

**Warning:** Smartkeeda possesses all copyrights on its content. This doesn't allow anyone to use its content for commercial purposes. If any infringement is found, legal action will be taken against the individual or entity. If you want to use the content for commercial purposes, kindly write to us at admin@smartkeeda.com.

# **Testzone presents**

# Full-Length Current Affairs Mock Test Series Month-wise

# September CA MockDrill Combo

(PDF in English)



# Click Here to Attempt FREE Mock Tests based on this PDF

#### ❖ Six Months' PDFs & FREE Mock Tests for Current Affairs:

August 2021	Download Combo PDF	Attempt Mock Tests
July 2021	Download Combo PDF	Attempt Mock Tests
June 2021	Download Combo PDF	Attempt Mock Tests
May 2021	Download Combo PDF	Attempt Mock Tests
April 2021	Download Combo PDF	Attempt Mock Tests
March 2021	Download Combo PDF	Attempt Mock Tests



### An important message from Team Smartkeeda

Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the MockDrill Test of September 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial if you want to score a high rank in Current Affairs Mocks at Testzone. Therefore, we urge you to go through each piece of information carefully and try to remember the facts and figures because the questions to be asked in the Current Affairs MockDrill will be based on the information given in the PDF only.

We hope you will make the best of use of this PDF and perform well in MockDrill Tests at Testzone.

All the best!

Regards

Team Smartkeeda

# स्मार्टकीड़ा टीम की ओर से एक महत्वपूर्ण सन्देश!

मित्रों! हम आशा करते हैं की आप सभी स्वस्थ और कुशल होंगे। इस सन्देश के माध्यम से हम आपसे यह कहना चाहते हैं की ये PDF सितम्बर 2021 माह में Testzone पर MockDrill Test में आपकी तैयारी को बेहतर करने के लिए उपलब्ध करायी जा रही है। इस PDF में हमने कुछ अति आवश्यक 'Key-Points' के माध्यम से आपको सम-सामयिकी (Current Affairs) सूचनाओं से अवगत कराया है और अगर आप MockDrill में अपनी योग्यता सिद्ध करना चाहते हैं तो आपके लिए हर सूचना को पढना, समझना और उसे याद रखना भी अति आवश्यक है क्योंकि MockDrill में शामिल किए गए प्रश्न PDF में दी गयी सूचना या जानकारी पर ही आधारित होंगे।

हम आशा करते हैं की आप इस PDF का भरपूर लाभ उठाते हुए आने वाले MockDrill Test में बेहतर अंक प्राप्त करेंगे।

आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा



# INDEX

National & States Affairs	5
International Affairs	45
Banking & Economic Affairs	
Defence Affairs	76
Schemes & Initiatives	62
Sports & Games	89
Important Days & Dates	97
Meetings, Conferences and Summits	
Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes	
Appointments & Resignations	132
Amount & Agreements	147
Ranks, Reports & Surveys	150
Arts & Cultural Affairs	159
Acquisitions & Mergers  MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships	160
MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships	
Books & Authors	177
Obituaries	182
Persons in News.	186
Science & Technology	188
Ordinance, Bills and Acts	197



## **National & States Affairs**

1. On September 2, Ladakh has adopted two endangered species, Snow Leopard (Panther unica) and Black-Necked Crane (Grus nicricollis), as State animal and State bird, two years after it was carved out as a separate Union Territory (UT) from the erstwhile State of J&K. Black-necked crane, only found in Ladakh region, was the State bird of J&K before August 5, 2019. Snow leopard, whose numbers are dwindling wordwide, has been categorised as "vulnerable" in the IUCN Red List. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Ladakh adopted 'Snow Leopard' & 'Black-Necked Crane' as State animal & State bird
- 'Snow Leopard' categorised as 'Vulnerable' in the IUCN Red List
- Ladakh: Capital Leh | Lt. Governor R. K. Mathur
- 2. On September 1, Union minister of Ayush Sarbananda Sonowal, along with six other Union ministers, has launched the "Yoga-Break" mobile application at Vigyan Bhawan as part of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations. The concept of Yoga Break (Y-Break) is relevant to working professionals across the world. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Sarbananda Sonowal launched "Yoga-Break" (Y-Break) mobile app for working professionals
- Ministry of AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency Majuli, Asssam
- MoS in Ministry of AYUSH: Munjapara Mahendrabhai

## The Question Bank

**3.** Himachal Pradesh has become the first state in India to administer the first dose of the Covid-19 vaccine to 100% of its adult population. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Himachal Pradesh the 1<sup>st</sup> state to administer the 1<sup>st</sup> dose of Covid-19 vaccine to 100% of its Adult population
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital Shimla & Dharamshala | CM Jai Ram Thakur | Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
- **4.** On September 2, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has released a special commemorative coin of Rs 125 to mark the 125<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, the founder of ISKCON (International Society for Krishna Consciousness) commonly known as the 'Hare Krishna movement'. Meanwhile, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee also inaugurated the "lotus feet" of Prabhupada on his 125<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary. {Read more}

- Narendra Modi released a special commemorative coin of Rs 125 to mark the 125<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada (founder of ISKCON)
- Mamata Banerjee inaugurated the "Lotus Feet" of Prabhupada on his 125<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary
- HQs of ISKCON Mayapur, West Bengal | Founder Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada



**5.** IndianOil has launched its official brand mascot 'IndianOil Rhino' on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 during the 62<sup>nd</sup> IndianOil Day celebrations. One Horned Rhino is made the Brand Mascot of Indian Oil Corporation. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "One Horned Rhino" is made the Brand Mascot of Indian Oil Corporation
- HQs of IOCL New Delhi | Chairperson Shrikant Madhav Vaidya | Founded in 1959
- **6.** Amongst the districts with over 10 lakh population, Indore district of Madhya Pradesh has become the first district in India to have vaccinated its entire targeted population for the first dose of Covid19 vaccine. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- Indore became the first district in India to have vaccinated its entire population for the first dose of Covid vaccine
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital Bhopal | CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel
- 7. President Ram Nath Kovind has awarded the President's Colour to the Indian Naval Aviation at a ceremonial parade held at the INS Hansa base near Panaji in Goa. Shri Ram Nath Kovind, who is on a 3-day visit to Goa, presented the President's Colour to the Naval Aviation in the presence of Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Karambir Singh. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- President Ram Nath Kovind awarded the President's Colour to Indian Naval Aviation at INS Hansa, in Goa
- Goa: Capital Panaji | CM Pramod Sawant | Governor P. S. Sreedharan Pillai
- **8.** On September 3, Assam government has decided to rename "Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park" as "Orang National Park", taking cognisance of the Adivasi and the tea tribe community's demands. Located on the north bank of the Brahmaputra in Darrang and Sonitpur districts, the national park is home to tigers, rhinos and wild elephants. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Assam government decided to rename "Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park" as "Orang National Park"
- Assam: Capital Dispur | CM Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor Jagdish Mukhi
- **9.** On September 2, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha launched Rural Enterprises Acceleration Programme titled "Saath" for Self Help Group (SHG) women. "Saath" is aimed at accelerating livelihoods of rural women associated with SHGs. {Read more}

- J & K launched Rural Enterprises Acceleration Programme titled "Saath" for SHG women
- J & K: Capital Srinagar | Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha



**10.** On September 1, World's highest motorable road at 18,600 feet has been opened for the general public in Ladakh. The road passes through Kela Pass and connects Leh to the Pangong Lake. The road is constructed by the 58 Engineer Regiment of the Indian Army. Till now, the Khardungla Pass in Ladakh was the world's highest motorable road for the general public at a height of 18,380 feet. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- World's highest motorable road at 18,600 feet is opened for general public in Ladakh
- The road passes through 'Kela Pass' & connects Leh to Pangong Lake
- The road is constructed by 58 Engineer Regiment of the Indian Army
- 'Kela Pass' & 'Khardungla Pass' located in Ladakh
- Ladakh: Capital Leh | Lt. Governor R. K. Mathur
- **11.** On September 3, National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) Ltd has indigenously renovated & modernized its 180 MW (MegaWatt) Baira Siul Power Station located in Chamba in Himachal Pradesh. The life of Baira Siul Power Station has now been extended by another 25 years. Globally, India stands at 5<sup>th</sup> position for installed Hydroelectric Power capacity. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- NHPC Ltd renovated & modernized its 180 MW Baira Siul Power Station in Chamba, Himachal Pradesh
- India 5<sup>th</sup> position globally for installed Hydroelectric Power capacity
- HQs of NHPC Faridabad, Haryana | MD & Chairman Abhay Kumar Singh
- **12.** On September 2, Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has virtually launched the "e-ILP platform" for effective regulation of the Inner Line Permit (ILP) system in the state. The ILP system came into effect in Manipur on January 1, 2020. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Manipur launched the "e-ILP platform" for effective regulation of 'ILP' system in the state
- Manipur: Capital Imphal | CM N. Biren Singh | Governor La. Ganesan
- **13.** On September 2, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has constituted a 10-member Committee to review the existing guidelines of "Journalists Welfare Scheme" of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The committee is headed by Shri Ashok Kumar Tandon, a renowned Journalist and Member of Prasar Bharati. {Read more}

- Ministry of I&B constituted a 10-member Committee to review the existing guidelines of "Journalists Welfare Scheme"
- The committee is headed by Ashok Kumar Tandon
- Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: Anurag Singh Thakur | Constituency Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: L. Murugan



**14.** On September 2, Maharashtra Cabinet has decided to set up a Science City known as "Bharat Ratna Rajiv Gandhi Science City" in Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation in Pune. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "Bharat Ratna Rajiv Gandhi Science City" to be set up in Pune, Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM Uddhav Thackeray | Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- **15.** On September 3, AYUSH Ministry has launched the campaign "AYUSH AAPKE DWAR" from more than 45 locations across India. Total 21 states are participating in the launch activities in which more than 2 lakh saplings will be distributed. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- AYUSH Ministry launched the campaign "AYUSH AAPKE DWAR" from more than 45 locations across India
- Ministry of AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency Majuli, Asssam
- MoS in Ministry of AYUSH: Munjapara Mahendrabhai
- **16.** On September 2, NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd (NTPC REL) has received a Letter of Award (LoA) from Madhya Pradesh government for developing 325 MW of solar projects in Rewa Ultra Mega Solar Ltd at Shajapur Solar Park in Madhya Pradesh. With this, NTPC has achieved 4.4. GW capacity through Tariff Based Competitive Bidding. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- NTPC REL received a Letter of Award from Madhya Pradesh for developing 325 MW Solar Power Project
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital Bhopal | CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel
- 17. On September 1, Union Minister for Women and Child Development Smriti Irani has urged all aspirational districts of India to make a commitment to establish "Poshan Vatika" (Nutrition Garden) during the Nutrition Month starting from September 1 for the protection of Severe Actual Malnourished (SAM) children. She also inaugurated "Poshan 2.0". {Read more}

- Smriti Irani inaugurated "Poshan 2.0"
- Smriti Irani urged all aspirational districts to establish "Poshan Vatika" (Nutrition Garden) during Nutrition Month
- "Nutri Garden" inaugurated at All India Institute of Ayurveda, New Delhi
- Ministry of Women and Child Development: Smriti Irani | Constituency Amethi, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Women and Child Development: Munjapara Mahendrabhai



**18.** Sai Life Sciences has become a signatory of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC), the world's largest sustainability initiative. As a signatory, Sai Life Sciences has committed itself to adopting the Ten Principles of the UNGC on human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Sai Life Sciences became a signatory of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC)
- HQs of Sai Life Sciences Ltd Hyderabad, Telangana | MD & CEO Krishna Kanumuri
- HQs of UNGC New York, US | CEO & Executive Director Sanda Ojiambo
- **19.** On September 3, World-Wide Fund for Nature-India (WWF India) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) have jointly developed a platform called "India Plastic Pact" to promote a circular system for plastics. The platform was launched by British High Commissioner to India, Alexander Ellis. With this, India becomes the first Asian Country to launch a plastics pact. India generates 9.46 million tonnes of plastic waste annually, of which 40% is not collected. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- WWF India + CII = jointly developed a platform called "India Plastic Pact"
- India generates 9.46 million tonnes of plastic waste annually
- HQs of CII New Delhi | President T. V. Narendran | DG Chandrajit Banerjee | Founded in 1895
- HQs of WWF India New Delhi, India | President Jamshyd N. Godrej | Founded in 1961
- **20.** Jammu & Kashmir based Dulhasti Power Station organized various programs under the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' and handed over ambulance to Seva Bharti NGO under CSR scheme. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Dulhasti Power Station (J&K) organized various programs under the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'
- J & K: Capital Srinagar | Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha
- **21.** Indian Railways in a bid to provide boost to the covid-hit tourism sector has decided to launch a Jungle Tea Toy-Train Safari from Siliguri junction to Rongtong station in West Bengal. Indian Railways' Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) zone has announced this new service. The toy train on this route was declared a UNESCO 'World Heritage Site' in 1999. {Read more}

- Indian Railways' NFR Zone to launch a Jungle Tea Toy-Train Safari from Siliguri junction to Rongtong station (in WB)
- Toy train on this route was declared a 'UNESCO World Heritage Site' in 1999
- HQs of Indian Railways New Delhi | Chairman & CEO Suneet Sharma
- HQs of NFR Zone Maligaon, Guwahati | GM Anshul Gupta



**22.** The sole female wild buffalo in a conservation centre at Chhattisgarh's Sitanadi-Udanti Tiger Reserve died recently. The state animal is on the verge of extinction with less than 20 individuals of the species left in Chhattisgarh. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Sole female Wild Buffalo died recently in Sitanadi-Udanti Tiger Reserve (Chhattisgarh)
- Wild Water Buffalo the state animal of Chhattisgarh
- Chhattisgarh: Capital Raipur | CM Bhupesh Baghel | Governor Anusuiya Uikey
- 23. On September 2, Amazon India has launched "Kisan Store" that will make agri-inputs such as seeds, farm tools and accessories, available to buyers at competitive prices with the added convenience of delivery at their doorstep. Amazon "Kisan Store" was launched by Agriculture Minister, Narendra Singh Tomar. {Read more} Key Points:
- Amazon India launched "Kisan Store" to make make agri-inputs available to farmers at their doorstep
- "Kisan Store" was launched by Narendra Singh Tomar
- HQs of Amazon Seattle, USA | CEO Andy Jassy | Incorporated in 1994
- HQs of Amazon India Hyderabad, Telangana | Country Head Amit Agarwal
- 24. On September 1, Coal India Ltd (CIL) has started a pilot project to replace diesel with Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) in dumpers engaged in transportation of coal. This move will help the PSU to save around ₹500 Cr annually. This is a significant move, as the world's largest coal miner uses over 4 lakh kilolitres of diesel per annum with an annual expense of over ₹3,500 Cr. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- CIL started a pilot project to replace diesel with LNG in dumpers engaged in transportation of coal
- This move will help the PSU to save around ₹500 Cr annually
- HQs of CIL Kolkata, West Bengal | Director Anil Kumar Jha | CMD Pramod Agrawal
- **25.** On September 1, Defence Minister Ranjath Singh has launched 180 development projects worth over ₹1,710 Cr in his Lok Sabha constituency Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. The development projects were of total 9 departments. {Read more}

- Ranjath Singh launched 180 development projects worth over ₹1,710 Cr in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel
- **26.** On September 4, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) has laid the foundation stone for first ever Electric Vehicle Charging Station (EVCS) at Lapalang, Shillong in Meghalaya. The EVCS are being developed under Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid) & Electric Vehicles (FAME) India Scheme Phase-II. Under this scheme, POWERGRID shall be developing 11 EVCS in Shillong city. {Read more}



- POWERGRID laid the foundation stone for first ever Electric Vehicle Charging Station (EVCS) in Meghalaya
- The EVCS are being developed under the "FAME India Scheme Phase-II"
- HQs of POWERGRID Gurgaon, Haryana | MD & Chairman Kandikuppa Sreekant
- Meghalaya: Capital Shillong | CM Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor Satya Pal Malik
- **27.** On September 1, Geological Survey of India Training Institute (GSITI), the training and capacity building wing of the Geological Survey of India (GSI), under the Ministry of Mines, has launched its website for round-the-clock accessibility of various online training courses on 'Earth Sciences' for its stakeholders. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- GSITI launched its website for round-the-clock accessibility of various online training courses on 'Earth Sciences'
- GSITI a wing of the GSI under Ministry of Mines
- HQs of GSITI Hyderabad, Telangana | Director General R. S. Garkhal
- 28. On September 1, In the presence of Union Home Minister, Amit Shah, a historic Karbi Anglong Agreement to end the decades old crisis ensuring Assam's territorial integrity was signed in New Delhi between the Assam Government & Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council. Modi Government will give Special Development Package of around Rs 1000 Cr over 5 years to undertake specific projects for the development of Karbi Anglong area. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Assam + Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council = signed "Karbi Anglong Agreement"
- Government will give Rs 1000 Cr over 5 years for the development of Karbi Anglong area
- Assam: Capital Dispur | CM Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor Jagdish Mukhi
- **29.** A team from the first battalion of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) has successfully scaled the "Mount Balbala" peak at a height of 21,050 feet in Uttarakhand. It was the first summit by any Indian expedition after a Swiss expedition made a successful climb to Mount Balbala in 1947. Codenamed "Parakram", the ITBP expedition was launched on August 7, 2021. {Read more}

- A team from the first battalion of the ITBP successfully scaled the "Mount Balbala" peak in Uttarakhand
- Codename of the expedition "Parakram"
- HQs of ITBP New Delhi | DG Sanjay Arora | ADG Manoj Singh Rawat
- Uttarakhand: Capital Dehradun & Gairsain | CM Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor Baby Rani Maurya



**30.** On September 4, The Karnataka Cabinet has decided to ban online gambling or betting in the state by amending the "Karnataka Police Act, 1963". The ban would not include lottery or betting on horse races. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Karnataka to ban online gambling or betting in the state by amending the "Karnataka Police Act, 1963"
- Karnataka: Capital Bangalore | CM Basavaraj Bommai | Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot
- **31.** On September 4, Coal India Ltd (CIL), under the Ministry of Coal has launched a new software named "Spectral Enhancement" (SPE), which will help in identifying thin coal seams under the earth crust and improve assessment of coal resources using seismic survey during coal exploration process. CIL accounts for 80% of India's coal output. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Coal India Ltd launched a new software named "Spectral Enhancement" (SPE)
- HQs of CIL Kolkata, West Bengal | Director Anil Kumar Jha | CMD Pramod Agrawal
- **32.** On September 4, The Tamil Nadu government has announced to set up India's first Dugong or Sea Cow Conservation Reserve in the Palk Bay on the southeast coast of the state. In Tamil Nadu, Dugong is found in Gulf of Mannar and it is an endangered marine mammal that is facing extinction due to habitat loss, sea pollution, and loss of seagrass. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu to set up India's first Dugong or Sea Cow Conservation Reserve in the Palk Bay
- In Tamil Nadu, Dugong is found in Gulf of Mannar
- Tamil Nadu: Capital Chennai | CM Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor Ravindra Narayan Ravi
- **33.** On September 6, The ICAR-National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources (ICAR-NBAGR) has recognised the Manda buffalo, found in the Eastern Ghats and plateau of Koraput region of Odisha, as the 19<sup>th</sup> unique breed of buffaloes found in India. {Read more}

- ICAR-NBAGR(Karnal, Haryana) recognised "Manda Buffalo" as the 19<sup>th</sup> unique breed of buffaloes found in India
- Manda Buffalo is in the Eastern Ghats & plateau of Koraput region of Odisha
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal
- **34.** The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) has launched the first Mumbai Climate Action Plan (MCAP) to strategise ways to tackle the challenges of climate change. The plan was launched by State Environment minister Aaditya Thackeray. The Action Plan will focus on six areas waste management, sustainable mobility, clean energy, urban floods and water management, urban green cover and biodiversity, and air quality. Mumbai became a part of the "C40 Cities" climate leadership group in December 2020. {Read more}



- Mumbai the first South Asian city to launch "Climate Action Plan (CAP)" (launched by Aaditya Thackeray)
- Mumbai became a part of the "C40 Cities" climate leadership group in December 2020
- Maharashtra: CM Uddhav Thackeray | Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- **35.** In an effort to enhance electronic payment of taxes and dues easier, the Odisha government has launched a revamped platform "e-Receipt 2.0". In the new system, payment gateway service providers of Indian Bank and Axis Bank have been integrated with the Odisha Treasury portal. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Odisha launched a revamped platform "e-Receipt 2.0"
- Payment gateway service providers of Indian Bank & Axis Bank are integrated with 'Odisha Treasury portal'
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal
- **36.** On September 7, PM Narendra Modi has virtually addressed the inaugural conclave of "Shikshak Parv" organised by the Ministry of Education. The PM launched "Vidyanjali 2.0", a portal that will facilitate donations, contributions from Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds. Among the initiatives launched by the PM were the "Indian Sign Language Dictionary" (audio and text embedded sign language video for the hearing impaired) and "Talking Books" (audio books for the visually impaired). "NISHTHA 3.0" was initiated for NIPUN Bharat. PM also highlighted the National Digital Educational Architecture, i.e., "N-DEAR" which will play a major role in eradicating inequality in education. {Read more}

- Narendra Modi addressed the inaugural conclave of "Shikshak Parv" organised by Ministry of Education
- Initiatives launched by PM Narendra Modi during the conclave:
- "Vidyanjali 2.0" portal
- "NISHTHA 3.0" for NIPUN Bharat
- "Indian Sign Language Dictionary"
- "Talking Books"
- 37. On September 6, A National Level Meeting with all State Animal Husbandry/Veterinary Ministers was convened virtually under the chairmanship of Shri Parshottam Rupala. Union Minister highlighted the Special Livestock Sector Package which has recently been announced by Government of India for next 5 years with an outlay of Rs 9800 Cr. During the meeting, Union Minister also launched the portal for National Livestock Mission (NLM), which was developed by SIDBI in collaboration with the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying. Under National Livestock Mission and Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM) schemes, 50% capital subsidy will be provided to the farm producer for increasing the production and supply of high genetic merit heifers. {Read more}



- Parshottam Rupala chaired the "National Level Meeting with State Animal Husbandry/Veterinary Ministers"
- He also launched a portal for 'National Livestock Mission' developed by SIDBI + Dept of Animal Husbandry & Dairying
- "Special Livestock Sector Package" announced by the Indian government for next 5 years Rs 9800 Cr
- HQs of SIDBI Lucknow, UP | MD & Chairman Sivasubramanian Ramann | Established in 1990
- Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying: Parshottam Rupala | Constituency Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying: Sanjeev Kumar Balyan & L. Murugan
- **38.** On September 3, State-run telecom research and development organisation C-DoT has launched a "Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) Lab" to design and develop pan-India integrated alert system for disaster management. The Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) has launched the lab at the occasion of its 38<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 3 38<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of "C-DoT"
- C-DoT launched a "Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) Lab" to develop pan-India Disaster Alert System
- HQs of C-DoT New Delhi | Executive Director Rajkumar Upadhyay
- **39.** On September 5, Dr. Jitendra Singh has inaugurated the latest upgraded state-of-the-art Doppler Weather Radar (DWR) & Indigenous GPS based Pilot Sonde at Indian Meteorological Department's Office in Jammu. The X-Band Doppler Weather Radar installed will help in providing real-time monitoring and reporting of weather events affecting Jammu region. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Jitendra Singh inaugurated "Doppler Weather Radar & Indigenous GPS based Pilot Sonde" at IMD Office in Jammu
- J & K: Capital Srinagar | Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha
- **40.** On September 3, Environmentalists has expressed concern over the massive diversion of fresh water from the Brahmani river basin. It could pose a grave threat to the famous mangrove vegetation in Odisha. Bhitarkanika, a Ramsar wetland, is home to 62 mangrove species. {Read more}

- Environmentalists expressed concern over the massive diversion of fresh water from Brahmani River basin
- It could pose a grave threat to the famous mangrove vegetation in Odisha
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal



**41.** On September 5, the Varanasi-Chunar cruise commenced with its maiden ride from Ravidas Ghat in Varanasi to Chunar Fort in Mirzapur. The 'Alaknanda' cruise in Varanasi is the first ever air-conditioned luxury river cruise in the city. This initiative is aimed to boost tourism in Uttar Pradesh. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- 'Alaknanda' cruise service started from Varanasi to Chunar (Mirzapur) to boost tourism in Uttar Pradesh
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel
- **42.** On September 2, India's first bio-brick based building was inaugurated at IIT Hyderabad by Director B. S. Murty. It is part of the Bold Unique Idea Lead Development (BUILD) project to demonstrate the strength and versatility of the material. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- India's first bio-brick based building was inaugurated at IIT Hyderabad
- Director of IIT Hyderabad B. S. Murty
- **43.** On September 6, M. Venkaiah Naidu, Vice President of India, has recently inaugurated the Moturi Satyanarayana Centre for Advanced Study in the Humanities and Social Sciences at Krea University in Andhra Pradesh. The centre aims to promote scholarship in the Humanities and Social Sciences, and commemorates the life and legacy of Moturi Satyanarayana, veteran freedom fighter, Member of the Constituent Assembly, and a two-time Rajya Sabha MP. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated Moturi Satyanarayana Centre for Advanced Study in Humanities & Social Sciences
- It was inaugurated at Krea University in Andhra Pradesh
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan
- **44.** On September 4, Bhupender Yadav has launched "PRANA" portal for tracking & monitoring of the implementation of India's National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) in 132 cities. Bhupender Yadav also dedicated the first functional 'Smog Tower' of India, situated at Anand Vihar in New Delhi at a height of over 20m. {Read more}

- Bhupender Yadav launched "PRANA" portal to monitor the implementation of National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)
- PRANA Portal for Regulation of Air-pollution in Non-Attainment cities
- Bhupender Yadav dedicated the first functional 'Smog Tower' in New Delhi
- Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Bhupender Yadav | Constituency Rajasthan
- MoS in Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Ashwini Kumar Choubey



**45.** On September 7, Ministry of Coal has constituted a Task Force and an Expert Committee to prepare road map for Coal based Hydrogen Production. Coal is one of the important sources of hydrogen making (Brown Hydrogen). Almost 100% of Hydrogen produced in India is through Natural Gas. The Task Force is constituted under the Chairmanship of Vinod Kumar Tiwari. Further, the Expert Committee is constituted under the chairmanship of R. K. Malhotra. Besides, Ayana Renewable Power, a renewable energy platform majority controlled by National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF), and Greenstat Hydrogen India, a Norwegian energy organisation, have signed an MoU to accelerate the hydrogen technology development in India. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Ministry of Coal constituted a Task Force & an Expert Committee to review Coal based Hydrogen Production
- Task Force is constituted under Vinod Kumar Tiwari (Additional Secretary, Coal Ministry)
- Expert Committee is constituted under R. K. Malhotra (DG, Federation of Indian Petroleum Industry)
- Ayana Renewable Power (NIIF) + Greenstat Hydrogen India (Norway) = an MoU to accelerate Hydrogen Technology
- Ministry of Coal & Ministry of Mines: Pralhad Joshi | Constituency Dharwad, Karnataka
- MoS in Ministry of Coal & Ministry of Mines: Danve Raosaheb Dadarao

**46.** As on September 7, In collaboration with Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), the TRIFED is setting up "Atmanirbhar Bharat corners" in 75 Indian Missions/Embassies across the world in the next 90 days. The first Atma Nirbhar Bharat corner has been successfully inaugurated at Indian Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand. The corner will be an exclusive space to promote GI tagged tribal art and craft products besides natural and organic products. Additionally, TRIFED will also be establishing an Atmanirbhar corners in 75 embassies of foreign countries set up in India. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- TRIFED + MEA = setting up "Atmanirbhar Bharat corners" in 75 Indian Missions/Embassies across the world
- The first Atma Nirbhar Bharat corner is successfully inaugurated at Indian Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand
- HQs of TRIFED New Delhi | MD Pravir Krishna | Chairman Ramesh Chand Meena | Founded in 1987
- Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs: Hardeep Singh Puri | Constituency Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs: Kaushal Kishore

**47.** On September 8, Minister of State for Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) Rajeev Chandrasekhar has launched the drive under "Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan" (PMGDISHA) and announced campaign for 100% digital literacy at all digital villages at an event organised by CSC SPV under "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" celebrations. PMGDISHA scheme aims to cover 6 Cr people in rural areas to be digitally literate. {Read more}

- MeitY launched a drive under "PMGDISHA" to provide 100% digital literacy at all digital villages
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar



**48.** On September 8, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) has constituted a 8-member committee for framing/preparing new drugs, cosmetics and medical device laws. The panel is headed by Drug Controller General of India V. G. Somani. The issued order is titled 'Constitution of Committee for Framing of New Drugs, Cosmetics and Medical Devices Act'. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- MoHFW constituted a 8-member committee to frame new drugs, cosmetics & medical device laws
- The panel is headed by V. G. Somani (Drug Controller General of India)
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency Palitana, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar

**49.** On September 8, The Union Cabinet has approved the signing of an MoU on cooperation in the field of Geosciences between Russia's Joint Stock Company Rosgeologia and the Geological Survey of India (GSI), Ministry of Mines. Besides, the cabinet also approved the procurement of 56 C-295MW transport aircraft from M/s Airbus Defence and Space S.A., Spain for the Indian Air Force. And for this, the government has approved \$3 billion for Airbus-Tata project to replace the old Avro-748 planes of IAF. Moreover, the union cabinet approved the signing of an agreement between India and Portugal on the recruitment of Indian citizens to work in Portugal. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Union Cabinet has given its approval for:
- An MoU on cooperation in the field of Geosciences between Rosgeologia (Russia) & GSI (India)
- The procurement of 56 C-295MW transport aircraft from M/s Airbus Defence & Space (Spain)
- An MoU on the recruitment of Indian citizens to work in the Portugal between Portugal & India
- Government approved \$3 billion for 'Airbus-Tata project' to replace the old 'Avro-748' planes of IAF

**50.** On September 8, The Union Cabinet has approved the PLI Scheme for Textiles for MMF Apparel, MMF Fabrics and 10 segments/ products of Technical Textiles with a budgetary outlay of Rs 10,683 Cr for 5 years. Besides, the cabinet also approved the increase in the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for all mandated Rabi crops for Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2022-23. Moreover, Cabinet has approved the signing of an MoU between the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) and the Chamber of Auditors of Azerbaijan. {Read more}

- Union Cabinet has approved:
- PLI Scheme for Textiles sector for 5 years with an outlay of Rs 10,683 Cr
- Increase in the MSP for all mandated Rabi crops
- An MoU between ICAI & Chamber of Auditors of Azerbaijan



**51.** On September 6, National Auminium Company Ltd (NALCO) has launched the 'NALCO Micro And Small enterprise Yogayog Application' (NAMASYA), a bi-lingual App developed exclusively for the benefit of the Company's MSE Vendors. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- NALCO launched the "NAMASYA app" exclusively for the benefit of the Company's MSE Vendors
- NAMASYA NALCO Micro And Small enterprise Yogayog Application
- HQs of Nalco Bhubaneswar, Odisha | CMD Sridhar Patra
- **52.** On September 6, Chandigarh has received its first Pollen Calendar developed by the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) and Panjab University. The calendar will help physicians identify the potential allergy triggers and advise them to limit exposure to high pollen areas and seasons. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- Chandigarh received its first Pollen Calendar to identify the potential allergy triggers
- It is developed by PGIMER & Panjab University
- 53. On September 8, Walmart-owned Flipkart has launched "Flipkart Boost", a new programme aimed at helping digital-first consumer brands to grow their business. Through a service fee model, Flipkart Boost will provide end-to-end support covering planning, advertising, cataloguing, logistics, quality control and mentoring to emerging 'Made in India' brands. Flipkart cited an Avendus Capital report to state that the D2C (direct to customer) sector in India is currently worth \$44.6 billion (end of FY 2021) and is expected to be worth \$100 billion by 2025. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Flipkart launched a new programme "Flipkart Boost" to help digital-first consumer brands to grow their business
- D2C sector in India is currently worth \$44.6 billion (end of FY 2021) | expected to be worth \$100 billion by 2025
- HQs of Flipkart Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson Binny Bansal | CEO Kalyan Krishnamurthy
- **54.** On September 4, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) has launched its branded store "Happy Shop", marking its foray into the non-fuel retailing business. HPCL has opened the branded store at one of its petrol pumps in Mumbai, Maharashtra. HPCL also launched "poWer 100", an ultra-premium grade petrol with Octane rating of 100 to cater to the growing number of high-end cars and bikes. {Read more}

- HPCL launched its first branded store "Happy Shop" in Mumbai
- HPCL launched "poWer 100" an ultra-premium grade petrol with Octane rating of 100
- HQs of HPCL Mumbai, MH | CEO & Chairperson Mukesh Kumar Surana



**55.** On September 14, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has laid the foundation stone of Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh State University in Aligarh. The university is being established by the Uttar Pradesh government in the memory and honour of Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh, the great freedom fighter, educationist and social reformer. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh State University in Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel
- **56.** On September 5, According to the "Ladakh Resident Certificate Order 2021", the Ladakh administration has decided to issue "Resident Certificate" only to the Permanent Resident Certificate (PRC) holders of the region. For entry into government services against all posts, the Administration also enhanced the upper age limit for the reserved category candidates from 43 years to 45 years, for the general category candidates from 40 to 42 years and for the physically challenged candidates from 42 to 44 years. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Ladakh administration decided to issue "Resident Certificate" only to the Permanent Resident Certificate holders
- Ladakh administration enhanced the upper age limit by two year:
- 45 years for the reserved category candidates
- 42 years for the general category candidates
- 44 years for the physically challenged candidates
- Ladakh: Capital Leh | Lt. Governor R. K. Mathur QUESTION Bank
- **57.** On September 9, Union Ministers Rajnath Singh and Nitin Gadkari inaugurated an emergency landing strip at Satta-Gandhav stretch on National Highway 925 in Barmer, Rajasthan. The 3-km section of Satta-Gandhav stretch is developed by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). NH-925 is India's first national highway to be used for emergency landing of IAF aircraft. {Read more}

- India's first emergency landing facility for IAF aircraft at Satta-Gandhav stretch on NH-925, in Barmer, Rajasthan
- Rajasthan: Capital Jaipur | CM Ashok Gehlot | Governor Kalraj Mishra
- HQs of IAF New Delhi | Chief Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria | Vice Chief Vivek Ram Chaudhari
- **58.** On September 9, Minister of State in Jal Shakti Ministry, Prahlad Singh Patel has presided over the e-launch of "Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2021" under 'Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) Phase-II' at an event organized by Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS). The minister also released the SSG 2021 Protocol document, SSG 2021 Dashboard and the mobile App for Citizens' feedback. {Read more}



- Jal Shakti Ministry launched "Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2021" under 'Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) Phase-II'
- Ministry of Jal Shakti: Gajendra Singh Sekhawat | Constituency Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- MoS in Ministry of Jal Shakti: Prahlad Singh Patel
- **59.** On September 9, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) in collaboration with the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) has launched "Main Bhi Digital 3.0" a special campaign for digital onboarding and training for Street Vendors under "PM SVANidhi" scheme across 223 cities in India. BharatPe, Mswipe, PhonePe, Paytm and Aceware are participating in this drive to issue UPI IDs, QR code and provide digital training. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- MoHUA + MeitY = launched "Main Bhi Digital 3.0" for digital onboarding & training of 'Street Vendors'
- "PM SVANidhi" scheme:
- Launched in June, 2020 by MoHUA
- Affordable working capital loan of up to ₹10,000
- An interest subsidy on regular repayment at 7%
- **60.** The Karnataka government has decided to establish a "Spices Park" at Ambale in Chikkamagaluru district. It has been a long-pending demand of the Malnad region. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Karnataka to establish a "Spices Park" at Ambale, in Chikmagalur district of Karnataka
- Karnataka: Capital Bangalore | CM Basavaraj Bommai | Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot
- **61.** On September 7, India's tallest air purifier with 24-metre height was inaugurated in Chandigarh. The inauguration comes on the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies. The air purifier is capable of cleaning the air in a radius of around 1 km and it has been installed by Pious Air Pvt Ltd, a firm based in Delhi. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- India's tallest air purifier with 24-metre height was inaugurated in Chandigarh
- Capacity of cleaning the air in a radius of around 1 km | Tower is installed by Pious Air Pvt Ltd
- **62.** On September 9, India's first indigenously designed High Ash Coal Gasification based Methanol Production Plant was inaugurated at BHEL R&D Centre, Hyderabad in Telangana. The project was supported by the Department of Science and Technology with Rs 10 Cr grant. {Read more}

- India's 1<sup>st</sup> indigenously designed High Ash Coal Gasification based Methanol Production Plant in Hyderabad
- It was inaugurated at BHEL R&D Centre, Hyderabad in Telangana
- Telangana: Capital Hyderabad | CM K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan



**63.** On September 11, Indian government has enhanced the scope of Transport and Marketing Assistance (TMA) scheme for specified Agriculture products by including Dairy products under its purview and increasing the rates of assistance. The scheme has been extended till March 31, 2022. The rates of assistance have been increased, by 50% for exports by Sea and 100% through Air. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Government enhanced the scope of Transport & Marketing Assistance(TMA) scheme for Agriculture products
- Government included Dairy products under the purview of TMA Scheme | Scheme extended till March 31, 2022
- Government increased the rates of assistance: 50% for exports by Sea & 100% for exports by Air

**64.** Haryana has become the first state in India in installation of Off-Grid Solar Pumps under "Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Utthan Mahaabhiyaan (PM-KUSUM)" with installation of 14,418 pumps against 15,000 sanctioned pumps for the year 2020-21. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy had launched the "PMKUSUM" scheme in 2019 with target to install 20 lakh standalone solar pumps. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Haryana became the first state in India in installation of Off-Grid Solar Pumps under "PM-KUSUM"
- "PM-KUSUM" scheme launched by Ministry of New and Renewable Energy in 2019
- Haryana: Capital Chandigarh | CM Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor Bandaru Dattatraya

65. On September 8, The Jharkhand Assembly has passed "The Jharkhand State Employment of Local Candidates Bill, 2021", which provides 75% reservation for local people in the private sector up to ₹40,000 salary a month. Once notified, Jharkhand will become the third State in India, after Andhra Pradesh and Haryana, to pass such law. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Jharkhand 3<sup>rd</sup> state to pass a bill providing 75% reservation for local people in the Private Sector up to ₹40,000 salary
- Jharkhand: Capital Ranchi | CM Hemant Soren | Governor Ramesh Bais

**66.** On September 10, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) Chief Mohan Bhagwat has launched a mobile app named "Audio Kumbh" developed to make more accessible works of national thinkers. {Read more}

- Mohan Bhagwat (RSS Chief) launched a mobile app named "Audio Kumbh"
- HQs of RSS Nagpur, Maharashtra | Sarsanghchalak (Chief) Mohan Bhagwat
- **67.** On September 11, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced the setting up of "Subramanya Bharati Chair" in memory of Tamil poet Subramania Bharati at Banaras Hindu University (BHU) for Tamil studies. PM Modi made the announcement on the 100<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Subramania Bharati, while inaugurating Ahmedabad-based "Sardardham Bhavan" virtually. {Read more}



- Narendra Modi announced to set up of "Subramanya Bharati Chair" at BHU for Tamil studies
- The announcement was made on the 100<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Subramania Bharati (a Tamil Poet)
- Narendra Modi inaugurated "Sardardham Bhavan" in Ahmedabad, Gujarat

**68.** On September 13, Assam Electronics Development Corporation Ltd (AMTRON) has appointed tech firm "iBus Networks" as its Exclusive Business Partner for deploying and operating digital infrastructure on commercial premises. With this partnership, the two entities will offer connectivity solutions on large campuses, IT parks, hospitals, SEZs and commercial buildings. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- AMTRON appointed "iBus Networks" as its Exclusive Business Partner to deploy & operate Digital Infrastructure
- HQs of iBus Networks Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD & CEO Ram Sellaratnam
- Assam: Capital Dispur | CM Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor Jagdish Mukhi

**69.** On September 12, India's Largest Open Air Fernery was inaugurated at Ranikhet in Uttarakhand's Almora district by well-known expert on ferns Nilambar Kunetha. It has a collection of 120 different types of ferns and around 30 species which have tremendous medicinal importance. The fernery has been developed under the Centre's compensatory afforestation scheme "Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA)". {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Nilambar Kunetha inaugurated India's Largest Open Air Fernery at Ranikhet, Almora, Uttarakhand
- Fernery has a collection of 120 different types of ferns & 30 species
- Uttarakhand: Capital Dehradun & Gairsain | CM Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh

**70.** On September 10, Minister of Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia has launched "Medicines from the Sky (MFTS)" in Vikarabad district of Telangana to deliver medicines/vaccines to remote areas using drones. The project is led by the Emerging Technologies Wing of the state IT department in partnership with World Economic Forum, NITI Aayog, and HealthNet Global (Apollo Hospitals) and aims to undertake Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) drone flights to deliver heavier payloads. {Read more}

- Jyotiraditya Scindia launched "Medicines from the Sky (MFTS)" in Vikarabad, Telangana
- The project is led by = Emerging Technologies + WEF + NITI Aayog + Apollo Hospitals
- BVLoS **B**eyond **V**isual **L**ine of **S**ight
- Telangana: Capital Hyderabad | CM K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan



**71.** On September 13, Prahlad Singh Patel has inaugurated the Food Processing Unit of M/s Sahara Frozen Foods established in Morena, Madhya Pradesh, under the "Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana" (PMKSY). Moreover, Rs 5.41 Cr as Seed Capital has been transferred to Community Based Organisations for 1498 SHG members in Maharashtra, under the PMFME Scheme. The Sahara Frozen Foods unit has been set up at a cost of Rs 21.09 Cr and a grant in aid of Rs 10 Cr from the Ministry. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Prahlad Singh Patel inaugurated the Food Processing Unit of M/s Sahara Frozen Foods established in Morena, MP
- Rs 5.41 Cr transferred as Seed Capital to 1498 SHG members in Maharashtra
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital Bhopal | CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel
- **72.** On September 10, A group of prisoners inside Delhi's Rohini jail are for the first time being trained in vocational skills by lawyers, judicial officers and computer teachers to help them find jobs after their release, as part of "Vidhik Sahayak" programme. The first group of 50 prisoners, called "Vidhik Sahayaks" (Law Assistants), is being trained to help them find jobs in courts as clerks, lawyers' assistants, and other legal roles. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- "Vidhik Sahayak" programme launched in New Delhi to train a group of 50 prisoners of Rohini jail
- New Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary Vijay Dev
- 73. On September 11, MC Councillor Mamta Ashu has unveiled Punjab's first Breast Milk Pump Bank for infants has been set up in Ludhiana. A few months back, Kerala has also launched the first breast milk bank in Ernakulam. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Punjab's first Breast Milk Pump Bank for infants is set up in Ludhiana
- Punjab: Capital Chandigarh | CM S. Charanjit Singh Channi | Governor Banwarilal Purohit
- 74. In September 2021, Coal India Ltd (CIL) Chairman Pramod Agrawal has laid the foundation stone of Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd's ₹285.05 Cr first-mile connectivity (FMC) project of Lajkura SILO at Ib valley in Jharsuguda district. The project would add 15 million tonnes per annum dispatch capacity to Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. He inaugurated a new Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) at MCL. {Read more}

- Foundation stone of MCL's ₹285.05 Cr FMC project of Lajkura SILO was laid in Jharsuguda, Odisha
- Pramod Agrawal inaugurated a new Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) at MCL (a subsidiary of CIL)
- HQs of MCL Sambalpur, Odisha | CMD P. K. Mishra



**75.** On September 9, The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), Government of India has appointed 10 merchant bankers for managing Initial Public Offering (IPO) of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India. The IPOs of LIC will be launched between January to March, 2022. The government has also selected 'Concept Communications' as the advertising agency and 'Kfintech' as the registrar and share transfer agent for the IPO. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- DIPAM appointed 10 merchant bankers for managing IPO of the LIC
- HQs of DIPAM New Delhi | Secretary Tuhin Kanta Pandey
- HQs of LIC Mumbai | Chairman M. R. Kumar | Founded in 1956 | Tagline "Yogakshemam Vahamyaham"
- **76.** On September 14, Hero Insurance Broking India has acquired a composite broking licence from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI). It will allow the firm to offer reinsurance broking and risk management consultancy services to corporate clients. The IRDAI has permitted the insurer to sell & renew short term COVID-19 policies till March 2022. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Hero Insurance Broking India received a composite broking licence from the IRDAI
- IRDAI permitted the insurer to sell & renew short term COVID-19 policies till March, 2022
- HQs of Hero Insurance Broking India New Delhi | CEO Sanjay Radhakrishnan
- HQs of IRDAI Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman Subhash Chandra Khuntia | Executive Dr. Suresh Mathur

= The Question Bank

77. On September 14, Union Minister for Road Transport Nitin Gadkari has launched "iRASTE", a two-year pilot project aimed to enhance road safety in Nagpur and reduce fatality. This collaborative initiative is developed by Intel India, IIIT Hyderabad, Central Road Research Institute (CRRI), Mahindra & Mahindra and Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC). "iRASTE" - an acronym for Intelligent Solutions for Road Safety through Technology and Engineering. {Read more}

- Nitin Gadkari launched a two-year pilot project "iRASTE" to enhance road safety in Nagpur, Maharashtra
- iRASTE Intelligent Solutions for Road Safety through Technology & Engineering
- "iRASTE" developed by = Intel India + IIIT Hyderabad + CRRI + Mahindra & Mahindra + NMC
- Maharashtra: CM Uddhav Thackeray | Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- **78.** On September 13, The government has planned to revamp LIC's rules for sharing Surplus. Currently, LIC is allowed to transfer 5% of its surplus to the shareholders' fund. The remaining 95% goes to the policyholders' fund for paying bonus on eligible life insurance policies. In case of other life insurance companies, the permissible allocation is in the ratio of 90:10. {Read more}



- The government planned to revamp LIC's rules for sharing Surplus
- Currently, LIC is allowed to transfer its surplus to policyholders' fund & shareholders' fund in the ratio of 95:5
- In case of other life insurance companies, the ratio is 90:10
- HQs of LIC Mumbai | Chairman M. R. Kumar | Founded in 1956 | Tagline "Yogakshemam Vahamyaham"

**79.** On September 9, ReNew Power has commissioned a 250 MW capacity of its Interstate Transmission System (ISTS) Solar Generation Project in Jaisalmer district, Rajasthan. The parent holding company, ReNew Energy Global, was listed on NASDAQ in August 2021. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- ReNew Power commissioned 250 MW Solar Project in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan
- Rajasthan: Capital Jaipur | CM Ashok Gehlot | Governor Kalraj Mishra
- HQs of ReNew Power Gurugram, Haryana | MD & Chairman Sumant Sinha
- **80.** On September 14, The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has launched its account on social media platform Telegram to counter fake news. It was launched as "PIB Fact Check". It is the only central government fact-checking arm, which was established in November 2019. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Ministry of I&B launched its account on Telegram as "PIB Fact Check" to counter fake news
- PIB Fact Check was launched in 2019
- Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: Anurag Singh Thakur | Constituency Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: L. Murugan
- **81.** On September 15, In order to promote door-to-door digital banking and financial services in remote areas of Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has launched "One Gram Panchayat-One DIGI-Pay Sakhi" in the union territory. Initially, the DIGI-Pay facility will be provided in 2,000 remote villages of the UT. On the occasion, the Lt Governor distributed 80 Aadhaar Enabled Payment Systems (AEPs) among the "DIGI-Pay Sakhis" under the Jammu & Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission (JKRLM). He also inaugurated a week-long training program for 'Krishi Sakhis' and 'Pashu Sakhis' on sustainable agriculture and livestock management. {Read more}

- J & K launched "One Gram Panchayat-One DIGI-Pay Sakhi" to promote door-to-door digital banking
- Manoj Sinha inaugurated a week-long training program for 'Krishi Sakhis' and 'Pashu Sakhis'
- J & K: Capital Srinagar | Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha



**82.** On September 14, BLS International Services has been authorised by the National Health Authority (NHA) for processing "Ayushman Bharat Cards" under 'Pradhan Mantri - Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY)'. The AB-PMJAY scheme provides an annual health insurance cover of upto Rs 5 lakhs per family against medical treatment costs, medicines, diagnostics, and pre-hospitalization expenses. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- BLS International Services authorised by the NHA for processing "Ayushman Bharat Cards" under 'AB-PMJAY'
- Insurance coverage of "PM-JAY" world's largest health insurance scheme Rs 5 lakh per family per year
- HQs of BLS International Services New Delhi | MD Nikhil Gupta
- 83. On September 14, Union Minister for Panchayati Raj and Rural Development Giriraj Singh has inaugurated a national meet on "Ownership Scheme" or "SVAMITVA Scheme: A Stepping-Stone towards Upliftment of Rural Economy" in New Delhi. The Minister also launched "SVAMITVA Dashboard" for monitoring the implementation of the scheme. SVAMITVA (Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas) Scheme was launched by PM Narendra Modi on National Panchayati Raj Day, 24<sup>th</sup> April 2020. SVAMITVA Scheme aims to provide 'Record of Rights' to villages household owners. SVAMITVA provides a sense of ownership to the rural people and they can avail the loan with the help of an SVAMITVA card. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Giriraj Singh inaugurated a national meet on "Ownership Scheme" or "SVAMITVA Scheme: A Stepping-Stone towards Upliftment of Rural Economy" – in New Delhi
- Giriraj Singh launched "SVAMITVA Dashboard" for monitoring the implementation of the scheme
- SVAMITVA Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas
- **84.** On September 11, NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission in collaboration with ISRO and CBSE has launched "ATL Space Challenge 2021" for school students across India. This challenge has been designed for all the school students, mentors and teachers who not only are associated with schools having Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL) labs but for all the non-ATL schools as well. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- AIM + ISRO + CBSE = launched "ATL Space Challenge 2021" for school students across India
- AIM a flagship of NITI Aayog (HQs of AIM New Delhi | Director Chintan Vaishnav)
- **85.** On September 15, The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has declared Kushinagar International Airport as a Customs notified airport. This would also facilitate international passenger movements including that of Buddhist pilgrims. {Read more}

- CBIC declared "Kushinagar Airport" (3<sup>rd</sup> Int. airport in UP) as a Customs notified airport
- HQs of CBIC New Delhi | Chairperson M. Ajit Kumar | Founded in 1964



**86.** On September 15, Tata Consultancy Services, India's largest software exporter has crossed \$200 billion in terms of market capitalisation. Reliance Industries is the most valuable Indian company with a market cap of over \$205 billion. Accenture has a market cap of \$216 billion and IBM at \$122 billion, while Infosys is valued by investors at \$99 billion. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- TCS crossed \$200 billion in terms of m-cap | 1<sup>st</sup> Reliance Industries (over \$205 billion)
- HQs of TCS Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Rajesh Gopinathan | Founded in 1968
- **87.** On September 15, Vodafone Idea (Vi) has partnered with Celltick to deploy an Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) for the Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (APSDMA). The IPAWS will deliver real-time geo-targeted warning alerts in more than 10 Indian languages during any natural or manmade disasters to Vi subscribers in the Andhra Pradesh circles. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Vi + Celltick = to deploy an "Integrated Public Alert & Warning System (IPAWS)" in Andhra Pradesh
- HQs of Vi Ltd Mumbai | MD & CEO Ravinder Takkar | Non-Executive Chairman Himanshu Kapania
- HQs of Celltick New York, US | CEO Ronen Daniel
- 88. The Railway Ministry has decided to shut down the Indian Railways Organization of Alternate Fuel (IROAF) with effect from September 7, 2021. The work of IROAF will be transferred to the Railway Board and Northern Railways. The IROAF is a separate enterprise working towards green fuels for transport. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Railway Ministry to shut down Indian Railways Organization of Alternate Fuel (IROAF)
- The work of IROAF will be transferred to Railway Board & Northern Railways
- HQs of Indian Railways New Delhi | Chairman & CEO Suneet Sharma
- Ministry of Railways: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Railways: Danve Raosaheb Dadarao & Darshana Vikram Jardosh
- **89.** On September 10, Ford Motor Company has decided to end manufacturing operations in India. The company had accumulated losses of over \$2 billion in the last 10 years. {Read more}

- Ford Motor Company to end manufacturing operations in India
- HQs of Ford Motor Dearborn, Michigan, US | CEO Jim Farley
- HQs of Ford India Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- **90.** On September 15, Tata Steel has commissioned a 5-tonne-per-day (TPD) Carbon Capture Plant in Jamshedpur, making it the country's first steel company to adopt such a Carbon Capture Technology that extracts Carbon-Di-Oxide directly from blast furnace gas. Tata Steel will reuse the captured CO<sub>2</sub> on-site to promote the circular carbon economy. {Read more}



- Tata Steel commissioned a 5-tonne-per-day (TPD) Carbon Capture Plant in Jamshedpur, Jharkhand
- Jharkhand: Capital Ranchi | CM Hemant Soren | Governor Ramesh Bais
- HQs of Tata Steel Ltd Mumbai | MD & CEO T. V. Narendran
- **91.** On September 16, The Centre has constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) chaired by Rajnath Singh for better implementation of various welfare schemes meant for SC, ST, OBC, minorities and women. PM Narendra Modi is also scheduled to hold several "Chintan Shivir" with his council of ministers on improving the efficiency of the government. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Centre constituted a GoM for better implementation of various welfare schemes for SC, ST, OBC, minorities & women
- GoM is chaired by Rajnath Singh
- PM Narendra Modi to hold several "Chintan Shivir" with his Council of Ministers
- **92.** On September 14, Power Finance Corporation Ltd (PFC) has successfully issued its maiden €300 million 7-year Euro Green Bond issuance. This is the first-ever Euro-denominated Green bond issuance from India. The pricing of 1.841% was achieved which is the lowest yield locked in the Euro markets. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- PFC successfully issued India's first €300 million 7-year 'Euro Green Bond' issuance (Pricing 1.841%)
- HQs of PFC Ltd New Delhi | CMD Ravinder Singh Dhillon SHON Bank
- **93.** On September 17, Ministry of Defence has constituted a High Level Expert Committee, under the chairmanship of former Member of Parliament Shri Baijayant Panda, for a comprehensive review of National Cadet Corps (NCC). The aim is to suggest measures which can empower NCC cadets to contribute more effectively towards national developmental. {Read more}

- Ministry of Defence constituted a High Level Expert Committee for a comprehensive review of NCC
- The committee is headed by Baijayant Panda
- Ministry of Defence: Rajnath Singh | Constituency Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Defence: Ajay Bhatt
- **94.** On September 17, "Swachhata Pakhwada 2021" was launched in Cochin Port Trust by administering the Swachhata pledge in all departments. Shramdaan cleaning activities have also been started in the Port areas. {Read more}



- "Swachhata Pakhwada 2021" launched in Cochin Port Trust (Kochi, Kerala)
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan
- **95.** On September 17, MyGov India, under the ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, has launched the "Planetarium Innovation Challenge" for Indian start-ups and tech entrepreneurs. The aim of this challenge is to bring together the tech firms and Start-ups (based out of India) with a potential to build an indigenous planetarium system software using latest technologies, including Augmented Reality (A.R), Virtual Reality (V.R) and Merged Reality (MR). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- MyGov India launched the "Planetarium Innovation Challenge" for Indian Start-Ups & Tech Entrepreneurs
- MyGov India functions under Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY)
- **96.** On September 17, Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Minister of Electronics & Information Technology and Conrad Kongkal Sangma, jointly launched "Meghalaya Enterprise Architecture Project (MeghEA)". The MeghEA initiative is spread across 6 pillars Governance, Human Resources, Entrepreneurship, Primary Sector, Infrastructure & Environment, and Envision to make Meghalaya a high income state by 2030. The project aims to improve service delivery and governance for the people using power of Digital technologies. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Ashwini Vaishnaw + Conrad Kongkal Sangma = launched "Meghalaya Enterprise Architecture Project (MeghEA)"
- 6 pillars Governance, Human Resources, Entrepreneurship, Primary Sector, Infrastructure & Environment and Envision
- Meghalaya: Capital Shillong | CM Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor Satya Pal Malik
- **97.** On September 19, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has introduced a new mobile app "PRAGATI" (Performance Review Application, Growth And Trend Indicator) for the exclusive use of its Development Officers. Besides, LIC has also come out with an artificial intelligence technology based app "Jeevan Saakshaya" which enables Annuitants and retired employees to submit Life certificate from the comfort of their home. {Read more}

- LIC launched a new mobile app "PRAGATI" for the exclusive use of its Development Officers
- PRAGATI Performance Review Application, Growth And Trend Indicator
- LIC launched AI-based app "Jeevan Saakshaya" for retired employees
- HQs of LIC Mumbai | Chairman M. R. Kumar | Founded in 1956 | Tagline "Yogakshemam Vahamyaham"



**98.** Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has announced that the government is constructing the world's longest highway - "Delhi-Mumbai Express Highway". The expressway is expected to be completed by March 2023. The Expressway will be 1,380 km long and will go up to Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) located in Mumbai. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- India is constructing the world's longest highway "Delhi-Mumbai Express Highway" (1,380 km long)
- The expressway is expected to be completed by March 2023
- **99.** On September 17, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has developed an indigenous technology to convert High Ash Indian Coal to Methanol and established its first pilot plant in Hyderabad. This technology will help the country move towards the adoption of clean technology and promote the use of methanol as a transportation fuel (blending with petrol), thus reducing crude oil imports. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- BHEL developed India's first pilot plant to convert High Ash Indian Coal to Methanol in Hyderabad
- HQs of BHEL New Delhi | Chairman & MD Nalin Shinghal
- **100.** On September 17, Manipur's Hathei Chilli (commonly known as the Sirarakhong Chilly), which is found in Ukrul district and Tamenglong Mandarin Orange have been granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Manipur's Sirarakhong Chilly (Hathei Chilli) & Tamenglong Mandarin Orange granted GI Tag
- Manipur: Capital Imphal | CM N. Biren Singh | Governor La. Ganesan
- **101.** On September 17, Union Minister of State for Entrepreneurship, Skill Development, Rajeev Chandrasekhar has inaugurated Nagaland's 1<sup>st</sup> Software Technology Parks at Kohima. He also distributed the 'Kaushal Acharya Award' and thereafter made an inspection visit to ITI Kohima. On the second day of his tour, Chandrasekhar visited the "Skill Upgradation Centre for Tribal Women" under 'SANKALP' and "Handicraft Industry Cluster" at Dimapur. While, Union Education Minister and Skill Development Minister Dharmendra Pradhan virtually presented "Kaushalacharya Awards 2021" to 41 skill trainers for their exemplary contribution to the skill ecosystem. {Read more}

- Rajeev Chandrasekhar inaugurated Nagaland's 1<sup>st</sup> Software Technology Parks at Kohima
- Dharmendra Pradhan (MoSDE) presented "Kaushalacharya Awards 2021" to 41 Skill Trainers
- Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship: Rajeev Chandrasekhar



**102.** On September 19, The Sikkim government has declared 'Copper Mahseer' locally named 'Katley' as the State fish. The scientific name of this fish is 'Neolissochilus Hexagonolepis'. In Sikkim, Katley is found in varied altitudes covering entire state predominantly confined in Teesta and Rangit rivers and their tributaries. In 2014, this fish was categorized as 'Endangered' by the IUCN Red List. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Sikkim declared 'Copper Mahseer' locally named 'Katley' as the State fish
- Sikkim: Capital Gangtok | CM Prem Singh Tamang | Governor Ganga Prasad

**103.** On September 16, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has successfully commissioned India's largest floating solar PV (Photovoltaic) Project of 25MW at NTPC's Simhadri Thermal Power Station located in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- BHEL commissioned India's largest floating solar PV Project of 25MW at NTPC's Simhadri TPS
- Simhadri Thermal Power Station located in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- HQs of BHEL New Delhi | Chairman & MD Nalin Shinghal
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan

104. On September 18, Union Minister of State (MoS) for Communications, Devusinh Chauhan has launched a commemorative postal stamp in the honour of Rao Jaimal Rathore on his 515<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary in Srinagar. Rathore was a Rajput warrior general of Chittorgarh who put up a defiant resistance against the vast Mughal army during its siege in 1567 to 1568. Devusinh Chauhan also visited the under construction 14.15 km long Zojila tunnel which will reduce the travel time between Srinagar and Leh. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Devusinh Chauhan launched a commemorative postal stamp on 515<sup>th</sup> birth anni. of Rao Jaimal Rathore in Srinagar
- Zojila tunnel to reduce travel time between Srinagar & Leh | Length 14.15 km
- Ministry of Communications: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Communications: Devusinh Chauhan

**105.** On September 19, The Central government has proposed a plan to create a heritage village and boost tourism at Singaperumal Koil and nearby villages in Tamil Nadu. The government has sanctioned ₹25 lakh under the "Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission" based on the State government's suggestion to promote heritage villages and tourism in the region. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• Central gov proposed a plan to create a heritage village & boost tourism – at Singaperumal Koil in Tamil Nadu



- ₹25 lakh is sanctioned to Tamil Nadu under "Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission" to promote heritage villages
- Tamil Nadu: Capital Chennai | CM Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor Ravindra Narayan Ravi

**106.** On September 20, Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia has launched India's first mobile music classroom and recording studio named "Mobile Music Bus" which aims to assist children of Delhi government schools in pursuing their passion in music. The concept of this bus was introduced by Manzil Mystics, a group of children studying in Delhi government schools and it is funded by SBI Card under CSR. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Delhi launched India's first "Mobile Music Bus" to assist children to pursue their passion in music
- New Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary Vijay Dev

**107.** On September 21, Uttar Pradesh government has cleared a proposal to develop an "Electronic Park" for electronic accessories in Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) area. The new Electronic Park is likely to attract an investment of Rs 50,000 Cr. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh cleared a proposal to develop an "Electronic Park" for electronic accessories in Yamuna Expressway area
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel

**108.** On September 18, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has inaugurated South Asia's largest product development center "Digital Hub" in Kochi. The state-of-the-art Digital Hub with a built-up space of 2 lakh square feet has a capacity to support 200 startups. Kerala is working towards a four-fold increase in the number of startups by aiming to take their total to 15,000 in the next 5 years by 2026. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Kerala inaugurated South Asia's largest product development center "Digital Hub" in Kochi
- Area 2 lakh square feet | Capacity 200 startups
- Kerala aims to have 15,000 startups by 2026
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan

**109.** On September 19, After the poignant verbal attack on Indian Administrative Service (IAS) personnel in the legislative Assembly, the Karnataka government has issued a circular imposing a ban on holding Press Conferences and issuing statements by the bureaucrats. {Read more}

- Karnataka issued a circular imposing a ban on holding Press Conferences by the Bureaucrats
- Karnataka: Capital Bangalore | CM Basavaraj Bommai | Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot



110. In September 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated 2 state-of-the-art & energy-efficient Defence Office Complexes at New Delhi's Kasturba Gandhi Marg and Africa Avenue. The new Defence Office Complexes were constructed by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs for ₹775 Cr under Light Gauge Steel Frame (LGSF) technology. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi inaugurated 2 state-of-the-art & energy-efficient Defence Office Complexes in New Delhi
- Cost ₹775 Cr | Constructed by Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs under 'LGSF' technology
- LGSF technology Light Gauge Steel Frame technology
- **111.** On September 22, The Kovalam beach in Chennai and Eden beach in Puducherry have now been awarded the prestigious "Blue Flag" certification by the Foundation for Environment Education (FEE), taking the number of such beaches in India to 10. The 'Blue Flag' is a certification that can be obtained by a beach, marina, or sustainable boating tourism operator, and serves as an eco-label. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Kovalam beach (Chennai) + Eden beach (Puducherry) awarded the "Blue Flag" certification by FEE (Denmark)
- India has now 10 International 'Blue Flag' beaches
- 112. On September 21, The Ministry of Education has formed a "National Steering Committee" for the development of National Curriculum Frameworks. The committee will be chaired by Krishnaswamy Kasturirangan. As per the perspectives of the 'NEP 2020', the Committee will develop 4 National Curriculum Frameworks. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Ministry of Education formed a "National Steering Committee" to develop National Curriculum Frameworks
- The committee will be chaired by Krishnaswamy Kasturirangan
- Ministry of Education: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Education: Subhas Sarkar
- 113. On September 19, The GST Council has decided to extend the tenure of the National Anti-Profiteering Authority (NAA) for 1 more year while an alternative will be explored in the Competition Commission of India (CCI). This is a second extension for the Authority whose term will now continue till November 30, 2022. NAA comes under the Finance Ministry and was established under 'Section 171' of 'CGST Act, 2017'. It started working with effect from December 1, 2017. {Read more}

- GST Council extended the tenure of National Anti-Profiteering Authority (NAA) for 1 more year (till Nov 30, 2022)
- NAA comes under Ministry of Finance | Established under 'Section 171' of 'CGST Act, 2017'



**114.** On September 23, Ministry of Commerce & Industry has launched the "National Single-Window System" for investors and businesses in India. The portal will integrate the existing clearance systems of the Centre and states. It will become a "One-Stop-Shop" for approvals and clearances. This is a big step towards ease of doing business. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Ministry of Commerce & Industry launched "National Single-Window System" for investors & businesses in India
- Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Piyush Goyal | Constituency Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Anupriya Singh Patel & Som Parkash

115. On September 22, Assam is setting up a 'Tea Park' at Chayygaon in Kamrup District which will have rail and port connectivity, cargo and warehouse amenities, processing facilities like tea grinding, blending, packaging and other utility services under one roof. Coinciding with 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', a two-day "Vanijya Utsav & Mega Export Conclave" was organised from September 21-22 in Guwahati. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- 'Tea Park' is being set up at Chayygaon, Kamrup, Assam
- 2-day "Vanijya Utsav & Mega Export Conclave" organised in Guwahati, Assam
- Assam: Capital Dispur | CM Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor Jagdish Mukhi
- **116.** On September 17, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari has announced that India is likely to get its first Electric Highway between Delhi & Jaipur. It is still a proposed project. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- India is likely to get its first Electric Highway between Delhi & Jaipur
- **117.** On September 23, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) organized a workshop titled "Connecting all Indians", to make India one of the largest connected countries of the world. The workshop invited both public and private stakeholders including largest internet service providers in India. The workshop was chaired by the Minister of State Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar. {Read more}

- MeitY organized a workshop titled "Connecting all Indians"
- The workshop was chaired by Rajeev Chandrasekhar
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar



**118.** Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) has completed 3 years. In order to celebrate the journey, National Health Authority (NHA) has organised 4-day hybrid (virtual & physical) event, "Arogya Manthan 3.0" from September 23, 2021. AB PM-JAY was launched in 2018. AB PM-JAY provides an annual cashless health cover of Rs 5 lakhs per family. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- NHA organised 4-day hybrid event "Arogya Manthan 3.0" to mark 3 years of completion of 'AB PM-JAY'
- 'AB PM-JAY' was launched in 2018 | Annual cashless health cover per family Rs 5 lakhs
- HQs of NHA New Delhi | CEO Ram Sevak Sharma | Founded in 2018

119. The Central Government has announced to start Arunachal Pradesh's first Greenfield airport project in Hollongi by November 2022. Hollongi Greenfield Airport will be the largest in the state of the northeast. The Modi Government has started the project 'Aviation Reform' under which 5 new airports will be built along with 6 heliports and 50 new air routes. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Central Government to start construction of Hollongi Greenfield Airport (Arunachal Pradesh) by November 2022
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital Itanagar | CM Pema Khandu | Governor B. D. Mishra
- **120.** Odisha government is in the process of fitting Elephants with radio-collar to track their movement and prepare a strategy to minimise man-elephant conflict. The radio collars were supplied by IISc, Bangalore, and they will be fitted on elephants of Chandaka Sanctuary and Similipal Sanctuary. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Odisha government is fitting Elephants with radio-collar to track their movement
- The radio collars were supplied by IISc, Bangalore
- Chandaka Elephant Sanctuary & Similipal Sanctuary Odisha
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal
- **121.** On September 21, The Union Minister for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Culture and Tourism G. Kishan Reddy, and Union Minister of Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has laid the foundation stone for the project to develop "Parshuram Kund" in Arunachal Pradesh. Under the 'Prashad' scheme, Rs 37.88 Cr have been sanctioned for various initiatives like the development of existing kund, tourist information centre, modern pilgrim facilities etc. {Read more}

- G. Kishan Reddy laid the foundation stone to develop "Parshuram Kund" in Arunachal Pradesh
- Rs 37.88 Cr have been sanctioned under the 'Prashad' scheme for various initiatives
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital Itanagar | CM Pema Khandu | Governor B. D. Mishra



**122.** In September 2021, In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has launched a Senior Citizens National Helpline "Elderline - 14567" to comfort the distressed elderly through a dedicated decentralized call center. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Manoj Sinha (J & K) launched a Senior Citizens National Helpline "Elderline 14567"
- J & K: Capital Srinagar | Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha

**123.** On September 21, Amid the growing global focus on the economic impact of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues, the government has set up a key task force under economic affairs secretary Ajay Seth to lay out a concrete road map to bolster India's sustainable finance architecture. The task force will firm up recommendations to further strengthen the resilience of the country's financial sector against risks emanating from various climate and ESG issues. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Central gov set up a Task Force to strengthen the resilience of India's Financial Sector against risks emanating from various Climate & ESG issues
- The task force will be headed by Ajay Seth

124. On September 21, Department of Food and Public Distribution (DFPD) under Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (MoCAFPD), for the first time, issued uniform parameters for Fortified Rice Kernels (FRK) for grade A & Common Rice have in case of procurement of Fortified Rice Stocks. Of which, 1% of FRK (w/w) should be blended with normal rice stock, which means 10 gram of FRK must be blended with 1 kg of regular rice. The fortified rice is to be distributed under various government schemes, including the 'Public Distribution System (PDS)' and 'Midday Meals in Schools', by 2024. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- MoCAFPD issued 'uniform parameters' for Fortified Rice Kernels (FRK) for Grade A & Common Rice
- 1% of FRK (w/w) should be blended with normal rice stock (i.e. 10 gram with 1 kg of regular rice)
- Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution: Piyush Goyal | Constituency Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution: Ashwini Kumar Choubey & Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti

125. On September 20, Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) is all set to start 75 "Fulwari Centers" in the Singrauli district of Madhya Pradesh. Currently, 25 centres are being run successfully with the strength of around 220 kids of the age between 6 months to 3 years. NCL's project 'Fulwari' aims to address the problem of malnutrition and associated physical and mental development issues of infants. NCL has allocated an amount of Rs 128.86 lakhs under CSR to run this project successfully. {Read more}

- Northern Coalfields Ltd to start 75 "Fulwari Centers" in Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh
- NCL's Project 'Fulwari' aims to address the problem of malnutrition in infants
- HQs of NCL Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh | CMD Prabhat Kumar Sinha



**126.** On September 22, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has mandated to reduce the limit of industrially produced trans-fats, to not more than 2%, to make India free from the industrially-produced trans-fats by 2022, which a year-ahead of the WHO guidelines. Currently, only 3.14% or 196 of 6,245 samples of packaged food items contained trans-fat exceeding 2%, as per the FSSAI's survey. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- FSSAI mandated to reduce the limit of industrially produced trans-fats to 2%
- FSSAI's aim to make India free from the industrially-produced trans-fats by 2022
- FSSAI's survey: Only 3.14% (196) of packaged food item samples contained over 2% trans fat
- HQs of FSSAI New Delhi | Chairperson Rita Teaotia | CEO Shri Arun Singhal
- **127.** On September 24, Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has set up Odisha's first ever "Tussar Silk Yarn Production Centre" at Choudwar in Cuttack district. For hundreds of years, Odisha has been known for its exquisite silk, particularly the tussar variety, which provides livelihood to thousands of tribal people, particularly women. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- KVIC set up Odisha's first ever "Tussar Silk Yarn Production Centre" at Choudwar in Cuttack
- HQs of KVIC Mumbai, Mahrashtra | Chairman Vinai Kumar Saxena | Founded in 1956
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal
- **128.** On September 25, Pune-based EV charging infra startup goEgoNetwork has installed its electric vehicle charging facility at Kaza in the Spiti Valley, Himachal Pradesh, making it the world's highest EV charging station. goEgo has collaborated with TVS Motor Company to promote EV infrastructure in Himachal Pradesh. {Read more} Key Points:
- goEgoNetwork installed world's highest EV charging station at Kaza, in Spiti Valley, Himachal Pradesh
- HQs of goEgoNetwork Pune, Maharashtra | Co-Founder & CEO Sayantan Chakraborti
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital Shimla & Dharamshala | CM Jai Ram Thakur | Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
- **129.** On September 27, Judima, the wine brewed by the Dimasa community in Assam, has been awarded the geographical indication (GI) tag. This wine made from rice and a certain herb is the first beverage from the north-east to earn this label. Besides, Sojat Mehndi from Rajasthan has received the GI tag from the government. {Read more}

- "Judima rice wine" of Assam received GI Tag (first beverage from the north-east to earn this label)
- This wine is brewed by Dimasa community
- "Sojat Mehndi" of Rajasthan received GI Tag
- "Darjeeling Tea" of West Bengal the first Indian product to get a GI tag in 2004-05
- A registered GI Tag remains valid for the period of 10 years
- Assam: Capital Dispur | CM Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor Jagdish Mukhi



**130.** On September 26, In a major child-friendly initiative, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has announced the setting up of "Digital de-addiction Centres" in the state to bring children addicted to online games into mainstream society. He also declared 20 more 'Child-friendly' police stations, taking the total of such stations to 126 in the state. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Kerala announced to set up "Digital de-addiction Centres" in the state
- Kerala declared 20 more 'Child-friendly' police stations in the state (Total of such stations 126)
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan
- **131.** On September 26, The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and the Centre for Creative Learning (CCL) at IIT Gandhinagar have jointly launched "30-30 Eklavya", an online interactive education programme to decode effective implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) across the schools. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- CBSE + CCL (IIT Gandhinagar) = launched an online interactive education programme "30-30 Eklavya"
- HQs of CBSE New Delhi | Chairman Manoj Ahuja | Formed in 1962
- 132. On September 26, Union Minister Anurag Thakur launched High Power Transmitters of Doordarshan and All India Radio to cover remote and border areas near Kargil in Ladakh. The 10KW transmitters are the highest altitude TV and Radio transmitters in India, located at the height of 4,054 metres (about 13,300 ft) above the mean sea level. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Anurag Thakur launched India's highest altitude High Power Transmitters in Kargil, Ladakh (Capacity 10KW)
- Ladakh: Capital Leh | Lt. Governor R. K. Mathur
- **133.** In September 2021, Nasscom Foundation and Visa will jointly up-skill women entrepreneurs with digital skills and financial literacy in 5 states Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana and West Bengal. In India, Visa has previously empowered women-owned businesses through a grants program with 'iFundWomen'. {Read more}

- Nasscom Foundation + Visa = will jointly up-skill women entrepreneurs with digital skills & financial literacy in 5 states
- 5 states: Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana & West Bengal
- HQs of Visa Foster City, California | CEO Alfred F. Kelly | Founded in 1958
- HQs of NASSCOM New Delhi | President Debjani Ghosh
- Chairman Rekha M. Menon | Vice-Chairman Krishnan Ramanujam



**134.** On September 27, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has launched Delhi Tourism mobile app named "Dekho Meri Dilli" to boost tourism on the occasion of World Tourism Day. The tourist can locate places within 5 km with the help of the app. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Arvind Kejriwal launched Delhi Tourism mobile app named "Dekho Meri Dilli" to boost tourism
- New Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary Vijay Dev
- **135.** On September 24, Ministry of Corporate Affairs has extended the tenure of Company Law Committee by 1 year. The 11-member committee was constituted in 2019 and currently, it is chaired by Corporate Affairs Secretary Rajesh Verma. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Ministry of Corporate Affairs extended the tenure of 11-member "Company Law Committee" by 1 year
- CLC is headed by Rajesh Verma (Corporate Affairs Secretary) | Constituted in 2019
- **136.** On September 27, PM Narendra Modi has launched "Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission" (ABDM) under the "National Digital Health Mission" (NDHM). Under this, every citizen would now get a 'Digital Health ID' and 'Health Records' digitally protected. It will be developed by adopting India Enterprise Architecture Framework (IndEA). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi launched "Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission" (ABDM)
- India Enterprise Architecture Framework (IndEA) will adopt this mission
- 137. On September 24, Nagaland's 'Sweet Cucumber' was awarded a GI tag as an agricultural product under provisions of "The Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999". Besides, Nagaland's regional variants of 'Tree Tomato (Tamarillo)' and the famed 'Naga King Chilli' are also GI tagged. {Read more}

- 'Sweet Cucumber' of Nagaland received GI tag
- Nagaland's other GI tagged products: 'Tree Tomato (Tamarillo)', 'Naga Mircha (King Chilli)' & 'Chakshesang Shawl'
- A registered GI Tag remains valid for the period of 10 years
- Nagaland: Capital Kohima | CM Neiphiu Rio | Governor Jagdish Mukhi (addi. charge)
- **138.** A "Weaver Services & Design Resource Centre" will be set up in Kullu to encourage handicraft products of Himachal Pradesh besides providing a better platform for their export. Union minister for commerce and industry Piyush Goyal interacted with handicrafts and handloom artisans under 'Seva & Samarpan' campaign. {Read more}



- "Weaver Services & Design Resource Centre" to be set up in Kullu, Himachal Pradesh
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital Shimla & Dharamshala | CM Jai Ram Thakur | Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

139. On September 27, Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs, Hardeep Singh Puri has launched the 7<sup>th</sup> consecutive edition of "Swachh Survekshan 2022" at New Delhi under the theme "People First". Covering over 4,000 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), it has become the world's largest Urban Cleanliness Survey conducted by Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U). 'District Rankings' have been introduced for the first time. The scope of the survey has been expanded to now cover 100% wards for sampling, as compared to 40% in previous years. A short film, 'Swachhata Se Samriddhi' that showcases the milestones of the last seven years in the Swachhata journey was also released on the occasion. The Swachh Bharat Mission - Urban (SBM-U) was launched on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2014. While, 'Swachh Survekshan' was introduced by MoHUA in 2016 to rank cities on cleanliness parameters in 73 cities. Along with SS 2022's launch, MoHUA also released a coffee table book titled "A Change of Heart". Moreover, MoHUA also flagged off the field assessments for the "Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge" which was launched in 2020. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Hardeep Singh Puri launched the 7<sup>th</sup> "Swachh Survekshan 2022" at New Delhi | Theme "People First"
- 'Swachh Survekshan' became the world's largest Urban Cleanliness Survey conducted by 'SBM-U'
- Scope of the Survey is expanded to cover 100% wards for sampling (compared to 40% in previous years)
- 'Swachhata Se Samriddhi' short film was also released on the Occasion
- MoHUA released a coffee table book titled "A Change of Heart"
- 'SBM-U' launched in 2014 by MoHUA | 'Swachh Survekshan' launched in 2016 by MoHUA
- 'Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge' launched in 2020 by MoHUA

**140.** In September 2021, The Supreme Court (SC) has introduced the "Fast and Secured Transmission of Electronic Records" (FASTER) system by which its crucial decisions, including orders on bail and stay of arrest, can be communicated electronically to prison authorities and investigating agencies through a secure channel. {Read more}

- Supreme Court introduced the "Fast and Secured Transmission of Electronic Records" (FASTER)
- Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India Justice N. V. Ramana (48<sup>th</sup>)
- **141.** On September 27, In an endeavour to empower rural women and make them financially independent, National Commission for Women (NCW) has launched a country-wide "Training & Capacity Building Program" for women in Dairy Farming. The first program under the project was organized on 'Value Added Dairy products' for women SHG groups at Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences in Hisar, Haryana. {Read more}



- NCW launched a country-wide "Training & Capacity Building Program" for women in Dairy Farming
- The first program under the project was organized on 'Value Added Dairy products' in Hisar, Haryana
- HQs of NCW New Delhi | Chairperson Rekha Sharma | Founded in 1992

142. On September 29, Union Minister for Ports, Shipping & Waterways Sarbananda Sonwal has announced that the government aims to meet 60% of power demand at major ports through Renewable Energy like solar and wind power. Currently, Renewable Energy (RE) meets less than 10% of the Power demand at the ports. 50% of port equipment would be electrified by 2030. The ports aim to reduce carbon emissions/ton of cargo handled by 30% by 2030. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- Government aims to meet 60% of Power demand at major Ports through Renewable Energy (RE)
- Currently, RE meets less than 10% of the Power demand at the Ports

143. On September 29, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has announced to extend the existing Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) till March 31, 2022. India's merchandise exports during April-September 21 were over \$185 billion. The minister also launched the "Ease of Logistic Portal" developed by Federation of Indian Export Organizations (FIEO) to bring exporters and logistics service providers (LSPs) on a single platform. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- Ministry of C&I to extend the existing Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) till March 31, 2022
- Ministry of C&I launched the "Ease of Logistic Portal" developed by FIEO
- India's Merchandise exports over \$185 billion (during April-Sep 2021)
- Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Piyush Goyal | Constituency Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Anupriya Singh Patel & Som Parkash

**144.** On September 28, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched 35 crop varieties with special traits. They are developed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to address the twin challenges of climate change and malnutrition. He also inaugurated the newly constructed campus of the National Institute of Biotic Stress Management (NIBSM) in Raipur, Chhattisgarh. {Read more}

- Narendra Modi launched 35 crop varieties with special traits to address climate change & malnutrition
- They are developed by ICAR
- Newly constructed campus of the ICAR-National Institute of Biotic Stress Management in Raipur, Chhattisgarh



**145.** On September 28, On the occasion of World Rabies Day, the Central government launched a plan called "NAPRE" for the elimination of dog mediated rabies by 2030. Health Minister Mansukh L. Mandaviya and Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Minister Parshottam Rupala unveiled the National Action Plan for dog Mediated Rabies Elimination by 2030 (NAPRE). In villages, the rabies disease is commonly known as 'Hadakwa'. The National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) has drafted the action plan in consultation with the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Central government launched the "National Action Plan for dog Mediated Rabies Elimination by 2030 (NAPRE)"
- 'NAPRE' plan was unveiled by = Mansukh L. Mandaviya + Parshottam Rupala
- 'NAPRE' plan is drafted by = NCDC + Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying

**146.** On September 28, As a part of its celebration of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' (AKAM), Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has organised the launch event for the merger between "PM Formalisation of Microfood processing Enterprises (PMFME)" & "Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM)" scheme to support Micro Food Processing Units of Urban SHGs. PMFME Scheme was launched by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- MoHUA merged 'DAY-NULM' & 'PMFME' schemes to support Micro Food Processing Units of Urban SHGs
- 'PMFME' scheme: Launched by MoFPI in 2020 | Outlay Rs 10,000 Cr | Period 5 years (2020-21 to 2024-25)
- 'DAY-NULM' scheme: Launched by MoHUA in 2013

**147.** In September 2021, Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy has inaugurated Nagaland's first Soil Testing Laboratory at the Directorate of 'Soil & Water Conservation' in Kohima. The lab was funded by North Eastern Council (NEC) under the Ministry for Development of North East Region (DoNER) at a cost of Rs 3.71 Cr. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- G. Kishan Reddy inaugurated Nagaland's first Soil Testing Laboratory in Kohima
- Nagaland: Capital Kohima | CM Neiphiu Rio | Governor Jagdish Mukhi (addi. charge)

**148.** On September 28, Maharashtra Deputy CM Ajit Pawar will launch "Digital Baramati Umbrella App" - a mobile application designed to provide all citizen-centric facilities at a single click to residents of Baramati town in Pune. The app is financially supported by ICICI Foundation and was developed by Unnati Digital Pvt Ltd. {Read more}

- Ajit Pawar launched "Digital Baramati Umbrella App" to provide all citizen-centric facilities in Baramati, Pune
- Developed by Unnati Digital Pvt Ltd | Financially supported by ICICI Foundation
- Maharashtra: CM Uddhav Thackeray | Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari



**149.** On September 27, India's first Atal Community Innovation Center (ACIC) was inaugurated at Vivekananda Global University, Jaipur, Jagatpura. It will be set up by Government of India, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and NITI Aayog. The program was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Dr. Chintan Vaishnav, the Director of AIM, NITI Aayog. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- India's first Atal Community Innovation Center inaugurated at Vivekananda Global University, Jaipur, Rajasthan
- AIM a flagship of NITI Aayog (HQs of AIM New Delhi | Director Chintan Vaishnav)
- **150.** On September 29, Union Minister for MSMEs Narayan Rane has inaugurated the "India Export Initiative" and "IndiaXports 2021 Portal of India SME Forum" in New Delhi. India aims to drive export growth with the help of MSMEs to achieve the target of \$400 billion by this fiscal, and the target of \$1 trillion in exports by 2027. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- Narayan Rane inaugurated "India Export Initiative" & "IndiaXports 2021 Portal of India SME Forum" in New Delhi
- India's aim to drive export growth with the help of MSMEs: \$400 billion by 2021-22 & \$1 trillion by 2026-27
- Ministry of MSME: Narayan Rane | Constituency Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg, Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of MSME: Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma
- **151.** On September 28, The Labour Ministry has reconstituted the Expert Group responsible for determining the National Floor Level Minimum Wages under the 'Code on Wages'. The group will now be headed by the labour expert SP Mukherjee instead of Ajit Mishra. The 'Labour Code on Wages' was passed by the Parliament in August 2019. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Labour Ministry reconstituted the Expert Group responsible for determining the National Floor Level Minimum Wages
- The group will be headed by S. P. Mukherjee (replacing Ajit Mishra)
- Ministry of Labour & Employment: Bhupender Yadav | Constituency Rajasthan
- MoS in Ministry of Labour & Employment: Rameswar Teli
- **152.** On September 28, Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar launched "Amul Honey" a product of Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd (GCMMF) under active cooperation with National Bee Board (NBB). He emphasized the importance of National Beekeeping and Honey Mission with the budgetary allocation of Rs 500 Cr. Besides, 5 large scale Regional Honey Testing Labs and 100 Mini Honey Testing Labs are being set up all over the country. {Read more}

- Narendra Singh Tomar launched "Amul Honey" a product of Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation
- Budgetary allocation for National Beekeeping & Honey Mission Rs 500 Cr
- HQs of National Bee Board (NBB) New Delhi | Chairman Sanjay Agarwal



**153.** On September 28, Amazon has launched its global computer science education programme called "Amazon Future Engineer" in India. The initiative will primarily focus on students in grades 6-12, and will also train teachers and educators to teach computer science in a more engaging way. The initiative includes 'Class Chats' and 'Amazon Cyber Robotics Challenge'. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- Amazon launched its global computer science education programme called "Amazon Future Engineer" in India
- HQs of Amazon Seattle , USA | CEO Andy Jassy | Incorporated in 1994
- HQs of Amazon India Hyderabad, Telangana | Country Head Amit Agarwal

**154.** On September 30, International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has constituted an Expert Committee to recommend approach towards development of Sustainable Finance Hub at GIFT-IFSC, Gujarat and provide road map for the same. The expert committee will be chaired by C. K. Mishra, former Secretary of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. {Read more}

- IFSCA constituted an Expert Committee for Sustainable Finance Hub chaired by C. K. Mishra
- HQs of IFSCA Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman Injeti Srinivas





## **International Affairs**

**1.** On September 1, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and World Health Organization Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus have inaugurated "WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence" in Berlin, Germany. Germany will invest \$100 million initially in the hub. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Angela Merkel + Tedros Adhanom = inaugurated "WHO Hub for Pandemic & Epidemic Intelligence" in Berlin, Germany
- Germany will invest \$100 million initially in the 'WHO Hub'
- Germany Berlin Euro | President Frank-Walter Steinmeier
- **2.** On September 2, WHO has warned against the new variant of COVID-19 named "Mu". According to the WHO, the new variant shows signs of possible resistance to vaccines. Mu, also known by its scientific name as 'B.1.621', was first identified in Colombia in January 2021. The cases of the Mu variant have also been reported in the U.K., Europe, the U.S. and Hong Kong. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- WHO has warned against the new variant of COVID-19 named "Mu"
- Scientific name of "Mu" variant 'B.1.621' | First identified in January 2021 in Colombia
- HQs of WHO Geneva, Switzerland | DG Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries 194 | Founded in 1948

## The Question Bank

**3.** On September 2, South Korea's National Assembly has become the first country to approve a legislation that bans app store operators such as Google and Apple from forcing developers to use their in-app payment systems. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- South Korea 1<sup>st</sup> country to ban Google & Apple from forcing developers to use their in-app payment systems
- South Korea Seoul Korean Republic won | President Moon Jae-in
- **4.** Sri Lanka has declared a state of emergency over food shortages as private banks ran out of foreign exchange to finance imports. Sri Lanka's foreign reserves fell to \$2.8 billion at the end of July. {Read more}

- Sri Lanka declared a state of emergency over Food Shortages as private banks ran out of foreign exchange
- Sri Lanka Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte Sri Lankan rupee
- PM Mahinda Rajapaksa | President Gotabaya Rajapaksa



**5.** On September 1, The High Commission of India in association with the ICT Ministry of Bangladesh and Women & E-commerce and Silk Oak Global limited have launched a year-long Soft Skills Training programme in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The soft skills training program is part of the '50 years of Bangladesh' celebrations as well as the '75 years of Indian independence' celebrations, 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- India launched "Soft Skills Training Programme" for women entrepreneurs in Bangladesh
- Bangladesh Dhaka Taka | PM Seikh Hasina | President Abdul Hamid
- **6.** On September 2, Australia, Malaysia, Singapore and South Africa have launched "Project Dunbar" to jointly test multiple central bank digital currencies that facilitate cross-border transactions. The project will be led by the BIS Innovation Hub Singapore Centre. The results will be published by 2022, but the platform prototypes will debut at the 'Singapore FinTech Festival' in November this year. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Australia, Malaysia, Singapore & South Africa launched "Project Dunbar" to test Central Bank Digital Currencies
- The project will be led by BIS Innovation Hub Singapore Centre
- The results will be published by 2022
- 7. External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar has officially visited Slovenia, Croatia and Denmark from 2-5 September 2021. Slovenia currently holds the Presidency of the Council of the European Union, and has invited S. Jaishankar to attend an informal meeting of the "Ministers of Foreign Affairs of EU Member States" on 3 September 2021. S. Jaishankar attended the "Bled Strategic Forum (BSF)" being held in Slovenia, and participated in the panel discussion on "Partnership for a Rules Based Order in the Indo-Pacific". During his visit to Denmark on 4-5 September, S. Jaishankar co-chaired the 4<sup>th</sup> round of the "Indo-Danish Joint Commission Meeting (JCM)" along with Foreign Minister H.E. Mr. Jeppe Kofod. {Read more}

- S. Jaishankar officially visited Slovenia, Croatia and Denmark from 2-5 September 2021
- Slovenia invited S. Jaishankar to attend an informal meeting of "Ministers of Foreign Affairs of EU Member States"
- S. Jaishankar attended the "Bled Strategic Forum (BSF)" held in Slovenia
- S. Jaishankar co-chaired the 4<sup>th</sup> round of the "Indo-Danish Joint Commission Meeting (JCM)" held in Denmark
- Slovenia Ljubljana Euro | PM Janez Jansa
- Denmark Copenhagen Danish krone | PM Mette Frederiksen
- Croatia Zagreb Kuna | PM Andrej Plenkovic | President Zoran Milanovic



**8.** On September 7, The United Arab Emirates has announced a new class of visas intended to ease the restrictions faced by foreigners in pursuing employment opportunities in the country. Under the green visa, foreigners will be allowed to work in the UAE without being sponsored by an employer. Besides UAE, Saudi Arabia and Qatar have recently opened up their countries to wealthy investors with reforms to their paid permanent residency programs and property ownership rules. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- UAE launched 'Green Visa' to allow foreigners to work in the country without being sponsored by the employer
- UAE Abu Dhabi Dirham | President Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan
- **9.** On September 7, El Salvador has become the first country in the world to adopt bitcoin as legal tender or National currency. The plan includes a \$30 credit in bitcoin to those who take up "Chivo" or "Cool", e-wallets launched by the country. The El Salvador government is also launching a network of 200 bitcoin ATMs. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- El Salvador became the first country in the world to adopt bitcoin as 'Legal Tender' or 'National Currency'
- The country will credit \$30 in e-wallets "Chivo" or "Cool" launched by the government
- El Salvador San Salvador US Dollar | President Nayib Bukele
- **10.** On September 6, Greece's center-right government has created a new Ministry to address the impact of Climate Change and named former European Union commissioner Christos Stylianides as Minister. Before serving as commissioner, Mr. Stylianides was the European Union's head coordinator for the bloc's response to the Ebola epidemic in West Africa. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Greece created a new Ministry to address the impact of Climate Change | Minister Christos Stylianides
- Greece Athens Euro | PM Kyriakos Mitsotakis
- **11.** On September 9, Switzerland's start-up Climeworks and Iceland's Carbfix has built the world's largest plant "Orca" which started operating in Iceland. It extract carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) directly from the air and deposits it underground. Orca is named after the Icelandic word "Orka" meaning "Energy". Orca plant can draw 4,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> out of the air every year. {Read more}

- World's largest plant to extract CO<sub>2</sub> from air "Orca" started operating in Iceland
- The plant is built by = Climeworks (Switzerland) + Carbfix (Iceland) | Capacity 4,000 tonnes of  $CO_2$  annually
- Iceland Reykjavik Krona | President Guoni Th. Johannesson



**12.** In September 2021, South Korea has successfully completed an underwater test-launch of an indigenous submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) named "Hyunmoo-2B" ballistic missile, with the range of 500 km. The test was conducted by Dosan Ahn Chang-ho submarine. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- South Korea successfully conducted its 1st underwater test-launch of "Hyunmoo-2B" ballistic missile
- Range of the missile 500 km | Test was conducted by Dosan Ahn Chang-ho submarine
- South Korea Seoul Korean Republic won | President Moon Jae-in
- **13.** On September 9, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, India and Denmark have launched the "Centre of Excellence on Offshore Wind" as part of the Green Strategic Partnership between the two nations. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has set a target of adding 30 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind energy projects by 2030. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- India + Denmark = launched the "Centre of Excellence on Offshore Wind" as part of Green Strategic Partnership
- Denmark Copenhagen Danish krone | PM Mette Frederiksen
- 14. Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri has co-chaired a virtual Ministerial meeting with the U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm to launch the revamped "US-India Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (SCEP)". Both countries agreed to expand their Energy Partnership by adding Emerging Fuels to the list of areas of cooperation as a 5th Pillar. The SCEP was launched in accordance with the "US-India Climate and Clean Energy Agenda 2030 Partnership". A new "India-US Task Force on Biofuels" was also announced to build on the scope of work on cooperation in Biofuels Sector. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- US & India to launch the revamped "US-India Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (SCEP)"
- US & India agreed to expand their Energy Partnership by adding 'Emerging Fuels' to the list of areas of cooperation
- "India-US Task Force on Biofuels" to be set up for cooperation in 'Biofuels Sector'
- US Washington, D.C. US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP Kamala Harris
- **15.** On September 8, North Korea has been suspended from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) until the end of 2022, after failing to send a team to the Tokyo Olympics. It means, North Korea will miss the "2022 Winter Olympics" which is scheduled to take place in Beijing from February 4 to 20, 2022. {Read more}

- North Korea suspended from the IOC until the end of 2022
- "2022 Winter Olympics" scheduled to take place in Beijing, China (from Feb 4 to 20, 2022)
- North Korea Pyongyang North Korean won | President Kim Jong-un



**16.** On September 7, Cuba has become the first country in the world to vaccinate children from the age of two against Covid-19. It started distributing jabs in the 2-11 age group in the central province of Cienfuegos. The Cuban vaccines was the first developed in Latin America & it has not yet undergone international, scientific peer review. Chile recently approved the Chinese "Sinovac" vaccines for children between 6 and 12. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- Cuba became the first country in the world to vaccinate children from the age of 2 against Covid-19
- Chile recently approved the Chinese "Sinovac" vaccines for children between 6 to 12
- Cuba Havana Peso | President Miguel Diaz-Canel
- Chile Santiago Peso | President Sebastian Pinera
- 17. On September 13, India and the US have launched the "Climate Action and Finance Mobilization Dialogue (CAFMD)". The dialogue was formally launched by Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Shri Bhupender Yadav and Mr. John Kerry, U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate (SPEC), at an event held in New Delhi. Moreover, India has announced to invite bids for 'Green Hydrogen' to encourage usage of hydrogen as a fuel. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- India + US = launched the "Climate Action and Finance Mobilization Dialogue (CAFMD)" in New Delhi
- US Washington, D.C. US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP Kamala Harris
- **18.** On September 9, Italy has decided to decriminalise the growing of Cannabis (Marijuana) plants at home for personal use. The farming and selling of marijuana was barred under legislation dating back to the 1990s. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Italy to decriminalise the growing of Cannabis (Marijuana) plants at home for personal use
- Italy Rome Euro | President Sergio Mattarella | PM Mario Draghi
- **19.** On September 9, Google has launched a new Google News Initiative (GNI) Startups Lab programme for aspiring news entrepreneurs from across India. GNI Startups Lab is a four-month program to help independent local or single-subject journalism organisations find a pathway to financial and operational sustainability. The program has been created in partnership with the global innovation lab Echos and DIGIPUB News India Foundation. {Read more}

- Google launched a new "GNI Startups Lab programme" for aspiring news entrepreneurs from across India
- HQs of Google California, US | CEO Sundar Pichai | Founded in 1998



**20.** On September 13, Israel has unveiled a remote-controlled armed robot called "REX MKII" that can patrol battle zones, track infiltrators and open fire. The robot is reportedly the most advanced so far developed by IAI subsidiary ELTA Systems over the past 15 years. The Israeli drone vehicle was showcased at the "Defense and Security System International Arms Trade Show" in London, UK. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- Israel unveiled a remote-controlled armed robot called "REX MKII" that can patrol battle zones
- "Defense and Security System International Arms Trade Show" held in London, UK
- Israel Jerusalem Israeli Shekel | President Isaac Herzog | PM Naftali Bennett
- **21.** On September 16, The Biden administration has announced a new trilateral security partnership "AUKUS" for the Indo-Pacific, between Australia, the U.K. and the U.S. (AUKUS). As part of this, Australia will acquire Nuclear-powered Submarines with help from the U.K. and the U.S. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- "AUKUS" a new trilateral security partnership between = Australia + UK + US
- Australia to acquire Nuclear-powered Submarines with help from UK & US
- **22.** On September 16, North Korea has successfully test fired two short-range ballistic missiles (SRBM) from a train during a drill of its Railway Mobile Missile Regiment. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- North Korea test fired two short-range ballistic missiles (SRBM) from a train
- North Korea Pyongyang North Korean won | President Kim Jong-un
- 23. On September 16, The UNESCO has designated Mura-Drava-Danube (MDD) as the world's first "Five-country Biosphere Reserve". The 1-million hectare Mura-Drava-Danube is the now the largest riverine protected area in Europe. The biosphere reserve covers 700 km of the Mura, Drava and Danube rivers. {Read more}

- UNESCO designated Mura-Drava-Danube (MDD) as the world's first "Five-country Biosphere Reserve"
- Total area of the reserve 1 million hectare (largest riverine protected area in Europe)
- Rivers covered: Mura, Drava & Danube | Countries covered: Austria, Croatia, Hungary, Serbia & Slovenia
- HQs of UNESCO Paris, France | Director-General Audrey Azoulay | Founded in 1945
- 24. Minister of State for External Affairs (MoS), Meenakashi Lekhi has officially visited Portugal and Spain from 12-17 September 2021 to enhance bilateral ties between two countries. Portugal is the first European country with which India has signed a "Dedicated Agreement on Labour Mobility". At Casa de la India in Spain, Meenakashi Lekhi inaugurated the "Beatles and India Exhibition", a PPP model supported by Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR). {Read more}



- Meenakashi Lekhi officially visited Portugal & Spain from 12-17 September, 2021
- Portugal first European country to sign a "Dedicated Agreement on Labour Mobility" with India
- Meenakashi Lekhi inaugurated a PPP model "Beatles and India Exhibition" in Spain (supported by ICCR)
- Portugal Lisbon Euro | President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa
- Spain Madrid Euro | PM Pedro Sanchez | President Emmanuel Macron
- Ministry of External Affairs: S. Jaishankar | Constituency Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of External Affairs: Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, V. Muraleedharan & Meenakashi Lekhi
- **25.** On September 19, The United States and European Union announced the "Global Methane Pledge", an initiative to reduce global methane emissions to be launched at the "UN Climate Change Conference (COP 26)" in November in Glasgow, Scotland. The European Union and eight countries have already indicated their support for the Global Methane Pledge. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- US + EU = announced the "Global Methane Pledge" to reduce global methane emissions
- "UN Climate Change Conference (COP 26)" to be launched in Glasgow, Scotland (in Nov, 2021)
- US Washington, D.C. US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP Kamala Harris
- HQs of EU Brussels, Belgium | President Ursula von der Leyen | Member Countries 27
- **26.** On September 19, Iran's bid to become a permanent member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) has been approved after almost 15 years at the 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of State which was held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. After the technical and legal process concludes which could take up to two years Iran will formally join the SCO group. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Iran became the 9<sup>th</sup> permanent member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)
- HQs of SCO Beijing, China | SG Vladimir Norov | Present Member Countries 8 | 2021 Presidency Tajikistan
- **27.** On September 20, Apo Island has become the first of over 7,000 islands in the Philippines to go 'Zero Waste', according to the Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (GAIA). {Read more}

- Apo Island became the first 'Zero Waste' Island in Philippines
- Philippines Manila Peso | President Rodrigo Duterte



**28.** On September 17, The US-based startup Colossal Biosciences has announced plans to bring 'Woolly Mammoths' back from extinction and into the frosty landscape of the Siberian tundra. Colossal has received US\$15 million in initial funds to support research conducted by Harvard geneticist George Church, among other work. Mammoth-like creatures could help restore this ecosystem by trampling shrubs, knocking over trees, and fertilising grasses with their faeces. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- Colossal Biosciences (US) announced plans to bring 'Woolly Mammoths' back from extinction
- **29.** After Guadalajara (Mexico) in 2022, the Director-General of UNESCO, Audrey Azoulay, has named Accra (Ghana) as "UNESCO World Book Capital for 2023". The year of celebrations will start on 23 April 2023, on World Book and Copyright Day. Since 2001, Accra is the 23<sup>rd</sup> city to be named the World Book Capital. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Accra (Ghana) named as "UNESCO World Book Capital for 2023" (23<sup>rd</sup> city)
- Guadalajara (Mexico) will be "UNESCO World Book Capital for 2022"
- Tbilisi (Georgia) was "UNESCO World Book Capital for 2021"
- Ghana Accra Cedi | President Nana Akufo-Addo
- Mexico Mexico City Peso | President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador
- **30.** On September 25, India has signed an implementing arrangement on the joint development of a small satellite for Bhutan. The agreement was inked by ISRO's Scientific Secretary R. Umamaheswaran and Director of Department of Department of Information Technology and Telecom (Bhutan) Jigme Tenzing. A virtual signing ceremony was attended by Ambassador of India to Bhutan Ruchira Kamboj. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- India + Bhutan = an implementing arrangement on the joint development of a small satellite for Bhutan
- ISRO's Scientific Secretary R. Umamaheswaran | India's Ambassador to Bhutan Ruchira Kamboj
- HQs of ISRO Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed on August 15, 1969
- Bhutan Thimphu Bhutanese Ngultrum | PM Lotay Tshering
- **31.** On September 26, The US Department of Energy along with its Indian counterparts launched a new public-private "Hydrogen Task Force" as well as a "Biofuels Task Force" under the Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (SCEP). These groups will help expand the use of clean energy technologies to decarbonize the Energy sector. {Read more}

- US + India = launched "Hydrogen Task Force" & "Biofuels Task Force" to decarbonize the Energy sector
- US Washington, D.C. US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP Kamala Harris



**32.** On September 27, India and Oman have signed an agreement for exchange of White Shipping Information and to boost Maritime Security Cooperation. The pact was signed by Chief of Navy Staff Admiral Karambir Singh and his Omani counterpart Admiral Saif bin Nasser bin Mohsen Al-Rahbi in Muscat. Both navies have been participating in the biennial maritime exercise "Naseem Al Bahr" since 1993. This exercise was last conducted in 2020 off Goa and the next edition is scheduled in 2022. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- India + Oman = an agreement for exchange of White Shipping Information & to boost Maritime Security Cooperation
- "Naseem Al Bahr" a biennial maritime exercise between India & Oman (since 1993) | Next edition in 2022
- Oman Muscat Rial | Sultan Haitham bin Tariq Al Said
- **33.** In September 2021, Switzerland has recently decided to legalize same-sex marriage. 'Marriage for All' proposal was backed by 64.1% of voters in nationwide referendum. Most countries in Western Europe have already recognised same-sex marriage. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- Switzerland decided to legalize same-sex marriage based on 'Marriage for All' proposal
- Switzerland Bern Swiss Franc | President Guy Parmelin
- **34.** On September 28, India's Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) and the US Customs & Border Protection have agreed to extend greater facilities to Exporters from each other. {Read more}

- CBIC + US Customs & Border Protection = to extend greater facilities to Exporters from each other
- HQs of CBIC New Delhi | Chairperson M. Ajit Kumar | Founded in 1964



# **Banking & Economic Affairs**

- 1. On September 2, The Mizoram government in collaboration with the National Informatics Centre (NIC) and State Bank of India (SBI) has launched an Online Payment System in Transport department offices in the state. The online payment system is broadly divided into two components called 'Vahan' & 'Sarathi'. {Read more} Key Points:
- Mizoram + NIC + SBI launched an Online Payment System in Transport department offices in the state
- Two components of this Online Payment System: 'Vahan' & 'Sarathi'
- Mizoram: Capital Aizawl | CM Zoramthanga | Governor B. D. Mishra (addi. charge)
- HQs of NIC New Delhi | Director General Neeta Verma
- 2. Fiscal deficit for the April-July period of FY22 touched 21.3% of budget estimate (BE), hitting the lowest level in 9 years at ₹3.21 lakh Cr at end-July 2021. India's GDP in Q1 of FY22 increased by 20.1% compared to contraction of 24.4% in Q1 of FY21. While Gross Value Added (GVA) grew by 18.8% at Constant Prices in Q1 of FY22. Net Tax Collection touched close to the ₹5.30 lakh Cr mark, which is 34.2% of the budget estimate, according to the monthly account data prepared by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA). {Read more} Key Points:
- Fiscal deficit for April-July period of FY22 at ₹3.21 lakh Cr (21.3% of Budget Estimate & lowest level in 9 years)
- India's GDP in Q1 of FY22 increased by 20.1% (compared to -24.4% in Q1 of FY21)
- Gross Value Added (GVA) grew by 18.8% at Constant Prices in Q1 of FY22
- According to CGA: Net Tax Collection ₹5.30 lakh Cr (34.2% of the Budget Estimate)
- **3.** Exim Bank of India has extended a line of credit of \$100 million (Rs 730 Cr) on behalf of the Indian government to the Africa Finance Corporation (AFC) to develop infrastructure in the continent and boost economic revival of African countries. The tenure of the soft loan is 10 years. {Read more}

- Exim Bank extended a line of credit of \$100 million (Rs 730 Cr) to Africa Finance Corporation for 10 year tenure
- HQs of EXIM Bank Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Harsha Bangari | Founded in 1982
- HQs of AFC Lagos, Nigeria | President & CEO Samaila Zubairu
- **4.** BharatPe has announced a strategic partnership with Axis Bank under which Axis Bank will act as the acquiring bank for BharatPe's point of sale (PoS) business "BharatSwipe". In 2020, BharatPe launched its PoS machine, BharatSwipe, as India's first zero rental and zero merchant discount rate (MDR) PoS machine. {Read more}



- BharatPe + Axis Bank = a strategic partnership to acquire BharatPe's point of sale (PoS) business "BharatSwipe"
- BharatSwipe India's first zero rental & zero merchant discount rate (MDR) PoS machine
- HQs of BharatPe New Delhi | Founder & CEO Ashneer Grover
- HQs of Axis Bank Mumbai | MD & CEO Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline "Badhti ka Naam Zindagi"
- **5.** India's FDI equity inflow grew by 168% in Q1 (April-June) of 2021-22 (\$17.57 billion) compared to previous year (\$6.56 billion). The data showed that the Automobile industry has emerged as the top sector during the period under review with 27% share of the total FDI equity inflows. Besides, Karnataka is the top recipient state during April-June 2021, with 48% share, followed by Maharashtra (23%) and Delhi (11%). {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- India's FDI equity inflow grew by 168% in Q1 FY22 to \$17.57 billion
- Top recipient sector Automobile Industry (27%) | Top recipient state Karnataka (48%)
- **6.** On September 2, Zerodha Broking Ltd has received a licence from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to set up an Asset Management Company (AMC). The in-principle approval from Sebi will allow the Bengaluru-based startup to launch its own mutual funds (MFs). {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- Zerodha received a licence from the SEBI to set up its own Mutual Fund (MF) Business
- HQs of Zerodha Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO Nithin Kamath | Established in 2010
- **7.** On September 1, EarlySalary, a consumer lending platform for working professionals, has tied up with non-bank financier HDB Financial Services Ltd to enhance digital lending. The partnership aims to build momentum in impact categories of skill upgradation, education loans and healthcare finance. HDB Financial Services is a subsidiary of India's largest private lender HDFC Bank. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- EarlySalary + HDB Financial Services = to enhance digital lending
- HQs of EarlySalary Pune, Maharashtra | Co-founder & CEO Akshay Mehrotra
- HQs of HDB Financial Services Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO Ramesh G.
- **8.** On September 1, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to set up a 5-member committee to scrutinise applications and give recommendations on New Umbrella Entity (NUE) licences. The committee will be headed by RBI chief general manager P. Vasudevan. NUEs will establish their own payment infrastructure to compete with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). {Read more}

- RBI will set up a 5-member committee to scrutinize applications & give recommendations on "NUE" licences
- The committee will be headed by P. Vasudevan | NUEs will compete with NPCI
- HQs of RBI Mumbai, MH | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935



**9.** On September 2, The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has made an allocation of special drawing rights (SDR) 12.57 billion (around \$17.86 billion at the latest exchange rate) to India. The total SDR holdings of India now stand at SDR 13.66 billion (around \$19.41 billion at the latest exchange rate). SDR in the RBI's forex reserves was \$1.54 billion as on August 20, 2021. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- IMF allocated SDR 12.57 billion (around \$17.86 billion) to India
- Total SDR holdings of India SDR 13.66 billion (around \$19.41 billion)
- HQs of IMF Washington, D.C., US | President Kristalina Georgieva | Member countries 190
- **10.** HDFC Bank has become the first Indian lender to list its \$1 billion foreign currency additional tier-I (AI-1) bonds, priced at 3.7%, on the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) of the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT). India INX, BSE's international arm, started trading activities on January 16, 2017, and is India's first international exchange set up at the GIFT IFSC. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- HDFC Bank became 1<sup>st</sup> Indian lender to list its \$1 billion foreign currency additional tier-I (AI-1) bonds on IFSC GIFT
- India INX India's first international exchange set up at the GIFT IFSC
- HQs of HDFC Bank Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline "We understand your world"
- 11. On September 2, PhonePe has launched "PhonePe Pulse", India's first interactive geospatial platform with data, insights and trends on digital payments in India. PhonePe also launched the "Pulse Report", an in-depth study on the evolution of digital payments over the past 5 years. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- PhonePe launched India's first interactive geospatial platform "PhonePe Pulse"
- PhonePe also launched "Pulse Report" an in-depth study on the evolution of digital payments over the past 5 year
- HQs of PhonePe Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO Sameer Nigam | Founded in 2015
- **12.** On September 3, Federal Bank has launched its credit card in association with Visa in a bid to improve unsecured, high-yielding book and complete the suite of banking products it offers. The bank has launched 3 variants of the card Celesta (for high net worth individuals), Imperio (for family oriented customers) and Signet (targeted at young, early professionals). The bank is also planning to launch variants of the RuPay credit card in association with the NPCI. {Read more}

- Federal Bank + Visa = launched three variants of its Credit Card
- 3 variants of the card: Celesta, Imperio & Signet
- HQs of Federal Bank Aluva, Kerala | MD & CEO Shyam Srinivasan | Tagline "Your Perfect Banking Partner"
- HQs of Visa Foster City, California | CEO Alfred F. Kelly | Founded in 1958



**13.** On September 2, iSPIRT Foundation has launched the industry-wide Account Aggregator (AA) ecosystem. Eight Major Indian banks have joined the AA ecosystem as financial information providers (FIPs). Besides, the company seeking for registration with the RBI as NBFC - AA should have a net owned fund of Rs 2 Cr or more. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- iSPIRT Foundation launched the industry-wide Account Aggregator (AA) ecosystem
- 8 Major Indian banks joined the AA ecosystem as Financial Information Providers (FIPs)
- Any Company seeking for registration with the RBI as NBFC AA should have a net owned fund of Rs 2 Cr or more
- HQs of RBI Mumbai, MH | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935
- **14.** The New Development Bank (NDB) set up by the BRICS group of nations has initiated its membership expansion and started formal negotiations with prospective members in late 2020. After a round of successful negotiations, the NDB has admitted the United Arab Emirates, Uruguay and Bangladesh as the first batch of new members as part of its expansion drive. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- NDB admitted UAE, Uruguay & Bangladesh as the first batch of its New Members
- HQs of NDB Shanghai, China | President Marcos Prado Troyjo (established by BRICS Countries in 2014)
- **15.** On September 1, State Bank of India (SBI) has raised Rs 4,000 Cr by issuing Basel-III compliant debt instruments. The banks raised the amount of Basel compliant additional tier 1 (AT1) bonds at coupon rate of 7.72%. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- SBI raised Rs 4,000 Cr by issuing Basel-III compliant AT1 bonds at coupon rate of 7.72%
- HQs of SBI Bank Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman
- **16.** On September 7, Bank of India (BoI) has entered into a co-lending arrangement with Ahmedabad-based MAS Financial Services Ltd (MAS) for MSME loans. The Bank also unveiled various schemes for farmers, including opening of 84 "Star Krishi Vikas Kendra" for quick processing of Kisan loans; "Krishi Ghar Special Scheme" for construction of farm houses; "Star Kisan Sahayata Loan" to mitigate Covid-19 stress; and a scheme for farm mechanisation. {Read more}

- Bol + MAS Financial Services = a co-lending arrangement for MSME loans
- Bank of India also unveiled various schemes for farmers:
- 84 "Star Krishi Vikas Kendra" for quick processing of Kisan loans
- "Krishi Ghar Special Scheme" for construction of farm houses
- "Star Kisan Sahayata Loan" to mitigate Covid-19 stress
- HQs of Bol Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Shri Atanu Kumar Das | Tagline "Relationship Beyond Banking"
- HQs of MAS Ahmedabad, Gujarat | CEO Darshana S. Pandya | MD & Chairman Kamlesh Gandhi



17. On September 8, Visa has partnered with payment solutions firm Innoviti to enable the service of storing money in the cards without connectivity. The chip in this new debit card will have a stored value of Rs 2000 maximum daily. The per-transaction limit will be Rs 200. These are the limits presently mandated by the RBI. For this, Visa has already established a proof of concept (PoC) in partnership with Innoviti. The PoC has been executed in partnership with Yes Bank and Axis Bank. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Visa + Innoviti = to enable the service of storing money in the cards without connectivity
- Maximum stored value per day Rs 2000 | Per-transaction limit Rs 200
- HQs of Visa Foster City, California | CEO Alfred F. Kelly | Founded in 1958
- HQs of Innoviti Payment Solutions Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO Rajeev Agrawal
- **18.** On September 6, UCO Bank has partnered with Finwizard Technology, which runs 'Fisdom', to offer wealth management products and services via its 'mBanking Plus App'. UCO bank's customers can now make investments in Mutual Funds through this app. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- UCO Bank + Fisdom = partnership to offer wealth management products & services via its 'mBanking Plus App'
- HQs of UCO Bank Kolkata, West Bengal | CEO Atul Kumar Goel
- HQs of Fisdom Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO Subramanya SV
- 19. On September 7, HDFC Bank signed an MoU with National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) to offer credit support to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) across India. HDFC Bank will provide MSMEs with set of specially tailored schemes to enhance their competitiveness. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- HDFC Bank + NSIC = an MoU to offer credit support to MSMEs across India
- HQs of HDFC Bank Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline "We understand your world"
- HQs of NSIC New Delhi | CMD Alka Nangia Arora
- **20.** On September 6, SBM Bank has partnered with fintech player OneCard to launch a mobile-based credit card namely "mobile-first". The company earlier launched the "OneScore" app in 2019 allowing people to monitor and manage their credit health. According to Research and Markets, the Indian Credit Card industry is expected to grow at a CAGR (Compound annual growth rate) of more than 25% during 2020 2025 owing to the growing trend of 'Buy Now Pay Later'. {Read more}

- SBM Bank + OneCard = partnership to launch a mobile-based credit card namely "mobile-first"
- OneCard launched the "OneScore" app in 2019 to monitor & manage Credit Health
- Indian Credit Card industry is expected to grow at a CAGR of more than 25% during 2020 2025
- HQs of OneCard Riyadh, Saudi Arabia | CEO Anurag Sinha
- HQs of SBM Bank India Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Sidharth Rath
- SBM Bank India the 1<sup>st</sup> foreign bank in India to obtain a banking licence from the RBI



**21.** On September 7, Karnataka government has roped in Jana Small Finance Bank (Jana SFB) to build digital payment infrastructure to support its "Namma Shaale Nanna Koduge" (Our school, my contribution) initiative. The "Namma Shaale Nanna Koduge" software was launched to provide accessibility to donors who wish to donate money to government schools in Karnataka. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Karnataka roped in Jana SFB to build digital payment infrastructure for "Namma Shaale Nanna Koduge" initiative
- Karnataka: Capital Bangalore | CM Basavaraj Bommai | Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot
- HQs Jana SFB Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD & CEO Ajay Kanwal
- **22.** On September 8, The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has tied up with Nasdaq-listed fintech firm Fiserv to launch an application programming interface (API) platform called "nFiNi" for startups and banks looking to build credit card-based products on top of the RuPay rails. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- NPCI + Fiserv = partnership to launch API platform called "nFiNi" to support Credit Card-based products
- HQs of NPCI Mumbai | Chairman Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD&CEO Dilip Asbe | Established in 2008
- HQs of Fiserv Wisconsin, US | President & CEO Frank J. Bisignano
- 23. On September 8, Stock markets in India will be able to transfer shares and money into client accounts in 24 hours as the SEBI will initiate the T+1 (Today Plus One) settlement cycle for equity transactions from January 1, 2022. Now, it takes 48 hours or more since India follows the T+2 settlement cycle. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- SEBI to initiate the T+1 (Today Plus One) settlement cycle for equity transactions from January 1, 2022
- Stock markets in India will be able to transfer shares & money into client accounts in 24 hours
- HQs of SEBI Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Ajay Tyagi | Established in 1992
- **24.** On September 7, India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) and LIC Housing Finance (LICHFL) have announced a strategic partnership for providing Home Loan products to over 4.5 Cr customers of IPPB. LIC Housing Finance offers home loan starting from 6.66% for loans up to ₹50 lakh for salaried individuals. {Read more}

- IPPB + LICHFL = a strategic partnership to provide Home Loan products to IPPB's customers
- HQs of IPPB New Delhi | MD & CEO Venkatram Jayanthy | Established on 1<sup>st</sup> Sep, 2018
- HQs of LIC Housing Finance Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Y. Viswanatha Gowd
- **25.** On September 7, The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has set up 3 Boards for Advance Rulings (BAR) to offer greater clarity on tax implications of transactions, which in turn will help avoid income tax disputes. This will replace the Authority for Advance Rulings (AAR), which was set up in 1993. Out of the three BARs, two will be in Delhi and one in Mumbai. {Read more}



- CBDT set up 3 "BARs" to replace "AARs" for offering greater clarity on tax implications of transactions
- Out of 3 BARs: 2 in Delhi & 1 in Mumbai
- BARs Boards for Advance Rulings | AARs Authority for Advance Rulings (AARs was set up in 1993)
- HQs of CBDT New Delhi | Chairman Jagannath Bidyadhar Mohapatra | Formed in 1944
- **26.** On September 9, SBM Bank India has partnered with Lendingkart to launch a customised overdraft facility for over 1 lakh customers of the fintech. The collaboration is aimed at solving such challenges through technology, efficiency and customised solutions. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- SBM Bank India + Lendingkart partnership to launch a customised Overdraft Facility
- HQs of Lendingkart Ahmedabad, Gujarat | CEO & Co-founder Harshvardhan Lunia
- HQs of SBM Bank India Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Sidharth Rath
- SBM Bank India the 1<sup>st</sup> foreign bank in India to obtain a banking licence from the RBI
- 27. On September 9, The RBI has removed UCO Bank from its Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework subject to certain conditions and continuous monitoring. RBI had initiated prompt corrective action on the bank in May 2017 in view of high non-performing assets and negative return on assets. Now, Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) and Central Bank of India are under this framework. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- RBI removed "UCO Bank" from its Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework (initiated in May, 2017)
- Now, IOB & CBoI are under PCA framework (as on September 9, 2021)
- HQs of RBI Mumbai, MH | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935
- HQs of UCO Bank Kolkata, West Bengal | CEO Atul Kumar Goel
- **28.** On September 10, Karnataka Bank in collaboration with Mswipe Technologies Pvt Ltd has launched "WisePOSGo" a point of sales (POS) device that processes business payments of its merchant customers. It is an all-in-one swiping machine. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Karnataka Bank + Mswipe Technologies = launched "WisePOSGo" a point of sales (POS) device
- HQs of Karnataka Bank Mangalore, Karnataka | CEO Mahabaleshwara M. S
- HQs of Mswipe Technologies Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Manish Patel
- **29.** On September 8, Bank of Baroda has launched its digital banking platform "Bob World" to provide all banking services under one roof. Over 220 services will be converged into one single app. {Read more}

- Bank of Baroda launched its digital banking platform "Bob World"
- HQs of BOB Vododara, Gujarat | CEO Sanjiv Chadha | Tagline "India's International Bank"



**30.** On September 8, South Indian Bank, in association with OneCard, launched the "SIB - OneCard Credit Card". The internationally valid credit card on the Visa Signature platform can be controlled through the OneCard App. The card is based on NFC (Near Field Technology) facility. OneCard has been launched by FPL Technologies - a fintech start-up which aims to digitally revolutionise credit and payments. South Indian Bank is the first bank in the private sector in India to open a Currency Chest on behalf of the RBI in April 1992. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- South Indian Bank + OneCard = partnership to launch "SIB OneCard Credit Card"
- The card is based on Near Field Technology (NFC) facility
- South Indian Bank the first private sector bank in India to open a Currency Chest on behalf of RBI (in April 1992)
- HQs of OneCard Riyadh, Saudi Arabia | CEO Anurag Sinha (launched by FPL Technologies)
- HQs of South Indian Bank Thrissur, Kerala | CEO Murali Ramakrishnan
- **31.** On September 6, Bank of Baroda has ranked number 1 with a total of 86% marks on the scorecard issued by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) for February and March 2021. The scorecard ranked 44 banks on various parameters on the digital business. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Bank of Baroda topped "MeitY Digital Payment Scorecard" for February & March 2021
- HQs of BOB Vododara, Gujarat | CEO Sanjiv Chadha | Tagline "India's International Bank"
- **32.** On September 9, Paytm Money has partnered with WealthDesk to offer curated investment portfolios called "WealthBaskets". A WealthBasket is a custom portfolio of stocks/ETFs created by SEBI-registered investment professionals. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Paytm Money + WealthDesk = to offer curated investment portfolios called "WealthBaskets"
- HQs of Paytm Money Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO Varun Sridhar | Founded in 2009
- **33.** On September 8, The RBI has expanded the Tokenization facility from earlier device-based Tokenization framework to "Card-on-File Tokenization (CoFT) Services". RBI has set a December-2021 deadline to prohibit payments aggregators, merchants and service providers like Amazon and Netflix from storing customer card details in their servers. Tokenization is a solution for the payments industry. Tokenisation means replacing the actual card details with codes known as 'Token'. Moreover, In order to simplify recurring payments, Worldline has introduced an innovative "Subscription Payments Platform" focused on comprehensive subscription lifecycle management and payment processing services. {Read more}

- RBI expanded the Tokenization facility from device-based Tokenization framework to "CoFT Services"
- CoFT Card-on-File Tokenization
- Worldline introduced an innovative "Subscription Payments Platform"
- HQs of RBI Mumbai, MH | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935



**34.** On September 8, Amazon Pay has partnered with Kuvera, owned by Arevuk Advisory Services to offer Wealth Management Services to its 50 million Indian customers. It is the first and only wealth management tie-up for Amazon in the world. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Amazon Pay + Kuvera = to offer Wealth Management Services to its 50 million Indian customers
- HQs of Amazon Seattle , USA | CEO Andy Jassy | Incorporated in 1994
- HQs of Kuvera Bangalore, Karnataka | Founder & CEO Gaurav Rastogi
- **35.** On September 13, Paytm Payments Bank Ltd (PPBL) has enabled the India's first FASTag-based metro parking facility in partnership with Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC). Additionally, Paytm Payments Bank has enabled a UPI-based payment solution for 2-wheelers entering the parking site. Paytm Payments Bank is acquirer of toll plazas for the National Electronic Toll Collection (NETC) program. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- PPBL + Delhi Metro = enabled the India's first FASTag-based Metro Parking Facility
- PPBL enabled a UPI-based payment solution for 2-wheelers entering the parking site
- HQs of PPBL Noida, Uttar Pradesh | MD & CEO Satish Kumar Gupta
- **36.** On September 13, DBS Bank has launched real-time online tracking for cross-border collections for businesses in India in partnership with SWIFT Global Payments Innovation (GPI). DBS is the first bank in India and Asia-Pacific to offer this service to clients. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- DBS Bank + SWIFT GPI = launched real-time online tracking for cross-border collections for businesses in India
- HQs of DBS Bank Singapore | CEO Piyush Gupta
- HQs of DBS Bank India Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO Surojit Shome
- HQs of SWIFT La Hulpe, Belgium | CEO Javier Perez-Tasso
- **37.** On September 14, The RBI has announced the opening of the third cohort under the Regulatory Sandbox. The theme for the third cohort is "MSME Lending". Eight entities have been selected for the 'test phase' of the second cohort on the theme "Cross-Border Payments". Six entities have completed the 'test phase' of the first cohort on the theme "Retail Payments". {Read more}

- RBI announced to open 3<sup>rd</sup> cohort under the 'Regulatory Sandbox' initiative | Theme "MSME Lending"
- Theme of the 1<sup>st</sup> cohort "Retail Payments" | Theme of the 2<sup>nd</sup> cohort "Cross-Border Payments"
- HQs of RBI Mumbai, MH | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935



**38.** On September 14, The SEBI has levied a monetary penalty of Rs 1 lakh on Chandan Gupta, an employee of Titan Company for disclosure lapses, in violation of insider trading norms. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- SEBI levied a penalty of Rs 1 lakh on Chandan Gupta, an employee of Titan Company
- HQs of SEBI Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Ajay Tyagi | Established in 1992
- HQs of Titan Company Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO C. K. Venkataraman
- **39.** On September 14, Escorts Ltd has signed an MoU with IndusInd Bank to provide financial offerings to its customers. They will jointly come up with various financial programs to enable customers invest in modern farm machinery to enhance their farm productivity and income. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- Escorts + IndusInd Bank = an MoU to provide financial offerings to farmers
- HQs of Escorts Ltd Faridabad, Haryana | Chairperson Nikhil Nanda
- HQs of IndusInd Bank Pune, MH | MD & CEO Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline "We Make You Feel Richer"
- **40.** On September 14, Punjab & Sind Bank (PSB) has entered into a strategic co-lending alliance with Indiabulls Commercial Credit Ltd (IBCCL) and Indiabulls Housing Finance (IHFL) for MSME and Priority Sector Housing Loans respectively. The co-lending model will improve the flow of credit to the unserved and underserved sector of the economy. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- Punjab & Sind Bank + IBCCL + IHFL = a strategic co-lending alliance for MSME & Priority Sector Housing Loans
- HQs of Punjab & Sind Bank New Delhi | MD & CEO S. Krishnan
- HQs of IHFL Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Subhash Sheoratan Mundra | Vice-Chairman & MD Gagan Banga
- **41.** On September 14, In a boost to the Unified Payments Interface, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) have announced a project to link their respective fast payment systems "UPI" & "PayNow". The linkage is targeted for operationalisation by July 2022. {Read more}

- RBI + MAS (Singapore) = announced a project to link "UPI" & "PayNow" by July 2022
- HQs of RBI Mumbai, MH | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935
- Singapore Singapore Dollar | PM Lee Hsien Loong | President Halimah Yacob
- **42.** In September 2021, The RBI has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 1 lakh on the Kosamba Mercantile Cooperative Bank Ltd for not complying with certain directions issued by RBI on 'Loans and advances to directors, relatives and firms'. {Read more}



- RBI imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 1 lakh on Kosamba Mercantile Co-operative Bank (Surat, Gujarat)
- HQs of RBI Mumbai, MH | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935
- **43.** On September 15, HSBC India has launched a digital proposition called "HSBC UniTransact" aimed at simplifying cross-border transactions. It aims to provide seamless integration of all aspects of transaction banking while minimising manual intervention through the transaction journey. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- HSBC India launched a digital proposition called "HSBC UniTransact" to simplify cross-border transactions
- HQs of HSBC London, UK | CEO Noel Quinn
- HQs of HSBC India Mumbai, MH | CEO Hitendra Dave | Founded in 1853
- **44.** On September 15, The Union Cabinet has allowed 100% foreign direct investment (FDI) in India's Telecom sector via the automatic route. Till now, in the telecom sector, there was 100% FDI but only 49% of it was in the automatic route and anything beyond 49% had to necessarily go through the government route. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- Cabinet allowed 100% FDI in India's Telecom sector via automatic route (from 49%)
- Till now, there was 100% FDI in Telecom Sector but only 49% of it was in the automatic route
- **45.** On September 15, The Union Cabinet has approved Rs 26,058 Cr production linked incentive (PLI) scheme for 'Auto Industry' and 'Drone Industry' to enhance India's manufacturing capabilities. Incentives worth Rs 26,058 Cr will be provided to industry over 5 years. The PLI scheme for automobile and drone industries is part of the overall announcement of PLI schemes for 13 sectors made earlier during the Union Budget 2021-22, with an outlay of Rs 1.97 lakh Cr. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- Cabinet approved Rs 26,058 Cr PLI scheme for 'Auto Industry' & 'Drone Industry' over 5 years
- Government announced 'PLI Scheme' for 13 sectors with an outlay of Rs 1.97 lakh Cr in Union Budget 2021-22
- **46.** On September 17, IIFL Home Finance Ltd (IIFLHFL) has signed an agreement with Punjab National Bank (PNB) for co-lending. It expects to grow its loan book by 25% with this association. Loan sourcing and servicing will be managed by IIFL Home Finance and 80% of the loan will be provided by PNB. {Read more}

- IIFL Home Finance + PNB = a co-lending agreement for affordable Housing Loans
- 80% of the loan will be provided by PNB
- HQs of PNB New Delhi | MD & CEO S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao | Tagline "The Name You Can Bank Upon"
- HQs of IIFL Finance Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Nirmal jain | MD Venkataraman Rajamani



- **47.** On September 14, Tata Capital has launched "Loan Against Mutual Funds (LAMF)", whereby customers can digitally avail loans ranging from ₹5 lakh and ₹2 Cr. The end-to-end (onboarding to disbursement) digital loan offering is provided against a wide range of equity and debt schemes across mutual funds. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- Tata Capital launched "Loan Against Mutual Funds (LAMF)" | Loans range from ₹5 lakh & ₹2 Cr
- HQs of Tata Capital Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Rajiv Sabharwal
- **48.** On September 16, Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMB) and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have announced a partnership to set up an Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning (AI-ML) Centre at the IISc campus in Bengaluru. The bank has funded the initiative as part of the CSR programme. {Read more}

- KMB + IISc = partnership to set up an "Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning (AI-ML) Centre" in Bangalore
- HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Uday Kotak | Tagline "Let's make money simple"
- **49.** On September 17, National Asset Reconstruction Company (NARCL) or 'Bad Bank' will acquire bad loans or stressed assets worth Rs 2 lakh Cr from banks via 15% in cash and the remaining 85% will be government-guaranteed Security Receipts (SRs). Of the ₹2 lakh Cr, around ₹90,000 Cr of bad loans will be transferred to NARCL in the first phase of the exercise. Moreover, there is 18% weighted average accorded. This means the ₹2 lakh Cr of bad loans has been valued at ₹36,000 Cr. Government has approved the ₹30,600 Cr as a guarantee to back Security Receipts (SRs) which will be issued by NARCL. NARCL, which is 51% owned by Public Sector Banks, will have an operational entity, India Debt Resolution Company Ltd, to manage these assets and find potential buyers for them. While Public Sector Banks (PSBs) and Public Financial Institutions will hold maximum 49% stake in India Debt Resolution Company Ltd (IDRCL) which is set up by the government. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- NARCL will acquire bad loans or stressed assets worth Rs 2 lakh Cr from banks (15% in cash & 85% via SRs)
- Government approved the ₹30,600 Cr as a guarantee to back Security Receipts (SRs)
- Share of Public Sector Banks (PSBs) in NARCL 51%
- PSBs & PFIs will hold maximum 49% stake in India Debt Resolution Company Ltd (set up by government)
- MD of the NARCL Padmakumar Madhavan Nair | Lead Sponsor Canara Bank (with 12% equity)
- **50.** On September 16, The Reserve Bank of India has given approval to Ujjivan Small Finance Bank (SFB) to form a "Special Committee of Directors" with three independent directors as its members, to oversee operations in the absence of an MD and CEO. {Read more}

- RBI gave its approval to Ujjivan SFB to form a "Special Committee of Directors" to oversee operations
- HQs of RBI Mumbai, MH | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935
- HQs of Ujjivan SFB Bengaluru, Karnataka | Interim CEO Carol Furtado | Founded in 2004



**51.** On September 15, NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL), an international arm of National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), has partnered with Singapore based Liquid Group Pvt Ltd to enable Unified Payments Interface (UPI) QR-based payments acceptance in 10 markets across North Asia and Southeast Asia. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- NIPL + Liquid Group = partnership to enable UPI-based payments acceptance in 10 Asian markets
- HQs of NIPL Mumbai, MH | CEO Ritesh Shukla
- HQs of Liquid Group Singapore | CEO Jeremy Tan
- **52.** On September 12, Tamilnad Mercantile Bank has launched various initiatives to mark its centennial (100<sup>th</sup> anniversary). The bank launched a doorstep banking services "TMB Mobile DigiLobby" and a "Mobile Vaccination Drive" to create awareness on Covid-19 vaccination. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- September 12 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Tamilnad Mercantile Bank
- Tamilnad Mercantile Bank launched "TMB Mobile DigiLobby" & "Mobile Vaccination Drive"
- HQs of TMB Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu | CEO K. V. Rama Moorthy
- **53.** On September 14, The Reserve Bank of India has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 5 lakh on Kuppam Cooperative Town Bank, Kuppam located in Chittoor District of Andhra Pradesh for non-compliance with certain provisions of the directions issued by RBI contained in the Master Circular on Income Recognition, Asset Classification, Provisioning and other related Matters. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- RBI imposed a penalty of Rs 5 lakh on Kuppam Co-operative Town Bank (Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh)
- HQs of RBI Mumbai, MH | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935
- **54.** On September 21, Kotak Mahindra Bank has announced to acquire a 9.98% stake in KFin Technologies for Rs 310 Cr. KFin Technologies provides technology solutions across a broad spectrum of asset classes spanning mutual funds, alternative investment funds and pension funds. {Read more}

- Kotak Mahindra Bank to acquire a 9.98% stake in KFin Technologies for Rs 310 Cr
- HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Uday Kotak | Tagline "Let's make money simple"
- HQs of KFin Technologies Hyderabad, Telangana | CEO Sreekanth Nadella
- **55.** On September 20, HDFC Bank and Paytm have partnered to launch a comprehensive range of Credit Cards powered by Visa. The partnership aims to provide one of the widest range of offerings across customer segments, with a special focus on millennials, business owners and merchants. {Read more}



- HDFC Bank + Paytm = partnership to launch a comprehensive range of Credit Cards powered by Visa
- HQs of HDFC Bank Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline "We understand your world"
- HQs of Paytm Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CEO Vijay Sekhar Sharma | Founded in 2010

**56.** On September 20, India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has announced strategic partnership with Tata AIG General Insurance and Bajaj Allianz General Insurance for distribution of their non-life insurance products across India. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- IPPB + Tata AIG Gen Ins + Bajaj Allianz Gen Ins = a strategic partnership for distribution of Non-life insurance products
- HQs of IPPB New Delhi | MD & CEO Venkatram Jayanthy | Established on 1<sup>st</sup> Sep, 2018
- HQs of Tata AIG Gen Ins Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO Neelesh Garg
- HQs of Bajaj Allianz Gen Ins Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO Tapan Singhel
- **57.** On September 20, Yes Bank has partnered with Visa to offer credit cards to its customers. The suite consists of 9 credit card variants on the Visa platform that service all segments. YES Bank is also in the process of completing technology integration with NPCI and plans to issue Rupay branded Credit Cards in due course. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- Yes Bank + Visa = partnership to offer suite of 9 Credit Cards to its customers
- HQs of Yes Bank Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO Prashant Kumar | Tagline "Experience our Expertise"
- HQs of Visa Foster City, California | CEO Alfred F. Kelly | Founded in 1958
- **58.** On September 20, Bank of Baroda (BoB) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) have launched an international co-branded "RuPay NCMC Platinum Contactless Debit Card". It's powered by NCMC feature enabling contactless transactions across all the public transport systems. {Read more}

- BoB + BPCL = launched an international co-branded "RuPay NCMC Platinum Contactless Debit Card"
- HQs of BOB Vododara, Gujarat | CEO Sanjiv Chadha | Tagline "India's International Bank"
- HQs of BPCL Mumbai, MH | Chairman & MD Arun Kumar Singh | Founded in 1952



**59.** On September 20, PayPoint India has entered into a partnership with Bank of Baroda (BoB) to provide banking services across India through the Business Correspondent (BC) model. It is a part of BoB's new initiative "BOB NOWW" (New Operating model and Ways of Working). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- BoB + PayPoint India = partnership to provide banking services across India through Business Correspondent model
- "BOB NOWW" New Operating model and Ways of Working
- HQs of BOB Vododara, Gujarat | CEO Sanjiv Chadha | Tagline "India's International Bank"
- HQs of PayPoint India Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **60.** On September 24, IndusInd Bank has acquired 4.79% stake in debt-laden bulk tea manufacturer McLeod Russel India by invoking pledged shares for recovery of its dues. McLeod Russel is 152-year old BM Khaitan Group Company. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- IndusInd Bank acquired 4.79% stake in debt-laden bulk tea manufacturer 'McLeod Russel India'
- HQs of IndusInd Bank Pune, MH | MD & CEO Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline "We Make You Feel Richer"
- HQs of McLeod Russel India Kolkata, West Bengal | MD & Chairman Aditya Khaitan
- **61.** On September 21, BLS International Services Ltd has been selected as National Business Correspondent for State Bank of India (SBI) to deliver banking services in urban, semi-urban and rural areas across India. A few days before, SBI selected Paisalo Digital for engagement as 'Corporate Business Correspondent'. Meanwhile, Starfin India Pvt Ltd, the subsidiary of BLS International, has also become the National Business Correspondent for Bank of Baroda. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- BLS International Services Ltd selected as 'National Business Correspondent' for SBI
- Paisalo Digital selected as 'Corporate Business Correspondent' for SBI
- Starfin India selected as National Business Correspondent for Bank of Baroda
- HQs of BLS International Services New Delhi | MD Nikhil Gupta
- HQs of SBI Bank Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman
- **62.** On September 22, RBL Bank and Mastercard have launched a new festive campaign #UseBefikar, which rewards existing cardholders with shopping offers and rewards for a seamless payment experience. {Read more}

- RBL Bank + Mastercard = launched a new festive campaign #UseBefikar that rewards existing cardholders
- HQs of RBL Bank Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Vishwavir Ahuja | Chairman Prakash Chandra
- HQs of Mastercard New York, US | CEO Michael Miebach | Founded in 1966



**63.** On September 22, Federal Bank has partnered with OneCard for a Mobile-first Credit Card that targets India's young & tech-savvy population for the upcoming festive season. It will target young working professionals aged 23-35. The cards will be powered by Visa. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Federal Bank + OneCard = partnership for "Mobile-first Credit Card" targeting India's young population
- The cards will be powered by Visa
- HQs of Federal Bank Aluva, Kerala | MD & CEO Shyam Srinivasan | Tagline "Your Perfect Banking Partner"
- HQs of OneCard Riyadh, Saudi Arabia | CEO Anurag Sinha (launched by FPL Technologies)
- HQs of Visa Foster City, California | CEO Alfred F. Kelly | Founded in 1958
- **64.** On September 24, The US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) are jointly sponsoring a \$55 million (₹400 Cr) credit guarantee programme titled "India Covid Response Programme for Agriculture Transition" to address the economic impact of covid-19 by supporting loans to farmer producer organizations, ag-tech companies, and companies engaged in clean energy solutions for the agriculture sector. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- DFC + USAID = jointly sponsoring a \$55 million (₹400 Cr) Credit Guarantee Programme in India
- HQs of USAID Washington D.C., US | Administrator Samantha Power | Founded in 1961
- **65.** On September 24, According to the "Deposits with Scheduled Commercial Banks March 2021" published by the RBI, bank deposits grew 11.9% year-on-year during 2020-21 compared to 8.8% in 2019-20 due to high growth in current account and savings account (CASA) deposits. The share of CASA deposits increased to 43.7% in March 2021. Among institutional categories, the household sector held 64.1% share in total deposits. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- "Deposits with Scheduled Commercial Banks March 2021" published by the RBI
- Bank deposits grew 11.9% during 2020-21 due to high growth in CASA deposits (compared to 8.8% in 2019-20)
- CASA deposits increased to 43.7% in March 2021
- Household Sector held 64.1% share in total deposits
- HQs of RBI Mumbai, MH | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935
- **66.** On September 23, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and SBI Card launched a "BPCL SBI Card cobranded RuPay Contactless Credit Card", offering fuel and other benefits. The card will provide rewarding fuel savings and other benefits to the customers. {Read more}

- BPCL + SBI Card = launched a "BPCL SBI Card co-branded RuPay Contactless Credit Card"
- HQs of BPCL Mumbai, MH | Chairman & MD Arun Kumar Singh | Founded in 1952
- HQs of SBI Cards & Payment Services Ltd Gurgaon, Haryana | MD & CEO Rama Mohan Rao Amara



67. On September 23, Utkarsh Small Finance Bank has announced the inauguration of its first branch in Kerala at Kochi. The bank has 600 branches in 201 districts spread across 18 states and 2 Union Territories. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Utkarsh Small Finance Bank announced the inauguration of its first branch at Kochi, Kerala
- HQs of Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh | MD & CEO Govind Singh

**68.** On September 24, The RBI has issued the "Master Direction - Reserve Bank of India (Securitisation of Standard Assets) Directions, 2021". Loans with tenor up to 24 months (2 years) extended to individuals for Agricultural activities will be eligible for Securitisation. The minimum ticket size for issuance of Securitisation notes shall be Rs 1 Cr. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- RBI issued the "Master Direction Reserve Bank of India (Securitisation of Standard Assets) Directions, 2021"
- Loans with tenor up to 24 months extended to individuals for Agricultural activities will be eligible for Securitisation
- Minimum ticket size for issuance of Securitisation notes Rs 1 Cr
- HQs of RBI Mumbai, MH | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935
- **69.** On September 25, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) has partnered with ICICI Bank to allow customers to use their ICICI Bank FASTag to pay for fuel and lubricants at HPCL retail outlets. HPCL is the first oil marketing company (OMC) in India to enable FASTag for fuel purchases by retail as well as commercial customer. Meanwhile, HPCL has proposed to commission 5,000 electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in the next 3 years and has partnered with various companies for this purpose. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- HPCL + ICICI Bank = to allow customers to use 'ICICI Bank FASTag' to pay for fuel & lubricants at HPCL retail outlets
- HQs of HPCL Mumbai, MH | CEO & Chairperson Mukesh Kumar Surana
- HQs of ICICI Lombard Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO Bhargav Das Gupta
- **70.** On September 27, ICICI Bank has partnered with Amazon India to offer overdraft (OD) facility up to Rs 25 lakh to Individual Sellers & Small Businesses. Customers of other banks can avail the facility from ICICI Bank, if they are registered as sellers with amazon.in. The sellers will be redirected to ICICI Bank's 'InstaOD' platform to avail this OD facility. {Read more}

- ICICI Bank + Amazon India = to offer overdraft(OD) facility up to Rs 25 lakh to Individual Sellers & Small Businesses
- HQs of ICICI Bank Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Sandeep Bakhshi | Taglines "Hum Hain Na!" & "Khayal Apka"
- HQs of Amazon India Hyderabad, Telangana | Country Head Amit Agarwal



- **71.** On September 28, Paytm Payments Bank Ltd (PPBL) has partnered with Ria Money Transfer, a subsidiary of Euronet Worldwide, to help its 333 million customers customers receive money from abroad. This partnership makes Paytm India's first platform to accept international remittances directly into a digital wallet. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- Paytm Payments Bank + Ria Money Transfer = to accept international remittances directly into a Digital Wallet
- HQs of PPBL Noida, Uttar Pradesh | MD & CEO Satish Kumar Gupta
- HQs of Ria Money Transfer California, US | CEO Juan C. Bianchi
- **72.** On September 28, Federal Bank has partnered with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to launch the Federal Bank RuPay Signet Contactless Credit Card. Federal Bank's tie up with Mastercard after the RBI barred Mastercard from acquiring new customers. {Read more}

- Federal Bank + NPCI = to launch the Federal Bank RuPay Signet Contactless Credit Card
- HQs of Federal Bank Aluva, Kerala | MD & CEO Shyam Srinivasan | Tagline "Your Perfect Banking Partner"
- HQs of NPCI Mumbai | Chairman Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD&CEO Dilip Asbe | Established in 2008
- 73. On September 27, Vistara (TATA SIA Airlines Ltd) has partnered with IndusInd Bank to launch co-branded credit card namely "Club Vistara IndusInd Bank Explorer" to offer various benefits. Tata Sons Ltd and Singapore Airlines Ltd hold stake in Vistara in the ratio of 51:49. {Read more}

- Vistara + IndusInd Bank = to launch co-branded "Club Vistara IndusInd Bank Explorer" credit card
- HQs of Vistara Gurugram, Haryana | CEO Leslie Thng | Tata Sons Ltd : Singapore Airlines Ltd = 51:49
- HQs of IndusInd Bank Pune, MH | MD & CEO Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline "We Make You Feel Richer"
- **74.** In September 2021, the RBI has accorded approval to Jammu & Kashmir government to acquire over 16.76 Cr shares in J&K Bank on preferential basis. Besides, under the Employee Stock Purchase Scheme (ESPS), J&K Bank aims to raise up to Rs 150 Cr by issuing 7.5 Cr equity shares, in one or more tranches, to eligible employees of the bank. Now, the UT government's equity share in the J&K Bank is over 74%. {Read more}
- **Key Points:**
- RBI accorded approval to J&K government to acquire over 16.76 Cr shares in J&K Bank
- Now, the J&K government's equity share in the J&K Bank is over 74%
- HQs of J&K Bank Sri Nagar, J & K | MD & CEO Baldev Prakash
- J & K: Capital Srinagar | Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha



**75.** On September 27, The government will borrow Rs 5.03 lakh Cr in the second half of the current fiscal (FY22) to fund the Revenue Gap for reviving the pandemic-hit Economy. During the first half (April-September), the government has raised Rs 7.02 lakh Cr by issuing bonds. Out of gross market borrowing of Rs 12.05 lakh Cr projected for FY 2021-22 in the Union Budget, Rs 7.24 lakh Cr was planned to be borrowed in first half along with the Net borrowing of Rs 9.37 Cr. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Government will borrow Rs 5.03 lakh Cr in the second half of FY2021-22 to fund the Revenue Gap
- During the first half (April-September), the government raised Rs 7.02 lakh Cr by issuing bonds
- Gross market borrowing projected for FY 2021-22 Rs 12.05 lakh Cr

**76.** On September 28, The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has approved a Credit Plan for Yak Husbandry in Arunachal Pradesh. Yak is also referred to as 'mountain cattle'. The scheme was developed by the National Research Centre on Yak (NRCY) at Dirang in Arunachal Pradesh's West Kameng district. The NRCY comes under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- NABARD approved a Credit Plan for Yak Husbandry in Arunachal Pradesh (Scheme was developed by NRCY)
- NRCY comes under ICAR
- HQs of NABARD Mum<mark>bai, Mah</mark>arashtra | Chairman Govinda Rajulu Chintala | Founded in 1982

77. On September 28, The Reserve Bank Of India (RBI) in consultation with the Government of India, has fixed the limit for Ways and Means Advances (WMA) for the second half of the FY 2021-22 (October 2021 to March 2022) at Rs 50000 Cr. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- RBI fixed the WMA limit at Rs 50,000 Cr for the second half of the FY 2021-22 (Oct 2021 to March 2022)
- $\bullet$  HQs of RBI Mumbai, MH | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**78.** On September 28, Indian Bank has become the official partner bank for the collection of offline and online treasury for the Integrated Financial and Human Resources Management System (IFHRMS) developed by the Tamil Nadu government. {Read more}

- Indian Bank became the Official Partner Bank for the collection of offline & online treasury for TN's IFHRMS
- HQs of Indian Bank Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO Shanti Lal Jain | Tagline "Your Own Bank"
- Tamil Nadu: Capital Chennai | CM Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor Ravindra Narayan Ravi
- **79.** Suryoday Small Finance Bank has discontinued its ATM services from October 1, 2021 due to operational reasons. Suryoday Small Finance Bank Limited is a scheduled commercial bank (SCB). Suryoday started its operations as an SFB in 2017. Suryoday SFB had reported a ₹48 Cr loss in the quarter ended 30 June 2021. {Read more}



- Suryoday SFB discontinued its ATM services due to operational reasons
- HQs of Suryoday SFB Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Baskar Babu Ramachandran

**80.** On September 30, The RBI has removed Indian Overseas Bank from the Prompt Corrective Action Framework (PCAF), following improvement in various parameters. IOB was placed under PCA in 2015. Now, the Central Bank of India is the only lender under the RBI's PCA framework. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- RBI removed "IOB" from its **P**rompt **C**orrective **A**ction (PCA) framework (placed under PCA in 2015)
- Now, CBoI is the only bank under PCA framework (as on September 30, 2021)
- HQs of RBI Mumbai, MH | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935
- HQs of IOB Chennai, TN | MD & CEO Partha Pratim Sengupta | Tagline "Good people to grow with"

81. On September 30, The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has approved a framework for the establishment of Gold Exchange during its board meet. The board approved the "Gold Exchange and SEBI Vault Managers Regulations, 2021" that allow bourses to set up a Gold exchange in India. Under the regulation for vault managers, the entities applying to be vault managers should have a net worth of Rs 50 Cr or more. The SEBI board considered and approved the amendments to the "SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015" in relation to regulatory provisions on related party transactions (RPTs). Besides, "SEBI (Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers) Regulations, 2011" was amended to make merger and acquisition (M&A) transactions more convenient. The SEBI has also decided to relax the framework governing the issue of shares with Superior Voting Rights (SR shares), a move that will help new-age technology companies. Promoters who have a net worth of over Rs 1,000 Cr can have superior voting rights in their companies, from the current Rs 500 Cr. {Read more}

- SEBI approved the "Gold Exchange & SEBI Vault Managers Regulations, 2021"
- The entities applying to be vault managers should have a net worth of Rs 50 Cr or more
- SEBI amended the "SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015"
- SEBI amended the "SEBI (Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers) Regulations, 2011"
- SEBI relaxed the framework governing the issue of shares with Superior Voting Rights (SR shares)
- Promoters with the net worth of over Rs 1,000 Cr can have Superior Voting Rights in their companies
- HQs of SEBI Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Ajay Tyagi | Established in 1992
- **82.** On September 29, Stellapps, a dairy-tech start-up, has joined hands with Airtel Payments Bank (APB) to enable cashless payment transfers to small dairy farmers. The partner ecosystem has been piloted in Uttar Pradesh (Varanasi & Kanpur) and Madhya Pradesh (Gwalior). {Read more}



- Stellapps + APB partnership to enable cashless payment transfers to Small Dairy Farmers
- Pilot project initiated in Varanasi & Kanpur (UP) & Gwalior (MP)
- Stellapps IIT-Madras incubated dairy-tech startup | HQs of Stellapps Bangalore, Karnatak
- HQs of APB New Delhi | CEO Anubrata Biswas | Founded in 2017
- Airtel Payments Bank first to receive a payments bank license from the RBI
- **83.** On September 30, AU Small Finance Bank has signed a pact with the National Bank for Rural and Development (NABARD) to boost ongoing rural development initiatives in Rajasthan. The MoU envisages a joint initiative to benefit farmers, Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), Self Help Groups (SHGs), rural artisans, agri-entrepreneurs, and agri-startups in the State. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- AU SFB + NABARD = to boost ongoing rural development initiatives in Rajasthan
- Rajasthan: Capital Jaipur | CM Ashok Gehlot | Governor Kalraj Mishra
- HQs of AU SFB Jaipur, Rajasthan | MD & CEO Sanjay Agarwal | President Sharad Goklani
- HQs of NABARD Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Govinda Rajulu Chintala | Founded in 1982
- **84.** On September 29, State Bank of India (SBI) has signed a Master Agreement with 3 NBFCs Vedika Credit Capital Ltd (VCCL), Save Microfinance Pvt Ltd (SMPL) and Paisalo Digital Ltd (PDL), for co-lending to individual members of Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) to undertake agriculture and allied activities. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- SBI signed a Master Agreement with 3 NBFCs for co-lending to individual members of Joint Liability Groups (JLGs)
- 3 NBFCs: Vedika Credit Capital + Save Microfinance + Paisalo Digital
- HQs of SBI Bank Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman
- 85. On September 29, NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd (REL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of NTPC Ltd, has signed its first 'Green Term Loan' agreement of ₹500 Cr with Bank of India for the period of 15 years. The loan agreement is for its 470-MW solar projects in Rajasthan and 200-MW solar project in Gujarat. In July 2021, NTPC REL received an approval from government to set up 4750 MW (4.75 GW) Renewable Energy Park (Solar Power Park) in Kutch, Gujarat. {Read more}

- NTPC REL + Bank of India = signed the first 'Green Term Loan' agreement of ₹500 Cr for 15 years
- 'Green Term Loan' agreement for: 470-MW Solar Projects (Rajasthan) + 200-MW Solar Project (Gujarat)
- HQs of NTPC New Delhi | CMD Gurdeep Singh | Founded in 1975
- HQs of Bol Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Shri Atanu Kumar Das | Tagline "Relationship Beyond Banking"



**86.** On September 29, Indel Money has entered into a first-of-its-kind conventional gold loan co-lending partnership with IndusInd Bank to offer gold loans at competitive rates to a bigger and diverse segment of borrowers. IndusInd Bank will take into its book 80% of the gold loan generated by the co-lending arrangement while the remaining 20% will be funded by Indel Money. {Read more}

- Indel Money + IndusInd Bank = a co-lending partnership to offer Gold loans at competitive rates
- HQs of Indel Money Mumbai, MH | MD & Chairman Mohanan Gopalakrishna | CEO Umesh Mohanan
- HQs of IndusInd Bank Pune, MH | MD & CEO Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline "We Make You Feel Richer"





# **Defence Affairs**

**1.** On September 2, A contingent of 200 Army personnel from India will participate in the multinational "Exercise ZAPAD 2021" being held at Nizhniy, Russia from September 3 to 16. In all, 17 countries have been invited by Russia for the exercise. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- A contingent of 200 Army personnel from India will participate in the multinational "Exercise ZAPAD 2021"
- This exercise is being hosted by Russia
- Russia Moscow Russian Ruble | PM Mikhail Mishustin | President Vladimir Putin
- 2. Ministry of Defence, India and the U.S. Department of Defence have signed a Project Agreement (PA) for Air-Launched Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (ALUAV) under the ambit of the Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI). The DTTI was announced in 2012 as an ambitious initiative for co-production and co-development of military systems. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- India + US = a Project Agreement for Air-Launched Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (ALUAV) under the "DTTI"
- US Washington, D.C. US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP Kamala Harris
- **3.** On September 3, The Indian Army has signed a contract worth Rs 100 Cr with Alpha Design-led joint venture (JV) with Israeli firm Elbit Security Systems (ELSEC) to procure more than 100 explosive-laden drones or 'SkyStrikers' under its emergency procurement powers. 'SkyStrikers' is also referred to as a 'Suicide Drone'. Another IAF contract, for 60 Identification of "Friend-or-Foe" or "IFF systems" was procured by Alpha, BEL and Data Patterns. The technology was developed by DRDO. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Indian Army + Alpha Design + Elbit Security Systems = a contract worth Rs 100 Cr to procure over 100 'SkyStrikers'
- 'SkyStrikers' is also referred to as a 'Suicide Drone'
- HQs of Indian Army New Delhi | Chief Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief Chandi Prasad Mohanty
- HQs of Alpha Design Bangalore, Karnataka | HQs of Elbit Security Systems Israel
- **4.** India and Singapore have carried out a Mega Naval Wargame in the southern fringes of the South China Sea. The Indian Navy deployed its guided-missile destroyer INS Ranvijay, anti-submarine warfare corvette INS Kiltan and guided-missile corvette INS Kora and one P8I long-range maritime patrol aircraft for the 28<sup>th</sup> edition of the Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX) from September 2-4, 2021. Initiated in 1994, SIMBEX is the Indian Navy's longest uninterrupted bilateral maritime exercise with any foreign navy. {Read more}

- India & Singapore conducted the 28<sup>th</sup> edition of "SIMBEX" in the South China Sea
- INS Ranvijay + INS Kiltan + INS Kora + 'P8I' aircraft = participated in the exercise
- Singapore Singapore Dollar | PM Lee Hsien Loong | President Halimah Yacob



**5.** India has commissioned the first satellite and ballistic missile tracking ship "Dhruv" from Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. INS Dhruv was built by the Hindustan Shipyard in collaboration with the DRDO and National Technical Research Organisation (NTRO). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- India commissioned the first satellite & ballistic missile tracking ship "Dhruv" from Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- INS Dhruv is built by = Hindustan Shipyard + DRDO + NTRO
- HQs of Hindustan Shipyard Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh | MD & Chairman Hemant Khatri
- HQs of DRDO New Delhi | Chairman G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in 1958
- HQs of NTRO New Delhi | Chief Anil Dhasmana
- **6.** Australia's Northern Territory has hosted the biennial "AUSINDEX" maritime warfare exercises between the Royal Australian and the Indian navies at Northern Territory, ahead of the two countries holding their first "2+2" Foreign and Defence Ministers meet in New Delhi. INS Shivalik & Kadmatt participated in the Naval exercise. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- Biennial "AUSINDEX" maritime warfare exercises held between Australia & India at Northern Territory
- INS Shivalik & INS Kadmatt participated in this exercise
- Australia Canberra Australian Dollar | PM Scott Morrison
- **7.** Egypt has hosted the "Bright Star" joint military drill with 21 countries at Mohamed Naguib military base in the Mediterranean Sea. It has been hosted by Egypt in cooperation with the US every two years. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- Egypt hosted the "Bright Star" joint military drill with 21 countries in the Mediterranean Sea
- "Bright Star" multinational military drill hosted by Egypt in cooperation with the US every 2 years
- Egypt Cairo Egyptian Pound | President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi
- **8.** The first of two "Krivak" or "Talwar" class stealth frigates being built by Russia is expected to be delivered to India in the middle of 2023, according to the head of United Shipbuilding Corporation (USC) of Russia. In October 2016, India and Russia signed an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) for four Krivak or Talwar class stealth frigates two to be procured directly from Russia and two to be built by the Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL. {Read more}

- Russia to deliver 1<sup>st</sup> "Krivak" or "Talwar" class stealth frigate to India by mid of 2023
- An Inter-Governmental Agreement for this purpose was signed in 2016 between both countries
- Russia Moscow Russian Ruble | PM Mikhail Mishustin | President Vladimir Putin



**9.** Nepal and Indian Army personnel will participate in the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of two-week joint military exercise "Suryakiran" from September 20 to October 3. As many as 300 Nepali Army personnel will participate along with similar number of Indian Army personnel. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- 15<sup>th</sup> edition of a joint military exercise "Suryakiran" held between India & Nepal
- Nepal Kathmandu Nepalese Rupee | President Bidhya Devi Bhandari | PM Sher Bahadur Deuba
- **10.** On September 7, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has released an order on "Delegation of Financial Powers to Defence Services (DFPDS) 2021", providing enhanced delegation of Revenue Procurement Powers to the Armed Forces. A new schedule on hiring of Aircraft and associated Equipment has been introduced for Indian Air Force which includes hiring of Air to Air re-fuellers. Delegated Financial Powers of Vice Chiefs of the Services have been increased by 10%, subject to an overall ceiling of Rs 500 Cr. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Rajnath Singh released an order on "Delegation of Financial Powers to Defence Services (DFPDS) 2021"
- Rajnath Singh approved an enhanced delegation of 'Revenue Procurement Powers' to the Armed Forces
- A new schedule on hiring of Aircraft and associated Equipment is introduced for Indian Air Force
- Delegated Financial Powers of Vice Chiefs of the Services have been increased by 10% (with ceiling of Rs 500 Cr)
- Ministry of Defence: Rajnath Singh | Constituency Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Defence: Ajay Bhatt

# The Question Bank

**11.** On September 7, Sea trials of India's first Floating missile Test Range (FTR), INS Anvesh, are set to begin with the ship expected to be commissioned in the next two months. It is built by Cochin Shipyard and designed by the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO). {Read more}

- Sea trials of India's first Floating missile Test Range (FTR) "INS Anvesh" began in September
- It is built by Cochin Shipyard Ltd & designed by DRDO
- HQs of Cochin Shipyard Kochi, Kerala | Chairman & MD Madhu S. Nair
- HQs of DRDO New Delhi | Chairman G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in 1958
- 12. On September 9, In a significant boost to India's defence capabilities, the DRDO has handed over the first deliverable Firing Unit (FU) of Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (MRSAM) System or "Barak-8" Missile System to the Indian Air Force (IAF) in the presence of Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh at Air Force Station, Jaisalmer in Rajasthan. The MRSAM (IAF) is an advanced network centric combat Air Defence System developed jointly by DRDO & Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI). {Read more}



- DRDO handed over 1<sup>st</sup> deliverable Firing Unit of "MRSAM" or "Barak-8" missile system to IAF at Jaisalmer, Rajasthan
- "MRSAM" or "Barak-8" missile system is jointly developed by DRDO & Israel Aerospace Industries
- HQs of DRDO New Delhi | Chairman G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in 1958
- Rajasthan: Capital Jaipur | CM Ashok Gehlot | Governor Kalraj Mishra
- **13.** On September 9, Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd (GRSE) has signed an MoU with French defence firm Naval Group to collaborate on surface ships to cater to the requirements of India and Global Naval Forces. The MoU will help the two entities to collaborate on offering high-end surface ships based on sea proven 'Gowind' design developed for export market. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- GRSE + Naval Group (France) = an MoU to offer high-end surface ships based on sea proven 'Gowind' design
- HQs of GRSE Kolkata, India | Chairman & MD Rear Admiral Vipin Kumar Saxena | Founded in 1884
- **14.** On September 12, Indian Navy and Sudanese Navy carried out a Bilateral Maritime Exercise in the Red Sea off the Sudanese coast. INS Tabar and two Sudanese Navy ships Almazz and Nimer- participated in this maiden exercise. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- India + Sudan = carried out a Bilateral Maritime Exercise in the Red Sea
- INS Tabar participated in this exercise
- Sudan Khartoum Sudanese Pound | PM Abdalla Hamdok
- **15.** On September 14, The Indian Navy has handed over a Passenger Variant Dornier (PVD) aircraft "MSN 4059" on lease to the Mauritius Police Force (MPF) as part of Vision SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region). This State-of-the-Art PVD is developed by the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL). {Read more}

- Indian Navy handed over a Passenger Variant Dornier (PVD) aircraft "MSN 4059" on lease to Mauritius
- Mauritius Port Louis Mauritian rupee | PM Pravind Kumar Jugnauth
- HQs of Indian Navy Delhi | Chief Admiral Karambir Singh | VC S. N. Ghormade | Founded in 26<sup>th</sup> Jan, 1950
- **16.** On September 15, Indian military contingent of 200 personnel has participated in the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of exercise "SCO Peaceful Mission 2021" hosted by Russia in Orenburg. The aim of the exercise is to foster close relations between SCO member states and to enhance abilities of the military leaders to command multi-national military contingents. {Read more}



- Indian military participated in the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of exercise "SCO Peaceful Mission 2021" hosted by Russia in Orenburg
- Russia Moscow Russian Ruble | PM Mikhail Mishustin | President Vladimir Putin
- **17.** India and Nepal has begun the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of a 14-day military exercise "Surya Kiran" in Pithoragarh of Uttarakhand with a focus on counter-terror drills and disaster relief operations. The Indian side in the joint exercise was represented by the 6<sup>th</sup> Garhwal Regiment. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- India & Nepal conducted 15<sup>th</sup> edition of military exercise "Surya Kiran" in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand
- Nepal Kathmandu Nepalese Rupee | President Bidhya Devi Bhandari | PM Sher Bahadur Deuba
- **18.** On September 20, India and Indonesia began a 3-day Bilateral Maritime Exercise in the Sunda Strait, in reflection of their growing maritime cooperation. Indian Navy deployed its two frontline warships Shivalik and Kadmatt for the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the exercise "Samudra Shakti". In pursuance of India's Act East Policy, exercise "Samudra Shakti" was conceived in 2018 as a bilateral exercise. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- India & Indonesia conducted 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of "Samudra Shakti" in the Sunda Strait
- INS Shivalik & INS Kadmatt participated in the exercise
- Indonesia Jakarta Rupiah | President Joko Widodo
- **19.** On September 23, Heavy Vehicles Factory (HVF), Avadi, Tamil Nadu received Rs 7,523 Cr order from the Ministry of Defence for the supply of 118 indigenous 'Arjun Mk-1A Main Battle Tanks' for the Army. The 'MBT Arjun Mk-1A' was designed and developed by the Combat Vehicles Research and Development Establishment (CVRDE) along with the other laboratories of the DRDO. {Read more}

- Heavy Vehicles Factory (Tamil Nadu) received Rs 7,523 Cr order from Ministry of Defence for the supply of 118 indigenous 'Arjun Mk-1A Main Battle Tanks' for Indian Army
- 'MBT Arjun Mk-1A' was designed and developed by CVRDE (DRDO's lab in Chennai)
- HQs of Indian Army New Delhi | Chief Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief Chandi Prasad Mohanty
- **20.** The Defence Ministry has dissolved the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) in to 7 Defence Public Sector Units (DPSUs), according to an official order dated September 28. Government of India has decided to transfer the management, control, operations and maintenance of 41 Ordnance Factories into 7 new DPSUs. {Read more}



- Defence Ministry dissolved the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) into 7 DPSUs (from 41 Ordnance Factories)
- HQs of OFB Kolkata, West Bengal | Chairman C. S. Vishwakarma
- Ministry of Defence: Rajnath Singh | Constituency Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Defence: Ajay Bhatt
- 21. On September 29, The Defence Ministry has approved the Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for capital acquisitions proposals for modernisation and operational needs of the Indian Armed Forces worth Rs 13,165 Cr that included 25 indigenously-developed ALH Mark-III helicopters for the Indian Army to boost its combat capabilities. Out of the total procurements, equipment and platforms worth Rs 11,486 Cr (87%) will be sourced from domestic entities. The proposals were approved by the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC). {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- DAC approved the Acceptance of Necessity for defence procurement worth Rs 13,165
- Rs 11,486 Cr (87%) of the total procurements will be sourced from Domestic Entities
- Ministry of Defence: Rajnath Singh | Constituency Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Defence: Ajay Bhatt
- 22. On September 29, The Indian Navy and the Australian Navy signed the 'Terms of Reference' (ToR) to conduct the navy to navy talks under the framework of the "Joint Guidance for the India Australia Navy to Navy Relationship" document, signed by the two Navy Chiefs in August. This is the first such document signed by the Indian Navy with any country. The inaugural navy to navy talk with Australia was held in 2005. {Read more}

- Indian Navy + Australian Navy = signed the 'Terms of Reference' (ToR) for navy to navy talks
- HQs of Indian Navy Delhi | Chief Admiral Karambir Singh | VC S. N. Ghormade | Founded in 26<sup>th</sup> Jan, 1950
- Australia Canberra Australian Dollar | PM Scott Morrison



# **Schemes & Initiatives**

**1.** On September 1, Goa has launched the "Save Water to Get Free Water" scheme under which households in the state will not be charged for consumption up to 16,000 litres. With this, Goa will become the first state in India to supply water free of cost to its citizens. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Goa launched the "Save Water to Get Free Water" scheme
- Households in the state will not be charged for consumption up to 16,000 litres
- Goa became the first state in India to supply water free of cost to its citizens
- Goa: Capital Panaji | CM Pramod Sawant | Governor P. S. Sreedharan Pillai
- 2. Chhattisgarh government will provide a financial assistance of Rs 9,000 per acre to drought-hit farmers on the basis of survey (for assessment of damage) under the "Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana (RGKNY)". {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Chhattisgarh to provide a financial assistance of Rs 9,000 per acre to drought-hit farmers under "RGKNY"
- Chhattisgarh: Capital Raipur | CM Bhupesh Baghel | Governor Anusuiya Uikey
- **3.** 1,565 artisans have been benefitted by training in 63 Samarth Training Centres as per the "SAMARTH" scheme established under the Ministry of Textiles. Ministry of Textiles has adopted 65 clusters for overall development of artisans in a time bound manner. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- 1,565 artisans are benefitted by training in 63 Samarth Training Centres as per the "SAMARTH" scheme
- "SAMARTH" scheme established under Ministry of Textiles
- Ministry of Textiles adopted 65 clusters for overall development of Artisans
- Ministry of Textiles: Piyush Goyal | Constituency Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Textiles: Darshana Vikram Jardosh
- **4.** On September 4, Gujaratis settled outside India and looking to donate for development works in their native villages will now get 40% financial support from the Gujarat government under the newly launched "Vatan Prem Yojana". {Read more}

- Gujarat launched "Vatan Prem Yojana" for rural development
- Gujarat: Capital Gandhinagar | CM Vijay Rupani | Governor Acharya Devvrat



- **5.** On September 4, Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir has launched the "Tourist Village Network" initiative under the 'Mission Youth'. The initiative aims at rejuvenating and transforming more than 75 villages in the Union Territory and promoting tourism and sustainable employment for the youth. {Read more}
- **Key Points:**
- J & K launched the "Tourist Village Network" initiative under the 'Mission Youth' to promote tourism
- J & K: Capital Srinagar | Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha
- **6.** On September 7, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia has launched the Delhi government's "Business Blasters" programme which aims at developing Young Entrepreneurs at the school-level. The programme will be implemented in all Delhi government schools under the "Entrepreneurship Mindset Curriculum (EMC)". The programme is for Class 11 and 12 students who will be provided seed money of Rs 2,000 to start a business. {Read more}

- Manish Sisodia (Delhi) launched "Business Blasters" programme to develop Young Entrepreneurs at school-level
- The programme is for the student of Class 11 & 12 | Seed money to start a business Rs 2,000
- New Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary Vijay Dev
- 7. On September 14, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has launched "Millet Mission" initiative aimed at giving the farmers right price for small cereal crops. He also signed an MoU with Indian Institute of Millet Research (IIMR), Hyderabad under the "Millet Mission". He also stated that the year 2023 will be celebrated as the "International Year of Millet". {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Chhattisgarh launched "Millet Mission" initiative to provide right price to farmers for small cereal crops
- Chhattisgarh + IIMR (Hyderabad) = an MoU under the "Millet Mission" initiative
- 2023 "International Year of Millet"
- **8.** On September 11, Filmmaker Aditya Chopra has launched "Saathi Card" initiative to extend support to the Hindi film industry's daily wage earners and their families amid the COVID-19 crisis. As part of the initiative, the filmmaker's 'The Yash Chopra Foundation' will provide health insurance, school fee allowance, ration supply, annual health checkups among other benefits to the workers. The production house recently launched "Yash Chopra Saathi Initiative" to provide minimum basic support to thousands of workers and initiated transfer of Rs 5000 to the women and senior citizens of the industry. {Read more}

- Aditya Chopra launched "Saathi Card" initiative to extend support to the Hindi film industry's daily wage earners
- Under "Yash Chopra Saathi Initiative": Minimum basic support of Rs 5000 to Women & Senior Citizens



**9.** On September 15, NITI Aayog and Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) launched a campaign "Shoonya" to promote zero-pollution delivery vehicles by working with consumers and industry. The campaign aims to accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) in the urban deliveries segment. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- NITI Aayog + RMI = launched a campaign "Shoonya" to promote zero-pollution delivery vehicles
- HQs of NITI Aayog New Delhi | CEO Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson Rajiv Kumar
- HQs of RMI Colorado, US | CEO Jules Kortenhorst
- **10.** On September 15, Uttar Pradesh Chief minister Yogi Adityanath has announced the launch of "Uttar Pradesh Matra Bhumi Yojana" that seeks to make the common man a direct participant in the development work of the state and strengthen the participatory rural economy and infrastructure. He made the announcement while inaugurating and laying the foundation stones of various roads under PM Gramin Sadak Yojana (PMGSY). The government will bear 50% of the total cost of the project, while the remaining 50 % will be contributed by the interested people. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- UP launched "Matra Bhumi Yojana" to strengthen the rural economy & infrastructure
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel
- 11. On September 15, Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma has launched the "MyMeG Program", an initiative with the aim to facilitate citizen engagement and participation in the process of governance. The vision is to transform Meghalaya into one of the top ten states in India by 2030. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Meghalaya launched the "MyMeG Program" to facilitate citizen engagement in the process of governance
- Aim: To transform Meghalaya into one of the top ten states in India by 2030
- Meghalaya: Capital Shillong | CM Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor Satya Pal Malik
- **12.** In September 2021, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has announced to start "Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojna" covering 36000 villages across India. The villages with 50% tribal population will be given priority under the rural development programme. PMAGY is a rural development programme that was launched by the central government in fiscal year 2009-10 for the development of villages that have a higher ratio (over 50%) of people belonging to the scheduled castes.

- Ministry of Tribal Affairs to start "Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojna" covering 36000 villages across India
- 'PMAGY' was initially launched by Central Government in 2009-10
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs: Arjun Munda | Constituency Khunti, Jharkhand
- MoS in Ministry of Tribal Affairs: Renuka Singh Saruta & Bishweswar Tudu



**13.** On September 19, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has launched "Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana" to empower youth by way of providing entry-level training in industry-relevant skills through Railway training institutes. The training will be provided to 50,000 candidates over a period of three years. Initially, the training will be provided to 1000 candidates. Candidates who are 10<sup>th</sup> passed and between 18-35 years shall be eligible to apply. The program curriculum has been developed by Banaras Locomotive Works. 75 Railway training institutes spread across the country have been shortlisted to provide training. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Ashwini Vaishnaw (Railway Ministry) launched "Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana" to train 50,000 youths in 3 years
- Criteria: Education 10<sup>th</sup> pass | Age 18-35 years
- The program curriculum is developed by Banaras Locomotive Works
- 75 Railway training institutes are shortlisted to provide training
- Ministry of Railways: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Railways: Danve Raosaheb Dadarao & Darshana Vikram Jardosh
- 14. On September 17, Ministry of Law & Justice has launched Pan-India Special Campaign for Justice Delivery at doorstep. As part of "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav", Department of Justice has launched the "Ek Pahal" drive across India from September 17 till October 2 to encourage mass registration under 'Tele-Law'. {Read more}
- **Key Points:**
- Ministry of Law & Justice launched Pan-India Special Campaign for Justice Delivery at doorstep
- Department of Justice launched "Ek Pahal" drive across India
- Ministry for Law & Justice: Kiren Rijiju | Constituency Arunachal West
- MoS in Ministry of Law & Justice S. P. Singh Baghel
- **15.** On September 19, Goa's government Pramod Sawant has launched "Sarkar Tumchya Dari" (Government at Your Doorstep) initiative with the intention to take services and facilities to the doorsteps of citizens. This initiative is aimed at grievance redressal and to ensure that every resident of Goa can take the full benefits of the various official schemes and initiatives. {Read more}

- Goa launched "Sarkar Tumchya Dari" (Government at Your Doorstep)
- Goa: Capital Panaji | CM Pramod Sawant | Governor P. S. Sreedharan Pillai
- **16.** On September 17, Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Minister of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), has launched "Phase II of Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme" to promote research in 42 emerging technologies in Electronics System Design & Manufacturing (ESDM) and Information Technology (IT)/Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES). Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme was initiated by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) in 2014 with an objective to enhance number of PhDs in ESDM & IT/ITES sectors. {Read more}



- Ashwini Vaishnaw (MeitY) launched the "Phase II of Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme"
- "Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme" was launched by MeitY in 2014
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar
- 17. On September 23, Haryana government has decided to cover farmers growing horticultural crops against abiotic factors under a specially-designed scheme "Mukhyamantri Bagwani Bima Yojana (MBBY)". It is an assurance-based scheme to compensate crop losses due to adverse weather and natural calamities for farmers growing horticulture crops. Farmers will have to opt for this scheme while registering their crop and area on "Meri Fasal Mera Byora (MFMB)" portal. A seed capital of Rs 10 Cr will be kept aside by the state government for the scheme. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Haryana gave nod for implementing "Mukhyamantri Bagwani Bima Yojana (MBBY)"
- MBBY will cover farmers growing horticultural crops against abiotic factors
- Farmers will have to opt for this scheme registering their crop & area on "Meri Fasal Mera Byora (MFMB)" portal
- Seed capital kept aside by State government for the scheme Rs 10 Cr
- Haryana: Capital Chandigarh | CM Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor Bandaru Dattatraya
- 18. On September 25, The Power Ministry has announced that as many as 2.82 Cr families got Electricity Connections under the flagship "Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana Saubhagya" scheme till March 31, 2021. 'Saubhagya' scheme is one of the largest household electrification drives in the world. This scheme was announced by the PM Narendra Modi on September 25, 2017, the birth centenary of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya. The total financial outlay of the project was Rs 16,320 Cr while the Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) was Rs 12,320 Cr. The Nodal Agency for implementing the scheme is Rural Electrification Corporation Limited (REC). {Read more}

- As many as 2.82 Cr families got Electricity Connections under the flagship "Saubhagya" scheme till March 31, 2021
- September 25, 2021 105<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya
- "Saubhagya" scheme: Launched in 2017 | Outlay Rs 16,320 Cr | Nodal Agency REC Ltd
- **19.** On September 24, Arunachal Pradesh government has launched a unique wildlife conservation initiative named "Airgun Surrender Campaign" to prevent animal poaching in the state. The initiative aims at motivating the hunters to surrender their airguns before the authorities concerned. The campaign will be implemented across the country to prevent poaching of birds and animals. {Read more}



- Arunachal Pradesh launched "Airgun Surrender Campaign" to prevent animal poaching in the state
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital Itanagar | CM Pema Khandu | Governor B. D. Mishra
- **20.** On September 25, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar has launched "Samarpan" portal wherein people can register themselves to offer voluntary service in the fields of education, skill development, sports and agriculture. The "Samarpan Portal" will provide a platform to people wishing to do something good for society. Besides, in order to make the youth job-giver instead of job-seeker, the state also launched "HUNAR Haryana, Udyam, Naukri Aur Rozgar" app, developed by Haryana Skill Development Mission. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- •
- Haryana launched "Samarpan" portal for its volunteer programme
- Haryana also launched "HUNAR" app (Haryana, Udyam, Naukri Aur Rozgar)
- Haryana: Capital Chandigarh | CM Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor Bandaru Dattatraya
- 21. On September 27, the Ministry of Tourism has launched "NIDHI 2.0" (National Integrated Database of Hospitality Industry) scheme and "India Tourism Statistics At a Glance, 2021" during the events of "World Tourism Day 2021". An MoU was also signed between Ministry of Tourism, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and The Responsible Tourism Society of India (RTSOI) to actively promote and support 'Sustainability Initiatives' in the Tourism sector. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Ministry of Tourism launched "NIDHI 2.0" scheme & "India Tourism Statistics At a Glance, 2021"
- NIDHI National Integrated Database of Hospitality Industry
- Ministry of Tourism: G. Kishan Reddy | Constituency Secunderabad, Telangana
- MoS in Ministry of Tourism: Shripad Yesso Naik & Ajay Bhatt
- **22.** On September 28, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy has virtually launched "Dharma Patham", an initiative by the Endowments Department to revive ancient temple-centric culture. The idea is to give a push to the traditional art, culture, and medical and health programmes that used to be part of temples many years ago. {Read more}

- Andhra Pradesh launched "Dharma Patham" initiative to revive Ancient Temple-centric Culture
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- 23. On September 28, In the state-level function organised on the occasion of the 'World Tourism Day', Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot launched "Mukhyamantri Paryatan Udyog Sambal Yojana-2021" to provide relief to the Entrepreneurs of the tourism and hospitality sector affected by COVID-19 pandemic. Along with that the Chief Minister also launched a mobile app "Rajasthan Tourism Official" designed to help tourists visiting Rajasthan in making their tour programmes. {Read more}



- Rajasthan CM launched "Mukhyamantri Paryatan Udyog Sambal Yojana-2021"
- Rajasthan CM launched a mobile app "Rajasthan Tourism Official"
- Rajasthan: Capital Jaipur | CM Ashok Gehlot | Governor Kalraj Mishra

24. On September 29, The Union Cabinet has approved continuation of the "National Scheme for PM POSHAN in Schools" for 5 years from 2021-22 to 2025-26 at a cost of over Rs 1,30,795 Cr. The earlier name of the scheme was "National Scheme for Mid-Day Meal in Schools" popularly known as "Mid-Day Meal Scheme". During 2020-21, the Centre spent more than Rs 24,400 Cr on the scheme. PM POSHAN is a centrally-sponsored scheme which covers all school children studying in classes 1 to 8 of government and government-aided schools. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Cabinet approved the continuation of "National Scheme for PM POSHAN in Schools" for 5 years (till 2025-26)
- Total outlay of the 'PM POSHAN' scheme will be Rs 1,30,795
- 'PM POSHAN' scheme covers all school children studying in 'Classes 1 to 8' of government schools

25. On September 29, The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of the "National Export Insurance Account (NEIA) Scheme" and infusion of Rs 1,650 Cr grant-in-aid over 5 years, from FY2021-2022 to FY2025-2026. NEIA Trust was established in 2006 to promote project exports from India that are of strategic and national importance. In addition, assuming an average 75% Indian content in the projects, in terms of the report "Export to Jobs" by World Bank and International Labour Organisation (ILO), it is estimated that around 12,000 workers will move into formal sector. The Union Cabinet also approved capital infusion of Rs 4,400 Cr in the state-owned Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Cabinet approved the continuation of "National Export Insurance Account (NEIA) Scheme" for 5 years (till 2025-26)
- Grant-in-aid of Rs 1,650 Cr will be infused in 'NEIA Scheme' over 5 years
- "Export to Jobs" report released by World Bank & ILO
- Cabinet also approved capital infusion of Rs 4,400 Cr in the ECGC

**26.** On September 29, The government has extended the ₹4.5 lakh Cr Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) till March 31, 2022, to help businesses cope with the pandemic's adverse effects. As on September 24, loans sanctioned under the ECLGS have crossed ₹2.86 lakh Cr. {Read more}

- Government extended the "ECLGS" till March 31, 2022 | Outlay of the scheme ₹4.5 lakh Cr
- Loans sanctioned under the ECLGS crossed ₹2.86 lakh Cr (on September 24)



# **Sports & Games**

**1.** On September 2, Kimi Raikkonen also known as 'The Iceman' has announced his retirement at the end of the Formula One (F1) season, concluding a career that spanned two decades and included the 2007 world championship. Raikkonen is in the final year of his contract with Alfa Romeo. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Kimi Raikkonen (Finland) retirement from Racing (Nickname 'The Iceman' | Team Alfa Romeo)
- 2. On September 2, Cristiano Ronaldo surpassed Iran's Ali Daei to become the leading goal-scorer in international football in the world, with 111 goals to his name. The 36-year-old has taken 180 matches to get to the tally of 111 goals. He is now a 'Guinness World Record' holder of most international goals of all time with 111 goals. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Cristiano Ronaldo surpassed Ali Daei to become highest-ever International Goalscorer (with 111 goals)
- Cristiano Ronaldo 'Guinness World Record' holder of most international goals of all time with 111 goals
- Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal) & Ali Daei (Iran) Football Players
- 3. In the ASBC Junior Boxing Championship 2021, India's juniors finished 3<sup>rd</sup> with 19 medals including 8 gold, 5 silver, and 6 bronze medals behind Uzbekistan (22 medals) and Kazakhstan (25 medals). While in the Asian Youth Boxing Championship 2021, India won a total of 6 Gold medals. The 2021 Asian Youth & Junior Boxing Championships both were held together in Dubai, UAE. Indian boxer Mahi Raghav has been named as the 'Best Boxer' in the Junior Girls Category. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- "2021 Asian Youth & Junior Boxing Championships" held in Dubai, UAE
- India won 8 Gold medals in the "ASBC Junior Boxing Championship 2021" (India finished 3<sup>rd</sup> with 19 medals)
- India won 6 Gold medals in the "ASBC Asian Youth Boxing Championship 2021"
- Mahi Raghav (Boxer) named as the 'Best Boxer' in 'Junior Girls' category
- **4.** On September 4, India's Manish Narwal and Singhraj Adana have claimed Gold & Silver medal respectively for India in men's P4 mixed 50m pistol SH1 event at the Tokyo Paralympics. The two shooters took India's tally to 15 medals at the Tokyo Paralympics. Manish scored a total of 218.2 in the final, creating a Paralympic record in the process of winning the gold medal. {Read more}

- Manish Narwal (Shooter) won Gold medal in men's P4 mixed 50m pistol SH1 event at the Tokyo Paralympics
- Singhraj Adana (Shooter) won Silver medal in men's P4 mixed 50m pistol SH1 event at the Tokyo Paralympics



**5.** On September 4, Indian shuttler Pramod Bhagat has won Gold medal in the men's singles (SL3) event at the Tokyo Paralympics. He defeated Great Britain's Daniel Bethell. He has won the fourth Gold for India at Tokyo Paralympic event. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Pramod Bhagat (Badminton) won Gold medal in the men's singles (SL3) event at the "2020 Tokyo Paralympics"
- Mascot of the 2020 Paralympics Games "Someity"
- **6.** The 38-year-old District Magistrate of Gautam Buddh Nagar (Noida), Suhas Yathiraj has become the first-ever IAS officer to win a medal at the Paralympics. Suhas is currently world No. 3 in 'SL4' category and has won a Silver medal at "2020 Tokyo Paralympics". {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Suhas Yathiraj won a Silver medal in men's singles badminton at "2020 Tokyo Paralympics"
- Suhas Yathiraj (Badminton) became the first-ever IAS officer to win a medal at the Paralympics
- 7. The Red Bull star Max Verstappen has regained the Formula One (F1) world championship lead from Lewis Hamilton after an impressive victory at "Heineken Dutch Grand Prix 2021". {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Max Verstappen won the "F1 Heineken Dutch Grand Prix 2021"
- Max Verstappen (Belgium) Red Bull
- **8.** The 130<sup>th</sup> edition of the oldest club football tournament in Asia "The Durand Cup", has kicked off in Kolkata, West Bengal. Mohammedan SC the first civilian club to win the Durand Cup in 1940, are the sole flag-bearers of Kolkata football in this year's tournament. Durand Cup was first held in 1888 in Annadale, Shimla. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- 130<sup>th</sup> edition of the oldest Club Football Tournament in Asia "The Durand Cup" kicked off in Kolkata, West Bengal
- Durand Cup was first held in 1888 in Annadale, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh
- **9.** Bhavinaben Patel has become the only second Indian woman after Deepa Malik to win a medal at the Paralympics. She has created history, becoming the first Indian para-paddler to win a Silver medal. Whille, Mariyappan Thangavelu has won Silver medal in the high jump event. India has won total 19 medals (5 Gold, 8 Silver & 6 Bronze) and ranked 24<sup>th</sup> in the medal tally. {Read more}

- Bhavinaben Patel (Para Table Tennis) won Silver medal at the "2020 Tokyo Paralympics"
- She is the 1<sup>st</sup> Indian Para-paddler to win a Silver medal & 2<sup>nd</sup> Indian woman to win a medal in the Paralympics
- Mariyappan Thangavelu (Para High Jumper) won Silver medal at the "2020 Tokyo Paralympics"
- India ranked 24<sup>th</sup> in the medal tally with total 19 medals (5 Gold, 8 Silver & 6 Bronze) in "2020 Tokyo Paralympics"



**10.** Mahendra Singh Dhoni will join Team India as their mentor in the upcoming "T20 World Cup" in the UAE, as announced by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on September 10. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Mahendra Singh Dhoni to join Team India as their mentor in the "T20 World Cup" in the UAE
- HQs of BCCI Mumbai, MH | Chairman Sourav Ganguly | Secretary Jay Shah | Founded in 1928
- **11.** A veteran of Zimbabwe cricket & former Zimbabwe captain Brendan Taylor has announced his retirement from International Cricket. He made his debut in 2004. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Brendan Taylor (Zimbabwe) retired from International Cricket
- Zimbabwe Harare Dollar | President Emmerson Mnangagwa
- **12.** On September 12, Australian Daniel Ricciardo of McLaren team has won the "Formula One (F1) Italian Grand Prix 2021" defeating Lando Norris. The victory was McLaren's first since 2012 and Ricciardo's first since he was at Red Bull in 2018. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Daniel Ricciardo won the "F1 Italian Grand Prix 2021" (defeating Lando Norris)
- Daniel Ricciardo (Australia) McLaren team
- 13. In September 2021, Daniil Medvedev has defeated Serbia's Novak Djokovic to win US Open 2021 men's singles title. While Emma Raducanu won the Women's Singles Title. With this, she became the youngest female to win a Grand Slam Title. In women's doubles, Samantha Jane Stosur & Zhang Shuai won the title while in men's doubles, Rajeev Ram & Joe Salisbury pair won the title. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- US Open Tennis Championship 2021:
- Men's Singles Title Daniil Medvedev (Russia)
- Women's Singles Title Emma Raducanu (Britain)
- Men's Doubles Rajeev Ram (US) & Joe Salisbury (Britain)
- Women's Doubles Samantha Jane Stosur (Australia) & Zhang Shuai (China)
- **14.** Kenya's 36-year-old Eliud Kipchoge has won a Gold medal in the men's marathon at the "2020 Olympic Games". He finished in 2 hours, 8 minutes, 38 seconds. It was more than 80 seconds ahead of runner-up Abdi Nageeye of the Netherlands. While, Bashir Abdi of Belgium has clinched bronze medal. The approximate distance covered in a Marathon race is 42.2 km. {Read more}

- Eliud Kipchoge (Kenya Long-distance Runner) won Gold medal in men's marathon at "2020 Olympic Games"
- He finished in 2 hours, 8 minutes, 38 seconds
- Silver Abdi Nageeye (Netherlands) | Bronze Bashir Abdi (Belgium)



**15.** On September 14, Virat Kohli has become the fastest Cricketer to reach 23,000 International runs. His final run aggregate was 23093 in 490 innings. While, Jasprit Bumrah has become the fastest Indian bowler to take 100 test wickets in 24 tests. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Virat Kohli became the fastest Cricketer to reach 23,000 International runs (in 490 innings)
- Jasprit Bumrah became the fastest Indian bowler to take 100 test wickets (in 24 tests)
- **16.** On September 14, Mr. Lokesh Suji, the Director of Esports Federation of India & Vice President of the Asian Esports Federation (AESF) has announced that 8 esports are included in the medal events for the first time at the 19<sup>th</sup> Asian Games which is going to be held in Hangzhou, China in September 2022. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- 8 esports included in the medal events for the first time at the 19<sup>th</sup> Asian Games (2022) in Hangzhou, China
- Director of Esports Federation of India Lokesh Suji
- 17. On September 12, Sri Lanka pace veteran Lasith Malinga has announced his retirement from all forms of Cricket. The 38-year-old Malinga was captain of Sri Lanka's 2014 T20 World Cup winning team. He picked up 107 wickets in 84 T20 Internationals, 338 scalps in 226 ODIs and 101 wickets in 30 Tests. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Lasith Malinga (Sri Lanka) retired from all forms of Cricket
- **18.** On September 17, India's Pankaj Advani has successfully won the "Asian Snooker Championship" in Doha, Qatar defeating Amir Sarkhosh of Iran. He won this title for second successive time. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Pankaj Advani (Indian Snooker Player) won the "Asian Snooker Championship" in Doha, Qatar (2<sup>nd</sup> time)
- Amir Sarkhosh (Iran) a Snooker Player
- **19.** On September 19, a 17-year-old & a 12<sup>th</sup> standard student from Telangana, Raja Rithvik has become 70<sup>th</sup> Chess Grandmaster after crossing the ELO 2,500 mark in the Vezerkepzo GM Chess Tournament in Budapest, Hungary. {Read more}

- Raja Rithvik (Telangana) became India's 70<sup>th</sup> Chess Grandmaster
- He won "Vezerkepzo GM Chess Tournament" in Budapest, Hungary
- **20.** On September 17, Harmilan Kaur Bains has created a National record in 1500m with winning time of 4:05.39s at the 60<sup>th</sup> "National Open Athletics Championship" held at Warangal, Telangana. With this, she broke Sunita Rani's 19-year-old National record that came with the Busan Asian Games gold in 2002. {Read more}



- Harmilan Kaur Bains (Punjab) created a National record in 1500m at 60<sup>th</sup> "National Open Athletics Championship"
- 60<sup>th</sup> "National Open Athletics Championship" held at Warangal, Telangana
- She broke Sunita Rani's 19-year-old National record
- **21.** "Together for a Shared Future" was revealed as the official motto of the Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games 2022 which is to be held in Beijing, China. While the Mascot of "2022 Beijing Winter Olympic Games" is 'Bing Dwen Dwen' which is a Panda. And the Mascot of "2022 Beijing Winter Paralympic Games" is 'Shuey Rhon Rhon' which is a Chinese Lantern. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Motto of "2022 Beijing Winter Olympic & Paralympic Games" "Together for a Shared Future"
- Mascot of "2022 Beijing Winter Olympic Games" Bing Dwen Dwen (a Panda)
- Mascot of "2022 Beijing Winter Paralympic Games" Shuey Rhon Rhon (a Chinese Lantern)
- **22.** On September 23, India's three-time World Cup gold medal-winning compound archer Abhishek Verma has been elected to World Archery's athletes' committee for a 4-year term. Verma, an Arjuna awardee, has won Gold medals in the World Cups in Poland in 2015 and in Paris in 2021. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Abhishek Verma (Archer) elected to World Archery Athletes Committee for 4 years
- **23.** 15-year-old Grandmaster D. Gukesh has clinched the "Norway Chess Open 2021" under the masters' section for the second consecutive tournament of September 2021. He also won gold at the "European Club Cup" which concluded in Macedoni on September 24. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- D. Gukesh (Chess Tamil Nadu) clinched the "Norway Chess Open 2021" under the Masters' Section
- D. Gukesh won Gold at the "European Club Cup 2021"
- **24.** On September 17, GM Magnus Carlsen has won the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of "Norway Chess Tournament 2021" for the third time in a row, and the fourth in total. This year, this tournament is sponsored by EY. He won against Grandmaster Ian Alexandrovich Nepomniachtchi of Russia. {Read more}

- Magnus Carlsen (Norway Chess) won the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of "Norway Chess Tournament 2021" (4<sup>th</sup> time in total)
- Ian Alexandrovich Nepomniachtchi (Russia) Chess Player



**25.** On September 23, Odisha has been named the host of the 12<sup>th</sup> edition of Under-21 "FIH Men's Hockey Junior World Cup 2021" which will be organized by the International Hockey Federation from November 24 to December 5. The event will be held at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar. Lucknow had hosted the tournament's last edition. Odisha is also set to host the "2023 FIH Senior Men's World Cup" in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Odisha to host the 12<sup>th</sup> edition of "FIH Men's Hockey Junior World Cup 2021" at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar
- Odisha to host the "2023 FIH Senior Men's World Cup" in Bhubaneswar & Rourkela
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal
- HQs of FIH Lausanne, Switzerland | President Narinder Batra | CEO Thierry Weil | Founded in 1924
- **26.** On September 23, Mumbai Indians skipper Rohit Sharma (1015) has become the first player to score 1000 runs against one team in the IPL. David Warner, with 943 runs against Punjab Kings, is second on the list. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- Rohit Sharma became the first player to score 1000 runs against one team in the IPL
- 1<sup>st</sup> Rohit Sharma (1015 runs) | 2<sup>nd</sup> David Warner (943 runs)
- **27.** On September 26, British Formula 1 driver, Lewis Hamilton won the "Russian Grand Prix" and became the first to win 100 races in this sport. The Brit started racing in 2007, with the McLaren team. He currently races for Mercedes team. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Lewis Hamilton won the F1 "Russian Grand Prix" & became the first to win 100 races in this sport
- Lewis Hamilton (UK) 'Mercedes' Team
- **28.** On September 27, Virat Kohli became the first Indian batsman to reach 10,000 runs in Twenty20 (T20) format. Globally, Virat Kohli is the second man after West Indies' Chris Gayle to reach the landmark in both T20 and one-day international (ODI) cricket. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Virat Kohli became the first Indian batsman to reach 10,000 runs in T20 format
- Virat Kohli 2<sup>nd</sup> player after Chris Gayle (West Indies) to reach 10,000 runs in both T20 & ODI
- **29.** Star Indian cueist Pankaj Advani has won his 24<sup>th</sup> World Title when he triumphed at the International Billiards and Snooker Federation (IBSF) 6-Red Snooker World Cup with a victory over Pakistan's Babar Masih in the final. {Read more}

- Pankaj Advani (Indian Snooker Player) won his 24<sup>th</sup> World Title winning "IBSF 6-Red Snooker World Cup"
- HQs of IBSF Doha, Qatar | President Mubarak Al-Khayarin | Founded in 1971



**30.** England cricketer Moeen Ali has announced his retirement from Test Cricket. However, Moeen will continue to play limited-overs Cricket for England. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Moeen Ali (England) retired from Test Cricket
- **31.** On September 27, Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju has inaugurated the first "Sports Arbitration Centre of India (SACI)" in Gujarat. The Sports Arbitration Centre of India (SACI) is promoted as an independent body by Ahmedabad-based SE TransStadia Pvt Ltd to fast track disputes in the Sports Sector. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Kiren Rijiju inaugurated the first "Sports Arbitration Centre of India (SACI)" in Gujarat
- SACI is promoted by TransStadia Pvt Ltd (Ahmedabad, Gujarat)
- Gujarat: Capital Gandhinagar | CM Bhupendra Patel | Governor Acharya Devvrat
- **32.** On September 27, Team USA defeated Team Europe to win the "2021 Ryder Cup" in Sheboygan, USA. Collin Morikawa sealed the winning half-point for the US team. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- USA won the "2021 Ryder Cup"
- US Washington, D.C. US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP Kamala Harris
- **33.** In September 2021, The International Cricket Council (ICC) has launched the T20 World Cup anthem along with a film featuring 'Avatars' of India captain Virat Kohli and West Indies skipper Kieron Pollard among others. The tournament began on October 17 in Oman and UAE, with the final to be played in Dubai on November 14. This animated film is composed by Bollywood music director Amit Trivedi. A total of 16 countries will compete in the sport's biggest event since the COVID-19 pandemic. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- ICC launched the 'T20 World Cup' anthem composed by Bollywood music director Amit Trivedi
- Kieron Pollar & Virat Kohli feature in their animated avatars in the T20 World Cup film
- HQs of ICC Dubai, UAE | Chairman Greg Barclay | Acting CEO Geoff Allardice | Members 106 countries
- **34.** In September 2021, Star Indian tennis player Sania Mirza won her first title of the season with her Chinese partner Shuai Zhang in the women's doubles final of the Ostrava Open by beating the pair of Kaitlyn Christian and Erin Routliffe. {Read more}

- Sania Mirza + Shuai Zhang (China) = won the "Ostrava Open Women's Doubles Title" held in Ostrava, Czech Republic
- Czech Republic Prague Koruna | President Milos Zeman



**35.** On September 29, Boxing legend Manny Pacquiao (Emmanuel Dapidran Pacquiao Sr.) has officially announced his retirement from the ring. He is eight-division world champion and Philippines senator. {Read more}

- Manny Pacquiao (Philippines) retired from Boxing
- Philippines Manila Peso | President Rodrigo Duterte





# **Important Days & Dates**

**1.** The "National Nutrition Week" is observed in India from September 1 to September 7 to create awareness about good nutrition and healthy eating habits since 1982. The theme of the 2021 National Nutrition Week is "Feeding Smart right from start". {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 1 to 7 "National Nutrition Week" (since 1982)
- Theme "Feeding Smart right from Start"
- 2. The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has celebrated its 65<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day on September 1, 2021. In 2006, the LIC had set up a public trust "LIC Golden Jubilee Foundation" with an initial corpus of Rs 50 Cr and Rs 10 Cr being added every year to it, bringing the corpus to Rs 100 Cr. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 1 65<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day LIC
- LIC had set up a public trust "LIC Golden Jubilee Foundation" in 2006 with an initial corpus of Rs 50 Cr
- HQs of LIC Mumbai | Chairman M. R. Kumar | Founded in 1956 | Tagline "Yogakshemam Vahamyaham"
- **3.** Every year, World Coconut Day is observed on September 2 to emphasize and raise awareness about the importance as well as benefits of coconuts. This day started in 2009, on the day when the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC) was founded. This year, the theme is "Building a Safe Inclusive Resilient and Sustainable Coconut Community Amid COVID-19 Pandemic & Beyond". India is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest producer of coconut in the world after Indonesia and Philippines respectively. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- September 2 World Coconut Day (since 2009)
- Theme "Building a Safe Inclusive Resilient & Sustainable Coconut Community Amid COVID-19 Pandemic & Beyond"
- Top 3 largest producer of coconut in the world: 1<sup>st</sup> Indonesia, 2<sup>nd</sup> Philippines, 3<sup>rd</sup> India
- HQs of APCC Jakarta, Indonesia
- **4.** On September 3, Burnaby, a city in Canada, has declared September 5 as "Gauri Lankesh Day", commemorating the slain activist's life on her death anniversary. Gauri Lankesh, a journalist-turned-activist, was shot dead outside her home in Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru, by unidentified men on September 5, 2017. In April 2020, the city of Burnaby proclaimed April 14 as "Dr BR Ambedkar Day of Equality". {Read more}

- Burnaby city (Canada) declared September 5 as "Gauri Lankesh Day"
- Gauri Lankesh a journalist-turned-activist was shot dead on September 5, 2017
- Burnaby city (Canada) declared April 14 as "Dr BR Ambedkar Day of Equality" in 2020



**5.** Mother Teresa's death anniversary is observed as "International Day of Charity" on September 5 every year. She died on September 5, 1997. Mother Teresa's followers in many parts of the world will commemorate September 5, 2021 as her 24<sup>th</sup> death anniversary. The International Day of Charity was officially declared by the United Nations General Assembly in 2012. Mother Teresa founded the "Missionaries of Charity" in 1950. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 5 "International Day of Charity" (since 2012)
- This year, September 5 marks 24<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Mother Teresa
- Mother Teresa founded "Missionaries of Charity" in 1950
- **6.** "National Teachers' Day" or "Shikshak Divas" is celebrated in India on September 5. World Teachers' Day is celebrated on October 5, but every country celebrates the day on different dates. In India, it is marked on the birthday of Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan who was the first Vice President of India (1952–1962) and also a highly-respected teacher, philosopher and prolific statesman. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 5 "National Teachers' Day" or "Shikshak Divas" (birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan)
- Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan 2<sup>nd</sup> President of India
- October 5 "World Teachers' Day"
- 7. The "International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies" is celebrated across the world every year on September 7. Facilitated by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the day aims to create awareness about the significance of air quality. This year, the theme is "Healthy Air, Healthy Planet". On this occasion, UNEP launched "European and Central Asian Actions on Air Quality". {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- September 7 "International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies" facilitated by the UNEP
- Theme "Healthy Air, Healthy Planet"
- UNEP launched "European & Central Asian Actions on Air Quality"
- **8.** The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) is observing "Food Processing Week" from September 6 to 12, 2021. A webinar on Tomato Processing and Value Addition under 'One District, One Product' was also organized by the Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology at Damoh, Madhya Pradesh. Prahlad Singh Patel also inaugurated the Food Processing Unit of 'M/s Vibhuti Mart Private Limited' at Food Park Maneri, Mandla, Madhya Pradesh. Besides, the MoFPI has inaugurated 5 Food Processing Projects worth Rs 124.44 Cr in Gujarat, Karnataka & Assam. {Read more}

- September 6 to 12 "Food Processing Week" observed by Ministry of Food Processing Industries
- Prahlad Singh Patel inaugurated Food Processing Unit of 'M/s Vibhuti Mart' in Mandla, Madhya Pradesh
- MoFPI inaugurated 5 Food Processing Projects worth Rs 124.44 Cr in Gujarat, Karnataka & Assam
- Ministry of Food Processing Industries: Pashu Pati Kumar Paras | Constituency Hajipur, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Food Processing Industries: Prahalad Singh Patel



**9.** September 8 was proclaimed International Literacy Day by UNESCO in 1966 to remind the international community of the importance of literacy for individuals, communities and societies. The day was first celebrated in 1967. In India, as per the last census in 2011, a total of 74.04% are literate. This year, the theme is "Literacy for a human-centred recovery: Narrowing the digital divide". India's National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) has received the "UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize" in 2021. NIOS was awarded the prize for its programme on enabling education of persons with disabilities (PWDs). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 8 International Literacy Day by UNESCO (since 1967)
- 2021's Theme "Literacy for a Human-Centred Recovery: Narrowing the Digital Divide"
- NIOS received the "UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize" in 2021
- HQs of NIOS Noida, Uttar Pradesh | Chairperson Sridhar Srivastava
- **10.** On September 9, the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) organised "Himalayan Diwas" in association with Naula Foundation. This year's theme is "Contribution of Himalayas and our Responsibilities". Himalaya Diwas is celebrated every year on 9<sup>th</sup> September in Uttarakhand. It was officially declared as Himalaya Day in 2015. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 9 Himalayan Diwas or Himalaya Day organised by NMCG & Naula Foundation
- 2021's theme "Contribution of Himalayas and our Responsibilities"
- Himalaya Diwas is celebrated every year in Uttarakhand | Since 2015
- 11. The United Nation's "International Day to Protect Education from Attack" was recently observed on September 9 to protect the right to education for all. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 9 UN's "International Day to Protect Education from Attack"
- **12.** World Suicide Prevention Day is observed annually on September 10. The theme this year is "Creating hope through Action". This day is organised by the International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP) and endorsed by the World Health Organization (WHO). For the first time, this day was marked on September 10, 2003. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- September 10 World Suicide Prevention Day
- Theme "Creating hope through Action"
- **13.** The 9<sup>th</sup> of September has marked "World Electric Vehicle (EV) Day 2021". The day marks the celebration of e-mobility. World EV Day was an initiative created by sustainability media company, Green TV. The first World EV day was observed in 2020. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

• September 9 – 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of "World Electric Vehicle (EV) Day" (since 2020)



**14.** On September 11, National Forest Martyrs Day is observed in India. It is a day to pay tribute to those who sacrificed their lives to protect the wildlife, forests, and jungles in India. The ministry selected 11 September because, on this day in 1730, the "Khejarli massacre" took place in India. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 11 National Forest Martyrs Day
- "Khejarli massacre" took place in Rajasthan on September 11, 1730
- **15.** Every year, World First Aid Day is observed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of September to increase awareness and accessibility to first aid. This year, World First Aid Day will be celebrated on September 11, 2021 across the globe. In 2021, the theme is "First Aid and Road Safety". {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- September 11 World First Aid Day (2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of September)
- 2021's Theme "First Aid and Road Safety"
- **16.** On September 12, To commemorate the death anniversary of freedom fighter Subramania Bharati, Tamil Nadu government has declared September 11 as "Mahakavi" Day. She has contributed in Tamil literature. In "The Coming Age", published by Penguin Modern Classics, edited and presented by his great-granddaughter Mira T. Sundara Rajan, we get a peep into Bharati's original English writings. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 11 "Mahakavi" Day declared by Tamil Nadu (death anniversary of Subramania Bharati)
- "The Coming Age" book authored by Mira T. Sundara Rajan | Publisher Penguin Modern Classics
- 17. The "United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation" is an initiative for the Economic, Social and Political developments of the countries in the Southern region. Every year, this day is celebrated globally on September 12. This day also commemorates the adoption of the "Buenos Aires Plan of Action (BAPA)" in 1978. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- September 12 "United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation"
- **18.** On September 1, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan addressed the 61<sup>st</sup> foundation day of the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). On the occasion, a publication of NCERT titled 'Dictionary of Sociology' was released in three languages English, Hindi and Urdu. {Read more}

- September 1 61<sup>st</sup> foundation day of NCERT
- NCERT's publication "Dictionary of Sociology" was released in 3 languages English, Hindi & Urdu
- HQs of NCERT New Delhi | Director Hrushikesh Senapaty | Founded in 1961



**19.** On September 9, Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao has conveyed his greetings to people of Telangana State on celebrating the Telangana Language Day or Telangana Bhasha Dinosthavam marking the birth anniversary of people's poet and Padma Vibhushan awardee Kaloji Narayana Rao. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 9 "Telangana Language Day" or "Telangana Bhasha Dinosthavam"
- The day marks the birth anniversary of Kaloji Narayana Rao (a Poet & Padma Vibhushan awardee)
- Telangana: Capital Hyderabad | CM K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan
- **20.** India celebrates "Hindi Diwas", also known as "National Hindi Day", on September 14 every year to commemorate the adoption of Hindi in the Devanagari script as one of the official languages of the nation on September 14, 1949. Officially, the first Hindi Day was celebrated on September 14, 1953. This day also marks the birth anniversary of a renowned Hindi-stalwart Beohar Rajendra Simha. As part of Hindi Divas Celebration, Films Division observed "Hindi Pakhwada" from September 1 to 15, 2021 to promote use of practical Hindi in official work. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- September 14 "Hindi Diwas" or "National Hindi Day" (since 1953)
- The day marks the birth anniversary of Beohar Rajendra Simha (a renowned Hindi-stalwart)
- September 1 to 15 "Hindi Pakhwada" observed by Films Division
- January 10 "World Hindi Day"

**21.** "World Lymphoma Awareness Day" is observed on September 15 every year to raise awareness of cancers of the lymphatic system. {Read more}

**Smartkeeda** 

#### **Key Points:**

- September 15 "World Lymphoma Awareness Day"
- 22. September 15 is celebrated as "International Day of Democracy" after being established in 2007 through a resolution passed by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). The day was observed for the first time in 2008. In 2021, the theme is "Strengthening democratic resilience in the face of future crises". {Read more}

- September 15 UN's "International Day of Democracy" (since 2008)
- 2021's Theme "Strengthening democratic resilience in the face of future crises"
- **23.** Every year, the birth anniversary of Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya is celebrated as "Engineer's Day" on September 15 since 1968 as a tribute to a the great engineer who helped in building some of the architectural marvels including Krishna Raja Sagar dam in Karnataka. For his contribution towards nation building, Sir M. Visvesvaraya received the Bharat Ratna in 1955. {Read more}



- September 15 "Engineer's Day" since 1968 (birth anniversary of a great engineer Sir M. Visvesvaraya)
- Sir M. Visvesvaraya received 'Bharat Ratna' (1955)
- **24.** As part of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', States and Union Territories conducted an "Entitlement Awareness Week" for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) workers to make them aware of their rights and entitlements under the Scheme. The week was observed between 27<sup>th</sup> August and 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021. The financial allocation for MGNREGA in 2021-22 is Rs 73,000 Cr at the Budget Estimate stage. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- August 27 to September 2 States & UTs conducted an "Entitlement Awareness Week" for MGNREGA workers
- Financial allocation for MGNREGA in 2021-22 Rs 73,000 Cr
- 25. "World Ozone Day" or "International day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer" is observed on September 16, every year. It is celebrated to spread awareness among people about the depletion of the Ozone Layer and search for possible solutions to preserve it. 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. This year's theme is "Montreal Protocol keeping Us, Our Food, and Vaccines Cool". The first ozone hole was discovered 30 years ago in May 1985 over Antarctica. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- September 16 "World Ozone Day" or "International day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer"
- 'Montreal Protocol' signed by the UN & 45 other countries in 1987
- 2021's theme "Montreal Protocol keeping Us, Our Food, and Vaccines Cool"
- **26.** On September 15, The High Commission of India has celebrated the 57<sup>th</sup> Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Day in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Deputy Minister for Education of Bangladesh Mohibul Hasan Chowdhoury attended the event as the Chief Guest of the event hosted by the High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh Vikram Doraiswami. ITEC was established in 1964 to offer the benefit of India's development experience and appropriate technologies to the developing countries. {Read more}

- September 15 57<sup>th</sup> Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Day celebrated in Dhaka, Bangladesh
- ITEC was established in 1964
- The High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh Vikram Doraiswami
- Bangladesh Dhaka Taka | PM Seikh Hasina | President Abdul Hamid



**27.** "World Patient Safety Day" is observed every year on September 17 across the globe to raise awareness about patients' safety. As per World Health Organisation (WHO), the theme this year is "Safe Maternal and Newborn Care" while the slogan is "Act now for safe and respectful childbirth!" {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 17 "World Patient Safety Day
- Theme "Safe Maternal and Newborn Care"
- Slogan "Act now for Safe and Respectful Childbirth!"
- **28.** On September 18, 2021, United Nations initiated the first-ever "International Equal Pay Day" and demanded that women receive equal remuneration for work of equal value. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 18 1<sup>st</sup> "International Equal Pay Day" by UN
- **29.** September 18 is observed as "World Water Monitoring Day" (WWMD) which was established in 2003 by America's Clean Water Foundation (ACWF) as a global educational outreach programme. Also known as "World Water Monitoring Challenge", and "EarthEcho Water Challenge", WWMD is basically an educational programme that is generally used to emphasize the importance of water for all living organisms, including humans, animals and plants. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 18 "World Water Monitoring Day" (also known as "EarthEcho Water Challenge")
- America's Clean Water Foundation established "WWMD" in 2003
- March 22 'World Water Day' (to be noted)
- **30.** World Bamboo Day is observed by the World Bamboo Organisation (WBO) on September 18 every year with the aim to raise awareness to conserve and promote the bamboo industry. World Bamboo Day was founded by Kamesh Salam in 2009 at the 8<sup>th</sup> World Bamboo Congress held in Bangkok. This year, the WBO is launching a new hashtag: "#PlantBamboo" to honor World Bamboo Day. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 18 "World Bamboo Day" by WBO (founded by Kamesh Salam in 2009)
- This year, the WBO has launched a new hashtag for this day "#PlantBamboo"
- HQs of WBO Antwerp, Belgium
- **31.** International Red Panda Day is observed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of September. This year, the 12<sup>th</sup> IRPD falls on September 18 with the aim to raise public awareness and support for red panda conservation issues. International Red Panda Day was first celebrated by the Red Panda Network in 2010. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

• September 18 (3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of September) – 12<sup>th</sup> International Red Panda Day (since 2010)



**32.** On September 18, The 36<sup>th</sup> International Coastal Cleanup Day was celebrated consecutively for the 10<sup>th</sup> year by Eastern Naval Command (ENC). On the occasion, ENC undertook Coastal Cleanup Drive at Yarada Beach, Bheemili Beach and other sea fronts within premises of naval units at Visakhapatnam. The Southern Naval Command (SNC) observed International Coastal Clean-up Day with focus on mangrove plantation and clearance of plastic/non-biodegradable waste along waterfront areas in and around Kochi. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- September 18 (3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of September) 36<sup>th</sup> International Coastal Cleanup Day (since 1986)
- The day was celebrated by ENC in Visakhapatnam (AP) & by SNC in Kochi (Kerala)
- **33.** On September 17, Tamil Nadu has observed the 143<sup>rd</sup> birth anniversary of rationalist leader E. V. Ramasamy, popularly known as "Periyar" or "Thanthai Periyar", as the first ever "Social Justice Day". {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 17 first "Social Justice Day" observed by Tamil Nadu (143<sup>rd</sup> birth anniversary of E. V. Ramasamy)
- Tamil Nadu: Capital Chennai | CM Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor Ravindra Narayan Ravi
- **34.** The World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) was established in 1951 in Rome, Italy. This organisation declared Sunday in the last week of September as the 'International Day of the Deaf'. Now, the day has been extended to a week, and is now called the "International Week of the Deaf". The week is celebrated during the last week ending on the last Sunday of September. This year, the week was observed between September 20 to 26 with the theme of "Celebrating Thriving Deaf Communities". {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- September 20 to 26 "International Week of the Deaf" (Last week ending on the last Sunday of September)
- 2021's Theme "Celebrating Thriving Deaf Communities"
- HQs of WFD Helsinki, Finland | President Joseph Murray | Established in 1951
- **35.** The "International Day of Peace", also known as "World Peace Day" is observed every year on 21 September. This day is celebrated around the world to strengthen the ideals of peace, through observing 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire. This day promotes global solidarity for building a peaceful and sustainable world. This year, the theme is "Recovering better for an Equitable and Sustainable World". {Read more}

- September 21 "International Day of Peace" or "World Peace Day"
- Theme "Recovering better for an Equitable and Sustainable World"
- **36.** "World Alzheimer's Day" is observed on September 21 every year. The day aims to raise awareness about Alzheimer's disease and dementia. The theme in 2021 is "Know dementia, know Alzheimer's". The month of September is regarded as "World Alzheimer's Month". {Read more}



- September 21 "World Alzheimer's Day"
- Theme "Know dementia, know Alzheimer's"
- September "World Alzheimer's Month"
- **37.** World Rhino Day is observed on September 22 every year to raise awareness of the need to protect all the five species of rhinoceroses Black, White, Greater one-horned, Sumatran & Javan rhinos. In 2021, the theme is "Keep the Five Alive". The day got international recognition in 2011. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- September 22 World Rhino Day (since 2011)
- Theme "Keep the Five Alive"
- **38.** "World Rose Day" is celebrated on September 22 every year and it is dedicated to Cancer patients all across the globe. The World Rose Day was first observed in the honour of 12-year-old cancer patient Melinda Rose from Canada, who died in 1996. She was diagnosed with Askin's Tumour in 1994. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 22 "World Rose Day" (dedicated to Cancer patients)
- 39. Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar rode bicycle along with his cabinet colleagues and MLAs from his residence to the secretariat in Chandigarh to observe "World Car Free Day" on September 22. On the occasion of World Car Free Day, the Chief Minister inaugurated an exhibition of electric vehicles at the Civil Secretariat premises. This day coincides with the "European Mobility Week" which was observed from September 16 to 22, 2021. This year, the theme of this week is "Safe and Healthy with Sustainable Mobility". {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- September 22 "World Car Free Day"
- September 16 to 22 "European Mobility Week" | Theme "Safe and Healthy with Sustainable Mobility"
- **40.** Every year, September 23 is celebrated as the "International Day of Sign Languages". The day supports and protects the linguistic identity of people who are deaf along with other users of sign languages. This year's theme, declared by the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) is "We Sign For Human Rights". According to the UN, the day was first celebrated in the year 2018. The choice of 23 September commemorates the date on which the WFD was established in 1951. {Read more}

- September 23 "International Day of Sign Languages" (since 2018)
- Theme "We Sign For Human Rights"
- HQs of WFD Helsinki, Finland | President Joseph Murray | Established on September 23, 1951



**41.** On September 25, "Antyodaya Diwas" is observed on September 25 every year, to mark the birth anniversary of ideologue of Bharatiya Jana Sangh & Bharatiya Janata Party and thinker of right-wing Hindutva ideology Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya. In the 1940s, Deendayal Upadhyaya launched "Rashtra Dharma", a monthly journal, from Uttar Pradesh's Lucknow for spreading the ideology of Hindutva nationalism. Later, he started 'Panchjanya', a weekly magazine, and a daily, 'Swadesh'. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- September 25 "Antyodaya Diwas" (the birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya)
- He launched a monthly journal "Rashtra Dharma" in 1940s
- **42.** The 11<sup>th</sup> World Pharmacists Day was observed on September 25 to pay tributes to pharmacists for the role they play in improving global health. This year's theme, developed by the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP), is "Pharmacy: Always trusted for your health". The day was introduced in 2009. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 25 11<sup>th</sup> World Pharmacists Day (since 2009)
- 2021's Theme "Pharmacy: Always trusted for your health"
- **43.** "World Rivers Day" takes place on fourth Sunday of September every year. In 2021, the day falls on September 26. World Rivers Day is based on BC (British Columbi) Rivers Day, founded and led by Angelo in his native country since 1980. In 2021, the theme is "Waterways in Our Communities". {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 26 (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of September) World Rivers Day
- Theme "Waterways in Our Communities"
- **44.** 41<sup>st</sup> edition of "World Tourism Day" was observed globally on September 27 this year. The day highlights the travel industry's social, economic, political, and cultural significance. This year World Tourism Day holds more significance as the theme is "Tourism for Inclusive Growth". The United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) instituted World Tourism Day in 1980. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- September 27 41<sup>st</sup> World Tourism Day instituted by UNWTO (since 1980)
- 2021's Theme "Tourism for Inclusive Growth"
- HQs of UNWTO Madrid, Spain | Secretary-General Zurab Pololikashvili
- **45.** The international community observed "World Contraception Day" on September 26 to recognise the right of all couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children. The day was first observed in 2007. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• September 26 – "World Contraception Day" (since 2007)



**46.** The General Assembly commemorates 26 September as the "International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons". This Day provides an occasion for the world community to reaffirm its commitment to global nuclear disarmament as a priority. This day has been observed annually since 2014. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 26 "International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons" (since 2014)
- **47.** Since 2011, September 26 is annually observed as "World Environmental Health Day" across the globe. It was established by the International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH) with a goal to raise awareness regarding the health of our environment. In 2021, the theme is "Prioritising Environmental Health for Healthier Communities in the Global Recovery". {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 26 "World Environmental Health Day" by IFEH (since 2011)
- 2021's Theme "Prioritising Environmental Health for Healthier Communities in the Global Recovery"
- HQs of IFEH London, UK | President Susana Paixao | Established in 1986
- **48.** The 10<sup>th</sup> "Global Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Week" will be commemorated from 24 to 31 October, 2021 under the theme "Media and Information Literacy for the Public Good", and will be hosted by South Africa. The annual Global MIL Week is led by UNESCO and it was initiated in 2012. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- October 24 to 31 10<sup>th</sup> "Global Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Week"
- Theme "Media and Information Literacy for the Public Good"

# **49.** As a part of the celebration of "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav", Ministry of Commerce & Industry has observed "Vanijya Saptah" from September 20 to 26, in which a slew of programmes and events will be organised across India showcasing India as a rising economic force, and exporter conclaves. The Department for Promotion of

India showcasing India as a rising economic force, and exporter conclaves. The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) organised a soft launch of the 'National Single Window System' and 'Industrial Park Rating System'. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 20 to 26 "Vanijya Saptah" observed by Ministry of Commerce & Industry
- DPIIT launched the 'National Single Window System' and 'Industrial Park Rating System'
- Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Piyush Goyal | Constituency Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Anupriya Singh Patel & Som Parkash

**50.** On September 28, Green Consumer Day is observed globally to raise awareness of purchasing Eco-friendly products. The day highlights the problems of consumerism and its impact on the environment. The green consumer would be the type to drive a hybrid vehicle, buy products made with hemp or those made from recycled materials. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• September 28 – "Green Consumer Day"



**51.** The "International Day for Universal Access to Information" (IDUAI) is celebrated every year on September 28. Instituted by the United Nations, the day is observed to spread awareness concerning the need to expand laws related to information and their implementation. This year, the theme for IDUAI is "The Right to Know - Building Back Better with Access to Information". The day was launched with an aim to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16: Promote just, peaceful & inclusive societies. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- September 28 "International Day for Universal Access to Information" by UN (since 2015)
- 2021's Theme "The Right to Know Building Back Better with Access to Information"
- The day was launched to achieve 'SDG16: Promote just, peaceful & inclusive societies'
- **52.** World Rabies Day is observed on September 28 every year to raise awareness about the impact of the viral disease and how to prevent it. This day is also observed globally to mark the death anniversary of French biologist, microbiologist and chemist, Louis Pasteur, who developed the first Rabies Vaccine in 1885. The day was observed for the first time in 2007. In 2021, the theme is "Rabies: Facts, not Fear". {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 28 World Rabies Day (since 2007)
- 2021's Theme "Rabies: Facts, not Fear"
- This day marks the death anniversary of 'Louis Pasteur' who developed the first Rabies Vaccine in 1885
- **53.** 99<sup>th</sup> "Military Engineer Services Raising Day" or "Military Engineer Services Day" was observed across India on September 26. The day marks the establishment of Military Engineer Services (MES) which was established on 26 September, 1923. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- September 26 99<sup>th</sup> "Military Engineer Services Raising Day" or "Military Engineer Services Day"
- HQs of MES New Delhi | Engineer-In-Chief Lt. Gen. Harpal Singh | Established on 26 September, 1923
- **54.** "World Maritime Day 2021" was observed across the globe on September 30 in a tribute to the professionalism and sacrifice of 2 million seafarers who served the world's merchant navy fleet even amid the Covid-19 pandemic situation. The day is observed annually on the last Thursday of September to acknowledge and honour seafarers. In 2021, the theme is "Seafarers: at the Core of Shipping's Future". On 17 March 1978, World Maritime Day was celebrated for the first time. {Read more}

- September 30 "World Maritime Day 2021" (Last Thursday of September)
- 2021's Theme "Seafarers: at the Core of Shipping's Future"
- April 5 "National Maritime Day" (additional info.)



**55.** On September 28, The 195<sup>th</sup> Gunners' Day was celebrated by Regiment of Artillery to commemorate the raising of the first modern artillery unit called '5 (Bombay) Mountain Battery' in 1827. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- September 28 195<sup>th</sup> Gunners' Day celebrated by Regiment of Artillery
- Motto of Regiment of Artillery "Sarvatra Izzat-o-Iqbal" (Everywhere with Honour and Glory) | Founded in 1827

**56.** The "International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste" is observed on September 29 to reduce food loss & food waste and restore and build back better and resilient-ready food systems. Globally, around 14% of food produced is lost between harvest and retail, while an estimated 17% of total global food production is wasted. A Global event "Stopping food loss and waste. For the people. For the planet" was organised by Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) & UN Environment Programme (UNEP). {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- September 29 "International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste"
- 14% of food produced is lost between harvest & retail | 17% of total global food production is wasted
- FAO + UNEP = organised a global event "Stopping food loss and waste. For the people. For the planet"
- HQs of FAO Rome, Italy | DG QU Dongyu | Formation 16<sup>th</sup> October, 1945
- HQs of UNEP Nairobi, Kenya | Executive Director Inger Andersen | Founded in 1972

**57.** "World Heart Day" is observed annually on September 29 to increase public awareness of cardiovascular diseases. This day was first founded in 1999 by the World Heart Federation (WHF) in collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO). In 2021, the theme is "Use Heart to Connect". {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- September 29 "World Heart Day" (since 1999)
- 2021's Theme "Use Heart to Connect"
- HQs of WHF Geneva, Switzerland | President Fausto Pinto

**58.** On September 28, the Union Home Minister addressed the 17<sup>th</sup> Formation Day of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in New Delhi. The theme of this year's Formation Day is "Cascading effects of disaster events in the Himalayan Region". The NDMA was established through the 'Disaster Management Act' enacted by the Government of India on 23 December, 2005. The NDMA is headed by the Prime Minister of India. Moreover, the NDMA has launched some initiatives like 'Training Manual of AapdaMitra', 'Common Alert Protocol' & 'Aapda Mitra scheme'. {Read more}

- September 28 17<sup>th</sup> Formation Day of the NDMA
- Theme "Cascading effects of disaster events in the Himalayan Region"
- NDMA's initiatives: 'Training Manual of AapdaMitra', 'Common Alert Protocol' & 'Aapda Mitra scheme'



- NDMA functions under Ministry of Home Affairs
- HQs of NDMA New Delhi | Headed by Prime Minister of India | Established in 2005
- **59.** September 30 is celebrated globally as "International Translation Day" by the International Federation of Translators (FIT) in honour of translation professionals. The first formal celebrations of the global translation day took place only in 1991. However, the UNGA officially recognised September 30 as the date to celebrate International Translation Day. In 2021, the theme is "United in Translation". {Read more}

- September 30 "International Translation Day" by the International Federation of Translators (FIT)
- 2021's Theme "United in Translation"





# Meetings, Conferences and Summits

**1.** On September 2, the Chancellor Rishi Sunak and Indian Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman held the 11<sup>th</sup> UK-India Economic and Financial Dialogue which saw ambitious agreements on tackling climate change and boosting investment through economic cooperation, financial services and trade. Both the countries signed a \$1.2-Billion package of public and private investment in Green Projects & Renewable Energy. \$200 million was added as additional investment into the joint Green Growth Equity Fund (GGEF). {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Rishi Sunak (UK) + Nirmala Sitharaman (India) = held the 11<sup>th</sup> UK-India Economic and Financial Dialogue
- India & UK agreed on \$1.2 billion package of Public & Private Investment in Green Projects & Renewable Energy
- 200 million added as additional investment into the joint Green Growth Equity Fund (GGEF)
- UK London Pound Sterling | PM Boris Johnson
- 2. Minister of State for Power and Heavy Industries Krishan Pal Gurjar has chaired the 6<sup>th</sup> "Meeting of BRICS Energy Ministers 2021", under the Chairship of India. He also launched the BRICS Energy Report 2021, BRICS Energy Technology Report 2021 and BRICS Energy Research Directory 2021. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Krishan Pal Gurjar chaired the 6<sup>th</sup> "Meeting of BRICS Energy Ministers 2021" hosted by India
- Krishan Pal Gurjar launched:
- BRICS Energy Report 2021
- BRICS Energy Technology Report 2021
- BRICS Energy Research Directory 2021
- BRICS Member Countries: 5 Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa | Chairmanship in 2021 India
- Ministry of Power and Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh | Constituency Arrah, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Power: Krishan Pal
- **3.** In August 2021, PM Narendra Modi has chaired the 37<sup>th</sup> PRAGATI meeting where he reviewed the functioning of 8 projects worth Rs 1,26,000 Cr. He also reviewed the progress of the One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) scheme. "PRAGATI" is a communications platform that stands for "Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation". {Read more}

- PM Narendra Modi chaired the 37<sup>th</sup> PRAGATI meeting & reviewed 8 projects worth Rs 1,26,000 Cr
- PRAGATI **Pro-A**ctive **G**overnance **a**nd **T**imely **I**mplementation
- ONORC scheme launched in 2019



**4.** On September 3, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has delivered a video-address during the 6th Eastern Economic Forum (EEF) held in Vladivostok, Russia. Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri has attended the "India-Russia Business Dialogue" within the framework of Eastern Economic Forum 2021. The theme of the Forum was "Opportunities for the Far East in a World under Transformation". {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi delivered a speech at the 6th Eastern Economic Forum (EEF) held in Vladivostok, Russia
- Hardeep Singh Puri attended the "India-Russia Business Dialogue" within the framework of EEF
- Theme of the Forum "Opportunities for the Far East in a World under Transformation"
- Russia Moscow Russian Ruble | PM Mikhail Mishustin | President Vladimir Putin
- **5.** On September 3, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar has addressed the 16<sup>th</sup> Sustainability Summit 2021 of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) as the Chief Guest. Agriculture Infrastructure Fund of Rs 1 lakh Cr has been created, through which projects are being sanctioned. Under the "Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi", so far about Rs 1,57,000 Cr have been deposited in the bank accounts of more than 11 Cr farmers of India. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Narendra Singh Tomar addressed the 16<sup>th</sup> Sustainability Summit 2021 of the CII
- Agriculture Infrastructure Fund of Rs 1 lakh Cr has been created
- Rs 1,57,000 Cr deposited in the bank accounts of more than 11 Cr farmers of India
- HQs of CII New Delhi | President T. V. Narendran | DG Chandrajit Banerjee | Founded in 1895

## The Question Bank

**6.** Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman has chaired the 24<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) in New Delhi. The meeting deliberated on the various mandates of the FSDC, viz., Financial Stability, Financial Sector Development, Inter-regulatory Coordination, Financial Literacy, Financial Inclusion. The idea to create FSDC was first mooted by Raghuram Rajan Committee. {Read more}

- Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the 24<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) in New Delhi
- Idea to create FSDC was first mooted by Raghuram Rajan Committee
- **7.** On September 4, Union health minister Mansukh Mandaviya has participated in the "G20 Digital Ministers' Meeting" hosted by Italy. India discussed challenges and opportunities during the Covid-19 pandemic during the BRICS digital health summit. Union minister of state for health and family welfare Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar represented India at the conclave. The theme of this meeting was "People, Planet and Prosperity". {Read more}



- Mansukh Mandaviya participated in the "G20 Digital Ministers' Meeting" hosted by Italy
- Bharati Pravin Pawar represented India at the "G20 Digital Ministers' Meeting"
- Theme of the meeting "People, Planet and Prosperity"
- Presidency of G20 Summit: 2021 Italy | 2022 Indonesia | 2023 India | 2024 Brazil
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency Palitana, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar
- **8.** Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhadauria attended the "Pacific Air Chiefs Symposium 2021 (PACS-21)" organised at Hawaii from 30 August to 2 September, 2021. The event themed "Enduring Cooperation towards Regional Stability" was attended by Air Chiefs from countries in the Indo-Pacific region. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- RKS Bhadauria attended the "Pacific Air Chiefs Symposium 2021 (PACS-21)" organised at Hawaii, US
- Theme "Enduring Cooperation towards Regional Stability"
- HQs of IAF New Delhi | Chief Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria | Vice Chief Vivek Ram Chaudhari
- 9. September 9, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has chaired the 13<sup>th</sup> BRICS Summit virtually. The theme of the Summit, chosen by India, was "BRICS@15: Intra-BRICS Cooperation for Continuity, Consolidation and Consensus". At the conclusion of the Summit, the leaders adopted the 'New Delhi Declaration'. Prime Minister called for enhanced BRICS cooperation under the motto of "Build-back Resiliently, Innovatively, Credibly and Sustainably". {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi chaired the 13<sup>th</sup> BRICS Summit
- Theme of the Summit "BRICS@15: Intra-BRICS Cooperation for Continuity, Consolidation and Consensus"
- BRICS Member Countries: 5 Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa | Chairmanship in 2021 India
- **10.** On September 7, Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar has represented India at the 74<sup>th</sup> session of the World Health Organization-South East Asia Regional Office (WHO-SEARO) organized by Nepal. She highlighted the key measures and strategies planned to 'build back better' to achieve Universal Health Care and health related Sustainable Development Goals and to strengthen health system resilience for the future. {Read more}

- Bharati Pravin Pawar represented India at the 74<sup>th</sup> session of the "WHO-SEARO" organized by Nepal
- HQs of WHO-SEARO New Delhi, India | Regional Director Poonam Khetrapal Singh | Member Countries 11
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency Palitana, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar



11. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Prakash Birla has participated in the 5<sup>th</sup> World Conference of Speakers of Parliament (5WCSP) organised by the Austrian Parliament, Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the United Nations on September 7-8 in Vienna. He also attended the first global parliamentary summit on countering terrorism on September 9 in Vienna. Theme of the Conference was "Parliamentary leadership for more Effective Multilateralism". {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Om Prakash Birla participated in the 5<sup>th</sup> World Conference of Speakers of Parliament in Vienna, Austria
- Conference was organised by = Austria + IPU + UN
- Theme of the Conference "Parliamentary leadership for more Effective Multilateralism"
- HQs of IPU Geneva, Switzerland | President Duarte Pacheco | SG Martin Chungong | Formed in –
   1889
- HQs of UN New York, United States | Secretary-General Antonio Guterres
- Austria Vienna Euro | President Alexander Van der Bellen
- India's Ambassador to Austria Jaideep Mazumder
- **12.** The 4<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Protectors of Emigrants was held on September 10, 2021, coinciding with the date of enactment of the "Emigration Act, 1983". {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Protectors of Emigrants held on September 10, 2021
- **13.** On September 11, India has hosted the first-ever "2+2 Ministerial Dialogue" with Australia in New Delhi. External Affairs Minister (EAM) S. Jaishankar and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh have participated in the meeting. Australia will contribute \$10 million to India's initiative towards Disaster-Resilient Infrastructure. Both sides agreed to work on an 'Early Harvest Trade Deal'. {Read more}

- India + Australia = hosted the first-ever "2+2 Ministerial Dialogue" in New Delhi
- S. Jaishankar & Rajnath Singh participated in the meeting
- Australia will contribute \$10 million to India's initiative towards Disaster-Resilient Infrastructure
- Australia Canberra Australian Dollar | PM Scott Morrison
- 14. On September 13, India proposed to institutionalise the "India Africa Defence Dialogue" during successive DefExpos to be held once every two years. The first-ever such Defence Dialogue was held in Lucknow on February 6, 2020. The foundation of India-Africa defence relations is based on the two guiding principles namely 'SAGAR Security and Growth for All in the Region' and 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam The World is One Family'. Rajnath Singh will host the Defence Ministers of African Nations in the 2nd edition of "India Africa Defence Dialogue" in 2022 on the sidelines of the DefExpo that is scheduled to be held at Gandhinagar, Gujarat in March 2022. The broad theme of this India Africa Defence Dialogue will be "India Africa: Adopting Strategy for Synergizing and Strengthening Defence and Security Cooperation". {Read more}



- India proposed to institutionalise the "India Africa Defence Dialogue"
- Two principles: 'SAGAR' & 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'
- Rajnath Singh to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> "India Africa Defence Dialogue" in 2022 | 1<sup>st</sup> Dialogue held in Lucknow in 2020
- Theme "India Africa: Adopting Strategy for Synergizing and Strengthening Defence and Security Cooperation"
- DefExpo scheduled to be held at Gandhinagar, Gujarat in March 2022
- **15.** On September 14, Anupriya Patel, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry has co-chaired the 18<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-India Economic Ministers Consultations held virtually with Brunei's Finance Minister Amin Liew Abdullah. Both sides discussed mass vaccination, capacity enhancement & various economic initiatives to address the pandemic. The Minister also recommended ASEAN to establish Joint Committees for the Review of the "India-ASEAN Services and Investment Agreements". The "ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement" was signed on August 13, 2009 and came into force on January 1, 2010. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Anupriya Patel + Amin Liew Abdullah (Brunei) = co-chaired the 18<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-India Economic Ministers Consultations
- India recommended to establish Joint Committees for the Review of 'India-ASEAN Services & Investment Agreements'
- "ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement" was signed in 2009 & came into effect in 2010
- Chairmanship of ASEAN 2021 Brunei | Secretariat of ASEAN Jakarta, Indonesia | Members 10
- India 7<sup>th</sup> largest trading partner of ASEAN
- **16.** On September 14, The two-day "Conference of Tourism and Culture Ministers of North Eastern States" organized by the Ministry of Tourism successfully concluded in Guwahati, Assam. The conference was inaugurated by G. Kishan Reddy. During the conference, Ministry of Tourism signed an MoU with IRCTC to promote tourism. G Kishan Reddy lauded the developments in the tourism sector in the North-Eastern region and sanctioned Rs 200 Cr under the "PRASHAD" scheme for further development. {Read more}

- Ministry of Tourism organized "Conference of Tourism and Culture Ministers of North Eastern States" in Guwahati
- Ministry of Tourism + IRCTC = an MoU to promote tourism
- Rs 200 Cr sanctioned under "PRASHAD" scheme for further development of North-Eastern region
- Ministry of Tourism: G. Kishan Reddy | Constituency Secunderabad, Telangana
- MoS in Ministry of Tourism: Shripad Yesso Naik & Ajay Bhatt
- Assam: Capital Dispur | CM Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor Jagdish Mukhi



**17.** On September 15, The Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) has announced India is set to host the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the "Global Buddhist Conference" in Bihar and ICCR will institute the first award in 'Buddhist Studies' in November, 2021. The conference's theme is "Buddhism in Literature". {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- India to host the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the "Global Buddhist Conference" in Bihar (in November, 2021)
- ICCR to give the first award in 'Buddhist Studies'
- Conference's theme "Buddhism in Literature"
- HQs of ICCR New Delhi | DG Dineshk Patnaik | Founded in 1950

**18.** US president Joe Biden hosted the first ever in-person summit of the leaders of the Quad group of countries on September 24 in Washington DC. PM Narendra Modi along with his counterparts from Australia and Japan, participated in the Summit. Japan will work with India to enhance key investments of approximately \$100 million in the Healthcare sector related to COVID-19, including vaccine and treatment drugs. Moreover, Quad countries form a "Green-Shipping Network" and will organize their work by launching a "Quad Shipping Taskforce". The Quad Shipping Task Force aims to establish 2 to 3 Quad low-emission or zero-emission shipping corridors by 2030. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- PM Narendra Modi participated in the first ever in-person "QUAD Leaders' Summit" hosted by the US
- Japan will work with India to enhance key investments of approx \$100 million in the Healthcare sector
- Quad countries form a "Green-Shipping Network" & will launch "Quad Shipping Taskforce"
- Quad Shipping Task Force aims to establish 2-3 Quad Low or Zero-emission shipping corridors by 2030
- US Washington, D.C. US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP Kamala Harris
- QUAD countries 4: India, US, Japan & Australia
- **19.** The World Economic Forum has announced that its next 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting will be held at Davos-Klosters, Switzerland in January 2022 under the theme "Working Together, Restoring Trust". The Annual Meeting 2022 will be the first global leadership event to set the agenda for a sustainable recovery. Ahead of the Annual Meeting 2022, the WEF hosted the 5<sup>th</sup> Sustainable Development Impact Summit virtually from September 20-23, 2021. {Read more}

- 52<sup>nd</sup> "WEF Annual Meeting 2022" to be held at Davos-Klosters, Switzerland (in January 2022)
- Theme "Working Together, Restoring Trust"
- WEF hosted the 5<sup>th</sup> "Sustainable Development Impact Summit"
- HQs of WEF Cologny, Switzerland | Executive Chairman & Founder Klaus Schwab | Founded in 1971
- **20.** On September 18, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal has addressed the "G-33 Virtual Informal Ministerial Meeting". The meeting was organised by Indonesia to discuss the 'Agricultural Priority issues of G-33' and the way forward for the 12<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO), scheduled to be held from November 30 to December 3, 2021. {Read more}



- Piyush Goyal addressed the "G-33 Virtual Informal Ministerial Meeting" organised by Indonesia
- 12<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference of the WTO scheduled to be held in Nov-Dec, 2021
- Indonesia Jakarta Rupiah | President Joko Widodo
- Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Piyush Goyal | Constituency Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Anupriya Singh Patel & Som Parkash
- **21.** On September 17, PM Narendra Modi has virtually participated in the 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. The meeting was chaired by Emomali Rahmon, the President of Tajikistan. At Dushanbe, India was represented by External Affairs Minister, Dr. S. Jaishankar. The SCO Summit was followed by an Outreach session on Afghanistan between SCO and the Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO). Prime Minister participated in the outreach session through a video-message. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- PM Narendra Modi participated in the 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the SCO held in Dushanbe
- Meeting was chaired by Emomali Rahmon (Tajikistan) | India was represented by S. Jaishankar
- PM Narendra Modi also participated in the "Joint SCO-CSTO Outreach Session on Afghanistan"
- HQs of SCO Beijing, China | SG Vladimir Norov | Member Countries 8 | 2021 Presidency Tajikistan
- Tajikistan Dushanbe Somoni | President Emomali Rahmon
- **22.** On September 17, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology & Department of Science and Technology, Renu Swarup addressed the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of "Life Sciences Conclave" organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). CII released the report titled "Taking India's Life Sciences to the Global Stage 'Make in India' to fuel 4x growth in Biosimilars and Vaccines by 2026". Besides, India's biotechnology market is expected to grow to \$150 billion by 2025. {Read more}

- 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of "Life Sciences Conclave" organised by the CII
- "Taking India's Life Sciences to the Global Stage 'Make in India' to fuel 4x growth in Biosimilars and Vaccines by 2026" report released by the CII
- India's biotechnology market is expected to grow to \$150 billion by 2025
- HQs of CII New Delhi | President T. V. Narendran | DG Chandrajit Banerjee | Founded in 1895



23. On September 17, Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman has presided over the 45<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council in Lucknow. The GST Council has agreed to levy Compensation Cess paid to the states for an extended period up to March 2026 to enable the Centre to repay the loans. Besides, from January 1, food delivery apps like Zomato & Swiggy will have to collect and deposit 5% GST with the government, in place of restaurants. During the meeting, it was also announced that Carbonated Fruit Beverages of fruit drink and Carbonated Beverages with fruit juice will be subject to a GST of 28% with an additional 12% of compensation cess. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Nirmala Sitharaman presided over the 45<sup>th</sup> meeting of the GST Council in Lucknow, UP
- GST Council extended the period to levy Compensation Cess till March 2026
- From January 1, Food delivery apps will have to collect & deposit 5% GST with the government instead restaurants
- 28% GST + addi. 12% of compensation cess on Carbonated Fruit Beverages of fruit drink & Carbonated Beverages with fruit juice
- **24.** On September 16, 15<sup>th</sup> East Asia Summit Energy Ministers Meeting was held virtually with the theme of "We Care, We Prepare, We Prosper". The meeting is aimed at coordinating efforts of ASEAN countries in pursuing the goal of energy security and energy transition that will benefit the people of our region. Krishan Pal Gurjar, Union Minister of State for Power, attended the meeting. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Krishan Pal Gurjar attended the 15<sup>th</sup> East Asia Summit Energy Ministers Meeting
- Theme "We Care, We Prepare, We Prosper"
- **25.** On September 17, India focused upon healthcare, energy, digital revolution and innovation at the 6<sup>th</sup> BRICS Young Scientist Forum, hosted by India's Department of Science & Technology (DST), in collaboration with the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru (NIAS). The valedictory address at the forum was given by Sanjay Bhattacharyya, Secretary (CPV&OIA) & BRICS Sherpa at BRICS Young Scientist Forum. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- India's DST + NIAS (Bengaluru) = hosted the 6<sup>th</sup> BRICS Young Scientist Forum
- BRICS Member Countries: 5 Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa | Chairmanship in 2021 India
- **26.** On September 15, Meeting of BRICS Heads of Tax Authorities and Experts on Tax Matters was held virtually under Chairmanship of India. Revenue Secretary Tarun Bajaj, in his capacity as Head of Tax Authorities in India, presided over this meeting. The broad theme of the meeting was "Redefining Business Processes of Tax Administration amidst Challenges posed by COVID-19 and in the Digital Era". {Read more}

- Tarun Bajaj presided over "Meeting of BRICS Heads of Tax Authorities and Experts on Tax Matters"
- Theme "Redefining Business Processes of Tax Administration amidst Challenges posed by COVID-19 & in Digital Era"



**27.** On September 15, Tata Consumer Products (TCP) has signed an agreement with the Indian Institute of Millet Research (IIMR) to unlock the full potential of millets as a healthier and more sustainable alternative to traditional grains at the "Nutri-Cereals Multi-stakeholders Mega Convention 3.0" which was held in Hyderabad, Telangana. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- "Nutri-Cereals Multi-stakeholders Mega Convention 3.0" held in Hyderabad, Telangana
- TCP + IIMR = an agreement to unlock the full potential of millets as a healthier & more sustainable alternative
- HQs of TCP Kolkata, West Bengal | CEO Sunil A. D'Souza
- HQs of IIMR Hyderabad, Telangana | Director Vilas A. Tonapi
- 28. India has hosted the first "India-United Kingdom (UK) Consular Dialogue" through video conferencing. The Indian delegation was led by Shri Devesh Uttam, a Joint Secretary in Ministry of External Affairs. The two sides discussed ways to further strengthen people-to-people contacts between the two countries as part of the "India-UK 2030 Roadmap". Both countries agreed to hold the next round of this Dialogue in 2022, in London. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- India hosted the first "India-UK Consular Dialogue"
- Indian delegation was led by Devesh Uttam
- **29.** On September 21, The 11<sup>th</sup> International Peace Conference on the occasion of UN-International Day of Peace was held at Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh. Bhikkhu Sangasena, Founder, Mahabodhi International Meditation Centre, Leh, was conferred with the 7<sup>th</sup> Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam World Peace Award, 2021 on the occasion. The award was constituted in 2015 by All India Council for Human Rights, Liberties and Social Justice (AICHLS), New Delhi. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- 11<sup>th</sup> International Peace Conference held at Central Institute of Buddhist Studies in Leh, Ladakh
- Bhikkhu Sangasena conferred with the 7<sup>th</sup> Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam World Peace Award 2021
- The award was constituted in 2015 by AICHLS (New Delhi)
- **30.** On September 22, As a precursor to the upcoming "India-Australia Energy Dialogue" scheduled to be held in October, the first Joint Working Group (JWG) meeting on Coal & Mines between both countries was held through video conferencing. The meeting was co-chaired by Coal Additional Secretary Vinod Kumar Tiwari from Indian side. {Read more}

- India & Australia held the first Joint Working Group (JWG) meeting on Coal & Mines
- Australia Canberra Australian Dollar | PM Scott Morrison



**31.** On September 25, Cooperation Minister Amit Shah has addressed the first Mega Conference on Cooperatives held in New Delhi and outlined the government's vision and roadmap for development of the sector. This is the first "Sehkarita Sammelan" or "National Cooperative Conference" that Amit Shah has addressed as minister in-charge of the new Ministry of Cooperation. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Amit Shah addressed the first "Sehkarita Sammelan" or "National Cooperative Conference" held in New Delhi
- Ministry of Cooperation: Amit Shah | Constituency Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Cooperation: B. L. Verma
- **32.** Minister of State for Tribal Affairs, Bisheshwar Tudu has inaugurated 2-day "National Tribal Talent Pool Conclave" organized by National Tribal Research Institute (NTRI), a body of Ministry of Tribal Affairs in Odisha on 23-24 September 2021. Tribal Talent Pool initiative of MoTA aims at the development of the Tribal scholars by providing an environment of learning, support, contribution. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- Bisheshwar Tudu inaugurated two days "National Tribal Talent Pool Conclave" in Odisha
- The conclave was organised by National Tribal Research Institute (under Ministry of Tribal Affairs)
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs: Arjun Munda | Constituency Khunti, Jharkhand
- MoS in Ministry of Tribal Affairs: Renuka Singh Saruta & Bishweswar Tudu
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal

## The Question Bank

**33.** On September 25, Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting Anurag Thakur has addressed the "Summit for Information and Democracy" organised at New York, US. The International Partnership for Information and Democracy was launched in New York on 26 September 2019 and it aims to promote freedom of opinion and expression and access to free, pluralistic and reliable information. {Read more}

- Anurag Thakur addressed the "Summit for Information and Democracy" organised at New York, US
- Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: Anurag Singh Thakur | Constituency Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: L. Murugan
- **34.** On September 28, Union Minister of State for Health Bharati Pravin Pawar addressed an inaugural session of the 4th "Indo-US Health Dialogue" which was hosted by India in New Delhi. Indo-US joint meet will boost management of global health threats. Moreover, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), India signed an MoU with Department of Health and Human Services, USA for cooperation in the field of Health & Biomedical sciences. An MoU was also signed between Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) & National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases (NIAID) for cooperation on International Centre for Excellence in Research (ICER). {Read more}



- Bharati Pravin Pawar addressed an inaugural session of the 4<sup>th</sup> "Indo-US Health Dialogue" held in New Delhi
- MoHFW + Dept of Health & Human Services (USA) = an MoU for cooperation in the field of Health & Biomedical sciences
- ICMR + NIAID (USA) = an MoU for cooperation on International Centre for Excellence in Research (ICER)
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency Palitana, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar





# Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

1. Dr. Firdausi Qadri from Bangladesh and Muhammad Amjad Saqib from Pakistan are among the five recipients of this year's Ramon Magsaysay Award - regarded as the Asian version of the Nobel Prize. Firdausi Qadri has developed a cheap oral vaccine against cholera while Muhammad Amjad Saqib has developed the first interest free Microfinance Program - 'Akhuwat'. Ramon Magsaysay Award is annually awarded by Philippines since 1957. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- 5 recipients of "Ramon Magsaysay Award 2021":
- Firdausi Qadri Vaccine scientist from Bangladesh
- Muhammad Amjad Saqib Microfinance pioneer from Pakistan
- Roberto Ballon Filipino fisher and community Environmentalist
- Steven Muncy Humanitarian worker from the United States
- Watchdoc Indonesian torch bearer for investigative journalism
- Ramon Magsaysay Award is annually awarded by Philippines (since 1957)
- 2. On September 3, The Odisha-born specialist Dr. Basant Kumar Misra has become the first Indian to receive the "International Lifetime Achievement Award" in Neurosurgery conferred by the American Association of Neurological Surgeons. He was awarded India's highest medical honour, "Dr BC Roy National Award" in 2018. {Read more}

- Dr. Basant Kumar Misra (Odisha) first Indian to receive the "International Lifetime Achievement Award" in 'Neurosurgery' conferred by American Association of Neurological Surgeons
- **3.** On September 3, The Chandigarh Railway Station has become the fifth station in India to get 5-star "Eat Right Station" certification by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) for providing high-quality, nutritious food to passengers. The certification is part of the 'Eat Right India' movement a large-scale effort by FSSAI to transform India's food system to ensure safe, healthy and sustainable food for all Indians . {Read more} **Key Points:**
- Chandigarh Railway Station became 5<sup>th</sup> station in India to get 5-star "Eat Right Station" certification by FSSAI
- HQs of FSSAI New Delhi | Chairperson Rita Teaotia | CEO Shri Arun Singhal
- **4.** On September 3, Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd (SJVN Ltd) has been conferred with prestigious "Dun & Bradstreet Corporate Award 2021" in the category of Best Growth Performance-Power during a virtual conference titled India's "Top 500 Companies 2021". The event was held with the central theme "Laying the Foundations for an ESG-Ready Corporate India". {Read more}



- SJVN Ltd conferred with prestigious "Dun & Bradstreet Corporate Award 2021"
- HQs of SJVN Shimla, Himachal Pradesh | MD & Chairman Nand Lal Sharma
- **5.** On September 2, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) has been awarded the "Association for Talent Development (ATD) 2021 BEST Award" securing 8<sup>th</sup> rank among the 71 organizations from around the globe. Thus, it became the only PSU to win this award and one of the only two companies of India in Top 20. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- POWERGRID awarded the "Association for Talent Development (ATD) 2021 BEST Award"
- HQs of POWERGRID Gurgaon, Haryana | MD & Chairman Kandikuppa Sreekant
- HQs of ATD Virginia, US
- **6.** The 8<sup>th</sup> National Level Exhibition and Project Competition (NLEPC) for the "INSPIRE Awards MANAK" (Million Minds Augmenting National Aspiration and Knowledge) showcased the innovative ideas from 581 students representing various States and UT's of India. The "INSPIRE Awards MANAK scheme" is aligned with the 'Start-up India' initiative launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India. The scheme aims to motivate students in the age group of 10-15 years and studying in classes 6 to 10. Mrs. Namita Gupta is the Head of "INSPIRE Awards MANAK", under the Department of Science and Technology (DST). {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- 8<sup>th</sup> National Level Exhib<mark>ition and</mark> Project Competition (NLEPC) for the "INSPIRE Awards MANAK" was commenced
- "INSPIRE Awards MANAK scheme" is aligned with the 'Start-up India' initiative
- Scheme aims to motivate students of: Age group 10 to 15 years & Classes 6 to 10
- Head of "INSPIRE Awards MANAK" Mrs. Namita Gupta (under the DST)
- 7. Indian biologist Shailendra Singh has been awarded the "Behler Turtle Conservation Award" for bringing three critically endangered turtle conservation species back from the brink of extinction. Shailendra Singh was named to lead the Turtle Survival Alliance (TSA)/Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) India turtle programme. There are 29 species of freshwater turtles and tortoises in India. Among critically endangered turtles, the Northern River Terrapin (Batagur baska) is being conserved at Sunderbans; the Red-crowned Roofed Turtle (Batagur kachuga) at Chambal; and the Black Softshell Turtle (Nilssonia nigricans) at different temples in Assam. {Read more}

- Shailendra Singh awarded the "Behler Turtle Conservation Award"
- Shailendra Singh named to lead the Turtle Survival Alliance (TSA)
- There are 29 species of freshwater turtles & tortoises in India
- Northern River Terrapin (Batagur baska) at Sunderbans
- Red-crowned Roofed Turtle (Batagur kachuga) at Chambal
- Black Softshell Turtle (Nilssonia nigricans) at Assam



**8.** On September 6, The GMR-led Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) has won two prestigious awards given by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) - "National Energy Leader" and "Excellent Energy Efficient Unit" for 'Excellence in Energy Management" at the 22<sup>nd</sup> National Award Ceremony. DIAL has been recognized with both accolades for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row. Besides, Hyderabad International Airport has also clinched the same awards for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> years in a row, respectively. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- "National Energy Leader" & "Excellent Energy Efficient Unit" given by the CII to:
- Delhi International Airport for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row, respectively
- Hyderabad International Airport for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> years in a row, respectively
- HQs of CII New Delhi | President T. V. Narendran | DG Chandrajit Banerjee | Founded in 1895
- **9.** On September 5, Union Minister of Education Dharmendra Pradhan has conferred "AICTE- Visvesvaraya Best Teacher Award" to 17 faculty members in Engineering and Technology whereas 3 faculty members were awarded the "AICTE-Dr. Pritam Singh Best Teacher Award" in Management Education. He also conferred "Chhatra Vishwakarma Award" and "Clean & Smart Campus Award 2020" to the winners. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Dharmendra Pradhan conferred:
- "AICTE- Visvesvaraya Best Teacher Award" to 17 faculty members in Engineering & Technology
- "AICTE-Dr. Pritam Singh Best Teacher Award" to 3 faculty members in Management Education
- "Chhatra Vishwakarma Award" and "Clean & Smart Campus Award 2020"
- Ministry of Education: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Education: Subhas Sarkar The Question Bank
- **10.** On September 6, Writer Namita Gokhale has been chosen as the recipient of the 7<sup>th</sup> "Yamin Hazarika Woman of Substance Award 2021". This award is being organised by the collective of women professionals from the year 2015. Yamin Hazarika was the first woman from Northeast India to be selected for Delhi, Andaman & Nicobar Islands Police Service (DANIPS). {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Namita Gokhale 7<sup>th</sup> edition of "Yamin Hazarika Woman of Substance Award" for 2021
- Yamin Hazarika the first woman from Northeast India to be selected for DANIPS
- 11. On September 8, Vedic-GPS, a documentary film that was commissioned by the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, New Delhi, has bagged the "Best Research-based Documentary Award" at the first Hermetic International Film Festival, in Venice, Italy. The 50-minute documentary was directed by Latha Krishna. {Read more}

- "Vedic-GPS" a documentary film received the "Best Research-based Documentary Award" at the first Hermetic International Film Festival, in Venice, Italy
- Director Latha Krishna



**12.** On September 8, Hyderabad-based International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) has been awarded the "Africa Food Prize 2021" for work that has improved food security across 13 countries in sub-Saharan Africa. Institute recognised for helping 25 million farmers in 13 countries to improve income and food production. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- ICRISAT (Hyderabad) awarded the "Africa Food Prize 2021" for improving food security in sub-Saharan Africa
- 13. On September 7, Indian advertising doyen Ramesh Narayan will be inducted into the "Asian Federation of Advertising Associations (AFAA) Hall of Fame" at AdAsia 2021 scheduled to be held in December, 2021. Ramesh has been honoured with AAAI Lifetime Achievement Award, the International Advertising Association Global Champion Award, the Public Relations Society of India Special Award, the Association of Business Communicators of India Lifetime Achievement Award, and an induction into the Hall of Fame of the India Chapter of the IAA. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Ramesh Narayan to be inducted into "Asian Federation of Advertising Associations Hall of Fame" at AdAsia 2021
- **14.** September 9, British writer Susanna Clarke has won the prestigious "Women's Prize for Fiction 2021" for her novel "Piranesi". She was awarded the 30,000 pound (\$41,000) prize for her second novel published 16 years after her first novel, "Jonathan Strange & Mr. Norrell". {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Susanna Clarke won the prestigious "Women's Prize for Fiction 2021" for her "Piranesi" novel
- Her other books: "Jonathan Strange & Mr. Norrell"
- **15.** On September 9, Ayaan Shankta, a 12-year-old Environmental Activist from Mumbai has been named as a "2021 International Young Eco-Hero" in recognition of his efforts to solve tough Environmental problems. He won the third place in the 8-14 age category for his project 'Conservation and Rehabilitation of Powai Lake'. This award is given by Action For Nature (AFN) to the youth aged 8 to 16 who are taking crucial steps to solve tough Environmental problems. {Read more}

- Ayaan Shankta (Mumbai) named as a "2021 International Young Eco-Hero"
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the 8-14 age category for his project "Conservation & Rehabilitation of Powai Lake"
- "International Young Eco-Hero" award is given by Action For Nature (AFN) to the Youth aged 8 to 16
- **16.** On September 13, Mathematician Anand Kumar was conferred with the "Swami Brahmanand Award 2021" for his contribution in the field of education through his 'Super 30' initiative. The award has been instituted in the name of Swami Brahmananda, a freedom fighter, former MP and a saint known for his sacrifices and his contribution in the field of education. The award is given every year to people who have done special work in the Education Sector or for the welfare of the cow. {Read more}



- Anand Kumar conferred with the "Swami Brahmanand Award 2021" (for his 'Super 30' initiative)
- This award is given every year in the field of 'Education Sector' or for the 'Welfare of the Cow'
- 17. On September 10, DBS Bank is named the world's best bank in Euromoney's "Global Award for Excellence 2021" for the second time in two years. While Morgan Stanley is named the world's best investment bank for its overwhelmingly deft navigation of the highs and lows of a turbulent period in the markets. DBS is also recognised as the world's best digital bank. Singapore-based UOB is named the best bank for SMEs, while the best bank in the emerging markets is Indonesia's Bank Central Asia. And BNP Paribas is named the world's best bank for sustainable finance. Bank of America is named best bank for corporate responsibility. {Read more} Key Points:

• Euromoney's "Global Award for Excellence 2021":

Winner	Category
DBS Bank (Singapore)	World's Best Bank + World's Best Digital Bank
Morgan Stanley (US)	World's Best Investment Bank
UOB (Singapore)	Best Bank for SMEs
Bank Central Asia (Indonesia)	Best Bank in the Emerging Markets
BNP Paribas (France)	World's Best Bank for Sustainable Finance
Bank of America (US)	Best Bank for Corporate Responsibility

18. On September 15, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and Serum Institute of India Chief Executive Officer Adar Poonawalla have been named among the "World's 100 Most Influential People of 2021" by Time magazine. SII CEO Poonawalla has been listed among the 15 people whom the magazine called "Pioneers" inside the influential 100 list. Taliban's Abdul Ghani Baradar, the current deputy PM of Afghanistan, was called "a charismatic military leader and a deeply pious figure" by the magazine. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- "World's 100 Most Influential People of 2021" by Time magazine
- Narendra Modi + Mamata Banerjee + Adar Poonawalla = are among World's 100 Most Influential People of 2021
- 19. On September 17, President Ram Nath Kovind has presented the "National Florence Nightingale Award 2020" to 51 nurses across India. This annual award was instituted by the Union Health Ministry in 1973. The winners were awarded Rs 50,000 as cash prize, a certificate, a citation and a medal. Gujarat's Bhanumati Gheewala has been selected for "National Florence Nightingale Award 2021" for COVID-19 Duty. She has been handling the delivery of Covid-19 positive pregnant women as well as taking care of newborns. {Read more}

- Ram Nath Kovind presented the "National Florence Nightingale Award 2020" to 51 Nurses across India
- This award was instituted by Union Health Ministry in 1973
- Bhanumati Gheewala (Gujarat) selected for "National Florence Nightingale Award 2021" for Covid-19 Duty



**20.** On September 14, Punjab National Bank (PNB) has received "Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar" for 2020-21. This is the fourth time in a row that PNB received the first prize. Union Bank of India won 5 awards for excellent implementation of official language Hindi under different categories of Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar. UBI bagged third prize for 2020-21 in Nationalised Bank Category. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- PNB received the 1<sup>st</sup> prize in "Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar" for 2020-21 (4<sup>th</sup> time 1<sup>st</sup> prize)
- UBI received the 3<sup>rd</sup> prize in "Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar" for 2020-21 (Nationalised Bank Category)
- UBI won 5 awards for excellent implementation of official language 'Hindi' under different categories
- HQs of PNB New Delhi | MD & CEO S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao | Tagline "The Name You Can Bank Upon"
- HQs of UBI Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Rajkiran Rai G. | Tagline "Good People to Bank With"
- **21.** On September 17, The 2014 Nobel Peace Prize winner and India's Social Activist, Kailash Satyarthi is among 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Advocates appointed by United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. Kailash Satyarthi will focus on protecting and promoting the rights of children around the world. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Kailash Satyarthi appointed as a SDG Advocate to protect & promote the rights of children around the world
- Kailash Satyarthi is among 17 SDG Advocates appointed by the UN | He received 'Nobel Peace Prize' (2014)
- 22. On September 19, The National Academy of Letters announced names of 8 writers for the "Sahitya Akademi Fellowship". The executive board also announced the "Sahitya Akademi Translation Prize 2020" in 24 Indian languages. The English translation of Kannada novel "Ghachar Ghochar" written by Vivek Shanbhag and translated by Srinath Perur, and the Hindi translation of Thiruvalluvar's 'Thirukkural' by TES Raghwan won the award among 22 others. The Akademi Award carries prize of ₹1,00,000 while translation carries prize of ₹50,000. {Read more}

- "Sahitya Akademi Fellowship" given to 8 writers (Prize ₹1,00,000)
- Ruskin Bond
- Vinod Kumar Shukla (Hindi)
- Sirshendu Mukhopadhyay (Bengali)
- Mundanat Leelavathy (Malayalam)
- Dr. Bhalchandra Nemade (Marathi)
- Dr Tejwant Singh Gill (Punjabi)
- Swami Rambhadracharya (Sanskrit)
- Indira Parthasarthy (Tamil)
- "Sahitya Akademi Translation Prize" given in 24 Indian languages (Prize ₹50,000)



23. This year in 2021, 73<sup>rd</sup> Primetime Emmy Awards event was conducted in Los Angeles, California, US. The Crown has won the Outstanding Drama Series. While Ted Lasso has won the Outstanding Comedy Series. Among actors, Jason Sudeikis won the award for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Comedy Series for Ted Lasso and Jean Smart won a trophy in Outstanding Lead Actress in a Comedy Series for HBO Max series Hacks. Debbie Allen has won the Governors Award. Josh O'Connor has won Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series for The Crown. Olivia Colman has won Outstanding Lead Actress in a Drama Series for The Crown. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

• 73<sup>rd</sup> Primetime Emmy Awards – conducted in Los Angeles, California, US

Category	Winner
Outstanding Comedy Series	Ted Lasso
Outstanding Drama Series	The Crown
Outstanding Lead Actor in a Comedy Series	Jason Sudeikis (for Ted Lasso)
Outstanding Lead Actress in a Comedy Series	Jean Smart (for Hacks)
Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series	Josh O'Connor (for The Crown)
Outstanding Lead Actress in a Drama Series	Olivia Colman (for The Crown)
Governors Award	Debbie Allen

**24.** On September 21, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has been conferred with "SDG Progress Award" for Bangladesh's steady progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by the UN sponsored Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN). {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Sheikh Hasina confer<mark>red with "</mark>SDG Progress Award" by Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)
- HQs of SDSN New York, US | Established in 2012 (sponsored by UN)
- Bangladesh Dhaka Taka | PM Seikh Hasina | President Abdul Hamid

25. On September 23, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) has announced Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka of South Africa as the winner of the "2021 Global Goalkeeper Award". She is a former United Nations under Secretary General and Executive Director of UN Women. This year's three additional "Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards" were given to Fairooz Faizah Beether of Bangladesh (2021 Change-maker Award), Jenifer Colpas of Colombia (2021 Progress Award), and Satta Sheriff of Liberia (2021 Campaign Award). {Read more}

- Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka (South Africa) conferred with "2021 Global Goalkeeper Award" by BMGF
- Three additional "Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards":
- 2021 Change-maker Award: Fairooz Faizah Beether (Bangladesh)
- 2021 Progress Award: Jenifer Colpas (Colombia)
- 2021 Campaign Award: Satta Sheriff (Liberia)



**26.** On September 24, NHPC's 510 MW Teesta-V Power Station in Sikkim has been conferred with the prestigious "Blue Planet Prize" by International Hydropower Association (IHA), a London based non-profit membership association operating in 120 countries. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- 510 MW Teesta-V Power Station (Sikkim) conferred with the "Blue Planet Prize" by IHA (London, UK)
- 510 MW Teesta-V Power Station built, owned & being operated by NHPC
- HQs of NHPC Faridabad, Haryana | MD & Chairman Abhay Kumar Singh
- 27. On September 23, Government e Marketplace (GeM) has been announced as the winner in the 'Best Use of Digital Technology' category at the "CIPS Excellence in Procurement Awards 2021" (CIPS Awards). GeM was shortlisted as a finalist in two additional categories as well, i.e. 'Public Procurement Project of the Year' and 'Best Initiative to Build a Diverse Supply Base'. The CIPS Awards were given by the Chartered Institute of Procurement & Supply (CIPS), London. Government e Marketplace is a 100% Government owned Section 8 Company setup under the aegis of Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry. {Read more} Key Points:
- GeM won the 'Best Use of Digital Technology' category at the "CIPS Excellence in Procurement Awards 2021"
- GeM was winner in other two categories as well:
- 'Public Procurement Project of the Year'
- 'Best Initiative to Build a Diverse Supply Base'.
- The CIPS Awards were given by Chartered Institute of Procurement & Supply (London, UK)
- 28. On September 21, Union Chemicals & Fertilizers Minister Mansukh L. Mandaviya has presented ICC (Indian Chemical Council) Annual Awards for the Year 2020. The government has given an incentive of more than Rs 6000 Cr under 'PLI Scheme' to Chemical Industry. The ICC was founded in 1938 by Acharya P. C. Ray and Dr B. D. Amin. The awards were given category-wise as mentioned below. {Read more}

- Mansukh L. Mandaviya presented "ICC (Indian Chemical Council) Annual Awards 2020"
- Chemical Industry received an incentive of more than Rs 6000 Cr under 'PLI Scheme'
- HQs of ICC Mumbai, Maharashtra | President Ravi Goenka | Founded in 1938
- Winners:

Award	Recipient
	- Santrupt Misra
Lifetime Achievement Award	- Ajay Shriram
	- Aniruddha B. Pandit
ICC Acharya P. C. Ray Award for Development of Indigenous Technology	Galaxy Surfactants Ltd
ICC Award for Excellence in Process Design & Engineering	Jubilant Pharmova Ltd



**29.** On September 24, President Ram Nath Kovind has presented the "National Service Scheme Awards" for the year 2019-20 to 42 awardees in 3 different categories. NSS is a Centrally Sector Scheme which was launched in the year 1969 with a motto of "Not Me, But You". {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Ram Nath Kovind presented the "National Service Scheme Awards 2019-20" to 42 awardees in 3 categories
- HQs of NSS New Delhi | Motto "Not Me, But You" | Launched in 1969
- **30.** On September 25, As part of 'Azaadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' and on the occasion of 'Antyodaya Diwas', National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR), Hyderabad under the Ministry of Rural Development presented "Hunarbaaz Awards" to 75 differently-abled (diyangjan) candidates from 15 states. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- NIRD&PR (Ministry of Rural Dev.) presented "Hunarbaaz Awards" to 75 differently-abled candidates from 15 states
- Ministry of Rural Development: Giriraj Singh | Constituency Begusarai, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Rural Development: Faggansingh Kulaste & Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti
- **31.** On September 25, HDFC Bank has been voted as "Overall Most Outstanding Company in India", in the 'Asia's Outstanding Companies Poll' conducted by reputed publication Asiamoney. HDFC bank has been honoured with for the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, since the inception of the poll in 2018. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- HDFC Bank "Overall Most Outstanding Company in India" in the 'Asia's Outstanding Companies Poll' by Asiamoney
- HQs of HDFC Bank Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline "We understand your world"
- **32.** On September 27, Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu presented the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) Innovation Award to two students of Class 10 of Udupi district namely Anusha and Rakshitha Naik. The award, sponsored by the Union Ministry of Science and Technology, comprises a cash prize of ₹20,000. They received the award for their project, 'Gas Saving Kit'. {Read more}

- M. Venkaiah Naidu presented the "CSIR Innovation Award" to 2 students of Udupi, Karnataka
- The 2 students received the award for developing 'Gas Saving Kit'
- The award was sponsored by Ministry of Science & Technology



**33.** Rukmini Banerji, CEO of India's Pratham Education Foundation, has been awarded "2021 Yidan Prize" for Education Development. While Eric Hanushek, a professor at Stanford University, has been conferred with the "2021 Yidan Prize" for Education Research. Banerji and Eric will join 9 laureates who have been awarded the Yidan Prize which was founded in 2016 by Charles Chen Yidan. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Rukmini Banerji conferred with the "2021 Yidan Prize" for Education Development
- Eric Hanushek conferred with the "2021 Yidan Prize" for Education Research
- 'Yidan Prize' founded by Charles Chen Yidan (in 2016)
- **34.** Names of 11 scientists, who received India's highest science award "Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar (SSB) Prize for Science & Technology 2021", were announced during the 80<sup>th</sup> foundation day of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) on September 26, 2021. The prize is given to Indian scientists below the age of 45 for outstanding research in 7 fields Biology, Chemistry, Environment Science, Engineering, Mathematics, Medicine and Physics. The names of the winners are given below. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- September 26 80<sup>th</sup> foundation day of the CSIR
- 11 Scientists received "SSB Prize for Science & Technology 2021" in 7 fields/categories:

Category	Winner
Biological Sciences	Amit Singh & Arun Kumar Shukla
Chemical Sciences	Kanishka Biswas & T. Govindaraju
Earth, Atmosphere, Ocean	Binoy Kumar Saikia
& Planetary Sciences	The Question Bank
Engineering Sciences	Debdeep Mukhopadhyay
Mathematical Sciences	Anish Ghosh & Saket Saurabh
Medical Sciences	Jeemon Panniyammakal & Rohit Srivastava
Physical Sciences	Kanak Saha

- HQs of CSIR New Delhi | President Narendra Modi | Director General Shekhar C. Mande
- **35.** On September 30, Delhi-based environmental organisation Legal Initiative for Forest and Environment (LIFE) has received the "2021 Right Livelihood Award" given by Stockholm-based Right Livelihood Foundation for its grassroots approach of empowering vulnerable communities to protect their livelihoods and claim their right to a clean environment. The award is known as "Sweden's Alternative Nobel Prize". It comes with a cash prize of 1 million Swedish crowns (\$115,000). {Read more}

- "LIFE" (Delhi) received the "2021 Right Livelihood Award" given by Right Livelihood Foundation (Sweden)
- The award is known as "Sweden's Alternative Nobel Prize" | Prize 1 million Swedish crowns (\$115,000)



## **Appointments & Resignations**

**1.** Avani Lekhara, who won gold medal in shooting competition at Tokyo Paralympics, is nominated as the Brand Ambassador of "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" scheme in Rajasthan. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Avani Lekhara nominated as the Brand Ambassador of "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" scheme in Rajasthan
- Rajasthan: Capital Jaipur | CM Ashok Gehlot | Governor Kalraj Mishra
- **2.** Estonia's parliament has elected the Chief of a major National Museum Alar Karis as the country's new President. He secured support from 72 members of the 101-seat Riigikogu legislature. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Alar Karis elected as the new President of Estonia (replacing Kaja Kallas)
- Estonia Tallinn Euro | President Kersti Kaljulaid | New PM Alar Karis
- **3.** German footwear and accessories major Adidas has roped in Tokyo Olympic Silver-medalist Mirabai Chanu as the brand ambassador of its "Stay in Play" campaign for its latest product innovation designed to keep more menstruating women in sports. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Mirabai Chanu (Indian weightlifter) appointed as the Brand Ambassador of "Stay in Play" campaign of Adidas
- HQs of Adidas Herzogenaurach, Germany | CEO Kasper Rorsted
- **4.** On September 1, Vartika Shukla has assumed charge as the first woman Chairperson & Managing Director of Engineers India Ltd (EIL). She has been spearheading the company's initiatives in new energy areas including Bio Fuels, Coal Gasification, Waste to Fuel and Hydrogen. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Vartika Shukla assumed charge as the first woman Chairperson & MD of Engineers India Ltd (EIL)
- HQs of EIL Gurugram, Haryana | Chairperson & MD Vartika Shukla
- **5.** Former State Bank of India (SBI) chairman Rajnish Kumar has been appointed as independent Non-Executive Director in Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC)'s board in Asia. Kumar is currently a director of India's Lighthouse Communities Foundation, an independent director of Larsen & Toubro Infotech Limited, a senior advisor of Baring Private Equity Asia Pte Ltd in Singapore and an advisor of Kotak Investment Advisors Ltd in Mumbai. {Read more}

- Rajnish Kumar appointed as independent Non-Executive Director of HSBC's board in Asia
- HQs of HSBC London, UK | CEO Noel Quinn
- HQs of HSBC India Mumbai, MH | CEO Hitendra Dave | Founded in 1853



**6.** Ashish Singhal has taken charge as Managing Director of SVC Bank (SVC Co-operative Bank or Shamrao Vithal Co-operative Bank). His appointment follows the retirement of Ajit Venugopalan. Prior to joining this, Singhal was the MD of Experian CIC in India. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Ashish Singhal took charge as MD of SVC Co-operative Bank
- HQs of SVC Co-operative Bank Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD Ashish Singhal
- 7. On September 2, Atul Bhatt has been appointed as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd (RINL). P K Rath had retired as CMD of RINL on May 31, 2021. On January 27, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) had given in-principle approval for 100% disinvestment of government stake in RINL. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Atul Bhatt appointed as Chairman & MD of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd (RINL)
- HQs of RINL Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh | CMD Atul Bhatt
- **8.** Equitas Small Finance Bank has announced women hockey player, Rani Rampal and cricketer Smriti Mandhana as the company's brand ambassadors. This announcement comes at a time when the bank is celebrating their 5<sup>th</sup> year anniversary on September 5, 2021. Smriti Mandhana was recognized as the "Best Women's International Cricketer" by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) in 2018. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Rani Rampal + Smriti Mandhana = appointed as Brand Ambassadors of Equitas Small Finance Bank
- HQs of Equitas SFB Chennai, TN | MD & CEO Vasudevan Pathangi Narasimhan
- **9.** On September 4, Cyrus Poncha, Secretary of Squash Rackets Federation of India (SRFI), has been elected as the Vice-President of the Asian Squash Federation (ASF) for a 4-year term at the 41<sup>st</sup> ASF annual General Body Meeting held virtually. The other elected VPs are Fayez Abdullah S. Al Mutairi (Kuwait) and Tae-sook Heo (Korea). David Mui of Hong Kong was elected unopposed for his second term as President of ASF. Cyrus is the third Indian to become the Vice-President. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Cyrus Poncha elected as the Vice-President of the Asian Squash Federation (ASF) for 4 years
- HQs of ASF Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | President David Mui
- Vice Presidents of ASF Cyrus Poncha, Fayez Abdullah S. Al Mutairi, Tae-sook Heo
- **10.** The Calcutta High Court has appointed former Chief Justice of the High Court Manjula Chellur to monitor the Special Investigation Team (SIT) probe into the post-poll violence in West Bengal. {Read more}

- Manjula Chellur appointed to monitor the Special Investigation Team (SIT) probe into the post-poll violence in West Bengal
- Present Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court Justice Rajesh Bindal
- West Bengal: Capital Kolkata | CM Mamta Banerjee | Governor Jagdeep Dhankar



**11.** Rajya Sabha chairman M. Venkaiah Naidu has appointed Dr. Parasaram Pattabhi Kesava Ramacharyulu as the new Secretary General of the Upper House of Parliament which is called Rajya Sabha. He succeeds Desh Dipak Verma. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Parasaram Pattabhi Kesava Ramacharyulu appointed as the new Secretary General of the Rajya Sabha
- The Upper House of Parliament is called "Rajya Sabha" | Chairperson of Rajya Sabha M. Venkaiah Naidu
- **12.** On September 3, Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga from Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) has decided to step down from his post. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Yoshihide Suga stepped down from his post as the PM of Japan (Liberal Democratic Party)
- Japan Tokyo Yen
- **13.** On September 2, The Bar Association of India's President Prashant Kumar, has been elected unanimously to the Board of Directors of International Legal Assistance Consortium (ILAC). He is the second Asian to serve on the Board of ILAC, a Sweden based international non-governmental organisation. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Prashant Kumar elected to the Board of Directors of International Legal Assistance Consortium (2<sup>nd</sup> Asian)
- HQs of ILAC Stockholm, Sweden | President Elizabeth Howe
- **14.** On the 60<sup>th</sup> Teachers' Day, Assam State Education Minister Ranoj Pegu has appointed Olympian Lovlina Borgohain as the Brand Ambassador of the "Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan" in the state. The move is to boost girls' education. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Lovlina Borgohain as the Brand Ambassador of the "Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan" in Assam
- Lovlina Borgohain (Indian Boxer) won the Bronze medal under 69kg category in "2020 Tokyo Olympic"
- Assam: Capital Dispur | CM Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor Jagdish Mukhi
- **15.** The Automotive Component Manufacturers Association of India (ACMA) has appointed Sunjay J. Kapur (Chairman of SONA Comstar) as its President for 2021-22. Shradha Suri Marwah was appointed as the Vice-President of the industry body. {Read more}

- Sunjay J. Kapur appointed as the President of Automotive Component Manufacturers Association of India (ACMA)
- Shradha Suri Marwah appointed as the Vice-President the ACMA
- HQs of ACMA New Delhi | President Sunjay J. Kapur | VP Shradha Suri Marwah



**16.** On September 6, Nirlep Singh Rai has been appointed as Chairman and Managing Director of National Fertilizer Limited (NFL). Prior to his appointment as Chairman & Managing Director, he was holding the position of Director (Technical) in NFL. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Nirlep Singh Rai appointed as Chairman & MD of National Fertilizer Ltd (replacing Virendra Nath Datt)
- HQs of NFL Noida, Uttar Pradesh | MD & Chairman Nirlep Singh Rai
- 17. On September 6, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted its approval for the re-appointment of V. Vaidyanathan as the Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of IDFC FIRST Bank for three years. Vaidyanathan took over as the MD & CEO of IDFC FIRST Bank in December 2018 after Capital First and IDFC Bank merger. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- V. Vaidyanathan re-appointed as CEO & MD of IDFC FIRST Bank for 3 years
- HQs of IDFC First Bank Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO V. Vaidyanathan | Established in 2018
- IDFC Bank + Capital First = IDFC First Bank (merged in 2018)
- **18.** On September 7, The government has appointed Harsha Bhupendra Bangari as the managing director (MD) of Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank) for a period of three years. She has succeeded David Rasquinha. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Harsha Bhupendra Bangari appointed as MD of EXIM Bank for 3 years (replacing David Rasquinha)
- HQs of EXIM Bank Mumbai, MH | MD Harsha Bangari | Founded in 1982
- **19.** On September 8, Tata AIA Life Insurance has announced the signing of a multi-year brand partnership with Indian athlete and Olympic gold medallist Neeraj Chopra, as its Brand Ambassador. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Neeraj Chopra appointed as Brand Ambassador of Tata AIA Life Insurance
- Neeraj Chopra won Gold medal in Javelin throw at the "2020 Tokyo Olympics"
- HQs of Tata AIA Life Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO Naveen Tahilyani
- **20.** On September 7, The government has appointed Union Minister for Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textile Piyush Goyal as Sherpa for the "G20 Summit", replacing former Union Minister Suresh Prabhu. Moreover, India will be part of the G20 Troika [Preceding, current & incoming Presidencies] from December 1, 2021 till November 30, 2024. {Read more}

- Piyush Goyal appointed as Sherpa for the "G20 Summit" (replacing Suresh Prabhu)
- India will be part of the 'G20 Troika' from December 1, 2021 till November 30, 2024
- Presidency of G20 Summit: 2021 Italy | 2022 Indonesia | 2023 India | 2024 Brazil



**21.** On September 4, Satyajit Tripathy has been appointed as the Chairman-cum-Managing Director of United India Insurance Company Limited (UIIC). Tripathy is currently General Manager and Director at The New India Assurance Company Ltd. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Satyajit Tripathy appointed as the CMD of United India Insurance Company Ltd
- HQs of UIIC Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CMD Satyajit Tripathy
- **22.** On September 9, A. G. Thankappan, S N Trust executive committee member and SNDP Yogam councillor, has taken charge as the Chairman of Spices Board of India. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- A. G. Thankappan appointed as the Chairman of Spices Board of India
- HQs of Spices Board of India Kochi, Kerala | Chairman A. G. Thankappan
- 23. In September 2021, Lieutenant General Gurmit Singh (retd) has been appointed as the new governor of Uttarakhand. He was chosen for this new post by President of India Ram Nath Kovind after the resignation of Baby Rani Maurya. While, Banwarilal Purohit, Governor of Tamil Nadu holding additional charge of the Governor of Punjab, is appointed as regular Governor of Punjab. Ravindra Narayan Ravi, who was overseeing affairs in Nagaland, has been transferred to take charge as the Governor of Tamil Nadu. And Assam governor Jagdish Mukhi is assigned the additional responsibility of Nagaland until regular arrangements are made. Moreover, Bhupendra Patel is appointed as new Governor of Gujarat after the resignation of Vijay Rupani. {Read more}

- Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh appointed as new Governor of Uttarakhand
- Banwarilal Purohit appointed as new Governor of Punjab
- R. N. Ravi appointed as new Governor of Tamil Nadu
- Bhupendra Patel appointed as new Governor of Gujarat
- Jagdish Mukhi given additional charge as the Governor of Nagaland
- The Governor of a State is appointed by the President under 'Article 155' of the Indian Constitution
- Uttarakhand: Capital Dehradun & Gairsain | CM Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh
- Punjab: Capital Chandigarh | CM S. Charanjit Singh Channi | Governor Banwarilal Purohit
- Tamil Nadu: Capital Chennai | CM Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor Ravindra Narayan Ravi
- Nagaland: Capital Kohima | CM Neiphiu Rio | Governor Jagdish Mukhi (addi. charge)
- Gujarat: Capital Gandhinagar | CM Bhupendra Patel | Governor Acharya Devvrat
- **24.** On September 7, The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India G. C. Murmu has been elected as the Chairman of the Assembly of Asian Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI) from 2024-2027. India is set to host the 16<sup>th</sup> ASOSAI in 2024. {Read more}



- G. C. Murmu elected as the Chairman of the ASOSAI from 2024-2027
- India to host the 16<sup>th</sup> ASOSAI in 2024
- CAG G. C. Murmu | CGA Deepak Das
- **25.** On September 6, Satish Parekh has taken over as the President of India Chapter (IC) of International Road Federation (IRF). He took over from Subhmay Gangopadhyay. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Satish Parekh appointed as the President of India Chapter of International Road Federation (IRF)
- HQs of IRF Geneva, Switzerland | President of IC IRF Satish Parekh | Chairman of IRF Abdullah A. Al-Mogbel
- **26.** September 7, The Madhya Pradesh government has appointed Indian hockey player Vivek Sagar as Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) in the state police. He was part of the Indian squad that won the bronze medal at the Tokyo Olympics. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Vivek Sagar (Indian Hockey Player) appointed as the DSP in Madhya Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital Bhopal | CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel
- **27.** On September 7, The Andhra Pradesh government has appointed former Chairman of the SBI, Rajnish Kumar as its Economic Advisor for two year. While, Sameer Sharma is appointed as Chief Secretary of Andhra Pradesh. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Rajnish Kumar appointed as Economic Advisor of Andhra Pradesh for 2 years
- Sameer Sharma appointed as Chief Secretary of Andhra Pradesh
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan
- **28.** On September 11, Piramal Realty, the real estate arm of the Piramal Group, has roped in Rahul Dravid as a brand ambassador for its portfolio of residential projects in Mumbai and Thane. {Read more}

- Rahul Dravid appointed as the Brand Ambassador of Piramal Realty (a real estate arm of Piramal Group)
- HQs of Piramal Realty Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Ajay Piramal



**29.** On September 11, Morocco's King Mohammed VI has appointed Aziz Akhannouch as the country's new Prime Minister. The announcement came after Akhannouch's National Rally of Independents (RNI) party triumphed in parliamentary polls. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Aziz Akhannouch appointed as new Prime Minister of Morocco
- Morocco Rabat Dirham | PM Saad-Eddine El Othmani
- **30.** On September 8, The Taliban announced that Mullah Mohammad Hasan Akhund has been appointed as interim Prime Minister of Afghanistan with two deputies Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar and Molavi Abdul Salam Hanafi. He has been an influential figure in Afghanistan since the inception of the militant group in the 1990s. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Mullah Mohammad Hasan Akhund appointed as interim Prime Minister of Afghanistan
- Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar & Molavi Abdul Salam Hanafi appointed as Deputy PMs of Afghanistan
- Afghanistan Kabul Afghani | Care taker President Amrullah Saleh | Interim PM Mullah Hasan Akhund
- **31.** Yahoo has announced the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer Tinder, Jim Lanzone as its new Chief Executive Officer, effective from September 27, 2021. Lanzone will succeed Guru Gowrappan, who has been named Senior Advisor to Apollo's private equity business. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Jim Lanzone appointed as new CEO of Yahoo (succeeding Guru Gowrappan)
- HQs of Yahoo California, US | CEO Jim Lanzone
- **32.** On September 14, Ujjivan Financial Services has appointed Sanjeev Barnwal as its new Chief Executive Officer. His elevation comes as former head Carol Furtado assumed charge as the CEO of subsidiary Ujjivan Small Finance Bank in August, 2021. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Sanjeev Barnwal appointed as new CEO of Ujjivan Financial Services
- HQs of Ujjivan Financial Services Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO Sanjeev Barnwal
- **33.** On September 11, Former IPS officer Sardar Iqbal Singh Lalpura has been appointed as the Chairman of the National Commission for Minorities (NCM). Iqbal has succeeded Syed Ghayorul Hasan Rizvi. The commission's Vice Chairperson is Atif Rasheed. The Union government had set up the NCM under the "National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992". {Read more}

- Iqbal Singh Lalpura appointed as the Chairman of the National Commission for Minorities (NCM)
- NCM was set up under the "National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992"
- HQs of NCM New Delhi | Chairman Iqbal Singh Lalpura | VC Atif Rasheed



**34.** On September 11, Adobe Inc. recently appointed Prativa Mohapatra as Vice President and Managing Director for Adobe India. With this, Mohapatra became the first woman to lead the global software maker's operations in India. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Prativa Mohapatra became the first woman to be appointed as Vice President & MD for Adobe India
- HQs of Adobe Inc California, US | CEO Shantanu Narayen | Co-Founders Charles Geschke, John Warnock
- **35.** On September 11, Senior BJP leader and former Union minister Vijay Goel has been appointed as the Vice-Chairman of the Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti. The appointment was notified by the Union culture ministry which is the nodal ministry for the society. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Vijay Goel appointed as the Vice-Chairman of the Gandhi Smriti & Darshan Samiti
- **36.** On September 10, Wonderchef has roped in actress Kriti Sanon as its Brand Ambassador. Wonderchef is a world-class & most trusted Cookware, Bakeware, Kitchen Appliances & Kitchen Tools brand. Besides, the American watches and accessories firm, Fossil, has also appointed Indian Bollywood actor Kriti Sanon as its newest celebrity brand ambassador in India. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Kriti Sanon appointed as Brand Ambassador of 'Wonderchef'
- Kriti Sanon appointed as Brand Ambassador of 'Fossil'
- HQs of Wonderchef Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Arun Nalavadi
- HQs of Fossil Group Texas, US | CEO Kosta N. Kartsotis
- **37.** On September 13, Justice M. Venugopal has been appointed as the Acting Chairperson of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT). In the last 18 months, the NCLAT had three acting Chairpersons. No permanent Chairperson has been appointed in the last 18 months. The NCLAT was constituted under 'Section 410' of the Companies Act, 2013. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- M. Venugopal appointed as the Acting Chairperson of the NCLAT (3<sup>rd</sup> Acting Chairperson in last 18 months)
- **38.** On September 11, India's Raja Randhir Singh has taken over as acting President of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA). A five-time Olympic shooter and an Asian Games Gold medallist in 1978, Singh was promoted to the role from his position as an honorary life vice president. He replaces Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah. {Read more}

- Raja Randhir Singh (Indian Shooter) took over as acting President of the Olympic Council of Asia
- HQs of OCA Kuwait | Acting President Raja Randhir Singh | Founded in 1982



**39.** On September 9, TAGG, a tech-driven lifestyle electronics brand, has roped in the vice-captain of the Indian cricket team and the captain of Mumbai Indians, Rohit Sharma as a Brand Ambassador. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Rohit Sharma appointed as Brand Ambassador of 'TAGG'
- **40.** On September 12, Former managing director of Mahindra & Mahindra Pawan Kumar Goenka has been designated as the Chairperson of Indian National Space Promotion Authorization Centre (In-Space). IN-SPACe was established in 2020 under the Department of Space, as the nodal agency for regulating private companies in the Space sector. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Pawan Kumar Goenka appointed as the Chairperson of 'In-Space'
- **41.** On September 13, Fino Payments Bank Limited (FPBL) has appointed Indian actor Pankaj Tripathi as its first brand ambassador for two years. Pankaj Tripathi will be the face of Fino's first 'Fikar Not' campaign. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- Pankaj Tripathi appointed as first Brand Ambassador of Fino Payments Bank for 2 years
- HQs of FPBL Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO Rishi Gupta
- **42.** On September 13, Japanese sports major, ASICS has announced Indian squash player Joshna Chinappa as its new brand ambassador. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Joshna Chinappa (Squash Player) appointed as Brand Ambassador of 'ASICS' a leading sports brand in India
- HQs of ASICS Hyogo, Japan | CEO Motoi Oyama | MD of ASICS India Rajat Khurana
- **43.** On September 16, A global high-performance wellness brand, Hyperice has appointed Virat Kohli as Global Brand Ambassador and Athlete-Investor. {Read more}

## **Key Points:**

- Virat Kohli (Cricketer) appointed as Athlete-Investor & Global Brand Ambassador of 'Hyperice' a wellness brand
- HQs of Hyperice California, US
- **44.** Emami Ltd has roped in actor Sonu Sood as a brand ambassador for its flagship pain relief offering, Zandu Balm. {Read more}

- Sonu Sood appointed as Brand Ambassador of Emami Ltd's pain relief brand "Zandu Balm"
- HQs of Emami Ltd Kolkata, West Bengal | CEO Naresh Bhansali



**45.** On September 15, Former Supreme Court judge and one of India's foremost legal luminaries, Justice (Retired) Indu Malhotra will be the new Ombudsman cum Ethics Officer of Delhi and Districts Cricket Association (DDCA). The DDCA's general body is headed by its President Rohan Jaitley. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Indu Malhotra appointed as Ombudsman cum Ethics officer of Delhi & Districts Cricket Association (DDCA)
- President of DDCA Rohan Jaitley
- **46.** On September 17, Alka Nangia Arora has assumed the additional charge of the post of Chairman cum Managing Director (CMD) of the National Small Industries Corporation Ltd (NSIC). Ms. Alka Arora is serving as a Joint Secretary in Ministry of MSME. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Alka Nangia Arora assumed the additional charge as the CMD of NSIC
- HQs of NSIC New Delhi | CMD Alka Nangia Arora | Founded in 1955
- **47.** On September 18, The Haryana government has appointed 'Femina Miss Grand India-2021' Manika Sheokand as the 'Goodwill Ambassador' of water conservation campaign. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Manika Sheokand appointed as 'Goodwill Ambassador' of water conservation campaign of Haryana
- Haryana: Capital Chandigarh | CM Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor Bandaru Dattatraya
- **48.** On September 20, The World Health Organization (WHO) has announced the appointment of Gordon Brown, former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, as its ambassador for Global Health Financing. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Gordon Brown (Former PM of UK) appointed as Ambassador for Global Health Financing of the WHO
- HQs of WHO Geneva, Switzerland | DG Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries 194 | Founded in 1948
- **49.** On September 22, Amit Saxena, Global Deputy Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of State Bank of India, has joined Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) as its new CTO. Saxena will be based in Bangalore and will report to Rajesh Bansal CEO of Reserve Bank Innovation Hub. {Read more}

- Amit Saxena appointed as new Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of 'Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH)'
- CEO of RBIH Rajesh Bansal | CTO of RBIH Amit Saxena
- HQs of RBI Mumbai | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935



**50.** On September 22, Bulgarian President Rumen Radev has reappointed Stefan Yanev as the Caretaker PM of Bulgaria to lead an interim government until the country holds its third set of parliamentary elections this year on November 14, 2021. Rumen Radev also appointed Valery Beltchev as interim finance minister of Bulgaria. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Stefan Yanev appointed as Caretaker PM of Bulgaria
- Bulgaria Sofia Lev | President Rumen Radev | Caretaker PM Stefan Yanev
- **51.** On September 22, Howzat Fantasy Sports Platform, a leading fantasy sports platform of Junglee Games, has appointed former Indian international cricketer Suresh Raina as a Brand Ambassador to promote its brand among sports lovers across India. Suresh Raina is the first Indian batsman to make a century in all three formats of international cricket and the first-ever player to score 5,000 runs in the IPL. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Suresh Raina appointed as Brand Ambassador of Howzat Fantasy Sports Platform (a product of Junglee Games)
- **52.** On September 22, The Government of India has extended the term of Uday Kotak (MD & CEO of Kotak Mahindra Bank) as the Non-Executive Chairman of Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services Ltd (IL&FS) for 6 months till April 2, 2022. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Uday Kotak tenure extended as the Non-Executive Chairman of IL&FS Ltd for 6 months (till April 2, 2022)
- HQs of IL&FS Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Uday Kotak | MD C. S. Rajan
- **53.** On September 22, The government has appointed Vice Chief of the Air Staff Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari as the next Chief of the Air Staff (CAS) or Indian Air Force (IAF). The current CAS, Air Chief Marshal R. K. S. Bhadauria, is set to retire on September 30. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Vivek Ram Chaudhari appointed as the next Chief of IAF (succeeding R. K. S. Bhadauria)
- HQs of IAF New Delhi | Chief Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari | Vice Chief Air Marshal Sandeep Singh
- **54.** On September 22, Justin Trudeau has won 3<sup>rd</sup> term as the Prime Minister of Canada. He has been the leader of Liberal party since 2013 and in power since 2015. {Read more}

- Justin Trudeau (Liberal party) won 3<sup>rd</sup> term as the PM of Canada (in power since 2015)
- Canada Ottawa Canadian Dollar | PM Justin Trudeau



**55.** On September 23, Punjab Chief minister Charanjit Singh Channi has approved the appointment of Anirudh Tiwari as the Chief Secretary of the state. A 1990-batch IAS officer, Anirudh Tiwari replaced Vini Mahajan. Varun Roojam has been appointed Special Principal Secretary to Deputy Chief Minister Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Anirudh Tiwari appointed as the Chief Secretary of Punjab
- Punjab: Capital Chandigarh | CM Charanjit Singh Channi | Governor Banwarilal Purohit
- **56.** On September 20, Facebook India has appointed ex-IAS officer and former Uber executive Rajiv Aggarwal as the Director of Public Policy. He succeeds Ankhi Das. He succeeds Ankhi Das. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Rajiv Aggarwal appointed by Facebook India as the Director of Public Policy (succeeding Ankhi Das)
- HQs of Facebook California, United States | CEO Mark Zuckerberg | Founded in 2004
- **57.** In September 2021, EY in India announced the appointment of NS Vishwanathan (Former deputy governor of the RBI) and Nandkumar Saravade (Former founding CEO of Reserve Bank Information Technology ReBIT) as Advisors in the Financial Services practice. Mr. Vishwanathan will help strengthen EY's regulatory counsel while Mr. Saravade will solidify the firm's Forensics and Cyber Security practice. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

• N. S. Vishwanathan & Nandkumar Saravade – appointed as Advisors of EY India in the Financial Services practice

**58.** In September 2021, Raninder Singh was re-elected as the President of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI). Kanwar Sultan Singh was elected unopposed as the Secretary-General. {Read more} **Key Points:** 

- Raninder Singh re-elected as the President of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI)
- HQs of NRAI New Delhi | President Raninder Singh | Secretary General Kanwar Sultan Singh
- **59.** On September 20, The International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) General Conference, which began in Vienna, elected Kuwait's Ambassador, Sadiq M. Marafi, as President of the 65<sup>th</sup> regular session of the Conference. Ambassador Marafi is Kuwait's Ambassador to Austria and Permanent Representative to the international organizations in Vienna, including the IAEA, since September 2013. India's Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) Girish Chandra Murmu was elected as the External Auditor of the IAEA at the General Conference for 6 years (2022-2027). {Read more}

- 65<sup>th</sup> IAEA's General Conference held in Vienna, Austria
- Sadiq M. Marafi (Kuwait) elected as the President of the 65<sup>th</sup> regular session of IAEA's General Conference
- G. C. Murmu (CAG) elected as the External Auditor of the IAEA for 6 years (2022-2027)
- HQs of IAEA Vienna, Austria | Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi | Founded in 1957



**60.** On September 21, Mastercard has named Magnus Carlsen, the highest-rated chess player of all time, as a Mastercard Global Brand Ambassador. Mastercard has joined Meltwater Champions Chess Tour as an official partner. Together with Carlsen and the Tour, Mastercard is curating a wide range of Priceless experiences and exclusive cardholder benefits, via Priceless.com. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Magnus Carlsen (Norway Chess) appointed as a Mastercard Global Brand Ambassador
- Mastercard joined Meltwater Champions Chess Tour as an Official Partner
- HQs of Mastercard New York, US | CEO Michael Miebach | Founded in 1966
- **61.** On September 22, In a major top-level bureaucratic reshuffle, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has appointed 13 new Secretaries in Union government. The government is selling its entire 100% stake in Air India. As a result, Air India's MD & Chairman Rajiv Bansal appointed as Secretary of Ministry of Civil Aviation. Other important appointments are as given below. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

• Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has appointed 13 new Secretaries in Union government:

Officials	Appointed as
Rajiv Bansal	Secretary in Ministry of Civil Aviation
Devendra Kumar Singh	Secretary in Ministry of Cooperation
Sunil Barthwal	Secretary in Ministry of Labour & Employment
Govind Mohan	Secretary in Ministry of Culture
Rajesh Aggarwal	Secretary in Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship
Lok Ranjan	Secretary in Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region
K. Rajaraman	Secretary in Department of Telecommunications
K. Sanjay Murthy	Secretary in Department of Higher Education
Pradip Kumar Tripathi	Secretary in Department of Personnel & Training
Anuraj Jain	Secretary in Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade
Sujata Chaturvedi	Secretary in Department of Sports

**62.** In September 2021, Yogeshwar Sangwan (IFS: 1994), presently Joint Secretary in the Ministry, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Paraguay. {Read more}

### **Key Points:**

- Yogeshwar Sangwan appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Paraguay
- Paraguay Asuncion Guarani | President Mario Abdo Benitez
- **63.** On September 27, Lt. Gen. Gurbirpal Singh took over as the new Director General of the National Cadet Corps (NCC). Lt Gen Singh was commissioned into The Parachute Regiment in 1987. He replaced Lt. Gen. Tarun Kumar Aich. {Read more}

- Lt. Gen. Gurbirpal Singh took over as new Director General of the NCC (replacing Lt. Gen. Tarun Kumar Aich)
- HQs of NCC New Delhi | DG Lt. Gen. Gurbirpal Singh | Founded on 16 April, 1948 | Motto 'Unity & Discipline'



**64.** On September 24, The chief marketing officer of United Breweries, Debabrata Mukherjee, was unanimously elected as Chairman of the Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC) for 2021-2022. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Debabrata Mukherjee elected as Chairman of the Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC) for 2021-2022
- HQs of ABC Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Debabrata Mukherjee | Founded in 1948

**65.** On September 27, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced GST Council's decision to set up 2 Group of Ministers (GoM) to shore up revenues. Karnataka CM Basavaraj Bommaias is appointed as the head of one GoM to review the current Tax Slabs. While Maharashtra Deputy CM Ajit Pawar has been made the head of another GoM on GST System Reforms, which will look at tapping IT tools to minimize Tax Evasion. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- GST Council appointed Basavaraj Bommaias as the head of a GoM to review the current Tax Slabs
- GST Council appointed Ajit Pawar as the head of another GoM on GST System Reforms to minimize Tax Evasion

**66.** On September 27, A three-time BJP MLA and a two-time Congress MLA, Nimaben Acharya was unanimously elected as the first woman Speaker of the Gujarat Assembly. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Nimaben Acharya unanimously elected as the first woman Speaker of the Gujarat Assembly
- Gujarat: Capital Gandhinagar | CM Bhupendra Patel | Governor Acharya Devvrat

**67.** On September 30, The National Basketball Association (NBA) has named Bollywood star Ranveer Singh as the NBA Brand Ambassador for India. He will work with the NBA to help grow the league's profile in India throughout its 75th anniversary season in 2021-22. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Ranveer Singh appointed as Brand Ambassador by National Basketball Association (NBA) for India
- HQs of NBA New York, US | CEO Adam Silver

**68.** In September 2021, Aveek Sarkar, the Editor Emeritus and Vice Chairman of the Ananda Bazar Group of Publications, was re-elected as the Chairman of Press Trust of India (PTI) for a two-year-term. K. N. Shanth Kumar was elected as the Vice-Chairman. Sarkar was the founding Managing Director of Penguin India. {Read more}

- Aveek Sarkar re-elected as the Chairman of Press Trust of India (PTI) for 2 years
- K. N. Shanth Kumar elected as the Vice-Chairman of PTI
- HQs of PTI New Delhi | Chairman Aveek Sarkar | VC K. N. Shanth Kumar



**69.** On September 30, The National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) has appointed Padmaja Chunduru as its new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer. She will succeed GV Nageswara Rao. Chunduru was earlier the MD and CEO of Indian Bank. NSDL is promoted by the NSE. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Padmaja Chunduru appointed as MD & CEO of NSDL (succeeding GV Nageswara Rao)
- HQs of NSDL Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO Padmaja Chunduru

**70.** On September 28, Piramal Pharma Limited's consumer products division has appointed Kareena Kapoor as brand ambassador for its brand Little's - Baby Wipes and Little's Comfy Baby Pants. {Read more} **Key Points:** 

• Kareena Kapoor – appointed as brand ambassador for an Indian baby brand "Little's"





# **Amount & Agreements**

**1.** On September 3, Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) has extended \$40 million (around Rs 292 Cr) worth of line of credit (LOC) to the Maldives government to provide finance for the development of sports infrastructure. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Exim Bank extended \$40 million (Rs 292 Cr) line of credit to Maldives to develop Sports Infrastructure
- Maldives Male Maldivian rufiyaa | President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih
- 2. On September 3, India and Nepal have signed MoUs for the reconstruction of 14 cultural heritage and 103 health sector projects damaged by the devastating 2015 earthquake in Nepal. These projects will be reconstructed at a cost of NRs 420 Cr (\$36 million). Under the post-earthquake reconstruction package, India has allocated a total grant of \$250 million, including \$50 million each for education, cultural heritage and health sector, and \$100 million for the housing sector. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- India + Nepal = MoUs for the reconstruction of 14 cultural heritage & 103 health sector projects
- The projects will be reconstructed at a cost of NRs 420 Cr (\$36 million)
- India has allocated a total grant of \$250 million to Nepal under the post-earthquake reconstruction package
- Nepal Kathmandu Nepalese Rupee | President Bidhya Devi Bhandari | PM Sher Bahadur Deuba
- **3.** On September 6, Asian Development Bank has approved a \$150 million (about Rs 1,095 Cr) loan for a Sustainable Housing Project for the urban poor in Tamil Nadu. The loan will provide access to inclusive, resilient, and sustainable housing for the urban poor in Tamil Nadu. In addition, ADB will provide a \$1.5 million (about Rs 10.95 Cr) technical assistance (TA) grant from its Technical Assistance Special Fund to support the capacity building of government agencies. {Read more}

- ADB approved a \$150 million (Rs 1,095 Cr) loan for a Sustainable Housing Project for the urban poor in Tamil Nadu
- ADB to also provide a \$1.5 million technical assistance (TA) grant from its 'Technical Assistance Special Fund'
- HQs of ADB Mandaluyong, Philippines | President Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries 68
- Tamil Nadu: Capital Chennai | CM Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor Ravindra Narayan Ravi
- **4.** On September 11, Tamil Nadu government has signed an MoU with DP World for proposed investment of ₹2,000 Cr to establish a slew of projects in Tamil Nadu. The MoU was signed in the presence of Chief Minister M. K. Stalin and officials of DP World. The company plans the establishment of a container terminal, a minor port, a cold storage facility, a free trade zone, and data centres. {Read more}



- Tamil Nadu + DP World = an MoU for investment of ₹2,000 Cr to establish a slew of projects in Tamil Nadu
- Tamil Nadu: Capital Chennai | CM Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor Ravindra Narayan Ravi
- HQs of DP World Dubai, UAE | CEO Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem
- **5.** On September 15, The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has agreed to set up an innovation fund in partnership with the Assam government to promote start-ups. SIDBI handed over a commitment letter of Rs 350 Cr to the Assam government under Cluster Development Fund. Efforts would be taken to create clusters to promote "One District-One-Product" initiative. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- SIDBI + Assam = to set up an 'Innovation Fund' to promote start-ups
- SIDBI handed over a commitment letter of Rs 350 Cr to Assam government under 'Cluster Development Fund'
- HQs of SIDBI Lucknow, UP | MD & Chairman Sivasubramanian Ramann | Established in 1990
- Assam: Capital Dispur | CM Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor Jagdish Mukhi
- **6.** On September 24, India and UAE have officially launched "India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)" negotiations and a deal for the same can be signed in March 2022 subject to the completion of legal procedures and ratification by both parties. UAE is currently India's third largest trading partner. While, India is UAE's second largest trading partner. UAE is the 9<sup>th</sup> largest investor in India with over \$18 billion in committed funds. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- India + UAE = officially launched "India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)" negotiations
- UAE India's third largest trading partner | India UAE's second largest trading partner
- UAE Abu Dhabi Dirham | President Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan
- 7. On September 24, EXIM Bank of India has concluded agreements with Fahi Dhiriulhun Corporation Limited (FDC) of Maldives to extend Buyers Credit of around \$228 million for the construction of 4000 Social Housing Units in Hulhumale' Phase II. The construction will be undertaken by National Buildings Construction Company (NBCC) and JMC Projects (India) Ltd. {Read more}

- EXIM Bank (India) + Fahi Dhiriulhun Corp (Maldives) = a pact of \$228 million for 4000 Social Housing Units in Hulhumale
- Maldives Male Maldivian rufiyaa | President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih
- HQs of EXIM Bank Mumbai, MH | MD Harsha Bangari | Founded in 1982



**8.** On September 28, The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \$251 million loan for Urban Flood Protection and Management in the Chennai-Kosasthalaiyar river basin in India. The project will establish climate-resilient urban flood protection infrastructure. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- ADB approved a \$251 million loan for Urban Flood Protection & Management in the Chennai-Kosasthalaiyar river basin
- HQs of ADB Mandaluyong, Philippines | President Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries 68
- **9.** On September 24, Ministry of Chemical and Fertilizers notified the "Promotion of Medical Device Parks" scheme for promotion of Medical Device Parks. Total financial outlay of the scheme is Rs 400 Cr and the tenure of the scheme is from FY 2020-2021 to FY 2024-2025. The financial assistance to a selected Medical Device Park would be 70% of the project cost of common infrastructure facilities. Maximum assistance under the scheme for one Medical Device Park would be limited to Rs 100 Cr. 16 States and Union Territories were received under the scheme. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Ministry of Chemical & Fertilizers notified the "Promotion of Medical Device Parks" scheme
- Outlay of the scheme Rs 400 Cr | Tenure of the scheme FY21 to FY25 (5 years)
- Maximum assistance under the scheme for one Medical Device Park Rs 100 Cr
- **10.** On September 30, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has approved a \$356.67 million loan for the expansion of the Chennai metro rail system. With this loan, the bank has so far approved 28 projects in India amounting a total of \$6.7 billion, making India its largest beneficiary. China is the largest shareholder of the bank with 26.06% voting rights, followed by India (7.5) and Russia (5.93%). {Read more}

- AIIB approved a \$356.67 million loan for the expansion of the Chennai metro rail system
- The largest beneficiary of AIIB India (\$6.7 billion loan)
- The largest shareholder of AIIB China (26.06%) | 2<sup>nd</sup> India, 3<sup>rd</sup> Russia
- HQs of AIIB Beijing, China | President Jin Liqun | Established in 2016 | Members 104



# Ranks, Reports & Surveys

1. On September 2, A disaster related to a weather, climate or water hazard occurred every day has increased by a factor of five over the 50-year period - killing 115 people and causing US\$ 202 million in losses daily, according to a new report from the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) titled "Atlas of Mortality and Economic Losses from Weather, Climate and Water Extremes (1970 – 2019)". As per the report, there were more than 11,000 reported disasters attributed to these hazards globally, with just over 2 million deaths and US\$ 3.64 trillion in losses. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "Atlas of Mortality & Economic Losses from Weather, Climate and Water Extremes (1970 2019)" report by WMO
- Disaster related to a weather, climate or water hazard increased by a factor of five over the 50-year period
- HQs of WMO Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary-General Petteri Taalas | Established in 1950
- 2. The RBI has released a quarterly "House Price Index (HPI)" based on transaction-level data received from housing registration authorities in ten major cities. All-India HPI recorded 2.0% annual growth (y-o-y) in Q1:2021-22 as compared with 2.7% growth in the previous quarter and 2.8% a year ago. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- "House Price Index (HPI)" released by the RBI
- "All-India HPI" recorded 2% annual growth (y-o-y) in Q1 of FY22 (compared to 2.8% in Q1 of FY21)
- **3.** Rabobank has published its annual "Global Dairy Top 20 Report 2021". In terms of market capital, Lactalis has topped the list while India's AMUL has dropped two places to rank at 18<sup>th</sup> position. India is the World's largest Milk producing country. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "Global Dairy Top 20 Report 2021" published by Rabobank
- AMUL's rank 18<sup>th</sup> | Top Lactalis (Laval, France)
- HQs of AMUL Anand, Gujarat | MD Rupinder Singh Sodhi
- **4.** The world has officially eradicated toxic leaded Petrol, according to the United Nations Programme on Environment (UNEP). Algeria was the last country to eradicate leaded petrol. {Read more}

- UNEP: The world has officially eradicated toxic leaded Petrol
- Algeria the last country to eradicate leaded petrol
- HQs of UNEP Nairobi, Kenya | Executive Director Inger Andersen | Founded in 1972



**5.** On September 3, The Hurun Research Institute has released the "Hurun India Future Unicorn List 2021", a ranking of India's start-ups founded in the 2000s, worth at least \$200mn, not yet listed on a public exchange and most likely to 'go unicorn' within 2 years (Gazelles) or 4 years (Cheetahs). As per the report, India is the third largest Unicorn ecosystem in the world after US and China. Number of Unicorns in USA and China is at 396 and 277 respectively while India follows at number three with 51 unicorns. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- "Hurun India Future Unicorn List 2021" released by Hurun Research Institute
- Largest Unicorn Ecosystem in the world: 1<sup>st</sup> US (396), 2<sup>nd</sup> China (277), 3<sup>rd</sup> India (51)
- **6.** On September 3, The "Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2022" was released. The UK's University of Oxford successfully defended its first position and ranked as the Best University in the world for the 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. It was followed by the USA's California Institute of Technology and Harvard University in the second and third positions, respectively. The Times World University Rankings 2022 include over 1600 universities across 99 countries. IISc Bengaluru ranked at 301-350 position. A total of 89 Indian universities were featured in the World University Rankings 2022 by Times Higher Education. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2022"
- 1<sup>st</sup> University of Oxford(UK) | 2<sup>nd</sup> California Institute of Technology(US) | 3<sup>rd</sup> Harvard University(US)
- University of Oxford ranked as the Best University in the world for the 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive year
- IISc Bengaluru ranked at 301-350 position
- Total 89 Indian Universities were featured in the "Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2022"
- **7.** Over half of the global population lacks any form of social protection, according to a report titled "World Social Protection Report 2020-22" released on September 1 by the International Labour Organization (ILO). In 2020, only 47% of the world population had effective access to at least one social protection benefit. The remaining 53% (up to 4.1 billion people) had no protection at all. Only 26.4% of children worldwide receive a social protection benefit and only 45% of women with newborns get a cash maternity benefit. {Read more}

- "World Social Protection Report 2020-22" released by the ILO
- 47% of the world population had effective access to at least one social protection benefit in 2020
- 26.4% of children worldwide receive a social protection benefit
- 45% of women with newborns get a cash maternity benefit
- HQs of ILO Geneva, Switzerland | DG Guy Ryder | Founded in 1919
- **8.** More than 500 million people in India and more than 80% of the populations of Turkmenistan, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Iran are exposed to medium and high levels of poor air quality due to sand and dust storms, according to a report titled "Sand and Dust Storms Risk Assessment in Asia and the Pacific" released by the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management (APDIM) and United Nations Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). The report identified 'east and northeast Asia', 'south and southwest Asia', 'central Asia' and the 'Pacific' as the four main sand and dust storm corridors of Asia-Pacific. {Read more}



- "Sand and Dust Storms Risk Assessment in Asia and the Pacific" report released by = APDIM + UNESCAP
- Over 500 million people in India are exposed to poor air quality due to sand & dust storms
- HQs of UNESCAP Bangkok, Thailand | Executive Secretary Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana
- **9.** On September 9, IIT Madras has continued to remain the top among institutes in 'Overall' as well as in 'Engineering' category across India for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year followed by IISc Bengaluru and IIT-Bombay according to the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the Ministry of Education's National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF). The institutions have been ranked under 11 different categories. For the first time, the ministry has added the 'Research' category in NIRF. The IISc Bengaluru topped the 'Research' category list followed by IIT Madras, IIT Bombay and IIT Delhi. The IISc Bengaluru also topped the 'University' category followed by JNU, BHU, and Calcutta University. AIIMS Delhi ranked first in the 'Medical Institutes' category. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- $\bullet \ 6^{th} \ edition \ of \ National \ Institutional \ Ranking \ Framework \ (NIRF) released \ by \ Ministry \ of \ Education \ (11 \ categories)$
- 'Overall' & 'Engineering' category: Top IIT Madras (3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year)
- 'Research' & 'University' category: Top IISc, Bengaluru (this category is added for the first time)
- 'Medical Institutes' category: Top AIIMS, Delhi
- 10. On September 10, National Statistical Office (NSO) has released its 77<sup>th</sup> round of survey titled "Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) of Agricultural Households", conducted during the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 on the theme "Land and Livestock Holdings of Households and Situation Assessment of Agricultural Households". As per the survey, the percentage of indebted agricultural households was 50.2%. And average amount of outstanding loan per agricultural household was Rs 74,121. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- 77<sup>th</sup> round of "Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) of Agricultural Households" released by the NSO
- Percentage of indebted agricultural households 50.2%
- Average amount of outstanding loan per agricultural household Rs 74,121
- HQs of NSO New Delhi | Chairperson Bimal Kumar Roy
- **11.** On September 10, In the latest edition of "Quacquarelli Symonds Global MBA Rankings 2022", IIM Ahmedabad has emerged as the best business school from India. The institute has moved up 4 spots and has achieved 46<sup>th</sup> rank this year. IIM Bangalore ranked at 50<sup>th</sup> globally. Stanford Graduate School of Business is the world's best MBA program for the second consecutive year. In the Masters in Management (MIM) rankings, IIM Ahmedabad, Bangalore and Calcutta's two-year flagship programmes were ranked at 31<sup>st</sup>, 35<sup>th</sup> and 51<sup>st</sup> spots. {Read more}

- "Quacquarelli Symonds Global MBA Rankings 2022"
- Globally: Top Stanford Graduate School of Business (California, US)
- In India:  $1^{st}$  IIM Ahmedabad ( $46^{th}$ ) |  $2^{nd}$  IIM Bangalore ( $50^{th}$ ) |  $3^{rd}$  IIM Calcutta  $76^{th}$



**12.** On September 13, Climate change can force some 216 million people in six world regions to migrate within their own countries by 2050, according to a report titled "Groundswell Part 2: Acting on Internal Climate Migration" released by the World Bank. The report also states that immediate action can reduce climate migration by as much as 80%. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- "Groundswell Part 2: Acting on Internal Climate Migration" report released by World Bank
- Climate Change can force 216 million people to migrate within their own countries by 2050
- Immediate action can reduce climate migration by as much as 80%
- HQs of World Bank Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries 189
- President David Malpass | MD & CFO Anshula Kant
- **13.** On September 14, three UN agencies Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), UN Development Programme (UNDP) and UN Environment Programme (UNEP) released a report titled "A multi-billion-dollar Opportunity: Repurposing Agricultural Support to transform Food Systems". Currently, countries pump in \$540 billion a year as support to farmers. This is expected to triple by 2030 to \$1.759 trillion. Most countries support farmers in emission-intensive sectors like sugar and the beef production chain. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "A multi-billion-dollar Opportunity: Repurposing Agricultural Support to transform Food Systems" report
- The report was released by = UNFAO + UNDP + UNEP
- Currently, countries pump in \$540 billion a year as support to farmers (expected to triple by 2030 to \$1.759 trillion)

# The Question Bank

**14.** The World Bank Group has announced to discontinue its "Ease of Doing Business" reports, an annual flagship report that the international financial institution has been publishing since 2002. This comes after "data irregularities" were reported internally in an ethics review of Doing Business 2018 and 2020, in June, 2021. India ranked 63<sup>rd</sup> in the last "2020 Ease of Doing Business" index which was topped by New Zealand. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- "Ease of Doing Business" reports discontinued by World Bank (publishing since 2002)
- Last "2020 Ease of Doing Business" index: India 63<sup>rd</sup> | Top New Zealand
- **15.** On September 16, NITI Aayog has launched a report titled "Reforms in Urban Planning Capacity in India". As per the report, India is home to 11% of the total Global Urban Population. By 2027, India will surpass China as the most populous country in the world. The report suggested that every city must aspire to become a 'Healthy City for All' by 2030. {Read more}

- "Reforms in Urban Planning Capacity in India" report launched by NITI Aayog
- India is home to 11% of the total Global Urban Population
- India to surpass China as the most populous country in the world by 2027



- Report: Every city must aspire to become a 'Healthy City for All' by 2030
- HQs of NITI Aayog New Delhi | CEO Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson Rajiv Kumar

**16.** On September 16, "United in Science 2021" report is a collection of the latest climate science information which is coordinated by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), with input from the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the Global Carbon Project (GCP) etc. The report states that global emissions in the power and industry sectors were already at the same level or higher in January-July 2021 than in the same period in 2019, before the pandemic. While emissions from road transport remained about 5% lower. Fossil CO2 emissions from coal, oil, gas and cement - peaked at 36.64 GtCO2 in 2019, followed by a significant drop of 1.98 GtCO2 (5.6%) in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Moreover, Global mean sea levels rose 20 cm from 1900 to 2018. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "United in Science 2021" report released by the WMO (input from UNEP, WHO, IPCC & GCP)
- Global emissions from Power & Industry Sectors are back to 2019 levels or even higher in 2021
- Global emissions from Road Transport remained about 5% lower
- Fossil CO2 emissions from coal, oil, gas & cement in 2019 36.64 GtCO2
- Global mean sea levels rose 20 cm from 1900 to 2018
- HQs of WMO Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary-General Petteri Taalas | Established in 1950
- 17. On September 20, India is expected to become the world's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest importer by 2050 with a 5.9% share of Global Imports, following China and the United States (US), according to a report titled "Global Trade Outlook" by the UK's Department of International Trade. Currently, India is on the 8<sup>th</sup> spot on the list of largest importing countries with a 2.8% share. India will jump to the 4<sup>th</sup> position by 2030 with a 3.9% share as per the report. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "Global Trade Outlook" report released by Department of International Trade (UK)
- India to become the world's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest importer by 2050 (with 5.9% share) | 1<sup>st</sup> China | 2<sup>nd</sup> US
- India to become the world's 4<sup>th</sup> largest importer by 2030 (with 3.9% share)
- Currently, India's position 8<sup>th</sup> (with 2.8% share)
- **18.** On September 21, India has climbed two spots to 46 in the "Global Innovation Index (GII) 2021" released by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The world's most-innovative economy in 2021 is Switzerland followed by Sweden & the US. {Read more}

- "Global Innovation Index (GII) 2021" released by WIPO | India's position 46<sup>th</sup> (from 48<sup>th</sup> in 2020)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Switzerland, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sweden, 3<sup>rd</sup> US
- HQs of WIPO Geneva, Switzerland | Director General Daren Tang



19. On September 20, Health Minister Mansukh L. Mandaviya has released FSSAI's 3<sup>rd</sup> "State Food Safety Index" for the year 2020-21 to measure the performance of States across 5 parameters of food safety - Human Resources & Institutional Data, Compliance, Food Testing, Training & Capacity Building and Consumer Empowerment. Among the large states, Gujarat was the top ranking state, followed by Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Among the small states, Goa stood first followed by Meghalaya and Manipur. Among UTs, Jammu and Kashmir, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and New Delhi secured top ranks. On the occasion, Mr. Mandaviya flagged off 19 Mobile Food Testing Vans Food Safety on Wheels to supplement the food safety ecosystem across India taking the total number of such mobile testing vans to 109. Mr Mandaviya also launched various innovative initiatives by FSSAI including the "Eat Right Research Awards and Grants" to encourage and recognize high-quality research in the area of food safety and nutrition in India. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Mansukh Mandaviya released FSSAI's 3<sup>rd</sup> "State Food Safety Index" for 2020-21
- Large States: 1<sup>st</sup> Gujarat, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kerala, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tamil Nadu
- Small States: 1<sup>st</sup> Goa, 2<sup>nd</sup> Meghalaya, 3<sup>rd</sup> Manipur
- UTs: 1<sup>st</sup> J & K, 2<sup>nd</sup> Andaman & Nicobar Islands, 3<sup>rd</sup> New Delhi
- Mansukh Mandaviya flagged off 19 Mobile Food Testing Vans Food Safety on Wheels (Total No. of vans 109)
- Mansukh Mandaviya launched "Eat Right Research Awards and Grants"
- HQs of FSSAI New Delhi | Chairperson Rita Teaotia | CEO Shri Arun Singhal
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency Palitana, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar

**20.** On September 21, Dramatic changes are needed in global food systems to address Nutrition Disparity, as per the report titled "Transforming Food Systems for Rural Prosperity" released by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). The report called for investment in rural farms and local small- and medium-size enterprises. Food systems are responsible for 37% of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and are also highly vulnerable to a Changing Climate, according to the report. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- "Transforming Food Systems for Rural Prosperity" report released by IFAD
- Report: Dramatic changes are needed in global food systems to address Nutrition Disparity
- Report: Food systems are responsible for 37% of Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- HQs of IFAD Rome, Italy | Presidents Kanayo F. Nwanze & Gilbert Houngbo

21. In September 2021, UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere program (MAB-ICC) was for the first time held in the African continent at Abuja, Nigeria. 20 new sites in 21 countries across the world were added to the UNESCO's 'Global Network of Biosphere Reserves'. For the first time, Lesotho, Libya and Saudi Arabia joined the list. The latest additions bring the total number of reserves to 727 in 131 countries - a zone covering nearly 5% of the planet. 'Mura-Drava-Danube' has become the first MAB site to be managed by 5 countries - Austria, Croatia, Hungary, Serbia and Slovenia. {Read more}



- "UNESCO's MAB-ICC" held in the African continent at Abuja, Nigeria (for the first time)
- 20 new sites in 21 countries were added to the UNESCO's 'Global Network of Biosphere Reserves' (Total 727)
- 'Mura-Drava-Danube' the first MAB site to be managed by 5 countries
- HQs of UNESCO Paris, France | Director-General Audrey Azoulay | Founded in 1945
- **22.** On September 17, The UN's Food and Agriculture Organization has released a report titled "Tracking progress on food and agriculture-related SDG indicators". The report focuses on 8 of the SDGs, which were adopted at a "UN Summit" in New York in 2015. According to the report, the Covid-19 pandemic might have pushed an additional 83 to 132 million people into chronic hunger in 2020. Around 14% of all food is lost along the supply chain due to Covid-19 disruption. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- "Tracking progress on Food & Agriculture-related SDG indicators" released by UNFAO
- Covid-19 pandemic might have pushed an additional 83 to 132 million people into Chronic Hunger in 2020
- Around 14% of all food is lost due to Covid-19 disruption
- HQs of FAO Rome, Italy | DG QU Dongyu | Formation 16<sup>th</sup> October, 1945
- 23. On September 23, The World Health Organization (WHO) has announced new stringent "Global Air Quality Guidelines (AQGs)" a revision of its 2005 guidelines, to assess the effects of air pollution and its health impact. As per the new guidelines, the upper limit of annual PM 2.5 is 5 microgram per cubic meter. The WHO AQGs set thresholds for 6 key air pollutants particulate matter (PM2.5 and PM10), ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) and carbon monoxide (CO). India last revised its air pollution standards in 2009 and these are already seen as more relaxed than the WHO 2005 guidelines. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- "Global Air Quality Guidelines (AQGs)" released by the WHO (a revision of WHO's 2005 Guidelines)
- Upper limit of annual PM 2.5 5 microgram per cubic meter
- WHO AQGs set thresholds for 6 key air pollutants PM2.5, PM10, O<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub> & CO
- India last revised its air pollution standards in 2009
- HQs of WHO Geneva, Switzerland | DG Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries 194 | Founded in 1948
- **24.** On September 22, Delhi ranked at 36<sup>th</sup> position and Bengaluru ranked at 23<sup>rd</sup> position in the "Global Startup Ecosystem Report 2021" released by Startup Genome. The list is topped by the Silicon Valley in California, US. Mumbai has retained its top position in the 'Top Emerging Ecosystems' ranking for the second year in a row. {Read more}

- "Global Startup Ecosystem Report 2021" released by Startup Genome | Top Silicon Valley (California, US)
- Among Top 50: Delhi 36<sup>th</sup> | Bengaluru 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Mumbai retained its top position in the 'Top Emerging Ecosystems' ranking (2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row)



**25.** On September 22, The report titled "Fed to Fail? The Crisis of Children's Diets in Early Life" was released by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). In an analysis of 91 countries, the report found that half of children aged 6-23 months are not getting adequate food or nutrients they need to thrive and grow well, leading to irreversible developmental harm. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- "Fed to Fail? The Crisis of Children's Diets in Early Life" report released by UNICEF
- Half of children aged 6-23 months are not getting adequate food or nutrients to grow well
- HQs of UNICEF New York, US | Executive Director Henrietta H. Fore | Established in 1946
- **26.** On September 22, The World Meteorological Organization has published a new report titled "Climate Indicators and Sustainable Development: Demonstrating the Interconnections". The aim of the WMO report is to demonstrate the connections between seven climate indicators and the SDGs, which go far beyond 'SDG 13' which is for 'Climate Action'. It also champions the need for greater international collaboration, which is essential for achieving the SDGs, and for limiting global warming to less than 2 °C or even 1.5 °C by the end of this century. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- "Climate Indicators and Sustainable Development: Demonstrating the Interconnections" report released by WMO
- 7 climate indicators impacts all 17 SDGs | 'SDG 13' is for 'Climate Action'
- HQs of WMO Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary-General Petteri Taalas | Established in 1950
- **27.** In September 2021, The 3<sup>rd</sup> Digital Quality of Life Index (DQL) ranks India 59<sup>th</sup> among 110 countries. The DQL study is conducted by the cybersecurity company Surfshark and evaluates countries based on a set of 5 fundamental digital wellbeing pillars. India ranks 33<sup>rd</sup> in e-government, 36<sup>th</sup> in e-security, 47<sup>th</sup> in internet affordability, 67<sup>th</sup> in internet quality and 91<sup>st</sup> in e-infrastructure. India's e-security ranks higher than China's as it has improved by 76% since last year. Denmark ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in DQL for the second year in a row, followed by South Korea & Finland. {Read more}

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Digital Quality of Life Index (DQL) released by Surfshark (Netherlands)
- India 59<sup>th</sup> | 1<sup>st</sup> Denmark, 2<sup>nd</sup> South Korea, 3<sup>rd</sup> Finland
- 'DQL Index' is based on 5 Fundamental Digital Wellbeing Pillars
- India's e-security improved by 76% since 2020
- 28. On September 27, Labour and Employment Minister Bhupender Yadav released the report of Quarterly Employment Survey part (April to June 2021) of the "All-India Quarterly Establishment-based Employment Survey (AQEES)" prepared by the Labour Bureau. Employment in 9 selected sectors was at 3.08 Cr in the April-June quarter of 2021-22, reflecting a growth of 29% compared to 2.37 Cr reported in the Economic Census of 2013-14. These 9 selected sectors are Manufacturing, Construction, Trade, Transport, Education, Health, Accommodation and Restaurant, IT/ BPO and Financial Services. IT/ BPO sector recorded the maximum growth of 152%. {Read more}



- Bhupender Yadav (Ministry of L&E) released "All-India Quarterly Establishment-based Employment Survey (AQEES)"
- The survey is prepared by Labour Bureau
- Employment surveyed in 9 selected sectors in April-June quarter of 2021-22 3.08 Cr (growth of 29%)
- 'IT/ BPO' sector recorded the maximum growth of 152%
- Ministry of Labour & Employment: Bhupender Yadav | Constituency Rajasthan
- MoS in Ministry of Labour & Employment: Rameswar Teli
- **29.** In September 2021, The Indian crypto-tech industry will touch \$241 million by 2030, as per the "Crypto Industry in India" report by the National Association of Software and Services Companies (Nasscom) in association with cryptocurrency platform WazirX. The industry will also be worth \$2.3 billion globally by 2026. The crypto-tech market in India has the potential to create over 800,000 jobs and an economic value-add of \$184 billion by 2030. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- "Crypto Industry in India" report released by Nasscom + WazirX
- Indian crypto-tech industry will touch \$241 million by 2030
- Global crypto-tech industry will touch \$2.3 billion by 2026
- HQs of NASSCOM New Delhi President Debjani Ghosh
- Chairman Rekha M. Menon Vice-Chairman Krishnan Ramanujam
- HQs of WazirX Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Nischal Shetty | Parent company Binance
- **30.** On September 30, Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) Chairman Mukesh Ambani continues to be India's richest man for the 10<sup>th</sup> straight year with a net worth of Rs 7,18,000 Cr, according to the "IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2021". He topped the list with a 9% increase in his total net worth this year. Adami Group chairman Gautam Adami has ranked at the second spot as his net worth grew 261% to Rs 5,05,900 in 2021. Shiv Nadar and family occupied the third position with a 67% increase in wealth to Rs 2,36,600 Cr. Cryrus S. Poonawalla and family retained the 6<sup>th</sup> spot in the list with increase of 74% in their wealth to Rs 1,63,700 Cr, on the back of providing 60 Cr doses (92%) of the Covid-19 vaccines delivered in India. Smita V. Crishna, the 3<sup>rd</sup> generation inheritor of 'Godrej', is India's richest woman with a wealth of ₹33,000 Cr and ranked at 40<sup>th</sup> spot in the overall rich list. While, Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw is the richest self-made Indian woman. And Shashvat Nakrani is the Youngest self-made individual. {Read more}

- 10<sup>th</sup> edition of "IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2021"
- 1<sup>st</sup> Mukesh Ambani (Rs 7,18,000 Cr) | 2<sup>nd</sup> Gautam Adani (Rs 5,05,900) | 3<sup>rd</sup> Shiv Nadar (Rs 2,36,600 Cr)
- Smita V. Crishna India's richest woman with a wealth of ₹33,000 Cr (overall rank 40<sup>th</sup>)
- Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw India's richest self-made Indian woman
- Shashvat Nakrani India's Youngest self-made individual



# **Arts & Cultural Affairs**

**1.** "Bail Pola Festival" or "Bullock Pola Festival" is celebrated by the farmers of Maharashtra & Chhattisgarh to pay importance to the cows and bullocks. This day falls on Kushopatini Amavasya, on the full moon day of the month of Shravana. This year, Bail Pola festival was celebrated on September 6. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- September 6 "Bail Pola Festival" or "Bullock Pola Festival" celebrated by the farmers of Maharashtra & Chhattisgarh
- Maharashtra: CM Uddhav Thackeray | Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- Chhattisgarh: Capital Raipur | CM Bhupesh Baghel | Governor Anusuiya Uikey
- **2.** Union Information & Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur has inaugurated the first "Himalayan Film Festival" in the Union Territory of Ladakh. Thakur has kicked-off the 5-day festival which was held in Leh district from September 24-28. {Read more}

- Anurag Thakur inaugurated the first "Himalayan Film Festival" in Leh, Ladakh
- Ladakh: Capital Leh | Lt. Governor R. K. Mathur
- Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: Anurag Singh Thakur | Constituency Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: L. Murugan
- **3.** Eastern Command of Indian Army has organised a cultural event titled "Bijoya Sanskritik Mahotsav" aimed at showcasing the cultural linkages between India and Bangladesh from 26 to 29 September 2021. Lt Gen Manoj Pande, Army Commander of Eastern Command inaugurated the event at Rabindra Sadan, Kolkata. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- EC of Indian Army organised a cultural event titled "Bijoya Sanskritik Mahotsav" in Kolkata, West Bengal
- HQs of Eastern Command of Indian Army Kolkata, West Bengal | Commander Lt. Gen Manoj Pande
- HQs of Indian Army New Delhi | Chief Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief Chandi Prasad Mohanty



# **Acquisitions & Mergers**

1. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the acquisition of additional shareholding in TVS Supply Chain Solutions Pvt Ltd by TS Rajam Rubbers Pvt Ltd and Dhinrama Mobility Solution Pvt Ltd. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- CCI approved the acquisition of TVS Supply Chain Solutions by TS Rajam Rubbers & Dhinrama Mobility Solution
- HQs of CCI New Delhi | Chairman Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in 2003
- HQs of TVS Supply Chain Solutions Chorley, UK | MD R. Dinesh
- **2.** On September 3, HDFC Life Insurance has decided to acquire 100% stake in Exide Life Insurance for total cash consideration of Rs 6,687 Cr. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- HDFC Life Insurance to acquire 100% stake in Exide Life Insurance for Rs 6,687 Cr
- HQs of HDFC Life Mumbai, MH | CEO Vibha Padalkar
- HQs of Exide Life Insurance Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO Kshitij Jain
- 3. On September 3, Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India has picked up 3.9% equity shares of Bank of India through Open Market Acquisition. LIC's stake in Bank of India has now increased to 7.05%. {Read more} Key Points:
- LIC picked up 3.9% equity shares in Bank of India through Open Market Acquisition
- HQs of LIC Mumbai | Chairman M. R. Kumar | Founded in 1956 | Tagline "Yogakshemam Vahamyaham"
- HQs of Bol Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Shri Atanu Kumar Das | Tagline "Relationship Beyond Banking"
- **4.** On September 5, India's largest private sector general insurer ICICI Lombard has received the final inprinciple approval from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) for the acquisition of Bharti Axa General Insurance. {Read more}

- ICICI Lombard received the final approval from the IRDAI to acquire "Bharti Axa General Insurance"
- HQs of ICICI Lombard Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO Bhargav Das Gupta
- HQs of Bharti AXA Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Sanjeev Srinivasan



**5.** On September 4, Reliance Strategic Business Ventures (RSBVL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Reliance Industries (RIL), has acquired a 57.06% stake in Strand Life Sciences for Rs 393 Cr in cash. The company would also make a further investment of up to Rs 160 Cr by March 2023. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Reliance Strategic Business Ventures acquired a 57.06% stake in "Strand Life Sciences" for Rs 393 Cr
- HQs of RSBVL Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- HQs of Strand Life Sciences Bangalore, Karnataka | Founder & CEO Ramesh Hariharan
- **6.** L&T has concluded the divestment of its 100% stake in the 99 MW Hydroelectric Power Plant at Singoli-Bhatwari in Uttarakhand. As per the terms, the EPC Projects, Hi-Tech Manufacturing and Services conglomerate received a consideration of 1,001.50 Cr as divestment proceeds from Renew Power on 30 August 2021. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- L&T concluded the divestment of its 100% stake in 99 MW Hydroelectric Power Plant at Singoli-Bhatwari, Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital Dehradun & Gairsain | CM Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor Baby Rani Maurya
- HQs L&T Mumbai, MH | CEO S. N. Subrahmanyan
- **7.** On September 7, First Policy Insurance Brokers has announced the merger of Amicus Insurance Brokers with itself, which helps consolidate its position in the market and become one of the leading insurance brokers in the country. An in-principle approval for this transaction was granted by the IRDAI. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- First Policy Insurance Brokers + Amicus Insurance Brokers merger to consolidate its position in the market
- HQs of First Policy Insurance Brokers Pune, Maharashtra
- HQs of Amicus Insurance Brokers Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **8.** On September 5, Edtech company Byju's has acquired online exam preparation platform Gradeup which was founded in 2015. Gradeup will be rebranded as "Byju's Exam Prep" after the acquisition. Earlier in 2021, Byju's expanded in overseas markets through its 'Future School' offering, entering the US, UK, Brazil, Indonesia and Mexico. {Read more}

- Byju's acquired an online exam preparation platform "Gradeup" (rebranded as "Byju's Exam Prep")
- HQs of Byju's Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO Byju Raveendran | Founded in 2011
- **9.** On September 9, The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved acquisition of 100% equity share capital of Inflow Technologies Pvt Ltd by Savex Technologies Pvt Ltd. Moreover, the CCI has given its nod for Nextbillion Technology Private Ltd that owns online platform Groww, to acquire 100% shareholding in Indiabulls Asset Management Company Ltd (IAMCL) and Indiabulls Trustee Company Ltd (ITCL). Meanwhile, the CCI has also approved GAIL (India) Ltd' acquisition of bankrupt Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services' (IL&FS) 26% stake in ONGC Tripura Power Company Ltd. {Read more}



- The CCI has approved the acquisition of:
- 100% stake of Inflow Technologies Pvt Ltd by Savex Technologies Pvt Ltd
- IL&FS's 26% stake in ONGC Tripura Power Company Ltd by GAIL (India) Ltd
- 100% stake in Indiabulls AMC & Indiabulls Trustee Company by Nextbillion Technology Pvt Ltd
- HQs of CCI New Delhi | Chairman Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in 2003
- **10.** On September 15, Punjab National Bank has sold its entire 23% stake in its Canara HSBC OBC Life Insurance (CHOICE). PNB had become a promoter shareholder after the amalgamation with Oriental Bank of Commerce and United Bank of India from April 1, 2020. The plan to exit CHOICE is in keeping with the insurance regulator IRDAI's norm that a commercial bank should not hold more than 10% stake in two life insurance ventures at the same time. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- PNB sold its entire 23% stake in its Canara HSBC OBC Life Insurance
- IRDAI's norm: A commercial bank should not hold more than 10% stake in two life insurance ventures at the same time
- HQs of PNB New Delhi | MD & CEO S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao | Tagline "The Name You Can Bank Upon"
- HQs of IRDAI Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman Subhash Chandra Khuntia | Executive Dr. Suresh Mathur
- 11. On September 22, The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the proposed acquisition of Andhra Pradesh government's 10.4% stake in Gangavaram Port Limited (GPL) by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zones Limited (APSEZ) under 'Section 31(1)' of the 'Competition Act, 2002'. The CCI has previously approved APSEZ's acquisition of 89.6 per cent stake in Gangavaram Port from the DVR family and Windy Lakeside Investment Limited. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- CCI approved acquisition of Andhra Pradesh government's 10.4% stake in Gangavaram Port by APSEZ
- Gangavaram Port located in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- HQs of CCI New Delhi | Chairman Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in 2003
- HQs of APSEZ Ahmedabad, Gujarat | CEO Karan Adani
- **12.** On September 21, US-based private equity fund CA Rover Holdings, a part of Carlyle Group and an affiliate of Carlyle Asia Partners, has sold a 3.4% stake (3.2 Cr shares) in SBI Cards for \$443 million (₹3,267 Cr). In 2017, Carlyle Group had acquired total 26% stake in SBI Cards from GE group for ₹2,000 Cr. {Read more}

- CA Rover Holdings sold 3.4% stake (3.2 Cr shares) in SBI Cards for \$443 million (₹3,267 Cr)
- CA Rover Holdings (US) a part of Carlyle Group & an affiliate of Carlyle Asia Partners
- HQs of Carlyle Group Washington, D.C., US | Co-CEOs Kewsong Lee, Glenn Youngkin
- HQs of SBI Cards & Payment Services Ltd Gurgaon, Haryana | MD & CEO Rama Mohan Rao Amara



**13.** On September 23, Sony Pictures Networks India (SPNI) and Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd (ZEEL) will merge their operations to create an entity with over \$2 billion in annual revenues, 75 channels across different genres, and a 26% viewership share. Under the terms of the merger agreement, ZEEL will own 47.07% stake and 52.93% will be held by SPNI. {Read more}

- Sony Pictures Networks India + Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd = are being merged
- They will create: Annual Revenue of \$2 billion, 75 channels & 26% viewership share
- HQs of SPNI Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO N. P. Singh
- HQs of ZEEL Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Punit Goenka





# MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

**1.** A. V. Zhirmunsky National Scientific Center of Marine Biology, Russian Academy of Sciences (NSCMB RAS), Russia and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research - National Institute of Oceanography (CSIR-NIO), Goa have signed an MoU in the field of Marine Biology, Marine Ecology & Blue Economy. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- CSIR-NIO (Goa) + NSCMB RAS (Russia) = an MoU in the field of Marine Biology, Marine Ecology & Blue Economy
- HQs of CSIR New Delhi | President Narendra Modi | Director General Shekhar C. Mande
- Russia Moscow Russian Ruble | PM Mikhail Mishustin | President Vladimir Putin
- 2. On September 1, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has signed an MoU with South Asian Institute for Advanced Research and Development (SAIARD) for capacity building on Integrated River Basin Management with a focus on Geospatial Technology in Riverine Ecosystem. An MoU was also signed between National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) and SAIARD to develop river sensitive master plans and urban river management plans . {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- NMCG (New Delhi) + SAIARD = an MoU for capacity building on Integrated River Basin Management
- NIUA (New Delhi) + SAIARD = an MoU to develop river sensitive master plans & urban river management plans
- **3.** On September 1, As part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahostav, Department of Animal husbandry & Dairying (DAHD) & Department of Rural Development (DoRD) have signed an MoU for rural economic growth. As per the MoU, it has also decided to use the services of the members of the SHGs as livestock resource persons and primary service provider through a new accredited model named "A-HELP" (Accredited Agent for Health and Extension of Livestock Production). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Dept. of Animal husbandry & Dairying + Dept. of Rural Development = an MoU for rural economic growth
- A new accredited model named "A-HELP" is introduced
- "A-HELP" Accredited Agent for Health and Extension of Livestock Production
- **4.** On September 2, NASSCOM Centre of Excellence for Internet of Things (CoE-IoT) has signed an intent of cooperation with Taiwan-India Artificial Intelligence Technology Innovation Research Centre. The collaboration will help Indian tech startups to source hardware components from Taiwan during their prototyping or production phases. {Read more}

- NASSCOM CoE-IoT + Taiwan-India AI Technology Innovation Research Centre = an MoU to support Indian tech startups
- HQs of NASSCOM New Delhi | President Debjani Ghosh
- Chairman Rekha M. Menon | Vice-Chairman Krishnan Ramanujam
- Taiwan Taipei New Taiwan dollar | President Tsai Ing-wen



- **5.** On September 4, The Ladakh administration and the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) have signed an MoU for upgradation and improvement of road network in the Union Territory. UT administration also assigned 7 projects to the BRO considering their expertise in hilly areas to construct tunnels and roads. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- Ladakh + BRO = an MoU for upgradation and improvement of road network in the UT
- Ladakh: Capital Leh | Lt. Governor R. K. Mathur
- HQs of BRO New Delhi | Director General Major Gen Rajeev Chaudhary | Founded on May 7, 1960
- **6.** On September 3, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has signed an MoU with ICAR-Indian Institute of Millet Research (IIMR) for increasing exports through quality production and processing. The objective of the MoU is to build the export-centric ecosystem. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- APEDA + ICAR-IIMR = an MoU to increase exports through quality production & processing
- HQs of APEDA New Delhi | Chairman M. Angamuthu | Established in 1986
- HQs of ICAR-IIMR Hyderabad, Telangana
- 7. On September 3, The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology's (MeitY) National e-Governance Division (NeGD) has signed an MoU with National Law University, Delhi and National Law Institute University, Bhopal to establish a Cyber Lab for the Online Capacity Building Programme on Cyber Law, Crime Investigation, and Digital Forensics. {Read more}

- NeGD (Delhi) + NLU (Delhi) + NLIU (Bhopal) = an MoU to establish a "Cyber Lab"
- NeGD functions under MeitY
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar
- **8.** On September 4, Himachal Pradesh Government has signed 27 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) worth Rs 3,307 Cr with various industrial organisations that would provide direct and indirect employment opportunities to around 15,000 people. {Read more}

- Himachal Pradesh signed 27 MoUs worth Rs 3,307 Cr with various industrial organisations
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital Shimla & Dharamshala | CM Jai Ram Thakur | Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar



**9.** On September 5, The Punjab government and the American Chamber of Commerce in India (Amcham India) have signed an MoU to promote investment in the state as well as further increase the ease of doing business for US member companies. The MoU was signed during the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Amcham India. This is the first-of-its-kind MoU that Amcham India signed with any state. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Punjab + Amcham India = an MoU to promote investment in the state
- Punjab: Capital Chandigarh | CM Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor Banwarilal Purohit (addi. charge)
- **10.** On September 6, Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd (IREDA) has entered into a pact with Tamil Nadu Generation & Distribution Corporation Limited (TANGEDCO) for providing technical expertise in developing of renewable energy projects and raising of funds. TANGEDCO is planning to create 25,000 MW of new Energy Capacity in the next 10 years. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- IREDA + TANGEDCO = an MoU to provide Technical Expertise in developing of Renewable Energy projects
- TANGEDCO plans to create 25,000 MW of new Energy Capacity in the next 10 years
- HQs of IREDA New Delhi | CMD Pradip Kumar Das
- Tamil Nadu: Capital Chennai | CM Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor Ravindra Narayan Ravi
- 11. On September 8, Amazon India has signed an MoU with the Industries and Mines Department, Government of Gujarat, to help drive e-commerce exports from the state. As part of the MoU, Amazon will train and onboard MSMEs from the state on Amazon Global Selling, enabling them to sell their unique Made in India products to millions of Amazon customers across over 200 countries and territories. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Amazon + Gujarat = an MoU to boost the state MSMEs' e-commerce exports
- HQs of Amazon Seattle, USA | CEO Andy Jassy | Incorporated in 1994
- HQs of Amazon India Hyderabad, Telangana | Country Head Amit Agarwal
- Gujarat: Capital Gandhinagar | CM Vijay Rupani | Governor Acharya Devvrat
- **12.** On September 7, All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) under Ministry of AYUSH, has signed a MoU with NICM Western Sydney University in Australia, to appoint an Academic Chair in Ayurveda. This Ayurveda Academic Chair will be based at Western Sydney University's NICM Health Research Institute for a period of 3 years. {Read more}

- AllA + NICM Western Sydney University (Australia) to appoint an Academic Chair in Ayurveda for 3 years
- HQs of AlIA New Delhi | Director Tanuja Nesari



**13.** On September 7, Coal India Limited (CIL), under the Ministry of Coal has signed an MoU with Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, for betterment of sports infrastructure in India. Under the MoU, CIL, under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) program will contribute Rs 75 Cr towards the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF). CIL's contribution will be used for construction of 3 large hostels meant for sports persons. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- CIL + Department of Sports = an MoU for betterment of Sports Infrastructure in India
- CIL to contribute Rs 75 Cr towards the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) & will develop 3 Hostels
- HQs of CIL Kolkata, West Bengal | Director Anil Kumar Jha | CMD Pramod Agrawal
- **14.** On September 8, In a major development for the ongoing Naga peace process, the government of India and the Niki Sumi-led "National Socialist Council of Nagaland Khaplang (NSCN-K)" have signed a fresh ceasefire agreement in New Delhi. The NSCN (K) in 2015 unilaterally abrogated its 2001 ceasefire agreement, following which the Union Home Ministry declared the group as a banned outfit and an "unlawful association". {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Indian government + NSCN-K (led by Niki Sumi) = signed a new ceasefire agreement in New Delhi
- NSCN (K) unilaterally abrogated its "2001 ceasefire agreement" with the Centre in 2015
- Nagaland: Capital Kohima | CM Neiphiu Rio | Governor Jagdish Mukhi (addi. charge)
- **15.** On September 8, Fashion and beauty products retailer Shoppers Stop has partnered with Accenture to accelerate its digital transformation across multiple retail channels. Accenture will help the retailer with real-time data and analytics to enhance customer experience. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Shoppers Stop + Accenture = partnership accelerate its digital transformation across multiple retail channels
- HQs of Shoppers Stop Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Venu Nair
- HQs of Accenture Dublin, Ireland | CEO Julie Sweet | MD (in India) Rekha Menon
- **16.** On September 5, Coal India Ltd (CIL), under the Ministry of Coal has signed an MoU with the Department of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of Assam for strengthening the health infrastructure at Silchar Medical College & Hospital in Assam. In this new CSR initiative, CIL will contribute Rs 5 Cr which will benefit over 40 lakh people of the State. {Read more}

- CIL + Assam = an MoU to strengthen the health infrastructure at Silchar Medical College & Hospital in Assam
- CIL will contribute Rs 5 Cr in this new CSR initiative
- HQs of CIL Kolkata, West Bengal | Director Anil Kumar Jha | CMD Pramod Agrawal
- Assam: Capital Dispur | CM Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor Jagdish Mukhi



**17.** On September 10, At a jointly hosted session at "Satellite 2021" in Maryland, US, Hughes Network Systems and OneWeb have signed a distribution agreement for Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite service in US and India. Hughes, through its parent company EchoStar, is an investor in OneWeb. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Hughes Network Systems + OneWeb = an MoU for Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite service in US & India
- HQs of Hughes Network Systems Maryland, US | President & CEO Pradman Kaul
- HQs of OneWeb London, UK | CEO Adrian Steckel | Executive Chairman Sunil Bharti Mittal
- OneWeb co-owned by Bharti Global & the UK
- **18.** On September 9, An arm of Rockfeller Foundation, Smart Power India (SPI) and Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) have partnered with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) to elucidate the role of Decentralised Renewable Energy (DRE) & Energy Efficiency (EE) innovations for the overall development of the nation. This partnership came as part of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- Smart Power India + GIZ + MNRE = to encourage Decentralised Renewable Energy (DRE) & Energy Efficiency innovations
- HQs of Smart Power India Gurugram, Haryana | CEO Jaideep Mukherji
- Ministry of Power and Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh | Constituency Arrah, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Power: Krishan Pal

# **Smartkeeda**

**19.** On September 13, ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel (AMNS) India has signed a pact with National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) to provide critical steel products to MSMEs in the sector. AMNS will utilise its hypermart network for the initiative. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- AMNS India + NSIC = an MoU to provide critical steel products to MSMEs
- HQs of AMNS India Surat, Gujarat | CEO Dilip Oommen
- HQs of NSIC New Delhi | CMD Alka Nangia Arora
- 20. On September 14, The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), HDFC Bank and the Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority (GNIDA) have signed an agreement to set up a facility to manage up to 300 metric tonnes of Dry Waste every month in Noida, Uttar Pradesh. The material recovery facility (MRF) in Greater Noida will come up at a cost of Rs 3 Cr and will be funded by the HDFC bank through its corporate social responsibility (CSR) programme "Parivartan". {Read more}

- UNDP + HDFC Bank + Greater Noida = to set up material recovery facility to manage up to 300 metric tonnes of Dry Waste in Greater Noida, UP
- HQs of UNDP New York, USA | Administrator Achim Steiner | Founded in 1965
- HQs of HDFC Bank Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline "We understand your world"
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel



21. On September 14, The Agriculture Ministry has signed 5 MoUs with CISCO, Ninjacart, Jio Platforms Ltd, ITC Ltd and NCDEX e-Markets Ltd (NeML) to conduct pilot projects for promotion of digital technology in the farm sector. A digital agriculture mission has been initiated for 2021-25 by the government. Reliance's "JioKrishi" platform provides services to create a 'Data-driven Farmer Ecosystem'. It will roll out a primary intervention module in Jalna and Nashik districts of Maharashtra as a pilot project. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Agriculture Ministry signed 5 MoUs to conduct pilot projects for promotion of digital technology in the Farm Sector
- 5 MoUs with: CISCO, Ninjacart, Jio Platforms Ltd, ITC Ltd & NCDEX e-Markets Ltd
- "JioKrishi" platform provides services to create a 'Data-driven Farmer Ecosystem' in Jalna & Nashik, Maharashtra
- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare: Narendra Singh Tomar | Constituency Morena, Madhya
   Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare: Shobha Karandlaje & Kailash Choudhary
- **22.** On September 15, The Union Cabinet has approved an MoU between India and Italy for Cooperation in the field of Disaster Risk Reduction and Management. The MoU was signed in June between India's National Disaster Management Authority and the Department of Civil Protection of the Presidency of the Council Ministers of the Italian Republic. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Cabinet approved an MoU for Cooperation in the field of Disaster Risk Reduction & Management between India & Italy
- Italy Rome Euro | President Sergio Mattarella | PM Mario Draghi
- **23.** On September 15, Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H) under the Ministry of AYUSH, and American Herbal Pharmacopoeia, USA signed an MoU for strengthening the quality of Ayurvedic and other Indian Traditional Medicine products globally. {Read more}

- PCIM&H + American Herbal Pharmacopoeia (US) = an MoU to strengthen the quality of Ayurvedic & other Indian Traditional Medicine products
- Ministry of AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency Majuli, Asssam
- MoS in Ministry of AYUSH: Munjapara Mahendrabhai
- 24. On September 17, NITI Aayog has partnered with BYJU'S to provide students free access to BYJU'S high-quality and tech-driven learning programmes in 112 Aspirational Districts of India. The collaboration comprises two main components "BYJU'S Career-Plus programme" (for 3,000 meritorious students of classes 11 and 12 who aspire to appear for NEET and JEE) & "Voluntary Programme" (for children of school-going age, classes 6-12). Besides, BYJU'S has recently acquired 100% stake in US-based K-12 coding platform Tynker. {Read more}



- NITI Aayog + BYJU'S = to provide free access to BYJU'S 'Premium Learning' resources in 112 Aspirational Districts
- "BYJU'S Career-Plus programme" for students of classes 11 & 12
- "Voluntary Programme" for children of classes 6 to 12
- BYJU'S acquired 100% stake in K-12 coding platform 'Tynker' (US)
- HQs of NITI Aayog New Delhi | CEO Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson Rajiv Kumar
- HQs of BYJU'S Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO Byju Raveendran | Founded in 2011
- 25. On September 18, Punjab Energy Development Agency (PEDA) has signed an MoU with Convergence Energy Services Limited (CESL) for installation of Public Charging Stations for electric vehicles in Punjab. The CESL is a subsidiary of Energy Efficiency Services Ltd. (EESL) a Joint Venture of PSUs under Ministry of Power. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Punjab + CESL = an MoU for installation of Public Charging Stations for Electric Vehicles in Punjab
- Punjab: Capital Chandigarh | CM Charanjit Singh Channi | Governor Banwarilal Purohit
- HQs of CESL Kolkata, West Bengal | Head Mahua Acharya
- **26.** On September 18, The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has partnered with Cordelia Cruises to launch India's first indigenous luxury cruise liner. Cordelia Cruises are being operated by Waterways Leisure Tourism for marketing and promotion of the first indigenous luxury cruise in India. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- IRCTC + Cordelia Cruises = partnership to launch India's first Indigenous Luxury Cruise
- Cordelia Cruises being operated by Waterways Leisure Tourism
- HQs of IRCTC New Delhi | Chairman & MD Mahendra Pratap Mall
- **27.** On September 15, The Department of Food and Public Distribution (DFPD) under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs has signed an MoU with CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd (CSC) to increase the business opportunities and income of fair price shops (FPS). CSC will tie up with the individual State Government for signing up of bilateral MoUs for providing interested FPS dealers access to Digital Seva Portal (DSP) for delivery of CSC services. {Read more}

- Dept. of Food & Public Distribution + CSC = an MoU to increase the business opportunities & income of FPS
- HQs of CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd New Delhi | CEO Dinesh Kumar Tyagi



**28.** On September 15, European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) and Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) have entered into a working arrangement agreement to achieve common safety and environmental protection standards. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- EASA + DGCA = a working arrangement agreement for Common Safety & Environmental Protection Standards
- HQs of EASA Cologne, Germany | Executive Director Patrick Ky
- HQs of DGCA New Delhi | Director General Arun Kumar
- **29.** On September 20, The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED) and e-grocery platform Bigbasket, have signed an MoU for the promotion and sale of natural Van Dhan products. Another such collaboration in this direction has been done with Purti Agrotech of Jharkhand for developing pearl cultivation. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- TRIFED + Bigbasket = an MoU for promotion & sale of natural Van Dhan products
- TRIFED + Purti Agrotech (Jharkhand) = collaboration for developing Pearl Cultivation
- HQs of TRIFED New Delhi | MD Pravir Krishna | Chairman Ramesh Chand Meena | Founded in 1987
- HQs of Bigbasket Bangalore, Karnataka | CEOs Hari Menon & VS Sudhakar
- **30.** On September 22, The Odisha government has signed an MoU with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to support sustainable and inclusive agriculture transformation. There will be joint endeavour to bring sustainable production, food quality improvement, reduce vulnerability to drought, pest and other climate-related risk. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Odisha + Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (US) = an MoU to support Sustainable & inclusive Agri transformation
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal
- **31.** On September 21, The Odisha government has roped in UNICEF and Centre for Policy Research (CPR) for urban-rural convergence on Faecal Sludge and Septage Management (FSSM) and Plastic Waste Management (PWM). A Letter of Understanding (LoU) was signed between the departments of Housing and Urban Development (H&UD) and the Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water (PR&DW) and UNICEF and CPR for sanitation facilities in villages around urban areas of the state. {Read more}

- Odisha + UNICEF + CPR = an LoU for sanitation facilities in villages around urban areas of the state
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal
- HQs of UNICEF New York, US | Executive Director Henrietta H. Fore | Established in 1946
- HQs of CPR New Delhi | President & Chief Executive Yamini Aiyar



**32.** On September 22, TRIFED has entered into an MoU with Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer (FIIT), a unit established by IIT Delhi and M/s Rusicaa Beverages Private Ltd (Jharkhand) to commercialize the production of Mahua Nutra beverage - A Heritage Drink in Jharkhand. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- TRIFED + FIIT (IIT Delhi) + Rusicaa Beverages = an MoU to commercialize the production of Mahua Nutra beverage
- Mahua Nutra beverage a Heritage Drink in Jharkhand
- HQs of TRIFED New Delhi | MD Pravir Krishna | Chairman Ramesh Chand Meena | Founded in 1987
- Jharkhand: Capital Ranchi | CM Hemant Soren | Governor Ramesh Bais
- Director of IIT Delhi V. Ramgopal Rao
- **33.** On September 22, The Telangana government has entered into an agreement with Wingsure, an insurtech venture of SRI International, for Al-driven personalised insurance and advisory services to small and underserved farmers in the state. The Information Technology, Electronics & Communications (ITE&C) Department of the Government of Telangana will guide and facilitate the implementation of the solution. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Telangana + Wingsure = an agreement for Al-driven personalised insurance & advisory services to farmers
- Telangana: Capital Hyderabad | CM K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan
- **34.** On September 22, At the "Tamil Nadu Exports Conclave", Tamil Nadu government has signed 24 MoUs worth ₹2,120 Cr with various industries that would generate employment for 41,695. Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) will set up "Cotton Depots" for the first time in the state. The MSME Trade and Investment Promotion Bureau (MTIPB) has entered in to an MoU with Flipkart to promote e-commerce among MSMEs in the State through a supplier developer program. {Read more}

- Tamil Nadu signed 24 MoUs worth ₹2,120 Cr with various industries at "Tamil Nadu Exports Conclave"
- Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) will set up "Cotton Depots" for the first time in Tamil Nadu
- MTIPB + Flipkart = an MoU to promote e-commerce among MSMEs in Tamil Nadu
- Tamil Nadu: Capital Chennai | CM Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor Ravindra Narayan Ravi
- HQs of Flipkart Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson Binny Bansal | CEO Kalyan Krishnamurthy
- **35.** On September 23, Coal India Ltd's subsidiary Northern Coalfields Ltd (NCL) has partnered with power major NTPC to install a 50 MW Solar Power Project in Singrauli district of Madhya Pradesh. This is the first ground mounted solar project of NCL. Notably, CIL has planned to produce 3,000 MW of solar power by 2023-24 and become a net-zero company. {Read more}



- NCL + NTPC = partnership to install a 50 MW Solar Power Project in Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh
- HQs of NCL Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh | CMD Bhola Singh
- HQs of NTPC New Delhi | CMD Gurdeep Singh | Founded in 1975

**36.** On September 22, The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD), Government of India and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) have signed a multi-year MoU to work together on sustainably improving India's livestock sector to support India's food and nutritional security. The "National One Health" platform will be established as part of this partnership to improve coordination, productivity, and support livelihoods of small-scale producers. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Dept. of Animal Husbandry & Dairying + BMGF a multi-year MoU to support India's livestock sector
- "National One Health" platform will be established as part of this partnership
- **37.** On September 22, The B2B marketplace of Flipkart Group, Flipkart Wholesale has partnered with SME lending platform Davinta Financial Services to offer 'Buy Now Pay Later' (BNPL) credit facility to all its retailers. The Flipkart Group includes Flipkart, Myntra, Flipkart Wholesale, and Cleartrip. Davinta focuses on microenterprises and its flagship product "Vyaapaar Shakti" is a BNPL credit facility designed for small retailers. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Flipkart Wholesale + Davinta = partnership to offer 'Buy Now Pay Later' (BNPL) credit facility to all its retailers
- Davinta's flagship "Vyaapaar Shakti" is a BNPL credit facility designed for small retailers
- HQs of Flipkart Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson Binny Bansal | CEO Kalyan Krishnamurthy
- HQs of Davinta Bangalore, Karnataka | Co-founder & CEO Ravi Garikipati
- **38.** On September 23, The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and Telangana's International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) have signed an MoU on programmes and research to improve food, nutrition security and livelihoods in India against the impacts of climate change. {Read more}

- WFP + ICRISAT (Hyderabad) = an MoU to improve food, nutrition security & livelihoods in India
- HQs of UNWFP Rome, Italy | ED David Muldrow Beasley | Countries 36
- **39.** On September 25, The Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) has signed an MoU with the Natural History Museum (UK) on implementing relevant national and regional laws & regulations concerning biodiversity. They will be working together to collect, study and conserve faunal diversity through international exchange of knowledge. {Read more}



- ZSI + Natural History Museum (UK) = an MoU to conserve faunal diversity through knowledge sharing
- HQs of ZSI Kolkata, West Bengal | Director Dhriti Banerjee | Founded on July 1, 1916
- **40.** On September 25, The MeitY Startup Hub, an initiative of the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) has signed an MoU with Amazon Internet Services Pvt Ltd (AISPL) to promote technology innovation and the sustainable growth of startups in India. AISPL undertakes the resale and marketing of Amazon Web Services (AWS) Cloud services in India. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- MeitY Startup Hub + Amazon Internet Services = an MoU to promote technology innovation & startup growth in India
- HQs of AWS Seattle, Washington, US | CEO Adam N. Selipsky
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar
- **41.** On September 27, As a major boost to India's Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS), Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has signed a lease agreement with Alliance Air Aviation Ltd for the supply of two Civil "Dornier-228" aircrafts for regional operations in Arunachal Pradesh. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- HAL + Alliance Air = a lease agreement for the supply of two Civil "Dornier-228" aircrafts in Arunachal Pradesh
- HQs of HAL Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO Amitabh Bhatt | Chairma & MD R. Madhavan
- HQs of Alliance Air Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Vineet Sood
- **42.** On September 29, Karnataka's Department of Higher Education and Infosys have signed 3 MoUs for prioritizing skill development among students as per National Education Policy (NEP-2020). Karnataka government will utilise 'Infosys Springboard' comprising of over 3,000 Skill development courses for college students. {Read more}

- Karnataka + Infosys = 3 MoUs for prioritizing skill development among students as per 'NEP-2020'
- 'Infosys Springboard' comprises of over 3,000 Skill development courses for college students
- Karnataka: Capital Bangalore | CM Basavaraj Bommai | Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot
- HQs of Infosys Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO Salil Parekh | Founded in 1981
- **43.** On September 28, Newgen Software has partnered with Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) to deploy an enterprise-grade multi-channel, multilingual communication suite for the Banking Service Bureau (BSB) in Israel. {Read more}



- Newgen Software + TCS = partnership for the Banking Service Bureau (BSB) in Israel
- HQs of Newgen Software New Delhi | MD & Chairman Diwakar Nigam
- HQs of TCS Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Rajesh Gopinathan | Founded in 1968
- Israel Jerusalem Israeli Shekel | President Isaac Herzog | PM Naftali Bennett
- **44.** On September 28, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has been selected by German commercial bank NORD/LB as a strategic partner for its IT transformation. NORD/LB targets a new business model by 2024. As part of the 5-year partnership, TCS will work with the bank to simplify and transform its application estate across businesses financial markets, wholesale and retail banking. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- TCS selected by NORD/LB as a strategic partner for its IT transformation for 5 years
- Norddeutsche Landesbank (Germany) targets a new Business model by 2024
- HQs of TCS Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Rajesh Gopinathan | Founded in 1968
- **45.** On September 27, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has signed an agreement with the Department of Post for "Print to Post" solutions for printing and dispatching of the policy booklet issued under a life insurance policy. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- LIC + Department of Post = for "Print to Post" solutions for printing & dispatching of the policy booklet
- HQs of LIC Mumbai | Chairman M. R. Kumar | Founded in 1956 | Tagline "Yogakshemam Vahamyaham"
- **46.** On September 27, Research and Development Centre of National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) and CSIR-Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology (IMMT) have signed an MoU to pursue joint research and development projects and make Indian mineral industry self-reliant. {Read more}

- NMDC + CSIR-IMMT = an MoU to pursue joint R&D projects & make Indian mineral industry self-reliant
- Location of CSIR-IMMT Bhubaneswar, Odisha
- HQs of NMDC Hyderabad, Telangana | CMD Sumit Deb | Founded in 1958
- **47.** On September 28, Tata Technologies Ltd (TTL) has signed an MoU with Manipur government for 3 years to transform technical training and encourage entrepreneurship and innovation in the state. Under the collaboration, a center for invention, innovation, incubation and Training (CIIIT) on industrial experiential learning and development will be established in Manipur. The total investment under this project is estimated at about Rs 200 Cr and the center will be running by Q1 FY23, with the capacity to train 1,500 students every year. {Read more}



- Tata Technologies + Manipur = an MoU to establish a Center for Invention, Innovation, Incubation and Training (CIIIT)
- Total investment Rs 200 Cr | Center will be running by Q1 FY23 | Capacity to train 1,500 students/year
- Manipur: Capital Imphal | CM N. Biren Singh | Governor La. Ganesan
- HQs of Tata Technologies Pune, Maharashtra | Chairman S. Ramadorai | MD & CEO Warren Harris

**48.** On September 30, Microsoft India has partnered with the Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE) to launch "DigiSaksham" - a collaborative digital skills training initiative to empower jobseekers in an increasingly tech driven economy. DigiSaksham is conceptualized and designed by Microsoft India and will be implemented in the field by Aga Khan Rural Support Programme India (AKRSP-I). The program will impact more than 3,00,000 job seekers in the first year. {Read more}

- Microsoft India + Ministry of L&E = partnership to launch "DigiSaksham" to empower jobseekers
- "DigiSaksham" will be implemented in the field by Aga Khan Rural Support Programme India (AKRSP-I)
- HQs of Microsoft Washington, USA | Chairman Satya Nadella | Founded in 1975





# **Books & Authors**

**1.** Angelina Jolie and Amnesty International have joined forces to create a resource for children and young people to learn about their rights, with the publication of a new book titled "Know Your Rights and Claim Them: Guide for Youth" which empowers teenagers to speak out against injustice. It was written in collaboration with Professor Geraldine Van Bueren. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "Know Your Rights and Claim Them: Guide for Youth" book authored by Angelina Jolie
- Co-authors Geraldine Van Bueren + Amnesty International
- **2.** A new book titled "The Murderer, the Monarch and the Fakir" based on previously unseen intelligence reports and police records of Mahatma Gandhi's assassination will be released on October 1 by publisher HarperCollins India. The book is written by investigative journalist Appu Esthose Suresh and Gates Cambridge scholar Priyanka Kotamraju. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- "The Murderer, the Monarch and the Fakir" book authored by Appu Esthose Suresh & Priyanka Kotamraju
- The book is about Mahatma Gandhi's assassination | Publisher HarperCollins India
- 3. On September 2, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar has released the book "Haryana Environment and Pollution Code", compiled by former IAS officer (retired) and famous poet Dheera Khandelwal. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Manohar Lal Khattar released "Haryana Environment and Pollution Code" book compiled by Dheera Khandelwal
- Haryana: Capital Chandigarh | CM Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor Bandaru Dattatraya
- **4.** "A Rude Life: The Memoir" is authored by one of the most recognised journalists in India, Vir Sanghvi. The memoir displays a classic case of Delhi Syndrome. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- "A Rude Life: The Memoir" authored by Vir Sanghvi
- 5. Uday Bhatia's "Bullets Over Bombay: Satya and the Hindi Film Gangster", is a vivid chronicle of the making of Ram Gopal Varma's "Satya" (1998). The book is quite an immersive treatise on Satya because it does not only detail the making of the movie, but also gives a sense of what the real world was like back then. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

• "Bullets Over Bombay: Satya and the Hindi Film Gangster" book – authored by Uday Bhatia



**6.** Lifestyle coach Luke Coutinho and actor Tamannaah Bhatia have authored a new book titled "Back To The Roots", published by Penguin Random House India (PRHI). Luke Coutinho's previously authored books on lifestyle and wellness include "The Great Indian Diet with Shilpa Shetty", "The Magic Weight-Loss Pill with Anushka Shetty" and his most recent digital release "A New Way of Living". {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- "Back To The Roots" book authored by Tamannaah Bhatia & Luke Coutinho
- Publisher Penguin Random House India
- **7.** In September 2021, Nirupama Menon Rao, a former Foreign Secretary of India, has authored a new book titled "The Fractured Himalaya". She brings a practitioner's keen eye to the labyrinth of negotiations and official interactions that took place between the India & China from 1949 to 1962. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "The Fractured Himalaya" book authored by Nirupama Menon Rao
- **8.** On September 7, Union Minister of Culture Shri Kishan Reddy Gangapuram has launched the book "Gita Govinda: Jaydeva's Divine Odyssey" by Dr. Utpal K. Banerjee. He also launched an exhibition on "Gita Govinda" and program "Bujurgon ki Baat Desh Ke Saath". Utpal K. Banerjee was awarded Padma Shri in 2009. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- "Gita Govinda: Jaydeva's Divine Odyssey" book authored by Dr. Utpal K. Banerjee
- G. Kishan Reddy—launched "Gita Govinda" exhibition & "Bujurgon ki Baat Desh Ke Saath" program—in New Delhi
- Minister of Culture: G. Kishan Reddy | Constituency Secunderabad, Telangana
- MoS in Minister of Culture: Arjun Ram Meghwal
- **9.** The late former director general U. L. Baruah's long-forgotten All India Radio despatches, written 50 years ago, reappears in a new book, "A Bangladesh War Commentary: 1971 Radio Dispatches: Vol 1". {Read more} **Key Points:**
- "A Bangladesh War Commentary: 1971 Radio Dispatches: Vol 1" book authored by U. L. Baruah
- **10.** A memoir titled "The Custodian of Trust" is authored by former Chairman of State Bank of India (SBI) Rajnish Kumar. The book gives a rare insight of how the financial system in our country works.

# **Key Points:**

- "The Custodian of Trust" memoir authored by Rajnish Kumar
- **11.** On September 12, Subramanian Swamy has come out with a new book titled "Human Rights and Terrorism in India" which traces how the combating of terrorism can be harmonised with human and fundamental rights within reasonable restrictions that is permitted by the Constitution and upheld by the Supreme Court. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

• "Human Rights and Terrorism in India" book – authored by Subramanian Swamy



**12.** Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar emphasised the need for greater discussion and awareness on the population as India is estimated to become the most populous country by 2027. She also launched a book "Infant and Child Mortality in Assam - Demographic and Socio-Economic Interrelations" authored by Dr. Dipanjali Haloi and Dr. Suresh Sharma. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- "Infant and Child Mortality in Assam Demographic and Socio-Economic Interrelations" book authored by Dr. Dipanjali Haloi & Dr. Suresh Sharma
- **13.** On September 15, Princeton University Press has announced that Jhumpa Lahiri's "Translating Myself and Others" will be released in 2022. Lahiri's fiction includes the Pulitzer-winning story collection "The Interpreter of Maladies" and the novels "The Namesake" and "Unaccustomed Earth". {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "Translating Myself and Others" book authored by Jhumpa Lahiri | Publisher Princeton University Press
- She won "Pulitzer Prize" for Fiction in 2000 for her 1<sup>st</sup> book "Interpreter of Maladies"
- Her other books: "The Namesake" & "Unaccustomed Earth"
- 14. On September 19, Andhra Pradesh Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar has released a book titled "Dancing with Dreams", a collection of poems penned by his Andhra Pradesh counterpart Adityanath Das. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Andhra Pradesh released "Dancing with Dreams" book authored by Adityanath Das
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan
- **15.** On September 17, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has released a book titled "Shining Sikh Youth of India" to commemorate the 400<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Guru Teg bahadur. The book is written by Prabhleen Singh, Administrative Officer of Punjabi University, Patiala. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Rajnath Singh released "Shining Sikh Youth of India" book written by Prabhleen Singh
- The book is released to commemorate the 400<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Guru Teg bahadur
- Prabhleen Singh's other books: "Prominent Sikh of India" & "Prominent Sikh of USA"
- **16.** In her latest book, "The Three Khans: And the Emergence of New India", senior journalist Kaveree Bamzai has juxtaposed the careers of the three Khans, Aamir, Shah Rukh, and Salman, with the most tumultuous times in the history of the republic.

- "The Three Khans: And the Emergence of New India" book authored by Kaveree Bamzai
- The book is about 3 Khans: Aamir Khan, Shah Rukh Khan & Salman Khan



17. Politician-writer M. Veerappa Moily and poet Arundhathi Subramaniam were among the 20 authors who received the "Sahitya Akademi Award" for 2020 at a ceremony on September 19, 2021. Moily received the prestigious award for his epic poetry "Sri Bahubali Ahimsadigvijayam" in Kannada, while Arundhathi Subramaniam won the award for her English poetry collection, "When God is a Traveller". {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "Sri Bahubali Ahimsadigvijayam" authored by M. Veerappa Moily
- "When God is a Traveller" authored by Arundhathi Subramaniam
- **18.** On September 23, Netflix has officially announced to make a limited series on the 2015's Pulitzer Prizewinning book "All the Light We Cannot See". The book is authored by American author Anthony Doerr. The novel was published in 2014. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Netflix announced to make a limited series on "All the Light We Cannot See" novel authored by Anthony Doerr
- The novel received 'Pulitzer Prize' in 2015 | The novel was published in 2014
- HQs of Netflix California, US | Co-CEOs Ted Sarandos & Reed Hastings | Founded in 1997
- 19. On September 24, Zoho founder Sridhar Vembu has launched a book on Smart Villages titled "Smart Villages: Bridging the Global Urban-Rural Divide" which is published by Springer Nature Switzerland AG. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Sridhar Vembu launched a book on Smart Villages titled "Smart Villages: Bridging the Global Urban-Rural Divide"
- Publisher Springer Nature Switzerland AG
- **20.** On September 27, Amitav Ghosh's "Jungle Nama" has now been released as an audiobook with music and voice of US-based Ali Sethi. It was published by HarperCollins India. {Read more}

# **Key Points:**

- Amitav Ghosh's book "Jungle Nama" released as an Audiobook | Voice of Ali Sethi (US)
- Publisher HarperCollins India
- **21.** A new book titled "The Battle of Rezang La" tells the story of 120 Indian soldiers who fought against the 5,000-strong Chinese military troops in the 1962 Indo-China war. The book is written by ex-Naval officer & author Kulpreet Yadav and published under Penguin Random House's "Veer" imprint. {Read more}

- "The Battle of Rezang La" book authored by Kulpreet Yadav
- Publisher Penguin Random House's "Veer" imprint



**22.** Indra Nooyi has encapsulated her journey and learnings in her new book, "My Life in Full: Work, Family, and Our Future". She is the former chairperson and CEO of PepsiCo and the 11<sup>th</sup> woman to lead a Fortune 500 company. The book is published by Hachette India. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "My Life in Full: Work, Family, and Our Future" memoir authored by Indra Nooyi
- Publisher Hachette India
- **23.** In September 2021, A book titled "India Vs UK: The Story of an Unprecedented Diplomatic Win" has been authored by Syed Akbaruddin. The book has been published by HarperCollins India. This book offers a behind-the-scenes view of an Indian victory at the UN in 2017. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "India Vs UK: The Story of an Unprecedented Diplomatic Win" book authored by Syed Akbaruddin
- Publisher HarperCollins India
- **24.** In September 2021, Bestselling author Chetan Bhagat has released the trailer of his upcoming book "400 Days". The book, published by Westland, is the third story from the Keshav-Saurabh series after "The Girl in Room 105" and "One Arranged Murder". {Read more}

- "400 Days" book authored by Chetan Bhagat
- Publisher Westland
- His other books: "The Girl in Room 105" & "One Arranged Murder"



## **Obituaries**

1. Former Rajya Sabha MP and Senior Journalist Chandan Mitra passed away in Delhi. He was 65. He was nominated as a member of the Rajya Sabha from August 2003 to 2009 and had resigned from the BJP on July 18, 2018. He then joined the All India Trinamool Congress. He was the Editor and Managing Director of "The Pioneer" newspaper. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Chandan Mitra a Politician & Senior Journalist passed away
- He was the Editor & MD of "The Pioneer" newspaper
- 2. Former IOC President Jacques Rogge passed away. He was 79. He was the Olympic sailor and orthopedic surgeon from Belgium who led the International Olympic Committee as president for 12 years. {Read more} Key Points:
- Jacques Rogge (Belgium) Former IOC President & Orthopedic Surgeon passed away
- **3.** Former Union Health Secretary Keshav Desiraju passed away. He was 66. He was the grandson of the former President of India Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. Recently, he wrote a book titled "Gifted Voice: The Life and Art of M.S. Subbulakshmi". He played an important role during the drafting of Mental Healthcare Bill, 2016. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Keshav Desiraju Former Union Health Secretary passed away
- He was the grandson of the former (2<sup>nd</sup>) President of India Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan
- "Gifted Voice: The Life and Art of M.S. Subbulakshmi" authored by Keshav Desiraju
- **4.** On September 6, Former French footballer Jean-Pierre Adams, who had been in a coma for 39 years, has died at the age of 73. Jean-Pierre Adams was injured during a match. Then he was operated under anaesthesia on March 17, 1982 and fell into a coma. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Jean-Pierre Adams (France) a Football Player passed away
- He had been in a coma for 39 years
- **5.** On September 7, US actor Michael K. Williams passed away recently. He was one of television's most memorable stars of recent years for his role as Omar Little in The Wire. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• Michael K. Williams (US) – an Actor – passed away



**6.** On September 6, Rajni Kaul, a distinguished broadcaster, passed away in Faridabad. She was 93. Kaul worked with All India Radio (AIR) in New Delhi before joining the Voice of America (VOA) in Washington and then BBC in London. She was the first woman to join BBC Hindi as a staffer and became the first woman to read a news bulletin in Hindi on the BBC network in 1961. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Rajni Kaul an India-origin British Broadcaster & Radio Presenter passed away
- She was the first woman to join BBC Hindi as a staffer
- **7.** On September 14, Former India international Football Player and Mohun Bagan legend Bhabani Roy passed away in Kolkata. He was 75. Roy made his international debut in the Merdeka Cup in 1969. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Bhabani Roy a Football Player passed away (associated with Mohun Bagan FC)
- He represented India in 'Merdeka Cup' in 1969
- Merdeka Cup related to Football
- **8.** On September 13, Former Union minister and member of Rajya Sabha Oscar Fernandes passed away. He was 80 years old. He served Rajiv Gandhi as his Parliamentary Secretary. He entered the Lok Sabha from Udupi constituency in 1980 Later, he got elected to the Rajya Sabha in 1998. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Oscar Fernandes a Politician passed away (Party INC | Constituency Udupi, Karnataka)
- **9.** On September 14, Yuriy Sedykh, a two-time Olympic champion in the hammer throw whose world record from 1986 still stands, has died. He was 66. Sedykh threw a world record 86.74 meters at the European Championships in Stuttgart, Germany. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Yuriy Sedykh a Hammer Thrower passed away (World record 86.74 meters in 1986)
- **10.** On September 12, Noted writer and former secretary of Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages Aziz Hajini (born as Abdul Aziz Parray) passed away. He was 64 years old. He had won "Sahitya Akademi Award" in 2016 for his book 'Aane Khane' which is written in Kashmiri. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Aziz Hajini (Abdul Aziz Parray) a Writer, Poet & Critic passed away
- His Awards: "Sahitya Akademi Award" (2016) for his book "Aane Khane"
- **11.** On September 16, Former Gabonese Prime Minister Casimir Oye Mba passed away in Paris, France after he was hospitalized for COVID-19 infection. He was 79. {Read more}

- Casimir Oye Mba Former Prime Minister of Gabon passed away
- Gabon Libreville CFA franc | President Ali Bongo Ondimba | PM Rose Christiane Ossouka Raponda



**12.** Former Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika passed away recently. He was 84 years old. Abdelaziz Bouteflika had ruled the North African country, Algeria for two decades before his resignation in April 2019. He is Algeria's longest-serving President till date. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Abdelaziz Bouteflika Former President of Algeria passed away (Algeria's longest-serving President)
- Algeria Algiers Dinar | Prime minister Abdelaziz Djerad | President Abdelmadjid Tebboune
- **13.** On September 17, Eminent theoretical Physicist and Cosmologist, Thanu Padmanabhan (affectionately known as 'Paddy') passed away at the age of 64. The much-feted Astrophysicist was awarded the 'Padma Shri' in 2007. Along with his wife Vasanthi, Professor Padmanabhan also authored a popular book "The Dawn of Science: Glimpses from History for the Curious Mind" in 2019. For research in Theoretical Physics, he was ranked 24th amongst top scientists in the world by Stanford University. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Thanu Padmanabhan (Paddy) Astrophysicist & Cosmologist passed away ('Padma Shri' in 2007)
- "The Dawn of Science: Glimpses from History for the Curious Mind" authored by Thanu Padmanabhan + Vasanthi
- 14. On September 19, Eminent Litterateur & Social Worker Manorama Mohapatra passed away. She was 87. She was the former editor of Odia daily newspaper namely "The Samaja". Mohapatra has more than 40 books and novels to her credit. Her first book is 'Juar Jeiunthi Uthe'. For her immense contribution to the field of literature, she was appointed as secretary of Utkal Sahitya Samaj from 1982 to 1990 and President of Odisha Sahitya Akademi in 1991. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Manorama Mohapatra (Odisha) a Litterateur & Social Worker passed away
- She was the former Editor of Odia daily newspaper namely "The Samaja"
- **15.** On September 19, The former England footballer Jimmy Greaves, one of the game's greatest goalscorers and characters, has died at the age of 81. Greaves was a member of England's 1966 World Cup-winning squad. He scored total 44 goals in his 57 appearances for England. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Jimmy Greaves (England) a Football Player passed away
- **16.** On September 21, President of the Akhil Bhartiya Akhara Parishad and Mahant of Bade Hanuman temple of Prayagraj Narendra Giri passed away. Giri was found hanging from a ceiling fan by a rope. Giri hailed from the trans-Ganga area of Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh. {Read more}

- Narendra Giri (Uttar Pradesh) President of the Akhil Bhartiya Akhara Parishad passed away
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel



**17.** On September 25, Eminent women's rights activist, poet and author Kamla Bhasin passed away. She was 75. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Kamla Bhasin a Feminist Activist, Poet & Author passed away
- **18.** In September 2021, Former striker of Liverpool & England's World Cup-winning striker Roger Hunt passed away at the age of 83 following a long illness. He was one of the World Cup winners of 1966. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- Roger Hunt (England) a Football Player passed away (among World Cup winners of 1966)
- **19.** On September 29, Bala V. Balachandran, Management Guru, Educationist and founder of the Great Lakes Institute of Management, passed away in Chicago. He was 84. Fondly known as 'Professor Bala' or 'Uncle Bala', he was born at Pudukottai city in Tamil Nadu. In 2004, he established the Great Lakes Institute of Management. He received 'Padma Shri' in 2001 for his contribution to Education. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Bala V. Balachandran Educationist & Management Guru passed away (known as 'Professor Bala' or 'Uncle Bala')
- He established 'Great Lakes Institute of Management' in 2004 | He received 'Padma Shri' (2001) in Education

The Question Bank



# **Person in News**

**1.** A Ladakh-based engineer Dorje Angchuk has become the only Indian Honorary Member of the International Astronomical Union, along with ten others from around the world. He is the Engineer in charge of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics' Indian Astronomical Observatory in Hanle, Ladakh. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Dorje Angchuk (Ladakh) became the only Indian Honorary Member of the International Astronomical Union
- Ladakh: Capital Leh | Lt. Governor R. K. Mathur
- **2.** On September 3, Virat Kohli became the first cricketer, first Indian as well as the first Asian to cross the 150 million followers landmark on Instagram. In the overall list, Kohli is the fourth sporting celebrity to reach the 150 million mark on Instagram. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Virat Kohli became first cricketer, first Indian & first Asian to cross the 150 million followers on Instagram
- Virat Kohli overall 4<sup>th</sup> Sporting Celebrity to reach the 150 million mark on Instagram
- HQs of Instagram California, USA | CEO Kevin Systrom
- 3. On September 11, Shivani Meena, an IIT Jodhpur alumna, has become the first woman Excavation Engineer to work in an open cast mine at Central Coalfields Ltd (CCL), a Jharkhand-based arm of Coal India Ltd. She will be posted at CCL's Rajrappa project. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Shivani Meena became the first woman Excavation Engineer to work in an Open Cast Mine at CIL's arm CCL
- HQs of CCL Ranchi, Jharkhand | CMD P. M. Prasad
- HQs of CIL Kolkata, West Bengal | Director Anil Kumar Jha | CMD Pramod Agrawal
- **4.** On September 9, 49-year-old Chandigarh golfer, Jeev Milkha Singh, has been chosen as the first professional Golfer in the world to be given 10-year 'Golden Visa' by the United Arab Emirates. Golden Visa was launched in 2019 by the UAE authorities and it allows foreigners to live, work, or study in the Gulf country without the need for a national sponsor. {Read more}

- Jeev Milkha Singh the first professional Golfer in the world to be given 10-year 'Golden Visa' by the UAE
- UAE Abu Dhabi Dirham | President Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan
- 5. On September 17, Sana Ramachand Gulwani, a Pakistani woman has created history by becoming the first Hindu woman in Pakistan to pass the prestigious Central Superior Services (CSS) examination in Pakistan. She has been selected for the elite Pakistan Administrative Services (PAS), becoming the first Hindu Pakistani woman to do so. Sana Ramachand hails from a rural area of Shikarpur district in Sindh province. {Read more}



#### **Key Points:**

- Sana Ramachand (Sindh, Pakistan) became the 1<sup>st</sup> Hindu woman civil servant in Pakistan
- She passed the prestigious Central Superior Services (CSS) examination in Pakistan
- Pakistan Islamabad Pakistani Rupee | PM Imran Khan | President Arif Alvi
- **6.** As per the Guinness World Records, Umeno Sumiyama and Koume Kodama (Japan) have been confirmed as the oldest identical twins living (female) and the oldest identical twins ever (female) at the age of 107 years and 300 days as of 1 September 2021. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Umeno Sumiyama & Koume Kodama (Japan) confirmed as the oldest identical twins at the age of 107 years
- Japan Tokyo Yen
- 7. In September 2021, 31-year-old CISF official Geeta Samota has successfully scaled Mount Kilimanjaro (5,895 metres), the highest peak in Africa. Earlier this month, Sub Inspector Geeta Samota had scaled Mount Elbrus (5,642 metres) in Russia, the highest peak in Europe. With this, she became the 'fastest Indian' to summit two peaks located in Africa and Europe. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Geeta Samota (CISF Official) became the 'fastest Indian' to summit two peaks located in Africa & Europe
- Geeta Samota successfully scaled the highest peak in Europe Mount Elbrus (5,642 metres) in Russia
- Geeta Samota successfully scaled the highest peak in Africa Mount Kilimanjaro (5,895 metres) in Tanzania
- **8.** On September 25, The Karnataka Legislative Assembly has named former chief minister B. S. Yediyurappa as the Best Legislator of the year 2020-21. Yediyurappa served the state as a chief minister four times and stepped down on July 26, 2021. He was elected to the Karnataka Assembly in 1983 for the first time. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- B. S. Yediyurappa named as the Best Legislator of the year 2020-21 by Karnataka Legislative Assembly
- Karnataka: Capital Bangalore | CM Basavaraj Bommai | Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot
- **9.** On September 29, Fumio Kishida won the Liberal Democratic Party Presidential election and became Japan's next Prime Minister succeeding Yoshihide Suga. {Read more}

- Fumio Kishida won the Liberal Democratic Party Presidential election
- Fumio Kishida became Japan's new Prime Minister (succeeding Yoshihide Suga)
- Japan Tokyo Yen | PM Fumio Kishida



# **Science & Technology**

**1.** On September 1, Urban Air Laboratory, a startup company of IIT Ropar has developed the world's first plant-based smart air-purifier called "Ubreathe Life". The product is being claimed as world's first, state-of-the-art 'Smart Bio-Filter' which can make breathing fresh. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Urban Air Laboratory (IIT Ropar) developed the world's first plant-based smart air-purifier called "Ubreathe Life"
- Director of IIT Ropar Sarit Kumar Das
- **2. Science & Technology** On September 3, Hansa New Generation (NG) aircraft, designed and developed by CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL), Bangalore has successfully made its maiden flight. Mr. Abbani Rinku is the Project Director of HANSA. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Hansa New Generation (NG) aircraft designed & developed by CSIR-NAL (Bangalore)
- Project Director of HANSA Abbani Rinku
- **3.** On September 3, China has developed a prototype miniature Helicopter for surveillance work on future Mars missions. The prototype is similar in appearance to the robotic helicopter 'Ingenuity', developed by NASA for its 'Perseverance' mission this year. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- China developed a prototype miniature Helicopter for surveillance work on future Mars missions
- Robotic helicopter 'Ingenuity' was developed by NASA for its 'Perseverance' mission
- China Beijing Renminbi | President Xi Jinping
- **4.** On September 2, Researchers working at the Department of Zoology Goa University and the Thackeray Wildlife Foundation, Mumbai, have discovered a new species of gecko in Goa. It is believed to be endemic to the biodiversity-rich Western Ghats. The species of the Hemiphyllodactylus genus has now been given a scientific name "Hemiphyllodactylus goaensis", named after Goa. {Read more}

- A new species of gecko named "Hemiphyllodactylus goaensis" discovered in Goa
- It was discovered by = Department of Zoology, Goa University + Thackeray Wildlife Foundation (Mumbai)
- Goa: Capital Panaji | CM Pramod Sawant | Governor P. S. Sreedharan Pillai
- **5.** The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) plans to launch an explorer in 2024 to land on 'Phobos', a Martian moon, to collect 10 grams (0.35 ounce) of soil and bring it back to Earth in 2029. This move is expected to put Japan ahead of the United States and China in bringing back samples from the Martian region. {Read more}



#### **Key Points:**

- JAXA plans to launch an explorer in 2024 to land on 'Phobos', a Martian moon to collect soil sample & bring it back to Earth in 2029
- HQs of JAXA Tokyo, Japan | Administrator Hiroshi Yamakawa
- **6.** On September 8, China successfully launched a new Earth observation satellite "Gaofen-5 02" into space to improve the country's hyperspectral observation capacity of the atmosphere, water and land. The satellite was launched aboard a 'Long March-4C' rocket from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre in north China's Shanxi Province. It was the 387th flight mission of the Long March carrier rocket series. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- China successfully launched a new Earth observation satellite "Gaofen-5 02" into space
- The satellite was launched aboard a 'Long March-4C' rocket
- China Beijing Renminbi | President Xi Jinping
- **7.** On September 7, Scientists at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Bhopal have sequenced the Genome of Giloy (Tinospora cordifolia), a plant with medicinal properties, stated to be for the first time in the world. The research was led by Vineet K. Sharma. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Scientists at IISER (Bhopal) sequenced the Genome of Giloy (Tinospora cordifolia) a plant with medicinal properties
- The research was led by Vineet K. Sharma
- **8.** On September 4, The ISRO has announced that "INSPIRESat-1 CubeSat", developed under the International Satellite Program in Research and Education (INSPIRE), is ready for the launch. INSPIRESat-1 CubeSat is a collaborative effort by Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics in the US, National Central University, Taiwan, Nanyang Technological University in Singapore and Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST). This satellite is set to blast off aboard ISRO's upcoming PSLV mission to study earth's ionosphere. {Read more}

- "INSPIRESat-1 CubeSat" a collaborative effort by:
- Laboratory for Atmospheric & Space Physics (US)
- National Central University (Taiwan)
- Nanyang Technological University (Singapore)
- Indian Institute of Space Science & Technology (India)
- "INSPIRESat-1 CubeSat" will be launched through PSLV mission of the ISRO
- HQs of ISRO Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed on August 15, 1969



**9.** On September 4, A team of researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) have developed a modular, self-contained device to cultivate microorganisms. This could enable scientists to carry out biological experiments in outer space. It was published the journal Acta Astronautica. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- IISc (Bangalore) + ISRO = developed a device to carry out biological experiments in Outer Space
- Published in "Acta Astronautica" journal
- HQs of ISRO Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed on August 15, 1969
- **10.** On September 8, IIT Bombay has signed an MoU with the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), valid for a period of 5 years, for extending the ongoing collaboration for operations and scientific utilisation of the "GROWTH India Telescope". The "GROWTH India Telescope" was set up jointly by IIA and IIT Bombay under a project supported by DST-SERB and the Indo-US Science and Technology Forum, and became operational in 2018. The operations of the "GROWTH India Telescope" are supported by generous contribution from IIT Bombay Alumni Class of 1994. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- IIT Bombay + IIA = an MoU valid for 5 years to extend research collaboration on "GROWTH India Telescope"
- "GROWTH India Telescope" was jointly set up by IIA & IIT Bombay | It became operational in 2018
- HQs of IIA Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director Annapurni Subramaniam
- Director of IIT Bombay Subhasis Chaudhuri

### The Ouestion Bank

**11.** In September 2021, A team of researchers has discovered a new island named "Qeqertaq Avannarleq" off the coast of Greenland. It has now become the new northernmost piece of land on Earth. Before this, Oodaaq Island was marked as the Earth's northernmost terrain. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- A new island named "Qeqertaq Avannarleq" discovered off the coast of Greenland
- "Qeqertaq Avannarleq" is now Earth's northernmost piece of land
- Greenland Nuuk Danish krone
- **12.** A professor and his team from IIT Bombay have launched an artificial intelligence (AI)-based software named "Project Udaan" that translates scientific and technical content from English to Hindi and several other Indian languages. This software can translate engineering textbooks and learning material in one-sixth the time it would take for a team of domain and linguistic experts to work manually. {Read more}

- IIT Bombay launched an AI-based software named "Project Udaan" to help students from linguistic minorities
- The software translates scientific & technical content from English to Hindi & several other languages
- Director of IIT Bombay Subhasis Chaudhuri



13. On September 11, Skyroot Aerospace, a Hyderabad-based space technology startup, has become the first private company to formally enter into an agreement with ISRO to use its expertise and access facilities to test and qualify its small rocket ahead of its launch in 2022. Skyroot, founded by former ISRO scientists, is building the Vikram series of rockets to carry small satellites into space. India has formed "IN-SPACe", the authorisation and regulatory body under the Department of Space for enabling private companies to undertake space activities in India. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Skyroot Aerospace become the first private company to formally enter into an agreement with ISRO
- India formed "IN-SPACe" a regulatory body to undertake space activities in India
- HQs of Skyroot Aerospace Hyderabad, Telangana | CEO Pawan Kumar Chandana
- HQs of ISRO Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed on August 15, 1969
- **14.** On September 14, SpaceX has launched a flight carrying the first stack of 51 Starlink broadband satellites on 'Falcon 9 rocket' into orbit. SpaceX's Starlink megaconstellation was created with one major goal in mind to provide internet coverage to the world. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- SpaceX launched a flight carrying the first stack of 51 Starlink broadband satellites on 'Falcon 9 rocket' into orbit
- HQs of SpaceX California, U.S. | CEO Elon Musk | Founded in 2002
- **15.** On September 13, "Colexion" is the largest licenced Non-fungible token (NFT) platform for Sports, Entertainment & Art. Colexion will feature NFT collections of global stars using Blockchain Technology. Moreover, Cricket Foundation, the Singapore-headquartered blockchain-based platform has launched first Cricket NFT of its kind named "CricketCrazy.io". For this, Cricket Foundation has roped in around 120 partners from the cricketing eco-system. The Cricket Token (CRIC) was recently listed on Indian and international crypto exchanges, with a market cap of over \$200 million. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "Colexion" the largest licenced Non-fungible token (NFT) platform for Sports, Entertainment & Art
- Cricket Foundation (Singapore) launched first Cricket NFT of its kind named "CricketCrazy.io"
- **16.** On September 15, OneWeb has launched 34 more satellites from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. With this, OneWeb's total in-orbit constellation now number 322 satellites. The satellites were launched in Low-Earth Orbit (LEO) by Arianespace, a French LEO satellite communications company. With this launch, Arianespace also celebrates passing the mark of 1,000 satellites successfully launched to space. {Read more}

- OneWeb launched 34 more satellites from Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan
- The satellites were launched in Low-Earth Orbit (LEO) by Arianespace
- Now, OneWeb's total in-orbit constellation number 322 satellites (as on Sep 15, 2021)
- HQs of OneWeb London, UK | CEO Adrian Steckel | Executive Chairman Sunil Bharti Mittal
- OneWeb co-owned by Bharti Global & the UK



**17.** On September 18, The Department of Space (DoS) has entered into a Framework MoU with aerospace startup Agnikul Cosmos for access to ISRO facilities and expertise towards the development and testing of subsystems/systems of space launch vehicles. The ISRO and IN-Space committee signed a Framework of MoU on behalf of Department of Space. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- ISRO + IN-Space committee + Agnikul Cosmos = a Framework MoU for access to ISRO facilities & expertise
- HQs of Agnikul Cosmos Chennai, Tamil Nadu | Co-Founder & CEO Srinath Ravichandran
- HQs of ISRO Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed on August 15, 1969
- **18.** On September 16, SpaceX has launched the first crew of space tourists into orbit the first civilian mission of its kind named "Inspiration4". It lifted off aboard a 'Falcon 9' rocket. The 'Inspiration4' crew posed in front of the 'Falcon 9' rocket and 'Crew Dragon' spaceship that launched them into space. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- SpaceX launched the first crew of space tourists into orbit under 3-day mission "Inspiration4"
- It was launched through 'Falcon 9' rocket & 'Crew Dragon' spaceship
- HQs of SpaceX California, U.S. | CEO Elon Musk | Founded in 2002
- 19. On September 17, The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is working on technologies to develop reusable satellite launch vehicle named "GSLV Mk-III" to enable the vertical landing of its rockets. It is similar to what SpaceX is doing, and to recover the first and second stages. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- ISRO is working on technologies to develop reusable satellite launch vehicle named "GSLV Mk-III"
- HQs of ISRO Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed on August 15, 1969
- **20.** On September 21, IIT Delhi researchers have designed & developed a device called "Liquid-solid Interface Triboelectric Nanogenerator" that can generate electricity from water drops, raindrops, water streams, and ocean waves which can be stored in batteries for further use. The device has been developed using "Triboelectric Effect" and "Electrostatic Induction". {Read more}

- IIT Delhi researchers developed a device that can generate electricity from water drops, raindrops & water streams
- The device is called "Liquid-solid Interface Triboelectric Nanogenerator"
- The device is developed using "Triboelectric Effect" & "Electrostatic Induction"
- Director of IIT Delhi V. Ramgopal Rao



**21.** On September 15, Geological Survey of India (GSI) has made a discovery of teeth of new species of 'Hybodont Shark' of Jurassic age from Jaisalmer, Rajasthan for the first time. This finding has been published in 'Historical Biology' journal. It is named by the research team as Strophodus jaisalmerensis. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Teeth of a new species of 'Hybodont Shark' of Jurassic age discovered in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan (by GSI)
- HQs of GSI Kolkata, West Bengal | Director General Rajendra Singh Garkhal
- Rajasthan: Capital Jaipur | CM Ashok Gehlot | Governor Kalraj Mishra
- **22.** On September 20, China has launched unmanned cargo aircraft (UCA) named "Tianzhou-3" or "Heavenly Vessel" on 'Long March-7Y4' rocket with supplies for under-construction space station. It was launched from the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site in Hainan, China. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- China launched unmanned cargo aircraft (UCA) named "Tianzhou-3" or "Heavenly Vessel"
- It was launched on 'Long March-7Y4' rocket | From Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site in Hainan, China
- China Beijing Renminbi | President Xi Jinping
- 23. On September 22, The Directorate of Cashew Research (DCR), under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Puttur in Dakshina Kannada, has released "Nethra Jumbo-1" a new jumbo nut hybrid cashew. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- ICAR-DCR (Puttur, Karnataka) released "Nethra Jumbo-1" a new jumbo nut hybrid Cashew
- HQs of ICAR New Delhi | DG Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra | Established in 1929
- 24. On September 18, the four amateur astronauts who went on a private space trip have landed safely back to Earth after orbiting the planet for three days. SpaceX's "Inspiration4" mission is now officially a Success. It was launched through 'Falcon 9' rocket & 'Crew Dragon' spaceship. The SpaceX's Dragon spacecraft 'Resilience' splashed down in the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Florida in the United States. The flight was part of an effort of massive fundraising for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in the US, to raise \$200 million for childhood Cancer research. {Read more}

- SpaceX's Dragon spacecraft 'Resilience' carrying 4 astronauts splashed down in the Atlantic Ocean
- SpaceX's "Inspiration4" mission is now officially a Success
- It was launched through 'Falcon 9' rocket & 'Crew Dragon' spaceship
- The flight was part of an effort to raise \$200 million for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (US) for childhood Cancer research
- HQs of SpaceX California, U.S. | CEO Elon Musk | Founded in 2002



25. On September 21, Researchers from the Universities of Tubingen and Zaragoza have discovered the fossil of a previously unknown species namely "Vishnuonyx Neptuni", meaning "Neptune's Vishnu". The species was discovered from a 11.4-million-year-old strata in the area of Hammerschmiede, which is a fossil site in Bavaria, Germany. an extinct species of Otter that lived in southern Asia. Fossils of these now extinct otters were first discovered in sediments found in the foothills of the Himalayas. Now, a newly found fossil indicates it had travelled as far as Germany. The discovery has been described in the 'Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology'. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Fossil of "Vishnuonyx Neptuni" (Neptune's Vishnu) an extinct species of Otter discovered in Bavaria, Germany
- Discovery published in 'Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology'
- Germany Berlin Euro | President Frank-Walter Steinmeier
- **26.** On September 22, Harish Hirani (Director of CSIR-Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute) has handed over the CSIR-CMERI developed "Solar DC Cooking System" to the Asansol Braille Academy, West Bengal. The CSIR-CMERI developed Solar DC Cooking System has 20-25% better efficiency and more Economical in comparison with Conventional Solar based Cooking Systems. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- CSIR-CMERI developed "Solar DC Cooking System" & handed over to the Asansol Braille Academy (West Bengal)
- HQs of CSIR-CMERI Durgapur, West Bengal | Director Harish Hirani
- **27.** On September 24, In a world's first, European Union plans a universal charging port for all mobile phones, tablets and headphones under a European Commission proposal. Under the Commission's proposal, a 'USB-C' connector will become the standard port for all smartphones, tablets, cameras, headphones, portable speakers and handheld videogame consoles. {Read more}

- Under European Commission's proposal: 'USB-C' connector will become the standard port for all smartphones, tablets & headphones
- HQs of EU Brussels, Belgium | Member Countries 27
- President of European Parliament David-Maria Sassoli
- President of European Council Charles Michel
- President of European Commission Ursula von der Leye
- **28.** On September 22, The International Astronomical Union (IAU) has named a crater on the South Pole of the Moon after Arctic Explorer Matthew Henson, a Black man who became one of the first people to stand on top of the world. 'Henson Crater' is located in the same region where the 'Artemis' program by the NASA aims to land the next generation of lunar explorers. {Read more}



#### **Key Points:**

- IAU named a crater on the South Pole of the Moon after Arctic Explorer 'Matthew Henson'
- 'Artemis' program belongs to NASA
- HQs of IAU Paris, France | Presidents Willy Benz & Debra Meloy Elmegreen
- HQs of NASA Washington D.C., USA | Administrator Bill Nelson | Founded on July 29, 1958
- **29.** In September 2021, Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak is launching a new aerospace startup called "Privateer Space" possibly to clean up debris in the space. Space debris is a growing threat, and startups are trying to tap into the lucrative business of cleaning it up. Steve Wozniak and Ripcord founder Alex Fielding are launching the business. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Steve Wozniak (Apple Co-founder) is launching a new aerospace startup called "Privateer Space"
- **30.** On September 28, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) of the US has successfully tested an Air-breathing Hypersonic Weapon built by Raytheon Technologies. Hypersonic weapons travel in the upper atmosphere at speeds of more than five times the speed of sound, or about 6,200 km (3,853 miles) per hour. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- DARPA (US) successfully tested an Air-breathing Hypersonic Weapon built by Raytheon Technologies
- HQs of Raytheon Technologies Massachusetts, US | CEO Gregory J. Hayes
- US Washington, D.C. US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP Kamala Harris
- **31.** On September 28, A new version of the Akash missile named "Akash Prime" was successfully flight-tested by the DRDO from the integrated test range at Chandipur in Odisha. In comparison to the existing Akash system, Akash Prime is equipped with an indigenous active Radio Frequency (RF) seeker for improved accuracy. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- DRDO flight-tested a new version of the Akash missile named "Akash Prime" from Chandipur, Odisha
- Akash Prime is equipped with an indigenous active Radio Frequency (RF) seeker for improved accuracy
- HQs of DRDO New Delhi | Chairman G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in 1958
- **32.** On September 27, IIT Delhi has established a Centre of Excellence (CoE) on Quantum Technologies to bring research activities occurring in various domains of Quantum Technologies at IIT-Delhi under a single umbrella. The Central Government has also announced a commitment worth ₹8,000 Cr in the area of Quantum Technology. {Read more}

- IIT Delhi established a Centre of Excellence (CoE) on Quantum Technologies
- Director of IIT Delhi V. Ramgopal Rao



**33.** On September 29, North Korea test-fired a newly developed hypersonic missile called "Hwasong-8" off its east coast towards the sea. This series of missiles used liquid-propellant engines with an Ampoule Fuel System. Hypersonic weapons fly towards targets at lower altitudes and can achieve more than 5 times the speed of sound or about 6,200 km per hour. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- North Korea test-fired a newly developed hypersonic missile called "Hwasong-8"
- North Korea Pyongyang North Korean won | President Kim Jong-un
- **34.** On September 27, NASA's "Landsat 9" satellite was successfully launched from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California. The satellite will monitor the Earth's land surface and provide data to assist in climate change planning. The first launch was in 1972 by the NASA and the US Geological Survey (USGS). {Read more} **Key Points:**
- NASA's "Landsat 9" satellite successfully launched from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California, US
- The first launch was in 1972 (by NASA & USGS)
- HQs of NASA Washington D.C., USA | Administrator Bill Nelson | Founded on July 29, 1958
- **35.** On September 13, IIT Kanpur and the Indian Air Force (IAF) have signed an MoU to develop strong technologies in the field of Aerospace Technology, both academically and via research. The MoU was signed for the establishment of the Air Vice Marshal Harjinder Singh Chair of Excellence which will promote teaching, research and technology development in Aerospace technologies, Aircraft Structural Integrity & Aircraft Health Monitoring. {Read more}

- IIT Kanpur + IAF = MoU to develop strong technologies in the field of Aerospace Technology
- The MoU was also signed for the establishment of the Air Vice Marshal Harjinder Singh Chair of Excellence
- Director of IIT Kanpur Abhay Karandikar
- HQs of IAF New Delhi | Chief Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria | Vice Chief Vivek Ram Chaudhari



# Ordinance, Bills and Acts

**1.** According to the "Income-tax (25<sup>th</sup> Amendment) Rules, 2021", the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has notified the Income Tax Rules in which interest income accrued in the provident fund (PF) above a specified limit will be taxed. The new rule shall come into force on April 1, 2022. Interest accrued in PF account on contribution above Rs 2.5 lakh a year is taxable for Non-government employees. For government employees, the PF threshold is Rs 5 lakh. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- CBDT notified the Income Tax Rules in which 'interest income' accrued in PF above a specified limit will be taxed
- The new rule shall come into force on April 1, 2022
- Threshold for Non-government employees: above Rs 2.5 lakh a year
- Threshold for government employees: Rs 5 lakh a year
- HQs of CBDT New Delhi | Chairman Jagannath Bidyadhar Mohapatra | Formed in 1944
- 2. On September 14, The Tamil Nadu State Assembly has passed a Bill to make the encroachment of properties belonging to religious institutions (temples) a cognisable and non-bailable offence, amending the "Tamil Nadu Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act, 1959". There are about 5 lakh acres of properties belonging to over 40,000 religious institutions, under the control of the HR&CE Department. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu amended the "Tamil Nadu Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act, 1959"
- Tamil Nadu made 'temple land grabbing' a cognisable & non-bailable offence
- Tamil Nadu: Capital Chennai | CM Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor Ravindra Narayan Ravi
- **3.** On September 18, Rajasthan assembly has passed a Bill titled "Rajasthan Compulsory Registration of Marriages (Amendment) Bill, 2021" to amend an act on mandatory registration of marriages, including registration of Child marriages. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Rajasthan passed a Bill to amend an act on mandatory registration of marriages including Child marriages
- Rajasthan: Capital Jaipur | CM Ashok Gehlot | Governor Kalraj Mishra
- **4.** In September 2021, Rajasthan state assembly has passed a bill titled "Rajasthan Tourism Business (Amendment) Bill, 2021" to make misbehavior with tourists a cognizable offence. The Bill was brought in the year 2010 for the purpose of improving the pace of tourism business development. {Read more}

- Rajasthan passed a bill to make misbehavior with tourists a cognizable offence
- Rajasthan: Capital Jaipur | CM Ashok Gehlot | Governor Kalraj Mishra





**Presents** 

# **TESTZONE**

India's least priced Test Series Platform



# **All Bank Exams**

2020-2021 Test Series

# @ Just **₹ 599/-**

900+ Mock Tests

- **⊘** Excellent Content
- Unmatched Explanations

**JOIN NOW** 

