

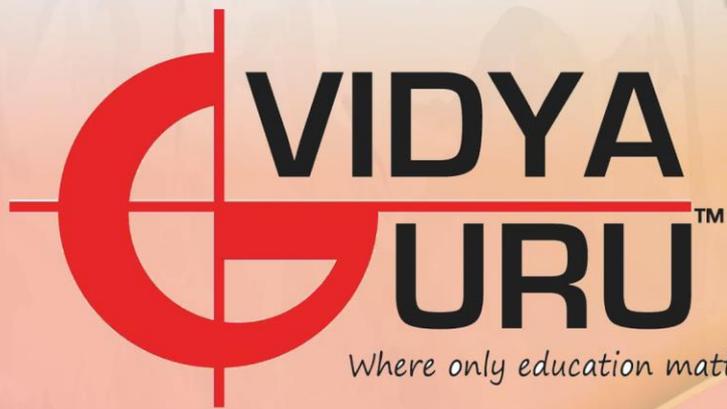
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June - 2022



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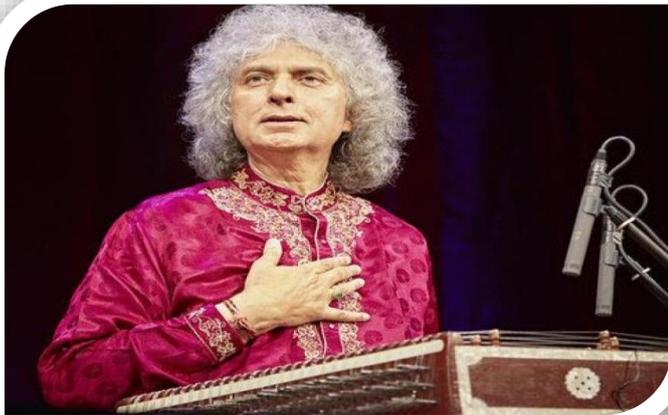
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Padma Vibhushan Pandit Shivkumar Sharma Passes Away



Indian music composer and santoor player, Pandit Shivkumar Sharma passed away at the age of 84. He had been suffering from kidney-related issues for the last six months and was on dialysis. He passed away due to cardiac arrest. He gave the santoor, once a little known instrument from Jammu and Kashmir, a classical status and exalted it along with other, more traditional and famous instruments such as the sitar and sarod. Pandit Shivkumar Sharma received the prestigious Padma Shri in 1991, and the Padma Vibhushan in 2001.

The career of Pandit Shivkumar Sharma:

- Shivkumar Sharma was born in Jammu in 1938, he began learning santoor at the age of thirteen. His first public performance was in Mumbai in 1955. He has been credited with popularising the santoor.
- Also, Pandit Shivkumar Sharma composed the background music for one of the scenes in the 1956 film Jhanak Jhanak Payal Baje. Four years later, Pandit Shivkumar Sharma recorded his first solo album.
- With Hariprasad Chaurasia, Pandit Shivkumar Sharma composed music for several Hindi films, including Silsila, Chandni as well as Darr.

Thomas Cup Title: India beats Indonesia 3-0

India's men's badminton team wins the Thomas Cup title for the first time ever with a stunning 3-0 win over powerhouse Indonesia in the final. India took on 14-time winners Indonesia in the final of the Thomas Cup in Bangkok, Thailand and lifted the title defeating the defending champions by 3-0. India dished out a performance for the ages with World Championships medallist Lakshya Sen, Kidambi Srikanth and the world number 8 doubles duo of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy producing memorable performances.



Key points of the Thomas Cup title:

- India was off to a perfect start as Lakshya Sen defeated Anthony Ginting by 8-21, 21-17, 21-16 in a thrilling tie.
- India's doubles pair Satwik and Chirag defeated Ahsan-Sukamuljo 18-21, 23-21, 21-19, the most sensational victory of their career, to give India a 2-0 lead.
- In the third game, Kidambi Srikanth defeated Jonatan Christie 21-15, 23-21 to make it 3-0. They have done it without losing a match in the final.

Bollywood Singer KK dies after performing at Kolkata concert



Noted Bollywood singer KK (Krishnakumar Kunnath) who mesmerized music lovers for over three decades is no more. The 53-year-old singer died in Kolkata after a live performance. KK was regarded as one of the top singers of Bollywood. KK sang in Hindi, Bengali, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi and Assamese.

KK sang numerous hit songs in various films. Some of KK's most popular songs that remain his best

songs include Tu Hi Meri Shab Hai (Gangster), Tadap Tadap Ke Is Dil Se (Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam), Awarapan Banjarapan (Jism), Aankhon Mein Teri Ajab Si (Om Shanti Om) and Khuda Jaane (Bachna Ae Haseeno). His song Yaaron, released in 1999, made him a household name.

India Drone Festival 2022

The biggest drone festival in India started on 27th May 2022 named as India Drone Festival 2022. The festival is being organized at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi and was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

India Drone Festival: India Drone Festival 2022 is India's biggest drone festival ever. It is a two day event which was held on 27th and 28th May, 2022. In the event, more than 1,600 delegates including foreign diplomats, government officials, Central Armed Police Forces, Armed Forces, private companies, PSUs, Drone Start will participate.

The exhibition will have more than 70 exhibitors showcasing the various uses of drones. In addition, during the festival, the following events will be included:



Product Launch

- Drone Pilot Certificates Will Be Provided Virtually
- flight performance
- Panel Discussion
- Demonstration of Made-in-India Drone Taxi Prototype etc.
- **Farmer Drones** : Nowadays drones are not only for defense sectors but are being used in various other sectors. In recent times, various drones are being used in agriculture for dispersal of pesticides and fertilizers, transportation of crops, crop evaluation, digitization of land records etc., thereby giving a boost to the agriculture sector. In early 2022, PM Modi had flagged off 100 farmer drones in various towns and cities across the country to spray pesticides on farms. The Kisan Drone facility aims to boost the country's agriculture sector and transform the lives of farmers.
- **Drones** : Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), i.e. aircraft without a human pilot, passengers or crew. These UAVs are making life easier for security, farmers and defense personnel.



MoPSW to Build India's 1st Indigenous Hydrogen-Fuelled Electric Vessel at Cochin Shipyard

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) is set to build India's first indigenous hydrogen-fuelled electric vessels at Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), Cochin, Kerala.

- The hydrogen fuel cell vessel based on Low-Temperature Proton Exchange Membrane Technology (LT-PEM) called Fuel Cell Electric Vessel (FCEV) is expected to cost around Rs 17.5 crore.
- 75 % of the cost will be funded by the Government of India.

Note:

- This is a part of the transformative efforts of the Government of India on the innovative and new technology front on green energy, sustainable cost effective alternate fuel front.

About Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) :

- Union Minister-Sarbananda Sonowal (Rajya Sabha - Assam)
- Minister of State-Shripad Yesso Naik (Constituency- North Goa, Goa); Shantanu Thakur (Constituency- Bangaon, West Bengal)

INS Gharial Delivers Critical Medical Aid to Sri Lanka Under Mission SAGAR IX

India as part of Mission SAGAR IX (Security And Growth for All in the Region) provided Critical Medical Aid through its Indian Navy Ship (INS) Gharial to Sri Lanka, which is going through a medical emergency situation with many lifesaving drugs out of stock, forcing doctors to delay major surgeries. The consignment arrived at Colombo, Sri Lanka on April 29, 2022. \$

Key Points:

- The consignment delivered over 760 KiloGrams (kgs) of 107 types of critical life saving medicines, which was received by the Health Minister of Sri Lanka Channa Jayasumana.
- The Critical life saving medicines will be supplied to the University of Peradeniya Hospital, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.

Miyan ka Bada' Railway Station in Rajasthan Renamed To 'Mahesh Nagar Halt'

In an official name-changing ceremony held on April 30, 2022, the 'Miyan Ka Bada' railway station in the Balotra area of Rajasthan's Barmer district was renamed "Mahesh Nagar Halt."

Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat of the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Union Minister of State Kailash Choudhary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, and others attended the ceremony.

The following are some of the prominent railway stations that have recently had their names changed:

- In 2021, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh's Habibganj railway station was renamed to Rani Kamalapati railway station, after Gond queen Rani Kamalapati.
- In 2021, the Faizabad Junction Railway Station in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh (UP), was renamed Ayodhya Cantt.
- In 2020, Uttar Pradesh's Allahabad Junction was renamed Prayagraj Junction. In 2018, the UP Government formally renamed Allahabad to Prayagraj.
- In 2018, the famous Mughalsarai Railway Junction in Uttar Pradesh was renamed Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Junction Railway Station.
- In 2021, the Jhansi Railway Station in Uttar Pradesh was renamed Veerangana Lakshmibai Railway Station.

Dharmendra Pradhan Launched 'Mandate Document' for National Curriculum Framework

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan launched a "mandate document" for National Curriculum Framework (NCF) under the new National Education Policy (NEP) at Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, Karnataka.

- It was a step towards decolonisation of the Indian education system.

About National Curriculum Framework (NCF):

- The National Education Policy 2020 is the 'Philosophy', NCF is the 'Pathway' and the mandate document, which is the 'Constitution' to champion the changing demands of the 21st century and impact the future positively.
- NCF is also a society document, enabled by setting up an app-based process so that every citizen of the country can give their suggestions.
- NCF is guided by the National Steering Committee (NSC) chaired by Dr K Kasturirangan and supported by the Mandate Group, in addition to the National Council for Education Research and Training (NCERT).
- NCF includes the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCFSE)
- The National Curriculum Framework for Early Childhood Care & Education (NCFECE)
- The National Curriculum Framework for Teacher Education (NCFTE)
- The National Curriculum Framework for Adult Education (NCFAE)
- India's NEP 2020 based education model will serve as a benchmark for emerging economies across the world.
- NCF will also fully account for other initiatives like National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy Bharat Programme (NIPUN

Bharat), the national mission for Foundational Literacy and Numeracy.

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Narayan Rane Inaugurates "Enterprise India" A Month Long Initiative

Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Narayan Rane, inaugurated the "Enterprise India" under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. The series of commemorative entrepreneurship, development events and activities were organised from April, 2022 to May, 2022. The event is aimed at 'Jan Bhagidari'. The activities include:

- Conferences with Industry Associations,
- Organising Entrepreneurship Awareness Programmes through Field offices,
- Demonstration of Nukkad Natak in Aspirational Districts,
- Special campaigns on Udyam Registration, and
- Launch of MSME Sustainable Zed Certification Scheme, conducting 'MSME Expedition' in several States, organising MSME Mega Convention and Exhibition.

- It also promotes MSMEs in entrepreneurship and importance of Industry associations in making the country a "Manufacturing Hub" and increasing India's economy to 5 trillion dollars.

India's First Indigenous Aircraft Carrier, INS Vikrant Will be Delivered to Indian Navy



India's First Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IAC), Indian Navy Ship (INS) Vikrant will be delivered to the Indian Navy by May, 2022 and will be commissioned on (Independence Day) 15 August, 2022. The IAC has been constructed by Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL). The IAC will use ski-jump technology for launching the aircraft from the carrier. It costs around Rs 23000 crore. The IAC is 262 metres long, 62 metres wide and it has a height of 59 metres and it has over 2,300 compartments. The warship will operate MiG-29K fighter jets, Kamov-31 helicopters, and MH-60R multi-role helicopters.

- Around 60 percent of the components of the aircraft carrier are indigenous while the remaining 40 percent have been imported.

- The CSL has obtained a contract for around eight Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Crafts(ASW SWC).
- Also, CSL has been declared as the lowest bidder for the New Generation Missile Vessel (NGMV) project.

PM Narendra Modi inaugurates 1st SemiconIndia conference 2022 targeting Semiconductor in Bengaluru

On April 29-May 1, 2022, the 1st 'SemiconIndia 2022' conference, organised by India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) in partnership with industry and industry associations, was inaugurated by Prime Minister (PM) of India Narendra Modi in Bengaluru, Karnataka on the theme 'Catalyzing India's Semiconductor Ecosystem'.

It is a launch pad of India's semiconductor strategy and policy by bringing together global leaders from Industry, Academia and Research Institutions. iii.Aim: To make India a global hub for Semiconductor Design, Manufacturing and Technology Development to propel the vision of ISM.

The state Government of Karnataka signed an MoU with Israel-based International semiconductor consortium, ISMC Analog Fab Private Limited, for setting up India's 1st & largest 65 nm Analog Semiconductor Fabrication plant in the state with an investment of Rs 22,900 crore (3 billion). v.DIR-V has announced 5 Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) for the use of indigenously developed RISC-V Processors SHAKTI and VEGA.

C-DOT and C-DAC Sign MoU for Cooperation in Diverse Areas of Telecom and ICT

On April 30, 2022, The Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) and Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at the SemiconIndia 2022 event at Bengaluru, Karnataka with the objective of working together in the diverse areas of Telecom and Information Communication Technology (ICT) to boost indigenous technological design and development.

Key Points :

- The MoU aimed at joint collaboration to identify and develop activities in the areas of 4G,5G, Broadband, Internet of Things (IoT) or Machine to Machine (M2M), packet core, Computing etc.
- Specific Project Agreements will be signed as and when required to enumerate the specific roles and responsibilities.
- C-DOT and C-DAC reiterated their firm commitment towards building indigenous capabilities for the digital transformation of the country as part of the celebration of "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav".

Dignitaries Present:

- The MoU signing ceremony was attended by Daniel Jebaraj, Director, C-DOT and E. Magesh, Director General, C-DAC in the presence of Rajeev Chandrashekhar, Union Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology and Union Minister

of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and senior officers from both the organisations.

About Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT):

- The C-DOT is a premier telecom Research and Development (R&D) organisation under the Ministry of Communications, Government of India
- It carries out advanced R & D activities in narrowband and broadband switching and transmission networks, terrestrial radio systems, satellite systems, optical communication equipment, network protocols, advanced security solutions and network management systems.

India's First Greenfield Grain-Based Ethanol Production Plant Inaugurated in Bihar

Nitish Kumar, the Chief Minister of Bihar, opened the country's first greenfield grain-based ethanol factory in Purnia(or Purnea), Bihar on 30 th April 2022 and indicated that ethanol production would help cut the cost of petrol while also creating jobs.

- This plant is set to produce 65,000 litres of ethanol per day and it will need 150 tons of maize and rice every day.
- Two more such units are ready to be inaugurated in Gopalganj and Bhojpur district, respectively. The other units would be set up in Muzaffarpur, Nalanda, Buxar, Begusarai, East Champaran and Bhagalpur districts.

Indian Coast Guard Launches Fast Patrol Vessel Kamla Devi



On May 2, 2022, The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) launched the Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV) 'Yard 2118 named as Kamla Devi, in honour of the Social reformer and freedom fighter Kamladevi Chattopadhyay, in the Titagarh area of North 24 Parganas District, West Bengal. The Vessel is fifth in the series of the five FPVs.

- The FPV was indigenously designed and built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE) in a public-private partnership with Titagarh Wagons Limited (TWL) for the Indian Coast Guard.

India Launches NOAR Platform to Facilitate Open Access in Power Sector

The Government of India has launched the National Open Access Registry (NOAR) website, a move closer to promoting open access in the power sector. On May 1, 2022, the platform started operations successfully.

- NOAR is an integrated single-window electronic platform for the electronic processing of short-term open access applications, that is accessible to all power

sector stakeholders, including open access customers (both sellers and buyers), power traders, power exchanges, and National/Regional/State Load Despatch Centres (LDCs).

- National Open Access Registry (NOAR): <https://noar.in/landing>.
- National Load Despatch Centre (NLDC) operated by Power System Operation Corporation Limited (POSOCO), has been designated as the nodal agency for the implementation and operation of NOAR.

Death rate in India increased by 6.2% in 2020

The Office of the Registrar General under the Ministry Of Home Affairs (MHA) has released its annual report namely 'Vital Statistics of India Based on the Civil Registration System (CRS) 2020' which presents a compilation of data on registered births, deaths, infant deaths and still births with rural-urban & sex-wise break-up and sex ratio at birth based on around 3 lakh Civil Registration Records across India.

- As per it, the number of registered births has decreased from 2.48 crore in 2019 to 2.42 crore in the year 2020 showing a decrease of about 2.40 %
- While in case of registered deaths, the number has increased from 76.4 lakh in 2019 to 81.2 lakhs in 2020 showing an increase of 6.2%
- The report provides information of events pertaining to the time period 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020. These figures include deaths due to COVID-19 and other reasons.

Green Health Alliance Launched by Catalyst Group Along with USAID & Office of the PSA

The Catalyst Group, a social enterprise platform, has announced the establishment of the Green Health Alliance (GHA) in New Delhi (Delhi), in collaboration with the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India (GoI), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and the Rockefeller Foundation. The Alliance will work on identifying and scaling up solutions to help reduce the health system's carbon footprint and so mitigate the negative health effects of climate change.

WEF & NITI Aayog to Focus on Emerging Tech to Benefit Small & Marginal Farmers

The World Economic Forum (WEF), in collaboration with India's think tank National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog, is focusing on better utilising emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), the Internet of Things (IoT), blockchain, and drones to benefit small and marginal farmers and boost their economies.

Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution, India (C4IR) of the WEF: On January 23, 2018, the World Economic Forum announced the establishment of the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (C4IR) in India at the Annual Meeting in Davos, Switzerland.

To enhance the economy of small farmers, the WEF states three buckets of challenges" three categories of problems

Inclusivity: Because small-scale farmers lack credit history and women farmers lack land

holdings, both are limited in their access to credit and are obliged to borrow at higher rates than banks offer.

MoU Between C-Dot and Indian Railway To Supply Local Gear Worth Rs. 2100 crores

C-DOT (Centre for Development of Telematics) and Ministry of Railways signed an MoU to provide locally and indigenously affordable telecom equipment and services for various railways operations which public safety and security applications by lowering the total cost of ownership.

- Under this agreement ,C-DoT will provide Rs. 2100 crores worth financial support to Indian Railways.
- This agreement also boost the Make in India initiative of the government and help in bridging the digital divide in the country.

PM Modi Virtually Addressed the JITO Connect 2022, a Global Summit in Pune

Prime Minister(PM) Narendra Modi, virtually addressed the inaugural ceremony of "JITO Connect 2022" a global summit organised by the Jain International Trade Organisation (JITO) in Pune, Maharashtra.

JITO Connect 2022, a 3-day Summit held from 6th to 8th May 2022, is one of the World's Largest and Coveted global summits.

The theme of the summit was "Together Towards Tomorrow".

LIC IPO subscribed 2.9 times; Govt to raise Rs 21000 crore

An initial public offering (IPO) of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), India's biggest public offer, was subscribed 2.95 times on the last day of offer period i.e. on May 2022. This will help the government to raise about Rs 21,000 crore.

Notably, against 16,20,78,067 shares on offer, 47,83,25,760 bids were received. With this IPO, the government has diluted its 3.5% stake in LIC through the Offer for Sale (OFS).

Bengaluru-Based Bellatrix Aerospace Tests Green Satellite Propulsion

Bengaluru-based Bellatrix Aerospace has tested India's first high-performance green propulsion system for satellites that cuts a new path from the hydrazine-dependent fuel systems and offers a potential 20 % jump in fuel efficiency for space satellites.

Conventional Propulsion System :

- Uses poisonous substance hydrazine which has a negative influence on the environment
- All rocket fuels can be dangerous to handle without proper safety precautions.

New Green Propulsion :

- This green propellant has significantly reduced toxicity compared to hydrazine, making it safer to store and handle.
- Creates new fuel which is eco-friendly and which is also a non-hydrazine based fuel.

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Pandit Shivkumar Sharma received the prestigious Padma Shri in 1991, and the Padma Vibhushan in 2001.

The career of Pandit Shivkumar Sharma:

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- Also, Pandit Shivkumar Sharma composed the background music for one of the scenes in the 1956 film Jhanak Jhanak Payal Baje. Four years later, Pandit Shivkumar Sharma recorded his first solo album.
- With Hariprasad Chaurasia, Pandit Shivkumar Sharma composed music for several Hindi films, including Silsila, Chandni as well as Darr.

PMJJBY, PMSBY and APY complete 7 years

Social security schemes Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Atal Pension Yojana (APY) have completed seven

years of their launch. These three schemes were launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 9 May 2015 in Kolkata.

- **Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY):** It is a life insurance scheme that provides coverage for death due to any reason. Anyone in the age group of 18-50 years having a savings bank or post office account is eligible to enroll under this scheme. It offers a life insurance cover of Rs 2 lakh against a premium of Rs 330 per annum.²⁷ The total enrollment under PMJJBY has exceeded 12 crores till April, 2022 and an amount of Rs 11,522 crores has been paid for about 5.76 lakh claims.
- **Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) :** This is an accident insurance scheme that provides coverage for death or disability due to an accident. Any person in the age group of 18-70 years having a savings bank or post office account is eligible for enrollment under this scheme. It provides accidental death and disability cover of Rs 2 lakh for death or disability due to accident. 1 lakh is provided in case of partial disability. For this a premium of Rs 12 per annum has to be paid. The total enrollment under PMSBY as of April 27, 2022 has exceeded 28 crores, and an amount of Rs 1,930 crores has been paid for 97,227 claims.
- **Atal Pension Yojana (APY) :** APY is an initiative of the government to provide financial security to the people of the unorganized sector. All bank account holders in the age group of 18 to 40 years are eligible for this. Contribution to APY varies depending on the pension amount chosen. After joining APY, a

guaranteed minimum monthly pension of Rs 1,000 or Rs 2,000 or Rs 3,000 or Rs 4,000 or Rs 5,000 will be guaranteed at the age of 60 years, depending on the contribution made by the subscriber. It is administered by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) under the overall administrative and institutional framework of the National Pension System (NPS). More than 4 crore individuals have subscribed to APY till April 27, 2022.

Home Ministry gives security clearance to new promoters of Jet Airways

The Union Home Ministry has given security clearance to the new promoters of Jet Airways. The security clearance will pave the way for the resumption of operations of Jet Airways. Jet Airways' operations were shut down in 2019 due to financial constraints. Naresh Goyal-owned Jet Airways took its last flight on April 17, 2019. In June 2019, insolvency proceedings were initiated for Jet Airways.

In October 2020, the Committee of Creditors (CoC) of Jet Airways approved the resolution plan of the consortium of United Kingdom's Colorrock Capital and UAE-based entrepreneur Murari Lal Jalan. Thus, the Jalan-Kalrock consortium is currently the promoter of Jet Airways. The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) had approved the resolution plan in June 2021.

Last week, Jet Airways conducted its first test flight from Hyderabad to Delhi. After the test flight, Jet Airways will have to operate proven flights after which it will get the Air Operator Certificate. board the aircraft as members. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) will

award Air Operator Certificate to Jet Airways on the basis of test flight results.

Last month, Jet Airways appointed Sanjeev Kapoor, former chief strategy and commercial officer of Vistara, as its CEO.

Surviving Soldiers of Operation Dudhi honored by Assam Rifles

Recently, the surviving soldiers of Operation Dudhi were honored by the Assam Rifles. In 1991, 72 terrorists were killed in a single anti-terrorist operation in Jammu and Kashmir by the Assam Rifles. This operation was started on May 3, 1991. 72 terrorists were gunned down by the battalion and 13 others were arrested. Soldier Ram Kumar in fierce fire during this operation.

Cases of tomato flu registered in many parts of Kerala state

Recently, tomato flu cases were reported in many parts of the state of Kerala. This viral disease has made a large number of children its victims. Tomato flu or tomato flu is a common viral infection that causes fever in children under the age of five. The disease usually begins with a burning sensation in the skin and loss of water in the body. A child infected with flu develops tomato-like rashes, which are usually red in color, hence it is called 'tomato flu' or 'tomato fever'. Currently, the infection has been reported only in parts of Kollam district of Kerala, but health officials have warned that the infection could spread to other areas if preventive measures are not taken.

Central government releases revenue deficit grant of Rs 7,183.42 crore to states

Recently, the Department of Expenditure (Ministry of Finance) released Rs 7,183.42 crore as revenue deficit grant to 14 states. This is the second monthly installment of the Post Devolution Revenue Deficit (PDRD) grant to the states. The Fifteenth Finance Commission recommended post-transfer revenue deficit (PDRD) grants to the states.

The 14 states recommended by the Fifteenth Finance Commission for Post-Transfer Revenue Deficit (PDRD) grants during 2022-23 are Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttarakhand and West Bengal.

The eligibility of the states was determined by the Fifteenth Commission taking into account the devolution determined on the basis of the interval between the assessment of revenue and expenditure of the state.

The Fifteenth Finance Commission has recommended a total Post Devolution Revenue Deficit (PDRD) grant of Rs 86,201 crore to 14 states for the financial year 2022-23. The Department of Expenditure (Ministry of Finance) recommended states in 12 Equated Monthly Installments (EMIs). will release the grant.

The Post Development Revenue Deficit (PDRD) grant is provided under Article 275 of the Indian Constitution.

Pilot project for skill development of tribal youth started in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh

Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Electronics and Information Technology, Rajiv Chandrashekar, at the launch of a pilot project aimed at skill development of tribal youth at CRISP, Bhopal, said that to make tribal youth skilled in rural areas. Organizing Tribal Technical Training Program is a small step in this direction.

In this pilot project, training has been planned for about 250 beneficiaries in 17 clusters of 17 selected districts from 6 states of India - Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Odisha and it will be organized by Vikas Bharti, Gumla, in Jharkhand.

The beneficiaries will be provided training in 5 disciplines- Electricity and Solar Energy, Agricultural Mechanization, E-Governance, Plumbing and Masonry, Two Wheeler Repair and Maintenance. This training will enable the youth to start their own business, which will create more employment opportunities for other youth as well.

Leading oil PSUs come together to sign tripartite-cum-escrow agreement for upcoming ethanol plants

Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) – Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) – have entered into a Long Term Purchase Agreement (LTPA) for upcoming dedicated ethanol plants across the country.

Shri Sandeep Pondrick (IAS), Principal Secretary, Industries Department, Government of Bihar, Shri Ashwini Bhatia, MD, State Bank of India and Executive Director I/C, Marketing Corporate, BPCL, on the first set of tripartite-cum-escrow agreement (TPA) It was signed between OMCs (Oil Marketing Companies), project proponents and banks associated with ethanol plant projects in the presence of Sukhmal Jain.

State Bank of India, Indian Overseas Bank and Indian Bank are the three banks involved in this tripartite agreement with OMCs and project proponents. This agreement has been done to ensure that the payments received by the ethanol plants will be used to repay the finances given by these banks.

As per the agreement, the ethanol produced by these plants dedicated to ethanol production will be sold to OMCs for blending with petrol as per the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) program of the Government of India.

The payment to be made for supply of ethanol to OMCs will be credited to an escrow account opened with the financing bank to ensure repayment of the loan to the banks as per the stipulated time.

The TPA was signed with Micromax Biofuels Pvt Ltd, Bihar, Eastern India Biofuels Pvt Ltd, Bihar, Muzaffarpur Biofuels Pvt Ltd, Bihar, K P Biofuels Pvt Ltd, Madhya Pradesh and Visag Biofuels Pvt Ltd, Madhya Pradesh.

In the Ethanol Supply Year 2021-22, India achieved 9.90% ethanol blending by consuming

186 crore liters of ethanol, saving more than 9000 crores of foreign exchange. However, the government has set a target of achieving 20% blended ethanol by 2025 commonly known as the E20 target.

Skill India International Center

Recently a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and DP World of UAE to develop a Skill India International Center in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. This MoU has been signed to encourage the youth of India to pursue overseas employment opportunities in port operations, logistics and allied sectors. Skill India International Centers aims to provide high quality training to Indian youth. These centers will host training facilities that will cater to the youth of the country as per the demand of various international employers located in countries like Canada, United Arab Emirates (UAE), Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) region.

India-United Arab Emirates Start-up Bridge launched at startupindia.gov.in

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and UAE Economy Minister Abdullah bin Touq Al Marri launched the India-UAE start-up bridge startupindia.gov.in in Mumbai. With the launch of this bridge, entrepreneurs and stakeholders of both the countries will have easy access to information about the startup ecosystem. Dr. Ahmed Al Falasi, UAE Minister of State for Entrepreneurship and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, said that his country has made such a bridge with any country for the first time. Shri

Goyal said that this bridge will help in increasing investment and exchange of ideas about startups between the two countries.

EKA Unveils Its First Electric Bus EKA E9

EKA, a commercial electric vehicle manufacturer and a subsidiary of Pinnacle Industries, has unveiled the E9, a new electric bus. The e-bus was introduced at the Pune Alternate Fuel Conclave (AFC) by Maharashtra's Minister for Tourism and Environment, Aaditya Thackeray, alongside Sudhir Mehta, Chairman of EKA and Pinnacle Industries Limited.

- The EKA E9 is claimed to be the country's first completely 'Made-In-India' 9metre pure electric, zero-emission bus.

About EKA E9 Bus :

- The E9, according to EKA, is the first battery-electric bus with a new streamlined vehicle design, optimised power and range, and a lower Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) than existing Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) powered buses, ensuring sustainability and profitability for all stakeholders.
- The battery system is safe, durable, and efficient, with a powerful Li-Ion battery suitable for city operations. Battery system manufacturing is a fallout of the Production Linked Incentive Scheme.
- EKA's E9 bus creates a worldwide platform for clean, efficient, and lucrative public transportation which promotes electric mobility to meet their zero-emissions goals.
- KA's E9 bus is an example to highlight the priority in electrification of commercial

vehicles, public transportation, and, most notably, the bus industry, is essential to India's decarbonization strategy.

PM launches Madhya Pradesh Startup Policy during the Madhya Pradesh Startup Conclave

On 13th May 2022, Prime Minister(PM) Narendra Modi launched the "Madhya Pradesh Startup Policy" during the Madhya Pradesh Startup Conclave held at Indore, Madhya Pradesh(MP) and addressed the startup community through vide conferencing.

- He also launched the Madhya Pradesh Startup portal which will promote the startup ecosystem.

PAN Or Aadhaar Made Mandatory for Cash Deposits or Withdrawals Above Rs 20 Lakh

The Indian government has made the requirement of a Permanent Account Number (PAN) or Aadhaar number mandatory for deposits or withdrawals of Rs. 20 lakh or more in a fiscal year, or for creating a current account. On May 10, 2022, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) issued a notification in this regard called the Income-tax (Fifteenth Amendment) Rules, 2022. The new regulations will take effect from May 26, 2022.

PAN or Aadhaar will be required for the following transactions under the new rules:

- Cash deposit or deposits aggregating to Rs 20 lakh or more in a financial year, in one or more account of a person with a banking company or a co-operative bank or a Post Office

- Banks, post offices, and co-operative societies would be required to report deposits and withdrawals aggregating to Rs 20 lakh or more in a financial year.
- PAN is currently required for cash deposits of Rs 50,000 or more per day. With these rules, a threshold of Rs 20 lakh has been set for the entire financial year.

NITI Aayog Launches the National Data & Analytics Platform

The National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog has launched the National Data and Analytics Platform (NDAP), which aims to improve access and use of published Indian government data. The platform provides standardised datasets from across India's vast landscape of administrative data. NDAP helps users to search, merge, visualize and download datasets with ease.

- The user-friendly platform will improve data accessibility, interoperability, and interactivity.
- Mr. Suman Bery, Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog, launched the platform in the presence of Mr. Amitabh Kant, CEO of NITI Aayog, and Dr. Anantha Nageswaran, Chief Economic Advisor to the Government of India.
- The platform was first released as a beta version in August 2021, with a limited number of users given access for testing and feedback.

Forbes Global 2000 List 2022: RIL tops Indian companies; Berkshire Hathaway tops globally

According to the Forbes Global 2000 List 2022, which ranks the world's largest companies using 4 metrics (sales, profits, assets, and market value), Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) led by Mukesh Ambani has ranked 53rd on the list (global) and ranked first among Indian companies.

Berkshire Hathaway, United States of America (USA) based multinational conglomerate holding company took the No. 1 spot for the first time since Forbes started publishing the Global 2000 in 2003.

Tourism Minister G. Kishan Reddy Addressed 1st Incredible India International Cruise Conference 2022 in Mumbai

On May 14, 2022, the 2 day 1st Incredible India International Cruise Conference 2022 (IIICC-2022) was held at Mumbai, Maharashtra which was inaugurated by Union Minister Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPS&W) along with Minister of State (MoS) Shri Shripad Naik, (MoPS&W). Union Minister Gangapuram Kishan Reddy, Ministry of Tourism Addressed the event. IIICC 2022 was held on 14th and 15th May, 2022.

- It was jointly organized by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Government of India and FICCI (Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry). Mumbai Port Authority, Sagarmala, Indian Ports Association are also part of organizers. Click

here to know about the rest of partners for IIICC 2022

- The conference was an invitation for domestic and international tourists to 'Come, Cruise in India'.
- Union Minister Gangapuram Kishan Reddy Stated that government is working towards a comprehensive national tourism policy to give an impetus to the tourism industry.
- The mascot for the event is named as 'Captain Cruzo'.

Key Points:

- The Central Government is making efforts to clean and rejuvenate our rivers including Namami Gange Project to provide a major boost to river-based tourist activities.
- On the second day of the conference, Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy participated in the two Business sessions namely 'Potential of River Cruising' and 'Cruise Tourism: Success Stories and Destination Development'.
- Minister of State (MoS) Shripad Yesso Naik, Ministry of Tourism virtually laid the foundation stone for the third Chemical berth at Pir Pau Jetty and remotely inaugurated Kelshi Lighthouse in the Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra and Dhanushya Kodi Light House in Tamilnadu.
- iv.It is estimated that, the iconic sea-cruise terminal coming up at BPX Indira Dock Mumbai International Cruise Terminal is expected to be commissioned by 2024

Dr. Manik Saha Sworn in As the New CM Of Tripura



On May 15, 2022, Dr. Manik Saha, the state president of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of Tripura and a Rajya Sabha member, was sworn in as the Chief Minister (CM) of Tripura.

- He was sworn in as the 12th CM of Tripura, and Governor Satyadeo Narayan Arya administered the oath of office to him in the Raj Bhawan in Agartala, Tripura.
- His appointment followed the sudden resignation of his predecessor, Biplab Kumar Dev, who took office as the BJP's first CM in Tripura in 2018.

Union Communications Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw launched Gatishakti Sanchar Portal

On May 14, 2022, the Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, Ministry of Communications (MoC), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (Meity) launched the GatiShakti Sanchar portal for Centralised Right of Way (RoW) approvals. It was launched on the lines of PM GatiShakti National Master Plan (NMP), and can be accessed at <http://www.sugamsanchar.gov.in>

This portal will provide a robust mechanism to achieve the goal of Broadband for All as envisaged in the National Digital Communication Policy (NDCP)-2.

The portal has been developed by Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh (MP)-based MP state Electronics Development Corporation on behalf of Department of Telecommunications (DOT) MoC.

The timely disposal of RoW applications, within a span of 20 to 22 days from around 100 days, will enable speedy infrastructure creation resulting timely rollout of 5G Network also.

NAL Initiates Taxi Trials for Evaluation of Indigenously Developed Digital Anti-Skid Braking System For SARAS Mk 2

The digital anti-skid brake management system designed for SARAS Mark 2 (SARAS MK II), 19 seat Light Transport aircraft, has been successfully validated by the National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL) in Bengaluru, Karnataka. NAL is part of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) labs, has developed a state-of-the-art brake by wire electro-hydraulic braking system for civil aircraft for the first time in India taxi trial of the anti-skid brake system

Taxi Trial of the Anti-Skid Brake System was conducted at the speed of about 30 knots and the results were highly satisfactory.

Digital Anti-Skid Braking System integration on SARAS Mark 2 will benefit operation from airfields with short runways to boost regional air connectivity.

Yet more 15 to 20 taxi trials would be conducted to evaluate the system performance.

National Commission for Women organized a workshop on 'Capacity Building and Sensitization Program for Media Personnel'

National Commission for Women (NCW) organized a workshop on 'Capacity Building and Sensitization Program for Media Personnel' on 18th May, 2022 to focus on issues related to women and portrayal of women in media. This workshop was divided into three technical sessions; 'Gender-sensitive indicators for media in media operations and content', 'Challenges faced by women media professionals' and 'Role of media in empowerment of women'.

The 30th Foundation Day of the National Commission for Women was celebrated on 31 January 2022. About five decades ago, the Committee on the Status of Women in India (CSWI) recommended the establishment of a 'National Commission for Women' for monitoring grievances and accelerating the socio-economic development of women.

The National Commission for Women was established in January 1992 as a statutory body under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990.

The commission was constituted on January 31, 1992 under the chairmanship of 'Jayanti Patnaik'. The commission consists of a chairman, a member secretary and five other members. The Chairperson of the National Commission for Women is nominated by the Central Government. Presently Ms. Rekha Sharma is the Chairperson of National Commission for Women.

Bangladesh offers Chittagong port to India for Usage Purposes

The Prime Minister of Bangladesh offered India the use of Chittagong Port in Bangladesh. Access to Chittagong port will benefit the northeastern states of India such as Assam, Tripura, Meghalaya and Mizoram. Chittagong Port, the major port of Bangladesh is built on the Karnaphuli River. It is the busiest port along the coast of the Bay of Bengal. It is also used for transportation by India, Nepal and Bhutan.

Before independence, the northeastern part of India had access to the port of Chittagong through the Brahmaputra and Barak river systems. After Partition in 1947, India's northeast lost access to the sea. Chittagong port was moved to East Pakistan and India had lost a major trade route. However, India continued to use the ports of East Pakistan until the 1965 war with Pakistan. After that, the Northeast had to depend on the 'chicken neck' (a narrow strip in West Bengal) for trading. However, in recent years, India has had access to some ports in Bangladesh, including the port of Chittagong. Further revival of pre-partition trade routes will improve trade for the Northeast region and generate revenue for Bangladesh.

In March 2021, the Prime Ministers of India and Bangladesh inaugurated the Maitri Setu Bridge. It was built on the Feni river and bridged the distance between Tripura and Chittagong port. Road infrastructure is also being improved in Bangladesh connecting Dawki in Meghalaya,

Sutarkandi in Assam and Akhaura in Tripura. A plan to build a bridge over the Khouthlangtuipui river for faster access to Mizoram's Chittagong port

INS Surat and INS Udayagiri warships were launched

India's Defense Minister Rajnath Singh launched the warship INS Udayagiri and the Indian Navy's destroyer INS Surat in Mumbai. INS 'Surat' is the fourth and last stealth destroyer to be commissioned under the 'Project 15B' programme. INS 'Udayagiri' has been commissioned under the 'Project 17A' warship programme.

Both these warships have been designed and built by the Directorate of Naval Design at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL), Mumbai.

Project 15B: It is a Government of India program under which the next generation stealth guided-missile destroyers for the Indian Navy are being built at Mazagon Docks Limited, Mumbai. In 2021, the first ship under this project was commissioned.

Project 17A: These ships being commissioned under Project 17A are an improvement over the P17 frigates and are equipped with improved weapons, improved stealth features, advanced platform management systems and improved sensors. Under this programme, seven ships are being built, out of which 4 are being built by MDL and 3 by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE).

First Firing of First Indigenously Developed Naval Anti-Ship Missile: The Indian Navy successfully conducted the first firing of the first indigenously developed Naval Anti-Ship Missile from a 42B helicopter. This was done from the Integrated Test Range at Balasore. The missile followed the desired maritime skimming trajectory and reached the designated target with utmost precision, validating the control, guidance and mission algorithms. The Naval antiship missile has been developed in collaboration with Defense Research and Development Organization-DRDO. The missile employed several innovative technologies, including an indigenously developed launcher for the helicopter.

Mamata Banerjee received Special Bangla Academy Award



On 10 May 2022, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee received the Bangla Academy Award for her 'relentless literary pursuit'. The award was presented for her book "Kabita Bitan", which pays tribute to the best writers of West Bengal and the book contains a collection of over 900 poems.

The Award was received by state Education Minister Bratya Basu on behalf of Mamata Banerjee.

The Bangla Academy Award was introduced in 2022 by Sahitya Akademi and the book, 'Kabita Bitan', was released at the 2020 International Kolkata Book Fair.

Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav & UAE's Sultan Al Jaber signed MoU on Climate Actions

Bhupender Yadav, the Union Minister of the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) and H.E. Dr Sultan Al Jaber, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Climate Envoy and Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology had a bilateral meeting in New Delhi, Delhi.

- Prior to the meeting a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on climate action was signed with the basic objective to establish a framework to facilitate and enhance bilateral cooperation on climate action, and also contribute towards implementing the Paris Agreement.

Key Points :

- Under the MoU both sides have mutually agreed to explore the ways for strengthening bilateral cooperation in climate action.
- The Bilateral meeting had taken note of the UAE's bid to host COP 28 (Conference of parties 28) in 2023, and emphasised the need to prioritise the concerns of developing countries, particularly in areas of implementation support including finance and technology.

- Yadav, has also requested the UAE to join the Coalition for Disaster Resilience Infrastructure (CDRI) and Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT).

Ministry of Ayush & Department of Biotechnology signed MoU for Mutual Collaboration

On 25th May 2022, the Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga, and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (Ayush) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, to explore the possibility of cooperation, convergence, and synergy in bringing out expertise under one platform towards evidence-based biotechnological interventions in the Ayush sector.

The MoU will enable the possibility to undertake innovative and path-breaking research that can be used to explore various Fundamental principles of Ayush systems.

LS Speaker Om Birla launches 2nd phase of "Suposhit Maa Abhiyan" in Kota, Rajasthan

Lok Sabha (LS) Speaker Om Birla launched the second phase of "Suposhit Maa Abhiyan" in Kota, Rajasthan. Under the campaign, 3000 women will be provided with the nutrition kits for 9 months with the help of public support and a monthly health checkup.

In 2020 , the scheme was first started by identifying 1000 women in the Kota Bundi

parliamentary constituency to overcome the nutritional deficiency among women.

Geetanjali Shree Won International Booker Prize for the first Hindi Novel 'Tomb of Sand'



The 2022 International Booker Prize for Translated Fiction was awarded to 'Tomb of Sand' written by Geetanjali Shree and translated by Daisy Rockwell. The book was originally published in Hindi as Ret Samadhi in 2018. The award was presented by Booker Prize Foundation.

- This is the first book in any Indian language to win the prestigious International Booker Prize and this is the first novel translated from Hindi to win the award.
- Geetanjali Shree is the first Indian to win the International Booker Prize.
- The recipients were awarded the Prize money of GBP (British pound sterling) 50,000 (USD 63,000) which will be split between the author and the translator.



NATO Exercises - Defender Europe 2022 and Swift Response 2022 Began in Poland and 8 Other Countries



The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) exercise, Defender Europe 2022 (DE22) and Swift Response 2022 (SR22) began on May 01, 2022 aimed at building preparedness and interoperability between Allies and partners of the United States (US) and NATO.

- The exercises are scheduled from May 01 to May 27, 2022
- Host Countries: The exercise began in Poland and will be held in 8 other countries.
- Exercise Swift Response is an annual U.S. Army Europe and Africa multinational training exercise that takes place this year in Eastern Europe, the Arctic High North, Baltics, and Balkans.

Highlights of External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's visit to Bangladesh and Bhutan

On April 28-30, 2022, the Union Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) visited Bangladesh and Bhutan. His delegation included Foreign Secretary-designate Vinay Mohan Kwatra.

On April 28, 2022, he paid a brief official visit to Dhaka, Bangladesh where he met Bangladesh Prime Minister (PM) Sheikh Hasina and also held talks with Bangladesh Minister Abul Kalam Abdul Momen, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA).

On April 29, 2022, he paid an official visit to Thimphu, Bhutan to further strengthen bilateral ties. He was Bhutan's first high-level visitor from abroad since the onset of COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020. He was invited by Bhutan's Minister Lyonpo Tandi Dorji, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA).

There S. Jaishankar called on Bhutan's PM Lyonchen Dr. Lotay Tshering,

FAO's The State of the World's Forests 2022: 10% of total forest area on Earth lost in 30 years

On 2nd May 2022, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) released its flagship publication "The State of the World's Forests (SOFO) 2022: Forest Pathways for

Green Recovery and Building Inclusive, Resilient and Sustainable economies". This is part of The State of the World series of the FAO.

- The report states that since 1990, around 420 million hectares (Mha) approximately \$10.34 \text{ \%}\$, of forest have been lost through conversion to other land uses.
- The rate of deforestation has decreased over the last 30 years but it was still 10 Mha per year from 2015 to 2020.
- Forests cover around 31 % (4.06 billion ha) of the Earth's land surface.
- The publication was launched during the XV World Forestry Congress (WFC 2021) being held in Coex, Seoul, the Republic of Korea from 2nd to 6th May 2022.

THE Impact Rankings 2022: 8 Indian Universities among top 300; India becomes 4th best-represented nation

The Times Higher Education (THE) released THE Impact Rankings 2022 (4th edition). There were 1,524 universities from 110 countries/regions participated on work towards the United Nations (UN)'s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) across 18 tables, overall ranking and one for each of the 17 SDGs.

- With 64 universities on the ranking, India has become the 4th most well-represented country (Jointly with Turkey).
- 8 Universities from India are among the top 300 universities in the world.
- **Note:** THE Impact Rankings is the only global indicator to assess universities' progress towards the UN's SDGs.

Vietnam Opens World's Longest Glass Bottom Bridge



The World's Longest Glass Bottom Bridge was opened in Moc Chau district of the country's Son La province, Vietnam. It is called as Vietnam's Bach Long pedestrian bridge, which is 632 m and located 492ft above a huge jungle.

- It surpasses a 526 m Glass Bottom Bridge in Guangdong, China.

John Lee elected next leader of Hong Kong



Former security chief John Lee Ka-chiu has recently been elected as the next leader of Hong Kong. The move is widely regarded as a move by the Chinese government to tighten its grip on the city.

Carrie Lam is being replaced by John Lee after the city's chief executive election. From July 1, 2022,

Lee will begin his five-year term as chief executive of the city.

In 2019, he was serving as security secretary when the police launched a violent crackdown on pro-democracy protests. The protests began after a controversial bill was announced that would allow a person to be extradited to mainland China. Lee allowed Hong Kong's police force to use rubber bullets, tear gas, water and even ammunition at certain times on all those protesting.

In the month of August 2020, the US imposed economic sanctions against Hong Kong to curtail its autonomy as well as restrict freedom of expression.

The Hong Kong National Party was banned under the supervision of Li. It was the first party to support independence for Hong Kong after the British handed over the region to China in 1997. This party was banned in the year 2018. The party was accused by Li of spreading hatred against mainland China.

Eli had passed the extradition bill, due to which he faced a lot of criticism. However, during his election campaign, he changed his tune regarding the bill, saying there was no need to talk about the extradition bill anymore. After protests, the bill was not implemented in its entirety.

European Political Community

French President Emmanuel Macron believes that a "European Political Community" should be established which would be much broader than the current European Union (EU). The political community will also include nations that are not members of the European Union.

Currently, there are 27 members of the European Union.

The main goal of the political community would be to maintain the stability of the region. It will also consider moving the EU, as relying on it alone will not be enough.

This community will allow democratic European countries to cooperate in a new political space in the areas of energy, security, infrastructure investment, transport, freedom of movement.

Becoming a member of the European Union is a long process. This often takes years or even decades, due to the strict EU membership criteria. This community would allow parallel entry rather than undermining stringent standards. This will provide a quick way for any country wishing to join the bloc. Even countries that had previously dropped out can rejoin.

Marcos Jr wins the 2022 presidential election in the Philippines



Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr., son of the late Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos, has claimed victory in the 2022 Philippines presidential election with over 30.8 million votes. With this victory the Marcos dynasty returned to

power. However, hundreds of people had gathered to protest the election results.

Ferdinand Marcos Jr. and Lenny Robredo were the presidential and vice-president candidates in the election. Both candidates promised to make economic recovery after the pandemic.

Along with the two main candidates, eight other candidates including former boxing star Manny Pacquiao, Manila Mayor Isco Moreno and former National Police Chief Sen. Panfilo Laxon were far behind in voter preference surveys.

United National Party leader Ranil Vikram Singhe once again sworn in as the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka

Former Sri Lankan Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe was once again sworn in as the new Prime Minister of the country. Mr. Wickremesinghe has been the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka five times. President Gotabaya Rajapaksa administered the oath to United National Party leader Wickremesinghe in Colombo. President's brother Mahinda Rajapaksa resigned as prime minister on Monday following violent attacks by supporters on peaceful anti-government protesters. The appointment of 73-year-old Wickremesinghe as prime minister is being seen as an attempt to end the crisis in the country and restore international confidence. The government is also negotiating an aid package with the International Monetary Fund.

Intersolar Europe 2022 event begins in Germany

The solar industry has gathered in Munich, Germany for Intersolar Europe 2022 which is being held from 11 to 13 May 2012. The event is

providing a wide range of solar thermal, photovoltaic (PV), and solar plant solutions. More than 20,000 people including secretaries and ministers from different countries around the world are attending the event. Representatives and CEOs from large MNCs in the renewable energy sector like Siemens, ABB, 3S Swiss Solar Solutions, Ercon, Beva Ray AG, Mayer Berger Technologies AG, etc. are also participating in the event. The technology, market and financing of PV projects are being discussed in this event. Large scale PV power plants, especially floating PV and agri-PV will also be highlighted. Other topics being discussed are the potential of digitalisation, artificial intelligence, new business models, integrated solar PV systems and development of the PV market.

Bhagwant Khuba Addressed at Intersolar Europe 2022 on "India's Solar Energy Market"

Bhagwant Khuba, Minister of State (MoS), Ministry of New and Renewable Energy(MNRE) delivered a keynote address at the investment promotion event on "India's Solar Energy Market" at Intersolar Europe 2022 held at Messe München exhibition centre, Munich, Germany. The event was organized by the Indo-German Energy Forum (IGEF).

- Intersolar Europe 2022, the world's leading exhibition for the solar industry, took place from 11th May to 13 th May 2022.
- Intersolar Europe is organized by Solar Promotion GmbH, Pforzheim, and Freiburg Wirtschaft Touristik und Messe GmbH & Co. KG (FWTM).

Intersolar Europe:

- Intersolar Europe is part of The smarter E Europe, which in total comprises four exhibitions, an extensive accompanying program as well as parallel conferences ii.It is Europe's largest platform for the energy industry.

Sky Bridge 721: World's Longest Suspension Bridge in Czech Republic

On 13th May 2022, the world's longest suspension footbridge named "Sky Bridge 721, was opened in Dolní Morava, Czech Republic for tourists. The bridge connects two mountain ridges and hangs 95 metres above the valley of the Mlýnský stream.

- The Sky Bridge 721,721 metres (2365 feet) long and 1.2-meter-wide, was constructed at a cost of 200 million crowns (around USD \$8.4\$ million).
- Prior to Sky Bridge 721, the title of the world's longest suspension footbridge was held by Portugal's 516-metre Arouca Bridge.
- Sky Bridge 721 is 154 metres longer than the current Guinness World Record holder suspension footbridge, the Baglung Parbat Footbridge (567 metres) in Gandaki Province, Nepal.

Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan Becomes President of UAE

His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan (popularly known as MBZ) has been unanimously elected President of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) by the Federal Supreme Council. He is also the Ruler of Abu Dhabi (UAE).

- According to the Ministry of Presidential Affairs (UAE), he will succeed the late Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, former President of the UAE, and his appointment is made in accordance with Article 51 of the Constitution.
- The Federal Supreme Council made the decision at a meeting held at Al Mushrif Palace in Abu Dhabi (UAE), which was chaired by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister, and Ruler of Dubai.

Somalia Elects Hassan Sheikh Mohamud as New President

Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, Somalia's former leader, has been elected as President of Somalia, defeating Mohamed Abudallahi Mohamed (also known as Farmajo).Farmajo served as President of Somalia since 2017.

The polling took place at Halane Camp in Mogadishu, Somalia's capital.The 2022 election was limited to Somalia's 328 Members of Parliament (MP). Given that the winner needs at least 184 votes to win, Mohamud received 214 votes to Farmajo's 110 votes.

NASA's Endurance Mission

A rocket carrying NASA's Endurance Mission was recently launched.

Mission Objective: It aims to find out why planet Earth supports life, while other planets like Mars and Venus do not. A wet planet like Earth is suitable for the existence of life. Venus was once a watery planet but later dried up for unknown

reasons. If we understand why Venus dried up, our knowledge of habitable planets would increase.

Under the Endurance Mission, the global electric potential of the Earth will be measured. This electrical potential of the Earth is believed to be very weak and thus can support life.

Measuring electrical potential In 2016, the European Space Agency (ESA) Venus Express mission detected a 10-volt electric potential around Venus. If the electric potential is present, the positively charged particles will be pulled away from the planet's surface. Thus, the electric potential around Venus would have pulled the positively charged components of the water, which may have caused Venus to dry out over time. Venus and Earth both have an ionosphere (the electrically charged outer layer of its atmosphere). That's why scientists want to know if the Earth has the same electric potential. If there is electric potential, they want to investigate why there is water in the earth.

Forbes 'Global 2000' list released

Anounced the Forbes Global 2000 list of public companies around the world by 2022. The Forbes Global 2000 ranks the world's largest companies using four metrics: sales, profit, assets and market value. Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries Ltd has climbed two places to 53rd position in the Forbes' Global 2000 list of public companies by 2022. Reliance is the top-ranked Indian firm in the list, followed by State Bank of India at 105th, HDFC Bank at 153rd and ICICI Bank at 204th. Berkshire Hathaway held the No. 1 spot for the first time since Forbes began publishing the Global 2000 in

2003, Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, which dropped to No. 2 after nine consecutive years at the top of the list. Saudi Arabia's oil company (Saudi Aramco) secured the third position.

Hassan Sheikh Mahmood becomes the new President of Somalia

After a long-pending election in the troubled Horn of Africa nation, Somali legislators have elected former leader Hassan Sheikh Mahmood as the country's next president. Hassan Sheikh Mohamed, who served as Somalia's president between 2012 and 2017, won the competition in the capital Mogadishu amid a security lockdown imposed by the authorities to prevent deadly rebel attacks. He defeated Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed (also known as Farmajo).

Cannes International Film Festival

Recently, at the Cannes International Film Festival, the Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting and the Minister of Information and Broadcasting of Bangladesh jointly presented a 90-second screening of the Indo-Bangladesh co-produced feature film 'Mujib - The Making of a Nation' directed by Shyam Benegal. Trailer released.

The film, co-produced by India and Bangladesh, was an initiative of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The film is a gift on the birth centenary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as well as an example of good neighborly relations.

The Cannes International Film Festival is an annual film festival held in France that previews new films from all genres, including

documentaries from around the world. It is the most prestigious and publicized film festival in the world. It is held each year (usually in May) at the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès.

Given the massive popularity of the festival, many film personalities attend, as well as being a popular venue for filmmakers to launch their new films and showcase these films to distributors from all over the world.

'G5-Sahel'

On May 19, 2022, the top UN political official for Africa informed about Mali's withdrawal from the 'Sahel Regional Counter-Terrorist Force' (G5-Sahel or G5S). After the suggestion of the African Union and the support of the United Nations Security Council, this joint force was formed on 16 February 2014 in Naukhot, Mauritania, which was named G5-Sahel. The countries involved are Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Chad. The objective of the G5-Sahel is to establish better coordination in dealing with terrorist groups in the region and to increase cooperation for economic development and security. Mali is a vast landlocked country spread across the Sahara Desert in West Africa. It is currently battling jihadist attacks and ethnic violence.

BRICS Foreign Ministers Meeting

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said at the digital meeting of the BRICS grouping on Thursday that the impact of the Ukraine conflict has led to a sharp increase in the cost of energy, food and other products and it should be reduced keeping in mind the developing countries.

In the presence of foreign ministers of China, Russia and two other member countries, Jaishankar also said that BRICS has repeatedly affirmed sovereign equality, territorial integrity, respect for international law and the grouping must live up to these commitments.

The meeting has been organized in preparation for the 14th BRICS summit. BRICS (Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa) is a grouping of five large developing countries representing 41 percent of the global population, 24 percent of global GDP and 16 percent of global trade. China has hosted this meeting.

India handed over the chairmanship of BRICS to China in January 2022. The theme of the meeting is 'Promoting High Quality BRICS Partnership in a New Era for Global Development'.

UNICEF Releases Child Alert May 2022: India Is Home to World's Most Severely Wasted Children

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has released its UNICEF Child Alert May 2022 edition, titled "Severe Wasting: An Overlooked Child Survival Emergency."

According to UNICEF, India has the world's most severely wasted children under the age of five, with \$5,772,472\$ affected children.

What Is Severe Wasting?

- Wasting is the most visible and fatal form of malnutrition, described as a low weight-for-height ratio. The most dangerous form is severe wasting, often known as severe acute malnutrition.
- It is caused by a lack of nutritional diet and frequent occurrences of infections such as diarrhoea, measles, and malaria that deplete a child's immunity.

Key Alerts:

- In terms of countries with the highest number of children under the age of five affected by severe wasting, Indonesia ranks second with 812,564 severely wasted children. Pakistan, Nigeria, and Bangladesh ranked third, fourth, and fifth, respectively.
- South Asia continues to be the hub of severe wasting, with statistics that surpass Sub-Saharan Africa. At least 7.7 million children are affected in the South Asia region.
- Marriage and child-bearing before the age of 18 among adolescent girls with high levels of anaemia and underweight indicate that severe wasting is a generational concern.

Nirmala Sitharaman, India's Governor of NDB chairs the 7th Annual Meeting of Board of Governors of NDB

On May 19 2022, Nirmala Sitharaman, Union Minister of the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Corporate Affairs and also an India's Governor for the New Development Bank (NDB) chaired the 7th Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of NDB through a video conference in New Delhi, Delhi.

- The meeting was attended by Governors or Alternate Governors of Brazil, China, Russia, South Africa and the newly joined members of Bangladesh and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- The theme of 7th Annual Meeting for the year 2022 was "NDB: Optimising Development Impact".

Highlights of Oman's Commerce Minister Qais bin Mohammed al Yousef visit to India

On May 10-14, 2022, a 48-member high level multi-sectoral delegation headed by Qais bin Mohammed al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion of Oman visited India.

- The delegation includes senior officials and business representatives from diverse areas spanning health, pharmaceuticals, mining, tourism, telecommunication, energy, shipping and real estate.
- This visit was to further strengthen the economic ties between the two countries.
- Notably, a bilateral trade between the two countries has grown by 82% to reach US 9.94 billion in the financial year 2021-2022 from US 5.4 billion in 2020-21.
- The visit had followed the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between India and the members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), an alliance of six Middle Eastern countries. The GCC comprises Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

Seoul Forest Declaration - Emphasis Need to Triple Investments for Restoring Degraded Land by 2030

The Korea Forest Service (KFS) and Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) organised the XV World Forestry Congress (WFC 2021) at Coex, Seoul, Republic of Korea from 2nd to 6th May 2022.

- During which, 141 Participant countries endorsed the Seoul Forest Declaration to

convey the urgent need for action to achieve a green, healthy and resilient future with forests.

- The WFC 2021 also emphasised on the Youth Call for Action and the Ministerial Call on Sustainable Wood.
- The theme of XV WFC 2021 is "Building a Green, Healthy and Resilient Future with Forests".

NASA & Boeing Launched Starliner Spacecraft to carry Astronauts to ISS

The Boeing Company and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) launched the Starliner Space Capsule-OFT 2 (Orbital Flight Test-2) from Space Launch Complex-41 on Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida, United States of America (USA) to carry astronauts to and from the International Space Station (ISS).

- The launch was carried out using the United Launch Alliance (ULA) Atlas V rocket.

Webb - World's Most Powerful Telescope Completes First Test To Track Moving Object In Deep Space

James Webb Space Telescope, the world's largest and most powerful spacebased observatory, recently completed the first test to track a moving object, which verified that the telescope could conduct moving target science.

Key Facts :

- The Webb team has already used an asteroid within our solar system to run engineering tests of the 'moving target' (MT) capability.

- The engineering team tested this capability on a small asteroid in the Main Belt: 6481 Tenzing, named after Tenzing Norgay, the famous Tibetan mountain guide who was one of the first people to reach the summit of Mount Everest.
- Webb is currently moving through the final phases of commissioning its science instruments and as it proceeds through this phase, the mission team will test other objects moving at various speeds to verify we can study objects with the telescope that move throughout the solar system.
- This test was conducted to verify the observatory's capabilities to track these objects with sufficient precision to obtain images and spectra.

UNCCD 15th session of the Conference of the Parties held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

On May 9-20, 2022, the 15th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP15) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) which was hosted by Côte d'Ivoire for the 1st time at its Sofitel Abidjan Hôtel Ivoire in Abidjan on the theme 'Land. Life. Legacy: From scarcity to prosperity'. The theme calls for action to ensure land continues to benefit present and future generations. H.E. President Alassane Ouattara host the UNCCD's COP15.

Negotiations were focused on the work of the 15th session of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST15), 20th session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC20), and other major

issues included in the programme of work of the COP.

The Indian delegation was led by the Union Minister Bhupender Yadav, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) who highlighted the developments during India's presidency.

Two MoUs Renewed between India and Canada at 7th JSTCC meeting held at Ottawa

On May 19 2022, The 7th India-Canada Joint Science and Technology Cooperation Committee (JSTCC) meeting took place in Ottawa, Canada. During which two Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) were renewed, articulating new strategic directions for the implementation of the 2005 Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Government of Canada and the Government of the Republic of India.

Signatories:

The two MoUs were signed by the Ministry of Science and Technology with the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and National Research Council Canada (NRC), respectively, under India and Canada's agreement signed in \$2005. \$

The Joint Committee Meeting was co-chaired by Srivari Chandrasekhar, Secretary at the Indian Department of Science and Technology (DST) and David Morrison, Deputy Minister of International Trade at Global Affairs Canada.

iii. The meeting saw the august presence of Ajay Bisaria, High Commissioner of India to Canada, and Cameron MacKay, Canadian High Commissioner to India among others.

Saudi Aramco overtook Apple Inc. to become world's most valuable company

Oil giant Saudi Aramco has surpassed Apple Inc. to become the world's most valuable company due to the recent surge in oil prices.

Aramco traded near its highest level on record with a market capitalization of about USD \$2.43\$ trillion, surpassing that of Apple for the first time since 2020 . Apple Inc. fell 5.2 % to close at USD 146.50 per share, giving it a valuation of USD 2.37 trillion.

Overview of President Ram Nath Kovind Visit to Jamaica and St. Vincent & Grenadines

On May 15-21, 2022, the President of India Ram Nath Kovind paid an official visit to Jamaica and St. Vincent & Grenadines (SVG) with his wife Savita Kovind. This was the first ever visit by an Indian President to these countries (Jamaica and SVG).

It is a continuation of India's high-level engagement with the countries in the Caribbean region and emphasizes commitment to work with Small Island developing countries.

On May 15-18, 2022, he visited Jamaica to hold delegation level talks with his counterpart, the Governor General of Jamaica, Sir Patrick Allen. He arrived at the Norman Manley International Airport, Kingston, Jamaica where he was accorded a Guard of Honour.

On May 18-21, 2022, the Indian President also paid a 4-day visit to SVG to hold discussions with his counterpart Governor General Ms. Susan Dougan, and to meet its PM Dr. Ralph E. Gonsalves as well as other dignitaries.

IndiaSVG signed two MoUs on Exchange of Information and Assistance in Collection of Taxes, and on Refurbishment of Old Carter Community Centre.

ILO Releases Ninth Edition of ILO Monitor on The World of Work

According to a new report from the International Labour Organization (ILO) titled "ILO Monitor on The World of Work-Ninth Edition", several worldwide crises are threatening global labour market recovery, with increasing inequalities within and between countries.

- Global growth is projected to reach just 3.6 % in 2022 , which is 0.8 % points lower than January 2022 projections.
- Multiple economic crises, such as inflation, particularly in energy and food prices; financial instability; potential debt distress; and global supply chain disruption, aggravated by the Ukraine conflict, may worsen the number of hours worked in 2022.

Key Messages from The ILO Monitor on The World of Work – Ninth Edition:

- The number of hours worked globally decreased in the first quarter of 2022 and remains 3.8 % lower than the fourth quarter of 2019 . (The pre-crisis benchmark). This implies that about \$11.2\$ crores(112 million) jobs may have been lost over this time.
- While high-income countries witnessed a recovery in hours worked, Low & Lower-middle-income economies had a 3.6 % and 5.7 % gap respectively, in the first quarter of

2022 , when compared to the pre-crisis benchmark.

- In the first quarter of 2022 , China's recent containment measures accounted for 86 % of the global decline in hours worked.

WEF's Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index 2021: India Ranks 54; Japan Tops

The World Economic Forum's (WEF) ranked India 54th position (down from 46th in 2019) with a score of 4.1 in its Travel and Tourism Development Index 2021, but still India remains top performer within South Asia.

- Japan has topped (1) the global chart and the bottom position (117) is occupied by the country Chad.

Theme:

- The Theme of the WEF's Travel and Tourism Development Index 2021 is "Rebuilding for a Sustainable and Resilient Future".

Overview of Indian PM Narendra Modi Visit to Japan for QUAD Leaders' Meeting 2022

On May 23-24, 2022, the Prime Minister (PM) of India Narendra Modi paid a visit to Japan at the invitation of the Japanese PM Fumio Kishida to participate in the 4th and 2nd in-person QUAD (Quadrilateral) Leaders' Meeting 2022 in Tokyo, Japan on 24 May 2022 along with the United States (US) President Joseph Robinette Biden Jr.; and PM of Australia, Anthony Norman Albanese.

The QUAD countries are Australia, India, Japan, and the US.

The meeting saw the announcement of a Quad Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Package (Q-CHAMP) with 'mitigation' and 'adaptation' as its two themes.

The QUAD nations also announced the launch of 'Quad Fellowship program' which will be offered by the Quad to students from four countries. It is a philanthropic initiative led by the Schmidt Futures.

The Government of India (GoI) and the Government of the US has signed an Investment Incentive Agreement (IIA) in Tokyo. This IIA supersedes the IIA signed between GoI and the Government of the US in the year 1997.

Highlights of MoS For External Affairs V. Muraleedharan Visit to the USA; Addressed IMRF 2022

V. Muraleedharan, Minister of State (MoS) for External Affairs and Parliamentary Affairs, visited the United States of America (USA) for an eight-day visit from May 17-24 2022

During his visit, he headed the Indian delegation to the first International Migration Review Forum (IMRF)-2022, which was held at the United Nations (UN) in New York, USA, from May 17 - 20, 2022, under the aegis of the UN General Assembly (UNGA).

- The Forum was hosted by Abdulla Shahid, President of UNGA.
- The forum will be held four year once (quadrennial) and will be held at the highest possible political level, including Heads of State or Government.

UNICEF and WHO launch the first Global Report on Assistive Technology

The World Health Organisation (WHO) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) jointly launched the first Global Report on Assistive Technology (GReAT) which is the culmination of the 71 st World Health Assembly (WHA) resolution in 2018 to prepare a global report on effective access to Assistive Technology (AT).

- As per the report, 90 % of those who need AT do not have access to it globally.
- Including AT into health systems is critical for progress towards the targets in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) relating to Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

Kuwait to Build World's Largest Petroleum Research Centre

Kuwait is set to build the world's largest petroleum research centre in al-Ahmadi, south of Kuwait City by the end of 2022 . The estimated cost of the projects is around USD 120 million.

The centre will have 28 laboratories and it will develop improved production and refining techniques that can be used by the industry for different applications including the extraction of heavy crude and non-associated gas.

Highlights on BRICS Joint Committee on Space Cooperation; BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting 7th BRICS Culture Ministers' Meeting

On May 24, 2022, the BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) established the "BRICS Joint Committee on Space Cooperation ", bringing a new era of

cooperation in the fields of remote sensing satellite observation and data sharing. The joint committee has also held its first virtual meeting.

Aim :

- To improve cooperation and enable member countries' space agencies to work together more closely in the domains of remote sensing satellite observation and data sharing.

Operational Feature of The BRICS Joint Committee on Space Cooperation

- In order to provide support to the economic and social development of the member countries, the joint committee will drive cooperation on the BRICS Remote Sensing Satellite Constellation.
- Through a video conference on May 19, 2022, External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar participated virtually in the BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting 2022, which was hosted by China. Wang Yi, China's State Councilor and Foreign Minister, presided over the meeting.
- On May 24, 2022, Meenakshi Lekhi, Minister of State (MoS) for Culture and External Affairs, participated in the 7th BRICS Culture Ministers' Meeting 2022, which was hosted by the People's Republic of China and attended by all BRICS Member Nations, via video conference.

Highlights of WEF Annual Meeting 2022 in Davos; MoUs Signed By Indian States

As we have already gone through the Part 1 of World Economic Forum (WEF) Annual Meeting 2022 that was held in Davos, Switzerland. Now here we are providing the detail of agreements signed with Indian states during the meeting. The Indian state of Andhra Pradesh (AP) has signed renewables investment pacts worth around 16 billion with three companies' viz. Adani Green Energy Ltd Greenko, Singapore's GIC sovereign wealth fund; and Aurobindo Realty Infrastructure Pvt Ltd.

The Maharashtra Government in the 10th edition of its Magnetic Maharashtra 2.0 programme at Maharashtra Pavilion in WEF 2022 signed 23 MoUs (Memoranda of Understanding) amounting to USD 4 billion (Rs 30,379 crore). Gurugram (Haryana) based Renewable energy firm ReNew Power signed a MoU with the Karnataka government at the WEF 2022 to invest Rs 50,000 crore in the state over the next 7 years. The Telangana Minister for IT and Industries Kalvakuntla Taraka Rama Rao along with his delegation was on a 10-day trip to the UK and Davos during which the state attracted investments worth over Rs 4,200 crore.

Pfizer Inc. launched 'An Accord for a Healthier World. to provide all of Pfizer's patented, high-quality medicines and vaccines available in the U.S. or the European Union on a not-for-profit basis to \$1.2\$ billion people in 45 lower-income countries.



2022 Badminton Asia Championships - India's PV Sindhu won Bronze in Women's Singles



On May 01, 2022, the Indian Badminton Player Pusarla Venkata(PV) Sindhu won the Bronze medal in Women's Singles at the 39th edition of 2022 Badminton Asia Championships held from April 26 to May 1, 2022 at the Muntinlupa Sports Complex in Manila, Philippines.

- The Philippines Badminton Association hosted the competition, which is sanctioned by Badminton Asia.
- The total prize money for this year's tournament is USD 400,000.
- This is Sindhu's second medal in the tournament; she had claimed a bronze in the 2014 Gimcheon edition.

Finals Result :

- **Men's Singles** : The Malaysian badminton player Lee Zii Jia won gold medal by defeating the Indonesian badminton player Jonatan Christie.
- **Women's Singles** : The Chinese badminton player Wang Zhiyi won gold medal by defeating the Japanese badminton player Akane Yamaguchi.
- **Men's doubles** : The Indonesian badminton players Pramudya Kusumawardana and Yeremia Erich Yoche Yacob Rambitan won gold medal by defeating the Malaysian duo Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik
- **Women's Doubles** : The Chinese badminton duo Chen Qing Chen and Jia Yi Fan won the gold medal by defeating the Japanese duo Iwanaga Rin and Nakanishi Kie.
- **Mixed Doubles** : The Chinese badminton players Zheng Si Wei and Huang Ya Qiong won the gold medal by defeating the compatriots Huang Dong Ping and Wang Yi Lyu.

Ronnie O'Sullivan Won Record 7th World Snooker Championship Title; Became the Oldest Snooker Champion



Ronnie O'Sullivan (England), has won the 2022 World Snooker Championship (officially 2022 Betfred World Snooker Championship) by defeating Judd Trump (England) against 18-13 in the finals, which were held from April 16 to May 2, 2022 at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, England.

- The tournament was organised by the World Snooker Tour and sponsored by sports betting company Betfred.
- The Total prize money is 2,395,000 Euros and the Winner gets a share of 500,000 Euros.
- O'Sullivan (Aged 46) becomes the oldest world champion in Crucible history, eclipsing Ray Reardon, who won his sixth title aged 45 in 1978.

Former Australian Cricketer Andrew Symonds Passed Away

Andrew Symonds, former Australian all-rounder, died in a car accident outside Townsville in Queensland state of Australia.

About Andrew Symonds:

- Andrew Symonds was born on 9 June 1975 in Birmingham, United Kingdom.
- He played 26 test matches and 198 One-Day Internationals (ODIs) for Australia and won Two back-to-back 50 over World Cups in 2003 and 2007.
- In 198 ODIs, Symonds scored over 5000 runs, including six hundreds and 30 half-centuries and also took 133 wickets.
- After retiring as a player in February 2012, Symonds became a popular commentator for cricket broadcasters.
- Symonds has played for Deccan Chargers in the first three seasons of the Indian Premier League (IPL), for Mumbai Indians in IPL 2011.

Archery Asia Cup 2022 Stage 2: India won 14 medals including 8 gold

Indian archers won a total of 14 medals, including eight gold, four silver and two bronze, in the Asia Cup 2022 Stage-2 held in Sulaimaniyah, Iraq. Young archers bagged four medals on Tuesday. At the same time, Indian archers added 10 more medals to the medal tally on the last day of the competition. Indian team of women archers Preneet Kaur, Aditi Swamy and Sakshi Choudhary defeated Kazakhstan to win India's first gold medal in the Continental Meet. The men's team of Prathamesh Fuge, Rishabh Yadav and Javkar Samalan won the second gold medal for India. The pair of Prathamesh Phuge and Preneet Kaur won the third gold medal in the Asia Archery Cup. Archery Asia Cup 2022 Stage-2: List of Indian Medal Winners

- **Women's Team Compound** : Gold (Sakshi Choudhary, Preet Kaur and Aditi Gopichand Swamy)
- **Men's Team Compound** : Gold (Rishabh Yadav, Prathamesh Fuge and Prathamesh Javkar)
- **Mixed Team Compound** : Gold (Prathmesh Fuge and Preet Kaur)
- **Mens Individual Compound** : Prathamesh Phuge (Gold); Rishabh Yadav (Silver); Jawkar Solutions (Bronze)
- **Women's Individual Compound** : Sakshi Choudhary (Gold); Preet Kaur (Silver)
- **Women's Team Recurve** : Gold (Avni, Bhajan Kaur and Lakshmi Hembrom)
- **Men's Team Recurve** : Gold (Mrunal Chauhan, Parth Salunkhe and Juyel Sarkar)
- **Mixed Team Recurve** : Silver (Parth Salunkhe and Bhajan Kaur)
- **Mens Individual Recurve** - Mrinal Chauhan (Gold); Parth Salunke (Bronze)
- **Women's Individual Recurve** : Bhajan Kaur (Silver)

Team India Won Maiden 2022 BWF Thomas Cup Defeating Indonesia by 3-0 South Korea won the 2022 Uber Cup

Team India Men's Badminton won the 32 nd edition of Badminton World Federation (BWF) Thomas Cup 2022, badminton world men's team championship, after beating the 14-time champion Indonesia by 3-0 held at the Impact Arena, in Bangkok, Thailand from May 8 to May 15-2022.

- The Third and Fourth Podium were secured by Denmark and Japan respectively.

Key Highlights:

- In the First Men's Singles, the World championship bronze medallist Lakshya Sen defeated Indonesia's Anthony Sinisuka Ginting by 8-21, 21-17, 21-16 to give India a 1-0 lead.
- In the First Doubles game, the duo Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty defeated Mohammad Ahsan and Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo by 18-21, 23-21, 21-19 extending India's lead to 2-0.
- And finally in the Second Men's Singles, the World championship silver medallist Kidambi Srikanth defeated Jonatan Christie by 21-15, 23-21 and secured a historic victory for India by leading 3-0.

2022 Italian Open: Novak Djokovic Won Men's Singles & His 38th Masters 1000 Title; Iga Świątek Won Women's Singles



The World no. 1 Serbian tennis player Novak Djokovic has won the 79th edition of the 2022 Internazionali BNL d'Italia of Rome title after defeating Stefanos Tsitsipas in Men's Singles by 6-0 7-6 (7-5) held at Foro Italico, Rome, Italy, between May 2 to May 15-2022.

- In the Women's Singles, Iga Swiatek (World No. 1 by Women's Tennis Association) defeated Ons Jabeur by 6-2, 6-2 to claim her fifth tournament victory. It was also her 28th win in a row.

South Korea beat China to win the Uber Cup 2022



Korea defeated defending champions China in a thrilling final to clinch the Uber Cup title for the second time at the Impact Arena in Bangkok, Thailand. China faced Korea to win the title for the 16th time in the famous team tournament, tying twice in a match that lasted almost 90 minutes. In the deciding singles match, Korea's 46th-ranked Sim Yu-jin faced 15th-placed Wang Xie of China, in the final 2–2. The 23-year-old Sim defeated Wang 28-26, 18-21, 21-8 in a match of one hour and 28 minutes.

Indian Contingent Finish With 23 Medals at Bahrain 2022 Para Badminton 1st Bahrain Para Badminton International Championships 2022 held from May 16 22 in Manama, Bahrain

The Indian para badminton team finished with 23 medals, including 7 Golds, 3 Silver and 13 bronze.

- Pramod Bhagat and Tarun Dhillon received two gold medals each in the championships.
- Gaurav Khanna is the Indian para-badminton Team Head National Coach.
- The Indian team will be participated at the 4th Fazza Dubai 2022 Para Badminton International in May 2022.

2022 Norway Chess Blitz Tournament Won by GM Wesley So; GM Viswanathan Anand Secured Fourth

On May 30 2022, The Filipino-American chess Grandmaster (GM) Wesley Barbossa So won the 10th edition of the 2022 Norway Chess Blitz tournament held in Finansparken, Stavanger, Norway.

- The Indian GM Viswanathan Anand defeated Norwegian GM Magnus Carlsen in round seven of the blitz event and secured fourth position.

Key Points :

- The Norway Chess 2022 will take place between May 30 to June 10 2022. It consists of Blitz tournament and Classical tournament.
- According to the FIDE (International Federation of Chess) Laws of Chess, the Blitz tournament was played to decide the play order for the main tournament and the winner has the right to choose the number in the table on his own. The first edition of the Norway Chess was held in 2013.

IPL 2022 Final: Gujrat Titans won the Title

The Indian Premier League (IPL) 2022 ended with Gujarat Titans (GT) lifting the trophy by defeating inaugural champions Rajasthan Royals (RR) at the Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad on May 29. The Indian Premier League (IPL) 2022, was the 15th edition of the professional Twenty20 cricket league established by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

IPL 2022 Final : List Of All Prize Winners

- Aramco Purple Cap Winner Of The Season: Yuzvendra Chahal (27 Wickets)
- Aramco Orange Cap Winner Of The Season: Jos Buttler (863 Runs)
- Player Of The Match (Final): Hardik Pandya
- Upstox Most Valuable Player Of The Season: Jos Buttler
- Punch Super Striker Of The Match (Final): David Miller
- Dream11 Game Changer Of The Match (Final): Hardik Pandya
- Unacademy Let's Crack It Sixes Award (Final): Yashasvi Jaiswal
- CRED Powerplayer Of The Match (Final): Trent Boult
- Upstox Most Valuable Asset Of The Match (Final): Hardik Pandya
- SwiggyInstamart Fastest Delivery Of The Match (Final): Lockie Ferguson
- Rupay On The Go 4s Of The Match (Final): Jos Buttler
- IPL 2022 Emerging Player Of The Season: Umran Malik
- Unacademy Let's Crack It Sixes Award Of The Season: Jos Buttler
- Punch Super Striker Of The Season: Dinesh Karthik (SR – 183.33)
- Dream 11 Game Changer Of The Season: Jos Buttler
- PayTM Fairplay Award: Gujarat Titans & Rajasthan Royals
- CRED Powerplayer Of The Season: Jos Buttler
- SwiggyInstamart Fastest Delivery Of The Season: Lockie Ferguson (157.3 KMPH)
- Rupay On The Go 4s Of The Season: Jos Buttler
- Tata IPL Catch Of The Season: Evin Lewis



Sangeeta Singh IRS Given Additional Charge of CBDT Chairman



Sangeeta Singh, an Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer from the 1986 batch, has been appointed as Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), with effect from May 02, 2022 .

- The Union Finance Ministry has issued an order stating that Sangeeta Singh will perform the duties and responsibilities of Chairperson, CBDT, in addition to her own duties, for a period of three months or until a regular chairman is chosen, whichever comes earlier.
- She was appointed after the incumbent chairman of the direct tax administration body, Jagannath Bidyadhar Mohapatra retired on April 30, 2022
- In September 2021, Mohapatra, a 1985-batch Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer in the Income Tax Department, was named full-time chairman.

Current Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar will take over as the next Chief Election Commissioner



Current Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar will take over as the next Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) with effect from May 15, 2022. He will replace the incumbent Chief Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra (CEC). According to Article 324(2) of the Constitution of India, the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) shall be appointed by the President of India. Rajiv Kumar is a retired IAS officer of 1984 batch of Bihar/Jharkhand cadre. He retired from IAS in February, 2020. He has served as a director of the Central Board of Reserve Bank of India (RBI), SBI and NABARD, as well as a member of several boards and committees. He was appointed as the chairman of the Public Enterprises Selection Board in April 2020.

Rajiv Kumar is serving as Election Commissioner since September 1, 2020.

The Election Commission of India is an autonomous constitutional authority for the conduct of Union and State election processes in India. It conducts elections to the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and state legislatures in India, the President and Vice President of the country. Part XV (Articles 324-329) of the Indian Constitution deals with elections, which establishes a separate commission for matters relating to them.

Announcement of formation of Cotton Council of India under the chairmanship of Suresh Bhai Kotak

The Central Government has announced the formation of the Cotton Council of India under the chairmanship of renowned cotton man Suresh Bhai Kotak. It will include representatives from the Ministries of Textiles, Agriculture, Commerce and Finance, and the Cotton Council of India and the Cotton Research Council. The first meeting of this Cotton Council will be held on 28th of this month. In this, discussions will be held on making a comprehensive action plan to improve the cotton sector. This information was given in a meeting chaired by Textiles Minister Piyush Goyal with stakeholders of the cotton value chain.

Reserve Bank of India appointed Rajiv Ranjan and Sitakantha Patnaik as executive directors

Rajeev Ranjan and Sitakantha Patnaik have been named executive directors by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Before being appointed as Executive Director, Rajeev Ranjan was Advisor in charge of Monetary Policy Department and Secretary, Monetary Policy Committee. Before joining the ED, Patnaik was an advisor in the Department of Economic and Policy Research. Rajeev Ranjan will oversee the

Monetary Policy Department as executive director, while Patnaik will oversee the Department of Economic and Policy Research (DEPR).

IFS officer Vivek Kumar Appointed as Private Secretary to PM Modi

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has appointed Vivek Kumar, an Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Officer of the 2004 batch, as the Private Secretary (PS) to Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Joint Secretary level.

- He joined the PMO as a deputy secretary in 2014
- He has previously served in diplomatic positions in Russia and Australia.

Vinai Kumar Saxena Appointed as 22nd LG of Delhi, Replacing Anil Baijal

On May 23 2022, The President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, appointed Vinai Kumar Saxena as the 22nd Lieutenant Governor (LG) of the National Capital Territory of Delhi (NCT-Delhi). Saxena replaced the Incumbent LG Anil Baijal, who resigned due to 'Personal Reasons'.

PM Headed Inter-State Council Reconstituted; Amit Shah Chairman of Standing Committee

The Union Government has reconstituted the Inter-State Council with the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi as its Chairman along with six Union Ministers as members and Ten Union Ministers as permanent invitees.

- In a separate notification the Union Government also reconstituted the Standing Committee of the Inter-State Council with the Union Home Minister Amit Shah as its Chairman.

Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan appointed as chairperson of Committee B at 75 th World Health Assembly

Each year the World Health Assembly, a body that comprises WHO's 194 member states, deliberates on health, administrative and financial matters. The Assembly functions through two committees i.e., Committee A and Committee B. Now, India's Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan has been appointed as the chairperson of committee B at the 75th World Health Assembly, at Geneva, Switzerland.

WHO DG Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus Re-elected for the Second Term



The World Health Organisation (WHO) member states has re-elected Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus for a second 5 year term as the Director-General (DG) of WHO. His new mandate as DG will officially commence on August 16-2022 . His re-election was confirmed during the 75 th World Health Assembly (WHA) in Geneva, Switzerland.

- Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus was first elected as DG of WHO in 2017.

Dr Kamal Bawa Elected to US' National Academy of Sciences

The chief of Bengaluru-based Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), Dr Kamal Bawa has been elected to the US National Academy of Sciences. The election is the reaffirmation of our important work on the ecology, conservation, and management of tropical forests that are declining all over the world but are critical to humanity's well-being. He is also an elected fellow of the Royal Society (London) and the American Philosophical Society.

REC Ltd's new CEO: Vivek Kumar Dewangen

Vivek Kumar Dewangen, a Manipur cadre 1993 batch IAS officer, has been appointed Chairman and Managing Director of REC Ltd., Ministry of Power. Vivek Kumar Dewangen is now the Ministry of Power's Additional Secretary.

Nidhi Chibber named as CBSE new chief 2022

Senior IAS officer, Nidhi Chibber has been appointed as the chairperson of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) in a top-level bureaucratic reshuffle effected by the Centre. Chibber, a 1994 batch Indian Administrative Service officer of Chhattisgarh cadre, is currently Additional Secretary, Ministry of Heavy Industries. She has been appointed as chairperson of the CBSE in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary to the government of India, an order issued by the Personnel Ministry.

Sanjiv Bajaj appointed as President of Confederation of Indian Industry

Chairman of Bajaj Finserv Limited, Sanjiv Bajaj has assumed the office of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) President for the year 2022-23 after replacing the CEO of Tata Steel, TV Narendran. The newly constituted National Council of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) at a meeting elected its new office-bearers for the year 2022-23.

BSE named Ex RBI Deputy Governor SS Mundra as Chairman



Leading stock exchange BSE Limited announced that it has approved the appointment of SS Mundra, Public Interest Director as the Chairman of the board of directors of the company. Mundra will replace Justice Vikramajit Sen who is the current chairman. Mundra was appointed as Public Interest Director at BSE in January 2018. He retired as Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India on 30th July 2017.

IndiGo Appoints Pieter Elbers as CEO

The Board of Directors of InterGlobe Aviation Limited (Indigo) appointed Pieter Elbers as Chief Executive Officer. He will join

IndiGo on or before 1 Oct 2022. He succeeds Ronojoy Dutta who has decided to retire on 30 September 2022. Elbers has served as the President and CEO of KLM Royal Dutch since 2014 and is also a member of the Executive Committee of the Air France-KLM Group.

Bharti Airtel reappoints Gopal Vittal as MD

Bharti Airtel board has reappointed Gopal Vittal as Managing Director & CEO for a further period of five years ending on January 31, 2028. The reappointment came on a day the telco posted a consolidated net profit at Rs 2,007.8 crore in the March quarter, up 141% sequentially and 164% on the year. Analysts had an estimated net profit of around Rs 1,970 crore. This was Airtel's sixth successive quarter in the black after six straight losses earlier.

Tokyo Bronze Medallist Lovlina Borgohain elected as IBA's Athletes' Committee Chair

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.

Justice Mohanty gets additional charge of Lokpal chairperson

President Ram Nath Kovind has given justice Pradip Kumar Mohanty the additional charge of Lokpal chairperson after justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose completed his term

as the Lokpal chief. At present, there are six members in the Lokpal. President Ram Nath Kovind had on March 23, 2019, administered the oath of office to justice Ghose as the Lokpal chairperson.

Senior IPS Zulfiqar Hasan Becomes the New DG of BCAS

Senior IPS officer, Zulfiqar Hasan has been appointed as the new Director-General of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS). The official order stated that Zulfiqar Hasan has been appointed "for a tenure up to his superannuation on 31.10.2024". West Bengal-cadre 1988-batch IPS officer, Zulfiqar Hasan has been serving as the Special Director General of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in

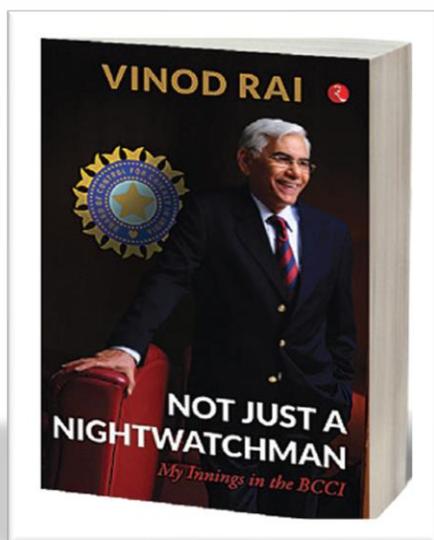
Delhi. The post of the Director-General, BCAS has been vacant since January 4 after incumbent Nasir Kamal opted for voluntary retirement

Centre Appoints S L Thaosen as Director General of Sashastra Seema Bal

A 1988-batch Indian Police Service officer S L Thaosen has been appointed as the new Director-General of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB). Thaosen, a Madhya Pradesh-cadre IPS officer, has been serving as the Special Director General of the Border Security Force (BSF). The Sashastra Seema Bal force guards the country's borders with Nepal (1,751 km) and Bhutan (699 km).



A new book titled “Not Just A Nightwatchman: My Innings in the BCCI” by Vinod Rai



Padma Bhushan Vinod Rai, former (11th) Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) India, has authored a new book titled “Not Just A Nightwatchman: My Innings in the BCCI”. The book features his 33-month stint as the Chairman of the Supreme Court-appointed Committee of Administrators (CoA) of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

Devendra Fadnavis Releases the book on Amit Shah “Amit Shah Ani Bhajapachi Vatchal”

Devendra Fadnavis, former Chief Minister (CM) of Maharashtra, released a Marathi book on Amit Shah, Union Minister of Home Affairs, titled “Amit Shah Ani Bhajapachi

Vatchal”, a Marathi version of the book “Amit Shah and The March of BJP”. The book is published by Bloomsbury India.

The book was originally written by Dr Anirban Ganguly and Shivanand Dwivedi and it has been translated into Marathi by Dr Jyostna Kolhatkar. The book documents the life and political journey of Amit Shah and details his contribution to BJP in making it the world’s biggest political organisation.

Rasheed Kidwai authored a book titled “Leaders, Politicians, Citizens”

Leaders, Politicians, Citizens: Fifty Figures Who Influenced India’s Politics” authored by author-journalist Rasheed Kidwai compiles stories of 50 personalities who influenced India’s political landscape. The book is published by Hachette India. The foreword of the book is written by Shashi Tharoor, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha). The 50 personalities featured in the book include Teji Bachchan, Phoolan Devi, Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi, Jayalalithaa, APJ Abdul Kalam, and Karunanidhi among others

A book Titled “The Struggle for Police Reforms in India” by Ex-IPS Prakash Singh

Vice President (VP) of India, M Venkaiah Naidu, released a book titled “The Struggle for Police Reforms in India: Ruler’s Police to People’s Police” authored by a former IPS

officer, Prakash Singh in New Delhi. The book is published by Rupa Publications India Pvt Ltd.

About the book :

- This book documents the efforts made to bring about police reforms in India.
- ii. The book provides the historical background to the origin of the Indian Police and traces the evolution during British Rule and subsequently since independence.

VP Venkaiah Naidu releases 'Modi @20: Dreams Meeting Delivery' book

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu has released the book "Modi@20 Dreams Meet Delivery" in New Delhi. The book presents different facets of the distinct thought process, the pioneering, pro-active approach and the quintessential, transformational leadership style that Narendrabhai Modi has come to be so closely identified with.

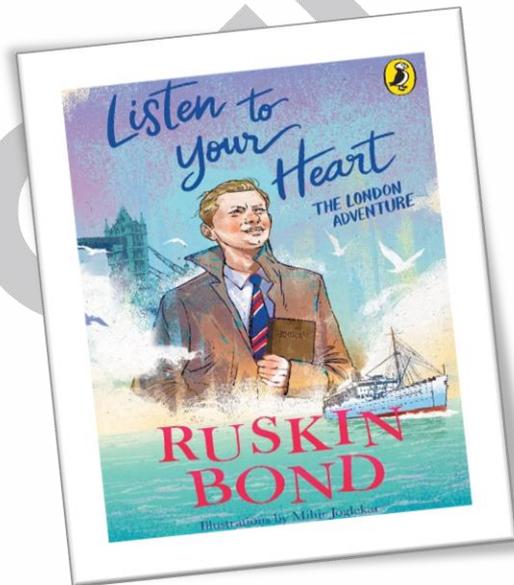
'Modi@20' is an anthology edited and compiled by BlueKraft Digital Foundation, and is a compilation of chapters authored by eminent intellectuals and domain experts, Rupa Publications.

HarperCollins India to publish Preeti Shenoy new novel, 'A Place Called Home'

Bestselling author Preeti Shenoy is set to publish a new novel titled "A Place Called Home", a story set in a coffee estate in Sakleshpur, Karnataka with a strong female protagonist at its core. The new novel is about secrets, family, and finding yourself. The book published by HarperCollins Publishers India is set to be released in June 2022.

Preeti Shenoy has authored around 15 novels which include, The Magic Mindset, When Love Came Calling, Wake Up Life is Calling, Life is What You Make it, The Rule Breakers, and A Hundred Little Flames. Her works have also been translated into many Indian languages and also into Turkish.

Ruskin Bond's book titled 'Listen to Your Heart: The London Adventure' Released



A new book titled "Listen to Your Heart: The London Adventure" authored by Ruskin Bond, was published by Penguin Random House India (PRHI) on Ruskin Bond's 88th birthday (19th May 2022). Ruskin Bond, India's famous Children's book author, was born in Kasauli (Himachal Pradesh) and grew up in Jamnagar (Gujarat), Dehradun (Uttarakhand), New Delhi and Shimla (Himachal Pradesh).

About the book:

- His latest book, Listen to Your Heart: The London Adventure, to be released on his 88th birthday, gives readers a peek into the four years he spent in the Channel Islands and

England. The fifth – and final – volume of his memoir, talks about how he muses over his loneliness, switches jobs, falls in love, befriends the ocean and relentlessly chases his big dream of becoming a famous writer.

Union Minister Jitendra Singh Released E-book Civil List-2022 of IAS officers

Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State(MoS), Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions released the e-book 'Civil List – 2022 of IAS officers' at North Block, Secretariat Building, New Delhi. This is an effort by the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) as a part of the Digital India initiative of the Government of India.

This is the 67th edition of the Civil List and the 2nd edition of the e-book in pdf with unique search facilities and hyperlinking of contents for

ease of access of information. This will support in selecting the right officer for the right assignment based on the available profile. This is also a vital source of information on the officers manning various posts for the general public.

A new book titled 'The India Story' by Bimal Jalan

Former RBI governor Bimal Jalan writes a new book titled 'The India Story'. The book focuses on India's economic history and aims to provide lessons for the future of India's political economy.

He traces India's economic policies from 1991 to 2019 to offer insights on learning from the past, before moving 'Beyond the Metrics of Economy' to talk about the role of governance in implementing these policies. He also authored the books 'India Then and Now', 'India Ahead'.



List of Important Days National & International



World Asthma Day 2022

World Asthma Day (WAD) is annually observed across the world on the first Tuesday of May to create awareness about asthma, a condition in which the airways narrow and swell and may produce extra mucus.

- World Asthma Day is organized by the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA), a World Health Organization (WHO) collaborative organization founded in 1993.
- World Asthma Day (WAD) 2022 falls on 3rd May 2022.
- WAD 2021 was observed on 4th May 2021.
- WAD 2023 will be observed on 2nd May 2023.
- The theme of World Asthma Day (WAD) 2022 is 'Closing Gaps in Asthma Care'.

World Press Freedom Day 2022

The United Nations(UN)'s World Press Freedom Day is annually observed across the globe on 3rd May to celebrate the fundamental principles of press freedom and to assess the state of press freedom throughout the world.

The day also defends the media from attacks on their independence and pays tribute to the journalists who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

- The theme of World Press Freedom Day 2022 is "Journalism under digital siege".

International Day of Argania 2022

The United Nations(UN)'s International Day of Argania is annually observed on 10th May to create awareness about the importance of Argan Tree (Argania spinosa), the native species of Morocco, in achieving the 3 dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social and environmental) at the local level. 10th May 2022 Marks the observance of the 2nd International Day of Argania.

- The theme of International Day of Argania 2022 is "The argan tree, Symbol of Resilience".

08 May: World Migratory Bird Day

This year 'World Migratory Bird Day' (WMBD) was organized across the world on 08 May. World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) is an annual awareness campaign aimed at highlighting the need for conservation of migratory birds and their habitats. The event aims to help raise global awareness of migratory birds, their ecological importance, the challenges they face, and the need for international cooperation for conservation. It is celebrated jointly in

collaboration with two United Nations treaties- the 'Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wildlife' and the 'African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement' (AEWA) and a non-profit organization (Environment for the Americas). World Migratory Bird Day was first celebrated in the year 2006. Many different migration patterns are observed among birds. Most of the birds migrate from the northern regions to the southern plains for breeding. However some birds breed in the southern parts of Africa and migrate to the northern plains in winter.

May 12 : International Nurses Day



International Nurses Day is celebrated every year on 12 May. The birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale is celebrated as International Nurses Day. The day is celebrated to mark the contribution made by nurses to the society.

International Nurses Day: International Nurses Day has been celebrated by the International Council of Nurses since 1965. Every year on International Nurses Day, the International Council of Nurses distributes educational and

public information materials to be used by nurses everywhere.

Florence Nightingale was an English social reformer and founder of modern nursing. She trained and managed nurses during the Crimean War. She took care of wounded soldiers in Constantinople. At the same time, in Victorian culture she grew in prestige for nurses. She was known as "The Lady with the Lamp". She was the first to lay the foundation for professional nursing. He established the Nursing School at St Thomas' Hospital in London. It was the first nursing school in the world. It is now a part of King's College, London.

The Florence Nightingale Medal is the highest honor given to a nurse. It is provided by the International Committee of the Red Cross.

World Migratory Bird Day 2022- May 14

World Migratory Bird Day(WMBD), a United Nations(UN)-backed global campaign annually observed across the world on 2 occasions (two peak days each year), the second Saturday of May and October, with an aim to create awareness about the importance of the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats. World Migratory Bird Day 2022 will be observed on 14th May 2022 and 8 th October 2022.

UN's First International Day of Plant Health 12th May 2022

The United Nations(UN)'s International Day of Plant Health (IDPH) is annually observed across the globe on 12th May to create global awareness on the importance of plant health towards end hunger, reduce poverty, protect

biodiversity and the environment, and boost economic development.

12th May 2022 marks the observance of the first ever International Day of Plant Health

May 17 : World Hypertension Day

World Hypertension Day is celebrated across the world on 17 May every year.

The main objective of organizing this day is to create awareness in the context of high blood pressure among the general public and considering its seriousness, encourage people to control it. The theme of World Hypertension Day for the year 2022 is 'Measure your blood pressure accurately, control it, live longer'.

Be aware that the main function of the heart is to purify the blood for the flow of oxygen and energy in the body and a certain amount of pressure is required for the flow of blood through the arteries. If the blood flow pressure is higher than normal, it puts extra stress on the wall of the arteries. This is called high blood pressure or hypertension (high blood pressure).

It is estimated that two out of every five adults in the Eastern Mediterranean region are affected by high blood pressure. High blood pressure is a leading cause of premature death worldwide. Considering the severity of high blood pressure, it is also called the 'silent killer'.

Global Accessibility Awareness Day

Global Accessibility Awareness Day, observed every year on the third Thursday

of May, aims to encourage people to talk, think and learn about digital (web, software, mobile, etc.) accessibility and inclusion for the world's 1.2 billion disabled people. is to inspire. The 'Global Accessibility Awareness Day-2022' provides an opportunity to facilitate conversations on 'web' accessibility for differently-abled people. Global Accessibility Awareness Day was first celebrated in the year 2012 due to the publication of a blog post, written on November 27, 2011 by web developer 'Joe Devon', who explained the important things needed to be done while building a website. How low was the accessibility in case of inventory. Commitment to making everyone aware of access to digital services is the goal of Global Accessibility Awareness Day-2022. The day highlights the need to provide digital outreach to the differently-abled.

World No Tobacco Day



Every year, on 31 May, the World Health Organization (WHO) and global partners celebrate World No Tobacco Day (WNTD) and organize an annual campaign as an opportunity to raise awareness of the harmful and deadly effects of tobacco use.

18 May – World AIDS Vaccine Day

World AIDS Vaccine Day is celebrated every year on the 18th of May to educate and teach people to preventive measures for society and provide moral support to the patients.

18 May – International Museum Day

The objective of International Museum Day (IMD) is to raise awareness about the fact that, "Museums are an important means of cultural exchange."

Vidya Guru



Current Affairs Quiz - 1

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL NEWS

1. H. E. Anthony Albanese has recently been elected as the Prime Minister of Australia. He belongs to _____.
 - (a) Labor Party
 - (b) Conservative Party
 - (c) Neo Liberal Party
 - (d) New Conservative Party

2. Who was awarded the Committed Leader Award at CII EXCON 2022 in Bengaluru?
 - (a) Hemalatha Annamalai
 - (b) Kiran Mazumdar Shaw
 - (c) Falguni Nayar
 - (d) Anjali Pandey

3. Mahagram has tied up with which bank to digitize the nation's payment ecosystem and provide a wider scope to transact for its customers in rural India?
 - (a) Bank of Baroda
 - (b) HDFC Bank
 - (c) State Bank of India
 - (d) IndusInd Bank

4. Who among the following has become the first woman officer to join the Army Aviation Corps as a combat aviator after successfully completing her training?
 - (a) Alka Mittal
 - (b) Harpreet Chandi
 - (c) Santishree Pandit
 - (d) Abhilasha Barak

5. Moody's Investors Service slashed India's economic growth projection to _____ for 2022 from 9.1 per cent earlier.
 - (a) 4.8 per cent
 - (b) 5.8 per cent
 - (c) 6.8 per cent
 - (d) 8.8 per cent

6. Which of the following city host India's biggest Drone Festival - 'Bharat Drone Mahotsav 2022' ?
(a) Ahmedabad (b) New Delhi
(c) Chennai (d) Chandigarh
7. Who has been honoured with Excellence in Cinema award at the French Riviera Film Festival?
(a) Amitab Bachchan (b) Kamal Hassan
(c) Rajinikanth (d) Nawazuddin Siddiqui
8. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reduced the minimum networth requirement for non-bank Bharat Bill Payment Operating Units (BBPOUs) from Rs 100 crore to _____.
(a) Rs 15 crore (b) Rs 25 crore
(c) Rs 35 crore (d) Rs 50 crore
9. India will introduce a newly approved "made in India" TB infection skin test called 'c-TB', said Health Minister _____.
(a) Bhupender Yadav (b) Mansukh Mandaviya
(c) Mahendra Nath Pandey (d) G. Kishan Reddy
10. Who has chaired the meeting of 40th edition of PRAGATI?
(a) Nirmala Sitharaman (b) Amit Shah
(c) Narendra Modi (d) Anurag Thakur
11. As per the RBI guidelines, banks may allow Qualified Jewellers to remit advance payments for how many days for the import of gold through IIBX in compliance to the extant Foreign Trade Policy and regulations issued under IFSC Act?
(a) 22 days (b) 11 days
(c) 32 days (d) 45 days
12. Which edition of Global Report on Assistive Technology (GRaT) is launched by The World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) recently?
(a) 1st (b) 2nd
(c) 3rd (d) 4th

13. Which of the following city is the first metro city in the country to prepare a detailed register of biodiversity?
(a) Kanpur (b) Lucknow
(c) Delhi (d) Kolkata
14. A supercomputer named Param Porul was inaugurated at NIT _____ under National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).
(a) Calicut (b) Warangal
(c) Surathkal (d) Tiruchirappalli
15. The National Achievement Survey (NAS) report for the 2021 edition has been released. How many student included in NAS report for the 2021 edition?
(a) 38 lakh students (b) 34 lakh students
(c) 30 lakh students (d) 15 lakh students
16. What is the rank of India in World Directory of Modern Military Aircraft (WDMMA) has released the World Air Powers Ranking of 2022?
(a) 1st (b) 2nd
(c) 3rd (d) 4th
17. Which of the following has become the first Gulf state to record a case of monkeypox?
(a) Qatar (b) Saudi Arabia
(c) Oman (d) UAE
18. Which organization has launched the National Data and Analytics Platform (NDAP) which aims to improve access and use of published Government of India data?
(a) National Development Council (b) National Informatics Center
(c) NITI Aayog (d) NASSCOM
19. Amit Shah inaugurated the 'National Cyber Forensic Laboratory' (NCFL) at the Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) campus in Hyderabad. How many central forensic science laboratories are there in India?
(a) Two (b) five
(c) seven (d) three

20. Activist Cecil Nadjebet recently won the 2022 Wangari Maathai Forest Champions Award. Cecil Nadjebet belongs to which of the following country?
(a) Congo (b) Eritrea
(c) Kenya (d) Cameroon
21. Which of the following bank has launched an online platform, 'Trade nxt', which enables corporate, and MSMEs (Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises)?
(a) State Bank of India (b) Union Bank of India
(c) Bank of Baroda (d) Central Bank of India
22. The government of India has contributed _____ to the United Nations(UN) as part of the initiative which aims to enhance public outreach of the organisation in Hindi.
(a) USD 800,000 (b) USD 700,000
(c) USD 600,000 (d) USD 500,000
23. Morgan Stanley downgraded India's growth forecast to _____ from 7.9% for FY2023.
(a) 5.6% (b) 6.6%
(c) 7.6% (d) 8.6%
24. Which of the following Life insurance company has launched "Bima Ratna" – a non-linked, non-participating, individual, savings life insurance plan?
(a) Aegon Life Insurance (b) Aviva Life Insurance
(c) Life Insurance Corporation of India (d) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance
25. Which of the following country overtook China to become India's top trading partner in 2021-22?
(a) UAE (b) United States
(c) Saudi Arabia (d) Iraq

Current Affairs Quiz - 2**SPORTS APPOINTMENTS AND DAYS OF IMPORTANCE**

1. Who has been reappointed as Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director (CEO & MD) of Infosys?
(a) Gopal Vittal (b) SS Mundra
(c) Kamal Bawa (d) Salil Parekh

2. Who has been re-appointed as Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Paytm?
(a) Vijay Shekhar Sharma (b) Madhur Deora
(c) Ritesh Agarwal (d) Manoj Soni
3. Which football club has won UEFA Europa Football League title in 2022?
(a) Rangers FC (b) Chelsea
(c) Barcelona (d) Eintracht Frankfurt
4. International Day for Biological Diversity is celebrated every year on _____.
(a) 22 May (b) 23 May
(c) 24 May (d) 25 May
5. United Nations (UN) International Day to End Obstetric Fistula is marked on _____.
(a) 21st May (b) 22nd May
(c) 23rd May (d) 24th May
6. What is the theme of International Day for Biological Diversity 2022?
(a) We're part of the solution #ForNature
(b) Building a shared future for all life
(c) Our Biodiversity, Our Food, Our Health
(d) Celebrating 25 Years of Action for Biodiversity
7. Which state won the 12th Hockey India Senior Women's National Championship title?
(a) Karnataka (b) Odisha
(c) Haryana (d) Punjab
8. Indian GM _____ posted his second win over world champion Magnus Carlsen.
(a) Prithu Gupta (b) Praggnanandhaa
(c) Girish Koushik (d) Gukesh D
9. Who will head the three-member Committee of Administrators (CoA) to oversee the affairs of the All India Football Federation (AIFF), appointed by Supreme Court?
(a) Pradeep Nandrajog (b) Navneet Munot
(c) AR Dave (d) Gurumoorthy Mahalingam

10. Which country has topped medal tally of 2022 IBA Women's World Boxing Championships held at Başakşehir Youth and Sports Facility?
(a) Bangladesh (b) Uruguay
(c) UAE (d) Turkey
11. Indian writer Geetanjali Shree and American translator Daisy Rockwell won the International Booker Prize for "_____",
(a) Tomb of Sand (b) Reta-samādhī
(c) Tirohit (d) Khali Jagah
12. Who has been appointed as the chairman of the WTO's committee on Technical Barriers on Trade?
(a) Gaurav Ahluwalia (b) Pratibha Parka
(c) Dinesh Bhatia (d) Anwar Hussain Shaik
13. Narinder Batra has announced his resignation from which of the following designation?
(a) President of the Indian Olympic Association
(b) President of the Indian Football Association
(c) President of the Indian Cricket Association
(d) President of the Indian Badminton Association
14. Which country's team has won the prestigious Uber Cup of badminton in Bangkok, Thailand?
(a) Malaysia (b) Japan
(c) China (d) South Korea
15. World Telecommunications and Information Society Day (WTISD) is observed every year on _____ to raise awareness about the benefits and opportunities of the Internet.
(a) 14 May (b) 15 May
(c) 16 May (d) May 17
16. Who has taken charge as the new Managing Director (MD) of State Bank of India (SBI)?
(a) Dinkar Singh (b) Roshni Singh
(c) Vimal Sharma (d) Alok Kumar Choudhary
17. World Hypertension Day is observed every year on _____, to raise awareness and encourage the prevention, detection and treatment of hypertension.
(a) 14 May (b) 15 May
(c) 16 May (d) May 17

18. _____ and Sitakantha Patnaik have been named executive directors by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
(a) Vinod Sharma (b) Rajeev Ranjan
(c) Sonia Singh (d) Dinkar Kumar
19. Recently B Govindarajan has been appointed as the CEO of which company?
(a) Tata Motors (b) KIA India
(c) Royal Enfield (d) Harley-Davidson India
20. Elizabeth Bourne has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of which of the following country?
(a) Sweden (b) Denmark
(c) France (d) Italy
21. Kamal Bawa has been elected to the National Science Academy of which of the following country?
(a) France (b) Germany
(c) England (d) USA
22. Who has been appointed as President of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for the year 2022-23?
(a) Pawan Munjal (b) R Dinesh
(c) Sanjiv Bajaj (d) T V Narendran
23. Who has topped the list of Forbes Highest-Paid Athletes 2022 with a reported income of \$130 million?
(a) Lionel Messi (b) LeBron James
(c) Cristiano Ronaldo (d) Neymar
24. Indian pistol pairs Esha Singh and Saurabh Chaudhary has clinched the mixed team pistol gold at the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Junior World Cup in _____.
(a) Saudi Arabia (b) Israel
(c) Lebanon (d) Germany
25. Who has been appointed as new Chairman and Managing Director of the REC Limited?
(a) Rajesh Unni (b) Puneet Chawla
(c) Alkesh Kumar Sharma (d) Ravinder Singh Dhillon



ANSWERS



Current Affairs Quiz - 1

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- 1.(a)** Labor Party
Exp Anthony Albanese has led his Labor Party to victory in the national election in Australia, ending nine years of conservative rule.
- 2.(d)** Anjali Pandey
Exp Anjali Pandey, Engines and Components Business Unit Leader at Cummins India has been awarded with the Committed Leader Award at CII EXCON 2022 in Bengaluru for her efforts to create a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive workplace.
- 3.(d)** IndusInd Bank
Exp Rural NEO Bank Mahagram has tied up with the IndusInd Bank to digitize the nation's payment ecosystem and provide a wider scope to transact for its customers in rural India.
- 4.(d)** Abhilasha Barak
Exp Haryana's Captain Abhilasha Barak has become the first woman officer to join the Army Aviation Corps as a combat aviator after successfully completing her training
- 5.(d)** 8.8 per cent
Exp 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.
- 6.(b)** New Delhi
Exp Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate India's biggest drone festival and interact with kisan drone pilots as well as witness open-air drone demonstrations.

- 7.(d)** Nawazuddin Siddiqui
Exp 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 on Siddiqui. He is the only actor in the world to have eight films officially selected and screened at the Cannes Film Festival.
- 8.(b)** 25 crore
Exp The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reduced the minimum networth requirement for non-bank Bharat Bill Payment Operating Units (BBPOUs) from ₹100 crore to ₹25 crore.
- 9.(b)** Mansukh Mandaviya
Exp India will introduce a newly approved “made in India” TB infection skin test called ‘c-TB’, said Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya.
- 10.(c)** Narendra Modi
Exp Narendra Modi Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has chaired the meeting of 40th edition of PRAGATI, the ICT based multi-modal platform for Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation, involving Centre and State governments.
- 11.(b)** 1 days
Exp As per the RBI guidelines, banks may allow Qualified Jewellers to remit advance payments for 11 days for import of gold through IIBX in compliance to the extant Foreign Trade Policy and regulations issued under IFSC Act.
- 12.(a)** 1st
Exp The first Global Report on Assistive Technology (GReAT) is launched by The World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF).
- 13.(d)** Kolkata
Exp Kolkata is the first metro city in the country to prepare a detailed register of biodiversity. Kolkata Municipal Corporation released the People’s Biodiversity Register (PBR).
- 14.(d)** Tiruchirappalli
Exp A supercomputer named Param Porul was inaugurated at NIT Tiruchirappalli under National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).

15.(b) 34 lakh students

Exp 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.

16.(c) 3rd

Exp 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.

17.(d) UAE

Exp The United Arab Emirates has become the first Gulf state to record a case of monkeypox. Outbreaks of the virus have been found in Europe, Australia and America.

18.(c) NITI Aayog

Exp The National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog has launched the National Data and Analytics Platform (NDAP), which aims to improve access and use of published Indian government data.

19.(c) Seven

Exp India has seven central forensic laboratories at Hyderabad, Kolkata, Chandigarh, New Delhi, Guwahati, Bhopal and Pune.

20.(d) Cameroon

Exp A veteran Cameroonian activist, Cecil Nedjebet is the recipient of the 2022 Wangari Maathai Forest Champions Award by the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), chaired by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

21.(b) Union Bank of India

Exp The Union Bank of India (UBI) has launched an online platform, 'Trade nxt', which enables corporate, and MSMEs (Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises).

22.(a) USD 800,000

Exp The government of India has contributed USD 800,000 to the United Nations(UN) as part of the initiative which aims to enhance public outreach of the organisation in Hindi.

- 23(c)** 7.6%
- Exp** Morgan Stanley downgraded India's growth forecast to 7.6% from 7.9% for FY2023 amid a slowdown in global growth, higher commodity prices and risk aversion in global capital markets.
- 24.(c)** Life insurance Corporation of India
- Exp** The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), India's largest insurer, has launched "Bima Ratna" – a non-linked, non-participating, individual, savings life insurance plan. The new plan, which is aimed at the domestic market, provides both protection and savings.
- 25.(b)** United States
- Exp** The United States overtook China to become India's top trading partner in 2021-22, reflecting strong economic ties between the two countries.

Current Affairs Quiz - 2

SPORTS APPOINTMENTS AND DAYS OF IMPORTANCE

- 1.(d)** Salil Parekh
- Exp** IT major Infosys announced that its Board of Directors has reappointed Salil S. Parekh as Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director (CEO & MD) of the Company effective from July 1, 2022 for a period of five years till March 31, 2027.
- 2.(a)** Vijay Shekhar Sharma
- Exp** Vijay Shekhar Sharma has been re-appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Paytm for another 5 years term. His tenure will be from December 19, 2022, to December 18, 2027.
- 3.(d)** Eintracht Frankfurt
- Exp** 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.

- 4.(a)** 22 May
Exp 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.
- 5.(c)** 23rd May
Exp 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.
- 6.(b)** Building a shared future for all life
Exp The theme in 2022 is "Building a shared future for all life". Fitting within the context of the ongoing United Nations Decade on Restoration.
- 7.(b)** Odisha
Exp Odisha women's team has won its first-ever gold in Senior Nationals as they blanked Karnataka 2-0 in the final of the 12th Hockey India Senior Women's National Championship.
- 8.(b)** Praggnanandhaa
Exp 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.
- 9.(c)** AR Dave
Exp SC appointed 3-member committee to manage functioning of All India Football Federation; headed by AR Dave.
- 10.(d)** Turkey
Exp The 12th edition of 2022 International Boxing Association (IBA) Women's World Boxing Championship was held at Başakşehir Youth and Sports Facility, Istanbul, Turkey.
- 11.(a)** Tomb of Sand
Exp Indian writer Geetanjali Shree and American translator Daisy Rockwell won the International Booker Prize for "Tomb of Sand,".

- 12.(d)** Anwar Hussain Shaik
Exp Indian Government Officer, Anwar Hussain Shaik has been made the chair of the World Trade Organisation's Committee on Technical Barriers on Trade.
- 13.(a)** President of the Indian Olympic Association
Exp Narinder Batra will step down as the president of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) at the end of his term to focus more on his job as the head of the International Hockey Federation (FIH). The 65-year-old Batra took charge of the IOA for the first time in 2017 and was eligible to contest for reelection.
- 14.(d)** South Korea
Exp South Korea defeated defending champions China to win the coveted Uber Cup of badminton in an epic battle in Bangkok.
- 15.(d)** May 17
Exp World Telecommunications and Information Society Day (WTISD) is observed every year on 17 May to raise awareness about the benefits and opportunities of the Internet.
- 16.(d)** Alok Kumar Choudhary
Exp Alok Kumar Choudhary has taken charge as the new Managing Director (MD) of State Bank of India (SBI).
- 17.(d)** 17 May
Exp World Hypertension Day is observed every year on 17 May to raise awareness and encourage the prevention, detection and treatment of hypertension.
- 18.(b)** Rajeev Ranjan
Exp Rajeev Ranjan and Sitakantha Patnaik have been named executive directors by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- 19.(c)** Royal Enfield
Exp Eicher Motors has appointed B Govindarajan as the Chief Executive Officer of Royal Enfield. He will also serve as a Whole Time Director on the Board of Eicher Motors Limited.

20.(c) France

Exp Elisabeth Bourne was appointed the new Prime Minister of France, becoming the second woman in the country to hold the position.

21.(d) USA

Exp India-born conservation biologist Dr Kamal Bawa, who is the chairman of the Bengaluru-based Ashoka Trust for Research and Ecology and Environment (ATREE), has been elected to the US National Academy of Sciences.

22.(c) Sanjiv Bajaj

Exp Chairman of Bajaj Finserv Limited, Sanjiv Bajaj has assumed the office of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) President for the year 2022-23 after replacing CEO of Tata Steel, TV Narendran.

23.(a) Lionel Messi

Exp Lionel Messi has topped the list of Forbes Highest-Paid Athletes 2022 with a reported income of \$130 million, followed by Basketball player, Lebron James with \$121.2 million while Cristiano Ronaldo was third with \$115 million.

24.(d) Germany

Exp Esha Singh and Saurabh Chaudhary won gold in Mixed Team Pistol event in ISSF Junior World Cup, Germany.

25.(d) Ravinder Singh Dhillon

Exp REC Limited, (formerly Rural Electrification Corporation Limited) a Navratna company under the administrative control of the Ministry of Power, announced it has named Ravinder Singh Dhillon as Chairman and Managing Director of the company