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# National & States Affairs

**501.** On July 22, Chandigarh, in association with Chandigarh State Aids Control Society and Association of Professional Social Workers & Development Practitioners (APSWDP), has opened a Legal Services Clinic named 'Samta Nyay Kendra', exclusively to provide legal services to transgender community. It is opened under the "National Legal Services Authority (Legal Services Clinics) Regulations, 2011". The objective of this Kendra is to provide counselling and help the transgenders in redressal of their legal grievances. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Chandigarh + Chandigarh State Aids Control Society + APSWDP = opened 'Samta Nyay Kendra'
- Samta Nyay Kendra – a Legal Services Clinic to provide legal services to transgender community
- It is opened under the "National Legal Services Authority (Legal Services Clinics) Regulations, 2011"
- Chandigarh: Capital – Chandigarh | Administrator – Banwarilal Purohit

**502.** On July 25, Parshottam Rupala, Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (MoFAHD), launched "NDDB MRIDA Limited", a wholly-owned subsidiary company of National Dairy Development Board (NDDDB), for manure management initiatives across India. NDDDB has established NDDB MRIDA Limited, an Unlisted Public Limited Company under the 'Companies Act, 2013' on July 1, 2022 as with the paid-up capital of Rs. 9.50 Crore. NDDB Mrida Ltd will open avenues of additional income to dairy farmers from sale of slurry/dung. On this occasion, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan, MoS in MoFAHD, launched a brochure on NDDB MRIDA Limited and Dr. L. Murugan, MoS in MoFAHD, handed over NDDB's "SUDHAN" trademark to Sandeep Bharti, newly appointed Chairman & MD of NDDB MRIDA Limited. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Parshottam Rupala – launched "NDDB MRIDA Limited" for manure management initiatives across India
- HQs of NDDB MRIDA Limited – Anand, Gujarat | MD & CEO – Sandeep Bharti
- Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying: Parshottam Rupala | Constituency – Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying: Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan & Dr. L. Murugan

**503.** On July 23, Union Minister of Ayush Shri Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated "Vaccination Centre for Children" at the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi. He also launched the "Bal Raksha" mobile app, which is aimed at creating awareness of paediatric preventive healthcare through Ayurveda intervention amongst parents. The app will also collect feedback from parents regarding the impact of the kit on their children's health and immunity. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Sarbananda Sonowal – inaugurated "Vaccination Centre for Children" at AIIA, New Delhi
- Sarbananda Sonowal – also launched the "Bal Raksha" mobile app
- Ministry of AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of AYUSH: Munjapara Mahendrabhai



**504.** As of July 22, over 2,000 children have died in specialised adoption agencies since 2014, according to the Ministry of Women and Child Development. Total 27,085 children have been adopted since 2014. According to the data, as many as 132 children died in specialised adoption agencies in 2021-22. National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has developed an application namely “Monitoring App for Seamless Inspection (MASI)” for real-time monitoring of the Child Care Institutions (CCIs) and their inspection mechanism across the country. MASI enables unified inspections by Child Welfare Committees (CWCs), State Inspection Committees, District Inspection Committees, Members of Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs) and State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCRs) as laid down under the ‘JJ Act, 2015’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Over 2,000 children have died in specialised adoption agencies since 2014 (out of 27,085 adopted since 2014)
- In 2021-22, as many as 132 children died in specialised adoption agencies
- NCPCR – developed “Monitoring App for Seamless Inspection (MASI)” for real-time monitoring of the CCIs
- NCPCR – a statutory body under ‘section 3’ of the “CPCR Act, 2005”
- HQs of NCPCR – New Delhi | Chairman – Priyank Kanongoo | Motto – ‘भविष्यो रक्षति रक्षितः’

**505.** In July 2022, Tamil Nadu government established “District Climate Change Missions” in all 38 districts. The missions will be headed by the Collectors as Mission Directors. The District Forest Officers will function as Climate Officers. The missions will help to strengthen the government’s climate response at the grassroots. The Collectors will also work towards strengthening Climate Smart Villages and create bio-shields in the coastal areas. The government has initially sanctioned ₹3.80 Cr for 38 district missions. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu – established “District Climate Change Missions” in all 38 districts (headed by Collectors as Mission Directors)
- TN government has initially sanctioned ₹3.80 Cr for 38 district missions
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

**506.** In July 2022, the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) has decided to shut down the Blockchain and Crypto Assets Council (BACC). Government is still working on Crypto rules, as the Tax rules announced in Budget 2022 have severely affected the trading volumes of exchanges. As per the crypto tax rules, a flat 30% tax applies on income from crypto transfers while 1% TDS is also required to be levied during crypto transactions. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IAMAI – decided to shut down the ‘Blockchain & Crypto Assets Council (BACC)’
- As per the Crypto Tax Rules, a flat 30% tax applies on income from crypto transfers while 1% TDS is also levied
- HQs of IAMAI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | President – Subho Ray | Chairman – Sanjay Gupta

**507.** On July 21, the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), has recommended Coastal Regulatory Zone (CRZ) clearance for the 8,100-Km long Myanmar/Malaysia-India-Singapore Transit (MIST) Submarine Cable System connecting Mumbai and Chennai in India. MIST is an international submarine cable communication network. Cable will traverse undersea to connect India with other Asian countries such as Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore. MIST cable system will provide secure reliable, robust and affordable telecom facilities in Asia. The main trunk route is from Tuas (Singapore) to Mumbai (India). The total cost of the MIST project was pegged at USD 400 million. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- Expert Appraisal Committee (MoEFCC) – recommended ‘CRZ’ clearance for the 8100-Km long ‘MIST’ Submarine Cable System connecting Mumbai & Chennai
- MIST – an international submarine cable communication network | Cost of the MIST project – \$400 million
- Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Bhupender Yadav | Constituency – Rajasthan
- MoS in Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Ashwini Kumar Choubey

## International Affairs

**508.** On July 20, the UK launched the world’s first bioplastic vinyl record, which it hopes will reduce the need for highly toxic PVC. The new bioplastic vinyl by UK firm Evolution. Bioplastics are derived from sources such as sugars and starches rather than oil or gas, and do not create any toxic waste in their production. Currently, all vinyl records are made from Polyvinyl chloride (PVC), the most environmentally damaging plastic. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- UK – launched the world’s first bioplastic vinyl record to reduce highly toxic PVC
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

## Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

**509.** On July 15, OneCard, a mobile-first credit card firm, became the 104<sup>th</sup> unicorn in India after it raised \$100 million in a series D round of funding led by Temasek. OneCard is owned by Pune-based FPL Technologies. The company was founded in 2015 by Anurag Sinha, Rupesh Kumar, and Vibhav Hathi. In 2022 so far, India has produced more than 20 fintech unicorns, which includes OneCard, Open, Oxyzo, and Yubi (formerly CredAvenue). [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- OneCard, a mobile-first credit card firm – became the 104<sup>th</sup> unicorn in India (owned by FPL Technologies)
- HQs of OneCard – Pune, Maharashtra | CEO – Anurag Sinha | Founded in – 2015

**510.** On July 25, HDFC Securities Ltd partnered with Equitas Small Finance Bank to provide demat accounts, and broking and investment services to its customers. Equitas Small Finance Bank will offer its customers a 3-in-1 account that will help them access the services of HDFC Securities. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- HDFC Securities Ltd + Equitas SFB = partnered to provide demat accounts, and broking & investment services
- HQs of Equitas SFB – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – Vasudevan Pathangi Narasimhan (till the succession)
- HQs of HDFC Securities Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Dhiraj Relli



## Defence Affairs

**511.** On July 23, a “Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX)” was conducted between Japan Maritime Self Defense Force and Indian Navy in Andaman Sea. INS Sukanya participated in the exercise. The exercise was aimed at enhancing interoperability and streamlining seamanship and communication procedures. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Indian Navy + Japan Maritime Self Defense Force = conducted ‘Maritime Partnership Exercise’ in Andaman Sea
- INS Sukanya – participated in the exercise
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Fumio Kishida
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950

## Sports & Games

**512.** On July 23, the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) signed an MoU with the Gujarat government and Gujarat Olympic Association for the joint conduct of the 36<sup>th</sup> National Games to be held between September 27 and October 10, 2022 in 6 cities of Gujarat. A logo depicting two of the state’s enduring and proud symbols, the Statue of Unity and the Gir Asiatic Lion, was also launched on the occasion. The tagline of the event is “Celebrating Unity Through Sports”. Devendrasingh Solanki is the President of Gujarat Olympic Association. There will be a total of 36 sports on the roster of the Games. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- IOA + Gujarat Olympic Association + Gujarat Govt = an MoU for the joint conduct of the 36<sup>th</sup> National Games
- Venue: in 6 cities of Gujarat (between Sep 27 & Oct 10, 2022)
- National Games Logo depicts the Statue of Unity & the Gir Asiatic Lion | Tagline – “Celebrating Unity Through Sports”
- President of Gujarat Olympic Association – Devendrasingh Solanki
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

**513.** India will host the 2025 ICC Women’s ODI World Cup, as announced by the International Cricket Council (ICC) on July 26, 2022. Bangladesh will host the 2024 ICC Women’s T20 World Cup, the 2026 edition will be held in England, while Sri Lanka will host the 2027 edition of the ICC Women’s T20 World Cup. The hosts were selected via a bidding process overseen by a ICC Board sub-committee which included BCCI President Sourav Ganguly. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- India – to host the ‘2025 ICC Women’s ODI World Cup’
- ICC also announced the hosting countries for the “ICC Women’s T20 World Cup”:
  - 2024 edition – Bangladesh | 2026 edition – England | 2027 edition – Sri Lanka
- HQs of ICC – Dubai, UAE | Chairman – Greg Barclay | CEO – Geoff Allardice | Members – 106 countries

**514.** The “Yonex Taipei Open 2022” badminton competition was held from July 19 to July 24 at the Taipei Heping Basketball Gymnasium in Taipei, Taiwan. In the tournament, Tai Tzu-ying and Chou Tien Chen, both from Taiwan, won women’s singles & men’s singles titles, respectively. While men’s doubles was won by Malaysian Badminton players Man Wei Chong & Tee Kai Wun. Hongkong’s Ng Tsz Yau & Tsang Hiu Yan won women’s double. [{Read more}](#)





### Key Points:

- “Yonex Taipei Open 2022” badminton competition – held in Taipei, Taiwan
- Chou Tien Chen (Taiwan) – won Men’s singles | Tai Tzu-ying (Taiwan) – won Women’s singles
- Man Wei Chong + Tee Kai Wun (Malaysia) – won Men’s doubles
- Ng Tsz Yau + Tsang Hiu Yan (Hongkong) – won Women’s double
- Taiwan – Taipei – New Taiwan dollar | President – Tsai Ing-wen

**515.** In July 2022, the Netherlands won the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of the “FIH Women’s Hockey World Cup” by beating Argentina in the final. While Australia stood at third position. The 2022 Women’s FIH Hockey World Cup was hosted by Spain & the Netherlands from July 1 to 17, 2022 and it was organized by the International Hockey Federation (FIH). [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- 15<sup>th</sup> “FIH Women’s Hockey World Cup” – held in Spain & the Netherlands
- Netherlands – won the World Cup | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Argentina | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Australia
- HQs of FIH – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Seif Ahmed | CEO – Thierry Weil | Founded in – 1924
- Netherlands – Amsterdam – Euro | PM – Mark Rutte

**516.** On July 25, Red Bull Racing’s Max Verstappen of the Netherlands won the Formula One (F1) “French Grand Prix 2022”, after Ferrari’s Charles Leclerc crashed out. Seven-time F1 champion and Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton finished second and marked his 300<sup>th</sup> GP. While Mercedes driver George Russell finished third. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Max Verstappen (Belgium - Red Bull) – won the F1 “French Grand Prix 2022”
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) | 3<sup>rd</sup> – George Russell (Mercedes)

**517.** On July 24, Indian javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra won a historic silver medal at the 18<sup>th</sup> edition of “World Athletics Championships 2022” in Oregon, USA. Neeraj recorded a throw of 88.13m in his fourth attempt to claim the second spot. Chopra thus is the first Indian to win a silver medal at World Athletics Championships and only the second medallist from India after Anju Bobby George in 2003. Grenada’s Anderson Peters won Gold medal with a throw of 90.21m. Czech Republic’s Jakub Vadlejch finished third with a throw of 88.09m. With Chopra’s one silver medal, India stood at 33<sup>rd</sup> place in medals tally which was topped by the US with total 33 medals, including 13 Gold. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Neeraj Chopra – won silver medal at the 18<sup>th</sup> edition of “World Athletics Championships 2022” in Oregon, USA
- Neeraj Chopra – the first Indian to win a silver medal at “World Athletics Championships”
- Gold – Anderson Peters (Grenada) with 90.21m | Bronze – Jakub Vadlejch (Czech Republic) with 88.09m
- Medals tally: India – 33<sup>rd</sup> (1 Silver) | 1<sup>st</sup> – US (13 Gold)

**518.** India topped the medal tally at the “ISSF World Cup Changwon 2022” in South Korea with a total of 15 medals including 5 Gold, 6 Silver & 4 Bronze. Indian men’s 25m rapid fire pistol team including Anish Bhanwala, Vijayveer Sidhu and Sameer bagged the silver medal on the last day of the tournament. This is the second time this year that the Indian shooters had topped the ISSF World Cup medals table. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “ISSF World Cup Changwon 2022” – held in South Korea
- India – topped the medal tally with a total of 15 medals (5 Gold, 6 Silver & 4 Bronze)
- Indian men’s 25m rapid fire pistol team – won Silver medal on the last day of the tournament
- HQs of ISSF – Munich, Germany | President – Vladimir Lisin

## **Science & Technology**

**519.** On July 21, the migratory monarch butterfly, a sub-species of the monarch butterfly that travels around 4,000 km across America each year, has been classified ‘endangered’ in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species. Habitat destruction and climate change are mainly responsible for pushing this insect towards extinction. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ‘Migratory Monarch Butterfly’ – classified as ‘Endangered’ in IUCN Red List of Threatened Species
- Main reasons: Habitat Destruction & Climate Change
- HQs of IUCN – Gland, Switzerland | President – Xinsheng Zhang | CEO – Bruno Oberle | Founded in – 1948

**520.** On July 23, the Startup Incubation & Innovation Centre (SIIC) at IIT Kanpur launched the 6-month-long “NIRMAN Accelerator Program”, supported by the Department of Science & Technology, where 15 start-ups will be selected and given the opportunity to accelerate their product journey from ‘lab to market’. The programme will focus on the manufacturing startups engaged in healthcare and agriculture domains to help them overcome the challenges from their prototype-to-market journey. The best-performing startups among the cohort of 15 startups will receive a cash award of up to ₹1 million. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Kanpur – launched “NIRMAN Accelerator Program” (supported by Department of S&T)
- 15 start-ups will be selected & given the opportunity to accelerate their product journey from ‘lab to market’
- Director of IIT Kanpur – Abhay Karandikar

**521.** On July 20, tech giant Microsoft introduced “Viva Engage”, a new app in teams that helps build community and connection, along with providing tools for personal expression. Leaders can share news and insights, answer questions, and facilitate two-way conversations that help employees feel heard and included. Microsoft Viva is designed to give employees across multiple roles and functions what they need to feel connected, no matter when or where they work. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Microsoft – introduced “Viva Engage” – a new app in teams that helps build community & connection
- HQs of Microsoft – Washington, US | Chairman & CEO – Satya Nadella | Founded in – 1975



# Appointments & Resignations

**522.** On July 24, the Central Government, as part of its efforts to make National Land Management Corporation (NLMC) operational, has appointed Sanjay Kumar Jain (a joint Secretary to the Department of Public Enterprises) as interim CEO of the NLMC. The NLMC has been tasked with monetising the surplus land and buildings of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs). The government looks to initiate the process of monetising 3,479 acres of surplus land, identified by 9 PSUs, and building assets. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Sanjay Kumar Jain – appointed as interim CEO of the National Land Management Corporation
- NLMC – is tasked with monetising the surplus land & buildings of PSUs

**523.** On July 25, the World Bank has appointed Indermit Gill, an Indian national, as Chief Economist & Senior Vice-President for Development Economics at the World Bank. His appointment will be effective September 1, 2022. Gill will be only the second Indian to serve as Chief Economist at the World Bank, after Kaushik Basu who served from 2012-2016. However, Raghuram Rajan and Gita Gopinath have served as Chief Economists at the International Monetary Fund (IMF). [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Indermit Gill – appointed as Chief Economist & Senior Vice-President for Development Economics at the World Bank
- He is only the 2<sup>nd</sup> Indian to serve as Chief Economist at the World Bank, after Kaushik Basu who served from 2012-2016
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., US | Members – 189 | President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

**524.** On July 25, the Kuwaiti emir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah issued a decree appointing Ahmad Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah as the Prime Minister and tasking him with forming the new cabinet. Ahmad is the eldest son of Kuwaiti Emir Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. Ahmad succeeds Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah whose resignation was accepted in May 2022 & was serving as care-taker PM. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Ahmad Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah – appointed as the PM of Kuwait (succeeding - Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah)
- Kuwait – Kuwait City – Dinar | PM – Ahmad Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah | Emir – Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah

**525.** On July 20, RattanIndia Power appointed Brijesh Gupta as Managing Director of the company. Earlier, he has held leadership positions in Adani Enterprises, Essar Group, Welspun and Atha Group. RattanIndia Power is a private power generation company, with installed capacity of 2,700 MW thermal power plants at Amravati and Nashik (1,350 MW at each location) in Maharashtra. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Brijesh Gupta – appointed as MD of RattanIndia Power
- HQs of RattanIndia Power – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD – Brijesh Gupta

**526.** On July 20, the International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH), a global ports forum for international collaboration, has appointed Ennarasu Karunesan as its representative to develop its network in India. Mr. Ennarasu is a mechanical engineer with more than 33 years of leadership in the maritime and ports sector. He currently serves as an advisor to Indian ports. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- IAPH – appointed Ennarasu Karunesan as its representative to develop its network in India
- International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH) – a global ports forum for international collaboration
- HQs of IAPH – Tokyo, Japan | President – Subramaniam Karupiah

## **Schemes & Initiatives**

**527.** On July 25, Department of Posts (DoP), under the Ministry of Communications, launched a philately scholarship scheme “Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana” (Scholarship for Promotion of Aptitude & Research in Stamps as a Hobby) for generating interest regarding Philately amongst students. Students of class 6 to 9 having good academic record and pursuing philately as a hobby will be awarded scholarship on the basis of Philately Quiz & Philately Project to be conducted by circle offices. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Department of Posts – launched a philately scholarship scheme “Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana”
- “SPARSH” – Scholarship for Promotion of Aptitude & Research in Stamps as a Hobby
- Criteria: Students of Class 6 to 9 having good Academic record & pursuing philately as a Hobby
- Secretary in Department of Posts – Vineet Pandey (DoP works under the Ministry of Communications)

**528.** Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has launched “Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan” in 272 most vulnerable districts since August 2020 to address the problem of Drug Abuse among youth of India. Under “Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan”, special emphasis is laid on the participation of stakeholders such as women, children, educational institutions and civil society organizations. The ‘Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan’ or a ‘Drugs-Free India Campaign’ was flagged off on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2020 across 272 districts of India found to be most vulnerable based on the data available from various sources. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoSJE – has launched “Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan” in 272 most vulnerable districts
- ‘Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan’ or a ‘Drugs-Free India Campaign’ – launched on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2020
- Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Virendra Kumar | Constituency – Sagar, Madhya Pradesh





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# Important Days & Dates

**529.** Every year, July 25 is observed as “World In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) Day”, commemorating the birth of Louise Brown, the first baby to be born after successful IVF treatment on July 25, 1978 in England. It became one of the most prominent landmarks in the field of infertility treatment and a ray of hope for couples struggling to get pregnant. Infertility affects an estimated 15% of couples globally. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- July 25 – World In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) Day (to commemorate the birth of Louise Brown)
- Louise Brown – the first baby to be born after successful IVF treatment on July 25, 1978 in England
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

**530.** World Hepatitis Day is celebrated annually on 28 July to honour the birth of Baruch Blumberg, the Noble Laureate who discovered the Hepatitis B virus. In 2022, the theme is “Bringing Hepatitis Care Closer to You”. Hepatitis is liver damage caused by a viral infection. Hepatitis type A, B, C, D and E are different from each other. The Indian Society for Clinical Research (ISCR) in a 2016 report said that Hepatitis C, a contagious liver infection, affects about 12 million people in the country. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- July 28 – World Hepatitis Day (to honour the birth of Baruch Blumberg, who discovered the ‘Hepatitis B’ virus)
- 2022’s Theme – “Bringing Hepatitis Care Closer to You”
- Hepatitis – damages liver & caused by a viral infection | Types: A, B, C, D & E

**531.** World Emoji Day is celebrated on 17 July every year to promote the use of emojis and spread happiness to those around us. The day was first celebrated on 17 July, 2014. People of all age groups feel that emojis are a great way to convey emotions and that’s why the day is observed globally. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- July 17 – World Emoji Day (since 2014)

**532.** World Drowning Prevention Day is celebrated annually on 25 July. The day was recognised in April 2021 by a General Assembly resolution. According to the UN, an estimated 2,36,000 people drown annually, which makes drowning a major public health problem all around the world. More than 90% of drowning deaths occur in low-and middle-income countries, with children under the age of 5 being at highest risk. [{Read more}](#).

## **Key Points:**

- July 25 – 2<sup>nd</sup> “World Drowning Prevention Day” (since 2021)
- UN report: An estimated 2,36,000 people drown annually in the world

**533.** Every year, the ‘Kargil Vijay Divas’ is observed on 26 July to commemorate the victory of India over Pakistan in the Kargil War that was held in the year 1999. During the war, the brave Indian Army reclaimed the famous ‘Tiger Hill’ and other important posts under the ‘Operation Vijay’ by evicting the Pakistani intruders. This year marks the 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of India’s victory in the Kargil War. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- July 26 – 23<sup>rd</sup> Kargil Vijay Divas – to commemorate the victory of India over Pakistan in the Kargil War (1999)
- Indian Army reclaimed the famous ‘Tiger Hill’ & other important posts under the ‘Operation Vijay’
- Pakistan – Islamabad – Pakistani Rupee | PM – Shehbaz Sharif | President – Arif Alvi

**534.** “International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem” or “World Mangrove Day” is observed by the UNESCO every year on July 26 to raise awareness of the importance of mangrove ecosystems as a unique, special and vulnerable ecosystem. Mangroves contribute to the wellbeing, food security, and protection of coastal communities worldwide. According to the ‘Forest Survey Report 2021’, the total mangrove cover in the country is 4,992 sq km. The day was first observed in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- July 26 – “International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem” or “World Mangrove Day”
- The day is observed by – UNESCO (since 2016)
- ‘Forest Survey Report 2021’: Total mangrove cover in India – 4,992 sq km
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay | Founded in – 1945 | Members – 193 Countries

## Obituaries

**535.** On July 25, Former Northern Irish first minister David Trimble passed away at the age of 77. He was a pro-British leader who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1998 for his role as a key architect in ending three decades of bloodshed in Northern Ireland. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- David Trimble – Former Northern Irish first minister – passed away
- He won Nobel Peace Prize in 1998 for his role as a key architect in ending 3 decades of bloodshed in Northern Ireland
- Northern Ireland – Belfast – Pound Sterling | President – Michael D. Higgins
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

**536.** On July 27, Padma Shri Sushovan Banerjee, known as ‘One Rupee Doctor’, passed away at the age of 80. Based in Birbhum district of West Bengal, Banerjee was known for treating patients for nearly 60 years at Re 1 per visit. In 2020, he was conferred with the Padma Shri for his contribution in the field of medicine. In the same year, his name found place in the Guinness World Records for treating the maximum number of patients. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Sushovan Banerjee (West Bengal) – a Doctor – passed away (known as ‘One Rupee Doctor’)
- Awards: ‘Padma Shri’ (2020) in Medicine, Guinness World Records (2020)



## Meetings, Conferences and Summits

**537.** On July 24, the CSIR-National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (CSIR-NIIST), Thiruvananthapuram, hosted an “International Conference on Chemistry and Applications of Soft Materials (CASM 2022)” in Kerala’s Thiruvananthapuram, as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations to mark 75th year of Independence. Renowned scientist T. Pradeep from IIT Madras, inaugurated the event. The conference provided the right platform for scientists and students to exchange ideas and forge new collaborations in the area of soft materials. [{Read more}](#).

### **Key Points:**

- CSIR-NIIST (Thiruvananthapuram) – hosted an “International Conference on Chemistry & Applications of Soft Materials (CASM 2022)” in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
- T. Pradeep (IIT Madras) – inaugurated the event
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | President – Narendra Modi | DG – Shekhar C. Mande | Established in – 1942

## Ranks, Reports & Surveys

**538.** India has ranked 101<sup>st</sup> among the 116 countries on the “Global Hunger Index 2021”, showing the level of hunger in India as “Serious”. The ranking was released in October 2021. 18 countries, including China, Brazil & Kuwait, shared the top rank, with GHI scores of less than 5. While Somalia had the highest level of hunger with a score of 50.8. However, the central government has rejected India’s ranking on Global Hunger Index, saying it was “flawed”. India’s 2021 GHI score was 27.5. The score ranging between 20 to 34.9 is considered to be ‘serious’. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Central government – rejected India’s ranking on ‘Global Hunger Index 2021’, saying it was “flawed”
- “Global Hunger Index 2021” (released in Oct 2021): India – 101<sup>st</sup> (score - 27.5)
- India’s level of hunger is considered to be ‘Serious’

**539.** India lost 329 tigers in the last 3 years (96 tigers died in 2019, 106 in 2020 and 127 in 2021) due to poaching, natural and unnatural causes, according to the data presented by the Ministry for Environment, Forest and Climate in July 2022. According to the data presented by the ministry, 125 people have been killed in “tiger attacks” in this period. Besides, as many as 307 Elephants have also died in this period due to poaching, electrocution, poisoning and train accidents. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- As per the data presented by the Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate in July 2022:
  - India lost 329 tigers in the last 3 years due to poaching, natural & unnatural causes
  - 125 people have been killed in tiger attacks from 2019 to 2021
  - 307 Elephants have also died in this period due to poaching, electrocution, poisoning & train accidents
- Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Bhupender Yadav | Constituency – Rajasthan
- MoS in Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Ashwini Kumar Choubey





**540.** In July 2022, the Andhra Pradesh State Wildlife Department started the first-ever “Survey of Blackbucks” along a stretch of islands in the Godavari between Dowleswaram and Yanam with the aim of drawing up a conservation plan to protect the endangered species. Hunting of the blackbuck attracts penal action under Schedule-1 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Andhra Pradesh – launched the first-ever Blackbuck Survey on Godavari islands
- Hunting of the blackbuck attracts penal action under Schedule-1 of the ‘Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972’
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

## **Amount & Agreements**

**541.** Only July 25, India contributed USD 2.5 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) that will go directly to serve the schools, health centres and other basic services run by the organisation to support Palestinian refugees. This is the first half (2.5 million) of the annual contribution of India (total of 5 million). Since 2018, the Government of India has given UNRWA 20 million US dollars. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – contributed USD 2.5 million to the UNRWA for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
- Government of India has given UNRWA 20 million US dollars since 2018

**542.** On July 26, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed a loan agreement with Indian government to provide an Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan of about ₹6,000 Crore (100 billion Japanese Yen) as the third tranche for the construction of Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail (MAHSR) using Japan’s Shinkansen technology (also known as the bullet train). The agreement was signed as part of a ₹18,000 Crore package of JICA’s commitment in 2017. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- JICA + India = a loan agreement of about ₹6,000 Cr for the construction of ‘Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail’
- The agreement was signed as part of a ₹18,000 Cr package of JICA’s commitment in 2017

**543.** On July 22, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved to provide a loan of USD 96.3 million (about Rs 769 Crore) for a project to provide safe drinking water and improve water supply and sanitation services in Himachal Pradesh under the “Himachal Pradesh Rural Drinking Water Improvement and Livelihood Project”. The project will improve water supply and sanitation services through, among others, the construction of 48 groundwater wells, 80 surface water intake facilities, 109 water treatment plants, 117 pumping stations, and 3,000 kilometers of water distribution pipelines. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ADB – approved to provide a loan of USD 96.3 million to provide safe drinking water in Himachal Pradesh
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Members – 68 | Established in – 1966
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar



## Ordinance, Bills & Acts

**544.** On July 26, Union Law Minister Kiren Rijju introduced the “Family Courts (Amendment) Bill, 2022”, as he urged State governments to set up family courts in all districts. Lok Sabha passed the bill to grant statutory cover to already established family courts in Himachal Pradesh and Nagaland. The Family Courts Act was enacted in 1984 for the establishment of family courts by States to deal with disputes related to family and marriage. Two family courts were established in Nagaland on September 12, 2008, and three in Himachal Pradesh on February 15, 2019, via notifications issued by the two State governments. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Kiren Rijju – introduced the “Family Courts (Amendment) Bill, 2022” (enacted in 1984)
- Lok Sabha passed the bill to grant statutory cover to already established family courts in Himachal Pradesh & Nagaland
- Ministry for Law & Justice: Kiren Rijju | Constituency – Arunachal West
- MoS in Ministry of Law & Justice – S. P. Singh Baghel

**545.** The “Anti-Maritime Piracy Bill, 2019” has been listed for consideration and passing during the Monsoon session of the Parliament that commenced on July 18. If passed, the Bill will bring the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) into domestic law and enable Indian authorities to take action against piracy on the high seas. The Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on December 9, 2019 by the Ministry of External Affairs. The Anti-Maritime Piracy Bill defines piracy as an act of violence or detention by the crew or passengers of a private vessel or private aircraft on high seas. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Ministry of External Affairs – introduced “Anti-Maritime Piracy Bill”
- The bill is listed for consideration & passing during the Monsoon session
- Ministry of External Affairs: S. Jaishankar | Constituency – Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of External Affairs: Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, V. Muraleedharan & Meenakshi Lekhi

## Acquisitions & Mergers

**546.** On July 25, the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) announced to sell 2.002% of its total stake in pharma major, Sun Pharmaceuticals Industries for around Rs 3,882 Cr. Thereby, LIC’s stake in Sun Pharma has been reduced from 7.026% (16,85,66,486 equity shares) to 5.024% (12,05,24,944 equity shares). [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- LIC – to sell 2.002% of its total stake in Sun Pharmaceuticals Industries for around Rs 3,882 Cr
- With this, LIC’s stake in Sun Pharma reduced from 7.026% to 5.024%
- HQs of LIC – Mumbai | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Founded in – 1956 | Tagline – “Yogakshemam Vahamyaham”



**547.** On July 14, telecom operator Bharti Airtel allotted over 7.1 Cr equity shares to internet major Google for Rs 734 apiece. The allotment is part of Google's commitment to invest \$1 billion with Airtel, which included equity investment in the company worth \$700 million (about Rs 5,224 Cr) and \$300 million was earmarked for implementing commercial agreements. Google made the investment as part of its \$10 billion "India Digitization Fund". Google will hold approximately 1.2% of the total post-issue equity shares of Bharti Airtel, approximately 1.17% on fully-diluted basis. Before this, Google has also invested Rs 33,737 Cr (about \$4.5 billion) to buy 7.73% stake in Jio Platforms. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bharti Airtel – allotted over 7.1 Cr equity shares to Google for Rs 734 apiece
- Google – has committed to invest \$1 billion with Airtel
- Google – made the investment as part of its \$10 billion "India Digitization Fund"
- Google – has also invested Rs 33,737 Cr (about \$4.5 billion) to buy 7.73% stake in Jio Platforms
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998
- HQs of Bharti Airtel – New Delhi | CEO & MD – Gopal Vittal | Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal

## **MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships**

**548.** On July 25, SAP Labs India partnered with National e-Governance Division (NeGD) under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), to launch "SAP Centre for Digital Government (SCDG)" in Bengaluru for improving digital government capabilities in the country. It will focus on capacity building, programme management, and implementation of Digital India's projects and initiatives. Government IT spending in India is forecast at \$9.5 billion in 2022, up 12% from 2021, according to research firm Gartner. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SAP Labs India + NeGD = partnered to launch "SAP Centre for Digital Government (SCDG)" in Bengaluru
- SCDG – is launched for improving digital government capabilities in India
- Government IT spending in India is forecast at \$9.5 billion in 2022 (12% up from 2021)
- HQs of SAP Labs India – Bengaluru, Karnataka | President – Kulmeet Bawa
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot

**549.** On July 26, Tripura government signed an MoU with the North East Space Application Centre (NESAC), Shillong, for 21 projects including disaster management and resource mapping. Of the 21 projects, the Centre has already approved 20 projects which include resource mapping of agriculture, horticulture, forest, land revenue and disaster management. The ISRO and North Eastern Council (NEC) will fund to implement all the 21 projects within the next 3 years. An amount of Rs 4.30 Crore has been sanctioned for disaster management as resource mapping. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tripura + NESAC (Shillong) = an MoU for 21 projects including Disaster Management & Resource Mapping
- ISRO + North Eastern Council (NEC) – will fund to implement all the 21 projects within the next 3 years
- Tripura: Capital – Agartala | CM – Manik Saha | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya



**550.** On July 26, an MoU was signed between Rajasthan Grameen Aajeevika Vikas Parishad (Rajeevika) and Stree Nidhi, a government of Telangana organisation, to establish Rajasthan's first and the country's third 'women's financial institution' called 'Rajasthan Mahila Nidhi' (RMN). The RMN will be established in the state following Telangana's 'Women Fund Model'. RMN will be started in 15 districts in the first year of implementation. Initially, it will be launched in 6 districts. Through RMN, loans up to Rs 40,000 will be disbursed in 48 hours and loans above this amount will be disbursed within 15 days.

[{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajeevika (Rajasthan) + Stree Nidhi (Telangana) = an MoU to establish 'Rajasthan Mahila Nidhi' (RMN)
- RMN – Rajasthan's first and the country's third 'women's financial institution'
- RMN – Rajasthan's 1<sup>st</sup> & India's 3<sup>rd</sup> Women's Financial Institution
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan





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