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# National & States Affairs

**651.** On September 26, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) launched “Swachh Toycathon” under the Swachh Amrit Mahotsav. The competition aims to explore solutions for use of waste in the creation or manufacturing of toys. Secretary, MoHUA, Manoj Joshi, launched the event on MyGov portal and released the toolkit. The Center for Creative Learning, IIT Gandhinagar, is MoHUA’s knowledge partner for the initiative. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- MoHUA – launched “Swachh Toycathon” on MyGov portal under the ‘Swachh Amrit Mahotsav’
- Knowledge Partner for the initiative – The Center for Creative Learning, IIT Gandhinagar
- Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs: Hardeep Singh Puri | Constituency – Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs: Kaushal Kishore

**652.** On September 28, the Uttar Pradesh Cabinet, under the leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, approved the first tiger reserve namely Ranipur Tiger Reserve in Bundelkhand region. The establishment of Ranipur Tiger Reserve will be turning point for the conservation of wildlife in Bundelkhand along with opening of eco-tourism potential of the area creating immense employment opportunities benefitting economically the local population. Ranipur Tiger Reserve will be 4<sup>th</sup> tiger reserve in Uttar Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- UP Cabinet – approved the state’s 4<sup>th</sup> tiger reserve namely “Ranipur Tiger Reserve” in Bundelkhand
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**653.** On September 27, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry extended the existing “Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20)” by another 6 months till March 2023 on account of volatile global economic and geo-political situation and currency fluctuations. The current FTP was to end on September 30 after it was extended in April. The latest extension comes amid India’s export growth slowing. India’s goods exports rose 1.62% in August, while the trade deficit more-than-doubled to \$27.98 billion. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Ministry of C&I – extended the existing “Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20)” by another 6 months till March 2023
- India’s goods exports in August – 1.62% | India’s trade deficit in August – \$27.98 billion

**654.** On September 27, Maharashtra Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, gave the nod to name the Chipi airport in Sindhudurg district after a prominent socialist leader, freedom fighter and former Member of Parliament, Barrister Nath Pai. The Chip Airport was formally inaugurated on March 5, 2019. Alliance Air, a former Air India subsidiary, is the only airline operating flights from Mumbai. The airport can handle up to 400 passengers or two flights per hour with an estimated annual capacity over 1 million passengers. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Maharashtra Cabinet – approved naming ‘Chipi airport’ in Sindhudurg district after ‘Barrister Nath Pai’
- Maharashtra: CM – Eknath Shinde | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari



**655.** On September 26, the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), under Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, issued the list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and the answers to them on how to recruit under the 10% reservation provided for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS). People belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBC) communities in the State list but not in the Central list will be eligible to apply for posts and services of the Government of India under the EWS quota criteria, provided they fulfill all other requirements. The Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes will not be eligible to apply for Central government positions irrespective of where they reside (even if the State of residence does not recognise their community as an SC or ST). The DoPT also clarified that 'family' as defined for qualification of the EWS criteria will not include grandparents, or any siblings or children above the age of 18. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions – issued the list of FAQs & answers on how to recruit under the 10% reservation provided for EWS
- [MoS for the PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions: Dr. Jitendra Singh \(Constituency – Udhampur, J&K\)](#)

**656.** On September 27, Union Minister of State for Rural Development and Steel, Faggan Singh Kulaste, launched the "JALDOOT App" and "JALDOOT App e-brochure" at a function in New Delhi. JALDOOT app has been jointly developed by Ministry of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj. This app will be used across the country to capture the water level of selected 2-3 wells in a village. Manual monitoring of water levels in open wells will be measured twice in a year. Water level report, Monsoon Report and Registered user report are available at JALDOOT web portal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Faggan Singh Kulaste – launched the "JALDOOT App" & "JALDOOT App e-brochure" at a function in New Delhi
- JALDOOT app is developed by = Ministry of Rural Development + Ministry of Panchayati Raj
- [Minister of Rural Development: Giriraj Singh | Constituency – Begusarai, Bihar](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Rural Development: Faggansingh Kulaste & Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti](#)
- [Minister of Panchayati Raj: Giriraj Singh | Constituency – Begusarai, Bihar](#)
- [Mos in Ministry of Panchayati Raj: Kapil Moreshwar Patil](#)

**657.** On September 26, Union Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri, launched indigenously-developed "AVGAS 100 LL", a special aviation fuel meant for piston engine aircraft and unmanned ariel vehicles. The fuel has been developed by Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL). AVGAS 100 LL produced by Indian Oil's flagship refinery at Vadodara has been tested and certified by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). AV Gas market is expected to grow from the current \$1.92 billion to \$2.71 billion by 2029. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Hardeep Singh Puri – launched indigenously-developed "AVGAS 100 LL", a special aviation fuel for piston engine aircraft
- The fuel has been developed by IOCL at its flagship refinery in Vadodara, Gujarat (tested & certified by DGCA)
- [HQs of IOCL – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shrikant Madhav Vaidya | Founded in – 1959](#)

**658.** On September 26, Former J&K Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad formally launched a new political party, named "Democratic Azad Party (DAP)", from Jammu & Kashmir. Mr. Azad said his new party will borrow from the ideas and principles of former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and Mahatma Gandhi. The newly-floated party has a flag with three colours, mustard, white and dark blue. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ghulam Nabi Azad (Former J&K CM) – formally launched a new political party, named "Democratic Azad Party (DAP)"
- [J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha](#)



**659.** On September 23, the UK-based Royal Society of Chemistry and the Council of Scientific and Industry Research (CSIR) partnered to support the CSIR's "Jigyasa Programme" designed to promote the chemical sciences in schools and universities. About 2000 students across the country participated in RSC's Global Coin experiment organised across over 30 CSIR laboratories. The two organisations signed an MoU for the same. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Royal Society of Chemistry (UK) + CSIR = an MoU to support the CSIR's "Jigyasa Programme" to promote the chemical sciences in schools & universities
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | President – Narendra Modi | DG – Nallathamby Kalaiselvi | Established in – 1942

**660.** On September 24, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) conducted searches at 59 locations across 20 States and one Union Territory, as part of its operation code-named "Megh Chakra" which is a pan-India drive against the circulation and sharing of Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM). The operation code-named "Megh Chakra" was carried out following the inputs received from Interpol's Singapore special unit based on the information received from the authorities in New Zealand. In November 2021, the CBI had launched a similar exercise code named "Operation Carbon" at 76 locations across India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CBI – conducted an operation code-named "Megh Chakra" at 59 locations across India
- "Megh Chakra" is a pan-India drive against the circulation and sharing of Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM)
- "Operation Carbon" also belongs to the CBI (conducted in Nov 2021)
- HQs of CBI – New Delhi | DG – Subodh Kumar Jaiswal | Motto – "Industry, Impartiality, Integrity"

**661.** As on September 24, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma unveiled a memorial named "Abode of the Unicorns" made of the ash of burnt rhino horns in Kaziranga National Park in Assam. The memorial has three rhino sculptures - an adult male, an adult female and a calf. It also has three statues of forest guards, created by Biren Singha using different materials. While Sculptor Biju Das crafted the three rhinos. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Himanta Biswa Sarma – unveiled a memorial named "Abode of the Unicorns" in Kaziranga National Park, Assam
- The memorial is made of the ash of burnt rhino horns (crafted by - Sculptor Biju Das)
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**662.** On September 24, the Central government announced a special tourist circuit called "Ambedkar Tourist Circuit" encompassing 5 key sites or 'Panchateerths' associated with Dr. B. R. Ambedkar. The five cities in the tourist circuit as announced by the government are Mhow (his birthplace), London (where he resided and studied), Nagpur (also studied here), Delhi (where he passed away) and finally Mumbai (where he was cremated). Mahad Satyagraha was a satyagraha led by Dr. Ambedkar on March 20, 1927 to allow untouchables to use water in a public tank in Mahad, currently in Raigarh district of Maharashtra. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Central Govt announced a special tourist circuit called "Ambedkar Tourist Circuit" encompassing 5 key sites/cities
- 5 key sites: Mhow, London, Nagpur, Delhi & Mumbai
- Mahad Satyagraha was led by – Dr. Ambedkar (in 1927)



**663.** On September 27, the Supreme Court of India directed the Agra Development Authority to immediately stop all commercial activities within a 500-metre radius from the peripheral wall of the iconic Taj Mahal. It has been observed that the white marbles of Taj Mahal are turning yellow due to increased pollution in the nearby areas of Taj Mahal. It was inscribed on the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in 1983. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The SC directed Agra Development Authority to stop all commercial activities within 500m radius of Taj Mahal
- Taj Mahal (Agra, UP) – was inscribed on the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in 1983
- Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice Uday Umesh Lalit (49<sup>th</sup>)

## **International Affairs**

**664.** In September 2022, Bhutan ratified the International Solar Alliance (ISA) Framework Agreement. The ISA is an action-oriented, member-driven, collaborative platform for increased deployment of solar energy technologies. Bhutan became the 89<sup>th</sup> country to do so. All member states of the United Nations are eligible to join the ISA. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bhutan – ratified the International Solar Alliance (ISA) Framework Agreement (89<sup>th</sup> country to do so)
- Bhutan – Thimphu – Bhutanese Ngultrum | PM – Lotay Tshering | Monarch – Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck
- HQs of ISA – Gurugram, Haryana | DG – Ajay Mathur | Signatory Countries – 110 | Member countries – 90

**665.** On September 26, in a ceremony held on the sidelines of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Assembly in Montreal, an MoU was signed between International Solar Alliance (ISA) and ICAO to reduce carbon emissions in the aviation sector. India has a target of installing 175 GW of renewable energy by 2022 and reduction in emission intensity by 33-35% by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ISA + ICAO = an MoU at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of ICAO Assembly held in Montreal, Canada
- India has a target of installing 175 GW of renewable energy by 2022
- India targets to reduce emission intensity by 33-35% by 2030
- HQs of ISA – Gurugram, Haryana | DG – Ajay Mathur | Signatory Countries – 110 | Member countries – 90

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

**666.** On September 29, State-owned Bank of India acquired over 5.56% stake in Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) for Rs 10 Crore under the private placement route. Many other banks have also acquired stakes in ONDC. ONDC is aimed at promoting open networks for all aspects of the exchange of goods and services over digital or electronic networks in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bank of India – acquired over 5.56% stake in Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) for Rs 10 Crore
- HQs of BOI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Atanu Kumar Das | Tagline – “Relationship Beyond Banking”





**667.** On September 27, Yubi (earlier, CredAvenue) partnered with the State Bank of India (SBI) to help grow the bank's co-lending portfolio. SBI will be integrated with Yubi Co.Lend and disburse joint loans to the priority sector. Yubi is a unified credit platform with a comprehensive product suite catering to all stages of the debt lifecycle. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Yubi (CredAvenue) + SBI = partnered to grow the bank's co-lending portfolio
- HQs of Yubi – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | Founder & CEO – Gaurav Kumar
- HQs of SBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MDs – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Alok Kumar Choudhary | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

**668.** On September 27, Axis Bank, India's third biggest private lender, signed a non-binding term sheet to invest an amount between ₹49.9-69.9 Crore in Go Digit Life Insurance for 9.94% stake in two tranches. Digit, which already has a presence in the general insurance business, is foraying into the life insurance segment with its Go Digit Life venture. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Axis Bank – will acquire 9.94% stake in Go Digit Life Insurance by investing an amount between ₹49.9-69.9 Cr
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – “Badhti ka Naam Zindagi”

**669.** On September 23, Bank of Baroda (BoB) announced the commencement of its annual festive campaign, “Khushiyon ka Tyohaar”, which features a number of benefits for customers during the festive season. BoB is offering favourable interest rates on home loans and car loans with this campaign, in addition to a waiver or discount on processing fees and other perks. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bank of Baroda – commenced its annual festive campaign, “Khushiyon ka Tyohaar” for its customers
- HQs of BOB – Vadodara, Gujarat | CEO – Sanjiv Chadha | Tagline – “India's International Bank”

**670.** On September 27, Muthoot Finance, one of India's largest gold loan NBFC companies, signed an MoU with Lulu International Exchange, one of the money exchange and transfer companies in the UAE, to work as its collection partner. Muthoot Finance through this partnership aims to drive convenience and ease of money transfer for over 4 lakh NRIs in the UAE region whose relatives have availed gold loans back home. The NRIs can avail the service at any of the 89 branches of Lulu Exchange spread across the UAE. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Muthoot Finance + Lulu International Exchange = an MoU to work as its collection partner
- HQs of Muthoot Finance – Kochi, Kerala | MD & CEO – George Alexander Muthoot

**671.** On September 28, UCO Bank and Yes Bank partnered with two Russian banks as India seeks to step up trade with Russia. UCO Bank partnered with Gazprom Bank, while Yes Bank partnered with Petersburg Social Commercial Bank (PSCB). UCO Bank and Gazprom Bank are said to have done the arrangement after RBI established a mechanism involving the opening of a Special Vostro Account through which payments are to be routed. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UCO Bank & Yes Bank – partnered with Russia's Gazprom Bank & Petersburg Social Commercial Bank, respectively
- HQs of UCO Bank – Kolkata, West Bengal | MD & CEO – Soma Sankara Prasad | Tagline – “Honours your Trust”
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar | Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”



**672.** On September 27, Mastercard plans to launch its “Carbon Calculator” feature, which offers consumers an estimated carbon footprint for each of their purchases. The personalised carbon footprint tracker can tell consumers the cumulative effect of carbon footprint across a variety of spending categories in a month. Mastercard Carbon Calculator, developed in collaboration with Swedish fintech Doconomy, is currently used in over 25 countries. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mastercard – plans to launch its “Carbon Calculator” feature for Indian consumers
- HQs of Mastercard – New York, US | CEO – Michael Miebach | Founded in – 1966

**673.** On September 26, South Korean technology giant Samsung has launched a credit card for the Indian audience. The card is co-branded with Axis Bank and powered by Visa. The Samsung Credit card will offer 10% cashback over and above the existing offers available at/on offline stores, Samsung e-commerce portals and Flipkart. The card will be available in two variants - Visa Signature and Visa Infinite. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Samsung + Axis Bank = launched a Co-branded Credit Card powered by Visa
- HQs of Samsung Electronics – Suwon-si, South Korea | CEO – Jong Hee Han
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – “Badhti ka Naam Zindagi”

## Defence Affairs

**674.** On September 27, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully tested the two flights of Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS), from a ground-based portable launcher from Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, off the coast of Odisha. VSHORADS is an indigenously designed and developed Man Portable Air Defence System (MANPAD) by DRDO’s Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Hyderabad, in collaboration with other DRDO laboratories and Indian Industry Partners. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- DRDO – successfully tested 2 flights of Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) from ITR, Chandipur, Odisha
- ‘VSHORADS’ is designed & developed by – DRDO’s Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Hyderabad
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – Samir V. Kamat | Established in – 1958

**675.** Indian Naval Ship (INS) Sunayna participated in the capacity-building exercise “Operation Southern Readiness” conducted by Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) at Seychelles during September 24-27, 2022. This is the maiden participation of an Indian Navy ship in CMF exercise. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- INS Sunayna participated in the capacity-building exercise “Operation Southern Readiness”
- The exercise was conducted by Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) at Seychelles
- Seychelles – Victoria – Seychellois Rupee | President – Wavel Ramkalawan



## Sports & Games

**676.** On September 28, India's Shubi Gupta and A Charvi emerged winners in the Girls Under-12 and Under-8 sections respectively at the "FIDE World Cadets Chess Championship 2022" held in Batumi, Georgia. Shubhi Gupta, who hails from Ghaziabad, scored 8.5 points. Karnataka's Charvi finished first with 9.5 points from 11 rounds. Moreover, India's Safin Safarullakhan of Kerala claimed a bronze medal in the 'Under-8 Open' category with nine points. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- "FIDE World Cadets Chess Championship 2022" – held in Batumi, Georgia
- 'Girls Under-12' winner – Shubi Gupta (Uttar Pradesh) | 'Girls Under-8' winner – A Charvi (Karnataka)
- Safin Safarullakhan (Kerala) – won a bronze medal in 'Under-8 Open' category

**677.** On September 26, Virat Kohli surpassed Rahul Dravid to become the second highest run-scorer for India in international cricket. The star batter accomplished this feat in the third T20I against Australia in Hyderabad. Now, Kohli has a total of 24,078 runs in 471 matches across 525 innings at an average of 53.62. Rahul Dravid has scored 24,064 international runs. The leading run scorer for Team India in international cricket is Master Blaster Sachin Tendulkar. In 664 matches across 782 innings, Tendulkar has scored 34,357 runs at an average of 48.52. These batters are followed by former skipper Sourav Ganguly (18,433), MS Dhoni (17,092) and Virender Sehwag (16,892). Suryakumar Yadav was adjudged as 'Man of the Match' for his fifty in the third T20I in Hyderabad. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Virat Kohli – became the second highest run-scorer for India in International Cricket (surpassing - Rahul Dravid)
- Virat Kohli has a total of 24,078 runs in 471 matches across 525 innings | 1<sup>st</sup> – Sachin Tendulkar

**678.** On September 27, 37-year-old Kenya's Eliud Kipchoge broke his own world marathon record with an astonishing 2:01:09, 30 seconds off the previous world record, at the Berlin Marathon in Germany. He ran 42.2 Km (26.2 miles) in this time frame. His 2:01:09 was a major upgrade on his 2:01:39 set in Berlin 4 years ago. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Eliud Kipchoge (Kenya) – broke his own world marathon record by completing 42.2 Km (26.2 miles) in 2:01:09 in Berlin

## Science & Technology

**679.** On September 26, while addressing the first-ever "CSIR Leadership Meet" in New Delhi, Science & Technology Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh announced "One Week One Lab" theme-based campaign to showcase the technological breakthroughs and innovations. The campaign was held at each of the 37 Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) laboratories and institutes spread across India. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Jitendra Singh – announced "One Week One Lab" theme-based campaign at each of the 37 CSIR laboratories
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | President – Narendra Modi | DG – Nallathamby Kalaiselvi | Established in – 1942

**680.** On September 27, Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), under the Ministry of Communications, signed an MoU with IIT Delhi for cooperation in various areas of Telecom spanning IoT/M2M, AI/ML, Cyber Security and 5G & Beyond technologies. C-DOT has been a pioneer in the field of Telecom since its inception in 1984. Bharti School of Telecommunication at IIT Delhi has taken up its major initiative of multi-disciplinary advanced research and solution development for emerging national needs, in collaboration with industry and other premier R&D organizations. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- C-DOT + IIT Delhi = an MoU for cooperation in various areas of Telecom spanning IoT/M2M, AI/ML, Cyber Security etc
- HQs of C-DoT – New Delhi | Executive Director – Rajkumar Upadhyay
- Director of IIT Delhi – V. Ramgopal Rao

**681.** On September 26, President of India Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the “Integrated Cryogenic Engine Manufacturing Facility” of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) in Bengaluru, Karnataka. The state-of-the-art ICMF houses over 70 hi-tech equipment and testing facilities for manufacturing cryogenic (CE20) and semi-cryogenic (SE2000) engines of Indian rockets. In 2013, an MoU was signed with the ISRO for establishing the facility for manufacturing cryogenic engine modules at HAL, Aerospace Division, and it was subsequently amended in 2016 for setting up of ICMF with an investment of ₹208 Crore. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Droupadi Murmu – inaugurated the “Integrated Cryogenic Engine Manufacturing Facility” of HAL in Bengaluru
- In 2013, an MoU was signed with ISRO for establishing the facility for manufacturing cryogenic engine modules at HAL
- HQs of HAL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Amitabh Bhatt | Chairma & MD – C. B. Ananthkrishnan (addi. charge)

**682.** In September 2022, Amazon India launched “AmazeWIT Circles”, a dedicated networking virtual event to educate women and prepare them for careers in technology. The event was designed for seasoned software development engineers. AmazeWIT Circles is a cohort-based connection that helps women to hone their skills and address the challenges faced by working women. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Amazon India – launched “AmazeWIT Circles”, a dedicated networking virtual event to educate women
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle, US | CEO – Andy Jassy | Incorporated in – 1994
- HQs of Amazon India – Hyderabad, Telangana | Country Head – Amit Agarwal

**683.** As on September 24, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) plans to achieve a remarkable feat, the 200<sup>th</sup> successful launch of the “Rohini RH-200” sounding rocket in a row, in October-November, 2022. The 3.5-metre-tall RH-200, a trusted member of the Rohini sounding rocket family, is used by the ISRO for atmospheric studies. It has completed 198 consecutive successful flights, according to the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), Thumba. The ‘200’ in the name denotes the diameter of the rocket in mm. Other operational Rohini variants are RH-300 Mk-II and RH-560 Mk-III. RH-200 is a two-stage rocket capable of climbing to a height of 70 km bearing scientific payloads. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ISRO plans to achieve the 200<sup>th</sup> successful launch of the “Rohini RH-200” sounding rocket in a row in Oct-Nov
- ‘200’ in the name denotes the diameter of the rocket in mm
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969

**684.** The Indian government has asked smartphone makers to enable support for its NavIC navigation system in new devices sold in India from 2023. NavIC, or Navigation with Indian Constellation, is an independent stand-alone navigation satellite system developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). NavIC was originally approved in 2006 at a cost of \$174 million. It was expected to be completed by late 2011, but only became operational in 2018. NavIC consists of 8 satellites and covers the whole of India's landmass and up to 1,500 km (930 miles) from its boundaries. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Govt asks smartphone makers to enable support for its NavIC navigation system in new devices sold in India from 2023
- NavIC – **Navigation with Indian Constellation** | Originally approved in 2006 | NavIC consists of 8 satellites

## **Appointments & Resignations**

**685.** On September 24, Sanjai Kumar took charge as the Chairman & Managing Director of RailTel. Before taking over this post, he was shouldering the responsibilities of Director (Network Planning & Marketing/NPM) with additional charge of Director (Project, Operations & Maintenance/ POM) in RailTel. He is an officer of the Indian Railway Service of Signal Engineers (IRSSE) with around 30 years of varied experience in Railway functioning, Project Management and marketing. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sanjai Kumar – took charge as the Chairman & Managing Director of RailTel
- HQs of RailTel – New Delhi | CMD – Sanjay Kumar

**686.** On September 28, Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince, Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud, has been named new Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia. He is the son of King Salman bin Abdulaziz. Prince Mohammed became defence minister in 2015, a key step in a swift consolidation of power. He has also become the public face of a sweeping reform agenda known as 'Vision 2030'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud – named new Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia
- Saudi Arabia – Riyadh – Saudi Riyal | PM – Mohammed bin Salman | King – Salman bin Abdulaziz

**687.** On September 23, K. Raja Prasad Reddy of Telugu media group, Sakshi, was elected as President of the Indian Newspaper Society (INS) for 2022-23. He succeeded Mohit Jain of the Economic Times. INS is the apex body of publishers of newspapers, magazines and periodicals in India. The INS also elected Rakesh Sharma as Deputy President and M. V. Shreyams Kumar as Vice-President. Tanmay Maheshwari was named the honorary treasurer of the Society for 2022-23. Mary Paul is the Secretary General of the society. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- K. Raja Prasad Reddy – elected as President of the Indian Newspaper Society (INS) for 2022-23
- M. V. Shreyams Kumar – elected as Vice-President of the INS
- Rakesh Sharma – elected as Deputy President of the INS
- Tanmay Maheshwari – appointed as the Honorary Treasurer of the INS
- Mary Paul – is the Secretary General of the INS





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# Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

**688.** On September 27, After awarding winners under the National Health Facility Register (NHFR) at the two-day “Arogya Manthan 2022” in Delhi, Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya awarded the “Ayushman Utkrishtata Puraskaar (Ayushman Excellence Awards) 2022” under the AB-PMJAY and Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) also. Union Health Minister awarded the “Ayushman Utkrishtata Puraskaar 2022” to felicitate the Top Performing State/UT (Andhra Pradesh), Top Performing District (Parvathipuram Manyam, Andhra Pradesh), Top Performing Government Facility (District Hospital Dharwad, Karnataka), Best Performing States (Kerala, Meghalaya, Gujarat, Manipur, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh), Best Performing UTs (Chandigarh, J & K), and PMAMs (Pradhan Mantri Arogya Mitras) under the AB PM-JAY and ABDM. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- ‘Aarogya Manthan’ programme – held in Delhi
- “Ayushman Utkrishtata Puraskaar 2022” under the AB-PMJAY and Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM):
  - Top Performing State/UT – Andhra Pradesh
  - Top Performing District – Parvathipuram Manyam, Andhra Pradesh
  - Top Performing Government Facility – District Hospital Dharwad, Karnataka
  - Best Performing States – Kerala, Meghalaya, Gujarat, Manipur, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh & MP
  - Best Performing UTs – Chandigarh, J & K

**689.** On September 28, Noted playback singers Kumar Sanu and Shailendra Singh and music-composer duo Anand-Milind will be conferred with the “National Lata Mangeshkar Award” for different years. They were presented the prestigious award on September 28, the birth anniversary of the late legendary singer, at her birthplace Indore, Madhya Pradesh. Shailendra Singh will be given the Lata Mangeshkar Award for 2019, Anand-Milind for 2020, and Kumar Sanu will be given the award for 2021. The award is annually given for promoting excellence in the area of light music by the Madhya Pradesh Government. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- “National Lata Mangeshkar Award” – by Madhya Pradesh Government
- 2019’s recipient – Shailendra Singh, 2020’s recipient – Anand-Milind, 2021’s recipient – Kumar Sanu
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel](#)

**690.** On September 27, Veteran actress Asha Parekh was declared the recipient of the “2020 Dadasaheb Phalke Award” for her exemplary lifetime contribution to Indian cinema, making her the 52<sup>nd</sup> awardee of the honour. Southern film superstar Rajinikanth was the recipient of the last Dadasaheb Phalke award. The Dadasaheb Phalke committee comprises industry legends Asha Bhosle, Hema Malini, Udit Narayan, Poonam Dhillon and T S Nagabharana. Established in 1954, the awards that come under the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting are organised by the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC). [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Actress Asha Parekh – declared the recipient of the “2020 Dadasaheb Phalke Award” (52<sup>nd</sup> awardee)
- Dadasaheb Phalke committee comprises: Asha Bhosle, Hema Malini, Udit Narayan, Poonam Dhillon & T S Nagabharana
- These awards are organised by the NFDC under Ministry of I&B



## Schemes & Initiatives

**691.** On September 23, Himachal Pradesh Cabinet approved the “Himachal Pradesh Early Childhood Care and Education Tutor Scheme - 2022” for children in the age group of 3 to 6, in government primary schools under the National Education Policy (NEP). The scheme envisages appropriate care and stimulation of the brain in early years to ensure healthy development and growth. Special attention and priority would be given to socio-economically disadvantaged districts and areas. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- HP Cabinet – approved the “Early Childhood Care and Education Tutor Scheme - 2022” for children aged 3 to 6 years
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

## Important Days & Dates

**692.** International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) is observed every year on September 28. In 2022, the theme is “Artificial Intelligence, e-Governance and Access to Information”. The day had been proclaimed by the UNESCO General Conference in 2015. The global celebration took place in Tashkent, Uzbekistan on the 28 of September 2022. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- September 28 – International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI)
- 2022’s Theme – “Artificial Intelligence, e-Governance and Access to Information”

**693.** In 2022, 28 September marked the 16<sup>th</sup> World Rabies Day. This year’s theme “Rabies: One Health, Zero Deaths” highlights the connection of the environment with both people and animals. The day was first observed in 2007. This day is also observed globally to mark the death anniversary of French biologist, microbiologist and chemist, Louis Pasteur, who developed the first Rabies Vaccine in 1885. “Zero by 30: Global Strategic Plan for the elimination of dog-mediated human rabies deaths by 2030” is an ambitious document with achievable targets. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- September 28 – 16<sup>th</sup> World Rabies Day (since 2007)
- 2022’s Theme – “Rabies: One Health, Zero Deaths”
- This day marks the death anniversary of ‘Louis Pasteur’ who developed the first Rabies Vaccine in 1885

**694.** On September 28, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) celebrated its 18<sup>th</sup> Formation Day in New Delhi. The theme for 2022’s Foundation Day is “Volunteerism in Disaster Management”. The vision of NDMA is ‘to build a safe and disaster resilient India by developing a holistic, proactive, multi-disaster oriented and technology - driven strategy through a culture of prevention, mitigation, preparedness and response’. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- September 28 – 18<sup>th</sup> Formation Day of NDMA
- 2022’s Theme – “Volunteerism in Disaster Management”
- NDMA functions under – Ministry of Home Affairs
- HQs of NDMA – New Delhi | Headed by – Prime Minister of India | Established in – 2005





**695.** International Daughters' Day is marked on different days around the globe. However, in India, it is celebrated on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in September. This year, the day was observed on September 25 in India. The day was conceptualised to fight against the stigma around having a girl child, thinking of daughters as a liability, and honouring women. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- September 25 (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Sep) – International Daughters' Day

**696.** Every year, World Lung Day is celebrated on September 25 to advocate lung health and spread awareness. Lung disease is any problem that arises in the lungs and prevents it from working properly. Lung disease is divided into three main types - airway diseases, lung tissue diseases and lung circulation diseases. Most common Lung diseases are Asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) & Bronchitis. In 2022, the theme of the day is "Lung Health for All". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- September 25 – World Lung Day
- 2022's Theme – "Lung Health for All"

## Amount & Agreements

**697.** On September 27, Asian Development Bank announced to provide at least USD 14 billion by 2025 to help ease the food crisis in the Asia-Pacific. The ADB plans a comprehensive program of support to help the 1.1 billion people in the region who lack healthy diets due to poverty and soaring food prices. The plan calls for improving long-term food security by strengthening farming and food supplies to cope with climate change and loss of biodiversity. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ADB – announced to provide at least USD 14 billion by 2025 to help ease the food crisis in the Asia-Pacific
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Members – 68 | Established in – 1966

## Ranks, Reports & Surveys

**698.** In September 2022, the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of the "Renewable Energy and Jobs: Annual Review 2022" was released by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and International Labour Organization (ILO). This report provides the latest estimates of renewable energy employment globally. The report states that around 7,00,000 new jobs were created in the Renewable Energy Sector in just one year. The Renewable Energy sector employed 12.7 million people across the world in 2021, up from 12 million in 2020. Solar energy remained the fastest-growing sector. In 2021, a record 132.8 GW of solar PV capacity were installed globally, up from 125.6 GW in 2020. China alone accounted for 53 GW (40%) of this addition, followed by the US, India and Brazil. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 9<sup>th</sup> edition of the "Renewable Energy and Jobs: Annual Review 2022" – released by IRENA & ILO
- Renewable Energy sector employed 12.7 million people across the world in 2021
- Fastest-growing sector among RE – Solar Energy
- A record 132.8 GW of Solar PV capacity were installed globally in 2021 (China alone accounted for 40% or 53 GW)



**699.** 23 Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) came together for a mega research and development fair called “InvenTiv” scheduled to be held from October 14-15 in New Delhi. The event was aimed at creating holistic awareness around research and innovation work being done in the institution and seeking collaborative avenues among state universities and institutes, industry and the IITs for better development and reach of the innovations at the grassroots level. Among the themes identified for the fair are Defence and Aerospace, Healthcare, Environment and Sustainability, Clean Energy and Renewables, AI, ML Blockchain technologies, Smart Cities and Infrastructure, Communication Technologies among others. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

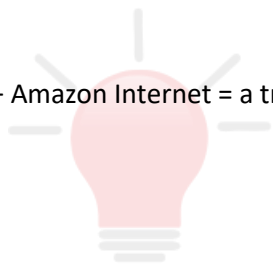
- 23 IITs organised a mega R&D fair called “InvenTiv” in New Delhi (in October)
- Parent organisation of IITs – Ministry of Education

## **MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships**

**700.** On September 27, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Sector Skill Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPwD) and Amazon Internet Private Limited signed a tripartite MoU to jointly provide skill training and employment opportunities for persons with disabilities. It also envisages mobilization of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) for skill training by the DEPwD, providing skill training and hiring of PwDs and designing of job roles for e-commerce sector by SCPwD. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- DEPwD + SCPwD + Amazon Internet = a tripartite MoU to provide skill training and employment opportunities for PwDs



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