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National & States Affairs

751. On September 29, Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL) commissioned the world's largest Wind-Solar Power Plant of 600 MW capacity in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan. The plant has a power purchase agreement with Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) at Rs 2.69/kwh for 25 years. The project consists of 600 MW solar and 150 MW wind plants. This puts AGEL's total renewable portfolio of 20.4 GW well on track to reach its vision of 45 GW capacity by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Adani Green Energy – commissioned world's largest Wind-Solar Power Plant of 600 MW capacity in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan
- AGEL's vision – to reach 45 GW capacity by 2030
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

752. On September 30, Taiwan's Pegatron became the third Apple vendor to set up a manufacturing unit in India, inaugurating a facility at Mahindra World City in Chennai. It will invest around Rs 1,100 Crore in the unit, potentially generating around 14,000 jobs. The other two Apple vendors with units in India are Foxconn and Wistron, both Taiwanese. Tamil Nadu contributes to around 20% of India's electronics manufacturing. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pegatron (Taiwan) – started iPhone factory in Chennai & became 3rd Apple vendor to set up a manufacturing unit in India
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

753. On September 29, the Central Bureau of Investigation launched a multi-phase 'Operation Garuda' against illicit drug trafficking network, registering 127 new cases, arresting 175 people and seizing huge quantities of narcotic drugs. This global operation was initiated in close coordination with Interpol and Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), for combating the smuggling of illicit drugs and psychotropic substances, with special focus on Indian Ocean region. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CBI – launched a multi-phase 'Operation Garuda' against illicit drug trafficking network
- The operation was initiated in close coordination with = Interpol + Narcotics Control Bureau
- HQs of CBI – New Delhi | DG – Subodh Kumar Jaiswal | Motto – "Industry, Impartiality, Integrity"

754. On September 28, Uttar Pradesh cabinet approved a proposal to reorganise the State Planning Commission as the State Transformation Commission (STC) on the pattern of the NITI Aayog. It also approved a "MSME Promotion Policy 2022" and "Uttar Pradesh Bioenergy Policy 2022" to encourage setting up of MSMEs and bioenergy projects. The commission will work on various innovations in different sectors and help the state government achieve the objective of making Uttar Pradesh a trillion-dollar economy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UP cabinet – approved a proposal to reorganise the 'State Planning Commission' as 'State Transformation Commission'
- UP cabinet – also approved "MSME Promotion Policy 2022" & "Bioenergy Policy 2022"
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel



755. On September 30, Paytm E-commerce Private Limited's (PEPL) Paytm Mall became the first platform to go live on the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) in Bengaluru. The network started beta testing for the public across 16 pin codes in the city. Aside from Paytm, the Bengaluru beta testing has begun with MyStore and Spice Money as buyer-side apps. Seller-side apps such as Go Frugal, Ushop, nStore, and Growth Falcons, among others, can be used to order meals or purchase groceries using the network. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Paytm Mall – became the first platform to go live on the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) in Bengaluru
- HQs of Paytm – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | MD & CEO – Vijay Sekhar Sharma | Founded in – 2010

756. On September 30, the Delhi government announced a 15-point 'Winter Action Plan' to curb air pollution in the Capital, which would include the installation of 233 anti-smog guns and deployment of at least 150 mobile anti-smog guns. Teams will be formed to check dust pollution, garbage and paddy straw burning, monitor pollution hotspots, and enforce the ban on firecrackers. Besides, the government is carrying out research in collaboration with IIT-Kanpur to know the amount of pollution and its source at any given point of time. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi Govt – announced a 15-point 'Winter Action Plan' to curb air pollution
- The plan include the installation of 233 anti-smog guns and deployment of at least 150 mobile anti-smog guns
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Vinai Kumar Saxena | Chief Secretary – Naresh Kumar

757. On September 30, the US imposed sanction against Mumbai-based petrochemical company Tibalaji Petrochem Private Limited for carrying out oil trade with Iran. Tibalaji is the first Indian entity to face the U.S. designation under unilateral sanctions passed in 2018-19, after the U.S. Trump administration's decision to walk out of the nuclear deal, or Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) with Iran. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- US – imposed sanction against Tibalaji Petrochem Pvt Ltd (Mumbai) for carrying out oil trade with Iran
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

758. On September 29, Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport has launched its 5G infrastructure which can be used by the passengers once the telecom service providers roll out the technology. With this, IGI Airport is the first and only airport in India that is "5G-ready". The services can be used at domestic departures, international arrivals, multi-level car parking spaces and other areas at the airport. The 5G network has been set up with the in-building solutions (IBS) technique in collaboration with telecom service providers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IGI Airport (Delhi) – launched its 5G infrastructure & became the first & only airport in India that is "5G-ready"
- The 5G network has been set up with the in-building solutions (IBS) technique

759. On September 27, the Central government has set a new target of 40% reduction in PM (particulate matter) concentration in cities covered under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) by 2026, updating the earlier goal of 20% to 30% reduction by 2024. According to the Union Environment Ministry, 95 of the 131 non-attainment cities covered under the NCAP have witnessed an overall improvement in PM10 levels in 2021 as compared to 2017 levels. The acceptable annual standard for PM2.5 is 40 micrograms per cubic metre. In Delhi, the PM10 concentration has reduced from 241 micrograms per cubic metre in 2017 to 196 micrograms per cubic metre in 2021. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Central Govt set a new target of 40% reduction in PM in cities covered under 'NCAP' by 2026
- Acceptable annual standard for PM2.5 – 40 micrograms per cubic metre
- 131 non-attainment cities are covered under the 'NCAP'
- [Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Bhupender Yadav](#) | [Constituency – Rajasthan](#)
- [MoS in Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Ashwini Kumar Choubey](#)

760. In September 2022, Kerala's Pullampara became the first grama panchayat in India to attain full digital literacy among its residents. The 'Digi Pullampara' project was launched on August 15, 2021 to impart digital education to the most underprivileged sections of society in the panchayat. The state government has made 800-odd government services available online and the digitally literate population can make maximum use of them. The state government, at various levels, has been trying to ensure connectivity through digital and online platforms and K-Fon (Kerala Fibre Optic Network) is one of the vital cogs in its scheme of things. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pullampara (Kerala) – became the first grama panchayat in India to attain full digital literacy among its residents
- 'Digi Pullampara' project – was launched in August, 2021 | K-Fon (Kerala Fibre Optic Network) – a scheme of Kerala
- [Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram](#) | [CM – Pinarayi Vijayan](#) | [Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan](#)

761. On September 30, Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the new and upgraded version of the Vande Bharat Express which will run from Gandhinagar in Gujarat to Mumbai in Maharashtra. This is the third Vande Bharat Express in India after New Delhi-Varanasi and New Delhi-Katra Vande Bharat Express. Executive coaches have the added feature of 180-degree rotating seats. The train can reach the speed of 0 to 100 km/hour in 52 seconds, and a maximum speed of up to 180 km/hour. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – flagged off the new and upgraded version of the Vande Bharat Express (3rd)
- 1st – New Delhi-Varanasi | 2nd – New Delhi-Katra | 3rd – Gandhinagar-Mumbai
- The train can reach the speed of 0 to 100 km/hour in 52 seconds | Maximum speed – 180 km/hour
- [Maharashtra: CM – Eknath Shinde](#) | [Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari](#)
- [Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar](#) | [CM – Bhupendra Patel](#) | [Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat](#)

762. In a move aimed at protecting indigenous language and culture, the Bihar government has decided to set up two new Academies to promote local dialects, Surjapuri and Bajjika, spoken in politically influential 'Seemanchal' and 'Bajjikanchal' regions of the state. Surjapuri is a mix of Hindi, Maithili and Bangla. While Bajjika is similar to Maithili. These two academies will be set up on the lines of 8 already existing centres - Bihar Hindi Granth Academy, Maithili academy, Magahi Academy, Bangla Academy, Sanskrit Academy, Bhojpuri Academy, Angika Academy and South Indian languages organization. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bihar – to set up two new Academies to promote local dialects, Surjapuri & Bajjika
- Surjapuri – a mix of Hindi, Maithili & Bangla | Bajjika – similar to Maithili
- [Bihar: Capital – Patna](#) | [CM – Nitish Kumar](#) | [Governor – Phagu Chauhan](#)



International Affairs

763. On September 29, Alphabet Inc's Google will set up its first cloud region in Greece, giving a boost to the country's efforts to become a world cloud computing hub. The deal is estimated to contribute some 2.2 billion euros (\$2.13 billion) to Greece's economic output and create some 20,000 jobs by 2030. Amazon Inc's cloud computing division also opened its first office in Greece. Google's investment comes 2 years after Microsoft decided to build a data centre hub in Greece. In 2021, Amazon Inc's cloud computing division also opened its first office in Greece. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Google – will set up its first cloud region in Greece
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998
- Greece – Athens – Euro | PM – Kyriakos Mitsotakis

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

764. On September 30, Karnataka Bank opened “Analytical Centre of Excellence (ACoE)” in Bengaluru. The centre is developed in association with Ernst and Young (EY) as project partner. It will help in accelerated incubation of artificial intelligence (AI)/machine learning (ML) models along with their integration to business, on a scalable analytical data platform. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka Bank – opened “Analytical Centre of Excellence (ACoE)” in Bengaluru
- The centre is developed in association with – Ernst and Young (EY) as project partner
- HQs of Karnataka Bank – Mangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Mahabaleshwara M. S. | Chairman – Pradeep Kumar Panja

765. On September 30, the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) 4th bi-monthly Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) hiked the repo rate by 50 basis points (bps) to 5.90% with immediate effect. This is the fourth rate hike by the central bank in this financial year. The retail inflation or Consumer Price Index (CPI) stood at 7.00% in August. Retail inflation has continued to remain above the RBI's comfort level of 6% since January this year. The RBI governor further announced that the standing deposit facility (SDF) rate stands adjusted to 5.65% and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate to 6.15%. Moreover, the RBI cut the 2022-23 growth projection to 7% from its previous estimate of 7.2%. The real GDP growth for 2022-23 is projected at 7% with Q2 at 6.3%, Q3 at 4.6% and Q4 at 4.6%. While the growth for Q1 of 2023-24 is projected at 7.2%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI's 4th Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) report – released on September 30, 2022
- Latest rates:
 - Repo rate – 5.90% | Reverse Repo Rate – 3.35% | Bank Rate or MSF – 6.15%
 - CRR – 4.50% | SLR – 18%
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935



766. On September 30, with a view to safeguard the interest of investors, the markets regulator SEBI extended the two-factor authentication (2FA) for subscription transactions in the units of mutual funds as well. The new framework will come into force from 1 April, 2023. The asset management companies (AMCs) were mandated to authenticate redemption transactions using two-factor authentication (for online transactions) and signature method (for offline transactions). Moreover, the SEBI came out with a new framework for Credit Rating Agencies (CRAs), involving ratings of securities having explicit credit enhancement features, applicable from January 1, 2023. Under the rule, CRAs can assign the suffix 'CE' (Credit Enhancement) to the rating of instruments having explicit credit enhancement. [{Read more}](#)

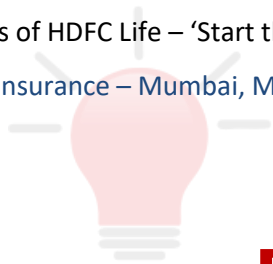
Key Points:

- SEBI – extended the two-factor authentication for subscription transactions in the units of mutual funds
- The new framework will come into force from – 1 April, 2023
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

767. On September 30, HDFC Life launched the “Insure India” campaign that is aimed at educating Indians about the benefits of life insurance as a product category. Previous initiatives of HDFC Life include ‘Start the Talk’, ‘Get Set Protect’ and ‘Being Responsible’ which primarily aimed to educate consumers about the company. 'Insure India' is the latest addition to this series. The objective of this campaign is to educate Indians about life insurance thereby motivating them to secure their future. HDFC Life is a joint venture between HDFC Ltd and abrdrn (Mauritius Holdings) 2006 Limited. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Life – launched the “Insure India” campaign about the benefits of life insurance
- Previous initiatives of HDFC Life – ‘Start the Talk’, ‘Get Set Protect’ & ‘Being Responsible’
- HQs of HDFC Life Insurance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Vibha Padalkar



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Defence Affairs

768. On September 27, Swedish defence firm Saab announced its plan to set up a manufacturing facility in India for the Carl-Gustaf M4 shoulder-fired weapon system under the NDA government’s ‘Make in India’ initiative to bolster indigenous defence manufacturing. Production at the new facility is expected to begin in 2024. The facility will be the firm’s first manufacturing facility for the Carl-Gustaf M4 weapon system outside Sweden. The M4 weapon system is capable of firing a variety of ammunition, including anti-armour and illumination rounds, with the maximum range being 1,500 metres. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Saab (Sweden) – to set up a manufacturing facility in India for Carl-Gustaf M4 shoulder-fired weapon system
- Maximum range of M4 weapon system – 1,500 metres
- Sweden – Stockholm – Krona | Caretaking PM – Magdalena Andersson



Sports & Games

769. On September 28, World football governing body FIFA has released a three-episode series on the life and career of talismanic Indian football team captain Sunil Chhetri in recognition of his achievements and goal-scoring exploits. The episodes are available on FIFA+, its streaming platform. 38-year-old Chhetri is third in the list for active footballers with most international goals with 84 strikes to his name, behind Cristiano Ronaldo (117) and Lionel Messi (90). Chhetri made his India debut in 2005. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FIFA – released a 3-episode series on the life & career of Indian football team captain Sunil Chhetri
- He is 3rd footballers with most international goals with 84 goals | Behind Cristiano Ronaldo (117) & Lionel Messi (90)
- HQs of FIFA – Zurich, Switzerland | President – Gianni Infantino

770. On September 29, Indian super middleweight boxer Shiva Thakran was crowned WBC Asia Continental champion after he clinched a Technical Knockout (TKO) victory over Malaysia's Adli Hafidz in Bangkok, Thailand. Since turning professional in 2016, Thakran (16-3, 8 KOs) has had a good run in the nascent Indian Pro Boxing circuit. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shiva Thakran (Indian Boxer) – won the “WBC Asia Continental Title” in Bangkok (defeating - Malaysia's Adli Hafidz)

771. In September 2022, GM Magnus Carlsen won the “Julius Baer Generation Cup”, an online rapid chess tournament, beating Indian GM Arjun Erigaisi. With this, Norwegian Magnus Carlsen became the first player in the world to reach the 2900 Tour Rating mark. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Magnus Carlsen (Norway) – won online rapid chess tournament “Julius Baer Generation Cup” (defeating - Arjun Erigaisi)
- Magnus Carlsen – became the first player in the world to reach the 2900 Tour Rating mark
- Norway – Oslo – Krone | PM – Jonas Gahr Store

Persons in News

772. On September 29, Italy's Samantha Cristoforetti became the first European woman (fifth woman globally) to take over command of the International Space Station (ISS) during a ceremony broadcast live from space. Cristoforetti is a 45-year-old European Space Agency astronaut and former Italian air force pilot. She holds the record for the longest stay in space by a woman after spending 199 days in orbit in 2014 and 2015. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Samantha Cristoforetti (Italy) – became 1st European woman (5th woman globally) to take over command of the ISS
- She holds the record for the longest stay in space by a woman – 199 days (in 2014-2015)
- Italy – Rome – Euro | President – Sergio Mattarella | PM – Giorgia Meloni





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Appointments & Resignations

773. On September 29, ISRO senior scientist A. K. Anil Kumar was elected as the Vice- President of the International Astronautical Federation (IAF). Anil Kumar was working as Associate Director, ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network (ISTRAC). Founded in 1951, IAF is world's leading space advocacy body with 433 members in 72 nations. Mr. Kumar is one of the 12 Vice Presidents recently elected by the IAF. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A. K. Anil Kumar (ISRO scientist) – elected as the Vice-President of the International Astronautical Federation
- He is one of the 12 Vice Presidents recently elected by the IAF
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969

774. On September 29, at the board meeting following the 36th annual general meeting of the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI), N. S. Rajan (Director of August One Partners LLP) was unanimously elected as Chairman of Mumbai-based ASCI. Saugata Gupta (MD & CEO of Marico) was elected Vice-Chairman, while Shashidhar Sinha (CEO at IPG Mediabrands India) was appointed Honorary Treasurer. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- N. S. Rajan – elected as Chairman of the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI)
- Shashidhar Sinha – elected as Vice-Chairman of the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI)
- HQs of ASCI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – N. S. Rajan | Vice-Chairman – Shashidhar Sinha

775. In September 2022, Unilever Plc Chief Executive Officer Alan Jope plans to retire at the end of 2023 following a tumultuous period during which the company botched a potential £50 billion (\$53 billion) deal. Jope, a long-term veteran of the consumer goods company, will leave after only five years in the role, with no named successor currently in place. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Alan Jope – CEO of Unilever Plc – announced to retire at the end of 2023
- HQs of Unilever Plc – London, UK | CEO – Alan Jope

776. On September 27, the Central Government promoted Ajay Kumar Srivastava, the present Executive Director of Indian Overseas Bank (IOB), as the IOB's Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer for a period of 3 years with effect from January 1, 2023. Further, the Government reappointed Mr. Srivastava as ED for a period beyond his currently notified term which expires on October 8, until he assumes the charge as MD & CEO of IOB. The incumbent Partha Pratim Sengupta's tenure ends on December 31, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ajay Kumar Srivastava – appointed as MD & CEO of Indian Overseas Bank (succeeding - Partha Pratim Sengupta)
- HQs of IOB – Chennai, TN | MD & CEO – Partha Pratim Sengupta (till Dec'22) | Tagline – “Good people to grow with”



Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

777. “The Odd Book of Baby Names” (English fiction) and Rudrangshu Mukherjee’s “Tagore & Gandhi: Walking Alone, Walking Together” (English non-fiction) were among the 8 books that were adjudged the Best books of the year at the “Valley of Words Book Awards”. The VoW Book Awards, currently in its 6th edition, is considered one of the most comprehensive independent literary award programmes in India. To acknowledge the best of Indian literature, the VoW collaborated with Power Finance Corporation (PFC). “Khela” by Neelakshi Singh won the award under Hindi fiction. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Khela” book, authored by Neelakshi Singh – won the award under Hindi fiction at the “Valley of Words Book Awards”
- Following 2 books were adjudged the Best books of the year at the event:
 - “The Odd Book of Baby Names” (English fiction)
 - “Tagore & Gandhi: Walking Alone, Walking Together” (English non-fiction) – authored by Rudrangshu Mukherjee

778. On September 30, Writer Dr. Madhav Hada was awarded the 32nd Bihari Puraskar for his 2015 literary criticism book ‘Pachrang Chola Pahar Sakhi Ri’ by the KK Birla Foundation. The Bihari Puraskar, named after famous Hindi poet Bihari, is one of the three literary awards instituted by the foundation in 1991. Madhav Hada has also been a recipient of the ‘Bhartendu Harishchandra Award for Media Studies’ and the ‘Devraj Upadhyay Award for Literary Criticism’. The 31st Bihari Puraskar was awarded to Madhu Kankariya for her 2018 novel ‘Hum Yahan The’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Madhav Hada – awarded the 32nd Bihari Puraskar by the KK Birla Foundation
- He was awarded for his 2015 literary criticism book ‘Pachrang Chola Pahar Sakhi Ri’

779. On September 28, Cricket legend Sunil Gavaskar was presented with “SJFI medal”, the highest award of Sports Journalist Federation of India (SJFI). Gavaskar and former India captain Ravi Shastri were also given honorary life membership of SJFI at a function in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sunil Gavaskar – presented with “SJFI medal”, the highest award of Sports Journalist Federation of India (SJFI)
- HQs of SJFI – Kolkata, West Bengal | President – A. Vinod

Schemes & Initiatives

780. On September 28, the Calcutta High Court declared the “Duare Ration Scheme” (Ration at the doorstep) of West Bengal government is ultra vires to the ‘National Food Security Act, 2013’ and is legally void (invalid). The judgement was passed on an appeal by fair price shop dealers. The scheme was introduced by the Mamata Banerjee government in November, 2021, for delivery of food grains under public distribution system at the doorsteps of beneficiaries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Calcutta HC – declared that “Duare Ration Scheme” is ultra vires to ‘National Food Security Act, 2013’ & is legally void
- The Scheme was launched by – West Bengal in November 2021
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – La. Ganesan



Important Days & Dates

781. International Safe Abortion Day was observed on 28 September, 2022. It is a global feminist campaign for access to safe and legal abortion. In 2022, the theme of the day is “Uncertain Times Call for Diverse, Collective Action on Many Fronts”. International Safe Abortion Day began in Latin America and the Caribbean more than 20 years ago. In a historic judgment, on 28 September 2022, the Supreme Court allowed unmarried and single women whose pregnancies are between 20 and 24 weeks to access safe and legal abortion care on par with their married counterparts. The Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act of 1971 and its Rules of 2003 prohibit unmarried women who are between 20 weeks to 24 weeks pregnant to abort with the help of registered medical practitioners. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 28 – International Safe Abortion Day
- 2022’s Theme – “Uncertain Times Call for Diverse, Collective Action on Many Fronts”
- SC allowed unmarried & single women whose pregnancies are between 20 & 24 weeks to access safe & legal abortion
- Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice Uday Umesh Lalit (49th)

Meetings, Conferences & Summits

782. On September 28, Union Minister of State for Culture Arjun Ram Meghwal represented India at the “UNESCO-MONDIACULT 2022 World Conference” held in Mexico from September 28-30, 2022. Culture Ministers of more than 100 countries participated on this multilateral forum to decide on the global cultural discourse. The UNESCO World Conference on Cultural Policies and Sustainable Development - “MONDIACULT 2022” is convened by UNESCO 40 years after the first MONDIACULT World Conference on Cultural Policies held in Mexico City in 1982. This is the third such conference. The main goal of the conference is to shape a more robust and resilient cultural sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arjun Ram Meghwal – represented India at the “UNESCO-MONDIACULT 2022 World Conference” – held in Mexico City
- Mexico – Mexico City – Peso | President – Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador

783. The United States hosted the first-ever “US-Pacific Island Country Summit” amid the growing influence of China in the Indo-Pacific region in Washington, D.C. from 28 to 29 September, 2022. The Summit demonstrated the United States deep and enduring partnership with Pacific Island countries and the Pacific region. Notably, the announcement came a week after the United States accused Beijing of expanding its nuclear arsenal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- US – hosted the first-ever “US-Pacific Island Country Summit” in Washington, D.C.
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

784. The 8th World Green Economy Summit (WGES) was held on 28-29 September 2022 at the Dubai World Trade Centre. The WGES was organised by Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA), the World Green Economy Organization (WGEO) and the Dubai Supreme Council of Energy, in collaboration with international organisations. The summit was held under the theme of “Climate Action Leadership through Collaboration: The Roadmap to Net-Zero”. WGES 2022 brought together prominent speakers, experts, thought leaders and decision-makers. It focused on four main themes: Energy, Finance, Food Security, and Youth. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- 8th World Green Economy Summit – held at the Dubai World Trade Centre
- WGES was organised by = DEWA + WGEO + Dubai Supreme Council of Energy
- Theme of the Summit – “Climate Action Leadership through Collaboration: The Roadmap to Net-Zero”
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

785. Odisha government plans to host its first-ever conclave on education titled “Edu Invest” in 2022 with an aim to make the state a preferred investment destination for world class education and research. The conclave is being touted as an educational version of the World Economic Forum (WEF). It is being overseen by former IAS officer Upendra Tripathy, now principal advisor to Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik. The conclave aims to attract ₹1,000 Cr investment in Odisha’s educational sector. [{Read more}](#).

Key Points:

- Odisha – to host its first-ever conclave on education titled “Edu Invest”
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

786. In September 2022, the 20th Meeting of Prosecutors General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Member States was held in Astana, Kazakhstan. Tushar Mehta (Learned Solicitor General of India, Department of Legal Affairs) and Anju Rathi Rana (Additional Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs) attended the meeting from Indian side. The Experts group discussed issues pertaining to the growth of transnational economic crime in the world and their experience of recovery of proceeds of crime from the states. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 20th Meeting of Prosecutors General of SCO Member States was held in – Astana, Kazakhstan
- Tushar Mehta + Anju Rathi Rana = attended the meeting from Indian side
- Kazakhstan – Astana – Tenge | President – Kassym-Jomart Tokayev | PM – Alikhan Smailov
- HQs of SCO – Beijing, China | SG – Zhang Ming | Present Member Countries – 8 | Current Presidency – India

787. In September 2022, Union Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Minister, Dharmendra Pradhan, inaugurated and addressed the 13th “Global Skills Summit 2022” organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) on the theme of “Education to Employability - Making It Happen” in New Delhi. Shri Dharmendra Pradhan shared his thoughts on leveraging skills to reap the demographic dividend and making India’s skills ecosystem more vibrant. Apart from the International Organizations like World Bank, ILO, UNDP, UNICEF, GIZ, and UN Women; the Summit saw participation from Industry leaders of organizations like LinkedIn, Adobe, Mahindra & Mahindra, and many more. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 13th “Global Skills Summit 2022” – organised by FICCI in New Delhi | Inaugurated by – Dharmendra Pradhan
- Theme of the summit – “Education to Employability - Making It Happen”
- HQs of FICCI – New Delhi | DG – Arun Chawla | President – Sanjiv Mehta | Founded in – 1927



788. On September 29, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises organized a “National SC-ST Hub Conclave” in Gujarat. The program witnessed participation of CPSEs like NTPC, FCI, ONGC and IOCL, which gave presentations on their vendor empanelment process and list of products/services to be procured. The conclave was also attended by representatives of financial institutions such as State Bank of India and Yes Bank. The Ministry of MSME launched the National Scheduled Caste Scheduled Tribe Hub (NSSH) scheme for an inclusive growth of the Indian economy. It is aimed at capacity enhancement and promoting entrepreneurship culture among the SC-ST population for enhancing their participation in the public procurement. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of MSME – organized a “National SC-ST Hub Conclave” in Gujarat
- Ministry of MSME – launched the National Scheduled Caste Scheduled Tribe Hub (NSSH) scheme
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat
- Ministry of MSME: Narayan Rane | Constituency – Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg, Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of MSME: Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

789. On September 30, the UNESCO released a list of 50 exclusive and iconic heritage textile crafts of India titled “Handmade for the 21st Century: Safeguarding Traditional Indian Textile”. It lists the histories and legends behind the textiles, describes the complicated and secret processes behind their making, mentions the causes for their dwindling popularity, and provides strategies for their preservation. From the south, Ilkal and Lambadi or Banjara embroidery from Karnataka, Sikalnayakanpet Kalamkari from Thanjavur have been included. Moreover, Kunbi weaves from Goa, Mashru weaves and Patola from Gujarat, Himroo from Maharashtra and Garad-Koirial from West Bengal also find a place among the 50 iconic textiles. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Handmade for the 21st Century: Safeguarding Traditional Indian Textile” – released by UNESCO
- Some important crafts of the list:
 - Ilkal & Lambadi or Banjara embroidery – Karnataka
 - Sikalnayakanpet Kalamkari – Thanjavur
 - Mashru weaves & Patola – Gujarat
 - Kunbi weaves – Goa
 - Himroo – Maharashtra
 - Garad-Koirial – West Bengal
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay | Founded in – 1945 | Members – 193 Countries

790. The national policies of countries in South Asia and the Hindu-Kush Himalaya (HKH) regions recognise that women are more negatively impacted by climate change, according to the “State of Gender Equality and Climate Change in South Asia and the HKH Region” report released by the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) on September 29. The report assessed the state of gender equality and climate change in climate-affected sectors such as agriculture, water and energy. It covered 10 countries - Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- “State of Gender Equality and Climate Change in South Asia and the HKH Region” report released by – ICIMOD
- HQs of ICIMOD – Patan, Nepal | Director General – Dr Pema Gyamtsho

791. On September 28, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) issued guidelines to address mental health issues among the global workforce. WHO’s guidelines on mental health at work recommended measures to address threats to mental health, such as excessive workloads and negative behaviours. Depression and anxiety are thought to account for 12 billion lost workdays annually, costing the world economy close to \$1 trillion, according to the WHO. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- WHO + ILO = issued guidelines to address mental health issues among the global workforce
- WHO: Depression & anxiety account for 12 billion lost workdays annually, costing the world economy close to \$1 trillion
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948
- HQs of ILO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Guy Ryder | DG – Gilbert Hounbo (from Oct 1, 2022) | Founded in – 1919

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

792. On September 30, the Small Farmers’ Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC) and Bayer CropScience Limited signed an MoU to form and promote 50 specialized Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs). In collaboration with SFAC, Bayer has identified clusters in 10 states and will aim to assist smallholder farmers with business planning, identification of key enablers, creation of market linkages and knowledge transfer, while working to establish 50 FPOs. The MoU is aligned towards achieving the goal of the Central Sector Scheme launched by the Agriculture Ministry of forming and promoting 10,000 FPOs by 2027-28. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SFAC + Bayer CropScience = an MoU to form and promote 50 specialized FPOs
- The MoU is aligned towards the Agriculture Ministry’s goal of forming & promoting 10,000 FPOs by 2027-28
- Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare: Narendra Singh Tomar | Constituency – Morena, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare: Shobha Karandlaje & Kailash Choudhary

793. On September 28, Chhattisgarh Tourism Board (CTB) signed an MoU with the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) to promote tourist places of the state through the PSU’s social media platform. Under the MoU, the IRCTC will promote tourist places of Chhattisgarh through its social media platform, thereby helping attract travellers from other parts India. Meanwhile, the CM also unveiled a statue of Chendru Mandavi, popularly known as ‘tiger boy’ from Bastar’s Narayanpur district, who gained international fame after starring in the movie “Jungle Saga”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chhattisgarh + IRCTC = an MoU to promote tourist places of the state through its social media platform
- Chhattisgarh CM – also unveiled a statue of Chendru Mandavi, popularly known as ‘tiger boy’
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

794. On September 30, newly launched Akasa Air partnered with RateGain Travel Technologies for gathering real-time air travel information that will help the airline in deciding dynamic fares. RateGain said its AI-powered platform 'AirGain' provides the airline's revenue and pricing teams with the most accurate and reliable market insights to build a competitive pricing strategy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Akasa Air + RateGain Travel Tech. = partnered to gather real-time air travel information to help in deciding dynamic fares
- 'AirGain' platform provides the most accurate & reliable market insights to build a competitive pricing strategy
- HQs of Akasa Air – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Vinay Dube | Founded in – December 2021

795. On September 28, Nasscom Foundation and American Express partnered to train and upskill 700 women graduates through an employment-linked training project, 'Women Empowerment Through Technology'. Under this project, American Express and Nasscom Foundation are working with two training partners - FUEL (Friends Union for Energizing Lives) and RCED (Regional Centre for Entrepreneurship) to impart women with technology-based skill development and entrepreneurship training. The project focuses on training 700 women on various technical courses including cloud and data analytics, blockchain, Machine Learning (ML) and Artificial Intelligence (AI). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nasscom Foundation + American Express = partnered to train & upskill 700 women graduates through 'Women Empowerment Through Technology'
- HQs of Nasscom Foundation – Noida, Delhi NCR | CEO – Nidhi Bhasin
- HQs of American Express – New York, US | CEO – Stephen Squeri





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