is powered by **AI (Artificial Intelligence)** and **Blockchain**.
- It was launched by the **National Legal Services Authority Chairman and Supreme Court judge, Justice Shri Uday Umesh Lalit** during the '18th All India Legal Services Authorities' meet held in **Jaipur in July 2022**.
- This was the **first time** that the Lok Adalats were made end-to-end digital.

PhonePe tokenized 14 million debit and credit cards:

- According to the **Reserve Bank of India's (RBI)** rules for **data protection**, PhonePe declared that it had tokenized **14 million credit and debit cards** on its network.
- The Walmart-backed startup asserts that **more than 80%** of the cards of its active customers have been tokenized since the project started in **December 2021**.
- With tokenization, a new phrase called "**token**" will be used in place of the **real card number**.
- A tokenized transaction is safer and less likely to cause data leakage because the actual card information is not revealed to a merchant during transactions.
- PhonePe announced that it is working with the three biggest card networks **Visa, Mastercard, and RuPay** to fulfill the regulator's **September 30, 2022 tokenization deadline**.

Scientists discover two new "super-Earth" planets just 100 light-years away

- An **international research team** has just announced the discovery of two "super-Earth" planets orbiting **LP 890-9**, a **small, cool star** located about **100 light-years** from Earth.
- The star, also called **TOI-4306 or SPECULOOS-2**, is the **second-coolest star** found to host planets, after the famous **TRAPPIST-1**.

The goal of SPECULOOS:

- To search for potentially **habitable terrestrial planets** transiting some of the smallest and coolest stars in the solar neighborhood, such as the **TRAPPIST-1** planetary system.

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- The findings, discovered with NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite and the University of Liège's Search for Habitable Planets Eclipsing Ultra-Cool Stars (SPECULOOS), will be published in the journal **Astronomy and Astrophysics**.

About two “super-Earth” planets:

- LP 890-9b, the system's inner planet, is about **30% larger than Earth** and completes an orbit around the star in just **2.7 days**.
- This first exoplanet was initially identified as a possible planet candidate by NASA's **Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS)**, a space mission searching for exoplanets orbiting nearby stars.
- The second planet, **LP 890-9c** (renamed SPECULOOS-2c by the SPECULOOS researchers), is similar in size to the first (about **40% larger than Earth**) but has a **longer orbital period** of about **8.5 days**.
- Super-Earths are a **unique class of exoplanet** in the solar system that are more massive than our planet but lighter than the ice giants, according to NASA.
- They are made by some combination of gas and rock and can get up to **10 times the size of Earth's mass**.
- Recently, the super-Earth named **TOI-1452 b** discovered, orbits a **red dwarf star** that is also about **100 light years away** from our planet.

IIT Madras becomes the first Indian institute to join IBM Quantum Network

- The Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-Madras) has become the **first Indian educational institution** to join forces with the **New York-based International Business Machines (IBM) Quantum Network** to promote and advance quantum computing skills development and research in India.

Key Highlights:

- IIT Madras joins more than **180 members** of the IBM Quantum Network, a global community of Fortune 500 companies, start-ups, academic institutions, and research labs.
- IIT Madras will get cloud-based access to IBM's most advanced quantum computing systems and IBM's quantum expertise to explore practical applications and realize the wide-ranging benefits of this technology for business and society.

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- IIT Madras' Centre for Quantum Information, Communication, and Computing (CQIICC) will focus on advancing core algorithms in research areas like Quantum Machine Learning, Quantum Optimization, and applications research in finance.
- IIT-M uses IBM Quantum services along with the open-source Qiskit framework to explore areas of research like quantum algorithms, quantum machine learning, quantum error correction, and error mitigation, quantum tomography, and quantum chemistry.
- They will also use IBM's framework to explore and grow the quantum computing ecosystem in India.
- Becoming a part of the IBM Quantum Network will provide our faculty with direct access to state-of-the-art quantum hardware and software.

RattanIndia Releases Its First Anti-Drone Product Defender

- RattanIndia Enterprises launched its first anti-drone product 'Defender.'
- The anti-drone has been developed by RattanIndia Enterprises' step-down subsidiary Throttle Aerospace Systems.
- RattanIndia's wholly-owned subsidiary NeoSky India Ltd acquired a 60% stake in Throttle Aerospace in 2022.
- The defender can be a 70% indigenous product with a 30% import part of BLDC motor and batteries.
- It will be manufactured at Throttle Aerospace's Bengaluru manufacturing facility in Bangalore, Karnataka.
- The product can be used by hand or with Artificial Intelligence (AI), which helps it move with the rogue drone and keep its position.

About Throttle Aerospace Systems Pvt. Ltd (TAS):

- Founded: 2016
- Headquarters: Bangalore, Karnataka
- Throttle Aerospace Founder and CEO Nagendran Kandasamy

China's 1st Solar-Powered Drone cum Satellite: "Qimingxing-50"

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- **China** has successfully tested its **first fully solar-powered Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)/drone** namely 'Qimingxing-50' or **Morning star-50** which can fly uninterrupted for months and can function even as a satellite if required.
- It is also referred to as a '**High Altitude Platform Station**' or a **pseudo satellite**
- It is **China's first large-sized UAV** powered only by solar energy.
- It took off from an **airport in Yulin, northwest China's Shaanxi province**.

About 'Qimingxing-50' or Morning star-50:

- Morning Star-50 Drones are **cost-effective** to build and are also easy to launch and operate.
- It can conduct **high-altitude reconnaissance**, apart from monitoring forest fires, providing communication, and environment relay.
- It can fly continuously for long periods at an **altitude of 20 km** above the earth's surface.
- It has a wingspan of **164 feet**.
- It can be used in the field of renewable energy, new materials, and aeronautical engineering.

About China:

- President: Xi Jinping Trending
- Capital: Beijing
- Currency: Renminbi

Hughes Communications India Launches India's First High Throughput Satellite Broadband Service to Link Remote Areas

- **Hughes Communications India Private Limited (HCI)**, a leading provider of broadband satellite and managed network services launched **India's first high throughput satellite (HTS) broadband internet service** in India, **offering satellite internet to remote locations** across India.
- It will use the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)'s Geosynchronous Satellite (GSAT)-11 and GSAT-29 satellites** to offer the service
- The service supports applications such as WiFi hotspots for community internet access, managed SD-WAN solutions, backhaul for the mobile network, and satellite internet for small businesses.
- The initial HTS broadband service will begin with internet speeds between **2-10 Mbps (Megabits per second)**.

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- The service can offer internet connectivity bandwidth of up to 100Mbps.

About HCI:

- Founded: 1993
- Headquarters: Gurgaon, Haryana
- President and managing director: Partho Banerjee
- Hughes Communications India is a Joint Venture of **Hughes Network Systems, LLC (HUGHES)**, the leading global provider of broadband satellite network services, and **Bharti Airtel Limited**, India's premier communications solutions provider.

NASA's Moxie instrument successfully makes oxygen on Mars

- NASA's instrument, the Mars Oxygen In Situ Resource Utilization Experiment, or MOXIE, an instrument the size of a lunchbox has been successfully generating breathable oxygen (O₂) on Mars, doing the work of a small tree.
- In a study, researchers report that by the end of 2021 Moxie was able to produce oxygen on 7 experimental runs, in a variety of atmospheric conditions, including during the day and night, and through different Martian seasons.
- In each run, MOXIE reached its goal of producing 6g of oxygen per hour – similar to the rate of a modest tree on Earth.
- The current version of the instrument is small by design to fit aboard the Perseverance rover and is built to run for short periods.
- A full-scale oxygen factory would include larger units that would ideally run continuously.
- Since February 2021, the Moxie has been successfully making oxygen from the red planet's carbon dioxide-rich atmosphere.

Note:

- MOXIE is the first demonstration of in-situ resource utilization on another planet.

ISRO successfully tests hybrid motor to strengthen new propulsion system for rockets

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully tested a 30kN hybrid motor at ISRO Propulsion Complex(IPRC) at Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu (TN) supported by Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre(LPSC).

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- To discover a new propulsion system for the upcoming launch vehicles.
- The test was conducted by **Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC)**.

Key Highlights:

- The motor used **liquid oxygen (LOX)** as the oxidizer and **Hydroxyl-terminated polybutadiene (HTPB)** as fuel.
- A 30 kN hybrid motor with HTPB fuel & LOX demonstrated ignition & sustained combustion for the intended **15 seconds**
- The use of liquids facilitates throttling, and the control over the flow rate of LOX enables the re-start capability.
- While both **HTPB** and **LOX** are **green**, LOX is safer to handle.

About ISRO:

- Established: 15 August 1969
- Headquarters: Bangalore, Karnataka, India
- Chairman: Sreedhara Panicker Somanath
- ISRO is the **national space agency of India**.

ISRO develops microprocessor-controlled smart limbs

- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has developed an intelligent artificial limb, a **1.6 kg microprocessor-controlled knee (MPK)**.
- It is expected to be cheaper by up to **10 times**, benefitting above-knee amputees to walk with a comfortable gait.
- The MPKs is being developed by ISRO's **Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC)**, under a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **National Institute for Locomotor Disabilities (NILD)**, **Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya National Institute for Persons with Physical Disabilities (Divyangjan) (PDUNIPPD (D))**, and **Artificial Limb Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO)**.

About MPK:

- The MPKs offer extended capabilities for the amputee than those offered by the passive limbs that do not use the microprocessors.

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- It consists of a microprocessor, hydraulic damper, load & knee angle sensors, composite knee case, Li-ion battery, electrical harness, and interface elements.
- It detects the state of gait based on the **sensor data**.
- With the clearance of the **Joint Project Monitoring Committee (JPMC)**, the device was tested with an amputee, identified by NILD for conducting walking trials.
- The trials were conducted at the NILD lab jointly by NILD and VSSC.
- The amputee could walk about **100 meters** in the corridor with minimum support.
- MPKs currently available commercially in India have been imported and range from **Rs 10 lakh to Rs 60 lakh** & once commercialized, are expected to cost around **Rs 4 lakh to Rs 5 lakh**.

About ISRO:

- Established: 15 August 1969
- Headquarters: Bangalore, Karnataka, India
- Chairman: Sreedhara Panicker Somanath
- ISRO is the **national space agency of India** & It operates under the **Department of Space (DOS)**.

US spy satellite NROL-91 launched into orbit from California

- A classified satellite named **NROL-91 spy satellite** for the **U.S. National Reconnaissance Office (NRO)** launched into orbit aboard a **United Launch Alliance (ULA) Delta IV Heavy** rocket from **Vandenberg Space Force Base in California's Santa Barbara County, California**.
- It was the last launch of a Delta IV from the **West Coast**.
- This was the **387th flight** of a Delta rocket **since 1960** and the **95th and final launch** from **Vandenberg**
- The Deltas are replaced by **ULA's next-generation Vulcan Centaur** rockets.

About Delta IV Heavy:

- The Delta IV Heavy (Delta 9250H) is an expendable **heavy-lift launch vehicle**, the largest type of the Delta IV family.
- It is the **world's second highest-capacity launch vehicle** in operation, behind SpaceX's Falcon Heavy.
- It is **manufactured by United Launch Alliance (ULA)** and was first launched in **December 2004**.

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- It can lift **28,370 kg (62,550 lb)** to low Earth orbit and **13,810 kg (30,450 lb)** to geostationary transfer orbit (GTO)

About NRO:

- Established: September 6, 1961
- Headquarters: Chantilly, Virginia, U.S
- Director: Christopher Scolese
- Parent Agency: Department of Defense
- The NRO is the **government agency** in charge of developing, building, launching, and maintaining U.S. spy satellites that provide intelligence data to policymakers, the intelligence community, and Defense Department.

About ULA:

- Founded: December 1, 2006
- Headquarters: Centennial, Colorado, United States
- President & CEO: Tory Bruno
- It is a joint venture between **Lockheed Martin Space** and **Boeing Defense, Space & Security**.

China Launches Two Experimental Satellites Shiyang-14 and Shiyang-15

- China launched a Kuaizhou-1A (KZ-1A) carrier rocket to place **two experimental satellites, Shiyang-14 and Shiyang-15** from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in north China's Shanxi Province, China in Space.
- It was the **18th flight mission** of the Kuaizhou-1A rocket series, which is operated by the Chinese company ExPace.

About the experimental satellites:

- Shiyang means "**experiment**" in Chinese.
- **Shiyang-14** will mainly be used for **scientific experiments** and **new technology verification**.
- **Shiyang-15** will be used for **land survey, urban planning, and disaster prevention and mitigation**.

About China:

- Capital: Beijing
- Currency: Renminbi

NASA successfully crashes the DART spacecraft into asteroid Dimorphos

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- The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)'s Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART), the world's first planetary defense technology demonstration, successfully crashed into the asteroid Dimorphos, 6.8 million miles (11 million km) from Earth.
- It is the agency's **first attempt** to move an asteroid in space.

About DART:

- DART is a joint project between **NASA** and the **Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory (APL)**.
- DART targeted the **asteroid moonlet Dimorphos**, a small body just **530 feet (160 meters)** in diameter.
- It orbits a larger, **2,560-foot (780-meter)** asteroid called **Didymos**.
- The spacecraft's sole instrument, the **Didymos Reconnaissance and Asteroid Camera for Optical Navigation (DRACO)**, together with a sophisticated guidance, navigation, and control system that works in tandem with **Small-body Maneuvering Autonomous Real-Time Navigation (SMART Nav) algorithms**.

About Dimorphos:

- Dimorphos, discovered in **1996**, about **9.6 million kilometers from Earth**, is the sidekick of a **2,500-foot** asteroid named **Didymos**, Greek for twin.
- Dimorphos roughly **525 feet** across orbits its parent body at a **distance of 1.2 kilometers**.
- It has a diameter of around **780 meters** and is located at a distance of **487,446,221 kilometers** from Earth.

About Asteroid:

- Asteroids are **small, rocky objects** that orbit the Sun.
- These are mainly found between Mars and Jupiter.

About NASA:

- Established: **July 29, 1958**
- Headquarters: **Washington, D.C, United States**
- Administrator: **Bill Nelson**

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DRDO successfully tests very short-range air defense system

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully tested the two flights of the Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS), from a ground-based portable launcher from the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, off the coast of Odisha.

About VSHORADS:

- VSHORADS is an indigenously designed and developed Man Portable Air Defence System (MANPAD) by DRDO's Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Hyderabad, in collaboration with other DRDO laboratories and Indian Industry Partners.
- It incorporates several novel technologies, including a miniaturized Reaction Control System and integrated avionics, which have been successfully tested.
- The missile is propelled by a dual thrust solid motor and is intended to counter low-altitude aerial threats at short ranges.
- The Indian Army's current stock, such as the Air Defence Guns L-70 and ZU-23, is over four decades old and thus completely obsolete.
- VSHORADS are critical for defending any major city or strategically important location.

About DRDO:

- Established: 1958
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India
- Chairman: Dr. Sameer V Kamath
- The DRDO is the premier agency under the Department of Defence Research and Development in the Ministry of Defence of the GoI.

IMPORTANT APPS & SERVICES NEWS

International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics has developed an app named

Gibsonify:

- For the first time, here are a nutrition app that targets vulnerable groups, developed by researchers at ICRISAT, the app Gibsonify, can help nutrition program planners, health professionals, nutritionists, and local health and nutrition functionaries to feed data from communities get a diet plan in realtime.

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- A team of researchers from the **International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)**, Centre for Global Equality, and the University of Cambridge developed the solution.
- It will be made available soon on digital devices for free.
- This app can help plan mid-day meals effectively and customize approaches according to locally available food items in different regions of India,” Padmaja, Cluster Leader (Knowledge and Capacity Building) at the **Patancheru-based ICRISAT**.
- ‘Gibsonify’ provides a user-friendly interface to collect information about local recipes and nutrient intake, replicating the tested 24-hour dietary recall methodology developed by Gibson and Ferguson 14 years ago.
- The app can benefit **Anganwadi (childcare centers) and Accredited Social Health Activist (Asha) workers** in conducting nutrition programs for pregnant and lactating women and children dependent on breastfeeding up to the age of two years.
- It is headquartered in Patancheru.

IMPORTANT RANKING & INDEX NEWS

Gautam Adani becomes the world's third richest person:

- **Gautam Adani, an Indian, is now the third-richest person in the world.**
- The head of business giant Adani Group has surpassed Bernard Arnault, the head of Louis Vuitton, in the **Bloomberg Billionaires Index rankings**.
- Adani, 60, is now just behind corporate moguls **Jeff Bezos and Elon Musk** in the standings with a combined net worth of **USD 137.4 billion**.
- The **Bloomberg Billionaires Index's top three richest individuals** are all Asian for the first time.
- **Mukesh Ambani, the CEO of Reliance Industries, is ranked 11th** in the most recent Bloomberg Billionaires Index with a total net worth of **USD 91.9 billion**.
- The index is a daily listing of the richest persons in the world.
- On each billionaire's profile page, there is a net worth analysis that includes specifics regarding the computations.
- Every trading day in New York concludes with an update of the numbers.

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- Elon Musk and Jeff Bezos each have a net worth of USD 153 billion and USD 251 billion, respectively.

India overtakes China and the UK to become the 10th-largest life insurer in the world:

- India is currently the tenth-largest life insurer in the world, surpassing both China and the UK.
- Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), a state-owned insurance giant and life insurer, has emerged as the third strongest and tenth most valuable insurance brand globally, according to a survey by Brand Finance Insurance 100 2021, a London-based brand valuation consultancy organization.
- The analysis claims that from \$462.4 billion in 2020 to \$433.0 billion in 2021, the aggregate value of the top 100 insurance brands worldwide fell by 6%.
- The life insurance sector grew at a CAGR of 11% from 2017 to 2022, according to the most recent report tracking the performance of the industry from Benori Knowledge, a cutting-edge provider of custom research and analytics solutions, and is anticipated to grow at a CAGR of 9% over the next five years.
- Because of the unpredictability of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was more crucial than ever for consumers to invest money in things that would increase their financial stability, one of which is life insurance.

LIC out of a list of Top 10 valued Indian Companies:

- Bajaj Finance and Adani Transmission have displaced Life Insurance Company (LIC) from the top 10 firms by market capitalization.
- Adani Transmission is now in ninth place, Bajaj Finance is in tenth, and LIC is now in eleventh place.
- Adani Transmission joined the top 10 list with a market cap of \$4.43 billion on the BSE, surpassing LIC's and Bajaj Finance's respective total mcaps of \$4.42 billion and \$4.26 billion.
- Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) is on the top of the list of valued Indian Companies with a market capitalization of ₹17.8 lakh crore, followed by Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), HDFC Bank, Infosys, Hindustan Unilever (HUL), ICICI Bank and State Bank of India (SBI).

NCRB published a report titled Accidental Deaths & Suicides in India 2021:

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- According to research by the **National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)**, the number of **suicide-related deaths in India hit an all-time high in 2021**.
- 1.64 lakh persons died by suicide in 2017, an increase of 7.2% from 1.53 lakh in 2020.
- More people have died from suicide-related causes since 1967, the first year for which statistics are available.
- According to the Accidental Deaths & Suicides report, 11.3 suicides per 100,000 people have been recorded up to this point.
- As per the information on accidental fatalities and suicides given by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) in **Accidental Deaths & Suicides**, this number was around 1.39 lakh in 2019.

State Wise Report:

- According to the Accidental Deaths & Suicides report, 22,207 persons committed suicide in **Maharashtra in 2021**, making it the state with the highest recorded suicide rate.
- Following **Madhya Pradesh with 14,965 suicide cases**, West Bengal with 13,500, and **Karnataka with 13,056 instances**, Tamil Nadu came in second with 18,925 cases.
- According to the data, these five states were responsible for 50.4% of all suicide fatalities nationwide.

Forbes Asia 100 To Watch 2022: Indian start-ups features in the list

- **Forbes Asia** has published the **second edition of its list**, titled '**Forbes Asia-100 to Watch 2022**.'
- The list focuses on small businesses and startups that are growing in the Asia-Pacific area.
- The list for 2022 included **11 start-up firms from India**, 19 companies from Singapore, 16 from Hong Kong, 15 from South Korea, and 13 from China.
- Forbes lists 15 nations and territories represented in **11 categories**, including **biotechnology and healthcare, e-commerce and retail, and finance**.

Indian start-ups:

Company	CEO	Founded Year	Category
TartanSense	Jaisimha Rao	2015	Agriculture

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Gramheet	Pankaj Prakash	2020	Agriculture
Bijak	Nakul Upadhye	2019	Agriculture
Animall	Neetu Yadav	2019	Agriculture
Agrostar	Shardul Sheth	2013	Agriculture
Pocket FM	Rohan Nayak	2018	Entertainment & Media
Euler Motors	Saurav Kumar	2018	Logistics & Transportation
Park+	Amit Lakhota	2019	Logistics & Transportation
FRND	Bhanu Pratap Singh Tanwar	2018	Consumer Technology
Bijnis	Siddharth Vij	2015	E-commerce & Retail
GoKwik	Chirag Taneja	2020	E-commerce & Retail

India Surpasses UK to Become World's 5th Largest Economy:

- According to Bloomberg, India has surpassed Britain to become the world's fifth-largest economy.
- The United Kingdom has dropped to sixth place as a result of the rating shift, as the country continues to battle with the harsh cost-of-living issue.
- This year, the Indian economy is expected to rise by more than 7%.
- The Indian economy in "normal" cash terms in the quarter through March was USD 845.7 billion on an adjusted basis and using the dollar exchange rate on the final day of the relevant quarter.
- According to the analysis, the UK was worth USD 816 billion on the same basis.

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- According to the **International Monetary Fund**, the following nations have the greatest nominal GDP in the world:
 1. The United States (GDP: 22.49 trillion)
 2. China (GDP: 16.4 trillion) (GDP: 16.4 trillion)
 3. Japan: (GDP: 5.27 trillion)
 4. Germany: (GDP: 4.30 trillion)
 5. India: (GDP: 3.21 trillion)
 6. The United Kingdom: (GDP: 3.2 trillion)
 7. France: (GDP: 2.78 trillion)
 8. Italy: (GDP: 2.07 trillion)
 9. Brazil: (GDP: 1.87 trillion) (GDP: 1.87 trillion)
 10. Canada: (GDP: 1.71 trillion)

Grievance Redressal Index 2022: UIDAI topped in August 2022

- In the list of Ministries/Departments for addressing Public Grievances, the **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** came out on top.
- The **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)** issued the report
- According to a statement issued by the Ministry of Electronics and IT, UIDAI is even more dedicated to serving the Indian people and has acted as a catalyst for both business and ease of life.
- The **Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS)** instances that UIDAI has resolved have been among the best.
- Additionally dedicated to helping Indian citizens, UIDAI has aided in easing daily life and commercial operations.
- UIDAI can **handle 92% of CRM complaints within 7 days** because of its effective grievance redressal system, which consists of UIDAI HQ Divisions, Regional Offices, a Technology Center, and active Contact Center Partners.

UNDP's human development index: India ranks 132 out of 191 countries

- The **Human Development Report 2021-2022**, published by the **United Nations Development Programme**, includes a report on the 2021 Human Development Index (HDI).

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- The HDI gauges a nation's average performance in the three fundamental areas of human development—a long and healthy life, education, and a respectable level of living.
- It is determined using the **Gross National Income (GNI) per capita**, mean years of education, predicted years of education, and life expectancy at birth.
- Among **191 nations and territories**, India came in **132nd** on the 2021 Human Development Index (HDI).
- India was placed **131st** out of **189 nations and territories** in the 2020 report.
- The decrease in life expectancy was the cause of the country's performance falling short of its prior level.
- Among India's neighbors, **Sri Lanka (73rd)**, **China (79th)**, **Bangladesh (129th)**, and **Bhutan (127th)** are ranked above India, while **Pakistan (161st)**, **Nepal (143rd)**, and **Myanmar (149th)** are worse off.
- The report said around 90 percent of countries registered a decline in their HDI value in 2020 or 2021.

List of Top and Important countries:

HDI rank	Country	HDI Value 2021
1	Switzerland	0.962
2	Norway	0.961
3	Iceland	0.959
4	Hong Kong, China (SAR)	0.952
5	Australia	0.951
6	Denmark	0.948
7	Sweden	0.947
8	Ireland	0.945
9	Germany	0.942

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10	Netherlands	0.941
18	United Kingdom	0.929
19	Japan	0.925
21	United States	0.921
79	China	0.768
132	India	0.633

Fortune India Rich List 2022: Gautam Adani India's richest man

- According to Fortune India's list of "India's Richest" for 2022, there are 142 billionaires living in India, and their combined fortune is estimated to be worth USD 832 billion (Rs 66.36 trillion).
- The first list, created in partnership with the wealth management company Waterfield Advisors, is mostly based on the wealth of the owners of publicly traded companies.
- **Gautam Adani**, the richest man in Asia, has surpassed **Jeff Bezos**, the creator of Amazon, to reach the third spot on Forbes' real-time list of billionaires.
- With a US\$129.16 billion net worth, he became the richest person in India (Rs. 10.29 trillion)
- **Mukesh Ambani**, the chairman of Reliance Industries, is now the eighth richest person in the world and the second richest person in India with a net worth of USD 94 billion.

Global Estimates of Modern Slavery: Forced Labour and Forced Marriage

- On any given day, there are around 49.6 million individuals who are victims of contemporary slavery.
- According to the 2021 Global Estimates of Modern Slavery, they are either compelled to labor against their will or are in a marriage that has been forced upon them.
- Of the 27.6 million people who were living in modern slavery, 22 million were involved in forced marriages.
- According to the most recent projections, forced marriage and forced labor have considerably grown during the past five years.

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- According to research by the International Labour Organization (ILO), Walk Free, and the International Organization for Migration, there will be 10 million more slaves worldwide in 2021 than there were in 2016.
- Children and women were particularly at risk.
- The Arab states had the highest frequency of modern slavery while the Asia-Pacific area had the biggest number of victims.

TCS Becomes India's Most Valuable Brand in 2022 - Kantar BrandZ report

- According to Kantar BrandZ report on India's most valuable brands, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) is India's most valuable brand in 2022 with a brand value of \$45.5 billion followed by HDFC Bank.
- TCS has replaced HDFC Bank, valued at \$32.7 billion which held the number one spot since the Kantar BrandZ India ranking was launched in 2014.
- The report was released by the data analytics and brand consulting company Kantar.

List of Top 10 Companies:

1. Tata Consultancy Services - \$45.5 billion
2. HDFC Bank - \$32.7 billion
3. Infosys - \$29.2 billion
4. Airtel - \$17.4 billion
5. Asian Paints - \$15.3 billion
6. State Bank of India (SBI)
7. Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)
8. Kotak Mahindra Bank
9. ICICI Bank
10. Reliance Jio

About the Report:

- As per the report, Indian brands have bounced back from the pandemic to increase their brand value by 35% compound annual growth rate (CAGR) since 2020.
- TCS was able to grab the top slot due to rising global demand for automation and digital transformation, following the pandemic.

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- India's top 75 brands are worth **\$393 billion**, which is **equivalent to 11% of India's GDP**.
- According to the report, **6 banking brands** delivered **19%** of the total value.
- Technology and banking brands account for over half of the total value.
- India's most-valuable brands in 2022 include **Vi (15)**, formed from a **merger between Vodafone and Idea**.
- **Byju's (19)** has become India's most-valuable education brand, and **Adani Gas** is ranked **21**.

Federal Bank was placed 63rd in the Best Workplaces in Asia 2022 survey:

- **Federal Bank** was placed **63rd** on Great Place to Work's list of the **Best Workplaces in Asia 2022**, making it the only bank in India to be included.
- The ranking is based on more than one million survey responses from Asia and West Asia, representing **the experiences of more than 4.7 million employees in the area**.
- This honor is based on secret survey data that evaluated employee perceptions of trust, innovation, business values, and leadership.
- Companies are also judged on how successfully they create All workplace experiences, which include all employees regardless of who they are or what they do.
- According to **Great Place to Work India**, **88% of employees** in the best workplaces in Asia had a **favorable employee experience on average**.
- Only **55%** of workers in the general worldwide workforce have a comparable pleasant experience.

India Stands 4th in Global Crypto Adoption Index 2022:

- **Chainalysis**, a blockchain analysis platform, announced its **worldwide crypto adoption index for 2022**, with **India** placing **fourth**, **two positions lower than last year**.
- According to the Chainalysis analysis, developing markets top the Global Crypto Adoption Index this year.
- Out of our top 20 listed nations, **10 (Vietnam, Philippines, Ukraine, India, Pakistan, Nigeria, Morocco, Nepal, Kenya, and Indonesia)** have **lower-middle incomes**, according to the research.
- **Brazil, Thailand, Russia, China, Turkey, Argentina, Colombia, and Ecuador** are the eight countries with **upper-middle incomes**.

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- India is ranked higher than the **US, the UK, and Russia** on the index, indicating that the nation's crypto community is not far behind in pushing for more extensive usage of the technology.
- **Ukraine and the Philippines** are currently ranked **second and third**, respectively, indicating a clear desire for the quick adoption of cryptocurrencies.
- Vietnam, which has emerged as the nation most willing to embrace bitcoin usage, is leading the worldwide index for the second straight year.
- This year, **China returned to the top 10 after falling to thirteenth place in the list in 2021.**
- Given that the Chinese government has been actively repressing cryptocurrency operations since last year, this is highly fascinating.

Sample Registration System (SRS) Statistical Report 2020 has been released:

- **Sample Registration System (SRS) Statistical Report 2020** has been released by the Registrar General of India (RGI).
- Union Health and Family Welfare Minister, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya said that **India is poised to meet the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) targets of child mortality.**
- The Under 5 Mortality Rate (U5MR) for the country has declined by 3 points from 35 per 1000 live births in 2019 to 32 per 1000 live births in 2020.
- It varies from 36 in rural areas to 21 in urban areas. U5MR for females is higher (33) than for males (31).
- **The highest decline of U5MR is seen in Uttar Pradesh (5 points) and Karnataka (5 points).**
- There has been a decline of 4 points in male U5MR and 3 points in female U5MR during the corresponding period.
- As per SRS 2020 Report, eleven States/UT have already attained the SDGs target of U5MR (≤ 25 by 2030).
- **Infant Mortality Rate (IMR)** has declined by 2 points from 30 per 1000 live births in 2019 to 28 per 1000 live births in 2020.
- The Rural-Urban difference has narrowed to 12 points (Urban 19, Rural-31). IMR male and female are equal (28) in 2020.
- The Neonatal Mortality Rate ranges from 12 in urban areas to 23 in rural areas.

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- As per SRS 2020 Report, six States/ UT have already attained the SDG target of NMR (≤ 12 by 2030).
- They are Kerala (4), Delhi (9), Tamil Nadu (9), Maharashtra (11), Jammu & Kashmir (12), and Punjab (12).

IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich list 2022 has been released:

- IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich list 2022 has been released by IIFL Wealth and Hurun India.
- As per the list, Gautam Adani has bagged the richest Indian title with INR 10,94,400 crore wealth.
- He has overtaken Mukesh Ambani.
- Two new names have appeared in India's top ten- Dilip Sanghvi of Sun Pharmaceutical Industries and Uday Kotak of Kotak Mahindra Bank.
- Founder of Nykaa - Falguni Nayar overtakes 'Biotech Queen' Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw to become the richest self-made Indian woman.
- Mumbai topped the India Rich list followed by New Delhi and Bengaluru.
- Ratan Tata is the most-followed entrepreneur from IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2022 on Indian social media, followed by Anand Mahindra.
- India's rich cumulatively constitute INR 100 lakh crore of wealth in 2022.

IMPORTANT BOOKS & AUTHORS

The autobiography titled "The Hero of Tiger Hill" authored by Subedar Major Yadav

- The inspirational story of Subedar Major (Honorary Captain) Yogendra Singh Yadav (Retd), who was awarded the Youngest Param Vir Chakra (PVC) at the age of 19 for his deeds in the 1999 Kargil battle, is told in the book "The Hero of Tiger Hill: Autobiography of a Param Vir".
- Srishti Publishers & Distributors is the publisher of this autobiography.
- The night of July 3, 1999, when Yadav, then 19 years old, was assigned a key assignment with the Ghatak Platoon of the 18 Grenadiers Regiment to conquer Tiger Hill, was the primary emphasis of the novel.

A book titled "Indian Banking in Retrospect – 75 years of Independence" by Dr. Ashutosh Raravikar:

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- The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Director of Economic & Policy Research, Dr. Ashutosh Raravikar, has written a new book titled "Indian Banking in Retrospect - 75 years of Independence."
- Publisher Aswad Prakashan Private Limited is responsible for the book.
- The introduction to the book was written by Bibek Debroy, chairman of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India.
- The book focuses on several economic developments, including LPG (Liberalization, Privatization, and Globalization) reforms in 1991, the initial nationalization of banks in 1969, the licensing of new private sector banks after 1991, the establishment of Payment banks, Small Finance Banks (SFB), and the consolidation of Public Sector Banks (PSBs), among other things.
- Additionally, it discussed the impact of the Prime Minister's Jan Dhan Yojana (PM JDY) on India's banking sector and financial inclusion.

A book titled "Science Behind Surya Namaskar" unveiled by Dr. Kalubhai:

- The book "Science Behind Surya Namaskar," written by Dr. Munjpara Mahendrabhai Kalubhai, Minister of State for AYUSH, is a compilation of empirical studies on one of the most popular yoga asanas at the AIIA.
- The department of Swasthavritta and Yoga at the All-India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) put together the book.
- The book was launched at the AIIA from August 22–27, 2022, as part of the Continuing Medical Education (CME) Programme 2022, which was put on by the departments of Swasthavritta, Panchakarma, and Darvyaguna in collaboration with the Rashtriya Ayurveda Vidyapeeth (RAV), New Delhi.
- The book is a compilation of studies with empirical support on one of the most popular yoga asanas at the AIIA.
- Dr. Kalubhai also kicked off an e-rickshaw and a public ambulance for AIIA in addition to opening the new Panchakarma Room in the Hospital building.

A comic book adaption of the Kartik Aaryan-starring film "Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2":

- "Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2," starring Kartik Aaryan, will be turned into a comic book series.

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- **Diamond Comics**, India's renowned distributor and publisher of comic books has partnered with production companies T-Series and Cine1Studios to deliver "Rooh Baba Ki Bhool Bhulaiyaa," based on Aaryan's character, to the young audience.
- The main image from the comic book portrays **Kartik Aaryan as Rooh Baba**.
- The recognizable Diamond Comics characters are also included on the poster.
- On the left side of Rooh Baba, Shaktimaan and Chacha Chaudhary are depicted, while Sabu is also seen on the comic book cover's right side.
- The primary visual also features Motu and Patlu.

A book titled 'Divorce and Democracy: A History of Personal Law in Post-Independence India' by Saumya Saxena

- Family law, religion, and gender politics in India are all topics covered in the book "Divorce and Democracy: A History of Personal Law in Post-Independence India."
- At the **India International Centre**, a new book on divorce laws and diverse religions in the post-colonial era was published.
- **Saumya Saxena**, a **British Academy Fellow** in the faculty of history at the University of Cambridge, is the author of the book.
- It discusses the Indian state's challenging conversation with divorce, which is mostly resolved through religion.
- This book chronicles the **challenging conversation the Indian government has with divorce, which is mostly mediated by religion.**
- It investigates the dynamic interactions between law, religion, family, minority rights, and gender in Indian politics by charting the evolution of marriage and divorce laws in post-colonial Hindu, Muslim, and Christian groups.

A book titled "Forging Mettle: Nrupender Rao and the Pennar Story" by Pavan C. Lall:

- **Pavan C Lall**, a veteran journalist, has written a new book titled 'Forging Mettle: Nrupender Rao and the Pennar Story,' which will be released in September 2022.
- **HarperCollins Publishers India** will publish the book.
- The book focuses on how a small corporation grows into a huge organization based on principles and sustainability.

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- **Forging Mettle** is the narrative of Nrupender Rao, Chairman of the **Board of Pennar Industries Limited**, and his business path.
- The narrative teaches aspiring entrepreneurs how to build a moral and ethical organization.
- It's also the story of how a company founded on ethics and social and environmental care can be successful and sustainable.

Crimson Spring, the newest book by Navtej Sarna, has been nominated for the 2022 JCB Prize for Literature:

- **Crimson Spring**, Navtej Sarna's latest book, has been longlisted for the **JCB Prize for Literature**.
- It begins with **April 13, 1919, the Jalianwalla Bagh massacre**, and moves back and forth in time to recreate that era and its aftermath.
- After all, "These, therefore, are the facts," as stated in the Prologue.
- Even after a century, the facts speak for themselves.
- The before and after are merely history... made up of human activities...
- **Crimson Spring is a masterwork** in writing that **weaves history and fiction to illustrate this pivotal moment in Indian history** and the changes taking place in the globe around it.
- World War I had just finished, Mahatma Gandhi had launched Satyagraha, and the Rowlatt Act had been passed.
- The Black Act includes provisions allowing the government to search houses without warrants, arrest people without trials, halt public discussions, and close down media.

P.C. Balasubramanian authored a new book "Rajini's Mantras"

- **P.C. Balasubramanian (PC Bala)**, an entrepreneur and author, has published a new book in English titled "**Rajini's Mantras: Life Lessons from India's Most Loved Superstar.**"
- **Jaico Publishing House** published it (India).
- **Rajini's Punctantra and Raja Krishnamoorthy**, PC Bala's first novel, became a national blockbuster.
- **Rajini and Ram N Ramakrishnan's Grand Brand** was released in **December 2022**.

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- P.C. Balasubramanian, the bestselling author, extracts the greatest life lessons from Rajinikanth's memorable speeches, public encounters, and performances dating back to his early days in the cinema business in Rajini's Mantras.

A new book titled "Will Power" authored by former coach Sjoerd Marijne:

- Sjoerd Marijne, a former Dutch field hockey player and Indian Women's Hockey Coach, has written a new book titled "Will Power: The Inside Story of the Incredible Turnaround in Indian Women's Hockey."
- HarperCollins Publishers India will release the book in September 2022.
- The book focuses on Sjoerd Marijne's experiences as the Chief Coach of the Indian Women's Hockey Team in 2017.
- It also discussed how the Indian Women's Hockey team overcame failures, mental health difficulties, and internal politics, and preserved team bonding while maintaining a high-performance culture.
- The book is a remarkable narrative of Sjoerd Marijne's innings and will motivate readers to strive for excellence in their lives, professions, and teams.

A new book titled "Ambedkar and Modi" released by former President Ram Nath Kovind:

- Former President Ram Nath Kovind has released the book 'Ambedkar and Modi: Reformer's Ideas, Performer's Implementation.'
- The book, published by Bluekraft Digital Foundation, covers Dr. BR Ambedkar's life and deeds while drawing parallels with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's policies and reforms to put the social reformer's principles into action.
- Ilaiyaraaja, a music composer and Rajya Sabha member, wrote the foreword to the book.
- It represents a synthesis of Dr. Ambedkar's ideas with New India's development experience.
- The book's twelve chapters focus on infrastructure, education, socioeconomic mobility, gender equality, and self-reliance.
- The book investigates the points of convergence between India's development narrative under Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Babasaheb's principles.

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- It also draws attention to the surprising parallels between the two towering individuals who triumphed despite all odds and strove to destroy suffocating societal institutions that they witnessed firsthand.

Manoj Bajpayee publishes the book “Muskurate Chand Lamhe aur Kuchh Khamoshiyan”:

- **Apurva Chandra**, the secretary of information and broadcasting, attended a function in **New Delhi** where popular actor **Manoj Bajpayee** released a book titled **Muskurate Chand Lamhe aur Kuchh Khamoshiyan**.
- The book has a wide range of poems.
- It was written by **Jiwesh Nandan**.
- The book is focused on humour and philosophy, Mr. Apurva Chandra said when he voiced his ideas at the time.
- Indian actor **Manoj Bajpayee**, often referred to as **Manoj Bajpai** primarily performs in Hindi-language movies but has also made appearances in Telugu and Tamil-language productions.
- On April 23, 1969, he was born.
- In addition to six Filmfare Awards and three National Film Awards, he has received two Asia Pacific Screen Awards.

Jagdeep Dhankhar released a book titled “Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay – Jeevan Darshan Aur Samsamyikta”:

- In **New Delhi**, Vice President **Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar** published the five-volume book "**Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay - Jeevan Darshan Aur Samsamyikta**," emphasizing the relevance of Pt Deendayal's ideas to the present.
- The ceremony was attended by celebrities like former **Union Minister Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi** and **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh**.
- The Vice President praised Dr. Bajrang Lal Gupta, the book's chief editor, and his staff for their work in producing these **five volumes on one of modern India's most important leaders**.
- He also expressed his gratitude to **Shri Rajnath Singh** and **Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi** for their enlightening talks on Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay's life and work at the event.

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IMPORTANT SPORTS NEWS

James Anderson of England becomes the most successful bowler in international cricket:

- James Anderson of England is now the first fast bowler in the history of international cricket to reach 950 wickets.
- On Day 3 of the second Test against South Africa, he accomplished this illustrious achievement.
- He surpassed Glenn McGrath (949 wickets) of Australia's previous record
- The most productive bowlers in international cricket are Anil Kumble of India (956 wickets), Shane Warne of Australia (1,001 wickets), and Muttiah Muralitharan of Sri Lanka (1,347 wickets combined).

Former Leg Spinner Rahul Sharma Announced Retirement:

- Rahul Sharma, an Indian spinner, has declared his retirement from both local and international cricket.
- The tall leg-spinner first gained attention in 2011 when he played for Pune Warriors in the IPL.
- Under Virendra Sehwag's captaincy, Rahul Sharma made his ODI debut against the West Indies in 2011.
- He played his first T20 match in 2012 against Australia while MS Dhoni served as captain.
- He participated in his final series on the Sri Lanka trip later that year.
- Rahul Sharma is born on 20th July 1987.
- He is an Indian cricketer and primarily a right-handed legbreaker and googly bowler.

New Zealand's Colin de Grandhomme retires from international cricket:

- Colin de Grandhomme, an all-rounder for New Zealand, has announced his retirement from international cricket.
- After speaking with the nation's cricket body, the 36-year-old player made his decision, and as a result, he has been freed from his central contract.
- He made a memorable 47-ball 60 in a thrilling victory chase against South Africa at the 2019 ICC Cricket World Cup, hit 64 against Pakistan, and bowled wonderfully against England in the championship match, taking one for 25 from his 10 overs.

Amlan Borgohain sets a new record in the 100 meters at the All-India Railway Cups:

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- **Amlan Borgohain**, who now owns the 200-meter national record, has also broken the 100-meter mark.
- At the 87th all-India inter-Railway athletics championships in Rae Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh, the 24-year-old Assamese athlete ran the 100 meters in 10.25 seconds (wind speed +1.8, legal), breaking **Amiya Kumar Mallick's** previous national record of 10.26 seconds that stood for six years.
- The 10.34-second time that Borgohain ran before was set in the **National Open in Warangal in 2017**.
- It falls far short of the entrance mark (10.00s) for the Budapest World Championships the following year.
- In the 100 and 200-meter races, he is the current national champion.
- The 200-meter national record is held by **Amlan Borgohain (20.52 seconds)**, who set it in April at the Federation Cup.

FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup: VAR technology to make debut in India

- The **Video Assistant Referee (VAR)** system will debut in the next **Under-17 Women's World Cup in India in 2022**, according to the world football governing body FIFA.
- The **All India Football Federation (AIFF)** had been suspended for 11 days until FIFA decided to overturn the ban.
- The illustrious competition will take place from October 11 to October 30 at **Bhubaneswar (Kalinga Stadium)**, **Margao (JLN Stadium)**, and **Navi Mumbai (DY Patil Stadium)**.
- Following the U-20 Women's World Cup in Costa Rica in 2022 and the FIFA Women's World Cup in France in 2019, the U-17 Women's World Cup in India will be the third FIFA women's competition to use VAR.
- The first instance of VAR implementation in India was during the quarterfinal round of the AFC Women's Asian Cup, which the nation hosted in January and February of this year.

Former captain and wicketkeeper-batsman Mushfiqur Rahim announced his retirement:

- **Former captain and wicketkeeper-batsman of Bangladesh Cricket Team Mushfiqur Rahim** announced his retirement from T20 international cricket.
- The cricketer also informed that he will continue to play in ODI, Test, and league matches.

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- His decision came two days after Bangladesh was knocked out of Asia Cup 2022.
- Mushfiqur was going through a below-average form in the T20 format.
- His last half-century in the format was in the last T20 World Cup when he scored 57 (not out) against Sri Lanka.
- This is the second blow for the Bangladeshi Team after star opener Tamim Iqbal too retired from T20Is earlier this year.
- He also gave almost the same reason for focusing more on longer formats.

Grandmaster Aravindh Chithambaram emerged champion in the 22nd Dubai Open chess tournament:

- Grandmaster Aravindh Chithambaram emerged champion in the 22nd Dubai Open chess tournament, with 7.5 points as seven Indians finished in the top 10 with R Praggnanandhaa sharing the second spot with five others.
- The 22-year-olds, Chithambaram and Praggnanandhaa, settled for a draw in the ninth and final round, which enabled the former to finish with seven points, half a point ahead of the rest of the field.
- The former Indian national champion, seeded 13th, remained unbeaten through the nine rounds, winning six games, and drawing three.
- His victories included those against Rinat Jumabayev and in-form compatriot, Arjun Erigaisi.

Max Verstappen won the Dutch F1 Grand Prix 2022:

- The Dutch F1 Grand Prix of 2022 was won by Max Verstappen of Red Bull.
- Charles Leclerc of Ferrari and George Russell of Mercedes finished second and third, respectively.
- Verstappen has now prevailed in 10 of the 15 races this year.
- He finished on the podium for the 72nd time, earning 26 points in the process.
- In 2021, Verstappen also prevailed in the Dutch Grand Prix.
- He has already competed in 30 different races.

36th National Games: Mascot and Anthem Launched by Shri Amit Shah

- The 36th National Games mascot and anthem have been unveiled at Trans Stadia in Ahmedabad by Union Home Minister Amit Shah.
- The name of the mascot is "Savaj," which is Gujarati for "cub."

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- The national anthem for the competition is based on the phrase "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat."
- From September 29 until October 12, 2022, the National Games will be held.
- There will be six Gujarati cities where it will be shown: Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, Surat, Vadodara, Rajkot, and Bhavnagar.
- The Indian government has made every effort to encourage sports and athletes in India.
- The budget allotted for the National Games in 2014 was 866 crores, but this year, it has been raised to 2000 crores in preparation for the National Games in 2022.
- At the opening event, Home Minister Amit Shah also unveiled the National Games Gujarat's official website and mobile app.

IIT Madras joins Inspire Institute of Sports for innovative boxing analytics software:

- Researchers from IIT Madras have partnered with the Inspire Institute of Sports in Karnataka to develop the analytics platform "Smartboxer."
- Modern boxing analytics software is being developed to increase India's medal haul in the sport at the 2024 Olympics.
- The multi-version program was produced by the Center of Excellence for Sports Science and Analytics at IIT Madras.
- The MoU was signed during a two-day conference on "Innovative Technological and Sports Sciences Practices for High Performance in Youth Sports" that was organized by the National Centre for Sports Sciences and Research in conjunction with the Sports Sciences and Analytics Center of IIT Madras and held in Panchkula, Haryana, the first week of June 2022.

Suresh Raina Announces Retirement from Indian Premier League:

- The former Indian batsman Suresh Raina confirmed his departure from the Indian Premier League (IPL).
- Neither Chennai Super Kings nor any other team chose Suresh Raina in the IPL 2022 mega auction this year.
- He has been a standout performer for CSK throughout the history of the IPL.
- In the 2015 IPL, Raina scored 5528 runs at an average of 32.5 and a strike rate of 136.7.
- Raina will no longer participate in any domestic cricket competitions.

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- On August 15, 2020, the same day MS Dhoni retired from international cricket, Raina did the same in 2019.

Anishka Biyani won the gold medal in the Malaysian chess meet:

- The Malaysian Age Group Rapid Chess Championship was held in Kuala Lumpur, where six-year-old Anishka Biyani came out on top with the gold medal.
- Anishka, a first-grader at Dhirubhai Ambani School, accomplished the feat in the Under-6 Open division by winning the girl's division with an outstanding score of four points out of a possible six.
- Anishka qualified earlier this year for the All-India FIDE Rating Chess Tournament that was held at Yousufguda, Hyderabad, as one of the top under-7 players.
- Anishka qualified for the All-India FIDE Rating Chess Tournament in Hyderabad in July 2022 as one of the top under-7 players.
- For the Singapore Open National Age Group Championship, which is expected to take place later this year, Anishka is now putting out effort.

Japan's Kenta Nishimoto won Men's Singles at Japan Open 2022

- Japan won the 2022 Japan Open Badminton Tournament singles finals in Osaka.
- Japan is the host country of the 2022 Japan Open Badminton Tournament.
- Kenta Nishimoto, 28, won his first career title in the men's.
- Yamaguchi Akane, the World Champion, won for the second week in a row in ladies.
- Due to the epidemic, the Japan Open was hosted for the first time in three years, and only Yamaguchi was able to defend her title.
- Nishimoto defeated Chou Tien Chen with scores of 21-19, 21-23, and 21-17.
- For the second week in a row, Japanese finalist Watanabe Yuta/Higashino Arisa were forced to settle for runners-up.
- Dechapol Puavaranukroh/Sapsiree Taerattanachai won the mixed doubles with scores of 16-21, 23-21, and 21-18 as a result.
- In the fifth Tournament, China's Liang Wei Keng/Wang Chang won their first championship in their first final, defeating the Danish team of Kim Astrup/Anders Skaarup Rasmussen 21-18, 13-21, 21-17.

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- For the women's doubles title, Jeong Na Eun/Kim Hye Jeong defeated the Republic of Korea's Baek Ha Na/Lee Yu Rim 23-21, 28-26.

Diamond League 2022: Neeraj Chopra win with a throw of 88.44m

- **Neeraj Chopra won the Diamond League Final in Zurich**, adding another victory to his resume.
- The **Diamond League Trophy has now been won by Neeraj Chopra**, who is the first Indian to achieve so.
- On his second effort, the skilled javelin thrower achieved a throw that was good for **88.44 meters**, which was long enough to give him victory.
- Neeraj Chopra, the **gold medallist from the Tokyo Olympics**, easily won the **Diamond League 2022 Finals over the other five competitors**.
- In his second effort, Neeraj Chopra recorded a throw of 88.44 meters.
- He then backed it up with throws of 88 meters in his third and fourth attempts, respectively.
- Neeraj's fifth effort was 87m, compared to his final attempt of 83.6m.

Australia Captain Aaron Finch to Retire from ODI Cricket:

- **Australia's captain, Aaron Finch**, announced his **retirement from one-day international cricket** following Australia's third and final ODI against New Zealand.
- **Finch will continue to captain the Australian T20 squad** and will lead it in the defense of its **global championship in the T20 World Cup**, which will be contested in Australia in October and November.
- Finch is regarded as one of the most dangerous opening batsmen in the world, having amassed 5,401 runs in ODIs with an average of over 40 and 17 hundred.

US Open 2022 Concludes: Complete List of Winners

- In the men's division, **Spanish player C. Alcaraz Garcia** has won his maiden Grand Slam title **after overcoming C. Ruud**, who is only 19 years old and is the youngest player to become world No. 1.
- The tournament took place at **New York's Arthur Ashe Stadium**.
- In the women's division, **Poland tennis player I. Witek** beat **O. Jabeur** will win the **2022 US Open women's singles**.

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- The overall prize fund for the Open established a new high of more than \$60 million, up from \$57.5 million in 2021.
- The total prize money for women's and men's singles is \$42,628,000, with the champions receiving \$2.6 million each.
- The runners-up in men's and women's singles will each win \$1.3 million.

S. No.	Category	Winner	Runner Up
1.	Men's Singles	C. Alcaraz Garfia	C. Ruud
2.	Women's Singles	I. Świątek	O. Jabeur
3.	Men's Doubles	R. Ram & J. Salisbury	W. Koolhof & N. Skupski
4.	Women's Doubles	K. Siniaková & B. Krejčíková	C. McNally & T. Townsend
5.	Mixed Doubles	S. Sanders & J. Peers	K. Flipkens & É. Roger-Vasselin

Sikkim to host 3 Ranji Trophy matches for the first time:

- For the first time, Sikkim will host three Ranji Trophy matches in December.
- At the Mining Cricket Ground near Rangpo, the state will host three northeast teams: Mizoram, Manipur, and Arunachal Pradesh.
- The BCCI's decision to enable Sikkim to host three Ranji matches at home will be a game changer in the promotion of cricket in the state.
- Sikkim will play two Cooch Behar Trophy matches and three Col CK Nayudu Trophy matches at Mining, in addition to Ranji Trophy matches.
- The Cooch Behar Trophy match versus Assam on November 12 would be Sikkim's first big domestic encounter.

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- Following two back-to-back multi-day men's under-19 matches, Sikkim cricket fans will see their first Ranji Trophy encounter on December 13, when the senior men's side takes on Manipur in the 2022-23 Ranji Trophy opener.

Max Verstappen defeats Charles Leclerc at Monza for his sixth consecutive victory:

- The Formula One Italian Grand Prix was won by Max Verstappen.
- Max Verstappen won his first race or finished on the podium in Monza, coming from eighth on the grid to beat Charles Leclerc over the line.
- He now leads Charles Leclerc by 116 points in the driver standings after winning a race in which the last six laps were conducted with the safety car after Daniel Riccardo went off the circuit.

The Sinquefield Cup and The Grand Chess Tour are won by Alireza Firouzja:

- Alireza Firouzja, an Iranian-French grandmaster in chess, defeated Ian Nepomniachtchi in the finals to take home the ninth edition of the Sinquefield Cup.
- In addition, Firouzja received an additional \$100,000 for winning the Grand Chess Tour this year.
- Maxime Vachier-Lagrave finished third, followed by Wesley So in second.
- The Sinquefield Cup, the fifth stop of the Grand Chess Tour, took place in Saint Louis, Missouri, in the United States.

Virat Kohli becomes the first cricketer to have 50 million followers on Twitter:

- Virat Kohli has now become the first cricketer to have 50 million Twitter followers.
- Virat Kohli, Team India's great cricketer and former captain, has accomplished another major milestone, this time on social media.
- Virat Kohli is well-liked across all social media platforms, with 211 million Instagram followers and 49 million Facebook followers.
- Kohli became the first Indian to reach 200 million Instagram followers in early 2022.
- Kohli just scored his first international century in 1020 days, smashing a 61-ball 122 not out against Afghanistan in the last Super 4 match in Dubai.

15-year-old Pranav Anand becomes India's 76th Chess Grandmaster:

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- Chess player Pranav Anand, 15, of Bengaluru, Karnataka, earned the 76th GrandMaster (GM) of India after defeating Armenian International Master (IM) Emin Ohanyan.
- After surpassing 2,500 Elo points at the World Youth Chess Championship, which is now taking place in Mamaia, Romania, he was awarded the title.
- Pranav Venkatesh was inducted as India's 75th Grandmaster a month before Pranav Anand was elevated to the 76th position.
- A player must achieve three GM norms comprising 27 games and surpass the live rating of 2,500 Elo points to be eligible for the GM title.
- Pranav Anand has to surpass the 2,500 live ratings he achieved in the World Youth Under-16 Open 2022's last round.
- At the 55th Biel Chess Festival in Switzerland in July, he earned his third and last GM norm.
- In the last round, he drew with No. 5 GM Eduardo Iturrizaga Bonelli (2619) of Spain.

Vinesh Phogat wins bronze in World Wrestling Championships:

- At the 2022 World Wrestling Championship, Vinesh Phogat took home bronze in the women's 53kg division.
- The first Indian woman wrestler to take home two medals at the World Championship was Vinesh Phogat.
- She also made history by becoming the first Indian woman to win a gold medal at the Asian and Commonwealth Games.
- She won the gold medal in women's 53 kg freestyle wrestling at the 2022 Commonwealth Games.
- Vinesh won the bronze medal match 8-0 over Swedish European Champion Emma Malmgren.
- She defeated Kazakhstan's Zhuldyz Eshimova in the opening round of the repechage earlier in the Asian Games.
- In the repechage round, Vinesh advanced to the bronze play-off despite losing to Mongolian Khulan Batkhuyag.

Sikandar Raza and Tahlia McGrath named as ICC Player of the month award for August 2022:

- The ICC Player of the Month award for August 2022 has been given to all-rounders Sikandar Raza of Zimbabwe and Tahlia McGrath of Australia by their respective categories.

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- Raza, who has been crucial for Zimbabwe this month, is **the first Zimbabwean international to get the honors.**
- Meanwhile, McGrath has played a crucial role in the August voyage of the Australian squad.
- Raza has performed admirably at the 22-yard line.
- In a three-match series against Bangladesh, his two tons helped Zimbabwe overcome the Bangla Tigers 2-1.
- Meanwhile, **Tahlia McGrath** had a remarkable month as well, as she helped her team win the **Gold medal at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham.**
- McGrath has 128 runs scored on her team's route to the gold medal and has sent eight batters packing during the competition.

Robin Uthappa announced retirement from all forms of Indian cricket:

- **Robin Uthappa** has declared his **retirement from Indian cricket in all formats.**
- **Uthappa** appeared in **12 IPL matches for Chennai Super Kings** last season, scoring 230 runs with the top score of 88.
- He was a member of the country's **Under-19 World Cup team in 2004.**
- He made his India debut two years later and has played 46 ODIs and 13 T20Is for the country.
- In ODIs and T20Is, he scored 934 and 249 runs, respectively.
- He has completed 9446 first-class and 6534 List A runs.
- His last ODI came against Zimbabwe in 2015, when he struck a 44-ball 31.

India beats Nepal 4-0 in the SAFF U-17 Championship Title finals:

- In the final of the **SAFF U-17 Championship**, **India defeated Nepal 4-0.**
- The SAFF U-17 Championship final was placed at **Racecourse International Stadium in Colombo, Sri Lanka.**
- In the group league, India overcame Nepal 3-1; however, in the finals, India capitalized on the chance and defeated Nepal with a leading charge.
- **Body Singh** scored at the far post following a pass from Ricky Meetei and Vanlalpeka Guite.
- Aman, Bobby Singh, Korou Singh, Vanlalpeka Guite (Captain), and Vanlalpeka Guite each scored a goal.

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- However, in the third match of the SAFF Women's Championship, the Indian women's football team was beaten by Bangladesh.

Sunil Chhetri-led Bengaluru FC wins maiden Durand Cup title:

- Sunil Chhetri's Bengaluru FC defeated Mumbai City FC 2-1 in the 131st Durand Cup final at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan in Kolkata.
- Bengaluru won the title thanks to goals from Siva Sakthi in the 10th minute and Alan Costa in the 61st.
- In an interesting contest, Apuia scored the lone goal for Mumbai.
- Sunil Chhetri also had two good chances to score, one in the 69th minute when his left-footed effort missed the goal and again in the 87th when he was one-on-one with the keeper, but Lachenpa came up big both times.

Devendra Jhajharia clinched a silver medal in the World Para Athletics Grand Prix:

- Indian javelin thrower and Paralympics gold medalist Devendra Jhajharia clinched a silver medal for the country in the World Para Athletics Grand Prix held in Morocco.
- Devendra threw the javelin to a distance of 60.97 m to capture the silver.
- Also, India's Ajit Kumar won the gold by achieving the best throw of 64 m.
- He thanked the Government of India for assisting him via the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS).
- Devendra is a three-time Paralympics medalist.
- He won Gold in the 2004 Athens and 2016 Rio editions of the Paralympics.
- In the 2020 Paralympics in Tokyo, he won a silver medal for his nation.
- Also in World Para Athletics Championships, he won a gold medal in 2013 at Lyon while he won a silver medal in 2015 in Doha.
- In the end, the Blues had done enough to capture their seventh national championship.

The International Cricket Council has announced a slew of changes to the Playing Conditions:

- The International Cricket Council has announced a slew of amendments to the Playing Conditions that will take effect on October 1, 2022.

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- In the updated 3rd Edition of the 2017 Code of the Laws of Cricket, the Men's Cricket Committee, led by former India captain Sourav Ganguly, recommended revisions to the Playing Conditions.
- The findings were also presented to the Women's Cricket Committee, who approved the recommendations.
- The revised Playing Conditions will take effect on **October 1, 2022**, which means that the new regulations will be enforced at the **ICC Men's T20 World Cup in Australia** next month.

Bajrang Punia won a bronze medal in World Wrestling Championships 2022:

- At the **World Wrestling Championships 2022**, Indian wrestler **Bajrang Punia** earned bronze after defeating **Kazakhstan's Daulet Niyazbekov** in the men's freestyle 65kg event.
- It was **Bajrang's** fourth world championship medal.
- He was already India's most successful wrestler at the world championships, having won **silver in 2018 and bronze medals in 2013 and 2019**.
- Ace India wrestler then lost in the quarterfinals against previous Pan-American champion **John Diakomihalis** of the United States but advanced to the repechage when **Diakomihalis** reached the final.
- India had a strong **30-member contingent** competing in men's and women's freestyle wrestling as well as Greco-Roman wrestling at the World Championships in 2022.
- India sent ten wrestlers to compete in each of the three categories.

SAFF Women's Championship 2022: Bangladesh Beat Nepal to Clinch Maiden Title:

- **Bangladesh** won the debut SAFF Women's Championship with a historic triumph at the **Dashrath Rangshala Stadium** in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- The **Bangladesh squad** overcame hosts **Nepal 3-1** in the finals in front of a packed crowd to see some magnificent football.
- **Bangladesh captain Sabina Khatun**, who was the tournament's **top scorer** with eight goals in five games, dedicated the trophy to the people of Bangladesh.
- **Rupna Chakma** of Bangladesh was chosen as the best goalkeeper.
- During the competition, she only allowed one goal.

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- Bangladesh had previously reached the final in 2016 but was defeated 3-1 by India.

Elvis Ali Hazarika, a swimmer has become the first from the North East to cross the North Channel:

- **Elvis Ali Hazarika a Veteran Assamese swimmer has become the first from the North East to cross the North Channel.**
- The strait between **north-eastern Northern Ireland and south-western Scotland** is the North Channel.
- Elvis Ali Hazarika also became the oldest Indian swimmer to swim across the North Channel.
- To attain this feat, **Elvis and his team clocked a timing of 14 hours 38 minutes.**
- Elvis also became the first Assamese to successfully swim from Dharamtar Jetty to the Gateway of India, the Arabian Sea, in November 2021.
- The length of which is approx 38 kilometers.
- In 2019, he again became the first person from Assam to swim across the Catalina Channel in the United States of America.
- North Channel starts north of the **Isle of Man, where the Irish Sea ends**, and flows northwest into the Atlantic Ocean.
- The **width of the channel here is 19 kilometers.**
- The deepest part is known as **Beaufort's Dyke.**
- The North Channel is a part of the marine area and International Hydrographic Organisation officially classifies it as the **"Inner Seas off the West Coast of Scotland"**.

Czech Republic's Linda Fruhvirtova won Chennai Open 2022 title:

- **Linda Fruhvirtova, a 17-year-old tennis player from the Czech Republic, made an outstanding comeback to win the Chennai Open 2022 WTA 250 tennis singles.**
- In the final, the adolescent **defeated Poland's third-seeded Magda Linette.**
- She is the WTA Tour's youngest season champion to date at the age of 17 years, 141 days.
- She is the tour's youngest singles champion since Coco Gauff, who was 17 years, and 70 days old when she won Parma last year.
- The top-seeded doubles team of Brazil's Luisa Stefani and Canada's Gabriela Dabrowski won the lopsided final by a score of 6-2, 6-1 over Georgia's Natela Dzalamidze and Anna Blinkova of the Russian Tennis Federation.

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Jhulan Goswami, a great player in women's cricket, announced her retirement:

- **Jhulan Goswami**, a great player in **women's cricket**, stated that she was **quitting the sport in all of its forms**.
- Jhulan played her final international match at the Lord's, and she did so by helping India women overcome England women 3-0 in an ODI series.
- A record for ODI women, **Jhulan finished her career with 255 wickets from 204 games**.
- In her last game for India, which saw them defeat England by 16 runs while restricting them to a 169-run target, Jhulan picked up two wickets.
- India's former international cricketer **Jhulan Nishit Goswami was born on November 25, 1982**.
- She bowls medium-fast with her right arm and bats right-handed.
- She is one of the fastest female bowlers of all time.

Magnus Carlsen became the Julius Baer Generation Cup champion

- **Magnus Carlsen** became the **Julius Baer Generation Cup champion** after crushing the “Indian Iceman” **Arjun Erigaisi** in the final.
- Norway's world number 1 needed just two games to take the seventh leg of the Meltwater Champions Chess Tour, ending Erigaisi's challenge 2-0.
- It is **Carlsen's fourth tournament win of the Tour season** and extends his advantage at the top of the overall leaderboard.
- Norwegian Magnus Carlsen became the **first player in the world to break the 2900 Tour Rating barrier** following a crushing win over **Indian teenager Arjun Erigaisi**, and clinched the Julius Baer Generation Cup -- the seventh leg of the \$1.6 million Meltwater Champions Chess Tour.

The U.S team has won the 14th Presidents Cup at Quail Hollow Club:

- **The U.S. Team has won the 14th Presidents Cup**, defeating the International Team by a 17.5-12.5 margin at **Quail Hollow Club**.
- The US team has now won 12 out of 14 Presidents Cups in history after walking away with their **ninth consecutive Cup victory**.
- The 2022 Presidents Cup was the **14th edition of the Presidents Cup golf competition**, held at **Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte, North Carolina**.
- This was Quail Hollow's first time hosting the Presidents Cup.

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- The matches were originally scheduled for fall 2021.

IMPORTANT OBITUARIES NEWS

Oscar-Winning Pixar Animator Ralph Eggleston Passes away

- Oscar Award Winning & a longtime Pixar animator Ralph Eggleston Passed away at the age of 56 in California, United States of America (USA).

About Ralph Eggleston:

- Eggleston was born in Louisiana, United States (US) in 1965
- He was an American animator, art director, storyboard artist, writer, film director, and production designer at Pixar Animation Studios.
- He would begin his career-defining relationship with Pixar in 1992.
- His work as an artist has been seen in numerous Pixar films including "Monsters, Inc.," "Finding Nemo," "Wall-E," "Cars," "The Incredibles" and "Inside Out."

Awards & Honors:

- He won the animated short film Oscar for writing and directing the 2001 Pixar film "For the Birds" & it won the Academy Award for best animated short in 2002.
- He won his first Annie Award for best individual achievement in production design due to his work on the Pixar classic "Toy Story."
- He won Annie Awards for "Finding Nemo" in 2004, "Inside Out" in 2015
- In 2019, he won a Winsor McKay Award for his lifetime career achievements.
- He was also honored with the VIEW Visionary Award in 2019.

Former Soviet president Mikhail Gorbachev Passes away

- A Russian and Soviet politician who served as the last leader of the Soviet Union Mikhail Gorbachev Passed away at the age of 91 in Moscow, Russia.

About Mikhail Gorbachev:

- Gorbachev was born on 2 March 1931 in Stavropol territory, Russia.
- He served as Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet from 1988 to 1989 & Chairman of the Supreme Soviet from 1989 to 1990.

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- He became the **General Secretary** of the **Communist Party of the Soviet Union** from 1985 to 1991.
- He served as the **President of the Soviet Union** from 1990 until the country's dissolution in 1991.
- After resigning from the presidency, he launched the **Gorbachev Foundation**, became a vocal critic of Russian presidents **Mr. Boris Yeltsin** and **Mr. Vladimir Putin**, and campaigned for Russia's social-democratic movement

Awards & Honors:

- Gorbachev was awarded the **Nobel Peace Prize** in 1990 for his role in ending the Cold War & for the leading role he played in the radical changes in East-West relations.

Legendary artist Ram Chandra Manjhi passes away

- Legendary artist, **Ram Chandra Manjhi**, has passed away at the age of 97.

About Ram Chandra Manjhi:

- Manjhi was born in 1925 in Tajpur in the Saran district of **Bihar**, India.
- He was an **Indian Bhojpuri folk dancer** and **theater artist**.
- His performance in the Bhojpuri folk dance '**Naach**' for **8 decades** has helped the preservation of the ailing art form
- He was one of the **members of Bhikhari Thakur's drama team**
- He worked on a **72 minutes long Documentary film** on **Launda Naach** named "**Naach Bhikhari Naach**"
- He was one of the members of the original troupe of Bhikhari Thakur, known as Shakespeare of the Bhojpuri language.

Awards & Honors:

- In 2017, he won the **Sangeet Natak Academy award**, however, his felicitation happened in 2019 by the President of India.
- In January 2021, he was awarded the **Padma Shri award** in the field of Arts.

About Launda Naach:

- It is a prominent Bhojpuri folk art of Bihar.
- It is performed by only males who dress as women called "launda".

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Indian boxer Birju Sah passed away

- The **first Indian boxer** to win medals at the Asian and Commonwealth Games, Birju Sah has passed away at the age of 48.

About Birju Sah:

- Birju Sah's first major international success came at the **1993 Asian junior championships** in **Bangkok, Thailand**, at the age of 19.
- Birju Sah won **bronze medals** at the **Commonwealth & Asian Games** in 1994.
- He also won **bronze** in the **light flyweight (45-48kg)** division.
- He worked as a **security guard** in Tatanagar district, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand.
- Sah also coached the **Jharkhand team** at the **National championships**.

Queen Elizabeth II passes away

- **Britain's longest-serving monarch**, Queen Elizabeth II passed away at the age of 96 in Balmoral Castle in Scotland.

About Queen Elizabeth II:

- Elizabeth was born in **Mayfair, London, UK**.
- Queen Elizabeth II was **Queen of the United Kingdom (UK)** and the other Commonwealth realms from **6 February 1952**
- Her **reign of 70 years and 214 days** is the **longest of any British monarch** and the **longest recorded of any female head of state in history**.
- She became the **UK's longest-serving monarch** in 2015 when she surpassed the record of Queen Victoria (1837 to 1901).
- The **15 prime ministers** served during her time in office, including Ms. Truss, who was born 101 years after **Winston Churchill**, in 1874.
- She was crowned on **June 2, 1953**, at **Westminster Abbey**, the first-ever coronation to be televised.

Veteran Archaeologist BB Lal Passes away

- **Former director general of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)** Braj Basi Lal Passed away at the age of 101 in Delhi.

About BB Lal:

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- Lal was born in **Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh, India**, on 2 May 1921.
- He began his career as an **archaeologist** in **1943** as a trainee in the excavation under the renowned British archaeologist Mortimer Wheeler.
- He was the **Director General of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)** from 1968 to 1972.
- He has served as **Director of the Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla**.
- He is best known for proposing the existence of a **temple-like structure** beneath the now-demolished **Babri mosque**.
- For 50 years, Lal worked on over **50 books** and **150 research papers** that were published in national and international journals.
- His most notable books are '**The Saraswati Flows On: The Continuity of Indian Culture**,' published in 2002, and '**Rama, His Historicity, Mandir, and Setu: Evidence of Literature, Archaeology, and Other Sciences**,' published in 2008.

Awards & Honors:

- He received the **Padma Bhushan Award** from the **President of India** in 2000
- He was awarded India's second-highest civilian award, the **Padma Vibhushan**, in 2021.

Former CJI KN Singh passes away

- **Former Chief Justice of India Kamal Narain Singh** passed away at the age of 95 in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh.

About Kamal Narain Singh:

- His career as a judge started with his appointment as an **Additional Judge of the Allahabad High Court** in 1970.
- He then became a **Permanent Judge** in **August 1972**.
- He got elevated as a **Supreme Court judge** in **1986** and, after almost 5 years, became the CJI.
- He also served as **Chairman of the 13th Law Commission of India** from **1991-1994**.
- He was part of several important judgments, including the **Ganga Pollution case**, the case challenging the validity of a death sentence, etc.
- He was appointed as the **22nd Chief Justice of India (CJI)** on **November 25, 1991**, and retired on **December 12, 1991**.

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- Justice Kamal Narain Singh had the shortest (17 days) tenure as CJI.
- Justice Yeshwant Vishnu Chandrachud had the longest (7 years) tenure as CJI.

Veteran actor and former union minister Krishnam Raju Passes away

- Former Union minister and veteran actor Uppalapati Venkata Krishnam Raju has passed away at the age of 83 in Hyderabad, Telangana.

About Krishnam Raju:

- He was widely known as "Rebel Star" for his rebellious acting style.
- He was the owner of Gopi Krishna Movies
- He was elected to the Kakinada and Narasapuram constituencies in the 12th and 13th Lok Sabha for the BJP.
- He served as a Minister of State for the Ministry of External Affairs in the third Vajpayee Ministry from 1999 to 2004.
- He started his film career with the Telugu movie *Chilaka Gorinka* in 1966.
- His last film was the Prabhas-starrer *Radhe Shyam*.
- Raju was the uncle of Baahubali star Prabhas.

Awards & Honors:

- Krishnam Raju won five Filmfare Awards Telugu in 1978, 1985, 1987, 1989, & Filmfare Award South in 2007.
- He received three Government of Andhra Pradesh's Nandi Awards.

Dwarka's Sharda Peeth Shankaracharya Swami Swaroopanand Saraswati passes away

- Dwarka peeth Shankaracharya Swami Swaroopanand Saraswati Passed away at the age of 99 at Narsinghpur, Madhya Pradesh, India.

About Swami Swaroopanand Saraswati:

- Swaroopanand Saraswati was born Pothiram Upadhyay on 2 September 1924 at Dighori village of Seoni district, Madhya Pradesh
- He had left his home in pursuit of God at the age of 9
- He became a Shankracharya in 1981

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- He was the Shankaracharya of Dwarka Sharada Peetham in Gujarat and the Jyotir Math in Badrinath
- He also participated in the Quit India movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi in 1942.

Iconic French New Wave film director Jean-Luc Godard passes away

- The godfather of France's New Wave cinema, Jean-Luc Godard, passed away at the age of 91 in Rolle, Switzerland.

About Jean-Luc Godard:

- Jean-Luc Godard born on 3 December 1930 in Paris, France.
- He was a French-Swiss film director, screenwriter, and film critic.
- Godard first received global acclaim for his 1960 feature Breathless, helping to establish the New Wave movement.
- He was a “master” of cinema – “the most iconoclastic of the Nouvelle Vague”
- His most recent films, “In Praise of Love” (2001) and “Notre musique” (2004), were critically acclaimed at the Cannes Film Festival.

Awards & Honors:

- Academy Award (2011)
- Honorary Academy Award (2010)
- Praemium Imperiale (2002)
- Honorary César (1987, 1998)
- Golden Lion (1983)
- Golden Bear (1965)

Former Cabinet Minister of Malaysia Samy Vellu Passes away

- Former Cabinet Minister of Malaysia and first Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awardee from Malaysia, Dr. S. Samy Vellu Passed away at the age of 86 in Malaysia.

About Dr S. Samy Vellu:

- Dr S. Samy Vellu born on 8 March 1936 Kluang, Johor, British Malaya (now Malaysia)
- He served as Minister of Works from June 1983 to June 1989 and again from May 1995 to March 2008.

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- He held the post of Minister of Energy, Telecommunications from June 1989 to May 1995
- He also served as the Minister of Works and Public Amenities from September 1979 to June 1983.
- He was the Member of Parliament (MP) for Sungai Siput from September 1974 to March 2008.
- He was appointed as Malaysia's Special Envoy of Infrastructure to India and Southern Asia, with ministerial rank, on 1 January 2011.
- He was the longest-serving Malaysian Indian Congress (MIC) president & one of the longest-serving Cabinet ministers by being in the Cabinet.

About Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award:

- The Pravasi Bharatiya Samman is the highest Indian award for Non-resident Indians and Overseas Citizens of India.
- It was constituted by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India in conjunction with the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (Non-Resident Indian Day)
- The award is given by the President of India.

Tennis Player & Former Davis Cup Captain Naresh Kumar passes away

- Former Indian Tennis Player & Davis Cup Captain Naresh Kumar passed away at the age of 93 in Kolkata, West Bengal.

About Naresh Kumar:

- Naresh Kumar was born on December 22, 1928, in Lahore, Punjab, British India.
- Kumar began his tennis journey at the Asian Championships in 1949 before ruling Indian tennis along with Ramanathan Krishnan for close to a decade in the 1950s.
- In 1990, Kumar as a non-playing Indian captain played a key role in including a 16-year-old Leander Paes in the Davis Cup team.
- He won five singles titles in his career - Irish Championships (1952 and 1953), Welsh Championships (1952), Essex Championships at Frinton-on-Sea (1957), and his title at the Wengen tournament in Switzerland in 1958.
- He played his final tournament at the Asian Championships in 1969.

Awards & Honors:

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- Naresh Kumar became the **first tennis coach** to receive **Dronacharya Lifetime Achievement Award** in 2000.

Former Pakistan cricket umpire Asad Rauf Passes away

- Former Pakistan cricket umpire Asad Rauf passed away at the age of 66 in Lahore.

About Asad Rauf:

- He played in **Pakistan domestic cricket** between 1977 and 1991, representing **Pakistan Universities, Lahore, National Bank of Pakistan, and Pakistan Railways**
- He officiated **64 Tests, 139 ODIs, 28 T20Is, and 11 women's T20Is** as either umpire or TV umpire.
- Rauf played **71 First Class matches**, scoring 3423 runs.
- He played 40 List A matches, scoring 611 runs.
- Rauf became a **first-class umpire** in 1998 and first officiated in an international ODI match in 2000.
- He officiated in **64 Tests (49 as an on-field umpire and 15 as a TV umpire), 139 ODIs, and 28 T20Is** and was one of Pakistan's leading umpires in the mid-2000s.
- He joined the **ODI panel** in 2004.
- He was a **former member of the Elite Panel of ICC Umpires** between 2006 and 2013.
- In 2016, he was handed a **five-year ban** by the BCCI on four charges of corruption and misconduct.

Ex-Union minister & Congress leader Manikrao Gavit Passes away

- Former union minister and Congress leader Manikrao Hodlya Gavit Passed away at the age of 87 in Nashik, Maharashtra.

About Manikrao Hodlya Gavit:

- Manikrao Hodlya Gavit was an **Indian politician** from the **Nandurbar district of Maharashtra, India.**
- A member of the **Indian National Congress (INC)**, he represented the **Nandurbar constituency** from 1980 to 2014, winning the **Indian general elections consecutive 9 times**, marking a record.
- He served as a member of the **7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th, 15th Lok Sabha.**

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- He served as the Union minister of state for home affairs in the Manmohan Singh government in 2004 and minister of state social justice in 2013.
- He had been appointed a pro-tem speaker of the 15th Lok Sabha by President Pratibha Patil.

Comedian Raju Srivastava passes away

- Actor-comedian Satya Prakash Srivastava has passed away at the age of 58.

About Raju Srivastava:

- Satya Prakash Srivastava often was an Indian comedian, actor, and politician
- He was often credited as the **Gajodhar** because of his popular acts.
- He has been in the entertainment industry since the 1980s.
- He was the chairman of the Film Development Council Uttar Pradesh.
- He participated in **Bigg Boss (Hindi season 3)**, the Indian counterpart of the Big Brother (franchise).
- He also participated in several comedy shows including **The Great Indian Laughter Challenge**, **Comedy Ka Maha Muqabala**, **Comedy Circus**, and **Comedy Nights with Kapil**.
- The Samajwadi Party fielded Srivastava from Kanpur for the 2014 Lok Sabha election.

Record-breaking Russian cosmonaut Valery Polyakov Passes away

- Russian Cosmonaut Valery Vladimirovich Polyakov, who holds the record for the longest single stay in space, has Passed away at the age of 80.

About Valery Polyakov:

- Valeri Vladimirovich Polyakov was born on 27 April 1942 in Tula, Russian SFSR, Soviet Union.
- He qualified as a physician before being selected as a cosmonaut in 1972
- He flew his first mission into space in 1988 and returned in 1989 after eight months
- He had lived and worked in space for a record **437 days** in one stint, orbiting Earth aboard the **Mir space station** more than 7,000 times between January 8, 1994, and March 22, 1995.
- According to Roscosmos, Polyakov undertook two space expeditions during his career, with a total duration of **678 days and 16 hours**.
- He was appointed deputy director of the Institute of Biomedical Problems.
- He was a member of organizations related to astronautics, including the Russian Chief Medical Commission on cosmonauts' certification

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Awards & Honors:

- Polyakov won several awards for his spaceflight and academic achievements, including the Hero of the Soviet Union, Hero of the Russian Federation, Order of Lenin, Order of the Legion of Honor, and the Order of Parasat.

Sanskrit scholar Padmashree Ramayatna Shukla Passes away

- Padma Shri awardee & the former president of Shri Kashi Vidvat Parishad and Sanskrit scholar, Acharya Ramayatna Shukla, passed away at the age of 90.

About Acharya Ramayatna Shukla:

- Acharya Ramyatna Shukla was born in 1932 in Kalatulsi village of Bhadohi district adjoining Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh (UP).
- He was a scholar of Sanskrit grammar.
- He was the President of the country's well-known scholarly organization Kashi Vidya Parishad for 30 consecutive years.
- He has also decorated the post of Acharya and President of the Grammar Department in Sampurnanand Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya.
- He worked for a long time in the faculty of Sanskrit Vidya Dharma Vigyan of Banaras Hindu University (BHU) as an Acharya.
- He received Vedanta Shastra from Dharma Emperor Swami Karpatri Ji and Swami Chaitanya Bharati from Vedanta Shastra, Hariram Shukla from Mimamsa, and Pandit Ramchandra Shastri.

Awards & Honors:

- He was rewarded at the hands of the President in the year 1999.
- In the year 2005, he was awarded the title of Mahamahopadhyaya & and the Keshav Award was given by the Government of Uttar Pradesh in 2000.
- He was awarded Vishwa Bharati, the top Sanskrit language award in 2015.
- Acharya Ramayatna Shukla was awarded the Padma Shri award in the year 2021.

Senior RSS pracharak Keshav Rao Dattatreya Dikshit passes away

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- Senior most pracharak of Rashtriya SwayamSevak Sangh, Keshav Rao Dattatreya Dikshit has passed away at the age of 98.
- Keshav Rao Dattatreya Dikshit was born in 1925 in Pulgaon village in the Wardha district of Maharashtra, India.

About RSS:

- Founded: 27 September 1925
- Headquarters: Nagpur, Maharashtra
- The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (**National Volunteer Organisation**) is an Indian right-wing, Hindu nationalist, paramilitary volunteer organization.

Former Tamil Nadu Assembly speaker Sedapatti Muthiah Passes away

- Former Union Minister and Tamil Nadu Assembly Speaker Sedapatti R Muthiah passed away at the age of 77.

About Sedapatti R Muthiah:

- Sedapatti R. Muthiah was an Indian politician of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK).
- He was popularly known by the name **Sedapattiar**.
- He was one of the leaders of the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) from its creation and was second in command in AIADMK until 1998.
- He became the **Speaker of the Assembly** in 1991 and continued in office till 1996, during the late Chief Minister J Jayalalithaa's period.
- He was **TN Assembly Speaker** from 1991 to 1996 when the AIADMK was in power.
- He secured consecutive victories from the Sedapatti segment **four times** in 1977, 1980, 1984, and 1991, which earned him the moniker Sedapattiyar.
- He became an MP from the Lok Sabha constituency of Periyakulam in Theni twice, in 1989 and 1998.
- He also became a **Union Minister for Surface Transport** in the Cabinet of then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- He kept away from politics for some time, but later joined the DMK in 2008 and went on to become a member of the party's electoral wing.

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Oscar-winning actress Louise Fletcher Passes away

- **United States actress Louise Fletcher** Passed away at the age of 88.

About Louise Fletcher:

- Fletcher was born on July 22, 1934, in **Birmingham, Alabama, United States (US)**.
- She was best known for her portrayal of Nurse Ratched, Fletcher's career spanned six decades, including TV and film.
- Her last credited work was a **two-episode run guest-starring** on the Netflix show "Girlboss" in **2017**

Awards & Honors:

- She was awarded the **Oscar** in **1976** for her role as Nurse Ratched in **One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest (1975)**.
- She was also a recipient of a **BAFTA Award**, and a **Golden Globe Award**.
- She was nominated for **two Emmy Awards** for her roles in the television series **Picket Fences (1996)** and **Joan of Arcadia (2004)**.

About One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest:

- The film, based on a popular **Ken Kesey novel**, won the **best actress trophy** for Fletcher and four other Oscars, including **best picture**, **best director (Milos Forman)**, **best actor (Jack Nicholson)**, and **Best Screenplay**.

Author of the Wolf Hall trilogy, Dame Hilary Mantel passes away

- **Dame Hilary Mantel**, the **Booker Prize-winning author** of the acclaimed "Wolf Hall" saga of historical novels, has Passed away at the age of 70.

About Dame Hilary Mantel:

- Dame Hilary Mary Mantel was a British writer whose work includes historical fiction, personal memoirs, and short stories
- Her first novel 'Every Day is Mother's Day, was published in 1985.
- Her Notable works include **Bring Up the Bodies, Fludd, and Beyond Black**.
- In total, she authored 17 books, including non-fiction works.

Awards & Honors:

Important Monthly Current Affairs Capsule – September 2022

- Mantel won the **Booker Prize twice**, for “Wolf Hall” in 2009 and its sequel “Bring Up the Bodies” in 2012.
- She was also honored with the **Walter Scott Prize (2010, 2021)** and **Costa Novel Prize (2012)**.

Note:

- **Hilary Mantel** became the **first woman** to win the **Man Booker Prize Twice**.

Additional Info:

- Wolf Hall was a **fictional account** of **Thomas Cromwell's** rise to power in the court of Henry VIII.

Veteran Congress leader Aryadan Muhammed passes away

- **Former Kerala minister** and **senior Congress leader**, **Aryadan Muhammed** has passed away at the age of 87 in Kozhikode, Kerala.

About Aryadan Muhammed:

- Aryadan Muhammed was born in Nilambur, Madras Presidency, British India
- He entered politics as a **member** of the **Congress party** in 1952 and remained the part of **Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee** till 1958.
- He was an **8 time** (1977, 1980, 1987, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006 & 2011) **MLA**, who represented the Nilambur constituency in the Malappuram district of Kerala
- He was a minister in the **EK Nayanar cabinet** when he was part of the **Left Front Group A** in 1980.
- He held ministerial posts in the **AK Antony cabinet** and **Oommen Chandy cabinet**.
- He also served as the **Chairman** of the **Public Accounts Committee** of the **Kerala Legislative Assembly** from 1998 to 2001 and **Chairman** of the **Public Undertakings Committee** from 2001 to 2004.
- He was a **minister for Labour and Forest** in the **E.K. Nayanar Minister** from 1980 to 1982.
- He served as the **Minister for Labour and Tourism** in the **A.K. Antony Ministry** during 9th KLA and **Minister of Power** in **Oommen Chandy Ministry** from 2004 to 2006.