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National & States Affairs

451. On September 15, Tata group-owned Air India unveiled a comprehensive transformation plan “Vihaan.AI” to establish itself, once again, as a world-class global airline with an Indian heart. As part of the plan, the carrier aims to focus on growing both its network and fleet, revamping its customer proposition, enhancing reliability and on-time performance. Over the next 5 years, Air India will also strive to increase its market share to at least 30% in the domestic market while significantly growing the international routes from the present market share. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Air India – unveiled a comprehensive transformation plan “Vihaan.AI”
- HQs of Air India – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Campbell Wilson

452. On September 18, Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has declared Andaman & Nicobar Islands as India’s first Swachh Sujal Pradesh. Now, all villages of Andaman and Nicobar Island have been certified as Har Ghar Jal and verified as Open Defecation Free (ODF) plus. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gajendra Singh Shekhawat – declared Andaman & Nicobar Islands as India’s first “Swachh Sujal Pradesh”
- Andaman & Nicobar Islands: Capital – Port Blair | Lt. Governor – Admiral Devendra Kumar Joshi

453. On September 19, West Bengal cabinet approved a proposal for issuing a letter of intent to Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) for development of a Greenfield Deep Sea Port at Tajpur in West Bengal, paving the way for an estimated investment of Rs 25,000 Crore. The West Bengal Maritime Board will issue the Lol to the Adani group, who was the highest bidder for the mega project. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- West Bengal Cabinet – gave a nod for issuing Lol to Adani Group for Greenfield Deep Sea Port at Tajpur, West Bengal
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – La. Ganesan
- HQs of APSEZ – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | CEO – Karan Adani

454. On September 20, Ports, Shipping & Waterways Minister Sarbananda Sonowal laid foundation stones for construction of two floating jetties at Assam’s Bogibeel (in Dibrugarh district) and Guijan (in Tinsukia district), as part of the launch of multiple projects for the development of the Bogibeel region near Dibrugarh in Assam. The minister also inaugurated Bogibeel Riverfront Passenger Jetty. The two floating jetties will be constructed as so-called state-of-art terminals. Both the jetties are being constructed by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) over the National Waterways - 2 (NW-2), popularly known as River Brahmaputra. The work has been awarded to Coastal Consolidated Structures Pvt Ltd on an EPC contract mode (engineering, procurement, construction). Moreover, India’s ‘longest river cruise service’ will begin early next year between Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh and Bogibeel in Assam, traversing a distance of more than 4,000 km. The route will connect rivers Ganga and Brahmaputra via Indo-Bangladesh Protocol Route (IBRP). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sarbananda Sonowal – laid foundation stones for construction of two floating jetties at Assam’s Bogibeel & Guijan
- Sarbananda Sonowal – also inaugurated Bogibeel Riverfront Passenger Jetty
- Both the jetties are being constructed by IWAI over ‘NW-2’, popularly known as ‘River Brahmaputra’
- The work has been awarded to Coastal Consolidated Structures Pvt Ltd on EPC contract mode
- India’s ‘longest river cruise service’ will begin in 2023 – between Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh) & Bogibeel (Assam)



455. In September 2022, Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has on-boarded 76 start-ups under the “India Water Pitch-Pilot-Scale Start-Up Challenge”. The shortlisted start-ups will be provided financial support of up to Rs 20 lakh each to work in the fields of water supply, used water management, water body rejuvenation, groundwater management. The start-ups have been picked based on a challenge launched in March this year under ‘AMRUT 2.0 Mission’. Furthermore, the ministry has also launched ‘Start-up Gateway’ wherein the start-ups can apply and be shortlisted by MoHUA for financial support. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoHUA – has on-boarded 76 start-ups under the “India Water Pitch-Pilot-Scale Start-Up Challenge”
- The shortlisted start-ups will be provided financial support of up to Rs 20 lakh each
- Start-ups have been picked based on a challenge launched in March this year under ‘AMRUT 2.0 Mission’

456. On September 19, Union Minister Jitendra Singh led an Indian delegation at the “Global Clean Energy Action Forum” held at Pittsburgh, US. The Indian delegation highlighted efforts made in the fields of bio-refineries, sustainable aviation fuels, materials accelerated platforms, carbon capture, and hydrogen valley platforms to expedite clean energy solutions. He also held a roundtable with executives of about 35 companies and federal representatives associated with geospatial, space, earth and ocean science, pharma, and biotech sectors in Washington DC, US. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jitendra Singh – led an Indian delegation at the “Global Clean Energy Action Forum” held at Pittsburgh, US
- [US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris](#)

457. On September 18, Union Social Justice and Empowerment Minister, Dr. Virendra Kumar virtually inaugurated 9 model District Disability Rehabilitation centres (DDRC). Spread across the country, the nine DDRCs include: Badaun, Pilibhit, Barielly, Balaghat, Golaghat, Ahmedabad, Amravati, Kullu and Rampur. The DDRCs have been providing effective rehabilitation services to the persons with disabilities (PwDs) for the last two decades. The Department of Empowerment of Persons With Disability (DoEPwD), under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE), has conceptualized the model DDRC model to improve their services. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Virendra Kumar – virtually inaugurated 9 model District Disability Rehabilitation centres (DDRC)
- DoEPwD has conceptualized the model DDRC model to improve their services
- [Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Virendra Kumar | Constituency – Sagar, Madhya Pradesh](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Ramdas Athawale](#)

458. On September 20, during a visit to CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute, Chennai, Minister of Education and Skill Development, Dharmendra Pradhan, launched the “SCALE (Skill Certification Assessment for Leather Employees) App” which provides a one-stop solution for the skilling, learning, assessment, and employment needs of the leather industry. The Leather Sector Skill Council (LSSC) developed this app. The app allows people from all age groups interested in leather craft to access online live streamed classes from the state-of-the-art studio at its office. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dharmendra Pradhan – launched the “SCALE (Skill Certification Assessment for Leather Employees) App”
- The app is developed by – Chennai-based Leather Sector Skill Council (LSSC)
- Location of CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute – Chennai, Tamil Nadu



International Affairs

459. On September 16, Kazakhstan's President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev signed constitutional amendments that extended the Presidential term to 7 years from 5 years and brought back the old name of the country's capital to Astana from the current Nur-Sultan. The Kazakh parliament unanimously supported the amendments in two readings and Tokayev signed them into law. Earlier, Astana became the capital of Kazakhstan in 1997. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kassym-Jomart Tokayev (Kazakhstan President) – extended presidential tenure to 7 years from 5 years
- Kazakhstan's capital name changed from the current Nur-Sultan – to Astana (old name)
- [Kazakhstan – Astana – Tenge](#) | [President – Kassym-Jomart Tokayev](#) | [PM – Alikhan Smailov](#)

460. On September 20, the UAE's capital Dubai launched "Bread for All" initiative to set up vending machines baking free hot bread for needy residents. The campaign was launched by the Mohammed bin Rashid Global Centre for Endowment Consultancy (MBRGCEC), under the Awqaf and Minors Affairs Foundation (AMAF), to help underprivileged families and workers by providing them free bread at various times of the day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dubai, UAE – launched "Bread for All" initiative to set up vending machines baking free hot bread for needy residents
- [UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham](#) | [President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan](#)

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

461. On September 16, Federal Bank was ranked 63rd on the "Best Workplaces in Asia 2022" and became the only bank in India to be listed by Great Place to Work. Indonesia's PT Telkom Indonesia (Persero) Tbk topped the list. The list is based on over 1 million survey responses across Asia and West Asia, representing the experience of over 4.7 million employees in the region. According to Great Place to Work India, 88% of employees at the best workplaces in Asia on average reported having a positive employee experience. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Federal Bank – ranked 63rd on the "Best Workplaces in Asia 2022" & became the only bank in India to be listed by Great Place to Work
- Top – PT Telkom Indonesia (Persero) Tbk (Indonesia)
- [HQs of Federal Bank – Aluva, Kerala](#) | [MD & CEO – Shyam Srinivasan](#) | [Tagline – "Your Perfect Banking Partner"](#)

462. On September 19, Federal Bank launched a pilot for instant Kisan Credit Card (KCC) lending in its bid to digitalise rural finance in select districts of Tamil Nadu. The instant KCC was developed by the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH), a subsidiary of Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The platform will use e-KYC and eSign, Application Programming Interface (APIs) developed by the Tamil Nadu E-Governance Agency (TNeGA). Earlier in September, RBI announced the pilot for KCC lending in Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu in September with Union Bank of India and Federal Bank, respectively, as partner banks and with active cooperation of the State governments. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Federal Bank – launched a pilot for instant KCC lending to digitalise rural finance in select districts of Tamil Nadu
- RBI announced the pilot for KCC lending in Madhya Pradesh & Tamil Nadu with UBI & Federal Bank as Partner Banks
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established on – 1st April, 1935

463. On September 21, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the reappointment of P. R. Ravi Mohan as the Chairman of ESAF Small Finance Bank for a further period of 3 years from December 21, 2022. He was previously employed as a chief general manager in the department of banking supervision of the RBI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- P. R. Ravi Mohan – reappointed as Chairman of ESAF Small Finance Bank
- HQs of ESAF SFB – Thrissur, Kerala | MD & CEO – K. Paul Thomas | Chairman – P. R. Ravi Mohan

464. On September 19, the Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT), an arm of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), developed a new technology called “LoRa (Long Range Radio)” that allows people in remote hilly and forest areas to access banking services without satellite signal. LoRa technology is a wireless modulation technique in the physical layer, allowing long-range communication using chirp spread spectrum. LoRa technology uses dedicated radios, which are not usually present in end-user devices, limiting interferences from other devices. Banks can use this as their own dedicated private network instead of using a third party network which is presently based either on satellite link or wired (fibre). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IDRBT (RBI) – developed a new technology called “LoRa (Long Range Radio)” that allows people in remote hilly and forest areas to access banking services without satellite signal
- HQs of IDRBT – Hyderabad, Telangana | Director – Prof. D. Janakiram

Defence Affairs

465. On September 19, INS Ajay, the second Abhay class anti-submarine warfare corvette of Western Naval Command (WNC), was decommissioned on September 19 after 32 years of service. During its service, INS Ajay was operating as part of the 23rd Patrol Vessel Squadron under the operational control of Flag Officer Commanding, Maharashtra Naval Area. The ship was forward-deployed on several occasions, including for Operation Talwar during the Kargil War in 1999, Operation Parakram in 2001 and post-Uri attack in 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- INS Ajay, the 2nd Abhay class anti-submarine warfare corvette of WNC – was decommissioned after 32 years of service
- HQs of WNC – Mumbai, MH | FOC-in-C – Ajendra Bahadur Singh | Chief of Staff of WNC – Krishna Swaminathan



Sports & Games

466. On September 21, Bangladesh made history by winning the “SAFF Women’s Championship 2022” for the first time, beating Nepal at the Dasharath Stadium in Kathmandu. India was defeated by Nepal in the semi-finals with 0-1. India had won every edition of the SAFF Women’s Championship since its inception in 2010. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bangladesh – made history by winning the “SAFF Women’s Championship 2022” for the first time (defeating - Nepal)
- India was defeated by Nepal in the semi-finals | The championship was held at Dasharath Stadium in Kathmandu

467. In September 2022, Australia won its first “FIBA U18 Women’s Asian Championship” title, defeating China in the final in Bengaluru, Karnataka. China has been the five-time consecutive champion in the competition. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Australia – won its first “FIBA U18 Women’s Asian Championship” title held in Bengaluru, Karnataka (defeating - China)
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Anthony Albanese
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot

Persons in News

468. On September 21, Veteran Assamese swimmer Elvis Ali Hazarika has become the first from the North East to cross the North Channel. The North Channel is the strait between north-eastern Northern Ireland and south-western Scotland. Elvis and his team clocked a timing of 14 hours 38 minutes to achieve this feat. With this, Elvis has become the oldest Indian swimmer to cross the North Channel. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Elvis Ali Hazarika (Assam) – became the first from the North East to cross the North Channel
- North Channel – a strait between north-eastern Northern Ireland & south-western Scotland

Science & Technology

469. On September 21, Scientists in China created the world’s first cloned wild Arctic wolf named ‘Maya’. The cloning of the Arctic Wolf, also known as the White Wolf or Polar Wolf, which is native to the High Arctic tundra of Canada’s Queen Elizabeth Islands, is considered a milestone achievement in conserving rare and endangered species through cloning technology. The donor cell of the wolf came from the skin sample of a wild female Arctic wolf and its oocyte was taken from a female dog. According to the Global Times report, Maya’s surrogate mother was a beagle, a dog breed. Cloning, the process of creating copies of living organisms, including cells, tissues, etc, was first used to create an animal in 1996 by a Scottish scientist. The animal, a sheep named Dolly, was made using an udder cell from an adult sheep. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Scientists in China created the world’s first cloned wild Arctic wolf named ‘Maya’
- ‘Arctic Wolf’, also known as ‘White Wolf’ or ‘Polar Wolf’ – is native to Canada’s Queen Elizabeth Islands
- According to the Global Times report, Maya’s surrogate mother was a beagle (a dog breed)
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping



470. On September 17, the UAE's Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC) signed an MoU with the China National Space Agency (CNSA) to work together on future lunar efforts. The two agencies will collaborate on future moon missions involving the landing of an MBRSC rover aboard a CNSA lander. The MBRSC is already working with two private-sector partners on its 'Emirates Lunar Mission', which is scheduled to send the small Rashid rover to the moon by the end of 2022. The robotic mission will launch atop a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket, and the Rashid rover will touch down aboard Hakuto-R, a lander built by the Tokyo company ispace. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MBRSC (UAE) + CNSA (China) = an MoU to work together on the UAE's 'Emirates Lunar Mission'
- 'Emirates Lunar Mission' is scheduled to send the small 'Rashid rover' to the moon by the end of 2022
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

Appointments & Resignations

471. In September 2022, Public enterprises selection board (PESB) selected Prasanna Kumar Motupalli (Executive Director in NTPC limited) as the Chairman and Managing Director of NLC India Limited. He is a gold medalist in Mechanical Engineering and Master of Business Management in Operations Mgmt., HR Management, Marketing Management, and Financial Management. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Prasanna Kumar Motupalli – selected by PSEB as the CMD of NLC India Limited
- HQs of NLC India Ltd – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CMD – Rakesh Kumar (Next - Prasanna Kumar Motupalli)

472. Ministry of Law and Justice notified the appointment of Justice T. Raja, senior-most Judge of the Madras High Court, as Acting Chief Justice of Madras High Court with effect from September 22. Justice M. Duraiswamy, Acting Chief Justice of Madras High Court, retired on September 21. T. Raja served as Standing Counsel for Supreme Court Legal Services Society for all Civil and Criminal matters for about 6 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Justice T. Raja – appointed as Acting Chief Justice of Madras High Court (succeeding - Justice M. Duraiswamy)

473. On September 16, the Union government announced to replace senior IAS officer BVR Subrahmanyam with Sunil Barthwal as Union Commerce Secretary. BVR Subrahmanyam is appointed as Chairman & Managing Director of India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO) on contract basis for a period of 2 years. Senior IAS officer Arun Singhal is appointed as new Fertiliser Secretary. Jharkhand cadre IAS officer Mukhmeet Singh Bhatia is appointed as the new Minority Affairs Secretary. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sunil Barthwal – appointed as Union Commerce Secretary (replacing - BVR Subrahmanyam)
- BVR Subrahmanyam – appointed as CMD of India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO)
- Arun Singhal – appointed as new Fertiliser Secretary
- Mukhmeet Singh Bhatia – appointed as the new Minority Affairs Secretary



474. On September 16, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Chairperson Justice (retd) Arun Kumar Mishra is elected as a member of the Governance Committee of the Asia Pacific Forum (APF). He was also elected as a member of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) Bureau at the 27th Annual General Meeting of the APF. The GANHRI, an Executive Committee comprising 16 members, is one of the largest human rights networks worldwide. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kumar Mishra (NHRC Chairperson) – elected as a member of the Governance Committee of the Asia Pacific Forum
- He was also elected as a member of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) Bureau
- [HQs of NHRC – New Delhi](#) | [Chairperson – Arun Kumar Mishra](#) | [Established in – 1993](#)

475. On September 15, the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) elected Vinod Aggarwal (MD & CEO, Volvo Eicher Commercial Vehicles) as its President for 2022-23. Aggarwal, who was the Vice-President of SIAM, succeeded Kenichi Ayukawa (Executive Vice Chairman & Whole Time Director, Maruti Suzuki India). The members of SIAM also elected Shailesh Chandra as the Vice President of SIAM for 2022-23. Satyakam Arya was elected as the Treasurer of SIAM for 2022-23. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vinod Aggarwal – elected as President of SIAM (succeeding - Kenichi Ayukawa)
- Shailesh Chandra – elected as Vice President of SIAM
- [HQs of SIAM – New Delhi](#) | [President – Vinod Aggarwal](#)

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

476. The Council of Scientific & Industrial Research's (CSIR) popular science magazine "Vigyan Pragati" received the "National Rajbhasha Kirti Award" (First position) at the 2nd "All India Rajbhasha Sammelan" held during 14-15 September 2022 in the Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Indoor Stadium, Surat. Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs, organized this grand event. Director of CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR), Prof. Ranjana Aggarwal received this prestigious Kirti Award. The CSIR started publishing this magazine in 1952. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 2nd "All India Rajbhasha Sammelan" – held in Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Indoor Stadium, Surat
- "Vigyan Pragati" magazine of CSIR – received the "National Rajbhasha Kirti Award" (1st position)
- The CSIR started publishing this magazine – in 1952
- [HQs of CSIR – New Delhi](#) | [President – Narendra Modi](#) | [DG – Nallathamby Kalaiselvi](#) | [Established in – 1942](#)

477. On September 16, Aniket Doegar of Haqdarshak, a tech platform that connects citizens with their eligible government welfare schemes, was awarded the 13th "Social Entrepreneur of the Year (SEOY) Award 2022 – India", established by Jubilant Bhartia Foundation and Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship. Social Entrepreneurship is an endeavour to develop solutions to the existing socioeconomic, environmental, health care and cultural issues. In 2014-15, India became the first country in the world with a legislated corporate social responsibility (CSR), with a spending threshold of up to \$2.5 billion (₹15,000 Cr). As of March 2022, Indian companies have spent more than ₹1 trillion in CSR since its inception. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Aniket Doegar (Haqdarshak) – awarded the 13th "Social Entrepreneur of the Year (SEOY) Award 2022 - India"
- As of March 2022, Indian companies have spent more than ₹1 trillion in CSR since its inception





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Important Days & Dates

478. World Water Monitoring Day is observed on September 18 every year to raise awareness about the importance of water, and to celebrate the progress that has been made in improving water management. The day celebrates the achievements of global water monitoring and promotes partnerships between governments, civil society, the private sector, and the scientific community to support water monitoring. The day was first brought into existence in 2003 by America's Clean Water Foundation (ACWF). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 18 – World Water Monitoring Day – by America's Clean Water Foundation (since 2003)

479. The 11th Foundation Day of Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI) was observed on September 20, 2022. Shri R. K. Singh, Union Minister of Power and New and Renewable Energy, graced the occasion as Chief Guest. As part of 11th Foundation Day, a series of events was organized including plantation of 1100 trees, blood donation camp wherein 88 units were donated, distribution of 2100 food packets, etc. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 20 – 11th Foundation Day of SECI | Chief Guest during the celebration – Shri R. K. Singh
- HQs of SECI – New Delhi | Chairman – Jatindra Nath Swain | MD – Suman Sharma | Founded on – Sep 9, 2011

480. Every year, Equal Pay Day or International Equal Pay Day is observed on 18 September to bring awareness to the disparities women face when getting paid in the workplace. The day was created in 1996 by the National Committee on Pay Equity. According to a UN report, women around the world still make 23% less money than their male counterparts. As per the stats shared by The World Economic Forum, at the current rate of change it will take the region 115 years to close. The average participation rate of women in the labour force is 31% globally. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 18 – International Equal Pay Day – by National Committee on Pay Equity (since 1996)
- UN Report: Women around the world still make 23% less money than their male counterparts
- Average global participation rate of women in the labour force – 31%

481. International World Snakebite Awareness Day is observed on September 19 every year. Snakebite Envenoming (SBE) was added to the list of Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in 2017 by the World Health Organisation (WHO), which also estimates that there are 4.5-5.4 million snakebites worldwide resulting in 1.8-2.7 million envenoming, 81,000-1,38,000 deaths, and permanent disabilities in 4,00,000 annually. India has the dubious distinction of accounting for half the number of bites, approximately 2 million and 58,000 deaths annually. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 19 – International World Snakebite Awareness Day
- Snakebite Envenoming – added to the list of NTDs in 2017 by the WHO

482. Tamil Nadu government marked September 17 as "Social Justice Day" to commemorate the birth anniversary of E V Ramasamy Periyar, an Indian social activist and politician who started the Self-Respect Movement and Dravidar Kazhagam. He is known as the 'Father of the Dravidian movement'. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- September 17 – “Social Justice Day” to commemorate the birth anniversary of E V Ramasamy Periyar (by TN Govt.)
- E V Ramasamy Periyar – known as the ‘Father of the Dravidian movement’
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

483. International Red Panda Day (IRPD) is celebrated every year on the third Saturday of September to raise awareness about the red panda conservation issues. This year, the 13th edition of IRPD falls on 17 September. International Red Panda Day (IRPD) was launched by Red Panda Network (RPN) in 2010. The IUCN considers the red panda to be an Endangered species. On this IRPD 2022, SBI Foundation and WWF India entered into a partnership to generate fine-scale information on the species at a transboundary level and engage with communities in safeguarding key habitats of the Red Panda in the Khangchendzonga landscape of Sikkim and West Bengal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 17 (3rd Saturday of Sep) – 13th International Red Panda Day (since 2010)
- SBI Foundation + WWF India = partnership for Red Panda Transboundary Conservation in Sikkim & West Bengal

484. International Coastal Clean-up Day is observed every year on third Saturday of September. In 2022, 37th International Coastal Clean-up (ICC) Day was marked on September 17. Every year ASCOA joins Ocean Conservancy and the international community to commemorate International Coastal Clean-up Day. This year, ASCOA’s theme is “Connecting People For A Trash Free Coastline”. The day was first observed in 1986. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 17 (3rd Saturday of Sep) – 37th International Coastal Clean-up Day (since 1986)
- ASCOA’s theme – “Connecting People For A Trash Free Coastline”

485. The “International Day of Peace”, also known as “World Peace Day” is observed every year on 21 September. This day is celebrated around the world to strengthen the ideals of peace, through observing 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire. This day promotes global solidarity for building a peaceful and sustainable world. This year, the theme is “End Racism. Build Peace.” [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 21 – International Day of Peace or World Peace Day
- 2022’s Theme – “End Racism. Build Peace.”

486. World Alzheimer’s Day is observed on September 21 to create awareness about Alzheimer’s disease. Alzheimer’s disease refers to a progressive disorder that causes degeneration of the brain cells. It deteriorates the thinking capacity of an individual as well as their behavioural and social skills. There is no cure for Alzheimer’s. In 2022, the theme of the day is “Know dementia, know Alzheimer’s”, which is a continuation of 2021 theme but this year the theme focuses more on the post diagnosis support to Alzheimer’s patients and their families. Besides, the month of September is regarded as “World Alzheimer’s Month”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 21 – World Alzheimer’s Day
- 2022’s Theme – “Know dementia, know Alzheimer’s”
- September – World Alzheimer’s Month



487. Railway Protection Force (RPF) celebrated its 38th Raising Day on September 20, 2022. A parade was organized as a part of the celebrations for the first time at the central level at Jag Jeewan Ram RPF Academy in Lucknow. Minister of state for Railways and Textiles, Darshana Vikram Jardosh took the salute of the parade. The minister presented the 'President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service', 'Indian Police Medal for Meritorious Service', 'Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak', 'Uttam JeevanRaksha Padak' and 'Jeevan Raksha Padak' to 23 RPF personnel, including award of Sarwottam Jeewan Raksha Padak posthumously to Late Gyan Chand, Head Constable RPF NCR. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 20 – 38th Raising Day of RPF
- Darshana Vikram Jardosh (MoS for Railways) – presented various awards to 23 RPF personnel
- 'Sarwottam Jeewan Raksha Padak' was posthumously awarded to – Late Gyan Chand (Head Constable RPF NCR)
- HQs of RPF – New Delhi, India | DG – Sanjay Chander | Motto – "Attain Honour"

488. International Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs) Day was observed on September 20. The day celebrates the creation and use of NFTs. The term was first coined by Dapper Labs Chief Technology Officer Dete Shirley in the form of the 'ERC-721' standard on the same day in 2017, marking its existence. NFTs are digital assets that can be stored, transferred, and traded just like traditional assets. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 20 – International Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs) Day
- The term 'NFTs' was first coined in 2017 – by Dete Shirley (Chief Technology Officer of Dapper Labs)



Obituaries

489. On September 21, Ramyatna Shukla, leading Sanskrit scholar and President of Kashi Vidvat Parishad, passed away at the age of 90. He received the Padma Shri in 2021 for his contribution in Social Work. He was popularly called as "Abhinav Panini". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ramyatna Shukla (Abhinav Panini) – Sanskrit Scholar & President of Kashi Vidvat Parishad – passed away
- He received the 'Padma Shri' in 2021

Meetings, Conferences & Summits

490. The 9th session of the Governing Body of the "International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture" (ITPGRFA) was held in New Delhi during September 19-24. The meet was originally scheduled to be held in December 2021 but postponed twice. The 8th session of GB was held in Rome in November 2019. The ITPGRFA, known as the Seed Treaty, was adopted by the 31st session of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in November 2001. The treaty, which came in force on June 29, 2004, has been ratified by 149 countries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 9th session of "International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture" – held in New Delhi
- ITPGRFA, also known as the Seed Treaty, was adopted by the 31st session of FAO in November 2001
- HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy | DG – QU Dongyu | Formation – 16th October, 1945



491. The Army leaders from the 24 nations belonging to the Indo-Pacific region participated in the 46th “Indo-Pacific Armies Management Seminar (IPAMS)” held in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The largest land forces conference in the Indo-Pacific region was inaugurated by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina of Bangladesh on September 12. The theme of this year’s conference was “Prospects and Challenges in Maintaining Peace and Security in the Indo-Pacific”. The 47th iteration of IPAMS will take place in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Army leaders from 24 nations – participated in 46th “Indo-Pacific Armies Management Seminar” – in Dhaka, Bangladesh
- Theme of the conference – “Prospects and Challenges in Maintaining Peace and Security in the Indo-Pacific”
- India – will host the 47th edition of the IPAMS

492. The 22nd Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit successfully concluded on September 16 in Samarkand, Uzbekistan where the Heads of States of the SCO’s eight permanent members - namely China, Russia, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, India, and Pakistan - were gathered to discuss contemporary regional and global challenges. It was the first SCO summit to take place in person since the COVID-19 outbreak. Another important feature of this summit was the formal inclusion of Iran as a permanent member in the SCO. Iran’s full membership is scheduled to take effect from April 2023. Previously, Iran held only Observer’s status. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 22nd SCO Summit successfully concluded in – Samarkand, Uzbekistan (1st in person SCO summit since COVID-19)
- Iran – included as a permanent member in the SCO in this summit (effective from April 2023)
- [HQs of SCO – Beijing, China](#) | [SG – Zhang Ming](#) | [Present Member Countries – 8](#) | [Current Presidency – India](#)

493. On September 18, Union Minister of Tourism, G. Kishan Reddy, chaired the 3-day “National Conference of State Tourism Ministers” at Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh. The conference aims to bring in diverse viewpoints and perspectives from all the States and Union Territories of India on tourism development and growth. The National Conference also aims to be a platform for sharing of best practices, successful projects, and tourism product opportunities. During the conference, the minister highlighted the slogan ‘Vikas Bhi Virasat Bhi’ given by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Moreover, under the Swadesh Darshan scheme, the government identified 15 tourist circuits. Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned Rs 7,000 Cr for the development of tourism infrastructure throughout the country. A number of 76 projects have been sanctioned under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme in 30 States and UTs for building tourist infrastructure across various themes. Tourism Ministry’s PRASHAD Scheme aims to strengthen the tourist facilities around spiritual locations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “National Conference of State Tourism Ministers” held at – Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh
- The conference was chaired by – G. Kishan Reddy | He highlighted the slogan – ‘Vikas Bhi Virasat Bhi’
- The government identified 15 tourist circuits under ‘Swadesh Darshan Scheme’
- Total 76 projects have been sanctioned under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme
- PRASHAD Scheme – aims to strengthen the tourist facilities around spiritual locations
- [Ministry of Tourism: G. Kishan Reddy](#) | [Constituency – Secunderabad, Telangana](#)

494. As announced on September 15, the United States will host the International Dairy Federation’s (IDF) “World Dairy Summit 2023”, the world’s biggest dairy conference, in October 2023 in Chicago. The meeting is organised by US-IDF, held in the United States for the first time since 1993. The theme of the IDF World Dairy Summit 2023 would be “BE Dairy - Boundless Potential. Endless Possibilities.” The IDF’s “World Dairy Summit 2022” was held in Greater Noida, National Capital Region (Delhi - NCR). [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Chicago (US) – will host the International Dairy Federation’s (IDF) “World Dairy Summit 2023”
- Theme – “BE Dairy - Boundless Potential. Endless Possibilities”
- The IDF’s “World Dairy Summit 2022” was held in – Greater Noida, UP
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

Amount & Agreements

495. On September 20, the World Bank’s Board of Executive Directors granted a loan of \$150 million to help Punjab in managing financial resources and ensure accessible public service. The loan will support the state in strengthening public service infrastructure and its institutional capacities. The \$150 million loan has a maturity period of 15 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- World Bank – granted a \$150 million loan to help Punjab manage financial resources & ensure accessible public service
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., US | Members – 189 | President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

Ordinance

496. On September 20, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has notified the rules governing “The Criminal Procedure (Identification) Act, 2022” that would enable police and central investigating agencies to collect, store and analyse physical and biological samples including retina and iris scans of arrested persons. The Act repeals “The Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920”. The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the MHA will direct States on how to collect and store the information. “Measurements” includes finger-impressions, palm-print, foot-print, photographs, iris and retina scan, physical, biological samples and their analysis, behavioural attributes including signatures, handwriting or any other examination referred to in section 53 or section 53A of the “Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974)”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Home Affairs – notified the rules governing “The Criminal Procedure (Identification) Act, 2022”
- The modified Act repeals “The Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920”
- National Crime Records Bureau (under the MHA) – will direct States on how to collect & store the information
- Ministry of Home Affairs: Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Home Affairs: Nityanand Rai, Ajay Kumar & Nisith Pramanik

Acquisitions & Mergers

497. On September 22, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the amalgamation of Jio Cinema OTT platform with Viacom18 Media Pvt Ltd. This approval for merger comes after an investment by BTS (Bodhi Tree Systems) Investment 1 Pte Ltd and Reliance Projects & Property Management Services Limited (RPPMSL). BTS, along with a host of investors, announced that it will invest Rs 13,500 Crore in Viacom18 to launch the entertainment platform. Bodhi Tree Systems is a newly formed platform between Lupa Systems Founder & CEO, James Murdoch, and Uday Shankar. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- CCI approved the amalgamation of Jio Cinema OTT platform – with Viacom18 Media Pvt Ltd
- BTS (Bodhi Tree Systems) – a newly formed platform between James Murdoch & Uday Shankar
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

498. On September 20, the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) and India's International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) signed a FinTech Co-operation agreement to facilitate regulatory collaboration and partnership in fintech. The 'Fintech Co-operation Agreement (CA)' will see the pair leverage existing regulatory sandboxes in their respective jurisdictions to support experimentation of technology innovations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MAS + IFSCA = a FinTech Co-operation agreement to facilitate regulatory collaboration & partnership in fintech
- HQs of IFSCA – Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman – Injeti Srinivas

499. On September 16, Indian Navy and Amity University, Noida signed an MoU to establish academic linkages between the Indian Navy and Amity University. As per provisions of the MoU, Amity University will conduct customised courses for the Indian Navy in niche domains, such as 5G Technology and IoT, Control System Integration, AI, Blockchain, Machine Learning, Cryptology, Data Science, Big Data Analysis, Digital Marketing, Computer Networks, Anti Drone Warfare, Cyber Warfare Security, Automation, Surveillance, and Tracking, etc. These endeavours will also contribute towards grooming 'Scholar Warriors'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Navy + Amity University, Noida = an MoU to establish Academic Linkages
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950

500. On September 20, the Government of Meghalaya signed an MoU with the Government of Tamil Nadu through which Tamil Nadu has agreed to support Meghalaya for recruitment and training of medical professionals. This is a first-of-its-kind medical partnership between the two Indian states for collaboration on knowledge sharing, capacity building and improving health service delivery. The MoU is targeted at upgrading all Community Health Centres (CHCs) in the State as First Referral Units (FRUs) by overcoming the shortage of medical specialists in the CHCs. This MoU is part of Meghalaya's efforts to improve its health indicators and is one of the several packaged interventions including the "Chief Minister's Safe Motherhood Scheme (CM-SMS)". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu – signed an MoU to support Meghalaya for recruitment & training of medical professionals
- "Chief Minister's Safe Motherhood Scheme (CM-SMS)" – belongs to Meghalaya
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – B. D. Mishra (addi. charge)





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