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National & States Affairs

601. On August 29, India's largest airline IndiGo joined the World Economic Forum's (WEF) "Clean Skies for Tomorrow" campaign to achieve a significant scale of "Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF)". Clean Skies for Tomorrow, launched in January 2019, provides a crucial mechanism for top executives and public leaders, across and beyond the aviation value chain. The goal is to have commercially viable SAF production (both bio and synthetic) at scale for industry-wide adoption by 2030 to support aviation's overall net-zero pathway by 2050. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IndiGo – joined WEF's "Clean Skies for Tomorrow" campaign to achieve a significant scale of 'Sustainable Aviation Fuel'
- 'Clean Skies for Tomorrow' campaign – was launched in January 2019
- HQs of IndiGo – Gurugram, Haryana | CEO – Pieter Elbers | Chairman – Meleveetil Damodaran

602. On August 31, WRI India in partnership with Assam Energy Development Agency (AEDA) launched an online, open source, interactive geo-spatial platform for the state, called "Energy Access Explorer (EAE)" in Guwahati. EAE will help visualize the extent of energy access at Assam's health, education, and livelihood infrastructures. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- WRI + Assam Energy Development Agency = launched a geo-spatial platform "Energy Access Explorer (EAE)" in Guwahati
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

603. In August 2022, the Assam government declared two new Biodiversity Heritage Sites - 'Borjuli Wild Rice Site' of Sonitpur district and 'Hajong Tortoise Lake' in the Dima Hasao district. With this declaration, Assam has now three Biodiversity Heritage Sites, the first one being 'Majuli Biodiversity Heritage Site' declared on March 29, 2017. This site is also not part of any Protected Area (National Park / Sanctuary). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Assam declared two new Biodiversity Heritage Sites:
 - 'Borjuli Wild Rice Site' in Sonitpur district
 - 'Hajong Tortoise Lake' in Dima Hasao district
- Assam has now 3 Biodiversity Heritage Sites (1st one was 'Majuli Biodiversity Heritage Site')
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

604. On August 29, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has standardised the process for issuance of international driving permit across the country in adherence to "Convention on International Road Traffic of 1949 (Geneva Convention)". According to the notification, a comparison of vehicle categories across various Conventions and Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989 has also been added for facilitation of regulatory authorities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoRTH – standardised the process for issuance of international driving permit in adherence to 'Geneva Convention'
- Geneva Convention – also known as "Convention on International Road Traffic of 1949"
- Ministry of Road Transport & Highways: Nitin Gadkari | Constituency – Nagpur, Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Road Transport & Highways: V. K. Singh



605. On August 30, during the 45th Annual General Meeting, Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani announced to build India's first and one of the world's largest Carbon Fibre plants at Hazira, in Surat, Gujarat. The plants will have a capacity of 20,000 MTPA based on Acrylonitrile feedstock. Overall, in the Oil to Chemical segment (O2C), Ambani Ambani announced an investment of ₹75,000 Crore over the next 5 years to expand capacities in existing and new value chains. These value chains are - Polyester value chain, Vinyl chain, and New Materials. In the polyester value chain, Ambani announced to build one of the world's largest single-train PTA plant of 3 MMTPA capacity at Dahej, Gujarat. Reliance has commenced its journey to becoming net carbon zero by 2035. Moreover, Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd (Reliance Jio) plans to launch Jio 5G services "Jio True 5G" by October 2022. Reliance Jio has also committed Rs 2 lakh Crore to the deployment of 5G services. Reliance Jio also collaborated with Qualcomm to develop 5G solutions for India. Along with the 5G phones, Reliance also unveiled the 'Jio Air Fiber' which is a wireless Wi-Fi hotspot connected to high-speed internet. Besides, WhatsApp and JioMart jointly introduced a new in-app Shopping product in India. Now, the users will be able to browse and purchase groceries and other household products without leaving the app. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Reliance Industries – announced to build India's first & one of the world's largest Carbon Fibre plants at Hazira, Gujarat
- Ambani Ambani – announced an investment of ₹75,000 Cr over the next 5 years in the Oil to Chemical segment
- Ambani Ambani – announced to build one of the world's largest single-train PTA plant at Dahej, Gujarat
- Reliance Jio – announced to launch Jio 5G services "Jio True 5G" by October 2022
- Reliance Jio – committed Rs 2 lakh Crore to the deployment of 5G services
- Reliance Jio + Qualcomm = collaborated to develop 5G solutions for India
- Reliance Jio – also unveiled the 'Jio Air Fiber' which is a wireless Wi-Fi hotspot
- WhatsApp + JioMart = jointly introduced a new in-app Shopping product in India
- [HQs of Reliance Industries Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [Chairman – Mukesh Ambani](#) | [Founded in – 1973](#)

606. As on August 31, the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has been holding meetings with the state education boards to draw up a benchmark framework called "PARAKH" to bring uniformity across state and central boards. A new regulator, PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development), is being set up to oversee the process and conduct periodic tests like the National Achievement Survey (NAS) and State Achievement Surveys. PARAKH will also aim to do away with rote learning, as mentioned in the 'New Education Policy (NEP) 2020'. PARAKH is expected to conduct the first NAS by 2024. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NCERT – plans to implement a benchmark framework "PARAKH" to bring uniformity across state and central boards
- PARAKH – **P**erformance **A**ssessment, **R**evue and **A**nalysis of **K**nowledge for **H**olistic Development
- PARAKH is expected to conduct the first 'National Achievement Survey (NAS)' by 2024
- [HQs of NCERT – New Delhi](#) | [Director – Dinesh Prasad Saklani](#) | [Founded in – 1961](#)

607. On August 29, the Karnataka government announced that its "Aerospace and Defence Policy 2022-27" has come into effect from August 26. Karnataka was the first state to announce an 'Aerospace & Defence Policy' in 2013 and it amended the policy in 2016. The policy is aimed at attracting investments to the tune of Rs 45,000 Crore in the aerospace and defence sector during the policy period of 5 years. It also aims to develop Karnataka as the aerospace & defence manufacturing hub. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Karnataka's "Aerospace & Defence Policy 2022-27" has come into effect from August 26
- Karnataka was the first state to announce an 'Aerospace & Defence Policy' in 2013
- The policy is aimed at attracting investments to the tune of Rs 45,000 Cr in the aerospace & defence sector
- [Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot](#)

608. On August 27, the Rajasthan Cabinet approved the formation of the "Rajasthan Social and Performance Audit Authority" to ensure transparency, public participation and quality services. Benefits of welfare schemes will reach beneficiaries more easily, conveniently and in a time-bound manner. The State Cabinet also gave approval to the "Rajasthan Handicrafts Policy-2022". The Cabinet also approved running the "Palace on Wheels" train under the operation and maintenance model to provide more facilities to tourists. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajasthan Cabinet approved:
 - the formation of the "Rajasthan Social & Performance Audit Authority"
 - the "Rajasthan Handicrafts Policy-2022"
 - running the "Palace on Wheels" train under the operation and maintenance model
- [Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra](#)

609. On August 31, Delhi Police became the first police force in India to make collection of forensic evidence mandatory in crimes punishable by more than 6 years. Since Delhi is a Union Territory, its police force is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Sanjay Arora is the present Delhi Police Commissioner. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi Police – became the first police force in India to make collection of forensic evidence mandatory in crimes punishable by more than 6 years
- Delhi Police Commissioner – Sanjay Arora
- [Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Vinai Kumar Saxena | Chief Secretary – Naresh Kumar](#)

610. On August 29, the University Grants Commission (UGC) is all set to launch its new centralised portal called "e-Samadhan" to monitor and resolve all grievances of students and staff members in varsities. The portal will be the one-stop solution for all grievances; and all other existing portals and helplines will be merged with it except for the anti-ragging helpline. The new platform will ensure transparency, prevent unfair practices in Higher Education Institutions and provides a time-bound mechanism for redressal of grievances. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UGC – to launch a new centralised portal "e-Samadhan" to monitor & resolve all grievances of students/staff members
- [HQs of UGC – New Delhi | Chairman – M. Jagadesh Kumar | Founded in – 1956](#)

611. On August 30, Meghalaya Cabinet approved the construction of the "Medical Skill Hunar Hub" at Babadam in West Garo Hills district. Considered as one of the largest Centre for Medical Skills across the North East region, this facility will be constructed at a cost of Rs 151.95 Crore. Besides, the Medical Skill Hunar Hub will also have space for 2500 students with hostel facilities, Pharmaceutical College, Paramedical College & Skill Development Centre. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Meghalaya – approved the construction of the “Medical Skill Hunar Hub” in West Garo Hills district
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

612. On August 29, Bank of Maharashtra launched the 400-day “Maha Dhanvarsha” fixed deposit scheme. The highest interest rate on this special deposit is 5.50% for non-senior citizens and 6% for senior citizens. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bank of Maharashtra – launched the 400-day “Maha Dhanvarsha” fixed deposit scheme
- Interest rate – 5.50% for non-senior citizens and 6% for senior citizens
- HQs of BoM – Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – A S Rajeev | Tagline – “One Family One Bank”

613. India’s gross domestic product (GDP) for the April-June quarter (Q1) of the ongoing financial year 2022-23 rose 13.5%, as per provisional estimates released by National Statistical Office (NSO) on August 31, 2022. The GDP for the preceding January-March quarter (Q4) of 2021-22 had witnessed a growth of 4.1%. As per the government data, the gross value added (GVA) at basic price at constant terms during Q1 FY2022-23 rose 12.7%. The GVA at Basic Price at Current Prices rose 26.5% in Q1 FY2022-23. Moreover, the Centre’s fiscal deficit touched 20.5% of the annual target at the end of July 2022-23. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NSO: India’s GDP for Q1 FY 2022-23 – rose 13.5% (from 4.1% in Q4 FY22)
- GVA at Basic Price at Constant terms in Q1 FY2022-23 – 12.7%
- GVA at Basic Price at Current Prices in Q1 FY2022-23 – 26.5%
- Centre’s fiscal deficit at the end of July 2022-23 – 20.5%

614. In August 2022, the Markets regulator SEBI has proposed the concept of “Blue Bonds” as a mode of sustainable finance. Such securities can be utilised for various blue economy-related activities, including oceanic resource mining and sustainable fishing. The proposals are aimed at aligning with the updated Green Bond Principles (GBP) published by the International Capital Market Association (ICMA). At present, the Blue Economy comprises 4.1% of India’s economy, according to the SEBI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – proposed the concept of “Blue Bonds” which can be utilised for various blue economy-related activities
- Blue Economy comprises 4.1% of India’s economy at present
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

615. In August 2022, Zomato-backed logistics technology platform Shiprocket became India’s 106th unicorn after raising \$33.5 million (about Rs 270 Crore) in a funding round co-led by Temasek and Lightrock India. Shiprocket was valued at around \$1.2 billion with the fresh round of funding. Launched in 2017, Shiprocket delivers packets to more than 66 million consumers annually and is growing 3 times year on year. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Shiprocket (backed by Zomato) – became India's 106th unicorn
- HQs of Zomato – Gurugram, Haryana | Founder & CEO – Deepinder Goyal | Founded in – 2008

Defence Affairs

616. On August 28, the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) conducted the 10th National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise "SAREX-22" in Chennai. Exercise "SAREX-2022" was inaugurated by Dr Ajay Kumar, Defence Secretary. The theme of this edition of the biennial exercise is "Capacity Building Towards Marine Passenger Safety". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICG – conducted the 10th National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise "SAREX-22" in Chennai
- Theme of the exercise – "Capacity Building Towards Marine Passenger Safety"
- HQs of ICG – New Delhi | DG – Virender Singh Pathania | Founded in – 1977

617. On August 30, Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd (GRSE), one of the leading Public Sector Undertaking and Mini-Ratna Category 1 Shipyard, has been conferred with the coveted "Green Channel Certification" by Ministry of Defence for supply of Portable Steel Bridges (Bailey Type) of various spans and configurations to Indian Army. P R Hari, CMD of GRSE, received the Green Channel Certification from Lt Gen RK Malhotra, Director General of Quality Assurance (DGQA). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- GRSE – conferred with "Green Channel Certification" by Ministry of Defence for supply of Portable Steel Bridges to Army
- HQs of GRSE – Kolkata, India | Chairman & MD – P. R. Hari | Founded in – 1884

618. On August 28, in continuous pursuit of self-reliance in defence manufacturing and to minimize imports by Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs) under 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan', Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has approved the 3rd Positive Indigenisation List (PIL) of 780 strategically important Line Replacement Units (LRUs)/Sub-systems/Components with a timeline. Details of these items are available on SRIJAN Portal. They will only be procured from Indian Industry after the timelines indicated in the list. The first two PILs were published in December 2021 and March 2022. Out of 458, 167 items (1st PIL -163, 2nd PIL - 4) have been indigenised, so far. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajnath Singh – approved 3rd Positive Indigenisation List of 780 strategically important LRUs/Sub-systems/Components
- It will minimize imports by DPSUs & bring self-reliance in defence manufacturing
- Details of these items is available at – 'SRIJAN' portal
- Ministry of Defence: Rajnath Singh | Constituency – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Defence: Ajay Bhatt



619. On August 30, India's largest public sector shipyard Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL) has started the process of building first warship namely "BY 523, Mahe" of Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Craft (ASW SWC) project in Kochi, Kerala. The construction of these vessels is a major boost for the 'Aatma Nirbhar Bharat' and India's 'Make in India' commitment. Apart from (BY 523, Mahe), the steel cutting of 6th and 7th ships (BY 528 and BY 529) was also undertaken on 30 August 2022.

[{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cochin Shipyard – started the process of building first warship namely "BY 523, Mahe" of ASW SWC project in Kochi
- HQs of Cochin Shipyard – Kochi, Kerala | Chairman & MD – Madhu S. Nair | Incorporated in – 1972

Sports & Games

620. On August 26, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty scripted history by becoming the first Indian pair to win a medal (Bronze) in men's doubles competition at the 27th edition of the "BWF World Championships" (officially known as "Total Energies BWF World Championships 2022"). It was India's second World Championships medal in the doubles event with Jwala Gutta and Ashwini Ponnappa claiming a bronze way back in 2011 in the women's doubles. India ranked 9th along with Germany by winning 1 Bronze medal. China topped the list with 5 medals (2 Gold, 1 Silver & 2 Bronze). In Men's singles, Denmark's Viktor Axelsen won his second badminton world title by defeating Thailand's Kunlavut Vitidsarn. In Women's singles, Japan's Akane Yamaguchi defeated China's Chen Yufei. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "27th BWF World Championships" (Total Energies BWF World Championships 2022) – held in Tokyo, Japan
- Satwiksairaj Rankireddy & Chirag Shetty – first Indian pair to win a medal (Bronze) in men's doubles competition
- India – ranked 9th along with Germany by winning 1 Bronze medal | Top – China (2G + 1S + 2B)
- Men's singles – won by Viktor Axelsen (Denmark) – by defeating Kunlavut Vitidsarn (Thailand)
- Women's singles – won by Akane Yamaguchi (Japan) – by defeating Chen Yufei (China)
- HQs of BWF – Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | President – Poul-Erik Hoyer Larsen

621. On August 28, Virat Kohli has become the first Indian and just the second player overall in international cricket history to have played 100 matches each in all three formats of the game. Kohli has now 100 T20Is to his name in addition to 102 Tests and 262 ODIs since making his international debut in August 2008. The first man to do so was New Zealand batter Ross Taylor. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Virat Kohli – became the 1st Indian & 2nd player overall to have played 100 matches each in all three formats
- The first player was – Ross Taylor (New Zealand)

622. On August 31, New Zealand all-rounder Colin De Grandhomme announced his retirement from all forms of Cricket. The Zimbabwean-turned-Kiwi cricketer, De Grandhomme, departs from the international arena after 29 Tests, 45 ODIs, and 41 T20Is for the Kiwis. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Colin De Grandhomme (New Zealand) – retired from all forms of Cricket





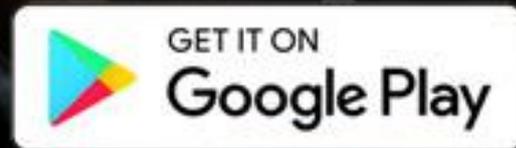
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623. On August 30, Assam's Amlan Borgohain broke the National Record in the men's 100 metres when he clocked 10.25 seconds at the "Inter-Railway Athletics Championships" in Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh. The 24-year-old Amlan is now India's fastest in both the sprint events (100m & 200m). Earlier this year, at the Federation Cup, he had clocked 20.52s to set a new National Record in the men's 200 metres. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Inter-Railway Athletics Championships" – held in Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh
- Amlan Borgohain (Assam) – broke the National Record in the men's 100 metres (10.25 seconds)
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

624. On August 29, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot inaugurated "Rajiv Gandhi Rural Olympic Games" at the state-level function organised in Jodhpur district. About 2 lakh 25 thousand teams participated in these games, in which about 30 lakh players showed their talent. The state government claims that the Rural Olympics is one of the biggest sporting events in the world. Under the Rural Olympics, 6 sports - Kabaddi, Shooting Ball, Volleyball, Hockey, Kho-Kho and Tennis Ball Cricket were played. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ashok Gehlot – inaugurated "Rajiv Gandhi Rural Olympic Games" in Jodhpur
- 6 sports were played under the Rural Olympics: Kabaddi, Shooting Ball, Volleyball, Hockey, Kho-Kho & Tennis Ball Cricket
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra



Persons in News

625. On August 30, Canada named a street in Markham city after the renowned music composer A. R. Rahman. In November 2013, Markham city had already announced that a street would be named in Rahman's honour. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A Street in Markham city (Canada) – named after the renowned music composer A. R. Rahman
- Canada – Ottawa – Canadian Dollar | PM – Justin Trudeau

Science & Technology

626. On August 29, Researchers from University of Cambridge, UK, have created Synthetic Embryos from mouse stem cells that form a brain, a beating heart, and the foundations of all the other organs of the body. The research team, led by Professor Magdalena Zernicka-Goetz, developed the embryo model without eggs or sperm, and instead used stem cells, the body's master cells, which can develop into almost any cell type in the body. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- University of Cambridge – created Synthetic Embryos from mouse stem cells that form a brain & a beating heart too
- The research team is led by – Professor Magdalena Zernicka-Goetz
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Mary Elizabeth Truss (Liz Truss)



627. On August 29, IIT Madras along with Inspire Institute of Sports (IIS) in Bellary, Karnataka, is developing a cost-effective boxing analytics platform called “Smartboxer” to increase India’s boxing medal tally at the 2024 Olympics. An analytics platform is being developed as a multi-version software by the Center of Excellence for Sports Science & Analytics at IIT Madras. The platform will provide an above-par competitive edge to Indian athletes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Madras + IIS (Bellary, Karnataka) = is developing a cost-effective boxing analytics platform called “Smartboxer”
- [Director of IIT Madras – Bhaskar Ramamurthi](#)

Appointments & Resignations

628. On August 26, Lok Sabha MP Anurag Sharma has been elected as Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) treasurer at the grouping’s 65th Conference held at Halifax in Canada. Sharma is a BJP MP from Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anurag Sharma – elected as Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) treasurer
- CPA’s 65th Conference – held at Halifax, Canada

629. On August 17, the tenure of Dr. V. G. Somani as the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) is extended by 3 months, according to an order issued by the Union Health Ministry. Dr. Somani was appointed DCGI for a term of 3 years on August 14, 2019. The DCGI heads the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) which is responsible to ensure the quality of drug supply across India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- V. G. Somani – tenure extended by 3 months as the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI)

630. On August 30, Nagesh Singh (IFS: 1995), presently Joint Secretary in Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Thailand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nagesh Singh – appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Thailand
- [Thailand – Bangkok – Thai Baht | PM – Prayut Chan-o-cha](#)

631. On August 30, University Grants Commission (UGC) Chairman M. Jagadesh Kumar is appointed as the Interim Chairman of the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). This decision was made by the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education. Jagadesh Kumar succeeds Anil D. Sahasrabudhe. Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar assumed office as the Chairman of UGC India on February 4, 2022. While the current Chairman of AICTE, Professor Anil Sahasrabudhe had assumed office as the Chairperson in 2015. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- M. Jagadesh Kumar – appointed as the Interim Chairman of the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)
- [HQs of AICTE – New Delhi | Interim Chairman – M. Jagadesh Kumar \(AICTE functions under Ministry of Education\)](#)



632. On August 27, Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic nominated Ana Brnabic to serve another term as Prime Minister and to lead a new government through a time of war in Europe, global energy and inflation crises and tensions with Kosovo. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ana Brnabic – reappointed as Prime Minister of Serbia
- Serbia – Belgrade – Serbian Dinar | President – Aleksandar Vucic | PM – Ana Brnabic

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

633. On August 31, Annabelle M. Rayson, a student from Canada has received the prestigious “2022 Stockholm Junior Water Prize” for her research on how to treat and prevent harmful algae blooms. Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden, the official patron of the prize, announced the winner during a ceremony at ‘World Water Week’ in Stockholm. Stockholm Junior Water is an international competition where students aged 15 to 20 years present solutions to major water challenges. The Stockholm Junior Water Prize has been organised every year since 1997 by the Stockholm International Water Institute, with Xylem, an American water technology provider, as a founding partner. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Annabelle M. Rayson (Canada) – received the prestigious “2022 Stockholm Junior Water Prize”
- She received the prize for her research on how to treat & prevent harmful algae blooms
- ‘Stockholm Junior Water Prize’ – organised by Stockholm International Water Institute + Xylem

634. On August 31, the winners of the 64th “Ramon Magsaysay Awards 2022”, regarded as Asia’s version of the Nobel Prize, were announced. The awards are to be presented in Manila on November 30, 2022. The annual awards are named after a Philippine President who died in a 1957 plane crash. Theme of this year’s award is “Greatness of Spirit, beyond Borders”. The awardees of 2022 Ramon Magsaysay Awards are - Sotheara Chhim, a Psychiatrist (Cambodia), Tadashi Hattori, an Ophthalmologist (Japan), Bernadette Madrid, a Pediatrician (Philippines), and Gary Benchehib, an Activist & a Filmmaker (Indonesia). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Winners of 64th “Ramon Magsaysay Awards 2022” (Asia’s version of the Nobel Prize):
 - Sotheara Chhim, a Psychiatrist (Cambodia)
 - Tadashi Hattori, an Ophthalmologist (Japan)
 - Bernadette Madrid, a Pediatrician (Philippines)
 - Gary Benchehib, an Activist & a Filmmaker (Indonesia)
- Theme – “Greatness of Spirit, beyond Borders” | These awards are named after a Philippine President



Schemes & Initiatives

635. On August 26, the occasion of Women's Equality Day, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot launched "Mahila Nidhi", a loan scheme for the social and economic development of women through loans. Under the scheme, apart from everyday necessities, easy credit will be available to women for business expansion and starting new businesses. Rajasthan is the second state in India after Telangana, where Mahila Nidhi has been established. The scheme will facilitate crediting of loans up to Rs 40,000 within 48 hours, and above Rs 40,000 within 15 days. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajasthan – the second state in India to launch "Mahila Nidhi" loan scheme for Women Development
- First state to launch this scheme – Telangana
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

Important Days & Dates

636. According to the Ministry of External Affairs, the 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas 2023 will be held at Indore in January, 2023. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is celebrated every year on 9th January to mark the contribution of the overseas Indian community in the development of India. It also commemorates the return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa to India on 9th January 1915. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas – to be held in Indore (in January 2023)
- This day also commemorates the return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa to India on 9th January 1915
- South Africa – Cape Town – South African Rand | President – Cyril Ramaphosa

637. Every year, the National Small Industry Day is observed on August 30. The day is celebrated to encourage the rise and development of small-scale businesses for the economic development of the country. The day was celebrated for the first time in 2001. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- August 30 – National Small Industry Day (since 2001)

638. Every year, the National Small Industry Day is observed on August 30. The day is celebrated to encourage the rise and development of small-scale businesses for the economic development of the country. The day was celebrated for the first time in 2001. [{Read more}](#)

The second International Day for People of African Descent was observed on August 31, 2022. The day was first celebrated in 2021, halfway through the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015-2024). Over 200 million people in the Americas alone identify as being of African descent, as do millions more living in other regions. Costa Rica had led the efforts to establish this day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- August 31 – 2nd International Day for People of African Descent (since 2021)
- 2015-2024 – International Decade for People of African Descent



Meetings, Conferences & Summits

639. On August 29, the first edition of “World Health Summit for Pride of Homoeopathy” was held in Dubai with the theme “Diseases caused by Climate Change and Global Warming”. The summit aimed to educate and promote a homoeopathic system of medicine, drugs, and practices. The summit was organised by Burnett Homoeopathy Pvt Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- First edition of “World Health Summit for Pride of Homoeopathy” – held in Dubai, UAE
- 2022’s Theme – “Diseases caused by Climate Change and Global Warming”
- Summit was organised by – Burnett Homoeopathy Pvt Ltd

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

640. On August 29, MoS for Electronics & Information Technology and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Rajeev Chandrasekhar, presented a report titled “Globalize to Localize: Exporting at Scale and Deepening the Ecosystem are Vital to Higher Domestic Value Addition”. The report was prepared by India Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) and India Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA). The report examines how India might reach its goal of \$300 billion in electronics production and US\$120 billion in exports by 2025-2026. India’s electronics exports surpassed USD 16 billion in FY 2021–22. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Globalize to Localize: Exporting at Scale and Deepening the Ecosystem are Vital to Higher Domestic Value Addition” report – presented by Rajeev Chandrasekhar
- The report was prepared by = ICRIER + ICEA
- India’s electronics exports surpassed USD 16 billion in FY 2021–22
- India’s target is to reach \$300 billion in electronics production and \$120 billion in exports by 2025-2026
- [Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar](#)

641. As on August 31, the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) is no longer part of India’s Top 10 companies by market capitalization as it has been replaced by Bajaj Finance and Adani Transmission. LIC holds 11th spot in the list, whereas Bajaj Finance and Adani Transmission have taken 10th and 9th spot, respectively, in the overall ranking. Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) is the top valued Indian company with a market capitalisation of ₹17.8 lakh Crore, followed by Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) & HDFC Bank. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India’s Top 10 companies by market capitalization:
- Newly entered: Adani Transmission – 9th | Bajaj Finance – 10th (LIC is out of the list of Top 10)
- Top 3: 1st – RIL, 2nd – TCS, 3rd – HDFC Bank



642. The unemployment rate for persons (male & female both) aged 15 years and above in urban areas dipped to 7.6% during April-June 2022 from 12.6% a year ago, according to the “15th Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) - Quarterly Bulletin (April-June 2022)” published by the National Statistical Office (NSO) on August 31. Unemployment rate among females (aged 15 years & above) in urban areas declined to 9.5% in April-June, 2022. Among males, the unemployment rate in urban areas dipped to 7.1% in the same period. The unemployment rate for persons aged 15 years and above in January-March 2022 was 8.2% in urban areas. NSO launched PLFS in April 2017. Worker population ratio (WPR) in the Current Weekly Status (CWS) in urban areas for persons aged 15 years and above stood at 43.9% in April-June, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 15th “Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) - Quarterly Bulletin (April-June 2022)” – released by NSO
- UR for persons aged 15 years & above in urban areas declined to – 7.6% (7.1% among males & 9.5% among females)
- WPR in CWS in urban areas for persons aged 15 years & above stood at – 43.9%
- NSO launched ‘PLFS’ in April 2017

643. As on August 29, Bengaluru ranks second after Beijing on the list of top technology hubs in the Asia-Pacific region, according to property consultant Cushman & Wakefield’s report titled “Tech Cities: The Global Intersection of Talent and Real Estate”. Bengaluru leads India with 2,30,813 tech jobs created during the last fiscal, followed by Chennai with 1,12,781, Hyderabad with 1,03,032 and Delhi with 89,996 jobs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Tech Cities: The Global Intersection of Talent and Real Estate” report – by Cushman & Wakefield (US)
- Top technology hubs in the Asia-Pacific region: 1st - Beijing, 2nd - Bengaluru, 3rd - Chennai



Amount & Agreements

644. In August 2022, Maharashtra government will receive a loan of Rs 4,000 Crore from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for setting up medical colleges in 12 districts that don’t have a single medical college. These districts include Jalgaon, Satara, Alibaug, Sindhudurg, Usmanabad, Parbhani, Amravati, Ratnagiri, Gadchiroli, Bhandara and Ambernath. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra – will receive a loan of Rs 4,000 Cr from ADB for setting up medical colleges in 12 districts
- Maharashtra: CM – Eknath Shinde | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnership

645. On August 30, an MoU was signed between the Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy (under Ministry of AYUSH) and the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare) for inter-ministerial cooperation for the promotion and facilitation of “One Herb, One Standard”. The MoU aims to provide an opportunity to all the stakeholders, including manufacturers, researchers and regulators in herbal medicine, to get world-class monographs to be used in their respective areas. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy + Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission = an MoU for the promotion & facilitation of “One Herb, One Standard”
- Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy – works under Ministry of AYUSH
- Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission – works under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare





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