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National & States Affairs

1. PM Narendra Modi participated in the 'Udyami Bharat' programme at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi. During the event, Prime Minister launched the 'Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance' (RAMP) scheme, 'Capacity Building of First-Time MSME Exporters' (CBFTE) scheme and new features of the 'Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme' (PMEGP). PM Modi also issued Digital Equity Certificates to 75 MSMEs in Self Reliant India (SRI) Fund. The RAMP scheme was launched with an outlay of around Rs 6,000 Cr. While, under the PMEGP, maximum project cost is increased to Rs 50 lakh (from Rs 25 lakh) for the manufacturing sector and Rs 20 lakh (from Rs 10 lakh) in the service sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – participated in the 'Udyami Bharat' programme at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi
- Moreover, PM Modi launched – 'RAMP Scheme', 'CBFTE Scheme' & 'PMEGP Scheme'
- PM Modi – issued Digital Equity Certificates to 75 MSMEs in Self Reliant India (SRI) Fund
- 'RAMP' program is an initiative to revitalize – MSME sector

2. On July 5, the Department of Food and Public Distribution (DoFPD) organized a one-day "National Conference on Food and Nutrition Security in India" in New Delhi. The conference is aimed at facilitating cross learning, disseminating best practices for schemes under Public Distribution System (PDS) and strengthening the focus on nutritional security. India's Targeted Public Distribution System, under the 'National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013' is the largest public food-security program in the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DoFPD – organized "National Conference on Food and Nutrition Security in India" in New Delhi
- PDS is the largest public food-security program in the world under 'National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013'

3. In July 2022, Niranjan Pujari, Finance Minister of Odisha, proposed a Rs 2 lakh Cr budget in the State Assembly for the fiscal year 2022-23. In a bid to achieve a robust healthcare system, Odisha government proposed to spend Rs 12,624 Cr for public healthcare, marking an increase of about 38%. The highest Rs 2,664 Cr has been provided under the flagship Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY). The state government proposed Rs 2,325 Cr under 'Mukhya Mantri Swasthya Seva Mission'. A new scheme 'Mukhya Mantri Bayu Swasthya Seva' has been launched by the State government. Moreover, a provision of Rs 247 Cr is made under the Maternity Benefit Programme "MAMATA" scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Odisha – proposed Rs 2 lakh Cr budget in the State Assembly for the FY 2022-23 (Rs 12,624 Cr for public healthcare)
- Amounts allocated under various schemes of the State Govt:
 - Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana – Rs 2,664 Cr
 - Mukhya Mantri Swasthya Seva Mission – Rs 2,325 Cr
 - MAMATA Scheme – Rs 247 Cr
 - Mukhya Mantri Bayu Swasthya Seva – newly launched
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

4. On July 1, Union Minister Piyush Goyal virtually launched a 3-day “Grand Hackathon” on Agriculture domain, organized by the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) in collaboration with NABARD, at the Bombay Stock Exchange in Fort, Mumbai. The “Grand Hackathon” is subdivided into two categories: Agri Grant Challenge and Agri Innovation Hackathon. The flagship event was backed by many credited national initiatives/organisations like Start-Up India, Atal Innovation Mission, Beckn & Protean. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Piyush Goyal – virtually launched a 3-day “Grand Hackathon” on Agriculture domain
- ONDC + NABARD = organized “Grand Hackathon” at BSE, Mumbai
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Govinda Rajulu Chintala | Founded in – 1982

5. On July 1, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) launched a digital portal called “Pariksha Sangam” to streamline all board exam and result related activities. The launch of this portal, Pariksha Sangam would result in the streamlining of the process of all board exam related activities such as School Result, Board Result, Reference Materials and more. Under this, CBSE would be combining all its other portals such as e-Sandesh, IPS Payment system, OASIS, Board Circulars, etc. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CBSE – launched “Pariksha Sangam” digital portal to streamline all board exam & result related activities
- HQs of CBSE – New Delhi | Chairman – Nidhi Chibber | Formed in – 1962

6. On July 2, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) created “Namami Gange Amrit Vatika” at Kalindi Kunj Ghat on river Yamuna in New Delhi under ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’. 75 saplings were planted by NMCG in association with Delhi Jal Board (DJB), NGOs and other associated organisations. The plantation activities were carried out under the initiative ‘Yamuna Ghat par Vriksharopan’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NMCG – created “Namami Gange Amrit Vatika” at Kalindi Kunj Ghat on river Yamuna in New Delhi
- 75 saplings were planted under the initiative ‘Yamuna Ghat par Vriksharopan’
- NMCG functions under – Ministry of Jal Shakti | DG – G. Asok Kumar
- Ministry of Jal Shakti: Gajendra Singh Sekhawat | Constituency – Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- MoS for Jal Shakti & Food Processing Industries – Prahlad Singh Patel

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

7. On July 1, the government has transformed Banks Board Bureau (BBB) into Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) by making some amendments. Guidelines for selection of General Managers and Directors of public sector general insurance companies have been made part of FSIB. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approved the appointment of Bhanu Pratap Sharma as initial Chairperson of FSIB for a term of 2 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government transformed Banks Board Bureau (BBB) into Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB)
- Bhanu Pratap Sharma – appointed as initial Chairperson of FSIB for 2 years



8. On July 2, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDAI) and National Health Authority (NHA) will develop a “National Health Claims Exchange” as a digital platform to settle cashless health insurance claims faster. Chairman of IRDAI, Debashish Panda, proposed the creation of a working group with representation from the industry. The group will decide how to make the largest segment of general insurance in India attract more people to buy Health Insurance. The NHA is an apex body responsible for implementing India’s flagship public health insurance scheme namely “Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IRDAI + NHA = will develop a “National Health Claims Exchange” to settle cashless health insurance claims faster
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Debasish Panda
- HQs of NHA – New Delhi | CEO – Ram Sevak Sharma | Founded in – 2018

9. On July 2, Indian Bank signed an MoU with the Government of Haryana for the distribution of mobile phones to consumers through e-unified payment interface (e-upi) system. Mobile distribution melas would be organised by the bank in Haryana under this initiative. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Bank + Haryana = an MoU for the distribution of mobile phones to consumers through e-UPI system
- HQs of Indian Bank – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – Shanti Lal Jain | Tagline – “Your Own Bank”
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya

10. On July 1, Market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has extended the deadline for the introduction of Demat Debit and Pledging Instruction (DDPI) system, by 2 months, from July 1 to September 1, 2022. The new DDPI system is designed to prevent misuse of client securities by brokers. It does away with the erstwhile power of attorney (POA) system, which was prone to misuse. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – extended deadline for the introduction of **Demat Debit & Pledging Instruction (DDPI)** system – to Sep 1, 2022
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

11. On July 4, HDFC Bank received the Reserve Bank of India’s approval for its merger with Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) Ltd. On April 4, HDFC Bank agreed to take over the HDFC in a deal valued at about USD 40 billion. Once the deal is effective, HDFC Bank will be 100% owned by public shareholders. This merger would be the largest in Indian corporate history and the new HDFC entity with a \$169 billion m-cap will be among the 10 most valued banks in the world and the second-largest most valued corporate entity in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Bank – received the RBI’s approval for its merger with HDFC Ltd
- In April, HDFC Bank agreed to take over the HDFC in a deal valued at about \$40 billion
- New HDFC entity with a \$169 billion m-cap will be among the 10 most valued banks in the world
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”
- HQs of HDFC Ltd – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Deepak Parekh | VC & CEO – Keki Mistry



12. As on July 2022, Frauds in the banking sector, involving sums of over Rs 100 Cr, have declined significantly, as banks have reported cases worth Rs 41,000 Cr in 2021-22, compared to Rs 1.05 lakh Cr in the previous year. According to official data, the number of fraud cases in private (38) as well as public sector banks (80) dropped to a total of 118 in FY22, compared to 265 in FY 2020-21. Earlier this year, State Bank of India (SBI) reported one of the biggest bank frauds in the country totalling Rs 22,842 Cr, perpetrated by ABG Shipyard and their promoters. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Banks reported fraud cases worth – Rs 41,000 Cr in FY22 (compared to Rs 1.05 lakh Cr in FY21)
- The number of bank fraud cases dropped to – 118 in FY22 (38 in Private Banks + 80 in PSB)
- In 2022, SBI – reported one of the biggest bank frauds in India worth Rs 22,842 Cr (perpetrated by ABG Shipyard)

13. In July 2022, SBI Card launched ‘Aditya Birla SBI Card’, a highly rewarding lifestyle credit card, in a strategic partnership with Aditya Birla Finance Ltd (ABFL). The card has been designed to give customers significant reward points on their spending around telecom, fashion, travel, dining, entertainment, and hotels, among others. The rewards-centric credit card has been launched in two variants - ‘Aditya Birla SBI Card SELECT’ and ‘Aditya Birla SBI Card’, on the Visa platform. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI Card + Aditya Birla Finance = launched ‘Aditya Birla SBI Card’, a highly rewarding lifestyle credit card on Visa platform
- The card is launched in two variants – ‘Aditya Birla SBI Card SELECT’ and ‘Aditya Birla SBI Card’
- HQs of SBI Cards & Payment Services Ltd – Gurgaon, Haryana | MD & CEO – Rama Mohan Rao Amara
- HQs of Visa – Foster City, California | CEO – Alfred F. Kelly | Founded in – 1958



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Defence Affairs
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14. On July 5, the Indian Naval Air Squadron 324 (INAS 324), operating the indigenously designed and built ‘ALH MK III’ helicopters, was commissioned into the Indian Navy’s Eastern Naval Command based in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. The Eastern Naval Command, which received its first naval air squadron, is responsible for all operations in the Bay of Bengal and parts of the Indian Ocean. INAS 324 has been named ‘Kestrels’, which are birds of prey. The INAS 324 is equipped with ‘ALH MK III’ helicopters, manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL). INAS 324 is commanded by Commander S. S. Dash. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘INAS 324’ named ‘Kestrels’ – commissioned into the Indian Navy’s ENC (its first naval air squadron)
- ENC is responsible for all operations in the Bay of Bengal & parts of the Indian Ocean
- HQs of Eastern Fleet – Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh | FOC Eastern Fleet – Sanjay Bhalla

15. On July 1, the Desert Corps of the Indian Army organised the “Suraksha Manthan 2022”, on aspects of Border & Coastal Security at Jodhpur, Rajasthan. During the course of the discussions, aspects of interoperability, operational cohesion and logistics were ironed out in order to enhance overall security along the International Boundary (IB) and coastal sectors. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Desert Corps of the Indian Army – organised the “Suraksha Manthan 2022” at Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande | Vice Chief – Lt. General Baggavalli Somashekar Raj





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Sports & Games

16. In July 2022, Ferrari's Carlos Sainz Jr. won his career's first Formula One race at the "British Grand Prix 2022". Red Bull's Sergio Perez secured 2nd position, while Mercedes's Lewis Hamilton ranked 3rd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Carlos Sainz (Spain - Ferrari) – won Formula One race at the "British Grand Prix 2022"
- 2nd – Sergio Perez (Mexico - Red Bull) | 3rd – Lewis Hamilton (Britain - Mercedes)

17. On July 1, Swedish pole vaulter Armand Duplantis improved his own outdoor world record by clearing 6.16 metres (20 feet, 2 1/2 inches) at the Stockholm Diamond League. Duplantis also holds the indoor world record of 6.20m (20 feet, 4 inches), set at the world indoor championships in Serbia this year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Armand Duplantis – improved his own outdoor world record by clearing 6.16m at 'Stockholm Diamond League'
- Armand Duplantis (Sweden - Pole Vault) – also holds the indoor world record of 6.20m

Persons in News

18. Kaamya Karthikeyan has become the youngest Indian to scale the summit of Mount Denali, the highest mountain peak in North America at 20,310 feet. It is located in south-central Alaska, US. Karthikeyan is a Class 10 student of Navy Children School (NCS) in Mumbai. With Mount Everest and Mount Vinson as well as polar ski traverses remaining, Kaamya is well placed to complete the Explorer's Grand Slam. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kaamya Karthikeya (Mumbai) – became the youngest Indian to scale the summit of 'Mount Denali'
- Mount Denali – located in south-central Alaska, US | (Height - 20,310 feet)

Science & Technology

19. On July 1, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully carried out the maiden flight of the "Autonomous Flying Wing Technology Demonstrator" from the Aeronautical Test Range, Chitradurga, Karnataka. Powered by a small turbofan engine, the unmanned aerial vehicle is designed and developed by Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), Bengaluru, a premier research laboratory of DRDO. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DRDO – successfully carried out maiden flight of the "Autonomous Flying Wing Technology Demonstrator"
- It was launched from – Aeronautical Test Range, Chitradurga, Karnataka
- Autonomous Flying Wing Technology Demonstrator – designed & developed by DRDO-ADE (Bengaluru)
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in – 1958



20. On July 4, Minister of State (I/C) Science & Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated first-of-its-kind, state-of-the-art “Technology Innovation Hub on Autonomous Navigation (TiHAN)” to develop unmanned ground and aerial vehicles at IIT Hyderabad. The “Autonomous Navigation” facility is a multidisciplinary initiative which is funded by the Ministry of Science & Technology at a budget of Rs 130 Cr. It will make India a global player in the futuristic and next generation “Smart Mobility” technology. The Minister also appreciated that IIT Hyderabad has established a new Post-Graduation course of M.Tech in “Smart Mobility”, which is the first-of-its-kind in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Jitendra Singh – inaugurated “Technology Innovation Hub on Autonomous Navigation (TiHAN)” at IIT Hyderabad
- “Autonomous Navigation” facility – a multidisciplinary initiative, funded by Ministry of S&T
- [MoS \(I/C\) in the Ministry of Science & Technology: Dr. Jitendra Singh | Constituency – Udhampur, J&K](#)

21. On July 4, Centre of Excellence on Satellite & Unmanned Remote Vehicle Initiative (CoE-SURVEI) has developed an AI-based software which can automatically detect change on ground, including unauthorised constructions and encroachments in a time series using Satellite Imagery. This ‘Change Detection Software’ has been developed by CoE-SURVEI in collaboration with knowledge partner Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Visakhapatnam. The initiative was established by Directorate General Defence Estates (DGDE) at the National Institute of Defence Estates Management in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh. The centre uses the application across the 62 cantonments in India. The CoE-SURVEI has also developed tools for vacant land analysis and 3D imagery analysis of hill cantonments for land management. By leveraging technology, it is trying to ensure optimum use of defence land through GIS-based land management systems. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CoE-SURVEI + BARC = developed an AI-based ‘Change Detection Software’ to detect encroachments on defence land
- The initiative was established by – DGDE ([New Delhi](#))
- CoE-SURVEI – also developed tools for vacant land analysis and 3D imagery analysis of hill cantonments

22. On July, Virgin Orbit launched 7 satellites in its first night mission. Virgin Orbit’s carrier plane, a modified ‘Boeing 747’ called “Cosmic Girl”, lifted off from the Mojave Air and Space Port in Southern California, US with the company’s Launcher One rocket. It was the 4th consecutive successful launch & the first night launch for Virgin Orbit. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Virgin Orbit – launched 7 satellites in its first night mission using its carrier plane “Cosmic Girl” (a modified ‘Boeing 747’)
- [HQs of Virgin Group – London, UK | CEO – Josh Bayliss](#)
- [HQs of Virgin Orbit – California, USA | President & CEO – Dan Hart | Founder – Richard Branson](#)

Appointments & Resignations

23. On July 4, crop protection firm, Insecticides (India) Ltd roped in Bollywood superstar Ajay Devgn as their brand ambassador. With the support of Devgn, the company intends to spread the message of judicious use of agrochemicals besides communicating about their products and boosting farmer awareness in India to the grassroots level. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ajay Devgn – appointed as Brand Ambassador of a crop protection firm ‘Insecticides (India) Ltd’



24. On July 2, T. Raja Kumar of Singapore has been appointed as the President of Financial Action Task Force (FATF), the anti-money laundering watchdog. Kumar has replaced Marcus Pleyer who was holding the post till now, and will discharge his service for next 2 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- T. Raja Kumar ([Singapore](#)) – appointed as the President of FATF (replacing - Marcus Pleyer)
- [HQs of FATF – Paris, France](#) | [President – T. Raja Kumar](#) | [Member Countries – 39](#)

25. On July 4, Aviva India appointed Asit Rath as Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director, effective from July 11. Asit succeeds Amit Malik. Asit was serving as the CEO of Prudential Myanmar Life Insurance. Aviva Life Insurance Company India Limited is a joint venture between Dabur Invest Corp and Aviva International Holdings Limited, a UK-based insurance group. [{Read more}](#)

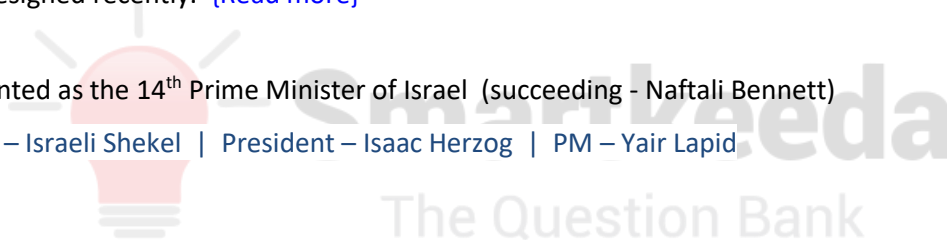
Key Points:

- Asit Rath – appointed as MD & CEO of Aviva Life Insurance (succeeding - Amit Malik)
- Aviva Life Insurance Company India Ltd is a JV between = Dabur Invest Corp + Aviva International Holdings
- [HQs of Aviva Life Insurance – Gurugram, Haryana](#) | [MD & CEO – Asit Rath](#)

26. On July 1, Yair Lapid officially became the 14th Prime Minister of Israel. Lapid’s term could be the short one as he take over the caretaker government ahead of Israel’s election which was scheduled to take place on November 1. Yair Lapid succeeds Naftali Bennett who resigned recently. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Yair Lapid – appointed as the 14th Prime Minister of Israel (succeeding - Naftali Bennett)
- [Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel](#) | [President – Isaac Herzog](#) | [PM – Yair Lapid](#)



Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

27. On July 1, Tamil Nadu’s Virudhunagar has won the first prize in the “National MSME Awards 2022” by the Ministry of Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the category of ‘Awards to the Aspirational Districts’ for its contribution to the promotion and development of the MSME sector. While MSME department of the government of Odisha won the award under ‘States/UTs’ category. Moreover, State Bank of India (SBI) won the Award under the ‘Banks for Outstanding Contribution’ category. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “National MSME Awards 2022” – by the Ministry of MSMEs
 - ‘Awards to the Aspirational Districts’ category – Virudhunagar (Tamil Nadu)
 - ‘Banks for Outstanding Contribution’ category – SBI
 - ‘States/UTs’ category – Odisha
- [Ministry of MSME: Narayan Rane](#) | [Constituency – Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg, Maharashtra](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of MSME: Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma](#)



28. In July 2022, Karnataka's 21-year-old Sini Shetty was crowned 'Miss India World 2022' at the 58th edition of the 'Femina Miss India Beauty Pageant' held at JIO World Convention Center in Mumbai. Following the tradition, Sini was crowned by Miss India 2021 Manasa Varanasi. Rajasthan's Rubal Shekhawat was 1st Runner Up and UP's Shinata Chauhan was 2nd Runner Up. Moreover, in June, Sargam Koushal was the winner of 'Mrs India World 2022', followed by Juhi Vyas as 1st runner-up and Chahat Dalal as 2nd runner-up. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sini Shetty (Karnataka) – crowned "Miss India World 2022" at 58th Femina Miss India beauty pageant
- 1st runner up – Rubal Shekhawat (Rajasthan) | 2nd runner up – Shinata Chauhan (UP)
- Sargam Koushal (J & K) – crowned "Mrs India World 2022" | 1st runner up – Juhi Vyas, 2nd runner up – Chahat Dalal
- Both events were held in – Mumbai

29. Tanuja Nesari, Director of All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) was awarded with the "Ayurveda Ratna Award" by the UK Parliament, recognising her contribution to furthering the growth of Ayurveda in India and abroad. The UK's All-Party Parliamentary Group on Indian Traditional Sciences (ITSappg) conferred the award for her exceptional service of the highest order for the promotion of Ayurveda. The ITSappg was formed in 2014. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tanuja Nesari (Director of AIIA) – awarded with the "Ayurveda Ratna Award" – by ITSappg (UK Parliament)
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson



Schemes & Initiatives

30. On July 1, Kerala government launched "MEDISEP" (Medical Insurance Scheme for State Employees & Pensioners), the cashless health insurance scheme for State government employees and pensioners. The scheme is expected to benefit more than 30 lakh people. It envisages cashless treatment facility to beneficiaries through an insurance company and a network of empanelled hospitals for a basic benefit package of Rs 3 lakh per annum for the policy period of 3 years. The government will pay the entire premium amount annually to Oriental Insurance Company, which is implementing the scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala – launched "MEDISEP" (Medical Insurance Scheme for State Employees & Pensioners)
- Implementing agency for the "MEDISEP" scheme – Oriental Insurance Company
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

31. With effect from July 1, the NTPC declared Commercial Operation of the final part capacity of 20 MW out of 100 MW Ramagundam Floating Solar PV Project (India's largest floating Solar Power Project) at Ramagundam, Telangana. With this, total commercial operation of Floating Solar Capacity in Southern Region rose to 217 MW. The entire floating system is being anchored through special HMPE (High Modulus Polyethylene) rope. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NTPC declared Commercial Operation of the last 20 MW out of 100 MW Ramagundam Floating Solar PV Project
- Ramagundam Floating Solar PV Project (India's largest floating Solar Power Project) – located in Telangana
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh | Founded in – 1975

32. The centrally sponsored “Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme”, which was launched on June 29, 2020 by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) under the ‘Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan’, has completed 2 years. The PMFME Scheme is currently being implemented in 35 States and UTs. An agreement has been signed with the Union Bank of India as the Nodal Bank for the PMFME Scheme and MoUs have been signed with 15 banks as official lending partners for the scheme. 75 Incubation Centers have been approved so far under the scheme. PMFME Scheme envisages financial support of Rs 40,000 for working capital and purchase of small tools for each member of the Self Help Group (SHG) engaged in food processing activities. Over 1 lakh SHG members have been identified and the seed capital amount of Rs 203 Cr has been released so far. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PMFME Scheme completed 2 years in June 2022 (launched on June 29, 2020 by the MoFPI)
- Nodal Bank for the PMFME Scheme – Union Bank of India | 75 Incubation Centers have been approved so far
- PMFME Scheme envisages financial support of Rs 40,000 for working capital & purchase of small tools

Important Days & Dates

33. World UFO Day is celebrated annually on 2 July to make people aware about Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO). The term ‘UFO’ for Unidentified Flying Object was coined by US Air Force officer Edward Ruppelt. In the past, there were two days that were celebrated as World UFO Day - 2 July and 24 June. However, World UFO Day Organization (WUFODO) declared 2 July to be the official World UFO Day in order to avoid any confusion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- July 2 – World Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO) Day

34. International Day of Cooperatives (Coops Day) is marked annually on the first Saturday of July. This year, the day was observed on 2 July. The day spreads awareness about how cooperatives work in harmony for social, cultural, and economic development. This year's Coops Day's slogan is “Cooperatives Build a Better World”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- July 2 (1st Saturday of July) – UN's International Day of Cooperatives (since 1923)
- 2022's Theme – “Cooperatives Build a Better World”
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres

35. World Sports Journalists Day is a global professional observance celebrated every year on July 2 to acknowledge the job of sports journalists. The day encourages those who help in the development of different kinds of games and strengthen sporting culture all around the world. The day was first celebrated in 1994 by the International Sports Press Association (AIPS). The year 2022 marks the 98th anniversary of the AIPS. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- July 2 – “World Sports Journalists Day” (98th anniversary of the AIPS)
- HQs of AIPS – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Gianni Merlo | Established in – 1924



36. Every year on July 3, International Plastic Bag free day is observed to raise awareness around this highly important issue. The day was first observed in 2008. The main goal of the day is to raise awareness of the growing harm that the use of this non-biodegradable substance is causing to the environment. The Day was started by Zero Waste Europe, a Brussels based non-governmental organisation (NGO). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- July 3 – “International Plastic Bag Free Day” (since 2008) – by Zero Waste Europe (Brussels, Belgium)

Books & Authors

37. A book titled “Ganga: Reimagining, Rejuvenating, Reconnecting” is authored by Rajiv Ranjan Mishra and Puskal Upadhyay. The book, published by Rupa Publications, chronicles the long and complex journey so far transcending the challenges & issues faced by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) team during its task. Its efforts aimed to make the river not just clean but also rejuvenated. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Ganga: Reimagining, Rejuvenating, Reconnecting” book – authored by Rajiv Ranjan Mishra & Puskal Upadhyay

Obituaries

38. On July 5, writer & veteran Bengali Film Director, Tarun Majumdar passed away at the age of 92. Majumdar, a four-time National Award winner and Padma Shri (1990) recipient, was born on January 1, 1931, in Bogra (now in Bangladesh). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tarun Majumdar – a Writer & Bengali Film Director – passed away
- Awards: National Award (4 times), Padma Shri (1990)

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

39. Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, released the ‘Assessment Report of States/UTs’ under the 5th “Business Reforms Action Plan (BRAP), 2020” in New Delhi. BRAP 2020 includes 301 reform points that cover 15 business regulatory areas such as Access to Information, Single Window System, Labour, Environment, Sectoral Reforms, etc. Sectoral reforms have been introduced for the first time in BRAP 2020. Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has been releasing since 2014. Top Achievers category in ‘BRAP 2020’ include - Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Punjab and Telangana. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Nirmala Sitharaman – released ‘Assessment Report of States/UTs’ under 5th “Business Reforms Action Plan, 2020”
- ‘BRAP 2020’ includes 301 reform points that cover 15 business regulatory areas
- Top Achievers category in ‘BRAP 2020’ include: AP, Karnataka, Gujarat, TN, Haryana, Punjab & Telangana
- Ministry of Finance: Nirmala Sitharaman | Constituency – Karnataka
- MoS in Ministry of Finance: Pankaj Chowdhary & Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad

40. On July 2, NITI Aayog released “Mitigation and Management of COVID-19”, a compendium of Ayush-based practices from States & UTs, detailing information about various Ayush-based initiatives and practices adopted by the States & UTs in India for containing and managing the COVID-19 outbreak. The compendium was released by Suman Bery, Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog. The practices in the compendium have been disaggregated under 5 sections: (i) Overview and objectives of practices adopted by the States/UTs, (ii) Ayush Human Resource and infrastructure, (iii) Interventions and Initiatives, (iv) Digital Platform and Tele-medicine, (v) Issues occurred or addressed. The compendium has also included a summary of the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India guidelines, and initiatives. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Mitigation and Management of COVID-19” compendium – released by Suman Bery (VC, NITI Aayog)
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Parmameswaran Iyer | Chairperson – Narendra Modi | VC – Suman Bery

41. On July 7, Forbes released the 8th “Annual List of America’s Richest Self-made Women” which included 5 Indian-origin entrepreneurs - Jayshree V. Ullal (President & CEO of Arista Networks) ranked 15th, Neerja Sethi (Co-founder of Syntel) ranked 24th, Neha Narkhede (Co-founder & former CTO of Confluent) ranked 57th, Indra Nooyi (Former PepsiCo CEO) ranked 85th, and Reshma Shetty (Co-founder of Ginkgo Bioworks) ranked 97th. Among Indian-origin entrepreneurs, Jayshree topped with the net worth of around \$1.9 billion. Diane Hendricks (Co-founder & Chairman of ABC Supply) ranked No. 1 with the net worth of \$12.2 billion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 8th “Annual List of America’s Richest Self-made Women” – released by Forbes (No. 1 – Diane Hendricks of the US)
- 5 Indian-origin Entrepreneurs:
 - Jayshree V. Ullal (President & CEO of Arista Networks) ranked 15th
 - Neerja Sethi (Co-founder of Syntel) ranked 24th
 - Neha Narkhede (Co-founder & former CTO of Confluent) ranked 57th
 - Indra Nooyi (Former PepsiCo CEO) ranked 85th
 - Reshma Shetty (Co-founder of Ginkgo Bioworks) ranked 97th

42. On July 2, the RBI released a report on “Benchmarking India’s Payment Systems” which provides a comparative position of the payments ecosystem in India relative to other major countries. The benchmarking exercise undertaken with respect to the position in 2020 revealed that there is a need to enhance the spread of ATMs and point of sale (PoS) terminals. The number of PoS terminals in India increased to 4.59 million in 2020 from 3.08 million in 2017. India’s performance in terms of currency in circulation (CIC) per capita rose to \$288 in 2020 from \$218 in 2017. Out of the 40 indicators used in the exercise, India was categorised as a ‘leader’ or ‘strong’ in respect of 25, up from 21 in the previous round of the exercise, and ‘weak’ in respect of 8 indicators, down from 12 earlier. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Benchmarking India’s Payment Systems” report – released by RBI
- The number of PoS terminals in India increased to – 4.59 million in 2020 (from 3.08 million in 2017)
- India’s performance in terms of currency in circulation (CIC) per capita rose to – \$288 in 2020 (from \$218 in 2017)
- Out of the 40 indicators: India – categorised as a ‘leader’ or ‘strong’ in respect of 25 & ‘weak’ in respect of 8 indicators
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

Amount & Agreements

43. On July 1, National Capital Region Transport Corporation or NCRTC signed an agreement with Deutsche Bank India to operate and maintain the 82-km long Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) corridor for 12 years. NCRTC is a joint venture company of the Centre and states of Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh under the administrative control of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. Deutsche Bahn Engineering and Consultancy India (DB India) is a subsidiary of Deutsche Bahn AG, National Railway Company of Germany. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NCRTC + DB India = an agreement to operate the 82-km long Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut ‘RRTS’ corridor for 12 years
- HQs of NCRTC – New Delhi | MD – Vinay Kumar Singh
- HQs of Deutsche Bank – Frankfurt, Germany | CEO – Christian Sewing | President – Karl von Rohr
- HQs of Deutsche Bank AG, India – Mumbai, Maharashtra

44. On July 1, Department of Telecommunications (USOF), under Ministry of Communications signed an agreement with Indian Telephone Industries (ITI) Limited and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to fund the pilot projects under Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF). The USOF is funding 4 pilot projects each of around Rs 10 Crore. The DoT, BSNL & ITI Limited will fund the pilot projects of E-band, Long-Term Evolution (LTE) indigenous technologies, including the integration of 4G and 5G prototypes with the C-DoT Core. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DoT + ITI Limited + BSNL = an agreement to fund the pilot projects under ‘Universal Service Obligation Fund’
- The USOF is funding 4 pilot projects each of around Rs 10 Crore: E-band, Long Term Evolution, 4G, 5G
- HQs of C-DoT – New Delhi | Executive Director – Rajkumar Upadhyay
- HQs of BSNL – New Delhi | CMD – Pravin Kumar Purwar



Ordinance, Bills & Acts

45. On July 2, the Union Home Ministry made 7 key amendments to existing rules of the “Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA) Rules, 2011” and renamed as “Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Rules, 2022”. The amendment aims at prohibiting acceptance and utilization of foreign contribution or foreign hospitality for any activities detrimental to the national interest. The amendments include allowing Indians to receive up to ₹10 lakh in a year from relatives staying abroad without informing the authorities. The earlier limit was ₹1 lakh. If the amount exceeds, the individuals will now have 90 days to inform the government, instead of 30 days earlier. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Home Ministry – made 7 key amendments to the existing “FCRA Rules, 2011” & renamed as “FCRA Rules, 2022”
- Indians can now receive up to ₹10 lakh in a year from relatives staying abroad, without informing the authorities
- If the amount exceeds, the individuals will now have 90 days to inform the authorities
- [Ministry of Home Affairs: Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Home Affairs: Nityanand Rai, Ajay Kumar & Nisith Pramanik](#)

Acquisitions & Mergers

46. On July 4, Ministry of Finance announced that the strategic disinvestment transaction for Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited (NINL) has been completed, with the transfer of 93.71% shares of the joint venture partners to Tata Steel Long Products Limited. The Enterprise Value (EV) paid by the Tata Steel is Rs 12,100 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Strategic disinvestment transaction for “Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd” is completed after the transfer of 93.71% shares to “Tata Steel Long Products Ltd” – for Rs 12,100 Cr
- [HQs of Tata Steel Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – T. V. Narendran](#)

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

47. On July 1, the Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE), Guwahati, signed an MoU with the Incubation & Enterprise Support Centre (IESC) of IIM Shillong, to boost the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem in the North Eastern Region (NER). The institutes will together conduct certified courses on entrepreneurship development and also train startups and incubates under the Incubation and Enterprise Support Centre, IIM Shillong. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIE, Guwahati + IESC (IIM Shillong) = an MoU to boost the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem in the NER



48. On July 2, NTPC Renewable Energy (NTPC REL), a subsidiary of NTPC, signed an MoU with the government of Rajasthan for the development of 10 GW Ultra Mega Renewable Energy Power Park in the State. This is part of the NTPC Group's target of 60 GW renewable energy (RE) capacity by 2032. Additionally, NTPC REL is developing one UMREPP of 4.75 GW capacity in Rann of Kutch, Gujarat. NTPC's total installed capacity is 69,134.20 MW with 23 coal-based, 7 gas-based, 1 hydro, and 19 renewable energy projects. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NTPC REL + Rajasthan = an MoU for development of 10 GW Ultra Mega Renewable Energy Power Park in the State
- This is part of the NTPC Group's target of 60 GW RE capacity by 2032
- Now, NTPC's total installed capacity is 69,134.20 MW
- [Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra](#)

49. On July 4, at the "Tamil Nadu Investors' First Port of Call - Investment Conclave" in Chennai, the Tamil Nadu Government signed 60 MoUs to bring in a cumulative investment worth Rs 1.25 lakh Cr and offer 74,898 jobs. The firms include Lucas TVS, ACME Green Hydrogen and Tata Power. Moreover, Chief Minister MK Stalin launched the 'Tamil Nadu Life Sciences Promotion Policy 2022' and 'Tamil Nadu R&D Policy 2022'. He also launched the 'TECXPRIENCE' program to encourage FinTech adoption in the State. He also inaugurated TN PitchFest, organised by Guidance and StartUp TN. Besides, organisational MoUs were exchanged for 11 projects, including VakilSearch and Capital FinTech. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Tamil Nadu Investors' First Port of Call - Investment Conclave" – held in Chennai
- Tamil Nadu – signed 60 MoUs to bring in a cumulative investment worth Rs 1.25 lakh Cr & offer 74,898 jobs
- Moreover, TN CM MK Stalin launched:
 - Tamil Nadu Life Sciences Promotion Policy 2022 & Tamil Nadu R&D Policy 2022
 - 'TECXPRIENCE' program to encourage FinTech adoption
 - TN PitchFest (organised by Guidance & StartUp TN)
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi](#)

50. On July 1, Airports Authority of India (AAI) signed an Operation & Management agreement for operationalization of 5 airports owned by the Government of Uttar Pradesh for a period of 30 years. These 5 airports are Aligarh, Azamgarh, Chitrakoot, Muirpur & Shravasti. This is the first time AAI is entering into an O&M Agreement with the State Government for Operationalization of State Government owned airports. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AAI – signed an Operation & Management agreement for operationalization of 5 airports owned UP Govt for 30 years
- 5 airports: Aligarh, Azamgarh, Chitrakoot, Muirpur & Shravasti
- [UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel](#)
- [HQs of AAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Sanjeev Kumar](#)





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