

# CURRENT AFFAIRS



**OCTOBER  
2022**



**HAPPY ACADEMY**



# PREFACE

This is our special edition of Current Affairs Magazine for various Central & State level Competitive Examinations, covering content from the month of October 2022.

**The Magazine is divided into three sections:**

## **Section 1: Topic Wise Current Affairs in Short**

The first section is dedicated to Topic Wise Current Affairs with a short description to provide information about all major happenings this month.

## **Section 2: Practice Questions with Answers**

The Second Section contains 150 Multiple Choice Questions based on daily current affairs.

## **Section 3: Detailed Analysis of important**

The Third Section covers some major happenings in this month along with analysis. The content has been covered from various online & offline sources including reputed newspapers like The Hindu, Indian Express etc. All the news topics have been explained keeping in mind their underlying issues. Every issue has been covered comprehensively. Some of the information provided may not be directly relevant for the examination. As the content is very wide, we have only covered a limited set of issues. You can utilize it smartly along with Daily Study of News Papers as well as other sources.



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## Section 1

Topic Wise Current Affairs

## Section 2

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# SECTION 1

# Topic Wise Current Affairs in Short



**1: Important Days**



**World Vegetarian Day : 01 October :-**

World Vegetarian Day, established by the North American Vegetarian Society in 1977 and endorsed by the International Vegetarian Union in 1978, is observed annually on October 1 around the world. The World Vegetarian Day is observed to raise awareness of environmental concerns, animal welfare and rights issues, and personal health benefits of avoiding animal products. The day is also observed to raise awareness about the importance of saving animals' lives and helping to preserve the environment.



**International Coffee Day : 01 October :-**

On October 1, the world celebrates International Coffee Day with the goal of recognising the plight of coffee bean farmers and expressing our love for the aromatic drink. It was first observed in Japan and was officially designated as International Coffee Day in 2015. The day also promotes fair trade of coffee around the world and

thanks farmers for going to such lengths to produce the beans. The International Coffee Organization, founded in London in 1963, declared the first International Coffee Day on October 1, 2015.



**Gandhi Jayanti : 02 October :-**

The 153rd birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, who taught Indians the values of truth and nonviolence during the freedom movement, will be celebrated on October 2, 2022. His ideals also enabled other countries in Asia and Africa, where Mahatma Gandhi spent much of his life, to achieve independence from colonial rule without bloodshed. In his pursuit of non-cooperation, Mahatma Gandhi was imprisoned several times. His strategy of peaceful resistance and mass civil disobedience was later adopted by people all over the world.



**International Day of Non-Violence : 02 October :-**

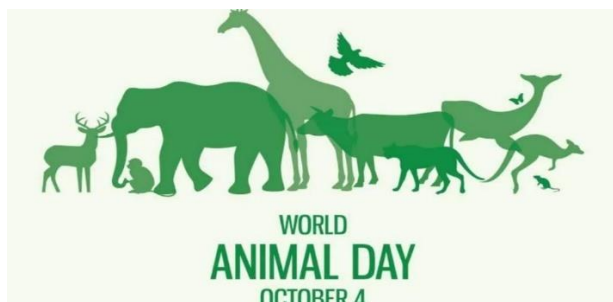
On October 2nd, the United Nations observes the International Day of Non-Violence, which commemorates the birth anniversary of Mahatma

Gandhi, a leader of India's freedom movement and a pioneer of the philosophy of Non-Violence. The goal of the day is to raise awareness about the concept of nonviolence through education. The first commemoration of the day occurred in 2007. According to a resolution passed by the United Nations General Assembly, the day is an opportunity to “disseminate the message of non-violence, including through education and public awareness”.



### World Architecture Day : 03 October :-

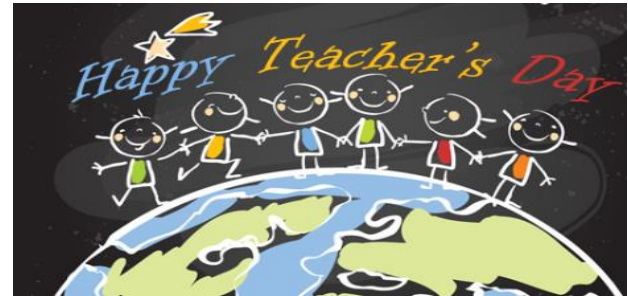
The International Union of Architects (UIA) established World Architecture Day on the first Monday of October in 1985 to remind the world of its collective responsibility for the future of the human habitat. Architecture, as the foundation of human settlements' built fabric, bears the responsibility of influencing sustainability, the environment, health, social interaction, and culture. Architecture, with just a few key tenets of influence, is a critical tool in achieving a healthy world.



### World Animal Day : 04 October :-

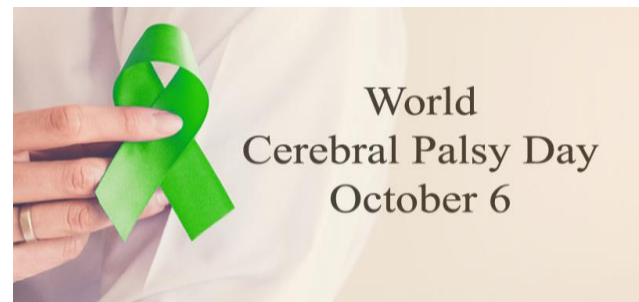
Every year on October 4, the world celebrates World Animal Day. The goal of World Animal Day is to raise the status of animals in order to improve animal welfare

standards around the world. World Animal Day is simply a global animal welfare movement that strives to make the world a better place for all animals. Along with recognising this significance, World Animal Day ensures that efforts to provide better rescue shelters for animals, launch better animal welfare programmes. This year the theme for World Animal Day is a “shared planet”.



### World Teachers' Day : 05 October :-

Every year on October 5, World Teachers' Day, also known as International Teachers Day, is observed. Since 1994, World Teachers' Day has been observed. The goal of this annual event is to honour, celebrate, and recognise teachers' contributions and efforts, without which we would not be who we are today. The day commemorates the adoption of the ILO/UNESCO Recommendation on the Status of Teachers in 1966. The theme for this year's World Teachers' Day celebration is “The Transformation Of Education Begins With Teachers”.



### World Cerebral Palsy Day : 06 October :-

Every year on October 6th, World Cerebral Palsy Day (WCPD) is observed. The World Cerebral Palsy Day (WCPD) provides an opportunity to celebrate the lives

and accomplishments of people with cerebral palsy (CP), as well as the people and organisations that support them. Cerebral palsy is a group of neurological disorders that appear in infancy or early childhood and affect body movement and muscle coordination indefinitely. There are over 17 million people worldwide who have cerebral palsy (CP). The most common physical disability in childhood is cerebral palsy.



## World Cotton Day : 7 October :-

World Cotton Day is an international celebration of cotton and its stakeholders, from the field to the fabric and beyond. The goal of celebrating World Cotton Day (WCD) is to raise awareness about cotton. It is a global commodity grown in over 75 countries across five continents. The day emphasises its importance in creating jobs and maintaining economic stability in least-developed countries (LDCs). The World Trade Organization (WTO) hosted the launch of World Cotton Day (WCD) on October 7, 2019, following an initiative by the Cotton-4 countries of Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, and Mali.



## Indian Air Force Day : 8 October :-

Every year on October 8, Indian Air Force Day is observed. The Indian Air Force (IAF) is the Indian armed forces' air arm, with the primary mission of securing Indian airspace and conducting aerial operations during armed conflicts. More than 170,000 personnel are in service with the Indian Air Force. Its personnel and aircraft assets rank fourth among the world's air forces. The IAF, also known as the 'Bharatiya Vayu Sena,' was founded on October 8, 1932, by the British Empire. The President of India is the Supreme Commander of the Indian Air Force.



## World Mental Health Day : 10 October :-

Every year on October 10, World Mental Health Day aims to raise awareness and educate people around the world about mental health issues. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), "In recent years, there has been increasing acknowledgement of the important role mental health plays in achieving global development goals, as illustrated by the inclusion of mental health in the Sustainable Development Goals". The theme for this year is 'Make mental health and well-being for all a global priority'.



## National Post Day : 10 October :-

Every year on October 10, National Post Day is observed as an extension of World Post Day, which is observed on October 9. National Post Day commemorates the role of the Indian postal service over the last 150 years. The British established postal service in India. Lord Dalhousie founded it in 1854. It is currently administered by the Ministry of Communications and is the world's most widely distributed postal system. There are 23 postal circles and 9 postal zones in India, including the Army Post Office.



## International Day of the Girl Child : 11 October :-

The United Nations declared International Day of the Girl Child in order to raise awareness of issues affecting young girls around the world. Gender equality and women's empowerment, according to the United Nations, are essential components. Every year on October 11, the International Day of the Girl is observed. On December 19, 2011, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution designating October 11 as International Day of the Girl Child. The theme of International Day of the Girl Child this year is -- "Our time is now—our rights, our future".



## World Arthritis Day: 12 October :-

Every year on October 12, World Arthritis Day (WAD) is observed to raise awareness about the existence and impact of rheumatic diseases. On this day, arthritis campaigns are launched, and awareness is raised about timely diagnosis and management strategies. Arthritis affects a large portion of the world's population, impairing their quality of life and participation in society. An estimated one hundred million people are undiagnosed and coping with symptoms that are frequently overlooked and misdiagnosed. The theme for this year is "It's in your hands, take action."



## World Sight Day : Second Thursday of October :-

Every year on the second Thursday of October, World Sight Day (WSD) is observed to draw global attention to blindness and vision impairment. This year's World Sight Day is on October 13, 2022. Uncorrected refractive errors and unoperated cataract are the leading causes of vision impairment and blindness. Globally, approximately 1 billion people have vision impairment that could be prevented or treated. Vision impairment has a significant impact on a person's personal, social, and economic life. This year theme is "Love Your Eyes".



## World Standards Day : 14 October :-

Every year on October 14, World Standards Day, also known as International Standards Day, is observed. The



goal of the day is to raise consumer, regulatory, and industry awareness about the importance of standardisation to the global economy. The date was chosen to commemorate the first gathering of delegates from 25 countries in London in 1946 who decided to form an international organisation to facilitate standardisation. The ISO was established a year later, in 1947. The first World Standards Day, however, was observed in 1970. The theme for World Standards Day 2022 is 'Shared Vision for a Better World.'



## World Students' Day : 15 October :-

Every year on October 15, World Students' Day is observed in honour of former Indian President APJ Abdul Kalam, who was born on the same day in 1931. The purpose of the day is to recognise Kalam's contributions to education and students. In 2010, the United Nations designated October 15 as World Students' Day. Through his insightful lectures, Kalam dedicated his life to teaching and inspiring students. He was also known as the "Missile Man of India" for spearheading the development of India's most significant missiles as well as the country's civilian space programmes.



## International Day of Rural Women : 15 October :-

Every year on October 15, the United Nations (UN) International Day of Rural Women celebrates and honours the role of rural women. It recognises the importance of rural women in advancing agricultural and rural development worldwide. On October 15, 2008, the first International Day of Rural Women was observed. This day celebrates the contributions of rural women, including indigenous women, to agricultural and rural development, food security, and the abolition of rural poverty.



## World Food Day : October 16:-

Every year on October 16, World Food Day is observed to raise awareness about the issue of hunger and healthy eating habits for all. It commemorates the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). Organisations such as the World Food Programme and the International Fund for Agriculture Development commemorate World Food Day. This day marks the anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The theme of World Food Day 2022 is 'Leave NO ONE behind'.



## International Day for the Eradication of Poverty : 17 October :-

Every year on October 17, the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is observed. This day is intended to recognise and acknowledge the efforts and challenges that people who are forced to live in poverty face. This day provides a chance to those people to voice out their concerns and make everyone realize that these people are the first one who will have to fight poverty. Poverty is a violation of human rights and there is a need for people from across the world to come together to ensure that these rights are respected.



## World Statistics Day : 20 October :-

Every year on October 20th, the world celebrates World Statistics Day to highlight the accomplishments of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. The day, established by the United Nations Statistical Commission, was first observed in 2010. Since 2010, it has evolved into a collaborative effort, with 103 taking participation. This includes 51 African countries that celebrate African Statistics Day every year on November 18th. On the 29th of June, India observes National Statistics Day.



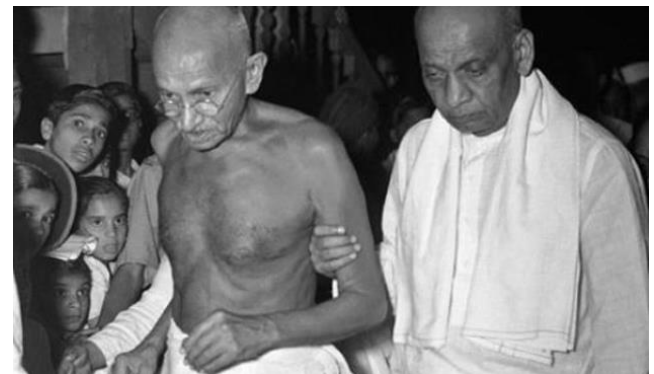
## United Nations Day : 24 October :-

Since 1948, October 24 has been designated as United Nations Day. UN Day commemorates the anniversary of the UN Charter's entry into force in 1945. The United Nations Charter is the founding document of this great non-partisan institution dedicated to global peace and equality. The United Nations officially came into being with the ratification of this founding document by the majority of its signatories, including the five permanent members of the Security Council. Since 1948, the 24th of October has been observed as United Nations Day.



## World Polio Day : 24 October :-

Every year on October 24, World Polio Day is observed to raise awareness about polio vaccination and eradication. Rotary International established World Polio Day more than a decade ago to commemorate the birth of Jonas Salk, who led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis. The CDC collaborates with partners to eradicate polio and end the suffering caused by this devastating disease through the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI). Several critical obstacles, including the global pandemic, stand in the way of eradication.



## National Unity Day : 31 October :-

Since 2014, October 31 has been observed as National Unity Day or Rashtriya Ekta Diwas. The day is marked with patriotic events to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the man who

was instrumental in the unification of India. He is popularly known as "Iron Man of India". Patel was a lifelong member of the Indian National Congress (INC) who fought the British during India's independence movement. He was the country's first Deputy Prime Minister after independence.

## 2: Agreements



### Under SPARSH Programme, Defense Ministry Signs An MoU With BoB And HDFC :-

The Defence Ministry has signed an MoU with Bank of Baroda and HDFC Bank under the SPARSH-System for Pension Administration initiative, with the goal of covering seventeen lakh defence pensioners across the country. Dr. Ajay Kumar, the Defence Secretary, stated that seventeen lakh pensioners out of the total thirty-two lakh defence pensioners will be added to SPARSH by the end of this month. He stated that the remaining pensioners would be brought as soon as possible.



### ESSCI Partnered With Samsung India To Train Indian Youth :-

The Electronics Sector Skill Council of India (ESSCI) has signed a memorandum of understanding with Samsung India to provide youth with industry-relevant skills in emerging technology domains in order to improve their employability. It will be included in the government's 'Skill India' initiative. The Samsung Innovation Campus programme aims to train over 3,000 unemployed youth aged 18 to 25 in future technologies such as artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things, big data, and coding and programming.



### Amazon Tie-Up With Amp Energy To Establish Its First Solar Project In India :-

Amazon has announced the construction of India's first solar farm. In Rajasthan, the e-commerce giant will build three solar power plants with a combined capacity of 420 megawatts (MW). Amp Energy India, a renewable energy (RE) producer, has signed a power purchase agreement (PPA) with Amazon to sell RE from a 100 MW solar power plant in Rajasthan as part of Amazon's India plans. The

plant, which will be located in Bhadia, Rajasthan, will be fully operational by the end of 2023. This solar power plant will offset 1,13,645 tonnes of harmful CO2 emissions.



## Royal Society Of Chemistry And CSIR Collaborate For Chemistry In Indian Schools :-

The Royal Society of Chemistry and the Council for Industry and Scientific Research (CSIR) have joined forces to fund an outreach programme to promote chemical sciences in schools and universities. Around 2000 students from across the country took part in RSC's Global Coin experiment, which was held across 30 CSIR laboratories. The two organisations have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate on the CSIR's Jigyasa programme, which is an India-wide outreach programme aimed at schoolchildren and researchers.



## UCO & Yes Bank Tie Up With Russian Banks For Payments :-

As India seeks to increase trade with the sanctioned country, Uco Bank and Yes Bank have made

arrangements with two Russian counterparts. While Uco Bank, the agency in charge of rupee trade with Iran, has a deal with Gazprom Bank, Yes Bank and Petersburg Social Commercial Bank (PSCB) also have a deal. SBI has also stated that it is considering payment arrangements with Russian banks. With goods shipments from Europe and the United States hampered by sanctions, Indian exporters see an opportunity in Russia.



## Historic MoU Signed To Launch India's Rupay Debit Card In Oman :-

The National Payments Corporation of India and the Central Bank of Oman have signed a historic Memorandum of Understanding to launch the Rupay debit card in Oman, ushering in a new era of financial connectivity. Terming the MoU as a new milestone in bilateral relations, Minister of State for External Affairs V. Muraleedharan tweeted, "Happy to meet with H.E. Tahir Al Amri, Executive President, Central Bank of Oman & witness signing of the historic MOU between CBO and NPCI to launch the Rupay debit card in Oman, paving the way for a new era of financial connectivity."



## India And Japan Signed An MoU To Develop Scientific Collaboration For Indian Ayurveda :-

The All India Institute of Ayurveda has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Japan's National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST). The MoU is intended to foster capacity development and technological cooperation in academic institutions. The MoU will allow both countries to advance scientific cooperation and capacity building in the Indian Ayurvedic system of traditional medicine. All of these initiatives will be carried out with the assistance of the Ayush Ministry.



## Haryana Govt And Dubai Ink An MoU For Economic Cooperation :-

The Haryana government announced that the government of Dubai has finalised a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with it for cooperation in various economic activities. In a press release the state government said: "Under the terms of the MoU, the Government of Dubai shall identify a suitable entity to assist with identifying the potential areas of collaboration, assessing the viability of projects including conducting legal and financial due diligence, feasibility studies, negotiation and finalization of definitive agreements and support the Govt. of Haryana in identifying potential investors based in UAE."



## Ashok Leyland, IIT Madras Tie Up To Develop Hybrid EVS :-

Ashok Leyland and IIT Madras researchers have collaborated to develop electric vehicles (EVs) using turbine technology. In these electric vehicles, turbine technology will replace large batteries as the primary powertrain to generate onboard power. The main powertrain in this new category of EVs will be electric motors, but their power source will be significantly different from other types of EVs available today. The Micro Gas Turbine, developed jointly by NCCRD and AeroStroVilos Energy, an IITM startup, will provide onboard power.



## Tata Power Partnered With 75F Smart Innovations For Energy-Efficiency Solutions :-

Tata Power Trading Company (TPTCL) and 75F Smart Innovations India have signed an agreement to promote automation and energy-efficiency solutions in commercial buildings. "Tata Power Trading Company (TPTCL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Tata Power and 75F Smart Innovations India have signed an agreement to jointly promote building automation and energy efficiency solutions in the commercial building space across industry verticals like IT/ITeS, BFSI hospitality, healthcare, education, government and retail," said a company release.



## Paytm Tie-Up With Jana Small Finance Bank For Deployment Of Card Devices :-

One97 Communications Limited (OCL), the parent company of the Paytm brand, has partnered with Jana Small Finance Bank to deploy card machines in order to accelerate digitisation among merchants across the country. With this collaboration, Jana Small Finance Bank will be able to offer Paytm's All-in-One EDC machines to its existing and potential customers, providing a one-stop solution for all of their digital payment needs. Bhavesh Gupta, CEO - Lending & Head - Payments, Paytm said, "This partnership will help expand our reach and deploy card machines across India's small cities and towns."



## BHEL Signed An MoU With CIL & NLCIL For Coal Gasification :-

Bharat Heavy Electricals (BHEL) clarified that on October 12, 2022, it entered into a 'non-binding' MoU with Coal India (CIL) and NLC India (NLCIL) for the establishment of Coal Gasification-based plants. This MoU only expresses an intention to establish a Coal to Ammonium Nitrate Project with CIL based on gasification of high ash Indian coal, as well as a lignite-based gasification pilot plant with NLCIL for power generation, both of which will use

BHEL's indigenously developed Pressurised Fluidised Bed Gasification (PFBG) technology. The Government of India owned 63.17% of the company as of 30 June 2022.



## ICC Tie-Up With UNICEF To Promote Gender Equality :-

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has collaborated with UNICEF to empower women and girls while also promoting inclusion and gender equality through cricket. The collaboration will be put into action during the upcoming T20 World Cup in Australia, where all 16 nations will hold 'Cricket 4 Good Coaching Clinics,' with up to 40 school children participating in each. The children will be introduced to 'Cricket 4 Good,' a cricket development curriculum, while also learning more about gender equity and meeting their cricketing heroes.



## Indian Army Signs MoU With 11 Banks For Agniveer Salary Accounts :-

The Indian Army has signed memorandums of understanding (MoUs) with 11 Indian banks to provide banking services to Agniveers who enrol in the Agnipath scheme. "The Indian Army has signed historic MoU with 11 Banks viz State Bank of India, Punjab National Bank, Bank of Baroda, IDBI Bank, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank, Axis

Bank, Yes Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, IDFC First Bank and Bandhan Bank for providing banking facilities to Agniveers on enrollment," the ministry said in a release.



## Google Partners With Assam Government To Power Digital-led Learning :-

Google has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of Assam to support and accelerate the State's mission to promote digital growth and development. Google will collaborate with the Assam Government's Skill, Employment & Entrepreneurship Department (SEED) under this new initiative to strengthen school digitization efforts with digital learning tools and solutions to aid teaching and learning, while also promoting the fundamentals of online safety and digital citizenship to school children through the programme.



## CASHe Tie-Up With IRCTC To Launch 'Travel Now Pay Later' Facility :-

CASHe, India's AI-powered financial wellness platform, announced a partnership with Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) to provide a Travel Now Pay Later (TNPL) payment option on its travel app IRCTC Rail Connect. According to CASHe, the new scheme will allow customers to book rail tickets instantly and pay for them later in three to six-month EMIs. According to CASHe, passengers can easily book their tickets and pay later with the new TNPL payment option.

## Mahindra FINANCE

## Mahindra Finance Partnered With India Post Payments Bank To Boost Credit Access :-

Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services announced a strategic partnership with India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) to expand credit availability to a broader customer base. As part of this agreement, India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) will provide Mahindra & Mahindra with lead referral services for Passenger Vehicles, 3-Wheeler, Tractor, and Commercial Vehicle Loan categories, as well as cash EMI deposit facility to existing Mahindra & Mahindra customers at Post Offices. This scheme would first be implemented as a pilot in IPPB branches in the states of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.

## 3: Appointments



## Dr. Rajiv Bahl Named As Director General Of ICMR :-

The Central Government has appointed Dr Rajiv Bahl, who is currently serving in WHO, as Director General of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Secretary of the Department of Health Research (DHR), for a three-year term. "The Appointment Committee of

the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Dr Rajiv Bahl to the post Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)-cum- Secretary Department of Health Research for a period of three years, with effect from the date of assumption of charge of the post" said government document.



## Sanjai Kumar Named As New Chairman & MD Of Railtel :-

Sanjai Kumar has been appointed chairman and managing director of RailTel Corporation of India. He is an officer of the Indian Railway Service of Signal Engineers (IRSSE1). He was the company's director of networking, planning, and marketing at the time. Sanjai has over 29 years of experience as an IRSSE officer, including over 20 years of managing projects and marketing departments in the company. RailTel, a "Mini Ratna (Category-I)" company, provides information and communications technology (ICT).



## Former Indian Captain Dilip Tirkey Elected As President Of Hockey India :-

Former India captain Dilip Tirkey was elected unopposed as Hockey India's (HI) new president . After filing his nomination as the president of Odisha's hockey federation, the three-time Olympian, regarded as one of India's best defenders, was the favourite to take over as president. Tirkey will be the second sportsperson in history to lead a National Sports Federation. The FIH immediately approved Tirkey's appointment as the new HI chief, congratulating the HI on the completion of the election process.



## Dr. M Srinivas Named As New Director Of AIIMS Delhi :-

Dr M Srinivas, dean of Employees' State Insurance Company (ESIC) Hospital and Medical College in Hyderabad, has been named director of New Delhi's All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), nearly six months after the previous director, Dr Randeep Guleria, stepped down. The appointment is for a period of five years, beginning on the date of assumption of the post and ending when the employee reaches the age of 65, whichever comes first, according to the order.



## Senior IAS Officer Rajendra Kumar Appointed ESIC Director General :-



In a top-level administrative realignment, the Union government has announced the reshuffle of up to nine senior IAS officers working at the Centre. Rajendra Kumar, a senior Tamil Nadu cadre IAS officer currently serving as additional secretary in the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, has been appointed director general of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC). "Kumar, a 1992-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of Tamil Nadu cadre has been appointed the DG of ESIC," an order issued by the Personnel Ministry said.



## **Bakery Foods Company Britannia Industries Appoints Rajneet Kohli As CEO :-**

Britannia Industries, a leading bakery foods company, has announced the appointment of Rajneet Kohli as executive director and chief executive officer. Britannia Industries Ltd said in a statement that it has promoted incumbent Varun Berry to executive vice-chairman and managing director with immediate effect. Kohli joins Britannia from Jubilant FoodWorks (JFL), India's largest food services company and a master franchisee of Domino's Pizza for India and some international markets.



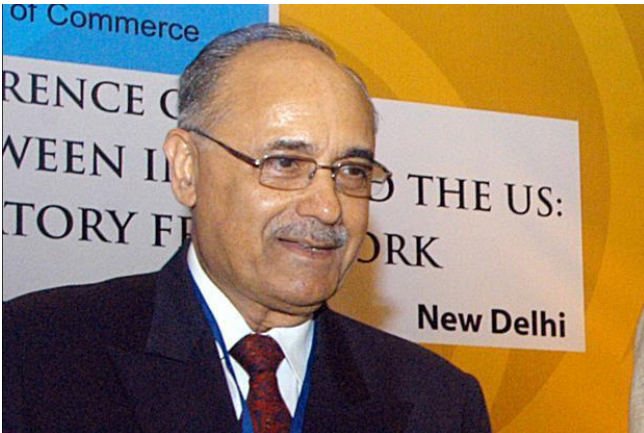
## **Senior Advocate R Venkataramani Named As New Attorney General Of India :-**

R Venkataramani, a senior advocate, has been appointed as India's new Attorney General. According to a notification from the Ministry of Law and Justice, the President has appointed Mr Venkataramani as the new Attorney General for a three-year term beginning October 1st. Venkataramani enrolled as a lawyer in July 1977 with the Bar Council of Tamil Nadu and shifted his practice to the Supreme Court in 1979. In 1997, he was designated Senior Advocate by the apex court. He was appointed as a Member of the Law Commission in 2010 and again for a further term in 2013.



## **Sunil Barthwal Take Charges As Secretary In Department Of Commerce :-**

Sunil Barthwal, a senior IAS officer, took over as Commerce Secretary. Barthwal, a Bihar cadre officer from 1989, previously served as labour and employment secretary. Sunil Barthwal took over for Subrahmanyam, a 1987-batch IAS officer from the Chhattisgarh cadre who had been appointed as chairman and managing director of the India Trade Promotion Organization on a contract basis for two years following his retirement. Barthwal has held various administrative positions at the federal and state levels in finance, social security, and infrastructure.



## Lalit Bhasin Elected New President Of Indo-American Chambers Of Commerce :-

Lalit Bhasin, an eminent lawyer, has been named national president of the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce (IACC). Bhasin served as the IACC's executive vice president before being elected National President. Bhasin is the 54th President of the IACC, which was founded in October 1968. It is headquartered in Mumbai and has 14 offices throughout India, with a diverse membership of large, medium, and small businesses. The IACC is the apex bilateral chamber that regulates and oversees India-US relations.



## Sandeep Kumar Gupta Assumed Charge As Chairman Of GAIL :-

Sandeep Kumar Gupta has been appointed chairman and managing director of GAIL (India) Limited. Addressing the employees after taking charge as the CMD, he mentioned that the company is aligned with

government's vision of having a gas-based economy wherein the share of natural gas in the energy mix is to be taken to 15% by year 2030. According to a company statement, Gupta expressed his confidence in the outlook of the company which is professing relentlessly its growth path in natural gas value chain.



## ISRO Scientist Anil Kumar Elected Vice President Of IAF :-

According to ISRO, senior Indian Space Research Organisation scientist A K Anil Kumar has been elected Vice President of the International Astronautical Federation (IAF). "It (Anil Kumar's election) is a recognition of ISRO's space endeavours that help in promoting international collaboration," the Bengaluru-based ISRO said in a tweet. According to the national space agency, the IAF actively encourages the development of astronautics for peaceful purposes and supports the dissemination of scientific and technical information related to space.



## Mohit Bhatia Named CEO Of Bank Of India Mutual Funds :-

Mohit Bhatia has been named chief executive officer of Bank of India Investment Managers Private Ltd. Bhatia

has over 26 years of professional experience in the mutual funds and financial services industries, including sales and distribution, team building, marketing and branding, and the development of a digital eco-system. His most recent position was as head of sales and marketing for Canara Robeco Asset Management Company Ltd. During his tenure, the fund house reached 50,000 crore in assets under management (AUM).



## **Dr Adarsh Swaika Named India's Next Ambassador To Kuwait :-**

Dr. Adarsh Swaika, a joint secretary in India's Ministry of External Affairs, has been named the country's next ambassador to Kuwait. "Dr Adarsh Swaika (IFS: 2002), presently Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the State of Kuwait," according to a MEA release. He is expected to begin his assignment soon. Avtar Singh, a Director in India's Ministry of External Affairs, has been named as the country's next Ambassador to the Republic of Guinea. Avtar Singh is expected to start his new job soon.



## **K.P. Ashwini appointed as Independent Expert on racism :-**

K. P. Ashwini became the 1st Indian to be appointed Independent Expert on racism and related intolerance. K.P. Ashwini, a Dalit scholar whose roots are in Kurabarahalli in Kolar district, has been appointed Special Rapporteur for United Nations Human Rights Commission (UNHRC). She is the first Indian and Asian woman to be appointed to this post. The Geneva-based 47-member UN human rights body has endorsed Dr. Ashwini's appointment. She is the first Asian as well as the first Indian to be appointed for the post.



## **Apoorva Srivastava Named As India's Ambassador To Slovak Republic :-**

Apoorva Srivastava, an Indian Foreign Service diplomat, has been appointed as India's Ambassador to the Slovak Republic. She is a 2001 batch officer who currently serves as Consul-General at the Consulate of India in Toronto. Prior to this, she held various positions in the Ministry of External Affairs, including postings in Kathmandu and Paris, among other places. According to a Ministry of External Affairs release, India and Slovakia have friendly bilateral ties that are free of major tensions.



## Justice DY Chandrachud Named As 50th Chief Justice Of India :-

Justice DY Chandrachud has been appointed as India's 50th Chief Justice. On November 9, Justice Chandrachud will be sworn in as CJ by President Droupadi Murmu. He will succeed Justice UU Lalit, who is only in office for 74 days. Previously, CJ Lalit recommended Justice Chandrachud as his successor because he is the most senior Supreme Court justice. Justice Chandrachud has been a member of several Constitution benches and landmark Supreme Court decisions, including those concerning the Ayodhya land dispute, the right to privacy, and adultery.



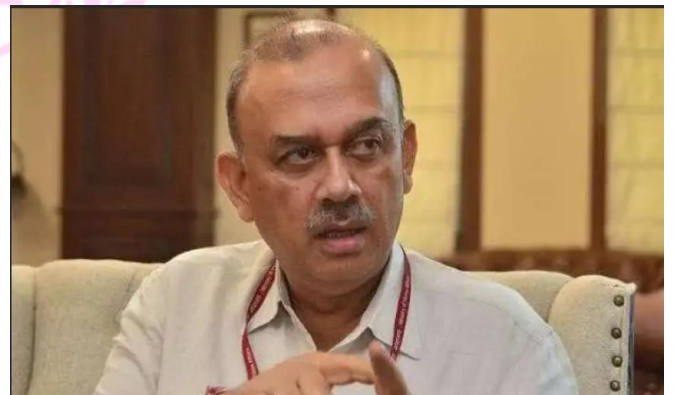
## Adani Airports Appoints Arun Bansal As CEO :-

The Adani Group has appointed Arun Bansal as CEO of Adani Airport Holdings Ltd, an arm of Adani Enterprises Ltd that oversees the conglomerate's airport operations. Bansal joins Adani Group from Ericsson, where he was senior vice president and market area head for Europe and Latin America. According to sources, the development firms up the management structure of the conglomerates's airport operations. B. V. J. K. Sharma will continue to be the chief executive officer at Navi Mumbai International Airport.



## Former Infosys President Ravi Kumar Joins Cognizant :-

Former Infosys president Ravi Kumar S, who resigned from the Bengaluru-based IT firm earlier this year, has joined Cognizant Americas as president. Kumar will take over as CEO of Cognizant on January 16, 2023, and will report directly to Brian Humphries, the company's CEO. As per Infosys' annual report, Kumar was the third highest-paid executive after CEO Salil Parekh and chief operating officer UB Pravin Rao. Kumar succeeds Dharmendra Kumar (DK) Sinha who retired from Cognizant last year.



## Atanu Chakraborty Appointed As New Chairman Of Yubi :-

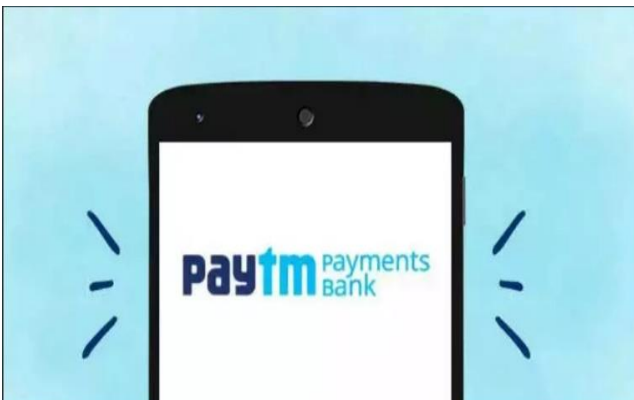
Atanu Chakraborty, the retired civil servant and current Chairman of the Board of HDFC Bank, has been appointed as the Independent Chairman of Yubi, formerly CredAvenue. "Yubi, since its inception, has been working towards providing various stakeholders in the Indian financial system with credible and efficient digital

infrastructure. It gives me immense pleasure to join and chair Yubi's Board and be a part of its mission to innovate and unlock the potential of growth of the Indian Economy," the release commented Chakraborty as saying.



## **Kaustubh Kulkarni Elevated As JP Morgan India Head :-**

JP Morgan, a Wall Street investment bank, has announced a slew of new appointments, including the appointment of a new India head, Kaustubh Kulkarni, to succeed incumbent Madhav Kalyan, who is moving to a larger global role within the company. The bank announced that Kalyan will take over as head of the Asia Pacific payments division on November 1st, succeeding Sridhar Kanthadai, who will take on a new role as co-head of global payment rails and payment VAS. Kalyan, on the other hand, will remain vice-chairman of Asia Pacific.



## **Deependra Singh Rathore Named As Interim CEO Of Paytm Payments Bank :-**

According to sources, Paytm Payments Bank has appointed Deependra Singh Rathore as interim CEO in addition to his role as chief product and technology officer. After receiving regulatory approvals, it will announce the name of the new full-time CEO. Paytm Payments Bank spokesperson said, "We are focused on bringing the best of technology-driven banking to drive financial inclusion. As we continue our journey, we are excited to strengthen our leadership team and have seasoned experts from banking and financial services join us."



## **Pradeep Kharola Named As CMD Of India Trade Promotion Organization :-**

According to a Personnel Ministry order, former Civil Aviation Secretary Pradeep Singh Kharola has been named Chairman and Managing Director of India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO). Kharola, a 1985 batch Karnataka cadre Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer, retired as civil aviation secretary in September last year. He was appointed chairman of the National Recruitment Agency (NRA) in March of this year, which is in charge of conducting computer-based Common Eligibility Tests for government job recruitment.



### Dr. Sankarasubramanian K. Named Principal Scientist Of ISRO's Aditya-L1 Mission:-

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has named Sankarasubramanian K as the Aditya-L1 mission's Principal Scientist. Aditya-L1 is India's first observatory-class space-based solar mission. "The spacecraft will be placed in a halo orbit around the first Lagrange point, L1, of the Sun-Earth system," the Bengaluru-based national space agency said in a statement. It was noted that a satellite orbiting the L1 point has the advantage of continuously viewing the sun without occultation/eclipse.



### Centre Appoints Sanjay Malhotra As New Revenue Secretary :-

Sanjay Malhotra, a 1990-batch Indian Administrative Service officer of Rajasthan cadre, has been appointed as an officer on special duty (OSD) in the revenue department by the government. According to an official order, he will take over as revenue secretary after incumbent Tarun Bajaj retires on November 30. As the top bureaucrat of the revenue department, Malhotra, an IIT Kanpur alumnus, will be responsible for finalising all tax-related matters related to the upcoming Union Budget for 2023-24.

## 4: Awards



### Indian Author & Poet Meena Kandasamy Won German PEN Award :-

The PEN Centre in Darmstadt, Germany, has named Indian author and poet Meena Kandasamy the recipient of this year's Hermann Kesten Prize. Kandasamy was described as a "a fearless fighter for democracy and

human rights, for the free word and against the oppression of landless, minorities and Dalit in India" by Cornelia Zetzsche, Vice President of the German PEN Center. Her novels have been nominated for a number of awards, including the Women's Prize for Fiction, the International Dylan Thomas Prize, the Jhalak Prize, and the Hindu Lit Prize.



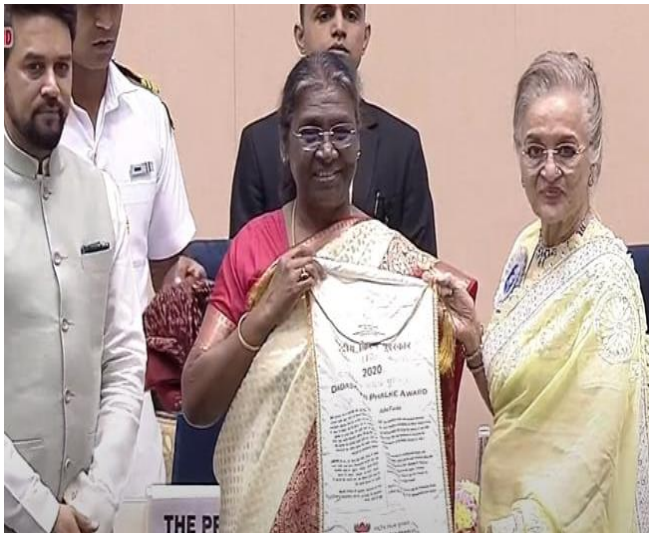
## Breakthrough Prize 2023 In Mathematics Awarded To Daniel Spielman :-

Daniel Spielman of Yale University has been awarded the \$3 million Breakthrough Prize in Mathematics for "multiple discoveries in theoretical computer science and mathematics." Spielman has been a Yale professor of computer science, statistics and data science, mathematics, and applied mathematics since 2006. His work has resulted in significant and very practical benefits in the fields of computing, signal processing, and engineering, in addition to solving long-standing mathematical mysteries.



## Cochin International Airport Awarded ASQ Award For 'Mission Safeguarding' :-

Cochin International Airport Ltd (CIAL) has received the Airport Service Quality (ASQ) award-2022 from Airport Council International (ACI) for its meticulous implementation of the 'Mission Safeguarding' programme in 2021-22. In the aftermath of the pandemic, it ensured smooth traffic and increased passenger satisfaction. CIAL has been recognised in the category of airports serving 5-15 million passengers in the Asia-Pacific region. Because of its extensive survey methodology practises, the ACI award is widely regarded as the highest honour in the global aviation industry.



## Legendary Actress Asha Parekh Awarded With 52nd Dadasaheb Phalke Award :-

In New Delhi, veteran actress Asha Parekh received the Dada Saheb Phalke award. This is the highest honour bestowed upon Indian cinema. The 79-year-old actress is best known for films such as Dil Deke Dekho, Kati Patang, Teesri Manzil, and Caravan, and is regarded as one of Hindi cinema's most influential actresses of all time. President Droupadi Murmu presented the Dada Saheb Phalke award to Asha Parekh. She expressed her gratitude to the Government of India after receiving the award.



## Indian-Origin Suella Braverman Won First Queen Elizabeth II Award :-

Suella Braverman, Britain's Indian-origin Home Secretary, has been named the first Queen Elizabeth II Woman of the Year. The 42-year-old barrister, who was appointed to the Cabinet by British Prime Minister Liz Truss earlier this September, said it was the "honour of her life" to take on the new role at the Asian Achievers Awards (AAA) 2022 ceremony, which was dedicated to the late monarch who passed away recently. The awards, now in their 20th year, honour individuals from across Britain's South Asian community through public nominations.



## Uttar Pradesh Wins Ayushman Utkrishta Award 2022 :-

The state government said in a statement that Uttar Pradesh received the 'Ayushman Utkrishta Award 2022' at the Aarogya Manthan programme in Delhi on for adding various facilities to the National Health Facility Register. According to the government, Uttar Pradesh has opened approximately two crore Ayushman Bharat Health Accounts (ABHA), making it the second state in the country to do so. According to data shared by the government, UP was the best performing state in the country after adding 28,728 new health facilities to the National Health Facility Register.



## Uttarakhand Awarded For Adventure Tourism & All Round Development Of Tourism :-

On the World Tourism Day occasion, Uttarakhand received first place from the Ministry of Tourism in two categories: best adventure tourism destination and overall tourism development. Satpal Maharaj, the state's tourism and culture minister, accepted the awards from Vice President Jagdeep Dhankar at the National Tourism Awards 2018-19 ceremony in New Delhi. Maharaj congratulated the people of Uttarakhand and tourism industry stakeholders, and he also invited domestic and international tourists to visit the state.



## Kumar Sanu, Shailendra Singh, Anand-Milind Gets Lata Mangeskar Award :-

The National Lata Mangeskar Award was given to playback singers Kumar Sanu and Shailendra Singh, as well as music composer duo Anand-Milind. Usha Thakur, the state culture minister, presented the award to Singh, Anand-Milind, and Sanu for the years 2019, 2020, and 2021, respectively. Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who attended the function via



video link, said India is incomplete without Mangeshkar and that she is a towering figure in the country's history.



## 68th National Film Awards Presented By President Droupadi Murmu :-

Droupadi Murmu, President of India, presented the 68th National Film Awards in various categories in New Delhi. Soorai Potru, a Tamil film, won the award for best feature film. Tanhaji: The Unsung Warrior, a Hindi film, won the award for Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment. Ajay Devgn was named Best Actor for the film Tanhaji: The Unsung Warrior, and Suriya was named Best Actress for the film Soorai Potru. Aparna Balamurali received the Best Actress Award for her performance in Soorai Potru.



## Writer-Academic Madhav Hada To Be Awarded 32nd Bihari Puraskar:-

The KK Birla Foundation has announced that writer Dr. Madhav Hada will receive the 32nd Bihari Puraskar for his 2015 literary criticism book 'Pachrang Chola Pahar Sakhi Ri.' The Bihari Puraskar was established in 1991 as one of three literary awards established by the foundation. The award, named after the famous Hindi

poet Bihari, is given every year for an outstanding work published in Hindi or Rajasthani by a Rajasthani author in the previous ten years. A selection committee led by chairman Hemant Shesh selects the recipient.



## Nobel Prize 2022: Svante Pääbo Awarded Nobel Prize In Medicine :-

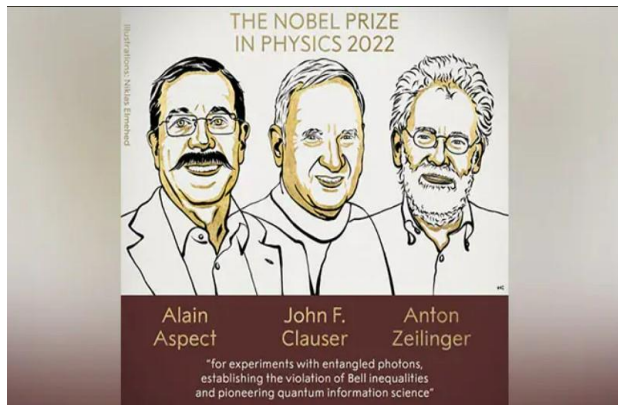
Svante Pääbo was awarded the Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine in 2022 for his work on the genomes of extinct hominins and human evolution. The first of the 2021 Nobel Prizes kicked off the week of announcements of the most coveted award. Pääbo sequenced the genome of the Neanderthal, an extinct ancestor of modern humans. He also made the sensational discovery of Denisova, a previously unknown hominin. Svante Pääbo is Director, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology.



## Indore Gets India's Cleanest City Tag : Swachh Survekshan Awards :-

Indore has been named the cleanest city in India for the sixth year in a row, with Surat and Navi Mumbai taking

the next two spots. Madhya Pradesh was named the "best-performing state" in the central government's annual cleanliness survey. While Indore and Surat retained their first and second places in the country, respectively, Vijayawada fell to third place to Navi Mumbai. Madhya Pradesh is followed in the list of best performing states by Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra.



## Nobel Prize In Physics 2022 :-

Alain Aspect, John F Clauser, and Anton Zeilinger were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics 2022 "for experiments with entangled photons, establishing the violation of Bell inequalities and pioneering quantum information science". They carried out ground-breaking experiments with entangled quantum states, in which two particles behave like a single unit even when separated. "The results have cleared the way for new technology based upon quantum information," according to the award-giving body.



## IITM Scientist Roxy Mathew Koll Awarded Devendra Lal Memorial Medal 2022 :-

Roxy Mathew Koll, a scientist at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) in Pune, was awarded the AGU's 2022 Devendra Lal Memorial Medal. He will also be inducted as an AGU Fellow. Koll's contributions to science, monitoring, forecasting, and climate change projections for South Asia and the larger Indo-Pacific region have been transformative. His studies shed light on the mechanisms and effects of climate change on monsoon floods and droughts, cyclones, heat waves, and the marine ecosystem.



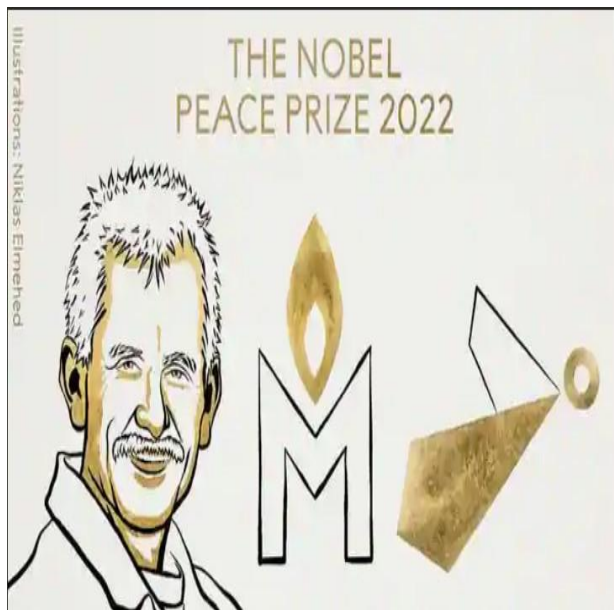
## Former German Chancellor Angela Merkel Wins UNHCR's Nansen Refugee Award :-

Former German Chancellor Angela Merkel has received the United Nations Refugee Agency's prestigious Nansen Refugee Award for her commitment to protecting asylum seekers while in office. UNHCR chief Filippo Grandi hailed Merkel's determination to protect asylum seekers and to stand up for human rights, humanitarian principles and international law. "By helping more than a million refugees to survive and rebuild, Angela Merkel displayed great moral and political courage," he said in a statement.



## Nobel Literature Prize 2022 Awarded To Annie Ernaux :-

Annie Ernaux, a French author, was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2022. According to the article, Ernaux is known for her deceptively simple novels that draw on personal experiences with class and gender. Last year's winner was Tanzanian-born novelist Abdulrazak Gurnah, whose work addresses the plight of refugees and exiles, colonialism, and racism. According to the report, Ernaux, whose name has been circulating in Nobel speculation for several years, is the 17th woman to win the prestigious prize, out of 119 literature laureates since the first Nobel was awarded in 1901.



## Nobel Peace Prize 2022 :-

The Nobel Peace Prize for 2022, awarded to a jailed Belarus civil rights activist and a rights organisation in Russia and Ukraine, focuses on Russia's eight-month-long war in Ukraine. Ales Bialiatski, who has been imprisoned since 2021, has been a vocal critic of Putin's ally, Belarus' President Alexander Lukashenko. Putin closed down the Russian civil rights organisation Memorial, and the Center for Civil Liberties is a Ukrainian rights organisation that is documenting alleged Russian war crimes in Ukraine.



## Nobel Prize For Economics 2022 :-

The Nobel Prize in Economics for 2022 has been awarded to Ben S Bernanke, Douglas W Diamond, and Philip H Dybvig for their work on banks and financial crises. The cash prizes total 10 million Swedish kronor (nearly \$900,000) and will be awarded on December 10. The work for which Bernanke, Diamond and Dybvig are being recognised has been crucial to subsequent research that has enhanced our understanding of banks, bank regulation, banking crises and how financial crises should be managed.



## Badminton Legend Prakash Padukone Awarded With SJFI Medal :-

Prakash Padukone was recently awarded the 2019 Sports Journalists' Federation of India (SJFI) medal. Padukone received the prestigious award at a prestigious ceremony held at Karnataka State Cricket Association in the

presence of several contemporary Indian sport stars such as cricket legend G.R. Vishwanath, former Indian batting icon V.V.S. Laxman, hockey celebrities Dhanraj Pillay and Arjun Halappa, table tennis star Vasanth Bharadwaj, and badminton's own Trupti Murgunde. A. Vinod, President of SJFI, presided over the event.



## Telangana's Hyderabad Honoured With AIPH 'World Green City Award 2022' :-

At the recent International Association of Horticulture Producers (AIPH) 2022 award ceremony in Jeju, South Korea, Hyderabad was awarded the prestigious 'World Green City Award 2022.' Hyderabad was the first Indian state to be recognised in the category of 'Living Green for Economic Recovery and Inclusive Growth.' Telangana was up against international cities such as Paris, Bogota, Mexico City, Montreal, and Fortaleza in Brazil. The category emphasises the development of systems and solutions that enable all city residents to overcome economic hardship and thrive.



## Sri Lankan Author Shehan Karunatilaka Won Britain's Booker Prize 2022 :-

Shehan Karunatilaka, a Sri Lankan author, has won the prestigious Booker Prize for Fiction for his second book, 'The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida,' about a war photographer murdered during the country's civil war. The annual award, presented at London's Roundhouse, is given for a work of fiction written in English and published in the United Kingdom and Ireland. Neil MacGregor, who chaired the judging panel, called it "an afterlife noir that dissolves the boundaries not just of different genres, but of life and death, body and spirit, east and west".



## Uttar Pradesh Bags Top Honours At PMAY-U Awards 2021 :-

According to Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri, more than half of the homes sanctioned under the Centre's flagship Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban (PMAY-U) housing scheme have been delivered, with the remainder in various stages of completion. Mr. Puri's remarks came on the eve of the PMAY-U Awards 2021, which are held each year to recognise the contributions of states, union territories, and urban local governments. Uttar Pradesh took first place in the awards, followed by Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu in second and third place, respectively.

**5: Banking**



**RBI Canceled Licence Of Maharashtra-Based Laxmi Cooperative Bank :-**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has revoked The Laxmi Co-operative Bank Limited's licence in Solapur, Maharashtra, citing insufficient capital and earning prospects. As a result, the bank has been barred from engaging in the 'banking' business, which includes, among other things, the acceptance and repayment of deposits. According to the bank's data, approximately 99% of depositors are entitled to receive the full amount of their deposits from the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC).



**UCO Bank Becomes First Lender To Get RBI's Approval For Rupee Trade :-**

UCO Bank, a public sector lender, has received Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) approval to open a special vostro account with Gazprombank of Russia for trade settlement in Indian rupees. Following the RBI's decision in July to allow Indian banks to settle trade in Indian

currency, the Kolkata-based lender is the first to receive regulator approval. The Russian lender was established in 1990 set up by the world's largest gas producer and exporter, Gazprom, to provide banking services to gas industry enterprises.



**TerraPay Partnered With NPCI To Enable Cross-Border Transactions Via UPI :-**

TerraPay, a leading global payments infrastructure group, has announced a strategic partnership with NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL), the International arm of National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), to further strengthen its cross-border payment solutions . This collaboration with NIPL will enable Indian customers and merchants in India who have an active Unified Payments Interface Id (UPI Id) to seamlessly make and accept cross-border payments by leveraging TerraPay's agile infrastructure and the UPI network.



**Airtel Payments Bank Rolling Out 1.5 Lakh Micro ATMs This Fiscal :-**

Airtel Payments Bank has begun a phased rollout of 1.5 lakh micro ATMs across tier 2 cities and semi-urban areas

to facilitate cash withdrawal for its customers, according to the company. The bank will gradually expand its service to include more banking points. Through this initiative, the bank will leverage its strong network of over 5 lakh banking points across India to provide users with easy cash withdrawals, it added. The company intends to complete the installation of 1.5 lakh micro ATMs by the end of the current fiscal year.



## Bank Of Baroda Launches 'Khushiyon Ka Tyohaar'

:-

Bank of Baroda (BOB), one of India's leading public sector banks, has announced the launch of 'Khushiyon ka Tyohaar,' its annual festive campaign with a variety of offers, as the festive season begins. During this campaign, the bank will offer competitive interest rates on home and car loans, as well as a waiver/discount on processing fees and other perks. Customers will also receive a number of other benefits under Khushiyon ka Tyohaar, including no pre-payment/part-payment charges, reduced processing fees, and a seven-year repayment term.



## WhatsApp Banking Services Launched By PNB :-

In order to make banking services more accessible, the state-owned Punjab National Bank (PNB) announced the launch of banking services via WhatsApp for both customers and non-customers. Currently, Punjab National Bank (PNB) will provide non-financial services to its account holders via WhatsApp banking, such as balance inquiry, last five transactions, stop cheque, and request cheque book. The WhatsApp banking service will be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, including holidays, on both Android and iOS-based mobile phones.



## ADITYA BIRLA HEALTH

### Aditya Birla Health Insurance Launches Activ Fit For Young & Healthy Adults :-

Activ Fit, a comprehensive health insurance plan for young and healthy adults, has been launched by Aditya Birla Health Insurance Co Ltd. To ensure that health insurance becomes an appealing proposition for the cohort, the new Activ Fit plan offers an upfront 10% good health discount based on an assessment done through a unique facial scan, up to 50% HealthReturns™ on being active, and 100% Binge Refill. Aside from these primary benefits, the insurance policy also includes Maternity Coverage, modern treatment, and in-patient hospitalisation.



## SBI Launches 'Gram Seva Program' Across Six States Of India :-

The State Bank of India has announced that the fourth phase of its 'SBI Gram Seva' programme will include the adoption of 30 remote villages across India. The SBI Foundation's flagship scheme will see the bank adopt remote villages in Aspirational Districts in Haryana, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal. The programme, which was launched under the bank's Corporate Social Responsibility, focuses on the comprehensive development of villages through active intervention in areas such as education, healthcare, livelihoods, and infrastructure.



## Pune Based Seva Vikas Cooperative Bank Licence Revoked By RBI :-

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has revoked the licence of Pune-based Seva Vikas Co-operative Bank due to a lack of adequate capital and earning prospects. According to the bank's data, approximately 99 percent of depositors are entitled to receive the full amount of their deposits from the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC). As on September 14, 2022, DICGC has already paid Rs 152.36 crore of the total insured deposits.



## BookMyShow and RBL Bank collaborate to offer the "Play" credit card :-

RBL Bank and BookMyShow have announced a collaboration to launch a new credit card called 'Play.' RBL Bank previously collaborated with BookMyShow to launch the Fun Plus credit card in 2016. The 'Play' credit card will be available to select BookMyShow customers and will provide them with lucrative offers on transactions across movies, live entertainment offerings (online and offline), as well as binge-watching movies and TV series on BookMyShow Stream by renting or purchasing a title, while enjoying benefits with every purchase made.



## LIC Launched New 'Dhan Varsha' Plan :-

Dhan Varsha is a new life insurance plan offered by the Life Insurance Corporation of India. Dhan Varsha by LIC is a non-linked, non-participating, individual, savings, single premium life insurance plan that provides both protection and savings. If the life assured unfortunately passes away during the policy term, this plan will give cash support for the family, the LIC website stated. On the date of maturity, it also offers a guaranteed lump payment amount for the remaining assured life.



## HDFC Securities Opens Women-Only Digital Centre In Bengaluru :-

HDFC Securities, a leading stock brokerage firm, has announced the establishment of India's first women-only Digital Centre (DC). The centre, which will be staffed entirely by women, will cater to both male and female investors. The Bengaluru-based centre will serve

customers from Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana. According to a statement, this follows the company's announcement about the opening of multiple DCs across India to ease access to services and promote digital adoption.

## 6: Books and Author



### M Venkaiah Naidu Released A Book On PM Modi's Selected Speeches :-

Former Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu has published a collection of selected speeches by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The book, titled 'Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas Prime Minister Narendra Modi Speaks (May 2019-May 2020),' was launched in the presence of Kerala Governor Arif Mohammad Khan at a function hosted by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in New Delhi. The book focuses on the prime minister's 86 speeches on various topics. According to an official statement, the book depicts the prime minister's vision of a "New India" that is self-sufficient and resilient.



### 'Madam Sir': Bihar's First Lady Ips Officer Manjari Jaruhar Launched Her Book:-

Manjari Jaruhar, Bihar's first female IPS officer, launched her book 'Madam Sir' in Mumbai. She discusses her experiences and challenges as a police officer over the last three decades. Penguin Random House India (PRHI) is the publisher of the autobiography. Jaruhar, one of India's first five female police officers and the first from Bihar, joined the IPS in 1976 and has worked for the state governments of Bihar and Jharkhand, the National Police Academy (NPA), the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

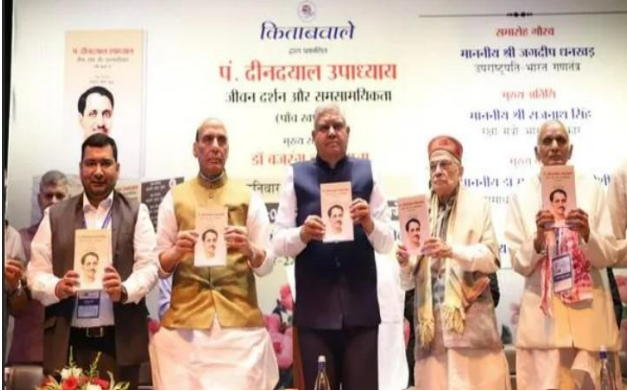


### Book Released To Celebrate 100 Years Of Delhi University :-

The book, edited by Hindu College alumnus Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, is a compilation of anecdotes and personal narratives of some of Delhi University's most celebrated alumni. The chapters encapsulate the true essence of the university, allowing prospective students to discover its vibrant culture and student life through the eyes of famous students. To



commemorate Delhi University's centennial, the Hindu College hosted the release of the book "Delhi University: Celebrating 100 Glorious Years."



**Jagdeep Dhankhar Released A Book Titled “Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay – Jeevan Darshan Aur Samsamyikta” :-**

Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, Vice President, has released the book "Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay - Jeevan Darshan Aur Samsamyikta" (five volumes) in New Delhi. The Vice President praised the efforts of the book's Chief Editor, Dr. Bajrang Lal Gupta, and his team in producing these well-researched five volumes on one of modern India's most prominent leaders. He also thanked Shri Rajnath Singh and Dr Murli Manohar Joshi for their insightful speeches on Pt Deendayal Upadhyay's life and work on the occasion.



**Odisha Chief Minister Releases 5-Volume “Encyclopaedia of Tribes in Odisha” :-**

Odisha was the first state in the country to create an encyclopaedia to document tribal communities' life, history, culture, and development. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik unveiled the five edited volumes of the "Encyclopaedia of Tribes in Odisha" published by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Research and Training Institute and the Odisha State Tribal Museum in Bhubaneswar's Museum complex. The five edited volumes include 3,800 pages and 418 research articles that cover all 62 Scheduled Tribe Communities.



**English translation of ‘Lata: Sur-Gatha’ to release in January 2023 :-**

'Lata: Sur-Gatha,' a biography of the legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar written by Hindi writer-poet Yatindra Mishra, won the 64th National Film Award and the MAMI Award for Best Writing on Cinema (2016–17). The book is now being published in English to commemorate Lata Mangeshkar's life and times on her 93rd birth anniversary in 2023, as announced by publisher Penguin Random House India. Ira Pande translated the book titled 'Lata: A Life in Music' into English.



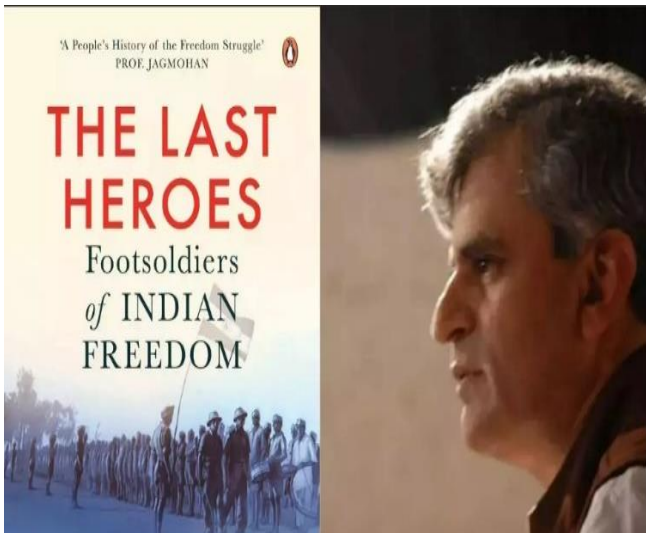
## Biography Of BR Ambedkar "Ambedkar: A Life" Authored By Shashi Tharoor :-

Shashi Tharoor, a Congress leader, has published a biography of Dr. BR Ambedkar in which he provides insights into his life as well as highlights disagreements the latter had with other political and intellectual giants of his era, including Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru. Tharoor's "Ambedkar: A Life" will also attempt to answer the question of whether Ambedkar was the greatest Indian of modern times. The Congress MP traces Ambedkar's life from his birth on April 14, 1891, into a Mahar family in the Bombay Presidency, to his death on December 6, 1956, in Delhi.



## Valley Of Words Book Awards: 'Tagore & Gandhi' Wins In English Non-Fiction :-

The Odd Book of Baby Names by Anees Salim (English fiction) and Tagore & Gandhi: Walking Alone, Walking Together by Rudrangshu Mukherjee (English non-fiction) were among the eight books named the best of the year at the 'Valley of Words Book Awards.' The PFC-VoW Book Awards, now in its sixth edition, are regarded as one of India's most comprehensive independent literary award programmes. Over 400 nominations for 2022 were received from 37 publishing houses across the country.



## A New Book 'The Last Heroes' By P Sainath :-

P Sainath, an award-winning author-journalist, is set to release a new book this November, roughly two decades later. The Book, titled 'The Last Heroes: Footsoldiers of Indian Freedom,' tells the inspiring stories of some of India's lesser-known freedom fighters. Penguin Random House India (PRHI) will publish 'The Last Heroes: Footsoldiers of Indian Freedom'. "P Sainath's book, his first in more than two decades, captures a critically important slice of history by documenting the participation of ordinary people in India's freedom struggle" said the Publisher.



## "Against All Odds: The IT story of India" by Infosys co-founder Kris Gopalakrishnan:-

"Against All Odds: The IT Story of India," a new book co-written by Infosys co-founder Kris Gopalakrishnan, provides readers with an insider's account and anecdotal history of Indian IT over the last six decades. The book, published by Penguin Random House India (PRHI), the

book taps into the first-hand experiences of Gopalakrishnan and 50 other stalwarts who built and shaped the Indian IT sector. It is co-written by N

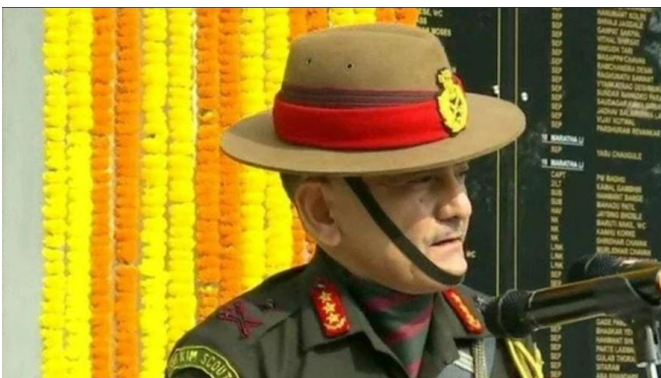
Dayasindhu and Krishnan Narayanan, co-founders of itihaasa Research and Digital -- a firm focusing on the evolution of technology domains and business history.

## 7: Defence



### Indian Navy Launches 2 Diving Support Vessels (Nistar & Nipun) In Vizag :-

The Indian Navy launched two indigenously designed and built Diving Support Vessels (DSVs) : Nistar and Nipun in Visakhapatnam. 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 the chief guest. These ships are self-sustaining platforms capable of operating at sea for extended periods of time. Among the dignitaries in attendance were senior officers from the Indian Navy and the Ministry of Defence.



### Govt Appoints Lt Gen Anil Chauhan As The New Chief Of Defence Staff :-

The Indian government has named Lt General Anil Chauhan, a well-known China expert, as the next Chief of Defence Staff (CDS). Lt Gen Chauhan had held several command, staff, and instrumental appointments in his nearly 40-year career and had extensive experience in counter-insurgency operations in Jammu and Kashmir and North-East India. Lt Gen Chauhan was born on May 18, 1961, and joined the Indian Army's 11 Gorkha Rifles in 1981. He attended the National Defence Academy in Khadakwasla and the Indian Military Academy in Dehradun.



### Swedish Defence Maker Saab To Produce Carl-Gustaf M4 Rocket Launchers In India :-

According to a company official, Swedish defence firm Saab has announced plans to establish a manufacturing facility in India for the Carl-Gustaf M4 shoulder-fired weapon system as part of the NDA government's 'Make in India' initiative to boost indigenous defence manufacturing. The firm has yet to reveal the location of the new facility, but production is expected to begin in 2024. The Carl-Gustaf weapon system has been in service with the Indian Army since 1976, and earlier M2 and M3 variants were locally manufactured.



## Indian Air Force Day : 8 October :-

Every year on October 8, Indian Air Force Day is observed. The Indian Air Force (IAF) is the Indian armed forces' air arm, with the primary mission of securing Indian airspace and conducting aerial operations during armed conflicts. More than 170,000 personnel are in service with the Indian Air Force. Its personnel and aircraft assets rank fourth among the world's air forces. The IAF, also known as the 'Bharatiya Vayu Sena,' was founded on October 8, 1932, by the British Empire. The President of India is the Supreme Commander of the Indian Air Force.



## Sujoy Lal Thaosen, Anish Dayal Singh Named As New DGs Of CRPF, ITBP :-

Sujoy Lal Thaosen and Anish Dayal Singh, both senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officers, have been appointed as the new directors general of the CRPF and ITBP, respectively. Thaosen, a Madhya Pradesh cadre officer from 1988, is currently the director general (DG) of the border guarding force Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) and the

additional charge of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police. The post of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) DG recently became vacant after IPS officer Kuldip Singh (1986-batch West Bengal cadre) retired.



## Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) Introduced In IAF Base At Jodhpur :-

At a ceremony held at Air Force Station Jodhpur in Rajasthan, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh formally inducted the indigenously developed Light Combat Helicopters (LCH) into the Indian Air Force. The LCH would be assigned to the 143 Helicopter Unit. Prachanda is the name given to LCH. In his remarks at the ceremony, Mr. Singh stated that the induction of the LCH not only improves the Air Force's combat capability but also represents a significant step toward the goal of Atmanirbhar Bharat. Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd created the LCH (HAL).



## India Signed An Agreement With Armenia To Export Missiles, Rockets & Ammunition :-

India has signed a significant export contract with Armenia for missiles, rockets, and ammunition. Earlier in

September, a number of contracts for the supply of arms and ammunition to Armenia were signed through the government-to-government route. While the contracts' values have not been disclosed, it is expected that weapons worth more than Rs 2,000 crore will be delivered to the country in the coming months. India has made significant efforts to increase weapons exports, including policy reforms and active government support to secure overseas orders.



## DRDO Officials Tested Three Remotely Unmanned, Weaponised Boats In Pune:-

In Maharashtra, Pune, DRDO officials tested three remotely unmanned, weaponized boats. Three remote-controlled armed boats were tested with no one on board. DRDO Research and Development Establishment Group Director PM Naik stated to the media after testing three boats, "This boat is useful for reconnaissance & patrolling. Weapon is also mounted on the boat in case of any insurgency. We are currently testing this at Bhama Ashked Dam to build the confidence level of our team."



## India-New Zealand Navies Sign Pact On White Shipping Information Exchange:-

The Indian Navy signed a White Shipping Information Exchange agreement with the Royal New Zealand Navy to promote greater transparency in the Maritime Domain, according to a statement from the Ministry of Defence. "In a milestone development, an Agreement on White Shipping Information Exchange was signed during this visit. Closer collaboration towards enhancing shared Maritime Domain Awareness is in keeping with convergent views of both countries with regard to promoting greater transparency in the maritime domain," the Ministry of Defence said.



## Indian Air Force: Weapon Systems Branch Approved For First Time :-

For the first time since independence, the Centre has approved the establishment of a weapon systems branch for officers in the Indian Air Force (IAF). Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari said, "It is my privilege to announce that the government has approved the creation of a weapon systems branch for the officers of the Indian Air Force." "This is the first time since Independence that a new operational branch is being created. The creation of this branch would result in savings of over Rs 3,400 crore due to the reduced expenditure on flying training," he said.



**India Hosts SCO Joint Anti-Terror Drill To Enhance Operational Capabilities :-**

The week-long multinational joint anti-terror exercise "Manesar Anti-Terror 2022" concluded at the National Security Guard (NSG) Manesar Garrison as part of the SCO Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS). “Representatives from the counter-terrorism forces of six member countries of the SCO, RATS, including the Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Russian Federation and the Indian NSG mutually shared their drills, procedures, best practices and other innovative methodologies” official sources said.

**Indian Navy Conducts Offshore Security Exercise, ‘Prasthan’:-**

Under the auspices of Headquarters, Eastern Naval Command, an offshore security exercise called 'Prasthan' was held in the Krishna Godavari Basin Offshore Development Area (ODA). The security exercise 'Prasthan,' according to the Ministry of Defence, was held on October 11 and 12. The exercise which is conducted every six months is an important element of ensuring offshore security and aims to integrate the efforts of all maritime stakeholders involved in offshore defence. The exercise met all its intended objectives.

**8: Economy**



**रूरल इलेक्ट्रीफिकेशन कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड**  
**Rural Electrification Corporation Limited**  
 (भारत सरकार का उद्यम / A Government of India Enterprise)

**REC Ltd Becomes 12th Company To Gets ‘Maharatna’ Company Status :-**

REC Ltd has been designated as a 'Maharatna' central public sector enterprise (CPSE), giving it greater operational and financial independence. The Ministry of Finance's Department of Public Enterprises issued an order to that effect. REC, founded in 1969, is a non-banking finance company (NBFC) that focuses on power sector financing and development in India. It is overseen by the Power Ministry. According to a company statement, granting REC 'Maharatna' status will give the company's board more power when making financial decisions.



## Retail Inflation Highest Since April Stands At 7.41%

:-

The National Statistical Office (NSO) reported that retail inflation in India increased to 7.41% in September from 7% in August, with food price inflation increasing sharply from 7.62% in August to 8.6% in September. September's retail inflation rate of 7.41% is the highest since April of this year, when prices rose to a nearly eight-year high of 7.79%. Inflation has remained above the Reserve Bank of India's upper tolerance threshold of 6% for the ninth month in a row. Food inflation in urban areas rose to 8.65% in September, up from 7.55% the previous month.



## Ageas Becomes First Foreign Business To Own 74% Of An Indian Life Insurance Company :-

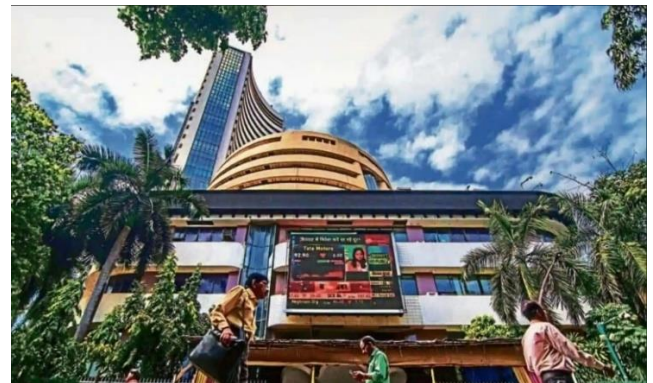
Following the exit of IDBI Bank, which sold its entire 25% stake to Ageas Insurance International NV, Ageas Federal Life Insurance has become the first Indian life insurer to have 74% foreign shareholding. Ageas Insurance International, based in Belgium, now owns 74% of the life insurance company, up from 49% previously. The remaining 26% stake in the insurance joint venture is still held by Federal Bank. The government increased the permissible limit for foreign direct investment (FDI) in

insurance companies from 49% to 74% as part of the Union Budget for FY22.



## Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20 Extended Further For 6 Months :-

Due to the volatile global economic and geopolitical situation, as well as currency fluctuations, the government has extended the current Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20) by another six months until March 2023. Due to the pandemic and the lockdown imposed to control its spread, the policy was first extended for a year on March 31, 2020. The most recent extension comes as India's export growth slows. In August, India's goods exports increased by 1.62%, while the trade deficit more than doubled to \$27.98 billion.



## BSE Receives SEBI's Final Approval To Launch EGR On Its Platform :-

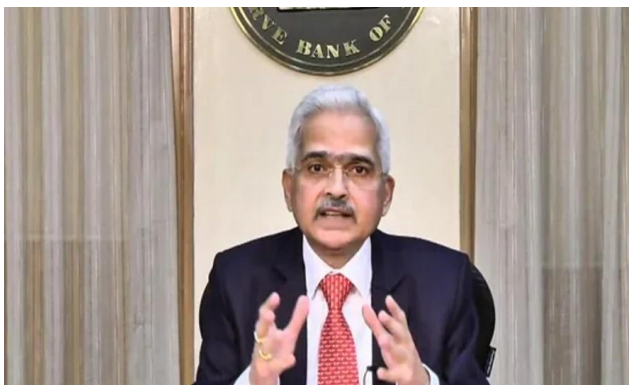
The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has given final approval to BSE Ltd. for the introduction of the

Electronic Gold Receipt (EGR) segment on its platform. EGRs would be available to all market participants, including exchange buyers and sellers as well as commercial participants such as importers, banks, refiners, bullion traders, jewellery manufacturers, and retailers. The Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) stated that it is collaborating with all depositaries and vaults to ensure the development of the entire EGR trade ecosystem.



### Hitachi Astemo Planted Its First Solar Power Plant In India :-

Hitachi Astemo has built India's first solar power plant at its Jalgaon plant in Maharashtra. The 3 megawatts (MW) solar power plant will be built on 43301 sqm of land. The ground-mounted solar power plant will be made up of 7128 solar panels and 10 inverters. Hitachi Astemo is well-known for its automotive and transportation component development, manufacturing, sale, and service. In India, this solar power plant will embark on a new journey in the field of sustainable energy.



### RBI Repo Rate Hike By 50 Bps To 5.9%: RBI Monetary Policy :-

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced a 50 basis point (bps) increase in the repo rate to 5.90% in order to bring elevated inflation back to its target. The policy decisions were mostly predictable. Following the policy announcement, the 10-year benchmark government bond yield was trading 2 basis points higher at 7.36 percent. The rupee was trading at 81.66 per dollar, up from 81.85 at the previous close.



### Active Credit Cards Drop 2.3 Million In August Over New RBI Norms :-

The outstanding credit card base fell to 77.99 million in August from over 80 million in July, owing primarily to the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) new rules mandating the deactivation of cards that have been inactive for a year. While net card additions fell 2.8% month on month (MoM) in August, the first decline in many months, credit card spending fell 3% on a high base. In August, major issuers such as HDFC Bank and Axis Bank saw a significant drop in net credit card additions.





## Adani Green Commissioned World's Largest Wind-Solar Power Plant :-

Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL) has announced the completion of the world's largest wind-solar power plant, with a capacity of 600 MW, in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan. According to a company statement, the plant has a 25-year power purchase agreement with Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) at Rs 2.69/kwh. It said the project, which consists of 600 MW solar and 150 MW wind plants, will not only reduce renewable energy power intermittency, but will also assist the country in making the best use of its transmission network.



## India Emerges As Largest Producer Of Sugar In World :-

India has surpassed other countries to become the world's largest producer, consumer, and second largest exporter of sugar. During the sugar season, October to September (2021–22), the country produced a record amount of sugarcane—more than 5000 Lakh Metric Tons (LMT). Out of this, Sugar mills produced 359 LMT of sugar, while 35 LMT of sugar was diverted to the production of ethanol. As a result, India has surpassed every other country to become the world's leading producer and consumer.



## Pegatron To Start iPhone Manufacturing In Chennai, Becomes 3rd In India:-

Pegatron of Taiwan became the third Apple vendor to open a manufacturing facility in India, establishing a facility at Mahindra World City in Chennai. It will invest approximately Rs 1,100 crore in the unit, which has the potential to create approximately 14,000 jobs. Foxconn and Wistron, both Taiwanese, are the other two Apple vendors with operations in India. Pegatron's facility is opening at a time when Apple is expected to relocate at least a quarter of its manufacturing operations to India by 2025. In February of last year, it signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Tamil Nadu government.



## Services Sector Growth Falls To 6 Months Low :-

According to a private survey, India's services sector activity fell to a six-month low in September, owing primarily to a significant easing in demand amid high inflation. In September, the S&P Global India services Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) fell to 54.3 from 57.2 in August. "The Indian service sector has overcome many

adversities in recent months, with the latest PMI data continuing to show a strong performance despite some loss of growth momentum in September," noted Pollyanna De Lima, economics associate director at S&P Global Market Intelligence.



## Hero MotoCorp Launched EV Scooter Vida V1 In India :-

On October 7th, Hero MotoCorp entered the EV industry with the launch of its first electric scooter under its EV-only brand Vida. The Vida V1 will initially be available for purchase in a limited number of cities, including Delhi, Bengaluru, and Jaipur (starting at Rs 1.45 lakh and Rs 1.59 lakh for V1 Pro). The price tag is currently high but the V1 is built on a modular platform, which points to a possibility for products at a lower price later as the company gets more data and feedback from its buyers.



## Government And LIC To Cooperatively Divest 60.72% Share In IDBI Bank :-

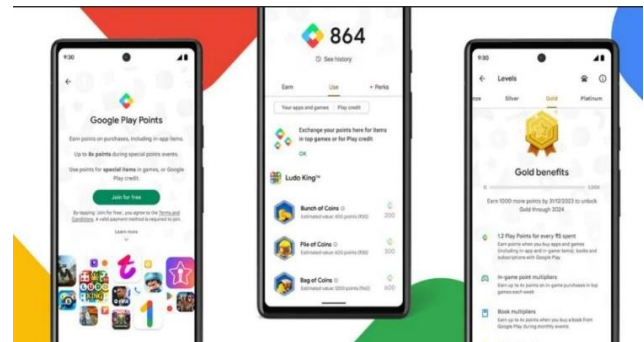
By issuing an Expression of Interest (EoI), the government began the process of selling more than 30%

of its stake in IDBI Bank . Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), IDBI's current promoter, will also sell more than 30% of its stake. As of March 31, 2022, LIC owns 49.24 percent of IDBI Bank, while the government owns 45.48 percent. A private sector bank, a foreign bank, a non-banking financial company (NBFC), an alternative investment fund (AIF), or a fund/investment vehicle incorporated outside India may bid for the bank alone or in consortium.



## IDBI Bank Partnered With Vayana Network To Boost Supply Chain Finance :-

IDBI Bank has announced the signing of an agreement with Vayana Network as its first fintech partner for end-to-end digitalization services. This collaboration, according to the bank, aims to contribute to the growth of supply chain finance penetration in India, which is less than 1% of gross domestic product (GDP) and accounts for only 5% of outstanding banking assets. This platform is expected to reduce paperwork and transaction processing time while maintaining a consistent customer experience.



## Google Launches Play Points Rewards Programme In India :-

Google is bringing Play Points to India, which were previously available in 28 countries around the world. Users will be able to earn points when they make Google Play purchases, such as in-app purchases, apps, games, and subscriptions. According to Santos Cohen, Director, Go-To-Market, Google Play Points, in a blog. The rewards programme will assign users to one of four categories based on the number of points they have accumulated: Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum. Depending on the category, they will receive different benefits and prizes.



## Google Cloud Gets MeitY Nod To Partner With Public Sector Firms :-

Google Cloud has announced its empanelment by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), allowing it to apply cloud technology to solve complex problems for government organizations. With the empanelment, referred to as the MeitY accreditation, Google is now positioned to fully partner with India's public sector organisations to become an active participant in India's digital transformation initiatives, especially Project Meghraj that aims at making a multi-level, national cloud-sharing foundation giving affordable, secure, and safe data storage for everyone.



## India To Achieve USD 2 Trillion Export Target By 2030 :-

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has expressed confidence that the country will meet the USD 2 trillion export target for goods and services by 2030. The minister was speaking at the Chennai Exporters Conclave. Goyal emphasised the importance of maintaining export momentum, saying that he is confident that Indian exports will be able to weather global headwinds and will outpace growth in exports by a "significant" margin. He also stated that by 2047, the country will have a USD 30 trillion economy with a 25% share of global exports.



## India's WPI Inflation Falls To 10.7% In Sep From 12.41% In Aug :-

Inflation based on the wholesale price index (WPI) fell to 10.70% year on year in September. "Inflation in September, 2022 is primarily contributed by rise in prices of mineral oils, food articles, crude petroleum & natural

gas, chemicals & chemical products, basic metals, electricity, textiles etc. as compared to the corresponding month of the previous year", said the government release. The number has remained in double digits for the 18th month in a row, but it is important to note that it has also moderated to an 18-month low.



## India's Foreign Exchange Reserves Increased By USD 204 Million :-

The Reserve Bank of India reported that India's forex reserves increased by USD 204 million to USD 532.868 billion for the week ending October 7 due to an increase in the value of gold holdings. Overall reserves fell by USD 4.854 billion to USD 532.664 billion in the previous reporting week. Overall reserves fell by USD 4.854 billion to USD 532.664 billion in the previous week ended September 30. The reserves have been declining for several weeks as the central bank implements various policies to defend the rupee against pressures caused primarily by global developments.



## Reliance Jio Surpasses BSNL To Become Largest Landline Service Provider In August :-

In August, Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Jio overtook the country's largest landline service provider for the first time. According to the latest data released by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai), Reliance Jio surpassed state-owned telecom operator and previous market leader BSNL's 7.13 million landline connections as of August 31. Trai had earlier pointed out the declining number of landline connections in the country as a cause for concern since the same network is also used to deliver fixed-line broadband services.



## Reliance Jio To Deploy 5G Gear From Nokia & Ericsson :-

In separate statements, European telecom equipment makers Nokia and Ericsson announced multi-year supply contracts with Reliance Jio for supplying 5G network equipment to the country's largest carrier for deploying 5G standalone or 5G SA. Reliance Jio intends to build a 5G standalone network that will interoperate with its 4G network. According to the company, the network will allow Reliance Jio to provide advanced 5G services such as massive machine-to-machine communications, network slicing, and ultra-low latency.



**Fintech Platform PhonePe Launches Its First Green Data Centre In India :-**

Dell Technologies and NTT have built India's first green data centre for fintech firm PhonePe using liquid immersion technology. According to the company, this is also PhonePe's first green data centre in India, which will help the fintech reduce carbon emissions and meet sustainability goals. This 4.8-megawatt facility in Mahape, Navi Mumbai, is built and designed with advanced alternative cooling technologies such as Direct Contact Liquid Cooling (DCLC) and Liquid Immersion Cooling (LIC).



**MakeMyTrip, Goibibo, OYO Fined Rs 392 Crore By CCI :-**

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) fined online hotel booking sites MakeMyTrip and Goibibo, as well as IPO-bound budget hotel chain OYO, for a total of over Rs. 392 crore (\$47 million) for anti-competitive behaviour in hotel room listings. MakeMyTrip-Goibibo (MMT-Go) has been fined Rs. 223.48 crore (\$27 million), while OYO has been fined Rs. 168.88 crore (\$20 million). The companies have been under investigation by the competition watchdog since 2019, following a complaint from the Federation of Hotel & Restaurant Associations of India (FHRAI).

**9: International**



**ICC Announced "Oval And Lord's" To Host World Test Championship Finals :-**

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has confirmed that the ICC World Test Championship (WTC) Final 2023 will be held at The Oval in London, with Lord's hosting

the 2025 edition. Geoff Allardice, Chief Executive Officer of the ICC, expressed his delight at the confirmation of two iconic venues for the next two cycles. The dates for the ICC World Test Championship Finals in 2023 and 2025 will be announced in due course. During the ICC Annual General Meeting in Birmingham in July, England was selected to host the next two WTC Finals.



## Giorgia Meloni Elected As First Woman PM Of Italy :-

:-

Giorgia Meloni was elected as Italy's first female prime minister since World War II. The far-right Meloni party won the general election in Italy. She will lead the next government in working for the betterment of all Italians. Giorgia Meloni was elected to the Italian Chamber of Deputies in 2006, is the current leader of the Brothers of Italy (FDI), and has been the president of the European Conservatives and Reformists Party since 2020. From 2008 to 2011, she served as Minister of Youth in the Berlusconi IV Cabinet.



## Vladimir Putin Grants Russian Citizenship To Edward Snowden :-

According to a decree signed by Russian President Vladimir Putin, former US security contractor Edward Snowden has been granted Russian citizenship. Snowden is one of 75 foreign citizens granted Russian citizenship by the decree. The decree was made public on the government's official website. Snowden, a former National Security Agency contractor, has been living in Russia since 2013 to avoid prosecution in the United States for leaking classified documents detailing government surveillance programmes.



## ADB To Devote \$14 Billion To Help Ease Food Crisis In Asia-Pacific :-

The Asian Development Bank has announced that it will invest at least \$14 billion through 2025 to help alleviate the Asia-Pacific food crisis. The development bank said it plans a comprehensive programme of assistance to help the region's 1.1 billion people who lack healthy diets due to poverty and rising food prices. "This is a timely and urgently needed response to a crisis that is leaving too many poor families in Asia hungry and in deeper poverty," ADB President Masatsugu Asakawa said.



## Saudi Arabia Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman Appointed As Prime Minister :-

According to a royal decree, Saudi Arabia's King Salman bin Abdulaziz appointed his son and heir Prince Mohammed bin Salman as Prime Minister and his second son Prince Khalid as Defence Minister. According to the royal decree, which was carried by state news agency SPA, the reshuffle kept another son, Prince Abdulaziz bin

Salman, as Energy Minister. Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud, Finance Minister Mohammed al-Jadaan, and Investment Minister Khalid al-Falih all retained their positions, according to the decree.



## Vladimir Putin Declares Annexation Of 4 Ukrainian Regions By Russia :-

Russia's President Vladimir Putin has signed laws absorbing four Ukrainian regions into Russia, a move that finalises the annexation carried out in defiance of international law. Earlier, both houses of the Russian parliament ratified treaties making the Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions part of Russia. It's the biggest expansion of Russian territory in at least half a century, and Russia's total claim amounts to around 18 per cent of Ukrainian territory, though the exact borders are still to be clarified.



## Indian American Dr Vivek Lall Receives Lifetime Achievement Award In US :-

Dr. Vivek Lall, of Indian origin, has been honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award by US President Joe Biden, with the citation 'With Grateful Recognition.' Dr. Lall received the award from AmeriCorps, a branch of the US government that promotes activities that bring Americans together to "serve communities." According to the official statement, the President of the United States personally signed the citation. Dr. Lall is the Chief Executive Officer of General Atomics and an industry leader.



## EU Parliament Approved Adoption Of World's First Single Charger Rule :-

The European Parliament has approved a new rule that will require mobile phones, tablets, and cameras to have a single charging port by 2024 in the European Union. This action confirms an earlier agreement among EU institutions, making USB-C connectors used by Android-based devices the EU standard, forcing Apple to change its charging port for iPhones and other devices. The change had been discussed for years and was prompted by iPhone and Android users' complaints about having to switch to different chargers for their devices.



## Indians To Be Able To Pay In Europe Using UPI Soon :-

:-

With the National Payments Corporation of India's (NPCI) international arm entering into a pact with payments services operator Worldline, Indian travellers to Europe will soon be able to make payments from their Indian bank accounts using the Unified Payments Interface (UPI). Users will be required to have an Indian bank account with a UPI enabled on their accounts. To make UPI payments, users will also need an app, such as the BHIM app. The service will be available at Worldline's point-of-sale terminals.



## Liz Truss resigns after six weeks as UK prime minister :-

Liz Truss announced her resignation as British Prime Minister on October 20, having been brought down only six weeks into the job by an economic programme that roiled financial markets, raised living costs for voters, and enraged much of her own party. The Conservative Party, which has a large majority in parliament and does not need to call a national election for the next two years, will choose a new leader by Oct. 28. Truss became Britain's fourth prime minister in six years after being elected by Conservative Party members to lead the party in September.



## Indian-American Tulsi Gabbard Exits Democratic Party :-

Tulsi Gabbard, Former Congresswoman and the first Hindu American to run for President in 2020, has announced her resignation from the ruling Democratic Party. Gabbard, 41, who retired from the House of Representatives last year, made the announcement on Twitter. Gabbard was the first-ever Hindu to be elected to the US House of Representatives in 2013 from Hawaii, and she was subsequently elected for four consecutive terms. She has also blamed Russia's military invasion on Ukraine on Biden's failed foreign policy.



## Israel And Lebanon Agreed To 'Historic Agreement' On The Maritime Dispute :-



Israel and Lebanon have agreed to settle a decades-old dispute over control of an eastern stretch of the Mediterranean Sea, according to the leaders of the two countries, in a major diplomatic breakthrough between two neighbours who are technically at war and have no direct diplomatic relations. If both countries ratify the agreement, it is expected to avert conflict between Israel and Hezbollah militants in Lebanon, as well as make it easier for energy companies to extract gas from the eastern Mediterranean Sea.



### Abdul Latif Rashid Elected As President Of Iraq :-

Iraqi lawmakers have chosen Kurdish politician Abdul Latif Rashid to be the country's new president, paving the way for the formation of a new government. Rashid defeated fellow Iraqi Kurd Barham Saleh in a two-round parliamentary vote, receiving more than 160 votes to Saleh's 99. As the votes were being counted, Saleh reportedly walked out of the parliament building. The most recent political impasse began when al-Sadr emerged as the largest winner in a parliamentary vote in October 2021, but was unable to muster enough support to form a government.



### India Opposes G7'S Just Energy Transition Plan :-

The G7 nations' plan to persuade India to begin negotiations on the Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP), a rich-country initiative to accelerate the phase-out of coal and reduce emissions, has hit a snag. JETP provides a variety of funding options for this purpose in identified developing countries. So far, the Power Ministry has refused to give its consent to the negotiations, arguing that coal cannot be singled out as a polluting fuel and that energy transition talks must take place on equal footing.



### Rishi Sunak becomes UK's first Indian-origin PM :-

Sunak defeated centrist politician Penny Mordaunt, who failed to get enough backing from lawmakers to enter the ballot, while his rival, the former prime minister Boris Johnson, withdrew from the contest saying he could no longer unite the party. Sunak, one of the wealthiest politicians in Westminster and set to be the country's first leader of colour, will be asked to form a government by King Charles, replacing Liz Truss, the outgoing leader who only lasted 44 days in the job before she resigned.



## US President Biden hosted White House's biggest-ever Diwali celebration:-

US President Joe Biden hosted Diwali celebrations at the White House and said, "This is the first Diwali reception of this scale in the White House ever to be held. Vice President Harris said, the Biden administration joins over 1 billion people around the world to light the 'Diya' and celebrate the fight for good over evil, knowledge over ignorance and light over darkness. Moreover, First Lady Jill Biden praised the Asian American community in the US for "helping us light our way forward."



## Hollywood Actor Tom Cruise Became First Actor To Film In Outer Space :-

Tom Cruise, the actor known for his high-octane stunts in his films, is taking things to the next level and may soon become the first actor to shoot in space. The Top Gun star is reportedly working on a project with director Doug Liman that will require him to perform a spacewalk. Conversations about Cruise's desire to film in space were halted during the COVID outbreak, but they have recently resurfaced. Universal Studios chairwoman Dame Donna Langley confirmed that sending Mr Cruise to space is one of the studio's missions.



## Serbian Scientists Name Beetle After Country's Tennis Star Novak Djokovic :-

Serbian scientists named a new species of beetle after tennis legend Novak Djokovic because of its speed, strength, flexibility, durability, and ability to survive in harsh environments, according to Serbian media. The insect, which belongs to the Duvalius genus of ground beetles found in Europe, was discovered in an underground pit in western Serbia several years ago. Duvalius Dokovici is its name. Earlier, Djokovic, 35, won the Tel Aviv Open for his third title of the season, following his seventh Wimbledon title in July.



## Geographical Indication Tag Sought For Nihonshu From Japan :-

The Japanese Embassy in New Delhi has applied for a Geographical Indication (GI) tag for nihonshu/Japanese sake, an alcoholic beverage. This is the first time a product from Japan has filed for a tag at the Geographical

Indication Registry in India. Nihonshu is an alcoholic beverage. It is regarded as a special and valuable beverage made from fermenting rice. People traditionally drink nihonshu on special occasions, such as festivals, weddings or funerals, but it is also consumed on a daily basis.



## India, France Re-Elected As President And Co-President Of International Solar Alliance :-

At the International Solar Alliance's (ISA) fifth general assembly, India and France were re-elected as President and Co-President, respectively. Union Power and New & Renewable Energy Minister R K Singh will be the President of the International Solar Alliance, with Chrysoula Zacharopoulou, France's Minister of State for Development and International Partnerships, serving as co-President, according to ISA Director General Ajay Mathur. Mathur stated that only applications from India

and France were received for the positions of President and Co-President.



## Guinness World Records Officially Declares Monday 'Worst Day Of The Week' :-

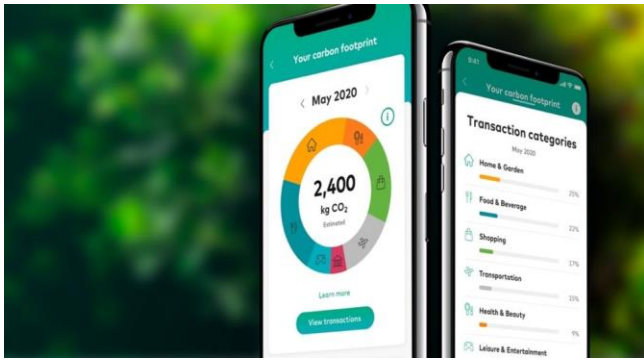
According to Guinness World Records, Monday is the worst day of the week. "We're officially giving Monday the record of the worst day of the week," Guinness World Records announced on its official Twitter account. It was known as The Guinness Book of Records from its inception until 1999, has sold over 143 million copies, is distributed in 100 countries, and is published in at least 22 languages. The record book is published annually and includes both human achievements and natural world extremes.

## 10: Miscellaneous



## HAL Cryogenic Engines Manufacturing Facility Inaugurated By President Murmu :-

The President, Droupadi Murmu, in Bengaluru inaugurated the integrated cryogenic engine manufacturing facility of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL). The ₹208 crore facility, built on a 4,500 square metre campus, will manufacture cryogenic and semi-cryogenic engines for ISRO's launch vehicles. HAL has already begun pre-production activities, such as the preparation of process plans, drawings, quality plans and more, and will begin realising the modules in March 2023.



## Mastercard To Launch 'Carbon Calculator' For Indian Consumers :-

Mastercard, the Global payments and technology company, is in talks with Indian banks to roll out its Carbon Calculator feature, which provides consumers with an estimated carbon footprint for each of their purchases. "Carbon Calculator is a service that we provide to banks. The personalised carbon footprint tracker can tell consumers the cumulative effect of carbon footprint across a variety of spending categories in a month. We have launched it in many countries and, now, we are in talks with banks in India to roll it out here," said Ken Moore, Chief Innovation Officer, Mastercard.



## Hero MotoCorp Appoints Movie Star Ram Charan New Brand Ambassador :-

Hero MotoCorp, the world's largest two-wheeler manufacturer, has appointed actor Ram Charan as its new brand ambassador. Ram Charan's popularity as a pan-Indian actor, according to Hero MotoCorp, will be critical in further strengthening the two-wheeler

manufacturer's foothold across the country. Ranjivjit Singh, Chief Growth Officer at Hero MotoCorp, said, "The association with the celebrated Indian actor, Ram Charan marks yet another significant milestone in the journey of one of India's most popular two-wheeler brands, Glamour."



## Uddhav camp gets 'mashaal' as poll symbol :-

On 10 October, the Election Commission (EC) assigned the 'mashaal (flaming torch)' as the Shiv Sena's poll symbol to the Uddhav Thackeray-led faction. The poll panel rejected the Uddhav camp's choice of 'trishul,' citing its religious connotation, and 'rising sun,' citing its association with the DMK. Shiv Sena is the name given to the Thackeray faction (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray). The EC had barred both Shiv Sena factions from using the party name and its 'bow and arrow' election symbol in the November 3 Andheri East assembly bypolls on October 8.



## Amit Shah Announces ST Status For Pahari community In Jammu And Kashmir :-

The Pahari community in Jammu and Kashmir has been granted Scheduled Tribe (ST) status by Union Home Minister Amit Shah. According to Mr. Shah, the Justice GD Sharma Commission recommended reservation for Paharis in its report to the government. "The GD Sharma Commission set up by the government has sent the report and recommended reservation for Gujjar, Bakarwal and Pahari communities. It will be given soon," Shah said at a rally in Jammu's Rajouri district.



## Actor Pankaj Tripathi Declared 'National Icon' By Election Commission Of India :-

Pankaj Tripathi, actor best known for his roles in Gangs of Wasseypur, Mirzapur, Bareilly Ki Barfi, and other hit films, has been named the Election Commission of India's (ECI) National Icon. The actor was already a Bihar State Icon for raising awareness and encouraging youth to vote in elections. The ECI is launching a special programme in collaboration with All India Radio (AIR), which will include a series titled Matdata Junction with 52 episodes of 15 minutes, each to be broadcast every Friday.



## Indian Cricketer Smriti Mandhana Named As Gulf Oil India Ambassador :-

Gulf Oil Lubricants has brought on board cricketer Smriti Mandhana, as its new brand ambassador. With this association, Gulf Oil claims to have become the first company in the lubricant space to appoint a woman cricketer as ambassador to represent the organisation and its ethos. Smriti Mandhana will join the ranks of current brand ambassadors Mahendra Singh Dhoni and Hardik Pandya. Through this association, Gulf Oil aims to celebrate women power and inspire female audience in the country while also honoring the achievements of Indian women cricketers.



## 37th National Games: Goa To Host Games In October 2023 :-

The Indian Olympic Association has confirmed that Goa will host the 37th edition of the National Games in October of next year. The Goa state government has given the IOA its in-principle approval to host the next National Games. In a letter to Ajit Roy, Secretary, Sports and Youth Affairs, Goa, IOA Secretary General Rajeev Mehta wrote: "IOA is pleased to note the whole-hearted support of the Government of Goa to host the 37th National Games in Goa in 2023, hence conveying IOA's approval to organise the 37th National Games in Goa."



## Former Indian Cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni Inaugurates CSK Academy :-

Mahendra Singh Dhoni, former India captain and captain of the Chennai Super Kings, launched the Super Kings Academy at the MS Dhoni Global School in Hosur, Tamil Nadu. The MS Dhoni Global School is India's first franchise-owned Super Kings Academy. The Super Kings Academy in Hosur is the third of its kind in the country, with eight pitches for practice and a turf-wicket ground for matches. Chennai Super Kings, founded in 2008, are a franchise cricket team based in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India.



## HM Amit Shah Unveils 14 Feet High Statue Of Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narayan :-

A 14-foot-high statue of socialist icon Jayaprakash Narayan has been unveiled in his ancestral village of Sitab Diara in Bihar's Saran district by Union Home Minister Amit Shah. Accompanied by Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Shah travelled to Sitab Diara via Varanasi to attend Narayan, also known as JP's 120th birthday celebrations. The statue was unveiled by Shah on the grounds of JP's ancestral home in Lala Ka Tola. UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Union Minister Nityanand Rai, and other leaders were present on the occasion.



## Bandhan Bank Ropes In Sourav Ganguly As Its Brand Ambassador :-

Bandhan Bank has announced that it has roped in Sourav Ganguly as its brand ambassador. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, managing director and chief executive officer, Bandhan Bank, said, "We are confident that this partnership will help us garner more attention, leading to greater awareness of the brand, and thus propelling us further in our growth story. This association is another step towards connecting strongly with consumers across the spectrum and reinforcing our ongoing mission of inclusive banking."

**11: National**



**Centre to Rank 131 Cities Based on Actions to Improve Air Quality :-**

Under the National Clean Air Programme 2019 (NCAP), the Ministry of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change (MoEFCC) will launch the 'Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan' programme, which will rank cities based on their actions to improve air quality. "Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan will rank 131 cities in the country for implementing City Action Plans prepared as part of NCAP for reducing air pollution up to 40 per cent by 2025-26," the ministry announced during a two-day National Conference of Ministers of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change in Gujarat.



**Cabinet Approves 4% Increase In DA For Central Government Employees :-**

The Union Cabinet has approved a 4% increase in the dearness allowance (DA) for central government employees and pensioners, according to a statement from the Ministry of Finance. According to the ministry, central government employees and pensioners will be

entitled to increased Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief (DR) beginning July 1, 2022. "Cabinet approves release of additional instalment of Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief @ 4 per cent to Central Government employees and pensioners, due from 01.07.2022," PIB tweeted.



**Gandhinagar-Mumbai Vande Bharat Express Launched By PM Modi :-**

The Gandhinagar-Mumbai Vande Bharat Express train, the third in the Vande Bharat series launched in 2019, was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The two other Vande Bharat Express trains, introduced by PM Modi in February and October 2019 respectively, run from New Delhi to Varanasi and Katra. The Gandhinagar-Mumbai Express train, also known as the 'Vande Bharat 2.0,' travels 540 kilometres in 6 hours and 30 minutes. It can travel at a maximum speed of 160 km/h in 129 seconds.



**Fit India Freedom Run 3.0 Launched By Anurag Singh Thakur And Kiren Rijju:-**

On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, the Fit India Freedom Run 3.0 was launched at the Major Dhyanand National Stadium in New Delhi. The third edition of one of the largest nationwide movements launched by the Government of India during the peak of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 was jointly launched with a Fit India Plog Run by Union Ministers of Law and Justice, Shri Kiren Rijiju, and Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur. The third edition of the Fit India Freedom Run began on October 2 and will run through October 31.

One of India's leading life insurers, HDFC Life, has launched the 'Insure India' campaign to educate Indians on the benefits of life insurance as a product category. Over the last three years, HDFC Life has established life insurance awareness month as an exclusive property to spread awareness about the category, in collaboration with its vast network of distribution partners. HDFC Life and its partners' ongoing efforts across various platforms have enabled the brand to reach millions of people across the country.



### RBI To Start A Pilot Programme For Digital Rupee :-

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued a concept note on Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) to raise awareness and explain the objectives, benefits, technology, and risks associated with it. The country's central bank also stated that it will soon begin a pilot programme for specific use cases, providing an idea of what to expect from the Digital Rupee. The Digital Rupee will, to an extent, mimic the characteristics of hard money (notes and coins). However, unlike the paper currency, the Digital Rupee cannot be touched.

### Former Indian Cricket MS Dhoni Launches Made-In-India 'Droni' Camera Drone :-

Star Indian cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni has unveiled the 'Droni,' a made-in-India camera drone with advanced features manufactured by Garuda Aerospace. Dhoni is the brand ambassador of Garuda Aerospace, a company which has attempted to offer drone solutions for agricultural pesticide spraying, solar panel cleaning, industrial pipeline inspections, mapping, surveying, public announcements, and delivery services. It has ventured into the consumer drone market with 'Droni'.



### HDFC Life Launches Insure India Campaign :-



## Gujarat's Modhera Became India's First 24x7 Solar-Powered Village :-

Modhera village in Gujarat has been designated as the country's first 24x7 solar-powered village by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Modhera, famous for a centuries-old Sun temple built during the Chalukya period, will also be known as a "solar-powered village," according to Modi. The Modhera village is located 25 km from the Gurajat district of Mehsana and approximately 100 km from the state capital of Gandhinagar. To generate electricity, the village has a ground-mounted solar power plant and over 1,300 rooftop solar systems with 1kW capacity installed on houses.



## CJI UU Lalit Recommends Justice DY Chandrachud As The Next Chief Justice Of India :-

As his successor, Chief Justice of India U U Lalit recommended to the Centre the name of the senior-most Supreme Court judge, Justice Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud. Justice Chandrachud, who has served on several Constitution benches and delivered landmark Supreme Court decisions, will become the 50th Chief Justice of India on November 9 if the government accepts the recommendation. Justice Chandrachud, who was appointed to the Supreme Court on May 13, 2016, will serve as Chief Justice for two years before retiring on November 10, 2024. Supreme Court justices are required to retire at the age of 65.



## Three New Chief Justices For High Courts Of Rajasthan, Karnataka, J-K, And Ladakh :-

Following the recommendation of the Supreme Court collegium, the union government has announced the appointment of three new chief justices in various high courts. Bombay high court judge PB Varale was named chief justice of the Karnataka high court, while Justice Pankaj Mithal, who was chief justice of the J&K and Ladakh high courts until December 2020, was named chief justice of the Rajasthan high court. Justice AM Magrey, a sitting judge of the J&K and Ladakh high court, was elevated as the new chief justice of the same high court.



## **Rajnath Singh launched 'Maa Bharati Ke Sapoot' Website :-**

Rajnath Singh, the Defence Minister, has launched a website where citizens can donate to the Armed Forces Battle Casualties Welfare Fund (AFBCWF). According to a senior Army official, the AFBCWF is a tri-service fund that is used to provide immediate financial assistance to the families of our soldiers, sailors, and airmen who die or are seriously injured in active military operations. In a video message, actor Amitabh Bachchan urged people to contribute to the fund.



## **PM Narendra Modi celebrated Diwali in Kargil with the soldiers :-**

Keeping his Diwali tryst with the soldiers alive, Modi landed in Kargil amid chilling cold to celebrate the festival of lights with the soldiers. Last year he celebrated Diwali in Nowshera border town of J&K's Jammu division. In 2020, he shared the joys of the Diwali festival with soldiers in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan. In 2019, Modi went to Rajouri district in J&K on Diwali while in 2018 he was in Uttarakhand to celebrate Diwali with the Army and ITBP soldiers. In 2017, the Prime Minister celebrated Diwali with the BSF soldiers in Gurez border town of J&K.



## **PM Inaugurates Indian Institute Of Information Technology In Una :-**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for a bulk drug park in Una, Himachal Pradesh, and inaugurated the Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT). Earlier, the Prime Minister launched the new Vande Bharat Express from Amb Andaura in Una to New Delhi. The Prime Minister in his address said that that it was a big day for industrialization. "Being chosen as one of the only three states for a bulk drug park is a momentous decision for the state and is a result of our affection and dedication for the state," he said.



## **Ayodhya sets Guinness World Record as nearly 16 lakh diyas lit :-**

Ayodhya, the Land of Lord Rama, has entered the Guinness Book of World Records by lighting up 15.76 lakh. The grand celebration was held on the occasion of Chhoti Diwali at Ram Ki Paidi on the banks of the revered Sarayu River. There were 19000 volunteers who made

sure that the event was a success. A total of 17 lakh earthen lamps across 37 ghats of Ram Ki Paidi were lit. But the Guinness Book of World Records only took those diyas into consideration which remained lit for five minutes or more.



## GoI Approved 1st Suspension Bridge Across Krishna River :-

The central government has approved the construction of an iconic suspension bridge spanning the Krishna River between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, passing through the Nallamala forest range. Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister for Road Transport and National Highways, stated that once completed, the three-kilometer-long bridge will reduce the distance between Hyderabad and Tirupati by 80 kilometres. The hybrid structural arrangement in the bridge will give it a structural advantage and make it economical as well as aesthetically pleasing.



## Total Balance In PM Jan Dhan Accounts Crosses ₹1.75-Lakh Crore Mark :-

The total balance in the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) basic bank accounts has surpassed ₹1.75 lakh crore. According to the most recent government data, the total balance stood at ₹1,75,225 crore as of October 5, 2022, with a total beneficiary population of 47 crore. Women beneficiaries own a larger portion of the scheme, with 26.16 crore accounts, the majority of which (31.42 crore accounts) are in rural and semi-urban areas. According to government data, approximately 18% of total accounts are either dormant or inoperative (as on June 2022).



## Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav Inaugurates India's First Aluminum Freight Rake :-

Hindalco unveiled India's first all-aluminum freight rail rakes, accelerating the country's ambitious plan to modernise freight transportation while allowing Indian Railways to save significant amounts of carbon. Ashwini Vaishnav, Union Minister for Railways, inaugurated the "61 BOBRNALHSM1" rake at Bhubaneswar railway station in Odisha. "This is a dedicated effort for Make in India program as it has been fully designed and developed indigenously in collaboration with RDSO, Hindalco and Besco Wagon," said a statement from the ministry of railways.



## Union Cabinet Approves MSP Hike For All Mandated Rabi Crops :-

The Cabinet has approved an increase in the minimum support price (MSP) for all mandated rabi crops for the marketing season 2023-24, according to union minister Anurag Thakur. The MSP for lentil (Masur) has increased the most, by Rs 500 per quintal. The price of rapeseed and mustard has been raised by Rs 400. The MSP is the price at which the government purchases grain from farmers. The government currently sets MSPs for 23 crops grown in both the Kharif and Rabi seasons. Rabi (winter) crop planting begins in October, immediately following the harvest of kharif (summer) crops.



## Mallikarjun Kharge Elected As The New Congress President :-

Mallikarjun Kharge has been elected as the new Congress president, becoming the party's first non-Gandhi president in 24 years. Kharge received 7,897 votes, or 84.14% of the total 9,385 votes cast, to Shashi Tharoor's 1,076 in the first election to the post in 22 years. Kharge, a veteran Congressman from Karnataka, has a long organisational, electoral, and administrative record, and

is a Dalit. Following the announcement of the results, outgoing president Sonia Gandhi and her daughter Priyanka Vadra paid a visit to Kharge's home to express their congratulations.



## Hardeep Puri Inaugurated Asia's Largest Compressed Bio Gas Plant :-

Hardeep Singh Puri, Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, inaugurated Asia's largest Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) plant in Lehragaga, Punjab's Sangrur. Verbio AG, one of Germany's leading bio-energy companies, commissioned the plant with a foreign direct investment of approximately Rs. 220 crores. The inaugural ceremony was also attended by Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and senior management from Verbio India Private Limited. The CBG plant in Sangrur covers an area of 20 acres.



## Wildlife Board Approves Durgavati Tiger Reserve As New Tiger Reserve :-

According to officials, the Madhya Pradesh Wildlife Board has approved a new Panna Tiger Reserve (PTR) reserve for tigers, one-fourth of which will be submerged due to the linking of the Ken-Betwa rivers. Durgavati Tiger Reserve, which will cover 2,339 square kilometres, will be spread across the districts of Narisinghpur,

Damoh, and Sagar. The meeting, presided over by Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, approved a proposal to notify 1,414 square kilometres as core area and 925 square kilometres as buffer area in the new tiger reserve.

## 12: Obituaries



### Malayalam director Ashokan passes away at 60 in Kochi :-

Ashokan, a well-known Malayalam film director whose real name was Raman Ashok Kumar, died in Kochi at the age of 60. His death was confirmed by the Film Employees Federation of Kerala Directors' Union. He became ill and travelled from Singapore to Kochi for treatment. Varnam, Ashokan's directorial debut, was released in 1989. In 1990, he directed the psychological thriller Saandhram. It was followed in 1991 by Mookilla Rajyathu and in 1993 by Aacharyan. He was the Managing Director of Oberon, a Gulf and Kochi-based IT firm.



### Veteran Congress Leader Aryadan Muhammed Passes Away :-

Aryadan Muhammed, a veteran Congress leader, died at the age of 87 in Kozhikode, Kerala. He'd been in a private hospital for a few days getting treatment. In 1977, he was elected to the Kerala legislative assembly from the Nilambur constituency. He won every election in Nilambur from 1987 to 2011. Aryadan Muhammad has also served in the EK Nayanar cabinet as a member of the Left Front Group A in 1980. He was also a minister in the AK Antony and Oommen Chandy cabinets.



### Oscar-Winning Actress Louise Fletcher Passes Away :-

Louise Fletcher, who won an Oscar for best actress for her role as Nurse Ratched in Milos Forman's 'One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest,' died at the age of 88. After winning her Oscar, Fletcher became only the third

woman to receive an Oscar, a BAFTA, and a Golden Globe for the same performance. Jerry Bick and Fletcher were married from 1959 until their divorce in 1977. Her surviving family members include sons John and Andrew Bick, granddaughter Emilee Kaya Bick, sisters Roberta Ray and Edward Ray, and ten nieces and nephews.



## The First Chair Of The National Commission For Women Jayanti Patnaik Died :-

Jayanti Patnaik, a senior Congress leader and the first chairperson of the National Commission for Women, has died. She was 90 years old. Odisha Governor Ganeshi Lal expressed his condolences on Jayanti Patnaik's death. "Odisha Governor expressed his grief over the demise of former MP, senior politician and a noted writer Jayanti Patnaik. Her contribution to the field of literature will be remembered," said the Raj Bhavan in a statement. Jayanti Patnaik was born on April 7, 1932, in Aska, Ganjam district, and graduated from Shailabala Women's Autonomous College in Cuttack with a degree in Sociology.



## Former UP CM Mulayam Singh Yadav Passes Away :-

Mulayam Singh Yadav, the founder of the Samajwadi Party, died on October 10 while receiving treatment at the Medanta hospital in Gurugram. He was 82. For the past few weeks, the SP patriarch's condition had been "quite critical," and he was on life-saving drugs. The Samajwadi Party (SP) founder and three-time Uttar Pradesh chief minister, Mulayam Singh Yadav, rose in UP politics in a period of intense social and political ferment after the 1970s. He took oath as UP's 15th CM in 1989, which marked the year when the Congress was voted out, failing to return to power in the state ever since.



## Veteran actor Arun Bali passes away at 79 in Mumbai :-

Arun Bali, a veteran actor known for his roles in films such as 3 Idiots, Kedarnath, Panipat, and many others, died in Mumbai. He was 79. Bali made his acting debut as superstar Shah Rukh Khan's uncle in noted filmmaker Lekh Tandon's TV show 'Doosra Keval.' Some of his well-known films include 'Saugandh', 'Raju Ban Gaya Gentleman', 'Khalnayak', 'Satya', 'Hey Ram', 'Lage Raho Munna Bhai', '3 Idiots', 'Ready', 'Barfi', 'Manmarziyaan', 'Kedarnath', 'Samrat Prithviraj', and 'Laal Singh Chaddha'.



## Suzlon Energy Chairman Tulsi Tanti Passes Away :-

Tulsi Tanti, the founder chairman and managing director of Suzlon Energy, died of cardiac arrest, according to a press release. Tanti, 64, was a well-known expert in the field of renewable energy. Tanti, who founded Suzlon Energy in 1995, was at the forefront of India's wind revolution. He saw opportunity in the Indian renewable energy industry at a time when the global wind energy market was dominated by international players and characterised by costly and complicated technologies that were largely unviable for traditional businesses.



## Padma Shri Dr Temsula Ao Passes Away :-

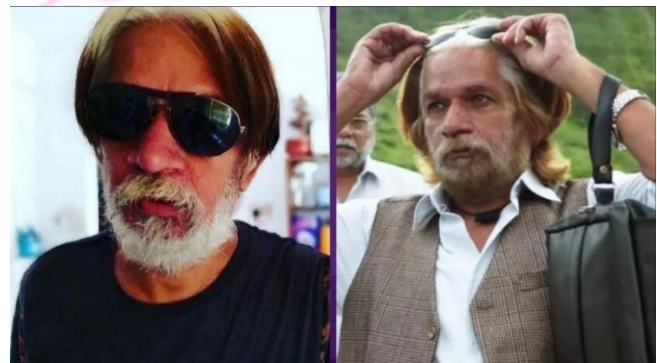
Padma Shri Dr Temsula Ao, a well-known Naga writer and academic, died recently in a hospital in Dimapur. Ao had also held a number of important positions, including chairperson of the Nagaland State Commission for Women. Ao was a famous literary figure in the northeast and the recipient of the Nagaland Governor's Award for Distinction in Literature, Meghalaya Governor's Award for Distinction in Literature, Meghalaya Governor's Gold

Medal, the Sahitya Akademi award, apart from the prestigious Padma Shri award.



## Actor Robbie Coltrane Passes Away at 72 :-

Robbie Coltrane, the actor who played Hagrid in the Harry Potter films, died at the age of 72. In addition to the ITV detective drama Cracker, he appeared in the James Bond films Goldeneye and The World Is Not Enough. His agent, Belinda Wright, confirmed the actor's death in a hospital near Falkirk, Scotland, in a statement. His career began in the TV series Play for Today in 1979, but he rose to prominence in A Kick Up the Eighties, a BBC TV comedy series starring Tracey Ullman, Miriam Margolyes, and Rik Mayall.



## Actor Jitendra Shastri Passed Away :-

Actor Jitendra Shastri, who was known for playing the role of Usmaan in the Ali Fazal and Pankaj Tripathi-led web series Mirzapur, has passed away. The news was shared by his friends and colleagues Sanjay Mishra and Rajesh Tailang among others. Jeetu Shastri was a part of films like Black Friday (2004), Taanashah (2020), Charas:

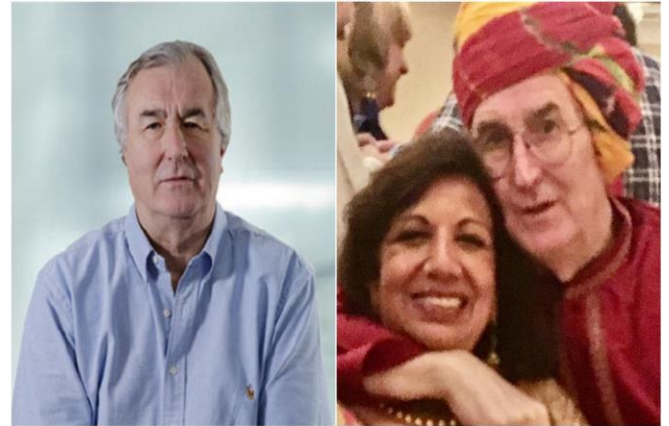
A Joint Effort (2004), India's Most Wanted, Rajma Chawal and Ashoka among others. He was last seen in TVF Tripling.



### The Father Of ORS Dr. Mahalanobis Passed Away:-

Dr. Mahalanobis, whose name is synonymous with ORS due to his contributions to the development of this life-saving solution and the popularisation of oral rehydration therapy (ORT), died in Kolkata. He was 88. Mahalanobis, who was trained primarily as a paediatrician, began working on ORT in 1966 as a research scholar for the Johns Hopkins University International Centre for Medical Research and Training in Kolkata. The team created ORS, which was later

dubbed the greatest medical discovery of the twentieth century.



### John Shaw, husband of Biocon founder Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, passes away :-

John Shaw, husband of Biocon founder Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, died Monday. He was 73. He had served as vice chairman of the company and had stepped down last year citing health concerns. His cremation was held at the Wilson Garden crematorium in Bengaluru Monday evening. John Shaw had served as a foreign promoter of the company and was a member of the board of directors of Biocon since 1999. He was born in 1949 and was a postgraduate from Glasgow University.

## 13: Ranks & Reports



### Global Innovation Index 2022: India Climbs To 40th Rank :-

According to a report, India climbed six notches to 40th place in the Global Innovation Index 2022 due to improvements in several parameters. According to WIPO's 2022 Global Innovation Index (GII), Switzerland, the United States, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands are the world's most innovative economies, with China just outside the top ten. Other emerging economies, such as India and Türkiye, are consistently outperforming, with both entering the top 40 for the first time, according to the report.





## RBI Projects 7% GDP Growth For FY23, Inflation Remain 6.7% :-

The Reserve Bank of India has maintained its inflation forecast for FY23 at 6.7%, despite geopolitical concerns raised by the Russia-Ukraine conflict, and expects inflation to be under control by January. The central bank's mandate is to keep retail inflation between 2 and 6%. Since January 2022, inflation has remained above the RBI's upper tolerance level of 6%. In April, May, and June, it ruled over 7%. Inflation fell to 6.7% in July, signalling a pause. Inflation reached 7% in August.



## 'Hurun India 40 & Under Self-Made Rich List 2022' Topped By Zerodha's Nikhil Kamath :-

With a net worth of Rs 17,500 crore, Nikhil Kamath, co-founder of Zerodha, topped the 'IIFL Wealth Hurun India 40 & Under Self-Made Rich List 2022.' Bhavish Aggarwal, the founder of Ola, came in second (Rs 11,700 crore), and Divyank Turakhia, the founder of Media.net, came in third (Rs 11,200 crore). The list's youngest self-made entrepreneur is 19-year-old Kaivalya Vohra, co-founder of Zepto, an instant grocery app, while Indian-American Neha Narkhede, co-founder of Confluent, a streaming

data technology company, is the list's youngest self-made woman entrepreneur.



## Reliance Jio Chairman Akash Ambani Listed On Time's 100 Emerging Leaders' :-

Akash Ambani, chairman of Reliance Jio, has been named to Time Magazine's Time100 Next list, which recognises 100 rising stars from around the world. The 30-year-old son of Reliance Industries chairman Mukesh Ambani is the only Indian in the list of emerging leaders. On June 28, Akash Ambani took over as the chairman of Reliance Jio, currently India's largest telecom company. Prior to his current position, the junior Ambani was the non-executive director at Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd.



## 1.47 Lakh Crore GST Collected In The Month Of September 2022 :-

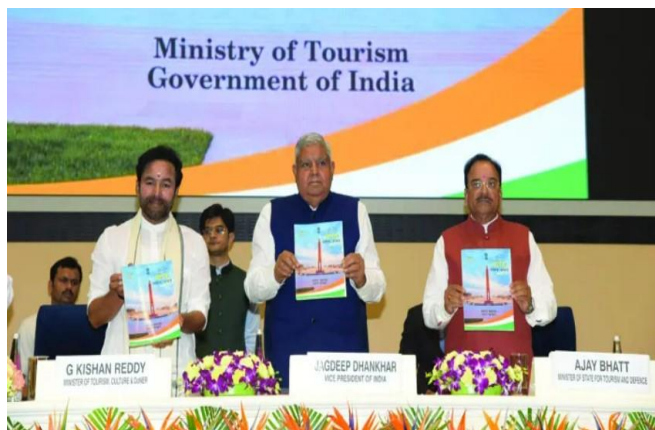
In September 2022, India's gross GST revenue increased by 26% over the same month last year to Rs 1.47 lakh crore. The gross GST revenue collected in the month of September 2022 is Rs 1,47,686 crore of which CGST is Rs 25,271 crore, SGST is Rs 31,813 crore, IGST is Rs 80,464 crore (including Rs 41,215 crore collected on import of goods) and Cess is Rs 10,137 crore (including Rs 856 crore

collected on import of goods), Finance Ministry said in a release. The government settled Rs 31,880 crore to CGST and Rs 27,403 crore to SGST from IGST as regular settlement.



## India's Unemployment Rate Drops To 6.43 Per Cent In September: CMIE :-

According to the most recent data shared by the private think tank Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), India's unemployment rate fell to 6.43% in September 2022, its lowest level since August 2018 and after reaching a one-year high of 8.3% in August 2022. Because of the addition of new jobs in September 2022, the unemployment rate fell in both urban and rural areas of the country. In urban areas, the unemployment rate fell to 7.7% from 9.57%, while in rural areas, it fell to 5.84% from 7.68%.



## Tamil Nadu And Maharashtra Topped Destinations For Foreign Tourists 2021 :-

According to a report released by the Union Tourism Ministry, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu had the highest number of foreign tourist visits in 2021, with 1.26 million and 1.23 million, respectively. Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar presented the report at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi on World Tourism Day. According to the report, the most popular centrally protected ticketed monument for domestic visitors in the previous year was Tamil Nadu's Group of Monuments at Mamallapuram. The Taj Mahal in Agra was also among the top ten on the list.



## India's Economic Growth To Decline To 5.7% In 2022: UNCTAD Report :-

According to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth is expected to decelerate to 5.7% in 2022 from 8.2% last year due to higher financing costs and lower public expenditures. India experienced an expansion of 8.2 per cent in 2021, the strongest among G20 countries. As supply chain disruptions eased, rising domestic demand turned the current account surplus into a deficit, and growth decelerated, the report said.



## World Bank Slashes India's Economic Growth Forecast To 6.5% For FY23 :-

The World Bank reduced India's growth forecast for FY23 by one percentage point to 6.5 percent, citing the fallout from the Russia-Ukraine conflict and ongoing global monetary policy tightening. This is the lowest growth forecast for FY23 by any multilateral agency. According to the World Bank, increased uncertainty and higher financing costs are likely to dampen private investment growth in India. The Indian economy is expected to have grown by 13.5 percent in the June quarter of FY23, despite contracting sequentially from the previous quarter.



## Jharkhand And West Bengal Topped In Worst State List In Terms Of Child Marriage :-

Despite being known for its mine reserves, Jharkhand has earned the unsavoury reputation of having the highest percentage of underage girls marrying. According to the latest demographic sample survey conducted by the Union Home Ministry, the percentage of girls marrying before reaching the age of majority in Jharkhand is as high as 5.8. Not only Jharkhand, but West Bengal has enough as well, with more than half of women in the state marrying before reaching the age of 21. In West Bengal, approximately 54.9 percent of girls marry before reaching the age of 21.



## IMF Slashed India's GDP Growth At 6.8% From 7.4% In Current Financial Year :-

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has reduced India's GDP growth forecast for 2022-23 from 7.4% to 6.8%, citing the impact of a slowing global economy, stubborn inflation, rising interest rates, and the war in Ukraine. The IMF has joined the World Bank in forecasting growth of less than 7%. Several other agencies, economists, and investment banks have also reduced their forecasts for India's growth in the current fiscal year. The RBI has also reduced its GDP growth forecast to 7% from 7.2%.



## Living Planet Report 2022: Wildlife Populations Decline By 69% In 50 Years :-

According to the Living Planet Report 2022, there has been a 69% drop in the global wildlife population in just over 50 years. The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) biennial report does not include India-specific data, but WWF India representatives stated that the country is also extremely vulnerable to massive biodiversity loss:

over 12% of wild mammal species in India are facing extinction; more than 40% of honey bees have disappeared in the last 25 years; and over 50% of 867 bird species will see long-term population declines, with 146 at high risk.



## Global Hunger Index 2022: India Ranks 107th Out Of 121 Countries :-

In the 2022 Global Hunger Index, India was ranked 107th out of 121 countries. India was ranked 101st out of 116 countries last year. For the second year in a row, India has performed worse than its neighbours Pakistan (99th), Nepal (81st), and Bangladesh (84th). India was only two places higher than Afghanistan, which ranked 109th on the hunger index. The index calculates hunger and malnutrition levels around the world. This year's report accessed data from 136 countries, but only 121 were evaluated.

## Times Higher Education Rankings 2023 :-

The Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2023 have been published, and as expected, the University of Oxford has topped the list for the seventh time in a row. The University of Oxford (UK) is ranked first, followed by the University of Harvard (US) and the University of Cambridge (UK). The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) has maintained its top ranking among Indian institutes in the most recent round of Times Higher Education (THE) rankings, which have been boycotted by the majority of Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs).



## Haryana Topped The Public Affairs Index 2022 In Big States :-

According to the Public Affairs Index 2022 prepared by a Bengaluru-based think tank, Haryana is the best-governed of the country's 18 large states. According to a Haryana government spokesperson, the state topped the list of major states with a score of 0.6948, followed by Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Punjab, and Karnataka. An official spokesperson quoted director G. Gurucharan of the Public Affairs Center (PAC), which conducted the survey, as saying that the report was prepared transparently and fairly.





## India Stands 3rd In The World In Terms Of Fish Production :-

Dr. L Murugan, Union Minister of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying, stated that the ministry has taken several steps in the last eight years to improve fish production, export, and infrastructure development. He stated at the conclusion of the Inland Fisheries Summit in Bengaluru that India ranks third in the world in terms of fish production. In reference to Karnataka, the Union Minister stated that the state received 734.77 crore rupees under the flagship scheme of the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).



## India Lifted 415 Million Out Of Poverty In 15 Years: UN :-

According to the United Nations (UN), 415 million people left multidimensional poverty in India between 2005-06 and 2019-21, a "historical change" for the country. According to the latest Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) compiled jointly by the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), the incidence of poverty

in the country has decreased from 55.1% in 2005-06 to 16.4% in 2019-21. "India is an important case study for the Sustainable Development Goals," it said.



## India May Draw \$475 Billion In FDI In Next 5 Years: Report :-

Despite investor uncertainty caused by the pandemic and geopolitical conflict, India has the potential to attract \$475 billion in FDI over the next five years due to a focus on reforms and economic growth, according to a report by the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) and EY. The report noted that FDI in India has seen a consistent rise in the last decade, with FY 2021-22 receiving FDI inflow of \$84.8 billion despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and geopolitical developments on investment sentiment.



## Freedom House: India's Internet Freedom Improves After 4 Years Downturn :-

India's internet freedom score improved by two points to 51 in the global ranking following efforts to bridge the digital divide in the country, the US government-funded NGO Freedom House said. "Internet freedom in India marginally improved over the last year, following four

years of decline, as efforts to bridge the country's digital divides expanded access to the internet. While the government continues to impose internet shutdowns, they have reduced in their frequency and intensity," Freedom on The Net 2022 said.



## UIDAI Topped Grievance Redressal Index For Second Consecutive Month :-

In the rankings report published by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) for the month of September 2022, the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) ranked first among all Group A Ministries, Departments, and Autonomous Bodies for resolving public grievances. UIDAI has topped the rankings for the second month in a row. UIDAI has been a top performer in resolving public

grievances received through CPGRAMS and has made ongoing efforts to improve Aadhaar holders' experience.



## India Ranks 41st Among 44 Nations In Pension Index :-

In the Mercer CFS Global Pension Index, India ranked 41st out of 44 countries, up from 40th in 2021. According to a report, the survey found that the country needs to strengthen its regulatory framework and expand coverage under private pension arrangements. "In the absence of social security coverage in the country, the adequacy and sustainability sub-indices can be significantly improved by increasing coverage under private pension arrangements," according to the survey-based report.

## 14: Schemes & Committees



## Palm Oil Alliance Formed By 5 South Asian Countries :-

The Asian Palm Oil Alliance (APOA) was formed at the request of Solidaridad Network, a specialist in sustainable agriculture, by the apex edible oil industry associations from five major palm oil importing countries in Asia: India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Nepal. On September 21, APOA was launched at the Globoil Summit in Agra. Atul Chaturvedi, Director of Adani Wilmar Ltd and President of SEA, was elected as the Alliance's first Chairman at the Alliance's first general body meeting.



## Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel Launched 'Hamar Beti Hamar Maan' Campaign :-

With a focus on women's safety and empowerment in society, the Chhattisgarh government has launched the 'Hamar Beti-Hamar Maan' campaign in the state. The CM stated in his tweets that the campaign will teach the girls here about a variety of important topics, including their legal rights and sexual crimes. Furthermore, he stated that a helpline number will be issued as part of the Hamar Beti Hamar Maan campaign so that prompt action can be taken on crimes against women who report them through that number.



## CBI Launched Operation 'GARUDA' To Dismantle Drug Networks :-

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) launched a multi-phase 'Operation GARUDA' with the goal of disrupting, degrading, and dismantling drug networks with international links through the rapid exchange of criminal intelligence on drug trafficking and coordinated law enforcement actions across international

jurisdictions through INTERPOL, according to officials. This global operation was launched in close collaboration with INTERPOL and the Narcotics Control Bureau to combat the smuggling of illicit drugs and psychotropic substances, with a particular focus on the Indian Ocean Region.



## Telangana Government Launched 'Aasara' Pension For Poor :-

The Telangana government has introduced 'Aasara' pensions as part of its welfare measures and social safety net strategy, with the goal of ensuring a secure life for all the poor. D Sunil Kumar, Tahsildar of Asif Nagar Mandal, stated that 10,000 new Aasara pensions have been sanctioned under Asif Nagar Mandal jurisdiction. "Total pensioners in Asif Nagar Mandal are 35,000 and new pensions are 10,000 and previous old pensions existing are 25,000. Window pensions sanctioned by the Telangana government have been given to respected people," he said.



## FIFA & AIFF Launch Football For Schools :-

Fifa, the world football governing body, has partnered with the All India Football Federation (AIFF) to launch the Football for Schools project, which aims to spread the sport across the country. Football for Schools is an ambitious programme run by Fifa in collaboration with UNESCO that aims to help 700 million children with their education, development, and empowerment. By incorporating football activities into the education system, the programme aims to make football more accessible to both boys and girls around the world.



## Himachal Pradesh Govt Starts New Scheme "HIMCAD" To Help Farmers :-

The Himachal Pradesh government has launched a new irrigation scheme called HIMCAD to help farmers in the state. According to the most recent data, approximately 80% of Himachal Pradesh's agricultural area is rain-fed. The scheme will connect farmers' fields from end to end, allowing for better water conservation, crop diversification, and integrated farming. By March 2024, it is planned to provide command area development activities to 23,344 hectares of cultivable command area under the scheme.



## Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik Launches 'Football For All' :-

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has launched the 'Football for All' campaign to promote sports in the State on the eve of the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup 2022. Over 43,000 footballs will be distributed to approximately 2,000 schools throughout the state. This is FIFA's first programme in India aimed at promoting football among school children. Joining the programme on a virtual platform, the CM stated that football is the most popular sport that brings people from all over the world together. He stated, "We are very focused on football development, particularly women's football."





## Odisha MP Aparajita Sarangi Elected To IPU Panel :-

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Aparajita Sarangi, a Lok Sabha MP from Odisha, has been elected to the executive committee of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) from Asia Pacific Group (APG) countries. In the election to the post, Sarangi received 12 of the total 18 available votes. Kigali, Rwanda, hosted the election. Sarangi will represent India on the union's 15-member executive committee. S Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, extended his best wishes to Sarangi. Om Birla, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, also congratulated the MP on her election victory.



## PM Modi Inaugurated 4th Vande Bharat Express In Himachal Pradesh :-

The fourth Vande Bharat Express train has been inaugurated in Himachal Pradesh's Una district by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. According to railway officials, the train will run between Delhi and Himachal Pradesh. Train number 22447 from New Delhi to Amb Andaura will start at 5:50am and will reach Amb Andaura railway station at 11:05am and the train 22448 from Amb Andaura will depart at 1pm to reach New Delhi at 6:25pm. According to officials, the train will have 16 coaches and will stop in Ambala, Chandigarh, Anandpur Sahib, and Una Himachal.



## JSW Steel Joins United Nations Global Compact Initiative :-

JSW Steel has announced its participation in the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) initiative, the world's largest voluntary corporate sustainability initiative. JSW Steel is the fifth Indian company in the 'Industrial Mining and Manufacturing' category to join the UN Global Compact Initiative, joining a global network of thousands of companies committed to taking responsible business action to pave the way for a sustainable world. The UN Global Compact encourages businesses to conduct themselves responsibly.



## PM Modi Dedicated 75 Digital Banking Units To The Nation :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi used video conferencing to dedicate 75 Digital Banking Units (DBUs) to the nation.

Speaking at the event, PM Modi said that the Digital Banking Units are one more significant step in the ongoing campaign to simplify the lives of common people. As part of the Union budget 2022-23, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman had announced the setting up of the 75 DBUs in 75 districts to commemorate 75 years of India's independence from British rule.



## Cabinet Approved PM-DevINE Scheme For Development Of Northeast States :-

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region (PM-DevINE), a Rs 6,600 crore scheme to support infrastructure, industries, and other livelihood projects in the Northeastern states. The new scheme will be implemented during the remaining four years of the 15th Finance Commission, from 2022-23 to 2025-26, and will be managed by the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), according to an official statement.



## Tamil Nadu Is The Only State To Achieve Jal Jeevan Mission Target For 2022 :-

Under the Union government's Jal Jeevan Mission, which aims to provide safe and adequate drinking water to all rural households, Tamil Nadu has come out on top. According to V Mayilvaganan, the state won the award in the category of states that have provided individual drinking water pipelines to fewer than 60% of households. According to a state government statement, water connections have been provided to 69 lakh households. In addition, the state ranked third among high-population states in terms of meeting rural sanitation targets.



## PM Modi Launched Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Urvarak Pariyojana :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced a new scheme for farmers in which companies must market all subsidised fertilisers under a single brand called 'Bharat.' During the two-day PM Kisan Samman Sammelan 2022, PM Modi launched the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Urvarak Pariyojana, also known as "One Nation One Fertiliser." In addition, the prime minister launched Indian Edge, an e-magazine on fertilisers. According to the Prime Minister, the magazine will provide information on recent developments, price trends analysis, and farmer success stories, among other things.



## 'Mission Schools Of Excellence' Launched By PM Modi In Gujarat :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the ambitious 'Mission Schools of Excellence' project in Gandhinagar to reform education in Gujarat's government schools. Conceived with an outlay of Rs 10,000 crore, the Mission, partially funded by the World Bank, will help strengthen education infrastructure by setting up new classrooms, smart classrooms, computer labs and overall up-gradation of the infrastructure of schools in the state, according to an official statement.



## Delhi LG VK Saxena Approved Four Zila Sainik Boards :-

According to officials at the LG's secretariat, Delhi Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena has approved the establishment of four zila sainik boards or district soldier boards in districts throughout the national capital, a move that will benefit approximately 77,000 ex-servicemen and their families. The estimated cost of the project is Rs 16.69 crore, of which the central government will bear 60% and the Delhi government will bear the remainder. According to them, the proposal to establish four district soldier boards was approved and sent to the Delhi government by the then-LG in 2019.

## 15: Science & Technology



## India's First Successful Full-Arm Transplant Performed In Kerala Hospital :-

A private hospital in Kerala has performed India's first shoulder-level full-arm transplant, a rare feat. Two patients, one from Karnataka and the other from Iraq, who lost both of their hands due to electric shock, have had bilateral hand transplants performed successfully at Amrita Hospital in Kochi. The limbs were obtained from donors who were killed in road accidents in Kerala. Shoulder-level full-arm transplants, according to doctors, are extremely rare. This is only the third such operation in the world.



## India To Invest \$30 Billion For 4G, 5G Connectivity To Every Village :-

According to IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, the government is investing nearly \$30 billion to ensure last-mile network connectivity for 4G and 5G in every village across the country and to build a strong digital infrastructure in rural areas. Vaishnaw stated at the 'Global Fintech Fest 2022' that the government has reached out to over 1.5 lakh gramme panchayats so far. "We are now creating a whole ecosystem of village entrepreneurs, channelising the energies of youngsters to take good quality, high-speed data connectivity to every village in the country" the minister emphasised.



## India's First Avalanche-Monitoring Radar Installed In Sikkim :-

According to defence officials, the Indian Army and the Defence Geoinformatics and Research Establishment (DGRE) have installed the first Avalanche Monitoring

Radar in India in north Sikkim. This radar, in addition to being used to detect avalanches, can also be used to detect landslides. This radar can detect avalanches within three seconds of their triggering and will help save the lives of troops, civilians, and vehicles in super high altitude areas, according to Defence spokesman Lt. Col Mahendra Rawat.



## Indian Railways Installed RTIS System Developed By ISRO :-

Developed in collaboration with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Real Time Train Information System (RTIS) is being installed on the trains for automatic acquisition of its "movement timing at the stations, including that of arrival and departure or run-through", the Ministry of Railways said. "They get automatically plotted on the control chart of those trains in the Control Office Application (COA) system," the Ministry added. According to the Ministry, RTIS gives mid-section updates with a periodicity of 30 seconds.



## Assam To Use Portable Device 'SAANS' To Stop Neonatal Deaths :-

Following the success of a pilot project to reduce neonatal mortality with special equipment known as 'SAANS,' the Assam government has decided to use an air pressure machine developed by a Bangalore-based start-up in all of its hospitals, according to officials. The 'SAANS' is a portable neonatal Continuous Positive Air Pressure (CPAP) system that can provide infants with lifesaving breathing support in hospital settings as well as during travel. According to an official, the distribution of these quantities of machines is expected to meet nearly all of the state's current demand.



## Ministry Of Rural Development Launches The JALDOOT App :-

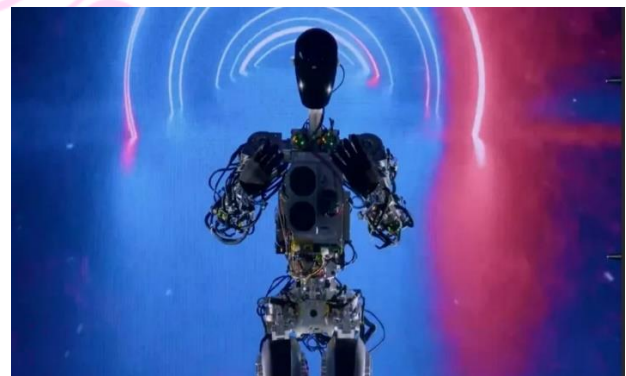
The Ministry of Rural Development has created the "JALDOOT App," which will be used throughout the country to record the water level of selected wells in villages. Shri Giriraj Singh, Union Minister of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, launched the "JALDOOT App" at a function in New Delhi. Gram Rojgar Sahayak (GRS) will be able to use the Jaldoot app to measure the water level of selected wells twice a year (pre-monsoon and post-monsoon). These will be representative of the village's ground water level.



**Union Bank**  
of India

## Union Bank Of India Inaugurated Ethical Hacking Lab :-

The Union Bank of India has opened a 'Ethical Hacking Lab' at the Cyber Security Centre of Excellence (CCoE) in Hyderabad. At the heart of the project will be the development of a cyber defence mechanism to protect the bank's information systems, digital assets, and channels from potential cyber threats. Union Bank's Cyber Security Centre of Excellence (CCoE) in Hyderabad is establishing multiple cyber security centres to strengthen the bank's security posture and collaborate with cyber defence industries and government bodies on the implementation of new technologies.



## Optimus Robot's Prototype Unveiled By Elon Musk, CEO Of Tesla :-

Elon Musk, CEO of Tesla, debuted his much-touted humanoid robot "Optimus" at the electric vehicle manufacturer's "AI Day" event. Musk announced Tesla's plan for humanoid robots at its AI day in August last year, and this year's event has been pushed back from August

to allow the company's robot prototype to be tested, with plans to begin production possibly next year. Musk has stated that Tesla will achieve full self-driving capability this year and will mass-produce a robotaxi without a steering wheel or pedal by 2024.



## Maharashtra: Mumbai Airport Completely Switches To Renewable Energy :-

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA) recently achieved 100% renewable energy use after becoming the country's first airport to install a captive, hybrid vertical-axis wind turbine and solar photovoltaic system for power generation. According to CSMIA spokespersons, the move is part of the airport's goal of achieving "net zero" emissions by 2029, which will include cutting emissions from not only energy

consumption but also waste management, transportation, and other sectors. This does not include emissions from aircraft, which are significantly higher.



## President Droupadi Murmu Inaugurates 'PARAM KAMRUPA' Supercomputer Facility :-

During her first visit to Assam since taking office, President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated a supercomputer facility at the Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati, and launched several other projects. The facility, known as Param-Kamrupa, will be able to conduct advanced research in a variety of scientific fields. She also dedicated SAMEER, the institute's high power active and passive component laboratory. Param-Kamrupa is a cutting-edge supercomputer built as part of the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).

## 16: Sports



## Domestic Cricket: West Zone Wins Duleep Trophy 2022, Beats South Zone :-

The West Zone team led by Ajinkya Rahane defeated the South Zone team led by Hanuma Vihari by 294 runs to win the Duleep Trophy for the 19th time. Set an improbable target of 529 runs for an outright win, South Zone were bowled out for 234 in 71.2 overs, with left-arm Shams Mulani (4 for 51) picking up three of the four wickets to fall on the final day. Resuming at 154 for six, South batters Ravi Teja and R Sai Kishore defied the West attack for nearly two hours. Most of the South Zone's experienced batters failed and fell to the pace duo of Atit Sheth and Jaydev Unadkat on the fourth evening.



## Julius Baer Cup 2022: Magnus Carlsen Beats Indian Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi :-

Arjun Erigaisi, a teen Indian Grandmaster, lost to world number one Magnus Carlsen in the final of the Julius Baer Generation Cup online rapid chess tournament, losing the second match 0-2. The Norwegian had the advantage after winning the first match, and he won the first two games of the second match to close out the finale early. Carlsen needed only a draw in the second match to win the top prize after winning the first match, which consisted of four games, 2.5-0.5. In the second match, he won two games and shut out Erigaisi.



## Indian Javelin Thrower Shivpal Singh Suspended Till 2025 For Doping :-

Shivpal Singh, an Indian javelin thrower, has been barred from competing until October 2025 due to a doping violation. According to reports, he later tested positive for the prohibited substance methandienone, a performance-enhancing steroid. As a result, Shivpal Singh was suspended for four years by the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA). The ban takes effect on October 21, 2021, which means the 27-year-old will be out of

commission until October 20, 2025. Shivpal Singh is the fifth prominent Indian athlete to be caught doping this year.



## Indian Skipper Rohit Sharma Becomes 1st Indian Cricketer To Play 400 T20s :-

Rohit Sharma has reached another milestone in his T20 career, becoming the first Indian to play 400 T20s. The milestone was reached by India's captain during the second T20I of the series against South Africa in Guwahati. The first Indian to hit a century in T20 cricket, Rohit had made his shortest format debut for Mumbai against Baroda in April 2007. He joined the national team a few months later and was a member of the MS Dhoni-led team that won the 2007 T20 World Cup. Rohit has 10544\* runs in T20Is, making him the highest run-scorer in the format.



## FIBA Women's Basketball World Cup: USA Beat China To Secure 11th World Title :-

The United States defeated China 83-61 in the finals of the Federation Internationale de Basketball (FIBA)

Women's Basketball World Cup 2022. The final game also featured one of the highest leads in basketball for a gold medal, with the Americans breaking the 20-point barrier. The crowd erupted as the United States defeated China to win the championship. With this victory, the United States won their fourth game in a row, and the team is overjoyed to have been named the most dominant team in history.



## National Games 2022: U20 World Champion Antim Panghal Wins Wrestling Gold :-

World under-20 champion Antim Panghal made an impressive debut at the National Games 2022, winning gold in women's 53kg wrestling. Antim Panghal of Haryana, who made history in August by becoming the first Indian U20 world champion in women's wrestling, won the final by fall over Priyanshi Prajapati of Madhya Pradesh. Hina Khalifa of Gujarat and Swati Sanjay of Maharashtra won bronze medals in the women's 53kg. Meanwhile, Olympian gymnast Pranati Nayak won two gold medals at Vadodara's Sama Indoor Sports Complex.



## Saudi Arabia Win Bid To Host 2029 Asian Winter Games :-

Saudi Arabia has won the bid to host the Asian Winter Games in 2029 at a planned mountain resort in the Gulf Arab state's \$500 billion (£440 billion) flagship Neom project. The Trojena development, which is set to open in 2026, will include outdoor skiing, a man-made freshwater lake, and a nature reserve. Neom is Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's most ambitious project as part of the kingdom's Vision 2030 development plan to reduce reliance on oil and transform the economy, including through sports development.



## PR Sreejesh, Savita Punia Voted FIH Men's And Women's Goalkeeper Of The Year :-

For the second year in a row, India's PR Sreejesh and Savita Punia were named FIH Men's and Women's Goalkeeper of the Year respectively. Sreejesh is the third player to win the FIH Goalkeeper of the Year award in a row. In the past, David Harte (Ireland) won the award twice in 2015 and 2016, and Vincent Vanasch (Belgium) won it three times in a row from 2017 to 2019. Savita is only the third athlete to win Goalkeeper of the Year (Women) for three years in a row since the award's inception in 2014.





## Rest Of India Beat Saurashtra By Eight Wickets To Win Irani Trophy :-

Rest of India won their 29th Irani Trophy with a walk-in-the-parkan eight-wicket win over Saurashtra in Rajkot. While Saurashtra played much better in the second innings, a total of 380 meant Rest of India needed only 105 runs with nearly two days to play. They knocked off the runs in little over a session and half with Abhimanyu Easwaran remaining unbeaten on 63 while adding 81 match winning runs for the unbroken third wicket stand with keeper Kona Bharat (27 not out).



## Pankaj Advani Wins His Record 25th World Title In Kuala Lumpur :-

Pankaj Advani, India's top cueist, has won his 25th gold medal on the world stage, winning the 2022 IBSF World Billiards Championship in Kuala Lumpur. In a one-sided final, he defeated compatriot Sourav Kothari 4-0 to defend his title for the fifth time in a row. Advani's most recent world title came more than a year ago in Qatar, when he won the IBSF 6-Red Snooker World Cup. Advani's record-breaking success as India's winner of the

most gold medals in world championships across all sports continues with 25 world titles.



## Harmanpreet Singh And Felice Albers Named FIH Player Of The Year :-

Harmanpreet Singh of India has been named the FIH Player of the Year in the men's category for the second time in a row. The 26-year-old is only the fourth player in history to win Player of the Year (men's category) in consecutive years. Felice Albers of the Netherlands was named the FIH Player of the Year in the women's category. The 22-year-old is the youngest winner of the FIH Player of the Year award (women's category) since Germany's Natascha Keller (1999), and the second youngest ever since the awards' inception in 1998.



## Cristiano Ronaldo Reached Record 700 Club Career Goals :-

Cristiano Ronaldo set yet another record when he scored his 700th club goal of his career after coming on as a substitute for Manchester United against Everton in the Premier League. It was also Ronaldo's 144th goal in the red jersey of Manchester United over two spells at the club. In his illustrious career, the Portuguese forward

has also scored five goals for Sporting Lisbon, 101 for Juventus, and 450 for Real Madrid. Ronaldo, on the other hand, came on as a substitute for Anthony Martial after once again starting on the bench.



## Pooja Patel Becomes First Athlete To Win Gold In Yogasana :-

Pooja Patel is the first athlete from Gujarat to win gold in yogasana at the 36th National Games. With her magnificent and seamless performance, she has etched her name in history. The National Games this year include five sports, including yogasana, which was performed for the first time. The 36th edition of the National Games of India was held in Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, Surat, Vadodara, Rajkot and Bhavnagar in the state of Gujarat between 29 September and 12 October 2022.



## Indian Discus Thrower Kamalpreet Kaur Banned For 3 Years :-

Kamalpreet Kaur, an Indian discus thrower, has been banned for three years for using a prohibited substance (Stanozolol). The Indian athlete's ban will take effect on

March 29, 2022, according to an Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) statement. Kaur, 26, rose to prominence after finishing sixth in the Tokyo Olympics and becoming the first Indian woman to break the 65-meter barrier, but she was temporarily suspended after testing positive for Stanozolol, a banned anabolic steroid, in May 2022.



## Women Asia Cup 2022: Indian Women's Team Beats Sri Lanka by 8 Wickets :-

India's dominance in the Women's Asia Cup was maintained with an eight-wicket victory over a self-destructing Sri Lanka in the final for its seventh title in eight editions. Sri Lanka imploded after opting to bat on a slow and turning pitch in its first tournament final in 14 years. It could only muster 65 for nine, which India dispatched in 8.3 overs. Smriti Mandhana hit a stunning 51-ball not out. In the run chase, India lost Shafali Verma and Jemimah Rodrigues cheaply. However, both batters performed admirably in the tournament.



## Aman Sehrawat wins gold at U-23 World Wrestling Championships :-

Aman Sehrawat created history by becoming the first-ever Indian wrestler to win a gold medal at U-23 World Wrestling Championships in Spain's Pontevedra. The 18-year-old defeated Ahmet Duman of Turkey 12-4 in the 57-kg category final. Aman was the lone Indian male freestyle wrestler to get a visa and compete in the tournament. India finishes with six medals in total with one gold, one silver and four bronze despite fielding a depleted team owing to visa issues.



## D Gukesh Becomes Youngest To Beat World Chess Champion Magnus Carlsen :-

Dommaraju Gukesh, an Indian Grandmaster, defeated Magnus Carlsen in the ninth round of the preliminary phase of the Aimchess Rapid online chess tournament. The 16-year-old from Chennai defeated the world No.1 in 29 moves to climb to third place in the tournament. Gukesh is the most recent Indian teen to defeat Carlsen,

the World Chess Champion since 2013. Arjun Erigaisi, a 19-year-old compatriot, had defeated the world champion the day before. R Praggnanandhaa, a 16-year-old Indian, has already beaten Carlsen twice this year.



## FIFA: Tazuni Unveiled As Mascot For 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup :-

For the first time, two nations will host the Women's World Cup in 2023, with Australia and New Zealand taking the honours. The tournament will be held in both countries, with games beginning in Auckland and concluding in Sydney. Tazuni was unveiled as the mascot for the 2023 Women's World Cup. Tazuni is a penguin based on the endemic New Zealand species Eudyptula minor, as well as the closely related Eudyptula novaehollandiae species found in Australia and New Zealand.

## 17: State



## Nation Gets Its First Dugong Conservation Reserve In Tamil Nadu :-

The state government of Tamil Nadu has declared the country's first 'Dugong Conservation Reserve.' The move was intended to conserve endangered species by protecting and improving marine fauna, according to the statement. Palk Bay has been notified of the reserve. According to an official statement, dugongs are the

largest herbivorous marine mammals that live primarily on sea grass beds. Conservation of these Dugongs would aid in the protection and improvement of sea grass beds, which serve as breeding and feeding grounds for many fish and marine fauna.



## Leh Achieved 100 Percent Digitization Of Banking Operations :-

Leh, India's highest-altitude district, has completed 100 percent digitization of banking operations. The Reserve Bank of India congratulated the district's bankers at a meeting organised by the UT Level Bankers Committee Ladakh. In less than a year, the Leh district has completed the digitization of all operating banks. Addressing the bankers, UT Ladakh Advisor Umang Narula stated that digitization indicates societal development. He also praised banks for their rapid adoption of digitization.



## Uttar Pradesh Govt Gives Nod To Bundelkhand's First Tiger Reserve :-

In order to promote tiger conservation in the state, the Uttar Pradesh cabinet approved the establishment of the state's first tiger reserve in the Bundelkhand region. The cabinet approved notifying Ranipur Tiger Reserve under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, at a meeting presided over by Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. The tiger reserve will cover 52,989.863 hectares of land, including 29,958.863 hectares of buffer area and 23,031.00 hectares of core area, which is already designated as Ranipur wildlife sanctuary in the state's Chitrakoot district.



## World's Largest Safari Park To Be Developed In Gurugram :-

The Haryana government intends to build a large Jungle Safari Range near Gurugram. This 10,000-acre curated safari park will be spread across the Aravalli hill ranges in Haryana's Gurugram and Nuh districts. According to the Haryana Government statement, this project will be the largest of its kind in the world. The largest curated park outside of Africa is currently located in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates. The park in Sharjah opened in February 2020 and covers an area of 2,000 acres.



## Telangana Government Hikes ST Reservation 6% To 10% :-

Telangana government has issued an order increasing reservation for Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities from 6% to 10%. In April 2017, the Telangana Assembly passed a bill increasing ST population reservation to 10%. Despite the fact that the Bill was sent to the Government of India for the President's assent the same year, it is still pending six years later, despite several representations from the state government. As a result, the state government issued an order requiring the enhancement of reservations to take effect immediately.



## Kerala's Pullampara Named First Fully Digital Literate Panchayat :-

Pullampara grama panchayat in Thiruvananthapuram has become Kerala's first digitally literate panchayat. The initiative was launched in August 2021, with the plans to impart digital literacy to all residents of the panchayats under the Digi Pullampara project. In Thiruvananthapuram, in the local body the panchayat

has trained 3,174 people in the use of digital equipment. They learned how to use smartphones to make voice and video calls, WhatsApp, internet banking, and popular social media platforms.



## Brig. B.D. Mishra Assumes Additional Charge As Governor Of Meghalaya :-

Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (retired), governor of Arunachal Pradesh, took oath as governor of Meghalaya in addition to his position as governor of Arunachal Pradesh. Following the swearing-in ceremony, Meghalaya Chief Minister tweeted, "Congratulations and best wishes to Brig. Mishra Ji as he takes charge as the Governor of Meghalaya. Look forward to his counsel and support as we further Meghalaya's development. We welcome him to our beautiful State!". Satya Pal Malik, who served as governor of Meghalaya until October 3, was succeeded by him.



## Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel Inaugurated Chhattisgarh Olympic :-

Bhupesh Baghel, the chief minister of Chhattisgarh, has launched the state's own Olympics. Baghel officially opened the grand multi-sport event at Raipur's Balbir Singh Juneja Indoor Stadium. In a press note, the government said, "Soon after taking charge as Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Bhupesh Baghel started working on an action plan to promote the state's glorious culture and tradition. Now, Baghel has undertaken a special initiative to revive one of the most delightful parts of our age-old tradition--traditional games--in a grand way by organizing the Chhattisgarhiya Olympics."



## Union Minister Anurag Thakur Inaugurated Water Sports Center In Himachal Pradesh:-

Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, inaugurated a Water Sports Center in Koldam Barmana, Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh. The Sports Authority of India (SAI) and the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) collaborated to establish the Water Sports Centre, the first of its kind in Himachal Pradesh. Sharing how the centre was set up at short notice, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur mentioned, "In just one month's time, the water sports arrangements have been done

and I want to thank SAI and NTPC officials who have made this possible."



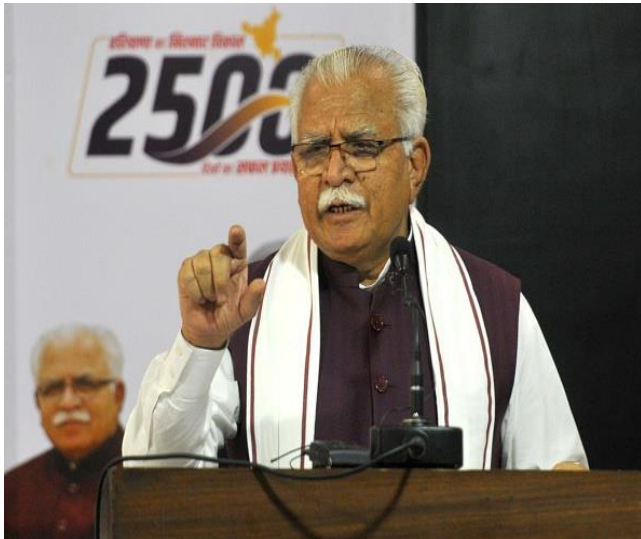
## World Bank Extends Loan Of \$250 Million For SALT Project In Andhra Pradesh :-

B. Rajasekhar, Special Chief Secretary (School Education), announced that the World Bank (WB) has extended an unconditional loan of \$250 million to the Supporting Andhra's Learning Transformation (SALT) project in recognition of the State government's groundbreaking reforms. Addressing the media at the Secretariat, Mr. Rajasekhar said that the reforms initiated under the SALT project had brought about a paradigm shift in the way education was imparted and that the outcomes had been encouraging.



## Nation's First Slender Loris Habitat In Karur, Dindigul Districts Of Tamil Nadu :-

The Tamil Nadu government has designated the Kaduvur Slender Loris sanctuary, which spans 11,806 hectares in Karur and Dindigul districts, as India's first Slender Loris sanctuary. The announcement followed CM MK Stalin's approval. "Happy to announce that the Government of Tamil Nadu has notified India's first 'Kaduvur Slender Loris Sanctuary' covering an area of 11,806 hectares in Karur & Dindigul Districts," said the Chief Minister's Office. "The sanctuary will play an important role in conservation of Slender Loris and yet another milestone in TN's conservation efforts," the CMO added.



## Haryana govt declares 50% VAT rebate for industrial units using natural gas :-

The Haryana government has decided to give a 50 per cent rebate in the Value-Added Tax (VAT) to industrial units that replace diesel generator sets with natural gas. The scheme will be applicable to all industries, including micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and effective for two years from the date of its notification. The scheme will be applicable to entire industry including micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). The use of diesel-powered generator sets is banned in the national capital region.



## World's largest diya lit up in Punjab's Mohali :-

The world's largest diya was lit up in Punjab's Mohali amid Diwali festivities. More than 10,000 people contributed 3,560 litres of oil for an event to light up the diya made with 1,000 kilograms of steel. The diya, which was recognised as the world's largest by the Guinness World Records, measures 3.37 metres in diameter. Hero Homes in Punjab's Mohali witnessed a world record activity - lighting of the world's largest diya installed at the premises. It has been manufactured with approximately 1,000 kg of steel.



## Sudarsan Pattnaik creates Goddess Kali's sand art with installation of 4,045 diyas :-

Renowned sand artist Sudarsan Pattnaik has created a 5-foot-high sand art of Goddess Kali by using 4,045 diyas with the message, "Let us burn out all the negativity," at the Puri beach in Odisha. Recently, Mr. Pattnaik constructed a magnificent sand sculpture at Puri beach in Odisha wishing Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his birthday. Mr Pattnaik displayed his unique way of

greeting the Prime Minister, who turned 72 on 17 September. His installation consisted of 1,213 earthen tea cups.



## Mission DefSpace Launched By PM Modi In Gujarat :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi formally opened DefExpo 2022 at the Mahatma Gandhi Convention and Exhibition Centre in Gandhinagar. PM Modi stated at the ceremony that DefExpo is introducing Indian defence manufacturing capabilities to the world. The Prime Minister also launched Mission DefSpace, which aims to develop innovative space solutions for the Armed Forces through industry and start-ups. The Prime Minister stated that the country now intends to increase defence exports to \$5 billion USD in the near future.



## Tripura CM Inaugurated State's First Government English Medium College :-

Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha and Education Minister Ratan Lal Nath have inaugurated the state's first English medium general degree college in the city, which has a capacity of 100 students. This academic session, which began last month, teaches the five basic subjects of the arts stream, including mandatory Bengali and English. The Tripura government built the general degree college at a cost of more than Rs 1 crore, as committed in the budget this year, by renovating an old Teachers' Training College.

## 18: Summits & Conferences



## Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar Inaugurated Lok Manthan Programme :-

Debates and discussions are the soul of good governance, and free ideas must flow for social harmony, said Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar at the launch of the third Lok Manthan programme in Guwahati. In a speech to a group, Mr. Dhankhar stated that intolerance of the opposing viewpoint is all too common in today's world. Freedom of expression is non-negotiable, and members of civil society bear a greater responsibility to protect the views of the marginalised.





## Arogya Manthan 2022 Launched By Mansukh Mandaviya :-

Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya launched "Arogya Manthan 2022" to commemorate four years of Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) implementation and one year of the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM). According to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the two-day event was attended by global and national healthcare experts, as well as representatives from academia, think tanks, industry, and the media.



## Amit Shah to Inaugurate Dairy Cooperative Conclave in Gangtok :-

On October 7, 2022, Union Home Affairs and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah will inaugurate the Eastern and North-Eastern Zones Dairy Cooperative Conclave in Gangtok, Sikkim. The National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India (NCDFI) will host the one-day conclave, according to NCDFI chairman Mangal Jit Rai in

a press release. The conclave is expected to draw officials from the National Dairy Development Board, NABARD, cooperative milk unions, and state dairy federations from around 12 eastern and northern states.



## MoHUA Launched Swachh Toycathon :-

Swachh Toycathon was launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) as part of the Swachh Amrit Mahotsav. The competition's goal is to look into ways to use waste in the creation or manufacturing of toys. Secretary, MoHUA, Manoj Joshi, launched the event on MyGov portal. Addressing the occasion, Joshi said creative minds should come up with innovative solutions that meet the growing demand for toys on one hand and address the impacts of solid-waste on the other. The Center for Creative Learning, IIT Gandhinagar, is MoHUA's knowledge partner for the initiative.



## Minister Dharmendra Pradhan Inaugurates FICCI Global Skills Summit 2022 :-

Union Education and Skill Development Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan opened and spoke at the 13th FICCI Global Skills Summit 2022 in New Delhi on the theme "Education to Employability - Making It Happen." Shri Dharmendra Pradhan spoke about leveraging skills to reap the demographic dividend and revitalising India's skills ecosystem. He stated that our country has blessed with a demographic dividend. Education and skills must play a critical role in transforming our demographic dividend into a transformative force.



## KVIC Holds SFURTI Mela At Dilli Haat From Oct 1-15 :-

The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), a statutory body under the Ministry of MSME, is hosting a Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) Mela from October 1 to October 15, 2022 at Dilli Haat, INA, New Delhi. SFURTI Mela aims to promote traditional products from all over the country to citizens during the festive season. Furthermore, this mela will provide new avenues and opportunities for the artisans to market and sell their cluster products.



## SC-ST Hub Conclave Hosted By Ministry Of MSME In Gujarat :-

The Ministry of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises held a National SC-ST Hub Conclave in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, to raise awareness about the National SC-ST Hub (NSSH) Scheme and other Ministry programmes. Speaking on the occasion, Member of Parliament Dr. Solanki stated that more SC-ST entrepreneurs in Gujarat State should take advantage of the NSSH Scheme benefits. He also urged the bankers in the audience to prioritise credit support for SC-ST entrepreneurs so that they do not face difficulties in expanding their business capacities.



## 5th Assembly Of International Solar Alliance To Be Held In New Delhi :-

The 5th International Solar Alliance (ISA) assembly will be held in New Delhi from the 17th to the 20th of October 2022. R.K Singh, Minister of Power and New and Renewable Energy, will preside over the Assembly. Union Minister R.K Singh unveiled the curtain raiser for the ISA's 5th assembly on October 5, 2022. He stated that India's

energy transition is the fastest in the world, and that ISA is critical to the planet's energy transition goal. According to the Union Minister, solar energy is the most cost-effective source of energy.



## Jaishankar Participates In Kiwi Indian Hall Of Fame Awards :-

During his visit to New Zealand, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar attended the Kiwi Indian Hall of Fame Awards 2022 and the New Zealand launch of the book 'Modi@20: Dreams Meet Delivery.' The Kiwi Indian Hall of Fame Awards honour the most outstanding Kiwi-Indian achievers and trailblazers. Jaishankar contributed a chapter to the book Modi@20: Dreams Meet Delivery. He stated that both countries should leverage each other's strengths and collaborate in areas such as business, technology, digital, education, talent, and agriculture.



## J&K Tourism Department Inaugurated Bird Festival At Pahalgam:-

A first-of-its-kind Bird Festival 2022 was inaugurated in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir at Pahalgam in the Anantnag district of south Kashmir. The J&K Tourism Department organised the Bird Festival in collaboration with the Sanctuary Nature Foundation. Sarmad Hafeez, Secretary Tourism J&K, officially opened the festival. In his remarks to the gathering, he stated that the department's collaboration with the Sanctuary Nature Foundation will not only help to promote tourism in Kashmir, but will also bring to the forefront those aspects of the tourism sector that have yet to be explored.



## Ease Of Doing Business : DPIIT Conducts National Workshop :-

Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) conducted a National Workshop on 'Ease of Doing Business' in New Delhi. The Keynote address at the Workshop was delivered by Shri Parameswaran Iyer, CEO Niti Aayog. He highlighted the importance of India's performance on global indices. He underscored how Ease of Doing Business took the center stage as one of the most important pillars along with other programs, towards developing India as a preferred investment destination.



## Nitin Gadkari Inaugurated Indian Roads Congress In Lucknow :-

Union road transport and highways minister Nitin Gadkari promised Yogi Adityanath that by 2024, the state's road infrastructure would be comparable to that of the United States. Gadkari was speaking at the 81st annual conference of the Indian Road Congress (IRC), which he and Yogi Adityanath co-hosted in Lucknow. The remark came shortly after Adityanath announced that, beginning next year, Uttar Pradesh would also institute an award to be given out by the Indian Road Congress for innovative road practises.



## 4th Heli-India Summit 2022 Inaugurated By Jyotiraditya Scindia :-

Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Minister of Civil Aviation, has inaugurated the fourth Heli-India Summit 2022 in Srinagar and stated that a civil enclave will be built in Jammu and Srinagar's current terminal, which will be

expanded three times to 60,000 square metres. Addressing the summit, the minister stated that the J&K government's reduction in VAT on Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) from 26.5% to 1% has heralded a new era for air connectivity in the union territory, with a 360% increase in refuelling and thus increased air connectivity to the region.



## 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas To Be Held At Indore In January 2023 :-

In January of next year, the 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas Convention will be held in Indore, Madhya Pradesh. External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar launched the website of the 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas Convention via video conference with Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Minister of State for External Affairs V Muraleedharan. Dr. Jaishankar said, the Narendra Modi Government has always accorded the highest priority to the Indian Diaspora which is more than 32 million.



## Goa To Host 9th World Ayurveda Congress & Arogya Expo :-

From December 8 to 11, Goa will host the 9th World Ayurveda Congress & Arogya Expo. The World Ayurveda Foundation, an initiative of Vijnana Bharti, is organising the expo, which is expected to give ayurveda a transformational push to bring it into global focus. The four-day event, sponsored by the Central and State governments, as well as the Union Ministry of AYUSH, will bring together approximately 5000 Ayurveda stakeholders from around the world, including industry leaders, practitioners, traditional healers, educators, students, and drug manufacturers.



## 22nd World Blockchain Summit Held In Dubai :-

The World Blockchain Summit held its 22nd global edition from October 17 to 19 in Dubai's Atlantis. The Summit is an attempt to bring together experts, including government and investor representatives, to start a conversation and action on blockchain. The next Summit will take place in Bangkok on December 8 and 9, 2022. Previously, the Summit was held in Dubai in March 2022 and October 2021. The platform allows for the discussion and deliberation of the industry's future and how it can transform businesses and government functions.



## India Hosts 90th General Assembly Of INTERPOL :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the 90th Interpol General Assembly in Delhi. The General Assembly, Interpol's supreme governing body, meets once a year to make key operational decisions. After a 25-year hiatus, the meeting was held in India. Interpol's 90th Annual General Assembly was held from October 18 to 21 at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. Delegations from 195 INTERPOL member countries, including Ministers, Police Chiefs of countries, Heads of National Central Bureaus, and Senior Police Officers, attended the Interpol meeting in Delhi.



## Global Youth Climate Summit Held In Bangladesh :-

Youth from 70 countries attended the Global Youth Climate Summit in Khulna, Bangladesh. The three day summit between October 20-22 has bring together 650 youth in a hybrid format with 150 youth joined in person and 500 online. Elaborating the purpose of the summit, Ejaj Ahmad, the CEO of the Global Youth Leadership Centre (GYLC) which organised the programme, said that the GYLC is launched as a global organisation to mobilise youth especially from the Global South to tackle the climate crisis.

# SECTION 2

# Practice Questions with Answers



## PRACTICE QUESTIONS

**1. For Poshan Maah 2022 which of the following organisation recently announced a partnership with the Vitamin Angels India?**

- A) WHO India
- B) WFP India
- C) UNICEF India
- D) UNESCO India

**2. Which of the following state is set to get India's 1st Forestry university?**

- A) Andhra Pradesh
- B) Karnataka
- C) Maharashtra
- D) Telangana

**3. According to an official report, which state emerged as India's top investment destination between January to July 2022?**

- A) Uttar Pradesh
- B) Maharashtra
- C) Kerala
- D) Andhra Pradesh

**4. Which of the following Airport won the Airport Service Quality Award-2022?**

- A) Chennai International Airport
- B) Kempegowda International Airport
- C) Rajiv Gandhi International Airport
- D) Cochin International Airport Limited

**5. \_\_\_\_\_ was appointed as the Chairman of the Appellate Tribunal under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).**

- A) Ajit Prakash Shah
- B) Indira Banerjee
- C) Munishwar Nath Bhandari
- D) Sanjib Banerjee

**6. Who among the following was appointed as the brand ambassador of Lux Cozi?**

- A) Rishabh Pant
- B) Rohit Sharma
- C) Shikhar Dhawan
- D) Sourav Ganguly

**7. When the World Tourism Day was observed?**

- A) 30 September
- B) 29 September
- C) 27 September
- D) 25 September

**8. Which of the following country has granted citizenship to former US security contractor Edward Snowden?**

- A) Turkey
- B) Russia
- C) North Korea
- D) Germany

**9. In which of the following city President Draupadi Murmu inaugurated the Integrated Cryogenic Engines Manufacturing Facility of HAL?**

- A) Ahmedabad
- B) Bengaluru

- C) Chennai
- D) Pune

**10. Which of the following Ministry has developed JALDOOT App?**

- A) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- B) Ministry of Food Processing Industries
- C) Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs
- D) Ministry of Rural Development

**11. To diversify its crude oil sourcing in India, which company signed an MoU with the Brazilian oil major Petrobras?**

- A) Coal India Limited
- B) BPCL
- C) HPCL
- D) ONGC

**12. For the Hanimaadhoo International Airport Project which country signed an agreement with JMC Projects (India) Limited?**

- A) Bangladesh
- B) Bhutan
- C) Maldives
- D) Nepal

**13. Which of the following state was awarded with the Ayushman Utkrishta award 2022?**

- A) Bihar
- B) Karnataka
- C) Madhya Pradesh
- D) Uttar Pradesh

**14. Who among the following bags the 1st Queen Elizabeth II Woman of the Year award?**

- A) Alok Sharma
- B) Ranil Jayawardena
- C) Rishi Sunak
- D) Suella Braverman

**15. Which of the following team won Duleep Trophy 2022?**

- A) West zone
- B) East zone
- C) North zone
- D) South zone

**16. What is India's projected FY23 GDP growth according to the S&P Global Ratings?**

- A) 7.4%
- B) 7.3%
- C) 7.2%
- D) 7.1%

**17. To which of the following country IFS officer Bandaru Wilsonbabu has been elected as the next ambassador of India?**

- A) Bangladesh
- B) Madagascar
- C) Oman
- D) Tanzania

**18. Giorgia Meloni was elected as the first woman Prime Minister of which of the following country?**

- A) France
- B) Italy
- C) Russia



D) USA

**19. Who among the following took charges as India's second Chief of Defence Staff?**

- A) Anil Chauhan
- B) Hari Kumar
- C) Manoj Mukund Naravane
- D) Vivek Ram Chaudhari

**20. When the World Heart Day was observed?**

- A) September 30
- B) September 29
- C) September 28
- D) September 26

**21. An annual festive campaign named 'Khushiyon ka Tyohaar' was launched by which of the following bank?**

- A) Canara Bank
- B) Bank of Baroda
- C) Punjab National Bank
- D) Union Bank of India

**22. To launch a co-branded credit card which of the following bank partnered with Samsung India?**

- A) Axis Bank
- B) HDFC Bank
- C) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- D) YES Bank

**23. Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud was appointed as the Prime Minister of which of the following country?**

- A) UAE

B) Saudi Arabia

C) Qatar

D) Kuwait

**24. Which of the following bank acquired a stake of over 5.56% in Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)?**

- A) Punjab National Bank
- B) Canara Bank
- C) Bank of India
- D) Bank of Baroda

**25. For introducing the Electronic Gold Receipt (EGR) segment on its platform which organisation received final approval from the SEBI?**

- A) Bombay Stock Exchange
- B) Calcutta Stock Exchange
- C) India International Exchange
- D) National Stock Exchange

**26. Who among the following was elected as the President of Hockey India?**

- A) Bharat Chetri
- B) Dilip Tirkey
- C) P.R. Sreejesh
- D) Ramandeep Singh

**27. Which of the following state is set to develop the world's largest jungle safari park?**

- A) Haryana
- B) Himachal Pradesh
- C) Rajasthan
- D) Uttar Pradesh

**28. In Kerala \_\_\_\_\_ became India's first fully digital literate panchayat.**

- A) Kallara
- B) Kunnathukal
- C) Pullampara
- D) Vilappil

**29. When the National Cinema Day 2022 was celebrated?**

- A) 24 September
- B) 23 September
- C) 22 September
- D) 21 September

**30. When the Antyodaya Diwas was celebrated?**

- A) 24 September
- B) 23 September
- C) 22 September
- D) 25 September

**31. Who was appointed as the Director General of the National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG)?**

- A) V. Srinivas
- B) Rajendra Nimje
- C) Poonam Singh
- D) Bharat Lal

**32. In Mathematics who among the following clinched the Breakthrough Prize 2023?**

- A) Anthony A. Hyman
- B) Clifford P. Brangwynne
- C) Daniel Spielman

D) Demis Hassabis

**33. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change will rank how many cities under its 'Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan' programme?**

- A) 141
- B) 131
- C) 123
- D) 113

**34. In which of the following state Hitachi Astemo has installed its India's first solar power plant?**

- A) Gujarat
- B) Maharashtra
- C) Rajasthan
- D) Uttar Pradesh

**35. For how many months Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20 has been extended?**

- A) 7
- B) 6
- C) 5
- D) 4

**36. To upskill youth in emerging technologies, which company has signed an MoU with Electronics Sector Skill Council of India (ESSCI)?**

- A) Amazon
- B) Infosys
- C) Samsung India
- D) Tata Consultancy Services

**37. Who among the following was appointed as the Brand Ambassador of Hero MotoCorp Limited?**

- A) Allu Arjun
- B) Ram Charan
- C) Ranveer Singh
- D) Vijay Deverakonda

**38. A book titled "Ambedkar: A Life" was authored by which of the following author?**

- A) Arun Shourie
- B) Varun Gandhi
- C) Karan Singh
- D) Shashi Tharoor

**39. From 7.2% the RBI has declined the real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth for FY23 to \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A) 7.5%
- B) 7.2%
- C) 7%
- D) 6.5%

**40. When the World Vegetarian Day was observed?**

- A) 04 October
- B) 03 October
- C) 02 October
- D) 01 October

**41. To dismantle drug trafficking network the CBI has launched which of the following operation?**

- A) Operation Yatri Suraksha

- B) Operation Vijay
- C) Operation Mahila Suraksha
- D) Operation Garuda

**42. Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL) has commissioned 600 MW world's largest wind-solar power plant in which of the following city?**

- A) Jaisalmer, Rajasthan
- B) Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh
- C) Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh
- D) Tumkur, Karnataka

**43. Which of the following bank has opened Analytical Centre of Excellence (ACoE)?**

- A) HDFC Bank
- B) Karnataka Bank
- C) RBL Bank
- D) South Indian Bank

**44. Who among the following took charges as the Vice-President of the International Astronautical Federation (IAF)?**

- A) A K Anil Kumar
- B) A. S. Kiran Kumar
- C) Ritu Karidhal
- D) Roopa Venkatesh

**45. Who among the following took charges as the Secretary of the Department of Commerce?**

- A) Aman Mittal
- B) Anupriya Patel
- C) Shubh Kumar

D) Sunil Barthwal

**46. \_\_\_\_\_ was appointed as the Deputy Election Commissioner of the Election Commission of India.**

- A) R Venkataramani
- B) Mukul Rohatgi
- C) Ajay Bhadoo
- D) Abhishek Singhvi

**47. Who among the following won the Formula 1 Singapore Grand Prix 2022?**

- A) Sergio Perez
- B) Lando Norris
- C) Charles Leclerc
- D) Carlos Sainz

**48. A new book titled "The Last Heroes" was authored by which of the following author?**

- A) Anees Jung
- B) Anjan Sundaram
- C) Manu Joseph
- D) P Sainath

**49. How much Telangana government has raised the reservation for Scheduled Tribes (ST)?**

- A) 10%
- B) 15%
- C) 20%
- D) 25%

**50. When the International Day of Non-Violence was observed?**

- A) 01 October

B) 02 October

C) 03 October

D) 04 October

**51. Under its Gram Seva Program which bank adopted 30 remote villages across 6 states?**

- A) Union Bank of India
- B) SBI
- C) Bank of India
- D) Bank of Baroda

**52. 'Insure India' campaign was launched by which of the following Life Insurance Company?**

- A) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance
- B) Canara HSBC Life Insurance
- C) Exide Life Insurance
- D) HDFC Life Insurance

**53. In which of the following organisation Anish Dayal Singh was appointed as the Director General?**

- A) Assam Rifles
- B) BSF
- C) CRPF
- D) Indo-Tibetan Border Police

**54. When the Wildlife Week in India was observed?**

- A) 02 to 08 October
- B) 03 to 09 October
- C) 04 to 10 October
- D) 05 to 11 October

**55. When the World Space Week was observed?**

- A) 05 to 11 October
- B) 04 to 10 October
- C) 03 to 09 October
- D) 02 to 08 October

**56. In which of the following State/UT the Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced Scheduled Tribe (ST) status for the Pahari community?**

- A) Uttarakhand
- B) Uttar Pradesh
- C) Jammu and Kashmir
- D) Assam

**57. To launch India's Rupay Debit Card which country signed an MoU with the NPCI?**

- A) Bhutan
- B) Maldives
- C) Oman
- D) Sri Lanka

**58. Under women's category who among the following from India won the FIH Rising Star of the Year 2021-22?**

- A) Gurjit Kaur
- B) Mumtaz Khan
- C) Neha Goyal
- D) Sushila Chanu

**59. Who among the following bags the 2022 UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award?**

- A) Angela Merkel

- B) Edith Cresson
- C) Khaleda Zia
- D) Kim Campbell

**60. As the Governor of which of the following state B.D. Mishra recently took additional charge?**

- A) Arunachal Pradesh
- B) Meghalaya
- C) Nagaland
- D) Tripura

**61. A health insurance plan named 'Activ Fit' was launched by which of the following insurance company?**

- A) Aditya Birla Health Insurance
- B) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- C) IFFCO Tokio General Insurance
- D) The Oriental Insurance Company

**62. For which work Carolyn Bertozzi, Morten Meldal & Barry Sharpless received the 2022 Nobel Prize for Chemistry?**

- A) Click chemistry
- B) DNA repair
- C) Genome Editing
- D) Lithium-ion batteries

**63. In which of the following state 'Vishaal Kisan Sammelan' was held?**

- A) Haryana
- B) Madhya Pradesh
- C) Punjab

D) Uttar Pradesh

**64. In the English non-fiction category which book won the 'Valley of Words Book Awards'?**

- A) Play by Book
- B) Savi and the Memory Keeper
- C) Tagore & Gandhi: Walking Alone, Walking Together
- D) The Odd Book of Baby Names

**65. Who among the following bags the Nobel Prize 2022 in Literature?**

- A) Yasmina Reza
- B) Michel Houellebecq
- C) Leila Slimani
- D) Annie Ernaux

**66. Which city secured first position in the 'Swachh Survekshan Awards 2022'?**

- A) Bengaluru
- B) Chennai
- C) Indore
- D) Mysuru

**67. India's first indigenously developed light combat helicopters (LCH) was named as \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A) Vikas
- B) Pratibah
- C) Prakash
- D) Prachand

**68. When the Swachh Bharat Diwas was celebrated?**

- A) 08 October
- B) 06 October

C) 04 October

D) 02 October

**69. Under the Large States category which state won the first prize under Swachh Survekshan Gramin (SSG) 2022?**

- A) Karnataka
- B) Maharashtra
- C) Tamil Nadu
- D) Telengana

**70. According to the UNCTAD Annual Trade and Development Report what is India's GDP growth projection for FY23?**

- A) 5.5 %
- B) 5.7 %
- C) 6.0 %
- D) 6.2 %

**71. A special campaign named "UTSAV 2022-23" was launched by which of the following bank?**

- A) HDFC Bank
- B) Karnataka Bank
- C) RBL Bank
- D) South Indian Bank

**72. Who among the following were named as the FIH Men's and Women's Goalkeepers of the Year respectively?**

- A) Suraj Karkera & Namita Toppo
- B) PR Sreejesh & Savita Punia
- C) Harmanpreet Singh & Savita Punia
- D) Harmanpreet Singh & Namita Toppo

**73. Who among the following took charges as the director general of CRPF?**

- A) Gopal Sharma
- B) Kumar Rajesh Chandra
- C) Sujoy Lal Thaosan
- D) Surjeet Singh Deswal

**74. Which of the following insurance company appointed Kishore Kumar Poludasu as its MD & CEO?**

- A) Aditya Birla General Insurance
- B) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- C) Bharti AXA General Insurance
- D) SBI General Insurance

**75. DRDO tested Unmanned Remote-Controlled Weaponised Boats In which of the following city?**

- A) Chandipur, Odisha
- B) Junagadh, Gujarat
- C) Pune, Maharashtra
- D) Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

**76. Omara Dates has appointed who among the following as its Brand Ambassador?**

- A) Ajay Devgan
- B) Amitabh Bachchan
- C) Ranbir Kapoor
- D) Salman Khan

**77. For economic cooperation which of the following state signed an MoU with the Government of Dubai?**

- A) Haryana
- B) Karnataka
- C) Rajasthan
- D) West Bengal

**78. When the Indian Air Force Day was celebrated?**

- A) 10 October
- B) 09 October
- C) 08 October
- D) 07 October

**79. When the World Mental Health Day was observed?**

- A) 15 October
- B) 14 October
- C) 12 October
- D) 10 October

**80. Which of the following village was declared as India's first 24x7 solar-powered village?**

- A) Ajrakhpur
- B) Khavda
- C) Madhapur
- D) Modhera

**81. Which of the following country has launched the GLONASS-K navigation satellite?**

- A) China
- B) Japan
- C) Russia
- D) USA

**82. Who among the following bags men's singles' title in Astana Open 2022?**

- A) Carlos Alcaraz
- B) Novak Djokovic
- C) Rafael Nadal
- D) Roger Federer

**83. Who among the following won the Formula 1 Honda Japanese Grand Prix 2022?**

- A) Carlos Sainz
- B) George Russell
- C) Max Verstappen
- D) Sergio Perez

**84. Who among the following won the Women's singles title of J&T Banka Ostrava Open 2022?**

- A) Anett Kontaveit
- B) Barbora Krejčíková
- C) Daria Kasatkina
- D) Maria Sakkari

**85. When the World Post Day was observed?**

- A) 10 October
- B) 09 October
- C) 08 October
- D) 07 October

**86. To facilitate UPI payments across Europe which company partnered with NPCI International Payments Ltd. (NIPL)?**

- A) Atos
- B) Capgemini
- C) Worldline

D) Nexi

**87. To launch 'Play' credit card which of the following bank partnered with BookMyShow?**

- A) Axis Bank
- B) Karnataka Bank
- C) RBL Bank
- D) South Indian Bank

**88. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has reduced India's GDP growth forecast for the fiscal year 2023 to how much from its previous 7.4%?**

- A) 7.2%
- B) 7.0%
- C) 6.9%
- D) 6.8%

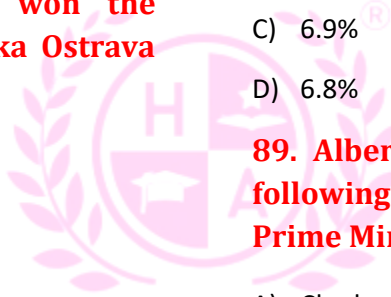
**89. Albert Pahimi Padacke of which of the following country resigned from the post of Prime Minister?**

- A) Chad
- B) Ethiopia
- C) Gabon
- D) Sudan

**90. When the World Arthritis Day (WAD) was observed?**

- A) 14 October
- B) 12 October
- C) 10 October
- D) 09 October

**91. In which of the following High Court, Justice Pankaj Mittal was appointed as the Chief Justice?**





- A) Allahabad High Court
- B) J&K & Ladakh High Court
- C) Karnataka High Court
- D) Rajasthan High Court

**92. With which of the following health services the Tele-Manas initiative is associated?**

- A) Child Health
- B) Communicable disease
- C) Mental Health
- D) Women Health

**93. India's first 'Kadavur Slender Loris Sanctuary' will be set up in which state?**

- A) Uttarakhand
- B) Tamil Nadu
- C) Madhya Pradesh
- D) Himachal Pradesh

**94. Who among the following was appointed as the Ambassador of India to Guinea?**

- A) Avtar Singh
- B) Rajkumar Ranjan Singh
- C) Shilpak Ambule
- D) V.M. Kwatra

**95. When the International Day for Disaster Reduction was observed?**

- A) October 20
- B) October 15
- C) October 13
- D) October 10

**96. To deploy card machines which of the following Small Finance Bank has partnered with Paytm?**

- A) ESAF SFB
- B) Jana SFB
- C) Suryoday SFB
- D) Utkarsh SFB

**97. Under the Home Loan segment which bank surpassed Rs 6 trillion in Assets Under Management (AUM)?**

- A) Union Bank of India
- B) State Bank of India
- C) Punjab National Bank
- D) Bank of Baroda

**98. National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) has acquired how much stake in the digital commerce platform ONDC?**

- A) 5.6%
- B) 6.2%
- C) 6.9%
- D) 7.2%

**99. 'Pandemic Disruptions and Odisha's Lessons in Governance' book was authored by which of the following author?**

- A) Arjun Charan Sethi
- B) Amar Patnaik
- C) Nagendra Pradhan
- D) Pinaki Mishra

**100. When the World Sight Day 2022 was observed?**

- A) 13 October

- B) 11 October
- C) 10 October
- D) 09 October

**101. KG Mohan was appointed as the Non-Executive Independent Director of which bank?**

- A) Karur Vysya Bank
- B) ICICI Bank
- C) IndusInd Bank
- D) Karnataka Bank

**102. Who among the following was elected as the new president of BCCI?**

- A) Madan Lal
- B) Mohinder Amarnath
- C) Roger Binny
- D) Sunil Gavaskar

**103. In which of the following IIT the 'PARAM KAMRUPA' Supercomputer facility was launched?**

- A) IIT Guwahati
- B) IIT Delhi
- C) IIT Bombay
- D) IIT BHU

**104. Who among the following was elected as the new President of Iraq?**

- A) Juma Inad
- B) Fuad Hussein
- C) Ali Allawi
- D) Abdul Latif Rashid

**105. In which state the Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Bulk Drug Park?**

- A) Gujarat
- B) Himachal Pradesh
- C) Tripura
- D) Uttarakhand

**106. Eastern Naval Command has conducted which of the following offshore security exercise at Andhra Pradesh recently?**

- A) Varuna
- B) SIMBEX
- C) Prasthan
- D) Malabar

**107. Which Indian Naval Ship (INS) participated in joint multinational maritime exercise named IBSAMAR?**

- A) INS Sahyadri
- B) INS Shishumar
- C) INS Tabar
- D) INS Tarkash

**108. Along with Israel which country signed a 'historic agreement' to resolve the maritime border dispute?**

- A) Syria
- B) Jordan
- C) Iraq
- D) Lebanon

**109. When the World Standards Day was observed?**

- A) 10 October
- B) 12 October
- C) 13 October
- D) 14 October

**110. For Agniveer Salary Accounts under Agnipath scheme, how many banks signed an MoU with the Indian Army?**

- A) 12
- B) 11
- C) 8
- D) 5

**111. When the World Students' Day was observed?**

- A) 16 October
- B) 15 October
- C) 14 October
- D) 12 October

**112. PM Narendra Modi dedicated how many Digital Banking Units (DBUs) to nation recently?**

- A) 100
- B) 75
- C) 50
- D) 25

**113. For defence and commercial purposes which aerospace company signed an MoU with Lockheed Martin Canada CDL Systems?**

- A) Garuda Aerospace Pvt Ltd
- B) Boeing India Pvt Ltd
- C) Aroon Aviation Services Pvt Ltd
- D) Airnetz Aviation Pvt Ltd

**114. Deependra Singh Rathore was appointed as the interim CEO of which of the following payments bank?**

- A) Airtel Payments Bank
- B) Fino Payments Bank
- C) India Post Payment Bank
- D) Paytm Payments Bank

**115. Which country is set to host international men's football championship of Asia the 2023 Asian Cup?**

- A) Australia
- B) India
- C) Qatar
- D) UAE <sup>®</sup>

**116. Which of the following state has approved a new tiger reserve named 'Durgavati Tiger Reserve'?**

- A) Rajasthan
- B) Maharashtra
- C) Madhya Pradesh
- D) Gujarat

**117. For the Novel "The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida" who among the following won the Booker Prize 2022?**

- A) Damon Galgut
- B) Douglas Stuart
- C) Margaret Atwood
- D) Shehan Karunatilaka

**118. Ulf Kristersson of which of the following country was elected as the Prime Minister?**

- A) Sweden

- B) Poland
- C) Norway
- D) Finland

**119. Who was appointed as the Managing Director of GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals?**

- A) Sumer Dheri
- B) Sridhar Venkatesh
- C) Juby Chandy
- D) Bhushan Akshikar

**120. Who among the following was appointed as the independent chairman of Yubi?**

- A) Gaurav Kumar
- B) Hemant Agarwal
- C) Atanu Chakraborty
- D) PD Singh

**121. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched Mission Schools of Excellence in which of the following state?**

- (A) Uttar Pradesh
- (B) Gujarat
- (C) Rajasthan
- (D) Maharashtra

**122. Which of the following state has inaugurated the first English medium general degree college of the state in the city with a 100 intake capacity?**

- (A) Tripura
- (B) Nagaland

- (C) Assam
- (D) Manipur

**123. Which of the following days are celebrated on 24 October, every year?**

- E) World Development Information Day
- F) United Nations Day celebrated
- G) World Polio Day
- H) All of the above

**124. Who has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of the India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO)?**

- (A) Pradeep Kharola
- (B) Aryama Sundaram
- (C) R Venkataramani
- (D) Mukul Rohatgi

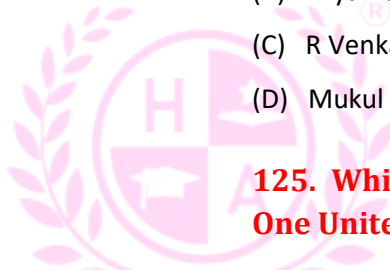
**125. Which racing driver won the Formula One United States Grand Prix 2022 title?**

- A) Max Emilian Verstappen
- B) Lewis Carl Davidson Hamilton
- C) Charles Marc Hervé Perceval Leclerc
- D) Sergio Michel Pérez

**126. In which city Asia's largest Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) plant was inaugurated?**

- A) Jaipur, Rajasthan
- B) Sangrur, Punjab
- C) Pune, Maharashtra
- D) Meerut, Uttar Pradesh

**127. To manufacture hydrogen fuel cells which organization has signed an MoU with Triton Electric Vehicle (TEV)?**



- A) Tata Motors Limited
- B) Ola Electric Limited
- C) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
- D) Bharat Electronics Limited

**128. What is the rank of India in the Mercer CFA Institute Global Pension Index (MCGPI) 2022?**

- A) 41
- B) 42
- C) 40
- D) 39

**129. To provide a 'Travel Now Pay Later (TNPL)' facility on the Rail Connect mobile app which company partnered with IRCTC?**

- A) CASHe
- B) Koppr
- C) Refyne
- D) Paytm

**130. To build India's first 5G standalone network which company signed a multi-year contract with Nokia and Ericsson?**

- A) Adani Data Networks
- B) Bharti Airtel Ltd
- C) Reliance Jio
- D) Vodafone Idea Ltd

**131. Along with Dell Technologies and NTT Ltd which of the following payment company has launched its first green data center?**

- A) BharatPe
- B) Cashfree

- C) Paytm
- D) PhonePe

**132. In which mission of the ISRO Dr Sankarasubramanian K was named as the principal scientist?**

- A) Aditya-L1
- B) Chandrayaan-3
- C) Gaganyaan 1
- D) Shukrayaan-1

**133. In which of the following state, Prime Minister Modi has launched 'Mission LiFE'?**

- A) Gujarat
- B) Himachal Pradesh
- C) Madhya Pradesh
- D) Uttar Pradesh

**134. Which of the following is the official mascot of the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023?**

- A) Ettie
- B) Ling Ling
- C) Nutmeg
- D) Tazuni

**135. In which of the following year Women's IPL is scheduled to take place?**

- A) 2026
- B) 2024
- C) 2023
- D) 2022

**136. Who among the following was named as the new Defence Secretary?**

- A) Radha Sridharan

- B) Aramane Giridhar
- C) Amarendra Tiwari
- D) Ajay Bhatt

**137. In which of the following year ISRO is planning to launch 'Chandrayaan-3'?**

- A) 2025
- B) 2024
- C) 2023
- D) 2022

**138. In which of the following state Fifth Khelo India Youth Games- 2022 is set to be held?**

- A) Gujarat
- B) Madhya Pradesh
- C) Maharashtra
- D) Uttar Pradesh

**139. Which state has increased quota for Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST)?**

- A) Telangana
- B) Tamil Nadu
- C) Kerala
- D) Karnataka

**140. To which of the following country senior IFS officer Partha Satpathy was appointed as the next Ambassador of India?**

- A) Bosnia & Herzegovina
- B) Bangladesh
- C) Hong Kong
- D) Vatican City

**141. Which of the following is the India's first antidote against SARS-CoV-2 virus?**

- A) ANTICOV-19
- B) COVEX-19
- C) NOCOV-19
- D) VINCOV-19

**142. Which of the following state's chief minister is Neiphiu Rio?**

- A) Manipur
- B) Meghalaya
- C) Mizoram
- D) Nagaland

**143. The 6th East Asia Summit Education Minister's Meeting was held in which city?**

- A) New Delhi
- B) Kuala Lumpur, Vietnam
- C) Kathmandu, Nepal
- D) Hanoi, Vietnam

**144. The 18th Heads of Asian Coast Guard Agencies Meeting (HACGAM) was held in which of the following city?**

- A) Chennai
- B) Kolkata
- C) Mumbai
- D) New Delhi

**145. In which of the following state the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)- III was launched?**

- A) Sikkim
- B) Kerala
- C) Himachal Pradesh
- D) Gujarat

**146. On which river, the central government has approved the construction of India's 1st Cable-cum-Suspension Bridge?**

- A) Godavari River
- B) Krishna river
- C) Penna River
- D) Wardha River

**147. To promote innovation and entrepreneurship in the fintech domain, which country's Fintech Association has signed an MoU with the GIFT City?**

- A) Australia
- B) Japan
- C) Russia
- D) Sri Lanka

**148. To pay credit card bill payments on the Bharat BillPay Platform which bank has partnered with NPCI Bharat BillPay Limited (NBBL)?**

- A) Axis Bank
- B) HDFC Bank
- C) ICICI Bank
- D) Kotak Mahindra Bank

**149. Who has topped the EdelGive Hurun India Philanthropy List 2022?**

- A) Cyrus Poonawalla
- B) Gautam Adani
- C) Mukesh Ambani
- D) Shiv Nadar

**150. Which bank has won three National Digital Transformation Awards 'DX 2022 Awards' by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)?**

- A) YES Bank
- B) Karnataka Bank
- C) HDFC Bank
- D) Axis Bank

## ANSWERS

### 1. Correct Answer: C

Vitamin Angels India has announced a partnership with UNICEF India for Poshan Maah 2022. The goal of the partnership is to implement a nationwide comprehensive, unified outreach and awareness program.

### 2. Correct Answer: D

The Government of Telangana has decided to expand Forest College and Research Institute (FCRI) in Hyderabad into a full-fledged university.

### 3. Correct Answer: D

Andhra Pradesh has emerged as India's top investment destination, attracting investments to the tune of Rs 40,361 crore in the first seven months of 2022.

### 4. Correct Answer: D

The Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) has been awarded the Airport Service Quality (ASQ) award 2022 by the Airport Council International (ACI).

### 5. Correct Answer: C

Centre has recently appointed Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari as the Chairman of the Appellate

Tribunal under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

**6. Correct Answer: D**

Lux Industries Limited appointed former Captain of the Indian Cricket Team, and current President of the BCCI, Sourav Ganguly, as the brand ambassador of Lux Cozi.

**7. Correct Answer: C**

Since 1980, the United Nations World Tourism Organization has celebrated World Tourism Day as international observances on September 27.

**8. Correct Answer: B**

Russian President Vladimir Putin has granted Russian citizenship to former US security contractor Edward Snowden.

**9. Correct Answer: B**

President of India Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated the Integrated Cryogenic Engine Manufacturing Facility of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) in Bengaluru.

**10. Correct Answer: D**

A mobile application named Jaldoot was jointly developed by the Union Ministry of Rural Development and the Panchayati Raj Ministry to monitor the underground water levels across the country.

**11. Correct Answer: B**

State-run Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Brazilian oil major Petrobras, to diversify its crude oil sourcing in India.

**12. Correct Answer: C**

JMC Projects Limited of India has signed an agreement with the Maldives government to develop Hanimaadhoo International Airport.

**13. Correct Answer: D**

The UP government has been conferred with the Ayushmann Utkrishta Award-2022 for effective implementation of the Ayushman Bharat Scheme.

**14. Correct Answer: D**

Indian-origin UK Home Secretary Suella Braverman has been named winner of the first-ever Queen Elizabeth II Woman of the Year award.

**15. Correct Answer: A**

In the final day of the 2022 Duleep Trophy the West zone has defeated the South zone by 294 runs to win their 19th title.

**16. Correct Answer: B**

S&P Global Ratings has projected India's economic growth at 7.3 per cent in the current fiscal with downside risks.

**17. Correct Answer: B**

IFS officer Shri Bandaru Wilsonbabu appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Madagascar.

**18. Correct Answer: B**

Giorgia Meloni has created history by becoming the first ever women Prime Minister of Italy. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has congratulated her on her being elected for the coveted post.

**19. Correct Answer: A**

General Anil Chauhan recently took charge as India's second Chief of Defence Staff. The appointment of Chauhan comes 9 months after the tragic death of



India's first Chief of Defence Staff, General Bipin Rawat.

**20. Correct Answer: B**

World Heart Day is observed and celebrated annually on September 29, with the aim of increasing awareness of cardiovascular diseases and how to control them.

**21. Correct Answer: B**

Leading public sector bank Bank of Baroda (BOB) has announced to launch "Khushiyan Ka Tyohaar" that includes a slew of offers as an annual festive campaign.

**22. Correct Answer: A**

Samsung and Axis Bank have partnered to launch an exclusive co-branded credit card in India, powered by Visa.

**23. Correct Answer: B**

Saudi Arabia's powerful Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud has been appointed prime minister by a royal decree.

**24. Correct Answer: C**

State-owned Bank of India has acquired over 5.5 percent stake in Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) for Rs 10 crore.

**25. Correct Answer: A**

Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) has received final approval from the capital markets regulator SEBI for introducing the Electronic Gold Receipt (EGR) segment on its platform.

**26. Correct Answer: B**

Former Olympian and Asian Games medalist, Indian captain Dilip Tirkey became Hockey India's first player-president after his unopposed election.

**27. Correct Answer: A**

Haryana will develop the world's largest jungle safari park in the Aravalli range, the state government said in a statement.

**28. Correct Answer: C**

Kerala's Pullampara has become the first grama panchayat in India to attain full digital literacy.

**29. Correct Answer: B**

National Cinema Day 2022 was celebrated on September 23 to commemorate the successful reopening of movie halls.

**30. Correct Answer: D**

Every year, Antyodaya Diwas is celebrated in India on September 25 to mark the birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya.

**31. Correct Answer: D**

Retired Gujarat cadre officer, Bharat Lal has been appointed as the Director General, National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG).

**32. Correct Answer: C**

The Breakthrough Prize in mathematics was awarded to Daniel Spielman of Yale University for multiple discoveries in theoretical computer science and mathematics.

**33. Correct Answer: B**

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is going to launch 'Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan' that promotes ranking of 131 cities in the country.

**34. Correct Answer: B**

Japanese automaker Hitachi Astemo has announced that it has installed a ground mounted solar power plant of 3-MW at its manufacturing plant in Jalgaon, Maharashtra.

**35. Correct Answer: B**

The government has extended the existing Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20) by another six months till March 2023 on account of volatile global economic and geo-political situation.

**36. Correct Answer: C**

The Electronics Sector Skill Council of India (ESSCI) signed an MoU with Samsung India, for a skilling initiative that aims to empower the youth with industry relevant skills in emerging technologies.

**37. Correct Answer: B**

Hero Motocorp Limited has appointed the Indian superstar Ram Charan as their new brand ambassador.

**38. Correct Answer: D**

Senior Congress party leader Shashi Tharoor has authored a new book titled "Ambedkar: A Life".

**39. Correct Answer: C**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has lowered its gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast for FY23 to 7 per cent from the earlier estimate of 7.2 per cent.

**40. Correct Answer: D**

World Vegetarian Day is observed annually around the globe on October 1 to emphasize environmental considerations, animal welfare and rights issues.

**41. Correct Answer: D**

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has launched a multi-phase "Operation GARUDA" which seeks to disrupt, degrade and dismantle drug networks.

**42. Correct Answer: A**

Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL) has announced that it has commissioned the world's largest wind-solar

power plant of 600 MW capacity in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.

**43. Correct Answer: B**

Karnataka Bank has opened Analytical Centre of Excellence (ACoE) in Bengaluru.

**44. Correct Answer: A**

Dr. A K Anil Kumar, Senior Scientist in ISRO is elected as the Vice President of the International Astronautical Federation (IAF).

**45. Correct Answer: D**

Sunil Barthwal, a Bihar cadre IAS officer of 1989 batch, has been designated the new commerce secretary.

**46. Correct Answer: C**

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Ajay Bhadoo as Deputy Election Commissioner of the Election Commission of India.

**47. Correct Answer: A**

Red Bull Racing driver Sergio Perez, won the Singapore Formula 1 Grand Prix 2022 with Charles Leclerc finishing second and his Ferrari teammate Carlos Sainz Jr. finishing third.

**48. Correct Answer: D**

Award-winning author-journalist P Sainath has authored a new book titled "The Last Heroes" which is set to be released next month.

**49. Correct Answer: A**

The Telangana government has increased the reservation for scheduled tribes from 6 per cent to 10 per cent.

**50. Correct Answer: B**

International Day of Non-Violence is observed on 02 October, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi.

**51. Correct Answer: B**

SBI has launched the 4th phase of the 'SBI Gram Seva' program, adopting 30 remote villages across Aspirational Districts in Haryana, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal.

**52. Correct Answer: D**

HDFC Life, one of India's leading life insurers has launched the 'Insure India' campaign that is aimed at educating Indians on the benefits of life insurance as a product category.

**53. Correct Answer: D**

Senior IPS officers Anish Dayal Singh and Sujoy Lal Thaosan was appointed as the new director general of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police and the CRPF respectively.

**54. Correct Answer: A**

In India the National Wildlife Week is celebrated from the 2nd to the 8th of October every year.

**55. Correct Answer: B**

World Space Week celebrations are organised every year from October 04 to 10.

**56. Correct Answer: C**

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has announced Scheduled Tribe (ST) status for the Pahari community in Jammu and Kashmir.

**57. Correct Answer: C**

Oman and India signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to launch India's RuPay card and the Unified Payment Interface (UPI) platform in Oman.

**58. Correct Answer: B**

The International Hockey Federation (FIH) conferred India's young sensation, Mumtaz Khan, with the FIH Rising Star of the Year 2021-22 under women's category.

**59. Correct Answer: A**

Former German Chancellor Angela Merkel has won the prestigious 2022 UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award.

**60. Correct Answer: B**

Arunachal Pradesh governor Brig. (Dr) B.D. Mishra (retired) took oath as the governor of Meghalaya in addition to position of Arunachal Pradesh.

**61. Correct Answer: A**

Aditya Birla Health Insurance Co Ltd has announced the launch of Activ Fit, a comprehensive health insurance plan for young and healthy adults.

**62. Correct Answer: A**

2022 Nobel Prize for Chemistry was conferred to Carolyn R. Bertozzi, Morten Meldal and K. Barry Sharpless for their work in "click chemistry".

**63. Correct Answer: A**

National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and Sahakar Bharati organised 'Vishaal Kisan Sammelan' workshop on 4th October 2022 in Bayanpur village, Sonapat, Haryana.

**64. Correct Answer: C**

"Tagore & Gandhi: Walking Alone, Walking Together" by Rudrangshu Mukherjee won the 'Valley of Words Book Awards' in the English non-fiction category.

**65. Correct Answer: D**

The Nobel prize in literature for the year 2022 was awarded to Annie Ernaux at the Swedish Academy in Stockholm.

**66. Correct Answer: C**

Indore has been adjudged the cleanest city of India for the sixth year in a row, while Madhya Pradesh is the cleanest state in the country.

**67. Correct Answer: D**

The Indian Air Force (IAF) inducted the first batch of indigenously-developed Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) called Prachand into the IAF inventory at a ceremony in Rajasthan's Jodhpur.

**68. Correct Answer: D**

The Swachh Bharat Diwas is celebrated on 02 October every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

**69. Correct Answer: D**

Telangana won the first prize under the Large States category under Swachh Survekshan Gramin (SSG) 2022.

**70. Correct Answer: B**

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) expects India's economy to grow 5.7% in FY23 and 4.7% in next year.

**71. Correct Answer: B**

Leading private sector lender Karnataka Bank has launched a special campaign 'KBL Utsav 2022-23' for home loans, car loans and gold loans from October 01 to 31.

**72. Correct Answer: B**

India's PR Sreejesh and Savita Punia has been voted FIH Men's and Women's Goalkeeper of the Year respectively for the second year running.

**73. Correct Answer: C**

Senior IPS officer Sujoy Lal Thaosan has been appointed as the 37th Director General of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

**74. Correct Answer: D**

SBI General Insurance Company has announced the appointment of Kishore Kumar Poludasu as its new Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer.

**75. Correct Answer: C**

Ahead of premier defence exhibition DefExpo-2022, DRDO officials in Maharashtra tested three remotely unmanned, weaponised boats in Pune.

**76. Correct Answer: B**

Healthy snacks brand Omara Dates has onboarded Amitabh Bachchan as a brand ambassador.

**77. Correct Answer: A**

The Haryana government has announced that the government of Dubai has finalized a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with it for cooperation in various economic activities.

**78. Correct Answer: C**

The country observes the Indian Air Force Day on October 08. This year marks the 90th anniversary of Indian Air Force Day.

**79. Correct Answer: D**

World Mental Health Day is observed every year on October 10 to raise awareness about mental health around the world.

**80. Correct Answer: D**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has recently declared Modhera, a village in the Mehsana district of Gujarat as India's first solar-powered village.

**81. Correct Answer: C**

Russia launched its Soyuz-2.1b rocket carrying the GLONASS-K navigation satellite as a part of the Russian GLONASS radio-based satellite navigation system.

**82. Correct Answer: B**

Novak Djokovic defeated Stefanos Tsitsipas in the final, 6–3, 6–4 to win the singles tennis title at the 2022 Astana Open.

**83. Correct Answer: C**

Red Bull Driver Max Verstappen has won the Formula 1 Honda Japanese Grand Prix 2022.

**84. Correct Answer: B**

Barbora Krejčíková of Czech Republic defeated Iga Świątek of Poland to win the Women's singles tennis title of J&T Banka Ostrava Open 2022.

**85. Correct Answer: B**

World Post Day on October 9th each year honors the work of those who work in the postal industry.

**86. Correct Answer: C**

NPCI's international arm NPCI International Payments Ltd. (NIPL) has partnered with France-based company Worldline to launch UPI and RuPay payments in Europe.

**87. Correct Answer: C**

RBL Bank and BookMyShow have announced a partnership to launch a new 'Play' credit card.

**88. Correct Answer: D**

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has lowered India's gross domestic product (GDP) growth projection for 2022-23 to 6.8% from the earlier 7.4%.

**89. Correct Answer: A**

Chad's Prime Minister Albert Pahimi Padacke has resigned in order to pave the way for a new government.

**90. Correct Answer: B**

World Arthritis Day is a global health awareness event organized every year on 12 October to create awareness about the disease.

**91. Correct Answer: D**

Justice Pankaj Mithal has been appointed as the chief justice of the Rajasthan high court.

**92. Correct Answer: C**

Tele-MANAS aims to provide free tele-mental health services all over the country round the clock, particularly catering to people in remote or under-served areas.

**93. Correct Answer: B**

The Tamil Nadu Government has notified India's first sanctuary for the endangered Slender Loris.

**94. Correct Answer: A**

Avtar Singh, a Director in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed as India's next Ambassador to the Republic of Guinea.

**95. Correct Answer: C**

Every year, International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction is observed on October 13.

**96. Correct Answer: B**

One97 Communications Limited (OCL), which owns the Paytm brand, has partnered with Jana Small Finance Bank to deploy card machines.

**97. Correct Answer: B**

India's largest home loan provider, the State Bank of India (SBI) has surpassed Rs 6 trillion in Assets Under Management (AUM) under the Home Loan segment.

**98. Correct Answer: A**

National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) has acquired a 5.6% stake in the digital commerce platform Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC).

**99. Correct Answer: B**

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has released a book titled 'Pandemic Disruptions and Odisha's Lessons in Governance' penned by Rajya Sabha MP Amar Patnaik.

**100. Correct Answer: A**

World Sight Day is observed every year on the second Thursday of October to raise awareness about vision impairment, vision care and other issues related to eyes. This year, the day was observed on 13 October.

**101. Correct Answer: A**

Karur Vysya Bank (KVB) has announced that it has re-appointed non-executive independent director KG Mohan for three years on its board.

**102. Correct Answer: C**

Roger Binny, member of India's 1983 World Cup-winning team, was elected as the president of the BCCI, succeeding former India captain Sourav Ganguly.

**103. Correct Answer: A**

President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated 'Param Kamrupa', a supercomputer facility and a high-power active and passive component laboratory 'Sameer' at IIT Guwahati.

**104. Correct Answer: D**

Lawmakers in Iraq have elected Kurdish politician Abdul Latif Rashid as the country's new president, paving the way for the formation of a new government.

**105. Correct Answer: B**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of bulk drug park and inaugurated the Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) in Una district of Himachal Pradesh.

**106. Correct Answer: C**

Offshore security exercise 'Prasthan' was conducted in the Krishna Godavari Basin during 11-12 October, 2022, under the aegis of Headquarters, Eastern Naval Command.

**107. Correct Answer: D**

The Indian Navy was represented in 7th edition of IBSAMAR, a joint multinational maritime exercise, by the guided missile frigate, INS Tarkash, a Chetak helicopter and MARCOS special forces.

**108. Correct Answer: D**

Israel and Lebanon reached a historic agreement to resolve a long-running maritime border dispute, following months of negotiations.

**109. Correct Answer: D**

World Standards Day, also known as International Standards Day, is celebrated on October 14 each year.

**110. Correct Answer: B**

The 11 banks are State Bank of India, Punjab National Bank, Bank of Baroda, IDBI Bank, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank, Axis Bank, Yes Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, IDFC First Bank, and Bandhan Bank.

**111. Correct Answer: B**

World Students' Day is observed annually on October 15. The day commemorates the birthday of former Indian president APJ Abdul Kalam.

**112. Correct Answer: B**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has recently dedicated 75 Digital Banking Units (DBUs) to the nation via video conferencing.

**113. Correct Answer: A**

Garuda Aerospace and Lockheed Martin Canada CDL Systems have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for defence and commercial purposes.

**114. Correct Answer: D**

Paytm Payments Bank has appointed Deependra Singh Rathore as the interim chief executive officer, in addition to his role as chief product & technology officer.

**115. Correct Answer: C**

Qatar has been confirmed as the host nation of the 2023 AFC Asian Cup, beating competition from South Korea and Indonesia.

**116. Correct Answer: C**

Madhya Pradesh Wildlife Board has approved a new reserve for tigers of Panna Tiger Reserve (PTR) called 'Durgavati Tiger Reserve'.

**117. Correct Answer: D**

The "Seven Moons of Maali Almeida" by Shehan Karunatilaka won the Booker Prize 2022.

**118. Correct Answer: A**

Sweden's Parliament has recently elected Ulf Kristersson as the country's new Prime Minister.

**119. Correct Answer: D**

The Board of Directors of the GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) Pharmaceuticals has appointed Bhushan Akshikar as a Managing Director of the company for a period of four years.

**120. Correct Answer: C**

Yubi has announced the appointment of the retired civil servant and current Chairman of the Board of HDFC Bank Atanu Chakraborty as the Independent Chairman of its Board.

**121. Correct Answer: B**

At Trimandir, Gujarat, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Mission Schools of Excellence. In addition, he authorized \$4,260 crore worth of projects.

**122. Correct Answer: A**

Tripura chief minister Manik Saha has inaugurated the first English medium general degree college of the state in the city with a 100 intake capacity.

**123. Correct Answer: D**

All of the above-mentioned days are celebrated worldwide, every year on 24 October.

**124. Correct Answer: A**

Pradeep Singh Kharola, a former civil aviation secretary, has been named the chairman and managing director of the India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO).

**125. Correct Answer: A**

At the US Grand Prix, Max Verstappen wins for a record-tying 13th time. Max Emilian Verstappen is a Belgian-Dutch racing driver and the 2021 and 2022 Formula One World Champion. He competes under the Dutch flag in Formula One with Red Bull Racing.

**126. Correct Answer: B**

Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri has inaugurated Asia's largest Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) plant in Lehragaga, in Punjab's Sangrur.

**127. Correct Answer: D**

Bharat Electronics Ltd has signed an MoU with US-based Triton Electric Vehicle for manufacturing Hydrogen fuel cells.

**128. Correct Answer: A**

2022 Mercer CFA Institute Global Pension Index (MCGPI) Survey ranked India at 41 out of the 44 retirement income systems analysed.

**129. Correct Answer: A**

CASHe has announced that it has partnered with Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC), to provide a 'travel now pay later' (TNPL) payment option on its travel app, IRCTC Rail Connect.

**130. Correct Answer: C**

European telecom gear makers Ericsson and Nokia has announced bagging contracts from India's largest telecom operator Reliance Jio to build a mega 5G network.

**131. Correct Answer: D**

Fintech platform PhonePe has launched its first green data center in India, leveraging technologies and solutions from Dell Technologies and NTT.

**132. Correct Answer: A**

Dr. Sankarasubramanian K. of ISRO, has been designated as the Principal Scientist of the Aditya-L1 mission.

**133. Correct Answer: A**

The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has launched Mission LiFE at the Statue of Unity, Ekta Nagar, Kevadia, Gujarat.

**134. Correct Answer: D**

Tazuni, a fun, football-loving penguin was unveiled as the Official Mascot of the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia & New Zealand 2023.

**135. Correct Answer: C**

The much-awaited Women's IPL will be starting from March 2023 to be held in a one-month window and in all likelihood with five teams.

**136. Correct Answer: B**

Aramane Giridhar, a 1988 batch IAS officer of the Andhra Pradesh cadre, has been appointed as an Officer on Special Duty in the Department of Defence.

**137. Correct Answer: C**

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is set to launch its third moon mission, Chandrayaan-3, in June 2023.

**138. Correct Answer: B**

The Fifth Khelo India Youth Games -2022 will be held in Madhya Pradesh. The games will be held from 31st January to 11th February next year.

**139. Correct Answer: D**

Quota in jobs and education for Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST) has been increased in Karnataka through an executive order.

**140. Correct Answer: A**

IFS officer Partha Satpathy has been concurrently accredited as the next Ambassador of India to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

**141. Correct Answer: D**

VINCOV-19 is a joint effort of the University of Hyderabad (UoH), the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) and VINS Bioproducts Limited.

**142. Correct Answer: D**

Neiphiu Rio is a senior politician serving as the 9th Chief Minister of Nagaland.



**143. Correct Answer: D**

India has recently participated in the 6th East Asia Summit Education Minister's Meeting held in Hanoi, Vietnam.

**144. Correct Answer: D**

The 18th Heads of Asian Coast Guard Agencies Meeting (HACGAM) was recently organised in New Delhi

**145. Correct Answer: C**

The Prime Minister has recently launched Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)-III in Himachal Pradesh

**146. Correct Answer: B**

The central government has approved the construction of an iconic cable stayed-cum-suspension bridge across the Krishna river connecting Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

**147. Correct Answer: B**

Gujarat International Finance Tec City (Gift City) has inked an agreement with Fintech Association of Japan (FAJ) to promote innovation and entrepreneurship in the fintech domain.

**148. Correct Answer: D**

NPCI Bharat BillPay Ltd. (NBBL) has announced that it has partnered with Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited to introduce its credit cards on the Bharat BillPay ecosystem in the Credit Card Biller category.

**149. Correct Answer: D**

HCL founder Shiv Nadar and his family topped the EdelGive Hurun India Philanthropy List for 2022 as "India's most generous", with an estimated ₹1,161 crore given away over the course of a year.

**150. Correct Answer: B**

Karnataka Bank has won three National Digital Transformation Awards, "DX 2022 Awards" instituted by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).



## SECTION 3

# Detailed Analysis of Important Events



## Economics

### Vande Bharat Express 2.0



Prime Minister has inaugurated the new upgraded Vande Bharat Express.

#### Vande Bharat 2.0

- The Integral Coach Factory created, produced, and designed the semi-high-speed train known as the Vande Bharat Express (ICF).
- There are now only two Vande Bharat trains operating between Delhi and Katra and Varanasi.
- Despite sharing the same name, the third train in the Vande Bharat series has been given the moniker "Vande Bharat 2.0" due to some improvements.
- When the Vande Bharat was initially introduced in Delhi in 2019 the PM inaugurated it.
- The new trainset is about Rs 115 crore more expensive than the previous model, or Rs 15 crore.

#### Key Features

- There are only two classes of seating available on the current Vande Bharat trains: chair cars and executive chair cars. However, Railways intends to modernise it.
- The trains feature sensor-based interconnecting doors in each coach, modular bio-vacuum toilets, rotating seats in Executive Class, personal reading lights, automatic entry/exit doors with sliding footsteps, diffused LED lighting, fully sealed gangways for a dust-free environment, and mini pantries.
- These trains are self-propelled and run without an engine. A distributed traction power system is the name given to this functionality.

#### What are the major upgrades?

##### (1) Ride comfort

- First off, this train accelerates to its top speed of 160 km/h in 129 seconds, some 16 seconds quicker than its forerunner.
- This is due to the fact that this train needs to travel about a mile less to reach its top speed because it weighs 392 tonnes, which is 38 tonnes less than the previous train.
- Additionally, it has a better riding index than the previous model, down from 3.87 to 3.26 at 180 km/h.
- Its riding index is 3.26 at a conventional speed of 115 kilometres per hour, which is higher than the prior version's 3.62 at the same speed.

##### (2) Safety features

- The automatic anti-collision system Kavach, which the earlier trains lacked, is installed in the new train's safety features.
- Disaster lights are equipped with coaches, and their battery backup has been enhanced from one hour to three hours.
- There are now eight platform-side cameras on the outside, up from four.
- Coaches also have a passenger-guard communication system with an automatic voice recording option.

### Benefits of Vande Bharat Trains

- Cuts Travel Time Drastically
- Energy Efficient
- Reduce Turnaround Time
- Faster Acceleration and Deceleration among others.

### Way forward

- India has started a project to distribute 400 Vande Bharats.
- The nation must add 72 more of these trains by August 2023, bringing the total to 75.
- The plan is for this third trainset to continue operating commercially while at the same time the railway production units continue to crank out more trains each month to hit the goal.
- The introduction of Vande Bharat with sleeper berths for overnight trips is in the pipeline.
- For a lighter product, options to make these trainsets with an aluminium body are also being investigated.

## How Tokenization will change your online purchase?



The RBI's deadline for tokenization of cards used in online payments passed on 30 September.

### What is Tokenization?

- Tokenization is the process of replacing credit and debit card information with an alternate code known as a "token."
- This token is exclusive to the device, the card, and the token requestor (the organisation that receives a customer's request for tokenization of a card and forwards it to the card network to issue a token).

### How does it work?

- Your card information can be accessed less frequently by tokenizing credit and debit cards.
- For instance, payments made using payment gateways like Visa and Mastercard on Uber displayed a notice that your card information will be kept.
- It means that a business like Uber will need to collaborate with payment networks like Visa to transform card information into a digital token that will be used to verify transactions.

- The card information you provide on the Uber app or any other online platform is therefore safer because it is not kept on the business's cloud servers.

### Who can offer tokenization services?

- Only the authorised card network is capable of doing tokenization, and only that network should be able to recover the original Primary Account Number (PAN).
- To prevent anyone other than the card network from learning PAN from the token or vice versa, adequate security measures must be implemented.
- The integrity of the token generation process must always be guaranteed, according to RBI.

### Benefits of Tokenization

- **Transaction safety:** Tokenization reduces the chances of fraud arising from sharing card details.
- **Easy payments:** The token is used to perform contactless card transactions at point-of-sale (PoS) terminals and QR code payments.
- **Data storage:** Only card networks and card-issuing banks will have access to and can store any card data.

### NOPEC: the US bill to pressure the OPEC+ oil group



US legislation NOPEC which could open members of oil producing group OPEC+ to antitrust lawsuits has emerged as a possible tool to tackle high fuel prices.

### What is NOPEC?

- No Oil Producing and Exporting Cartels is what NOPEC stands for (NOPEC).
- It is a law to safeguard US citizens and companies from artificial oil price increases.
- However, some analysts caution that putting it into practise might also have some harmful unexpected repercussions.

### Why such a move by the US?

- OPEC+, which groups the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and allies including Russia, agreed to steep production cuts, curbing supply in an already tight market.
- After the decision, the US decided to reduce the group's control over energy prices.

### Key feature of the NOPEC bill

- The OPEC+ members' sovereign immunity, which has shielded them and their national oil firms from lawsuits, would be revoked by the bipartisan NOPEC bill's changes to US antitrust law.
- If passed into law, the US attorney general would have the right to file a federal court lawsuit against the oil cartel or any of its members, including Saudi Arabia.
- It's not entirely obvious how a federal court might make a foreign country comply with judicial antitrust rulings.

### Is such bill effective?

- Previous iterations of the NOPEC bill have failed due to opposition from organisations representing the oil business, notably the biggest US oil lobby groups.
- Biden officials visited Saudi Arabia multiple times, but they were repeatedly told not to limit output.
- Instead, OPEC+ has decided to reduce output by the greatest amount since the COVID-19 outbreak began.

- This account enables NRIs to save money in the currency of the nation from where it was originally earned.
- US Dollars, British Pounds, Euros, Japanese Yen, Australian Dollars, and Canadian Dollars are just a few of the currencies that can be held in FCNR accounts.
- Such deposits' interest is not subject to income tax.

## What are Foreign Currency Non-Resident (FCNR) deposits?



### How do they operate?

- These deposit accounts are a term deposit account, not savings.
- Once can withdraw your money before the date of maturity, and there will be no charges, but the interest will not be paid until after a year is complete.

### Benefits offered

- FCNRs are just like FDs, but in foreign currency, for resident Indians.
- They provide as excellent investment possibilities for NRIs to make initial investments in the nation before exploring other stock market investment options.
- The danger of exchange rate changes is eliminated because the funds are kept in those currencies.

The RBI's 2013 FCNR scheme to buffer the rupee against steep declines and rebuild foreign exchange reserves is unlikely to prove fruitful in the current crisis as economic fundamentals are different.

### What are FCNR deposits?

- Back in 2013, the RBI offered to exchange the US dollars that banks had obtained from FCNR deposits or foreign currency funding for rupees at a discount.
- For NRIs to keep a Fixed Deposit account in India, they need a bank account called an FCNR.

### Why in news?

- Forex reserves have tumbled about \$110 billion from a peak of \$642 billion in September last year.
- A significant reason behind this is RBI's currency market intervention.

## Competition panel penalizes Google



The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has imposed a ₹1,337.76-crore penalty on Google for abusing its dominant position in multiple markets in the Android mobile device ecosystem.

#### What did Google do?

- In the licencing of its operating system for smart mobile devices and the app store market for Android smart mobiles, among other things, Google has misused its power.
- The CCI looked at Google's licencing policies and procedures as well as those of its proprietary mobile applications, such as Play Store, Google Search, Google Chrome, YouTube, etc.

#### About Competition Commission of India

- The competition authority in India is called CCI.

- It is a legislative organisation tasked with upholding The Competition Act, 2002, fostering competition across India, and suppressing actions that might materially harm competition there.
- It was started on October 14th, 2003. In May 2009, it achieved full functionality.

#### Its establishment

- It was considered that competition and private enterprise needed to be encouraged, particularly in light of the 1991 economic liberalisation of India.
- The Competition Act, 2002, which was created by the Vajpayee administration, contains the CCI's original concept.
- Modern competition rules are based on the Competition Act of 2002, as updated by the Competition (Amendment) Act of 2007.
- The Act forbids anti-competitive agreements, corporate abuse of dominant positions, and combinations (including acquisitions, takeovers of control, and mergers and acquisitions) that have or are likely to have a materially negative impact on competition in India.

## Environment & Diversity

### What are Community Reserves?



India's North East has seen a mushrooming of 'community reserves' in the last 11 years.

#### What are Community Reserves?

- According to the Wild Life (Protection) Act of 1972, community reserves, marine protected areas, national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, and conservation reserves are all considered protected places.

- The Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act of 2002, which amended the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972, was the legislation that first codified community reserves.
- If these regions are uninhabited, wholly held by the Gol, but used for sustenance by communities, they are labelled as conservation areas; if some of the lands are privately owned, they are designated as community areas.

### Why need such areas?

- Due to private land ownership and use, there is less protection within and surrounding current or prospective protected areas, which is why these categories have been introduced.
- A prime example is the Melghat Tiger Reserve, where private ownership resulted in a sizable portion of the reserve being kept unprotected.
- Typically, they are passageways for animals migrating between India's designated national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, and reserved and protected forests.

### Who administers Community Reserves?

- After being designated as a community reserve, forestland is no longer under the control of local village councils and is instead under the control of the forest department.
- Similar to communal forests, these reserves would be managed by locals and organisations like the Gram Panchayat.
- The first instances of private land receiving protection under Indian law are community reserves.
- It creates the prospect of publicly owned, for-profit wildlife resorts and makes it possible for

privately held regions to be protected by non-profit groups like land trusts.

## PUC Certificate must to buy fuel in New Delhi



Motorists will not be able to buy fuel in Delhi without a valid Pollution Under Control (PUC) certificate from October 25.

### What is PUC Certificate?

- A police officer in uniform authorised by the state government may request the PUC certificate from any person operating a motor vehicle.
- If a vehicle is discovered to be in compliance with the established emission standards, these issue certificates.
- The PUC certificate is now required under the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019, which went into effect on January 1, 2019.
- A PUC certificate includes details including the vehicle's licence plate number, the results of the PUC test, the date the PUC test was performed, and the expiration date.

### Compliance rules

- Every motor vehicle must have a current PUC Certificate once a year has passed after the date



of its initial registration, as per the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

- This comprises vehicles that adhere to BS-I, BS-II, BS-III, BS-IV, BS-VI, as well as those that operate on CNG or LPG.
- However, the validity period for four-wheeled BS-IV compliant vehicles is one year, while it is just three months for other vehicles.

### Why obtain PUC Certificate?

- Emissions from automobiles are major contributors to air pollution all over the world.
- The smoke emitted from vehicles contains the following pollutants:
  1. Hydrocarbons (HC)
  2. Carbon Monoxide (CO)
  3. Oxides of Nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>)
  4. Particulate Matter (PM)
  5. Sulphur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>)
  6. Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)
  7. Nitrous Oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O)

## Early warning for heatwaves sees huge improvement

### Getting better at predicting heatwaves

On an average, two-three heatwave events are expected every season

■ Heatwaves are predominantly observed over central and northwest India and another over coastal Andhra Pradesh and Odisha

■ Heatwaves are caused by large scale atmospheric circulation anomalies like high pressure areas, upper-tropospheric jet streams, etc.

■ The global forcing like the El Nino/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and the Indian Ocean modulate the frequency and duration of Indian heatwaves

■ IMD has the capability to predict the genesis, duration and intensity of heatwave events with reasonable accuracy up to four-five days in advance

■ IITM, Pune, has been able to predict heatwave genesis and duration up to two weeks in advance

■ IMD, IITM and MoES have, for the first time, been able to predict heatwaves even one season in advance

■ India has end-to-end seamless prediction system to predict heatwaves in all-time scales – from short-range to seasonal



Total duration of heatwaves has increased by about three days during the last 30 years.

Indian scientists have, for the first time, been able to predict heatwaves even one season in advance.

### What is the news?

- Indian heatwaves can be forecast even one season in advance, according to a recent study by India's Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- They used hindcasts from the Monsoon Mission Coupled Climate Forecast Model for 37 years (1981–2017). (MMCFS).
- It provided highly helpful seasonal estimates for the frequency and length of Indian heatwaves between April and June.

### What is a Heatwave and when is it declared?

- Between March and June, India experiences heatwaves.
- When the highest (daytime) temperature for a site in the plains exceeds 40 degrees Celsius, IMD announces a heatwave event.
- The threshold temperature is 30 degrees Celsius over the hills.

### How are they formed?

Heatwaves are generally the result of trapped air

- Heat waves form when high pressure aloft (3,000–7,600 metres) strengthens and remains over a region for several days up to several weeks
- This high concentration of pressure makes it difficult for other weather systems to move into the area, which is why a heatwave can last for several days or weeks
- High-pressure systems force air downward
- The high-pressure inhibits winds. It also prevents clouds from entering the region
- This force prevents air near the ground from rising
- The end result is a continual build-up of heat at the surface that people experience as a heat wave
- The sinking air acts like a cap. It traps warm ground air in place

- Heatwaves develop when high pressure (3,000–7,600 metres) in the atmosphere becomes stronger and stays over a location for many days to several weeks.
- As the jet stream "follows the sun," this happens frequently in the summer (in both the Northern and Southern Hemispheres).
- The high pressure area is located in the upper layers of the atmosphere on the equator side of the jet stream.
- Weather patterns typically vary more slowly in the summer than they do in the winter. This upper level high pressure consequently moves slowly as well.
- High pressure causes the air to descend (subside) toward the surface where it warms and dries adiabatically, reducing convection and cloud formation.
- Cloud cover lessening increases the amount of shortwave radiation reaching the surface.
- Because of the surface low pressure, surface winds from lower latitudes carry warm air, accelerating the warming.
- Heat waves could also result from surface winds that are blowing from the warm heart of the continent towards the shore.

## Impact of Heatwaves

- **Heat Strokes:** Very high temperatures or humid conditions pose an elevated risk of heat stroke or heat exhaustion.
- **Increased healthcare costs:** Effects from extreme heat are also associated with increased hospitalizations and emergency room visits, increased deaths from cardio-respiratory and

other diseases, mental health issues, adverse pregnancy and birth outcomes, etc.

- **Lesser work productivity:** Extreme heat also lessens worker productivity, especially among the more than 1 billion workers who are exposed to high heat on a regular basis.
- **Risk of wildfires:** The heat domes act as fuel to wildfires, which destroys a lot of land area every year in countries like the US.
- **Weather impacts:** The condition also prevents clouds from forming, allowing for more radiation from the sun to hit the ground.

## Mitigating its impacts

- The detrimental effects of heatwaves can be reduced with effective adaptation.
- This can be accomplished by creating a thorough heat response plan that incorporates early warnings, raising awareness, and technological intervention.
- The India Meteorological Department (IMD), the National and State disaster management authorities, and municipal entities are all part of the country's robust national framework for heat response plans.
- The core of this heat action plan is the early warning system.

## Way forward

- Seasonal forecasts should use a multi-model ensemble (MME) forecasting strategy.
- Short-range ensemble forecasts should use higher-resolution global models, initialized with observed soil moisture data, which are available from microwave satellites and IMD's soil moisture network.

## Eco-Sensitive Zones: SC may take up Kerala's review



The Supreme Court has indicated that it may consider taking up Kerala's review of the Supreme Court's judgment to have a 1km eco-sensitive zone ringing protected forests, national parks and wildlife sanctuaries across the country.

### What are the Eco-sensitive Zones (ESZs)?

- The MoEFCC has designated certain regions as Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZs) or Ecologically Fragile Areas (EFAs) that are located surrounding Protected Areas, National Parks, and Wildlife Sanctuaries.
- By controlling and supervising the activities in and around protected areas, ESZs serve as a form of "shock absorber" for the protected regions.
- They serve as a crossing point between regions with high levels of protection and those with lower levels of protection.

### Defining its boundaries

- According to the Wildlife Conservation Strategy, 2002, an ESZ may extend up to 10 kilometres around a protected area.
- Additionally, sensitive corridors, connectivity, and ecologically significant patches that are necessary for landscape linkage and are wider than 10 km should be included in the ESZs.

- Additionally, even within the boundaries of a specific Protected Area, the distribution of an ESZ and the degree of restriction may not be consistent everywhere and may vary in width and extent.

### What is the recent SC judgment that has caused an uproar in Kerala?

- On June 3, a three-judge Supreme Court panel heard a PIL that first aimed to save forest lands in Tamil Nadu's Nilgiris but was later expanded to include the entire nation.
- While describing the 2011 rules as "appropriate" in its ruling, the court ordered all states to establish a minimum 1-km ESZ from each protected area's defined bounds.
- Additionally, it was declared that mining and new permanent structures would not be allowed inside the ESZ.
- According to the court, the enlarged boundary shall take precedence if the present ESZ exceeds the 1-km buffer zone or if any statutory instrument specifies a higher limit.

### Why are people protesting against it?

- Near the alerted protected areas, there is a substantial human population.
- Farmers' organisations and political parties have been calling for the exclusion of all human settlements from the ESZ judgement.
- Eight lakh acres make up all of Kerala's wildlife reserves.
- Around 4 lakh acres of human settlements, including farmlands, would fall under that jurisdiction if an ESZ was delineated at a distance of one kilometre from their borders.

## What are Green Crackers?

**WHAT ARE 'GREEN CRACKERS'?**

Firecrackers that have "less dangerous" and "less harmful" chemicals than conventional ones

**Green Because**

- ▶ They have a chemical formulation that produces water molecules
- ▶ This substantially reduces emission level and absorbs dust
- ▶ Is basically a light and sound show that produces lower emissions
- ▶ Promise **30-35% reduction** in particulate matter, nitrous oxide and sulphur oxide

**Also In The Works**

E-CRACKERS BEING DEVELOPED BY CSIR'S CENTRAL ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Expected to hit the market in 4-5 years\*

**OTHER INITIATIVES**

- Crackers with lower aluminium to reduce emissions substantially
- 'Anar' or flower pot made using eco-friendly material that can reduce particulate matter by 40%
- Biji crackers that eliminate use of ash as desiccants
- Firecrackers without antimony, lithium, mercury, arsenic and lead as directed by PESO last year

Being Developed by CSIR's National Environmental Engineering Research Institute

Production after they are approved by Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO)

Council of Scientific and Industrial Research

- The production of green crackers, sometimes referred to as eco-friendly crackers, uses alternative raw materials that are less harmful to the environment and human health.
- It has been claimed that because they don't contain aluminium, barium, potassium nitrate, or carbon, green crackers are environmentally beneficial.

### Are they totally pollution free?

- Compared to conventional crackers, green crackers are 30% less polluting.
- Green crackers contain little to no barium, and the smoke and emissions are brought on by the chemical barium nitrate.
- Green crackers are believed to have a lower sound level than regular crackers, as well as reducing air pollution—between 110 and 125 decibels as opposed to around 160 decibels for regular crackers.
- These green firecrackers are more expensive than traditional ones despite all of their advantages.

Many states have outlawed firecrackers and mandated the production, sale, and usage of only green firecrackers in light of Diwali's impending arrival and the air pollution crisis.

### What are green crackers?

- Environmentally friendly fireworks called "green crackers" can reduce the amount of air pollution that traditional firecrackers cause.
- These were produced by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).
- The National Environmental and Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), a CSIR lab, created these green crackers, which come with flower pots, pencils, pyrotechnics, maroons, bombs, and chakkar.

### How are they made?

### Judicial observation over fire-crackers

- The Supreme Court ruled on firecrackers on October 28, 2021, and while it did not oppose any particular celebration or community, it did rule that others could not infringe on a citizen's right to live under the guise of official authority.
- It was decided that one cannot celebrate at the expense of another's health.
- It is made clear that the usage of firecrackers is not entirely forbidden.
- Only those firecrackers (joined, chemical) that have been determined to be harmful to health and have an impact on the health of residents,

particularly the elderly and children, are prohibited.

### What are the traders' concerns?

- Traders have expressed concerns about the crackers' shelf life due to the new green cracker composition.
- Manufacturers also need to overcome the rigorous certification process run by the Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO).

### Two Lakshadweep beaches get Blue Flag Certification



With The New Entrants India Now Has 12 Blue Beaches  
(An International Eco-Label Given To  
World's Cleanest Beaches)

The globally recognised and coveted international eco-label 'Blue Flag' has been accorded to two new Indian beaches — Minicoy Thundi Beach and Kadmat Beach, both in Lakshadweep.

### What is Blue Flag?

- An distinctive eco-label or certification known as the "Blue Flag" is presented to coastal areas all over the world as a mark of environmental distinction.

- The programme is conducted by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE), a nonprofit with its headquarters in Copenhagen, Denmark.
- It aims to support the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- It began in France in 1985, has been put into practise in Europe since 1987, and has been used outside of Europe when South Africa joined in 2001.
- Every year, certification is given out. The badge has so far been given to 5,042 beaches, marinas, and tourist vessels throughout 48 nations.

### Criteria for certification

It has 33 stringent criteria under four major heads for the beaches, that is-

1. Environmental Education and Information
2. Bathing Water Quality
3. Environment Management and Conservation and
4. Safety and Services

### Total blue beaches in India

India now has 12 blue beaches. The other 10 Indian beaches on the list, according to the FEE site, are-

1. Shivrajpur in Gujarat's Devbhumi Dwarka district
2. Ghogla beach in Diu
3. Kasarkod (Uttara Kannada) and
4. Padubidri (Udupi) in Karnataka;
5. Kappad (Kozhikode) in Kerala
6. Eden beach in Puducherry
7. Kovalam (Chennai) in Tamil Nadu

8. Rushikonda (Visakhapatnam) in Andhra Pradesh
9. Golden beach in Puri, Odisha; and

10. Radhanagar Swarajdeep in Andaman and Nicobar.

## Governance

### ‘Professors of Practice’ for all colleges, universities



### University Grants Commission

University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued new guidelines under which higher education institutes can create a new teaching position called Professor of Practice to hire experts from various sectors, in line with provisions that already exist in the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs).

#### Professors of Practice

- Even if a person lacks a formal academic degree like a PhD but is a renowned practitioner in their field, they may still be qualified for faculty appointments at any colleges or universities in India.
- An individual must be a "distinguished specialist" who has made noteworthy contributions to their professions in order to be qualified for appointment.
- The institutions have the freedom to select the industry from which they want to hire experts for the position.

#### Streams opened for this post

- A professor of practice can be anyone with a background in a diverse range of areas from technology, science, social sciences, media, literature, armed forces, law, fine arts, etc.
- However, the position is not open for those in the teaching profession — either serving or retired.

#### Minimum qualifications

- No formal academic qualification is necessary in order to be considered for this position if a person has been an “exemplary” professional in their field of work.
- Currently, under the UGC’s minimum qualifications needs a PhD to be recruited as a professor or associate professor, and also needs to have cleared the National Eligibility Test (NET).

#### Will the professor of practice be a full-time position?

- It can be either a full-time or a part-time engagement for at least four years.
- Initially, the hiring will be for one year.
- Based on performance, extensions may be given.

#### How will these appointments be made?

- Colleges and universities will make appointments based on nominations.
- In other words, vice-chancellors or directors are permitted to issue invitations for nominations

for positions that cannot exceed 10% of an institute's allowed faculty strength.

- Those who are interested may submit their applications after nominations are requested, along with a brief essay outlining how they might be of assistance.
- A screening committee made up of two senior professors from each institute and one "outstanding external member" will review the applications.
- The academic council and executive council of the institutes will make the final decision regarding appointments based on the committee's recommendations.

### What about remuneration?

- The remuneration will be decided at the level of the institutes and the experts being hired.
- In some cases, universities can even approach industries for financial support.

### Progress of the Jal Jeevan Mission



Around 62% of rural households in India had fully functional tap water connections under the Jal Jeevan Mission.

### Jal Jeevan Mission

- The Jal Jeevan Mission, a project of the national government under the Ministry of Jal Shakti,

seeks to guarantee that every home in India has access to piped water.

- The mission's objective is to link every household in rural India to a safe and sufficient water supply by 2024.
- The FM announced the Har Ghar Nal Se Jal programme during his statement about the 2019–20 budget.
- A key component of the Jal Jeevan Mission is this initiative.
- It is a central sector programme, with the centre paying 90% of the bill for NE and Himalayan states and sharing 50% of the expense with States and UTs (with the exception of UT without a legislature).

### Components of the mission

The following key components are supported under JJM-

- Development of in-village piped water supply infrastructure to provide tap water connection to every rural household
- Bulk water transfer, treatment plants and distribution network to cater to every rural household
- Technological interventions for removal of contaminants where water quality is an issue
- Retrofitting of completed and ongoing schemes
- Greywater management

### Progress of the scheme

- More than 80% of homes in Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh, Goa, and Puducherry reported having completely operational connections.

- However, less than half of the families in Sikkim, Rajasthan, Kerala, Manipur, and Madhya Pradesh possessed such a link.
- Only 8% of families only received water once per week, whereas nearly three-quarters had it every day.
- Households received water for three hours per day on average, and 80% said that the tap connections were providing them with enough water to meet their needs each day.

- It is a centrally sponsored programme that the union government and the states both contribute to financially.
- It now includes the Senior Citizen Health Insurance Scheme and the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY), two ongoing centrally sponsored programmes (SCHIS).

### Features of the scheme

- A defined benefit cover of Rs. 5 lakh per household, per year, would be included.
- A beneficiary insured by the programme may receive cashless benefits from any public or private hospitals across the nation because the program's benefits are transferable across the nation.
- It will be an entitlement-based programme, and eligibility will be determined using deprivation criteria found in the SECC database.
- Both publicly accessible facilities and privately contracted facilities are available to recipients.
- Payments for treatment will be made on a package rate basis, which will be determined in advance by the government, in order to contain expenses.

## Has Ayushman Bharat lived up to its potential?



India has completed four years of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri-Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), the world's largest public health insurance programme.

### What is Ayushman Bharat?

- Ayushman Bharat is the National Health Protection Scheme, which will provide coverage up to 5 lakh rupees per household per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalisation for over 10 crore poor and vulnerable families (about 50 crore beneficiaries).
- By order of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, it was introduced in September 2018.

### India's health expenditure post Ayushman Bharat

- India continues to have among of the lowest public healthcare spending worldwide.
- Total health spending decreased from 3.3% of GDP in 2017–18 to 3.2% of GDP in 2018–19, while government health spending (at the federal, state, and local levels) decreased from 1.35% to 1.28% of GDP during the same year.
- According to national health estimates, the Center's part decreased from 40.8% to 34.3% in



2018–19 while the States' portion increased from 59.2% to 65.7%.

- Although it is substantially higher than the global average of 18.1% in 2019, out-of-pocket expenditures as a percentage of overall health spending fell to 48.2% in 2018–19.

2. YY – Year of first registration
3. BH- Code for Bharat Series
4. #####- 0000 to 9999 (randomized)
5. XX- Alphabets (AA to ZZ)

## Amendments to Bharat Series Rules



The Ministry of Road Transport and Highway has issued a draft notification proposing new rules to further increase the scope of implementation of the BH series vehicle registrations.

### Bharat series (BH-series)

- There was a procedure of re-registration of a vehicle while moving to another state.
- A vehicle bearing BH registration mark shall not require assignment of a new registration mark when the owner of the vehicle shifts from one State to another.
- Format of Bharat series (BH-series) Registration Mark –

Registration Mark Format:

1. YY BH ##### XX

### Why such move?

- Changing stations happens to personnel in the public and private sectors.
- When it comes to the transfer of registration from the parent state to another state, such movements make these employees feel uneasy.
- A person is only permitted to maintain a vehicle in a state other than the one in which it is registered for a maximum of 12 months under section 47 of the Motor Vehicles Act of 1988.

### Who can get this BH series?

- Defense personnel, employees of the Central Government, State Government, Central/State PSUs, and private sector businesses/organizations will all have access to the BH-series on a voluntary basis.
- The motor vehicle tax is imposed for a period of two years or a multiple of two years.
- As soon as a person relocates to a new State or UT in India, this scheme will enable unrestricted personal vehicle transportation between such States/UTs.
- A motor vehicle tax equal to half of what was previously assessed for such vehicle will be levied yearly after the completion of the fourteenth year.

## TN bans online 'Games of chance' and Gambling



Online gambling and online games of chance have been banned in Tamil Nadu. At the same time, the other online games will be regulated.

### What is Online Gaming?

- Online games refer to games that are played over some form of computer network, most often the Internet.

### Types of gaming

- The types of online gaming include:
  1. **E-sports** (well-organized electronic sports which include professional players) ex. Chess
  2. **Fantasy sports** (choosing real-life sports players and winning points based on players' performance) ex. MPL cricket
  3. **Skill-based** (mental skill) ex. Archery
  4. **Gamble** (based on random activity) ex. Playing Cards, Rummy

### Online gaming sector in India

- In the past few years, India's nascent online gaming industry witnessed an unprecedented rise, catapulting it to the top five mobile gaming markets in the world.

- Registering a growth rate of 38%, online gaming is the next sunrise industry.
1. Currently, there are more than 400 gaming companies in India, and it is home to 420 million online gamers, second only to China, according to an analysis by KPMG.

### Prospects of online gaming

- **State List Subject:** The state legislators are, vide Entry No. 34 of List II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule, given exclusive power to make laws relating to betting and gambling.
- **Distinction in laws:** Most Indian states regulate gaming on the basis of a distinction in law between 'games of skill' and 'games of chance'.
- **Classification on dominant element:** As such, a 'dominant element' test is utilized to determine whether chance or skill is the dominating element in determining the result of the game.
- **Linked economic activity:** Staking money or property on the outcome of a 'game of chance' is prohibited and subjects the guilty parties to criminal sanctions.
- **'Game of Skill' debate:** Placing any stakes on the outcome of a 'game of skill' is not illegal per se and may be permissible. It is important to note that the Supreme Court recognized that no game is purely a 'game of skill' and almost all games have an element of chance.

### Need for regulation

- **No comprehensive regulation:** India currently has no comprehensive legislation with regards to the legality of online gaming or boundaries that specify applicable tax rates within the betting and gambling industry.

- **Ambiguity of the sector:** The gaming sector is nascent and is still evolving, and many states are bringing about legislation seeking to bring about some order in the online gaming sector.

## Issues with online gaming

- **Gaming addiction:** Numerous people are developing an addiction to online gaming. This is destroying lives and devastating families.
- **Compulsive gaming:** Gaming by children is affecting their performance in schools and impacting their social lives & relationships with family members. Ex. PUBG

- **Impact on psychological health:** Online games like PUBG and the Blue Whale Challenge were banned after incidents of violence and suicide.
- **Threat to Data privacy:** Inadvertent sharing of personal information can lead to cases of cheating, privacy violations, abuse, and bullying.
- **Betting and gambling:** Online games based on the traditional ludo, arguably the most popular online game in India, have run into controversy, and allegations of betting and gambling.

## History

### Ponniyin Selvan and the Cholas



In all the buzz around the Tamil film Ponniyin Selvan: 1 or PS1, a fictional period drama, a point of focus has been the Chola dynasty that the film is based on.

#### Why in news?

- A notable actor has spoke about the progressiveness of the Chola era.
- He mentioned the architectural marvels and temples, the social setup of the time, and how cities were named after women.

#### Behind the name- PS1

- The fictional account of the Chola kingdom appeared in a weekly journal in the early 1950s and garnered popularity.
- These were later compiled into a novel called 'Ponniyin Selvan', which became the inspiration for the movie, whose second part is due for release in 2023.

#### Who were the Cholas?

- From the ninth to the twelfth centuries AD, the Chola monarchy encompassed what is now Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and portions of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.
- Vijaylaya, a Pallava monarch who was called a "feudatory," started the dynasty.

- Vijaylaya built the groundwork for a dynasty that would control a significant portion of southern India while being a relatively minor player in the area among giants.

## Might of the Cholas

### (1) Defense

- One of the biggest achievements of the Chola dynasty was its naval power, allowing them to go as far as Malaysia and the Sumatra islands of Indonesia in their conquests.
- The domination was such that the Bay of Bengal was converted into a “Chola lake” for some time.

### (2) Economy

- While the extent of this domination is disputed, the Cholas had strong ties with merchant groups and this allowed them to undertake impressive naval expeditions.
- In general, even merchant guilds, which had close ties to the court, had to hire their own guards because roads could be dangerous.

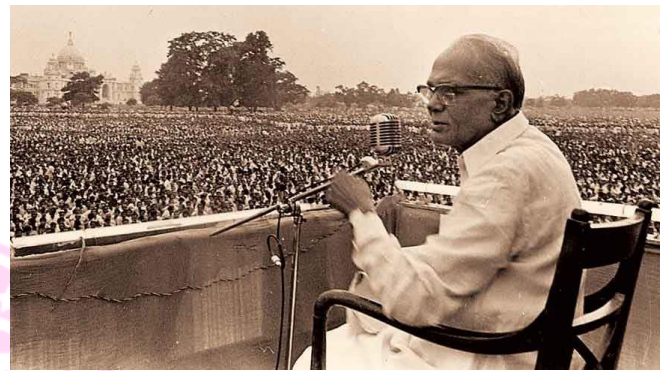
### (3) Culture

- Kanisetti cites another element as the Cholas' remarkable expansion of the large temple building tradition, which was typical of the local kingdoms at the period.
- The largest structure in India at the time was the imposing Brihadeeswara temple in Thanjavur, which was constructed by the Cholas.
- In addition, Chola kings and queens commissioned artwork and sculptures, such as the well-known bronze Nataraja statues.

## Women under the Cholas

- The influence of women on public life is bringing attention to the position of women in the royal family.
- But that does not mean that everyday women had the same power as men.
- Instead of valuing women, the proximity of the royal women to male power was cherished.

## Person in news: Jayaprakash Narayan (JP)



Union Home Minister unveiled a 15-foot statue of Jayaprakash Narayan or JP on his 120th birth anniversary at the socialist icon’s birthplace, Sitab Diara village in Bihar’s Saran district.

### Who was Jayaprakash Narayan?

- JP was born in the frequently-flooded village of Sitab Diara in Bihar in 1902; shortly afterward, his family relocated to a different village in the Balia district of Uttar Pradesh.
- He dropped out of college to join the anti-cooperation movement before enrolling at the University of California, Berkeley, where Karl Marx's theories had an impact on him.

### Political affiliations

- In 1929, JP went to India and joined the fight for independence and the Indian National Congress

at Jawaharlal Nehru's invitation and after being inspired by a lecture by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.

- He then became one of the original founders of the Congress Socialist Party (CSP).
- After independence, J B Kripalani's Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party was split off from the Congress to form the Socialist Party, which was then combined with it to form the Praja Socialist Party.

### Dissociation from active politics

- Nehru wanted JP to join the Union administration, but JP preferred to stay away from electoral politics and concentrate on social concerns.
- Political parties had lost his respect, and he advocated for communitarian democracy.
- He thought that because parties were centralised, they were vulnerable to ethical and financial corruption.

### The JP movement

- In Gujarat, students started protesting in the latter part of 1973 as a result of rising mess costs.
- As the demonstrations extended throughout the state, workers, teachers, and a number of other groups joined the campaign to demand an end to the current administration.
- JP saw the Gujarati youth who had been successful in bringing about political change as a viable alternative to electoral politics.
- As the anti-corruption movements gained momentum, Bihar's students launched their movement in March 1974.

- JP led the movement after stepping out of his self-imposed political exile when the students approached him. In a Patna rally, he demanded Sampurna Kranti (Total Revolution).

### Opposition to the Emergency

- JP changed his focus to resisting the authoritarian government when Indira Gandhi declared an Emergency on June 25, 1975, and opposition parties looked to him for leadership.
- While the RSS and its political front, the Jana Sangh, aspired to reintegrate into society and were content to be dissolved into the Janata Party that JP had founded, the Socialists were inevitably pulled to him ideologically.
- JP is lauded for starting a widespread, popular movement against the Indira Gandhi administration, which resulted in the election of the Janata Party to power in the general election of 1977.
- This was the nation's first non-Congress administration.

## Mangarh Massacre of 1913



Ahead of PM Modi's visit to Mangarh Dham in Banswara district, Rajasthan CM has sought the declaration of the memorial for tribals as a monument of national importance.

## About Mangarh Massacre

- The British Indian Army's 1913 slaughter of tribal people at Mangarh Dham is well-known.
- The name Adivasi Jallianwala is often used to describe this location.
- The British Indian Army opened fire on the protesters at Mangarh on November 17, 1913, killing over 1,500 Bhil tribal members and forest inhabitants.
- The people came to call for the elimination of the system of bonded labour and a reduction in the high agricultural taxes levied by the rulers of princely kingdoms.
- The social reformer Govind Guru was in charge of the tribals in the southern region of Rajasthan.

## Course of events

- Early in the 1890s, Govind Guru began his movement among the Bhils.
- The movement's core religious idea was the idea of a fire deity, whose devotees had to build sacred hearths in front of which Bhils would worship and execute the purifying ritual known as dhuni.

- On Mangadh Hill, the guru erected his primary dhuni in 1903.
- By 1910, after being organised by him, the Bhils presented the British with a charter with 33 demands, most of which had to do with forced labour, exorbitant taxes levied against Bhils, and harassment of the guru's devotees by princely states.
- After the British and local authorities rejected the demands and attempted to put an end to the Bhagat movement in 1913, the Bhil struggle for justice led by Govind Guru took a severe turn.

## Q. Which amongst the following provided a common factor for tribal insurrection in India in the 19<sup>th</sup> century?

- (a) Introduction of a new system of land revenue and taxation of tribal products.
- (b) Influence of foreign religious missionaries in tribal areas.
- (c) Rise of a large number of money lenders, traders and revenue farmers as middlemen in tribal areas.
- (d) The complete disruption of the old agrarian order of the tribal communities.

# International Relations

## What is OPEC+?



Oil prices rose about 1%, as OPEC+ members agreed to its deepest cuts to output since the 2020 COVID pandemic, despite a tight market and opposition to cuts from the United States and others.

## What is OPEC+?

- OPEC + countries are the non-OPEC nations that export crude oil alongside the 14 OPEC nations.

- Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Brunei, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mexico, Oman, Russia, South Sudan, and Sudan are among the nations that make up OPEC plus.
- Saudi Arabia and Russia have both been at the centre of OPEC Plus, a three-year coalition of oil producers that aims to support oil prices by cutting production. OPEC Plus now includes 11 OPEC members and 10 non-OPEC countries.

### Why is OPEC+ slashing production?

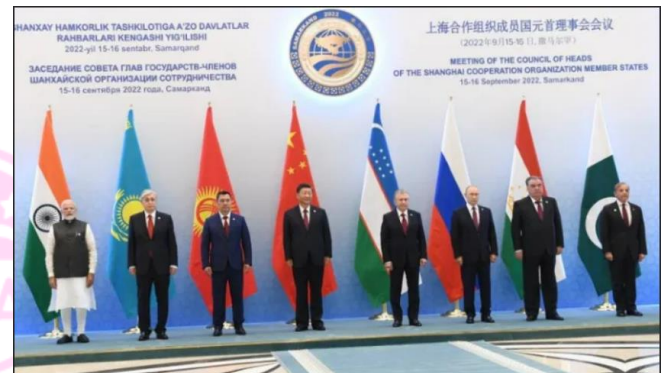
- After Russia's invasion of Ukraine, oil prices soared.
- The most significant reduction of this kind has occurred since 2020, when OPEC+ nations reduced outputs by 10 million bpd in response to the COVID-19 epidemic.
- The price drops would increase costs and be very advantageous for the Middle Eastern countries that Europe has turned to for oil after imposing sanctions against Russia because of its invasion of Ukraine.
- Members of OPEC+ are worried that a deteriorating global economy would result in a decline in oil demand, and the cuts are seen as a method to safeguard earnings.

### Concerns for India

- Even after receiving inexpensive Russian oil, India's fuel prices have not decreased.
- In India, where heavily taxed retail fuel prices have reached all-time highs, rising oil prices are causing fiscal issues and endangering the demand-driven recovery.

- Over three-fifths of India's oil needs are met by imports, which account for around 84% of the country's total oil imports.
- India, one of the biggest consumers of petroleum, is concerned that such steps by producing nations could jeopardise a recovery that is driven by consumer spending.
- Consumers will suffer as a result, particularly in our price-sensitive economy.

### Pakistan to take part in SCO anti-terror exercise hosted by India



Pakistan has been invited to the closing ceremony of the ongoing Joint Anti-Terror Exercise (JATE) within the ambit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) being hosted by India.

### What is the news?

- The National Security Guard (NSG) is hosting the multinational JATE “Manesar Anti-Terror 2022”, under the framework of the SCO Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS).
- Pakistan team would be participating in the event as a member of the SCO.

### What is SCO RATS?

- A permanent SCO body called the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) works to encourage member nations' collaboration in the fight against the three evils of terrorism, separatism, and extremism.
- Its main office is in Tashkent.
- Its leader is chosen to serve a three-year term.
- Each SCO member state sends a permanent delegate to RATS.

## About Shanghai Cooperation Organization's (SCO)

- In addition to China, other countries that make up the SCO include Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India, and Pakistan.
- In 2017, the group accepted Pakistan and India.
- Beijing, China serves as the home base for this Eurasian organisation for security, politics, and economics.
- Military cooperation between member states is its principal goal.
- It is primarily focused on the security-related worries of Central Asian members, with terrorism, separatism, and extremism as the key dangers.
- It was created in June 2001 as the successor to the Shanghai Five mechanism, which had China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, and Tajikistan as members when it was first established in 1996.

## Israel and Lebanon reach an Agreement on Maritime Border



Israel has reached a US-brokered agreement with Lebanon to settle their long-disputed maritime border. This has been seen as a historic deal.

### Israel-Lebanon Boundary Issue

- The proposed accord intends to resolve Israel and Lebanon's conflicting claims over the area's offshore gas reserves.
- The Karish gas field, which Israel believed completely fell within its seas and was not a topic of negotiation, was a major source of contention.
- Since the two nations proclaimed overlapping limits in the Mediterranean Sea in 2011, the problem has been for a little more than ten years.
- The United Nations was invited to mediate because, technically, both nations have been at war.
- The problem acquired importance after Israel, which experts had predicted could become an energy exporter, discovered two gas deposits off its coast ten years ago.



## Key terms of the Agreement

- The deal aims to settle a territorial issue in the eastern Mediterranean Sea, where Lebanon wants to conduct natural gas exploration.
- This deal would allow both countries to receive royalties from the gas field, which is situated on the maritime border between them.
- It also establishes the first sea border between Israel and Lebanon.

## Why is this agreement signed?

- Threats of terrorism: After concerns of an escalation if negotiations broke down, the accord is expected to avert the immediate threat of confrontation between Israel and Hezbollah terrorists in Lebanon.
- Energy exploitation: The pact would open up new avenues for both nations' income and energy production, which is crucial for Lebanon,

which is enduring a crushing financial and energy crisis.

- Alternative energy for Europe: It might also have a larger effect, possibly giving Europe a new gas supplier amid energy shortages brought on by Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

## What the agreement does not address?

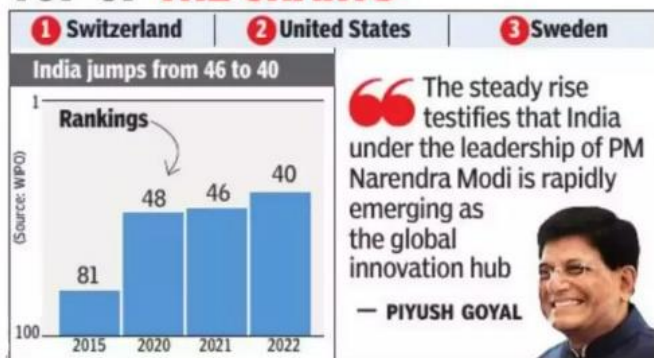
### Ans. Blue Line Issue

- The shared land border between Israel and Lebanon, which is still up for debate but where both nations are committed to a ceasefire, is not mentioned in the deal.
- This line, often known as the Blue Line, was established by the UN in the years following Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon in 2000.
- The United Nations forces are currently policing this land border.

## Science, Technology, Art & Culture

### India ranks 40th in the Global Innovation Index of WIPO

#### TOP OF THE CHARTS



India climbed six notches to 40th position in the Global Innovation Index 2022 on account of improvement in several parameters. India was at 46th position in 2021 and at 81st rank in 2015.

### Global Innovation Index

- Every year, countries are ranked according to their propensity for and success with innovation in the Global Innovation Index (GII).
- In collaboration with other businesses and institutions, Cornell University, INSEAD, and the World Intellectual Property Organization publish it.

- It is founded on both subjective and factual information gathered from a variety of sources, such as the World Bank, the International Telecommunication Union, and the World Economic Forum.
- INSEAD and the British journal World Business launched the index in 2007. Soumitra Dutta, a professor, designed it.

### Components of GII

Global Innovation Index					Innovation Output Sub-Index	
Innovation Input Sub-Index					Innovation Output Sub-Index	
1. Institutions	2. Human capital and research	3. Infrastructure	4. Market sophistication	5. Business sophistication	6. Knowledge & technology outputs	7. Creative outputs
- Political environment	- Education	- ICT	- Credit	- Knowledge workers	- Knowledge creation	- Creative intangibles
- Regulatory environment	- Tertiary education	- General Infrastructure	- Investment	- Innovation linkages	- Knowledge impact	- Creative goods and services
- Business environment	- Research & development	- Ecological sustainability	- Trade & competition	- Knowledge absorption	- Knowledge diffusion	- Online creativity

- The GII is computed by taking a simple average of the scores in two sub-indices, the Innovation Input Index and Innovation Output Index, which are composed of five and two pillars respectively

### Global scenario

- The most inventive economies in the world include those of Switzerland, the United States, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands.
- China is about to enter the top 10.
- Other developing nations are performing well as well, including Turkey and India, both of which make their debut appearances in the top 40.

### What is Black Cocaine?



The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has arrested a Bolivian woman from Mumbai airport for allegedly carrying black cocaine.

### What is Black Cocaine?

- Rare substance "black cocaine" is a combination of ordinary cocaine with additional administered amounts of chemicals.
- To make it easier to pass through checkpoints, it masks the scent of cocaine.
- To disguise its normal appearance, black cocaine is a blend of conventional cocaine base and a number of other chemicals (e.g. charcoal).
- The mixture can be made to be undetectable by drug-sniffing dogs, surpassing color-based drug tests (cobalt salts create deep red complexes in solution). This is because activated carbon can effectively absorb trace odours.
- The pure cocaine base is then extracted from the combination using regular organic solvents like acetone or methylene chloride.
- The cocaine base must go through a second step to become powdered cocaine hydrochloride.

## What has been the major source of cocaine in India?

- India receives a significant amount of cocaine from South American nations where coca plants are grown.
- Typically, Mumbai serves as one of the entry locations from which it is transported to other regions of the nation, particularly to metropolises and Goa.
- Cocaine is one of the priciest narcotics on the market and is mainly used by the top classes of society.

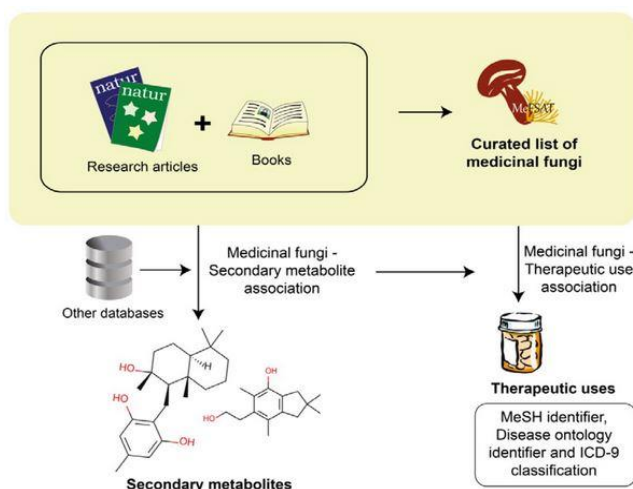
## Why in news?

- 1,830 secondary metabolites of therapeutic fungus were analysed by researchers in Chennai.
- When fungi are under stress, they produce chemical substances known as secondary metabolites.
- They improve the fungus' capacity to endure.

## What are medicinal fungi?

- Basidiomycota and Ascomycota are the two taxonomic divisions that include medicinal fungus.
- The division of basidiomycota includes mushrooms. One such is the edible button mushroom, *Agaricus bisporus*.
- Ascomycota division-related fungi are typically not mushrooms.

## MeFSAT Database for Medicinal Fungi



An analytical study of medicinal fungi using MeFSAT carried out by researchers from Chennai shows that some chemicals they secrete may find use as novel drugs.

## What is MeFSAT?

- A database called MeFSAT (Medicinal Fungus Secondary Metabolites and Therapeutics) contains data on 184 medicinal fungi, which includes mushrooms.
- It is a manually curated database that gathers data on secondary metabolites and reported therapeutic applications of medicinal fungi from books and published research articles.

## Medicine Nobel for Work on Human Evolution

### Nobel Prize for Medicine 2022



Sequencing the genome of the Neanderthal and discovering the hominin Denisova



**Svante Paabo**  
Swedish  
Born in 1955

"His discoveries on the genomes of extinct hominins and human evolution (...) provide the basis for exploring what makes us uniquely human", the jury said

Swedish scientist Svante Paabo won the Nobel Prize in medicine for his discoveries on human evolution that provided key insights into our immune system and what makes us unique compared with our extinct ancestors.

### Svante Paabo: His work, explained

- The foundation for examining what is specifically human comes from Svante Paabo's groundbreaking discoveries.
- Both the currently extinct ape species thought to be linked to modern humans and modern humans themselves are referred to as hominins.
- Paabo discovered that after the exodus from Africa some 70,000 years ago, there had been a gene transfer from these now extinct hominins to modern humans.
- Humans today still benefit physiologically from this ancient gene flow because it influences, for example, how our immune systems respond to infections.
- Paleogenomics, which Paabo founded, is a brand-new branch of science that focuses on reconstructing the DNA and genetic makeup of extinct hominins in order to study it.

### What is the relation between evolution and biology?

- Paabo's discoveries have created a special resource that is widely used by the scientific world to comprehend human migration and evolution.
- We now know that ancient DNA sequences from our lost ancestors have an impact on the physiology of modern humans.

### What are the challenges in carrying out such research?

- Because DNA breaks down into small fragments over time and undergoes chemical modification, there are extremely difficult technical obstacles.

- The fundamental problem is that exposure to the natural environment causes DNA contamination and that, after thousands of years, only traces of DNA are still present.

### Nobel for work on Click Chemistry

**2022 NOBEL PRIZE IN CHEMISTRY**

The 2022 Nobel Prize in Chemistry was awarded jointly to Carolyn R. Bertozzi, Morten Meldal and K. Barry Sharpless for their development of click chemistry and bioorthogonal chemistry.

Barry Sharpless coined the concept of "click" chemistry in 2001: the idea of reactions that efficiently snap together small molecular building blocks using easily achieved reaction conditions, avoiding unwanted byproducts.

Independently, Barry Sharpless and Morten Meldal developed the first click reaction: a reaction in which an azide is added to an alkyne with a copper catalyst. The two reagents click together to form a single cyclic product, with the copper catalyst making the reaction quick and selective. Chemists could attach functional groups onto the azide and alkyne to change the product formed by the reaction.

Carolyn Bertozzi introduced the concept of bioorthogonal chemistry — chemical reactions that happen in cells without interfering with normal chemistry. In 2003, Sharpless took to living cells, and she modified the original click reaction to produce a copper-free version. She used this reaction to track molecules called glycans on cell surfaces, which she had been investigating since the early 1990s.

**WHY DOES THIS RESEARCH MATTER?**

Additional click chemistry reactions have been developed, useful in the synthesis of new drugs. Bioorthogonal reactions allow researchers to study biological molecules and help identify targets of new drugs, and are also being trialed to produce "clickable" antibodies to target cancerous tumours.

Nobel Prize in Chemistry press release: <https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/chemistry/2022/press-release/>

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Scientists Carolyn R. Bertozzi, Morten Meldal and K. Barry Sharpless won the 2022 Nobel Prize in Chemistry on for discovering reactions that let molecules snap together to create desired compounds and that offer insight into cell biology.

### What the scientists worked on?

- Bertozzi took the next step by developing click reactions that could function inside living organisms — "bioorthogonal" reactions take place inside living systems without interfering with native biochemical processes.
- Sharpless coined the term "Click Chemistry" and worked extensively on it.

- Meldal came up with a unique chemical structure called "Triazole," which has many important applications.

#### What is Click Chemistry?

- In order to target and stop infections in cells, chemists frequently attempt to replicate the complex chemical molecules found in nature. This has applications in the field of medicine, among other things.
- But this procedure could be difficult and drawn out.
- Barry Sharpless advised his colleagues to begin with smaller molecules that already had a full carbon frame rather than trying to coax resistant carbon atoms into reacting with one another.
- Chemists can avoid many side reactions with little material loss if they choose simple reactions where there is a strong inherent motivation for the molecules to join together.

#### Applications of click chemistry

- Triazoles are a valuable chemical structure that Meldal discovered through his studies. Triazoles are stable and are used in medications, dyes, and agricultural compounds.
- He also discovered that the reaction he employed could combine a wide variety of compounds.
- Bertozzi developed an effective and ground-breaking technique to map glycans, which are carbohydrate-based polymers produced by all living creatures, leveraging the work of Sharpless and Meldal.

### Chandrayaan-2 gauges sodium content on Moon's surface



Scientists from ISRO have mapped out the global distribution of sodium on the Moon's surface using the CLASS instrument (Chandrayaan-2 large area soft X-ray spectrometer) onboard of the Chandrayaan-2 mission.

#### Why in news now?

- This is the first effort to provide a global-scale measurement of sodium on the lunar surface using X-ray fluorescent spectra.

#### Chandrayaan-2: A quick recap

- An orbiter, a lander, and a rover made up Chandrayaan-2, and they were all outfitted with tools for studying the moon.
- While the Lander and Rover modules were to be separated to make a soft landing on the moon's surface, the Orbiter would observe the moon from a 100-km orbit.
- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) gave the Lander and Rover modules the names Vikram and Pragyaan, respectively, in honour of Vikram Sarabhai, the father of India's space programme.
- The mission's Orbiter component has been operating smoothly. There are eight instruments on board.
- Each of these equipment has generated a sizable amount of data that illuminates the moon in new

ways and provides information that could be applied to future research.

## What is X-Ray Fluorescence?

- It is frequently used to non-destructively research the chemical makeup of materials.
- When the sun emits solar flares, the moon is exposed to a significant amount of X-ray radiation, which causes X-ray fluorescence.
- The CLASS counts the total amount of X-ray photons arriving from the moon and assesses their energy.
- The intensity is a measurement of how many atoms are present, and the energy of the photons reveals the atom (for example, sodium atoms release X-ray photons of 1.04 keV).

## UN World Geospatial Information Congress (UNWGIC)



PM has inaugurated the second United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress (UNWGIC) in Hyderabad.

## What is UNWGIC?

- In 2018, Deqing, Zhejiang Province, China hosted the inaugural World Geospatial Information Congress of the United Nations.
- The UNWGIC is organised every four years by the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM).
- The Indian Government's Ministry of Science and Technology is in charge of hosting it.
- The goals are to improve global cooperation between Member States and pertinent stakeholders in the management and capabilities of geospatial information.
- Geo-Enabling the Global Village: No One Should Be Left Behind is the topic of UNWGIC 2022.

## Objectives of UNWGIC

- The initiative intends to offer reliable and high-quality geospatial data to serve national and international policy goals.
- Additionally, it emphasises global coordination and cooperation in the creation of geospatially connected human data.
- It supports social growth and wellbeing, tackles environmental and climate change issues, and embraces technological advances.

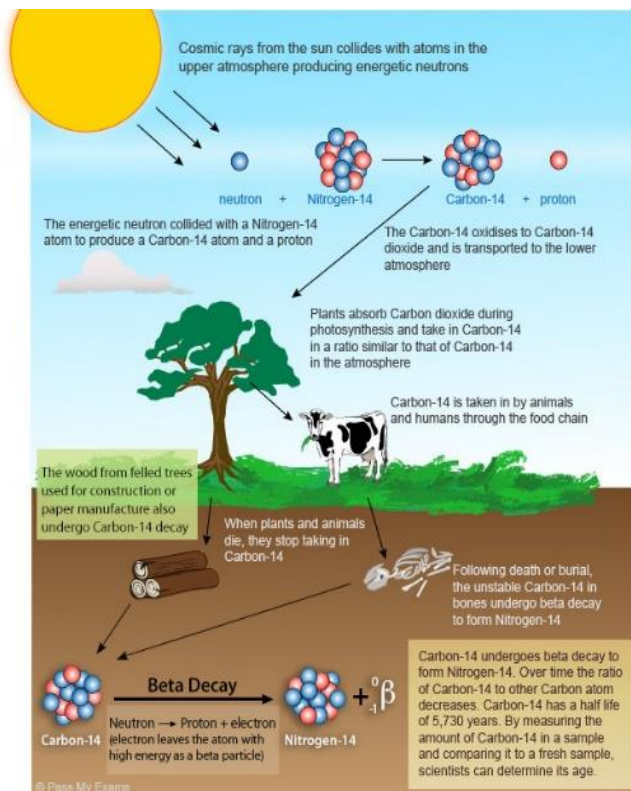
## Why collaborate on geospatial technology?

- Intelligent maps and models can be made using geospatial technology to assist in the collection of data that has a geographic context.
- The use of geospatial technology makes it simple to make decisions based on the worth and significance of resources, the majority of which are scarce.

- Geospatial technology allows for the creation of intelligent maps and models.
- It can be used to uncover spatial patterns that are difficult to reach collectively through mapping and are concealed in enormous amounts of data.

- The interaction of neutrons with nitrogen-14 in the Earth's atmosphere results in the continuous formation of carbon-14 in nature.
- Cosmic ray interactions with the atmosphere result in the production of the neutrons needed for this process.

## What is Carbon Dating?



## How it works?

- The radiocarbon found in atmospheric carbon dioxide molecules enters the biological carbon cycle when green plants take it in from the air and then pass it on to animals through the food chain.
- A living thing's radiocarbon steadily deteriorates, and as long as it consumes food or air, the lost radiocarbon is constantly replaced.
- However, as the organism passes away, it stops absorbing carbon-14, which causes the level of radiocarbon in its tissues to gradually decline.

## The half-life concept

- The half-life of carbon-14 is 5,730 years, meaning that for the next 5,730 years, half of the radioisotope that is present at any particular time will spontaneously disintegrate.
- Because carbon-14 decays at a constant pace, it is possible to determine the date of an organism's demise by analysing the quantity of radiocarbon it still contains.

A Varanasi district court has rejected the plea to conduct carbon-dating of the disputed structure known to have been found inside the premises of the Gyanvapi mosque.

## What is Carbon Dating?

- Carbon dating, often known as radiocarbon dating, is a technique for determining age that relies on radiocarbon's breakdown into nitrogen (Carbon-14).
- About 1946, American physicist Willard F. Libby created this technique.

## Its uses

- It has proved to be a versatile technique of dating fossils and archaeological specimens from 500 to 50,000 years old.
- The method is widely used by geologists, anthropologists, archaeologists, and investigators in related fields.

## Dr. Mahalanabis: the man behind ORS no more

### DONATED LIFE'S SAVINGS TO CHILDREN'S HOSP

 Dilip Mahalanabis	▶ Born on Nov 12, 1934; graduated from Medical College Hospital Kolkata in 1959	the cholera outbreak following the Bangladesh Liberation War
	▶ Trained in paediatrics in Queen Elizabeth Hospital for Children in London	▶ In 2002, he was honoured by University of Columbia and Cornell with the Pollin prize
	▶ Started working on ORS as part of Johns Hopkins University International Centre for Medical Research and Training in 1966	▶ The Thai government recognised his work with the country's highest civilian award, the Prince Mahidol Award, in 2006
	▶ In 1971, he started treating patients of	▶ Donated his life's savings of Rs 1 crore to ICH

While Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS) as a simple, effective remedy for dehydration is known around the world, the physician who pioneered the treatment, Dr. Dilip Mahalanabis, passed away.

#### What is ORS?

- Dehydration, especially that caused by diarrhoea, can be prevented and treated with a sort of fluid replacement called oral rehydration treatment.
- It involves consuming water that has small levels of salts, mainly sodium and potassium, and sugar.
- A nasogastric tube can also be used to administer oral rehydration treatment.

#### About Dr. Mahalanabis

- Dr. Mahalanabis, who was born on November 12th, 1934 in West Bengal, attended school in London and Kolkata.
- In the 1960s, he moved to Kolkata and began working at the Johns Hopkins University

International Centre for Medical Research and Training, where he conducted studies on oral rehydration therapy.

- Millions of East Pakistanis fled to India during the war that started in 1971.
- At these refugee camps, there were issues with clean drinking water and sanitation, and cholera and diarrhoea broke out among people who were already fatigued and dehydrated.
- One such camp was located in Bongaon, where Dr. Mahalanabis and his team were working.
- There were not enough competent workers to perform the IV treatment and there were running out of intravenous fluid supplies.

#### How he discovered ORS?

- Dr. Mahalanabis knew from his study that a sugar and salt solution, which would boost the body's ability to absorb water, could save lives from cholera.
- Then, he and his staff started preparing salt-and-glucose-in-water solutions and started putting them in big drums where patients or their loved ones could assist themselves.
- The oral solution then contained 2.5 gm sodium bicarbonate (baking soda), 3.5 gm sodium chloride (table salt), and 22 gm glucose (commercial monohydrate) per litre of water.
- This was the simplest recipe that had been previously found to work in critically ill cholera patients and contained the fewest ingredients.

#### His legacy

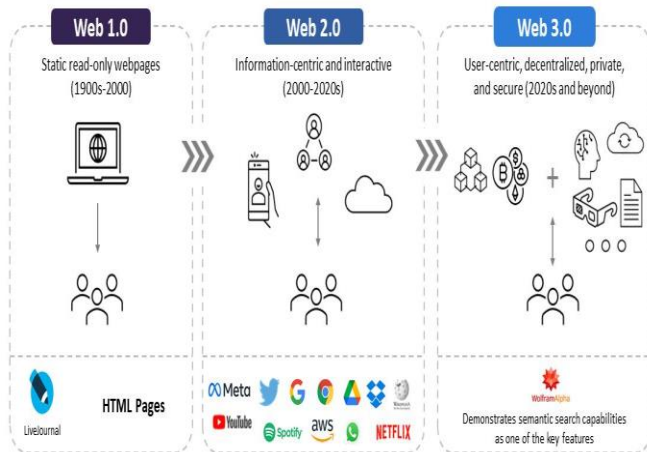
- Although the medical community was initially divided, the WHO subsequently accepted ORS as the recommended technique for treating cholera and other diarrheal illnesses.



- As of right now, the ORS formula is advised by the WHO to consist of sodium chloride, anhydrous glucose, potassium chloride, and trisodium citrate dihydrate.
- The 29th of July is recognised as ORS Day in India.

- At the same time, a few number of centralised organisations control a sizable portion of the World Wide Web.
- They make independent decisions about what should and shouldn't be permitted online.

## What is Web 3.0?



India has a rapidly-growing Web3 ecosystem with more than 450 active start-ups in the space that raised \$1.3 billion in funding till April 2022.

### What is Web 3.0?

- Users can connect with decentralised applications created using blockchain technology with the aid of Web3.
- The next-generation internet will be open to anyone and provide benefits thanks to Web3 technologies like distributed ledgers, AI, Metaverse, and others.
- What we currently use and know is Web2.

### Why need Web 3?

- The World Wide Web (www) and the reliable, powerful internet infrastructure were both made possible by centralization, which also assisted in bringing billions of people online.

### Key features of a Web3

- Immutable ecosystem, i.e., trust that people will download the digital product just as the original creator intended.
- Enhanced transparency and security,
- Quicker browsing performance,
- Complete user anonymity and confidentiality,
- Integrating cryptocurrency wallets with multiple blockchains,
- Complete control over the content due to decentralization.

### How is Web3 prospected to be?

- Gavin Wood, a co-founder of Ethereum, came up with the concept of "Web 3.0" immediately after Ethereum launched in 2014.
- Gavin articulated a solution to a concern shared by many early cryptocurrency adopters: the Web demanded too much trust.
- In other words, the majority of the Web that people currently know and use depends on their faith in a select group of private firms to behave in the public's best interests.

### Core ideas of Web3

Although it's challenging to provide a rigid definition of what Web3 is, a few core principles guide its creation.

- **Web3 is decentralized:** instead of large swathes of the internet controlled and owned by

centralized entities, ownership gets distributed amongst its builders and users.

- **Web3 is permission-less:** everyone has equal access to participate in Web3, and no one gets excluded.
- **Web3 has native payments:** it uses cryptocurrency for spending and sending money online instead of relying on the outdated infrastructure of banks and payment processors.
- **Web3 is secure:** It operates using incentives and economic mechanisms instead of relying on trusted third-parties.

### Why is Web3 important?

- **Ownership:** Web3 gives you ownership of your digital assets in an unprecedented way. Web3 allows for direct ownership through non-fungible tokens (NFTs).
- **Censorship resistance:** The power dynamic between platforms and content creators is massively imbalanced.
- **Decentralized autonomous organizations (DAOs):** As well as owning your data in Web3, you can own the platform as a collective, using tokens that act like shares in a company.

## Security Issues

### SLBM launch by INS Arihant



The indigenous ballistic missile nuclear submarine INS Arihant has successfully launched a nuclear capable Submarine Launched Ballistic Missile (SLBM) in the Bay of Bengal with very high accuracy.

#### About INS Arihant

- India's first homegrown nuclear-powered ballistic missile, INS Arihant, was initially launched in 2009 and put into service in 2016.
- The competent Advanced Technology Vessel (ATV) project, which was started in the 1990s, was responsible for its construction.

- INS Arihant and the submarines in its class are designated as "SSBN," which is the hull designation for submarines that can deploy nuclear-powered ballistic missiles.
- The Strategic Forces Command, a division of India's Nuclear Command Authority, is in charge of the SSBN's activities while the Navy is in charge of operating the ship.

#### Its role in India's nuclear triad

- The formation of India's "survivable nuclear triad" was announced by the government in November 2019, following the conclusion of INS Arihant's first deterrence patrol.
- India's ability to launch nuclear strikes from land, air, and sea platforms was now complete.
- India is now among the select few nations that can design, build, and operate strategic nuclear submarines (SSBN).

#### Significance of the test

- The SLBM was launched from the country's first indigenous Strategic Strike Nuclear Submarine INS Arihant.
- The test is significant for the nuclear ballistic submarine, or SSBN, programme, which is a crucial element of India's nuclear deterrence capability.

- They weigh less than the Agni series of missiles, which are ballistic weapons with medium and intercontinental ranges with nuclear warheads.

### Strategic significance of the launch

- In the context of obtaining a nuclear triad, the capacity to launch nuclear bombs from submarine platforms is of significant strategic importance.
- This is particularly true in view of India's "No First Use" policy.
- The second strike capacity is considerably increased by the sea-based undersea nuclear capable capabilities, which supports the nuclear deterrence.
- These submarines are capable of "Credible Nuclear Deterrence," which means they can not only withstand a first strike by the enemy but also launch a strike in reprisal.

### Submarine Launched Ballistic Missiles (SLBMs)

- The Defense Research and Development Organization has created the SLBMs, also referred to as the "K" family of missiles (DRDO).
- The family's codename honours Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, the 11th President of India and a key player in India's missile and space programmes.
- These missiles are smaller, lighter, and more stealthy than their land-based counterparts because they will be launched from submarines.

## Trivia

### Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) Prachand inducted into IAF



The indigenous Light Combat Helicopter LCH-Prachand was formally inducted into the Indian Air Force (IAF).

#### LCH- Prachand

- The LCH is a twin-engine, specifically designed combat helicopter that weighs 5.8 tonnes, making it a light helicopter.
- It has a small fuselage and the pilot and co-pilot sit tandem, one behind the other. The weapon systems operator is also the co-pilot (WSO).
- Despite sharing many characteristics with the ALH-Dhruv, the LCH is more streamlined thanks to its tandem cockpit design.
- It also features a lot more cutting-edge technologies, making it a specific assault helicopter.

### Features, the significance of LCH

- LCH can fly 550 kilometres at a range of 268 kilometres per hour and a maximum takeoff weight of 5.8 tonnes.
- It has a service ceiling of 6.5 kilometres, which is the highest density it can fly, and an endurance of more than three hours.
- Two HAL-produced Shakti engines with French ancestry power LCH.

### Combat capabilities

- The helicopter's radar signal is reduced through the use of radar-absorbing material, and its construction and landing gear are substantially more crash-proof.
- Protection from nuclear, biological, and chemical (NBC) crises is provided by a pressurised compartment.

- These characteristics provide the LCH the ability to perform combat tasks like disabling an adversary's air defence, engaging in counterinsurgency warfare, combat search and rescue, and engaging in anti-tank and anti-surface force operations.

### Why need indigenous LCH?

- The first time a domestically produced light attack helicopter that could carry out precision strikes in all Indian battlefield circumstances was needed was during the 1999 Kargil conflict.
- This called for a craft that could function in combat situations ranging from full-scale battles to counterinsurgency operations in extremely hot deserts and extremely cold high altitudes.
- The Chetak and Cheetah helicopters, produced in India by HAL, are in use in the sub-3 tonne category and are French-made legacy aircraft.





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