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INDEX

National & States Affairs	5
Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs	8
Defence Affairs	10
Sports & Games	10
Science & Technology	11
Appointments & Resignations	13
Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes	14
Important Days & Dates	15
Obituaries	16
Meeting, Conferences & Summits	16
Ranks, Reports & Surveys	17
MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships	18



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National & States Affairs

201. On July 12, Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University (DSEU) partnered with YuWaah (Generation Unlimited India) at UNICEF with an aim to expand access to employment opportunities for students. DSEU and UNICEF have introduced “Career Awareness Sessions” for students at DSEU to make them more aware of the existing job portals. Moreover, “YuWaah Step Up - Bano Job Ready”, a 6-month pilot program is being conducted by Flywheel Digital Solutions with DSEU students and other job seekers in Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DSEU + YuWaah (UNICEF) = introduced “Career Awareness Sessions” for DSEU students to make them more aware of the existing job portals
- Flywheel Digital Solutions – is conducting a 6-month program “YuWaah Step Up - Bano Job Ready” with DSEU students
- Chancellor of DSEU – Vinai Kumar Saxena
- HQs of UNICEF – New York, US | Executive Director – Catherine Russell | Established in – 1946

202. On July 12, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari announced that the 29-km long 16-lane Dwarka Expressway, also known as the Northern Peripheral Road, will be opened for public use in 2023. Dwarka Expressway, once completed, will become the first Elevated Urban Expressway in India. It is aimed to reduce traffic on Delhi-Gurugram Expressway. It is being developed at a cost of Rs 9,000 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nitin Gadkari announced: 29-km long 16-lane Dwarka Expressway will be opened for public use in 2023
- Dwarka Expressway (Northern Peripheral Road) – to become 1st Elevated Urban Expressway in India (Cost - Rs 9000 Cr)
- Ministry of Road Transport & Highways: Nitin Gadkari | Constituency – Nagpur, Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Road Transport & Highways: V. K. Singh

203. In July 2022, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stones of multiple projects worth over Rs 1,800 Cr at an event at Dr. Sampurnanand Sports Stadium, Sigra, Varanasi. During the programme, the PM inaugurated projects worth over Rs 590 Cr which include multiple initiatives under Varanasi Smart City and Urban Projects. He also laid the foundation stone for multiple Road Infrastructure Projects worth more than Rs 1200 Cr. Besides, he inaugurated a Synthetic Athletic Track and Synthetic Basketball Court in Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar Sports Complex, Bada Lalpur in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Modi – inaugurated & laid the foundation stones of multiple projects worth over Rs 1,800 Cr – in Varanasi, UP
- Dr. Sampurnanand Sports Stadium – located in Sigra, Varanasi, UP
- PM Modi – inaugurated a Synthetic Athletic Track & Synthetic Basketball Court – in Varanasi, UP
- Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar Sports Complex – located in Bada Lalpur, Varanasi, UP
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

204. In line with the vision of Prime Minister towards making Ladakh a Carbon-neutral region, Leh airport is being built as India’s first Carbon Neutral Airport by Airports Authority of India (AAI). A “Geothermal system” in hybridization with Solar PV Plant will be provided in the new airport Terminal Building for heating and cooling purposes. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Leh Airport – is being built as India’s first Carbon Neutral Airport by AAI
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur
- HQs of AAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Sanjeev Kumar

205. In July 2022, Valavanur Police Station in Tamil Nadu’s Villupuram obtained ISO Certificate from Quest Certification Private Limited for regulating station records and processes, maintaining a public-friendly environment, taking immediate steps to resolve their complaints, and for keeping the station premises clean. The station had also received the “Workplace Assessment for Safety and Hygiene (WASH) Award” from Quality Council of India (QCI) for ensuring safety and hygiene in the workplace.

[{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Valavanur Police Station (Villupuram, Tamil Nadu) – received ‘ISO Certificate’ from Quest Certification Pvt Ltd
- Valavanur Police Station – had also received the “WASH Award” from Quality Council of India (QCI)
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

206. On July 13, the government nominated 29 non-official members from large and small enterprises and different sectors in the Board of Trade, chaired by the Commerce & Industry Minister, Piyush Goyal. The board provides a platform to discuss ways on boosting manufacturing and exports. In 2019, the government had merged the Council of Trade Development and Promotion with the Board of Trade to bring greater coherence in the consultation process with all stakeholders for promoting exports and imports. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 29 non-official members were selected from large & small enterprises and different sectors in the Board of Trade
- Board of Trade – chaired by the Commerce & Industry Minister (Piyush Goyal at present)

207. On July 11, Raja, the oldest Royal Bengal Tiger in captivity in West Bengal died in Jaldapara forest of Alipurduar district. Raja died at the age 25 years and 10 months, the oldest for any Royal Bengal Tiger in the state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘Raja’, the oldest Royal Bengal Tiger in captivity in West Bengal – died in Jaldapara forest of Alipurduar district
- It lived for 25 years & 10 months
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

208. On July 12, Ola Electric, the ride-hailing firm’s electric vehicle arm, unveiled India’s first indigenously developed lithium-ion cell, “NMC 2170”. Nickel Cylindrical Ola Cell uses NMC (Nickel Manganese Cobalt) on the cathode side, and Graphite and Silicon on the anode side. Ola will begin the mass production of its cell at its upcoming Gigafactory in Chennai by 2023. India has recently allocated Ola a 20GWh capacity under the ‘ACC PLI’ scheme for developing advanced cells in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ola Electric – unveiled India’s first indigenously developed lithium-ion cell, “NMC 2170”
- Ola will begin the mass production of its cell at its upcoming Gigafactory in Chennai by 2023
- India – recently allocated Ola a 20GWh capacity under the ‘ACC PLI’ scheme for developing advanced cells



209. In July 2022, Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilisers Mansukh L. Mandaviya announced that India will be self-sufficient in urea production (both conventional urea & nano liquid urea) by 2025-end and there will be no import dependence. At present, India's urea (conventional) production is 260 lakh tonnes, while around 90 lakh tonnes are imported to meet local demand. At present, the capacity of Nano urea is 5 Crore bottles per year. Co-operative major IFFCO has introduced innovative Nano liquid urea in the market. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India will be self-sufficient in urea production by 2025-end
- At present, India's urea (conventional) production – 260 lakh tonnes
- IFFCO has introduced innovative Nano liquid urea in the market
- [HQs of IFFCO – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman – Dileep Sanghani](#)

210. On July 11, Union Minister of State, Electronics and Information Technology, Rajeev Chandrasekhar inaugurated two new Internet Exchange Points (IXP) of NIXI at Durgapur and Bardhaman in West Bengal. Internet Exchanges in states are expected to contribute to the enhancement and improvement of internet and broadband services in West Bengal and neighbouring regions. The launch of these internet exchanges is under PM Narendra Modi's "Digital India" vision to connect every Indian with open, safe & trusted and accountable internet and Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology's vision "1000 Days". NIXI, a not-for-profit organization, was set up for peering of ISPs among themselves for the purpose of routing the domestic traffic within the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajeev Chandrasekhar – inaugurated two new IXP of NIXI at Durgapur & Bardhaman in West Bengal
- The Exchanges are launched under Narendra Modi's "Digital India" vision & Meity's "1000 Days" vision
- [West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata](#) | [CM – Mamta Banerjee](#) | [Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar](#)

211. On July 12, in a historic move to further boost the growth of agriculture and horticulture sector, the agriculture department of Jammu & Kashmir, Sikkim government and Sikkim University signed a tripartite agreement for collaboration on training, technology, capacity building and extension activities for saffron and other temperate crops. The historic collaboration will strengthen "Ek Bharat, Shrestha Bharat" initiative of PM Narendra Modi. Sikkim being the first organic state in India has the expertise on organic production technologies and certification. So the collaboration will immensely help J&K to provide solutions and policy prescription for the organic farmers in the UT. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- J&K + Sikkim = an agreement to boost cultivation of saffron & other crops in the UT
- Sikkim – the first organic state in India
- [J & K: Capital – Srinagar](#) | [Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha](#)
- [Sikkim: Capital – Gangtok](#) | [CM – Prem Singh Tamang](#) | [Governor – Ganga Prasad](#)

212. On July 11, PM Narendra Modi unveiled a 6.5 metre-tall National Emblem on top of the under-construction new Parliament building. The emblem, made of bronze, weighs 9,500 kg. The emblem was created by Sunil Deore from Aurangabad and Laxman Vyas from Jaipur. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – unveiled a 6.5 metre-tall National Emblem on top of the under-construction new Parliament building
- The emblem was created by = Sunil Deore ([Aurangabad](#)) + Laxman Vyas ([Jaipur](#))
- The emblem is made of Bronze & weighs 9,500 kg



213. In July 2022, National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) in partnership with Investment New South Wales (NSW), Australia, organised a series of tailor-made Roadshows for Indian technology companies to highlight business and investment opportunities that exist in Australia. The roadshows in 6 cities, that started from New Delhi, aimed to raise awareness on how to successfully establish and grow one's business while engaging with key stakeholders and leveraging the local eco-system. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NASSCOM + NSW (Australia) = organised Roadshows for Indian technology companies to highlight business & investment opportunities that exist in Australia
- The Roadshows started from New Delhi & was organised in total 6 cities
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Anthony Albanese

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

214. On July 11, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) set up two Task Forces to suggest steps to sort out issues between life/non-life insurers and re-insurers. A 9-member panel, headed by Bhargav Dasgupta (MD & CEO of ICICI Lombard General), has been set up to sort out the issues between non-life insurers and re-insurers. While a 7-member panel, headed by Naveen Tahilyani (MD & CEO of Tata AIA Life Insurance), will look at the life insurance segment and re-insurers. The task forces were asked to file their reports within three weeks. The decision by the IRDAI follows a meeting called "Bima Manthan" held in Hyderabad with representatives of life and non-life insurers and reinsurers. Moreover, Tata AIA Life Insurance collaborated with City Union Bank (CUB) to provide life and health insurance products. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IRDAI – set up two Task Forces to suggest steps to sort out issues between life/non-life insurers and re-insurers
- 9-member panel to sort out issues between non-life insurers & re-insurers – headed by Bhargav Dasgupta
- 7-member panel to sort out issues between life insurers & re-insurers – headed by Naveen Tahilyani
- IRDAI – held "Bima Manthan" meeting in Hyderabad
- Tata AIA Life Insurance + City Union Bank = collaboration to provide life & health insurance products
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Debasish Panda

215. On July 11, the RBI announced that all eligible current account transactions including trade transactions with Sri Lanka may be settled in any permitted currency outside the Asian Clearing Union (ACU) mechanism with immediate effect. Central banks and monetary authorities of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka are currently members of the ACU. Asian Monetary Unit (AMU) is the common unit of account of ACU and is denominated as 'ACU dollar', 'ACU euro' and 'ACU yen', which is equivalent in value to one US dollar, one euro and one Japanese yen respectively. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI: All eligible 'Current Account' transactions may be settled in any permitted currency outside the ACU mechanism
- ACU members: 9 – Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao



216. On July 11, SBICAP Ventures Limited (SVL), a wholly owned subsidiary of SBI Capital Markets Limited, signed an MoU with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) to establish the “Trilateral Development Cooperation Fund (TDC Fund)” for joint projects with global partners. The TDC Fund will route India’s commitment of approx Rs 175 Cr (£17.5 million) to the Global Innovation Development Fund (GIP Fund). The GIP Fund is proposed to be established in partnership with the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) under the “India-UK Global Innovation Partnership (GIP)”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBICAP Ventures + MEA = an MoU to establish ‘Trilateral Development Cooperation Fund (TDC Fund)’
- HQs of SBICAP Ventures – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Suresh Kozhikote
- Ministry of External Affairs: S. Jaishankar | Constituency – Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of External Affairs: Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, V. Muraleedharan & Meenakashi Lekhi

217. On July 11, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has put in place a mechanism to facilitate International Trade in Rupees (INR), with immediate effect. However, banks acting as authorised dealers for such transactions would have to take prior approval from the regulator to facilitate this. The RBI’s move to set up International Trade Settlement mechanism in INR would facilitate trade with countries under sanction like Iran and Russia. Banks in India had been permitted to open Rupee Vostro Accounts, which keep the foreign entity’s holdings in the Indian bank, in Indian rupees. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – has put in place a mechanism to facilitate ‘International Trade in Rupees (INR)’
- This move would facilitate trade with countries under sanction like Iran & Russia
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

218. Demand for credit is expected to see marginal to considerable improvement in the next 3 months, according to majority of the respondents in the latest “Systemic Risk Survey (SRS)” conducted by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The SRS was conducted among 48 respondents in May and presented in the Financial Stability Report (FSR), which was released on June 30. Around 38% of the respondents expected ‘marginal deterioration’ in asset quality of the Banking Sector over the next 3 months. Among the 48 respondents, 40% felt that the asset quality will remain unchanged over the next 3 months while 20% expected marginal improvement. The remaining respondents expected asset quality to improve considerably. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Systemic Risk Survey (SRS)” – conducted by the Reserve Bank of India
- 38% of respondents expected ‘marginal deterioration’ in asset quality of the Banking Sector over the next 3 months
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established on – 1st April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

219. On July 12, the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) unveiled a mutual fund (MF) distributor recruitment campaign, “Karein Shuru?” (Can we start?). The comprehensive campaign includes commercial films to reinforce the need and attractiveness of MF distribution as a career option with long-term earning potential for individuals with entrepreneurial aspirations. To begin their journey as a MF distributor, one needs to appear and clear the ‘NISM – Series V-A: Mutual Fund Distribution Exam, Obtain ARN & EUIN from AMFI and approach individual AMCs for empanelment. The MF industry has the potential to cross Rs 100 lakh Cr in Assets Under Management (AUM) by 2030, but the reach of intermediaries is limited with only about 1.25 lakh MF distributors. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- AMFI – unveiled a Mutual Fund distributor recruitment campaign, “Karein Shuru?”
- MF industry has the potential to cross Rs 100 lakh Cr in Assets Under Management (AUM) – by 2030
- HQs of AMFI – Mumbai | Chairman – A. Balasubramanian | CEO – N. S. Venkatesh | Incorporated in – 1995

220. On July 12, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved the appointment of former RBI executive Meena Hemchandra as Part-time (Non-executive Independent) Chairman of the Karur Vysya Bank for 3 years. Hemchandra was the Executive Director of RBI from June 2015 to November 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Meena Hemchandra – appointed as Part-time (Non-executive Independent) Chairman of Karur Vysya Bank
- HQs of KVB – Karur, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – B. Ramesh Babu

Defence Affairs

221. In July 2022, the Chinese People’s Liberation Army (PLA) Navy and the Pakistan Navy kicked off the 2nd edition of “Sea Guardians-2” exercise off the Shanghai coast by deploying their new high-tech naval ships and fighter jets to jointly deal with maritime security threats. Besides building its first military base in Djibouti in the Horn of Africa in the Indian Ocean, China has acquired Pakistan’s Gwadar port in the Arabian Sea. China is also developing Sri Lanka’s Hambantota port after it acquired it on 99 years lease. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 2nd edition of “Sea Guardians-2” exercise – conducted between China & Pakistan off the Shanghai coast
- Additional info:
 - China is building its first military base in Djibouti in the Horn of Africa in the Indian Ocean
 - China has acquired Pakistan’s Gwadar port in the Arabian Sea
 - China is also developing Sri Lanka’s Hambantota port
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

Sports & Games

222. On July 8, Young Indian Grandmaster D. Gukesh won the “Gijon Chess Masters 2022” title at Gijon, Spain. Gukesh drew with Cuban GM Martinez Duany in his final round match. With this tournament win, Gukesh has now moved up to 2693 in the live rating scale. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- D. Gukesh – won the “Gijon Chess Masters 2022” title at Gijon, Spain (beating - Martinez Duany)

223. On July 12, the NMDC Ltd (National Mineral Development Corporation) and Hyderabad Runners Society along with IDFC First Bank and Government of Telangana unveiled the logo & race T-shirt for the 11th edition of the “NMDC Hyderabad Marathon 2022”. The national mining major, NMDC has taken up the Title Sponsorship of the Hyderabad Marathon to be held on August 27-28, 2022. World Champion Boxer, Nikhat Zareen is the Face of ‘NMDC Hyderabad Marathon 2022’. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- NMDC Ltd + Hyderabad Runners Society + IDFC First Bank + Telangana Govt = launched unveiled the logo & race T-shirt for the 11th edition of the “NMDC Hyderabad Marathon 2022”
- Nikhat Zareen – is the Face of ‘NMDC Hyderabad Marathon 2022’
- HQs of NMDC – Hyderabad, Telangana | CMD – Sumit Deb | Founded on – November 15, 1958
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

224. On July 12, Indian wrestlers concluded with total 22 medals (4 Gold, 9 Silver & 9 Bronze) at the “U20 Asian Wrestling Championships” in Manama, Bahrain. Three female wrestlers - Priyanka, Aarju and Antim won Gold, while Sujeet secured the lone Gold in the men’s event. In both the men’s and women’s wrestling, the Indian team finished at 2nd spot while they finished 5th in the men’s Greco-Roman event. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian wrestlers – won 22 medals (4 Gold, 9 Silver & 9 Bronze) at “U20 Asian Wrestling Championships” in Bahrain
- Gold medalists: Priyanka, Aarju, Antim & Sujeet
- In both men’s & women’s events: 2nd rank | In Men’s Greco-Roman event: 5th rank

Science & Technology

225. On July 7, Scientists of Switzerland-based European Council for Nuclear Research (CERN) discovered three new ‘exotic’ sub-atomic particles, a new kind of “Pentaquark” and the first-ever pair of “Tetraquarks” with the help of Large Hadron Collider (LHC) for the first time. Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucleaire (CERN) is the original name of the European Organisation for Nuclear Research. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Scientists of CERN discovered 3 new ‘exotic’ sub-atomic particles by using ‘Large Hadron Collider (LHC)’ for the first time
- It’s a new kind of “Pentaquark” & the first-ever pair of “Tetraquarks”
- HQs of CERN – Meyrin, Switzerland

226. On July 7, Astrome Technologies developed the world’s first multi-link E-Band Radio, “GigaMesh”. The startup is supported by AI & Robotics Technology Park (ARTPARK), the technology innovation hub at the IISc, Bengaluru. GigaMesh wirelessly provides fibre-like backhaul capacity and paves the way for 5G. Besides this, AI researchers at ARTPARK, in collaboration with Niramai Health Analytix and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), also developed “XraySetu”, a platform that can interpret chest X-rays with 98.86 % sensitivity toward COVID-19 within few seconds. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Astrome Technologies (Bengaluru) – developed the world’s first multi-link E-Band Radio - “GigaMesh”
- GigaMesh wirelessly provides fibre-like backhaul capacity & paves the way for 5G
- Astrome Technologies – supported by ARTPARK (IISc, Bengaluru)
- ARTPARK + Niramai Health Analytix + IISc = developed “XraySetu” platform



227. On July 11, the NASA successfully tested a new waste disposal technology aboard the International Space Station (ISS) developed by Texas-based space technology company Nanoracks. The test demonstrated a more efficient and sustainable model of removing waste from the ISS and could turn out to be a critical new utility function for all future space stations. The new concept developed by Nanoracks uses a specially designed waste container which is mounted in the Bishop Airlock. Crew members can fill it up with around 270 kilograms of waste. After this, the container is released, and just like the Cygnus method, it completely burns up during re-entry into Earth's atmosphere. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NASA – tested a new waste disposal technology aboard the ISS | Developed by – Nanoracks (Texas, US)
- A specially designed waste container is used in which around 270 kg of waste can be filled
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., US | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded in – 1958

228. In July 2022, Researchers at Kew Gardens in London, UK, have discovered a new & third species of the giant Water Lily called "Victoria boliviana". Two previously known species are Victoria amazonica and Victoria cruziana. The overall genus Victoria was originally named after the UK's Queen Victoria in 1852, and boliviana comes from the fact that it originated from Bolivia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Researchers at UK – discovered a new & third species of the giant Water Lily called "Victoria boliviana"
- Two previously known species are – Victoria amazonica & Victoria cruziana
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

229. On July 11, Union Minister for State (MoS) in the Department of Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated the "ISRO System for Safe & Sustainable Operation" (IS4OM) at ISRO Control Centre, Bengaluru. IS4OM facility will aid India in achieving its SSA (Space Situational Awareness) goals by providing a comprehensive and timely information of the Space environment to users. Around 60 Startups have registered with ISRO since unlocking of the Indian Space sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Jitendra Singh – inaugurated the "ISRO System for Safe & Sustainable Operation" in Bengaluru
- IS4OM facility will aid India in achieving its SSA (Space Situational Awareness) Goals
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969

230. On July 7, researchers in the US have developed a novel strategy in Oncolytic Virotherapy (OV) to improve a cancer therapy. Oncolytic viruses can kill cancer cells while leaving nearby healthy cells and tissues intact. In oncolytic virotherapy, the treatment also exerts its influence by activating an antitumor immune response made of immune cells such as natural killer (NK) cells. This approach consists of a new oncolytic virus called "FusOn-H2", based on the Herpes simplex 2 virus, (HSV-2), commonly known as Genital Herpes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Researchers from US – developed a novel strategy in Oncolytic Virotherapy (OV) to improve Cancer therapy
- This approach consists of a new oncolytic virus called "FusOn-H2" based on HSV-2 virus (also known as 'Genital Herpes')
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris



231. On July 8, Nokia partnered with Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru to set-up “Nokia Center of Excellence in Networked Robotics” in Bengaluru. The Center of Excellence (CoE) will promote inter-disciplinary research involving robotics and advanced communication technologies in 5G and Artificial Intelligence (AI). Nokia will fund the CoE for 3 consecutive years in order to sustain the first phase of the partnership. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nokia + IISc, Bengaluru = partnered to set-up “Nokia Center of Excellence in Networked Robotics” in Bengaluru
- Nokia will fund the CoE for 3 consecutive years
- [HQs of Nokia – Espoo, Finland](#) | [CEO – Pekka Lundmark](#)

Appointments & Resignations

232. On July 8, the governing council of the Rome-based International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) appointed Spain’s Alvaro Lario, its top finance executive, as its new President. Lario, who would become IFAD 7th president, will lead the UN agency at a crucial time when global food prices are surging, induced by the Ukraine war, climate change, and the pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Alvaro Lario ([Spain](#)) – appointed as President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- [HQs of IFAD – Rome, Italy](#) | [Presidents – Gilbert F. Hounbo](#)

233. On July 11, the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) panel appointed Brajesh Kumar Upadhyay as the Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL). Upadhyay was serving as Director (operations) at GSL when he was recommended for the post. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Brajesh Kumar Upadhyay – appointed as the CMD of Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL)
- [HQs of Goa Shipyard – Vasco da Gama, Goa](#) | [CMD – Brajesh Kumar Upadhyay](#)

234. On July 7, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced his resignation after he was abandoned by ministers and most of his Conservative lawmakers. He was elected as UK’s PM in 2019. He also stepped down as Conservative Party leader. Boris would serve as the PM until a new PM is elected. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UK’s Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced his resignation (serving since 2019)
- [UK – London – Pound Sterling](#)

235. On July 8, Rajendra Prasad assumed the charge of Managing Director of National High-Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL). Shri Prasad is working as Director of Project with NHSRCL since November 2017 and is overall in charge of civil engineering works of the Mumbai Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail Project, popularly known as the Bullet Train Project. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajendra Prasad – assumed the charge of MD of National High-Speed Rail Corp Ltd (NHSRCL)
- He is overall in charge of civil engineering works of ‘Bullet Train Project’
- [HQs of NHSRCL – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman – V. K. Tripathi](#) | [MD – Rajendra Prasad](#)



236. On July 12, the government gave Madhulika Bhaskar, General Manager of New India Assurance (NIA), the additional power of the Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of the NIA for a period of 3 months or till a regular appointment to the post is done. Madhulika succeeds Atul Sahai whose tenure ended in February 2022. Currently, the government cannot make a regular appointment to the post of CMD of any PSU general insurance company as the 'Inderjeet Singh vs Indian Government' case is pending in the Delhi High Court, challenging the power of Banks Board Bureau (BBB) to select any CMD. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madhulika Bhaskar (General Manager of NIA) – given the additional power of the CMD of New India Assurance

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

237. On July 11, the Japanese government posthumously awarded former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe with the “Supreme Order of the Chrysanthemum”, Japan’s highest award. The longest-serving PM of Japan is the fourth former PM to receive the decoration under the postwar Constitution. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shinzo Abe – posthumously awarded the “Supreme Order of the Chrysanthemum”, Japan’s highest award
- Shinzo Abe is the 4th PM of Japan to receive this honour
- [Japan – Tokyo – Yen](#) | [PM – Fumio Kishida](#)

238. On July 8, Japan has conferred the “Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star” on Narayanan Kumar, Vice Chairman of Sanmar Group and former President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), in recognition of his contribution to strengthen economic relations between Japan and India. At an event held in Chennai, Kumar was honoured by Consul General of Japan in Chennai, Taga Masayuki. Kumar also heads Indo-Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry and was among the ‘Spring 2022 Imperial Decorations recipients’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Japan – conferred the “Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star” – on Narayanan Kumar
- Narayanan Kumar – Vice Chairman of Sanmar Group & former President of CII
- He was also among the ‘Spring 2022 Imperial Decorations recipients’
- [Japan – Tokyo – Yen](#) | [PM – Fumio Kishida](#)

239. HCL Technologies (HCL), a leading global IT company, has won “2022 Microsoft Partner of the Year Award for Healthcare and Life Sciences (global winner)” and the “2022 UK Microsoft Partner of the Year Award (country winner)”. HCL Technologies was also named a finalist in the “2022 Microsoft Partner of the Year Award for Internet of Things (domain finalist)”. The company was accorded the honors for demonstrating excellence in innovation and implementing customer solutions based on Microsoft technology. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HCL Technologies – won the “2022 Microsoft Partner of the Year Award for Healthcare & Life Sciences (global winner)”
- HCL Technologies – won the “2022 UK Microsoft Partner of the Year Award (country winner)”
- HCL Tech – also named a finalist in “2022 Microsoft Partner of the Year Award for Internet of Things (domain finalist)”
- [HQs of HCL Technologies – Noida, UP](#) | [MD & CEO – C. Vijayakumar](#) | [Chairperson – Roshni Nadar Malhotra](#)



240. On July 9, India's Pallavi Singh has won the "Mrs. Universe Divine" title at the finals held at Yeosu City, South Korea. Mrs Pallavi Singh hails from Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh. Pallavi Singh won the title of 'Mrs. India' held in Jaipur in 2020. She then won the title of 'Mrs. Indo-Asia Universe' in the Asia-level competition held in Delhi in October 2021. [{Read more}](#)

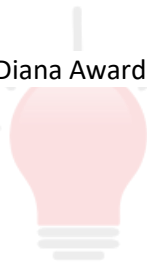
Key Points:

- Pallavi Singh ([Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh](#)) – won the "Mrs. Universe Divine" title at Yeosu City, South Korea
- She is also winner of 'Mrs. India' title (2020) & 'Mrs. Indo-Asia Universe' title (2021)

241. In July 2022, 16-year-old girl from Bengaluru, Shloka Ashok, was given "Diana Award" in recognition of her social action and humanitarian efforts. Shloka won the Diana Award for founding 'InternMee', a platform that provides internship, volunteering and leadership opportunities to high schoolers free of charge. Launched in December 2020, 'InternMee' has helped over 35,000 students from over 85 countries and was featured in the top 10 internship search websites by a survey. Instituted in 1999 in memory of Diana, Princess of Wales, the award is given by the charitable trust of the same name. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shloka Ashok ([Bengaluru](#)) – received the "Diana Award" in recognition of her social action & humanitarian efforts
- She received the award for founding 'InternMee' platform for high schoolers
- Additional info. about 'Diana Award':
 - Awarded for: 'Young people who work to improve the lives of others'
 - Location: London
 - Presented by: The Diana Award charity
 - Instituted in: 1999



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Important Days & Dates

242. Every year, World Paper Bag Day is observed on July 12 to raise awareness of the importance of using paper bags instead of plastic bags. The usage of plastic bags is a global concern that not only harms the environment but also is a threat to human health. In 2022, the theme is "If You're Fantastic, Do Something Dramatic To Cut the Plastic, Use Paper Bags". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- July 12 – World Paper Bag Day
- 2022's Theme – "If You're Fantastic, Do Something Dramatic To Cut the Plastic, Use Paper Bags"

243. The "International Malala Day" or "Malala Day" is celebrated on 12 July on the occasion of young activist Malala Yousafzai's birthday. The day is used as an opportunity to appeal to the world leaders to ensure compulsory and free education for every child. In 2012, she was attacked by the Taliban. At the age of 17 years, Yousufzai was the youngest recipient of the 'Nobel Peace Prize' in 2014 and she is the second Pakistani to receive a Nobel Prize. In 2015, an asteroid was named in honour of Yousufzai. She was designated as a United Nations Messenger of Peace in 2017 by the Secretary-General António Guterres. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- July 12 – "International Malala Day" – by UN (birthday of Pakistani activist for female education - Malala Yousafzai)
- Yousufzai (at 17) was the youngest recipient of the 'Nobel Prize' in 2014 & Pakistani to receive a Nobel Prize





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Obituaries

244. On July 13, Padma Shri awardee & Social Activist, Avdhash Kaushal passed away at the age of 87. He also fought for the rights of Van Gujjars and is known for his works to improve the lives of tribal hill communities in the Jaunsar-Bawar region, a predominantly tribal belt of Dehradun. In 1986, the Government of India conferred the Padma Shri, the fourth-highest civilian award. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Avdhash Kaushal – a Social Activist – passed away (Padma Shri in 1986)

245. On July 11, Eminent archaeologist, historian and former Director-General of the Bangladesh National Museum, Dr. Enamul Haque passed away in Dhaka. He was 85. Dr. Enamul Haque was conferred with Padma Shri in the field of Archeology in 2020 for his work on Bengal's Iconography and terracotta art. During his illustrious career, he was awarded with the Ekushey Padak in 2016 and the highest civilian award of Bangladesh Swadhinta Padak in 2020. He was a scholar, museologist, cultural activist, freedom fighter, songwriter and TV personality. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Enamul Haque (Bangladesh) – an eminent Archaeologist & former DG of Bangladesh National Museum – passed away
- He was a Historian, Scholar, Museologist, Cultural Activist, Freedom Fighter, Songwriter & TV Personality
- Awards: Padma Shri (2020), Ekushey Padak in (2016), Swadhinta Padak (2020)

Meetings, Conferences & Summits

246. On July 9, President of India, Ram Nath Kovind addressed “Yuva Sammelan” organized by ‘My Home India’ in New Delhi to inspire the youth to achieve the goals of ‘New India and Atmanirbhar Bharat’. My Home India is a National NGO, which aims at bringing emotional integration between people from different parts of the country. India has the largest population of adolescents and youth in the world which is called ‘Demographic Dividend’ for India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ram Nath Kovind – addressed “Yuva Sammelan” organized by ‘My Home India’ in New Delhi

247. On July 10, PM Narendra Modi virtually addressed a “Natural Farming Conclave” organized in Surat, Gujarat. As part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, PM Modi, in his address at “Gujarat Panchayat Mahasammelan” in March, 2022, had exhorted at least 75 farmers in each village to adopt Natural way of farming. Consequently, at least 75 farmers were identified in each Gram Panchayat and were motivated and trained to undertake Natural Farming. The farmers were trained in 90 different clusters resulting in training of more than 41,000 farmers across the district. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – virtually addressed a “Natural Farming Conclave” organized in Surat, Gujarat
- At least 75 farmers were identified in each Gram Panchayat & were motivated & trained to undertake Natural Farming
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat



Ranks, Reports & Surveys

248. India is the only economy among the top 10 leading economies which has shown consistent improvement in its macroeconomic performance during the last 4 years. In the ranking of International Economic Resilience (IER) of the Top 10 Countries, India has consistently improved its position from 6th position in 2019 to 3rd position in 2021 and is 2nd in 2022, according to data released by PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) in its report “Pre and Post COVID Economic Dynamics of Leading Economies”. As per report, Germany and Canada both have gained the first rank in the IER. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Pre and Post COVID Economic Dynamics of Leading Economies” report – released by PHDCCI
- India’s position in IER rankings: 2019 – 6th | 2021 – 3rd | 2022 – 2nd | First position – Germany & Canada
- India – the only economy to have shown consistent improvement in its macroeconomic performance during last 4 years
- HQs of PHDCCI – New Delhi | President – Pradeep Multani

249. According to the “World Population Prospects 2022” released by the United Nations, the global population is projected to reach 8 billion by November 15, 2022. The latest projections by the United Nations suggest that the world’s population could grow to around 8.5 billion in 2030 and 9.7 billion in 2050. According to the report, India’s population stands at 1.412 billion in 2022, compared to China’s 1.426 billion. India is projected to surpass China as the world’s most populous country during 2023. India is projected to have a population of 1.668 billion in 2050. Global life expectancy at birth reached 72.8 years in 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “World Population Prospects 2022” – released by the United Nations
- Global population is projected to reach 8 billion by Nov 15, 2022, 8.5 billion by 2030, 9.7 billion by 2050
- India (1.412 billion in 2022) – is projected to surpass China (1.426 billion) as the world’s most populous country in 2023
- Global life expectancy at birth in 2019 – 72.8 years

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

250. In July 2022, the Coffee Board of India and the ISRO signed an MoU with regard to breeding climate-resilient varieties and assess the carbon sequestration potential in coffee. The plant related research activities under the Board are carried out by the Central Coffee Research Institute (CCRI) in Chikmagalur district of Karnataka. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Coffee Board of India + ISRO = an MoU to breed Climate-Resilient varieties of coffee
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969
- HQs of Coffee Board of India – Bengaluru, Karnataka





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