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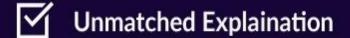
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The Question Bank



National & States Affairs

1. On June 5, Minister of State for New & Renewable Energy Bhagwant Khuba launched a Pan-India Rooftop Solar Awareness Campaign titled "Ghar ke upar solar is super" during an event at Bidar, Karnataka. The minister stated that the ministry is working towards achieving target of 500 GW of non-fossil by 2030. The minister highlighted that the ministry is providing 40% of subsidy for households to install solar. The 3 year long, Pan India Rooftop Awareness Program is basically launched by the National Solar Energy Federation of India (NSEFI) with the support of the German Solar Association (BSW). {Read more}

Key Points:

- Pan-India Rooftop Solar Awareness Campaign titled "Ghar ke Upar Solar is Super" launched in Bidar, Karnataka
- MoS for New & Renewable Energy is providing 40% of subsidy for households to install solar
- Pan India Rooftop Awareness Program launched by the NSEFI
- Karnataka: Capital Bangalore | CM Basavaraj Bommai | Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot
- Ministry of Power and Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh | Constituency Arrah, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Power: Krishan Pal Gurjar | MoS in Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Bhagwanth Khuba
- **2.** On June 8, PhysicsWallah, an edtech platform for engineering & medical entrance exams, raised \$100 million (around Rs 777 Cr) in its 'Series A' funding round from marquee investors Westbridge and GSV Ventures. With this development, the firm has become India's 101st unicorn and the first edtech player this year to touch the coveted Unicorn Club (valuation of over \$1 billion). {Read more}

Key Points:

- PhysicsWallah became India's 101st unicorn & the first edtech player in 2022 to enter the Unicorn Club
- PhysicsWallah raised \$100 million in its 'Series A' funding round from Westbridge & GSV Ventures
- **3.** On June 7, Union Home & Cooperation Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the National Tribal Research Institute (NTRI) in New Delhi. The NTRI will be the premier national institute for the promotion and preservation of tribal heritage and culture and the nerve centre of tribal research issues and matters in academic, executive and legislative fields. The institute will collaborate and network with reputed research institutes, universities, and organisations as well as academic bodies and resource centres. {Read more}

- Amit Shah inaugurated the National Tribal Research Institute (NTRI) in New Delhi
- NTRI will be the premier national institute for the promotion & preservation of tribal heritage & culture
- **4.** On June 6, Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) installed Asia's largest 20 MegaWatt Peak (MWp) Solar Power Plant at its production facility in Manesar, Haryana. The solar plant will contribute 28,000 MegaWatt Hour (MWH) of power to the facility per annum. With the installation of 20 MWp Solar Power Plant, the combined solar power generation capacity across Maruti Suzuki's plants stands at 26.3 MWp. {Read more}



- Maruti Suzuki India installed Asia's largest 20 MegaWatt Peak (MWp) Solar Power Plant in Manesar, Haryana
- The solar plant will contribute 28,000 MegaWatt Hour (MWH) of power to the facility per annum
- HQs of Maruti Suzuki India New Delhi | Chairman R C Bhargava | MD & CEO Hisashi Takeuchi
- Haryana: Capital Chandigarh | CM Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor Bandaru Dattatraya
- **5.** On June 4, Chief Minister of Goa, Pramod Sawant launched a "Beach Vigil" app that aims to benefit institutions working in beach tourism sector and also the tourists. The collaboration of Information Technology (IT) with the Tourism sector shall open many avenues in future. Moreover, a report by Public Health Foundation of India stated that India's rape-related crime rate rose 70.7% over the last two decades from 11.6 per 1,00,000 women and girls in 2001 to 19.8 in 2018. Of these Goa documented the highest increase of 559.4%. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Pramod Sawant (Goa) launched "Beach Vigil" app to benefit institutions working in beach tourism sector & tourists
- Public Health Foundation of India: India's rape-related crime rate rose 70.7% over the last 2 decades (2001-2018)
- Goa: Capital Panaji | CM Pramod Sawant | Governor P. S. Sreedharan Pillai
- 6. As on June 5, India achieved the target of 10% ethanol blending in petrol, 5 months ahead of the targeted timelines of November 2022, PM Narendra Modi announced at an event organised by the Isha foundation. He made the announcement while addressing a programme on the "Save Soil Movement" in Delhi. He also claimed that it has led to a reduction of 27 lakh tonnes of carbon emission, saved foreign exchange worth Rs 41,000 Cr and that India's farmers earned Rs 40,600 Cr in the last 8 years due to increase in ethanol blending. In June 2021, PM Modi published the "Roadmap for Ethanol Blending in India 2020-25" which laid out a pathway for achieving 20% ethanol blending by 2025-26. {Read more}

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi addressed a programme on the "Save Soil Movement" in Delhi
- India achieved the target of 10% ethanol blending in petrol (5 months ahead of target of November 2022)
- It led to a reduction of 27 LT of Carbon Emission & saved Foreign Exchange worth Rs 41,000 Cr
- India's target: 20% blending of ethanol in petrol to 2025-26
- 7. On June 6, the Maharashtra State Board for Wildlife (MSBWL), during a meeting chaired by chief minister Uddhav Thackeray, approved 12 new Conservation Reserves and 3 Wildlife Sanctuaries. Put together, these protected areas (PAs) will have an area of almost 1,000 sq km. The state will also get three new wildlife sanctuaries, namely the extension of the Lonar wildlife sanctuary, Kolamarka in Gadchiroli and Muktai Bhawani in Jalgaon. As per the provisions of the "Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972", the consent of the wildlife board is a must before notifying any fresh protected areas (PAs) in the state. Moreover, Maharashtra has become the first Indian State to declare critical wildlife habitats. {Read more}

- MSBWL approved 12 new Conservation Reserves & 3 Wildlife Sanctuaries | Total area 1,000 sq km
- 3 new wildlife sanctuaries are extension of: Lonar WLS, Kolamarka WLS & Muktai Bhawani WLS
- Maharashtra became the first Indian State to declare critical wildlife habitats
- Maharashtra: CM Uddhav Thackeray | Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari



8. India has achieved the milestone of 50% of rural households having access to tap water connections under the "Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)" as on May 28, 2022. Goa, Telangana, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Puducherry and Haryana have already achieved 100% household water connections. The JJM aims to empower Panchayati Raj Institutions and communities by engaging them in water supply schemes. Vikas Sheel is the Mission Director of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM). {Read more}

Key Points:

- India achieved the milestone of 50% of rural households having access to tap water connections under the "JJM"
- Mission Director of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) Vikas Sheel
- **9.** On June 4, PM Narendra Modi launched the "Lifestyle For the Environment (LiFE) Movement", a global initiative, via video conferencing. The launch initiated "LiFE Global Call for Papers", inviting ideas and suggestions from academics, universities and research institutions to adopt an environment-conscious lifestyle. The people opting this lifestyle are regarded as 'Pro Planet People (P3)'. The LiFE encourages to replace the prevalent economy of 'Use & Dispose' with a circular economy of 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle'. The idea of LiFE was introduced by PM Modi during the COP26 in Glasgow last year. {Read more}

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi launched the "Lifestyle For the Environment (LiFE) Movement"
- "LiFE" a global initiative to adopt an environment-conscious lifestyle
- The idea of LiFE was introduced by PM Modi during the COP26 in Glasgow (in 2021)
- 10. Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah laid foundation stone for the Olympic-level International Sports Complex in Naranpura area of Ahmedabad, Gujarat. This ambitious project will be completed in the next 30 months in 20.39 acres of land at a cost of Rs 631.77 Cr. The infrastructure boasts of an aquatic stadium, centre for sports excellence, community sports centre, indoor multipurpose hall and a fit India Zone. The facility will provide training in 1012 different Olympic sports. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Amit Shah laid foundation stone for the Olympic-level "International Sports Complex" in Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- The facility will provide training in 1012 different Olympic sports (Cost of the project Rs 631.77 Cr)
- Ministry of Home Affairs & Cooperation: Amit Shah | Constituency Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- 11. On June 5, the Union Civil Aviation Minister, Jyotiraditya Scindia, announced that the Government of India is exploring the possibility of inviting manufacturers of "electric Vertical Take Off & Landing (eVTOL)" aircraft to set up base in India. In late May, while speaking at "India@2047", which was part of the 7th 'India Ideas Conclave' in Bengaluru, the Minister had highlighted the same. The global market for eVTOLs was put at \$8.5 million in 2021 and is to grow to \$30.8 million by 2030. According to the Blade India official, the Urban Air Mobility (UAM) market is expected to expand at a compound annual growth rate of 25% between 2018-25. By 2025, it is anticipated to be a \$74 billion market. This includes the eVTOLs market since UAM ideally focuses on the use of eVTOLs. {Read more}

- Gol is exploring the possibility of inviting manufacturers of "eVTOL" aircraft to set up base in India
- eVTOL electric Vertical Take Off & Landing | 7th 'India Ideas Conclave' held in Bengaluru (in May)
- Global market for eVTOLs was at \$8.5 million in 2021 & estimated to grow to \$30.8 million by 2030
- UAM market is expected to expand at a compound annual growth rate of 25% between 2018-25



12. On June 5, President Ram Nath Kovind paid tributes to Sant Kabir and inaugurated "Sant Kabir Academy & Research Centre" under the 'Swadesh Darshan Yojana' at Kabir Chaura Dham, Maghar, Uttar Pradesh. The foundation stone of 'Sant Kabir Academy & Research Centre' was laid by PM Narendra Modi 4 years ago. {Read more}

Key Points:

- President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated "Sant Kabir Academy & Research Centre" at Maghar, Uttar Pradesh
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel

International Affairs

13. On June 3, Meta announced to launch "AMBER alerts" on Instagram in 25 countries. India is not among these 25 countries. With AMBER alerts, users in these regions will soon get notifications of missing children in the area. It has helped find hundreds of children since it was introduced in 2015 on Facebook. AMBER alerts for Instagram was developed in partnership with various organisations like the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) in the United States and the International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Meta to launch "AMBER alerts" on Instagram in 25 countries to give notifications of missing children
- HQs of Instagram California, USA | CEO Kevin Systrom
- HQs of Meta California, US | CEO Mark Zuckerberg | Founded in 2004

14. Israel and the United Arab Emirates signed a historic Free Trade Agreement (FTA) or the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) on May 31 with an aim to do trade worth more than \$10 billion annually. The UAE is now the first country in the Arab world to have a free trade agreement with Israel. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Israel + UAE = signed a historic FTA or CEPA to do trade worth more than \$10 billion annually
- UAE the first country in the Arab world to have a free trade agreement with Israel
- Israel Jerusalem Israeli Shekel | President Isaac Herzog | PM Naftali Bennett
- UAE Abu Dhabi Dirham | President Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

15. According to a Times of India report, the 12 Public sector banks (PSBs) witnessed a sharp rise in their net profits during the financial year 2021-22. The overall profit accounted for Rs 66,539 Cr, an increase of 110% over the last year's Rs 31,816 Cr. Even after a phenomenal growth, the PSBs continue to lag behind the private banks. The private banks recorded a 29% higher profit of over Rs 91,000 Cr as against Rs 70,435 Cr last year. The State Bank of India recorded the highest profit of Rs 31,675 Cr accounting to 47% of the total profits of PSBs, followed by Bank of Baroda & Canara Bank. In FY21, Central Bank and Punjab & Sind Bank are the two banks which reported loss. {Read more}



- According to Times of India Report:
 - 12 PSBs witnessed rise in their profits in FY22 accounting for Rs 66,539 Cr, increase of 110% (from Rs 31,816 Cr)
 - Highest profit SBI (Rs 31,675 Cr, 47% of the total profits of PSBs) | Followed by Bank of Baroda & Canara Bank
 - In FY21, Central Bank and Punjab & Sind Bank are the two banks which reported loss
 - The private banks recorded a 29% higher profit of over Rs 91,000 Cr (from Rs 70,435 Cr last year)
- **16.** On June 6, the RBI issued Standard Assets Provisioning Guidelines for upper-layer NBFCs. The upper-layer NBFCs are typically the top 10 ones in terms of asset size. These guidelines shall be effective from October 1, 2022. Earlier in April, the RBI capped aggregate exposure of NBFCs which are in the upper layer toward one entity at 20% of capital base. The limit can only be extended by another 5% with board's approval. For a particular borrower group, the cap is at 25%, with additional 10% if exposure is towards infrastructure. {Read more}

Key Points:

- In June, RBI issued Standard Assets Provisioning Guidelines for upper-layer NBFCs effective from October 1, 2022
- In April, RBI capped aggregate exposure of NBFCs at 20% of capital base
- HQs of RBI Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in 1st April, 1935
- 17. On June 3, Bajaj Finance Limited launched its public awareness initiative 'Har Time EMI On Time', a digital campaign to drive awareness around the need and benefits of adopting good financial habits for a healthy financial future. 'Har Time EMI On Time' is an extension of its original educational series,'ABC of EMI' launched during the observance of the Financial Literacy Week in February 2022. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Bajaj Finance Limited launched its public awareness initiative "Har Time EMI On Time"
- 'Har Time EMI On Time' a digital campaign to drive awareness of adopting good financial habits
- HQs of Bajaj Finserv Pune, Maharashtra | Chairman & MD Sanjiv Bajaj
- **18.** On June 7, DBS Bank India launched its first-ever credit card in India in partnership with Bajaj Finance Limited. The cobranded credit card is named "Bajaj Finserv DBS Bank SuperCard", and it is powered by Visa. The SuperCard, a one-of-its-kind offering, will provide its customers with benefits and rewards across different product categories. {Read more}

Key Points:

- DBS Bank India + Bajaj Finance = launched DBS Bank's first-ever Credit Card in India (powered by Visa)
- HQs of DBS Bank India Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO Surojit Shome
- HQs of Bajaj Finserv Pune, Maharashtra | Chairman & MD Sanjiv Bajaj
- **19.** On June 7, Suryoday Small Finance bank partnered with Mobisafar Services to provide banking services through all Mobisafar's franchisees and Business Correspondent network across India. The partnership is aimed at strengthening financial inclusion by providing key banking services digitally to the underbanked customers even at the remotest parts of the country. {Read more}

- Suryoday SFB + Mobisafar Services = partnership to provide banking services
- HQs of Suryoday SFB Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Baskar Babu Ramachandran
- HQs of Mobisafar Services Ludhiana, Punjab | Founder & CEO Abhishek Kumar Pandey



20. On June 8, the Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA) signed MoUs with 3 major nationalised banks (SBI, BoB & PNB) and the SIDBI to provide financial assistance to investors interested in establishing units in the Defence Industrial Corridor. All these 4 entities will give financial assistance to investors in the Defence Corridor's 6 nodes. Moreover, In addition, UPEIDA and the IIT Kanpur Research and Technology Park Foundation signed an MoU for research and development in the aerospace and defence sector. {Read more}

Key Points:

- UPEIDA signed MoUs with SBI, BoB, PNB & SIDBI to provide financial assistance to investors in the Defence Corridor
- UPEIDA + IIT Kanpur R&T Park Foundation = an MoU for R&D in the Aerospace & Defence sector
- HQs of UPEIDA Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh | CEO Awanish Awasthi

Defence Affairs

21. In June 2022, North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) conducted a 2-week long United States-led naval exercise called "BALTOPS (Baltic Operations) 22" in the Baltic Sea, with more than 7,000 sailors, airmen and marines from 16 nations. It was hosted by Sweden. The annual BALTOPS naval exercise was initiated in 1972. Turkey, a NATO member, has objected to Finland and Sweden joining the military alliance. BALTOPS 22 was scheduled to end in the German port of Kiel on June 17. {Read more}

Key Points:

- NATO conducted the US-led naval exercise called "BALTOPS (Baltic Operations) 22" in the Baltic Sea
- The exercise was hosted by Sweden | BALTOPS naval exercise was initiated in 1972
- Turkey objected to Finland & Sweden joining the military alliance
- HQs of NATO Brussels, Belgium | Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg | Member Countries 30
- Sweden Stockholm Krona | PM Magdalena Andersson
- US Washington, D.C. US Dollar | 46th President Joe Biden | 49th VP Kamala Harris

22. Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), in a meeting chaired by Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh on June 6, 2022, accorded Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for Capital Acquisition Proposals of the Armed Forces amounting to Rs 76,390 Cr under 'Buy (Indian)', 'Buy & Make (Indian)' and 'Buy (Indian-IDDM)' categories. This will provide substantial boost to the Indian Defence Industry and reduce foreign spending significantly. The 'Digital Coast Guard' project under 'Buy (Indian)' category has also been approved by the DAC. {Read more}

- DAC accorded Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for Capital Acquisition Proposals of the Armed Forces worth Rs 76,390 Cr
- DAC also approved 'Digital Coast Guard' project under 'Buy (Indian) Category'
- DAC Chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh
- 23. On June 6, India successfully carried out a night launch of the nuclear-capable Intermediate-Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM) named "Agni-4" from the APJ Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha. The missile has a range of around 4,000 km. The successful test of Agni-4 reaffirms India's policy of having a 'credible minimum deterrence capability'. All these 'Agni missiles' are designed & developed by the DRDO. {Read more}



- India launched nuclear-capable "Agni-4" from the APJ Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha (Range 4000 Km)
- 'Agni' missiles are designed & developed by DRDO
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal
- HQs of DRDO New Delhi | Chairman G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in 1958
- 24. A multinational peacekeeping exercise "Ex Khaan Quest 2022" featuring participation from military contingents from 16 countries, including India was conducted from 6 June to 20 June, 2022 at the Peace Support Operations Training Centre in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Indian Army was represented by a contingent from the Ladakh Scouts. {Read more}

Key Points:

- A multinational peacekeeping exercise "Ex Khaan Quest 2022" conducted in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
- Indian Army was represented by a contingent from the Ladakh Scouts
- Mongolia Ulaanbaatar Mongolian Togrog | President Ukhnaa Khurelsukh
- **25.** As part of the ongoing India Bangladesh bilateral defence cooperation, a joint military training exercise "Ex SAMPRITI-X" was conducted at Jashore Military Station in Bangladesh from June 5 to 16, 2022. It aims to strengthen and widen the aspects of interoperability and cooperation between both the armies. The Indian contingent of company strength was represented by DOGRA Regiment. {Read more}

Key Points:

- India + Bangladesh = conducted a military training exercise "Ex SAMPRITI-X" at Jashore Military Station, Bangladesh
- Bangladesh Dhaka Taka | PM Seikh Hasina | President Abdul Hamid

The Question Bank

Sports & Games

26. On June 7, Badminton World Federation (BWF) confirmed that the US Open, scheduled for October 4 to 9, 2022, has been cancelled due to organisational complications coming out of COVID-19. The US Open is a Super 300 tournament on the BWF World Tour. This is the third consecutive time that US Open has been cancelled. The US Open is an international tennis tournament played on hard court. {Read more}

- BWF confirmed: US Open, scheduled for October 4 to 9, 2022, has been cancelled due to COVID-19
- US Open is played on Hard court
- HQs of BWF Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | President Poul-Erik Hoyer Larsen
- **27.** On June 5, Rafael Nadal, the 'King of Clay', defeated first time Grand Slam finalist, Casper Ruud, to win his record 14th French Open title in Paris, France. 36-year old Rafael Nadal has now become the oldest ever player to win the French Open, also known as Roland-Garros. The French Open is the only Grand Slam tournament held on clay courts. {Read more}



- Rafael Nadal (Spain Tennis) won his record 14th French Open title (defeating Casper Ruud)
- Rafael Nadal (King of Clay) now become the oldest ever player to win the 'French Open'
- The French Open (Roland-Garros) the only Grand Slam tournament held on 'Clay Courts'

Science & Technology

28. On June 4, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) shared a short clip of the biggest planet in our solar system Jupiter captured on its mission "Juno". On April 9, 2022, the NASA's Juno spacecraft completed its 41st close flyby of Jupiter. Juno is a NASA space probe orbiting the planet Jupiter. It was built by Lockheed Martin and is operated by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. The spacecraft was launched from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station on 5 August, 2011. Jupiter, the biggest planet in the solar system, has 53 recognised moons and another 26 that have yet to be named. {Read more}

Key Points:

- NASA shared a short clip of the Jupiter captured on its mission "Juno"
- Juno a NASA's space probe orbiting the Jupiter (Built by Lockheed Martin)
- HQs of NASA Washington D.C., USA | Administrator Bill Nelson | Founded on July 29, 1958

29. According to a latest research, Artificial light may become a new weapon in the fight to control malaria. For example, a short pulse of Light Emitting Diode (LED) light, commonly used lights in homes, can delay the onset of biting by hours in Anopheles, and so reduce biting rates and malaria transfer. There were an estimated 241 million cases and 6,27,000 deaths due to Malaria in 2020 globally. Malaria remains a menace across Africa. The continent carries by far the world's largest disease burden: 94% of cases and 96% of deaths occur across the continent. Female mosquitoes (Anopheles mosquitoes) transmit malaria among humans. {Read more}

Key Points:

- 'Artificial Light' may become a new weapon in the fight to control Malaria
- Globally, there were an estimated 241 million cases & 6,27,000 deaths due to Malaria in 2020 globally
- Africa continent carries the world's largest burden of Malaria
- Female mosquitoes (Anopheles mosquitoes) transmit malaria among humans

30. On June 5, China successfully launched the "Shenzhou 14" crewed mission to the Tiangong Space Station, where 3 astronauts are going stay for 6 months to complete its construction. Two other crewed missions have already been to the space station and returned safely to Earth. According to official media, China started the manned space programme in 1992. 'Tiangong', officially the 'Tiangong space station', is a space station being constructed by China in low Earth orbit between 340 and 450 km. {Read more}

- China successfully launched the "Shenzhou 14" crewed mission to the Tiangong Space Station
- 'Tiangong space station' being constructed by China in low Earth orbit
- China Beijing Renminbi | President Xi Jinping





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Appointments & Resignations

31. On June 6, the markets regulator SEBI restructured its Advisory Committee on Mutual Funds (MFs). The 25-member advisory committee will be chaired by former Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Usha Thorat. The SEBI has inducted Chairman of NJ India Invest, Neeraj Choksi in the advisory committee. Earlier, the panel had 24 members. The committee is mandated to advise SEBI on issues related to regulation and development of mutual fund industry. {Read more}

Key Points:

- SEBI restructured its Advisory Committee on Mutual Funds
- It will be chaired by Usha Thorat (former Deputy Governor of the RBI)
- HQs of SEBI Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in 1992

32. On June 7, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approved the appointment of Alok Kumar Choudhary, deputy managing director of State Bank of India (SBI), as the Managing Director for a period of 2 years. He replaces former MD Ashwani Bhatia who took charge as the whole time member of the SEBI. With this appointment, SBI will have 4 managing directors led by the chairman. The three other MDs include C S Setty, Swaminathan Janakiraman and Ashwini Kumar Tewari. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Alok Kumar Choudhary appointed as the MD of SBI for 2 years (succeeding Ashwani Bhatia)
- HQs of SBI Bank Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MDs Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Alok Kumar Choudhary | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

33. On June 6, Indian Cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni is appointed as the brand ambassador of Chennai-based Garuda Aerospace, an Indian drone startup. MS Dhoni has invested an undisclosed sum in the startup. Recently, the drone start-up manufactured drones named as 'Corona-Killer' to spray disinfectants and sanitise public spaces to contain spread of COVID-19. Garuda Aerospace has been a pioneer in the Indian Drone Ecosystem & is firmly on the path to becoming India's 1st ever Drone Unicorn Start-up. As per the reports, the global drone market is currently dominated by the US, China and Israel, while India accounts for about 4.25% share. {Read more}

Key Points:

- M. S. Dhoni appointed as the brand ambassador of Garuda Aerospace (Chennai)
- Garuda Aerospace also manufactured drones named as 'Corona-Killer' to spray disinfectants

34. On June 5, Albania's parliament elected a top military official, Gen. Maj. Bajram Bega, as the country's new President after no candidates were nominated in three rounds of voting. Mr. Bajram replaced Ilir Meta. {Read more}

- Bajram Bega elected as Albania's new President (succeeding Ilir Meta)
- Albania Tirana Albanian Lek | President Gen. Maj. Bajram Bega



Schemes & Initiatives

35. On June 1, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Chairman G. R. Chintala launched "My Pad My Right" programme, in Leh, Ladakh. The programme launched by NABARD's NabFoundation. This will help women to participate in country's economic development. {Read more}

Key Points:

- NABARD launched "My Pad My Right" programme in Leh, Ladakh
- HQs of NABARD Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Govinda Rajulu Chintala | Founded in 1982
- Ladakh: Capital Leh | Lt. Governor R. K. Mathur

36. On June 7, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy launched "YSR Yantra Seva" scheme and flagged off the distribution of tractors and combine harvesters at Chuttugunta Centre in Guntur district. 3,800 tractors and 320 combined harvesters would be made available at Rythu Bharosa Centres (RBKs) across the State. About 10,750 YSR Yantra Seva Centres would be set up at each RBK level at a cost of Rs 2,016 Cr. {Read more}

Key Points:

- YS Jagan Mohan Reddy (Andhra Pradesh) launched "YSR Yantra Seva" scheme
- The CM flagged off the distribution of Tractors & Combine Harvesters at Chuttugunta in Guntur district
- About 10,750 YSR Yantra Seva Centres would be set up at each RBK level (Cost Rs 2,016 Cr)
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital Amravati | CM YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan

Smartkeeda **Important Days & Dates**

37. World Food Safety Day is annually celebrated on 7 June across the globe. It is a day dedicated to a better and healthier future. In 2022, the theme is "Safer Food, Better Health". The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) founded World Food Safety Day in 2018 to ensure safe food for all. {Read more}

Key Points:

- June 7 World Food Safety Day by UNGA (since 2018)
- 2022's Theme "Safer Food, Better Health"
- HQs of UNGA New York, USA | President Abdulla Shahid | Member Countries 193

Books & Authors

38. Indian author Ashwin Sanghi has authored a new book titled "The Magicians of Mazda". The book is a part of his charttopping 'Bharat Series'. The book is published by HarperCollins India. The book travels backwards through - the epochs of Islamic jihad, Macedonian revenge, Achaemenid glory, messianic birth, Aryan schism to the Vedic fount from where it all began. The novel is initially set in 720 CE when some boats dock at the Sanjan port in Gujarat, India. {Read more}



- "The Magicians of Mazda" book authored by Ashwin Sanghi
- Publisher HarperCollins India

Meetings, Conferences and Summits

39. Minister of External Affairs, S. Jaishankar, responded to a question on India's official position on the Ukraine conflict at "GLOBSEC 2022 Forum" that was held in Bratislava, Slovakia. It is the most important international strategic conference that facilitates the free exchange of ideas and provides a meeting place for stakeholders from all sectors of society to actively shape the future. {Read more}

Key Points:

S. Jaishankar – attended the "GLOBSEC 2022 Forum" – held in Bratislava, Slovakia

40. PM Narendra Modi virtually addressed the Rotary International World Convention held in Houston, Texas, US from June 4 to 8, 2022. This year marked 113th annual Rotary International Convention which was organised by Rotary International. The PM also highlighted India's initiatives like International Solar Alliance, "One Sun, One World, One Grid", and LIFE - Lifestyle for Environment. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi virtually addressed the "Rotary International World Convention" held in Houston, Texas, US
- 113th annual Rotary Inte<mark>rnational C</mark>onvention organised by Rotary International
- US Washington, D.C. US Dollar | 46th President Joe Biden | 49th VP Kamala Harris

41. On June 2, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal was invited to attend the "World Cities Summit (WCS) 2022" in Singapore to present the "Delhi Model". The summit will take place on August 2-3. WCS is jointly organised by Singapore's Centre for Liveable Cities and the Urban Redevelopment Authority. WCS 2022 will also feature the WCS Smart Cities Workshop, an exclusive in-person networking event to advance smart city projects through one-on-one consultation clinics with suitable partners and funders. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Arvind Kejriwal was invited to the "World Cities Summit (WCS) 2022" in Singapore to present the "Delhi Model"
- WCS jointly organised by Singapore's Centre for Liveable Cities + Urban Redevelopment Authority
- Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena | Chief Secretary Naresh Kumar
- Singapore Singapore Dollar | PM Lee Hsien Loong | President Halimah Yacob

42. The 90th Interpol General Assembly is scheduled to be held in New Delhi in October, 2022. The arrangements for the event are being made by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in coordination with other government agencies. The CBI is the designated nodal body for the Interpol in India. The last 89th Interpol General Assembly was held in Turkey's Istanbul in November, 2021. {Read more}



- 90th Interpol General Assembly to be held in New Delhi (in October, 2022)
- CBI is the designated nodal body for the Interpol in India
- HQs of Interpol Lyon, France | President Ahmed Naser Al-Raisi | Founded on Sep 7, 1923
- **43.** While addressing the "National School Education Ministers' Conference" in Gandhinagar, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan announced that the government is in the process of establishing model schools called 'PM Shri Schools'. PM Shri Schools will be the laboratory of 'National Education Policy (NEP) 2020'. They will be fully equipped to prepare students for the future. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Dharmendra Pradhan addressed the "National School Education Ministers' Conference" held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- Central Govt plans to establish model schools called 'PM Shri Schools'

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

44. The Carbon dioxide (CO₂) levels peaked more than 50% higher than pre-industrial levels in May 2022, comparable to levels seen about 4 million years ago, according to scientists. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) US-based 'Mauna Loa Atmospheric Baseline Observatory' measured that Co₂ levels peaked for 2022 at 421 parts per million (ppm) in May, an increase of 1.8 ppm over 2021. {Read more}

Key Points:

- CO₂ levels peaked more than 50% higher than pre-industrial levels in May 2022 at 421 ppm (increase of 1.8 ppm)
- NOAA's 'Mauna Loa Atmospheric Baseline Observatory' located in US
- **45.** Top Indian IT services company Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) retained its 10th rank among the top global BPM (Business Process Management) providers in 2021. The top 5 BPM players in terms of revenue were ADP, Teleperformance, Accenture, Concentrix and Sitel Group, with ADP's revenue being \$10.5 billion. TCS has a revenue of \$3 billion and its revenue growth witnessed a growth of 14-16% over 2020. The rankings were released by outsourcing consultancy Everest Group, based on a composite score of revenue. Moreover, the top 5 fastest growing companies year-on-year were Tech Mahindra, Telus International, Majorel, Teleperformance and Comdata. {Read more}

- TCS retained its 10th rank 'in terms of revenue' among the top global BPM providers in 2021 (TCS's revenue \$3 bn)
- Top 5 BPM players in terms of revenue ADP, Teleperformance, Accenture, Concentrix & Sitel Group
- Top 5 fastest growing companies Tech Mahindra, Telus International, Majorel, Teleperformance & Comdata
- HQs of TCS Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO Rajesh Gopinathan | Founded in 1968



46. India recorded its highest-ever textiles and apparel exports in the financial year 2021-22 at USD 44.4 billion, increase of 41% over FY 2020-21. USA was the top export destination for India's textiles and apparel shipments accounting for 27% share, followed by the European Union (18%) & Bangladesh (12%). Man-made textiles exports were to the tune of USD 6.3 billion with a 14% share. In terms of product categories, the export of cotton textiles was USD 17.2 billion with 39% share, ready-made garments at USD 16 billion with 36% share and handicrafts at USD 2.1 billion with 5% share. {Read more}

- India recorded its highest-ever textiles and apparel exports in FY22 at \$44.4 billion (increase of 41% over FY 21)
- Top export destinations US (27%), European Union (18%) & Bangladesh (12%)
- Export product categories Cotton Textiles (39%), Ready-made Garments (36%) & Handicrafts (5%)

47. As on June 8, India scored the lowest among 180 countries in the "2022 Environment Performance Index (EPI)", an analysis by researchers of Yale & Columbia University. The EPI ranks 180 countries on 40 performance indicators including climate change, environmental public health, biodiversity, among others. India ranked 180th with a total score of 18.9, while Denmark was the top scorer as the world's most sustainable country. The top five countries are Denmark, the United Kingdom, Finland, Malta, and Sweden. {Read more}

Key Points:

Key Points:

- "2022 Environment Performance Index (EPI)" an analysis by researchers of Yale & Columbia University
- India ranked 180th among 180 countries | Top Denmark (the world's most sustainable country)

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

48. On June 3, Easy Home Finance (EASY) entered into a co-lending partnership with ICICI Home Finance Company (ICICI HFC) to disburse affordable home loans in India. The partnership will benefit customers in numerous ways such as eradicating the hassle of long home loan procedures and paperwork. Easy Home Finance earlier had announced a MaaS (Mortage as a Service) partnership with ESAF Bank, and now with ICICI Home Finance. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Easy Home Finance + ICICI HFC = partnership to disburse affordable home loans in India
- HQs of ICICI Bank Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Sandeep Bakhshi | Taglines "Hum Hain Na!" & "Khayal Apka"

49. In June 2022, SBI Foundation launched "UpSchool", a digital learning program for students from classes 1 to 10 in partnership with Khan Academy. This program will be available in English, Hindi and Kannada languages aiming to reduce learning gaps and build a solid foundation in math and reading for their current academic year. The initiation of this partnership took place in Punjab. {Read more}

- SBI Foundation + Khan Academy = launched a digital learning program "UpSchool" for students from classes 1 to 10
- This program will be available in English, Hindi & Kannada
- HQs of SBI Foundation Mumbai, Maharashtra | President Lalit Mohan
- HQs of Khan Academy California, USA | Founder & CEO Sal Khan



50. On June 3, India and Canada signed an MoU to increase bilateral cooperation on Climate Action, Environmental Protection & Conservation. Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav and his Canadian counterpart Steven Guilbeault signed the MoU at the Stockholm+50 Meeting. The meeting was held to commemorate 50 years of the "Stockholm Conference", the first United Nations conference on Environment. {Read more}

- India + Canada = an MoU to increase bilateral cooperation on Climate Action, Environmental Protection & Conservation
- The meeting was held to commemorate 50 years of the "Stockholm Conference"
- Canada Ottawa Canadian Dollar | PM Justin Trudeau
- Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Bhupender Yadav | Constituency Rajasthan
- MoS in Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Ashwini Kumar Choubey







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