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National & States Affairs

301. On July 14, Kerala has become the first and only state in India to have its own internet service. The announcement came after the Kerala Fiber Optic Network Ltd received the Internet Service Provider (ISP) license from the Department of Telecommunications. With this, the project envisaged to bridge the digital divide in the society. The KFON aims to provide free internet to BPL families and 30,000 government offices. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala – became the first & only state in India to have its own internet service
- Kerala Fiber Optic Network Ltd – received the ‘ISP license’ from the Department of Telecommunications
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

302. On July 15, Union Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Narayan Rane launched ‘Repos Pay’ - a Mobile Electric Charging platform and ‘Phy-gital’ - a Fintech Platform at “Fuelling India 2022” event in Mumbai. ‘Repos Pay’ is a platform where one can order a Mobile Electric Charging Vehicle on app and charge their vehicles. ‘Phy-gital’ is a Fintech Platform that will bring credit to fuel consumers (Buy Now Pay Later) through Technology. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narayan Rane – launched ‘Repos Pay’ & ‘Phy-gital’ at “Fuelling India 2022” event – held in Mumbai
- ‘Repos Pay’ – a Mobile Electric Charging platform for vehicles
- Phy-gital’ – a Fintech Platform that provides credit to fuel consumers (Buy Now Pay Later)
- Ministry of MSME: Narayan Rane | Constituency – Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg, Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of MSME: Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma

303. On July 14, in a bid to emphasize on “LiFE” (Lifestyle for the Environment) movement through Sustainable Consumption, the Department of Consumer Affairs, under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, has formed a committee to develop a comprehensive framework for the “Right to Repair”. The committee is chaired by Nidhi Khare, Additional Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs. The aim is to repair in India is to empower consumers and product buyers in the local market, harmonize trade between the original equipment manufacturers and the third-party buyers and sellers, emphasize on developing sustainable consumption of products and reduction in e-waste. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Department of Consumer Affairs – formed a committee to develop a comprehensive framework for “Right to Repair”
- The committee is chaired by – Nidhi Khare (Additional Secretary, Dept. of Consumer Affairs)
- The committee will emphasize on “LiFE” (Lifestyle for the Environment) movement through Sustainable Consumption
- Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution: Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution: Ashwini Kumar Choubey & Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti

304. On July 13, Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai laid the foundation stone for South India’s first Nano Urea (Liquid) plant at Naganayakanahalli near Devanahalli in Karnataka. The plant is being set up by the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO) on 12 acres of land in Hi-Tech Defence and Aerotech Park. It will come up at a cost of ₹550 Crore. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- The foundation stone for South India's first Nano Urea (Liquid) plant – laid in Naganayakanahalli, Karnataka
- The plant is set up by – IFFCO | Cost – ₹550 Cr
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot
- HQs of IFFCO – New Delhi | Chairman – Dileep Sanghani

305. On July 13, the Railway University in Gujarat's Vadodara has been granted Central University status by the Union Cabinet. The Union Cabinet gave its approval to introduce a Bill in Parliament, namely, the "Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2022" to amend the "Central Universities Act, 2009" for setting up of "Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV)". The amendment grants conversion & renaming of the "National Rail & Transportation Institute (NRTI)", a deemed-to-be university, into "Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya", a Central University. The government has plans of pumping in Rs 100 lakh Cr in projects related to rail, road and sea infrastructure. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet introduced "Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2022" to amend the "Central Universities Act, 2009"
- Railway University (Vadodara, Gujarat) – is granted 'Central University' status
- Amendment grants conversion & renaming of "NRTI" into "Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya"
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

306. Kolkata's metro will be the first underwater train in India to run under a river covering a distance of 16.34 km east-west corridor. It is scheduled to commence its journey in early 2023. Out of 16.34 km length, 10.8 km is underground and 520-metre is underwater. The tunnels, for the route, were created in 2017 by Afcons, a construction company. Afcons also created India's deepest Metro station, located 30 metres below the Howrah railway station. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kolkata metro – will be the first underwater train in India to run under a river
- Out of total length of 16.34 km, 10.8 km is underground & 520-metre is underwater
- The tunnels, for the route, were created – by Afcons (in 2017)
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

307. On July 15, the Secretary-General of the SCO, Zhang Ming announced that Varanasi will become the first "Cultural and Tourism Capital" of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) for 2022-23 under a new rotating initiative by the SCO to promote people-to-people contacts and tourism among the member states. Under this initiative, each year, a city of the cultural heritage of a member country that will take over the rotating Presidency of the organisation will get the title to highlight its prominence. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Varanasi – will become the first "Cultural & Tourism Capital" of the SCO for 2022-23 under a new rotating initiative
- HQs of SCO – Beijing, China | SG – Zhang Ming | Present Member Countries – 8 | Presidency – Uzbekistan

308. On July 15, Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu and his Assam counterpart Himanta Biswa Sarma signed a pact to end the decades-old border dispute between the two states. They agreed in principle on restricting the number of 'disputed villages' to 86 instead of 123. The agreement was signed at Namsai in Arunachal Pradesh, and thus called the "Namsai Declaration". [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Arunachal Pradesh + Assam = signed a pact to end the decades-old border dispute between the two states
- The agreement was signed at Namsai in Arunachal Pradesh, and thus called the “Namsai Declaration”
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B. D. Mishra

309. On July 15, the Department of Consumer Affairs (DoCA) has launched “Jagriti”, a mascot for empowering consumers and generating awareness of their rights. Jagriti mascot shall be shown along with tagline “Jago Grahak Jago” in all its media campaigns. With this, the DoCA aims to strengthen its consumer awareness campaign presence in digital and multimedia and reinforce a young empowered and informed consumer as a top-of-mind consumer rights awareness recall brand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DoCA launched “Jagriti”, a mascot for empowering consumers & generating awareness of their rights
- Jagriti mascot shall be shown along with tagline “Jago Grahak Jago”
- Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution: Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution: Ashwini Kumar Choubey & Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti

310. On July 17, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) launched a unique Bikers Cafe to cater to the needs of biker expeditions to the Himalayas. The IOC looks to retain its market leadership with differentiated offerings tailored for various consumer sets. The first such offering has been started near Shimla and more such facilities will be set up along the Chandigarh-Manali route as well as the Chandigarh-Kaza sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IOCL – launched a unique Bikers Cafe to cater to the needs of biker expeditions to the Himalayas
- HQs of IOCL – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shrikant Madhav Vaidya | Founded in – 1959

311. On July 11, India’s Public Service Broadcaster – Prasar Bharati unveiled its new logo on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee year. The new logo was released by Apurva Chandra, Secretary of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. Headquartered in New Delhi, Prasar Bharati is a statutory autonomous body set up by an Act of Parliament. It comprises the Doordarshan Television Network and All India Radio (AIR). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Prasar Bharati – unveiled its new logo on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee year
- The new logo was released by – Apurva Chandra (Secretary of Ministry of I&B)
- Prasar Bharati – comprises Doordarshan & AIR
- HQs of Prasar Bharati – New Delhi | CEO – Mayank Kumar Agrawal (addi. charge)

312. On July 15, NASSCOM Foundation along with Google set up a call centre called the “DigiVaani Call Center” in collaboration with non-profit Indian Society of Agribusiness Professionals (ISAP) to help women farmers scale up their business. The project was launched on a pilot basis to initially reach out to 20,000 rural women entrepreneurs across 6 states - Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana and Rajasthan. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- NASSCOM + Google + ISAP = set up “DigiVaani Call Center” to help women farmers scale up their business
- The project was launched on a pilot basis in 6 states
- HQs of NASSCOM – New Delhi | President – Debjani Ghosh
- Chairman – Krishnan Ramanujam | Vice-Chairman – Anant Maheshwari

International Affairs

313. In July 2022, Bangladesh inaugurated its first campus based IT business incubator at Chattogram. The facility named ‘Sheikh Kamal IT Business Incubator’ was inaugurated by PM Sheikh Hasina at the Chittagong University of Engineering & Technology (CUET) in a virtual function. The incubator will provide a complete and innovative eco-system for startups in Bangladesh. The facility has been built over an area of 4.7 acre with a cost of Taka 113 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bangladesh – inaugurated its 1st campus based IT business incubator ‘Sheikh Kamal IT Business Incubator’ at Chattogram
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

314. On July 14, Quantum Mutual Fund launched “Quantum Nifty 50 ETF Fund of Fund (FoF)”, an open-ended FoF scheme that will be investing in the units of Quantum Nifty 50 Exchange Traded Fund. This is India’s first Nifty 50 FoF. The scheme will be benchmarked to NIFTY 50 - Total Return Index. Quantum Nifty 50 ETF has a track record of over 14 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Quantum Mutual Fund – launched “Quantum Nifty 50 ETF Fund of Fund” – India’s first Nifty 50 FoF

315. On July 15, Bank of India along with the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) and K-fintech, launched a digital platform which will allow customers to open NPS (National Pension System) accounts using mobile phones. PFRDA chairman Supratim Bandyopadhyay inaugurated the digital platform. Customers can now open NPS Account in a hassle-free and paperless manner by scanning a QR code. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bank of India + PFRDA + K-fintech = launched a digital platform for customers to open NPS accounts using mobile phones
- HQs of BoI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Atanu Kumar Das | Tagline – “Relationship Beyond Banking”
- HQs of PFRDA – New Delhi | Chairperson – Supratim Bandyopadhyay | Founded in – 2003

316. On July 15, Kotak Mahindra Bank completed technical integration with the new e-filing portal of the Income Tax department and has become the first private bank to fully integrate with the portal. Its customers can now pay their direct taxes through the e-pay tax tab on the portal using Kotak Net Banking or by visiting a branch. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kotak Mahindra Bank – first private bank to fully integrate with the new e-filing portal of the Income Tax department
- HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Uday Kotak | Tagline – “Let’s make money simple”



317. On July 15, UK-based financial publication Euromoney honoured DBS Bank with the “World's Best SME Bank” title for the second time since 2018. DBS has developed algorithmic models powered by artificial intelligence and advanced data analytics that alerts the bank to potential signs of trouble faced by SMEs. As a result of its robust credit processes, since 2020, DBS has approved over 16,300 collateral-free loans totalling more than SGD 7 billion to SMEs in Singapore, with over 90% of the loans going to Micro and Small Enterprises. Euromoney also awarded the “World’s Best Financial Innovation of the Year” to DBS’ Fixed Income Execution (FIX) Marketplace, which is Asia’s first automated digital bond issuance platform. DBS also won another two first-time awards namely - “Asia’s Best Bank for Wealth Management” & “Hong Kong's Best Bank”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Euromoney (UK)– honoured DBS Bank with the following awards:
 - “World’s Best SME Bank” title for the second time since 2018
 - “World’s Best Financial Innovation of the Year” (for Fixed Income Execution (FIX) marketplace)
 - “Asia’s Best Bank for Wealth Management”
 - “Hong Kong’s Best Bank”
- Fixed Income Execution (FIX) Marketplace – Asia’s first automated digital bond issuance platform
- HQs of DBS Bank India – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Surojit Shome
- HQs of DBS Bank – Singapore | CEO – Piyush Gupta

318. On July 15, YES Bank signed a binding term sheet with JCF ARC LLC and JC Flowers Asset Reconstruction Pvt Ltd for a strategic partnership in relation to sale of identified stressed loans aggregating to Rs 48,000 Cr. As at March-end 2022, the bank had total gross non-performing exposure and total gross restructured loans of Rs 36,479 Cr and Rs 6,752 Cr, respectively.

[{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- YES Bank + JCF ARC LLC + JC Flowers Asset Reconstruction = strategic partnership to sell identified stressed loans aggregating to Rs 48,000 Cr
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar | Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”

319. On July 16, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Bank Indonesia (BI) signed an MoU to strengthen the exchange of information and cooperation in the area of central banking, including payment systems, digital innovation in payments services, and regulatory and supervisory framework for Anti Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism (AML-CFT). The MoU was signed by RBI Deputy Governor Michael Debabrata Patra on the sidelines of the “G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting” in Bali, Indonesia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “G20 Finance Ministers & Central Bank Governors Meeting” – held in Bali, Indonesia
- RBI + Bank Indonesia = an MoU to strengthen the exchange of information & cooperation in the area of central banking
- Indonesia – Jakarta – Rupiah | President – Joko Widodo
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

320. In July 2022, Online capital financing platform Capital Float has unified its offerings - Capital Float and Walnut & Walnut 369, and rebranded itself as “axio”. It was founded by Gaurav Hinduja and Sashank Rishyasringa in 2013 and it is registered as a non-banking finance company (NBFC). [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Capital Float (NBFC) – unified its offerings namely - Capital Float and Walnut & Walnut 369
- Capital Float – rebranded itself as “axio”
- HQs of Capital Float – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Founders – Gaurav Hinduja & Sashank Rishyasringa

Defence Affairs

321. On July 15, the Defence Ministry has set up an Apex Committee to conduct performance and efficiency audit of capital procurements, logistics, inventory and maintenance of assets of the armed forces. The committee will be headed by the Defence Secretary (Ajay Kumar at present). The ministry described formation of the committee as a major shift from the existing transaction-based compliance audit to carry out an outcome-based performance and efficiency audit. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Defence – set up an Apex Committee to conduct performance & efficiency audit of assets of Armed Forces
- The committee will be headed by – Defence Secretary (Ajay Kumar at present)
- Ministry of Defence: Rajnath Singh | Constituency – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Defence: Ajay Bhatt

322. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched “Y-3023 Dunagiri”, a ‘Project 17A’ frigate, built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd (GRSE), on river Hooghly in Kolkata. Seven P17A Frigates are under various stages of construction at Mazagaon Dock Limited (MDL) and GRSE. ‘Dunagiri’ would be a world class stealth frigate with multidimensional capabilities to destroy enemies from sea, sky, and underwater. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajnath Singh – launched “Y-3023 Dunagiri”, a ‘Project 17A’ frigate on river Hooghly in Kolkata (built by GRSE)
- ‘Dunagiri’ is a world class Stealth Frigate
- HQs of GRSE – Kolkata, India | Chairman & MD – P. R. Hari | Founded in – 1884

323. On July 17, INS Sindhudhvaj was decommissioned from the service after serving for 35 years. Vice-Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command, was the chief guest at the ceremony. INS Sindhudhvaj (S56) was a Sindhughosh-class Submarine of the Indian Navy in service from 1987. The name ‘Sindhudhvaj’ means flag-bearer at sea. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- INS Sindhudhvaj (Sindhughosh-class Submarine) – decommissioned from the service after serving for 35 years
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950



Sports & Games

324. In July 2022, New Zealand Cricket (NZC) and the New Zealand Cricket Players Association (NZCPA) signed a 5-year deal to provide equal pay to both men and female cricket players. The agreement will see women's players at both international and domestic level receive the same match fees as men across all formats and competitions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NZC + NZCPA = signed a 5-year deal to provide equal pay to both men & female Cricket Players
- [New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar \(NZD\)](#) | [PM – Jacinda Ardern](#)

325. A 215-member Indian squad participated in the 22nd edition of the “Commonwealth Games 2022”, held in Birmingham, UK from July 28 to August 8, comprising 108 male and 107 female athletes. Boxing Federation of India vice-president Rajesh Bhandari was named as chef de mission, after Cycling Federation of India Chairman Onkar Singh pulled out. It was announced that gold medal winning athletes will get Rs 20 lakh from the Indian Olympic Association (IOA). Rs 10 lakh is to be awarded to silver winners while bronze winners will get Rs 7.5 lakh. Manpreet Singh alongside ace shuttler PV Sindhu was named as India's flagbearer for the opening ceremony. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Commonwealth Games 2022” (22nd edition) – held in Birmingham, UK (from July 28 to August 8)
- 215-member Indian squad participated in the games (108 male + 107 female athletes)
- Chef de Mission – Rajesh Bhandari (Vice-President of BFI)
- India's flagbearers for the opening ceremony – Manpreet Singh & PV Sindhu

326. On July 14, Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) and the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) announced a long-term partnership to enable the holistic growth of Athletics in India. The RIL and AFI partnership aims to discover, nurture and develop Indian athletes from across the country and provide them with world-class facilities, coaching and sports science and medicine support. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RIL + AFI = a long-term partnership to enable the holistic growth of Athletics in India
- [HQs of Reliance Industries Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [Chairman – Mukesh Ambani](#) | [Founded in – 1973](#)
- [HQs of AFI – New Delhi](#) | [President – Adille J. Sumariwalla](#) | [Secretary General – Ravinder Chaudhry](#)

327. On July 16, Young Indian Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa won the Paracin Open 'A' chess tournament 2022 with 8 points from nine rounds. Alexandr Predke took the second spot with 7.5 points. Alisher Suleymenov and India's AL Muthaiah, both scored 7 points. Suleymenov grabbed the third place on the basis of a better tie-break score. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- R. Praggnanandhaa – won the “Paracin Open 'A' Chess Tournament 2022” (with 8 points)
- 2nd – Alexandr Predke (7.5 points) | 3rd – Alisher Suleymenov (7 points)





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Science & Technology

328. In July 2022, Researchers have identified a new species of evergreen tree belonging to the genus 'Miliusa' from the Agasthyamala biosphere reserve in the southern arm of the Western Ghats in the Thiruvananthapuram district of Kerala. The tree, which grows to a height of about 6 to 9 metres with drooping branches, has been christened "Miliusa agasthyamalana" after the location where it was found. The discovery was published in the journal Phytotaxa. The identification of the new species has also taken the total number of species of Miliusa found in India to 25. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Miliusa agasthyamalana", a new species of 'Miliusa' tree – discovered from Agasthyamala Biosphere Reserve in Kerala
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

329. On July 15, Syngenta, a global agri-business major, launched a unique Biodiversity Sensor Project, claimed to be the first in the world, in collaboration with IIT Ropar, to study the behaviour of insects around farms, particularly bees and butterflies. The project will monitor to identify and quantify insect life in an around farms to give real-time data on biodiversity through a sensor. The data will be open source and free for anyone to access across the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Syngenta + IIT Ropar = launched a unique 'Biodiversity Sensor Project' to study the behaviour of insects around farms
- HQs of Syngenta – Basel, Switzerland | CEO – J. Erik Fyrwald
- Director of IIT Ropar – Rajeev Ahuja

Appointments & Resignations

330. On July 14, Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) has recommended former Union Bank of India MD Rajkiran Rai G as the Managing Director of the newly set-up Rs 20,000-Cr National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID). This is the first selection made by the FSIB following its incorporation on July 1, 2022. The erstwhile Banks Board Bureau (BBB) was revamped into FSIB with certain amendments in its mandate. According to the 'NaBFID Act 2021', the institution will have one MD and not more than three DMDs. In October 2021, the government appointed veteran banker K. V. Kamath as the Chairperson of the NaBFID for 3 years. The newly-incorporated NaBFID is targeting financial assistance of Rs 1 lakh Crore in its first year of operations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FSIB – recommended Rajkiran Rai G as the MD of the newly set-up Rs 20,000-Cr NaBFID
- This is the first selection made by the FSIB following its incorporation on July 1, 2022
- Banks Board Bureau (BBB) was revamped into FSIB
- K. V. Kamath – Chairperson of the NaBFID

331. On July 14, Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur removed existing chief secretary Ram Subagh Singh and replaced him with Ram Dass Dhiman, a 1988-batch IAS officer. Ram Subagh Singh has now been given the charge of Principal Adviser (administrative reforms). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ram Dass Dhiman – appointed as new Chief Secretary of Himachal Pradesh (replacing - Ram Subagh Singh)
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar



332. On July 17, the SEBI approved the appointment of Ashish Kumar Chauhan (MD & CEO of BSE) as the next Managing Director & CEO of the National Stock Exchange (NSE). Chauhan's second 5-year tenure at BSE ends in November. Ashish Chauhan will be taking over Vikram Limaye, whose 5-year term ended in July. Chauhan was one of the founders of NSE where he worked from 1992 to 2000. He is best known as the 'Father of Modern Financial Derivatives' in India due to his work at NSE. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – approved the appointment of Ashish Kumar Chauhan (MD & CEO of BSE) as the next MD & CEO of the NSE
- HQs of NSE – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Girish Chandra Chaturvedi
- HQs of BSE – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Subhash Sheoratan Mundra | MD & CEO – Ashish kumar Chauhan

333. In July 2022, Publicly-listed One97 Communications, the parent entity of Paytm, appointed Standard Chartered Bank Executive Nakul Jain as new CEO of Paytm Payments Services Ltd (PPSL). Alongside, Praveen Sharma, the current CEO of Paytm Payments Services, has been moved to lead the company's commerce vertical. Sharma was made MD and CEO of PPSL in September 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nakul Jain – appointed as new CEO of Paytm Payments Services Ltd (PPSL) by One97 Communications
- HQs of Paytm Payments Services Ltd – New Delhi | CEO – Nakul Jain
- HQs of Paytm – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CEO – Vijay Sekhar Sharma | Founded in – 2010



Schemes & Initiatives

334. On July 14, with a view to boost exports and job creation in the textile sector, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry has authorised the continuation of the "Scheme for Rebate of State and Central Taxes & Levies (RoSCTL)" with the same rates as notified by the Ministry of Textiles for exports of apparel/garments and made-ups till March 31, 2024. After the introduction of GST in 2017, the RoSL (Rebate of State Levies) scheme was replaced by a new scheme – Rebate of State and Central Taxes Levies (RoSCTL) in March 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of C&I – authorised continuation of "Scheme for Rebate of State and Central Taxes & Levies" till March 31, 2024
- GST – was introduced in 2017
- "Rebate of State Levies" scheme – replaced by Rebate of State and Central Taxes & Levies (RoSCTL) in March 2019
- Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Anupriya Singh Patel & Som Parkash
- Ministry of Textiles: Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Textiles: Darshana Vikram Jardosh



335. On July 14, Ministry of Women and Child Development issued detailed guidelines for 'Mission Shakti' scheme. The Government of India launched 'Mission Shakti' - an integrated women empowerment programme as umbrella scheme for the safety, security and empowerment of women during the 15th Finance Commission period 2021-22 to 2025-26. The norms of 'Mission Shakti' will be applicable with effect from April 1, 2022. 'Mission Shakti' has two sub-schemes – 'Sambal' and 'Samarthya'. While the "Sambal" sub-scheme is for safety and security of women, the "Samarthya" sub-scheme is for empowerment of women. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Women and Child Development – issued detailed guidelines for 'Mission Shakti' scheme
- 'Mission Shakti' – launched for safety, security & empowerment of women during the 15th Finance Commission period
- 'Sambal' and 'Samarthya' – two sub-schemes of 'Mission Shakti'
- [Ministry of Women & Child Development: Smriti Irani](#) | Constituency – Amethi, Uttar Pradesh
- [MoS in Ministry of Women and Child Development: Munjapara Mahendrabhai](#)

Important Days & Dates

336. "Nelson Mandela International Day", also known as "Mandela Day", is observed every year on July 18 to mark the birth anniversary of the former South African President Nelson Mandela. This day was first celebrated on July 18, 2010. In 2022, the tagline or theme is "Do what you can, with what you have, where you are." He is the "Father of the Nation" of South Africa. In 2014, the UNGA introduced the 'Nelson Mandela Prize' too. This day also celebrates a campaign known as '46664', his Robben Island prison number. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- July 18 – "Nelson Mandela International Day" or "Mandela Day" (since 2010)
- 2022's Theme – "Do what you can, with what you have, where you are"
- Nelson Mandela – "Father of the Nation" of South Africa

Books & Authors

337. In July 2022, Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar released a book, "The McMahon Line: A Century of Discord", authored by General Joginder Jaswant Singh (Retd) at the Raj Bhavan. General J. J. Singh is former Governor of Arunachal Pradesh and former Chief of Army Staff. This book is based on his experiences and research on the India-China border dispute while in the army. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "The McMahon Line: A Century of Discord" book – authored by General Joginder Jaswant Singh (Retd)
- General J. J. Singh – former Governor of Arunachal Pradesh & former Chief of Army Staff
- The book was released by – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar (Governor of Himachal Pradesh)



338. On July 11, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar launched an anthology of essays on various aspects of India's soft power titled "Connecting through Culture". The first-of-its-kind book is a joint project of Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) and the Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA). Vinay Sahasrabudhe, President ICCR and Sachchidanand Joshi, Member Secretary of the IGNCA have jointly edited this book which contains a total of 23 articles. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- S. Jaishankar – launched an anthology of essays titled "Connecting through Culture" (joint project of ICCR + IGNCA)
- The book is jointly edited by – Vinay Sahasrabudhe (ICCR) + Sachchidanand (IGNCA)

Obituaries

339. On July 16, Actor-filmmaker Pratap Pothen passed away in Chennai at the age of 70. Known for his work in Malayalam cinema, he also worked in Tamil and Telugu films. He won a National Award for directing the 1985 film 'Meendum Oru Kaathal Kathai'. He also won the Indira Gandhi Award for Best Debut Film of a Director. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pratap Pothen – an Actor-filmmaker – passed away
- Awards: 'National Award' & 'Indira Gandhi Award for Best Debut Film of a Director'

Meetings, Conferences and Summits

340. On July 14, PM Narendra Modi participated in the first "Leaders' Summit of I2U2" virtually, along with leaders of Israel, the United Arab Emirates and the United States. I2U2 is aimed to encourage joint investments in 6 mutually identified areas such as water, energy, transportation, space, health, and food security. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – virtually participated in the first "Leaders' Summit of I2U2"
- 'I2U2' member countries: 4 – India, Israel, UAE & US (created by the US)

341. The 27th Conference of Parties (CoP27) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) will be held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt in November, 2022. The CoP26 was held at Glasgow, Scotland, UK from 31 October to 13 November 2021. One of the outcomes of CoP26 was the finalisation of the "Paris Rulebook". As a result, the main theme of CoP27 is the 'Implementation of the Paris Agreement'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CoP27 to the UNFCCC – will be held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt (in Nov, 2022)
- The main theme of CoP27 is the 'Implementation of the Paris Agreement'
- The CoP26 was held in – Glasgow, Scotland, UK
- Egypt – Cairo – Egyptian Pound | President – Abdel Fattah el-Sisi



342. On July 14, the “National Conference of State Agriculture and Horticulture Ministers” was organized in Bangalore, after the gap of 2 years due to the Corona crisis. This conference was organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoAFW) coinciding with the ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’. On this occasion, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched the “e-NAM (National Agriculture Market) Platform of Platform (PoP)” to promote trade & marketing of agriculture produce. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “National Conference of State Agriculture and Horticulture Ministers” – organized by MoAFW in Bangalore
- Narendra Singh Tomar – launched the “e-NAM Platform of Platform (PoP)” to promote trade of agriculture produce
- [Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency – Palitana, Gujarat](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar](#)

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

343. On July 15, Union Minister Education, Dharmendra Pradhan released the “India Rankings 2022 - Ranking of Higher Educational Institutions on Performance”, prepared by National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF). The NIRF was launched in November 2015 by the Ministry of Education. Five broad categories of parameters are - Teaching, Learning & Resources, Research & Professional Practice, Graduation Outcomes, Outreach & Inclusivity and Perception. IIT Madras retains its 1st position in ‘Overall Category’ for 4th consecutive year and in ‘Engineering’ for 7th consecutive year. IISc, Bengaluru tops the ‘Universities Category’ for 7th consecutive year. It stood first in ‘Research Institutions Category’ for 2nd consecutive year. IIM Ahmedabad tops in ‘Management’ subject retaining its 1st position for 3rd consecutive year. AIIMS, New Delhi occupied 1st position in ‘Medical’ for the 5th consecutive year. IIT Roorkee stood at 1st position in ‘Architecture’ subject for 2nd consecutive year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “India Rankings 2022 - Ranking of Higher Educational Institutions on Performance” – prepared by NIRF
- Top Institutions in NIRF Ranking in various categories are:
 - Overall Category – IIT Madras (4th consecutive year)
 - Engineering Category – IIT Madras (7th consecutive year)
 - Universities Category – IISc, Bengaluru (7th consecutive year)
 - Research Institutions Category – IISc, Bengaluru (2nd consecutive year)
 - Management Category – IIM Ahmedabad (3rd consecutive year)
 - Medical Category – AIIMS, New Delhi (5th consecutive year)
 - Architecture Category – IIT Roorkee (2nd consecutive year)
- The NIRF was launched by Ministry of Education in November 2015
- [Ministry of Education: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency – Madhya Pradesh](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Education: Subhas Sarkar](#)

344. On July 15, the TIME Magazine has listed Gujarat’s Ahmedabad & Kerala among 50 extraordinary destinations to explore, in its first list of the “World’s Greatest Places of 2022”. Ahmedabad is India’s first UNESCO World Heritage City. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- 1st list of the “World’s Greatest Places of 2022” – by TIME Magazine
- Ahmedabad + Kerala = listed among 50 extraordinary destinations to explore
- Ahmedabad – India’s first UNESCO World Heritage City
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

345. On July 15, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) bagged the first spot under the ‘Central Ministries Portal’ in a “National e-Governance Service Delivery Assessment” conducted by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG). The Digital Police portal of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) was placed second under the ‘Central Ministry Services Portal’ in the assessment. The assessment was conducted by the DARPG in association with NASSCOM and KPMG. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “National e-Governance Service Delivery Assessment” conducted by = DARPG + NASSCOM + KPMG
- Ministry of Home Affairs – got first spot under the ‘Central Ministries Portal’
- Digital Police portal of NCRB – placed second under the ‘Central Ministry Services Portal’
- Ministry of Home Affairs: Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Home Affairs: Nityanand Rai, Ajay Kumar & Nisith Pramanik

346. The impact of inflation on India’s poor would be negligible as per the United Nations Development Programme’s report titled “Addressing the Cost of Living Crisis in Developing Countries” released in July 2022. While rising Food & Energy prices can push up to 71 million people around the world into poverty, as per the report. The report also looked at the ripple effects of the Russia-Ukraine war such as energy and food market disruptions. The UNDP estimates that 51.6 million more people fell into poverty in the first 3 months after the war, living off \$1.90 a day or less. This pushed the total number globally at this threshold to 9% of the world’s population. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Addressing the Cost of Living Crisis in Developing Countries” report – released by UNDP
- Rising Food & Energy prices can push up to 71 million people around the world into poverty
- UNDP estimates that 51.6 million more people fell into poverty in the first 3 months after the Russia-Ukraine war
- HQs of UNDP – New York, US | Administrator – Achim Steiner | Founded in – 1965

347. On July 12, the World Health Organization’s Science Council issued its first report on “Accelerating Access to Genomics for Global Health”. According to the report, access to genomic technologies needs to be expanded, especially for low- and middle-income countries (LMIC). The Science Council, established in April 2021, comprises of 9 leading scientists and public health experts from around the world. The report recommended addressing four themes: Advocacy, Implementation, Collaboration, and associated Ethical, Legal & Social Issues. The report also recommended WHO to create a Genomics Committee to take forward the recommendations and monitor their applications. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- WHO’s Science Council – issued its first report on “Accelerating Access to Genomics for Global Health”
- 4 themes: Advocacy, Implementation, Collaboration, and associated Ethical, Legal & Social Issues
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948



Amount & Agreements

348. On July 15, Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Singapore have signed an agreement to promote investment and innovation across Asia and the Pacific. The MoU aims to recognise the importance of private sector finance as well as catalysing public sector resources for sustainable and inclusive development. The MoU replaces a 2012 MoU between ADB and Singapore to enhance knowledge sharing and cooperation in governance and public policy, private sector development, and climate change. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ADB + Singapore = agreement to promote investment & innovation across Asia & the Pacific (replaces a 2012 MoU)
- Singapore – Singapore – Dollar | PM – Lee Hsien Loong | President – Halimah Yacob
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Members – 68 | Established in – 1966

349. In July 2022, the central government reserved Rs 80,000 Cr as interest-free loans for States undertaking capital works in the current fiscal FY23. In her 2022-23 Budget speech, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had announced the “Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment” scheme under which total financial assistance of Rs 1 lakh Cr would be given to States in the form of 50-year interest-free loans for capital investment projects. The total ₹1 lakh Cr scheme also includes ₹4,000 Cr for PM Gram Sadak Yojana, ₹2,000 Cr digitisation incentive, ₹6,000 Cr towards urban reforms and ₹3,000 Cr for capital projects on optical fibre cable. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central Govt reserved Rs 80,000 Cr as interest-free loans for States undertaking capital works in current fiscal FY23
- Total financial assistance of Rs 1 lakh Cr would be given under “Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment”
- Ministry of Finance: Nirmala Sitharaman | Constituency – Karnataka
- MoS in Ministry of Finance: Pankaj Chaowdhary & Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

350. On July 15, NHPC Ltd (National Hydroelectric Power Corporation) signed two MoUs for the development of “Pilot Green Hydrogen Technologies” in Leh and Kargil districts of Ladakh, in line with the country’s aim to reduce the carbon footprint in the Power Sector. These two Pilot projects will also attract long-term investment in the Hydrogen economy creating different revenue streams & job opportunities for the youth of UT of Ladakh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NHPC Ltd – signed two MoUs for the development of “Pilot Green Hydrogen Technologies” in Leh & Kargil, Ladakh
- HQs of NHPC – Faridabad, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Abhay Kumar Singh





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