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(PDF in English)



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### National & States Affairs

**101.** On August 8, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar, laid the foundation stone of the "Indo-Israel Center of Excellence for Vegetables" in Chandauli, Uttar Pradesh. The technology for the Center is provided by Israeli experts under the India-Israel Action Plan (IIAP) with funds for building infrastructure for demonstration purposes from MIDH. By using the latest methods of farming, farmers will be able to get better yield and also export vegetables. {Read more}

**Key Points:** 

- Narendra Singh Tomar laid the foundation stone of "Indo-Israel Center of Excellence for Vegetables" in Chandauli, UP
- Israel Jerusalem Israeli Shekel | President Isaac Herzog | PM Yair Lapid

**102.** On August 5, the Uttarakhand government has decided to develop one Sanskrit-speaking village in each of its 13 districts. Uttarakhand is the first state in the country to launch an initiative on this scale to promote Sanskrit. Karnataka's Mattur is the only Sanskrit-speaking village in India. Sanskrit is the second official language of Uttarakhand. {Read more} Key Points:

- Uttarakhand decided to develop one Sanskrit-speaking village in each of its 13 districts (first state to do so)
- Mattur (Karnataka) the only Sanskrit-speaking village in India
- Uttarakhand: Capital Dehradun & Gairsain | CM Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh

**103.** In August 2022, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated "Kerala Savari", the country's first online taxi service owned by a state government. Kerala Savari ensures fair and decent service to passengers and fair remuneration to auto taxi workers. This service is started by the Motor Workers Welfare Board under the leadership of the Labour Department. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated "Kerala Savari", India's first online taxi service owned by a state government
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan

104. On August 6, the National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) launched a nationwide campaign called "Har Ghar Digital, Har Jeevan Digital". Under this, NIXI offered ".IN" and ".भारत" domains registration at Rs 75 for one year. This campaign offer was available from August 5 to August 20, 2022. The objective of this initiative is to encourage the use of ".IN" domain and ".भारत" domain names and the spread of local language content on the Internet. About 3 million people within India and outside India are using ".IN" & ".भारत" domain for promotion of their business and personal digital identity. Moreover, ".IN" is said to be the fastest-growing domain in Asia-Pacific. NIXI is a not for profit organisation under Section 8 of the Companies Act 2013. NIXI has 3 business verticals - Indian domains, Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) & Indian Registry for Internet Names and Numbers (IRINN). {Read more}

- NIXI launched a nationwide campaign called "Har Ghar Digital, Har Jeevan Digital"
- Under this, NIXI offered ".IN" and ".भारत" domains registration at Rs 75 for one year
- NIXI has 3 business verticals: Indian domain, IXPs & IRINN
- HQs of NIXI New Delhi | Chairman Alkesh Kumar Sharma | CEO Anil Kumar Jain (functions under MeitY)



**105.** On August 8, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched "Radio Jaighosh" to mark the anniversary of Kakori Train Action as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations. The state's Department of Culture is launching the community radio channel to promote folk art, performing art, regional delicacies of Uttar Pradesh and gallantry award winners. Radio Jaighosh will be available at 107.8 MHz. {Read more} **Key Points:** 

- Uttar Pradesh launched "Radio Jaighosh" to mark the anniversary of Kakori Train Action (available at 107.8 MHz)
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel

**106.** In August 2022, the Central government launched a common facility named "Ration Mitr", to register names in ration cards on a pilot basis for 11 States and Union Territories. The software developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC), and can be used to enroll people of any State in ration cards from anywhere in India. The scheme was to be extended to other States by the end of August. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Central Govt launched a common facility named as "Ration Mitr" to register names in ration cards (developed by NIC)
- HQs of NIC New Delhi | Director General Rajesh Gera | works under MeitY | Established in 1976

**107.** On August 9, Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah launched the onboarding of cooperatives on the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) portal. The move will allow cooperatives to procure through the GeM portal like other government buyers - i.e. Central & state ministries, departments, public sector enterprises, autonomous institutions and local bodies. Till now only government buyers could procure through the GeM portal, and private sector buyers were not allowed to do so. Amit Shah also appealed to the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) to expand marketing of cooperatives. {Read more}

**Key Points:** 

- Amit Shah launched the onboarding of cooperatives on the 'Government e-Marketplace (GeM) portal'
- Location of NCUI New Delhi

**108.** On August 10, Microsoft has become the first big tech company to join the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), a government-backed project which is aimed at enabling small merchants across India to access processes and technologies that are typically deployed by large e-commerce platforms such as Amazon and Flipkart. Microsoft intends to introduce social e-commerce group buying experience in the Indian market, which would include a shopping app for Indian consumers. Axis Bank, HDFC Bank, Airtel, Paytm & Reliance-backed Dunzo have already initiated integration with the ONDC. While Kotak, PhonePe, Zoho and Snapdeal are in the advanced stage of development. {Read more} **Key Points:** 

- Microsoft became the first big tech company to join the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)
- Microsoft intends to introduce social e-commerce group buying experience in the Indian market
- HQs of Microsoft Washington, US | Chairman & CEO Satya Nadella | Founded in 1975

**109.** On August 10, Delhi's Lt. Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena laid the foundation stone of "Baansera", the city's first multipurpose bamboo-themed park. More than 25,000 special varieties of bamboo saplings, brought from Assam, will be planted. Planting bamboo on a large scale will help address the city's problem of air pollution significantly as Bamboo produces about 30% more oxygen. {Read more}

- Vinai Kumar Saxena laid the foundation stone of "Baansera", New Delhi's first multi-purpose bamboo-themed park
- Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena | Chief Secretary Naresh Kumar



### **International Affairs**

**110.** On August 8, India formally commenced cooperation with the Bahrain-based multilateral partnership, 'Combined Maritime Forces (CMF)'. At the 'India-US 2+2' in April 2022, India had announced to join the CMF as an Associate Partner. The 34 nation grouping CMF is a multi-national naval partnership commanded by a U.S. Navy Vice Admiral, to promote security, stability and prosperity across approximately 3.2 million square miles of international waters. It is comprised of three task forces: CTF 150, CTF 151 and CTF 152. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- India formally commenced cooperation with the 'Combined Maritime Forces (CMF)'
- Location of CMF Manama, Bahrain | Commanded by U.S. Navy Vice Admiral | Members 34 countries

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

**111.** On August 8, Intellecap and Transform Rural India Foundation (TRIF) launched a 'National Carbon Finance Platform' to encourage more than 1 million Indian smallholder farmers in leveraging Climate/Carbon Finance for Sustainable Agroforestry, Climate Smart Agriculture and other activities that can result in Carbon sequestration and mitigation. The newly launched platform will play a key role in empowering smallholder farmers by generating awareness on different types of carbon projects (e.g., Agroforestry, Clean Cooking, Waste Management etc.) and their benefits. The global voluntary carbon market is expected to be worth \$200 billion by 2050. {Read more}

**Key Points:** 

- Intellecap + TRIF (New Delhi) = launched a 'National Carbon Finance Platform' for Indian smallholder farmers
- Global Voluntary Carbon Market is expected to be worth \$200 billion by 2050
- HQs of Intellecap Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Vikas Bali UESTION BANK

**112.** On August 4, American Express launched a cross-border payments platform for Small to Medium-sized Businesses (SMBs) called "Global Pay". It will act as a digital solution that will let U.S. businesses make secure domestic and international B2B payments. Global Pay is now open to eligible American Express Small Business Card Members in the U.S. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- American Express launched a cross-border payments platform called "Global Pay" for SMBs
- HQs of American Express New York, US | CEO Stephen Squeri

**113.** On August 6, Indian Bank signed an MoU with Andhra Pradesh's SRM University to lend up to 50 Crore for Start-ups incubated at Hatchlab Research Centre of SRM University, for their working capital requirements or purchase of machinery and equipment. Indian Bank has collaborated with Hatchlab Research Centre, a Technology Business Incubator of SRM University, to launch "IND Spring Board", an initiative for financing start-ups and MSMEs. {Read more} **Key Points:** 

- Indian Bank + SRM University (Andhra Pradesh) = an MoU to lend up to 50 Cr for Start-ups incubated at SRM Hatchlab
- Indian Bank + HRC = collaborated to launch "IND Spring Board" for financing start-ups and MSMEs
- HQs of Indian Bank Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO Shanti Lal Jain | Tagline "Your Own Bank"
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital Amravati | CM YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan



**114.** On August 8, HDFC Bank raised up to \$300 million in Non-Resident External (NRE) deposits, offering up to 50 basis points more than the prevailing rates. A basis point is 0.01%. The Middle East led the list of new NRI depositors. For NRE deposits, currency conversion risks at maturity must be borne by depositors. The deposit plan proposed to pay 6.8% annually. For 12-15-month maturities, HDFC Bank offered 5.75-6.25% to domestic savers for deposit amounts between Rs 2 Cr and less than Rs 5 Cr at the time of international offering. {Read more} **Key Points:** 

- HDFC Bank raised up to \$300 million in NRE deposits (offering up to 50 basis points more than the prevailing rates)
- Middle East led the list of new NRI depositors | NRE Non-Resident External
- HDFC Bank offered 5.75-6.25% to domestic savers for deposit amounts between Rs 2 Cr to Rs 5 Cr
- HQs of HDFC Bank Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline "We understand your World"

**115.** On August 9, Axis Bank, the third largest private sector bank in India, became the first Indian bank to launch "Axis Receivables Suite (ARS)", an innovative Cash Management proposition that simplifies Receivables reconciliation, accelerates cash flow, enhances the client experience and reduces the cost of doing business. Using ARS, Axis Bank clients can customize and automate fully what has traditionally been a very time-consuming, costly, manual and error-prone activity. {Read more} Key Points:

- Axis Bank the first Indian bank to launch "Axis Receivables Suite (ARS)", an innovative Cash Management proposition
- HQs of Axis Bank Mumbai | MD & CEO Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline "Badhti ka Naam Zindagi"

**116.** On August 8, IDFC FIRST Bank and LetsVenture, India's leading early-stage platform for investors and founders, announced a partnership to explore synergies and support the startup ecosystem by offering curated products and solutions to startups, founders and investors. An MoU for this was signed between IDFC FIRST Bank and LetsVenture Technologies at LetsVenture's flagship event, "LetsIgnite", for startups and founders in Bengaluru. {Read more}

- IDFC FIRST Bank + LetsVenture = partnership to explore synergies and support the startup ecosystem
- "LetsIgnite", LetsVenture's flagship event for startups & founders held in Bengaluru, Karnataka
- HQs of IDFC First Bank Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO V. Vaidyanathan | Established in 2018
- HQs of LetsVenture Technologies Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO Shanti Mohan

**117.** On August 9, the RBI issued a circular prescribing norms for Small Finance Banks (SFBs) looking to deal in Forex. As per the RBI's norms, the SFBs which have completed 2 years of operations in Authorized Dealer (AD) Category-II and have a minimum net worth of Rs 500 Crore can deal in foreign exchange. Other criteria for entering the Forex business include profit in the preceding 2 years, net NPAs not being more than 6% in the previous 4 quarters and its CRAR should not be less than 15%. {Read more}

**Key Points:** 

- RBI issued norms for Small Finance Banks (SFBs) looking to deal in Forex
- Criteria:
  - 2 years of operations in Authorized Dealer (AD) Category-II
  - Minimum Net worth of Rs 500 Cr
  - Profit in the preceding 2 years
  - Net NPAs not being more than 6% in the previous 4 quarters
  - CRAR should not be less than 15%
- HQs of RBI Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935



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### **Defence Affairs**

**118.** On August 5, India offered to sell 18 light-combat aircraft (LCA) "Tejas" to Malaysia. In 2021, the government gave a \$6 billion contract to state-owned Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd for 83 of the locally produced Tejas jets for delivery starting around 2023. {Read more}

Key Points:

- India offered to sell 18 light-combat aircraft (LCA) "Tejas" to Malaysia
- HAL is producing 83 LCA "Tejas" (a \$6 billion contract)
- HQs of HAL Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO Amitabh Bhatt | Chairma & MD R. Madhavan
- Malaysia Kuala Lumpur Ringgit | PM Ismail Sabri Yaakob | King Al-Sultan Abdullah

**119.** On August 8, Army Design Bureau (ADB) signed an MoU with Drone Federation of India (DFI) to develop high-impact drones for Indian soldiers. DFI is an industry body, which has Asteria Aerospace, Quidich Innovation Labs, AutoMicroUAS, Aarav Unmanned Systems, and Indrones as its members. As a part of their collaboration, DFI and ADB launched an event titled "Indian Army's Him-Drone-a-thon", under which proposals were invited for the development of drone-based solutions for supporting Indian Army operations in the Himalayan terrains. {Read more} **Key Points:** 

- Army Design Bureau + DFI (New Delhi) = an MoU to develop high-impact drones for Indian Soldiers
- HQs of Indian Army New Delhi | Chief Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande | Vice Chief Lt. General Baggavalli Somashekar Raj



**120.** On August 7, Kerala's Eldhose Paul won a Gold medal in men's triple jump at the "Commonwealth Games 2022" with his best effort of 17.03m. Paul was followed by fellow Kerala athlete Abdulla Aboobacker (17.02m) who won Silver medal. This is the first time two athletes from India have got podium finishes. Jah-Nhal Perinchief of Bermuda won the Bronze with his best jump of 16.92m. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Eldhose Paul (Kerala) won a Gold medal in men's triple jump at the "Commonwealth Games 2022"
- Silver Abdulla Aboobacker (Kerala) | Bronze Jah-Nhal Perinchief (Bermuda, UK)

**121.** On August 8, Australia's Nick Kyrgios made tennis history as he became the first person to win the "Citi Open 2022" men's singles and doubles titles in the same year. Nick defeated Japan's Yoshihito Nishioka in men's singles, and he then teamed up with American Jack Sock to win men's doubles title. While in women's singles, Russia's Liudmila Samsonova defeated Estonia's Kaia Kanepi. {Read more}

- 'Citi Open 2022' held in Washington, D.C., US
- Nick Kyrgios (Australia) won Men's Singles title (defeating Yoshihito Nishioka)
- Liudmila Samsonova (Russia) won Women's Singles title (defeating Kaia Kanepi)



**122.** On August 7, the 16-year old & Chennai-based Chess prodigy, V. Pranav became India's 75<sup>th</sup> Grandmaster by winning the "Limpedea Open" in Baia Mare, Romania to secure his third and final GM norm and attain the Grandmaster title. Pranav is the 27<sup>th</sup> Grandmaster from Tamil Nadu. Rahul Srivatshav P. of Telangana has become India's 74<sup>th</sup> Grandmaster in June 2022. To become a GM, a player has to secure 3 GM norms and cross the live rating of 2500 Elo points. {Read more} **Key Points:** 

- V. Pranav (Tamil Nadu) became India's 75<sup>th</sup> Grandmaster during the "Limpedea Open" in Romania
- A player has to secure 3 GM norms & cross the live rating of 2500 Elo points to become a GM

**123.** On August 9, Uzbekistan won the Gold medal while Armenia and India (team-2) won the Silver and the Bronze, respectively, in the Open section of the 44<sup>th</sup> "Chess Olympiad" held in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. In the women's section, Ukraine won the Gold, Georgia won the Silver, while India (team-1) won Bronze. {Read more}

- Key Points:
- 44<sup>th</sup> "Chess Olympiad" held in Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- Open section: Gold Uzbekistan, Silver Armenia, Bronze India (team-2)
- Women's section: Gold Ukraine, Silver Georgia, Bronze India (team-2)

#### Science & Technology

**124.** On August 9, the Iranian remote sensing satellite, called "Khayyam" was launched by a Russian "Soyuz-2.1b" rocket from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. The Iranian satellite is designed for scientific research including radiation and environmental monitoring for agricultural purposes. {Read more} Key Points:

- Russia launched Iranian satellite "Khayyam" into space aboard its "Soyuz-2.1b" rocket from Baikonur Cosmodrome
- Russia Moscow Russian Ruble | PM Mikhail Mishustin | President Vladimir Putin
- Iran Tehran Rial | President Ebrahim Raisi | Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei

**125.** On August 6, a study carried out by researchers from Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, undertook to characterise urbanisation in the region and also to understand where the Rock Agama reside in and around Bengaluru specifically. The "Peninsular Rock Agama" (Psammophilus dorsalis) is a type of garden lizard which has strong presence in southern India. The study was published in 'Frontiers in Conservation Science' journal. {Read more} **Key Points:** 

- IISc, Bengaluru undertook a study to characterise urbanization & understand where the Rock Agama reside
- "Peninsular Rock Agama" (Psammophilus dorsalis) a type of garden lizard





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इस खेल में कोई वित्तीय जोखिम नहीं है और इसकी आदत लग जाए तो अच्छा है।

### **Appointments & Resignations**

**126.** On August 7, Indian first ever Grandmaster Viswanathan Anand was elected as Deputy President of International Chess Federation (FIDE), the sport's world governing body, while incumbent President Arkady Dvorkovich of Russia was re-elected for a second term. Anand was part of Dvorkovich's team. He won 5 world titles with the last being the world rapid title in 2017. The elections to the world chess body were held during the FIDE Congress which was conducted in Chennai alongside the 44<sup>th</sup> Chess Olympiad. Moreover, the capital city of Hungary will be hosting the 45<sup>th</sup> Chess Olympiad in 2024. While Uzbekistan will host the 46<sup>th</sup> Chess Olympiad in 2026. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Viswanathan Anand elected as Deputy President of International Chess Federation (FIDE)
- Arkady Dvorkovich re-elected as President of FIDE for a second term
- 44<sup>th</sup> Chess Olympiad held in Mamallapuram, Chennai, Tamil Nadu | 45<sup>th</sup> Chess Olympiad in 2024 in Hungary
- 46<sup>th</sup> Chess Olympiad in 2026 in Uzbekistan
- HQs of FIDE Lausanne, Switzerland | President Arkady Dvorkovich | Founded on July 20, 1924

127. On August 9, the 62-year-old Gustavo Petro sworn in as Colombia's first-ever leftist President. Gustavo succeeds Ivan Duque Marquez. Gustavo is associated with Humane Colombia political party. Colombian Presidents serve only one term. Bogota & Peso are the capital & official currency of Colombia. {Read more}
Key Points:

- Gustavo Petro sworn in as the first leftist President of Colombia (succeeding Ivan Duque)
- Colombia Bogota Peso | President Gustavo Petro

**128.** In August 2022, James Marape was sworn in as Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea for a second term. Marape, leader of the Pangu Party that clinched 36 seats, was elected unopposed. Marape first became prime minister in 2019. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- James Marape sworn in as Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea for a second term
- Papua New Guinea Port Moresby Kina | PM James Marape

**129.** On August 9, Nitish Kumar met the Governor Phagu Chauhan and tendered his resignation as the Chief Minister of the NDA government in Bihar. Kumar is expected to form a new government, armed with the support of the entire opposition, including the RJD and the Left parties. {Read more}

- Nitish Kumar tendered his resignation as the Chief Minister of the NDA government in Bihar
- Bihar: Capital Patna | CM Nitish Kumar | Governor Phagu Chauhan



### **Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes**

**130.** On August 6, the 87-year-old Tibetan spiritual leader Dalai Lama (14<sup>th</sup>) was honoured with the "dPal rNgam Duston" award, the highest civilian honour of Ladakh, for his immense contribution to humanity, especially towards the union territory of Ladakh. The sixth award was conferred by Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Leh. {Read more}

**Key Points:** 

- Dalai Lama (14<sup>th</sup>) honoured with the "dPal rNgam Duston" award, the highest civilian honour of Ladakh
- Ladakh: Capital Leh | Lt. Governor R. K. Mathur

**131.** On August 8, 18-year old Aarya Walvekar, an Indian American teenager from Virginia, was crowned "Miss India USA 2022" at the Annual Beauty Pageant held in New Jersey, US. Walvekar represented USA's capital Washington DC at the contest which saw 74 contestants representing 30 states for three different pageants - Miss India USA, Mrs. India USA and Miss Teen India USA. Saumya Sharma and Sanjana Chekuru were declared first and second runner-ups, respectively. While Akshi Jain won the title of Mrs. India USA, Tanvi Grover was crowned Miss Teen India USA. {Read more} Key Points:

- Aarya Walvekar (Indian American) crowned "Miss India USA 2022" at the Annual Beauty Pageant held in New Jersey
- Akshi Jain crowned "Mrs. India USA 2022" | Tanvi Grover crowned "Miss Teen India USA 2022"

**132.** On August 8, Ramadhar Singh, Professor at Amrut Mody School of Management - Ahmedabad University, Gujarat, has been inducted to the "Heritage Wall of Fame" of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) in the United States, making him the only social psychologist from India to receive the honour. SPSP, established in 1974, is the world's largest organisation of Personality and Social Psychologists. {Read more}

- Ramadhar Singh first Indian psychologist to be inducted to the "Heritage Wall of Fame" of the SPSP, the US
- Ramadhar Singh Professor at Amrut Mody School of Management Ahmedabad University, Gujarat

### **Schemes & Initiatives**

**133.** On August 7, Jammu & Kashmir launched an innovative Market Linkage scheme - "PARVAZ" for uplifting the economic conditions of the farmers across the Union Territory. The scheme aims to create market linkage support for the shipment of Agriculture and Horticulture perishables being harvested in J & K through Air Cargo. Under the scheme, 25% subsidy on freight charges is given for carrying perishable fruits harvested in J & K for shipment through Air Cargo. {Read more} **Key Points:** 

- J & K launched an innovative Market Linkage scheme "PARVAZ" for uplifting the economic conditions of the farmers
- J & K: Capital Srinagar | Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha



**134.** On August 7, the National Handlooms Day, Telangana government launched "Nethanna Ku Bima" Scheme to extend insurance coverage to handloom and powerloom weavers. Telangana is the first State in India to extend insurance coverage to weavers. Under the scheme, Rs 5 lakh insurance would be offered, if any weaver dies due to any ailment or any untoward incident. The insurance coverage would be extended to weavers in the age group of 18 to 59 years. The State government has already issued orders to extend insurance coverage to weavers aged under 60 years under the Nethanna Ku Bima Scheme on par with farmers Rythu Bima Insurance Scheme. In the 2022-23 financial year, the State Government has allocated Rs 55.12 Crore to the handloom sector. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Telangana launched "Nethanna Ku Bima" Scheme, India's first insurance cover to weavers
- Under the scheme, Rs 5 lakh insurance would be offered in the age group of 18 to 59 years
- Telangana: Capital Hyderabad | CM K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan

**135.** On August 8, the Andhra Pradesh government launched 'Family Doctor' project or 'Family Physicians' project in government hospitals from August 15. As per the guidelines framed by the State government, Primary Health Centres (PHCs) will work in synergy with the village secretariats and the doctors working at PHCs will act as family doctors. {Read more} Key Points:

- Andhra Pradesh launched 'Family Doctor' project or 'Family Physicians' project at Primary Health Centres (PHCs)
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital Amravati | CM YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan

**136.** On August 8, Delhi Lieutenant Governor (L-G) Vinai Kumar Saxena launched the "One Road, One Week" initiative and directed the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) to revamp 15 key roads falling under its jurisdiction on a priority basis. Under the initiative, the civic agency will choose one road every week and undertake repairs and maintenance along with making footpaths, pavements and central verges pedestrian-and commuter-friendly. {Read more}

- Delhi launched the "One Road, One Week" initiative to revamp 15 key roads
- Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena | Chief Secretary Naresh Kumar

**137.** On August 9, 2022, the central government's "One Nation, One Ration Card (ONORC)" scheme has completed 3 years. The scheme has now been implemented all over the country with Assam being the latest state to join the initiative in June 2022. The ONORC was launched as a pilot project on August 9, 2019 in four states - Gujarat, Maharashtra, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. The technology-driven ONORC scheme is being implemented under the 'National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013'. Under the 'NFSA, 2013', the Centre is providing 5 kg of food grains per person every month to nearly 80 Crore eligible beneficiaries at a highly subsidised rate of Rs 2-3 per kilogram. Ration Card is a 10-digit number wherein the first two digits denote the state code. {Read more}

- Central Government's "One Nation, One Ration Card" scheme has completed 3 years on August 9, 2022
- Last state to join the ONORC Assam | ONORC was launched in 2019 as a pilot project in 4 states
- ONORC scheme is being implemented under 'National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013'
- 5 kg of food grains per person every month is provided under the scheme (additional 5 kg to the poor)
- Ration Card a 10 digit number (first two digits denote the state code)

### **Important Days & Dates**

**138.** On August 10, the occasion of World Biofuel Day, PM Narendra Modi dedicated the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation (2G) Ethanol Plant in Panipat, Haryana to the nation. The 2G Ethanol Plant has been built at an estimated cost of over Rs 900 Crore by Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL). Based on state-of-the-art indigenous technology, the project will turn a new chapter in India's waste-to-wealth endeavours by utilising about 2 lakh tonnes of rice straw (parali) annually to generate around 3 Crore litres of Ethanol annually. World Biofuel Day was first observed by the Ministry of Petroleum and Gas in 2015. The day is observed in honour of Sir Rudolf Diesel - the inventor of the diesel engine. The theme of World Biofuel Day for the year 2022 hasn't been announced yet. The theme for the previous year was "Promotion of Biofuels for a Better Environment". {Read more} Key Points:

- August 10 World Biofuel Day (since 2015)
- This day is observed in honour of "Sir Rudolf Diesel", the inventor of the Diesel Engine
- Narendra Modi dedicated the 2G Ethanol Plant in Panipat, Haryana built by IOCL (Cost Rs 900 Cr)

**139.** On August 9, the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples is marked every year. This special day is marked to protect the rights of the indigenous populations around the globe. In 2022, the theme of the day is "The Role of Indigenous Women in the Preservation and Transmission of Traditional Knowledge". {Read more} Key Points:

- August 9 International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples
- Theme "The Role of Indigenous Women in the Preservation and Transmission of Traditional Knowledge"

**140.** On August 8, the ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, organised a panel discussion to celebrate the 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASEAN. The panel discussion was themed as "75 years of India and 55 years of ASEAN: Partners in Progress". While the theme of this year's ASEAN Day is "Stronger Together". The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established on 8 August, 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand, with the signing of the 'ASEAN Declaration' (Bangkok Declaration) by the Founding Fathers of ASEAN which are - Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. Today, there are 10 Member States of ASEAN. {Read more} Key Points:

- August 8, 2022 ASEAN Day (55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASEAN)
- 2022's Theme of the Day "Stronger Together"
- A panel discussion was organised to celebrate the 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASEAN in New Delhi
- Theme of the panel discussion "75 years of India and 55 years of ASEAN: Partners in Progress"
- Chairmanship of ASEAN 2022 Cambodia | Secretariat of ASEAN Jakarta, Indonesia | Members 10

**141.** "World Lion Day" is celebrated on August 10 of every year to raise awareness about lions and to mobilise support for their protection and conservation. The day was first celebrated in 2013. As per the last survey carried out in 2020, India boasted of having 674 Asiatic Lions, found in only one place - the Gir National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary in Gujarat and its surrounding areas. The numbers have risen from 523 to 674 in a period of 5 years, an increase rate of 28.87%, the highest so far. The Lion Census is conducted every 5 years in India. India is home to the Asiatic Lion. {Read more}



#### **Key Points:**

- August 10 "World Lion Day" (since 2013)
- India is home to Asiatic Lion (674 as per 'Lion Census 2020') | The Lion Census is conducted every 5 years in India
- Gir National Park located in Gujarat

### **Books & Authors**

**142.** On August 7, the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) Director Dhriti Banerjee published a field guide book titled "Field Guide, Birds of India" dealing with 1,331 avian species found in India. This book highlights quality photographs of birds unlike other books that mainly used drawings. The authors of the book interacted with local birders and explained to them the reason that prompted them to publish this book. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Dhriti Banerjee (ZSI Director) published a book titled "Field Guide, Birds of India"
- HQs of ZSI Kolkata, West Bengal | Director Dhriti Banerjee | Founded on July 1, 1916

**143.** On August 7, Union Minister Jitendra Singh launched a 100-page poetry book titled "Rusty Skies and Golden Winds", written by 11-year-old Sannidhya Sharma from Jammu & Kashmir. The book is an anthology of 40 poems in which the budding author, a student of class 7, defines the nature of the world. The book is published by BlueRose Publishers. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "Rusty Skies and Golden Winds", a 100-page poetry book written by Sannidhya Sharma (J&K)
- Publisher BlueRose Publishers

### **Meetings, Conferences & Summits**

**144.** On August 8, Devusinh Chauhan, Minister of State for Communications, inaugurated the International Telecommunication Union's "Regional Standardization Forum (RSF)" for Asia and Oceania region in New Delhi. The theme of the Forum was "Regulatory and Policy aspects of Telecommunications/ICTs". The Forum was succeeded by 4-day meeting of the "ITU-T Study Group 3 Regional Group Asia and Oceania" from August 9 to 12, 2022. The event was also attended by Ms Atsuka Okuda, Director of the ITU Regional office for Asia and Pacific. {Read more} **Key Points:** 

- Devusinh Chauhan inaugurated ITU's "Regional Standardization Forum (RSF)" for Asia & Oceania region in New Delhi
- Theme "Regulatory and Policy aspects of Telecommunications/ICTs"

**145.** August 9, Ministry of Defence announced that the 12<sup>th</sup> edition of the "Defence Expo", India's flagship exhibition on Land, Naval and Homeland Security systems, will be held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat between October 18 and 22, 2022. The theme for this edition is "Path to Pride". The exhibition was planned in line with the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to achieve self-reliance in defence and achieve export of \$5 billion by 2025. {Read more}



#### **Key Points:**

- 12<sup>th</sup> edition of the "Defence Expo" held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat (in Oct 2022)
- Theme "Path to Pride"
- Prime Minister's vision to achieve self-reliance in defence & achieve export of \$5 billion by 2025

### **Ranks, Reports & Serveys**

**146.** The UN Food & Agriculture Organization's (FAO) "Food Price Index (FPI)", released on August 10, averaged 140.9 points in July 2022, 8.6% down from its previous month's level and marking the steepest monthly drop since October 2008. The FPI is a trade-weighted average of international prices of key food commodities over a base period value, taken at 100 for 2014-16. {Read more}

**Key Points:** 

- "Food Price Index (FPI)" released by FAO
- FPI averaged 140.9 points in July 2022
- HQs of FAO Rome, Italy | DG QU Dongyu | Formation 16<sup>th</sup> October, 1945

**147.** India finished at the 4<sup>th</sup> position at the "Commonwealth Games 2022" with a total of 61 medals (22 Gold, 16 Silver & 23 Bronze). Australia topped the medal tally with 178 medals, followed by England (176 medals) and Canada (92 medals). In all, Indian athletes won medals in 12 sports. Wrestling won the most medals for India in Birmingham. Ace shuttler PV Sindhu clinched India's first gold medal in badminton at the Commonwealth Games 2022 and the first women's singles CWG gold medal of her career. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- India finished at 4<sup>th</sup> position at "Commonwealth Games 2022" with 61 medals (22 Gold, 16 Silver & 23 Bronze)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Australia (178), 2<sup>nd</sup> England (176), 3<sup>rd</sup> Canada (92)
- Wrestling won the most medals for India in 'Commonwealth Games 2022' (Indian athletes won medals in 12 sports)

#### **Ordinance, Bills & Acts**

**148.** On August 5, two Bills of the "Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2022" were introduced in the Lok Sabha. Minister of State for Corporate Affairs, Rao Inderjit Singh, introduced the "Competition (Amendment) Bill" to change the structure of the Competition Commission of India (CCI). The other Bill, the "New Delhi International Arbitration Centre (Amendment) Bill", was introduced by Law Minister Kiren Rijiju to change its name to "India International Arbitration Centre". Among other amendments, the government has proposed the appointment of the Director General by the CCI with the prior approval of the Central government and issuance of guidelines with respect to penalties to be imposed by the CCI. {Read more} Key Points:

- Two Bills of the "Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2022" were introduced in the Lok Sabha:
- Rao Inderjit Singh introduced the "Competition (Amendment) Bill" to change the structure of the CCI
- Kiren Rijiju introduced the "New Delhi International Arbitration Centre (Amendment) Bill" to change its name to "India International Arbitration Centre"



**149.** The "Energy Conservation Amendment Bill 2022" was introduced in the Lok Sabha August 3, 2022 and passed in the Lok Sabha (House of the People) or the Lower House on August 8. The bill brings in a list of amendments to the "Energy Conservation Act, 2001" in order to promote energy efficiency and conservation. The amendment bill also aims to reduce fossil fuel-based energy consumption and resultant carbon emissions to the atmosphere. {Read more} **Key Points:** 

• Lok Sabha – passed a Bill to amend the "Energy Conservation Act, 2001" to promote energy efficiency and conservation

**150.** On August 10, Chhattisgarh government notified regarding implementation of "PESA (Panchayat Extension to Schedule Areas) Rule, 2022". The 'Panchayats Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act, 1996', gives special powers to the Gram Sabhas in Scheduled Areas especially for the management of natural resources. According to the new rules, 50% of the members of the Gram Sabha will be from tribal communities and 25% of this 50% would be the female members. {Read more}

- Chhattisgarh notified regarding implementation of "PESA (Panchayat Extension to Schedule Areas) Rule, 2022"
- 'PESA Act' was originally passed in 1996
- Chhattisgarh: Capital Raipur | CM Bhupesh Baghel | Governor Anusuiya Uikey





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