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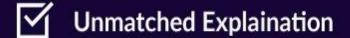
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National & States Affairs

251. On June 12, Chinese tech giant Tencent bought 0.72% stake worth \$264 million (about Rs 2,060 Cr) in Walmart-owned e-commerce firm Flipkart from its co-founder, Binny Bansal. Flipkart is registered in Singapore and has operations in India only. Binny Bansal now holds 1.84% in Flipkart after this deal with Tencent Cloud Europe BV. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Tencent (China) bought 0.72% stake worth \$264 million (about Rs 2,060 Cr) in Flipkart
- Flipkart is registered in Singapore and has operations in India only
- Binny Bansal now holds 1.84% in Flipkart after this deal
- HQs of Flipkart Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson Binny Bansal | CEO Kalyan Krishnamurthy

252. On June 12, the Social Justice & Empowerment Ministry (MoSJE) launched the new draft 'National Policy on persons with disabilities (PwD)' and has invited public feedback on it till July 9. The draft proposes interventions in disability prevention, education, healthcare, social security and accessibility. The "Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016" expanded the number of disabilities from 7 to 21. The draft policy called for a comprehensive national programme on prevention that would include the disabilities added in the RPD Act and other medical conditions that are risk cases that could manifest as a disability. However, a revision was required as the existing national policy on disability was drafted in 2006, after which India signed the "United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities" in 2007. A committee headed by Anjali Bhawra was formed to come up with the draft. {Read more}

Key Points:

- MoSJE launched the new 'Draft National Policy on PwD, 2021'
- The "Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016" expanded the number of disabilities from 7 to 21
- A committee to come up with the draft headed by Anjali Bhawra

 Svinting (National Bulliana Brailing and Brailing)

 On the standard Brailing and Brailing a
- Existing 'National Policy on Disability' was drafted in 2006

253. On June 10, Fintech startup XPay.Life, India's first blockchain-enabled transaction framework, launched its UPI services targeted at rural India, as it completes 3 years of operations. XPay.Life aims to make financial facilities accessible for people in rural areas. The launch of its UPI services is expected to benefit XPay.Life's 4 million consumers across more than 15 states and 1 lakh villages. {Read more}

Key Points:

- XPay.Life launched its UPI services targeted at rural India
- XPay.Life a fintech startup that aims to make financial facilities accessible for people in rural areas
- HQs of XPay.Life Bangalore | Founder & CEO Rohit Kumar

254. On June 12, Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly adopted the digital Vidhan Sabha system for paperless proceedings. Uttar Pradesh is one of the few state legislatures in India that has implemented this. The National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) is a system for digitising the legislative bodies of all Indian states and the Parliament through a single platform. Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs is the nodal ministry for the e-Vidhan system. Nagaland became the first state to implement NeVA in March, 2022. PM Narendra Modi announced the idea of "One Nation One Legislative Platform" in November 2021. {Read more}



- Uttar Pradesh adopted the 'Digital Vidhan Sabha System' for paperless proceedings
- Nodal Ministry for the e-Vidhan system Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs | Nagaland first state to implement NeVA
- PM Narendra Modi announced the idea of "One Nation One Legislative Platform" in Nov, 2021
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel

255. On June 10, PM Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for various development projects in Gujarat totaling Rs 3,050 Cr during the 'Gujarat Gaurav Abhiyan' in Navsari district of Gujarat. These projects would assist improve the region's water supply. PM Modi performed the Bhumi Pujan for 13 water supply projects for residents of Tapi, Navsari and Surat districts, worth ₹961 Cr. The PM also inaugurated 'Nal Se Jal' projects worth Rs 163 Cr, and Virpur Vyara substation worth Rs 85 Cr to provide electricity to residents of the Tapi district. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi laid foundation stone for development projects worth Rs 3,050 Cr during 'Gujarat Gaurav Abhiyan' in Navsari district
- He also inaugurated 'Nal Se Jal' projects (Rs 163 Cr) and Virpur Vyara substation (Rs 85 Cr) to provide electricity to Tapi district
- Gujarat: Capital Gandhinagar | CM Bhupendra Patel | Governor Acharya Dev Vrat

256. On June 13, to ensure that the farmers get easy access to benefits distributed under various government schemes, the Karnataka government has launched software for Aadhar-based, single-window registration for the schemes. The Farmer Registration & Unified Beneficiary Information System (FRUITS) software facilitates single registration using an Aadhar card and Karnataka's Bhoomi digitised land record system for authenticating ownership. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Karnataka launched "FRUITS" software for Aadhar-based, single-window registration for the farmer schemes
- Karnataka: Capital Bangalore | CM Basavaraj Bommai | Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot

257. The Central Government scheme "Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik (UDAN)", headed by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, is celebrating its 5th anniversary this year. As of now, over 415 UDAN routes connect 66 underserved/unserved airports, including heliports and water aerodromes, while over 92 lakh people have benefited from the scheme. The Civil Aviation Ministry plans and commits to construct 100 new airports by 2024 in India with 1,000 new routes under the UDAN scheme by 2026. Under the scheme, the fare for 500 km is a mere ₹2,500, which is lesser than a taxi fare (₹10 to ₹15 per km). The scheme was Launched in October 2016, while the first UDAN flight was launched on April 27, 2017 from Jubbarhatti Airport, Shimla to Delhi. {Read more}

- Ministry of Civil Aviation's UDAN Scheme is celebrating its 5th anniversary in 2022 (Launched in October 2016)
- First UDAN flight launched on April 27, 2017 from Jubbarhatti Airport, Shimla to Delhi
- Ministry of Civil Aviation: Jyotiraditya M. Scindia | Constituency Guna, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Civil Aviation: V. K. Singh



258. On June 12, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated a Cancer Diagnostics & Research Centre in Kochi's Kaloor, which is slated to be India's first Oncology Laboratory for comprehensive Cancer diagnostic services. The centre is the dedicated research lab for Karkinos Healthcare. {Read more}

Key Points:

- India's first Oncology Laboratory for comprehensive Cancer diagnostic services inaugurated in Kochi, Kerala
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan

259. On June 13, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar launched the 'Sujal' initiative for Panchkula to monitor the water supply and control its flow in the region. Under the initiative, a device will be installed in every drinking water meter, tubewell and connections of Haryana Shehri Vikas Pradhikaran (HSVP) that will store the water usage data online. With this technology, it will become easy to estimate the flow of water in every house and at every commercial site. {Read more} Key Points:

- Manohar Lal Khattar launched the 'Sujal' initiative for Panchkula to monitor the water supply and control its flow
- A device will be installed in every drinking water meter, tubewell & HSVP connections to store water usage data online
- Haryana: Capital Chandigarh | CM Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor Bandaru Dattatraya

260. In June 2022, the central government has set up a "National Food Laboratory" under the Indo-Nepal bilateral agreement, which will make it easier and quicker to test food products being brought into India from Nepal. The 'National Food Laboratory' of FSSAI was inaugurated by Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya in Bihar's Raxaul, situated at the Indo-Nepal border. The laboratory is likely to get the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) accreditation by July-August, 2022. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the FSSAI's "National Food Laboratory" in Raxaul, Bihar
- Bihar: Capital Patna | CM Nitish Kumar | Governor Phagu Chauhan

261. On June 14, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin launched the "Ennum Ezhuthum" scheme to bridge the learning gap that was caused due to the COVID pandemic among students aged below 8. The scheme aims to ensure foundational literacy and numeracy by 2025. The children will be trained in three subjects - Tamil, English and Mathematics. The CM also announced Rs 1,000 incentive for girl students pursuing higher education. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu launched the "Ennum Ezhuthum" scheme to bridge the learning gap caused due to the COVID pandemic among students aged below 8
- Tamil Nadu: Capital Chennai | CM Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor Ravindra Narayan Ravi

262. In June 2022, Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman launched a "Single Nodal Agency (SNA) Dashboard" which will provide a platform for ministries/departments to monitor transfer of funds to states and their utilisation. Public Financial Management System (PFMS) has developed the SNA dashboard. The dashboard was launched as part of the Iconic Week Celebrations of the Ministry of Finance & Ministry of Corporate Affairs, held under the theme of "Transforming Lives". During the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) celebrations, she also launched 'NETRA (New e-Tracking and Remote Administration)' portal & mobile app for Indian Development & Economic Assistance Scheme (IDEAS). {Read more}



- Nirmala Sitharaman launched a "Single Nodal Agency (SNA) Dashboard"
- It will provide a platform for ministries/departments to monitor transfer of funds to states and their utilization
- Ministry of Finance & Ministry of Corporate Affairs celebrated Iconic Week under the theme "Transforming Lives"
- She also launched 'NETRA portal & mobile app for Indian Development & Economic Assistance Scheme (IDEAS)
- Ministry of Finance and Corporate Affairs: Nirmala Sitharaman | Constituency Karnataka
- MoS in Ministry of Finance: Pankaj Chaowdhary & Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad

263. On June 9, Minister of State for Culture Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal in an event organised by National Monuments Authority (NMA) released 'Banda Singh Bahadur Martyrdom Monument Poster', ahead of the 306th Martyrdom Day of Baba Banda Singh Bahadur, a great warrior to defend India and defeat the Mughals. Chairman of National Monuments Authority, Tarun Vijay also graced the occasion. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Arjun Ram Meghwal released 'Banda Singh Bahadur Martyrdom Monument Poster' in an event
- The event was organized by National Monuments Authority
- Baba Banda Singh Bahadur a great warrior to defend India and defeat the Mughals
- MoS in Minister of Culture: Arjun Ram Meghwal & Meenakashi Lekhi
- HQs of NMA New Delhi | Chairman Tarun Vijay

264. On June 9, the Suraksha-Mitra project, a vehicle monitoring system, has become operational in Kerala. The project, launched by the Motor Vehicle Department under the Nirbhaya scheme, envisages sending a distress message to the owners' mobile phones in case of any untoward incidents while travelling. Owners will receive SMS alerts from the Vehicle Location Tracking Device (VLTD) attached to the vehicles, if the vehicle is involved in an accident or driver over-speeds the vehicle. As part of the project, the device has been installed in 2.38 lakh vehicles. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Suraksha-Mitra project, a vehicle monitoring system became operational in Kerala
- Suraksha-Mitra project was launched by Motor Vehicle Department under the Nirbhaya scheme
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan

265. On June 8, Union Health Minister Dr Mansukh L. Mandaviya launched 'Ayurveda Aahar' logo on the occasion of World Food Safety Day on June 7. This measure is also likely to reinforce quality of Ayurvedic products. According to the FSSAI, 'Ayurveda Aahar' is food prepared in accordance with the recipes or ingredients and/or processes as per methods described in the authoritative books of Ayurveda listed under 'Schedule A' of "Food Safety & Standards (Ayurveda Aahar) Regulations, 2021". {Read more}

- Dr Mansukh Mandaviya launched 'Ayurveda Aahar' logo on the occasion of World Food Safety Day
- June 7 World Food Safety Day
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency Palitana, Gujarat



International Affairs

266. As on June 13, Russia has overtaken Saudi Arabia to become India's second-biggest supplier of oil behind Iraq as Russian crude is currently available at discount, as high as \$30 per barrel, following the war in Ukraine. Indian refiners bought about 25 million barrels of Russian oil in May. Russian-origin crude hit 5% of India's total seaborne imports in April for the first time. After the U.S. and China, India is the world's third-largest consumer of oil, over 85% of which is imported. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Russia overtooke Saudi Arabia to become India's second-biggest supplier of oil behind Iraq following the war in
- Russian-origin crude hit 5% of India's total seaborne imports in April for the first time
- India world's third-largest consumer of oil (After the U.S. and China)
- US Washington, D.C. US Dollar | 46th President Joe Biden | 49th VP Kamala Harris
- Ukraine Kyiv Ukrainian Hryvnia | President Volodymyr Zelensky
- Russia Moscow Russian Ruble | PM Mikhail Mishustin | President Vladimir Putin

267. On June 11, India was one of only three countries, other than Pakistan and Libya who abstained from the resolution criticising Iran for flouting the requests of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for inspections of its Nuclear Programme. Of the 35-nation Board of Governors of the IAEA, 30 countries voted for the resolution, while UK, Germany, France, Russia & China voted against it. The resolution, brought by the US, criticises Tehran for not cooperating, particularly over allegations that uranium traces were found at undeclared sites. {Read more}

Key Points:

- India, Pakistan and Libya only 3 countries that abstained from the resolution criticising Iran for flouting the requests of IAEA for inspections of its Nuclear Programme
- UK, Germany, France, Russia & China voted against the resolution
- HQs of IAEA Vienna, Austria | Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi | Founded in 1957 | Members 173
- Iran Tehran Rial | President Ebrahim Raisi | Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei

268. On June 5, the 57-nation Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Secretariat condemned and denounced the comments on Prophet Muhammed made by two national spokespersons of the BJP - Nupur Sharma & Naveen Jindal. The OIC claims to be the "collective voice of the Muslim world". It was established at a 1969 summit in Rabat (Morocco) after the 'criminal arson' of Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem. Presently based in Jeddah, the organisation plans to permanently move its headquarters to East Jerusalem once the disputed city is 'liberated'. India is not a member of the OIC as the UN member countries with a Muslim majority can join the OIC. {Read more}

- OIC- condemned the comments on Prophet Muhammed made by Nupur Sharma & Naveen Jindal
- OIC claims to be the "collective voice of the Muslim world"
- HQs of OIC Jeddah, Saudi Arabia | Secretary General Mr Hissein Brahim Taha | Established 1969 | Countries –
 57



269. On June 9, India formally handed over the 12 high-speed guard boats constructed under the government of India's \$100 million defence Line of Credit (LoC) to Vietnam at a ceremony at Hong Ha Shipyard during the ongoing visit of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to the South East Asian nation. The speed boats will be operated by the Vietnamese Border Guard Force. This project was an example of the 'Make in India-Make for the World' mission. The two Defence Ministers also signed the 'Joint Vision Statement on India-Vietnam Defence Partnership towards 2030'. The visit also comes on the occasion of 50 years of establishment of India-Vietnam diplomatic relations. {Read more}

Key Points:

- India handed over the 12 high-speed guard boats constructed under \$100 million defence Line of Credit (LoC) to
 Vietnam
- This project was an example of the 'Make in India-Make for the World' mission
- India + Vietnam completed 50 years of diplomatic relations
- India + Vietnam (Defence Ministers) = signed 'Joint Vision Statement on India-Vietnam Defence Partnership towards 2030'
- Vietnam Hanoi Vietnamese dong | PM Pham Minh Chinh | President Nguyen Xuan Phuc

270. On June 11, Rosatom State Corporation of Russia has supplied the first batches of more reliable and cost-efficient nuclear fuel, "TVS-2M" nuclear fuel, to India for the Units 1 & 2 of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (KNPP) located in Tamil Nadu. KNPP is powered by VVER-1000 reactors. Besides, the new fuel has increased uranium capacity as one TVS-2M assembly contains 7.6% more fuel material as compared to the earlier fuel bundles. Russia is building the KNPP under an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) of 1988 and follow on agreements in 1998 and 2008. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Rosatom State Corporation (Russia) supplied the cost-efficient nuclear fuel, "TVS-2M" nuclear fuel, to India
- "TVS-2M" nuclear fuel supplied to Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (KNPP) located in Tamil Nadu
- Russia Moscow Russian Ruble | PM Mikhail Mishustin | President Vladimir Putin

271. President Biden, Vice President Kamala Harris and dozens of world leaders arrived in Los Angeles to attend the 9th "Summit of the Americas" held in June 2022. The Summit of the Americas happens about every 3 years and brings together representatives from countries in the Western Hemisphere to tackle issues such as immigration, trade and poverty. The 8th Summit of the Americas was held in Lima, Peru, from April 13-14, 2018. The US hasn't hosted since the very first one in 1994. {Read more}

- "9th Summit of the Americas" was held in Los Angeles (held after 3 years)
- Joe Biden, Kamala Harris and dozens of world leaders arrived in Los Angeles to attend the summit
- The "8th Summit of the Americas" was held in Lima, Peru
- US Washington, D.C. US Dollar | 46th President Joe Biden | 49th VP Kamala Harris



Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

272. On June 12, Payment solution provider OmniCard launched cash withdrawal facility from any ATM through their e-wallet. With this, the company became the first RBI licensed PPI (prepaid payment instrument) to launch cash withdrawal using a RuPay-powered card from any ATMs across the country. Run by Noida-based Eroute Technologies, Omnicard is a RuPay powered prepaid card with a mobile app where the users can spend using swipe, scan, tap and pay online. {Read more}

Key Points:

- OmniCard launched cash withdrawal facility from any ATM through their e-wallet
- OmniCard became the first RBI licensed PPI to launch cash withdrawal using a RuPay-powered card from any ATMs
- Omnicard a RuPay powered prepaid card, run by Noida-based Eroute Technologies
- HQs of Eroute Technologies Noida, Uttar Pradesh | MD & CEO Sanjeev Pandey

273. On June 13, Foreign lender HSBC India announced to lend \$250 million to high-growth & tech-led startups in India, the third largest startup ecosystem in the world. The lending will be managed by the lender's commercial banking vertical. The commercial banking vertical in India had witnessed a 42% rise in its profit for 2021 at USD 265 million. Loans to small and medium enterprises tripled to USD 1 billion in 2021 as against USD 300 million in 2018, according to the bank. {Read more} Key Points:

- HSBC India announced to lend USD 250 million to high-growth & tech-led startups in India
- The commercial banking vertical in India witnessed a 42% rise in its profit for 2021 at \$265 million
- HQs of HSBC India Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Hitendra Dave

274. On June 13, Indian Bank launched its "KCC Digital Renewal Scheme", enabling eligible customers to renew their Kisan Credit Card accounts via digital modes. The initiative is part of the bank's digital transformation under project "WAVE (World of Advanced Virtual Experience)". The account renewals can be done using Indian Bank's IndOASIS mobile app, internet banking and via its website. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Indian Bank launched its "KCC Digital Renewal Scheme" enabling its customers to renew their KCC accounts digitally
- It is part of the bank's digital transformation under project "WAVE (World of Advanced Virtual Experience)"
- Indian Bank's mobile app IndOASIS
- HQs of Indian Bank Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO Shanti Lal Jain | Tagline "Your Own Bank"

Defence Affairs

275. Italy's Matteo Berrettini won men's singles title by defeating Britain's Andy Murray at the "Stuttgart Open 2022" or "BOSS Open 2022" held in Stuttgart, Germany in June, 2022. While Poland's Iga Swiatek won the women's singles title by defeating Belarusian Aryna Sabalenka. {Read more}



- "Stuttgart Open 2022" or "BOSS Open 2022" held in Stuttgart, Germany
- Matteo Berrettini (Italy Tennis) won men's singles title (defeated Andy Murray)
- Iga Swiatek (Poland Tennis) won women's singles title (defeated Aryna Sabalenka)
- Germany Berlin Euro | President Frank-Walter Steinmeier

276. The 38th edition of India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol (IND-INDO CORPAT) between Indian Navy and Indonesian Navy was conducted at Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar Islands from 13-24 June, 2022. INS Karmuk, along with a Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft participated in the CORPAT. The sea phase for the 38th edition of CORPAT was undertaken on June 20-21 in Andaman Sea, whilst the closing ceremony was scheduled at Sabang, Indonesia on June 23. {Read more}

Key Points:

- IND-INDO CORPAT 38th Coordinated Patrol between Indian Navy and Indonesian Navy conducted at Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- INS Karmuk + Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft participated in the CORPAT
- Sea phase 20-21 June in Andaman Sea | closing ceremony June 23 at Sabang, Indonesia
- Indonesia Jakarta Rupiah | President Joko Widodo

Sports & Games

277. In June 2022, Indian-American teen Harini Logan won the "2022 Scripps National Spelling Bee" competition held in Maryland, USA. The competition was hosted by LeVar Burton. The 13-year-old eighth-grader from San Antonio, Texas & four-time bee participant, Harini received a trophy and a cheque for \$50,000 for the victory. Harini beat 12-year-old Indian origin Vikram Raju in the spell-off, a new format that tested contestants on how many words they could correctly spell within 90 seconds. Harini correctly spelt 22 words, while Vikram got 15 right. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Harini Logan won the "2022 Scripps National Spelling Bee" competition held in Maryland, USA
- The competition was held in Maryland, USA | hosted by LeVar Burton

278. On June 11, 19-year-old Rahul Srivatshav P. of Telangana has become India's 74th Grandmaster, achieving the title after breaking the 2500 (Elo points) barrier in live FIDE ratings during the 9th Cattolica Chess Festival 2022 in Italy. He reached this feat against Georgia's Grandmaster Levan Pantsulaia in the Cattolica event. Srivatshav had already secured 5 GM norms. To become a GM, a player has to secure 3 GM norms and cross the live rating of 2500 Elo points. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Rahul Srivatshav P. (Telangana) became India's 74th Grandmaster during the 9th 'Cattolica Chess Festival 2022' in Italy
- A player has to secure 3 GM norms & cross the live rating of 2500 Elo points to become a GM

279. On June 12, Red Bull's Max Verstappen won the Formula One (F1) "Azerbaijan Grand Prix" to extend his Formula One championship lead over Ferrari's Charles Leclerc. The 24-year-old now has 66 podiums for Red Bull & it was his 25th career win. {Read more}



Max Verstappen (Red Bull - Netherlands) – won the Formula One (F1) "Azerbaijan Grand Prix"

280. On June 13, the International Cricket Council (ICC) announced the 'Players of the Month' for May 2022. Veteran Sri Lanka star Angelo Mathews was voted as "ICC Men's Player of the Month for May 2022". While Pakistan's Tuba Hassan was named the "ICC Women's Player of the Month for May 2022". 21-year old Tuba only made her international debut in the T20I series against Sri Lanka in May and won the prestigious 'Player of the Month' award in her first nomination. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Angelo Mathews (Sri Lanka) named "ICC Men's Player of the Month for May 2022"
- Tuba Hassan (Pakistan) named "ICC Women's Player of the Month for May 2022"

281. In June 2022, Gareth Bale led Wales National Football Team defeated Ukraine National Football Team to qualify for the "2022 FIFA World Cup" for the 1st time in 64 years, since 1958. The 2022 FIFA World Cup is scheduled to take place in Qatar from 21 November to 18 December, 2022. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Wales National Football Team defeated Ukraine to qualify for the "2022 FIFA World Cup" (for the 1st time in 64 years)
- 2022 FIFA World Cup to take place in Qatar (21 Nov-18 Dec, 2022)

Science & Technology

282. Volvo Trucks became the first auto manufacturer in the world to use fossil-free steel in its trucks. It claims that the fossil-free steel produced with hydrogen is currently being used in the frame rails only. Volvo Trucks also claims that with this strategy 90% of the vehicles can be recycled. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Volvo Trucks the first auto manufacturer in the world to use fossil-free steel in its trucks
- Volvo Trucks also claims that with this strategy 90% of the vehicles can be recycled

Appointments & Resignations

283. On June 11, RBL Bank appointed veteran banker R. Subramaniakumar as its new MD & CEO for the period of 6 years. He succeeds Vishwahir Ahuja. RBL Bank's MD & CEO Vishwavir Ahuja had decided to proceed on leave in December 2021 and the bank had appointed Rajeev Ahuja as Interim MD & CEO. R. Subramaniakumar is the former head of business transformation at Punjab National Bank (PNB). {Read more}

- R. Subramaniakumar was appointed as new MD & CEO of RBL Bank (Succeeding Vishwahir Ahuja)
- HQs of RBL Bank Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO R. Subramaniakumar | Chairman Prakash Chandra





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Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

284. Maharashtra's second State Cluster University, HSNC University, in Mumbai, conferred 'Honorary D.Litt.' (honorary Doctorate of Literature) to noted industrialist and philanthropist Ratan Tata at a special convocation ceremony held in Mumbai. The Governor of Maharashtra and Chancellor of the University Bhagat Singh Koshyari awarded the degree to Mr. Tata. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Bhagat Singh Koshyari (Maharashtra's Governor & Chancellor of HSNC Uni.) awarded 'Honorary D.Litt' to Ratan Tata
- HSNC University located in Mumbai, Maharashtra

Schemes & Initiatives

285. On June 14, India unveiled a transformative scheme called "Agnipath" for the recruitment of soldiers into the Army, the Navy and the Air Force largely on a short-term contractual basis. The scheme is aimed at slashing the salary and pension bills of the three services which have been increasing rapidly. "Under the 'Agneepath' scheme, Indian youth will be provided an opportunity to serve in the armed forces as 'Agniveer' for the period of 4 years. The armed forces will recruit 46,000 'Agniveers' in 2022 and the eligible age for selection will be in the range of 17.5 years to 21 years. The monthly salary of an 'Agniveer' in the first year of employment would be Rs 30,000 (Rs 21,000 on hand). Each 'Agniveer' will get an amount of Rs 11.71 lakh as 'Seva Nidhi Package' on completion of the service period of 4 years. The Defence Budget of Rs 5,25,166 Cr for 2022-23 included Rs 1,19,696 Cr for defence pensions. {Read more}

Key Points:

- India unveiled a "Agnipath" scheme for the recruitment of soldiers into the Army, the Navy and the Air Force on a short-term contractual basis (4 years)
- The armed forces will recruit 46,000 'Agniveers' in 2022 | Eligible age 17.5 years to 21 years
- The Defence Budget of Rs 5,25,166 Cr for 2022-23 included Rs 1,19,696 Cr for defence pensions
- Monthly salary of 'Agniveer' in the first year Rs 30,000 (Rs 21,000 on hand)
- Each 'Agniveer' will get an amount of Rs 11.71 lakh as 'Seva Nidhi Package' on completion of the service period

286. With an aim to connect the youth with more opportunities for on-ground training within corporates and further a chance to get employment, the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MoSDE) has decided to organise the "Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Mela (PMNAM)" every month, starting from June 13, 2022. More than 1000 companies from across 36+ sectors participated in the Mela providing opportunities of being hired as an apprentice within companies. Candidates will also receive Apprenticeship certificates recognised by the 'National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET)' at the end of their training period. {Read more}

- MoSDE decided to organise the "Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Mela (PMNAM)" every month
- Candidates will receive Apprenticeship certificates recognised by the NCVET at the end of the training
- Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship: Rajeev Chandrasekhar



287. On June 13, Minister of Railways, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology, Ashwini Vaishnaw launched Indian Railway Innovation Policy called "StartUps for Railways" & "Indian Railway Innovation Portal" in New Delhi. The policy includes 50% capital grant up to Rs 1.5 Cr to startups/innovator on equal sharing basis. The policy aims to leverage innovative technologies developed by Indian Startups/MSMEs/Innovators/Entrepreneurs to improve operational efficiency and Safety of Indian Railways. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Ashwini Vaishnaw launched "StartUps for Railways" & "Indian Railway Innovation Portal"
- The policy includes 50% capital grant up to Rs 1.5 Cr to startups/innovator on equal sharing basis
- Ministry of Railways: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Railways: Danve Raosaheb Dadarao & Darshana Vikram Jardosh

Important Days & Dates

288. World Blood Donor Day is observed every year on June 14 to spread awareness about the need for safe blood and blood products for transfusion. The slogan for the World Blood Donor Day 2022 is "Donating Blood is an Act of Solidarity. Join the Effort and Save Lives". The day marks the birth anniversary of Nobel Prize awardee Karl Landsteiner. In 2004, WHO celebrated World Blood Donor Day for the first time. In 2022, Mexico is the host country for the global event. {Read more} Key Points:

- June 14 World Blood Donor Day (birth anniversary of Karl Landsteiner)
- 2022's Theme "Donating Blood is an Act of Solidarity. Join the Effort and Save Lives"

The Question Bank

Books & Authors

289. Union Minister of State (I/C) Science & Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh released "Aarohan", a Coffee Table Book and ebook on the progressive contribution of the Income Tax Department over the last 7 decades, in New Delhi. The programme was organised to mark 75th year of India's independence and "Amrit Mahotsav". {Read more}

Key Points:

- Dr. Jitendra Singh released "Aarohan", a Coffee Table Book and e-book on the contribution of the Income Tax Dept.
- MoS I/C in Ministry of Earth Sciences: Dr. Jitendra Singh | Constituency Udhampur, J&K

Meetings, Conferences and Summits

290. South Africa, along with the International Labour Organization (ILO), hosted the 5th "Global Conference on the Elimination of Child Labour" in May, 2022. More than 4,000 delegates participated in the event. During the conference, the joint report of the ILO and the UNICEF titled "The Role of Social Protection in the Elimination of Child Labour: Evidence Review and Policy Implications" was released. The list of Children in Child labour is led by Africa with 72 million (5%), followed by Asia and the Pacific. {Read more}



- South Africa + ILO = hosted the 5th "Global Conference on the Elimination of Child Labour"
- "The Role of Social Protection in the Elimination of Child Labour: Evidence Review and Policy Implications" = Joint report by ILO + UNICEF was released
- HQs of ILO Geneva, Switzerland | DG Guy Ryder (From Oct, 2022 Gilbert Houngbo) | Founded in 1919
- HQs of UNICEF New York, US | Executive Director Catherine Russell | Established in 1946
- South Africa Cape Town South African Rand | President Cyril Ramaphosa

291. The 19th Shangri-La Dialogue, hosted by International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), opened in Singapore after a two-year Covid-19 pandemic induced hiatus. The Shangri-La Dialogue is Asia's premier defence summit. It's a unique meeting where ministers debate the region's most pressing security challenges. Since its launch in 2002, the Shangri-La Dialogue, officially known as the Asia Security Summit, has been held annually except for 2020 and 2021. {Read more}

Key Points:

- 19th Shangri-La Dialogue or Asia Security Summit hosted by IISS, opened in Singapore
- Singapore Singapore Dollar | PM Lee Hsien Loong | President Halimah Yacob

292. UN requires eight times more financial support than 20 years ago to be able to provide humanitarian aid to low-income countries during climate-related disasters, according to "Footing the Bill" report released by Oxfam International on June 10, 2022. In 2000-02, UN appealed for \$1.6 billion as humanitarian aid. The appealed amount rose to an average of \$15.5 billion in 2019-2021. Rich countries have been able to deliver 54% of the UN's appeals in the last 5 years, leaving a massive deficit of \$28-\$33 billion. The economic cost of loss and damage by 2030 will rise to the range of \$290-\$580 billion, the report noted. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Footing the Bill" report released by Oxfam International
- According to the report:
 - UN requires 8 times more financial support than 20 years ago to be able to provide humanitarian aid to low-income countries
 - UN appealed for \$1.6 billion as humanitarian aid in 2000-02 which rose to an average of \$15.5 billion in 2019-2021
 - The economic cost of loss and damage by 2030 will rise to the range of \$290-\$580 billion
- HQs of UN New York, United States | Secretary-General Antonio Guterres | Formed in October 24, 1945

293. On June 11, a meeting of the Western Zonal Council, comprising Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa and Union Territory of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu was held in Diu. The meeting was chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah. The zonal council discussed a broad range of issues, including subjects related to the boundary, security, and infrastructure-related matters. Five zonal councils were set up in 1957 under 'Section 15-22' of the 'States Re-organisation Act, 1956'. The Union Home Minister is the Chairman of each of these five zonal councils and Chief Minister of the host state is the Vice-Chairman. {Read more}

- Amit Shah chaired the Meeting of the Western Zonal Council held in Diu
- Western Zonal Council comprises: Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu
- Chairman of each of all 5 Zonal Councils Home Minister | Vice-Chairman Chief Minister of the Host State



Ranks, Reports & Surveys

294. A recent study titled "Child Artists in India" by Child Rights and You, reveals that a child below the age of 15 in the entertainment industry in India, works for more than 12 hours a day and casting agencies are violating "The Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986" that prohibits engagement of children in all occupations. It is clearly mentioned in "CALPRA, 1986", that no child shall be allowed to work for more than 5 hours in a day. The overall number of child artists is estimated to be between 6,059 and 12,334 based on Media and Entertainment Skills Council estimates for 2017. The provisions of CALPRA also state, at least 20% of the income earned by the child from the production or event is to be directly deposited in a fixed deposit account which may be credited to her/him on attaining maturity. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Child Artists in India" report was released by Child Rights and You
- The report reveals that a child below age of 15 in entertainment industry in India works for more than 12 hours a day
- Casting agencies are violating "CALPRA 1986" that prohibits engagement of children in all occupations
- CALPRA, 1986 states that no child shall be allowed to work for more than 5 hours in a day

295. On June 13, Minister of State of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh released the 2nd edition of the National e-Governance Service Delivery Assessment (NeSDA) 2021. The NeSDA 2021 report has been prepared covering the assessment of States, UTs, and focus Central Ministries on their effectiveness in delivering online services to citizens. Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG) had constituted the NeSDA in 2019. Jammu & Kashmir ranked the highest among UTs with an overall compliance of nearly 90%. While Nagaland ranked highest among North-East & Hill States, Kerala topped among Remaining States - Group A, and Odisha topped among Remaining States - Group B. While among all the states & UTs, Kerala secured the highest overall compliance score. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Dr. Jitendra Singh released the 2nd edition of the NeSDA 2021 (delivering online services to citizens)
- Highest compliance: UTs J & K | North East & Hill States Nagaland | Remaining states: Group A Kerala | Group B
 Odisha | Overall Kerala
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan
- Nagaland: Capital Kohima | CM Neiphiu Rio | Governor Jagdish Mukhi (addi. charge)
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal
- J & K: Capital Srinagar | Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha

296. The life expectancy of females in India has registered a healthy improvement by 0.4 years from 70.7 years in 2014-18 to 71.1 years in 2015-19, according to the report "SRS (Sample Registration System) Based Abridged Life Tables, 2015-19" by the Registrar General and Census Commissioner. Female life expectancy is higher than that of male (68.4 years). The increase in life expectancy for males is 0.2 years. Kerala has recorded the highest life expectancy at birth for males and females in rural areas, while Jammu & Kashmir has recorded the highest for males in urban areas and Himachal Pradesh has recorded the highest life expectancy for females in urban areas. While Chhattisgarh with 65.3 years, has the lowest life expectancy at birth. The expectation of life is the highest in Delhi at 74.3 years for males and in Kerala (78.0 years) for females, while it is the lowest in Chhattisgarh (63.7 years) for males and Uttar Pradesh (66.2 years) for females. {Read more}



- "SRS (Sample Registration System) Based Abridged Life Tables, 2015-19" by Registrar General & Census Commissioner
- Life expectancy of females in India in 2015-19 71.1 years | Life expectancy of Male 68.4 years
- Highest life expectancy at birth in rural areas: in Male Kerala, in Female Kerala
- Highest life expectancy at birth in urban areas: in Male J&K, in Female Himachal Pradesh
- Lowest life expectancy at birth Chhattisgarh (65.3 years)
- Highest Life expectation for males Delhi (74.3 years) | for female Kerala (78.0 years)
- Lowest Life expectation for males Chhattisgarh (63.7 years) | for female Uttar Pradesh (66.2 years)

Acquisitions & Mergers

297. On June 14, Adani and TotalEnergies of France, entered into a new partnership to jointly create the world's largest Green Hydrogen Ecosystem. In this strategic alliance, TotalEnergies will acquire 25% minority interest in Adani New Industries (ANIL) from Adani Enterprises (AEL) by investing USD 12.5 billion. ANIL's ambition is to invest over USD 50 billion over the next 10 years in green hydrogen and associated ecosystem. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Adani + TotalEnergies (France) = partnership to jointly create the world's largest Green Hydrogen Ecosystem
- TotalEnergies will acquire 25% minority interest in Adani New Industries (ANIL) by investing \$12.5 billion
- HQs of Adani Group Ahmedabad, Gujarat | Chairman Gautam Adani | MD Rajesh Adani

The Question Bank

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

298. In June 2022, IIT Kanpur, with support from Prasar Bharati and TSDSI (Telecommunications Standards Development Society, India) organised the "Direct-to-Mobile & 5G Broadband - Convergence Roadmap for India" in New Delhi to bring Telecom and Broadcasting Policy makers together. Prasar Bharati extends support to NextGen Broadcasting Technology. {Read more}

Key Points:

- IIT Kanpur + Prasar Bharati + TSDSI = organised the "Direct-to-Mobile & 5G Broadband Convergence Roadmap for India" in New Delhi
- Prasar Bharati extends support to NextGen Broadcasting Technology
- HQs of Prasar Bharati New Delhi | CEO Shashi Shekhar Vempati
- Director of IIT Kanpur Abhay Karandikar

299. On June 12, Telangana government signed an MoU with Bengaluru-based Elest to set up India's first display fabrication unit called 'Generation 6 AMOLED Display FAB' in Hyderabad with an investment of Rs 24,000 Cr to manufacture next generation displays for smartphones, tablet computers, and laptops. Elest is promoted by Rajesh Exports, a Global Fortune 500 company. The Display FAB would be set up under the India Semiconductor Mission Programme of the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY). {Read more}



- Telangana + Elest (Bengaluru) an MoU to set up India's first display fabrication unit called 'Generation 6 AMOLED Display FAB'
- The display fabrication unit will be set up with an investment of Rs 24,000 Cr under Semiconductor Mission Programme
- Telangana: Capital Hyderabad | CM K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan

300. On June 13, a navigation firm MapmyIndia collaborated with India's space agency ISRO to enhance the quality of its 3D maps. The company is developing new maps as part of its foray into the metaverse. The company serves Indian market under MapmyIndia brand and overseas market under the brand Maapls. {Read more}

- MapmyIndia + ISRO = collaborated to enhance the quality of its 3D maps
- The company serves Indian market under MapmyIndia brand and overseas market under the brand Maapls
- HQs of MapmyIndia New Delhi | CEO Rohan Verma | CMD Rakesh Verma
- HQs of ISRO Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director S. Somanath | Formed on August 15, 1969







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