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National & States Affairs

1. Few social activists unveiled a temple for Mahatma Gandhi and freedom fighters' Smrithi Vanam at the Municipal Park on the eve of Gandhi's death anniversary in Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh. Statues of freedom fighters and social activists were erected in the park with the help of donors. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Social activists unveiled Mahatma Gandhi's Temple & freedom fighters' Smrithi Vanam – in Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

2. National Green Tribunal (NGT) directed the Centre to set up a fly ash management and utilization Mission for monitoring scientific management and utilization of the remains of burnt coal. The Mission will be jointly headed by the secretaries of environment, coal and power ministries, keeping on board chief secretaries of respective states. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NGT – directed the Centre to set up a “Fly Ash Management & Utilization Mission”
- HQs of NGT – New Delhi | Chairman – Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel

3. On February 1, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in her budget speech announced that Rs 6,000 Cr Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) programme for MSMEs will be rolled out in the coming 5 years. The programme would improve the competitiveness and productivity of MSMEs. In June 2021, World Bank had approved \$500 million for the programme to support the government to revitalize the MSMEs. RAMP is an initiative to revitalize the MSME sector that has been heavily impacted by the Covid pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rs 6,000 Cr “Raising & Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP)” program for MSMEs will be launched in next 5 years
- ‘RAMP’ program is an initiative to revitalize – MSME sector
- World Bank had approved \$500 million for ‘RAMP’ programme (in June 2021)

4. On February 1, ‘Red Sanders’ or ‘Red Sandalwood’, the most-smuggled wood in India, is back on International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of ‘Endangered’ species. It was declared ‘Near-threatened’ species in 2018 and has now been added back to the ‘Endangered’ species Red list of IUCN 2021. ‘Red Sanders’ is endemic to Rayalaseema in Andhra Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘Red Sanders’ or ‘Red Sandalwood’ – the most-smuggled wood in India
- ‘Red Sanders’ – added to the IUCN Red list as an ‘Endangered’ species
- ‘Red Sanders’ is endemic to – Rayalaseema, Andhra Pradesh

5. The government invited stakeholder comments on a proposal that seeks to establish “Federated Digital Identities” to optimize the number of digital identities that a citizen needs to have. ‘Federated Digital Identities’ is an initiative of Ministry of Electronics & IT and part of the ministry’s “India Enterprise Architecture 2.0 (IndEA 2.0)” framework that aims to enable the governments and the private sector enterprises to design IT architectures that can span beyond organisational boundaries for delivery of integrated services. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MeitY's "InDEA 2.0" proposed "Federated Digital Identities" model that seeks to optimise the number of digital identities that a citizen needs to have
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar

6. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPCL) Ltd opened two more Convenience Stores under its brand name "HaPpyShop" in Mumbai & Visakhapatnam. "HaPpyShop" is the non-fuel retail sector of HPCL. The first retail store under brand name 'HaPpyShop' was opened in Mumbai in September, 2021. HPCL has also started marketing branded packaged drinking water under the name "Paani@Club HP" at its retail outlets across India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HPCL – opened 2 more Convenience Stores under its brand name "HaPpyShop" in Mumbai & Visakhapatnam
- HQs of HPCL – Mumbai, MH | CEO & Chairperson – Mukesh Kumar Surana (till April, 2022) | Founded in – 1974

7. On February 10, Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet Train Project will be India's first bullet train route. While Surat will be the first bullet train station built along the Mumbai-Ahmedabad route. Apart from Surat, work on 3 more stations - Vapi, Bilimora and Bharuch was accelerated and all 4 stations will be ready by December 2024. The National High-Speed Rail Corporation Ltd (NHSRCL) has taken the responsibility for constructing the project. Moreover, Japan has an agreement with India to build the bullet train between Ahmedabad & Mumbai. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet Train Project – India's first bullet train route (implementing agency – NHSRCL)
- Surat – the first bullet train station built along the Mumbai-Ahmedabad route (Other 3 – Vapi, Bilimora & Bharuch)

8. On February 1, Assam government launched "Project Sadbhawana" under which all pending files in the state secretariat since the 1990s will be cleared to make governance people-friendly by migrating to e-governance under this Project. Also, Assam government sanctioned the formation of a new administrative district which will be known as 'Tamulpur'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Assam – launched "Project Sadbhawana" to make governance people-friendly by migrating to e-governance
- Assam – sanctioned the formation of a new administrative district to be known as 'Tamulpur'
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

9. On February 5, PM Narendra Modi kickstarted the 'Golden Jubilee' (50th anniversary) celebrations of the International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) in Patancheru in Hyderabad. The PM also launched a commemorative stamp. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi – kickstarted the 'Golden Jubilee' (50th anniversary) celebrations of "ICRISAT" in Hyderabad

10. On February 4, Arunachal Pradesh CM Pema Khandu hoisted a 104 ft tall National Flag at Ngangpa Natme (Buddha Park) in Tawang. It the second highest national flag in India. Belagavi or Belgaum Fort in Kote Kere, Karnataka, has the tallest Indian flagpoles measuring 361 ft. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arunachal Pradesh – hoisted a 104 ft tall National Flag in Tawang (2nd highest national flag in India)
- India's tallest/highest national flag – located in Belagavi, Karnataka

11. Kerala government is facing protest in implementing the high-speed railway project named “SilverLine”. The SilverLine project will connect the state's northern and southern ends at a cost of over Rs 63,000 Cr. The proposed 529.45 km line will link Thiruvananthapuram to Kasaragod, covering as many as 11 districts through 11 stations. According to K-Rail SilverLine Viruddha Janakeeya Samiti & Green Activists, the SilverLine would cause great environmental harm as its route cuts through precious wetlands, paddy fields and hills. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala government is facing protest in implementing “SilverLine” Project - the high-speed railway project
- Length – 529.45 km | Cost – Rs 63,000 Cr | It will connect – Thiruvananthapuram & Kasaragod
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

12. On February 4, Union Minister of State (I/C) Science & Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated “Innovations in Public Administration” program of Capacity Building Commission (CBC) of Mission Karmayogi to identify successful innovations in public service pioneered by civil servants. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of S&T – inaugurated “Innovations in Public Administration” program of Capacity Building Commission
- MoS (I/C) in the Ministry of Science & Technology: Dr. Jitendra Singh | Constituency – Udhampur, J&K
- Chairman of Capacity Building Commission – Adil Zainulbhai

13. On February 2, Andhra Pradesh government withdrew a law to create three capital cities. Amaravati remains the capital city of the state. On April 23, 2015, the Andhra Pradesh government had declared Amaravati as its capital. However in July 2020, the state, through a law, notified three capital cities - Amaravati, Visakhapatnam and Kurnool. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Andhra Pradesh – withdrew a law to create 3 capital cities & declared ‘Amaravati’ as its capital
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

14. In February 2022, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) released a “National Strategy on Additive Manufacturing” to cater next-generation digital manufacturing and mitigate immediate disabilities of local industries. One of the objectives of the strategy is to enhance India's position in the global 3D manufacturing landscape & to achieve 5% of Global Additive Manufacturing (AM) market share and thereto add nearly \$1 billion to the GDP by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MeitY – released a “National Strategy on Additive Manufacturing” to build ecosystem necessary for 3-D printing
- The Strategy aspires to achieve 5% of Global AM market share & add nearly \$1 billion to the GDP by 2025
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar

15. On February 23, Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways and AYUSH Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the DCI (Dredging Corporation of India) Dredging Museum at DCI campus in Visakhapatnam. It is named “Nikarshan Sadan”. Dredging Corporation of India is celebrating 45 years of rendering dedicated dredging services to the Nation’s ports coinciding with the “Azaadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav”. He also inaugurated a skill development facility - Centre of Excellence in Maritime and Shipbuilding (CEMS) at a function in Visakhapatnam. CEMS equips students with employable engineering and technical skills. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sarbananda Sonowal – inaugurated the DCI Dredging Museum named “Nikarshan Sadan” in Visakhapatnam
- HQs of DCI – Visakhapatnam | Chairman – K. Rama Mohana Rao | MD & CEO – George Yesu Vedha Victor
- Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Shripad Yesso Naik & Shantanu Thakur

16. On February 22, Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) organised a crafts exhibition-cum-fair named “Coalescence: Craft-Culture-Community-Climate”, to popularise traditional Indian crafts among the diplomatic community. This 3 day fair was organised at Bikaner House, Delhi. ICCR functions under the Ministry of External Affairs. There was a seminar on ‘Indian Cinema and Soft Power’ in collaboration with FTII-Pune. ICCR also announced to launch a portal ‘India Alumni’ for around 4,000 foreign students who come to India every year on scholarship through ICCR. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICCR – organised a crafts exhibition-cum-fair named “Coalescence: Craft-Culture-Community-Climate”
- ICCR functions under – Ministry of External Affairs
- HQs of ICCR – New Delhi | DG – Kumar Tuhin | President – Vinay Sahasrabuddhe | Founded in – 1950
- Ministry of External Affairs: S. Jaishankar | Constituency – Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of External Affairs: Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, V. Muraleedharan & Meenakashi Lekhi

17. On February 25, Delhi government announced to build India’s 1st electronic waste eco-park which will include dismantling, segregating, refurbishing, storage, testing, plastic recycling and precious metal extraction facilities. The e-waste park is being planned in Narela Industrial Area and will be spread across 20 acres. The eco-park will provide infrastructure, training and tools to operators in the informal sector to groom them as formal recyclers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi – announced to build India’s 1st ‘Electronic Waste Eco-Park’ in Narela Industrial Area
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Bajjal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

18. On February 25, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) approved development of 400 MW Solar Park by Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) Limited at Kinnaur in Himachal Pradesh. An in-principle approval was accorded by the Ministry for development of this project under “Ultra Mega Renewable Energy Power Parks” of its solar park scheme. SJVN is the Solar Power Park Developer (SPPD) for all renewable energy projects in Himachal Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MNRE approved development of 400 MW Solar Park by SJVN Ltd at Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh
- SJVN is the Solar Power Park Developer (SPPD) for all RE projects in Himachal Pradesh
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
- HQs of SJVN Ltd – Shimla, Himachal Pradesh | CMD – Nand Lal Sharma

19. The Central government constituted a high-level inter-ministerial task force of senior officials to look at possible implications on India of the fresh economic sanctions announced against Russia by the US, EU, UK, Japan, Canada, Taiwan and New Zealand. Russia is India's 26th largest trade partner, with exports in 2020-21 valued at \$ 2.6 billion and imports at \$ 5.4 billion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Centre set up a high level inter-ministerial task force to study impact of sanctions against Russia – by US, UK, EU, etc.
- [Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble](#) | [PM – Mikhail Mishustin](#) | [President – Vladimir Putin](#)

20. The Delhi headquarters of the Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited (SPMCIL) is declared a “prohibited place” under the British-era ‘Official Secrets Act (OSA)’ by the Ministry of Home Affairs. The SPMCIL is India's only currency and bank notes manufacturer that printed the new series of notes of denomination ₹2,000 and ₹500 in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi headquarters of ‘SPMCIL’ – is declared a “prohibited place” under the ‘Official Secrets Act (OSA)’ by the MHA
- [HQs of SPMCIL – New Delhi](#) | [CMD – Tripti Patra Ghosh](#)
- [Currency Notes printing places – Nasik, Dewas, Mysore, Salboni](#)
- [Coins minting places – Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Noida](#)

21. Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL) separated the positions of Chairman of the board and the chief executive officer & managing director (CEO & MD), which will be effective from March 31. HUL announced the appointment of Nitin Paranjpe as the Non-Executive Chairman of the company. While Sanjiv Mehta will continue as CEO & MD. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HUL separated the positions of Chairman (Nitin Paranjpe) and CEO&MD (Sanjiv Mehta)
- [HQs of HUL – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [MD & CEO – Sanjiv Mehta](#) | [Chairman – Nitin Paranjpe](#)

22. Administrators (Admins) of WhatsApp groups cannot be held liable if members post objectionable material, the Kerala high court in February 2022 ruled in response to a petition by a group administrator against a case registered under relevant sections of POCSO Act and IT Act. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala HC ordered: Administrators of WhatsApp groups cannot be held liable if members post objectionable material
- Chief Justice of Kerala High Court – Justice S. Manikumar
- [Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram](#) | [CM – Pinarayi Vijayan](#) | [Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan](#)

23. Union Minister for Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), Narayan Rane announced the establishment of “MSME-Technology Centre” with an outlay of Rs 200 Cr in Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra. The MSME-Technology Centre will provide the best of technology, incubation as well as advisory support to the industry, especially MSMEs, to enhance their competitiveness and provide skilling services for the employed and unemployed youth of the area to enhance their employability. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MSME established “MSME-Technology Centre” in Sindhudurg, Maharashtra (Cost - Rs 200 Cr)
- [Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray](#) | [Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari](#)



24. In February 2022, the Government of India launched the “Operation Ganga” initiative to bring back stranded Indians from war-hit Ukraine. Twitter account “OpGanga” has been set up to assist ‘Operation Ganga’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Govt launched the “Operation Ganga” initiative to bring back stranded Indians from Ukraine
- [Ukraine – Kyiv – Ukrainian hryvnia](#) | [President – Volodymyr Zelensky](#)

25. On February 24, Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia announced the setting up of India’s first e-waste Eco-Park in New Delhi to handle increasing e-waste and framing of "Delhi Film Policy 2022" with an aim to promote tourism in the national capital. The use of electronic gazettes is increasing and e-waste is also increasing. The park will be built in 20 acres of land where recycling and re-manufacturing work will be done. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India’s first ‘e-waste Eco-Park’ will be set up in New Delhi
- [New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal](#) | [Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal](#) | [Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev](#)

26. On February 25, BSES Yamuna Power Limited (BYPL) commissioned India’s first ‘Smart Managed EV Charging Station’ at BYPL’s 11 kV Sub Station building in Mayur Vihar Extension Phase-1, in New Delhi. It can charge 5 EVs simultaneously. BYPL is a subsidiary of Reliance Infrastructure. Unlike conventional EV charging stations, this ‘smart managed EV charging station’ can be integrated with BYPL’s ‘SCADA system’ which acts as the nerve system of the discom and can be managed remotely. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BYPL – commissioned India’s first ‘Smart Managed EV Charging Station’ in New Delhi
- BYPL is a subsidiary of Reliance Infrastructure
- [New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal](#) | [Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal](#) | [Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev](#)
- [HQs of Reliance Infrastructure – Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [CEO – Punit Garg](#)

27. On February 23, International Business Machines Corp. (IBM) announced to launch a cybersecurity hub in Bengaluru to address the concerns of its clients across the Asia Pacific (APAC) region. The investment also includes a new Security Operation Centre (SOC). The security hub will be one of the only two centres globally. The other one is in the US. It will help businesses prepare for and manage the growing threat of cyberattacks to organizations across the APAC region. Asia is the most targeted region for cyberattacks, representing 26% of attacks analyzed in 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IBM – to launch world’s 2nd cybersecurity hub in Bengaluru for its clients across the Asia Pacific (APAC) region
- Asia – most targeted region for cyber-attacks (26% of attacks analyzed in 2021)
- [HQs of IBM – Armonk, New York, US](#) | [CEO – Arvind Krishna](#) | [Founded in – 1911](#)
- [Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore](#) | [CM – Basavaraj Bommai](#) | [Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot](#)

28. On February 25, Tamil Nadu surpassed Karnataka and achieved the Number 1 position in overall installed renewable energy capacity in India. In 2018, Karnataka surpassed Tamil Nadu. As of January 31, 2022, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) informed that Tamil Nadu’s total installed renewable capacity stood at 15,914 MW as compared to Karnataka’s total clean energy capacity of 15,795 MW. Rajasthan and Gujarat added the highest renewable capacity (4.8 GW and 2.4 GW respectively) in the current fiscal year till January 31, 2022. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu – surpassed Karnataka & achieved the top position in overall installed Renewable Energy capacity in India
- Rajasthan & Gujarat – added the highest renewable capacity in the current fiscal year till Jan 31, 2022
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

29. On February 23, the administrative council (AC) of Jammu and Kashmir met under the chairmanship of the lieutenant governor, Manoj Sinha and approved the policy for promotion of foreign investment in the industrial sector. The new policy is based on the guiding framework on FDI issued by the government of India, through the RBI and DPIIT, and will be valid for the next 10 years. It aims to facilitate large foreign investments greater than ₹100 Cr with a minimum of 51% foreign stakes. The land allotment process will be regulated by the J&K Industrial Land Allotment Policy, 2021-30. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- J & K – approved the ‘Policy for Promotion of Foreign Investment’ in the industrial sector for 10 years
- Policy facilitates large foreign investments greater than ₹100 Cr with a minimum of 51% foreign stakes
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

30. On February 21, Ministry of Culture hosted an event on ‘International Mother Language Day’ named “Ekam Bharatam” under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. In the event, the signature tune for “Vande Bharatam” song was released which is composed by Ricky Kej and Bickram Ghosh. The ‘Vande Bharatam’ song was produced for ‘Vande Bharatam’, a Nritya Utsav of Ministry of Culture for the ‘Republic Day Event 2022’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Culture – released signature tune for “Vande Bharatam” song at an event named “Ekam Bharatam”
- Song composed by – Ricky Kej & Bickram Ghosh
- Minister of Culture: G. Kishan Reddy | Constituency – Secunderabad, Telangana
- MoS in Minister of Culture: Arjun Ram Meghwal & Meenakshi Lekhi

31. In February 2021, the High Power Committee set up by the Central government has approved the proposal to declare the “Upper Bhadra Project” as a National Project. This would enable the State to get Rs 12,500 Cr grant from the Centre to implement the project. Former Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa had laid the foundation stone for the Upper Bhadra project in 2008. This project is Karnataka's first project to get National Status. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Centre’s High Power Committee gave Karnataka’s “Upper Bhadra Project” the status of a National Project
- Rs 12,500 Cr grant from the Centre for this project | Project was launched by BS Yediyurappa in 2008
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot

32. In February 2022, Mandi’s Bhulah valley will now make its contribution towards the conservation of endangered Himalayan herbs as Himachal Pradesh’s first biodiversity park has been set up there at a cost of ₹1 Cr. Set up under the National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS) by HP’s forest department, the park was one of the dream projects of chief minister Jai Ram Thakur. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Himachal Pradesh’s first biodiversity park is set up in Mandi district at a cost of ₹1 Cr
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar



33. In February 2022, Asia's fastest-growing higher education institution, Chandigarh University received accreditation from the National Board of Accreditation (NBA) for all its Engineering and MBA programs, making it the only university in the entire country & India's first private university to have both NAAC A+ and NBA accreditation. It is also the only university in entire North India to have all of its engineering courses. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chandigarh Uni. – received accreditation from National Board of Accreditation for all its Engineering & MBA programs
- Chandigarh Uni. – became the only university in India to have both 'NAAC A+' & 'NBA accreditation'

34. In Jammu & Kashmir, Kishtwar's Rattle Hydropower Project has been revived after over 8 years. The project is built on Chenab river. Kishtwar is expected to become the hub of hydroelectricity with 1000 MW Pakal Dul Hydropower project, 624 MW Kiru Hydropower project and revived Ratle Hydropower Project. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rattle Hydropower Project – located in Kishtwar, Jammu & Kashmir (built on Chenab river)
- Other projects in Kishtwar: 1000 MW Pakal Dul Hydropower Project, 624 MW Kiru Hydropower Project
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

35. The indigenously developed manned underwater submersible vehicle capable of taking three humans to a depth of 6,000 m, 'Matsya 6000', will be ready in 2024 for India's first manned ocean mission "Samudrayaan". This manned submersible is being developed by the Ministry of Earth Sciences and National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai, under the aegis of Deep Ocean Mission. 'Matsya 6000' will be ready for trials by second quarter of 2024. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 'Matsya 6000' – underwater submersible vehicle for India's 1st manned ocean Mission "Samudrayaan"
- The 'Samudrayaan' project is undertaken by – National Institute of Ocean Technology (Chennai, Tamil Nadu)
- MoS I/C in Ministry of Earth Sciences: Dr. Jitendra Singh | Constituency – Udhampur, J&K

36. On February 20, the Supreme Court scrapped the 'gender cap' on performers in orchestra bars in Maharashtra. Earlier, the number of women and male performers were set to four each, however now the overall limit of performers in any given performance cannot exceed eight and the composition can be of any combination i.e. all-women, majority women or male, or vice versa. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Supreme Court – scrapped the 'gender cap' on performers in orchestra bars in Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshiyari
- Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice N. V. Ramana (48th)

37. On February 21, Vedanta group firm 'Cairn Oil & Gas' announced an oil discovery in Gudamalani and Chohtan Tehsil of Barmer district in Rajasthan. The discovery is named 'Durga'. Durga-1 (earlier WM-Basal DD Fan-1) is the second well drilled in the Block RJ-ONHP-2017/1 to a depth of 2615 meters. This is the third hydrocarbon discovery notified by the company under the OALP portfolio. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cairn Oil & Gas (Vedanta Ltd) – announced an oil discovery named ‘Durga’ in Barmer district of Rajasthan
- HQs of Cairn Oil & Gas – Gurugram | Dy. CEO – Prachur Sah
- HQs of Vedanta Resources – London, United Kingdom | Founder and chairman – Anil Agarwal

38. On February 23, Rajasthan became the first State to go back to Old Pension Scheme (OPS) for its government employees to cut down the cost of pension payout. Except West Bengal, all States and Union Territories and the Centre have New Pension Scheme, also known as National Pension System (NPS). NPS is known as ‘contributory mechanism’ while OPS is called ‘defined mechanism’. Under OPS, employees get pension which is half of last drawn salary. However, the new mechanism is based on contributions where an employee deposits 10% of the basic pay plus dearness allowance. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajasthan – became the first State to go back to Old Pension Scheme
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

39. India’s first-ever cable-stayed rail bridge is being constructed by Indian Railways over Anji river (Anji Khad Bridge) in the Reasi district of Jammu & Kashmir. The ‘Anji Khad bridge’ is a part of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project, which will connect Katra and Reasi areas of J&K through the rail link. The bridge, once ready, will stand tall at a height of 331 meters above the river bed. The total length of the bridge is 473.25 meters and it is supported by 96 cables. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India’s 1st ever cable-stayed rail bridge is being constructed by Indian Railways – over Anji river in Reasi, J & K
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

40. On February 24, Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) successfully commissioned a 1.7 MW solar photovoltaic plant at Bina in Madhya Pradesh for the Indian Railways. The use of solar power will accelerate the mission to achieve conversion of Indian Railways to ‘Net Zero’ Carbon Emission Railway. This is the first of its kind project in the world commissioned by Indian Railways in collaboration with Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL). It can produce approximately 25 lakh units of energy annually and will save around Rs 1.37 Cr for Railway every year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BHEL – commissioned a 1.7 MW solar photovoltaic plant at Bina in Madhya Pradesh for the Indian Railways
- HQs of BHEL – New Delhi | Chairman & MD – Nalin Shinghal
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

41. On February 25, the Delhi cabinet approved the “Delhi Film Policy 2022”, which provides a subsidy of up to ₹3 Cr for film production in the city and incentivises hiring of local talents. The aim is to promote the national capital as a hub for modern filmmaking and to promote tourism. It was also announced that Delhi will have a “Delhi Film Excellence Awards” to recognize the efforts of not just actors but even the lower rung crew members. The latest policy also includes an “e-Film Clearance Portal” - a single-window system for getting approvals from all agencies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi cabinet – approved “Delhi Film Policy 2022” which provides a subsidy of up to ₹3 Cr for film production in the city
- Delhi also plans to launch: “Delhi Film Excellence Awards” & “e-Film Clearance Portal”
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev



42. On February 25, 'Ombudsperson App' was launched which is developed by Ministry of Rural Development for smooth reporting and categorization of grievances by Ombudsperson based on complaints he received from various sources viz. physical, digital and mass media, related to the implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA Scheme in the States/UTs. This will strengthen Ombudsperson in the discharge of her/his duty in a hassle-free manner. Ombudsperson can also easily upload the quarterly and annual reports on the website through the app. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Rural Development – launched 'Ombudsperson App' for grievances under 'MGNREGA Scheme'
- Ministry of Rural Development: Giriraj Singh | Constituency – Begusarai, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Rural Development: Fagga Singh Kulaste & Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti

43. National Stock Exchange (NSE) and Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) launched the T+1 settlement rules from February 25, 2022. The settlement marks the official transfer of shares to the buyer's account and cash to the seller's account. Indian stock exchanges currently follow T+2 days settlement i.e. settlement of funds & securities happens on two business days after the order is executed. Before the SEBI introduced the T+2 settlement system in April 2003, India followed the T+3 settlement system. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NSE & BSE – launched the T+1 settlement rules from February 25, 2022
- HQs of NSE – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Girish Chandra Chaturvedi | MD & CEO – Vikram Limaye
- HQs of BSE – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Justice Vikramajit Sen | MD & CEO – Shri Ashishkumar Chauhan
- BSE – Asia's 1st Stock Exchange Company

44. In February 2022, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) announced to start "Health Star" rating system for packaged foods just like the bureau of energy efficiency has for electronic appliances. As per the rating system, packaged foods will display the number of stars on the front of the pack, indicating how healthy or unhealthy it is depending upon the amount of salt, sugar and fat it has. It will be rolled out in the next few months. The authority is bringing in the regulation based on a report from IIM Ahmedabad. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FSSAI – to start "Health Star" rating system for packaged foods
- HQs of FSSAI – New Delhi | Chairperson – Rita Teatia | CEO – Shri Arun Singhal

45. On February 26, the Union Cabinet approved a proposal to allow foreign direct investment (FDI) up to 20% in LIC through the automatic route. The FDI policy reform will further enhance Ease of Doing Business in the country, leading to larger FDI inflows. Current FDI policy which permits 74% foreign investment under the automatic route in the insurance sector does not apply for the LIC, as it is established and governed under the 'LIC Act, 1956'. While current FDI policy allows FDI in the insurance sector is not covered under either "Insurance Company" or "Intermediaries or Insurance Intermediaries". The decision is expected to open doors for foreign investors who are keen to participate in the upcoming initial public offering (IPO) of LIC, India's largest public offering. LIC filed draft papers with SEBI for the sale of 5% stake for an estimated Rs 63,000 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Union Cabinet approved proposal to allow FDI up to 20% in LIC through the automatic route
- HQs of LIC – Mumbai | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Founded in – 1956 | Tagline – "Yogakshemam Vahamyaham"

46. On February 27, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved offering of dry-fuel (coal) by coal companies through a common e-auction window of Coal India Limited (CIL) instead of sector specific auctions. This e-auction will cater to all the sectors, namely power sector and non-regulated sector (NRS), including traders. CIL also has ambitious coal productions plans for the future with an aim of producing 1 billion tonnes of the dry fuel by 2023-24. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCEA approved offering of dry-fuel (coal) by coal companies through a common e-auction window of CIL
- CIL aims to produce 1 billion tonnes of the dry fuel by 2023-24
- HQs of CIL – Kolkata, West Bengal | CMD – Pramod Agrawal

47. In February 2022, Tamil Nadu government decided to set up a wing called “Marine Elite Force” under the forest department to protect the biodiversity in the Gulf of Mannar and Palk Bay. It will also protect endangered and vulnerable species which succumb to illegal fishing methods. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu – decided to set up “Marine Elite Force” to protect the biodiversity in the Gulf of Mannar & Palk Bay
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

48. The Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL), the world’s first airport fully powered by solar energy, is to become power-positive with the commissioning of its new solar power plant near Payyannur in Kannur district of Kerala. Chief Minister of the State Pinarayi Vijayan would inaugurate the 12 MWp solar power plant in March. The airport became the first in the world in 2015 to be fully powered by solar energy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cochin International Airport – to become power-positive with new 12 MWp solar power plant from March
- Cochin International Airport ([Kerala](#)) – world’s first airport fully powered by Solar Energy

49. On February 28, Delhi Police Commissioner Rakesh Asthana launched 3 new digital initiatives - Anubhuti (a QR code-based feedback system), a refurbished Delhi Police website and e-Chittha portal. It aims to add a new dimension in digitising and modernising the Delhi Police. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi Police – launched 3 new digital initiatives - Anubhuti, e-Chittha portal & a refurbished Delhi Police website
- Delhi Police Commissioner – Rakesh Asthana

50. On February 28, Delhi government will come up with a “Science Innovation Hub” at a school run by it in Kautilya Enclave that will have all the modern and latest facilities. The facility will be ready with a cost of over Rs 5 Cr in the next two-and-a-half years. It will aim to promote a scientific culture and inculcate a scientific temper for nurturing talent in science and technology. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi government will come up with a “Science Innovation Hub” at a school run by it in 2.5 years (cost - Rs 5 Cr)
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Bajjal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

51. On February 28, Google started its “Google Play Pass”, a subscription service which provides access to apps and games without ads, in-app purchases, and upfront payments, available in India. Already operational in 90 countries, Google Play Pass was rolled out to Android devices in India. Users can get started with a one-month trial and subscribe for Rs 99 per month or Rs 889 for a year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Google – started “Play Pass” subscription service in India to provides access to apps & games without ads
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – SundarPichai | Founded in – 1998

52. On February 1, Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) commenced India’s first-of-its-kind project of mixing hydrogen into natural gas system at Indore, Madhya Pradesh. GAIL started injection of grey hydrogen at City Gate Station (CGS), Indore. The hydrogen blended natural gas will be supplied to Avantika Gas Limited, one of GAIL’s Joint Venture (JV) Company with HPCL. This grey hydrogen would subsequently be replaced by green hydrogen. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- GAIL – commenced India’s first-of-its-kind project of mixing hydrogen into natural gas system at Indore
- HQs of GAIL – New Delhi | MD & Chairman – Manoj Jain

53. On February 1, the Ministry of Defence started home delivery of medicines for veterans and military personnel and their families in Delhi. This facility is rolled out under the Services e-Health Assistance and Teleconsultation (SeHAT) scheme. SeHAT was launched by the ministry in May 2021. Medical services include medical consultations through video, audio and chat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Defence – started home delivery of medicines for veterans & military personnel under ‘SeHAT’ scheme
- SeHAT – **S**ervices **e**-Health **A**ssistance & **T**eleconsultation
- Ministry of Defence: Rajnath Singh | Constituency – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Defence: Ajay Bhatt

54. On February 3, SEBI restructured its 4-member High-power Advisory Committee on settlement orders and compounding of offences. The committee will now be chaired by Jai Narayan Patel, former chief justice of Calcutta High Court. The panel was earlier headed by Vijay C Daga. Rejigging its committee, SEBI has listed M. S. Sahoo and Poornima Advani as new inductees. While P. K. Malhotra will continue as a member of the committee. Further, the time period for submission of revised settlement terms form, after the Internal Committee (IC), was rationalised to 15 days. The current rule allows 10 days plus additional 20 days. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – restructured its 4-member High-power Advisory Committee on settlement orders & compounding of offences
- Chairman – Jai Narayan Patel | Other members – M. S. Sahoo, Poornima Advani & P. K. Malhotra
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

55. Indian startup mesmerised the audience at the ‘Beating Retreat’ ceremony with a 1,000-drone light show. The startup took up the challenge to develop the technology in just 6 months after getting financial support from the central government. The first-of-its-kind Drone Light Show was conceptualized by IIT Delhi’s startup Botlab Dynamics in association with the Defence Ministry to commemorate the 75th year of Independence. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian startup performed the 'Beating Retreat' with a 1,000-drone light show
- The first-of-its-kind Drone Light Show was conceptualized by = Botlab Dynamics (IIT Delhi) + Defence Ministry

56. On February 1, Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced that the Union Budget laid down the roadmap to steer the Economy over the next 25 years - from India at 75 to India at 100, the period she termed as "Amrit Kaal". The word was used by PM Narendra Modi on 15 August for the first time while unveiling the roadmap for the next 25 years. She outlined four government priorities for the Amrit Kaal as PM Gati Shakti, Inclusive Development, Productivity Enhancement & Investment, Sunrise Opportunities, Energy Transition, and Climate Action & Financing of Investments. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A New Roadmap for India for the Next 25 years is called "Amrit Kaal"
- The word "Amrit Kaal" was first used by PM Narendra Modi on 15 August 2021

57. Tata Sky rebranded itself as 'Tata Play' as it looks to expand its television-cum-OTT (Over-The-Top) offerings in combined packages. The direct-to-home (DTH) platform has added Netflix to 13 OTT services, including Amazon Prime Video and Disney+Hotstar, as part of its so-called Binge packs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tata Sky rebranded itself as 'Tata Play' to expand its television-cum-OTT (Over-The-Top) offerings
- [HQs of Tata Play – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [CEO – Harit Nagpal](#)

58. On February 3, As per the request received from Bihar, Ministry of Tourism included 'Punaura Dham' in Ramayana circuit of "Swadesh Darshan" Scheme. The destination of 'Punaura Dham' was recently included under "PRASHAD Scheme" of Ministry of Tourism. 'Punaura Dham' is located in Sitamarhi district in Bihar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Tourism – included 'Punaura Dham' in Ramayana circuit of "Swadesh Darshan" Scheme
- 'Punaura Dham' or 'Ramayana circuit' – located in Bihar
- 'Punaura Dham' was recently included under "PRASHAD Scheme" of Ministry of Tourism
- [Bihar: Capital – Patna](#) | [CM – Nitish Kumar](#) | [Governor – Phagu Chauhan](#)
- [Ministry of Tourism: G. Kishan Reddy](#) | [Constituency – Secunderabad, Telangana](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Tourism: Shripad Yesso Naik & Ajay Bhatt](#)

59. On February 11, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari inaugurated 14.5 km long Rail-cum-Road-bridge over Ganga River approach project on 'NH-333B' in Munger, Bihar at a cost of Rs.696 Cr. There will be a saving of 3 hours in traveling from Munger to Khagaria - Saharsa. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nitin Gadkari – inaugurated 14.5 km long Rail-cum-Road-bridge over Ganga River in Munger, Bihar (cost - Rs.696 Cr)
- [Ministry of Road Transport & Highways: Nitin Gadkari](#) | [Constituency – Nagpur, Maharashtra](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Road Transport & Highways: V. K. Singh](#)
- [Bihar: Capital – Patna](#) | [CM – Nitish Kumar](#) | [Governor – Phagu Chauhan](#)



60. On February 15, The World Health Organization (WHO) launched the 'Quit Tobacco App' to help people give up the use of tobacco in all forms - including smokeless and other newer products during its 'Commit to quit' campaign. Tobacco is the world's leading cause of preventable death and kills nearly 8 million persons every year. As per the "WHO Global Report on Trends in Prevalence of Tobacco Use 2000-2025" (4th edition, 2021) WHO South-East Asia Region recorded the fastest decline in tobacco use but continued to have the highest 432 million tobacco users, or 29% of its population.

[{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- WHO – launched the "Quit Tobacco App" under its 'Commit to quit' campaign
- "Global Report on Trends in Prevalence of Tobacco Use 2000-2025" (4th edition, 2021) – launched by WHO
- South-East Asia Region – has the highest 432 million tobacco users (29% of its population)
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948

61. On February 11, Indian Railways announced to build a world class wrestling academy at Delhi's Kishanganj at a cost of Rs 30.76 Cr. This will be the India's biggest academy equipped with advance training facilities. Indian Railway is contributing in promotion of sports through Railway Sports Promotion Board in India. In Tokyo Olympic 2020, out of 7 medals won by India, 3 Individual medals by Mirabai Chanu, Ravi Kumar & Bajrang Punia were from Indian Railways.

[{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Railways – to build a 'World Class Wrestling Academy' at Delhi's Kishanganj (cost - Rs 30.76 Cr)
- Ministry of Railways: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Railways: Danve Raosaheb Dadarao & Darshana Vikram Jardosh

62. On February 15, the UNDP launched the "Digital Strategy 2022-2025" to accelerate work towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As one of the three enablers of its new Strategic Plan, digitalization will help UNDP meet its ambitious goals. It includes supporting 100 million people to escape poverty and assisting 500 million people to gain access to clean energy. Moreover, artificial intelligence and digital technology could bring a 10-20% reduction in global carbon dioxide emissions by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UNDP – launched the "Digital Strategy 2022-2025" to accelerate work towards achieving the SDGs
- HQs of UNDP – New York, USA | Administrator – Achim Steiner | Founded in – 1965

63. On February 16, Central government approved the "New India Literacy Programme (NILP)" for financial years 2022-27. The NILP will cover all aspects of Adult Education to align with 'National Education Policy (NEP) 2020'. As a major transformation, the Ministry of Education announced to rename the term "Adult Education" as "Education for All". An estimated budget for NILP is Rs 1037.90 Cr for 5 years. This program envisions educating non-literates who are 15 years old or above. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central government approved the "New India Literacy Programme (NILP)" for FY 2022-27 (Outlay - Rs 1037.90 Cr)
- Ministry of Education announced to rename the term "Adult Education" as "Education for All"

64. On February 16, Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE), Dr. Virendra Kumar launched the "Scheme for Economic Empowerment of DNTs (SEED)". The De-notified Tribes (DNTs), Nomadic Tribes (NTs) & Semi Nomadic Tribes (SNTs) are among the most deprived and economically weaker communities in India. The scheme will ensure expenditure of Rs 200 Cr to be spent over 5 years beginning 2021-22. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Virendra Kumar (MoSJE) – launched the “Scheme for Economic Empowerment of DNTs (SEED)”
- Outlay of the scheme – Rs 200 Cr | Period – 5 years (2021-22 to 2025-26)
- Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Virendra Kumar | Constituency – Sagar, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Ramdas Athawale

65. On February 12, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution reduced the Agri-cess on crude palm oil (CPO) from 7.5% to 5%. The average retail prices of commonly used edible oils are higher in the range of 10.05% to 31.97% when compared to the prices a year ago. This will benefit the domestic edible oil refiners and also check prices of cooking oils. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution reduced the Agri-cess on crude palm oil – from 7.5% to 5%
- 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

66. On February 15, the SIDBI launched the “Waste to Wealth Creation” programme in which women will make ornaments and showpieces from fish scale in the Sundarbans in West Bengal's South 24 Parganas district. Under this programme, SIDBI will extend benefits to 50 women in directly generating revenues from alternate livelihoods. Later, each of them is expected to become a trainer for replicating and disseminating the knowledge among other aspirants. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SIDBI – launched the “Waste to Wealth Creation” programme for the women in Sundarbans, West Bengal
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | MD & Chairman – Sivasubramanian Ramann | Established in – 1990
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

67. Kerala's first Caravan Park was opened in Idukki to offer house-on-wheels experience as a part of the state government's new 'Caravan Tourism' policy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala's first Caravan Park – opened in Idukki
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

68. On February 14, Central Jail of Indore started its own radio channel 'Jail Vaani-FM 18.77' to keep jail inmates informed about ongoing in the outside world. The radio channel will also provide the jail inmates with information on health issues. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central Jail of Indore – started its own radio channel 'Jail Vaani-FM 18.77' for jail inmates
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

69. On February 16, on the 75th raising day of Delhi Police, Union home minister Amit Shah launched the techno-friendly digital service for citizens. He also launched the Smartcard arms licence & Shastra mobile application. The licence & app is developed in coordination with the National e-Governance Division and has been integrated with the e-Beat book through Shastra mobile application for effective policing. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Delhi Police – introduced “Smartcard Arms Licence” & “Shastra mobile app” (launched by Amit Shah)
- Developed in coordination with – National e-Governance Division (NeGD)
- Delhi Police Commissioner – Rakesh Asthana
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Bajjal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

70. On February 14, the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) announced to set up a postgraduate medical school along with a multi-speciality hospital in its Bengaluru campus with the help of a ₹425 Cr donation from the co-founders of Mindtree. The hospital will be named the ‘Bagchi-Parthasarathy Hospital’. Both Subroto Bagchi and Parthasarathy are co-founders of Mindtree, an IT services and consulting company which is now part of the L&T Group. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IISc – to set up a postgraduate medical school along with a multi-speciality hospital in its Bengaluru campus
- Mindtree – provided ₹425 Cr donation to IISc for the same
- HQs of Mindtree – Bengaluru | MD & CEO – Debashis Chatterjee
- Director of IISc – Govindan Rangarajan

71. On February 14, Dabur became the 1st Indian consumer goods company to be 100% Plastic Waste Neutral Company. It has collected, processed and recycled around 27,000 MT of post-consumer plastic waste from all over India in the 2021-22 financial year. Dabur's plastic waste management initiative was rolled out in the year 2017-18. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dabur – became the 1st Indian consumer goods company to be a 100% ‘Plastic Waste Neutral Company’
- HQs of Dabur – New Delhi | CEO – Mohit Malhotra | Chairman – Amit Burman

72. On February 16, Ministry of Home Affairs recommended a ban on 54 Chinese mobile applications, including the popular game ‘Garena Free Fire’, also known as ‘Free Fire’. Interestingly Garena Free Fire is Singapore-based and the developer is not from China. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) formally issued a notification banning the operations of these apps in India. MeitY had banned the apps under ‘Section 69A’ of the ‘Information Technology Act, 2000’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Home Affairs – recommended a ban on 54 Chinese mobile applications (including ‘Garena Free Fire’)
- The ban was issued by MeitY under ‘Section 69A’ of ‘Information Technology Act, 2000’

73. On February 15, the Central government constituted a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) called ‘Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority (KBLPA)’ and a 20-member National Steering Committee for interlinking the two rivers. The committee will be chaired by the Secretary of Jal Shakti Ministry, Pankaj Kumar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central Govt – constituted SPV called ‘Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority (KBLPA)’
- Central Govt – also constituted a 20-member National Steering Committee for interlinking Ken-Betwa rivers
- The committee will be chaired by – Pankaj Kumar

74. On February 12, Maharashtra's Health Minister Rajesh Tope announced that "Hope Express" will be launched in the state to prevent Cancer. He was speaking at the launch of a state-of-the-art Mosaic-3D radiation machine at a private hospital in Kolhapur. This is the first such machine in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Hope Express" will be launched in Maharashtra to prevent Cancer
- A state-of-the-art Mosaic-3D radiation machine – launched in Kolhapur, Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

75. On February 15, the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) directed GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) Consumer Healthcare to discontinue advertisements for Sensodyne products depicting foreign dentists endorsing the product. Dentists practising in India are not permitted to endorse any drug or product of the industry publically under the 'Revised Dentists (Code Of Ethics) Regulations, 2014'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCPA directed GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) Consumer Healthcare to discontinue advertisements for 'Sensodyne'
- HQs of CCPA – New Delhi | HQs of GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) Consumer Healthcare – Brentford, UK

76. On February 9, Maharashtra DGP issued a circular discontinuing the practice of wearing a 'tunic uniform' for officers from Police Sub Inspector (PSI) to Deputy Superintendent (DySP) rank. A tunic uniform is a British Era overcoat worn over the regular uniform by the police personnel. The DGP issued the circular after taking into consideration complaints against the dress. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra – discontinued wearing a 'tunic uniform' for Police officers (from PSI to DySP rank)
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

77. On February 12, President Ram Nath Kovind visited Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's ancestral village Ambadawe in Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra and paid floral tributes to Lord Buddha, Dr. Ambedkar, Smt. Ramabai Ambedkar and Ramji Ambedkar. 7th November is celebrated as Student's Day in schools of Maharashtra because Babasaheb had enrolled in the school in 1900 in this day. Ambadawe village has been given the name of 'Sphurti-Bhoomi'. Also, Governor Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyari announced to donate Rs. 30 lakhs from Governor's Discretionary Fund to build a library for students in the Ambadawe village. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ram Nath Kovind – visited Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's ancestral village Ambadawe in Ratnagiri district, Maharashtra
- November 7 – celebrated as "Student's Day" in schools of Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

78. On February 12, Andhra Pradesh police destroyed more than 2 lakh kilograms of cannabis at the Koduru village near Anakapalli in the Visakhapatnam district under "Operation Parivartana". The operation was launched on October 31, 2021 to curb the supply of the ganja menace in the state. The operation included revenue, tribal welfare, agricultural, and ITDA personnel to rehabilitate persons involved in the cannabis trade by giving alternative livelihood opportunities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Andhra Pradesh police – destroyed more than 2 lakh Kgs of cannabis under "Operation Parivartana"
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan



79. On February 16, In a breakthrough development, the main tunnel of the Katra-Banihal section “T-49” was successfully connected between Sumber and Arpinchala stations in Jammu & Kashmir. Once completed, the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) mega project will be the longest tunnel of the Indian Railways. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Railways connected the longest tunnel “T-49” between Sumber & Arpinchala stations in J & K
- HQs of Indian Railways – New Delhi | Chairman & CEO – Vinay Kumar Tripathi
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

80. On February 15, the Union Cabinet, chaired by PM Shri Narendra Modi, approved the setting up of a G20 Secretariat and its reporting structures, as India will hold the G20 Presidency from 1 December, 2022 to 30 November, 2023. The Secretariat will be functional till February 2024. The Secretariat will be guided by an Apex Committee headed by Prime Minister. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Union Cabinet approved the setting up of a G20 Secretariat & its reporting structures
- India – will hold the G20 Presidency from 1 December, 2022 to 30 November, 2023
- G20 Presidency: 2021 – Italy | 2022 – Indonesia | 2023 – India | 2024 – Brazil

81. On February 18, the Centre approved the implementation of Phase II of the Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) project by the Ministry of Home Affairs at a total cost of Rs 3,375 Cr during the period from 2022-23 to 2025-26. The project will be implemented as a central sector scheme. National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) will be responsible for the implementation of the project in association with National Informatics Centre (NIC). Under Phase-II, the system is built on the principle of ‘One Data One Entry’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The Centre approved the implementation of ‘Phase II’ of ‘ICJS project’ by the Ministry of Home Affairs
- ICJS – Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System | Cost – Rs 3,375 Cr | Period – from 2022-23 to 2025-26
- HQs of NCRB – New Delhi | Director – Vivek Gogia | Established in – 1986
- Ministry of Home Affairs: Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Home Affairs: Nityanand Rai, Ajay Kumar & Nisith Pramanik

82. On February 17, Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray and Union minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbanand Sonowal, inaugurated India’s first water taxi in Mumbai. A Belapur jetty was also inaugurated in this event. The Mumbai water taxi services will provide faster connectivity between Mumbai and Navi Mumbai. The Sagarmala programme is promoting rapid economic development. As many as 131 projects worth Rs 1.05 lakh Cr have been earmarked for Maharashtra. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra – launched India’s first water taxi in Mumbai
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

83. On February 15, SEBI board decided to make provision for separation of the roles of chairperson and MD/CEO as ‘voluntary’ against ‘mandatory’ earlier. In June 2017, SEBI had set up a committee on corporate governance under Uday Kotak to seek recommendations to further enhance corporate governance norms for listed companies. One of the recommendations was the separation of the roles of chairperson and MD/CEO. The provision for mandating separation of the role of chairperson and MD/CEO of listed companies will be applicable from April 01, 2022, for top 500 listed companies. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- SEBI – made provision for separation of the roles of chairperson and MD/CEO as ‘voluntary’ against ‘mandatory’
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

84. On February 15, The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) organised a “Darkathon-2022” to find solutions to counter drug trafficking through darknet. NCB Director-General S. N. Pradhan inaugurated the event which will be held in three phases till April 22. In 2021, there is an increase of 300% in the seizure of heroin, 172% increase in the seizure of opium, and 191% increase in the seizure of cannabis from 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NCB – organised “Darkathon-2022” to find solutions to counter drug trafficking through darknet
- HQs of NCB – New Delhi | DG – Satya Narayan Pradhan

85. On February 18, NHPC Limited set up a new wholly owned subsidiary company “NHPC Renewable Energy Limited (NREL)” for development of Renewable Energy, Small Hydro and Green Hydrogen based business of NHPC Ltd. The Subsidiary has been incorporated with the Registrar of Companies, NCT of Delhi & Haryana. Currently, NHPC’s total installed generation capacity stands at 7071 MW which includes 100 MW of Solar/Wind energy-based plants. Also, NHPC recently signed a Letter of Intent with Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Limited (RRECL) for Development of 10,000 MW Renewable Energy Projects/Parks. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NHPC – set up a new wholly owned subsidiary company “NHPC Renewable Energy Limited (NREL)” in Haryana
- NHPC + RRECL = a Letter of Intent for Development of 10,000 MW Renewable Energy Projects/Parks
- HQs of NHPC – Faridabad, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Abhay Kumar Singh
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

86. On February 18, India’s & South Asia’s first Biosafety level-3 (BSL-3) containment mobile laboratory was set up in Nashik, Maharashtra. This mobile laboratory has been set up to investigate newly emerging and re-emerging viral infections that are highly infectious and of lethal potential to human beings. The laboratory has been designed and built by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in collaboration with Mumbai based bio-safety equipment maker Klenzaida. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India’s & South Asia’s first Biosafety level-3 containment mobile laboratory was set up in – Nashik, Maharashtra
- Designed & Built by – ICMR + Klenzaida
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- HQs of ICMR – New Delhi, India | Director General – Balram Bhargava | Established in – 1911

87. On February 19, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated Asia’s biggest Bio-CNG plant - the Gobar-Dhan plant in Indore, Madhya Pradesh. The municipal solid waste based Gobar-Dhan plant, built at the cost of Rs 150 Cr, is in line with PM Modi's vision of creating “garbage-free cities” under the Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0. The Gobar-Dhan plant will have the capacity to treat 550 tonnes of segregated wet organic waste and produce around 17,000 kg CNG and 100 tonnes of organic compost per day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated Asia’s biggest Bio-CNG plant - the Gobar-Dhan plant – in Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel



88. On February 16, Minister of State for Culture & Parliamentary Affairs Arjun Ram Meghwal launched the career counselling workshop “Pramarsh 2022” for the students of Bikaner district of Rajasthan. Workshop conducted with the support of The National Institute of Career Services (NICS), which comes under the Ministry of Labour & Employment, and educational start-up Edumilestones. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arjun Ram Meghwal – launched the career counselling workshop “Pramarsh 2022” for students of Bikaner, Rajasthan
- Launched by MoC & MoPA | Conducted with the support from: NICS & Edumilestones
- [Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur](#) | [CM – Ashok Gehlot](#) | [Governor – Kalraj Mishra](#)

89. In February 2022, Thousands of ‘Crimson Rose’ butterflies swarmed all available flowering plants along the pristine beach of Dhanushkodi at the southern-most tip of the Rameswaram island in the Indian peninsula to migrate to Sri Lanka. They chose to cross the sea from Dhanushkodi, which is one of the closest Indian beaches from Sri Lanka. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘Crimson Rose’ butterflies – gathered at Dhanushkodibeach in Rameswaram island to migrate to Sri Lanka
- [Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan Rupee](#)
- [PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa](#) | [President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa](#)

90. On February 15, the SEBI reconstituted its Alternative Investment Policy Advisory Committee, which advises the capital markets regulator on a range of issues that impact further development of the AIF (Alternative Investment Fund) industry. The committee has now 20 members and it is chaired by Infosys co-founder N. R. Narayana Murthy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – reconstituted its Alternative Investment Policy Advisory Committee – chaired by N. R. Narayana Murthy
- [HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [Chairman – Ajay Tyagi](#) | [Established in – 1992](#)

91. On February 22, Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal addressed the inaugural ceremony of “India International Jewellery Show (IIJS) Signature 2022” which was organised by the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC). The minister stated that India’s gems and jewellery exports are expected to reach \$40 billion with the growth of 6.5% in the current financial 2021-2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Piyush Goyal – addressed the inaugural ceremony of “India International Jewellery Show (IIJS) Signature 2022”
- India’s gems & jewellery exports are expected to reach \$40 billion with the growth of 6.5% in FY2021-22
- [HQs of GJEPC – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [Chairman – Colin Sha](#)

92. On February 20, Commerce Department was revamped to achieve the \$2 trillion exports target by 2027. Commerce and Industry minister Piyush Goyal chaired a meeting on the issue. The ‘Trade Remedies Review Committee’ would be setup including Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Ministry of Finance and line ministries for transparency in investigations outcomes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Commerce Department was revamped to achieve the \$2 trillion exports target by 2027
- Piyush Goyal – chaired a Meeting on Revamping Department of Commerce



93. Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal inaugurated 12,430 new smart classrooms in 240 government schools of the national capital at Rajkiya Kanya Vidyalaya in Rajokri. With this, the tally of new classrooms built by the Kejriwal government reached 20,000. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arvind Kejriwal – inaugurated 12,430 new smart classrooms in 240 government schools of New Delhi
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Bajjal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

94. A “Samajik Adhikarita Shivir” for distribution of aids and assistive devices to ‘Divyangjan’ under the ‘ADIP Scheme’ of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) will be organized by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) in association with ALIMCO at Niwari in Madhya Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘Samajik Adhikarita Shivir’ program distributes aids & assistive devices to ‘Divyangjan’ under MoSJE
- DEPwD + ALIMCO = organized “Samajik Adhikarita Shivir” at Niwari, Madhya Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

95. On February 19, the Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) organised 3rd edition of “Huddle Global 2022”. KSUM entered into collaboration with Google to enable start-ups in the state to join a wider global network that provides mentorship and training. The partnership will expose start-ups to new technology arenas and global standards. Google’s start-up programme is focused on empowering start-ups around the world and helping them leverage each other for insights and resource sharing. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- KSUM – organised 3rd edition of “Huddle Global 2022”
- KSUM + Google = to enable start-ups to join a wider global network that provides mentorship & training
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – SundarPichai | Founded in – 1998

96. On February 20, J&K hosted the ‘Janbhagidari Empowerment’ portal on a different server with higher bandwidth for its easy and ready accessibility to the general public. This intervention comes after the concerns relating to the slow speed/ bandwidth issues regarding the portal, which has caused disenchantment among users. The portal also has links to schemes like MGNREGA, PM Awas Yojana, SMB (Urban), SBM (Rural) and PMGSY. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- J&K – hosted ‘Janbhagidari Empowerment’ portal on a different server with higher bandwidth for easy accessibility
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – ManojSinha

97. On February 20, Assam Chief Minister launched the first night navigation mobile application for ferry services on Brahmaputra river. The app is developed by the transport department in association with K. Raju, the principal scientist of IIT Madras. He also launched 10 Aadhar-based contactless services of the department as part of its efforts to make public service delivery efficient and hassle free. He also launched e-ticketing system for Dhubri and Silchar ferry services. An MoU was also signed between the Common Service Centres (CSCs) under the Ministry of Information Technology and transport department for facilitating people at the panchayat level to avail the online services. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Assam – became the 1st state to launch 'Night Navigation Mobile App' for ferry services on Brahmaputra river
- Assam – launched 10 Aadhar-based contactless services & e-ticketing system for Dhubri & Silchar ferry services
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

98. On February 19, IIT Roorkee organised a Regional Farmers' Awareness program under 'Gramin Krishi Mausam Sewa (GKMS)' project and launched the 'KISAN' mobile app for dissemination of Agromet Advisory Services. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Under 'Gramin Krishi Mausam Sewa', IIT Roorkee:
 - organised a Regional Farmers' Awareness program
 - launched 'KISAN' app for farmers
- Director of IIT Roorkee – Ajit K. Chaturvedi

99. On February 17, Ministry of Power notified Green Hydrogen/Green Ammonia Policy. PM Narendra Modi launched the "National Hydrogen Mission" on India's 75th Independence Day (15th August, 2021) to make India a green hydrogen hub. This will help in meeting the target of production of 5 million tonnes of Green hydrogen by 2030. Green Hydrogen/Ammonia manufacturers will be granted Open access within 15 days of receipt of application. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Power – notified 'Green Hydrogen/Green Ammonia Policy'
- "National Hydrogen Mission" – launched by Narendra Modi in Aug 2021
- Green Hydrogen/Ammonia manufacturers will be granted Open access – within 15 days
- Ministry of Power and Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh | Constituency – Arrah, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Power: Krishan Pal

100. On February 21, Union Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Shri Giriraj Singh launched "Rural Connectivity GIS Data" in Public Domain at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. As part of the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), GIS data have been collected and digitised using GIS platform developed for the scheme. The PMGSY was launched in the year 2000. National Rural Infrastructure Development Agency (NRIDA) is the nodal implementation agency of PMGSY scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Rural Development – launched "Rural Connectivity GIS Data" in Public Domain as part of 'PMGSY'
- PMGSY – launched in 2000
- Ministry of Rural Development: Giriraj Singh | Constituency – Begusarai, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Rural Development: Faggansingh Kulaste & Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti

101. On February 21, Reliance Jio announced to land the next generation multi-terabit India-Asia-Xpress (IAX) undersea cable system in the Maldives in collaboration with Ocean Connect Maldives. The new subsea cable system will connect Hulhumale (an island in Maldives) directly with world's major internet hubs in India and Singapore. The IAX system originates in Mumbai in the west and connects directly to Singapore. While the India-Europe-Xpress (IEX) system connects Mumbai to Milan in Italy. IAX is expected to be ready for service end-2023, while IEX will be ready for service in mid-2024. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Reliance Jio – to land the next generation multi-terabit India-Asia-Xpress (IAX) undersea cable system in Maldives
- IAX & IEX systems originate in – Mumbai | Hulhumale island is located in – Maldives
- Maldives – Male – Maldivian rufiyaa | President – Ibrahim Mohamed Solih

102. On February 21, the Central Government approved the continuation of the Central Sector Umbrella Scheme of “Border Infrastructure and Management (BIM)” over the 15th Finance Commission Cycle from 2021-22 to 2025-26, at a cost of Rs 13,020 Cr. Ministry of Home Affairs is committed to improving Border Infrastructure and Management. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government approved the continuation of “Border Infrastructure and Management (BIM)” from 2021-22 to 2025-26
- Outlay of the scheme – Rs 13,020 Cr | Responsible ministry to improve BIM – Ministry of Home Affairs

103. On February 21, Bharti Airtel Ltd joined the ‘SEA-ME-WE-6’ undersea cable consortium to scale up its high speed global network capacity and serve India’s fast growing digital economy. The 19,200 Rkm SEA-ME-WE-6 will connect Singapore and France. Airtel is participating as a major investor in the SEA-ME-WE-6 and is anchoring 20% of the overall investment in the cable system, which will go LIVE in 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bharti Airtel – joined the ‘SEA-ME-WE-6’ undersea cable consortium to scale up its high speed global network capacity
- 19,200 Rkm ‘SEA-ME-WE-6’ will connect – Singapore & France | ‘SEA-ME-WE-6’ will go LIVE in – 2025
- Airtel’s investment in the ‘SEA-ME-WE-6’ – 20%
- HQs of Bharti Airtel – New Delhi | CEO & MD – Gopal Vittal | Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal

104. The government of India plans to promote “Heal by India” campaign for strengthening the country’s educational institutions in the health sector and enhancing education to churn out quality human resources in health, thus helping them become eligible to work anywhere in the world. Moreover, the Health Ministry also organised a Chintan Shivir - ‘Heal by India’ for two days. The Chintan Shivir included positioning India’s health sector as a global source. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Govt plans to promote “Heal by India” campaign to make India’s Health Sector a global source
- “Chintan Shivir - Heal by India” – organised by Health Ministry

105. On February 18, India organized an event to commemorate the foundation of the Indian Home Rule Society (IHRS) in London, UK. On this day in 1905, the organisation was founded by Shyamji Krishna Varma, which sought to promote the cause of self-rule in British India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India organized an event to commemorate the foundation of the Indian Home Rule Society (IHRS) in London, UK
- ‘IHRS’ was founded by Shyamji Krishna Varma in 1905

106. On February 18, Assam government launched a 4-year mentorship programme called “Project Arohan” to provide guidance to students and improve their skills. Assam Chief Minister, Himanta Biswa Sarma met Anita Ranjan, CEO of Tata STRIVE, a skill development initiative of Tata Trusts, and sought cooperation for the project. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Assam – launched a 4-year mentorship programme called “Project Arohan”
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

107. On February 16, Four police stations of New Delhi were certified as ‘Eat Right Campus’ by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). Eat Right India is a flagship mission of FSSAI, which aims at ensuring that the citizens of the country get safe and nutritious food. Under this initiative, ‘Sehatmand Delhi’ programme has been launched to identify premises that can be recognised as ‘Eat Right Campus’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FSSAI – certified 4 police stations of New Delhi as ‘Eat Right Campus’
- HQs of FSSAI – New Delhi | Chairperson – Rita Teatia | CEO – Shri Arun Singhal
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Bajjal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev
- Delhi Police Commissioner – Rakesh Asthana

108. On February 18, Chamba, an aspirational district of Himachal Pradesh became the 100th ‘Har Ghar Jal’ District. Chamba is the 5th aspirational district to become ‘Har Ghar Jal’. Other four Har Ghar Jal Aspirational districts are: Bhadrachal Kothgudem, Jayashankar Bhupalpalli, Komram Bheem Asifabad (all in Telangana) and Mewat in Haryana. Rs. 60,000 Cr was allocated to ‘Har Ghar Jal’ in Union Budget 2022-23 to provide tap water to 3.8 Cr households. The motto of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) is ‘No One is Left Out’. In last 24 months, tap water supply has increased four-fold from 24 lakh (7.17%) to about 1.37 Cr (40%) households in 117 Aspirational districts. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chamba (Himachal Pradesh) – became the 5th aspirational district 100th district to become ‘Har Ghar Jal’ district
- Rs 60,000 Cr was allocated to ‘Har Ghar Jal’ in Union Budget 2022-23
- Target of JJM: To ensure ‘Har Ghar Jal’ to all rural households – by 2024 | JJM’s Motto – ‘No One is Left Out’
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

109. On February 2, on the occasion of ‘World Wetlands Day’, the Aravalli Biodiversity Park in Gurugram, Haryana was declared India’s 1st “other effective area-based conservation measures” (OECM) site. The OECM tag is given by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to areas that are not protected but support rich biodiversity. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Aravalli Biodiversity Park (Gurugram, Haryana) – declared India’s 1st OECM site
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya
- HQs of IUCN – Gland, Switzerland | President – Xinsheng Zhang | CEO – Bruno Oberle | Founded in – 1948

110. On February 7, the West Bengal government launched “Paray Shikshalaya”, an open-air classroom in the neighbourhood programme for students from class 1 to 7. The aim of this initiative is to encourage students who dropped out of schools during the Covid-19 pandemic to continue their education. Arrangements for mid-day meals were also made for the students taking neighbourhood classes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- West Bengal – launched “Paray Shikshalaya”, an open-air classroom programme for students from class 1 to 7
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

111. On February 6, for the first time, the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine - National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NCISM-NEET), conducted an entrance test to Bachelor of Sowa Rigpa Medicine and Surgery (BSRMS). Sowa Rigpa is one of the oldest and well documented systems of traditional medicine in the world, and is one of the seven Ayush systems. Sowa-Rigpa received UGC recognition in October 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NCISM-NEET – conducted an entrance test to Bachelor of ‘Sowa Rigpa’ Medicine & Surgery for the first time

112. On February 9, Jammu & Kashmir became the first Union Territory to launch the ‘Single Window Clearance System’ integrated with “National Single Window System (NSWS)”. The NSWS is a digital platform that serves as a guide for investors to identify and apply for approvals as per their business requirements. The platform was soft launched in September 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- J & K – became the 1st UT to launch the ‘Single Window Clearance System’ integrated with NSWS
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

113. On February 8, ReNew Power set up Gujarat’s first wind-solar hybrid project at Vilayat, Bharuch. The first phase of the hybrid project, with 17.6 MW commercial-scale wind-solar, commenced operations and is expected to generate 80 million units of renewable energy every year. The partnership will expand further with an additional 16.68 MW as part of the second phase. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ReNew Power – set up Gujarat’s first 17.6 MW ‘Wind-Solar Hybrid Project’ at Bharuch
- HQs of ReNew Power – Gurugram, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Sumant Sinha

114. On February 7, Railway Protection Force launched “Operation AAHT” to curb human trafficking. Special teams will be deployed on all long-distance trains/routes with focus on rescuing victims, particularly women and children, from the clutches of traffickers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Railway Protection Force – launched “Operation AAHT” to curb human trafficking
- HQs of RPF – New Delhi, India | Director General – Sanjay Chander
- Ministry of Railways: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Railways: Danve Raosaheb Dadarao & Darshana Vikram Jardosh

115. On February 5, India became the 1st country in the world to administer DNA vaccine (ZyCoV-D) against COVID-19. The Drugs Controller General of India has given its permission for the vaccination to be given to children aged 12 to 17. ZyCoV-D is administered in three doses with a gap of 28 and 56 days from the first dose respectively. The ZyCoV-D vaccine is produced by Ahmedabad-based vaccine manufacturer Zydus Cadila in partnership with the Department of Biotechnology. It is the 2nd home-grown shot to get emergency authorisation in India after Bharat Biotech’s Covaxin. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – 1st country in the world to administer DNA vaccine (ZyCoV-D) against COVID-19
- DCGI – gave its permission for the vaccination to be given to children aged 12 to 17
- ZyCoV-D (given in 3 doses) – produced by Zydus Cadila (Ahmedabad, Gujarat)
- The Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) – V G Somani
- HQs of Cadila Healthcare (Zydus Cadila) – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | CEO – Pankaj Patel

116. On February 10, 9.02 km-long Atal Tunnel was certified as the longest highway tunnel above 10,000 feet by the World Book of Records UK. Atal Tunnel is constructed on the Manali-Leh highway by Border Roads Organisation at cost of Rs 3300 Cr. This tunnel is built in the Pir Panjal range of Himalayas at an altitude of 3,000 metres or 10,000 feet from the mean sea level. Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated this tunnel to the nation on October 3, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Atal Tunnel (9.02 km) – certified as the longest highway tunnel above 10,000 feet by the World Book of Records (UK)
- Atal Tunnel – built by BRO at an altitude of 10,000 feet from the mean sea level | Cost – Rs 3300 Cr
- HQs of BRO – New Delhi | Director General – Major Gen Rajeev Chaudhary | Founded on – May 7, 1960

117. On February 10, SEBI restructured its advisory committee on Investor Protection and Education Fund (IPEF). The eight-member committee will now be chaired by Gurumoorthy Mahalingam (G. Mahalingam), former Whole Time Member of SEBI. The panel was earlier headed by Abraham Koshy, former professor of IIM-Ahmedabad. In 2013, the regulator had set up a committee to find out ways and means to best utilise the investor protection and education fund. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI restructured its advisory committee on Investor Protection & Education Fund – headed by G. Mahalingam
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

118. India's 1st commercial-scale biomass-based hydrogen plant will be set up in the Khandwa district of Madhya Pradesh. The plant is being set up by a joint venture of Watomo Energies Ltd and Biezel Green Energy with an investment of ₹24 Cr. Biezel Green will own 50% in this joint venture. The other 50% will come from interested farmers. The plant will produce a tonne of hydrogen per day, from 30 tonnes of biomass feedstock. It will also produce biochar and methane. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India's 1st commercial-scale biomass-based hydrogen plant – will be set up in the Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh
- The plant will be set up by a JV of – Watomo Energies Ltd & Biezel Green Energy (Total investment – ₹24 Cr)
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

119. In Odisha, as many as 6,000 villages are out of mobile network due to lack of towers. Therefore, to provide net connectivity to all the villages in the State, centre decided to install 3,933 mobile towers in Odisha. An allocation of ₹9,734 Cr was made for Odisha for the 2022-23 fiscal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central Govt decided to install 3,933 mobile towers in Odisha to provide net connectivity to all the villages
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

120. On February 8, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) received royalty of ₹171.74 Cr till 31st January, 2022 from Bharat Biotech from sales of COVID vaccine 'Covaxin'. The Council spent around ₹35 Cr in research and development of Covaxin. Covaxin is India's indigenous COVID-19 vaccine by Bharat Biotech developed in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)-National Institute of Virology (NIV). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICMR – received royalty of ₹171.74 Cr from Bharat Biotech from sales of 'Covaxin' (till 31st Jan, 2022)
- HQs of ICMR – New Delhi, India | Director General – Balram Bhargava | Established in – 1911
- HQs of Bharat Biotech – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Dr. Krishna Ella

121. On February 11, Amazon India launched dedicated storefront for Ayurveda products on Amazon. The Union Minister of Ayush Sarbananda Sonowal launched this platform. This initiative will enhance the visibility of Ayurveda products on Amazon.in and help thousands of sellers, especially emerging Indian brands to grow their business. The ministry is also promoting the Ayu-Raksha kit, Bala-Raksha kit and Swasthya Raksha kit developed by All India Institute of Ayurveda for protecting the people from Covid. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sarbananda Sonowal – launched a dedicated storefront for Ayurveda products on Amazon.in
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle, US | CEO – Andy Jassy | Incorporated in – 1994
- HQs of Amazon India – Hyderabad, Telangana | Country Head – Amit Agarwal
- Ministry of AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of AYUSH: Munjapara Mahendrabhai

122. On February 11, Jammu and Kashmir lieutenant governor Manoj Sinha launched a QR code-based mechanism for certification and labelling of handmade carpets of the union territory. With the QR-based application, which is the first of its kind in India, customers can check and verify the authenticity and other requisite details of carpets produced in Jammu and Kashmir. This technology will be able to standardize uniqueness of handmade carpets and boost exports of Jammu and Kashmir's carpet industry in the international market. Also, government of J&K introduced Export Incentive Scheme under which incentive of 10% of the total volume of GI certified handicrafts and handloom products exported to any country, with maximum reimbursement up to Rs 5 Cr, shall be provided to eligible exporters registered with the Department of Handicrafts and Handloom. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- J & K – launched India's first of its kind QR code-based mechanism for certification and labelling of Handmade Carpets
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

123. On February 8, Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) invited applications under "ABHYAAS", a program of 'Accelerate Vigyan' scheme, for summer season. 'ABHYAAS', a program of AV scheme, is an attempt to boost research & development in India by enabling and grooming potential PG/Ph.D. level students by developing dedicated research skills in selected areas/disciplines/fields through its two components- High-End Workshops ("KAARYASHALA") and Training and Skill Internship ("VRITIKA"). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SERB – invited applications under "ABHYAAS", a program of 'Accelerate Vigyan' scheme, for summer season
- 'ABHYAAS' program – an attempt to boost research & development in India

124. On February 12, during a meeting with the officials of the power ministry, Union Power Minister R. K. Singh announced that India will achieve zero-diesel use in agriculture and replace fossil fuel with renewable energy by 2024.

[{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India will achieve zero-diesel use in agriculture and replace fossil fuel with renewable energy – by 2024

125. On February 12, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman launched the first colour souvenir coin on “Panchtantra” on the occasion of 17th foundation day of Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited (SPMCIL). The finance minister in her address stressed on upskilling and acquiring new skills, and upgradation to meet the technology driven economy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nirmala Sitharaman – launched the first colour souvenir coin on “Panchtantra” on the 17th foundation day of SPMCIL
- Currency Notes printing places – Nasik, Dewas, Mysore, Salboni
- Coins minting places – Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Noida
- HQs of SPMCIL – New Delhi | CMD – Tripti Patra Ghosh

126. On February 8, Gujarat announced a new IT/ITeS policy for the next 5 years providing financial incentives of up to ₹200 Cr to the entities willing to incur capital expenditures. The policy will focus on creating an IT talent pool for the high-skilled industries and provide modern IT infrastructure to build a complete ecosystem. This policy aims to generate employment for about 1 lakh people. It also seeks to increase Gujarat’s IT-ITeS exports from current ₹3,000 Cr annually to ₹25,000 Cr. The government also introduced ‘Employment Generation Incentive’ with one-time support to those units hiring local employees for a minimum 1 year period. For each employee, one-time assistance of 50% of the CTC maximum up to ₹50,000 in case of male employee and ₹60,000 for female employees will be provided. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gujarat – announced a new IT/ITeS policy for the next 5 years providing financial incentives of up to ₹200 Cr
- Gujarat – to increase IT-ITeS exports from ₹3,000 Cr annually to ₹25,000 Cr
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

127. Instagram announced to launch ‘Take a Break’, to help people make informed decisions about the way they are spending their time. This feature will be promoted in India through a campaign called ‘Break Zaroori Hai’, in partnership with ‘We The Young’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Instagram – announced to launch ‘Take a Break’ to inform people about the time they are spending on the app
- The feature will be promoted through a campaign called ‘Break Zaroori Hai’, in partnership with ‘We The Young’
- HQs of Instagram – California, USA | CEO – Kevin Systrom

128. On February 9, Karnataka HC constituted a 3-judge Bench to hear the petitions questioning the ban on wearing of hijabs by students in colleges. The bench is headed by Chief Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi. Other 2 members of the bench are Justice Dixit and Justice Jaibunnisa M. Khazi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka HC – constituted a 3-judge Bench to hear the petitions on ban on wearing of hijabs by students in colleges
- The bench is headed by – Chief Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot
- Chief Justice of Karnataka HC – Satish Chandra Sharma

129. On February 11, the National Health Authority (NHA) integrated its flagship Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission with the Aarogya Setu app, allowing users to create the 14-digit unique Ayushman Bharat Health Account numbers from the app. People can use their Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) number to link their existing and new medical records, including doctor prescriptions, lab reports, hospital records and also share those with health professionals and health service providers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NHA integrated = Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission + Aarogya Setu app
- CEO of the National Health Authority (NHA) – Dr R S Sharma
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency – Palitana, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar

130. On February 9, the government banned the import of drones other than for defence, security and research purposes. Even the import of drones for these purposes will require government clearances. The ban will not apply to the import of drone parts. The aim is to boost manufacturing of 'Made in India' drones and drone components including Rs 120 Cr Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme. Also, the Civil Aviation Ministry launched an 'Airspace Map of India' which shows areas where drones can be used without permission and areas in which drones cannot be operated without obtaining prior permission from authorities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian government – banned the import of drones other than for Defence, Security & Research purposes
- Ministry of Civil Aviation – launched an Airspace Map of India
- Ministry of Civil Aviation: Jyotiraditya M. Scindia | Constituency – Guna, Madhya Pradesh

131. In February 2022, Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and AYUSH, Sarbananda Sonowal flagged off an inland waterway vessel "MV Lal Bahadur Shastri" from Patna to Guwahati. The vessel which started its journey from Patna is carrying 200 metric tonnes of foodgrains headed for Pandu in Guwahati & will travel via Bangladesh to reach the destination by early March, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sarbananda Sonowal – flagged off an inland waterway vessel "MV Lal Bahadur Shastri" from Patna to Guwahati

International Affairs

1. A 44-member contingent of Indian Air Force (IAF) participated in the “Singapore Air Show 2022” at Changi International Airport, Singapore from February 15 to 18, 2022. Singapore Air Show is a biennial event which provides a platform for the Global Aviation Industry to showcase their products. ‘Tejas MK-I’ aircraft represented India at the Airshow. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 44-member contingent of IAF – participated in the “Singapore Air Show 2022” at Changi International Airport
- ‘Tejas MK-I’ represented India at the Airshow

2. On February 1, India abstained from a procedural vote taken in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) ahead of a meeting to discuss the situation on the Ukraine border. India, Gabon and Kenya abstained from the vote, while Russia and China voted against. All other Council members voted in favour of the meeting. Russia is demanding that NATO promise never to allow Ukraine to join the military alliance, and to stop the deployment of NATO weapons near Russian borders. The US and NATO rejected Russia’s demands. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India, Gabon & Kenya – abstained from the procedural vote taken in the UNSC
- Russia & China – voted against to discuss
- Ukraine – Kyiv – Ukrainian hryvnia | President – Volodymyr Zelensky
- HQs of UNSC – New York, US | Presidency in February – Russia (Jan - Norway | Mar - UAE)
- HQs of NATO – Brussels, Belgium | Secretary General – Jens Stoltenberg | Member Countries – 30

3. On February 1, US President Joe Biden designated Qatar a major non-NATO ally, a largely symbolic honour. Qatar is the 18th country to receive this designation, the last being Brazil in 2019. The designation provides benefits in defense trade and security cooperation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- US President Joe Biden – designated Qatar a major non-NATO ally (a largely symbolic honour)
- Qatar – 18th country to receive this designation (Last – Brazil)
- Qatar – Doha – Riyal | PM – Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdulaziz Al Thani

4. On February 1, Sri Lanka decided to purchase 40,000 metric tonnes of each petrol & diesel from the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) as part of the government’s bid to tide over the current fuel and energy crisis. The Lanka IOC, the Sri Lankan subsidiary of India's oil major Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), has been in operation in Sri Lanka since 2002. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sri Lanka – decided to purchase 40,000 metric tonnes of each petrol & diesel from Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL)
- HQs of IOCL – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shrikant Madhav Vaidya | Founded in – 1959
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan Rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa



5. On February 10, Israel became the first country to allow drones or unmanned aircraft vehicles (UAVs) to operate in civilian airspace. The first certification was issued by the Israeli Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) to the Hermes Starliner unmanned system. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Israel – became the first country to allow Unmanned Aircraft Vehicles (UAVs) to operate in Civilian Airspace
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Isaac Herzog | PM – Naftali Bennett

6. On February 15, Canadian government invoked the “Emergencies Act” for the first time to address the impact of continued protests across the country over Covid-19 health measures. The government used the ‘Emergencies Act’ also to go after those who financially support illegal protests. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Canada – invoked “Emergencies Act” for the first time to address the impact of continued protests across the country
- Canada – Ottawa – Canadian Dollar | PM – Justin Trudeau

7. On February 15, One of the three persons diagnosed with Lassa fever in the UK has died on February 11. The cases were linked to travel to West African countries. The Lassa virus is named after a town in Nigeria where the first case was discovered in 1969. The death rate associated with this disease is low, at around 1%. Lassa virus is typically transmitted by the urine or feces of Mastomys rats to humans. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- One of the three persons diagnosed with ‘Lassa fever’ in the UK has died (‘Lassa virus’ named after a town in Nigeria)
- First case of ‘Lassa virus’ was discovered in 1969 – in Lassa, Nigeria | ‘Lassa virus’ is spread by – Rats
- Nigeria – Abuja – Naira | President – Muhammadu Buhari

8. On February 22, India and France agreed on a Roadmap on Blue Economy and Ocean Governance with the aim to contribute to scientific knowledge and ocean conservation. This agreement came during External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar’s 3-day visit to France. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + France = agreed on a Roadmap on Blue Economy & Ocean Governance
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Jean Castex

9. On February 25, to commemorate 75 years of diplomatic relations between India and Belgium, a special logo was unveiled jointly by officials from both countries. The logo is a peacock with national flags of both the nations, symbolised, on either side of India’s national bird. The decision to establish diplomatic relations between both nations was taken in January 1947 and a charge d’affaires was appointed in May 1947. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Belgium = launched a logo to commemorate 75 years of diplomatic relations
- Logo – a peacock with national flags of both the countries
- Belgium – Brussels – Euro | PM – Alexander De Croo

10. The world’s first plant-based Covid-19 vaccine was licensed for use in Canada for adults aged 18 to 64. It was found that the vaccine was 71% effective at preventing Covid-19. The vaccine, named ‘Covifenz’, was jointly developed by Medicago Inc and GlaxoSmithKline Plc. With this, Canada became the first country to approve the use of the plant-based COVID-19 vaccine. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- World's first plant-based Covid-19 vaccine named 'Covifenz' was licensed for use in Canada for adults aged 18 to 64
- [Canada – Ottawa – Canadian Dollar](#) | [PM – Justin Trudeau](#)

11. On February 28, Ukraine filed an application instituting proceedings against the Russian Federation before the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. The application was filed concerning "a dispute relating to the interpretation, application and fulfilment of the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ukraine – filed an application instituting proceedings against 'Russia' in the International Court of Justice (ICJ)
- [Location of ICJ – Hague, Netherlands](#) | [President – Joan E. Donoghue \(US\)](#)
- [Ukraine – Kyiv – Ukrainian hryvnia](#) | [President – Volodymyr Zelensky](#)



Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

1. On February 1, Bangalore-based startup Dukaan partnered with Simpl to provide Buy Now, Pay Later (BNPL) services to Dukaan's merchants. Co-founded in 2015 by Nitya Sharma, Simpl is India's fastest growing Buy Now Pay Later platform. While Dukaan is a platform that enables small and medium-sized businesses to set up online stores and sell products digitally. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dukaan + Simpl = partnership to provide Buy Now, Pay Later (BNPL) services to Dukaan's merchants
- HQs of Dukaan – Bangalore, Karnataka | Co-founder & CEO – Suumit Shah
- HQs of Simpl – Bangalore, Karnataka | Co-founder & CEO – Nitya Sharma

2. On February 1, IRDAI released the new framework for issue of Surety Bonds by insurance companies. Small suppliers and work contractors can now tap insurance companies for surety of their payments without collateral instead of depending on bank guarantees. As per the guidelines issued by the IRDAI, insurance companies can offer 6 types of sureties namely - Advance payment bond, Bid bond, Contract bond, Customs and Court bond, Performance bond and Retention money. Also, the premium charged for all surety insurance policies underwritten in a financial year shall not exceed 10% of the total gross written premium of that year, subject to a maximum of Rs 500 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IRDAI released new guidelines for issue of Surety Bonds by insurance companies
- Premium charged for all surety insurance policies underwritten in a FY shall not exceed 10% (max – Rs 500 Cr)
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Executive Dr. – Suresh Mathur

3. On February 3, Edelweiss General Insurance (EGI) launched an 'AI Voice Bot' to expedite registration of motor claims. This end-to-end AI Voice Bot is the first in the general insurance industry in India, and is powered by Yellow.ai, the world's leading next-gen Total Experience (TX) Automation Platform. The conversational voice bot is available in Hindi, English and Hinglish. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Edelweiss General Ins. – launched the industry's first-of-its-kind 'AI Voice Bot' to expedite motor claims registration
- HQs of Edelweiss Financial Services – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Rashesh Shah

4. On February 2, A tripartite MoU was signed among State Bank of India, Indira Gandhi Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) and National Culture Fund (NCF - under Ministry of Culture) for the development of "Atmanirbhar Bharat Centre for Design (ABCD)" in New Delhi. The ABCD project aims to highlight, promote and celebrate the products that have the Geographical Indication sign. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI + IGNCA + NCF = a tripartite MoU to develop "Atmanirbhar Bharat Centre for Design (ABCD)" in New Delhi
- Location of IGNCA – New Delhi
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MDs – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman



5. The Government of India has done a conversion transaction with the RBI on January 28, 2022 for an amount of ₹1,19,701 Cr (face value) to smoothen India's liability profile as well as for market development. The transaction involved buying back securities maturing in FY 2022-23, FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25 from the RBI and issuing fresh securities for equivalent market value. The transactions were carried out using Financial Benchmarks India Pvt. Ltd. (FBIL) prices as on January 28, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gov did a conversion transaction of ₹1,19,701 Cr with the RBI to smoothen India's liability profile
- The transactions were carried out using – Financial Benchmarks India Pvt Ltd (FBIL) prices
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

6. On February 3, Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company Ltd tied up with CARS24 Financial Services Private Ltd to offer motor insurance services to buyers of used cars. Kotak Mahindra General Insurance is a 100% subsidiary of Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kotak Mahindra General Insurance + CARS24 Financial Services = partnership to offer motor insurance
- HQs of Kotak Mahindra General Insurance – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Suresh Agarwal

7. On February 3, Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) tied up with insurance aggregator Policybazaar.com for distribution of its products. This is LIC's first association with an insurance aggregator, and otherwise relies heavily on its large agency force of 1.33 million agents for distributing its products. Policybazaar.com, the flagship platform of PB Fintech, is the largest online insurance marketplace in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- LIC + Policybazaar.com = partnership for distribution of insurance products (LIC's first such association)
- HQs of LIC – Mumbai | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Founded in – 1956 | Tagline – “Yogakshemam Vahamyaham”
- HQs of Policybazaar – Gurgaon, Haryana | CEO – Sarbvir Singh

8. On February 3, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) cancelled the license of Independence Co-operative Bank Ltd in Maharashtra's Nashik city with effect from the February 03, 2022. The RBI cancelled the license of the bank as the bank does not have adequate capital and earning prospects & the bank failed to comply with the various Sections of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – cancelled the license of Independence Co-operative Bank Ltd (Nashik, Maharashtra)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

9. On February 4, Punjab National Bank (PNB) and Patanjali Ayurved Limited (PAL) launched co-branded contactless credit cards in partnership with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). The cards are offered on NPCI's RuPay Platform and are available in two variants - PNB RuPay Platinum and PNB RuPay Select. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PNB + Patanjali Ayurved Limited = launched co-branded contactless credit cards on NPCI's RuPay Platform
- HQs of PNB – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Atul Kumar Goel | Tagline – “The Name You Can Bank Upon”

10. On February 5, Karnataka Bank was awarded the Digital Transformation Award called “DX 2021 Awards”, in recognition of its transformation project ‘KBL VIKAAAS’, by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for Best Practice in Digital Transformation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka Bank – awarded the Digital Transformation Award called “DX 2021 Awards” – by CII
- HQs of Karnataka Bank – Mangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Mahabaleshwara M. S. | Chairman – Pradeep Kumar Panja

11. On February 4, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) signed an MoU with the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) to explore innovation and use of emerging technologies in the areas of Cyber Security, AI/ML, block chain, etc. and related training and capacity building aspects in the Banking Sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SIDBI + C-DAC = an MoU to explore innovation & use of emerging technologies in Cyber Security & Allied sectors
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | MD & Chairman – Sivasubramanian Ramann | Established in – 1990
- HQs of C-DAC – Pune, Maharashtra | Senior Director – Mahesh Kulkarni (functions under MeitY)

12. On February 4, According to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data, the overseas borrowings of Indian companies or India’s External Commercial Borrowings (ECBs) increased by 19% and reached \$23.28 billion in the first 3 quarters of the current fiscal FY2021-22. ECBs for the purpose of ‘on-lending/sub-lending’ in the first 9 months of FY22 stood at \$6.72 billion. Moreover, total credit growth (Banks and NBFCs) is likely to improve by 9-11% in fiscal 2023. Besides, minimum average maturity period for External Commercial Borrowing is 3 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India’s ECBs increased by 19% to reach \$23.28 billion in the first 3 quarters of FY2021-22
- ECBs for the purpose of ‘on-lending/sub-lending’ in the first 9 months of FY2021-22 – \$6.72 billion
- Minimum Average Maturity Period for ECBs – 3 years
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

13. According to the Economic Survey 2021-22, Delhi replaced Bengaluru as the startup capital of India. Over 5,000 recognised start-ups were added in Delhi while 4,514 start-ups were added in Bengaluru between April 2019 & December 2021. With a total of 11,308 start-ups, Maharashtra has the highest number of recognised startups. Also, India had a record number of start-ups (44) reach unicorn status. India overtook the UK to emerge as the 3rd highest country in number of unicorns after the US and China in 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi (5,000 start-ups) – replaced Bengaluru (4,514 start-ups) as the Startup Capital of India
- Maharashtra – highest number of recognised startups (11,308)
- India – overtook the UK to emerge as the 3rd highest country in number of unicorns in 2021 (after US & China)
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

14. On February 3, ICICI Bank bought additional stake in India International Clearing Corporation (IICC) for Rs 4.43 Cr. After investment, ICICI Bank’s shareholding increased from 7.61% to 9.90% of the equity share capital of IICC. IICC was incorporated at GIFT City, IFSC in Gandhinagar in Gujarat in September 2016. IICC is the 1st international clearing corporation set up at GIFT IFSC (International Financial Services Centre). It provides clearing and settlement risk management services. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- ICICI Bank – bought additional stake in IICC for Rs 4.43 Cr to increase shareholding from 7.61% to 9.90%
- IICC – 1st international clearing corporation set up at IFSC GIFT City
- HQs of ICICI Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – [Sandeep Bakhshi](#) | Taglines – “Hum Hain Na!” & “Khayal Apka”
- HQs of IFSCA – Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman – Injeti Srinivas

15. On February 8, Airtel Payments Bank partnered with ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company to offer a cyber-insurance which can be purchased from the Airtel Thanks app. The insurance from ICICI Lombard provides financial protection to customers against potential financial cyber frauds related to banking, credit or debit card. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Airtel Payments Bank + ICICI Lombard General Insurance = partnership to offer a cyber-insurance
- HQs of ICICI Lombard – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Bhargav Das Gupta
- HQs of APB – New Delhi | CEO – Anubrata Biswas | Founded in – 2017
- Airtel Payments Bank – first to receive a Payments Bank license from the RBI

16. On February 9, DBS Bank India partnered with Stellapps Digital Network, a leading dairy-tech startup, as its banking partner to promote digitisation amongst small dairies across India. The partnership is expected to indirectly benefit 20,000 farmers at present and around 100,000+ dairy farmers in the near future. As a partner to Stellapps, DBS will digitally help organise the highly fragmented dairy sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DBS Bank India + Stellapps = partnership to promote digitisation amongst small dairies across India
- HQs of DBS Bank India – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Surojit Shome
- HQs of DBS Bank – Singapore | CEO – Piyush Gupta
- Stellapps – IIT-Madras incubated dairy-tech startup | HQs of Stellapps – Bangalore, Karnataka

17. On February 8, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) extended the restrictions on Karnataka's Millath Co-Operative Bank by three months till May 7, 2022. Withdrawals were capped at ₹1,000 from any account. The directions include no new loans, new investments or taking on any new liabilities, including withdrawals capped at ₹1,000 from any account. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – extended the restrictions on Karnataka's Millath Co-Operative Bank by 3 months
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

18. On February 8, HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company launched “Cyber Sachet Insurance Policy” for individual customers to keep them internet insured. Customers can be internet insured with a pocket-sized insurance cover at a premium of less than ₹2 per day. The sum insured ranges from ₹10K to ₹5 Cr. According to the latest report by the National Crime Records Bureau, India recorded 50,035 cases of cyber-crime in 2020 i.e., an 11.8% surge in such offences over the previous year. This new digitally enabled policy provides protection against online fraud, email spoofing, phishing, identity theft, online shopping, and reputation restoration. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- HDFC ERGO General Insurance – launched “Cyber Sachet Insurance Policy” for customers
- HQs of HDFC ERGO General Insurance – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Ritesh Kumar

19. On February 7, RBL Bank partnered with Creditas Solutions, a global technology company, for its “Neo Collections” platform to offer its customers a convenient, seamless and a non-intrusive repayment experience. RBL Bank will utilise this SaaS-based (software as a service) platform to accelerate efficiency in collections across the loan cycle. ‘Neo Collections’ platform is powered by AI and ML technology. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBL Bank + Creditas Solutions = partnered for “Neo Collections” platform to accelerate efficiency in repayment of loans
- HQs of RBL Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Rajeev Ahuja (interim) | Chairman – Prakash Chandra

20. On February 9, State Bank of India (SBI) partnered with NSE Academy to launch five online courses. These courses are curated by SBI as a good blend of theory and operational aspects which will enable learners to have a deeper understanding of fundamentals of banking, compliance, lending norms and a host of other topics. Learners can enroll for these five courses on the ‘NSE Knowledge Hub’ platform. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI + NSE Academy = launched 5 online courses for learners to have a deeper understanding of banking
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MDs – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman
- HQs of NSE – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Girish Chandra Chaturvedi | MD & CEO – Vikram Limaye

21. On February 9, SEBI gave its approval to the BSE to launch trading in electronic gold receipts (EGR), paving the way for the BSE to launch spot bullion exchange. EGRs are similar to shares lying in demat accounts. The gold can be bought and stored in vaults until physical delivery is demanded. The Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX) will be BSE’s main rival in the space because trading in bullion futures, crude and metals are the core strength of MCX. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – gave its approval to the BSE to launch trading in **Electronic Gold Receipts (EGR)**
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

22. On February 10, Aditya Birla Health Insurance Co. Limited (ABHICL) signed a bancassurance agreement with Utkarsh Small Finance Bank for distribution of health insurance products through the bank’s network of branches across India. With this new partnership, Aditya Birla Health now has 12 bancassurance partners. Aditya Birla Health has 175 branches in India and has a diversified presence in 2,800 cities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Aditya Birla Health Insurance + Utkarsh SFB = bancassurance agreement
- HQs of ABHICL – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Mayank Bathwal
- HQs of Utkarsh Small Finance Bank – Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh | MD & CEO – Govind Singh



23. On February 9, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) launched an agroecology-based programme JIVA to promote natural farming under its existing watershed and wadi programmes in 11 states. NABARD will initially collaborate with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO), Australia, for simple soil water monitoring technology and ICAR for research support for scientific validation of natural farming practices. NABARD will invest Rs 50,000 per hectare under this programme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NABARD – launched an agroecology-based programme “JIVA” to promote natural farming
- NABARD – will collaborate with CSIRO, Australia & ICAR for this programme
- NABARD – will invest Rs 50,000 per hectare under this programme
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Govinda Rajulu Chintala | Founded in – 1982

24. On February 8, the RBI released its 6th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy of FY2021-22. The RBI kept key policy rates, including repo rate (4%) & reverse repo rates (3.35%), unchanged in its monetary policy. These policy rates have remained unchanged since May 2020. Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate or Bank Rate is also kept unchanged to 4.25%. The six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) was headed by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 6th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy of FY2021-22 – released by the RBI
- Repo rate – 4% | Reverse Repo Rate – 3.35% | Bank Rate or MSF – 4.25% | CRR – 4% | SLR – 18%
- Total members in the RBI's MPC = 6 (3 of RBI + 3 of GoI)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

25. On February 10, the investment limit under the Voluntary Retention Route (VRR) for foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) will be enhanced by Rs 1 lakh Cr from Rs 1.5 lakh Cr to Rs 2.50 lakh Cr, as announced by the RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das. The enhancement of VRR will be applicable from April 1, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- VRR cap for FPIs will be enhanced by Rs 1 lakh Cr – from Rs 1.5 lakh Cr to Rs 2.50 lakh Cr (from April 1, 2022)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

26. On February 10, the RBI proposed to increase the cap on e-RUPI vouchers from Rs 10,000 to Rs 1 lakh. The use of e-RUPI voucher multiple times has also been allowed. The e-RUPI prepaid digital voucher, developed by the NPCI and launched in August 2021, is a person-specific and purpose specific cashless voucher and can be used by individuals, corporates or governments. The RBI also enhanced the National Automated Clearing House (NACH) mandate limit from Rs 1 Cr to Rs 3 Cr to enhance the ease of financing in MSME through Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI proposed to increase the cap on e-RUPI vouchers from Rs 10,000 to Rs 1 lakh (e-RUPI vouchers developed by - NPCI)
- RBI enhanced the National Automated Clearing House (NACH) mandate limit from Rs 1 Cr to Rs 3 Cr
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

27. On February 10, the RBI proposed to extend the term-liquidity facility of Rs 50,000 Cr, which is offered to emergency health services, by 3 months till June 30, 2022 from March 31, 2022 as announced earlier. Under the scheme/facility, banks were expected to create a COVID-19 loan book. The central bank also extended the on-tap liquidity window for contact-intensive sectors up to June 30, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI proposed to extend Rs 50,000 Cr term-liquidity facility offered to emergency health services – till June 30, 2022
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

28. On February 10, Paisabazaar.com, a digital platform for consumer credit, tied up with RBL Bank to offer “Paisha on Demand” (PoD), a credit card. The credit card will be exclusively available on the Paisabazaar platform. In September 2021, Paisabazaar had launched a credit card called ‘Step UP’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Paisabazaar + RBL Bank = partnership to offer “Paisha on Demand” credit card
- HQs of RBL Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Rajeev Ahuja (interim) | Chairman – Prakash Chandra
- HQs of Paisabazaar – Gurugram, Haryana | CEO & Co-founder – Naveen Kukreja

29. On February 14, Bank of Baroda will acquire Union Bank of India’s 21% stake in IndiaFirst Life Insurance Company, which is a joint venture between Bank of Baroda, Union Bank of India and Carmel Point Investments. On conclusion of this stake sale process, the revised shareholding in IndiaFirst Life Insurance Company will be Bank of Baroda-65%, Carmel Point Investments India-26% and Union Bank of India-9%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BoB – to acquire UBI’s 21% stake in IndiaFirst Life Insurance Co. (a JV between BoB, UBI & Carmel Point Investments)
- Present shareholding in IndiaFirst Life Ins. Co. = BoB (65%) + Carmel Point Investments (26%) + UBI (9%)
- HQs of BOB – Vadodara, Gujarat | CEO – Sanjiv Chadha | Tagline – “India’s International Bank”
- HQs of UBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Rajkiran Rai G. | Tagline – “Good People to Bank With”

30. On February 11, HDFC ERGO General Insurance announced its partnership with Visa to offer first-of-its-kind insurance cover for Visa’s Platinum cardholders for select Public Sector banks. RBI has mandated banks to offer Zero Liability to cardholders for frauds reported. Through this association with Visa, HDFC ERGO aims to insure the risk of fraudulent transactions and enable the issuing banks to offer Zero Liability to their cardholders. The policy will offer all Visa Platinum Credit & Debit Cards of participating issuers with fraud insurance cover for an amount up to Rs 1 lakh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC ERGO General Insurance + Visa = partnership to offer first-of-its-kind cover for Visa’s Platinum cardholders
- The policy will offer fraud insurance cover – up to Rs 1 lakh
- HQs of HDFC ERGO General Insurance – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Ritesh Kumar
- HQs of Visa – Foster City, California | CEO – Alfred F. Kelly | Founded in – 1958

31. On February 14, Yes Bank launched an annual startup enabler program “Yes Bank Agri Infinity” to co-develop digital financial solutions for the food and agriculture ecosystem by mentoring entrepreneurial ventures in the sector. As a part of this program, early as well as growth-stage startups interested in exploring tech-enabled financial innovations in the Agri space are invited to apply. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Yes Bank – launched “Yes Bank Agri Infinity” to co-develop digital financial solutions for food & agriculture ecosystem
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar | Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”

32. On February 14, National Statistical Office (NSO), under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), released the “All India Consumer Price Index (CPI)”. The inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), rose to 6.01% in January on an annual basis, the highest in seven months, from a revised 5.66% in December and 4.06% in January 2021. As per the data, the inflation in the food basket was 5.43% in January 2022 as against 4.05% in December 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “All India Consumer Price Index (CPI)” – released by the NSO (MoSPI)
- The inflation on an annual basis in January 2022 rose to – 6.01% (the highest in 7 months)
- HQs of NSO – New Delhi | Chairperson – Bimal Kumar Roy
- NSO comes under – Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoS I/C – Rao Inderjit Singh)

33. On February 15, PayU announced its integration with BigCommerce, an Open SaaS e-commerce platform for fast-growing and established brands. As a result of this integration, PayU can now provide payment infrastructure & solutions to BigCommerce's small-to-medium-sized merchants in India. PayU is regulated under the RBI and developed LazyPay in 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PayU + BigCommerce (US) = integration to boost Small & Medium Business digitalization
- HQs of PayU Finance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Prashanth Ranganathan

34. On February 15, LKP Securities Ltd entered into an agreement with HDFC Bank to offer a special 3-in-1 online account. Under this facility, customers of LKP Securities Ltd can complete their bank account opening formalities and gain added benefits of broking and demat account. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- LKP Securities Ltd + HDFC Bank = an agreement to offer a special 3-in-1 online account
- HQs of LKP Securities Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD – Pratik Doshi
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”

35. On February 14, Delhi-based DMI Finance Private Limited (DMI) announced the launch of a digital personal loan product on Google Pay to make reliable credit accessible for pre-qualified users of Google Pay. The program will disburse up to Rs 1 lakh per loan, which would be repayable over 36 months. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DMI Finance – announced the launch of a digital personal loan product up to Rs 1 lakh on Google Pay
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998

36. On February 15, Karur Vysya Bank partnered with Chennai-based UNANU Technologies for digital freight finance to fund transport contractors using the end-to-end logistics technology platform. Using the module “U-Turbo - a marketplace”, one can on-board logistics companies and shippers to Freight Financing programme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karur Vysya Bank + UNANU Technologies = partnership for digital freight finance to fund transport contractors
- HQs of KVB – Karur, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – B. Ramesh Babu
- HQs of UNANU Technologies – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | Founder & CEO – Srini Sundar

37. In February 2022, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presented the paperless Union Budget in the Parliament for the financial year 2022-23. In this fiscal's Budget, capital investment of Rs 1,37,000 Cr has been allocated to the Ministry of Railways. She also announced that during the next 3 years, as many as 400 new generation semi-high speed 'Vande Bharat Express Trains' with better energy efficiency as well as better passenger riding experience will be developed and manufactured. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rs 1,37,000 Cr – allocated to the Ministry of Railways in the 'Union Budget 2022-23'
- 400 new generation semi-high speed 'Vande Bharat Express Trains' will be manufactured in the next 3 years

38. On February 11, the RBI announced a hike in the cap on e-Rupi vouchers from Rs 10,000 to Rs 1 lakh. The move, aimed at enhancing the delivery of government schemes, will also help companies offer a larger range of benefits to their employees through the vouchers. The e-RUPI prepaid digital voucher, developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), was launched in August 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI announced a hike in the cap on e-Rupi vouchers from Rs 10,000 to Rs 1 lakh
- e-RUPI prepaid digital voucher – developed by the NPCI (launched in Aug 2021)

39. On February 14, The CBI booked ABG Shipyard Ltd and its former CMD Rishi Kamlesh Agarwal along with others for allegedly cheating a consortium of banks led by State Bank of India for over Rs 22,842 Cr. The company was sanctioned credit facilities from 28 banks and financial institutions led by ICICI Bank with the SBI having exposure of Rs 2,468.51 Cr. It is the biggest bank fraud case registered by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). The company has been referred to NCLT, Ahmedabad, by ICICI Bank for Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CBI – booked ABG Shipyard Ltd & its former CMD for cheating a consortium of banks led by SBI for over Rs 22,842 Cr
- HQs of CBI – New Delhi | DG – Subodh Kumar Jaiswal | Motto – “Industry, Impartiality, Integrity”

40. On February 15, Aditya Birla Group invested an undisclosed amount in 'Zand' which is an upcoming digital bank in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Zand will be the first digital bank to provide both retail and corporate services. Olivier Crespín, who has an experience of over two decades, will be the Co-founder and Chief Executive of Zand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Aditya Birla Group – invested an undisclosed amount in 'Zand' which is an upcoming digital bank in UAE
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan
- HQs of Aditya Birla Group – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Kumar Mangalam Birla | CEO – Ajay Srinivasan

41. On February 15, Bank of Baroda signed an MoU with Assam Rifles to provide 'Central Forces Salary Package' to all personnel of the Assam Rifles, both serving and retired. Assam Rifles is India's oldest paramilitary force. The Bank will also provide special benefits, including Personal Accident Insurance, free unlimited transactions, free remittance services, free debit card and a co-branded credit card. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bank of Baroda + Assam Rifles = to provide 'Central Forces Salary Package' to all personnel of the Assam Rifles
- HQs of BOB – Vadodara, Gujarat | CEO – Sanjiv Chadha | Tagline – “India's International Bank”
- HQs of Assam Rifles – Shillong, Meghalaya | DG – Lt. Gen. Pradeep Chandran Nair
- Assam Rifles – popularly known as “Sentinels of the Northeast” (India's oldest Paramilitary Force)

42. On February 15, Edelweiss Asset Management launched mutual fund investing mobile application “EInvest”. The app will provide easy access to SIP investments, fund information for investors to weigh, understand and ascertain a good option of investment available to them. The app comes with Insta Money feature that is a mutual fund savings account with an instant withdrawal facility to the registered bank account. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Edelweiss Asset Management – launched mutual fund investing mobile application “EInvest”
- HQs of Edelweiss Asset Management – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Radhika Gupta

43. On February 15, Standard Chartered Bank, India launched 'Interest-Only Home Loan' facility for completed residential properties. Borrowers can pay only the interest amount via Equated Monthly Installments (EMI) for an initial period of up to 1 to 3 years. After this, the facility will be treated like a normal loan account where the EMIs comprise of both the principal and interest till the maturity of the loan. The facility is available for a loan amount ranging from Rs 35 lakh to Rs 3.5 Cr. The maximum tenure set for the loan is 30 years for salaried individuals and 25 years for self-employed individuals. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Standard Chartered Bank – launched 'Interest-Only Home Loan' facility for completed residential properties
- Borrowers can pay only the interest amount via EMIs for an initial period of up to 1 to 3 years
- HQs of SCB – London, UK | CEO – Bill Winters | Chairman – Dr Jose Vinals | CEO, Asia – Benjamin Hung

44. On February 16, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) extended the deadline for non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) to comply with new asset classification norms issued on November 12, 2021. Non-bank lenders will now be allowed to move to the new rules for recognising bad loans by September 30, 2022, as against March 31, 2022. Unlike banks, NBFCs follow the Ind-AS guidelines, under which delinquent loans are classified as gross stage-1 (loans overdue by up to 30 days), gross stage-2 (loans overdue between 31 and 89 days) and gross stage-3 (loans overdue for over 90 days). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – extended the deadline for NBFCs to comply with new asset classification norms till September 30, 2022
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

45. On February 16, Fisdor, a wealth-tech company, partnered with Bank of Maharashtra (BoM), to offer wealth management products and services to over 29 million customers of the bank. This will enable customers of the bank to invest into mutual funds through bank's 'Maha mobile app'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Fisdom + BoM = partnership to offer wealth management products & services
- HQs of Fisdom – Mumbai | Co-founder & CEO – Subramanya SV
- HQs of BoM – Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – A S Rajeev | Tagline – “One Family One Bank”

46. On February 15, IndusInd Bank was empanelled by the Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC) to facilitate digital collection and settlement services on National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) portal for the transactions between farmers and traders across India. Under this arrangement, the bank will offer an array of transaction services through digital modes including multi-net banking, debit card, NEFT, RTGS, IMPS and UPI to the buyer and seller of the agriculture produce. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IndusInd Bank – empanelled by the SFAC to facilitate digital collection and settlement services on ‘e-NAM’ portal
- HQs of IndusInd Bank – Pune, MH | MD & CEO – Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline – “We Make You Feel Richer”

47. On February 16, Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of Commerce Life Insurance launched its new insurance plan “Flexi Edge”, a non-linked participating individual savings life insurance plan that enables the customers with the ability to prioritize their long-term savings. The plan offers customers the flexibility to choose from three options depending on their individualistic requirements - Flexi Savings, Flexi Income & Flexi Care. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of Commerce Life Insurance – launched a new life insurance plan “Flexi Edge”
- 3 categories of “Flexi Edge” plan: Flexi Savings, Flexi Income & Flexi Care
- HQs of Canara HSBC OBC Life Ins. – Gurugram, Haryana | MD & EO – Anuj Mathur

48. On February 17, NITI Aayog partnered with PhonePe to host the first-ever “Open-to-all Hackathon” event for ideating and coming up with creative solutions for the FinTech space. The hackathon will provide an opportunity for innovators, digital creators and developers from all over India to think, ideate and code. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog + PhonePe = to host the first-ever “Open-to-all Hackathon” event
- HQs of PhonePe – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Sameer Nigam | Founded in – 2015
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

49. On February 17, Softbank-backed digital payments infrastructure provider JusPay launched a software stack called “OpenPPI” that helps Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs), such as digital wallets, implement and comply with RBI’s PPI interoperability rules. The rules are aimed at accelerating the migration of small and convenience payments from cash to PPI instruments and wallets. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- JusPay – launched a software stack “OpenPPI” that helps PPIs implement & comply with RBI’s PPI interoperability rules
- HQs of Juspay – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Vimal Kumar

50. On February 16, the RBI cancelled the licence of Mantha Urban Cooperative Bank and consequently as the bank does not have adequate capital and earning prospects. On liquidation, every depositor would be entitled to receive deposit insurance claim amount of his/her deposits up to a monetary ceiling of ₹5 lakh from Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – cancelled the licence of Mantha Urban Cooperative Bank ([Jalna, Maharashtra](#))
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

51. On February 13, LIC filed a Draft Red Herring Prospectus (DRHP) with SEBI for India's largest IPO to sell its 5% shares (31.6 Cr). Up to 10% of shares on offer will be reserved for policy holders and 5% for LIC employees. The conclusion of the LIC's share sale through an initial public offer (IPO) by March 31, is critical for the government to achieve its disinvestment target for this year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- LIC – filed a Draft Red Herring Prospectus (DRHP) with SEBI to sell its 5% shares (31.6 Cr)
- HQs of LIC – Mumbai | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Founded in – 1956 | Tagline – “Yogakshemam Vahamyaham”

52. On February 16, South Indian Bank secured 'Best Technology Bank of the Year' award and 5 other awards (total 6 out of 7) at the 17th annual IBA Banking Technology Awards. The bank was also named as winner in 'Best IT Risk Management and Cyber Security Initiatives' (Small Banks), winner in 'Best Fintech Collaboration' (Small Banks), joint winner in 'Best Use of AI/ML and Data Analytics' (Small Banks), Runner Up in 'Best Cloud Adoption' (Small Banks) and Joint Runner Up in 'Best Payments Initiatives' (among all private banks). This year's IBA Awards are given under the theme of “Next Gen Banking”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- South Indian Bank – secured 'Best Technology Bank of the Year' award at 17th annual IBA Banking Technology Awards
- HQs of South Indian Bank – Thrissur, Kerala | MD & CEO – Murali Ramakrishnan
- HQs of IBA – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Atul Kumar Goel | Established in – 1946

53. On February 16, BSE collaborated with four regional associations from Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu to promote Electronic Gold Receipts (EGR). The four associations are Thirunelveli Gold Silver Diamond Jewellery Traders Association, Nanded Sarafa Association, Saraf Suvarnkar Sangthna Pusad, and Ghadchiroli Zila Sarafa Association. These MoUs will help standardise EGRs for Indian markets at the regional level and enhance transparency in pricing. BSE had earlier received in-principle approval from SEBI to launch Electronic Gold Receipts (EGR). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BSE – collaborated with 4 regional associations from Maharashtra & Tamil Nadu to promote Electronic Gold Receipts
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992
- HQs of BSE – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Justice Vikramajit Sen | MD & CEO – Shri Ashishkumar Chauhan
- BSE – Asia's 1st Stock Exchange Company

54. On February 14, Sandeep Bakhshi, Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of ICICI Bank, won the “Business Standard Banker of the Year 2020-21”. The decision was taken by a high-profile jury of 5 members, chaired by former RBI deputy governor S. S. Mundra. The criteria used for selecting the contenders were the following: i) banks with an asset size of Rs 50,000 Cr and above as of March 2021 and ii) 10% or more growth in profits prior to provisioning in the past one, two and three-year periods. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sandeep Bakhshi (MD & CEO of ICICI Bank) – won the “Business Standard Banker of the Year 2020-21”
- HQs of ICICI Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sandeep Bakhshi | Taglines – “Hum Hain Na!” & “Khayal Apka”

55. On February 18, Nepal became the 1st country outside of India to adopt UPI as the payments platform. The international arm of NPCI, NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL) has joined hands with Gateway Payments Service (GPS) and Manam Infotech to provide the services in Nepal. Gateway Payments Service is the authorized payment system operator in Nepal and Manam Infotech will deploy UPI in Nepal. This step will help modernize Nepal’s digital payment infrastructure and bring the convenience of digital payments to citizens of Nepal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nepal – became the first country outside of India to adopt UPI as the payments platform
- NIPL + Gateway Payments Service + Manam Infotech = to provide the UPI payment services in Nepal
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD & CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008
- HQs of NIPL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Ritesh Shukla
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari | PM – Sher Bahadur Deuba

56. On February 18, State Bank of India (SBI), Bank of Baroda (BoB), Punjab National Bank (PNB), Union Bank of India (UBI), Canara Bank, and Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) announced subscription to the shares of India Debt Resolution Company Ltd (IDRCL). A National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd (NARCL) and an Asset Management Company (IDRCL) were set up to consolidate and take over the existing stressed debt in the banking/financial system. PSBs and public Financial Institutions (FIs) will hold a maximum of 49% stake in IDRCL and the rest will be with private sector lenders. PSBs will maintain 51% ownership in NARCL and the rest will be with private sector lenders. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI + BoB + PNB + UBI + Canara Bank + BoM = announced subscription to the shares of IDRCL
- PSBs & public FIs will maintain 51% ownership in NARCL & 49% in IDRCL
- MD of NARCL – Padmakumar M. Nair | Chairman – Pradip Shah | Lead Sponsor – Canara Bank (12% equity)
- CEO of IDRCL – Sanjay Jain | Chairman – Diwakar Gupta

57. On February 17, the largest bank of the US, JP Morgan became the first bank to launch itself in the metaverse. The bank named the lounge as ‘Onyx’, which is the bank’s suite of permissioned Ethereum-based services. Onyx features a digital image of the bank’s CEO Jamie Dimon. Users can create their virtual avatars, build virtual spaces and roam in the lounge. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- JP Morgan – became the first bank to launch itself in the metaverse & named the lounge as ‘Onyx’
- HQs of JP Morgan Chase – New York, US | CEO – Jamie Dimon

58. On February 20, Bank of Baroda’s (BoB) subsidiary BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL) and Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd (IRCTC) partnered to launch the “IRCTC BoB RuPay Contactless Credit Card”. The card offers a 1% transaction fee waiver for the customers on all their train ticket bookings. The card will also offer a 1% fuel surcharge waiver across all petrol pumps in the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BOB Financial Solutions + IRCTC = partnership to launch the “IRCTC BoB RuPay Contactless Credit Card”
- 1% transaction fee waiver on train ticket bookings | 1% fuel surcharge waiver across all petrol pumps
- HQs of BOB Financial Solutions – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Shailendra Singh
- HQs of IRCTC – New Delhi | Chairman & MD – Rajni Hasija (addi. Charge)

59. On February 22, ICICI Bank signed an agreement to acquire 9.49% stake in Verve Financial Services (VFSPL) for a cash investment of Rs 19.99 Cr. Since the acquisition of shareholding was below 10%, regulatory approval was not required.

[{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICICI Bank – to acquire 9.49% stake in Verve Financial Services (Chennai, TN)
- HQs of ICICI Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – [Sandeep Bakhshi](#) | Taglines – “Hum Hain Na!” & “Khayal Apka”

60. On February 17, BSE Ebix Insurance Broking, a joint venture of BSE and Ebix Fincorp Exchange Pte Ltd, signed an insurance broker agreement for the distribution of Life Insurance Corporation’s (LIC) products on its platform. This partnership aims at offering customer centric solutions backed by technological innovations and best in class services.

[{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BSE Ebix Insurance Broking – signed an insurance broker agreement for the distribution of LIC’s products on its platform
- HQs of LIC – Mumbai | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Founded in – 1956 | Tagline – “YogakshemamVahamyaham”

61. On February 17, Kotak Mahindra Bank tied up with Ezetap to provide integrated Point of Sale (PoS) solutions across 4,000 locations in India. The initiative will strengthen the bank’s presence in the digital payments market space and enable it to scale up its PoS product base across merchant segments, including retail enterprises and government customers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kotak Mahindra Bank + Ezetap = to provide integrated Point of Sale (PoS) solutions across 4,000 locations in India
- HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Uday Kotak | Tagline – “Let’s make money simple”
- HQs of Ezetap – Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO – **Byas Nambisan**

62. On February 22, As an extension of its flagship campaign ‘Team Cashless India’, Mastercard partnered with SBI Payments to boost digital payments acceptance infrastructure in Guwahati, Lucknow and Varanasi. Mastercard Team Cashless India volunteers partnered with the Auto Rickshaw Association in Lucknow, All Assam’s Restaurant Association (AARA) in Guwahati, local shopkeepers, and Boat Union in Varanasi to bolster the digital payments infrastructure in their respective cities. The ‘Team Cashless India’ campaign is part of Mastercard’s worldwide commitment to bring 1 billion people and 50 million micro-businesses into the digital economy by 2025. This campaign was launched in 2019. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Mastercard + SBI Payments = to boost digital payments acceptance infrastructure in Guwahati, Lucknow & Varanasi
- 'Team Cashless India' – campaign of Mastercard to bring people & micro-businesses into digital economy by 2025
- HQs of Mastercard – New York, US | CEO – Michael Miebach | Founded in – 1966
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MDs – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

63. On February 22, Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL) became an official acquiring partner for e-RUPI vouchers to make it accessible at offline stores across the country. This will benefit beneficiaries (users), even those who do not have access to formal banking services or smartphones to avail the convenience of digital payments. The RBI had recently increased the cap of e-RUPI vouchers issued by the government to ₹1 lakh per year from ₹10,000. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Paytm Payments Bank – became an official acquiring partner for 'e-RUPI vouchers'
- RBI increased the cap of e-RUPI vouchers to ₹1 lakh per year (from ₹10,000)
- HQs of PPBL – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | MD & CEO – Satish Kumar Gupta

64. On February 23, Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot presented a separate Agriculture budget for the first time in State while presenting the budget for 2022-23. Budget of 'Mukhyamantri Krishak Sathi Yojana' will increase from Rs 2000 Cr to Rs 5000 Cr. Rs 600 Cr announced for organic farming mission and Rs 200 Cr for micro-irrigation mission. Moreover, Cooperative crop loans of Rs 20,000 Cr will be distributed. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajasthan CM – presented a separate Agriculture budget for the first time in State
- Budget of 'Mukhyamantri Krishak Sathi Yojana' of Rajasthan – increased to Rs 5000 Cr (from Rs 2000 Cr)
- Organic Farming Mission – Rs 600 Cr | Micro-Irrigation Mission – Rs 200 Cr | Cooperative Crop Loans – Rs 20,000 Cr
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

65. On February 24, Standard Chartered Bank (SCB) in partnership with the International Air Transport Association (IATA) launched "IATA Pay" in India. IATA Pay will be a new payment option that enables participating airlines to offer instant payment options such as UPI Scan & Pay and UPI Collect (Request to Pay). IATA Pay in India is powered by Standard Chartered's 'Straight2Bank Pay' platform. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SCB + IATA = partnership to launch "IATA Pay" in India to enable instant airline payment
- HQs of SCB – London, UK | CEO – Bill Winters | Chairman – Dr Jose Vinals | CEO, Asia – Benjamin Hung
- HQs of IATA – Montreal, Canada | DG – Willie Walsh

66. On February 24, the RBI asked certain class of Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFC) to mandatorily implement 'Core Financial Services Solution (CFSS)' by September 30, 2025 in order to provide seamless customer interface as well as have a centralised data base. NBFCs - Middle Layer and NBFCs - Upper Layer with 10 and more 'fixed point service delivery units' as on October 1, 2022 shall be mandatorily required to implement CFSS. However, NBFC - Upper Layer shall ensure that the CFSS is implemented at least in 70% of 'Fixed point service delivery units' on or before September 30, 2024. Implementation of CFSS is not mandatory in the case of NBFC - Base Layer and NBFC - Middle and Upper Layers with fewer than 10 'Fixed point service delivery units'. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- RBI asked certain class of NBFC to mandatorily implement 'Core Financial Services Solution (CFSS)' by Sep 30, 2025
- NBFCs - Middle Layer & NBFCs - Upper Layer with 10 & more 'fixed point service delivery units' as on Oct 1, 2022 shall be mandatorily required to implement CFSS
- NBFC - Upper Layer shall ensure that the CFSS is implemented at least in 70% of 'fixed point service delivery units' on or before Sep 30, 2024
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

67. On February 23, EaseMyTrip, an online travel platform, partnered with Toffee Insurance, an insurtech company, to provide innovative and tailored travel insurance solutions to its customers. Toffee Insurance will manage all travel insurance products for added value and provide extra protection to customers of EaseMyTrip cancelling flight bookings due to medical emergencies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- EaseMyTrip + Toffee Insurance = partnership to provide innovative & tailored travel insurance solutions
- HQs of EaseMyTrip – New Delhi | CEO – Nishant Pitti
- HQs of Toffee Insurance – Gurgaon, Haryana | CEO & Co-Founder – Rohan Kumar

68. For the period of one year, the State Bank of India (SBI), Hyderabad circle adopted 15 tigers at Nehru Zoological Park. SBI is playing a vital role in wildlife conservation and as part of this, 15 tigers are being adopted by SBI every year since 2011 at Nehru Zoological Park. The bank presented a cheque of Rs 15 lakh towards the adoption charges to Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden, Telangana. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI (Hyderabad circle) – adopted 15 tigers at Nehru Zoological Park (Hyderabad, Telangana)
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MDs – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

69. On February 23, South Indian Bank introduced two new services to enhance both “remittances to” and “remittances from” abroad. The bank enabled online outward remittances through Net Banking and inward remittances through NPCI’s UPI mode. Under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS), RBI permits resident individuals to remit up to \$2,50,000 or equivalent in other currencies in a financial year for permissible purposes. Resident Indian customers can now initiate Online Foreign Outward Remittances through ‘SiberNet’ in more than 100 currencies across the globe. The bank has further rolled out a new service feature in its ‘SIB Express’ Inward Remittance service. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- South Indian Bank – introduced ‘SiberNet’ to initiate Online Foreign Outward Remittances using Net Banking
- South Indian Bank – introduced ‘SIB Express’ to initiate Inward Remittance using NPCI’s UPI mode
- HQs of South Indian Bank – Thrissur, Kerala | MD & CEO – Murali Ramakrishnan

70. On February 23, the fintech arm of MakeMyTrip, TripMoney joined hands with SBM Bank India to launch a rupee-denominated secure credit card, TripMoney Global Card. Unlike other credit cards which require credit history, this secured credit card requires customers to load money in INR as security and also track balances in INR. The TripMoney Global card, powered by Visa, can be used across 150+ countries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- TripMoney+ SBM Bank India = launched “TripMoney Global Card” - a rupee-denominated credit card powered by Visa
- HQs of SBM Bank India – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Sidharth Rath
- SBM Bank India – the 1st foreign bank in India to obtain a banking license from the RBI

71. HDFC Bank partnered with Indore Clean Energy Private Limited (ICEPL) for the development of 550 tonnes/day of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) to Compressed Biogas (CBG) plant. This is the largest waste to energy project funded by HDFC Bank under its ESG commitments. This plant will be the largest Bio-CNG plant in Asia and it will treat 50% of municipal waste generated in Indore City and convert to 100% green products. Indore Clean Energy Pvt Ltd (ICEPL) is promoted by Green Growth Equity Fund (GGEF), which is the largest climate impact fund in India with anchor investors like NIIF & Government of UK. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Bank + ICEPL = to fund the development of the largest Bio-CNG plant in Asia
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”

72. On February 25, the RBI cancelled the certificate of registration issued to Delhi-based PC Financial Services Private Limited, which carries out lending operations through an app called ‘Cashbean’. This is the first instance of regulatory action against an entity in the wake of a surge in complaints against usurious and unfair recovery practices being followed by several digital lenders. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI cancelled the certificate of registration issued to PC Financial Services Pvt Ltd (Gurgaon, Haryana)
- PC Financial Services carries out lending operations through an app called ‘Cashbean’
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

73. In February 2022, South Indian Bank (SIB) partnered with Star Health and Allied Insurance as a corporate agent to provide a slew of innovative health insurance products for the Bank’s more than 6.5 million customers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SIB + Star Health & Allied Insurance = partnership to provide a slew of innovative Health Insurance products
- HQs of South Indian Bank – Thrissur, Kerala | MD & CEO – Murali Ramakrishnan
- HQs of Star Health Insurance – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | Chairman & CEO – Venkatasamy Jagannathan
- Star Health & Allied Insurance – India’s 1st Health Insurance provider

74. On February 23, Ideal Finance, a subsidiary of Mahindra and Mahindra Financial Services announced the rebranding of its company name to Mahindra Ideal Finance Limited (MIFL). This company is a joint venture of Mahindra Finance and Ideal Group. Ideal Finance provides financial services products to the Sri Lankan customers. The vision of this company is to make Mahindra Ideal Finance one of the leading licensed finance companies (LFC) in Sri Lanka. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ideal Finance – announced the rebranding of its company name to Mahindra Ideal Finance Limited (MIFL)
- Ideal Finance – joint venture of Mahindra Finance and Ideal Group, Serves Sri Lankan customers
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan Rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa

75. On February 24, NHPC Ltd signed a pact with HDFC bank to securitise return on equity of its 540-MW Chamera-I Power Plant in Himachal Pradesh for 10 years. The amount of the securitisation facility has been arrived Rs 1,016.39 Cr or 5.24% per annum discounting rate linked with three-month T-bills. In December 2021, NHPC's board had approved the proposal for monetisation by securitisation through bidding process of return on equity (RoE) of Chamera-1 Power Station (3 X 180 MW), Himachal Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NHPC + HDFC bank = to securitise return on equity of its 540-MW Chamera-I Power Plant in Himachal Pradesh for 10 yrs
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh | Founded in – 1975

76. On February 24, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) extended the deadline for implementation of client level segregation of funds and monitoring of collateral at stock brokers to May 2, 2022. The previous deadline was February 28. According to the new SEBI norms, brokers will have to segregate client funds in different segments like cash, futures and options, currency, and commodities and upload the details to clearing corporations. Until now, reporting and calculation of margin at brokers were happening at an aggregated level. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – extended deadline for implementation of client level segregation of funds & monitoring of collateral at stock brokers to May 2, 2022
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

77. On February 25, New Development Bank (NDB) became the 1st multilateral agency to open an office in the Gujarat International Finance Tech City (GIFT). The Indian office will help identify suitable projects and try to create a pipeline of potential financing for the bank. India is one of the largest loan portfolio of the bank with 19 approved projects worth of approximately \$7 billion which is roughly a quarter of the bank's total loan portfolio. NDB was set up by the BRICS countries in 2014. It became operational in 2015. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NDB – became the 1st multilateral agency to open an office in the GIFT city
- HQs of NDB – Shanghai, China | President – Marcos Prado Troyjo (established by BRICS Countries - in 2014)

78. On February 28, India's economy (GDP) expanded by 5.4% during the 3rd quarter (Q3FY22), as per the Quarterly Estimates of GDP for the 3rd quarter (October-December) of FY2021-22. The growth in GDP during 2021-22 is estimated at 8.9% as compared to a contraction of 6.6% in 2020-21, as per the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) in its Second Advance Estimates (SAE) of National Income. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Second Advance Estimates of National Income & Quarterly Estimates of GDP for Q3 – released by NSO
- India's GDP grew at 5.4% during the Q3FY22 (Oct-Dec)
- GDP growth during 2021-22 is estimated at 8.9%
- NSO comes under – Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoS I/C – Rao Inderjit Singh)
- HQs of NSO – New Delhi | Chairperson – Bimal Kumar Roy

79. Japan and India renewed the Bilateral Swap Arrangement (BSA) of up to \$75 billion with effect from February 28, 2022. BSA is a two-way arrangement where both authorities can swap their local currencies in exchange for the US Dollar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Japan + India = renewed the Bilateral Swap Arrangement (BSA) of up to \$75 billion
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Fumio Kishida

80. On February 22, the bank Reserve of India cautioned public against car-pooling app “sRide Tech Private Limited” because the firm was operating a semi-closed pre-paid instrument without authorization from the central bank under the provisions of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – cautioned public against car-pooling app “sRide Tech” as it was operating without authorization from RBI
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

81. On February 27, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) proposed to assess the impact of the multi-media awareness campaigns launched by it to promote financial literacy and also safe banking practices. RBI invited the request for proposal (RFP) from certain shortlisted entities for the same. The RBI runs the ‘RBI Kehta Hai’ campaign to educate and empower the public about banking regulations, and also to make them aware of good and safe banking practices. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – proposed to assess impact of its financial literacy campaigns
- RBI runs the ‘RBI Kehta Hai’ campaign to educate the public about banking regulations & safe banking practices
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

82. On February 25, as the Russia-Ukraine conflict intensifies, the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC) changed the insurance cover category for Russia from ‘Open Cover’ to ‘Restricted Cover Category – I’ (RCC-I), under which revolving limits (normally valid for a year) are approved specifically on a case-to-case basis. The ECGC also clarified that the coverage on export transactions to Moscow has not been withdrawn. In FY21, India’s exports to Russia stood at \$2.6 billion, while imports stood at \$5.5 billion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ECGC changed the insurance cover category for Russia from ‘Open Cover’ to ‘Restricted Cover Category - I’
- HQs of ECGC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman & MD – M. Senthilnathan
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

Defence Affairs

1. On February 14, Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) received an order from Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) to supply Compact Heat Exchanger sets for 83 LCA Tejas MK1A aircrafts. The order envisages manufacturing, assembly, testing and supply of compact heat exchangers to be fitted in the light combat aircraft, Tejas, being manufactured by HAL. The BHEL's Heavy Plates and Vessels Plant (HPVP), Visakhapatnam is the sole supplier of heat exchangers for LCA Tejas to HAL since 1996. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BHEL – received an order from HAL to supply Compact Heat Exchanger sets for 83 'LCA Tejas MK1A' aircrafts
- BHEL's Heavy Plates & Vessels Plant (HPVP) – located in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- HQs of BHEL – New Delhi | Chairman & MD – Nalin Shinghal

2. Indian Army conducted its first-ever hackathon named "Sainya Ranakshetram" over three months. Over 15,000 civilians, including college students, took part in the hackathon conducted online by the Military College of Telecommunication Engineering at Mhow (officially Dr. Ambedkar Nagar in Madhya Pradesh), under the aegis of the Shimla-based Army Training Command (ATC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Army – conducted its first-ever hackathon named "Sainya Ranakshetram" over 3 months
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande

3. On February 18, India successfully test-fired a naval variant of the advanced "BrahMos Supersonic Cruise Missile" from Indian Navy's warship INS Visakhapatnam which is the latest warship of the Indian Navy inducted recently. BrahMos missile flies at a speed of 2.8 Mach or almost three times the speed of sound. BrahMos missiles are designed & developed by BrahMos Aerospace, a joint venture company set up by the DRDO & Mashinostroyeniya of Russia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – successfully test-fired a naval variant of "BrahMos Supersonic Cruise Missile" from INS Visakhapatnam
- BrahMos missiles – developed by BrahMos Aerospace - a JV between DRDO (India) & Mashinostroyeniya (Russia)
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in – 1958
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

4. On February 15, Telangana Governor flagged off the first-ever all-women Army officers' offshore sailing expedition, under the aegis of the Army Adventure Wing Southern Command Sailing Node and the EME Sailing Association, in Chennai. The expedition route is from Chennai to Visakhapatnam and back. Major Mukta S. Gautam from the Corps of EME is leading the momentous expedition. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Telangana – flagged off the first-ever all-women Army officers' offshore sailing expedition in Chennai
- Expedition headed by – Major Mukta S. Gautam | Route – Chennai to Visakhapatnam
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande

5. The Air Forces of Bangladesh and the US conducted a 6-day bilateral tactical airlift exercise “Cope South 22” between Feb 20-25 at Dhaka. The aim of the exercise is to improve interoperability with the Bangladesh air force and to support the armed forces of Bangladesh’s long-term modernization efforts in order to maintain regional stability. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bangladesh + US = conducted a 6-day bilateral tactical airlift exercise “Cope South 22”
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

6. On February 2, the marine version of the French-made Rafale fighter jet named “Rafale-M” (Rafale-Marine) was successfully flight-tested at a shore-based facility at INS Hansa in Goa. It is manufactured by France-based Dassault Aviation. Boeing's Super Hornet or F/A-18 jet, which is also being offered to India, is expected to undergo similar tests at INS Hansa in March 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Rafale-M” (Rafale-Marine) was successfully flight-tested – at INS Hansa in Goa (Manufacturer – Dassault Aviation)
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – P. S. Sreedharan Pillai

7. On February 3, Bharat Dynamics Ltd (BDL) signed a contract worth Rs 3,131.82 Cr with Indian Army for manufacturing and supplying “Konkurs-M” anti-tank guided missiles. Konkurs - M is a Second Generation, mechanized infantry Anti-Tank Guided Missile, to destroy armored vehicles equipped with Explosive Reactive Armour. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BDL + Indian Army = a contract worth Rs 3,131.82 Cr to manufacture & supply “Konkurs-M” anti-tank guided missiles
- HQs of BDL – Hyderabad, Telangana | CMD – Siddharth Mishra | Founded in – 1970
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande

8. On February 2, Indian Navy commenced brand-new submarine named “Vagir” (Yard 11879) for its 1st sea trial. It is 5th of 6 Scorpene class submarines that are based on the French-designed Scorpene-class of submarines as part of the Indian Navy’s Project-75. It will now undergo extensive system, machinery, and weapons trials at sea before it is commissioned, scheduled for later this year. It is constructed by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) in collaboration with the Naval Group of France. Two submarines of the Project-75 - Kalvari and Khanderi - have been commissioned into the Indian Navy. The 3rd submarine, Karanj, is in the last phase of sea trials. The 4th Scorpene, Vela, has started sea trials, while the 6th and last submarine, Vagsheer, is being readied. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Navy commenced Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders built “Vagir” - 5th Kalvari-class submarine for its 1st sea trial
- These 6 submarines are being commissioned under the Indian Navy’s Project-75: 1st – Kalvari | 2nd – Khanderi | 3rd – Karanj | 4th – Vela | 5th – Vagir | 6th – Vagsheer
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Jean Castex

9. On February 21, Israel successfully tested a new naval air defense system called “C-Dome system” which is a naval version of the Iron Dome. C-Dome was tested for the first time from Saar-6 Corvette ‘INS Magen’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Israel – successfully tested a new naval air defense system called “C-Dome system”
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Isaac Herzog | PM – Naftali Bennett

10. India Navy had signed a \$2.2 billion deal for ‘MH-60R’ helicopters built by Lockheed Martin during the visit of then U.S. President Donald Trump in February 2020. The first batch of three ‘MH-60R Multi-Role Helicopters’ is scheduled to arrive in India by mid-July. Deliveries are expected to be completed by 2025. The ‘MH-60Rs’ are a replacement of the ‘Sea King 42/42A’ helicopters. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India Navy – will receive the first batch of 3 ‘MH-60R Multi-Role Helicopters’ by mid-July 2022
- ‘MH-60R’ Helicopters are manufactured by – Lockheed Martin
- HQs of Lockheed Martin – Maryland, USA | CEO – Jim Taiclet | Founded in – 1995
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950

11. On February 21, the Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Royal Air Force of Oman conducted the 6th edition of “Eastern Bridge”, a 5-day bilateral exercise at the Jodhpur air force station in Rajasthan. While exercise “Eastern Bridge V” was held in October 2019 at the Air Force Base Masirah, Oman. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Eastern Bridge-VI” exercise was held between IAF & Royal Air Force of Oman – at Jodhpur Air Force Station, Rajasthan
- Oman – Muscat – Rial | Sultan – Haitham bin Tariq Al Said

12. On February 24, Defence Accounts Department (DAD) of Ministry of Defence signed an MoU with CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd to onboard pension services under the ‘SPARSH’ (System for Pension Administration (Raksha)) initiative across more than 4 lakh Common Service Centres (CSCs) across India. SPARSH is an initiative of Ministry of Defence. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Defence Accounts Dept + CSC = an MoU onboard pension services under the ‘SPARSH’
- ‘SPARSH’ – an initiative of Ministry of Defence
- Controller of Defence Accounts (CDA) Pensions – Sham Dev
- HQs of CSC – New Delhi | Chairman – Ajay Prakash Sawhney | MD – Dinesh Kumar Tyagi (set up by MeitY)

13. On February 24, the US-based Boeing delivered the 12th ‘P-8I’ maritime patrol aircraft to the Indian Navy. This is the 4th of four additional aircraft delivered under the options contract signed by the Ministry of Defence in 2016. The P-8I aircraft is a variant of the ‘P-8A Poseidon’ aircraft that Boeing developed as a replacement for the US Navy's ageing P-3 fleet. Indian Navy became the first international customer for the P-8 aircraft. The first aircraft arrived in India on May 15, 2013. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Boeing (Chicago, US) – delivered the 12th ‘P-8I’ maritime patrol aircraft to Indian Navy (a variant of ‘P-8A Poseidon’)
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950



14. On February 22, Chief of the Army Staff General Manoj Mukund Naravane presented the “President’s Colours” to four units of the Parachute Regiment. The four battalions are - 11 and 21 Para (Special Forces) battalions along with the 23 and 29 Para units. The Parachute Regiment is an elite regiment of the Indian Army that holds an enviable record in pre and post-independence operations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- General Manoj Mukund Naravane – presented the “President’s Colours” to four units of the Parachute Regiment
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande

15. On February 28, Ministry of Defence signed a Rs 1,075 Cr contract with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) for the retro-modification of Commander Sight of Battle Tanks-T90 for the Indian Army. The retro-modification will be carried out in 957 tanks. The successful indigenous development of Thermal Imager-based Commander Sight, jointly by IRDE, DRDO and BEL, provides a further boost to the ‘Make in India’ initiative of the Government of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoD + BEL = Rs 1,075 Cr contract for the retro-modification of Commander Sight of Battle Tanks ‘T90’ for Indian Army
- HQs of BEL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CMD – Venkateswara Gowtama Mannava

16. On February 26, India decided not to participate in the “Cobra Warriors Exercise 2022” in Britain amid the ongoing bloody war between Russia and Ukraine. The indigenous fighter jet, LCA Tejas was going to take part in the Cobra Warrior Exercise for the first time outside the country. This exercise was to be held from March 6 to March 27. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IAF decided not to participate in the “Cobra Warriors Exercise 2022” – to be held in Waddington, UK (in March)
- Light Combat Aircraft “Tejas” was going to participate in the exercise
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari | Vice Chief – Air Marshal Sandeep Singh
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

17. The 11th edition of biennial multilateral naval exercise “MILAN 22” was hosted by the Eastern Naval Command (ENC) at Vishakhapatnam for the 1st time. The harbour phase of the exercise culminated on 28 February, followed by the sea phase from 1 March to 4 March. The goals of MILAN are aligned with ‘SAGAR’ (Security and Growth for All in the Region). MILAN endeavours to promote “Camaraderie, Cohesion, Collaboration” between like-minded Navies. Also, a MILAN village was set up at the Tarang Naval Institute. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ENC hosted biennial multilateral naval exercise “MILAN 22” at Vishakhapatnam for the 1st time
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950
- HQs of Eastern Fleet – Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh | FOCEF – Sanjay Bhalla

18. Indian and Japanese armies participated in “Dharma Guardian” annual exercise in Belgaum, Karnataka from February 27 to March 10. The 15th battalion of the Maratha Light Infantry regiment participated for India, and for Japan, the 30th Infantry Regiment of Japanese Ground Self Defence Forces (JGSDF) participated. The exercise is being conducted annually since 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Japan = participated in “Dharma Guardian” annual exercise in Belgaum, Karnataka from Feb 27 to March 10
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Fumio Kishida

19. On February 4, India offered a one-year training programme for 80 Afghan cadets following completion of their courses in various Indian military academies. They will be given training under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme (ITEC) of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – to provide training to 80 Afghan cadets under the ‘ITEC Programme’ of Ministry of External Affairs
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande
- Ministry of External Affairs: S. Jaishankar | Constituency – Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of External Affairs: Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, V. Muraleedharan & Meenakashi Lekhi

20. Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), under the Ministry of Ports, Ships and Waterways, successfully delivered the second lot of 3 Floating Border Out-Post (FBOPs) vessels to the Border Security Force (BSF). In March 2019, Ministry of Home Affairs had placed orders to CSL for design, construction and supply of 9 FBOPs for the BSF. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CSL – successfully delivered the second lot of 3 Floating Border Out-Post (FBOPs) vessels to the BSF
- HQs of Cochin Shipyard – Kochi, Kerala | Chairman & MD – Madhu S. Nair
- HQs of BSF – New Delhi | DG – Pankaj Kumar Singh | Established on – Dec 1, 1965 | Motto – “Duty Unto Death”
- BSF – functions under Ministry of Home Affairs

21. On February 7, NATO conducted the “Winter Camp” military exercise in northeast Estonia. The aim of this exercise is to prove the ability to work in the most demanding conditions soldiers can face. This exercise included British, Estonian and French troops. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NATO – conducted the “Winter Camp” military exercise in Estonia
- HQs of NATO – Brussels, Belgium | Secretary General – Jens Stoltenberg | Member Countries – 30
- Estonia – Tallinn – Euro | President – Alar Karis | PM – Kaja Kallas

22. On February 9, Goa Shipyard Ltd delivered the 5th and final vessel of the 5 Coast Guard Offshore Patrol Vehicle under Make in India Initiative. The vessel has been named ICGS ‘Saksham’. These Indian Coast Guard vessels will be equipped with modern and advanced machinery and computerised controls systems. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Goa Shipyard Ltd – delivered the 5th and final Coast Guard Offshore Patrol Vehicle named ICGS ‘Saksham’
- HQs of Goa Shipyard – Vasco da Gama, Goa | CMD – Bharat Bhushan Nagpal

Schemes & Initiatives

1. On February 12, Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment Dr. Virendra Kumar launched the Central Sector scheme “SMILE: Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise”. This umbrella scheme will provide welfare and rehabilitation to the Transgender community and the people engaged in the act of begging. There are two sub-schemes of SMILE - ‘Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation for Welfare of Transgender Persons’ and ‘Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation of engaged in the act of Begging’. The Ministry allocated Rs 365 Cr for the scheme from 2021-22 to 2025-26. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Union Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment – launched the scheme “SMILE” & its 2 sub-schemes
- SMILE — Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise | Allocation – Rs 365 Cr
- Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Virendra Kumar | Constituency – Sagar, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Ramdas Athawale

2. On February 13, Ministry of Home Affairs approved the continuation of Modernisation of Police Forces (MPF) scheme for the period from 2021-22 to 2025-26 with a financial outlay of ₹26,275 Cr. This scheme comprises all relevant sub-schemes that contribute to the modernisation and improvement of Police Forces. ₹4,846 Cr will be given for the modernisation of State police forces. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Home Affairs – approved MPF scheme for 5 years up to 2025-26 with outlay of ₹26,275 Cr
- Ministry of Home Affairs: Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Home Affairs: Nityanand Rai, Ajay Kumar & Nisith Pramanik

3. On February 15, Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh launched a new scheme “Kunsnyoms” for differently-abled persons in the district. Kunsnyoms, meant Equal for All, Fair for All, aims inclusive and accessible Ladakh. Under the new scheme, Leh Hill council is providing assistive devices, technologies to needy people at 90% subsidy. Kunsnyoms means ‘Equal for All, Fair for All’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh – launched “Kunsnyoms” scheme for differently-abled persons
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur

4. On February 16, Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced a slew of welfare schemes for Dalits, including one related to self-employment, on the occasion of birth anniversary of Guru Ravidas. To provide self-employment opportunities, the CM announced the launch of “Sant Ravidas Swarozgar Yojana”, under which loans up to Rs 25 lakh will be made available. The state government also started the “Chief Minister’s Scheduled Caste Special Project”, under which a grant of up to Rs 2 Cr will be given to SC youths for self-employment, skill up-gradation & innovation. Moreover, the MP government also launched the “Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Economic Welfare Scheme”, under which loans up to Rs 1 lakh will be provided for purchasing low-cost equipment. Further, the Madhya Pradesh government will expand the reach of the “Deendayal Antyodaya Rasoi Yojana” to ensure that no one goes hungry. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madhya Pradesh announced a slew of welfare schemes for Dalits on the occasion of birth anniversary of 'Guru Ravidas':
 - "Sant Ravidas Swarozgar Yojana"
 - "Chief Minister's Scheduled Caste Special Project"
 - "Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Economic Welfare Scheme"
 - "Deendayal Antyodaya Rasoi Yojana" (expanded the reach)
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

5. On February 11, Rajasthan has the maximum solar electrified households under the Saubhagya scheme. As many as 1,23,682 households were electrified under this scheme in Rajasthan, followed by Chhattisgarh & Uttar Pradesh. 'Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana' or 'Saubhagya' scheme was launched in October 2017 with the aim to achieve universal household electrification by providing last mile grid connectivity and electricity connections to all households in urban areas across India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajasthan – topped with maximum electrified households under "Saubhagya" scheme
- "Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana" or "Saubhagya" scheme – launched in October, 2017
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

6. On February 16, the Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the capacity development (CD) scheme till March 2026 or further review, whichever is earlier. The capacity development scheme is an ongoing central sector scheme of MoSPI (Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation). The outlay approved for the continuation of the scheme during 15th Finance Commission cycle is ₹3,179 Cr. The scheme comprises capacity development (Main) scheme and two sub schemes viz. Support for Statistical Strengthening (SSS) and Economic Census (EC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved to continue "Capacity Development (CD) scheme" till March 2026 with outlay of ₹3,179 Cr
- 'CD scheme' – belongs to Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation

7. On February 16, At the 58th meeting of Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee (CSMC), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) approved project proposals for over 60,000 houses across 5 states - Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and Rajasthan under the "Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban)". The total number of sanctioned houses under PMAY(U) now stand at 114.04 lakh. The total investment under the mission stands at Rs 7.52 lakh Cr, with central assistance of Rs 1.87 lakh Cr. Under the PMAY(U), the target is to build 2 Cr affordable houses by 31 March 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoHUA approved project proposals for over 60,000 houses across 5 states under 'PMAY(U)'
- Total number of sanctioned houses under PMAY(U) – 114.04 lakh (as on Feb 16, 2022)
- Target: To build 2 Cr affordable houses under 'PMAY(U)' by 31 March, 2022 | Launch year – 2015

8. The World Pangolin Day is celebrated on the third Saturday of February (February 19, 2022) for raising awareness on their importance and plight. It's high time to create awareness on saving pangolins from extinction. All eight species of pangolin are listed on the IUCN's red list of threatened species as Endangered Species.

Key Points:

- February 19 – “World Pangolin Day” (3rd Saturday of February)

9. On February 17, Secretary in MoHUA, Manoj Joshi chaired the “Labharthiyon Se Rubaroo”, an initiative of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA). ‘Labarthiyon Se Rubaroo’ was planned as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. The initiative was launched by the MoHUA in September 2021. This was the 22nd edition of the programme hosted by the Ministry with beneficiaries of different States/UTs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manoj Joshi – chaired the “Labharthiyon Se Rubaroo” - an initiative of MoHUA (launched in Sep 2021)

10. On February 19, PM Narendra Modi launched ‘Kisan Drone Yatra’, an initiative of Garuda Aerospace. He flagged off 100 “Kisan drones” in different cities and towns of India to spray pesticides in farms across India. The campaign was launched for several states including poll-bound Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Goa. Garuda Aerospace has set a target of manufacturing 1 lakh Made in India drones in the next 2 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Modi – launched ‘Kisan Drone Yatra’ (an initiative of Garuda Aerospace)
- PM Modi – flagged off 100 “Kisan drones” in different cities & towns of India to spray pesticides in farms

11. On February 18, Pradhan Mantri FasalBeema Yojana (PMFBY) launched a doorstep distribution drive to deliver crop insurance policies to the farmers under ‘Meri Policy Mere Hath’ in all the implementing states. PMFBY entered its 7th year in February 2022. The scheme was announced on February 18, 2016 and revamped in 2020, enabling voluntary participation of the farmers. It also made it convenient for the farmer to report crop loss within 72 hours of the occurrence of any event. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PMFBY – launched a doorstep distribution drive to deliver crop insurance to the farmers under ‘Meri Policy Mere Hath’
- PMFBY – launched on February 18, 2016 & revamped in 2020
- [PMFBY launched in – 2016](#) | [CEO of PMFBY – Ritesh Chauhan](#)

12. On February 18, the Government extended the scheme of “Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA)” till March 31, 2026. It has been envisaged to support around 1600 projects under the new phase of the scheme. The new phase of the scheme has been designed to implement some of the recommendations and aims of the New Education Policy. Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) is an overarching scheme, operating in mission mode for funding the state government universities and colleges to achieve the aims of equity, access and excellence. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Centrally Sponsored Scheme “Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA)” – extended till March 31, 2026

13. On February 2, Union Government approved continuation of Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs) with an outlay of Rs 1575 Cr for 15th Finance Commission Cycle (2021-22 to 2025-26). The Scheme of Assistance to NSFs is the flagship Central Sector Scheme. The outlay in the cycle will therefore be extended to NSFs to train and field national teams for national and international competitions between 2022 and 2026. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Govt approved continuation of Scheme of Assistance to NSFs till 2025-26 (Outlay – Rs 1575 Cr)

14. On February 3, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi launched “Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Bhumihen Krishi Mazdoor Nyay Yojana” of Chhattisgarh government for landless labourers of rural area. Under the scheme, registered labourers in rural areas who do not possess agricultural land will be given financial assistance of Rs 6,000 per year in three installments. He also launched “Rajiv Yuva Mitan Club” scheme and distributed financial assistance of Rs 25,000 to its beneficiaries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rahul Gandhi – launched “Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Bhumihen Krishi Mazdoor Nyay Yojana” of Chhattisgarh
- Under the scheme: Financial assistance of Rs 6,000 per year in 3 installments
- Rahul Gandhi – launched “Rajiv Yuva Mitan Club” scheme | Financial assistance of Rs 25,000 to the beneficiaries
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

15. On February 24, the Ministry of Education (MoE) approved the continuation of the “National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS)” till 2025-26 with minor changes in eligibility criteria such as increasing income ceiling from Rs 1.5 lakh to Rs 3.5 lakh per annum. 1 lakh fresh scholarships of Rs 12,000 per annum (Rs 1,000 per month) per student are awarded to selected students of class 9 every year and their continuation and renewal in classes 10 to 12 under the scheme. It is proposed to disburse scholarships to 14.76 lakh students with the financial outlay of Rs 1827 Cr approved for the scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Education approved the continuation of “National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme” till 2025-26
- Income ceiling under the scheme – increased to Rs 3.5 lakh per annum (from Rs 1.5 lakh)
- Financial outlay of the scheme – Rs 1827 Cr | Scholarships of Rs 12,000 per annum to selected students of class 9

16. On February 21, the 6th anniversary of the launch of Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission was observed. PM Modi launched the Mission in 2016 to develop 300 clusters in India holistically by providing economic, social and physical infrastructure facilities. So far, Rural Development Ministry has approved 296 clusters under the Mission. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 21 – 6th anniversary of ‘Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission’
- Launched in 2016 to develop 300 clusters by Rural Development Ministry
- Ministry of Rural Development: Giriraj Singh | Constituency – Begusarai, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Rural Development: FaggansinghKulaste& Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti

17. On February 24, 3rd anniversary of PM-Kisan Scheme was observed. PM-KISAN is a central sector scheme launched on 24th February, 2019 to supplement financial needs of land holding farmers. Under this scheme, financial benefit of Rs 6000/- per year in three equal installments, is transferred into the bank accounts of farmers’ families through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode. As on 22nd February, 2022, benefits under PM Kisan scheme have been provided to about 11.78 Cr farmers and funds amounting to Rs 1.82 lakh Cr in various installments have been released to the eligible beneficiaries of this scheme across India. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- February 24 – 3rd anniversary of 'PM-Kisan' Scheme
- PM-KISAN – a central sector scheme, launched on 24th February, 2019

18. On February 25, Indian government approved the continuation of the Immigration Visa Foreigners Registration Tracking (IVFRT) Scheme for 5 years from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2026, with a financial outlay of Rs 1,364.88 Cr. One of the core objectives of IVFRT is to modernise and upgrade Immigration and Visa services. The average visa processing time of 15 to 30 days (during the pre-IVFRT period) is reduced to a maximum of 72 hours in e-visas, with 95% of e-visas issued within 24 hours. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Govt approved the continuation of the 'IVFRT Scheme' for 5 years from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2026
- Outlay of the 'IVFRT Scheme' – Rs 1,364.88 Cr
- Under IVFRT, visa processing time is reduced to a maximum of 72 hours

19. On February 25, Ministry of Education launched a campaign "Bhasha Certificate Selfie" initiative to encourage Cultural Diversity and promote Multilingualism and to foster the spirit of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. This initiative aims to promote Bhasha Sangam mobile app, developed by Ministry of Education and MyGov India. Using the app, people can learn 100+ sentences of daily use in as many as 22 scheduled Indian languages. The 'Bhasha Certificate Selfie' initiative is encouraging people to upload their selfie with the certificate from their social media accounts using the hashtag '#BhashaCertificateSelfie'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Education – launched "Bhasha Certificate Selfie" initiative to encourage Cultural Diversity & Multilingualism
- Bhasha Sangam mobile app – developed by Ministry of Education & MyGov India
- Ministry of Education: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency – Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Education: Subhas Sarkar

20. On February 26, the Union Cabinet approved the national roll-out of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, with a budget of ₹1,600 Cr for 5 years. The National Health Authority (NHA) is the implementing agency of the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM). Under the ABDM, citizens can create their ABHA (Ayushman Bharat Health Account) numbers and link their digital health records. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved the roll-out of "Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)" with a budget of ₹1,600 Cr for 5 years
- Implementing agency of the 'ABDM' – National Health Authority (NHA)
- HQs of NHA – New Delhi | CEO – Ram Sevak Sharma | Founded in – 2018
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency – Palitana, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar

21. On February 27, the compensation to the kin of hit-and-run victims will be increased to Rs 2 lakh from Rs 25,000 in case of death from April 1, according to a notification issued by the Road Transport and Highways Ministry. The solatium to a person sustaining grievous injuries in a hit-and-run case will increase to Rs 50,000 from the current Rs 12,500 under the "Compensation to Victims of Hit and Run Motor Accidents Scheme, 2022". [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- According to “Compensation to Victims of Hit and Run Motor Accidents Scheme, 2022”:
 - Compensation increased from Rs 12,500 to Rs 50,000 for grievous hurt
 - Compensation increased from Rs 25,000 to Rs 2,00,000 for death

22. On February 4, Government decided to continue the Scheme of “Rashtriya Yuva Sashaktikaran Karyakram” for another 5 years from 2021-22 to 2025-26 at an outlay of Rs 2,710.65 Cr. The primary objective of the RYSK Scheme is to motivate the youth to strive for excellence in their respective fields and to bring them to the forefront of the development process. The RYSK Scheme is the flagship Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports. The Scheme beneficiaries are the youth in the age-group of 15-29 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government extended the Scheme of “Rashtriya Yuva Sashaktikaran Karyakram” for another 5 years upto 2025-26
- Outlay of ‘RYSK’ scheme – Rs 2,710.65 Cr | Age group of beneficiaries – 15-29 years
- ‘RYSK’ Scheme – the flagship Central Sector Scheme of Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports

23. On February 5, Indian Footwear and Leather Development Programme (IFLDP) was approved by the Union Cabinet for continuation from 2021-22 to March 2026 with a financial outlay of Rs 1700 Cr. IFLDP aims at development of infrastructure, environmental concerns & investment related to Leather Sector. Moreover, the detail about IFLDP’s sub-schemes is mentioned below. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government extended the “Indian Footwear and Leather Development Programme” for 5 years upto March 2026
- Financial outlay of IFLDP – Rs 1700 Cr
- The following sub-schemes were approved under IFLDP during 2021-26:
 - Sustainable Technology and Environmental Promotion (proposed outlay Rs 500 Cr)
 - Integrated Development of Leather Sector (IDLS) sub-scheme (proposed outlay Rs 500 Cr)
 - Establishment of Institutional Facilities (proposed outlay Rs 200 Cr)
 - Mega Leather Footwear and Accessories Cluster Development (MLFACD) sub-scheme (proposed outlay Rs 300 Cr)
 - Brand Promotion of Indian Brands in Leather and Footwear Sector (proposed outlay Rs 100 Cr)
 - Development of Design Studios (proposed outlay Rs 100 Cr)

24. On February 7, the food processing ministry extended its flagship scheme ‘Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY)’ for a period of 2021-22 to 2025-26 with an allocation of Rs 4,600 Cr from the Central government. In May 2017, the Centre launched SAMPADA (Scheme for Agro-Marine Processing and Development of Agro-Processing Clusters) with an allocation of Rs 6,000 Cr. The scheme was renamed as PMKSY in August 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Food Processing Industries – extended PMKSY till 2026 with the allocation of Rs 4,600 Cr from Central Govt
- Ministry of Food Processing Industries: Pashu Pati Kumar Paras | Constituency – Hajipur, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Food Processing Industries: Prahalad Singh Patel

25. On February 7, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya launched the largest Universal Immunisation Programme “Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 4.0” for children & pregnant women. It will have 3 rounds and will be conducted in 416 districts. ‘Mission Indradhanush’ was also identified as one of the flagship schemes under ‘Gram Swaraj Abhiyan’ and ‘Extended Gram Swaraj Abhiyan’. He also launched the ‘IMI 4.0’ portal and released the Operational Guidelines for IMI 4.0 - “Strengthening Immunisation in Urban Areas-A framework for Action” - a handbook for ‘Mahila Arogya Samiti on Urban Immunisation’ and awareness material developed as part of the campaign. ‘Mission Indradhanush’ was launched in 2014. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mansukh Mandaviya – launched “Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 4.0” for children & pregnant women
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency – Palitana, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar



Sports & Games

1. BCCI is likely to start a women's Indian Premier League (WIPL) in 2023. Also, BCCI organizes the Women's T20 Challenge whereas Cricket Australia organises a Women's Big Bash League. Moreover, England and Wales Cricket Board organised the Women's Hundred. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BCCI – likely to start women's Indian Premier League (WIPL) in 2023
- HQs of BCCI – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Sourav Ganguly | Secretary – Jay Shah | Founded in – 1928

2. Kanpur hosted the MPL 58th National Chess Championship at the Ganges Club from February 25 to March 3. The Women's National Championship will be at Bhubaneswar from February 25 to March 2. The events were held by the All India Chess Federation (AICF). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 58th MPL National Chess Championship – hosted by Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh
- Women's National Chess Championship – hosted by Bhubaneswar, Odisha

3. On February 2, New Zealand's Daryl Mitchell was named the recipient of 2021's ICC 'Spirit of Cricket' award for his gesture of not taking an easy single during the T20 World Cup semifinal against England, held at Sheikh Zayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi, UAE. Daryl Mitchell is the 4th New Zealand player to win the award after Daniel Vettori, Brendon McCullum and Kane Williamson. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Daryl Mitchell (New Zealand) – won the 2021's ICC 'Spirit of Cricket' award (4th NZ player to win)

4. On February 2, A People's Liberation Army (PLA) regiment commander Qi Fabao was chosen by the Chinese government as the Torchbearer of 'Winter Olympics 2022' in Beijing. He was involved in the June 15, 2020 clash with India in Galwan Valley. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Qi Fabao (PLA regiment commander) – chosen by Chinese government as the Torchbearer of 'Winter Olympics 2022'
- Mascot of "2022 Beijing Winter Olympic Games" – Bing Dwen Dwen (a Panda)
- Motto of "2022 Beijing Winter Olympic & Paralympic Games" – "Together for a Shared Future"

5. On February 3, the International Olympic Committee approved a proposal to include surfing, skateboarding and sport climbing in the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics. Boxing, modern pentathlon and weightlifting have not yet been included. They can be added in 2023 after meeting targets set by the IOC board. Breakdancing will debut at the '2024 Olympics' at the request of the Paris organizers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IOC approved a proposal to include Surfing, Skateboarding & Sport Climbing in the "2028 Los Angeles Olympics"
- Summer Olympics: 2024 – Paris, France | 2028 – Los Angeles, US | 2032 – Brisbane, Australia
- HQs of IOC – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Thomas Bach | Established in – 1894

6. On February 20, IPL Franchise cricket team Gujarat Titans became the first sports team in India to launch its team logo named “The Titans Dugout” in the metaverse. The team will debut in the 15th season of the IPL and its entry in the virtual universe will be marked with the unveiling of the team logo ‘The Titans Dugout’. The event will witness its head coach Ashish Nehra and captain Hardik Pandya. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gujarat Titans – became the first sports team in India to launch its team logo named “The Titans Dugout” in metaverse
- Coach of Gujarat Titans – Ashish Nehra | Captain – Hardik Pandya

7. On February 20, Former Women’s PGA Championship winner Hannah Green became the first woman to win a mixed-gender professional golf tournament at ‘The Players Series tournaments’ (TPS) Murray River event in Australia. The Players Series tournaments were introduced in 2021 and are part of the PGA Tour of Australasia, and have men and women competing in the same field. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hannah Green ([Golf - Australia](#)) – 1st woman to win a mixed-gender professional tournament at TPS Murray River event

8. On February 21, Spain’s Carlos Alcaraz Garfia defeated Argentina’s Diego Schwartzman and won the 8th edition of Rio Open tennis tournament. The tournament was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He became the youngest ATP 500 winner. Fabio Fognini (Italy) & Simone Bolelli (Italy) won the doubles title. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Carlos Alcaraz Garfia ([Spain](#)) – won the 8th Rio Open tennis tournament (defeating - Diego Schwartzman)
- Carlos Alcaraz Garfia – became youngest ATP 500 winner
- Doubles title – Fabio Fognini ([Italy](#)) & Simone Bolelli ([Italy](#))
- [Brazil – Brasilia – Brazilian real](#) | [President – Jair Bolsonaro](#)

9. On February 3, Sri Lankan fast bowler Suranga Lakmal announced to retire from international cricket after the team’s tour of India to join the English county club Derbyshire. The Club signed him on a two-year contract, where he will join former Sri Lanka head coach Mickey Arthur. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Suranga Lakmal (Sri Lanka) – retired from International Cricket (to join Derbyshire County Cricket Club)
- [Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan Rupee](#)
- [PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa](#) | [President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa](#)

10. On February 6, India defeated West Indies by six wickets in the first ODI to take a 1-0 lead in the three-match series at the Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad, Gujarat. With this, India became the first team to achieve the milestone of playing 1000 ODIs in the history of cricket. The Indian side started featuring in the ODI format in 1974 for the first time. India has won 519 of 1000 ODI matches. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – defeated West Indies in the first ODI at the Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad
- India – became the first team to achieve the milestone of playing 1000 ODIs in the history of Cricket

11. On February 6, International Cricket Council (ICC) released the list of 'Most Valuable Team' of the "ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup 2022". Among 12 players, 3 were from India - Yash Dhull (Captain), Raj Bawa, Vicky Ostwal. Moreover, Raj Bawa also won the 'Player of the Match' award in the tournament. The tournament was held at Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in Antigua & Barbuda. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- List of 'Most Valuable Team' of the "ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup 2022" – released by the ICC
- 3 Indian players out of 12 Players: Yash Dhull (Captain), Raj Bawa, Vicky Ostwal
- Raj Bawa – won the 'Player of the Match' award

12. On February 5, India U-19 cricket team defeated England by four wickets and won the record fifth "U-19 Cricket World Cup 2022" title and extended the record of most tournament wins. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – defeated England & won "U-19 Cricket World Cup 2022" (5th time)
- HQs of BCCI – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Sourav Ganguly | Secretary – Jay Shah | Founded in – 1928
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

13. On February 5, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and BCCI President Sourav Ganguly virtually laid the foundation stone of the World's third-largest Cricket Stadium in Jaipur, Rajasthan. It will be the second largest cricket stadium in India and will be built by the Rajasthan Cricket Academy (RCA). The stadium will have seating capacity of 75,000 spectators. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ashok Gehlot + Sourav Ganguly = laid the foundation stone of the World's third-largest Cricket Stadium in Jaipur
- It will be the second largest cricket stadium in India | Seating capacity – 75,000 spectators
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

14. On February 6, China PR defeated Korea Republic (South Korea) in the AFC Women's Asian Cup 2022. The final was played at the DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai. It was 20th edition of the AFC Women's Asian Cup which was hosted by India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China PR – defeated Korea Republic (South Korea) to win the 20th "AFC Women's Asian Cup 2022" (hosted by - India)
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping
- South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won | President – Moon Jae-in

15. Senegal won its first "African Cup of Nations (AFCON) Championship" title by beating Egypt. AFCON 2021, the 33rd edition, is also known as 'TotalEnergies 2021 Africa Cup of Nations' and this football tournament was hosted by Cameroon from January 9 to February 6, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Senegal – won "African Cup of Nations (AFCON) Championship 2021" – hosted by Cameroon (defeating - Egypt)
- Senegal – Dakar – CFA franc | President – Macky Sall

16. On February 6, Indian duo Rohan Bopanna and Ramkumar Ramanathan won men's doubles and their second ATP World Tour title together after defeating the Australian pair in the final of the "Tata Open Maharashtra 2022". Bopanna had won this event with compatriot Divij Sharan in 2019. Men's single was won by Portugal's Joao Sousa. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rohan Bopanna & Ramkumar Ramanathan – won men's doubles at "Tata Open Maharashtra 2022"
- Joao Sousa ([Portugal](#)) – won Men's Singles

17. Debuting in the 15th season of the IPL, the Ahmedabad team of the Indian Premier League will be called the Gujarat Titans. The franchise is owned by private equity firm CVC Capital. Gujarat Titans will be led by India all-rounder Hardik Pandya, Ashish Nehra will be the head coach and Vikram Solanki the director of cricket. Moreover, world Cup-winning coach Gary Kirsten was appointed as the team mentor and batting coach. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ahmedabad team of IPL – named as Gujarat Titans, will debut in the 15th season of IPL
- [Gujarat Titans Captain – Hardik Pandya](#) | [Head Coach – Ashish Nehra](#) | [Owner – CVC Capital](#)

18. On February 10, India's dashing keeper-batter Rishabh Pant won top 'Test batting' prize for his series-winning knock of 89 against Australia in Brisbane in 2021. While New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson was adjudged 'Captain of the Year' at the 15th Annual ESPNCricinfo awards. The 'Test Bowling' award went to Kyle Jamieson for his 5 for 31, which helped New Zealand become the first World Test champions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 15th "Annual ESPNCricinfo Awards 2021" – announced in Feb 2022
- 'Test batting' award – Rishabh Pant ([India](#))
- 'Captain of the Year' award – Kane Williamson ([New Zealand](#))
- 'Test Bowling' award – Kyle Jamieson ([New Zealand](#))

19. On February 6, the Indian cricket team become the first ever team to play the 1000 ODI matches. In this match, Team India was led by Rohit Sharma against the West Indies at Narendra Modi Stadium. Australia has played the second-most ODIs in the world with 958 matches while Pakistan has played 936 ODIs. After the win against West Indies, India secured ICC No. 1 Rank in T20I. Also, Indian team is the 2nd team to win 100 T20I matches, followed by Pakistan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Cricket Team – the first ever team to play the 1000 ODI matches | 2nd – Australia | 3rd – Pakistan
- 1000th match: Location – Narendra Modi Stadium | Captaincy – Rohit Sharma | Against – West Indies
- Indian team – the 2nd team to win 100 T20I matches (followed by Pakistan)
- India – secured ICC No. 1 Rank in T20I (by defeating West Indies)
- [HQs of BCCI – Mumbai, MH](#) | [Chairman – Sourav Ganguly](#) | [Secretary – Jay Shah](#) | [Founded in – 1928](#)
- [HQs of ICC – Dubai, UAE](#) | [Chairman – Greg Barclay](#) | [CEO – Geoff Allardice](#) | [Members – 106 countries](#)

20. Beijing made history as the first city to host both the Winter and Summer Games in 2022. While the Italian cities Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo will host the "2026 Winter Olympics Games". Earlier, Cortina had hosted the '1956 Winter Olympics'. Moreover, the next 'Summer Olympics 2024' is set to take place in Paris, France. In Winter Olympics 2022, Norway won 37 medals for the second time and set a new world record for the most Gold medals won in a single Winter Olympics. While Arif Khan carried Indian flag in the Parade of Nations during the opening ceremony of the '2022 Beijing Winter Olympics'. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Milan & Cortina d'Ampezzo ([Italy](#)) – to host the “2026 Winter Olympics Games”
- Paris ([France](#)) – to host the “Summer Olympics 2024”
- Norway – set a new world record for the most Gold medals won in a single Winter Olympics

21. 22-year-old Sakibul Gani created a world record by becoming the first player to score a triple century on first-class debut. Gani made his debut for Bihar in the Ranji Trophy and scored 341 runs in 405 balls. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sakibul Gani ([Bihar](#)) – created a world record by becoming the first player to score a triple century on first-class debut

22. On February 24, Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa defeated World Number 1 Magnus Carlsen in the 8th round of the Airthings Masters online rapid chess tournament. R Praggnanandhaa became the third Indian, after Viswanathan Anand and P Harikrishna, to accomplish the rare feat of beating Carlsen. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- R Praggnanandhaa – defeated Magnus Carlsen in the 8th round of “Airthings Masters Online Rapid Chess Tournament”
- R Praggnanandhaa – became the 3rd Indian to beat World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen
- HQs of FIDE – [Lausanne, Switzerland](#) | [President/Chairman – Arkady Dvorkovich](#) | [Founded on – July 20, 1924](#)

23. Sadia Tariq won the gold medal in the “Moscow Wushu Stars Championship” which was held in Moscow from February 22 to 28. Sadia is from Srinagar and recently secured a Gold medal in the 20th Junior National Wushu Championship at Lovely Professional University, Jalandhar, in which Jammu and Kashmir Wushu team remained overall 3rd in the Medal Tally. She had recently bagged Gold medals in the 19th and 20th Junior National Championship which was held in Haryana and Jalandhar respectively. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sadia Tariq ([Srinagar](#)) – won the gold medal in the “Moscow Wushu Stars Championship”
- J & K: [Capital – Srinagar](#) | [Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha](#)

24. On February 26, Rafael Nadal defeated Cameron Norrie & won the ‘Mexican Open’ which was held in Acapulco. It is his 91st ATP title of his career and third title in 2022, including the Australian Open for his record 21st Grand Slam singles title. Also, it was his 4th title in Acapulco. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rafael Nadal ([Spain - Tennis](#)) – won the ‘Mexican Open’ as 91st ATP title of his career (defeating – Cameron Norrie)
- [Mexico – Mexico City – Peso](#) | [President – Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador](#)

25. On February 25, the 26-year-old Russian Daniil Medvedev became the 27th player to reach No. 1 in the ATP Rankings. Daniil (8,615 points) passed Serbian Novak Djokovic (8,465), who held the top spot in men’s tennis for a record 361 total weeks. Daniil celebrated his rise to the world No. 1 ranking with victory over Yoshihito Nishioka in the quarter-finals of the ATP Mexico Open. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Daniil Medvedev ([Russia](#)) – became the 27th player to reach No. 1 in the ATP Rankings



26. On February 27, 24-year-old Rookie para archer from Gurugram, Pooja Jatyan created history becoming the first Indian to win Silver medal in an individual section of the “Para World Championships” held in Dubai. Pooja lost to Italian Petrilli Vincenza. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pooja Jatyan ([Haryana - Archer](#)) – became the first Indian to win Silver medal at the “Para World Championships”

27. On February 27, the International Judo Federation announced the suspension of Vladimir Putin’s status as Honorary President and Ambassador of the International Judo Federation, due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Putin, an accomplished judoka who was awarded an 8th dan in 2014, one of the highest levels in the sport, has been Honorary President since 2008. Early in his life, Putin was fascinated with martial arts. He learnt Judo and sambo as he became a top fighter in Leningrad (Saint Petersburg). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IJF announced the suspension of Vladimir Putin’s status as Honorary President & Ambassador of the IJF
- [HQs of IJF – Budapest, Hungary](#) | [President – Marius Vizer](#)

28. On February 28, Ladakh Scouts won the 15th Chief Executive Councillor (CEC) Cup in Men’s Ice Hockey Championship defeating ITBP. The final match was held at the Ice hockey rink in the NDS Sports Complex in Leh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ladakh Scouts – won the 15th Chief Executive Councillor (CEC) Cup in Men’s Ice Hockey Championship

29. On February 27, Indian weightlifters Vikas Thakur and Venkat Rahul Ragala qualified for the Commonwealth Games by winning Gold and Bronze medals respectively in the men’s 96kg category at the “Singapore Weightlifting International 2022”. Thus, India ended in the competition with 8 medals, including 6 Gold, 1 Silver & 1 Bronze. The Singapore Weightlifting International was a qualifying event for the 2022 Commonwealth Games to be held in Birmingham. Apart from these 8 weightlifters, 4 more Indian weightlifters (total 12) have been qualified for 2022 Commonwealth Games. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vikas Thakur & Venkat Rahul Ragala ([weightlifters](#)) – won Gold & Bronze at the “Singapore Weightlifting International”
- India now has 12 weightlifters qualified for the ‘2022 Commonwealth Games’ in Birmingham, UK

30. The 2nd South Asian Athletic Federation (SAAF) Cross-Country championship and the 56th National Cross Country Athletics Championship is scheduled to be held at Indira Gandhi Stadium in Kohima on March 26. The tournament will be the 1st ever International Athletics Event in Nagaland. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kohima – to host 2nd SAAF Cross-Country championship & 56th National Cross Country Athletics Championship (in March)
- [Nagaland: Capital – Kohima](#) | [CM – Neiphiu Rio](#) | [Governor – Jagdish Mukhi](#) ([addi. charge](#))

31. On February 25, Mirabai Chanu qualified for the 2022 Commonwealth Games in the 55kg weight category by clinching the gold in the Singapore Weightlifting International tournament. She has also qualified for the CWG in the 49kg weight category on the basis of her Commonwealth rankings. Australians Brenna Kean and Tori Gallegos won the silver and bronze medals respectively. The Singapore Weightlifting International was a qualifying event for the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham. The top eight lifters in each weight category in the tournament directly qualified for the 2022 CWG. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mirabai Chanu – won Gold in Singapore Weightlifting International tournament
- Mirabai Chanu – qualified for the “2022 CWG” in 55kg & 49kg category (2022 CWG – Birmingham, UK)
- HQs of IWLIF – New Delhi | President – Sahdev Yadav | Secretary General – Anande Gowda
- Singapore – Singapore – Dollar | PM – Lee Hsien Loong | President – Halimah Yacob

32. On February 25, Air Force Cycle Polo team emerged as the National Champions in the 42nd National Cycle Polo Championship held at Mysore, Karnataka. Air Force Cycle Polo team defeated Territorial Army in the finals. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Air Force Cycle Polo team – won the 42nd National Cycle Polo Championship held at Mysore, Karnataka

33. The Badminton Asia Team Championships 2022 was organised by Badminton Asia & Badminton Association of Malaysia from 15 to 20 February 2022. In the men’s final, Malaysia defeated Indonesia while Indonesia won the women’s title after beating South Korea. The tournament serves as the Asian qualifiers for the ‘2022 Thomas and Uber Cup’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Malaysia – hosted the “Badminton Asia Team Championships 2022”
- Men’s final won by – Malaysia (defeated - Indonesia) | Women’s final won by – Indonesia (defeated - South Korea)
- HQs of BWF – Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | President – Poul-Erik Hoyer Larsen
- HQs of Badminton Association of India – New Delhi | President – Himanta Biswa Sarma

34. Chelsea Football Club was crowned as the World Champion in the “FIFA Club World Cup 2021/22” final by defeating Brazilian Palmeiras Football Club. The tournament was held from 3 to 12 February 2022 in Abu Dhabi, UAE. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chelsea FC – won the “FIFA Club World Cup 2021/22” final – held in Abu Dhabi, UAE (defeating - Palmeiras FC)

35. On February 13, Kerala women defeated Railways to clinch the “National Senior Volleyball Championships” title in Bhubaneswar for the 4th successive edition. The Kerala team mainly consisted of KSEB and Kerala Police spikers. The team was led by K. P. Anusree. In the men’s final, Haryana won the title by defeating Railways. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “National Senior Volleyball Championships” – held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha
- Women’s title won by – Kerala (defeating - Railways)
- Men’s title won by – Haryana (defeating - Railways)
- HQs of VFI – Chennai | President – Prof. Achyuta Samanta | Secretary General – Anil Choudhary
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya



Important Days & Dates

1. "Rare Disease Day" is observed annually on the last day of February. This year, the day falls on February 28 (otherwise on Feb 29 in leap year). Since being established in 2008, the Rare Disease Day marks its 15th anniversary this year. Any disease that affects a small percentage of the population is a 'rare disease'. In many parts of the world, they also go by the term "Orphan Disease". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 28 (in 2022) – "Rare Disease Day" | Rare Disease is also termed 'Orphan Disease'

2. Every year, India observes the "Soil Health Card Day" on 19 February to commemorate the launch of the Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme, and create awareness about the benefits of the scheme. 2022 marks the 7th year of the launch of the SHC Scheme. The scheme aims at issuing soil health cards to all farmers every two years. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme on 19th February, 2015 at Suratgarh in Rajasthan.

Key Points:

- February 19 – Soil Health Card Day" (7th year of the launch of the SHC Scheme)
- SHC Scheme – launched by Narendra Modi on 19th February, 2015 at Suratgarh, Rajasthan

3. In 2012, the UN General Assembly designated February 6 as the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation, with the aim to amplify and direct the efforts on the elimination of this practice. In 2022, the theme is "Accelerating Investment to End Female Genital Mutilation". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 6 – International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation
- 2022's Theme – "Accelerating Investment to End Female Genital Mutilation"

4. In February 2022, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and the UPI ecosystem announced the UPI Safety and Awareness initiative to create awareness amongst consumers about UPI payments. NPCI and the ecosystem comprising leading banks and fintech observed February 1 to 7 as "UPI Safety and Awareness Week". Also, the month of February was observed as "UPI Safety and Awareness Month". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 1 to 7 – "UPI Safety & Awareness Week" by NPCI
- February – "UPI Safety & Awareness Month"
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD & CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008

5. The 26th World Wetlands Day was observed on February 2. This day also marks the 51st anniversary of the Ramsar Convention which was adapted on February 2, 1971, in the Iranian city of Ramsar. This year's theme for World Wetlands Day is "Wetlands Action for People and Nature". UN adopted this day in 2021. This is the first year when the day was observed as a UN International Day. On this day, two new Ramsar sites - Khijadiya wildlife sanctuary in Gujarat and Bakhira wildlife sanctuary in Uttar Pradesh were also announced. Now India has 49 Ramsar sites, the highest in South Asia as on February 3, 2022. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- February 2 – 26th World Wetlands Day & 51st anniversary of the Ramsar Convention
- 2022's theme – “Wetlands Action for People and Nature”
- UN – observed its 1st “World Wetlands Day” in 2022
- Khijadiya Wildlife Sanctuary ([Gujarat](#)) & Bakhira Wildlife Sanctuary ([UP](#)) – announced as new Ramsar Sites (Total – 49)
- [HQs of UN – New York, US](#) | [Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres](#) | [Formed in – October 24, 1945](#)

6. On February 1, the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) observed its 46th raising day. The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) was formally established on 1 February 1977 by the Coast Guard Act, 1978. ICG is the 4th largest Coast Guard in the world. Its motto is “Vayam Rakshamah” meaning “We Protect”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 1 – 46th ICG Raising Day
- ICG – the 4th largest Coast Guard in the world | Motto – “Vayam Rakshamah” (We Protect)
- [HQs of ICG – New Delhi](#) | [DG – Virender Singh Pathania](#) | [Founded in – 1977](#)

7. 29th January is observed as “National Newspaper Day” in India. On this day, the first Indian Newspaper called ‘Hickey’s Bengal Gazette’ also known as ‘Calcutta General Advertiser’ was published back in 1780. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- January 29 – “National Newspaper Day”
- First Indian Newspaper ‘Hickey’s Bengal Gazette’ or ‘Calcutta General Advertiser’ was published on January 29, 1780

8. “World Interfaith Harmony Week” was observed at the United Nations during the first week of February (1-7 February) with the theme of “Faith & Spiritual Leadership to Combat Stigma & Conflict during Pandemic Recovery”. This week was first observed in 2012. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 1 to 7 – UN’s “World Interfaith Harmony Week” (since 2012)
- 2022’s Theme – “Faith & Spiritual Leadership to Combat Stigma & Conflict during Pandemic Recovery”

9. On February 3, the Centre approved renaming of three places in Madhya Pradesh. Hoshangabad Nagar, which is located on the south bank of River Narmada, will be renamed as “Narmadapuram”. Shivpuri will be renamed as “Kundeshwar Dham”. Babai will be renamed after the renowned journalist and poet Makhanlal Chaturvedi as “Makhan Nagar”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central govt approved renaming of 3 places in Madhya Pradesh:
 - Hoshangabad Nagar – renamed as “Narmadapuram”
 - Shivpuri – renamed as “Kundeshwar Dham”
 - Babai – renamed as “Makhan Nagar”
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal](#) | [CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan](#) | [Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel](#)

10. The “International Day of Human Fraternity” is marked on February 4 to promote cultural and religious tolerance and coexistence. In 2022, the theme was “Human Fraternity in Action”. The meeting between Pope Francis and the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar, Ahmad al-Tayyib, led to the signing of the “Document on Human Fraternity for World Peace & living Together” on 4 February, 2019. To commemorate this occasion, the UN decided to mark the International Day for Human Fraternity. The day was 1st observed in 2021 by the United Nations (UN). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 4 – 2nd “International Day of Human Fraternity” – by UN (since 2021)
- 2022’s Theme – “Human Fraternity in Action”
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres | Formed in – October 24, 1945

11. “World Cancer Day” is observed every year across the globe on 4 February to raise awareness about the deadly disease and its symptoms. This theme for 2022-2024 will be “Close the Care Gap”. World Cancer Day was initiated in the year 2000 on 4 February at the World Summit Against Cancer for the New Millennium in Paris. The day is led by the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 4 – “World Cancer Day” – by Union for International Cancer Control (since 2000)
- Theme for 2022-2024 – “Close the Care Gap”
- HQs of Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) – Geneva, Switzerland

12. International Childhood Cancer Day (ICCD) is observed annually on February 15 to create awareness and extend support to children and adolescents with cancer. The ICCD theme for 2022 is “Better Survival is achievable #throughyourhands”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 15 – International Childhood Cancer Day
- Theme – “Better Survival is achievable #throughyourhands”

13. To highlight the problems faced by people with epilepsy and raise awareness about treatment, International Epilepsy Day has been celebrated on the second Monday of February since 2015. In 2022, the theme is “50 Million Steps For Epilepsy”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 14 (2nd Monday of Feb) – International Epilepsy Day
- 2022’s Theme – “50 Million Steps For Epilepsy”

14. The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry’s (FICCI) Committee Against Smuggling and Counterfeiting Activities Destroying the Economy (CASCADE) marked the ‘Anti-Smuggling Day’ on February 11 beginning from 2022. This day will represent a major step in the fight against the global menace of smuggling. As per World Economic Forum, illicit trade resulted in an annual drain of US\$2.2 trillion in 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 11 – Anti-Smuggling Day – marked by FICCI’s CASCADE committee (since - 2022)
- HQs of FICCI – New Delhi | DG – Arun Chawla | President – Sanjiv Mehta | Founded in – 1927

15. National Science Day is celebrated every year on February 28 in India to celebrate the discovery of the 'Raman Effect'. India's great scientist, CV Raman, invented the 'Raman Effect' on this day and won a Nobel Prize for the same. The first National Science Day was celebrated on February 28, 1987. In 2022, the theme is "Integrated Approach in Science and Technology for a Sustainable Future". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 28 – National Science Day (since - 1987)
- 2022's theme – "Integrated Approach in Science and Technology for a Sustainable Future"

16. Every year February 27 is observed as the World NGO day to acknowledge and honour non-governmental and nonprofit organisations for their significant contributions to society around the globe. In 2014, for the first time "World NGO Day" was observed by the United Nations. In India, NGOs are established under the provisions of "Article 19" of the Indian Constitution. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 27 – "World NGO Day"
- NGOs are established under "Article 19" of the Indian Constitution

17. International Protein Day is observed on February 27 every year. It is a public health initiative launched to educate people on the benefits of consuming protein-rich foods. This year marks the 3rd year of National Protein Day celebration in India. India has been observing its National Protein Day on February 27 since 2020. According to WHO, our body needs 0.66 gm protein per kg of bodyweight every day. In 2022, the theme is "Food Futurism". Indian health professionals came up with a 'Right to Protein' initiative to educate Indians on the importance of protein intake. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 27 – International Protein Day (3rd National Protein Day)
- 2022's Theme – "Food Futurism"

18. Anosmia Awareness Day is observed on February 27 every year. It is a day to spread awareness about anosmia, which is the loss of the sense of smell, or as some people call it, nose blind. The medical term for the loss of smell is known as anosmia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 27 – Anosmia Awareness Day
- 'Anosmia' means the loss of the sense of smell

19. "Marathi Bhasha Din" was celebrated on February 27 to honour Marathi literature and mark the birth anniversary of Marathi poet Vishnu Vaman Shirwadkar. He was popularly known as 'Kusumagraj'. He was the recipient of several state awards and national awards including the '1974 Sahitya Akademi Award' in Marathi for Natsamrat, Padma Bhushan in 1991 and the Jnanpith Award in 1987. He also served as the president of the Akhil Bharatiya Marathi Sahitya Sammelan held at Margao in 1964. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 27 – "Marathi Bhasha Din" to honour Marathi literature (birth anniversary of Vishnu Vaman Shirwadkar)

20. The “Polio National Immunization Day 2022” (NID) was organized across India on February 27, 2022. Mansukh Mandavia, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare launched the “National Polio Immunization Drive for 2022” by administering polio drops to children below 5 years of age. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 27 – “Polio National Immunization Day 2022”

21. On February 6, Army’s White Knight Corps celebrated “Naushera Day” to commemorate the victory in ‘1947-48 Indo-Pak war’ in Naushera sector of Rajouri district in Jammu and Kashmir. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 6 – “Naushera Day” – celebrated by Army’s White Knight Corps
- The day commemorates the victory in ‘1947-48 Indo-Pak war’ – in Naushera sector, Rajouri, J & K

22. “Darwin Day” is celebrated annually to honor the contribution of the great English naturalist, biologist, and geologist Charles Robert Darwin, popularly known as Charles Darwin who was born on February 12, 1809. He was best known for his contribution to evolutionary biology and gave the theory of Evolution. Darwin was the first person who brought the idea of Natural Selection into the limelight. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 12 – “Darwin Day” (Birthday of Charles Darwin)

23. Every year, India observes National Productivity Day on 12 February. The day is part of the National Productivity Week, which is observed from 12 to 18 February by the National Productivity Council (NPC). In 2022, the theme of National Productivity Week is “Self Reliance Through Productivity”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 12 – National Productivity Day – by NPC
- February 12 to 18 – National Productivity Week | 2022’s Theme – “Self Reliance Through Productivity”
- [HQs of National Productivity Council – New Delhi](#) | [Director General – Sundeep Kumar Nayak](#)

24. Every year February 13th is celebrated as World Radio Day. In 2022, the theme is “Radio and Trust” as it continues to be one of the most trustworthy news resources. The day is also divided into three subthemes - Trust in radio journalism, Trust and Accessibility & Trust and viability of radio stations. This year, UNESCO is celebrating the 11th anniversary of the global event and more than 111 years of radio. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 13 – 11th edition of World Radio Day | 2022’s Theme – “Radio and Trust”
- 3 sub-themes of WRD 2021:
 - Trust in Radio Journalism
 - Trust & Accessibility
 - Trust & Viability of Radio Stations
- [Guglielmo Marconi \(Italy\)](#) – invented Radio in 1895

25. Indian National Women's Day was observed on February 13 to commemorate the 143rd birth anniversary of Sarojini Naidu. To commemorate the National Women's Day, a programme was organised on the theme "Violence against Women and its Prevention" at Indira Gandhi Panchayat Raj Sansthan in Jaipur, Rajasthan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 13 – National Women's Day (143rd birth anniversary of - Sarojini Naidu)
- A programme was organised on the theme "Violence against Women and its Prevention" in Jaipur, Rajasthan
- Sarojini Naidu's nicknames: 'Nightingale of India' & 'Bharat Kokila'

26. Agricultural Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI), celebrated its 36th Foundation Day on February 13, 2022. APEDA actively supported the Government in taking the export of agricultural products to \$20.67 billion in 2020-21 from \$0.6 billion in 1986 when it was founded. The share of APEDA exports (\$20.67 billion) constituted 49% of overall Agri-product exports in 2020-21. The target given to APEDA in the current financial year (2021-22) is \$23.7 billion, out of which more than 70% (\$17.20 billion) has been achieved till January 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 13 – 36th Foundation Day APEDA
- HQs of APEDA – New Delhi | Chairman – M. Angamuthu | Established in – 1986 (functions under Ministry of C&I)

27. Relatives of those killed on "Bloody Sunday" have been remembering their loved ones on the 50th anniversary. Thirteen people were shot dead when soldiers opened fire on civil rights demonstrators in Derry, Northern Ireland on 30 January, 1972. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- January 30 – 50th anniversary of "Bloody Sunday" event commemorated in Northern Ireland
- 13 civil rights demonstrators were shot dead by soldiers in Derry, Northern Ireland on 30 January, 1972
- Northern Ireland – Belfast – Pound Sterling | President – Michael D. Higgins

28. On 8 February 2022, the 19th edition of Safer Internet Day (SID) was observed with the goal of providing safer & better internet for everyone. The day is observed every year on the second day of the second week of February. Once again, the theme of the day is "Together for a Better Internet" which has been the same since 2019. The day was first observed in 2004. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 8 – 19th edition of Safer Internet Day (since 2004) | Theme – "Together for a Better Internet"
- It is observed on – 2nd day of the 2nd week of February

29. The 392nd birth anniversary of the great Maratha king Shivaji was celebrated as Shivaji Jayanti or Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Jayanti on February 19, 2022. Born in Pune's Shivneri Fort in 1630, the warrior king was the founder of the Maratha Kingdom and one of the progressive, bravest and wise monarchs of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 19 – 392nd Shivaji Jayanti or Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Jayanti (birth anniversary)
- Shivaji was born in 1630 – in Shivneri Fort, Pune, Maharashtra



30. Central Excise Day is observed on February 24 every year to mark the 'Central Excise and Salt Act' which was enacted on 24th February 1944. The day remembers and honours the contribution of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) to our nation and the people associated with it as well as their services. This day is organized & celebrated by Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) which is a part of the Department of Revenue under the Ministry of Finance, Government of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 24 – “Central Excise Day” – by CBIC
- ‘Central Excise and Salt Act’ – enacted on 24th February 1944

31. World Day of Social Justice is observed on February 20 every year. To raise voices against social injustice and to remove barriers regarding gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture, or disability, World Social Justice Day is observed. The theme for World Justice Day 2022 is “Achieving Social Justice through Formal Employment”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 20 – World Day of Social Justice
- 2022’s Theme – “Achieving Social Justice through Formal Employment”

32. “International Mother Language Day” is observed every year on February 21. The idea to celebrate International Mother Language Day was the initiative of Bangladesh and it was approved at the 1999 UNESCO General Conference and has been observed throughout the world since 2000. This Day is observed every year to promote linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism. In 2022, the theme is “Using technology for multilingual learning: Challenges and opportunities”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 21 – International Mother Language Day (since 2000)
- 2022’s Theme – “Using technology for multilingual learning: Challenges and opportunities”
- The idea to celebrate this day was the initiative of – Bangladesh
- [HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France](#) | [Director-General – Audrey Azoulay](#) | [Founded in – 1945](#)

33. Textiles Secretary Upendra Prasad Singh virtually addressed the 44th Foundation Day of Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) on February 22, 2022. During the address, he stated that India's textile exports can increase from the current \$40 billion to \$100 billion in the next 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 22 – 44th Foundation Day of Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC)
- [HQs of APEC – Gurgaon, Haryana](#) | [Chairperson – Narendra Kumar Goenka](#) | [Established in – 1978](#)

34. Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar announced to commemorate February 15 as “Shahid Diwas” in memory of 34 freedom fighters who were killed by police in Tarapur town (now subdivision) of Bihar’s Munger district 90 years ago. On February 15, 1932, a group of young freedom fighters planned to hoist an Indian national flag at Thana Bhavan in Tarapur. Police carried out a brutal lathi-charge and opened indiscriminate fire on the crowd. About 75 rounds were fired and 34 bodies were found at the spot. Bihar’s Tarapur massacre was the biggest carried out by the British police after the one in Jallianwala Bagh in Amritsar in 1919. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nitish Kumar – announced to commemorate February 15 as “Shahid Diwas” in memory of Bihar’s Tarapur massacre
- [Bihar: Capital – Patna](#) | [CM – Nitish Kumar](#) | [Governor – Phagu Chauhan](#)



35. World Thinking Day is observed on 22 February each year by the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS). The day celebrates friendship, sisterhood and women empowerment and aims to raise funds for 10 million girl guides and scouts present in 150 countries. In 2022, the theme is “Our World, Our Equal Future: The Environment and Gender Equality”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 22 – World Thinking Day – by World Association of Girl Guides & Girl Scouts
- 2022's Theme – “Our World, Our Equal Future: The Environment and Gender Equality”

36. World Pulses Day is observed on February 10 to raise awareness about the importance of pulses. This year, the theme is “Pulses to empower Youth in achieving Sustainable Agrifood Systems”. The day has been celebrated since 2019 by the United Nations (UN). The day also highlights the need for increased access to these crops among underprivileged sections of the global population. In 2013, the UN recognised the importance of the crops and declared 2016 to be the “International Year of Pulses”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 10 – World Pulses Day – by UN (since - 2019) | ‘International Year of Pulses’ – 2016
- 2022's theme – “Pulses to empower Youth in achieving Sustainable Agrifood Systems”
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres | Formed in – October 24, 1945

37. February 10 & August 10 are observed as “National Deworming Day” to create awareness about the importance of deworming all preschool and school-age children between the ages of 1-19 years. The day aims at eradicating intestinal worms also referred to as Soil-Transmitted Helminths (STH). NDD is a biannual initiative led by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The deworming is done through the platforms of schools and Anganwadi centres in February and August. According to World Health Organisation (WHO), around 24% of the world population is infected with soil-transmitted helminths (worms). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 10 & August 10 – National Deworming Day – by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- Aim: To eradicate intestinal worms (Soil-Transmitted Helminths) among children within the age of 1-19 years
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency – Palitana, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar

38. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) observed “Financial Literacy Week” during February 14-18 to propagate financial education messages among the public. The theme of this year's financial literacy and awareness programme was “Go Digital, Go Secure”. This theme is one of the strategic objectives of the ‘National Strategy for Financial Education 2020-2025’. The RBI has been conducting ‘Financial Literacy Week’ every year since 2016. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 14-18 – Financial Literacy Week – by RBI (since - 2016)
- 2022's theme – “Go Digital, Go Secure”
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

39. On February 11, the “World Unani Day” is celebrated every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of visionary scholar Hakim Ajmal Khan, who has contributed in the development of the Unani system of Medicine. This year marks the 5th World Unani Day. Every year, on this day, the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine, ministry of AYUSH organises an International Conference on Unani Medicine. The theme for the International conference of 2022 is “Diet and Nutrition in Unani Medicine for good health and well-being”. The First World Unani day was celebrated in 2017.

[{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 11 – 5th World Unani Day (since - 2017) | Birth anniversary of – Hakim Ajmal Khan
- Theme of Int. Conference on Unani Medicine – “Diet & Nutrition in Unani Medicine for good health & well-being”
- HQs of Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine – Hyderabad | DG – Asim Ali Khan
- Ministry of AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of AYUSH: Munjapara Mahendrabhai

40. The International Day of Women and Girls in Science is observed by the United Nations (UN) on 11 February each year to promote the participation of women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. The UNGA declared this day on 11 February, 2015 and this year marked the 7th observance of this day. In 2022, the theme is “Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Water Unites Us”. The day is implemented by the UNESCO and UN-Women, in coordination with Civil Society Institutions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 11 – 7th International Day of Women & Girls in Science – by UN (since - 2016)
- 2022's Theme – “Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Water Unites Us”
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres | Formed in – October 24, 1945
- HQs of UN Women – New York, USA | Executive Director – Ms. Sima Bahous
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay | Founded in – 1945

Meetings, Conferences & Summits

1. 12th edition of biennial defence exhibition “Defexpo 2022” was scheduled from March 10 to 13 with the theme “India-The Emerging Defence Manufacturing Hub” in Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar. In the event, defence manufacturers will exhibit their wares at the Helipad Exhibition Centre at Gandhinagar. Foreign defence manufacturers, including Rafael Advanced Defence Systems, Israel Aerospace Industries Ltd, Boeing, Lockheed Martin, Airbus, among others will also participate for their respective exhibits. Various Indian players in defence sector will display their products at the exhibition that will have a “India pavilion” and a “Gujarat pavilion.” The Def-Expo 2022 will also feature a “Bandhan ceremony”. At the event, 2nd edition of the ‘India-Africa Defence Ministers Conclave’ will also take place. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Defexpo 2022” – scheduled from March 10 to 13 in Ahmedabad & Gandhinagar
- Theme – “India-The Emerging Defence Manufacturing Hub”
- 2nd edition of the ‘India-Africa Defence Ministers Conclave’ also scheduled to take place at the Defexpo
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – AcharyaDevVrat

2. Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in partnership with Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India hosted the 28th edition of the “DST-CII Technology Summit” on 23-24 February 2022. Singapore is the Partner Country for Technology Summit in 2022. The summit was inaugurated by Dr Jitendra Singh. The summit was held on the theme “Building Economies for the Future” under the Chairmanship of Vipin Sondhi (Chairman of CII National Mission on Technology, Innovation & Research). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 28th edition of the “DST-CII Technology Summit 2022” – hosted by CII + DST (Partner Country - Singapore)
- Theme of the Summit – “Building Economies for the Future” | Chairman of the Summit – Vipin Sondhi

3. Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) of Ministry of Culture organized a 2-day international conference “Devayatanam” - an odyssey of Indian temple architecture on February 25-26, 2022 at Hampi, Karnataka. The Union Minister for Culture, Tourism and DoNER, Shri G. Kishan Reddy inaugurated the conference. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ASI organized a 2-day international conference “Devayatanam” on Indian temple architecture at Hampi, Karnataka
- The conference was inaugurated by – G. Kishan Reddy
- HQs of ASI – New Delhi | Director General – V. Vidyavathi

4. In February 2022, the 25th meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) was held in Mumbai, under the Chairpersonship of Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman. The Council deliberated on the various mandates of the FSDC and major macro-financial challenges arising in view of global and domestic developments. The idea to create FSDC was first mooted by Raghuram Rajan Committee in 2008. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nirmala Sitharaman – chaired the 25th meeting of the Financial Stability & Development Council (FSDC)
- Idea to create FSDC was first mooted by – Raghuram Rajan Committee
- HQs of FSDC – New Delhi | Chairman – Nirmala Sitharaman



5. On February 26, Ministry of MSME held MSME Conclave for National SC/ST Hub (NSSH) as part of the 2-Day MSME Conclave at Sindhudurg in Maharashtra. Secretary, MSME B. B Swain Minister chaired the conclave and launched Union Bank MSME RuPay Credit Card. He also inaugurated Coir Board Regional Office at Kankavali in Sindhudurg. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of MSME – held “MSME Conclave for National SC/ST Hub (NSSH)” at Sindhudurg, Maharashtra
- Chaired by – B. B Swain Minister (Secretary, MSME)
- Ministry of MSME: Narayan Rane | Constituency – Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg, Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of MSME: Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma

6. On February 25, Nepal and India held the 9th meetings of the Joint Working Group (JWG, Joint Secretary level) and the Joint Steering Committee (JSC, Secretary level) on bilateral power sector cooperation in Kathmandu. The JSC meeting was co-chaired by Alok Kumar, Power Secretary. Both countries agreed to form a Joint Hydro Development Committee to further explore the development of viable hydropower projects in Nepal with a focus on storage. Nepal became an energy surplus country in August 2021 when the 456 MW Upper Tamakoshi Hydropower Project came into full operation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nepal + India = held the 9th meetings of the JWG & JSC on bilateral power sector cooperation in Kathmandu
- Nepal + India = to form a Joint Hydro Development Committee to explore development of hydropower projects in Nepal
- JSC meeting was co-chaired by – Alok Kumar (Power Secretary)
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari | PM – Sher Bahadur Deuba
- Ministry of Power and Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh | Constituency – Arrah, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Power: Krishan Pal

7. In February 2022, the African Union held the 35th African Union Summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The theme of 2022's AU summit was “Building Resilience in Nutrition on the African Continent”. Participants of the 35th extra ordinary summit of the African Union named Senegalese leader Macky Sall as the new President of the African Union (AU). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 35th African Union Summit – held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- Theme of 2022's AU summit – “Building Resilience in Nutrition on the African Continent”
- Macky Sall ([Senegal](#)) – named as the new President of the African Union (AU)

8. On February 15, India's Defence Secretary Dr. Ajay Kumar visited Maldives on February 13-14 and co-chaired the 3rd “India-Maldives Defence Cooperation Dialogue 2022”. The first such Defence Cooperation Dialogue was held in July 2016. During the visit, Ajay Kumar handed over the refitted ship ‘CGS Huravee’ to Maldives. A made in India Trinkat-class patrol vessel was gifted to the Maldivian Coast Guard in 2006. He also handed over 2.8 tons (2800 Kgs) of medical equipment to Maldives for use by Maldives National Defence Force's Senahiya Military Hospital. The Defence Secretary also inaugurated the Phase -I extension of the Composite Training Centre (CTC) of the MNDF located in Maafilaafushi, which was built using \$1.07 million in grant assistance provided by India. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Ajay Kumar – co-chaired the 3rd “India-Maldives Defence Cooperation Dialogue 2022”
- Ajay Kumar – handed over the refitted ship ‘CGS Huravee’ to Maldives
- Ajay Kumar – handed over 2.8 tons (2800 Kgs) of medical equipment to Maldives
- Ajay Kumar – inaugurated the Phase -I extension of the Composite Training Centre (CTC) of the MNDF
- [Maldives – Male – Maldivian rufiyaa](#) | [President – Ibrahim Mohamed Solih](#)

9. During the 4th “India - Australia Energy Dialogue”, India and Australia signed a letter of intent (LoI) on New and Renewable Energy technology aimed at scaling up manufacturing and deployment of ultra-low-cost solar and clean hydrogen. The dialogue was co-chaired by Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy, R. K. Singh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- R. K. Singh – co-chaired the 4th “India - Australia Energy Dialogue”
- India + Australia = a letter of intent (LoI) on New & Renewable Energy technology to reduce its cost
- [Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar](#) | [PM – Scott Morrison](#)

10. On February 10, the first One Ocean Summit (OOS) was organized by France along with the United Nations and the World Bank from 9-11 February in Brest. During the summit, UNESCO announced that at least 80% of the seabed will be mapped by 2030, compared to 20% currently. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- France + UN + World Bank – organised the 1st One Ocean Summit (OOS) – in Brest, France
- UNESCO announced that at least 80% of the seabed will be mapped by 2030
- [France – Paris – Euro](#) | [President – Emmanuel Macron](#) | [PM – Jean Castex](#)

11. On February 10, the 4th India-U.K. Home Affairs Dialogue held in virtual mode which covered a wide range of issues, including homeland security, cyber security, extradition cases, and migration and mobility. The Indian delegation was led by Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla. Both sides agreed to deepen security-related bilateral engagement. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 4th Home Affairs Dialogue – held between India & U.K. (Indian delegation led by – Ajay Kumar Bhalla)
- [UK – London – Pound Sterling](#) | [PM – Boris Johnson](#)

12. On February 11, 4th Quad ministerial meeting was held in Melbourne. This meeting was held between Foreign Ministers of the Quad countries to increase focus on Indo-Pacific cooperation. Dr. S. Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs participated in the Meeting from India. For the first time since the group was formed, countries talked about justice for various terrorist attacks in India and agreed for cooperating on sharing intelligence on threats in the Indo-Pacific region. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 4th Quad Ministerial meeting – held in Melbourne, Australia
- [QUAD countries – 4: India, US, Japan & Australia](#)



13. On February 11, External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar participated in the 4th Quad Foreign Ministers' meeting in Melbourne. On February 12, EAM and Australian Foreign Minister co-chaired the 12th Foreign Ministers' Framework Dialogue. He also co-chaired the inaugural Foreign Ministers' Cyber Framework Dialogue (FMCDF) with Australian Foreign Minister Marise Payne. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- S. Jaishankar (EAM) – participated in the 4th “Quad Foreign Ministers’ Meeting” in Melbourne, Australia
- S. Jaishankar + Marise Payne ([Australia](#)) = co-chaired the 12th “Foreign Ministers’ Framework Dialogue”
- S. Jaishankar + Marise Payne = co-chaired the 1st “Foreign Ministers’ Cyber Framework Dialogue (FMCDF)”

14. On February 17, During the virtually held 8th annual meeting of the “Indo-German Working Group on Quality Infrastructure”, India and Germany signed a ‘Work Plan 2022’ for cooperation to strengthen quality infrastructure & reduce technical barriers to trade. Consumer Affairs Secretary Rohit Kumar Singh co-chaired the meeting. A publication “United in Quality and Safety” was released providing information about the quality infrastructure in Germany and the European Union. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rohit Kumar Singh – co-chaired the 8th annual meeting of “Indo-German Working Group on Quality Infrastructure”
- India + Germany = signed a ‘Work Plan 2022’ for cooperation to strengthen quality infrastructure
- [Germany – Berlin – Euro](#) | [President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier](#)

15. On February 16, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated The Energy and Resources Institute's (TERI) 21st edition of the “World Sustainable Development Summit” (WSDS) on February 16, 2022. The experts curated on the theme “Towards a Resilient Planet: Ensuring a Sustainable and Equitable Future”. The Summit would also see participation delegates from 126 countries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – inaugurated TERI's 21st edition of the “World Sustainable Development Summit” (hosted by India)
- Theme – “Towards a Resilient Planet: Ensuring a Sustainable and Equitable Future”
- [HQs of TERI – New Delhi](#) | [DG – Dr. Vibha Dhawan](#) | [Established in – 1974](#)

16. The “ASEAN-India High Level Conference on Renewable Energy” was organized on 7-8 February, 2022 by the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) and the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in collaboration with The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). The High Level Conference focused on the theme - “Experience and Innovations for Integrated Renewables Market”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “ASEAN-India High Level Conference on Renewable Energy” – organized by MNRE & MEA + TERI
- Theme – “Experience and Innovations for Integrated Renewables Market”
- [Chairmanship of ASEAN 2022 – Cambodia](#) | [Secretariat of ASEAN – Jakarta, Indonesia](#) | [Members – 10](#)

17. The Ministry of Culture organised a first of its kind, Global Summit in Hyderabad on ‘Reimagining Museums in India’, on 15-16 February 2022. It was organised under the aegis of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. The Summit was inaugurated by G. Kishan Reddy, Minister of Culture, Tourism and Development of Northeastern Region (DoNER). The online summit had 4 broad themes: Architecture and Functional Needs, Management, Collections, and Education & Audience Engagement. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- First of its kind Global Summit on 'Reimagining Museums in India' – organised in Hyderabad by Ministry of Culture
- Summit was inaugurated by – G. Kishan Reddy
- Minister of Culture: G. Kishan Reddy | Constituency – Secunderabad, Telangana
- MoS in Minister of Culture: Arjun Ram Meghwal & Meenakashi Lekhi

18. On February 19, India was elected to host the '2023 International Olympic Committee (IOC) session' in the Jio World Centre, Mumbai. Mumbai received a historic 99% of the votes in favour of its bid from the delegates participating in the process. India will host for the first time in 40 years since 1983. The session will be held in May - June 2023. In this session, there will be the election for the host country for the 2030 Winter Olympics and sports programme for LA 2028 Olympic Games. An IOC session is the annual meeting of the members of the IOC, comprising 101 voting members and 45 honorary members. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – to host '2023 International Olympic Committee (IOC) session' in the Jio World Centre, Mumbai
- HQs of IOC – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Thomas Bach | Established in – 1894
- Summer Olympics: 2024 – Paris, France | 2028 – Los Angeles, US | 2032 – Brisbane, Australia

19. On February 22, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras and National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai organized the Bi-annual Conference 'OCEANS 2022' from February 21-24, 2022 for Global Marine Researchers, technologists and engineers, students, and policymakers. This conference was organized in India for the first time. The key theme of this event was 'Inspire-Innovate-Sustain'. This event is for global maritime professionals to learn, innovate, and lead in the protection and utilization of the world's largest natural resource Oceans. The conference also highlighted how the 'UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development' is attempting to reduce the impacts of climate change through renewable energies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Madras + NIOT = organized the Bi-annual 'OCEANS 2022' Conference for the 1st time in India
- Director of IIT Madras – V. Kamakoti

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

1. In February 2022, Mr. Yohan Poonawalla received 'Business Leader of the Year award' from Mrs. Amruta Fadnavis at the 5th edition of Gravittus Foundation's "URJA Award 2022". URJA Awards 2022 is considered as a brainchild of Usha Kakade's Gravittus Foundation. Mr. Yohan is the Chairman and Director of various Poonawalla Group of companies such as Intervale Poonawalla, Poonawalla Stud Farms, and Poonawalla Financials. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Yohan Poonawalla – received 'Business Leader of the Year award' at the Gravittus Foundation's "URJA Award 2022"

2. India government selected Uttar Pradesh as the Best State Tableau among 12 States/UTs which participated in the 73rd Republic Day parade on 26 January 2022. The tableau of Uttar Pradesh was based on the theme 'One District One Product and Kashi Vishwanath Dham'. The second place went to Karnataka for its tableau based on 'Cradle of Traditional Handicrafts', followed by Meghalaya on third position. Maharashtra won the Best State Tableau under 'People's Choice Awards' category with the theme 'Biodiversity and State Bio-symbols of Maharashtra. Ministry of Education and Ministry of Civil Aviation were declared joint winners among Ministries, while the Department of Posts took the first place. The theme of the tableau of Ministry of Education & Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship was 'National Education Policy'. Indian Navy was chosen as the Best Marching Contingent among the Services and Indian Air Force won the first place in Popular Choice Awards category. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Best State Tableau among 12 States/UTs: 1st – UP, 2nd – Karnataka, 3rd – Meghalaya
- Best State Tableau under 'People's Choice Awards' category – Maharashtra
- Best Ministry Tableau – Ministry of Education & Ministry of Civil Aviation (jointly)
- Best Department Tableau – Department of Posts
- Best Marching Contingent among the Services – Indian Navy
- Popular Choice Awards category among the Services – Indian Air Force

3. On February 10, 18 Indian Airports were chosen for "Voice of Customer Recognition" award for 2021 by the Airports Council International (ACI). It includes 7 AAI airports namely Chennai, Kolkata, Goa, Pune, Patna, Bhubaneswar and Chandigarh that participated in 'ACI-ASQ (Airport Service Quality) Survey in 2021'. ASQ Awards recognize those airports around the world that deliver the best customer experience in the opinion of their own passengers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 18 Indian Airports were chosen for "Voice of Customer Recognition" award for 2021 by the ACI
- HQs of ACI – Montreal, Canada | DG – Luis Felipe de Oliveira

4. On February 10, RailTel Corporation of India Ltd bagged the "ICAI Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 2020-21" in 'Public Sector Entities (PSE)' Category. The award was given by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RailTel – bagged the "ICAI Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 2020-21" in PSE Category
- HQs of RailTel – New Delhi | CMD of RailTel – Puneet Chawla
- HQs of ICAI – New Delhi | President – Nihar N. Jambusaria | Established in – 1949

5. On February 8, Filmmakers Rintu Thomas and Sushmit Ghosh's documentary 'Writing with Fire' nominated to compete for the 94th Academy Award in the Best Documentary Feature category. This is the first time an Indian documentary has been nominated for an Academy Award. It won the Special Jury (Impact for Change) and Audience awards at the Sundance Film Festival in January 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 'Writing with Fire' – nominated for the 94th Academy Award in the 'Best Documentary Feature' category
- Directors of 'Writing with Fire' – Rintu Thomas & Sushmit Ghosh

6. On February 17, Bill Gates was conferred with "Hilal-e-Pakistan", the 2nd highest civilian honour of Pakistan, for his efforts to help eradicate polio in Pakistan. Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has been a major contributor in worldwide polio eradication through Gavi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bill Gates – conferred with "Hilal-e-Pakistan" (2nd highest civilian honour of Pakistan)
- Pakistan – Islamabad – Pakistani Rupee | PM – Imran Khan | President – Arif Alvi

7. On February 21, Bollywood stars Ranveer Singh and Kriti Sanon received the "Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Award 2022" in the Best Actor and Best Actress category for their performances in '83' and 'Mimi', respectively. Telugu film 'Pushpa: The Rise' bagged the 'Film Of The Year' award. While Shershaah received the 'Best Film' award. Ken Ghosh bagged 'Best Director' award for 'State of Siege: Temple Attack'. 'Candy' received 'Best Web Series' award and 'Pauli' received 'Best Short Film' award. Moreover, Veteran star Asha Parekh won the award for Outstanding Contribution to Film Industry. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Award 2022":
 - Best Actor: Ranveer Singh (for '83')
 - Best Actress: Kriti Sanon (for 'Mimi')
 - Best Director: Ken Ghosh
 - Best Film: 'Shershaah'
 - Film of The Year: 'Pushpa: The Rise' (Telugu film)
 - Best Short Film: 'Pauli'
 - Best Web Series: 'Candy'
 - Outstanding Contribution to Film Industry: Asha Parekh

8. On February 18, Coal India Limited, a Maharatna company, was awarded the "India's Most Trusted/Dependable Public Sector Company" award at the "Energy Meet and Excellence Award" function organized by Industry Chamber ASSOCHAM in Kolkata. CIL Chairman Pramod Agarwal was included in the list of "Top 40 CEOs of India" released in January 2022 by the well-known organization Start-up Lens. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CIL – awarded the "India's Most Trusted/Dependable Public Sector Company" award by ASSOCHAM
- Pramod Agarwal – was included in the list of "Top 40 CEOs of India" released by Start-up Lens (in Jan 2022)
- HQs of CIL – Kolkata, West Bengal | CMD – Pramod Agrawal
- HQs of ASSOCHAM – New Delhi | President – Vineet Agarwal

9. On February 2, Neeraj Chopra was nominated for the “2022 Laureus World Breakthrough of the Year Award”. At the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, he clinched the Gold medal with a throw of 87.58m in his 2nd attempt. He is only the 3rd Indian athlete to be nominated for a Laureus Award, after wrestler Vinesh Phogat and cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar. Besides him, five others have been nominated for the award - Emma Raducanu, Daniil Medvedev, Pedri, Yulimar Rojas, Arianne Titmus. “Golden Boy Neeraj Chopra” is considered to be a short biography of Indian athlete, Neeraj Chopra. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Neeraj Chopra – nominated for the “2022 Laureus World Breakthrough of the Year Award”
- Other players who are nominated – Emma Raducanu, Daniil Medvedev, Pedri, Yulimar Rojas, Arianne Titmus
- [HQs of Union for International Cancer Control \(UICC\) – Geneva, Switzerland](#)

10. On February 25, Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) received 3 awards at the 12th “Annual Aegis Graham Bell Awards” in a virtual ceremony on 25th Feb 2022 for its indigenously designed & developed innovative Telecom solutions in various categories. CDOT is declared TOP WINNER in three categories - ‘Tech for Social Good’, ‘Innovative in Lockdown Management’ & ‘Preventive measures to combat Covid 19’ category. C-DOT is a premier research centre under the Department of Telecommunications. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- C-DOT – received 3 awards at the 12th “Annual Aegis Graham Bell Awards”
- CDOT is declared TOP WINNER in 3 categories:
 - ‘Tech for Social Good’
 - ‘Innovative in Lockdown Management’
 - ‘Preventive measures to combat Covid 19’
- [HQs of C-DoT – New Delhi](#) | [Executive Director – Rajkumar Upadhyay](#)

11. On February 8, Sarvajanik Vachnalay (SaVaNa), Nashik conferred the 18th “Karyaksham (efficient) MP Award” or “Madhavrao Limaye Award” to Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari. The award is presented in the memory of renowned socialist leader late Madhavrao Limaye, the former member of Maharashtra legislative council, social worker and author. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nitin Gadkari – conferred 18th “Karyaksham (efficient) MP Award” or “Madhavrao Limaye Award” by SaVaNa
- Sarvajanik Vachnalay (SaVaNa) – located in Nashik, Maharashtra

12. Union Minister of State for Education Smt. Annpurna Devi presented “National ICT Awards” for 2020 & 2021 to 49 teachers across India. ICT Award 2020 was given for ‘School Teachers’. From 2021, two new categories of awards have been added for ‘Teacher Educators’ & for the ‘Best Practicing States & UTs’. The National ICT Awards are instituted by the Central Institute of Educational Technology (CIET), a constituent unit of the NCERT. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Annpurna Devi – presented “National ICT Awards” for 2020 & 2021 to 49 teachers across India (instituted by CIET)
- ICT Award’s categories: ‘For School Teachers’, ‘For Teacher Educators’ & ‘For Best Practicing States & UTs’ (newly added)

13. On February 25, Prof Deepak Dhar from Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Pune (IISER Pune) became the first Indian to receive the prestigious 'Boltzmann Medal' for the year 2022. The award was declared for his contribution in the field of 'Statistical Physics'. He shared the award with American scientist John Hopfield. This medal is awarded in every three years by the Commission on Statistical Physics of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Prof Deepak Dhar – became the first Indian to receive the prestigious 'Boltzmann Medal'
- He shared the award with American scientist John Hopfield



Appointments & Resignations

1. Lieutenant General GAV Reddy has been appointed as the new head of the Defence Intelligence Agency (DIA). General Reddy succeeded Lt Gen KJS Dhillon. The post of the director general is held on a rotation basis between the three Armed services. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Lt Gen GAV Reddy – appointed as DG of the Defence Intelligence Agency (succeeding - Lt Gen KJS Dhillon)
- HQs of DIA – New Delhi | DG – Lt Gen GAV Reddy

2. On February 5, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) Vice-Chancellor Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar was appointed as Chairperson of the University Grants Commission (UGC) for a period of 5 years. He succeeded D P Singh. His appointment comes at a time when the government is trying to launch the Higher Education Commission of India, envisaged in the National Education Policy 2020. The Higher Education Commission is expected to subsume existing regulatory bodies such as the UGC and the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar – appointed as the Chairperson of UGC (succeeding - D P Singh)
- HQs of UGC – New Delhi | Chairman – Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar | Founded in – 1956

3. On February 5, IndiGo appointed its co-founder and promoter, Rahul Bhatia as its first Managing Director to focus on expanding the airlines presence in India and international markets. IndiGo's fleet as of December 31, 2021 comprised 283 aircraft. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rahul Bhatia – appointed as the first MD of IndiGo (InterGlobe Aviation Ltd)
- HQs of IndiGo – Gurugram, Haryana | CEO – Ronojoy Dutta | Chairman – Meleveetil Damodaran

4. On February 4, Captain Binesh Kumar Tyagi was selected by the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) to be the next Chairman and Managing Director of Shipping Corporation of India Ltd (SCI). The selection of Captain Tyagi will have to be approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC). If appointed, he will replace H. K. Joshi who will step down from the company on May 31 on superannuation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Captain Binesh Kumar Tyagi – selected by PESB as the next CMD of Shipping Corporation of India
- HQs of SCI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CMD – H.K. Joshi (till May 31, 2022)
- HQs of PESB – New Delhi | Chairperson – Mallika Srinivasan

5. NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg will take over as Norway's Central Bank Governor at the end of 2022. The appointment comes amid escalating tensions between the West and Russia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jens Stoltenberg (NATO Chief) – will take over as the Governor of Norges Bank (Norway's Central Bank)
- Norway – Oslo – Krone | PM – Jonas Gahr Store

6. On February 7, Bollywood star Akshay Kumar was appointed as the brand ambassador of Uttarakhand after his meeting with CM Pushkar Singh Dhami, ahead of Assembly Elections 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Akshay Kumar – appointed as the brand ambassador of Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh

7. On February 5, Footwear maker Bata India Limited appointed Bollywood actor Disha Patani as the new brand ambassador. The move comes as Bata aims to appeal younger shoppers and position itself as a ‘fashion forward’ brand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Disha Patani – appointed as the brand ambassador of Bata India
- HQs of Bata – Lausanne, Switzerland | CEO – Sandeep Kataria
- HQs of Bata – Gurugram, Haryana | CEO – Gunjan Shah

8. On February 3, the central government gave the charge of the Controller General of Accounts (CGA), Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance to Sonali Singh, Additional Controller General of Accounts, after superannuation of Dipak Dash. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sonali Singh – appointed as the Controller General of Accounts (succeeding - Dipak Dash)
- CAG – G. C. Murmu | CGA – Sonali Singh

9. On February 1, G. A. Srinivasa Murthy was appointed director of Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL) of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) after superannuation of Dr Dashrath Ram. DRDL is a premier laboratory of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Missile Complex in Hyderabad. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- G. A. Srinivasa Murthy – appointed as Director of DRDO-DRDL (Hyderabad) | Succeeding – Dr. Dashrath Ram
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in – 1958

10. Mumbai-based online gaming company Games24x7 roped in Bollywood star Hrithik Roshan as brand ambassador for its online skill gaming platform, RummyCircle. With the actor, the brand will unveil the new campaign #RahoEkKadamAagey. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hrithik Roshan – appointed as Brand Ambassador of ‘RummyCircle’ – by Games24x7

11. Ravi Mittal, former secretary at the Department of Sports, is appointed as the Chairman of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) for a period of 5 years or till he is 65 years of age, whichever is early. The chairman's post at the IBBI fell vacant after M. S. Sahoo retired on September 30, 2021. In between, Navrang Saini was appointed as Interim Chairman. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ravi Mittal – appointed as the Chairman of IBBI for 5 years (succeeding - Navrang Saini)
- HQs of IBBI – New Delhi | Chairperson – Ravi Mitta | Established in – 2016 (set up by Ministry of Corporate Affairs)



12. On February 1, Power System Operation Corporation Ltd (POSOCO) Director (System Operation) S. R. Narasimhan took additional charge of the post of chairman and managing director. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- S. R. Narasimhan – took additional charge of CMD of POSOCO
- HQs of POSOCO – New Delhi | CMD – S. R. Narasimhan

13. On February 8, Digital healthcare platform 'MediBuddy' roped in Amitabh Bachchan as its official brand ambassador to strengthen its brand positioning in tier 2 and 3 cities and amplify its reach. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MediBuddy – roped in Amitabh Bachchan as official brand ambassador
- HQs of MediBuddy – Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Satish Kannan

14. On February 7, Pfizer India appointed Pradip Shah as the Chairman of its board following the resignation of R. A. Shah. Pradip Shah is the ex-MD and a founding member of CRISIL. He also assisted in founding HDFC in 1977. He has also served as a consultant to USAID, the World Bank, and the ADB. He is currently the Chairman of IndAsia Fund Advisors. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pradip Shah – appointed as the Chairman of Pfizer India (succeeding - R. A. Shah)
- HQs of Pfizer India – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Pradip Shah | MD – S. Sridhar

15. On February 12, Natarajan Chandrasekaran was reappointed as the Executive Chairman of Tata Sons for 5 years. Chandra took charge on February 21, 2017 for a period of 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- N. Chandrasekaran – reappointed as the Executive Chairman of Tata Sons for 5 years
- HQs of Tata Sons – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Natarajan Chandrasekaran

16. On February 11, With a view to reaching out to farmers to its agritech platform, Krishi Network roped in film actor Pankaj Tripathi as a brand ambassador. The actor has also invested in the start-up. Krishi Network offers '15-minute answers' for questions on any issue related to agriculture. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pankaj Tripathi – appointed as the Brand Ambassador of 'Krishi Network' an agritech platform

17. On February 11, Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari was appointed Chief Justice of the Madras High Court. He had taken over as the Acting Chief Justice of the Madras High Court after the transfer of Justice Sanjib Banerjee to the Meghalaya High Court in November 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari – appointed Chief Justice of the Madras High Court
- Ministry for Law & Justice: Kiren Rijju | Constituency – Arunachal West
- MoS in Ministry of Law & Justice – S. P. Singh Baghel

18. On February 14, Ruchir Sharma joined Rockefeller Capital Management as the Managing Director and Chairman of Rockefeller International. He is also an author and 'The Rise and Fall of Nations' and 'Breakout Nations' are two of his award-winning bestsellers. He is also the a contributing editor at The Financial Times, where he writes a bi-weekly column. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ruchir Sharma – appointed as the MD & Chairman of Rockefeller International
- [HQs of Rockefeller International – New York, US](#) | [CMD – Ruchir Sharma](#)
- [Rockefeller Capital Management President & CEO – Gregory Fleming](#)

19. On February 13, Bihar appointed Bhojpuri singer and BJP MP Manoj Tiwari as the brand ambassador for Khadi and other handicrafts of the state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bihar – appointed Manoj Tiwari as the brand ambassador for Khadi & other Handicrafts of the state
- [Bihar: Capital – Patna](#) | [CM – Nitish Kumar](#) | [Governor – Phagu Chauhan](#)

20. On February 16, Gaming app A23 signed Shah Rukh Khan as its brand ambassador. This app is owned by online skill gaming company 'Head Digital Works'. He will feature in its 'Chalo Saath Khele' campaign along with a first-of-its-kind responsible gaming campaign. According to the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry's (FICCI) gaming committee, India emerged as the largest fantasy sports market in the world with over 13 Cr users playing fantasy sports. According to a report by consulting firm RedSeer, India's gaming market will grow to a \$7 billion valuation in FY2026. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shah Rukh Khan – appointed as brand ambassador of gaming app "A23" to feature in its 'Chalo Saath Khele' campaign
- A23 – owned by online skill gaming company 'Head Digital Works'
- According to RedSeer report: India's gaming market will grow to a \$7 billion valuation in FY2026
- [HQs of Head Digital Works – Hyderabad](#) | [CEO – Deepak Gullapalli](#)

21. On February 13, Delhi High Court appointed former J&K High Court Chief Justice Gita Mittal as the chairperson of the Committee of Administrators to discharge the functions of the Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI). Senior Advocate Chetan Mittal and a renowned athlete S. D. Mudgil were appointed as a member of the committee. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Justice Gita Mittal – appointed as the Chairperson of the Committee of Administrators to oversee TFFI
- [HQs of TTFI – New Delhi](#) | [President – Dushyant Chautala](#) | [Secretary Gen – Arun K Banerjee](#) | [Established – 1926](#)

22. On February 11, Former Vice Admiral G. Ashok Kumar was appointed as India's 1st National Maritime Security Coordinator (NMSC) to strengthen the India's maritime security following the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack 14 years ago. The NMSC works in coordination with the National Security Council Secretariat headed by NSA Ajit Doval. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Former Vice Admiral G. Ashok Kumar – appointed as India's 1st National Maritime Security Coordinator
- [HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi](#) | [Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar](#) | [VC – S. N. Ghormade](#) | [Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950](#)

23. On February 15, Haryana-cadre IPS officer Kala Ramachandran was appointed as Gurugram's first woman police commissioner. He succeeded K. K. Rao. Besides, traffic management and road safety, she will also focus on the security and safety of citizens from street crimes like hooliganism, eve-teasing, and drunken driving. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IPS officer Kala Ramachandran – appointed as Gurugram's first woman police commissioner (succeeding - KK Rao)
- [Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh](#) | [CM – Manohar Lal Khattar](#) | [Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya](#)

24. On February 13, German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier was re-elected for a second term of 5 years. Germany's president has little executive power but is considered an important moral authority. Before first becoming president in 2017, he has served as Chancellor Angela Merkel's foreign minister. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Frank-Walter Steinmeier – re-elected as the President of Germany for a second term
- [Germany – Berlin – Euro](#) | [President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier](#)
- [Indian Ambassador in Germany – P. Harish](#)

25. On February 14, IAS Vineet Joshi, Additional Secretary, Department of Higher Education, was appointed as the new Chairman of Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE). Joshi replaced Manoj Ahuja. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vineet Joshi – appointed as the Chairman of CBSE (replacing - Manoj Ahuja)
- [HQs of CBSE – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman – Vineet Joshi](#) | [Formed in – 1962](#)

26. On February 15, Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) appointed Debashis Mitra as its President for the 2022-23 term. Aniket Sunil Talati was elected as Vice President of the ICAI which is the world's 2nd largest accounting body. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Debashis Mitra – appointed as the President of ICAI
- Aniket Sunil Talati – appointed as the Vice President of ICAI
- [HQs of ICAI – New Delhi](#) | [President – Debashis Mitra](#) | [Vice President – Aniket Sunil Talati](#) | [Established in – 1949](#)

27. On February 16, Sanjay Malhotra, Secretary, Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance, was nominated as a Director on the Central Board of Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Prior to his appointment as DFS Secretary, Malhotra was the Chairman and Managing Director of REC Ltd. He succeeded Debashish Panda, who completed his term on January 31, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sanjay Malhotra – appointed as Director on the Central Board of RBI (succeeding – Debashish Panda)
- [HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [Governor – Shaktikanta Das \(25th\)](#) | [Established in – 1st April, 1935](#)
- [Total Deputy Governors \(4\) – Mahesh Kumar Jain](#) | [T. Rabi Sankar](#) | [Michael D. Patra](#) | [M. Rajeshwar Rao](#)

28. On February 19, International chess player woman FIDE master TanishkaK otia and her sister Riddhika Kotia were announced as brand ambassadors from Gurugram for the centre's 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tanishka & Riddhika Kotia – appointed as brand ambassadors from Gurugram for ‘Beti Bachao Beti Padhao’ scheme
- Tanishka Kotia – a Chess player with title “Woman FIDE master”
- HQs of FIDE – Lausanne, Switzerland | President/Chairman – Arkady Dvorkovich
- Managing Director – Dana Reizniece-Ozola | Founded on – July 20, 1924
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya

29. On February 22, India was elected for the new Chairship of the International Rubber Study Group (IRSG). IRSG is the inter-governmental organisation of natural rubber (NR) and synthetic rubber (SR) producing and consuming countries. Head of the Indian delegation to IRSG, and Executive Director of Indian Rubber Board, K. N. Raghavan, will officiate as the Chairman of IRSG for the next two years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – elected as the new Chair of the International Rubber Study Group (IRSG)
- K. N. Raghavan – appointed as the Chairman of IRSG
- HQs of IRSG – Singapore | Chair Country – India | Chairman – K. N. Raghavan

30. On February 17, Sportswear company Adidas roped in table tennis player, Manika Batra as the brand ambassador. She joined Adidas’ roster of women athletes, consisting of names such as Mirabai Chanu, Lovlina Borgohain, Hima Das, Nikhat Zareen, among others. Adidas is driving the campaign, “Impossible Is Nothing” through its athletes to celebrate the women in the world of sports. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manika Batra – roped in as the brand ambassador of Adidas
- HQs of Adidas – Herzogenaurach, Germany | CEO – Kasper Rorsted

31. On February 18, International Olympic Committee Athletes’ Commission (IOC AC) re-elected Emma Terho (Finland, Ice Hockey) as its Chair, Seung Min Ryu (Republic of Korea, Table Tennis) as first Vice-Chair, and Sarah Walker (New Zealand, Cycling) as second Vice-Chair of the Commission. In December 2021, the IOC Executive Board (EB) accepted the proposal by the IOC AC to create a second Vice-Chair position. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Emma Terho (Finland, Ice Hockey) – re-elected as Chair of the International Olympic Committee Athletes’ Commission
- Seung Min Ryu (Republic of Korea, Table Tennis) – elected as the first Vice-Chair of the IOC AC
- Sarah Walker (New Zealand, Cycling) – elected as the second Vice-Chair of the IOC AC
- HQs of IOC – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Thomas Bach | Established in – 1894

32. The Delhi-based Institute of Economic Growth appointed Chetan Ghate as the new Director succeeding Ajit Mishra. He is the winner of the 2014 Mahalanobis Memorial gold medal for the best research economist in the country under the age of 45. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chetan Ghate – appointed as the new Director of ‘Institute of Economic Growth’ (succeeding - Ajit Mishra)



33. On February 23, Coca-Cola India roped in Shah Rukh Khan as the new brand ambassador for Thums Up to present the #ThumsUpStrong platform and to tell the story of the #ThumsUpStrong spirit. Thums Up became a billion-dollar brand in 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shah Rukh Khan – roped in as the new brand ambassador for Thums Up by Coca-Cola India

34. On February 24, in a top level administrative realignment, the central government announced to elevate senior IAS officers and Digital India Corporation CEO, Abhishek Singh as new National e-Governance Division (NeGD) CEO. Moreover, the Appointments Committee named Ramesh Kumar Sudhanshu as MyGov, CEO for a tenure of 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Abhishek Singh – appointed as the CEO of National e-Governance Division (NeGD)
- Ramesh Kumar Sudhanshu – appointed as the CEO of MyGov (under MeitY)

35. On February 26, Odisha's first tribal chief minister as well as last Congress chief minister of the state, Hemananda Biswal passed away at the age of 82. Biswal, a Bhuyan tribal from Jharsuguda district, served as the chief minister twice from 1989 to 1990 and 1999 to 2000. He was elected to the Odisha assembly for the first time in 1974 from Laikera constituency. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hemananda Biswal – a Politician – passed away (Odisha's first tribal CM)
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

36. On February 24, Swedish furniture retailer Ikea appointed Susanne Pulverer as its new and first woman Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Sustainability Officer (CSO) for its India business. She succeeds Peter Betzel. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Susanne Pulverer – appointed as the first woman CEO & Chief Sustainability Officer (CSO) of IKEA India
- HQs of IKEA – Delft, Netherlands | CEO – Jesper Brodin

37. On February 24, Dish TV India Limited's DTH brand D2H, roped in Rishabh Pant as its new brand ambassador for two years. The company operates using multiple satellite platforms including SES-8, GSAT-15, and ST-2 and has a bandwidth capacity of 1134 MHz. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rishabh Pant – roped in as new brand ambassador of D2H (Dish TV India Ltd)

38. On February 24, Takuya Tsumura was appointed as the new President & CEO of Honda Cars India Ltd (HCIL) with effect from April 1, 2022. Tsumura will take over from Gaku Nakanishi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Takuya Tsumura – appointed as the new President & CEO of Honda Cars India (effect from April 1, 2022)
- HQs of Honda Cars India – Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh | President & CEO – Takuya Tsumura



39. On February 23, Finance Ministry's principal economic advisor Sanjeev Sanyal is inducted as a full-time member in the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM). The appointment is for a tenure of two years. The EAC-PM is chaired by Bibek Debroy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sanjeev Sanyal – inducted as a full-time member in the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM)
- The EAC-PM is chaired by – Bibek Debroy

40. In February 2022, Andhra Pradesh government appointed former DGP Gautam Sawang as the Chairman of the Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission. Sawang is due for superannuation in July 2023. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gautam Sawang – appointed as the Chairman of the Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

41. On February 24, IDBI Bank approved the reappointment of Rakesh Sharma as the managing director and chief executive officer (MD & CEO) of the bank for a period of 3 years, effective March 19, 2022. Currently, the government of India and LIC hold 94.71% shareholding in the bank in which the LIC holds 49.24%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rakesh Sharma – reappointed as the MD & CEO of IDBI Bank for a period of 3 years
- HQs of IDBI Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD CEO – Rakesh Sharma | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Established in – 1964

42. On February 25, K. S. Mani was elected to the Board of Directors of the National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India (NCDFI). NCDFI is the apex body of dairy and edible oil cooperatives in India. K.S. Mani is the Chairman of the Kerala Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation, known popularly by brand name Milma. Established 1970 as a subsidiary of the National Dairy Development Board, NCDFI primarily works for the promotion of dairy, oil seeds, edible oil and the vanaspathy industries, oil seed growers' cooperatives and affiliated organisations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- K. S. Mani – elected to the Board of Directors of the National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India (NCDFI)
- K. S. Mani – Chairman of the Kerala Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation or Milma
- HQs of NCDFI – Anand, Gujarat | Chairman – Shri Mangal Jit Rai

43. On February 4, Dinesh Prasad Saklani was appointed as the director of the NCERT for 5 years. He succeeded Hrushikesh Senapaty. Prof Sridhar Srivastava was holding the position as acting NCERT Director after Senapaty's retirement. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dinesh Prasad Saklani – appointed as the Director of the NCERT (succeeding - Hrushikesh Senapaty)
- HQs of NCERT – New Delhi | Director – Dinesh Prasad Saklani | Founded in – 1961

44. On February 8, Peruvian President Pedro Castillo swore in his 4th Cabinet since he took office in July, 2021. His third Cabinet lasted just 3 days. Castillo named Anibal Torres, his former justice minister, as the new Prime Minister to replace Hector Valer. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anibal Torres – appointed as the PM of Peru
- Peru – Lima – Sol | President – Pedro Castillo | PM – Anibal Torres

45. On February 8, Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit, a political science professor at Savitribai Phule Pune University, was appointed as the 1st women Vice Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) for the next 5 years. She was appointed by President Ram Nath Kovind, who is the University's Visitor. She succeeds M. Jagadesh Kumar, who is appointed chairperson of the University Grants Commission. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit – appointed as the 1st women Vice Chancellor of JNU (succeeding - M. Jagadesh Kumar)
- Vice Chancellor of JNU – Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit (1st woman)

46. On February 8, Dr S Unnikrishnan Nair was appointed as the new director of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC). He replaced S Somanath, who took over as chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- S. Unnikrishnan Nair – appointed as the new Director of 'Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre' (succeeding - S Somanath)
- HQs of VSSC – Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala | Director – S. Unnikrishnan Nair

47. On February 9, Senior bureaucrat Sanjay Malhotra was appointed as the Secretary of Department of Financial Services, as part of a top-level bureaucratic reshuffle effected by the Central government. Alkesh Kumar Sharma was named as the Secretary (Coordination) in the Cabinet Secretariat. S Kishore is appointed as the Chairman of Staff Selection Commission (SSC) replacing Deepti Umashankar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sanjay Malhotra – appointed as the Secretary of Department of Financial Services
- Alkesh Kumar Sharma – appointed as the Secretary (Coordination) in the Cabinet Secretariat
- S. Kishore – appointed as the Chairman of Staff Selection Commission (SSC)
- HQs of SSC – New Delhi | Chairman – S. Kishore

48. In February 2022, Lieutenant-Colonel Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba was elected as Burkina Faso's President. Damiba succeeded Roch Marc Christian Kabore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba – elected as the President of Burkina Faso
- Burkina Faso – Ouagadougou – West African CFA franc | President – Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba

49. The World Bank's India head & Bangladeshi Economist Junaid Kamal Ahmad was appointed as Vice President of operation side of the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA). MIGA is an international financial institution which offers political risk insurance and credit enhancement guarantees. Ahmad will assume his new role from April 16, 2022. Junaid Kamal Ahmad is the second Bangladeshi national after Faisal Chaudhary to become the Vice President of the international lending institution. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Junaid Kamal Ahmad (Bangladesh) – appointed as Vice President of operations at the MIGA
- HQs of MIGA – Washington, D.C., U.S.

50. On February 28, Former banker Madhabi Puri Buch was appointed as the new Chairperson of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for a 3-year term. She is the first-ever woman to head the capital markets regulator. She succeeded Ajay Tyagi. She is the founder-director of Agora Advisory Pvt. Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madhabi Puri Buch – appointed as the first-ever woman Chairperson of the SEBI for 3 years (succeeding - Ajay Tyagi)
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

51. On February 24, Samiran Gupta was named the new head of policy for microblogging platform Twitter in India. He will lead the company's public policy and philanthropy efforts in India and South Asia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Samiran Gupta – named the new head of policy for Twitter in India
- HQs of Twitter – San Francisco, California, US | CEO – Parag Agrawal | Founded in – 2006

52. On February 27, EdTech platform upGrad roped in legendary actor Amitabh Bachchan as the official brand ambassador. The actor will promote the importance of life-long learning. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amitabh Bachchan – appointed as the Brand Ambassador of 'upGrad'
- HQs of upGrad – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Arjun Mohan

53. On February 28, Pune-based leading Academician and former Vice-Chairman of the University Grants Commission (UGC), Dr. Bhushan Patwardhan was nominated as the new Chairperson of the Executive Committee of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), an autonomous body funded by the UGC. He is currently the chairman of the interdisciplinary AYUSH R&D task force on Covid-19. While, M. Jagadesh Kumar is the President of the General Council of the NAAC. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Bhushan Patwardhan – appointed as the new Chairperson of the Executive Committee of the NAAC
- HQs of NAAC – Bangalore, Karnataka | Director – S. C. Sharma



Amount & Agreements

1. On February 1, Sony Interactive Entertainment (SIE), the Japanese video game firm, acquired 'Bungie', a video game developer for \$3.6 billion. Bungie has created some of the video game industry's most highly-acclaimed franchises, including Marathon, Myth, Halo, and Destiny. Also, Microsoft announced to buy Activision Blizzard for nearly \$70 billion. This deal, when closed, would make it the world's third-largest gaming firm by revenue, behind Tencent and Sony. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sony Interactive Entertainment – acquired 'Bungie' for \$3.6 billion
- Microsoft – announced to buy Activision Blizzard for nearly \$70 billion

2. On February 13, the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways sanctioned Rs 24.53 Cr for dredging works in Gomati river and setting up of 10 floating jetties in Tripura from Udaipur in Gomati district to Sonamura. Of the total 93-km proposed waterway from Sonamura in Tripura's Sepahijala district to Daudkandi in Bangladesh, around 15.5-km stretch needs dredging to operationalise the route. Gomati is a transboundary river between India and Bangladesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways – sanctioned Rs 24.53 Cr for dredging works in Gomati river in Tripura
- 10 floating jetties will be set up in Tripura
- Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Shripad Yesso Naik & Shantanu Thakur

3. On February 18, the Government of India (GoI), the State Governments of Karnataka and Odisha and the World Bank signed a loan agreement of \$115 million (Rs 869 Cr) for implementation of "Rejuvenating Watersheds for Agricultural Resilience through Innovative Development" (REWARD) Project to adopt improved watershed management practices to help increase farmers' resilience to climate change, promote higher productivity and better incomes. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) will support Karnataka with \$60 million, Odisha with \$49 million, and the remaining \$6 million will be for the central government's Department of Land Resources. The \$115 million (Rs 869 Cr) loan has a maturity of 15 years, including a grace period of 4.5 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- GoI + Karnataka + Odisha + World Bank = a loan agreement of \$115 mn for implementation of 'REWARD' Project
- Loan (\$115 million) – \$60 million to Karnataka, \$49 million to Odisha, \$6 million to Department of Land Resources
- Maturity period - 15 years | Grace period - 4.5 years
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., US | Members – 189 | President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

4. On February 19, India and UAE signed the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) for boosting the merchandise trade to US\$ 100 billion over next 5 years. The deal was signed during the virtual summit meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi. During the summit, they also agreed to establish India's 1st IIT abroad in UAE. The Indian Institute of Technology (IITs) are governed by the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961 and as of now there are 23 IITs in India. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- India + UAE = signed the CEPA for boosting the merchandise trade to \$100 billion over next 5 years
- India's 1st IIT abroad will be established in UAE
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

5. In February 2022, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) approved the tendering process for a Rs 1,000 Cr project for cleaning up Pune's rivers, Mula, Mutha and Mula-Mutha (confluence of both rivers). The pollution abatement of river Mula-Mutha had been delayed with issues of land acquisition, re-tendering and objection to the project. The project was aimed at improving the water quality by augmenting sewage collection systems and sewage treatment facilities in Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) area. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- JICA approved Rs 1,000 Cr river clean-up project – for cleaning up Pune's rivers - Mula, Mutha & Mula-Mutha
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

6. On February 22, IIFL Home Finance Limited (IIFL HFL) signed a \$68 million loan agreement with Asian Development Bank (ADB) to improve funding to affordable green housing for lower-income groups in India. The funding comprises a direct ADB loan of up to \$58 million and a \$10 million concessional loan by the Canadian Climate Fund for the Private Sector in Asia (CFPS). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIFL Home Finance + ADB = a \$68 million loan to improve funding to affordable green housing for lower-income groups
- HQs of IIFL Finance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Nirmal Jain | MD – Venkataraman Rajamani
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Members – 68 | Established in – 1966

7. On February 6, the Asian Development Bank committed a \$4.6 billion in sovereign lending to India in 2021 for 17 loans, including \$1.8 billion for the India's coronavirus (COVID-19) response. Of this \$1.8 billion, \$1.5 billion was towards vaccine procurement and \$300 million to strengthen primary health care in urban areas and India's future pandemic preparedness. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ADB – committed a \$4.6 billion in sovereign lending to India in 2021 (including \$1.8 billion for coronavirus response)
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Members – 68 | Established in – 1966
- ADB Country Director for India – Takeo Konishi

8. On February 9, India announced to provide a grant to Sri Lanka to implement a 'Unitary Digital Identity framework' similar to Aadhaar card. Under this Framework, it is expected to introduce a personal identity verification device based on biometric data. Also, in the beginning of 2022, India announced to help Sri Lanka with \$1.4 billion economic assistance to import food, medicines and fuel amid frequent shortages. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – will provide a grant to Sri Lanka to implement a 'Unitary Digital Identity framework' similar to Aadhaar card
- HQs of UIDAI – New Delhi | CEO – Saurabh Garg | Founded on – January 28, 2009
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan Rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa



9. Tata Group has chosen State Bank of India, Bank of Baroda and HDFC Bank as preferred bankers for Air India. Tata Sons availed of a Rs 10,000-Cr loan from SBI and a Rs 5,000-Cr loan from Bank of Baroda to refinance Air India's debt. Tata Group recently announced to seek Rs 23,000-Cr one-year loan. Of the Rs 23,000 Cr, Rs 18,000 Cr was for acquisition of Air India, and Rs 5,000 Cr for its working capital. Air India, India's largest international airline, has a fleet of 117 aircraft.

[{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tata Group – chose SBI, BoB & HDFC Bank as 'preferred bankers' for Air India
- Tata Sons – availed of a Rs 10,000-Cr loan from SBI & a Rs 5,000-Cr loan from BoB to refinance Air India's debt
- HQs of Tata Sons – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Natarajan Chandrasekaran
- HQs of Air India – New Delhi | CMD – Rajiv Bansal



Ranks, Report & Surveys

1. Malkangiri district of Odisha topped the NITI Aayog's Delta Ranking of 'Most Improved Aspirational Districts in Agriculture and Water Resources Sector' for the month of December, 2021. Malkangiri is followed by Chhatrapur in Madhya Pradesh, Baramulla in J&K, Ramgarh in Jharkhand and Begusarai in Bihar. The Aspirational District programme aims to effectively transform 112 most under-developed districts across the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Malkangiri (Odisha) – topped NITI Aayog's Delta Ranking of 'Most Improved Aspirational Districts in Agriculture and Water Resources Sector' for December 2021
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

2. On February 9, India ranked 3rd in the world on the U.S. Green Building Council's (USGBC) 9th annual list of the top 10 countries and regions outside of the US for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) in 2021. With the increase of 10% compared to 2020, now India has a total of 146 LEED certified buildings and spaces, representing nearly 2.8 million gross area square meters (GSM) of space. India ranked third on the list behind China that topped the list with more than 14 million GSM & 1,077 LEED projects certified in 2021, and Canada which certified more than 3.2 million GSM & 205 LEED projects. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 9th annual list of the top 10 countries & regions outside of the US for "LEED" in 2021 – released by USGBC
- 1st – China (1,077 LEED projects) | 2nd – Canada (205 LEED projects) | 3rd – India (146 LEED projects)

3. On February 14, American cybersecurity firm SentinelOne released a report on "ModifiedElephant" - a hacking group that allegedly planted incriminating evidence on the personal devices of Indian journalists, human rights activists, human rights defenders, academics and lawyers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A report on "ModifiedElephant" - a Hacking Group – released by SentinelOne (American cybersecurity firm)

4. Indian businesses ranked 5th based on their concern for Climate Change and Indian companies are more likely to be implementing tougher climate actions compared with their global counterpart, according to the Deloitte Global's "2022 CxO Sustainability Report". The Deloitte survey was done across 21 countries during September-October 2021. 2,083 C-level executives participated in the survey, including 163 CXO from India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "2022 CxO Sustainability Report" – released by Deloitte Global (London, UK)
- Indian businesses ranked 5th based on their concern for Climate Change

5. On February 17, India's estimated foodgrains production (consisting of rice, wheat, pulses and coarse cereals, production) is 316.06 million tonne (mt) for the 2021-22 crop year (July-June), as per the Second Advance Estimate released by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MoAFW). The projected output exceeds the target of 310.74 mt set by the Agriculture Ministry at the beginning of the season. According to the Economic Survey, the agriculture and allied sectors are expected to register a growth rate of 3.9% in 2021-22. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Second Advance Estimate of major crops production for the year 2021-22 – released by MoAFW
- India's estimated foodgrains production is 316.06 mt for 2021-22 Crop Year (July-June)

6. On February 23, Union Health Minister Mansukh L. Mandaviya released two reports of the Institute for Competitiveness titled "COVID-19 - India's Vaccine Development Story" and "India's COVID-19 Vaccination Administration Journey". The reports highlight the crucial aspects that have contributed to the success of India's COVID-19 vaccine development and administration efforts. The reports acknowledge the significant challenges faced by the Indian government, of delivering and administering vaccines to a majority of 1.3 billion people of India who were eligible for the COVID-19 vaccines. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mansukh L. Mandaviya released two reports of the Institute for Competitiveness titled:
 - "COVID-19 – India's Vaccine Development Story"
 - "India's COVID-19 Vaccination Administration Journey"

7. India has improved its overall IP score from 38.40% to 38.64% (19.32 out of 50), and ranked 43 out of 55 countries on the 10th edition of International Intellectual Property Index, "Compete for Tomorrow", according to an annual report compiled by Global Innovation Policy Centre (GIPC) of the US Chambers of Commerce. The Index is topped by the US, followed by the UK & Germany. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 10th edition of International IP Index, "Compete for Tomorrow" – released by GIPC of the US Chambers of Commerce
- India's rank – 43rd out of 55 | Top 3: US, UK & Germany

8. On February 24, Union Health minister Mansukh Mandaviya released 2 reports from the Institute for Competitiveness documenting "India's Covid-19 Vaccine Development Story" and "India's Covid-19 Vaccine Administration Journey". The report appreciated the hybrid training approach adopted for skilling the healthcare workers, the CoWIN platform for registration of beneficiaries parallel to disseminating Covid-19 vaccines on a real-time basis & a communication strategy to tackle fake news. The adoption of mobile apps like Co-WIN & Aarogya Setu drove the innovation environment in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mansukh Mandaviya – released 2 reports "Vaccine Development Story" & "Vaccine Administration Journey"
- Reports were published by – Institute for Competitiveness
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency – Palitana, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar

9. Women hold 17.1% of the board seats in India, according to the 7th edition of Deloitte Global's "Women in the Boardroom" report. Moreover, only 3.6% of the board chairs are women. Globally, 19.7% of the board seats are held by women. The countries with the highest stretch factor for women are Australia (1.43), the US (1.33), and New Zealand (1.32). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 7th "Women in the Boardroom" report – released by Deloitte Global
- Women hold 17.1% of the board seats in India (Globally - 19.7%)



10. India is among the top five easiest places to start a new business, according to the “Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) 2021/2022” report which was unveiled at the Dubai Expo. The report gathered data via a survey of at least 2,000 respondents across each of 47 high, medium and low-income economies. The survey of Indian respondents found that 82% think it is easy to start a business, placing India at 4th place globally. Saudi Arabia topped the list, followed by Netherlands & Sweden. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) 2021/2022” report/survey – unveiled at the Dubai Expo
- India – 4th place globally in ‘Easy to start a Business’ category | Top – Saudi Arabia

11. On February 10, Mumbai and Bengaluru were ranked 5th and 10th in the 11th “TomTom Traffic Index Ranking 2021”. While Delhi and Pune occupied the 11th and 21st spots among 404 cities across 58 countries. However, the congestion level in Delhi during 2021 was 14% less than 2019 while in Mumbai, Bengaluru and Pune, the level dropped by 18%, 32% and 29% respectively. Istanbul topped the list, followed by Moscow. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 11th “TomTom Traffic Index Ranking 2021”: Topped by – Istanbul (Turkey)
- 5th – Mumbai, 10th – Bengaluru, 11th – Delhi, 21st – Pune

12. On February 10, According to Comscore report, Paytm lead digital payments with over 45% penetration in Fintech. Paytm is closely followed by Google Pay at 43% penetration (reach as percentage of total digital population). Also, the report says that ‘financial services’ is among the top online content categories, accounting for 80% of the total internet audience in the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Comscore report: Paytm lead digital payments with over 45% penetration in Fintech (followed by Google Pay at 43%)
- HQs of Paytm – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CEO – Vijay Sekhar Sharma | Founded in – 2010

13. Law Minister Kiren Rijiju asked to calculate the judge-population ratio for per million population. On February 10, the Department of Justice in the Ministry informed the Rajya Sabha that India has about 21 judges per million people as on December 31, 2021. The sanctioned strength of the apex court is 34 while it is 1,098 for the 25 high courts. Also, 14th Finance Commission recommended the setting up of 1800 fast track courts (FTCs) during 2015-2020 and up to December 2021, total 898 FTCs were functional in 22 States and UTs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Data provided by Ministry of Law to Rajya Sabha: India has 21 judges per million people
- Ministry for Law & Justice: Kiren Rijiju | Constituency – Arunachal West
- MoS in Ministry of Law & Justice – S. P. Singh Baghel

14. As per the World Gold Council, in 2021, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) bought 77.5 metric tonnes and became the 2nd largest buyer of gold among the world’s Central Banks after the Central Bank of Thailand (90 metric tonnes). Total gold reserve of RBI reached 754.1 tonnes at the end of December 2021 which is 6.22% of India’s forex reserves. India’s total reserves at the end of December 31, 2021 stood at \$633.61 billion. India’s official gold reserve is 9th largest in the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- According to World Gold Council: RBI became the 2nd largest buyer of gold in 2021 after the Central Bank of Thailand
- Total gold reserve of RBI at the end of December 2021 – 754.1 tonnes (6.22% of India's forex reserves)
- India's official gold reserve is 9th largest in the world
- Thailand – Bangkok – Thai Baht | PM – Prayut Chan-o-cha
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935
- HQs of WGC – London | CEO – David Tait | MD (India) – Somasundaram PR

15. On February 10, Norway topped the Democracy Index 2021 with the highest score of 9.75. India scored 6.91 to rank 46th on the list and has been placed under 'flawed democracy'. New Zealand replaced Iceland from the 2nd slot this year. Finland came in at number three on the Democracy Index 2021 with an overall score of 9.27. Since 2006, the Economist Intelligence Unit has been releasing its democracy index. Pakistan got a rank of 104. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Democracy Index 2021 – by Economist Intelligence Unit
- India – 46th | 1st – Norway | 2nd – New Zealand | 3rd – Finland
- HQs of EIU – London, UK | MD & CEO – Robin Bew

16. By the end of January, garbage collection directly from rural households of Andhra Pradesh reached 61.50% from 22% by the end of November. Andhra Pradesh CM Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy had flagged off 4,097 garbage collecting vehicles to kick off the Clean Andhra Pradesh (CLAP) or Jagananna Swachha Sankalpam programme which was started on October 2, 2021. The program was started with an aim to clean up rural areas, improve sanitation conditions and waste management with public participation. Now, the state government has targeted to achieve 100% rural household garbage collection under CLAP programme by October, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Garbage collection directly from rural households under 'CLAP' programme by Jan 2022 – 61.50%
- Andhra Pradesh – had started "CLAP" (Clean Andhra Pradesh) or "Jagananna Swachha Sankalpam" programme
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

17. On February 8, According to the "Bloomberg Billionaires Index", 59-year old Gautam Adani's net worth reached \$88.5 billion overtaking Mukesh Ambani's \$87.9 billion. With this, Gautam Adani became Asia's richest person and 10th richest person in the world, due to an almost \$12 billion jump in his personal wealth. While Elon Musk topped the list globally, followed by Jeff Bezos and Bernard Arnault. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Bloomberg Billionaires Index" – as on February 8, 2022 | 1st - Elon Musk, 2nd - Jeff Bezos, 3rd - Bernard Arnault
- Gautam Adani (\$88.5 Bn) – overtook Mukesh Ambani (\$87.9 Bn) & became Asia's richest person (10th richest globally)

18. India is the 5th largest exporter of millets in the world, according to 2020 data released by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry. The exports continuously increased at around 3% CAGR in last 5 years ending with 2020. In 2020-21, India exported millets worth \$26.97 million against \$28.5 million in 2019-20. The top three importers of millets from India in 2020-21 were Nepal, UAE & Saudi Arabia respectively. Ukraine is the largest exporter of millet in the world. The other major exporters of millet are Russia, the US, France & India. While Indonesia is the largest importer of millet in the world. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Ministry of Commerce & Industry: India – 5th largest exporter of millets in the world | Top – Ukraine
- India exported millets worth \$26.97 million in 2020-21
- Indonesia – the largest importer of millet in the world

19. A report titled “Reimagining Healthcare in India through Blended Finance” released by NITI Aayog stated that about 65% of hospital beds in India cater to almost 50% of the population concentrated in 7 states. The report stressed that the number of beds must be increased by at least 30% to ensure equitable access to healthcare facilities for people. According to the report, the hospital sector in India accounts for 80% of the total healthcare market. The market size for telemedicine in India (\$830 million in 2019) is projected to increase to \$5.5 billion by 2025, growing at a CAGR of 31% during 2020-25. The report also pointed out that India’s healthcare spending is 3.6% of GDP, including out-of-pocket and public expenditure. Brazil spends the most (9.2%), followed by South Africa (8.1%), Russia (5.3%) and China (5%). ‘Blended finance’ is defined as the strategic use of development finance and philanthropic funds to mobilize private capital flows to emerging and frontier markets. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Reimagining Healthcare in India through Blended Finance” report – released by NITI Aayog
- 65% of hospital beds in India cater to almost 50% of the population
- Hospital sector in India accounts for 80% of the total Healthcare Market
- The market size for telemedicine in India is projected to increase to – \$5.5 billion by 2025 (with CAGR of 31%)
- India’s healthcare spending – 3.6% of GDP | Brazil (9.2%), South Africa (8.1%), Russia (5.3%)

20. On February 6, according to a report by CRISIL, LIC offers the highest return on equity (RoE) at 82%. Apart from being the 3rd largest in terms of life insurance premium, LIC’s market share is 64.1% which is highest in the world with a gross written premium of \$56.405 billion in fiscal 2021. 2nd largest life insurer is SBI Life. Chinese market is dominated by Ping whereas Japanese market is dominated by Nippon Life. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CRISIL: LIC offers the highest RoE (82%) and has highest (64.1%) market share in the world
- HQs of CRISIL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Amish Mehta | Established in – 1987

21. In the ‘Economic Survey 2021-22’, Insolvency Law Committee (ILC) recommended the adoption of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) with certain modifications to make it suitable to the Indian context. The UNCITRAL, on Cross-Border Insolvency-1997, has emerged as the most widely accepted legal framework to deal with cross-border insolvency issues. It has been adopted by 49 countries until now. The Insolvency Law Committee was constituted by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- In the ‘Economic Survey 2021-22’: Insolvency Law Committee (ILC) recommended the adoption of the “UNCITRAL”
- UNCITRAL – United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
- ILC was constituted by – Ministry of Corporate Affairs

22. Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India is the strongest and the largest brand in India with a valuation of \$8.656 billion (Rs 64,722 Cr, according to a Brand Finance report. The LIC's valuation grew by 6.8% in 2021 from \$8.11 billion in 2020, when the value of top 100 insurers declined by 6% globally. LIC is the 10th most valued insurance brand globally. In terms of brand value, LIC's brand value also climbed in overall global brand rankings, becoming the world's 206th most valuable brand in 2021, from 238th position in 2020. The LIC ranks first in brand strength amongst the Indian competitors and it ranks 3rd in brand strength globally after Poste Italiane of Italy and Mapfre of Spain. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- LIC's ranking in various categories globally – released by Brand Finance ([London, UK](#))
- LIC's ranks: In Valuation – 10th | In Brand Value – 206th | In Brand Strength – 3rd
- HQs of LIC – [Mumbai](#) | Chairman – [M. R. Kumar](#) | Founded in – [1956](#) | Tagline – [“Yogakshemam Vahamyaham”](#)

23. On February 4, According to the “Global Digital Skills Index 2022” released by Salesforce, among 19 countries, India topped the index with the score of 63 out of 100. The Index is based on a survey of over 23,500 workers in 19 countries, with an average global readiness score of 33 out of 100. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Global Digital Skills Index 2022” – released by Salesforce ([US](#))
- India – topped the index with the score of 63 out of 100

24. On February 2, Jammu & Kashmir (25), Uttar Pradesh (23), Madhya Pradesh (16), Tripura (15) & Delhi (8) topped the list of States and Union Territories where journalists and media houses were targeted in 2021, according to the “India Press Freedom Report 2021” released by New Delhi-based Rights & Risks Analysis Group (RRAG). While J&K recorded the maximum attacks by State actors, Tripura had the most cases of attacks by non-State actors. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “India Press Freedom Report 2021” – released by Rights & Risks Analysis Group ([New Delhi](#))
- J&K (25) – recorded the maximum attacks on journalists & media houses in 2021 | 2nd – UP (23), 3rd – MP (16)

25. On February 16, FAITH released “FAITH 2035 Vision Document” with a vision statement, goals and an execution path commemorating the 75th year of Indian independence. FAITH is the policy federation of all the national associations representing the complete tourism, travel and hospitality industry of India such as FHRAI, HAI and IATO. The document lays down ‘action goals’ in multiples of 75 referencing all indicators to the 75th year of independence and proposes four strategic pillars to achieve the goals such as a shared national tourism approach, value accretive regulations, investment drivers and market excellence. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FAITH – released “FAITH 2035 Vision Document” to commemorate the 75th year of Indian independence

26. On February 22, According to the estimates released by the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC), under the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, India's fuel demand is likely to grow 5.5% in FY2022-23. Fuel consumption in 2022-23 is estimated to rise to 214.5 million tones (MT) from 203.2 million tonnes expected sales in FY2021-22. During the next fiscal 2022-23, petrol is expected to rise by 7.8% to 33.3 million tonnes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- According to PPAC: India's fuel demand is likely to grow 5.5% in FY2022-23 | Fuel consumption – to rise to 214.5 MT
- Petrol is expected to rise by 7.8% to 33.3 MT in 2022-23
- Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC) – functions under Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas

27. Global trade in goods and services touched a record high of \$28.5 trillion in 2021 boosted by increases in commodity prices, subsiding pandemic restrictions and a strong recovery in demand due to economic stimulus packages, according to the “Global Trade Update 2022” released by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The growth recorded in global trade in 2021 was about 25% relative to 2020 and 13% compared to the pre-pandemic levels but is expected to slow in the first quarter of 2022. India’s exports on Goods increased by 25% in Q4 2021 and imports increased by 32% compared to 2019. While India’s exports on Services increased by 7% in Q3 2021 and imports increased by 3% compared to 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Global Trade Update 2022” – released by the UNCTAD
- Global trade in goods & services touched a record high of \$28.5 trillion in 2021 (increased by 25% compared to 2020)
- [HQs of UNCTAD – Geneva, Switzerland](#) | [Secretary-General – Rebeca Grynspan](#)

28. On February 22, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) released the 4th edition of Frontiers report titled “Frontiers 2022: Noise, Blazes and Mismatches”. Since 2016, UNEP’s Frontiers Reports have cast a spotlight on emerging environmental issues. This year’s edition, Noise, Blazes and Mismatches, looks at three concerns: Urban Soundscapes, Wildfires and Phenological Shifts. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 4th edition of “Frontiers 2022: Noise, Blazes and Mismatches” – released by the UNEP
- This year’s edition of the report focuses on 3 concerns: Urban Soundscapes, Wildfires & Phenological Shifts
- [HQs of UNEP – Nairobi, Kenya](#) | [Executive Director – Inger Andersen](#) | [Founded in – 1972](#)

29. India’s millionaire (USD) households increased by 11% to 4.58 lakh in 2021, according to “Hurun India Wealth Report 2021”. These households have a net worth of at least ₹7 Cr. The report estimates that Indian dollar-millionaire households is set to rise by 30% over the next 5 years to reach 6,00,000 households by 2026. However, the survey of 350 millionaires noted that happiness index fell to 66% in 2021 as against 72% in the previous year. Mumbai topped the list of cities with most millionaires at 20,300, followed by Delhi and Kolkata with 17,400 and 10,500 millionaire households respectively. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Hurun India Wealth Report 2021”: India’s millionaire households increased by 11% to 4.58 lakh in 2021
- Indian dollar-millionaire households – to reach 6,00,000 households by 2026 (rises of 30%)
- Cities with most millionaires: 1st – Mumbai, 2nd – Delhi, 3rd – Kolkata

30. On February 28, Ministry of Commerce and Industry informed that export of guavas from India received a growth of 260% since 2013. Exports grew from \$0.58 Million in April-January 2013-14 to \$2.09 Million in April 2021-22. Fresh Grapes were the largest exported items among all fresh food category during 2020-21. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Commerce & Industry informed:
 - Export of guavas from India received a growth of 260% since 2013
 - Fresh Grapes was the largest exported items among all fresh food category during 2020-21
- [Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Piyush Goyal](#) | [Constituency – Maharashtra](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Anupriya Singh Patel & Som Parkash](#)

31. On February 28, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) published the second part of its Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) titled “Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability”. It focuses on the effects of climate change on ecosystems and society. According to the report, there will be a rise in the water level of The Indus, Ganga and Brahmaputra river basins by 2050 and 2100. The report warned of multiple Climate Change-induced disasters in the next two decades even if strong action is taken to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gas emissions. The first part report was released in August, 2021. The third and final part of the report is expected to come out in April, 2022. While the first ‘Assessment Report’ had come out in 1990. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sixth Assessment Report titled “Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability” – published by the IPCC
- HQs of IPCC – Geneva, Switzerland | Chair – Hoesung Lee

32. Samsung surpassed Intel to become the world’s No. 1 chip maker or world’s top semiconductor company. It recorded its biggest-ever quarterly revenue in fourth-quarter. Also, its net profit rose 64% to 10.84 trillion won (\$9 billion). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Samsung – surpassed Intel to become the world’s No. 1 chip maker or world’s top semiconductor company
- HQs of Samsung Electronics – Suwon-si, South Korea | CEO – Jong Hee Han
- HQs of Intel – California, USA | CEO – Patrick P. Gelsinger | Founded on – July 18, 1968



Acquisitions & Mergers

1. In February 2022, Jio Platforms Ltd announced an investment of US\$ 15 million in Two Platforms Inc., a Silicon Valley based deep tech startup founded by Pranav Mistry, for a 25% equity stake on a fully diluted basis. Two is an Artificial Reality company with focus on building interactive and immersional AI experiences. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jio Platforms – announced an investment of \$15 million in Two Platforms (for 25% equity stake)
- HQs of Jio Platforms – Mumbai, MH | President – Anish Shah

2. On February 10, Reliance New Energy Ltd (RNEL) acquired an additional 10.37% stake in Sterling & Wilson Renewable Energy (SWREL) for ₹738 Cr. After the acquisition, RNEL holds 40% of the total paid-up equity share capital of SWREL. In Reliance has committed to invest \$10 billion in Sustainable Energy Initiatives over 3 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Reliance New Energy – acquired an additional 10.37% stake in SWREL for ₹738 Cr
- RNEL – now holds 40% of the total paid-up equity share capital of SWREL
- HQs of Reliance Industries Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani | Founded in – 1973

3. On February 11, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved acquisition of certain stake in Sajjan India Ltd by Sona Company. Sona Company Pte Ltd is an investment company incorporated under laws of Singapore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI approved acquisition of certain stake in Sajjan India Ltd by Sona Company
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003

4. On February 8, Razorpay acquired a majority stake in fintech firm Curlec which is based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and it builds solutions for recurring payments for businesses. This marks Razorpay's 4th acquisition overall and its 1st in the international markets. Prior to this, Razorpay acquired TERA Finlabs, Opfin and Thirdwatch. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Razorpay – acquired a majority stake in Malaysia based fintech firm “Curlec”
- HQs of Razorpay – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Harshil Mathur

5. On February 2, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the acquisition of certain additional equity in 'Escorts Ltd' by 'Kubota Corporation'. In December 2021, Escorts Ltd had approved the preferential allotment of nearly 94 lakh shares to Japan's Kubota Corporation and become a joint promoter. Kubota is an agriculture product manufacturer. Escorts is engaged in the business of manufacturing and sale of agri-machinery, construction equipment, and railway equipment in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI – approved the acquisition of certain additional equity in 'Escorts Ltd' by Japan's 'Kubota Corporation'
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Fumio Kishida
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003



6. On February 25, Bharti Airtel signed an agreement with British telecom giant Vodafone Plc to buy 4.7% equity in Indus Towers Ltd. Currently, Vodafone holds about 28% in Indus Towers while that of Bharti Airtel is close to 42%. Indus Tower merged with Bharti Infratel in November 2020. Indus Towers, formerly Bharti Infratel Ltd, is a leading provider of passive telecom infrastructure. It deploys, owns and manages telecom towers and communication structures for various mobile operators. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bharti Airtel signed an agreement with Vodafone Plc to buy 4.7% equity in Indus Towers Ltd
- HQs of Bharti Airtel – New Delhi | CEO & MD – Gopal Vittal | Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal

7. On February 8, Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the acquisition of US-based athenahealth Group by funds managed and advised by Hellman & Friedman LLC (H&F), Bain Capital, GIC Special Investments (GICSI) and Minerva Holdco Inc. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI approved the acquisition of athenahealth Group (US) – by H&F, Bain Capital, GICSI & Minerva Holdco
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003



MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

1. On February 10, French glass and building material maker Saint-Gobain and IIT Madras Research Park signed an MoU to collaborate on technologies to promote maximum use of clean energy as part of Net-zero Carbon Emission objectives. Saint-Gobain India will be supporting IIT Madras Research Park with a funding of ₹1 Cr over the next 3 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Saint-Gobain (France) + IIT Madras Research Park = an MoU to promote maximum use of clean energy
- Saint-Gobain India will be supporting IIT Madras Research Park with a funding of ₹1 Cr over the next 3 years

2. On February 7, Sonata Software launched 'Microsoft Cloud for Retail' in partnership with Microsoft to strengthen its offerings to the retail industry. The company has been a partner with Microsoft for over three decades. Sonata Connected Retail provides personalised, intelligent, and adaptive solutions for retailers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sonata Software + Microsoft = launched 'Microsoft Cloud for Retail' to strengthen its offerings to the retail industry
- HQs of Microsoft – Washington, US | Chairman & CEO – Satya Nadella | Founded in – 1975

3. On February 11, India & Australia signed an MoU on Tourism cooperation. Presently, Ministry of Tourism has MoUs with 45 countries. This MoU will enhance cooperation and encourage Expansion of bilateral relations in tourism and give a fillip to tourism promotion post pandemic between two countries. Australia was ranked 4th in terms of Foreign Tourist Arrivals to India in 2019 and contributing 3.4% in total tourism share of foreign tourists in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Australia = MoU on Tourism cooperation
- Presently, Ministry of Tourism has MoUs with 45 countries (as on Feb 11, 2022)
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison
- Ministry of Tourism: G. Kishan Reddy | Constituency – Secunderabad, Telangana
- MoS in Ministry of Tourism: Shripad Yesso Naik & Ajay Bhatt

4. On February 11, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog in collaboration with UNDP India launched the Community Innovator Fellowship (CIF) to mark the "International Day of Women & Girls in Science". This one-year-long intensive fellowship program is developed as a pre-incubation model to provide youth with an opportunity to establish their social enterprise focusing on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) based solutions. During this fellowship, each fellow will be hosted at one of the AIM's Atal Community Innovation Centres (ACICs) and shall acquire SDG awareness, entrepreneurial skills and life skills. Currently, there are 12 ACICs across 9 states in India and the target is to establish 50 such centres. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog + UNDP India = launched Community Innovator Fellowship
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar
- HQs of UNDP – New York, USA | Administrator – Achim Steiner | Founded in – 1965
- UNDP India's Resident Representative – Shoko Noda



5. On February 10, the Jammu and Kashmir government signed a pact with New Zealand for the transformation of the sheep farming sector. The objective of this pact is to improve farmers' remuneration, transfer of technology in research and development as well as marketing and value addition of sheep products of Jammu and Kashmir. Also, 2022 marks the 70th anniversary of the commencement of bilateral relations between India & New Zealand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- J&K + New Zealand = pact for the transformation of the sheep farming sector
- 2022 – marks the 70th anniversary of the commencement of bilateral relations between India & New Zealand
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha
- New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar (NZD) | PM – Jacinda Ardern

6. On February 9, the Government of Telangana and the British Council signed a three-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to expand higher education globally, enhance mobility, and share information and skills. between the Research and Innovation Centre of Hyderabad (RICH) and the British Council to engineer new partnerships between universities, research institutions and centres of excellence. It will also facilitate further research in the fields of aerospace, defence, life sciences and pharmaceuticals, food and agriculture, and sustainability. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RICH + British Council = a 3-year MoU to expand higher education globally, enhance mobility and share info. & skills
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

7. On February 8, United States approved a \$100 million support contract with Taiwan to boost its missile defense systems as it faces increasing pressure from China. The agreement is meant to help Taiwan maintain its existing air-defense missiles and advanced U.S. made 'Patriot' missiles that Taiwan is acquiring. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- US – approved \$100 million support contract with Taiwan for 'Patriot' missiles
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris
- Taiwan – Taipei – New Taiwan dollar | President – Tsai Ing-wen

8. On February 13, the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and Common Service Centres (CSC) signed an MoU for the delivery of services to accelerate India's skill development. Under the partnership, the CSCs will act as a skill desk, creating awareness about the various available skill development programmes at the village level. NSDC works under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NSDC + CSC = an MoU to accelerate India's skill development
- HQs of NSDC – New Delhi | CEO – Ved Mani Tiwar | Chairman – A. M. Naik (works under MoSDE)
- HQs of CSC – New Delhi | Chairman – Ajay Prakash Sawhney | MD – Dinesh Kumar Tyagi (set up by MeitY)

9. On February 14, Reliance's Jio Platforms Ltd (JPL) has formed Joint Venture (JV) with SES S. A., a global satellite-based content connectivity solutions provider, for providing satellite-based broadband services. Jio Platforms will own 51% & SES 49% equity stake in the joint venture which is named as "Jio Space Technology Limited". The joint venture will develop extensive gateway infrastructure in India and will have availability of up to 100 Gbps capacity. In January 2022, Airtel had also announced JV with Hughes Communications India to provide satellite broadband services in India. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Jio + SES (Luxembourg) = formed a JV “Jio Space Technology Ltd” to provide satellite-based broadband services
- Share in Joint Venture – Jio Platforms (51%) + SES (49%)
- HQs of Jio Platforms – Mumbai, MH | President – Anish Shah

10. On February 14, National Investment and Infrastructure Fund’s (NIIF) Ayana Renewable Power Pvt. Ltd. partnered with Hyderabad-based Greenko Group to store 6-gigawatt hour (GWh) of power in hydro pump storage plants. Greenko is building these hydro pump storage plants at Pinnapuram in Andhra Pradesh. The arrangement will help provide round-the-clock green energy to user industries and electricity distribution companies (discoms). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ayana Renewable Power (NIIF) + Greenko Group = partnership to store 6 GWh power in Hydro Pump Storage Plants
- HQs of NIIFL – New Delhi | CEO – Sadashiv S. Rao | Founded in – 2015

11. On February 14, Vedanta, one of India’s leading multinational groups, and Hon Hai Technology Group (Foxconn), world’s largest electronics manufacturing company, signed an MoU to form a joint venture company to manufacture semiconductors in India. According to the MoU, Vedanta will hold majority stake in the JV. Vedanta chairman Anil Agarwal will Chair the JV Company. This first-of-its-kind joint venture between the two companies will support Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s vision to create an ecosystem for semiconductor manufacturing in India. With this, Vedanta became the first company to announce investment in semiconductor manufacturing in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vedanta + Hon Hai Technology Group (Foxconn) = an MoU to form a JV to manufacture semiconductors in India
- HQs of Vedanta Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Sunil Duggal
- HQs of Foxconn – Taipei, Taiwan | Chairman & CEO – Young Liu

12. On February 16, Automaker Renault India partnered with CSC e-Governance Services (Common Service Centres) to support the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyaan (PMGDISHA), the country’s flagship programme that aims to provide digital literacy to the masses. The Renault cars will participate in distributing information on learning courses and support the CSC teams in conducting training to impart financial and digital skills in the rural areas. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Renault India + CSC = partnership to support “Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyaan (PMGDISHA)”
- HQs of Renault India – New Delhi | MD – Venkatram Mamillapalle
- HQs of CSC – New Delhi | Chairman – Ajay Prakash Sawhney | MD – Dinesh Kumar Tyagi (set up by MeitY)

13. In February 2022, THDC India Limited (THDCIL) signed the letter of intent (LoI) to build 10,000MW solar power projects in Rajasthan with an estimated investment of ₹40,000 Cr. This will also contribute towards the RE capacity addition target of 500 gigawatts (GW) by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- THDCIL – signed an LoI to set up 10,000MW solar power projects in Rajasthan (Investment of ₹40,000 Cr)
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra
- HQs of THDCIL – Rishikesh, Uttarakhand | Chairman & MD – R. K. Vishnoi

14. On February 11, A meeting was held between Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal and his Australian counterpart Dan Tehan. India and Australia are expected to sign the interim trade Agreement in March 2022. The India-Australia Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) is expected to be concluded in 12 months thereafter. The areas covered under the interim agreement will include goods, services, rules of origin, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, Customs procedure, and Legal and Institutional issues. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Australia = likely to sign 'Interim Trade Agreement' & 'India-Australia CECA'
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison
- Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Anupriya Singh Patel & Som Parkash

15. On February 12, after a meeting was held between External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his counterpart Marise Payne, Australia announced a series of initiatives to boost education and cultural ties with India under the “Maitri (friendship) programme” for 4 years. Under the ‘Maitri Scholars Programme’, Australia will provide over 11 million dollars to support Indian students to study at Australia’s world-leading universities. The ‘Maitri Fellowships Programme’ will provide 3.5 million dollars to build links between future leaders and to support mid-career Australian and Indian professionals to collaborate on strategic research initiatives. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Australia – announced a series of initiatives under “Maitri” programme to boost education & cultural ties with India
- Australia – to provide over 11 million dollars to support Indian students to study at Australia’s world-leading universities
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison
- Ministry of External Affairs: S. Jaishankar | Constituency – Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of External Affairs: Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, V. Muraleedharan & Meenakashi Lekhi

16. On February 12, India signed an agreement with the United Nation’s World Food Programme (WFP) for the distribution of 50,000 MT of wheat to Afghanistan as part of a humanitarian assistance. According to the MoU, the wheat will be taken through Pakistan to the Afghan border crossing and handed over to WFP officials in Kandahar. Pakistan had shut down all trade with India to protest the government’s changes in Jammu and Kashmir and Article 370 in August 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + WFP = agreement for distribution of 50,000 MT of wheat to Afghanistan as part of a humanitarian assistance
- HQs of UNWFP – Rome, Italy | ED – David Muldrow Beasley | Countries – 36

17. On February 15, Gujarat signed an MoU with QX Global Group Limited for the holistic development of the IT and ITeS sector in the State. QX Global Group Ltd is a global business process management company. Under the MoU around 2,000 jobs will be generated in the IT sector. QX Global Group has over 2,300 trained IT manpower, of whom around 1,700 are in Gujarat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gujarat + QX Global Group Limited = an MoU for the development of IT & ITeS sector in the State
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

18. On February 16, Brio Hydroponics, an Ahmedabad-based agritech firm, entered into a joint venture with an Israeli firm Pic-Plast Limited for a rain protection technique that will help grow plants hydroponically throughout the year. The technique will give a better quality of the crop, higher yield and also help harvest rainwater. This technique will be used to set up India's 1st Rain Technology Nethouse with Solarig Net House kit in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Brio Hydroponics (Ahmedabad, Gujarat) + Pic-Plast Ltd (Israel) = joint venture for a Rain Protection Technique
- This technique will be used to set up India's 1st Rain Technology Nethouse with Solarig Net House kit in Ahmedabad
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Isaac Herzog | PM – Naftali Bennett

19. On February 16, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) signed 2 MoUs with the Industries Department of Government of Bihar and the Bihar Industrial Area Development Authority (BIADA) to develop the MSME ecosystem in the state. Bihar is the 14th state in India with which SIDBI has tied up for this purpose. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SIDBI + Bihar = 2 MoUs to develop the MSME ecosystem in the state (14th state)
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | MD & Chairman – Sivasubramanian Ramann | Established in – 1990
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

20. On February 21, National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd (NAFED) signed an MoU with Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) in order to increase biofuel production in India for reducing carbon emissions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NAFED + IOCL = an MoU to increase biofuel production in India
- HQs of NAFED – New Delhi | MD – Rajbir Singh Panwar | Chairman – Bijender Singh
- HQs of IOCL – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shrikant Madhav Vaidya | Founded in – 1959

21. On February 18, Ministry of Tourism (MoT) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Alliance Air Aviation Limited (AAAL) to augment the tourism industry in India. The Ministry aims to position India as a preferred destination in the tourism-generating markets. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Tourism + Alliance Air Aviation Limited = an MoU to augment the tourism industry in India
- Ministry of Tourism: G. Kishan Reddy | Constituency – Secunderabad, Telangana
- MoS in Ministry of Tourism: Shripad Yesso Naik & Ajay Bhatt
- HQs of AAAL – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Vineet Sood

22. On February 18, India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) signed a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) that will benefit almost 90% bilateral trade (both exports and imports) in various sectors such as gems and jewellery, leather, plastic products, agriculture products, medical devices, pharmaceutical products, and automobiles. The CEPA will lead to an increase in bilateral trade from the current \$60 billion to \$100 billion in the next 5 years. The trade deal will safeguard exporters and businesses from both countries from any unwarranted surge in volumes of any particular product. The UAE is currently India's 3rd largest trading partner and the 2nd largest export destination, after the US. A Joint Commemorative Stamp was also released on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of India's independence and the 50th year of UAE's foundation. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- India + UAE = signed a 'Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement' in Feb 2022
- A Joint Commemorative Stamp was released on the 75th year of India's independence & 50th year of UAE's foundation
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

23. On February 16, Brio Hydroponics, an Ahmedabad based agritech startup, entered into a joint venture with an Israeli firm Pic-Plast Limited for a rain protection technique that will help grow plants hydroponically throughout the year. India's first Rain Technology Nethouse with Solarig Net House kit will be up and running by March-end in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Brio Hydroponics (Ahmedabad, Guj) + Pic-Plast Ltd (Israel) = a pact for a rain protection technique
- India's first Rain Technology Nethouse – to come up in Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

24. On February 18, TransUnion CIBIL partnered with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) to launch an MSME consumer education program. The objective of the program is to empower MSMEs with knowledge on how to build a good credit history and Cibil Rank to avail easier and faster access to finance. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- TransUnion CIBIL + FICCI = partnered to launch an 'MSME Consumer Education Program'
- HQs of FICCI – New Delhi | DG – Arun Chawla | President – Sanjiv Mehta | Founded in – 1927

25. On February 22, Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited, a 100% subsidiary of Tata Power, signed an MoU with Germany-based RWE Renewable GmbH to explore potential for a joint development of offshore wind projects in India. India's target is to achieve 30 GW of offshore wind installations by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tata Power RE + RWE Renewable GmbH (Germany) = an MoU to develop offshore wind projects in India
- India's target is to achieve 30 GW of offshore wind installations – by 2030
- HQs of Tata Power RE – Mumbai, Maharashtra | President – Ashish Khanna
- HQs of Tata Power – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Praveer Sinha | Established in – 1915

26. On February 21, Adani Group signed a non-binding MoU with 'Ballard Power Systems' to evaluate a joint investment for the commercialisation of hydrogen fuel cells in various mobility and industrial applications in India. Under the MoU, both parties will examine various options to cooperate, including collaboration for fuel cell manufacturing in India. Efforts under this MoU will be anchored by Adani New Industries Ltd (ANIL), the newly formed subsidiary of Adani Enterprises. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Adani Group + Ballard Power Systems = a non-binding MoU for fuel cell manufacturing in India
- HQs of Adani Group – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | Chairman – Gautam Adani | MD – Rajesh Adani
- HQs of Ballard Power Systems – Burnaby, Canada | President & CEO – Randy MacEwen

27. On February 22, Digital Insurer Edelweiss General Insurance (EGI) joined hands with Ashv Finance, a tech-led NBFC, to offer financial protection to business loan borrowers of Ashv Finance. As part of the deal, EGI will offer health insurance cover to all the customers of Ashv Finance. The policy will provide security against the business loan taken in case the borrower has an unfortunate incident of accident or critical illness. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Edelweiss General Insurance + Ashv Finance = to offer financial protection to business loan borrowers of Ashv Finance
- HQs of EGI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO & Executive Director – Shanai Ghosh

28. On February 24, World Economic Forum (WEF) & the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) signed an MoU to collaborate on a jointly designed 'Sustainable Cities India program'. The program will enable cities to decarbonize in a systematic and sustainable way that will reduce emissions and deliver resilient and equitable urban ecosystems. The Forum and NIUA will adapt the Forum's City Sprint process and Toolbox of Solutions for decarbonization in the context of 5 to 7 Indian cities in 2 years. India committed to become Net Zero by 2070 during the COP26 summit in Glasgow. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- WEF + NIUA = an MoU to collaborate on a jointly designed "Sustainable Cities India" program
- HQs of WEF – Cologne, Switzerland | Exe Chairman – Klaus Schwab | President – Borge Brende | Founded in – 1971

29. On February 27, Chhattisgarh is set to get its first food irradiation plant which will help in keeping food grains, vegetables and minor forest produce safe, fresh and quality for a long period of time. Two MoUs were signed to strengthen the agriculture and rural economy in the state. The first MoU was signed between Chhattisgarh Biofuel Development Authority (CBDA) and Bhabha Atomic Research Center (BARC) for the transfer of 'Nisarguna' (a modern technology of power generation from cow dung). The second MoU was signed between Chhattisgarh Seed Corporation and the Board of Radiation & Isotope Technology (BRIT) for the establishment of Food Irradiation Center in Chhattisgarh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chhattisgarh signed two MoUs to strengthen the Agriculture & Rural Economy:
 - CBDA + BARC = an MoU for the transfer of 'Nisarguna'
 - Chhattisgarh Seed Corporation + BRIT = an MoU to establish Food Irradiation Center
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

30. On February 28, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) and Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) signed an MoU for cooperation and collaboration in the field of renewable energy, electric mobility, and alternative fuels including the development of ESG Projects. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HPCL + SECI = an MoU for cooperation and collaboration in the field of RE, Electric Mobility & Alternative Fuels
- HQs of HPCL – Mumbai, MH | CEO & Chairperson – Mukesh Kumar Surana (till April, 2022) | Founded in – 1974
- HQs of SECI – New Delhi | Chairman – Jatindra Nath Swain | MD – Suman Sharma | Founded on – Sep 9, 2011

31. On February 3, Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad (IIM-A) will establish India's first research chair in ESG (Environmental, Social & Governance) in collaboration with the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund Ltd (NIIF). The newly formed 'NIIF Chair in ESG at IIMA' will work closely with the Arun Duggal ESG Centre for Research and Innovation at IIMA. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIM Ahmedabad + NIIF = to establish India's first research chair in ESG
- HQs of NIIFL – New Delhi | CEO – Sadashiv S. Rao | Founded in – 2015

32. On February 3, India signed an agreement for 1 year to work on the mega science project - Square Kilometre Array Observatory (SKAO), proposed to be the world's largest radio telescope. The signing of the Cooperation Agreement between India, represented by TIFR - National Centre for Radio Astrophysics (NCRA), and SKA, was held virtually. The Square Kilometre Array is an intergovernmental radio telescope project being planned to be built in Australia & South Africa and is headquartered in the United Kingdom. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NCRA-TIFR + SKAO = signed the Cooperation Agreement for 1 year to work on the Mega Science project
- Square Kilometre Array Observatory (SKAO) – planned to be built in Australia & South Africa | HQs – UK
- NCRA-TIFR – a research institute in Pune, Maharashtra

33. On February 1, India and Nepal signed an MoU for construction of a motorable bridge with the Indian grant assistance over the Mahakali River. The bridge will connect Dharchula in Uttarakhand with Darchula in Nepal. The 110-metre bridge will be the second motor bridge on the India-Nepal border in Uttarakhand. The other one, the Banbasa bridge, is situated in the Champawat district. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Nepal = an MoU for construction of a motorable bridge over Mahakali River (2nd such bridge in Uttarakhand)
- The 110-metre bridge will connect – Dharchula (Uttarakhand) & Darchula (Nepal)
- Banbasa bridge – other motorable bridge in Champawat, Uttarakhand
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari | PM – Sher Bahadur Deuba

34. On February 3, An MoU was signed between electric two-wheeler maker Ather Energy and Electric Supply Companies (ESCOMs) of Karnataka for setting up 1,000 fast charging stations across the state. The ESCOMs would be the nodal agency to provide all technical support. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka's ESCOMs + Ather Energy = an MoU to set up 1,000 fast charging stations across the state
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot
- HQs of Ather Energy – Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Tarun Mehta

35. On February 5, Amazon India signed an MoU with Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Promotion Society (KSRLPS) to support the growth of Women Entrepreneurs. Amazon India would launch "Sanjeevini-KSRLPS" in its marketplace and extend benefits of the "Saheli" programme to train and empower thousands of Women Entrepreneurs to come online and access a wider market for their products. The association with the Karnataka government is aligned with Amazon India's commitment to digitally enable 10 million MSMEs by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amazon India + Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Promotion Society = an MoU to support Women Entrepreneurs
- Amazon India – to launch "Sanjeevini-KSRLPS" in its marketplace | "Saheli" programme – belongs to Amazon India
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle, US | CEO – Andy Jassy | Incorporated in – 1994
- HQs of Amazon India – Hyderabad, Telangana | Country Head – Amit Agarwal

36. On February 5, Kerala government signed an MoU with Social Alpha, a joint initiative of Tata Trust and the Indian government, through its Clean Energy International Incubation Centre (CEIIC) to support Innovative and Clean Energy Technology Programmes in Kerala. The Energy Management Centre (EMC) and Kerala Development and Innovation Strategy Council (KDISC) are part of the project. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala + Social Alpha = an MoU to support Innovative & Clean Energy Technology Programmes in Kerala
- Social Alpha (Foundation in Bengaluru, Karnataka) – a joint initiative of Tata Trust & Indian Govt
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

37. On February 6, Bangladesh Railways signed an agreement with Hindustan Engineering and Industries Ltd (HEIL) to procure 420 broad-gauge wagons from India. These are high speed bogies with automatic air brake systems. The agreement worth Tk 231 Cr will be implemented within 27 months. This project is being implemented with the joint funding of the Government of Bangladesh and Asian Development Bank (ADB) under the 'Rolling Stock Operation Improvement Project'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bangladesh Railways + HEIL = an agreement worth Tk 231 Cr to procure 420 broad-gauge wagons from India
- Joint funding for the project = Bangladesh Govt + ADB
- 'Rolling Stock Operation Improvement Project' – belongs to ADB
- HQs of HEIL – Kolkata, West Bengal | Chairman – Vikram Aditya Mody
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Members – 68 | Established in – 1966
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

38. On February 5, IIT Hyderabad and Suzuki Motor Corporation signed a 3-year contract to start "Suzuki Innovation Centre (SIC)" with the vision of 'creating innovations for India and Japan' The SIC will be operated as a platform for open innovation among Industries, Academia, and Startups. It will also support skill development and exchange of human resources between India & Japan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Hyderabad + Suzuki Motor Corp = a 3-year contract to start "Suzuki Innovation Centre"
- Director of IIT Hyderabad – B. S. Murty

39. On February 6, the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) signed an MoU with Maharashtra to support its "Majhi Vasundhara" (My Earth) campaign. It is an initiative of the Maharashtra's Environment and Climate Change Department to empower citizens with knowledge on the impacts of climate change and environmental issues. UNEP will support the state in educating and mobilising youth on plastic pollution and marine litter through its "Tide Turner Challenge" across all educational institutes in the state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UNEP + Maharashtra = an MoU to support state's "Majhi Vasundhara" campaign through UNEP's 'Tide Turner Challenge'
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshiyari
- HQs of UNEP – Nairobi, Kenya | Executive Director – Inger Andersen | Founded in – 1972

40. On February 5, the Rajasthan government signed MoUs/Lols with major companies in the renewable energy sector capturing investment of Rs 3.05 lakh Cr under the 'Invest Rajasthan Campaign'. With this investment, more than 90,000 MW of renewable energy will be produced in the state. The companies included 5 PSUs - NTPC, NHPC, SJVN Limited, THDC India Ltd and SECI - and private players such as Reliance, Axis and SAEL. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajasthan – signed MoUs/Lols worth Rs 3.05 lakh Cr in RE sector under 'Invest Rajasthan Campaign'
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

41. On February 8, To promote weavers and artisan business through digital platform and startup enterprises, the Odisha-based Indian Institute of Management, Sambalpur (IIM-S) signed an MoU with the e-commerce marketplace, Flipkart. As part of this MoU, IIM Sambalpur will identify clusters of artisans and weavers within Odisha to onboard them with Flipkart's 'Samarth' program. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIM Sambalpur + Flipkart = an MoU to promote Odisha's weavers & artisan business
- HQs of Flipkart – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal | CEO – Kalyan Krishnamurthy
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

42. Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) announced a new partnership under the "Sustainable Access to Markets and Resources for Innovative Delivery of Healthcare (SAMRIDH)" initiative. The partnership will improve access to affordable and quality healthcare for vulnerable populations in tier-2 and tier-3 cities, and rural and tribal regions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AIM (NITI Aayog) + USAID = partnership under the "SAMRIDH" initiative for affordable & quality healthcare
- SAMRIDH – Sustainable Access to Markets and Resources for Innovative Delivery of Healthcare
- AIM – a flagship of NITI Aayog (HQs of AIM – New Delhi | Director – Chintan Vaishnav)
- HQs of USAID – Washington D.C., US | Administrator – Samantha Power | Founded in – 1961

43. On February 7, Larsen & Toubro (L&T) and Microsoft India signed a pact to empower customers with the cloud computing and infrastructure services. L&T and Microsoft will co-engage to develop architectures and road maps to modernise their traditional data centres goals. Under the MoU, they will set up a joint governance group to define future platform designs, investments, and commercial/business models to service the regulated sectors' emerging technology requirements. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- L&T + Microsoft India = signed a pact to empower customers with the cloud computing & infrastructure services
- HQs of L&T – Mumbai, MH | CEO & MD – SN Subrahmanyam
- HQs of Microsoft – Washington, US | Chairman & CEO – Satya Nadella | Founded in – 1975

44. On February 7, Union Minister for Power R K Singh launched Powerthon-2022. Renewable Energy Corporation (REC) signed an MoU with Society for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (SINE) under IIT Bombay for organizing Powerthon-2022. It is a hackathon competition under Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) to find technology driven solutions to solve the complex problems in power distribution and to ensure quality and reliable power supply. The hackathon will task participants to find innovative solutions based on advanced emerging technologies like AI/ML, Blockchain, IoT, VR/AR etc on 9 themes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- R K Singh launched – “Powerthon-2022” to find technology driven solutions to solve the problems of power distribution
- REC + SINE (IIT Bombay) = an MoU to organize “Powerthon-2022”
- Director of IIT Bombay – Prof. Subhasis Chaudhuri
- Ministry of Power and Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh | Constituency – Arrah, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Power: Krishan Pal

45. On February 9, the Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIM-K) and Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) attached to NITI Aayog, signed a Statement of Intent (SoI) on institutional partnership to strengthen the overall monitoring and evaluation environment with special focus on building a data monitoring and evaluation stack in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIM Kozhikode + DMEO = a SoI on institutional partnership to build a data monitoring & evaluation stack in India
- Director of IIM Kozhikode – Debashis Chatterjee



Books & Authors

1. A book on the digital age titled “Dignity in a Digital Age: Making Tech Work for All of Us” is authored by Indian-American Congressman Ro Khanna. Congressman Ro Khanna offers a revolutionary roadmap to facing America’s digital divide, offering greater economic prosperity to all. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Dignity in a Digital Age: Making Tech Work for All of Us” – authored by Ro Khanna

2. A new book titled “Humane: How the United States Abandoned Peace and Reinvented War” is authored by American author Samuel Aaron Moyn. The book argues about the endless wars that the US had created in the past. His other books are “Not Enough: Human Rights in an Unequal World” & “The Last Utopia: Human Rights in History”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Humane: How the United States Abandoned Peace and Reinvented War” – authored by Samuel Moyn

3. Ananth Krishnan and Stanly Johny jointly wrote a book titled “The Comrades and The Mullahs” published by HarperCollins. This is possibly the first book to look at China’s growing role in India’s neighbourhood via its engagement with the Taliban in Afghanistan, and what it means for India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Comrades & The Mullahs” book – authored by Ananth Krishnan & Stanly Johny
- Publisher – HarperCollins

4. J. Sai Deepak’s book titled, “India, That is Bharat: Coloniality, Civilisation, Constitution”, is a part of a comprehensive trilogy, which examines the far reaching impact of European ‘colonial consciousness’ on Bharat. This second part of this trilogy is set to launch in June 2022 while the first part was released in August 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “India, That is Bharat: Coloniality, Civilisation, Constitution” book – authored by J. Sai Deepak
- Publisher – Bloomsbury India

5. India’s first-ever season style book “The Class of 2006: Sneak Peek into the Misadventures of the Great Indian Engineering Life”, written by management professional Akash Kansal, was launched virtually at book launch ceremony at IIT Kanpur & Delhi Technological University. The book was released on Amazon Kindle by actor R. Madhavan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Class of 2006: Sneak Peek into the Misadventures of the Great Indian Engineering Life” book – authored by Akash Kansal
- Book launched by – R. Madhavan

6. Jimmy Soni authored a book titled “The Founders: The Story of PayPal and the Entrepreneurs Who Shaped Silicon Valley”. This book talks about paths of the two dramatically different startups, one led by Elon Musk and the other by Peter Thiel, that came together to form PayPal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Founders: The Story of PayPal and the Entrepreneurs Who Shaped Silicon Valley” book – authored by Jimmy Soni

7. On February 18, the book, “A History of Sriniketan: Rabindranath Tagore’s Pioneering Work in Rural Construction”, is written by historian and Tagore biographer Uma Das Gupta. It is published under Niyogi Book’s ‘Paper Missile’ imprint. A new book explores Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore’s work for rural reconstruction by setting up ‘Sriniketan’, a wing of his Visva Bharati International University at Santiniketan in 1922. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “A History of Sriniketan: Rabindranath Tagore’s Pioneering Work in Rural Construction” – authored by Uma Das Gupta
- Published under Niyogi Book’s ‘Paper Missile’ imprint

8. Microsoft co-founder and philanthropist Bill Gates has written a book “How To Prevent The Next Pandemic”. The book is published by Knopf in US & by Penguin Random House internationally. His last book, “How to Avoid a Climate Disaster: The Solutions We Have and the Breakthroughs We Need”, was released in February 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “How To Prevent The Next Pandemic” book – authored by Bill Gates
- Publisher – Knopf (in US) & Penguin Random House (internationally)

9. On February 25, Bhajan Samrat Anup Jalota released the book “Udaan Ek Majdoor Bachhe Ki”. The author of this book is Mithilesh Tiwari. This book highlights the life journey of Captain AD Manek, founder of “The Skyline Aviation Club”. The family of Captain AD Manek is also known as the ‘Flying Family of India’ because all 6 members of this family are serving in the Indian Aviation Industry. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Udaan Ek Majdoor Bachhe Ki” book – authored by Mithilesh Tiwari (about the life of Captain AD Manek)

10. On February 26, Former army captain Deepam Chatterjee authored a book that mixes mysticism and music. The book is published by Penguin Random House. The book is titled “The Millennial Yogi: A modern-day parable about reclaiming one’s life”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Millennial Yogi: A modern-day parable about reclaiming one’s life” book – authored by Deepam Chatterjee
- Publisher – Penguin Random House

11. On February 28, Senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi released Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin’s autobiography in Tamil titled “Ungalil Oruvan” (One Among You). Stalin’s book released on Feb 28, written in Tamil, is the first of a reported three-volume autobiography, capturing the first 23 years of his life. The book was published by Poompuhar Pathippagam. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rahul Gandhi – released M. K. Stalin’s autobiography titled “Ungalil Oruvan” (One Among You)
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai](#) | [CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin](#) | [Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi](#)

12. On February 25, the Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Nityanand Rai released six books published by the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) in New Delhi. Three of the six books were published by the Central Police Training Academy, Bhopal. BPR&D is an important organization of the Ministry of Home Affairs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nityanand Rai (Mos in MoHA) – released 6 books published by BPR&D
- BPR&D works under – Ministry of Home Affairs
- Ministry of Home Affairs: Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Home Affairs: Nityanand Rai, Ajay Kumar & Nisith Pramanik

13. “The Great Tech Game: Shaping Geopolitics and the Destiny of Nations” authored by Anirudh Suri, was released on 26 February. The book was published by HarperCollins India. The book provides insight on how nations need digital fair play to improve global governance. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Great Tech Game: Shaping Geopolitics and the Destiny of Nations” – authored by Anirudh Suri
- Publisher – HarperCollins India

14. On February 3, a short biography “Golden Boy Neeraj Chopra” penned by sports author Navdeep Singh Gill was released. It is the 7th book written by Navdeep and the 6th placing focus on the sports as well as the sportspersons. The book was published by Lokgeet Prakashan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Golden Boy Neeraj Chopra” biography – authored by Navdeep Singh Gill
- Publisher – Lokgeet Prakashan

15. Rajiv Bhatia, a diplomat, authored his new book titled “India-Africa Relations, Changing Horizons”. He has devoted a large part of his book to the rationale, the details and the impact of India’s Africa cooperation programme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “India-Africa Relations, Changing Horizons” book – authored by Rajiv Bhatia

16. Sagarika Ghose authored an biography of Atal Bihari Vajpayee titled as “Atal Bihari Vajpayee - India’s Most Loved Prime Minister”. This book gives an in depth look into the life and times of Atal Bihari Vajpayee, along with some of his poems. This book is 2nd part of her trilogy of books on Prime Ministers of India. The first one in the series was on Indira Gandhi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Atal Bihari Vajpayee - India’s Most Loved Prime Minister” biography – authored by Sagarika Ghose

17. On February 8, HarperCollins Publishers released ‘Bruised Passports: Travelling the World as Digital Nomads’ which is a book filled with stories of travel and people. This book is authored by Savi Munjal and Vidit Taneja (Savi and Vid). In this book, the authors have shared their insights on how to become a digital nomad. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Bruised Passport: Traveling the World as Digital Nomads” book – authored by Savi Munjal & Vidit Taneja (Savi & Vid)
- Publisher – HarperCollins

18. The book titled “A Nation To Protect” is author Priyam Gandhi Mody’s third book which was released in February, 2022. The book highlights the leadership of PM Narendra Modi in India’s fight against COVID-19 in the past two years. The book was launched by Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya in the presence of other senior health ministry officials.

[{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “A Nation To Protect” book – authored by Priyam Gandhi Mody
- The book highlights PM Modi’s leadership & released by Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya



Obituaries

1. Legendary racehorse trainer Rashid Rustomji Byramji passed away. He was 88. Rashid Byramji is considered the greatest Classic trainer India has ever seen. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rashid Rustomji Byramji – Racehorse Trainer – passed away

2. On February 13, Veteran industrialist and the Chairman of the Bajaj group, Rahul Bajaj, passed away at the age of 83. Rahul Bajaj joined the Bajaj group in 1965. He served as the President of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for two terms - 1979-80 and 1999-2000. Bajaj was a member of the Rajya Sabha for the 2006-2010 period. He had received 'Padma Bhushan' in 2001 for Trade & Industries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rahul Bajaj – a Veteran Industrialist & Chairman of Bajaj group – passed away (served as the President of CII)
- Awards: 'Padma Bhushan' in 2001 for Trade & Industries

3. On February 15, Legendary Bengali singer Sandhya Mukhopadhyay passed away. She was 90. In 1971, she bagged the 'National award for Best Female Playback Singer' for songs in the films Jai Jayanti (1970) and Nishi Padma (1970). In 2022, she declined the Padma Shri award. She was awarded 'Banga Bibhushan', the highest honour in West Bengal, by the State government in 2011. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sandhya Mukhopadhyay – Legendary Bengali singer – Passed away
- Awards: 'Banga Bibhushan' (highest honour in West Bengal) + 'Padma Shri 2022' (declined)

4. On February 15, Singer-composer Bappi Lahiri passed away due to suffering from OSA (Obstructive Sleep Apnea). He was 69. was fondly known as 'Bappi da'. He earned the title 'Disco King' because of his work on films such as Disco Dancer, Namak Halaal, Dance Dance, Commando. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bappi Lahiri – Singer & composer – passed away

5. On February 16, Kannada literateur Dr. Chennaveera Kanavi passed away. He was 94. He won Sahitya Akademi award for his book "Jeevadhvani". He also received the Rajyotsava Award, Pampa Award, Nadoja title, Nrupathunga award, Sahitya Bangara Award and several other awards. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Chennaveera Kanavi – a Kannada literateur – passed away
- He had won 'Sahitya Akademi' award for his book "Jeevadhvani"
- Other Awards: Rajyotsava Award, Pampa Award, Nadoja title, Nrupathunga Award & Sahitya Bangara Award

6. On February 21, Assam's Shakuntala Chowdhary passed away. She was 102. She was awarded Padma Shri in 2022 for her Social Work. She was known for her steadfast belief in Gandhian values. People used to call her by 'baideo' (elder sister). She was also at the forefront of the 'Ban Cow Slaughter Satyagraha', the 'Stree Shakti Jagaran' and also served as a trustee of Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust (KGNMT) at the national level. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shakuntala Chowdhary – a Social Worker – passed away (‘2022 Padma Shri Award’ for Social Work)
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

7. Ravish Tiwari, National Political Editor and Chief of National Bureau of The Indian Express, passed away at the age of 40. He had been fighting cancer since June 2020. Tiwari led a team of senior journalists at The Indian Express. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ravish Tiwari – a Journalist – passed away
- He was National Political Editor & Chief of National Bureau of ‘The Indian Express’

8. Veteran Malayalam actress Maheshwari Amma, better known by her stage name of ‘KPAC Lalitha’ who starred in over 500 films primarily in Malayalam cinema, passed away in Kochi. She was 74. She bagged the National Award for ‘Best Supporting Actress’ twice. She also served as the Chairperson of the Kerala Sangeetha Nataka Akademi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maheshwari Amma (‘KPAC Lalitha’) – a Malayalam Actress – passed away
- She served as the Chairperson of Kerala Sangeetha Nataka Akademi

9. On February 17, Former India footballer and East Bengal star Surajit Sengupta passed away. He was 70. He played in the 1974 and 1978 Asian Games and for all top Kolkata clubs. He captained East Bengal in 1978 when they won the Durand Cup, IFA Shield, Federation Cup and the Bordoloi Trophy. East Bengal gave Sengupta their lifetime achievement award in 2018. With Mohun Bagan, he won the Calcutta league (1983), Federation Cup in 1981 and 1982. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Surajit Sengupta (West Bengal) – a former Football Player – passed away

10. On February 28, Legendary West Indies spinner Sonny Ramadhin passed away. He was a part of the series that won its first away series in England in 1950. He was 92. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sonny Ramadhin – West Indies spinner (Cricketer) – passed away

11. In February 2022, the 1956 Olympic bronze medallist, former world 1500m and mile record-holder John Landy died at the age of 91. Australia’s John is best known for becoming the second man in history to break four minutes for the mile. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- John Landy (Australia) – an Athlete – passed away (Bronze in 1956 Olympic Games in 1500m)

12. On February 5, Padma Shri awardee and social worker Ibrahim Sutar passed away. He was 82. He was referred to as the “Kabir of Karnataka”. He was known for his work towards spreading social and communal harmony. He was awarded the Padma Shri in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ibrahim Sutar – Social Worker & Padma Shri awardee (2018) – passed away
- Ibrahim Sutar – also known as the “Kabir of Karnataka”

13. On February 2, actor-filmmaker Amitabh Dayal passed away. He was 51. He worked in films like Kagaar: Life on the Edge (2003) with Om Puri, Bhojpuri film Rangdari (2012) and Raj Babbar's Dhuaan (2013), Amitabh Bachchan's Virrudh (2005). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amitabh Dayal – Actor-filmmaker – passed away

14. On February 6, Legendary singer & India's Nightingale, Lata Mangeshkar passed away. She was also called 'Swar Kokila'. She was conferred with 3 National Awards, and was awarded the 'Dadasaheb Phalke Award' in 1989. In 2001, she was awarded the 'Bharat Ratna' for her contribution to the arts, thereby becoming the 2nd vocalist to receive this honour after late Carnatic music giant M. S. Subbulakshmi. She was also honoured with the 'Padma Vibhushan' (1999) and 'Padma Bhushan' (1969). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Lata Mangeshkar – Legendary singer & India's Nightingale – passed away
- Awards: Dadasaheb Phalke Award (1989), Bharat Ratna (2001), Padma Vibhushan (1999) & Padma Bhushan (1969)

15. On February 9, Actor Praveen Kumar Sobti, popular for essaying the role of 'Bheem' in BR Chopra's Mahabharat, passed away at the age of 75. Before he became an actor, Praveen was a hammer and discus throw athlete. A four-time Asian Games medallist, he also represented India in 1968 Mexico and 1972 Munich Olympics. He was also honoured with 'Arjuna Award'. He worked as the Deputy Commandant in the Border Security Force (BSF) as well. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Praveen Kumar Sobti – Actor, Athlete, Soldier & Politician – passed away (4 Asian Games medals & Arjuna Award)

16. Professor R. Rajamohan passed away. He was an astronomer at the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Bengaluru. He is best known for his 'Kalki Project', which aimed to discover asteroids using the 48-cm Schmidt telescope. The project led to the first discoveries of asteroids in independent India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Professor R. Rajamohan – an Astronomer at the IIA – passed away
- He worked in 'Kalki Project' that led to the first discoveries of asteroids in independent India

17. On February 12, French researcher and virologist Luc Montagnier, who won a Nobel Prize in 2008 for discovering the HIV virus passed away. He was 89. He became head of the Pasteur Institute's virology department in 1972. He also won France's highest decoration, the Legion of Honor. He recently spread false claims about the coronavirus. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Luc Montagnier – French Researcher & Virologist – passed away (Nobel Prize in 2008 for discovering HIV virus)

Persons in News

1. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Prakash Birla led an Indian Parliamentary Delegation (IPD) on a 5-day visit to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) beginning from 21 to 25 February. This will be the first-ever visit under bilateral exchange of parliamentary delegations from either side. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Om Prakash Birla – led an Indian Parliamentary Delegation (IPD) on a 5-day visit to the UAE
- [UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham](#) | [President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan](#)

2. On February 19, PM Narendra Modi paid tribute to ‘Tamil Thatha’ Uttamadhanapuram Venkatasubbaiyer Swaminatha Iyer on his birth anniversary. Iyer was a Tamil scholar and researcher who played an instrumental role in bringing many long-forgotten works of classical Tamil literature to light. Swaminathalyer was born on February 19, 1855 and died on April 28, 1942. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Modi – paid tribute to ‘Uttamadhanapuram Venkatasubbaiyer Swaminatha Iyer on his birth anniversary
- He was a Tamil Scholar & Researcher

3. Queen Elizabeth II, 95, celebrated her ‘Platinum Jubilee’ on February 6, 2022. Queen Elizabeth II, the world’s longest-reigning living monarch, took over as the head of the state at 25. Queen Elizabeth II became the first British monarch to reign for 70 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Queen Elizabeth II ([London, UK](#)) – celebrated her ‘Platinum Jubilee’ on Feb 6, 2022
- Queen Elizabeth II – became the first British monarch to reign for 70 years (world’s longest-reigning living monarch)
- [UK – London – Pound Sterling](#) | [PM – Boris Johnson](#)



Science & Technology

1. A skeleton of the biggest 'Pterosaur' (flying reptiles) to have flown during the Middle Jurassic was discovered on the Isle of Skye, Scotland. This is one of the best-preserved fossils in UK's history. Moreover, the colossal 180 million-year-old fossilized remains of an 'Ichthyosaur' (marine reptiles) was found in the UK. Discovered in a reservoir in the county of Rutland, in the English East Midlands, the specimen is the largest and most complete ichthyosaur fossil ever found in the UK, measuring nearly 33 feet in length. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A skeleton of the biggest Pterosaur – discovered on the Isle of Skye, an island in Scotland, UK
- 180 million-year-old fossil of an Ichthyosaur – discovered in Rutland Water Nature Reserve, UK
- [UK – London – Pound Sterling](#) | [PM – Boris Johnson](#)

2. A team of researchers has identified a new gecko species from the hills of Attappady, in the Western Ghats, Kerala. The team was led by herpetologists Sandeep Das & Surya Narayanan. The new large species of gecko belongs to the genus "Hemidactylus goldfuss". This new species is named "Hemidactylus easai" after P. S. Easa, former director of the Kerala Forest and Research Institute (KFRI) and wildlife conservationist. Kerala has over 30 species of gecko and with this new addition, there are 9 under the Hemidactylus genus. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Hemidactylus easai" – a new gecko species of genus "Hemidactylus goldfuss" – identified from Western Ghats, Kerala

3. On February 3, Astronomers confirmed the existence of the 2nd Earth Trojan named "2020 XL5". Earth Trojan is an asteroid that shares the same orbit as our planet, going around the Sun. This trojan was detected in 2020 by the Pan-STARRS S1 telescope and is a C-type or carbonaceous asteroid, the most common variety of asteroid, consisting of large amounts of carbon. It is a near-earth asteroid (NEO) that is expected to stay in orbit for the next 4,000 years. The first known Earth Trojan asteroid was '2010 TK7', discovered in 2010. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Astronomers confirmed the existence of the 2nd Earth Trojan named "2020 XL5" (C-type or carbonaceous asteroid)
- This trojan was detected in 2020 by 'Pan-STARRS S1' telescope | [NEO – Near-Earth Asteroid](#)
- '2010 TK7' – the first known Earth Trojan asteroid (discovered in 2010)

4. On February 3, the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, Prof. Vijay Raghavan, launched India's first AI-triggered Job Platform 'Swarajability' (beta version) for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs). IIT Hyderabad jointly developed this platform with Youth4Jobs and Visual Quest, with support from Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. This job platform gives independence to PwDs using technology, skills, and job linkages. It includes technology that allows persons with disabilities from all walks of life to join and explore job opportunities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Hyderabad + Youth4Jobs + Visual Quest = developed 'Swarajability'- India's first AI-triggered Job Platform for PwDs
- Support from – Kotak Mahindra Bank
- [Director of IIT Hyderabad – B. S. Murty](#)
- [HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank – Mumbai, MH](#) | [MD & CEO – Uday Kotak](#) | [Tagline – "Let's make money simple"](#)



5. Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar, developed a cost-effective and environment-friendly water desalination technique to make seawater potable by removing over 99% of salt ions and other impurities with natural processing. The finding was published in the international journal 'Nature Communications'. The research is inspired by trees' natural intake of water using capillary effect. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT-Gandhinagar – developed a water desalination technique to make seawater potable by removing over 99% impurities
- [Director of IIT Gandhinagar – Amit Prashant](#)

6. In February 2022, SpaceX launched Italy's Earth-observation satellite named "Cosmo-SkyMed Second Generation FM2 (CSG-2) satellite" from Florida's Cape Canaveral Space Force Station by using SpaceX's 'Falcon 9' rocket. The mission marked the first time that a Heavy side booster had been reconfigured and launched alone as a 'Falcon 9'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SpaceX – launched Italy's "Cosmo-SkyMed Second Generation FM2 (CSG-2)" Earth-observation satellite
- [HQs of SpaceX – California, U.S. | Founder & CEO – Elon Musk | Founded in – 2002](#)
- [Italy – Rome – Euro | President – Sergio Mattarella | PM – Mario Draghi](#)

7. On February 11, NASA selected two science missions - the Multi-slit Solar Explorer (MUSE) and HelioSwarm - to help improve understanding of the dynamics of the Sun, the Sun-Earth connection, and the constantly changing space environment. These missions will provide deeper insights into our universe and offer critical information to help protect astronauts, satellites, and communications signals such as GPS. The MUSE mission will help scientists understand the forces driving the heating of the Sun's corona and the eruptions in that outermost region that are at the foundation of space weather. The HelioSwarm mission is a constellation or "swarm" of 9 spacecraft that will capture the first multiscale in-space measurements of fluctuations in the magnetic field and motions of the solar wind known as 'solar wind turbulence'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NASA – selected two science missions 'MUSE' & 'HelioSwarm' to improve understanding of the Sun-Earth connection
- [HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded on – July 29, 1958](#)

8. In February 2022, European Astronomers discovered the largest galaxy ever discovered namely "Alcyoneus". At 16.3 million light-years wide, the Alcyoneus galaxy has a diameter 160 times wider than the Milky Way. Alcyoneus is roughly 3 billion light-years from Earth and it is named after one of the mythical giants who fought Hercules and whose name means 'mighty ass' in Greek. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- European Astronomers discovered the largest galaxy ever discovered namely "Alcyoneus"
- 3 billion light-years from Earth | 160 times wider than the Milky Way | 16.3 million light-years wide

9. On February 23, A joint team of scientists from the DRDO and IIT Delhi, for the first time in India, successfully demonstrated Quantum Key Distribution link between Prayagraj and Vindhyachal in Uttar Pradesh, a distance of more than 100 km. It is developed by the Bengaluru-based Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics (CAIR) and Mumbai-based DRDO Young Scientists' Laboratory (DYSL-QT). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Scientists from DRDO & IIT Delhi – demonstrated Quantum Key Distribution link between Prayagraj & Vindhyachal in UP
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in – 1958
- Director of IIT Delhi – V. Ramgopal Rao

10. On February 19, Astronomers of National Centre of Radio Astrophysics (NCRA-TIFR) in Pune and the University of California in the U.S. mapped the distribution of atomic hydrogen gas from the host galaxy of a fast radio burst (FRB) for the first time. They used the Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT) of NCRA-TIFR. Not much is known about fast radio bursts, which can produce so much energy in so little time. Fast radio bursts are extremely bright radio pulses from distant galaxies that last for only a few milliseconds. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NCRA-TIFR (Pune) & University of California – mapped the distribution of atomic hydrogen gas from the host galaxy of a fast radio burst
- They used Maharashtra-based ‘Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT)’ of NCRA-TIFR

11. North Korea test fired a “Hwasong-12” mid-range ballistic missile from Jagang Province of North Korea. This series of missiles used liquid-propellant engines with an Ampoule Fuel System. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- North Korea – test fired a “Hwasong-12” mid-range ballistic missile
- North Korea – Pyongyang – North Korean won | President – Kim Jong-un

12. Honeywell Hometown Solutions India Foundation (HHSIF) established the Global Center of Excellence for Affordable & Clean Energy (GCoE-ACE) at IIT Dharwad to boost research in affordable and clean energy (ACE). HHSIF and IIT Dharwad will develop an Open-source Platform to build an interactive database of grassroots level energy-related challenges. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HHSIF established the Global Center of Excellence for Affordable & Clean Energy (GCoE-ACE) – at IIT Dharwad
- HHSIF + IIT Dharwad = to develop an Open-source Platform to build an interactive database of energy-related challenges

13. On February 2, SpaceX launched “NROL-87”, a National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) satellite from Vandenberg Space Force Base, California. SpaceX used ‘Falcon 9’ rocket for this launch. This was the National Reconnaissance Office’s first space mission of the year and it was launched under the National Security Space Launch (NSSL) program run by the U.S. Space Force. NROL-87 was SpaceX’s 143rd launch overall and the fifth of 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SpaceX – launched a U.S. government spy satellite namely “NROL-87” into orbit by using ‘Falcon 9’ rocket
- HQs of SpaceX – California, U.S. | Founder & CEO – Elon Musk | Founded in – 2002
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

14. On February 4, The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) installed & commissioned Param Pravega, one of the most powerful supercomputers in India under the “National Supercomputing Mission (NSM)”. It has a total supercomputing capacity of 3.3 petaflops. It is designed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) in line with the Make in India initiative. ‘NSM’ is steered jointly by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), and implemented by C-DAC and IISc. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Param Pravega” supercomputer – installed & commissioned by IISc (Designed by – C-DAC | Capacity – 3.3 petaflops)
- Director of IISc, Bangalore – Govindan Rangarajan | Established in – 1909
- HQs of C-DAC – Pune, Maharashtra | Senior Director – Mahesh Kulkarni

15. On February 12, the Ministry of Defence signed a design and development contract with a Bengaluru-based NewSpace Research & Technologies to develop a High Altitude Pseudo Satellite (HAPS) which will be able to conduct surveillance operations and support communications by staying airborne for months at a stretch. Mentored under the ministry's Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) initiative, the programme has been supported by the Armed Forces and will see Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) as the lead prototype development partner. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Defence + NewSpace Research & Technologies = a contract to develop High Altitude Pseudo Satellite (HAPS)
- Lead prototype development partner of the programme – Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL)
- HQs of NewSpace Research & Technologies – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Sameer Joshi

16. On February 9, Scientists recorded presence of White-Cheeked Macaque (*Macaca leucogenys*) from central Arunachal Pradesh in India. The species was discovered in 2015. The significance of the discovery is that it marks a new addition to mammals of India. The number of mammals reported from India stands at 434. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Scientists recorded presence of White-Cheeked Macaque (*Macaca leucogenys*) – in Arunachal Pradesh
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B. D. Mishra
- HQs of ZSI – Kolkata, West Bengal | Director – Dhriti Banerjee | Founded on – July 1, 1916

17. On February 9, Iran unveiled a new missile called “Khaibar-buster” that would allow it to reach both U.S. bases in the region as well as targets inside its archfoe Israel. The missile has solid fuel and a range of 1,450 kilometers or 900 miles. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Iran – unveiled a new missile called “Khaibar-buster” | missile range – 1,450 km or 900 miles
- Iran – Tehran – Rial | President – Ebrahim Raisi | Supreme Leader – Ali Khamenei

18. On February 13, Meta’s oversight board suggested Facebook and Instagram to make strict doxxing rules and urged Meta to consider doxxing as an offence which should prompt temporary account suspension. Doxxing is publishing and analysing others’ personal information on the internet with a malicious intent that can reveal the person’s real identity making them victims of harassments and cyber-attacks. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Meta’s oversight board – suggested Facebook & Instagram to make strict ‘doxxing rules’
- Doxxing – publishing others’ personal information on internet with a malicious intent
- HQs of Meta – California, US | CEO – Mark Zuckerberg | Founded in – 2004

19. On February 14, ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle PSLV-C52 successfully injected Earth Observation Satellite 'EOS-04' into the polar orbit of 529 km altitude. It was launched from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, SHAR, Sriharikota. This was the 80th launch vehicle mission from SDSC SHAR, Sriharikota, 54th flight of PSLV, and the 23rd flight of PSLV in XL configuration. The vehicle also placed two small satellites - a student satellite (INSPIRESat-1) and a technology demonstrator satellite (INS-2TD) with it. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ISRO – launched Earth Observation Satellite “EOS-04” from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota using ‘PSLV-C52’
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969

20. On February 11, Australia's government upgraded the conservation status of koalas from 'vulnerable' to 'endangered'. Koalas were classified as “vulnerable” only in 2012. During the catastrophic 2019 bushfires in Australia, now known as the 'Black Summer', an estimated 60,000 koalas were impacted. The Bushfire destroyed much of their eucalyptus-rich habitat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Australia – upgraded the conservation status of koalas (bear) from 'Vulnerable' to 'Endangered'
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

21. On February 18, A team of herpetologists recorded a new species of bent-toed gecko from a wooded part of the Umroi Military Station in Meghalaya. Its scientific name is “Crytodactylus exercitus” and English name is Indian Army's bent-toed gecko. Exercitus in Latin means army. The name was given to honour the Army for its services to the country. The finding of the study was published in the latest issue of the European Journal of Taxonomy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 'Crytodactylus exercitus' - a species of 'bent-toed gecko' – discovered from Umroi Military Station, Meghalaya
- Published in – European Journal of Taxonomy
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

22. On February 15, A U.S. patient with leukemia became the 1st woman and the 3rd person to be cured of HIV after receiving a stem cell transplant from a donor who was naturally resistant to the virus that causes AIDS. Stem cells are more frequently used in bone marrow transplants. This case is part of a larger U.S. backed study led by Dr. Yvonne Bryson of the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), and Dr. Deborah Persaud of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A U.S. patient with 'leukemia' became the 1st woman & the 3rd person to be cured of “HIV” after a stem cell transplant
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

23. On February 15, Hyderabad-based space startup “NavarsEdutech” partnered with “Skyroot Aerospace” to launch 100 student-developed satellites constellation in the next 5 years. This partnership enables Navars Edutech to become India's first Space Education startup for K12 students to design and launch satellites to space, using an indigenously developed private launch vehicle of Skyroot Aerospace. Navars will lead this EdTech transformation for the first time in the country at the school level. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Navars Edutech + Skyroot Aerospace = to launch 100 student-developed satellites constellation in the next 5 years
- Navars Edutech – India's first Space Education startup for K12 students to design & launch satellites to space
- HQs of Skyroot Aerospace – Hyderabad, Telangana | CEO – Pawan Kumar Chandana
- HQs of NavarsEdutech – Hyderabad, Telangana | CEO – Sravan Varma

24. On February 2, two perfectly preserved flowers were discovered in Burmese amber. According to a new study by Rober Spicer, these flowers are estimated to be 99-million-years-old (9.9 Crore-year-old). The flowers are named 'Eophylca priscatellata' & 'Phylca piloburmensis'. These flowers bloomed at the feet of dinosaurs in what is now Myanmar. The amber containing the flowers was acquired from some local sellers before 2016. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 99 million-year-old (9.9 Crore-year-old) perfectly preserved flowers – discovered in Burmese Amber, Myanmar
- Myanmar – Naypyitaw – Kyat | President – Myint Swe | PM – Min Aung Hlaing

25. On February 1, Chinese scientists from Suzhou in China's Jiangsu province developed an AI system called "AI nanny" that can monitor and take care of embryos as they grow into fetuses in an artificial womb. The AI helps the machine observe minutest changes on the embryos and finely tune the CO₂, nutrition and environmental inputs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – built "AI Nanny" to look after baby Embryos in artificial womb
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

26. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) decommissioned its communication satellite "Insat-4B" through 11 manoeuvres after over 14 years of service. The satellite has undergone post mission disposal (PMD) at the end of its life followed by decommissioning on January 24, 2022. 'INSAT-4B' was launched on March 12, 2007 for DTH and other communication services. INSAT-4B is the 21st Indian GEO satellite to undergo PMD. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ISRO – decommissioned its communication satellite "Insat-4B"
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969

27. On February 7, IIT Madras established an Inter-disciplinary Water Management & Policy Centre called "AquaMAP" to solve water problems in India. AquaMAP will provide smart solutions for challenging water problems by designing scalable models by using innovative technologies. AquaMap has a governing body chaired by Director IIT Madras. AquaMAP will collaborate with other IIT Madras water research centers in this initiative. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Madras – established an Water Management & Policy Centre "AquaMAP" to solve water problems in India
- Director of IIT Madras – V. Kamakoti



28. On February 23, Ideal Finance, a subsidiary of Mahindra and Mahindra Financial Services announced the rebranding of its company name to Mahindra Ideal Finance Limited (MIFL). This company is a joint venture of Mahindra Finance and Ideal Group. Ideal Finance provides financial services products to the Sri Lankan customers. The vision of this company is to make Mahindra Ideal Finance one of the leading licensed finance companies (LFC) in Sri Lanka. [{Read more}](#) On February 27, China launched a Long March-8 rocket to place 22 satellites in space and set a domestic record for the most spacecraft launched by a single rocket. The rocket was launched from the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site in south China's Hainan Province. These satellites will mainly be used for commercial remote sensing services, marine environment monitoring, forest fire prevention and disaster mitigation. The mission marked the 409th flight of the Long March carrier rockets. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – placed 22 satellites in space & set a domestic record for the most spacecraft launched by a single rocket
- [China – Beijing – Renminbi](#) | [President – Xi Jinping](#)

29. On February 27, A team of researchers from IIT Kanpur developed a novel Nanoparticle-based Bio-Degradable-Carbenoid-Metabolite (BioDCM) that can protect agricultural crops from fungal and bacterial infections. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Kanpur – developed a novel Nanoparticle-based Bio-Degradable-Carbenoid-Metabolite (BioDCM)
- [Director of IIT Kanpur – Abhay Karandikar](#)

30. On February 27, PM Narendra Modi addressed a webinar on Gatishakti National Master Plan. The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI) organized its first Post Budget Webinar on a vision of 'GatiShakti' titled "Creating Synergies for Accelerated Economic Growth". This session will focus on the GatiShakti national master plan portal that has been developed by the Bhaskaracharya Institute of Space Application Geo-informatics. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – addressed a webinar on 'Gatishakti National Master Plan'
- DPIIT – organized a Webinar on a vision of 'GatiShakti' titled "Creating Synergies for Accelerated Economic Growth"
- 'Gatishakti National Master Plan' portal – developed by Bhaskaracharya Institute of Space Application Geo-informatics

31. On February 26, Researchers of Bhakta Kavi Narsinh Mehta University (BKNMU), Junagadh, Gujarat discovered a new species of spider and named it 'Narsinhmehtai', in honour of Narsinh Mehta, a 15th century poet who was a devotee of Lord Krishna. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Researchers of Bhakta Kavi Narsinh Mehta University ([Gujarat](#)) discovered a new species of spider 'Narsinhmehtai'

32. The International Space Station (ISS) will continue its operations until 2030 and will plunge into the most remote point in the Pacific Ocean in 2031, according to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). As per the NASA's budget estimates, the ISS, launched in 1998, will be "de-orbited" in January 2031. Once out of orbit the space station will make a dramatic descent before splash-landing in 'Point Nemo', also known as the "Oceanic Pole of Inaccessibility" or "South Pacific Ocean Uninhabited Area". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NASA: ISS will be 'de-orbited' in January 2031 (launched in 1998)
- ISS will make a splash-landing in "Point Nemo" or "Oceanic Pole of Inaccessibility"
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded on – July 29, 1958

33. On February 4, Tech giant Google introduced a new lineup of secure and sustainable 'Chromebook devices' built entirely for Education. Chromebooks will play an important role in the classroom, helping 50 million students and teachers learn and collaborate from wherever they are. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Google – introduced a new lineup of secure & sustainable 'Chromebook devices' built entirely for Education
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998

34. On February 3, the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) identified a new carangid (Vatta) species from the Indian coast. It belongs to the 'queen fish' group and is named 'scomberoides pelagicus'. This fish is locally known as pola vatta. This is the 5th queen fish from the Indian seas. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Scomberoides pelagicus" - a fish (Vatta) species from 'queen fish' group – identified by CMFRI from Indian coast
- This fish is locally known as – 'Pola Vatta'
- HQs of CMFRI – Kochi, Kerala | Director – A. Gopalakrishnan



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The Question Bank



Ordinance, Bills & Acts

1. In February 2022, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) notified guidelines on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for plastic packaging, with an aim to eliminate single-use plastics and promote alternatives. The EPR target will be increased to 70% in 2022-23 and 100% from 2023-24 onwards. Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav announced the notification of the new “Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2022”. According to the new rules, plastics have been classified into four categories - rigid plastic packaging, flexible plastic packaging of single layer, multi-layered plastic packaging & plastic sheet. Producers of plastic packaging will have to manage 35% of the ‘Q1’ waste in metric tonnes in 2021-22. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoEFCC notified guidelines on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for plastic packaging
- EPR target will be increased to: 70% in 2022-23 & 100% from 2023-24
- Plastics are classified into 4 categories according to new “Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2022”:
 - Rigid plastic packaging
 - Flexible plastic packaging of single layer
 - Multi-layered plastic packaging
 - Plastic sheet
- Producers of plastic packaging will have to manage 35% of the ‘Q1’ waste in metric tonnes in 2021-22

2. On February 1, to utilise the experience & expertise of senior employees and considering the increased life expectancy, Andhra Pradesh state government promulgated an ordinance enhancing the retirement age of employees from 60 to 62 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Andhra Pradesh – enhanced the retirement age of employees from 60 to 62 years
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

Arts & Cultural Affairs

1. On February 28, the 45th International Kolkata Book Fair was inaugurated by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. To celebrate the birth centenary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Golden Jubilee of Bangladesh Independence, the focal theme country of Kolkata Book Fair was Bangladesh. Bangladesh Day was celebrated on March 3 and 4. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mamata Banerjee – inaugurated 45th International Kolkata Book Fair | Focal theme country – Bangladesh
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

2. The 17th Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) of documentaries, short fiction, and animation films will be held from May 29 to June 5 at Mumbai's Films Division Complex, the Union Information & Broadcasting ministry announced. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 17th Mumbai International Film Festival – to be held from May 29 to June 5
- Organized by – Ministry of Information & Broadcasting





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