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National & States Affairs

501. On September 20, the Israel embassy in India in collaboration with Khushii Foundation launched a special project “Saaras” to promote women empowerment, menstrual hygiene and awareness in Arthala, Ghaziabad. Ambassador of Israel to India, Naor Gilon, along with Anirudh Khaitan, President of Khushii Foundation, inaugurated a center that has the facilities to produce eco-friendly cost-effective sanitary napkins. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Israel embassy in India + Khushii Foundation = launched a special project “Saaras” to promote women empowerment
- Ambassador of Israel to India – Naor Gilon
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Isaac Herzog | PM – Yair Lapid
- Location of Khushii Foundation – Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh | President – Anirudh Khaitan

502. On September 16, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot announced to provide 2% reservation in government jobs for sportspersons in the state. The state government also informed the increase in prize money for athletes who win medals at major international events. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ashok Gehlot (Rajasthan CM) – announced to provide 2% reservation in government jobs for sportspersons in the state
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

503. On September 21, the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MoAFW) and Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) jointly launched a “Convergence Portal” between Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF), Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme and Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi. This convergence will prove to be very important for the Food Processing Enterprises in India and is a stepping stone to achieve PM Narendra Modi’s dream of an Aatma Nirbhar Bharat and will also boost concept of ‘Vocal For Local’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoAFW + MoFPI = jointly launched a “Convergence Portal” between AIF, PMFME Scheme & PMKSY
- Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare: Narendra Singh Tomar | Constituency – Morena, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare: Shobha Karandlaje & Kailash Choudhary
- Minister of Food Processing Industries: Pashu Pati Kumar Paras | Constituency – Hajipur, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Food Processing Industries: Prahalad Singh Patel

504. In September 2022, the Union Ministry of Power made a proposal for the “Market-Based Economic Dispatch (MBED)” mechanism that envisages centralised scheduling for dispatching the entire annual electricity consumption of around 1,400 billion units. The new model proposes a centralised scheduling of power dispatches, both inter-state and intra-state. This will impinge on the relative autonomy of states in managing their electricity sector, including their own generating stations, and make the discoms entirely dependent on the centralised mechanism. The Centre’s argument is that the current model of states doing scheduling is suboptimal. As part of this, an algorithm developed by the National Load Dispatch Centre (NLDC) called the ‘Security Constrained Economic Dispatch (SCED)’ is being cited as a solution. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Ministry of Power – made a proposal for the “**Market-Based Economic Dispatch (MBED)**” mechanism
- MBED mechanism proposes a centralised scheduling of Power dispatches, both inter-state and intra-state
- ‘**Security Constrained Economic Dispatch (SCED)**’ – developed by the National Load Dispatch Centre

505. On September 21, the Central Government has formed a 5-member High Level Committee chaired by Vinod Kumar Paul, Member (Health) of NITI Aayog, to consider a legally enforceable mechanism for regulating the marketing practices of pharmaceutical firms. Guidelines for pharmaceutical marketing already exist. The DoP’s Universal Code of Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP) for pharmaceutical firms came into effect from January 2015. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central Govt formed a 5-member High Level Committee to review marketing practices of pharmaceutical firms
- The committee is chaired by – V. K. Paul (Member (Health) of NITI Aayog)

506. On September 19, Indian Army, in collaboration with Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), accomplished a milestone by activating satellite broadband service at the highest battlefield in the world, the Siachen glacier, located in the eastern Karakoram range of the Himalayas. Indian Army’s Fire & Fury Corps which is deployed to guard the Siachen glacier informed about the development which will help increase the efficiency of communication and subsequent operations along the treacherous terrain and enemy border. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Army + BBNL = activated satellite broadband service in the Siachen glacier, the highest battlefield in the world
- Indian Army’s Fire & Fury Corps is deployed to guard the Siachen glacier
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande | Vice Chief – Lt. General Baggavalli Somashekar Raj

507. On September 20, Rakesh Jhunjhunwala-backed Alchemy Capital Management (Alchemy) launched a new Category III Alternative Investment Fund (AIF), “Alchemy Emerging Leaders of Tomorrow”. With a portfolio of 20-25 stocks, the fund will invest at least 65% in mid and small cap stocks. The latest fund has a tenure of 4 years and minimum investment of ₹1 Crore. Alchemy was co-founded by Hiren Ved, Rakesh Jhunjhunwala and others in 1999. It is a portfolio management services (PMS) provider with assets of ₹7,500 Crore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Alchemy – launched a new Category III Alternative Investment Fund (AIF), “Alchemy Emerging Leaders of Tomorrow”
- Tenure of Fund – 4 years | Minimum Investment – ₹1 Crore
- HQs of Alchemy – Mumbai | CEO – Hiren Ved | Co-founders – Hiren Ved & Rakesh Jhunjhunwala

508. On September 22, Prime Minister Narendra Modi received a copy of the Braille version of Assamese Dictionary called ‘Hemkosh’ from Jayanta Baruah, a Member of the Assam Legislative Assembly, in New Delhi. Hemkosh was among the earliest Assamese dictionaries dating back to the 19th century. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – received a copy of the Braille version of Assamese Dictionary called ‘Hemkosh’
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi



509. On September 22, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) announced that GREENEST, a leading plant protein food brand, has shipped India's first plant based meat export consignment to the USA from Gujarat in India. The 5,000 Kg consignment consists of plant-based mini samosas, hot and spicy strips, momos, spring rolls, nuggets, grilled patty, and other vegan products. India's GREENEST is a pioneer in plant based protein products and is backed by investors like Better Bite Ventures, a New Zealand based dedicated Alt Protein VC fund, Magnetic and Sachid Madan, the former chief executive of ITCs frozen snacks business. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- GREENEST – shipped India's first plant based meat export consignment to the USA from Gujarat in India
- HQs of GREENEST – New Delhi | Founder & CEO – Gaurav Sharma
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

510. On September 20, Private lender Yes Bank approved the sale of stressed loans worth Rs 48,000 Crore to JC Flowers Asset Reconstruction Company after receiving no bids to challenge that made by the private equity company. Consequently, Yes Bank's board of directors has approved JC Flowers' declaration as the winner of the Swiss Challenge method that was used for the sale of the stressed assets. YES Bank will also pick up a 19.99% stake in the JC Flowers ARC which is subject to regulatory approvals. Separately, Yes Bank announced that the RBI has approved the appointment of former RBI Deputy Governor Rama Subramaniam Gandhi as Non-Executive (part-time) Chairman of the bank for a period of 3 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Yes Bank – approved the sale of stressed loans worth Rs 48,000 Crore to JC Flowers Asset Reconstruction Co.
- YES Bank – will also pick up a 19.99% stake in the JC Flowers ARC (subject to regulatory approvals)
- Rama Subramaniam Gandhi – appointed as Non-Executive (part-time) Chairman of Yes Bank
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar | Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”

511. On September 16, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry amended the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) and allowed invoicing, payment and settlement of exports and imports in Indian Rupee, a move aimed at facilitating trade in the domestic currency. Settlement of trade transactions in INR may also take place through Special Rupee Vostro Accounts opened by authorised dealer banks in India. Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) is an arm of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry which deals with export and import related matters. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of C&I – amended FTP & allowed invoicing, payment & settlement of exports & imports in Indian Rupee
- Transactions in INR may also take place through 'Special Rupee Vostro Accounts' opened by authorised dealer banks
- 'DGFT', an arm of the Ministry of C&I – deals with Export/Import related matters of India
- Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Anupriya Singh Patel & Som Parkash



512. On September 20, the Reserve Bank of India directed Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs) with deposits above Rs 10,000 Crore to appoint a Chief Compliance Officer (CCO) by April 1, 2023, to improve corporate governance. These banks are categorised as tier-4 entities. The RBI gave tier-3 banks, those with deposits above Rs 1,000 Crore and less than Rs 10,000 Crore, time till October 1, 2023, to appoint CCO. As for UCBs under tier-1, with deposits up to Rs 100 Crore, and tier-2, with deposits more than Rs 100 Crore and up to Rs 1,000 Crore, the existing norms will continue. Under the current guidelines, compliance is one of the major responsibilities of directors and the audit committee of the board and a senior official is designated as 'Compliance Officer'. The CCO's tenure should be at least 3 years. The CCO shall have direct reporting lines to the Managing director and Chief Executive Officer (MD&CEO) and/or Board/Board Committee. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI directed UCBs to appoint a Chief Compliance Officer (CCO)
- Timeline for Tier-3 banks (deposits above Rs 1,000 Cr & less than Rs 10,000 Cr) – by October 1, 2023
- Timeline for Tier-4 banks (deposits above Rs 10,000 Cr) – by April 1, 2023
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established on – 1st April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

513. On September 21, the Defence Accounts Department, under the Ministry of Defence, signed an MoU with Bank of Baroda and HDFC Bank, to on-board them as Common Service Centres under the System for Pension Administration (Raksha) (SPARSH) initiative, across more than 14,000 branches throughout India. The objective is to bring 17 Lakh pensioners out of the total 32 lakh defence pensioners on SPARSH by the end of September, 2022 and the remaining pensioners will be brought to SPARSH at the earliest. SPARSH is a web-based system for processing the pension claims and crediting the pension directly into the bank accounts of defence pensioners without any external intermediary. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Defence Accounts Department – on-boarded Bank of Baroda & HDFC Bank as Common Service Centres under the System for Pension Administration (Raksha) (SPARSH) initiative
- 'SPARSH' – a web-based system for processing the pension claims

514. On September 20, Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited in collaboration with IIT Madras launched "Kotak IIT-M Save Energy Mission" to encourage adoption of various energy conservation measures in the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises sector. Under the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative of Kotak Mahindra Bank, satellite centres would be set up at IIT Bombay, IIT Gandhinagar, IIT Indore, IIT Ropar, while the 'Hub of Save Energy Mission' would be at the IIT Madras campus in Chennai. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kotak Mahindra Bank + IIT Madras = launched "Kotak IIT-M Save Energy Mission" under the CSR initiative
- Kotak Mahindra Bank's 'Hub of Save Energy Mission' would be at the IIT Madras campus in Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Uday Kotak | Tagline – "Let's make money simple"
- Director of IIT Madras – Bhaskar Ramamurthi

515. On September 21, ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund launched the industry's first auto index fund, the ICICI Prudential Nifty Auto Index Fund. The fund will track the Nifty Auto Index which has been designed to reflect the performance of the automobiles sector. The index comprises 15 listed companies and represents auto-related sectors such as auto ancillaries and tyres too. The index is composed using the free float market capitalization method. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund – launched the industry's first auto index fund, "ICICI Prudential Nifty Auto Index Fund"
- HQs of ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Nimesh Shah



516. On September 20, Private sector lender Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMBL) launched 'Everyday Savings Account', a unique Savings Account designed to help you 'Spend Every Day and Save Every Day'. In this account, the customer can either make 30 transactions of any value in a month and enjoy total freedom from monthly balance maintenance (get minimum balance charges waived) or choose to maintain an average monthly balance of Rs 20,000. The account comes with a power-packed Everyday Rupay Platinum Debit Card that enables customers to enjoy every day offers on common categories such as groceries, medicines, apparels, food delivery, travel, on popular brands. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kotak Mahindra Bank – launched a unique Savings Account called 'Everyday Savings Account'
- HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Uday Kotak | Tagline – "Let's make money simple"

517. On September 21, Refinitiv, an LSEG Business and leading provider of financial markets data and infrastructure, has entered into a long-term strategic agreement with HDFC Bank to support the latter's digital transformation and innovation programmes across the whole business in India. Under the multi-year agreement, comprehensive access to Refinitiv's data and products will enable HDFC Bank to realise new customer opportunities and fast-track its innovation agenda while reducing total cost. Additionally, HDFC Bank will also enable its users with Refinitiv Workspace, Refinitiv's highly customisable workflow solution for financial professionals that provides access to real-time market data, news, fundamentals data, analytics, trading, and collaboration tools. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Bank + Refinitiv = a long-term strategic agreement for digital transformation & innovation programmes
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – "We understand your World"
- HQs of Refinitiv – New York, US | CEO – David W. Craig

518. On September 22, in a revolutionary development towards the digital payment system, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) along with Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das launched UPI (Unified Payments Interface) payments via Credit Cards on the RuPay network. The product was launched at the 3rd edition of the "Global FinTech Fest 2022" in Mumbai, along with two other product launches from NPCI, the "UPI Lite" and the "Bharat BillPay Cross-border Bill Payments". The theme for GFF 2022 is "Creating A Sustainable Financial World - Global, Inclusive, Green". The UPI Lite will provide users with a convenient solution for faster and simpler low-value transactions. On the other hand, the Bharat BillPay Cross-Border Bill Payments will make bill payments easier for people residing out of India. As of now, the UPI is linked via the customer's debit card to their savings or current account. Punjab National Bank, Union Bank of India, and Indian Bank will be the first to go live with UPI on RuPay credit cards via the BHIM app. On the other hand, Federal Bank, along with UAE's Lulu Exchange, will be the first to go live with BBPS cross-border bill payments. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 3rd edition of the "Global FinTech Fest 2022" – held in Mumbai
- Theme for GFF 2022 – "Creating A Sustainable Financial World - Global, Inclusive, Green"
- NPCI + RBI Governor = launched UPI payments via Credit Cards on the RuPay network
- NPCI also launched other 2 products – "UPI Lite" & "Bharat BillPay Cross-border Bill Payments"
- First banks to go live with UPI on RuPay credit cards: Punjab National Bank, Union Bank of India & Indian Bank
- First to go live with BBPS Cross-Border Bill Payments: Federal Bank & Lulu Exchange
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD & CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008

519. On September 21, Japan's MUFG Bank has increased the capital of its branches within India by Rs 3,000 Crore to expand its India business. As a result of this capital injection, the total capital of MUFG Bank in India will rise to Rs 5,207 Crore. In 2020, the bank set up MUFG Enterprise Solutions India Pvt Ltd as its global capability centre that supports the technology and innovation arm for MUFG. In March, MUFG Ganesha Fund was established which is a \$300-million fund to invest exclusively in seeding Indian start-ups and in September the fund marked its first investment. The bank has also expanded its presence by opening a branch at GIFT City, Gujarat. MUFG Bank opened its first India branch in Mumbai in 1953. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MUFG Bank – increased the capital of its branches within India by Rs 3,000 Cr to expand its India business
- MUFG Bank – set up MUFG Enterprise Solutions India Pvt Ltd as its global capability centre in 2020
- MUFG Bank – also established a \$300-million MUFG Ganesha Fund in India in March, 2022
- MUFG Bank opened its first India branch in Mumbai in 1953
- HQs of MUFG Bank – Tokyo, Japan | President CEO – Junichi Hanzawa

520. On September 21, the RBI removed Central Bank of India from its Prompt Corrective Action Framework (PCAF) after the lender showed improvement in various financial ratios, including minimum regulatory capital and net non-performing assets (NNPAs). The RBI had imposed the PCA norms on the bank in June 2017 due to its high net NPA and negative return of assets (RoA). The RBI had placed total 11 state-run banks under PCA framework after they breached the risk thresholds. CBoI is the last bank which has been removed from the PCA norms by the RBI. The PCA norm is a supervisory tool and is imposed when a bank breaches certain regulatory thresholds on capital to risk weighted assets ratio (CRAR), net NPAs and return on assets (RoA). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – removed Central Bank of India from its Prompt Corrective Action Framework (PCA was imposed on CBoI in 2017)
- RBI had placed total 11 state-run banks under PCAF | CBoI was the last bank under PCAF
- HQs of CBoI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Matam Venkata Rao | Tagline – “Central to You Since 1911”

Defence Affairs

521. On September 19, the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) held a joint exercise “Abhyas-01/22” off the coast of Chennai, Tamil Nadu. The exercise focussed on enhancing inter-operability in the field of maritime search and rescue (SAR), boarding operations and other enforcement duties. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICG + USCG = held a joint exercise “Abhyas-01/22” off the coast of Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- HQs of ICG – New Delhi | DG – Virender Singh Pathania | Founded in – 1977
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

522. On September 21, Guard Kerala & Mahe gets another advanced offshore patrol vessel (AOPV) as ICGS Samarth, which was operating from Goa, has been rebased to Kochi, Kerala. The ship will enhance the Coast Guard maritime domain operational efficacy in its area of responsibility not only along Kerala coast but also in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) and Lakshadweep/ Minicoy Islands. ICGS Samarth is a 105m-long ship and can attain a maximum speed of 23 knots (approx 43kmph). The ship is based at Kochi under the operational command of Coast Guard district headquarters-4 (Kerala & Mahe), Kochi. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- ICGS Samarth (AOPV) – has been rebased to Kochi, Kerala (operating from Goa)
- It is based at – Kochi under operational command of Coast Guard district headquarters-4 (Kerala & Mahe), Kochi
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – P. S. Sreedharan Pillai

Sports & Games

523. On September 19, Indian company Football Sports Development Limited (FSDL) signed an MoU with DFL Deutsche Fußball Liga, the organizing body of Bundesliga which is a professional association football league in Germany. The two will focus on club initiatives, fan engagement using technology and also have workshops. The two will focus on eFootball to develop a commercial model for e-Indian Super League. Football Sports Development Limited is run as a subsidiary of Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) and is a commercial partner of the All India Football Federation (AIFF). FSDL is also the organiser of the Indian Super League (ISL). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FSDL + DFL Deutsche Fußball Liga (Germany) = an MoU to develop a commercial model for e-Indian Super League
- FSDL: subsidiary of Reliance Industries, a commercial partner of AIFF, & the organiser of the Indian Super League
- HQs of FSDL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Founder & Chairperson – Nita Ambani | CEO – Martin Bain

524. India will face South Africa in the first match of the first edition of the “ICC U-19 Women’s T20 World Cup” taking place from January 14 to 29, 2023, in South Africa. 16 teams, including 5 Associate teams, will be participating in the competition. The teams have been split into 4 groups - Group A, B, C & D. The entire tournament will be held in two cities - Benoni and Potchefstroom. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- South Africa – will host the first edition of the “ICC U-19 Women’s T20 World Cup” in January 2023
- The entire tournament will be held in two cities – Benoni & Potchefstroom | Total teams – 16
- South Africa – Cape Town – South African Rand | President – Cyril Ramaphosa

525. The Moto GP World Championship is set to make its debut in India and will be called the “Bharat Grand Prix”. The event will take place at the Buddh International Circuit in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh in 2023. An MoU was signed for 7 years between Noida-based Fairstreet Sports Pvt Ltd and Dorna Sports. Moto GP also has plans to also introduce "Moto E" into the Indian racing scenario, which will not only be a first in Asia but is a significant green initiative with net zero carbon emissions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – will host its maiden Moto GP World Championship called “Bharat Grand Prix” in Greater Noida, UP (in 2023)
- Fairstreet Sports Pvt Ltd + Dorna Sports = an MoU for the same
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

526. On September 19, Czech Republic's 17-year-old Linda Fruhvirtova won the "Chennai Open 2022" WTA 250 tennis singles. The teenager beat Magda Linette of Poland. Chennai Open was a professional women's tennis tournament played on outdoor hard court. In doubles, the pair of Brazil's Luisa Stefani and Canada's Gabriela Dabrowski defeated Russia's Anna Blinkova and Georgia's Natela Dzalamidze. The Chennai Open was the first WTA tournament held in India in 14 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Linda Fruhvirtova (Czech Republic) – won women's singles title at the "Chennai Open 2022"
- Luisa Stefani (Brazil) + Gabriela Dabrowski (Canada) = won women's doubles title

Science & Technology

527. As published on September 23, Commercial airplane maker Airbus would have its first Zero Emission (ZEROe) aircraft ready by 2035 and India would play a significant role in its design, research and development. Siddarth Balachandran is the Head of Innovation & Scale at Airbus India and South Asia. Hydrogen propulsion would power this future aircraft, as liquid hydrogen would be used as fuel for combustion with oxygen in these zero-emission aircraft. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India would play a significant role in the design, research & development 'ZEROe' aircraft of Airbus – to be ready by 2035
- This future aircraft will be powered by – Hydrogen propulsion
- [HQs of Airbus – Leiden, Netherlands](#) | [CEO – Guillaume Faury](#)

528. On September 21, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully tested a 30 kN hybrid motor, which will pave way for a new propulsion system for the upcoming launch vehicles. The test was conducted at ISRO Propulsion Complex (IPRC) at Mahendragiri in Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu, supported by Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC). The motor used Hydroxyl-terminated polybutadiene (HTPB) as fuel and liquid oxygen (LOX) as the oxidiser. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ISRO – successfully tested a 30 kN hybrid motor at Mahendragiri, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu
- The test was supported by – Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC)
- [HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka](#) | [Director – S. Somanath](#) | [Formed on – August 15, 1969](#)

529. On September 22, two indigenously designed and built Diving Support Vessels (DSVs) of the Indian Navy, christened 'Nistar' and 'Nipun', were launched in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, in the presence of Navy Chief Admiral R. Hari Kumar. Navy chief's wife Kala Hari Kumar, President of Navy Wellness and Welfare Association (NWWA), performed the traditional honour and named these ships. Indigenously designed and built at Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL), these ships are a true testimonial to 'Aatmanirbharta'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 'Nistar' & 'Nipun', indigenously designed & built DSVs of Indian Navy – were launched in Visakhapatnam, AP
- These ships are designed & built at Hindustan Shipyard
- [HQs of Hindustan Shipyard – Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh](#) | [MD & Chairman – Hemant Khatri](#)





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Appointments & Resignations

530. On September 21, Tata Sons Chairman emeritus Ratan Tata, former Supreme Court judge K. T. Thomas and former deputy Lok Sabha speaker Kariya Munda, were nominated as new trustees of Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations (PM CARES) Fund. Union home minister Amit Shah and finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman are the other two trustees. The PM CARES Fund was created on May 29, 2021 to support children who lost both their parents, legal guardians or adoptive parents to the Covid-19 virus. It is registered as a Public Charitable Trust. The Prime Minister is the ex-officio Chairperson of PM CARES Fund. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ratan Tata + K. T. Thomas + Kariya Munda = nominated as new trustees of PM CARES Fund
- Other two trustees – Amit Shah & Nirmala Sitharaman
- Chairperson of PM CARES Fund – Prime Minister

531. On September 19, Max Life Insurance announced cricketer Rohit Sharma and his wife Ritika Sajdeh, as its brand ambassadors. Max Life has signed a two-year partnership with the new ambassadors, with an aim to further build and enhance the importance of financial preparedness and protection. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rohit Sharma + Ritika Sajdeh = appointed as brand ambassadors of Max Life Insurance
- HQs of Max Life Ins. – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Prashant Tripathy

532. On September 23, Dr. M. Srinivas, the dean of ESIC Hospital and Medical College, Hyderabad, has been appointed as the Director of New Delhi's All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), nearly 6 months after the tenure of previous Director, Dr. Randeep Guleria, formally ended. The appointment is for a period of 5 years. Moreover, Dr. Rajiv Bahl was appointed as the Director General of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Secretary of the Department of Health Research for a period of 3 years. Bahl succeeded Balram Bhargava. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- M. Srinivas – appointed as the Director of AIIMS, New Delhi
- Rajiv Bahl – appointed as the DG of ICMR
- HQs of ICMR – New Delhi, India | Director General – Rajiv Bahl | Established in – 1911

533. On September 19, senior bureaucrat Vijoy Kumar Singh assumed charge as Secretary of the Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare, under the Ministry of Defence. Singh, a 1990-batch IAS officer of Punjab cadre, has an experience of more than 32 years in administration. Singh recently served as special secretary in Ministry of Textiles. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vijoy Kumar Singh – assumed charge as Secretary of the Dept. of Ex-Servicemen Welfare (under Ministry of Defence)
- Minister of Defence: Rajnath Singh | Constituency – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Defence: Ajay Bhatt



534. On September 21, the Union government appointed the senior bureaucrat and retired Gujarat cadre IFoS officer, Bharat Lal, as the Director General of National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG), New Delhi. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi cleared the appointment on contract basis, initially for a period of one year. Bharat Lal replaced V. Srinivas. The National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) is an autonomous institute under the aegis of Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Government of India. Its head office is at New Delhi and the branch office at Mussoorie. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bharat Lal – appointed as the Director General of National Centre for Good Governance (replacing - V. Srinivas)
- HQs of NCGG – New Delhi | DG – Bharat Lal

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

535. On September 21, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) announced Ursula von der Leyen of Germany as the winner of the “2022 Global Goalkeeper Award”. She is the Chief of European Union (EU). This year's three additional “Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards” were given to India’s Radhika Batra (2022 Progress Award), Zahra Joya, a Journalist from Afghanistan (2022 Change-maker Award), and Vanessa Nakate, a Climate Justice Activist from Uganda (2022 Campaign Award). The “Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards” were conferred in New York’s Lincoln centre in recognition of the work done by the 4 remarkable change-makers to advance progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in their communities and around the world. Batra, the co-founder of the non-profit organisation ‘Every Infant Matters’, was conferred with the award for her work in providing last-mile health solutions to disadvantaged children in India. Moreover, “The Future of Progress” book is co-authored by Bill Gates and Melinda French Gates. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BMGF – conferred “Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards” to 4 winners in New York’s Lincoln centre
- Ursula von der Leyen (Germany) – conferred with “2022 Global Goalkeeper Award”
- Three additional “Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards”:
 - 2022 Change-maker Award: Zahra Joya (Afghanistan)
 - 2022 Progress Award: Radhika Batra (India)
 - 2022 Campaign Award: Vanessa Nakate (Uganda)

536. In September 2022, India won the “2022 UN Interagency Task Force and WHO Special Programme on Primary Health Care Award” for its ‘India Hypertension Control Initiative (IHCI)’, a large-scale hypertension intervention under the National Health Mission (NHM). The NHM saw 3.4 million hypertensive people identified and put on treatment at various government health facilities. The award was announced at the UN General Assembly side event at New York, USA. The IHCI is a collaborative initiative of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), State Governments and World Health Organization-India (WHO-India). The initiative was launched in 2017. Besides the government category, Arogya World, a non-profit organisation based in the US, also received the “2022 UN Interagency Task Force and the WHO Special Programme on Primary Health Care Award” for its work in scaling up community-based delivery models to strengthen prevention and control of diabetes at the population level, across 19 states in India. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Winners of “2022 UN Interagency Task Force and WHO Special Programme on Primary Health Care Award”:
 - Government category: India won the award for its ‘India Hypertension Control Initiative (IHCI)’
 - Organisation category: Arogya World (US) won the award for its initiatives against NCDs
- IHCI = Ministry of Health & Family Welfare + ICMR + State Governments + WHO-India (launched in 2017)

Schemes & Initiatives

537 On September 22, the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) introduced the “Capacity Building of First Time MSE Exporters (CBFTE)” component of the International Cooperation (IC) Scheme and appointed Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC) as its implementing agency. The scheme is applicable to the MSE exporters associated with the manufacturing sector. The MSME Ministry will release the grant amount to ECGC on reimbursement basis under the scheme. An exporter will be entitled to a maximum reimbursement of Rs 10,000 or actual, whichever is lower during the on-going financial year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoMSME introduced “Capacity Building of First Time MSE Exporters” component of International Cooperation Scheme
- ECGC – is designated as the implementing agency of the scheme
- An exporter will be entitled to a maximum reimbursement of Rs 10,000 or actual, whichever is less
- HQs of ECGC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman & MD – M. Senthilnathan

538. On September 18, Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai launched a diagnostic service called the ‘Xpress Clinic’, a model for the entire country. The CM inaugurated the hi-tech diagnostic service Xpress Clinic in Malleswaram Assembly Constituency. In Xpress clinics, 60% concession will be given for BPL cardholders in government hospitals, and it will be 40 to 50% for APL card holders. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka – launched a diagnostic service called ‘Xpress Clinic’ (inaugurated in Malleswaram Assembly Constituency)
- 60% concession will be given for BPL cardholders in Govt Hospitals & 40-50% for APL card holders in ‘Xpress Clinics’
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot

539. On September 21, the Union Cabinet approved the Rs 19,500 Crore proposal of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) for the second tranche of the ‘Production-Linked Incentive’ (PLI) scheme for solar equipment manufacturing. This is part of ‘National programme on High Efficiency Solar PV Modules’. Nearly 65GW of annual manufacturing capacity of fully and partially integrated solar PV modules would be installed through this scheme. The scheme will bring direct investment of around Rs 94,000 Crore. The scheme would also induce direct employment for 1,95,000 people and indirect employment of about 7,80,000. The nodal agency for the second tranche of bidding has also been changed to Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) from Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) earlier. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved the second tranche of the PLI Scheme worth Rs 19,500 Cr for solar equipment manufacturing
- This is part of ‘National programme on High Efficiency Solar PV Modules’
- The scheme is expected to bring direct investment of around Rs 94,000 Cr



Important Days & Dates

540. World Car Free Day was observed on September 22. It is a day aimed at encouraging motorists to give up their cars for a day and enjoy walking, riding a bicycle or travelling via public transport. Transport is among the fastest growing sources of fossil-fuel CO₂ emissions, the largest contributor to climate change. Ambient air pollution alone caused some 4.2 million deaths in 2016, according to the World Health Organization. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 22 – World Car Free Day

541. National Voter Registration Day is celebrated on 20 September in the United States since 2012. This day is observed to celebrate the US citizen's fundamental right to vote thereby serving as the foundation for liberty. The search engine giant has also come up with a Google Doodle to encourage all eligible citizens across the US to go for voting registration. However, in India, National Voters' Day is observed on January 25 since 2011. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 20 – National Voter Registration Day in the US
- January 25 – National Voters' Day in India

542. Every year 22 September is celebrated as "World Rhino Day" with an aim to spread awareness about critically endangered species and educate the general public about the danger they have been facing. The day aims to protect all the five species of rhinoceroses - Black, White, Greater one-horned, Sumatran & Javan rhinos. World Rhino Day was announced by the World Wide Fund for Nature South Africa in 2010. And the day was first observed in 2011. In 2022, the theme is "Five Rhino Species Forever". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 22 – World Rhino Day (since 2011)
- 2022's Theme – "Five Rhino Species Forever"

Books & Authors

543. On September 21, the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India, Prof. Ajay Sood, and the British High Commissioner, Mr Alex Ellis, unveiled the book titled "She Is - Women in STEAM" written by ElsaMarie D'Silva and Supreet K Singh. Marking the celebration of India's 75th year of Independence, the book honors 75 women in STEAM (fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) celebrating gender, leadership, and sustainable development in the fields of STEAM. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ajay Sood & Mr Alex Ellis – unveiled "She Is - Women in STEAM" book – written by ElsaMarie D'Silva & Supreet K Singh



Obituaries

544. On September 21, Former Tamil Nadu Assembly Speaker and ex-Union Minister Sedapatti R. Muthiah died after prolonged illness. He was 77-years-old. Muthiah, fondly addressed as “Sedapattiar”, was the Speaker during the 1991-96 AIADMK regime and was later part of the AB Vajpayee-led union cabinet for a while in 1998. He represented Sedapatti constituency as MLA for four times. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sedapatti R. Muthiah (“Sedapattiar”) – a Politician – passed away
- Former Tamil Nadu Assembly Speaker during 1991-96 | Constituency – Sedapatti, Madurai, Tamil Nadu

Meetings, Conferences & Summits

545. On September 20, Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Anurag Thakur, inaugurated the 47th Annual Gathering and 20th Meeting of Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) in New Delhi. The theme of the event was “Building a Stronger Future for Broadcasting in the Post Pandemic Era”. Besides, India’s Presidency of the AIBD has been extended for another year. The AIBD was established in August 1977 under the auspices of the UNESCO. The AIBD currently has 26 Full Members (countries). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anurag Thakur – inaugurated the 47th Annual Gathering and 20th Meeting of AIBD in New Delhi
- Theme – “Building a Stronger Future for Broadcasting in the Post Pandemic Era”
- Currently, the Presidency of AIBD is held by – India (extended for 1 year) | Members – 26 Full Members (countries)

546. On September 20, India, the UAE and France held their first Trilateral Ministerial Meeting in New York on the side-lines of the 77th Session of the UNGA and discussed a new and more contemporary way of doing diplomacy with a focus on active exchange of ideas between strategic partners and UNSC members. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar represented India in the trilateral ministerial meeting. Moreover, during the UNGA session, India gave Cuba a 100-million-euro line of credit (LoC) for buying rice. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + UAE + France = held their first Trilateral Ministerial Meeting in New York, US
- India was represented by – S. Jaishankar (External Affairs Minister)
- India gave Cuba a 100-million-euro line of credit (LoC) for buying rice

547. A major expo on Education and Skilling sector, “Didac India”, was held at the Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC) in Bengaluru for 3 days from September 21. The 12th edition of ‘Didac India’ showcased state-of-the-art solutions for education and skills sectors. The expo featured over 4,000 innovative products and services. The expo also featured exclusive international pavilions from the UK, Germany, Australia, Canada, Finland, Poland, Singapore among others. The expo was organised by India Didactics Association (IDA), the industry body for Education and Skill sector in India. The event was hosted by Department of Higher Education of Government of Karnataka. AICTE and NCERT were also supporting partners for the event. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- 12th edition of “Didac India” – held in Bengaluru, Karnataka
- The expo was organised by – India Didactics Association (IDA)
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

548. India witnessed a 12% year-on-year (YoY) rise in total household wealth in 2021, at \$14,225 billion, according to the “Global Wealth Report 2022” by Credit Suisse. The report also forecasts the number of millionaires in India to more than double from 7,96,000 in 2021 to 1.6 million in 2026. While Global wealth increased by 9.8% (USD 41.4 trillion) YoY at USD 463.6 trillion in 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Global Wealth Report 2022” – released by Credit Suisse
- India witnessed a 12% year-on-year (YoY) rise in total household wealth in 2021 & totalled at \$14,225 billion
- World witnessed a 9.8% year-on-year (YoY) rise in total household wealth in 2021 & totalled at \$463.6 trillion

Amount & Agreements

549. On September 15, Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) has entered into an agreement dated December 10, 2020 with Uzbekistan to provide the GoI-backed Line of Credit (LoC) of USD 448 million for the purpose of financing the social infrastructure and other development projects. The Agreement under the LoC is effective from September 12, 2022. Under the LoC, the terminal utilization period is 60 months from the scheduled completion date of the project. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Exim Bank + Uzbekistan = agreement to provide LoC of \$448 mn for social infrastructure & other development projects
- Uzbekistan – Tashkent – So'm | President – Shavkat Mirziyoyev
- HQs of EXIM Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD – Harsha Bangari | Founded in – 1982

Ordinance, Bills & Acts

550. On September 20, the Union government has notified the “Medical Devices (Amendment) Rules, 2022” by modifying the “Medical Devices Rules, 2017”. The Rules made provisions for all ‘Class A’ medical device manufacturers to register themselves through an identified online portal called “Online System for Medical Devices” established for the purpose. Class A medical devices are those with low-to-moderate risk to the patient or user (like surgical dressings). All class A and class B manufacturers are required to transition to the licensing regime by October 1, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Medical Devices Rules, 2017” – modified as “Medical Devices (Amendment) Rules, 2022”
- All ‘Class A’ medical device manufacturers have to register themselves on “Online System for Medical Devices”





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