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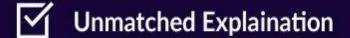
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National & States Affairs

351. On September 15, Lt Gen Gurbirpal Singh, DG, National Cadet Corps (NCC), inaugurated a 10-day "Thal Sainik Camp (TSC)" at the Cariappa Parade Ground in Delhi Cantt. Both boys and girls NCC cadets drawn from 17 NCC Directorate representing all the States and Union Territories of the country are participating in the camp. The camp was culminated on 25 September, 2022. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Lt Gen Gurbirpal Singh (DG, NCC) inaugurated a 10-day "Thal Sainik Camp (TSC)" at Cariappa Parade Ground in Delhi
- HQs of NCC New Delhi | DG Lt. Gen. Gurbirpal Singh | Founded on 16 April, 1948 | Motto 'Unity & Discipline'

352. On September 14, Minister of State for the PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh launched exclusive "Swachhata" portal for the Special Campaign 2.0, scheduled to begin on October 2. The portal was developed by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DAR&PG). The portal is dedicated to Swachhata and reducing pendency of work in Government offices. Dr Jitendra Singh also released three reports of DARPG, the Special Campaign July Progress Report, the CPGRAMS 7.0 Brochure and the CPGRAMS Monthly Progress Report for August, 2022. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Dr. Jitendra Singh launched "Swachhata" portal for the Special Campaign 2.0
- Portal is developed by Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DAR&PG)
- Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions: Dr. Jitendra Singh

353. On September 17, PM Narendra Modi released a coalition of cheetahs into the Kuno National Park, in Madhya Pradesh. Eight Cheetahs, five of which are female, were flown from Windhoek, Namibia to Gwalior, followed by a helicopter ride to the grasslands of Kuno Palpur. About 10-12 cheetahs are expected to be brought into India every year and around 35 are believed to be necessary to create a sustainable population. The cheetah (Acinonyx Jubatus) is a large cat native to Africa and central Iran. It is the fastest land animal, estimated to be capable of running at 80 to 128 km/h. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi released a coalition of 8 cheetahs (Acinonyx Jubatus) into the Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh
- Eight Cheetahs (Five Female + Three Male) were brought from Windhoek, Namibia
- Namibia Windhoek Namibian Dollar/South African Rand | President Hage Geingob

354. 26 drugs, including the common gastrointestinal medicines 'Ranitidine' & 'Sucralfate', have been deleted from the revised "National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) 2022" released on September 13 by Health Minister Mansukh L. Mandaviya. With this, now, the 'NLEM, 2022' consists of 384 drugs, with the addition of 34 drugs. The medicines have been categorised into 27 therapeutic categories. The National List of Essential Medicines was first compiled in 1996 and it was revised thrice earlier in 2003, 2011, and 2015. {Read more}

- In the revised "National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) 2022" 26 drugs were deleted & 34 drugs were added
- NLEM was compiled in 1996 and now consists of 384 drugs (categorised into 27 therapeutic categories)
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency Palitana, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar



355. World's largest museum of Harappan culture will be set up in Haryana's Rakhigarhi village in Hisar district. The village is also a famous archaeological site from the Indus Valley civilisation period. The museum will display some 5000-year-old Indus Valley artifacts. {Read more}

Key Points:

- World's largest museum of Harappan culture will be set up in Rakhigarhi village in Hisar district of Haryana
- Haryana: Capital Chandigarh | CM Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor Bandaru Dattatraya

356. On September 13, the researchers of the Institute for Human Development (IHD), New Delhi and Ranchi and the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai, have prepared a food security Atlas of Rural Jharkhand. Experts have underlined the need for specific intervention for food and nutritional requirements of the people in the entire Santhal Pargana belt. With this, Jharkhand became the third state after Bihar and Odisha in eastern India to have Food Security Atlas for its rural areas. {Read more}

Key Points:

- IHD + IGIDR (Mumbai) = prepared a food security Atlas of Rural Jharkhand
- Jharkhand 3rd state after Bihar & Odisha in eastern India to have Food Security Atlas for its rural areas
- Jharkhand: Capital Ranchi | CM Hemant Soren | Governor Ramesh Bais

357. On September 16, Delhi and Punjab governments collaborated to use Pusa bio-decompose a microbial solution that can decompose paddy straw in 15 to 20 days on 5,000 acres to prevent stubble burning, a major cause of air pollution. The move comes days after the Centre rejected the request of the two states to help them provide cash incentives to farmers in Punjab for not burning stubble. As part of a pilot project to be implemented with the help of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), bio-decomposer will be sprayed over 5,000 acres. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Delhi + Punjab = collaborated to use Pusa bio-decompose to prevent stubble burning
- Bio-decomposer a microbial solution that can decompose paddy straw in 15 to 20 days
- Punjab: Capital Chandigarh | CM Bhagwant Mann | Governor Banwarilal Purohit
- Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena | Chief Secretary Naresh Kumar

358. With construction of a total of 8,462 Amrit Sarovars (lakes), Uttar Pradesh has topped among states in the implementation of PM Narendra Modi's ambitious mission namely "Mission Amrit Sarovar", which is aimed at conserving water for the future. Madhya Pradesh is ranked second, while Jammu and Kashmir ranked third. Within Uttar Pradesh, Lakhimpur Kheri has secured first position by constructing 256 Amrit Sarovars in the state. The UP government has developed 7,500 Amrit Sarovars under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh topped among states in the implementation of "Mission Amrit Sarovar" | 2nd MP | 3rd J & K
- UP government developed 7,500 Amrit Sarovars under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav
- Lakhimpur Kheri secured first position within Uttar Pradesh by constructing 256 Amrit Sarovars in the state
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel

359. On September 17, in line with the Prime Minister's vision for the 'TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan', the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has decided to adopt over 35,000 tuberculosis (TB) patients by providing nutritional support. The CII is working closely with Central TB Division, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to support the Government's endeavour to eradicate TB from India by 2025 through our "TB Free Workplaces Campaign" initiative. {Read more}



Key Points:

- CII decided to adopt over 35,000 TB patients by providing nutritional support
- "TB Free Workplaces Campaign" initiative belongs to CII
- Indian Government aims to eradicate TB by 2025
- HQs of CII New Delhi | President Sanjiv Bajaj | VC Sanjiv Puri | DG Chandrajit Banerjee | Founded in 1895

360. On September 15, Union Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Dharmendra Pradhan launched Ramakrishna Mission's "Awakening Programme" for students of class 1 to 5. The Minister called upon CBSE to institute an advisory framework for encouraging value-based education in all schools from Balvatika to Class XII for creating a talent pool ready for the challenges of life and committed to national progress and global welfare. {Read more} Key Points:

- Dharmendra Pradhan launched Ramakrishna Mission's "Awakening Programme" for students of class 1 to 5
- Ministry of Education: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Education: Subhas Sarkar

361. On September 16, the Central Government and Assam Government signed a tripartite agreement with 8 Armed Tribal Groups in Assam to bring them into the mainstream and give them political and economic rights. This agreement ends decades old crisis of Adivasis and tea garden workers. The groups that signed the agreement are Birsa Commando Force (BCF), Adivasi People's Army (APA), All Adivasi National Liberation Army (AANLA), Adivasi Cobra Military of Assam (ACMA) and Santhali Tiger Force (STF). The remaining three outfits are splinter groups of BCF, AANLA, and ACMA. {Read more} **Key Points:**

- Central Government + Assam + 8 Armed Tribal Groups in Assam = signed a tripartite agreement
- The agreement is to bring the Tribal Groups into the mainstream & give them political and economic rights
- Assam: Capital Dispur | CM Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor Jagdish Mukhi

International Affairs

362. Surpassing China, India has become the largest bilateral lender to Sri Lanka by disbursing a total of \$968 million in loans in 4 months (January-April) of 2022, according to a report by the Verite Research. From 2017 to 2021, China has disbursed around \$947 million. According to the report, Asian Development Bank (ADB) has been the largest multilateral lender in the past 5 years by disbursing an amount of \$610 million in 2021. {Read more}

- India surpassed China & became the largest bilateral lender to Sri Lanka according to a report by the Verite Research
- India disbursed \$968 million in loans in 4 months (January-April) in 2022 | China has disbursed around \$947 million
- ADB largest multilateral lender in the past 5 years by disbursing an amount of \$610 million in 2021
- Sri Lanka Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte Sri Lankan Rupee
- PM Dinesh Gunawardena | President Ranil Wickremesinghe
- China Beijing Renminbi | President Xi Jinping
- HQs of ADB Mandaluyong, Philippines | President Masatsugu Asakawa | Members 68 | Established in 1966



Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

363. On September 15, Reliance General Insurance (RGI) partnered with Paytm to offer "Reliance Health Gain Policy", a customisable health insurance product, through the Paytm application. The policy offers three plans - Plus, Power and Prime. Reliance Health Gain Policy offers a bouquet of 38 features and benefits, and gives customers the freedom to customise and personalise the policy as per their needs. Earlier in September, Reliance General Insurance launched its "Reliance Health Gain Policy" on Policybazaar platform also. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Reliance General Insurance + Paytm = partnered to offer "Reliance Health Gain Policy" (3 plans Plus, Power & Prime)
- RGI launched its "Reliance Health Gain Policy" on Policybazaar platform also
- HQs of Reliance General Insurance Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Rakesh Jain
- HQs of Paytm Noida, Uttar Pradesh | MD & CEO Vijay Sekhar Sharma | Founded in 2010

364. On September 16, Federal Bank was ranked 63rd on the "Best Workplaces in Asia 2022" and became the only bank in India to be listed by Great Place to Work, the global authority on workplace culture. The list is based on over 1 million survey responses across Asia and West Asia, representing the experience of over 4.7 million employees in the region. According to Great Place to Work India, 88% of employees at the best workplaces in Asia on average reported having a positive employee experience. For the average global workforce, only 55% of workers report a similarly positive experience. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Federal Bank (63rd rank) only bank in India to be listed on the "Best Workplaces in Asia 2022" by Great Place to Work
 - 88% of employees at the best workplaces in Asia on average reported having a positive employee experience
 - Only 55% of workers in global workforce on average report a similarly positive experience
- HQs of Federal Bank Aluva, Kerala | MD & CEO Shyam Srinivasan | Tagline "Your Perfect Banking Partner"

365. In September 2022, Norway published the open source code for the nation's central bank digital currency (CBDC) sandbox, achieving a significant milestone in its attempts to promote digital currencies. As per the Cointelegraph, the sandbox, was created to provide a user interface for engaging with the test network, enabling features like minting, burning, and transferring ERC-20 tokens. The Norges Bank sandbox contains a unique frontend, relevant smart contracts, and access controls, as well as network monitoring tools like BlockScout and Grafana. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Norway published the open source code for the nation's central bank digital currency (CBDC) sandbox
- Norway Oslo Krone | PM Jonas Gahr Store

366. On September 16, State Bank of India (SBI) acquired the 13.82% stake of State Bank of India Global Factors Ltd (SBIGFL) for Rs 67.84 Cr from the existing shareholders i.e., SIDBI (6.53%), Bank of Maharashtra (4.34%), and Union Bank of India (2.95%). With this, SBIGFL has become 100% subsidiary of the SBI. SBIGFL is a non-banking financial company. It provides domestic and export factoring services. {Read more}



Key Points:

- SBI acquired 13.82% stake of SBIGFL from SIDBI (6.53%), Bank of Maharashtra (4.34%), & Union Bank of India (2.95%)
- SBIGFL is an NBFC & now, it has become 100% subsidiary of the SBI
- HQs of SBI Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MDs Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Alok Kumar Choudhary | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

367. On September 16, digital insurer Edelweiss General Insurance (EGI) tied up with Repco Home Finance Ltd (RHFL) to offer insurance solutions to all home loan customers of RHFL. Through this partnership, EGI will offer property insurance cover and loan protection cover to RHFL's customers through their branches spread across India. {Read more}

Key Points:

- EGI + Repco Home Finance = partnership to offer insurance solutions to all home loan customers of RHFL
- HQs of EGI Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO & Executive Director Shanai Ghosh
- HQs of Repco Home Finance Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO K. Swaminathan

Defence Affairs

368. In September 2022, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar participated in the second "2+2 Ministerial Meeting" held in Tokyo between India and Japan. During bilateral talks with his Japanese counterpart Yasukazu Hamada, India and Japan agreed to conduct the inaugural (first edition of) "Fighter Exercise" between the Air Forces of both the countries. The Ministers expressed their commitment to continuing bilateral and multilateral exercises including 'Dharma Guardian', 'JIMEX' and 'Malabar'. This year marks 70 years of diplomatic relations between India and Japan. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Rajnath Singh participated in the second "2+2 Ministerial Meeting" held in Tokyo between India & Japan
- India & Japan agreed to conduct the inaugural "Fighter Exercise" between the Air Forces of both the countries
- Other exercises between India & Japan 'Dharma Guardian', 'JIMEX' & 'Malabar'

369. In September 2022, indigenously designed INS Satpura participated in a multinational Exercise "Kakadu-2022" hosted by Australia in Darwin. INS Satpura is Shiwalik class stealth multi-role frigate. The exercise helps both nations in enhancing mutual understanding and interoperability in water. Exercise Kakadu is a two-week-long exercise that is being conducted by the Royal Australian Navy since 1993. {Read more}

- "Kakadu-2022" Multinational Exercise hosted by Australia in Darwin by the Royal Australian Navy since 1993
- INS Satpura participated in the Exercise "Kakadu-2022"
- INS Satpura Shiwalik class stealth multi-role frigate
- Australia Canberra Australian Dollar | PM Anthony Albanese
- HQs of Indian Navy Delhi | Chief Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC S. N. Ghormade | Founded in 26th Jan, 1950



370. Indian Navy warship INS Tarkash took part in a "Joint Maritime Exercise" with Nigerian Navy Patrol Ships on September 12-13. The exercise provided an opportunity to strengthen interoperability between the Indian and Nigerian navies in various facets of maritime operations. The exercise marked India and Nigeria's first joint operational deployment in support of anti-piracy operations in the GoG. INS Tarkash is currently mission-deployed in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) for anti-piracy operations. {Read more}

Key Points:

- INS Tarkash took part in a "Joint Maritime Exercise" conducted between Indian Navy & Nigerian Navy
- Nigeria Abuja Naira | President Muhammadu Buhari

Sports & Games

371. On September 17, Bajrang Punia became the only Indian to claim 4 medals at the World Wrestling Championships by clinching a bronze medal in men's 65kg category at the "World Wrestling Championship 2022" in Belgrade, Serbia. Besides Bajrang, Vinesh Phogat won her second World Championship bronze medal in the women's 53kg category. With this, Vinesh Phogat became the only Indian woman wrestler to win 2 medals at the World Championship. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Bajrang Punia won bronze medal in men's 65kg category at "World Wrestling Championship 2022" in Belgrade, Serbia
- With this, Bajrang became the only Indian to claim 4 medals at the World Wrestling Championships
- Vinesh Phogat won bronze medal in women's 53kg category
- With this, Vinesh became the only Indian woman wrestler to win 2 medals at the World Championship

372. On September 16, Bengaluru teenager Pranav Anand became India's 76th Grandmaster after he crossed the 2,500 Elo mark in the "World Youth Chess Championship" in Mamaia, Romania, against Emin Ohanyan of Armenia. To become a GM, a player has to secure three GM norms and cross the live rating of 2,500 Elo points. Anand had scored the third and final GM norm at the 55th Biel Chess Festival in Switzerland in July. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Pranav Anand (Bengaluru) became India's 76th Grandmaster
- World Youth Chess Championship Held in Mamaia, Romania
- Romania Bucharest leu | PM Nicolae Ciuca | President Klaus Iohannis

373. On September 15, Switzerland's Roger Federer, a 20 Grand Slam single titles winner and one of the greatest tennis players, has announced his retirement from the game. He holds the record for 237 consecutive weeks as world number one. Laver Cup, an international indoor hard court men's team tennis tournament, held in London in September 2022, was his final ATP tournament. {Read more}

- Roger Federer (Switzerland) announced his retirement from Tennis
- Roger Federer holds the record for 237 consecutive weeks as World No. 1
- His final ATP tournament was Laver Cup held in London, UK
- UK London Pound Sterling | PM Mary Elizabeth Truss (Liz Truss) | New King King Charles III



Arts & Cultural Affairs

374. With an aim to boost young authors and readership across India, Delhi will host India's first literature festival for children titled the "Muskaan Literature Festival" in December, 2022. The one-of-a-kind festival will be organised by Prabha Khaitan Foundation and Education for All Trust. The festival will be held in collaboration with Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) with the Sahitya Akademi as knowledge partner. This unique literary festival will feature around 25 child authors, aged 8-14 years, from different parts of India. India's most loved children's author, Ruskin Bond unveiled the logo of the Muskaan Literature Festival for Child Authors earlier in September. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Delhi to host India's first literature festival for children titled the "Muskaan Literature Festival" in December 2022
- Organised by = Prabha Khaitan Foundation + Education for All Trust + IGNCA | Knowledge Partner Sahitya Akademi
- Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena | Chief Secretary Naresh Kumar

Science & Technology

375. A new mobile banking 'Trojan' virus, "SOVA", is now targeting Indian smartphone users. This virus can stealthily encrypt an Android phone for ransom and is hard to uninstall. The virus has upgraded to its fifth version after it was first detected in the Indian cyberspace in July. SOVA was earlier focusing on countries like the U.S., Russia and Spain, but in July 2022 it added several other countries, including India. The malware is distributed via Smishing (phishing via SMS) attacks, like most Android banking Trojans. This malware captures the credentials when users log into their net banking apps and access bank accounts. 'Smishing' means the fraudulent practice of sending text messages purporting to be from reputable companies in order to induce individuals to reveal personal information. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "SOVA", a new mobile banking 'Trojan' virus, is now targeting Indian smartphone users
- The virus has upgraded to its 5th version after it was first detected in the Indian cyberspace in July
- The malware is distributed via smishing (phishing via SMS) attacks

376. On September 15, Google Cloud launched the first cohort of its computing foundations with Kubernetes course, in collaboration with FutureSkills Prime and NASSCOM Digital Skilling Initiative. The course will offer hands-on training (via Google Cloud Skills Boost platform), for diverse career paths including IT infrastructure, data analytics, Cloud native application development, among others. The course will be offered free to students at higher education Institutions and freshers seeking to skill themselves on emerging technologies. FutureSkills Prime, India's Technology Skilling Hub, is located in Noida, Uttar Pradesh and it is powered by a partnership between the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology and NASSCOM. {Read more}

- Google Cloud + FutureSkills Prime + Nasscom = launched 1st cohort of its computing foundations with Kubernetes course
- HQs of NASSCOM New Delhi | President Debjani Ghosh
- HQs of Google California, US | CEO Sundar Pichai | Founded in 1998
- CEO of Google Cloud Thomas Kurian





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Appointments & Resignations

377. On September 15, IndusInd Bank approved the re-appointment of Sumant Kathpalia as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer for 3 years with effect from March 24, 2023. Kathpalia was initially appointed as MD & CEO of IndusInd Bank in March 2020. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Sumant Kathpalia reappointed as MD & CEO of IndusInd Bank
- HQs of IndusInd Bank Pune, MH | MD & CEO Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline "We Make You Feel Richer"

378. On September 17, Vanessa Nakate, a 25-year-old Ugandan climate activist, was named as Goodwill Ambassador of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF). Moreover, UNICEF states nearly half the world's 2.2 billion children live in one of the 33 countries it classifies as at "extremely high-risk" of the impacts of climate change. The top ten countries are all in Africa. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Climate activist Vanessa Nakate (Uganda) named as Goodwill Ambassador of UNICEF
- UNICEF states nearly half the world's 2.2 billion children live in one of the 33 countries classified as at "extremely high-risk" of impacts of climate change
- HQs of UNICEF New York, US | Executive Director Catherine Russell | Established in 1946

379. On September 15, the Central Government has appointed Thomas M. Devasia, a senior executive from the private sector, as member (non-life) in the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI). Mr. Thomas is currently a Technical Expert at Marsh Insurance Brokers India working in Kochi, Kerala. He is appointed on a consolidated pay package of Rs 4 lakh. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Thomas M. Devasia appointed as member (non-life) in the IRDAI
- HQs of IRDAI Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman Debasish Panda

380. On September 15, Sweden's first female Prime Minister Magdalena Andersson, from Social Democratic party, resigned from her post, after a right-wing bloc won a narrow majority in Sweden's parliament. Ms. Andersson will continue in a caretaking capacity until a new government is formed. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Magdalena Andersson Sweden's first female PM resigned from her post (Social Democratic party)
- Sweden Stockholm Krona | Caretaking PM Magdalena Andersson

381. On September 15, the Reserve Bank of India approved the appointment of Pralay Mondal as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of CSB Bank for 3 years. Mondal was the deputy managing director of the bank since February 17, 2022 and was subsequently appointed as interim MD & CEO with effect from April 1, 2022. Prior to joining CSB Bank, Mondal was the head of retail banking at Axis Bank. {Read more}

- Pralay Mondal appointed as MD & CEO of CSB Bank
- HQs of CSB bank Thrissur, Kerala | MD & CEO Pralay Mondal



Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

382. On September 16, Swati Piramal, Vice Chairperson, Piramal Group, was conferred the "Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur" (Knight of the Legion of Honour). The highest French civilian award comes in recognition of Piramal's outstanding achievements and contribution in the fields of business and industry, science, medicine, art and culture, both nationally and internationally. In 2006, she was also awarded the "Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite" (Knight of the Order of Merit), France's second highest civilian honour. In 2012, Piramal also received the Padma Shri, the fourth-highest civilian award of India. Piramal group has a long relationship with France, both in arts and culture and in business. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Swati Piramal conferred the "Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur" (Knight of the Legion of Honour) by France
- Her other Awards: 'Padma Shri' (2012) & France's 'Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite' (2006)
- France Paris Euro | President Emmanuel Macron | PM Elisabeth Borne

383. Union Minister of State (I/C) for Science & Technology Jitendra Singh presented "INSPIRE (Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research) Awards" to 60 startups and financial support to 53,021 students who participated in "MANAK (Million Minds Augmenting National Aspiration and Knowledge) Competition" that attracted an unprecedented 6.53 lakh ideas and innovations from across India during the pandemic. Of 6.53 lakh, a total of 53,021 students were identified for financial support of ₹10,000 each so that they could develop prototypes of the ideas which they submitted for the scheme. The award is instituted by the Department of Science & Technology (DST), and these innovators will be extended complete incubation support for their entrepreneurship journey. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Jitendra Singh presented "INSPIRE (Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research) Awards" to 60 startups
- Mr. Singh presented financial support of ₹10,000 each to 53,021 students who participated in "MANAK Competition"
- MANAK Million Minds Augmenting National Aspiration & Knowledge
- MoS (I/C) in the Ministry of Science & Technology: Dr. Jitendra Singh | Constituency Udhampur, J&K

Important Days & Dates

384. World Ozone Day or International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer is celebrated every year on 16 September. The day is observed to create awareness among people about the harmful effects of ozone layer depletion. The ozone layer is a protective shield that is important for the preservation and sustenance of life on the planet Earth. It protects us from the harmful ultraviolet (UV) radiation of the Sun and prevents global warming and other environmental hazards. In 2022, the theme of the day is "Global Cooperation to Protect Life on Earth". The first-ever Ozone Day was celebrated in 1995. The day commemorates the date, in 1987, on which the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer was signed by the United Nations and 45 other countries. 2022 marks the 35th anniversary of the Montreal Protocol. {Read more}

- September 16 'World Ozone Day' or 'International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer' (since 1995)
- 2022's theme "Global Cooperation to Protect Life on Earth"
- The day is celebrated to commemorate the signing of Montreal Protocol in 1987 on this date



385. World Patient Safety Day is observed every year on 17 September to create awareness about different safety measures that should be taken to ensure patient safety. This year, the theme of World Patient Safety Day 2022 is "Medication Safety" along with the slogan "Medication Without Harm" with a call to action to "Know, Check & Ask". The 72nd World Health Assembly (WHA) passed a resolution WHA72.6 on 'Global Action on Patient Safety' in 2019. 2022 marks the 4 years of the Patient Safety Day. {Read more}

Key Points:

- September 17 4th World Patient Safety Day (since 2019)
- 2022's Theme "Medication Safety"
- Slogan "Medication Without Harm" with a call to action to "Know, Check & Ask"

Books & Authors

386. On September 16, former President Ram Nath Kovind released a book titled "Ambedkar and Modi: Reformer's Ideas, Performer's Implementation" in Delhi, in presence of Union Minister I&B Anurag Thakur, MoS Dr L. Murugan and former Chief Justice K. G. Balakrishnan. This book is a collection of Baba Saheb Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's multidimensional ideologies and their works for the nation. The book has been compiled by Bluekraft Digital Foundation and has a foreword by music composer and Rajya Sabha member Ilaiyaraaja. The book was published by Prabhat Prakashan Pvt Ltd. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Ram Nath Kovind released a book titled "Ambedkar and Modi: Reformer's Ideas, Performer's Implementation"
- The book is compiled by Bluekraft Digital Foundation | Publisher Prabhat Prakashan Pvt Ltd.

The Question Bank

Obituaries

387. On September 15, former Pakistan umpire Asad Rauf passed away at the age of 66 after suffering a cardiac arrest in Lahore. Rauf had made his first appearance as an umpire in international cricket in 2000. He officiated in 64 Tests, 139 ODIs and 28 T20Is and was one of Pakistan's leading umpires in the mid 2000s. Rauf was appointed in the ICC Elite panel in April 2006. {Read more}

- Asad Rauf (Pakistan) Former Cricket Umpire passed away
- Rauf was appointed in the ICC Elite panel in April 2006



Meetings, Conferences & Summits

388. In September 2022, Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Shri Sarbananda Sonowal addressed the "International Conference on Green Ship Recycling and Vehicle Scrapping" held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. With a coastline of 1,600 km, Gujarat handles over 40% of India's cargo throughput and contributes 18% of the total cargo transported using coastal shipping. There are 74 projects worth Rs 57,000 Cr under Sagarmala Programme in Gujarat, of which 15 projects worth Rs 9,000 Cr have been completed. India is a leading destination for ship recycling and plans to double the capacity of Alang-Sosiya shipyard in Gujarat. Shri Sonowal also visited the site of proposed National Maritime Heritage Complex near Lothal, Gujarat. {Read more}

Key Points:

- International Conference on Green Ship Recycling and Vehicle Scrapping held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- Gujarat handles over 40% of India's cargo throughput & contributes 18% of total cargo transported using coastal shipping
- National Maritime Heritage Complex is proposed near Lothal, Gujarat
- Alang-Sosiya shipyard is located in Gujarat (its capacity is proposed to be doubled)
- Coastal Length of Gujarat 1,600 km
- Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency Majuli, Asssam
- MoS in Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Shripad Yesso Naik & Shantanu Thakur

389. On September 15, Indian Biogas Association (IBA) organised the "Renewable Energy India Expo 2022" from September 28-30, 2022 at India Expo Centre, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh. The expo focuses on renewable energy (bio-energy, solar, and wind) and energy efficiency technologies including electric vehicles and battery storage. The bio-energy pavilion is supported by Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), NITI Aayog, Punjab and Maharashtra Energy Development Agency (PEDA and MEDA). "Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT)" is a government initiative taken up to extract economic value from bio-mass waste in the form of CBG and bio-manure. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Renewable Energy India Expo 2022" organized in India Expo Centre, Greater Noida by Indian Biogas Association
- The bio-energy pavilion is supported by MNRE + NITI Aayog + PEDA + MEDA
- SATAT a government initiative to extract economic value from bio-mass waste in the form of CBG & bio-manure
- SATAT Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation
- Ministry of Power and Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh | Constituency Arrah, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Power: Krishan Pal Gurjar

390. Kazakhstan is set to host the 6th "Conference on Confidence Building Measures and Interaction in Asia (CICA) Summit" in the capital city Nur-Sultan from October 12-13, 2022. The proposal to convene the CICA, expressed by the first President of Kazakhstan, N. Nazarbayev, at the 47th session of the UN General Assembly in October 1992, has now been transformed into an association with 27 member-participants and 14 observers (including the UN and the OSCE). The former Prime Minister of India Atal Bihari Vajpayee attended the 1st CICA Summit in July 2002 in Kazakhstan. {Read more}



Key Points:

- 6th "Conference on Confidence Building Measures & Interaction in Asia (CICA) Summit" to be hosted by Kazakhstan
- CICA an association with 27 member-participants & 14 observers
- Atal Bihari Vajpayee had attended the 1st CICA Summit in Kazakhstan in July 2002
- Kazakhstan Nur-Sultan Tenge | President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev | PM Alikhan Smailov

391. On September 16, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the 26th Meeting of Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) meeting in Mumbai, Maharashtra. She reviewed the state of the economy at the FSDC. The council stressed on the early warning indicators for the economy and the preparedness to deal with them, improving the efficiency of the existing financial and credit information systems, and issues of governance and management in systemically important financial institutions. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the 26th Meeting of FSDC meeting in Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Ministry of Finance: Nirmala Sitharaman | Constituency Karnataka
- MoS in Ministry of Finance: Pankaj Chaowdhary & Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad

392. On September 14, Union Minister for Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, along with his Denmark's counterpart, launched a white paper on 'Urban Wastewater Scenario in India' at International Water Association's (IWA) "World Water Congress and Exhibition 2022" held in Copenhagen, Denmark. "Water for Smart Liveable Cities" was the theme of the conference. Moreover, Next Generation Water Action (NGWA) is an international initiative with the ambition to engage young talents from leading universities and innovation hubs before, during and after the IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition 2022. {Read more}

Key Points:

- International Water Association's (IWA) "World Water Congress and Exhibition 2022" held in Copenhagen, Denmark
- Theme of the conference "Water for Smart Liveable Cities"
- Gajendra Singh Shekhawat launched a white paper on 'Urban Wastewater Scenario in India'
- Denmark Copenhagen Danish krone | PM Mette Frederiksen

Ranks, Reports & Serveys

393. On September 15, Chainalysis, an American blockchain analysis firm, published a report titled "2022 Global Crypto Adoption". The report has revealed that for the second consecutive year, Vietnam is ranked first in cryptocurrency adoption with an overall index ranking of 1.000, followed by Philippines (0.753) & Ukraine (0.694). India stood at 4th with an index score of 0.663. {Read more}

- "2022 Global Crypto Adoption" report published by Chainalysis (US)
- Vietnam ranked first in cryptocurrency adoption (1.000) | 2nd Philippines (0.753) | 3rd Ukraine (0.694)



394. In September 2022, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Food Programme (WFP) jointly published a report on their "Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM)" to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. At the request of the Government of Sri Lanka, a joint FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM) took place in June and July 2022. The mission assessed market conditions and households' food security and nutrition situation. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM)" report was jointly published by = FAO + WFP
- The report was published to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
- Sri Lanka Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte Sri Lankan Rupee
- PM Dinesh Gunawardena | President Ranil Wickremesinghe
- HQs of FAO Rome, Italy | DG QU Dongyu | Formation 16th October, 1945

395. The "India Discrimination Report 2022" released by Oxfam attempts to quantify the discrimination faced by caste minorities (members of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities), religious minorities (in this case, Muslims) and gender minorities (women) - and the results are alarming. According to the report, gender discrimination is the reason for 98% of employment gap between males and females in India. As per the ministry of statistics and programme implementation, Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) for women in India was only 25.1% in 2020-21. The Oxfam India report refers to unit level data from the 61st round National Sample Survey (NSS) data on Employment-Unemployment (2004-05) and the Periodic Labour Force Surveys (PLFS) in 2018-19 and 2019-20 in its calculations on labour market discrimination. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "India Discrimination Report 2022" released by Oxfam
- Gender discrimination is the reason for 98% of employment gap between males and females in India
- According to MoSPI: Labour Force Participation Rate for women in India was 25.1% in 2020-21
- MoS I/C of Ministry of Statistics & Program Implementation: Rao Inderjit Singh | Constituency Gurgaon, Haryana

Ordinance, Bills & Acts

396. On September 13, Telangana Legislative Assembly and Council promulgated an act to establish the University of Forestry. It will be the first of its kind in the whole country and the third in the world. The only other two countries which have forest universities are Russia and China, which makes India the third. Basically, the Forest College & Research Institute (FCRI) will be upgraded into a university by way of the legislation, in order to nurture it as a world class institution for Forestry Education, Research, Extension and Outreach. Chief Minister will be the Chancellor of the university. {Read more} Key Points:

- Telangana promulgated an act to establish India's 1st forest university called the 'University of Forestry'
- India will be world's 3rd country to have forest universities after Russia & China
- Telangana: Capital Hyderabad | CM K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan



Acquisitions & Mergers

397. In September 2022, State-owned power giant NTPC Ltd successfully acquired 600 MW Jhabua Power Limited (JPL), located in Seoni, Madhya Pradesh, for Rs 925 Crore through Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process initiated by National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), Kolkata. This is the first acquisition of a power asset by NTPC through NCLT route, a step forward in accomplishing NTPC's long-term capacity targets. After the acquisition of JPL, NTPC has become a 70 GW-plus company with total installed capacity of 70,064 MW. NTPC has set a target set to achieve installed capacity of 130 GW by 2032 from a diversified portfolio. {Read more}

Key Points:

- NTPC successfully acquired 600 MW Jhabua Power Limited (JPL) for Rs 925 Cr (its first acquisition through NCLT route)
- After the acquisition of JPL, NTPC has become a 70 GW-plus company with total installed capacity of 70,064 MW
- NTPC aims to achieve installed capacity of 130 GW by 2032
- HQs of NTPC New Delhi | CMD Gurdeep Singh | Founded in 1975

398. On September 15, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) gave its approval for the acquisition of 9.99% stake worth ₹665 Cr in Aditya Birla Health Insurance (ABHI) by the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA). The proposal has been approved by the competition watchdog under the green channel route. ABHI is a 51:49 joint venture between Aditya Birla Capital Ltd (ABCL) and Momentum Metropolitan Strategic Investments (Pty) Ltd. After this transaction, ABCL will hold a 45.91% stake and MMH will hold 44.10% stake, respectively, in ABHI. {Read more}

Key Points:

- ADIA received CCI approval to acquire 9.99% stake in Aditya Birla Health Insurance
- ABHI a 51:49 JV between Aditya Birla Capital & Momentum Metropolitan Strategic Investments (Pty) Ltd
- Post transaction, Aditya Birla Capital & MMH will own 45.91% & 44.10% respectively
- HQs of CCI New Delhi | Chairman Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in 2003

399. On September 16, the Adani Group has successfully completed the acquisition of Ambuja Cements and its subsidiary ACC Ltd through Endeavour Trade and Investment Ltd. Adani Group bought the stake from Switzerland's Holcim Group for \$6.4 billion. Post the transaction, Adani will hold 63.15% in Ambuja Cements and 56.69% in ACC (of which 50.05% is held by Ambuja Cements). {Read more}

- Adani Group acquired Ambuja Cements & its subsidiary ACC Ltd through Endeavour Trade & Investment Ltd
- Adani will hold 63.15% in Ambuja Cements & 56.69% in ACC (of which 50.05% is held by Ambuja Cements)
- HQs of Adani Group Ahmedabad, Gujarat | Chairman Gautam Adani | MD Rajesh Adani



MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

400. In September 2022, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) singed an MoU to work together on strengthening the safe migration of Indian citizens. The signing of the MOU was represented by IOM's Head of Office, Sanjay Awasthi and CII's Executive Director, Sougata Roy Choudhary. IOM is part of the United Nations System as the leading inter-governmental organization promoting humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all, since 1951, with 174 member states and a presence in over 100 countries. {Read more}

- IOM + CII = an MoU to work together on strengthening the safe migration of Indian citizens
- HQs of IOM Grand-Saconnex, Switzerland | Director General Antonio Vitorino
- HQs of CII New Delhi | President Sanjiv Bajaj | VC Sanjiv Puri | DG Chandrajit Banerjee | Founded in 1895







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