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National & States Affairs

401. On September 18, the Bihar government has decided to introduce “No-bag Day” rule in schools along with a mandatory games period at least once a week in order to lighten the load on students. The policy is being brought to engage students in activities that can positively impact their learning. The day will be devoted to practical and experiential learning. The new initiative by the state government is in line with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bihar – introduced “No-bag Day” rule in schools along with a mandatory games period at least once a week
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

402. On September 16, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) announced to provide access to all State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCRs) on the “E-Baal Nidan” portal. The portal was developed by the NCPCR in 2015. The NCPCR is a statutory body constituted under Section 3 of the Commission for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005 to protect child rights and other related matters in the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NCPCR – announced to provide access to all SCPCRs on the “E-Baal Nidan” portal
- “E-Baal Nidan” portal – was developed by the NCPCR in 2015
- NCPCR – a statutory body constituted under ‘Section 3’ of ‘Commission for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005’
- HQs of NCPCR – New Delhi | Chairman – Priyank Kanongoo | Motto – ‘भविष्यो रक्षति रक्षितः’

403. On September 17, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), along with its National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) and Crop Science Division, organized a hackathon named “KRITAGYA 3.0” on promoting speed breeding for crop improvement. In line with National Education Policy-2020, this program will provide an opportunity to students, faculties, entrepreneurs, innovators and others to showcase innovative approaches and technology solutions to promote innovation for crop improvement. During 2020-21 & 2021-22, NAHEP in association with Agricultural Engineering and Animal Science Divisions of ICAR organized Hackathon 1.0 and 2.0 to promote the innovation in Farm Mechanization and in Animal Science, respectively. ICAR commenced NAHEP with the assistance of World Bank (WB) in November 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NAHEP (ICAR) – organized a hackathon “KRITAGYA 3.0” on promoting speed breeding for crop improvement
- Hackathon 1.0 & 2.0 – was organized to promote the innovation in Farm Mechanization & Animal Science, respectively
- ICAR commenced NAHEP with the assistance of World Bank in November 2017
- HQs of ICAR – New Delhi | DG – Himanshu Pathak | Established in – 1929

404. According to the government’s data, India has turned into a power surplus nation with a total installed electricity capacity of over 4 lakh MW. Today, India is the world’s third largest producer of renewable energy, with 40% of its installed electricity capacity coming from non-fossil fuel sources. Power Generation from Renewable Energy Sources has increased from 51,226 GW hours to 1,38,337 GW hours in 2020. India’s vision is to achieve Net Zero Emissions by 2070, in addition to attaining the short-term targets including increasing renewables capacity to 500 GW by 2030 and meeting 50% of energy requirements from renewables. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- India – has turned into a power surplus nation with a total installed electricity capacity of over 4 lakh MW
- India – world's 3rd largest producer of RE (40% of installed electricity capacity come from non-fossil fuel sources)
- Power Generation from Renewable Energy Sources – increased to 1,38,337 GW hours in 2020
- India's vision to achieve Net Zero Emissions by – 2070
- HQs of ISA – Gurugram, Haryana | DG – Ajay Mathur | Signatory Countries – 110 | Member countries – 90

405. On September 16, Ministry of Textiles, under the chairmanship of Union Minister Piyush Goyal, approved 23 strategic research projects worth Rs 60 Cr in areas of specialty fibers and geotextiles, under the flagship programme 'National Technical Textiles Mission'. Goyal highlighted that the technological gap in the country needs to be addressed in the field of technical textiles. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Textiles – approved 23 strategic research projects in areas of specialty fibers & geotextiles
- The projects are launched under the flagship programme 'National Technical Textiles Mission'
- Ministry of Textiles: Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Textiles: Darshana Vikram Jardosh

406. On September 19, Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh launched a web portal called "CM da Haisi" (Let's inform the CM) to enable people to redress their grievances, and provide a platform to raise corruption-related issues. This will further enable us to bring transparency and accountability in governance and delivery of public services. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manipur – launched a web portal called "CM da Haisi" (Let's inform the CM) for grievance redressal
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – La. Ganesan

407. As of September 15, Uttar Pradesh accounts for more than 70% (9.33 lakh cases) of the 13.81 lakh pending trials in fast-track courts in cases of heinous crimes against women, children and senior citizens, according to data shared by Law Minister Kiren Rijiju. Uttar Pradesh is followed by over 1.4 lakh cases in Maharashtra, and 1.06 lakh cases in Tamil Nadu. With more than 60,000 cases pending in the Fast-Track Special Courts (FTSC), Uttar Pradesh also tops the list of the states with trials in rape cases and POCSO Act. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Most number of pending trials in fast-track courts in cases of heinous crimes against women, children & senior citizens:
 - 1st – UP | 2nd – Maharashtra | 3rd – Tamil Nadu
- Uttar Pradesh – topped the list of the states with trials in rape cases & POCSO Act
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

408. In September 2022, The Reef-World Foundation in partnership with the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) developed the "Green Fins Hub", the first-ever global marine tourism industry platform. The industry-backed digital platform is expected to scale up reach from about 700 operators across 14 countries today to a potential 30,000 worldwide. The platform will overcome the biggest sustainability challenges in the marine conservation tourism industry. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- The Reef-World Foundation + UNEP = developed “Green Fins Hub”, the first global marine tourism industry platform
- HQs of UNEP – Nairobi, Kenya | Executive Director – Inger Andersen | Founded in – 1972

409. On September 16, Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has again revised the definition of “small companies” under the Companies Act, 2013 by increasing their thresholds for paid up capital from “not exceeding Rs 2 Crore” to “not exceeding Rs 4 Crore” and turnover from “not exceeding Rs 20 Crore” to “not exceeding Rs 40 crore”. The latest revision aims to facilitate Ease of Doing Business further and reduce compliance burden on “small companies”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MCA – revised the definition of “small companies” under the Companies Act, 2013
- Paid up capital threshold increased from “not exceeding Rs 2 Crore” to – “not exceeding Rs 4 Crore”
- Turnover threshold increased from “not exceeding Rs 20 Crore” to – “not exceeding Rs 40 crore”
- Ministry of Corporate Affairs: Nirmala Sitharaman | Constituency – Karnataka
- MoS in Ministry of Corporate Affairs: Rao Inderjit Singh

410. On September 16, Varanasi was nominated as the first-ever SCO Tourism and Cultural Capital during the period 2022-2023 at the 22nd “Meeting of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Council of Heads of State” in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. PM Narendra Modi had participated in the Summit. Varanasi will promote tourism, cultural and humanitarian exchanges between India and the SCO member Countries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Varanasi (UP) – nominated as the first-ever SCO Tourism and Cultural Capital during the period 2022-2023
- Narendra Modi – participated in the 22nd “Meeting of SCO Council of Heads of State” in Samarkand, Uzbekistan
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

411. On September 22, The Supreme Court appointed former apex court judge Justice L Nageswara Rao for amending constitution of Indian Olympic Association and preparing electoral college. Justice Rao has been asked to prepare a road map for amending the constitution and holding elections by December 15, 2022. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) on September 8 issued a final warning to IOA to “resolve its governance issues” and hold elections by December, failing which the world sports body will ban India. Rajeev Mehta is currently the Secretary General of IOA & Adille Sumariwalla is the vice president of IOA. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Justice L. Nageswara Rao – appointed by Supreme Court to amend constitution of IOA & prepare electoral college
- Justice L. Nageswara Rao – will prepare a road map for amending constitution & hold elections by Dec 15, 2022
- HQs of IOC – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Thomas Bach | Established in – 1894
- HQs of IOA – New Delhi | President – Anil Khanna (acting) | Secretary General – Rajeev Mehta
- Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice Uday Umesh Lalit (49th)

412. On September 17, Indian government launched the “National Logistics Policy (NLP)” framework to become globally competitive. The Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP) will bring all the digital services related to the transportation sector into a single portal, freeing the exporters from a host of very long and cumbersome processes. The policy will help bring down the transportation, warehousing and inventory costs, which will consequently reduce the overall logistics cost down to around 8% of GDP in the next 5 years. India aims to become a \$5 trillion economy by 2024-25. Notably, the government’s latest policy comes with a Comprehensive Logistics Action Plan (CLAP) which details the NLP’s specific targets. These include: Reducing India’s logistics cost to be comparable to global benchmarks by 2030 and aiming to be among the top 25 countries by 2030 in the Logistics Performance Index (LPI). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian government launched the “National Logistics Policy (NLP)” framework to become globally competitive
- ULIP – **U**nified **L**ogistics **I**nterface **P**latform
- The NLP will reduce the overall logistics cost down to around 8% of GDP in the next 5 years
- India aims to reduce its logistics cost to be comparable to global benchmarks by 2030
- India aims to be among the top 25 countries in the Logistics Performance Index (LPI) by 2030

413. On September 21, Amazon announced its first Utility-scale Renewable Energy projects in India, three solar farms located in Rajasthan. These include a 210 MW project to be developed by ReNew Power, a 100MW project to be developed by local developer Amp Energy India, and a 110MW project to be developed by Brookfield Renewable. These solar farms have combined capacity to generate 1,076,000 megawatt hours (MWh) of renewable energy per year. Additionally, Amazon announced 23 new solar rooftop projects on its fulfillment centers across 14 cities in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amazon – plans to set up 3 Solar Farms in Rajasthan & 23 Solar Rooftop Projects across 14 cities in India
- In Rajasthan: 210MW project by ReNew Power, 100MW project by Amp Energy, 110MW project by Brookfield
- [Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur](#) | [CM – Ashok Gehlot](#) | [Governor – Kalraj Mishra](#)
- [HQs of Amazon – Seattle, US](#) | [CEO – Andy Jassy](#) | [Incorporated in – 1994](#)

414. On September 16, the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and UNICEF formally launched the Doordarshan and YouTube series titled “Duur Se Namaste” (Greetings from a distance) at an event held in New Delhi. Duur Se Namaste, a fictional Hindi series developed in an entertainment-education format, highlights the challenges of a post-pandemic world and promotes the adoption of healthy behaviours and practices. The series is produced by National Film Award winner and Padma Shri awardee, Nil Madhav Panda’s production house, Elleenora Images Pvt Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- USAID + UNICEF = formally launched the Doordarshan & YouTube series titled “Duur Se Namaste”
- The series is produced by Nil Madhav Panda’s production house, Elleenora Images Pvt Ltd
- [HQs of USAID – Washington D.C., US](#) | [Administrator – Samantha Power](#) | [Founded in – 1961](#)
- [HQs of UNICEF – New York, US](#) | [Executive Director – Catherine Russell](#) | [Established in – 1946](#)

415. On September 16, Union Minister of Railways, Communications, and Electronics and Information, Ashwini Vaishnaw launched “Swachhta Pakhwara” across Indian Railways. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Swachhta has become the mission and part of the life. The focus areas are Seva, Sushashan and Gareeb Kalyan. The minister also released an ‘Annual Report on Environmental Sustainability’. It is a comprehensive referral document highlighting steps taken by Indian Railways to promote green environment and clean energy. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Ashwini Vaishnaw – launched “Swachhta Pakhwara” across Indian Railways
- The focus areas are Seva, Sushashan & Gareeb Kalyan
- Ashwini Vaishnaw – also released an ‘Annual Report on Environmental Sustainability’
- [Ministry of Railways: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Railways: Danve Raosaheb Dadarao & Darshana Vikram Jardosh](#)

416. On September 15, the Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology, Rajeev Chandrasekhar inaugurated the pre-production run of India’s first lithium cell manufacturing facility at Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh. This state-of-the-art facility has been set up by Chennai-based Munoth Industries Limited with an outlay of Rs 165 Cr. The installed capacity of the plant at present is 270 Mwh and can produce 20,000 cells of 10Ah capacity daily. Currently India imports complete requirements of lithium-ion cells primarily from China, South Korea, Vietnam and Hong Kong. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajeev Chandrasekhar – inaugurated India’s first lithium cell manufacturing facility at Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh
- This state-of-the-art facility is set up by – Munoth Industries Limited (Chennai)
- [Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan](#)

417. H.E. Ms. Catherine Colonna, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs of France, was on an official visit to India from 13-15 September, 2022. The Ministers welcomed the expansion of bilateral relations to new areas like the Blue Economy and Ocean Governance. As part of the roadmap on Blue Economy, India will be the ‘Country of Honour’ at the “Sea Tech Week” in Brest, France. Both Ministers welcomed the launch of India’s Unified Payment Interface (UPI) in France, a result of the signature of an MoU between the NPCI and Lyra Networks of France. On defence industry cooperation, the Ministers welcomed Safran Group’s decision to set up their largest and first aircraft engine MRO (maintenance, repair, and overhaul) facility in Hyderabad. The facility will be set up with an investment of Rs 1,200 crore (\$150 million) and is expected to create about 1,000 high-skilled jobs in Telangana. Moreover, India and France agreed to set up “Indo-Pacific Trilateral Framework” and “Indo-Pacific Trilateral Development Cooperation Fund”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – will be the ‘Country of Honour’ at the “Sea Tech Week” in Brest, France
- NPCI + Lyra Networks = an MoU to launch India’s UPI in France
- Safran Group (France) – to set up its largest & first aircraft engine MRO facility in Hyderabad
- India + France = to set up “Indo-Pacific Trilateral Framework” & “Indo-Pacific Trilateral Development Cooperation Fund”
- Catherine Colonna – Minister for Europe & Foreign Affairs of France
- [France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Elisabeth Borne](#)

International Affairs

418. On September 17, Poland opened new sea waterway to cut dependence on Russia. The canal, built at a cost of almost 2 billion zlotys (\$420 million), cuts across the Vistula Spit, east of Gdansk, and is designed to allow ships to sail from the Baltic Sea and the Bay of Gdansk to ports of the Vistula lagoon without having to travel through Russia’s Strait of Pilawa. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Poland – opened new sea waterway to cut dependence on Russia (Cost - 2 billion zlotys or \$420 million)
- The canal is designed to allow ships to sail from the Baltic Sea and the Bay of Gdansk to ports of the Vistula lagoon
- [Poland – Warsaw – Polish Zloty](#) | [President – Andrzej Sebastian Duda](#)

419. On September 21, WHO announced that Malawi has become the first country in southern Africa to eliminate trachoma. This makes Malawi the fourth country in WHO's Africa region to achieve this milestone after Ghana (June 2018), Gambia (April 2021) and Togo (May 2022). Trachoma is the world's leading infectious cause of blindness and is one of the conditions known as neglected tropical diseases. As of March 7, 2022, 14 countries had reported achieving trachoma elimination goals. These countries are Cambodia, China, Gambia, Ghana, Iran, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Saudi Arabia and Togo. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Malawi – became the first country in southern Africa to eliminate trachoma
- Malawi – 4th country in WHO's Africa region to achieve this milestone after Ghana, Gambia & Togo
- Trachoma – world's leading infectious cause of blindness & is one of the conditions known as neglected tropical diseases
- [Malawi – Lilongwe – Malawian kwacha](#) | [President – Lazarus Chakwera](#)

420. On September 16, the Members of the European Parliament (MEP) declared that Hungary is no longer a 'full democracy'. MEPs voted 433 in favour, 123 against, to now describe Hungary a 'hybrid regime of electoral autocracy' in serious breach of EU democratic norms. Hungary is ruled by populist Prime Minister Viktor Orban, who maintains close ties to Russian President Vladimir Putin. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hungary – is no longer a 'full democracy' and it is a 'hybrid regime of electoral autocracy'
- [Hungary – Budapest – Forint](#) | [President – Katalin Novak](#) | [PM – Viktor Orban](#)

421. On September 20, a first-of-its-kind database for tracking the world's fossil fuel production, reserves and emissions was launched, coinciding with Climate Talks taking place at the UNGA in New York. The "Global Registry of Fossil Fuels" includes data from over 50,000 oil, gas and coal fields in 89 countries. The registry was developed by Carbon Tracker, a non-profit think tank, and Global Energy Monitor, an organization that tracks a variety of energy projects around the globe. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Carbon Tracker + Global Energy Monitor = developed the "Global Registry of Fossil Fuels"
- It is a first-of-its-kind database for tracking the world's fossil fuel production, reserves & emissions
- [HQs of Carbon Tracker – London, UK](#) | [HQs of Global Energy Monitor – San Francisco, California, US](#)



Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

422. On September 5, Payment service provider NTT DATA Payment Services India (earlier Atom Technologies) received an in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for the Payment Aggregator (PA) license. NTT DATA Payment Services India is part of NTT DATA Corporation, one of the globally top 10 IT service providers, headquartered in Japan. The NTT DATA Payments division group has a significant presence across Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Vietnam, and Malaysia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NTT DATA Payment Services India (Atom Technologies) – received RBI approval for the Payment Aggregator (PA) license
- NTT DATA Corporation – one of the globally top 10 IT service providers, headquartered in Japan
- HQs of NTT DATA Payment Services India – New Delhi | CEO – Dewang Neralla
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established on – 1st April, 1935

423. On September 19, the State Bank of India (SBI) has extended the deadline to invest in its senior citizen FD scheme, “SBI WeCare FD”, till March 31, 2023. Under the scheme, an additional premium of 30 bps will be paid to Senior Citizens on their retail TD for ‘5 Years and above’ tenor only. Minimum period of deposit is 5 years. While maximum period is 10 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI – extended the deadline to invest in its senior citizen FD scheme, “SBI WeCare FD”, till March 31, 2023
- HQs of SBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MDs – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Alok Kumar Choudhary | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

424. On September 17, State Bank of India (SBI) collaborated with US-based Remitly for safe and simple remittances to India. The collaboration now enables NRIs to send money through SBI via Remitly to their family members while relaxing at home using mobile and web applications. With this, NRIs can now transfer money to 17 Remitly nations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI + Remitly (US) = collaborated for safe and simple remittances to India
- HQs of SBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MDs – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Alok Kumar Choudhary | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

Defence Affairs

425. As of September 15, the Border Security Force’s (BSF) first female camel riding squad is ready to be deployed along the India-Pakistan border in Rajasthan and Gujarat. The squad will participate for the first time in the BSF Raising Day Parade on December 1, 2022. This Squad will be the first of its kind in the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BSF’s 1st female camel riding squad – to be deployed along the India-Pakistan border in Rajasthan & Gujarat
- The squad will participate for the first time in the BSF Raising Day Parade on – December 1, 2022
- HQs of BSF – New Delhi | DG – Pankaj Kumar Singh | Established on – Dec 1, 1965 | Motto – “Duty Unto Death”



Sports & Games

426. On September 17, Indian javelin thrower and Paralympics gold medalist Devendra Jhajharia clinched a Silver medal for India at the “World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2022” held in Morocco. Devendra threw the javelin to a distance of 60.97m to capture the silver. While, India’s Ajit Kumar won the Gold by achieving the best throw of 64m. Devendra thanked the Government of India for assisting him via the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ajit Kumar (Javelin thrower) – clinched a Gold medal at “World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2022” in Morocco (64m)
- Devendra Jhajharia (Javelin thrower) – clinched a Silver medal at “World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2022” in Morocco

427. On September 18, Bengaluru FC (BFC) and their talismanic captain Sunil Chhetri won their first ever ‘Durand Cup’, overcoming Mumbai City FC (MCFC) in an exciting final of the 131st edition of the tournament. Simon Grayson is the Head Coach of BFC. The 2022 Durand Cup is also known as IndianOil Durand Cup due to sponsorship ties with Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL). Durand Cup is the oldest football tournament in Asia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bengaluru FC – won their first ever ‘Durand Cup’ (defeating - Mumbai City FC)
- 131st edition of the ‘2022 Durand Cup’ is also known as IndianOil Durand Cup | Sponsor – IOCL
- Durand Cup – the oldest football tournament in Asia | Captain of Bengaluru FC – Sunil Chhetri

428. In September 2022, Bajrang Punia became the only Indian to win total 4 medals at the World Wrestling Championships by clinching a bronze in the men’s 65 kg Freestyle at the 17th edition of the “World Wrestling Championships” or “World Wrestling Championships 2022” held in Belgrade, Serbia. Besides Bajrang, Vinesh Phogat won her second World Championship bronze medal in the women’s 53kg category. With this, India was ranked 24th with 2 medals. The USA topped the medal tally with 15 medals, followed by Japan and Turkey. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 17th edition of the “World Wrestling Championships 2022” – held in Belgrade, Serbia
- India ranked 24th in medal tally with 2 bronze medals | 1st – US, 2nd – Japan, 3rd – Turkey
- Bajrang Punia – won Bronze medal in men’s 65kg Freestyle | Vinesh Phogat – won Bronze in women’s 53kg category
- Bajrang Punia (Haryana) – became the only Indian to win total 4 medals at the “World Wrestling Championships”

Persons in News

429. On September 16, Karnataka government announced to celebrate Puneeth Rajkumar’s birthday, on March 17, as Inspiration Day. Puneeth, an actor, was undoubtedly the ‘Yuvarathna’ and an inspiration to both young and old. Puneeth is set to be posthumously conferred “Karnataka Rathna” by the Karnataka state government on November 1, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka – announced to celebrate actor Puneeth Rajkumar’s birthday (March 17)
- Puneeth – to be posthumously conferred “Karnataka Rathna” by Karnataka government (in Nov 2022)
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot



Science & Technology

430. On September 21, Bharti Group-backed OneWeb launched 36 new satellites from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh to achieve 70% deployment of its planned low-earth orbit (LEO) constellation. OneWeb's rollout of broadband-from-space services in India has been pushed back to at least August 2023, as the company was unable to conclude its LEO satellites launches amid the crisis in Ukraine. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- OneWeb – launched 36 new satellites from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh to achieve 70% deployment of its planned low-earth orbit (LEO) constellation
- HQs of OneWeb – London, UK | CEO – Adrian Steckel | Executive Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal

Appointments & Resignations

431. On September 18, Senegalese President Macky Sall reinstated the post of Prime Minister, appointing Amadou Ba, the former Economy Minister, to the post. Sall scrapped the position of prime minister in 2019. Ba would also lead a new cabinet formed after parliamentary elections narrowly won by Sall's ruling coalition. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Senegalese President Macky Sall reinstated the post of Prime Minister
- Amadou Ba – appointed as Prime Minister of Senegal
- Senegal – Dakar – CFA franc | President – Macky Sall | PM – Amadou Ba

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

432. On September 20, the Film Federation of India (FFI) chose Pan Nalin's semi-autobiographical Gujarati drama "Chhello Show" (Last Film Show) as India's official entry for the 95th Academy Awards in the 'Best International Feature Film' category. This is the second time after 'The Good Road' in 2013 that a Gujarati film has made the cut for the prestigious awards. Last year, the Tamil drama 'Koozhangal' (Pebbles), directed by filmmaker Vinodraj PS, was India's official entry at the Oscars but didn't make the shortlist. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Chhello Show" (directed by Pan Nalin) – selected for India's official entry for the 95th Academy Awards (Oscars 2023)
- "Chhello Show", a Gujarati drama film – selected under the 'Best International Feature Film' category

433. On September 20, Alia Bhatt has been felicitated with prestigious Priyadarshni Academy's "Smita Patil Memorial Award" for Best Actor for her commendable contribution to Indian cinema, at the 38th anniversary celebrations of the premier non-profit, socio-cultural and educational organization, Priyadarshini Academy. This rare honour is bestowed upon outstanding national and international recipients annually and awards global recognition for their unparalleled excellence and immense contribution to their respective fields. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Alia Bhatt – felicitated with prestigious Priyadarshni Academy's "Smita Patil Memorial Award" for Best Actor

Schemes & Initiatives

434. In order to reduce the use of chemical fertilisers by incentivising states, the Union government plans to introduce a new scheme namely “PM PRANAM” Scheme (PM Promotion of Alternate Nutrients for Agriculture Management Yojana). The proposed scheme intends to reduce the subsidy burden on chemical fertilisers, which is expected to increase to Rs 2.25 lakh Crore in 2022-2023. 50% subsidy savings will be passed on as a grant to the state that saves the money, and that 70% of the grant provided under the scheme can be used for asset creation related to technological adoption of alternate fertilisers. The total requirement of four fertilisers - Urea, DAP (Di-ammonium Phosphate), MOP (Muriate of potash), NPKS (Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Potassium), increased by 21% between 2017-2018 and 2021-2022, from 528.86 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) to 640.27 LMT. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government plans to introduce “PM PRANAM” Scheme to reduce the subsidy burden on chemical fertilisers
- Subsidy burden on chemical fertilisers is expected to increase to Rs 2.25 lakh Cr in 2022-2023
- Total requirement of 4 fertilisers increased by 21% to 640.27 LMT in 2021-22 (from 528.86 LMT in 2017-18)

Important Days & Dates

435. The government of India began its year-long celebrations for the ‘Hyderabad State Liberation Day’ on September 17, marking how on the same day in 1948, the state of Hyderabad got its independence from Nizam’s rule. Home Minister Amit Shah started off the celebrations. Meanwhile, the Telangana Government decided to observe September 17 as “Telangana National Unity Day”. India officially launched ‘Operation Polo’ on September 9 and deployed its troops in Hyderabad. On September 17, three days after the deployment, the Nizam surrendered and acceded to the Indian Union in November. However, Maharashtra and Karnataka already commemorate this day as Marathwada Liberation Day and Hyderabad-Karnataka Liberation Day, respectively. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 17 is celebrated as:
 - “Hyderabad State Liberation Day” by Central Government | “Telangana National Unity Day” by Telangana
 - “Marathwada Liberation Day” by Maharashtra | “Hyderabad-Karnataka Liberation Day” by Karnataka

436. World Lymphoma Awareness Day is marked annually around the world on September 15 to raise awareness of lymphoma, an increasingly common form of cancer. Lymphoma is a form of cancer which develops in the immune system’s cells that resist infections. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 15 – World Lymphoma Awareness Day

437. World Bamboo Day is celebrated every year by the World Bamboo Organisation (WBO) on 18 September to raise awareness about the bamboo industry. World Bamboo Day also intends to highlight its sustainable utilization, and aims to promote the cultivation of bamboo for new industries around the globe. It also promotes its local and traditional uses for the economic development of the community. World Bamboo Day was founded by Kamesh Salam in 2009 at the 8th World Bamboo Congress held in Bangkok, Thailand. The date is also marked as the Royal Thai Forestry Day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 18 – World Bamboo Day – by WBO (founded by Kamesh Salam in 2009)





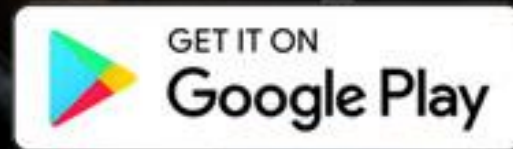
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Books & Authors

438. A book titled “India’s Pakistan Conundrum: Managing a Complex Relationship” is authored by Sharat Sabharwal. He offers a sober and realistic assessment of Pakistan’s trajectory and attitude towards India in this book. The book, written by a former Indian High (and Deputy) High Commissioner to Pakistan, is a welcome addition to strategic literature on how to deal with Islamabad. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “India’s Pakistan Conundrum: Managing a Complex Relationship” book – authored by Sharat Sabharwal
- Sharat Sabharwal – former Indian High Commissioner to Pakistan
- [Pakistan – Islamabad – Pakistani Rupee](#) | [PM – Shehbaz Sharif](#) | [President – Arif Alvi](#)

439. On September 16, Noted Film Actor Manoj Bajpayee released a book titled “Muskurate Chand Lamhe aur Kuchh Khamoshiyan” at a function in New Delhi. The book is based on philosophy and humour and it offers a bouquet of poems. It has been authored by Jiwesh Nandan and published by Shobit Arya, the founder and publisher of Wisdom Tree. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Muskurate Chand Lamhe aur Kuchh Khamoshiyan” book – authored by Jiwesh Nandan
- The book was released by – Actor Manoj Bajpayee | Publisher – Shobit Arya



Obituaries

440. In September 2022, Valery Polyakov, the Soviet (Russian) cosmonaut who set the record for the longest single stay in space, passed away at age of 80. Polyakov’s record of 437 days in space began January 8, 1994, when he and two others blasted off on a two-day flight to the Soviet space station Mir. While aboard Mir, he orbited the Earth more than 7,000 times, before returning on March 22, 1995. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Valery Polyakov – a Soviet/Russian cosmonaut – passed away
- He set the record for the longest single stay in space (437 days - from Jan 1994 to March 1995)

441. On September 18, Manikrao Gavit, former Congress MP who represented the tribal-majority Nandurbar Lok Sabha constituency for a record 9 times, passed away at the age of 87. Gavit represented Nandurbar between 1980 and 2009. In 2013, Gavit served as a Minister of State (MoS) in Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment in the Manmohan Singh-led UPA government. He also served as the Minister of State for Home Affairs in 2004. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manikrao Gavit – a Politician – passed away (Party - INC | Constituency - Nandurbar, Maharashtra)
- He served as MoS in Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (2013) & MoS in Ministry of Home Affairs (2004)



Meetings, Conferences & Summits

442. In September 2022, External Affairs Minister, Dr. S. Jaishankar represented India at the 77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) held at the UN Headquarters in New York under the theme of “A Watershed Moment: Transformative Solutions to Interlocking Challenges”. During the session, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres launched a multi-billion-dollar International Finance Facility for Education (IFFEd) with an initial funding of \$2 billion. The I2U2 group (comprising India, Israel, UAE and the US) also met on the sidelines of the 77th UNGA Meeting. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 77th Session of the UNGA held in New York (UN Headquarters)
- Theme – “A Watershed Moment: Transformative Solutions to Interlocking Challenges”
- India was represented by – Dr. S. Jaishankar
- Antonio Guterres – launched ‘International Finance Facility for Education (IFFEd)’ with an initial funding of \$2 billion
- I2U2 group (comprising India, Israel, UAE & US) – also met on the sidelines of the 77th UNGA Meeting
- HQs of UNGA – New York, US | President – Csaba Korosi (Hungary) | Member Countries – 193

443. On September 14, Union Home Minister Amit Shah participated in the “All-India Official Language Conference” at Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Indoor Stadium in Gujarat’s Surat city. During his day-long visit to Surat, Mr. Shah also visited Kribhco Township at Hazira near Surat where he laid the foundation stone of a Bio-ethanol Plant. The conference was organised on the occasion of Hindi Day (September 14). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “All-India Official Language Conference” – organised at Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Indoor Stadium, Surat, Gujarat
- The conference was organised – on the occasion of Hindi Day (September 14)
- Amit Shah – laid the foundation stone of a Bio-ethanol Plant in Kribhco Township at Hazira near Surat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

444. On September 21, the 10th India-Brazil-South Africa Dialogue Forum (IBSA) Trilateral Ministerial Commission (ITMC) meeting took place in New York. It was chaired by Hon’ble Minister of External Affairs Dr. S. Jaishankar. IBSA exemplified the spirit of South-South cooperation. The IBSA Fund is a special feature of IBSA collaboration. Since its inception, IBSA has allocated over \$44 million, supporting 39 South-South cooperation development projects in 35 partner countries. India is the incumbent IBSA Chair and will be hosting the 6th IBSA Summit on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in November 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 10th IBSA Trilateral Ministerial Commission meeting – took place in New York, US
- The meeting was chaired by – Dr. S. Jaishankar | Present IBSA Chair country – India
- 6th IBSA Summit – will be held by India on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in November 2022
- Brazil – Brasilia – Brazilian Real | President – Jair Bolsonaro
- South Africa – Cape Town – South African Rand | President – Cyril Ramaphosa



445. On September 16, Anupriya Patel, Minister of State for Commerce, co-chaired the 19th “ASEAN-India Economic Ministers’ Meeting” held in Siem Reap City, Cambodia. The Economic Ministers or their representatives from all the 10 ASEAN countries attended the meeting. The two-way trade between ASEAN and India reached USD 91.5 billion in 2021 increasing by 39.2% year-on-year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anupriya Patel – co-chaired the 19th “ASEAN-India Economic Ministers’ Meeting” held in Cambodia
- Two-way trade between ASEAN & India reached \$91.5 billion in 2021
- [Chairmanship of ASEAN 2022 – Cambodia](#) | [Secretariat of ASEAN – Jakarta, Indonesia](#) | [Members – 10](#)
- [Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Piyush Goyal](#) | [Constituency – Maharashtra](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Anupriya Singh Patel & Som Parkash](#)

446. On September 14, Alok Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Power, inaugurated the 2nd edition of international conference “ANGAN 2022” (Augmenting Nature by Green Affordable New-habitat) in New Delhi. The conference was based on the theme “Making the Zero-Carbon Transition in Buildings”. The conference was organised by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), Ministry of Power, in collaboration with Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation (SDC) under the Indo-Swiss Building Energy Efficiency Project (BEEP). The BEEP is a collaborative project between the Government of India and the Government of Switzerland. The winners of the BEE’s first “National Energy Efficiency Roadmap for Movement towards Affordable and Natural habitat (NEERMAN) Award” were also felicitated on this occasion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Alok Kumar – inaugurated the 2nd edition of international conference “ANGAN 2022” in New Delhi
- Theme of the conference – “Making the Zero-Carbon Transition in Buildings” | Organised by BEE & SDC under ‘BEEP’
- ‘BEEP’ – a collaborative project between India & Switzerland | ‘NEERMAN’ Award – by BEE
- ANGAN – Augmenting Nature by Green Affordable New-habitat
- [Switzerland – Bern – Swiss Franc](#) | [President – Guy Parmelin](#)
- [HQs of BEE – New Delhi](#) | [Director General – Abhay Bakre](#)

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

447. As of data published on September 15, Saudi Arabia emerged as the second-biggest oil supplier to India after a three-month gap, overtaking Russia by a thin margin, while Iraq retained the top spot in August 2022. India, the world’s third-biggest oil importer and consumer, imported 8,63,950 barrels per day (bpd) of crude from Saudi Arabia, up 4.8% from July. Moreover, India has become Russia’s second-biggest oil buyer after China. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Saudi Arabia – overtook Russia & emerged as the second-biggest oil supplier to India after a three-month gap
- India – world’s third-biggest oil importer & consumer
- India – has become Russia’s second-biggest oil buyer after China
- India buys most of its oil from – Iraq
- [Saudi Arab – Riyadh – Saudi Riyal](#) | [Saudi Crown Prince – Mohammed bin Salman](#)
- [Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble](#) | [PM – Mikhail Mishustin](#) | [President – Vladimir Putin](#)

448. According to the Department for Promotion of Industries and Internal Trade (DPIIT) report (July 2022), India's actual industrial investment between January and July stood at Rs 1,71,285 Cr. Andhra Pradesh emerged as India's top investment destination, with Rs 40,361 Cr investments, followed by Odisha with Rs 36,828 Cr. [{Read more}](#).

Key Points:

- DPIIT report (July 2022): India's actual industrial investment between January & July stood at Rs 1,71,285 Cr
- India's top investment destination – Andhra Pradesh (Rs 40,361 Cr investments) | 2nd – Odisha (Rs 36,828 Cr)
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

Acquisitions & Mergers

449. On September 19, Canada-based Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Board (OTPP) will buy a 30% stake in Mahindra Group's renewable energy firm, Mahindra Susten, for Rs 711 Crore. The parties have signed binding agreements pursuant to which Ontario Teachers' will buy the Mahindra Susten's stake at an equity value of Rs 2,371 Crore. The companies will also set up an infrastructure investment trust (InvIT), including renewable power assets seeded by Mahindra Susten with operational capacities of about 1.54 GWp, by FY24. Mahindra Group aims to be Planet Positive by 2040. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- OTPP (Canada) – to buy 30% stake in Mahindra Susten (Renewable Energy firm of Mahindra Group)
- The companies will also set up an InvIT with operational capacities of about 1.54 GWp, by FY24
- Mahindra Group aims to be 'Planet Positive' by 2040
- HQs of Mahindra group – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Anand Mahindra | CEO – Anish Shah

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

450. In September 2022, an MoU was signed between India and Madagascar for the training of diplomats. During a special ceremony organized at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Madagascar, Foreign Affairs Minister, Richard Randriamandrato, and India's Ambassador to Madagascar, Abhay Kumar, signed the MoU between the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service and the Foreign Affairs Ministry of Madagascar. The cooperation between India and Madagascar through this MoU is a step towards realising the common vision of SAGAR (Security and Growth For All in the Region). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (India) + Madagascar = an MoU for the training of diplomats
- India's Ambassador to Madagascar – Abhay Kumar
- Madagascar – Antananarivo – Malagasy Ariary | President – Andry Rajoelina





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