

Weekly Current Affairs PDF MAY 22 to MAY 28, 2022

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NATIONAL

Rajasthan Govt Approves Guidelines for Implementation of New Urban Employment Scheme

- New rules for the implementation of the Indira Gandhi Shahari Rozgar Yojana have been accepted by Rajasthan Chief Minister Shri Ashok Gehlot. The scheme, modelled after the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Jobs Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), was introduced by Gehlot in the 2022-23 budget to create employment in metropolitan areas.
- Families living in urban areas will receive 100 days of employment each year under the new urban employment scheme. According to an official release, the state government will invest Rs 800 crore each year on this ambitious plan.
- According to the new instructions, everyone between the ages of 18 and 60 who live in the local body area would be enrolled under the system using their Jan Aadhaar cards.
- Under the proposal, the work will be approved and carried out by state and district committees.

About Rajasthan:

Chief Minister: Shri Ashok Gehlot

Governor: Kalraj Mishra

Capital: Jaipur (Executive Branch)

Delhi Customs launches Project 'NIGAH' at ICD Gurugram

- Chief Commissioner, Delhi Customs Zone, Surjit Bhujabal inaugurated project 'NIGAH' at ICD Garhi Harsaru, Gurugram. ICTM (ICD Container Tracking Module) has been developed in collaboration with the Custodian M/s. GRFL. A live demo of the project was given to all the participants.
- The function was attended by Commissioner of Customs, ICD Patparganj & Other ICDs Sh. Manish Saxena; Additional Commissioner of Customs Sh. Jayant Sahay; Deputy Commissioner of port Sh Sunil Shrivastava and Smt Jaya Kumari, Vice-President of M/s. GRFL Sh Rajguru with his team; Custodians of ICD Sonapat and ICD Patli and Sh. Puneet Jain, President of Delhi Customs Brokers Association along with other office-bearers. The function was virtually attended by Officers and Custodians of Other ICDs of the Patparganj Commissionerate.
- Project NIGAH is an initiative to track container by using ICTM (ICD Container Tracking Module) which will help in better visibility of the container movement inside the ICD. It will help Customs to expedite long standing containers and monitor timely clearances, thereby enhancing Ease of Doing Business along with ensuring lead preventive checks.

About Delhi:

Chief Minister: Arvind Kejriwal

Lieutenant Governor: Vinai Kumar Saxena

Capital: New Delhi

Raksha Mantri Rjnath Singh approves establishment of a new Defence Estates Circle for Uttarakhand

- Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has approved the proposal for the creation of a new Defence Estates Circle exclusively for Uttarakhand. In view of the difficulties faced in managing large tracts of defence land in the state and the demand of cantonment residents in Uttarakhand, the MoD will establish an independent office of Defence Estates at Dehradun and a sub-office at Ranikhet.
- The establishment of the new Defence Estates Circle for Uttarakhand is a huge step forward in bringing the government closer to the people in keeping with the objective of 'ease of living and 'ease of doing business.
- The creation of a new Defence Estates Circle at Dehradun exclusively for Uttarakhand will facilitate the residents/ organisations in getting timely and quick access to various services of defence land management.
- In order to further decentralize the governance structure, Raksha Mantri has also approved the establishment of a sub-office at Ranikhet under the administrative jurisdiction of Defence Estates Dehradun to deal exclusively with six districts of the Kumaon region of the state.
- Earlier, the entire defence land and cantonments in Uttarakhand were covered under two distinct Defence Estates Circles headquartered at Meerut and Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh.

About Uttarakhand:

Governor: Gurmit Singh

Chief Minister: Pushkar Singh Dhama

Capitals: Dehradun (Winter), Gairsain (Summer)

SPORTS

Lovlina Borgohain Elected Chair of IBA Athletes Committee, Shiva Thappa Elected Member

- Tokyo Bronze Medallist, Lovlina Borgohain was elected as IBA's Athletes' Committee Chair. International Boxing Association (IBA) announced that Indian boxer and Tokyo Olympics Bronze medallist Lovlina Borgohain has received the highest number of votes during the election held at the 2022 Women's World Championships and thus has been elected as the chair and a voting member on the Board of Directors for the IBA's Athletes' Committee.
- Further, Indian boxer Shiva Thappa has also been elected as a member of the IBA Athletes Committee following the election held during the 2021 IBA Men's World Championships. The duo, who are both under the Sports Authority of India's (SAI) Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) have confirmed that they have accepted their roles and look forward to representing India and other boxers at the Board of Directors' meeting.

About International Boxing Association:

Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland

President: Umar Kremlyov

Founded: 1946

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Indian officer Anwar Hussain Shaik is new chair of WTO's committee on technical barriers on trade

- An Indian Government Officer, Anwar Hussain Shaik has been made the chair of the World Trade Organisation's Committee on Technical Barriers on Trade. Mr. Shaik will take this role from Elisa Maria Olmeda de Alejandro from Mexico. WTO is a 164-member multilateral body which

formulates rules for global exports and imports and adjudicates disputes between countries on trade-related issues. India is a member since 1995.

- The Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Agreement aims to ensure that technical regulations, standards and conformity assessment procedures are non-discriminatory and do not create unnecessary obstacles to trade. TBT Committee work involves two broad areas, review of specific measures and strengthening implementation of the TBT Agreement. WTO members use this committee to discuss specific trade concerns, specific laws, regulations or procedures that affect their trade, usually in response to notifications.

About World Trade Organization(WTO)

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

Purpose: Reduction of tariffs and other barriers to trade

Founded: 1 January 1995

Head: Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (Director-General)

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Nawazuddin Siddiqui honoured with Excellence in Cinema award at the French Riviera Film Festival

- Bollywood actor, Nawazuddin Siddiqui has been honoured with an international award for his contribution to cinema. At the prestigious French Riviera Film Festival, Emmy award-winning American actor Vincent De Paul bestowed the honour to Siddiqui. This is not the first time that Nawazuddin has brought accolades back home. Previously, the actor was chosen as one of the delegates to receive awards on behalf of the nation at the Cannes Film Festival.
- Siddiqui's illustrious career boasts of some terrific films, including Gangs of Wasseypur, Raman Raghav 2.0, The Lunchbox, and Munto. He is the only actor in the world to have eight films officially selected and screened at the Cannes Film Festival. Along with films, he also appeared in web series like Sacred Games and Mc Mafia.

About France:

Capital: Paris

President: Emmanuel Macron

Prime minister: Élisabeth Borne

Currency: Euro

BANKING AND ECONOMY

HDFC Securities launches robo-advisory platform for mutual fund investments

- HDFC Securities has launched "HDFC Money", a Robo-advisory investment platform that will offer mutual fund schemes and other financial products without the need of a Demat account. Apart from mutual funds, one can also manage other aspects of finances such as accessing, managing, and tracking portfolios, starting goal planning, insurance planning, creating e-Wills and managing or filing taxes.
- The basic objective of investing is to achieve a financial goal, which could be as simple as a holiday trip to a complex retirement planning or child education/marriage." HDFC Money, backed by inputs from a highly experienced team, curates via Robo-advisory the best of the best mutual funds that exist in this exhaustive market as per the declared risk profile of the customer.

About HDFC Securities:

CEO: Dhiraj Relli (May 2015)

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: 2000

Parent organization: HDFC Bank

India's GDP growth likely to be 8.2-8.5 per cent in FY22: SBI report

- According to the State Bank of India's research paper Ecowrap, India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth in FY22 is predicted to be in the range of 8.2 to 8.5 percent. Uncertainties abound in Q4FY22 GDP estimates, as normal quarterly data adjustments are tough to fathom, but the research produced by SBI's Economic Research Department predicts that it will meet the 3 to 3.5 percent mark.
- On May 31, the government will disclose GDP figures for the fourth quarter of FY22. The data are tough to understand, according to SBI, and a flurry of regular quarterly revisions in FY22 on May 31st could make it a forecaster's nightmare.
- According to the newspaper, SBI's Group Chief Economic Adviser Soumya Kanti Ghosh believes that FY22 GDP estimates will be closer to 8.5 percent than Q4 GDP numbers.
- Given the robust growth in tax receipts, the disparity between GVA and GDP numbers in Q4 could be another major problem. This could result in a considerable increase in GDP, despite the fact that GVA may be much smaller.
- The Central Statistics Office forecast Q4 GDP at Rs 41.04 lakh crore and FY22 real GDP growth at Rs 147.7 lakh crore, an increase of 1.7% over pre-pandemic levels, according to the study.
- The growth rate of Q4 GDP is pegged at Rs 40 lakh crore by the SBI Nowcasting model, which is lower by Rs 1 lakh crore than the CSO early predictions.

About SBI Group:

Chief Economic Adviser: Soumya Kanti Ghosh

CEO: Yoshitaka Kitao (Jun 2003)

Headquarters: Minato City, Tokyo, Japan

Founded: 8 July 1999

CCEA clears sale of govt's 29.5% stake in Hindustan Zinc valued at Rs 38,000 crore

- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the government's 29.5% stake sale in Hindustan Zinc Ltd (HZL). The sale of a 29.58% stake represents more than 124.96 crore shares which would raise around Rs 38,000 crores at the current market price. This decision will strengthen the government's disinvestment drive in the current fiscal year. The government has budgeted 65,000 crores from PSU disinvestment and strategic sale. Shares of HZL closed at ₹305.05, up 3.14% on the BSE. During the day, the scrip touched a high of ₹317.30 a share.
- Till April 2002, the Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) was a government-owned company. In 2002, the government offloaded a 26% stake in HZL to Sterlite Opportunities and Ventures Ltd (SOVL).
- Vedanta group later bought 20% from the market and another 18.92% from the government in November 2003, raising its ownership in Hindustan Zinc to 64.92 per cent.
- Vedanta, led by mining magnate Anil Agarwal, recently said the company can buy just 5 per cent additional stake in the HZL considering the price of the shares on offer.

About Hindustan Zinc Limited:

CEO: Arun Misra

Chairman: Kiran Agarwal;

Headquarters: Udaipur, Rajasthan

Parent organizations: Vedanta Limited, Government of India

MoS Commerce Anupriya Patel launches Indian Business Portal e-commerce marketplace

- The Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) has launched the first-of-its-kind online marketplace for Indian exporters and foreign buyers. The marketplace – Indian Business Portal – will act as a B2B digital marketplace to help micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) exporters, artisans and farmers to identify new markets for their products and grow their sales globally. Minister of State for Commerce & Industry Anupriya Patel, was present at the launch.
- The marketplace has been designed and developed in partnership with GlobalLinker, which already provides a business networking platform for SMEs and startups. The portal will digitize Indian exporters and help them become discoverable online, promote exports from all Indian states, and showcase a wider range of products and services. More than 2,000 small businesses have already joined, listing over 40,000 products and services. FIEO will promote the marketplace worldwide.

About Federation of Indian Export Organisations:

Founded: 1965

Headquarters: New Delhi

President: Dr A Sakthivel

Director General & CEO: Dr. Ajay Sahai

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INTERNATIONAL

UNICEF and WHO launch the first Global Report on Assistive Technology

- The World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) have released the first Global Report on Assistive Technology (GReAT). The paper, which was created in conjunction with UNICEF's Office of Research – Innocenti, includes 10 important actionable suggestions for enhancing access to assistive technology for all children, as well as evidence-based best practise examples.
- Through a network of academic institutions, researchers, policymakers, donors, and practitioners, UNICEF Office of Research – Innocenti is at the forefront of the establishment of a Global Research Agenda and Platform for Children to amplify the voice of children and youth with disabilities.
- With the help of UNICEF's Office of Research – Innocenti, UNICEF and WHO created a series of 11 free-access background papers to accompany the Report.
- Around the world, 2.5 billion people require assistive technology. According to the estimate, by 2050, the population will have grown to 3.5 billion people.

About UNICEF

Headquarters: New York, New York, United States

Head: Catherine M. Russell

President: Tore Hattrem

Founded: 11 December 1946, New York, United States

Founders: United Nations General Assembly, Ludwik Rajchman

About WHO

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

Founded: 7 April 1948

Director General: Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

NATIONAL

India to introduce “made in India” skin test for TB

- India will introduce a newly approved “made in India” TB infection skin test called ‘c-TB’, said Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya. This cost-effective tool will be of immense benefit to other high burden countries as well. A new initiative, “Adopt people with TB” will be launched this year, based on Indian values of collectivism, which will call upon corporates, industries, organisations, political parties and individuals to come forward and adopt TB-infected people and families and provide them with nutritional and social support.
- Among these are the ‘bidirectional testing’ of TB with Covid, house-to-house TB detection campaigns, scaling up of rapid molecular diagnostics at sub-district levels, use of artificial intelligence and digital tools, ‘Jan Andolan’, and most importantly, the decentralisation of TB services to Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres as part of comprehensive primary healthcare.

About India:

President: Ram Nath Kovind

Capital: New Delhi

Prime minister: Narendra Modi

Currency: Indian Rupees

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India’s biggest Drone Festival – Bharat Drone Mahotsav 2022 on Friday

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated India’s biggest drone festival here and interacted with Kisan drone pilots as well as witnessed open-air drone demonstrations. ‘Bharat Drone Mahotsav 2022’ is set to be a two-day event being held on May 27 and 28. The prime minister will interact with Kisan drone pilots, witness open-air drone demonstrations and interact with startups in the drone exhibition centre.
- According to the Prime Minister’s Office, more than 1600 delegates, consisting of government officials, armed forces, central armed police forces, Public Sector Units (PSUs), foreign diplomats, private companies as well as drone startups, etc., will participate in the Bharat Drone Mahotsav 2022.
- The PMO mentioned that more than 70 exhibitors will display various use cases of drones at the Drone Festival. The Bharat Drone Mahotsav 2022 will also witness a virtual award of drone pilot certificates, panel discussions, product launches, a display of a ‘Made in India’ Drone Taxi prototype, and flying demonstrations, among others, the Prime Minister’s Office further added.

About PMO India:

Formed: 1947; 75 years ago (As Prime Minister's Secretariat)

1977; 45 years ago (As Prime Minister's Office)

Headquarters: New Delhi

Minister responsible : Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India

Deputy Minister responsible : Jitendra Singh, Minister of State for Prime Minister's Office

PM Modi headed Inter-State Council reconstituted

- The Inter-State Council has been formed, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi as Chairman and Chief Ministers of all States and six Union ministers as members. Ten union ministers will be permanent invitees to the Inter-State Council. The government has also reestablished the Inter-State Council's standing committee, with Union Home Minister Amit Shah as its chairman.
- Prime Minister Modi serves as Chairman, all Chief Ministers of States and Union Territories with legislative assemblies, as well as the administrators of UTs without legislative assemblies, have been appointed as members.
- Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah, Nirmala Sitharaman, Narendra Singh Tomar, Virendra Kumar, Hardeep Singh Puri, Nitin Gadkari, S Jaishankar, Arjun Munda, Piyush Goyal, Dhamendra Pradhan, Pralhad Joshi, Ashwini Vaishnaw, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Kiren Rijiju, and Bhupender Yadav are among the union ministers.
- The council's mandate is to provide a solid institutional structure to promote and maintain cooperative federalism throughout the country, as well as to activate the council and zonal councils by holding regular meetings.

About PMO India:

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India launches GRSE-built survey vessel Nirdeshak

- Nirdeshak, the second of the four Survey Vessels (Large) (SVL) projects being built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) in collaboration with L&T shipbuilding for the Indian Navy was launched, at Kattupalli, Chennai. The ship has taken its name from erstwhile Nirdeshak which was also an Indian Naval Survey ship and was decommissioned after 32 years of glorious service in December 2014.
- Part construction of three out of four ships of SVL is being undertaken at L&T, Kattupalli as part of a collaborative approach between GRSE and L&T shipbuilding. This model of Public-Private Partnership shall be a harbinger of future successful collaboration for Warship construction in India. The contract for building four SVL ships was signed between MoD and GRSE, Kolkata on October 30, 2018. The first of class ship 'Sandhayak' was launched in December 2021 at GRSE, Kolkata.

About Tamil Nadu:

Governor: R. N. Ravi

Capital: Chennai

Chief minister: M. K. Stalin

SPORTS

Narinder Batra Steps Down as Indian Olympic Association President

- Narinder Batra has resigned from his position as president of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA). Mr Batra also indicated that he will not run for president of the IOA again. He is also the International Hockey Federation's president (FIH).

- In a letter, Batra stated that his involvement with FIH as president will take more time due to the organization's different activities.
- Batra went on to say that it's time for someone with a fresh perspective and ideas to take over the post he was voted to in 2017.

About Indian Olympic Association (IOA)

President: Narinder Batra

Founded: 1927

Headquarters: New Delhi

Secretary General: Rajeev Mehta

Founders: Harry Buck, Arthur Noehren

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Indian novel 'Tomb of Sand', translated from Hindi, wins Booker Prize

- Indian writer Geetanjali Shree and American translator Daisy Rockwell won the International Booker Prize for "Tomb of Sand,". Originally written in Hindi, it's the first book in any Indian language to win the high-profile award, which recognizes fiction from around the world that has been translated into English. The 50,000-pound (\$63,000) prize money will be split between New Delhi-based Shree and Rockwell, who lives in Vermont.
- "Tomb of Sand" is published in Britain by a small publisher Tilted Axis Press. It was founded by translator Deborah Smith, who won the 2016 International Booker for translating Han Kang's "The Vegetarian" to publish books from Asia.
- The book tells the story of an octogenarian widow who dares to cast off convention and confront the ghosts of her experiences during the subcontinent's tumultuous 1947 partition into India and Pakistan. Shree's book beat five other finalists including Polish Nobel literature laureate Olga Tokarczuk, Claudia Piñeiro of Argentina and South Korean author Bora Chung to be awarded the prize at a ceremony in London.

About Booker Prize:

Established: 1969

First awarded: 1969; 53 years ago

First Indian to receive this award: Geetanjali Shree

BANKING AND ECONOMY

RBI slashes minimum net-worth requirement to set up non-bank Bharat Bill Payment

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has eased norms for non-bank entities to set up Bharat Bill Payment operating units by reducing the net-worth requirement to Rs 25 crore, with a view to encouraging more players in the segment. At present, a net worth of Rs 100 crore is required to obtain authorisation for a non-bank BBPOU (Bharat Bill Payment Operating Units). The reduction in net-worth requirements follows an announcement regarding the same by the central bank in April.
- To increase participation, the RBI had decided to align the net worth requirement of non-bank BBPOUs with that of other nonbank participants who handle customer funds (like payment aggregators) and have a similar risk profile.
- Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS) is an interoperable platform for bill payments and the scope and coverage of BBPS extend to all categories of billers who raise recurring bills. Users of BBPS

enjoy benefits like a standardised bill payment experience, a centralised customer grievance redressal mechanism and a prescribed customer convenience fee.

About RBI:

Headquarters: Mumbai, India

Founder: British Raj

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Jurisdiction: India

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

Moody's cuts CY22 India GDP growth forecast to 8.8% amid rising inflation

- Moody's Investors Service slashed India's economic growth projection to 8.8 per cent for 2022 from 9.1 per cent earlier, citing high inflation. In its update to Global Macro Outlook 2022-23, Moody's said high-frequency data suggest that the growth momentum from December quarter 2021 carried through into the first four months this year. However, the rise in crude oil, food and fertilizer prices will weigh on household finances and spending in the months ahead. Rate hikes to prevent energy and food inflation from becoming more generalized will slow the demand recovery's momentum.
- Strong credit growth, a large increase in investment intentions announced by the corporate sector, and a high budget allocation to capital spending by the government indicate that the investment cycle is strengthening. For 2022 and 2023, it projected inflation to be around 6.8 per cent and 5.2 per cent, respectively.

About Moody's Investors Service:

Industry Bond credit ratings

Predecessor Moody's Analyses Publishing Company

Founded 1909; 113 years ago

Headquarters 7 World Trade Center New York City, United States

Parent: Moody's Corporation

RBI issues norms for gold import by qualified jewellers through IIBX

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced new guidelines to permit qualified jewellers to import gold through the India International Bullion Exchange IFSC Ltd. (IIBX) or any other exchange. IFSCA and the DGFT, the Government of India, must sanction the other exchanges. All payments by authorised jewellers for gold imports through IIBX must be done using an exchange mechanism recognised by IFSCA in accordance with the IFSC Act and regulations, according to the RBI.
- According to the new recommendations, approved dealers banks may allow Qualified Jewellers to make eleven-day advance payments for gold imports through IIBX in accordance with the existing Foreign Trade Policy and Regulations published under the IFSC Act.
- In accordance with the terms of the sale contract or other document in the nature of an irrevocable purchase order in terms of the IFSC Act and regulations made thereunder by IFSCA, AD banks shall ensure that advance remittance for such import through exchange/s authorised by IFSCA is in accordance with the terms of the sale contract or other document in the nature of an irrevocable purchase order in terms of the IFSC Act and regulations made thereunder by IFSCA.

- Furthermore, licenced dealers banks must perform all due diligence and guarantee that the remittances sent are only for bona fide import transactions through IFSCA-approved exchanges.
- The RBI further noted that advance remittances for gold imports should not be used in any way to import gold worth more than the advance remittance made.
- QJ shall send the Bill of Entry (or any other applicable document issued/approved by Customs Department for evidence of import) issued by Customs Authorities to the AD bank from which advance payment has been made if gold is imported through IIBX.

About RBI:

Headquarters: Mumbai, India

Founder: British Raj

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Jurisdiction: India

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

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NATIONAL

Third edition of India-Bangladesh Navy exercise begins at Mongla port

- The third edition of Indian Navy (IN) – Bangladesh Navy (BN) Bilateral Exercise ‘Bongosagar’ commenced at Port Mongla, Bangladesh on 24 May 2022. The Harbour Phase of the exercise begins from 24-25 May which will be followed by a Sea Phase in the Northern Bay of Bengal from 26-27 May.
- Exercise Bongosagar is aimed at developing a high degree of interoperability and joint operational skills through the conduct of a wide spectrum of maritime exercises and operations between the two navies.
- Indian Naval Ships Kora, an indigenously built Guided Missile Corvette, and Sumedha, an indigenously built Offshore Patrol Vessel are participating in the Exercise. Bangladesh Navy is being represented by BNS Abu Ubaidah and Ali Haider, both Guided Missile Frigates.
- The harbour phase of the exercise includes professional and social interactions, and friendly sporting fixtures, in addition to the tactical level planning discussions on the conduct of the exercises at sea. The sea phase of the exercise would facilitate ships from both the navies to participate in intensive surface warfare drills, weapon firing drills, seamanship evolutions and coordinated air operations in a tactical scenario.

About Bangladesh:

Capital: Dhaka

Currency: Bangladeshi taka

President: Abdul Hamid

Prime minister: Sheikh Hasina

Secretary, MoHUA launches Swachh Survekshan 2023 on the theme ‘Waste to Wealth’ for Garbage Free Cities

- Union Government of India has launched the Eighth Edition of Swachh Survekshan – SS-2023 under Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0. Secretary, Ministry of Housing and

Urban Affairs Manoj Joshi launched it at a virtual event in New Delhi. Designed with the theme of 'Waste to Wealth' as its driving philosophy, Swachh Survekshan- 2023 is curated towards achieving circularity in waste management. The survey would give priority to the principle of 3 Rs- Reduce, Recycle and Reuse.

- The Swachh Survekshan has developed into an inspiration tool, rather than being just an assessment tool. This largest survey undertaken anywhere has brought about substantive changes at the ground level, with cities performing well and having a sense of pride. Swachh Survekshan has emerged as the largest Urban sanitation survey in the world. It was observed that whenever the Swachh Survey starts, there is an enhanced level of activities undertaken by the cities and cities are visibly cleaner during the months the survey is conducted. Therefore, in SS-2023, the evaluation will be conducted in four phases, instead of three phases in earlier editions.

About Swachh Bharat Mission:

Launch year: 2014

Launched by (prime minister): Narendra Modi

Slogan: One step towards cleanliness

Key people: Parameswaran Iyer

Location: India

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

MeitY holds Brainstorming with Researchers & Startups to shape strategy for Digital India BHASHINI

- Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, was present during a brainstorming session organised by MeitY on Mission Digital India BHASHINI – the National Language Translation Mission (NLTM). According to him, Startups are an essential component of our digital ecosystem, and Mission Digital India Bhashini will support them in developing India-specific and Indian Languages enabled IT solutions.
- MSMEs, Startups, and Individual Innovators will have access to Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Natural Language Processing (NLP) resources through the Bhashini Platform.
- The goal of this mission is to empower Indian citizens by linking them to the country's digital initiatives in their local language, resulting in digital inclusion. Bhashini is an interoperable platform that will catalyse the entire Digital Ecosystem. Realizing the goal of Digital Government is a huge step forward.
- The mission will create and cultivate an ecosystem that will bring together central and state government agencies, as well as start-ups, to develop and implement new products and services in Indian languages.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Tedros re-elected to lead the World Health Organization

- World Health Organization has re-appointed Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus as Director-General of WHO for the second term with effect from 16th August 2022. His re-election was confirmed during the 75th World Health Assembly in Geneva. He was the sole candidate. Dr Tedros was first elected in 2017. Before joining the WHO, Dr

Tedros was served as Minister of Foreign Affairs and as Minister of Health in Ethiopia.

- The vote by secret ballot, announced by Ahmed Robleh Abdilleh from Djibouti at a major annual meeting, was seen as a formality since Tedros was the only candidate running. Ministers and delegates took turns to shake hands and hugging Tedros, a former health minister from Ethiopia, who has steered the UN agency through a turbulent period dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

About World Health Organization:

President: Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

Founded: 7 April 1948

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Missing Children's Day 2022: 25th May

- International Missing Children's Day is an awareness event that is observed every year on 25th of May. The aims of the day are to place a spotlight on the issue of child abduction, educate parents on safeguarding measures to protect their children and also honour those who have never been found and celebrate those who have. This awareness event is run in conjunction with the Global Missing Children's Network. The network, which was formed in 1998, has 23 member countries who all connect in order to share information and best practice, working towards improving the effectiveness and success rate of missing children investigations.
- Missing Children's Day began as an observance in the USA in 1983. The date was chosen following the disappearance of 6-year-old Etan Patz on 25th May 1979 from New York City. International Missing Children's Day which observes the same date was launched a number of years later in 2001 and is now observed all over the world.

SUMMIT'S & MOU's

President of India Inaugurates National Women Legislators Conference-2022

- At the Legislative Assembly complex, President Ram Nath Kovind will kick off the two-day National Women Legislators' Conference-2022, which is expected to draw a large number of female parliamentarians and legislators from throughout the country. The first-ever such event, hosted by the state Assembly, is part of the nation-wide celebrations scheduled under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' honouring India's 75th anniversary of independence.
- According to Assembly sources, the two-day conference will focus on modern issues such as women's rights, gender equality, and enough female representation in decision-making bodies.
- Speakers in the session Constitution and Women's Rights include Gujarat Assembly Speaker Nimaben Acharya, Lok Sabha MP Kanimozhi, former Lok Sabha Speaker Meira Kumar, and former Rajya Sabha member Brinda Karat.
- The panellists for the session "Role of Women in India's Freedom Struggle" will be MPs Supriya Sule and Jebi Methar, as well as former MP Subhashini Ali, while the speakers for the session Women's Rights and Legal Gaps will be West Bengal

minister Shashi Panja, MP Jaya Bachchan, Delhi Assembly deputy speaker Rakhi Birla, and Kerala High Court justice Anu Sivaraman.

Some Important Knowledge:

Parliamentary Affairs Minister: K Radhakrishnan

Lok Sabha Speaker: Om Birla

Uttarakhand Assembly Speaker: Ritu Khanduri

Gujarat Assembly Speaker: Nimaben Acharya

National Federation of India Women general secretary: Annie Raja

Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan appointed as chairperson of Key WHO Panel

- Union Health Secretary, Rajesh Bhushan has been appointed as the chairperson of the Committee B at the 75th World Health Assembly (WHA). Committee B primarily discusses administrative and financial matters of the World Health Organization (WHO). Each year, the World Health Assembly has a long and complex list of health challenges and responses to review and the Assembly functions through two committees — A and B.
- Committee A meets to debate technical and health matters. It has listed critical issues to discuss during the 75th WHA including pandemic preparedness and response, amendment in International Health Regulations 2005, WHO work in a health emergency, Global Strategy for HIV, TB, Viral hepatitis and eradication of polio, Immunisation agenda 2030, Infection prevention and control and human resources for health etc.
- Committee B will discuss and prepare a report on many important issues which includes health conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory including East Jerusalem and the occupied Syrian Golan, the budget for WHO for the year 2022-23, prevention of sexual exploitation, WHO reforms Global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation and intellectual property, audit report of WHO, Global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation and intellectual property and intergovernmental organizations issues.

About World Health Organization:

President: Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

Founded: 7 April 1948

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

The VASVIK industrial research award 2020 given to A Gopalakrishnan

- A Gopalakrishnan, Director of the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute has won the VASVIK (Vividhlaxi Audyogik Samshodhan Vikas Kendra) Industrial Research Award for the year 2020 in the category of Agricultural Sciences and Technology. The award, which carries a cash prize of Rs 1.51 lakh and citation, is in recognition of his significant contribution towards the research works related to fish genetics. The research works related to fish genetics which is relevant for conserving many commercially important and endangered species.
- The VASVIK research award is presented to scientists and researchers who have excelled in various fields including agricultural sciences. His research works include

the Genetic Stock Identification (GSI), species inventory, taxonomy, breeding and seed production of threatened and commercially important species for mariculture which has helped in improving scientific knowledge on Indian fishery and the conservative measures.

About ICAR:

Founded: 16 July 1929

Headquarters: New Delhi

Director-cum-Vice Chancellor: Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra

RANKING

India beats China to become the world's third strongest air force in the Global Air Powers Ranking for 2022

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) ranks third on World Air Power Index in terms of Fighting strength of different air force services of different countries. In 2022, the world directory of modern military Aircraft (WDMMA) published the Global Air Power Rankings. In this report, the Indian Air Force is placed in third place, above the Chinese Air force, or People's Libertarian Army Air Force(PLAAF), the French Air and Space Power, and the Israeli Aviation Based Armed Forces.
- The Indian Air Force was established on 8th October 1932. On 1st April 1933, the first ac flight came into being with six RAF-Trained officers and 19 Havai Sepoys (air-soldiers). Some of the major operations executed by IAF are operation Vijay, Operation Meghdoot, operation cactus, and operation Poomalai. IAF has been involved in four major wars with Pakistan since 1950. The Mission of the IAF is defined under the Armed Forces act of 1947, the constitution of India, and The Air Force act of 1950.
- The president of India holds the rank of Supreme Commander of IAF, in India, and President Ram Nath Kovind holds the rank of Supreme Commander. Indian Air Force, take the responsibility to safeguard Indian Airspace. It provides India, with rapid response evacuation, search and rescue (SAR) operations, and supply of relief in affected areas via cargo aircraft, with highly trained pilots and crews. Some relief operations executed by IAF are during natural calamities such as The Gujarat Cyclone, 1998, 2004 Tsunami, floods in North India in 2013, and Operation Rainbow in Sri Lanka.

About Indian Air Force:

Headquarters: New Delhi

Founded: 8 October 1932, India

Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari

NAS 2021-State report card: Learning outcome levels drop in higher grades

- The National Achievement Survey (NAS) report for the 2021 edition has been released. NAS2021: One of the largest surveys in the world, the National Achievement Survey (NAS) 2021 was conducted on 12.11.2021 across the country, to identify the learning gaps & to take remedial measures. The NAS 2021 report cards for the national, state and district levels have been made available at the official website "nas.gov.in."

- NAS 2021 conducted on November 12 last year assessed over 34 lakh students in 1.18 lakh schools at 720 districts across 36 states and Union Territories.
- NAS assesses the health of the school education system in the country by conducting a comprehensive evaluation survey of children's learning competencies at Classes 3, 5, 8 and 10 with a cycle period of three years. It reflects the overall assessment of the school education system. The last NAS was held in 2017.
- NAS 2021 covered both central and state government schools, government-aided schools and private schools across the country.
- The survey was conducted in 22 languages in Language, Mathematics and EVS for Class 3 and 5; Language, Mathematics, Science and Social Science for Class 8 and Language, Mathematics, Science, Social Science and English for Class 10.

Current Affairs PDF- MAY 25, 2022

OBITUARY

Veteran Communist leader Sivaji Patnaik passes away at 91

- Veteran Communist leader and three-time Member of Parliament, Shivaji Patnaik passed away at the age of 93. Shivaji Patnaik is lauded as the founder of CPI (Marxist) in Odisha. He was born on August 10, 1930, the veteran leader had joined the State student's movement at the age of 17 when he was studying in Ravenshaw College. He had a crucial role in the formation of CPI(M) when the Communist party faced division in 1964. He remained the party secretary from 1971 to 1990. He was also elected to the Central Committee of the party.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Thyroid Day 2022: 25th May

- World Thyroid Day is observed on May 25 to promote awareness and understanding of thyroid diseases, their symptoms, prevention, and treatments. The day came into existence in 2008 on a proposal by the European Thyroid Association (ETA). As per a report by Public Health Update, globally, more than 200 million people are estimated to be dealing with thyroid disorders and 50 per cent of these cases remain undiagnosed.
- There's no separate theme for World Thyroid Day this year. However, for Thyroid Awareness Week observed between May 22 and 28, Thyroid Federation international has announced the theme, "It's not you. It's your thyroid." The theme focused on making sure that people understand the most common symptoms of thyroid disorders and take the necessary steps to cure it.
- May 25 was officially adopted as World Thyroid Day during the Annual General Meeting prior to the European Thyroid Association (ETA) congress in September 2007. The date of May 25 also marks the anniversary of ETA's foundation in 1965. Hence, it was chosen to be as a day dedicated to creating awareness about thyroid disorders.

International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories 2022: 25-31 May

- United Nations is observing “International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories” from May 25 to 31. On December 06, 1999, the UN General Assembly called for the annual observance of the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories. In UN Charter, a Non-Self-Governing Territory is defined as a Territory “whose people have not yet attained a full measure of self-government.”
- To take effective measures to protect and guarantee the inalienable rights of the people of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources, including land. To establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources and request the administering powers to take measures to protect the property rights of the peoples in these Territories.
- The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted the resolution A/RES/54/91 on 6th December 1999 and decided to annually observe the International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories starting from May 25. The week was first observed in 2000.

SUMMIT'S & MOU's

Minister of State for Culture and External Affairs Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi, participated in the 7th BRICS Culture Ministers' Meeting

- Meenakshi Lekhi, Minister of State for Culture and External Affairs, attended the 7th BRICS Culture Ministers' Meeting via video conference, which was hosted by the People's Republic of China and attended by all BRICS Member Nations. Under the subject Establishing a Cultural Partnership Featuring Inclusiveness and Mutual Learning among BRICS, a discussion was conducted to promote and expand cultural activities among the BRICS countries.
- The debate focused on boosting cultural digitization growth and collaboration, enhancing cooperation on cultural heritage preservation, and pushing the development of BRICS nations' cultural exchange platforms.
- The Ministers approved the BRICS Action Plan 2022-2026, which aims to expand cultural cooperation and execute the 2015 BRICS Cultural Cooperation Agreement.
- In her speech, the Minister articulated India's viewpoint and highlighted the following points:

About Brics:

Founded: June 2006

Headquarters: Shanghai, China

President: Marcos Prado Troyjo

Uttarakhand govt BPCL ink pact for growth of renewable energy sector in state

- An MoU was signed between the Uttarakhand government and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) in the presence of Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami for the promotion of the renewable energy industry and other projects in the state. The Uttarakhand government and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited

inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for the development of new and renewable energy projects in the state.

- Secretary of State for Energy R Meenakshi Sundaram signed the MoU on behalf of the state, while Shelly Abraham, BPCL's chief general manager (renewable energy), and executive director Amit Garg signed the documents on behalf of BPCL. According to CM Dharami, the agreement will help the hill state grow in the field of renewable energy, notably solar energy.

About Uttarakhand

Chief Minister: Pushkar Singh Dharami

Governor: Gurmit Singh

Capitals: Dehradun (Winter), Gairsain (Summer)

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Music Academy announces Sangita Kalanidhi awards for 2020, 2021, 2022

- Renowned vocalist and guru, Neyveli R Santanagopalan, eminent mridangam artiste and guru, 'Tiruvarur' Bhakthavathsalam, and Lalgudi violin duo, G J R Krishnan and Vijayalakshmi were named for the prestigious Sangita Kalanidhi awards of the Music Academy for 2020, 2021, and 2022.
- The Music Academy announced Sangita Kalanidhi award winners for the years 2020, 2021 and 2022. The physical festival could not be conducted in the last two years because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Chief Minister M K Stalin will present the awards while inaugurating the 96th Annual Conference and Concerts on December 15, 2022, N Murali, President, Music Academy.
- Santanagopalan will receive the Sangita Kalanidhi award for the year 2020 while Bhakthavathsalam has been chosen for the award for the year 2021.
- Krishnan and Vijayalakshmi, "torchbearers of the Lalgudi lineage of violinists and renowned performers" will receive the award for 2022.
- Noted vocalist and guru Thamarakkad Govindan Namboodri, versatile percussionist Nemani Somayajulu, and noted Kanjra artiste A V Anand will receive the T T K Award for 2020, 2021, and 2022 respectively.
- The Musicologist award for 2020 will be presented to Dr V Premalatha for the year 2020. Nritya Kalanidhi will be presented to Bharatanatyam exponents Rama Vaidyanathan (2020) and Narthaki Nataraj (2021). Bragha Bessell, widely respected Abhinaya expert and guru, will be awarded the prize for 2022.

RANKING

Time's 100 most influential people 2022

- Supreme Court lawyer Karuna Nundy, business tycoon Gautam Adani and prominent Kashmiri human rights activist Khurram Parvez have been named among the world's 100 most influential people of 2022 by TIME magazine. The list has been divided into six categories: Icons, Pioneers, Titans, Artists, Leaders and Innovators.
- While Adani has been named under the Titans category along with the likes of Apple CEO Tim Cook and American host Oprah Winfrey, Nundy and Parvez found their place under the Leaders category along with Russian President Vladimir Putin and his Ukraine counterpart Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

World's most influential people of 2022:

TITANS

1. Gautam Adani
2. Tim Cook
3. Oprah Winfrey
4. Christine Lagarde
5. Michelle Yeoh

LEADERS

1. Karuna Nundy
2. Khurram Parvez
3. Mia Mottley
4. Volodymyr Zelenskyy
5. Ketanji Brown Jackson

INNOVATORS

1. Zendaya
2. Taika Waititi
3. Miranda Lambert
4. Derrick Palmer and Chris Smalls
5. Josh Wardle

ARTISTS

1. Simu Liu
2. Andrew Garfield
3. Zoë Kravitz
4. Sarah Jessica Parker
5. Amanda Seyfried

ICONS

1. Mary J. Blige
2. Dmitry Muratov
3. Issa Rae
4. Keanu Reeves
5. Adele

World Air Power Index 2022 released

- World Directory of Modern Military Aircraft (WDMMA) has released the World Air Powers Ranking of 2022. The Indian Air Force (IAF) has been placed at the third position on the World Air Power Index in terms of the total fighting strength of the various air services of different nations of the world. This report has placed the Indian Air Force (IAF) above the Chinese Aviation based armed forces (PLAAF), Japan Air Self-Preservation Power (JASDF), Israeli Aviation based armed forces, and French Air and Space Power. The report says that the Indian Air Force (IAF) currently counts 1,645 total units in its active aircraft inventory.
- The Global Air Powers Ranking (2022) report has given the highest TvR score to the United States Air Force (USAF). It comprises a broad mix of aircraft types and many products are locally sourced from the massive industrial base of the country. The highest attainable TvR score is 242.9 held by the United States Air Force (USAF).

- In addition, it maintains dedicated strategic-level bombers, a sizeable helo, CAS aircraft, fighter force and hundreds of transport aircraft and the USAF will be reinforced in the coming days with hundreds of units still on order.
- The report has evaluated the total fighting strength of the various air forces of different nations of the world and ranked them accordingly. Currently, WDMMA is following.

BANKING AND ECONOMY

SBI Launches Real-Time Xpress Credit Loans on India's YONO App

- State Bank of India (SBI) has announced the introduction of Real-Time Xpress Credit on its Yono platform, allowing eligible customers to get personal loans of up to Rs 35 lakh. The bank said its flagship personal loan product for salaried customers “Xpress Credit” now has a digital avatar and customers can now avail of it through Yono.
- Real-Time Xpress Credit, central, state government and defence salaried customers of SBI will no longer be required to visit the branch for availing of a personal loan. It would be a 100% paperless and digital experience and an end-to-end eight-step journey.
- The Xpress Credit product will enable our customers to experience a digital, hassle-free, and paperless loan process. SBI constantly endeavour to offer technology-led enhanced digital banking experience to the customers in order to simplify banking.”

About State Bank of India:

Founded: 1 July 1955;

Headquarters: Mumbai;

Chairman: Dinesh Kumar Khara

France's Total Energies to buy stake in Adani's hydrogen business

- Under the newly formed company Adani New Industries Ltd, Total Energies, the French oil and gas major, is expected to acquire a minority share of 10% or more in Adani group's hydrogen business (ANIL). The agreement is nearing completion, and an announcement is expected in the coming months.
- In India, Total had earlier partnered with Adani in 2018 with investments in Adani Gas Limited, city gas distribution business, associated LNG terminal business and gas marketing business. Total acquired 37.4 per cent stake in Adani Gas Limited and 50 per cent stake in Dhamra LNG project. Then, Adani and Total had also agreed for an alliance into the wider sustainable energy space. Total and Adani agreed the acquisition of a 50 per cent stake in a 2.35 GWac portfolio of operating solar assets owned by Adani Gas and a 20 per cent stake in Adani Green Energy for a global investment of \$2.5 billion.
- Adani Total Gas is an Indian municipal gas distribution firm that provides piped natural gas connections and compressed natural gas stations to both industrial and residential users. It is a joint venture between Adani Group and TotalEnergies, a French oil and gas business. As of November 2020, Adani Total Gas has a standalone presence in 22 geographical areas (GAs). In addition, Adani Total Gas and Indian Oil Corporation's 50:50 joint venture, Indian Oil-Adani Gas Pvt. Ltd., manages city gas distribution networks in 19 GAs.

- TotalEnergies SE, one of the seven “supermajor” oil corporations, is a French multinational integrated oil and gas firm founded in 1924. Its operations span the whole oil and gas value chain, from exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas through power generation, transportation, refining, petroleum product marketing, and international crude oil and product trading. TotalEnergies also produces enormous quantities of chemicals.

About Adani Group:

Headquarters: Ahmedabad

Founder: Gautam Adani

Founded: 1988

About France:

Capital: Paris

President: Emmanuel Macron

Prime minister: Élisabeth Borne

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INTERNATIONAL

Belgium becomes first country to make quarantine compulsory for patients with Monkeypox

- Belgium has become the first country to make a 21-day quarantine compulsory for monkeypox patients after four cases of the disease were reported. The Belgian health authorities took this decision, Saudi Gazette reported citing Belgian media. The Belgian Institute of Tropical Medicine has said that the risk of a larger outbreak in the country is low.
- The World Health Organization reported that there were a total of 92 confirmed monkeypox cases in 12 different countries, with 28 suspected cases under investigation. Cases of monkeypox have been confirmed in the UK, Portugal, Sweden, Italy, Spain, France, Belgium, Germany, the US, Canada and Australia, as reported by Saudi Gazette.
- Monkeypox is a disease in the same family as smallpox and symptoms include a distinct bumpy rash, a fever, sore muscles, and a headache. Monkeypox is less deadly than smallpox, with a mortality rate below four per cent, but experts are worried about the unusual spread of the disease beyond Africa where it usually circulates.

About Belgium:

Belgium Capital: Brussels;

Belgium Currency: Euro;

Prime Minister: Alexander De Croo.

Nobel winner Jose Ramos-Horta sworn in as East Timor president

- Former independence fighter and Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Jose Ramos-Horta has been sworn in as president of East Timor (Timor-Leste) ahead of celebrations marking the 20th anniversary of independence for Asia’s youngest country. He

defeated incumbent Francisco “Lu Olo” Guterres, his fellow independence fighter, in the election. Ramos-Horta was prime minister from 2006 to 2007 and president from 2007 to 2012. East Timor is marking the 20th anniversary of independence for Asia’s youngest country.

- Ramos-Horta, 72, who led the resistance during Indonesia’s occupation, called for national reconciliation and unity as he took the oath of office shortly before midnight local time, the time that the country declared independence 20 years ago.
- Ramos-Horta was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1996, along with Bishop Carlos Felipe Ximenes Belo, in recognition of their work “toward a just and peaceful solution to the conflict” in the country.

About East Timor:

East Timor Capital: Dili;

East Timor Currency: United States Dollar.

President: Francisco Guterres

NATIONAL

UP energy minister AK Sharma launches ‘SAMBHAV’ portal to monitor grievances, schemes

- Minister for energy and urban development Arvind Sharma has launched the SAMBHAV (Systemic Administration Mechanism for Bringing Happiness and Value) portal for disposal of public grievances and monitoring programmes and schemes of the two departments in Uttar Pradesh. The portal, www.sambhav.up.gov.in, will work as a platform for flagging grievances received from the public to officers who have been provided login IDs. The officers will have to feed their response and action taken report (ATR).
- “SAMBHAV is a multi-modal platform which has been launched to dispose public grievances swiftly and effectively and provide good governance and make the public service delivery transparent and accountable.
- SAMBHAV will work as an Information and Communication Technology (ICT) platform for flagging grievances received from the public to the concerning officers who have been provided login IDs.
- The officers are required to feed their response and action taken report (ATRs) on the issues concerned. The portal will also have the facility of videoconferencing and teleconferencing for dialogue with the officials.
- The portal will take grievances and issues from various sources, including pending cases and grievances under the chief minister’s Jan Sunwai/ Integrated Grievance Redressal System (IGRS) system.

About Uttar Pradesh

Capital: Lucknow;

Chief Minister: Yogi Adityanath;

Governor: Anandiben Patel

Union Minister Of Health And Family Welfare Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya Addresses 75th Session Of World Health Assembly WHO HQ, Geneva

- Mansukh Mandaviya, the Minister of Health, emphasized the need of creating a robust global supply chain to provide fair access to vaccines and medicines. The Minister, speaking at the 75th World Health Assembly in Geneva, advocated for simplifying WHO's vaccine and treatment approval procedures and strengthening WHO to establish a more robust global health security infrastructure. Mr. Mandaviya reaffirmed India's commitment to strengthening the global health security framework.
- India feels that this year's theme, which connects peace and health, is contemporary and relevant since there can be no sustainable development or universal health and wellness without peace, according to the Minister.
- India also expressed its disappointment and worry at the latest WHO exercise on all-cause excess mortality, in which country-specific genuine data was collected.
- India also expressed its disappointment and worry at the latest WHO exercise on all-cause excess mortality, which ignored country-specific accurate data released by the statutory body.

About WHO:

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

Founded: 7 April 1948

Director-General: Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

SPORTS

Man City crowned 2021/22 Premier League champions after pipping Liverpool on stunning final day

- Manchester City has won 2021/22 Premier League champions their fourth title success. Manchester City won over Aston Villa in the final game of the season. In Manchester City's 38 league matches this season, they have won 29, drawn six, and lost three, scoring 99 goals in the process.
- Manchester City has now won four Premier League titles and eight major trophies under Pep Guardiola since his arrival in the summer of 2016. Manchester City clinched a sixth Premier League title in 11 seasons on Sunday by scoring three times in five minutes to come from behind to beat Aston Villa 3-2 in the finale to avoid being toppled by challenger Liverpool.

About Manchester City:

Owner: City Football Group

CEO: Ferran Soriano (1 Sept 2012)

Founded: 1880, Gorton, United Kingdom

Founders: William Beastow, Thomas Goodbehere, Arthur Connell, Anna Connell

BCCI inks NFT deal For Women's T20 Challenge

- The Indian cricket board, which has a reputation for being sluggish to adopt new protocols, has now decided to examine using non-fungible tokens (NFT). FanCraze was announced as the Cricket Board's official partner and accomplice for the Women's Twenty20 Challenge. In the cricket metaverse, FanCraze is an organization.

For a long time, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) refused to accept NFT corporations as sponsors, and it also demanded that the Indian Premier League (IPL) setups “maintain the distance.” This happened at a time when the International Cricket Council (ICC) and its other component entities had begun to ask NFT groups to join through formal partnerships.

- “One of the most intriguing features of it all is that it all began in India with women’s cricket.” It boosts fan engagement, something the women’s cricket community desperately needs right now.
- The BCCI is also in charge of organizing the Indian Premier League for women, and the time is ideal.
- This also gives NFT a platform to penetrate the country’s men’s cricket market, which is as huge as any game elsewhere in the globe, and this is an opportunity that has been made available to them as a consequence of this “remark on the sequence of events that follows.”
- FanCraze is an International Cricket Council partner and is actively preparing for the West Indies.

About BCCI:

Headquarters: Mumbai
Founded: December 1928
President Sourav Ganguly
Secretary: jay shah

Haryana beat Jharkhand 2-0 to win Hockey India Sub-Junior Women’s National Championship in Imphal

- Hockey team of Haryana won the Hockey India sub-junior women’s national championship 2022 in Imphal, defeating Hockey team of Jharkhand 2-0 in the final. Uttar Pradesh Hockey team defeated Madhya Pradesh Hockey team 3-0 to finish on the third place in the Hockey India sub-junior women’s national championship 2022 in Imphal.
- Riya in the 13th minute and Sejal in the 39th minute, each scored a goal to enable Hockey team of Haryana successfully defend their title in a tense 2-0 victory. Uttar Pradesh Hockey team defeated Madhya Pradesh Hockey 3-0 earlier in the day to finish third in the Hockey India sub-junior women’s national championship. Pushpanjali Sonkar in the 4th minute, Manisha Patel in the 5th minute, and Purnima Yadav in the 58th minute, each scored one goal to help Uttar Pradesh Hockey finish third for the second year in a row.

About Haryana:

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

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Khadi commission head Vinai Kumar Saxena is the new Lieutenant Governor of Delhi

- Vinai Kumar Saxena will be the new lieutenant governor of Delhi, President Ram Nath Kovind’s office announced. The President of India has been pleased to appoint

Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena to be the Lt. Governor of the National Capital Territory of Delhi with effect from the date he assumes charge of his duties. The President of India has accepted the resignation of Anil Baijal as Lt. Governor National Capital Territory of Delhi.

- Saxena is the current chairman of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, an organisation under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.
- He was born on March 23, 1958, and is a Kanpur University alumnus with a Pilot license. In March 2021, he was appointed by the Union government as a member of the national committee to commemorate 75 years of India's independence.
- In November 2020, he was nominated as a member of the Padma Awards selection panel for the year 2021.
- In 1984, Vinay Kumar Saxena joined the well-known JK Group in Rajasthan as an assistant officer. In the group's white cement plant in the state, he worked for 11 years in various capacities.

About Delhi:

Capital: New Delhi

Lieutenant Governor: Vinai Kumar Saxena

Chief Minister: Arvind Kejriwal.

SUMMIT'S & MOU's

India and Jordan Sign Deal for Fertiliser Sector Cooperation

- A high-level group led by Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya visited Jordan in a first-of-its-kind endeavor with the goal of securing fertilizers and raw materials for the short and long term. The visit took place against the backdrop of the current global fertilizer crisis. Dr. Mandaviya noted that the Jordan visit was historic in terms of assuring India's supply of phosphoric and potassium fertilizers. Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya called Jordan as India's chosen fertilizer partner during the meetings.
- According to Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Chemicals and Fertilizers, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, there is no shortage of fertilizers in the country.
- Government has taken proactive measures to assure adequate supplies for farmers ahead of the Kharif season, including increasing local production and forming cooperation with other countries.
- Jordan Phosphate Mining Company (JPMC) inked MOUs with Indian public, cooperative, and private sector companies for supplies of 30 LMT Rock Phosphate, 2.50 LMT DAP, and 1 LMT phosphoric acid for the current year.
- He also mentioned that India has signed a 5-year MOU with Jordan for yearly shipments of 2.75 LMT of MoP, which will gradually increase to 3.25 LMT each year. These shipments will be critical for India's continued fertilizer supply in the coming agricultural seasons.

About Jordan:

Capital: Amman

Currency: Jordanian dinar

Continent: Asia

King: Abdullah II

BANKING AND ECONOMY

ONGC first Indian Exploration & Production company to trade domestic gas on Indian Gas Exchange

- The state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has become the first gas producer to sell domestic gas on the Indian Gas Exchange, exchanging unidentified amounts from the KG-DWN-98/2 block off the coast of India. ONGC stated in a statement that it will gradually raise output. ONGC has made history by becoming India's first exploration and production (E&P) company to trade domestic gas on the Indian Gas Exchange.
- ONGC Director (Onshore) & In-charge Marketing Anurag Sharma made the first online trade on India's first automated national level Gas Exchange, IGX.
- The gas exchanged came from the ONGC Krishna Godavari 98/2 block, but did not identify the quantity sold.
- ONGC has geared itself to reap the benefits of the liberalization of the gas price ecosystem in 2000-21.

About ONGC:

Headquarters: Vasant Kunj, New Delhi

Founded: 14 August 1956

Key people: Alka Mittal; (Chairman & MD)

Current Affairs PDF- MAY 23, 2022

INTERNATIONAL

Anthony Albanese sworn in as PM of Australia

- Australia's Labor Party leader, Anthony Albanese was sworn in as the country's new prime minister. Albanese claimed the victory in the election, ending his wait for power after nine years and with this Anthony Albanese became the country's 31st Prime Minister. Outgoing Prime Minister Scott Morrison, who was heading the Liberal-National coalition has conceded defeat.
- The 59-year-old new prime minister was sworn in at a brief ceremony lasting in Government House, Canberra. Other members of his team to take office included Foreign Minister Penny Wong, who will join Albanese at the Quad summit, Treasurer Jim Chalmers and Finance Minister Katy Gallagher.

About Australia:

Capital: Canberra

Currency: Australian dollar

NATIONAL

10-year-old skater girl from Mumbai climbs Everest base camp

- A little 10-year-old champion skater from Worli, Rhythm Mamania, has become one of the youngest Indian mountaineers to summit the Everest Base Camp (EBC) in the Himalayan ranges in Nepal. She has joined young Indian climbers to climb the base camp. Rhythm has achieved a rare feat by completing the climb to the base camp at an altitude of 5,364 meters in 11 days.

- Rhythm went to base camp with Nepal-based company Satori Adventures. A group of some trekkers from Kutch also accompanied him. The 11-day expedition was organized by Rishi Bhandari of Satori Adventures, Nepal.

About Nepal:

Capital: Kathmandu

Currency: Nepalese rupee

Prime minister: Sher Bahadur Deuba

President: Bidhya Devi Bhandari

Fourth edition of Indian Navy-Bangladesh Navy Coordinated Patrol CORPAT commences in Northern Bay of Bengal

- The fourth edition of the Indian Navy-Bangladesh Navy Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) commenced. The patrolling drill commenced in the northern Bay of Bengal and would continue between May 22 and 23. Both units will undertake joint patrolling along International Maritime Boundary Line. The last IN-BN CORPAT was conducted in October 2020.
- Indian Navy's indigenous warships, INS Kora and INS Sumedha along with Bangladesh Navy's warships BNS Ali Haider and BNS Abu Ubaidah would touch the waters during patrolling. Maritime Patrol Aircraft of both navies will also undertake joint patrol along the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) during CORPAT. The regular conduct of CORPATs has strengthened mutual understanding and enhanced interoperability between both the navies in countering transnational maritime threats at sea.

About Bangladesh:

Capital: Dhaka

Currency: Bangladeshi taka

President: Abdul Hamid

Prime minister: Sheikh Hasina

About West Bengal:

Governor: Jagdeep Dhankhar

Capital: Kolkata

Chief Minister: Mamata Banerjee

SPORTS

Hockey Association of Odisha Lifts Title at 12th Senior Women National Championship 2022

- Odisha women's team has won its first-ever gold in Senior Nationals as they defeat Karnataka 2-0 in the final of the 12th Hockey India Senior Women's National Championship. Earlier, Hockey Jharkhand defeated Hockey Haryana 3-2 in the third-fourth place match. The 12th Hockey India Senior Women's National Championship was held in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- However solid defensive performances from both sides ensured that the match went into the Halftime with the scoreline reading 0-0. Punam Barla (34') opened the scoring in the match in the third quarter as Odisha picked up the lead. Ashim

Kanchan Barla (59') sealed the game with a late goal as Odisha beat Karnataka 2-0 to claim the championship.

About Odisha:

Governor: Ganeshi Lal

Capital: Bhubaneswar

Chief minister: Naveen Patnaik

Formula 1: Max Verstappen wins Spanish GP to take title lead

- Formula One world champion, Max Verstappen won the Spanish Grand Prix in a Red Bull to take over at the top from Ferrari's Charles Leclerc, who retired with an engine failure while leading at Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya. Mexican Sergio Perez finished second, 13 seconds behind but with the consolation of a bonus point for fastest lap, after being told to let his teammate pass for a third victory in a row after Imola and Miami.
- Britain's George Russell came third for a revived Mercedes and after going wheel-to-wheel with Verstappen early on in a thrilling display of defensive driving as they battled for second place behind Leclerc.

About Spanish Grand Prix:

First held: 1913

Most wins (constructors): Ferrari (13)

Number of times held: 61

Indian teen sensation R Praggnanandhaa stuns World Champion Magnus Carlsen for 2nd time in year

- Indian GM Praggnanandhaa posted his second win over world champion Magnus Carlsen in 3 months when he stunned the Norwegian at the Chessable Masters online rapid chess tournament. 16-year-old Praggnanandha beat Magnus Carlsen for the first time in February at Airthings Masters, an online rapid chess tournament.
- Praggnandha took his tally to 12 points while Carlsen was 2nd on the leaderboard behind China's Wei Yi on Day 2 of the tournament. Abhimanyu Mishra, the youngest Grand Master in the world, is also part of the 16-man tournament. Praggnanandhaa had won with black pieces to end Carlsen's 3-match winning run at the Airthings Masters in just 19 moves in a Tarrasch variation game.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh Launches Portal 'BioRRAP' for Biotech Researchers & Start-Ups

- In keeping with the ethos of One Nation, One Portal, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh unveiled the Single National Portal for Biotech Researchers and Start-ups. All those seeking regulatory permission for biological research and development activity in the country will use BioRRAP. According to the Minister, biotechnology has quickly become a viable academic and career option for Indian youth. The country currently has over 2,700 biotech start-ups and over 2,500 biotech enterprises in operation.
- Jitendra Singh, speaking after the portal's debut, stated that India is on track to become a global bio-manufacturing hub and will rank among the top five countries in

the world by 2025. He added that the Portal will allow stakeholders to view the approvals given to a specific application using a unique BioRRAP ID. He hailed DBT's one-of-a-kind gateway as a step toward making science and scientific research more accessible to Indians, as well as making it easier to create businesses.

SUMMIT'S & MOU'S

Union Edu Minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurates North East Research Conclave 2022 at IIT Guwahati

- Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister for Education and Skill Development, launched the North East Research Conclave (NERC) 2022 at IIT Guwahati. In his remarks, Shri Pradhan stated that the conclave will enhance the ties between industry, academics, and policymakers, as well as re-energize the research, start-up, and entrepreneurial ecosystems in the resource-rich Northeastern Region states and the country.
- When discussing the importance of research, the Education Minister stated that the goal of research should be to find solutions to the country's chronic problems and to urge everyone to join together, work together, and produce for the welfare of the most vulnerable. He stated that NERC 2022 will be a global benchmark for meeting India's and the world's research and development aspirations.
- Shri Pradhan urged students and young people to "travel on the road of obligations and responsibilities" in order to help the country reach new heights.
- Himanta Biswa Sarma, the Chief Minister of Assam, stated in his deliberation that Research and Development is critical for a fast-developing country like India.

About Assam:

Capital: Dispur

Chief minister: Himanta Biswa Sarma

Governor: Jagadish Mukhi

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Cummins India's Anjali Pandey awarded the prestigious Committed Leader Award at CII EXCON 2022

- Anjali Pandey, Engines and Components Business Unit Leader at Cummins India has been awarded the Committed Leader Award at CII EXCON 2022 in Bengaluru for her efforts to create a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive workplace. Cummins views Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I) as a competitive advantage and hence it's a business imperative.
- Cummins India has taken active measures to increase its female representation over the past few years resulting in an increase in gender diversity ratio from 5 to 32 per cent over the last two decades, which is a significant achievement for a manufacturing organization.
- Cummins drives various initiatives to provide equal opportunities to women, including Women in Technology, gender balance during recruitment, ensuring pay parity, gender-neutral workstations, Cummins Women & Empowerment Network, flexible work arrangements, and award-winning breastfeeding-friendly facilities for new mothers, all of which are strongly supported by leadership.

- Diversity & Inclusion is one of Cummins & core values and the organization has an unwavering commitment to building a more dynamic workplace where all employees are inspired and encouraged to achieve their full potential.

About Karnataka:

Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot

Capital: Bengaluru (Executive Branch)

Chief minister: Basavaraj Bommai

RANKING

The State of Inequality in India Report released

- Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council Chairman Dr. Bibek Debroy, launched the State of Inequality in India Report (EAC-PM). The Institute for Competitiveness authored the research, which provides a comprehensive examination of the level and type of inequality in India. The study combines data on inequality in the health, education, household characteristics, and labour market sectors. Inequities in these areas, according to the research, render the population more vulnerable and lead to multidimensional poverty.
- There has been significant progress in strengthening health infrastructure capacity, with a particular focus on rural regions. In 2005, there were 1,72,608 total health centres in India; by 2020, there would be 1,85,505.
- Between 2005 and 2020, states and union territories like as Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Chandigarh expanded the number of health centres (which include Sub-Centres, Primary Health Centres, and Community Health Centres).

Current Affairs PDF- MAY 22, 2022

SPORTS

Eintracht Frankfurt wins Europa League in throwback of a final

- German club Eintracht Frankfurt has won their first European trophy in 42 years after defeating the Rangers by 5-4 on penalties in Seville, Spain. Goalkeeper, Kevin Trapp has saved at the end of extra time and another in the shootout to help give Frankfurt the 5-4 win on penalties. Scottish club Rangers was also trying to win its first European title since the Cup Winners' Cup in 1972. Kevin Trapp (Eintracht Frankfurt) was Man of the Match.
- Colombia striker Rafael Borré, who scored a second-half equalizer for Frankfurt, converted the decisive penalty to clinch the club's first European trophy since the 1980 UEFA Cup, a predecessor to the Europa League. The win also secures a first appearance in the Champions League next season for Frankfurt.

About UEFA Europa League:

Current champions: Eintracht Frankfurt

Most successful club(s): Sevilla (6 titles)

Founded: 1971

Nikhat Zareen becomes fifth Indian woman to win world boxing

- Nikhat Zareen gave a dazzling performance to beat Thai Olympian Jutamas Jitpong 5-0 and become the fifth Indian woman to win a World title at the Women's World Championships, Istanbul. Nikhat thus becomes only the fifth Indian women's boxer after Mary Kom, Sarita Devi, Jenny RL and Lekha KC to win a gold at the World Championships. The 25-year-old Zareen is a former junior youth world champion.
- The 25-year-old Indian took full advantage of her long reach and maintained her dominance against the Thai boxer, whom she had beaten in the 2019 Thailand Open semi-final—the only meeting between the two, enroute her silver medal finish.

About International Boxing Association

Headquarters location: Lausanne, Switzerland

President: Umar Kremlyov

Founded: 1946

IMPORTANT DAYS

250th Birth Anniversary of Raja Ram Mohan Roy Celebrated in India

- The 250th birth anniversary of Raja Ram Mohan Roy was celebrated and commemorated by the Ministry of Culture under the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. The ministry of Culture organized an inaugural ceremony on 22nd May 2022. The inaugural ceremony was organized at the Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation, Salt Lake, Kolkata, and at Science City Auditorium, Kolkata.
- According to the press release by the ministry, it was the 250th birth anniversary of Raja Ram Mohan Roy and the 50th foundation day of the Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation. Several ministers including the Governor of West Bengal, Jagdeep Dhankar were also present at the inaugural ceremony. The union minister of culture, tourism, and development of the North-eastern Region (DoNER), G Kishan Reddy, also joined the ceremony virtually.
- The ministry inaugurated an iconic Statue of Raja Ram Mohan Roy at the Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation. It was inaugurated by Union minister G Kishan Reddy virtually. The union Minister addressed the celebration and said that " Today, on the 250th birth anniversary of Raja Ram Mohan Roy, on behalf of Prime minister Narendra Modi and the Central government, I would thank and pay my regards for his great contribution to the emancipation of our society. It is wonderful confidence that today is the 250th Birth Anniversary of the great reformer and the historical 50 years of the Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation is also being completed."

International Day for Biological Diversity 2022: 22nd May

- International Day for Biological Diversity or World Biodiversity Day is observed on 22nd May every year to increase awareness and understanding of the issues of biodiversity. Biodiversity is essential for sustaining the balance of the planet. It is the cornerstone of ecosystem services, which are completely tied to human well-being.
- The theme in 2022 is "Building a shared future for all life". Fitting within the context of the ongoing United Nations Decade on Restoration, which highlights that biodiversity is the answer to several sustainable development challenges, the slogan

conveys the message that biodiversity is the foundation upon which we can build back better.

International Day to End Obstetric Fistula 2022: 23rd May

- United Nations (UN) International Day to End Obstetric Fistula is marked on 23rd May since 2013 to promote action towards treating and preventing obstetric fistula, a condition that affects many girls and women during childbirth in developing countries. In 2003 the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and its partners launched the global Campaign to End Fistula, a collaborative initiative to prevent fistula and restore the health of those affected by the condition. The day was officially recognised in 2012.
- Obstetric fistula is a devastating childbirth injury, and a neglected public health and human rights issue. Two million women in low-resource settings have an obstetric fistula, and 100,000 more develop one every year. Leaking urine and/or faeces and, as a result, living in desperate circumstances, only 1 in 50 ever receives treatment.

About United Nations Population Fund:

Headquarters: New York, United States

Head: Natalia Kanem

Founded: 1969

144th Birth Anniversary of Gama Pehlwan 2022: 22nd May

- Gama Pehlwan is a legendary wrestler in the history of India. He is a true inspiration all over the world and was given the title of Rustam-e- Hind and Rustam-e-Zamana which means Champion of India and Champion of the world. Gama Pehlwan was born on 22nd May 1878 in a Kashmiri Muslim family. He was 5'8 and weighed 110 kg.
- Gama Pehlwan was first to notice when he entered a strongman competition at the age of 10 held in Jodhpur. He was among the top 15 participants in the competition and the Maharaja of Jodhpur was impressed by him. He was declared the winner due to his young age. Gama's professional training started when the Maharaja of Datai got to know about him and took him for training. When he entered a wrestling competition in Baroda, Gama Pehlwan lifted a more than 1200 kg stone. The stone is kept in the Baroda Museum as a symbol of Honour and power.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Subhash Ola wins Amazon Smbhav Entrepreneurship Challenge 2022

- An innovator from Rajasthan who has developed the technology of saving energy in boilers by recycling steam, Subhash Ola has won the 1st prize for the Amazon Smbhav Entrepreneurship Challenge 2022 and his enterprise "Geniusenergy Critical Innovation Private Limited" has won the Start-up of the Year award.
- The technology was first developed to make khoya and other milk products, and the portfolio of applications was later extended to textile, milk and food, pharma, plywood, paper mills, leather industry, chemical industry, hot water boiler generator, plastic recycle, laundry, hospitals and so on.
- Geniusenergy Critical Innovation, a start-up recognized by Govt. of India, was incubated by the National Innovation Foundation (NIF), an autonomous body of the

