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National & States Affairs

301. On May 7, Minister of Road Transport and Highways of India witnessed the “EKA E9” for the first time in Pune. The EKA E9 is claimed to be India’s first completely ‘Made-In-India’ 9-metre pure electric, zero-emission bus. EKA is a subsidiary of Pinnacle Industries, and the E9 is the company’s first battery-electric bus. The EKA E9 is equipped with a vehicle control unit software designed in-house, with an integrated strategy for vehicle features. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- EKA E9 – India’s first completely ‘Made-In-India’ 9-metre pure electric, zero-emission bus
- EKA – a subsidiary of Pinnacle Industries

302. On May 12, PM Narendra Modi virtually addressed Utkarsh Samaroh in Gujarat’s Bharuch. The programme marks the celebration of 100% coverage of 4 key schemes of the state government in the district, which will help provide timely financial assistance to those in need. The district administration of Bharuch carried out the ‘Utkarsh Initiative’ drive from January 1 to March 31, 2022, aiming to ensure complete coverage of schemes providing assistance to widows, elderly and destitute citizens. A total of 12,854 beneficiaries were identified across the four schemes viz. Ganga Swaroopa Aarthik Sahay Yojana, Indira Gandhi Vrudh Sahay Yojana, Niradhar Vrudh Aarthik Sahay Yojana and Rashtriya Kutumb Sahay Yojana. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – virtually addressed “Utkarsh Samaroh” in Gujarat’s Bharuch
- The Utkarsh Samaroh marks the 100% coverage of 4 key schemes of the state government in the district
- [Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat](#)

303. The Maharashtra government has come up with an initiative to boost honey production, develop village-based tourism, and underline the role of honeybees in the food chain. Industries minister Subhash Desai launched the ‘Madhache Gaav’ or ‘Village of Honey’ project at Manghar in Satara district, on May 16. The project, which includes a Bee Breeding Centre, distribution of Bee Boxes, Honey Sale Counter, and Information Centre, will cost ₹50 lakh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra – launched the ‘Madhache Gaav’ or ‘Village of Honey’ project at Manghar in Satara district
- The project will cost ₹50 lakh
- [Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari](#)

304. On May 14, in line with the ‘PM GatiShakti National Master Plan’, Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Minister for Communications, Electronics & IT and Railways, has launched the “GatiShakti Sanchar” portal for Centralised Right of Way (RoW) approvals. The portal has been developed keeping in view the vision areas of the National Broadband Mission (NBM) at the core. The NBM was set up by the Department of Telecommunication (DoT) on December 17, 2019. This will provide a robust mechanism to achieve the goal of “Broadband for All” as envisaged in the National Digital Communication Policy-2. The portal is developed by Madhya Pradesh State Electronics Development Corporation on behalf of DoT. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ashwini Vaishnaw (DoT) – launched the “GatiShakti Sanchar” portal for Centralised Right of Way (RoW) approvals
- The portal is developed by – Madhya Pradesh State Electronics Development Corporation



305. On May 15, Delhi Chief Minister and AAP convenor Arvind Kejriwal visited India's first Food Security Mart, a revolutionary initiative by Twenty20 party in Kizhakkambalam, Kerala. This is the first visit of Kejriwal to Kerala after he won the Delhi assembly elections for the second consecutive term in 2020. Twenty20 Party is led by Sabu Jacob. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arvind Kejriwal – visited India's first Food Security Mart in – Kizhakkambalam, Kerala
- The Food Security Mart – an initiative by Twenty20 party (Twenty20 Party is led by – Sabu Jacob)
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

306. Buddhavanam, a mega Buddhist theme park developed by the Telangana government at Nagarjunasagar on the banks of the Krishna River to attract international tourists, was inaugurated on May 13. Considered to be Asia's biggest Buddhist spiritual centre, the Buddhavanam has come up at a cost of over ₹100 Cr. The centre of attraction of Buddhavanam project is the 21-meter high and 42-metre wide. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Buddhavanam" – a mega Buddhist theme park in Telangana was inaugurated
- It is Asia's biggest Buddhist spiritual centre
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

307. On May 13, NITI Aayog launched the National Data & Analytics Platform (NDAP) for open public use. The platform aims to democratize access to public government data by making data accessible, interoperable, interactive, and available on a user-friendly platform. The platform was launched by Suman Bery, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog. NDAP follows a use-case based approach to ensure that the datasets hosted on the platform are tailored to the needs of data users from government, academia, journalism, civil society, and the private sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog – launched the "National Data & Analytics Platform (NDAP)" for open public use
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Suman Bery

308. In May 2022, India's first Rural Tribal Technical Training was held at Kushabhau Thakre Auditorium (Minto Hall) in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. After successful operation of this pilot project in the state, the project will be implemented across India. The 'Parliamentary Sankul Project' was launched for tribal youths, in collaboration with the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MoSDE) and National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India's first "Rural Tribal Technical Training" – held at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

309. About 100 innovative tech firms have joined the "Technology Pioneers Network 2022", of which 5 are Indian start-ups - Vahan, SmartCoin Financials, Recykal, Proeon & Pandocorp. The 2022 cohort is forging new paths in healthcare, food production and more with cutting-edge technologies with young and growing companies. The 2022 Tech Pioneers are based in 30 countries - with Vietnam, Rwanda and the Czech Republic represented for the first time. Over one-third of the selected companies this year are led by women. From the US, food-tech start-up Bonumose has been selected for transforming Global Food Systems. While, Luxembourg's Mission Space has been selected for developing a satellite-based Space Weather Intelligence System. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- About 100 innovative tech firms joined the “Technology Pioneers Network 2022”
- 5 Indian start-ups among 100: Vahan, SmartCoin Financials, Recykal, Proeon & Pandocorp
- Bonumose (US) – selected for transforming Global Food Systems
- Mission Space (Luxembourg) – selected for developing a satellite-based Space Weather Intelligence System

310. In May 2022, Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC), a technical arm of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) signed an MoU with M/s VVDN Technologies Private Limited, an Indian product engineering and manufacturing company, for Open Radio Allowed Network (ORAN) testing facility to facilitate registered startups, MSMEs and Innovators. The product offered for testing will be certified by TEC. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- TEC (DoT) + VVDN Technologies = an MoU for **Open Radio Allowed Network (ORAN)** testing facility
- HQs of VVDN Technologies – Gurgaon, Haryana

International Affairs

311. On May 4, the world’s longest suspension footbridge was opened to the public in Czech Republic’s Dolni Morava village. The 721-meter-long bridge has been named Sky Bridge 721. The Bridge hangs 95 metres above the ground. As per reports, Sky Bridge 721 took two years to build. The cost of construction was 200 million crowns (USD 8.4 million). This bridge replaced the Guinness World Record holder suspension footbridge namely “Baglung Parbat Footbridge” (567-metre-long) located in Nepal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sky Bridge 721 – world’s longest suspension footbridge was opened in Czech Republic’s Dolni Morava village
- It replaced the Guinness World Record of – “Baglung Parbat Footbridge” (567-metre-long) located in Nepal
- Czech Republic – Prague – Koruna | President – Milos Zeman
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari | PM – Sher Bahadur Deuba

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

312. On May 13, the RBI imposed several restrictions on Shankarrao Pujari Nutan Nagari Sahakari Bank Limited, Ichalkaranji, Kolhapur, including on withdrawals, in view of the lender’s worsening financial position. Under the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) insurance scheme, deposits of up to Rs 5 lakh are insured. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – imposed several restrictions on Shankarrao Pujari Nutan Nagari Sahakari Bank Limited, Ichalkaranji, Kolhapur
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao



313. On May 12, SpiceJet and Axis Bank partnered to launch the most rewarding co-branded credit card, powered by Visa that will offer a host of privileges and benefits to customers. The card comes in two variants - SpiceJet Axis Bank Voyage and Voyage Black. The card is aimed at facilitating a superlative travel experience for flyers through SpiceClub, the first frequent flyer program by a low cost carrier in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SpiceJet + Axis Bank = partnered to launch the most rewarding Co-branded Credit Card
- The card will be in two variants – SpiceJet Axis Bank Voyage and Voyage Black
- HQs of SpiceJet – Gurugram, Haryana | Chairman & MD – Ajay Singh
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – “Badhti ka Naam Zindagi”

314. On May 13, the government has made requirement of a Permanent Account Number (PAN) or Aadhaar number for depositing or withdrawing Rs 20 lakh or more in a financial year or for opening a Current Account mandatory. The move is expected to help the income tax department monitor high-value cash transactions, and deposits/withdrawals where tax would not be getting paid by the individual otherwise on his or her income. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Govt made requirement of PAN or Aadhaar mandatory for depositing/withdrawing Rs 20 lakh or more in a FY or for opening a Current Account

315. On May 13, the RBI permitted commercial banks, including Small Finance Banks, to continue providing credit facility to NBFCs for the purpose of on-lending to certain priority sectors. The facility was available till March 31, 2022. Bank credit to NBFCs, including HFCs, for on-lending will be allowed up to an overall limit of 5% of an individual bank's total Priority Sector Lending (PSL) in the case of commercial banks. In the case of SFBs, credit to NBFC-MFIs and other MFIs will be allowed up to 10%. According to the circular, SFBs are allowed to lend to registered NBFC-MFIs and other MFIs which have a Gross Loan Portfolio (GLP) of up to Rs 500 Cr as on March 31 of the previous financial year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI permitted commercial banks to continue providing credit facility to NBFCs for the purpose of on-lending
- In the case of commercial banks: Bank Credit to NBFCs will be allowed up to 5% of an individual bank's total PSL
- In the case of SFBs: Credit to NBFC-MFIs and other MFIs will be allowed up to 10%
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

Sports & Games

316. In May 2022, India's Men's Badminton Team won the “Thomas Cup” title (World Men's Team Championship) with a commanding 3-0 win over 14-time Thomas Cup Champions Indonesia. It is a historic triumph that will enhance India's status in the sport. In the first Men's Singles, Lakshya Sen defeated Anthony Sinisuka Ginting of Indonesia. In the second Men's Singles, Kidambi Srikanth defeated Indonesia's Jonatan Christie. Then India's best doubles pair of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy defeated Mohammad Ahsan and Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo. Moreover, South Korea's Women's Badminton Team won the “Uber Cup” (World Women's Team Championship), beating China. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Indian Men's Badminton Team – won the “Thomas Cup” (defeating - Indonesia)
- South Korea's Women's Badminton Team – won the “Uber Cup” (defeating - China)
- In Badminton: Thomas Cup – World Men's Team Championship | Uber Cup – World Women's Team Championship

317. On May 15, World No. 1 Novak Djokovic of Serbia won his 6th “Italian Open” title after victory over Greek Stefanos Tsitsipas in Rome. Novak claimed his 1,000th career victory, against Casper Ruud, to reach the final. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Novak Djokovic ([Serbia](#)) – won his 6th “Italian Open” title (defeating - Stefanos Tsitsipas)

318. Malaysia will host the 2027 South East Asian Games and Singapore the 2029 edition, announced by the two countries, ahead of the opening ceremony of the Covid-delayed 2021 showpiece in Vietnam. The 2021 Games in the Vietnamese capital Hanoi were delayed six months because of Covid and are set to officially open in May 2022. The 2023 SEA Games are scheduled to be held in Cambodia and 2025 edition will be in Bangkok, Thailand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Host countries of South East Asian Games:
- 2021 (delayed in 2022) – Vietnam | 2023 – Cambodia | 2025 – Thailand | 2027 – Malaysia | 2029 – Singapore
- [Malaysia – Kuala Lumpur – Ringgit](#) | [PM – Ismail Sabri Yaakob](#) | [King – Al-Sultan Abdullah](#)



Science & Technology

319. In May 2022, NASA's InSight lander has detected the largest quake on Mars. It is the largest quake ever observed on another planet. InSight lander has been studying Mars' deep interior since touching down on the planet in 2018. The quake probably originated near the Cerberus Fossae region, which is more than 1,000 kilometers from the lander. Marsquakes can be used to probe what lies beneath Mars' surface. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NASA's InSight lander – detected the largest quake ever observed on another planet – on Mars
- [HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., US](#) | [Administrator – Bill Nelson](#) | [Founded on – July 29, 1958](#)

320. On May 13, the CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (CSIR-NAL) initiated taxi trials for the evaluation of an indigenously developed Digital Anti-Skid Braking System for the 19-seat Light Transport aircraft named “SARAS Mk2”. It will benefit operation from airfields with short runways to boost regional air connectivity. Digital Anti-skid Brake Management System is developed for the first time in India for civil aircraft by the CSIR-NAL. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- [CSIR-NAL \(Bangalore\)](#) – initiated taxi trials for the evaluation of an indigenously developed Digital Anti-Skid Braking System for “SARAS Mk2” aircraft
- [HQs of CSIR – New Delhi](#) | [President – Narendra Modi](#) | [DG – Shekhar C. Mande](#) | [Established in – 1942](#)



321. On May 13, Scientists have discovered almost 35-million-year-old fossil of a Madtsoiidae snake from Ladakh Himalaya for the first time indicating their prevalence in the subcontinent for much longer time than previously thought. Madtsoiidae is an extinct group of medium-sized to gigantic snakes. The research published in Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Scientists have discovered almost 35-million-year-old fossil of a Madtsoiidae snake from Ladakh Himalaya
- Madtsoiidae – an extinct group of medium-sized to gigantic snakes
- The research was published in – Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology
- [Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur](#)

322. The Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) has developed India's first indigenous mRNA vaccine technology for Covid-19. The vaccine technology, which is 90% effective against Covid-19 in the mouse model, can also be used to fight other infectious diseases like malaria, dengue and tuberculosis once the pandemic ends. Though there are mRNA (messenger RNA) vaccines developed by Pfizer and Moderna to prevent Covid-19, the CCMB's mRNA vaccine technology is fully indigenous and was developed without any external scientific assistance. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCMB – developed India's first indigenous mRNA vaccine technology for Covid-19
- It is 90% effective against Covid-19 in the mouse model
- [HQs of CSIR-CCMB – Hyderabad, Telangana | Director – Vinay K. Nandicoori](#)

323. In May 2022, Radiocarbon dating of excavations from Mayiladumparai in Krishnagiri district confirmed that iron was in used in Tamil Nadu as early as 2172 BCE, or 4,200 years ago, making it the oldest iron age site currently found in India. The habitation-cum-burial site in Mayiladumparai was first excavated in the year 2003 by K Rajan of the Thanjavur-based Tamil University and based on his promising results, excavation was resumed in 2021 by the state Department of Archaeology. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mayiladumparai in Krishnagiri district (Tamil Nadu) – became the oldest iron age site currently found in India
- Excavations confirmed that iron was used in Tamil Nadu as early as 2172 BCE, or 4,200 years ago
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi](#)

Appointments & Resignations

324. On May 10, Yoon Suk-yeol was sworn in as South Korean President in a huge ceremony at Seoul's National Assembly. He is associated with South Korea's main opposition People Power Party (PPP). Yoon replaced Moon Jae-in. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Yoon Suk-yeol – sworn in as president of South Korea (succeeding - Moon Jae-in)
- [South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won | President – Yoon Suk-yeol](#)



325. On May 13, Sanjiv Bajaj (Chairman & MD of Bajaj Finserv Ltd) assumed office as the President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for 2022-23. He took over from T. V. Narendran (CEO & MD of Tata Steel Ltd). Pawan Munjal (Chairman & CEO of Hero MotoCorp Ltd) took over as CII President-Designate for 2022-23 while R. Dinesh (Executive Vice Chairman of TVS Supply Chain Solutions) took over as Vice President for this period. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sanjiv Bajaj (CMD of Bajaj Finserv) – appointed as the President of the CII (succeeding - T. V. Narendran)
- Pawan Munjal (Chairman & CEO of Hero MotoCorp) – took over as CII President-Designate for 2022-23
- R. Dinesh (Executive Vice Chairman of TVS Supply Chain Solutions) – took over as Vice President
- [HQs of Bajaj Finserv – Pune, Maharashtra | Chairman & MD – Sanjiv Bajaj](#)

326. On May 15, Manik Saha, Tripura BJP chief and Rajya Sabha MP, took oath as new Chief Minister of Tripura at Raj Bhawan in Agartala, a day after Biplab Kumar Deb resigned from the post. Dr. Saha joined BJP in 2016 after quitting Congress. Deb had taken oath as the first CM of Tripura in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manik Saha – took oath as new Chief Minister of Tripura (succeeding – Biplab Kumar Deb)
- Biplab Kumar Deb resigned from the post
- [Tripura: Capital – Agartala | CM – Manik Saha | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya](#)

327. On May 16, Somalia's parliament elected Hassan Sheikh Mohamud as the country's 10th President. Mohamud previously served as president from September 2012 to February 2017 and is now the first leader of the country elected twice as Somalia's head of state. Mahamud defeated Mohamed Abudallahi Mohamed (Farmajo) in an indirect presidential election. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hassan Sheikh Mohamud – elected as the 10th President of Somalia (succeeding - Mohamed Abudallahi Mohamed)
- [Somalia – Mogadishu – Dollar/Shilling | President – Hassan Sheikh Mohamud](#)

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

328. On May 10, Army Chief Gen Manoj Pande was conferred the “Param Vishisht Seva Medal” for distinguished service of exceptional order by President Ram Nath Kovind at a “Defence Investiture Ceremony” held at the Rashtrapati Bhawan. President Ram Nath Kovind, who is the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, conferred 13 Shaurya Chakras, including 6 posthumously, to Service personnel. The President also conferred 14 Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM), 4 Uttam Yudh Seva Medals (UYSM) and 24 Ati Vishisht Seva Medals (AVSM) for distinguished service of exceptional order. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- President Ram Nath Kovind conferred the following honors to Defence Service personnel:
 - 13 Shaurya Chakras (including 6 posthumously)
 - 14 Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM)
 - 4 Uttam Yudh Seva Medals (UYSM)
 - 24 Ati Vishisht Seva Medals (AVSM)
- Army Chief Gen Manoj Pande – conferred with the “Param Vishisht Seva Medal”



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Schemes & Initiatives

329. On May 13, PM Narendra Modi launched the “Madhya Pradesh Startup Policy” during the Madhya Pradesh Startup Conclave held in Indore. He also launched the Madhya Pradesh Startup portal, which will facilitate and help promote the startup ecosystem. The new Startup Policy of Madhya Pradesh will provide an additional 20% support to women-led start-ups. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – launched the “Madhya Pradesh Startup Policy”
- ‘Madhya Pradesh Startup Conclave’ – held in Indore
- The new Startup Policy of will provide an additional 20% support to women-led start-ups
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal](#) | [CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan](#) | [Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel](#)

Important Days & Dates

330. The first “International Day of Plant Health” was observed on May 12, 2022. The day was established following a decision in March 2022 by the UN General Assembly. The Day is a key legacy of the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH), which was marked in 2020-2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 12 – 1st “International Day of Plant Health” – by the UNGA
- ‘International Year of Plant Health (IYPH)’ – marked in 2020-2021

331. World Migratory Bird Day is marked twice a year since its inauguration in 2006. The day is celebrated on second Saturday of May & October. In 2022, the day falls on 14 May and 8 October. World Migratory Bird Day is celebrated across Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean on the second Saturday of October annually. While in the United States and Canada, the day is celebrated on the second Saturday in May. The theme for World Migratory Bird Day 2022 is “Light Pollution”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 8 – International Migratory Bird Day or World Migratory Bird Day (since 2006)
- It is celebrated on second Saturday of May & October
- 2022’s Theme – “Light Pollution”

332. Buddha Jayanti or Vaisakhi Buddha Purnima or Vesak Day, the festival of Buddha Purnima is based on the Asian lunisolar calendar and marks the birth of Gautama Buddha. It is celebrated with great fervour in India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Tibet and numerous other South East Asian countries. It falls on a full moon day in the month of Vaisakh (April/May) according to the Hindu calendar and this year, Buddha Purnima was celebrated on Monday, May 16. In Hinduism, Buddha is considered as the 9th avatar of Lord Vishnu. Buddha was born as Prince Siddhartha Gautama (563-483 BCE) and attained Nirvana (salvation) under the Mahabodhi tree at Bodh Gaya, Bihar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 16 – Buddha Jayanti or Vaisakhi Buddha Purnima or Vesak Day in 2022



333. The “International Day of Light” is celebrated annually on May 16. It marks the anniversary of the first successful operation of the laser in 1960 by physicist and engineer Theodore Maiman. The day was first celebrated in 2018. The day celebrates the role light plays in science, culture and art, education, and sustainable development. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 16 – “International Day of Light”
- The day marks the anniversary of the first successful operation of the laser in 1960 by Theodore Maiman

334. The UN’s “International Day of Living Together in Peace” is celebrated on May 16 throughout the world. It aims to urge people to live together in a united and peaceful way. The day was first observed in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

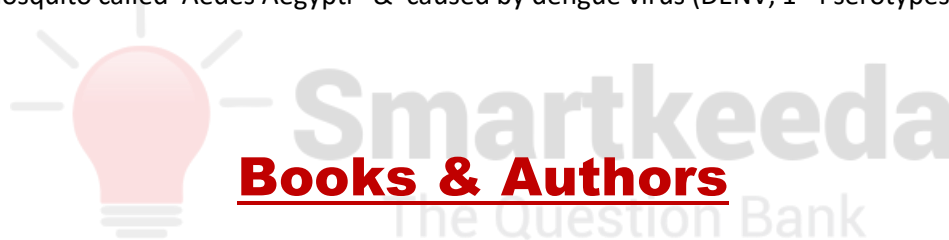
Key Points:

- May 16 – “International Day of Living Together in Peace” (since 2018)

335. National Dengue Day is observed every year on May 16 by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in India. It aims to create awareness about dengue; and to intensify preventive measures and preparedness for the control of disease. Tamil Nadu reported 2361 cases of dengue, followed by Karnataka (1417) & Andhra Pradesh (692). This viral disease is caused by the dengue virus (DENV, 1–4 serotypes) and it is spread by a specific mosquito called ‘Aedes Aegypti’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 16 – “National Dengue Day” – observed in India by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- It is spread by a mosquito called ‘Aedes Aegypti’ & caused by dengue virus (DENV, 1–4 serotypes)



Books & Authors

336. Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu released the book “Modi@20 Dreams Meet Delivery” in New Delhi. The book encompasses the experiential journey of Modi since he left his house at the tender age of 17 and set out on a mission of knowing himself, his country and finally defining the mission of transforming India. ‘Modi@20’ is an anthology edited and compiled by BlueKraft Digital Foundation, and is a compilation of chapters authored by eminent intellectuals and domain experts. The book is published by Rupa Publications. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- M. Venkaiah Naidu – released book “Modi@20 Dreams Meet Delivery” about the journey of Modi since he left his house
- Edited and compiled by – BlueKraft Digital Foundation | Publisher – Rupa Publications

Obituaries

337. Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, ruler of Abu Dhabi and President of the United Arab Emirates since 2004, passed away at the age of 73. Sheikh Khalifa took over as President (UAE’s second) in November 2004. Rulers in the United Arab Emirates announced that they unanimously appointed Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan as the President of the nation. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan – 2nd President of UAE – passed away
- Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan – appointed as new President of UAE
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan

338. On May 12, Sanskrit scholar Bhagirath Prasad Tripathi ‘Vagish Shastri’ died after a prolonged illness. He was 86. Acharya Vagish Shastri was given the title of Mahamahopadhyay by Kashi Pandit Parishad in 1982. He was awarded the Padma Shri in 2018 and the President’s Award in 2013. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bhagirath Prasad Tripathi (‘Vagish Shastri’) – Sanskrit Scholar – passed away
- Awards: Padma Shri (2018), President’s Award (2013)

339. On May 15, Former Australian test cricketer Andrew Symonds has died in car accident near Townsville in northeast Australia. He was 46. He played all three formats as a batting all-rounder. Commonly nicknamed ‘Roy’, he was a key member of two World Cup winning squads. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Andrew Symonds (Australia) – Cricketer – passed away (Nickname - ‘Roy’)

Meetings, Conferences and Summits

340. Union Minister of State for Ministry of New and Renewable Energy Bhagwant Khuba attended “Intersolar Europe 2022” held from May 11-13, 2022. The Minister delivered a key note address at the investment promotion event “India’s Solar Energy Market” in Munich. The event was organized by the Indo-German Energy Forum (IGEF). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bhagwant Khuba – attended “Intersolar Europe 2022” held in Munich | organized by – IGEF
- An investment promotion event “India’s Solar Energy Market” – organized by IGEF
- Germany – Berlin – Euro | President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier

341. On May 12, PM Narendra Modi participated in the 2nd “Global COVID Virtual Summit” on the invitation of the US President Joe Biden. Narendra Modi delivered his remarks in the Opening Session of the Summit on the theme “Preventing Pandemic Fatigue and Prioritizing Preparedness”. PM Modi had also participated in the first Global COVID virtual Summit hosted by President Biden on 22 September 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi – participated in the 2nd “Global COVID Virtual Summit”
- PM Modi – delivered his remarks in the session on theme “Preventing Pandemic Fatigue & Prioritizing Preparedness”
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris



342. Counter-terrorism experts from India, Pakistan and other member states of the SCO deliberated on boosting cooperation in combating various regional security challenges at SCO-RATS meet hosted by India at New Delhi. India assumed the Chairmanship of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's Regional Anti-Terror Structure (SCO-RATS) on October 28 for a period of one year. The member states of the SCO are Russia, China, India, Pakistan, Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Afghanistan is among the observer states of the SCO. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SCO-RATS member states – deliberated on boosting cooperation in combating various Regional Security Challenges
- 'SCO-RATS Meet' hosted by India at New Delhi
- India assumed the Chairmanship of the SCO-RATS on October 28 for a period of one year
- HQs of SCO – Beijing, China | SG – Zhang Ming | Present Member Countries – 8 | Presidency – Uzbekistan

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

343. "2022 Forbes Global 2000 List" ranked the world's largest companies using four metrics: sales, profits, assets, and market value. Market turbulence has pushed down the minimum market value to be considered for the 2022 list to \$7.6 billion compared to \$8.26 billion in 2021. The US-based Berkshire Hathaway took the first spot for the first time since Forbes started publishing the Global 2000 in 2003, dethroning the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, which dropped to second position after 9 consecutive years at the top of the list. The United States has the most with 590 companies, followed by China/Hong Kong (351) and Japan (196). While Reliance Industries Ltd was ranked 53rd globally & topped among Indian companies, followed by the State Bank of India in India which ranks 105th globally. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Berkshire Hathaway (US) – topped the "2022 Forbes Global 2000 List" | 2nd – Industrial & Commercial Bank of China
- US – has the maximum largest companies (590) | 2nd – China/Hong Kong (351), 3rd – Japan (196)
- Reliance Industries – topped in India & 53rd globally | SBI – second in India & 105th globally

344. In the "Forbes List of Highest-Paid World Athletes" from May 2021 to May 2022, Argentine playmaker and Paris Saint-Germain star Lionel Messi made it to the top. Messi's total remained stagnant on \$130 million, followed by LeBron James with total income of \$121.2 million & Cristiano Ronaldo with \$115 million. James has become the first active player in NBA history with a net worth of \$1 billion, according to Forbes magazine. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Forbes List of Highest-Paid World Athletes" from May 2021 to May 2022
- 1st – Lionel Messi (\$130 million), 2nd – LeBron James (\$121.2 million), 3rd – Cristiano Ronaldo (\$115 million)

345. India's food production could drop 16% and the number of those at risk for hunger could increase 23% by 2030 due to climate change, according to a "Report on Climate Change and Food Systems" by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). The number of Indians at risk from hunger is expected to be 73.9 million in 2030 and, if the effects of climate change were to be factored in, it would increase to 90.6 million. The aggregate food production index, under similar conditions, would drop from 1.6 to 1.5. Moreover, the average temperature across India is projected to rise by between 2.4°C and 4.4°C by 2100. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- “Report on Climate Change and Food Systems” given by – International Food Policy Research Institute
- According to the report:
 - India’s food production could drop 16% by 2030
 - Number of those at risk for hunger could increase 23% by 2030
 - Average temperature across India is projected to rise by between 2.4°C and 4.4°C by 2100

346. The Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs & Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri launched the “BHARAT TAP” initiative at the ‘Plumbex India’ exhibition. This exhibition is aimed for products and services related to the plumbing, water and sanitation industry. The minister said that “AMRUT 2.0” scheme will provide 100% coverage of water supply to all households in around 4,700 ULBs through 2.68 Cr tap connections and 100% coverage of sewerage and septage in 500 cities through 2.64 Cr sewer connections. Hardeep Singh Puri also launched NARDECO MAHI’s ‘Nirmal Jal Prayas’ initiative which will work for saving of 500 Cr litres of water per year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hardeep Singh Puri – launched the “BHARAT TAP” initiative at the ‘Plumbex India’ exhibition
- Hardeep Singh Puri – launched NARDECO MAHI’s ‘Nirmal Jal Prayas’ initiative

347. According to the data released by the National Horticulture Board, Bihar is at number one position in mushroom production for 2021-22. National Horticulture Board data shows that in 2021-22, a total of 28000 metric tonnes of mushroom was produced in Bihar, which is 10.82% of the total mushroom produced in India. Maharashtra (9.89%) is the second largest producer of mushroom, followed by Odisha (9.6%). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bihar – is at number one position in mushroom production for 2021-22, according to data released by NHB
- 2nd – Maharashtra | 3rd – Odisha
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

348. Saudi Aramco overtook Apple Inc, to become the world’s most valuable company due to the recent surge in oil prices. Aramco is now worth about USD 2.43 trillion, compared with Apple’s USD 2.37 trillion. This year, oil prices have soared to record highs, particularly on concerns about disruptions of supply from Russia since its invasion of Ukraine. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Saudi Aramco – overtook Apple Inc & became the world’s most valuable company
- HQs of Saudi Aramco – Dhahran, Saudi Arabia | CEO – Amin H. Nasser | Chairman – Yasir Al-Rumayyan

Acquisitions & Mergers

349. On May 16, Adani Group announced to acquire Swiss cement major Holcim’s stake in two of India’s leading cement companies - Ambuja Cements and its subsidiary ACC, for \$10.5 billion (around Rs 81,361 Cr), including the open offers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Adani Group – to acquire Holcim’s stake in Ambuja Cements & its subsidiary ACC for \$10.5 billion
- HQs of Adani Group – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | Chairman – Gautam Adani | MD – Rajesh Adani

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

350. On May 12, NSDC International (NSDCI) and the Indian unit of DP World, Hindustan Ports Private Limited signed an MoU to develop a “Skill India International Centre” at Varanasi and to skill Indian youth for pursuing overseas employment opportunities in logistics, port operations and allied areas. The MoU will further strengthen the relationship between UAE and India and help enhance workforce productivity. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NSDCI + Hindustan Ports Private Limited = an MoU to develop a “Skill India International Centre” at Varanasi
- HQs of NSDC – New Delhi | CEO – Ved Mani Tiwar | Chairman – A. M. Naik (works under MoSDE)





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