

Table of Contents

- 01. INTERNATIONAL NEWS**
- 02. NATIONAL NEWS**
- 03. SPORTS**
- 04. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**
- 05. OBITUARY**
- 06. APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS**
- 07. IMPORTANT DAYS**
- 08. SUMMITS AND MOU'S**
- 09. AWARDS AND RECOGNITION**
- 10. RANKING**
- 11. BOOKS AND AUTHORS**
- 12. BANKING AND ECONOMY**

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

US Economy Drops at 0.6% Annual Rate from April through June

- Battered by surging consumer prices and rising interest rates, the US economy shrank at a 0.6% annual rate from April through June, the government announced, unchanged from its previous second-quarter estimate. It marked the second consecutive quarter of economic contraction, one informal rule of thumb for a recession.
- Most economists, citing a strong and resilient American job market, believe the world's biggest economy is not yet in a downturn. But they worry that it might be headed for one as the Federal Reserve ratchets up interest rates to combat inflation. Consumer spending grew at a 2% annual rate, but that gain was offset by a drop in business inventories and housing investment.
- The US economy has been sending out mixed signals this year. A recession is a significant, widespread, and prolonged downturn in economic activity. A popular rule of thumb is that two consecutive quarters of decline in gross domestic product (GDP) constitute a recession.

About United States (US):

Capital: Washington, D.C.

President: Joe Biden

Currency: United States Dollar

Gross domestic product: 20.94 lakh crores USD (2020) World Bank

Italy gets its first female PM as Giorgia Meloni claims victory

- Giorgia Meloni looks set to become Italy's first woman prime minister at the head of its most right-wing government since World War Two after leading a conservative alliance to triumph at the election. Meloni will take over from Prime Minister Mario Draghi, the former head of the European Central Bank, who pushed Rome to the centre of EU policy-making during his 18-month stint in office, forging close ties with Paris and Berlin. The Italian far-right leader Meloni party came top in general elections. Leading the next government, she will work for the betterment of all Italians.
- Giorgia Meloni is an Italian politician and journalist who was born on 15 January 1977. Her father came from Sardinia and her mother belonged to Sicily. In 1992 at the age of 15, Meloni joined the Youth Front, the youth wing of the neo-fascist Italian Social Movement (MSI). Next to this in 1996, she earned a diploma from the Amerigo Vespucci Institute. She has also served as a youth minister in Berlusconi's 2008-2011 government before founding the Brothers of Italy in 2012. Three prominent political leaders Meloni, La Russa, and Crosetto founded a new political movement Brothers of Italy in 2012.

About Italy :

Capital: Rome

Currency: Euro

President: Sergio Mattarella

Putin grants Russian citizenship to U.S. whistleblower Snowden

- President Vladimir Putin on Monday granted Russian citizenship to former U.S. intelligence contractor Edward Snowden, nine years after he exposed the scale of secret surveillance operations by the National Security Agency (NSA).

- Snowden, 39, fled the United States and was given asylum in Russia after leaking secret files in 2013 that revealed vast domestic and international surveillance operations carried out by the NSA, where he worked.
- U.S. authorities have for years wanted him returned to the United States to face a criminal trial on espionage charges.
- Snowden's name appeared without Kremlin comment in a Putin decree conferring citizenship on 72 foreign-born individuals.
- Snowden later issued a message, essentially an updated version of a November 2020 tweet, saying he wanted his family to remain together and asking for privacy.

About Russia:

President: Vladimir Putin

Capital: Moscow

Currency: Russian ruble

Prime Minister: Mikhail Mishustin

About USA:

Capital: Washington, D.C.

President: Joe Biden

Currency: United States Dollar

UNSC reforms: Intergovernmental Negotiation constrained by lack of transparency: G4 nations

- The G4 grouping comprising India, Japan, Germany and Brazil expressed their concern over lack of any “meaningful” forward movement on long-pending reform of the UN Security Council (UNSC) and demanded “urgency” on the issue.
- The foreign ministers of the G4 countries held a virtual meeting coinciding with the 75th session of the UN General Assembly during which they held extensive discussion on the need for urgent reform of the UNSC. A joint press statement said the ministers highlighted the urgency of reforming the UN and updating its main decision-making bodies, in order to better reflect contemporary realities.
- “G4 Ministers expressed disappointment at attempts to derail this process and committed to addressing the issue in a meaningful way and with increased urgency at this 75th anniversary of the UN,” the statement released by the external affairs ministry said. The meeting was attended by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, Brazilian Foreign Minister Ernesto Arajo, Japan’s Motegi Toshimitsu and Minister of State at German Foreign Office Niels Annen.

About UN Security Council (UNSC):

Headquarters: New York, United States

Founded: 24 October 1945

5 major palm oil importers from Asia form alliance

- Edible oil trade associations from five palm oil importing countries in South Asia – India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal, announced the setting up of Asian Palm Oil Alliance (APOA). The idea is to gain collective bargaining power and make imports sustainable.

- “Through APOA, we aim at safeguarding the economic and business interests of the palm oil consuming countries and will work towards increasing the consumption of palm oil in member countries,” Atul Chaturvedi, President, Solvent Extractors’ Association of India (SEA) and first chairman of APOA, said. APOA held its first general body meeting on the sidelines of the Globoil Summit being held here.
- He said that the industry associations of Asian palm oil importing countries, unlike their counterparts in Europe, are not involved in shaping the global discourse on sustainable palm oil in a collective way.
- Chaturvedi said that membership of APOA would be further expanded to include companies or industry bodies associated with production or refining of palm oil across the continent.

Rajnath Singh reaches Cairo on two-day official visit to Egypt

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh reached Cairo on Sunday on a two-day official visit to Egypt. Central Military Zone Commander Major General Tarik Hamed Elshazly received Mr Singh at the Al Maza Air Base in Cairo.
- During the visit, Mr. Singh will hold bilateral talks with Minister of Defence and Defence Production, General Mohamed Zaki. The two Ministers will review the bilateral defence ties, explore new initiatives to intensify military-to-military engagements and focus on deepening cooperation between the defence industries of the two countries. An MoU to provide further impetus to enhanced defence cooperation between India and Egypt will also be signed. Mr. Singh will also call on President of Egypt Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi.

About Egypt:

Capital: Cairo

Currency: Egyptian pound

Continent: Africa, Asia

Official language: Modern Standard Arabic

FM Sitharaman Urges World Bank To Raise Lending To India

- The World Bank approved a USD 1 billion loan to support India’s efforts for providing social assistance to the poor and vulnerable households, severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The “Accelerating India’s COVID-19 Social Protection Response Program” will support the government’s efforts towards a more consolidated delivery platform accessible to both rural and urban populations across state boundaries.
- The total commitment from the World Bank towards emergency COVID-19 response in India to USD 2 billion. A USD 1 billion support was announced last month towards immediate support to India’s health sector. The multilateral lending agency is also in discussions with the government to provide assistance to the country’s micro, small and medium enterprises, said World Bank Country Director in India Junaid Ahmad in a webinar with media. The response to the COVID-19 pandemic around the world has required governments to introduce social distancing and lockdowns in unprecedented ways, he said.
- Of the USD 1 billion commitment, USD 550 million will be financed by a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) the World Bank’s concessional lending arm and USD 200 million will be a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and

Development (IBRD), with a final maturity of 18.5 years including a grace period of five years.

About World Bank:

Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States

President: David Malpass

Founded: July 1944, Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, United States

Motto: Working for a World Free of Poverty

Founders: John Maynard Keynes, Harry Dexter White

About International Development Association (IDA):

Founded: 24 September 1960

Headquarters: Washington, D.C., U.S.

Membership: 174 countries

Chief Executive Officer: Kristalina Georgieva

About International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD):

Founded: 1944

Leader: Kristalina Georgieva

Headquarters: Washington, D.C., U.S.

Purpose: Development assistance, poverty reduction

Membership: 189 countries

India, Japan concludes 6th edition of maritime exercise 'JIMEX'

- The sixth edition of the Japan India Maritime Exercise 2022, JIMEX 22 hosted by the Indian Navy concluded in the Bay of Bengal with the two sides bidding farewell to each other with a customary steam past on September 17, 2022.
- Indian Naval ships led by Rear Adm Sanjay Bhalla, Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet and Japan Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF) Ships Izumo and Takanami led by Rear Adm Hirata Toshiyuki, Commander Escort Flotilla Four, participated in the week-long exercise.
- JIMEX 22 witnessed some of the most complex exercises undertaken jointly by the two navies. Both sides engaged in advanced level anti-submarine warfare, weapon firings and Air Defence exercises. Shipborne helicopters, fighter aircraft and submarines also participated in the exercise. Indian Navy and JMSDF ships replenished each other at sea under the agreement on Reciprocal Provision for Supply and Services (RPSS).
- The exercise, which marked the tenth anniversary of JIMEX since its inception in 2012, consolidated the mutual understanding and interoperability between the two navies.

About Japan:

Emperor: Naruhito

Capital: Tokyo

Prime Minister: Fumio Kishida

Currency: Japanese yen

USAID and UNICEF launches Doordarshan and YouTube series titled 'Door Se Namaste' in New Delhi

- The US Agency for International Development and UNICEF launched the Doordarshan and YouTube series titled Door Se Namaste at function held in New Delhi. Door Se Namaste is a

new television series which promotes healthy behaviours in a post-pandemic world. It is a fictional Hindi series developed in an entertainment education format highlighting the challenges of a post-pandemic world and promotes the adoption of healthy behaviour and practices. The programme will be telecast on every Sunday from 11 AM to 12 noon.

- Speaking on the occasion Additional Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Neerja Sekhar said that Information and Broadcasting Ministry, Prasar Bharati, Doordarshan and All India Radio are the major channels through which the government of India reaches out to the people for spreading information regarding its policies and programmes. She informed that Doordarshan has 25 channels and All India Radio has over 400 radio stations. She said, during Covid pandemic, Health Ministry and Ministry of Ayush came out with their protocols to deal with the pandemic and fact check unit was also set up to dispel fake information. She informed that the entire communication mechanism was led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi as he is the principal communicator and during entire Covid period whenever he spoke, the people listened.

About UNICEF:

Headquarters: New York, New York, United States

Founded: 11 December 1946, New York, New York, United States

President: Tore Hattrem

Head: Catherine M. Russell

Founders: United Nations General Assembly, Ludwik Rajchman

About USAID :

Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States

Founder: John F. Kennedy

Founded: 3 November 1961

Officeholder: Samantha Power (Administrator)

Jurisdiction: United States

Norway's central bank to build national digital currency on Ethereum

- Norges Bank, Norway's central bank, made a significant advancement in its efforts to develop a digital currency by publishing the open source code for the nation's central bank digital currency (CBDC) sandbox based on Ethereum technology. This development was made possible by the ongoing mainstream adoption of cryptographic technology.
- CBDCs are a type of electronic fiat money backed by the central bank. Although they are not required to be, CBDCs can be built on blockchain networks. However, the CBDC in Norway is built on Ethereum.
- The Bank's official CBDC partner, Nahmii, stated in a blog post that it has also enabled features including minting, burning, and transferring ERC-20 tokens.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) reports that 97 nations, or more than half of the world's central banks, are experimenting with developing CBDCs.

About Norway:

Capital: Oslo

Currency: Norwegian krone

Official language: Norwegian

Prime Minister: Jonas Gahr Støre

Border clashes erupt between Armenia, Azerbaijan

- Fresh clashes broke out between Armenia and Azerbaijan, with each side reporting casualties and blaming the other for the violence. Armenia said Azerbaijani forces attacked several points near the border, killing 49 Armenian soldiers. Azerbaijan said Armenian forces fired on its positions, leaving an unspecified number of casualties. The two countries have had a decades-long conflict involving the Nagorno-Karabakh region, which is inside Azerbaijan but populated mainly by ethnic Armenians.
- A six-week war in 2020 killed more than 6,600 people and saw Azerbaijan reclaim territory in and around the region. U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken called on the two sides to “end any military hostilities immediately,” saying in a statement that there is no military solution to the conflict. Russia’s Foreign Ministry also urged Armenia and Azerbaijan to resolve the conflict through political and diplomatic means.
- Armenia says at least 49 of its soldiers have been killed in fighting along the country’s border with Azerbaijan, claiming the attacks were carried out because of a simmering dispute over Nagorno-Karabakh.
- Azerbaijan says its forces returned fire to prevent “large-scale provocations” by the Armenian military, adding it is “in control” of the situation in the region.

About Armenia:

Capital: Yerevan

Currency: Armenian dram

President: Vahagn Khachaturyan

About Azerbaijan:

President: Ilham Aliyev

Capital: Baku

Currency: Azerbaijani manat

Official language: Azerbaijani

Qimingxing-50 (The Morning Star): China’s First Fully Solar-powered Unmanned Aerial Vehicle

- China has successfully tested its first fully solar-powered unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) which can fly for months and can function even as a satellite if required. The maiden flight of Qimingxing-50 has been achieved, making it the first large-sized UAV powered only by solar energy, a Chinese government official informed in a tweet.
- According to a report in the South China Morning Post, the drone took off from an airport in the north-western Chinese province of Shaanxi at 5.50pm on September 3 and propelled in the sky for about 26 minutes before landing safely at 6:16pm.
- The Qimingxing-50, with a wingspan of 50 m, is a high-altitude long-endurance drone that is capable of high altitude aerial reconnaissance, assessing forest fire and can also be used for communications. This technology will bolster Chinese defences in space and at sea. It can be used in the field of renewable energy, new materials and aeronautical engineering. The Chinese official also asserted that this test flight is an important step towards sustainable development.
- The United States and the United Kingdom have already developed solar-powered drones that can fly 20 km up in the sky.

About China:

President: Xi Jinping

Capital: Beijing

Currency: Renminbi

Official language: Mandarin

North Korea's New Law Allows For Nuclear 1st Strike, Makes Policy "Irreversible"

- North Korea passes law regarding Nuclear Strikes: North Korea has approved a law that gives it the authority to launch a nuclear attack in advance. With the recently passed law, North Korea's status as a nuclear weapons state has become irreversible. North Korea, this year tested a record number of weapons, including an intercontinental ballistic missile.
- According to the law, among other things, the North may use nuclear weapons in the event of a nuclear or non-nuclear attack by hostile forces against the state's leadership and the command structure of its nuclear forces.
- Since 2019, discussions on sanctions relief and what Pyongyang would be ready to give up in exchange have stalled nuclear negotiations and diplomacy between Washington and Pyongyang.

About North Korea:

Supreme leader: Kim Jong-un

President: Yoon Suk-yeol

Capital: Pyongyang

Currency: North Korean won

Premier: Kim Tok-hun

PM Modi, Russian Prez Putin, China's Xi to attend SCO Samarkand summit: Uzbekistan

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is all set to travel to Samarkand in Uzbekistan for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit on September 15 and 16. This will be the first in-person summit after June 2019 when the SCO summit was held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. The Prime Minister, sources said, is likely to reach Samarkand on September 14 and return on September 16, according to the current travel schedule.
- India's presence at the summit is important because it will assume the rotational presidency of the SCO at the end of the Samarkand summit. Delhi will hold the presidency of the grouping for a year until September 2023. So, next year, India will host the SCO summit which will be attended, among others, by leaders of China, Russia, Pakistan.
- Chinese President Xi Jinping, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi are among the leaders expected at the summit.

About Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO):

Headquarters: Beijing, China

Founded: 15 June 2001

Founders: China, Russia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan

Secretary-General: Zhang Ming

About Uzbekistan:

Capital: Tashkent

Currency: Uzbekistani sum
President: Shavkat Mirziyoyev
Official language: Uzbek

Bangladesh PM's India visit promises to take bilateral ties to new heights

- Ever since the Liberation War in 1971, Bangladesh and India have shared a special relationship not only due to their geographical boundaries, but also largely owing to their shared cultural, linguistic and historical connections. India, during the war for liberation of the Bangladeshi nation, provided much of the required humanitarian as well as militaristic support which was so duly needed at the time. Both the countries since then, have shared a gigantic 4000 km long border which makes Bangladesh India's longest land sharing neighbour in the South Asian region.
- Bangladesh's current Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina recently described the India-Bangladesh bilateral relations as a 'role model of good neighbourhood diplomacy'. This statement hence came as an assertion of the long-shared friendship the two nations have had for the past five decades.
- India, on the other hand, was amongst the first countries in the world to establish its diplomatic relations with the newly independent nation in December of 1971.
- In 1972 a bilateral Joint River Commission was set up between the two to maintain mutual contact in order to maximize benefits for the shared river systems.

About Bangladesh:

Capital: Dhaka
Currency: Bangladeshi taka
Prime Minister: Sheikh Hasina
President: Mohammad Abdul Hamid
Official language: Bengali

9/11 attacks reverberate as US marks 21st anniversary, people pay tribute

- Americans remembered 9/11 on 11th Sept with readings of victims' names, volunteer work and other tributes 21 years after the deadliest terror attack on US soil. A tolling bell and a moment of silence began the commemoration at ground zero in New York, where the World Trade Center's twin towers were destroyed by the hijacked-plane attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. Victims' relatives and dignitaries also convened at the two other attack sites, the Pentagon and a field in Pennsylvania.
- It also stirred for a time a sense of national pride and unity for many, while subjecting Muslim Americans to years of suspicion and bigotry and engendering debate over the balance between safety and civil liberties.
- President Joe Biden plans to speak and lay a wreath at the Pentagon, while first lady Jill Biden is scheduled to speak in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, where one of the hijacked planes went down after passengers and crew members tried to storm the cockpit as the hijackers headed for Washington. Al-Qaida conspirators had seized control of the jets to use them as passenger-filled missiles. Vice President Kamala Harris and husband Doug Emhoff joined the observance at the National Sept.

About United Nations:

Founded: 24 October 1945, San Francisco, California, United States

Headquarters: New York, United States

Secretary General: António Guterres

Passenger vehicle dispatches rise 21% in August as chip supply improves

- Passenger vehicle wholesales in India witnessed a 21 per cent annual growth in August, riding on improved supplies of semiconductors and festive demand, according to the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers. As per the latest data released by industry body Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM), passenger vehicle (PV) dispatches to dealers stood at 2,81,210 units last month, against 2,32,224 units in August 2021. Passenger car wholesales were up 23 per cent at 1,33,477 units last month, as against 1,08,508 units in the year-ago period, SIAM said.
- Utility vehicle dispatches were higher by 20 per cent at 1,35,497 units in August, as compared to 1,12,863 units in the same month a year ago. Similarly, total two-wheeler wholesales increased to 15,57,429 units last month, compared to 13,38,740 units in the year-ago period, a growth of 16 per cent. Motorcycle wholesales grew by 23 per cent at 10,16,794 units in August 2022, as compared to 8,25,849 units in the year-ago month. Scooter sales were higher by 10 per cent at 5,04,146 units last month, as against 4,60,284 units in August 2021, SIAM said.
- The increase in dispatches from manufacturers to their dealers comes on the back of improvement in semiconductor shortage issues and also preparation to meet festive season demand.

In Kyiv, Blinken unveils \$2 billion in U.S. military aid for Europe

- U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken made an unscheduled visit to Kyiv, as the Biden administration announced major new military aid worth more than \$2 billion for Ukraine and other European countries threatened by Russia. In meetings with senior Ukrainian officials, Blinken said the Biden administration had notified Congress of its intent to provide \$2 billion in long-term Foreign Military Financing to Ukraine and 18 of its neighbors, including NATO members and regional security partners, that are “most potentially at risk for future Russian aggression.”
- Pending expected congressional approval, about \$1 billion of that will go to Ukraine and the rest will be divided among Albania, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia, the State Department said.
- Foreign Military Financing, or FMF, allows recipients to purchase U.S.-made defense equipment, often depending on their specific needs. The financing comes on top of a \$675 million package of heavy weaponry, ammunition and armored vehicles for Ukraine alone that Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin announced earlier Thursday at a conference in Ramstein, Germany.
- NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg and Ukraine’s defense minister as well as officials from allied countries. This contributions bring total U.S. aid to Ukraine to \$15.2 billion since Biden took office.

About United Nations:

Founded: 24 October 1945, San Francisco, California, United States

Headquarters: New York, United States

Secretary General: António Guterres

About NATO:

Headquarters: Brussels, Belgium

Founded: 4 April 1949, Washington, D.C., United States

Secretary General: Jens Stoltenberg

Mongolian President Gifts Horse to Rajnath Singh

- The first Indian Defence Minister to visit Mongolia, Rajnath Singh was gifted a majestic horse “Tejas” by President Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh. Seven years after Prime Minister Narendra Modi received a similar gift from the leadership of this country. In 2015, Prime Minister Modi received a special gift a brown racehorse from his then Mongolian counterpart Chimed Saikhanbileg during his historic visit to this country. The horse was named Kanthaka’.
- Defence Minister Singh is on a five-day visit to Mongolia and Japan with an aim to expand India’s strategic and defence ties with the two countries in the backdrop of evolving regional security matrix and geo-political turmoil.
- The Mongolian President expressed satisfaction with the expansion of relations and cooperation with India, Mongolia’s important third neighbour while pointing out that the official visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Mongolia in 2015, and the ongoing visit of the Defence Minister Singh are important impetus for further development.
- Mongolia is known as the land of the horse, according to the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH).

About Mongolia:

Capital: Ulaanbaatar

Currency: Mongolian tögrög

President: Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh

Official language: Mongolian

US approves \$450 million F-16 fleet sustainment programme to Pakistan

- The Biden Administration has approved a whopping USD 450 million F-16 fighter jet fleet sustainment programme to Pakistan. As a notification to the US Congress, the State Department has made a determination approving a possible foreign military sale of F-16 case for sustainment and related equipment for an estimated cost of USD 450 million, arguing that this will sustain Islamabad’s capability to meet current and future counterterrorism threats by maintaining its F-16 fleet.
- This is the first major security assistance to Pakistan after Trump in 2018 had announced to stop all defense and security assistance to Pakistan alleging that Islamabad was not a partner in its fight against terrorism.
- Pakistan is an important counterterrorism partner, and as part of longstanding policy, the United States provides life cycle maintenance and sustainment packages for US-origin platforms,” a State Department spokesperson said. “Pakistan’s F-16 programme is an important part of the broader United States-Pakistan bilateral relationship.

- According to the Congressional notification, the proposed sale does not include any new capabilities, weapons, or munitions. It said that Pakistan has requested to consolidate prior F-16 sustainment and support cases to support the Pakistan Air Force F-16 fleet by reducing duplicate case activities and adding additional continued support elements.

About United Nations:

Founded: 24 October 1945, San Francisco, California, United States

Headquarters: New York, United States

Secretary General: António Guterres

About Pakistan:

Prime Minister: Shehbaz Sharif

Capital: Islamabad

Currency: Pakistani rupee

President: Arif Alvi

Sri Lanka at critical juncture: UN report urges progress on accountability, institutional and security sector reforms

- The United Nations Human Rights Council on May 27 passed a deeply flawed resolution on Sri Lanka that ignores calls for an international investigation into alleged abuses during recent fighting and other pressing human rights concerns, Human Rights Watch said. The council held a special session on May 26 and 27, 2009, on the human rights situation in Sri Lanka, a decade after the defeat of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) by government forces.
- The resolution passed with 29 votes in favor, 12 against, and 6 abstentions. It largely commends the Sri Lankan government for its current policies and fails to address serious allegations of violations of human rights and humanitarian law by government forces, focusing only on the abuses committed by the LTTE.

About United Nations:

Founded: 24 October 1945, San Francisco, California, United States

Headquarters: New York, New York, United States

Secretary General: António Guterres

About Sri Lanka:

Capitals: Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte

President: Ranil Wickremesinghe

Currency: Sri Lankan rupee

Prime Minister: Dinesh Gunawardena

Liz Truss To Be UK's 3rd Woman Prime Minister

- Liz Truss: Mary Elizabeth Truss, a British politician who was born on July 26, 1975, is now the leader of the Conservative Party and is slated to become prime minister of the UK on September 6, 2022.
- Since 2021, she has held the positions of Minister for Women and Equalities and Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Affairs.
- Liz Truss is a Conservative Party member and has served as the South West Norfolk MP since 2010.

- Under Prime Ministers Theresa May, Boris Johnson, and David Cameron, she held a number of Cabinet positions.
- Liz Truss won the South West Norfolk district in the general election of 2010.
- Liz Truss prior to being named by Cameron to the Cabinet as Secretary of State for the Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs during the 2014 cabinet reshuffle, Truss served as Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Childcare and Education from 2012 to 2014.
- In December 2021, she was named the government's principal negotiator with the EU and UK chair of the EU-UK Partnership Council.
- Johnson resigned, and Truss was elected leader of the Conservative Party in 2022.

About United Kingdom:

Prime minister: Boris Johnson

Capital: London

Currency: Pound sterling

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to begin visit to Mongolia on September 5

- Defence Minister to hold bilateral talks to further consolidate defence cooperation between the two countries. He will also travel to Japan for the 2+2 Ministerial dialogue. In a first, Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is scheduled to visit to Mongolia from September 5 to 7. "The upcoming visit is the first ever visit by an Indian Defence Minister to Mongolia and will further consolidate the defence cooperation and strategic partnership between the two countries," the Defence Ministry said. He is also scheduled travel to Japan for the 2+2 Ministerial dialogue.
- During the visit, Mr. Singh will hold bilateral talks with his Mongolian counterpart Lt Gen. Saikhanbaya and also call on the President of Mongolia, U. Khurelsukh and Chairman of the State Great Khural of Mongolia, G. Zandanshatar. "During the bilateral talks, the two Defence Ministers shall review the bilateral defence cooperation between India and Mongolia, and explore new initiatives to further strengthen bilateral engagements.
- In Japan, Mr. Singh and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will join their Japanese counterparts under the framework of '2+2' foreign and defence ministerial dialogue, people familiar with the matter said on Sunday. The dialogue is taking place over five months after Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida visited India for the annual India-Japan summit.
- India has the '2+2' ministerial format of dialogue with very few countries including the U.S., Japan, Australia and Russia.

About Mongolia:

Capital: Ulaanbaatar

Currency: Mongolian tögrög

President: Ukhnaagiin Khürelsükh

Official language: Mongolian

About Ministry of defence:

Officeholder: Rajnath Singh (Minister)

Formed: 1776; 246 years ago (as Military Department); 15 August 1947; 75 years ago (as Ministry of Defence)

Annual budget: ₹525,166 crore (US\$66 billion) (2022–23)

G7 agrees to implement price cap on Russian oil, seeks inputs from all countries

- Members of the G7 have agreed to impose a price cap on Russian oil in a bid to hit Moscow's ability to finance the war in Ukraine. The cap on crude oil and petroleum products would also help reduce global energy prices. The cap will be set at a level based on a range of technical inputs. "We will continue to stand with Ukraine for as long as it takes," the G7 said. Russia said it would stop selling oil to countries that imposed price caps. "Companies that impose a price cap will not be among the recipients of Russian oil," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said. The G7 (Group of Seven) consists of the UK, US, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Japan. The group is an organisation of the world's seven largest "advanced" economies, which dominate global trade and the international financial system.
- The introduction of a price cap on Russian oil means countries that sign up to the policy will only be permitted to purchase Russian oil and petroleum products transported via sea that are sold at or below the price cap. In the aftermath of Russia's invasion of Ukraine the price of oil soared and has remained at high levels, meaning Russia has increase its revenues from the fossil fuel despite its export volumes falling.
- China and India – major trading partners for Russia – may not follow G7 policy on Russian oil, analysts say. They have not joined the Western sanctions targeting Russia.

About G7:

Founded: 1975

Founded at: Washington, D.C.

G7 Member countries: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States.

About Russia:

President: Vladimir Putin

Capital: Moscow

Currency: Russian ruble

Prime Minister: Mikhail Mishustin

India to host Quad Senior Official Meeting Next Week amidst Taiwan tensions

- The first such Senior Official Meeting after the tensions over Taiwan Strait will be hosted by New Delhi, an official-level meeting of the Quad grouping with the U.S., Japan and Australia next week. The Quad Meeting that is scheduled on Sept 5-6 will be organised with India's Indo-Pacific partners in the week. It is seen as the government's "balancing" moves for the upcoming Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit that is to be held in Uzbekistan in mid-September.
- SCO Summit is the first such in-person meeting after Covid 19 and the beginning of the Ukraine War and it will be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with leaders from the countries, Russia, China, Pakistan, Central Asia and Iran. U.S. Assistant Secretary of States for South and Central Asia Donald Lu will be leading the American delegation to discuss bilateral issues. On the other hand, the Director General of the Foreign Policy Bureau in Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) Keiichi Ichikawa will attend the meetings.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will join US President Joe Biden and prime ministers of Australia and Japan at a summit of the Quad leaders in Tokyo on May 24 which is taking place amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Making the announcement of Modi's

participation at the summit, External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said Modi will also have bilateral talks with US President Joe Biden and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida.

About Taiwan:

President: Tsai Ing-wen

Capital: Taipei City

Currency: New Taiwan dollar

Official language: Mandarin Chinese

The Markham City of Canada Has Named a Street after the Internationally Acclaimed Music Composer AR Rahman

- Oscar-winning music icon, AR Rahman recently had the honour of getting Canada's Markham city's street named after him. He is one of the most loved musicians worldwide. Known as the 'Mozart of Madras, Rahman has delivered several hit songs and compositions which will be remembered eternally. He had started his career with Mani Ratnam's Roja and has only excelled since then. Some of his hit and award-winning compositions include Dil Se, Jai Ho, Ek Ho Gaye Hum Aur Tum, Rang De Basanti, and Ay Hairathe among many more.
- Allah Rakha Rahman is an Indian film composer, record producer, singer and songwriter who works predominantly in Indian cinema (particularly Tamil and Hindi films) and occasionally international cinema.
- In 2010, the Indian government awarded him the Padma Bhushan, the nation's third-highest civilian award. Among Rahman's awards are six National Film Awards, two Academy Awards, two Grammy Awards, a BAFTA Award, a Golden Globe Award, fifteen Filmfare Awards and seventeen Filmfare Awards South.

About Canada:

Queen: Queen Elizabeth II

Capital: Ottawa

Currency: Canadian dollar

Official languages: French, English

IMF-Sri Lanka reach staff level agreement, Fund provisionally agrees on \$2.9 billion loan

- Bankrupt Sri Lanka agreed a conditional \$2.9 billion bailout with International Monetary Fund negotiators, as the island nation seeks to overcome a bruising economic crisis that saw its president flee the country. Months of acute food, fuel and medicine shortages, extended blackouts and runaway inflation have plagued the country after it ran out of dollars to finance even the most essential imports.
- The Extended Fund Facility will support Sri Lanka's program to restore macroeconomic stability and debt sustainability, the IMF said in a statement Thursday. The 48-month program will be subject to approval by IMF management and the board. The South Asian nation is grappling with its worst economic crisis since independence alongside a political turmoil that led to the formation of a new government. Dwindling foreign-exchange reserves, crippling shortages of essential items and Asia's fastest inflation have hammered the \$81 billion economy.

- IMF's senior mission chief Peter Breuer said a timeline for the loan disbursement would be difficult to ascertain. He also reinforced the need for urgent, short-term support for Sri Lanka to avert a humanitarian crisis.
- Sri Lanka must implement major tax reforms including making personal income tax more progressive while broadening tax base for corporate income tax and VAT to meet a primary surplus of 2.3% of GDP by 2025
- Reduce corruption vulnerabilities by improving fiscal transparency and public financial management.
- Ahead of the IMF pact, Sri Lanka increased the value-added tax to 15% from 12% starting Sept. 1 and unveiled plans earlier this week to boost revenue to 15% of gross domestic product by 2025, reduce debt-to-GDP ratio to 100%, hit a 5% economic growth over the medium term and cool inflation that has accelerated above 60% to below 10%.

About Sri Lanka:

Capitals: Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte

President: Ranil Wickremesinghe

Currency: Sri Lankan rupee

Prime Minister: Dinesh Gunawardena

Official languages: Sinhala, Tamil

About International Monetary Fund (IMF):

Founded: July 1944, Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, United States

Founders: John Maynard Keynes, Harry Dexter White

Managing Director: Kristalina Georgieva

Solomon Islands to ban foreign navy ships following China pact

- After refusing access to US and UK ships to its ports earlier this month, the Solomon Islands has now temporarily halted all naval visits. The Pacific Island country's Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare made the announcement hours after the US embassy in Canberra, Australia said it had been informed that US Navy ships would be barred from docking in the country's ports. Observers believe that the country's move is a departure from the norm and raises concerns about China's growing influence in the country and the region at large.
- Earlier this year, the Solomon Islands established a security agreement with China, saying it needed Beijing's assistance with its domestic security situation. But the announcement had rattled the US, Australia and others in the Indo-Pacific region. The concerns were that the agreement could potentially "lead to a Chinese military base on the island nation, and the power-projection capabilities the People's Liberation Army (PLA) would gain as a result", according to a report by The Brookings Institution.
- There is no dispute that China has been rapidly increasing its presence and influence in the region for over three decades, particularly in the South Pacific. According to a report by the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), Beijing "views the Pacific Island region as an important component of its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

About China:

Capital: Beijing

President: Xi Jinping

Currency: Renminbi

Official language: Mandarin

About US:

Attorney general: Merrick Garland

Capital: Washington, D.C.

President: Joe Biden

Currency: United States Dollar

About UK:

Prime minister: Boris Johnson

Capital: London

Currency: Pound sterling

NATIONAL NEWS

Adani Green commissions world's largest wind-solar plant

- Renewable energy major, Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL) commissioned the world's largest wind-solar hybrid power plant with a 600 MW capacity in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.
- The hybrid plant comprises a 600 MW solar and 150 MW wind plant. The plant has a 25-year power purchase agreement (PPA) with the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) at Rs 2.69/ unit.
- This 600 MW Hybrid plant is housed in two AGEL subsidiaries namely Adani Hybrid Energy Jaisalmer Two Ltd (AHEJ2L) and Adani Hybrid Energy Jaisalmer Three Ltd (AHEJ3L).
- The co-located hybrid power plant will not only reduce intermittency of RE power but shall also help the Nation in optimal utilisation of the transmission network. Earlier this year in May, AGEL had operationalised India's first hybrid power plant with a capacity of 390 MW at Jaisalmer in Rajasthan.
- "With the successful commissioning of this 600 MW plant, AGEL now has a total operational generation capacity of 6.7 GW, including operational hybrid power generation capacity of 1 GW, the largest in the world," the company said in its stock exchange filing on Thursday. This puts AGEL's total renewable portfolio at 20.4 GW.

About Adani Group:

Founded: 1988

Headquarters: Ahmedabad

Founder: Gautam Adani

About Rajasthan:

Governor: Kalraj Mishra

Capital: Jaipur (Executive Branch)

Chief Minister: Ashok Gehlot

Sweden's Saab To Set Up Facility In India To Make M4 Rocket Launcher For Indian Army And Export

- Swedish defence firm Saab announced its plan to set up a manufacturing facility in India for the Carl-Gustaf M4 shoulder-fired weapon system under the NDA government's 'Make in India' initiative to bolster indigenous defence manufacturing, a company official said. Production at the new facility is expected to begin in 2024, even though the firm is yet to reveal the location.

- A new company, Saab FFV India, will make the latest rocket launchers in India for the Indian armed forces, along with components for users of the weapon system around the world, the company said. The facility will be the firm's first manufacturing facility for the Carl-Gustaf M4 weapon system outside Sweden. Saab is currently in talks with the army to take the proposal forward. The Carl-Gustaf weapon system has been in service with the Indian Army since 1976, and its earlier M2 and M3 variants have been licence-produced in India.
- The company is looking at the 100% foreign direct investment (FDI) route to set up the new venture, but will pursue the 74% FDI option with an Indian partner if the former doesn't work out.

About Sweden:

Capital: Stockholm

Currency: Swedish krona

Prime Minister: Magdalena Andersson

About Indian Army:

Founded: 1 April 1895, India

Headquarters: New Delhi

Notable commanders: Field Marshal K. M. Cariappa, OBE; Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw, MC; General K. S. Thimayya, DSO

Centre bans PFI, affiliates for 5 years, says major threat to internal security

- The Popular Front of India (PFI) and its affiliates were banned by the Centre for a period of five years, days after law enforcement agents tried in a campaign to suppress the activities of the group. The Ministry of Home Affairs used the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act to enact the ban, claiming that the Popular Front of India (PFI) and its affiliates pose a "major threat to internal security of the country" and are connected to terrorist organisations like the ISIS.
- Centre also mentioned, they also promote "anti-national sentiments... radicalise a particular section of society with the intention of creating disaffection."
- After the ban, the Popular Front of India (PFI) made an announcement that it was breaking apart.
- According to the law, if the Central Government is satisfied following an investigation that "any person has custody of any moneys, securities, or credits which are being used or are intended to be used for the purpose of the unlawful association, the Central Government may, by order in writing, prohibit such person from paying, delivering, transferring, or otherwise dealing in any manner."
- The Popular Front of India (PFI), is an Indian Muslim political organisation. It is an extreme and exclusivist brand of Muslim minority politics is practised.
- Popular Front of India (PFI) was established in 2006 as a result of the union of the National Development Front (NDF) and the Karnataka Forum for Dignity (KFD).
- It promotes accommodations for Muslims. The group staged demonstrations in 2012 in opposition to the purported detention of innocent people under the UAPA statute.

About Popular Front of India (PFI):

Founded: 22 November 2006

Headquarters: New Delhi

Chairman: OMA Abdul Salam
General Secretary: Anis Ahmed

Centre launches Jaldoot app to capture groundwater levels across the country

- In front of Union Minister Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti and MoS Panchayati Raj Kapil Moreshwar Patil, the JALDOOT App and JALDOOT App e-brochure was introduced by MoS for Rural Development and Steel Fagga Singh Kulaste. Panchayati Raj and the Ministry of Rural Development collaborated to develop the JALDOOT app. Gram Rojgar Sahayak will be able to use the app to measure the water level of the well twice a year, before and after the monsoon.
- Speaking to the crowd at the app launch event, Fagga Singh Kulaste urged the state governments, UTs, and gram panchayats to use the newly released JALDOOT App to engage in systematic ground water level data collection and assimilation into a central digital database for analysis.
- The ground water level in several sections of the country has decreased despite efforts to promote watershed development, afforestation, waterbody development and maintenance, and measures like rainwater collecting.
- This JALDOOT App will make it easier to monitor water tables across the nation, and the information gathered can be used for the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA Plans and Gram Panchayat Development Plans.
- This JALDOOT App will be used all throughout the nation to record the water level of a village's chosen one to three wells.
- The pre-monsoon water level in open wells will be manually measured from May 1 to May 31 and the post-monsoon level for the same well will be manually monitored from October 1 to October 31.

About NREGA:

Launch year: 2006

Sector: Rural Employment

Launched by (prime minister): Manmohan Singh

Ministry: Ministry of Rural Development

Passed: 23 August 2005

President Murmu inaugurates cryogenic engine manufacturing facility in Bengaluru

- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) integrated cryogenic engine manufacturing facility was inaugurated in Bengaluru by Indian President Smt. Droupadi Murmu. On this occasion, President Droupadi Murmu virtually laid the cornerstone for the South Zone Zonal Institute of Virology.
- Speaking to the crowd, the President declared that the opening of the Integrated Cryogenic Engine Manufacturing Facility is a historic occasion for not only HAL and ISRO but also for the entire nation, as it provides access to a cutting-edge facility for the production of cryogenic and semi-cryogenic engines.
- Droupadi Murmu praised Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) by saying that HAL has made a significant contribution to India's defence independence.

- HAL has arguably been the driving force behind events. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has repeatedly shown that it is capable of doing research, developing, and producing a variety of Aircraft Platforms.
- According to the President, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and ISRO work jointly to advance and defend strategic interests.

About Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL):

Headquarters: Bengaluru

Founded: 1963, Bengaluru

Founder: Walchand Hirachand

About ISRO:

Headquarters: Bengaluru

Founded: 15 August 1969

Founder: Vikram Sarabhai

Jurisdiction: India

Parent organization: Department of Space

Subsidiary: Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre

About Karnataka:

Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot

Capital: Bengaluru (Executive Branch)

Chief Minister: Basavaraj Bommai

Jitendra Singh announces 'One Week One Lab' campaign to showcase breakthroughs in CSIR Labs

- Union Minister of state for Science and Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh on Monday announced 'One Week One Lab' theme-based campaign to showcase the technological breakthroughs and innovations in CSIR laboratories/institutes across the country on Monday.
- Addressing the first CSIR Leadership Meet, the minister said that the legacy of CSIR is built on the cumulative contribution of its national laboratories and institutes. "Each laboratory of CSIR is unique and specializing in as diverse areas as genomics to geology, material technology and food to fuel."
- Singh added that the laboratories came together during the COVID pandemic last year. They developed several technologies that helped India's fight against COVID. "CSIR breakthroughs in areas like Drone, Heliborne technology, state of the art Sewage cleaning machines, Aroma Mission has opened up huge opportunities for developing meaningful and equal stake partnership among Research, Academia and Industry."

About Council for Industry and Scientific Research (CSIR):

President: Narendra Modi

Founded: 26 September 1942

Founders: Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar, Arcot Ramasamy Mudaliar

'Mission safeguarding' wins global recognition for CIAL

- Cochin International Airport Ltd has won the Airport Service Quality award-2022 instituted by Airport Council International (ACI) for its meticulous implementation of a programme

‘Mission Safeguarding’ in 2021-22. It ensured seamless traffic and reinforced passenger satisfaction in the aftermath of the pandemic.

- CIAL has won the recognition in 5-15 million passenger category of airports operating in the Asia-Pacific region. ACI award is recognised as the highest honour in the global aviation sector, owing to its extensive survey methodology practices.

About Cochin International Airport Ltd:

Founded: 1994

About Airports Council International (ACI):

Headquarters location: Montreal, Canada

Founded: 1991

Mandaviya to inaugurate Arogya Manthan 2022 as AB-PMJAY completes 4 years

- Arogya Manthan 2022 event was officially launched by the Union Health Minister in Government of India, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya to commemorate four years since the launch of the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) and one year since the launch of the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM).
- More than 10 crore impoverished people are intended to benefit from the programme, which offers vulnerable families a five lakh rupee health subsidy each year.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi in September 2018 announced its debut. This two-day Arogya Manthan 2022 event covered a total of 12 sessions.
- Day 1 of Arogya Manthan 2022 featured a number of sessions on topics like Universal Health Coverage in India, Promoting Interoperability in Digital Health, Improving PM-JAY Efficiency, Adoption of Digital Health, Health Technology Assessment for Evidence-Informed PM-JAY Decisions, and Privacy and Security Issues Related to Digital Health.
- Senior government representatives from the states and UTs, as well as Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, MoS Health Dr. Bharati Pravin, and NITI Aayog Member (Health) Dr. VK Paul.

Chandigarh airport to be named after Bhagat Singh

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced Sunday during his monthly ‘Mann Ki Baat’ radio programme that the Chandigarh international airport would be named after freedom fighter Bhagat Singh. The announcement came three days before the martyr’s birth anniversary Wednesday, September 28, ending a seven-year standoff between the Punjab and Haryana governments over the naming of the airport.
- Earlier, Haryana had objected that the airport should be named after Chandigarh only as it is the joint capital of both states. Former Haryana chief minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda had agreed with Punjab to name the airport after Bhagat Singh but after the BJP, led by Manohar Lal Khattar, took over the reins in Haryana, in 2015, he put forth his view that it should be named after an RSS ideologue Mangel Sen.
- The Punjab Vidhan Sabha in 2017 passed a resolution that the airport should be named after Bhagat Singh and this led to a debate.

About Punjab:

Capital: Chandigarh

Governor: Banwarilal Purohit

Chief Minister: Bhagwant Mann

About Haryana:

Capital: Chandigarh

Governor: Bandaru Dattatreya

Chief Minister: Manohar Lal Khattar

'Make in India' completes 8 years, annual FDI doubles to USD 83 billion

- Make in India, the flagship program of the Government of India that aspires to facilitate investment, foster innovation, enhance skill development, and build best-in-class manufacturing infrastructure, completes 8 years of path-breaking reforms on 25th September 2022. Launched in 2014 under the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, 'Make in India' is transforming the country into a leading global manufacturing and investment destination. The initiative is an open invitation to potential investors and partners across the globe to participate in the growth story of 'New India'. Make In India has substantial accomplishments across 27 sectors. These include strategic sectors of manufacturing and services as well.
- To attract foreign investments, Government of India has put in place a liberal and transparent policy wherein most sectors are open to FDI under the automatic route. FDI inflows in India stood at US \$ 45.15 billion in 2014-2015 and have since consecutively reached record FDI inflows for eight years. The year 2021-22 recorded the highest ever FDI at \$83.6 billion. This FDI has come from 101 countries, and invested across 31 UTs and States and 57 sectors in the country. On the back of economic reforms and Ease of Doing Business in recent years, India is on track to attract US\$ 100 Bn FDI in the current FY.
- Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme across 14 key manufacturing sectors, was launched in 2020-21 as a big boost to Make in India initiative.

About Make in India:

Launch year: 2014

Status: Active

Launched by (Prime minister): Narendra Modi

Ministry: Ministry of Finance

Key people: Ministry of Commerce and Industry (India)

5G services to be launched 'very soon': Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw

- IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the government is investing nearly \$30 billion to ensure last-mile network accessibility for 4G and 5G in every village across the country and build a robust digital infrastructure in the rural areas. Speaking at the 'Global Fintech Fest 2022', Vaishnaw said the government has reached out to over 1.5 lakh gram panchayats to date.
- "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 while making them a part of the growth journey," the minister emphasised. "We have tested this model and approximately 80,000 new connections are now being facilitated every month," he added.
- Vaishnaw said there are three key areas in fintech for the government – building a robust digital infrastructure and a digital regulatory framework, along with social inclusion and the

societal imperatives around it. Sharing his views on the digital regulatory framework, the minister said that telecom is the very foundation of Digital India.

Karnataka man gets India's first full-arm transplant at Kerala hospital

- India's first full arm transplant was performed at the Kerala-based Amrita Hospital. 20 surgeons, 10 anesthetists, and 5 practice sessions were performed which took 18 hours of surgery. It is the third of its type in the world, such a transplant was only performed previously in Mexico and France.
- After receiving several requests for limb transplants from across the world, which includes several parts of Middle Eastern countries and southeast Asian Countries, Amrita Hospital in Kochi accepted the request to perform a shoulder level full arm transplant.
- First request was accepted from Amaresh, who is an unmarried man, he suffered a severe injury in 2017 due to electric shock while repairing charged electric cables. His hands sustained several fractures and electric burns.
- Both his hands were amputated to save his life. He waited for a suitable donor for years, and Vinod agreed to donate his hands. Vinod is a 54-year-old man working in West Asia, he met an accident and suffered serious injuries, and lost his life in Thiruvananthapuram.

About Karnataka:

Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot

Capital: Bengaluru (Executive Branch)

Chief Minister: Basavaraj Bommai

About Kerala:

Governor: Arif Mohammad Khan

Capital: Thiruvananthapuram

Chief Minister: Pinarayi Vijayan

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar inaugurates Lokmanthan 2022 in Guwahati

- Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar inaugurated the 3rd edition of Lokmanthan organised by Prajna Prabah today, on September 22. Governor of Assam Jagdish Mukhi and Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma were also present in the inaugural session of the 3 days celebration of the Lok Parampara of the nation held at the Sankardev Kalakhetra premises.
- The third edition of the Lokmanthan is being observed with the theme to seek the cultural and traditional heritages hidden in the various corners of our country, especially in the North East part of India.
- Speaking at the inaugural function of Lok Manthan 2022 as the chief guest, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar said, "Dialogue, Debate and Discussion are the souls of governance. The contemporaneous scenario on this count, particularly in the legislature, is worrisome."

About Assam:

Capital: Dispur

Chief Minister: Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma

Governor: Prof Jagdish Mukhi

PM Modi Receives Braille Version Of Assamese Dictionary 'Hemkosh'

- In New Delhi, Jayanta Baruah gave Prime Minister Narendra Modi a copy of the Assamese Dictionary Hemkosh in Braille. Jayanta Baruah and his colleagues received praise from Mr. Modi for their efforts. Assamese Dictionary Hemkosh was one of the first Assamese dictionaries, published in the nineteenth century. Sarbananda Sonowal, the minister for ports, shipping, and waterways, as well as other officials, were present on this occasion.
- The earliest Assamese etymological dictionary based on Sanskrit spellings is called Assamese Dictionary Hemkosh and was created by Hemchandra Barua. 33 years after the release of Bronson's dictionary, it was first published in the early 20th century under the direction of Capt. P. R. Gordon, ISC, and Hemchandra Goswami. There were around 22,346 words in it.

About Assam:

Capital: Dispur

Chief Minister: Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma

Governor: Prof Jagdish Mukhi

Veteran Assamese swimmer Elvis Ali Hazarika becomes the first from North East to cross North Channel

- Veteran Assamese swimmer, Elvis Ali Hazarika has become the first from the North East to cross the North Channel. The North Channel is the strait between north-eastern Northern Ireland and south-western Scotland. Elvis and his team clocked a timing of 14 hours 38 minutes to achieve this feat. With this, Elvis has become the oldest Indian swimmer to cross the North Channel.
- According to the Irish Long Distance Swimming Association, the distance of the route recognised as a North Channel swim is 34.5 km (21.4 miles). It is known for fickle weather, rough seas, tough currents and an abundance of jellyfish. As it is, over the past four years especially, the ace Assam swimmer has been pushing his limits, persevering and raising the bar from time to time to create significant records, also making Assam and the country proud.

About Assam:

Capital: Dispur

Chief Minister: Himanta Biswa Sarma

Governor: Prof Jagdish Mukhi

Government of India appoints Ratan Tata, 2 others as trustees of PM CARES Fund

- According to the prime minister's office, Veteran industrialist Ratan Tata, former Supreme Court judge KT Thomas, and former deputy Lok Sabha speaker Kariya Munda have been nominated as trustees of the PM CARES Fund. Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the PM CARES Fund, which was attended by Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.
- Both Shah and Sitharaman are the Trustees of PM Cares Fund. During the meeting, Ratan Tata, Chairman Emeritus, Tata Sons; Justice KT Thomas, former SC judge, and Kariya Munda, former Deputy speaker appointed as the newly nominated trustees of the PM CARES Fund.
- The trust further decided to nominate other eminent persons for the constitution of the Advisory Board to the PM CARES Fund.

- These eminent personalities included: Rajiv Mehrishi, Former Comptroller and Auditor General of India; Sudha Murthy, Former Chairperson, Infosys Foundation, and Anand Shah, Co-founder of Teach for India and Former CEO of Indicorps and Piramal Foundation.

Cabinet approves second tranche of PLI scheme to boost manufacturing of solar modules

- The Union cabinet approved the second tranche of the Performance Linked incentive (PLI) scheme on 'National programme on High Efficiency Solar PV Modules' for achieving manufacturing capacity of Giga Watt (GW) scale to boost manufacturing of solar photovoltaic (PV) modules in India, Union minister Anurag Thakur announced in a press briefing.
- With the second tranche of the PLI scheme the government is hoping that about 65GW per annum manufacturing capacity of fully and partially integrated, solar PV modules would be installed in the country. "The second tranche of the PLI scheme for the national programme on 'high efficiency solar PV modules' has been approved with an outlay of Rs.19,500 crore. Through this we are looking at achieving manufacturing capacity of Giga Watt (GW) scale in solar PV modules in India, thereby reducing import dependence in the area of renewable energy.
- The move is significant as at present all manufacturing in the solar energy sector in India is restricted only to cells and modules. India currently has no manufacturing of solar wafers and polysilicon.

GI tagging of Kashmiri Saffron reaches national and international platforms: Director Agriculture Kashmir

- Farmers in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir are now able to sell their products on domestic and international marketplaces thanks to the GI labelling of Kashmiri saffron. This was said by Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal, director of agriculture in Kashmir, who today visited the India International Saffron from Kashmir Trade Centre in Dussu in the Pampore neighbourhood of the Pulwama district of south Kashmir to see how it was operating there.
- The Director of Agriculture spoke at the event and expressed his satisfaction with IIKSTC's performance during the previous two years.
- According to him, more than 3000 kg of fresh saffron flowers from which more than 300 kg of saffron was collected could be processed in the IIKSTC lab, which the Department has been using on a trial basis for the past two years.

About Jammu and Kashmir:

Capital: Srinagar

LG: Shri Manoj Sinha

India's AIBD presidency extended by another year

- India's Presidency of the Asia-Pacific Institute of Broadcasting Development (AIBD), has been extended for one more year. The Chief Executive Officer of Prasar Bharati and Director General of Doordarshan Mayank Kumar Agrawal is the President of AIBD.
- The decision to extend AIBD was taken at the two-day General Conference of the AIBD held in New Delhi. The conference was inaugurated by the Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting Anurag Thakur.

- The conference was also facilitated by Dr. L. Murugan, Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, and Apurva Chandra secretary of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- Anurag Thakur, the Information and Broadcasting Minister said that mainstream media channel is the biggest threat to mainstream media.

Bihar Govt to Introduce 'no-bag Day', Compulsory Games Period in Schools

- The Bihar government is set to introduce a “no-bag day” rule in schools and a mandatory games period at least once a week to reduce the burden on students. The weekly “no-bag day” will have task-based practical classes. At least once a week, students will come to school only with their lunch boxes. They do not need to carry books. The day will be devoted to practical and experiential learning. The objective of such a policy is to engage students in various activities which can positively impact their learning.
- School authorities must prepare a curriculum for such activities. This step will certainly bring positive changes among students, which will also improve their learning ability. Encouraged by the impressive performance of our students in regional, national and international sporting events, we will introduce a mandatory games period in schools.
- The initiative is in line with the National Education Policy 2020 and will be implemented in both state-run and private schools. The government will accordingly prepare them for the state, national and international sporting events.

About Bihar:

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

Adani Green commissions 325-MW wind power project in Madhya Pradesh

- Cementing its presence in renewable energy further, Adani Green commissioned a 325 MW wind energy plant Madhya Pradesh's Dhar.
- The operational generation capacity has increased to 6.1 GW after the commissioning of this plant, the company said.
- "Adani Wind Energy MP One Private Ltd (AWEMP1PL), a subsidiary of AGEL, has commissioned a 324.4 MW wind power plant in Dhar, Madhya Pradesh," it said.
- The plant has two 25-year Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) with Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI), one for 274.4 MW energy and another for 50 MW power, at a tariff of Rs 2.83 per kwh (kilowatt hour).
- The newly commissioned plant will be managed by the Adani Group's 'Energy Network Operation Centre' platform, which provides technological assistance.

About Madhya Pradesh:

Capital: Bhopal (Executive Branch)
Chief Minister: Shivraj Singh Chouhan
Governor: Mangubhai Patel

About Adani Green:

CEO: Vneet Jaain (Jul 2020–)
Headquarters: Ahmedabad

Founded: 23 January 2015

Founder: Gautam Adani

India emerges as Sri Lanka's largest bilateral lender overtaking China

- India has emerged as the largest bilateral lender for Sri Lanka, overtaking China. India has provided a total of 968 million US dollars in loans to the island nation in four months of 2022. In the past five years from 2017-2021, China has been the largest bilateral lender to Sri Lanka.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has been the largest multilateral lender in the past five years and disbursed funds amounting to 610 million dollars in 2021. India's Permanent Representative to the UN, Ruchira Kamboj had said that India had provided nearly 4 billion dollars in food and financial assistance to Sri Lanka. On August 22, India handed over 21,000 tonnes of fertilizer to crisis-ridden Sri Lanka.

About China:

Capital: Beijing

Currency: Yuan

President: Xi Jinping

TSSC partners Huawei to open Centre of Excellence for IoT in Patna

- The Telecom Sector Skill Council (TSSC), India's premier skill development institution for telecom, inaugurated a Centre of Excellence at NIT Patna for capacity building in the telecom sector with Huawei Technologies Co. Ltd., under the aegis of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE).
- The inauguration was graced by the chief guest Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad (former IT minister) who lauded the efforts of TSSC, citing the growing economy of states like Bihar, Jharkhand, and Chhattisgarh. The CoE will cater to roles in Information and Communications Technology, Cyber Security, Electronics and Communication including Technical, Services and allied fields. This includes job roles for Internet of Things (IoT), Call Centre Executive, ToT, ToA, among others.
- On the occasion, Mr. Ravi Shankar Prasad (former IT minister) said, "TSSC is fulfilling the need of the hour by creating high-end skill centres to cater to demand from the youth. We need more industry-aligned training to empower our youth with advanced skills like 5G and IoT. I want to see more being done for the state of Bihar."

About Bihar:

Governor: Phagu Chauhan

Chief Minister: Nitish Kumar

Capital: Patna

Union Minister Piyush Goyal concludes two-day visit to Saudi Arabia; discusses bilateral trade, commerce, and investments linkages

- Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal has concluded his two-day visit to Saudi Arabia. Mr Goyal had visited the country to attend the Ministerial meeting of the India-Saudi Arabia Strategic Partnership Council. The outcomes of the Ministerial meeting include streamlining efforts to realize the announcement made by Crown Prince

Mohammad Bin Salman, during his visit to India in February 2019 about investments worth 100 billion dollars in India. It also includes endorsement of the 41 areas of cooperation identified by the technical teams under domains of Agriculture and Food Security, Energy, Technology and IT, and Industry and Infrastructure.

- During his two-day visit, Mr Goyal met the Minister of Commerce of Saudi Arabia Dr. Majid bin Abdullah Al-Kassabi and held wide-ranging discussions on the entire gamut of bilateral trade, commerce and investments linkages.
- He also met the President of the Royal Commission of Jubail and Yanbu Khalid Al-Salem and CEO of Saudi EXIM Bank, and other senior officials of the Ministry of Industry, Saudi Arabia.

About saudi arabia:

Capital: Riyadh

Currency: Saudi riyal

King: Salman of Saudi Arabia

Official language: Arabic

Andaman and Nicobar Islands declared India's first Swachh Sujal Pradesh

- Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has declared Andaman and Nicobar Islands as India's first Swachh Sujal Pradesh. Speaking at a function in Port Blair, he handed over the certificate to Lieutenant Governor Admiral DK Joshi.
- Now, all villages of Andaman and Nicobar Island have been certified as Har Ghar Jal and verified as open defecation free – ODF plus. Mr Shekhawat congratulated all the islanders for this major achievement and highlighted people participation to complete this journey.
- He said, being remotely located from the mainland the achievement of the islands will prove to be a source of inspiration for rest States and Union Territories. This is the best gift for Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his birthday, he added.

About Andaman and Nicobar:

Districts: 3

Country: India

Districts: 3

Capital and largest city: Port Blair

L. Governor: Admiral D K Joshi

Maharashtra to set up NITI aayog-like institution

- Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Sunday announced that an institution on the lines of Niti Aayog would be set up in the state for comprehensive data analysis and to make studied decisions on various sectors.
- Speaking to reporters here, Fadnavis said, "A delegation led by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde met the chief executive officer and other officials of the Niti Aayog. It was proposed that an institute of transformation on the lines of Niti Aayog would be set up to make studied decisions on various sectors. CM Shinde has given an in-principle nod to this suggestion."
- The topics discussed during the meeting between the chief minister and the NITI Aayog officials ranged from monetisation of assets, blockchain in agriculture, transportation taking to alternative fuel or EV policy, non-conventional energy, drone in healthcare and agriculture, among others, he said.

- The NITI Aayog has also carried an extensive study on similar issues and developed a tool, where inter-related data from various departments is collectively analysed for a better decision-making process.

About Maharashtra:

Governor: Bhagat Singh Koshyari

Chief Minister: Eknath Shinde

Capital: Mumbai

Social Justice Minister Virendra Kumar inaugurates 9 model DDRCs

- Union Social Justice and Empowerment minister Dr. Virendra Kumar virtually inaugurated 9 model District Disability Rehabilitation centres(DDRC). The minister was inaugurating 9 DDRCs which had been upgrading to model DDRCs.
- The nine DDRCs include: Badaun, Pilibhit, Barielly, Balaghat, Golaghat, Ahmedabad, Amravati, Kullu and Rampur.
- Spread across the country DDRCs have been providing effective rehabilitation services to the persons with disabilities(PwDs) for the last two decades. To improve their services the Department of Empowerment of Persons With Disability in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Government of India has conceptualized the model DDRC model.
- The Model DDRCs will act as milestone in providing quality rehabilitation services to PwDs while setting an example for newer DDRCs to come in future. They would also have services like hearing aids test lab, speech therapy room, visual therapy room, psychologist room, physiotherapist room, gait practice parallel bar and tele-medicine.

About Ministry of Social Justice :

Founder: Ministry of Minority Affairs

Officeholders: Virendra Kumar (Union Minister)

BSF's first female camel riding squad ready to be deployed along India-Pakistan border in Rajasthan and Gujarat

- Border Security Force (BSF) first female camel riding squad will be deployed along the India-Pakistan border in Rajasthan & Gujarat. The squad will participate for the first time in the BSF Raising Day Parade on 1st December. This Squad will be the first of its kind in the world. Giving this information, DIG BSF Bikaner, Pushpendra Singh Rathore said that Intensive training was given to this squad at the Bikaner Regional Headquarters of BSF under the supervision of skilled trainers.
- The BSF is the only force in the country to have the Camel Contingents and the Camel Mounted Band. BSF, traditionally known as the 'first line of defence, the Camel Contingents are used to keep a vigil in the vast expanse of the Thar Desert.
- The BSF is a central armed police force (CAPF) that functions under the Union government. It was raised in 1965 in the aftermath of the India-Pakistan war.

About Border Security Force:

Director General: Pankaj Kumar Singh

Founded: 1 December 1965

Headquarters: New Delhi, India

About Rajasthan:

Governor: Kalraj Mishra
Capital: Jaipur (Executive Branch)
Chief Minister: Ashok Gehlot

About Gujarat:

Capital: Gandhinagar
Governor: Acharya Devvrat
Chief Minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel

Tamil Nadu notifies Nanjarayan tank as bird sanctuary

- The Tamil Nadu government has notified the Nanjarayan tank in Tiruppur district as the 17th bird sanctuary of the State.
- In April, Minister for Forests K. Ramachandran said in the Assembly that the tank would be declared a bird sanctuary and ₹7.5 crore would be allotted for its development.
- On Monday, the Department of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change issued a government order, declaring the tank as the 17th bird sanctuary under the Wild Life (Protection) Act.
- The tank, locally called Sarkar Periyapalayam tank, lies at the junction of Tiruppur North and Uthukuli taluks, covering 125.86 hectares. The government has also released the proposed boundaries of the sanctuary.
- The tank is considered an abode of migratory bird species. Bar-headed goose, ruddy shelduck, northern shoveler and many other species native to Central Asia are expected to arrive at the tank by October.

About Tamil Nadu:

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

Jitendra Singh to lead delegation for Global Clean Energy Action Forum

- Union Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh will lead a joint ministerial delegation to the US to participate in the Global Clean Energy Action Forum.
- The delegation, comprising Minister for Power and New and Renewable Energy R K Singh, will also take part in the joint convening of Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM13) and Mission Innovation (MI-7) from Wednesday through Friday at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.
- The event will bring together thousands of clean energy leaders from around the world, including CEOs, innovators, young professionals, civil society and ministers from over 30 countries to accelerate clean energy innovation and deployment.
- The Indian delegation is likely to highlight efforts made in the fields of bio-refineries, sustainable aviation fuels, materials accelerated platform, building energy efficiency (smart grids), carbon capture, and hydrogen valley platforms, among others, to expedite clean energy solutions.

About Ministry of Union Science and Technology:

Formed: May 1971
Responsible Minister: Jitendra Singh

15-day 'Raktdaan Amrit Mahotsav' begins on PM Narendra Modi's birthday, Health Minister Mandaviya donates

- Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya launched a 15-day blood donation drive on the occasion of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday. The blood donation drive is known as 'Raktdaan Amrit Mahotsav' which will continue till 1st October 2022 which is National Voluntary Blood Donation Day.
- Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya urges people to take part in the blood donation drive and donate blood to save lives. The citizens can register themselves on Aarogya Setu App or e-Raktkosh portal to donate blood as part of the 'Raktdaan Amrit Mahotsav'.
- In India, 5,857 camps have been approved, 55,8959 donors have registered and 4000 people have donated blood so far.
- The drive aims to collect one lakh units of blood in a day and raise awareness about the need for regular non-remunerated voluntary blood donation.
- The drive will create a repository of voluntary blood donors so that those in need can get help on time and minimize the need for replacement blood donation. Every blood bank in India is encouraged to organize at least one blood donation camp as part of the 15-day blood donation drive.

India's first lithium-ion cell factory inaugurated in Andhra Pradesh

- Chennai-based Munoth Industries Ltd (MIL), promoted by Munoth group, is set to commission what it calls India's first full-fledged lithium-ion cell manufacturing unit at Electronic Manufacturing Cluster 2 [EMC 2], located at Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh.
- The factory, which will be inaugurated by Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Union Minister of State for Electronics and IT, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, will commence a pre-production run on September 16. The factory will employ about 250 workers.
- "This is the first time a real manufacturing operation for lithium-ion cells is happening in the country," said Jaswant Munoth, Vice Chairman of Munoth Industries Ltd (MIL), which was earlier engaged in the sales and distribution of mobile phones.
- The 15,000 sq mt lithium cell factory has come up on a 30-acre site with a Phase-1 investment of ₹165 crore. It will have an initial capacity of 270 MWh and can produce 20,000 cells of 10Ah capacity every day. The company has technical tie-ups with China-based Tianjin Lishen and BPI.

About Andhra Pradesh:

Capital: Amaravati

Governor: Biswabhusan Harichandan

Chief Minister: YS Jagan Mohan Reddy

Founded: 1 November 1956

About Tamil Nadu:

Governor: R. N. Ravi

Capital: Chennai

Chief Minister: M. K. Stalin

Indore to become the country's first "smart City" with digital address

- This year, Indore will create history by implementing a fully digital addressing system, making it the first city in India to do so. The smart city advanced significantly when a memorandum of understanding was signed with the firm Pataa Navigations. The Memorandum of Understanding is signed by Rajat Jain, co-founder of Pataa Navigations, and Rishav Gupta (IAS), CEO of Indore Smart City.
- Pataa has developed patented technology and is working with the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) to develop a digital addressing system for the nation.
- Additionally, the user has the option to record voice instructions, which eliminates the need to repeat the address over the phone and makes it simpler for the guest to find the location. In the future, the user will be able to share a short code rather than sharing their lengthy and whole address with everybody, which is a huge benefit of anything like this.

About Madhya Pradesh:

Capital: Bhopal (Executive Branch)

Chief Minister: Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Governor: Shri Mangubhai Patel

About Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO):

Headquarters: Bengaluru

Founded: 15 August 1969

Founder: Vikram Sarabhai

Chairman: Shri S. Somanath

Jharkhand Govt Raises OBC Reservations in State Govt Jobs to 27% from 14%

- Jharkhand Government agreed to the proposal for granting 77 percent reservation in state government jobs for the SC, ST, Backward Classes, and OBC and further economically weaker sections. The chief minister of Jharkhand Hemant Soren hiked the OBC reservation to 27 percent which was earlier 14 percent. The Jharkhand Government also accepted the proposal to use the 1932 land records to determine those who are local inhabitants.
- The decision of granting reservation was taken in the backdrop of tribals' demand that the last land survey is conducted by the British government in 1932.
- The development came amid a political crisis in Jharkhand over the threats to Chief Minister Hemant Soren of his disqualification as an MLA.
- The state government will also request the center to the inclusion of the bill in the Ninth schedule of the constitution.

About Jharkhand:

Founded: 15 November 2000

Capital: Ranchi

Chief Minister: Hemant Soren

Governor: Shri Ramesh Bais

Sikkim govt hikes minimum wage for unskilled workers by 67% to Rs 500

- The Sikkim government hiked the minimum wage for unskilled workers by 67 percent to Rs 500. The daily wage for unskilled laborers was Rs 300 which is now increased to Rs 500 with retrospective effect from 11th July 2022. The daily wage for semi-skilled workers was

increased from Rs 320 to Rs 520. The skilled laborers or workers will now get Rs 535, which was earlier Rs 335. Highly skilled labor will be paid Rs 565 per day, instead of Rs 365 per day.

- These updated wages will be applicable for laborers who are working at altitudes up to 8,000 feet.
- 50 percent more wages will be given to those working at altitudes from 8,001 feet to 12,000 feet.
- The laborers working in the altitudes of 12,001 feet to 16,000 feet will be paid 75 percent more than the normal wage.

About Sikkim:

Capital: Gangtok

Governor: Ganga Prasad

Chief Minister: Prem Singh Tamang

Darjeeling zoo adjudged the best zoo in India

- The Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park (PNHNP) of Darjeeling has been recognised as the best zoo in the country. Calcutta's famous Alipore Zoological Garden has come fourth.
- The ranking list was released by the Central Zoo Authority (CZA) during the zoo directors' conference held at Bhubaneswar in Odisha on September 10.
- "It is a proud moment for us, the state, the West Bengal State Zoo Authority and the senior officers who have been supporting us continuously," said Dr Basavaraj Holeyachi, the director of the PNHNP.

About West Bengal:

Capital: Kolkata

Chief Minister: Mamata Banerjee

Governor: Shri La. Ganesan

Election Commission of India launches BLO e- Patrika

- The Election Commission of India on Wednesday released a new digital publication 'BLO e- Patrika' at an interactive session held with BLOs spread across the States in India.
- Over 350 BLOs joined via video-conferencing from the office of Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs) in States/UTs and 50 BLOs from the nearby states of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi joined the launch event physically at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.
- According to the statement released by the Election Commission, BLOs participated enthusiastically during the interaction with the Commission sharing their experiences, challenges they come across while performing their duties and success stories.
- Today's event was a first-of-its-kind direct interaction by the Commission with the BLOs across the country. Senior officials from the Election Commission and CEOs of all States (via video conferencing) were present during the event.

About Election Commission of India:

Formed: 25 January 1950

Headquarters: New Delhi

First executive: Sukumar Sen

Preceding executive: Sushil Chandra

Current executive: Rajiv Kumar

Kibithu camp renamed after General Rawat

- The military camp at Kibithu Garrison, which is very close to the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Arunachal Pradesh, has been renamed as 'Gen Bipin Rawat military garrison' in honour of the country's first Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) who was killed in a chopper crash last December. As a young Colonel, Rawat commanded his Battalion 5/11 Gorkha Rifles at Kibithu from 1999-2000 and contributed immensely to strengthening the security structure in the area.
- Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh Pema Khandu named the 22 km long road from Walong to Kibithu as 'General Bipin Rawat Marg'. A life-size mural of General Rawat was also unveiled on the occasion.
- He hails from Uttarakhand and had received the 'sword of honour' when he passed out from the Indian Military Academy in 1978.
- General Rawat has tremendous hands-on experience of serving in combat areas and at various functional levels in the Indian Army over the last three decades.

NMHC to be built at Lothal in Gujarat

- Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is building the National Maritime Heritage Complex at the historic Indus Valley civilization region of Lothal in Gujarat with a total cost of 3500 crores rupees. The first-of-its-kind complex in India, this centre will showcase India's rich and diverse maritime heritage. The foundation stone for the NMHC project was laid by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the consent for the master plan was given in March 2019.
- The project is planned to be completed in different phases. In phase 1A, a museum will be built with 5 galleries and a naval gallery on 35 acres of land at an investment of Rs 774.23 crores.
- In phase 1B, the remaining portions of the museum will be built, including galleries, lighthouse, 5D dome theatre, Bagicha Complex and other infrastructure. This phase is proposed to be developed under EPC mode.

About Gujarat:

Capital: Gandhinagar

Governor: Acharya Devvrat

Chief Minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel

Lieutenant Governor RK Mathur inaugurates Ladakh Screenwriters Fair in Leh

- Ladakh Screenwriters Fair: In Leh, Ladakh Lieutenant Governor RK Mathur effectively opened the five-day Ladakh Screenwriters Fair. Mr. Mathur claimed that Ladakh technologists and content providers are conversant with the motion picture business. Ladakh, he claimed, has contributed to the industry with its naturally stunning scenery and rich culture. He urged the attendees to learn from and follow the advice of film industry professionals in order to portray Ladakh in film media.
- Screenwriters fair, according to Union Territory Ladakh Secretary Commissioner Padma Angmo, is the outcome of the LG's persistent efforts to promote Ladakh-original stories in the Ladakhi language by Ladakhis for consumption throughout India.

- During the Fair, Satyanshu Singh, Shakun Batra, Abhya Pannu, Shaunak Sen, and Pratyush Parasuram will discuss the fundamentals of screenwriting, character arc sketches, writing for documentaries, episode writing, OTT, and marketing.

About Ladakh:

Union territory: 31 October 2019

Districts: 2

Administering Country: India

Capitals: Leh, Kargil

Lieutenant Governor: RK Mathur

Chief Minister announces 'Cinematic Tourism Policy 2022-2027'

- Gujarat Chief Minister, Bhupendra Patel has announced Gujarat's first-ever 'Cinematic Tourism Policy' in the presence of dignitaries including actor Ajay Devgan, and State Government Minister Shri. Purnesh Modi and Shri Arvind Raiyani. This new policy will create viable opportunities for film production in Gujarat and also provide employment opportunities to local people. There are many places in Gujarat like the White Desert of Kutch, Shivrajpur Beach where there are ample opportunities to become shooting spots.
- Four MoUs worth Rs. 1022 crore for investments in various subjects including filmmaking, studio infrastructure, acting schools in Gujarat were signed by some investors with the tourism department.

About Gujarat:

Capital: Gandhinagar

Governor: Acharya Devvrat

Chief Minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel

Nagaland holds its first ever Naga Mircha Festival at Seihama

- In a first of its kind in Nagaland, Naga Mircha (Naga King Chilli) Festival 2022 was organised on Saturday at Seiyhama Village under Kohima district. The festival was sponsored by the Department of Horticulture.
- Speaking as the special guest, NDPP President, 11th Northern Angami-2 Assembly Constituency, Vibeilietuo Kets said, Naga Mircha produced by the Seiyhama is of good quality and that they should start strategising market control by producing the chilli on a large scale that can be available in the market throughout the year at a cheaper rate.
- He also said, while the villagers are actively involved in the cultivation of Naga Mircha, the Horticulture Department should also extend hand-holding to the farmers by imparting scientific-technical support and training.
- District Horticulture Officer Kohima, Senka Jamir informed that the Horticulture Department has chosen Botsa block as a focus area for Naga Mircha cultivation covering almost 100 hectares.
- Convenor Organising Committee of the Festival, Lhoulalie Zumu said, around 200 households are now engaged in the Naga mircha cultivation. He said, the village generated an amount of 27 lakh rupees last year, and it expects to earn triple the amount this year.

About Nagaland:

Founded: 30 November 1963

Capital: Kohima (Executive Branch)

Chief Minister: Neiphiu Rio

Governor: Prof Jagdish Mukhi

Gujarat Govt announces first-ever Cinematic Tourism Policy in Ahmedabad

- Gujarat government announced the first-ever Cinematic Tourism Policy in Ahmedabad on Saturday.
- The policy will be effective for five years from 2022 to 2027. Announcing the policy, Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel said, this policy will help in strengthening the film infrastructure in the state. It will also bring all the service providers associated with filmmaking on one platform and will boost tourism activities in the State, he added.
- This scheme aims to promote cinematic tourism through the development of film infrastructure and the creation of attractive opportunities for cinema in Gujarat. This scheme offers various financial and non-financial incentives for filmmakers.

About Gujarat:

Capital: Gandhinagar

Governor: Acharya Devvrat

Chief Minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel

Shree Goyal launches initiative to connect Indian startups with US investors

- SETU programme: To connect entrepreneurs in India with US-based investors, the commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal has created a programme called SETU (Supporting Entrepreneurs in Transformation and Upskilling). With SETU, mentors in the US who are eager to support entrepreneurship can connect with Indian firms that are just getting off the ground. The initiative was introduced during a discussion centred on particular concerns with India's startup ecosystem.
- The meeting's main topics were how to promote domestic incorporation and successful diaspora residents of the San Francisco Bay Area's mentorship of early-stage Indian firms.
- The project would provide mentorship and support in a number of areas, including funding, market access, and commercialization, by connecting businesses in India to investors and startup ecosystem leaders in the US.
- Mentors from all around the world are encouraged to apply to MAARG. Over 200 mentors from all over the world have joined MAARG as of this writing.

About United States:

President: Joe Biden

Capital: Washington, D.C.

Currency: US Dollars

Navy launches stealth frigate Taragiri, built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders

- 'Taragiri', the third stealth frigate of the Indian Navy's Project 17A, was launched in Mumbai, the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders (MDL) said. This ship has been built using an integrated construction methodology which involves hull block construction in different geographical locations and integration and erection on the slipway at the MDL, it said in a statement.

- The ship was named by Charu Singh, President, Navy Wives Welfare Association (Western Region), wife of vice admiral Ajendra Bahadur Singh, FOC-in-C Western Naval Command, who was the chief guest. The keel of 'Taragiri' was laid on September 10, 2020. The ship is expected to be delivered by August 2025, the statement said. The vessel is being launched with an approximate launch weight of 3,510 tons. The frigate is designed by the Indian Navy's in-house design organization, the Bureau of Naval Design.

About Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders (MDL) :

Headquarters: India

Founded: 1934

Owner: Govt of India (84.83%)

Key people: Narayan Prasad; (Chairman & MD)

Chhattisgarh gets two more districts, takes total to 33

- Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Bhupesh Baghel inaugurated the 32nd and 33rd districts of the State. Manendragarh-Chirmiri-Bharatpur and Sakti were announced as the 32nd and 33rd districts of Chhattisgarh. Sakti is carved out from Janjgir-Champa, and Manendragarh-Chirmiri-Bharatpur is carved out from the Koriya district.
- The Chhattisgarh Chief Minister said that people have been demanding the creation of the Manendragarh district for a very long time and it has been a long-term struggle to create Manendragarh as a district. Three new districts have been inaugurated in Chhattisgarh by the Chief Minister. There are now, 33 districts in Chhattisgarh including Mohla-Manpur-Ambagarh Chowki, Sarangarh-Bilaigarh, and Khairagarh-Chhuikhadan-Gandai.

About Chhattisgarh:

Capital: Raipur (Executive Branch)

Governor: Anusuiya Uikey

Chief Minister: Bhupesh Baghel

NITI Aayog, WRI launches e-FAST - India's first national electric freight platform

- NITI Aayog and World Resources Institute (WRI), launched India's first National Electric Freight Platform- E-FAST India (Electric Freight Accelerator for Sustainable Transport-India). The National Electric Freight Platform brings different stakeholders together with the support of the World Economic Forum, CALSTART, and RMI India.
- The platform aims to raise awareness of freight electrification bolstered by an on-ground demonstration pilot and evidence-based research.
- The launch of E-Fast India has witnessed participation from major automobile industries, logistics companies, development banks, and fin-tech companies.
- The TCO Evaluator is an intuitive excel-based application, which helps in analyzing cost components and performance parameters.
- The parameters included light, medium, and heavy-duty freight and compared electric variants with their diesel, petrol, and CNG counterparts to identify their impact on TCO per km.

About NITI Aayog:

Formed: 1 January 2015

Headquarters: New Delhi

Chairperson: Narendra Modi

Founder: National Democratic Alliance

India, China troops begin disengagement from Gogra-Hotsprings in Ladakh

- Indian and Chinese troops have begun disengaging at Patrolling Pillar (15) in the Gogra-Hotspring region of Eastern Ladakh, the government said. Forces of the two countries have been locked in a confrontational position in the area since April 2020. "On 8th September 2022, according to the consensus reached in the 16th round of India China Corps Commander Level Meeting, the Indian and Chinese troops in the area of Gogra-Hotsprings (PP-15) have begun to disengage in a coordinated and planned way, which is conducive to the peace and tranquility in the border areas," a 'Joint Statement' issued by the Ministry of Defence said.
- The 16th Corps Commander Level talks were held on July 17 this year at the Chushul-Moldo border meeting point on the Indian side.
- In April this year, around the time that Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi visited India, the eastern neighbour also sent a proposal to India about disengagement of troops from Patrolling Point 15 in the Hot Spring Area.
- "Multiple rounds of negotiations have taken place at various levels since then and a mutually agreeable formula of disengagement has been reached," a government source said without revealing further details.
- A 'joint press release' issued by the Ministry of External Affairs after the 16th Corps Commander level talks had said, "Building on the progress made at the last meeting on 11 March 2022, the two sides continued discussions for the resolution of the relevant issues along the LAC in the Western Sector in a constructive and forward looking manner.

About China:

President: Xi Jinping

Capital: Beijing

Currency: Renminbi

Official language: Mandarin

Targeting to developing 300 Gati Shakti Terminals in next five years: Ashwini Vaishnaw

- The Union Cabinet had approved a policy on long-term leasing of Railways' land as well as a proposal to develop 300 Gati Shakti cargo terminals over the next five years. A senior official said on Thursday that the Railways expect an incremental revenue of at least ₹30,000 crore per annum from freight services when 300 Gati Shakti cargo terminals will be operational.
- The 300 terminals planned by the Union Cabinet are expected to generate employment for 30,000 people directly and 90,000 indirect jobs.
- Union minister Ashwini Vaishnaw talking about the achievements of 'Gati Shakti Multi-Modal Cargo Terminal (GCT)' which was launched in December last year, said that the ministry has got a very good response while briefing reporters on the Cabinet decisions. Vaishnav added, "The target of 300 terminals is a very achievable target. We already have 150 firm proposals, about 93 applications have been received to build terminals and about 65 entities have expressed their interest."

- If an economy is served only by roads, its logistics cost is 17-18% of GDP and if it is served 100% by railways the logistics cost is 6-7%. So the difference is huge.” Noting the benefits railways can provide in cargo, he said, “The railway is highly economical. If we want to reduce the logistics cost of the country, we need to move cargo away from roads and to railways. In India this cost is about 13-14% of GDP presently”.

About Indian railways:

Track length: 67.956 million m

Customer service: 139

Founded: 6 May 1836, India

Headquarters: New Delhi

Founders: Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy, Jagannath Shankarseth

Healthcare sector in India to become \$50 billion industry by 2025: Jitendra Singh

- India’s healthcare industry is expected to grow to hit \$50 billion in size by 2025, said Union minister Jitendra Singh. Addressing the 14th CII Global MedTech Summit, “Seizing the Global Opportunity”, the minister said that under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, healthcare has become more focused on innovation and technology over the past two years. About 80% of the healthcare system aims to increase investment in digital healthcare tools in the coming five years.
- The minister added that the prime objective of the government is to reduce import dependence from 80% to below 30% in next 10 years and ensure self-reliance quotient of 80% in med-tech through Make in India with SMART milestones. Towards this, the Indian government has undertaken structural and sustained reforms to strengthen the healthcare sector and has also announced conducive policies for encouraging FDI.
- “It is expected that India becomes one of the top markets in medical devices upwards of 14% – 15%. This global position is attainable by achieving the targets set in the National Infrastructure Pipeline 2020, to build 73 new medical colleges to increase domestic consumption and improve healthcare infrastructure.”
- The minister added that India aims to achieve 10-12% of the global market share of medical devices industry to arrive at a \$100 billion to \$300 billion industry, adding that the country will have about 50 clusters for faster clinical testing of medical devices to boost product development and innovation.

MoE launches Shikshak Parv, an initiative to felicitate teachers

- Ministry of Education launches Shikshak Parv: Shikshak Parv was launched by Union Ministers Annapurna Devi and Rajkumar Ranjan Singh to honour teachers and advance the new National Education Policy (NEP). An inaugural colloquium hosted by the Ministry of Education, CBSE, AICTE, and the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship marked the beginning of Shikshak Parv.
- According to Minister of State (MoS) for Education Annapurna Devi, under NEP 2020, teachers will have to work on the future action plan as per the notion of an integrated and interdisciplinary approach.

- Teachers, whether in schools or higher education, have a shared mission, according to MoS Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, and the goal of these honours is to acknowledge exemplary practises, academic leadership, and institution building.

Union Cabinet approves PM-SHRI scheme for school upgradation

- Union Cabinet approved the PM Schools for Rising India scheme (SHRI), a new centrally sponsored scheme that aims the development of more than 14500 schools across the country by strengthening select existing schools being managed by all forms of governments across the country.
- The PM SHRI schools will aim at delivering quality teaching for the cognitive development of students and creating and nurturing holistic and well-rounded individuals equipped with key 21st-century skills. They will also showcase all components of the National Education Policy 2020 by education in an equitable, inclusive and joyful school environment that takes care of the diverse background, multilingual needs, and different academic abilities of children.
- The focus in PM SHRI schools will be on the learning outcomes of every child in every grade and the assessment of students will be based on conceptual understanding and application of knowledge in real-life situations. The assessment of students will be done through a School Quality Assessment Framework (SQAF) which is being developed.
- Under the scheme, PM SHRI schools will be developed as Green schools which would entail incorporating environment-friendly aspects like solar panels and LED lights, nutrition gardens with natural farming, waste management, plastic-free, water conservation and harvesting, the study of traditions/practices related to protection of environment, climate change related hackathon and awareness generation to adopt a sustainable lifestyle.

Army undertakes 'reorientation' of troops in Arunachal Pradesh

- After significantly upgrading firepower and infrastructure along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Tawang sector of Arunachal Pradesh, the Army is on a major drive for capability and infrastructure development in the rest of Arunachal Pradesh. This includes road, bridges, tunnels, habitat and storage facilities, aviation facilities and upgrade of communications and surveillance, especially in the Upper Dibang Valley region, according to multiple Army officials.
- A capability development matrix was being employed and road development, construction of habitat and aviation facilities were under way, Major General M.S. Bains, General Officer Commanding of the Army's 2 Mountain Division, headquartered at Dinjan, told a group of journalists.
- The capability and infrastructure development in the region was being undertaken under five verticals — habitat, aviation, road infrastructure, operational logistics and security infrastructure. Of this, the strategic roads and border roads were being constructed by Central government agencies and Border Roads Organisation, while the Army was building the last mile tracks to connect these roads to the forwards posts on the Line of Actual Control.
- The Area of Responsibility of 2 Division covers the districts of upper Dibang, lower Dibang, Namsai, Lohit and Anjaw in Arunachal Pradesh. While Tawang and Kameng area is under the Army's 4 Corps headquartered at Tezpur, RALP is under the 3 Corps based at Dimapur.

About Arunachal Pradesh:

Capital: Itanagar (Executive Branch)

Chief Minister: Pema Khandu

Governor: B. D. Mishra

Official animal: Gayal

Pudhumai Penn scheme launch in Tamil Nadu

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on September 5 launched the Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Higher Education Assurance scheme titled 'Pudhumai Penn' at a function in Chennai, in the presence of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.
- During the event held at Bharathi Women's College in Chennai on Teachers' Day, Mr. Kejriwal also unveiled 26 schools of excellence and 15 model schools set up by the Tamil Nadu government emulating the model by his AAP government in Delhi.
- Mr. Kejriwal termed 'Pudhumai Penn' a "revolutionary scheme" which was "going to prove pathbreaking and revolutionary in the times to come." Under Pudhumai Penn scheme, girl students, who studied from Class V to Class XII in state government schools would be paid a monthly assistance of ₹1,000 till they complete their graduation or diploma.
- During his first visit to Tamil Nadu as the chief guest for the inauguration of a State government scheme, Mr. Kejriwal said, "We might belong to different political parties, but there is so much of good work that each government in each State is doing. And it is extremely important that we learn from each other."

About Tamil Nadu:

Governor: R. N. Ravi

Capital: Chennai

Chief Minister: M. K. Stalin

NGT slaps Rs 3500 cr fine on Bengal govt for waste management failure

- The principal bench of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has asked the Bengal government to pay Rs 3,500 crore as "compensation" for violating the norms for the management of solid and liquid waste, a sum an environmental lawyer described as a national record 10 times over.
- The Bengal government has the option to seek a review by the tribunal or move the Supreme Court. Although the bench used the word "compensation", the money will be spent entirely on waste management in Bengal. On Saturday evening, state urban development minister Firhad Hakim told The Telegraph: "We have to check the order in detail before taking a decision. But as I understand, this is actually not a fine — the amount has to be kept separately for use in solid waste management alone."
- The bench has asked the state to deposit the amount within two months in a "separate ring-fenced account" dedicated to solid waste management. The account will be operated according to the directions of the chief secretary (currently, waste management is the domain of the urban development secretary), the bench said.

About National Green Tribunal (NGT):

Enacted: 5 May 2010

Bill published on: 31 July 2009

Citation: Act No. 19 of 2010

Committee report: 24 November 2009

About West Bengal:

Capital: Kolkata

Chief Minister: Mamata Banerjee

Governor: Shri La. Ganesan

Rajpath set to be renamed Kartavya Path : GOI

- The government of India has announced to change the name of Rajpath and Central Vista lawns into Kartavya Path. The decision is said to shed remnants of the British colony in India. The decision came after a special meeting on September 7, convened with the aim of renaming the Rajpath and Central Vista lawns. Earlier, the Modi government had changed the name of the road on which the Prime Minister's residence is, from Race Course Road to Lok Kalyan Marg.
- Kartavya Path includes the entire avenue and area from the Netaji Statue to the Rashtrapati Bhavan. The route runs from Rashtrapati Bhavan on Raisina Hill through Vijay Chowk and India Gate to National Stadium in Delhi. The decision comes after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address to the nation on independence day where he stressed the factors leading to the abolition of symbols and signs relating to the colonial mindset.
- The Central Vista redevelopment project includes a new triangular Parliament building, a common Central Secretariat, rejuvenation of the three-kilometre Rajpath, new Prime Minister's residence and offices and a new Vice President's Enclave.

About Government of India (GOI):

Ministries: 57

Founded: 26 January 1950

Founder: Constitution of India

Responsible to: Lok Sabha

Legislature: Parliament

Seat: Raisina Hill (Official Seat of the Government of India)

Indian Army Chief Manoj Pande Conferred Honorary Rank Of Nepal Army General

- Indian Army chief General Manoj Pande was conferred the title of Honorary General of the Nepali Army by Nepal President Bidya Devi Bhandari in Kathmandu. General Pande was honoured at a special ceremony at the President's official residence 'Shital Niwas' in the capital city of Nepal. He has also presented a sword and scroll during the function.
- On behalf of the Indian government, General Manoj Pande presented training equipment to Nepali Army, along with Light Vehicles which would augment the capabilities of Nepali Army personnel.
- The practice follows a seven-decade-old tradition of decorating army chiefs of each other's countries with the honorary title. Commander-in-Chief General KM Cariappa was the first Indian Army chief to be decorated with the title in 1950. In November last year, the Chief of the Nepali Army, General Prabhu Ram Sharma was also made the Honorary General of the Indian Army by President Ram Nath Kovind at a ceremony in New Delhi.

About Indian Army :

Motto(s): सेवा परमो धर्मः (Sanskrit); Sēvā Paramō Dharma: (ISO); transl. "Service Before Self"

Headquarters: Integrated Defence Headquarters, Ministry of Defence, New Delhi

Founded: 1 April 1895, India

Commander-in-Chief: President Draupadi Murmu

Notable commanders: Field Marshal K. M. Cariappa, OBE; Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw, MC; General K. S. Thimayya, DSO

About Nepal:

Capital: Kathmandu

Currency: Nepalese rupee

President: Bidhya Devi Bhandari

Prime Minister: Sher Bahadur Deuba

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

- Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma has launched the 'Rural Backyard Piggery Scheme' to ensure the farmers earn a sustainable livelihood through different livestock farming activities. The Chief Minister said that the government through different welfare schemes is successfully providing income generation opportunities and economic prosperity to the farmers.
- Under this mission, zero interest loan is provided for setting up fattening and pig breeding. So far 250 piggery cooperative societies have availed loans amounting to Rs 43.67 crore.
- The government has earmarked Rs 15.18 crore under which four high-yielding improved varieties will be distributed to 6000 families.
- The Meghalaya Chief Minister informed that additional Rs 25 crore will be earmarked to roll out the second phase of the programme.

About Meghalaya:

Capital: Shillong;

Chief Minister: Conrad Kongkal Sangma;

Governor: Satya Pal Malik.

CCRAS offers fellowship to support research in Ayurveda

- The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) takes a unique initiative to support the research efforts of the upcoming bright mind of India. CCRAS has developed the Studentship Program for Ayurveda Research Ken (SPARK) for Ayurveda students (BAMS) in recognized Ayurveda colleges.
- SPARK Program has been developed by the CCRAS to support the young minds of the students and to promote the culture of evidence-based scientific research in the field of Ayurveda.
- SPARK Program will help the students to develop an acumen for research and to support their research ideas.
- SPARK Program aims to support the research ideas of the young upcoming students across all the Ayurveda colleges in India.

About SPARK:

Developer(s): Apache Spark

Written in: Scala

Available in: Scala, Java, SQL, Python, R, C#, F#

License: Apache License 2.0

Initial release: May 26, 2014; 8 years ago

Operating system: Microsoft Windows, macOS, Linux

India's first Night sky Sanctuary to be set up in Ladakh

- The Union minister Jitendra Singh announced on Saturday (September 3) that within the next three months, Ladakh will host India's first-ever "Night Sky Sanctuary" as part of Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary in the union territory.
- Singh also claimed that the proposed 'Dark Sky Reserve' will be finished at Hanle in the UT within three months, which will boost Astro tourism in India and make it one of the highest-located sites in the world for optical, infrared, and gamma-ray telescopes.
- The Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) Leh, the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), and the UT administration recently signed a tripartite MoU to establish the Dark Space Reserve.
- All three parties will work together to prevent the night sky from being illuminated and polluted, which severely threatens scientific observations and the sky's natural conditions.
- It should be noted that Hanle is ideally suitable for the project because it is situated in the freezing desert region of Ladakh, far from any human interference, and has dry weather conditions all year round.

About Ladakh:

Capital: Leh, Kargil

Lt Governor : Sh R K Mathur

Union territory: 31 October 2019

Districts: 2

Union Home Minister Amit Shah Launches "CAPF e-Awas" Portal

- CAPF eAwas: Home Minister Amit Shah unveiled the CAPF eAwas web-portal for the Central Armed Police Forces. The Central Armed Police Forces have always been a solid backbone of the nation's internal security, Mr. Shah stated in remarks made on the occasion. More than 35,000 police officers have died since independence-day while maintaining internal security, he mentioned, and as a result of their sacrifices, people may sleep well at night and feel secure.
- The Indian government launched the "Ayushman CAPF" programme to give families of fallen soldiers access to better medical care.
- Ten lakh service members have received more than 35 lakh Ayushman Cards as part of this CAPF eAwas programme.
- Approximately 56 thousand bills totaling more than 31 crore rupees have already been paid using this programme.
- A unified web-portal called "CAPF eAwas" that has been created in order to operationalize the improved policy of allocation and to also increase transparency in the allocation process.
- The web service would allow eligible CAPF and Assam Rifles troops to register online and receive housing allocations.

About Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) :

Federal agency: IN

General nature: Federal law enforcement

Governing body: Ministry of Home Affairs

India's indigenous aircraft carrier and largest warship INS Vikrant joins Navy

- INS Vikrant Commissioned: INS Vikrant, India's first homegrown aircraft carrier, to the Indian Navy at the Cochin Shipyard commissioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The nation's largest warship, weighing 45,000 tonnes, has finished a year of sea trials. The warship's construction cost Rs 20,000 crore. The new Naval emblem was also revealed by the Prime Minister.
- An imitation of the INS Vikrant was given to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The first aircraft carrier made entirely in India, INS Vikrant, is given to the Indian Navy by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Following the construction of INS Vikramaditya, this is the country's second aircraft carrier.
- The new flag of the Indian Navy is raised by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, and other top officials aboard INS Vikrant.
- Vikrant, the largest warship built entirely in India, would fly 30 fighter planes and helicopters. The aircraft carrier, which was built at the Cochin shipyard and will provide the Indian Navy with a third aircraft carrier, has a crew of more than 1,500.

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

- The Jammu & Kashmir Police has launched an online Mobile application "JK Ecop". The App enables the common citizens to use a host of services ranging from registering a complaint to downloading a copy of an FIR. A citizen can also make requests like obtaining a character certificate, employee verification, or tenant verification through this App. Details about missing persons and unidentified dead bodies etc. can also be obtained through this portal.
- Other services regarding the traffic police are also available to the citizens through this App. These services range from reporting a traffic violation to reporting an accident. Information about the Highway status in the app will help the citizens to plan their travel. Paying a challan online through this app will not only help the citizens but will also ease the burden of the department.

About Jammu and Kashmir:

Lieutenant Governor: Manoj Sinha

Capital: Srinagar (summer) & Jammu (winter)

UGC to launch 'e - Samadhan' portal to resolve grievances of students, staff

- University Grants Commission (UGC) will now monitor and resolve all grievances of students and staff in varsities through a centralised portal called 'e-Samadhan'. This platform ensures transparency, prevents unfair practices in Higher Education Institutions and provides a time-bound mechanism for redressal of grievances, according to the UGC. The commission has merged its existing portals and helplines except for the anti-ragging helpline and developed the new portal.

- UGC e-samadhan, a step forward for the service to stakeholders which would be a single Window system for all the stakeholders for registering their complaints/ grievances on the portal which would be available all the time at the click of a mouse.
- University Grants Commission has vast and wide stakeholder composition which includes 1043 Universities, 42343 Colleges, 3.85 Crore Students and 15.03 Lacs Teachers (AISHE 2019-20).

About University Grants Commission:

Founded: 1956

Headquarters: New Delhi

Chairman: Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar

SPORTS

Laver Cup 2022: Team World stuns Team Europe, wins title

- Team World defeated Team Europe to win the Laver Cup 2022 for the first time. Team World defeats Team Europe 13-8 to win the Laver Cup indoor tennis tournament. Frances Tiafoe and Felix Auger of Team World defeated Stefanos Tsitsipas & Novak Djokovic of Team Europe to win the competition. Laver Cup is an international indoor hard court tournament between Team Europe & Team World. Players from all continents, besides Europe, represent Team World.
- The 2022 Laver Cup was the fifth edition of the Laver Cup, a men's tennis tournament between teams from Europe and the rest of the world. It was held on an indoor hard court at The O2 Arena in London, England. This tournament marked the retirement of 20-time singles major champion and former singles world No. 1, Roger Federer. The former champion alongside longtime rival Rafael Nadal was narrowly defeated in the third-set super tiebreak against Jack Sock and Frances Tiafoe.

About Laver Cup:

Founded: 2017

Headquarters location: Boston, Massachusetts, United States

Location: European city, World city rotation

Draw: 2 teams (Team Europe vs Team World)

Editions: 5 (2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022)

Jhulan goswami retires from international cricket

- The legendary Women's Cricketer, Jhulan Goswami announced her retirement from all forms of the game in a touching farewell statement on September 25. Jhulan played her last international game at the Lord's on the 24th, and she went out on a high note by helping India women defeat England women 3-0 in an ODI series.
- Jhulan Goswami sent a parting message on social media, expressing her contentment with her lauded career. Jhulan concluded her career with 255 wickets from 204 games, an ODI women's record.
- Jhulan secured two wickets in her final match for India, which saw them defeat England by 16 runs while holding them to a 169-run goal.

About International Cricket Council:

Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Motto: Cricket for good.

Founded: 15 June 1909

Chairman: Greg Barclay

General Manager: Wasim Khan

West Zone thrash South Zone by 294 runs to win Duleep Trophy 2022

- The West zone has defeated the South zone by 294 runs to win their 19th title in the final day of the 2022 Duleep Trophy at the SNR College Cricket Ground, Coimbatore. The 2022 Duleep trophy was the 59th season of the Duleep Trophy. Sarfaraz Khan scored the most runs with 127 runs for 178 balls and Jaydev Unadkat of the West zone became the player of the series. Yashasvi Jaiswal of the West zone scored 265 runs in the second innings which helped the west zone to hit a win while Kerala Opener Rohan Kunnummal scored 93 runs in the South zone's second innings.

About Duleep Trophy:

Current champion: West Zone (19 titles)

Number of teams: 3

Format: First-class cricket

Most runs: Wasim Jaffer (2545); 1997–2013

Most wickets: Narendra Hirwani (126); 1987–2004

First edition: 1961–62

Kenya's Eliud Kipchoge breaks own world record in Berlin Marathon victory

- Eliud Kipchoge shattered his own world record on 25 September, with a time of 2:01:09 to win the Berlin marathon. It's the second time the Kenyan runner has set the official men's world record at the race in the German capital. Kipchoge's previous best in an official 42.2km race was 2:01:39 set on the same course in 2018. Ethiopia's Tigist Assefa won the women's race in a course record of 2:15:37, the third fastest time in history.
- Kipchoge has long been dubbed the world's best marathon runner. In 2019, he ran a marathon in Vienna in under two hours, a milestone long thought impossible. The result wasn't official because he ran it under laboratory conditions, but the result made him an icon in and outside the running world. Kipchoge's world record run in Berlin was so dominant that, after he crossed the finish line, he had time to hug his trainer, friends, pose for photos, and wave the Kenyan flag before the second-place runner finished, four minutes and 49 seconds later.

About Kenya:

Capital: Nairobi

Currency: Kenyan shilling

President: William Ruto

About Germany:

Capital: Berlin

Currency: Euro

President: Frank-Walter Steinmeier

Chancellor: Olaf Scholz

Oval and Lord's to host next two World Test Championship finals

- The International Cricket Council has announced that the World Test Championship 2023 Final will be hosted by The Oval in June 2023 while the 2025 final will be played at Lord's. The two venues in London will succeed Southampton, which hosted the inaugural final between New Zealand and India in 2021. New Zealand emerged as the victors in the first edition.
- The top two teams from the World Test Championship standings will make it to the finals with Australia and South Africa currently leading.
- Australia and South Africa will also clash against each other in a three-match series in the current cycle in December-January, which could have a big bearing on the final points table.

About International Cricket Council (ICC):

Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Motto: Cricket for good.

Founded: 15 June 1909

Chairman: Greg Barclay

General Manager: Wasim Khan

Chennai Open: Czech girl Linda Fruhvirtova wins maiden WTA title

- Czech Republic's 17-year-old, Linda Fruhvirtova scripted a brilliant comeback to win the Chennai Open 2022 WTA 250 tennis singles. The teenager beat Magda Linette of Poland, the third seed, in the final. At 17 years and 141 days old, she is the youngest titlist of the season on the WTA Tour so far. She is the youngest singles champion on tour since Coco Gauff won Parma last year at 17 years, 70 days old.
- In doubles, the top-seeded pair of Brazil's Luisa Stefani and Canada's Gabriela Dabrowski defeated Russian Tennis Federation's Anna Blinkova and Georgia's Natela Dzalamidze 6-2, 6-1 in the one-sided final.

About Chennai Open Tennis Tournament:

Founded: 1996

Current champion: João Sousa (Portugal), (2022)

Draw: 28S / 16Q / 16D

Location: Pune, Maharashtra, India; New Delhi (1996); Chennai (1997–2017); Pune (since 2018); India

Venue: Mhalunge Balewadi Tennis Complex (2018 — present)

With bronze in Belgrade, Bajrang Punia becomes 1st Indian to win 4 medals at world wrestling championships

- Indian wrestler Bajrang Punia won the bronze medal after defeating Daulet Niyazbekov of Kazakhstan in the men's freestyle 65kg category at the World Wrestling Championships 2022. It was Bajrang's fourth medal at the world championships. With his silver in 2018 and bronze medals in 2013 and 2019, he was already India's most successful wrestler at the world championships coming into this edition.
- Bajrang, who was wrestling with a bandage on his head due to the injury he sustained during his pre-quarter-final, produced a spirited fightback against Puerto Rico's Sebastian Rivera, after being 6-0 down early in the bout. Ace India wrestler then lost to former Pan-

American champion John Diakomihalis of the USA in the quarterfinals but entered the repechage after Diakomihalis made it to the final.

About World Wrestling Championships 2022:

Dates: 10 Sept 2022 – 18 Sept 2022

Location: Belgrade

Stadium: Štark Arena

Bangladesh beat Nepal 3-1 in final, clinch maiden SAFF Women's Championship

- Bangladesh won a historic victory at the SAFF Women's Championship to lift the maiden title at the Dashrath Rangshala Stadium in Kathmandu, Nepal. The Bangladesh team defeated hosts Nepal by 3-1 in the finals before a full stadium to watch some brilliant football on display. Bangladesh skipper Sabina Khatun, who was the top scorer of the tournament netting eight goals in five games, dedicated the trophy to the people of Bangladesh.
- Goalkeeper Rupna Chakma from Bangladesh was named the best goalkeeper. She conceded just one goal in the tournament. Bangladesh had earlier made the final on one occasion in 2016 but eventually was beaten 3-1 by India in that final.

About South Asian Football Federation (SAFF):

Headquarters: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Founded: 1997

President: Kazi Salahuddin

General Secretary: Anwarul Huq

Parent organization: Asian Football Confederation

About Bangladesh:

Capital: Dhaka

Prime Minister: Sheikh Hasina

Currency: Bangladeshi taka

President: Mohammad Abdul Hamid

Official language: Bengali

About Nepal:

Capital: Kathmandu

Currency: Nepalese rupee

President: Bidhya Devi Bhandari

Prime Minister: Sher Bahadur Deuba

Indian javelin thrower Devendra Jhajharia clinches silver medal in World Para Athletics Grand Prix in Morocco

- Indian javelin thrower Devendra Jhajharia has clinched a silver medal in the World Para Athletics Grand Prix, in Morocco. Paralympics gold medalist Devendra threw the javelin to a distance of 60.97 meter to capture the silver.
- Devendra is a three-time Paralympics medalist.

About world para athletics:

Next date: Fri, 17 May, 2024 – Sat, 25 May, 2024

Sport: Athletics

Founded: 1994

Bajrang punia wins bronze in 2022 world Wrestling championship

- Olympic bronze medallist Bajrang Punia beat Puerto Rico's Sebastian Rivera by the skin of his teeth in a 65kg bronze medal match to claim his fourth medal in the World wrestling championships in Belgrade on Sunday.
- Bajrang, who picked up a head injury in the pre-quarterfinal bout and lost to American John Diakomihalis in the quarterfinals before getting back to medal contention on Saturday, rallied from 0-6 down to record an 11-9 victory. It was his third bronze medal other than a silver.
- After conceding six points inside 35 seconds, Bajrang fought back with a throw and a takedown to level the scores. Rivera regained the lead through another two-pointer in the first period and later extended it to 9-6.
- The never-say-die Bajrang, who wrestled with a bandaged head, closed the gap and overtook Rivera through two takedowns. An unsuccessful video challenge from the Puerto Rican for a move performed just after the last second gifted Bajrang another point.
- Earlier, Bajrang erased a 0-4 deficit to register a hard-fought 7-6 victory over Individual World Cup winner Vazgen Tevanyan of Armenia in the repechage round.

Bengaluru FC lifts maiden Durand Cup by defeating Mumbai City FC

- Bengaluru FC has won its maiden and the 131st edition of the Durand Cup by defeating Indian Super League (ISL) giants Mumbai City FC 2-1. This is seventh domestic title for Bengaluru FC. Both the teams were at one each at the end of first half. But the goal by Alan Costa in 61st minute gave Bengaluru FC the winning lead against Mumbai.
- Earlier, Mumbai City FC defeated two times champion Mohammedan SC in the semis while Bengaluru FC beat Hyderabad FC to seal their spot in the final. The first edition of the competition was played in 1888.
- The 34-day tournament played across three states for the first time has concluded with the 47th and final match between two top teams and former champions of the Indian Super League, ISL.

About Karnataka:

Chief Minister: Basavaraj Bommai

Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot

Capital: Bengaluru (Executive Branch)

About Maharashtra:

Governor: Bhagat Singh Koshyari

Chief Minister: Eknath Shinde

Capital: Mumbai

Bengaluru teenager Pranav Anand becomes India's 76th Chess Grandmaster

- 15-year-old, Pranav Anand from Bengaluru, Karnataka became India's 76th Chess GrandMaster (GM) after winning against International Master (IM) Emin Ohanyan of Armenia. He received the title after he crossed the 2,500 Elo points in the ongoing World

Youth Chess Championship in Mamaia, Romania. A month before Pranav Anand became India's 76th GM, Pranav Venkatesh became India's 75th Grandmaster.

- In order to qualify for the GM title, a player must secure 3 GM norms covering 27 games and cross the live rating of 2,500 Elo points. Pranav Anand needs to cross the live rating of 2,500 which he did in the penultimate round of the World Youth Under-16 Open 2022. In July, he scored the 3rd and final GM norm at the 55th Biel Chess Festival in Switzerland. He has drawn his game against Spain's No.5 GM Eduardo Iturrizaga Bonelli (2619) in the penultimate round.

About Karnataka:

Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot

Capital: Bengaluru (Executive Branch)

Chief Minister: Basavaraj Bommai

Roger Federer announces retirement from tennis

- Roger Federer will retire next week at the age of 41 after the Laver Cup in London, marking the end of one of the greatest ever sporting careers.
- A 20-time grand slam champion, Federer announced in a social media post on Thursday that next week will be his last as a professional player. Federer's management firm, Team8, are founders of the Laver Cup, a Ryder Cup-style event.
- "The Laver Cup next week in London will be my final ATP event. I will play more tennis in the future, of course, but just not in Grand Slams or on the tour," he wrote.
- Federer has not competed since Wimbledon last year when he lost 6-3, 7-6(4), 6-0 in the quarter-final to Hubert Hurkacz and it emerged he had reinjured the knee that had kept him out of the tour for more than a year. Federer has contested five events since January 2020 and has undergone three knee surgeries in that period. He cited his late-career injury problems as the reason for his retirement.

About Roger Federer:

Born: 8 August 1981 (age 41 years), Basel, Switzerland

Grand slams won (singles): 20

Tennis grip: One-handed backhand

India beats Nepal 4-0 to lift SAFF U-17 Championships title

- In the SAFF U-17 Championship Title, India beats Nepal with 4-0 in the finals. The SAFF U-17 Championship final was held in Racecourse International Stadium, Colombo, Sri Lanka. In the group league, India defeated Nepal 3-1, however, in the finals, India took the opportunity and defeated Nepal with a leading charge.
- Indian team got off blocks early in the match, looking to find gaps in the Nepal defense. India managed to get the lead in the 18th minute of the match.
- Body Singh, headed into the goal at the far post after the play between Ricky Meetei and Vanlalpeka Guite.

About South Asian Football Federation (SAFF):

Headquarters: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Founded: 1997

President: Kazi Salahuddin

General Secretary: Anwarul Huq

About Nepal:

Capital: Kathmandu

Currency: Nepalese rupee

President: Bidhya Devi Bhandari

Prime Minister: Sher Bahadur Deuba

Virat Kohli becomes first cricketer to reach 50M Twitter followers

- Virat Kohli has now become the first cricketer who have notched up 50 million followers on Twitter. Team India's star cricketer and former skipper Virat Kohli has now achieved another big feat, but this time it is on the social media. Virat Kohli has popularity in all the platforms of social media which includes 211 million followers on Instagram and 49 million followers on Facebook as well.
- In early 2022, Kohli became the first-ever Indian to cross 200 million followers on Instagram as well. Kohli recently recorded his first international century in 1020 days, when he slammed a 61-ball 122 not out during India's final Super 4 clash against Afghanistan in Dubai.
- The 33-year-old is the most followed cricketer in the world and the third most followed sportsperson on Instagram after Cristiano Ronaldo (450M) and Lionel Messi (333M). Kohli also has over 49 million followers on Facebook, which takes his social media presence to over 310 million followers.

About Twitter:

Founded: 21 March 2006, San Francisco, California, United States

Headquarters: San Francisco, California, United States

CEO: Parag Agrawal (29 Nov 2021–)

Founders: Jack Dorsey, Evan Williams, Biz Stone, Noah Glass

Robin uthappa announces retirement from all formats of cricket

- Robin Uthappa on Wednesday announced his retirement from all forms of Indian cricket. "It has been my greatest honour to represent my country and my state, Karnataka. However, all good things must come to an end, and with a grateful heart, I have decided to retire from all forms of Indian cricket. Thank you all," he posted on Twitter.
- He also thanked his former IPL team Kolkata Knight Riders and current team Chennai Super Kings. In last season's IPL, Uthappa played 12 matches for Chennai Super Kings and scored 230 runs with his highest score being 88. Chennai, however, would fail to qualify for the play-off stages.
- Uthappa was part of the country's 2004 Under-19 World Cup team. He made his India debut two years later and featured in 46 ODIs and 13 T20Is for India.
- He scored 934 and 249 runs in ODIs and T20Is. He has 9446 first class and 6534 List A runs under his belt. Uthappa has won two IPL trophies — one for KKR and one for CSK in 2014 and 2021 respectively.

About Twitter:

Founded: 21 March 2006, San Francisco, California, United States

Headquarters: San Francisco, California, United States

CEO: Parag Agrawal (29 Nov 2021–)

Founders: Jack Dorsey, Evan Williams, Biz Stone, Noah Glass

Cabinet nod for signing of guarantees for FIFA U-17 womens world cup

- The government on Wednesday approved the signing of guarantees for hosting the Under-17 FIFA Women's World Cup in India from October 11 to 30.
- The approval of the Union Cabinet, at a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, came after the re-constitution of the All India Football Federation (AIFF), which was banned by FIFA briefly last month citing third party influence.
- India is hosting the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup in Navi Mumbai, Goa and Bhubaneswar from October 11 to October 17 this year.
- Sports Minister Anurag Thakur said Rs 60 crore will be spent for hosting the tournament that will see participation of 16 teams, including India.
- An assistance of Rs 10 crore to the All India Football Federation (AIFF) for field of play maintenance, stadium power, energy and cabling, stadia and training site branding will be met from the budgetary allocation for the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs), Thakur said.

About International Governing Body of Association football (FIFA):

President: Gianni Infantino

Founded: 21 May 1904, Rue Saint-Honoré, Paris, France

Headquarters: Zürich, Switzerland

Video games: Panini Sticker Album, FIFA FUTSAL WC 2021 Challenge

Max Verstappen wins 2022 Italian F1 grand Prix

- Formula One championship leader Max Verstappen again made light work of starting down the grid as he won the Italian Grand Prix on Sunday to leave him within touching distance of a second successive title.
- Verstappen now has a 116-point lead over Charles Leclerc, who finished second after another questionable strategy decision from Ferrari on its home track. With just six races remaining, the Dutch driver could clinch the title in Singapore next month.
- It was the first time Verstappen has set foot on the iconic Monza podium, with his highest previous finish being fifth in 2018.

About Max Verstappen:

Born: 30 September 1997 (age 24 years), Hasselt, Belgium

Nationality: Belgian, Dutch

Current team: Red Bull Racing

Podiums: 72

Dates joined: 2016 (Red Bull Racing), 2015 (Scuderia Toro Rosso)

Australia captain Aaron Finch announces retirement from one-day cricket

- Aaron Finch, Australia's captain announced his retirement from one-day international cricket after Australia's third and final ODI against New Zealand. Finch will continue to be the captain of the Australian cricket team for T20 and will lead it in defense of its world title in the T20 World Cup which is going to be held in October and November in Australia.

- Finch is known as one of the most damaging opening batters in the world, Finch has scored 5,401 runs in the ODI format with an average of close to 40, and 17 centuries.
- Aaron Finch is a top-order Batsman and is known for his ability to finish matches with his amazing batting skills. In 2006, Finch earned his place in the U-19 Australian cricket team for World Cup. He started as a middle-order batsman. In IPL, he became an acknowledged batsman as he scored 41 runs in just 17 balls against Chennai Super Kings. In 2013, Finch made his ODI debut and scored 5,041 runs. In 2018, he became the first player to reach 900 rating points on the official International Cricket Council (ICC) T20 rankings. Finch domestically played for Victoria, Surrey, and Melbourne Renegades.

About Australia:

Currency: Australian dollar

Capital: Canberra

Prime Minister: Anthony Albanese

Sikkim to host Ranji Trophy matches for the first time

- Sikkim will be hosting Ranji Trophy matches at home for the first time when they welcome three teams to the hill State in the forthcoming Indian domestic season.
- Sikkim Cricket Association has previously hosted First Class matches, at adopted home venues, and to be able to bring the biggest domestic tournament in India home is a historic and hugely significant step forward for cricket in Sikkim.
- SICA president Lobzang G. Tenzing stated, "To host First Class matches is no mean feat for a State association which got full membership just four years back."
- He thanked Board of Control for Cricket in India for trusting SICA with "such huge responsibility" and assured to be a perfect host.
- The BCCI's decision to allow Sikkim to host three of its Ranji Trophy matches at home will certainly play a game changer in the promotion of cricket in the State.
- Sikkim will play against Manipur, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh at SICA ground, at Mining. The venues for the remaining Plate Group matches, against Meghalaya and Bihar, are yet to be announced.
- Along with Ranji Trophy matches, Sikkim will also play two Cooch Behar Trophy matches and three Col CK Nayudu Trophy matches at Mining.

About Sikkim:

Capital: Gangtok

Governor: Ganga Prasad

Chief Minister: Prem Singh Tamang

Max Verstappen wins F1 Dutch Grand Prix to delight of home crowd

- This season had been a trying old slog for Lewis Hamilton at best and his frustration and disappointment at the Sisyphean task of repeatedly wrangling a recalcitrant Mercedes has been palpable. At the Dutch Grand Prix his boulder, his burden became just too heavy as his team left him floundering, impotent and indeed furious as his race fell apart.
- Max Verstappen won in Zandvoort and this much at least had been expected — certainly by the 105,000 orange-clad fans who roared their approval at every lap. Yet it had not quite

been the celebratory jaunt from pole to flag they had anticipated and for the first time this season.

- It was not to be as Verstappen made another major step towards securing his second title. He now leads Charles Leclerc and Sergio Pérez by 109 points, with seven races remaining and 190 points on the table. Yet as the orange plumes of smoke dissipated in the wind over Zandvoort it was Hamilton's reaction to what had transpired that had caught the attention.

Anishka Biyani Wins Gold Medal in Malaysian Chess Meet

- Six-year-old Anishka Biyani won the gold medal in the Malaysian Age Group Rapid Chess Championship at Kuala Lumpur on Sunday.
- Anishka, a first-grade student of Dhirubhai Ambani school, achieved the feat in the Under-6 Open category with an impressive score of four points out of a possible six to clinch the title in the girls category.
- Participants from as many as eight countries took part in the competition. Earlier this year, Anishka also qualified as one of the best under-7 players in the All India FIDE rating chess tournament held in Yousufguda, Hyderabad.
- "Anishka is extremely talented and this is her first big international victory where she competed with the best players from across the world. It is good for her that she would play more such events in the future," said her coach Durga Nagesh Guttula of SMCA in a release.
- Anishka's mother Tanushri Biyani was elated and thanked her coach for putting in all the efforts in training and grooming her.

Leh to host Cycling World Cup on Sept 4

- Leh will host the first-ever highest level of World Cup Cycling event 'UCI MTB World Cup Eliminator' on September 4.
- The UCI MTB Eliminator World Cup is being organised by the UT Ladakh Police in association with City Mountain Bike and Cycling Federation of India (CFI) wherein 100 participants are expected to participate in the cycling event including 70 from India.
- The event will be organised in the Old town area of Leh to showcase unique heritage and culture of the world. With this event, Leh will be among world famous cycling event venues like Abu Dhabi, Barcelona and Paris and India will be on the cycling chart among Germany, France, Sweden, Indonesia, Brazil, Belgium, Turkey etc.
- Registered cyclists will ride one lap to qualify. In the qualifying rounds, 32 cyclists will be selected from men and women categories. Among the selected, best qualifying timers would get the easiest heat of One kilometre competing with four best timing cyclists. Two best from the four go to the next round. Similar rounds continue till all applicants take part.

About Ladakh:

Capital: Leh, Kargil

Lt Governor : Sh R K Mathur

Union territory: 31 October 2019

Districts: 2

VAR technology to make debut in FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup in India

- The upcoming Under-17 Women's World Cup 2022 in India will see the Video Assistant Referee (VAR) technology making its debut in the age-group showpiece, world football governing body FIFA announced. The prestigious tournament, which was given the go-ahead by FIFA after lifting the 11-day-long suspension of the All India Football Federation (AIFF), will be held in Bhubaneswar (Kalinga Stadium), Margao (JLN Stadium) and Navi Mumbai (DY Patil Stadium) from October 11-30.
- The VAR technology supports the decision-making process of the referee in four game-changing situations: goals and offences leading up to a goal, penalty decisions and offences leading up to a penalty, direct red card incidents, and mistaken identity. Throughout a match, the VAR team constantly checks for clear and obvious errors related to these four match-changing situations. The VAR team communicates with the referee only for clear and obvious mistakes or serious missed incidents.

About International Federation of Association Football (FIFA):

President: Gianni Infantino

Founded: 21 May 1904, Rue Saint-Honoré, Paris, France

Headquarters: Zürich, Switzerland

New Zealand All-rounder Colin de Grandhomme Retires from International Cricket

- New Zealand all-rounder Colin de Grandhomme has announced his retirement from international cricket. The 36-year-old cricketer made his decision after discussions with the country's cricket board and hence, has been released from his central contract. In the 2019 ICC Cricket World Cup, he starred with a 47-ball 60 in a pulsating victorious chase against South Africa, scored 64 against Pakistan, and bowled superbly in the final against England, taking one for 25 off his 10 overs.
- He represented New Zealand in 29 matches, scoring 1432 runs at 38.70 and picking up 49 wickets. He featured in 18 wins, playing a key role in the inaugural ICC World Test Championship campaign against India in Southampton.
- The all-rounder also proved his mettle in the ODIs, scoring 742 runs in 45 games and scalping 30 wickets at an average of 41.00. He also played in 41 T20Is, scoring 505 runs at a strike rate of 138.35 and taking 12 wickets at 38.41

About New Zealand:

Capital: Wellington

Prime Minister: Jacinda Ardern

Continent: Oceania

Currency: New Zealand dollar

Rahul Sharma announces retirement from Int'l and first-class cricket

- Indian Spinner Rahul Sharma has announced retirement from international and domestic cricket. In 2011, the tall leg-spinner came into the limelight where he represented Pune Warriors in IPL. Rahul Sharma made his ODI debut against West Indies in 2011 under Virendra Sehwag's Captaincy. He made his T20 debut in 2012 against Australia under the Captaincy of MS Dhoni. Later that year, he played his final series on the Sri Lanka tour. The former cricketer wrote an emotional post on his retirement from all forms of cricket.

- Rahul Sharma is born on 20th July 1987. He is an Indian cricketer and primarily a right-handed legbreaker and googly bowler. Since 2006, he has been a member of the Punjab Cricket Team. In 2011, in IPL, came into the limelight for his magnificent performance in bowling for Pune Warriors. He made his debut in first-class cricket in 2006 for Punjab against Rajasthan. Rahul Sharma made his IPL debut for Deccan Chargers in 2010. He made his ODI debut in 2011.

Assam Lad Amlan Borgohain Sets New 100m National Record

- Amlan Borgohain, who holds the 200m national record, has now added the 100m record to his name. The 24-year-old from Assam clocked 10.25s (wind speed +1.8, legal) to break the six-year-old national record of Amiya Kumar Mallick (10.26s) at the 87th all-India inter-Railway athletics championships in Rae Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh.
- Borgohain's previous best, 10.34s, came at the National Open in Warangal last year. However, it is not anywhere close to the entry standard (10.00s) for next year's World Championships in Budapest. He is the reigning national champion in the 100m and 200m. Amlan Borgohain holds the 200m national record of 20.52s, set in April this year at the Federation Cup.

About Assam:

Capital: Dispur

Chief Minister: Himanta Biswa Sarma

Governor: Prof Jagdish Mukhi

Language: Assamese language

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Amazon plans 3 solar farms and 23 solar rooftop projects in India

- Amazon establishing its first solar project in India: Amazon said that its first solar farm would be located in India. Three solar power plants with a combined capacity of 420 megawatts (MW) will be built in Rajasthan by the largest e-commerce company, Amazon. Along with Amp Energy, Amazon has also contracted to 210 MW and 110 MW projects with ReNew Power and Brookfield Renewables, respectively.
- Amp Energy India, a producer of renewable energy (RE), has signed a power purchase agreement (PPA) to sell RE to Amazon from a 100 MW solar power facility in Rajasthan as part of Amazon's plans for India.
- By the end of 2023, the facility at Bhadia, Rajasthan, will be completely operational. One gigawatt (GW) of utility size projects are also being developed by Amp. 1,13,645 tonnes of hazardous CO₂ emissions will be reduced thanks to this solar power facility.

About Amazon:

Founded: 5 July 1994, Bellevue, Washington, United States

Founder: Jeff Bezos

CEO: Andy Jassy

IISc-Bangalore designs new method to deliver TB vaccine

- Researchers from the IISc have designed a new method to deliver a vaccine candidate for tuberculosis (TB). It involves using spherical vesicles secreted by bacteria coated on gold

nanoparticles, which can then be delivered to immune cells. This can potentially trigger an immune response and offer protection against the disease. The only effective vaccine currently in use is the BCG vaccine, which contains a weakened form of the disease-causing bacterium. When injected into the bloodstream, it triggers the production of antibodies that can help fight the disease. While the BCG vaccine works well in children, it is not as effective at protecting adolescents and adults.

- This prompted Rachit Agarwal, assistant professor at the Centre for BioSystems Science and Engineering, IISc, and his group to develop a potential subunit vaccine candidate that contains only parts of the infectious bacterium to stimulate an immune response. “They’re safer compared to live bacterium, and since they are membrane-derived, they contain all kinds of antigens,” Agarwal explained.

About Karnataka:

Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot

Capital: Bengaluru (Executive Branch)

Chief Minister: Basavaraj Bommai

India’s Agnikul Cosmos secures first patent for 3D-printed rocket engine

- Agnikul Cosmos, one of India’s private space startups, has secured its first patent for the design and manufacturing of its 3D-printed rocket engine. The patent, which has been offered to the company under the Centre’s patent database, comes after the company opened doors to its first factory to 3D print rocket engines at scale. The patent has been rewarded to the company for its Agnilet rocket engine, which will power the company’s Agnibaan rocket that is scheduled to launch later this year.
- Till date, Agnikul has raised Rs 105 crore (\$15 million) from Mayfield India, pi Ventures, Speciale Invest, and a host of others, including prominent angel investors such as Anand Mahindra and Naval Ravikant since 2019.
- At present, India is estimated to hold a market share of around 2% in terms of commercial space operation, which, too, is due to the operations of India’s central space agency, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). Industry stakeholders have previously said that technologies like 3D printing can help space companies scale their products efficiently and reduce the chance of errors in a sensitive sector like space.
- Agnikul was founded in 2017 by Srinath Ravichandran, Moin SPM and SR Chakravarthy (professor of IIT-Madras). In December 2020, Agnikul signed an agreement with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) under the IN-SPACe initiative to have access to the space agency’s expertise and its facilities to build rocket engines.

About Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO):

Headquarters: Bengaluru

Founded: 15 August 1969

Founder: Vikram Sarabhai

President: Shri S. Somanath

DRDO, Indian Army successfully conduct 6 flight tests of Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile System

- Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) and the Indian Army completed six flight tests of the Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile (QRSAM) system from Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur, on the Odisha Coast, as part of evaluation trials.
- The QRSAM aims to provide a protective shield to the moving armored columns of the Army from aerial attacks.
- The six flight tests were carried out against high-speed aerial targets mimicking various types of threats to evaluate the capability of the QRSAM as a short-range Surface Air Missile (SAM) system.
- The different threat scenarios include long-range medium-altitude, short-range, high-altitude-maneuvering target, low-radar signature with receding and crossing target, and salvo launch with two missiles fired in quick succession.

About Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO):

Headquarters: DRDO Bhavan, New Delhi

Founded: 1958

Jurisdiction: India

Aircraft designed: Avatar, DRDO Lakshya, DRDO Nishant

Subsidiary: Gas Turbine Research Establishment

About Odisha:

Governor: Ganeshi Lal

Capital: Bhubaneswar

Chief Minister: Naveen Patnaik

HAL-L&T consortium bags Rs 860-crore Isro contract for five PSLVs

- 5 PSLV rockets to be built by HAL-L&T: The Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, HAL-L&T consortium, making the industry's first entrance into end-to-end production of polar satellite launch vehicles, has secured a Rs 860 crore contract from NewSpace India Limited to produce five rockets (PSLV rockets). The HAL-L&T cooperation won the right to produce PSLV from beginning to end after three bids were subjected to a techno-commercial examination.
- The PSLV, India's third-generation launch vehicle, gets its mechanical systems and 60% of its electronic systems from the industry. The remaining percentages in both sectors are extremely complicated, though.
- The government had approved raising NSIL's authorised share capital from Rs 1,000 billion to Rs 7,500 billion.

About Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL):

Headquarters: Bengaluru

Founded: 1963, Bengaluru

Founder: Walchand Hirachand

About Larsen & Toubro (L&T):

CEO: S N Subrahmanyam (Jul 2017–)

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: 7 February 1946, Mumbai

Founders: Henning Holck-Larsen, Søren Kristian Toubro

ISRO successfully demonstrates IAD technology, rockets can now land back on earth; Third country to achieve feat

- IAD technology successfully used by ISRO: The Inflatable Aerodynamic Decelerator (IAD), which ISRO says is a game-changer with numerous implications for future missions including to Mars and Venus, was successfully tested. Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), an ISRO division, successfully test-flew an IAD from Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station on a "Rohini" sounding rocket (TERLS).
- Scientists from India and beyond, as well as ISRO, frequently employ Rohini sounding rockets to fly demonstrations of new technologies.
- Along with the IAD, new components including a micro video imaging system that recorded the IAD's bloom and flight, a small software defined radio telemetry transmitter, a MEMS (Micro-electromechanical systems)-based acoustic sensor, and a variety of new methodologies were all successfully flight tested.
- The IAD was first folded and stowed in the rocket's cargo bay, according to the Indian Space Research Organisation, which has its headquarters in Bengaluru (ISRO).

About Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO):

Headquarters: Bengaluru

Founded: 15 August 1969

Founder: Vikram Sarabhai

OBITUARY

Veteran Congress leader Aryadan Muhammed dies in Kerala's Kozhikode at 87

- Former Kerala minister and senior Congress leader, Aryadan Muhammed has passed away at the age of 87. Muhammed, a prominent Muslim face of Congress in Kerala, had got elected to the state Assembly eight times from the Nilambur constituency in Malappuram. He had served as a minister for four terms. During the Congress regime from 2011 to 2016, he had been power minister in the Oommen Chandy government.
- Muhammed joined Congress in 1952 and became a member of the Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee in 1958. Later, he served as the president of the Malappuram district congress committee and had been a state leader of the INTUC, the trade union wing of Congress.
- Within the Congress, Muhammed had been a prominent leader associated with the A group led by A K Antony. When A group of Congress had aligned with the CPI(M) in 1980, Muhammed became a minister in the then CPI(M) Government led by E K Nayanar.

About Kerala:

Governor: Arif Mohammad Khan

Capital: Thiruvananthapuram

Population: 3.46 crores (2018)

Chief Minister: Pinarayi Vijayan

Oscar-winning star Louise Fletcher passes away at 88

- An Oscar-winning actress, Louise Fletcher from the USA has passed away at the age of 88 in France. She was awarded the Oscar in 1976 for her role as Nurse Ratched in One Flew Over

the Cuckoo's Nest (1975). She was also a recipient of the BAFTA Award, and a Golden Globe Award. She was nominated for two Emmy Awards for her roles in the television series Picket Fences (1996) and Joan of Arcadia (2004). Her final role was as Rosie in the Netflix series Girlboss (2017).

- Fletcher began her acting career in the late 1950s on episodic TV shows such as Lawman, The Untouchables, and 77 Sunset Strip and lasted for more than sixty years in films and television with a recurring role as the cunning Bajoran religious figure Kai Winn Adami on Star Trek: Deep Space Nine.

About Oscar:

Ceremony date: 12 March 2023

First awarded: May 16, 1929; 93 years ago

Presented by: Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences

About USA:

Capital: Washington, D.C.

President: Joe Biden

Currency: United States Dollar

Padma Shri Awardee Acharya Ram Yatna Shukla died at 90

- Padma Shri awardee, Prof Acharya Ram Yatna Shukla, a Sanskrit scholar and former President of Kashi Vidwat Parishad, passed away at the age of 90 years. He is popularly called as "Abhinav Panini" due to his contribution towards inventing new methods of Sanskrit Grammar and Vedanta teaching and modernisation.
- Acharya RamYatna Shukla, born on 15th January 1932 in Bhadohi district, Uttar Pradesh (UP), was a scholar of Sanskrit grammar and played an important role in conserving ancient and Sanskrit texts.
- He was the founder of UP Nagkoop Sastrath Samiti and Sanatan Sanskriti Samvardhan Parishad, which are engaged in the uplifting of Sanskrit language and moral values of society.
- He was honoured with more than 25 awards including the Keshav award, Vachaspati Award, and Vishwabharti award. He has been conferred the title of "Mahamahopadhye". He was awarded Padma Shri in 2021 for his immense contribution in social work. He has authored several books and research papers. One of his key publications is "Vyakaran Darshne Shristi Prakriya Vimarsha".

About Padma Shri Award:

First awarded: 1954

Established: 1954; 68 years ago

Total: 3225

Last awarded: 2022

Next (higher): Padma Bhushan

Keshav Rao Dattatreya Dikshit dies at 98

- Senior most pracharak of Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh, Keshav Rao Dattatreya Dikshit has passed away. He was 98. Born in 1925 at Pulgaon village of Wardha district in Maharashtra, Keshav Rao came to Bengal in 1950 to act as a pracharak. He was respected one and all of

the Sangh Pariwar. The mortal remains of Keshav Rao was kept at the state headquarters, Keshav Bhavan. Sukanta Majumder the state president and other senior leaders of the party express their condolences at his death.

- Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), (Hindi: “National Volunteer Organization”) also called Rashtriya Seva Sangh, organization founded in 1925 by Keshav Baliram Hedgewar (1889–1940), a physician living in the Maharashtra region of India, as part of the movement against British rule and as a response to rioting between Hindus and Muslims.

Former Davis cup Captain Naresh Kumar passes away at 93

- Born on December 22, 1928, Naresh Kumar, an international tennis star, died at 93 following a brief illness attributed to age-related complications on Wednesday, 14 September.
- Kumar went on to make his mark in Indian tennis after Independence. He reached the final of the then Northern Championships, now Manchester Open, in England in 1949. He later made it to the Indian Davis Cup team in 1952 and represented India for eight consecutive years.
- He was among the generation of Indian players who performed exceptionally well at a global scale. Having made it to the singles main draw at Wimbledon for nine consecutive years, his best performance was in 1955 when he reached the pre-quarterfinals. In 1958, he reached the third round of the French Open in 1958.

About Davis cup:

Founder: Dwight F. Davis

Founded: 1900

No. of teams: 18 (World Group)

Most recent champion(s): Russia; (3rd title)

Most titles: United States; (32 titles)

Dwarka Peeth Shankaracharya Swami Swaroopanand Saraswati passed away on Sunday at the age of 99

- Dwarka-Sharda Peeth Shankaracharya Swami Swaroopanand Saraswati has passed away at Narsinghpur in Madhya Pradesh. He was 99 years old. He breathed his last at the Shridham Jhoteswar Ashram in Narsinghpur. Swami Swaroopanand was born in Dighori village in Madhya Pradesh's Siwani district. He left his home at the age of 9.
- Swami Shankracharya was also imprisoned during the Indian Independence movement. He also participated in the Quit India movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi in 1942 and was incarcerated in Varanasi for nine months and in Madhya Pradesh for six months.

About Madhya Pradesh:

Capital: Bhopal (Executive Branch)

Chief Minister: Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Governor: Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

Justice KN Singh, CJI with the shortest tenure, passes away at the age of 95

- Former Chief Justice of India Kamal Narain Singh passed away, at the age of 95. Justice Narain had a tenure of only 17 days as the CJI, making him the chief justice with the shortest

tenure. He was the 22nd Chief Justice of India, with a term from November 25, 1991, to December 12, 1991.

- Born on December 13, 1926, his career as a judge started with his appointment as an Additional Judge of the Allahabad High Court in 1970. He then became a Permanent Judge in August 1972. He got elevated as a Supreme Court judge in 1986 and, after almost five years, became the CJI. He also served as Chairman of the 13th Law Commission of India from 1991-1994. Late Justice Narain was part of several important judgments, including the Ganga Pollution case, the case challenging the validity of a death sentence, etc.

About Chief Justice of India:

Seat: Supreme Court of India, New Delhi, India

Nominator: Outgoing Chief Justice of India on the basis of Seniority

Appointer: President of India

Term length: Until the age of 65

Formation: 28 January 1950; 72 years ago

First holder: H. J. Kania (1950–1951)

Queen Elizabeth II, the UK's longest-serving monarch, has died at Balmoral aged 96

- Queen Elizabeth II passes away: Queen Elizabeth II, who reigned the UK for 70 years, passed away at Balmoral at the age of 96. After worries about her health grew early, her family gathered at her Scottish estate. Queen Elizabeth II saw significant social change after ascending to the throne in 1952. The King and the Queen Consort will spend today (08.09.2022) and tomorrow (09.09.22) in Balmoral before departing for London.
- Queen Elizabeth II was in placement under medical supervision, all of her children made their way to Balmoral, which is close to Aberdeen.
- Queen Elizabeth II, who on Tuesday appointed Prime Minister Liz Truss, said she was the “rock” upon which modern Britain was founded and that she had “given us the stability and strength that we required.”
- The prime ministers served during her time in office, including Ms. Truss, who was born 101 years after Winston Churchill, in 1874.
- Queen Elizabeth II came under fire for not publicly commenting after Diana, Princess of Wales, died in a car accident in Paris in 1997.

About United Kingdom:

Government: Parliamentary system, Unitary state, Constitutional monarchy

Capital: London

Prime Minister: Liz Truss

Currency: Pound sterling

Bhojpuri traditional dance exponent Ramchandra Manjhi passes away, at the age of 97

- Padma Shri awardee Ramchandra Manjhi, whose performance in Bhojpuri folk dance ‘Naach’ for eight decades, has passed away. He was a famous performer of ‘Launda Naach’, a sub-set of ‘Naach’, in which men crossdress as women. His passion for the dance form even in old age has brought him several honours, including Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2017) and Padma Shri (2021).

- Born in Saran district in Bihar in 1925, Manjhi was the last scion of the legendary Bhikhari Thakur's 'Naach' form of folk dance. He was one of the members of the original troupe of Bhikhari Thakur, known as Shakespeare of Bhojpuri language. Manjhi was presently associated with the Saran-based Bhikhari Thakur Repertory Training & Research Centre, a troupe run by Jainendra Dost, a filmmaker and a renowned artist.

About Bihar:

Governor: Phagu Chauhan

Chief Minister: Nitish Kumar

Capital: Patna

Asian Games, Commonwealth medal-winning boxer Birju Sah passes away

- Indian boxer, Birju Sah has passed away recently, the first Indian boxer to win medals at both the Asian and Commonwealth Games. He was 48. He won bronze medals at both the Commonwealth & Asian Games in 1994. Sah's first significant international success came at 19 in the 1993 Asian Junior Championships in Bangkok, Thailand. He took bronze in the light flyweight (45-48kg) division. The success on the continental stage was noticed by the Indian boxing federation which selected Birju Sah for the senior national camp.
- Birju Sah, though once ranked seventh in the world rankings, struggled to make ends meet after his retirement. He worked as a security guard in the Tatanagar area in Jamshedpur but stayed connected with his sport by coaching underprivileged kids from nearby areas for free.

Carnatic vocalist T.V. sankaranarayanan passed away

- Renowned Carnatic musician TV Sankaranarayan (77) has passed away. He was the torch-bearer of the Madurai Mani Iyer style of Carnatic music. With his death six decades-long music career has ended. Sankaranarayan was also the son-in-law of Mani Iyer. He was the son of musicians Tiruvalangal Vembu Iyer and Gomati Ammal.
- He was born in Mayiladuthurai, Tamil Nadu in 1945. His family came to Mayiladuthurai from Chennai during World War II. The family returned to Chennai in the 1950s. Although he studied law, he devoted his life to music.
- Sankaranarayan had shared several stages with Madurai Mani Iyer. He won the Madras Music Academy's Sangeeta Kalanidhi Award in 2003 and was honored with the Padma Bhushan by the country in the same year. Musicians Amrita Sankaranarayanan and Mahadevan are his children.

About Tamil Nadu:

Governor: R. N. Ravi

Capital: Chennai

Chief Minister: M. K. Stalin

About Padma Bhushan:

First awarded: 1954

Established: 1954; 68 years ago

Last awarded: 2022

Total: 1287

Next (higher): Padma Vibhushan

Historian and former Vice-Chancellor of Mangalore and Goa Universities B. Sheik Ali, passed away at 97

- Noted historian and first Vice Chancellor of Mangalore and Goa Universities Professor B. Sheik Ali passed away. He was the general president of the Indian History Congress at its 47th Session in 1986 and the founder president of the South India History Congress in 1985. He is a recipient of the Rajyothsava award and has authored a total of 23 books in English.
- Sheikh Ali was an authority on Mysuru rulers Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan and had carried out extensive research on the Mysuru kingdom in the British era. He authored 32 books and edited others, including Tipu Sultan: A Study in Diplomacy and Confrontation; Tipu Sultan, a Great Martyr; British Relations with Hyder Ali; Dr Zakir Hussain — Life & Times, A Comprehensive Biography, besides other Urdu publications.
- He was the recipient of the prestigious Golden Jubilee Award of Mysore University for research in Humanities and Social Sciences, Rajyotsava award for Distinguished Educationist, Mythic Society of India Award for Distinguished Historian, and Maulana Jauhar Award in 2003.

Former Tata Sons Chairman Cyrus Mistry dies in car crash at the age of 54

- Former chairman of Tata Sons, Cyrus Mistry has died in a road accident while en route from Ahmedabad to Mumbai. Mistry was aged 54 years. He was travelling with Jahangir Dinshaw Pandol, Anahita Pandol, and Darius Pandol. Mistry is survived by his wife Rohiqa and their two sons.
- Cyrus Pallonji Mistry was an Indian-born Irish businessman. Mistry, who was the sixth chairman of Tata Sons, was ousted from the position in October 2016. He had taken over as the chairman in December 2012 after Ratan Tata announced his retirement. N Chandrasekaran later took over as Executive Chairman of Tata Sons.
- The Supreme Court in May had dismissed a plea of the Sapoorji Pallonji (SP) group seeking a review of the 2021 verdict which had upheld the Tata group's decision to remove Cyrus Mistry as the executive chairman of the Tata Sons.

About Tata Sons:

Founded: 1868

Owner: Tata Trusts (66%); Shapoorji Pallonji Group (18%)

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founders: Tata Group, Jamsetji Tata

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

Former SBI Card MD and CEO Vijay Jasuja joins Stashfin as independent director

- Leading Fintech platform Stashfin has appointed BFSI (Banking, Financial Services and Insurance) expert and former MD and CEO of SBI Cards, Vijay Jasuja as Non-Executive Independent Director. He also served as a Director at PNB Cards. Jasuja, an industry veteran, has more than 40 years of BFSI experience in leadership positions across Indian and overseas markets, has been the MD and CEO of SBI Cards, and director, of PNB Cards. He has held multiple leadership positions at SBI including General Manager, Hyderabad;

General Manager (IBG), Mumbai; Country Head and CEO, Maldives and Regional Head, Sub-Saharan Africa.

- Stashfin is a leading fintech platform with a mission to deliver seamless and transparent financial services to consumers across a wide spectrum. Our aim is to empower the customers by improving their financial health, which will lead to inclusivity, growth and economic independence. Stashfin is one of the most innovative organizations in the fintech industry.

About State Bank of India (SBI):

Chairperson: Dinesh Kumar Khara

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: 1 July 1955

Britannia Industries appoints Rajneet Kohli as CEO of Indian bakery firm

- India's largest bakery foods company, Britannia Industries has appointed Rajneet Kohli as executive director and chief executive officer effective September 26, 2022. He has served in numerous senior leadership roles during his 25-year-long career in Asian Paints and Coca-Cola and joins Britannia from food services company Jubilant FoodWorks. Under his leadership, Jubilant FoodWorks has delivered sustained profitable growth and emerged as the largest QSR chain in the country with over 1600 stores.
- The board has also elevated Varun Berry to executive vice-chairman and managing director with immediate effect. He has 27 years of work experience with premier companies like Hindustan Unilever, PepsiCo, etc.

About Britannia Industries:

Headquarters: Bengaluru

Founded: 1892

Parent organization: Wadia Group

Vinayak Godse to be new CEO of Data Security Council of India

- Data Security Council of India (DSCI), a leading industry organisation founded by NASSCOM, promoted senior vice president Vinayak Godse and named him the organization's new CEO. Vinayak Godse will succeed Rama Vedashree, who oversaw Data Security Council of India (DSCI) for nearly six years. Vedashree also served on the Justice BN Srikrishna committee, which was charged with developing a model for the nation's Personal Data Protection Bill.
- Vinayak Godse will start serving as CEO of Data Security Council of India (DSCI) from October 1. A selection committee of the Data Security Council of India (DSCI) Board, led by current chairman Rajendra S. Pawar, former Data Security Council of India (DSCI) chairman Dr. N. Balakrishnan, NASSCOM President, and other board members, made the decision.
- Vinayak Godse has been a part of Data Security Council of India (DSCI) from its foundation and has more than 27 years of experience in telecom infrastructure, information security, and IT transformation.

About Data Security Council of India (DSCI):

Founded: 22 August 2008

Founder: NASSCOM

Headquarters: NASSCOM Campus

Chairman: Rajendra S Pawar

CEO: Rama Vedashree

NPCI reappoints Dilip Asbe as MD and CEO for 5 years

- Shareholders of National Payments Corporation of India approved the re-appointment of Dilip Asbe as the MD and CEO, at the company's annual general meeting on Thursday.
- With this approval, Asbe will be re-appointed for five years, with effect from January 8, 2023, the company said in a release.
- Previously the chief operating officer of NPCI, Asbe was appointed as the CEO-in-charge in August 2017 following the retirement of former MD and CEO A P Hota. He was later appointed as the acting MD and CEO in January 2018.
- Incorporated in 2008 as a specialised division of the Reserve Bank of India, NPCI is an umbrella organisation for operating retail payments and settlement systems and infrastructure.
- It manages products such as the RuPay card, Immediate Payment Service (IMPS), Unified Payments Interface (UPI), Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM), BHIM Aadhaar, National Electronic Toll Collection (NETC FasTag) and Bharat BillPay.

About National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) :

Founded: 2008

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founders: Reserve Bank of India, Indian Banks' Association

Former India captain Dilip Tirkey gets elected Hockey India president unopposed

- Former India captain Dilip Tirkey, who was the front-runner for the post of Hockey India president, was elected unopposed for the top job. He was elected after Uttar Pradesh Hockey chief Rakesh Katyal and Hockey Jharkhand's Bhola Nath Singh, who were in the fray for the president's post, withdrew their nominations. The International Hockey Federation (FIH) has approved Tirkey and his team's appointments. Bhola Nath has been elected unopposed as secretary general.
- Hockey India elections were scheduled to be held on October 1 but the results were declared in advance as there were no contestants for any of the posts, paving the way for the incumbent candidates to be elected unopposed as per the federation's Constitution.

About International Hockey Federation:

President: Dr Narinder Dhruv Batra

Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland

CEO: Thierry Weil

Founded: 7 January 1924, Paris, France

Dr M Srinivas appointed as new director of AIIMS New Delhi

- The dean of Employees' State Insurance Company (ESIC) Hospital and Medical College, Hyderabad, Dr M Srinivas has been appointed the director of New Delhi's All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), nearly six months after the tenure of the previous director, Dr Randeep Guleria, formally ended. The appointment is for a period of five years with effect

from the date of assumption of charge of the post, or till attaining the age of 65 years, or until further orders, whichever is the earliest, according to the order.

- Srinivas was on deputation at the ESIC Hospital and continues to be a professor of pediatric surgery at AIIMS. Including Guleria, AIIMS has had 15 directors so far since its foundation in 1956. All former directors have been employees at the institute at the time of their appointment.

About Employees' State Insurance Company (ESIC):

Founded: 25 February 1952

Owner: Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India

About AIIMS Delhi:

Established: 1956

First Director: B.B Dikshit

Under: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

About Delhi:

Chief Minister: Arvind Kejriwal

L. Governor: Vinai Kumar Saxena

Capital: New Delhi

Sanjai Kumar takes over as new CMD of RailTel

- As the new Chairman and Managing Director of RailTel, Sanjai Kumar is in charge. Sanjai Kumar previously held the position of Director (Network Planning & Marketing/NPM) at RailTel, along with the added responsibility of Director (Project, Operations & Maintenance/POM). The University of Allahabad awarded Kumar a Bachelor of Technology in Electronic and Telecommunication Engineering, while the Management Development Institute in Gurugram awarded him a Post Graduate Diploma in Management.
- He has around 30 years of varying experience in railroad operations, project management, and marketing. He is an officer of the Indian Railway Service of Signal Engineers (IRSSE).
- He stated that he wanted to concentrate on doing business internationally, including exporting services and participating in international bids and contracts.

About Railtel:

Headquarters: India

Founded: 26 September 2000

Key people: Aruna Singh, Chairman & Managing Director

Dr Rajiv Bahl appointed ICMR Director General for 3 years

- Dr Rajiv Bahl has been appointed as the new director general of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)-cum-secretary of the department of health Research for a period of three years. Bahl currently heads the research on maternal, newborn child and adolescent health cum-newborn unit on maternal, Department of Maternal Newborn Child and Adolescent Health and Ageing, at the World Health Organisation (WHO) in Geneva.
- His predecessor, Dr Balram Bhargava's extended tenure as director general of ICMR and secretary of the Department of Health Research ended in July. Bhargava was appointed to the post on April 16, 2018, for four years. The Appointment Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Dr Rajiv Bahl.

About Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR):

Headquarters: New Delhi

Founder: Government of India

Founded: 1911

Max Life Insurance appointed cricketer Rohit Sharma, his wife Ritika Sajdeh as brand ambassadors

- Max Life Insurance Company Ltd has announced Rohit Sharma, sports icon and captain of men's Indian Cricket team, and his wife Ritika Sajdeh, as its brand ambassadors. Max Life has signed a two-year partnership with the cricketing star and his spouse, who are making their debut onscreen together.
- The collaboration will increase the awareness of life insurance among the younger generation and help the company grow further. With the partnership, Max Life Insurance targets the millennial audience and conveys the importance of having life insurance. The aim of the company is to promote the Max Life brand ethos of valuing the 'self' to determine the right financial value to protect themselves and their family.

About Max Life Insurance:

MD & CEO: Prashant Tripathy

Establishment: 2001

Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi

Centre names top Gujarat bureaucrat Bharat Lal as Director General NCGG

- Retired Gujarat cadre officer, Bharat Lal has been appointed as the Director General, National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG). Bharat Lal, a 1988-batch Indian Forest officer of Gujarat cadre, had served as Gujarat government's resident commissioner in Delhi and has been known to be close to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the then chief minister of the state. Earlier, during December 2021, Lal was appointed as the Secretary to the Lokpal.
- The National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) is an autonomous institute under the aegis of the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Government of India. Its head office is at New Delhi and the branch office at Mussoorie.
- The NCGG has been set up to assist in bringing about governance reforms through studies, training, knowledge sharing and promotion of good ideas.

About Gujarat:

Governor: Acharya Devvrat

Capital: Gandhinagar

Chief Minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel

NHRC chief Arun Kumar Mishra elected as member of Asia Pacific Forum's Governance committee

- National Human Rights Commission of India chairperson justice (retd) Arun Kumar Mishra has been elected as a member of the Governance Committee of the Asia Pacific Forum (APF). He has also been elected as a member of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) Bureau at the 27th Annual General Meeting of the APF.
- The APF's Governance Committee is elected by APF councilors, representing 'A status' National Human Rights Institutions in the Asia Pacific region. The role of the five-member

APF Governance Committee is to consider and make recommendations to the APF General Assembly on a range of issues for the promotion and protection of human rights.

About National Human Rights Commission (NHRC):

Website: nhrc.nic.in

Formed: 12 October 1993

Jurisdiction: Government of India

Headquarters: New Delhi

First executive: Ranganath Misra

Preceding executive: K. G. Balakrishnan

Current executive: Arun Kumar Mishra

Climate Activist Vanessa Nakate Named UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador

- United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) appointed Vanessa Nakate, a 25-year-old climate activist from Uganda as the Goodwill Ambassador of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF). Her collaboration with the organisation and recognising her outstanding global advocacy for climate justice for current and future generations.
- Nakate began her activism in January 2019 with a protest with her siblings and cousins on the streets of Kampala, inspired by Greta Thunberg. She continued to protest every week, becoming a well-known face in a movement of young people "striking" for the climate around the world. In 2020 she came to further global prominence when she was cropped out of a news photo she appeared in alongside Thunberg and other white climate activists. Nakate's response to the incident, in which she said the news outlet "didn't just erase a photo, you erased a continent", made international headlines.

About UNICEF:

Founded: 1946

Headquarters: New York City, USA

Director General: Catherine M. Russell

Membership: 192

Auto industry body SIAM appoints Vinod Aggarwal as new president

- Auto industry body, Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) has elected Vinod Aggarwal as its new president for 2022-23. Aggarwal, the MD and CEO of Volvo Eicher Commercial Vehicles, succeeds Kenichi Ayukawa, the executive vice-chairman of Maruti Suzuki India. The SIAM also elected Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles managing director Shailesh Chandra as the vice-president, Satyakam Arya; and CEO & MD of Daimler India Commercial Vehicles was elected as the treasurer.
- The Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) is a not-for-profit apex national body representing all major vehicle and vehicular engine manufacturers in India.
- SIAM works toward supporting sustainable development of the Indian Automobile Industry with the vision that India emerges as the destination of choice in the world for the design and manufacture of automobiles.

Pralay Mondal named as CSB Bank's new MD & CEO

- The Reserve Bank of India has approved the appointment of Pralay Mondal as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of CSB Bank for three years. He was the Deputy Managing Director of the bank since February 17, 2022, and was subsequently appointed as interim MD & CEO with effect from April 1, 2022. Prior to joining CSB Bank, Mondal was Executive Director and Head, of Retail Banking at Axis Bank.
- At CSB Bank, Mondal has been working on expanding retail franchise distribution and branches, building technology platforms with a larger focus on digital initiatives towards automation and centralisation of processes.
- Mondal has around 30 years of banking experience across businesses and functions, including retail assets, retail liabilities, business banking products and technology.
- Before Axis Bank, he was the senior group president and head of retail and business banking at Yes Bank, wherein he was instrumental in setting up the entire retail franchise in a short period of time. Prior to Yes Bank, he has worked at HDFC Bank, Standard Chartered Bank, Wipro InfoTech and Colgate Palmolive.

About Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Currency: Indian rupee (₹)

Founder: British Raj

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

About CSB Bank:

Founded: 26 November 1920

Headquarters: Thrissur, Kerala

UAE healthcare firm Burjeel Holdings appoints Shah Rukh Khan as brand ambassador

- Burjeel Holdings, a private healthcare services provider in the MENA region has signed Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan as its new brand ambassador. The company is owned by UAE-based Indian entrepreneur Shamsheer Vayalil. The actor will appear in a multi-platform advertising campaign in the region for the group that will be unveiled in the coming weeks. This will be the actor's first healthcare ambassador role. In the past, the actor has also tied up with Dubai's tourism board to be one its brand ambassadors. But that partnership ended as of early 2022. He was also the first Indian celebrity to have received the UAE golden visa.

About UAE:

Capital: Abu Dhabi

Currency: United Arab Emirates dirham

President: Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan

About Burjeel Holdings:

Founded: 2007

Headquarters: UAE

M Damodaran Named To Lead A Panel To Boost VC, PE Investments

- The government has constituted an expert committee to suggest ways for scaling up of VC/PE investments, as per a circular issued by Finance Ministry on September 13. The six-member panel will be headed by former SEBI chairman M Damodaran. The expert

committee will examine and suggest appropriate measures to address regulatory and other issues to enable scaling up investments by Venture Capital and Private Equity Investment, the ministry said.

- The committee, whose formation was originally announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in this year's Union Budget, has been assigned the task of undertaking a comprehensive systemic study of the 'end-to-end frictions' and 'potential accelerants' from regulatory policy and taxation to facilitate 'ease of investing' as well as encourage investments into India.

About Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI):

Founded: 12 April 1992

Sector: Securities market

Headquarters: Mumbai

Agency executive: Madhabi Puri Buch (Chairperson)

Mukul Rohatgi set to return as next Attorney General for India

- Senior Advocate Mukul Rohatgi is set to be appointed the 14th Attorney General for India again after KK Venugopal vacates the post. This will be Rohatgi's second time as AG, after his first stint between June 2014 and June 2017. At the end of June this year, AG Venugopal's tenure was extended for a period of three months or "until further orders". This extension is set to expire on September 30.
- Rohatgi will take the seat of the country's top law officer from 1st October. People aware of the matter said Rohatgi gave his consent for assuming the top post last week following a request from the Prime Minister's Office (PMO). Rohatgi was Attorney General for the Bharatiya Janata Party-led National Democratic Alliance government between 2014 and 2017, soon after the new dispensation took over.
- Mukul Rohatgi is the son of former Delhi High Court judge, Justice Awadh Behari Rohatgi, who practiced under Yogesh Kumar Sabharwal, former CJI in the High Court before starting his own legal practice.

About attorney general of India:

First holder: M. C. Setalvad

Constituting instrument: Article 76 of the Consti...

Appointer: President of India

Deputy: Solicitor General of India

Residence: New Delhi, India

Term length: per discretion of the President

Sanjay Khanna appointed CEO of American Express India

- American Express Banking Corp India has appointed Sanjay Khanna as its chief executive officer (CEO) and country manager. At present, Khanna heads the country executive team and is responsible for driving growth across the organisation's consumer and commercial businesses. In his new role, Khanna will be leading several business development initiatives for American Express, while steering collaboration across its diverse businesses in India, adding his position will be key to strengthening the company's strategic focus in the country.

- Khanna has spent about 27 years with American Express, joining as manager of finance in 1996. In his previous roles, he held many leadership positions in the company, including head of Global Financial Operations, India Center Lead for Finance and chairman of the American Express India Pvt Limited Legal Entity Board.

About American Express:

Headquarters: New York, United States

CEO: Stephen Squeri (1 Feb 2018–)

Owner: Berkshire Hathaway

Founders: William Fargo, Henry Wells, John Butterfield

A. N. Shamseer elected Speaker of the Kerala Assembly

- CPI(M) legislator and the candidate of the ruling Left Democratic Front (LDF) A. N. Shamseer was elected Speaker of the Kerala Assembly on September 12.
- Mr. Shamseer defeated Congress MLA and United Democratic Front (UDF) candidate Anwar Sadat by 96 to 40 votes in the ballot held at the Kerala Legislative Assembly. The result was expected as the LDF has 99 seats against the UDF's 41 seats in the House.
- Mr. Shamseer succeeds his party colleague M. B. Rajesh as the Speaker. The post fell vacant after the latter replaced M. V. Govindan as Minister for Local Self Government following a rejig in the Pinarayi Vijayan Ministry. Mr. Govindan had stepped down as LSG Minister to take over as State secretary of the CPI(M).

About Kerala:

Governor: Arif Mohammad Khan

Capital: Thiruvananthapuram

Chief Minister: Pinarayi Vijayan

Days before retirement, Chief Justice of Madras HC appointed as chairman of PMLA appellate tribunal

- Chief Justice of Madras High Court, the Centre appointed Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari as the Chairman of the Appellate Tribunal under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). Justice Bhandari is due to retire on September 12. The order was issued by the Department of Revenue under the Ministry of Finance. The Tribunal for Forfeiture of Property under the SAFEMA and the PMLA Appellate Tribunal were merged in 2016 through the Finance Act, 2016. The post of the Chairperson of the Tribunal was vacant since September 2019.
- The President of India is pleased to appoint Hon'ble Mr Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari, Chief Justice, Madras High Court as Chairman, Appellate Tribunal under the Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators Act (SAFEMA) in the salary of Rs. 2,50,000/- (Fixed) p.m., for a period of 04 years, or till attaining the age of seventy years, or until further orders, whichever is the earliest in terms of Tribunal (Conditions of Service) Rules, 2021 read with Tribunal Reforms Act, 2021.
- Justice Bhandari was appointed a judge of the Rajasthan High Court in July 2007. He was then transferred to the Allahabad High Court in March 2019 and was appointed the Acting Chief Justice of that high Court in June 2019.

About Tamil Nadu:

Governor: R. N. Ravi
Capital: Chennai
Chief Minister: M. K. Stalin
Language: Tamil

Volker Türk appointed new UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

- The United Nations (UN) General Assembly approved Volker Türk of Austria to be the global body's Human Rights Chief by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. Volker Turk replaces Verónica Michelle Bachelet Jeria, a Chilean politician who served at the office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) from 2018 to 2022. Turk, currently serving as assistant secretary-general for policy.
- Previously, Volker Türk served as the Assistant High Commissioner for Protection at UN refugees, the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), Geneva. He had a long and successful career in the advancement of human rights globally. He served with the UN refugee agency in Malaysia, Kosovo and Bosnia Herzegovina, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Kuwait. His immediate challenge will be the controversial report of the accusation on China committing crimes against humanity and possibly genocide (mass murder) against the Uyghur people and abusing Muslim minorities.

About United Nations (UN):

Founded: 24 October 1945, San Francisco, California, United States

Headquarters: New York, United States

Secretary General: António Guterres

About United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR):

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

Founded: 14 December 1950

Founder: United Nations

Head: High Commissioner for Refugees; Filippo Grandi

Shri Sanjay Kumar Verma appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to Canada

- Senior diplomat Sanjay Kumar Verma has been appointed as India's next high commissioner to Canada. He succeeds Acting High Commissioner Anshuman Gaur. Verma is a 1988 batch officer of the Indian Foreign Service and is currently the ambassador of India to Japan. He is expected to take up the Canada assignment shortly. Among other postings, Verma has served in Indian missions in Hong Kong, China, Vietnam and Turkey. He has also served as Consul General of India in Milan, Italy.

About Canada:

Prime minister: Justin Trudeau

Capital: Ottawa

Currency: Canadian dollar

Official languages: French, English

Actor Kiccha Sudeep appointed brand ambassador for Karnataka govt scheme

- The Karnataka government has appointed Kannada actor Kiccha Sudeep as the brand ambassador for "Punyakoti Dattu Yojana" a cattle adoption scheme. The announcement was

made by Animal Husbandry Minister Prabhu B Chavan. The minister also said that the actor has decided not to charge for being the ambassador of the scheme, which is aimed at encouraging adoption by the public for the purpose of rearing cattle in 'goshalas' (cow shelters).

- Sudeep is known for his remarkable role in films such as 'Pailwan', 'Eega (Makkhi)', 'Vikrant Rona', 'Sparsha', 'Huchcha' and 'No 73 Shanthi Nivasa'. Sudeep started his career with Thayavva film in 1997. He has since starred in several popular Kannada films. Apart from that, he is one of the few Kannada actors who has appeared in movies in other language films as well, with appearances including Rakta Charitra, Baahubali: The Beginning, Eega, and Dabangg 3.

About Karnataka:

Chief Minister: Basavaraj Somappa Bommai;

Capital: Bengaluru.

Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot

Justice Chandrachud is new chairperson of NALSA

- Supreme Court judge Justice DY Chandrachud has been appointed as the next executive chairperson of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA). The post was previously held by the Chief Justice of India UU Lalit. President Droupadi Murmu has appointed Justice D.Y. Chandrachud as the executive chairman of the NALSA. Before being elevated as a judge of the Supreme Court, Justice Chandrachud served as the Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court and prior to that a judge of the Bombay High Court.
- The NALSA has been constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to provide free Legal Services to the weaker sections of the society.
- Its purpose is to provide free legal services to eligible candidates, and to organize Lok Adalats for the speedy resolution of cases.
- While the CJI is the Patron-in-Chief, the second senior most judge of the Supreme Court of India is the executive chairperson of the Authority.

About National Legal Services Authority (NALSA):

Founded: 9 November 1995

Headquarters location: New Delhi

Motto: Access to Justice for All

ACC names Captain B K Tyagi as the new CMD of Shipping Corporation of India

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has signed off on the proposal to appoint Captain Binesh Kumar Tyagi as the new chairman and managing director of Shipping Corporation of India Ltd (SCI). The appointment is for five years from the date of assumption of charge of the post, or till the date of his superannuation, or until further orders, whichever is the earliest, according to an office order issued by the Department of Personnel and Training.
- Captain Tyagi is currently the director looking after the liner and passenger services division at SCI which is in the process of being privatised by the government. Captain Tyagi graduated from Meerut University and joined SCI in 1990 as a trainee nautical officer and

sailed on board various ships in different ranks including as master. In 2004, he came onshore and served in the technical, vetting, chartering and fleet personnel departments.

About Shipping Corporation of India Ltd:

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: 2 October 1961, Mumbai

Senior IAS Officer Utpal Kumar Singh Appointed Lok Sabha Secretary General

- Rajya Sabha Chairman and Lok Sabha Speaker jointly decided that Utpal Kumar Singh, currently holding the post of Secretary General Lok Sabha, will additionally charge the functions of CEO Sansad TV. Ravi Capoor has been relieved of his duties as the Chief executive officer (CEO) of Sansad TV.
- Sansad TV was launched in September 2021 after merging the Lok Sabha TV and Rajya Sabha TV channels. The 24-hour channel, through its content, showcases the democratic ethos and the functioning of democratic institutions of the country with an aim to target national and international audiences. In February 2021, the decision to merge Lok Sabha TV and Rajya Sabha TV was taken and Ravi Capoor- a retired IAS officer, was appointed as its CEO in March.

About Lok Sabha:

Seats: 543

Founded: 17 April 1952

Speaker: Om Birla, BJP; since 19 June 2019

Indian Football: Kalyan Chaubey is the new AIFF president – the first former player elected to post

- Kalyan Chaubey, who was a goalkeeper with the storied Mohun Bagan and East Bengal football clubs in Kolkata, was elected president of the All India Football Federation. Choubey got 33 votes in the 34-member electorate comprising representatives of various state associations. His opponent and former East Bengal teammate Bhaichung Bhutia, also 45, had to be content with a solitary vote.
- Former AIFF president Praful Patel, whose ouster and replacement by a committee of administrators appointed by the Supreme Court had resulted in the federation being suspended for the first time in its 85-year history by the sport's world governing body FIFA.

About International Federation of Association Football (FIFA):

President: Gianni Infantino

Founded: 21 May 1904, Rue Saint-Honoré, Paris, France

Headquarters: Zürich, Switzerland

About All India Football Federation (AIFF):

Founded: 23 June 1937

Headquarters location: New Delhi

Krishnan Sankarasubramaniam takes over as Tamilnad Mercantile Bank MD & CEO

- Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Ltd on Sunday said veteran banker Krishnan Sankarasubramaniam has taken over as its managing director and Chief Executive Officer with immediate effect.

- Sankarasubramaniam succeeds K V Rama Moorthy and his term would be for a period of three years, which has been approved by the Reserve Bank of India.
- Prior to taking up the new role, Sankarasubramaniam was serving Punjab and Sind Bank as its Managing Director and CEO, a bank statement said here.
- During his tenure at Punjab and Sind Bank, he played a crucial role in the bank's turnaround leading to it registering the highest ever profit in 2021-22.
- A post graduate in commerce from the Madurai Kamaraj University and a qualified cost accountant, Sankarasubramaniam had served Syndicate Bank as its executive director before joining Punjab and Sind Bank.

About Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Ltd:

Headquarters: Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu, India

CEO: K V Rama Moorthy (Sept 2017)

Founded: 11 May 1921

Revenue: 4,253.4 crores INR (US\$530 million, 2021)

Yamuna Kumar Chaubey gets charge of NHPC chairman and managing director

- Yamuna Kumar Chaubey takes over as Chairman and Managing Director of NHPC for three months beginning September 1. He succeeded Abhay Kumar Singh. Chaubey is currently Director (Technical) in NHPC & has been given additional charge of the post of CMD for a period of 3 months till a regular incumbent joins the post. Abhay Kumar Singh ceased to be the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of the company with effect from August 31, 2022, upon attaining the age of superannuation.
- Chaubey, 59, is a graduate in Civil Engineering from IIT, Kharagpur. He joined NHPC Limited in 1985 as a Probationary Executive (Civil) at 540 MW Chamera Hydro-Electric Project, now Chamera-I Power Station, Himachal Pradesh. He is also serving as Chairman on the board of Bundelkhand Saur Urja Ltd and appointed as nominee director on the boards of Chenab Valley Power Projects Private Limited and Ratle Hydroelectric Power Corporation Ltd from October 1, 2020 and June 1, 2021 respectively.

About NHPC Limited:

Founded: 7 November 1975

Headquarters: Faridabad, India

Purpose: Electricity generation, energy trading

Parent organization: Government of India, Ministry of Power

Power stations: Salal Dam

Senior IIS officer Vasudha Gupta appointed DG News at AIR

- Indian Information Service officer, Vasudha Gupta was appointed as the director general of the news services division of All India Radio. Gupta, who was director general in the Press Information Bureau, assumed charge of her new post immediately. All India Radio Director General N Venudhar Reddy superannuated.
- Gupta played a key role in implementing the communication strategies of the government during the COVID-19 pandemic and also helmed the fact-checking unit to curb misinformation about the viral outbreak.

- A 1989-batch officer, Gupta has served in various capacities in the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting in her over a 32-year career. Gupta earned her degree in law from Chaudhary Charan Singh University and later was awarded an M.Phil degree by the Delhi School of Economics.

About All India Radio:

Founded: 1936, Delhi;

Founder: Government of India;

Headquarters: Sansad Marg, New Delhi;

Owner: Prasar Bharati.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Translation Day 2022: Theme, Significance and History

- International Translation Day is being celebrated every year on 30 September to raise awareness about translation and languages which play an important role for society's development. The day is meant as an opportunity to pay tribute to the work of language professionals, which plays an important role in bringing nations together, facilitating dialogue, understanding and cooperation, contributing to the development and strengthening world peace and security.
- The United Nations in a statement mentioned, "International Translation Day is meant as an opportunity to pay tribute to the work of language professionals, which plays an important role in bringing nations together, facilitating dialogue, understanding and cooperation, contributing to the development and strengthening world peace and security."
- The theme for this year's International Translation Day is 'A world without barriers'.

About United Nations (UN):

Founded: 24 October 1945, San Francisco, California, United States

Headquarters: New York, United States

Secretary General: António Guterres

World Maritime Day 2022: last Thursday of September

- The International Maritime Organization observed World Maritime Day on the last Thursday of September. This year, it will be observed on September 29. The day focuses on drawing public attention to maritime safety and the marine environment. The World Maritime Day 2022 Parallel Event will be organized in Durban, South Africa from 12th to 14th October 2022.
- The theme for World Maritime Day 2022 is 'New technologies for greener shipping' – which reflects the need to support a "green transition of the maritime sector into a sustainable future while leaving no one behind." The theme for this year reflects the need to support a green transition of the maritime sector into a sustainable future while leaving no one behind. It provides an opportunity to focus on the importance of a sustainable maritime sector and the need to build back better and greener in a post-pandemic world.

About International Maritime Organization:

Headquarters: London, United Kingdom

Founded: 17 March 1958

Founder: United Nations

Secretary-General: Kitack Lim

World Heart Day 2022: 29th September

- Every year on the 29th of September, people all around the world observe World Heart Day. The day is observed to raise awareness about the rising concerns of heart health, cardiovascular illnesses, the impact of overexercising on the heart and how heart care is of utmost importance.
- The theme for World Heart Day 2022 is 'USE HEART FOR EVERY HEART'. With increasing global awareness about cardiovascular diseases and learning to manage the disease. In the theme 'USE HEART FOR EVERY HEART', "Use Heart" means to think differently, make the right decisions, act with courage and help others. Similarly, "For Every Heart" involves the use of "FOR" and shifts the focus from the actions themselves to the heir of such actions, allowing for wider application of the campaign while also making it more personal.

About World Heart Federation:

Founded: 2000

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

President: Fausto Pinto

World Rabies Day 2022: 28th September

- World Rabies Day is celebrated each year on September 28 as a tribute to Louis Pasteur – the inventor of the first effective rabies vaccine in the world. The day is observed to promote the fight against Rabies, raise awareness of its prevention, and celebrate the achievements the world has made against this deadly disease.
- According to the World Health Organisation, the theme of World Rabies Day 2022 is 'Rabies: One Health, Zero Deaths.' The theme is to emphasize the connection between the environment, people, and animals. One Health in the theme represents the vulnerabilities of the health system but also sheds light on how magnanimous they can achieve with collaboration across sectors. Zero Deaths means that the world has all the medicines, tools, vaccines, and technologies to eradicate the disease, and 'zero deaths' should be the end goal.

About World Organisation for Animal Health:

Headquarters: Paris, France

Founded: 25 January 1924

Founder: Emmanuel Leclainche

World Tourism Day 2022: 27th September

- World Tourism Day 2022 is observed on 27 September globally. This day is celebrated every year to focus on promoting tourism in various parts of the world. It was initiated by the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO). It is celebrated to promote tourism and understand its importance. World Tourism Day aims to make people understand the joy of exploring the world. It is an extremely important event.
- The theme of World Tourism Day 2022 is 'Rethinking Tourism'. Everyone will focus on understanding the growth of the tourism sector and reviewing and redeveloping tourism after the COVID-19 pandemic.

- World Tourism Day intends to raise awareness about the significance of tourism in affecting the social, political, economic and cultural values of the international community. It is important to note that tourism plays a significant role in improving a nation's economy and enhancing its image. World Tourism Day is important because it helps to promote the advantages of tourism. The event is set to be led by the representatives of the tourism sector of Bali. The representatives from UNWTO states will also be invited to the event.

About United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO):

Founded: 1946

Headquarters: Madrid, Spain

Secretary-General: Zurab Pololikashvili

World Environmental Health Day 2022: 26th September

- World Environmental Health Day is observed on September 26, every year. The goal of observing the day is to increase public awareness of the environment's condition and encourage people to take the required steps to stop it from getting worse. World Environmental Health Day is a day dedicated to informing people about the health of the environment and preserving it. It is more crucial than ever to raise awareness of the threats posed by pollution, climate change, and global warming because the Earth is our home, thus by not doing anything to prevent it from deteriorating, we are not only endangering the environment but also ourselves.
- Every year World Environment Day is celebrated with a new theme. The theme for this year's World Environment Health Day is "Strengthening Environmental Health Systems for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals".

World rivers day 2022: 25th September

- World River Day is observed to raise awareness regarding water bodies and to promote their conservation. It is observed every year on the fourth Sunday of September, and this year, it falls on September 25. As per World Rivers Day, "It is a celebration of the world's waterways." This day highlights the values of rivers and strives to increase public awareness and encourages the improved supervision of rivers around the world.
- The theme for this year's World Rivers Day is 'The importance of Rivers to Biodiversity'. The absolute need for rivers to keep any civilization going is the focus of this year's theme. Not only humans, but rivers keep a wide range of animals and plant a living breathing part of our ecosystem.

World Pharmacists Day 2022: 25th September

- Every year on September 25, World Pharmacist Day is commemorated with the goal of highlighting and advocating the pharmacist's contribution to health improvement. The occasion of World Pharmacy Day serves as a reminder to honour all medical specialists who provide their services with empathy and understanding. Pharmacists provide the availability of pharmaceuticals and guidance on safe medication usage. A pharmacist is a healthcare professional who is responsible for storing, handling, and dispensing medicines. Like doctors, pharmacists also have a major role to play in the healthcare sector.

- This year's theme, "Pharmacy united in action for a healthier world," aims to promote unity and highlight the sound effects of pharmacy on health. The theme has been chosen to "showcase pharmacy's positive impact on health around the world and to further strengthen solidarity among the profession".
- Pharmacists are trained to advise the right way a medicine must be used and stored while they also provide us with crucial information about the potential adverse effects of a medicine. These professionals also contribute to research for new drugs while they offer their vital services in hospitals, medical clinics, government institutions, and universities. In addition, pharmacists are also responsible for the safe disposal of medicines once they have expired.

About International Pharmaceutical Federation:

CEO: Dr Catherine Duggan

Founded: 25 September 1912

Headquarters: The Hague, Netherlands

Motto: Advancing pharmacy worldwide

National Cinema Day 2022: 23rd September

- The National Cinema Day was previously announced to be held on September 16, however, on request from various stakeholders and in order to maximize participation, it was rescheduled to September 23. The day has been scheduled by the Multiplex Association of India (MAI). Over 4,000 screens at multiplexes from across the country, including PVR, INOX, Cinepolis, Carnival, and Delite, have teamed up to offer a "celebratory admission price" of Rs 75 to mark National Cinema Day.
- Multiplex Association of India (MAI) is a nationwide group of cinema operators that informs, educates and advocates on behalf of the cinema exhibition sector.
- Established in 2022 under the aegis of the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) by leading cinema operators, it partners with regulatory bodies and industry partners nationwide to raise the profile of cinema, highlighting opportunities, and addressing various challenges faced by the cinema exhibition sector.

About Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI):

President: Sanjiv Mehta

Founded: 1927

Headquarters: New Delhi

Founder: Ghanshyam Das Birla

International Day of Sign Languages 2022: 23rd September

- The International Day of Sign Languages (IDSL) is celebrated annually across the world on 23 September. The day is a unique opportunity to support and protect the linguistic identity and cultural diversity of all deaf people and other sign language users. Sign language gives people, who are hard of hearing, a medium to converse. As the name suggests, this day aims to spread awareness regarding the importance of sign language in the realisation of the human rights of people who are deaf.
- The theme for the 2022 International Day of Sign languages is "Sign Languages Unite Us!". Deaf communities, governments and civil society organisations maintain their collective

efforts in fostering, promoting and recognising national sign languages as part of their countries' vibrant and diverse linguistic landscapes.

About World Federation of the Deaf:

President: Joseph J. Murray

Founded: 23 September 1951, Rome, Italy

Headquarters: Helsinki, Finland

World Rhino Day 2022: 22nd September

- World Rhino Day is observed on 22nd September to spread awareness about the different Rhinoceros species and the dangers they face. This day also celebrates all five rhino species namely the Sumatran, Black, Greater One-horned, Javan, and White rhino species. The day offers NGOs, zoos, and the general public a chance to honour rhinos in their own special ways. This day aims to spread the importance of protecting these animals, as Rhinoceros have become critically endangered in the wild due to ongoing poaching and habitat loss over many years.
- This year's World Rhino Day will be observed under the theme "Five Rhino Species Forever". The goals of this day are to promote the noble cause of raising awareness about the need to save rhinos from danger to their lives. The rhinos are constantly under severe threat.

World Rose Day (Welfare of Cancer Patients) 2022: 22nd September

- World Rose Day for the welfare of cancer patients worldwide is celebrated annually on the 22nd of September. This day aims to encourage and support those people who are fighting their battle against cancer. The day aims to bring happiness and hope into the lives of such patients and reminds them that they can emerge victorious in their battle against cancer through determination and positivity.
- On World Rose Day, people offer roses, cards, and gifts to cancer patients and their caregivers, who also play an important role in this difficult journey. As we all know that the fight against cancer is both physical and psychological, and events such as the World Rose Day are important as they give inner strength and motivation to the patients to keep moving forward when the chips are down
- World Rose Day was first observed in honour of 12-year-old cancer patient Melinda Rose from Canada, who died in 1996. According to reports, Rose was diagnosed with Askin's Tumour in 1994, which is a rare form of blood cancer.

World Bamboo Day 2022: 18th September

- World Bamboo Day 2022 is observed on September 18 in order to raise awareness about the conservation of this extremely useful plant. Conceptualised by the World Bamboo Organisation (WBO), this day also promotes the bamboo industry by highlighting its concerns. Bamboo wood has long been used for various purposes in countries around the globe, especially in the east and southeast Asia. Bamboo grows on its and doesn't require to be replanted, making it easily available.
- By observing World Bamboo Day, WBO aims to sensitise people about the potential uses of bamboo. Promoting the new cultivation of bamboo in developing regions across the world can yield tremendous economic development. In fact, bamboo can be used as a substitute

for numerous unsustainable resources. Found in South-East Asia, bamboo can be used in various ways including as food, and as a substitute for wood, building, and construction material.

About World Bamboo Organization:

Headquarters: Antwerp, Belgium

Founded: 2005

Executive director: Susanne Lucas

International Equal Pay Day 2022: 18th September

- International Equal Pay Day, celebrated on 18 September, represents the longstanding efforts towards the achievement of equal pay for work of equal value. The symbolic day aims at highlighting issues related to the gender pay gap and raising worldwide awareness. The main aim of the event is to end the history of gender discrimination that women are generally subjected to by getting paid less than their male counterparts.
- The day holds great significance in modern times as it shows how pay inequality still remains a reality. The day provides a global platform for women to raise the issue through various campaigns. International Equal Pay Day also encourages people to join the social cause by identifying strategies for its implementation.
- International Equal Pay Day was first observed back in 1996 by the National Committee on Pay Equity.

World Patient Safety Day 2022: 17th September

- World Patient Safety Day is observed every year on 17th September to create awareness about different safety measures that should be taken to ensure patient safety. The day focuses on preventing and reducing risks, errors, and harm that patients face. In modern society, it is important to understand the implications of negligent patient care and work toward modern standards regarding patient care.
- The main objective of World Patient Safety Day is to increase public awareness, enhance global understanding and call for solidarity and united action by all countries and international partners to increase patient safety and reduce patient harm.
- Every year, World Patient Safety Day is observed under a specific theme. This year, the theme of World Patient Safety Day 2022 is 'Medication Safety' along with the slogan 'Medication Without Harm' with a call to action to 'Know, Check & Ask'. Medication errors and unsafe medication practices can lead to severe patient harm, disabilities, and deaths.

Swati Piramal conferred with top French civilian honour

- Prominent Indian scientist and industrialist Dr Swati Piramal has been conferred France's top civilian honour for her contributions in the fields of business and industry, science, medicine, and towards strengthening Indo-French ties. Piramal, 66, is the vice-chairperson of the Mumbai-headquartered Piramal Group, a business conglomerate with interests in pharmaceuticals, financial services, real estate and glass packaging.
- The Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur or Knight of the Legion of Honour was conferred on her in an investiture ceremony by Catherine Colonna, France's Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, during a visit to India this week. The award was conferred on behalf of

French President Emmanuel Macron. Dr Piramal is not only a leading and outstanding businesswoman, but also a businesswoman who gives back to society, said Colonna.

About France:

President: Emmanuel Macron

Capital: Paris

Prime Minister: Élisabeth Borne

Currencies: Euro, CFP franc

International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer 2022: 16th September

- World Ozone Day or the International Day for the preservation of the Ozone Layer is observed on the 16th of September. The day aims to create awareness about the importance and need of the Ozone layer which is the single protection on Earth against UV rays coming out from the sun. The UN Environment Programme also aims to bring awareness about the importance of getting rid of the substances that damage the ozone layer. It also calls for taking time-targeted actions to protect Earth's protective shield.
- The theme announced by the UN Environment Programme for International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer 2022 is 'Global Cooperation Protecting Life on Earth'.
- The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed September 16 as the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer in 1994. This was done to commemorate the date of the signing of the 'Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer' by the governments of 46 nations around the world in 1987. It was also known as the "Montreal Protocol".

About United Nations (UN)

Founded: 24 October 1945, San Francisco, California, United States

Headquarters: New York, United States

Secretary General: António Guterres

National Engineer's Day 2022: 15th September

- In India, Engineer's Day is celebrated on September 15 every year. The day is celebrated to recognise the contribution of engineers in the development of the nation. This day commemorates the birth anniversary of Sir Moksha Gundam Visvesvaraya, who is considered one of the greatest engineers of India. Joining India, Sri Lanka and Tanzania also celebrate Engineers Day on September 15, 2022, in honour of Sir Moksha Gundam Visvesvaraya.
- National Engineering Day is celebrated to remind all the engineers of the country, especially civil engineers, to make Sir M Visvesvaraya their role model in accomplishing their goals and contributing to the country's development.
- In 1968, the Government of India decided to observe September 15 as National Engineers Day. As per reports, India has the second largest number of engineers in the world. Often at times, India is also referred to as the country of engineers. The day serves as a reminder to all engineers, especially civil engineers, to make Sir Visvesvaraya their role model and work towards accomplishing goals for the betterment of the country.

International Day of Democracy 2022: 15th September

- This year, September 15 marks the 15th anniversary of the International Day of Democracy. The day is celebrated annually around the world to strengthen democracies and highlight its values and principles. This year, Democracy Day will focus on the importance of media freedom to democracy, peace, and delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals.
- A theme is chosen for the International Day of Democracy. This year, the day is focused on the “importance of media freedom to democracy, peace, and delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals”.
- According to UNESCO, the International Day of Democracy serves as an opportunity to assess the state of democracies in the world. It also gives a chance to highlight the crucial role of parliaments and to celebrate their capability to deliver justice, development, human rights, and peace.

About UNESCO:

Headquarters: Paris, France

Founded: 16 November 1945, London, United Kingdom

Parent organization: United Nations

Director-General: Ms Audrey Azoulay

Hindi Diwas 2022: 14th September

- Hindi Diwas or Hindi Day is observed every year on 14 September to mark the popularity of Hindi as an official language of India. The language was adopted under Article 343 of the Indian Constitution. The first Hindi day was celebrated on 14th September 1953. Hindi is one of the major languages used in India as a large portion of the country's population knows and uses the language. Schools, colleges and other educational institutions celebrate Hindi Diwas by organising various programs.
- Hindi Diwas is celebrated to commemorate the adoption of Hindi in the Devanagari script as one of the official languages of the nation. Hindi was adopted by the National Constitution on September 14, 1949 and it became the official language of the country. India's first prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, decided to celebrate September 14 as Hindi Diwas.
- Hindi Diwas also marks celebrating the birthday of Beohar Rajendra Simha who played a crucial role in getting Hindi in the Devanagari script approved as an official language of India. He was born on 14 September 1916.
- Hindi is spoken in countries like Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, New Zealand, UAE, Bangladesh, Mauritius, Tobago, etc.

World First Aid Day 2022: 10th September

- World First Aid Day is celebrated every year on the second Saturday of September. This year, World First Aid Day 2022 falls on 10 September 2022. The day is recognized worldwide to promote the significance of first aid, which is an important fundamental skill, and to create awareness on a global level about how it can save precious lives. The day was introduced first by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).
- According to the IFRC, with this year's theme, 'Lifelong First Aid', we are putting forward the importance of having lifelong first aid learning. No matter the age, having first aid skills and

knowledge helps create safer and healthier communities. Children, adults, or older adults should also be able to have a quality first aid education. A lifelong commitment to learning and providing first aid is what makes us more resilient.

- World First Aid Day's history dates back to the battle of Solferino in 1859 in which a young businessman, Henry Dunant, from Geneva was horrified and shocked by the mass massacre of people. He helped many severely injured people. This incident inspired him so much that he wrote a book titled as 'A Memory of Solferino'.

United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation 2022: 12th September

- The United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation is observed annually on September 12 to highlight the importance of cooperation among people and countries in the global South. The day also aims at spreading awareness on the social, economic, and political developments made in the Southern region.
- Promote and strengthen collective self-reliance among developing countries through the exchange of experiences leading to a greater awareness of common problems and wider access to available knowledge.
- The United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries adopted the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) on September 12, 1978.
- The creation of the UNOSSC was proposed in 1974 in the United Nations General Assembly as a special unit within the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

About United Nations:

Founded: 24 October 1945, San Francisco, California, United States

Headquarters: New York, United States

Secretary General: António Guterres

About United Nations Development Programme (UNDP):

Headquarters: New York, United States

Founded: 22 November 1965, United States

National Forest Martyrs Day 2022: 11th September

- National Forest Martyrs Day is observed on September 11 to pay tribute to those who sacrificed their lives to protect forests and wildlife. The observance of the National Forest Martyrs is marked by several events aimed at creating awareness about protecting forests and the environment at large. The day holds a lot of significance in the present scenario when depleting green cover is among the greatest challenges in front of the world.
- This incident is remembered as a key event, and it has inspired many activists and campaigns, like the Chipko movement, in which peasants hugged trees to save them from felling.
- National Forest Martyrs Day commemorates the importance of trees. To live healthy lives, we must conserve the forests and protect the trees. In the current climate, one of the most serious issues confronting the globe is the loss of green cover.

World Suicide Prevention Day 2022: 10th September

- World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD), celebrated annually on 10th September, is organized by the International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP) and endorsed by the World Health Organization (WHO). The overall goal of this day is to raise awareness about suicide prevention worldwide. Objectives include promoting stakeholder collaboration and self-empowerment to address self-harm and suicide through preventative action.
- The theme of WSPD 2022, "Creating hope through action," reflects the need for collective, action to address this urgent public health issue. This has been the triennial theme for World Suicide Prevention Day from 2021 to 2023.
- According to experts at WHO, the motive of World Suicide Prevention Day is to make people realise that committing suicide is not the only way to end their problems.
- World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD) was established in 2003 by the International Association for Suicide Prevention in conjunction with the World Health Organization (WHO).

About International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP):

Founder: Erwin Ringel

Founded: 1960

About World Health Organization (WHO):

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

Founded: 7 April 1948

President: Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

Himalaya Diwas 2022: 9th September

- The National Mission for Clean Ganga organized Himalayan Diwas on September 9th, in association with Naula Foundation. The day is celebrated with an aim to preserve the Himalayan ecosystem and region. This day is celebrated to mark the importance of the Himalayas. The Himalayan hill cities face many challenges due to poor building planning and design, poor infrastructures like roads, water supply, sewage etc. and unprecedented felling of trees.
- Himalaya Day 2022 was observed under the theme 'Himalayas will be safe only when the interests of its residents are protected.'
- The day is observed highlighting that there is an urgent need to develop eco-sensitive hill town plans and designs. The Himalayas are a source of strength and a valuable heritage for the entire world. So it needs to be protected. Apart from promoting scientific knowledge, the day helps to raise awareness and community participation.

International Day to Protect Education from Attack 2022: 9th September

- The International Day to Protect Education from Attack is an international observance established by a unanimous decision of the United Nations General Assembly in 2020. It is observed on September 9 of each year. The purpose of the day is to raise awareness regarding the importance of safeguarding schools as places of protection and safety for students and educators and the need to keep education at the top of the public agenda.
- International Day to Protect Education From Attack aims to safeguard and shape the future of more than 75 million children in the age group of three to 18-year-olds living in 35

countries. This day sends a clear message regarding the importance of safeguarding schools and the safety of students, as well as educators and giving the children constant access to education.

- The day was established by a unanimous decision of the UN General Assembly, calling on UNESCO and UNICEF to raise awareness of the plight of millions of children living in countries affected by conflict. This day was established in 2020 and is supported by UNESCO and UNICEF, and co-sponsored by 62 countries. This day aims to raise awareness of the plight of millions of children living in war-affected countries.

About UNESCO:

Headquarters: Paris, France

Head: Audrey Azoulay

Founded: 16 November 1945

About UNICEF:

Executive Director: Henrietta H. Fore

Founded: 11 December 1946

Headquarters: New York, United States

International Literacy Day 2022: 8th September

- International Literacy Day (ILD) is celebrated on 8 September every year all across the globe to make people aware of the meaning and importance of literacy for individuals and societies. The day spread awareness about the importance of literacy for individuals, communities, and societies and the need for intensified efforts towards more literate societies.
- This year's International Literacy Day will be celebrated worldwide under the theme, "Transforming Literacy Learning Spaces" and will be an opportunity to rethink the fundamental importance of literacy learning spaces to build resilience and ensure quality, equitable, and inclusive education for all.
- On this International Literacy Day which is celebrated on 8 September, let's spread awareness about the importance of literacy for individuals, communities, and societies. Students celebrate this day to raise awareness and concern for literacy problems that exist all across.

About UNESCO:

Founded: 16 November 1945

Headquarters: Paris, France

Members: 193 countries

Head: Audrey Azoulay

International Day of Clean Air for blue skies 2022: 7th September

- The International Day of Clean Air for blue skies is observed globally on September 07 to promote and facilitate actions to improve air quality. It focuses on the transboundary nature of air pollution highlighting the need for collective accountability and collective action. It is an UN-recognised day that aims to raise public awareness at all levels (individual, community, corporate and government) that clean air is important for health, productivity, the economy and the environment.

- This year's theme of "The Air We Share" focuses on the transboundary nature of air pollution, stressing the need for collective accountability and action. It also highlights the need for immediate and strategic international and regional cooperation for more efficient implementation of mitigation policies and actions to tackle air pollution.
- The United Nations commemorates the International Day Of Clear Air For Blue Skies by hosting summits with member states. Attendees put forth their perspectives and discuss the data on the impacts of air pollution and air quality around the globe.

About United Nations:

Founded: 24 October 1945, San Francisco, California, United States

Headquarters: New York, New York, United States

Secretary general: António Guterres

National Teachers' Day 2022: 5th September

- Teachers' Day or Shikshak Divas marks the birthday of the country's first Vice President (1952–1962) who went on to become the second President of India (1962-1967), a scholar, philosopher, Bharat Ratna awardee, Dr Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan. He was born on September 5 in the year 1888. But teachers' day was first observed in the year 1962 on his 77th birthday. He was a teacher who turned out to be a philosopher, scholar and politician. He dedicated his entire life to working towards the importance of education in people's lives.
- The theme for this year's teachers' day is 'Leading in crisis, reimagining the future.'
- When Dr Radhakrishnan took office of the second President of India in 1962, his students approached him to seek permission to celebrate September 5 as a special day.
- Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan was born in a Telugu-speaking Niyogi Brahmin family, in Tiruttani of Madras district in the erstwhile Madras Presidency (later in Andhra Pradesh till 1960, now in Tiruvallur district of Tamil Nadu since 1960).

International Day of Charity 2022: 5th September

- The International Day of Charity is observed on September 5. On this day, philanthropic and humanitarian efforts of any kind are honoured. September 5 was chosen to celebrate the day because it is Mother Teresa's death anniversary. She devoted her life for charity and helping people in need. Her compassion and giving nature had made her a revered figure worldwide. Mother Teresa received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 for "work undertaken in the struggle to overcome poverty and distress, which also constitute a threat to peace."
- September 5 was declared as the International Day of Charity, by a resolution adopted by United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), on December 17, 2012. The resolution was co-sponsored by 44 UN member nations.
- The great personality passed away on 5 September 1997, at the age of 87. The International Day of Charity was first marked by the United Nations General Assembly in 2012.

World Coconut Day 2022: 2nd September

- World Coconut Day is celebrated on 2nd September every year. The day is observed to emphasise and spread knowledge of the value and advantages of coconuts. The coconut

palm is often called the 'tree of life' owing to its versatile use in food, fuel, medicine, cosmetics, building materials, and various other uses.

- In India, this day is celebrated with the support of the Coconut Development Board (CDB), across the states such as Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Goa, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, etc. World Coconut Day is about coconut as a nutritious fruit, a crucial raw material, and a significant crop.
- The International Coconut Community selects the World Coconut Day themes. The World Coconut Day theme for this year is "Growing Coconut for a Better Future and Life".

About Asia Pacific Coconut Community (APCC) :

Established : 2nd September 1969

Headquarters location: Jakarta, Indonesia

First world coconut day: September 2, 2009

Rashtriya Poshan Maah begins across India with key focus on "Mahila aur Swasthya" and "Bacha aur Shiksha"

- Ministry of Women and Child Development is celebrating the 5th Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2022 across the nation from 1st September till 30th September. Rashtriya Poshan Maah serves as a platform to bring focus to the discourse of nutrition and good health. Maah serves as a platform to bring focus to the discourse of nutrition and good health. In the 5th Rashtriya Poshan Maah, the aim is to convert Jan Andolan into Jan Bhagidari to fulfil the Prime Minister's vision of a Suposhit Bharat. The Central Theme of Poshan Maah 2022 is "Mahila aur Swasthya" and "Bacha aur Shiksha".
- Poshan Maah is being celebrated as part of the POSHAN Abhiyaan, the Central Government's flagship programme which aims to improve nutritional outcomes for children under 6 years of age, pregnant women and lactating mothers.

SUMMITS AND MOU'S

MoHUA initiates Swachh Toycathon to boost toy production from dry waste

- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) launched Swachh Toycathon under the Swachh Amrit Mahotsav. The competition aims to explore solutions for use of waste in the creation or manufacturing of toys. Secretary, MoHUA, Manoj Joshi, launched the event on MyGov portal and released the toolkit.
- 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. Toys must remain a source of wonder and joy for children launching them on journeys of imagination. Household waste items can be turned into toys that teach children about basic principles of science, said Manish Jain, principal coordinator of Center for Creative Learning, in IIT Gandhinagar.
- The Center for Creative Learning, IIT Gandhinagar, is MoHUA's knowledge partner for the initiative.
- National Action Plan for Toys (NAPT) 2020 was introduced to promote the Indian toy industry including traditional handicrafts and handmade toys with the objective of establishing India as a global Toy hub. Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal

Trade (DPIIT) along with 14 ministries of Central Government is currently implementing various aspects of the NAPT.

- Besides being the second largest populated country in the world, India also has a growing young population with half of the total population under 25 years of age.

About Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT):

Founded: 1995

Parent organization: Ministry of Commerce and Industry

About Gujarat:

Capital: Gandhinagar

Governor: Acharya Devvrat

Chief Minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel

Air India and Willis Lease Sign ConstantThrust Agreement for Engine Sale & Leaseback

- Air India announced that it has signed a definitive sale and lease back agreement with Nasdaq-listed Willis Lease Finance Corporation for 34 CFM56-5B engines installed on its Airbus A320 family fleet. According to the company statement, the engines will be covered under Willis Lease's ConstantThrust, which will deliver significant reliability and cost savings over a traditional MRO (Maintenance, Repair and Operations) shop visit programme.
- The company said in a statement, under the sale side of the transaction, Willis Lease will purchase 34 engines from Air India, powering 13 Airbus A321 aircraft and four Airbus A320 aircraft. Through the programme, Willis Lease will provide replacement and standby spare engines, allowing the airline to avoid potentially costly and unpredictable shop visits on engines powering a transitioning aircraft fleet. Nipun Aggarwal, CCO Air India said, "this transaction will allow Air India to derisk itself operationally, improve fleet reliability, reduce cost, and optimise cash flow."

About Air India:

Headquarters: New Delhi

Founded: 1932, Mumbai

About Willis Lease:

Headquarters: Coconut Creek, Florida, United States

Founded: 1985

Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) and CSIR work together to support chemistry in schools across India

- Royal Society of Chemistry and CSIR collaborate: A initiative to promote chemical sciences in schools and universities is being supported by a partnership between the Royal Society of Chemistry and the Council for Industry and Scientific Research (CSIR). Throughout 30 CSIR laboratories hosted the RSC's Global Coin experiment, which involved about 2000 students from all over the nation.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two organisations states that they will collaborate on the CSIR's Jigyasa programme, an outreach initiative for researchers and schoolchildren that spans all of India.
- The Memorandum of Understanding will not involve money and will have a minimum three-year term with the possibility of extension.

- From mining and oceanography to chemicals and nanotechnology, the CSIR is committed to research and development across the range of science and technology.

About Council for Industry and Scientific Research (CSIR):

President: Narendra Modi

Founded: 26 September 1942

Founders: Shanti Swaroop Bhatnagar, Arcot Ramasamy Mudaliar

About Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC):

CEO: Helen Pain (9 Jun 2021–)

Headquarters: London, United Kingdom

Founded: 1980

BPCL signs pact with Brazil's Petrobras to diversify crude oil sourcing

- 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.
- The MoU was signed by Arun Kumar Singh, Chairman BPCL and Caio Paes de Andrade, CEO Petrobras, in Brazil on Saturday.
- In a statement BPCL said, the signing of the MoU will strengthen future crude oil trade relations between the two companies and explore potential crude import opportunities by BPCL, on a long term basis, especially considering the current geopolitical situations.
- Bharat PetroResources Limited (BPRL) plans to invest \$1.6 billion to develop an oil block in Brazil in an attempt to procure equity oil overseas. Through its fully owned subsidiary, Bharat PetroResources Limited, BPCL has a stake in the upstream sector in an ultra-deep water hydrocarbon block in Brazil, owned and operated by M/s Petrobras. The field development plan and final investment decision is expected to be declared soon.

About Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL):

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: 1952

Skill India partners with Samsung to train Indian youth in AI, IoT, BigData, Coding

- The Electronics Sector Skill Council of India (ESSCI) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Samsung India to empower the youth with industry-relevant skills. It will be a part of the government's 'Skill India' initiative that aims to empower the youth with industry-relevant skills in emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, the Internet of Things, Big Data and Coding & Programming, in a bid to enhance their employability. The MoU was exchanged by Ken Kang, President and CEO of Samsung Southwest Asia, and Abhilasha Gaur, COO, ESSCI.
- The programme, 'Samsung Innovation Campus' aims to upskill over 3,000 unemployed youth from 18-25 years of age in future technologies, in partnership with the government's Skill India initiative.
- The programme will be executed by ESSCI, which is a National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) entity through its nationwide network of approved training and education partners.

About

National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC):

Headquarters: New Delhi

Founded: 31 July 2008

Key people: Mr. Ved Mani Tewari (CEO)

Hero MotoCorp, HPCL collab to establish charging infrastructure for electric vehicles

- Hero MotoCorp has joined hands with Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd to set up charging infrastructure for electric two-wheelers in the country. As a part of the initiative, the two companies will first establish charging infrastructure at Hindustan Petroleum Corporation's (HPCL) existing network of stations, with the likelihood of subsequently broadening the collaboration for supplementary business opportunities.
- The charging stations will be set up in select cities, which will then be expanded to other key markets with the aim of establishing a high-density of EV charging station network across the country.
- The two-wheeler major will lead the infrastructure development for the charging network with each charging station featuring multiple fast chargers, including DC and AC chargers that will be available to all two-wheeled EVs.

About Hero MotoCorp:

Founded: 19 January 1984

Founder: Brijmohan Lall Munjal

Headquarters: New Delhi

CEO: Pawan Munjal

About Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPCL):

Headquarters: Mumbai

Owner: Oil and Natural Gas Corporation

Founded: 1974

Parent organization: Oil and Natural Gas Corporation

NCC, UNEP sign MoU to tackle plastic pollution

- Rajnath Singh, the defence minister, saw the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the National Cadet Corps (NCC) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). A Memorandum of Understanding was inked to use the Tide Turners Plastic Challenge programme and the Puneet Sagar Abhiyan to combat plastic pollution and achieve the objective of clean water bodies. It aims to coordinate initiatives to involve young people in promoting clean water bodies.
- The Puneet Sagar Abhiyan was introduced by the NCC on December 1st, 2017. The campaign's objectives are to rid seashores of plastic and other trash and raise public awareness of how important cleanliness.
- More than 12 million NCC cadets, alumni, and volunteers have collected over 100 tonnes of plastic debris from approximately 1,900 places since the start of the Puneet Sagar Abhiyan.
- Ajay Bhatt, the secretary of defence, Dr. Ajay Kumar, officials from the ministry of defence, and UNEP representatives were present at the event.
- The Defense Secretary praised NCC's efforts in making the "Puneet Sagar Abhiyan" a huge success, calling it one of the finest programmes.

About Nations Environment Programme (UNEP):

Headquarters location: Nairobi, Kenya

Founded: 5 June 1972, Nairobi, Kenya

Founder: Maurice Strong

Head: Inger Andersen

Parent organization: United Nations

About National Cadet Corps (NCC):

Director General: Lt. Gen. Gurbirpal Singh

Headquarters: New Delhi

Founded: 16 April 1948

Founder: H. N. Kunzru

Active: July 16, 1948 – present

Role: Student uniformed group

CCI approves merger of Jio Cinema OTT with Viacom18 Media

- The merger of Jio Cinema OTT and Viacom18 Media received approval from fair-trade regulator Competition Commission of India (CCI). The CCI announced in a tweet on Monday that, following investments from BTS Investment and Reliance Projects & Property Management Services, it has approved the merger of the Jio Cinema OTT platform with Viacom18 Media.
- Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) and Viacom18 announced a strategic partnership with Bodhi Tree Systems in April.
- Bodhi Tree to invest Rs 13,500 crore in Viacom18, and Reliance Projects & Property Management Services, a wholly-owned subsidiary of RIL, will invest Rs 1,645 crore in the broadcaster as part of the tripartite partnership, creating one of the largest TV and digital streaming firms in India.
- IT support services are provided by Reliance Projects & Property Management Services. Through its roster of channels and streaming service "Voot," Viacom18 Media engages in the business of offering media and entertainment services.

About Viacom18 Media:

Headquarters: Mumbai

CEO: Jyoti S. Deshpande (30 Sept 2021–)

Parent organization: TV18

Owners: Network18, Paramount Networks EMEAA

About Competition Commission of India (CCI):

Founded: 14 October 2003

Jurisdiction: India

Headquarters: New Delhi

First executive: Dhanendra Kumar

Agency executive: Ashok Kumar Gupta (Chairperson)

India, Egypt sign MoU to further defence cooperation during Rajnath Singh's visit

- India and Egypt have signed an MoU to bolster defense cooperation and decided to enhance joint military exercises, training, co-production, and maintenance of equipment. The MoU

was signed by Defence Ministry of India Rajnath Singh and General Mohamed Zaki from Egypt at a meeting in Cairo.

- The ministers of both countries exchanged views on regional security and acknowledged the contribution of their countries to peace and stability.
- The Egyptian counterparts were also invited to the India-Africa Defence Dialogue and Indian Ocean Region Defence Ministers' conclave to be held as part of the 12th DefExpo in Gandhinagar.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh acknowledged Egypt as it is among the most important trading partners of India in Africa and that the bilateral trade has expanded.
- Egypt is among the several countries that have shown interest in acquiring arms produced by India, including the Akash Missile System capable of intercepting hostile aircraft, helicopters, drones, and subsonic cruise missiles at a range of 25 km.

About Egypt:

Capital: Cairo

Currency: Egyptian pound

Continent: Africa, Asia

Official language: Modern Standard Arabic

India to head Shanghai Cooperation Organisation in 2023

- The rotational presidency of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization has been handed over to India in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. Delhi will hold the presidency of the grouping for a year until September 2023. And next year, India will host the SCO summit. In the declaration, it is stated that the presidency of the SCO for the forthcoming period passes to India. The next meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of State will be held in 2023 in India.
- The leaders of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Member States signed the Samarkand Declaration in the meeting of the Council of Heads of State in the city of Samarkand, Uzbekistan. During the SCO Summit, the Member States noted the various global challenges and threats including the technological and digital divide, continued turbulence in global financial markets, instability in supply chains, increased protectionist measures and uncertainty in the global economy.

About Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO):

Headquarters: Beijing, China

Founded: 15 June 2001

Founders: China, Russia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan

China To Help Emirati MBRSC Land Rover On The Lunar Surface; Beijing Further Deepens Cooperation In The Middle East

- China and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have agreed to join hands to help further the latter's space ambitions. The Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC) of the UAE and the China National Space Agency (CNSA) have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to work together on the UAE's moon missions. The agreement marks the first joint space project between the two countries.
- The UAE has been pushing to become an important space player. Its collaboration with China involves the "landing of an MBRSC rover aboard a CNSA lander." Under the project,

the UAE will develop a rover dubbed Rashid-2; China will help it with the landing, data transmission, observation, and control. MBRSC director-general Salem Humaid Al Marri and CNSA deputy director Wu Yanhua signed the MoU.

- China has been highly successful with its lunar missions. In the last decade, the country launched three successful lunar surface missions dubbed Change 3, Change 4, and Change 5. In 2020, Change 5 also brought samples back from Moon to Earth.

About China:

Capital: Beijing

Currency: Yuan

President: Xi Jinping

About United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Capital: Abu Dhabi

Currency: Dirham

President: Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan

Prime Minister: Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

PM Modi to meet Putin, Jinping on the sidelines of SCO summit 2022 in Samarkand

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived here to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit, which is set to deliberate on regional security challenges, boosting trade and energy supplies among other issues. The SCO is holding its first in-person summit in Samarkand in Uzbekistan after two years. The summit will also see the participation of Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping. Modi is also expected to hold bilateral meetings on the sidelines of the summit, including with Putin, and Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev among other leaders.
- Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has arrived at the Samarkand Airport in Uzbekistan to attend the SCO Summit. He is among the several world leaders expected to attend the summit, including India's Narendra Modi, China's Xi Jinping, and Iran's Ebrahim Raisi. Putin met China's leader, Xi Jinping, on Thursday in their first in-person meeting since Russia invaded Ukraine, and as Xi travelled abroad for the first time since the start of the pandemic.
- Russia can supply gas to Pakistan as necessary infrastructures are already in place, President Vladimir Putin said on Thursday during his meeting with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on the sidelines of the SCO summit in Uzbekistan.
- Modi, who will attend the summit Friday along with China President Xi Jinping, Russia President Vladimir Putin, Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Iran President Ebrahim Raisi.

About Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO):

Headquarters: Beijing, China

Founded: 15 June 2001

Founders: China, Russia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan

Secretary-General: Zhang Ming

About Uzbekistan:

President: Shavkat Mirziyoyev

Capital: Tashkent

Currency: Uzbekistani soum

Official language: Uzbek

Sports Ministry signs MoUs with NTPC & REC

- The Sports Ministry on Wednesday signed a Memorandum of Understandings (MoU) with the country's largest energy conglomerate NTPC and Rural Electrification Corporation with the two PSUs pledging Rs 215 crore to the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF).
- While NTPC will provide Rs 115 crore for the development of Archery, REC will give Rs 100 crore towards women's hockey and boxing.
- The signing of the MoUs was attended by Sports Minister Anurag Thakur, Power and New & Renewable Energy Minister RK Singh, NTPC CMD Gurdeep Singh and REC CMD Vivek Kumar among others.
- NTPC has been supporting the archers since 2018 in partnership with the Sports Ministry, Sports Authority of India (SAI) and Archery Association of India (AAI) with an aim to provide world-class facilities with international exposure to talented players.
- Under its CSR initiative, NTPC has committed Rs 115 crore in five years for the development of archery. Out of the total Rs 115 crore, Rs 15 crore will be incurred as a one-time expenditure towards preparations of field targets, setting up of training centres and equipment like bow and arrow.

About NTPC limited:

Founded: 7 November 1975

Headquarters: New Delhi, India

Owner: Government of India

About Sports Authority of India (SAI):

Founded: 1984

Headquarters: SAI (Head office), Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium (Delhi), Lodhi Road, Delhi, India

Founders: Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India

Vedanta-Foxconn to invest Rs 1.54 lakh cr in India's first chip factory

- The Anil Agarwal-led-Vedanta Limited and Foxconn Group will invest more than Rs 1.54 lakh crore to set up an semiconductor ecosystem in Gujarat. The oil-to-metals conglomerate said Vedanta Displays Limited will set up a Display Fab Unit with an investment of Rs 94500 crore and Vedanta Semiconductors Limited will set up an integrated Semiconductor Fab Unit and OSAT (Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test) facility with investment of Rs 60000 crore.
- "Thus two MoUs, together, will bring in an investment of more than Rs 1.54 lakh crore and generate around 1 lakh new employment opportunities in the state," said the company in a statement. Vedanta and Foxconn Group entered into two Memorandums of Understanding [MoUs] with the Government of Gujarat on September 13, 2022. The company said Vedanta and Taiwan-based Foxconn Group will work closely with the state government to establish high-tech clusters with requisite infrastructure, including land, semiconductor grade water, high quality power, logistics, and a skill ecosystem.
- The proposed semiconductor manufacturing fab unit will operate on the 28nm technology nodes with wafer size 300mm; and the display manufacturing unit will produce Generation 8

displays catering to small, medium and large applications. To make India as global semiconductor chip manufacturing, the government has notified four schemes with an outlay of Rs 76,000 crore.

About Vedanta Limited:

CEO: Sunil Duggal (Aug 2020–)

Founded: 25 June 1965

Founder: Dwarka Prasad Agarwal

About Taiwan:

Capital: Taipei City

President: Tsai Ing-wen

Currency: New Taiwan dollar

Official language: Mandarin Chinese

About Foxconn Group:

Founder: Terry Gou

Headquarters: Tucheng District, Taipei, Taiwan

Founded: 20 February 1974

Two day National Defense MSME Conclave and Exhibition begin in Rajasthan

- The two-day National Defense MSME Conclave and Exhibition began in Kota, Rajasthan today. Defense equipment including T-90 and BMP-2 tanks, artillery guns, various types of sniper and machine guns and military bridges are being displayed in the exhibition.
- Youth innovating in the defense sector, start-ups and MSMEs are also displaying their products.
- More than 50 companies, start-ups and MSMEs working in the defense sector are participating in the event.
- The conclave will be formally inaugurated tomorrow by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and Minister of State for Defense Ajay Bhatt. Senior officials of the Ministry of Defense, representatives of leading defense companies and defense experts are also participating in the program.
- The Drone Light Show and Live Concert will also be the highlight of the programme. Defense Conclave and Exhibition is being organized for the first time in Rajasthan.

About Rajasthan:

Governor: Kalraj Mishra

Capital: Jaipur (Executive Branch)

Chief Minister: Ashok Gehlot

India to start CEPA talks with Bangladesh: PM Narendra Modi

- Following a meeting with the visiting Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said India and Bangladesh will soon commence negotiations on a Bilateral Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA). "We both believe that by taking lessons from the Covid pandemic and recent global developments, we need to make our economies stronger," Modi said.
- Notably, the talks on CEPA began informally in 2018, against the backdrop of increasing Chinese investments in Bangladesh. It also received greater attention given that existing

regional free trade arrangements, like the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA), have become dysfunctional. To date, the countries have run a joint study after agreeing to terms of reference.

- The proposed CEPA between Bangladesh and India has three dimensions, namely trade in goods, trade in services, and investment.
- It recognizes the significant benefits of bilateral economic and commercial ties. According to an official statement released by India's Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

About South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA):

Establishment: 2004

About Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA):

Establishment: January 1, 2010; 12 years ago

First Homeopathy International Health Summit held in Dubai

- First Homeopathy International Health summit: The first Homeopathy International Health summit hosted by Dubai aimed to teach and promote a homeopathic system of medicine, medications, and practices. Burnett Homeopathy Pvt Limited, a company that deals with homeopathic dilutions, mother tincture, lower trituration tablets, unique medicines including drops, syrups, skincare, hair care, and other homeopathic remedies, organised the summit.
- Homeopathy is one of the greatest techniques to treat any sickness or ailment because its negative effects are so minimal in comparison to others.
- The first global homeopathy health summit was also attended by a large number of top doctors from both India and throughout the world.
- By 2030, it is predicted that the health industry will need to spend between 200 and 400 crore rupees annually due to climate change, as discussed in the first global homeopathy health summit.

About UAE:

Capital: Abu Dhabi

Currency: United Arab Emirates dirham

President: Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan

AICTE, Adobe Tie Up To Advance Digital Literacy In India

- Adobe and AICTE collaborate: The All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) in order to advance digital creativity capabilities throughout the nation, has struck a partnership deal with Adobe. According to a release, under the terms of the agreement, Adobe will provide training for educators, provide courses, and incorporate digital creativity into the curriculum to give kids the fundamental creative and digital literacy skills they need to succeed in today's digital-first society.
- By 2024, the alliance hopes to equip more than 75,000 educators working in 10,000 institutions of higher learning with critical digital creativity abilities.
- The secret is to encourage digital and creative abilities if India is to become the world's skill capital.

- Through our partnership with AICTE, Adobe aims to strengthen the nation's skilling ecosystem while equipping teachers and students with the modern skills they need to succeed in the post-pandemic, digital-first future.

About All-India Council for Technical Education:

Founded: November 1945

Sector: Technology education

Headquarters: New Delhi

Agency executive: Anil Sahasrabudhe (Chairperson)

About Adobe:

CEO: Shantanu Narayen (1 Dec 2007–)

Headquarters: San Jose, California, United States

Founded: December 1982, Mountain View, California, United States

CTO: Abhay Parasnis

Founders: Charles Geschke, John Warnock

Tata Steel and Punjab govt ink pact to set up steel scrap based electric arc furnace steel plant

- The Tata steel company and the Punjabi government have agreed to establish a 0.75 million tonne per year (MnTPA) long products steel facility with an electric arc furnace (EAF) powered by scrap. Tata Steel's decision to build the greenfield facility at Kadiana Khurd in Ludhiana's Hitech Valley is a part of the company's commitment to investing in a circular economy and switching to low-carbon steel making through steel recycling.
- According to the company, it is a step toward its objective of having Net Zero carbon emissions by 2045.
- Tata Steel opened its 0.5 MnTPA steel recycling plant in Rohtak, Haryana, in August of last year. It is the nation's first cutting-edge facility for processing scrap.
- The Company wants to reduce its CO2 emissions in India to 1.8 tCO2/tcs by 2030 and to 2 tCO2/tcs by 2025.
- In the first quarter of fiscal year 23 compared to fiscal year 22, the steel major's net profit decreased 21% to Rs 7,714 crore on an increase in net sales of 18.8% to Rs 63128.32 crore. On the BSE, Tata Steel shares decreased 2.09% to Rs 105.15.

About Punjab:

Capital: Chandigarh

Governor: Banwarilal Purohit

Chief Minister: Bhagwant Mann

About Tata Steel:

Parent: Tata Group

Founded: 25 August 1907, Jamshedpur

Founder: Jamsetji Tata

Headquarters: Mumbai

Jagan announces plastic-free Andhra Pradesh by 2027 as MoU signed with Parley

- Andhra Pradesh government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the 'Parley for the Oceans', a U.S.-based company that works for plastic-waste management. The minister of Municipal Administration and Urban Development (MA&UD) Audimulapa

Suresh, MAUD Principal Secretary, Y.Sri Lakshmi, and Founder of Parley for the Oceans, Cyril Gutsch. The MoU was signed under the presence of Chief Minister of Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy and an event was held at the AU Convention Centre in Vishakhapatnam.

- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister says that in the coming six years ₹16,000 crores will be invested in the state.
- The program also brings employment for more than 20,000 locals with a minimum of at least ₹16,000 per month.

About Andhra Pradesh:

Capital: Amaravati

Governor: Biswabhusan Harichandan

Chief Minister: YS Jagan Mohan Reddy

Founded: 1 November 1956

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Kumar Sanu, Shailendra Singh, Anand-Milind to get Lata Mangeshkar Award

- Noted playback singers Kumar Sanu and Shailendra Singh and music-composer duo Anand-Milind were conferred with the National Lata Mangeshkar Award for different years. They will be presented the prestigious award (on September 28), the birth anniversary of the late legendary singer, at her birthplace Indore. State Culture Minister Usha Thakur conferred Shailendra Singh, Anand-Milind, and Kumar Sanu with the award for the years 2019, 2020 and 2021 respectively.
- Singh, who carved a special place in the hearts of music lovers with his distinctive voice in the 1970-1980 decades, will be awarded the Lata Mangeshkar Award for 2019, while Anand-Milind, who composed music for over 200 films, will be honoured with the award Honors for 2020. The award for 2021 will be given to Sanu, who gave his velvety voice to several popular songs in the 1990s.
- Officials informed the award is given for promoting excellence in the area of light music annually by the Madhya Pradesh government's culture department. It carries a cash prize of Rs two lakh and a citation. Earlier recipients included Naushad, Kishore Kumar and Asha Bhosle.

About Madhya Pradesh:

Capital: Bhopal (Executive Branch)

Chief Minister: Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Governor: Mangubhai C. Patel

Daniel Spielman won the Breakthrough Prize in Mathematics for "multiple discoveries

- The 2023 winners of the Breakthrough Prizes, dubbed the "Oscars of Science," were announced and will split a total of more than \$15 million. 2023 Breakthrough Prize laureates, recognized for their game-changing discoveries in Fundamental Physics, Life Sciences and Mathematics, along with early-career scientists who have made significant contributions to their fields. Daniel A. Spielman has been honoured with the 2023 Breakthrough Prize in Mathematics for multiple discoveries in theoretical computer science and mathematics.

- Daniel A. Spielman, Yale University (For breakthrough contributions to theoretical computer science and mathematics, including to spectral graph theory, the Kadison-Singer problem, numerical linear algebra, optimization, and coding theory.)

About Breakthrough Prize:

First awarded: 2012; 10 years ago

Presented by: Breakthrough Prize Board

Indian origin Suella Braverman wins first Queen Elizabeth II award

- Britain's Indian-origin Home Secretary Suella Braverman has been named winner of the first-ever Queen Elizabeth II Woman of the Year award at a ceremony in London.
- The 42-year-old barrister, who was appointed to the Cabinet earlier this month by British Prime Minister Liz Truss, said it was the "honour of her life" to take on the new role at the Asian Achievers Awards (AAA) 2022 ceremony, dedicated to the memory of the late monarch who passed away recently.
- Braverman, the London-born daughter of Tamil mother Uma and Goan-origin father Christie Fernandes, sent a recorded message to the ceremony where her parents collected the award on her behalf.

About United Kingdom:

Prime Minister: Liz Truss

Capital: London

King: King Charles III

Currency: Pound sterling

Meena Kandasamy on winning the Hermann Kesten Prize for 2022

- Indian author and poet Meena Kandasamy has been announced as this year's recipient of the Hermann Kesten Prize by the PEN Centre in Germany's Darmstadt. The Hermann Kesten Prize honours personalities who, in the spirit of the charter of the PEN association, stand up for the rights of persecuted authors and journalists.
- The PEN Center, Germany, will present the award to the Indian author at a ceremony in Darmstadt on November 15 this year. The winner will receive an amount of €20,000 (\$19,996) as prize money. This year, the PEN Center is also honouring the website "Weiter Schreiben" (German for "Keep writing") with a special award for encouragement, for giving authors in exile and writers from conflict zones a platform to express their thoughts.
- Meena Kandasamy was born in 1984 in Chennai, Kandasamy is a feminist and anti-caste activist whose work revolves around the issue of gender, caste, sexuality, patriarchy, and oppression by the Brahmanical system.

About Germany:

Capital: Berlin

Currency: Euro

President: Frank-Walter Steinmeier

Chancellor: Olaf Scholz

India wins UN award for hypertension control initiative

- India has won the United Nations (UN) award for its 'India Hypertension Control Initiative (IHCI)', a large-scale hypertension intervention under the National Health Mission (NHM) that saw 3.4 million hypertensive people identified and put on treatment at various government health facilities. The '2022 UN Interagency Task Force, and WHO Special Programme on Primary Health Care Award' was announced at the UN General Assembly side event at New York, USA.
- The award is for India's initiative to control and prevent hypertension under the government's NHM. It has been recognized for India's exceptional work within India's existing primary healthcare system.
- IHCI is a collaborative initiative of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), state governments and the World Health Organization (WHO)-India.
- It is a growing health issue in India is estimated that 20 crore adults with hypertension, and approximately only 2 crores (12%) have it under control. The Indian Government has adopted the "25 by 25" goal to reduce premature mortality due to Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) by 25% by 2025.

About National Health Mission (NHM):

Launch year: 2005

Launched by (prime minister): Narendra Modi

About United Nations (UN):

Founded: 24 October 1945, San Francisco, California, United States

Headquarters: New York, United States

Secretary General: António Guterres

Gates Foundation honors four leaders with 2022 goalkeepers Global Goals Awards for their inspiring efforts to drive progress for all

- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation honoured 4 changemakers, with the 2022 Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards as a part of its annual Goalkeepers campaign. The Award recognises their efforts to advance progress towards the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in their communities and around the world. The Gates Foundation's sixth annual Goalkeepers Report, "The Future of Progress," was released. It was co-authored by foundation co-chairs Bill Gates and Melinda French Gates.

Winners of 2022 Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards:

Name of the Award	Presented by	Awardee	Country
2022 Global Goalkeeper Award	Bill Gates and Melinda French Gates	Ursula von der Leyen	Germany

2022 Campaign Award	Malala Yousafzai	Vanessa Nakate	Uganda
2022 Changemaker Award	Angelina Jolie	Zahra Joya	Afghanistan
2022 Progress Award	Lilly Singh	Dr. Radhika Batra	India

About Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation:

Founded: 2000

Headquarters: Seattle, Washington, United States

Founders: Bill Gates, Melinda French Gates

Alia Bhatt Bestowed The Prestigious Priyadarshni Academy's Smita Patil Memorial Award For Best Actor

- The 29-year-old actress, Alia Bhatt has been awarded the Best Actor at the prestigious Priyadarshni Academy Smita Patil Memorial Award. This award is given for her commendable contribution to Indian cinema at the 38th-anniversary celebrations of the premier non-profit, socio-cultural and educational organisation, Priyadarshini Academy.
- This honour is bestowed upon outstanding national and international recipients annually and awards global recognition for their unparalleled excellence and immense contribution to their respective fields. This year, exceptional achievers were felicitated virtually by Union Ministers, Government of India, at the Academy's Awards presentation ceremony through a webinar scheduled for September 19, 2022.

About Smita Patil Memorial Award:

First awarded: 1986

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh presents 'INSPIRE' awards to 60 Start-Ups, financial support to over 53,000 students

- Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh has presented INSPIRE Awards to 60 startups along with financial support to 53,021 students, the Ministry of Science & Technology. The award is instituted by the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India, and these innovators will be extended complete incubation support for their entrepreneurship journey.
- The annual INSPIRE Awards MANAK (Million Minds Augmenting National Aspiration and Knowledge) competition attracted an unprecedented 6.53 lakh ideas and innovations from all states and UTs of the country in 2020-21. The scheme achieved an unprecedented level of inclusivity by representing ideas and innovations of 702 districts (96%), including 123 out of 124 aspirational districts, 51% representation from girls, 84% participation from schools located in rural areas of the country, and 71% of schools run by State/UT Governments.
- Out of 6.53 lakh, a total of 53,021 students were identified for financial support of Rs 10,000 each so that they could develop prototypes of the ideas that they submitted for the scheme.

- They competed in District-Level Exhibition and Project Competitions (DLEPCs) and State-Level Exhibition and Project Competitions (SLEPCs).

About Ministry of Science & Technology:

Officeholder: Y. S. Chowdary (Minister of State)

Founded: May 1971

Headquarters: New Delhi

Jurisdiction: India

Singapore confers Meritorious Service Medal to former Navy chief Sunil Lanba

- Former India Chief of Naval Staff, Admiral Sunil Lanba has been conferred Singapore's prestigious military award, the Pingat Jasa Gemilang (Tentera) or Meritorious Service Medal (Military) (MSM(M)), by President Halimah Yacob. Admiral Lanba has been conferred the award for his outstanding contributions in enhancing the strong and long-standing bilateral defence relationship between the Indian Navy and the Republic of Singapore Navy.
- Both navies concluded the Bilateral Agreement for Navy Cooperation in November 2017 and the Implementing Arrangement for Mutual Coordination, Logistics and Services Support in June 2018, which established the framework for greater Navy-to-Navy interactions and expanded collaboration in areas of mutual interest such as submarine rescues, maritime-security information-sharing and logistics support.
- With Lanba's support, both navies also commemorated the Silver Jubilee of the Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise in 2018 and successfully conducted the inaugural Singapore-India-Thailand Maritime Exercise (SITMEX) in September 2019. These professional exchanges have strengthened interoperability and deepened mutual understanding and trust between personnel from both militaries.

About Singapore:

Currency: Singapore dollar

President: Halimah Yacob

Capital: Singapore city

Bengal Bags Intl Tourism Award for Best Destination for Culture; Mamata to Attend Event in Berlin

- West Bengal has been accredited the International Travel Award 2023 for Best Destination for Culture by the Pacific Area Travel Writers Association (PATWA), an affiliate member of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). The award will be presented at the World Tourism and Aviation Leaders' Summit in Berlin, Germany, on March 9, 2023. For the second year in a row, World Travel Awards selected the Republic of Cuba as the Caribbean's Leading Cultural Destination in 2022.
- The Pacific Area Travel Writers Association (PATWA) is a professional travel writers organisation established in 1998. It collaborates with the public and private sectors to encourage sustainable development and enhance the quality of travel and tourism. PATWA upholds the fundamental principles of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations (UN), and the UNWTO.

About UNWTO:

Headquarters: Madrid, Spain

Founded: 1946

Head: Secretary-General; Zurab Pololikashvili

About West Bengal:

Capital: Kolkata

Chief Minister: Mamata Banerjee

Governor: Shri La. Ganesan

Kattil Thekkethil wins Nehru Trophy boat race

- Pallathuruthy Boat Club, Mahadevikadu Kattil Thekkethil Chundan has scripted its maiden triumph in the Nehru Trophy boat race for snake boats at the Punnamada Lake in Alappuzha. The club, led by Santhosh Chacko, completed a hat-trick of wins. A total of 77 boats, including 20 snake boats, competed in this year's Nehru Trophy. Nadubhagom, rowed by Kumarakom-based NCDC Boat Club, and Veeyapuram, powered by Punnamada club, finished second and third, respectively. Police Boat Club's Chambakkulam came fourth. The top nine finishers will fight it out in next year's Champions Boat League.

About Kerala:

Governor: Arif Mohammad Khan

Capital: Thiruvananthapuram

Chief Minister: Pinarayi Vijayan

Barack Obama: Emmy win for narrating Netflix documentary

- The former President of the United States Barack Obama won Emmy Award for his narration in the Netflix documentary "Our Great National Parks". Obama already has two Grammys and is now halfway to an EGOT- the achievement of having won all four of the major American entertainment awards i.e. an Emmy, a Grammy, an Oscar, and a Tony.
- The five-part Netflix documentary produced by "Higher Ground" productions, Barack and Michelle Obama's production company, features national parks from across the globe. Barack Obama has previously received Grammy Awards for the audiobook readings of his memoirs "The Audacity of Hope" and "A Promised Land." Michelle Obama received her own Grammy in 2020 for reading her audiobook. Obama was the biggest name in a category that was full of celebrity nominees including Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, David Attenborough and Lupita Nyong'o.

About United states:

Capital: Washington, D.C.

President: Joe Biden

Currency: United States Dollar

Shri Hardeep S. Puri presents Smart Solutions Challenge & Inclusive Cities Awards 2022

- The Minister for Housing & Urban Affairs & Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri presented Smart Solutions Challenge & Inclusive Cities Awards 2022. These awards are an initiative of the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) and the United Nations (UN) in India to address city-level accessibility and inclusion challenges faced by persons with disabilities (PwD), women and girls, and the elderly.

- The Smart Solutions and Inclusive Cities Awards 2022 was designed with the aim of promoting people-centric design and fostering novel home-grown technological innovations and solutions. Over 100 entries were received through an open call for applications, out of which the top 10 technology-based innovations were identified as winning solutions after an intensive round of screenings and shortlisting by an eminent 7-member jury panel.

About NIUA:

Located in: India Habitat Centre

Founded: 25 June 1976, New Delhi

RANKING

India climbs six notches to 40th position in Global Innovation Index 2022

- India has climbed to the 40th rank in the Global Innovation Index of the World Intellectual Property Organization. This is a huge leap of 41 places in 7 years. India has leapfrogged to 40th position on the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2022 from the 81st spot in 2015. India's innovation performance is above average for the upper-middle-income group in almost every innovation pillar, with the exception of infrastructure, where it scores below average. Within Central and Southern Asia, India continues to lead in the 40th position, moving further up the rankings, from its 46th position in 2021.
- "India continues to lead the world in ICT (information and communication) services exports and holds top rankings in other indicators, including venture capital receipt value, finance for start-ups and scale-ups, graduates in science and engineering, labour productivity growth and domestic industry diversification.

About World Intellectual Property Organization:

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

Founded: 14 July 1967

Head: Daren Tang; Director General

Parent organization: United Nations

Akash Ambani only Indian in Time magazine's 100 emerging leaders' list

- Akash Ambani, son of Reliance Industries chairman Mukesh Ambani and head of India's largest telecom firm Jio, has been named in the Time100 Next — the magazine's list of world's rising stars. He is the only Indian on the list.
- "The scion of Indian industrialist royalty, Akash Ambani was always expected to rise in business. But he has been putting in hard work," Time said about him.
- Born on 23 October, 1991, Akash Ambani is the eldest son of Mukesh Ambani and Nita Ambani. He did his schooling at the Dhirubhai Ambani International School and then graduated from Brown University with a major in economics.
- Akash Ambani, 30, was promoted in June to the chairman of Jio, India's largest telecom company, with over 426 million subscribers, after being handed a board seat at just 22. "He's since played a key role landing multibillion-dollar investments from Google and Facebook," TIME said. The list highlights 100 emerging leaders who are shaping the future of business, entertainment, sports, politics, health, science and activism, Time said.

About Time magazine:

First issue date: 3 March 1923

Circulation: 3,400,000 (2007)

Based in: New York City

Publisher: Time Inc., WarnerMedia, Meredith Corporation

About Reliance Industries:

Founded: 8 May 1973, Maharashtra

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founder: Dhirubhai Ambani

“Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan will rank 131 cities in the country for implementing City Action Plans

- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) will launch the ‘Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan’ programme under National Clean Air Programme 2019 (NCAP) to rank cities based on their actions to improve air quality. The ranking will be based only on the actions taken by the cities to improve the air quality in different domains and not on the measurement of the air quality parameters to rank the cities.
- “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 said during the two-day National Conference of Ministers of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in Gujarat.
- At least 131 cities are categorised into three groups based on population. The first group has 47 cities with a population of over one million, and 44 cities in the second group have people between 300,000 to one million. The third group consists of 40 towns with less than 300,000 population.
- According to the NCAP, these 131 cities are non-attainment cities as they did not meet the nation’s ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for 2011-15 under the National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP).

About Gujarat:

Governor: Acharya Devvrat

Capital: Gandhinagar

Chief Minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel

Adani tops IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2022: Nykaa Founder Falguni Nayar becomes richest self-made Indian

- According to the IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2022, Gautam Adani and family have topped with an estimated wealth of Rs. 10,94,400 crore. His daily wealth creation was estimated at Rs. 1,612 crores which showed 116 per cent growth as compared with the 2021 list. Mukesh Ambani and family have been named as the 2nd richest in India with an estimated wealth of Rs. 7,94,700 crore and a growth of 11 per cent compared with the 2021 list. His daily wealth creation velocity is Rs. 210 crores.
- Nykaa Founder & Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Falguni Nayar became India’s richest self-made woman by surpassing Biocon chief Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw in net worth. She is also the richest female in India, followed by Rekha Jhunjhunwala of Rare Enterprises. Falguni Nayar & family’s wealth rose by Rs 30,000 crore during 2022 and her cumulative wealth increased 345 per cent and stood around Rs 38,700 crore.

About IIFL Wealth:

MD & CEO: Karan Bhagat

Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra

Founded: 17 January 2008

Founders: Karan Bhagat; Yatin Shah; Amit Nitin Shah

Global household wealth increased 9.8% to \$463.6tn in 2021 on share price gains

- Global wealth totalled \$463.6tn at the end of 2021, a rise of \$41.4tn (9.8%), the report said. Wealth per adult grew by \$6,800 (8.4%) during the course of the year to reach \$87,489, close to three times the level recorded at the turn of the century.
- The ranks of the global “ultra high net worth” (UHNW) individuals swelled by 46,000 last year to a record 218,200 as the world’s richest people benefited from “almost an explosion of wealth” during the recovery from the pandemic. The number of UHNW people – those with assets of more than \$50m (£43.7m) – jumped in 2021 as the super-rich benefited from soaring house prices and booming stock markets, according to a report by investment bank Credit Suisse. The number of people in the UHNW bracket has increased by more than 50% over the past two years. The huge increase in wealth of the richest 0.004% of the world’s adult population comes as billions of low- and middle-income people – many of whom saw their savings wiped out during the pandemic – struggle to cope with soaring food and energy prices.
- The increase in wealth has not been distributed fairly. The richest 1% of the global population increased their share of all the world’s wealth for a second year running to 46%, up from 44% in 2020.

Federal Bank ranked 63rd in Best Workplaces in Asia 2022 by Great Place to Work

- Federal Bank was ranked 63rd on the Best Workplaces in Asia 2022 and becomes the only bank in India to be listed by Great Place to Work, the global authority on workplace culture. The list is based on over one million survey responses across Asia and West Asia, representing the experience of over 4.7 million employees in the region.
- This recognition is based on confidential survey data assessing employee experiences of trust, innovation, company values and leadership. Companies are also evaluated on how well they are creating All workplace experiences, inclusive of all employees no matter who they are or what they do. According to Great Place to Work India, 88 per cent of employees at the best workplaces in Asia on average reported having a positive employee experience. For the average global workforce, only 55 per cent of workers report a similarly positive experience.

About Federal Bank Limited:

Headquarters: Aluva, Kerala;

CEO: Shyam Srinivasan;

Founder: K.P Hormis;

Founded: 23 April 1931, Nedumpuram.

India Ranks Fourth On Global Crypto Adoption Index, Traders Switch To Overseas Exchanges

- Blockchain analysis platform Chainalysis published its global crypto adoption index for 2022 of nations with the highest cryptocurrency adoption rate with India ranking fourth in the list,

two spots down from last year. Chainalysis report noted that the emerging markets dominate the Global Crypto Adoption Index this year.

- The report noted, “Out of our top 20 ranked countries, 10 are lower-middle income: Vietnam, Philippines, Ukraine, India, Pakistan, Nigeria, Morocco, Nepal, Kenya, and Indonesia. Eight are upper-middle income: Brazil, Thailand, Russia, China, Turkey, Argentina, Colombia, and Ecuador.”
- On the index, India ranks above the US, UK and Russia suggesting that the country’s crypto community is not far behind in pushing for further use of the technology. The Philippines and Ukraine have taken the second and third rankings, respectively, showing a significant preference for crypto adoption in the near future. The global index is led by Vietnam for the second consecutive year, emerging as the country that is most eager to embrace cryptocurrency adoption. After landing thirteenth on the ranking in 2021, China reentered the top ten this year. This is very intriguing given the Chinese government’s crackdown on cryptocurrency activities since last year.

Andhra Pradesh tops India in attracting investment, gets Rs 40,361 cr till July

- Andhra Pradesh has ranked one on the list of states in attracting industrial investments in the first seven months of 2022. According to the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Andhra Pradesh has generated an investment of Rs 40,361 crore. Andhra Pradesh stood at 45 percent of the total investment that the entire country got from January to July 2022. India got a total investment of Rs 1,71,285 crore by the end of July as per the DPIIT data.
- Andhra Pradesh rolled out its new ‘Industrial Development Policy 2022-2023’ which focuses on a sustainable development model of growth, Infrastructure development, and asset creation. The Industrial Development Policy 2020-2023 aims to improve the ease of doing business and incentivize high-value additional industrial investments. In July 2022, Karnataka generated an investment of Rs 3712 crore, Gujarat generated an investment of Rs 2969 crore, and Odisha generated an investment of Rs 1493 crore.

About Andhra Pradesh:

Capital: Amaravati

Governor: Biswabhusan Harichandan

Chief Minister: YS Jagan Mohan Reddy

Founded: 1 November 1956

India ranks 132 in UNDP's Human Development Index, amid a global fall

- A report on the 2021 Human Development Index (HDI) is part of the Human Development Report 2021-2022 released by the United Nations Development Programme. The HDI measures the average achievement of a country in three basic dimensions of human development — a long and healthy life, education and a decent standard of living. It is calculated using four indicators — life expectancy at birth, mean years of schooling, expected years of schooling, and the Gross National Income (GNI) per capita.
- For the first time on record, the global Human Development Index (HDI) has dropped for two years in a row, taking the world back to just after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement.

- Every year a few countries face declines on the HDI, but over 90 per cent of countries saw their HDI value drop in either 2020 or 2021.
- Furthermore, while only a third of very high HDI countries saw a decline in 2021 (compared with over 90 per cent in 2020), about 60 per cent of low and medium HDI and high HDI countries did (in 2021)", the report notes.
- India ranked 132nd among 191 countries and territories on the 2021 Human Development Index (HDI). In the 2020 report, India had ranked 131st among 189 countries and territories.
- India's latest HDI value of 0.633 places the country in the medium human development category, lower than its value of 0.645 in the 2020 report. The report attributes the drop in HDI from 0.645 in 2019 to 0.633 in 2021 to India's falling life expectancy — from 69.7 years to 67.2 years during the survey period.
- India scored 0.123 in the Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index (MPI) with a headcount ratio of 27.9 per cent, with 8.8 per cent population reeling under severe multidimensional poverty.
- Among India's neighbours, Sri Lanka (73rd), China (79th), Bangladesh (129th), and Bhutan (127th) are ranked above India, while Pakistan (161st), Nepal (143rd), and Myanmar (149th) are worse off.

About UNDP:

Headquarters: New York, United States

Founded: 22 November 1965, United States

Parent organization: United Nations General Assembly

Subsidiary: United Nations Volunteers

Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat Top States In Implementing POSHAN Abhiyaan Scheme: NITI Aayog's Report

- Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat have been ranked as the top three states among larger states in terms of the overall implementation of the Centre's flagship Poshan Abhiyaan, according to a Niti Aayog report. Sikkim was the best performer among the small states. The report titled 'Preserving Progress on Nutrition in India: Poshan Abhiyan in Pandemic Times' further said that 12 out of 19 large states had an implementation score of over 70 per cent. While Dadar and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu topped among Union Territories (UTs), Punjab and Bihar were the lowest performers among larger states in terms of the overall implementation of Poshan Abhiyaan, as per the government think tank report.
- However, it said, coverage remained low in Bihar (65 per cent pregnant women, 62 per cent lactating women, and 52 per cent children), Punjab (78 per cent pregnant women, 76 per cent lactating women, and 65 per cent children), Sikkim (84 per cent pregnant women, 84 per cent lactating women, and 77 per cent children) and Jammu and Kashmir (49 per cent pregnant women, 51 per cent lactating women, and 54 per cent children).
- Noting that overall fund utilisation under Poshan Abhiyaan is low, with less than 50 per cent of funds utilised in 23 states and UTs, the report said.

About NITI Aayog:

Formed: 1 January 2015

Headquarters: New Delhi

Chairperson: Narendra Modi

Founder: National Democratic Alliance

Digital India Mission: Uttar Pradesh is one top ranks

- Uttar Pradesh, with 9.12 million cases, ranks at the top in the number of disposal and entry of cases through the e-Prosecution portal managed by the Union government under its Digital India Mission. According to the figures till the end of August, Madhya Pradesh followed in second spot at 2.31 million, Bihar with 859,000, Gujarat with 487,000 and Chhattisgarh with 383,000 cases. UP also ranks at the top in disposal of online cases on this portal, with about 470,000 entries, followed by 170,000 for MP and 125,000 for Gujarat. The portal launched by states two years ago is an initiative of the home, IT and law ministries for helping courts and the prosecution system in accelerating criminal trials in heinous crimes.
- Under the system, officials ensure that witnesses are informed through SMS about their day of appearance in court, reach out to the concerned government advocates and help in prompt disposal of cases, with the entire database of the case structured to help the prosecution, an official said. The portal provides for e-communication between the police department and the prosecution directorate under the Inter-operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) that enables transfer of data among courts, police, jails and forensic science laboratories.
- In the next 100 days, the department aims at securing conviction of 1,000 convicts under POCSO Act and crimes against women. It is also planned to ensure conviction in crimes under POCSO Act within one month, and ensure punishment in at least 90 per cent of the decided cases under the Arms Act. The e-Prosecution Mobile app is also being developed which will incorporate digitisation of all judicial procedures of prosecutors in courts. According to Additional Director General of Police Ashutosh Pandey, the Prosecution department is conducting a 100-day special campaign under the Mission Shakti for women empowerment.

About Uttar Pradesh:

Capital: Lucknow (Executive Branch)

Governor: Anandiben Patel

Chief Minister: Yogi Adityanath

UIDAI tops Grievance Redressal Index in August 2022

- Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has topped among all Ministries/Departments for resolving Public Grievances in the ranking. The report was published by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG). In a statement released by the Ministry of Electronics and IT, it is stated that UIDAI is further committed in serving the people of India and has been a catalyst for both ease of living and business.
- UIDAI has been a top performer in the resolution of cases received through the Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS).
- UIDAI is further committed to serving residents of India and has been a catalyst for both ease of living and ease of doing business.
- UIDAI has a robust grievance redressal mechanism in place comprising of UIDAI HQ Divisions, Regional Offices, Technology Centre and engaged Contact Centre partners, which is enabling UIDAI to resolve around 92% of CRM Grievances within 7 days.

About UIDAI:

Founded: 28 January 2009;

Headquarters: New Delhi.

Daily wage earners biggest group among death by suicides in 2021: NCRB

- The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) released a Accidental Deaths & Suicides report, as per the number of suicide-related deaths in India reached an all-time high in 2021. In 2017, 1.64 lakh people committed suicide, a 7.2% rise from 2020, when 1.53 lakh people had done so. Since 1967, the first year for which statistics are available, there have been more suicide-related fatalities than ever before. 11.3 suicides per 100,000 individuals have been reported up to this time, as per the Accidental Deaths & Suicides report.
- As per the information on accidental fatalities and suicides given by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) in Accidental Deaths & Suicides, this number was around 1.39 lakh in 2019.
- 22,207 people committed suicide in Maharashtra in 2021, the state with the highest reported suicide rate, as per Accidental Deaths & Suicides report.
- Domestic issues and illnesses were the main contributors to suicide deaths in the nation last year. They represented 33.2% and 18.6% of all suicide cases, respectively.

About National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB):

Headquarters: Delhi - 110037

Founded: 11 March 1986

Parent department: Ministry of Home Affairs

Agency executive: Vivek Gogia, IPS, Director;

Key document: Creation of NCRB (Notification)

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar released a Book "Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay – Jeevan Darshan Aur Samsamyikta"

- The Vice President, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar has released the book titled "Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay – Jeevan Darshan Aur Samsamyikta" (five volumes) in New Delhi and on this occasion highlighted the importance of Pt Deendayal's thoughts in contemporary times. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, former Union Minister Dr Murli Manohar Joshi and other dignitaries were among those attending the event.
- The Vice President appreciated the efforts of the Chief Editor of the book, Dr Bajrang Lal Gupta and his team for coming out with these well-researched five volumes on one of the foremost leaders of modern India. He also thanked Shri Rajnath Singh and Dr Murli Manohar Joshi for their insightful speeches on the life and work of Pt Deendayal Upadhyay on the occasion.

Former vice-president Naidu to release book on PM Modi's selected speeches

- Former Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu released a collection of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's selected speeches at Akashvani Bhawan in New Delhi. The book titled "Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas Sabka Vishwas" Prime Minister Narendra Modi Speaks (May 2019-May 2020)' was released in the presence of Kerala Governor Arif Mohammad Khan at a function here

organized by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. During the release of the book, former Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu said that the book gives the readers a glimpse into PM Narendra Modi's vision for India's future and a clear roadmap of journey ahead, through his speeches on diverse topics of national importance.

- The book focuses on 86 speeches of the prime minister on various subjects. The book portrays the prime minister's vision of a 'New India', which is self-reliant, resilient, and capable of converting challenges into opportunities. The book that goes by the same phrase serves as an example of hope and aspirations of 130 crore Indians for building a New India through 'Jan Bhagidari—Taking All Together'.

Former President Ram Nath Kovind launches book 'Ambedkar and Modi: Reformer's Ideas Performer's Implementation'

- Former President Ram Nath Kovind has launched a book titled 'Ambedkar and Modi: Reformer's Ideas Performer's Implementation'. The book, compiled by Bluekraft Digital Foundation, explores the life and works of Dr BR Ambedkar while drawing a parallel with the initiatives and reforms taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to implement the ideals of the social reformer.
- The book features a foreword by music composer and Rajya Sabha member Ilaiyaraaja. It presents a convergence between the ideals of Dr Ambedkar and New India's development journey. Focus has been laid on infrastructure, education, socio-economic mobility, gender equality, and self-reliance in the twelve chapters of the book.
- Dr B.R. Ambedkar's influence has an overarching impact on the making of Modern India. However, his legacy was sidelined and subjected to institutional neglect.

Book 'Divorce and Democracy: A History of Personal Law in Post-Independence India' by Saumya Saxena

- A new book on divorce laws and various religions in the post-colonial era was released at the India International Centre. The book 'Divorce and Democracy: A History of Personal Law in Post-Independence India' talks about family law, religion, and gender politics in India. The book has written by Saumya Saxena, a British Academy Fellow at the faculty of History, University of Cambridge, the book talks about the Indian state's difficult dialogue with divorce, which reconciles largely through religion.
- This book captures the Indian state's difficult dialogue with divorce, mediated largely through religion. By mapping the trajectories of marriage and divorce laws of Hindu, Muslim, and Christian communities in post-colonial India, it explores the dynamic interplay between law, religion, family, minority rights and gender in Indian politics.
- Personal law, therefore, played a key role in defining the place of religion and determining the content of secularism in India's democracy. The book shows a dynamic interplay between law, religion, family, minority rights, and gender in Indian politics. The book will include the demands of both men and women.

BANKING AND ECONOMY

RBI keeps inflation projection for FY23 unchanged at 6.7% on upside risks to food prices

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has projected 7% real GDP growth for the Financial year 2023 (FY23). Inflation in India is predicted to remain 6.7%. As a result, RBI raised its policy rate by 50 basis points (bps) in response to growing concerns about increasing inflation, global headwinds, and a drop in the value of the rupee to historic lows.
- The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) opted to lower its real GDP prediction for FY23 to 7.0% at its meeting in September; growth is projected for Q2FY23 to be 6.3%, Q3 to be 4.6%, and Q4 to be 4.6%, with risks largely balanced. 7.2% growth has been corrected for Q1FY24.
- The government has given the central bank the responsibility of ensuring that the consumer price index (CPI) stays at 4% with a margin of 2% on either side, but since January, retail inflation has stubbornly remained over the RBI's comfort level.
- The MPC's decision to raise the policy rate is an effort to reduce the high inflationary pressures that the public is experiencing as a result of rising food (especially cereal) prices due to supply disruptions brought on by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which has caused a trade imbalance.

About Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

Ownership: Ministry of Finance, Government of India

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Founder: British Raj

About Monetary Policy Committee:

Founded: 27 June 2016

Committee executive: Shaktikanta Das, IAS, Governor of the Reserve Bank of India and ex-officio chairperson

RBI hikes repo rate by 50 bps to 5.9%; pegs GDP growth at 7% for FY23

- The decision of RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das headed the six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) has been announced. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has hiked the repo rate by 50 basis points to 5.90%, the fourth straight increase in the current cycle, to tame the sustained above-target retail inflation rate. RBI had slashed the repo rate in March 2020 with an aim to cushion the impact of covid-induced lockdown and maintained the status quo in the benchmark interest rate for almost two years before increasing it on May 4, 2022.
- Reserve Bank of India leaves inflation projection for FY23 unchanged at 6.7% on upside risks to food prices.
- The RBI has lowered the real gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast for FY23 to 7% from 7.2%. Q2FY23 growth is seen at 6.3%, Q3 at 4.6% and Q4 at 4.6% with risks broadly balanced. Growth for Q1FY24 has been revised to 7.2%.

The various rates are as under-

1. Policy Repo Rate: 5.90%
2. Standing Deposit Facility (SDF): 5.65%
3. Marginal Standing Facility Rate: 6.15%
4. Bank Rate: 6.15%
5. Fixed Reverse Repo Rate: 3.35%

6. CRR: 4.50%
7. SLR: 18.00%

About Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

Ownership: Ministry of Finance, Government of India

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Founder: British Raj

About Monetary Policy Committee:

Founded: 27 June 2016

Committee executive: Shaktikanta Das, IAS, Governor of the Reserve Bank of India and ex-officio chairperson

BSE gets Sebi's nod to launch EGR on its platform

- Stock exchange BSE has received final approval from the capital markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for introducing the Electronic Gold Receipt (EGR) segment on its platform. The exchange had received in-principle approval from Sebi in February after which the exchange conducted several mock trading in the test environment for exchange members to facilitate trading in EGRs.
- Sebi board had earlier cleared a proposal for gold exchange, wherein the yellow metal will be traded in the form of EGRs and will help in having a transparent domestic spot price discovery mechanism.
- According to BSE, EGRs will cater to all market participants, which means that buyers and sellers on the exchange shall include individual investors, as well as commercial participants along the value chain like importers, banks, refiners, bullion traders, jewellery manufacturers, and retailers.
- Sameer Patil, chief business officer, BSE, said, "We are extremely thankful to Sebi for giving us the final approval and confidence that we will be able to launch the trading in EGR soon, as gold holds special significance for Indian households.
- India is the second-largest consumer of gold globally with annual gold demand of approximately 800-900 tonnes and holds an important position in the global markets.

About Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE):

Location: Mumbai, India

Founded: 9 July 1875; 147 years ago

Traded as: NSE: BSE

About Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI):

Founded: 12 April 1992

Headquarters: Mumbai

Agency executive: Madhabi Puri Buch (Chairperson)

Union Bank opens ethical hacking lab in Hyderabad

- The Union Bank of India inaugurated the Ethical Hacking Lab at the Cyber Security Centre of Excellence (CCoE) in Hyderabad. The lab with a cyber defence mechanism will protect the bank's information system, digital assets, and channels, against potential cyber threats. The lab was inaugurated by the bank's managing director and CEO, A. Manimekhalai. Union Bank

is adopting Digital Products in a big way. Various new initiatives are taken by the Bank to increase Digital Footprints. The IT assets are increasingly exposed to the Internet.

- Union Bank's Cyber Security Centre of Excellence (CCoE) in Hyderabad is in the process of establishing multiple cyber security centres to strengthen the Bank's security posture and collaborate with cyber defence industries, Government bodies, etc., for implementing new technologies. In this backdrop, our Bank has established the Ethical Hacking Lab to strengthen the cyber ecosystem. This is an important milestone as we take our cyber security journey ahead to secure digital banking experience."

About Union Bank of India (UBI):

Founded: 11 November 1919

Headquarters: Mumbai

CEO: A. Manimekhalai

About Telangana:

Founded: 2 June 2014

Capital: Hyderabad

Governor: Tamilsai Soundararajan

Chief Minister: K. Chandrashekar Rao

Govt extends foreign trade policy by 6 months

- The Commerce Ministry announced the extension of the existing foreign trade policy by six months. The reason behind the development is currency volatility and global uncertainty. The ministry said, the geo-political situation is not suitable for long-term foreign trade policy.
- The Commerce Ministry said, "existing Foreign Trade Policy extended by six months due to currency volatility & global uncertainty. Geo-Political situation is not suitable for long-term Foreign Trade Policy." Earlier, the government had extended the due date for the Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20 to September 30, 2022.
- Foreign Trade Policy provides a framework for increasing exports of goods and services as well as generation of employment and increasing value addition in the country. It focuses to support both the manufacturing and services sectors, with a special emphasis on improving the ease of doing business. Between April to August 2022, India's merchandise exports stood at \$192.59 billion up by 17.12% from \$164.44 billion in the same period a year ago. Imports continue to rise more than exports. In the first five months of FY23, merchandise imports grew by 45.64% to \$317.81 billion from \$218.22 billion in the corresponding period last year. The trade deficit widened by more than 2-folds to \$125.22 billion (April – August 2022) compared to \$53.78 billion in the same period last year.

World Bank and SIDBI to launch fund against loan default to lenders financing purchase of electric 2-3 wheelers

- A \$1 billion fund may soon be launched by the government in collaboration with the World Bank, and the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). The fund will be used to provide guarantees against defaults on loans taken to buy electric two or three-wheelers. The NITI Aayog will be the facilitating agency of the project. It will aim to facilitate faster and easier financing of EVs.

- Initially a \$300 million fund will be put in place as a “first loss risk sharing instrument.” The funds will be available to all financial institutions. “The instrument would act as a hedging mechanism, for banks to access in case of defaults of loans on purchase of electric vehicles. This is expected to bring down the cost of financing EVs by 10-12 per cent”.
- Currently, loans for electric two-wheelers and three-wheelers attract 20-25 per cent interest per annum. Earlier, the State Bank of India (SBI) was considered to be the programme lead. However, it withdrew from the deal after due diligence.

About World Bank:

Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States

President: David Malpass

Founded: July 1944, Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, United States

Motto: Working for a World Free of Poverty

Founders: John Maynard Keynes, Harry Dexter White

About Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI):

Founded: 2 April 1990

Headquarters: Lucknow

Agency executive: Sivasubramanian Ramann, IA&AS, (Chairman & MD);

About NITI Aayog :

Formed: 1 January 2015

Headquarters: New Delhi

Chairperson: Narendra Modi

Founder: National Democratic Alliance

ADB Plans \$14 Billion to Ease Food Crisis, Promote Long-Term Food Security in Asia and the Pacific

- The Asian Development Bank said, it will devote at least \$14 billion through 2025 to help ease a worsening food crisis in Asia-Pacific. The development lender said it plans a comprehensive program of support to help the 1.1 billion people in the region who lack healthy diets due to poverty and soaring food prices. The Manila, Philippines-based ADB made the announcement during its annual meeting.
- “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. The plan calls for improving long-term food security by strengthening farming and food supplies to cope with climate change and loss of biodiversity. The ADB said the funds will go to both existing and new projects spanning farming, food production and distribution, water resources management and social supports. Asakawa said that in the short-term, support will be targeted at and designed to help the most vulnerable, particularly women.
- In opening the ADB meeting, Asakawa noted that the economic outlook has worsened with the Russian invasion of Ukraine, soaring prices for many commodities and a harsher economic environment thanks to rising interest rates and weakening currencies for many developing economies. In a recent update, the bank downgraded its forecast for growth in the region to 4.3% from an earlier estimate of 5.2%. Next year’s outlook is for 4.9% annual growth.

About Asian Development Bank (ADB):

Headquarters: Mandaluyong, Philippines

Founded: 19 December 1966

President: Masatsugu Asakawa (from 17 January 2020)

Purpose: Social and Economic Development

S&P Global Ratings, OECD retain India's GDP growth forecast for FY23

- Amid slowing external demand for Indian goods and services, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and S&P kept their growth forecasts for India unchanged at 6.9 per cent and 7.3 per cent, respectively, for FY23 while highlighting growing downside risks. S&P in its latest outlook for Asia-Pacific said it saw a strong rebound in India as services consumption continued to recover and investment grew robustly.
- "Softer external demand is a factor in India's projected slowdown from 8.7 per cent annual growth in FY22 to around 7 per cent in FY23 and around 5.75 per cent in FY24, but this still represents rapid growth in the context of a weak global economy," OECD said in its interim Economic Outlook.
- S&P noted that India's domestic recovery from Covid-19 would continue to support growth in FY23. "Indeed, we have retained our India growth outlook at 7.3 per cent for the fiscal year 2022-23 and 6.5 per cent for the next fiscal year, although we see the risks tilted to the downside," it added.

About Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD):

Headquarters: Paris, France

Founded: 30 September 1961

Founders: United States, France, United Kingdom, Germany

Subsidiary: OECD Development Centre

About S&P Global Ratings:

Founder: Henry Varnum Poor

Headquarters: New York, United States

Founded: 1860

RBI felicitate banker's for making Leh achieves 100 percent digitization of banking operations

- The highest-located district in India, Leh has achieved 100 per cent digitization of banking operations. Union Territory Level Bankers Committee Ladakh, the Reserve Bank of India has felicitated the bankers of the district. Leh district has completed the digitization of all the operating banks in a short span of a year.
- Digital Banking refers to the electronic banking service provided by a bank for its financial, banking and other transactions through electronic devices online. In 2019 RBI put forward a proposal to make at least one district of every state in the country have 100 per cent digitization of banking operations.
- Thrissur district of Kerala became the first fully digital banking district of the country in August 2021. Kerala is also the first state in India to achieve the target of Financial Inclusion of having at least one bank account in a family.

About Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Founder: British Raj

About Ladakh:

Lieutenant Governor : Radha Krishna Mathur

Capital:Leh

Commerce and Industry Ministry: On track to attract \$100-bn FDI this fiscal

- The Central government said that India is on track to attract USD 100 billion in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the current fiscal on account of economic reforms and ease of doing business. In 2021-22, India received the “highest ever” foreign inflows of USD 83.6 billion.
- “This FDI has come from 101 countries, and invested across 31 union territories and states and 57 sectors in the country. On the back of economic reforms and Ease of Doing Business in recent years, India is on track to attract USD 100 billion FDI in the current financial year,” the commerce and industry ministry said in a statement. The statement also mentions that the government has installed a liberal and transparent policy to attract foreign investment. Currently, most sectors of the Indian economy are open to FDI under an automatic route.
- The Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in India can be made under two routes- automatic and government routes. Under the automatic route, the investor requires no or very less permissions from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) or from the Government of India to invest.
- Meanwhile, during the April-June quarter of the current fiscal, FDI equity inflows in India dipped by 6% to \$16.6 billion.
- Foreign direct investment (FDI) is when a company takes controlling ownership in a business entity in another country.

About Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Founder: British Raj

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

REC Becomes The 12th Company To Join The Maharatna CPSE Club

- Power sector-focussed non-banking finance company (NBFC) REC Ltd. has been accorded the status of a ‘Maharatna’ Central Public Sector Enterprise, thus providing it with greater operational and financial autonomy. The granting of ‘Maharatna’ status will impart enhanced powers to the company’s board while taking financial decisions. REC Ltd. is the 12th company to be given the Maharatna Status.
- The board of a ‘Maharatna’ CPSE can make equity investments to undertake financial joint ventures and wholly-owned subsidiaries and undertake mergers and acquisitions in India and abroad, subject to a ceiling of 15 per cent of the net worth of the CPSE concerned, limited to ₹5,000 crores in one project. The board can also structure and implement schemes relating to personnel and human resource management and training.
- REC has played a key role in the success of the flagship schemes of the Government of India such as Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) and SAUBHAGYA and has contributed towards achieving village and household electrification in the country.
- Introduced in 2010, the Maharatna status is given to the Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSE) by the Central Government to make these enterprises global giants.

Rupee at fresh all-time low; slips past 81 per dollar for the first time

- The rupee plunged by 83 paise — its biggest single-day loss in nearly seven months — touched an all-time low of 80.79 against the US dollar. The rupee touched the psychological level of 80 per dollar, but closed just below that mark at 79.98, amid foreign fund outflows and the rise in crude oil prices.
- The rupee had opened strong at 79.75 but fell again towards the 80 level, this time on the back of a supportive range from crude as Brent breached the \$100 per barrel on less chance of recession in the US, said Jateen Trivedi, VP—research analyst at LKP Securities. “The rupee keeps taking resistance every time it rises towards the 20-day moving average. The rupee range can be seen between 79.75-80.50,” he added.
- Forex reserves have plummeted by \$62.4 billion from the record high of \$642.45 billion registered on September 3, 2021. A major reason for the decline in forex reserves is capital outflows by foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) as the US Federal Reserve started the monetary policy tightening and interest rate hikes.
- Meanwhile, the benchmark Sensex shot up by 760.37 points to 54,521.15 in the bull rally led by IT stocks. The NSE Nifty index gained 229.30 points at 16,278.50.
- Morgan Stanley has slashed its forecast for India’s economic growth for this financial year and the next in view of a slowdown in global growth. The growth forecast for the country’s gross domestic product (GDP) for 2022-23 has been lowered by 40 basis points to 7.2 per cent, while that for 2023-24 has been reduced by 30 basis points to 6.4 per cent.

India Inc expects another 35-50 basis points policy rate hike by RBI

- The global economy has been rattled by scorching inflation and geo-political tensions, forcing more central banks to join the US Federal Reserve in raising interest rates. The Fed set the pace with a 0.75% rate hike to a range of 3% to 3.25%. That is the fifth rate hike this year and up from zero at the start of the year. According to market experts, India could see an aggressive rate hike by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in coming week. The RBI’s policy decision is due on 30 September, with most market participants expecting it to hike rates by 35-50 basis points.
- Analysts at ICICI Securities believe the RBI may raise its policy rate by another 50 bps at its policy meeting at the end of this month, and a further 25 bps in December meeting to 6.15%. The domestic brokerage firm also added that the cumulative impact of this year’s monetary tightening is likely to help bring headline CPI inflation back below 6% YoY in Nov’22 and beyond.
- Market analysts say the continued hike in US interest rate may be risky for the Indian stock market, but it also provides an opportunity for foreign investors to diversify globally. “While rising in Interest rates represent a headwind for Indian equities, our buoyant domestic demand scenario presents a sliver of hope for global investors looking to diversify globally.
- On India’s CPI inflation rate, Deutsche Bank said the country’s headline retail inflation will likely rise to a five-month high of 7.4% in September, with the risk of going higher if the momentum of food and vegetable prices picks up further in the rest of the month.

About Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Founder: British Raj

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

About United States (US):

Speaker: Nancy Pelosi (Democratic Party)

Capital: Washington, D.C.

President: Joe Biden

Currency: United States Dollar

BANKING AND ECONOMY

Recession unlikely to hit India due to 'not so coupled' nature with global economy: Rating agency S&P

- Global rating agency S&P said even though the US and the Euro zone are headed to recession, India is unlikely to face the impact given the “not so coupled” nature of its economy with the global economy. The US and European recession depends on the central banks ignoring slowing growth and opting to fight inflation instead.
- “Indian economy is a lot decoupled from the global economy than we normally think of, given its large domestic demand, even though you (India) are a net importer of energy.
- India was never coupled fully with the global economy and so is relatively independent of global markets, he said, adding that a lot depends on how global fund flows behave if there is a recession in the US and Europe. Their inflation numbers continue to dodge the monetary actions by their central banks as the gap between the US core inflation target and the actual number is three times at 6 per cent.
- Listing out the Inflation and its resultant by the US Fed as the main threat to the US economy, he said, the world’s largest economy is headed towards recession.
- On the Euro zone, the managing director said the problem is more entrenched and structural. It will take time to recover as the crisis is the result of the geopolitical issues (Russia-Ukraine war) the sky-high energy prices after the EU nations began to lower their dependence on gas from the Russia since February. But again the EU joblessness rates are low at 6.5 per cent.

About United States (US):

Attorney general: Merrick Garland

Capital: Washington, D.C.

President: Joe Biden

Currency: United States Dollar

Das unveils three digital payment solutions at Fintech Fest

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor, Shaktikanta Das, launched three key digital payment initiatives at the Global Fintech Fest 2022. The three digital payment initiatives that were launched by the RBI are RuPay Credit Card on Unified Payments Interface (UPI), UPI Lite, and Bharat BillPay Cross-Border Bill Payments.
- UPI Lite will provide users with a convenient solution for faster and simpler low-value transactions, the National Payments Corp Of India (NPCI) said in a statement. Currently, India has been using the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) for low-value payments with 50 per cent of transactions through UPI below ₹200.

- Now that UPI Lite on BHIM App will be enabled, the users will be able to make small-value transactions in a near-offline mode. The launch of the UPI Lite will reduce the debit load on the core banking system, thereby improving the success rate of transactions further, enhancing the user experience, and taking us one step closer to processing a billion transactions a day on the UPI platform.

About Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Currency: Indian rupee (₹)

Founder: British Raj

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

About Unified Payments Interface (UPI):

Owner: National Payments Corporation of India

Introduced: 11 April 2016; 6 years ago

RBI removes Central Bank of India from PCA framework after more than 5 yrs

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) removed Central Bank of India from its Prompt Corrective Action Framework (PCAF) after the lender showed improvement in various financial ratios, including minimum regulatory capital and net non-performing assets (NNPAs). The RBI had imposed the PCA norms on the bank in June 2017 due to its high net NPA and negative return of assets (RoA). After reviewing the performance of the Central Bank of India, RBI decided to remove the restrictions on the bank.
- The PCA norm is a supervisory tool and is imposed when a bank breaches certain regulatory thresholds on capital to risk weighted assets ratio (CRAR), net NPAs and return on assets (RoA).
- Due to recapitalization & corrective measures there were only six banks (all PSBs) under the PCA framework as of March 2019.
- Objective – Prompt Corrective Action or PCA is a framework under which financial institutions with weak financial metrics are put under watch by the RBI.

About Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Founder: British Raj

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

MAS and IFSCA to Pursue Cross-border FinTech Innovations

- The Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) and the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) signed a FinTech Co-operation Agreement to facilitate regulatory collaboration and partnership in FinTech technology. The agreement is expected to leverage existing regulatory sandboxes in their respective jurisdictions to support experimentation of technology innovations.
- It will include referral of companies to each other's regulatory sandboxes and enable innovative cross-border experiments in both jurisdictions. The agreement will also allow both the organisations to evaluate the suitability of use cases which could benefit from collaboration across multiple jurisdictions, and invite relevant jurisdictions to participate in a Global Regulatory Sandbox.

- Sharing of information will be a key aspect of the agreement. The two will share non-supervisory related information and developments on innovation in financial products and services, facilitate discussions on emerging FinTech issues and participate in joint innovation projects.

About Singapore:

President: Halimah Yacob

Currency: Singapore dollar

Singapore: Singapore city

Adobe Strikes \$20 billion Deal to Acquire Figma

- Adobe acquires Figma: Adobe announced that it would acquire design software company Figma for roughly \$20 billion in cash and equity. Adobe's stock fell 17%, marking the worst decline since 2010. Dylan Field, co-founder and CEO of Figma, will remain in that position after the deal is completed. David Wadhwani, president of Adobe's digital media division, will be his immediate supervisor.
- Adobe is paying close to 50 times revenue at a time when cloud software sales multiples are sharply declining from their record highs established last year.

About Adobe:

Headquarters: San Jose, California, United States

Founded: December 1982, Mountain View, California, United States

CTO: Abhay Parasnis

Founders: Charles Geschke, John Warnock

President: David Wadhwani

CEO: Shantanu Narayen

About Figma:

Co-founder and CEO: Dylan Field

Initial release date: 27 September 2016

Platform: Web application, Mobile application

MoF Issues Guidelines for RRBs to Raise Resources Through IPO & rights issue

- The Finance Ministry has issued draft guidelines for Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) to raise resources from capital market, paving the way for raising funds via rights issue, private placement with select investors such as large banks and insurance companies, and initial public offerings (IPO).
- Currently, there are 43 RRBs sponsored by 12 Scheduled Commercial Banks with 21,892 branches across the country. As at March 2022, RRBs had deposits and loans and advances (net) aggregating ₹5,62,538 crore and ₹3,42,479 crore, respectively. RRBs are jointly owned by the Government of India (GoI), the respective State Governments (SGs), and the Sponsor Banks (SBs), with equity contribution in the ratio (GoI: SG: SB :: 50:15:35).
- As Per the guidelines, prior to issue of shares to the public through the IPO route, the RRBs should consider issue of bonus shares (to reward existing shareholders who so far have not been paid dividends and have first claim on the existing reserves) and a Rights Issue in consultation with the merchant bankers and the sponsor bank.

About Regional Rural Bank (RRB)

Parent: Ministry of Finance, Government of India

Founded: 2 October 1975; 46 years ago

Owner: Government of India (50%), Nationalised Banks (35%), State Governments (15%)

CAD Likely To Remain Within 3 Pc of GDP, Says RBI Article

- A weak rupee and elevated fuel prices will keep India's current account deficit (CAD) under pressure with analysts seeing it at about 3% of GDP in FY23 compared to 1.2% in FY22 even as these will exert pressure on government finances. Subsidy expenditure is seen to rise to levels significantly higher than projected. Higher oil import bill on account of weak rupee will straddle several sectors, including fertilisers and metals, and also result in lower dividend receipts from state-run fuel retailers whose margins will be hit. Rupee hit a record low of 80 against US dollar for the first time in intra-day trade, before closing at 79.95.
- "The CAD is one of the causes of the rupee to slide on the side of fundamentals as a wider CAD which is not matched by capital flows (FPI inflows are negative) does lead to the rupee falling. We expect CAD to reach 3% of GDP this year," said Madan Sabnavis, chief economist, Bank of Baroda. India, being a net commodity importer, is getting affected by high commodity prices and a weak currency. Although commodity prices have come off from the recent highs, weak currency continues to have its impact on Indian economy. India Ratings chief economist DK Pant also expects current account deficit to be about 3% of GDP in FY23.

About Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Currency: Indian rupee (₹)

Founder: British Raj

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

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

- India Ratings became the latest agency to cut its FY23 gross domestic product forecast. The ratings agency cut the forecast to 6.9 per cent from 7 per cent, joining other institutions who have cut their projections to below 7 per cent since the release of the April-June quarter GDP data.
- "Despite private final consumption expenditure (PFCE) and gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) growth coming in better than our expectations in Q1, the agency expects the slowdown in the growth of government final consumption expenditure (GFCE) and worsening of net exports to weigh on the FY23 GDP growth," India Ratings said in a statement.
- Global rating agency Fitch also lowered India's economic growth forecast for FY23 to 7 per cent from its June 2022 estimate of 7.8 per cent. It now expects the GDP to slow further to 6.7 per cent in FY24 as compared to its earlier forecast of 7.4 per cent. India Ratings projects GDP growth of 7.2 per cent in July-September FY23 quarter, 4 per cent in October-December and 4.1 per cent in February-March. "Recovering the lost output due to COVID-19 will be a long haul. Our estimate shows that even if GDP grows at 7.6 per cent every year after FY23, then also India would be able to catch up with pre-pandemic trend growth only by FY35", said Sunil Kumar Sinha, Principal Economist.

Fitch Ratings cuts India's growth forecast to 7% from 7.8% for FY23

- Fitch Ratings slashed India's GDP growth projection for FY23 to 7 per cent, saying the economy is expected to slow against the backdrop of the global economy, elevated inflation and high-interest rate. In June, it had forecast 7.8 per cent growth for India. As per official GDP estimates, the Indian economy expanded 13.5 per cent in the June quarter, higher than the 4.10 per cent growth clocked in January-March. The RBI expects the economy to grow 7.2 per cent in the current fiscal year.
- "We expect the economy to slow given the global economic backdrop, elevated inflation and tighter monetary policy. We now expect the economy to grow 7 per cent in the financial year to end-March 2023 (FY23) from 7.8 per cent previously, with FY24 also slowing to 6.7 per cent from 7.4 per cent before," Fitch said in its September edition of the Global Economic Outlook.
- The wholesale-price-based inflation softened to an 11-month low of 12.41 per cent in August, even though retail inflation inched up to 7 per cent.

About Fitch Ratings:

Headquarters: New York, United States

CEO: Paul Taylor (2 Apr 2012–)

Founded: 24 December 1913, New York, New York, United States

Founder: John Knowles Fitch

SBI Raises Benchmark Lending Rate By 0.7% To 13.45%, Effective From Sep 15

- The country's largest lender, State Bank of India (SBI), raised the Benchmark Prime Lending Rate (BPLR) by 70 basis points (or 0.7 per cent) to 13.45 per cent. The announcement would make loan repayment linked to BPLR costlier. The current BPLR rate is 12.75 per cent. It was revised last in June.
- "Benchmark Prime Lending Rate (BPLR) revised as 13.45 per cent per annum with effect from September 15, 2022," the SBI posted on its website.
- Now most of the banks provide loans on the External Benchmark Based Lending Rate (EBLR) or the Repo-Linked Lending Rate (RLLR).
- The increase in the benchmark lending rates comes weeks ahead of the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) monetary policy meeting, which is again expected to hike rates to tame inflation.

About State Bank of India (SBI):

Chairperson: Dinesh Kumar Khara

Founded: 1 July 1955

Managing directors: Praveen Kumar Gupta

About Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Wholesale price-based inflation eases to 12.41% in August 2022

- The wholesale price-based inflation eased for the third consecutive month in August to 12.41 per cent, on softening in prices of manufactured items, even as food items saw an uptick.

- The Wholesale Price Index-based inflation was 13.93 per cent in July and 11.64 per cent in August last year.
- August is the 17th consecutive month of double-digit wholesale price inflation (WPI). The WPI had touched a record high of 15.88 per cent in May, this year.
- Inflation in food articles in August rose to 12.37 per cent, as against 10.77 per cent in July. The rate of price rise in vegetables was 22.29 per cent during the month under review, as against 18.25 per cent in July.

Sachin Bansal-led Navi Technologies gets SEBI approval for Rs 3,350 crore IPO

- Navi Technologies approved by SEBI: The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has given Sachin Bansal's fintech business Navi Technologies the go-ahead for an Initial Public Offering (IPO), which will help the Flipkart co-founder in his efforts to build a financial services conglomerate.
- Navi Technologies submitted draft papers to SEBI in March of this year in order to raise up to Rs 3,350 crore through a new share offering.
- Sachin Bansal, who has a 97.39 percent ownership in fintech, stated that there will not be an offer for sale (OFS) by shareholders in the IPO.
- According to the SEBI website, the fintech company received an observation letter in response to its filings on September 5.
- Navi made a profit of Rs. 71.1 crore in FY21, while the company lost Rs. 206.42 crore in the first nine months of FY22.

About Flipkart

Founded: 2007

Founder's: Binny Bansal and Sachin Bansal

CEO: Kalyan Krishnamurthy

HDFC Bank issues India's first Electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG)

- HDFC Bank, India's largest private sector bank, became the first bank in the country to issue an Electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG) in partnership with National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL). The paper-based, time-consuming process has been eliminated with the new electronic bank guarantees that can be processed, stamped, verified and delivered instantly with enhanced security. This is a transformational change, and the Bank will migrate to e-BG to benefit all its customers.
- Paper-based bank guarantees takes 3-5 days to complete the process of physical pick up from the bank, courier to the beneficiary, stamp it and re-verify it. Besides, there was no central repository for bank guarantees until now.
- Bringing inefficiency of time, eBG offers enhanced security. Physical stamping has been eliminated and replaced with eStamping and with eBG, the applicant and beneficiary can instantly view a bank guarantee on the NeSL portal.
- e-BG has been developed in consultation with NeSL, the CVC-CBI committee and IBA to simplify the process and eliminate the possibility of fraud and manipulation. e-BG will be issued on the NeSL portal through an API-based digital workflow.

About HDFC Bank:

CEO: Sashidhar Jagdishan;

Headquarters: Mumbai;
Founded: August 1994, Mumbai.

Bank of Maharashtra raises Rs 710 cr via Tier I bonds

- The government-owned Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) reported raising Rs 710 crore through bonds to finance company expansion. According to a statement from the bank, the money was raised through Basel III compliant Additional Tier 1 (AT1) bonds for Rs 710 crore (including Rs 610 crore for the green shoe option) at a coupon rate of 8.74 percent.
- When compared to the base issue size of Rs 100 crore, the issue received a ten-fold increase in subscription from investors.
- A nationalised bank, Bank of Maharashtra is owned by the Indian government's Ministry of Finance. By March 2022, the bank had 2022 branches around the nation and 29 million customers. In the state of Maharashtra, it boasts the broadest network of branches of any nationalised bank. At the close of business on December 31, 2021, the bank's total revenue exceeded 3,15,620 lakh crore.

About Bank of Maharashtra:

Chairman and Managing Director: Shri. S. Muhnot

Headquarters: Pune

CEO: A. S. Rajeev (2 Dec 2018–)

Founded: 16 September 1935

Founders: D. K. Sathe, V. G. Kale

Reserve Bank of India is estimated to have sold about \$13 billion in August to Hold Rupee at 80

- India's foreign exchange reserves slumped by over \$2 billion in the week ending August 12, as the Reserve Bank of India intervened to shore up the rupee and keep the currency below 80 per dollar. That is an effort the Indian central bank has said was essential, and it would do whatever it takes to maintain the rupee's stability, limiting any wild swings despite extremely volatile currency markets. The RBI's weekly statistical supplement data showed that the country's forex reserves slumped to \$570.74 billion in the week ending August 12, down by \$2.238 billion from \$572.978 billion in the previous week. The magnitude of that fall in the latest week was the largest in a month, and the country's import cover dipped for the second week.
- Since Russia invaded Ukraine, India's forex reserves have fallen for 19 weeks out of a total of 25 since then, having nearly \$61 billion during that period. Still, India's forex reserves are the fourth largest globally, said RBI governor Shaktikanta Das after the latest rate-setting meeting when the central bank hiked rates for the third consecutive time.
- Expectations of volatility have also reduced during the time period of the study, which starts from 2007 and includes the current episode of volatilities triggered by the Russia-Ukraine war.

About Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Founder: British Raj

Jurisdiction: India

Government's share in total health expenditure increases

- The per capita government spending on healthcare has increased by 74 per cent since 2013-14. As per National Health Accounts Estimates India 2018-19, the per capita government spending in 2013-14 was one thousand forty-two rupees, which has increased to one thousand eight hundred and fifteen rupees. It said, government's share in the overall spending on health in the country is increasing steadily. The government's share in current health expenditure has increased from 23.2 per cent in 2013-14 to 34.5 per cent in 2018-19.
- The government spending on primary healthcare has increased since 2013-14. The government health expenditure during that period on primary healthcare was around 51 per cent, which has increased to over 55 per cent in 2018-19. The per capita Out-of-pocket expenditure in the country has also decreased by eight per cent since 2013-14.
- Such reports will help us with clear decision-making processes in line with National Health Policy recommendation of 2017." Dr. V K Paul stated this while congratulating everyone on NHA Estimates report launch which is sixth consecutive since 2013-14. He said that National Health Systems Resource Centre (NHSRC) has ensured that all such reports are published without any interruption and follows academic rigor along with robust methodology and approach. In the group of 189 countries, India ranks 66th for per capita OOPPE.

About Govt of India:

Founder: Constitution of India

Founded: 26 January 1950

Ministries: 57

Responsible to: Lok Sabha

Legislature: Parliament

Seat: Raisina Hill (Official Seat of the Government of India)

Retail inflation inches up to 7% in August led by food price rise

- Price pressures returned to the Indian economy in August, with retail inflation quickening to 7% after cooling to a five-month low in July. The increase, led by food prices, makes it the eighth month that retail inflation has stayed above the central bank's upper tolerance limit of 6%, strengthening the case for continued monetary tightening.
- Retail inflation in July had cooled to 6.7%, and a poll of 22 economists estimated August inflation at 6.9%. The Reserve Bank of India has projected Consumer Price Index (CPI) based inflation for 2022-23 at 6.7%. Inflation is expected to remain elevated over the next couple of months due to last year's low base, even as easing energy and commodity prices globally would help cool inflationary pressures. RBI's monetary policy committee (MPC) raised the repo rate by 50 basis points for the third time in a row in August, taking the policy rate to pre-pandemic levels of 5.4%. The MPC meets again from 28 to 30 September.
- The uptick in CPI inflation was led by food inflation, which spiked to 7.57% in August from 6.71% in July. The food and beverages category makes up 54% of CPI.
- Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman at a recent address on 'taming inflation', said that it could not be left to monetary policy alone, but fiscal policy needs to work alongside.

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Indian Railways revenue up 38 pc to Rs 95,486.58 crore till August-end

- The overall revenue of Indian Railways at the end of August'22 stood at ₹95,486.58 cr, showing an increase of Rs. 26271.29 cr (38%) over the corresponding period of last year. The revenue from passenger traffic was Rs.25,276.54cr with an increase of ₹13,574.44 cr (116%) over the corresponding period of last year, according to official notes movers released by ministry of railways.
- As per the data, Passenger traffic also increased compared to last year in both the segments, reserved as well as unreserved. The growth from the long distance reserved mail express trains has been sharper than the same in passenger & suburban trains. The other coaching revenue was Rs. 2437.42 cr, showing an increase of Rs.811.82 cr (50%) over the corresponding period of last year, the rail Mistry data showed.
- This growth is being fueled by robust growth in the Parcel segment of Indian Railways, the statement said. Goods revenue was Rs.65,505.02cr by August this year and has increased by ₹10,780.03 cr (20%) over the corresponding period of last year.

About Indian Railways:

Track length: 67.956 million m
Customer service: 139
Founded: 6 May 1836, India
Headquarters: New Delhi
Founders: Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy, Jagannath Shankarseth

PhonePe tokenizes 14 million debit and credit cards prior to RBI's deadline

- PhonePe tokenized debit and credit cards: PhonePe announced that it had tokenized 14 million credit and debit cards on its network in accordance with the RBI's (Reserve Bank of India) guidelines for data security. Since the exercise began in December 2021, the Walmart-backed company claims to have tokenized more than 80% of its active users' cards.
- The real card details are not disclosed to a merchant during transactions, a tokenized transaction is safer and less likely to result in data leakage.
- PhonePe stated that it is collaborating with Visa, Mastercard, and RuPay, three of the largest card networks, to meet the regulator's September 30 tokenization deadline.
- Since April of this year, when the company began processing token-based transactions, almost all eligible transactions are handled by tokens.
- The success rate of transactions processed via tokens on PhonePe has shown an improvement of around 2 per cent in comparison with card-based transactions.
- The RBI delayed the card-on-file tokenization deadline in July till September 30 since token-based transaction processing had not yet gained traction. It was the third and maybe final one of its kind.

About PhonePe:

Founder: Sameer Nigam, Burzin Engineer and Rahul Chari

CEO: Sameer Nigam (Dec 2015–)

Headquarters: Maharashtra

Founded: 2015

Parent organization: Flipkart

Founders: Sameer Nigam, Burzin Engineer, Rahul Chari

About Reserve Bank of India (RBI) :

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Founder: British Raj

Jurisdiction: India

Ownership: Ministry of Finance, Government of India

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

Adani Group to build 3 giga factories as part of \$70 billion clean energy investment

- Asia's richest man Gautam Adani, a ports-to-power conglomerate will build three Giga factories for manufacturing solar modules, wind turbines, and hydrogen electrolyzers as part of a USD 70 billion investment in clean energy by 2030. Adani group is stepping up investments across the green energy value chain as it aims to become the world's top renewable energy producer by 2030.
- The new giga factory for power electronics will be in addition to four giga factories announced last year for making integrated solar PV modules that will produce electricity from sunlight, electrolyzers that produce hydrogen from water, fuel cells and batteries to store energy from the grid as well as 20 GW solar energy capacity by 2025 for captive needs.

About Adani Group:

Headquarters: Ahmedabad

Founder: Gautam Adani

Founded: 1988

Digital currency to bring down time, cost for cross-border transactions: RBI's Sankar

- Central bank digital currency (CBDC), to be launched this year, could become a tool for reducing time and cost for cross-border transactions, Reserve Bank Deputy Governor T Rabi Sankar said. The RBI has proposed to launch on a pilot basis this year, as announced in the Budget by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. In the Union Budget for 2022-23, the finance minister had said the RBI would roll out a digital equivalent to the rupee in the current financial year.
- "We have to understand that internationalisation of CBDC is crucial to addressing the payments issue that bodies like G-20 and Bank for International Settlements (BIS) are dealing with now," he said at India Ideas Summit. Observing that India has an excellent, cheap and fast domestic payments system, he said the cost of cross-border payment, however, is still high. There is a lot of scope for improvement in terms of both cost and speed, he noted.
- CBDC is probably the most efficient answer to this, he said, adding, for example, if India CBDC and the US CBDC systems can talk to each other, we don't have to wait for settling

transactions. "That massively takes out the settlement risk from cross border transaction that reduces time, that reduces cost. So, CBDC internationalisation is something that I'm looking forward.

About Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Founder: British Raj

Jurisdiction: India

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

Google Cloud, HDFC ERGO team up to digitise insurance buying in India

- HDFC ERGO General Insurance has roped in Google Cloud to build an online platform for selling insurance. HDFC ERGO plans to completely migrate to the cloud by 2024. This online platform for selling insurance, offering tailored digital experiences to customers, responding to regulatory changes faster, and identifying insurance risks using data analytics and machine learning (ML).
- Google Cloud will also assist the insurance provider with IT systems integration and building new applications. Google will also provide them AI/ML technologies to build predictive insights and mitigate insurance fraud. Google Cloud enables us to efficiently unlock the full potential of HDFC ERGO's wide insurance solutions. This partnership underscores our commitment to delivering a seamless user experience by digitising the customer journey end-to-end."

About HDFC ERGO General Insurance:

CEO: Ritesh Kumar

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: 2002

India's external debt rises by 8.2 pc to over USD 620 bn till March 2022

- The External Debt Management Unit (EDMU) in the Department of economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, has released 28th edition of the Status Report on India's External Debt 2021-22. India's external debt, at US\$ 620.7 billion as at end-March 2022, grew by 8.2 per cent over US\$ 573.7 billion as at end-March 2021. While 53.2 per cent of it was denominated in US dollar, Indian rupee denominated debt, estimated at 31.2 per cent, was the second largest. External debt as a ratio to GDP fell marginally to 19.9 per cent as at end-March 2022 from 21.2 per cent a year ago. Foreign currency reserves as a ratio to external debt stood slightly lower at 97.8 per cent as at end-March 2022 than 100.6 per cent a year ago.

Services sector activity up in August on gains in new business, jobs creation

- India's dominant services industry grew faster than expected in August amid favourable demand conditions and some easing in cost pressures. The S&P Global India Services Purchasing Managers' Index or PMI index rose to 57.2 in August from four-month low of 55.5 in July, surpassing the 55.0 estimate in a Reuters poll. It remained above the 50-mark separating growth from contraction for a 13th straight month. The survey showed that a stronger expansion in new business encouraged firms to hire at the quickest pace in more than 14 years.

- “Indian services activity rose strongly midway through the second fiscal quarter, with the pace of expansion recovering some of the ground lost in July.
- “While the rate of charge inflation was broadly similar to July, there was a considerably softer upturn in input costs.
- Among the sectors, “finance and insurance was the brightest area of the service economy in August, leading with regards to growth of sales and output,” the economist said.
- The survey also showed that services companies expect output growth over the coming 12 months, with sentiment rising to its highest level in over four years.

About S&P Global Corporation:

Headquarters: New York, United States

CEO: Douglas L. Peterson (1 Nov 2013)

Founder: James H. McGraw

Founded: 1917 New York, United States

Formerly: McGraw–Hill, Inc. (1964–1995); The McGraw–Hill Companies, Inc. (1995–2013);

McGraw Hill Financial, Inc. (2013–2016)

CCI clears PayU's \$4.7 billion acquisition of BillDesk

- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the acquisition of 100 percent equity of Indiaideas.com (Billdesk) by PayU Payments. The proposed combination relates to the acquisition of 100 percent of the equity share capital of India Ideas Ltd (IIL) by PayU India. Prosus NV-backed PayU announced in August 2021, that it will buy digital payments provider Billdesk for USD 4.7 billion.
- It will make it one of the biggest deals in the Indian consumer internet space. The proposed combination pertains to the acquisition of an additional 10 percent stake in Apraava by CDPQ from CPL CPEC Holding Limited.
- PayU India provides payment aggregation services & CPDQ Infrastructure Asia II is a wholly owned subsidiary of CDPQ a global investor.
- Apraava Energy is foreign investment in the Indian power sector with the investment spread across renewable and non-renewable energy.

About Competition Commission of India (CCI):

Founded: 14 October 2003

Jurisdiction: India

Headquarters: New Delhi

First executive: Dhanendra Kumar

Agency executive: Ashok Kumar Gupta (Chairperson)

About BillDesk:

Founded: 2000

Headquarters: Mumbai

Owner: BillDesk

Founders: M.N. Srinivasu, Ajay Kaushal, Karthik Ganapathy

Unemployment rate falls from 7.6 per cent in April to June this year: PLFS

- The unemployment rate in India for people aged 15 years and above in urban areas declined to 7.6 per cent during April-June 2022 from 12.6 per cent a year ago, the National Statistical

Office (NSO) said on 31 August. In April-June 2021, the joblessness was high in the country mainly due to the staggering impact of Covid-related restrictions. The latest data underlined a decline in unemployment rate amid improved labour force participation ratio, point towards a sustained economic recovery from the shadow of the pandemic.

- In January-March 2022, the unemployment rate in India for persons aged 15 years and above was 8.2 per cent in urban areas, the 15th Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) showed.
- As per the NSO data, the Labour force participation rate in CWS (Current Weekly Status) in urban areas for persons aged 15 years and above increased to 47.5 per cent in the April-June quarter of 2022, from 46.8 per cent in the same period a year ago. It was 47.3 per cent in January-March 2022. The Worker Population Ratio (WPR) in CWS in urban areas for persons aged 15 years and above stood at 43.9 per cent in April-June, 2022, up from 40.9 per cent in the same period a year ago. It was 43.4 per cent in January-March 2022.

India set to become 3rd largest economy in the world, report says

- India is set to become the third largest economy in the world by 2029. A State Bank of India report said India will surpass Germany in 2027 and most likely Japan by 2029 at the current rate of growth. The report said that the country has undergone a large structural shift since 2014 and is now the 5th largest economy overtaking the United Kingdom. The path taken by India since 2014 reveals the country is likely to get the tag of 3rd largest economy in 2029, a movement of 7 places upwards since 2014 when India was ranked 10th, it said.
- The research report from SBI's Economic Research Department highlighted that Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate for FY23 is estimated between 6.7-7.7 per cent, but it is normal to have a 6-6.5 per cent growth due to global uncertainties. According to a Bloomberg report on Friday, India had surpassed Britain to become the world's fifth largest economy. India extended its lead in the first quarter, showed the GDP figures from the International Monetary Fund. But, as per the SBI report, India had surpassed the UK as the fifth largest economy as early as December 2021 itself.
- "The share of India's GDP is now at 3.5 per cent, as against 2.6 per cent in 2014, and is likely to cross 4 per cent in 2027, which is the current share of Germany in global GDP," the report added.
- As per World Bank data it had a GDP per capita of \$2,277 in 2021, whereas the UK had a per capita income of \$47,334. China's per capita income was nearly six times India's at \$12,556 in 2021.

About SBI:

Chairperson: Dinesh Kumar Khara

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: 1 July 1955

HDFC Bank introduces new sms banking facility for its customers

- The private sector lender HDFC Bank introduced a new SMS banking facility for its customers. The bank claims that now customers can access a wide range of banking services round-the-clock. 24/7 x 365 no matter where they are. With the new SMS banking facility, customers can now check account balances & summaries, apply for loans, manage credit

cards, apply for chequebook requests, generate account statements and more. Customers no longer need to remember or type lengthy pre-defined keywords to conduct SMS banking thanks to HDFC Bank's new SMS facility, which is integrated with AI technology. Instead, they can type in their own style and convenience and the AI will understand exactly what you need, allowing you to interact leisurely and conveniently as a result.

- HDFC Bank has said via a Tweet that "Banking services are now a text away! #BankOnUs and access a wide range of banking services from wherever you are, round-the-clock. 24/7 x 365! To get started, SMS "Register" <Space> "Last 4 digits of customer ID" <Space> "Last 4 digits of account number" to 7308080808."

About HDFC Bank:

CEO: Sashidhar Jagdishan (27 Oct 2020–)

Owner: Housing Development Finance Corporation

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: August 1994, Mumbai

Goldman cuts India's growth estimate; Morgan Stanley sees downside risks

- The quarterly gross domestic product figures for April through June falling short of market expectations, Goldman Sachs has revised lower its growth projections for India. A lower-than-expected growth during April to June increased the negative risk to current fiscal year growth predictions by 40 basis points.
- In the reporting quarter, India's real GDP growth increased 13.5% year over year, falling short of the 15.2% projection made by experts surveyed by Reuters.
- GDP growth momentum decreased to -3.3% quarter-on-quarter after increasing by 0.5% from January to March.
- The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. is a prominent global investment banking, securities, and investment management company, offers a comprehensive range of financial services to a sizable and diversified clientele that consists of businesses, financial institutions, governments, and private individuals.

About Morgan Stanley :

CEO: James P. Gorman (1 Jan 2010–)

Headquarters: New York, United States

Founded: 5 September 1935, New York, United States

Founders: Henry Sturgis Morgan, Dean G. Witter, Harold Stanley, Reynolds Securities

Moody's slashes 2022 growth forecast for India to 7.7%

- Moody's Investors Service drastically reduced India's GDP growth by 1.1 percentage points, citing a slowdown in global growth, rising interest rates, and an irregular monsoon as reasons for the economy's potential to lose steam in the coming quarters. According to Moody's Global Macro Outlook 2022-2023 study, India's central bank is anticipated to maintain a hawkish posture this year and keep a moderately restrictive policy stance in 2023 to prevent domestic inflationary pressures from escalating.
- India's GDP is now expected to grow at a 7.7% annual rate, down sharply from the earlier estimate of 8.8% in May.

- This information was released a day after government data revealed that the Indian economy expanded 13.5% year over year during the April–June quarter.
- But according to experts, this expansion is anticipated to slow down in the future quarters due to, among other things, rising interest rates.
- A more rapid decline in global commodity prices would have a large positive impact on growth, according to Moody's.
- If the private sector capex cycle were to pick up steam, economic growth would be stronger than what is anticipated for 2023.
- Even though it marginally decreased in July to 6.7%, inflation is still 7. consecutive months above the central bank's goal range of 2–6%, according to Moody's Global Macro Outlook 2022–2023 report.

About Moody's Investors Service:

Headquarters: New York, United States

Founder: John Moody

Founded: 1909, New York, United States

India leaps past UK to become world's fifth-largest economy

- India has surpassed Britain to become world's fifth largest economy, Bloomberg reported. The change in ranking has pushed the United Kingdom to the sixth spot as the country continues to grapple under the brutal cost-of-living shack. The Indian economy is forecast to grow more than 7 per cent this year. On an adjusted basis and using the dollar exchange rate on the last day of the relevant quarter, the size of Indian economy in "normal" cash terms in the quarter through March was USD 845.7 billion. On the same basis, UK was USD 816 billion, according to the report.
- IMF's own forecasts show India overtaking the UK in dollar terms on an annual basis this year, putting the Asian powerhouse behind the US, China, Japan and Germany. A decade ago, India ranked 11th among the largest economies, while the UK was fifth. The government is expecting the economy to grow at 7-7.5 per cent in 2022-23, in line with its projections made at the beginning of this financial year. India registered a growth of 8.7 per cent in 2021-22. "We remain on course to meet the 7.4 per cent. We expect to achieve. This does not really reflect on what is expected to be annual real GDP growth. So, 7-7.5 per cent in that range. 7.4 per cent is what the IMF has predicted," Finance Secretary T V Somanathan said on Wednesday.

According to the International Monetary Fund, these are the highest ranking countries in the world in nominal GDP:

1. United States (GDP: 22.49 trillion)
2. China (GDP: 16.4 trillion)
3. Japan: (GDP: 5.27 trillion)
4. Germany: (GDP: 4.30 trillion)
5. India: (GDP: 3.21 trillion)
6. United Kingdom: (GDP: 3.2 trillion)
7. France: (GDP: 2.78 trillion)
8. Italy: (GDP: 2.07 trillion)
9. Brazil: (GDP: 1.87 trillion)

10.Canada: (GDP: 1.71 trillion)

About United Kingdom:

Prime Minister: Boris Johnson

Capital: London

Currency: Pound sterling

GST Collection Rises 28% In August To Rs 1.43 Lakh Crore

- The GST collection remained above the Rs 1.4-trillion mark for the sixth straight month in August and the ensuing festival season will help continue the trend. The gross GST revenue collected in August 2022 is Rs 1.43 trillion of which CGST is Rs 24,710 crore, SGST is Rs 30,951 crore, IGST is Rs 77,782 crore (including Rs 42,067 crore collected on import of goods) and cess is Rs 10,168 crore (including Rs 1,018 crore collected on import of goods).
- The revenues for the month of August 2022 are 28 per cent higher than the GST revenues of Rs 1,12,020 crore collected in August 2021. The collection in August is, however, lower than Rs 1.49 trillion collected in July. The mop-up was at a record high of Rs 1.67 trillion in April.

India's air traffic may grow annually by average 7% till 2040: Boeing

- Aircraft maker Boeing expects India's air traffic to annually grow by nearly 7 per cent through 2040, and is bullish on the "massive potential" in the air cargo space. The company, which is a key player in both civil and defence aerospace segments, is also looking to increase the sourcing of raw materials from the country. Boeing Managing Director (Marketing) David Schulte said strong recovery is gaining further momentum in Indian aviation and it is one of the fastest growing markets.
- India's airlines will lead air traffic growth through 2040, growing at a rate of 6.9 per cent. The growth for the South East Asia market is pegged at 5.5 per cent, China (5.4 per cent), Africa (5.4 per cent) and Latin America (4.8 per cent), Boeing said in a presentation made.
- Currently, two scheduled Indian carriers—SpiceJet and Air India Express—are using Boeing freighters. Boeing India President Salil Gupte said it is always looking at the possibility of increased raw material supplies from India. "Raw materials are going to be one area of focus. We have talked to various ministries. We have been working to try to enhance raw material supplies from India so that is going to be critical for indigenisation, both in defence and civil aerospace manufacturing space," he said.
- India has defence, engineering, software, technology, it has every element of our supply chain. From the simplest assemblies to the most complex aerostructures to composite materials like the floor beams of the 787. Every element of what we do is here," he added. In the presentation, Boeing said that fuel prices, 70 per cent of an airline's operational costs being priced in foreign currency and the lowest average fares for similar distances and demands are among the major challenges in India. As per the aircraft maker, its 737-10 plane with 9 per cent lower seat costs will help enable a strong aviation market with sustainable low fares.

About Boeing (Aerospace company):

Headquarters: Arlington, Virginia, United States

CEO: Dave Calhoun (13 Jan 2020–)

Founded: 15 July 1916, Seattle, Washington, United States

Founder: William E. Boeing
Chairperson: Dave Calhoun
President: Dave Calhoun

India's Unemployment Rate Zooms to 1-Year High of 8.3% in Aug: CMIE

- India's unemployment rate surged to a one-year high of 8.3 per cent in August as employment sequentially fell by 2 million to 394.6 million, according to data from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE). During July, the unemployment rate was at 6.8 per cent and the employment was 397 million, the CMIE data added.
- "The urban unemployment rate is usually higher at about 8 per cent than the rural unemployment rate, which is usually around 7 per cent.
- The unemployment rate in rural India rose from 6.1 per cent in July to 7.7 per cent in August. More importantly, the employment rate fell from 37.6 per cent to 37.3 per cent.
- During August, the unemployment was the highest in Haryana at 37.3 per cent followed by Jammu and Kashmir at 32.8 per cent, Rajasthan at 31.4 per cent, Jharkhand at 17.3 per cent and Tripura at 16.3 per cent, according to the data. While the unemployment was the lowest in Chhattisgarh at 0.4 per cent followed by Meghalaya at 2 per cent, Maharashtra at 2.2 per cent and Gujarat and Odisha at 2.6 per cent each, the data showed.

About Haryana:

Capital: Chandigarh
Governor: Bandaru Dattatreya
Chief Minister: Manohar Lal Khattar

About Chhattisgarh :

Capital: Raipur (Executive Branch)
Governor: Anusuiya Uikey
Chief Minister: Bhupesh Baghel

Reliance Industries to Build India's First and World's Largest Carbon Fibre Plant

- Reliance Industries chairman Mukesh Ambani has announced to build of India's first and one of the world's largest Carbon Fibre plants at Hazira, Gujarat. The plants will have a capacity of 20,000 MTPA based on Acrylonitrile feedstock. Overall, in the Oil to Chemical segment (O2C), Ambani announced an investment of Rs 75,000 crore over the next five years to expand capacities in existing and new value chains. These value chains are – Polyester value chain, Vinyl chain, and New Materials. The first phase of the plant will be completed in 2025.
- The company will further integrate its composites business with Carbon Fibre to produce Carbon Fibre composites. Apart from other applications, Carbon Fibre composites are also used to meet the rapidly growing light-weight requirements of Mobility and Renewable Energy. Thus, Carbon Fibre promises to be a multi-decade growth engine for O2C, Ambani highlighted. Reliance has commenced its journey to becoming net carbon zero by 2035 with a set of concrete actions.

About Reliance Industries Limited (RIL):

Founded: 8 May 1973
Founder: Dhirubhai Ambani

Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
CMD: Mukesh Ambani
Director: Nita Ambani

SEBI fines Aadhaar Ventures, its directors for violating market norms

- Aadhaar Ventures India Ltd. (AVIL) and its directors were fined a total of Rs 25 lakh by the capital markets regulator SEBI for breaking the listing requirements and insider trading laws. Aadhaar Ventures India Ltd. (AVIL), its directors Jils Raichand Madan, Somabhai Sunderbhai Meena, and Jyoti Munver, and the regulator each received a fine of Rs. 10 lakh (to be paid jointly and severally) for disclosure violations.
- It fined Aadhaar Ventures India Ltd. (AVIL) and Meena Rs. 5 lakh (to be paid jointly and severally) for breaking the rules on insider trading.
- Aadhaar Ventures India Ltd. (AVIL), Madan, Meena, and Munver had violated disclosure lapses by failing to disclose the information to the stock exchange.
- The order was issued after SEBI opened a preliminary investigation into claims of price manipulation in the Aadhaar Ventures India Ltd. (AVIL) stock and discovered that the company had made an announcement in August 2014 regarding the acquisition of a business in Africa and the subsequent establishment of an overseas subsidiary in Singapore—an announcement that did not come to pass.
- SEBI then carried out a separate inquiry for the months of July to September 2014.
- The outcome of SEBI's appeal, which is currently before the Supreme Court, might, however, affect the severity of this penalty. Listing conditions are covered by Section 23E of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act.

About SEBI:

Founded: 12 April 1992

Sector: Securities market

Headquarters: Mumbai

Agency executive: Madhabi Puri Buch (Chairperson)