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National & States Affairs

651. On July 30, Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Electronics and IT, started a daylong event to celebrate "8 Years of MyGov" in New Delhi. The event celebrated the journey of the world's largest platform for participatory governance which has nearly 2.5 Cr registered citizens. The minister also launched 'Responsible AI for Youth 2022' which was created by the National E-Governance Division (NeGD) in collaboration with Intel India and the support of the Ministry of Education. The Program will be open to all school students studying in classes 8-12 across India to foster a deeper understanding of AI-tech. MyGov (mygov.in), the Government of India's citizen engagement platform, was launched on July 26, 2014 by PM Narendra Modi and has been built on 3 pillars of 'Do', 'Discuss' and 'Disseminate'. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Ashwini Vaishnaw started an event to celebrate "8 Years of MyGov" in New Delhi on July 30
- He launched 'Responsible AI for Youth 2022' | Created by = NeGD + Intel India + Ministry of Education
- The program is for all school students studying in classes 8-12 across India
- MyGov platform: Launched by Narendra Modi on July 26, 2014 (built on 3 pillars 'Do', 'Discuss' & 'Disseminate')
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar

652. On July 29, PM Narendra Modi virtually participated in the Grand Finale marking the culmination of "Ujjwal Bharat, Ujjwal Bhavishya - Power @2047" programme that took place from July 25-30, 2022 as part of the ongoing 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' to showcase the transformation in the power sector achieved in the last 8 years. During the programme, PM Modi launched the "Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme" which aims to provide financial assistance to DISCOMs for modernization and strengthening of distribution infrastructure. The PM also dedicated and laid the foundation stone of various Green Energy projects of NTPC worth over Rs 5,200 Crore. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi participated in the Grand Finale marking the culmination of "Ujjwal Bharat, Ujjwal Bhavishya Power
 @2047" programme
- PM Modi launched the "Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme" during the event
- Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of various Green Energy projects of NTPC worth over Rs 5,200 Cr

653. As on July 31, Tata is planning to spend Rs 3,000 Cr on Research & Development to create a 'First in India' 180 degrees rotating seats for Vande Bharat express. The company is also targeting to be among the top 5 technology firms in the Global Steel Industry by 2030. Vande Bharat Express, also known as Train 18, is the second fastest train in India, which operates at a speed of 130 km/hr. Besides, Tata Steel is setting up a Greenfield Facility at Khopoli, Maharashtra, in collaboration with a technology partner from the Netherlands. {Read more}

- Tata to spend Rs 3,000 Cr on R&D to create a 'First in India' 180 degrees rotating seats for Vande Bharat express
- Tata also targeting to be among the top 5 technology firms in the Global Steel Industry by 2030
- Vande Bharat Express is also known as 'Train 18' | Speed 130 km/hr
- Tata Steel is setting up a Greenfield Facility at Khopoli, Maharashtra
- HQs of Tata Steel Ltd Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO T. V. Narendran
- Maharashtra: CM Eknath Shinde | Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari



654. On July 29, the Central government has decided to reduce resolution time of public grievances, raised on a dedicated portal, to a maximum of 30 days from the existing 45 days. Besides, it has been decided that a complaint received from a citizen will not be closed until an appeal filed against it is disposed of. Moreover, DARPG, under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, has undertaken a comprehensive reform of the "Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS)", an online portal that allows people to raise complaint against government bodies, to make it more responsive to the needs of the citizens. Last year, the DARPG had reduced the maximum time limit to 45 days from 60 days to resolve public grievances. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Central government decided to reduce resolution time of public grievances from the existing 45 days to 30 days
- DARPG undertook a comprehensive reform of "Centralised Public Grievance Redress & Monitoring System"
- "CPGRAMS" an online portal that allows people to raise complaint against Government Bodies
- DARPG works under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions

655. On July 31, Ellora Caves, the UNESCO world heritage site in Maharashtra's Aurangabad district, will become the first monument in India to have a Hydraulic Lift. Ellora is the one of the largest rock-cut temple complexes in the world, housing Hindu, Buddhist and Jain sculptures, and witnesses the highest tourist footfall in the region. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Ellora Caves (Maharashtra) will become the first monument in India to have a Hydraulic Lift
- Ellora Caves the UNESCO world heritage site in Aurangabad, Maharashtra

656. On July 28, Aurangabad has become the first in India to officially publish the Environmental Insights Explorer (EIE) data from Google. EIE dashboard for Aurangabad was launched by Google at a programme in New Delhi. The data will help research organizations in framing sustainable solutions for the city. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Aurangabad became 1st in India to officially publish the Environmental Insights Explorer (EIE) data from Google
- 'EIE Dashboard' for Aurangabad was launched by Google at a programme in New Delhi
- HQs of Google California, US | CEO Sundar Pichai | Founded in 1998

International Affairs

657. On July 29, the United States and Japan decided to launch a new joint International Semiconductor Research Hub. The countries agreed during U.S and Japanese Economic Talks to work on joint research for next-generation semiconductors to establish a secure source of the vital components. {Read more}

- United States + Japan = decided to launch a new joint 'International Semiconductor Research Hub'
- Japan Tokyo Yen | PM Fumio Kishida
- US Washington, D.C. US Dollar | 46th President Joe Biden | 49th VP Kamala Harris



658. On July 28, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) declared access to Clean & Healthy Environment as Universal Human Right. India voted for the resolution and pointed out that the resolutions do not create binding obligations. This right was not included in the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948". So, this is a historic resolution passed by the UNGA that will change the nature of International Human Rights Law. {Read more}

Key Points:

- UNGA declared access to Clean & Healthy Environment as Universal Human Right
- This right was not included in the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948"
- HQs of UNGA New York, US | President Abdulla Shahid | Member Countries 193

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

659. As per the data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA) on July 29, the Centre's fiscal deficit for the first quarter of FY23 (April-June) stood at 21.2% of the FY23 Budget estimate due to strong capital expenditure and weak revenue receipts. The fiscal deficit for the same period last year (April-June FY22) was 18.2% of the FY22 Budget estimate. The Centre's revenue receipts rose just 5% to Rs 5.7 trillion in Q1 FY23. While the expenditure was at 24% of the full-year target. In May, the central board of the RBI had announced to transfer Rs 30,307 Cr as dividend to the government for the accounting year 2021-22 as against Rs 99,122 Cr last year. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Controller General of Accounts (CGA) Data:
- Centre's fiscal deficit for Q1 FY23 (April-June) 21.2% of the FY23 Budget estimate (from 18.2% in FY22)
- Centre's revenue receipts rose just 5% to Rs 5.7 trillion in Q1 FY23 | Expenditure was at 24% of the full-year target
- RBI had announced to transfer Rs 30,307 Cr as dividend to the government for the accounting year 2021-22
- CAG G. C. Murmu | CGA Sonali Singh

660. On July 31, Bank of Baroda's Board accorded approval for divestment of 12.50% of its shareholding in a subsidiary, IndiaFirst Life Insurance Company Ltd (IFLIC). BoB increased its stake in IFLIC from 44% to 65%, buying Union Bank of India's 21% stake in 2021. Moreover, Carmel Point Investments India Pvt Ltd owns 35% in IFLIC. {Read more}

Key Points:

- BOB accorded approval for divestment of 12.50% of its stake in IndiaFirst Life Insurance Company
- Carmel Point Investments India owns 35% in IFLIC
- HQs of BOB Vododara, Gujarat | CEO Sanjiv Chadha | Tagline "India's International Bank"

661. On July 29, the Reserve Bank of India allowed Punjab National Bank to invest Rs 500 Cr in the upcoming Rs 2,500 Cr rights issue of PNB Housing Finance. Post rights issue, the holding of the bank would come down below 30% but would be higher than 26% so that the bank retains promoter status. PNB currently holds a 32% stake in this housing finance firm. {Read more}



Key Points:

- RBI allowed PNB to invest Rs 500 Cr in the upcoming Rs 2,500 Cr rights issue of PNB Housing Finance
- PNB currently holds a 32% stake in PNB Housing Finance
- HQs of PNB New Delhi | MD & CEO Atul Kumar Goel | Tagline "The Name You Can Bank Upon"
- HQs of PNBHF New Delhi | MD & CEO Hardayal Prasad | Tagline "Ghar Ki Baat"

Sports & Games

662. On July 31, Red Bull driver Max Verstappen of the Netherlands won the "Hungarian Grand Prix 2022" in Budapest, Hungary. Seven-time world champion Lewis Hamilton finished second for Mercedes with teammate George Russell, who took third place. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Max Verstappen (Belgian-Dutch Red Bull) won "Hungarian Grand Prix 2022"
- 2nd Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) | 3rd George Russell (Mercedes)

663. On July 25, in "Swiss Open 2022" tennis tournament, Casper Ruud defeated Matteo Berrettini to claim his 9th career title. Casper beat Matteo Berrettini with 4-6, 7-6 (7/4), 6-2 in a high quality final of the clay-court ATP event in Gstaad, Switzerland. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Casper Ruud won "Swiss Open 2022" (defeating Matteo Berrettini)
- This is his 9th career title

Appointments & Resignations

664. On July 31, IPS Sanjay Arora has been appointed as Delhi Police Commissioner, succeeding incumbent police commissioner Rakesh Asthana. Arora is currently serving as DG of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP). {Read more} **Key Points:**

• IPS Sanjay Arora – appointed as Delhi Police Commissioner (succeeding - Rakesh Asthana)

665. On July 29, the President appointed Justice Ranjit Vasantrao More (former Chief Justice, Meghalaya High Court), to the post of Chairman of the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) for a period of 4 years from the date of assumption of charge of the post, or till attaining the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier. {Read more}

- Justice Ranjit Vasantrao More appointed as Chairman of Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) for 4 years
- He is a former Chief Justice of Meghalaya High Court



666. On July 30, R. S. Sodhi, Managing Director of Amul Federation, is elected as the new President of Indian Dairy Association (IDA). Founded in 1948, IDA is the apex body of the dairy industry in India. Sodhi heads the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd (GCMMF), the 18-member dairy body that makes Amul brand of milk products. {Read more} Key Points:

- R. S. Sodhi elected as the new President of Indian Dairy Association (IDA)
- HQs of AMUL Anand, Gujarat | MD Rupinder Singh Sodhi | Established in 1946

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

667. On July 30, Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated a 2-day "National conference on Drug Trafficking and National Security 2022" in Chandigarh. He said the central government has adopted a Zero-Tolerance Policy towards narcotics. The conference was organised by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB). During the conference, Home Minister Amit Shah and Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Virendra Khatik awarded Madhya Pradesh with the first prize for best implementation of Drug Free India campaign. While Madhya Pradesh's Datia district bagged first prize in districts' category. As many as 272 districts in India were identified for drug free India campaign by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. Moreover, Madhya Pradesh was also awarded as Best Performing State in Agriculture Infrastructure for the Year 2022. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Amit Shah inaugurated "National conference on Drug Trafficking & National Security 2022" in Chandigarh
- The conference was organised by the NCB
- First prize for Best implementation of Drug Free India campaign: State Madhya Pradesh | District Datia, MP
- As many as 272 districts in India were identified for drug free India campaign by the MoSJE
- Madhya Pradesh awarded as Best Performing State in Agriculture Infrastructure for the Year 2022

668. On July 31, Vice-President of India M. Venkaiah Naidu presented the prestigious 'President's Colours' for the Tamil Nadu Police to Chief Minister M.K. Stalin in a customary ceremony in Rajarathinam Stadium in Chennai. The Tamil Nadu Police is among the few police forces in India to receive the coveted 'President's Colours'. Tamil Nadu had the first women commando unit in India. Currently, IPS C. Sylendra Babu is serving as the Director General of Tamil Nadu Police. {Read more} Key Points:

- M. Venkaiah Naidu presented the prestigious 'President's Colours' to Tamil Nadu Police
- IPS C. Sylendra Babu present Director General of Tamil Nadu Police
- Tamil Nadu: Capital Chennai | CM Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor Ravindra Narayan Ravi





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Schemes & Initiatives

669. As on July 29, a total of 8 craft villages across India were selected for development under the Ministry of Textile's 'Linking Textile with Tourism' initiative. The villages which have been selected are - Raghurajpur (Odisha), Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh), Vadaj (Gujarat), Naini (Uttar Pradesh), Anegundi (Karnataka), Mahabalipuram (Tamil Nadu), Taj Ganj (Uttar Pradesh), and Amer (Rajasthan). Around 1,000 artisans will be benefitted directly across through this programme. {Read more}

Key Points:

- A total of 8 craft villages across India were selected for development under 'Linking Textile with Tourism' initiative
- 'Linking Textile with Tourism' an initiative of Ministry of Textile
- Ministry of Textiles: Piyush Goyal | Constituency Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Textiles: Darshana Vikram Jardosh

670. On July 31, Belagavi Deputy Commissioner Nitesh Patil launched "Punyakoti Dattu Yojane", the Karnataka government's cow adoption scheme. A mobile application will be developed to provide all necessary information to the public about the scheme. The scheme will work to strengthen goshalas or public cow shelters by seeking donations or adoption of abandoned cattle. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Nitesh Patil (Karnataka) launched "Punyakoti Dattu Yojane", a cow adoption scheme
- Karnataka: Capital Bangalore | CM Basavaraj Bommai | Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot

Books & Authors

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671. On July 30, Leading businesswomen and 'Shark Tank India' judge Namita Thapar announced to make her debut as an author with her first book "The Dolphin and the Shark: Stories on Entrepreneurship", scheduled to be published by Penguin Random House India (PRHI) in August. The book expounds on the concepts of the age-old aggressor leader role - the shark - and the more empathetic style of leadership which is represented by the dolphin. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "The Dolphin and the Shark: Stories on Entrepreneurship" book authored by Namita Thapar (her debut)
- Publisher Penguin Random House India

672. Joy Bhattacharjya and Amit Sinha authored a book titled 'Do Different: The Untold Dhoni'. The book aims to uncover the story behind M.S. Dhoni's achievements and aura. The book was published by Penguin Random House India. {Read more}

- "Do Different: The Untold Dhoni" book authored by Joy Bhattacharjya & Amit Sinha
- Publisher Penguin Random House India



673. On July 28, Author and historian K.R.A. Narasiah's autobiography "Through The Rear View Mirror" was launched by former West Bengal Governor Gopalkrishna Gandhi. The book is an honest description of one's life honestly lived with no malice, no regrets and great deal of gratitude for whatever had come his way. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Through The Rear View Mirror" an autobiography of author & historian K.R.A. Narasiah
- The book was launched by Gopalkrishna Gandhi (Former West Bengal Governor)

Meetings, Conferences and Summits

674. On July 31, Union Shipping Minister Sarbanand Sonowal and Minister of State for Shipping Shripad Naik inaugurated the "Chabahar Day Conference" in Mumbai. Dignitaries from Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Afghanistan were present on the occasion. The port will also be part of the International North South Transport Corridor network connecting India. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Sarbanand Sonowal & Shripad Naik inaugurated the "Chabahar Day Conference" in Mumbai
- Chabahar port located in Iran
- Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency Majuli, Asssam
- MoS in Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Shripad Yesso Naik & Shantanu Thakur



675. According to "Bloomberg Billionaires Index" released on July 30, 2022, Savitri Jindal became Asia's richest woman after Asia's wealthiest woman Yang Huiyan from China lost more than half of her wealth due to China's property crisis. Yang's total wealth dropped to \$11 billion from nearly \$24 billion in 2021. Jindal, 72, is India's richest woman and the 10th richest person in India. In India's richest women list, she is followed by Kiran Mazumdar and Crishna Godrej. Savitri has been considered the richest Indian woman for the past few years, according to Forbes also. {Read more}

Key Points:

- 'Bloomberg Billionaires Index' released on July 30, 2022
- Asia's richest woman Savitri Jindal | 2nd Yang Huiyan (China)
- India's richest woman Savitri Jindal (10th richest person in India) | 2nd Kiran Mazumdar | 3rd Crishna Godrej

676. At least 85% of districts face arid conditions across India, according to the "Aridity Anomaly Outlook Index" for July 2022, issued by India Meteorological Department (IMD). Only 63 of 756 districts were non-arid, while 660 were facing different degrees of aridity. The data for the remaining 33 districts were not available. Some 196 districts are in the grip of a 'severe' degree of dryness and 65 of these are in Uttar Pradesh which has the highest number of districts experiencing arid conditions, followed by Bihar (33). {Read more}



Key Points:

- "Aridity Anomaly Outlook Index" for July 2022 issued by IMD
- As per the index:
 - At least 85% of districts face arid conditions across India
 - Only 63 of 756 districts were non-arid, while 660 were facing different degrees of aridity
 - UP (65) has the highest number of districts experiencing arid conditions, followed by Bihar (33)
- HQs of IMD New Delhi | Director General Dr. Mrutyunjay Mohapatra | Founded in 1875

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

677. On July 31, the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru and the Indian Navy signed an MoU to collaborate on Aviation Research & Development and to ramp up self-reliance efforts for the Navy. The areas of collaboration under this MoU will fall under the domain of aerospace/aeronautical engineering, including design and education technology. {Read more}

Key Points:

- IISc, Bengaluru + Indian Navy = an MoU to collaborate on Aviation Research & Development
- Director of IISc, Bangalore Govindan Rangarajan | Established in 1909
- HQs of Indian Navy Delhi | Chief Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC S. N. Ghormade | Founded in 26th Jan, 1950

678. On July 26, Prasar Bharati signed an MoU with IIT, Kanpur to develop Next Generation Broadcast Solution and Roadmap for Digital Terrestrial Broadcasting consistent with emerging standards such as 5G Broadcast. Presently, Doordarshan has 23 Digital Terrestrial Transmitters which are operational at 19 locations across India. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Prasar Bharati + IIT Kanpur = an MoU to develop 'Next Generation Broadcast Solution' & 'Roadmap for Digital Terrestrial Broadcasting'
- Currently, Doordarshan has 23 Digital Terrestrial Transmitters which are operational at 19 locations across India
- Director of IIT Kanpur Abhay Karandikar

679. In July 2022, the National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) signed an MoU with LG Electronics India Pvt Ltd and Electronics Sector Skills Council of India (ESSCI) to set up a "Centre of Excellence for the MSME Sector" at NSIC - Technical Services Centre aimed at training underprivileged youth in the fields of consumer electronics and appliances. In the first year, 600 youth per year would be benefitted on electronics goods servicing and repairing. {Read more}

Key Points:

• NSIC + LG Electronics + ESSCI = an MoU to set up a "Centre of Excellence for the MSME Sector" at NSIC, New Delhi

680. In July 2022, Wipro announced a 5-year engagement with global networking and telecom player Nokia. The size of the deal was however not made public. For Nokia, this represents a major step towards digitalisation of its operations by leveraging Wipro's transformation and innovation capabilities. {Read more}



- Wipro + Nokia = 5-year engagement for digitalisation of Nokia's operations
- HQs of Wipro Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO Thierry Delaporte | Founder Chairman Azim Premji
- HQs of Nokia Espoo, Finland | CEO Pekka Lundmark







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