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# **INDEX**

National & States Affairs .....	5
International Affairs .....	6
Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs .....	7
Defence Affairs .....	8
Sports & Games .....	9
Science & Technology .....	10
Appointments & Resignations .....	11
Awards, Reward, Recognition & Prizes .....	12
Schemes & Initiatives .....	14
Important Days & Dates .....	14
Obituaries .....	15
Books & Authors .....	16
Ranks, Reports & Surveys .....	16
MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships .....	18



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# National & States Affairs

**601.** On July 28, Indus International School in Hyderabad introduced India's first teaching robot named "Eagle", as part of its collaborative learning model. As many as 21 highly interactive Eagle Robots were deployed at three Indus schools in Hyderabad, Bangalore and Pune. The robot is said to be capable of teaching students of grades V to XI, in the classroom along with the teacher and also in a standalone mode. They can impart education in more than 30 different languages.

[{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Indus International School (Hyderabad) – introduced India's 1<sup>st</sup> teaching robot named "Eagle" for grades 5 to 11
- [Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan](#)

**602.** To commemorate the victory of Indian armed forces and pay tribute to the supreme sacrifice of the gunners in 'Operation Vijay', the area 'Point 5140' at Drass in Kargil has been renamed as 'Gun Hill'. Point 5140 is a strategically important mountain peak in the Dras sector of Ladakh. On July 26, 1999, the Indian Army announced the successful culmination of 'Operation Vijay', declaring victory after a nearly three-month-long battle with Pakistani troops on the icy heights of Kargil in Ladakh. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- 'Point 5140' area – renamed as 'Gun Hill'
- Point 5140 – a strategically important mountain peak in Dras sector of Kargil, Ladakh
- Indian Army announced the successful culmination of 'Operation Vijay' on July 26, 1999
- [Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur](#)

**603.** In July 2022, the Supreme Court directed Uttar Pradesh to take action on the recommendations made in the report submitted by a 3-member inquiry commission headed by former Supreme Court judge Justice (Retd) to probe into the encounter of gangster Vikas Dubey. The 3-member bench include Chief Justice of India N. V. Ramana, Justices Krishna Murari and Hima Kohli. Dubey was killed in an encounter on July 10, 2020, when a police vehicle carrying him from Ujjain to Kanpur met with an accident. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- SC directed UP to take action on the recommendations of 'B. S. Chauhan Commission' on encounter of Vikas Dubey
- The 3-member bench is headed by – Justice B. S. Chauhan (former SC judge)
- [UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel](#)

**604.** On July 29, the second anniversary of the "National Education Policy (NEP) 2020" in New Delhi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced several initiatives including - a National Innovation & Entrepreneurship Promotion Policy for schools, introduction of 75 'Bharatiya Games' in schools, launch of 'Kalashala initiative' in 750 schools to help students discover India's rich cultural heritage, a Public Consultation Survey to seek suggestions for the new National Curriculum Framework for schools, etc. The NEP was launched by the government on July 29, 2020. Moreover, on this occasion, Arunachal Pradesh government signed a tripartite MoU with NITI Aayog and Reach to Teach Foundation for a large-scale transformation in School Education in the state. The school education transformation project is under NITI Aayog's 'Development Support Services for States (DSSS)' initiative. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- On the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of 'NEP 2020', Amit Shah announced:
  - National Innovation & Entrepreneurship Promotion Policy for schools
  - Introduction of 75 'Bharatiya Games' in schools
  - Launch of 'Kalashala initiative' in 750 schools
  - Public Consultation Survey to seek suggestions for the new National Curriculum Framework for schools
- Arunachal Pradesh + NITI Aayog + Reach to Teach = an MoU for a large-scale transformation in School Education

## International Affairs

**605.** In July 2022, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has declared the global Monkeypox outbreak a 'Public Health Emergency of International Concern' (PHEIC), one step below that of 'Pandemic'. International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the WHO decides the seriousness of a public health crisis. This declaration is temporary and reviewed every 3 months. In India, the first case of Monkeypox was reported in Kerala. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- WHO – declared the global Monkeypox outbreak a 'Public Health Emergency of International Concern'
- In India, the first case of Monkeypox was reported in Kerala
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948

**606.** On July 25, the European Commission had given permission for Bavarian Nordic's "Imvanex" vaccine to be marketed as protection against Monkeypox. Globally, over 16,000 cases of monkeypox have been reported from 75 countries as of now. Imvanex is a non-replicating smallpox vaccine developed by Danish biotechnology company Bavarian Nordic in collaboration with the U.S. government. The approval is valid in all European Union Member States as well as in Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway. The vaccine was approved by the European Commission in 2013 for immunization against smallpox. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- European Commission – gave permission for Bavarian Nordic's "Imvanex" vaccine for protection against Monkeypox
- 'Imvanex' - a non-replicating Smallpox vaccine developed by Bavarian Nordic + US
- The vaccine was also approved by the European Commission in 2013 for immunization against 'Smallpox'
- HQs of EU – Brussels, Belgium | Member Countries – 27
- President of European Parliament – Roberta Metsola
- President of European Council – Charles Michel
- President of European Commission – Ursula von der Leyen



# Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

**607.** On July 28, the RBI has allowed another window to Payment Aggregators (existing as of March 2020) to apply to the central bank for a licence by September 30, 2022. The PAs should have a minimum net worth of Rs 15 Cr as on March 31, 2022 and a net worth of Rs 25 Cr by March 2023. And, they have to maintain a net worth of Rs 25 Cr at all times thereafter.

[{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- RBI – allowed Payment Aggregators to apply to for a licence by September 30, 2022
- PAs should have a minimum net worth of Rs 15 Cr as on March 31, 2022 & Rs 25 Cr by March 2023
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

**608.** On July 29, BOB Financial Solutions launched its credit card servicing mobile app, “bobcard” to help customers with a one-stop solution to manage their Bank of Baroda credit card services. The app has been designed in collaboration with IBM.

[{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- BOB Financial Solutions launched its credit card servicing mobile app “bobcard” (designed in collaboration with IBM)
- HQs of BOB Financial Solutions – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Shailendra Singh
- HQs of IBM – Armonk, New York, US | CEO – Arvind Krishna | Founded in – 1911

**609.** On July 26, Union Bank of India has set up “RACE” goal as part of its plan to be among top 3 public sector banks (PSBs) in India. The “RACE” stands for - grow RAM (Retail, Agriculture & MSME) loans, improve Asset quality, increase CASA (Current Account, Savings Account) deposits and increase Earnings. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Union Bank of India – set up “RACE” goal as part of its plan to be among top 3 PSBs in India
- RACE” – grow RAM loans, improve Asset quality, increase CASA deposits & increase Earnings
- HQs of UBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – A. Manimekhalai | Tagline – “Good People to Bank With”

**610.** On July 25, the Board of Directors of LIC Housing Finance Ltd (LIC HFL) approved the appointment of Ravi Kishan Takkar, former MD & CEO of UCO Bank, as an Additional Director (Independent) on the company’s board. He will hold the office up to the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Company. And upon regularisation of his appointment by the members, he will continue to hold the office as Independent Director for a period of 5 years, effective from July 25, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Ravi Kishan Takkar – appointed as an Additional Director (Independent) on LIC HFL’s board till its 33<sup>rd</sup> AGM
- Ravi Kishan Takkar is former MD & CEO of UCO Bank
- HQs of LIC Housing Finance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Y. Viswanatha Gowd

**611.** On July 26, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) accepted the Central Government’s request for allowing Non-financial Institutions and Non-regulated Entities to own more than 40% of IDBI Bank, as the Union government and Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) are planning to sell 51-74% stake in the lender through the strategic divestment process. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- RBI – allowed Non-financial Institutions & Non-regulated Entities to own more than 40% of IDBI Bank
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

**612.** Housing Development Finance Corporation Limited (HDFC) will fully acquire its venture capital subsidiary HDFC Venture Capital Limited (HVCL) by buying out the remaining 19.5% stake in HVCL which is held by State Bank of India (SBI). The HDFC holds 80.50% equity share capital of HVCL at present. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HDFC – will fully acquire its venture capital subsidiary HVCL by buying out the remaining 19.5% stake in HVCL which is held by State Bank of India
- The HDFC holds 80.50% equity share capital of HVCL at present
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your World”

**613.** On July 28, the RBI has temporarily permitted merchants or their Payment Aggregators (PAs) involved in settlement of transactions where cardholders decide to enter the card details manually to save the Card-on-File (CoF) data for a maximum period of “Transaction Date + 4 days” or till the settlement date, whichever is earlier. There shall be no change in the effective date of implementation of the requirements relating to “Restriction on Storage of Actual Card Data” (CoF) - all entities, except card issuers and card networks, shall purge the CoF data before October 1, 2022. For handling other post-transaction activities, acquiring banks can continue to store CoF data (customer card credentials) until January 31, 2023. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – temporarily permitted merchants or PAs to save the CoF data for a maximum of “Transaction Date + 4 days”
- All entities (except card issuers & card networks) shall purge the CoF data – before October 1, 2022
- For handling other post-transaction activities, acquiring banks can continue to store CoF data – until Jan 31, 2023
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935

## Defence Affairs

**614.** On July 28, Tata group’s arm for aerospace and defence, Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL), delivered an indigenously developed Quick Reaction Fighting Vehicle-Medium (QRFV) to the Indian Army. In the first-ever development in the Indian Defence Ecosystem, TASL became India’s first private sector company to produce and deliver wheeled armoured combat-ready vehicles for the Indian armed forces in April, 2022. Infantry Protected Mobility Vehicle (IPMV) has been developed by Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) along with DRDO. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- TASL – delivered an indigenously developed Quick Reaction Fighting Vehicle-Medium (QRFV) to the Indian Army
- TASL became India’s 1<sup>st</sup> private company to produce wheeled armoured combat-ready vehicles for India’s forces
- HQs of Tata Advanced Systems – Hyderabad, Telangana | CEO – Sukaran Singh





**615.** On July 27, Japan announced to participate for the first time in Indonesia's "Garuda Shield" military exercise to be held in August, alongside the United States, Australia & Singapore. The military exercise was scheduled to be held from August 1 to 14 at Baturaja Training Area, Amborawang, and Batam Island Training Area in Indonesia. Garuda Shield is an annual combined and joint exercise between the Indonesia & the US. This joint-exercise was first held in 2009. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Japan – announced to participate for the first time in "Garuda Shield" military exercise in August 2022
- The participants of the 2022's 'Garuda Shield' exercise – US, Australia, Singapore & Japan
- Garuda Shield is an annual combined & joint exercise between Indonesia & the US | First held in – 2009

## **Sports & Games**

**616.** On July 30, Sanket Sargar created history at the "Commonwealth Games 2022" in Birmingham, by snatching India's first medal at the competition this time. In the 55-kg Men's Weightlifting category, the weightlifter lifted a total of 248 kg to clinch the Silver medal, and finished just 1 kg short of the Gold medallist Aniq Kasdan of Malaysia. Sanket Sargar first came into the international limelight at the "Singapore International Weightlifting Meet 2022" where he lifted a total weight of 256 kg to clinch the gold medal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 22<sup>nd</sup> "Commonwealth Games 2022" – held in Birmingham, England, UK
- India's 1<sup>st</sup> medal at 'CWG 2022' won by – Sanket Sargar (Silver) in 55-kg men's weightlifting category
- India's Chef de Mission at 'CWG 2022' – Rajesh Bhandari (Vice-President of BFI)
- India's flagbearers for the opening ceremony at 'CWG 2022' – Manpreet Singh & PV Sindhu
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

**617.** On July 30, Indian weightlifter Mirabai Chanu (49kg) from Manipur claimed India's first Gold medal at the "Commonwealth Games 2022" in Birmingham. She ended with a total lift of 201kg (88kg+113kg), which is far from her personal best. She had won Silver medal at the '2020 Tokyo Olympics' in Women's 49 kg category. India's other Gold medalists at 'CWG 2022' are - Jeremy Lalrinnunga, Achinta Sheuli, Sudhir, Bajrang Punia, Sakshi Malik, Deepak Punia, Ravi Kumar Dahiya, Vinesh Phogat, Naveen, Bhavina Patel, Nitu Ghangas, Amit Panghal, Eldhose Paul, Nikhat Zareen, Sharath Kamal/Sreeja Akula, PV Sindhu, Lakshya Sen, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy/Chirag Shetty, Sharath Kamal, Indian women's team (Lawn bowls), and Indian men's team (Table Tennis). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mirabai Chanu (49kg) – won India's 1<sup>st</sup> Gold medal at "Commonwealth Games 2022" in Birmingham (total 201kg)

**618.** The 14-year-old Squash player Anahat Singh, from Delhi, was the youngest member of the Indian contingent at the "Commonwealth Games 2022". Anahat has already won more than 50 titles including the US Junior Open, the British, German and Dutch Junior Opens and Asian Championship. She is the first sportswoman to win the British Junior Squash Open in 2019 and US Junior Squash Open in 2021. She has also qualified for the World Juniors Squash Championships 2022 in Nancy, France, scheduled to begin on August 9 and is poised to become the youngest Indian to feature in this tournament too. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Youngest member of the Indian contingent at the “CWG 2022” – 14-year old Anahat Singh (Squash)
- She is the first sportswoman to win the ‘British Junior Squash Open’ in 2019 & ‘US Junior Squash Open’ in 2021

**619.** On July 26, Global payments and technology company Mastercard is set to replace Paytm as the title sponsor for all international and domestic cricket matches organised by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). The BCCI has, reportedly, accepted Paytm’s plea for the reassignment of its title rights. Paytm has been BCCI’s title sponsor since 2015, and renewed the contract in August 2019 for up to March 31, 2023. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mastercard – replaces Paytm as the title sponsor for all international & domestic cricket matches organised by BCCI
- HQs of Paytm – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CEO – Vijay Sekhar Sharma | Founded in – 2010
- HQs of Mastercard – New York, US | CEO – Michael Miebach | Founded in – 1966
- HQs of BCCI – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Sourav Ganguly | Secretary – Jay Shah | Founded in – 1928

**620.** On July 28, four-time world champion Sebastian Vettel announced to retire from Formula One at the end of the 2022 Season. The 35-year-old German, who currently drives for the Aston Martin team, won his titles with Red Bull from 2010-13 and also spent six seasons with Ferrari. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sebastian Vettel (Germany - Aston Martin) – announced to retire from Formula One at the end of 2022 Season



## **Science & Technology**

**621.** On July 28, three entomologists, Kalesh Sadasivan, Vinayan P. Nair and Abraham Samuel of the Travancore Nature History Society (TNHS), have identified a new species of damselfly, “Anamalai Reed-tail” from the Western Ghats in the Peechi Wildlife Sanctuary in Kerala’s Thrissur. The discovery has been published in the Journal of Threatened Taxa. This is the second species belonging to the damselfly genus Protosticta to be described by the TNHS researchers after Ponmudi Reed-tail that was described in 2015. With this, Kerala’s damselfly checklist has now grown to 182. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 3 entomologists of Travancore Nature History Society – identified a new species of damselfly, “Anamalai Reed-tail”
- It was found from the Western Ghats in Peechi Wildlife Sanctuary in Thrissur, Kerala
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**622.** On July 29, IIT Madras launched “Nilekani Centre at AI4Bharat” to advance the state of Indian language technology with the support of Rohini and Nandan Nilekani (Non-executive Chairman of Infosys) with a grant of Rs 36 Cr through Nilekani Philanthropies. AI4Bharat was set up as an initiative of IIT Madras to build open-source language AI for Indian languages. Moreover, the “Digital India Bhashini” mission was also launched with the goal of all services and information being available to citizens in their own language with ‘collaborative AI’ at the core of the design. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Madras – launched “Nilekani Centre at AI4Bharat” to advance the state of Indian language technology
- AI4Bharat – was set up to build open-source language AI for Indian languages
- Director of IIT Madras – Bhaskar Ramamurthi



# Appointments & Resignations

**623.** In July 2022, Infrastructure company Tata Projects Ltd appointed Vinayak Pai as its Managing Director. Vinayak Pai succeeds Vinayak Deshpande who retires after over 11 years. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Vinayak Pai – appointed as Managing Director of Tata Projects Ltd (succeeding Vinayak Deshpande)
- HQs of Tata Projects – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Banmali Agrawala | MD – Vinayak Pai

**624.** On July 30, Narendra Modi addressed the inaugural session of the first “All India District Legal Services Authorities Meet” which was held in New Delhi. The Prime Minister also released a commemorative postal stamp on the ‘Right to free legal aid’. The first-ever national level meet of District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) was organised from 30-31 July 2022 at Vigyan Bhawan by National Legal Services Authority (NALSA). There are a total of 676 District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) in India. They are headed by the District Judge who acts as Chairman of the authority. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi – addressed the 1<sup>st</sup> “All India District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) Meet” in New Delhi
- Narendra Modi – also released a commemorative postal stamp on the ‘Right to free legal aid’
- Number of DLSAs in India – 676 | The DLSAs are headed by – District Judge

**625.** On July 29, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) announced that Pranay Kumar Verma, serving as India’s Ambassador to Vietnam, is appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the People’s Republic of Bangladesh. Verma will succeed incumbent Vikram Doraiswami. Doraiswami is set to assume charge as Indian High Commissioner to the UK, succeeding Gaitri Issar Kumar who retired on June 30. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Pranay Kumar Verma – appointed as High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh (succeeding - Vikram Doraiswami)
- Vikram Doraiswami – to assume charge as Indian High Commissioner to the UK (succeeding - Gaitri Kumar)
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

**626.** In July 2022, Sudhakar Dalela, an Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer of the 1993 batch, is appointed as the Ambassador of India to Bhutan. Dalela is presently serving as the Deputy Chief of Mission in the Embassy of India in Washington. Sudhakar succeeds Ruchira Kamboj who was appointed in February 2019. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Sudhakar Dalela – appointed as the Ambassador of India to Bhutan
- Bhutan – Thimphu – Bhutanese Ngultrum | PM – Lotay Tshering

# Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

**627.** On July 29, Visakhapatnam artist Srinivasa Rao Kanumuri’s latest work “Vignaharta” won the first prize at an Online Art Competition organised by Dubai-based organisation Artscraft. Founded by Anil Kejriwal, Artscraft is a platform for promoting Indian artists. He was adjudged the winner among more than 200 participants from India and other countries. According to Srinivasa Rao, Kalamkari art is of two distinct styles, one that is from Srikalahasti and the other one is from Machilipatnam. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Srinivasa Rao Kanumuri's latest work "Vignaharta" won 1<sup>st</sup> prize at Online Art Competition organised by Artscraft
- Artscraft (Dubai, UAE) – a platform for promoting Indian Artists | Founded by – Anil Kejriwal

**628.** On July 28, three climate scientists from the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune, have won National Awards for their contribution to the field. Swapna Panickal won the 'Anna Mani Women Scientist Award', Milind Mujumdar was given the 'Certificate of Merit' and Anoop Mahajan was chosen for the 'Young Scientist Award 2022'. Panickal has contributed to the sixth IPCC report released in 2018. While Mujumdar has extensively worked on improving climate models over the past two decades. Moreover, Mahajan's major work has been on the role of Halogen Compound Emissions with respect to Climate. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Three climate scientists from IITM, Pune – won 'National Awards' for their contribution to the field
- Swapna Panickal – received the 'Anna Mani Women Scientist Award'
- Milind Mujumdar – received the 'Certificate of Merit'
- Anoop Mahajan – received the 'Young Scientist Award 2022'

**629.** On July 27, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson presented Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy with the "Sir Winston Churchill Leadership Award". The Churchill leadership award was first presented in 2006. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Volodymyr Zelenskyy (Ukraine President) – received the "Sir Winston Churchill Leadership Award" by Boris Johnson
- Ukraine – Kyiv – Ukrainian Hryvnia | President – Volodymyr Zelensky
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

**630.** On July 28, a Canadian scholar Jeffrey Armstrong was awarded the "Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) Distinguished Indologist Award 2021". He was conferred the award in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the study/teaching/research in India's philosophy, thought, history, art, culture, Indian languages, literature, civilization, society, etc. Armstrong became the 7<sup>th</sup> recipient of this award. The annual award was instituted in 2015 during the First World Indology Conference hosted by the then President of India. The award comprises a citation, a gold-plated medallion, and US\$ 20,000 (approximately ₹1.6 million). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jeffrey Armstrong (Canadian scholar) – awarded the "ICCR Distinguished Indologist Award 2021"
- The award was instituted in 2015 during the first 'World Indology Conference' hosted by the then President of India





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## Schemes & Initiatives

**631.** On July 28, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai launched a slew of welfare measures to mark first anniversary of his government. The CM launched “Swami Vivekananda Yuvashakti Yojane” that aims at empowerment of rural youth. The scheme would aim at empowering about 5 lakh youth to take up self-employment besides linking their SHGs with banks and markets. The other schemes include providing 75 units of free power a month to 25 lakh poor SC/ST families, Viveka scheme for improving school infrastructure, Babu Jagjivan Ram self-employment scheme, Sthree Samarthy scheme for empowerment of Sthree Shakti groups, extension of the Vidya Nidhi scholarship programme to children of weavers, fishermen and taxi drivers, and Punya Koti scheme of adopting cows in goshalas. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Basavaraj Bommai – launched a slew of welfare measures to mark first anniversary of his government
  - ‘Swami Vivekananda Yuvashakti Yojane’ that aims at empowerment of 5 lakh rural youth
  - Providing 75 units of free power a month to 25 lakh poor SC/ST families
  - ‘Viveka’ scheme for improving school infrastructure
  - ‘Sthree Samarthy’ scheme for empowerment of Sthree Shakti groups
  - Extension of ‘Vidya Nidhi’ scholarship programme to children of weavers, fishermen & taxi drivers
  - ‘Punya Koti’ scheme of adopting cows in goshalas
- [Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore](#) | [CM – Basavaraj Bommai](#) | [Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot](#)

**632.** On July 27, the Tamil Nadu government launched the first phase of the “Chief Minister’s Breakfast Scheme” at 1,545 government primary schools to benefit more than 1.14 lakh children in Classes 1-5 across the State during 2022-23, at a total cost of ₹33.56 Cr. More than 43,600 students studying in schools in Municipal Corporations, more than 17,400 studying in those in Municipalities, more than 42,800 in village panchayat limits and more than 10,100 students in remote and hilly areas would benefit under the scheme, which is said to be first-of-its-kind in India. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu – launched 1<sup>st</sup> phase of “Chief Minister’s Breakfast Scheme” at Govt Primary Schools
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai](#) | [CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin](#) | [Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi](#)

## Important Days & Dates

**633.** World Day Against Trafficking is marked annually on 30 July to understand the harms of human trafficking and its impact on people’s life. In 2010, the United Nations General Assembly had adopted the Global Plan of Action to deal with trafficking in persons. The theme for the year 2022 is “Use and Abuse of Technology”. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- July 30 – World Day Against Trafficking
- 2022’s Theme – “Use and Abuse of Technology”



**634.** This year's Earth Overshoot Day was observed July 28, a day before it was celebrated in 2021 on July 29. This means humanity has used all biological resources that the Earth regenerates during the entire year by July 28. The day, hosted and calculated by Global Footprint Network (GFN), falls earlier every year, to indicate that humanity's demand for natural resources exceeds what the Earth can provide. The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) has launched the "Good for You, Good for the Planet" campaign to guide people towards eating a planet friendly diet. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- July 28 – "Earth Overshoot Day 2022" – by Global Footprint Network
- WWF launched "Good for You, Good for the Planet" campaign to guide people towards eating a planet friendly diet

**635.** World Ranger Day is marked every year on 31 July to commemorate rangers who were killed or injured while they were in the line of duty and to celebrate the work that they do to protect the natural treasures and cultural heritage of the planet. A ranger usually refers to a forest or park ranger who has the responsibility of preserving and protecting parklands and naturally protected areas. The day was first celebrated in 2007 on the occasion of the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the International Ranger Federation (IRF). Orang National Park and Tiger Reserve Ranger Team is among the various winners from across the world in the "2022 IUCN-WCPA International Ranger Awards". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- July 31 – World Ranger Day (since 2007)
- Ranger – a forest or park ranger who preserves & protects parklands & naturally protected areas
- Orang National Park – Assam

**636.** On July 27, PM Narendra Modi extended greetings to the soldiers of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), India's largest Central Armed Police Force, on the 84<sup>th</sup> Raising Day of the CRPF. The CRPF came into existence as Crown Representative's Police on July 27, 1939. It became the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) on the enactment of the CRPF Act on December 28, 1949. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- July 27 – 84<sup>th</sup> Raising Day of the CRPF | CRPF – India's largest Central Armed Police Force (CAPFs)
- CRPF – came into existence as 'Crown Representative's Police' on July 27, 1939 & became CRPF on Dec 28, 1949
- CAPFs – comprise the CRPF, CISF, ITBP, SSB & BSF
- HQs of CRPF – New Delhi | DG – Kuldiep Singh | Formed on – July 27, 1939 | Motto – "Service & Loyalty"

## Obituaries

**637.** On July 31, former Philippine President Fidel Ramos died from COVID-19 complications at the age of 94. Ramos, the 12<sup>th</sup> President of the Philippines from 1992 to 1998, was said to be the driving force behind the renewed investor confidence in the Philippines. It was during his time that the Philippines was recognized as a budding "Tiger Economy". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Fidel Ramos – Former Philippine President – Passed away
- Philippines – Manila – Peso | President – Ferdinand Marcos Jr.



## Books & Authors

**638.** Sanjaya Baru has authored a new book titled “Journey of a Nation: 75 Years of Indian Economy: Re-emerge, Reinvest, Re-engage”. The book is part of a series that looks back at the past 75 years of independent India. The book starts with a reference to British historian Angus Maddison and his book “The World Economy: A Millennial Perspective” (2001). There are 14 chapters in the book. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- “Journey of a Nation: 75 Years of Indian Economy: Re-emerge, Reinvest, Re-engage” – authored by Sanjaya Baru

**639.** In July 2022, former US first lady Michelle Obama announced the release of her second book, “The Light We Carry: Overcoming in Uncertain Times”, after the huge success of her acclaimed memoir “Becoming” in 2018. The book, scheduled to release on November 15, will be published simultaneously in 14 languages and 27 countries around the world. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- “The Light We Carry: Overcoming in Uncertain Times” book – authored by Michelle Obama
- “Becoming” memoir – written by Michelle Obama

**640.** On July 29, Tata Power, in association with Ela Foundation, released the 4<sup>th</sup> book in a series on “Amphibians of the Northern Western Ghats”. It is a photographic guide to all 52 species of amphibians in Gujarat, Diu, Daman, Dadra Nagar Haveli, Maharashtra and Goa, highlighting the rich biodiversity of the western ghats of Maharashtra. The book is authored by Satish Pande with inputs from Vivek Vishwasrao and Gram Purohit. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Tata Power + Ela Foundation = released the 4<sup>th</sup> book in a series on “Amphibians of the Northern Western Ghats”
- The book is authored by – Satish Pande | Inputs from – Vivek Vishwasrao & Gram Purohit
- HQs of Tata Power – Mumbai | Chairman – N. Chandrasekaran | MD & CEO – Praveer Sinha

## Ranks, Reports & Surveys

**641.** According to the report by Worldline, India recorded 9.36 billion transactions in terms of volume and Rs 10.25 trillion in terms of value, in the first quarter (January-March) of 2022 via various payment modes led by Unified Payment Interface (UPI). The UPI P2M (Person to Merchant) transactions emerged as the most preferred payment mode among consumers with a market share of 64% in volume and 50% in terms of value. Credit cards accounted for 7% of transactions, but 26% of value. As of the first quarter, the top UPI apps in terms of volume were PhonePe, Google Pay and Paytm (94% in terms of volume & 93% in terms of value). While the top remitter banks were State Bank of India, HDFC Bank and Bank of Baroda. Maharashtra is the state with the highest number of transactions at physical touch points. While Hyderabad recorded the highest number of transactions. [{Read more}](#)





### Key Points:

- Worldline report for Q1 (January-March) of 2022:
  - India recorded 9.36 billion transactions in terms of volume via UPI (Rs 10.25 trillion in terms of value)
  - UPI P2M transactions – most preferred among consumers with market share of 64% in volume & 50% in value
  - Credit cards – accounted for 7% of transactions (26% of value)
  - Top UPI Apps (in terms of volume): PhonePe, Google Pay & Paytm
  - Top Remitter Banks: SBI, HDFC Bank & Bank of Baroda
  - Maharashtra – recorded the highest number of transactions at physical touch points (among states)
  - Hyderabad – recorded the highest number of transactions (among cities)
- HQs of Worldline – Bezons, France | CEO – Gilles Grapinet

**642.** On July 25, the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) is periodically monitoring the ground water levels throughout India on a regional scale, through a network of monitoring wells. In order to assess the long-term fluctuation in ground water level, the water level data collected by CGWB during November 2021 when compared with November 2011, it indicates that about 70% wells have registered rise in water level whereas, about 30% of the wells monitored have registered decline in ground water level. The Central Government is implementing 'Atal Bhujal Yojana' (Atal Jal), a Rs 6000 Crore Central Sector Scheme with World Bank assistance, for sustainable management of ground water resources in 7 states. Government of India launched 'Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA)' in 2019 in 256 water stressed districts in India. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) is periodically monitoring the ground water levels throughout India
- According to CGWB: about 70% wells have registered rise in ground water level (30% registered decline)
- Govt is implementing a Rs 6000-Crore 'Atal Bhujal Yojana' in 7 states (backed by World Bank)
- Govt also launched 'Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA)' in 2019

**643.** According to "Annual Review of State Laws 2021" by Delhi-based PRS Legislative Research, 29 State & Union territory Legislative Assemblies met for an average of only 21 days in 2021. Although 500-plus Bills were passed in this period, the catch was that 44% of them were cleared within a day of their introduction in the House. Like Parliament, an assembly usually meets thrice a year in - Budget, Monsoon and Winter sessions. Education (21%), taxation (12%), local governance (10%), and land and law & order (4% each) were the main categories of the Bills passed by the assemblies last year. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- "Annual Review of State Laws 2021" – released by PRS Legislative Research (Delhi)
- 29 State & Union territory Legislative Assemblies met for an average of only 21 days in 2021
- More than 500 Bills were passed in this period (44% of them were cleared within a day)
- Main categories of the Bills: Education (21%), taxation (12%), local governance (10%), land + law & order (4% each)

**644.** According to "Aid for Trade at a Glance 2022" report issued by the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), India received the highest aid for trade in 2020 at \$2.7 billion from developed countries. Bangladesh was the second largest recipient of the aid, followed by Egypt. As per the report, aid for trade commitments increased by 18% during 2020, reaching an all-time high of \$64.6 billion. The total disbursement during 2020 was \$48.7 billion, which translates to India getting 4% of the disbursements. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- “Aid for Trade at a Glance 2022” report issued by – WTO & OECD
- India received highest aid for trade in 2020 at \$2.7 Bn from developed countries | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Bangladesh | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Egypt
- Total global disbursement during 2020 was \$48.7 billion | India – received 4% of the disbursements
- HQs of WTO – Geneva, Switzerland | 7<sup>th</sup> DG – Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (Nigeria) | Members – 164 | Founded – 1995
- HQs of OECD – Paris, France | Secretary-General – Mathias Cormann | Member countries – 37

## MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

**645.** On July 28, the Indian Vegetable Oil Producers’ Association (IVPA) and the Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC) signed an MoU to enhance cooperation between Malaysia and India to promote the use of palm oil. The MoU is expected to expand cooperation in areas of mutual interest, to promote the development and use of Malaysian palm oil and MSPO-certified palm oil. MPOC will promote ‘Aatmanirbhar Bharat’ by assisting the Indian palm oil industry in sourcing technical knowhow.

[{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- IVPA (India) + MPOC (Malaysia) = an MoU to enhance cooperation to promote the use of Palm Oil
- HQs of IVPA – New Delhi | President – Sudhakar Desai
- Malaysia – Kuala Lumpur – Ringgit | PM – Ismail Sabri Yaakob | King – Al-Sultan Abdullah

**646.** On July 29, Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Odisha (IPICOL) and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) signed an MoU making the latter a National Industry Partner for the “Make in Odisha Conclave 2022” to be held from November 30 to December 4, 2022. This is going to be the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the Make in Odisha Conclave. The first edition was held in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- IPICOL (Odisha) + FICCI = an MoU for the “Make in Odisha Conclave 2022” to be held in Nov-Dec, 2022 (3<sup>rd</sup> edition)
- FICCI – will be the National Industry Partner for the “Make in Odisha Conclave 2022”
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal
- HQs of FICCI – New Delhi | DG – Arun Chawla | President – Sanjiv Mehta | Founded in – 1927

**647.** In July 2022, JSW Steel partnered with US-based Boston Consulting Group (BCG) to meet its decarbonization goals. JSW Steel has an ambitious target of reducing its carbon emission by 42% by 2029-30 versus base year 2005. According to a ministry document, the Iron and Steel industry globally accounts for around 8% of total carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions on an annual basis, whereas in India, it contributes 12% to the total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. [{Read more}](#).

### Key Points:

- JSW Steel + Boston Consulting Group (US) = partnership to meet JSW Steel’s decarbonization goals
- JSW Steel has an ambitious target of reducing its carbon emission by 42% – by 2029-30
- HQs of JSW Group – Mumbai, MH | CMD – Sajjan Jindal



**648.** In July 2022, Aditya Birla Group's metals flagship Hindalco Industries and Aequs entered into a strategic pact for long-term collaboration and joint business development in the commercial Aerospace sector. The move will strengthen the commercial aerospace business of Aequs Pvt Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Hindalco Industries + Aequs = an agreement for joint business development in the commercial Aerospace sector
- Hindalco Industries – metals flagship company of Aditya Birla Group
- HQs of Hindalco Industries – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD – Satish Pai

**649.** On July 29, Reliance New Energy, Ola Electric, and Rajesh Exports signed a program agreement under Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for “Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) Battery Storage”. As per the agreement, the companies will receive production-linked incentives under India's Rs 18,100 Cr program. The government has approved the ‘National Programme on Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) Battery Storage’ scheme for achieving manufacturing capacity of 50 GWh of ACC. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Reliance New Energy + Ola Electric + Rajesh Exports = an agreement for “Advanced Chemistry Cell Battery Storage”
- As per the agreement, the companies will receive PLI under India's Rs 18,100 Cr program
- Government approved the ‘National Programme on Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) Battery Storage’ scheme for achieving manufacturing capacity of 50 GWh of ACC

**650.** On July 30, West Bengal government signed an MoU with Maharashtra government to prevent migration and trafficking of women since a lot of movement of people takes place between the two states. UNICEF has been working with the government, panchayats, child protection groups and self-help groups, NGOs to build awareness at the grassroots level. A state-level consultation on ‘Uses and Abuses of Technology’ was organised by West Bengal government and UNICEF on the occasion of World Day against Trafficking in Persons. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- West Bengal + Maharashtra = an MoU to prevent migration & trafficking of women
- West Bengal + UNICEF = organized a state-level consultation on ‘Uses and Abuses of Technology’
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – La. Ganesan
- Maharashtra: CM – Eknath Shinde | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari





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