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National & States Affairs

551. On September 21, Ministry of Commerce & Industry has decided to set up a separate Export Promotion Council (EPC) for Medical Devices, to boost exports of medical devices. The EPC will help exporters in promoting their products in international markets through various promotional activities including organising and participating in international trade fairs, buyer-seller meets, in line with the foreign trade policy of India. The EPC will be established with headquarters in YEIDA, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh, with regional offices in AMTZ - Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh and Hyderabad in Telangana. The EPC for medical devices will be under the administrative control of the Department of Pharmaceuticals, which is a part of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. India exported Rs 23,766 Crore of medical devices in FY22. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of C&I – decided to set up a separate Export Promotion Council (EPC) for Medical Devices
- The EPC will be established with headquarters in – YEIDA, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh
- Two Regional Offices of EPC will be set up in – Visakhapatnam & Hyderabad
- Department of Pharmaceuticals – is a part of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry
- India exported Rs 23,766 Cr of medical devices in FY22

552. On September 19, Maharashtra Tourism minister Mangal Prabhat Lodha announced that the state government has decided to rename the Daulatabad Fort located near Aurangabad to Devgiri Fort. This move comes after Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray renamed Aurangabad to Sambhajinagar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra – to rename the Daulatabad Fort to Devgiri Fort (located near Aurangabad)
- Aurangabad – has been renamed to Sambhajinagar
- Maharashtra: CM – Eknath Shinde | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

553. On September 22, REC Ltd has been accorded the status of a 'Maharatna' central public sector enterprise (CPSE) by the Government of India. An order to this effect was issued by the Department of Public Enterprises, under the Ministry of Finance. Incorporated in 1969, REC is a non-banking finance company (NBFC) under the aegis of Ministry of Power. REC (earlier known as Rural Electrification Corporation) Ltd became the 12th company to join Maharatna CPSE club. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- REC Ltd – became the 12th company to receive the status of a 'Maharatna' central public sector enterprise
- HQs of REC Ltd – New Delhi | Chairman & MD – Vivek Kumar Dewangen | Founded in – 1969

554. In September 2022, Union Minister of Ayush Sarbananda Sonowal laid the foundation stone of the new complex of the National Institute of Sowa Rigpa in Leh, Ladakh and said the new infrastructure will give a boost to the traditional system of medicine. The National Institute of Sowa Rigpa also signed an MoU with Ambrosia Food Farm, Uttarakhand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sarbananda Sonowal – laid foundation stone of the new complex of 'National Institute of Sowa Rigpa' in Leh, Ladakh
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur



555. On September 23, the government has asked companies having any amount in their unspent corporate social responsibility accounts to set up a CSR committee. To this effect, the government has amended rules governing Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Under the 'Companies Act, 2013', certain classes of profitable companies are required to spend at least 2% of their average net profit of the preceding 3 financial years on CSR activities in a particular financial year. Under the CSR rules, amounts remaining unspent in a financial year is required to be deposited by the company in a special bank account called the 'Unspent Corporate Social Responsibility Account'. Prior to the amendment, CSR rules capped the expenditure of impact assessment to 5% of its CSR expenditure or Rs 50 lakh, whichever is lower. This limit has now been increased to the higher of 2% or Rs 50 lakh, whichever is greater. It will enable companies to undertake comprehensive impact assessment for large scale CSR projects. Companies having a net worth of at least Rs 500 Crore or a minimum turnover of Rs 1,000 Crore or net profit of Rs 5 Crore or more during the immediately preceding financial year have to spend on CSR activities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Under the amended CSR Rules, amounts remaining unspent in a financial year is required to be deposited by the company in a special bank account called 'Unspent CSR Account'
- The limit for the expenditure of impact assessment – 2% or Rs 50 lakh, whichever is greater
- Companies eligible for spending on CSR activities:
 - Net worth of at least Rs 500 Cr or Minimum turnover of Rs 1000 Cr or Net profit of Rs 5 Cr or more (during previous FY)

556. On September 23, the Uttar Pradesh Legislature created history after both the Houses decided to reserve the day for women legislators to speak. The women members spoke on issues like crimes against women, inflation and unemployment. The 403-member Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly has 47 women MLAs, including 22 first-timers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh Legislature – created history by reserving a day for women legislators to speak
- [UP: Capital – Lucknow](#) | [CM – Yogi Adityanath](#) | [Governor – Anandiben Patel](#)

557. On September 22, Wipro has fired 300 employees who were involved in 'moonlighting', as the IT services firm toughens its stand against staffers taking a second job after work hours. Moonlighting means taking up a second job or multiple other work assignments apart from one's full-time job. Moonlighting has become a topic of debate in the IT industry as working from home became the normal norm during the Covid-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Wipro – fired 300 employees who were involved in 'moonlighting'
- 'Moonlighting' – means taking up a second job or multiple other work assignments apart from one's full-time job
- [HQs of Wipro – Bangalore, Karnataka](#) | [MD & CEO – Thierry Delaporte](#) | [Founder Chairman – Azim Premji](#)

558. On September 23, the Central Government launched an Indian Sign Language (ISL) dictionary mobile application called "Sign Learn" containing 10,000 words. The app was launched by Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment, Pratima Bhoumik. Sign Learn is based on the Indian sign language dictionary of the Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC) which contains 10,000 words. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pratima Bhoumik – launched an Indian Sign Language (ISL) dictionary mobile app, "Sign Learn" (contains 10,000 words)
- [Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Virendra Kumar](#) | [Constituency – Sagar, Madhya Pradesh](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Ramdas Athawale](#)

International Affairs

559. On September 22, in a major action to address climate change, the U.S. Senate ratified an international agreement called “Kigali Amendment” that compels the United States and other countries to limit use of Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), which is highly potent Greenhouse Gas commonly used in refrigeration and air conditioning. Nearly 200 nations reached a deal in 2016 in Kigali, Rwanda, to limit HFCs and find substitutes more friendly to the atmosphere. More than 130 nations, including China, India and Russia, have formally ratified the agreement. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- U.S. Senate ratified an international agreement called “Kigali Amendment” to limit use of Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

560. On September 22, Netherlands-based TerraPay partnered with NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL), the international arm of National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to allow Indian customers and merchants with an active Unified Payments Interface (UPI) ID to make and accept cross-border payments. Through this collaboration, Indian customers with active UPI IDs (350 million bank accounts) will be able to transact at QR locations enabled by TerraPay globally. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- TerraPay + NIPL = partnership to enable cross-border transactions via UPI
- HQs of NIPL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Ritesh Shukla
- HQs of TerraPay – Amsterdam, Netherlands | CEO – Ambar Sur

561. On September 22, in a massive move, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) banned the Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Ltd from carrying out any recovery or repossession activity through outsourcing arrangements (i.e., undertaking loan recovery activity via third party). The apex bank has exercised its powers under section 45L (1) (b) of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. However, the NBFC may continue to carry out recovery or repossession activities, through its own employees. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – banned the Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Ltd from undertaking loan recovery activity via third party
- 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

562. On September 23, HDFC ERGO General Insurance partnered with HDFC Life to launch “Click2Protect Optima Secure”, a comprehensive financial protection plan that offers the dual benefits of health and life insurance. In this plan, the term life insurance component will protect customers against uncertainties of life with a minimum sum assured of Rs 50,000. Under the health insurance component, customers can avail a sum insured ranging from Rs 5 Lakh to Rs 2 Cr. This plan comes with ‘Individual’ and ‘Family Floater’ options. HDFC Life is a joint venture between HDFC Ltd and abrdrn (Mauritius Holdings) 2006 Limited. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- HDFC ERGO + HDFC Life = launched “Click2Protect Optima Secure” to offer dual benefits of health & life insurance
- HQs of HDFC ERGO General Insurance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Ritesh Kumar
- HQs of HDFC Life Insurance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Vibha Padalkar

563. On September 22, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cancelled the licence of Maharashtra’s Solapur-based the Laxmi Co-operative Bank Limited as the lender does not have adequate capital and earning prospects. As per the data submitted by the cooperative bank, more than 99% of the depositors are entitled to receive full amount of their deposits from Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – cancelled the licence of ‘The Laxmi Co-operative Bank Limited’ (Solapur, Maharashtra)
- Maharashtra: CM – Eknath Shinde | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- 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

564. In September 2022, UCO Bank became the first bank to receive approval from the RBI to open a special Vostro Account with Russia’s ‘Gazprombank’ for settlement of trade in Rupee. Under the Rupee Drawing Arrangements (RDAs), the bank of a partner country opens a special INR VOSTRO account with a bank in India. UCO Bank already has a Vostro account-based facility with Iran. Gazprombank, or GPB, is a private-owned Russian bank, the third largest bank in the country by assets. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UCO Bank – 1st bank to receive approval from the RBI to open a special Vostro Account with Russia’s ‘Gazprombank’ for settlement of trade in Rupee
- RDAs – Rupee Drawing Arrangements
- UCO Bank already has a Vostro account-based facility with Iran
- HQs of UCO Bank – Kolkata, West Bengal | MD & CEO – Soma Sankara Prasad | Tagline – “Honours your Trust”

565. On September 22, Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance (ABSLI), the life insurance subsidiary of Aditya Birla Capital Limited (ABCL), has launched a new-age savings solution ‘ABSLI Akshaya Plan’, a non-linked participating individual savings life insurance plan offering immediate liquidity option through cash bonus facility. This plan provides the benefit of a comprehensive life insurance cover and a regular source of income to ensure the fulfilment of your family’s growing needs. The maximum entry age to avail ABSLI Akshaya Plan is 55 years, while the minimum age is 30 days. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ABSLI – launched a new-age savings solution ‘ABSLI Akshaya Plan’
- Akshaya Plan – a non-linked individual savings life insurance plan offering immediate liquidity option through cash bonus
- Maximum entry age to avail ABSLI Akshaya Plan – 55 years | Minimum age – 30 days
- HQs of ABSLI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Kamlesh Rao



566. On September 22, Capital markets regulator SEBI allowed emerging investment vehicles, Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) and Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT), to issue Commercial Papers (CP). This is subject to certain conditions. The move came after RBI's Commercial Paper Directions, in August 2022, indicated that InvIT and REIT having net worth of at least Rs 100 Crore are eligible to issue commercial paper. Commercial Paper (CP) in market parlance refers to a Short-term Debt Instrument issued by companies to garner funds generally for a time period up to 1 year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI allowed REIT & InvIT to issue Commercial Papers (CP)
- As per the 'RBI's Commercial Paper Directions' issued in August, 2022:
 - InvIT & REIT having net worth of at least Rs 100 Crore are eligible to issue commercial paper
- Commercial Paper (CP) – refers to Short-term Debt Instrument generally for a time period up to 1 year
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

567. On September 23, Ageas Federal Life Insurance (AFLI) has become the first life insurance company in India to have a 74% stake held by a foreign partner after Belgium-based Ageas Insurance International completed the acquisition of the 25% stake in AFLI from IDBI Bank. After the acquisition of the additional 25% stake, Ageas' shareholding in the JV rose to 74% from the earlier-held 49%. Federal Bank continues to hold a 26% stake in AFLI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AFLI – became the 1st life insurance company in India to have a 74% stake held by a foreign partner
- Ageas Insurance International (Belgium) – acquired 25% stake in AFLI from IDBI Bank
- HQs of IDBI Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD CEO – Rakesh Sharma | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Established in – 1964



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Sports & Games

568. On September 21, the International Cricket Council (ICC) announced that The Oval, an international cricket ground in London, will host the "2023 World Test Championship (WTC) Final" in June 2023, while the Lord's Cricket Ground in London will host the "2025 edition of WTC Final". The two venues in London will succeed Southampton, which hosted the inaugural final between New Zealand and India in 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The Oval (Cricket ground in London) – will host the "2023 World Test Championship (WTC) Final" in June 2023
- The Lord's (Cricket Ground in London) – will host the "2025 WTC Final"
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Rishi Sunak | New King – King Charles III

569. In September 2022, two-time Olympic javelin champion and world record holder Barbora Spotakova of Czech Republic has announced her retirement. Spotakova, who won Olympic gold in 2008 and 2012 and bronze in 2016, last competed at the Diamond League meet in Zurich, Switzerland in September 2022. She is also the first woman in history to win three Olympic medals in the javelin. Spotakova had set the world record of 72.28 metres in 2008. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Barbora Spotakova (Czech Republic) – announced her retirement from Javelin Throw
- She is the first woman in history to win 3 Olympic medals in Javelin Throw (Gold in 2008 & 2012 + Bronze in 2016)



Science & Technology

570. As on September 23, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has developed an Intelligent Artificial Limb. These 1.6 kg Microprocessor-Controlled Knees (MPKs) offer extended capabilities for the amputee than those offered by the passive limbs that do not use the microprocessors. These smart MPKs are being developed by ISRO's Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), under an MoU with National Institute for Locomotor Disabilities (NILD), Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya National Institute for Persons with Physical Disabilities (Divyangjan) (PDUNIPPD (D)), and Artificial Limb Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ISRO – developed 1.6 kg 'Microprocessor-Controlled Knees (MPKs)' or 'Intelligent Artificial Limb'
- These smart MPKs are being developed by – ISRO's Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC)
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969

571. On September 24, the Israeli Navy completed a complex test of the "Gabriel V" anti-ship missile system. This was the first anti-ship missile test from the new Sa'ar 6 corvette of the Israeli Navy. It is a surface-to-surface missile and developed by Israeli Aerospace Industries (IAI) and the Defense Ministry's Directorate of Research and Development (MAFAT). The missile is also known as "Blue Spear" and "ANAM" (Advanced Naval Attack Missile). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Israeli Navy – completed a complex test of the "Gabriel V" anti-ship missile system (surface-to-surface missile)
- The missile is also known as "Blue Spear" and "ANAM" (Advanced Naval Attack Missile)
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Isaac Herzog | PM – Yair Lapid

Appointments & Resignations

572. On September 23, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) reappointed Dilip Asbe as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of the company for a period of 5 years, with effect from January 8, 2023. Asbe first took over as MD & CEO of NPCI in January 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dilip Asbe – reappointed as MD & CEO of the NPCI – for a period of 5 years
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD & CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008

573. On September 22, Senior sports administrator Anil Khanna resigned as acting President of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), saying he respects the views of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). Khanna took charge of IOA after a court ruling ended Narinder Batra's reign. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anil Khanna – resigned as acting President of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA)
- HQs of IOA – New Delhi | Secretary General – Rajeev Mehta



574. On September 23, Former India captain Dilip Tirkey was elected unopposed as the new President of Hockey India. Dilip Tirkey succeeds Gyanendro Ningombam. Bhola Nath was elected unopposed as Secretary General. The International Hockey Federation (FIH) has approved Tirkey and his team's appointments. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dilip Tirkey – elected unopposed as the President of Hockey India (succeeding - Gyanendro Ningombam)
- Bhola Nath – elected unopposed as the Secretary General of Hockey India
- [HQs of Hockey India – New Delhi](#) | [President – Dilip Tirkey](#) | [Secretary General – Bhola Nath](#)

575. As of September 2022, Hungary's Csaba Korosi, who replaced Abdulla Shahid, is now the President of the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). Abdulla Shahid noted that Korosi has chosen the theme "Solutions through Solidarity, Sustainability and Science" as the motto for his presidency. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Csaba Korosi (Hungary) – appointed as President of the 77th session of the UNGA (succeeding - Abdulla Shahid)
- Motto for his presidency – "Solutions through Solidarity, Sustainability and Science"
- [HQs of UNGA – New York, US](#) | [President – Csaba Korosi \(Hungary\)](#) | [Member Countries – 193](#)

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

576. On September 23, Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) won the "Airport Service Quality Award 2022" instituted by Airport Council International (ACI). The CIAL received the award for its meticulous implementation of a programme, christened 'Mission Safeguarding' that was implemented in 2021-22 to ensure seamless traffic and reinforced passenger satisfaction in the aftermath of the pandemic. It has won recognition in the '5 to 15 million passenger' category of airports operating in the Asia-Pacific region. CIAL Chairman Pinarayi Vijayan and CIAL MD S. Suhas received the award from ACI World Director General Luis Felipe de Oliveira at a function held at Krakow, Poland. The event was organised in connection with the ACI Customer Experience Global Summit 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cochin International Airport – won the "Airport Service Quality Award 2022" by ACI
- The CIAL received the award for its 'Mission Safeguarding' programme & in '5 to 15 million passenger' category
- [CIAL Chairman – Pinarayi Vijayan](#) | [MD – S. Suhas](#)
- [HQs of ACI – Montreal, Canada](#) | [DG – Luis Felipe de Oliveira](#)

577. On September 21, Indian activist-author-poet Meena Kandasamy was announced as the recipient of the "Hermann Kesten Award 2022", which is given by the PEN Centre in Darmstadt, Germany. The award is given to Kandasamy in honour and recognition of her support for the rights of victimized writers. It also recognizes her works on the issues of caste, ethnic oppression, and gender. The Hermann Kesten Award is given for outstanding efforts in support of persecuted writers according to the principles of the Charter of PEN International. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Meena Kandasamy – announced as the recipient of the "Hermann Kesten Award 2022" by the PEN Centre in Germany
- Hermann Kesten Award is given for outstanding efforts in support of persecuted writers





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Schemes & Initiatives

578. On September 23, the Chhattisgarh government has announced the 'Hamar Beti-Hamar Maan' campaign for women's safety in this state. Under the campaign, the girls will be taught about various necessary subjects, including their legal rights, good touch-bad touch, and sexual crimes. A special team of police will patrol the girl's schools, colleges, and other prominent places with the specific presence of females. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chhattisgarh – announced the 'Hamar Beti-Hamar Maan' campaign for women's safety
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

579. On September 23, the Government of India has launched a scheme "Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment for 2022-23". Under this Scheme, financial assistance is provided to the States Governments in the form of 50-year interest free loan for capital investment projects. Under Part V (Optical Fibre Cable) of the Scheme, an amount of Rs 3000 Cr is earmarked and will be available to States for capital projects on Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) network. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government of India launched a scheme "Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment for 2022-23"
- Financial assistance is provided to States in the form of 50-year interest free loan for capital investment projects
- Rs 3000 Cr is earmarked under Part V (Optical Fibre Cable) of the Scheme

580. On September 23, 2022, the "Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PMJAY)" completed 4 years of its implementation, and "Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)" marked its first anniversary on September 27, 2022. To celebrate this occasion, Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated an event called "Arogya Manthan 2022". A total of 12 sessions were covered in the two-day event. The event had active participation from global and national experts from the healthcare. Moreover, a fortnight-long celebration in the form of 'Ayushman Pakhwara', marking the anniversary of AB-PMJAY, was also held in all states implementing the scheme, from September 15 to 30. On 23 September 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched PM-JAY with the aim to provide health cover of up to ₹5 lakh per family per year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PMJAY) – completed 4 years on September 23, 2022
- Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) – completed 1 year on September 27, 2022
- To celebrate this occasion, Mansukh Mandaviya – inaugurated an event, "Arogya Manthan 2022"
- 'Ayushman Pakhwara' was also held in all states implementing the scheme, from September 15 to 30
- AB PMJAY: Launched by PM Narendra Modi in September 2018 | Health cover of up to ₹5 lakh per family per year

581. On September 17, Delhi Lt General V. K. Saxena inaugurated a community policing initiative called "We Care" at an event organised at Kartvaya Path at India Gate on the occasion of 'Sewa Diwas', which was celebrated to mark 72nd birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The aim of this initiative is to spread awareness among people about different schemes of the Delhi Police to maintain coordination and establish a police-public interface. Under the 'We Care' initiative, all DCPs will hold community policing activities in their respective areas on every Saturday and Sunday for the next 3 months. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- V. K. Saxena (Delhi Lt General) – inaugurated a community policing initiative called “We Care”
- It was inaugurated at Kartvaya Path at India Gate, New Delhi
- ‘Sewa Diwas’ was celebrated to mark 72nd birthday of PM Narendra Modi
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Vinai Kumar Saxena | Chief Secretary – Naresh Kumar

Important Days & Dates

582. The World Rose Day, which is celebrated on September 22 every year, is dedicated to all Cancer patients across the globe. The day aims to bring happiness and hope into the lives of such patients and reminds them that they can emerge victorious in their battle against cancer through determination and positivity. The World Rose Day was first observed in the honour of 12-year-old cancer patient Melinda Rose from Canada, who died in 1996 after battling with cancer for 3 years. According to reports Rose, was diagnosed with Askin’s Tumour in 1994, which is a rare form of blood cancer. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 22 – World Rose Day (dedicated to Cancer patients)
- The Day was first observed in the honour of 12-year-old cancer patient Melinda Rose from Canada

583. In 2022, September 23 marked the 5th “International Day of Sign Languages”, a day celebrated every year with the aim to spread awareness surrounding the development and preservation of sign languages to support the hearing-impaired community. According to reports, the World Federation of the Deaf, comprising 135 national associations of deaf people, had come up with a proposal to observe the day. In 2017, the UNGA proclaimed September 23 as the official day, and the day was first observed in 2018. According to the WFD, there are over 70 million deaf people worldwide. In 2022, the theme of the day is “Sign Language Unite Us”. Moreover, “International Week of Deaf People” was observed from September 19 to 25, 2022 with the theme of “Building Inclusive Communities for All”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 23 – 5th International Day of Sign Languages – by World Federation of the Deaf (since 2018)
- 2022’s Theme – “Sign Language Unite Us”
- September 19 to 25 – International Week of Deaf People
- 2022’s Theme – “Building Inclusive Communities for All”
- HQs of WFD – Helsinki, Finland | President – Joseph Murray | Established on – September 23, 1951

Books & Authors

584. On September 23, former Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu, in the presence of Governor of Kerala Arif Mohammed Khan, and Information & Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur, released a book titled “Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas”, a collection of selected speeches of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The book reflects the ideas, determination, and decisiveness of Modi’s government. The book is a collection of 86 speeches of the Prime Minister delivered by him from May 2019 to May 2020. The speeches have been divided into 10 thematic areas. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- M. Venkaiah Naidu – released a book titled “Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas”
- The book is a collection of 86 speeches of the PM Narendra Modi delivered by him from May 2019 to May 2020

585. In September 2022, Vice President, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, released the Arabic Version of “Majma Ul-Bahrain” (which means ‘Confluence of Two Oceans’) in New Delhi. Majma-ul-Bahrain is a book on comparative religion authored by Mughal Shahzada Dara Shukoh as a short treatise in Persian in 1655. In this book ‘Majma-ul-Bahrain’, Dara Shikoh listed one by one, all the commonalities between Hinduism (Vedanta) and Islam (Sufism) and came to the conclusion that the difference between Islam and Hinduism is only verbal. The book was translated into Arabic by Amar Hasan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jagdeep Dhankhar – released the Arabic Version of “Majma Ul-Bahrain” book
- The book was translated into Arabic by – Amar Hasan
- ‘Majma-ul-Bahrain’ – a book on comparative religion authored in Persian in 1655 by – Mughal Shahzada Dara Shukoh

Obituaries

586. On September 22, Actor-comedian Raju Srivastava passed away at the age of 58 in Delhi. Raju Srivastava started his career by appearing in small roles in several films, including Maine Pyar Kiya, Baazigar, Bombay to Goa and Aamdani Atthanni Kharcha Rupaiya. He became a household name after participating in the comedy show The Great Indian Laughter Challenge. He was the current Chairman of the Film Development Council Uttar Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Raju Srivastava – Actor & Comedian – passed away
- He was the current Chairman of the Film Development Council Uttar Pradesh

Meetings, Conferences & Summits

587. On September 23, Edible oil trade associations from five palm oil importing countries in South Asia - India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal - announced the setting up of “Asian Palm Oil Alliance (APOA)”. The idea is to gain collective bargaining power and make imports sustainable. India’s annual imports of edible oil is around 13-14 million tonne (MT). India is the largest importer of palm oil in Asia, accounting for 15% of global imports, followed by China (9%). APOA held its first general body meeting on the sidelines of the 25th “Globoil Summit” held in Agra, Uttar Pradesh. Atul Chaturvedi, President, Solvent Extractors’ Association of India (SEA), is elected as the first Chairman of APOA. The next meeting of APOA is expected to be held in Indonesia in 2023. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh & Nepal – set up the “Asian Palm Oil Alliance (APOA)”
- Largest importer of palm oil in Asia – India
- 25th “Globoil Summit” – held in Agra, Uttar Pradesh | ‘APOA 2022’ was held in India
- Atul Chaturvedi – elected as the first Chairman of APOA



588. On September 23, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated “National Conference of Environment Ministers 2022” in Ekta Nagar, Gujarat. The Ministers of Environment, Forest and Climate Change from across the country participated in the conference. The two-day Conference had 6 thematic sessions with topics focusing on - LiFE, Combating Climate Change, PARIVESH, Forestry Management, Prevention and Control of Pollution, Wildlife Management, Plastics and Waste Management. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – inaugurated “National Conference of Environment Ministers 2022” in Ekta Nagar, Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

589. Aiming at greater international collaboration and the need for increased financing for Energy Research, Development, and Demonstration (RD&D), the Indian Government launched the “Innovation Roadmap of the Mission Integrated Biorefineries” developed by co-leads and active inputs from Brazil, Canada, EC and the UK. The announcement was made at the “Global Clean Energy Action Forum 2022” in Pittsburgh, US where Dr. Jitendra Singh led a high-level Joint Indian Ministerial Delegation of Ministry of Power, New & Renewable Energy and Ministry of Science & Technology. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Government – launched the “Innovation Roadmap of the Mission Integrated Biorefineries”
- Dr. Jitendra Singh – led Indian delegation at the “Global Clean Energy Action Forum 2022” in Pittsburgh, US

590. On September 21, during the “Commissioner of Transport Secretaries/Commissioners of NCR (CoTS) Meeting”, Haryana, NCT-Delhi, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh signed the Status of Combined Reciprocal Common Transport Agreement (CRCTA) for State Contract Carriage and Stage Carriage among these governments. The meeting also discussed ensuring operational vehicle location tracking devices and speed governors in all such vehicles under CRCTA. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana + NCT-Delhi + Rajasthan + UP = signed the Status of CRCTA
- It was signed during “Commissioner of Transport Secretaries/Commissioners of NCR (CoTS) Meeting”

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

591. On September 22, Z/Yen in London and the China Development Institute (CDI) in Shenzhen jointly published the 32nd edition of the “Global Financial Centres Index (GFCI 32)”. Overall, Singapore climbed 3 places, overtaking Hong Kong to the 3rd spot, while Hong Kong, on the other hand, dropped one place to the 4th position. New York continues to top for 4 years, while London and San Francisco are ranked 2nd and 5th respectively. For ASEAN region, Kuala Lumpur is ranked at 56th, India’s cities New Delhi and Mumbai are respectively ranked at 68th and 70th. Overall the average rating of centres in the index improved 4.83% from GFCI 31. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 32nd edition of the “Global Financial Centres Index (GFCI 32)” – published by Z/Yen & China Development Institute
- 1st – New York, 2nd – London, 3rd – Singapore | New Delhi – 68th, Mumbai – 70th



592. Gautam Adani and family, with an estimated wealth of ₹10,94,400 Cr, has topped the “IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2022”, which was released on September 21, 2022. With 116% growth as compared with the 2021 list, his daily wealth creation velocity is estimated at ₹1,612 Cr. Mukesh Ambani and family has been named as the second richest in India with an estimated wealth of ₹7,94,700 Cr, a growth of 11% compared with the 2021 list. His daily wealth creation velocity is ₹210 Cr. Cyrus Poonawalla and family, with an estimated wealth of ₹2,05,400 Cr, and Shiv Nadar and family with a wealth of ₹1,85,800 Cr are placed third and fourth in the list. Founder of Nykaa - Falguni Nayar, has overtaken Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, to become the Richest Self-made Indian woman. Co-founder of Confluent, Neha Narkhede, is the Youngest Self-made Woman Entrepreneur in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gautam Adani & family – topped the “IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2022” (estimated wealth - ₹10,94,400 Cr)
- 2nd – Mukesh Ambani & family | 3rd – Cyrus Poonawalla & family | 4th – Shiv Nadar & family
- Richest Self-made Indian woman – Falguni Nayar (Founder of Nykaa)
- Youngest Self-made Woman Entrepreneur in India – Neha Narkhede (Co-founder of Confluent)

593. Every two seconds, one person under the age of 70 dies of a Non-communicable disease (NCD) with 86% of those deaths occurring in low-and middle-income countries. In India, 66% (60.46 lakh people) of total deaths were due to NCDs in 2019, according to the WHO report titled “Invisible Numbers - The True Scale of Non-communicable Diseases”. The World Health Organisation (WHO) has also launched a portal, for the first time, which brings together all WHO data related to NCDs for 194 countries. Over 25.66 lakh deaths in 2019 in India were due to cardiovascular diseases while 11.46 lakh deaths were due to chronic respiratory diseases. Globally, one in three deaths, 17.9 million a year, is due to cardiovascular diseases (CVDs). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Invisible Numbers - The True Scale of Non-communicable Diseases” – released by the WHO
- In India, 66% (60.46 lakh people) of total deaths were due to NCDs in 2019 (25.66 lakh deaths were due to CVDs)
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948

Amount & Agreements

594. On September 23, World Bank approved a USD 350 million or over ₹2,832 Crore loan to Gujarat for augmenting health services with a special focus on adolescent girls and disease surveillance in the state. The funding will come from the World Bank arm International Bank of Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), carrying a maturity of 18 years including a grace period of 5.5 years. According to the World Bank, the loan amount will be utilized through the state government’s Systems Reform Endeavours for Transformed Health Achievement In Gujarat (SRESTHA-G) programme. Currently, Gujarat provides 7 health services to its citizens. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- World Bank – approved a USD 350 million (over ₹2,832 Cr) loan to Gujarat for augmenting Health Services
- The funding will come from – IBRD (an arm of World Bank) | Loan maturity – 18 years | Grace period – 5.5 years
- “SRESTHA-G” programme – belongs to Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., US | Members – 189 | President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant



Acquisitions & Mergers

595. On September 20, Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M) Ltd announced to acquire an additional 17.41% stake in Swaraj Engines Ltd (SEL) from Kirloskar Industries Ltd (KIL) for Rs 296 Cr. The acquisition will result in increasing M&M's stake in Swaraj Engines Ltd (SEL) to 52.13% from 34.72%. Based in Mohali, Punjab, SEL is in the business of manufacturing of diesel engines and its components. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mahindra & Mahindra – to acquire an additional 17.41% stake in Swaraj Engines Ltd (SEL) from Kirloskar Industries Ltd
- Mahindra & Mahindra – will now have 52.13% stake in SEL

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

596. On September 22, Shri Narayan Tatu Rane, Hon'ble Minister of MSME, graced the occasion of MoU signing between the National Small Industries Corporation Ltd (NSIC) and Andhra Pradesh Medtech Zone Limited (AMTZ) on cooperation in the healthcare sector. The MoU was signed by Shri Gaurang Dixit, CMD, NSIC and Dr. Jitendra Sharma, MD & CEO, AMTZ. Both organizations will leverage their expertise and create excellent opportunities for MSMEs in healthcare sector to form global alliances and get access to latest medical technologies alongwith creating skilled manpower for this sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NSIC + Andhra Pradesh Medtech Zone = an MoU on cooperation in the Healthcare Sector
- HQs of NSIC – New Delhi | CMD – Gaurang Dixit | Founded in – 1955
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

597. On September 22, Vitamin Angels India announced a partnership with UNICEF India for “Poshan Maah 2022”. Keeping in line with the “Poshan Maah” campaign by the Government of India, the goal is to implement a comprehensive, unified outreach and awareness programme to focus on fostering health, wellness, and immunity to disease and undernutrition. They will also launch of the “Poshan Innovation Platform (PIP)” in January 2023 with the aim to combat undernutrition in the country. The “Poshan Maah” campaign partners have hosted 160 activities on nutrition related awareness and action across the country, reaching over 1,00,000 people. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vitamin Angels India + UNICEF India = partnership for “Poshan Maah 2022”
- Vitamin Angels India + UNICEF India = to launch “Poshan Innovation Platform (PIP)” to combat undernutrition
- HQs of UNICEF – New York, US | Executive Director – Catherine Russell | Established in – 1946

598. On September 23, the National Cadet Corps (NCC) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) signed an MoU to tackle the issue of plastic pollution and achieve the universal goal of clean water bodies through ‘Puneet Sagar Abhiyan’ and ‘Tide Turners Plastic Challenge programme’. The MoU will remain in force for a period of 3 years. Since the launch of ‘Puneet Sagar Abhiyan’ on December 1, 2021, over 100 tonnes of plastic waste have been collected from nearly 1,900 locations by more than 12 lakh NCC cadets. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- NCC + UNEP = an MoU to tackle the issue of Plastic Pollution & achieve the Universal Goal of Clean Water Bodies
- The issue will tackled through 'Puneet Sagar Abhiyan' & 'Tide Turners Plastic Challenge programme'
- HQs of NCC – New Delhi | DG – Lt. Gen. Gurbirpal Singh | Founded on – 16 April, 1948 | Motto – 'Unity & Discipline'
- HQs of UNEP – Nairobi, Kenya | Executive Director – Inger Andersen | Founded in – 1972

599. On September 22, Tata group airlines - Air India, AirAsia India and Vistara (Tata SIA Airlines), signed an MoU with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research - Indian Institute of Petroleum (CSIR-IIP), to collaborate and work together on the research, development, and deployment of Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAFs). The focus of the MoU is to explore Single Reactor HEFA (fuels) Technology for Drop-in liquid Sustainable Aviation and Automotive Fuel (DILSAAF). This comes two days after civil aviation minister Jyotiraditya Scindia stressed on carbon neutrality. The minister also revealed that India will have over 90 carbon-neutral airports by 2024. CSIR - Indian Institute of Petroleum is located at Dehradun and dedicated to R&D in the hydrocarbon sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tata Group Airlines + CSIR-IIP (Dehradun) = an MoU to work together on research, development & deployment of SAFs
- The MoU aims to explore Single Reactor HEFA (fuels) Technology for DILSAAF
- India will have over 90 carbon-neutral airports by – 2024
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | President – Narendra Modi | DG – Nallathamby Kalaiselvi | Established in – 1942

600. On September 19, in an effort to facilitate rapid industrialization & revamp the Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector, the Assam Government signed two MoUs with Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) for Assam Credit Guarantee Scheme & SIDBI Venture Capital for Assam Startup Venture Capital Fund. Under this scheme, at least 80% of the guarantee coverage of loan would be provided by CGTMSE while the remaining 20% coverage would be funded by the state administration. The size of SIDBI Venture Capital Fund is ₹200 Cr in which Government of Assam will contribute ₹100 Cr, SIDBI ₹50 Cr & other contributors will bear the rest ₹50 Cr. Moreover, the Assam Government also launched the "Assam Logistics and Ware Housing Policy 2022", an initiative to transform Assam into a regional logistics hub. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- To facilitate rapid industrialization & revamp the MSME sector, Assam Govt signed two MoUs with:
 - CGTMSE – for Assam Credit Guarantee Scheme
 - SIDBI Venture Capital – for Assam Startup Venture Capital Fund
- Size of SIDBI Venture Capital Fund – ₹200 Cr (₹100 Cr by Assam Govt + ₹50 Cr by SIDBI + ₹50 Cr by Other Contributors)
- Assam – also launched the "Assam Logistics and Ware Housing Policy 2022"
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | MD & Chairman – Sivasubramanian Ramann | Established in – 1990



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