

Weekly Current Affairs PDF JULY 10 to JULY 16, 2022

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INTERNATIONAL

Pope Francis names women to bishops advisory committee for first time

- The Vatican announced that Pope Francis has appointed three women two nuns and a laywoman to a formerly all-male committee that assists him in choosing the world's bishops. In an exclusive interview with Reuters earlier this month, Pope had made the announcement, emphasizing that he wished to give women more high and powerful posts in the Holy See.
- The three women are Argentine laywoman Maria Lia Zervino, head of the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, UMOFC, French nun Yvonne Reungoat, a former superior general of a religious order, and Italian sister Raffaella Petrini, who is currently the deputy governor of the Vatican City.
- The Dicastery for Bishops, which screens applicants and counsels the pope on which priests should become bishops, was founded by the appointment of 14 persons, including the three women.
- Locally, bishops begin the process by recommending priests to archbishops who they believe would become good bishops.

About Argentina:

President: Alberto Fernández

Capital: Buenos Aires

Currency: Argentine peso

Continent: South America

NATIONAL

Govt launches 'Jute Mark India' logo to promote jute products

- The government of India introduced the certification of authenticity for jute products manufactured in India. The Union Textile Secretary unveiled the logo "Jute Mark India". This project is an initiative to protect and promote Indian jute products.
- The Jute Mark India (JMI) will be a hallmark of the jute products manufactured in India.
- This certification is expected to increase the domestic market and export of Jute products made in India to other countries.
- The Jute Mark India will contain a unique QR code and when the customers scan the code, they'll get to know about the product.
- The promotion of Jute and Jute products in India is managed by the National Jute Board, which works under the Union Textile Ministry.
- The National Jute Board is governed by the National Jute Board Act 2008, as framed by the Minister of Textile, the Government of India, and enacted by the Parliament on 12 February 2009. The board works to research and engage human resource development programs to explore and increase the use of Jute in both organized and decentralized sectors.

Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar to launch e-NAM Platform to promote agricultural trade

- On the eve of the State Agriculture and Horticulture Ministers' Conference in Bengaluru, Karnataka, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, unveiled the Platform of Platforms (POP) under the National Agriculture Market (e-NAM). A total of 1,018 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) received equity grants totaling more than Rs 37 crore, which will help 3.5 lakh farmers.
- Along with Shri Tomar, other dignitaries in attendance included Shri Basavaraj Bommai, the Chief Minister of Karnataka, Shri Basavaraj Bommai, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, the Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers, and Ms. Shobha Karandlaje and Shri Kailash Choudhary, the Union Ministers of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, respectively, Shri BC Patil, the Agriculture Minister of Karnataka, and other senior officers.
- POP covers 41 service providers from multiple platforms who provide a range of value chain services, such as trade, quality assurance, warehousing, fintech, market intelligence, transportation, etc.
- A digital ecosystem that will be created by the POP will profit from the knowledge of many platforms in various areas of the agricultural value chain.

About Karnataka:

Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot

Capital: Bengaluru (Executive Branch)

Chief Minister: Basavaraj Bommai

SPORTS

BCCI President Sourav Ganguly Felicitated by The British Parliament

- Former India captain and current BCCI president, Sourav Ganguly was felicitated by the British Parliament. The Indian cricket legend was felicitated on the same date July 13 when he led India to Natwest final win in 2002 and exactly 20 years later on the same day he was honoured in the same city. He was elected as the President of BCCI in 2019.
- Sourav Chandidas Ganguly, affectionately known as Dada, is an Indian cricket administrator, commentator and former national cricket team captain who is the 39th and current president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India. He is popularly honoured as Maharaja of Indian Cricket.
- Ganguly was awarded the Padma Shri in 2004, one of India's highest civilian awards.
- Ganguly was awarded with the Banga Bibhushan Award from the Government of West Bengal on 20 May 2013.

About BCCI:

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: December 1928

President: Sourav Ganguly

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Kerala reports India's first monkeypox case

- The first case of monkeypox was confirmed in India after a person who had returned to Kerala from UAE developed symptoms of the disease. His samples were sent to National Virology Institute in Pune which confirmed the disease. It was first found in monkeys in 1958.

- According to the WHO, monkeypox is a viral zoonosis (a virus transmitted to humans from animals) with symptoms similar to those seen in the past in smallpox patients, although it is clinically less severe. It is usually a self-limited disease with symptoms lasting two to four weeks.
- As infection turns acute, red lesions will appear on the body and the itching-like chicken pox is triggered. The incubation period ranges from five to 21 days.

About Kerala:

Governor: Arif Mohammad Khan
Capital: Thiruvananthapuram
Chief Minister: Pinarayi Vijayan

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Youth Skills Day 2022:15th July

- World Youth Skills Day 2022 is observed annually on July 15. It focuses on the strategic importance of equipping young people with skills for employment, decent work and entrepreneurship. This day is to equip young people around the world with essential skills for employment, work, and entrepreneurship. This day is meant to commemorate, acknowledge and celebrate the importance of equipping young people with skills for employment and entrepreneurship.
- Every year, World Youth Skills Day is marked with a certain theme set by the United Nations. The theme for 2022 is 'Transforming youth skills for the future'.
- In 2014, the United Nations General Assembly declared 15 July as World Youth Skills Day, to celebrate the strategic importance of equipping young people with skills for employment, decent work and entrepreneurship.

About United Nations General Assembly:

Headquarters: New York, United States
President: Abdulla Shahid

SUMMIT'S & MOU's

A Two-Day Meeting Of The BIMSTEC Expert Group On Cyber Security Cooperation Got Underway In New Delhi

- A two-day meeting of the BIMSTEC Expert Group on Cyber Security Cooperation is being organised in New Delhi by the National Security Council Secretariat of the Indian Government. The BIMSTEC Expert Group will create an Action plan to address cyber security concerns in the BIMSTEC Region, as agreed upon during the conference of the BIMSTEC National Security Chiefs held in Bangkok in March 2019.
- Lt. Gen. Rajesh Pant, the national coordinator for cyber security, will serve as the meeting's chair. Delegates from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand will also be present.
- This meeting of the BIMSTEC Expert Group is primarily focused on developing an action plan that will improve coordination and cooperation between the BIMSTEC Member States in order to boost cyber security when using ICTs.

About BIMSTEC:

Headquarters location: Dhaka, Bangladesh
Founded: 6 June 1997

President : Gotabaya Rajapaksa

Vedanta partners IIT Madras incubated start-up for AI based safety technologies

- In order to implement safety incident detection, metal and oil and gas company Vedanta has partnered with Detect Technologies, a startup established at IIT Madras, and deployed T-Pulse HSE Monitoring System across all of its business units. The partnership is consistent with the Vedanta Group's objective to achieving zero harm through the implementation of AI-enabled safety monitoring of workplaces, which is a key priority in its roadmap for digital transformation.
- The technological stack offered by T-Pulse is centralised, scalable, and intended for plug-and-play implementation.
- Detect Technologies, a startup supported by IIT Madras, was chosen as the Vedanta SPARK 1.0 initiative's winner.
- Vedanta Spark is a worldwide corporate innovation, accelerator, and ventures programme that aims to support start-ups that use innovative and sustainable technology to have a significant impact on society in collaboration with Vedanta group enterprises.

About Vedanta Group:

CEO: Shri Sunil Duggal

Founder: Dwarka Prasad Agarwal

Headquarters: Mumbai

Parent organization: Vedanta Resources

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Governor presents Mother Teresa Memorial Award to Dia Mirza, Afroz Shah

- The United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) National Goodwill Ambassador Ms Dia Mirza, and Environmental Activist Mr Afroz Shah were felicitated with the prestigious Mother Teresa Memorial Awards for Social Justice 2021. The award is given by the Governor of Maharashtra Hon. Bhagat Singh Koshiyari at Raj Bhavan, Mumbai. Both were awarded for their commendable and notable achievements in Environmental Sustainability.
- Ms Dia Mirza was awarded for her astounding and notable efforts in leading pivotal environmental campaigns across India as the Goodwill Ambassador of UNEP, India.
- Mr Afroz Shah was awarded for his impeccable and seminal efforts to lead one of the world's largest beach clean-up movements in India that have inspired people around the world.

About United Nations Environment Program (UNEP):

Headquarters: Nairobi, Kenya

Founded: 5 June 1972, Nairobi, Kenya

Head: Inger Andersen

Parent organization: United Nations

BANKING AND ECONOMY

BANKING AND ECONOMY

Trade deficit rises to record \$26.1 billion in June as imports surge, up 172% YoY

- India's merchandise trade deficit widened to a record \$26.18 billion in June, wider than the government's earlier estimate of \$25.63 billion, after the Commerce Ministry revised upwards both the exports and imports figures for the month. The previous record monthly merchandise

trade deficit was \$24.3 billion in May. Last month's trade deficit was almost three times as wide as the \$9.6 billion shortfall recorded in June 2021.

- While goods exports increased 23.5% year-on-year in June to exceed \$40.1 billion (the preliminary estimate was \$38 billion), imports outpaced, surging 57.5% to \$66.3 billion on the back of higher purchases of coal, gold and petroleum products.

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NATIONAL

NRTI in Gujarat renamed as Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya, gets central university tag

- National Rail and Transportation Institute upgraded as Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya, the deemed to be university will be upgraded to a central university. The university has been renamed as Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya. The Union Cabinet gave its approval to introduce a Bill in Parliament, namely, the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2022 to amend the Central Universities Act, 2009 for setting up of Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV).
- The amendment would help in converting the National Rail and Transportation Institute (NRTI), a Deemed-to-be university into Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya, a Central University. The NRTI offers BSc in transportation technology, BBA in transportation management courses, and MSc in railway system engineering and integration.

About National Rail & Transportation Institute (NRTI):

Campus: Urban

Established: 5 September 2018

Chancellor: Chairman, Railway Board (Presently Mr. Suneet Sharma)

Vice-Chancellor: Mrs. Alka Arora Misra (IRPS, interim)

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Agnikul Cosmos opens India's first private rocket engine factory in Chennai

- Space tech startup, Agnikul Cosmos has inaugurated India's first-ever factory to manufacture 3D-printed rocket engines in Chennai. The facility will use additive manufacturing technology to build 3D printed rocket engines and will be used to produce engines for its own in-house rockets. It was unveiled by Tata Sons chairman N Chandrasekaran and ISRO chairman S Somanath in the presence of Pawan Goenka, the chairman of IN-SPACe (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre).
- The company facility will use additive manufacturing technology to build 3D printed rocket engines and will be used to produce engines for its own in-house rockets. This will allow the factory to produce eight engines every month and build the number of engines required to launch Agnibaan – its two-stage launch vehicle, expected to launch by the end of the year.
- 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 Tamil Nadu:

Governor: R. N. Ravi

Capital: Chennai

Chief Minister: M. K. Stalin

Samsung develops the world's fastest graphics DRAM chip

- Samsung announced the creation of a new graphics dynamic random-access memory (DRAM) chip with increased speed and power efficiency. According to a statement from the manufacturer, the 24-gigabit Graphics Double Data Rate 6 (GDDR6) uses third-generation, 10-nanometer technology and boasts a data processing speed that is over 30% quicker than competing products.
- The new DRAM chip, which Samsung claims to be the fastest in the world, can process visual images at a pace of up to 1.1 terabytes per second, which is the same as processing 275 full HD movies in a second.
- Graphics DRAMs are frequently found in powerful 3D games, personal computers, laptops, and equipment that plays high-resolution videos.
- The new chip will likely be quickly adopted by the graphics and artificial intelligence industries because it complies with JEDEC industry standards.

About Samsung:

Founder: Lee Byung-chul

Chairman: Lee Kun-hee

Headquarters: Suwon-si, South Korea

Indian scientists develop novel mechanism to inactivate SARS-CoV-2

- New synthetic peptides that can both prevent the SARS-CoV-2 virus from entering cells and clump the virus particles together to lessen their capacity to infect living cells have been created by Indian scientists. With the help of this innovative technique, viruses like SARS-CoV-2 can be rendered dormant, opening the door for a new family of peptide antivirals.
- According to the Ministry of Science and Technology, scientists from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and the CSIR-Institute of Microbial Technology have created a novel mechanism to inactivate the COVID (SARS-CoV-2) virus by preventing its entry into cells and lowering its capacity to infect people.
- The COVID-19 vaccines' effectiveness against the SARS-CoV-2 virus has been reduced by the quick emergence of new strains, necessitating the development of fresh methods for preventing virus infection.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Mustafizur Rahman appointed as Bangladesh's next High Commissioner to India

- The Bangladesh Government has appointed Mustafizur Rahman as the next High Commissioner of Bangladesh to India. He is currently serving as Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations Offices in Geneva and the Ambassador to Switzerland. He will succeed Muhammad Imran as the new High Commissioner.
- Ambassador Rahman is a career foreign service officer belonging to the 11th batch of Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) Foreign Affairs cadre. In his diplomatic career, he has served in various capacities in Bangladesh Missions in Paris, New York, Geneva and Kolkata.

- He has also served as the Bangladesh High Commissioner to Singapore. At the headquarters, he occupied various positions primarily in the United Nations Wing. Rahman is a medical graduate from Sir Salimullah Medical College, Dhaka.

About Bangladesh:

Capital: Dhaka

Currency: Bangladeshi taka

President: Mohammad Abdul Hamid

Prime Minister: Sheikh Hasina

SUMMIT'S & MOU's

PM Modi attends maiden I2U2 virtual summit with leaders of US, Israel, UAE

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the first virtual I2U2 Summit. The I2U2 is a four-nation grouping, where “I” stands for India and Israel, and “U” for the US and the UAE. PM Modi was joined by United States President Joe Biden, Israeli PM Yair Lapid and UAE President Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.
- The main focus of the virtual meeting was on the food security crisis and clean energy.
- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) also announced an investment of USD 2 billion to develop a series of integrated food parks across India to help tackle food insecurity in South Asia and the Middle East.
- India will provide “appropriate land” for “food parks” across the country that will be built in collaboration with Israel, the United States and the United Arab Emirates.
- The I2U2 Group also declared that it will support a “hybrid renewable energy project” in Gujarat, consisting of 300 megawatts (MW) of wind and solar capacity. The project is expected to be another step in India’s quest for “500 GW of non-fossil fuel capacity by 2030”.

BOOKS & AUTHOR

Jaishankar to launch ‘Connecting through Culture’, an anthology on India’s soft power

- External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar launched ‘Connecting through Culture’, an anthology of essays on various aspects of India’s soft power strengths, at Sushma Swaraj Bhavan in New Delhi, India. The Minister described the book as the “good cop” in diplomacy and said that it can be used to encourage others to work with India because “it creates a comfort about India.
- It takes different aspects of India and to some degree, it brings out the familiarity with different facets of India.” The anthology in many ways is a very notable contribution to understanding India, appreciating India, and in many ways valuing India.

About Ministry of External Affairs:

Departments: Embassy of India

Headquarters: New Delhi

Founded: 2 September 1946

Officeholders: V. Muraleedharan (Minister of State), S. Jaishankar (Minister), Meenakshi Lekhi (Minister of State)

BANKING AND ECONOMY

Nasscom joined with Google for DigiVaani Call Center to help rural women entrepreneurs scale up business

- Nasscom Foundation and Google have announced setting up a call centre in collaboration with a not-for-profit body Indian Society of Agribusiness Professionals (ISAP) to help women farmers scale up their business. The “DigiVaani Call Center” project is being run on a pilot basis and initially around 20,000 rural women entrepreneurs shall be covered across six states, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana and Rajasthan.
- DigiVaani will be one place where rural women entrepreneurs will be able to call and get information around various schemes available for them, which can help them scale up their business, be it government schemes or any other information that can be of help for them.
- A DigiVaani call centre has been set up at the Delhi and Lucknow offices of ISAP. The project is funded by Google, through its philanthropic arm Google.org.

About Google:

CEO: Sundar Pichai;

Founded: 4 September 1998;

Headquarters: Mountain View, California, United States;

About Nasscom:

Chairperson: Krishnan Ramanujam;

Headquarters location: New Delhi;

Founded: 1 March 1988.

WPI-based inflation declines marginally to 15.18% for the month of June, 2022

- The annual rate of inflation based on the all-India Wholesale Price Index (WPI) is 15.18 per cent for the month of June, in a marginal drop from May when the figure stood at 15.88 per cent. The latest figure has bucked the three-month rising trend but remained in double-digit for the 15th straight month. Figures have been in double digits since April last year.
- The high rate of inflation in June is primarily due to the rise in prices of mineral oils, food articles, crude petroleum and natural gas, basic metals, chemicals and chemical products, food products etc. as compared to the corresponding month of the previous year.
- In the “Fuel and Power” category, the index increased by 0.65 per cent to 155.4 in June from 154.4 per cent for the month of May 2022. “Prices of Mineral Oils (0.98%) increased in June 2022 as compared to May,”.
- The Food Index consisting of ‘Food Articles’ from the Primary Articles group and ‘Food Product’ from the Manufactured Products group have increased from 176.1 in May 2022 to 178.4 in June. The rate of inflation based on the WPI Food Index increased from 10.89 per cent in May to 12.41 per cent in June.

Infosys to acquire Danish firm BASE life science for Rs 875 cr

- Infosys bought BASE Life Science, a company based in Denmark, for around 110 million euros (roughly Rs. 875 crore). The acquisition will expand Infosys’ knowledge in the life sciences industry and expand its presence in Europe. This purchase strengthens Infosys’ broad life sciences expertise, increases our foothold in the Nordics and across Europe, and scales our industry-specific cloud-based digital transformation solutions.

- The transaction is anticipated to be completed in the second quarter of this fiscal year.
- Domain professionals with knowledge of business, medicine, digital marketing, clinical, regulatory, and quality are brought to Infosys by BASE.
- With a heavy emphasis on data and artificial intelligence, it can bridge and combine business logic with technology to produce insights that lead to better health outcomes.

About Infosys:

CEO: Salil Parekh (2 Jan 2018–)

Headquarters: Bengaluru

Founder: Narayan Murthy

Founded: 2 July 1981, Pune

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NATIONAL

Delhi Government announces pilot project with UNICEF for employment opportunities to DSEU students

- Students of the Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University (DSEU) will now have access to job opportunities thanks to a new pilot project the Delhi government announced with United Nations INTERNATIONAL Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF). Which have introduced 'Career Awareness Sessions' for students. Skill Varsity of Delhi joins hands with YuWaah (Generation Unlimited India) at UNICEF to enable access to employment opportunities, assist students in becoming job ready as well as listen to and amplify the voices of young people.
- Another pillar of the partnership is the 'YuWaah Step Up – Bano job ready', a six-month pilot being conducted by Flywheel Digital Solutions Pvt with DSEU students and other job-seekers in Delhi to enhance the reach of young job-seekers on the new age job portals, the government said in the statement. The pilot will run at the Ambedkar DSEU Shakarpur-I campus starting July 20.

About UNICEF:

Founded: 1946

Headquarters: New York City, USA

Director General: Catherine M. Russell

Membership: 192

About Delhi:

Chief Minister: Arvind Kejriwal

Lieutenant Governor: Vinai Kumar Saxena

Capital: New Delhi

SPORTS

Fastest 150 Wickets in One Day INTERNATIONAL: Mohammed Shami becomes fastest Indian to take 150 ODI wickets

- Mohammed Shami became the fastest Indian bowler to 150 ODI wickets in first India vs England ODI at the Kennington Oval. The seamer needed 80 matches to 150 ODI wickets. Shami achieved the feat with his second wicket of the match. Overall, Shami is third joint-fastest to reach 150 ODI wickets.

- Shami also became the joint-third fastest ever to take 150 ODI wickets along with Afghanistan's Rashid Khan. Australia's Mitchell Starc (77 matches) and Pakistan's Saqlain Mushtaq (78 matches) hold the top-two positions for the fastest bowlers to reach 150 ODI wickets.

About Mohammed Shami INTERNATIONAL Carrier:

Test – 60- wkt: 216

ODI- 80 -wkt: 151

T20 - 17- wkt: 18

Fastest Indian to take 150 wickets in ODI format

Mohammed Shami: 80 games

Ajit Agarkar: 97 games

Zaheer Khan: 103 games.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

DCGI approved India's first qHPV vaccine against cervical cancer

- The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) has approved the market authorization of India's first quadrivalent Human Papillomavirus vaccine (qHPV) against cervical cancer. The Serum Institute of India (SII) will produce this vaccine. CEO of The Serum Institute of India Adar Poonawalla tweeted the information. For the first time, an inexpensive and widely available HPV vaccination made in India will be available to treat cervical cancer in female patients. Later this year, SII hopes to launch it, and we are grateful to the DCGI, MoHFW INDIA, for their approval.
- Following an assessment of the clinical trial results for the vaccine, the National Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (NTAGI) recently gave its approval to the qHPV. The Quadrivalent Human Papillomavirus (qHPV) vaccine against cervical cancer, which was produced domestically by Serum Institute of India (SII), was recommended for standard market authorization on June 15. After the vaccine's phase 3 data were deemed to be satisfactory, suggestions were made.

About Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI):

Headquarters: New Delhi

About Serum Institute of India:

CEO: Adar Poonawalla

Founder: Cyrus S. Poonawalla

Founded: 1966

OBITURY

Former Mexican President Luis Echeverria dies at 100

- As told by his son Benito Echeverria, Luis Echeverria Alvarez, who presided over Mexico from 1970 to 1976, passed away at the age of 100. Echeverria passed away in his house in Cuernavaca, the state capital of Morelos in south central Mexico. The family and friends of the former leader received a tweet from Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador expressing his respectful condolences.
- Career attorney and Institutional Revolutionary Party member Echeverria prioritised Mexico's foreign affairs and is renowned for, among other things, advocating for the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States at the United Nations in 1972.
- During his time serving as Interior Secretary under the Dáz Ordaz administration, political repression increased.

About Mexico:

Capital: Mexico City

Currency: Mexican peso

President: Andrés Manuel López Obrador

Noted social worker Padma Shri Awardee Avdhash Kaushal dies at 87

- Padma Shri winning noted social worker Avdhash Kaushal passed away recently following a prolonged illness. He was 87. He was the founder of the NGO named Rural Litigation and Entitlement Kendra (based in Dehradun, Uttarakhand). He was known for his fight against human rights and the conservation of the environment. Kaushal had been close to former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi.
- In 2003, Kaushal was invited by the United Nations to the World Summit in Geneva, to chair the panel on a discussion on the importance of local content within information and communication technology. Kaushal was also nominated as a member of the INTERNATIONAL committee to probe into war crimes and disappearances in Sri Lanka in the aftermath of the civil war in that country.

About Uttarakhand:

Governor: Gurmit Singh

Chief Minister: Pushkar Singh Dhama

Capitals: Dehradun (Winter), Gairsain (Summer)

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

RBI approves appointment of Meena Hemchandra as part-time chairman of Karur Vysya Bank

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has authorised Meena Hemchandra's appointment as the Karur Vysya bank's temporary chairperson for three years, according to private sector lender Karur Vysya Bank. Hemchandra's application for the position of non-executive independent (part-time) chairperson of the bank had been recommended by the bank to the RBI in May.
- Hemchandra's (64) term is approved for 3 years beginning on the day he assumes office.
- She has over 35 years of banking expertise in a variety of RBI areas as a career banker.
- From June 2015 to November 2017, Hemchandra served as the RBI's Executive Director.
- Karur Vysya Bank shares were down 0.63 percent from the previous close, trading at Rs. 47.40 per share on the BSE.

About RBI:

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Headquarters: Mumbai (Bombay), Maharashtra, India

Founder: British Raj

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

About Karur Vysya Bank:

Headquarters: Karur

Founded: 1916

Founders: M. A. Venkatarama Chettiar, Athi Krishna Chettiar

RANKING

Gender Gap Report 2022: India ranks low at 135th globally for gender parity; worst for health & survival

- India ranks 135 among a total of 146 countries in the Global Gender Gap Index 2022 of the World Economic Forum (WEF). It is the worst performer in the world in the “health and survival” sub-index where it is ranked 146. India also ranks poorly among its neighbours and is behind Bangladesh (71), Nepal (96), Sri Lanka (110), Maldives (117) and Bhutan (126). Only Iran (143), Pakistan (145) and Afghanistan (146) perform worse than India in south Asia.
- The Global Gender Gap Index benchmarks gender parity across four key dimensions or sub-indices — economic participation and opportunity, educational attainment, health and survival, and political empowerment. It measures scores on a 0 to 100 scale, which can be interpreted as the distance covered towards parity or the percentage of the gender gap that has been closed.
- The Global Gender Gap Report 2022 is the 16th edition of the annual publication by WEF. The Global Gender Gap Index was first introduced by the World Economic Forum in 2006 to compare countries’ gender gaps across four dimensions: economic opportunities, education, health and political leadership.

About World Economic Forum (WEF):

Headquarters: Cologny, Switzerland

Founder: Klaus Schwab

Chairperson: Børge Brende

Founded: January 1971

Kerala And Ahmedabad Feature In World’s Greatest Places Of 2022 By TIME Magazine

- Two locations from India have been named among “50 extraordinary destinations to explore” this year by TIME Magazine. The southern state of Kerala and Ahmedabad, the capital city of Gujarat were the two Indian entries into the list of the world’s greatest places of 2022.
- “Kerala is one of India’s most beautiful states. With spectacular beaches and lush backwaters, temples, and palaces, it’s known as “God’s own country” for good reason,” TIME Magazine said.
- About Ahmedabad, TIME Magazine said that “as India’s first UNESCO World Heritage City, Ahmedabad “boasts both ancient landmarks and contemporary innovations that make it a mecca for cultural tourism, from the serene Gandhi Ashram that sits on 36 acres on the banks of the Sabarmati River to Navratri, a vibrant nine-day celebration billed as the longest dance festival in the world.”

About TIME Magazine:

First issue date: 3 March 1923

Categories: News magazine

Based in: New York City

Total circulation (2020): 1.6 million

About UNESCO:

Headquarters: Paris, France

Founded: 16 November 1945, London, United Kingdom

Founders: India, United States, China, France, United Kingdom & etc....

President: Altay Cengizer

BOOKS & AUTHOR

Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar releases book **The McMAHON LINE: A CENTURY OF DISCORD**

- The Governor of Himachal Pradesh, Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, recently released a book titled "The McMahon line: A century of discord". The book has been authored by General JJ Singh (Retd), the former Governor of Arunachal Pradesh and former Chief of Army Staff (CoAS). The book is based on the experiences and research of General JJ Singh on the India-China border dispute. A short film related to the McMahon line was also screened. This is the second book written by him.
- General JJ Singh (Retd) had penned down his experience, research and practical knowledge, which could prove beneficial.
- General JJ Singh (Retd) had written a book on a sensitive issue. The book had laid emphasis on politics, history, structure and geography of the McMahon line.

About Himachal Pradesh:

Chief Minister: Jai Ram Thakur

Governor: Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

Capitals: Shimla (Summer), Dharamshala (Winter)

BANKING AND ECONOMY

Nomura cuts 2023 India GDP forecast to 4.7% amid recession fears

- Nomura has cut its 2023 forecast for economic growth in India, as measured by the gross domestic product (GDP), to 4.7 per cent from its earlier projection of 5.4 per cent amid recession fears and rising interest rates. Exports have started to struggle, while elevated imports are pushing up monthly trade deficits to record highs. Higher inflation, monetary policy tightening, dormant private CAPEX growth, the power crunch and the global growth slowdown pose medium-term headwinds.
- Meanwhile, the recent economic releases have not been too encouraging. India's retail inflation rate – the CPI – came in at 7.01 per cent versus 7.04 per cent in May. This is the sixth consecutive month that the CPI inflation has remained above the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) comfort zone of 2 – 6 per cent. The Index of Industrial Production (IIP), however, grew at a faster clip of 19.6 per cent in May, as compared to 6.7 per cent in April, data showed.

About Nomura Holdings:

CEO: Kentaro Okuda (1 Apr 2020)

Headquarters: Tokyo, Japan

Founder: Tokushichi Nomura II

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NATIONAL

India's 1st elevated urban expressway to be operational by 2023, says Nitin Gadkari

- The Dwarka Expressway, which is being developed as the first elevated urban expressway in India, will be operational in 2023, said Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari. Dwarka Expressway will reduce pressure on the Delhi-Gurgaon Expressway (part of the Delhi-Jaipur-Ahmedabad-Mumbai arm of the Golden Quadrilateral) and arterial roads that experience severe traffic congestion, primarily from the commuters of West Delhi.

- It will be a 16-lane access-controlled highway with the provision of a minimum three-lane service road on both sides.
- The Expressway connecting Dwarka in Delhi to Gurugram in Haryana is being developed at a total cost of Rs 9,000 crores. It has a total length of 29 km, out of which 19 km falls in Haryana and the remaining 10 km is in Delhi.

About Gurgaon - Delhi Expressway:

Length: 27.7 km

Constructed: 23 January 2008

Highway system: Indian National Highway System

West end: Manesar (Gurgaon)

Major cities: Gurugram, Delhi

Haryana: Union minister Piyush Goyal inaugurates new NIFT campus in Panchkula

- The 17th campus of the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) in Panchkula was officially opened by Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and Union Minister Piyush Goyal, who referred to it as the “fulcrum of development of the textile sector in the state.” According to Khattar, 20% of seats at this institute will be earmarked for people from Haryana in accordance with NIFT rules. He said that this campus’ foundation stone was set on December 29, 2016, by Smriti Irani, who was the Union Textiles Minister at the time.
- The CM stated that the institute building, which was constructed across 10.45 acres of land in cooperation with the textile ministry, cost Rs 133.16 crore to build.
- The new NIFT campus will launch three online hybrid courses in photography for e-commerce, social media marketing, and digital designing for textiles.

About Haryana:

Capital: Chandigarh

Governor: Bandaru Dattatreya

Chief Minister: Manohar Lal Khattar

PM Modi inaugurates Deoghar Airport and other development projects in Jharkhand

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi officially inaugurated and set the cornerstone for a number of construction projects totaling more than 16,800 crores of rupees in Deoghar. At a public event held on the grounds of Deoghar College, the prime minister declared that the government is funding religious institutions in order to preserve our culture and faith for future generations.
- According to PM Modi, all religious sites that have been built with modern amenities have drawn an increased number of visitors and followers.
- Under the PRASAD programme, modern amenities have also been increased in Baba Baidyanath Dham.
- The development of Varanasi, the prime minister said, has helped small vendors, sellers, and artisans do more business. He used the Varanasi-Kashi corridor as an example.
- The prime minister reaffirmed the motto Sabka Saath, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Vikas, stating that our government has been working hard to promote development in all of the nation’s underdeveloped regions.

About Jharkhand:

Governor: Shri Ramesh Bais

Founded: 15 November 2000

Capital: Ranchi

Chief Minister: Hemant Soren

AAI Leh Airport is being built as India's first carbon-neutral airport

- The Airports Authority of India, Leh airport is being built as a carbon-neutral airport, a first in India. A “Geothermal system” in hybridization with Solar PV Plant will be provided in the New airport Terminal Building for heating and cooling purposes. This system works by exchanging heat between the air and the ground as its heat pumps are used for space heating and cooling, as well as water heating.
- The main feature of this process is that naturally existing heat is concentrated and used. It is estimated that 900 tons of carbon emissions per year will be reduced after adopting the Geothermal system at the Leh Airport Terminal Building project.

About Airports Authority of India:

Headquarters: New Delhi

Founded: 1 April 1995

Chairman: Sanjeev Kumar

SPORTS

Jonny Bairstow, Marizanne Kapp Wins ICC Player of The Month for June 2022

- INTERNATIONAL Cricket Council (ICC) has announced the ICC Player of the Month awards for June 2022. England’s in-form batter Jonny Bairstow bagged the Men’s Player of the Month title while South Africa’s power-hitting batter Marizanne Kapp was awarded with Women’s Player of the Month.
- Jonny Bairstow received the title after his remarkable performances last month against New Zealand. He defeated his team-mate Joe Root and New Zealand batter Daryl Mitchell in the race of receiving the “Player of the Month” award.
- South African batter Marizanne Kapp’s last month was also full of solid and powerful performances. Kapp’s classic stroke play got her more votes than her teammate Shabnim Ismail and England’s Nat Sciver. With this feat, Kapp has become South Africa’s first ICC Women’s Player of the Month winner since Lizelle Lee, who was crowned in March 2021.

About ICC:

Founded: 15 June 1909

Chairman: Greg Barclay

CEO: Geoff Allardice

ICC Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

First Pic Of Earliest Galaxies Formed After Big Bang

- US President Joe Biden has released one of the James Webb Space Telescope’s first images in a preview event at the White House in Washington. This first image from NASA’s James Webb Space Telescope is the deepest and sharpest infrared image of the distant universe to date.

- Known as Webb's First Deep Field, this image of galaxy cluster SMACS 0723 is overflowing with detail. Thousands of galaxies including the faintest objects ever observed in the infrared have appeared in Webb's view for the first time.
- This slice of the vast universe covers a patch of sky approximately the size of a grain of sand held at arm's length by someone on the ground.

About United States:

Attorney general: Merrick Garland

Capital: Washington, D.C.

President: Joe Biden

Population: 32.95 crores (2020) World Bank

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

Currency: United States Dollar

About James Webb Space Telescope:

Launch date: 25 December 2021

Cost: 1,000 crores USD (2016)

Rocket: Ariane 5 ECA (VA256)

Operator: STScI (NASA)

OBITURY

British composer Monty Norman, known for James Bond theme, passes away at 94

- Monty Norman, a British composer who wrote the theme tune for the James Bond films, has died at the age of 94. He was hired by producer Albert "Cubby" Broccoli to compose a theme for the first James Bond film, "Dr. No," released in 1962.
- Born Monty Noserovitch to Jewish parents in the East End of London in 1928, Norman got his first guitar when he was 16. He performed with big bands and in a variety of double acts with comedian Benny Hill before writing songs for early British rockers Cliff Richard and Tommy Steele and composing for stage musicals including "Make Me an Offer," "Expresso Bongo," "Songbook" and "Poppy."

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Sanjay Kumar gets selected for CMD, RailTel Corporation

- The public enterprise's selection board (PESB) has selected Sanjay Kumar for the post of Chairman & Managing Director, RailTel Corporation of India Ltd (RCIL). Currently, he is serving as Director (Network Planning & Marketing) and (Project, Operations & Maintenance – Additional Charge) in Railtel.
- Mr. Kumar holds a bachelor's degree in technology in electronic and telecommunication engineering from the University of Allahabad and a post-graduate diploma in management from Management Development Institute, Gurgaon.
- He is an officer of the Indian Railway Service of Signal Engineers ("IRSSE") and joined the service on November 30, 1992.

About RailTel Corporation:

Owner: Indian Railways

Number of employees: 730 (2019)

Headquarters: India

Founded: 26 September 2000

Key people: Puneet Chawla, Chairman & Managing Director

Advent INTERNATIONAL hires Pratik Pota to lead Eureka Forbes

- Pratik Pota was appointed by PE firm Advent INTERNATIONAL to run Eureka Forbes, one of its portfolio companies. Pratik will join Eureka Forbes as Managing Director & CEO. Pratik will guide the management group in continuing to grow the company and produce cutting-edge goods. Pratik will start at Eureka Forbes on August 16.
- The CEO of Jubilant Foodworks Ltd. was Pratik. The JFL expanded into new areas under his direction, including Turkey and Bangladesh.
- Over the course of his more than 30-year career, Pratik has held executive positions with PepsiCo, Airtel, and Hindustan Unilever Ltd. before JFL.
- Eureka Forbes, formerly a member of the Shapoorji Pallonji Group and currently a portfolio company of Advent INTERNATIONAL, offers products for cleaning, air purification, vacuuming, and home security.

About Eureka Forbes:

Key people: Marzin Shroff; (MD & CEO)

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: 1982

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Paper Bag Day 2022:12th July

- Every year, World Paper Bag Day is observed on July 12 to raise awareness of the importance of using paper bags instead of plastic bags. This day is dedicated to spreading awareness of the ill effects of plastic and how detrimental they are to our environment. Paper bags can easily be used to replace one-time-use plastic bags which are non-biodegradable or, in other words, take hundreds of years to decompose in landfills.
- The theme for Paper Bag Day this year is, "If You're 'fantastic', Do Something 'dramatic' To Cut The 'Plastic', Use 'Paper Bags'."
- The significance of Paper Bag Day is to discourage the use of plastic bags and generate consciousness about how harmful they are to the environment as it takes thousands of years to decompose. However, paper bags are biodegradable and an important cornerstone to preserving our planet.

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NATIONAL

Meghalaya set to invest Rs 300 crore in early childhood education programmes

- Meghalaya Chief Minister, Conrad K Sangma has announced Government that the government has earmarked Rs 300 crore from the externally aided projects to make investments in early childhood education programmes. An estimated amount of Rs 8.33 crore has been spent on the construction of the DERT. The state and has come up with a road map to invest in early childhood education programmes.

- The Government aims to achieve the larger goal of making each individual product that will enable every individual to contribute for the growth and development of the State. The Government has been making investments to overhaul the education infrastructure, teachers training at the grassroots level to ensure an enabling environment for learning.”

About Meghalaya:

Capital: Shillong

Chief Minister: Conrad Kongkal Sangma

Governor: Satya Pal Malik

India's CBI now has access to Interpol's INTERNATIONAL Child Sexual Exploitation database

- India has joined Interpol's INTERNATIONAL child sexual exploitation (ICSE) database which will allow it to draw links between victims, abusers, and crime scenes using audio-visual data. The CBI, which is India's nodal agency for Interpol matters, joined the database making India the 68th country to connect to it, according to a statement from Interpol.
- An intelligence and investigative tool, the database allows specialized investigators to share information on cases of child sexual abuse.
- Through the image and video comparison software, the investigators can nail down the criminals by identifying victims and places of crime.

About Interpol:

Headquarters: Lyon, France;

President: Ahmed Naser Al-Raisi;

Founded: 7 September 1923, Vienna, Austria.

SPORTS

94-Year-Old Bhagwani Devi Clinches Gold at World Masters Athletics in Finland

- Bhagwani Devi Dagar, a 94-year-old Indian sprinter, won the gold medal in the 100-meter sprint at the Tampere, Finland, World Masters Athletics Championships. She finished first in the gold with a timing of 24.74 seconds and took home the bronze in shot-put. For competitors 35 years of age and older, the World Masters Athletics Championships is a competition organised in the sport of track and field.
- Hardeep Singh Puri, Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs, tweeted his congratulations to Bhagwani Devi. The 94-year-native old's Haryanans, Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and Governor Bandaru Dattatreya, also expressed their congratulations. Khattar said that at 94 years old, she is now a source of encouragement for everyone. Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, and Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal also congratulated Bhagwani Devi Dagar by tweeting their congratulatory messages to her on the social media platform.

About Finland:

Prime Minister: Sanna Marin

Capital: Helsinki

Currency: Euro

President: Sauli Niinistö

About Haryana:

Chief Minister: Shri Manohar Lal Khattar

Governor: Shri Bandaru Dattatreya

Capital: Chandigarh

GM Gukesh wins Gijon Chess Masters

- India's D. Gukesh won the Gijon Chess Masters, with eight points out of nine rounds. GM Alexandr Fier of Brazil finished second with 6.5 points while INTERNATIONAL Master Pedro Antonio Gines of Spain came third scoring six points. With the win, Gukesh took his FIDE rating to 2693. If he crosses the Elo rating of 2700, Gukesh could well become the sixth Indian to do so after Viswanathan Anand, Krishnan Sasikiran, P. Harikrishna, Vidit Gujarati and B. Adhiban.

OBITURY

Renowned archaeologist Padmashree Enamul Haque passes away

- Prof. Dr. Enamul Haque, a well-known archaeologist, historian, expert in art, and former director general of the Bangladesh National Museum, is no longer alive. At the time of his passing, he was 85. At his Dhaka home, he passed away. He served as the National Museum's director general from September 28, 1983, to February 6, 1991. He received the Ekushey Padak in 2016, the Swadhinata Padak in 2020, and the Indian Padma Shri award in honour of his contributions.
- Enamul Haque was a Bangladeshi museologist who lived from 1 March 1937 to 10 July 2022. The Government of Bangladesh presented him with the Ekushey Padak in 2014 and the Independence Day Award in 2017.
- In 2020, the Indian government also gave Haque the Padma Shri award, the fourth-highest civilian honour in the country, in recognition of his outstanding work in the fields of archaeology and museology.

Former Angolan president Jose Eduardo dos Santos dies at 79

- Former President of Angolan, Jose Eduardo dos Santos has passed away at the age of 79. He was one of Africa's longest-serving heads of state, who ruled for almost four decades as president of Angola. He stepped down from the president's post in 2017. He had also fought for the continent's longest civil war and turned his country into a major oil producer.
- Santos ruled his country for 38 years, from Agostinho Neto's death in 1979 — four years after Angola won independence from Portugal — until 2017 when he stepped down voluntarily as president.

About Angola:

President: João Lourenço

Capital: Luanda

Currency: Kwanza

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Malala Day 2022 :12th July

- INTERNATIONAL Malala Day is celebrated every year on July 12 on the occasion of young activist Malala Yousafzai's birthday. The United Nations (UN) designated this date to be marked as Malala Day to honour the young woman who has been advocating for female education. The day is used as an opportunity to appeal to world leaders to ensure compulsory and free education for every child.

- On July 12, 2013, then 16-year-old Pakistani activist delivered a moving speech at the headquarters of the United Nations. She highlighted the need for access to women's education globally and called the world leaders to reform their policies.
- Malala was widely appreciated for her remarkable speech. Since July 12 was her birthday, therefore the UN promptly declared that the day will be celebrated as 'Malala Day' to honour the young activist.

SUMMIT'S & MOU's

Union Minister Pralhad Joshi inaugurates 6th National Conclave on Mines and Minerals; stresses on Self Reliance in Mining Sector

- The 6th National Conclave on Mines & Minerals was held as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav legendary week celebrations in New Delhi, according to the Ministry of Mines. Shri Amit Shah, the Union Minister of Housing, was the chief guest at the colloquium that will be held at the Dr. Ambedkar INTERNATIONAL Center. The one-day conclave was officially opened by Union Minister of Mines, Coal, and Parliamentary Affairs Shri Pralhad Joshi in the presence of Minister of State for Mines, Coal, and Railways Shri Raosaheb Patil Danve, Secretary Ministry of Mines Shri Alok Tandon, and other senior ministry officials.
- The launch of three modules of the Mining Tenement System (MTS), awards for 5-Star rated mines for the years 2020–21, and the National Geo Science Awards–2019 were some of the highlights of the conclave. Other highlights included the presentation of the national level Rashtriya Khanij Vikas Puraskar to the best performing States in the field of mining. The conclave's opening session included a technical presentation from the National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) and a discussion on mining automation. During the round table discussions, the CEOs of various mining businesses did come up with crucial ideas related to India's mining industry.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

India's Pallavi Singh bags the Mrs Universe Divine Crown in South Korea

- India's Pallavi Singh has won the Mrs Universe Divine Title at the finals held at Yeosu City, South Korea. She hails from Kanpur, India, and has made her country proud in this contest that saw participation from 110 countries. This is a proud moment for India. Pallavi Singh was the contestant from Asia in the Mrs Universe contest and has demonstrated the strong will and commitment of Indian women to excel in all walks of life.
- Pallavi Singh won the title of Mrs India held in Jaipur in 2020. She then won the title of Mrs Indo-Asia Universe in the Asia-level competition held in Delhi in October 2021. She was the contestant from India and Asia in the Mrs Universe contest, which saw her taking away the crown.

About South Korea:

Capital: Seoul

President: Yoon Seok-youl

Currency: South Korean won

Prime Minister: Han Duck-soo

RANKING

J'khand secures 1st rank in Delta Ranking for RURBAN Mission

- According to a formal announcement, Jharkhand came out on top in the Syama Prasad Mookerjee Rurban Mission's delta ranking for the month of June with a composite score of 76.19. As a result, the state has moved up to number eight in the mission's overall ranking. The state's score in the delta ranking increased by 1.93 points from the previous month, the most increase among the 34 states and union territories.
- The mission was started by the Center in 2016 with the goals of promoting regional economic growth, upgrading essential services, and developing well-planned Rurban clusters.
- According to state rural development department secretary Dr. Manish Ranjan, the improved work done in each of the areas is what has caused the good improvement, which is reflected in Jharkhand's ranking.
- According to state MGNREGA commissioner Rajeshwari B, the Union Ministry of Rural Development has announced the delta rating for the month of June, in which Jharkhand placed first nationwide in the delta ranking and ninth overall.

About Jharkhand:

Founded: 15 November 2000

Capital: Ranchi

Chief Minister: Hemant Soren

Governor: Shri Ramesh Bais

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NATIONAL

President Ram Nath Kovind addressed Yuva Sammelan organized by 'My Home India'

- The Yuva Sammelan, which was hosted by "My Home India" in New Delhi, was attended by Ram Nath Kovind, the President of India. The President stated that youth are a nation's present and future when speaking at the event. Their skills have a distinct impact on elevating a nation. Therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that today's youth will write tomorrow's history. According to the President, there are more adolescents and young people in India than anywhere else in the world. This phenomenon, known as the "Demographic Dividend," presents an opportunity for our nation.
- India is home to one unicorn out of every ten found worldwide today. Additionally, he mentioned that as of May 2022, 47 businesses worldwide have attained the status of "decacorn," including four start-ups in India, three of which were led by young people.
- Pandemic has caused significant socioeconomic suffering globally, even during this time our young entrepreneurs have set a wonderful example of courage and talent. He pointed to the increase in the number of unicorns in India even during the COVID-19.
- My Home India" had established prizes like "One India" and "Karmayogi." He mentioned the extensive social work that this NGO is also involved in.

About President of India:

Party: Bharatiya Janata Party

Presidential term: 25 July 2017

Previous office: Governor of Bihar (2015–2017)

Organization founded: Fifteenth Finance

Andhra Pradesh CM Jagan unanimously elected as lifetime president of YSRCP

- Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress (YSRC) elected Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy, the chief minister of Andhra Pradesh, as its “president for life.” Following a change to the party’s constitution, the following decision was made following the two-day plenary of the YSRC. Jagan Mohan Reddy would be given lifetime leadership of the YSRCP, according to Vijayasai Reddy, the leader of the YSRC’s Parliamentary Party.
- In order to assist her daughter YS Sharmila in Telangana, YS Vijayamma, the mother of YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, stated that she is considering resigning from her position as honorary president of the YSRCP.
- She also launched the YSR Telangana Party in 2021 with the intention of challenging the state’s assembly elections.
- After parting with the Congress in March 2011, Jagan Mohan Reddy founded the YSRCP.

About Andhra Pradesh:

Capital: Amaravati

Governor: Biswabhusan Harichandan

Chief Minister: YS Jagan Mohan Reddy

Founded: 1 November 1956

About YSRCP:

President: Y. S. Vijayamma

Leader: YS Jagan Mohan Reddy

Headquarters: Plot no. 13, Suryadevara Township, Tadepalli, Guntur Dist

Founder: YS Jagan Mohan Reddy

Union Min Jitendra Singh To Inaugurate IS4OM For Safe & Sustainable Space Environment

- With the help of the ISRO System for Safe and Sustainable Space Operation and Management (IS4OM), India has increased its ability to protect its space assets on its own. Mr. S Somanath, Secretary of the Department of Space and Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organization, are slated to officially launch the IS4OM in the presence of Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister of Science and Technology, Earth Sciences.
- The IS4OM system was developed with a comprehensive viewpoint, according to ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation), to assure the safety and sustainability of the space environment while enjoying the benefits of sustainable use of space for national development.
- Additionally, as part of IS4OM, specialised labs for space debris reduction and cleanup, compliance verification of UN/Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee (IADC) recommendations, and diverse R&D activities have been set up.
- A dedicated control centre for operations aimed at monitoring, tracking, and safeguarding India’s space assets was opened by ISRO in December 2020.

About ISRO:

Chairman: Shri S. Somanath

Headquarters: Bengaluru

Founded: 15 August 1969

Founder: Vikram Sarabhai

SPORTS

FERRARI'S CHARLES LECLERC FIGHTS FOR AUSTRIAN GRAND PRIX WIN AFTER HOLDING OFF RED BULL'S MAX VERSTAPPEN

- Ferrari's Charles Leclerc held off world champion Max Verstappen to win the Austrian Grand Prix 2022. Red Bull's Max Verstappen had to settle for second and Mercedes' seven-time world champion Lewis Hamilton was a distant third, after starting eighth, to complete the podium for the third race in a row. Leclerc, whose victory is his first in Formula 1 had not started on pole position, has now closed the gap to Verstappen in the drivers' championship standings to 38 points.
- The 2022 Austrian Grand Prix was a Formula One motor race held on 10 July 2022 at the Red Bull Ring in Spielberg, Austria. It was the second Grand Prix weekend of the 2022 season to utilise the Formula One sprint format.

About Max Verstappen:

Born: 30 September 1997, Hasselt, Belgium

Nationality: Belgian, Dutch

Dates joined: 2016 (Red Bull Racing), 2014 (Scuderia Toro Rosso)

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Nokia, IISc Set Up Networked Robotics Centre Of Excellence

- Nokia has partnered with the Indian Institute of Science to set up the Nokia Center of Excellence in networked robotics at IISc Bengaluru. The Center of Excellence (CoE) will promote interdisciplinary research involving robotics and advanced communication technologies in 5G and Artificial Intelligence (AI). It will also develop use cases across industrial automation, agriculture and disaster management.
- The center will facilitate engagement and cooperation between academia, start-ups and industry ecosystem partners to research and develop these use cases. The research projects undertaken by the CoE will include the design of advanced robotics, AI and automation solutions built upon next-generation telecom networks and their applications for solving societally relevant problems.
- Nokia has been present in India since the last 22 years and deployed all technologies that have been used for mobile communication starting from 2G in 2000, 3G in 2011, 4G in 2012 and gearing up for commercial 5G.

About Nokia:

President: Pekka Lundmark;

CEO: Pekka Lundmark;

Founded: 12 May 1865;

Headquarters: **Espoo, Finland**

IIT Madras develops AI-based tool "PIVOT" to identify cancer-causing genes

- IIT Madras researchers have developed a revolutionary method that can identify a person's cancer-causing genes. Based on patient DNA profiles, the "Pivot," an AI-based tool, will help clinicians create individualised treatment programmes for patients. The tool is built on a machine learning model that classifies genes into cancer-preventing tumour suppressors, oncogenes that cause cancer, and neutral genes.

- In order to identify the gene that causes cancer in an individual, or more specifically to identify unusual genes that cause cancer, the model will analyse data such as the frequency with which a gene mutates, its properties, the sorts of mutations, and the quantity of harmful mutations.
- It is well recognised that the patient's overall health will suffer as a result of current cancer treatments.
- According to the research team, understanding the genes responsible for the development and spread of cancer in patients can aid in choosing the drug and therapy regimen that will have the greatest positive impact on their prognosis.

About Tamil Nadu:

Governor: R. N. Ravi

Capital: Chennai

Population: 6.79 Crores (2012)

Chief Minister: M. K. Stalin

OBITURY

Former VSNL chief, 'father of internet in India', BK Syngal dies

- Brijendra K Syngal, former Chairman of Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd (VSNL), passed away after a prolonged illness. He was 82. Syngal, who has been acknowledged as the father of the Indian Internet, was known for his strong views and fearlessness in taking on the establishment. As the Chairman of VSNL, he was unofficially known as the 'bulldozer' for his ability to push through bureaucratic hurdles, as a result of which VSNL grew from a \$125 million company in 1991 into a \$1.65 billion communications giant by 1998.
- Born in Ambala a year after World War II broke out, he started his schooling at DAV Model School in 1945, in Lahore. After the partition in 1947, he moved with his family to Delhi. During his school days, he took a liking for cricket and stamp collection. In 1957 he got into the Indian Institute of Technology-Kharagpur, where he pursued electrical engineering.

About VSNL/ Tata Communications:

CEO: Amur Swaminathan Lakshminarayanan (Jul 2019)

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: 1986

Founder: Government of India

SUMMIT'S & MOU's

Coffee Board & ISRO Team Up to Develop Climate-Resistant Coffee Varieties

- State-run Coffee Board is planning to focus on developing new varieties that will be resistant to the changing climatic patterns. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Coffee Board and the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) was signed with regard to breeding climate-resilient varieties and assessing the carbon sequestration potential in coffee among others.
- The Central Coffee Research Institute (CCRI) in the Chikmagalur district of Karnataka conducts plant-related research activities under the Board in the areas of plant breeding, agronomy, agriculture chemistry and soil science, plant physiology, pathology, entomology, and post-harvest technology, among others. In recent years, coffee growers in the country have borne the

brunt of changing climatic patterns. The number of extreme weather events affecting growers, such as excessive rain in a short period or deficit rainfall, is increasing.

About ISRO:

Founded: 15 August 1969;

Headquarters: Bengaluru;

Chairman: S Somanath

BANKING AND ECONOMY

UBI rolls out MetaVerse Lounge, Open Banking Sandbox environment

- Union Bank of India (UBI) has introduced a Metaverse Virtual Lounge – Uni-verse, & Open Banking Sandbox environment in collaboration with Tech Mahindra in an effort to elevate consumers' banking experiences. In the beginning, movies and information on the bank's deposits, loans, government assistance programmes, digital initiatives, etc. will be hosted by Uni-verse. Customers will receive a special banking experience thanks to it.
- The bank will work with fintechs and start-ups to develop cutting-edge banking products under the Open Banking Sandbox environment, according to reports.
- The bank currently serves over 120 million customers through a network of over 9500 domestic branches, over 13300 ATMs, and over 11700 BC Points with more than 75000 workers.

About Union Bank of India:

CEO: A. Manimekhalai (3 Jun 2022)

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: 11 November 1919, Mumbai

Owner: Government of India (89.07%)

RBI penalises Federal Bank and Bank of India for violating its regulations

- Due to shortcomings in regulatory compliance, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) fined Federal Bank Rs 5.72 crore. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) (financial services provided by banks) Directions, 2016 has strict penalties for violations. Federal Bank did not make sure that the insurance company did not compensate any of its employees providing corporate agency or insurance broking services with incentives (cash or non-monetary).
- The private lender's standalone net profit increased by 13.13% to Rs 540.54 crore in Q4 FY22 over Q4 FY21 on a 2.72 % increase in total income to Rs 3948.24 crore.
- Treasury, corporate or wholesale banking, retail banking, and other banking operations make up Federal Bank's four business segments.

About federal bank:

Headquarters: Aluva

CEO: Shyam Srinivasan (23 Sept 2010)

Founder: K.P Hormis

Founded: 23 April 1931, Nedumpuram

About bank of India:

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: 7 September 1906, Mumbai

Founder: Ramnarain Ruia

CEO: Atanu Kumar Das

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NATIONAL

Pariman: National Capital Region Planning Board's geo-portal now accessible for public

- Geo-Portal for NCR known as 'PARIMAN' was launched on 31.08.2021 in the 40th meeting of the Board by Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Chairman, NCRPB and Union Minister for Housing & Urban Affairs. For the purpose of effective utilization of remote sensing and GIS technology, a web geo-portal has been developed by National Informatics Centre (NIC), initially for use by the National Capital Region (NCR) participating states and the office of the National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB).
- This Geo-Portal will help to improve decentralized planning and management in the NCR region. The Portal consists of around 179 Layers presented as Line, Point & Polygon features covering details of various sectors like Land Use, Transport, Industries, Water, Power, Health, Shelter, Heritage & Tourism, Disaster Management, etc.

About National Informatics Centre (NIC):

Director General: Shri Rajesh Gera

Headquarters: New Delhi

Founded: 1976

PM Modi attends first 'Arun Jaitley Memorial Lecture' in Delhi's Vigyan Bhavan

- In the nation's capital, at Vigyan Bhavan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address the inaugural Arun Jaitley Memorial Lecture (AJML). Throughout the occasion, he will also address the group. Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Senior Minister, Government of Singapore, will give the opening keynote speech at the first AJML on the topic of "Growth through Inclusivity, Inclusivity through Growth." After the presentation, Mathias Cormann, the secretary-general of the OECD, and Arvind Panagariya will participate in a panel discussion (Professor, Columbia University).
- The first Arun Jaitley Memorial Lecture was held, according to a PMO press release, in honour of the former union minister's significant contributions to the country.
- The Prime Minister will also engage in conversation with the participants attending the three-day Kautilya Economic Conclave (KEC), which runs from July 8 to July 10.

About Delhi:

Chief Minister: Arvind Kejriwal

Capital: New Delhi

Lieutenant Governor: Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena

After A Gap Of Two Years, 2022 Kharchi Festival begins In Tripura

- A week-long traditional Kharchi festival, offering prayer to 14 gods and goddess, began with thousands of devotees converging at Khayerpur on the eastern outskirts of the Tripura. Kharchi Puja is predominantly a tribal festival but it owes its origins to Hindu religion. Devotees and sadhus from across India and neighbouring Bangladesh have also participated in the festival.
- According to Tripura royal family's "Rajmala", Queen Hiravati once went to take a bath in the river Maharani and noticed a wild buffalo chasing the 14 gods. With the help of the queen's cloth the gods managed to kill the beast. Happy with Hirabati's help, the gods visited the palace and the royal family offered puja by sacrificing wild buffaloes.

About Tripura”

Capital: Agartala;

Chief Minister: Dr. Manik Saha;

Governor: Satyadeo Narain Arya

SPORTS

Rafael Nadal's first win at Wimbledon against Cerundolo

- In Wimbledon, Rafael Nadal overcame his fear in the opener. Nadal played for the first time since his 2019 Wimbledon semi-final loss against Roger Federer. Rafael Nadal opened his championship for his third Wimbledon title with an impressive but hard-fought four-set win against the Argentina player Francisco Cerundolo on Tuesday. At first, the two times champion Rafael Nadal looked in control of the contest and played the first two sets roughly. By this time, people expected that Francisco Cerundolo will not delay in going above in the other two sets. However, Nadal soon gained the lead and controlled the proceedings of the two sets, and reeled off the final four games to take a 6-3, 6-4, 3-6, and 6-4 win.

About Rafael Nadal :

Born: 3 June 1986. Manacor, Spain

Grand slams won (singles): 22

Nationality: Spanish

Books: Rafa

Novak Djokovic wins seventh Wimbledon title and 21st Grand Slam

- Serbia Novak Djokovic won a seventh Wimbledon men’s title and 21st Grand Slam crown with a four-set triumph over Nick Kyrgios. Kyrgios gave his best to challenge the more experienced rival in his first Major final, but he could take only one set, propelling Djokovic toward the 21st Major crown.
- Kazakhstan’s Elena Rybakina made a brilliant comeback after being set down to beat Tunisian third-seed Ons Jabeur 3-6, 6-2, 6-2 and win the Women’s Singles title at Wimbledon. Rybakina became the first-ever Kazakh female player in the Open Era to win a WTA title on grass and is also the Kazakh female player with the most WTA-level titles in the Open Era (3). The 23-year-old also became the youngest female player to win the title in Wimbledon since Petra Kvitova in 2011.

About Novak Djokovic :

Born: 22 May 1987, Belgrade, Serbia

Grand slams won (singles): 21

Nationality: Serbian

Gujarat to host 36th National Games from September 27-October 10

- Bhupendra Patel, the chief minister of Gujarat, declared that the 36th National Games will be held in his state from September 27 to October 10 for the first time ever. Due to a number of factors, including the coronavirus pandemic since 2020, the prestigious event is being hosted after a seven-year hiatus; the previous one was in Kerala in 2015. The chief minister claimed in another post that Gujarat has world-class athletic facilities and that the sporting world is experiencing a resurgence. The government will do everything possible to make the national games the best athletic event ever.

- In both indoor and outdoor competitions, athletes from all over the nation are anticipated to display their prowess in sports including athletics, hockey, football, volleyball, lawn tennis, table tennis, judo, wrestling, kabaddi, kho-kho, mallakhambha, and yoga.

About Gujarat:

Chief Minister: Shri Bhupendra Patel

Capital: Gandhinagar

Governor: Acharya Devvrat

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

IFAD chooses its top finance executive, Alvaro Lario, as next president to lead response to the global food crisis

- The governing council of the INTERNATIONAL Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has been appointed as Spain's Alvaro Lario new President. Lario will take office on 1 October 2022 and serve a four-year term. He will succeed Gilbert Hounbo who has led the organisation since 2017.
- Lario, who would become IFAD 7th president, will lead the UN agency at a crucial time when global food prices are surging, induced by the Ukraine war, climate change, and the pandemic, with the World's poorest countries hardest hit.
- New figures published by five UN agencies including IFAD showed the world falling further behind in efforts to end hunger and poverty in line with the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.
- The State of Food Security and Nutrition report showed that hunger globally rose to as many as 828 million in 2021, an increase of about 150 million since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

About INTERNATIONAL Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD):

Founded: December 1977, Rome, Italy.

Head/President; Gilbert Hounbo

Headquarters: Rome, Italy

RK Gupta appointed deputy Election commissioner

- Senior bureaucrat R K Gupta was appointed as the deputy election commissioner, an order issued by the Personnel Ministry said. He comes in place of T Sreekanth. Gupta, a Central Secretariat Service (CSS) officer, will serve as deputy election commissioner (Joint secretary level) till 28 February next year, the date of his superannuation.

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Fish Farmers' Day 2022: 10th July

- NFF Day is celebrated on 10th July every year to demonstrate solidarity with all fisher folk, fish farmers and concerned stakeholders throughout the Country. It is 65th National Fish Farmers Day being celebrated across the Country. National Fisheries Development Board, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India celebrated the National Fish Farmers Day virtually at National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) Hyderabad.