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# National & States Affairs

**1.** Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat attended the official name change ceremony of 'Miyan ka Bada' railway station to 'Mahesh Nagar Halt' in Rajasthan. Earlier in 2018, the name of the village was changed from Miyan ka Bada to Mahesh Nagar but the name of the railway station was not changed. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- 'Miyan ka Bada' railway station – renamed to 'Mahesh Nagar Halt' in Rajasthan
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

**2.** With the aim of providing critical medical aid to Sri Lanka during the ongoing crisis, INS Gharial as part of Mission SAGAR IX arrived at Colombo on 29 April 2022 and delivered over 760 kgs of 107 types of critical lifesaving medicines. In line with Gol's vision of "SAGAR" (Security And Growth for All in the Region), the Indian Navy undertakes several deployments titled 'Mission SAGAR' to assist friendly IOR littorals. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- INS Gharial – delivered over 760 kgs of 107 types of critical lifesaving medicines at Colombo as part of 'Mission SAGAR IX'
- SAGAR – Security And Growth for All in the Region
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26<sup>th</sup> Jan, 1950

**3.** With an aim to lead the country towards green shipping, the ministry of ports, shipping and waterways decided to develop and build the first indigenous hydrogen fuelled electric vessels at Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL). The hydrogen fuel cell vessel is expected to cost around Rs. 17.50 Cr, of which 75% would be funded by the Government of India. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Cochin Shipyard Ltd – to develop & build first indigenous Hydrogen Fuelled Electric Vessels (Cost – 17.50 Cr)
- HQs of Cochin Shipyard – Kochi, Kerala | Chairman & MD – Madhu S. Nair | Incorporated in – 1972
- Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Shripad Yesso Naik & Shantanu Thakur

**4.** On the occasion of the inauguration of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) at the CSL Kochi, Union Minister for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal announced that CSL has committed to invest an initial corpus of Rs 50 Cr in the Start-up companies engaged in the maritime sector. The Minister also unveiled the Start-up engagement framework of CSL. Cochin Shipyard was incorporated in 1972 as a Government of India company. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Sarbananda Sonowal – inaugurated the Golden Jubilee celebrations of Cochin Shipyard Limited at Kochi
- Cochin Shipyard Limited – committed to invest an initial corpus of Rs 50 Cr in the maritime sector Start-up companies
- HQs of Cochin Shipyard – Kochi, Kerala | Chairman & MD – Madhu S. Nair | Incorporated in – 1972
- Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Shripad Yesso Naik & Shantanu Thakur



5. On May 1, the Madras High Court invoked the “parens patriae jurisdiction” to declare Mother Nature as a Living Being with all corresponding rights, duties and liabilities of a living person, in order to preserve and conserve them. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Madras High Court – invoked the “parens patriae jurisdiction” to declare Mother Nature as a ‘Living Being’
- Chief Justice of Madras High Court – Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari

6. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is considering implementing “Organic Aadhaar” for the farmers engaged in organic farming under the ‘National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP)’ to rule out any possibility of bogus enrollment. The idea is to create an identity for the farmer, based on Personal Aadhar and ULPIN, for the organic certification process. The government has been implementing a 14-digit identification number to every plot of land in the country under the Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) scheme. Moreover, the ‘Tracenet system’ was launched in 2009 to provide details of products exported from the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- APEDA is considering implementing “Organic Aadhaar” for the farmers engaged in organic farming under “NPOP”
- ULPIN – Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (a 14-digit identification number to every plot of land)
- HQs of APEDA – New Delhi | Chairman – M. Angamuthu | Established in – 1986 (functions under Ministry of C&I)

7. The second phase of the mandatory hallmarking under the “Hallmarking of Gold Jewellery and Gold Artefacts (Amendment) Order, 2022” will come into force from June 1, 2022. As per the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, the second phase of the mandatory hallmarking will cover additional three caratages of gold jewellery/artefacts viz. 20, 23, and 24 carats. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is responsible for the implementation of the hallmarking. The authenticity and purity of the hallmarked gold jewellery items with the Hallmark Unique Identification (HUID) number, purchased by the consumer, can also be verified by using ‘verify HUID’ in the ‘BIS CARE’ app. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The second phase of the mandatory hallmarking of gold will come into force from June 1, 2022
- BIS is responsible for the implementation of the hallmarking | HUID number – Hallmark Unique Identification number
- HQs of BIS – Manek Bhawan, Old Delhi | Director General – Pramod Kumar Tiwari

8. In a move aimed at providing a global platform for millet products, the Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) launched a variety of millet products for all age groups at affordable prices ranging from Rs 5 to Rs 15 at the ‘AAHAR’ food fair, which is Asia’s biggest B2B international food and hospitality fair. All the millet products launched by APEDA are gluten-free, 100% natural and patented. APEDA also launched a variety of “Millet in Minutes” products under the category of Ready-to-Eat (RTE). The 36<sup>th</sup> edition of ‘AAHAR’ was jointly organized by APEDA and the India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO) in New Delhi. In March, 2021, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has declared 2023 as “International Year of Millets”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- APEDA – launched gluten-free, 100% natural & patented millet products for all age groups at affordable prices
- APEDA – also launched a variety of “Millet in Minutes” products
- UNGA has declared 2023 as “International Year of Millets”
- HQs of APEDA – New Delhi | Chairman – M. Angamuthu | Established in – 1986 (functions under Ministry of C&I)



**9.** On May 1, Government of India launched the “National Open Access Registry (NOAR)” website to promote open access in the Power Sector. NOAR has been designed as an integrated single window electronic platform accessible to all stakeholders. NOAR is part of the Ministry of Power. National Load Despatch Centre (NLDC) operated by Power System Operation Corporation Limited (POSOCO) has been designated as the nodal agency for implementation and operation of NOAR. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Gol launched the “National Open Access Registry (NOAR)” website to promote open access in the Power Sector
- NOAR is part of Ministry of Power | Nodal agency of NOAR – NLDC (NLDC is operated by POSOCO)

**10.** On May 1, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar inaugurated a Greenfield Grain-based Ethanol Plant at Purnea, Bihar. The project is a part of Bihar’s ambitious foray into ethanol production using sugarcane, maize and rice to meet the country’s fuel needs. It is built at a cost of Rs 105 Cr and it is a zero-liquid discharge plant that makes it completely environment friendly. This plant will produce 65,000 litres of ethanol per day. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nitish Kumar – inaugurated a Greenfield Grain-based Ethanol Plant at Purnea, Bihar
- Cost – Rs 105 Cr | Capacity – 65,000 litres of ethanol per day
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

**11.** Bhupender Yadav, Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC) chaired the 16<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting of Project Elephant at the Forest Research Institute (FRI) in Dehradun and launched the “Field Manual for Managing Human-Elephant Conflicts in India”. The manual was prepared by the ministry, along with the Wildlife Institute of India (WWI) and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF India). Besides the manual, the minister also released the “Preliminary Report on Human Elephant Conflict” and a booklet titled “Trumpet”. India is home to approximately around 27,000 Asian Elephants, which is the world’s largest population of the species. Some 30 elephant reserves have been established so far in 14 major elephant states, according to the Union government. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bhupender Yadav – chaired the 16<sup>th</sup> ‘Steering Committee Meeting of Project Elephant’ in Dehradun, Uttarakhand
- Bhupender Yadav – launched the “Field Manual for Managing Human-Elephant Conflicts in India”
- The manual was prepared by = MoEFCC + WWI + WWF India
- Bhupender Yadav – released a “Preliminary Report on Human Elephant Conflict” & a booklet titled “Trumpet”

**12.** Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan released the ‘mandate document’ for the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) under the new National Education Policy (NEP) and described it as a step towards decolonisation of the Indian Education System. The NEP 2020 recommended the development of NCF in 4 areas - School Education, Early Childhood Care & Education, Teacher Education and Adult Education. The NCF has been revised four times so far - in 1975, 1988, 2000 and 2005. The proposed revision will be the 5<sup>th</sup> of the NCF. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Education Minister – released the ‘mandate document’ (5<sup>th</sup> revision) for the National Curriculum Framework (NCF)
- NEP 2020 recommended the development of NCF in 4 areas:
  - School Education, Early Childhood Care & Education, Teacher Education and Adult Education
- Ministry of Education: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency – Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Education: Subhas Sarkar

**13.** On May 1, Indian Railways announced the closure of the Special Railway Establishment for Strategic Technology and Holistic Advancement (SRESTHA), Lucknow. Established in March 2016, the SRESTHA directorate, part of the Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO), was tasked with the role of taking up long-term railway research projects requiring technological advancement. As part of the restructuring plan, the railways also decided to merge 32 Directorates of the RDSO and brought them under 7 verticals. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

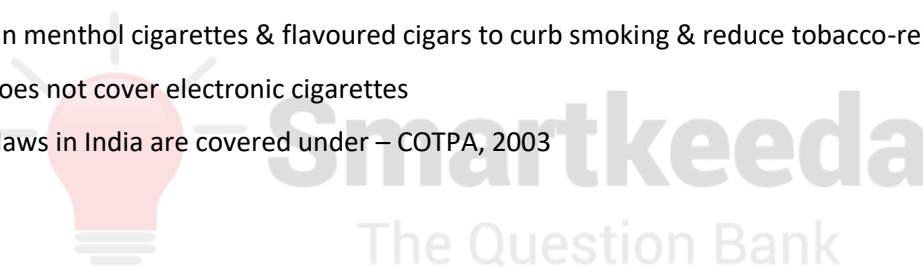
- Indian Railways announced the closure of “SRESTHA” (Lucknow, UP)
- SRESTHA – **S**pecial **R**ailway **E**stablishment for **S**trategic **T**echnology and **H**olistic **A**dvancement | Established in – 2016
- HQs of RDSO – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh | Director General – Sanjiv Bhutani

## **International Affairs**

**14.** The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued a proposal to ban menthol cigarettes and flavoured cigars. This move is aimed at not just curbing smoking in the American population, but also reducing tobacco-related health disparities. However, some states in the US have already banned menthol cigarettes, but the FDA plans to extend the prohibition countrywide. The proposed ban does not cover electronic cigarettes. Tobacco regulation laws in India are covered under “Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003” or “COTPA, 2003”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- US – proposed to ban menthol cigarettes & flavoured cigars to curb smoking & reduce tobacco-related health disparities
- The proposed ban does not cover electronic cigarettes
- Tobacco regulation laws in India are covered under – COTPA, 2003



## **Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs**

**15.** HDFC Life recently signed up for the UN-supported Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI), epitomising its objective of sustainable growth and long-term value creation. HDFC Life had won the ‘Best Governed Company in the listed segment: Large category’ award at the 21<sup>st</sup> Institute of Company Secretaries (ICSI) National Awards for Excellence in Corporate Governance in December 2021. HDFC Life Insurance Company Limited is a joint venture between HDFC Ltd and abrhn (Mauritius Holdings) 2006 Limited. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HDFC Life – signed up for the UN-supported Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI)
- HDFC Life Insurance – a JV between HDFC Ltd & abrhn 2006 Ltd (Mauritius)
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”
- HQs of HDFC Life Insurance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Vibha Padalkar

**16.** FidyPay, a fintech API platform, partnered with Yes Bank to provide a seamless connected banking experience to the latter’s customers. Additionally, FidyPay will also be the solution provider for UPI services. [{Read more}](#)





### Key Points:

- FidyPay + Yes Bank = partnership to provide a seamless banking experience to the customers
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar | Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”

**17.** The RBI modified norms for banks to claim the amount of interest subvention provided to farmers under the short-term crop loan scheme through Kisan Credit Card (KCC). Pending claims for the 2021-22 financial year can be submitted by June 30, 2023. In order to provide short term crop loans up to Rs 3 lakh to farmers at an interest rate of 7% per annum, the government offers interest subvention of 2% annually to banks. An additional 3% interest subvention is provided to farmers who pay their loans promptly. For such farmers, the effective interest rate is 4%. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- RBI – modified norms for banks to claim the interest subvention provided to farmers through ‘Kisan Credit Card’
- Govt offers interest subvention of 2% annually to banks to provide KCC up to Rs 3 lakh to farmers at 7% per annum
- Additional 3% to farmers who pay their loans promptly | Effective interest rate for them – 4%
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

**18.** On May 2, HDFC ERGO General Insurance launched its “Pay as you Drive” program; an insurance solution that offers distance-based insurance to reduce upfront costs of premium. The program was available for owners of new Maruti Suzuki cars in select cities up to May 14, 2022. This program, under the regulatory sandbox, is applicable for 10,000 policies or ₹50 lakh of premium whichever happens earlier and is being offered exclusively through Maruti Suzuki Insurance Broking Private Limited. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- HDFC ERGO General Insurance – launched its “Pay as you Drive” program to reduce costs of premium
- This program was available for owners of new Maruti Suzuki cars in select cities
- This program is being offered exclusively through – Maruti Suzuki Insurance Broking Pvt Ltd
- HQs of HDFC ERGO General Insurance – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Ritesh Kumar

## Defence Affairs

**19.** Defender Europe 2022 (DE22) and Swift Response 2022 (SR22), large-scale US Army-led, multinational, joint military exercises were held from May 1 to May 27. Defender Europe 22 is an international, collaborative and cyclical exercise organised by the US Armed Forces to build preparedness and interoperability between US and NATO allies and partners. Besides, the US and NATO allies took part in Exercise Swift Response 2022, which is an annual multinational training exercise. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- ‘Defender Europe 2022’ & ‘Swift Response 2022’ – US Army-led multinational joint military exercises
- DE22 – organised by US Armed Forces to build preparedness & interoperability between US & NATO allies & partners
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris



**20.** On May 2, the Indian Coast Guard's ship named Kamla Devi (Yard 2118), which is the fifth in a series of 5 Fast Patrol Vessels, was launched in Parganas district of West Bengal. The entire design of these 'Fast Patrol Vessels' has been developed in-house by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) shipyard, Kolkata. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ICG's ship 'Kamla Devi' (Yard 2118) – 5<sup>th</sup> in a series of 5 FPV – launched in Parganas, West Bengal
- Developed by – GRSE shipyard, Kolkata
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar
- HQs of GRSE – Kolkata, India | Chairman & MD – P. R. Hari | Founded in – 1884

## **Sports & Games**

**21.** Double Olympic medallist P V Sindhu won a bronze medal in women's singles at the Badminton Asia Championships 2022 held from April 26 to May 1, 2022 in Manila, Philippines. This is Sindhu's second medal in the tournament as she had claimed a bronze in 2014. Moreover, Malaysian badminton player Lee Zii Jia won Gold medal in men's singles. While Chinese badminton player Wang Zhiyi won Gold medal in women's singles. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- P V Sindhu – won bronze medal in women's singles at "Badminton Asia Championships 2022" held in Manila, Philippines
- Men's singles: Gold – Lee Zii Jia (Malaysia) | Women's singles: Gold – Wang Zhiyi (China)
- Philippines – Manila – Peso | President – Rodrigo Duterte

**22.** A 1923 story on a soccer event in Assam's Sivasagar has become the reason for celebrating the Centenary of Sports Journalism in the State. Asamiya, a weekly magazine published by Chandra Kumar Agarwallahad carried a descriptive story on a series of football matches in the issue of July 1, 1923. This soccer news was published 78 years after the Baptist Missionary Press in Sivasagar printed Orunodoi, the first Assamese magazine, in 1846. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Assam is celebrating the Centenary of Sports Journalism in the State (reason: 1923 story on a Soccer Event)
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**23.** On May 3, Ronnie O'Sullivan won the "World Snooker Championship 2022" beating Judd Trump in Sheffield, England. Ronnie O'Sullivan is a seven-time champion of the world. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ronnie O'Sullivan – won the "World Snooker Championship 2022" beating Judd Trump





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# Science & Technology

**24.** The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) announced to shut down the operations of Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA) mission, the world's largest flying telescope by September 30, 2022. SOFIA had confirmed the presence of water on the Moon and it's been in operation since 2014. SOFIA is a collaboration between NASA and the German Space Agency (DLR). NASA's decision to shut down SOFIA closely follows the White House's 2023 federal budget request released on 28 March 2022, which did not allocate money to SOFIA. SOFIA is operating at the cost of about \$85 million per year. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- NASA – announced to shut down the operations of 'SOFIA' mission (the world's largest flying telescope) – by Sep 30
- SOFIA's operating cost – about \$85 million per year
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., US | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded on – July 29, 1958

**25.** On May 2, Kurapati Sai Divya designed and developed a 1U Cubesat - a class of research spacecraft called nanosatellites. The CubeSat called "LakshyaSAT" was successfully launched into the stratosphere from the United Kingdom. Sai Divya is a research scholar in Satellite Communications and hails from Tenali. The payload LakshyaSAT reached an altitude of 26 km and stayed in the stratosphere for around three hours. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Kurapati Sai Divya (Andhra Pradesh) – designed & developed 1U Cubesat called "LakshyaSAT"
- The cubesat was launched into the stratosphere from the UK



# Appointments & Resignations

**26.** On May 2, Sangeeta Singh, a 1986 batch Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer, took additional charge as Chairman of Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), after incumbent JB Mohapatra retired on April 30. Singh is currently holding charge of Audit and Judicial. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Sangeeta Singh – appointed as Chairman of CBDT (succeeding - JB Mohapatra)
- HQs of CBDT – New Delhi | Chairman – Sangeeta Singh | Formed in – 1944

**27.** Shivalik Small Finance Bank appointed Anshul Swami as its Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer. Previously, Swami was associated with RBL Bank as Head of Retail & Inclusion, Products. Anshul succeeded Suveer Kumar Gupta for this post. Moreover, Shivalik SFB is the first Urban Co-operative Bank in India to become a Small Finance Bank. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Anshul Swami – appointed as MD & CEO of Shivalik SFB (succeeding - Suveer Kumar Gupta)
- Shivalik SFB – the first Urban Co-operative Bank in India to become a Small Finance Bank
- HQs of Shivalik SFB – Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh | MD & CEO – Anshul Swami

**28.** On May 2, the 595<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Central Board of Directors of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) was held. The board approved the nomination of Dr. Rajiv Ranjan, executive director as an ex-officio member of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC). Deputy governors and other directors of the central board attended the meeting. Rajiv replaced Mridul Sagar.

**Key Points:**

- RBI – approved Rajiv Ranjan as an ex-officio member of the Monetary Policy Committee (succeeding - Mridul Sagar)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

## Schemes & Initiatives

**29.** On May 1, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel launched the scheme, titled ‘Mukhyamantri Mitaan Yojna’ (Mitaan stands for friend), which will be implemented as a pilot project in 14 civic bodies. Residents of these 14 municipal corporations can now avail around 100 public services at their doorstep under this new scheme. People can contact the nominated individual ‘Mitaan’ on toll free number - 14545 for the service. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chhattisgarh – launched “Mukhyamantri Mitaan Yojna” to avail around 100 public services in 14 MCs
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

**30.** Atal Innovation Mission launched the phase 1 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Atal New India Challenge (ANIC 2.0). Atal New India Challenge is a flagship program of Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog. The program aims to seek, select, support and nurture technology-based innovations that solve sectoral challenges of national importance and societal relevance. The 1<sup>st</sup> phase of ANIC 2.0 will see 18 challenges from 7 sectors. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Atal Innovation Mission – launched the phase 1 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the “Atal New India Challenge (ANIC 2.0)”
- The 1<sup>st</sup> phase of ANIC 2.0 will see 18 challenges from 7 sectors
- HQs of AIM – New Delhi | Director – Chintan Vaishnav | Launched in – 2016 (a flagship initiative of NITI Aayog)

## Important Days & Dates

**31.** To celebrate the achievements of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) has decided to celebrate 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022 as Ujjwala Diwas. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) is a major step towards social inclusion by providing Free LPG connection to every BPL household. The scheme was launched by PM Narendra Modi on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2016 at Ballia, Uttar Pradesh. Oil marketing companies organised more than 5000 LPG panchayats on the occasion of Ujjwala diwas on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 1 (2022) – celebrated as “Ujjwala Diwas” by MoPNG
- Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana – launched on 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2016 at Ballia, Uttar Pradesh



**32.** World Tuna Day is observed every year on 2 May to spread awareness among people about Tuna fish. The United Nations marked the day to spread awareness about sustainable fishing practices and make people know how Tuna is threatened by overwhelming demand. In 2016, the United Nations General Assembly officially finalised 2 May as World Tuna Day in its resolution 71/124. So, the first Tuna Day was recognised globally on 2 May 2017. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 2 – World Tuna Day by – UNGA (since 2017)
- [HQs of UNGA – New York, USA](#) | [President – Abdulla Shahid](#) | [Member Countries – 193](#)

**33.** International Labour Day is marked on 1 May annually. Also known as International Workers’ Day or May Day, the occasion celebrates the contribution of workers to society. The first Labour Day was marked in 1890 in Europe. In India, the first International Workers’ Day celebrations were held in 1923 by the Labour Kisan Party in Madras. The country celebrates International Labour Day as Antarrashtriya Sharmik Diwas, Kamgar Diwas or Kamgar Din. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 1 – “International Labour Day” or “International Workers’ Day” or “May Day” (since 1890)
- The first International Workers’ Day (in India) – held in 1923 by the Labour Kisan Party in Madras
- [HQs of ILO – Geneva, Switzerland](#) | [DG –Guy Ryder](#) | [DG – Gilbert Houngbo \(from Oct 1, 2022\)](#) | [Founded in – 1919](#)

**34.** Every year, 3 May is celebrated as World Press Freedom Day. The day acts as a reminder for the government to uphold the right to freedom of expression. In 1993, 3 May was declared World Press Freedom Day. From 2 to 5 May 2022, UNESCO and the Republic of Uruguay hosted the annual “World Press Freedom Day Global Conference” in hybrid format in Punta Del Este, Uruguay. In 2022, the theme is “Journalism under Digital Siege”. Belarusian Association of Journalists was named the laureate of the “2022 UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize” or “Press Freedom Prize 2022”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 3 – World Press Freedom Day (since 1993)
- 2022’s Theme – “Journalism under Digital Siege”
- UNESCO + Uruguay = hosted the annual “World Press Freedom Day Global Conference”
- Belarusian Association of Journalists – named the laureate of the “2022 UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize” or “Press Freedom Prize 2022”

**35.** World Asthma Day is observed on the first Tuesday of May every year. It is organised by the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA), a World Health Organization collaborative organization founded in 1993. The day is observed to increase awareness about asthma and its management across the world. This year, World Asthma Day 2022 falls on May 3. In 2022, the theme is “Closing Gaps in Asthma Care”. The day was first observed in 1998. In 2020, the World Asthma Day was observed on May 5 and in 2023, it will be observed on May 2. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 3 (first Tuesday of May) – World Asthma Day – by GINA (since 1998)
- 2022’s Theme – “Closing Gaps in Asthma Care”

**36.** World Laughter Day is celebrated every year on the first Sunday of May to raise awareness about laughter and its many healing benefits. This year, the day falls on May 1, 2022. World Laughter Day was first celebrated on May 10, 1998, in Mumbai, India. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- May 1 (first Sunday of May) – World Laughter Day
- The Day was first celebrated on May 10, 1998 – in Mumbai, Maharashtra

**37.** On May 1, PM Narendra Modi greeted the people of Gujarat and Maharashtra on the foundation day of the two western states. On this day in 1960, the former state of Bombay was bifurcated on a linguistic basis which gave existence to two states - Gujarat and Maharashtra, after the enactment of the Bombay Reorganisation Act, 1960. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 1 – foundation day of Gujarat & Maharashtra
- State of Bombay was bifurcated in Gujarat & Maharashtra on May 1, 1960 on a linguistic basis
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

## Meetings, Conferences & Summits

**38.** External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar called on Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who offered her country's main seaport - Chittagong Port, to India's northeastern states like Assam and Tripura to enhance connectivity between the two neighbours. The two countries fixed the date of the 7<sup>th</sup> Bangladesh-India Joint Consultative Commission (JCC) meeting on May 30, scheduled to take place in New Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bangladesh – offered Chittagong Port to India's northeastern states like Assam & Tripura to enhance connectivity
- 7<sup>th</sup> Bangladesh-India JCC meeting – scheduled to take place in New Delhi
- Chittagong Port – located in Bangladesh
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

**39.** The Chief Justice of India N V Ramana chaired the 39<sup>th</sup> Conference of Chief Justices held in New Delhi. This was followed by the joint conference of Chief Justices and Chief Ministers at Vigyan Bhavan which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The meeting reviewed the progress on resolutions passed in the last conference held in 2016, and considered the steps needed to improve the justice delivery system. The first chief justices conference was held in November 1953. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- N V Ramana – chaired the 39<sup>th</sup> Conference of Chief Justices held in New Delhi
- The first chief justices conference was held in November, 1953
- Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice N. V. Ramana (48<sup>th</sup>)

**40.** PM Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the “Global Patidar Business Summit 2022” held in Surat. The three-day business summit was organised by Sardardham, an organisation devoted to the Patidar community. Two earlier editions of the summit were held in 2018 and 2020. The PM asked the community to create groups consisting of both experienced and young members to work on issues of national interest and document ideas, global good practices and government policies. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the 3-day “Global Patidar Business Summit 2022” held in Surat, Gujarat
- The summit was organised by – Sardardham

## Ranks, Reports & Surveys

**41.** In the “2022 Special 301 Report”, the United States Trade Representative (USTR) designated seven countries on the Priority Watch List. These are Argentina, Chile, China, India, Indonesia, Russia and Venezuela. India remains one of the most challenging major economies with respect to protection and enforcement of intellectual property. In the pharmaceutical sector, the United States continues to monitor the restriction on patent-eligible subject matter in Section 3(d) of the Indian Patents Act and its impacts. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- USTR (US) – designated 7 countries on the Priority Watch List in the “2022 Special 301 Report”
- These 7 countries are: Argentina, Chile, China, India, Indonesia, Russia and Venezuela
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris

**42.** The Indian economy is likely to take around 13 years (by FY35) to overcome the COVID-19 losses as India was one of the worst-hit nations during the pandemic, according to the “Report on Currency and Finance (RCF) for the Year 2021-22”, released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The theme of the report is “Revive and Reconstruct” in the context of nurturing a durable recovery post-COVID and raising trend growth in the medium-term. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- “Report on Currency and Finance (RCF) for the Year 2021-22” – released by RBI
- Theme of the report – “Revive and Reconstruct”
- Indian economy is likely to take around 13 years (by FY35) to overcome the COVID-19 losses
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935

**43.** The Times Higher Education (THE), publisher of the globally recognised THE World University Rankings, released “THE Impact Rankings 2022” (4<sup>th</sup> edition). In a record year, 1,524 universities from 110 countries/regions ranked on work towards the UN’s SDGs across 18 tables - an overall ranking and one for each of the 17 SDGs. In South Asia, India breaks through into the world’s top 50, with Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham claiming 41<sup>st</sup> place in the overall table and 8<sup>th</sup> place for SDG 3 & SDG 5. Lovely Professional University makes the top 100 at joint 74<sup>th</sup> place in the overall table. India is the joint 4<sup>th</sup> most-represented nation across the rankings, with 64 universities featuring in total (the same number as Turkey). Calcutta University has been ranked first among all the central and state-aided public universities in India by ‘THE Impact Rankings 2022’. Australia’s Western Sydney University claims the top spot in the overall ranking, followed by Arizona State University (Tempe) in the US, and Western University in Canada. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- “THE Impact Rankings 2022” (4<sup>th</sup> edition) – released by the Times Higher Education (THE)
- Overall top in the world – Western Sydney University (Australia)
- India – the joint 4<sup>th</sup> most-represented nation in the rankings along with Turkey (64 universities featuring in total)
- Top 50 – Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham (41<sup>st</sup>) | Top 100 – Lovely Professional University (74<sup>th</sup>)





**44.** The world has lost 420 million hectares (mha), approximately 10.34% of the total forest area between 1990 and 2020 due to deforestation, according to the 2022 edition of the “State of the World’s Forests (SOFO)” report, released by the UN’s Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on May 2, 2022. Forests cover 4.06 billion ha (31%) of the earth’s geographical area. The report stated that annual global consumption of natural resources is likely to increase to 190 billion tonnes in 2060 from 92 billion tonnes in 2017. SOFO 2022 further stated that the world population is projected to reach 9.7 billion people by 2050. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UN FAO – released “State of the World’s Forests (SOFO)” report
- According to the report:
  - The world lost 420 mha, approximately 10.34% of the total forest area between 1990 & 2020 due to deforestation
  - Forests cover 4.06 billion ha (31%) of the earth’s geographical area
  - Annual global consumption of natural resources may increase to 190 bn tonnes in 2060 from 92 bn tonnes in 2017
  - World population is projected to reach 9.7 billion people by 2050
- HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy | DG – QU Dongyu | Formation – 16<sup>th</sup> October, 1945

## MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

**45.** Google signed an MoU with the Telangana government to bring benefits of digital economy to the youth and women entrepreneurs in the state, and started the ground-up development of its 3 million square foot building in the city. Under the new initiative, Google will collaborate with the government through its various arms to extend scholarships for Google Career Certificates to Telangana’s youth, support women entrepreneurs through digital, business and financial skills training, and strengthen the government’s school modernisation efforts with digital teaching and learning tools and solutions. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Google + Telangana = an MoU to bring benefits of digital economy to the youth & women entrepreneurs in the state
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

**46.** World Bank approved a \$47 million project to support the Government of India’s “Mission Karmayogi”, a national program to build civil service capacity. There are nearly 18 million civil servants employed across India, with approximately two-thirds at the state government and local authority level. The Project is aligned with the “India Country Partnership Framework (CPF) FY18-22” which includes strengthening public sector institutions as one of the 4 areas of engagement for the World Bank in India. The \$47 million loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) has a final maturity of 11 years, including a grace period of 4.5 years. The National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (‘NPCSCB’) - “Mission Karmayogi” was launched in September 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- World Bank approved a \$47 million project to support the Government of India’s “Mission Karmayogi” or “NPCSCB”
- \$47 million loan from the IBRD (an arm of World Bank) has a final maturity of 11 years | Grace period – 4.5 years
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., US | Members – 189 | President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant



**47.** Oil India Limited (OIL) signed an MoU with Digboi Forest Division, Assam Forest Department for a project on Carbon Sequestration and Restoration of Degraded Forest Land in Upper Dihing Reserved Forest (west block) under Digboi Forest Division. The initiative has been undertaken under OIL's CSR project Vasundhara. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- OIL + Digboi Forest Division = an MoU for a project on Carbon Sequestration & Restoration of Degraded Forest Land
- HQs of OIL – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CMD – Sushil Chandra Mishra (till June 30, 2022 | Later - Ranjit Rath)
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**48.** On May 3, a Tripartite Park & Biodiversity Partnership MoU was signed between Government of Assam, Agence Francaise de Developpement (AFD) and Office National des Forets International (ONFI) for exchanging of expertise and sharing of knowledge between the partners on various aspects of wildlife protection management. The AFD had granted Rs 2.50 Cr in kind to the state government to carry out an exchange programme for forest officials of France and Assam to similar landscapes and increase the abilities of forest officials in wildlife management. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Assam + AFD + ONFI = a Tripartite Park & Biodiversity Partnership MoU for wildlife protection
- AFD had granted Rs 2.50 Cr to Assam to carry out an exchange programme for forest officials
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**49.** On May 2, IIT Bombay signed a Letter of Agreement with India Meteorological Department (IMD) to develop climate solutions. This collaboration is likely to work on the development of Sensors and Drone-based Smart Monitoring systems, Climate-smart agriculture technology for water and food security, Intelligent and automated early warning systems, and Smart power grid management. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Bombay + IMD = signed a Letter of Agreement (LoA) to develop climate solutions
- Director of IIT Bombay – Prof. Subhasis Chaudhuri
- HQs of IMD – New Delhi | Director General – Dr. Mrutyunjay Mohapatra | Founded in – 1875

**50.** On May 2, the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) and Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) have signed an MoU at the SemiconIndia 2022 event to boost indigenous technological design and development in telecom and ICT. India's first Semicon conference was inaugurated virtually by PM Narendra Modi in Bengaluru. The theme of the conference was 'Catalyzing India's Semiconductor Ecosystem'. Both research centers have agreed to collaborate in identification and development of activities in the areas of 4G/5G, broadband, IOT/M2M, packet core, computing etc. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- C-DOT + C-DAC = an MoU to boost indigenous technological design & development in telecom & ICT
- India's first Semicon conference – inaugurated virtually by PM Narendra Modi in Bengaluru
- Theme of the conference – "Catalyzing India's Semiconductor Ecosystem"
- HQs of C-DAC – Pune, Maharashtra | Senior Director – Mahesh Kulkarni (functions under MeitY)
- HQs of C-DoT – New Delhi | Executive Director – Rajkumar Upadhyay
- C-DoT functions under – Ministry of Communications





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