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# National & States Affairs

**1.** On August 1, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma launched “Mission Bhumi Putra” portal, a digital way to issue digitalised caste certificates to students. The mission is implemented by the Departments of Tribal Affairs (Plain) and Social Justice Empowerment to carry forward the government's mission of easy public service to the public. From next year, students from Class VIII can apply for caste certificates through this portal. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Assam – launched “Mission Bhumi Putra” portal to issue digitalised caste certificates to students
- [Assam: Capital – Dispur](#) | [CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma](#) | [Governor – Jagdish Mukhi](#)

**2.** On August 3, Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Ashwini Kumar Choubey, in a written reply to a question in Lok Sabha, informed that at present, the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission is established at National Level and 728 Consumer Commissions have been established at State and District level in the country. Under the provisions of the ‘Consumer Protection Act, 2019’, a consumer can file consumer complaint in Consumer Commission of appropriate jurisdiction offline or online using ‘e-Daakhil’ portal. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- 728 Consumer Commissions have been established at State and District level in India at present
- Consumer can file consumer complaint in Consumer Commission under the provisions of ‘Consumer Protection Act, 2019’

**3.** On August 1, West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee announced to carve out 7 new districts, increasing the total number of districts to 30 in the state. The 7 new districts will be Sunderban, Ichhemati, Ranaghat, Bishnupur, Jangipur, and Behrampur and one more district will be named in Basirhat. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- West Bengal – announced to carve out 7 new districts, increasing the total number of districts to 30
- [West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata](#) | [CM – Mamta Banerjee](#) | [Governor – La. Ganesan](#)

**4.** On August 4, the Cabinet approved India’s updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to be communicated to the UNFCCC. The updated NDC proposes about 50% cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based Energy resources by 2030, dropping the absolute target of 500 GW committed at COP26. It also did not include the commitment to reduce 1 billion tonnes of carbon emission by 2030. Instead, the updated NDC committed to reducing the emissions intensity of GDP by 45% by 2030 from the 2005 level. India’s current installed power capacity is 404 GW, consisting of coal-based 204 GW (50%), renewable energy sources 114 GW (28%), and hydro 47 GW (12%). The Central Electricity Authority has forecast that the country's reliance on coal will drop from 53% in 2021 to 33% in 2030. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- As per India’s updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC):
  - 50% cumulative electric power installed capacity would be based on Non-fossil fuel-based Energy resources by 2030
  - Reducing the emissions intensity of GDP by 45% by 2030 from the 2005 level
- India’s current installed power capacity – 404 GW (50% Coal-based, 28% RE sources, 12% Hydro)



5. On August 1, the Central Government constituted a task force in the wake of Monkeypox cases in India. The task force aims to monitor and provide guidance on the expansion of diagnostic facilities and to explore vaccination for the infection in the country. The task force will be headed by Dr. Vinod K. Paul, member (Health), NITI Aayog. Until now, India has reported 4 monkeypox cases, 3 in Kerala and 1 in Delhi. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), more than 18,000 cases have been reported from 78 countries. Monkeypox is a Zoonotic disease caused by the Monkeypox virus. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Central Government constituted a task force to control Monkeypox cases in India – headed by Dr. Vinod K. Paul
- Monkeypox is a Zoonotic disease caused by Monkeypox virus

6. On August 4, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated Shrimad Rajchandra Hospital and laid the foundation stone for various other projects under the “Shrimad Rajchandra Mission” via video conferencing, at Dharampur in Valsad district of Gujarat. Shrimad Rajchandra Hospital will aim to provide tertiary medical facilities through a 250-bed multispecialty hospital with cutting-edge medical infrastructure and is aimed at the people of the southern Gujarat region. PM Modi also laid the foundation stone for Shrimad Rajchandra Animal Hospital and Shrimad Rajchandra Center of Excellence for Women during the event. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PM Modi laid the foundation stone for various projects under the “Shrimad Rajchandra Mission” in Valsad, Gujarat
- [Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat](#)

7. On August 3, Union Minister Piyush Goyal announced that the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has recognized more than 75,000 startups - a milestone which coincides with 75<sup>th</sup> year of independence. Out of the total recognized startups, around 12% cater to IT services, 9% to Healthcare and Life Sciences, 7% to Education, 5% to Professional & Commercial services and 5% to Agriculture. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- DPIIT recognized more than 75,000 startups - coinciding with 75<sup>th</sup> year of independence
- IT (12%), Healthcare & Life Sciences (9%), Education (7%), Professional & Commercial services (5%), Agriculture (5%)

8. As on August 4, with an aim to increase the power generation capacity of the central state of Madhya Pradesh and address the electricity problems in the region, a floating Solar Power Plant is going to be built in Khandwa district by 2022-23. It will be the world’s as well as India’s largest floating Solar Power Plant with 600 Megawatt power generation capacity. The project is estimated to be worth over Rs 3000 Crore. Earlier, the record of India's largest floating Solar Power Plant was held by NTPC's Ramagundam Floating Solar PV Project located in Telangana. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- World’s & India’s largest floating Solar Power Plant (600 MW) – to be built in Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel](#)

9. In August 2022, the UNESCO declared that a 106-year-old Astronomical Observatory at a college in Bihar’s Muzaffarpur district has not been inscribed on its list of Endangered Heritage. The clarification from the UNESCO comes in the wake of several media houses reporting that it was included in the ‘List of Endangered Heritage Observatories of the World’. The observatory, the first of its kind in eastern India, was established in the Langat Singh College in 1916 to impart astronomical knowledge to the students in detail. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- 106-year-old Astronomical Observatory at a college in Bihar's Muzaffarpur – was not inscribed on UNESCO's List of Endangered Heritage
- The observatory was established in Langat Singh College in 1916
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

**10.** On August 2, Ministry of Women & Child Development (MoWCD) issued Operational Guidelines regarding implementation of an Integrated Nutrition Support Programme namely “Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0” scheme. The scheme was approved by the Government of India for implementation during the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission period 2021-22 to 2025-26. It seeks to address the challenges of malnutrition in children, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers. The scheme targets children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years, and Adolescent Girls in the age group of 14 to 18 years in Aspirational Districts and the North Eastern Region (NER). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoWCD issued Operational Guidelines regarding implementation of “Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0” scheme
- Targeted age group: 6 months to 6 years for Children | 14 to 18 years for Adolescent Girls

**11.** On August 3, Environment Minister Bhupendra Yadav announced that India has added 10 more Ramsar sites, or wetlands that are of international importance, taking the number of such sites to 64. Six of them are in Tamil Nadu and one each in Goa, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha. The sites are Koothankulam Bird Sanctuary, Gulf of Mannar Marine Biosphere Reserve, Vembannur Wetland Complex, Vellode Bird Sanctuary, Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary and Udhayamarthandapuram Bird Sanctuary, all in Tamil Nadu, Satkosia Gorge in Odisha, Nanda Lake in Goa, Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary in Karnataka, and Sirpur Wetland in Madhya Pradesh. Ramsar wetlands now comprise around 10% of the total wetland area in India. To be a Ramsar site, a site must meet at least one of the nine criteria as defined by the Ramsar Convention of 1971. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 10 more Indian wetlands – received Ramsar recognition as Wetlands of International Importance (Now, total - 64)
- Ramsar wetlands now comprise around 10% of the total wetland area in India
- 10 new Ramsar wetland sites:
  - Koothankulam Bird Sanctuary (TN)
  - Gulf of Mannar Marine Biosphere Reserve (TN)
  - Vembannur Wetland Complex (TN)
  - Vellode Bird Sanctuary (TN)
  - Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary (TN)
  - Udhayamarthandapuram Bird Sanctuary (TN)
  - Satkosia Gorge (Odisha)
  - Nanda Lake (Goa)
  - Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary (Karnataka)
  - Sirpur Wetland (Madhya Pradesh)



**12.** On August 4, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) announced the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane for sugar season 2022-23 (October-September). The FRP of sugarcane is fixed at Rs 305/quintal for a basic recovery rate of 10.25%. The FRP for sugar season 2022-23 is 5.1% higher than Rs 290 per quintal fixed for the sugar season 2021-22. Besides, a premium of Rs 3.05/quintal will be provided for each 0.1% increase in recovery over and above 10.25%. However, for every 0.1% decrease in recovery, the FRP will be reduced by Rs 3.05 per quintal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CCEA announced the Fair & Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane for sugar season 2022-23 (Oct-Sep)
- FRP of sugarcane is fixed at Rs 305/quintal for a basic recovery rate of 10.25% (from Rs 290/quintal in FY22)

## **Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs**

**13.** On August 1, Infosys Finacle, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Infosys, has been inducted into International Financial Services Centres Authority's (IFSCA) Regulatory Sandbox framework to pilot its blockchain-based trade finance solution. In the first phase, 6 leading banks - Federal Bank, HDFC Bank, HSBC, ICICI Bank, RBL Bank and State Bank of India - are collaborating with Infosys Finacle in the regulatory sandbox. This collaboration will lead to comprehensive testing of the blockchain-based Buyers Credit solution, for short-term credit in foreign currency for import payments and trade finance transactions. This will serve as a precursor to the solution being available as a SaaS-based offering for all banks servicing clients from GIFT City. In its endeavor to support a world-class fintech hub at GIFT City, IFSCA had launched "I-Sprint'21", a global FinTech Hackathon, as part of the 'InFINITY Forum 2021'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Infosys Finacle – inducted into IFSCA's Regulatory Sandbox framework to pilot its blockchain-based trade finance solution
- In the first phase, 6 leading banks are collaborating with Infosys Finacle in the Regulatory Sandbox
- "I-Sprint'21", a global FinTech Hackathon – was launched by IFSCA
- HQs of IFSCA – Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman – Injeti Srinivas
- HQs of Infosys – Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Salil Parekh | Founded in – 1981

**14.** On August 3, Karnataka Bank entered into a Co-Lending Agreement with Yubi (formerly known as CredAvenue Pvt Ltd) for co-lending via the Yubi Co.Lend, the latter's co-lending platform. The collaboration will allow the bank to digitally onboard various NBFCs, lend significant amount of money, and onboard a larger customer base as a result of their better consumer outreach. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Karnataka Bank + Yubi = a Co-Lending Agreement
- HQs of Karnataka Bank – Mangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Mahabaleshwara M. S. | Chairman – Pradeep Kumar Panja
- HQs of Yubi – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | Founder & CEO – Gaurav Kumar

**15.** On August 1, Union Bank of India (UBI) launched "EmpowerHim", a dedicated, men-focused committee, as a part of its flagship HR initiative 'Prerna'. This EmpowerHim Committee is a complementary step to the women-focused 'EmpowerHer Committee' launched by UBI in July. The programme aims to promote the employees' career trajectory and improve diversity in the bank. Union Prerna is the HR Transformation initiative of the Union Bank of India. [{Read more}](#)





### Key Points:

- UBI – launched “EmpowerHim”, a dedicated, men-focused committee as a part of its flagship HR initiative ‘Prerna’
- ‘Union Prerna’ – a HR Transformation initiative of UBI
- HQs of UBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – A. Manimekhalai | Tagline – “Good People to Bank With”

**16.** On August 4, Federal Bank became India’s first bank to register its Payment Gateway platform on the “TIN 2.0” platform of the Income Tax Department. With this, TIN 2.0 platform taxpayers will get one more payment option and now make their payments with ease, using modes such as Credit/Debit Card, UPI, NEFT/RTGS and Internet Banking. Earlier in July, Federal Bank partnered with the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) to assist taxpayers in making their payments via the e-pay tax facility on the e-filing portal of the Income Tax Department. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Federal Bank – became India’s first bank to register its Payment Gateway platform on the “TIN 2.0” platform of the Income Tax Department
- Federal Bank + CBDT = partnered to assist taxpayers in making their payments via ‘e-pay’ tax facility (in July)
- HQs of Federal Bank – Aluva, Kerala | MD & CEO – Shyam Srinivasan | Tagline – “Your Perfect Banking Partner”

**17.** On August 1, Shamrao Vithal Co-operative (SVC) Bank and Small Industries Development Bank in India (SIDBI) partnered for empowering Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). As per the agreement, SIDBI will extend refinance facility to SVC Bank to facilitate an improved flow of credit to MSMEs. SVC Bank is the first Urban Co-operative Bank (UCB) to participate in SIDBI’s vision of empowering the MSMEs. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- SVC Bank + SIDBI = partnered for empowering the MSMEs
- SVC Bank – the first UCB to participate in SIDBI’s vision of empowering the MSMEs
- HQs of SVC Co-operative Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD – Ashish Singhal

**18.** On August 2, the Central Government made E-invoicing mandatory for businesses with aggregate turnover exceeding Rs 10 Crore from October 1, 2022. The move will further plug in revenue leakage and will ensure better tax compliance from businesses. Presently, e-invoice is compulsory for businesses with an annual turnover of over Rs 20 Crore. Initially e-invoicing was made mandatory for businesses having an annual turnover of Rs 500 Cr, then it was brought down to ₹100 Cr and then to Rs 20 Cr and finally to Rs 10 Cr. And it is expected to further go down up to Rs 5 Cr in next year. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Govt made E-invoicing mandatory for businesses with aggregate turnover exceeding Rs 10 Cr from Oct 1, 2022
- Presently, the criteria was Rs 20 Cr

**19.** HDFC Bank signed an MoU with IISc, Bengaluru, pledging Rs 107.76 Crore support for cardiology, radiology, and emergency medicine wings of the Bagchi-Parthasarathy Hospital being set up at the IISc campus. The IISc is setting up a multi-speciality, not-for-profit, 832-bed hospital, called the Bagchi-Parthasarathy Hospital, along with a postgraduate medical school at its Bengaluru campus. The hospital is expected to be fully functional by the end of 2024. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- HDFC Bank + IISc, Bengaluru = an MoU pledging Rs 107.76 Crore support for Bagchi-Parthasarathy Hospital at IISc campus
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your World”



**20.** In August 2022, the SEBI restructured its Market Data Advisory Committee that recommends policy measures pertaining to securities market data access and privacy. The market data advisory committee will now have 20 members, from earlier 21 members. The committee is chaired by M. S. Sahoo, Professor at National Law University, Delhi, and former Chairperson of the IBBI. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI restructured its Market Data Advisory Committee – chaired by M. S. Sahoo
- Committee Members reduced to 20 (from 21 earlier)
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

**21.** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released India’s “Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index)” for the year ended March 31, 2022. FI-Index of FY22 improved to 56.4 from 53.9 in the previous year. The index is published annually in July. The index comprises of three parameters including Access, Usage & Quality. The index has been constructed without any base year and reflects cumulative efforts of all stakeholders over the years towards financial inclusion. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India’s “Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index)” for FY22 – released by RBI
- FI-Index of FY22 improved – to 56.4 (from 53.9 in FY21) | 3 parameters of FI-Index – Access, Usage & Quality
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935

**22.** On August 1, Insurance start-up InsuranceDekho (Girnar Insurance Brokers Pvt Ltd) partnered with Future Generali India Insurance Company to offer dog health cover and is in the process of tying up with other insurers as well. InsuranceDekho offers comprehensive coverage for over 25 breeds of dogs, aged 6 months to 10 years. India has an estimated pet population of 32 million pets growing at 12% yearly, with dogs making up almost 85% of the total population. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- InsuranceDekho + Future Generali India Insurance = partnership to offer dog health cover
- HQs of FGILI – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Bruce de Broize

**23.** According to the data released by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) recorded over 6.28 billion transactions in July 2022, a new record since the service was launched in July 2016. In July 2021, the number of transactions recorded was 3.24 billion. UPI recorded a 7.16% increase in transactions from June 2022 and over a 90% increase annually. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NPCI’s data: UPI recorded over 6.28 billion transactions in July 2022 (from 3.24 billion in July 2021 - 90% increase)
- UPI was launched by the NPCI in – July 2016
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD & CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008

**24.** On August 1, IndusInd Bank announced a strategic partnership with Rupy - a new age digital lending platform, to offer 100% paperless loan processing for used-cars. Rupy is the fintech arm of the Jaipur-based Girnarsoft Pvt Ltd which houses brands like CarDekho, BikeDekho, Zigwheels, Powerdrift, among others. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IndusInd Bank + Rupy = a strategic partnership to offer 100% paperless loan for used-cars
- HQs of IndusInd Bank – Pune, MH | MD & CEO – Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline – “We Make You Feel Richer”



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## Defence Affairs

**25.** The 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of Vietnam-India Bilateral Army Exercise “Ex VINBAX 2022” was scheduled to be conducted at Chandimandir in Haryana from August 1 to 20, 2022. The theme of ‘Ex VINBAX - 2022’ is “Employment and Deployment of an Engineer Company and a Medical Team as part of United Nations Contingent for Peace Keeping Operations”. Indian Army was represented by troops from the ‘105 Engineer Regiment’. India and Vietnam recently signed a ‘Joint Vision’ document to significantly enhance the scope and scale of bilateral ties by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

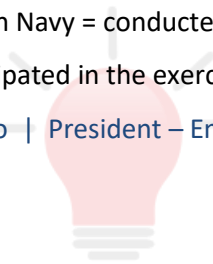
### **Key Points:**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of Bilateral Army Exercise “Ex VINBAX 2022” conducted in Haryana – between India & Vietnam
- Indian Army was represented – by the ‘105 Engineer Regiment’
- Vietnam – Hanoi – Vietnamese dong | PM – Pham Minh Chinh | President – Nguyen Xuan Phuc
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande | Vice Chief – Lt. General Baggavalli Somashekar Raj

**26.** Indian Navy and French Navy conducted a “Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX)” in the North Atlantic Ocean on July 29-30, 2022. Replenishment at sea was exercised between INS Tarkash and FNS Somme. This was followed by joint air operations with the maritime surveillance aircraft Falcon 50 participating in multiple simulated missile engagements and air defence drills. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Indian Navy + French Navy = conducted a “Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX)” in the North Atlantic Ocean
- INS Tarkash – participated in the exercise
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Elisabeth Borne



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## Sports & Games

**27.** On August 2, Union Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri inaugurated the 4<sup>th</sup> “ONGC Para Games 2022” in Thyagaraj Sports Complex in New Delhi. 275 Persons with Disabilities (PwD), employees of 8 Central Oil and Gas Public Enterprises, participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> ‘Para Games’ organised by the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC). The ONGC conceptualized and started this Para Games in 2017. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Hardeep Singh Puri – inaugurated the 4<sup>th</sup> “ONGC Para Games 2022” held in New Delhi (275 PwD participated)
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Vinai Kumar Saxena | Chief Secretary – Naresh Kumar

**28.** On August 1, England beat Germany 2-1 in the final of the “UEFA Women Euro 2022” football championship to win its first major women’s soccer title. The championship was held at Wembley Stadium in London, UK. Sarina Wiegman was the manager of the England team. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- England – won the “UEFA Women Euro 2022” football championship – held in London, UK (defeating - Germany)
- HQs of UEFA – Nyon, Switzerland | President – Aleksander Ceferin



## Arts & Cultural Affairs

**29.** On August 2, Ministry of Culture organized “Tiranga Utsav” to celebrate the contributions of Pingali Venkayya to the nation on the occasion of his 146<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary. The event included the release of a commemorative Postal Stamp in honor of Pingali Venkayya. Pingali Venkayya, a freedom fighter and staunch Gandhian, was the first to design India’s national flag in 1921. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- August 2 – 146<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Pingali Venkayya (freedom fighter & first person to design India’s national flag)
- On this occasion, Ministry of Culture organized “Tiranga Utsav”

## Science & Technology

**30.** On August 1, DeepMind, a company based in London and owned by Google, developed “AlphaFold”, an AI-based protein structure prediction tool. It is based on a computer system called ‘Deep Neural Network’. It predicts protein’s 3D structure from its amino acid sequence. DeepMind predicted the 3D (three-dimensional) structures of more than 200 million proteins using AlphaFold. The public-private partnership between the European Molecular Biology Laboratory’s European Bioinformatics Institute and DeepMind made the 25-terabyte AlphaFold dataset accessible to everyone in the scientific community at no cost. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Google’s DeepMind (London) – developed “AlphaFold”, an AI-based protein structure prediction tool
- It is based on ‘Deep Neural Network’ & predicts protein’s 3D structure from its amino acid sequence

## Appointments & Resignations

**31.** On August 2, Vigilance Commissioner Suresh N. Patel was sworn in as the Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC), a year after the post fell vacant. Mr. Patel had been working as the acting Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) since June, 2022. The ceremony was also attended by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and then Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu. Former Intelligence Bureau chief Arvind Kumar and ex-bureaucrat Praveen Kumar Srivastava were also appointed as the Vigilance Commissioners. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Suresh N. Patel – sworn in as the Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC)
- Arvind Kumar + Praveen Kumar Srivastava = appointed as the Vigilance Commissioners
- Present Central Vigilance Commissioner – Suresh N. Patel | CVC is appointed by – President of India

**32.** On August 1, Satyendra Prakash, an Officer of the Indian Information Service, assumed charge as Principal Director General of Press Information Bureau (PIB). Prior to this, he held the position of Principal DG, Central Bureau of Communication. He has represented Government of India in various national and international forum like UNESCO, UNICEF, UNDP etc. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Satyendra Prakash – assumed charge as Principal Director General of Press Information Bureau (PIB)
- HQs of PIB – New Delhi | Principal Director General – Satyendra Prakash

**33.** On August 2, World Bank appointed Auguste Tano Kouame as its Country Director for India. He replaced Junaid Kamal Ahmad who recently completed a 5-year term. Prior to this, Auguste recently served as the World Bank’s country director for Turkey. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Auguste Tano Kouame – appointed as World Bank’s Country Director for India (replacing - Junaid Kamal Ahmad)
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., US | Members – 189 | President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

## Schemes & Initiatives

**34.** On August 2, Union MSMEs Minister Narayan Rane announced that around 1 Crore Micro Small and Medium Enterprises were registered on the Udyam portal within a span of 25 months. The minister has given a target of 16 months to officials for achieving 2 Crore registrations on the Udyam portal. The MSME Ministry signed MoUs with the Ministry of Tourism and the National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) for the sharing of Udyam data. On the occasion, the Digi Locker facility for Udyam Registration was also launched. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Around 1 Crore registrations were achieved on the ‘Udyam’ portal in 25 months
- MSME Minister gave a target of 16 months to officials for achieving 2 Crore registrations on the ‘Udyam’ portal
- MSME Ministry + Ministry of Tourism + NSIC = an MoU for the sharing of Udyam data
- ‘Digi Locker facility’ was launched for Udyam Registration

**35.** On August 3, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar launched the “Chief Minister Equal Education Relief, Assistance and Grant (Cheerag)” scheme to offer free education to Economically Weaker Section (EWS) students of government schools in budget private schools. Under the Cheerag scheme, government school students whose parents have an annual verified income of less than Rs 1.8 lakh can enroll in private schools from Class II to XII. The government will reimburse Rs 700 per student from Classes II to V, Rs 900 per student from Classes VI to VIII, and Rs 1,100 per student from Classes IX to XII. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Haryana – launched ‘Cheerag’ Scheme to offer free education in Private schools to EWS students of Govt schools
- Cheerag – Chief Minister Equal Education Relief, Assistance and Grant
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya



## Important Days & Dates

**36.** Annually, the first Sunday of the month of August is celebrated as “Friendship Day” in India. This year, it falls on August 7. Interestingly, while the United Nations declared July 30 as “International Friendship Day” or “World Friendship Day” this year, India will continue to celebrate it on the first Sunday of August. The day was first proposed in 1958 in Paraguay by Joyce Clyde Hall, the founder of Hallmark cards. In 1998, in the honour of Friendship Day, Nane Annan named ‘Winnie the Pooh’ (the friendly bear seen with Christopher Robin) as the world’s Ambassador of Friendship at the United Nations. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- August 7 (first Sunday of August) – Friendship Day 2022
- July 30 – International Friendship Day or World Friendship Day

**37.** World Wide Web Day is observed on August 1 each year. The day is marked in honour of the ability of people to browse information freely using the Web. The WWW was created by English Computer Scientist Tim Berners-Lee in 1989. Berners-Lee also developed the essentials of the web - HTTP, HTML, the WorldWideWeb browser, a server, and the first website. Microsoft stopped supporting its very first web browser, Internet Explorer, from June 15, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- August 1 – World Wide Web Day
- WWW was created in 1989 by – Tim Berners (English Computer Scientist)

**38.** Every year, World Lung Cancer Day is observed on August 1 to educate people about the habits and the factors that can cause lung cancer. The day was first organised in 2012. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), lung cancer accounts for nearly 1 in 5 cancer deaths. While lung cancer and breast cancer are reportedly diagnosed at the same rate (11.6%). November is observed as “Lung Cancer Awareness Month”. While the colour of the Lung Cancer Awareness ribbon is Pearl or white. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- August 1 – World Lung Cancer Day (since 2012)
- November – “Lung Cancer Awareness Month” | Colour of Lung Cancer Awareness ribbon – Pearl or White

## Ranks, Reports & Surveys

**39.** On August 2, the World Health Organization (WHO) along with other global partners including UNAIDS and UNICEF released the “UNAIDS Global AIDS Update 2022”. The report reveals that only half (52%) of children living with HIV are on life-saving treatment globally. This statistic among children is far behind adults where three quarters (76%) are receiving antiretrovirals. Moreover, a new “Global Alliance for Ending AIDS in Children by 2030” was announced at the “International AIDS Conference 2022” that took place in Montreal, Canada. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- “UNAIDS Global AIDS Update 2022” = released by WHO + UNAIDS + UNICEF
- Only half (52%) of children living with HIV are on life-saving treatment globally
- “Global Alliance for Ending AIDS in Children by 2030” – announced at “International AIDS Conference 2022” in Canada



**40.** On August 4, Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) ranked 98<sup>th</sup> on the recently released “2022 Fortune Global 500 List” with revenue of USD 97.26 billion and a profit of USD 553.8 million. While Reliance Industries jumped 51 places to 104<sup>th</sup> rank, with revenue of USD 93.98 billion and a net profit of USD 8.15 billion. The LIC is the only Indian company ranked among the Top 100. The list was topped by US retailer Walmart, followed by Amazon and Chinese energy giant’s, State Grid. State Bank of India (SBI) climbed 17 places to rank 236<sup>th</sup> and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd 19 places to 295<sup>th</sup>. However, the SBI is the only Indian Bank to feature in the “2022 Fortune Global 500 List”. The list has total 9 Indian Companies. Fortune Global 500 list ranked companies by total revenues for their respective fiscal years ended on or before March 31, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “2022 Fortune Global 500 List”: 1<sup>st</sup> – Walmart, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Amazon, 3<sup>rd</sup> – State Grid
- LIC – 98<sup>th</sup> (the only Indian company among Top 100) | Total 9 Indian Companies ranked on the list
- SBI (236<sup>th</sup>) – the only Indian Bank to feature in the “2022 Fortune Global 500 List”

## **Ordinance, Bills and Acts**

**41.** On August 2, the parliament passed a bill which seeks to ban funding of weapons of mass destruction and also empowers the Centre to freeze, seize or attach financial assets and economic resources of people engaged in such activities. The “Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Amendment Bill, 2022”, introduced by External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, was passed by the Rajya Sabha with a voice vote even as opposition parties continued their protest over various issues. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Parliament passed “Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Amendment Bill, 2022” – introduced by Ministry of External Affairs

**42.** On August 3, the Central government withdrew the long-awaited “Personal Data Protection (PDP) Bill, 2019” to replace it with a new bill with a ‘Comprehensive Framework’ and ‘Contemporary Digital Privacy Laws’. The PDP bill was first introduced in Lok Sabha on December 11, 2019 by a committee headed by B. N. Srikrishna. The withdrawn Data Protection Bill had also proposed the setting up of a ‘Data Protection Authority’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Central government withdrew the long-awaited “Personal Data Protection (PDP) Bill” introduced in Lok Sabha in 2019
- The bill was introduced by a committee – headed by B. N. Srikrishna

## **Acquisitions & Mergers**

**43.** On August 4, Uber Technologies sold its entire 7.8% stake (612 million shares) in food delivery platform Zomato through multiple block deals. The American mobility service provider raised around Rs 3,088 Crore or \$390 million at nearly 100% profit. In January 2020, Zomato had acquired Uber Eats' India operations in a non-cash deal, following which Uber received a 9.19% stake in Zomato for around \$200 million. [{Read more}](#)





**Key Points:**

- Uber Technologies – sold its entire 7.8% stake (612 million shares) in Zomato – for Rs 3,088 Cr (\$390 million)
- HQs of Uber Technologies – California, US | CEO – Dara Khosrowshahi
- HQs of Zomato – Gurugram, Haryana | Founder & CEO – Deepinder Goyal | Founded in – 2008

**44.** On August 2, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the proposed Rs 4,500 Crore deal wherein the Bandhan Financial Holdings-led consortium will buy 99.96% stake in IDFC Asset Management and 100% stake in IDFC AMC Trustee. The consortium includes private equity firm Chrys Capital and Singapore's sovereign fund GIC. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CCI approved Rs 4,500 Cr deal between Bandhan Financial Holdings-led consortium & IDFC
- Bandhan Fin Holdings-led consortium will acquire 99.96% stake in IDFC AMC & 100% stake in IDFC AMC Trustee
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003

## **MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships**

**45.** On August 3, Amazon India partnered with Indian Railways to boost its delivery services in India. Through this partnership, the e-commerce firm will be able to transport packages on more than 110 inter-city routes, ensuring one to two-day delivery for its customers. Amazon India was the first online delivery company to work with the Indian Railways to build an express transportation product via rail in 2019. Moreover, Amazon India's subsidiary, Amazon Data Services India Pvt Ltd leased 5.5 acre of industrial land from Larsen & Toubro Ltd., in suburban Mumbai's Powai area, to set up a Data Centre. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Amazon India + Indian Railways = partnership to boost its delivery services in India
- Amazon Data Services India Pvt Ltd – leased 5.5 acre of industrial land from L&T to set up a Data Centre
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle, US | CEO – Andy Jassy | Incorporated in – 1994
- HQs of Amazon India – Hyderabad, Telangana | Country Head – Amit Agarwal
- HQs of Indian Railways – New Delhi | Chairman & CEO – Vinay Kumar Tripathi

**46.** On August 4, United Way Bengaluru (UWBe), an NGO, signed an MoU with the Women and Child Development (WCD) Department of the Government of Karnataka for strengthening Anganwadi centres in the state. The MoU will benefit around 40 lakh children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years who are enrolled in 66,361 Anganwadis in 24 districts in the state. The initiative would also focus on improving nutrition and healthcare services in Anganwadi centres. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- United Way Bengaluru + WCD Dept. of Karnataka = an MoU for strengthening Anganwadi centres in the state
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot



**47.** On August 2, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) signed an MoU with National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for transcontinental relocation of 'Cheetah' from Africa to its historical range in India. IOCL will be contributing Rs 50.22 Crore in 4 years for the project components viz. Cheetah Introduction, its Habitat Management & Protection, Eco Development, Staff Training and Veterinary Healthcare. Indian Oil is the first corporate which has come forward to support the "Project Cheetah" under CSR. Under this project, a source population of 8-10 Cheetahs will be flown in from Namibia and South Africa and will be introduced at Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh. It is a national project involving NTCA, Government of India and Government of Madhya Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IOCL + NTCA = an MoU for transcontinental relocation of 'Cheetah' from Africa to its historical range in India
- IOCL will be contributing Rs 50.22 Crore in 4 years for the project components
- Indian Oil – the first corporate which has come forward to support the "Project Cheetah" under CSR
- 8-10 Cheetahs will be at Kuno National Park (Madhya Pradesh) – from Namibia and South Africa
- HQs of IOCL – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shrikant Madhav Vaidya | Founded in – 1959
- HQs of NTCA – New Delhi | Chairperson – Bhupender Yadav

**48.** On August 3, Larsen & Toubro signed an MoU with the Gujarat government to set up an "IT & IT-enabled Services (IT-ITeS) Park" in Vadodara district at an investment of ₹7,000 Crore. The company will invest ₹7,000 Crore over a period of 5 years to develop this IT-ITeS Park in the district. The park would create nearly 10,000 direct and indirect employment opportunities during the next 5 years. The new IT/ITeS policy aims to increase Gujarat's IT-ITeS exports from the current ₹3,000 Crore annually to ₹25,000 Crore by 2027. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- L&T + Gujarat = an MoU to set up an 'IT-ITeS Park' in Vadodara at an investment of ₹7,000 Crore
- HQs of L&T – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO & MD – S. N. Subrahmanyam
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

**49.** On August 3, the Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) signed an MoU with the Bangladesh Roads & Highways Department in Dhaka for emergency ferrying of petroleum products to the Northeastern states of India through Bangladesh's territory. The MoU was signed in Dhaka as an interim arrangement to facilitate urgent ferrying of petroleum products after damage to Railway Lines and Highways due to rains or any other Natural Calamity. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IOCL + Bangladesh Roads & Highways Department = an MoU for emergency ferrying of petroleum products to NE states
- HQs of IOCL – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shrikant Madhav Vaidya | Founded in – 1959
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

**50.** On August 3, the National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD) and Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL) signed an MoU for developing Entrepreneurial Skills among the youth and identifying other aspects for mutual collaboration. The alliance will further enhance employment generation and create sustainable livelihood opportunities. HUL contributed Rs 63 lakh to NIESBUD to support the "Skill Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP)" Project, which aims at strengthening the Entrepreneurship Ecosystem. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NIESBUD + HUL = an MoU for developing Entrepreneurial Skills among the youth
- Location of NIESBUD – Noida, Uttar Pradesh
- HQs of HUL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Sanjiv Mehta | Chairman – Nitin Paranjpe





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