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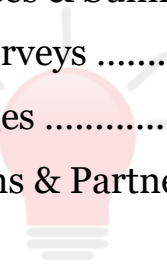
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National & States Affairs

701. On September 28, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated an intersection called “Lata Mangeshkar Chauraha” or “Lata Mangeshkar Chowk”, named after legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar on the occasion of her 93rd birth anniversary, in Ayodhya. The intersection at the banks of the Sarayu river has been developed at an estimated cost of Rs 7.9 Cr. A 40-ft-long and 12-metre-high veena weighing 14 tonnes has been installed at the intersection. The giant veena has been made by Padma Shri awardee Ram Sutar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Yogi Adityanath – inaugurated an intersection, “Lata Mangeshkar Chauraha”, in Ayodhya (named after Lata Mangeshkar)
- The intersection is developed at the banks of Sarayu river
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

702. On September 27, Bengaluru-based Ashoka Trust for Research and the Environment (ATREE) initiated the restoration of the Tamirapani river, which originates from the Pothigai hills of the Western Ghats in Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu. ATREE has associated with Indian Institute of Human Settlements (IIHS) Bengaluru, Consortium for DEWATS Dissemination Society and the Tirunelveli District Administration for the restoration project named “TamiraSES”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ATREE (Bengaluru) – initiated a project named “TamiraSES” for the restoration of the Tamirapani river in Tamil Nadu
- ATREE – associated with IIHS, Bengaluru + Consortium for DEWATS Dissemination Society + Tirunelveli District
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

703. September 28, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH) introduced additional safety provisions in the Battery Safety norms. These were to come into effect on the 1 October, 2022 but the deadline has now been deferred to 1 December, 2022. The new EV battery safety norms will be brought into effect in two phases. Phase 1 will begin on 1 December 2022 and Phase 2 will come into effect on 31 March 2023. To strengthen the safety parameters for the testing of the batteries used in Electric Vehicles, Amendment-2, which was effective from 1 October 2022, was issued to both the Automotive Industry Standards (AIS)-156 and AIS-038 (Rev 2). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoRTH extended deadline to implement additional safety provisions in the Battery Safety norms – to 1 Dec, 2022
- ‘Amendment-2’ was issued to both the AIS-156 & AIS-038 (Rev 2)
- Ministry of Road Transport & Highways: Nitin Gadkari | Constituency – Nagpur, Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Road Transport & Highways: V. K. Singh

704. On September 28, the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) reported 26 Buddhist caves in Madhya Pradesh’s Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve, after a month-long exploration conducted this summer. Besides the caves date back to the 2nd-5th century BCE. The 26 caves that were found are associated with the Mahayana sect of Buddhism. Besides the caves, the team also found the remains of 26 temples, two mathas, two stupas, 46 idols and sculptures, 26 fragments and 19 water bodies. Bandhavgarh was declared a national park in 1968 and became a tiger reserve in 1993. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ASI reported 26 Buddhist caves in Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve, Madhya Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel
- HQs of ASI – New Delhi | Director General – V. Vidyavathi



705. September 28, the Union Cabinet has approved the extension for the “Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY-Phase VII)” for a further period of 3 months i.e. October to December 2022. Under this welfare scheme, 5 kg of food grain per person per month is provided free of cost for all the beneficiaries covered under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) (Antodaya Anna Yojana & Priority Households) including those covered under Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). Financial implication for the Government of India has been about Rs 3.45 Lakh Crore up to Phase-VI of PMGKAY. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved the extension for the “Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana” for 3 months till Dec 2022
- Under this welfare scheme, 5 kg of food grain per person per month is provided free of cost

706. September 27, Hindustan Construction Company Limited (HCC) announced the successful completion of its debt resolution plan, supported by 23 banks and financial institutions. Under this plan, HCC has transferred Rs 2,854 Crore of lenders’ liability along with beneficial economic interest in arbitration awards and claims of Rs 6,508 Crore as consideration to a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV). There is no debt servicing obligation on the SPV for the next 4 years, and the repayments are back ended from FY27 to FY31. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HCC – announced the successful completion of its debt resolution plan supported by 23 banks & FIs
- Under this plan, HCC has transferred Rs 2,854 Crore of lenders’ liability to a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV)
- HQs of HCC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman & MD – Ajit Gulabchand

707. On September 24, the Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS), launched under ‘Startup India’ initiative in 2016 with a corpus of Rs 10,000 Crore, has committed Rs 7,385 Crore to 88 Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs). These AIFs in turn have invested Rs 11,206 Crore in 720 start-ups. The amount committed under FFS has grown at a CAGR of over 21% in since the launch of the scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS) – committed Rs 7,385 Crore to 88 Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs)
- The amount committed under FFS has grown at a CAGR of over 21% in since its launch in 2016

708. On September 29, PM Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the world’s first CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) terminal and of the Brownfield Port at Bhavnagar in Gujarat. This is a 3-year-old project that is expected to infuse Rs 4,000 Crore in developing the existing port infrastructure at Bhavnagar. The PM also inaugurated the Regional Science Centre, built at a cost of around Rs 100 Cr, in Bhavnagar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Modi laid foundation stone of the world’s first CNG terminal & of the Brownfield Port at Bhavnagar, Gujarat
- PM Modi inaugurated the ‘Regional Science Centre’ in Bhavnagar (built at a cost of Rs 100 Cr)
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

709. Union Road Transport & Highways Minister, Nitin Gadkari, announced that the deadline for mandatory implementation of 6 airbags in a passenger car has been pushed by a year, i.e., with effect from October 1, 2023. The deadline has been extended due to global supply chain constraints being faced by the auto industry and its impact on the macroeconomic scenario. According to National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data, over 1.55 lakh lives were lost in road crashes across India in 2021, an average of 426 daily. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Deadline for mandatory implementation of 6 airbags in a passenger car – extended by a year with effect from Oct, 2023
- NCRB data: Over 1.55 lakh lives were lost in road crashes across India in 2021
- [Ministry of Road Transport & Highways: Nitin Gadkari | Constituency – Nagpur, Maharashtra](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Road Transport & Highways: V. K. Singh](#)

710. On September 28, GODI India Pvt Ltd has manufactured India's first ever 3000F High Power Supercapacitors at their Hyderabad facility. Integration of GODI India's supercapacitors along with battery packs would improve the battery life multi-folds in Electric Vehicle (EV) and Renewable Energy Storage System (ESS) applications. GODI India is the first Indian company to get BIS certification to sell lithium-ion cells made with home grown technology. The estimated global market size of supercapacitors is USD 25 billion by the year 2030. India is the fourth largest automotive maker and third largest energy consumer in the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- GODI India – has manufactured India's first ever 3000F High Power Supercapacitors at Hyderabad
- GODI India – the first Indian company to get BIS certification to sell lithium-ion cells made with home grown technology
- Estimated global market size of Supercapacitors by 2030 – USD 25 billion
- [HQs of Godi India – Hyderabad, Telangana | Founder & CEO – Mahesh Godi](#)

711. On September 29, Haryana will develop the world's largest Jungle Safari Park in the Aravalli range. The 10,000-acre safari park will cover Gurugram and Nuh districts. The Jungle safari scheme will not only boost tourism but also provide employment opportunities to local residents. The proposed Aravalli park would be five times more in size than the Sharjah Safari in the UAE that covers an area of about 2,000 acres. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana – will develop the world's largest Jungle Safari Park in the Aravalli range, covering Gurugram & Nuh districts
- Sharjah Safari – located in the UAE
- [Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya](#)

International Affairs

712. On September 30, India collaborated with California for research and innovation in the field of zero-emission vehicles to spur the development of its nascent EV industry and address climate risks. California has the world's most advanced Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) policies. It has an ambitious 100% ZEV mandate by 2035. As part of the collaboration, the University of California established a new India ZEV Research Centre. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + California = collaborated for research & innovation in the field of zero-emission vehicles
- California has an ambitious 100% ZEV mandate by 2035
- [US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris](#)



Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

713. In September 2022, Leh, the highest-located district in India, has achieved 100% digitization of banking operations. The RBI felicitated the bankers of the district. Leh district has completed the digitization of all the operating banks in a short span of a year. Kerala's Thrissur was the first fully digital banking district in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Leh, the highest-located district in India – achieved 100% digitization of banking operations
- Thrissur (Kerala) – the first fully digital banking district in India
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur

714. On September 28, the Government of India, World Bank and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) collaborated to launch a \$1 billion fund to provide guarantees against loan default to lenders financing purchase of Electric two-and three-wheelers. The entities will initially set up a \$300 million 'first loss risk sharing instrument'. NITI Aayog is the facilitating agency for the project, aimed at facilitating faster and easier financing of electric vehicles. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- GoI + World Bank + SIDBI = collaborated to launch a \$1 billion fund to provide guarantees against loan default to lenders financing purchase of Electric two-and three-wheelers
- Facilitating Agency for the project – NITI Aayog
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | MD & Chairman – Sivasubramanian Ramann | Established in – 1990
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., US | Members – 189 | President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

715. September 28, DBS Bank India provided a bespoke Credit Insurance - Accounts Receivable solution to Tata Metaliks, a pioneer in manufacturing pig iron and DI pipes in India, in collaboration with HDFC ERGO General Insurance Co Ltd and reinsured by Atradius, a worldwide provider of trade credit insurance. This credit insurance deal is amongst the first to leverage Trade Credit Insurance. Through the collaboration between DBS, HDFC ERGO and Atradius, this solution enables corporates to transfer the risk of their account receivables onto an insurer while getting financing against those insured receivables from a bank. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DBS Bank India Ltd + HDFC ERGO = provided a bespoke Credit Insurance - Accounts Receivable solution to Tata Metaliks
- HQs of DBS Bank India – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Surojit Shome
- HQs of HDFC ERGO General Insurance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Ritesh Kumar

716. On September 29, the government slashed its market borrowing target for FY23 by ₹10,000 Crore from ₹14.31 lakh Crore to ₹14.21 lakh Crore, indicating buoyant tax collections which would be enough to bear ₹44,762 Crore additional expense on free ration distribution. Accordingly, the balance amount of ₹5.92 lakh Crore (41.7% of ₹14.21 lakh Crore) is planned to be borrowed in the second half (H2) of the fiscal year 2022-23 through dated securities, including ₹16,000 Crore through issuance of Sovereign Green Bonds (SGBs) as per the announcement made in the Union Budget 2022-23. Moreover, the RBI fixed the Ways and Mean Advances (WMA) limit for H2 of 2022-23 at ₹50,000 Crore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government slashed its market borrowing target for FY23 by ₹10,000 Cr – to ₹14.21 lakh Cr (from ₹14.31 lakh Cr)
- ₹5.92 lakh Cr (41.7% of ₹14.21 lakh Cr) – to be borrowed in H2 of FY 2022-23, including ₹16,000 Cr through SGBs
- RBI fixed the Ways and Mean Advances (WMA) limit for H2 of 2022-23 at ₹50,000 Cr



Defence Affairs

717. On September 30, India has signed an export order for missiles, rockets, and ammunition to Armenia since the Asian nation is engaged in a border conflict with Azerbaijan. The value of the contract is estimated worth over Rs 2000 Crore (USD 250 Million). This order includes 6 additional first-ever export of the indigenous Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launchers. This weapon, which is already in service with the Indian Army, has been designed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and manufactured by private sector companies in India. In addition to this, the anti-tank rockets, and ammunitions will also be supplied from India to Armenia under the deal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – signed an export order for missiles, rockets & ammunition to Armenia (worth over Rs 2000 Cr)
- The deal includes Anti-Tank Rockets, Ammunitions & Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launchers (designed by DRDO)
- Armenia – Yerevan – Dram | PM – Nikol Pashinyan | President – Vahagn Khachaturyan

Science & Technology

718. On September 28, Researchers from the United States have reported a bat virus, called “Khosta-2”, which can use the human ACE-2 receptors to enter cells just like Sars-CoV-2 that led to the Covid-19 pandemic. The receptor binding domain (RBD) of Khosta-2 can facilitate entry into human cells. The Khosta-2 virus belongs to the Sarbecovirus family, just like Sars-CoV-1 that led to the 2003 SARS outbreak and Sars-CoV-2 that led to the current pandemic. It was identified in horse-shoe bat samples from Sochi National Park. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Researchers from the US – reported a bat virus, called “Khosta-2”
- Khosta-2 uses the human ACE-2 receptors to enter cells just like Sars-CoV-2 (It belongs to the Sarbecovirus family)

Appointments & Resignations

719. On September 27, the government has reshuffled the board of IL&FS Ltd, which is undergoing debt resolution process, with existing board member C. S. Rajan being redesignated as the Non-Executive Chairman. Nand Kishore, who was serving as an Executive Director, has been made the Managing Director of IL&FS Ltd. Currently, the board has five members. Besides Rajan and Kishore, the directors are G C Chaturvedi, Malini Shankar and N Srinivasan. Chaturvedi is set to step down from the board on September 30. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- C. S. Rajan – redesignated as the Non-Executive Chairman of IL&FS Ltd
- Nand Kishore – appointed as Managing Director of IL&FS Ltd
- HQs of IL&FS – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – C. S. Rajan | MD – Nand Kishore



720. On September 29, the Indian Council for Cultural Relation (ICCR) signed an MoU with Google to ease searching the Internet in Sanskrit and provided Google with 1 lakh commonly used sentences in the language with their English and Hindi translations. They collaborated to improve the Sanskrit translation experience. This will help Google improve artificial intelligence or machine learning technology for translating Sanskrit text to various other languages and vice versa. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICCR + Google = an MoU with Google to ease searching the Internet in Sanskrit
- ICCR provided Google with 1 lakh commonly used sentences in Sanskrit language with their English & Hindi translations
- HQs of ICCR – New Delhi | DG – Kumar Tuhin | President – Vinay Sahasrabuddhe | Founded in – 1950
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998

721. On September 25, Senior bureaucrat Rajendra Kumar has been appointed as the Director General of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), as part of a senior-level bureaucratic reshuffle effected by the Central Government. Rajendra Kumar is currently an Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology. Rajendra Kumar replaced Mukhmeet S. Bhatia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajendra Kumar – appointed as Director General of ESIC (replacing - Mukhmeet S. Bhatia)
- HQs of ESIC – New Delhi | DG – Rajendra Kumar

722. On September 30, Hero MotoCorp, the world's largest manufacturer of motorcycles and scooters, announced the appointment of actor Ram Charan as its new Brand Ambassador. The high-decibel campaign of Glamour XTEC features Ram Charan riding stunning Glamour in Nexus Blue colour. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ram Charan – appointed as Brand Ambassador of Hero MotoCorp
- HQs of Hero MotoCorp – New Delhi | Chairman & CEO – Pawan Munjal

723. On September 28, Senior advocate R. Venkataramani was appointed as the 16th Attorney General (AG) of India by President Droupadi Murmu for a period of 3 years. Mr. Venkataramani succeeds K. K. Venugopal, whose term comes to end on September 30. His appointment comes just days after senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi declined the government's offer to become the next AG. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- R. Venkataramani – appointed as 16th Attorney General (AG) of India (after Mukul Rohatgi declined Govt's offer)

724. On September 27, Data Security Council of India (DSCI), established by NASSCOM, promoted its senior Vice President Vinayak Godse as the new CEO of the DSCI. Godse took over from Rama Vedashree who led DSCI for more than 6 years. The decision was taken by a selection committee of the DSCI Board chaired by former DSCI Chairman Dr N. Balakrishnan, current Chairman Rajendra S Pawar, NASSCOM President, and other board members. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vinayak Godse – appointed as the new CEO of Data Security Council of India (DSCI)
- HQs of DSCI – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | Chairman – Rajendra S. Pawar | CEO – Vinayak Godse



725. On September 28, the Government appointed former Eastern Army Commander Lt. General Anil Chauhan as the next (2nd) Chief of Defence Staff (CDS). The post was vacant since the death of India's first CDS Gen. Bipin Rawat in a helicopter crash in December 2021. Post retirement, Lt. Gen. Chauhan took over as the Military Advisor in the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) from Lt. Gen. Vinod G. Khandare who stepped down from the post in October 2021. While the age limit/tenure of Service Chiefs is 62 years of age or three years whichever is earlier, the age limit for the CDS is 65 years of age with no fixed tenure defined. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Lt. General Anil Chauhan – appointed as the next (2nd) Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)
- He is former Eastern Army Commander & the Military Advisor in the National Security Council Secretariat
- CDS: Age limit – 65 years, Tenure – No fixed tenure | Service Chiefs: Age limit – 62 years, Tenure – 3 years

726. On September 30, Shri Vanlalhuma (IFS: 1990), presently Ambassador of India to the Slovak Republic, is appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Colombia. He served as the Secretary to the Government of Mizoram (Trade, Commerce, Tourism, Art & Culture) from November 2005 to January 2009. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vanlalhuma – is appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Colombia
- Colombia – Bogota – Peso | President – Gustavo Petro

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

727. On September 29, Akash Ambani, the eldest son of Reliance Industries chairman Mukesh Ambani, has appeared on the Time magazine's top 100 global rising stars list called "TIME100 Next". Akash Ambani is reportedly the only Indian on the list. Akash Ambani was promoted as the Chairman of Reliance Jio in June, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Akash Ambani – the only Indian on the Time magazine's top 100 global rising stars list called "TIME100 Next"
- HQs of Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd – Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Akash Ambani

728. Stock trading platform Zerodha's cofounder Nikhil Kamath, with a net worth of Rs 17,500 Crore, has topped the "IIFL Wealth Hurun India 40 & Under Self-Made Rich List 2022" released on September 29, 2022. Ola cofounder Bhavish Agarwal came second with a wealth of Rs 11,700 Crore. With a wealth of Rs 11,200 Crore, Divyank Turakhia of Media.net was ranked at third place in the rich list. The ranking of the self-made entrepreneurs included people aged 40 years and under from India. The annual list saw 15 new entrants. Cofounder of Confluent, Neha Narkhede, at 37, is the Youngest Self-made Woman Entrepreneur in India, while 19-year-old Kaivalya Vohra, the founder of quick commerce startup Zepto, is the Youngest Self-made Entrepreneur on the list. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "IIFL Wealth Hurun India 40 & Under Self-Made Rich List 2022" – released on Sep 29 (included people aged 40 & below)
- 1st – Nikhil Kamath (Zerodha), 2nd – Bhavish Agarwal (Ola), 3rd – Divyank Turakhia (Media.net)
- Youngest Self-made Entrepreneur in India – Kaivalya Vohra (Zepto)
- Youngest Self-made Woman Entrepreneur in India – Neha Narkhede (Confluent)



729. On September 29, Srishti Bakshi, a women’s rights activist from India, was honoured with the ‘Changemaker’ award at the “UN SDG Action Awards” in Bonn, Germany for confronting gender-based violence and advocating for safe access to public spaces. The other award winners are ‘SUPvivors say NO MORE’ in the Mobilise category, ‘The Masungi Story’ in the Inspire category, and ‘CyprusInno’ in the Connect category. Srishti Bakshi’s 3,800 Km long on-foot journey was chronicled in the documentary titled “WOMB: Women of My Billion”, which exposes the raw emotions and realities of women living in India today. Since the launch of WOMB in 2021, the documentary film has been featured in over 14 international film festivals across four continents. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Srishti Bakshi – was honoured with the ‘Changemaker’ award at the “UN SDG Action Awards” in Bonn, Germany
- Other award winners: ‘SUPvivors say NO MORE’, ‘The Masungi Story’ & ‘CyprusInno’
- Srishti Bakshi’s 3,800 Km long on-foot journey was chronicled in the documentary titled “WOMB: Women of My Billion”

Schemes & Initiatives

730. In September 2022, the Chhattisgarh government launched the “Balwadi (kindergarten) Scheme” under the New Education Policy (NEP) to provide pre-primary education to children in the age group of 5 to 6 years. Chief minister Bhupesh Baghel inaugurated the scheme. As many as 5,173 balwadis have been opened across the state in the current academic year. In another announcement, the Chief Minister said that Sanskrit will be taught in Swami Atmanand Government English Medium Schools (SAGES) and computer education will be made compulsory in these institutions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chhattisgarh – launched the “Balwadi (kindergarten) Scheme” to provide education to children aged 5-6 years
- Chhattisgarh – opened 5,173 balwadis under the scheme
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

731. On September 29, the Ministry of Finance increased the interest rates payable on 5 of 12 such schemes for the 3rd Quarter (October-December) of the financial year ending on March 31, 2023 (FY23), leaving other interest rates unchanged. The decision came a day after the Union Cabinet hiked dearness allowance (DA) and dearness relief (DR) for central government employees by 4% points to 38% of basic pay ahead of the festival season. Small savings rates for Kisan Vikas Patra (7% after changes), 2-year time deposit (5.7%), 3-year time deposit (5.8%), Senior Citizen Savings Schemes (7.6%) and Monthly Income Account Scheme (6.7%) were increased by 10 bps, 20 bps, 30 bps, 20 bps and 10 bps respectively. For Kisan Vikas Patra, the Finance Ministry reduced the maturity period to 123 months from 124 months earlier. However, the Finance Ministry kept interest rates unchanged for Savings Deposit Scheme (4%), National Savings Certificate (6.8%), Public Provident Fund Scheme (7.1%) and Sukanya Samridhi Account scheme (7.6%). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet hiked DA & DR for central government employees by 4% points to 38%
- Finance Ministry increased the interest rates of 5 of 12 Small Savings Schemes for Q2 of FY 2022-23 (Oct-Dec)
- KVP – 7% | PPF – 7.1% | NSC – 6.8% | Savings Deposit Scheme – 4% | Sukanya Samridhi Yojana – 7.6%
- Senior Citizens’ Savings Scheme – 7.6% | Monthly Income Account Scheme – 6.7%



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Important Days & Dates

732. On September 28, the Regiment of Artillery, a combat/fighting arm of the Indian Army, celebrates “Gunners Day” every year on September 28 as “5th (Bombay) Mountain Battery” was raised on 28 September, 1827. The year 2022 marked 196th Gunners Day. The Regiment of Artillery is a successor to the Royal Indian Artillery of British Indian Army, which itself traces its origins to the formation of Bombay Artillery in 1827. “Sarvatra Izzat-o-Iqbal (Everywhere with Honour and Glory)” is the motto of the Regiment of Artillery. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 28 – 196th Gunners Day – celebrated by Regiment of Artillery
- Motto of the Regiment of Artillery – “Sarvatra Izzat-o-Iqbal (Everywhere with Honour and Glory)”

733. International Translation Day is observed every year on September 30 by the International Federation of Translators (FIT) to recognise translation professionals who help connect nations. September 30 is also the day that celebrates the feast of St. Jerome, the Bible translator, who is considered to be the patron saint of translators. The first formal celebrations of the global translation day took place only in 1991. In 2022, “A World Without Barriers: The Role of Language Professionals in Building Culture, Understanding and lasting Peace”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 30 – International Translation Day – by International Federation of Translators (FIT)
- 2022’s Theme – “A World Without Barriers”

734. The International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste (IDAFW) was observed for the 3rd time on 29 September 2022. The day was first observed in 2020. “Stop Food Waste! For People and Planet!” was the focus of this day. The food supply chain in many countries is on course to overtake farming and land use as the largest contributor to greenhouse gases (GHGs). An estimated 14% of the world's food is lost between harvest and retail, and an estimated 17% is wasted in retail and at the consumption level. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 29 – 3rd International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste (IDAFW)
- Focus – “Stop Food Waste! For People and Planet!”

735. World Maritime Day is celebrated on the last Thursday of every September and in 2022, the day was observed on 30 September. This day is celebrated to recognize the contribution of the people who work in the maritime industry. The English word ‘maritime’ originated from the Latin word ‘maritimus’, meaning ‘of the sea’. In 2022, the theme is “New Technologies for Greener Shipping”. On 17 March 1978, World Maritime Day was celebrated for the first time. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 30 (Last Thursday of Sep) – “World Maritime Day 2022”
- 2022’s Theme – “New Technologies for Greener Shipping”
- April 5 – “National Maritime Day” (additional info.)

736. World Heart Day is observed every year on September 29. The day is celebrated by organizing various activities and awareness events globally to raise awareness about the heart disease and its preventive measures to manage the cardiovascular diseases. In 2022, the theme of the day is “Use Heart for Every Heart”. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- September 29 – World Heart Day
- 2022's Theme – “Use Heart for Every Heart”

Books & Authors

737. Shashi Tharoor has authored a new book titled “Ambedkar: A Life, Shashi”. In the first half of the book, Tharoor recounts the pivotal moments of Ambedkar’s difficult journey - the humiliations, the poverty, and the tragedies in his personal life. In the second half, Tharoor explores Ambedkar’s legacy: the imprint of his ideas abroad, his notion of ‘constitutional morality’, and the widespread symbolic appropriation of Ambedkar by parties he would have considered his political opponents. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Ambedkar: A Life, Shashi” book – authored by Shashi Tharoor

Obituaries

738. In September 2022, Hilary Mantel, the Booker Prize-winning British author, passed away at the age of 70. Mantel was one of the greatest English novelists of this century. Mantel won the Booker Prize twice, for “Wolf Hall” in 2009 and its sequel “Bring Up the Bodies” in 2012. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hilary Mantel – a renowned British Author – passed away
- Mantel won the Booker Prize twice, for the novel “Wolf Hall” (2009) & its sequel “Bring Up the Bodies” (2012)

739. On September 29, Senior Congress leader and first Chairperson of National Commission for Women (NCW), Jayanti Patnaik, passed away at the age of 90. Jayanti Patnaik was a four-time MP and wife of late Odisha chief minister J B Patnaik. She was elected to the Lok Sabha from both Cuttack and Berhampur. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jayanti Patnaik – a Politician – passed away (Party – INC | Lok Sabha Constituencies – Cuttack & Berhampur)
- She was the first Chairperson of National Commission for Women



Meetings, Conferences & Summits

740. The Minister of State for Communications, Devusinh Chauhan led Indian delegation at the “Plenipotentiary Conference 2022 (PP-22)” of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and last meeting of the 2022 session of ITU Council from September 24 to October 14, 2022 in Bucharest, Romania. India put up its candidature to be re-elected as a Member of the next ITU Council. The Minister will participate in Commonwealth Ministerial Round Table as well as the Heads of Delegation Meeting. The minister also participated in Commonwealth Ministerial Round Table as well as the Heads of Delegation Meeting. He also made a policy statement on “Connect and Unite” on behalf of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Devusinh Chauhan – led Indian delegation at “Plenipotentiary Conference 2022” of the ITU in Bucharest, Romania
- HQs of ITU – Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary General – Houlin Zhao
- Romania – Bucharest – leu | PM – Nicolae Ciuca | President – Klaus Iohannis
- Ministry of Communications: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Communications: Devusinh Chauhan

741. In September 2022, the Indian Economic Trade Organization (IETO) in association with the India Eurasia Trade Council (IETC) organized the “India Armenia Conference 2022” in Bengaluru, Karnataka. The motto of the India-Armenia Conference was “Promoting Investment and Growth”. The MoU in Culture was signed between Trade Commissioner of the Council for Armenia, Yateesh Venkatesh, and the Bangalore International Arts Festival for the participation of Armenian culture performers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IETO + IETC = organized the “India Armenia Conference 2022” in Bengaluru, Karnataka
- Motto of the Conference – “Promoting Investment and Growth”
- HQs of IETO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | President – Dr. Asif Iqbal
- Armenia – Yerevan – Dram | PM – Nikol Pashinyan | President – Vahagn Khachaturyan

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

742. September 28, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar released a report titled “India Tourism Statistics 2022” on the occasion of World Tourism Day at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi. Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu registered the most number of foreign tourist visits with 1.26 million and 1.23 million respectively in 2021. In the domestic tourism graph, 677.63 million tourist visits were registered in 2021 with Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh being the top two destinations, with 140.65 million and 86.12 million tourists, respectively. With a contribution of about 5% to GDP, the Tourism sector created about 79.86 million (direct and indirect) jobs in India, as per the report. India ranked 54th in the global “Travel and Tourism Development Index (TTDI)” in 2021. During the event, Vice President also presented the ‘National Tourism Awards 2018-19’. Moreover, the Taj Mahal was ranked first among the top 10 most popular “Centrally Protected Ticketed Monuments for Domestic Visitors in FY 2021-2022”, followed by Red Fort and the Qutub Minar. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Jagdeep Dhankhar – released a report titled “India Tourism Statistics 2022” at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
- Most number of foreign tourist visits in 2021: 1st – Maharashtra, 2nd – Tamil Nadu
- Most number of domestic tourist visits in 2021: 1st – Tamil Nadu, 2nd – Uttar Pradesh
- Tourism sector contributed 5% to India’s GDP in 2021
- India ranked 54th in the global “Travel and Tourism Development Index (TTDI)” in 2021
- Taj Mahal – ranked first among the top 10 most popular “Centrally Protected Ticketed Monuments for Domestic Visitors in FY 2021-2022”

743. On September 27, Union Labour Minister Bhupender Yadav released the “4th round (January-March 2022) of the Quarterly Employment Survey (QES)”, which is a part of the All India Quarterly Establishment based Employment Survey (AQEES), conducted by the Labour Bureau. Manufacturing sector continues to be the largest institutional employer in India, employing about 38.5% of the workers. Manufacturing sector was followed by Education (21.7%) & IT/BPOs (12.0%). The survey estimated that around 3.18 Crore workers were employed in about 5.31 lakh establishments of 9 selected Non-farm sectors between January and March, 2022. Female workers participation reported marginally increase from 31.6% in Q3 to 31.8% in Q4 report. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bhupender Yadav – released “4th round (Jan-March 2022) of the Quarterly Employment Survey (QES)” part of AQEES
- The survey is prepared by – Labour Bureau
- Estimated Total Employment in 9 selected sectors during Q4 FY22 – 3.18 Cr (Female workers participation - 31.6%)
- ‘Manufacturing’ sector recorded the maximum growth of – 38.5% (followed by Education & IT/BPOs)
- [Ministry of Labour & Employment: Bhupender Yadav](#) | [Constituency – Rajasthan](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Labour & Employment: Rameswar Teli](#)

744. India ranked 40th in the “Global Innovation Index 2022” released by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). India climbed 6 places compared to GII 2021. Switzerland, the US, Sweden, the UK and the Netherlands are the world's most-innovative economies, respectively. Turkiye (37th) and India (40th) enter the top 40 for the first time. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Global Innovation Index 2022” – released by WIPO
- India ranked 40th in the ‘GII 2022’ | Top – Switzerland
- [HQs of WIPO – Geneva, Switzerland](#) | [Director General – Daren Tang \(Singapore\)](#)

745. In September 2022, Andaman & Nicobar Islands became India’s first state/UT to achieve 100% coverage of precautionary dose. To date, more than 2,87,216 beneficiaries aged 18 have been vaccinated with a precautionary dose. The rate of vaccination has seen a spike after the 15th of July when Government decided to provide precautionary doses free of cost under ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Andaman & Nicobar Islands – became India’s first state/UT to achieve 100% coverage of precautionary dose
- [Andaman & Nicobar Islands: Capital – Port Blair](#) | [Lt. Governor – Admiral Devendra Kumar Joshi](#)



Acquisitions & Merges

746. On September 30, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the acquisition of the assets of Essar Group by ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India Limited (AMNS). The proposed combination involves the acquisition of Power Assets, Port Assets, and Other Assets from the Essar Group by ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India Limited. AMNS is a Joint Venture between ArcelorMittal S.A. (AM) and its affiliates and Nippon Steel Corporation, Japan (NSC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI approved the acquisition of the assets of Essar Group – by ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India Ltd
- HQs of Essar Group – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Prashant Ruia
- HQs of AMNS – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Dilip Oommen

747. On September 29, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the acquisition of 100% share capital of Diliigent Power Private Limited and DB Power Limited by Adani Power Limited. The Proposed Combination involves the acquisition of the 100% of the share capital and economic rights of the Targets by the Acquirer. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI approved the acquisition of 100% share capital of Diliigent Power & DB Power – by Adani Power
- HQs of Diliigent Power & DB Power – Mumbai, Maharashtra
- HQs of Adani Power Ltd – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | Chairman – Gautam Adani | MD – Anil Sardana

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

748. September 28, India's fertiliser companies - Coromandel International, Chambal Fertilizers and Indian Potash Limited signed an MoU with Canpotex, Canada for ensuring long-term fertiliser availability for the farming community. Canpotex, Canada is amongst the largest suppliers of Potash globally, exporting around 130 LMT of product annually. The MoU will reduce both supply and price volatility and ensure stable long-term supply of Potassic fertiliser to India. India meets 100% of its Potash requirement through imports. India imports approximately 40 LMT MOP (Muriate of Potash) annually. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Coromandel International + Chambal Fertilizers + Indian Potash Ltd = signed an MoU with Canpotex (Canada)
- India imports approximately 40 LMT MOP (Muriate of Potash) annually
- HQs of Coromandel International – Secunderabad, Telangana | Chairman – A. Vellayan
- HQs of Chambal Fertilizers – New Delhi | Chairman – Saroj Kumar Poddar
- HQs of Indian Potash Limited – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | Chairman – Pankaj Kumar Bansal



749. On September 28, the Department of Empowerment of People with Disabilities (DEPwD) signed an agreement with Amazon India and the Skill Council for People with Disabilities (SCPwD) to jointly provide skill training and employment opportunities in e-commerce sector. The role of the SCPwD would be to manage candidate lifecycle through SCPwD Partner Management System (PMS) portal & conduct training programmes for identified trainers. The role of Amazon India would be to work jointly with DEPwD and the SCPwD on a structured skilling programme for inclusion and assimilation that can help in not just hiring people with disabilities but also for nurturing and creating an equitable environment for their growth. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DEPwD + SCPwD + Amazon India = an agreement to provide skill training & employment opportunities in e-commerce
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle, US | CEO – Andy Jassy | Incorporated in – 1994
- HQs of Amazon India – Hyderabad, Telangana | Country Head – Amit Agarwal

750. September 28, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), India and the Embassy of the Netherlands signed a joint statement to formalise a bilateral fast-track mechanism (FTM) which will serve as a platform to faster resolution of investment cases of Dutch companies operating in India. The Netherlands is the fourth largest foreign direct investor in India. In 2021-2022, bilateral trade between the two countries was valued at \$17 billion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DPIIT (India) + Embassy of the Netherlands = signed a joint statement to formalise Bilateral Fast-Track Mechanism (FTM)
- Netherlands – Amsterdam – Euro | PM – Mark Rutte
- HQs of DPIIT – New Delhi | DPIIT works under – Ministry of Commerce & Industry





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