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# A Crucial Piece of Advice!

We find several students discussing the issue of lack of time and digging out content regarding how to use every second of your time efficiently. Some of you must be thinking, we have 86400 seconds each day, so why should we worry about just a single one? **Does a single second hold that much importance? YES!** When it comes to competition, each & every second is very crucial.

The first question that might come to your mind is “Is that even possible to use each second of your time effectively?” or “Do I even have that much spare time?” Let's help you by looking over the top time drainers of your daily routine:

- On an average, a person spends 67 minutes per day eating and drinking beverages while watching their favorite TV series.
- Travelling is one of the most overlooked time drainers. CNBC claims that the average commute is a little over 50 minutes per day.
- 44% of people waste tons of time just sitting in the traffic, while others keep scrolling through their feeds.
- Digital Information World suggests that people spend 2 hours and 22 minutes on social media.
- More often unproductive chats on WhatsApp are the major time drainers where you waste your time on without even knowing how much time is spent.

Adding up all these, you spend nearly **4 hours** daily or 1/6th of your day doing a whole lot of **NOTHING!** Over the course of a week that amounts to over **28 hours** of wasted time, and more than **1460 hours** or **52,560,000 seconds** annually!! Scary! Isn't it?

But what if you could effectively utilize this time to validate the knowledge you just gained during your study sessions? How about competing with your friend in a live Current Affairs battle instead of just sitting and listening to the traffic horns? How about dominating the English language leaderboard instead of searching for a filter on Snapchat?

Time and tide wait for none! Team Smartkeeda perceived the importance of time and practice in your test preparation journey. We understood how each second can make a huge difference to your career. Therefore, we were determined to build an application that has the competence to save each second of your preparation time making you 100% productive. We worked diligently for 3-4 years to build an application with the single aim of making each second of your test preparation time, efficient.

Folks! We feel thrilled to present you the **Qudoo App**, India's first Education-Gaming-Social platform (EGS) for all major competitive Exams, which has the unique capability of making your breaks extremely productive and refilling.

If you use the **Qudoo App** for 11-21 days during your preparation, in between your breaks, like while travelling, having meals, or instead of using any other social media app, within a few days, you'll feel like you've developed a mechanism inside your head that has the capability to answer the questions within a fraction of seconds. Timer-based points in Qudoo quizzes will create a cognitive reserve inside your brain that will automatically let you develop strategies to solve the questions within seconds to beat the opponent.

We, team **Smartkeeda**, promise that with the effective use of the Qudoo app, you will be able to see a drastic change in your performance at exams including your **speed, accuracy, and percentile** within a couple of weeks with minimum effort. “KYUKI MAA-BAAP KI FIKRA KO FAKRA ME BADALNA HAI”, so every second counts!!





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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)

**13.** On August 7, Billionaire Rakesh Jhunjhunwala's Akasa Air made its debut flight operating from Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport to Ahmedabad's Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport. The flight of India's newest airline was inaugurated by Union Minister for Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya M. Scindia. The airline code of Akasa Air is QP. Vinay Dube is the current CEO of Akasa Air. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jyotiraditya M. Scindia inaugurated the first flight of Akasa Air – that took off from Mumbai to Ahmedabad
- HQs of Akasa Air – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Vinay Dube | Founded in – December 2021

**14.** On July 31, Tamil Nadu Forest Department established a first of its kind Urban Animal Rescue Centre located inside the Guindy National Park, helping injured and rescued wildlife. The Tamil Nadu government also announced that a remodel of the Guindy National Park would be carried out at a cost of ₹20 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu Forest Dept. established a first of its kind 'Urban Animal Rescue Centre' – in Guindy National Park
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

**15.** The Uttarakhand tourism department is working on a plan to develop a 'Modi circuit' at Corbett Tiger Reserve, covering the places visited by PM Narendra Modi while shooting for a television programme in 2019. PM Modi had undertaken a slew of adventure activities while shooting for an episode of 'Man vs Wild', hosted by Bear Grylls on Discovery channel. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttarakhand – plans to develop a 'Modi circuit' at Corbett Tiger Reserve
- In this area, PM Modi undertook a slew of adventure activities while shooting for an episode of 'Man vs Wild'
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh

**16.** On August 5, a Himalayan Spice Garden, the first of its kind in the entire Himalayan region & India, was inaugurated at Soni in Ranikhet by noted historian Shekhar Pathak. The garden has been developed by the research wing of the Uttarakhand Forest Department with funding from the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in 2 years. It presently houses more than 30 different spices out of which there are 8 spices from the Allium family (onion) of the Himalayan region. Shekhar Pathak's recent books include "The Chipko Movement: A People's History" based on his Hindi book "Hari Bhari Ummeed". The Indian Himalayan Region is spread across 13 Indian States/Union Territories (namely Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, Assam and West Bengal), stretching across 2500 km. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- 'Himalayan Spice Garden' (first of its kind in entire Himalayan region & India) – inaugurated in Ranikhet, Uttarakhand
- "The Chipko Movement: A People's History" – written by Shekhar Pathak
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh

**17.** On August 5, Ministry of Culture launched "Badhe Chalo" movement to create a youth centric activation for greater outreach of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'. 'Badhe Chalo' features Flash Dances across 75 cities. Through this mass movement or 'Jan Bhagidari' initiative, the Ministry of Culture also intended to amplify and support the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' movement. Badhe Chalo was held across 10 cities every day from August 5 to 11, 2022. These events culminated with a Grand Finale on August 12, 2022 at Talkatora Stadium in New Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Culture – launched "Badhe Chalo" movement to create a youth centric activation
- Minister of Culture: G. Kishan Reddy | Constituency – Secunderabad, Telangana
- MoS in Minister of Culture: Arjun Ram Meghwal & Meenakshi Lekhi

**18.** On August 5, the Indian government has set the target to eliminate Kala-azar from the country by 2023. In a written reply in Lok Sabha, Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar said, out of 633 Kala-azar endemic blocks, 625 blocks have achieved the elimination target in 2021. The "World Health Organisation (WHO) Neglected Tropical Diseases Road Map" has the target set for Kala-azar elimination by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Govt. has set the target to eliminate Kala-azar from the country by 2023
- 'WHO Neglected Tropical Diseases Road Map' has the target set for Kala-azar elimination by 2030

**19.** On August 5, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution (MoCAFPD) launched a common registration facility called "My Ration-My Right" in 11 states & UTs on pilot basis to enable homeless people, destitutes, migrants and other eligible beneficiaries to apply for ration cards. The 'National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA)' provides a maximum coverage for about 81.35 Crore persons. At present, around 79.77 Crore persons are given highly subsidised foodgrains under the Act. By the end of August, all 36 States and UTs are expected to be covered on the platform. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoCAFPD – launched a common registration facility called "My Ration-My Right" in 11 states & UTs on pilot basis
- 'National Food Security Act, 2013' provides a maximum coverage for about 81.35 Crore persons
- Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution: Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution: Ashwini Kumar Choubey & Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti

**20.** 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

**21.** 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

**22.** 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

**23.** 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}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 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)

**24.** 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

**25.** 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

**26.** 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

**27.** 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

**28.** On August 10, Delhi’s Lt. Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena laid the foundation stone of “Baansera”, the city’s first multi-purpose 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}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 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



**29.** On August 11, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurated “UMEED Market Place” under AVSAR Scheme of Airport Authority of India (AAI) at Srinagar International Airport in Jammu & Kashmir. A similar Marketplace was also opened at Jammu Airport and both the outlets will exhibit products of all 20 districts. This initiative will support local art and artisans of Self Help Groups of J&K Rural Livelihood Mission, providing a platform to market local products directly to the customers.

[{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Manoj Sinha – inaugurated “UMEED Market Place” under AVSAR Scheme at Srinagar International Airport in J&K
- AVSAR Scheme – introduced by Airport Authority of India (AAI)
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha
- HQs of AAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Sanjeev Kumar

**30.** Rameswar Teli, Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas, announced that the Indian government has set a target to raise the share of Natural Gas in the Energy mix to 15% by 2030, from 6.3% at present. According to the data revealed by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, a total of 95.21 lakh PNG (Domestic) connections have been provided and 4531 CNG (Transport) stations have been established by the authorized entities as on 31 May, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government has set a target to raise the share of Natural Gas in the Energy mix to 15% by 2030 (from 6.3% currently)

**31.** As of August 2022, donations to political parties through Electoral Bonds (EBs) have crossed Rs 10,000 Crore mark, with parties getting another Rs 389.5 Crore through such bonds in the 21<sup>st</sup> sale of EBs conducted between July 1 and 10, according to data available from State Bank of India (SBI). As per the provisions of the EB Scheme, only the political parties registered under ‘Section 29A’ of the “Representation of the People Act, 1951” and have secured not less than 1% of the votes polled in the last general election to the Legislative Assembly, are eligible to receive electoral bonds. Electoral bonds are purchased anonymously by donors and are valid for 15 days from the date of issue. The bonds are issued by the SBI in denominations of Rs 1,000, Rs 10,000, Rs 1 lakh, Rs 10 lakh and Rs 1 Crore. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Donations to political parties through Electoral Bonds crossed Rs 10,000 Crore mark in August 2022
- Electoral Bonds (EBs) issued by the SBI in denominations of Rs 1,000, Rs 10,000, Rs 1 lakh, Rs 10 lakh & Rs 1 Cr
- EBs are valid for 15 days from the date of issue

**32.** On August 14, Union Minister Jitendra Singh launched India’s first saline water lantern named “Roshini”, which uses sea water to power the LED lamps, during a visit to SAGAR ANVESHKA, a coastal research vessel operated and used by the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jitendra Singh – launched India’s first saline water lantern named “Roshini”
- Roshini uses sea water to power the LED lamps

**33.** Chandigarh University along with the NID Foundation created a Guinness World Record for the ‘Largest Human Image of a Waving National Flag’, as part of celebrations of 75 years of India's Independence on August 15. The record was accomplished with the participation of 5,885 persons. With the ‘Har Ghar Tiranga’ campaign, the government aimed to have at least 20 Crore flags unfurled atop houses from August 13 to August 15. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Chandigarh University + NID Foundation = created a Guinness World Record for the 'Largest Human Image of a Waving National Flag'

**34.** National Intellectual Property Awareness Mission (NIPAM) has achieved target of imparting Intellectual Property (IP) awareness and basic training to 1 million students on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022, ahead of the deadline which was 15 August 2022. NIPAM, a flagship program to impart IP awareness and basic training, was launched on 8 December, 2021 as a part of "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" celebrations. The program was implemented by Intellectual Property Office, the Office of Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks (CGPDTM), Ministry of Commerce and Industry. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NIPAM – achieved target of imparting IP awareness & basic training to 1 million students on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022
- NIPAM – **National Intellectual Property Awareness Mission** | Launched on – 8 Dec, 2021

**35.** As on August 11, total of 151 Districts (in 24 States) have lifted fortified rice under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in Phase II of Rice Fortification Programme. Nearly 6.83 LMT have been distributed by the States/UTs under the Phase II which started from April 1, 2022. In 2019-20, the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution launched a centrally sponsored scheme "Fortification of Rice" for a period of 3 years with a total budget outlay of Rs 174.64 Crore. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Total of 151 Districts (in 24 States) have lifted fortified rice under TPDS in Phase II of 'Rice Fortification Programme'
- Nearly 6.83 LMT have been distributed by the States/UTs under the Phase II
- MoCAFPD – had launched a centrally sponsored scheme "Fortification of Rice" for a period of 3 years in 2019-20
- [Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution: Piyush Goyal](#) | [Constituency – Maharashtra](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution: Ashwini Kumar Choubey & Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti](#)

**36.** On August 10, the dramatic transformation of Udhna Railway Station in Surat, by noted Entrepreneur and Environmental crusader Greenman Viral Desai, has been recognised by the India Book of Records, which has named the Udhna railway station as a Green Railway Station for Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Action. It is the first not only in India but across the world to gain the coveted place in the 'India Book of Records' as the Green Railway Station. The record was set by Greenman Viral Desai in partnership with Indian Railways. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Udhna Railway Station, Surat – 1<sup>st</sup> across the world to be recognized in 'India Book of Records' as Green Railway Station
- Transformation of the Railway Station is done by = Greenman Viral Desai + Indian Railways

**37.** On the occasions of the 150th Birth Anniversary of Maharshi Aurobindo and the 75th Year of Independence, the Ministry of Culture commemorated the life and philosophy of Shri Aurobindo by conducting spiritual programmes in 75 prisons across the nation between August 12-15, 2022. The purpose of these programmes is to 'transform' the lives of prison inmates through the inculcation of the philosophy of Shri Aurobindo and by the practice of Yoga and Meditation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Culture – conducted spiritual programmes in 75 prisons across the nation on the occasions of the 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Maharshi Aurobindo & the 75<sup>th</sup> Year of Independence



**38.** The 23<sup>rd</sup> edition of the “India International Seafood Show (IISS)” will be held in Kolkata from February 15-17, 2023. The event is to be held in the city’s Biswa Bangala Mela Prangan. The Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has collaborated with the Seafood Exporters Association of India (SEAI) to organise the show. The biennial (once every two years) event in the seafood sector will provide an ideal platform for interaction between Indian exporters and overseas importers of India’s marine products. During 2021-22, India exported 13,69,264 tons of marine products worth USD 7.76 billion, recording an all-time high export by value. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 23<sup>rd</sup> “India International Seafood Show” (biennial event) – will be held in Kolkata from February 15-17, 2023
- It will be organized by = Marine Products Export Development Authority + Seafood Exporters Association of India
- India exported 13,69,264 tons of marine products worth USD 7.76 billion in 2021-22
- **West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – La. Ganesan**

**39.** On August 13, Asia’s largest Compressed Biogas (CBG) plant in Sangrur district of Punjab started commercial production. The plant with a total capacity of 33.23 tonne CBG per day was commissioned at village Bhuttal Kalan (Sangrur) in April, 2022. Besides, PEDDA (Punjab Energy Development Agency) also allocated 42 additional CBG projects of total capacity 492.58 Tonnes Per Day (TPD) based on paddy straw and other agro-residue to develop a lasting and sustainable solution to prevent stubble burning while also strengthening the rural economy. Two more plants of total capacity 14.25 tonnes CBG per day are likely to be completed in 2022-23. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Asia’s largest Compressed Biogas (CBG) plant started commercial production – in Sangrur, Punjab
- **Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Bhagwant Mann | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit**

**40.** On August 14, Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav announced that India has added 11 more wetlands to the list of Ramsar sites, that are of international importance, bringing the country’s total tally to 75 from 64. Of the 11 new sites, 4 are in Tamil Nadu (Chitrangudi Bird Sanctuary, Suchindram Theroor Wetland Complex, Vaduvur Bird Sanctuary, Kanjirankulam Bird Sanctuary), 3 in Odisha (Tampara Lake, Hirakud Reservoir, Ansupa Lake), 2 Jammu & Kashmir (Hygam Wetland Conservation Reserve, Shallbugh Wetland Conservation Reserve), and one each in Madhya Pradesh (Yashwant Sagar) and Maharashtra (Thane Creek). Currently, Tamil Nadu has the maximum number of Ramsar sites in India at 14. India in 1982 became a signatory to the 1971 Ramsar Convention. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 11 more Indian wetlands – received Ramsar recognition as Wetlands of International Importance (Now, total - 75)
- Currently, Tamil Nadu has the maximum number of Ramsar sites in India at 14 *{Dynamic data}*
- 11 new Ramsar wetland sites:
  - Chitrangudi Bird Sanctuary (TN)
  - Suchindram Theroor Wetland Complex (TN)
  - Vaduvur Bird Sanctuary (TN)
  - Kanjirankulam Bird Sanctuary (TN)
  - Tampara Lake (Odisha)
  - Hirakud Reservoir (Odisha)
  - Ansupa Lake (Odisha)
  - Hygam Wetland Conservation Reserve (Jammu & Kashmir)
  - Shallbugh Wetland Conservation Reserve (Jammu & Kashmir)
  - Yashwant Sagar (Madhya Pradesh)
  - Thane Creek (Maharashtra)



**41.** On August 16, Kerala government launched the “Lucky Bill” App to encourage consumers to upload invoices in a bid to curb tax evasion. The mobile application is designed by Digital University Kerala (DUK) & developed by the State GST department. The initiative is the first-of-its-kind to be introduced in India. Prizes worth Rs 5 Cr would be offered annually for the winners selected among buyers who upload their bills. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kerala – launched the “Lucky Bill” app to encourage consumers to upload invoices in a bid to curb tax evasion
- Mobile application is designed by – Digital University Kerala (DUK) | Developed by – State GST department
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**42.** On August 15, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann dedicated 75 ‘Aam Aadmi Clinics’ or ‘Mohalla Clinics’ to the people of the State to mark 75 years of India’s independence. The mohalla clinics will offer around 100 types of clinical tests for free, besides giving medicines to patients at no cost. Each of these clinics will have four staff members, including an MBBS doctor and a laboratory technician. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bhagwant Mann (Punjab) – dedicated 75 ‘Aam Aadmi Clinics’ or ‘Mohalla Clinics’ to the people of the State
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Bhagwant Mann | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

**43.** As on August 15, Madhya Pradesh’s tribal-dominated Mandla district has become the first fully “functionally literate” district in India. A person can be called functionally literate when he or she is able to write his or her own name, to count and read and write in Hindi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mandla district (Madhya Pradesh) – became the first fully “functionally literate” district in India
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

**44.** On August 18, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, inaugurated India’s first AC double-decker electric bus in Mumbai. The e-bus is manufactured by Switch Mobility Ltd (Switch). The initiative will give a dynamic boost to the sustainable transport sector. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nitin Gadkari – inaugurated India’s first AC double-decker electric bus in Mumbai
- The e-bus is manufactured by – Switch Mobility Ltd (Switch)

**45.** On August 17, a first-of-its kind database of arrested narcotics offenders called, “NIDAAN” portal, has been made operational for use by various central and state prosecution agencies tasked to enforce anti-drugs laws in India. The portal “NIDAAN” (National Integrated Database on Arrested Narco-offenders) has been developed by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB). The NIDAAN platform sources its data from the ICJS (inter-operable criminal justice system) and the e-Prisons (a cloud-based application) repository. It is part of the narcotics coordination mechanism (NCORD) portal that was launched by Union Home Minister Amit Shah on July 30 in Chandigarh during the national conference on ‘Drug trafficking and national security’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A first-of-its kind database of arrested narcotics offenders called “NIDAAN” portal is made operational for use
- NIDAAN – National Integrated Database on Arrested Narco-offenders | Developed by – NCB
- HQs of NCB – New Delhi | DG – Satya Narayan Pradhan



**46.** On August 16, Uttar Pradesh cabinet approved the “Uttar Pradesh Defence and Aerospace Unit and Employment Promotion Policy-2022”, making the existing one more flexible and lucrative, providing higher incentives to investors setting up their units in the defence and aerospace manufacturing sector in the state. The cabinet decided to amend the policy (initially formulated in 2018) to provide incentives up to a maximum of Rs 500 Cr (against the existing Rs 15 Cr) to attract large investments. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UP – approved the “Uttar Pradesh Defence & Aerospace Unit and Employment Promotion Policy-2022”
- UP decided to amend the policy to provide incentives up to a maximum of Rs 500 Cr (against existing Rs 15 Cr)
- [UP: Capital – Lucknow](#) | [CM – Yogi Adityanath](#) | [Governor – Anandiben Patel](#)

**47.** On August 15, Border Road Organization (BRO) announced to build its first steel slag road in Arunachal Pradesh, which can withstand heavy rains and adverse climatic conditions. The project is initiated after India’s first success of using 100% steel slag on Hazira Port connectivity road in Surat, Gujarat which has longer life and was built at low cost. India is the world’s second largest steel producing country after China and annually around 195 lakh tonnes of steel slag is generated in India and this quantity is slated to increase to 600 lakh tonne by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- BRO – announced to build its first steel slag road in Arunachal Pradesh
- India’s 100% steel slag on Hazira Port connectivity road was built in – in Surat, Gujarat
- India is the world’s second largest steel producing country after China
- [Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar](#) | [CM – Pema Khandu](#) | [Governor – B. D. Mishra](#)

**48.** On August 18, the newly-designed third rake of the semi-high speed “Vande Bharat” train reached in Chandigarh for speed trials before being rolled out for the passenger services. The train was rolled out by Union Railway Minister Ashwani Vaishnav from Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai. On the testing process, the Vande Bharat train will be tested at a speed of 180 kmph and will traverse 15,000 km. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The newly-designed third rake of the semi-high speed “Vande Bharat” train reached in Chandigarh for speed trials
- The train was rolled out by Ashwani Vaishnav from Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai
- On the testing process, the Vande Bharat train will be tested at a speed of 180 kmph and will traverse 15,000 km

**49.** On August 16, Arunachal government successfully launched its first flight of drone service – ‘Medicine from the Sky’ project from Seppa to Chayang Tajo in East Kameng district. The pilot project is funded by the USAID and executed by Redwings Labs. Guided by vision of PM Narendra Modi to make India world’s drone hub, Arunachal Pradesh has decided to conduct a pilot project of using drones in healthcare, agriculture & disaster management. Earlier in 2021, Hecicopter, a medical delivery drone of Hyderabad-based Marut Dronetech, had begun trials as part of Government of Telangana’s initiative ‘Medicine from the Sky’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Arunachal Pradesh – successfully launched its first flight of drone service ‘Medicine from the Sky’ project
- The pilot project is funded by the USAID & executed by Redwings Labs
- In 2021, Telangana started its initiative ‘Medicine from the Sky’ by using Hecicopter, a medical delivery drone
- [Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar](#) | [CM – Pema Khandu](#) | [Governor – B. D. Mishra](#)



**50.** On August 17, the Cabinet approved the widening access of the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) database to users, besides patent offices. This will be a new dawn for Indian traditional knowledge, as the TKDL will drive research & development, and innovation based on India's valued heritage across diverse fields. The TKDL is a prior art database of Indian traditional knowledge established in 2001, jointly by the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) and Department of Indian Systems of Medicine & Homeopathy. Until now, access to the complete TKDL database is restricted to 14 Patent Offices worldwide for the purposes of search and examination. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Cabinet approved the widening access of the TKDL database to users, besides patent offices
- TKDL is a prior art database of Indian traditional knowledge established in 2001
- TKDL – established by CSIR + Department of Indian Systems of Medicine & Homeopathy
- TKDL database is restricted to 14 Patent Offices worldwide for the purposes of search & examination
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | President – Narendra Modi | DG – Nallathamby Kalaiselvi | Established in – 1942

**51.** On August 16, the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India launched a platform called “Manthan” to drive collaboration between the industry and research institutes to implement technology-based social impact innovations and solutions in India. The platform, powered by NSEIT, promises to augment efforts to build and nurture industry participation in R&D. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Govt (PSA) – launched “Manthan” platform to drive collaboration between the industry & research institutes
- The platform is powered by – NSEIT

**52.** On August 13, the World's Highest Railway Arch Bridge - Chenab Bridge's Golden Joint was inaugurated in Reasi, Jammu & Kashmir. The Golden Joint is connecting two ends of the deck of the world's highest railway bridge. It is 35 meters higher than the Eiffel Tower. The bridge will prove direct connectivity to the Kashmir valley. The construction was initially started in 2004 but the work was stopped in 2008-09. The Chenab bridge is 1,315 metres long and 359m above the river bed level. The bridge is being built at a cost of Rs 1,486 crore. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- World's Highest Railway Arch Bridge, 'Chenab Bridge's Golden Joint' – inaugurated in Reasi, Jammu & Kashmir
- Cost – Rs 1,486 Cr | Length – 1,315m | Height – 359m
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

**53.** According to the latest Government data, for the first time, 500 cities across India have declared themselves as 'SafaiMitra Surakshit Shehar'. These cities were able to achieve adequacy in terms of institutional capacity, manpower and equipment norms as stipulated by Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs and are providing safe working conditions for SafaiMitras. All Indian Cities are expected to be 'SafaiMitra Surakshit' by March 2024. Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs along with Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment launched 'NAMASTE' (National Action for Mechanized Sanitation Ecosystem) Scheme. National Safai Karamchhari Financial Development Corporation (NSKFDC) would be implementing agency for NAMASTE. It envisages the safety and dignity of sanitation workers in urban India. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- 500 cities across India have declared themselves as 'SafaiMitra Surakshit Shehar'
- All Indian Cities are expected to be 'SafaiMitra Surakshit' by March 2024
- MoHUA + MoSJE = launched 'NAMASTE' (National Action for Mechanized Sanitation Ecosystem) Scheme
- Implementing agency for NAMASTE – National Safai Karamchari Financial Development Corporation (NSKFDC)
- Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs: Hardeep Singh Puri | Constituency – Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs: Kaushal Kishore
- Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Virendra Kumar | Constituency – Sagar, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Ramdas Athawale

**54.** On August 15, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while commemorating the historic 76<sup>th</sup> Independence Day from the Red Fort in Delhi, called for moving forward with 5 pledges called “Panch Pran of Amrit Kaal” to make India a developed nation in 25 years by 2047. Panch Pran include, First Pran - Goal of Developed India, Second Pran - Remove any trace of colonial mindset (servitude), Third Pran - Take pride in our roots/history, Fourth Pran - Strength of our Unity, and Fifth Pran - Sense of duty among citizens, including the PM and CMs. On this occasion, PM Narendra Modi gave the slogan “Jai Anusandhan” (innovation). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi – called for moving forward with 5 pledges called “Panch Pran of Amrit Kaal” to make India a developed nation by 2047
- Panch Pran include:
  - First Pran – Goal of Developed India
  - Second Pran – Remove any trace of colonial mindset or servitude
  - Third Pran – Take pride in our roots/history
  - Fourth Pran – Strength of our Unity
  - Fifth Pran – Sense of duty among citizens, including the PM & CMs
- On this occasion, PM Narendra Modi gave the slogan “Jai Anusandhan” (innovation)

**55.** The Indian Railways ran the “Super Vasuki”, the heaviest and longest freight train, on the 75th anniversary of Indian Independence. South East Central Railway operated the train on August 15 as part of the Centre’s Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations. The 3.5-km-long train, powered by 5 locos and loaded with 295 loaded wagons, carried a total trailing load of 27,000 tonnes of coal, the heaviest fuel transportation carried by the Indian Railway in a single arrangement. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Railways – ran the “Super Vasuki”, the heaviest & longest freight train, on the 75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day
- South East Central Railway – operated the train on August 15 as part of the ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’ celebrations
- Length of the train – 3.5 km



**56.** On August 13, as part of the celebrations of Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav, Ali Yavar Jung National Institute of Speech & Hearing Disabilities (AYJNISHD), an autonomous organisation under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, released the Indian National Anthem in Universal Design. This version of the Indian National anthem has features of Universal Design, such as audio/video description for usually-impaired persons, and Indian Sign Language and Captions for persons suffering from hearing disabilities. This version of the Indian National anthem has been certified by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) for Universal and Educational viewing. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ali Yavar Jung National Institute of Speech & Hearing Disabilities – released ‘Indian National Anthem in Universal Design’
- AYJNISHD works under – Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
- This version is certified by – Central Board of Film Certification
- **Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment:** Virendra Kumar | **Constituency –** Sagar, Madhya Pradesh
- **MoS in Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment:** Ramdas Athawale

**57.** In August 2022, IndiGo introduced world’s first ‘Three-point Disembarkation’ process, which will enable its passengers to exit the aircraft faster. Passengers on certain IndiGo flights will be able to leave the aircraft through three doors, instead of the usual two. This scheme will only be for flights that do not use the aerobridge for boarding and deboarding. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IndiGo – introduced world’s first ‘Three-point Disembarkation’ process to enable its passengers to exit the aircraft faster
- **HQs of IndiGo –** Gurugram, Haryana | **CEO –** Pieter Elbers | **Chairman –** Meleveetil Damodaran

**58.** On August 18, Directorate of Agriculture, Jharkhand and global blockchain technology company, SettleMint India, jointly announced the successful launch of seed distribution to farmers based on blockchain technology. By implementing the blockchain solution, Jharkhand has become the first state in the country to deploy a production grade blockchain based seed distribution program. It is envisioned to implement blockchain technology for tracking distribution of seeds, inputs, implements etc under all the schemes being implemented by Directorate of Agriculture like State Seed Distribution Scheme, NFSM, PMKSY, NHM. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jharkhand + SettleMint India = launched seed distribution to farmers based on blockchain technology
- Jharkhand – first state in India to deploy a production grade blockchain based seed distribution program
- **Jharkhand:** Capital – Ranchi | **CM –** Hemant Soren | **Governor –** Ramesh Bais

**59.** In August 2022, Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya announced that the government has set a target to increase the Health budget of the country to 2.5% of the GDP, which is currently at 1.9%. The total health budget has reached Rs 83,000 Crore in 2022-23. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Govt has set a target to increase the Health budget to 2.5% of the GDP (Currently at 1.9%)
- The total health budget has reached Rs 83,000 Crore in 2022-23
- **Ministry of Health & Family Welfare:** Mansukh L. Mandaviya | **Constituency –** Palitana, Gujarat
- **MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare:** Bharati Pravin Pawar



**60.** On August 19, Goa has become the first state in India to become 'Har Ghar Jal' certified. Over 100 million rural households of the country have been connected to the facility of clean water through pipes, with 70 million rural families getting connected in last 3 years under 'Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)'. The JJM is a flagship programme of the Government of India which was announced on August 15, 2019. The mission aims to make provision of potable tap water supply in adequate quantity, of prescribed quality and on regular and long-term basis to every rural household of the country by 2024.

[{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Goa – became the first state in India to become 'Har Ghar Jal' certified in last 3 years under 'Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)'
- Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) – announced on August 15, 2019
- The mission aims to make provision of potable tap water supply to every rural household of the country by 2024
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – P. S. Sreedharan Pillai

**61.** On August 19, Chhattisgarh government will set up Rural Industrial Parks (Gramin Aajeevika Parks) in the state to strengthen the rural economy and make the 'gauthan' (cattle shed) a centre of livelihood. In the first year of the project, there will be 300 such parks. The project will be launched on Gandhi Jayanti, October 2. The first such park in Chhattisgarh came up in Kulgaon, Kanker district, which has been named 'Gandhi Gram'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chhattisgarh – to set up Rural Industrial Parks (Gramin Aajeevika Parks) to strengthen the rural economy
- Chhattisgarh – to make the 'gauthan' (cattle shed) a centre of livelihood
- The project will be launched on Gandhi Jayanti, October 2 | Target – 300 parks in first year of the project
- First such park in Chhattisgarh named 'Gandhi Gram' – came up in Kulgaon, Kanker district
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

**62.** On August 16, Ratan Tata, the Chairman Emeritus of Tata Sons, unveiled a start-up namely "Goodfellows" dedicated to senior citizens. It provides companionship to senior citizens through young, educated graduates, who are vetted intensely for empathy and emotional intelligence. The start-up has been founded by Shantanu Naidu, who works as General Manager in the office of Mr. Tata. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ratan Tata – unveiled a start-up namely "Goodfellows" dedicated to Senior Citizens
- The start-up is founded by – Shantanu Naidu (General Manager in the office of Mr. Tata)

**63.** On August 19, Parshottam Rupala, Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, launched the Online Market Place feature "Aqua Bazar" in the "MatsyaSetu" mobile app during the 9<sup>th</sup> general body meeting of the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB). The app was developed by the ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR-CIFA), Bhubaneswar, with the funding support of the NFDB, Hyderabad through the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY). The marketplace aims to connect all stakeholders in the aquaculture sector. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Parshottam Rupala – launched the Online Market Place feature "Aqua Bazar" in the "MatsyaSetu" mobile app
- The app is developed by – ICAR-CIF, Bhubaneswar (with support of NFDB, Hyderabad through PMMSY)
- Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying: Parshottam Rupala | Constituency – Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying: Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan & Dr. L. Murugan



**64.** On August 16, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), along with the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation and the Ministry of Jal Shakti, organised an event “Yamuna Par Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav” at the water sports club in New Delhi. Union Minister for Jal Shakti, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat presided over the event where he received the guard of honour by BSF personnel. Meanwhile, the Director-General of NMCG, G Asok Kumar, launched a number of new initiatives under the ‘Arth-Ganga’ initiative. These included the virtual launch of the Jalaj initiative by the Minister for Jal Shakti at 26 locations. During the event, an MoU was also signed between the NMCG and the Sahakar Bharati to achieve the vision of sustainable and viable economic development. A tourism-related portal called “ImAvatar” was also launched to promote livelihood opportunities along the Ganga basin. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NMCG + Dept. of Water Resources, RD & GR = organised “Yamuna Par Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav”
- Gajendra Singh Shekhawat – presided over the event & received the guard of honour by BSF personnel
- G. Asok Kumar (DG of NMCG) – launched a number of new initiatives under the ‘Arth-Ganga’ initiative
- NMCG + Sahakar Bharati = an MoU to achieve the vision of sustainable & viable economic development
- “ImAvatar” (Tourism-related Portal) – was launched to promote livelihood opportunities along the Ganga basin
- [NMCG functions under – Ministry of Jal Shakti | DG – G. Asok Kumar](#)
- [Ministry of Jal Shakti: Gajendra Singh Sekhawat | Constituency – Jodhpur, Rajasthan](#)
- [MoS for Jal Shakti & Food Processing Industries – Prahlad Singh Patel](#)

**65.** On August 18, Wipro received a multi-year contract to deliver Service Integration & Management (SIAM) Services to the UK government treasury. Wipro and Her Majesty’s Treasury (HMT) will collaborate to enable end-to-end SIAM services, from strategy, design, and implementation to running business-as-usual services. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Wipro – received a multi-year contract to deliver Service Integration & Management Services (SIAM) to the UK Govt.
- [UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson](#)
- [HQs of Wipro – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Thierry Delaporte | Founder Chairman – Azim Premji](#)

**66.** In August 2022, India entered into the final stages of talks with Russia for purchase of six “Tupolev Tu-160” strategic bombers (nicknamed White Swan). NATO has named the Tupolev-Tu160s as Blackjack. This deal would be a game changer in India’s safety and security. Only three countries in the world - USA, Russia and China possess strategic bombers in their Air Forces. The Indian Air Force (IAF) would be the 4<sup>th</sup> Air Force in the world to possess the deadly and destructive strategic bombers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – plans to purchase 6 “Tupolev Tu-160” strategic bombers (nicknamed ‘White Swan’) from Russia
- Only three countries in the world possess strategic bombers in their Air Forces – USA, Russia & China
- [Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin](#)

**67.** The Unique Identification Authority has enrolled more than 79 lakh children in the 0-5 age group during the first 4 months (April-July) of the current FY 2022-23. This is part of a renewed effort to reach out to more children under the ‘Bal Aadhaar’ initiative. Children in the age group of 0-5 years are issued ‘Bal Aadhaar’. Over all, Aadhaar saturation at present is around 94%. Aadhaar saturation among adults is almost 100%. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- UIDAI – enrolled more than 79 lakh children in the 0-5 age group during the first 4 months (April-July) of FY23
- Children in the age group of 0-5 years are issued 'Bal Aadhaar'
- Aadhaar saturation (overall) – 94% | Among adults – almost 100%
- HQs of UIDAI – New Delhi | CEO – Saurabh Garg | Founded on – January 28, 2009

**68.** On August 22, National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) in collaboration with Seva Bharti and Yuva Vikas Society launched the second phase of "Grameen Udyami Project" in Ranchi, Jharkhand. The partnership aims to multiskill India's youth and impart functional skills to them for enabling livelihoods. The multi-skilling project that aims to train 450 tribal students in Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand. The project is being implemented in 6 states including Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Gujarat. Moreover, the central government has sanctioned a budget of 85,000 Cr for tribal areas. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NSDC + Seva Bharti + Yuva Vikas Society = launched the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of "Grameen Udyami Project" in Ranchi, Jharkhand
- The project that aims to train 450 tribal students in Madhya Pradesh & Jharkhand
- The project is being implemented in 6 states – Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, MP, Jharkhand, & Gujarat
- Central government has sanctioned a budget of 85,000 Cr for tribal areas
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Ramesh Bais

**69.** On August 20, Larsen & Toubro (L&T) announced the commissioning of a Green Hydrogen Plant at its AM Naik Heavy Engineering Complex in Hazira, Gujarat. Shrikant Madhav Vaidya, Chairman, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), inaugurated the plant. The green hydrogen plant is designed for an electrolyser capacity of 800 kW comprising both Alkaline (380 kW) and PEM (420 kW) technologies. The plant will produce 45kg of green hydrogen daily. A blend of 15% hydrogen with natural gas will be used as a fuel. As part of its ESG commitments, L&T has pledged to achieve water neutrality by 2035 and carbon neutrality by 2040. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- L&T – commissioned of a Green Hydrogen Plant in Hazira, Gujarat – inaugurated by Shrikant Madhav Vaidya
- L&T has pledged to achieve Water Neutrality by 2035 & Carbon Neutrality by 2040
- HQs of L&T – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO & MD – S. N. Subrahmanyam
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

**70.** On August 22, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh unveiled India's first indigenous Hydrogen fuel cell bus in Pune. The Hydrogen fuel cell bus is developed by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and KPIT Limited. The fuel cell makes use of hydrogen and air in order to produce electricity and power the bus, hence making it the environment-friendly transportation mode. If a diesel bus is to be compared, it typically emits 100 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per annum on long-distance routes. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr. Jitendra Singh – unveiled India's first indigenous Hydrogen fuel cell bus in Pune
- The bus is developed by = CSIR + KPIT Limited



**71.** On August 20, in an Environment-friendly initiative to increase the green cover of Chhattisgarh, chief minister Bhupesh Baghel launched the “Krishna Kunj” plantation drive on the occasion of Janmashtmi in Ranchi. Trees of cultural and medicinal significance were planted in selected spots across the state. So far, 162 places in the state have been identified for 'Krishna Kunj'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chhattisgarh – launched the “Krishna Kunj” plantation drive on the occasion of Janmashtmi in Ranchi
- [Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey](#)

**72.** On August 18, Technology Development Board (TDB), a statutory body under Department of Science & Technology, announced to support Fountainhead Agro Farms Pvt Ltd (FAFPL) to fund its first ever ‘Aquaculture’ project using state-of-the-art Israeli technology for production of Tilapia Fish. The TDB signed a mutual agreement to provide loan assistance of Rs 8.42 Cr out of the total project cost of Rs 29.78 Cr to the company. ‘Tilapia’ has emerged to be one of the most productive and internationally traded food fish in the world. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- TDB – announced to support Fountainhead Agro Farms to fund its 1<sup>st</sup> ever ‘Aquaculture’ project
- It will use Israeli technology for production of Tilapia Fish
- TDB will provide a loan assistance of Rs 8.42 Cr out of the total project cost of Rs 29.78 Cr
- [TDB works under – Department of Science & Technology](#)
- [Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Isaac Herzog | PM – Yair Lapid](#)

**73.** In August 2022, Madhya Pradesh’s Indore has now got ‘Tree Ambulance’ which will provide all necessary facilities to preserve and protect the biodiversity in the city. Clean City Indore, which is consistently ranked number one in cleanliness, is now moving towards becoming a Green City as well. All facilities and equipment including spraying of trees, spraying of water as well as cutting and pruning are there in the ambulance. The ambulance will be operated by the Horticulture Department of the Municipal Corporation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indore (M.P.) – received ‘Tree Ambulance’ to provide all necessary facilities to preserve & protect the Biodiversity
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel](#)

**74.** In a first of its kind effort, the Indian Navy warships set sail to 6 different continents (Europe, Africa, Asia, North America, South America & Australia) to celebrate 75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day as part of “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav”. The warships hoist Tri-colour and perform other ceremonial activities after berthing at San Diego in United States, in Brazil, Muscat, London and Perth. Among the platforms set on sail were INS Tarkash which reached Brazil in South America on August 15, INS Tharangini at London, UK in Europe, INS Sumedha at Perth in Australia, INS Saryu at Singapore in Asia Continents, INS Tabar at Mombasa, Kenya in Africa Continents, and INS Satpura at San Diego Harbor, US in North America Continents. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Navy warships – sailed to 6 different continents to celebrate 75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day
- INS Tarkash – reached Brazil (South America) | INS Tharangini – reached at London (Europe)
- INS Sumedha – reached Perth (Australia) | INS Saryu – reached Singapore (Asia)
- INS Tabar – reached Mombasa (Africa) | INS Satpura – reached San Diego Harbor, US (North America)
- [HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950](#)



**75.** On August 19, a first-of-its-kind Composite Indoor Shooting Range (CISR) was inaugurated by Vice-Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief (FOC-in-C), Eastern Naval Command at INS Karna on the Eastern Seaboard. The CISR is a state of the art, self-contained, 25 m, six lane, live firing range for all primary and secondary weapons in the Navy. INS Karna is the first in the Navy and perhaps the only military unit in the country to set up and use a facility of this kind. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Composite Indoor Shooting Range (CISR)' – inaugurated at INS Karna on the Eastern Seaboard (first in the Navy)
- CISR – a state of the art, self-contained, 25m, six lane, live firing range for all primary & secondary weapons in the Navy
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26<sup>th</sup> Jan, 1950

**76.** On August 19, Union Minister of State (I/C) for Science & Technology Jitendra Singh announced financial aid of Rs 3.29 Cr to a Hydrogen startup from Maharashtra for indigenous development of Hydrogen Sensing & Analysis Technology. This will help in meeting the target of production of 5 million tonnes of Green hydrogen by 2030. Hydrogen startup funding is in tune with PM Narendra Modi's vision of National Hydrogen Mission (NHM) launched on India's 75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day, last year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jitendra Singh – announced financial aid of Rs 3.29 Cr to a Hydrogen startup from Maharashtra
- India's target of production of 5 million tonnes of Green Hydrogen by 2030 under the 'National Hydrogen Mission'
- Maharashtra: CM – Eknath Shinde | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**77.** On August 21, Punjab and Haryana agreed to name the Chandigarh International Airport after Shaheed Bhagat Singh. Besides, Haryana deputy CM Dushyant Chautala has recommended adding Panchkula with the name of the Chandigarh airport. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chandigarh International Airport – will be named after Shaheed Bhagat Singh

**78.** On August 22, the Department of Social Welfare and the Department of Scheduled Tribes Welfare, Government of Karnataka, in association with IIM Bangalore, launched a training programme, to support SC, ST women graduates in developing their skills as Entrepreneurs. A total of 300 aspiring women entrepreneurs, belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, will be trained. An MoU to this effect was exchanged between IIMB Director Prof Rishikesh T Krishnan and Minister for Social Welfare and Backward Classes Kota Shrinivas Poojary. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Karnataka + IIM Bangalore = launched a training programme to support SC, ST Women Entrepreneurs
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot

**79.** As India continues its fight with Covid19 and Monkeypox, a new illness called "Tomato Flu" has started spreading across India. Tomato Flu was first detected in Kollam district of Kerala on May 6, and as of August 24, India has reported as many as 82 confirmed cases of the viral disease. After Kerala, the flu has spread to Tamil Nadu, Haryana and Odisha. Children less than 5 years of age have been infected by the disease. The Lancet study states that this common contagious disease generally targets children from 1 to 5 years of age and adults with weaker immunity. 'Tomato Flu' is also known as 'Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)'. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- A new viral disease called “Tomato Flu” has started spreading across India | First detected – in Kollam, Kerala
- The disease generally targets Children from 1 to 5 years of age & Adults with weaker immunity
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**80.** In August 2022, Chhattisgarh Government plans to set up English-medium Colleges across the State. It has been proposed that in the first phase, about 10 “Swami Atmanand English Medium Adarsh Colleges/Mahavidyalaya” will be opened in the major cities of the State for the forthcoming academic session in June 2023. It plans to open English-medium colleges in all the district headquarters within the upcoming 3 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chhattisgarh – plans to set up “Swami Atmanand English Medium Adarsh Colleges/Mahavidyalaya” across the State
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

**81.** On August 23, the government has awarded geographical indication (GI) tag to Bihar’s ‘Mithila Makhana’, in a bid to help farmers get the maximum price for their produce. Mithila Makhana is also simply known as ‘makhan’. Its botanical name is ‘Euryale Ferox Salisb’ and it is a special variety of aquatic fox nut. The GI Tag is valid for 10 years in India, and it can be renewed again. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bihar’s ‘Mithila Makhana’, a variety of aquatic fox nut – received GI tag
- GI Tag is valid for 10 years in India
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

**82.** On August 23, Tamil Nadu launched its “Footwear & Leather Products Policy 2022” with a vision to transform the State into a favoured destination for footwear and leather products manufacture in Asia. Tamil Nadu is a dominant player in the footwear industry at both the national and global levels. The policy will offer a special package for footwear and leather products (FLP) manufacturing and incentives for FLP Design Studios. Tamil Nadu accounts for 26% of national leather manufacturing output and 48% of exports. The foundation stone for a Rs 400 Cr Mega Footwear Manufacturing Park at Ranipet, was also laid at the conclave. The State government is targeting investment of Rs 20,000 Cr in footwear and leather products manufacturing. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu – launched its “Footwear & Leather Products Policy 2022”
- Tamil Nadu – accounts for 26% of national leather manufacturing output & 48% of exports
- The foundation stone for a Rs 400 Cr Mega Footwear Manufacturing Park was laid – at Ranipet, Tamil Nadu
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

**83.** On August 13, Rajasthan and Maharashtra launched the ‘Digital Lok Adalat’ and became the first states to use end-to-end Digital Platforms during the 3rd National Lok Adalat of the year 2022 that saw 74 lakh cases settled across India, including 16.45 lakh pending and 58.33 lakh pre-litigation cases. The Digital Lok Adalat was launched by Justice U. U. Lalit on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2022 during the ‘18<sup>th</sup> All India Legal Services Authorities Meet’. The third National Lok Adalat of the year for Delhi was scheduled on August 21. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Rajasthan & Maharashtra – the first states to launch ‘Digital Lok Adalat’
- The Digital Lok Adalat was launched by Justice U. U. Lalit in July 2022
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra
- Maharashtra: CM – Eknath Shinde | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**84.** On August 17, Delhi Chief Minister and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) convenor Arvind Kejriwal launched ‘Make India No. 1’, a national mission to make India the number one country in the world and called on all citizens and political parties to join it. Providing free education and healthcare to citizens, employment to youths, equal rights and dignity to women and fair price to farmers for their produce are needed to achieve the goal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Arvind Kejriwal – launched ‘Make India No. 1’, a national mission to make India the number one country in the world
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Vinai Kumar Saxena | Chief Secretary – Naresh Kumar

**85.** As on August 22, Uttar Pradesh government plans to build India’s first Education Township in the state. Built on the idea of ‘Single Entry, Multiple Exit’ (come like a blank paper and carry multiple skills), the focus of this township will be on high-end education, which will cater to students from not only India but also African, Latin American and Central Asian countries. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UP – to build India’s first Education Township on the idea of ‘Single Entry, Multiple Exit’
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**86.** On August 22, Airports and infrastructure conglomerate GMR Group launched “Blockchain Centre of Excellence (CoE)” in Hyderabad as part of the expansion of GMR Innovex. The Blockchain CoE will identify and incubate startups and catalyze innovative product development under the guidance of business leaders and domain experts in association with blockchain technology partners. GMR Innovex has onboarded Pankaj Diwan as the Chief Evangelist for leading the GMR Innovex Blockchain CoE. As per Grand View Research, the global blockchain technology market size was valued at USD 5.92 billion in 2021 and is expected to grow at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 85.9% from 2022 to 2030. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- GMR Group – launched “Blockchain Centre of Excellence (CoE)” in Hyderabad as part of the expansion of GMR Innovex
- Pankaj Diwan – appointed as the Chief Evangelist for leading the ‘GMR Innovex Blockchain CoE’
- HQs of GMR Group – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Grandhi Kiran Kuma

**87.** On August 22, a two-day National Workshop on Localization of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) in Panchayats through Thematic Approaches on Theme - ‘Village with Self-Sufficient Infrastructure’ was organized at Chandigarh, Punjab. There are total 9 themes for LSDGs. The National workshop provided a platform for the peer learning of Panchayats on various models to institutionalize the process of LSDGs through the lens thematic approach at grassroots level. Ministry of Panchayati Raj is anchoring the process of LSDGs in Panchayats/Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- 'National Workshop on LSDGs in Panchayats through Thematic Approaches' – organized at Chandigarh
- The work shop was based on Theme 6 – 'Village with Self-Sufficient Infrastructure' | There are total 9 themes for LSDGs
- Ministry of & Panchayati Raj: Giriraj Singh | Constituency – Begusarai, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Panchayati Raj: Faggansingh Kulaste & Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti

**88.** On August 23, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) commenced its "Cow dung to Compressed Biogas Project" at Sanchole, Rajasthan. This will be HPCL's first project under 'Waste to Energy' portfolio. The plant is proposed to utilize 100 Tons per day of dung to produce biogas, which can be utilized as automotive fuel. The project is being developed under "GOBAR-Dhan" scheme launched by Government of India in April 2018 as a part of the Biodegradable Waste Management component under "Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen)". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HPCL – commenced its "Cow dung to Compressed Biogas Project" at Sanchole, Rajasthan under "GOBAR-Dhan" scheme
- It is HPCL's first project under 'Waste to Energy' portfolio
- GOBAR-Dhan scheme – launched in 2018 under 'Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen)'
- HQs of HPCL – Mumbai, MH | CEO & Chairperson – Mukesh Kumar Surana (till April, 2022) | Founded in – 1974
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

**89.** On August 23, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Textiles, Piyush Goyal released the 'Department of Commerce Restructuring Dossier' at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi. The restructuring rests on 5 major pillars : Increasing India's share in global trade, assume leadership role in multilateral organisations, democratisation of trade, creating 100 Indian Brands as Global Champions, and setting up Economic Zones in India to strengthen the manufacturing base and attract greater investments to India. Mr. Goyal said India aspires to achieve 2 trillion dollars worth of exports by 2030. The focus on exports has been one of the most defining features of the government's efforts to make India a developed country by 2047. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Piyush Goyal – released the 'Department of Commerce Restructuring Dossier' at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi
- India aspires to achieve 2 trillion dollars worth of exports by 2030 & to become a developed country by 2047

**90.** On August 23, Kerala introduced an Online Monitoring System of medicines in government hospitals to keep track of availability and distribution of medicines. Real time data of medicines will be available through the special software once all the hospitals update the data regarding the distribution of medicines on each day. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kerala – introduced Online Monitoring System of medicines to track their availability & distribution in Govt Hospitals
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**91.** On August 24, National Health Authority (NHA), under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) and Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) signed an MoU to provide composite health-care services to Transgender persons under "Ayushman Bharat - PMJAY". MoSJE will fund ₹5 lakh insurance cover per transgender beneficiary per annum. The scheme would cover all transgender persons not receiving such benefits from other centre/state sponsored schemes. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- NHA (MoHFW) + MoSJE = an MoU to provide composite health-care services to Transgender persons
- MoSJE will fund ₹5 lakh insurance cover per transgender beneficiary per annum
- HQs of NHA – New Delhi | CEO – Ram Sevak Sharma | Founded in – 2018

**92.** Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers decided to implement the “One Nation One Fertilizer (ONOF)” initiative from October 2, 2022. As part of the initiative, crop nutrients - urea, di-ammonium phosphate (DAP) or muriate of potash (MOP) will be sold under a single brand name, ‘Bharat’ under the Centre’s fertilizer subsidy scheme, ‘Pradhanmantri Bharatiya Janurvarak Pariyojana’ (PM-BJP). The ministry issued directions to all companies to use the new brand name 'Bharat' and logo of the subsidy scheme on the bags. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers – decided to implement “One Nation One Fertilizer” initiative from October 2, 2022
- Various products will be sold under a single brand name ‘Bharat’, under the Centre’s fertilizer subsidy scheme ‘PM-BJP’
- PM-BJP – ‘Pradhanmantri Bharatiya Janurvarak Pariyojana’
- Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency – Palitana, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers: Bhagwanth Khuba

**93.** On August 23, in order to crack down on illicit liquor and drug smugglers in the state, the Uttar Pradesh government has set up an ‘Anti-Narcotics Task Force’ (ANTF) to check drug trafficking. The ANTF would be supervised by Additional Director General of Police (Crime). In the first phase, Narcotics Police Stations would be established in two districts - Barabanki and Ghazipur. ANTF would be divided into three zones - Eastern, Western and Central, across the state. DIG Abdul Hamid has been appointed as the first officer to head ANTF. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh – set up an ‘Anti-Narcotics Task Force’ (ANTF) to check drug trafficking
- DIG Abdul Hamid – appointed as the first officer to head ANTF
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**94.** On August 25, the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) announced that a trail commission of 0.20% of the ‘NPS D-Remit’ contribution amount (minimum Rs 15 and maximum Rs 10,000) will be paid to Points of Presence (PoPs) from September 1, 2022. The trail commission on D-Remit contributions made by NPS (National Pension System) subscribers will be similar to eNPS (another mode of online contribution). Moreover, D-Remit (Direct Remittance) contribution must be at least Rs 500 in value; any UPI-based contributions that are less than Rs 500 will be returned by the Trustee Bank. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PFRDA – announced to pay a trail commission of 0.20% of the ‘NPS D-Remit’ contribution amount to PoPs
- The trail commission on D-Remit contributions will be similar to eNPS
- D-Remit contribution must be at least Rs 500 in value (less than Rs 500 will be returned by the Trustee Bank)
- HQs of PFRDA – New Delhi | Chairperson – Supratim Bandyopadhyay | Founded in – 2003

**95.** On August 25, Tamil Nadu became the first state in India to come out with a glossary of terms in the local language to address people who are LGBTQIA+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual or of any other orientation). The Department of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment notified the terms - Paal pudhumaiyar for queer, Maruviya paalinam for a transgender, Idaippaal for intersex, Paalina adaiyaalalangaludan oththupogaathavar for a gender non-conforming person and so forth. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu – became the first state in India to come out with a glossary of terms in the local language for ‘LGBTQIA+’
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai](#) | [CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin](#) | [Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi](#)

**96.** On August 23, AirAsia India and Canadian Aviation Electronics Limited (CAE) announced their collaboration to integrate the ‘CAE Rise Training System’ into the airline’s Simulator Training Program. AirAsia India is the first airline in India to adopt a data-driven training program using CAE Rise. Launched in 2018, the CAE Rise training system is a technological innovation that enables the translation of simulator training data into valuable insights for instructors and training managers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AirAsia India + CAE = collaborated to integrate ‘CAE Rise Training System’ into the airline’s ‘Simulator Training Program’
- AirAsia India – the first airline in India to adopt a data-driven training program using ‘CAE Rise Training System’
- [HQs of AirAsia India – Bengaluru, Karnataka](#) | [MD & CEO – Sunil Bhaskaran](#) | [Established in –2013](#)

**97.** During the ‘Regional MSME Meet’ in Tirupur, Tamil Nadu CM M. K. Stalin launched “Tamil Nadu Credit Guarantee Scheme (TNCGS)” and “Tamil Nadu Trade Receivables Discounting System (TN TReDS)” for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). The TNCGS will operate with the Credit Guarantee Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) of the Union government and extend 90% guarantee for eligible loans up to ₹40 lakh. The State government has made an allocation of ₹100 Crore for this scheme. Further, the MSME Trade and Investment Promotion Bureau (M-TIPB) was renamed as ‘FaMe TN’. Mr. Stalin also inaugurated “Tamil Nadu Coir Business Development Corporation”, which will be located in Coimbatore. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- During the ‘Regional MSME Meet’ in Tirupur, Tamil Nadu CM M. K. Stalin:
  - launched ‘Tamil Nadu Credit Guarantee Scheme (TNCGS)’
  - launched ‘Tamil Nadu Trade Receivables Discounting System (TN TReDS)’
  - inaugurated ‘Tamil Nadu Coir Business Development Corporation’
  - renamed ‘MSME Trade & Investment Promotion Bureau’ as ‘FaMe TN’
- TNCGS will operate with the Centre’s CGTMSE & extend 90% guarantee for eligible loans up to ₹40 lakh
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai](#) | [CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin](#) | [Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi](#)

**98.** On August 24, Union Minister of Information & Broadcasting Anurag Thakur launched “Azadi Quest”, a series of online educational games based on India’s freedom struggle, developed in collaboration with Zynga India. The information for these games was curated by the Indian Council of Historical Research’s Publications Division. The move was part of efforts being made by the government to acknowledge the contributions of freedom fighters and ‘unsung’ heroes. The “Azadi Quest” games would also bolster the capabilities of the Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comic (AVGC) sector in India. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Anurag Thakur (I&B) – launched “Azadi Quest”, a series of online educational games based on India’s freedom struggle
- Developed in collaboration with – Zynga India | Info. for this game was curated by - Publications Division of ICHR

**99.** Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs gave clearance for the construction India’s first 3D-printed Post Office in Bengaluru in the Halasuru area. The construction will be carried out by L&T. A 1000 square feet building will cost less than Rs 25 lakh by using 3D printing technology. L&T is the only company currently in India utilising 3D printing technology for construction. The project is being carried out in collaboration with IIT Madras. Earlier, India’s first 3D-printed house was built within the IIT-Madras campus. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Larsen & Toubro + IIT Madras – will construct India’s first 3D-printed Post Office in Bengaluru
- L&T is the only company currently in India utilising 3D printing technology for construction
- HQs of L&T – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO & MD – S. N. Subrahmanyam

**100.** On August 26, a ‘Samajik Adhikarita Shivar’ for distribution of aids and assistive devices to ‘Senior Citizens’ under ‘Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana’ (RVY Scheme) and to ‘Divyangjan’ under the ‘ADIP Scheme’ of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, was organized in Nagpur, Maharashtra. The first “Divyang Park” of Maharashtra will be established in Nagpur. Divyang Park will have different kind of facilities for Divyangjans like sensory garden, textile Pathway touch and smell garden, skill training facility, rehabilitation facility, Sports & infotainment etc. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ‘Samajik Adhikarita Shivar’ was organized in Nagpur, Maharashtra for distribution of aids and assistive devices to:
  - ‘Senior Citizens’ under ‘Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana’
  - ‘Divyangjan’ under the ‘ADIP Scheme’
- First “Divyang Park” of Maharashtra will be established in Nagpur
- Maharashtra: CM – Eknath Shinde | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**101.** In August 2022, the Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister (EAC-PM) launched the “Competitiveness Roadmap for India@100” that will guide the path of India to become a higher-income economy by 2047, when the country will mark the 100<sup>th</sup> year of Independence. The roadmap is created in collaboration with EAC-PM, the Institute for Competitiveness and Dr. Christian Ketels from Harvard Business School. The report was released in New Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- EAC-PM – launched the “Competitiveness Roadmap for India@100”
- The roadmap will guide the path of India to become a higher-income economy by 2047
- The roadmap is created by = EAC-PM + the Institute for Competitiveness + Dr. Christian Ketels (Harvard Business School)
- The EAC-PM is chaired by – Dr. Bibek Debroy

**102.** On August 25, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) announced to invest Rs 2 trillion (Rs 2 lakh Crore) in phases to meet its target of achieving Net Zero Carbon Emission target by 2046. The IOCL plans to achieve two-third of the targeted emission reduction through energy efficiency, electrification and fuel replacement efforts. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- IOCL – announced to invest Rs 2 trillion (Rs 2 lakh Crore) to achieve Net Zero Carbon Emission target by 2046
- HQs of IOCL – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shrikant Madhav Vaidya | Founded in – 1959

**103.** As on August 25, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) plans to replace toll plazas with Automatic Number Plate Reader (ANPR) cameras as the congestion at toll plazas on National Highways continues to impact commuters despite 97% of tolling happening through FASTags. These cameras will read vehicle number plates and automatically deduct toll from the linked bank accounts of vehicle owners. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoRTH – plans to replace toll plazas with Automatic Number Plate Reader (ANPR) cameras
- Ministry of Road Transport & Highways: Nitin Gadkari | Constituency – Nagpur, Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Road Transport & Highways: V. K. Singh

**104.** On August 26, Government e-Marketplace (GeM), a national procurement portal, aims annual procurement worth Rs 2 lakh Crore during FY23. In the first four months of the current fiscal FY23, GeM did a gross merchandise value (GMV) of Rs 60,000 Crore. The cumulative GMV till date is Rs 2.86 lakh Crore. Uttar Pradesh topped the list in procurement with Rs 11,000 Crore, followed by Gujarat & Maharashtra. Moreover, However, GeM registered highest vendors from Maharashtra followed by Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- GeM aims annual procurement worth Rs 2 lakh Crore during FY23
- GMV in the first 4 months of FY23 (by July 2022) – Rs 60,000 Cr | Cumulative GMV till date – Rs 2.86 lakh Cr
- Uttar Pradesh (Rs 11,000 Cr) – topped the list in Procurement | Maharashtra – registered highest vendors on GeM

**105.** On August 25, Narendra Modi addressed the grand finale of “Smart India Hackathon 2022” organised by the ISRO. More than 15,000 students and mentors travelled to the 75 nodal centres to take part in the Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2022 grand finale. The SIH was started in the year 2017 with the vision of promoting the spirit of innovation in the country, especially among the youth. This year a new Smart India Hackathon - Junior category was also introduced as a pilot for school students. IIT Guwahati successfully hosted the Grand Finale of Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2022 grand finale which was organised by Ministry of Education Innovation Cell. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi – addressed the grand finale of ‘Smart India Hackathon 2022’ (started in 2017)
- ‘SIH 2022’ was hosted by – IIT Guwahati | Organised by – Ministry of Education

**106.** On August 27, Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) and the Central TB Division of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) have identified 75 tribal districts, where focused interventions will be run over the next few months with the aim to make them TB-free. The campaign to detect TB cases across 174 tribal districts started this January under the “Aashwasan Campaign”, under which door-to-door screening was done in over 68,000 villages. The Aashwasan Campaign was undertaken by the Tribal Affairs and Health Ministries and supported by USAID as a technical partner and Piramal Swasthya as the implementing partner. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- MoTA + Central TB Division (MoHFW) = identified 75 tribal districts to make them TB-free
- MoTA + MoHFW = also conducted “Aashwasan Campaign”
- Aashwasan Campaign: Technical partner – USAID | Implementing partner – Piramal Swasthya
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs: Arjun Munda | Constituency – Khunti, Jharkhand
- MoS in Ministry of Tribal Affairs: Renuka Singh Saruta & Bishweswar Tudu
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency – Palitana, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar

**107.** On August 26, Nagaland got its second Railway station on Dhansari-Shokhuvi railway line after a gap of more than 100 years, since Dimapur station was opened in 1903. Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio officially flagged off the first passenger train service on this route - Donyi Polo Express from Shokhuvi Railway station. Shokhuvi Railway station is part of the Dimapur-Zubza Railway project. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nagaland – got its second Railway station on Dhansari-Shokhuvi railway line
- 1<sup>st</sup> railway station – Dimapur station (opened in 1903)
- Shokhuvi Railway station is part of the ‘Dimapur-Zubza Railway Project’
- Nagaland: Capital – Kohima | CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi (addi. charge)

**108.** On August 25, Lt Gen Nav K. Khanduri, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of (GOC-in-C) of Western Command, inaugurated the first of its kind “Taurus Sainik Aramgrah” in Delhi. This 148 bed state of the art facility is constructed by Indian Army in collaboration with Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) as an Equal Value Infrastructure Project. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Lt Gen Nav K. Khanduri (GOC-in-C of WC) – inaugurated the first of its kind “Taurus Sainik Aramgrah” in Delhi
- The state of the art facility is constructed by = Indian Army + DMRC
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande | Vice Chief – Lt. General Baggavalli Somashekar Raj

**109.** In order to cut dependence on oil imports as well as address Environmental causes, India will start supplying petrol with 20% ethanol blending at select petrol pumps from April, 2023. The government will ramp up the supplies gradually thereafter. India had achieved its target of supplying petrol mixed with 10% ethanol in June 2022, five months before the set deadline. India has set the target of mixing petrol with 20% ethanol across India by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India will start supplying petrol with 20% ethanol blending at select petrol pumps from April, 2023
- India has set the target of mixing petrol with 20% ethanol across India by 2025



**110.** In August 2022, the 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. Nursery of other agricultural produce including vegetables will be prepared at this Center of excellence to promote the Agriculture sector globally. Chandauli district, which is known as the rice bowl of Uttar Pradesh, will be known globally in the field of vegetables and agriculture. 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 Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Singh Tomar – laid foundation stone of the “Indo-Israel Center of Excellence for Vegetables” in Chandauli, UP
- Chandauli district – known as the rice bowl of Uttar Pradesh
- [UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel](#)

**111.** In August 2022, Under the Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan, the first Tiranga Park was set up in Gurugram, Haryana by the district administration. This park was constructed with the support of the M3M Foundation at the Swatantrata Senani Bhawan located at the Civil Lines, Gurugram. In the park, 75 national flags of 12-ft height were installed on the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Independence. The park was inaugurated by the Union Minister of State, Rao Inderjit Singh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Under the ‘Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan’, the first Tiranga Park was set up in – Gurugram, Haryana
- The park is constructed with the support of the M3M Foundation | Inaugurated by – Rao Inderjit Singh
- [Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya](#)

**112.** On August 25, NITI Aayog announced to replicate the J&K model of Atal Tinkering Lab to rest of the parts across India on 50:50 cost sharing basis. Jammu and Kashmir became the first amongst States/UTs to establish an Atal Tinkering Lab in partnership with NITI Aayog. An Atal Tinkering Lab provides a space where young minds can give shape to their ideas through hands on do-it-yourself mode and learn innovation skills. ATL was started with an aim to build 10,000 labs and the target has been achieved in July 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NITI Aayog – announced to replicate the J&K model of ‘Atal Tinkering Lab’ to rest of the parts across India
- J & K – became the first amongst States/UTs to establish an Atal Tinkering Lab in partnership with NITI Aayog
- [HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Parmameswaran Iyer | Chairperson – Narendra Modi | VC – Suman Bery](#)
- [J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha](#)

**113.** On August 24, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India published the “Battery Waste Management Rules, 2022” to ensure environmentally sound management of waste batteries. New rules replace “Batteries (Management and Handling) Rules, 2001”. The rules cover all types of batteries, viz. Electric Vehicle batteries, portable batteries, automotive batteries and industrial batteries. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Battery Waste Management Rules, 2022” – published by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
- The new rules replace “Batteries (Management and Handling) Rules, 2001”
- [Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Bhupender Yadav | Constituency – Rajasthan](#)
- [MoS in Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Ashwini Kumar Choubey](#)



**114.** On August 27, Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated 4 new facilities at the Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI), which has been rendering excellent services for more than 60 years under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). Due to the new technologies and research achievements being developed by CAZRI from time to time, CAZRI bagged 8 out of 10 National Awards of ICAR in the last 6 years. The minister also inaugurated the newly constructed Auditorium, Agri-business Nurturing Centre, Environment Friendly Waste Water Treatment Plant and Indoor Sports Hall at CAZRI. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Singh Tomar – inaugurated 4 new facilities at the Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI)
- CAZRI (Jodhpur, Rajasthan) – functions under the ICAR
- CAZRI bagged 8 out of 10 National Awards of ICAR in the last 6 years

**115.** On August 28, Union Minister for Earth Sciences, Dr. Jitendra Singh, unveiled a dedicated website to give further boost to the ongoing 75-day Coastal Clean-Up campaign called “Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar (Clean Coast, Safe Sea)”. The portal will give a push to the cleaning mission. Besides, Dr. Singh also launched the campaign logo – “Vasuki”, dedicated to the youth of the country as they along with the school students are taking keen interest in joining the coastal and beach cleaning activities. The campaign was started on July 5, 2022 & was scheduled to culminate on “International Coastal Clean-up Day” on September 17, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr. Jitendra Singh – unveiled “Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar (Clean Coast, Safe Sea)”
- It is a dedicated website to give further boost to the ongoing 75-day Coastal Clean-Up campaign
- Dr. Jitendra Singh – also launched the campaign logo “Vasuki”
- September 17 – “International Coastal Clean-up Day”
- [MoS I/C in Ministry of Earth Sciences: Dr. Jitendra Singh | Constituency – Udhampur, J&K](#)

**116.** On August 25, Bangladesh and India signed two contracts for the construction of a new 126-km long broad-gauge line between Khulna-Darsana and conversion of metre gauge line into a dual-gauge line between Parbatipur and Kaunia, which will cover a distance of 57 km. The two projects are being implemented with financing under the Indian Line of Credit (LoC) and they will enhance rail connectivity in Bangladesh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bangladesh & India signed two contracts for the construction of two railway projects:
  - 126-km long Khulna-Darshana broad gauge rail line
  - 57-km long Parbatipur-Kaunia dual-gauge line
- [Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid](#)

**117.** In August 2022, the Indian Railway along with the Railway Protection Force (RPF), have launched a pan-India operation known as “Operation Yatri Suraksha” to improve the security of passengers. Moreover, under “Sewa Hi Sankalp” initiative, RPF aims to keep passengers’ security intact via drives, quick responses to queries, or by taking the help of technology and utilising its many benefits. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Indian Railway + RPF = launched “Operation Yatri Suraksha”, a pan-India operation to improve the security of passengers
- RPF aims to keep passengers’ security intact via drives under “Sewa Hi Sankalp” initiative
- HQs of RPF – New Delhi, India | Director General – Sanjay Chander
- HQs of Indian Railways – New Delhi | Chairman & CEO – Vinay Kumar Tripathi

**118.** On August 25, the NITI Aayog declared Haridwar in Uttarakhand as the ‘Best Aspirational District’ on five parameters, and provided an additional allocation of Rs 3 Crore. The letter by NITI Aayog’s Aspirational Districts Programme director Rakesh Ranjan underlines that Haridwar has secured first rank in ‘Basic Infrastructure’ theme. The Haridwar district has been allocated to Union Commerce & Industries Minister Piyush Goyal who has been taking active interest in making it the No. 1 aspirational district in India. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Haridwar (Uttarakhand) – declared as the ‘Best Aspirational District’ on five parameters
- Haridwar – secured first rank in ‘Basic Infrastructure’ theme | Haridwar has been allocated to – Piyush Goyal
- NITI Aayog’s Aspirational Districts Programme Director – Rakesh Ranjan
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh

**119.** The “Temple of Vedic Planetarium” in West Bengal’s Mayapur in Nadia district, which will serve as the headquarters of the International Society of Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), will open in 2024, following a two-year delay brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. It will also have the world’s biggest dome. Once completed, it will be larger than the Taj Mahal and St. Paul’s Cathedral in the Vatican. The Temple of Vedic Planetarium is ISKCON founder Srila Prabhupada’s vision and is apparently inspired by the design of the Capitol building in the United States. The head of this massive undertaking is Alfred Ford (Ambarish Das), the great-grandson of renowned businessman Henry Ford. The temple’s construction began in 2010, and it is expected to cost \$100 million. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- “Temple of Vedic Planetarium” (Nadia district, West Bengal) – will serve as the headquarters of the ISKCON
- It will have the world’s biggest dome | It will be opened in 2024
- The temple’s construction began in 2010, and it is expected to cost \$100 million
- Its head is Alfred Ford (Ambarish Das), the great-grandson of Henry Ford
- HQs of ISKCON – Mayapur, West Bengal | Founder – Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – La. Ganesan

**120.** On August 26, Justice Uday Umesh Lalit, the 49<sup>th</sup> Chief Justice of India, assured that the Supreme Court will have to have at least one Constitution Bench functioning throughout the year. Justice Lalit’s initiative comes at a time when the Supreme Court’s pendency has crossed over 71,000 from a little over 55,000 in 2017. This is despite the fact that the sanctioned judicial strength of the court was increased to 34 judges in August 2019. Moreover, the Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court must have at least 5 judges. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- According to CJI Uday Umesh Lalit: The SC must have at least one Constitution Bench functioning throughout the year
- Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court must have at least 5 judges
- Maximum strength of the Supreme Court – 34 judges (including Chief Justice of India)
- Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice Uday Umesh Lalit (49<sup>th</sup>)



**121.** On August 27, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the 'Khadi Utsav 2022' at Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad and also inaugurated a 300m long & 14m wide foot overbridge named as "Atal Bridge" built over Sabarmati River connecting the eastern and western side of the city. As part of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, the 'Khadi Utsav' was organised to pay tribute to khadi and its importance during the freedom struggle. Around 7,500 women khadi artisans from various districts of Gujarat participated in this 'Utsav' or 'Festival'. In Bhuj town of Kutch district of Gujarat, the PM inaugurated a "Smriti Van" that celebrates the spirit of resilience shown by people following the 2001 earthquake in Gujarat. He also inaugurated the Kachchh Branch Canal of Sardar Sarovar Project. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi inaugurated:
  - the 'Khadi Utsav 2022' at Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad
  - a 300m long & 14m wide foot overbridge named as "Atal Bridge" built over Sabarmati River
  - a "Smriti Van" in Bhuj town, Kutch district, Gujarat
  - the Kachchh Branch Canal of Sardar Sarovar Project
- [Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat](#)

**122.** On August 24, Asok Kumar, the Director General of the National Mission for Clean Ganga, spoke about the sustainable development economic model, "Arth Ganga", during his virtual keynote address to the "Stockholm World Water Week 2022". Since 1991, the Stockholm International Water Institute has been organising the "World Water Week" every year to address global water concerns. PM Narendra Modi first introduced the concept during the first National Ganga Council meeting in Kanpur in 2019, where he urged for a shift from 'Namami Gange' to the model of 'Arth Ganga'. Under 'Arth Ganga', the government is working on six verticals. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Stockholm International Water Institute has been organising the "World Water Week" every year since 1991
- First National Ganga Council meeting in 2019 – held in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh
- Narendra Modi – first introduced the concept of the sustainable development economic model 'Arth Ganga' in 2019
- [NMCG functions under – Ministry of Jal Shakti | DG – G. Asok Kumar](#)

**123.** On August 26, the National Cancer Grid (NCG) established the "Koita Centre for Digital Oncology (KCDO)" to promote use of digital technologies and tools to improve cancer care across India. NCG established the Centre in partnership with Tata Memorial Centre and Koita Foundation at Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai. KCDO will also partner with academic and research organizations to promote research and development in cancer care. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- National Cancer Grid + Tata Memorial Centre + Koita Foundation – established "Koita Centre for Digital Oncology"
- KCDO – is established at Tata Memorial Hospital (Mumbai) to improve Cancer Care

**124.** On August 28, Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah attended the first convocation of the National Forensic Science University (NFSU) in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. The minister also inaugurated the Training and Skill Development Centre, an International Guest house at NFSU, and three centres of Excellence in Cyber Security, DNA Forensic and Investigative and Forensic Psychology. He also laid the foundation stone for the new Southern Campus of the University. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Amit Shah – attended the first convocation of the National Forensic Science University (NFSU) in Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- [Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat](#)



**125.** On August 29, Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya addressed the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA). At the inaugural session of the event, the “Integrated Pharmaceutical Database Management System 2.0 (IPDMS 2.0)” and “Pharma Sahi Daam 2.0” app were launched. IPDMS 2.0 is an integrated, responsive, cloud-based application developed by NPPA with technical support from Centre for Advance Computing (C-DAC). Pharma Sahi Daam 2.0 app will have updated features like speech recognition, availability in Hindi and English, share button and medicine bookmarking. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mansukh Mandaviya – addressed the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (Delhi)
- ‘IPDMS 2.0’ & ‘Pharma Sahi Daam 2.0’ app were launched on this occasion | ‘IPDMS 2.0’ – developed by NPPA + C-DAC

**126.** On August 31, Uttarakhand Education Department launched an e-governance portal “Samarth” which will provide all administrative and educational updates including information about entrance exams, salary structures, appointments from five state universities and 140 public schools. The initiative has been taken in a bid to make the education system more transparent in the state. The portal will also provide access to 40 academic study modules. Moreover, 200 assistant professors of science subjects will be sent to IISc, Bengaluru for special training, while teachers of state universities will be given training at IIM Kashipur. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttarakhand Education Department – launched an e-governance portal “Samarth”
- 200 Science Professors will be trained at IISc, Bengaluru | Teachers of State Universities will be trained at IIM Kashipur
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh

**127.** On August 31, Indian Railways have set up Atmospheric Water Generator Kiosks called “Meghdoot” machines at Dadar, Thane and other stations of Mumbai Division, Maharashtra. The unique ‘Meghdoot’ machines use innovative technology to convert water vapour in the air into potable water. The contract for setting up 17 ‘MEGHDOOT’, in Mumbai Division of Central Railway for a period of 5 years, has been awarded to Maithri Aquatech Pvt Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Railways have set up “Meghdoot” machines at stations of Mumbai Division, Maharashtra
- The contract for setting up 17 ‘MEGHDOOT’ in Mumbai Division – is given to Maithri Aquatech
- HQs of Indian Railways – New Delhi | Chairman & CEO – Vinay Kumar Tripathi
- Maharashtra: CM – Eknath Shinde | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**128.** 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



**129.** 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](#)

**130.** 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 (1<sup>st</sup> one was ‘Majuli Biodiversity Heritage Site’)
- [Assam: Capital – Dispur](#) | [CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma](#) | [Governor – Jagdish Mukhi](#)

**131.** 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](#)

**132.** On August 30, during the 45<sup>th</sup> 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](#)

**133.** 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 – Performance Assessment, Review and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic 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](#)

**134.** 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 – Thaawarchand Gehlot](#)

**135.** 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

**136.** 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

**137.** 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

**138.** 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



# International Affairs

**1.** Russia became India's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest coal supplier in July, with imports rising by over a fifth compared with June to a record 2.06 million tonnes, according to data from Indian consultancy CoalMint. Russia has historically been the 6<sup>th</sup> largest supplier of coal to India. Indonesia was the top supplier, while South Africa was marginally ahead of Russia. Overall Indian coal imports were 23.8 million tonnes in July. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Russia – became India's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest coal supplier in July | 1<sup>st</sup> – Indonesia, 2<sup>nd</sup> – South Africa
- Overall Indian coal imports in July – 23.8 million tonnes

**2.** 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

**3.** On August 10, Russia suspended inspection of strategic arms under the "New START" treaty. The "New START" treaty is a nuclear arms reduction pact between the US & Russia, and caps to 1,550 the number of nuclear warheads that can be deployed by Moscow and Washington. In 2021, the United States and Russia extended 'New START' treaty by the maximum allowed time of 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Russia – suspended inspection of strategic arms under the "New START" treaty
- "New START" treaty – a nuclear arms reduction pact between the US & Russia
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris

**4.** On August 12, China agreed to finance a feasibility study for a cross-border railway with Nepal under the "Trans-Himalayan Multi-dimensional Connectivity Network", part of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) of China. China will send experts to conduct surveys for the railway this year. Moreover, China also pledged \$118 million for China-assisted projects in Nepal. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- China – agreed to finance a feasibility study for a cross-border railway with Nepal under the "Trans-Himalayan Multi-dimensional Connectivity Network"
- The network is part of the 'Belt & Road Initiative (BRI)' of China
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari | PM – Sher Bahadur Deuba



5. On August 13, the World Health Organisation (WHO) announced new names for variants of the Monkeypox virus as 'Clades I, IIa and IIb' to avoid causing any cultural or social offence. In July, the WHO had declared a global health emergency over monkeypox. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- WHO – renamed the variants of Monkeypox virus as 'Clades I, IIa and IIb' to avoid causing any cultural or social offence
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948

6. On August 16, India gifted a "Dornier 228" Maritime Patrol Aircraft to Sri Lanka to enhance their maritime surveillance capabilities and bolster the bilateral defence ties. Vice Chief of Indian Navy Vice Admiral S. N. Ghormade, who was on a two-day visit to Sri Lanka, handed over the aircraft to the Sri Lanka Navy at the Sri Lanka Air Force base in Katunayake. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India gifted a "Dornier 228" Maritime Patrol Aircraft to Sri Lanka to enhance their maritime surveillance capabilities
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan Rupee
- PM – Dinesh Gunawardena | President – Ranil Wickremesinghe

7. On August 16, Scotland became the first country in the world to pass "Period Products Act" to legally protect the right to access free period products. Under the "Period Products (Free Provision) (Scotland) Act 2021", schools, colleges and universities as well as local government bodies in Scotland must make a range of period products available for free in their bathrooms. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Scotland – 1<sup>st</sup> country to pass "Period Products Act" to legally protect the right to access free period products
- Scotland – Edinburgh – Pound sterling | PM – Nicola Sturgeon

8. On August 16, the UK became the world's first country to approve a COVID-19 vaccine named 'bivalent' for both the Omicron variant and the original coronavirus strain. The 'bivalent' vaccine is made by US drugmaker Moderna. It was approved for adult booster doses by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UK – 1<sup>st</sup> first country to approve a COVID-19 vaccine 'bivalent' for both Omicron variant & the original coronavirus strain
- The 'bivalent' vaccine is developed by – Moderna (US)
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

9. As on August 16, Indian companies are importing significant volumes of petroleum coke from Venezuela for the first time. India's growing appetite for Venezuela's petcoke is being driven by a scramble for inexpensive fuel to power industries as global coal prices have surged. Petcoke is a byproduct from oil upgrading and an alternative to coal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian companies are importing significant volumes of petroleum coke from Venezuela for the first time
- Petcoke is a byproduct from oil upgrading and an alternative to coal
- Venezuela – Caracas – Bolivar | President – Nicolas Maduro



**10.** In August 2022, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar officially inaugurated the premises of the Indian Embassy in the Paraguay's capital Asuncion. The Indian embassy in Paraguay began functioning in January, 2022. Mr. Jaishankar co-chaired the Joint Commission Meetings (JCM) with his counterparts. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- S. Jaishankar – inaugurated the premises of the Indian Embassy in the Paraguay's capital Asuncion
- Paraguay – Asuncion – Guarani | President – Mario Abdo Benitez

**11.** On August 17, Israel and Turkey decided to restore full diplomatic ties and will return ambassadors to each other's country following a steady improvement in relations. The two countries expelled ambassadors in 2018 over the killing of 60 Palestinians by Israeli forces during protests on the Gaza border against the opening of the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Israel & Turkey – decided to restore full diplomatic ties & will return ambassadors to each other's country
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Isaac Herzog | PM – Yair Lapid
- Turkey – Ankara – Lira | President – Recep Tayyip Erdogan

**12.** In August 2022, Egypt released a commemorative postage stamp to celebrate 75 years of diplomatic relations between Egypt and India that were established with Egypt's recognition of the independence of India on 18 August 1947, just three days after India's independence. The two nations became even closer in the 1950s and concluded a historic Friendship Treaty in 1955. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Egypt – released a commemorative postage stamp to celebrate 75 years of diplomatic relations between Egypt & India
- India & Egypt – signed a historic 'Friendship Treaty' in 1955
- Egypt – Cairo – Egyptian Pound | President – Abdel Fattah el-Sisi

**13.** On August 23, an Indian students' team bagged the 3<sup>rd</sup> rank in the 15<sup>th</sup> "International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA)" held at Kutaisi International University in Georgia. Raghav Goyal from Chandigarh, Md Sahil Akhtar from Kolkata and Mehul Borad from Hyderabad bagged gold in the event. Goyal also won a special prize for providing the best solution to the most challenging theoretical question. The silver medallists are Malay Kedia from Ghaziabad and Atharva Nilesh Mahajan from Indore. Conducted annually, the IOAA aims to promote astronomy among school students. With five gold medals, the Iranian team topped the medals tally, followed by the Guest Team. India and Singapore shared the third spot. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Students' Team – 3<sup>rd</sup> rank in the 15<sup>th</sup> "International Olympiad on Astronomy & Astrophysics (IOAA)"
- Gold medalists: Raghav Goyal (Chandigarh), Md. Sahil Akhtar (Kolkata), Mehul Borad (Hyderabad)
- India & Singapore shared the third spot

**14.** On August 21, Greece has exited the European Union's Enhanced Surveillance Framework. It ends 12 years of pain and allows the country greater freedom in policymaking. Greece was hit with waves of pension cuts, spending constraint, tax increases and bank controls after it was forced to seek its first bailout in 2010. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Greece – exited the European Union's Enhanced Surveillance Framework
- Greece – Athens – Euro | PM – Kyriakos Mitsotakis



**15.** On August 27, Germany launched the world's first fleet of Hydrogen-powered Passenger Trains in the state of Lower Saxony. According to reports, 14 trains with hydrogen fuel cell drive - produced by French manufacturer Alstom - are to replace diesel trains. The total cost of the project is around \$92 million. These trains will save 1.6 million litres of diesel fuel a year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Germany – launched the world's first fleet of Hydrogen-powered Passenger Trains
- These trains are manufactured by – Alstom (France)
- [Germany – Berlin – Euro](#) | [President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier](#)
- [France – Paris – Euro](#) | [President – Emmanuel Macron](#) | [PM – Elisabeth Borne](#)

**16.** On August 24, Africa has adopted a new strategy called “PEN-PLUS” to boost access to the diagnosis, treatment and care of severe non-communicable diseases (NCD). It is a regional strategy to address severe Non-communicable Diseases at first-level referral health facilities. Health ministers of African countries endorsed the plan at the 72<sup>nd</sup> session of the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Committee for Africa in Lome, Togo to reduce premature mortality from NCDs. NCDs include heart diseases, cancers, diabetes, asthma among others. Globally, NCDs are the main cause of morbidity and mortality. They account for 71% of global mortality, according to WHO. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Africa – adopted a new strategy called “PEN-PLUS” to boost access to the diagnosis, treatment & care of severe NCDs
- The plan was endorsed at 72<sup>nd</sup> session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa – in Lome, Togo
- WHO: NCDs account for 71% of global mortality
- [HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland](#) | [DG – Tedros Adhanom](#) | [Member Countries – 194](#) | [Founded in – 1948](#)

**17.** In August 2022, Dugong, also known as the sea cow, is now declared extinct in China. With the destruction of their natural habitat and historical hunting, no Dugong has been sighted in China since 2008. This is the first functional extinction of a large mammal in China's coastal waters. Part of Sirenia family, Dugong, weighs half a tonne, and is the only vegetarian marine mammal. The marine mammal has been declared ‘Vulnerable’ by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The marine mammals have a life expectancy of around 70 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ‘Dugong’, also known as the sea cow, is now declared extinct in China (it has not been sighted in China since 2008)
- Dugong is part of ‘Sirenia family’ & it is the only vegetarian marine mammal | Declared ‘Vulnerable’ by the IUCN
- [China – Beijing – Renminbi](#) | [President – Xi Jinping](#)



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

1. 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

2. 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

3. 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"

4. 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”

5. 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

6. 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

7. 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”

8. 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



**9.** 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

**10.** 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

**11.** 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

**12.** On August 1, IndusInd Bank announced a strategic partnership with Rupyy - a new age digital lending platform, to offer 100% paperless loan processing for used-cars. Rupyy 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 + Rupyy = 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"

**13.** On August 5, Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) Limited announced the completion of the USD 1.1 billion Syndicated Social Loan Facility for the financing of affordable housing in India. The loan has been priced competitively at a margin of 90 bps over SOFR (Secured Overnight Financing Rate). This transaction marks several meaningful milestones, including India's largest social financing issuance, the largest social loan globally, the first social ECB loan out of India and the largest ECB loan deal from a Housing Finance Company/private NBFC in India. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- HDFC Ltd – raised USD 1.1 billion Syndicated Social Loan Facility for financing affordable housing in India
- This transaction marks several milestones like:
  - India's largest social financing issuance
  - Largest social loan globally
  - First social ECB loan out of India
  - Largest ECB loan deal from a HFC/private NBFC in India
- HQs of HDFC Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Deepak Parekh | VC & CEO – Keki Mistry

**14.** On August 4, the IRDAI allowed insurers to buy more perpetual bonds issued by banks and permitted them to participate in the public listing of high-yielding InvITs (Investment Trusts), enhancing the capital sources for such instruments. According to the IRDAI, the aggregate value of AT1 (additional tier one) bonds held in a particular bank, at any point of time, shall not exceed 10% of the total outstanding AT1 bonds of that particular bank. An insurer could immediately invest up to Rs 100 Cr of a Rs 1,000-Cr AT1 bond sale by a bank. Moreover, the IRDAI also specified that the public holding in the InvITs/REITs shall not be less than 30% of total outstanding units of the InvIT/REIT at the time of investment. Moreover, No insurer will invest more than 20% of the outstanding debt instruments in a single InvIT/REIT. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IRDAI allowed insurers to buy more perpetual bonds issued by banks & permitted them to participate in InvITs:
  - Aggregate value of AT1 bonds held in a particular bank, at any point of time, shall not exceed 10% of the total outstanding AT1 bonds of that particular bank
  - An insurer could immediately invest up to Rs 100 Cr of a Rs 1,000-Cr AT1 bond sale by a bank
  - Public holding in the InvITs/REITs shall not be less than 30% of total outstanding units of the InvIT/REIT
  - No insurer will invest more than 20% of the outstanding debt instruments in a single InvIT/REIT
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Debasish Panda

**15.** On August 5, the SEBI granted in-principle approval for change in control of HDFC Asset Management Company along with change in one of the co-sponsors of HDFC Mutual Fund from HDFC Ltd to HDFC Bank. The change in control will happen following the merger of HDFC and HDFC Bank. HDFC AMC is the investment manager to the schemes of HDFC Mutual Fund. Currently, HDFC and Abrdn Investment Management Ltd (erstwhile Standard Life Investments Ltd) are the sponsors of the fund house. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI granted in-principle approval for change in control of HDFC AMC
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your World”
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

**16.** On August 5, the Reserve Bank of India announced renewed rate hikes in its 3<sup>rd</sup> Monetary Policy committee review. The repo rate was hiked by 50 bps to 5.40%. The RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das announced that the FY23 GDP growth forecast has been retained at 7.2%. The Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate or Bank Rate is 5.15%. The Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) and the Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) are kept at 4.50% & 18% respectively. While Reverse Repo Rate is kept at 3.35%. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- RBI's 3<sup>rd</sup> Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) report – released in August 2022
- Rates after changes made in June 2022:
  - Repo rate – 5.40% | Reverse Repo Rate – 3.35% | Bank Rate or MSF – 5.15%
  - CRR – 4.50% | SLR – 18% | CPI – 7.8%
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935

**17.** On August 5, Dhanlaxmi Bank entered into an agreement with its first fintech partner, New Street Technologies Private Limited for micro lending, operations management, and technology services under priority sector lending (PSL). New Street Technologies will provide the technical support to the bank on digital on-boarding and extend support as the business correspondent in micro-lending space to start the operations in southern states and subsequently, expand to more states.

[{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Dhanlaxmi Bank + New Street Technologies = an agreement for micro lending, operations management & tech services
- HQs of Dhanlaxmi Bank – Thrissur, Kerala | MD & CEO – J. K. Shivan
- HQs of New Street Technologies – Bengaluru, Karnataka

**18.** On August 8, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) constituted a Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) Advisory Committee (FAC) to boost overseas flows into the country. The FPI Advisory Committee (FAC) will be chaired by former Chief Economic Adviser K. V. Subramanian and consists of 14 other members representing foreign banks. The committee will review investment avenues available for FPIs and to advise on the feasibility of new investment avenues. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- SEBI constituted 14-member FPIs Advisory Committee to boost overseas flows into India (chaired by - KV Subramanian)
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

**19.** 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 Agro-forestry, 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

**20.** 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



**21.** 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

**22.** 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"

**23.** 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"

**24.** 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}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 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



**25.** 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

**26.** On August 10, HDFC Bank partnered with M1xchange, promoted by Mynd Solutions Pvt Ltd, to make a debut in the Trade receivables Discounting System (TReDs) platform. This move aims to bring in high liquidity to buyer corporates and MSMEs at competitive interest rates. TReDS system, regulated by the RBI, enables MSMEs to auction their trade receivables online and borrow funds from the financial institution which offers loan at the lowest rate of interest. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HDFC Bank + M1xchange (promoted by Mynd Solutions) = partnered to make a debut in the 'TReDs' platform
- TReDS system is regulated by the RBI
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your World”

**27.** On August 10, Kotak Mahindra Bank launched “Kotak Crème”, a lifestyle-focused Corporate Salary Account. Kotak Creme offers an upgraded banking experience to new-age professionals working with eminent corporates including MNCs, Consulting Firms, Law Firms, Non Retail FIs and Unicorn companies, among others. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kotak Mahindra Bank – launched “Kotak Crème”, a lifestyle-focused Corporate Salary Account
- HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Uday Kotak | Tagline – “Let's make money simple”

**28.** On August 10, State of Bank of India became India's first bank to come up with a policy to fund makers of the lab-grown Diamonds (man-made stone). The policy formalisation comes at a time when jewellers have started setting up factories in Surat to produce synthetic/lab-grown diamonds. Surat has been the hub of diamond cutters and polishers for decades. Lab-grown diamonds come across as replicas of the natural diamonds and they are priced at 30-40% lower than the natural diamonds. These diamonds were first manufactured by General Electric in the 1950s. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SBI – India's first bank to come up with a policy to fund makers of the lab-grown Diamonds (man-made stone)
- Lab-grown diamonds – replicas of the natural diamonds and are priced at 30-40% lower than the natural diamonds
- Lab-grown diamonds – first manufactured by General Electric in the 1950s
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MDs – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Alok Kumar Choudhary | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman



**29.** On August 11, Yes Bank and IBSFINtech, a treasury-tech solution provider, partnered to explore opportunities emerging out of digitisation of corporate finance. This partnership will empower the corporate treasury ecosystem with a robust decision-making tool and automated workflows backed by seamless bank connectivity. Due to the end-to-end and connected ecosystem, corporate finance function will become convenient. IBSFINtech's TreasuryTech platform connects with Yes Bank through APIs and provides real-time cash visibility. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Yes Bank + IBSFINtech = partnered to explore opportunities emerging out of digitisation of Corporate Finance
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar | Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”

**30.** Gold Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) witnessed a net outflow of Rs 457 Cr in July 2022 as investors invested their money in other asset classes as part of their portfolio rebalancing strategy. This was in comparison to a net inflow of Rs 135 Cr in June 2022, as per the data from the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI). The outflow has pulled down the asset under management of the category to Rs 20,038 Cr in July. Gold ETFs are units representing physical gold which may be in paper or dematerialised form. One gold ETF unit is equal to 1 gram of gold and is backed by physical gold of very high purity. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Gold ETFs – witnessed a net outflow of Rs 457 Cr in July 2022 (Rs 135 Cr in June 2022)
- One gold ETF unit is equal to 1 gram of gold
- HQs of AMFI – Mumbai | Chairman – A. Balasubramanian | CEO – N. S. Venkatesh | Incorporated in – 1995

**31.** On August 10, Paytm tied up with Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Ltd (PCHFL) to further expand its merchant loan business to small towns and villages. Through the partnership, merchant partners would be able to avail credit worth up to Rs 10 lakh, with terms ranging from 6-24 months. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Paytm + Piramal Capital & Housing Finance = tied up to expand its merchant loan business to small towns & villages
- Merchant partners would be able to avail credit worth up to Rs 10 lakh
- HQs of Paytm – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CEO – Vijay Sekhar Sharma | Founded in – 2010

**32.** On August 11, Navi Mutual Fund launched its 6<sup>th</sup> fund for this year called “Navi Nifty India Manufacturing Index Fund”. This is India's first open-ended index fund that will seek to replicate the Nifty India Manufacturing Index, which tracks the performance of manufacturers among the top 300 companies in India. Navi Nifty India Manufacturing Index Fund aims to simplify investing in the Indian manufacturing sector. The index also has a minimum weight of 20% for certain manufacturing sectors. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Navi Mutual Fund – launched its 6<sup>th</sup> fund for this year called “Navi Nifty India Manufacturing Index Fund”
- This is India's first open-ended index fund that will seek to replicate the ‘Nifty India Manufacturing Index’

**33.** On August 11, Muthoot Finance bagged the ‘Best Growth Performance Award’ at Dun & Bradstreet's 22<sup>nd</sup> edition of ‘India's Top 500 Companies’ corporate awards. The top-500 list from Dun & Bradstreet recognises private and public sector Indian enterprises across 60 sectors, based on their income, net profit, net worth and other financial parameters. The theme for this year's event was “ESG: The only way for Sustainable and Responsible Growth”. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- 22<sup>nd</sup> edition of 'India's Top 500 Companies' Corporate Awards – by Dun & Bradstreet
- Muthoot Finance – bagged the 'Best Growth Performance Award'
- [HQs of Muthoot Finance – Kochi, Kerala](#) | [MD & CEO – George Alexander Muthoot](#)

**34.** As per the new notification from Ministry of Finance, Income tax payers will not be allowed to enroll in the government's social security scheme "Atal Pension Yojana (APY)" from October 1, 2022. The government introduced APY on June 1, 2015, to provide social security to workers mainly in the Unorganised Sector. Subscribers of the scheme (between the age group of 18-40 years) get a minimum guaranteed pension of Rs 1,000 to Rs 5,000 per month after attaining 60 years of age depending on their contributions. The new notification will not apply to subscribers who have joined or joins the scheme before October 1, 2022. Under the income tax law, people having taxable income of up to Rs 2.5 lakh are not required to pay income tax. More than 99 lakh APY accounts were opened during the last fiscal, taking the total number of subscribers to 4.01 Cr at the end of March 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Income tax payers will not be allowed to enroll in "Atal Pension Yojana (APY)" from October 1, 2022
- APY: Launched in June 2015 | Age group – 18-40 years | Minimum guaranteed pension – Rs 1,000-5,000/m after 60
- People having taxable income of up to Rs 2.5 lakh are not required to pay Income Tax

**35.** India's Consumer Price Index (CPI)-based retail inflation, measured through the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) data released by the NSO, moderated to 6.71% in the month of July 2022, from 7.01% in June 2022. Still July's CPI inflation above the RBI's medium-term target of 4% for the 34<sup>th</sup> consecutive month and also above the RBI's tolerance range of 2-6% for the 7<sup>th</sup> consecutive month. Food inflation showed a month-on-month fall during July to 6.75%, from 7.75% in June. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Industrial Production (IIP) data – released by the NSO
- India's CPI-based retail inflation in July 2022 – 6.71% (from 7.01% in June)
- RBI's medium-term target for retail inflation – 4% | the RBI's tolerance range for retail inflation – 2-6%
- [HQs of NSO – New Delhi](#) | [Chairperson – Bimal Kumar Roy](#)

**36.** On the occasion of the nation's 76<sup>th</sup> year of Independence, celebrated as 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', State Bank of India (SBI) introduced a unique term deposit programme called "Utsav Deposit". This fixed deposit scheme has higher interest rates and is only available for a limited time. On Utsav Fixed Deposit Scheme, SBI is offering an interest rate of 6.10% per annum on fixed deposits with a tenure of 1000 days. These rates are effective as of 15<sup>th</sup> August 2022 and the scheme is valid for a period of 75 days. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SBI – introduced a unique term deposit programme called "Utsav Deposit" on India's 76<sup>th</sup> year of Independence
- ROI – 6.10% per annum | Tenure – 1000 days
- [HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara](#)
- [MDs – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty](#) | [Alok Kumar Choudhary](#) | [Ashwini Kumar Tewari](#) | [Swaminathan Janakiraman](#)



**37.** On August 17, Karnataka Bank introduced a new term deposit scheme, “KBL Amrit Samridhi”, under Abhyudaya Cash Certificate (ACC) and Fixed Deposit (FD) for a tenure of 75 weeks (525 days). The interest rate for this deposit scheme is 6.10% per annum. The scheme has been introduced on the occasion of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Karnataka Bank – introduced a new term deposit scheme, “KBL Amrit Samridhi”
- The scheme is for a tenure of 75 weeks (525 days) & interest rate for this deposit scheme is 6.10% per annum
- HQs of Karnataka Bank – Mangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Mahabaleshwara M. S. | Chairman – Pradeep Kumar Panja

**38.** On August 16, State Bank of India (SBI) launched its first “state-of-the-art” dedicated branch for start-ups in India. The branch launched by SBI Chairman Dinesh Khara is located in Koramangala, Bengaluru. The branch will offer one-stop solution to the corporates and start-ups starting from the formation of the entity till IPOs and FPOs of the companies. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SBI – launched its first “state-of-the-art” dedicated branch for start-ups in India
- The branch is located in Koramangala, Bengaluru | Launched by – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MDs – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Alok Kumar Choudhary | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

**39.** On August 13, Yes Bank partnered with SellerApp, a seller-centric intelligence platform, to encourage the seller segment of its client base to adopt Open Network Digital Commerce (ONDC) and help them expand their digital commerce footprint. ONDC, a strategic initiative of the Indian government, is being built as an alternative to Flipkart and Amazon. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Yes Bank + SellerApp = partnered to encourage seller segment of its client base to adopt ONDC
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar | Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”

**40.** On August 18, the Union Cabinet approved a 1.5% interest subvention on short-term farm loans up to Rs 3 lakh, which will be provided to lending institutions for the financial year 2022-23 to 2024-25. Under the Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS), short term agriculture loan upto Rs 3 lakh is available to farmers engaged in Agriculture and other allied activities at the rate of 7% per annum and an additional 3% subvention is also given to the farmers for prompt and timely repayment of loans. In order to support sectors affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, the cabinet also approved an enhancement of the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) corpus by Rs 50,000 Cr to Rs 5 trillion. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Cabinet approved a 1.5% interest subvention on short-term farm loans up to Rs 3 lakh for FY 2022-23 to 2024-25
- Under Modified Interest Subvention Scheme:
  - Agriculture loan up to Rs 3 lakh is available to farmers engaged in Agriculture & other Allied activities
  - Interest rate per annum – 7% | Additional interest subvention – 3%
- Cabinet approved an enhancement of the ECLGS corpus by Rs 50,000 Cr – to Rs 5 trillion (Rs 5 lakh Cr)

**41.** On August 10, Build Your Dreams (BYD) India, a new energy vehicle manufacturer, signed an MoU with the HDFC Bank towards a stock financing solution to its pan India dealer network. HDFC Bank’s dealer finance solution provides a bouquet of customised products offering tailored solutions for electric car dealers and BYD’s end customers. BYD now has four industries including auto, electronics, new energy and rail transit. HDFC Bank has committed to becoming carbon neutral by FY2032. This tie-up is a step towards that. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- Build Your Dreams + HDFC Bank = an MoU towards a Stock Financing Solution to its pan India dealer network
- BYD functions in 4 industries: Auto, Electronics, New Energy & Rail Transit
- HDFC Bank has committed to becoming Carbon Neutral by FY 2032
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your World”

**42.** On August 18, Bank of Baroda (BoB) launched the ‘Baroda Tiranga Deposit Scheme’ for a limited time period to celebrate 75 years of India’s independence. This is a special fixed deposit scheme offering a higher interest rate to subscribers. The scheme will be applicable on retail deposits below Rs 2 Cr. It is available in two tenor buckets offering interest rates of 5.75% per annum for 444 days and 6.00% per annum for 555 days. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- BoB – launched the ‘Baroda Tiranga Deposit Scheme’ to celebrate 75 years of India’s independence (below Rs 2 Cr)
- Interest rates – 5.75% per annum for 444 days & 6.00% per annum for 555 days
- HQs of BOB – Vadodara, Gujarat | CEO – Sanjiv Chadha | Tagline – “India’s International Bank”

**43.** On August 12, Axis Bank, India’s third largest private sector bank, signed an MoU with Food Corporation of India (FCI) to provide “Ultima Salary package”, a best-in-class salary account with exclusive benefits & features to all its employees. With this MOU, the Bank has reinstated its commitment towards offering holistic banking services to the employees of Public Sector Undertakings (PSU) sector. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Axis Bank + FCI = an MoU to provide a salary account named “Ultima Salary package”
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – “Badhti ka Naam Zindagi”

**44.** On August 16, Paytm partnered with Samsung stores across India to facilitate smart payments as well as its loan service Paytm Postpaid through deployment of point of sale devices. The partnership will enable consumers purchasing Samsung devices from any authorised store in India to pay through Paytm payment instruments. Paytm through its postpaid or buy-now-pay-later service will provide credit limit of up to Rs 60,000 per month. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Paytm + Samsung stores = partnered to facilitate smart payments as well as its loan service Paytm Postpaid
- Paytm will provide credit limit of up to Rs 60,000 per month through its postpaid or Buy-Now-Pay-Later service
- HQs of Paytm – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CEO – Vijay Sekhar Sharma | Founded in – 2010

**45.** On August 20, HDFC Bank opened its first all-women branch with 4 women bankers in Kerala’s Kozhikode to enhance gender diversity in banking sector. As on March 31, 2022, women constituted 21.7% of the workforce and the target is to increase it to 25% by 2025, according to the HDFC Bank. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- HDFC Bank – opened its first all-women branch with 4 women bankers in Kerala’s Kozhikode
- As on March 31, 2022, women constituted 21.7% of the workforce (target to increase it to 25% by 2025)
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your World”



**46.** In August 2022, Edelweiss Asset Management Limited launched a new scheme – “Edelweiss Gold and Silver ETF Fund of Fund”. This is the first of its kind fund in India which will give investors exposure to both gold and silver. The new fund offer (NFO) was open for subscription between 24th August to 7th September 2022. The fund will be managed by Bhavesh Jain and Bharat Lahoti. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Edelweiss Asset Management Limited launched a new scheme – “Edelweiss Gold and Silver ETF Fund of Fund”
- It is first of its kind fund in India which will give investors exposure to both gold and silver
- The fund will be managed by Bhavesh Jain and Bharat Lahoti
- [HQs of Edelweiss Asset Management – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Radhika Gupta](#)

**47.** In August 2022, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) signed an MoU with J&K Regional Office and J&K Grameen Bank to Finance 700 Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. The MoU signing ceremony was presided over by Dr Ajay Kumar Sood, Chief General Manager. NABARD will provide a promotional grant support of Rs 4000 per JLG to J&K Grameen Bank. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NABARD + J&K Regional Office and J&K Grameen Bank = MoU to Finance 700 JLGs in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh
- NABARD will provide a promotional grant support of Rs 4000 per JLG to J&K Grameen Bank
- [HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Govinda Rajulu Chintala | Founded in – 1982](#)

**48.** On August 16, Mirae Asset Mutual Fund has launched two new funds - Mirae Asset Global Electric & Autonomous Vehicles ETFs Fund of Fund and Mirae Asset Global X Artificial Intelligence and Technology ETF Fund of Fund. The vehicle-themed fund will invest in overseas equity exchange traded funds (ETFs) which are based on companies involved in development of electric and autonomous vehicles and related technology, components and materials. On the other hand, the AI themes scheme will invest in units of Global X Artificial Intelligence & Technology ETF. These are the first such funds based on companies involved in future technology to be launched in India in the mutual fund industry. GlobalX is a leading ETF provider headquartered in New York. The minimum initial investment in the funds will be ₹5,000. The funds will be managed by Siddharth Srivastava. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mirae Asset Mutual Fund launched 2 new funds based on companies involved in future technology i.e. EVs and A.I.:
  - Mirae Asset Global Electric & Autonomous Vehicles ETFs Fund of Fund
  - Mirae Asset Global X Artificial Intelligence & Technology ETF Fund of Fund
- GlobalX – a leading ETF provider based in New York
- Minimum initial investment – ₹5,000 | Funds will be managed by – Siddharth Srivastava
- [Hqs of Mirae Asset MF – Mumbai | CEO – Swarup Anand Mohanty](#)

**49.** On August 17, Aegon Life Insurance launched “#PlayForOurHeroes” campaign. It is a digital campaign that uses a game called ‘The Game of Life’ to spread awareness about the importance of life insurance. Aegon Life is urging people through this campaign to play and score points with the tagline, ‘The more you play, the more we donate’. The company will be donating to the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund (AFFDF) for every 10 points scored in the game. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- Aegon Life Insurance – launched “#PlayForOurHeroes” digital campaign that uses a game called ‘The Game of Life’
- Tagline of the campaign – ‘The more you play, the more we donate’
- Aegon Life Insurance – will donate to the ‘Armed Forces Flag Day Fund’ for every 10 points scored in the game
- HQs of Aegon Life – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Satishwar Balakrishnan

**50.** World Senior Citizen’s Day is an opportunity to celebrate and appreciate senior citizens for their services, accomplishments, and dedication they have given in their lives. The day is celebrated on August 21 each year. Former US President Ronald Reagan declared Senior Citizen’s Day on August 21 by signing a proclamation in 1988. A report by the UN suggests that the number would cross 1.5 billion senior citizens by 2050. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- August 21 – World Senior Citizen’s Day
- UN report: the number of Senior Citizens is expected to cross 1.5 billion by 2050

**51.** On August 18, for the welfare of its troops, the Indian Coast Guard signed MoUs with 8 banks to get customised banking services for its personnel deployed across the country. Along with the IDFC First bank, the MoU was inked with seven other banks including ICICI, Axis, HDFC, Yes Bank and Punjab National Bank. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Indian Coast Guard + 8 banks = MoUs to get customised banking services for its personnel deployed across India
- HQs of ICG – New Delhi | DG – Virender Singh Pathania | Founded in – 1977

**52.** On August 18, NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of NPCI, signed an MoU confirming a partnership with the payments solutions provider PayXpert to internationalize the acceptance of its payment solutions in the UK. UPI has achieved a volume of US\$ 940Bn (39Bn transactions) in 2021, which is equivalent to 31% of India’s GDP. RuPay is the first-of-its-kind Global Card payment network from India with over 700 million cards issued to date. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- NIPL + PayXpert = an MoU to internationalize the acceptance of its payment solutions in the UK
- UPI has achieved a volume of \$940 billion (39 billion transactions) in 2021
- HQs of NIPL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Ritesh Shukla
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

**53.** On August 18, the Reserve Bank of India cancelled the licence of Deccan Urban Co-operative Bank, Karnataka, as the lender does not have adequate capital and earning prospects. As per the data submitted by the bank, more than 99% of the depositors are entitled to receive the full amount of their deposits from Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC). [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- RBI – cancelled the licence of Deccan Urban Co-operative Bank, Karnataka
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao



**54.** On August 19, Central Bank of India entered into a strategic Co-Lending Partnership with Incred Financial Services Ltd (IFSL) to offer loans to MSME Borrowers at competitive rates. Central Bank of India will take into its books 80% of the MSME Priority Sector loans under mutually agreed terms. While IFSL will service the loan account throughout the life cycle of the loan. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Central Bank of India + Incred Financial Services Ltd = a co-Lending partnership to offer loans to MSME borrowers
- HQs of CBoI – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Matam Venkata Rao | Tagline – “Central to You Since 1911”

**55.** On August 18, the SEBI issued new guidelines for Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs) and Venture Capital Funds (VCFs) for making investment abroad, under which overseas investee firms won't need to have an Indian connection. Under the rules, AIFs can invest in securities of companies incorporated outside India. Besides, VCFs are allowed to make investments in off-shore venture capital undertaking. The VCF is an AIF which invests primarily in unlisted securities of startups, early-stage venture capital undertakings mainly involved in a new business model. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI issued new guidelines for AIFs & VCFs for making investment abroad
- AIFs can invest in securities of companies incorporated outside India
- VCFs are allowed to make investments in off-shore venture capital undertaking
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

**56.** On August 19, the SEBI joined the Account Aggregator framework, a move that will give a boost to the RBI-regulated financial-data sharing system. It will allow customers to share information about their mutual fund and stock holdings with financial service providers. Under the framework, Financial Information Providers (FIPs) in the securities market, like depositories and AMCs, will provide financial information pertaining to securities markets to the customers through their Registrar & Transfer Agents (RTAs), and consented Financial Information Users (FIUs) through any of the Account Aggregators registered with the RBI. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI – joined the Account Aggregator framework to boost to the RBI-regulated financial-data sharing system
- It will allow customers to share information about their mutual fund & stock holdings with financial service providers
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935
- RBI's Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

**57.** On August 23, Muthoot Finance launched “Milligram Reward Programme” for its customers wherein transactions with the company will be rewarded with a certain amount of milligram reward points. With this, the company has emerged as the first gold loan NBFC to launch such a new reward programme. Customers can participate in this two-year long programme wherein, for the first time in India, a loyalty programme will be run in 24 carat gold. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Muthoot Finance – launched “Milligram Reward Programme”
- It has become the first gold loan NBFC to launch such a new reward programme that will be run in 24 carat gold
- HQs of Muthoot Finance – Kochi, Kerala | MD & CEO – George Alexander Muthoot



**58.** Remittance by Indians under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) increased 64.75% to over \$6.04 billion in the Q1 of FY 2022-2023 from \$3.67 billion in Q1 FY22, according to the latest data by the Reserve Bank of India. It is higher than the \$5.8 billion remitted during Q4 of FY22. In Q1 of FY23, \$2.92 billion, or 48% of the total remittances under LRS were for international travel. Outward remittances under the RBI's liberalised remittance scheme (LRS) hit an all-time high in FY22 at \$19.61 billion, up 54.6% from \$12.68 billion recorded in FY21. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- According to the latest data released for Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS):
  - Remittance by Indians under the LRS increased 64.75% to over \$6.04 billion in the Q1 FY23
  - Outward remittances hit an all-time high in FY22 at \$19.61 billion
- Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) was introduced by – RBI

**59.** On August 22, HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company launched “All Things EV”, a one-stop-solution portal for electric vehicles (EV). As a part of this initiative, the company has unveiled a dedicated platform for the existing and prospective EV ecosystem users, which hosts end-to-end information on this emerging sector. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HDFC ERGO General Insurance – launched a one-stop-solution portal for EVs called “All Things EV”
- [HQs of HDFC ERGO General Insurance – Mumbai, MH](#) | MD & CEO – Ritesh Kumar

**60.** In August 2022, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) revamped its Grievance Redressal Mechanism and renamed it as “Bima Bharosa”. The upgraded version includes an option of filing complaints in 13 regional languages. The Integrated Grievance Redressal System (IGMS) was launched in 2011. The IRDAI decided to do away with the prior approval requirement for raising capital through preference shares and subordinate debts by insurers. As per the decision, the issue of Other Forms of Capital (OFC) should not exceed 50% of the paid-up share capital or net worth of the insurance company. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IRDAI – revamped its Grievance Redressal Mechanism & renamed it as “Bima Bharosa”
- The upgraded version includes an option of filing complaints in 13 regional languages
- The Integrated Grievance Redressal System (IGMS) was launched in 2011
- [HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana](#) | Chairman – Debasish Panda

**61.** On August 23, Universal Sampo General Insurance partnered with Chennai-based Repco Home Finance Ltd to offer insurance against Home Loans. This partnership will, additionally, disburse affordable insurance solutions from Universal Sampo General Insurance like Group Credit Protection, Long-Term Fire, and Personal Accident policies to Repco's customers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Universal Sampo Gen. Ins. + Repco Home Finance = partnership to offer insurance against Home Loans
- [HQs of Universal Sampo Gen. Ins. – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [HQs of Repco Home Finance – Chennai, Tamil Nadu](#)

**62.** The State Bank of India (SBI) will manage the Indian Visa Application Centre (IVAC) in Bangladesh for two more years. In August 2022, the agreement to extend the operations for two more years was signed between the officials of the SBI and the High Commission of India in Dhaka. Currently, SBI runs a total of 15 IVACs across Bangladesh. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- SBI – will manage the Indian Visa Application Centre (IVAC) in Bangladesh for two more years
- SBI – runs total 15 IVACs across Bangladesh at present
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MDs – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Alok Kumar Choudhary | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

**63.** On August 23, Fintech platform KreditBee partnered with API banking solutions company Cashfree Payments to offer customers an option to convert their online purchases into EMIs at the time of checkout itself for non-credit card holders. Through this partnership, KreditBee will leverage Cashfree Payments' Payment Gateway to offer cardless and convenient EMI options. The checkout finance loans range from ₹2,400 to ₹2 lakhs with a tenure of 3-18 months. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- KreditBee + Cashfree Payments = partnership to offer customers an option to convert their online purchases into EMIs
- HQs of KreditBee – Bangalore, Karnataka | Co-Founder & CEO – Madhusudan Ekambaram
- HQs of Cashfree Payments – Bengaluru, Karnataka | HQs of EasyTransfer – Singapore

**64.** According to the latest data, the country's largest bank, the State Bank of India (SBI) remains the top player with a 30% market share of debit cards as of June 2022 despite a 6% drop in year-on-year growth. Bank of Baroda secured second place followed by Bank of India. HDFC Bank topped the charts in the Credit Cards segment with a market share of 22%, followed by SBI (18%) & ICICI Bank (17%). Despite the fact that Kotak Mahindra Bank has a market share of only 5% in the credit cards market, it has witnessed a 64% YoY growth in the month of June, the second highest after HDFC Bank. Credit card spends for the month topped Rs 1.09 trillion in June 2022. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Top Banks in terms of Market share of Debit cards: 1<sup>st</sup> – SBI | 2<sup>nd</sup> – BoB | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Bank of India
- Top Banks in terms of Market share of Credit cards: 1<sup>st</sup> – HDFC Bank | 2<sup>nd</sup> – SBI | 3<sup>rd</sup> – ICICI bank
- Kotak Mahindra Bank – witnessed 64% YoY growth in Credit Card market in June (2<sup>nd</sup> highest) | 1<sup>st</sup> – HDFC Bank

**65.** On August 23, BASIX Social Enterprise Group in partnership with Mastercard launched "Basix Farmers' Market (BFM)", an agritech platform. The collaboration is in line with the Government of India's vision to integrate farmers into the digital economy. BFM will leverage Mastercard's technology capabilities, and BASIX's deep industry expertise in agriculture to improve the lives of small and marginal farmers. Through BFM, BASIX and Mastercard aim to improve the lives of over one million farmers, including the new cohort of 200 FPOs being promoted under 'SMART Project' as part of their partnership with the Maharashtra State Rural Livelihood Mission. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- BASIX Social Enterprise Group + Mastercard = launched an agritech platform "Basix Farmers' Market (BFM)"
- HQs of Mastercard – New York, US | CEO – Michael Miebach | Founded in – 1966
- Location of BASIX Social Enterprise Group – Hyderabad, Telangana

**66.** On August 24, Tata Neu, the 'super app' of the Tata Group and HDFC Bank partnered to launch Co-branded Credit Cards. The card will be launched in two variants: Tata Neu Plus HDFC Bank Credit Card and Tata Neu Infinity HDFC Bank Credit Card. Each of the two variants of the card will be available on both RuPay and Visa networks. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- Tata Neu ('super app' of Tata Group) + HDFC Bank = partnered to launch Co-branded Credit Cards
- Each variant of the cards will be available on both RuPay & Visa networks
- HQ of Tata Group – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – N. Chandrasekaran
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your World”

**67.** On August 23, Edelweiss General Insurance partnered with the Union Health Ministry to help create digital health IDs called 'ABHA Number' for all in India. 'ABHA' or the Ayushman Bharat Health Account is a 14-digit number that helps users to share and access their health records digitally with registered healthcare providers. The National Health Authority (NHA) is the apex body responsible for implementing this program under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Edelweiss Gen. Ins. + Health Ministry = partnership to help create digital health IDs called 'ABHA Number' for all
- ABHA – Ayushman Bharat Health Account | It's a 14-digit number | Implementing agency – NHA
- HQs of Edelweiss Asset Management – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Radhika Gupta

**68.** On August 24, BOB Financial Solutions launched “Yoddha”, a Co-branded Credit Card for the Indian Army personnel, in partnership with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). The new co-branded credit card will be equipped with contactless features and will be offered on the RuPay platform. It will be offered Life Time Free (LTF) to all Indian Army personnel. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- BOB Financial Solutions + NPCI = launched “Yoddha” Co-branded Credit Card for the Indian Army personnel
- HQs of BOB Financial Solutions – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Shailendra Singh
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD & CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008

**69.** On August 22, the second tranche of the 'Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme 2022-23' by the central government opened for subscription, and it was available for subscription until August 26, 2022. The RBI fixed the issue price of 'Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme 2022-23 - Series II' at Rs 5,197 per gram. The government, in consultation with the RBI, offered a discount of Rs 50 per gram on the value to those investors who apply online. Under the sovereign gold bond scheme, the RBI issues the gold bonds on behalf of the government. These bonds are sold through banks, Stock Holding Corporation of India (SHCIL), Clearing Corporation of India (CCIL), post offices, and stock exchanges like NSE & BSE. The scheme was first launched in November 2015 with an objective to reduce the demand for physical gold. These bonds are denominated in multiples of gram(s) of gold with a basic unit of one gram. The tenor of the bond is for a period of eight years with a premature exit option after fifth year. The minimum permissible investment is one gram of gold and the maximum limit of subscription is 4 kg for individual, 4 kg for HUF and 20 kg for trusts and similar entities per financial year. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Central Govt opened the second tranche of the 'Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme 2022-23' for subscription
- RBI fixed the issue price of 'Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme 2022-23 - Series II' at Rs 5,197 per gram
- Discount of Rs 50 per gram to those investors who apply online
- Points related to Sovereign Gold Bonds:
  - First launched in November 2015
  - Minimum Purchase limit – 1 gram of gold | Maximum Purchase limit – 4 Kg of gold for individual
  - Tenor of the bond – 8 years
  - To be sold through: Scheduled Commercial Banks, SHCIL, CCIL, Post Offices & Stock Exchanges (except SFBs & PBs)



**70.** On August 25, HDFC Bank will invest between Rs 49.9 Crore to Rs 69.9 Crore to pick up nearly 10% stake in Go Digit Life Insurance, owned by promoters of IPO-bound Go Digit General Insurance. Backed by Prem Watsa-led Fairfax Group and Kamesh Goyal, Go Digit Life Insurance has applied for a license from the IRDAI to set up a life insurance business. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HDFC Bank – will invest between Rs 49.9 Cr to Rs 69.9 Cr to pick up nearly 10% stake in Go Digit Life Insurance
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your World”

**71.** On August 25, Axis Bank, which partnered with Kochi Metro Rail Limited (KMRL) in 2016 to enable cashless commute in the metro, has announced offers for Kochi-1 Smart Card holders in connection with Onam. The bank has partnered with Amazon Pay to offer discounts on recharges, utility, and bill payments. Furthermore, Axis Bank’s ‘Dining Delights’ offer has been extended to Kochi-1 card holders. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Axis Bank – announced offers for Kochi-1 Smart Card holders in connection with Onam
- Axis Bank + Kochi Metro Rail = partnered in 2016 to enable cashless commute in the metro
- ‘Dining Delights’ offer – belongs to Axis Bank
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – “Badhti ka Naam Zindagi”

**72.** In August 2022, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed a monetary penalty of ₹2.33 Cr on Hyderabad-based Spandana Sphoorty Financial Ltd for its failure to adhere to pricing of credit guidelines for Non-Banking Financial Company - Micro Finance Institutions (NBFC-MFIs). The pricing of credit guidelines are part of RBI’s ‘Non-Banking Financial Company - Systemically Important Non-Deposit taking Company and Deposit taking Company (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2016’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – imposed a penalty of ₹2.33 Cr on Spandana Sphoorty Financial (Hyderabad)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established on – 1st April, 1935

**73.** On August 25, the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) signed an MoU with ICICI Bank for the development of financial accounting software and mobile application. ICICI Bank will design, develop and deploy the application for NMDFC, provide source code and executable database information among others. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NMDFC + ICICI Bank = an MoU for the development of financial accounting software & mobile app
- HQs of ICICI Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Sandeep Bakhshi | Taglines – “Hum Hain Na!” & “Khayal Apka”

**74.** Bank credit growth accelerated to 14.2% in the quarter ended June 2022 (Q1 FY23), from 6% in Q1 FY22, according to the “Quarterly Statistics on Deposits and Credit of SCBs for June 2022” released by the RBI. This data was collected from all scheduled commercial banks (SCBs), which include regional rural banks (RRBs), small finance banks (SFBs) and payments banks (PBs). The share of current account and savings account (CASA) deposits in total deposits, which is 44.5% in June 2022, has been increasing over the last 3 years. In June 2022, C-D ratio stood at 73.5% at all-India level. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- “Quarterly Statistics on Deposits and Credit of SCBs for June 2022” – released by the RBI
- Bank credit growth accelerated to 14.2% in the Q1 FY23 (from 6% in Q1 FY22)
- CASA deposits in total deposits in June 2022 – 44.5% | C-D ratio in June 2022 – 73.5%
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

**75.** On August 26, the Karnataka State Cabinet has taken a decision to extend the “Vidyanidhi” scheme to the children of agricultural labourers. Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai mentioned that 4,000 Anganwadi centres have been established specially to provide nutritious food for the kids of agricultural labourers. Besides, Rs 50,000 scheme was formulated for the Rural Artisans. Vidyanidhi Scheme is an educational loan facility offered by State Bank of India (SBI). [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Karnataka – decided to extend the “Vidyanidhi” scheme to the children of agricultural labourers
- Vidyanidhi Scheme – an educational loan facility offered by SBI
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MDs – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Alok Kumar Choudhary | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

**76.** On August 29, PGIM India Mutual Fund launched a new investor education and awareness website “MoneyAndMe”. This website contains exhaustive content on various aspects of personal finance including household budgeting, protection, savings and investing. The MF company also announced the launch of a consumer awareness campaign – ‘Aapka HappinessPlanned’ to promote the MoneyAndMe Initiative. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- PGIM India Mutual Fund – launched “MoneyAndMe”, a new investor education & awareness website
- PGIM India MF – launched a consumer awareness campaign ‘Aapka HappinessPlanned’ to promote ‘MoneyAndMe’
- HQs of PGIM India Mutual Fund – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Ajit Menon

**77.** 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”

**78.** 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%

**79.** 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

**80.** 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 106<sup>th</sup> unicorn
- HQs of Zomato – Gurugram, Haryana | Founder & CEO – Deepinder Goyal | Founded in – 2008



# Defence Affairs

1. 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

2. 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

3. On August 8, India and the US commenced the 13<sup>th</sup> edition of the Indo-US Joint Special Forces military exercise named “Ex Vajra Prahar 2022” in Himachal Pradesh’s Bakloh to improve interoperability between the Special Forces of both nations. This annual exercise is hosted alternatively between India and the United States. The 12<sup>th</sup> edition was conducted at Joint Base Lewis McChord, Washington (USA) in October 2021. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- India + US = commenced the 13<sup>th</sup> edition of military exercise “Ex Vajra Prahar 2022” – in Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris

4. On August 4, five women officers of the Indian Navy created history by completing the first all-women independent ‘Maritime Reconnaissance & Surveillance Mission’ in the Arabian Sea, onboard a ‘Dornier-228’ aircraft. The aircraft was captained by the Mission Commander, Lt. Cdr. Aanchal Sharma. They are part of the Indian Naval Air Squadron ‘INAS-314’, based at Naval Air Enclave, Porbandar, Gujarat. This first-of-its-kind military flying mission was unique and is expected to pave the way for women officers in the Aviation sector. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- 5 women officers of Navy completed the first all-women independent ‘Maritime Reconnaissance & Surveillance Mission’ in the Arabian Sea onboard ‘Dornier-228’ aircraft
- The aircraft was captained by – Lt. Cdr. Aanchal Sharma | They are part of the ‘INAS-314’ (Porbandar, Gujarat)
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26<sup>th</sup> Jan, 1950



5. India and the US will hold the 18<sup>th</sup> edition of the mega military exercise “Yudh Abhyas” between October 14 to 31 in Uttarakhand’s Auli. This exercise is aimed at enhancing understanding, cooperation and interoperability between the armies of India and the US. The last edition was held in Alaska, the US in October 2021. The US designated India a “Major Defence Partner” in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India + US = to hold the 18<sup>th</sup> edition of mega military exercise “Yudh Abhyas” – in Auli, Uttarakhand (in Oct 2022)
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris

6. On August 4, indigenously developed Laser-Guided Anti-Tank Guided Missiles (ATGM) were successfully test-fired from Main Battle Tank (MBT) ‘Arjun Mark 1A’ by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Indian Army at KK Ranges with support of Armoured Corps Centre & School (ACC&S) Ahmednagar in Maharashtra. The all-indigenous Laser Guided ATGM employs a tandem High Explosive Anti-Tank (HEAT) warhead to defeat Explosive Reactive Armour (ERA) protected armoured vehicles. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- DRDO + Indian Army = successfully test-fired indigenously developed Laser-Guided ATGM from Main Battle Tank ‘Arjun Mark 1A’ at Ahmednagar in Maharashtra
- It was launched with support of Armoured Corps Centre & School (ACC&S)
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in – 1958
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande | Vice Chief – Lt. General Baggavalli Somashekar Raj

7. In August 2022, Indian Army carried out “Exercise Skylight”, validating and showcasing the resilience of its communication capabilities in case terrestrial connectivity. During the two-week long exercise, all satellite communication assets in the Army were activated and various technical and operational scenarios in space domain were simulated. The ISRO also participated in the exercise. Moreover, to train its personnel on all aspects of satellite communication, the Army recently published Request for Information for its own student satellite, for training engineering students in Military College of Telecommunication Engineering on satellite technology. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Army – carried out “Exercise Skylight” to test resilience of its satellite communications
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande | Vice Chief – Lt. General Baggavalli Somashekar Raj

8. 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



**9.** 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

**10.** In August 2022, the contingents of the Indian Army and Royal Army of Oman conducted the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the India Oman Joint Military Exercise “Al Najah-IV” at the Foreign Training Node of Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Bikaner, Rajasthan. The Indian Army was represented by troops from the 18 Mechanised Infantry Battalion. The joint exercise focused on Counter Terrorism Operations, Regional Security Operations and Peace Keeping Operations. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India + Oman = conducted the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of “Al Najah-IV” Military Exercise in Bikaner, Rajasthan
- Oman – Muscat – Rial | Sultan – Haitham bin Tariq Al Said
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande | Vice Chief – Lt. General Baggavalli Somashekar Raj

**11.** In August 2022, Indian Air Force (IAF) announced to join 16 other nations for “Exercise Pitch Black 2022”, the biennial exercise hosted by the Australian Air Force. About 100 aircraft and 2,500 military personnel from 17 nations arrived in the Northern Territory. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IAF announced to join 16 other nations for “Exercise Pitch Black 2022” – hosted by Australia
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Anthony Albanese

**12.** In August 2022, China and Thailand held “Falcon Strike 2022”, a Joint Air Force exercise. The Falcon Strike exercise was held at the Udorn Royal Thai Air Force Base in northern Thailand near the border with Laos. Thai fighter jets and airborne early warning aircraft from both countries took part in the exercise. The exercise included air support, strikes on ground targets and small and large-scale troop deployment. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- China + Thailand = held a Joint Air Force exercise, “Falcon Strike 2022”
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping
- Thailand – Bangkok – Thai Baht | PM – Prayut Chan-o-cha

**13.** On August 16, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh handed over several new defence systems, including the F-INSAS, the Nipun mines, the Landing Craft Assault (LCA), to the Indian Army. F-INSAS stands for “Future Infantry Soldier As A System”. The full-gear of the F-INSAS system includes an AK-203 assault rifle. The DRDO had conceptualised the F-INSAS in line with the targets of the Army’s Infantry Soldier Modernisation Programme. Nipun mines are indigenously designed and developed anti-personnel mines, termed by the DRDO as ‘soft target blast munition’. They have been developed with the efforts of Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE), a Pune-based DRDO facility. The Landing Craft Assault (LCA) has been indigenously developed by Goa-based Aquarius ShipYard Limited. The LCA is meant to serve as a replacement for the boats with limited capabilities currently in use in the Pangong Tso Lake. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- Rajnath Singh – handed over several new defence systems to Indian Army, including F-INSAS, Nipun mines, LCA
- F-INSAS – **Future Infantry Soldier As A System** (conceptualized by DRDO)
- Nipun mines – designed & developed ARDE-DRDO (Pune)
- Landing Craft Assault (LCA) – developed by Aquarius ShipYard Limited (Goa)
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande | Vice Chief – Lt. General Baggavalli Somashekar Raj

**14.** On August 12, the Indian Air Force (IAF) contingent left for Malaysia to participate in a 4-day bilateral exercise “Udarashakti” with the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF). IAF participated in the air exercise with Su-30 MKI and C-17 aircraft, while the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) also participated with Su-30 MKM aircraft. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- IAF + Royal Malaysian Air Force = conducted a 4-day bilateral exercise “Udarashakti”
- IAF participated in the air exercise with Su-30 MKI & C-17 aircraft
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari | Vice Chief – Air Marshal Sandeep Singh

**15.** On August 16, Indian’s largest defense public sector company, Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) announced to open its first overseas office in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The office in Malaysia will help HAL in tapping the new business opportunities for Fighter Lead-in Trainer (FLIT) LCA and other requirements of Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) like Su-30 MKM and Hawk upgrades. This is an important step as defence sector has achieved a significant growth in exporting military equipment. India registered highest ever Defence exports of Rs 12,815 Cr in 2021-22. In last year, the Defence Ministry approved a ₹48,000 Cr deal with HAL for the procurement of 83 Tejas fighter aircraft for the Indian Air Force (IAF). According to the HAL officials, HAL would start delivering the jets (Mk-IA variant) to the IAF in 2025 and all 83 jets will have to be handed over by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- HAL – announced to open its first overseas office in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- India registered highest ever Defence exports of Rs 12,815 Cr in 2021-22
- HAL would start delivering the jets (Mk-IA variant) to the IAF in 2025 & all 83 jets will have to be handed over by 2030
- HQs of HAL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Amitabh Bhatt | Chairma & MD – C. B. Ananthkrishnan (addi. charge)
- Malaysia – Kuala Lumpur – Ringgit | PM – Ismail Sabri Yaakob | King – Al-Sultan Abdullah

**16.** Recently, Mudhol hound dogs were trained and inducted in the dog squad of the Army, CISF and NSG. Known for their hunting and guarding skills, the characteristically lanky Mudhol hounds get their name from the erstwhile kingdom of Mudhol (in present-day Bagalkot in Karnataka), whose rulers first began to breed them. The dogs are fast runners, with excellent stamina and agility, and have a sharp vision and a keen sense of smell. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- ‘Mudhol hound’ dogs were trained & inducted in the dog squad of the Army, CISF & NSG
- Mudhol hounds get their name from the erstwhile kingdom of Mudhol (in present-day Bagalkot in Karnataka)
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot

**17.** On August 19, the manufacturing of the 'AK-203 assault rifles' by the Indo-Russian joint venture "Indo-Russian Rifles Private Ltd (IRRPL)" at Amethi, Uttar Pradesh is set to begin by the end of 2022 and the manufacturing equipment required for it will be dispatched from Russia. As per the contract, over 6.1 lakh AK-203 assault rifles costing over ₹5,000 Crore will be manufactured this JV. The IRRPL was set up jointly between erstwhile OFB of India and Rosoboronexport (RoE) of Russia.

[{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Manufacturing of 'AK-203 assault rifles' by Indo-Russian Rifles Private Ltd – to begin in Amethi, Uttar Pradesh
- IRRPL – a rifle-manufacturing facility in Korwa, Amethi, UP
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**18.** On August 24, South Korea and the United States began their largest joint military drills called the "Ulchi Freedom Shield". It was last conducted in 2017. These joint military drills are designed to test readiness against North Korea's missile tests. In addition to these joint drills, South Korea has also started the 4-day Ulchi Civil Defence drills. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- South Korea + US = conducted the largest joint military drills called the "Ulchi Freedom Shield"
- South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won | President – Yoon Suk-yeol
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris

**19.** On August 24, trials of the Pinaka extended range rocket, developed by DRDO, were carried out in the Pokhran firing ranges in Rajasthan. Developed by DRDO, the rockets are produced by private sector firm. The Guided Extended Range Rocket Ammunition has a range of 75 km with an accuracy of 40 meters. This year in April, the DRDO and the Indian Army had successfully test fired Pinaka MK-1 (Enhanced) Rocket System and Pinaka Area Denial Munition (ADM) rocket systems from the same Pokhran Firing Ranges. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pinaka extended range rocket trials – were carried out in the Pokhran firing ranges in Rajasthan
- Pinaka rocket – developed by DRDO
- Range of Guided Extended Range Rocket – 75 km
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – Samir V. Kamat | Established in – 1958
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

**20.** On August 24, Indian Army launched "Project Zorawar" for the induction of indigenous light tanks for quicker deployment and movement in high altitude areas. These tanks will be used to counter Chinese deployment of a large number of similar armoured columns along the Line of Actual Control (LAC). The project has been named 'Zorawar' after Zorawar Singh Kahluria, a military general. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Army – launched "Project Zorawar" for the induction of indigenous light tanks in high altitude areas
- The project has been named 'Zorawar' after – Zorawar Singh Kahluria, a military general
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande | Vice Chief – Lt. General Baggavalli Somashekar Raj



**21.** On August 28, the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) conducted the 10<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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

**22.** 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

**23.** 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

**24.** 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 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> 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

**1.** 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

**2.** 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

**3.** On August 4, the Indian women’s team, comprising Rupa Rani Tirkey, Lovely Choubey, Pinki Singh and Nayanmoni Saikia, secured a historic first-ever Gold in ‘Lawn Bowls Women’s Fours’ at the “Commonwealth Games 2022”. Rupa Rani Tirkey-led team defeated South Africa. Rupa Rani Tirkey is a former kabaddi player. Pinki Singh is a former Cricketer. Nayanmoni Saikia was a National-level Weightlifter in the early 2000s. Lovely Choubey, 42, is the senior-most player in the team. She was a long jumper in her early days. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Indian women’s team – won first Gold in ‘Lawn Bowls’ at “Commonwealth Games 2022” (defeating - South Africa)
- Team players: Rupa Rani Tirkey, Lovely Choubey, Pinki Singh & Nayanmoni Saikia

**4.** In August 2022, India lifted the “South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Under-20 Football Championship” trophy by defeating Bangladesh 5-2 goals in the final at Kalinga stadium in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Gurkirat Singh was named the Most Valuable Player of SAFF U20 championship 2022. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- India – won “SAFF U-20 Football Championship” at Kalinga stadium, Bhubaneswar, Odisha (by defeating - Bangladesh)
- Gurkirat Singh – named ‘Most Valuable Player’ of SAFF U20 Championship 2022
- HQs of SAFF – Dhaka, Bangladesh | President – Kazi Salahuddin | General Secretary – Anwarul Huq

**5.** 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)



**6.** 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}](#)

**Key Points:**

- '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)

**7.** 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

**8.** 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)

**9.** The ICC awarded membership status to 3 countries during the ongoing "ICC Annual Conference" in Birmingham, England, UK. Cambodia and Uzbekistan from Asia, and Cote D'Ivoire from Africa, were awarded Associate membership status, taking ICC's total members to 108 countries, including 96 Associates. A major criteria to gain ICC Membership is detailed in 'Participation and domestic structures' of Clause 2.1 (d) of the ICC Membership Criteria. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ICC – awarded membership status to 3 countries during the ongoing "ICC Annual Conference" in Birmingham, UK
- Cambodia & Uzbekistan ([Asia](#)) + Cote D'Ivoire ([Africa](#)) – awarded Associate membership status
- HQs of ICC – Dubai, UAE | Chairman – Greg Barclay | CEO – Geoff Allardice | Members – 108 countries

**10.** On August 9, 41-year old Serena Williams, one of the greatest athletes of all time, announced her retirement from professional tennis. Serena is the one and only Tennis player in the history to have won 23 grand slam singles titles, followed by Rafael Nadal with 22 such titles in men's category. She has 73 career singles titles and 23 career doubles titles. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Serena Williams – announced her retirement from professional Tennis
- Serena – 23 grand slam singles titles | Rafael Nadal – 22 grand slam singles titles



**11.** On August 11, Real Madrid defeated Eintracht Frankfurt to clinch the “Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) Super Cup” for a record-equaling fifth time in Helsinki, Finland. Real Madrid’s Coach Carlo Ancelotti also became the first coach to lift the trophy four times. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Real Madrid FC – won the “UEFA Super Cup” – held in Helsinki, Finland (for 5<sup>th</sup> time)
- Real Madrid’s Coach – Carlo Ancelotti
- [Finland – Helsinki – Euro](#) | [PM – Sanna Marin](#)

**12.** The oldest football tournament in Asia, Durand Cup, started from August 16, 2022. The tournament was inaugurated by West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee. The opening match was played between FC Goa and Mohammedan SC at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan in Kolkata. For the first time in its history, the tournament was held in multiple cities this year i.e. West Bengal, Assam and Manipur. This year the tournament is into its 131<sup>st</sup> edition which featured 20 teams. The teams were divided into 4 groups of 5 teams each. Indian Oil is the title sponsor of the tournament. Durand Cup is one of the three major football tournaments in India, the other two being Indian Super League and Super Cup. The previous edition of Durand Cup 2021 was won by FC Goa. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mamata Banerjee inaugurated the 131<sup>st</sup> edition of ‘Durand Cup 2022’ – hosted by West Bengal, Assam & Manipur
- Indian Oil – Title Sponsor of the tournament | Durand Cup – Oldest football tournament in Asia

**13.** Meghalaya is all set to host the upcoming 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the “North East Olympics 2022” from October 30 to November 6 in Shillong. The first edition of Games was held in Manipur in 2018. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, about 4,000 participants from 8 North Eastern States will be competing in 18 disciplines at 13 venues spread across Shillong. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> “North East Olympics 2022” – will be hosted by Meghalaya (in Shillong) from October 30 to November 6
- The first edition of Games was held in 2018 – in Manipur
- [Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong](#) | [CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma](#) | [Governor – Satya Pal Malik](#)

**14.** In August 2022, India's Pooja Ojha won Silver medal in the VL1 Women’s 200m final at the “2022 ICF Canoe Sprint World Championships” in Halifax, Canada. This is the first ever medal for India in the World Championships of Para-Canoe. The para-canoe athlete from Madhya Pradesh's Bhand, finished second with the timing of 1:34.18. Hamburg's Lillemor Koper won the gold medal with a timing of 1:29.79. Pooja is currently ranked 9<sup>th</sup> among the world's top para canoe players. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pooja Ojha ([MP - Para-Canoe Athlete](#)) – won Silver medal in at “2022 ICF Canoe Sprint World Championships” in Canada
- Pooja’s category – VL1 Women’s 200m Final | Gold – Lillemor Koper (Hamburg)

**15.** The 1<sup>st</sup> Khelo India Women’s Hockey League under-16 was held at Major Dhyanchand Stadium in New Delhi from August 16-23, 2022. According to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, a total of 16 teams from across India participated. A total of 56 matches were played and over 300 players competed in Phase 1 of the league. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Khelo India Women’s Hockey League (under-16) – held at Major Dhyanchand Stadium, New Delhi



**16.** On August 16, FIFA, the governing body of world football, banned the All India Football Federation (AIFF), citing 'third party' intervention. The ban was lifted on August 26, after FIFA received confirmation that the mandate of the Committee of Administrators that was set up to assume the powers of the AIFF Executive Committee had been terminated and that the AIFF administration had regained full control. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- FIFA – temporarily banned the All India Football Federation (AIFF), citing 'third party' intervention (on Aug 16)
- The ban was lifted on August 26
- HQs of AIFF – Dwarka, Delhi | President – Praful Patel | Gen. Secretary – Kushal Das
- HQs of FIFA – Zurich, Switzerland | President – Gianni Infantino

**17.** In August 2022, Bhavani Devi, who became the first Indian fencer to qualify for the Olympics, has won a Gold medal at the "Commonwealth Fencing Championship 2022" in London. She defeated Australia's Veronika Vasileva in the finals of senior women's sabre individual category. She had also won a gold at the same event back in 2018, when the tournament took place in Canberra, Australia. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bhavani Devi (Fencer) – won Gold at "Commonwealth Fencing Championship 2022" (defeating - Veronika Vasileva)
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

**18.** The Sultan Azlan Shah Cup, an annual invitational international men's hockey tournament, is set to be held after a two-year break from November 16 to 25, 2022 in Ipoh, Malaysia. The last time it was held in Ipoh, Malaysia in 2019 in which South Korea had emerged champions by beating India. India has been invited alongside Australia, Germany and England for the tournament. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Sultan Azlan Shah Cup' will be held from November 16 to 25, 2022 – in Ipoh, Malaysia
- The last time it was held in Ipoh, Malaysia in 2019 | won by – South Korea
- Malaysia – Kuala Lumpur – Ringgit | PM – Ismail Sabri Yaakob | King – Al-Sultan Abdullah

**19.** On August 18, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde announced that 'Dahi-Handi', also known as 'Gopalakala', will now be recognised as an official sport in the state. He also said that "Pro-Dahi-Handi" competitions will be introduced in the state. The 'Govindas' will get jobs under the sports category and all 'Govindas' will be provided with insurance cover of ₹10 lakhs if they lose their lives. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Dahi-Handi' or 'Gopalakala', will now be recognised as an official sport in Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM – Eknath Shinde | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**20.** On August 18, when Manisha Kalyan got off the bench to play for Apollon Ladies FC as a substitute for Marilena Georgious, she created history by becoming the first Indian to play in UEFA Women's Champions League. Apollon Ladies are Women's Club champions of Cyprus. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Manisha Kalyan – became the first Indian to play in 'UEFA Women's Champions League'
- She played for 'Apollon Ladies FC' as a substitute for Marilena Georgious



**21.** In August 2022, Antim Panghal won a Gold medal at the U20 World Wrestling Championship & became the first Indian woman wrestler to be crowned U-20 World Champion. Priya Malik (76kg), Sonam Malik (62kg) and Priyanka (65kg) took home silver for India while Sito (57kg), Reetika (72kg) and Priyanshi (50kg) won bronze. Earlier in the championships, Indian men wrestlers won 7 medals including 1 silver and 6 bronze in the men's freestyle wrestling. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Antim Panghal – won a Gold medal at the U20 World Wrestling Championship (first Indian woman wrestler)
- Silver medals: Priya Malik, Sonam Malik & Priyanka
- Bronze medals: Sito, Reetika & Priyanshi
- Indian men wrestlers won 7 medals including 1 silver and 6 bronze in the men's freestyle wrestling

**22.** The International Basketball Federation FIBA is scheduled to host the “FIBA U18 Women's Asian Championship” at Sree Kanteerva and Koramangala Indoor stadiums in Bengaluru from September 5 to 11, 2022. As many as 16 countries were to participate in the event. The first four teams from the championship will qualify for the “FIBA U19 Women's World Cup”, which is scheduled to be held in Madrid, Spain, in July 2023. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “FIBA U18 Women's Asian Championship” – to be held in Bengaluru (from Sep 5 to 11)
- “FIBA U19 Women's World Cup” – to be held in Madrid, Spain (in July 2023)
- Spain – Madrid – Euro | PM – Pedro Sanchez
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot

**23.** On August 22, Indian Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa concluded the final round by defeating world No. 1 Magnus Carlsen at the “FTX Crypto Cup” in Miami to finish second overall in the standings. Carlsen, with overall 16 points to his name, won the event on the basis of a higher score while Praggnanandhaa, with 15 points, came second. Alireza Firouzja also finished on 15 points but had to settle for third place as he had lost the clash against Praggnanandhaa earlier. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- R. Praggnanandhaa – defeated world No. 1 Magnus Carlsen in the ‘final round’ of the “FTX Crypto Cup” in Miami
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Magnus Carlsen (16 points) | 2<sup>nd</sup> – R. Praggnanandhaa (15 points) | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Alireza Firouzja (15 points)
- HQs of FIDE – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Arkady Dvorkovich | Founded on – July 20, 1924

**24.** In August 2022, Tamara Walcott, a female powerlifter from Maryland, US, broke powerlifting Guinness World Record after lifting a total of 737.5 kg across three compound lifts - the squat, the bench press, and the deadlift. She was honoured at the “2022 World Raw Powerlifting Federation American Pro” in Manassas, Virginia, US. Ms Walcott weighed 188.2 kg. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tamara Walcott (US) – broke powerlifting Guinness World Record, by lifting a total of 737.5 kg across 3 compound lifts
- “2022 World Raw Powerlifting Federation American Pro” – held in Manassas, Virginia, US



**25.** In August 2022, India bagged a total of 17 medals at the recently concluded “Thailand Para Badminton International” in Pattaya. The Indians finished with a total of 4 gold, 5 silver and 8 bronze medals in the tournament. Out of the 4 gold medals for India, three came in the Women’s singles section. In Women’s singles, Mandeep Kaur (SL3), Nitya Sre (SH6) and Manisha Ramdas (SU5) all bagged Gold medals, while the men’s doubles SL3-SL4 duo of Pramod Bhagat and Sukant Kadam claimed another Gold medal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – bagged a total of 17 medals (4 gold + 5 silver + 8 bronze) in “Thailand Para Badminton International” in Pattaya
- Gold medalists: Mandeep Kaur, Nitya Sre, Manisha Ramdas and Pramod Bhagat & Sukant Kadam (men’s duo)
- [Thailand – Bangkok – Thai Baht](#) | [PM – Prayut Chan-o-cha](#)

**26.** On August 23, India defeated South Korea to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> and claim the bronze medal in the “2022 Asian Boys’ U18 Volleyball Championship” in Tehran, Iran. Japan, Iran, India and South Korea, that finished in the top four respectively, also qualified for the “2023 FIVB Volleyball Boys’ U19 World Championship” as the Asian Volleyball Confederation (AVC) representatives. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian team – won Bronze medal in “2022 Asian Boys’ U18 Volleyball Championship” in Iran (defeating - South Korea)
- Gold – Japan | Silver – Iran

**27.** In August 2022, Pistol shooter Rahul Jakhar won Gold medal at the “2022 World Shooting Para Sport World Cup” in Changwon, South Korea. Paralympic champion Avani Lekhara won Silver medal, while Pooja Agarwal claimed Bronze medal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rahul Jakhar – won Gold medal at the “2022 World Shooting Para Sport World Cup” in Changwon, South Korea
- Avani Lekhara – won Silver medal | Pooja Agarwal – won Bronze medal
- [South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won](#) | [President – Yoon Suk-yeol](#)

**28.** On August 23, the 71<sup>st</sup> “Inter-Services Aquatics Championship 2022” was held at Command Swimming Pool, Headquarters Eastern Naval Command in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. The annual championship is conducted under the aegis of the Services Sports Control Board and aims to select services sportsmen for representation in national and thereafter international aquatics events. The services were fielding four teams, two from Army and one each from the Navy and Air Force. The Chief Guest Rear Admiral Vijay Sekhar awarded medals to the winners. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 71<sup>st</sup> “Inter-Services Aquatics Championship 2022” – held in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- [Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati](#) | [CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy](#) | [Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan](#)

**29.** On August 24, India’s Anupama Ramachandran and Keerthana Pandian won Silver and Bronze medals respectively in the U-21 Women’s event at the “IBSF World Junior Snooker Championships 2022” in Bucharest, Romania. Ramachandran lost to Thailand’s Panchaya Channoi. International Billiards and Snooker Federation (IBSF) is headquartered in Doha, Qatar. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- “IBSF World Junior Snooker Championships 2022” – held in Bucharest, Romania
- U-21 Women’s event: Silver – Anupama Ramachandran | Bronze – Keerthana Pandian
- HQs of IBSF – Doha, Qatar | President – Mubarak Al-Khayarin | Founded in – 1971

**30.** On August 23, Shubman Gill broke Sachin Tendulkar’s 24-year-old record with maiden hundred in 3<sup>rd</sup> ODI against Zimbabwe in Harare. The legendary cricketer Sachin Tendulkar had scored an unbeaten 127 in Bulawayo way back in 1998. While Shubman smacked 130 off 97 balls, hitting 15 fours and a six in an innings. Gill also became the second youngest Indian with an ODI hundred against Zimbabwe at the age of 22, after Mohammed Kaif. Indian Cricket Team won the “Kajaria Cup India Tour of Zimbabwe One Day International (ODI)” by defeating Zimbabwe Harare, Zimbabwe. India vs Zimbabwe ODI Series was called Kajaria Cup. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Shubman Gill – broke Sachin Tendulkar’s 24-year-old record with maiden hundred
- In their maiden hundred: Sachin Tendulkar scored 127 runs, while Shubman scored 130 runs
- India vs Zimbabwe ODI Series was called ‘Kajaria Cup’ – won by Indian Team

**31.** On August 25, Indian Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi clinched the 28<sup>th</sup> Abu Dhabi Masters chess tournament with 7.5 points, beating Spain’s David Anton Guijjarro. Arjun remained unbeaten through all the nine rounds. Uzbekistan’s Javokhir Sindarov beat Iran’s M Amin Tabatabaei to claim the second position. Dutchman Jorden van Foreest took the third place. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Arjun Erigaisi – won the 28<sup>th</sup> “Abu Dhabi Masters Chess Tournament” (beating - Spain’s David Anton Guijjarro)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> position – Javokhir Sindarov (Uzbekistan) | 3<sup>rd</sup> position – Jorden van Foreest (Netherlands)

**32.** On August 27, Olympic champion javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra scripted history as he became the first Indian to clinch a “Diamond League” title by winning the “2022 Athletissima Lausanne” in Switzerland with the massive throw to 89.08m in his first attempt. Czech Republic’s Jakub Vadlejch finished second with a best throw of 85.88m while Curtis Thompson of USA was third with a best effort of 83.72m. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Neeraj Chopra – became the first Indian to clinch a “Diamond League” title by winning the “2022 Athletissima Lausanne”
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Neeraj Chopra (89.08m) | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Jakub Vadlejch (Czech Republic), 3<sup>rd</sup> – Curtis Thompson (US)

**33.** In August 2022, Indian Wrestling Team won a total of 16 medals (1 Gold, 4 Silver & 11 Bronze) at the “U-20 World Championships” in Sofia, Bulgaria. During the Championships, Haryana’s 17-year old Antim Panghal became the first ever Indian woman to win a Gold medal in the “U-20 World Wrestling Championships”. Sumit and Rohit Dahiya won bronze medals on the final day. India finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the overall women’s team ranking while finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Men’s Freestyle Team event. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- “U-20 World Wrestling Championships” – held in Sofia, Bulgaria
- Indian Wrestling Team won a total of 16 medals (1 Gold, 4 Silver & 11 Bronze)
- India’s rank: 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Overall Women’s Team | 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Men’s Freestyle Team
- Antim Panghal (Haryana) – the first ever Indian woman to win a Gold medal in “U-20 World Wrestling Championships”

**34.** The 4<sup>th</sup> edition of “Tata Steel Chess India Tournament” will be held in Kolkata from November 29 to December 4, 2022. For the first time, the prize fund for both the men’s and women’ categories will be equal. Like the men’s event at the tournament, the women’s section would have the same format - rapid and blitz. Indian chess legend Viswanathan Anand would be the brand ambassador and advisor of the tournament. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- 4<sup>th</sup> edition of “Tata Steel Chess India Tournament” – to be held in Kolkata (in Nov 2022)
- Viswanathan Anand – the Brand Ambassador & Advisor of the tournament
- HQs of FIDE – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Arkady Dvorkovich | Founded on – July 20, 1924
- HQs of Tata Steel Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – T. V. Narendran

**35.** On August 29, Athletics Federation of India (AFI) partnered with HSBC India to support women athletes of the country, especially the youngsters. Under the partnership, promising girls will be picked from the National Inter District Championships for Under-14 and Under-16 categories and would be nurtured to perform on the global stage. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- AFI + HSBC India = partnered to support young women athletes of India
- HQs of AFI – New Delhi | President – Adille J. Sumariwalla | Secretary General – Ravinder Chaudhry
- HQs of HSBC India – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Hitendra Dave

**36.** On August 28, Red Bull’s Max Verstappen won the “F1 Belgian Grand Prix 2022”. Red Bull teammate Sergio Perez finished second, while Ferrari’s Carlos Sainz stood at third position. Verstappen’s win is his 9<sup>th</sup> of this season and 29<sup>th</sup> overall. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Max Verstappen (Belgian-Dutch - Red Bull) – won the “F1 Belgian Grand Prix 2022”
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Sergio Perez (Red Bull) | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Carlos Sainz (Ferrari)

**37.** On August 27, Indian Judoka Linthoi Chanambam made history by clinching India’s first-ever Gold across any age group at the “Cadet World Championships” held in Sarajevo by defeating Brazil’s Bianca Reis in the women’s 57 kg category. Linthoi is a part of the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) scheme beneficiaries as a development group athlete. The TOPS was launched in September 2014 to improve India’s performance at the Olympics and Paralympics. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Linthoi Chanambam (Judoka) – won India’s first-ever Gold at the “Cadet World Championships” held in Sarajevo
- TOPS scheme – launched in September 2014 to improve India’s performance at the Olympics & Paralympics
- HQs of JFI – New Delhi | Administrator – Pankaj Naqvi
- Bosnia and Herzegovina – Sarajevo – Convertible Marka | President – Sefik Dzaferovic



**38.** The 1<sup>st</sup> “Khelo India Women’s Judo Tournament” began from August 27 across 4 zones in India. The Judo tournament is another initiative by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports to support sports competitions for Women via the Government of India’s flagship program, “Khelo India”. The National Round is scheduled for October 20-23 at the KD Jadhav Indoor Stadium in New Delhi. Meanwhile, the events in the 4 zones were scheduled from August 27 to September 15. India has now won a total of 11 medals in judo at the Commonwealth Games - 5 silver and 6 bronze medals. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> “Khelo India Women’s Judo Tournament” began across 4 zones in India
- The National Round will be held from October 20-23 – at KD Jadhav Indoor Stadium, New Delhi
- [Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports: Anurag Singh Thakur](#) | [Constituency – Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports: Nisith Pramanik](#)

**39.** 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 27<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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:**

- “27<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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](#)

**40.** 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 1<sup>st</sup> Indian & 2<sup>nd</sup> player overall to have played 100 matches each in all three formats
- The first player was – Ross Taylor (New Zealand)

**41.** 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



**42.** 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

**43.** 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

**1.** As on August 2022, Kaizad Bharucha, executive director of HDFC Bank, emerged the Highest Earning Banker for 2021-22 (FY22). Bharucha received Rs 10.64 Cr remuneration in FY22, mainly due to Rs 4.46 Cr as performance bonus. However, Amitabh Chaudhry of Axis Bank was the Highest Paid MD & CEO among bankers in FY22 with a total remuneration of Rs 7.63 Cr in FY22. Chaudhry was followed by Sumant Kathpalia (Rs 7.3 Cr), MD & CEO of Indusind Bank, and Sandeep Bakhshi (Rs 7.08 Cr), MD & CEO of ICICI Bank. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Kaizad Bharucha (Executive Director of HDFC Bank) – emerged the Highest Earning Banker for 2021-22 (FY22)
- Highest Paid MD & CEOs:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> – Amitabh Chaudhry (Axis Bank) | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Amitabh Chaudhry (Indusind Bank) | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Sandeep Bakhshi (ICICI Bank)

**2.** In August 2022, Chief of Royal Navy of Malaysia Admiral Tan Sri Mohd Reza Bin Mohd Sany was on a four-day visit to India. Indian Navy Chief Admiral R. Hari Kumar and his visiting Malaysian counterpart Admiral Tan Sri Mohd Reza Bin Mohd Sany agreed to uphold the principle of collective responsibility for maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region. Both navies had carried out the bilateral exercise “Samudra Laksamana” in May 2022. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- India + Malaysia = agreed to uphold the principle of collective responsibility for maritime security in the IOR
- Admiral Tan Sri Mohd Reza Bin Mohd Sany – Chief of Royal Navy of Malaysia
- Malaysia – Kuala Lumpur – Ringgit | PM – Ismail Sabri Yaakob | King – Al-Sultan Abdullah

**3.** On August 27, Mack Rutherford, a 17-year-old teenager from Belgium, has become the youngest person to fly solo around the world in a small aircraft. After a five-month trip across 52 countries, Rutherford landed at Sofia in Bulgaria. He traversed through Africa and the Gulf region to India, China, South Korea and Japan as well as the northern Pacific. Rutherford has now officially broken 2 Guinness World records - Youngest person to fly around the world solo & Youngest person to fly around the world solo in an Ultra Light aircraft. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Mack Rutherford (17-year - Belgium) – became the youngest person to fly solo around the world in a small aircraft
- Belgium – Brussels – Euro | PM – Alexander De Croo

**4.** 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:**

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



# Arts & Cultural Affairs

**1.** 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”

**2.** On August 9, Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari inaugurated the 22<sup>nd</sup> ‘Bharat Rang Mahotsav’ at Rabindra Natya Mandir in Mumbai. The 5-day drama festival (held from August 9 to 13, 2022) was jointly organised by the Union Ministry of Culture and P. L. Deshpande Maharashtra Kala Akademi, Mumbai to pay tribute to our freedom fighters. The Director of National School of Drama (NSD), Professor Ramesh Chandra Goud presided over the programme. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Bhagat Singh Koshyari – inaugurated the 22<sup>nd</sup> ‘Bharat Rang Mahotsav’ at Rabindra Natya Mandir in Mumbai
- It was organised by – Ministry of Culture + P. L. Deshpande Maharashtra Kala Akademi
- Professor Ramesh Chandra Goud (Director of NSD) – presided over the programme
- Maharashtra: CM – Eknath Shinde | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- Minister of Culture: G. Kishan Reddy | Constituency – Secunderabad, Telangana
- MoS in Minister of Culture: Arjun Ram Meghwal & Meenakshi Lekhi

**3.** In August 2022, the famed ‘Garba’ dance of Gujarat has been nominated to be inscribed as an Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) of Humanity by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Nomination of Garba is for consideration in the 2023 cycle. The latest one, Durga Puja, is the 14<sup>th</sup> Indian event on the list, the others include Yoga, Vedic Chanting, Buddhist Chanting in Ladakh, Chau Dance, Ramlila, Navroz, Kumbh Mela and others. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- ‘Garba’ dance (Gujarat) – nominated to be inscribed as an Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) of Humanity by the UNESCO
- Others Indian events on the list – Durga Puja, Yoga, Vedic Chanting, Buddhist Chanting in Ladakh, Chau Dance, Ramlila, Navroz, Kumbh Mela and others
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay | Founded in – 1945 | Members – 193 Countries
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat



# Science & Technology

**1.** 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

**2.** On August 5, South Korea became the 7<sup>th</sup> country in the world to launch a mission to the Moon as it launched its Korea Pathfinder Lunar Orbiter, nicknamed “Danuri” aboard ‘SpaceX Falcon-9’. The aircraft lifted off from the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida, US. This is the first lunar mission by South Korea, which recently developed a space rocket launch capability. The lunar mission has been jointly developed by NASA and the Korea Aerospace Research Institute (KARI).

[{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- South Korea – launched its first lunar mission “Danuri” aboard ‘SpaceX Falcon-9’ (7<sup>th</sup> country to launch lunar mission)
- “Danuri” jointly developed by = NASA + KARI
- South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won | President – Yoon Suk-yeol

**3.** On August 4, China successfully launched a Terrestrial Ecosystem Carbon Monitoring Satellite and two other satellites from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in north China’s Shanxi Province. The satellites were launched by a ‘Long March-4B’ carrier rocket and entered the planned orbit successfully. This launch marked the 430<sup>th</sup> mission for the Long March series carrier rockets. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- China – successfully launched a Terrestrial Ecosystem Carbon Monitoring Satellite – aboard ‘Long March-4B’ rocket
- This launch marked the 430<sup>th</sup> mission for the ‘Long March’ series carrier rockets
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

**4.** On August 7, the ISRO launched the “AzaadiSAT” made by 750 school girls from 75 schools across India to unfurl Tricolour in space during India’s 75<sup>th</sup> year of Independence celebrations. The announcement for the same was made by PM Narendra Modi on August 15, 2018. The ISRO’s SSLV (Small Satellite Launch Vehicle), along with a co-passenger satellite “AzaadiSAT”, was launched for its first ever spaceflight from the Sriharikota base. This also makes it ISRO’s smallest rocket launch. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- ISRO – launched the “AzaadiSAT” to unfurl Tricolour in space during India’s 75<sup>th</sup> year of Independence celebrations
- This smallest rocket was made by 750 school girls from 75 schools across India
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969



5. On August 7, the Central Government plans to use satellite technology for the implementation of 110 projects in the ecologically sensitive Northeastern region by 2024. Shillong-based North Eastern Space Applications Centre (NESAC) will execute the projects in 8 North Eastern States. The projects were identified in the domains of agriculture, water resources, forestry and ecology, planning and development, UAV remote sensing and disaster management support. Set up in 2000, the NESAC is an autonomous institution under the Department of Space to provide space technology inputs and services for the development of the North Eastern region. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government plans to use satellite technology for the implementation of 110 projects in 8 NE states by 2024
- NESAC (Shillong, Meghalaya) – will execute these projects

6. 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

7. 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

8. On August 11, in another important milestone in the Gaganyaan project, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully carried out the test-firing of the Low Altitude Escape Motor (LEM) of Crew Escape System, from Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh. The Crew Escape System (CES) takes away the Crew module of the Gaganyaan mission in case of any eventuality and rescues the astronauts. The LEM is a distinctive special purpose solid rocket motor. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ISRO – successfully carried out the test-firing of the LEM of Crew Escape System – from Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh
- CES – takes away the Crew module of the Gaganyaan mission in case of any eventuality
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969

9. On August 11, Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched an indigenous vaccine called “Lumpi-ProVaInd” for lumpy skin disease (LSD), which has spread among cattle across states, causing deaths of hundreds of cattle since 2019. The vaccine has been developed by two institutes under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) - National Research Centre on Equines (NRCE), Hisar (Haryana) in collaboration with the Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Izzatnagar (Bareilly). The vaccine is 100% effective, complying with all standards. The LSD disease was reported for the first time in India in 2019 from Odisha. The Centre has also authorised the use of goatpox vaccine to control LSD in cattle. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Narendra Singh Tomar – launched an indigenous vaccine “Lumpi-ProVaInd” for lumpy skin disease among cattle
- LSD disease was reported for the first time in India in 2019 – from Odisha
- The vaccine is developed by = ICAR-NRCE (Hisar, Haryana) + ICAR-IVRI (Izzatnagar, Bareilly, UP)
- HQs of ICAR – New Delhi | DG – Himanshu Pathak | Established in – 1929

**10.** On August 12, the Indian Space and Research Organisation (ISRO) unveiled a virtual space technology museum called “SPARK” as part of the celebrations of the ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’ commemorating India’s 75<sup>th</sup> year of Independence. The virtual space museum hosts several documents, images, and videos related to ISRO launch vehicles, satellites, and scientific missions as well as pioneers of India’s space sector. SPARK is the first 3D virtual space tech park ever created by ISRO. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- ISRO – unveiled a virtual space technology museum called “SPARK”
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969

**11.** On August 11, Ministry of Heavy Industries launched ‘Automated Online Data Transfer’ for capturing critical data related to Domestic Value Addition (DVA) from the approved applicants of the production linked incentive (PLI) scheme for automobile and auto component makers, with an aim to bring in ease of doing business. Under the newly launched system, the critical data would be transferred from the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system to PLI auto portal of the ministry. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Ministry of Heavy Industries – launched ‘Automated Online Data Transfer’ for capturing critical data related to DVA from the approved applicants of the PLI scheme for automobile and auto component makers
- Critical data would be transferred from the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system to PLI auto portal of the ministry
- Ministry of Heavy Industries: Mahendra Nath Pandey | Constituency – Chandauli, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Heavy Industries: Krishan Pal

**12.** On August 15, Chennai-based Space Kidz India unfurled the Indian flag about 30 kilometres above the Earth. The event was part of the ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’ slogan and under the ‘Har Ghar Tiranga’ campaign launched by PM Narendra Modi to celebrate the historic anniversary. The flag was sent to an altitude of 1,06,000 feet above the planet on a balloon that unfurled it. Space Kidz India also coordinated and launched ‘AzadiSAT’ into Low Earth Orbit. AzadiSAT was developed by 750 girl students from across India to mark the 75 years of Independence. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Space Kidz India (Chennai) – unfurled the Indian flag about 30 km above the Earth on August 15
- The flag was sent to an altitude of 1,06,000 feet above the planet on a balloon
- Space Kidz India also coordinated & launched ‘AzadiSAT’ into Low Earth Orbit (developed by 750 girl students)

**13.** On August 13, a team of researchers discovered a new copepod species, a planktonic crustacean namely ‘Tortanus dhritiae’, from the coast of Great Nicobar, part of the Andaman-Nicobar archipelago in the Bay of Bengal. It was named after Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, the first woman Director of the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI). Tortanus dhritiae is mainly found on coral islands in the Pacific Ocean. The discovery was published in the international taxonomy journal ‘Nauplius’. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- ‘Tortanus dhritiae’, a new species of copepod – discovered from the coast of Great Nicobar, Andaman-Nicobar Islands
- It was named after – Dr. Dhriti Banerjee (first woman Director of ZSI) | It is mainly found in the Pacific Ocean
- Andaman & Nicobar Islands: Capital – Port Blair | Lt. Governor – Admiral Devendra Kumar Joshi



**14.** On August 10, IIT Guwahati announced to partner with All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to develop solutions to problems of accessing water, electricity and internet for the AICTE-affiliated technical institutions in North-East India. IIT Guwahati and AICTE will work towards capacity-building in these institutions to promote research and development and prioritise in enhancing quality of education in remote regions of North-East India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Guwahati + AICTE = partnered to develop solutions to problems of accessing Water, Electricity & Internet
- The partnership is for AICTE-affiliated technical institutions in North-East India
- [Director of IIT Guwahati – Dr. T. G. Sitharam](#)
- [HQs of AICTE – New Delhi | Chairman – Anil D. Sahasrabudhe \(AICTE functions under Ministry of Education\)](#)

**15.** In a first, an indigenously developed howitzer gun, 'ATAG', became part of the 21-gun salute that was given to the tricolour during the 'Independence Day 2022' ceremony at the Red Fort. Developed by the DRDO with its Pune-based facility Armament Research & Development Establishment (ARDE), the Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS) was used alongside the traditional British-origin '25 Pounders' artillery guns. 'Howitzers' is an umbrella term for a category of Long-Range Artillery Guns. The ATAGS project was started in 2013 by DRDO to replace older guns in service in the Indian Army with a modern 155 mm artillery gun. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS), for the first time, became part of the 21-gun salute during the 'Independence Day 2022' ceremony
- 'ATAGS', an indigenously developed howitzer gun – developed by ARDE-DRDO ([Pune](#))

**16.** On August 15, a team of clinicians and scientists from three Hyderabad-based institutes - LV Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI), IIT Hyderabad & Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), 3D-printed an artificial cornea and transplanted it into a rabbit's eye. The researchers from the three institutes have collaborated to develop the 3D-printed Cornea from the human donor corneal tissue. It is a made-in-India product by an Indian clinician-scientist team and the first 3-D printed human cornea that is optically and physically suitable for transplantation. Corneal damage is the leading cause of blindness worldwide with more than 1.5 million new cases of corneal blindness reported every year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- LV Prasad Eye Institute + IIT Hyderabad + CCMB – 3D-printed an artificial cornea & transplanted it into a rabbit's eye
- These 3 institutes ([Hyderabad](#)) – collaborated to develop the 3D-printed Cornea from the human donor corneal tissue
- [Director of IIT Hyderabad – B. S. Murty](#)

**17.** In August 2022, in a major breakthrough, Israel has claimed to have developed world's first synthetic mouse embryo, by using stem cells instead of the egg and sperm procedure. The embryo had a beating heart, brain-like and intestine-like structure. It grew for 8.5 days. The normal gestational period for embryos in mice is 20 days. The research was published in the peer-reviewed journal Cell titled 'Post-Gastrulation Synthetic Embryos Generated Ex Utero from Mouse Naive ESCs'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Israel – developed world's first synthetic mouse embryo, by using stem cells instead of the egg & sperm procedure
- It grew for 8.5 days | Normal gestational period for embryos in mice is 20 days
- [Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Isaac Herzog | PM – Yair Lapid](#)



**18.** On August 20, during a 2-day “DigiFest-2022”, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot inaugurated “Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Advanced Technologies (R-CAT)” for graduates in Jaipur, and also inaugurated three “iStart Nest Incubators” in Kota, Bikaner and Churu to promote start-up culture in the state. The R-CAT would provide an opportunity for the state’s youth to learn advanced and emerging technologies in areas like Artificial Intelligence, Cloud Computing, Cyber Security, Robotics, Machine Learning and Data Analytics. The youth will be trained by experts from big companies in these fields. Mr. Gehlot also launched three websites ‘WebMyWay’, ‘Sotto’ and ‘RajSambal’ and the Rajiv Gandhi Yuva Mitra Samvad App. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ashok Gehlot – inaugurated “Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Advanced Technologies (R-CAT)” for graduates in Jaipur
- He also inaugurated three “iStart Nest Incubators” in Kota, Bikaner and Churu to promote start-up culture in the state
- He also launched 3 websites ‘WebMyWay’, ‘Sotto’ & ‘RajSambal’ and ‘Rajiv Gandhi Yuva Mitra Samvad App’
- [Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur](#) | [CM – Ashok Gehlot](#) | [Governor – Kalraj Mishra](#)

**19.** On August 19, India has developed the first indigenously-developed RT-PCR kit for testing monkeypox disease. The kit was unveiled by Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) Ajay Kumar Sood and developed by Transasia Bio-Medicals. According to WHO, Monkeypox is a viral Zoonosis, a virus transmitted to humans from animals. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – developed the first indigenously-developed RT-PCR kit for testing monkeypox disease
- The Kit is developed by – [Transasia Bio-Medicals](#) | [Monkeypox – a viral Zoonosis](#)

**20.** On August 21, a group of researchers discovered a new species of bent-toed gecko from Agasthyamalai hills in the Western Ghats. The species has been named “Cyrtodactylus aravindi” after noted malacologist N. A. Aravind. Aravind’s ground gecko has so far been found only at two locations, Muppandal and Thuckalay, in Kanyakumari district falling within the Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserve in Tamil Nadu. The details of the new species were described in the journal, Vertebrate Zoology. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Cyrtodactylus aravindi”, a new species of bent-toed gecko – discovered from Agasthyamalai Hills in the Western Ghats
- Aravind’s ground gecko has so far been found only at – [Muppandal & Thuckalay, in Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu](#)
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai](#) | [CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin](#) | [Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi](#)

**21.** On August 21, an international team of researchers has found a new species of long-fingered bats in India and Sri Lanka. The team named the new species of long-fingered bats as “Miniopterus phillipsi”. It was named after W. W. A. Philips (1892-1981) in recognition of his contributions to studies on the mammals of Sri Lanka and South Asia. The initial research was carried out in Sri Lanka in 2019 and it took three years to be completed in both Sri Lanka and India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Miniopterus phillipsi”, a new species of long-fingered bats – discovered in [India & Sri Lanka](#)
- [Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan Rupee](#)
- [PM – Dinesh Gunawardena](#) | [President – Ranil Wickremesinghe](#)

**22.** On August 22, Digantara, a space sector start-up, will set up India’s first Commercial Space Situational Awareness Observatory in Garhwal region of Uttarakhand. The Space Situational Awareness (SSA) Observatory will help India track any activity in space including that of space debris and military satellites hovering over the region. It will track objects as small as 10 cm in size orbiting the earth. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Digantara – will set up India's first Commercial Space Situational Awareness Observatory in Garhwal, Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh

**23.** In August 2022, a new species of crab, 'Ghatiana Dwivarna', has been discovered in Uttara Kannada district of Karnataka and it is endemic to Yellapur. Coincidentally, the scientific acceptance of Dwivarna, the 75<sup>th</sup> crab species in India, came on August 15, the day when India celebrated 75 years of Independence. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Ghatiana Dwivarna', a new species of crab – discovered in Uttara Kannada district of Karnataka
- It is the 75<sup>th</sup> crab species in India & it is endemic to Yellapur, Karnataka
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot

**24.** On August 17, Bharat Biotech International Limited (BBIL) completed the clinical development for Phase III trials and booster doses for the "BBV154" intranasal Covid vaccine. It is India's first Adenoviral Intranasal Covid Vaccine. The vaccine has proven to be safe, well-tolerated, and immunogenic in subjects in controlled clinical trials. BBV154 was developed in partnership with Washington University in St Louis, US. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bharat Biotech – completed clinical trials for the India's first Adenoviral Intranasal Covid Vaccine called "BBV154"
- HQs of Bharat Biotech – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Dr. Krishna Ella

**25.** Scientists of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Bengaluru, are among 9 groups selected from 42 applicants in 2019 as part of a United Nations-led project called "Spectrographic Investigation of Nebular Gas (SING)". The project also involves collaboration with the Institute of Astronomy, Russian Academy of Sciences, and has been designed and developed by research students at the IIA. The SING project would be the first space-collaboration involving India and China. Moreover, China is constructing 'T-shaped' Tiangong space station which is expected to be around 20% as massive as the International Space Station (ISS). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIA's Scientists are part of UN-led "Spectrographic Investigation of Nebular Gas (SING)" project
- 'SING' project – the first space-collaboration involving India & China
- China is constructing 'T-shaped' Tiangong space station, expected to be around 20% as massive as the ISS
- HQs of IIA – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Annapurni Subramaniam

**26.** On August 23, Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati developed an ultrasound-assisted fermentation method to produce a safe sugar substitute called "Xylitol" from bagasse, the residue left after crushing of sugarcane. The new method overcomes operational limitations of chemical methods of synthesis and time delays associated with conventional fermentation. The use of ultrasound during the fermentation process not only reduced the time of fermentation to 15 hours against almost 48 hours in conventional processes, but also increased yield of the product by almost 20%. The research was published in Bioresource Technology and Ultrasonics Sonochemistry journals. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Guwahati – developed an ultrasound-assisted fermentation method to produce a safe sugar substitute called "Xylitol"
- Director of IIT Guwahati – Dr. T. G. Sitharam



**27.** On August 25, Chinese search engine giant Baidu Inc revealed its first quantum computer namely “Qianshi” and is ready to make it available to external users. The Baidu-developed quantum computer has a 10-quantum-bit (qubit) processor. The Beijing-based company has also developed a 36-qubit quantum chip. According to market researcher IDC, Global governments and companies will invest around \$16.4 billion in quantum development by the end of 2027. Moreover, U.S. tech giant IBM plans to make a quantum computer ready for commercial use in 2025 with a more-than-4,000 qubit processor. IBM has so far released quantum processors with 127 qubits. Google is also aiming to develop a computer with 10,00,000 qubits by the end of this decade. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Baidu Inc ([China](#)) – revealed its first quantum computer namely “Qianshi” with 10 qubit processor
- IBM ([US](#)) – plans to develop a quantum computer with a more-than-4,000 qubit processor by 2025
- Google ([US](#)) – also plans to develop a quantum computer with 10,00,000 qubits by 2030

**28.** India is all set to join the elite global club, with the Indian Army will soon possess indigenous and more advanced Quantum Communication Technology, equipping troops with a high-end secured defence system. Under the aegis of Innovation for Defence Excellence (iDEX), a Defence Innovation Organisation (DIO), the QNu Labs, a Bengaluru-based deep tech start-up, has developed this advanced secured communication through Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) systems. China, the US, Canada and other European countries are global leaders in the QKD systems. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Army – will possess ‘Quantum Communication Technology’, a high-end secured defence system
- The technology is developed by – QNu Labs (Bengaluru) through Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) systems
- HQs of Indian Army – [New Delhi](#) | Chief – [Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande](#) | Vice Chief – [Lt. General Baggavalli Somashekar Raj](#)

**29.** 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 \(Liz Truss\)](#)

**30.** 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

**1.** 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

**2.** 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

**3.** 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

**4.** On August 3, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet appointed Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer Shweta Singh as a Director in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) for a period of 3 years. The cabinet simultaneously announced to cancel the appointment of Aniket Govind Mandavgane as Deputy Secretary in PMO. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Shweta Singh – appointed as a Director in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) for a period of 3 years

**5.** On August 1, Director General of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) Dr. Sujoy Lal Thaosen took over the additional charge of Director General of Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), succeeding Sanjay Arora. Dr. Thaosen is an IPS Officer of the 1988 batch, Madhya Pradesh Cadre. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- S. L. Thaosen (DG of SSB) – took over the additional charge of Director General of ITBP
- HQs of ITBP – New Delhi | DG – Sujoy Lal Thaosen (addi. charge) | Established on – October 24, 1962



**6.** On August 6, the government approved extension in service to Rajiv Gauba as Cabinet Secretary for a further period of one year beyond 30 August 2022. This is the second extension. Before becoming the Cabinet Secretary in August 2019, Gauba was the Home Secretary. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajiv Gauba – given 1 year extension to serve as the Cabinet Secretary – till August, 2023

**7.** On August 5, Unity Small Finance Bank Limited (Unity Bank) announced the appointment of Inderjit Camotra as the Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer. In January 2022, the bank appointed Vinod Rai, the former CAG of India, as its Chairman. Unity SFB is a 51:49 joint venture between Centrum Group and Bharatpe. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Inderjit Camotra – appointed as MD & CEO of Unity SFB
- Unity SFB – a joint venture between Centrum Group & Bharatpe
- HQs of Unity SFB – New Delhi | CEO – Inderjit Camotra | Chairman – Vinod Rai

**8.** On August 7, senior electrochemical scientist Nallathamby Kalaiselvi has become the first woman Director General of the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) for a period of two years. The CSIR is a consortium of 38 state-run research institutes across India. Kalaiselvi succeeds Shekhar Mande, who superannuated in April, 2022. Rajesh Gokhale was given the additional charge of the CSIR upon Mande's retirement. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nallathamby Kalaiselvi – became 1<sup>st</sup> woman Director General of the 'CSIR' for 2 years (succeeding - Shekhar Mande)
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | President – Narendra Modi | DG – Nallathamby Kalaiselvi | Established in – 1942

**9.** 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

**10.** 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



**11.** 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](#)

**12.** 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}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nitish Kumar – tendered his resignation as the Chief Minister of the NDA government in Bihar
- [Bihar: Capital – Patna](#) | [CM – Nitish Kumar](#) | [Governor – Phagu Chauhan](#)

**13.** On August 10, JD(U) leader Nitish Kumar, who recently tendered his resignation, took oath as the Bihar Chief Minister for the 8<sup>th</sup> time after he announced a new alliance with RJD's Tejashwi Yadav and other opposition parties. Tejashwi Yadav was also administered the oath of office as Deputy CM of Bihar. Kumar was first sworn in as CM in 2000. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nitish Kumar – took oath as the Bihar Chief Minister for the 8<sup>th</sup> time (First time - in 2000)
- Tejashwi Yadav – took oath as Deputy CM of Bihar
- [Bihar: Capital – Patna](#) | [CM – Nitish Kumar](#) | [Governor – Phagu Chauhan](#)

**14.** In August 2022, C. B. Ananthkrishnan, Director (Finance) of the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), took over the additional charge of the post of Chairman & Managing Director of the HAL, after the superannuation of R. Madhavan on July 31. Ananthkrishnan will hold this post for 3 months or till the post is vacant, whichever is earlier. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- C. B. Ananthkrishnan – took over the additional charge as MD & Chairman of HAL (succeeding - R. Madhavan)
- [HQs of HAL – Bengaluru, Karnataka](#) | [CEO – Amitabh Bhatt](#) | [Chairman & MD – C. B. Ananthkrishnan \(addi. charge\)](#)

**15.** On August 11, U.N. Secretary General Antonio Guterres appointed Rear Admiral Guillermo Pablo Rios of Argentina as the Head of Mission and Chief Military Observer for the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP). Rear Admiral Rios will succeed Major General Jose Eladin Alcain of Uruguay. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Guillermo Pablo Rios ([Argentina](#)) – appointed as the Head of Mission & Chief Military Observer for the UN Military Observer Group in India & Pakistan
- [HQs of UN – New York, United States](#) | [Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres](#) | [Formed in – October 24, 1945](#)



**16.** On August 11, the central government announced reappointment of 4 Independent Directors on the RBI board for a term of 4 years. The central government re-nominated Satish Kashinath Marathe and Swaminathan Gurumurthy as part-time, non-official directors on the Central Board of Reserve Bank of India. Meanwhile, Revathy Iyer and Sachin Chaturvedi were re-nominated as part-time, non-official directors on the Central Board of Reserve Bank of India. Their current tenure ends on September 18, 2022. Non-official directors are appointed for a period of 4 years and are eligible for re-appointment.

[{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Central Govt announced reappointment of 4 Independent Directors on the RBI board for a term of 4 years
- 4 Directors: Satish Kashinath Marathe, Swaminathan Gurumurthy, Revathy Iyer, Sachin Chaturvedi
- Non-official directors are appointed for a period of 4 years
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

**17.** On August 15, William Samoei Ruto was declared the winner of Kenya's Presidential election. He is the leader of the United Democratic Alliance party under the Kenya Kwanza (Kenya First) coalition. Ruto defeated his main rival in the election Raila Odinga. William became the Kenya's first candidate to win the Presidential election at first attempt. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- William Samoei Ruto – became the new President of Kenya (Party - United Democratic Alliance)
- Kenya – Nairobi – Kenyan Shilling | President – William Samoei Ruto

**18.** On August 11, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami named cricketer Rishabh Pant as the brand ambassador of the state. The wicketkeeper-batter was born in Roorkee in Uttarakhand's Haridwar district. Honouring him as the brand ambassador will inspire young people in the field of sports to carve an identity of their own. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rishabh Pant – named as the brand ambassador of Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh

**19.** On August 12, Ms. Namgya C. Khampa is appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Kenya. She is presently Deputy Chief of Mission in Embassy of India, Kathmandu. India and Kenya are maritime neighbours. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Namgya C. Khampa – appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to Kenya
- Kenya – Nairobi – Kenyan Shilling | President – William Samoei Ruto

**20.** In August 2022, Ranjit Rath has taken over as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of state-run Oil India Ltd (OIL). Prior to his appointment, Rath was the CMD of Mineral Exploration & Consultancy Ltd. He has also held the positions of the CEO of Khanij Bidesh India Limited and MD of Bharat Gold Mines Ltd. He replaced Sushil Chandra Mishra who retired on 30 June. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ranjit Rath – taken over as the CMD of Oil India Ltd (succeeding - Sushil Chandra Mishra)
- HQs of OIL – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CMD – Ranjit Rath



**21.** On August 16, the Central government and the board of National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) appointed Rajkiran Rai G as its Managing Director (MD) for nearly 5 years till May 18, 2027. After beginning operations in its new avatar, picking Rai as the MD of NaBFID, was the FSIB's first recommendation. The Centre, in October 2021, had appointed K. V. Kamath as Chairperson of the NaBFID. According to the 'NaBFID Act 2021', the institution will have one MD and not more than three DMDs. The newly-incorporated NaBFID is targeting financial assistance of Rs 1 lakh Crore in its first year of operations. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajkiran Rai G – appointed as MD of NaBFID for 5 years
- NaBFID is targeting financial assistance of Rs 1 lakh Crore in its first year of operations
- [HQs of NaBFID – Mumbai, MH](#) | [Chairperson – K. V. Kamath](#)

**22.** In August 2022, the shareholders of Bharti Airtel approved the re-appointment of Gopal Vittal as MD & CEO of the company. Vittal will remain the MD & CEO of Airtel for a period of 5 years with effect from February 1, 2023 to January 31, 2028. Airtel's Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on August 12, 2022. Earlier, Vittal was re-appointed with effect from February 1, 2018 for a period of 5 years, (upto January 31, 2023). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Gopal Vittal – re-appointed as the MD & CEO of Bharti Airtel from February 1, 2023 to January 31, 2028
- [HQs of Bharti Airtel – New Delhi](#) | [MD & CEO – Gopal Vittal](#) | [Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal](#)

**23.** On August 17, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres appointed India's Electronics & Information Technology Secretary Alkesh Kumar Sharma to the 10-member Internet Governance Forum (IGF) Leadership Panel. Internet pioneer Vint Cerf and Nobel Prize-winning journalist Maria Reesa were also appointed to this panel of eminent experts on internet governance. In addition, Guterres' envoy on technology, Amandeep Singh Gill, will also be on the panel. The panel's role is to deal with strategic and urgent issues of the Internet and provide strategic advice to the IGF. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Alkesh Kumar Sharma – was appointed to the 10-member Internet Governance Forum (IGF) Leadership Panel
- Vint Cerf & Maria Reesa were also appointed to this panel
- [HQs of UN – New York, United States](#) | [Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres](#) | [Formed in – October 24, 1945](#)

**24.** On August 17, Badminton players Lakshya Sen, Kidambi Srikanth, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty are appointed as brand ambassadors of Mastercard in India. As winners of the Thomas Cup 2022 and Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games, these new ambassadors will partner with the company to spread awareness about safety, security, and convenience of digital payments in India. Similar to the key role played by Mastercard's existing brand ambassador MS Dhoni, the badminton stars will be a part of its 'Team Cashless India' campaign. India's digital payment market is expected to more than triple to \$10 trillion by 2026, according to a report by PhonePe-BCG study. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Lakshya Sen, Kidambi Srikanth, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty – appointed as brand ambassadors of Mastercard in India
- These brand ambassadors will be a part of its 'Team Cashless India' campaign
- Mastercard's existing brand ambassador – MS Dhoni
- India's digital payment market is expected to more than triple to \$10 trillion by 2026



**25.** On August 18, the Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) recommends Mohammad Mustafa for the position of Chairman in National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet headed by PM Narendra Modi will take the final decision on the recommendation of FSIB. Mustafa, a 1995 batch IAS officer of the Uttar Pradesh cadre, has served as the Chairman & MD (CMD) of SIDBI. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- FSIB recommends Mohammad Mustafa for the position of Chairman in NABARD
- [HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [Chairman – Govinda Rajulu Chintala](#) | [Founded in – 1982](#)

**26.** On August 19, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approved one-year extension in service to Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla. This is Mr. Bhalla's second extension in service. Mr. Bhalla is a 1984 batch IAS officer of the Assam Meghalaya cadre. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ACC – approved one-year extension in service to Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla
- [Ministry of Home Affairs: Amit Shah](#) | [Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Home Affairs: Nityanand Rai, Ajay Kumar & Nisith Pramanik](#)

**27.** On August 18, Odisha cadre IAS officer Rajesh Verma, Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) Secretary, is appointed as the Secretary to President Droupadi Murmu. In the past, Verma has also served as the Principal Secretary to Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik. Rajesh Verma was given the additional charge of the Financial Services Secretary in January, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajesh Verma – appointed as the Secretary to President Droupadi Murmu

**28.** On August 21, the Centre has extended the tenure of Meenesh C. Shah, Executive Director of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), as the additional Chairman of the NDDB for another 6 months until November 30, 2022. The post of a full time Chairman of NDDB has been vacant since December 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Centre extended the tenure of Meenesh C. Shah as the additional Chairman of the NDDB – until Nov 30, 2022
- He is the Executive Director of the NDDB
- [HQs of NDDB – Anand, Gujarat](#) | [Chairman – Meenesh Shah](#) | [Established in – 1965](#)

**29.** On August 18, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) announced the appointment of Indian philanthropist Ashish Dhawan, founder and CEO of Convergence Foundation, to its board of trustees. Dr Helene D Gayle, President of Spelman College, US, has also been appointed to the foundation's board of trustees. The BMGF has been working in collaboration with the Indian government and other partners since 2003 on various issues. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ashish Dhawan – appointed to the board of trustees of Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Ashish Dhawan – founder & CEO of Convergence Foundation
- Dr. Helene D. Gayle (President of Spelman College, US) – also appointed to the BMGF's board of trustees
- [Location of Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation – US](#) | [Location of Rabo Foundation – Netherlands](#)



**30.** On August 21, Vijay Shekhar Sharma has been reappointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of financial services platform Paytm. 99.67% of the company's shareholders voted in favour of him. The decision was taken during the 22nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of One97 Communications Limited (OCL) which owns the brand Paytm. This was the first AGM as a public listed company. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Vijay Shekhar Sharma – reappointed as the MD & CEO of Paytm
- HQs of Paytm – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | MD & CEO – Vijay Sekhar Sharma | Founded in – 2010

**31.** On August 23, diplomat Vikram K. Doraiswami was appointed India's new High Commissioner to the United Kingdom. He succeeds Gaitri Issar Kumar who retired from service on June 30. Vikram is currently serving as Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh and is expected to take up the assignment shortly. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Vikram K. Doraiswami – appointed India's new High Commissioner to the UK (succeeding - Gaitri Issar Kumar)
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

**32.** On August 23, Petcare brand Heads up for Tails (HUFT) announced actor Kriti Sanon as its first Brand Ambassador. Kriti Sanon is an award winning actor, a passionate animal lover and a pet parent. In August 2021, the company raised \$37 million (₹277 Cr) in a 'Series A' round. India's pet care segment was about Rs 3,701 Cr in FY20-21, according to research firm Euromonitor International. The sector was growing at 15% CAGR between 2016-2021 and is expected to double to 30% CAGR in 2021-2026. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kriti Sanon – appointed as first Brand Ambassador of Heads up for Tails (HUFT)

**33.** On August 22, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the appointment of Dr. Debasisa Mohanty, Staff Scientist-VII, NII, to the post of Director of National Institute of Immunology (NII). In another order, Revenue Secretary Tarun Bajaj was given additional charge as Corporate Affairs Secretary. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr. Debasisa Mohanty – appointed to the post of Director of National Institute of Immunology
- Tarun Bajaj – appointed as the Corporate Affairs Secretary

**34.** On August 23, In Mali, the military has appointed a Colonel Abdoulaye Maiga as interim Prime Minister after the country's civilian Prime Minister Choguel Kokalla Maiga was admitted to hospital. Before this appointment, Colonel Maiga was working as a Government Spokesman and Minister of Territorial Administration and Decentralisation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Colonel Abdoulaye Maiga – appointed as interim Prime Minister of Mali
- Mali – Bamako – CFA franc | Interim President – Col. Assimi Goita | Interim PM – Col. Abdoulaye Maiga

**35.** On August 25, Deepak Kumar Lalla took charge of SBICAP Securities as its new MD & CEO. He replaced Naresh Yadav. SBICAP Securities is a wholly-owned subsidiary of SBI Capital Markets and a part of the esteemed SBI Group. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Deepak Kumar Lalla – appointed as the new MD & CEO of SBICAP Securities (succeeding - Naresh Yadav)
- HQs of SBICAP Securities – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Deepak Kumar Lalla



**36.** On August 23, Major General Praveen Chhabra was appointed as Inspector General (Operations) in the National Security Guard (NSG). The NSG is the country's elite counter-terrorism force. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Major General Chhabra, on a deputation basis, for a period of 2 years and 6 months. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Major Gen. Praveen Chhabra – appointed as Inspector General (Operations) in the NSG for a period of 2 years
- HQs of NSG – New Delhi | DG – M. A. Ganapathy | Founded on – Sep 22, 1986

**37.** On August 24, IDFC Limited announced that its Board of Directors approved the appointment of Mahendra N Shah as the Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the company with effective from October 1, 2022. It was done based on the recommendation of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee. The term of Sunil Kakar as MD & CEO of the Company ends on September 30, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mahendra N Shah – appointed as the MD & CEO of IDFC Limited (succeeding - Sunil Kakar)
- HQs of IDFC Ltd – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Mahendra N Shah

**38.** On August 24, the All India Chess Federation (AICF) appointed Vipnesh Bharadwaj as its Interim Secretary after the Delhi High Court reiterated its order of removing former Chief Bharat Singh Chauhan. On June 2, the Delhi HC passed an order and unseated Chauhan. However, the Supreme Court on June 7 overruled the HC's decision and reinstated Chauhan in his post till August 15. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Vipnesh Bharadwaj – appointed as Interim Secretary of All India Chess Federation (AICF)
- HQs of AICF – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | President – Sanjay Kapoor | Interim Secretary – Vipnesh Bharadwaj

**39.** On August 25, DreamSetGo, a sports experiences and travel platform, has announced Sourav Ganguly as its first brand ambassador. The company was launched in 2019 for people to get access to worldwide sporting events and is owned by Dream Sports, a sports technology company that also houses sports brands like Dream11, FanCode, Dream Capital, DreamPay, and KheloMore etc. The veteran cricketer will play a key role as the 'Supercaptain' for the company. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sourav Ganguly – appointed as first brand ambassador of DreamSetGo
- Sourav Ganguly will play a key role as the 'Supercaptain' for DreamSetGo

**40.** On August 25, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved former Chief Economic Adviser Krishnamurthy Subramanian for the post of Executive Director (India) at the International Monetary Fund for a period of three years starting November 1, 2022. Mr. Subramanian, who is currently a Finance Professor at the Indian School of Business, will replace Surjit S. Bhalla whose tenure ends on October 30, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- K. Subramanian – appointed for the post of Executive Director (India) at the IMF (succeeding - Surjit S. Bhalla)
- HQs of IMF – Washington, D.C., USA | President – Kristalina Georgieva | Member countries – 190



**41.** On August 28, the Appointments Committee of Cabinet (ACC) has appointed Ananth Narayan Gopalakrishnan, an associate professor at SP Jain Institute of Management and Research (SPJIMR), as a whole-time member of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). With this appointment, Gopalakrishnan becomes the fourth whole-time member of SEBI and he will hold office for 3 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ananth Narayan Gopalakrishnan – appointed as 4<sup>th</sup> whole-time member of the SEBI
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

**42.** On August 25, Ministry of Defence (MoD) appointed Dr. Samir V Kamat as Chairman of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Secretary of the Department of Defence Research & Development. Kamat, who is Director-General, Naval Systems and Materials (NS&M), will succeed G Satheesh Reddy, who has been named as Scientific Adviser to Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, according to a Personnel Ministry order. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr. Samir V Kamat – appointed as Chairman of DRDO & Secretary of the Department of Defence R&D
- Samir V. Kamat succeeds G. Satheesh Reddy
- G. Satheesh Reddy – named as Scientific Adviser to Defence Minister Rajnath Singh
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – Samir V. Kamat | Established in – 1958

**43.** On August 26, Japanese automaker Nissan announced the appointment of Keerthi Prakash as Managing Director of Renault Nissan Automotive India Pvt Ltd (RNAIPL) to lead operations at the company's alliance plant in Chennai, from September 1. He replaces Biju Balendran. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Keerthi Prakash – appointed as the MD of Renault Nissan Automotive India (succeeding - Biju Balendran)
- HQs of Renault India – New Delhi | MD – Venkatram Mamillapalle
- HQs Nissan India – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | President – Frank Torres

**44.** In August 2022, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres appointed Grenada's Simon Stiell as the new Executive Secretary of the United Nations Climate Change Secretariat based in Bonn, Germany. The appointment was endorsed by the Bureau of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Mr. Stiell succeeds Patricia Espinosa of Mexico. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Simon Stiell (Grenada) – appointed as new Executive Secretary of UN Climate Change Secretariat (Bonn, Germany)
- He succeeded – Patricia Espinosa (Mexico)
- HQs of UN – New York, US | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres | Formed in – October 24, 1945

**45.** In August 2022, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) cleared the appointment of senior Nagaland cadre IAS officer Piyush Goyal as the CEO of National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID). Goyal is currently posted as Additional Secretary (AS) in the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). IPS officer Ashish Gupta, was appointed as an Additional Director General in the Border Security Force (BSF). Moreover, IAS officer Ashok K. K. Meena is named the new CMD of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) in the rank of additional secretary. IAS officer Archana Varma has been appointed as Director of the National Water Mission under the Ministry of Water Resources. Gitanjali Gupta has been appointed as the MD of Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Piyush Goyal – appointed as the CEO of National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID)
- Ashish Gupta – appointed as an Additional Director General in the Border Security Force (BSF)
- Ashok K. K. Meena – appointed as new CMD of the Food Corporation of India (FCI)
- Archana Varma – appointed as Director of the National Water Mission
- Gitanjali Gupta – appointed as the MD of Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation

**46.** On August 27, the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) co-opted Athletics Federation of India (AFI) President Adille Sumariwalla as Interim President. IOA president Narinder Dhruv Batra resigned on July 18 after Delhi high court, in a June 24 order, had removed him and appointed Khanna as acting President. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Adille Sumariwalla (AFI President) – appointed as Interim President of Indian Olympic Association (IOA)
- HQs of IOA – New Delhi | President – Adille Sumariwalla (interim) | Secretary General – Rajeev Mehta
- HQs of AFI – New Delhi | President – Adille J. Sumariwalla | Secretary General – Ravinder Chaudhry

**47.** On August 30, Acefour Accessories, a travel accessories company, appointed Jasprit Bumrah as brand ambassador for its eco-friendly luggage brand “uppercase” for two years. Jasprit Bumrah will lead the D2C brand’s ‘Never Ordinary’ campaign. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jasprit Bumrah – appointed as brand ambassador of Acefour Accessories, a travel accessories company (Mumbai)

**48.** On August 29, German luxury carmaker Mercedes-Benz appointed Santosh Iyer as the Managing Director (MD) and CEO of Mercedes-Benz India. He will replace Martin Schwenk who will assume the responsibility as the President and CEO of Mercedes-Benz Thailand. Santosh Iyer would be the first Indian to lead Mercedes-Benz India operations. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Santosh Iyer – appointed as MD & CEO of Mercedes-Benz India (succeeding - Martin Schwenk)
- Mercedes-Benz – a luxury carmaker based in Germany

**49.** On August 26, Lok Sabha MP Anurag Sharma has been elected as Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) treasurer at the grouping’s 65<sup>th</sup> 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 65<sup>th</sup> Conference – held at Halifax, Canada

**50.** 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)

**51.** 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

**52.** 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)

**53.** 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

1. 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

2. On August 8, 18-year old Arya 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:

- Arya 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”

3. 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}](#)

## Key Points:

- 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

4. On August 9, Indian men’s football team captain Sunil Chhetri was named the “AIFF Men’s Footballer of the Year 2021-22” for the seventh time, while Manisha Kalyan won the “AIFF Women’s Footballer of the Year 2021-22”. The winners of the AIFF Player of the Year Awards were nominated by Igor Stimac and Thomas Dennerby, the Indian men’s and women’s national team coaches, respectively. Meanwhile, Vikram Pratap Singh and Martina Thokchom were named the “AIFF Men’s and Women’s Emerging Footballer of the Year 2021-22”, respectively. Crystal John named “AIFF Best Referee of the Year 2021-22”. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Sunil Chhetri – was named the “AIFF Men’s Footballer of the Year 2021-22” for the 7<sup>th</sup> time
- Manisha Kalyan – was named the “AIFF Women’s Footballer of the Year 2021-22”
- Vikram Pratap Singh – was named the “AIFF Men’s Emerging Footballer of the Year 2021-22”
- Martina Thokchom – was named the “Women’s Emerging Footballer of the Year 2021-22”
- Crystal John – was named the “AIFF Best Referee of the Year 2021-22”
- HQs of AIFF – Dwarka, Delhi | President – Praful Patel | Gen. Secretary – Kushal Das



5. On August 8, Sangeetha Abhayan, a Kerala-based Entrepreneur, won the “World Women Entrepreneurs’ Award 2022” instituted by the Junior Chamber International Hong Kong (JCIHK) for her handloom and handicrafts start-up’s performance in tune with the United Nation’s sustainable development goals (SDGs). JCIHK, which provides development opportunities for youngsters, chose Ms. Abhayan (CEO of eweworld.com), from among 225 female Entrepreneurs across the world. ‘ewe’ stands for ‘empowering women entrepreneurs’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sangeetha Abhayan (Kerala-based Entrepreneur) – won the “World Women Entrepreneurs’ Award 2022”
- This award is instituted by the Junior Chamber International Hong Kong

6. On August 12, Renowned Bangladeshi architect, researcher and educator Marina Tabassum became the first person from the global south and first south Asian to win the prestigious “Lisbon Triennale Millennium bcp Lifetime Achievement Award 2022”. The Lisbon Architecture Triennale jury praised Marina Tabassum for presenting an inspiring example of work with local communities. She will receive an original artwork by the Portuguese artist and sculptor Carlos Nogueira as award during the Lisbon Triennale which begins on 29 September in Lisbon, Portugal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Marina Tabassum – first south Asian to win “Lisbon Triennale Millennium bcp Lifetime Achievement Award 2022”
- She is an Architect, Researcher & Educator from Bangladesh
- [Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka](#) | [PM – Sheikh Hasina](#) | [President – Abdul Hamid](#)

7. On August 12, Senior Congress leader and Thiruvananthapuram MP Shashi Tharoor will be conferred with France’s highest civilian award “Chevalier de la Legion d’Honneur” (Knight of the National Order of the French Legion of Honour). In 2010, Tharoor received a similar honour, from the Spanish government. The award will be conferred on him during the next visit of any minister of the French government to India. The first Indian to be awarded with France’s Legion of Honour was Maharaja Pratap Singh of Idar in 1918. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Shashi Tharoor – will be conferred with France’s highest civilian award “Chevalier de la Legion d’Honneur”
- He also received a similar honour, from the Spanish government in 2010
- First Indian to be awarded with France’s Legion of Honour was – Maharaja Pratap Singh (in 1918)
- [France – Paris – Euro](#) | [President – Emmanuel Macron](#) | [PM – Elisabeth Borne](#)

8. On the occasion of Independence Day, as many as 1,082 police personnel were awarded the President’s Police Medals by Droupadi Murmu, the President of India. The number of police personnel who received gallantry medals stood at 347. Among the personnel who received Gallantry Awards, 109 are from Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), 19 are from the Border Security Force (BSF), 6 each from Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) & the Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) force, and the rest of them were from J&K Police and Maharashtra. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- As many as 1,082 police personnel were awarded the President’s Police Medals on the occasion of Independence Day
- 347 police personnel received gallantry medals:
  - CRPF - 109 | BSF - 19 | SSB - 6 | ITBP - 6 | Rest from - J&K Police + Maharashtra

**9.** On August 15, President Droupadi Murmu approved 107 Gallantry Awards to armed forces and CAPF personnel. The awards include 3 Kirti Chakra, 13 Shaurya Chakras, 2 bar to Sena Medals, 81 Sena Medals, 1 Nao Sena Medal and 7 Vayu Sena Medals. Naik Devendra Pratap Singh was awarded the second highest peacetime gallantry award “Kirti Chakra”. Wing Commander Deepika Misra made history becoming the first woman to receive the “Vayu Sena” medal for her role in flash floods in Madhya Pradesh in August, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Droupadi Murmu – approved 107 Gallantry Awards to armed forces & CAPF personnel
- The awards include 3 Kirti Chakra, 13 Shaurya Chakras, 81 Sena Medals, 1 Nao Sena Medal & 7 Vayu Sena Medals
- Naik Devendra Pratap Singh – was awarded “Kirti Chakra” (the second highest peacetime gallantry award)
- Wing Commander Deepika Misra – became the first woman to receive the “Vayu Sena” medal

**10.** On August 18, Union Minister Shri Pralhad Joshi presented the “Coal Minister’s Awards for 2021-22” in different categories. Of the awards in 5 categories, Mahanadi Coal Fields Ltd (MCL) bagged the first prize in three categories namely Safety, Production & Productivity, and Quality. While the first prize in Sustainability category went to Western Coalfields Limited (WCL), and Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) bagged first prize in implementation of ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning). Moreover, Central Coalfields Limited bagged the award under Safety & Sustainability category. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pralhad Joshi – presented the “Coal Minister’s Awards for 2021-22” in 5 categories
- Mahanadi Coal Fields – bagged the first prize in three categories namely Safety, Production & Productivity, and Quality
- Western Coalfields Limited – won the first prize in Sustainability category
- Northern Coalfields Limited – bagged first prize in implementation of ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning)

**11.** On August 22, Jindal Steel & Power (JSP) was selected for the National CSR Award 2020 in two categories by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA). JSP was declared the winner in the category of ‘CSR in Aspirational Districts/Difficult Terrains’ (Eastern India) and ‘Contribution in National Priority Areas’ (Support to differently-abled). WADI, one of the projects by JSP and reviewed for the National CSR Award, is an “Agro Horti Silviculture-based project” implemented on 500 acres of hilly land that benefit the tribal populace of Chhattisgarh’s Tamnar block. Similarly JSP’s flagship programme ‘Asha the Hope’ was reviewed for the award in the category of ‘Contribution in National Priority Areas’ (Support to differently-abled). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jindal Steel & Power – selected by the MCA for ‘National CSR Award 2020’ in the following two categories:
  - ‘CSR in Aspirational Districts/Difficult Terrains’ (Eastern India)
  - ‘Contribution in National Priority Areas’ (Support to differently-abled)
- JSP’s ‘Asha the Hope’ program was reviewed for the award in ‘Contribution in National Priority Areas’ category
- [Ministry of Corporate Affairs: Nirmala Sitharaman](#) | [Constituency – Karnataka](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Corporate Affairs: Rao Inderjit Singh](#)

**12.** In August 2022, Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai announced that Kannada actor Puneeth Rajkumar, who died in 2021, will be conferred with the ‘Karnataka Ratna’ award posthumously, on November 1 on the occasion of Kannada Rajyotsava, the state’s formation day. He will be the 10<sup>th</sup> recipient of the state’s highest civilian honour. The Karnataka Ratna was last awarded to Dr Virendra Hegde for social service in 2009. Puneeth was popularly known as ‘Appu’ and ‘power star’ by his fans. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Puneeth Rajkumar (Kannada Actor) – to receive 'Karnataka Ratna' award posthumously (state's highest civilian honour)
- Karnataka Ratna was last awarded in 2009 to Dr. Virendra Heggade for social service
- November 1 – Kannada Rajyotsava or Karnataka's Formation Day
- [Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore](#) | [CM – Basavaraj Bommai](#) | [Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot](#)

**13.** In August 2022, Ministry of Corporate Affairs announced the annual "National Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Awards 2020" to recognize companies that have made positive impact on the society through their innovative & sustainable CSR initiatives. Total 20 award winners and 17 Honourable Mentions across the three award categories were selected. Upto 20 awards are conferred each year in 3 main categories, namely, Corporate Awards for Excellence in CSR, CSR Awards for CSR in Aspirational Districts/Difficult Terrains and CSR Awards for contribution in National Priority Areas. First National CSR Awards were conferred on 29 October 2019. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited was winner of 'Corporate Awards for Excellence in CSR' under 'Companies having eligible CSR Spend equal & above Rs 100 Cr' sub-category. While the same award was received by Tata Steel Limited under 'Companies having eligible CSR Spend equal & above Rs 10 Cr & less than Rs 100 Cr' sub-category. Tata Steel Limited also received 'CSR Awards for contribution in National Priority Areas' under 'Education' sub-category. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- MCA – announced 20 award winners & 17 Honourable Mentions for the "National CSR Awards 2020"
- The awards were given in 3 main categories
- [Ministry of Corporate Affairs: Nirmala Sitharaman](#) | [Constituency – Karnataka](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Corporate Affairs: Rao Inderjit Singh](#)

**14.** On August 25, Jharkhand government signed a pact with the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) of the British High Commission, New Delhi, to award the "Chevening Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh Munda Scholarship" to 5 scholars belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and minority community in the state. The scholarship will offer full financial support to pursue a one-year master's in the UK starting from the UK academic year of 2023-24. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Jharkhand + FCDO = will award "Chevening Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh Munda Scholarship" to 5 scholars from SCs & STs
- The scholarship will offer full financial support to pursue a one-year master's in the UK
- [Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi](#) | [CM – Hemant Soren](#) | [Governor – Ramesh Bais](#)
- [UK – London – Pound Sterling](#) | [PM – Boris Johnson](#)

**15.** The "2022 Liberty Medal" will be awarded to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky in October 2022 at the National Constitution Centre (NCC), Philadelphia, US. Zelensky has also been the recipient of awards such as the Ronald Reagan Freedom Award and the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award. The Liberty Medal, established in 1988 to mark the U.S. Constitution's bicentennial, is presented to individuals who strive to secure the blessings of liberty for people around the globe. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Volodymyr Zelensky (Ukrainian President) – to be awarded "2022 Liberty Medal" at Philadelphia, US (in Oct 2022)
- The Liberty Medal – was established in 1988



**16.** On August 22, Senior Neurologist, N. V. Sundara Chary has been elected as a Fellow of the American Academy of Neurology (FAAN), widely regarded as one of the world's most prestigious honours in the field of Neurology and Medicine. Dr. Sundara Chary was elected for making valuable contributions in the field of Neurology. Dr. Orly Avitzur is the President of the American Academy of Neurology. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- N. V. Sundara Chary ([India](#)) – elected as a Fellow of the American Academy of Neurology (FAAN)
- FAAN – one of the world's most prestigious honours in the field of Neurology & Medicine

**17.** On August 23, Bangladesh-born Fahmida Azim, working for the 'Insider', an online magazine of United States, has been selected for the "2022 Pulitzer Prize" under the category of 'Illustrated Reporting and Commentary'. She is among the four journalists including Anthony Del Col, Josh Adams and Walt Hickey of the 'Insider', selected for their work on the Chinese oppression of the Uyghurs. The work "I escaped a Chinese internment Camp" has illustrations by Fahmida Azim. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Fahmida Azim ([Bangladesh-born American](#)) – selected for the "2022 Pulitzer Prize" under the category of 'Illustrated Reporting and Commentary'
- Other awardees from the 'Insider' magazine – Anthony Del Col, Josh Adams & Walt Hickey

**18.** On August 25, the 31<sup>st</sup> Vyas Samman was conferred on to well-known Hindi writer Dr. Asghar Wajahat at a function in New Delhi. Wajahat has been chosen for the prestigious award for his play 'Mahabali'. In his play Mahabali, Dr. Wajahat focuses on Mughal emperor Akbar and poet Tulsidas. The Vyas Samman is given by K. K. Birla Foundation for an outstanding literary work in Hindi authored by an Indian citizen published during the last 10 years. It carries an award of Rs 4 lakh along with a citation and plaque. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr. Asghar Wajahat – conferred with the 31<sup>st</sup> Vyas Samman for his play 'Mahabali' – by K. K. Birla Foundation
- In his play Mahabali, Dr. Wajahat focuses on Mughal emperor Akbar & poet Tulsidas

**19.** On August 24, Former German chancellor Angela Merkel was awarded the "UNESCO Peace Prize 2022" for her efforts to welcome refugees. All the members of the jury were touched by her courageous decision in 2015 to welcome more than 1.2 million refugees, notably from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan and Eritrea. The honour, which is officially called "Felix Houphouet-Boigny-Unesco Peace Prize", is named after the former president of Ivory Coast. It has been awarded each year since 1989 to individuals, organisations or institutions that have made a special effort to promote, research or secure peace. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Angela Merkel – was awarded the "UNESCO Peace Prize 2022" for her efforts to welcome refugees
- The award was started in – 1989
- Prize is officially called – "Felix Houphouet-Boigny-Unesco Peace Prize" (named after former President of Ivory Coast)
- [HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France](#) | [Director-General – Audrey Azoulay](#) | [Founded in – 1945](#) | [Members – 193 Countries](#)

**20.** On August 25, Real Madrid striker Karim Benzema was named "UEFA Player of the Year 2022" and Carlo Ancelotti took the coaching honours, both in Men's category. Ancelotti became the first coach to win Europe's most prestigious club trophy four times. Barcelona women's Alexia Putellas won the women's "UEFA Player of the Year 2022" and Sarina Wiegman took the coaching honours in women's category. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- “UEFA Player of the Year 2022” (Men’s) – Karim Benzema
- “UEFA Player of the Year 2022” (Women’s) – Alexia Putellas
- “UEFA Coach of the Year 2022” (Men’s) – Carlo Ancelotti
- “UEFA Coach of the Year 2022” (Women’s) – Sarina Wiegman

**21.** On August 28, Divita Rai was crowned “LIVA Miss Diva 2022” at the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the “Miss Diva Universe Pageant” held at the Famous Studios, Mahalaxmi, in Mumbai. The model, who hails from Karnataka, was crowned by Miss Universe Harnaaz Sandhu. Pragnya Ayyagari of Telangana was declared “LIVA Miss Diva Supranational 2022”, while Delhi’s Ojasvi Sharma won “LIVA Miss Popular Choice 2022”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the “Miss Diva Universe Pageant” – held at the Famous Studios, in Mumbai
- LIVA Miss Diva 2022 – Divita Rai (Karnataka)
- LIVA Miss Diva Supranational 2022 – Pragnya Ayyagari (Telangana)
- LIVA Miss Popular Choice 2022 – Ojasvi Sharma (Delhi)

**22.** 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

**23.** On August 31, the winners of the 64<sup>th</sup> “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 64<sup>th</sup> “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

**1.** 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

**2.** 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

**3.** In August 2022, the Science & Engineering Research Board (SERB), a statutory body of the Department of Science and Technology (DST) launched a new innovative scheme called "State University Research Excellence (SURE)" that can foster collaboration for high-end research at state and private universities and colleges. The new scheme will help bring the university system, which was so far mostly limited to teaching, into mainstream research and enable the young faculty there to participate in cutting-edge research. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- SERB – launched "State University Research Excellence (SURE)" scheme to augment research capabilities in state universities & colleges
- HQs of SERB – New Delhi | Secretary – Prof. Sandeep Verma

**4.** On August 5, Chief Justice of India N. V. Ramana recommended the name of Justice Uday Umesh Lalit to the Union Minister for Law & Justice as the 49<sup>th</sup> Chief Justice of India. Justice Uday Umesh Lalit assumes charge on August 27 after incumbent N. V. Ramana demits the office on August 26. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Justice Uday Umesh Lalit – appointed as 49<sup>th</sup> Chief Justice of India (succeeding - Justice N. V. Ramana)
- Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice N. V. Ramana (48<sup>th</sup>) | From Aug 27 – Uday Umesh Lalit



5. On August 5, Uttar Pradesh government is set to launch “Panchamrut Yojana” which will help to achieve the goal of doubling farmers’ income through the introduction of cost-effective technical measures and promotion of co-cropping method. In addition, the Government will ensure that the farmers get the right price for their produce. The Government will also honour farmers who implement the Panchamrut scheme with ‘Uttam Sugarcane Farmer’ awards. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh – to launch “Panchamrut Yojana” to double farmers’ income
- UP Govt will also honour farmers who implement the Panchamrut scheme with ‘Uttam Sugarcane Farmer’ awards
- [UP: Capital – Lucknow](#) | [CM – Yogi Adityanath](#) | [Governor – Anandiben Patel](#)

6. On August 5, Gujarat government launched “Family First - Samjavat nu Sarnamu” (Family First - a Place for Persuasion) scheme for out-of-the-court settlement of family disputes with the intervention of social, religious and reputed people of the society. Committees comprising government officials and local religious/social leaders will be formed at district and taluka levels as part of the scheme. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Gujarat – launched “Family First - Samjavat nu Sarnamu” (Family First - a Place for Persuasion) scheme
- [Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar](#) | [CM – Bhupendra Patel](#) | [Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat](#)

7. On August 6, National Democratic Alliance candidate and former West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar was elected as the 14<sup>th</sup> Vice-President of India. He secured 528 votes out of the 710 valid votes in the 16<sup>th</sup> Vice-Presidential election held in Parliament. The Opposition candidate and Congress leader, Margaret Alva, got 182 votes. Mr. Dhankhar succeeds outgoing Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jagdeep Dhankhar (former WB Governor) – elected as the 14<sup>th</sup> Vice-President of India (succeeding - M. Venkaiah Naidu)

8. In August 2022, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated a project of the Women and Child Development department to provide milk and eggs to children at all Anganwadis in the state in a bid to improve their nutrition levels. The state government has set aside over Rs 61.5 Crore to include milk and eggs in the Anganwadi menu for this financial year 2022-23. This scheme is considered as a first of its kind in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kerala – launched a first-of-its-kind scheme to provide Milk & Eggs to children at all Anganwadis in the state
- [Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram](#) | [CM – Pinarayi Vijayan](#) | [Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan](#)

9. On August 6, Google launched an online project named “India Ki Udaan” to mark 75 Years of India’s Independence. The project is executed by Google Arts & Culture. Google also announced that its popular “Doodle4Google” contest for 2022, themed on “In the Next 25 Years, My India will...”, is now open for entries to students of classes 1-10. ‘India Ki Udaan’ is themed on the unwavering and undying spirit of India over these past 75 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Google – launched an online project named “India Ki Udaan” to mark 75 Years of India’s Independence
- [HQs of Google – California, US](#) | [CEO – Sundar Pichai](#) | [Founded in – 1998](#)



**10.** 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

**11.** 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

**12.** 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

**13.** 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}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 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

**14.** 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}](#)



**Key Points:**

- 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)

**15.** On August 8, Government has modified the earlier scheme of 'Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme' with nomenclature 'Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojna (PMAAGY)', for implementation during 2021-22 to 2025-26. It aims at mitigating gaps and providing basic infrastructure in villages with significant tribal population in convergence with funds available under different schemes in Central Scheduled Tribe Component. It is envisaged to cover 36,428 villages having at least 50% ST population. An amount of Rs 7,276 Cr has been approved by the Cabinet for the scheme in next 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme' renamed as 'Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojna' for implementation during 2021-22 to 2025-26
- It is envisaged to cover 36,428 villages having at least 50% ST population | Scheme outlay – Rs 7,276 Cr for 5 years

**16.** On August 11, the Union Cabinet approved continuation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) till December, 2024. Launched in June, 2015, the original deadline for the scheme - 'Housing for All' Mission (aimed at providing pucca houses to all eligible urban beneficiaries) was March 2022. According to the government, financial assistance will be provided for the completion of already sanctioned 122.69 lakh houses till March 31, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Union Cabinet approved continuation of 'Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban)' till December, 2024
- 'PMAY' scheme – launched in June, 2015 | Theme of the scheme – 'Housing for All'

**17.** On August 12, the Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry launched the 'SMILE-75' initiative for comprehensive rehabilitation of persons engaged in begging in 75 identified municipalities as a part of the celebrations of 75 years of Independence. The initiative is part of the Ministry's ongoing SMILE project (Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise) for which Rs 100 Crore has been allocated till 2025-2026. The aim of the initiative was to make the 75 municipalities "begging-free". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoSJE launched the 'SMILE-75' initiative for rehabilitation of persons engaged in begging in 75 identified municipalities
- The initiative is part of the Ministry's ongoing 'SMILE' project
- SMILE – Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise | Project Outlay – Rs 100 Cr
- Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Virendra Kumar | Constituency – Sagar, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Ramdas Athawale



**18.** On August 16, the Indian government launched a new campaign to reduce child mortality. The campaign “Paalan 1000” and a Parenting app were virtually launched by Union Minister of State for Health Bharati Pravin Pawar in Mumbai. ‘Paalan 1000 - Journey of the First 1000 Days’ focuses on the cognitive developments of children in the first two years of its life, while the companion app will provide the caregiver with practical advice. The first 1000 days of a child's life is when a platform is established for its physical, mental, emotional, cognitive and social health. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian government launched a new campaign “Paalan 1000” & a Parenting app to reduce child mortality
- It was launched by Bharati Pravin Pawar in Mumbai
- [Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya](#) | [Constituency – Palitana, Gujarat](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar](#)

**19.** On August 15, Telangana government launched “Chenetha Bheema”, a life insurance scheme for handloom and powerloom weavers, the first-of-its-kind scheme for the welfare of weavers’ families. Besides, Telangana government’s “Bathukamma Saree” scheme and various other welfare schemes are providing a regular source of income for weavers.

[{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Telangana – launched “Chenetha Bheema”, a life insurance scheme for handloom & powerloom weavers
- Telangana – had also launched “Bathukamma Saree” scheme to provide a source of income for weavers
- [Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad](#) | [CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao](#) | [Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan](#)

**20.** As on August 15, the Rajasthan government plans to spend over Rs 17 Cr this financial year for providing coaching to students for competitive exams. This is substantially higher than the previous year’s figure of Rs 3.5 Cr. ‘Mukhyamantri Anuprati Coaching Yojana’ was introduced by Rajasthan chief minister Ashok Gehlot in 2021-22. Under the scheme, such students are provided free coaching from reputed coaching institutes. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajasthan – to spend over Rs 17 Cr in FY23 under ‘Mukhyamantri Anuprati Coaching Yojana’
- [Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur](#) | [CM – Ashok Gehlot](#) | [Governor – Kalraj Mishra](#)

**21.** On August 15, Sikkim Chief Minister P. S. Tamang hoisted the national flag at Bhaichung Stadium in Namchi, on the occasion of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of India’s Independence and announced schemes for the welfare of women in the state. He announced the launch of ‘Aama Yojana’ and ‘Vatsalya Yojana’. Under Aama Yojana all unemployed mothers in the state will receive Rs 20,000 annually which will be deposited in their bank accounts. Under the Vatsalya Yojana an aid of Rs 3 lakh will be provided to childless women for in vitro fertilization treatment. The financial assistance of Rs 3 lakh for IVF treatment will be given in two phases. The chief minister also announced year-long maternity leave for women employees of the state.

[{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sikkim – launched ‘Aama Yojana’ and ‘Vatsalya Yojana’ for the welfare of women in state
- Under Aama Yojana, all unemployed mothers in the state will receive Rs 20,000 annually
- Under Vatsalya Yojana, an aid of Rs 3 lakh will be provided to childless women for in Vitro Fertilization Treatment
- [Sikkim: Capital – Gangtok](#) | [CM – Prem Singh Tamang](#) | [Governor – Ganga Prasad](#)



**22.** On the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of India's Independence, Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai announced to launch new schemes on sanitation, nutrition, and for the well-being of farmers, labourers and the brave soldiers of the state. The state government wants to empower Karnataka to make a contribution of at least USD 1 trillion to realise Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dream of transforming India into a USD 5 trillion economy. In order to create a clean and hygienic environment in government schools and colleges, 100% toilet coverage will be achieved in the state at a cost of Rs 250 Cr. Moreover, the "Raitha Vidya Nidhi", launched by Karnataka government for farmers' children, will be extended to landless agriculture labourers too. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Karnataka – to extend "Raitha Vidya Nidhi" to landless agriculture labourers too (currently for farmers' children only)
- Karnataka aims to achieve 100% toilet coverage in government schools & colleges (Cost - Rs 250 Cr)
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot

**23.** On August 16, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) in partnership with consumer durables company, Usha International Limited (UIL) launched the 5<sup>th</sup> phase of its flagship initiative "Mission Swavalamban" to set up 300 Swavalamban Silai Schools across 10 districts of 6 States/UTs. These schools will be launched in Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Goa, Puducherry, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh to empower rural women and help them evolve as homepreneurs. Through the first four phases of the initiative, 2,700 homepreneurs have been skilled. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SIDBI + Usha International = launched the 5<sup>th</sup> phase of its flagship initiative "Mission Swavalamban"
- SIDBI will set up 300 Swavalamban Silai Schools across 10 districts of 6 States/UTs
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | MD & Chairman – Sivasubramanian Ramann | Established in – 1990

**24.** On the occasion of India's 76th Independence Day, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma launched the "Vidya Rath - School on Wheels" project. The project aims at providing economically challenged underprivileged children access to elementary education for a period of 10 months after which they will be integrated into the conventional education system. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Himanta Biswa Sarma – launched the "Vidya Rath - School on Wheels" project on the Independence Day
- The project aims to provide EWS children access to Elementary Education for a period of 10 months
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**25.** On August 15, Ministry of Home Affairs sanctioned approval for the creation of "Village Defence Guard Scheme 2022" in Jammu and Kashmir. Earlier, this scheme was known as Village Defence Committee in which volunteers from villages were trained by Indian Army and Police. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Home Affairs – sanctioned approval for the creation of "Village Defence Guard Scheme 2022" in J&K
- Earlier, the scheme was known as 'Village Defence Committee (VDC)'
- Ministry of Home Affairs: Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Home Affairs: Nityanand Rai, Ajay Kumar & Nisith Pramanik



**26.** In August 2022, the central government has given its nod to the Uttar Pradesh government's Family ID plan, the "Parivar Kalyan Card", adding to the list of state-specific unique id schemes in India. The UP Parivar Kalyan Card (PKC) Scheme was announced by the Yogi Adityanath-government to establish a comprehensive database of the state's family units and identify beneficiaries for its various schemes including employment, pensions, and housing benefits. The PKC will provide a unique 12-digit ID number for each family. Haryana's Parivar Pehchan Patra (PPP) is the most prominent among such initiatives by any other state government. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Central Govt gave nod to the UP government's Family ID plan, the "Parivar Kalyan Card (PKC)"
- The PKC will provide a unique 12-digit ID number for each family
- Parivar Pehchan Patra (PPP) – belongs to Haryana
- [UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel](#)

**27.** On August 19, Odisha government launched "Nutrition at Doorstep" for children with stunted and wasted growth. Under the 'Nutrition at Doorstep' programme, kitchen garden and poultry would be promoted at every household. Odisha's Women and Child Development (WCD) Department has furnished information about 13,48,707 households. As on June 2022, as many as 4,93,941 households had children identified with stunted growth, 1,31,099 (wasted growth), 2,69,784 (underweight children) and 4,53,883 (anaemic pregnant women). Keonjhar, which is one of the India's richest districts in terms of mineral reserve, has a high prevalence of people with such conditions. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Odisha – launched "Nutrition at Doorstep" for children with stunted & wasted growth
- Kitchen Garden & Poultry would be promoted at Every household
- [Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal](#)

**28.** On August 23, the Union Minister, Finance and Corporate Affairs, Nirmala Sitharaman and Chief Minister of Nagaland Neiphiu Rio jointly launched the "Chief Minister's Micro Finance Initiative" at Kohima. The scheme aims to enhance farmers' income by increasing investment in agri and allied sector, improve agri-marketing network and infrastructure, promote credit discipline and boost private enterprise. The funding pattern is as follows, beneficiaries' contribution - 10%, bank loan - 60%, and back ended subsidy by Government of Nagaland - 30%. In addition, the State Government shall also provide interest subvention of 4% to KCC loans and credit linkage to farmers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nirmala Sitharaman + Neiphiu Rio = jointly launched the "Chief Minister's Micro Finance Initiative" at Kohima
- Funding pattern: Beneficiaries' contribution – 10%, Bank loan – 60%, Nagaland Govt – 30%
- [Nagaland: Capital – Kohima | CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi \(addi. charge\)](#)

**29.** On August 29, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami launched "CM Udyman Khiladi Unnayan Yojana", in the program organized on the occasion of 'National Sports Day'. Under the scheme, the emerging players of 8 to 14 years will be given a game scholarship of Rs 1500 per month. Every year a total of 3900 emerging sports persons will be given scholarships. On this occasion, many announcements were made to upgrade the players of the state. 08-08 departmental sports trainers will be appointed for each district. Chief Minister Sports Development Fund will be established to be given financial benefits to the students according to accelerated rules. Malchang game will also be included in the game policy. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Uttarakhand – launched “CM Udyman Khiladi Unnayan Yojana”
- Under the scheme, emerging players of 8 to 14 years will be given a game scholarship of Rs 1500 per month
- Every year a total of 3900 emerging sports persons will be given scholarships
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh

**30.** On August 28, 2022, Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) - National Mission for Financial Inclusion, completed 8 years of its successful implementation. As on 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2022, the number of total PMJDY Accounts is 46.25 Cr of which 55.59% Jan-Dhan account holders are women and 66.79% Jan Dhan accounts are in rural and semi-urban areas. The PMJDY was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his Independence Day address on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2014. The PMJDY provides overdraft facility of maximum Rs 10,000. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ‘PMJDY’, National Mission for Financial Inclusion – completed 8 years of its successful implementation
- PMJDY was launched by PM Narendra Modi – on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2014 | Maximum Overdraft Facility – Rs 10,000

**31.** 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

**1.** 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

**2.** 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)

**3.** 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

**4.** The 77<sup>th</sup> “Hiroshima Day” was observed on August 6, 2022 to commemorate the atomic bombing on Hiroshima city of Japan, in 1945, at the end of World War II. The bombings killed over 2,00,000 people in just seconds and injured thousands more. The US dropped 2 atomic bombs named “Little Boy” in the city of Hiroshima and “Fat Man” in the city of Nagasaki on August 6 & 9 respectively. Hence, August 9 was also marked as the 77<sup>th</sup> “Nagasaki Day” this year. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- August 6 – 77<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hiroshima Day
- August 9 – 77<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Nagasaki Day
- US dropped an atomic bomb named “Little Boy” on Hiroshima & “Fat Man” on Nagasaki (in 1945)

**5.** The 8<sup>th</sup> National Handloom Day was celebrated by Ministry of Textiles on August 7, 2022 to mark the importance of the handloom weaving community in India. Prime Minister Narendra Modi initiated the day in the year 2015. This was to boost the idea of self-help and self-reliance on Indian goods to boycott foreign products. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- August 7 – 8<sup>th</sup> National Handloom Day (since 2015)



**6.** The University Grants Commission (UGC) asked all the Universities & Colleges to organise programmes and seminars to observe August 14 as “Partition Horrors Remembrance Day” to commemorate the sufferings and sacrifices of millions of Indians during the partition in 1947. In 2021, PM Narendra Modi had made the announcement for the same. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 14 – Partition Horrors Remembrance Day – observed by all the Universities & Colleges

**7.** 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)

**8.** 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”

**9.** 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](#)

**10.** “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

**11.** International Youth Day is celebrated on 12 August every year to mark the contribution of youth to the development of the society. According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), youth account for 66% of India’s total population, which is the largest number of youths in the world. In 2022, the theme is “Intergenerational Solidarity: Creating a World for All Ages”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 12 – International Youth Day (since 2000)
- 2022’s Theme – “Intergenerational Solidarity: Creating a World for All Ages”

**12.** The World Breastfeeding Week (WBW) is celebrated during the first week of August every year. The WBW 2022 was observed from August 1 to 7, 2022 with the theme of “Step up for Breastfeeding: Educated and Support”. The WBW was first observed in 1992. The week is an opportunity to strengthen the capacity of all stakeholders’ actions on protecting, promoting and supporting breastfeeding across different levels of society. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 1 to 7 – World Breastfeeding Week (first week of August)
- 2022’s Theme – “Step up for Breastfeeding: Educated and Support”

**13.** Muslim Women’s Rights Day is observed all over the country on 1 August to mark the enactment of the triple talaq law. This law, which made the practice of triple talaq a criminal offence, came into force on 1 August 2019. The day was first observed in 2020 & this year marks the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of Muslim Women’s Rights Day. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 1 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Muslim Women’s Rights Day (since 2019)

**14.** The 11<sup>th</sup> World Elephant Day was celebrated on 12 August, 2022 to raise awareness about the plight of elephants all over the world. This day was observed for the first time in 2012. On 12 August, 2012, World Elephant Day was co-founded by Canadian filmmaker Patricia Sims and the Elephant Reintroduction Foundation of Thailand. African elephants are listed as ‘Vulnerable’ and Asian elephants as ‘Endangered’ on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Moreover, “Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE)” programme was launched in 2003 to prevent the illegal killing of elephants from across Africa and Asia. Karnataka has the highest number of Elephants, as per the latest ‘Elephant Census’ conducted in 2017. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 12 – 11<sup>th</sup> World Elephant Day (since 2012)
- IUCN Red List of Threatened Species: African elephants - ‘Vulnerable’ | Asian elephants - ‘Endangered’
- ‘MIKE’ programme was launched in 2003 – to prevent the illegal killing of Elephants
- Elephant Census 2022: Karnataka has the highest number of Elephants



**15.** World Organ Donation Day is marked every year on 13 August. Organs like the kidneys, heart, pancreas, eyes, lungs, among others are donated by people to save the lives of those who are suffering from any chronic illnesses. According to the World Health Organisation, only 0.01% of people donate their organs after death in India. The first-ever organ donation was done in 1954 when Ronald Lee Herrick donated a kidney to his identical twin brother. Doctor Joseph Murray conducted the procedure for which he has also won the 'Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine' in 1990 for advances in organ transplantation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 13 – “World Organ Donation Day”
- The first-ever organ donation was done by Ronald Lee Herrick in 1954

**16.** The Athletics Federation of India (AFI) celebrated August 7 as the first “National Javelin Day” across the country to commemorate one of the greatest moments in India's sporting history, Neeraj Chopra’s Olympic gold medal. It was on August 7 last year that Neeraj produced the 87.58m effort in Tokyo to secure India's first track and field medal in the Olympic Games. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 7 – National Javelin Day – by Athletics Federation of India (to commemorate Neeraj Chopra’s Olympic gold)

**17.** International Lefthanders Day is celebrated every year on 13 August to mark the uniqueness of the left-handed people around the globe. The day is designated to raise awareness about the challenges that they face while living in a right-hand-centric world. Lefthanders International Inc. founder Dean R Campbell first observed the day in 1976. The population of lefties across the globe is around 13%. People who are afraid of left-handed people or the left side are considered to suffer from a phobia named ‘Sinistrophobia’. According to a study, most of the painters, musicians and architects around the globe are left-handed. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 13 – International Lefthanders Day (since 1976)
- Population of lefties across the globe is around 13%

**18.** World Sanskrit Day or Sanskrit Diwas is celebrated annually on the occasion of Shraavana Poornima. In 2022, the day was observed on August 12. Last year, the day was observed on August 22. Sanskrit language is said to have originated in India around 3,500 years ago. The day was first observed in 1969. While ‘Sanskrit Week 2022’ was observed from August 22 to 28. Moreover, Uttarakhand is the first state to declare Sanskrit as an official language. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 12 – World Sanskrit Day or Sanskrit Diwas – observed on Shraavana Poornima (since 1969)
- August 22 to 28 – Sanskrit Week 2022
- The first state to declare Sanskrit as an official language – Uttarakhand

**19.** Every year, August 20 is observed as the “Akshay Urja Diwas” or “National Renewable Energy Day” to raise awareness for the development and efficient use of renewable energy in India. The day also commemorates the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. The day was first organised by former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in 2004 along with the Indian Ministry for New and Renewable Energy Sources (MNRE). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 20 – “Akshay Urja Diwas” or “National Renewable Energy Day” (Birth anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi)
- The day was first organised in 2004 – by former PM Manmohan Singh



**20.** August 19 is observed as World Humanitarian Day around the world to honour individuals who indulge in humanitarian work. According to UN estimates, 274 million people will need humanitarian assistance and protection in 2022, compared to 235 million in 2021. The Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) of the UN aims to help 183 million people in 63 nations this year. In 2022, the theme of the day is “It takes a Village”. The day was observed for the first time in 2009. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 19 – “World Humanitarian Day” (since 2009)
- Theme – “It takes a Village”

**21.** World Photography Day is celebrated globally every year on August 19. In 2022, the theme of the day is “Pandemic Lockdown through the Lens”. World Photo Day originates from the invention of the ‘Daguerreotype’, a photographic process developed by Frenchmen Louis Daguerre and Joseph Nicéphore Niepce in 1837. The first selfie was clicked by American Robert Cornelius in 1839. On August 19, 2010 World Photo Day hosted its first global online gallery. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 19 – World Photography Day
- 2022’s theme – “Pandemic Lockdown through the Lens”
- ‘Daguerreotype’ - a photographic process – developed by Louis Daguerre & Joseph Nicéphore Niepce in 1837

**22.** Internaut Day is celebrated on August 23 around the world to mark the invention of the World Wide Web. An “Internaut” is a person who possesses a thorough knowledge of how to use the Internet and its history. August 23 marks the day when the World Wide Web was opened to the public back in the year 1991 for the first time by WWW inventor Tim Berners Lee. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 23 – Internaut Day
- Internaut – a person who possesses a thorough knowledge of how to use the Internet and its history

**23.** The 78<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of India’s Former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was celebrated as ‘Sadbhavana Diwas’ or ‘Harmony Day’ on 20 August, 2022. The day is marked with the objective to promote peace, national integration and communal harmony among all Indians. His birth anniversary is also celebrated as ‘Rajiv Gandhi Akshay Urja Diwas’. In 1992, the Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana award was introduced by the All India Congress Committee of the Indian National Congress in the memory of the leader. This award is given to those who have spent their lives promoting social harmony. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 20 – “Sadbhavana Diwas” or “Harmony Day” (78<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi)
- His birth anniversary is also celebrated as ‘Akshay Urja Diwas’

**24.** International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism is commemorated on 21 August every year to honour the survivors of terrorism. The day was announced by the UNGA in 2017 to support the victims of terrorism. The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy resolution was adopted in 2006. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 21 – International Day of Remembrance & Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism
- HQs of UNGA – New York, US | President – Abdulla Shahid | Member Countries – 193
- HQs of UN – New York, US | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres | Formed in – October 24, 1945



**25.** World Mosquito Day is marked annually on August 20 to raise awareness of the dangers of malaria-carrying mosquitoes. The global day commemorates the 1897 discovery by British doctor Sir Ronald Ross that female Anopheles mosquitoes transmit malaria between humans. In 2022, the theme is “Harness Innovation to reduce the Malaria disease burden and Save Lives”. Vector-borne diseases that are transmitted by mosquitoes include malaria, leptospirosis, dengue, chikungunya etc. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 20 – World Mosquito Day
- Theme – “Harness Innovation to reduce the Malaria disease burden and Save Lives”
- ‘Female Anopheles’ mosquitoes transmit malaria between humans

**26.** The UN General Assembly has designated August 22 as the “International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief”. The day recognizes the importance of providing victims of acts of violence based on religion or belief and members of their families with appropriate support and assistance in accordance with applicable law. The day was proposed by Poland. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 22 – International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief – by UNGA
- The day was proposed by – Poland

**27.** The “International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition” is an international day celebrated on August 23 of each year. The day was designated by the UNESCO to memorialize the transatlantic slave trade. As part of the goals of the intercultural UNESCO project, “The Slave Route”, it is an opportunity for collective recognition and focus on the historic causes, the methods and the consequences of slavery. In 2022, the theme of the day is “Decolonisation”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 23 – International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition
- 2022’s Theme – “Decolonisation” | “The Slave Route” – UNESCO’s project

**28.** Women’s Equality Day is celebrated every year on August 26 in the United States in order to honour the women of America for gaining the constitutional right to vote. The day honours the ‘Nineteenth Amendment’ made to the US constitution in 1920 to give equal voting rights to women. In 2022, the theme of the day is “Gender Equality Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 26 – Women’s Equality Day
- 2022’s Theme – “Gender Equality Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow”
- The day honours the ‘Nineteenth Amendment 1920’ made to the US constitution

**29.** On August 23, the 56<sup>th</sup> Army Wives Welfare Association (AWWA) Day was marked by its Southern Command regional chapter. Various cultural activities and competitions were organised on the occasion. As many as 25 “Veer Naris” were felicitated along with the winners of AWWA Awards of Excellence on the occasion. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 23 – 56<sup>th</sup> Army Wives Welfare Association (AWWA) Day
- 25 “Veer Naris” were felicitated along with the winners of ‘AWWA Awards of Excellence’

**30.** August 26 is observed as International Dog Day. The day is celebrated annually and was founded in 2004 by Pet & Family Lifestyle Expert, Animal Rescue Advocate, Colleen Paige. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 26 – International Dog Day (founded in 2004 by Animal Rescue Advocate, Colleen Paige)

**31.** On August 30, Delhi-based non-profit, Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) launched 'Save the Whale Shark Campaign' along Karnataka, Kerala and Lakshadweep in Mangaluru on the occasion of International Whale Shark Day. The whale shark (*Rhincodon typus*) is the largest fish on Earth and a keystone species in marine ecosystems. The theme of the day is "The Future of Sharks: Guardians of Our Seas". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 30 – International Whale Shark Day
- 2022's Theme – "The Future of Sharks: Guardians of Our Seas"
- WTI – launched 'Save the Whale Shark Campaign'

**32.** India's "National Sports Day" or "Rashtriya Khel Divas" is celebrated on August 29 every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of Major Dhyan Chand, widely regarded as one of the greatest field hockey players in history. It aims to raise awareness about the importance of physical activity and healthy lifestyles. It also honors the country's sports heroes and champions. The day was first observed in 2012. Known as the "Hockey Wizard" or the "The Magician", Major Dhyan Chand was born on this date in 1905. 2022 marks his 117<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary. India's highest sporting honour, Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award is named after him. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 29 – "National Sports Day" or "Rashtriya Khel Divas" (Birth anniversary of Major Dhyan Chand)
- Major Dhyan Chand – one of the greatest field hockey players (also known as "Hockey Wizard" or "The Magician")
- 'Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award' – India's highest sporting honour is named after him

**33.** On August 30, the United States marks the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, as established by the UN General Assembly in 2010. The day is observed to create awareness about enforced disappearances in various regions globally. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 30 – International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances (since 2010)

**34.** The "International Day against Nuclear Tests" is observed every year on August 29 to inform, educate and advocate the necessity of ending nuclear weapon tests as a valuable step towards achieving a safer world. 2010 marked the inaugural commemoration of this day. The initiation for this day was by the Republic of Kazakhstan, selecting August 29 as the date of the observance to align with the shutdown of the Semipalatinsk Nuclear Test site on the same date in 1991. An international treaty called Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) came into being in 1996 to put an end to all sorts of nuclear weapons testing. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 29 – "International Day against Nuclear Tests" (since 2010)
- This day aligns with the shutdown of the 'Semipalatinsk Nuclear Test Site' in 1991



**35.** According to the Ministry of External Affairs, the 17<sup>th</sup> Pravasi Bhartiya Divas 2023 will be held at Indore in January, 2023. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is celebrated every year on 9<sup>th</sup> 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:**

- 17<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> January 1915
- South Africa – Cape Town – South African Rand | President – Cyril Ramaphosa

**36.** 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)

**37.** 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 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 – 2<sup>nd</sup> International Day for People of African Descent (since 2021)
- 2015-2024 – International Decade for People of African Descent



# Books & Authors

1. 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

2. 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

3. On August 8, Deepak Singh recently penned a book ‘Bravo Yadav’. The newly launched book is a biography of Kargil hero and Param Vir Chakra recipient Subedar Yogendra Singh Yadav. The biography of Kargil Hero Yogendra Singh Yadav honors the brave and indomitable spirit of the soldiers who refused to surrender before adversities in the Kargil War, in 1999. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- ‘Bravo Yadav’ book – authored by Deepak Singh
- The book is biography of Kargil hero and Param Vir Chakra recipient ‘Subedar Yogendra Singh Yadav’

4. On August 10, Union Minister of Fisheries and Animal Husbandry Parshottam Rupala launched a unique coffee table book titled “Fish & Seafood - a Collection of 75 Gourmet Recipes” in New Delhi. The Department of Fisheries has come up with this initiative to boost the domestic consumption of fish and seafood, along with popularizing the local fish species. The recipe book is a highlight of the diversity of fish available within the domestic water bodies and the fish culinary heritage of the country. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Parshottam Rupala – launched a unique coffee table book titled “Fish & Seafood - a Collection of 75 Gourmet Recipes”
- It will boost the domestic consumption of fish and seafood, along with popularizing the local fish species
- Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying: Parshottam Rupala | Constituency – Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying: Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan & Dr. L. Murugan

5. Philip Short, once a correspondent for the BBC, The Economist and The Times, has authored a biography of the Russian President Vladimir Putin titled “Putin: His Life and Times”. He worked on this biography for 8 years. The book was released in the midst of the Ukraine crisis. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- “Putin: His Life and Times”, a biography of Vladimir Putin – authored by Philip Short
- [Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble](#) | [PM – Mikhail Mishustin](#) | [President – Vladimir Putin](#)

6. On August 16, Israeli President Isaac Herzog unveiled the Hebrew translation of the book “Indians at Herod’s Gate” written by the former Ambassador of India to the US, UK and Israel Navtej Sarna, on the occasion of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its independence. India is the only country wherein Israel has the position of Water Attache to help share Israeli best practices and technologies for advancements in India’s water management sector. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Isaac Herzog ([Israel](#)) – unveiled Hebrew translation of “Indians at Herod’s Gate” book – written by Navtej Sarna
- [Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel](#) | [President – Isaac Herzog](#) | [PM – Yair Lapid](#)

7. On August 17, Union Minister of State for Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh, addressed the Assistant Section Officers (Probationers) of 2019 Batch at the Institute of Secretariat Training & Management (ISTM) in New Delhi. He said that the government has institutionalised Capacity Building of its officials for getting maximum output. On this occasion, Dr. Jitendra Singh also released a book “Transforming India - Governance for Atmanirbhar Bharat” & “Adhigam”, ISTM’s Journal on ‘Research on Training and Governance’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr. Jitendra Singh – addressed the Assistant Section Officers (Probationers) of 2019 Batch – at the ISTM, New Delhi
- He also released a book “Transforming India - Governance for Atmanirbhar Bharat” & “Adhigam”
- Adhigam – ISTM’s Journal on ‘Research on Training and Governance’
- [Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions: Dr. Jitendra Singh](#)

8. Former Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu has written a memoir titled “Bibi: My Story” which will be published on November 22, 2022 by Threshold Edition, a division of Simon & Schuster. Netanyahu has previously written “A Durable Peace” and “Fighting Terrorism,” among other books. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Bibi: My Story” a memoir – written by Benjamin Netanyahu (Former PM of Israel)
- He has also written “A Durable Peace” & “Fighting Terrorism”
- [Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel](#) | [President – Isaac Herzog](#) | [PM – Yair Lapid](#)

9. A new book “Madam Sir: The Story of Bihar’s First Lady IPS Officer”, published by Penguin Random House India (PRHI), is an autobiography of Manjari Jaruhar, retired Special DG of the CISF & presently an Advisor to Tata Consultancy Services (TCS). The book tells the inspirational story of Manjari Jaruhar who overcame extraordinary odds to become the first woman from Bihar to join the country’s elite police cadre. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Madam Sir: The Story of Bihar’s First Lady IPS Officer” – autobiography of Manjari Jaruhar (retired Special DG of CISF)
- Published by – Penguin Random House India

**10.** On August 16, Indian Army Chief General Manoj Pande released a book titled “Men of Steel” on leadership in the armed forces. Lieutenant General Ajay Kumar Singh (retired) & Major General Yash Mor (retired) are the Editors of the book. The book was produced by Centre of Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS). The book is a collection of essays that examine leadership in the armed forces and provides categorical recommendations to sustain the effectiveness and ethos of the military. Spread across 15 chapters, all authors have systematically contextualised the role of military leaders. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Men of Steel” book on leadership in the Armed forces – released by Army Chief General Manoj Pande
- Editors of the book – Lt. Gen. Ajay Kumar Singh (retired) + Major Gen. Yash Mor (retired)
- Book produced by – CLAWS

**11.** Krishna Bose has authored a book titled “Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose’s Life, Politics & Struggle”. The book has a chapter dedicated to the mystery surrounding Netaji’s death. The book, however, is not solely about the incident as it tries to talk about the experiences that shaped his life. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose’s Life, Politics & Struggle” book – authored by Krishna Bose

**12.** In August 22, Governor Arif Mohammad Khan and Aswathy Thirunal Gowri Lakshmi Bayi of the Travancore royal family released the biography “Sing, Dance and Pray: The Inspirational story of Srila Prabhupada”. The book is authored by Wilbur Award winner Hindol Sengupta and published by Penguin Random House India in commemoration of Srila Prabhupada’s 125<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary. Abhay Charanaravinda Bhaktivedanta Swami aka Srila Prabhupada was an Indian Gaudiya Vaishnava guru who founded ISKCON, commonly known as the “Hare Krishna movement”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Sing, Dance and Pray: The Inspirational story of Srila Prabhupada” biography – authored by Hindol Sengupta
- Released by = Arif Mohammad Khan + Aswathy Thirunal Gowri Lakshmi Bayi
- Srila Prabhupada – the founder of ISKCON

**13.** Nilanjana Bhowmick has authored a powerful book titled “Lies Our Mothers Told Us: The Indian Woman’s Burden”. The book, divided in 20 chapters, examines gender inequalities inside India’s middle-class homes. The book was published by Rupa & Company. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Lies Our Mothers Told Us: The Indian Woman’s Burden” book – authored by Nilanjana Bhowmick

**14.** On August 24, Former Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu released a book titled “New India: Selected Writings 2014-19”, a compilation of selected articles of former Union Minister and Padma Vibhushan Arun Jaitley on his death anniversary in New Delhi. The book was published by Juggernaut Publication. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- M. Venkaiah Naidu – released a book titled “New India: Selected Writings 2014-19”
- The book is a compilation of selected articles of Arun Jaitley

**15.** Stefan Dercon has authored a book titled “Gambling on Development: Why Some Countries Win and Others Lose”. The book was published by C Hurst & Co Publishers Ltd. A professor of economic policy and director of the Centre for the Study of African Economies at the University of Oxford, Dercon has written this book on the basis of his experience of studying the evolution of several key African and Asian economies over the past few decades. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- “Gambling on Development: Why Some Countries Win and Others Lose” book – authored by Stefan Dercon ([Belgium](#))

**16.** On August 27, Pulapre Balakrishnan authored a new book titled “India’s Economy From Nehru to Modi: A Brief History”. The book was published by Permanent Black. Pulapre Balakrishnan is a professor of Economics at Ashoka University. The book describes India's economic conditions during the British Raj, Nehruvian period & Modi period (at present). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “India’s Economy From Nehru to Modi: A Brief History” book – authored by Pulapre Balakrishnan
- Publisher – Permanent Black

**17.** A new book “The Hero of Tiger Hill” tells the inspiring story of Subedar Major (Honorary Captain) Yogendra Singh Yadav, the youngest Param Vir Chakra awardee (India’s highest gallantry award), at the age of 19 for his actions in the 1999 Kargil conflict. The autobiography was published by Srishti Publishers & Distributors. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “The Hero of Tiger Hill” autobiography – by/about Subedar Major Yogendra Singh Yadav

**18.** On August 29, Minister of State for AYUSH, Dr. Munjpara Mahendrabhai Kalubhai, released a book titled “Science behind Suryanamaskar”, a collection of evidence-based research on one of the most well-known Yoga Asanas at All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA). The Minister was invited as the Chief Guest to felicitate the organisers of the “Continuing Medical Education (CME) Programme 2022” that was held at the Institute from 22<sup>nd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> August 2022. It was organised by the Departments of Swasthavritta, Panchakarma, and Dravyaguna, in association with Rashtriya Ayurveda Vidyapeeth (RAV), New Delhi. The book “Science behind Suryanamaskar” has been compiled by the AIIA’s Department of Swasthavritta and Yoga. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr. Munjpara (MoS for AYUSH) – released a book titled “Science behind Suryanamaskar”
- The book is compiled by the AIIA’s Department of Swasthavritta & Yoga
- Rashtriya Ayurveda Vidyapeeth (RAV) – New Delhi
- [Ministry of AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of AYUSH: Munjapara Mahendrabhai](#)

**19.** Dr. Ashutosh Raravikar, Director in the Department of Economic & Policy Research (DEPR) of RBI, has authored a book titled “Indian Banking in Retrospect - 75 years of Independence”. The book was published by Aswad Prakashan Private Limited. Dr. Ashutosh attempts to capture developments in the Indian banking sector over the last 75 years in this slim volume. Bibek Debroy wrote the foreword of the book. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Indian Banking in Retrospect - 75 years of Independence” book – written by Dr. Ashutosh Raravikar

**20.** Acclaimed classical dancer and activist Mallika Sarabhai wrote her self-help memoir, “Free Fall: My Experiments with Living”, which was published on August 30. It was published by Speaking Tiger. Born to renowned Indian classical dancer Mrinalini Sarabhai and the legendary space scientist Vikram Sarabhai, Mallika is an accomplished Kuchipudi and Bharatanatyam dancer. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Free Fall: My Experiments with Living” memoir – authored by Mallika Sarabhai (Classical Dancer & Activist)



# Obituaries

**1.** On August 9, former International Athlete P. V. Kamaraj passed away at the age of 68 after a massive heart attack. His major achievement was that he was part of the Indian 4x400m relay team that won bronze in the 1979 Asian championships in Tokyo. Kamaraj has won a host of medals (including gold, silver and bronze) in 400mH in National inter-state meets and Open Nationals from 1977-80. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- P. V. Kamaraj – former International Athlete – passed away
- He was part of the Indian 4x400m relay team that won bronze in the 1979 Asian championships in Tokyo

**2.** On August 9, Cricket South Africa (CSA) announced that former International Cricket Umpire Rudi Koertzen passed away at the age of 73, after succumbing to injuries sustained in a car accident. Koertzen announced his decision to retire from umpiring in June 2010. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Rudi Koertzen (South Africa) – Former International Cricket Umpire – passed away

**3.** On August 14, Veteran stock investor and newly-launched Akasa Air founder Rakesh Jhunjhunwala passed away at the age of 62. He was known as “India’s Warren Buffet” as well as “Big Bull”, for his ability to pick up low-priced quality stocks much before they become high performers. He took all his investment decisions and invested through his asset management firm ‘Rare Enterprises’. Jhunjhunwala’s net worth is estimated at \$5.8 billion (approximately Rs 46,000 Crore) by Forbes. He was India’s 36<sup>th</sup> wealthiest individual. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Rakesh Jhunjhunwala – a Speculator, an Investor & an Entrepreneur – passed away
- He was known as “India’s Warren Buffet” as well as “Big Bull” | He was founder & promoter of Akasa Air
- ‘Rare Enterprises’ – belongs to Rakesh Jhunjhunwala
- His estimated net worth by Forbes – \$5.8 billion (Rs 46,000 Cr) | He was India’s 36<sup>th</sup> wealthiest individual

**4.** On August 12, National award-winning Sugama Sangeetha singer Shivamogga Subbanna passed away at the age of 83. He became a household name in Karnataka after he sang ‘Baarisu Kannada Dindimava’, written by Kuvempu. He was the first Kannada playback singer to receive a National Award. He was also an advocate and a notary. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Shivamogga Subbanna – a Kannada Singer – passed away (His Musical genre – Sugama Sangeetha)
- He was the first Kannada playback singer to receive a National Award

**5.** On August 16, Veteran cricket administrator Amitabh Chaudhary, the former BCCI acting Secretary and President of Jharkhand State Cricket Association (JSCA) died of heart attack at the age of 58. A retired senior IPS officer was also the Chairman of Jharkhand Public Service Commission (JPSC). [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Amitabh Chaudhary – former BCCI acting Secretary & President of Jharkhand State Cricket Association – passed away
- He was also the Chairman of Jharkhand Public Service Commission



**6.** On August 16, renowned Malayalam Novelist Narayan, noted for his award-winning novel “Kocharethi”, died at the age of 82 due to COVID-19-related complications. He won the “Sahitya Akademi Award” and the “The Economist Crossword Book Award”. He also wrote Ooralikkudi, Vannala, and Aranu Tholkunnavar, among others. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narayan – Malayalam Novelist – Passed away (Famous for his award-winning novel “Kocharethi”)
- Awards won by him – “Sahitya Akademi Award” & “The Economist Crossword Book Award”

**7.** On August 21, Senior Congress leader and former Jharkhand and Assam governor Syed Sibte Razi passed away at the age of 83. He served as governor of Jharkhand from 2004 to 2009 and Assam during 2009. Razi was elected thrice to Rajya Sabha. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Syed Sibte Razi – a Politician – passed away (Party - INC | Former Governor of Jharkhand & Assam)

**8.** On August 20, Samar Banerjee, who captained India to a fourth-place finish in the 1956 Melbourne Olympics, passed away. He was widely known by his nickname ‘Badru’. He joined Mohun Bagan FC in 1952. He then took up coaching and went on to manage the Bengal football team. The West Bengal Government honoured Badru Banerjee with the Lifetime Achievement Award in sports in 2017. Mohun Bagan FC had accorded him its highest honour, ‘Mohun Bagan Ratna’ in 2009. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Samar Banerjee (nicknamed ‘Badru’) – a Football player – passed away
- He captained India to a 4<sup>th</sup> place finish in the 1956 Melbourne Olympics
- Awards received – ‘Mohun Bagan Ratna’ & ‘Lifetime Achievement Award in Sports’ (by West Bengal)

**9.** On August 22, Veteran filmmaker Abdul Gaffar Nadiadwala passed away due to cardiac arrest. He was 91. Abdul Gaffar had started his film production and media entertainment company in 1953. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Abdul Gaffar Nadiadwala – a Veteran Filmmaker – passed away

**10.** On August 24, K. Sadananda Shetty, former Vijaya Bank Chairman and Founder & serving Chairman of Soham Group of Companies, passed away at the age of 85. He was the Chairman of Vijaya Bank, which has now merged with Bank of Baroda, from 1983 to 1990. He also served as the Vice-Chairman of Indian Banks Association (IBA). Mr. Shetty was current President of Renewable Energy Developers Association of Karnataka. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- K. Sadananda Shetty – Former Chairman of Vijaya Bank & Former Vice-Chairman of IBA – passed away
- He was Founder & serving Chairman of Soham Group of Companies
- He was also the Current President of Renewable Energy Developers Association of Karnataka



**11.** On August 30, Abhijit Sen, renowned Agriculture Economist and Former member of the Planning Commission from 2004 to 2014, when Manmohan Singh was the Prime Minister, passed away at the age of 72. Abhijit Sen was also the Chairman of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) in the first Atal Bihari Vajpayee-led NDA government. He was awarded Padma Bhushan for Public Service in 2010. In 2014, the Planning Commission was replaced by NITI Aayog. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Abhijit Sen – Agriculture Economist & Former member of the Planning Commission – passed away
- Awards: Padma Bhushan (2010) for Public Service

**12.** On August 30, the last leader of the Soviet Union, former President Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, died at the age of 91. Gorbachev was in power between 1985 and 1991 and was the last surviving Cold War leader. Gorbachev won a 'Nobel Peace Prize' in 1990 for negotiating a nuclear arms pact with then US President Ronald Reagan. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mikhail Gorbachev – Last leader of the Soviet Union (former President) – passed away
- He received 'Nobel Peace Prize' in 1990



# Meetings, Conferences & Summits

**1.** On August 3, India and Mauritius held the 1<sup>st</sup> session of “India-Mauritius High-Powered Joint Trade Committee” in New Delhi. The meeting was co-chaired by Dr. Srikar K Reddy, Joint Secretary of Department of Commerce. The High-Powered Joint Trade Committee had been constituted as per the mandate of the ‘India-Mauritius Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA)’. The CECPA is the first trade Agreement signed by India with a country in Africa. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- India + Mauritius = held the 1<sup>st</sup> session of “High-Powered Joint Trade Committee” in New Delhi
- CECPA is the first trade Agreement signed by India with a country in Africa
- Mauritius – Port Louis – Mauritian rupee | PM – Pravind Kumar Jugnauth

**2.** As announced on August 4, India will host the “United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Meeting on Counterterrorism” in October 2022 for a special meeting on counter-terrorism. The special meeting would be conducted in the 6 official languages of the United Nations. India chairs the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee for 2022. India’s two-year term at the UNSC as non-permanent member will end in December 2022. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- India – to host the “UNSC Meeting on Counterterrorism” in October 2022
- India – chairs the UNSC Counter-Terrorism Committee for 2022
- HQs of UNSC – New York, US | Presidency in August – China (July – Brazil | Sep – France)

**3.** On August 5, PM Narendra Modi chaired the 7<sup>th</sup> Governing Council meeting of NITI Aayog at Rashtrapati Bhawan Cultural Centre, New Delhi. The agenda of the meeting includes crop diversification and achieving self-sufficiency in oilseeds, pulses and Agri-communities; School Education; Higher Education; and Urban Governance. This would be the first in-person meeting of the Governing Council since July 2019. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- PM Narendra Modi – chaired the 7<sup>th</sup> Governing Council meeting of NITI Aayog in New Delhi
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Parmameswaran Iyer | Chairperson – Narendra Modi | VC – Suman Bery

**4.** India will host the International Dairy Federation’s “World Dairy Summit 2022” at the India Expo Centre & Mart in Greater Noida, National Capital Region (Delhi - NCR) from September 12 to 15, where stakeholders from 40 countries will participate. The last World Dairy Summit was organised in 1974 in New Delhi. The theme of the event is “Dairy for Nutrition and Livelihood” and the sponsors are Amul and Nandini. Mother Dairy will be the principal sponsor for the event. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- “World Dairy Summit 2022” – to be organised by the IDF in Greater Noida, NCR (in Sep 2022)
- Theme of the summit – “Dairy for Nutrition & Livelihood”
- India – the largest milk producing country in the world
- HQs of IDF – Brussels, Belgium | Chairman – Meenesh Shah



5. On August 6, Union Minister of Power and New and Renewable Energy, R. K. Singh chaired the Review Planning and Monitoring (RPM) meeting with States and State Power Utilities. During the meeting, the Union Minister launched the 10<sup>th</sup> 'Integrated Rating of DISCOMs' (Power Distribution Companies), 1<sup>st</sup> 'Consumer Service Rating of DISCOMs' and 'Bharat eSmart' Mobile Application (BeSMA). The free-to-use mobile App for prepaid smart meters was also launched for the nationwide rollout of smart metering. These initiatives would pave the path towards an efficient and sustainable power distribution sector. In the 10<sup>th</sup> 'Integrated Ratings of DISCOMs', Dakshin Gujarat Vij Company Limited (DGVCL) secured the first position. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- R. K. Singh – chaired the 'Review Planning & Monitoring (RPM) Meeting' with States & State Power Utilities
- During the meeting, R. K. Singh launched:
  - 10<sup>th</sup> Integrated Rating of DISCOMs, 1<sup>st</sup> Consumer Service Rating of DISCOMs & 'Bharat eSmart' mobile app
- Dakshin Gujarat Vij Company Ltd – secured 1<sup>st</sup> position in the 10<sup>th</sup> 'Integrated Rating of DISCOMs'
- [Ministry of Power and Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh | Constituency – Arrah, Bihar](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Power: Krishan Pal Gurjar](#)

6. External Affairs Minister of India, Dr. S. Jaishankar visited Cambodia from August 3-5, 2022 to attend the annual "ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers' Meeting (AIFMM)" in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. It was co-chaired by Dr. S. Jaishankar and Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan, Foreign Minister of Singapore. While the "Special ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers' Meeting" was hosted by India in New Delhi in June 2022 to commemorate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ASEAN-India relations this year. EAM appreciated the Cambodian Chairship of ASEAN this year, under the theme "ASEAN ACT: Addressing Challenges Together". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- S. Jaishankar – attended the annual "ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers' Meeting (AIFMM)" – hosted by Cambodia
- Theme of AIFMM – "ASEAN ACT: Addressing Challenges Together"
- Special ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers' Meeting – was held in New Delhi (in June)
- [Chairmanship of ASEAN 2022 – Cambodia | Secretariat of ASEAN – Jakarta, Indonesia | Members – 10](#)

7. 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"

8. 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



9. On August 9, Meenakshi Lekhi, Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture, addressed the 'Vishwa Sadbhavana' event organised by the NID Foundation at Melbourne in Australia, where she internationally unveiled two books "Heartfelt - The Legacy of Faith" and "Modi@20: Dreams Meet Delivery". Brought out by NID Foundation, the book 'Heartfelt-The Legacy of Faith' documents PM Modi's belief in the Sikh Gurus and their teachings. The other book, 'Modi@20: Dreams Meet Delivery', by Dr. Bharat Barai, PM Modi's unique and hugely successful governance, and his love and affection for humanity in general and Indians in particular, irrespective of region or religion. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Vishwa Sadbhavana' event – organised by the NID Foundation at Melbourne, Australia
- Meenakshi Lekhi launched 2 books at the event – "Heartfelt - The Legacy of Faith" & "Modi@20: Dreams Meet Delivery"
- 'Modi@20: Dreams Meet Delivery' book – authored by Dr. Bharat Barai
- [Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar](#) | [PM – Anthony Albanese](#)

10. India hosted the pre-summit meeting of the "Tiger Range Countries Summit" at New Delhi. The summit is scheduled to be held at Valadivostak, Russia on September 5, 2022. The previous Tiger Range Countries Summit was held in 2010 in St. Petersburg, Russia. India is home to 52 Tiger Reserves with approximately 75% population of the wild tiger at global level. India achieved the goal of doubling the tiger numbers in 2018 itself, 4 years in advance from the targeted year 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – hosted the pre-summit meeting of the "Tiger Range Countries Summit" at New Delhi
- 'Tiger Range Countries Summit' is scheduled to be held at – Valadivostak, Russia (in Sep 2022)
- India is home to 52 Tiger Reserves with approximately 75% population of the world's tiger population

11. On August 9, the Union Cabinet, chaired by PM Narendra Modi, approved the ratification of amendments to the Constitution of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) as contained in the Eleventh Additional Protocol to the Constitution signed during the 27<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Universal Postal Union held at Abidjan in Cote d'Ivoire from August 9 to 27. The approval enables the Department of Posts, to have the "Instrument of Ratification" signed by the President of India and have the same deposited with the Director General of the International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 27<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Universal Postal Union – held at Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire
- Cabinet approved the ratification of amendments to the Constitution of the Universal Postal Union (UPU)
- Cabinet's recent approval enables the Department of Posts to have the "Instrument of Ratification"
- [HQs of UPU – Bern, Switzerland](#) | [Director General – Bishar Hussein](#) | [Established – 1874](#)

12. In August 2022, an Indian Parliamentary delegation led by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla attended the 65<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference held in Halifax, Canada. During the Conference, 8 workshops were held on various subjects. The Lok Sabha Speaker participated as a panelist in the Workshop 'C' titled "A People's Parliament: Accessibility through Innovation". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 65<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference – held in Halifax, Canada
- Om Birla – participated as a panelist in the Workshop 'C' titled "A People's Parliament: Accessibility through Innovation"



**13.** On August 16, Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the two-day National Security Strategies Conference, attended by 600 police officers in virtual and physical mode. The conference was organised by the Intelligence Bureau. Deliberations were held on various subjects of national security, including counter-terrorism, radicalisation, issues pertaining to crypto currencies, counter rogue drone technology, and challenges posed by Maoist outfits. The Minister also inaugurated the National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS) developed by National Crime Records Bureau for quick disposal of cases with the help of a centralised finger print database. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Amit Shah – inaugurated the “National Security Strategies Conference” – organised by Intelligence Bureau
- Amit Shah – also inaugurated “National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS)” developed by NCRB
- HQs of IB – New Delhi | DG – Tapan Deka

**14.** On August 21, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar, addressed the 11<sup>th</sup> “National Seed Congress 2022” organized by the Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Agriculture University in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh. Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia virtually joined the programme. On this occasion the newly constructed auditorium of the University was named after the late Dattopant Thengadi. Simultaneously the State Academy of Agricultural and Allied Sciences (SAAS) was launched. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Singh Tomar – addressed the 11<sup>th</sup> “National Seed Congress 2022” in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh
- It was organized by – Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Agriculture University
- State Academy of Agricultural and Allied Sciences (SAAS) was also launched
- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare: Narendra Singh Tomar | Constituency – Morena, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare: Shobha Karandlaje & Kailash Choudhary
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

**15.** On August 21, the 10<sup>th</sup> National Conference of Women in Police (NCWP) was held in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh. It was hosted by the Ministry of Home Affairs through the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D), in collaboration with Himachal Pradesh Police. This conference is being organised biannually by BPR&D in collaboration with various states since 2002 and provides a platform for lady police officers across ranks (Constable to DGP) from all over the country to share their experiences. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 10<sup>th</sup> National Conference of Women in Police (NCWP) – held in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh
- The conference was hosted by Ministry of Home Affairs through BPR&D
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

**16.** On August 23, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh travelled to Uzbekistan’s capital Tashkent to attend the “2022 Defence Ministerial Conclave of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)”. The SCO meeting deliberated on Regional Security Challenges including the situation in Ukraine and Afghanistan. India and Pakistan became the permanent members of the SCO in 2017. The SCO was founded at a summit in Shanghai in 2001. India was made an observer at the SCO in 2005. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajnath Singh – participated in the “2022 Defence Ministerial Conclave of the SCO” – held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- HQs of SCO – Beijing, China | SG – Zhang Ming | Present Member Countries – 8 | Current Presidency – Uzbekistan



**17.** Minister of State for Textiles and Railways, Darshana Vikram Jardosh, inaugurated the “Silk Mark Expo 2022” in New Delhi. The exhibition was organised by Silk Mark Organization of India (SMOI), sponsored by Central Silk Board, under Ministry of Textiles. Silk Mark is aimed at generic promotion of silk and building brand equity of Indian Silk at home and abroad. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Darshana Vikram Jardosh – inaugurated “Silk Mark Expo 2022” in Delhi – organised by Silk Mark Organization of India
- HQs of SMOI – Bengaluru, Karnataka

**18.** In August 2022, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) sought security clearance from the Ministry of Home Affairs for the 90<sup>th</sup> Interpol General Assembly scheduled to be held at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi from October 18 to 21, 2022. The global police organisation, Interpol, has 195 member countries, including from Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq and Sudan - classified as ‘countries of concern’ by India. Last year, the assembly was organised in Turkey’s Istanbul. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 90<sup>th</sup> Interpol General Assembly – to be held at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi (in Oct 2022)
- HQs of Interpol – Lyon, France | President – Ahmed Naser Al-Raisi | Founded on – Sep 7, 1923
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Vinai Kumar Saxena | Chief Secretary – Naresh Kumar

**19.** On August 22, Union Home Minister Amit Shah chaired the 23<sup>rd</sup> Central Zonal Council meeting in Bhopal where issues like connectivity, power, sharing of river water and other matters of common interests were discussed. The Central Zonal Council comprises Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. The meeting was attended by Chief Ministers, Ministers, Chief Secretaries, Principal Secretaries and Senior Officers of the member states and Central government. There are 5 zonal councils in India and Union Home Minister is the Chairman of each of these zonal councils and Chief Ministers of the host state (to be chosen by rotation every year) is the Vice-Chairman. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Amit Shah – chaired the 23<sup>rd</sup> Central Zonal Council meeting held in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- Member states of the Central Zonal Council: Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand
- There are 5 zonal councils in India | Chairman – Union Home Minister | VC – Chief Ministers of the Host State
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

**20.** On August 25, Andhra Pradesh’s Tirupati district hosted a Meeting of Ministers of Labour from all the States & Union Territories. This is the first National-Level Meeting to be conducted after the formation of Tirupati district. Union Minister of Labour and Employment Bhupendra Yadav presided over the meeting. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tirupati (AP) – hosted a ‘National-Level Meeting of Ministers of Labour from all the States & Union Territories’
- Bhupendra Yadav – presided over the meeting
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan
- Ministry of Labour & Employment: Bhupender Yadav | Constituency – Rajasthan
- MoS in Ministry of Labour & Employment: Rameswar Teli

**21.** On August 22, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan co-chaired the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ‘Australia-India Education Council’ during his four-day visit to Australia. During his visit, India and Australia agreed to set up a Working Group on Transnational Education to explore ways to promote two-way mobility of universities between the two countries. The Education Council is a forum to advance ties and boost engagements in education, skill development and research priorities. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Dharmendra Pradhan – co-chaired the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ‘Australia-India Education Council’
- India + Australia = to set up a Working Group on Transnational Education to promote two-way mobility of Universities
- [Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar](#) | [PM – Anthony Albanese](#)

**22.** On August 24, the Indian Institute of Metals, Delhi Chapter, organized the 13<sup>th</sup> edition of “International Conference & Exhibition on Resource Efficiency and Circular Economy in Mineral & Metal Sector” during August 25-27, 2022 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. The Conference was inaugurated by the Minister of Steel and Civil Aviation, Jyotiraditya M. Scindia. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 13<sup>th</sup> “International Conference on Resource Efficiency & Circular Economy in Mineral & Metal Sector” - held in New Delhi
- It was organised by – Indian Institute of Metals, Delhi Chapter | Inaugurated by – Jyotiraditya M. Scindia

**23.** The 20<sup>th</sup> edition of “BioAsia 2023”, the marquee life sciences & health tech event, hosted by the Government of Telangana, will be conducted from February 24-26, 2023. Minister for Industries and Commerce, KT Rama Rao, has launched the logo and the theme “Advancing for ONE: Shaping the Next Generation of Humanized Healthcare” of BioAsia 2023. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 20<sup>th</sup> edition of “BioAsia 2023” – to be hosted by Telangana (in Feb 2023)
- Theme – “Advancing for ONE: Shaping the Next Generation of Humanized Healthcare”

**24.** On August 24, Saudi Arabia announced to organise the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the “Global AI Summit 2022” in September under the theme “Artificial Intelligence for the Good of Humanity”. More than 100 speakers specialising in AI will participate in work sessions, panel discussions and accompanying workshops. The summit will discuss a number of topics including smart cities, human capacity development, health care, transportation, energy, culture and heritage, environment and economic mobility. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the “Global AI Summit 2022” – scheduled to be organised in Saudi Arabia
- Theme – “Artificial Intelligence for the Good of Humanity”
- [Saudi Arabia – Riyadh – Saudi Riyal](#) | [Saudi Crown Prince – Mohammed bin Salman](#)

**25.** On August 25, the 8<sup>th</sup> “India International MSME Start-up Expo 2022” was held in New Delhi. The Expo/Summit gives SMEs, startups, business, industry, and service providers a much-needed platform to discover new prospects, connect with buyers and sellers. It was officially opened by Jammu & Kashmir’s Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha. Currently, the Indian MSME sector accounts for almost 45% of all exports from India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 8<sup>th</sup> “India International MSME Start-up Expo 2022” – held in New Delhi
- It was officially opened by – Manoj Sinha (J&K’s Lieutenant Governor)
- Indian MSME sector accounts for almost 45% of all exports from India



**26.** Union Minister of Education & Skill Development, Dharmendra Pradhan participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> Group of 20 (G20) Education Working Group Meeting and Education Ministers' Meeting in Bali from August 31 to September 1 under Indonesia's presidency. The G20 forum was established on September 26, 1999 by Group of Seven. Its current chairman is Joko Widodo, President of Indonesia. It comprises of 19 countries and the European Union. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dharmendra Pradhan – participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> “G20 Education Working Group Meeting” in Bali, Indonesia
- [Presidency of G20 Summit: 2022 – Indonesia | 2023 – India | 2024 – Brazil](#)

**27.** On August 28, the millets farmer producers associations (FPOs), processors and startups participated in the two-day “Millet Conclave 2022” organised jointly by NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), University of Agricultural Science (UAS), Raichur and the NABARD. The conclave was organised as a curtain raiser prior to the “International Year of Millet – 2023”. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced providing Rs 25 Cr to University of Agricultural Science (UAS), Raichur, Karnataka, under the NABARD's “Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF)” for establishment of incubation centre for processing and value addition for promotion of millets. Nirmala Sitharaman also made announcements about the “Millet Challenge” to be organised by NITI Aayog. By December 2022, three winners of the startups will be announced and will receive Rs 1 Cr each under this challenge. Besides, 15 participants for the millet challenge will received Rs 20 lakh each and another 15 participants will receive Rs 10 lakh each besides the handholding support. Moreover, India is one of the leading producers of millets in the world with an estimated share of around 41% in the global production. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Millet Conclave 2022” – organised by NITI Aayog's AIM + University of Agricultural Science (UAS) + NABARD
- Nirmala Sitharaman – announced providing Rs 25 Cr to UAS under the NABARD's “RIDF”
- “Millet Challenge” – to be organised by NITI Aayog
- India is one of the leading producers of millets in the world (with 41% share globally)
- [HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Govinda Rajulu Chintala | Founded in – 1982](#)
- [Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot](#)

**28.** On August 23, the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the “India Clean Air Summit (ICAS)” began in Bengaluru with global experts set to discuss an integrated approach to resolving air pollution and climate change. The summit was organised by think-tanks Centre for Air Pollution Studies (CAPS) and the Centre for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP). The 4-day event saw policymakers, scientists, technologists and people affected by climate change sharing experiences and statistics. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the “India Clean Air Summit (ICAS)” – held in Bengaluru
- The summit was organised by – Centre for Air Pollution Studies (CAPS) + CSTEP
- [Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot](#)

**29.** 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

**1.** 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

**2.** 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”

**3.** 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

**4.** 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)



5. According to Morgan Stanley's economists, India could emerge as Asia's strongest economy in 2022-2023 as it is best-positioned to generate robust domestic demand, helped by economic policy reforms, a young workforce and business investments. Morgan Stanley expects India's growth to average 7% for 2022-2023 and contribute 28% and 22% to Asian and global growth, respectively. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Morgan Stanley: India could emerge as Asia's strongest economy in 2022-2023
- India's expected growth is average 7% for 2022-2023 and contribute 28% and 22% to Asian and global growth, respectively

6. On August 11, 7.3% of India's population owned digital currency in 2021, ranking 7<sup>th</sup> in the world in the list of "Top 20 Global Economies for Digital Currency Ownership", by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Developing countries accounted for 15 of the top 20 economies when it comes to the share of the population that owns cryptocurrencies or digital currencies. Ukraine topped the list with 12.7%, followed by Russia (11.9%) & Venezuela (10.3%). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Top 20 Global Economies for Digital Currency Ownership" – by the UNCTAD
- India – 7<sup>th</sup> with 7.3% of India's population owned digital currency in 2021 | 1<sup>st</sup> - Ukraine (12.7%), 2<sup>nd</sup> - Russia (11.9%)
- HQs of UNCTAD – Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary-General – Rebeca Grynspan

7. On August 8, the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) released a book titled "Fauna of Thattekkad Bird Sanctuary" and a report on the "Threatened Animals of Kerala" as part of efforts to promote sustainable management and conservation of various animal species in the State. An MoU was also signed on the occasion by ZSI with University of Calicut and Dr. Gafoor Memorial MES Mampad College to exchange scientific and academic knowledge with students and researchers for the promotion of zoological researches through advanced pedagogical techniques. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A book titled "Fauna of Thattekkad Bird Sanctuary" – released by ZSI
- A report on the "Threatened Animals of Kerala" – released by ZSI
- ZSI + University of Calicut + Dr. Gafoor Memorial MES Mampad College = an MoU to exchange Scientific & Academic knowledge with Students & Researchers

8. On August 8, University of Hyderabad was ranked first among Indian Universities and 16<sup>th</sup> among all institutions in the academic sector, as per the latest "Nature Index 2022" ranking. The Nature Index is an indicator of high quality research in natural and physical sciences. The rankings are based on the Nature Index data from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- University of Hyderabad – ranked first among Indian Universities in the latest "Nature Index 2022" ranking
- University of Hyderabad – ranked 16<sup>th</sup> among all institutions in the Academic Sector



**9.** On August 12, Razorpay, India's leading full-stack Payments and Banking Platform for Businesses, has become the first Indian company to be named in the "2022 Forbes Cloud 100 List", the ranking of the top 100 private cloud companies in the world. Razorpay has entered the list for the second time, at the 49<sup>th</sup> position, for being a Financial Solutions Software. The list was published for the 6<sup>th</sup> time by Forbes in partnership with Bessemer Venture Partners and Salesforce Ventures. The list was topped by the US-based Stripe, followed by Databricks & Canva. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Razorpay (49<sup>th</sup>) – became the first Indian company to be named in the "2022 Forbes Cloud 100 List"
- The list was published by = Forbes + Bessemer Venture + Salesforce Ventures
- Top three: 1<sup>st</sup> - Stripe, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Databricks, 3<sup>rd</sup> - Canva

**10.** India experienced severe working-hour and employment losses in 2020 and 2021, and Indian youth employment deteriorated in 2021 compared to 2020, according to the "Global Employment Trends for Youth 2022" report released by the International Labour Organisation (ILO). The total global number of unemployed youth is estimated to reach 73 million in 2022, a slight improvement from 2021 (75 million), but still 6 million above the pre-pandemic level of 2019. The unemployment rate of young people in the Asia and Pacific region is projected to reach 14.9% in 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Global Employment Trends for Youth 2022" report – released by the ILO
- Global number of unemployed youth is estimated to reach 73 million in 2022 (from 75 million in 2021)
- Unemployment rate of young people in the Asia & Pacific region is projected to reach 14.9% in 2022
- HQs of ILO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Guy Ryder | DG – Gilbert Hounbo (from Oct 1, 2022) | Founded in – 1919

**11.** Forbes Asia published its 2022 edition of the list titled "Best Under A Billion", the Best 200 mid-sized companies in the Asia-Pacific region. These are publicly listed companies with annual revenue of below \$1 billion. This year, 24 Indian firms appeared in the list, down from 26 in 2021. With this, India ranked 4<sup>th</sup> among Asian countries, followed by China on 5<sup>th</sup> place with 22 companies on the list. Taiwan has the greatest number of companies listed at 30, followed by Japan with 29 and South Korea has 27. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Best Under A Billion", a list of the Best 200 mid-sized companies in Asia-Pacific region – published by Forbes Asia
- 24 Indian firms appeared in the list (down from 26 in 2021)
- India ranked 4<sup>th</sup> among Asian countries | 1<sup>st</sup> – Taiwan | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Japan | 3<sup>rd</sup> – South Korea

**12.** On August 13, Climate Policy Initiative (CPI) India released an updated report titled 'Landscape of Green Finance in India' on India's effort to track green investment flows. As per the report, the tracked green finance in 2019-2020 was Rs 3.09 lakh Cr (USD 44 billion) per annum, which is about a fourth of India's needs. The report estimates that for India to achieve its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement, the country requires an approximate Rs 162.5 lakh Cr (\$2.5 trillion) from 2015 to 2030 or roughly Rs 11 lakh Cr (\$170 billion) per year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Landscape of Green Finance in India" report on India's effort to track green investment flows – by CPI India
- Tracked green finance in 2019-2020 was Rs 3.09 lakh Cr (USD 44 billion) per annum (one fourth of India's needs)
- India requires an approximate Rs 11 lakh Cr (\$170 billion) per year



**13.** On August 17, the report titled “Air Quality and Health in Cities” was released by US-based Health Effects Institute. It analyses pollution and global health effects for more than 7,000 cities around the world, focusing on two of the most harmful pollutants - particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>). Delhi (110 µg/m<sup>3</sup>) and Kolkata (84 µg/m<sup>3</sup>) were ranked first and second in the list of top 10 most polluted cities when PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels were compared. However no Indian city appeared in the list of top 10, or even top 20 polluted cities when NO<sub>2</sub> levels were compared. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Air Quality and Health in Cities” report – released by Health Effects Institute ([US](#))
- It focuses on two of the most harmful pollutants – PM<sub>2.5</sub> & NO<sub>2</sub>
- Top 10 most polluted cities: 1<sup>st</sup> – Delhi | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Kolkata (when PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels were compared)
- No Indian city appeared in the list of top 10 or even 20 polluted cities (when NO<sub>2</sub> levels were compared)

**14.** Solar capacity installations in India rose by 59% to record 7.2 GW during first half (January-June) of 2022, according to “Q2 2022 India Solar Market Update” released by Mercom India Research. The solar installations in April-June period (Q1) of FY 2022 also increased by 59% to over 3.9 GW. The sector has witnessed the highest ever quarterly and half-yearly solar capacity additions. With this, India’s cumulative installed solar capacity now stands at 57 GW. In the first half of 2022, Rajasthan and Gujarat were the top states for large-scale solar installations, accounting for 53% and 14% of installations, respectively, followed by Maharashtra with 9%. Cumulative large-scale solar PV installations in Rajasthan reached almost 13 GW as of June 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Q2 2022 India Solar Market Update” released by – Mercom India Research
  - Solar capacity installations in India rose by 59% to record 7.2 GW during first half (January-June) of 2022
  - Solar installations in April-June period (Q1) of FY 2022 also increased by 59% to over 3.9 GW
  - India’s cumulative installed Solar Capacity now stands at 57 GW
  - In the first half of 2022, Rajasthan (53%) was the top states for large-scale solar installations

**15.** As per an article titled “Private Corporate Investment: Growth in 2021-22 and Outlook for 2022-23” published in the RBI bulletin, Rajasthan accounted for the highest share in the total cost of projects sanctioned by banks and financial institutions in 2021-22, retaining the top place for two consecutive years. Rajasthan was followed by Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat. Infrastructure sector continued to attract maximum capex projects. A total capex investment of ₹1,93,722 Cr was expected to be made by the private corporate sector in 2021-22, 13.5% more than the planned phasing of the previous year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Private Corporate Investment: Growth in 2021-22 and Outlook for 2022-23” article – published by RBI
- Rajasthan – accounted for the highest share in the total cost of projects sanctioned by Banks & FIs in 2021-22
- ‘Infrastructure’ sector attracted maximum Capex Projects
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

**16.** According to figures released by the Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, the economies of 19 states and UTs exceeded their pre-coronavirus levels and recorded double-digit growth in FY22. Andhra Pradesh topped the chart, as it recorded the highest growth at 11.43%, while Puducherry was the lowest at 3.31%. However, India’s GDP in FY22 expanded at 8.7%, against a 6.6% contraction in FY21. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- MoSPI: Economies of 19 states/UTs exceeded their pre-coronavirus levels & recorded double-digit growth in FY22
- First – Andhra Pradesh (11.43%) | Last – Puducherry (3.31%)
- India's GDP in FY22 expanded at 8.7% (against 6.6% contraction in FY21)

**17.** As on August 22, Portugal currently registers 182 elderly (aged 65 years and above) for every 100 young people (aged up to 14 years), becoming the fastest aging country in the European Union (EU), according to a study published by the Contemporary Portugal Database Pordata. In 1990, Portugal registered 66 elderly for every 100 young people. In the past 3 decades, the elderly population tripled in the country, according to the study. Portugal recorded an annual aging rate of 3.6%, higher than all EU countries. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Portugal – became the fastest aging country in the European Union (EU) with an annual aging rate of 3.6%
- Portugal – currently registers 182 elderly (aged 65+) for every 100 young people (aged up to 14 years)
- Portugal – Lisbon – Euro | President – Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa

**18.** On August 20, according to data released by the Ministry of Mines, Mineral production in India rose by 7.5% in June 2022 as compared with the production level of the corresponding month of the last year. The index of mineral production of the mining and quarrying sector for the month of June 2022 (Base: 2011-12=100) was 113.4 Million Tonnes. Coal topped the list with 669 lakh tonnes. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Mineral production in India in June 2022 rose by 7.5% – at 113.4 Million Tonnes (compared to June 2021)
- Coal topped the list of Mineral production with 669 lakh tonnes
- Ministry of Coal & Ministry of Mines: Pralhad Joshi | Constituency – Dharwad, Karnataka
- MoS in Ministry of Coal & Ministry of Mines: Danve Raosaheb Dadarao

**19.** NASSCOM's report on "Healthcare in India - Transforming through Innovation" focuses on transformation witnessed in the Indian Healthcare ecosystem driven by emerging technologies and innovation. The findings are based on the analysis of the top use case submissions received during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition of "NASSCOM Healthcare Innovation Challenge (HIC)" conducted by NASSCOM CoE IoT. The analysis covers in detail the infrastructure, technology, deployment, and pricing required for the implementation of these innovative use cases to enable process automation and technology advancement in hospitals and other areas in healthcare. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- "Healthcare in India - Transforming through Innovation" report – released by NASSCOM
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition of "NASSCOM Healthcare Innovation Challenge (HIC)" – conducted by NASSCOM CoE IoT
- HQs of NASSCOM – New Delhi | President – Debjani Ghosh

**20.** India can add around 23.7 Gigawatt (GW) of wind energy generation capacity within the next 5 years by 2026, according to the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the report titled "Renewing Wind Growth to power the Energy Transition: India Wind Energy Market Outlook 2026" released by Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC) and MEC Intelligence. The report highlights the criticality of wind energy for India's green energy transition. Wind power constitutes a majority of the renewable energy mix in India, with 37.7% share in cumulative installed capacity, as of March 2022. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- “Renewing Wind Growth to power Energy Transition: India Wind Energy Market Outlook 2026” report – released by GWEC & MEC Intelligence
- India can add around 23.7 GW of Wind Energy generation capacity within next 5 years by 2026
- [Global Wind Energy Council \(GWEC\) is based in – Brussels, Belgium](#)

**21.** As on August 24, Honasa Consumer (Mamaearth), founded by Gazal Alagh, topped the “Practus Hurun India PE Performers 2022” ranking with an average growth of 491% over last year. Encube Ethicals, an integrated pharmaceutical company, is ranked second in this classification, reporting a growth of 343%. Ecom Express, a technology-enabled logistics solutions provider is ranked third with a growth of 283%. The ranking is a list of best-performing companies during 2020-21 and it was released by the Practus and Hurun India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Practus Hurun India PE Performers 2022” – released by Practus & Hurun India
- Best-performing companies: 1<sup>st</sup> – Honasa Consumer (Mamaearth) | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Encube Ethicals | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Ecom Express
- [HQs of Honasa Consumer Pvt. Ltd. – New Delhi | CEO – Varun Alagh](#)

**22.** As of August 2022, South Korea is the world’s fastest-aging nation among Economies with per capita GDP of at least \$30,000, according to United Nations Global Population Projections and World Bank data. As per the data, South Korea has the world’s lowest fertility rate. Based on 2021 data, Korean women were estimated to have an average of just 0.81 children over their lifetimes, down from 0.84 a year earlier. A shrinking workforce is a major factor in the decline of Korea’s potential growth rate. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- South Korea – the world’s fastest-aging nation among Economies with per capita GDP of at least \$30,000
- South Korea – has the world’s Lowest Fertility Rate
- 2021 Data: Korean women were estimated to have an average of just 0.81 children over their lifetimes
- [South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won | President – Yoon Suk-yeol](#)

**23.** As on August 26, the life insurance sector has grown at a CAGR of 11% from 2017-2022 and is estimated to grow at a CAGR of 9% in the next 5 years, as per the latest report by Benori Knowledge. The finding of the report shows that the life insurance penetration rate in India has grown to 3.2% in December 2021 from 2.8% in December 2019, almost at par with the global average of 3.3% and makes India the 10<sup>th</sup> largest life insurance market globally, ahead of China (at 2.4%) and the UK (at 3%). Bancassurance is the primary avenue for consumers to discover and purchase life insurance, making up 55% of the distribution share in 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- According to the latest report by Benori Knowledge:
  - Life insurance sector – grown at a CAGR of 11% from 2017-2022
  - The sector is estimated to grow at a CAGR of 9% in the next 5 years
  - Life insurance penetration in India in December 2021 – 3.2% | Global average - 3.3%
  - India is the 10<sup>th</sup> largest life insurance market globally

**24.** The highest proportion of households covered under health insurance or financial schemes across India is in Rajasthan, as per the latest data on health insurance coverage - collected in 2019-21 through the National Family Health Survey (NFHS). In the state, 88% of its households with at least one member is covered by a health scheme or health insurance. Andhra Pradesh is second with 80%, followed by Goa (73%). While overall in India, 41% of the households have at least one usual member covered under health insurance or financing scheme. The percentage of households that do not use government health facilities is highest in Bihar (80%). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- According to latest data on health insurance coverage collected in 2019-21 through NFHS:
  - Rajasthan – has the highest proportion of households (88%) covered under health insurance or financial schemes
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> – Andhra Pradesh (80%) | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Goa (73%) | Overall in India – 41%
  - The Percentage of households that do not use government health facilities is highest in – Bihar (80%)

**25.** 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](#)

**26.** 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 11<sup>th</sup> spot in the list, whereas Bajaj Finance and Adani Transmission have taken 10<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> 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 – 9<sup>th</sup> | Bajaj Finance – 10<sup>th</sup> (LIC is out of the list of Top 10)
- Top 3: 1<sup>st</sup> – RIL, 2<sup>nd</sup> – TCS, 3<sup>rd</sup> – HDFC Bank

**27.** 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 “15<sup>th</sup> 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:**

- 15<sup>th</sup> “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

**28.** 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: 1<sup>st</sup> - Beijing, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Bengaluru, 3<sup>rd</sup> - Chennai



# Amount & Agreements

**1.** On August 10, Airtel Africa signed up for a USD 125 million revolving facility from American banking major Citigroup Inc. or Citi. The facility involves borrowing both in local currencies and US dollar. The facility has a tenor up to September 2024. It provides interest rate savings in exchange for achieving social impact milestones relating to digital inclusion and gender diversity with a focus on rural areas and women. This is the first performance-indicator based deal executed by Citi India in the area of telecommunications. [{Read more}](#).

## **Key Points:**

- Airtel Africa signed up for a USD 125 million revolving facility from Citigroup till Sep, 2024
- This is the first performance-indicator based deal executed by Citi India in the area of telecommunications
- [HQs of Bharti Airtel – New Delhi](#) | [CEO & MD – Gopal Vittal](#) | [Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal](#)

**2.** On August 16, Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh approved StartUp loan of Rs 1.15 Cr to TGP Bioplastics Pvt Ltd for commercialising 'compostable' plastic and thus also mitigate the usage of Single Use Plastics (SUP). An MoU was signed between Technology Development Board (a statutory body under Department of S&T) and TGP Bioplastics for manufacturing & commercialization of compostable plastic. This unique project has received seed funding under NIDHI Prayas (DST), NITI Aayog and UNIDO for the prototype development. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Dr. Jitendra Singh – approved StartUp loan of Rs 1.15 Cr to TGP Bioplastics for commercialising 'compostable' plastic
- Department of S&T + TGP Bioplastics = an MoU for manufacturing & commercialization of compostable plastic

**3.** On August 17, Gurgaon-based ReNew Power has raised a \$1-billion project loan through external commercial borrowings (ECB), tying up with 12 international banks for the finance. It is the single largest project funding in Indian Renewable Energy. ReNew will use the funding for its upcoming hybrid round-the-cock (RTC) battery-enabled project. The company has also signed a power purchase agreement with the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) for the battery project at Rs 2.90 per unit with 3% escalation annually for 15 years. It will set up wind and solar projects in Karnataka, Rajasthan, and Maharashtra under RTC. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- ReNew Power – raised a \$1-billion project loan through ECB tying up with 12 international banks for the finance
- ReNew Power + SECI = signed power purchase agreement for the battery project at Rs 2.90 per unit
- [HQs of ReNew Power – Gurugram, Haryana](#) | [MD & Chairman – Sumant Sinha](#)
- [HQs of SECI – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman – Jatindra Nath Swain](#) | [MD – Suman Sharma](#) | [Founded on – Sep 9, 2011](#)

**4.** In August 2022, India's Permanent Mission to the UN revealed that India has contributed USD 4,00,000 to 4 voluntary trust funds as part of its commitment to global promotion and protection of human rights and support for United Nations Human Rights. The funds are for Victims of Torture, Technical Cooperation, Implementation of Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and for supporting participation of least developed countries (LDCs)/Small Island Developing States (SIDs). In 2007, India became the first country to deploy an all-women contingent for Formed Police Unit to the UN peacekeeping mission in Liberia. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- India contributed USD 4,00,000 to 4 voluntary trust funds to support United Nations Human Rights



5. 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 Ambarnath. [{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



# Ordinance, Bills and Acts

**1.** 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

**2.** 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

**3.** 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”

**4.** 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



5. 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}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 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](#)
- [Philippines – Manila – Peso | President – Ferdinand Marcos Jr](#)

6. The committee, led by Bharatiya Janata Party member Sanjay Jaiswal placed its report on the “Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill, 2021”, in the Lok Sabha. The draft legislation was referred to the 21-member joint parliamentary panel following widespread criticism of several of its provisions. The amendments aim to reduce the pressure on wild medicinal plants by encouraging cultivation, and fast-tracking research, patent application and transfer of research result. The amendments are completely contrary to the aim and objective of the “Biological Diversity Act, 2002”. The main focus of the bill is to facilitate the trade in biodiversity as opposed to conservation and protection of biodiversity. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sanjay Jaiswal committee – placed its report on the “Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill, 2021” in the Lok Sabha
- The amendments are done in the “Biological Diversity Act, 2002”

7. Ministry of Home Affairs notified “Criminal Procedure (Identification) Act, 2022” to come into effect from August 4, 2022. However, the legislation was enacted earlier in 2022. The Act provides legal sanction to law enforcement agencies for taking measurements of convicts and other persons for the purposes of identification and investigation of criminal matters. It also repeals the existing “Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920”. Under the “Criminal Procedure (Identification) Act, 2022”, the records can be stored up to a period of 75 years from the time of collection. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MHA: “Criminal Procedure (Identification) Act, 2022” to come into effect from August 4, 2022
- It provides legal sanction to law enforcement agencies for taking measurements of convicts and other persons
- It repeals the existing “Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920”
- [Ministry of Home Affairs: Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Home Affairs: Nityanand Rai, Ajay Kumar & Nisith Pramanik](#)

8. On August 17, the government raised the thresholds for prosecutions and arrests under the “Customs Act, 1962” to Rs 50 lakh from Rs 20 lakh for smuggling and illegal imports of goods in baggage, and from Rs 1 Cr to Rs 2 Cr for cases involving commercial fraud. The changes were notified through two circulars issued by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs under the Department of Revenue. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Under the “Customs Act, 1962”, Govt raised the thresholds for prosecutions & arrests to:
  - Rs 50 lakh for smuggling & illegal imports of goods
  - Rs 2 Cr for commercial fraud
- [HQs of CBIC – New Delhi | Chairman – Vivek Johri | Founded in – 1964](#)



9. On August 19, Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways released a draft to amend the “Indian Ports Act, 1908”, which aims to bring in sweeping reforms in the sector by bringing non-major ports into the national fold, creating a new mechanism for resolution of disputes, and empowering maritime state development council (MSDC). The bill seeks to eliminate delays in decision making for non-major ports through the creation of a council, which will be chaired by the Union Minister for Ports, Shipping & Waterways. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways – released a draft to amend the “Indian Ports Act, 1908”
- The bill seeks to eliminate delays in decision making for non-major ports through the creation of a council
- The council will be chaired by – Union Minister for Ports, Shipping & Waterways
- Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Shripad Yesso Naik & Shantanu Thakur



# Acquisitions & Mergers

**1.** 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

**2.** 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

**3.** As on August 10, Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has sold 2% of its shareholding in automaker Mahindra & Mahindra for about Rs 2,222.49 Cr. The shares were sold through open market transactions during the period from December 21, 2020, to August 8, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- LIC – sold 2% of its shareholding in Mahindra & Mahindra
- HQs of LIC – Mumbai | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Founded in – 1956 | Tagline – “Yogakshemam Vahamyaham”

**4.** On August 12, Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) will acquire 9.99% stake in Aditya Birla Health Insurance (ABHI) for Rs 665 Cr. Aditya Birla Health Insurance is a 51:49 joint venture between Aditya Birla Capital Limited and Momentum Metropolitan Strategic Investments, a wholly owned subsidiary of Momentum Metropolitan Holdings Limited (MMH). Post transaction, Aditya Birla Capital and MMH will own 45.91% and 44.10% stake respectively in the company. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- ADIA – will acquire 9.99% stake in Aditya Birla Health Insurance for Rs 665 Cr
- ABHI – a 51:49 JV between Aditya Birla Capital & Momentum Metropolitan Strategic Investments (MMH)
- Post transaction, Aditya Birla Capital & MMH will own 45.91% & 44.10% respectively

**5.** On August 16, Promoter Abrdn Investment Management Ltd (formerly Standard Life Investments) sold about 34% of the estimated 3.45 Cr shares it holds in HDFC Asset Management Company for Rs 2,303 Cr. Abrdn sold a total of 1.19 Crore shares, representing a 5.58% stake, of HDFC AMC. Post the sale of a portion of its stake, Abrdn will have about 10.63% stake in HDFC AMC against 16.21% earlier. HDFC is the biggest shareholder in the mutual fund with 52.59% stake. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Abrdn Investment Management Ltd – sold about 34% of its holdings in HDFC AMC for Rs 2,303 Cr
- Post the sale, Abrdn will have about 10.63% stake in HDFC AMC against 16.21% earlier

**6.** On August 18, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the proposal to merge Creixent Special Steels and JSW Ispat into JSW Steel. JSW Steel and JSW Ispat are into manufacturing and sale of steel products while CSSL is in the business of holding investments. Separately, the CCI cleared the proposed acquisition of Varmora Granito Pvt Ltd and other entities by the Carlyle Group entity Katsura Investments. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CCI approved the proposal to merge Creixent Special Steels & JSW Ispat into JSW Steel
- CCI cleared the proposed acquisition of Varmora Granito Pvt Ltd by Carlyle Group entity Katsura Investments
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003
- HQs of JSW Steel – Mumbai, MH | Chairperson Emeritus – Savitri Devi Jindal | CMD – Sajjan Jindal

**7.** On August 23, Gautam Adani-controlled AMG Media Networks Limited (AMNL) announced to buy a majority stake in New Delhi Television (NDTV). The group will indirectly acquire 29.18% stake in NDTV and launch an open offer for acquiring another 26% to get a majority stake in the media company. AMNL is a wholly owned subsidiary of Adani Enterprises Limited (AEL). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AMNL (Adani Group) – bought 29.18% stake in NDTV & will launch an open offer to acquire another 26% stake

**8.** On August 22, Norway's Climate Investment Fund, managed by Norfund and KLP, signed an agreement to acquire a 49% stake in a 420 MW Thar Surya 1 Solar Power Plant in Rajasthan for approximately Rs 2.8 billion. The plant was developed by Italy's Enel Green Power. According to a report by BloombergNEF (BNEF), India needs \$233 billion in investment to meet its goals for development of wind and solar energy by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Climate Investment Fund (Norway) – will acquire 49% stake in '420 MW Thar Surya 1 Solar Power Plant' in Rajasthan
- The plant was developed by – Enel Green Power (Italy)
- Norway – Oslo – Krone | PM – Jonas Gahr Store

**9.** In August 2022, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs issued order of approving amalgamation of Bharat Gas Resources Ltd (BGRL) with its parent Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL). BGRL was incorporated in June 2018. The main business of BGRL is gas sourcing and retailing. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Corporate Affairs – approved amalgamation of Bharat Gas Resources Ltd (BGRL) with its parent BPCL
- BGRL was incorporated in June 2018
- HQs of BPCL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman & MD – Arun Kumar Singh | Founded in – 1952



**10.** On August 24, TVS Motor Company announced to invest Rs 85.41 Crore to acquire a 48.27% stake in Nkars Mobility Millennial Solutions Private Limited (NMMSPL), which operates Formula 1 Driver Narain Karthikeyan's start-up 'DriveX'. NMMSPL operates 'DriveX', a digital platform which provides two-wheelers to customers on a subscription model for a flexible tenure and on a purchase model. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- TVS Motor Company – acquire 48.27% stake in Nkars Mobility Millennial Solutions for Rs 85.41 Crore
- NMMSPL operates 'DriveX', a digital platform
- HQs of TVS Motor Company – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – K. N. Radhakrishnan

**11.** On August 25, Bharti Airtel promoter Bharti Telecom announced to buy Bharti Airtel's 3.33% stake from Singtel for 2.25 billion Singapore dollars or about ₹12,895 Cr. The acquisition is to be completed over a period of 90 days. Bharti Group chairman Sunil Bharti Mittal's family and Singtel own Bharti Telecom (BTL). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bharti Telecom – announced to buy Bharti Airtel's 3.33% stake from Singtel (Singapore)
- HQs of Bharti Airtel – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Gopal Vittal | Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal

**12.** On August 30, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved Caladium Investment Pte. Ltd's acquisition of about 7.49% shareholding in Aditya Birla Fashion & Retail Ltd on a fully diluted basis. Caladium Investment is wholly-owned by Lathe Investment Pvt Ltd, which is, in turn, wholly-owned by GIC Ventures. The CCI also approved acquisition of 35.43% stake in Olam Agri Holdings Pte. Ltd. by SALIC International Investment Company. SALIC is a Saudi Arabian investment company. The CCI approved the merger of Aditya Marketing & Manufacturing Pvt Ltd into Umang Commercial Company Pvt Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CCI approved acquisition of 7.49% stake in Aditya Birla Fashion & Retail Ltd – by Caladium Investment Pte Ltd
- CCI approved acquisition of 35.43% stake in Olam Agri Holdings Pte Ltd – by SALIC (Saudi Arabia)
- CCI approved the merger of Aditya Marketing & Manufacturing Pvt Ltd – into Umang Commercial Company (Kolkata)
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003



# MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

**1.** 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

**2.** 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

**3.** 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



**4.** 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

**5.** 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

**6.** 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
- Philippines – Manila – Peso | President – Ferdinand Marcos Jr

**7.** On August 4, Assam government signed 4 MoUs with HCL, Walmart and Flipkart for various purposes, including skilling the youths, exporting local products and creating talent for e-commerce supply chain. The HCL in collaboration with DECT will provide training to the Class 12 passed students, aiming to reduce regional imbalance in terms of skilled people. Another MoU was inked between Assam Skill University (ASU) and HCL-TSS to help aspirants to join HCL-TSS skilling and employment programmes. The third agreement was signed by Walmart Vriddhi with the Industries, Commerce and Public Enterprises Department and Skill Employment Entrepreneurship Department. As per the last MoU signed between Flipkart and Assam Skill Development Mission, Flipkart will provide opportunities to youth of the state in the Flipkart Supply Chain Operations Academy by training, certifying and creating a pool of e-commerce supply chain talent. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- Assam – signed 4 MoUs with HCL, Walmart & Flipkart for various purposes
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi
- HQs of HCL Technologies – Noida, UP | MD & CEO – C. Vijayakumar | Chairperson – Roshni Nadar Malhotra
- HQs of Walmart – Arkansas, US | CEO – Doug McMillon
- HQs of Flipkart – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal | CEO – Kalyan Krishnamurthy

8. On August 5, LinkedIn, the world's largest professional network, signed an MoU with the Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council (K-DISC) and the ICT Academy of Kerala (ICTAK) as part of the Connect Career to Campus (CCC) campaign under the 'Kerala Knowledge Economy Mission (KKEM)' initiative. This partnership aims to boost the employability skill among the youth of Kerala and aggravate relevant jobs for them using LinkedIn talent insights and learning tools. The CCC campaign aims to advocate the idea of 'Right Job@Right Time' by increasing awareness of emerging industry 4.0 jobs.

[{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- LinkedIn + K-DISC + ICTAK = an MoU to boost the employability skill among the youth of Kerala
- The MoU was signed as part of the Connect Career to Campus (CCC) campaign under the 'KKEM' initiative
- CCC campaign aims to advocate the idea of 'Right Job@Right Time'
- HQs of LinkedIn – California, US | CEO – Jeff Weiner
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

9. On August 4, AD Ports Group signed an MoU with Adani Ports & SEZ Ltd (APSEZ), India's largest integrated ports and logistics company, for strategic joint investments in end-to-end logistics infrastructure and solutions in Tanzania. The two companies signed the agreement setting in motion a series of potential country-level investments to grow, improve, and promote an end-to-end maritime and logistics ecosystem which will make Tanzania a hub for the African region. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- AD Ports Group + Adani Ports & SEZ Ltd = an MoU for joint infra investments in Tanzania
- HQs of APSEZ – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | CEO – Karan Adani
- Tanzania – Dodoma – Tanzanian shilling | President – Samia Suluhu Hassan | PM – Kassim Majaliwa

10. On August 4, National Health Authority (NHA) partnered with the Quality Council of India (QCI) for 6 months to accredit and rate the Health Management Information System (HMIS) and Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) solutions that have been integrated with the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM). The National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (NABH) is responsible for National Accreditation in the domain of healthcare. This accreditation exercise will be conducted in a phased manner. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- NHA + QCI = partnership for 6 months to accredit and rate the HMIS & LMIS solutions integrated with the 'ABDM'
- HQs of NHA – New Delhi | CEO – Ram Sevak Sharma | Founded in – 2018
- HQs of QCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Adil Zainulbhai | Secretary General – Dr. Ravi P. Singh
- Philippines – Manila – Peso | President – Ferdinand Marcos Jr



**11.** On August 10, Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) platform signed an MoU with SIDBI for coordination of functions of institutions engaged in similar activities. The partnership is aimed to change the landscape of MSMEs by bringing them into the ONDC network and accelerating their participation in e-commerce. SIDBI will also facilitate engagement of ONDC with its network of partner grassroots agencies. Three partners being introduced to ONDC are Annapurna Finance Pvt Ltd, Access Livelihoods Group and the women co-operative 'Looms of Ladakh'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ONDC platform + SIDBI = an MoU to change the landscape of MSMEs by bringing them into the ONDC network
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | MD & Chairman – Sivasubramanian Ramann | Established in – 1990

**12.** On August 10, Microsoft partnered with Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), and Capacity Building Commission (CBC) to enhance the functional computer literacy of nearly 2.5 million civil servants of Government of India (GoI). As part of the collaboration, Microsoft will develop an online, self-paced learning course on Microsoft Office 365 digital productivity suite offerings for MSDE. Microsoft would host the course content on 'Microsoft Community Training' portal (MCT) which the learner can easily access. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Microsoft + MSDE + CBC = partnership to enhance the functional computer literacy of nearly 2.5 million civil servants
- HQs of Microsoft – Washington, US | Chairman & CEO – Satya Nadella | Founded in – 1975

**13.** On August 10, NLC India Ltd., a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Coal, signed an MoU with Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL) to develop 1,000 MW of solar power projects in Assam. The MoU is for setting up a joint venture company with equity participation of 51% by NLCIL and 49% by APDCL. The initiative would be a development opportunity for the State of Assam while simultaneously contributing to the renewable energy needs of the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NLC India + Assam Power Distribution Company = an MoU to develop 1,000 MW of solar power projects in Assam
- A joint venture company will be set up with equity participation of 51% by NLCIL & 49% by APDCL
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi
- HQs of NLC India Ltd – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CMD – Rakesh Kumar

**14.** On August 10, the International Solar Alliance (ISA) in partnership with the Cuban government signed tender for setting up a 1150 MW solar project in Cuba. NTPC is the project management consultant for ISA to set up this project. The project is part of Cuba's plan to implement 2100 MW of solar projects. This project is the first in ISA's broader solar park programme, which seeks to support developing markets in structuring bankable and economic solar parks. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ISA + Cuba = signed a tender for setting up a 1150 MW solar project in Cuba
- NTPC is the project management consultant for ISA to set up this project
- HQs of ISA – Gurugram, Haryana | DG – Ajay Mathur | Signatory Countries – 108 | Member countries – 88

**15.** On August 10, the Union Cabinet approved the signing of an "Audio Visual Co-production Treaty" between India and Australia, which is aimed at facilitating joint production of films between the two countries. India has so far signed 15 audio visual co-production treaties with other countries. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Union Cabinet approved the signing of an “Audio Visual Co-production Treaty” between India & Australia
- India has so far signed 15 audio visual co-production treaties with other countries
- [Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar](#) | [PM – Anthony Albanese](#)

**16.** On August 11, Odisha government signed an MoU with National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) for protection of its coasts. National Institute of Ocean Technology, under the Ministry of Earth Sciences, is a premier institute in the country specialising in the field of ocean engineering and coastline protection. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Odisha + NIOT = an MoU for protection of Odisha’s coasts
- NIOT – works under the Ministry of Earth Sciences
- [Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar](#) | [CM – Naveen Patnaik](#) | [Governor – Ganeshi Lal](#)
- [MoS I/C in Ministry of Earth Sciences: Dr. Jitendra Singh](#) | [Constituency – Udhampur, J&K](#)
- [Philippines – Manila – Peso](#) | [President – Ferdinand Marcos Jr](#)

**17.** On August 10, NBCC Ltd signed an MoU with the Ministry of External Affairs for the redevelopment of the MEA Housing Complex (Old) at Kasturba Gandhi Marg in central Delhi for Rs 175 Cr. NBCC has signed another MoU with Aligarh Smart City Ltd for providing ‘PMC (Project Management and Consultancy) services for the project ‘Development & Modernisation of Infrastructure at Naurangilal College, SH: Sports facilities’ for an estimated cost is around Rs 50 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NBCC Ltd + Ministry of External Affairs = an MoU for the redevelopment of the MEA Housing Complex (Old), Delhi
- NBCC + Aligarh Smart City Ltd = an MoU for providing PMC services for Development & Modernisation of Infrastructure at Naurangilal College, SH: Sports facilities
- [Ministry of External Affairs: S. Jaishankar](#) | [Constituency – Gujarat](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of External Affairs: Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, V. Muraleedharan & Meenakashi Lekhi](#)

**18.** On August 12, Ministry of Ayush signed an MoU with Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) for digitalisation of Ayush Sector under the ‘Ayush Grid’ project for a period of 3 years. This MoU is continuation of the earlier MoU, which was signed in the year 2019. A High-Level Advisory Committee (HLAC), chaired by Ayush Secretary and co-chaired by MeitY Secretary was constituted to provide advisory inputs on Ayush Grid project. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Ayush + MeitY = an MoU for digitalisation of Ayush Sector under the ‘Ayush Grid’ project for 3 years
- The MoU was initially signed in 2019
- High-Level Advisory Committee on ‘Ayush Grid’ project – chaired by Ayush Secretary & co-chaired by MeitY Secretary

**19.** On August 12, India Meteorological Department (IMD), the government of Japan, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) announced a new initiative to accelerate climate action in 10 States and Union Territories across India. Japan has extended \$5.16 million in climate grant to UNDP India for the project. This is part of Japan’s global support to 23 countries through UNDP’s ‘Climate Promise - From Pledge to Impact’ programme. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- IMD + Japan + UNDP = new initiative to accelerate climate action in 10 States & UTs across India
- Japan – extended \$5.16 million in climate grant to UNDP India for the project
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Fumio Kishida
- HQs of UNDP – New York, US | Administrator – Achim Steiner | Founded in – 1965
- HQs of IMD – New Delhi | Director General – Dr. Mrutyunjay Mohapatra | Founded in – 1875

**20.** On August 7, Flipkart signed an MoU with the District Administration of Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, to bring local artisans, weavers, and people with disabilities of Varanasi to the e-commerce marketplace under the latter's 'Samarth' programme. The programme will provide training and time-bound incubation support for local sellers to grow their businesses online. Launched in 2019, Flipkart Samarth intends to benefit MSMEs, artisans and underserved communities from across the country through e-commerce. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Varanasi + Flipkart = an MoU to bring local artisans, weavers & people with disabilities of Varanasi to the e-commerce
- 'Samarth' programme – belongs to Flipkart (launched in 2019)
- HQs of Flipkart – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal | CEO – Kalyan Krishnamurthy
- Philippines – Manila – Peso | President – Ferdinand Marcos Jr

**21.** On August 17, the Union Cabinet approved signing of a contract between Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC), India and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, France, to support the International Transport Forum (ITF) activities on the Indian transport sector. The activities to be carried out under this contract will lead to new scientific results and identification of technology options for decarbonisation of transport sector in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Cabinet approved signing of a contract between TIFAC & OECD to support ITF activities on the Indian Transport Sector
- HQs of OECD – Paris, France | Secretary-General – Mathias Cormann | Member countries – 37

**22.** On August 10, Rajasthan government approved signing an MoU with SJVN Ltd for developing 10,000 MW renewable energy projects in the state entailing an investment of Rs 50,000 Crore. These projects/parks will usher in socio-economic development in the state and will open up multiple direct and indirect employment opportunities. Recently, Rajasthan became the first state in India to reach 10 GW cumulative large-scale solar installations. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajasthan + SJVN Ltd = an MoU for developing 10,000 MW RE projects in the state worth Rs 50,000 Cr
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra
- HQs of SJVN Ltd – Shimla, Himachal Pradesh | CMD – Nand Lal Sharma
- Philippines – Manila – Peso | President – Ferdinand Marcos Jr

**23.** On August 18, the Bengaluru-based Central Power Research Institute (CPRI) signed an MoU with the Chhattisgarh government for setting up a regional testing laboratory in Raipur district. The national-level testing unit will have test facilities for transformers, energy meters, transformer oil, switch fuse unit and other electricity-related equipment. Power companies will get a 20% rebate in the testing of equipment. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- CPRI (Bengaluru) + Chhattisgarh = an MoU for setting up a regional testing laboratory in Raipur
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

**24.** On August 16, the Border Security Force (BSF) signed an MoU with the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) to ensure the safety and security of booking data under its Air e-ticket Service for the troops of India's border guarding force. Besides, the pact will ensure facility of extra baggage, lounge, cargo and less cancellation or reschedule charges for authorised BSF personnel. This service will provide a dedicated online portal with a credit facility of 60 days. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- BSF + IRCTC = an MoU to ensure the safety & security of booking data under its Air e-ticket Service
- HQs of BSF – New Delhi | DG – Pankaj Kumar Singh | Established on – Dec 1, 1965 | Motto – “Duty Unto Death”
- HQs of IRCTC – New Delhi | Chairman & MD – Rajni Hasija (addi. Charge)

**25.** On August 18, India and the Philippines agreed to expand their ties in sectors like civil aviation, fintech, education, defence, and security. The decision was taken at the 13<sup>th</sup> India-Philippines Foreign Office Consultations and the 4<sup>th</sup> Strategic Dialogue that took place in Manila. The Indian delegation at the talks was led by Saurabh Kumar, Secretary (East) in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). In January, the Philippines concluded a \$375 million deal with India for the procurement of 3 batteries of the BrahMos cruise missile. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India + Philippines = to expand their ties in sectors like Civil Aviation, Fintech, Education, Defence & Security
- 13<sup>th</sup> India-Philippines Foreign Office Consultations & the 4<sup>th</sup> Strategic Dialogue – took place in Manila
- Indian delegation at the talks was led by – Saurabh Kumar (Secretary in the MEA)
- Philippines – Manila – Peso | President – Ferdinand Marcos J

**26.** On August 17, Oil & Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) signed a Heads of Agreement (HoA) with global petroleum giant ExxonMobil for Deepwater exploration in East and West coasts of India. The collaboration areas focus on the Krishna Godavari and Cauvery Basins in the eastern offshore and the Kutch-Mumbai region in the western offshore. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ONGC + ExxonMobil = signed a Heads of Agreement (HoA) for Deepwater exploration in East & West coasts of India
- It focuses on Krishna Godavari and Cauvery Basins (eastern offshore) & Kutch-Mumbai region (western offshore)
- HQs of ONGC – New Delhi | CMD – Alka Mittal (addi. charge)

**27.** On August 20, the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, plans to develop the “District Good Governance Portal” in collaboration with the Arunachal Pradesh government for monitoring the performance of each district of the state on a monthly basis and help in benchmarking performance. Union Minister Jitendra Singh made the announcement during the 2-day Regional Conference on “Bringing Citizens and Government Closer through Administrative Reforms” at Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- DARPG + Arunachal Pradesh = collaborated to develop the “District Good Governance Portal”
- Regional Conference on “Bringing Citizens and Government Closer through Administrative Reforms” – held in Itanagar
- DARPG – works under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B. D. Mishra

**28.** On August 22, India and Iran signed an MoU on recognition of ‘Certificates of Competency in Unlimited Voyages’ to smoothen the movement of seafarers from both the countries, as per the provisions of “International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watch Keeping for Seafarers, 1978 (1978 STCW Convention)”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India + Iran = an MoU on recognition of ‘Certificates of Competency in Unlimited Voyages’ to help seafarers
- Iran – Tehran – Rial | President – Ebrahim Raisi | Supreme Leader – Ali Khamenei
- Philippines – Manila – Peso | President – Ferdinand Marcos Jr

**29.** On August 22, Indian Navy signed an MoU with the Space Applications Centre (ISRO), Ahmedabad, on data sharing and cooperation on Satellite based Naval Applications in Oceanology and Meteorology. This MoU is an extension of previous MoU signed in 2017 and will further the collaboration between two organisations. With this initiative, both the organisations will have a common platform of mutual cooperation, wherein the scientific advancements by SAC would be synergised into the Indian Naval efforts. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Navy + SAC = MoU on data sharing & cooperation on Satellite based Naval Applications in Oceanology & Meteorology
- SAC (Ahmedabad) – works under ISRO
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969

**30.** On August 21, the UNESCO signed an MoU with a popular motorcycle manufacturing company Royal Enfield to celebrate the intangible cultural heritage of India, beginning with the Himalayas. The exhibition, titled “Journeying Across the Himalayas”, was hosted from August 22 to 25. The exhibition focused on intangible cultural heritage of essentially Union Territory Ladakh and Northeastern states falling in the Himalayan region. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UNESCO + Royal Enfield = an MoU to celebrate the intangible cultural heritage of India, beginning with the Himalayas
- HQs of Royal Enfield – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – B. Govindarajan
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay | Founded in – 1945 | Members – 193 Countries

**31.** On August 23, NHPC Ltd signed an MoU with Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) to set up a large capacity Solar Equipment Manufacturing Facility. NHPC has an installation base of 7071.2 MW from 24 power stations including two projects in JV mode. It is engaged in the construction of 11 projects aggregating to a total installed capacity of 7,539 MW. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NHPC + BEL = an MoU to set up a large capacity Solar Equipment Manufacturing Facility
- HQs of NHPC – Faridabad, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Yamuna Kumar Chaubey
- HQs of BEL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CMD – Dinesh Kumar Batra (addi. charge)



**32.** On August 23, the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) and the Government of India (GoI) signed a headquarters agreement in New Delhi. The agreement will enable the status of an 'Independent and International Legal Entity' for CDRI. The agreement will enable the institution to pursue functions internationally with all rights, immunities, and privileges, as per the "United Nations (Privileges & Immunities) Act, 1947". India established CDRI in September 2019. It has 31 member countries & 8 member organisations. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CDRI + GoI = signed a headquarters agreement in New Delhi
- The agreement will enable the status of an 'Independent and International Legal Entity' for CDRI
- [HQs of CDRI – New Delhi](#) | [Member countries – 31](#) | [Member Organisations – 8](#) | [Founded in – 2019](#)

**33.** On August 22, Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd (IREDA) signed an MoU with Mahatma Phule Renewable Energy and Infrastructure Technology Ltd (MAHAPREIT). MAHAPREIT is a wholly owned subsidiary of MPBCDC (49% owned by Government of India and 51% owned by Maharashtra). As per the MoU, IREDA will offer financing facilities to MAHAPREIT for the Renewable Energy projects to be implemented for state utilities, local bodies and the infrastructure of Renewable Energy Parks. IREDA established a specialised "Business Development & Consultancy Division" two years ago to meet the growing demand in the RE sector. This is the 9<sup>th</sup> MoU inked by IREDA in the last two years to provide consultation services for the sustainable development of the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IREDA + MAHAPREIT = an MoU to offer financing facilities for Renewable Energy projects to be implemented
- IREDA – established a specialised "Business Development & Consultancy Division" to meet growing demand in RE sector
- [HQs of IREDA – New Delhi](#) | [CMD – Pradip Kumar Das](#)

**34.** On August 22, Godrej Agrovet signed 3 MoUs with Assam, Manipur and Tripura state governments for development and promotion of oil palm cultivation in the region under the "National Mission on Edible Oils-Oil Palm (NMEO-OP)" scheme. In August 2021, Government of India had launched the National Mission on Edible Oils-Oil Palm (NMEOOP) with planned outlay of ₹11,040 Cr. Under this mission, Government has envisaged to raise area under cultivation of oil palm to 10 Lakh hectares by 2025-26 and 16.7 Lakh hectares by 2029-30 with special focus on the North East region and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Godrej Agrovet's palm oil is currently present in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Goa, Maharashtra, and Mizoram. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Godrej Agrovet – signed 3 MoUs with Assam, Manipur & Tripura for development & promotion of oil palm cultivation
- These MoU were signed under – the "National Mission on Edible Oils-Oil Palm (NMEO-OP)" scheme
- NMEOOP – was launched in August 2021 with outlay of ₹11,040 Cr
- [Tripura: Capital – Agartala](#) | [CM – Manik Saha](#) | [Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya](#)
- [Assam: Capital – Dispur](#) | [CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma](#) | [Governor – Jagdish Mukhi](#)
- [Manipur: Capital – Imphal](#) | [CM – N. Biren Singh](#) | [Governor – La. Ganesan](#)

**35.** On August 23, aimed at ensuring nutrition for kids as part of the Poshan Abhiyan, Akshaya Patra Foundation (APF) signed an MoU with Nutrihub, a technology Business Incubator hosted by the ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR), to include millets in midday meals. In the mid-day meal menu for children in schools, millets like jowar, bajra and ragi will be introduced across the state and country. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- Akshaya Patra Foundation + Nutrihub = an MoU to include millets (like jowar, bajra & ragi) in mid-day meals
- Nutrihub – a technology Business Incubator hosted by the ICAR-IIMR (Hyderabad)
- HQs of Akshaya Patra Foundation – Bengaluru | CEO – Shridhar Venkat
- HQs of Nutrihub – Hyderabad, Telangana | CEO – B Dayakar Rao
- Philippines – Manila – Peso | President – Ferdinand Marcos Jr

**36.** On August 23, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and TP Renewable Microgrid Ltd (TPRMG), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Tata Power, collaborated to launch an innovative programme to establish 1,000 Green Energy Enterprises across India. Under the collaboration, SIDBI will provide entrepreneurs with a “Go REsponsive, ENterprise incentive (GREENi)” after they complete a TPRMG-organized capacity-building activity. Through its ‘PRAYAAS’ scheme or partner institutions, SIDBI will also assist in credit linkages to facilitate financing (loans) for setting up or expanding the businesses of rural entrepreneurs. The initiative will foster sustainable entrepreneurship models across the nation leading to the empowerment of rural entrepreneurs. The ‘Sustainable is Attainable’ program of Tata Power and the ‘Empowering MSMEs’ campaign of SIDBI, are the driving forces behind this partnership. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- SIDBI + TPRMG (Tata Power) = collaboration to establish 1,000 Green Energy Enterprises across India
- SIDBI will provide entrepreneurs with a “Go REsponsive, ENterprise incentive (GREENi)”
- SIDBI will also assist in credit linkages to facilitate loans under its ‘PRAYAAS’ scheme
- ‘Sustainable is Attainable’ program – Tata Power | ‘Empowering MSMEs’ campaign – SIDBI
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | MD & Chairman – Sivasubramanian Ramann | Established in – 1990
- HQs of Tata Power – Mumbai | Chairman – N. Chandrasekaran | MD & CEO – Praveer Sinha

**37.** On August 24, the central government prioritized swift development of modern Multi Modal Logistics Parks (MMLPs) through a tripartite agreement signed by National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML), Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), and Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL). The three will jointly develop MMLPs under Bharatmala Pariyojna across the country with an objective to centralize freight consolidation and reduce logistics cost from 14% to less than 10% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), at par with International Standards. The MMLPs are developed under a ‘Hub & Spoke’ model and will integrate multiple modes of freight transport through highways, railways and inland waterways. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- NHLML + IWAI + RVNL = a tripartite agreement to prioritize swift development of modern ‘Multi Modal Logistics Parks’
- They will jointly develop MMLPs under ‘Bharatmala Pariyojna’ to reduce logistics cost from 14% to less than 10% of GDP
- HQs of IWAI – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | Chairman – Sanjay Bandopadhyay

**38.** On August 23, the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) signed an MoU with the Nagaland Government to collaborate and unleash the potential of entrepreneurial talents in Nagaland at the ‘Nagaland CSR & Investment Conclave 2022’ held under the theme “Partnership for Strengthening Sustainable Development”. As part of this agreement, CII would establish startup cohorts and conduct capacity-building programmes for Nagaland Government officials, financial institutions & banks in Nagaland, incubators, and academic innovation cells for engaging with startups. A ‘Model Career Centre (MCC)’ will also be set up in Nagaland in partnership with the State Government. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- CII + Nagaland = an MoU to collaborate & unleash the potential of entrepreneurial talents in Nagaland
- Theme of 'Nagaland CSR & Investment Conclave 2022' – “Partnership for Strengthening Sustainable Development”
- 'Model Career Centre (MCC)' will also be set up in Nagaland
- Nagaland: Capital – Kohima | CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi (addi. charge)
- Philippines – Manila – Peso | President – Ferdinand Marcos Jr

**39.** On August 26, Andhra Pradesh government signed an MoU with the US-based “Parley for the Oceans” for plastic-waste management in the state. Global Alliance for a Sustainable Planet (GASP) will be partnering the project. As part of the MoU, around ₹16,000 Crore investment is expected for Andhra Pradesh in the next 6 years. Parley for the Oceans will be setting up “Parley Super Hub”, preferably in Visakhapatnam, where recycling and upcycling of plastic wastes will be done. The State government has tied up with Parley with an aim to develop and implement improved sanitation and waste-management system; deploy AIR (Avoid Intercept & Redesign) plastic stations in approximately 500 places; create 10 eco-innovation hubs; intercept plastic wastes along the coastline, drains, irrigation channels and rivers. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Andhra Pradesh + Parley for the Oceans (US) = an MoU for plastic-waste management in the state
- Project partner – Global Alliance for a Sustainable Planet (GASP)
- Parley for the Oceans will set up “Parley Super Hub”, preferably in Visakhapatnam
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

**40.** On August 26, India and Bangladesh held the 38<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ministerial level Joint Rivers Commission (JRC) in New Delhi where both sides signed an MoU on interim water of the Kushiya river. The meeting assumes significance as it was held after 12 years of long gap. Both sides also agreed to the finalization of the design and location of the water intake point on the Feni River to meet the drinking water needs of Sabroom town in Tripura. The Joint Rivers Commission of India and Bangladesh was constituted in the year 1972. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- India + Bangladesh = held the 38<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ministerial level Joint Rivers Commission (JRC) in New Delhi
- India + Bangladesh = an MoU on interim water of the Kushiya river
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

**41.** On August 24, Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) Limited signed an agreement with Kalpataru Power Transmission Ltd for the construction of a 220 KV D/C (direct current) single zebra transmission line for 210 MW Luhri Hydro Electric Project Stage-1. This Hydroelectric Project is spread over Shimla, Mandi and Kullu districts of Himachal Pradesh. Luhri Hydro Electric Project Stage-1 is designed to generate 758 MUs (million units) of energy per annum, which would be transmitted through this ISTS network line. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- SJVN + Kalpataru Power Transmission Ltd = an agreement for the construction of a 220 KV D/C single zebra transmission line for '210 MW Luhri Hydro Electric Project Stage-1'
- Luhri Stage-I Hydro Electric Project – located in Himachal Pradesh (Over Satluj river)
- HQs of SJVN Ltd – Shimla, Himachal Pradesh | CMD – Nand Lal Sharma

**42.** On August 26, RailTel, a CPSU of the Ministry of Railways and CloudExtel, a known Full Stack Network as a Service (NaaS) Provider, have partnered to launch India's first Shared Radio Access Network (RAN) solution for congested locations with the objective of enhancing telecom users' experience. For the implementation of this project, RailTel and CloudExtel carried out the successful pilot of this project in partnership with Bharti Airtel, Vodafone Idea, Nokia, and the Telecom Infra Project (TIP)'s NaaS Solutions Group. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RailTel + CloudExtel = partnered to launch India's first Shared Radio Access Network (RAN) solution
- [HQs of RailTel – New Delhi](#) | [CMD – Sanjay Kumar](#)

**43.** On August 25, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) and LFV Air Navigation Services of Sweden (LUFTFARTSVERKET) signed an MoU at the Corporate Headquarters of AAI in New Delhi to explore Smart Aviation Solutions. The MoU paves the way for bi-lateral exchange of aviation expertise and technology between India and Sweden. Importantly, a Joint Working Group shall be organized to prioritize interest areas and drive collaboration between the two countries. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AAI + LFV Air Navigation Services of Sweden = an MoU to explore Smart Aviation Solutions
- [Sweden – Stockholm – Krona](#) | [PM – Magdalena Andersson](#)
- [Philippines – Manila – Peso](#) | [President – Ferdinand Marcos Jr](#)

**44.** On August 27, State-owned hydro power giant NHPC Ltd signed a pact with the Himachal Pradesh government for the implementation of 500 MW Dugar Hydroelectric Project in Chamba district. Dugar Hydroelectric Project is expected to generate 1,759.85 million units in a year. The agreement was signed in the presence of Jai Ram Thakur, Chief Minister, Himachal Pradesh, and A K Singh, CMD, NHPC Limited. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NHPC Ltd + Himachal Pradesh = an agreement to implement 500 MW Dugar Hydroelectric Project in Chamba
- [HQs of NHPC – Faridabad, Haryana](#) | [MD & Chairman – Yamuna Kumar Chaubey](#)
- [Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala](#) | [CM – Jai Ram Thakur](#) | [Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar](#)

**45.** On August 26, Bharat Heavy Engineering Ltd (BHEL) and Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd (RVNL) signed an MoU to jointly work in the field of infrastructure and project execution, in India and abroad, through synergy of their respective capabilities. This will pave the way for collaboration in both the present as well as future areas of operation towards the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan' of Government of India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- BHEL + RVNL = an MoU to jointly work in the field of infrastructure & project execution, in India & abroad
- [HQs of BHEL – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman & MD – Nalin Shinghal](#)
- [HQs of RVNL – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman & MD – Pradeep Gaur](#) | [Incorporated in – 2003](#)

**46.** On August 29, Tata Steel signed an MoU with the Government of Punjab for setting up a 0.75 million tonne per annum (MnTPA) long products steel plant with a scrap-based Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) in Ludhiana. It is a step aligned to the Company's goal of achieving Net Zero carbon emission by 2045. The state-of-the-art EAF-based steel plant would produce construction grade steel rebar under the company's flagship retail brand 'Tata Tiscon'. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Tata Steel + Punjab = an MoU for setting up a 0.75 MnTPA long products steel plant with a scrap-based Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) in Ludhiana
- Tata Steel's goal of achieving Net Zero carbon emission – by 2045
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Bhagwant Mann | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit
- HQs of Tata Steel Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – T. V. Narendran
- Philippines – Manila – Peso | President – Ferdinand Marcos Jr

**47.** 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
- Philippines – Manila – Peso | President – Ferdinand Marcos Jr





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