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A Crucial Piece of Advice!

We find several students discussing the issue of lack of time and digging out content regarding how to use every second of your time efficiently. Some of you must be thinking, we have 86400 seconds each day, so why should we worry about just a single one? **Does a single second hold that much importance? YES!** When it comes to competition, each & every second is very crucial.

The first question that might come to your mind is “Is that even possible to use each second of your time effectively?” or “Do I even have that much spare time?” Let's help you by looking over the top time drainers of your daily routine:

- On an average, a person spends 67 minutes per day eating and drinking beverages while watching their favorite TV series.
- Travelling is one of the most overlooked time drainers. CNBC claims that the average commute is a little over 50 minutes per day.
- 44% of people waste tons of time just sitting in the traffic, while others keep scrolling through their feeds.
- Digital Information World suggests that people spend 2 hours and 22 minutes on social media.
- More often unproductive chats on WhatsApp are the major time drainers where you waste your time on without even knowing how much time is spent.

Adding up all these, you spend nearly **4 hours** daily or 1/6th of your day doing a whole lot of **NOTHING!** Over the course of a week that amounts to over **28 hours** of wasted time, and more than **1460 hours** or **52,560,000 seconds** annually!! Scary! Isn't it?

But what if you could effectively utilize this time to validate the knowledge you just gained during your study sessions? How about competing with your friend in a live Current Affairs battle instead of just sitting and listening to the traffic horns? How about dominating the English language leaderboard instead of searching for a filter on Snapchat?

Time and tide wait for none! Team Smartkeeda perceived the importance of time and practice in your test preparation journey. We understood how each second can make a huge difference to your career. Therefore, we were determined to build an application that has the competence to save each second of your preparation time making you 100% productive. We worked diligently for 3-4 years to build an application with the single aim of making each second of your test preparation time, efficient.

Folks! We feel thrilled to present you the **Qudoo App**, India's first Education-Gaming-Social platform (EGS) for all major competitive Exams, which has the unique capability of making your breaks extremely productive and refilling.

If you use the **Qudoo App** for 11-21 days during your preparation, in between your breaks, like while travelling, having meals, or instead of using any other social media app, within a few days, you'll feel like you've developed a mechanism inside your head that has the capability to answer the questions within a fraction of seconds. Timer-based points in Qudoo quizzes will create a cognitive reserve inside your brain that will automatically let you develop strategies to solve the questions within seconds to beat the opponent.

We, team **Smartkeeda**, promise that with the effective use of the Qudoo app, you will be able to see a drastic change in your performance at exams including your **speed, accuracy, and percentile** within a couple of weeks with minimum effort. “KYUKI MAA-BAAP KI FIKRA KO FAKRA ME BADALNA HAI”, so every second counts!!





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इस खेल में कोई वित्तीय जोखिम नहीं है और इसकी आदत लग जाए तो अच्छा है।

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National & States Affairs

1. SEBI Chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch launched an ideathon “Manthan” to promote innovation. Manthan is a six-week long ideathon being organised by SEBI in association with BSE, NSE, NSDL, CDSL, KFinTech, CAMS, LinkInTime and MCX. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madhabi Puri Buch (SEBI Chairperson) – launched an ideathon “Manthan” to promote innovation
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

2. Leh Administration signed a tripartite agreement to develop Hanley as ‘Dark Sky Sanctuary’ and Leh Hill Council, Wildlife and Tourism departments will jointly develop the area for Astro Tourism. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Leh Administration – signed a tripartite agreement to develop Hanley area as ‘Dark Sky Sanctuary’
- Leh Hill Council + Wildlife + Tourism departments = will jointly develop Hanley area for Astro Tourism
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur

3. On April 1, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), under Ministry of Commerce & Industry, extended the existing “Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20” (which was valid upto March 31, 2022) for another 6 months upto September 30, 2022. The policy provides guidelines for enhancing exports to push economic growth and create jobs and incentives under different schemes such as Duty Free Import Authorisation (DFIA) and Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DGFT extended the existing “Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20” upto Sep 30, 2022
- DGFT functions under – Ministry of Commerce & Industry (Piyush Goyal – Maharashtra)
- HQs of DGFT – New Delhi | Director General – Santosh Kumar Sarangi

4. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notified that India has allowed genome-edited plants without the cumbersome GMO regulation at the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC). Genome edited plants are different from genetically modified organisms (GMO) technology as the former allows for the generation of functional mutations in the recipient genome at specific targets. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India has allowed genome-edited plants without the cumbersome GMO regulation at the GEAC
- GEAC functions under – Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

5. The Supreme Court (SC) abolished 10.5% reservation within the Most Backward Classes (MBC) community for Vanniyars in Tamil Nadu. The SC upheld the Madras High Court judgement striking down this law brought in Tamil Nadu in 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SC abolished 10.5% reservation within the Most Backward Classes (MBC) community for Vanniyars in Tamil Nadu
- Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice N. V. Ramana (48th)
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi



6. Microsoft launched “Microsoft for Startups Founders Hub in India”, to empower early-stage startup founders in India with over \$3,00,000 worth of benefits and credits. It will give startups free access to the technology, tools, and resources they need to build and run their business. Microsoft also partnered with companies like OpenAI, that develops AI systems such as GPT-3 and Codex, to provide startups with exclusive benefits and discounts. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Microsoft – launched “Microsoft for Startups Founders Hub in India” to empower early-stage startup founders in India
- Microsoft + OpenAI = to provide startups with exclusive benefits & discounts
- [HQs of Microsoft – Washington, US](#) | [Chairman & CEO – Satya Nadella](#) | [Founded in – 1975](#)

7. Geological Survey of India (GSI) identified two geological heritage sites namely Siwalik Fossil Park & Stromatolite bearing Dolomite/Limestone of Buxa Formation in Himachal Pradesh & Sikkim respectively. Ministry of Mines approached Ministry of Culture to explore the possibility of inclusion of Geological Heritage sites declared by GSI, under the purview of existing Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 1958. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- GSI identified two geological heritage sites:
 - Siwalik Fossil Park – in Himachal Pradesh
 - Stromatolite bearing Dolomite/Limestone of Buxa Formation – in Sikkim
- [HQs of GSI – Kolkata, West Bengal](#) | [Director General – S. Raju](#)

8. Madhya Pradesh is set to become the first state in India to impart medical education in Hindi medium. It will soon be followed in engineering education and other professional courses. The ‘CM Sanjeevani Clinic’ for urban areas with a housing population of 25,000 will also be launched soon in Madhya Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madhya Pradesh – will become the first state to start the MBBS course in Hindi
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal](#) | [CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan](#) | [Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel](#)

9. On April 2, Amazon India launched the “Amazon Smbhav Entrepreneurship Challenge 2022”. Designed around the theme of ‘Make in India’, the initiative will provide participating startups from anywhere in the country a chance to showcase their business proposition and get a chance to win cumulative cash prizes up to Rs 65 lakhs and other rewards. Amazon Smbhav Entrepreneurship Challenge is open to startups across all industries, verticals and business models. Amazon announced to host the third edition of ‘Amazon Smbhav’ on May 18th and 19th 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amazon India – to launch 3rd edition of “Amazon Smbhav Entrepreneurship Challenge 2022”
- [HQs of Amazon India – Hyderabad, Telangana](#) | [Country Head – Amit Agarwal](#)

10. Punjab government decided to provide digital J-Forms to the farmers across the state from April 1, 2022 to ensure transparency. This move would provide real time access to system generated authentic digital J-Forms to farmers of the state, who could also download it from PMB website, in Arthia Login ID and DigiLocker. J-Form is the sale receipt of the farmer’s agricultural produce in mandis and was earlier issued manually by arhtiyas. The digital J-Forms for paddy and wheat procured on MSP (minimum support price) would be made available 24X7. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Punjab – to provide digital J-Forms to the farmers across the state to ensure transparency
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Bhagwant Mann | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

11. On April 5, Tata Power Renewables Energy Ltd (TPREL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Tata Power, commissioned a 300-MW Solar Project in Dholera in Gujarat. The project will generate 774 million units of power annually. The single-axis solar tracker systems track the sun from east to west while rotating on a single point. With the addition of 300 MW, the renewables capacity for Tata Power will now be 3,400 MW with 2,468 MW of solar and 932 MW of wind. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tata Power RE – commissioned a 300-MW Solar Project in Dholera, Gujarat
- The RE capacity for Tata Power will now be 3,400 MW (2,468 MW solar + 932 MW wind)
- HQs of Tata Power RE – Mumbai, Maharashtra | President – Ashish Khanna | CEO – Ashwinikumar Patil

12. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MoI&B) ordered the transfer of mandate of producing documentaries and short films, organising film festivals, and preserving films to the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC), a public sector unit working under the I&B Ministry. The ministry also clarified that the ownership of assets available with all film units will remain with the Government of India and the 'Films Division' brand will continue under the NFDC. With this, the Promotional Vertical of the NFDC will take over the task of organising film festivals from the Directorate of Film Festivals (DFF), and the film preservation work done by the National Film Archives of India (NFAI). Moreover, Children's Film Society of India is also included in the NFDC. A budgetary allocation of Rs 1304.52 Cr is set aside for implementing all planned activities until 2026. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoI&B (Govt) ordered the transfer of mandate of all film units to National Film Development Corporation (NFDC)
- Four film media units of NFDC:
 - Films Division
 - Directorate of Film Festivals
 - National Film Archives of India
 - Children's Film Society of India
- Rs 1304.52 Cr – allocated by the central government for film production related activities till 2026
- HQs of NFDC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Ravinder Bhakar

13. The central government approved Rs 434 Cr under the 'Lakshya Zero Dumpsite Mission' for 28 cities in Maharashtra. The objective was to transform urban landscapes by remediating legacy waste and reclaiming approximately 1532 acres. Mumbai holds the maximum amount of legacy waste in the state. The Centre launched the pan-India initiative to get rid of legacy waste October, 2021 under the 'Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central Govt approved Rs 434 Cr under the "Lakshya Zero Dumpsite Mission" for 28 cities in Maharashtra
- Mumbai holds the maximum amount of legacy waste in Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari



14. On April 4, Tamil Nadu CM M. K. Stalin launched the “Kaaval Uthavi” (police assistance) app at the Secretariat. The app was launched with over 60 features to enable public, especially women, to seek police help in case of emergency. The Dial 100 facility has been integrated with the app. It also has facility for mobile-based complaint and location sharing facility. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu – launched the “Kaaval Uthavi” (police assistance) app at the Secretariat
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai](#) | [CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin](#) | [Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi](#)

15. On April 4, Uttar Pradesh, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched the “School Chalo Abhiyan” from Shravasti district to ensure 100% enrolment in primary and upper primary schools. This will be an effort by the state government towards shaping the future of primary education and holistic development of primary schools. Government schools must achieve all the goals of 'Operation Kayakalp' which aims at giving schools a facelift. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – launched the “School Chalo Abhiyan” to ensure 100% enrolment in primary & upper primary schools
- [UP: Capital – Lucknow](#) | [CM – Yogi Adityanath](#) | [Governor – Anandiben Patel](#)

16. On April 4, Dr. Jitendra Singh launched a major futuristic PPP (Public Private Participation) mode initiative for Clean Energy with the launch of “Mission Integrated Bio-refineries” to accelerate Clean Energy solutions through Public-Private Alliances. Dr. Jitendra Singh also launched three Material Acceleration Platforms (MAP) set up by Department of Science and Technology (DST) on Integrated Clean Energy Material Acceleration Platform. Dr. Jitendra Singh also announced “National Funding Opportunity on Sustainable Aviation Fuels”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Jitendra Singh – launched “Mission Integrated Bio-refineries” to accelerate Clean Energy solutions through PPP
- Dr. Jitendra Singh – launched 3 Material Acceleration Platforms (MAP) set up by Dept. of S&T
- Dr. Jitendra Singh – announced “National Funding Opportunity on Sustainable Aviation Fuels”

17. On April 2, Minister of State for Culture & External Affairs, Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi launched the website ‘Temple 360’ in an event organized by Ministry of Culture at IGNCA Ampitheatre, Indira Gandhi National Centre of Arts, New Delhi on the occasion of Nav Varsha. Through this platform people can see and participate in e-Darshan, e-Prashad and e-Aarti which make everyone's life convenient and also keeps people connected. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Temple 360” digital platform – to participate in e-Darshan, e-Prashad and e-Aarti
- The platform launched by – Ministry of Culture
- [Minister of Culture: G. Kishan Reddy](#) | [Constituency – Secunderabad, Telangana](#)
- [MoS in Minister of Culture: Arjun Ram Meghwal & Meenakashi Lekhi](#)

18. On April 1, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy flagged off 500 “Dr YSR Thalli Bidda Express” from Benz Circle in Vijayawada. It is a dedicated transportation facility for new mothers who deliver at government hospitals. Under this scheme, 30 vehicles are allocated to each district with a GPS-enabled system to ensure tracking of the vehicles on real-time basis so that the beneficiaries can get timely service. The service is coordinated by 102 /108 call centre which operates 24X7. A vehicle is arranged within 30 minutes of a request. Dr. YSR Thalli Bidda Express App has been set up for coordination between postnatal women, nurses and drivers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Andhra Pradesh – flagged off 500 “Dr YSR Thalli Bidda Express”, a dedicated transportation facility for new mothers
- [Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan](#)

19. The Railway Protection Force (RPF) conducted drive, “Operation Upalabdh” following the restoration of long-distance train services as the festival and summer rush was expected to bring about a sharp rise in the demand for reserved train seats. The RPF arrested 1,459 touts and blocked 366 IRCTC agent IDs and 6,751 personal IDs as part of a month-long pan-India drive against illegal ticketing. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Railway Protection Force (RPF) – conducted drive, “Operation Upalabdh” against illegal ticketing
- [HQs of RPF – New Delhi, India | Director General – Sanjay Chander](#)
- [Ministry of Railways: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Railways: Danve Raosaheb Dadarao & Darshana Vikram Jardosh](#)

20. On April 3, Andhra Pradesh set up its first “She Auto” stands to provide safe transport to women. Tirupati is the first city in the state to set up special auto stands for women like this. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Andhra Pradesh – set up its first “She Auto” stands to provide safe transport to women
- [Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan](#)

21. On April 7, Tata group (owned by Tata Sons) launched its super app “Neu”. Neu will challenge Flipkart, Amazon, and Jio platforms in the digital e-commerce space. Tata Neu is a unified platform that will connect multiple brands across the Tata universe of products and services. Moreover, Tata Group recently acquired a majority stake in Saankhya Lab, a semiconductor firm. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tata group – launched its super app “Neu”
- [HQs of Tata Sons – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Natarajan Chandrasekaran](#)

22. On April 5, a team of archaeologists discovered 65 mysterious giant sandstone jars scattered across four new sites in Assam that may have been used for funerary rites. The details of the discovery were published in the journal Asian Archaeology. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Archaeologists discovered 65 mysterious giant sandstone jars scattered across four new sites in Assam
- [Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi](#)

23. On April 4, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy formally launched 13 new districts in the state taking the total number to 26. Each district will now have 6 to 8 assembly segments except in one tribal district. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Andhra Pradesh CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy formally launched 13 new districts in the state (Total – 26 districts)
- [Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan](#)

24. On April 4, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting launched the “Broadcast Seva Portal”, a platform aimed at improving ease of doing business in the broadcast industry. This portal is integrated with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs portal. This will be an online portal solution for speedy filing and processing of applications of broadcasters for various kinds of licences, permissions, registrations etc. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Information & Broadcasting – launched the “Broadcast Seva Portal” for improving ease of doing business
- This portal is integrated with – Ministry of Corporate Affairs portal
- [Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: Anurag Singh Thakur | Constituency – Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: L. Murugan](#)

25. On April 5, the Union Minister of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav launched a mascot “Prakriti” to spread greater awareness among masses about small changes that can be sustainably adopted in our lifestyle for a better environment. The minister also launched various Green Initiatives for Effective Plastic Waste Management taken by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC) and Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to ensure effective Plastic Waste Management (PWM) in India. To tackle the challenge of plastic pollution, PM Narendra Modi announced India’s pledge to phase out “Single Use Plastics (SUPs)” by 2022. Bhupender Yadav also administered “Swachh Bharat Harit Bharat Green Pledge” to the gathering. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bhupender Yadav – launched a mascot “Prakriti” & “Green Initiatives for Effective Plastic Waste Management”
- Green Initiatives for effective PWM in India are taken by = MoEFCC + CPCB
- PM Narendra Modi announced India’s pledge to phase out “Single Use Plastics (SUPs)” by 2022

26. On April 3, in Ladakh, a ‘Community Museum’ was inaugurated in Gya - Sasoma villages of Leh district to preserve its rich cultural heritage for future generations. Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, LAHDC, Leh Chairman/CEC Tashi Gyaltson inaugurated the Community Museum in Gya - Sasoma. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A ‘Community Museum’ was inaugurated in – Gya - Sasoma villages, Leh, Ladakh
- [Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur](#)

27. Delhi government plans to set up “Hobby Hubs” in government schools for the 2022-2023 academic session. Private academies, individuals and NGOs will be roped in to provide free training in fields selected by the schools. There are five broad categories of activities: dance, music, technical, literary & others. The idea is to make optimum use of school infrastructure and to use it after school hours to promote these extra-curricular activities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi Govt – plans to set up “Hobby Hubs” in government schools for the 2022-2023 academic session
- Five broad categories of activities: Dance, Music, Technical, Literary & Others
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Bajjal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

28. On April 2, National Commission for Women (NCW) launched an “Anti-Human Trafficking Cell” to improve effectiveness in tackling cases of human trafficking, raising awareness among women and girls, capacity building and training of anti-trafficking units and to increase the responsiveness of law enforcement agencies. The Cell will conduct gender sensitization training and workshops in combating human trafficking for police officers and for prosecutors at regional, state and district levels. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NCW – launched an “Anti-Human Trafficking Cell” to improve effectiveness in tackling cases of human trafficking
- HQs of NCW – New Delhi | Chairperson – Rekha Sharma | Founded in – 1992

29. On April 7, the Petroglyphs of Konkan region, spread across Maharashtra and Goa, are among the three Indian attractions that have been added to the Tentative List of UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) World Heritage Sites. The other two Indian sites are Jingkieng Jri, the living root bridge in Meghalaya, and Sri Veerabhadra Temple in Andhra Pradesh’s Lepakshi. Petroglyphs or Geoglyphs are a form of rock art. The petroglyphs in Ratnagiri region are also known as ‘Katal shilpa’. The Tentative List in UNESCO mentions 7 sites with petroglyphs in Ratnagiri district - Ukshi, Jambharun, Kasheli, Rundhe Tali, Devihsol, Barsu and Devache Gothane, one in Sindhudurg district - Kudopi village, and 9 sites at Pansaimol in Goa. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘Petroglyphs’ (Geoglyphs) of Konkan region – added to the Tentative List of UNESCO World Heritage Sites
- Other 2 Indian sites on the list: ‘Jingkieng Jri’ living root bridge ([Meghalaya](#)) & Sri Veerabhadra Temple ([Andhra Pradesh](#))

30. On April 6, the central government formed an Advisory Committee for ₹76,000 Cr “Semicon India” programme, which will include senior government officials, established academicians as well as industry and domain experts. The Committee will be chaired by the Minister of Electronics and IT Ashwini Vaishnaw with the Minister of State, Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY), Rajeev Chandrasekhar, as the Vice-Chairperson. Ajay Prakash Sawhney, the Secretary of MeitY, will be the convener. A specialised and dedicated “India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)” has been set up within Digital India Corporation to drive India’s strategies for developing the ecosystem. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central government formed an Advisory Committee for ₹76,000 Cr “Semicon India” programme
- Chairman of the committee – Ashwini Vaishnaw | VC – Rajeev Chandrasekhar | Convener – Ajay Prakash Sawhney

31. On April 5, Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel announced to create a Conducive Environment for the rehabilitation of families who had taken refuge in neighbouring Andhra Pradesh during “Salwa Judum” movement. In 2005, Salwa Judum, which in Gondi means ‘Peace March’ or ‘Purification Hunt’ was essentially a counter-insurgency group from within tribals to take on the Maoists. It was supposed to be a peace mission and was launched by Mahendra Karma. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Chhattisgarh Govt – to rehabilitate people who migrated during ‘Salwa Judum’ movement
- ‘Salwa Judum’ movement was started by Mahendra Karma (in 2005)
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

32. On April 6, Grain commerce platform Arya.ag joined the UN Global Compact (UNGC) India, voluntarily confirming to the universal sustainability principles and taking steps to support the UN sustainability development goals (SDGs). The United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) is an evolved framework of corporate governance driven sustainability. By conforming to the SDGs 2030 and 10 UNGC principles, Arya.ag will conduct business in alignment with UN Global Compact Network India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arya.ag – joined the UN Global Compact India to support the UN SDGs
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres | Formed in – October 24, 1945

33. On April 6, The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD) launched a pilot project in Uttarakhand to implement the ‘One Health’ framework by One Health Support Unit. The key objective of the Unit is to develop a National One Health roadmap based on the learnings of the pilot project implementation. The ‘One Health India’ program initiated by the Department will work with stakeholders from various sectors to improve livestock health, human health, wildlife health, and environmental health through technology and finance. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DAHD – launched a pilot project in Uttarakhand to implement the ‘One Health’ framework by One Health Support Unit
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh

34. On April 8, Maharashtra State Power Generation Company (MAHAGENCO) and National Thermal Power Corporation will form a joint venture to set up an “Ultra-Mega Solar Park” in the state to generate 2,500 MW green power. The Rs 1,727 Cr project proposal was kick-started in 2020. These projects would create 7,500 jobs during construction and 5,000 during operations, boost local economies and help provide clean & cheap energy to the consumers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MAHAGENCO + NTPC = will set up an “Ultra-Mega Solar Park” in Maharashtra to generate 2,500 MW green power
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh | Founded in – 1975

35. On April 2, the Indian Coast Guard unit Karaikal inducted interceptor boat “C-436” (ICGS C-436) to its fleet to improve surveillance along the coastline of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. The Interceptor Boat (IB), which is the 36th of its series, was commissioned at its base port of Krishnapatnam by then chief secretary of Andhra Pradesh Dinesh Kumar on January 5, 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICG inducted its “C-436” Interceptor Boat at Karaikal Port, Puducherry
- Puducherry: CM – N. Rangasamy | Governor – Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan (Addl. Charge)



36. On April 6, Union Minister for Jal Shakti, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat launched the “Digital Dashboard for District Ganga Committees (DGCs) Performance Monitoring System (GDPMS)” to help the DGCs in enhancing people-river connect. The meeting was also attended virtually by the representatives of over 100 District Ganga Committees from across the Ganga Basin. Shri Shekhawat emphasized on “Arth Ganga Model”, envisioned by PM Narendra Modi. The Minister also emphasized on the DGC 4Ms (Monthly, Mandated, Monitored and Minuted) meetings to take place regularly (2nd Friday of every month). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gajendra Singh Shekhawat launched “Digital Dashboard for District Ganga Committees Performance Monitoring System”
- GS Shekhawat – emphasized on “Arth Ganga Model”, envisioned by PM Narendra Modi
- GS Shekhawat – also emphasized on the ‘DGC 4Ms’ (Monthly, Mandated, Monitored & Minuted) meetings

37. On April 8, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (I&B) constituted an Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming & Comics (AVGC) Promotion Task Force. The task force is headed by Apoorva Chandra, Secretary of Ministry of I&B. The Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comic (AVGC) sector in India has the potential to become the torchbearer of ‘Create in India’ & ‘Brand India’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of I&B – constituted an AVGC Promotion Task Force – headed by Apoorva Chandra
- Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: Anurag Singh Thakur | Constituency – Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: L. Murugan

38. April 7, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami launched an anti-corruption mobile app called “1064 Anti-Corruption Mobile App” developed by the state's Vigilance Department. The app makes it easier for people to lodge graft related complaints directly with the authorities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pushkar Singh Dhami (Uttarakhand) – launched “1064 Anti-Corruption Mobile App”
- The app is developed Vigilance Department of Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh

39. On April 6, the Tamil Nadu government formed a 13-member panel to frame the state education policy, in response to the National Education Policy. Headed by Delhi High Court retired Chief Justice D. Murugesan, the panel members include former chess world champion Viswanathan Anand and prominent Carnatic musician T. M. Krishna, among others. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu Govt – formed a 13-member panel to frame the “State Education Policy”
- The panel is headed by D. Murugesan (Delhi HC retired Chief Justice)
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

40. On April 6, The Haryana Vidhan Sabha passed a resolution seeking completion of the Sutlej Yamuna Link Canal (SYL) Canal for issue of sharing of river waters between Haryana and Punjab. The canal, once completed, will enable sharing of the waters of the rivers Ravi and Beas between the two states. The issue dates back to 1966 at the time of reorganisation of Punjab and formation of Haryana was formed. Punjab was opposed to sharing the waters of the two rivers with Haryana. The Eradi Tribunal headed by Supreme Court Judge V Balakrishna Eradi was set up to reassess availability and sharing of water. In 1987, the tribunal recommended an increase in the shares of Punjab and Haryana to 5 MAF and 3.83 MAF, respectively. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana Vidhan Sabha – passed a resolution seeking completion of the Sutlej Yamuna Link Canal to solve water dispute between Haryana and Punjab
- The Eradi Tribunal set up to reassess availability & sharing of water was headed by – SC Judge V Balakrishna Eradi
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Bhagwant Mann | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

41. On April 9, the National Horticulture Board (NHB) has selected Anantapur, Kurnool and Kadapa districts of Andhra Pradesh for the implementation of a pilot project of the “Cluster Development Programme (CDP)”. It is one of the 53 horticulture crop clusters in India with a specific crop in each cluster. The NHB has approved an additional layout of funds for the total project cost of ₹269.95 Cr suggested by Andhra Pradesh. Initially, the programme would be rolled out in 12 clusters in 11 States. In Andhra Pradesh, the banana crop cluster has been selected for the pilot launch. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NHB selected Anantapur, Kurnool & Kadapa districts of Andhra Pradesh for the implementation of a pilot project of the “Cluster Development Programme (CDP)”
- Banana crop cluster is selected for the pilot launch in Andhra Pradesh
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

42. On April 7, University Grants Commission (UGC) has approved establishment of Santha Kabi Bhima Bhoi chairs at two Central universities - University of Delhi and Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur. Santha Kabi Bhimabhoi played a stellar role in rekindling the cultural and literary consciousness in Odisha. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UGC approved establishment of “Santha Kabi Bhima Bhoi chairs” at University of Delhi & Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya
- Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya – located in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh
- Santha Kabi Bhimabhoi – a saint from Odisha
- HQs of UGC – New Delhi | Chairman – Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar | Founded in – 1956

43. On April 7, Union Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi approved the continuation of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), till March 2023. The intended targets that will be achieved by AIM are: establishing 10,000 Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs), establishing 101 Atal Incubation Centres, establishing 50 Atal Community Innovation Centres, and supporting 200 start-ups via the Atal New India Challenges. The Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) is a flagship initiative set up by the NITI Aayog in 2016 to promote innovation and entrepreneurship. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved the continuation of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) till March 2023
- HQs of AIM – New Delhi | Director – Chintan Vaishnav | Launched in – 2016 (a flagship initiative of NITI Aayog)

44. On April 8, KVIC launched “Banarasi Pashmina” to boost self-sustainability & Artisanal Creativity. This is for the first time that Pashmina products are being produced outside the region of Leh-Ladakh and Jammu & Kashmir. KVIC will sell the “Made-in-Varanasi” Pashmina products through its showrooms, outlets and through its online portal. Pashmina production in Varanasi alone would add nearly Rs 25 Cr to Khadi’s turnover in Varanasi. Pashmina weaving in Varanasi would ensure round-the-year livelihood to women artisans in Leh-Ladakh where spinning activities are suspended for nearly half the year due to the extreme cold. To facilitate this, KVIC has also set up a Pashmina wool processing unit in Leh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- KVIC – launched “Banarasi Pashmina” to boost self-sustainability & Artisanal Creativity
- KVIC – set up a Pashmina wool processing unit in Leh
- HQs of KVIC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Vinai Kumar Saxena | Founded in – 1956

45. On April 11, indigenously designed and developed, three different types of Loitering Munitions were successfully tested in Ladakh at over 15,000 feet, with the Army Design Bureau facilitating trials at Nubra Valley to rate performance and safety standards. The three munitions - two fixed wing variants and a hexacopter - have been developed by Economic Explosives Ltd in partnership with Bangalore-based start-up Z Motion Autonomous System Pvt Ltd. The defence ministry has also placed loitering munitions on a recently released ‘import ban’ list. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 3 different types of Loitering Munitions were successfully tested at Nubra Valley in Ladakh at over 15,000 feet
- Developed by = Economic Explosives Ltd + Z Motion Autonomous System
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur

46. On April 7, the central government extended Rs 40 Cr relief to the Dalai Lama’s Central Tibetan Relief Committee (CTRC) for another 5 years up to 2025-26. This scheme was extended after the Galwan incident in June 2020 where 20 soldiers were killed in violent clashes with the PLA in Ladakh. The scheme provides for an annual grant of Rs 8 Cr to the CTRC to meet the administrative expenses of settlement offices and social welfare expenses for Tibetan refugees. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Govt extended Rs 40 Cr relief to the Dalai Lama’s Central Tibetan Relief Committee (CTRC) till 2025-26
- The scheme provides for an annual grant of Rs 8 Cr to the CTRC

47. On April 6, Jal Shakti minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat inspected the 564 Minimal Liquid Discharge (MLD) Okhla Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) which is being constructed as part of the Yamuna cleaning process. Okhla STP is the biggest sewage treatment plant in Asia. The total sanction cost of the Okhla STP project is ₹665.78 Cr where 85% of the cost is borne by the central government under the Namami Gange Programme and 15% by the state government. It has been decided to expedite the STP work in Delhi from December 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gajendra Singh Shekhawat – inspected 564 Minimal Liquid Discharge (MLD) Okhla Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP)
- Okhla STP – a part of Yamuna cleaning process | Location – Delhi | Cost – ₹665.78 Cr (Asia’s biggest STP)

48. On April 7, India and Australia set up a Young Defence Officers’ Exchange Programme in memory of late chief of defence staff General Bipin Rawat and named it after him. Hashtags #Outcomes #AusIndSummit were also used for the programme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Australia = set up a Young Defence Officers’ Exchange Programme in memory of General Bipin Rawat
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison



49. On April 9, the 20th Meeting of National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) was held in Pakke tiger reserve in Arunachal Pradesh under the chairmanship of Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change Shri Bhupender Yadav. For the first time in history the NTCA meeting happened outside the national capital. On the occasion around 100 air guns were surrendered by the local villagers. Arunachal Pradesh in March 2021, had started the Air Gun Surrender Abhiyaan. The Minister released standard operating procedure for tiger reintroduction and supplementation in wild, forest fire audit protocol for tiger reserves, technical manual on MEE of Tiger reserves in India prepared by NTCA. The NTCA has prepared a Standard Operating Protocol (SOP) titled, 'Tiger Reintroduction and Supplementation in Wild Protocol' to deal with the reintroduction and supplementation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 20th Meeting of NTCA – held in Pakke tiger reserve in Arunachal Pradesh (first time outside Delhi)
- Meeting was chaired by – Bhupender Yadav
- Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Bhupender Yadav | Constituency – Rajasthan
- MoS in Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Ashwini Kumar Choubey
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B. D. Mishra

50. The National Health Authority (NHA) launched the Unified Health Interface (UHI) under the “Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)”. UHI is an open network designed to enable interoperable digital health service delivery like tele-consultations. UHI will be powered by decentralised health protocols (DHP) built by an open community of developers and deployed on a gateway built by NHA. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NHA – launched the Unified Health Interface (UHI) under “Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)”
- HQs of NHA – New Delhi | CEO – Ram Sevak Sharma | Founded in – 2018

51. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) is celebrating “Pariksha Parv-4.0” from April 11, 2022 to May 31, 2022. NCPCR has been celebrating exams with its campaign ‘Pariksha Parv’ since 2019. ‘Pariksha Parv 4.0’ is an endeavor for providing a platform for students, parents and teachers to share their thoughts and get guidance and important tips from the experts. “SAMVEDNA” (1800-121-2830) is a toll-free Tele counseling service of NCPCR by trained Counsellors for COVID related stress which will now be extended for students to cope up with exam and result related queries, stress and anxiety. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NCPCR is celebrating “Pariksha Parv-4.0” from April 11 to May 31
- “SAMVEDNA” – a toll-free Tele counseling service of NCPCR
- HQs of NCPCR – New Delhi | Chairman – Priyank Kanongoo

52. On April 8, All India Radio News launched a new weekly interactive programme, “Abhyaas” for Competitive Examinations. It is aimed at reaching out to students and job seekers preparing for competitive examinations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AIR News – launched a new weekly interactive programme, “Abhyaas” for Competitive Examinations
- HQs of AIR – New Delhi | DG – N. Venudhar Reddy

53. On April 8, Union Home and Cooperative Minister Amit Shah inaugurated “Seema Darshan Project” at Nadabet located on the Indo-Pak border in Banaskantha District of Gujarat. ‘Seemadarshan Project’ is initiated with the aim to provide an opportunity to the people to visualize the life and work of the BSF personnel on our border. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amit Shah – inaugurated “Seema Darshan Project” on Indo-Pak border at Nadabet, Banaskantha, Gujarat
- ‘Seemadarshan Project’ provides an opportunity to the people to visualize the life and work of the BSF personnel
- HQs of BSF – New Delhi | DG – Pankaj Kumar Singh | Established on – Dec 1, 1965 | Motto – “Duty Unto Death”

54. Kangra tea is likely to get European Union’s geographical indication (GI) tag. Tea cultivation and development in the Kangra region of Himachal Pradesh has improved constantly since April 1999 when the industries department transferred the subject to the agriculture department. In 2005, the Kangra tea had received the Indian GI tag. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘Kangra tea’ (Himachal Pradesh) – to get European Union’s GI tag
- Kangra tea had received the Indian GI tag in 2005
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

55. On April 11, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) launched 3 applications under the “Intelligent Transportation System (ITS)” as part of the ‘InTranSE- II’ program to improve India's traffic scenario. Onboard Driver Assistance and Warning System (ODAWS), Bus Signal Priority System and Common SMart iot Connectiv (CoSMiC) software were developed as a joint initiative by Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) and IIT Madras. In around 84% of cases, ‘driver error’ was cited as the cause of the accident. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MeitY launched 3 applications under the “Intelligent Transportation System” (developed by C-DAC & IIT Madras)
 - Onboard Driver Assistance & Warning System (ODAWS)
 - Bus Signal Priority System
 - Common SMart iot Connectiv (CoSMiC) software

56. On April 11, the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) launched an India Alumni Portal, as a platform to connect with foreign students around the world who have studied in India. The portal is to be a single platform for all past and present foreign scholars to register, interact, maintain their Indian linkages and remain anchored India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICCR – launched an “India Alumni Portal” to connect with foreign students around the world
- HQs of ICCR – New Delhi | DG – Kumar Tuhin | President – Vinay Sahasrabuddhe | Founded in – 1950

57. On April 11, Manoj Joshi, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) launched “SVANidhi se Samridhi” program in additional 126 cities across 14 States/UTs. ‘SVANidhi se Samridhi’, an additional program of PMSVANidhi was launched on January 4, 2021 in 125 cities in Phase 1. MoHUA has been implementing ‘Prime Minister Street Vendors AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi)’, a Central Sector Scheme since June, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manoj Joshi – launched “SVANidhi se Samridhi” program in additional 126 cities across 14 States/UTs
- ‘SVANidhi se Samridhi’ program – launched in Jan, 2021
- About “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%

58. On April 12, Organiko, a Delhi-based social enterprise, is setting up India’s first Conservation Park for Donkeys in Leh. The NGO is also trying to explore the economic prospects to help locals earn a livelihood. Donkeys in Ladakh are kiangs (*Equus kiang*), the largest wild ass species in the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Organiko ([Delhi](#)) – is setting up India’s first Conservation Park for Donkeys in Leh, Ladakh
- [Ladakh: Capital – Leh](#) | [Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur](#)

59. On April 12, Bengaluru became the first Indian city to get into the Global Silk City Network. West Bengal’s Murshidabad district (known to produce fine silk in the over the past 300 years) may join the global silk city network in the next few years. The global Silk City network so far has 13 best silk-producing cities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bengaluru – became the first Indian city to get into the Global Silk City Network
- [Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore](#) | [CM – Basavaraj Bommai](#) | [Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot](#)

60. Apple has started assembling its iPhone 13 in India at the Foxconn plant in Tamil Nadu. The Foxconn plant also manufactures the iPhone 12 and iPhone 11 in India. The move comes after the government introduced a production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme that promotes the manufacturing and assembling of smartphones in the India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Apple – started assembling its iPhone 13 in India at the Foxconn plant – in Tamil Nadu
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai](#) | [CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin](#) | [Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi](#)

61. On April 15, Ministry of Roads, Transport and Highways (MoRTH) developed a portal named “e-DAR” (e-Detailed Accident Report). The web portal will be linked to the Integrated Road Accident Database (iRAD). The portal will provide instant information on road accidents with a few clicks and help accelerate accident compensation claims, bringing relief to victims’ families. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoRTH – developed a portal named “e-DAR” (e-Detailed Accident Report)
- [Ministry of Road Transport & Highways: Nitin Gadkari](#) | [Constituency – Nagpur, Maharashtra](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Road Transport & Highways: V. K. Singh](#)



62. On April 13, Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia and Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu flagged off the first flight of Made in India HAL's "Dornier 228" to link airports as well as Advanced Landing Grounds (ALGs) of India's Northeast region. The flight will be operational from Dibrugarh in the state of Assam to Pasighat in Arunachal Pradesh and then to Lilabari in Assam. The Ministry of Civil Aviation (MCA) has approved a budgetary support of Rs 500 Cr for enhancing Air Connectivity as well as Aviation Infrastructure in the Northeastern region till March 2024. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jyotiraditya M. Scindia + Pema Khandu = flagged off the first flight of Made in India HAL's "Dornier-228"
- First flight of "Dornier-228" – from Assam to Arunachal Pradesh
- MCA approved a budgetary support of Rs 500 Cr for enhancing Air Connectivity & Aviation Infrastructure till March 2024

63. April 15, a training institute for Drone pilots, under the aegis of the Drone Imaging and Information Service of Haryana Limited (DRIISHYA), will be set up in Haryana to support capacity development. Haryana is the first state to create a separate corporation to hasten unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV)-driven governance application. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Training institute for Drone pilots" will be set up in Haryana
- Haryana – the first state to create a separate corporation to hasten UAV-driven governance application
- [Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya](#)

64. On April 14, the Central Government launched India's biggest ever Quiz Contest "Sabka Vikas Mahaquiz", which aims to build awareness amongst citizens about Government's various developmental and welfare schemes and good governance. The theme of the first quiz is "Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY)" under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (MoCAFPD). In the quiz, 1000 participants can earn Rs 2000 each from 14th April to 28th April. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central Government – launched India's biggest ever Quiz Contest "Sabka Vikas Mahaquiz"
- The theme of the first quiz – "Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PM-GKAY)" (operated by MoCAFPD)

65. Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia inaugurated Northeast India's first-ever "Flying Training Academy" in Assam's Lilabari. The flying academy is developed by Redbird Flight Training Academy in collaboration with the Airports Authority of India (AAI). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jyotiraditya Scindia – inaugurated Northeast India's first-ever "Flying Training Academy" in Lilabari, Assam
- The flying academy is developed by = Redbird Flight Training Academy + AAI
- [Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi](#)
- [HQs of AAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Sanjeev Kumar](#)

66. On April 16, Maharashtra government developed a first of its kind Migration Tracking System (MTS) application to map the movement of vulnerable seasonal migrant workers through individual unique identity numbers. The MTS project is envisaged to maintain the continuity of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) like nutrition supply, immunisation and health check-up etc. The state government's Women and Child Development (WCD) department had launched it as a pilot project in November, 2021 in 6 districts. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra – first state to develop Migration Tracking System (MTS) to maintain the continuity of the 'ICDS'
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

67. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) in collaboration with States & UTs celebrated the 4th Anniversary of Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs) under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav from April 16-22, 2022. During the celebration, Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya released a quarterly report on AB-HWCs. The central government has provided more than 2.48 Cr tele-consultation services through 1.17 lakh Ayushman Bharat Health Wellness Centres (AB-HWC) across India in last 4 years. "E-Sanjeevani" is providing affordable and accessible health care to the people across India. The Centre is committed to commissioning a total of 1,50,000 AB-HWCs by the end of this year across the country. The first AB-HWC in Jangla, Chhattisgarh was started in 2018. 'e-Sanjeevani' platform is developed by Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoHFW – celebrated the 4th Anniversary of "Ayushman Bharat Health & Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs)" in April
- The first AB-HWC was started in 2018 in Jangla, Chhattisgarh
- Govt planned to launch tele-consultation facility 'e-Sanjeevani' at 1 lakh AB-HWCs from 18-22 April
- Govt plans to commission a total of 1,50,000 AB-HWCs across India by the end of 2022

68. The University Grants Commission (UGC) announced that students will now be able to pursue two full-time academic programmes in physical mode simultaneously. The commission has put together a set of guidelines regarding the same on its website. Students can either choose a combination of a diploma programme and an undergraduate (UG) degree, two master's programmes, or two bachelor's programmes. The rationale behind the decision to allow students to pursue two academic degrees simultaneously is to help them gain diverse skills, according to the UGC. The UGC is a statutory body set up by the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education and it is governed by UGC Act 1956. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UGC allowed students to pursue two full-time Academic Programmes in physical mode simultaneously
- HQs of UGC – New Delhi | Chairman – Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar | Founded in – 1956

69. For the first time in India, a Seaweed Park will be set up in Tamil Nadu to improve the livelihood of fishermen. The project to raise quality fish fry in the sea would be implemented under the "Prime Minister's Matsya Sampada Yojana". Rs. 20,000 Cr is to be invested in Tamil Nadu for fisheries projects. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A Seaweed Park will be set up in Tamil Nadu under the "Prime Minister's Matsya Sampada Yojana" (first of its kind)
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

70. On April 12, India's first Persian newspaper Mirat-ul-Akhbar completed 200 years. Mirat-ul-Akhbar began publication from colonial Calcutta on April 12, 1822 and was the first first printed journal in the Persian world. The weekly journal, published on Fridays, was founded and edited by Raja Ram Mohan Roy, a polymath, scholar and reformer. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- India's first Persian newspaper Mirat-ul-Akhbar completed 200 years on April 12 (began publication in 1822)
- 'Mirat-ul-Akhbar' was founded by – Raja Ram Mohan Roy

71. On April 15, Bihar government sent a fresh proposal to the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to get "Cyclopean Wall" listed in the UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is a more than 2,500 years old structure at Rajgir. The Cyclopean Wall of Rajgir is a 40 km long wall of stone which encircled the ancient city of Rajgir to protect it from external enemies and invaders, built before 3rd century BC. Bihar is the home to two UNESCO World Heritage Sites - Nalanda University & Mahabodhi temple. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bihar Govt sent a fresh proposal to ASI to get "Cyclopean Wall" listed in the UNESCO World Heritage Site
- "Cyclopean Wall", a 40 km long wall of stone – located in Rajgir, Bihar
- Nalanda University & Mahabodhi temple – located in Bihar (UNESCO World Heritage Sites)

72. On April 13, International Institute of Information Technology Hyderabad (IIITH) hosted its first national symposium under the "Quantum Enabled Science & Technology (QuEST)" program initiated by Department of Science & Technology (DST) from April 11-13, 2022. The Symposium was conducted by the national coordinator of QuEST, Professor Arun K Pati and Prof Apoorva Patel who is also the co-ordinator of QuEST. The same was hosted by IIITH's Centre for Quantum Science and Technology (CQST). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIIT Hyderabad – hosted its first National Symposium under the "QuEST" program initiated by DST

73. On April 13, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj department of Jammu & Kashmir administration launched a mobile app called "Jan Nigrani" to help people lodge complaints related to various schemes online. The app is an internet based solution for reporting and resolving grievances by the residents of the Jammu and Kashmir against various schemes of the department. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rural Development & Panchayati Raj dept (J&K) – launched a mobile app called "Jan Nigrani"
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

74. On April 18, Telangana government launched a State-specific "Space Tech Framework", with the aim of establishing the State as a globally recognised one-stop destination for space technology. The event is India's first-ever official event hosted on Metaverse. Hyderabad-based technology company Gamitronics has created a blockchain technology led metaverse platform PartyNite where the government's space-tech policy was introduced at a SpaceShip walk through event. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Telangana Govt – launched a State-specific "Space Tech Framework" on the Metaverse platform (first of its kind)
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

75. On April 18, Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar launched two portals namely, Computerized Registration of Pesticide (CROP) and Plant Quarantine Management System (PQMS). The new portals will benefit farmers, exporters as well as industrialists. These two portals have been launched keeping in mind Prime Minister's vision for the Agriculture sector and would help in taking forward digital Agriculture and Ease of doing Business. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Narendra Singh Tomar launched two portals namely:
 - Computerized Registration of Pesticide (CROP)
 - Plant Quarantine Management System (PQMS)

76. On April 15, Union Minister Piyush Goyal announced that India's pharmaceutical sector could get access to export incentives if the Commerce Ministry succeeds in securing higher budgetary allocations for the Remission of Duties & Taxes on Export Products (RoDTEP) scheme. The government had excluded sectors such as Iron & Steel, Chemicals, and Pharmaceuticals from the RoDTEP scheme notified in August 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sectors excluded from the RoDTEP scheme: Iron & Steel, Chemicals, and Pharmaceuticals
- RoDTEP – Remission of Duties & Taxes on Exported Products (effective from Jan 2021)

77. NITI Aayog plans to launch a National Data and Analytics Platform (NDAP) in May to provide government data in a user-friendly format and to promote data-driven decision making and research. The portal will help policymakers, academics and researchers to easily analyse data without having to process it. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog – plans to launch a “National Data & Analytics Platform (NDAP)” in May
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

78. In the presence of Union Minority Affairs Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting and Youth Affairs & Sports, Anurag Thakur inaugurated the 40th edition of the ‘Hunar Haat’, held in Mumbai from April 16-27, 2022. Hunar Haat is a credible platform to promote ‘Swadeshi’ products. The minister also highlighted ‘Tejas’, a skilling programme which is launched by Government of India. Under this initiative, India will send skilled manpower to UAE. Within a year, 30,000 skilled job-seekers will be sent to UAE. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anurag Thakur – inaugurated the 40th edition of ‘Hunar Haat’ – held in Mumbai, Maharashtra
- India will send skilled manpower to UAE – under ‘Tejas’ skilling programme
- ‘Hunar Haat’ is organised by – Ministry of Minority Affairs
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

79. On April 17, India's first-ever radio channel for the visually impaired, named “Radio Aksh” was launched in Nagpur, with the Blind Relief Association, Nagpur and Samdrushti Kshamata Vikas Avam Anusandhan Mandal (Saksham) serving as the pioneers of the concept. It will help the visually-impaired gain seamless access to education resources and audiobooks. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India's first-ever radio channel for the visually impaired, named “Radio Aksh” was launched in Nagpur, Maharashtra
- Pioneers of the concept = Blind Relief Association + Saksham
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari



80. On April 20, California-based Biliti Electric Inc (Biliti) announced to setup the world's largest electric three-wheeler factory in Telangana, with a production capacity of 2,40,000 electric vehicles each year. The new plant is estimated to drive private investment of \$150 million and expected to create over 3,000 jobs in the State. Biliti currently operates through an exclusive manufacturing partnership with Hyderabad-based Gayam Motor Works (GMW) for manufacturing its three-wheelers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Biliti (US) – announced to setup the world's largest electric three-wheeler factory in Telangana
- Expected production capacity – 2,40,000 electric vehicles/year | Estimated investment – \$150 million
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

81. On April 19, the SEBI reconstituted its Advisory Committee for Leveraging Regulatory and Technology Solutions (ALeRTS), which provides guidance on enhancing the regulator's technological capabilities. The ALeRTS will now be headed by Sunil Bajpai, former Principal Advisor (Information Technology) at the TRAI. The 7-member committee, which was set-up by the SEBI in December 2021, was earlier chaired by Madhabi Puri Buch. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI reconstituted its 7-member Advisory Committee for Leveraging Regulatory & Technology Solutions (ALeRTS)
- The ALeRTS will now be headed by – Sunil Bajpai
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

82. The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) broke all previous records to create the highest ever employment under Prime Minister's Employment Generation Program (PMEGP). The KVIC established 1.03 lakh new manufacturing and service units and created over 8.25 lakh jobs. This is for the first time since the launch of the PMEGP Scheme in 2008, that KVIC has established over 1 lakh new units in a financial year. These 1,03,219 units were established at a total capital of nearly Rs 12,000 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- KVIC – broke all previous records to create the highest ever employment under 'PMEGP'
- KVIC established 1.03 lakh new units & created over 8.25 lakh jobs | PMEGP Scheme launched in – 2008
- HQs of KVIC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Vinai Kumar Saxena | Founded in – 1956

83. On April 21, Skill India (or National Skills Development Mission of India), in partnership with the Directorate General of Training (DGT), organised an "Apprenticeship Mela" at more than 700 locations throughout India. The initiative aims to support the hiring of over 1 lakh apprentices while assisting employers in tapping the right talent. Over 4000 organisations across more than 30 sectors participated in this "Apprenticeship Mela". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Skill India + DGT = organised an "Apprenticeship Mela" at more than 700 locations throughout India
- Skill India – launched in 2015 by PM Modi (Managed by – NSDC)

84. On April 18, Rajasthan became the first State in India to get the 'L-route' server to provide its flagship digital services and enforce e-governance with seamless internet connectivity. The new facility will strengthen internet infrastructure and help improve security and resilience of internet-based operations. The new server has been installed at the Bhamashah State Data Centre here in association with the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajasthan – became the first State in India to get the ‘L-route’ server to strengthen internet infrastructure
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

85. On April 16, the Punjab government announced 300 units of free power for households in the state every month from July 1, but with a caveat that they will have to pay the full bill if their usage exceeds 600 units in two months (300 units per month). However, scheduled castes, backward castes, below-poverty-line households and freedom fighters will be charged just for the usage over and above 600 units. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Punjab Govt – announced 300 units of free power for households in the state every month from July 1, 2022
- People will have to pay the full bill if their usage exceeds 600 units in two months
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Bhagwant Mann | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

86. On April 17, the Border Roads Organisation Director General Lieutenant General Rajeev Chaudhary announced to construct the world’s highest tunnel at Shinku La Pass at 16,580 feet to connect Himachal Pradesh with Ladakh. The Centre has already made ‘Project Yojak’ of BRO to execute this ambitious project. This tunnel will be completed by 2025. The south portal of the tunnel will be at Shinku La and the north portal at Lakhang. He also recently opened the strategically important Himachal to Zaskar Road at Shinku La Pass. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BRO – to construct the world’s highest tunnel at Shinku La Pass at 16,580 feet under ‘Project Yojak’
- The tunnel will connect Lahaul Valley (Himachal Pradesh) to Zaskar Valley (Ladakh)
- HQs of BRO – New Delhi | Director General – Major Gen Rajeev Chaudhary | Founded on – May 7, 1960
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur

87. On April 18, India’s first portable solar rooftop system was inaugurated at Swaminarayan Akshardham temple complex in Gandhinagar under the Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy’s initiative to develop renewable energy cities across India. Designed by the German development agency Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the PV Ports are manufactured by New Delhi-based Servotech Power Systems Ltd (SPSL). Of the 40 PV Port systems to be installed in Gandhinagar, SPSL has already installed more than 30 systems. The PV Port system is highly cost-effective, requires low maintenance, and has a long shelf life of 25-30 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India’s first portable solar rooftop system – inaugurated at Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- Designed by – GIZ (Germany) | Manufactured by Servotech Power Systems Ltd (New Delhi)
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat
- Ministry of Power and Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh | Constituency – Arrah, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Power: Krishan Pal Gurjar

88. On April 23, Tripura government announced 50% transport subsidy from the existing 10% under the revised Tripura Industrial Investment Promotion Incentive Scheme (TIIPIS), 2022, for five years to attract investment. Besides, increasing air connectivity with all major Indian cities, train connectivity with other parts of the country have been introduced. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Tripura – announced 50% transport subsidy from existing 10% under the revised TIIPIS, for 5 years to attract investment
- Tripura: Capital – Agartala | CM – Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

89. On April 22, Oil India Limited (OIL) took the first significant step towards Green Hydrogen Economy in India with the commissioning of India's First 99.999% pure Green Hydrogen pilot plant with an installed capacity of 10 kg per day at Jorhat, Assam. The plant produces Green Hydrogen from the electricity generated by the existing 500kW Solar plant using a 100 kW Anion Exchange Membrane (AEM) Electrolyser array. The use of AEM technology is being used for the first time in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- OIL – commissioned India's First 99.999% pure Green Hydrogen pilot plant – at Jorhat, Assam
- Capacity – 10 kg per day | The plant produces Green Hydrogen using a 100 kW 'AEM Electrolyser array' technology
- HQs of OIL – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CMD – Sushil Chandra Mishra (till June 30, 2022 | Later - Ranjit Rath)
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

90. On April 19, Punjab government decided to bring an area of 1.2 million hectare (mha) under the Direct Seeding of Rice (DSR) method in the upcoming Kharif sowing season to conserve water while sowing paddy. This is double the area that was sown under DSR in 2021 (0.6 mha). DSR is also called the 'Broadcasting Seed Technique', under which seeds are directly drilled in the fields. It can help reduce water consumption by as much as 35% over the traditional process according to the 2011 study published in the journal Advances in Agronomy. Rice is the major kharif crop of India and is grown in all the major agrarian states such as Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Punjab – to bring 1.2 mha under the DSR method in the upcoming Kharif sowing season to conserve water
- DSR – also called the 'Broadcasting Seed Technique'
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Bhagwant Mann | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

91. During a two-day Smart Cities Conference in Surat on April 18 and 19, Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Puri announced that 80 Integrated Command and Control Centres (ICCCs), an integral component of the Smart Cities Mission, have already been set up, while the remaining 20 would be completed by August 15, 2022. The Smart Cities Mission (SCM) aims at developing 100 cities, which were shortlisted, into Self-sustainable Urban Settlements. The SCM was launched on June 25, 2015. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoHUA Minister Hardeep Puri announced to set up ICCCs in all 100 Smart Cities:
 - 80 Integrated Command & Control Centres (ICCCs) have been set up
 - Remaining 20 would be completed by August 15, 2022
- The SCM was launched in – 2015 | Amount allocated to state/UT for the SCM – Rs 27,235 Cr
- Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs: Hardeep Singh Puri | Constituency – Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs: Kaushal Kishore



92. On April 21, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (MoSJE) and Dr. Ambedkar Foundation (DAF) launched the “Dr. Ambedkar Centres of Excellence (DACE) Scheme” Pan India from Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. Dr. Ambedkar Foundation (DAF), under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, started Dr. Ambedkar Centres of Excellence (DACE) in 31 Central Universities across India. The DAF revised the amount of grant-in-aid to Dr. Ambedkar Chairs from the present Rs 35 Lakh to Rs 75 Lakh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DAF (under MoSJE) – started Dr. Ambedkar Centres of Excellence (DACE) in 31 Central Universities across India
- Starting with – Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi

93. On April 21, the AAP government launched Delhi’s Education Song “Irada Kar Liya Hai Humne”. The song was released by Deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia at the Thyagraj Stadium in New Delhi. With this song, Delhi is the first state in the world to have a song that clearly defines their aspirations and dedication towards the cause of Education for all. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AAP government launched Delhi’s Education Song “Irada Kar Liya Hai Humne”
- Delhi – the first state/UT in the world to have a song dedicated towards the cause of Education for all
- **New Delhi:** CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Naresh Kumar

94. In April 2022, Telangana government withdrew an over 25-year-old government order protecting the historic Osman Sagar and Himayat Sagar reservoirs in Hyderabad. On March 8, 1996, the government of erstwhile (undivided) Andhra Pradesh had issued ‘Government Order (GO) 111’ prohibiting development or construction works in the catchment area of the Osman Sagar and Himayat Sagar lakes. The total catchment area covers around 1.30 lakh acres, spread over 84 villages. The aim of the restrictions was to protect the catchment area, and to keep the reservoirs pollution-free. The lakes came into being during the reign of the last nizam Osman Ali Khan. Osman Sagar was completed in 1921, and Himayat Sagar in 1927. Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao said that the city no longer depends on these two reservoirs for water supply, and there was no need to continue with the restrictions on development in the catchment radius. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Telangana – withdrew an order protecting the Osman Sagar & Himayat Sagar reservoirs in Hyderabad
- The lakes came into being during the reign of the last nizam Osman Ali Khan
- **Telangana:** Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

95. On April 21, Maharashtra Environment Minister Aaditya Thackeray inaugurated Mumbai’s first completely digital bus. This is the first-ever 100% digital bus service in India, aimed at increasing the digitisation of the bus ticketing system. The bus has a unique ‘tap-in tap-out’ feature. Passengers can tap in using their smart card or via the ‘chalo’ app installed on their smartphones. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mumbai – launched its first completely digital bus with a unique ‘Tap-in Tap-out’ feature
- Passengers can ‘tap in’ using their ‘Smart Card’ or via ‘chalo’ app
- **Maharashtra:** CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

96. National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) along with Tree Craze Foundation began “Ganga Quest 2022” from 7th April. The last date for the quiz was 22nd May, which was observed as the International Day for Biological Diversity. The winners will be announced along with a Live Quiz on the occasion of World Environment Day on 5th June, 2022. The registrations for ‘Ganga Quest 2022’ began on occasion of World Water Day on 22nd March 2022. The four themes on which the ‘Ganga Quest 2022’ was played are - “Arth Ganga & Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav”, “Physical Geography & famous places and personalities”, “Current Affairs & Governance”, “Flora and Fauna & Pollution/Water Treatment Technologies”. Ganga Quest was started in 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NMCG + Tree Craze Foundation = began “Ganga Quest 2022” from 7th April
- March 22 – World Water Day
- May 22 – International Day for Biological Diversity
- June 5 – World Environment Day
- [NMCG functions under – Ministry of Jal Shakti | DG – G. Asok Kumar](#)

97. On April 26, India entered the ‘Guinness Book of World Records’ for waving the maximum number of national flags simultaneously. 78,220 tricolors were waved at the ‘Veer Kunwar Singh Vijayotsav’ programme organised at Bhojpur, Bihar in the presence of Home Minister Amit Shah. The event was held to pay a tribute to the victory of the then King of Jagdishpur, Veer Kunwar Singh. The previous world record was of about 56,000 when Pakistani flags were waved at a function in Lahore in 2004. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India entered the ‘Guinness Book of World Records’ for waving 78,220 national flags simultaneously – at Bhojpur, Bihar
- ‘Veer Kunwar Singh Vijayotsav’ programme – organised at Bhojpur, Bihar
- [Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan](#)

98. On April 21, NITI Aayog released the draft Battery-swapping Policy, targeted at electric two-wheelers and three-wheelers, to expedite large-scale adoption of EVs. Battery swapping involves exchanging discharged batteries for charged ones. The draft policy recommends prioritising all metropolitan cities with a population greater than 4 million for development of battery-swapping networks under the first phase (1-2) years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog – released the draft Battery-swapping Policy to expedite large-scale adoption of EVs
- [HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant](#)
- [Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Suman Bery](#)

99. PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the 500 KW Solar Plant at Palli village in Jammu’s Samba district. Palli has become India's first Carbon-neutral Panchayat and fully powered by Solar Energy. Palli village was also an example of the slogan ‘Sab ka Prayas’ (Everyone’s efforts). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi – inaugurated the 500 KW Solar Plant at Palli village, Samba, J&K
- With this, Palli became India’s first Carbon-neutral Panchayat
- [J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha](#)

100. In April 2022, Commerce Ministry relaxed various norms under the Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) scheme in order to reduce compliance requirements and facilitate ease of doing business. The changes include - Exporters can file Export Obligation (EO) by June 30 of each year instead of by April 30, but any delay will be subject to a late fee of Rs 5,000. Requests for Export Obligation extension should be made within 6 months of expiry, instead of 90 days. Requests for block-wise Export Obligation extension should be made within 6 months of expiry. However, applications made after 6 months and up to 6 years will entail a late fee of Rs 10,000 per authorisation. Earlier, no specified time limit was prescribed, leading to discretionary interpretations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Commerce Ministry eased certain norms under EPCG scheme to promote ease of doing business
- Changes:
- Exporters can file Export Obligation (EO) by June 30 of each year instead of by April 30
- Requests for Export Obligation extension should be made within 6 months of expiry, instead of 90 days
- Requests for block-wise Export Obligation extension should be made within 6 months

101. On April 20, PM Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the Indian Railways' 9000 horse power (HP) electric locomotives in Dahod, Gujarat as part of the 'Make in India' and 'Make for World' initiatives. An investment of more than Rs 20,000 Cr is being done in the project. The project is capable to haul a load of 4500 tonnes of cargo load at a maximum speed of 120 kmph. Indian Railway expects that the first locomotive will turn out from the factory in early 2024. The locomotive will be manufactured with the use of Green Energy and will have a green manufacturing tag. Dahod is the main Railway Station on Delhi-Mumbai Route. Dahod Railway workshop was established in 1926. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – laid the foundation stone of 9000 HP electric locomotives in Dahod, Gujarat (Investment – 20 Cr)
- The project is capable to haul a load of 4500 tonnes of cargo load at a maximum speed of 120 kmph
- HQs of Indian Railways – New Delhi | Chairman & CEO – Vinay Kumar Tripathi
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

102. On April 26, The Civil Aviation Ministry and the Himachal Pradesh government signed an MoU for the development of a Greenfield Airport in Nagchala, in the district of Mandi, Himachal Pradesh. The airport is being developed under the ministry's Greenfield Airport Policy. A Joint Venture firm between the state government of Himachal Pradesh and the Airport Authority of India (AAI) has been formed. The expected land requirement for the upcoming airport is around 515 acres and the airport project is estimated to cost around Rs 900 Cr excluding the cost of land. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Civil Aviation Ministry + Himachal Pradesh = MoU to develop a Greenfield Airport in Nagchala, Mandi, HP
- Ministry of Civil Aviation: Jyotiraditya M. Scindia | Constituency – Guna, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Civil Aviation: V. K. Singh
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

103. On April 24, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare organized the “Kisan Bhagidari, Prathmikta Hamari” campaign from April 25-30, 2022 under ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’ in association of various other Ministries/Departments of Government of India. The Department of Agriculture Research & Education organised a Krishi Mela at each Krishi Vigyan Kendra and field exhibition on natural farming. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare – organized the “Kisan Bhagidari, Prathmikta Hamari” campaign
- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare: Narendra Singh Tomar | Constituency – Morena, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare: Shobha Karandlaje & Kailash Choudhary

104. As per the data released by World Steel Association on April 22, India is the only country among top 10 steel producing nations of the world, which has registered growth in steel production in January to March 2022 period, as compared to corresponding period last year. India has produced 31.9 million tonnes of steel in the period with a growth of 5.9%. In March 2022, with a production of 10.9 million tonnes of steel in India, the growth rate is 4.4%. Brazil is the only other country among top 10 Nations which has registered growth in the month of March. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – the only country among top 10 steel producing nations to register growth in steel production from Jan to March
- India – produced 31.9 million tonnes of steel in Jan to March period (growth of 5.9%)
- Brazil – the only other country among top 10 Nations to register growth in March 2022
- HQs of World Steel Association – Brussels, Belgium | Chairman – Sajjan Jindal

105. On April 25, Ministry of External Affairs recently launched a platform called the “Trilateral Development Corporation (TDC) Fund” that would involve private sectors with state support for big-ticket investments in the Indo-Pacific region as well as other geographies. India's Global Innovation Partnership (GIP) launched with the UK in April at the PM Narendra Modi-Boris Johnson summit will provide a template to use the TDC Fund for trilateral projects with other countries. India & the UK have agreed to co-finance £75 million over 14 years to implement various components of GIP. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of External Affairs – launched a platform called “Trilateral Development Corporation (TDC) Fund”
- India + UK = agreed to co-finance £75 million over 14 years to implement various components of GIP
- Ministry of External Affairs: S. Jaishankar | Constituency – Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of External Affairs: Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, V. Muraleedharan & Meenakshi Lekhi

106. On April 26, Agra has become the first city in India to have vacuum-based sewers. These vacuums will be used in public places. The work of sewer connection is estimated at Rs 100 Cr. A vacuum sewer network of 240 houses has been built for Rs 5 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Agra (UP) – became the first city in India to have vacuum-based sewers
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

107. On April 27, as part of the celebration of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Singh Thakur launched “Azadi Ki Amrit Kahaniya”, a short video series created in collaboration with OTT platform Netflix. Netflix will be producing 25 short films of 2 minutes each on themes including women empowerment, environment and sustainable development and other days of significance. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anurag Singh Thakur – launched a short video series “Azadi Ki Amrit Kahaniya”
- The short video series is created by = Ministry of Information & Broadcasting + Netflix

108. A 37-year-old Constitution Bench judgment namely “Olga Tellis vs Bombay Municipal Corporation” of the Supreme Court which held that pavement dwellers are different from trespassers may become a game-changer in the Jahangirpuri case. The judgment, Olga Tellis vs Bombay Municipal Corporation, in 1985 by a five-judge Bench led by then Chief Justice of India Y. V. Chandrachud agrees that pavement dwellers do occupy public spaces unauthorised. However, the court maintained they should be given a chance to be heard and a reasonable opportunity to depart before force is used to expel them. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Olga Tellis vs Bombay Municipal Corporation” judgment was given in 1985 by a 5-judge Bench led by then CJI Y. V. Chandrachud

109. In April 2022, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) in association with the India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO) organized Asia’s biggest international food and hospitality fair “AAHAR-2022” at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. More than 80 exporters from different segments of agricultural products which include geographical indication products, processed food, organic, and frozen food products participated in the fair. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- APEDA + ITPO = organized Asia’s biggest international food and hospitality fair “AAHAR-2022” in New Delhi
- HQs of APEDA – New Delhi | Chairman – M. Angamuthu | Established in – 1986 (functions under Ministry of C&I)
- HQs of ITPO – New Delhi | MD & Chairman – L. C. Goyal

110. Jamtara in Jharkhand has become the only district in India where all gram panchayats have community libraries. This district with a population of about 8 lakh has a total of 118 gram panchayats and each panchayat has a well-equipped library. Career counselling sessions and motivational classes are also held free of cost here. A Janta Darbar was initially organised by the district administration to know the problems of the villagers in Changidih Panchayat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jamtara (Jharkhand) – only district in India where all gram panchayats have community libraries
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Ramesh Bais

111. A recent study, organised by Ferns, a nature conservation society, in association with the Kerala Forest Department, revealed that the invasive plants, especially Senna spectabilis, has now spread through the forest areas of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve (NBR), including the Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary and the other most iconic wildlife habitats of the Western Ghats. It is destroying habitats of elephants, deer, gaur and tigers by pushing out native flora. The carrying capacity of forests to feed wildlife is drastically declining under the invasion, which accelerates man-animal conflict further. The study found around 23% of the area of Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary is infested by Senna spectabilis. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Ferns + Kerala Forest Department = conducted a study about invasive plants, especially 'Senna spectabilis'
- The study revealed that invasive plants has now spread through the most iconic wildlife habitats of the Western Ghats
- Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary – located in Kerala
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

112. On April 17, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated a community radio station (CRS) named as 'Dudh Vani', dedicated to animal husbandry during his Gujarat tour. Set up by the Banaskantha District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union or Banas Dairy, the Banas Dairy Community Radio Station will connect over 5 lakh dairy farmers across 1,700 villages in the State. National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) in collaboration with All India Radio had launched a bi-weekly podcast series dedicated to dairy farmers. The dedicated radio station from Banas Dairy became the first such initiative for dairy farmers of the world's largest milk producing country. Moreover, Narendra Modi inaugurated a potato processing plant built at a cost of over ₹600 Cr at the newly-commissioned greenfield dairy complex at Diyodar. He also laid the foundation stone of the "WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine" in Jamnagar and inaugurated the Global AYUSH Investment & Innovation Summit at Gandhinagar during his visit. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- During Gujarat's visit, Narendra Modi:
 - inaugurated a CRS named as 'Dudh Vani' as 1st such initiative for dairy farmers (set up by Banas Dairy)
 - inaugurated a 'Potato Processing Plant' at greenfield dairy complex at Diyodar
 - laid the foundation stone of the "WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine" in Jamnagar
 - inaugurated the "Global AYUSH Investment & Innovation Summit" at Gandhinagar
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

113. On April 25, Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia and Minister of State for Civil Aviation Gen VK Singh (Rtd) inaugurated the mega 'Yog Prabha' event at Safdarjung Airport in New Delhi. At the initiative of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the United Nations General Assembly took a historic decision in 2014 to declare June 21 as the International Day of Yoga (IDY). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jyotiraditya Scindia + Gen VK Singh = inaugurated the mega 'Yog Prabha' event at Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Naresh Kumar

114. The Union Cabinet approved a Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) project for upgrading 2G mobile services to 4G at security sites in LWE (Left Wing Extremism) areas at an estimated cost of about ₹2,426.39 Cr. The project envisaged upgrading 2,343 sites in Phase-I from 2G to 4G mobile services. However, BSNL will maintain the sites for another 5 years at its own cost. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved a Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) project for upgrading 2G mobile services to 4G at security sites in LWE areas at cost of ₹2,426.39 Cr
- BSNL will maintain the sites for another 5 years
- HQs of BSNL – New Delhi | CMD – Pravin Kumar Purwar

115. On April 27, to achieve commercial silicon and design wins for the next generation microprocessors by December 2023, Minister of State for Electronics & Information Technology and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Rajeev Chandrasekhar launched “Digital India RISC-V (DIR-V)” program. RISC-V is a free and open ISA enabling a new era of processor innovation through open standard collaboration. Professor V. Kamakoti, Director of IIT Madras will be the Chief Architect and S. Krishnakumar Rao will be the Program Manager of DIR-V Program. The minister also unveiled the Blueprint of the roadmap of design & implementation of the DIR-V Program with - ‘SHAKTI’ Processor by IIT Madras and ‘VEGA’ Processor by C-DAC. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajeev Chandrasekhar – launched “Digital India RISC-V (DIR-V)” program
- Chief Architect of DIR-V program – V. Kamakoti (IIT Madras) | Program Manager – S. Krishnakumar Rao

116. In 2018, the UIDAI launched a new type of Aadhaar number, known as ‘Baal Aadhaar’ card. It is blue in colour, unlike the regular white Aadhaar card for adults. This Blue Aadhaar card contains a 12-digit unique identification number for a child below 5 years. Unlike adults, no biometrics will be captured for a child below 5 years. But the child needs to update his/her biometrics of ten fingers, iris and facial photographs, when he/she turns 5 and again at the age of 15 otherwise it becomes invalid after the child crosses 5 years of age. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UIDAI launched ‘Baal Aadhaar’ card or ‘Blue Aadhaar’ card in 2018
- Blue Aadhaar card contains a 12-digit unique identification number for a child below 5 years

117. On April 29, the Maharashtra Cabinet approved the country’s first-of-its-kind gene bank programme in the State. The programme is aimed at conserving native biodiversity to ensure that natural resources are passed on to the next generation. Rajiv Gandhi Science & Technology Commission, under the State government, ran the project from 2014-2019 in different parts of the State. The project will be carried out by a three-tier panel with the Chief Secretary as head of the State-level committee. A budget of ₹172.39 Cr for 5 years has been approved for this purpose. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra Cabinet approved the country’s first-of-its-kind ‘Gene Bank Programme’ in the State
- A budget of ₹172.39 Cr for 5 years has been approved for this purpose
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

118. Uttarakhand plans to create 1,00,000 ‘Ecopreneurs’ by creating green jobs through ecotourism. The state aims to address the large-scale out-migration that is occurring due to the limited employment opportunities in the inaccessible, hilly landscape. Uttarakhand has 34,650 square km of forest, accounting for 64.8% of the state’s total area. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttarakhand plans to create 1,00,000 ‘Ecopreneurs’ by creating green jobs through ecotourism
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh

119. In April 2022, Tamil Nadu Assembly adopted two Bills to limit the Governor’s power to appoint vice-chancellors (V-Cs) to 13 State universities. The legislations seek to give effect to a promise made by Chief Minister MK Stalin in Assembly in January. The two Bills - The Tamil Nadu Universities Laws (Amendment) Act, 2022, and the Chennai University (Amendment) Act, 2022 - were adopted by a voice vote. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu Assembly – adopted 2 Bills to limit the Governor’s power to appoint Vice-Chancellors to 13 State universities
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

120. On April 28, Union Minister for Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Giriraj Singh launched ‘Azadi se Antyodaya Tak’ - a 90-day inter-ministerial campaign under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. The campaign aims to saturate 17 schemes of 9 Ministries in 75 selected districts across India. Selected districts are aligned with the birth places of 99 unsung heroes of Indian freedom movement. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Giriraj Singh – launched ‘Azadi se Antyodaya Tak’ - a 90-day inter-ministerial campaign
- Ministry of Rural Development: Giriraj Singh | Constituency – Begusarai, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Rural Development: Faggan Singh Kulaste & Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti

121. On April 28, India became the 1st country in Asia Pacific to achieve feat as IndiGO used a new technology to land plane by using its ‘ATR 72-600’ aircraft. The Airports Authority of India (AAI) successfully conducted a light trial using an indigenous satellite based augmentation system (SBAS) called ‘GAGAN’ (GPS Aided GEO Augmented Navigation) at the Kishangarh airport in Ajmer, Rajasthan. Jointly developed by the AAI and the ISRO, GAGAN is the first system developed for India and the neighbouring countries in the equatorial region. A Localizer Performance with Vertical Guidance (LPV) allows aircraft guided approaches. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – became the 1st country in Asia Pacific to use satellite-based landing system - ‘GAGAN’ System
- AAI conducted a light trial using an indigenous satellite based augmentation system ‘GAGAN’ at Kishangarh airport
- GAGAN – GPS Aided GEO Augmented Navigation | SBAS – Satellite Based Augmentation System
- HQs of AAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Sanjeev Kumar

122. In April 2022, the Government of India will be issuing a Rs 100 commemorative coin to mark the birth centenary of Jawaharlal Darda (fondly called Babuji), late freedom fighter and founder of the Lokmat Group of Newspapers (now Lokmat Media). A gazette notification to this effect was issued by the Economic Affairs Department of the Finance Ministry on April 26. The commemorative coin is likely to be issued on July 2, 2023, to coincide with the 100th birth anniversary of Jawaharlal Darda. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- GoI announced to issue a Rs 100 commemorative coin to mark the birth centenary of ‘Jawaharlal Darda’ on July 2, 2023

123. On April 28, Commerce & Industry Ministry launched a pilot phase of “Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)” in five cities - Delhi NCR, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Shillong and Coimbatore. The ONDC is an initiative of the government to promote an Open Platform for all aspects of the exchange of goods and services through electronic networks. The government has set up a 9-member Advisory Council to ascertain steps required to design and accelerate adoption of ONDC. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Ministry of C&I – launched a pilot phase of “Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)” in 5 cities
- Government also set up a 9-member Advisory Council to design & accelerate adoption of ONDC

124. On April 28, Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 (SBM-U 2.0), under the aegis of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, launched the “National Behaviour Change Communication Framework for Garbage Free Cities” to strengthen the ongoing jan andolan for ‘Garbage Free Cities’. SBM-U 2.0 organized 2nd edition of peer learning webinar series, SwachhTalks, titled “Swachhaka Ki Jyot” to celebrate people’s participation over 7 years in SBM. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBM-U 2.0 (MoHUA) – launched the “National Behaviour Change Communication Framework for Garbage Free Cities”
- SBM-U 2.0 organized 2nd edition of peer learning webinar series, SwachhTalks titled “Swachhaka Ki Jyot”

125. On April 29, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is planning to formulate a Farmer Distress Index (FDI) to track, identify and support the real needy and distressed farmers. Depending on the level of distress, the government and the financial institutions can decide on an appropriate package of support instead of the current practice of doling out distress package to all the farmers across the board. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NABARD – plans to formulate ‘Farmer Distress Index (FDI)’ to track, identify & support the needy & distressed farmers
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Govinda Rajulu Chintala | Founded in – 1982



International Affairs

1. Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Piyush Goyal inaugurated 'Indian Jewellery Exposition Centre' in Dubai and called upon the Gem & Jewellery Industry to triple their exports target from \$35 billion exports at present to \$100 billion worldwide. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Piyush Goyal – inaugurated 'Indian Jewellery Exposition Centre' in Dubai, UAE
- Piyush Goyal – asked the Gem & Jewellery Industry to triple their exports target to \$100 billion worldwide

2. US president Joe Biden made lynching a federal hate crime and signed the "Emmett Till Antilynching Act, 2022" into law. Lynching was a kind of racial terror used against African-Americans, especially in the segregated South. This act was named following the gruesome murder of a 14-year-old Black boy from Chicago by a group of White men in Mississippi in 1955. [{Readmore}](#)

Key Points:

- US President Joe Biden – signed the "Emmett Till Antilynching Act, 2022" into law
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

3. The painting titled "The Battle of Pollilur" was auctioned in the UK for about Rs 6.28 Cr (£6,30,000). The painting showcases the erstwhile sultan of Mysore Haider Ali and his son, Tipu Sultan, riding into battle against the British troops of the East India Company. The nearly 32-foot long painting depicts the victory of the Mysore army in the Battle of Pollilur, which took place on 7 September, 1780, as part of the Second Anglo-Mysore War. The painting was brought to England by Colonel John William Freese, who was in Srirangapatnam after Tipu's defeat in 1799. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The painting titled "The Battle of Pollilur" was auctioned in the UK for about Rs 6.28 Cr (£6,30,000)
- The painting was brought to England by Colonel John William Freese in 1799
- "The Battle of Pollilur" – fought between Hyder Ali & British East India Company

4. On April 5, Ecuador, in South America, made history by becoming the first country to recognise the legal rights of individual wild animals. The landmark ruling by the Quinto court came when it was hearing a case related to Estrellita, a woolly monkey. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ecuador – became the world's first country to recognise the legal rights of individual wild animals
- The decision came after hearing a case related to 'Estrellita', a woolly monkey
- Ecuador – Quito – US Dollar | President – Guillermo Lasso

5. On April 3, Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA) signed an agreement with the Indian company Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited (APSEZ) to set up an Indian Economic Zone at the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Shilpa Nagar (BSMSN) in Mirsarai of Chattogram city of Bangladesh. The Indian Economic Zone is being built on 857 acres of land with an estimated cost of Taka 964 Cr supported by an Indian Line of Credit worth \$115 million. An MoU was signed between Bangladesh and India in June 2015 to establish an Indian Economic Zone. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- BEZA + APSEZ = an MoU to set up an Indian Economic Zone in Chattogram city of Bangladesh
- Estimated cost – Taka 964 Cr (Indian Line of Credit - \$115 million)
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

6. On April 3, PM Narendra Modi and his Nepali counterpart, Sher Bahadur Deuba, jointly launched the operationalisation of a 35-km cross-border rail link from Jaynagar in Bihar to Kurtha in Nepal. The 90-km-long 132-kilovolt (kV) Solu Corridor transmission line in Nepal, built with an Indian line of credit at a cost of Rs 200 Cr, was also inaugurated. Modi and Deuba also launched the operation of RuPay cards in Nepal. With this, Nepal became the 4th foreign country to operationalise the RuPay card. The three other countries that have the RuPay card are Bhutan, Singapore & the UAE. During the visit of Nepalese PM Sher Bahadur Deuba to India, BJP President Jagat Prakash Nadda gifted him a copy of “Integral Humanism” book. The book is authored by Deen Dayal Upadhyaya. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi & Sher Bahadur Deuba jointly:
 - launched the operationalisation of a 35-km Cross-border Rail Link from Jaynagar in Bihar to Kurtha in Nepal
 - launched the operation of RuPay cards in Nepal
 - inaugurated the 90-km-long 132-kilovolt (kV) Solu Corridor transmission line in Nepal (Indian LoC of Rs 200 Cr)
- Nepal – became the 4th foreign country to operationalise the RuPay card
- Jagat Prakash Nadda gifted a copy of “Integral Humanism” book to – Nepalese PM Sher Bahadur Deuba
- “Integral Humanism” book – authored by Deen Dayal Upadhyaya
- [Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee](#) | [President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari](#) | [PM – Sher Bahadur Deuba](#)

7. On April 6, Madagascar became the 30th country to join the India-backed Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI). India’s Ambassador to Madagascar Abhay Kumar welcomed the island nation’s entry into the CDRI. The CDRI is a global partnership that aims to promote the resilience of infrastructure systems to climate and disaster risks. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had launched the CDRI during his address at the UN Climate Action Summit in 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madagascar – became the 30th country to join the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)
- Narendra Modi had launched the ‘CDRI’ during his address at the UN Climate Action Summit in 2019
- [India’s Ambassador to Madagascar – Abhay Kumar](#)
- [Madagascar – Antananarivo – Malagasy Ariary](#) | [President – Andry Rajoelina](#)
- [HQs of CDRI – New Delhi](#) | [Member countries – 30](#) | [Launched by Narendra Modi \(in 2019\)](#)

8. On April 5, Indian embassy in Kathmandu signed an MoU with the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration, Nepal for the construction of Khumjung Khunde Wastewater Management Project. The community development project will be built under India-Nepal Development Cooperation with the financial assistance of NRs 41.13 million from the Government of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Nepal = an MoU for the construction of Khumjung Khunde Wastewater Management Project
- Financial assistance from India – NRs 41.13 million
- [Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee](#) | [President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari](#) | [PM – Sher Bahadur Deuba](#)



9. On April 5, the United States, United Kingdom and Australia plan to work together via the recently created security alliance known as “AUKUS” to develop hypersonic missiles. The move comes amid growing concern by the U.S. and allies about China’s growing military assertiveness in the Pacific. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- US + UK + Australia = created security alliance known as “AUKUS” to develop hypersonic missiles
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

10. On April 2, Nepal became the 105th country to sign on to the Framework Agreement of International Solar Alliance (ISA). Syria & Bahrain were the 103rd & 104th countries to join the ISA Framework Agreement. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nepal – became the 105th member country to sign on to the ISA Framework Agreement
- ISA was launched in 2015 at COP21 – by India & France
- HQs of ISA – Gurugram, Haryana | DG – Ajay Mathur | Signatory Countries – 105 | Member countries – 86

11. On April 5, German police shut down \$1.3 billion Russian-language illegal Darknet firm ‘Hydra Market’ and seized \$25.2 million (€23 million) worth of Bitcoin. Hydra is one of the biggest Darknet Bitcoin market place. Founded in 2015, ‘Hydra’ sold illegal drugs, stolen credit card data, counterfeit currency and fake identity documents, masking the identities of those involved using the Tor encryption network. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- German police – shut down \$1.3 bn Russian-language illegal Darknet firm ‘Hydra’ & seized \$25.2 mn worth of Bitcoin
- Germany – Berlin – Euro | President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier

12. On April 4, Taliban announced a ban on the cultivation of narcotics in Afghanistan, the world’s biggest opium producer. The United Nations estimated Afghanistan’s opium production worth \$1.4 billion at its height in 2017. Opium is a highly addictive narcotic drug acquired in the dried latex form the opium poppy (*Papaver somniferum*) seed pod. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Taliban announced a ban on the cultivation of narcotics in Afghanistan (the world’s biggest opium producer)

13. “Machu Picchu”, which is nestled between the slopes of the Andes Mountains in Peru above the Urubamba River valley, is one of the world’s famous archaeological wonders. The Inca citadel, built in the 15th century, is well known for its sophisticated dry-stone walls. But according to a recent study, we have been calling it by the wrong name for over 100 years. In a new study published in “Nawpa Pacha: Journal of the Institute of Andean Studies”, historians argue that the site was called “Huayna Picchu” or simply “Picchu” by the Incas, who built it. In 1912, the US explorer was informed by a landowner’s son that the ruins were indeed called “Huayna Picchu”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A famous archaeological site “Machu Picchu” or “Huayna Picchu” or “Picchu” – located in Peru
- Peru – Lima – Sol | President – Pedro Castillo | PM – Anibal Torres



14. On April 4, President Ram Nath Kovind arrived in Amsterdam on his two-nation visit, the first presidential trip to the Netherlands after 34 years. He visited 'Keukenhof', one of the world's largest flower garden where he named a new breed of yellow tulips "Maitri" - symbolic of the special & enduring friendship between India and the Netherlands. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 'Keukenhof', one of the world's largest flower garden – located in Netherlands
- President Ram Nath Kovind named a new breed of yellow tulips – "Maitri"
- [Netherlands – Amsterdam – Euro](#) | [PM – Mark Rutte](#)

15. On April 8, Russia was suspended from the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) after the 193-member General Assembly voted to adopt a resolution moved by the United States over allegations related to Russian-Ukraine conflict. The resolution titled "Suspension of the rights of membership of the Russian Federation in the Human Rights Council" was adopted with 93 votes in favour, 24 against and 58 abstentions, including India. With this, Russia became the second country to have its membership rights stripped at the UNHRC. In 2011, Libya was suspended by the assembly. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Russia was suspended from the UNHRC after the UNGA voted to adopt a resolution proposed by the US
- India was among 58 abstentions (declined to vote for or against the proposal)
- [Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble](#) | [PM – Mikhail Mishustin](#) | [President – Vladimir Putin](#)

16. April 5, Sweden introduced a pilot project to produce 'Green' Steel by burning hydrogen. The high-tech pilot plant is seeking to significantly reduce the carbon emissions involved in steel production by switching from burning coking coal to burning hydrogen. In Sweden, a single company, steel giant SSAB, accounts for about 10% of the country's emissions. HYBRIT or Hydrogen Breakthrough Ironmaking Technology is a joint venture between SSAB and Swedish state-owned power firm Vattenfall. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sweden – introduced a pilot project to produce 'Green' Steel by burning Hydrogen (instead of burning Coking Coal)
- Hydrogen Breakthrough Ironmaking Technology (HYBRIT) – a JV between SSAB & Vattenfall
- [Sweden – Stockholm – Krona](#) | [PM – Magdalena Andersson](#)

17. Indonesia, the world's largest producer and exporter of palm oil is facing domestic shortages, leading to price controls and export curbs. The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) has estimated the archipelago's palm oil production for 2021-22 (October-September) at 45.5 million tonnes (mt). That's almost 60% of the total global output. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indonesia, the world's largest producer & exporter of palm oil, is facing domestic shortages of palm oil
- [Indonesia – Jakarta – Rupiah](#) | [President – Joko Widodo](#)

18. On April 12, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and partners of the Adaptation Innovation Marketplace (AIM) announced \$2.2 million in climate action grants for 22 local innovators across 19 countries, including India. The first round of funding through the Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator (AFCIA) window will enhance local climate action and accelerate the delivery of targets outlined in the Paris Agreement and Sustainable Development Goals. AIM was launched by UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner at the Climate Adaptation Summit in January 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UNDP + partners of the AIM = announced \$2.2 million in Climate Action Grants across 19 countries
- [Adaptation Innovation Marketplace: Launched by Achim Steiner \(in Jan 2021\)](#)
- [HQs of UNDP – New York, US | Administrator – Achim Steiner | Founded in – 1965](#)

19. On April 11, for India's ambitious 'Bullet Train Project', high-speed E5 Shinkansen series trains from Japan will be modified for Indian conditions like temperature, dust and weight. As per officials, Japan will initially send 6 trains which are modified according to Indian specifications. The Shinkansen colloquially known in English as the 'bullet train', is a network of high-speed railway lines in Japan and they are built by Hitachi and Kawasaki Heavy Industries. They are capable of running at a speed of 320 kmph and are 3.35m wide. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Japan – will send 6 high-speed 'E5 Shinkansen series trains' to India after modifying according to Indian specifications
- The E5 series trains are built by = Hitachi + Kawasaki Heavy Industries
- [Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Fumio Kishida](#)

20. On April 12, Sri Lanka announced a 'pre-emptive default' on all its foreign debt totalling \$51 billion as a 'last resort' while the island nation struggles to cope with a grave economic crisis. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sri Lanka announced a 'pre-emptive default' on all its foreign debt totalling \$51 billion as a 'last resort'
- [Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan Rupee](#)
- [PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa](#)

21. On April 15, the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) elected experts for its 16 subsidiary bodies. India got elected to 4 key bodies of the ECOSOC which are - Committee for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, Commission for Social Development and Commission on Science & Technology for Development. The ECOSOC is one of the six principal organs of the UN System established by the UN Charter in 1945. It consists of 54 members of the United Nations elected by the UNGA. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UN ECOSOC elected experts for its 16 subsidiary bodies
- India got elected to 4 key bodies of the ECOSOC
- [HQs of ECOSOC – New York, US | President – Collen Vixen Kelapile | Established in – 1945 | Members – 54](#)

22. In April 2022, China's "Zero-Covid Policy" has been among the strictest approaches to tackling the pandemic anywhere in the world. But a recent surge in infections is forcing it to reconsider how it deals with the pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – launched "Zero-Covid Policy"
- [China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping](#)



23. During the 'India-US 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue', India and the US reiterated their support for further strengthening cooperation in the fields of Education and Skill Development through joint collaborations. The ministers announced the intent to establish a new "India-US Education and Skills Development Working Group". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India & US – announced to establish the "Education & Skills Development Working Group"
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

24. On April 15, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal announced that Egypt, one of the top importers of wheat from Russia and Ukraine, has approved India as a wheat supplier. This comes amid a sharp dip in Global Wheat Production largely because of the Russia-Ukraine war. Russia and Ukraine accounted for nearly one-third of global wheat exports before the war. India aims to export nearly 10 million tonnes of wheat in FY23. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Egypt approved India as a Wheat supplier (as a result of Russia-Ukraine war)
- India aims to export nearly 10 million tonnes of wheat in FY23
- Egypt – Cairo – Egyptian Pound | President – Abdel Fattah el-Sisi

25. On April 14, International Monetary Fund (IMF) approved the creation of a new facility named "Resilience and Sustainability Trust" to help low-income and most middle-income countries deal with longer-term challenges such as climate change and pandemics. It would take effect from May 1 with a goal of raising at least \$45 billion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IMF approved the creation of a new facility named "Resilience and Sustainability Trust"
- HQs of IMF – Washington, D.C., US | President – Kristalina Georgieva | Member countries – 190

26. On April 15, Twitter Inc. adopted a limited-duration shareholder rights plan to protect itself from Elon Musk's \$43 billion cash takeover offer. Under the plan, also known as a 'poison pill' strategy to resist a bid from a potential acquirer, the rights will become exercisable if anyone acquires ownership of 15% or more of Twitter's outstanding common stock in a transaction not approved by the Board. The rights plan will expire on April 14, 2023. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Twitter – adopted a limited-duration shareholder rights plan also known as a 'poison pill' strategy
- HQs of Twitter – San Francisco, California, US | CEO – Parag Agrawal | Founded in – 2006

27. In April 2022, Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy asked President Joe Biden to designate Russia as a 'State Sponsor of Terrorism'. The US Secretary of State has the power to designate countries that have repeatedly provided support for acts of International Terrorism as "State Sponsors of Terrorism". As of now, there are four countries on the list of state sponsors of terrorism - Syria, Iran, North Korea & Cuba. Cuba was first designated in 1982. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ukraine asked the US to designate Russia as a 'State Sponsor of Terrorism'
- As of now, there are 4 countries on the list of State Sponsors of Terrorism: Syria, Iran, North Korea & Cuba
- Ukraine – Kyiv – Ukrainian hryvnia | President – Volodymyr Zelensky
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

28. Chief of Naval Staff (CNS) Admiral R. Hari Kumar visited Maldives April 18 to 20 and Seychelles from April 21 to 23. This was his first outing as Navy Chief. In Maldives, the CNS unveiled the first 'Navigation Chart' jointly produced by India and Maldives. In Seychelles, Admiral Hari Kumar presented a 'Navigation Chart' of Port Victoria (Seychelles), prepared by the National Hydrographic Office of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Admiral R. Hari Kumar – visited Maldives April 18 to 20 & Seychelles from April 21 to 23
- Navy Chief handed over 'Navigation Charts' to Maldives & Seychelles
- Maldives – Male – Maldivian rufiyaa | President – Ibrahim Mohamed Solih
- Seychelles – Victoria – Seychellois Rupee | President – Wavel Ramkalawan

29. On April 22, Maldivian President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih ordered to ban the "India Out" campaign, terming it a 'threat to national security'. The opposition, led by former president Abdulla Yameen of the Progressive Party of Maldives (PPM), has been spearheading an 'India Out' campaign for over the last year propagating the unproven claim that Indian military officers stationed in the Indian Ocean island nation are a violation of Maldives' sovereignty. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maldivian President ordered to ban the "India Out" campaign, terming it a 'threat to national security'
- 'India Out' campaign – led by Abdulla Yameen (Former President of Maldives)
- Maldives – Male – Maldivian rufiyaa | President – Ibrahim Mohamed Solih

30. In April 2022, the Tallinn-based NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence (CCDCOE) organised the "Locked Shields 2022", the largest and most complex annual international live-fire cyber defence exercise in the world. The exercise was organised by the CCDCOE in cooperation with NATO, Siemens, Microsoft, Tallinn University of Technology and other partners. Tallinn is the capital city of Estonia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCDCOE (Estonia) – organised the world's largest cyber exercise namely "Locked Shields 2022"
- Estonia – Tallinn – Euro | President – Alar Karis | PM – Kaja Kallas

31. India was the Guest of Honour Country at the "Paris Book Festival 2022" organized from 21st to 24th April, 2022. At the Paris Book Festival, Indian Pavilion was designed by National Institute of Design (NID). Indian Pavilion had 15 digital and physical exhibitions displaying over 400 books published in various Indian languages representing the works of 65 Indian publishers. Cultural performances involving more than 50 artists including Ms Aparna Shreedhar, Ms Mallika Thalak, Ms Brigitte Chatigner, Ms Mahina Khanum was organised to showcase the plurality and multiplicity of the Indian Culture. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India was the Guest of Honour Country at the "Paris Book Festival 2022"
- Indian Pavilion was designed by – National Institute of Design (NID)
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Jean Castex

32. "2022 Diplomatic Bluebook", an annual report on Japan's foreign policy issued by the Foreign Ministry, disputed the ownership of four islands as "illegally occupied by Russia" amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The dispute is over the Russian-held islands, which the former Soviet Union seized from Japan at the end of World War II. The Northern Territories are a group of islands Japan has sovereignty over and an integral part of Japan's territory, but currently they are illegally occupied by Russia. Moreover, the island that Japan calls Takeshima is "illegally occupied" by Seoul, which calls it Dokdo. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Japan – released “2022 Diplomatic Bluebook” which is an annual report on Japan’s foreign policy
- Japan – disputed the ownership of four islands as “illegally occupied by Russia” amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine
- Japan’s “Takeshima” island is illegally occupied by Seoul, which calls it “Dokdo” island
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Fumio Kishida
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

33. On April 21, the United States conducted an Open-air study of Genetically Engineered Mosquitoes with an aim to suppress a wild population of virus-carrying mosquitoes. The aim of the experiment by Oxitec, a United Kingdom-based biotechnology firm, is to reduce the population of wild *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes that is a vector for viruses such as chikungunya, dengue, zika and yellow fever. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- US conducted an Open-air study of Genetically Engineered Mosquitoes
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

34. On April 23, Argentina announced to launch a campaign in India demanding negotiation with the United Kingdom to settle the territorial dispute over the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas). The initiative coincides with the 40th anniversary of the conflict between the UK and Argentina. The Falklands War remains an emotive issue both in the UK and Argentina. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Argentina – launched a campaign in India demanding negotiation with the UK to settle the territorial dispute over ‘Falkland Islands’
- Argentina – Buenos Aires – Peso | President – Alberto Fernandez

35. On April 22, popularly known as Earth Day, Twitter decided to ban Climate Change ads running on the platform that mislead and did not have a scientific consensus when discussing topics around climate change. The platform stated that climate denialism should not be monetized. It also highlighted the need for ‘hubs of credible, authoritative information’ around climate change. Twitter has been involved in taking an environmentally sustainable approach in running its operations and it is now reaching close to its plans of achieving 100% carbon-neutral power sourcing in all its data centers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 22 – Earth Day
- Twitter – to ban Climate Change ads running on the platform that mislead
- HQs of Twitter – San Francisco, California, US | CEO – Parag Agrawal | Founded in – 2006

36. In April 2022, Microsoft Corp disrupted hacking attempts by Russian military spies aimed at breaking into Ukrainian, European Union, and American targets. A group nicknamed “Strontium” was using seven internet domains as part of an effort to spy on government bodies and think tanks in the EU and the United States, as well as Ukrainian institutions such as media organizations. Strontium is Microsoft’s moniker for a group others often call Fancy Bear or APT28 - a hacking squad linked to Russia’s military intelligence agency. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Russian military hackers group “Strontium” – tried breaking into Ukrainian, EU & American targets
- Microsoft – disrupted hacking attempts by “Strontium”
- HQs of Microsoft – Washington, US | Chairman & CEO – Satya Nadella | Founded in – 1975
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

37. On April 25, a US Congress-constituted quasi-judicial body recommended to the Biden Administration to designate India, China, Pakistan, Afghanistan and 11 other nations as “Country of Particular Concern” in the context of status of religious freedom. India has in the past said that the American body on international religious freedom has chosen to be guided only by its biases on a matter on which it has no locus standi. The recommendations of the US Commission for International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) are not binding on the US Government. Traditionally, India does not recognise the view of USCIRF. For more than a decade, it has denied visas to members of the USCIRF. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- USCIRF – recommended to the Biden Administration to designate India & 14 other nations as “Country of Particular Concern” in the context of status of religious freedom
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

38. On April 27, Union Cabinet accorded approval to the opening of a new Indian Mission in Lithuania in 2022. It will help expand India’s diplomatic footprint, deepen political relations and strategic cooperation. It will also enable growth of bilateral trade, investment and economic engagements, facilitate stronger people-to-people contacts. The decision to open a new Indian Mission in Lithuania is a forward-looking step in pursuit of our national priority of growth and development or ‘Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Union Cabinet accorded approval to the opening of a new Indian Mission in Lithuania in 2022
- Lithuania – Vilnius – Euro | President – Gitanas Nauseda

39. A German-funded consortium of carmakers and battery producer is planning to develop a ‘Battery Passport’ that traces the content and carbon footprint of batteries in Europe. The consortium of 11 partners has received 8.2 million euros (\$8.78 million) of government funding to develop a common classification and standards for gathering and disclosing data on the batteries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A consortium of carmakers & battery producer in Germany is planning to develop a ‘Battery Passport’ for Europe
- Germany – Berlin – Euro | President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier

40. In April 2022, Denmark suspended its widespread Covid-19 vaccination campaign after claiming that the epidemic was now under control. The country in February lifted all curbs related to the coronavirus pandemic. The country was in a ‘good position’ because of high vaccination rates and acceptable levels of hospital admissions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Denmark – suspended its widespread Covid-19 vaccination campaign
- Denmark – Copenhagen – Danish krone | PM – Mette Frederiksen



41. China has recorded the first human infection with the H3N8 strain of bird flu. A four-year-old boy from central Henan province was found to have been infected with the variant after developing a fever and other symptoms. The H3N8 variant has previously been detected elsewhere in the world in horses, dogs, birds and seals but no human cases of H3N8 were reported. Last year China reported the first human case of H10N3. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – recorded the first human infection with the H3N8 strain of bird flu
- [China – Beijing – Renminbi](#) | [President – Xi Jinping](#)

42. On April 27, Russia announced to withdraw from the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (WTO) just hours before the body's assembly voted to temporarily suspend Russia's membership over the invasion of Ukraine. The assembly resolution included a clause that said the suspension could be reversed if a change in the politics of the Russian Federation were noted. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Russia – withdrew from the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (WTO)
- [Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble](#) | [PM – Mikhail Mishustin](#) | [President – Vladimir Putin](#)

43. On April 28, a new 'Global Security Initiative' was put forward by Chinese President Xi Jinping to counter the US Indo-Pacific strategy and the Quad Grouping. GSI calls for a 'common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable' security and building an Asian security model of mutual respect, openness and integration". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chinese President Xi Jinping – put forward a new 'Global Security Initiative'
- The initiative will counter the US Indo-Pacific strategy & the Quad Grouping
- [China – Beijing – Renminbi](#) | [President – Xi Jinping](#)



Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

1. On April 1, Union Bank of India (UBI) sold 21% stake in IndiaFirst Life Insurance Company Ltd (IFLIC) to Bank of Baroda (BoB) for ₹766.29 Cr. IFLIC is a joint venture between BoB, UBI and Carmel Point Investments India Pvt Ltd. UBI held 30% stake in IFLIC by virtue of its acquisition of Andhra Bank. UBI also has 25.10% stake in Star Union Dai-ichi (SUD) Life Insurance Company Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UBI – sold 21% stake in IndiaFirst Life Insurance to BoB for ₹766.29 Cr
- IFLIC – a joint venture between BoB, UBI & Carmel Point Investments
- HQs of UBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Rajkiran Rai G. | Tagline – “Good People to Bank With”
- HQs of BOB – Vadodara, Gujarat | CEO – Sanjiv Chadha | Tagline – “India’s International Bank”

2. On April 1, HDFC Bank was adjudged the Best Performing Bank in Self Help Group (SHG) Linkage by the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), Ministry of Rural Development. The award was presented by Giriraj Singh, Minister of Rural Development. Notably, HDFC Bank was the only Private Bank to be felicitated for remarkable work in SHGs by the NRLM. Under the National Rural Livelihood Mission, the bank has offered advances over Rs 1,000 Cr, as of February 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Bank – adjudged the Best Performing Bank in Self Help Group (SHG) Linkage by the NRLM
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”

3. On April 1, Ergos Business Solutions developed a digital platform “GrainBank”. This is the first time in India’s history where farmers have direct access to a cutting-edge technology platform “GrainBank” for getting valuable information and income on their farm produce. Ergos launched “GrainBank Loyalty Cards for Farmers”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ergos Business Solutions – developed a digital platform “GrainBank” for farmers
- Ergos – launched “GrainBank Loyalty Cards for Farmers”
- HQs of Ergos Business Solutions – Bangalore, Karnataka

4. In view of improvement in the pandemic situation, the RBI decided to reduce the Ways and Means Advances (WMA) for states and Union Territories to Rs 47,010 Cr from Rs 51,560 Cr. WMA are temporary advances given by the RBI to the government to tide over any mismatch in receipts and payments. These norms are effective from April 1, 2022 and are subject to review. The limit for WMA for the Government of India for the first half of the financial year 2022-23 has been set at Rs 1,50,000 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI decided to reduce the Ways & Means Advances (WMA) for states & UTs to Rs 47,010 Cr (from Rs 51,560 Cr)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

5. On April 2, Global financial services watchdog IFSCA signed an MoU with the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) for strengthening information exchange between the two regulators. This agreement focuses on strengthening of inter-regulatory exchange of information, technical cooperation and supervisory collaboration, and opens avenues towards developing innovative insurance solutions for the evolving global trends. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- IFSCA + IRDAI = an MoU for strengthening information exchange between the two regulators
- HQs of IFSCA – Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman – Injeti Srinivas
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Executive Dr. – Debasish Panda

6. On April 1, Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) signed an MoU with the Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) and AIC STPINEXT Initiatives (STPINEXT - a Section 8 company of STPI) for leveraging innovation through the financial technologies engaged under the FinBlue initiative. The FinBlue initiative by STPI is an integrated programme to start-ups to scale through its incubation facility. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IOB + STPI + STPINEXT = MoU for leveraging innovation through financial technologies engaged under FinBlue initiative
- ‘FinBlue’ initiative – by STPI
- HQs of STPI – New Delhi | DG – Arvind Kumar
- HQs of IOB – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – Partha Pratim Sengupta | Tagline – “Good people to grow with”

7. Four public sector lenders, State Bank of India, Canara Bank, Punjab National Bank and Union Bank of India have reduced their stake in India Debt Resolution Company Ltd (IDRCL) to 5% each. The ‘Bad bank’ or the National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd (NARCL) will acquire bad loans from banks to help clean up their books, while the IDRCL will handle the debt resolution process of these loans. With the current round of preferential allotment by IDRCL, equity stake of Canara Bank is reduced to 5% from previous holding of 14.90%. While the stakes of PNB, UBI & SBI came down to 5% from 11.8%, 12.30% & 12.30%. Public sector banks (PSBs) will hold 51% stake in NARCL and 49% in the debt management company IDRCL. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI + Canara Bank + PNB + UBI = reduced their stake in IDRCL to 5% each
- PSBs will hold 51% stake in NARCL & 49% in IDRCL

8. Citibank signed a deal to sell its entire consumer bank business including credit cards, savings accounts and wealth management to Axis Bank for \$1.6 billion (Rs 12,235 Cr). It is one of the biggest deals in the banking sector since the acquisition of ING Vysya Bank by Kotak Mahindra Bank in 2014 for Rs 15,000 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Citibank signed a deal to sell its entire consumer bank business to Axis Bank for \$1.6 billion (Rs 12,235 Cr)
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – “Badhti ka Naam Zindagi”
- HQs of Citibank India – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Ashu Khullar

9. On April 4, the board of directors of Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) approved the merger of its wholly-owned subsidiaries HDFC Investments Limited and HDFC Holdings Limited with HDFC Bank Limited. With this, HDFC will acquire 41% stake in HDFC Bank through the transformational merger. The HDFC Bank and HDFC merger can create the second largest company in India by market capitalisation, leaving behind Tata Consultancy Services (TCS). [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- HDFC approved the merger of HDFC Investments Ltd & HDFC Holdings Ltd with HDFC Bank Ltd
- With this, HDFC will acquire 41% stake in HDFC Bank through the transformational merger
- HQs of HDFC Ltd – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Deepak Parekh | VC & CEO – Keki Mistry
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”

10. On April 4, State Bank of India (SBI) signed an MoU with the Border Security Force to offer special benefits to the serving and retired BSF personnel and family pensioners through the Central Armed Police Salary Package (CAPSP) Scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI + BSF = an MoU to offer special benefits to the serving and retired BSF personnel through ‘CAPSP’ Scheme
- HQs of BSF – New Delhi | DG – Pankaj Kumar Singh | Established on – Dec 1, 1965 | Motto – “Duty Unto Death”
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MDs – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

11. On April 1, Karnataka chief minister Basavaraj Bommai released the logo of the “Nandini Ksheera Samridhi Cooperative Bank” that will provide greater financial strength for the milk producers. Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation, Amit Shah too participated. The state government has decided to computerise all the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS). The state government has provided ₹100 Cr as its share capital and the Milk Federation and Cooperatives would contribute ₹260 Cr as their share of capital for the proposed cooperative bank. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka CM Basavaraj Bommai – released the logo of the “Nandini Ksheera Samridhi Cooperative Bank”
- Karnataka government – decided to computerise all the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS)
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot

12. India’s trade deficit rose 87.5% to \$192.41 billion in FY 2021-22 as against \$102.63 billion in the previous year. For the first time, India's monthly merchandise exports exceeded \$40 billion, reaching \$40.38 billion in March 2022, an increase of 14.53%. Total exports during last fiscal year increased to a record high of \$417.81 billion, imports too soared to \$610.22 billion, leaving a trade gap of \$192.41 billion. The trade deficit in March 2022 was \$18.69 billion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India’s Total exports in FY22 – \$417.81 billion
- India’s Total imports in FY22 – \$610.22 billion
- India’s Trade Deficit – \$192.41 billion (rise of 87.5% compared to PY)

13. On April 4, Aegon Life insurance partnered with Ahalia Finforex, a Kerala-based diversified financial services firm, to provide life insurance access to the unorganised and unserved segments residing in tier-2, tier-3, and tier-4 towns. Aegon Life has successfully onboarded partners like Flipkart, Paytm, Mobikwik and others. It plans to onboard 100 distribution partners in 2022. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Aegon Life Ins. + Ahalia Finforex = partnership to provide life insurance access to the unorganised & unserved segments
- HQs of Aegon Life – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Satishwar Balakrishnan

14. Punjab National Bank (PNB) made Positive Pay System (PPS) mandatory for the cheque of Rs 10 lakhs and above effective from April 4 to protect customers from large value cheque frauds. As per the Positive Pay System (PPS) developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), a customer issuing the high-value cheque has to reconfirm some essential details, which are cross-checked while presenting the cheque in clearing before payment. These details are to be shared with the bank at least 24 working hours before the cheque is presented for clearing. Customers can share the details through internet banking, mobile banking, SMS banking, or their home branch in the prescribed format. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PNB – made “Positive Pay System” mandatory for the cheque of Rs 10 lakhs & above effective from April 4
- PPS is developed by – NPCI
- HQs of PNB – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Atul Kumar Goel | Tagline – “The Name You Can Bank Upon”
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD & CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008

15. On April 4, To curb the misuse of Power of Attorney (PoA) given by clients to stock brokers, SEBI released new guidelines wherein execution of Demat Debit and Pledge Instruction (DDPI) will be made compulsory for transfer of securities towards deliveries and settlements. The execution of the DDPI will also be applicable for pledging or repledging of securities. The fresh guidelines will be effective from July 1. Under DDPI, clients can explicitly agree to authorise the stock broker and depository participant to access their beneficiary ownership account. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – released new guidelines to curb the misuse of Power of Attorney (PoA)
- SEBI – made execution of DDPI compulsory for transfer of securities towards deliveries & settlements
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

16. On April 4, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) constituted an ad-hoc committee for reviewing and making recommendations for further strengthening of governance norms at Market Infrastructure Institutions (MIIs). G. Mahalingam, former whole time member of SEBI, will be the chairman of the committee. The committee will develop effective metrics for monitoring various aspects of the functioning of MIIs and key managerial persons (KMPs) and revisit the code of conduct and code of ethics for directors of the governing board and KMPs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – constituted committee for reviewing & making recommendations for strengthening of governance norms at MIIs
- Committee will be chaired by – G. Mahalingam
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992



17. On April 6, Union Bank of India (UBI) announced to create a “Digital Bank within Bank” as part of its future ready digital transformation project. Under the project, it will launch a super app, as per the bank’s regulatory filing. Further, a host of digital products, pre-approved personal Loan (PAPL), union cash (pensioner loan), Shishu Mudra loan, MSME loan auto-renewal, agri loan (KCC) auto-renewal, CRM, Soft POS, branch token and mobile app-based deposit module, will be launched. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UBI – announced to create a “Digital Bank within Bank” as part of its future ready digital transformation project
- HQs of UBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Rajkiran Rai G. | Tagline – “Good People to Bank With”

18. A total of 27 Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) and Financial Institutions (FIs) reported 96 cases of fraud, involving a total amount of Rs 34,097 Cr in the first 9 months of FY22 ending on December, 2021. Punjab National Bank recorded the highest value of frauds worth Rs 4,820 Cr, while Bank of India recorded the highest number of frauds at 13, according to data from the RBI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 27 SCBs & FIs reported 96 cases of fraud worth Rs 34,097 Cr in the first 9 months of FY22 (ending on Dec, 2021)
- PNB – recorded the highest value of frauds worth Rs 4,820 Cr
- BoI – recorded the highest number of frauds at 13

19. On April 7, the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) amended “IBBI (Voluntary Liquidation Process) Regulations, 2017” for voluntary liquidation of stressed firms to make the exit process quicker and more efficient. The period for the distribution of liquidation proceeds is reduced to 30 days from the current 6 months. In cases where claims are received from creditors, the liquidator has to complete the liquidation process and submit the final report with the board and the Registrar of Companies in 270 days. In cases where no claims are received from creditor, the period for the preparation of list of stakeholders by the liquidator will be reduced to 15 days. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IBBI – amended the “IBBI (Voluntary Liquidation Process) Regulations, 2017”
- The period for the distribution of liquidation proceeds is reduced to 30 days from the current 6 months
- HQs of IBBI – New Delhi | Chairperson – Ravi Mittal | Established in – 2016 (set up by Ministry of Corporate Affairs)

20. On April 6, Union Bank of India announced to sell its 8% stake in India SME Asset Reconstruction Company (ISARC). The stake sale is subject to obtaining requisite regulatory approvals. ISARC is the India’s first ARC supported by a large number of public sector banks and undertakings, focussed on NPA resolution of the MSME sector. The ARC is sponsored by SIDBI, Bank of Baroda, Punjab National Bank, and SIDBI Venture Capital Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UBI – to sell its 8% stake in India SME Asset Reconstruction Company (ISARC)
- HQs of UBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Rajkiran Rai G. | Tagline – “Good People to Bank With”

21. On April 7, ICICI Securities and CoverStack, a digital B2B platform for insurance services, announced a partnership to offer insurance products on the ICICIdirect platform. Using CoverStack, ICICIdirect’s customers can now search, customize, compare, and buy the most suitable insurance plans for health and motor insurance. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICICI Securities + CoverStack = partnership to offer insurance products on the ICICIdirect platform
- HQs of ICICI Securities – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Vijay Chandok

22. On April 6, IndusInd Bank announced that its flagship mobile application for merchants namely 'Indus Merchant Solutions' received the "Outstanding Digital CX - SME Payments" award at the "Digital CX Awards 2022". The Digital CX Awards event is organised by Digital Banker, a globally trusted financial news service provider. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 'Indus Merchant Solutions' app – received "Outstanding Digital CX - SME Payments" award at Digital CX Awards 2022
- 'Digital CX Awards' event is organised by Digital Banker
- HQs of IndusInd Bank – Pune, MH | MD & CEO – Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline – "We Make You Feel Richer"

23. On April 6, Supply chain finance company KredX partnered ICICI Bank to offer "ICICI Bank-KredX Commercial Card", for B2B payments. This is the first-of-its-kind cashback card that enables businesses to avail financial rewards instantly for all B2B payments, without incurring any additional cost. Through this partnership, KredX aims to disburse upwards of ₹2,000 Cr B2B vendor payments per month. The company also aims to increase customer base 300% by the end of 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- KredX + ICICI Bank = to offer the first-of-its-kind cashback card "ICICI Bank-KredX Commercial Card" for B2B payments
- KredX aims to disburse upwards of ₹2,000 Cr B2B vendor payments per month
- HQs of KredX – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Founder & CEO – Manish Kumar
- HQs of ICICI Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sandeep Bakhshi | Taglines – "Hum Hain Na!" & "Khayal Apka"

24. On April 7, DBS Bank India partnered with Social Alpha, a popular innovation curation & venture development platform for tech start-ups, to address the global issue of food waste through sustainable solutions. Nearly 40% of food produced in India is lost before it reaches the markets and further wasted at the retailer level, which decreases the nutritional security and causes income losses for farmers. Moreover, an estimated 50 kg per capita of household food waste is recorded, totalling 68 million tonnes a year. A two-year program "Tectonic Innovations Towards Zero Food Waste" is presented by DBS and powered by Social Alpha. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DBS Bank India + Social Alpha = partnership to address the global issue of Food Waste through Sustainable Solutions
- "Tectonic Innovations Towards Zero Food Waste" program is presented by DBS & powered by Social Alpha
- HQs of DBS Bank India – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Surojit Shome
- Social Alpha (Foundation in Bengaluru, Karnataka) – a joint initiative of Tata Trust & Indian Govt

25. On April 7, Axis Bank signed a Partial Guarantee Facility Agreement (PGFA) with Asian Development Bank (ADB) for a partial guarantee programme with initial outlay of \$150 million (Rs 1,139.85 Cr), aimed at supporting supply chain financing for impact sectors. Special focus will be towards ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) and priority sectors. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Axis Bank + ADB = signed a Partial Guarantee Facility Agreement with initial outlay of \$150 million (Rs 1,139.85 Cr)
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – “Badhti ka Naam Zindagi”
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Members – 68 | Established in – 1966

26. On April 7, the RBI issued new guidelines on the establishment of Digital Banking Units (DBUs) to offer products and services in both self-served and assisted mode round-the-clock. In the Union Budget, the government announced the setting up of at least 75 such units in 75 districts to commemorate 75 years of the country's independence as 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'. As per the guidelines, Scheduled Commercial Banks (excluding Regional Rural Banks, Payments Banks and Local Area Banks) having experience in digital banking are allowed to open DBUs in Tier 1 to Tier 6 centres without having the need to take permission from the RBI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI issued new guidelines on the establishment of Digital Banking Units (DBUs) to offer products & services
- SCBs (except RRBs, PBs & LABs) having experience in digital banking are allowed to open DBUs in Tier 1 to Tier 6 centres without RBI's permission
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

27. On April 7, the RBI imposed several restrictions on Bengaluru-based Shushruti Souharda Sahakara Bank Niyamita, including a withdrawal cap of Rs 5,000 per account, following a deterioration in the lender's financial position. The directions shall remain in force for a period of 6 months. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI imposed several restrictions on Shushruti Souharda Sahakara Bank Niyamita (Bengaluru, Karnataka) for 6 months
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

28. On April 8, according to the data with BSE, HDFC Ltd sold 4.96 Cr shares in Bandhan Bank through a bulk deal at ₹306.61 apiece. The share sale amounts to about 3.1% stake of HDFC in Bandhan Bank. As of December 31, 2021, HDFC Ltd held 15.93 Cr shares amounting to 9.89% stake in Bandhan Bank. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Ltd – sold 4.96 Cr shares (about 3.1% stake) in Bandhan Bank through a bulk deal at ₹306.61 apiece
- HQs of Bandhan Bank – Kolkata, WB | MD & CEO – Chandra Shekhar Ghosh | Tagline – “Aapka Bhalai, Sabki Bhalai”
- HQs of HDFC Ltd – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Deepak Parekh | VC & CEO – Keki Mistry

29. On April 7, Bandhan Financial Holdings Ltd signed a definitive agreement to acquire IDFC Asset Management Company and IDFC AMC Trustee Company for Rs 4,500 Cr. This is the second big acquisition in the mutual fund space in recent times after HSBC Asset Management (India) Pvt Ltd's buyout of L&T Investment Management Ltd from L&T Finance for \$425 million in December, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bandhan Financial Holdings Ltd – to acquire IDFC AMC & IDFC AMC Trustee Company for Rs 4,500 Cr
- HQs of Bandhan Financial Holdings Ltd – Kolkata, West Bengal

30. On April 8, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) set up two separate expert groups to examine the roles, eligibility criteria and functions of sponsors and trustees at asset management companies (AMCs). The working group on sponsors will be chaired by A. Balasubramanian (MD & CEO of Aditya Birla Sun Life AMC). Meanwhile, the working group on MF trustees will be chaired by Manoj Vaish (Independent Trustee of Mirae MF). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI set up 2 separate expert groups to examine the roles, eligibility criteria & functions of sponsors/trustees at AMCs
- The working group on sponsors will be chaired by – A. Balasubramanian
- The working group on MF trustees will be chaired – by Manoj Vaish
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

31. On April 9, Chairman of Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank, P. Gopi Krishna launched a new deposit scheme of the bank, “Vikas Siri Sampat-1111”. The scheme is of a tenor of 1,111 days with interest rate of 5.70% for general public and 6.20 % for senior citizens. Under the scheme, a minimum of ₹10,000 and a maximum of ₹2 Cr can be deposited. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- KVGB – launched a new deposit scheme called “Vikas Siri Sampat-1111”
- Under the scheme: minimum deposit – ₹10,000 | maximum deposit – ₹2 Cr
- HQs of KVGB – Dharwad, Karnataka | Chairman – P. Gopi Krishna | Sponsored by – Canara Bank

32. On April 11, in its first bi-monthly monetary policy meeting for FY 2023, the RBI announced a new tool to absorb excess liquidity from the system - Standing Deposit Facility (SDF). Through this new tool the central bank can absorb excess liquidity from the commercial banks, which is currently hovering at about Rs 8.5 lakh Cr, without an exchange of collateral like government-backed securities (G-Secs). Interest rate for SDF is fixed at 3.75%, 40 basis points higher than reverse repo rate. The idea about SDF was initially introduced nearly 8 years ago by a monetary policy committee led by Urjit Patel. Moreover, the RBI extended the rationalised home loan norms by another year till March 31, 2023 to facilitate a higher credit flow of individual housing loans. The RBI also proposed reduction of Net Worth criteria for Non-Banking operating units from Rs 100 Cr to Rs 25 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI announced a new tool to absorb excess liquidity from the system - Standing Deposit Facility (SDF)
- Interest rate for SDF is fixed at 3.75% | Excess liquidity at present – Rs 8.5 lakh Cr
- RBI extended the rationalised home loan norms by another year till March 31, 2023
- RBI also proposed reduction of Net Worth criteria for Non-Banking operating units from Rs 100 Cr to Rs 25 Cr
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

33. On April 7, Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) announced to divest its entire stake of 4% in India SME Asset Reconstruction Company for nearly Rs 4 Cr. ISARC is India's first Asset Reconstruction Company (ARC). The ARC is sponsored by SIDBI, Bank of Baroda, Punjab National Bank, and SIDBI Venture Capital Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BoM – announced to divest its entire stake of 4% in India SME Asset Reconstruction Company for nearly Rs 4 Cr
- HQs of BoM – Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – A S Rajeev | Tagline – “One Family One Bank”

34. On April 11, Tata AIA Life Insurance tied up with Common Service Centres (CSC) under the Ministry of Electronics & IT, to provide access to about 95% gram panchayats in India. With this tie up, the company will engage into the network of over 4 lakh Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs) at the last mile for distribution of life insurance plan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tata AIA Life Insurance + CSC = partnership to provide access of insurance products to about 95% gram panchayats
- HQs of Tata AIA Life – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Naveen Tahilyani

35. On April 8, Union Cabinet approved the proposal for signing a bilateral MoU between Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and Financial Regulatory Commission, Mongolia (FRC) to contribute towards strengthening the information sharing framework leading to effective enforcement of securities laws. The MoU will also help in establishing a technical assistance programme which would benefit the Authorities by way of consultations on matters relating to capital markets, capacity building activities and training programmes for the staff. Financial Regulatory Commission (FRC) is a parliamentary authority mandated to supervise and regulate the non-bank sector; including the insurance and securities markets, and participants of the microfinance sector. The FRC is responsible for providing stable and sound financial markets. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI + FRC (Mongolia) = bilateral MoU to contribute towards strengthening the information sharing framework
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

36. On April 12, Mashreq NEO, a full-service digital bank from UAE-based Mashreq Bank, announced a strategic partnership with Federal Bank to enable Mashreq Neo’s UAE-based Indian customers open a Non-Resident account with Federal Bank in India, instantly via the Neo app. The new initiative leverages the Open Banking construct to simplify the customer onboarding journey and deliver real-time account opening experience for customers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mashreq NEO + Federal Bank = partnership to enable its UAE-based Indian customers open a NR a/c with Federal Bank
- HQs of Mashreq Bank – Dubai, UAE | CEO – Ahmed Abdelaal
- HQs of Federal Bank – Aluva, Kerala | MD & CEO – Shyam Srinivasan | Tagline – “Your Perfect Banking Partner”

37. On April 13, as per the RBI’s guidelines on Scale Based Regulations for NBFCs, the Non-banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) in the Upper Layer and Middle Layer should put in place a board approved policy by April 1, 2023 and compliance function including the appointment of a Chief Compliance Officer (CCO) by October 1, 2023, respectively. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- As per the RBI’s guidelines on Scale Based Regulations for NBFCs:
 - NBFCs in the Upper Layer & Middle Layer should place a Board Approved Policy – by April 1, 2023
 - NBFCs should have independent Compliance Function to appoint a Chief Compliance Officer – by October 1, 2023
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935



38. In April 2022, the RBI decided to permit all banks to introduce card-less cash withdrawal facility across all banks' ATM networks using the Unified Payments Interface (UPI). In addition to enhancing ease of transactions, the absence of the need for physical card for such transactions would help prevent frauds such as card skimming, card cloning, etc. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI decided to permit all banks to introduce card-less cash withdrawal facility at ATMs using UPI
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

39. On April 12, Fino Payments Bank's board approved a strategic investment of up to 12.19% in New Delhi-based fintech Paysprint Pvt Ltd. This strategic investment is a first for Fino Payments Bank after its public listing. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Fino Payments Bank – to acquire 12.19% stake in Paysprint Pvt Ltd (New Delhi)
- HQs of Fino Payments Bank – Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Rishi Gupta

40. On April 13, Union Bank of India (UBI) announced to buy out the 75% stake (held jointly by BoB & IOB) in India International Bank Malaysia (IIBM), making it a 100% UBI unit. India International Bank was incorporated in Malaysia in August 2011 and commenced operations in July 2012. After Andhra Bank's merger into UBI in April 2020, the 25% stake (which was earlier held by Andhra Bank) was transferred to UBI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UBI – to buy out the 75% stake (held jointly by BoB & IOB) in India International Bank Malaysia
- HQs of UBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Rajkiran Rai G. | Tagline – “Good People to Bank With”

41. On April 12, Punjab National Bank (PNB) celebrated its 128th foundation day. The great freedom fighter Lala Lajpat Rai ji (known as Sher-e-Punjab) had established Punjab National Bank in 1894 as the first 'Swadeshi Bank' after being influenced by the 'Swadeshi' movement. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 12 – 128th foundation day of PNB
- Lala Lajpat Rai established PNB as the first 'Swadeshi Bank' in 1894

42. On April 14, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the “Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya” (Prime Ministers' Museum) in Delhi. Paytm has become an official digital payments partner for the Prime Ministers' Museum. During the event, the PM bought the first ticket to the museum through Paytm electronic data capture machine. As the official partner for the museum, Paytm is offering its payment gateway, EDC (Electronic Data Capture) machines and QR code payment options. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi – inaugurated the “Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya” (Prime Ministers' Museum) in Delhi
- Paytm – became an official digital payments partner for the Prime Ministers' Museum
- HQs of Paytm – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CEO – Vijay Sekhar Sharma | Founded in – 2010

43. On April 13, the Centre has accumulated Rs 96,000 Cr under the “National Monetisation Pipeline” during FY22, crossing the target of Rs 88,000 Cr. The government has set a target of Rs 6 lakh Cr through asset monetisation in FY22-25, and the monetisation target for this year (FY23) is Rs 1.62 lakh Cr. Public sector Brownfield Asset generated revenues and investments worth Rs 1 trillion, 12% more than the target set for FY22, under the National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central Govt accumulated Rs 96,000 Cr under “National Monetisation Pipeline” during FY22 (target was Rs 88,000 Cr)
- Government’s target of Rs 6 lakh Cr through Asset Monetisation in FY22-25
- Monetization target for FY23 – Rs 1.62 lakh Cr
- Brownfield Asset generated revenues & investments worth Rs 1 trillion (12% more than the target set for FY22)

44. On April 15, Extreme IX and PhonePe announced a partnership to enable a faster digital payments experience for over 370 million PhonePe users. PhonePe has become the first digital payments platform to participate in an Internet Exchange in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Extreme IX + PhonePe = partnered to enable a faster digital payments experience for over 370 million PhonePe users
- HQs of PhonePe – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Sameer Nigam | Founded in – 2015

45. In April 2022, Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMBL) launched “Kotak FYN”, its new enterprise portal for business banking and corporate clients. The new enterprise portal will offer comprehensive digital banking and value-added services across all products, including trade & services, account services, payments and collections. By the last quarter of 2022, the Kotak FYN portal will include many other services, including account services, payments and collections. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kotak Mahindra Bank – launched “Kotak FYN” portal for business banking & corporate clients
- HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Uday Kotak | Tagline – “Let’s make money simple”

46. On April 18, IndusInd Bank has been awarded the global “Celent Model Bank” award under the category - ‘Payments System Transformation’ for building a best-in-class Enterprise Payments Hub (EPH). The award acknowledges the Bank’s outstanding journey in creating a cloud-based central payments hub. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IndusInd Bank – received the global “Celent Model Bank” award under ‘Payments System Transformation’ category
- HQs of IndusInd Bank – Pune, MH | MD & CEO – Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline – “We Make You Feel Richer”

47. On April 14, London-based Crypto lender Nexo partnered with global payments company Mastercard & DiPocket to launch the world’s first ‘crypto-backed’ payment card namely “Nexo Card”. Electronic money firm DiPocket is Nexo’s card issuer. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nexo + Mastercard + DiPocket = partnership to launch the world's first 'crypto-backed' payment card - "Nexo Card"
- HQs of Mastercard – New York, US | CEO – Michael Miebach | Founded in – 1966

48. On April 15, the 121 Finance became India's first fintech-led NBFC-Factor to receive the Certificate of Registration from the RBI under "Registration of Factors (Reserve Bank) Regulations, 2022". Until now, Factoring was offered only to the large corporates; however, 121 Finance has brought factoring to the MSMEs and has its roots ground deep in FinTech. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 121 Finance – became India's first fintech-led NBFC-Factor to receive the Certificate of Registration from the RBI
- HQs of 121 Finance – Jaipur, Rajasthan | Founder & CEO – Ravi Modani

49. On April 18, State Bank of India (SBI) raised 3-year funds worth \$500 million through a syndicated loan facility. The facility is for \$400 million-plus \$100 million as a greenshoe option. It is the first offshore USD Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR)-linked syndicated loan by SBI through its Gift City Branch. SBI Gift City Branch has become the largest branch in IFSC. MUFG, Bank of America, and JP Morgan were the joint lenders for this offering whereas First Abu Dhabi Bank acted as facility agent. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI raised 3-year funds worth \$500 million through a syndicated loan facility – from its IFSC Gift City Branch
- Facility worth \$400 million + \$100 million as a greenshoe option

50. On April 19, the Central Bank of Russia included a new payment system called "HELLO" into the national register of credit institutions. Payment system HELLO is a set of payment services and institutions that facilitates money transfer transactions. Russian commercial bank TransKapitalBank will be the operator of the system's payment infrastructure services. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central Bank of Russia included a new payment system called "HELLO"
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

51. On April 19, the RBI unveiled Large Exposures Framework (LEF) for Upper Layer NBFCs with effect from October 1, 2022. The sum of all the exposure values of Upper Layer NBFC, to a single counterparty and to a group of connected counterparties, must not be higher than 20% and 25%, respectively, of its available eligible capital base at all times. The RBI also prescribed NBFCs which are in the upper layer to maintain a common equity tier-1 (CET1) capital of at least 9% to the risk weighted assets (RWA), as compared to 5.5% for banks. The minimum capital adequacy requirement of NBFCs is 15%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI unveiled Large Exposures Framework (LEF) for Upper Layer NBFCs with effect from October 1, 2022
- Sum of all the exposure values of Upper Layer NBFC must not be higher than 20% (for one entity) & 25% (for group)
- RBI prescribed NBFCs which are in the Upper Layer to maintain a CET1 capital of at least 9% to RWA
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

52. On April 20, Ministry of Corporate Affairs amended “Nidhi Rules, 2014” governing Nidhi companies to protect the interests of the public and prevent possible illegal fundraising activities. Nidhi companies are non-banking finance entities that are into lending and borrowing transactions with their members. A public company incorporated as a Nidhi with a share capital of ₹10 lakh should first get itself declared as a ‘Nidhi’ by applying in form NDH-4 with a minimum membership of 200 and a Net Owned Fund (NOF) of ₹20 lakh within 120 days of its incorporation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Corporate Affairs – amended “Nidhi Rules, 2014” to prevent illegal fundraising activities
- [Ministry of Corporate Affairs: Nirmala Sitharaman](#) | [Constituency – Karnataka](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Corporate Affairs: Rao Inderjit Singh](#)

53. India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) announced to launch “Fincluvation” on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of Indian Independence on August 15, 2022. It is a joint initiative to collaborate with Fintech Startup community to co-create and innovate solutions for financial inclusion. Fincluvation is an Industry first initiative to create a powerful platform to mobilize the start-up community towards building meaningful financial products aimed at financial inclusion. India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) was established under the Department of Posts, Ministry of Communication with 100% equity owned by Government of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IPPB announced to launch “Fincluvation” on August 15, 2022
- [HQs of IPPB – New Delhi](#) | [MD & CEO – Venkatram Jayanthi](#) | [Established on – 1st Sep, 2018](#)

54. On April 21, Dhanlaxmi Bank signed an MoU with Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) and Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) for collection of taxes. The bank has been authorised by the RBI based on the recommendation from the Controller General of Accounts (CGA) for collection of various taxes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dhanlaxmi Bank + CBDT + CBIC = an MoU for collection of taxes
- Dhanlaxmi Bank – authorised by the RBI based on the recommendation from CGA for collection of various taxes
- [HQs of Dhanlaxmi Bank – Thrissur, Kerala](#) | [MD & CEO – J. K. Shivan](#)

55. On April 20, the RBI allowed Rural Cooperative Banks (RCBs) to raise funds from people in their area of operation or existing shareholders through a variety of instruments. The outstanding amount of Perpetual Non-Cumulative Preference Shares and Perpetual Debt Instruments along with outstanding Innovative Perpetual Debt Instruments (IPDI) should not exceed 35% of total Tier-I capital. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – allowed Rural Cooperative Banks to raise funds from people in their area of operation or existing shareholders
- The outstanding amount of Perpetual Non-Cumulative Preference Shares/Instruments should not exceed 35% of total Tier-I capital
- [HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH](#) | [Governor – Shaktikanta Das \(25th\)](#) | [Established in – 1st April, 1935](#)

56. On April 21, the SEBI sent a notice to NSE's former MD & CEO Ravi Narain, asking him to pay Rs 2.06 Cr in a case related to governance lapses at the stock exchange, and warned of arrest and attachment of assets and bank accounts if he fails to make the payment within 15 days. The SEBI, through an order passed on February 11, levied a fine of Rs 2.06 Cr on Narain in the matter of governance issues over the appointment of the chief strategic officer at the stock exchange in 2013. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI sent a notice to NSE's former MD & CEO Ravi Narain, asking him to pay Rs 2.06 Cr fine
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

57. On April 21, NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL), the international arm of the NPCI, announced that BHIM UPI is now operational at NEOPAY terminals across the UAE. This initiative will empower millions of Indians who travel to the UAE, to safely and conveniently make payments using BHIM UPI. NIPL and NEOPAY, the payment subsidiary of Mashreq Bank, partnered last year to create the acceptance infrastructure in the UAE. UPI is an instant real-time payment system developed by the NPCI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NIPL announced: BHIM UPI is now operational at NEOPAY terminals across the UAE
- NEOPAY – the payment subsidiary of Mashreq Bank
- HQs of NIPL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Ritesh Shukla
- HQs of Mashreq Bank – Dubai, UAE | CEO – Ahmed Abdelaal
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

58. On April 21, the RBI extended the guidelines on Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) to large borrowers of NBFCs and Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks (UCBs). The RBI advised that Non-individual borrowers with exposure of ₹5 Cr and above from banks and financial institutions (FIs) shall be required to obtain LEI codes as per the given timeline. As per the timeline, the borrowers having exposure of ₹25 Cr are required to obtain LEI by April 30, 2023. The LEI is a 20-digit number used to uniquely identify parties to financial transactions worldwide to improve the quality and accuracy of financial data systems. The LEI numbers are maintained on the website of the Global Legal Entity Identifier Foundation (GLEIF). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Non-individual borrowers with exposure of ₹5 Cr & above from banks & FIs are required to obtain LEI codes
- Borrowers having exposure of ₹25 Cr are required to obtain LEI by April 30, 2023
- Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) is a 20-digit number
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

59. On April 22, NSE IFSC Ltd, a subsidiary of National Stock Exchange (NSE), launched an International Sustainability Platform at Gujarat's GIFT City. GIFT City is expected to get operationalised in the second half of 2022. The platform will facilitate listing and trading a variety of sustainability products including green bonds, voluntary carbon, sustainable bonds, green real estate investment trusts (REITs), green equity, etc. The sustainability platform will use Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT) or Blockchain. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NSE IFSC Ltd – launched an “International Sustainability Platform” at GIFT City, Gujarat
- HQs of NSE IFSC Ltd – GIFT City, Gujarat | Chairman – Rajiv Mehrishi

60. On April 26, SEBI restructured its Advisory Committee on Market Data that recommends policy measures pertaining to areas like securities market data access and privacy. The panel now has 21 members (earlier 20). The committee is chaired by M S Sahoo. The Panel is responsible for recommending appropriate policy for access to securities market data. In addition, the committee recommends standardization of data definitions; data identification logic (usage of uniform codes for identifying and storing data - raw data and derived data) and data validation techniques (single source of truth, validation). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – restructured its Advisory Committee on Market Data & increased its member to 21 from 20 earlier
- The committee is chaired by – M. S. Sahoo
- [HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch](#) | [Established in – 1992](#)

61. On April 26, Airtel Payments Bank partnered with IndusInd Bank to offer fixed deposit (FD) facilities to its customers. Customers can now book fixed deposits starting from Rs 500 up to Rs 190,000 within minutes through a seamless digital journey on the Airtel Thanks app. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- APB + IndusInd Bank = partnership to offer FD facilities to its customers
- [HQs of APB – New Delhi](#) | [CEO – Anubrata Biswas](#) | [Founded in – 2017](#)
- [HQs of IndusInd Bank – Pune, MH](#) | [MD & CEO – Sumant Kathpalia](#) | [Tagline – “We Make You Feel Richer”](#)

62. On April 25, Suryoday Small Finance Bank partnered with New York-based Kyndryl to drive its technology transformation program, improve operational efficiency, and increase digital banking adoption among its customers as part of a 5-year transformation deal. Kyndryl will manage the bank’s critical core and mobile banking application ecosystem and provide deep expertise in hybrid cloud services, data analytics, and IP-based transformation services frameworks. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Suryoday SFB + Kyndryl (US) = partnership to drive its digital & IT transformation program for 5 years
- [HQs of Suryoday SFB – Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [CEO – Baskar Babu Ramachandran](#)

63. On April 25, Government of India amended the “Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020” based on the approvals given by the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC). Domestic Industry will not have to furnish Integrity Pact Bank Guarantee (IPBG) for acquisitions costing more than ₹100 Cr. Instead, Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) will be taken as a bid security for all acquisition cases with Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) costing more than ₹100 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- GoI amended the “Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020” based on the approvals given by DAC
- Domestic Industry will not have to furnish IPBG for acquisitions costing more than ₹100 Cr
- EMD will be taken as a bid security for all acquisition cases with AoN costing more than ₹100 Cr

64. On April 26, FinMapp collaborated with Bajaj Finance to launch a fixed deposit feature on its application by adding a new icon for an improved customer experience. The fintech firm is offering an interest rate of 7.35% on the fixed deposit of app users. FinMapp had also acquired a registration certificate, recognizing it as a corporate agent from the IRDAI. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- FinMapp + Bajaj Finance = collaboration to launch a fixed deposit feature
- HQs of FinMapp – Gurgaon, Haryana | Founder & CEO – Kumar Binit
- HQs of Bajaj Finserv – Pune, Maharashtra | Chairman & MD – Sanjiv Bajaj

65. On April 27, Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) became the first Indian company to hit the Rs 19 lakh Cr market valuation mark following a rally in its share price. The market heavyweight stock jumped 1.85% to its record high of Rs 2,827.10 and company's market valuation jumped to Rs 19,12,814 Cr in morning trade on the BSE. Meanwhile, Reliance Industries Ltd signed a formal shareholder agreement for the \$2 billion TA'ZIZ chemical joint venture in the UAE and inked a pact to collaborate with ADNOC in finding and producing conventional and unconventional resources. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RIL – first Indian company to hit the Rs 19 lakh Cr market valuation mark
- RIL – signed a formal shareholder agreement for the \$2 billion TA'ZIZ chemical joint venture in the UAE
- RIL – inked a pact to collaborate with ADNOC in finding and producing conventional and unconventional resources
- HQs of Reliance Industries Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani | Founded in – 1973

66. On April 28, Pencilton, has launched PencilKey, the NCMC-complaint RuPay on-the-go contactless keychains for teens, in partnership with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and Transcorp. Pencilton has taken a step in encouraging financial literacy in youngsters by providing them with financial tools and technology. PencilKey is linked to the PencilCard which is an all-in-one Prepaid card, metro card, and bus card. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pencilton + NPCI + Transcorp = launched “PencilKey” - a contactless keychain for teens
- HQs of Pencilton – Hyderabad, Telangana | Co-founder and CEO – Vishwajit Puri

67. The Union Cabinet approved the revision of project outlay for setting up of India Post Payments Bank (IPPB). The equity infusion is set up from Rs 1435 Cr to Rs 2255 Cr to meet regulatory requirement. The Cabinet also granted in principle approval for future fund infusion to the tune of Rs 500 Cr for meeting regulatory requirements and technological upgradation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved revised project outlay of Rs 2255 Cr for setting up of IPPB (from Rs 1435 Cr earlier)
- HQs of IPPB – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Venkatram Jayanthi | Established on – 1st Sep, 2018

68. On April 28, Bank of Baroda announced the launch of “BoB World Gold” which is a new feature on its BoB World mobile banking platform designed especially for Seniors and the Elderly. While BoB World offers over 250 services, BoB World Gold brings the essential, frequently used services and favorite transactions of senior citizens upfront such that they are conveniently available and easily accessible on the home screen. BoB World Gold is customized specifically for senior citizens (60 years and above) and provides a new revamped dashboard with easy navigation, large fonts, sufficient spacing, and clear menus with added features like a ready-to-assist voice based search service. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Bank of Baroda – launched “BoB World Gold” new feature on its BoB World mobile app for Senior Citizens
- HQs of BOB – Vadodara, Gujarat | CEO – Sanjiv Chadha | Tagline – “India’s International Bank”

69. On April 28, the SEBI has reduced the time taken for the listing of REITs (real estate investment trusts) and InvITs (infrastructure investment trusts) to 6 working days from the present 12 days. The new rule opens on or after June 1, 2022. The move is aimed at making the existing process of issuance of such emerging investment vehicles simpler and cost-effective. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI reduced the time taken for the listing of REITs & InvITs to 6 working days from the present 12 days
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

70. On April 28, ICICI Bank unveiled India’s first open-for-all digital ecosystem for MSMEs at a media conference in Mumbai. The new ecosystem comprises three pillars: enhanced banking services for existing customers, a bouquet of banking services to MSMEs who are customers of other banks and a whole range of value-added services for all. The most important in the list of these services is sanction of instant and paperless overdraft facility named ‘InstaOD Plus’ up to Rs 25 lakh. ‘InstaOD Plus’, the industry-first proposition, enables customers of any bank to avail of an overdraft instantly through a few clicks either on the new version of InstaBIZ or CIB (Corporate Internet Banking). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICICI Bank – unveiled India’s first open-for-all digital ecosystem for MSMEs in Mumbai
- ICICI Bank – also unveiled the industry-first instant & paperless overdraft facility namely ‘InstaOD Plus’ (up to Rs 25 lakh)
- HQs of ICICI Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sandeep Bakhshi | Taglines – “Hum Hain Na!” & “Khayal Apka”

71. On April 28, Fintech firm Spice Money partnered with Religare Broking to provide people in rural India access to platforms to invest in capital market. Spice Money’s representatives will assist rural citizens to open a demat account and apply for Life Insurance Corp of India's initial public offer (IPO) and invest in other products in the future. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Spice Money + Religare Broking = partnership to help open demat accounts in rural India
- HQs of Spice Money – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | Co-Founder & CEO – Sanjeev Kumar
- HQs of Religare Broking Ltd – New Delhi | CEO – Nitin Aggarwal

72. On April 28, Indian Bank launched its first digital product a Pre-Approved Personal Loan (PAPL) under Project “WAVE”. The bank had launched the digital transformation initiative - World of Advance Virtual Experience (WAVE) in January 2022. The loan would carry an interest rate of 10% per annum with no foreclosure charges. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Bank – launched its first digital product a Pre-Approved Personal Loan (PAPL) under the Project “WAVE”
- HQs of Indian Bank – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – Shanti Lal Jain | Tagline – “Your Own Bank”



73. On April 27, International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) issued a detailed “Framework for FinTech Entity” for Banking, Capital Markets, Insurance and Funds Management in the International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs). As per the framework, there will be a dedicated Regulatory Sandbox for fintech products or solutions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IFSCA issued a “Framework for FinTech Entity” for Banking, Capital Markets, Insurance & Funds Management in IFSCs
- HQs of IFSCA – Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman – Injeti Srinivas

74. In April 2022, Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman attended the FATF Ministerial Meeting in Washington D.C., conducted along-side the “2022 Spring Meetings” of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). She also attended the “G20 Finance Ministers & Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) 2022” meeting, held in Washington D.C. under Indonesia’s Presidency. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nirmala Sitharaman – attended the “FATF Ministerial Meeting” in Washington D.C., US
- Nirmala Sitharaman – attended the “2022 Spring Meetings” of World Bank & IMF
- Nirmala Sitharaman – attended the “G20 Finance Ministers & Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) Meeting 2022”



Defence Affairs

1. On April 2, the Indian Army inducted a small number of man-portable air defence systems (MANPADS), the “Igla-S” systems bought from Russia under emergency procurement. This includes 24 launchers, 216 missiles and testing equipment. The procurement was done through the Vice Chiefs emergency financial powers given to the Services for the first time after the Balakot air strike in February 2019. Moreover, Igla-S, the Army variant of the Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (MRSAM) being jointly developed by the DRDO and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Army inducted the man-portable air defence systems (MANPADS) - “Igla-S” systems – bought from Russia
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande

2. A commemoration event was held at the Indian Air Force’s Helicopter Training School, Secunderabad, to mark 60 years of Chetak helicopters. The IAF inducted the French-origin helicopters, called Alouette III, in 1962 and the state-run Hindustan Aeronautics (HAL) handed over its first licence-produced Chetak (Alouette III) to IAF in 1965. Chetak lacks modern helicopter features like moving map display, ground proximity warning system, and weather radar, besides an auto-pilot system. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A commemoration event was held at IAF’s Helicopter Training School to mark 60 years of Chetak helicopters
- IAF inducted the French-origin helicopters, Alouette III, in 1962
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari | Vice Chief – Air Marshal Sandeep Singh
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Jean Castex

3. On April 6, the 9th edition of India & Kyrgyzstan Joint Special Forces Exercise “Khanjar” was culminated. The exercise was commenced on 25 March, 2022 at Special Forces Training School, Bakloh (HP). Combat shooting, sniping, survival in mountains, hostage rescue drills and unarmed combat were practiced extensively during the Exercise. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 9th edition of India & Kyrgyzstan Joint Special Forces Exercise “Khanjar” – culminated at Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh
- Kyrgyzstan – Bishkek – Som | President – Sadyr Nurgojoevich Japarov

4. On April 7, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh released the third positive indigenisation list of defence equipment that will be put under import restrictions. This third list builds on the first list of 101 items and the second list of 108 items, promulgated earlier in 2020 and 2021. The third list will consist of over 100 items, including complex equipment and systems. Orders worth more than Rs 2,10,000 Cr are likely to be placed on the Industry in the next 5 years as part of the items covered in the third list. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajnath Singh – released the 3rd positive indigenisation list of defence equipment comprising over 100 items
- Ministry of Defence: Rajnath Singh | Constituency – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Defence: Ajay Bhatt



5. April 6, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the “Air Force Commanders’ Conference (AFCC)” at Air Headquarters in New Delhi. The conference was attended by Minister of State for Defence, Ajay Bhatt and Defence Secretary Dr Ajay Kumar. The theme for this Conference is “Optimising Human Resources”. To provide a boost to the growing indigenous drone industry, Raksha Mantri launched the “Meher Baba Competition - II”. The competition is aimed at developing technology for a “Swarm Drone based system to detect Foreign Objects on Aircraft Operating Surfaces”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajnath Singh – inaugurated the “Air Force Commanders’ Conference (AFCC)” in New Delhi
- Theme – “Optimising Human Resources”
- Rajnath Singh – launched the “Meher Baba Competition - II” to boost drone industry

6. On April 9, Defence Ministry decided that 25% of the domestic capital procurement and acquisition budget amounting to Rs 21,149.47 Cr, will be allocated for domestic private industry in FY 2022-23. This is in continuation of the government's efforts to promote private industry, MSMEs and start-ups in the defence production ecosystem. It has also been decided that an amount of Rs 1,500 Cr will be earmarked for procurement from start-ups from within the allocations for domestic capital procurement. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Defence Ministry – earmarked 25% of domestic capital procurement budget for Private Industry to promote start-ups
- Rs 1500 Cr – earmarked for procurement from start-ups from within the allocations for domestic capital procurement
- [Ministry of Defence: Rajnath Singh](#) | [Constituency – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Defence: Ajay Bhatt](#)

7. On April 7, Pakistan’s Army conducted a successful flight test of the surface-to-surface medium-range ballistic missile ‘Shaheen-III’ which can strike targets up to 2,750 kms, bringing a number of Indian cities under its range. It is solid-fuelled and equipped with the Post-Separation Altitude Correction (PSAC) system. Solid fuel is suited for rapid response capabilities, while the PSAC feature provides it the ability to adjust the warhead trajectory for greater accuracy and evading anti-ballistic missile defence systems. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pakistan – conducted a successful flight test of the surface-to-surface medium-range ballistic missile ‘Shaheen-III’
- Range – 2,750 kms | solid-fuelled & equipped with the Post-Separation Altitude Correction (PSAC) system
- [Pakistan – Islamabad – Pakistani Rupee](#) | [PM – Shehbaz Sharif](#) | [President – Arif Alvi](#)

8. On April 9, Pinaka Mk-I (Enhanced) Rocket System (EPRS) and Pinaka Area Denial Munition (ADM) rocket systems were successfully flight-tested by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Indian Army at Pokhran Firing Ranges in Rajasthan. The Pinaka rocket system has been developed by DRDO’s Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE), Pune and High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HMRL), another Pune-based laboratory of DRDO. The enhanced ‘Pinaka Mk-1’ has a range of 45 km. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DRDO + Indian Army = flight-tested “Pinaka Mk-I (Enhanced) Rocket System” & Pinaka Area Denial Munition Rocket Systems – at Pokhran, Rajasthan
- Developed by = ARDE + HMRL (DRDO’s lab, both based in Pune) | Enhanced range – 45 km
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in – 1958
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande

9. On April 10, the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) commissioned a squadron of Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH-Dhruv) MK-III in Bhubaneswar, Odisha to strengthen maritime security. ALH MK III choppers are fitted with modern surveillance radar and electro-optical equipment. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICG commissioned a squadron of “ALH-Dhruv MK-III” in Bhubaneswar, Odisha
- HQs of ICG – New Delhi | DG – Virender Singh Pathania | Founded in – 1977

10. On April 11, Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) signed a contract with Nigerian Army for imparting Phase-II flying training on Chetak Helicopter for six officers of Nigerian Army Aviation. The training is planned to be completed by December 2022. As part of the training, 70 hours flying training would be imparted for each Nigerian Army Aviation Officer. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HAL + Nigerian Army = a contract for imparting Phase-II flying training on Chetak Helicopter to 6 Nigerian officers
- HQs of HAL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Amitabh Bhatt | Chairma & MD – R. Madhavan
- Nigeria – Abuja – Naira | President – Muhammadu Buhari

11. In April 2022, General MM Naravane and Lt Gen Manoj Pande were on a two day visit to the Pune. At a function organised at the Bombay Engineer Group (BEG) and Centre, General MM Naravane inducted the first set of indigenously developed Quick Reaction Fighting Vehicle Medium (QRFV), Infantry Protected Mobility Vehicle (IPMV), Ultra Long Range Observation System developed by Tata Advanced System Limited (TASL) and Monocoque Hull Multi Role Mine Protected Armoured Vehicle developed by Bharat Forge. The induction of these indigenously developed Systems by TASL and Bharat Forge would greatly enhance the operational capabilities of Indian Army in future conflicts. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- General MM Naravane – inducted the first set of indigenously developed specialist vehicles into service
- Developed by – Tata Advanced System Limited (TASL) & Bharat Forge
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Pande | Vice Chief – Lt. General Baggavalli Somashekar

Raju

12. In April 2022, amid the ongoing Russian invasion, Ukraine claimed that it had hit Russia’s Black Sea flagship (a warship) in a missile attack by Ukrainian Neptune anti-ship missiles. However, Russia has said that the warship was sunk because of an accident. The Neptune cruise missile was fired from shore to ship. ‘Neptune’ (also known as ‘RK-360MT’) is Ukrainian anti-ship cruise missile capable of destroying targets within a range of 300 km. Its design is based on the ‘Soviet Kh-35’ anti-ship missile. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Ukraine – hit Russia’s Black Sea flagship by using its ‘RK-360MT’ or ‘Neptune’ anti-ship missiles
- ‘Neptune’ anti-ship missiles : Range – 300 Km | Based on ‘Soviet Kh-35’ anti-ship missile
- Ukraine – Kyiv – Ukrainian hryvnia | President – Volodymyr Zelensky
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

13. In April 2022, the Trishakti Corps conducted “Ex Kripan Shakti”, an Integrated Fire Power exercise at Teesta Field Firing Ranges (TFFR) near Siliguri in West Bengal. The exercise was aimed at orchestrating and synergizing the capabilities of the Indian Army and the Central Armed Police Forces to fight an integrated battle. Units of the Trishakti Corps demonstrated their ability to hit hard and swiftly with precision during the exercise. The exercise was reviewed by Lt Gen Tarun Kumar Aich General Officer Commanding Trishakti Corps. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Trishakti Corps conducted “Ex Kripan Shakti” Fire Power exercise at Teesta Field Firing Ranges in West Bengal
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

14. On April 20, Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar launched INS Vagsheer, the sixth Scorpene-class submarine under ‘Project-75’, at Mazagon Dock in Mumbai. Vagsheer is named after the sand fish, a deadly deep-sea predator of the Indian Ocean. The Mazagon Dock has so far delivered four Scorpene-class submarines under the project to the Indian Navy - INS Kalvari, INS Khanderi, INS Karanj and INS Vela. The fifth submarine ‘Vagir’ is currently under trial at sea. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ajay Kumar launched “INS Vagsheer” (6th Scorpene-class submarine under ‘Project-75’) in Mumbai
- All Scorpene-class submarines under ‘Project-75’ are being built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDSL)
- The 6 submarines being commissioned under the Indian Navy’s Project-75 are:

1st – Kalvari | 2nd – Khanderi | 3rd – Karanj | 4th – Vela | 5th – Vagir | 6th – Vagsheer

15. On April 18, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval inaugurated the National Cyber Security Incident Response Exercise. National Cyber Exercise (NCX) India will be conducted as a hybrid exercise over a period of ten days from 18 to 29 April 2022 with the aim to train senior management and technical personnel of Government. The program is being conducted by the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) in association with Data Security Council of India (DSCI) as the Knowledge Partner and supported by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). The platform for training is being provided by CyberExer Technologies, an Estonian cybersecurity company accredited for globally conducting several large cyber exercises. Government of India is taking various steps to build capacities and enhance skills in Cyber Security. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ajit Doval – inaugurated the “National Cyber Security Incident Response Exercise” (18 to 29 April)
- National Cyber Exercise (NCX): Conducted by – NSCS | Knowledge Partner – DSCI | Supported by – DRDO
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in – 1958

16. On April 19, Union Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar inaugurated the 8th edition of National Level Pollution Response Exercise NATPOLREX, conducted by the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) off Mormugao harbour in Goa. The objective of “NATPOLREX-VIII” is to enhance the preparedness and response capability of all the stakeholders in combating marine spills. It aims at validating the procedures and guidelines as contained in the National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan (NOSDCP) at the national and regional levels. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 8th edition of “NATPOLREX” – conducted by the ICG off Mormugao harbour in Goa
- HQs of ICG – New Delhi | DG – Virender Singh Pathania | Founded in – 1977

17. The Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Indian Navy partnered with the Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) to get the ‘CHAFF’ technology, which protects the warship from an anti-ship missile during hostilities. India is now the second country after the United States to develop this technology, a major Aatmanirbhar push in the field of defence. CHAFF is a critical defence technology used to protect fighter aircrafts or naval ships from enemy radar-guided missile during war. Developed by the Defence Laboratory Jodhpur (DLJ), a DRDO laboratory, the technology includes all three variants of CHAFF rockets namely - Short Range Chaff Rocket (SRCR), Medium Range Chaff Rocket (MRCR) and Long Range Chaff Rocket (LRCR). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IAF + Indian Navy + DRDO = partnership to get the ‘CHAFF’ technology
- India is now the 2nd country after the United States to develop ‘CHAFF’ technology
- Three variants of CHAFF rockets are developed – by Defence Laboratory Jodhpur (a DRDO’s lab)
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari | Vice Chief – Air Marshal Sandeep Singh
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in – 1958

18. On April 23, the Indian Coast Guard Ship (Auxiliary Barge) namely “Urja Pravaha” is inducted into the Indian Coast Guard at Gujarat’s Bharuch. Auxiliary Barge Urja Pravaha arrived in Kochi and will be under the operational command of Coast Guard District Headquarters-4 (Kerala & Mahe). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICGS Urja Pravaha – inducted into the Indian Coast Guard at Bharuch, Gujarat
- ICGS Urja Pravaha arrived in Kochi & will be based in Kochi
- HQs of ICG – New Delhi | DG – Virender Singh Pathania | Founded in – 1977

19. On April 22, Innovations for Defence Excellence, Defence Innovation Organisation (iDEX-DIO), under the aegis of Department of Defence Production (DDP), Ministry of Defence has organised “DefConnect 2.0” at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. The event was inaugurated by Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh. The event was organised to attract a large number of innovators and investors from India’s leading industries in the defence sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- iDEX-DIO (Ministry of Defence) – organised “DefConnect 2.0” at New Delhi (inaugurated by Rajnath Singh)

20. On April 20, two different variants of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile were test-fired successfully from the Indian Navy’s frontline guided-missile destroyer INS Delhi and Indian Air Force (IAF)’s frontline fighter jet Sukhoi-30 MKI. On March 5, the Indian Navy successfully test-fired an advanced version of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from the stealth destroyer INS Chennai in the Indian Ocean. The first test launch of the initial version of BrahMos took place in 2001. The Indian Navy began deploying BrahMos on its frontline warships in 2005. A combination of the names of India’s Brahmaputra and Russian Moskva rivers, BrahMos missiles are designed, developed and produced by BrahMos Aerospace, a joint venture company set up by the DRDO & Mashinostroyeniya of Russia. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Two different variants of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile were test-fired from INS Delhi & Sukhoi-30 MKI
- BrahMos missiles – developed by BrahMos Aerospace - a JV between DRDO (India) & Mashinostroyeniya (Russia)
- HQs of BrahMos Aerospace Pvt Ltd – New Delhi | DG – Atul Dinkar Rane

21. On April 26, Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) and Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) signed a contract for co-development and co-production of long range dual band Infra-Red Search & Track (IRST) system for “Su-30 MKI” under the MAKE-II procedure of Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020, as part of the ‘Make in India’ initiative. The proposed IRST system will be a high end strategic technology product in the field of defence avionics. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HAL + BEL = a contract for co-development & co-production of long range dual band IRST system for “Su-30 MKI”
- HQs of HAL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Amitabh Bhatt | Chairma & MD – R. Madhavan
- HQs of BEL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CMD – Anandi Ramalingam (addi. charge)

22. On April 26, the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) commenced the Main Airframe Fatigue Test (MAFT) of the Light Combat Aircraft-Mk1 (LCA Mk1) airframe at the Ground Test Centre of the Aircraft Research and Design Centre (ARDC), Bengaluru. These tests will be carried out over a period of 8 to 9 years. The successful completion of the MAFT will qualify the LCA [Air Force] Mk1 airframe for its full service life. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HAL commenced the Main Airframe Fatigue Test of the “LCA-Mk1” airframe at Bengaluru, Karnataka
- HQs of HAL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Amitabh Bhatt | Chairma & MD – R. Madhavan
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot



Schemes & Initiatives

1. On April 1, In relief to the middle class and small savers, the Finance Ministry announced that the rate of interest on various Small Savings Schemes (SSS) for the first quarter of FY 2022-23 starting from 1st April, 2022 and ending on 30th June, 2022 shall remain unchanged from the current rates applicable for the fourth quarter (1st January, 2022 to 31st March, 2022) of FY 2021-22. The interest rates on national savings certificate, senior citizen savings schemes, public provident fund scheme, Kishan Vikas Patra, Sukanya Samriddhi Account scheme, Post Office Monthly Income Scheme remained unchanged at 6.8%, 7.4%, 7.1%, 6.9%, 7.6%, 6.6% respectively for the April-June quarter (Q1 FY 2022-23). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Finance kept interest rates on 'Small Savings Schemes (SSS)' unchanged for the Q1 of FY 2022-23
- Public Provident Fund (PPF) – 7.1% | National Savings Certificate (NSC) – 6.8%
- Senior Citizens Savings Scheme – 7.4% | Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana – 7.6%
- Kishan Vikas Patra – 6.9% | Post Office Monthly Income Scheme – 6.6%
- The Small Savings Schemes consist of – 12 Schemes

2. Loans worth more than ₹30,160 Cr have been sanctioned to over 1,33,995 accounts in the last 6 years under the government's 'Stand Up India' Scheme which aims to promote entrepreneurship at the grassroots level. The scheme was launched on 5 April, 2016 by Finance Ministry with the aim of empowering aspiring Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and women entrepreneurs. The scheme facilitates bank loans between Rs 10 lakh and Rs 1 Cr to at least one SC/ST borrower and at least one woman borrower per bank branch of Scheduled Commercial Banks. Moreover, Stand Up India scheme was recently extended till 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The 'Stand-up India' scheme completed 6 years on April 5, 2022 | Extended till 2025
- The scheme was launched on 5 April, 2016 by Finance Ministry for SC/ST/Women Borrower
- The scheme facilitates bank loans between Rs 10 lakh & Rs 1 Cr

3. On April 5, Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched "Mukhyamantri Udyam Kranti Yojana". The ambitious scheme gives an opportunity to the youth to start their own business by providing loans ranging from 1 lakh to 50 lakh. The specialty of the scheme is that the state government will also give 3% interest subsidy along with bank guarantee. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madhya Pradesh – launched "Mukhyamantri Udyam Kranti Yojana"
- Loans ranging from 1 lakh to 50 lakh to the youth for self-employment
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal](#) | [CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan](#) | [Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel](#)

4. On April 5, Manipur government has increased the free hospitalisation benefits for poor people under the "Chief Ministergi Hakshelgi Tengbang (CMHT)" scheme from Rs 2 lakh to Rs 5 lakh per family every year. The state cabinet also approved to increase the corpus fund for "Manipur StartUp" from earlier Rs 30 Cr to Rs 100 Cr. Over 83,000 beneficiaries have received benefits of free hospitalisation of upto Rs 2 lakh per family every year in private or government hospitals in the last four years. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Manipur – hiked free hospitalisation benefits under “Chief Ministergi Hakshelgi Tengbang” scheme to Rs 5 lakh per family every year (from Rs 2 lakh)
- Manipur – also approved to increase the corpus fund for “Manipur StartUp” to Rs 100 Cr (from earlier Rs 30 Cr)
- [Manipur: Capital – Imphal](#) | [CM – N. Biren Singh](#) | [Governor – La. Ganesan](#)

5. April 8, 2022 marked the 7th anniversary of “Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY)”. The scheme was launched by PM Narendra Modi on 8th April, 2015, for providing loans up to Rs 10 Lakh to the non-corporate, non-farm small, or micro-enterprises. More than 34 Cr 42 lakh loans for an amount of Rs 18.60 lakh Cr have been sanctioned since launch of PMMY. Around 68% loans of the total number of loans have been sanctioned to Women Entrepreneurs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 8, 2022 – 7th anniversary of “Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY)”
- PMMY was launched by PM Narendra Modi in 2015 | Loan amount – up to Rs 10 Lakh

6. On April 8, in the line with the vision of PM Narendra Modi to encourage the talent of women, artisans and craftsmen and provide them with the right opportunities, Airport Authority of India (AAI) launched the initiative “AVSAR” (Airport as Venue for Skilled Artisans of The Region) to allocate space to Self Help Groups (SHGs) at its airports for selling/showcasing the self-made products of their region. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AAI launched the initiative “AVSAR” to provide SHGs an opportunity to showcase local products at its airports
- AVSAR – Airport as Venue for Skilled Artisans of the Region
- [HQs of AAI – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman – Sanjeev Kumar](#)

7. On April 11, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha launched a dedicated portal of Mission Youth in collaboration with Vision India, to connect the youth of J&K with the industry. The dedicated portal, “AVSAR” - ‘Connect to Opportunities Initiative’ aims to provide more than 10,000 job opportunities to the youth in 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manoj Sinha (J&K) – launched a dedicated portal “AVSAR” to connect the youth of J&K with the industry
- [J & K: Capital – Srinagar](#) | [Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha](#)

8. On Aril 5, Uttarakhand government launched “Him Prahari” scheme in areas bordering the hill state. The scheme is meant for ex-servicemen and youngsters and is aimed at stopping the migration of people from the state. It will provide all necessary assistance to ex-servicemen and the youth of the state to settle in the districts that share international borders. The government with the help of Police, Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) will constitute border guard teams or snow watchdog teams to stop the migration. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttarakhand – launched “Him Prahari” scheme
- The scheme is for ex-servicemen & youngsters and is aimed at stopping the migration
- [Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain](#) | [CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami](#) | [Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh](#)



9. On April 12, Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) Pratima Bhoumik informed the Lok Sabha that 216 courses are being taught from 600 centres across the country under its “PM Daksh (Pradhan Mantri Dakshta Aur Kushalta Sampann Hitgrahi) Yojana”. The Ministry aspires to reach out to 2.71 lakh people between calendar year 2021-22 and 2025-26. PM Daksh is a National Action Plan for skilling of marginalized people covering SCs, OBCs, EBCs, DNTs, and sanitation workers. The amount of funds earmarked under ‘PM-DAKSH Yojana’ during 2020-21 and 2021-22 are Rs 44.79 Cr and Rs 79.48 Cr, respectively. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “PM Daksh Yojana” of MoSJE is a National Action Plan for skilling of marginalized people
- Funds earmarked under ‘PM-DAKSH Yojana’ during 2020-21 & 2021-22 – Rs 44.79 Cr & Rs 79.48 Cr

10. On April 13, the Cabinet approved continuation of revamped Centrally Sponsored Scheme of “Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA)” for implementation during the period from 2022 to 2026 to develop governance capabilities of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). The total financial outlay of the scheme is Rs 5911 Cr with the Central Share of Rs 3700 Cr and that of State Share of Rs 2211 Cr. The approved scheme of RGSA will help more than 2.78 lakh Rural Local Bodies. Ministry of Panchayati Raj is the implementing agency of the scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved continuation of “Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA)” from 2022 to 2026
- Total financial outlay of the scheme – Rs 5911 Cr (Central Share – Rs 3700 Cr | State Share – Rs 2211 Cr)
- Implementing agency of the scheme – Ministry of Panchayati Raj

11. On April 17, Jharkhand government announced to launch the “Guruji Student Credit Card” scheme from July. The Guruji Credit Card scheme will allow students to take a soft loan of up to Rs 10 lakh at a very low rate of interest and no mortgage. The scheme is aimed at encouraging the youth of the state to pursue higher education. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jharkhand – launched “Guruji Student Credit Card” scheme for students (soft loan of up to Rs 10 lakh)
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Ramesh Bais

12. On April 19, Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package (PMGKP), insurance scheme for healthcare workers fighting COVID-19, was extended for a further period of 180 days. PMGKP was launched on March 30, 2020 to provide comprehensive personal accident cover of ₹50 Lakh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PMGKP – extended for a further period of 180 days from April 19
- It was launched on March 30, 2020 to provide comprehensive personal accident cover of ₹50 Lakh

13. On April 20, Tripura government announced health insurance of Rs 3 lakh a year for accredited journalists in the state. The health insurance will be on 80:20 basis, to be borne by the government & the beneficiary, respectively. An accredited journalist aged between 21 and 65 is eligible for being enlisted in the scheme, which is named “Tripura Journalists’ Health Insurance Scheme - 2022”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tripura – launched “Journalists’ Health Insurance Scheme - 2022”
- Health Insurance Cover: Rs 3 lakh a year for accredited journalists in the state (80:20 basis) | Age – 21 to 65
- Tripura: Capital – Agartala | CM – Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya



14. On April 20, Karnataka launched “Social Awareness and Action to Neutralise Pneumonia Successfully (SAANS)”, a campaign to ensure greater awareness and early detection of pneumonia in children under five. Pneumonia is a lung infection caused by bacterial, viral or fungal infection. The under-five mortality of Karnataka is at 28/1000 live births as per SRS 2018. The goal is to reduce under-five mortality to 23/1,000 live births by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka – launched “SAANS” campaign to detect & cure Pneumonia in children Under-5
- SAANS – **S**ocial **A**wareness and **A**ction to **N**eutralise **P**neumonia **S**uccessfully
- [Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore](#) | [CM – Basavaraj Bommai](#) | [Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot](#)

15. Government’s social security scheme Atal Pension Yojana (APY) has crossed total enrollments of 4.01 Cr as on March 2022 out of which more than 99 lakh APY accounts were opened during the last financial year itself. According to the latest APY data, around 71% of the enrolments into the scheme has been done by Public-sector banks, 19% by Regional Rural Banks, 6% by Private Sector Banks, 3% by Payment and Small Finance Banks. Out of the total APY subscribers 44% are female subscribers while 56% are male subscribers. Atal Pension Yojana is a guaranteed pension scheme of Government of India administered by PFRDA. The scheme allows any Citizen of India between the age group of 18-40 years to join through the bank or post office branches where one has the savings bank account. Under the scheme, a subscriber would receive a minimum guaranteed pension of Rs 1000 to Rs 5000 per month from the age of 60 years, depending upon his contribution. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- APY – crossed total enrollments of 4.01 Cr as on March 2022 (female – 44%)
- Enrolments: Public-sector banks 71%, RRBs 19%, Private Sector Banks 6%, Payment & SFB 3%

16. In April 2022, the Samba district of Jammu division became the first district in India to cover 100% households under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (ABPMJAY) SEHAT scheme. ABPMJAY SEHAT scheme is the world’s largest health insurance scheme fully financed by Government and the people with Ayushman Bharat Golden Card get free treatment up to Rs. 5 lakh in all government and empanelled private hospitals across India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Samba (J & K) – first district in India to cover 100% households under Ayushman Bharat PMJAY SEHAT scheme
- [J & K: Capital – Srinagar](#) | [Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha](#)

17. On April 27, Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved extension of the Prime Minister Street Vendor’s AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) beyond March 2022 till December 2024. This has been done keeping in mind the impact of the pandemic-related PM SVANidhi stress on small businesses. Through the Scheme, affordable collateral-free loans are being facilitated to the Street Vendors. As on April 25, 2022, 31.9 lakh loans have been sanctioned and 29.6 lakh loans amounting to ₹2,931 Cr have been disbursed. The budget for promoting digital payments, including cashback to the vendors, has also been enhanced. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCEA – approved extension of ‘PM SVANidhi’ scheme beyond March 2022 till December 2024

18. On April 28, the MSME Minister Narayan Tatu Rane launched the revamped Zero Defect, Zero Effect (ZED) scheme christened as “MSME Sustainable ZED Certification Scheme” for Udyam-registered MSMEs. The number of parameters for the certification was categorised into three stages - bronze, silver, and gold. The erstwhile ZED scheme was launched in October 2016 by PM Narendra Modi. Under the ZED certification scheme, Micro Enterprises will get 80% subsidies, Small Enterprises will get 60% and Medium Enterprises will get 50% subsidies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narayan Tatu Rane – launched revamped “MSME Sustainable ZED Certification Scheme” for Udyam-registered MSMEs
- The ZED scheme was initially launched in 2016
- Ministry of MSME: Narayan Rane | Constituency – Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg, Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of MSME: Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma

19. On April 25, “Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA 2.0)” completed four years. UBA 2.0 was launched with the vision of transformational change in rural development processes. Unnat Bharat Abhiyan is a flagship programme of the Education Ministry which aims to link the Higher Education Institutions with set of atleast five villages, so that these institutions can contribute to the economic and social betterment of these village communities using their knowledge base. Currently 748 Institutions are participating under the scheme. In the phase -2 of the scheme 605 institutions have been selected. Out of these 313 are Technical Institutions and 292 are Non-Technical Institutions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Education Ministry’s flagship programme “Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA 2.0)” completed 4 years
- Ministry of Education: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency – Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Education: Subhas Sarkar



Sports & Games

1. On April 1, Governor of Karnataka, Thaawar Chand Gehlot and Union Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports Anurag Singh Thakur launched the logo, jersey, mascot and anthem of the “Khelo India University Games 2021” (KIUG 2021) at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru, Karnataka. This event is the 2nd edition of KIUG after Odisha hosted the 1st edition in 2020. Shri Gehlot launched the logo and official mascot of the games - “Veera” (an Elephant). The official anthem was sung by Chandan Shetty and Nikhil Joshi. KIUG 2021 was scheduled to take place across 5 venues in Bengaluru. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Thaawar Chand Gehlot + Anurag Singh Thakur = launched the logo, jersey, mascot & anthem of the 2nd edition of “Khelo India University Games 2021” – held in Bengaluru, Karnataka
- Logo & official mascot of the KIUG 2021 – “Veera” (an Elephant) | Anthem was sung by – Chandan Shetty & Nikhil Joshi

2. Manipur government signed an MoU with tech-giant Samsung Data System India and Abhitech IT Solutions to set up a world class “Sports Digital Experience Centre” in Imphal as a part of Manipur Olympian Park. With the setting up of the Digital Experience Centre, various achievements of Olympians from Manipur will be digitally displayed making the public aware about their achievements. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manipur + Samsung + Abhitech = an MoU to set up a world class “Sports Digital Experience Centre” in Imphal
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – La. Ganesan
- HQs of Abhitech IT Solutions – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

3. On April 3, Australia beat England to win a record 7th ICC Women’s Cricket World Cup title at the Hagley Oval in Christchurch, New Zealand. With their 71-run victory, Australia proved to be the dominating side once again. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Australia – won a record 7th ICC Women’s Cricket World Cup title held in New Zealand (beating - England)
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

4. India’s first-ever Snow Marathon was held at Sissu near the north portal of the Atal Tunnel, Rohtang in Lahaul-Spiti. More than 100 runners from across the country and from the Army competed in the race amid sub-zero temperature at an altitude of over 10,000-feet. The marathon was held in five categories and it was organised by the Reach India and Gold Drop Adventure. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India’s first-ever Snow Marathon – held at Sissu, in Lahaul-Spiti, Himachal Pradesh
- Marathon was organised by Reach India & Gold Drop Adventure – at an altitude of over 10,000-feet
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar



5. Meghalaya is all set to host the 83rd National Table Tennis Championship 2022 scheduled to begin from April 18 to 25, 2022 at SAI Indoor Training Centre, in Shillong. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Meghalaya – to host the 83rd National Table Tennis Championship 2022 in Shillong
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

6. On April 1, Sportswear giant Adidas unveiled “Al Rihla” - the official match ball for the “2022 FIFA World Cup” in Qatar. It is the 14th successive ball that Adidas has created for the FIFA World Cup. It is designed to support the game at high speed as it travels faster in flight than any other World Cup ball. Al Rihla translates as ‘the journey’ in Arabic. This is the first World Cup ball made using only water-based inks and glues. Al Rihla is the first World Cup ball in the 92-year history of the tournament which will directly contribute to raising funds to positively impact lives across the world. Besides, the FIFA unveiled “La’eeb” as the official mascot for the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Adidas – unveiled “Al Rihla” - the official match ball for the “2022 FIFA World Cup” in Qatar (14th successive ball)
- Al Rihla translates as ‘the journey’ in Arabic | The ball is made using only water-based inks & glues
- FIFA – unveiled “La’eeb” as the official mascot for the “2022 FIFA World Cup”
- HQs of Adidas – Herzogenaurach, Germany | CEO – Kasper Rorsted

7. On April 3, during the 15th Governing Body Meeting of NDTL, Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Anurag Singh Thakur launched 6 new and rare Reference Materials (RMs), which is the purest form of chemical required for anti-doping analysis in all WADA-accredited Laboratories across the world. The RMs were developed by the National Dope Testing Laboratory (NDTL) in association with the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER)-Guwahati and the CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIIM), Jammu. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anurag Singh Thakur – launched 6 new & rare Reference Materials (RMs) to strengthen anti-doping testing
- The RMs were developed by = NDTL + NIPER (Guwahati) + CSIR-IIIM (J&K)
- HQs of NDTL – New Delhi | Chairman – Anurag Singh Thakur

8. On April 1, International Chess Federation (FIDE) President Arkady Dvorkovich officially handed over the hosting rights to India for the organization of the FIDE Chess Olympiad 2022. The prestigious competition, which has been organized since 1927, will be held in India for the first time and in Asia after 30 years. The FIDE Chess Olympiad 2022 will take place from July 28, 2022, to August 14, 2022, in Chennai. Over 2,000 participants will battle it out for the top prize in the competition. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FIDE – handed over the hosting rights to India for the organization of the “FIDE Chess Olympiad 2022”
- “FIDE Chess Olympiad 2022” – to take place in Chennai, Tamil Nadu (from July 28 to Aug 14)
- HQs of AICF – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | President – Sanjay Kapoor | Secretary – Bharat Singh Chauhan
- HQs of FIDE – Lausanne, Switzerland | President/Chairman – Arkady Dvorkovich | Founded on – July 20, 1924

9. On April 6, Spain’s Carlos Alcaraz won the Men’s singles title at the “Miami Open 2022” beating Norway’s Casper Ruud. While Poland’s Iga Natalia Swiatek has won the Women’s title at the “Miami Open 2022” beating Japan’s Naomi Osaka. The tournament was held in Florida, US. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Carlos Alcaraz ([Spain](#)) – won Men’s singles title at the “Miami Open 2022” held in Florida, US
- Iga Natalia Swiatek ([Poland](#)) – won Women’s singles title at the “Miami Open 2022”

10. On April 3, Fencing Association of India (FAI) announced that India will host the Asian Junior U-20 Men & Women and Cadet U-17 Boys & Girls Fencing Championships in Ahmedabad in 2023. It is the first time that India will host a fencing event of such a magnitude. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – to host the “Asian Cadet and Junior Fencing Championships 2023” in Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- HQs of FAI – New Delhi | President – Pankaj Singh

11. As per the resolution of COP7 held in Paris, on 29-31 September 2019, the State Parties had agreed to contribute 1% of the regular budget of the respective nation to UNESCO towards the Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport. In 2022, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports released an enhanced contribution of \$72,124 to the “UNESCO Fund for Elimination of Doping in Sport” which is twice the agreed value. This was the first step toward the preparation of the UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (India) – contributed \$72,124 to “UNESCO Fund for Elimination of Doping in Sport”

State Parties at COP7 had agreed to contribute 1% of the regular budget of the respective nation

12. On April 6, the prestigious “12th Hockey India Senior Men National Championship 2022” began in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. The tournament will be closely watched by national selectors from Hockey India where top performers will stand a chance to find a place in the national program for the Indian Men’s Hockey Team. The 12-day tournament will witness 28 teams vie for top honours. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 12th Hockey India Senior Men National Championship 2022 – began in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

13. On April 9, Dipika Pallikal Karthik and Saurav Ghosal became the world mixed doubles champions after the pair defeated England’s Alison Waters and Adrian Waller in the final of the WSF World Doubles Squash Championships in Glasgow. India is the first team in Asia to win a World Doubles Squash Championships title. Ghosal and Pallikal earlier reached the final of the tournament in 2016, where they lost to New Zealand’s Joell King and Paul Coll. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dipika Pallikal Karthik + Saurav Ghosal = won world mixed doubles final of WSF World Doubles Squash Championships
- ‘WSF World Doubles Squash Championships’ took place in – Glasgow
- HQs of SRFI (Squash Rackets Federation of India) – Chennai | President – Debendranath Sarangi



14. On April 12, Indian ice-speed-skating athlete from Gujarat, Vishwaraj Jadeja recently became the first Indian athlete to have skated 100 kilometres on the Frozen Sea in Sweden, as part of the Sea Ice Classic, Lulea. It was the first time an Indian has attempted and finished such a feat. His finish time was 4 hours 53 minutes which was right on top of the timesheets. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vishwaraj Jadeja ([Ice-skater – Gujarat](#)) – became the 1st Indian athlete to have skated 100 kms on Frozen Sea in Sweden

15. On April 10, Charles Leclerc claimed his second win of the Formula One season for Ferrari with a pole-to-flag victory at the Australian Grand Prix. It was his fourth career win. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Charles Leclerc ([Ferrari – Monaco](#)) – won the Formula One (F1) “Australian Grand Prix”

16. On April 3, Indian shuttler Mithun Manjunath won a silver medal after losing to Toma Junior Popov in the final of the men’s singles event at “Orleans Masters 2022” which took place in France. Moreover, Ashwini Bhat & Shikha Gautam won bronze in Women’s doubles. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mithun Manjunath ([Indian shuttler](#)) – won silver in Men’s Singles at “Orleans Masters 2022” held in France
- Toma Junior Popov ([French shuttler](#)) – won Gold in Men’s Singles
- Ashwini Bhat & Shikha Gautam ([Indian shuttlers](#)) – won bronze in Women’s doubles

17. On April 12, Australian state of Victoria announced to host the “2026 Commonwealth Games”, with all sporting events taking place outside of the state capital Melbourne. The 2026 Games will be held in four regional hubs in the towns of Geelong, Ballarat, Bendigo and Gippsland. It will be the sixth time that Australia has staged the Commonwealth Games and the second time in Victoria. The state has confirmed 16 sports for the Games so far. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “2026 Commonwealth Games” – to be held in Victoria, Australia (in 4 regional hubs)
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

18. On April 12, Ravichandran Ashwin has become the first player in the Indian Premier League’s (IPL) 14-year history to “retire out”. According to rules laid by the International Cricket Council (ICC), a batsman can choose to retire anytime during their innings when the “ball is dead” after informing the umpires. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- R. Ashwin – became the first player in the IPL’s 14-year history to ‘retire out’

19. On April 14, Young Indian Grandmaster (GM) Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa won the “Reykjavik Open Chess Tournament” with a victory against compatriot D. Gukesh in the final round. R. Praggnanandhaa finished with 7.5 points from 9 rounds at the tournament held at Reykjavík, Iceland. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- R. Praggnanandhaa – won the “Reykjavik Open Chess Tournament 2022” (defeating - D. Gukesh)



20. In April 2022, Govind Sahani (men's 48kg), Ananta Pralhad Chopde (men's 54kg) and Sumit Kundu (men's 75kg) won Gold medals at the "Thailand Open International Boxing Tournament 2022" in Phuket. Indian boxers finished the tournament with 10 medals - 3 Gold, 4 Silver and 3 Bronze. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian boxers won 10 medals at "Thailand Open International Boxing Tournament 2022" (3 Gold + 4 Silver + 3 Bronze)

21. On April 11, the first phase of the "Khelo India National Ranking Women Archery Tournament", a two-day event began at the TATA Archery Academy in Jamshedpur, Jharkhand. The event was organised by the Archery Association of India (AAI) in collaboration with the Jharkhand Archery Association and TATA Steel. The tournament will be held across recurve and compound events in the senior, junior and cadet categories. The Sports Authority of India has approved a total of Rs 75 lakh to host the tournament in six phases. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Khelo India National Ranking Women Archery Tournament" – to be conducted in 6 phases
- 1st phase – organized at TATA Archery Academy in Jamshedpur (by AAI + Jharkhand Archery Association + TATA Steel)
- HQs of SAI – New Delhi | Director General – Sandip Pradhan
- HQs of AAI – New Delhi | President – Arjun Munda

22. On April 14, Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik unveiled the official logo of the 15th edition of the "FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023" at the Kalinga Hockey Stadium. The quadrennial tournament is scheduled to be held from January 13 to 29, 2023. Hockey India and its official partner Odisha will host the event for the second consecutive time after successfully conducting the event in 2018. World Cup will be staged in two cities Bhubaneswar and Rourkela. India's biggest hockey stadium is being built in Rourkela and it will be named as 'Birsa Munda International Hockey Stadium'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Naveen Patnaik unveiled the logo of "2023 FIH Men's Hockey World Cup" – to be held in Bhubaneswar & Rourkela
- Hockey India + Odisha = will host this 15th edition of the tournament from January 13 to 29, 2023
- Birsa Munda International Hockey Stadium (India's biggest hockey stadium) – in Rourkela, Odisha
- HQs of FIH – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Narinder Batra | CEO – Thierry Weil | Founded in – 1924
- HQs of Hockey India – New Delhi | President – Gyanendro Ningombam
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

23. On April 13, Netherlands lifted their 4th FIH Junior Women's Hockey World Cup trophy after beating Germany in the final at Potchefstroom, South Africa. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Netherlands – won the "FIH Junior Women's Hockey World Cup 2022" – held in South Africa (beating - Germany)
- Netherlands – Amsterdam – Euro | PM – Mark Rutte

24. On April 12, International Delphic Council, based in Berlin, Germany announced the National Delphic Games in India to be hosted in 2023 to celebrate the vast diversity of India's cultures and their artistic expressions. The National Delphic Games in India will showcase competitions, presentations and exhibitions in 6 categories of the arts. The winners will represent India at the International Delphic Games which will be hosted in an International Destination 2026. The Delphic Games are also known as the 'Twin Sister' of the Olympic Games. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – to host the “National Delphic Games 2023”
- International Delphic Games – known as ‘Twin Sister’ of the Olympic Games
- [HQs of International Delphic Council – Berlin, Germany](#)

25. Street Child United and Save the Children, India will jointly organise (host) the “Street Child Cricket World Cup 2023”, welcoming 22 teams from 16 countries to India next year. The event will see street-connected children and young people take part in a mixed-gender cricket tournament. In 2019, this championship was held in London where 8 teams competed, and Team India South emerged victorious after beating hosts England. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – will host the “Street Child Cricket World Cup 2023” (organised by Street Child United + Save the Children, India)
- 22 teams from 16 countries will participated in the tournament

26. In April, Tamil Nadu defeated defending champion Punjab in the final to win the men's title in the 71st Senior National Basketball Championship. Indian Railways team won the women's title, beating Telangana. The tournament was held at Nehru Stadium, Chennai. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 71st Senior National Basketball Championship (men & women) – held in Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- Tamil Nadu – won men's title in the 71st Senior National Basketball Championship (defeating - Punjab)
- Indian Railways – won women's title in the 71st Senior National Basketball Championship (defeating - Telangana)

27. On April 18, Stefanos Tsitsipas won the men's singles title at the “Monte Carlo Masters 2022” beating Alejandro Davidovich Fokina. With this, Stefanos Tsitsipas became the first repeat champion at Monte Carlo Masters since Spaniard Rafael Nadal in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Stefanos Tsitsipas ([Greece - Tennis](#)) – won men's singles title at “Monte Carlo Masters 2022”
- [Greece – Athens – Euro | PM – Kyriakos Mitsotakis](#)

28. On April 18, 15-year old Young Indian Grandmaster from Chennai, D. Gukesh emerged victorious in the 48th La Roda International Open Chess tournament. He defeated Israel's Victor Mikhalevski in the final round. Gukesh's compatriot - R. Praggnanandhaa, another teenage GM, took the third spot. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- D. Gukesh ([Tamil Nadu](#)) – won the 48th La Roda International Open Chess tournament (defeating - Victor Mikhalevski)
- R. Praggnanandhaa ([Tamil Nadu](#)) – took third spot in the tournament

29. On April 16, Top Indian swimmer Sajan Prakash from Kerala won the men's 200m butterfly gold at the Danish Open swimming meet in Copenhagen, Denmark. He stopped the clock at 1.59.27 to stand atop the podium. Last year in Rome, Prakash became the first Indian swimmer to breach the Olympic 'A' standard time. Teenager Vedaant Madhavan, son of Indian actor R. Madhavan, won the silver medal in the men's 1500m freestyle event. Shakthi Balakrishnan finished second in the 'B' Final and eighth overall in the women's 400m medley. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sajan Prakash ([Kerala](#)) – won men's 200m butterfly gold at the 'Danish Open' swimming meet in Copenhagen, Denmark
- Vedaant Madhavan – won silver medal in the men's 1500m freestyle event
- [Denmark – Copenhagen – Danish krone](#) | [PM – Mette Frederiksen](#)

30. In a first-of-its-kind initiative, the 2nd edition of Khelo India University Games, to be held in Bengaluru from April 24 to 3 May, will have its own mobile application "Khelo India Uni Games 2022". The game witnessed over 4,500 participants representing a total of about 189 universities vies for the top honours in 20 disciplines. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Khelo India Uni Games 2022" app – launched for 2nd edition of 'Khelo India University Games' – to be held in Bengaluru

31. On April 16, the 2022 edition or 5th edition of the "Invictus Games" was held in The Hague, Netherlands. The first edition of the Games was held in London in 2014. The 2023 edition will be held in Dusseldorf, Germany. The Games are an international sporting competition similar to the Paralympics, but meant for wounded, injured, and sick military service personnel and war veterans. The Invictus Games are the brainchild of Harry, Duke of Sussex. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 5th edition of "Invictus Games 2022" – held in The Hague, Netherlands
- [Netherlands – Amsterdam – Euro](#) | [PM – Mark Rutte](#)

32. The 34-year-old Cricketer Kieron Pollard announced his retirement from International Cricket though he will continue to freelance in private T20 and T10 leagues across the globe. Kieron Adrian Pollard is a Trinidadian cricketer. He captained the West Indies cricket team in limited overs cricket and Trinbago Knight Riders in CPL. Pollard made his ODI debut back in 2007. He became the first West Indies player in White-ball cricket to represent 101 T20Is and 123 ODIs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kieron Pollard ([Trinidad & Tobago – West Indies team](#)) – retired from International Cricket

33. On April 23, Ravi Kumar Dahiya and Bajrang Punia won gold and silver respectively at the Asian wrestling championships in Ulaanbaatar. With this, Ravi Kumar Dahiya became the first Indian wrestler to win three consecutive Asian championships titles, having also won in 2020 and 2021. He beat Rakhat Kalzhan of Kazakhstan to win Gold. Moreover, in men's freestyle competition, Gourav Baliyan (79kg) won silver while Naveen (70kg) and Satyawart Kadian (97kg) took bronze. In this tournament, India secured total 17 medals (1 Gold, 5 Silver, 11 Bronze). With this, India ranked 5th in the Medal tally, while Japan topped the list with 21 medals overall (this ranking was based on Gold medals). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – secured total 17 medals at the “Asian Wrestling Championships 2022” (1 Gold, 5 Silver, 11 Bronze)
- India ranked 5th in the Medal tally | Top – Japan (21 medals)
- Ravi Kumar Dahiya – became the first Indian wrestler to win three consecutive Asian championships titles
- Ravi Kumar Dahiya – won Gold at the ‘Asian Wrestling Championships’ in Ulaanbaatar | Bajrang Punia – won Silver
- In men’s freestyle: Gourav Baliyan (79kg) – Silver | Naveen (70kg) & Satyawart Kadian (97kg) – Bronze

34. Wimbledon banned Russian and Belarusian players from its 2022 Tournament in response to the invasion of Ukraine. The All England Lawn Tennis Club runs Wimbledon Tennis Tournament. The Wimbledon Open is scheduled from June 27, 2022 to July 10, 2022. Wimbledon, the only Grand Slam to have always been played on the same surface, is played on grass. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Wimbledon – banned Russian & Belarusian players from its 2022 Tournament namely “Wimbledon Open”
- ‘Wimbledon Open’ is played on ‘Grass’

35. On April 25, Russian Tennis player Andrey Rublev defeated Novak Djokovic to win the men’s single title at the “Serbia Open 2022”, for his third title of the 2022 season. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Andrey Rublev ([Russia - Tennis](#)) – won the men’s single title at the “Serbia Open 2022” (defeating - Novak Djokovic)

36. On April 18, Haryana was crowned the Champions of the 12th Senior Men’s National Hockey Championship, beating Tamil Nadu. Haryana won the trophy for the first time since 2011. The Championship was held in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh from April 6 to 17, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana – winner of the 12th Senior Men’s National Hockey Championship (defeating - Tamil Nadu)
- [Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh](#) | [CM – Manohar Lal Khattar](#) | [Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya](#)

37. On April 25, a strong Indian contingent of 65 athletes participated in the 24th Summer Deaflympics held in Caxias do Sul, Brazil from May 1, 2022. It is the largest and the youngest contingent ever from India to participate in the Deaflympics. The athletes will compete in a total of 11 sports disciplines. In the last Deaflympics 2017 in Turkey, India clinched a total of 5 medals; 1 gold, 1 silver and 3 bronze. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian contingent of 65 athletes participated in the 24th Summer Deaflympics – held in Brazil
- Last Deaflympics was held in 2017 – in Turkey

38. On April 24, teenaged Indian Grandmaster D. Gukesh won the “Menorca Open Chess Tournament”. Indian players dominated, taking seven spots in the top 10. India's Aryan Chopra finished second with 5.5 points while Armenia's Shant Sargsyan took the third place. Gukesh defeated fellow Indian B Adhiban in the seventh and final round. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- D. Gukesh – won the “Menorca Open Chess Tournament” | 2nd – Aryan Chopra | 3rd – Shant Sargsyan (Armenia)

39. On April 24, World champion Max Verstappen rekindled his title defence with an accomplished victory for Red Bull at the Emilia Romagna Grand Prix (Italy). It was his second win this season after Saudi Arabia and the 22nd of his career. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Max Verstappen (Red Bull - Netherlands) – won the “Emilia Romagna Grand Prix”
- Italy – Rome – Euro | President – Sergio Mattarella | PM – Mario Draghi



Important Days & Dates

1. International Children’s Book Day (ICBD) is observed annually on 2nd April since 1967 by the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) to inspire a love of reading and to call attention to children’s books. The day was first celebrated in 1966. In 2022, the theme is “Stories are wings that help you soar every day”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 2 – International Children’s Book Day – by IBBY (since 1966)
- 2022’s Theme – “Stories are wings that help you soar every day”

2. World Autism Awareness Day is observed every year on April 2. Autism is a part of a spectrum of few other neurodevelopmental disorders which include mainly Autism, Asperger’s disorder and Rett syndrome. In 2022, the theme is “Inclusive Quality Education for All”. This year everybody will focus on providing inclusive and fair education to all. The day was first observed in 2008. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 2 – World Autism Awareness Day (since 2008)
- 2022’s Theme – “Inclusive Quality Education for All”

3. The Indian Army celebrated 258th Raising Day of Army Medical Corps on April 3, 2022. The Corps has the motto of “Sarve Santu Niramaya” meaning “Let all be free from disease and disability”. The AMC came into existence on 3rd April, 1943. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 3 – 258th Raising Day of Army Medical Corps (AMC) – celebrated by Indian Army
- Motto of AMC – “Sarve Santu Niramaya” | Founded on – 3rd April, 1943

4. The International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance is annually observed on 4 April by the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS). The day raises awareness about landmines and the dangers they pose. In 2022, the theme is “Safe Ground, Safe Steps, Safe Home”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 4 – International Day for Mine Awareness & Assistance
- 2022’s Theme – “Safe Ground, Safe Steps, Safe Home”

5. Odisha, the land of Lord Jagannath, celebrated its 87th foundation day on 1 April, 2022. Odisha Day is commonly known as Utkal Divas. Odisha came into existence as an independent province in the year 1936. Under British rule, Odisha was a part of the Bengal Presidency. The state was separated from the Bengal and Bihar province on 1 April, 1936. Sir John Hubbak was named the first governor of the state. Jagannath Temple in Puri is known for the famous festival of ‘Rath yatra’ or ‘Chariot Festival’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 1 – 87th Odisha Day or Utkal Divas
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal



6. PM Narendra Modi highlighted the importance of maritime sector on the occasion of 59th edition of “National Maritime Day 2022”, also known as “Merchant Navy Flag Day”, which is annually observed across India on April 5. In 2022, the theme is “Propelling Indian Maritime Industry to Net Zero”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 5 – 59th edition of “National Maritime Day” or “Merchant Navy Flag Day”
- 2022’s Theme – “Propelling Indian Maritime Industry to Net Zero”

7. The 3rd UN-designated International Day of Conscience was marked on April 5, 2022. Declared by the United Nations, this day is observed in order to self-reflect on our life and try and do the right things all the time. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 5 – 3rd edition of “International Day of Conscience” by the UN

8. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) celebrates its foundation day on April 1. It was founded in the year 1935. The RBI is a central bank and regulatory body and is responsible for the issue and supply of the Indian rupee and regulation of banking system. RBI appoints a Governor who is the chief executive officer and the ex-officio chair of its central board of directors. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 1 – Foundation Day of RBI
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

9. “Prevention of Blindness Week 2022” was held from April 1-7. According to the National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB), India is home to a third of the world’s visually challenged population. India has around 12 million individuals with visual impairment as against the global total of 39 million. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 1 to 7 – Prevention of Blindness Week
- India is home to a third of the world’s visually challenged population

10. In 2015, ITTF created World Table Tennis Day to get people interested in this competitive sport. Since then, World Table Tennis Day is observed across the globe on April 6 every year. Back in 1926, the International Table Tennis Foundation was founded by Henry Lawes from Wymondham, England. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 6 – World Table Tennis Day

11. The “International Day of Sport for Development and Peace” (IDSDP), which takes place annually on 6 April, presents an opportunity to recognize the positive role sport and physical activity play in communities and in people’s lives across the globe. In 2022, the theme is “Securing a Sustainable and Peaceful Future for All: The Contribution of Sport”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 6 – International Day of Sport for Development and Peace
- 2022’s Theme – “Securing a Sustainable and Peaceful Future for All: The Contribution of Sport”

12. April 7 is observed as World Health Day to draw public attention towards a specific health related topic. The day marks the anniversary of the founding of the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1948. In 2022, the theme is “Our Planet, Our Health”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 7 – World Health Day
- 2022’s Theme – “Our Planet, Our Health”

13. On 7 April, UNESCO commemorates the “International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda”, which was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2003. The date marks the beginning of the genocide perpetrated against members of the Tutsi minority by the Hutu extremist-led government. To mark the 28th anniversary of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, UNESCO organized a ceremony in memory of the victims on 21 April, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 7 – 28th “International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda” – by UNESCO
- [HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France](#) | [Director-General – Audrey Azoulay](#) | [Founded in – 1945](#)

14. CRPF Valour Day, also known as Shaurya Diwas, is celebrated every year to commemorate the exceptionally awe-inspiring battle at Sardar Post in Rann of Kutch, Gujarat. The post was guarded by two battalions of CRPF - roughly 150 soldiers. 2022 marked the 57th CRPF Valour Day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 9 – 57th “Valour Day” celebrated by CRPF (also known as ‘Shaurya Diwas’)
- [HQs of CRPF – New Delhi](#) | [DG – Kuldip Singh](#) | [Formed – 1939](#) | [Motto – “Service & Loyalty”](#)

15. On April 8, Army Ordnance Corps (AOC) units of Southern Command celebrated their 247th Corps Day. The ‘Board of Ordnance’ was formed to ensure systematic distribution of weapons, ammunition and equipment to the British Army. Over the years, the Board of Ordnance underwent number of transformations and in 1922 it came to be known as the Indian Army Ordnance Corps. Once India became a Republic in 1950, the prefix ‘Indian’ was dropped and the organisation has been known as the Army Ordnance Corps ever since. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 8 – 247th Corps Day of Army Ordnance Corps (AOC) units of Southern Command
- [HQs of Southern Command – Pune, Maharashtra](#) | [Present Commander – Lt. Gen. Jai Singh Nain](#)

16. “World Homeopathy Day” is observed on April 10 every year to celebrate the contribution of homeopathy to the world of medicine. The day marks the 266th birth anniversary of famous German physician Dr. Christian Friedrich Samuel Hahnemann. Hahnemann is known as the founding father of this branch of medicine. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 10 – “World Homeopathy Day” (266th birth anniversary of Samuel Hahnemann)
- [Founder/Father of Homeopathy – Dr. Christian Friedrich Samuel Hahnemann](#)

17. The Punjab government announced April 8 as a gazetted holiday on the birth anniversary of Guru Nabha Dass, a 16th century saint, taking it out from the list of restricted holidays. Guru Nabha Dass was born on April 8, 1537 at village Bhadrachalam on the bank of Godavari river in Khammam district, which falls in the present day Telangana. Guru Nabha Dass belonged to Mahasha also known as doom or dumna community. People from this community are also known as Nabhadassias. Guru Nabha Dass wrote ‘Bhagatmal’ in 1585. It has the life history of around 200 saints. He died in 1643. Kullu Dussehra is celebrated for a week on the directions of Guru Nabha Dass. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Punjab – announced April 8 as a gazetted holiday on the birth anniversary of Guru Nabha Dass
- Guru Nabha Dass – born in Khammam district, Telangana | Died in – 1643 | He wrote – ‘Bhagatmal’ in 1585
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Bhagwant Mann | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

18. National Safe Motherhood Day is observed every year on April 11. It is aimed at raising awareness about the care that a pregnant woman needs before, during, and after childbirth. April 11 is also the Birth Anniversary of Kasturba Gandhi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 11 – National Safe Motherhood Day
- April 11 – Birth Anniversary of Kasturba Gandhi

19. A two-day scientific convention was organised in New Delhi under the aegis of Ministry of Ayush on the occasion of the World Homoeopathy Day (WHD) on 9th & 10th April 2022. World Homoeopathy Day is observed to commemorate the birth anniversary of the founder of Homoeopathy, Dr. Christian Fredrich Samuel Hahnemann. In 2022, his 267th birth anniversary was marked. The theme of this scientific convention was “Homoeopathy: People’s Choice for Wellness”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 10 – World Homoeopathy Day
- Ministry of Ayush – organized a two-day scientific convention on 9th & 10th April
- World Homoeopathy Day – birth anniversary of founder of Homoeopathy (Dr. Christian Fredrich Samuel Hahnemann)
- Theme of the convention – “Homoeopathy: People’s Choice for Wellness”
- Ministry of AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of AYUSH: Munjapara Mahendrabhai

20. “International Day for Street Children” was observed on April 12. On this occasion, members of Karunalaya Children Leaders’ Council presented a set of 9 recommendations comprising concerns related to health, education, protection and housing that they face as street children. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 12 – International Day for Street Children

21. The United Nations General Assembly established April 12 to be the International Day of Human Space Flight in a resolution passed on April 7, 2011. Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin made the first human space journey on April 12, 1961 aboard the Vostok 1 spacecraft. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 12 – International Day of Human Space Flight (anniversary of the first human space flight by Yuri Gagarin in 1961)



22. World Parkinson's Disease Day is observed annually on April 11. Parkinson's disease is described as a movement disorder that impacts the nervous system. In 2022, the theme is "Integrated Healthcare". The month of April is considered to be "Parkinson's Awareness Month". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 11 – World Parkinson's Disease Day
- 2022's Theme – "Integrated Healthcare"
- Parkinson's disease impacts the 'Nervous system'
- April 11 to 17 – Parkinson's Awareness Week | April – Parkinson's Awareness Month

23. In 2022, 38th Siachen Day was observed to commemorate the "Operation Meghdoot". On the Baisakhi of 1984, Indian Army landed its troops along Saltoro ridgeline at Bilafond La, followed by Sia La, to pre-empt Pakistan army plans to occupy Siachen Glacier under "Operation Meghdoot". This operation is the longest continuous military operation in the history of the Indian Army. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 13 – 38th Siachen Day (to commemorate the Indian Army's "Operation Meghdoot")
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande

24. In April 2022, 103rd anniversary of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre was observed to pay tribute to the victims. On April 13, 1919 people in Punjab had congregated at Jallianwala Bagh to protest against the arrest of two pro-independence leaders -Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew and Dr. Satya Pal. The massacre took place when British General Edward Dyer ordered his troops to relentlessly shoot at the crowd as they blocked the only entrance and exit of the venue. Hunter Commission was set up to investigate the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 13 – 103rd anniversary of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre
- 'Hunter Commission' was set up to investigate the Jallianwala Bagh massacre

25. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Jayanti or Ambedkar Jayanti or Bhim Jayanti is observed on April 14 every year. It marks the birth anniversary of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, who was born on 14 April, 1891 in Mhow (officially Dr. Ambedkar Nagar) in Indore district of Madhya Pradesh. Since 2015, the day has been observed as an official public holiday throughout India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 14 – "Ambedkar Jayanti" or "Bhim Jayanti" (to mark the birth anniversary of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar)
- Dr. Ambedkar Nagar – located in Indore, Madhya Pradesh

26. World Art Day is celebrated every year on April 15, to promote the development, diffusion, and enjoyment of art. The day was adopted by the International Association of Art, a partner of UNESCO, to create awareness of creative activity worldwide. The particular date for this day was chosen in honor of Leonardo da Vinci's birthday. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 15 – World Art Day – by International Association of Art (since 2012) | Birthday of - Leonardo da Vinci
- HQs of IAA – Paris, France

27. On April 13, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin made an announcement in the Assembly under 'Rule 110', saying the birth anniversary of BR Ambedkar (April 14) will be observed as 'Samathuva Naal' (Equality Day), and a pledge will be administered on that day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 14 – 'Samathuva Naal' (Equality Day) – by Tamil Nadu (birth anniversary of BR Ambedkar)
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai](#) | [CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin](#) | [Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi](#)

28. "World Chagas Disease Day" is observed on April 14 every year. In 2022, the theme by WHO is "Finding & Reporting Every Case to Defeat Chagas Disease". Chagas disease is prevalent among poor populations of continental Latin America but is increasingly being detected in other countries and continents. Chagas disease is also known as 'American Trypanosomiasis'. It is often termed as a 'Silent & Silenced Disease' as the infected majority have no symptoms or extremely mild symptom. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 14 – 3rd World Chagas Disease Day
- 2022's Theme – "Finding & Reporting Every Case to Defeat Chagas Disease"
- Chagas Disease – often termed as a 'Silent & Silenced Disease' & 'American Trypanosomiasis'

29. In recognition of his numerous contributions to the field of pregnancy-related diabetes in India and around the world, the Government of India declared the birthday of Dr. Veeraswamy Seshiah, which falls on March 10, as "National Gestational Diabetes Mellitus Awareness Day". Furthermore, Prof. Seshiah was conferred the 'Padma Shri' in the field of Medicine in 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- March 10 – National Gestational Diabetes Mellitus Awareness Day (birthday of Dr. Veeraswamy Seshiah)

30. Mahavir Jayanti is one of the most celebrated festivals of the Jain community as it marks the birth anniversary of Lord Mahavir. Devotees, who observe this religious festival, honour the 24th and last Tirthankara of Jainism known as 'Lord Mahavir'. He was the last spiritual leader of Jainism. This year, the day was celebrated on 14 April. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 14 – Mahavir Jayanti (birth anniversary of 24th Tirthankara of Jainism known as 'Lord Mahavir')

31. World Voice Day is observed globally every year on 16 April. In 2022, the theme is "Lift Your Voice" to bring cognizance about the need of preventing vocal issues and rehabilitating people with vocal problems. The day aims to make people aware of their vocal health. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 16 – World Voice Day
- 2022's Theme – "Lift Your Voice"

32. April 14 is observed as "National Fire Service Day" every year across India to pay homage to the brave firefighters who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty while fighting the fires. The Day commemorates the 71 Fire Service personnel who lost their lives during an unfortunate and massive explosion at the Mumbai dockyard on April 14, 1944. In 2022, the theme is "Learn Fire Safety, Increase Productivity." [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- April 14 – “National Fire Service Day”
- 2022’s Theme – “Learn Fire Safety, Increase Productivity”

33. April 15, 2022 was observed as 73rd Himachal Day. In 1971, Himachal Pradesh became the 18th state in India with Shimla as its capital. Currently, Shimla & Dharamshala, both are the state capital. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 15 – 73rd Himachal Day (HP became the 18th state in India in 1971)
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

34. The International Day for Monuments and Sites, also known as World Heritage Day, is an international observance held on 18 April. The day was first observed first in 1983 by the UNESCO. In 2022, the theme is “Heritage and Climate”. India is home to a total of 3691 monuments and sites. Of these 40 are designated as UNESCO World Heritage Sites. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 18 – International Day for Monuments and Sites or World Heritage Day – by UNESCO (since 1983)
- 2022’s Theme – “Heritage and Climate”

35. “Save The Elephant Day” was observed on April 16. The day aims to change this alarming trend by educating people about elephants and the plights they face, encouraging everyone to do their bit and help save them from extinction. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 16 – “Save The Elephant Day”

36. The 323rd “Khalsa Sajna Divas” (Khalsa Panth Foundation Day celebrations), popularly known as “Vaisakhi”, was celebrated on April 14, 2022. Vaisakhi, also pronounced Baisakhi, marks the first day of the month of Vaisakh and is traditionally celebrated annually on 13 April and sometimes on 14 April. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 14 – 323rd “Khalsa Sajna Divas” or “Khalsa Panth Foundation Day” or “Vaisakhi”

37. World Hemophilia Day is marked on April 17 annually to raise awareness about hemophilia and other inherited bleeding disorders. Hemophilia or Haemophilia is an inherited genetic disorder in which the blood’s capacity to clot is substantially impaired, causing one to bleed excessively even from minor injuries. In 2022, the theme is “Access for All: Partnership. Policy. Progress. Engaging your government, integrating inherited bleeding disorders into national policy”. The World Federation of Hemophilia (WFH) was established in 1963 to enhance treatment and care for all hemophilia patients. The WFH began observing World Hemophilia Day in 1989. It chose 17 April as the date to honour the WFH founder Frank Schnabel’s birthday. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 17 – World Hemophilia Day – by World Federation of Hemophilia (since 1989)
- 2022’s Theme – “Access for All: Partnership. Policy. Progress. Engaging your government, integrating inherited bleeding disorders into national policy”



38. Every year World Liver Day is celebrated on April 19 to raise awareness about liver diseases across the world. The liver is the largest solid organ of the body that removes toxins from the body. Last year, the theme of World Liver Day was “Keep Your Liver Healthy and Disease-Free”. This year, the theme of this day has not been declared on the official website yet. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 19 – World Liver Day

39. On April 16, Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai announced that the birth anniversary of Sri Siddalinga Swami of Tontadarya Mutt in Gadag will be celebrated as “Integration Day”. The CM also referred to Swami’s participation in the Gokak movement for the cause of Kannada. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka CM announced to celebrated the birth anniversary of Sri Siddalinga Swami as “Integration Day”
- Tontadarya Matha – a Hindu temple in Gadag, Karnataka
- [Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore](#) | [CM – Basavaraj Bommai](#) | [Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot](#)

40. The UN’s Chinese Language Day is observed across the globe on April 20. Language Days at the United Nations seek to celebrate multilingualism and cultural diversity as well as to promote equal use of all six official languages throughout the Organization. The day was first observed on November 12, 2010 and since 2011, it has been observed on April 20. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 20 – UN’s Chinese Language Day
- UN language days:
 - Arabic (18 December)
 - Chinese (20 April)
 - English (23 April)
 - French (20 March)
 - Russian (6 June)
 - Spanish (23 April)

41. The government celebrated the 400th birth anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur, the 9th Sikh guru, with a two-day event at Red Fort starting April 20 and released a commemorative postage stamp and coin. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The government celebrated the 400th birth anniversary of the 9th Sikh guru - Guru Tegh Bahadur

42. World Creativity and Innovation Day is observed every year on April 21 to emphasize the role of creativity and innovation in different aspects of human development. World Creativity and Innovation Day was founded on May 25, 2001 in Toronto, Canada. However, it came into existence after the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution to celebrate the day on April 27, 2017. The day was first observed in 2018. While the World Creativity and Innovation Week (WCIW) is observed from April 15 to 21. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 21 – World Creativity & Innovation Day (since 2018)
- April 15 to 21 – World Creativity & Innovation Week

43. Every year, on April 21, the public services rendered by these civil servants is celebrated in the form of Civil Services Day. It was on this day in 1947 that the country's first home minister Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel addressed the probationers of Administrative Services Officers in 1947 at Metcalf House, Delhi. The first such event took place on April 21, 2006, at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 21 – “National Civil Services Day” (since 2006)
- Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel addressed the newly appointed Administrative Services Officers – on April 21, 1947

44. April 22 marked “Earth Day”, an international event celebrated around the world to pledge support for environmental protection. The year 2022 marked the 52nd anniversary of the annual celebrations. This year’s theme for Earth Day is “Invest In Our Planet”. In 2009, the United Nations designated April 22 as “International Mother Earth Day”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 22 – International Mother Earth Day or Earth Day (since 2009)
- Theme – “Invest In Our Planet”

45. On April 19, Tamil Nadu government will observe December 18, every year, as Minorities Rights Day at the state level and a sum of Rs 2.50 lakh will be provided for the purpose. In order to enable the minority girl students in rural areas to pursue their studies without any impediments, the government would provide education aid of Rs 500 to the students of Classes 3 to 5 and Rs 1,000 to the wards of Class 6. A sum of Rs 2.75 Cr would be provided as aid to the students. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu Govt will observe December 18, every year, as “Minorities Rights Day” at the state level
- Rs 2.50 lakh will be provided for the purpose
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai](#) | [CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin](#) | [Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi](#)

46. English Language day is observed annually on April 23. It marks both the birthday and date of death of famed writer William Shakespeare. English Language day was established by the UNESCO in 2010 to celebrate English and multilingualism. Besides, Spanish Language Day is also observed on 23rd April marking the death anniversary of Miguel de Cervantes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 23 – English Language day (birthday & death anniversary of William Shakespeare)
- April 23 – Spanish Language Day (death anniversary of Miguel de Cervantes)
- UN language days:
 - Arabic (18 December)
 - Chinese (20 April)
 - English (23 April)
 - French (20 March)
 - Russian (6 June)
 - Spanish (23 April)

47. The 26th edition of “World Book Day”, also known as “World Book & Copyright Day” was observed on April 23, 2022. Organised as an annual event by UNESCO ever since 1995, the day is dedicated to pay respect to renowned authors like William Shakespeare, Miguel Cervantes, and Inca Garcilaso de la Vega who died this day. In 2022, the theme is “Read, so you never feel low”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 23 – 26th edition of “World Book Day” or “World Book & Copyright Day” – by the UNESCO (since 1995)
- Theme – “Read, so you never feel low”

48. “International Delegates Day” was established in 2019 by the UN General Assembly. The day was first observed in 2022. This year, the 3rd edition was observed on April 25. The day seeks to commemorate the 850 delegates from fifty countries who participated in the San Francisco Conference in 1945. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 25 – 3rd edition of “International Delegates Day” (since 2020)

49. Every year, World Malaria Day is observed on April 25 to create a global awareness of the disease named malaria. For 2022, the theme is “Harness innovation to reduce the malaria disease burden and save lives”. World malaria day first began as Africa Malaria Day. This day has been observed by the African government since 2001 but was first marked in 2008. The 60th session of the World Health Assembly converted Africa Malaria Day to World Malaria Day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 25 – World Malaria Day
- 2022’s theme – “Harness innovation to reduce the malaria disease burden and save lives”

50. “International Day of Multilateralism & Diplomacy for Peace” falls on April 24 annually. The day was established on December 12, 2018 through a UN resolution and was first observed on April 24, 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 24 – “International Day of Multilateralism & Diplomacy for Peace” (since 2019)

51. Every year, 24 April is celebrated as National Panchayati Raj Day by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. It is celebrated to commemorate the passing of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act in 1992. The Amendment came into effect in 1993. The first Panchayati Raj Day was celebrated during the Manmohan Singh regime in 2010. The 73rd Amendment Act, also known as the Panchayati Raj amendment act allowed the state governments to take necessary steps and measures that can help in the formation of gram panchayats and allow them to operate as ‘units of self-governance’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 24 – “National Panchayati Raj Day” to commemorate the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act (since 2010)
- Celebrated by – Ministry of Panchayati Raj | The day was first celebrated during the Manmohan Singh regime
- Ministry of & Panchayati Raj: Giriraj Singh | Constituency – Begusarai, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Panchayati Raj: Faggansingh Kulaste & Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti

52. Every Last Saturday of April is observed as “World Veterinary Day” or “World Day for Laboratory Animals” to commemorate the suffering of millions of animals caged in laboratories around the world. In 2022, it was observed on April 24. In 1863, in Hamburg (Germany), Veterinary College Professor John Gamgee from Edinburgh led the first International Veterinary Congress meeting. In 2022, the theme is “Strengthening Veterinary Resilience”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 24 (Last Saturday of April) – “World Veterinary Day” or “World Day for Laboratory Animals”
- 2022’s Theme – “Strengthening Veterinary Resilience”

53. World Intellectual Property Day is observed every year on April 26. The day is celebrated to raise awareness of the impact of how patents, copyright, trademarks and design affect our daily life. The WIPO Convention came into effect in 1970 and in the year 2000, World Intellectual Property Organization's member states declared April 26 as World Intellectual Property. In 2022, the theme is “IP and Youth Innovating for a Better Future”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 26 – “World Intellectual Property Day” (since 2000)
- Theme – “IP and Youth Innovating for a Better Future”

54. International Chernobyl Remembrance Day is observed on 26 April every year to mark the nuclear accident that occurred on April 26, 1986 in Chernobyl, Ukraine. This year, the day marks the 36th anniversary of the accident. The catastrophe at Chernobyl is considered to be the biggest nuclear accident in the world. It exposed around 8.4 million people in the three countries to radiation. On 8 December 2016, the United Nations General Assembly declared 26 April as International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day. The day was first observed in 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 26 – International Chernobyl Remembrance Day (since 2017)
- 36th anniversary of the nuclear accident that occurred on April 26, 1986 in Chernobyl, Ukraine
- [Ukraine – Kyiv – Ukrainian hryvnia | President – Volodymyr Zelensky](#)

55. “World Penguin Day” is a celebratory and educative initiative on April 25 that encourages people to learn more about penguins and their environment, how important they are to our ecosystems and the threats that they face. Moreover, January 20 is also observed as “Penguin Awareness Day”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 25 – World Penguin Day
- January 20 – Penguin Awareness Day

56. World Immunization Week is observed in the last week of April (24-30), every year. The purpose of this day is to highlight the collective action needed and to promote the use of vaccines to protect people of all ages against disease. The theme of this year's World Immunization Week is “Long Life for All”. In 1796, Edward Jenner gave the world the first vaccination which was against cowpox. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 24 to 30 – World Immunization Week
- Theme – “Long Life for All”

57. On April 13, Birth Anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev is observed as International Turban Day or Sikh Dastar Diwas. In 2022, it was the 553rd Birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev. Dastar or turban is an article of faith and a symbol of pride and identity for Sikhs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 13 – International Turban Day or Sikh Dastar Diwas (553rd Birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev)



58. In 2022, International Girls in ICT Day is celebrated on 4th Thursday of April. In 2022, it was celebrated on 28 April. It is celebrated on 4th Thursday of April. In 2022, the theme is “Access and Safety” identified by the ITU. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 28 (4th Thursday of April) – International Girls in ICT Day
- 2022’s Theme – “Access and Safety”

59. Every year, “World Day for Safety and Health at Work” is observed on April 28. The day is dedicated to creating awareness and preventing occupational disease in addition to accidents across the world. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) first began to observe World Day in the year 2003. The day also coincides with the ‘International Commemoration for the Dead and injured workers’, celebrated by the trade union movement since 1996. For 2022, the theme of World Day for Safety And Health at Work is “Act together to build a positive safety and health culture”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 28 – “World Day for Safety and Health at Work” – by the ILO (since 2003)
- 2022’s Theme – “Act together to build a positive safety and health culture”
- April 28 – International Commemoration for the Dead and injured workers

60. International Dance Day is celebrated on April 29 every year all over the world. The day also marks the birth anniversary of Jean-Georges Noverre, the creator of modern ballet. The day celebrated for the first time in 1982. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 29 – International Dance Day (since 1982) | Birth anniversary of – Jean-Georges Noverre

61. International Jazz Day is celebrated every year around the world on 30 April to promote Jazz and raise awareness about its significance. In 2022, the theme is “A Call for Global Peace and Unity”. Jazz is a style of music that began in the early 20th Century. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 30 – International Jazz Day
- 2022’s Theme – “A Call for Global Peace & Unity”



Meetings, Conferences & Summits

1. International Organization for Migration (IOM) in partnership with NITI Aayog organized a National Conclave on “The Impact of COVID-19 on Migration: Benchmarking of Good Practices & Preparing for the Future” at Hotel Taj Palace, Chanakyapuri in New Delhi to initiate, contribute to and support a holistic analysis on and of the core areas of migration. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IOM + NITI Aayog = organized a National Conclave or a National Panel Discussion on Safe Migration – in New Delhi
- HQs of IOM – Grand-Saconnex, Switzerland | Director General – Antonio Vitorino
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

2. On April 2, the India-Australia Economic Cooperation & Trade Agreement (IndAus ECTA) was signed by Piyush Goyal, the Minister of Commerce & Industry and Dan Tehan, the Minister for Trade, Tourism & Investment, Government of Australia in a virtual ceremony. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Piyush Goyal + Dan Tehan = signed India-Australia Economic Cooperation & Trade Agreement (“IndAus ECTA”)
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

3. In April 2022, Top Indian experts managing the national covid-19 immunization programme participated in a “Global Collaboration Advanced Vaccinology Training” meeting in Geneva where the need for a basic vaccinology training module for healthcare personnel across the world to address the healthcare crisis was discussed. India was represented by Dr N. K. Arora, head of the covid-19 working group in the National Immunization Technical Advisory Group (NTAGI). None of the countries in the world has vaccinated more than 90% of its population. Only India has administered more than 98% of its population with at least first dose of vaccine. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian experts participated in a “Global Collaboration Advanced Vaccinology Training” meeting in Geneva, Switzerland
- India was represented by – Dr N. K. Arora

4. On April 7, President Ram Nath Kovind addressed the members of the Indian community in an event hosted by the Ambassador of India to the Netherlands, Reenat Sandhu. The Indian community serves as a bridge between not just India and the Netherlands, but between India and Europe. Indian community in the Netherlands is the largest Indian origin diaspora in mainland Europe. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- President Ram Nath Kovind – addressed the members of the Indian community in Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Ambassador of India to the Netherlands – Reenat Sandhu
- Netherlands – Amsterdam – Euro | PM – Mark Rutte

5. On April 9, the 2-day Southern Region Review meeting - “Ayushman Sangam”, organised by the National Health Authority in Tamil Nadu’s Mahabalipuram on April 7 and 8 was the 3rd edition of the event covering the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and Telangana. During the event, the National Health Authority (NHA) launched a new version of the “Health Benefit Package, 2022”, under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PMJAY), adding 365 new procedures which took the total to 1,949. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- 2-day Southern Region Review meeting - "Ayushman Sangam" in Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu – organised by NHA
- NHA – launched a new version of the "Health Benefit Package, 2022" under the 'AB PMJAY'
- HQs of NHA – New Delhi | CEO – Ram Sevak Sharma | Founded in – 2018

6. India and the US held their 4th annual 2+2 dialogue in Washington on April 11. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh led the Indian delegation. This will be first 2+2 plus dialogue since the Biden administration came to power in the US. The 3rd dialogue was held in Delhi in 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + US = held the 4th Annual 2+2 dialogue in Washington, US
- Indian delegation led by = S. Jaishankar + Rajnath Singh
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

7. On occasion of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, a 2-day "Conference and Exhibition on the National Calendar of India" was held on April 22-23, 2022 at Ujjain and Dongla, Madhya Pradesh. To promote and popularise the conference, the curtain-raiser programme was held at IIT Guwahati, Assam. 'Indian National Calendar', is a scientific expression of India's identity and was adopted constitutionally by our parliament in 1957. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 2-day "Conference and Exhibition on the National Calendar of India" – held at Ujjain & Dongla, Madhya Pradesh
- Curtain-raiser programme was held – at IIT Guwahati, Assam
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

8. Ministry of Culture organized a two-day conference called "Amrit Samagam" on April 12 and 13, 2022 in New Delhi to reflect on the progress of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) so far. The conference was inaugurated by Minister of Home and Co-operation, Amit Shah. The topics of discussion include landmark AKAM initiatives that involve mass public participation (Jan Bhagidhari) such as 'Har Ghar Jhanda', 'International Yoga Day', 'Digital District Repository', 'Swatantra Swar' and 'Mera Gaon Meri Dharohar'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Culture – organized a two-day conference called "Amrit Samagam" in New Delhi
- The conference was inaugurated by – Amit Shah
- Minister of Culture: G. Kishan Reddy | Constituency – Secunderabad, Telangana
- MoS in Minister of Culture: Arjun Ram Meghwal & Meenakshi Lekhi

9. In April 2022, President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the "National Conference on Mediation and Information Technology" at Kevadia in Narmada district of Gujarat. Gujarat High Court has also initiated a series of steps including live broadcast of court proceedings in the state. President Kovind also inaugurated "Madhavpur Ghed Fair-2022" at Madhavpur in Porbandar district during his three-day visit to Gujarat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ram Nath Kovind – inaugurated the "National Conference on Mediation & Information Technology" at Kevadia, Gujarat
- Madhavpur Ghed Fair – Porbandar, Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat



10. Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways along with Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) organized “Waterways Conclave 2022” on April 11-12 in Dibrugarh, Assam. FICCI is the industry partner for the 2-day conclave. Waterways Conclave aims for speedy development of Multimodal projects in North-eastern region to energize the economic activities and augment employment generation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways + IWAI = organized “Waterways Conclave 2022” in Dibrugarh, Assam
- HQs of IWAI – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | Chairman – Sanjay Bandopadhyay
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

11. Amid growing defence collaborations between India and France, the 20th edition of Joint Staff talks between the two countries took place during April 12-13 with a focus on strengthening bilateral defence engagement. The meeting was co-chaired by Assistant Chief of Integrated Staff and Air Vice Marshal B. Manikantan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 20th edition of Joint Staff talks between India & France held in Paris – to strengthen Bilateral Defence Engagement
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Jean Castex

12. On April 15, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the 3-day “Global Ayush Investment & Innovation Summit (GAIS)” in Gandhinagar on April 20. The event aims at attracting lucrative investments to make India a Global Ayush Destination in the world. The ground-breaking ceremony for the “WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine” took place on April 19 in Jamnagar in Gujarat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – inaugurated the 3-day “Global Ayush Investment & Innovation Summit (GAIS)” in Gandhinagar, Guj
- WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine – Jamnagar, Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

13. A 5-day Army Commanders’ Conference was held in New Delhi from April 18-22, 2022. The conference was chaired by Army Chief Gen MM Naravane. It focused on specific plans for capability development and boosting operational preparedness of the 1.3 million-strong force. The Army Commanders’ Conference is an apex level biannual event that is held in April and October every year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Five-day Army Commanders’ Conference – held in New Delhi (chaired by – Army Chief Gen M. M. Naravane)
- It is an apex level biannual event held in April & October every year

14. Surat hosted the 3-day national conference on “Smart Cities Smart Urbanisation”, organised by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoUHA) from April 18. Various awards under the Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav were handed over by MoUHA. Apart from this, “India Smart Cities Awards 2020” were given to the 51 smart cities which had done exemplary work. Surat and Indore were given the Best city award, while Uttar Pradesh was awarded the Best State. The Smart Cities Mission (SCM) launched the ‘Urban Outcomes Framework 2022’, ‘Artificial Intelligence Playbook for Cities’ & ‘AMPLIFI’ - an assessment and monitoring platform, which is MoHUA’s integrated data portal. Moreover, ‘Digital Duniya’ pavilion was inaugurated at the “Smart Cities Smart Urbanization Conference” to highlight initiatives that empower communities through data and digital technology. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Surat – hosted the 3-day national conference on “Smart Cities Smart Urbanisation”
- “India Smart Cities Awards 2020” were given to the 51 smart cities | Best City: Surat & Indore | Best State: UP
- ‘AMPLIFI’ portal, an assessment & monitoring platform of – MoHUA
- ‘Digital Duniya’ pavilion – inaugurated at the Conference

15. “Singapore International Water Week (SIWW) 2022” was held from April 17 to 21 at the Sands Expo & Convention Centre, Marina Bay Sands, Singapore. Organised by PUB, Singapore’s national water agency, SIWW covered all aspects of the urban water cycle reflective of current trends and issues in and around the water sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “International Water Week 2022” – held at Marina Bay Sands, Singapore
- Singapore – Singapore – Dollar | PM – Lee Hsien Loong | President – Halimah Yacob

16. The 12th ministerial conference of the World Trade Organisation will take place from June 12-15 at WTO headquarters in Geneva. WTO Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala will chair the conference. The Ministerial Conference (MC) is the highest decision making body of the 164-member Geneva-based multilateral body. Usually, MC happens every two years bringing all members of the WTO together, all of which are countries or customs unions. The meet was originally scheduled to take place from November 30 to December 3 2021, but was postponed in view of the outbreak of Omicron variant. The last meet was held at Buenos Aires during December 10-13, 2017. India is member of WTO since 1995. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The 12th ministerial conference of the WTO – to take place from June 12-15 at Geneva, Switzerland
- The conference will be chaired by – Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (DG of WTO)
- HQs of WTO – Geneva, Switzerland | 7th DG – Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (Nigeria) | Members – 164

17. The “Colombo Security Conclave Virtual Conference” on Sharing of experiences in investigation of terrorism cases was organised by the National Investigation Agency of India on 19 April 2022. Panellists and participants from India, Maldives, Mauritius, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh participated in the virtual conference. Participants discussed the various challenges related to terrorism in their respective countries and shared experiences on prosecution of terrorism cases. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Colombo Security Conclave Virtual Conference on Investigation of Terrorism Cases” – organised by the NIA
- HQs of NIA – New Delhi | Director General – Kuldip Singh (addi. charge)

18. The government announced a foodgrain production target of 328 million tonnes for 2022-23 at the “National Conference on Agriculture: Kharif Campaign 2022”. The conference was inaugurated by Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar in Delhi. Of the 328 million foodgrain production target fixed for 2022-23, kharif foodgrain production target has been fixed at 163.15 million tonnes, while rabi foodgrain production target has been kept at 164.85 million tonnes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “National Conference on Agriculture: Kharif Campaign 2022” – held at New Delhi
- Govt announced a foodgrain production target of 328 MT for 2022-23 (163.15 MT for Kharif + 164.85 MT for Rabi)

19. Seven universities of West Bengal signed 15 MoUs with international and national Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) during the 6th edition of “Bengal Global Business Summit” organised by the state government. The state received investment proposals worth Rs 3.42 lakh Cr. A total of 137 MoUs and Letters of Intent (LoI) were signed for the investments. During the summit, the Chief Minister launched portals on Silpa Saathi (for industries), export facilitation and self-help groups, along with a book on GI-tagged products from West Bengal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 6th edition of “Bengal Global Business Summit” – held on April 20 & 21
- 7 Universities of West Bengal + International & National HEIs = signed 15 MoUs
- “Silpa Saathi” portal – a single window services portal set up by West Bengal
- [West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata](#) | [CM – Mamta Banerjee](#) | [Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar](#)

20. On April 21, PM Modi Inaugurated the “Global AYUSH Investment and Innovation Summit” at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar. Mauritian Prime Minister Pravind Kumar Jugnauth and World Health Organisation (WHO) director general Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus were also present at the “Global Ayush Investment & Innovation Summit 2022”. To boost medical tourism in traditional medicine, India announced to offer special visas for those travelling to the country to avail AYUSH treatment. Government will also soon launch an ‘AYUSH mark’ for standardisation and authentication of quality AYUSH products in the global market. The “Heal in India” will be a big trend of this decade. The government is also set to create a network of AYUSH Parks to encourage research and boost indigenous manufacturing of traditional medicinal products. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Global AYUSH Investment & Innovation Summit” – held in Gandhinagar (inaugurated by PM Modi)
- Mauritian PM Pravind Kumar Jugnauth + WHO DG Dr Tedros Adhanom – also attended the summit
- India – to offer ‘special visas’ for those travelling to the country to avail AYUSH treatment
- Govt will to launch an ‘AYUSH mark’ for standardisation & authentication of quality AYUSH products in the global market

21. The “World Dairy Summit 2022” will be organised by the International Dairy Federation (IDF) in Delhi, India in September, 2022. India had last hosted the International Dairy Congress in the year 1974. The ‘IDF WSD 2022’ would be held under the theme “Dairy for Nutrition & Livelihood”. India is the largest milk producing country in the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “World Dairy Summit 2022” – to be organised by the IDF (in Sep 2022)
- 2022’s Theme – “Dairy for Nutrition & Livelihood”
- India – the largest milk producing country in the world
- [HQs of IDF – Brussels, Belgium](#) | [Chairman – Meenesh Shah](#)

22. Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and AYUSH, announced that the upcoming first “Incredible India International Cruise Conference 2022” was scheduled to be held on May 14 and 15 at Mumbai. The Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Government of India, the Mumbai Port Authority, and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) organised the two-day event. ‘Cruise Tourism’ is recognised as the fastest-growing segment in the leisure industry. Sonowal also unveiled the brochure, logo, and the conference’s mascot - “Captain Cruzo”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Incredible India International Cruise Conference 2022” – scheduled to be held in Mumbai (in May 2022)
- Organizers = Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways + Mumbai Port Authority + FICCI
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

23. On April 23, National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval led India’s first “Conference of Intelligence Agency Chiefs” held in Delhi. The conference is expected to bring together heads and deputy heads of the top intelligence and security organisations from more than 20 countries and their allies. The conference was organised by the Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW) and the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ajit Doval led India’s first “Conference of Intelligence Agency Chiefs” held in Delhi
- Conference was organised by = RAW + NSCS

24. PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the 7th edition of the “Raisina Dialogue 2022” held over three days from April 25 to April 27. The dialogue will witness the participation of European Commission President Ursula Von Der Leyen as the Chief Guest. The Raisina Dialogue 2022 is based on the theme “Terranova- Impassioned, Impatient, Imperilled”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi inaugurated the 7th edition of the “Raisina Dialogue 2022” | Chief Guest – Ursula Von Der Leyen
- Theme – “Terranova - Impassioned, Impatient, Imperilled”

25. Union Home Minister Amit Shah addressed the 48th All India Police Science Congress organized by the Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D) at Central Police Training Academy, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amit Shah addressed the 48th “All India Police Science Congress” organized by BPR&D
- BPR&D works under – Ministry of Home Affairs
- Ministry of Home Affairs: Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Home Affairs: Nityanand Rai, Ajay Kumar & Nisith Pramanik

26. Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) is set to host 21st World Congress of Accountants (WCOA), the kumbh of accountants, for the first time in 118 years of its existence. The event will be held from November 18 to 21 after outbidding France. About 6000 top accountants from 130 countries will participate in the programme physically. The event will take place in newly built Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai. The WCOA is held every four years since it started in 1904. The theme, this time, would be “Building Trust Enabling Sustainability”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICAI (India) – to host the 21st World Congress of Accountants (WCOA) from November 18 to 21, 2022 – in Mumbai
- WCOA is held every 4 years
- 2022’s Theme – “Building Trust Enabling Sustainability”
- HQs of ICAI – New Delhi | President – Debashis Mitra | Vice President – Aniket Sunil Talati | Established in – 1949



27. On April 25, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the 7th edition of the Raisina Dialogue, India's flagship multilateral foreign policy and geo-economics conference in New Delhi. According to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), the dialogue, which was held over 3 days from April 25 to April 27, witnessed the participation of European Commission President Ursula Von Der Leyen as the chief guest. The Raisina Dialogue 2022 was based on the theme “Terranova-Impassioned, Impatient, Imperilled”. The Raisina Dialogue was started in 2016. The conference was organised by MEA in collaboration with the Observer Research Foundation (ORF). A book titled “The First Responders: Women Who Led India Through The Pandemic” was launched at the Raisina Dialogue 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Modi inaugurated the 7th edition of the Raisina Dialogue in New Delhi | Chief Guest – Ursula Von Der Leyen
- Theme of the dialogue – “Terranova- Impassioned, Impatient, Imperilled” | Organised by = MEA + ORF
- Raisina Dialogue was started in – 2016

28. On April 27, Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Narayan Rane inaugurated the Ministry's mega event - “Enterprise India” under the celebrations of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. “Enterprise India” is a series of commemorative entrepreneurship development events and activities being organised from April 27 to May 27 to promote entrepreneurship culture and create awareness about the schemes and initiatives of Ministry of MSME across India. The event is aimed at ‘Jan Bhagidari’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narayan Rane inaugurated “Enterprise India” - a mega event organised by the Ministry of MSME
- [Ministry of MSME: Narayan Rane](#) | [Constituency – Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg, Maharashtra](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of MSME: Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma](#)

29. On April 28, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated the ‘National Good Governance Webinar Series’. The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), under Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions is organizing the ‘National Good Governance Webinar Series’ over the year from April, 2022 to March, 2023. One Webinar on an identified sector/theme will be held every month. The 13 webinars would be on different themes under the good governance initiatives. The first webinar in the series commenced on 28th April, 2022 on the theme “Improving Service Delivery” under which two awarded initiatives were presented namely “SAKALA” (to the Department of Personnel & Administrative Reforms, Government of Karnataka) and “e-Seva” (to the Government of Andhra Pradesh). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Jitendra Singh – inaugurated the ‘National Good Governance Webinar Series’
- DARPG, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions – organizes this webinar series from April 2022- March 2023
- First webinar in the series was commenced on the theme – “Improving Service Delivery”

30. PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the first “Semicon India 2022 Conference” organised by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) in Bengaluru on April 29. Semicon India 2022, a 3-day conference, was organised to take forward the vision of PM Modi to make India a leader in electronics manufacturing, semiconductor design, manufacturing and innovation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi inaugurated the first “Semicon India 2022 Conference” in Bengaluru – organised by MeitY

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

1. In April 2022, Indian-American singer Falguni Shah won the 'Best Children's Music Album' award at the 64th Annual Grammy Awards for her album "A Colorful World". Indian music composer Ricky Kej won the Grammy for 'Best New Age Album' for "Divine Tides" along with American musician Stewart Copeland. While Arooj Aftab is the first Pakistani woman artist to win Grammy for her song "Mohabbat" in the 'Best Global Music Performance' category. The 64th Annual Grammy Awards were held in Las Vegas, USA. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 64th Annual Grammy Awards were held in Las Vegas, USA
- Falguni Shah (Indian-American) – won in 'Best Children's Music Album' category for her album "A Colorful World"
- Ricky Kej (Indian music composer) + Stewart Copeland (US) – won in 'Best New Age Album' category for "Divine Tides"
- Arooj Aftab (First Pakistani woman artist) – won in 'Best Global Music Performance' category for her song "Mohabbat"

2. On April 3, Mumbai-based journalist Aarefa Johari was announced as the winner of the "Chameli Devi Jain Award" for an 'Outstanding Woman Mediaperson 2021'. Instituted in 1982, the annual Chameli Devi Jain Award is a prestigious recognition for women mediapersons in India who have reported on themes such as social development, politics, equity, gender justice, health, war and conflict, and consumer values. The award is named after Chameli Devi Jain, a freedom fighter and a community reformer who went to jail during the freedom movement. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Aarefa Johari – winner of the "Chameli Devi Jain Award" for an 'Outstanding Woman Mediaperson 2021'
- Chameli Devi Jain Award – announced by Media Foundation
- "Chameli Devi Jain Award" – instituted in 1982

3. On April 5, Noted poet and litterateur Prof Ramdarash Mishra is selected for the prestigious "Saraswati Samman 2021" for his collection of poems 'Mein to Yahan Hun'. Instituted in 1991, Saraswati Samman is one of the most prestigious literary awards in India. It carries a citation, a plaque, and a cash prize of ₹15 lakhs. The recipient is chosen by a selection committee, whose current head is Dr Subhash C Kashyap. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ramdarash Mishra – selected for the prestigious "Saraswati Samman 2021"
- He is selected for his collection of poems 'Mein to Yahan Hun'

4. On April 5, Bengali author Amar Mitra won the prestigious "O Henry Prize" for short fiction. He received the award for his short story, 'Gaonburo', which was translated into English (The Old Man Of Kusumpur) earlier. The translated work was published in an American magazine in 2020. O Henry Prize is awarded for short stories. The author has earlier received the prestigious Sahitya Akademi Award from the Government of India and Bankim Puroshkar, in West Bengal, among many other recognitions for his contribution in Bengali literature. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amar Mitra (Bengali author) – won the "O Henry Prize" for 'short fiction' for his short story - 'Gaonburo'
- 'Gaonburo' – was translated into English as 'The Old Man Of Kusumpur'
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

5. On April 7, A haunting image of red dresses hung on crosses along a roadside, with a rainbow in the background, commemorating children who died at a residential school created to assimilate Indigenous children in Canada won the prestigious World Press Photo award. The image was one of a series of the Kamloops Residential School shot by Canadian photographer Amber Bracken for The New York Times. Australian photographer Matthew Abbott won the Photo Story of the Year prize for a series of images. The Long-Term Project award went to Lalo de Almeida of Brazil. Bram Janssen of The Associated Press won the Stories category in Asia with a series of photos from a Kabul cinema and AP photographer Dar Yasin earned an honourable mention for photos from Kashmir titled “Endless War”. Yasin, together with Mukhtar Khan and Channi Anand, won the 2020 Pulitzer Prize in feature photography for their coverage of the conflict in Indian-controlled Kashmir. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amber Bracken ([Canada](#)) – won World Press Photo award for – a haunting image of red dresses hung on crosses along a roadside, with a rainbow in the background
- Matthew Abbott ([Australia](#)) – won the Photo Story of the Year
- Lalo de Almeida ([Brazil](#)) – won the Long-Term Project award
- Bram Janssen – won the Stories category in Asia
- Dar Yasin – was given the honourable mention for photos from Kashmir titled “Endless War”

6. On April 7, Author Geetanjali Shree’s novel “Tomb of Sand” became the first Hindi language work of fiction to be shortlisted for the International Booker Prize. Shree’s book, translated into English by Daisy Rockwell will compete with five other titles for the prestigious 50,000 pounds literary prize, which is split evenly between the author and translator. The international prize is awarded every year for a single book that is translated into English and published in the UK or Ireland. The winner for 2022 will be announced at a ceremony in London on 26 May. The other five titles in the shortlist announced at the London Book Fair include: ‘Cursed Bunny’ by Bora Chung, translated by Anton Hur from Korean; ‘A New Name: Septology VI-VII’ by Jon Fosse, translated by Damion Geetanjali Shree’s Searls from Norwegian; ‘Heaven’ by Mieko Kawakami, translated by Samuel Bett and David Boyd from Japanese; ‘Elena Knows’ by Claudia Pineiro, translated by Frances Riddle from Spanish; and ‘The Books of Jacob’ by Olga Tokarczuk, translated by Jennifer Croft from Polish. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Novel “Tomb of Sand” – first Hindi language work of fiction to be shortlisted for the International Booker Prize
- The novel is authored by – Geetanjali Shree | Translated into English by – Daisy Rockwell

7. On April 9, the Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu presented the Sangeet Natak Akademi and Lalit Kala Akademi Fellowships along with Akademi Awards for 2018 and 62nd National Exhibition of Art Awards 2021. He presented the honours to various artists for their contribution to the field of performing arts and fine arts. Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship for 2018 was given to 4 artists and Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards were given to 40 other artists. Lalit Kala Akademi Awards 2021 were given to 23 personalities which comprise 3 fellows. Sangeet Natak Akademi is an autonomous Body under Ministry of Culture. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu presented:
 - Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship for 2018 – to 4 artists
 - Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards – to 40 artists
 - Lalit Kala Akademi Awards 2021– to 20 artists
 - Lalit Kala Akademi Fellowships – to 3 artists
- [HQs of Sangeet Natak Akademi – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman – Uma Nanduri](#) (functions under Ministry of Culture)



8. On April 12, the largest iron ore producer of India, National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC), under Ministry of Steel awarded 1 Gold and 1 Silver award at the 80th SKOCH Summit and SKOCH Awards recently conducted by SKOCH, New Delhi. The theme for the SKOCH Summit was “State of BFSI & PSUs”. NMDC won the Gold Award in the category ‘Social Responsibility’ for the project ‘Promotion of Technical Education & Skill Development in Dantewada District through NMDC ITI Bhansi’ and the Silver Award in the category ‘Digital Inclusion’ for the ‘Project Kalpataru’ for ERP implementation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NMDC – awarded 1 Gold & 1 Silver award at the 80th SKOCH Summit 2022
- Theme of the summit – “State of BFSI & PSUs”
- HQs of NMDC – Hyderabad, Telangana | CMD – Sumit Deb | Founded on – November 15, 1958

9. On April 7, Meghalaya Governor Satyapal Malik and former Research and Analysis Wing Director A. S. Dulat were honoured with the “Sant Namdeo National Award” by Pune-based non-government organisation Sarhad. The awards were given away by former Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Satyapal Malik + A. S. Dulat (former RAW Chief) = honoured with the “Sant Namdeo National Award”
- Award given by – Pune-based non-government organisation Sarhad

10. On April 13, Falguni Nayar, the Founder & CEO of beauty supply company Nykaa, is named the “EY Entrepreneur of the Year” for 2021. Larsen & Toubro Group Chairman A. M. Naik was felicitated with the “Lifetime Achievement Award” by Ernst & Young, one of the world's leading management consultancies. Awards were also announced for 9 other categories with the winners. The winners were selected by a 9-member independent Jury Panel led by KV Kamath, former Chairman of ICICI Bank. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Falguni Nayar (Founder & CEO of Nykaa) – named the “Entrepreneur of the Year for 2021” by EY
- A. M. Naik (Group Chairman of L&T) – felicitated with the “Lifetime Achievement Award for 2021” by EY

11. In April 2022, PM Narendra Modi received the first “Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award” for his selfless service to the country and society at the 80th annual Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Awards ceremony held in Mumbai. The award will be given every year to an individual who has made path-breaking, spectacular and exemplary contributions to our nation, its people and our society. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – received first “Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award” for his selfless service to the country & society

12. In April 2022, Mumbai and Hyderabad have been jointly recognised as “2021 Tree City of the World” by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (UN-FAO) and Arbor Day Foundation. Mumbai has made the list for the first time, while Hyderabad has featured on it for the second consecutive year. The two Indian cities have won the recognition for their commitment to growing and maintaining urban trees and greenery in building healthy, resilient and happy cities. A total of 138 cities have been recognised for the year 2021 under the programme. The countries with maximum tree cities include the US, UK, and Canada. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mumbai & Hyderabad – jointly recognised as “2021 Tree City of the World” – by UNFAO & Arbor Day Foundation
- The countries with maximum ‘Tree Cities’: US, UK & Canada
- HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy | DG – QU Dongyu | Formation – 16th October, 1945

13. On April 12, Madhya Pradesh Governor Mangubhai C. Patel honored Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and other awardees with the “Champions of Change Award (Madhya Pradesh)” at the Kushabhau Thackeray International Convention Center in Bhopal. The award is given by Interactive Forum on Indian Economy (IFIE), a Non-profit Organisation recognized by Government of India. The Champions of Change, Madhya Pradesh is a state version of the Champions of Change Award. It is given for the great work done by eminent individuals and organizations towards promoting the values of courage (Gandhian values), community service and social development in the state. The award was initiated by taking inspiration from the vision of women freedom fighter Rani Lakshmibai. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Champions of Change Award (MP)” – held at Kushabhau Thackeray International Convention Center, Bhopal
- The award was presented by the Governor of Madhya Pradesh Mangubhai C. Patel
- The award is given for promoting: Gandhian Values, Community Service & Social Development
- The award was initiated by taking inspiration from the vision of Rani Lakshmibai
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel](#)

14. On April 12, Eminent Assamese poet Nilamani Phookan was conferred the 56th Jnanpith Award, the ceremony of which was held for the first time in Assam. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and the Chairperson of Jnanpith Selection Board Pratibha Ray handed over the trophy. Phookan is a recipient of Sahitya Akademi and Padma Shri awards too. Jnanpith Award is India’s highest literary award. Nilmani Phookan & Konkani novelist Damodar Mauzo were announced as the recipient of 56th Jnanpith Award & 57th Jnanpith Award in December 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nilamani Phookan (Eminent Assamese Poet) – was conferred the 56th Jnanpith Award – at a ceremony held in Assam
- [Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi](#)

15. On April 13, Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu conferred the “International Gandhi Award for Leprosy, 2021” to Dr. Bhushan Kumar of Chandigarh and Sahyog Kushtha Yagna Trust, Gujarat. The annual award was instituted by Gandhi Memorial Leprosy Foundation. He also called for intensified efforts for early detection of leprosy cases and urged the people and civil society organizations to join the campaign to eradicate leprosy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- M. Venkaiah Naidu conferred the “International Gandhi Award for Leprosy, 2021” to:
- Dr. Bhushan Kumar ([Chandigarh](#)) – under Indian Nomination (individual) Category
- Sahyog Kushtha Yagna Trust ([Gujarat](#)) – under Institutional Category

16. On April 13, Renowned Indian economist and political commentator Prabhat Patnaik has been selected for the “2022 Malcom Adiseshiah Award”. The award is annually given by the Malcolm and Elizabeth Adiseshiah Trust to an outstanding social scientist selected from nominations received by a specially constituted national jury. The award comprises a citation and prize money of ₹2 lakh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Prabhat Patnaik – selected for the “2022 Malcom Adiseshiah Award” by Malcolm & Elizabeth Adiseshiah Trust

17. On April 21, Ministry of Civil Aviation flagship regional connectivity scheme “UDAN” was awarded the “Prime Minister’s Award for Excellence in Public Administration 2020” under the ‘Innovation’ category by the PM Narendra Modi at Vigyan Bhawan. The award was presented to the Ministry of Civil Aviation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MCA’s “UDAN” scheme – received “Prime Minister’s Award for Excellence in Public Administration 2020” under ‘Innovation’ category
- Ministry of Civil Aviation: Jyotiraditya M. Scindia | Constituency – Guna, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Civil Aviation: V. K. Singh

18. On April 14, New Zealand pacer Tim Southee won the prestigious “Sir Richard Hadlee Medal” at the New Zealand Cricket Awards for his consistency throughout the 2021/22 season. He was awarded the medal for his stellar performances across all three formats in the latest season. Southee is New Zealand’s third-highest wicket-taker in Tests. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tim Southee (New Zealand) – won the prestigious “Sir Richard Hadlee Medal” at the New Zealand Cricket Awards
- New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar (NZD) | PM – Jacinda Ardern

19. On April 21, in recognition of his contribution in the defence sector, Indian-American chief executive of General Atomics Global Corporation Vivek Lall has been selected for the 6th Entrepreneur Leadership Awards by the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce (IACC) under ‘Global Leader in Defence & Aviation Sector’ award category. Lall was also granted the Grand Cross by His Highness Mahmoud Salah Al Din Assaf from the Royal Order of Banu Assaf in January 2022. The IACC, established in 1968, is the apex bi-lateral Chamber synergizing India-US Economic Engagement. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vivek Lall – selected for the 6th Entrepreneur Leadership Awards – by Indo-American Chamber of Commerce (IACC)
- Award category – ‘Global Leader in Defence & Aviation Sector’

20. On April 21, India captain Rohit Sharma and pacer Jasprit Bumrah have been named among the “Five Cricketers of the Year” in the 2022 edition of the Wisden Almanack. England fast bowler Ollie Robinson, South African women’s player Dane van Niekerk and New Zealand opener Devon Conway are the other three. Moreover, former England captain Joe Root is named “Leading Cricketer in the World”, South Africa’s Lizelle Lee the “Leading Woman Cricketer in the World” and Pakistan’s Mohammad Rizwan the “Leading T20 Cricketer”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rohit Sharma + Jasprit Bumrah = named among the Wisden’s “Five Cricketers of the Year” for 2022
- Joe Root (England) – named “Leading Cricketer in the World”
- Lizelle Lee (South Africa) – named “Leading Woman Cricketer in the World”
- Mohammad Rizwan (Pakistan) – named “Leading T20 Cricketer in the World”

21. On April 16, Serial entrepreneur Babita Singh was named “Global Peace Ambassador” for promoting Peace through Education, Sports, Art, Culture & Diplomacy at the ‘India International Conclave 2022’ held in collaboration with Asia Africa Consortium (AAC) in Shangrila, New Delhi. The AAC-Global Peace Ambassador 2022 honor has been constituted by Asia Africa Consortium and is the highest honour bestowed by the Secretary General on a global citizen. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Babita Singh – named “Global Peace Ambassador” for promoting Peace at ‘India International Conclave 2022’
- The conclave held in – Shangrila, New Delhi in collaboration with Asia Africa Consortium

22. On April 22, Nobel prize winner Jose Ramos-Horta won the “2022 Presidential Elections” of Timor-Leste or East Timor. The 72-year-old secured 3,97,145 votes, or 62.09%, against incumbent Francisco Guterres (also known as “Lu-Olo”). The victory gives Ramos-Horta his second term in office as he had served as President from 2007 to 2012. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jose Ramos-Horta – won the “2022 Presidential Elections” of Timor-Leste or East Timor
- [Timor-Leste – Dili – US Dollar](#) | [President – Jose Ramos-Horta](#)

23. On April 22, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy is among five people named as recipients of the “John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award” by the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, for acting to protect democracy. The award ceremony is scheduled on May 22 at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library in Boston. Other awardees are - Liz Cheney, Jocelyn Benson, Rusty Bowers, and Wandrea “Shaye” Moss. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Five people named as recipients of the “John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award 2022”
- Volodymyr Zelenskyy, Liz Cheney, Jocelyn Benson, Rusty Bowers, and Wandrea ‘Shaye’ Moss
- [John F. Kennedy Presidential Library – located in Boston, US](#)

24. On April 21, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has awarded David Attenborough the “Champions of the Earth Award 2021” under ‘Lifetime Achievement’ category for his dedication to research, documentation and advocacy for the protection of nature and its restoration. Recipients are selected by the executive director of UNEP. Sir David Frederick Attenborough is an English broadcaster, biologist, natural historian and author. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- David Attenborough – received the “Champions of the Earth Award” under ‘Lifetime Achievement’ category – by UNEP
- [HQs of UNEP – Nairobi, Kenya](#) | [Executive Director – Inger Andersen](#) | [Founded in – 1972](#)

25. On April 23, Aam Aadmi Party leader Raghav Chadha, Edelweiss Mutual Fund CEO Radhika Gupta and Ukrainian Vice-Prime Minister and Minister of Digital Transformation Mykhailo Fedorov were named by the World Economic Forum in its “2022 List of Young Global Leaders”. The list includes total 7 Indians. The 2022 Class of Young Global Leaders (YGLs) include researchers, innovative entrepreneurs, activists and promising political leaders between the ages of 30 and 40. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “2022 List of Young Global Leaders” – released by the WEF
- Total 7 Indians – are included in the list (Ukrainian Vice-PM Mykhailo Fedorov is also included)

26. In April 2022, Ministry of Steel hosted the “National Metallurgist Award 2021”. The program was chaired by the Minister of Steel, Ram Chandra Prasad Singh. The program aims to recognise the outstanding contribution of metallurgists/engineers working in the field of Iron & Steel covering Manufacturing, R&D, Design, Education, Waste management and Energy Conservation. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Ministry of Steel – hosted the “National Metallurgist Award 2021” (Chaired by - Ram Chandra Prasad Singh)
- [Ministry of Steel: Ramchandra Prasad Singh | Constituency – Bihar](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Steel: Faggansingh Kulaste](#)

27. On April 25, the state planning department’s key initiative of e-proposal system, part of Meghalaya Enterprise Architecture (MeghEA), won “World Summit on the Information Society Forum (WSIS) Prizes, 2022”. Chief minister Conrad K Sangma initiated MeghEA in 2019. Meghalaya was selected among the top 360 projects across the world, out of which, UN selected the top 5 in 18 categories and awards them as Champion Project. Meghalaya has been selected by the UN as one of these Champion Projects. One among these top 5 will be declared the winning project. Meghalaya’s e-proposal system is poised to win the winner award also for which the prize ceremony will be held on May 31 in Geneva, Switzerland. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- e-proposal system of Meghalaya Enterprise Architecture (MeghEA) – won “WSIS Prizes 2022”
- MeghEA was initiated in 2019
- [Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik](#)

28. Formula One world champion Max Verstappen and Jamaican Olympic sprinter Elaine Thompson-Herah have been named Laureus World Sportsman of the Year and Laureus World Sportswoman of the Year in 2022. Italy men’s football team received the Laureus World Team of the Year Award. American football quarterback Tom Brady won the Laureus Lifetime Achievement Award. Italian motorcycle racer Valentino Rossi won the Laureus Sporting Icon Award. British tennis player Emma Raducanu won the Laureus World Breakthrough of the Year Award. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The 2022 Laureus World Sports Awards”:
- Laureus World Sportsman of the Year Award – Max Verstappen
- Laureus World Sportswoman of the Year Award – Elaine Thompson-Herah
- Laureus World Team of the Year Award – Italy Men’s Football Team
- Laureus Lifetime Achievement Award – Tom Brady
- Laureus Sporting Icon Award – Valentino Rossi
- Laureus World Breakthrough of the Year Award – Emma Raducanu

29. As many as 24 eminent writers, playwrights and novelists are conferred with the “Sahitya Akademi Awards 2021” by Sahitya Akademi president Dr. Chandrashekhara Kambar in New Delhi. These awards were provided for best writings in 24 Indian languages. The awardees are - Eminent Assamese novelist Anuradha sarma for her novel - Iyat Ekhan Aronya Asil, Bengali writer Bratya Basu, Bodo Poet Dr. Devakanta Ramchiary, Dogri Fiction writer Raj Rahi, English writer Namita Gokhale, Gujarati Poet Yagnesh Dave, Hindi playwright Daya Prakash Sinha, Urdu Poet Chander Bhan Khayal, Maithili Novelist Jagdish Prasad Mandal, Manipuri Writer & Critic Thokchom Ibohanbi Singh, and many more. The winners of Gujarati, Maithili, Manipuri and Urdu were announced in February 2022, while the rest of 20 winners were announced in 2021. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Chandrashekhar Kambar – bestowed the “Sahitya Akademi Awards 2021” to 24 awardees in New Delhi
- Some important awardees:
 - Yagnesh Dave (Gujarati Poet)
 - Jagdish Prasad Mandal (Maithili Novelist)
 - Chander Bhan Khayal (Urdu Poet)
 - Thokchom Ibohanbi Singh (Manipuri Writer & Critic)
 - Anuradha Sarma (Eminent Assamese Novelist)
 - Bratya Basu (Bengali Writer)
 - Devakanta Ramchiary (Bodo Poet)
 - Namita Gokhale (English Writer)

30. Kishore Kumar Das, founder of the educational charity organisation “Bidyanondo”, is recognised as the 223rd Commonwealth Point of Light. Queen Elizabeth II, as Head of the Commonwealth, conferred the honour on Kishore in honour of his exceptional voluntary service through ‘Bidyanondo’, which has improved access to education for over 1,200 children from marginalised backgrounds. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kishore Kumar Das ([‘Bidyanondo’ founder](#)) – received the UK’s 223rd “Commonwealth Point of Light”

31. April 21, the former Honorary Consul of Peru in Mumbai, Mr. Ardeshir B. K. Dubash, received the ‘Order of Merit’ in the Diplomatic Service of Peru, “Jose Gregorio Paz Soldan”, the highest distinction conferred by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru. The award was conferred by the Ambassador of Peru in India, H.E. Carlos R. Polo. Mr. Dubash was designated as Honorary Consul of Peru on August 13th, 1973. The Order of Merit, which was instituted in 2004, takes its name from Jose Gregorio Paz Soldan, a distinguished Peruvian official who established the Peruvian diplomatic service and who held the office of Minister of Foreign Affairs on three different occasions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ardeshir B.K. Dubash (former Honorary Consul of Peru in Mumbai) – received the Order of Merit, “Jose Gregorio Paz Soldan” for his Diplomatic Service of Peru
- The Order of Merit – named after Jose Gregorio Paz Soldan (former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru)
- [Peru – Lima – Sol](#) | [President – Pedro Castillo](#) | [PM – Anibal Torres](#)

32. NMDC (National Mineral Development Corporation) Ltd bagged the top spot in four categories of the “Public Relations Awards 2022” presented by the Public Relations Society of India (PRSI). The awards were for its corporate website, annual report, layout and design of newsletter and CSR corporate video. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NMDC Ltd – bagged the top spot in 4 categories of the “Public Relations Awards 2022” presented by the PRSI
- [HQs of NMDC – Hyderabad, Telangana](#) | [CMD – Sumit Deb](#) | [Founded on – November 15, 1958](#)

33. On April 28, the 9.02 km long Atal Tunnel, built by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO), received the Indian Building Congress (IBC) ‘Best Infrastructure Project’ award in New Delhi. The tunnel is located in Rohtang, Himachal Pradesh. The strategic tunnel was named the ‘Best Projects for Excellence in the Built Environment in 2021’ by the IBC Jury. This tunnel is officially certified by the World Book of Records as the ‘World’s Longest Highway Tunnel over 10,000 Feet. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Atal Tunnel – received ‘Best Projects for Excellence in the Built Environment in 2021’ award by IBC
- Category – ‘Best Infrastructure Project’ award
- Atal Tunnel: Located in – Rohtang, Himachal Pradesh | Length – 9.02 km | Built by – BRO

34. On April 27, Bhagwanth Khuba, Union Minister of State for Chemicals & Fertilizers presented the “India Pharma & India Medical Devices Awards 2022” during the 7th edition of the “International Conference on Pharma & Medical Devices Sector 2022”. “India Pharma Vision 2047” was the central theme of the Conference. Under the ‘Leaders Category Awards’, Cipla Limited won the ‘India Pharma Leader of the Year’ award and Poly Medicure Limited won the ‘India Medical Devices Leader of the Year’ award. Under the ‘Company of the Year Category Awards’, Micro Labs Limited won ‘India Pharma (Formulation) Company of the Year’ award and Trivitron Healthcare won ‘India Medical Devices Company of the Year’ award. Moreover, the other awards were also presented as mentioned below. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bhagwanth Khuba (Ministry of C&F) – presented the “India Pharma & India Medical Devices Awards 2022”
- Central theme of the Conference – “India Pharma Vision 2047”
- Under the ‘Leaders Category Awards’:
 - ‘India Pharma Leader of the Year’ award – Cipla Limited
 - ‘India Medical Devices Leader of the Year’ award – Poly Medicure Limited
- Under the ‘Company of the Year Category Awards’:
 - ‘India Pharma (Formulation) Company of the Year’ award – Micro Labs Limited
 - ‘India Medical Devices Company of the Year’ award – Trivitron Healthcare
- Under the ‘MSME Category Awards’:
 - ‘India Medical Device MSME of the Year’ award – Nice Neotech Medical Systems Private Limited
- Under the ‘Start-up Category Awards’:
 - ‘India Medical Device Start-up of the Year’ award – Vanguard Diagnostics (P) Limited
- Under the ‘Innovation Category Awards’:
 - ‘India Medical Device Innovative of the Year’ award – Meril Life Sciences Private Limited
 - ‘India Pharma Innovation of the Year’ award – Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Limited
- Under the ‘CSR Category Awards’:
 - ‘India Pharma CSR Company of the Year’ award – Zydus Lifesciences Limited

35. On April 29, Noted snow leopard expert and wildlife conservationist Charudutt Mishra won the prestigious “Whitley Gold Award 2022”. Mishra was given the award for his work in 12 snow leopard range countries. Princess Anne presented the award to Mishra at London’s Royal Geographic Society. This is his second Whitley Fund for Nature (WFN) Award. He got the first in 2005. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Charudutt Mishra ([Snow leopard conservationist](#)) – won the “Whitley Gold Award 2022” – from WFN (UK)

Appointments & Resignations

1. Dr. Renu Singh is appointed by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF) as the next Director of Forest Research Institute (FRI) in Dehradun. She will be the institute's second woman director. She is an IFS officer of 1990 batch of Madhya Pradesh cadre. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Renu Singh – appointed as the next Director of Forest Research Institute (FRI)
- HQs of FRI – Dehradun, Uttarakhand | Director – Dr. Renu Singh

2. Sumant Sinha (Founder, Chairman & CEO of ReNew Power) took over as President of the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM). Sinha replaced Vineet Agarwal. Ajay Singh (Chairman & MD of SpiceJet) is the new Senior Vice-President of ASSOCHAM. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sumant Sinha – appointed as President of the ASSOCHAM
- HQs of ASSOCHAM – New Delhi | President – Sumant Sinha

3. On April 1, Dr. S Raju took over as the Director General of Geological Survey of India (GSI) in Kolkata. He succeeded Rajendra Singh Garkhal who superannuated on 31st March 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- S Raju – took over as the DG of Geological Survey of India (succeeding - R. S. Garkhal)
- HQs of GSI – Kolkata, West Bengal | Director General – S. Raju

4. On April 1, Asset management company Mahindra Manulife Mutual Fund appointed Anthony Heredia as its managing director and chief executive officer. Heredia succeeded Ashutosh Bishnoi, who retired on 31 March. Mahindra Manulife Mutual Fund is a joint venture between Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Ltd (Mahindra Finance) and Manulife Investment Management (Singapore) Pte. Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anthony Heredia – appointed as MD & CEO of Mahindra Manulife Mutual Fund (succeeding – Ashutosh Bishnoi)
- Mahindra Manulife Mutual Fund = joint venture between Mahindra Finance & Manulife Investment Management
- HQs of Mahindra Manulife Mutual Fund – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Anthony Heredia

5. On April 3, Arunabha Ghosh, CEO, of the Delhi-based Council for Energy Environment and Water was appointed as a member of a high-level group constituted by United Nations Secretary General, Antonio Guterres, to bolster action against stemming global warming. Mr. Ghosh is among three Asians, and the only South Asian, serving on the expert group. The High-Level Expert Group on the Net-Zero Emissions Commitments of Non-State Entities is expected to draw up an action plan and recommend actions to businesses and non-State actors to accelerate the transition to net-zero. India has a 2070 target and the U.S. has committed to a 2050 date to become net zero. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arunabha Ghosh – appointed as a member of a high-level group constituted by Antonio Guterres, to bolster action against Global Warming
- India's target to become Net Zero – 2070 | U.S. target year – 2050
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres | Formed in – October 24, 1945



6. On April 1, the Vice-Chancellor of Indraprastha University (IPU) Dr Mahesh Verma has taken over as the new Chairperson of the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (NABH). NABH is a constituent board of the Quality Council of India (QCI) that is responsible for setting benchmarks for quality and certifying hospitals and other health facilities. NABH is accredited by the International Society for Quality in Health Care (ISQua). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mahesh Verma – took over as Chairperson of the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers
- NABH – a constituent board of the QCI
- [HQs of NABH – New Delhi](#) | [Chairperson – Mahesh Verma](#) | [CEO – Atul Mohan Kochhar](#)

7. On April 3, Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban of the Fidesz Party declared victory for the fourth time in a row, in the General Election of 2022. His party defeated the six-party Opposition alliance United for Hungary. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Viktor Orban – re-elected as the PM of Hungary for the 4th time in a row
- [Hungary – Budapest – Forint](#) | [President – Janos Ader \(10th May onwards - Katalin Novak\)](#) | [PM – Viktor Orban](#)

8. Gianni Infantino is re-elected as the President of FIFA for a third term. Infantino, a 52-year-old Swiss-Italian lawyer, was the secretary general of European governing body UEFA before becoming FIFA president in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gianni Infantino (52-year-old Swiss-Italian lawyer) – re-elected as the President of FIFA for a third term
- [HQs of FIFA – Zurich, Switzerland](#) | [President – Gianni Infantino](#)

9. On April 3, Serbia's incumbent President Aleksandar Vucic again won the Presidential election with 59.8% of the votes. Vucic is associated with Serbian Progressive Party (SNS). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Aleksandar Vucic – re-elected as the President of Serbia – for the 2nd term
- [Serbia – Belgrade – Serbian Dinar](#) | [President – Aleksandar Vucic](#)

10. On April 1, Vikas Kumar, a 1988-batch officer of the Indian Railway Traffic Service, assumed charge as the new Managing Director of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) succeeding Mangu Singh. He will hold the post for a term of five years. Singh was the managing director of DMRC since January 1, 2012, and his tenure ended on March 31. Kumar is the third MD of the DMRC after E Sreedharan and Mangu Singh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vikas Kumar – appointed as the new MD of DMRC (succeeding - Mangu Singh)
- [HQs of DMRC – New Delhi](#) | [MD – Vikas Kumar](#)

11. On April 1, India secured a leadership position in Council Standing Committee on Administration and Management of International Telecommunication Union (ITU) as Ms Aprajita Sharma was appointed as vice chairperson for the same. She will remain as vice chairperson of Council Standing Committee for the years 2023 and 2024 and it's chairperson for the years 2025 and 2026. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Aprajita Sharma – appointed as vice chairperson of Standing Committee on Administration & Management of ITU
- HQs of ITU – Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary General – Houlin Zhao

12. On April 1, PharmEasy, a consumer healthcare app launched #GharBaitheBaitheTakeltEasy campaign starring the Bollywood superstar Aamir Khan as its brand ambassador. The brand is managed by API Holdings Limited. He will also accentuate how medicines, diagnostic tests, and healthcare products are conveniently available at customers' fingertips through the campaign. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Aamir Khan – appointed as the brand ambassador of “#GharBaitheBaitheTakeltEasy” campaign of PharmEasy app
- HQs of PharmEasy – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Dharmil Sheth

13. On April 5, India's ambassador to Nepal Vinay Mohan Kwatra was appointed as the new Foreign Secretary, succeeding Harsh Vardhan Shringla who will retire at the end of April. The senior diplomat had served in the PMO from October 2015 to August 2017. From 2006 to 2010, Kwatra represented India at the SAARC Secretariat in Nepal as the head of trade, economy and finance bureau. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vinay Mohan Kwatra – appointed as the new Foreign Secretary of India (succeeding - Harsh Vardhan Shringla)

14. On April 4, Pakistan's former Chief Justice Gulzar Ahmed was nominated for the office of the caretaker Prime Minister by incumbent Imran Khan. Justice Ahmed served as Chief Justice from December, 2019 until his retirement in February 2022. Moreover, on April 11, Shehbaz Sharif was elected as the country's 23rd Prime Minister. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gulzar Ahmed – nominated for the Pakistan's office of the caretaker Prime Minister
- Pakistan – Islamabad – Pakistani Rupee | PM – Shehbaz Sharif | President – Arif Alvi

15. On April 1, the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) appointed Dr. Ian Fry as an Independent Expert on Climate Change and Human Rights. Ian Fry, who holds both Australian & Tuvaluan nationality, is the first to hold this post. Tuvalu, a tiny, low-lying Pacific nation, has been prominent in drawing global attention to the struggle against rising sea levels. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Ian Fry – appointed as the 1st Independent Expert on Climate Change & Human Rights – by the UNHRC
- HQs of UNHRC – Geneva, Switzerland | President – Nazahat Shameen Khan

16. On April 7, the RBI approved reappointment of Murali M. Natrajan as the MD & CEO of DCB Bank for 2 years until 28 April, 2024. Murali M Natrajan has been serving as MD & CEO of DCB Bank since April 2009. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Murali M. Natrajan – re-appointed as the MD & CEO of DCB Bank for 2 years
- HQs of DCB bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Murali M. Natrajan
- DCB bank – the 1st bank to start Aadhaar-based ATM service (in 2016)



17. On April 7, Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla is appointed as Chief Coordinator for the G20 Summit, which will be hosted by India in 2023. This is a newly created role for organising the summit, which will include both substantive aspects as well as logistics. Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal will remain the G20 sherpa. Shringla, who was Foreign Secretary of India till April 30, 2022, will be succeeded by Vinay Mohan Kwatra. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Harsh Vardhan Shringla – appointed as Chief Coordinator for the G20 Summit (to be hosted by India in 2023)
- Vinay Mohan Kwatra – appointed as new Foreign Secretary of India (replacing - Harsh Vardhan Shringla)
- G20 sherpa – Piyush Goyal

18. On April 8, currently a member of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), Dr. Manoj Soni is appointed as the Chairman of the UPSC, the country's premier government recruiting agency. Soni has been associated with the Swaminarayan sect's Anoopam Mission. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manoj Soni – appointed as the Chairman of the UPSC
- [HQs of UPSC – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman – Manoj Soni](#)

19. The United States made history as the Senate confirmed Ketanji Brown Jackson as the first Black woman ever to serve on the Supreme Court. She replaces the retiring liberal Justice Stephen Breyer. Four of the justices on the nine-member court will be women once Jackson takes her seat, making it the most diverse bench in history. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ketanji Brown Jackson – appointed as the first Black woman ever to serve on the Supreme Court of the US
- [US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar](#) | [46th President – Joe Biden](#) | [49th VP – Kamala Harris](#)

20. On April 13, S. Iqbal Singh Lalpura has assumed charge as Chairperson of the National Commission for Minorities (NCM), in New Delhi after being re-nominated as Chairperson vide Ministry of Minority Affairs Notification dated 12.4.2022. 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}](#)

Key Points:

- S. Iqbal Singh Lalpura – assumed charge as Chairperson of the National Commission for Minorities
- NCM – was set up under the "National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992"
- [HQs of NCM – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman – Iqbal Singh Lalpura](#) | [VC – Atif Rasheed](#)

21. On April 15, Electrical goods major Havells India announced that its consumer durables brand, Lloyd, has roped in former Indian cricket captain Sourav Ganguly as its Brand Ambassador for Eastern Indian markets. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sourav Ganguly – roped in as Brand Ambassador of Lloyd (a consumer durables brand of Havells India)
- [HQs of Havells India – Noida, Uttar Pradesh](#) | [Chairman & MD – Anil Rai Gupta](#)

22. On April 15, Karnataka appointed Robin Uthappa as the Brand Ambassador for Karnataka Brain Health Initiative (KA-BHI). Recognising the need to improve treatment and prevent neurological disorders in the community, the State Government in association with NIMHANS and NITI Aayog launched the 'Karnataka Brain Health Initiative (KA-BHI)' in January, 2022. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Robin Uthappa – appointed as the Brand Ambassador for ‘Karnataka Brain Health Initiative (KA-BHI)’
- Karnataka + NIMHANS + NITI Aayog = launched “KA-BHI” in Jan 2022
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot

23. On April 17, the Appointment Committee of the Cabinet has granted an extension of one year to Atomic Energy Commission Chairman Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas. This is the second extension for Vyas, who was first appointed to the post in September 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas – tenure extended for 1 year as the Chairman of Atomic Energy Commission
- HQs of AEC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas

24. On April 18, Yemeni President Abdrabbuh Mansur Hadi stepped down under pressure from Saudi Arabia and is now under de-facto house arrest. He handed over his power to the newly created presidential council, which consists of 8 political leaders. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Abdrabbuh Mansur Hadi (Yemeni President) – stepped down under pressure from Saudi Arabia
- Yemen – Sana’a – Yemeni Rial

25. On April 18, Digit Insurance elevated Jasleen Kohli as the new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the company with effect from April 20. The 42-year-old, Kohli became one of the youngest CEOs in the insurance industry. She took over from Vijay Kumar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jasleen Kohli – appointed as new MD & CEO of Digit Insurance (succeeding - Vijay Kumar)
- HQs of Digit Insurance – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Jasleen Kohli

26. On April 18, Lieutenant General Manoj Chandrashekhar Pande is appointed as the Chief of the Indian Army. He became the 29th Chief of Army Staff (COAS) and the first engineer to hold the top military post. Manoj Pande succeeded General Manoj Mukund Naravane who was scheduled to complete his 28-month tenure on 30 April, 2022. General Manoj Pande was serving as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff since 1 February 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manoj Chandrashekhar Pande – appointed as the Chief of the Indian Army or 29th COAS (succeeding - MM Naravane)
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande | Vice Chief – Lt. General Baggavalli Somashekar Raju

27. On April 19, President Alassane Ouattara reappointed Patrick Achi as the Prime Minister of Ivory Coast, also known as Cote d'Ivoire, after Patrick resigned from the post earlier in April, 2022. He was initially appointed as prime minister in March 2021. Yamoussoukro & CFA franc are the capital & currency of the country, respectively. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Patrick Achi – reappointed as the Prime Minister of Ivory Coast (also known as Cote d'Ivoire)
- Cote d'Ivoire – Yamoussoukro – CFA franc | PM – Patrick Achi | President – Alassane Ouattara



28. On April 20, the Union Home Ministry appointed Naresh Kumar as new Chief Secretary of Delhi. Naresh was serving as the chief secretary of Arunachal Pradesh. Naresh replaced his batchmate Vijay Kumar Dev who retired from the post on April 20. Vijay Kumar Dev took charge as the State Election Commissioner of Delhi on April 21. Dharmendra, a 1989-batch IAS, is appointed as the Chief Secretary of Arunachal Pradesh, in the place of Naresh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Naresh Kumar – is appointed as new Chief Secretary of Delhi
- Dharmendra – is appointed as new Chief Secretary of Arunachal Pradesh
- Vijay Dev – is appointed as the State Election Commissioner of Delhi
- [New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Bajjal | Chief Secretary – Naresh Kumar](#)

29. April 14, India Pulses and Grains Association (IPGA), the apex body for India's pulses trade and industry, appointed Bimal Kothari as the new Chairman (3rd). He is one of the key founding members of the association, has been the Vice-Chairman of IPGA since 2011 when the trade body was formed. He took over as the third chairman of the association. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bimal Kothari – appointed as the 3rd chairman of India Pulses and Grains Association (succeeding – Jitu Bheda)
- [HQs of IPGA – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Bimal Kothari | Established in – 2011](#)

30. On April 20, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approved the appointment of eminent physicist Ajay Kumar Sood as Principal Scientific Advisor (PSA) to the Government of India for a period of 3 years. He will succeed renowned biologist K. VijayRaghavan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ajay Kumar Sood – appointed as Principal Scientific Advisor (PSA) to the GoI for 3 years (succeeding - K. VijayRaghavan)

31. On April 22, the Central government appointed C. Muhammed Faizi as a member of the Haj Committee of India for a period of 3 years up to March 31, 2025. The move was taken by exercising the power of the 'Haj Committee Act, 2002'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- C. Muhammed Faizi – appointed as a member of the Haj Committee of India for 3 years (up to March 31, 2025)
- [CEO of Haj Committee of India – Mohd Yakoob Shekha](#)

32. On April 19, Shanti Sethi, a trailblazing Indian-American Navy veteran, joined US Vice President Kamala Harris's office as her Executive Secretary and Defence Advisor. Sethi is the first Indian-American commander of a major US Navy combat ship. She was also the first female commander of a US naval vessel to visit India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shanti Sethi – joined US Vice President Kamala Harris's office as her Executive Secretary & Defence Advisor
- [US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris](#)

33. On April 23, Noted economist Suman Bery took over as the Vice-Chairperson of NITI Aayog after the resignation of current Vice-Chairperson Rajiv Kumar. Bery is the 3rd Vice-Chairman of the NITI Aayog. The cabinet committee also cleared the appointment of Bery initially as full-time member of NITI Aayog. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Suman Bery – took over as the Vice-Chairperson of NITI Aayog (succeeding - Rajiv Kumar)
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Suman Bery

34. On April 24, Emmanuel Macron was re-elected as the President of France for five more years in a historic win. This is the first time in two decades that France has chosen a president for a second straight term. He celebrated with his supporters in front of the Eiffel Tower Paris. He won in the second round of the presidential election with 58.55% of the votes, while his rival, far-right presidential candidate, leader of the National Rally party Marine Le Pen got 41.45%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Emmanuel Macron – re-elected as the President of France
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Jean Castex

35. On April 24, Union Jal Shakti ministry appointed Justice Vineet Saran of the Supreme Court and Justice Ponugoti Naveen Rao of the Telangana high court as chairman and member respectively of the Ravi and Beas Water Tribunal. Ravi and Beas Water Tribunal was constituted in 1986 for verification of the quantum of usage of water claimed by Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. Justice Ashok Bhushan who was functioning as chairman relinquished the post after he was made chairman of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal in November 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Justice Vineet Saran (Supreme Court) – appointed as Chairman of the Ravi & Beas Water Tribunal
- Justice Ponugoti Naveen Rao (Telangana HC) – appointed as member of the Ravi & Beas Water Tribunal

36. On April 25, Political newcomer liberal Robert Golob defeated Slovenia's three-time Prime Minister conservative Janez Jansa in the Slovenian Parliamentary Elections. Robert is associated with Freedom Movement. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Robert Golob – appointed as the Prime Minister of Slovenia (defeating & succeeding - Janez Jansa)
- Slovenia – Ljubljana – Euro | PM – Robert Golob

37. On April 27, IT industry body Nasscom (National Association of Software and Services Companies) appointed Krishnan Ramanujam, a senior executive at Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), as its Chairperson for 2022-23. Krishnan was the Vice Chairperson of the body. He succeeded Rekha M Menon. Moreover, Nasscom appointed Anant Maheshwari, President of Microsoft India, as the Vice Chairperson for 2022-23. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Krishnan Ramanujam – appointed as the Chairman of the NASSCOM
- Anant Maheshwari – appointed as the Vice Chairman of the NASSCOM
- HQs of NASSCOM – New Delhi | President – Debjani Ghosh
- Chairman – Krishnan Ramanujam | Vice-Chairman – Anant Maheshwari

38. On April 27, BJP leader and former Union minister Vijay Sampla was appointed as the chairperson of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) for a second time. Mr. Sampla had resigned as the NCSC chairman ahead of the Punjab elections and had contested the polls. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vijay Sampla – appointed as the Chairperson of the NCSC for a second time
- [HQs of NCSC – New Delhi](#) | [Chairperson – Vijay Sampla](#)

39. On April 27, Generali Asia appointed Bruce de Broize as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Future Generali India Life Insurance (FGILI). He took over from Miranjit Mukherjee who was serving as interim CEO since September 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bruce de Broize – appointed as MD & CEO of Future Generali India Life Insurance (succeeding - Miranjit Mukherjee)
- [HQs of FGILI – Mumbai, MH](#) | [MD & CEO – Bruce de Broize](#)

40. On April 23, UNICEF's YuWaah, the Indian chapter of Generation Unlimited, announced Ashwin Yardi, to be its Co-chair. Yardi will be a co-chair along with Yasumasa Kimura, the UNICEF Representative. The YuWaah board would now function as a decision-making body and support the YuWaah Secretariat for funding and functional expertise. Generation Unlimited or YuWaah, supported by UNICEF, is a platform to bring young people together with the private sector, governments, and international and local organisations to turn them into active and engaged citizens. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ashwin Yardi (CEO of Capgemini in India) – appointed as Co-Chair of UNICEF's YuWaah (Generation Unlimited)
- [HQs of UNICEF – New York, US](#) | [Executive Director – Catherine Russell](#) | [Established in – 1946](#)

41. On April 29, Lieutenant General Baggavalli Somashekar Raju took over as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff. He was commissioned in the Jat Regiment on December 15, 1984. He commanded his Battalion during 'Operation Parakram' in the Western Theatre and in Jammu & Kashmir. B. S. Raju succeeded Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Lt. Gen. B. S. Raju – took over as the Vice Chief of the Indian Army (succeeding - Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande)
- [HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi](#) | [Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande](#) | [Vice Chief – Lt. General Baggavalli Somashekar Raju](#)

Amount & Agreements

1. On April 2, India contributed \$5,00,000 to the UN Women, the United Nations entity dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women, for their core budget. India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations T. S. Tirumurti handed over the amount to Dr. Sima Bahous (UN Women Chief). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India contributed \$5,00,000 to the UN Women for their core budget
- India's Permanent Representative to the UN – T. S. Tirumurti
- HQs of UN Women – New York, US | Executive Director – Ms. Sima Bahous

2. On April 5, World Bank and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) will provide a loan of Rs 7,500 Cr for the Gujarat government's "Mission School of Excellence" project that aims to improve the quality of education in the state. Under the 'Mission School of Excellence' project, the state government will spend Rs 10,000 Cr in the next 5 years and cover all 35,133 government and 5,847 grant-in-aid schools in the state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- World Bank + AIIB = to provide a loan of Rs 7,500 Cr to Gujarat for its "Mission School of Excellence" project
- Gujarat Govt will spend Rs 10,000 Cr in the next 5 years under this project
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., US | Members – 189 | President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

3. On April 7, Asian Development Bank (ADB) and a French merchant firm Louis Dreyfus Company B.V. (LDC) signed a loan of up to \$100 million to help smallholder farmers recover from the economic challenges caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and improve their resilience to climate change impacts. The loan will support LDC's operations in India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Thailand, and Vietnam. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ADB + Louis Dreyfus Company = a loan of up to \$100 million to help smallholder farmers recover from the pandemic
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Members – 68 | Established in – 1966

4. On April 11, Assam cabinet approved a Rs 3,800 Cr 'Assam Health System Strengthening Project' to upgrade the health infrastructure in the state to be funded by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The government also sanctioned the escalated cost of Rs 530.41 Cr for construction of three medical colleges in the state. Besides, a 'Swasthya Bhawan' (administrative centre) for dedicated training-cum-monitoring will be constructed. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Assam cabinet – approved a Rs 3,800 Cr 'Assam Health System Strengthening Project' to be funded by JICA
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

5. On April 12, Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$2 million Project Readiness Financing (PRF) Loan for designing climate resilient urban infrastructure, strengthening institutional capacity and improving municipal resource mobilization in 16 district headquarter towns (DHTs) in Nagaland. ADB's financing will support the proposed Nagaland Urban Infrastructure Development Project. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- GoI + ADB = \$2 million Project Readiness Financing loan for designing Climate Resilient Urban Infrastructure in Nagaland
- Nagaland: Capital – Kohima | CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi (addi. charge)

6. On April 12, Asian Development Bank (ADB) sanctioned \$76.25 million or Rs 551 Cr for three specific projects under the Agartala Smart City Limited. These 3 projects include constructing a 23 Kms road by retrofitting 15 stretches (Rs 444 Cr), reviving lakes and water bodies of Maharaja Bir Bikram College and its adjoining areas (Rs 30.67 Cr) and renovating and restoring Ujjayanta Palace and its surrounding (Rs 35.68 Cr). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ADB – sanctioned \$76.25 million or Rs 551 Cr for 3 specific projects under Agartala Smart City
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Members – 68 | Established in – 1966

7. On April 20, India decided to provide an additional \$500 million in financial assistance to Sri Lanka for it to buy fuel. It will be the second \$500 million assistance that India provided for fuel credit to Sri Lanka battling the country's worst financial crisis in living memory. So far India has provided nearly 400,000 tons of fuel. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – decided to provide an additional \$500 million in financial assistance to Sri Lanka for it to buy fuel
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan Rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa

8. On April 23, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) provided the approval for Rs 600 Cr to the Maharashtra government for reviving and upgrading various ITIs/polytechnics under the 'SIDBI Cluster Development Fund (SCDF)'. The demand for skilled manpower in Maharashtra has been sharply increased due the launch of various government schemes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SIDBI provided the approval for Rs 600 Cr to Maharashtra under 'SIDBI Cluster Development Fund (SCDF)'
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | MD & Chairman – Sivasubramanian Ramann | Established in – 1990
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari



Ranks, Report & Surveys

1. Debuting at the 10th spot on the “Richest Self-Made Women in the World 2022” list, Falguni Nayar is the only Indian as she surpassed Biocon’s Kiran Mazumdar Shaw to become India’s richest self-made billionaire woman with the wealth of \$7.6 billion. The list was released by the Hurun Research Institute. Beijing-based property developer Wu Yajun topped the list with the wealth of \$17 billion, followed by Fan Hongwei & Wang Laichun, all three from China. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Richest Self-Made Women in the World 2022” list – released by Hurun Research Institute
- Falguni Nayar – 10th spot (the only Indian in top ten)
- Top 3 (all from China): Wu Yajun, Fan Hongwei & Wang Laichun (respectively)

2. As on March end, Chandrapur in Maharashtra is the 3rd hottest city in the world, with a maximum temperature of 43.2 degree Celsius, according to the El Dorado weather website. Kayes city of Mali is the hottest place on earth with 44.4 degrees Celsius. While Segou of Mali is second in the list with 43.8 degrees Celsius. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- El Dorado weather website: Chandrapur (Maharashtra) – the 3rd hottest city in the world (43.2 degree Celsius)
- Hottest city on the Earth – Kayes (Mali) | 2nd hottest city – Segou (Mali)
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

3. According to the latest data released by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), in March, Chhattisgarh ranked first among states with the lowest unemployment rate in India with an unemployment rate of 0.6%. India’s unemployment rate stood at 7.6% in the same month (March). Haryana has the highest unemployment rate at 26.7%, followed by Rajasthan and Jammu and Kashmir at 25% each and Jharkhand at 14.5%. The Chhattisgarh government adopted a new model of development three years ago in line with Mahatma Gandhi’s vision of ‘Gram Swaraj’. The state government has set up the ‘Chhattisgarh Employment Mission’ intending to create around 15 lakh new employment opportunities in the next 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- According to the latest data released by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE):
 - Lowest unemployment rate – Chhattisgarh (0.6%)
 - Highest – Haryana (26.7%) followed by Rajasthan and J & K (25%)
 - India’s unemployment – 7.6%
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

4. On April 4, As per Bloomberg Billionaire Index, as of April 2, 2022, Adani’s net worth rose to \$100 billion taking him to the 10th rank. His wealth increased by \$23.5 billion so far this year. With this, Adani Group’s Gautam Adani has joined the \$100 billion club of richest entrepreneurs in the world and became India’s and Asia’s richest person surpassing Mukesh Ambani who stood at 11th rank with \$99 billion. Globally, Tesla’s CEO Elon Musk topped the list with the net worth of \$273 billion, followed by Amazon’s founder Jeff Bezos at second place with a wealth of \$188 billion. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- “Bloomberg Billionaire Index” – released as of April 2, 2022
- In India: 1st – Gautam Adani (globally 10th) | 2nd – Mukesh Ambani (globally 11th)
- Globally: Elon Musk (\$273 billion) | Jeff Bezos (\$188 billion)

5. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) published the third installment of its Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) titled “Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change” on April 4, 2022. The report prepared by IPCC Working Group III (WG-III) focuses on the mitigation of climate change. According to the report, global emissions can be halved by 2030 with major transitions in the energy sector. The IPCC was established by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and UN Environment Programme (UNEP). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 2nd part of AR6 “Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change” – published by IPCC
- HQs of IPCC – Geneva, Switzerland | Chair – Hoesung Lee (established by WMO & UNEP)

6. Almost the entire global population (99%) breathes air that exceeds WHO’s air quality limits and threatens its health, according to the 2022 update to the World Health Organisation’s “Air Quality Database”. It includes measurements of particulate matter with diameters equal or smaller than 10 µm (PM10) or 2.5 µm (PM2.5). In the 117 countries monitoring air quality, the air in 17% of cities in high-income countries falls below WHO’s air quality guidelines for PM 2.5 or PM 10. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- WHO’s “Air Quality Database”: 99% Global Population breathes air that exceeds WHO’s air quality limits
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948

7. India’s agricultural products export touched a new milestone by crossing \$50 billion for the FY22. This would be the highest level ever achieved for agriculture exports. The provisional data of DGCI&S showed that the agricultural exports have grown by 19.92% during 2021-22 to touch \$50.21 billion. As per the data, the highest ever exports have been achieved for staples like rice (% 9.65 billion). Meanwhile, exports of marine products also reached the highest ever at \$7.71 billion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India’s agricultural products export crossed \$50 billion for FY22, highest level ever achieved (growth of 19.92%)
- Exports of marine products reached the highest ever at \$7.71 billion

8. On April 8, the 12th edition of “QS World University Rankings by Subject 2022” was released. These rankings cover a total of 51 disciplines, grouped into 5 broad subject areas. In the stream of ‘Arts and Humanities’, the University of Oxford has topped the list with a score of 98. While there is no Indian university in the first 100 ranks in this category. Massachusetts Institute of Technology secured the first rank in the 2022 list with a score of 96.5 in ‘Engineering and Technology’ category. IIT Bombay & IIT Delhi ranked 65 and 72 respectively in the ‘Engineering and Technology’ list this year. In ‘Life Sciences and Medicine’, only three Indian universities made the list this year, namely All India Institute of Medical Sciences (rank 204), University of Delhi (rank 330) and Manipal Academy of Higher Education (rank 375). While IIT Kharagpur was named as one of the world’s top 100 universities for studying 19 subjects in the domain of Engineering. Moreover, the winners of other categories are mentioned below. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- 12th “QS World University Rankings by Subject 2022” – cover a total of 51 disciplines, grouped into 5 categories
- ‘Arts & Humanities’ category: Top – University of Oxford (UK)
- ‘Engineering & Technology’ category: Top – Massachusetts Institute of Technology | IIT Bombay (65) & IIT Delhi (72)
- ‘Life Sciences & Medicine’ category: Top – Harvard University
- ‘Social Sciences & Management’ category: Top – Harvard University (USA)
- ‘Natural Sciences’ category: Top – Massachusetts Institute of Technology (USA)
- IIT Kharagpur – featured among the top 100 universities for studying 19 subjects in the domain of Engineering

9. As per the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) report, the illegal online transactions of endangered wildlife species in Myanmar rose 74% in 2021. The trade in endangered wildlife, both live animals and animal parts, has long flourished in the borderlands of Myanmar, Thailand and China. As per the report, the sale of mammal species has increased by 241%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- WWF report: illegal online transactions of endangered wildlife species in Myanmar rose 74% in 2021
- The sale of mammal species has increased by 241%
- HQs of WWF – Gland, Switzerland | Director General – Marco Lambertini | Established in – 1961

10. On April 6, according to the 5th edition of the “Grohe - Hurun India Real Estate Rich List”, DLF Chair Rajiv Singh became the Richest Real Estate Entrepreneur in India with a wealth of ₹61,220 Cr. He is followed by Mangal Prabhat Lodha and family with their wealth of ₹52,970 Cr. The list has a total of 100 individuals covering 71 companies across 14 cities of India. The average age of the billionaire list is 61 years. Apart from realtors, the list also includes hotel and hospitality entrepreneurs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 5th edition of the “Grohe - Hurun India Real Estate Rich List” – released on April 6
- Rajiv Singh – became the Richest Real Estate Entrepreneur in India | Followed by – Mangal Prabhat Lodha

11. On April 8, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare reported to the Rajya Sabha that India has 1.96 nurses per 1,000 population at present. As per Indian Nursing Council records, there are around 33.41 lakh registered nursing personnel. The doctor-population ratio is 1:834 in India assuming 80% availability of registered allopathic doctors and 5.65 lakh AYUSH doctors. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nurse-population ratio in India – 1.96:1000
- Doctor-population ratio in India – 1:834

12. According to “Global Wind Report for 2022” published by the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC), wind energy installations every year across the world will quadruple within this decade from the 94 GW installed in 2021, to meet the global climate targets. In India, more than 1.4 GW of wind was installed in 2021, exceeding the 1.1 GW of installations during the previous year. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has set a target of installing 5 GW of offshore capacity by 2022 and 30 GW by 2030. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- “Global Wind Report for 2022” – published by Global Wind Energy Council ([Brussels, Belgium](#))
- Globally, wind energy installations in 2021 – 94 GW
- In India, wind energy installations in 2021 – over 1.4 GW
- MNRE’ target: To install 5 GW of offshore capacity by 2022 & 30 GW by 2030

13. On April 5, Forbes found 2,668 billionaires around the globe for the “2022 World’s Billionaires List”, down from a record 2,755 last year. Collectively, they’re worth \$12.7 trillion, down from a record \$13.1 trillion on the 2021 list. Elon Musk topped the World’s Billionaires list for the first time ever. As of March 11, Musk’s net worth was estimated at \$219 billion. He surpassed Jeff Bezos, who fell to No. 2 for the first time in 4 years due to a 3% drop in Amazon stock. French luxury goods tycoon Bernard Arnault remains the world’s third-richest person. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “2022 World’s Billionaires List”:
- 1st - Elon Musk | 2nd - Jeff Bezos | 3rd - Bernard Arnault

14. On April 8, Mizoram has had the highest number of forest fire incidences in the last two decades, according to a study titled “Managing Forest Fires in a Changing Climate” by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW). As per the study, more than 62% of Indian states are prone to high-intensity forest fires. The CEEW study also found that Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Maharashtra are the most prone to high-intensity forest fire events caused by rapid change in climate. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Managing Forest Fires in a Changing Climate” – released by CEEW
- Mizoram – had the highest number of forest fire incidences in the last two decades
- More than 62% of Indian states are prone to high-intensity forest fires
- [HQs of CEEW – New Delhi](#) | [CEO – Arunabha Ghosh](#)

15. Gujarat topped the NITI Aayog’s “State Energy and Climate Index-Round-1” among larger states. The index is aimed at ranking states and Union territories (UTs) on 6 parameters. Gujarat was followed by Kerala and Punjab. Among the smaller states, Goa topped the Aayog’s index, followed by Tripura and Manipur. Based on the outcome of SECI Round-1 scores, states and UTs were categorised into three groups - front runners, achievers, and aspirants. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “State Energy and Climate Index-Round-1” – released by NITI Aayog
- Larger states: 1st - Gujarat, 2nd - Kerala, 3rd - Punjab
- Smaller states: 1st - Goa, 2nd - Tripura, 3rd - Manipur
- [HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi](#) | [CEO – Amitabh Kant](#)
- [Chairperson – Narendra Modi](#) | [Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar](#)

16. In April 2022, World Bank’s Global Director for Education Jaime Saavedra met Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and governments of Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh to discuss concerns over learning losses for children due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In India, learning poverty has shot up from 54% to 70%. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- According to World Bank: Learning Poverty has shot up from 54% to 70% in India
- [HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., US](#) | [Members – 189](#) | [President – David Malpass](#) | [MD & CFO – Anshula Kant](#)

17. Temperatures touched the 40 degrees Celsius mark in March, 2022 across large parts of central and western, according to a report titled “Expanding Heat Resilience” by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). In 2022, India recorded its warmest March since 1901, according to the India Meteorological Department. Ahmedabad’s ‘Heat Action Plan’ was introduced in 2013, the first such initiative developed in south Asia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Expanding Heat Resilience” report – by Natural Resources Defense Council
- In 2022, India recorded its warmest March since 1901
- [HQs of NRDC – New York, US](#) | [President & CEO – Manish Bapna](#)

18. On April 11, a new study by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) revealed that pollutants like microplastics may be causing growth defects in fish in the Cauvery river. The study was published in the journal Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety. The researchers detected microplastics and toxic chemicals using a technique called ‘Raman Spectroscopy’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A study by the IISc ([Bengaluru](#)): Pollutants like microplastics may be causing growth defects in fish in Cauvery river
- Published in – ‘Ecotoxicology & Environmental Safety’ journal
- Researchers detected microplastics & toxic chemicals using a technique called ‘Raman Spectroscopy’

19. On April 11, Vivek Johri, Chairman of Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), released the “National Time Release Study, 2022”. TRS are essentially a performance measurement tool for assessing the cargo clearance process of the international trade, as recommended by the World Trade Organization (WTO) under the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) and the World Customs Organization (WCO). The NTRS 2022 covered 15 major Customs formations, including 4 port categories. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vivek Johri – released the “National Time Release Study, 2022”
- NTRS 2022 covered 15 major Customs formations, including 4 port categories
- [HQs of CBIC – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman – Vivek Johri](#) | [Founded in – 1964](#)

20. On April 12, the number of patent filings increased from 42,763 in 2014-15 to 66,440 in 2021-22 due to steps taken by the government to strengthen Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) regime of the country, as per the Ministry of Commerce & Industry. India granted 30,074 patents in 2021-22 as compared to 5,978 in 2014-15. There has also been a reduction in the time of patent examination from 72 months in 2016 to 5-23 months at present. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Number of patent filings increased to 66,440 in 2021-22 (from 42,763 in 2014-15)
- India granted 30,074 patents in 2021-22 (as compared to 5,978 in 2014-15)
- Time of patent examination reduced to 5-23 months (from 72 months)



21. On April 12, the World Trade Organization (WTO) slashed its forecast for Global Trade Growth in 2022 to 3% from 4.7% due to the impact of the Russia-Ukraine war and warned against the global economy dividing into rival blocs because of the conflict. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- WTO slashed its forecast for Global Trade Growth in 2022 to 3% (from 4.7%)
- [HQs of WTO – Geneva, Switzerland](#) | [DG – Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala](#)

22. India will receive a ‘normal’ southwest monsoon (June-September) at 99% of the benchmark long period average (LPA) with a model error of plus/minus 5%, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD). The LPA has now been revised to 87 cm, the average June-September rainfall during 1971-2020, from 88.1 cm earlier. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IMD: India will receive a ‘normal’ southwest monsoon (June-Sep) at 99% of the benchmark LPA
- The LPA has now been revised to 87 cm - the average June-Sep rainfall during 1971-2020 (from 88.1 cm)
- [HQs of IMD – New Delhi](#) | [Director General – Dr. Mrutyunjay Mohapatra](#) | [Founded in – 1875](#)

23. Extreme poverty in India is 12.3% points lower in 2019 than in 2011 as poverty headcount rate has declined from 22.5% in 2011 to 10.2% in 2019, according to World Bank’s working paper titled “Poverty in India Has Declined over the Last Decade But Not As Much As Previously Thought”. Poverty reduction was higher in rural areas compared to urban India. Rural and urban poverty dropped by 14.7% and 7.9% points during 2011-2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Poverty in India Has Declined over the Last Decade But Not As Much As Previously Thought” research paper – by WB
- Extreme poverty in India dropped by 12.3% during 2011-2019 (from 22.5% in 2011 to 10.2% in 2019)
- Rural & Urban poverty dropped by 14.7% & 7.9% points during 2011-2019
- [HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., US](#) | [Members – 189](#) | [President – David Malpass](#) | [MD & CFO – Anshula Kant](#)

24. As on April 2022, Cyrus S. Poonawalla, the founder of Serum Institute of India, is the richest billionaire in the healthcare sector in 2022 with a net worth of \$26 billion, according to “Hurun Global Healthcare Rich List 2022”. In 2020, Poonawalla had a net worth of \$8.2 billion, which has risen by \$17.8 billion over the last two years. The second richest healthcare billionaire globally is Thomas Frist Jr. and family with a net worth of \$19 billion. While Dilip Shanghavi & family is the 2nd Indian and overall 5th person on the list with a net worth of \$18 billion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Hurun Global Healthcare Rich List 2022”: Topped by – Cyrus S. Poonawalla (\$26 billion)
- Dilip Shanghavi & family – 5th (\$18 billion)

25. An imbalance in Nitrogen availability has been reported across the globe, with some places having an excess and others a shortage of the element, according to a new report. Human production of nitrogen is now five times higher than it was 60 years, according to a 2017 study. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- An imbalance in Nitrogen availability is reported across the globe

26. Billionaire industrialist Gautam Adani surpassed Warren Buffet to become the 5th richest person in the world, according to Forbes. Currently, only four billionaires - Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos, Bernard Arnault and Bill Gates - are ahead of Adani. According to Forbes, 59-year-old Gautam Adani has a net worth of \$123.7 billion, higher than the \$121.7 billion fortune of Warren Buffett (dynamic data). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Forbes: Gautam Adani surpassed Warren Buffet to become the 5th richest person in the world
- First Four: Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos, Bernard Arnault & Bill Gates (respectively)

27. India's military expenditure of \$76.6 billion in 2021 was the third highest in the world, marking a 0.9% hike over the 2020 figures, according to a report released by Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). The five largest military spenders in 2021 were the United States, China, India, the United Kingdom and Russia. The top two - USA (\$801 billion) and China (\$293 billion) alone accounted for 52% of world military spending. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SIPRI's report: India's military expenditure in 2021 – \$76.6 billion (3rd highest in the world & 0.9% hike over 2020)
- Top two: US – \$801 billion | China – \$293 billion

28. Indian companies have filed over 9,500 patents in the US during the period 2015-21 and 138,000 technology-related patents in India during the same period, according to NASSCOM's "India Patents Report". The report is an analysis of the patents filed in the US by India-domiciled companies. The US accounts for close to 62% of tech exports in FY2022. India domiciled organizations registered an increase of over 45% in 2015-2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "India Patents Report" – released by NASSCOM
- Indian companies filed over 9,500 patents in the US during the period 2015-21
- The US accounts for close to 62% of tech exports in FY2022

29. Some 16 million square km of land (11% of the world's land surface) will be degraded by 2050 if current trends continue, according to a new report titled "Global Land Outlook Second Edition (GLO2): Land Restoration for Recovery and Resilience" from the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), released on April 27, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Global Land Outlook Second Edition (GLO2): Land Restoration for Recovery & Resilience" – released by UNCCD
- 16 million square km of land (11% of the world's land surface) will be degraded by 2050 if current trends continue
- HQs of UNCCD – Bonn, Germany | Executive Secretary – Ibrahim Thiaw

30. Global coal-plant capacity under development declined by 13% in 2021 from 525 GW to 457 GW, according to a report by the Global Energy Monitor, which conducts an annual survey of coal power capacity under development or deployment. China leads in coal power expansion, with about 25,000 MW in new coal plants, followed by India with around 6,100 MW. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Global Energy Monitor report: Global coal-plant capacity declined by 13% in 2021 from 525 GW to 457 GW
- HQs of Global Energy Monitor – San Francisco, US

31. Globally, the investors realized total crypto gains of \$162.7 billion in 2021, across all cryptocurrencies, compared to just \$32.5 billion in 2020, according to the data released by crypto analytics firm Chainalysis. The US led the race with estimated realized cryptocurrency gains of \$47 billion, followed by the UK at \$8.16 billion & Germany at \$5.82 billion. While India ranked 21st with \$1.85 billion realized cryptocurrency gains. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chainalysis: Investors realized total crypto gains of \$162.7 billion in 2021 (compared to \$32.5 billion in 2020)
- 1st – US (\$47 billion), 2nd – UK (\$8.16 billion), 3rd – Germany (\$5.82 billion) | India – 21st (\$1.85 billion)

32. According to a report by payment solutions provider ACI Worldwide, data analytics firm GlobalData, and the Centre for Economics and Business Research (CEBR), India made 48.6 billion real-time payments through 2021. With this, India accounted for the highest volume of real-time payments among businesses around the world, with over 40% of all such payments made through 2021 originating in the country. India's real-time payments are over 2.6 times higher than China, which is at the second place with 18.5 billion real-time transactions. Finally, the report also added that real-time payments added \$16.4 billion to India's economic output, or 0.56% of the nation's gross domestic product (GDP), in 2021. By 2026, this contribution is tipped to rise to \$45.9 billion or 1.12% of the nation's GDP. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- According to a report by ACI Worldwide, GlobalData & CEBR:
 - India made 48.6 billion real-time payments through 2021
 - With this, India accounted for the highest volume of real-time payments among businesses around the world
- Real-time payments added \$16.4 billion to India's economic output (0.56% of the nation's GDP)

33. As per the Quarterly Employment Survey (QES) for the third quarter (Oct-Dec 2021) of FY 2021-22, India's formal sector employment jumped by 0.4 million (4 lakh) with the total number of workers employed across 9 sectors at 31.45 million (3.145 Cr) compared to 31 million in July-September quarter and 30.8 million in the April-June quarter of 2021. Manufacturing sector is the largest employer which employed 12.3 million (39% of the total workforce), followed by 0.69 million in the Education sector, 0.34 million in IT/BPOs and 0.32 million in the health sector. The QES was released by Labour Bureau, under the Ministry of Labour and Employment. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Quarterly Employment Survey (QES) for the 3rd quarter (Oct-Dec 2021) of FY 2021-22
- The survey is prepared by – Labour Bureau
- Total number of workers employed across 9 sectors – 31.45 million (3.145 Cr)
- Manufacturing sector is the largest employer which employed 12.3 million | Followed by – Education sector
- Ministry of Labour & Employment: [Bhupender Yadav](#) | Constituency – Rajasthan
- MoS in Ministry of Labour & Employment: [Rameswar Teli](#)

Acquisitions & Mergers

1. On April 4, Elon Musk, CEO of Tesla, bought 9.2% stake in the social media giant, Twitter for around \$2.89 billion. With this, Elon Musk became the largest shareholder of Twitter. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Elon Musk – bought 9.2% stake in Twitter for around \$2.89 billion (largest shareholder)
- HQs of Tesla – California, USA | CEO – Elon Musk | Founded in – 2003
- HQs of Twitter – San Francisco, California, US | CEO – Parag Agrawal | Founded in – 2006

2. On April 4, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved purchase of stake in Hero FinCorp Ltd by AHVF II Holdings Singapore II Pte. Ltd. Hero FinCorp is the lending arm of the Hero Group. The acquirer is owned by investment funds managed by affiliates of Apollo Management, L.P. Apollo Management, L.P., its affiliates, and investment funds managed by its affiliates. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI approved purchase of some stake in Hero FinCorp Ltd by AHVF II Holdings Singapore II Pte Ltd
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003

3. On April 20, HDFC Ltd signed an agreement to sell 10% of share capital in HDFC Capital Advisors Ltd (HDFC Capital) to a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) for about ₹184 Cr. ADIA is also the primary investor in the alternative investment funds managed by HDFC Capital. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Ltd signed an agreement to sell 10% of share capital in HDFC Capital to ADIA for ₹184 Cr
- HQs of HDFC Ltd – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Deepak Parekh | VC & CEO – Keki Mistry

4. In one of the world's biggest deals in the tech world, Elon Musk acquired the social networking platform Twitter for approximately \$44 billion with shares valued at \$54.20. But his bid initially saw Twitter's put in place a 'poison pill defence' against the hostile takeover. The 'poison pill' strategy is a limited-duration shareholder rights plan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Elon Musk – acquired Twitter for approx \$44 billion with shares valued at \$54.20
- Twitter – adopted a limited-duration shareholder rights plan also known as a 'poison pill' strategy
- HQs of Twitter – San Francisco, California, US | CEO – Parag Agrawal | Founded in – 2006

5. On April 27, Bharti Airtel acquired a 7% stake in cloud-based networking solutions provider Cnergee Technologies under the Airtel Startup Accelerator Program. The stake acquisition will enable the company to sharpen its Network-as-a-Service (NaaS) proposition for Small and Medium Businesses (SMBs), who are looking to accelerate their shift to cloud-based applications. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bharti Airtel – acquired 7% stake in “Cnergee Technologies” under the Airtel Startup Accelerator Program
- HQs of Bharti Airtel – New Delhi | CEO & MD – Gopal Vittal | Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal



6. On April 27, the Union Cabinet, chaired by PM Narendra Modi, approved the amalgamation of Consultancy Development Centre (CDC) with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). CSIR and CDC are two separate autonomous bodies under the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Ministry of Science and Technology. After amalgamation, all moveable assets and liabilities of CDC shall stand transferred to CSIR. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved the amalgamation of Consultancy Development Centre (CDC) with CSIR
- CSIR & CDC are two separate autonomous bodies under DSIR, Ministry of S&T
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | President – Narendra Modi | DG – Shekhar C. Mande | Established in – 1942

7. On April 29, the Government of India has approved selling of its 51% stake in helicopter services provider Pawan Hans Ltd (PHL) along with transfer of management control for Rs 211.14 Cr to Star9 Mobility Private Ltd. PHL was a 51:49 joint venture of the government and ONGC. The approval was received from the Alternative Mechanism, empowered by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA). The Alternative Mechanism comprises Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, and Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- GoI approved selling of its 51% stake in Pawan Hans Ltd (PHL) – to Star9 Mobility Pvt Ltd for Rs 211.14 Cr
- PHL was a 51:49 JV of GoI & ONGC
- HQs of Pawan Hans Ltd – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | Chairman & MD – Sanjeev Razdan



MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

1. On April 2, the Assam Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, approved an MoU between the environment and forest department of the State and Agence Francaise de Development, a French funding agency, to foster bilateral dialogue in the field of environment. The Cabinet also approved the modified guidelines for issuance of caste certificates. The cabinet also approved raising Rs 170.15 Cr as loan assistance from NABARD for 15 projects of the Public Works Department (Roads). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Assam Cabinet approved an MoU with a French agency for biodiversity conservation
- Assam Cabinet also approved raising Rs 170.15 Cr loan from NABARD for 15 projects of the Public Works Department
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

2. On April 1, Arunachal Pradesh inked a pact with WWF India to develop the State Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (SBSAP). The SBSAP will align with the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and Pakke Declaration. The state cabinet on November 17, 2021, adopted the ‘Pakke Tiger Reserve 2047 Declaration on Climate Change Resilient and Responsive Arunachal Pradesh’, which aims to promote ‘Climate-Resilient Development’ in the state. The announcement is the first of its kind by any state government in the country. The ‘Pakke Declaration’ focuses on a multi-sectoral approach to low-emission and climate-resilient development based on five broad themes or Panch Dharas. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arunachal Pradesh + WWF India = signed a pact to develop the SBSAP to align with the Pakke Declaration
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B. D. Mishra
- HQs of WWF – Gland, Switzerland | Director General – Marco Lambertini | Established in – 1961

3. On April 4, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) signed an MoU with Directorate of School Education, Kashmir (DSEK), for promoting Commerce Education among students of the Union Territory. The MoU was signed for a period of 5 years. The ICAI had announced a 75% course fee waiver for all levels of CA course for students from the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh and for North-Eastern States. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICAI + DSEK (J&K) = an MoU to promote Commerce Education among students of the UT
- HQs of ICAI – New Delhi | President – Debashis Mitra | Vice President – Aniket Sunil Talati | Established in – 1949
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

4. On April 4, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) entered into a strategic partnership with ‘Payments Canada’ to transform its payment system operations and help implement the Real-Time Rail (RTR), the new real-time payments system that will allow Canadians to initiate payments and receive irrevocable funds in seconds, 24/7/365. TCS will leverage its deep knowledge of the Canadian payments industry and extensive experience in designing and implementing large payment systems for its Canadian financial services clients to help Payments Canada create and execute an integration roadmap for the RTR. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- TCS + Payments Canada = partnership to transform Canada's payment system operations & help implement the RTR
- HQs of TCS – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Rajesh Gopinathan | Founded in – 1968
- Canada – Ottawa – Canadian Dollar | PM – Justin Trudeau

5. On April 5, NTPC signed an agreement with Gujarat Gas (GGL) for blending green hydrogen in Piped Natural Gas (PNG) network of the State government utility at the power producer's Kawas facility. Green hydrogen will be produced by using electricity from the existing 1 megawatt (MW) floating solar project of NTPC Kawas. Initially, the percentage of hydrogen blending in the PNG shall be around 5% and after successful completion, it shall be further increased. GGL is India's largest City Gas Distribution (CGD) company and has a presence across 43 districts in 6 States and 1 UT. This is a step toward the decarbonization of the cooking sector and self-sufficiency for the energy requirements of the nation. On August 15, 2021, PM Narendra Modi announced the launch of the National Hydrogen Mission. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NTPC + Gujarat Gas = agreement for blending Green Hydrogen in Piped Natural Gas network of Gujarat at Kawas facility
- Initially percentage of hydrogen blending in the PNG – 5%
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh | Founded in – 1975
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

6. On April 5, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL), Larsen & Toubro and ReNew Power agreed to form a joint venture company to develop Green Hydrogen projects across the country and capitalize on the government's ambitious plans for this sector. Further, Indian Oil and L&T have signed another binding term sheet to form a joint venture to manufacture and sell electrolyzers used to produce green hydrogen. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IOCL + L&T + ReNew Power = agreed to form a JV to develop Green Hydrogen projects
- HQs of IOCL – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shrikant Madhav Vaidya | Founded in – 1959
- HQs of L&T – Mumbai, MH | CEO & MD – S. N. Subrahmanyam
- HQs of ReNew Power – Gurugram, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Sumant Sinha

7. On April 6, Tata Steel Foundation (TSF) signed an MoU with the Jharkhand government to set up Industrial Training Institute (ITI) at Chandil in the Seraikela-Kharsawan district. The objective was to shape more young talents of Jharkhand and make them industry ready. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- TSF + Jharkhand = to set up Industrial Training Institute (ITI) at Chandil, Seraikela-Kharsawan, Jharkhand
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Ramesh Bais

8. On April 8, Oil India Limited (OIL) signed an incubation agreement with the Start-up Ohm Clean Tech Pvt Ltd for Design, Integration and Development of 9-M Hydrogen Fuel Cell powered e-Bus, and a Liquid Organic Hydrogen Carrier (LOHC) solution. The Start-up will be mentored and nurtured under the IIT Guwahati. The OIL sponsors eligible Start-ups under its scheme "SNEH" (Start-up Nurturing, Enabling & Handholding). [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- OIL + Ohm Clean Tech = an incubation agreement for promoting Hydrogen mobility solutions in Northeast
- The Start-up will be mentored and nurtured under – IIT Guwahati
- “SNEH” (Start-up Nurturing, Enabling & Handholding) scheme – belongs to Oil India Ltd
- HQs of OIL – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CMD – Sushil Chandra Mishra (till June 30, 2022 | Later - Ranjit Rath)

9. On April 8, An MoU was signed between the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), under Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) of the ISRO for technical collaboration. NRSC will be developing Bhuvan-Aadhar portal providing information and locations of the aadhaar centres across India. The UIDAI is a statutory authority established under the provisions of the “Aadhaar Act, 2016” on 12 July, 2016 under MeitY. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UIDAI (MeitY) + NRSC (ISRO) = an MoU for technical collaboration
- NRSC will develop ‘Bhuvan-Aadhar’ portal
- HQs of UIDAI – New Delhi | CEO – Saurabh Garg | Founded on – January 28, 2009
- Location of NRSC – Hyderabad, Telangana

10. On April 7, Infosys and Rolls-Royce, inaugurated their joint ‘Aerospace Engineering and Digital Innovation Centre’ in Bengaluru, India. This centre has been established to provide high-end research and development (R&D) services integrated with advanced digital capabilities to Rolls-Royce’s engineering and group business services from India. As part of this collaboration, Infosys and Rolls-Royce will combine their aerospace, engineering and digital services capabilities to explore opportunities for driving digital and engineering innovation and associated cost optimisation strategies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Infosys + Rolls-Royce = inaugurated joint ‘Aerospace Engineering and Digital Innovation Centre’ in – Bengaluru, India
- HQs of Infosys – Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Salil Parekh | Founded in – 1981

11. In April 2022, President Ram Nath Kovind held delegation-level talks with his Turkmenistan counterpart Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov at Oguzhar palace Ashgabat. The first MoU was signed between the Financial Monitoring Service at the Ministry of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan and the Financial Intelligence Unit of India. While the second MoU was signed on Cooperation in the field of Disaster Management as well as in the field of Culture and Arts for the period 2022-2025. Meanwhile, the third MoU was signed between the Ministry of Sports and Youth Policy of Turkmenistan and the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports of India on Cooperation in Youth Matters. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ram Nath Kovind (India) + Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov (Turkmenistan) = held delegation-level talks
- First MoU – between Ministry of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan & Financial Intelligence Unit of India
- Second MoU – between India & Turkmenistan in the field of Disaster Management, Culture & Arts
- Third MoU – between Ministry of Sports & Youth Policy of Turkmenistan & Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports of India
- Turkmenistan – Ashgabat – Manat | President – Serdar Berdimuhamedow



12. On April 12, in a historic move to realise the goal of making Jammu and Kashmir self-sufficient in power sector, Ratle Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited (RHPCL) and Megha Engineering and Infrastructure Limited (MEIL) signed a contract agreement for the turnkey execution of 850-MW Ratle Hydel Power Project in Chenab River Valley, Jammu & Kashmir within a stipulated timeframe. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RHPCL + MEIL = a contract agreement for execution of 850 MW Ratle Hydel Power Project in Chenab River Valley, J&K
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

13. SJVN (Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam) Ltd signed an MoU with Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) and Railway Energy Management Company Limited (REMC) to develop Renewable Energy projects for Indian Railways. The signing of the MoU would usher in a new era of more efficient consumption of power in the Indian Railways, while also leading to more competitive tariffs for the overall benefit of consumers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SJVN Ltd + BHEL + REMC = an MoU to develop Renewable Energy projects for Indian Railways
- HQs of SJVN Ltd – Shimla, Himachal Pradesh | CMD – Nand Lal Sharma
- HQs of BHEL – New Delhi | Chairman & MD – Nalin Shinghal

14. On April 11, Industrial Promotion & Investment Corporation of Odisha (IPICOL) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) signed an MoU for a five-year period to collaborate for setting up renewable energy plant and green hydrogen plant, round the clock (RTC) power for consumers and proposed green hydrogen plants, setting up of requisite infrastructure, training, and knowledge sharing. BPCL aims to achieve Net-Zero, in Scope I and II emissions, by 2040. BPCL also plans to spend Rs. 25,000 Cr to build a renewable energy capacity of 10 GW comprising a mix of solar, wind, small hydro and biomass by 2040. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IPICOL (Odisha) + BPCL = a 5-year MoU to set up RE plant & Green Hydrogen plant
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal
- HQs of BPCL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman & MD – Arun Kumar Singh | Founded in – 1952

15. On April 12, India Electronics & Semiconductor Association (IESA) signed an MoU with the Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA), the chip industry in the US to identify potential areas of collaboration between the two countries. SIA's member companies include large American chip designers and manufacturers, such as Intel, AMD, NVIDIA, Texas Instruments, Qualcomm, Global Foundries, and Broadcom. In January Intel announced to invest up to \$100 billion to set up the world's largest chip-making facility in Ohio, US. Some Indian companies including Vedanta Group also announced entry into semiconductor manufacturing with phased investment plans of \$15 billion. In December 2021, the Indian government announced a ₹76,000 Cr incentive scheme to encourage semiconductor design and manufacturing in the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IESA + SIA (US) = an MoU to identify potential areas of collaboration
- SIA's member companies include – Intel, AMD, NVIDIA, Texas Instruments, Qualcomm, Global Foundries & Broadcom
- India – announced ₹76,000 Cr incentive scheme to encourage Semiconductor Design & Manufacturing
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris



16. On April 12, Telangana's Department of Industries & Commerce and the Ministry of Commerce, Thailand signed an MoU to explore the possibility of potential trade and investments in several key focus sectors, mainly involving agro-based food processing, wood processing and wood-based industry. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Telangana + Thailand = an MoU to explore the possibility of potential trade & investments
- Thailand – Bangkok – Thai Baht | PM – Prayut Chan-o-cha
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

17. On April 15, NHPC Ltd signed an MoU with the district administration of Chamba, Himachal Pradesh for development of Green Hydrogen Technologies to produce hydrogen. As per the MoU, NHPC shall develop a pilot green hydrogen mobility project including hydrogen production. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Himachal Pradesh + NHPC Ltd = an MoU for development of Green Hydrogen Technologies
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
- HQs of NHPC – Faridabad, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Abhay Kumar Singh

18. On April 19, India and Maldives signed seven MoUs for projects to be built under the Indian grant assistance scheme for the High Impact Community Development Project (HICDP) through local bodies. The projects are worth a total grant of 26.8 million Rufiyaa (equivalent to approximately \$1.7 million). The announcement was made during the official visit of External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar to Addu City. The MoUs were signed by Abdulla Shahid, Maldives Foreign Minister and Indian High Commissioner Munu Mahawar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Maldives = 7 MoUs worth \$1.7 million under the Indian grant assistance scheme for the HICDP
- Maldives – Male – Maldivian rufiyaa | President – Ibrahim Mohamed Solih

19. On April 13, Union Cabinet gave its ex-post facto approval for a Memorandum of Cooperation signed between the Ministry of Jal Shakti and Ministry of the Environment of Japan in the areas of Decentralized Domestic Waste Water Management. A Management Council will be formed which will be responsible for the implementation of this MoC by formulating detailed activities of collaboration and the monitoring of its progress. The decentralized Johkasou systems towards management of wastewater can have greater implications for management of grey/black water from settlements with coverage under Jal Jeevan Mission. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Japan = an MoU for Decentralized Domestic Wastewater Management
- Ministry of Jal Shakti: Gajendra Singh Sekhawat | Constituency – Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- MoS for Jal Shakti & Food Processing Industries – Prahlad Singh Patel
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Fumio Kishida

20. On April 18, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh held delegation-level talks with the visiting Finnish Minister of Economic Affairs, Mr. Mika Lintila in New Delhi. India signed an MoU with Finland to establish a Virtual Network Centre on Quantum Computing. Finland would be hosting Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) in 2023 and India in 2024. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- India + Finland = an MoU to establish a Virtual Network Centre on Quantum Computing
- Finland – Helsinki – Euro | PM – Sanna Marin

21. On April 21, Tripura government signed an MoU with NIXI-CSC Data Services Centre to establish an international standard Data Centre at Indiranagar, headquarters of IT Bhavan. National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) and CSE e-governance services Ltd, have floated a joint venture “NIXI-CSC Data Services Centre” to set up the proposed data centre. The joint venture company will invest Rs 150 Cr for setting up the data centre while the state government will provide only space. The company will charge for data exchange to other government and private players other than the state. The Data Centre will work under the control of the joint venture company. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tripura + NIXI-CSC Data Services Centre = an MoU to establish an international standard Data Centre at Indiranagar
- Tripura: Capital – Agartala | CM – Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

22. On April 20, an MoU was signed between the Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority and the Geological Survey of India (GSI) to develop a Regional Level Early Warning System for excessive rainfall resulting in landslides. GSI proposed to share relevant and timely data on landslides to the state disaster management authority, which would go a long way in saving lives and properties of people as and when such natural disasters occur during the rainy season. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sikkim + GSI = an MoU to develop a Regional Level Early Warning System for excessive rainfall resulting in landslides
- Sikkim: Capital – Gangtok | CM – Prem Singh Tamang | Governor – Ganga Prasad
- HQs of GSI – Kolkata, West Bengal | Director General – S. Raju

23. On April 20, Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) signed an agreement to collaborate in the areas of knowledge sharing and strengthening monitoring mechanisms for the localisation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The agreement was signed by the Secretary in the Ministry of Panchayati Raj Sunil Kumar and UNDP resident representative Shoko Noda on the final day of the Iconic Week Programme organised as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) celebrations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoPR + UNDP = an agreement for the localisation of the SDGs
- Ministry of & Panchayati Raj: Giriraj Singh | Constituency – Begusarai, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Panchayati Raj: Faggansingh Kulaste & Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti
- HQs of UNDP – New York, US | Administrator – Achim Steiner | Founded in – 1965

24. On April 21, Indian Navy’s Naval Institute of Educational and Training Technology (NIETT) based at Naval Base Kochi signed an MoU with the IIM Kozhikode. Director of IIM-K Professor Debashis Chatterjee and director of NIETT Commodore Ben H. Berson signed the MoU. The MoU is intended to build collaboration and exchange of best practices in the field of Instructional Leadership, Educational Psychology and Management. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- NIETT + IIM Kozhikode = an MoU to build collaboration & exchange of best practices
- Location of NIETT – Kochi, Kerala
- Director of IIM Kozhikode – Debashis Chatterjee

25. On April 20, Ministry of Defence signed two MoUs with Ministry of AYUSH to start Ayurveda Centres at 37 Cantonment Hospitals & 12 Military Hospitals of Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS). These MoUs were signed during the 3-day mega event, “Global Ayush Investment & Innovation Summit”, organised at Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar, Gujarat from April 20-22, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Defence + Ministry of AYUSH = two MoU to start Ayurveda Centres at 37 Cantonment & 12 AFMS
- “Global Ayush Investment & Innovation Summit (GAIS)” – organised at Gandhinagar, Gujarat

26. On April 20, an MoU was signed between Indian Navy and Larsen and Toubro (L&T) to engage L&T as a Knowledge Partner for nurturing technologies in various domains, for induction into the Indian Navy. Further, the MoU aims to bring together Indian Navy and L&T to collaborate on innovative and pioneering projects related to contemporary and emerging technologies of mutual interest. The MoU encompasses all the aspects related to Electrical, Weapon, Engineering, Machinery and Control, and Hull of a Naval Warship. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Navy + L&T = an MoU for nurturing technologies in various domains
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950
- HQs of L&T – Mumbai, MH | CEO & MD – S. N. Subrahmanyam

27. On April 22, Apple Inc. partnered with Pune-based Applied Environmental Research Foundation (AERF) to conserve a 2,400-hectare mangrove in Maharashtra’s Raigarh district. AERF will sign conservation agreements with the local community and help protect the ecosystem. It will also partner with Conservation International to verify climate benefits of the mangrove forest and harvest carbon benefits. Apple’s initiative is part of its \$200 million Restore Fund, which was announced in April 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Apple + AERF (Pune) = partnered to conserve a 2,400-hectare mangrove in Maharashtra’s Raigarh district
- It is part of Apple’s \$200 million Restore Fund initiative
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- HQs of Apple – California, US | CEO – Tim Cook

28. On April 20, Northern Regional Load Despatch Centre of Power System Operation Corporation Ltd (POSOCO) signed an MoU with IIT Delhi, to encourage research on issues related to India’s power sector and strengthen interaction between the academia and industry. State-owned POSOCO is responsible for secure, integrated operations of the national electricity grid. It comprises five Regional Load Despatch Centres (RLDCs) and the National Load Despatch Centre (NLDC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- POSOCO + IIT Delhi = an MoU for issues related to India’s Power Sector
- Director of IIT Delhi – V. Ramgopal Rao



29. On April 22, NITI Aayog and UNICEF India signed a Statement of Intent (SoI) on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with a focus on children. The SoI seeks to formalise a framework of cooperation to launch the first report on the 'State of India's Children: Status and Trends in Multidimensional Child Development'. This effort will contribute to the realisation of India's commitments to the 2030 Agenda and provide a set of policy recommendations to accelerate progress towards the SDGs to 'leave no child behind' and achieve their holistic development. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog + UNICEF India = SoI on SDGs with a focus on children
- NITI Aayog will launch 1st report on "State of India's Children: Status & Trends in Multidimensional Child Development"
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Suman Bery
- HQs of UNICEF – New York, US | Executive Director – Catherine Russell | Established in – 1946

30. On April 22, the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) signed an MoU with National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) with a view to giving a boost to the export value chain. The MoU was signed for the implementation of the Agri Export Policy and to strengthen the export value chain. NRDC is an enterprise of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research established in 1953. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- APEDA + NRDC = an MoU to implement 'Agri Export Policy' & to boost the 'Export Value Chain'
- HQs of APEDA – New Delhi | Chairman – M. Angamuthu | Established in – 1986 (functions under Ministry of C&I)
- HQs of NRDC – New York, US | President & CEO – Manish Bapna

31. On April 22, Kerala and the Netherlands signed a MoU for a project named 'Cosmos Malabaricus' to help further illustrate the history of Kerala in the 18th century. The state will also collaborate with the European country for the establishment of paint academies in Kollam and Malappuram. The Cosmos Malabaricus project is being implemented by the Kerala Council for Historical Research (KCHR) and it will be completed in six years. The paint academy on the IIICC Campus at Chavara, Kollam, will impart training in painting buildings while the academy at ASAP Skill Sky Park at Thavanur in Malappuram will train in painting vehicles. The aim is to offer training to 380 people in the first year. As part of 'Cosmos Malabaricus, students from Kerala will get a chance to do an MA at Leiden University. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala + Netherlands = an MoU for 'Cosmos Malabaricus' project to further illustrate the history of Kerala in 18th century
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan
- Netherlands – Amsterdam – Euro | PM – Mark Rutte

32. On April 25, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) partnered with SBI Cards & Payments Services Ltd to power the latter's next leg of digital transformation. TCS will enable SBI Card to further expand its e-card issuance, delighting end customers and giving it a competitive edge in the market. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- TCS + SBI Card = partnership to power SBI Card's next leg of digital transformation
- HQs of TCS – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Rajesh Gopinathan | Founded in – 1968

33. On April 21, amid the visit of the UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson to India, the two countries signed a number of agreements. The MoU on Cooperation on Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership was signed between India's Department of Atomic Energy and the UK's Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. Another MoU on Implementation of Global Innovation Partnership between India's Ministry of External Affairs and UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office was also signed. The two leaders (PM Modi and PM Johnson) reaffirmed their desire to strengthen India-UK civil nuclear cooperation and welcomed the UK's renewed collaboration with Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership (GCNEP) for jointly promoting research and training on nuclear energy studies, radioactive applications, nuclear security, and safety. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + UK = an MoU on Cooperation on Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership
- India + UK = an MoU on Implementation of Global Innovation Partnership
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

34. On April 25, Gujarat CM, Bhupendra Patel presided over the MoU signing between the Government of Gujarat's flagship technology incubator - iCreate (International Centre for Entrepreneurship and Technology) and the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). The MoU will foster rapid economic development and help create world-class start-ups. iCreate will help establish new start-up incubators at select CSIR labs to boost commercialisation of CSIR's innovations. A joint venture between Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited (GMDC) and Gujarat Entrepreneurship and Venture Promotion Foundation (GEVPPF), iCreate is an independent centre to promote Narendra Modi's 'Start-up India' scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- iCreate (Gujarat) + CSIR = an MoU to harness India's tech strength
- "iCreate" = GMDC + GEVPPF
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | President – Narendra Modi | DG – Shekhar C. Mande | Established in – 1942

35. On April 23, "Prasar Bharati" signed an MoU with the Public Broadcaster of Argentina "Radio y Television Argentina (RTA)" for collaboration in the field of broadcasting. India and Argentina are strategic partners that share cordial relations and developmental partnerships in the areas of political, economic, scientific and technological cooperation. In March, Prasar Bharati also signed an MoU with Australia's public service broadcaster Special Broadcasting Service (SBS) for the same purpose. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Prasar Bharati + Public Broadcaster of Argentina (RTA) = an MoU for collaboration in the field of broadcasting
- HQs of Prasar Bharati – New Delhi | CEO – Shashi Shekhar Vempati
- Argentina – Buenos Aires – Peso | President – Alberto Fernandez

36. On April 27, an MoU was signed between the National Highways Logistic Management Limited (NHLML) and Ropeways & Rapid Transport System Development Corporation (RTDC) for development of 7 ropeways project for a total length of 57.1 km, as innovative transport solution in Himachal Pradesh. It is done under Parvatmala Yojana at a total cost of Rs 3,232 Cr. Nodal agency for the 'Parvatmala Yojana' is Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH). [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- NHLML + RTDC = an MoU for development of 7 ropeways project under 'Parvatmala Yojana' in Himachal Pradesh
- Nodal agency for the 'Parvatmala Yojana' – MoRTH
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

37. On April 26, Reliance Industries Ltd signed a formal shareholder agreement with Abu Dhabi Chemicals Derivatives Company RSC Limited for the \$2 billion TA'ZIZ EDC and PVC project in the UAE. TA'ZIZ is joint venture between Abu Dhabi National Oil Co (ADNOC) and sovereign wealth fund ADQ. Chlor-alkali is used in water treatment and manufacture of textiles and metals, while ethylene dichloride is typically used to produce PVC. These chemicals will be produced in the UAE for the first time. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RIL + TA'ZIZ = a formal shareholder agreement for the \$2 billion TA'ZIZ EDC & PVC project in the UAE
- HQs of Reliance Industries Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani | Founded in – 1973
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

38. On April 27, Larsen & Toubro (L&T) signed an agreement with IIT Bombay to carry out a joint research and develop the Green Hydrogen technology. Hydrogen when produced through electrolysis process using renewable energy is known as 'Green Hydrogen' which has no carbon footprint. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- L&T + IIT Bombay = an agreement to develop Green Hydrogen technology
- HQs of L&T – Mumbai, MH | CEO & MD – S. N. Subrahmanyam
- Director of IIT Bombay – Prof. Subhasis Chaudhuri

39. On April 21, Brazilian Sugarcane Industry Association (UNICA) and the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) signed an MoU for the promotion of ethanol and its blends in the automotive sector and to create a Center of Excellence in bioenergy. The CoE will be a knowledge portal, a hub that will bring together important and up-to-date information related to biomass and bioenergy. The partnership is based on five pillars: technology, standards, public policy, communication and sustainability. Brazil is the second-largest producer of ethanol in the world, after the US, and is home to the world's largest fleet of cars that use ethanol as fuel. India also has a strong focus on biofuels and has brought forward by five years, to 2025, the goal of achieving a 20% ethanol blend in gasoline. India is the second-largest sugar producer in the world, after Brazil. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UNICA + SIAM = an MoU for the promotion of ethanol blending in automotive sector & to create a CoE on Ethanol
- Brazil – Brasilia – Brazilian real | President – Jair Bolsonaro

40. On April 28, Google signed an MoU with the Telangana Government for bringing the benefits of digital economy to the youth and women entrepreneurs. Children in Telangana would be able to use technology to learn faster and Google will carry out its 'Women Will' programme to deliver digital, business, and financial skills to nano, micro, and small women-led businesses. This MoU with Google in education will empower public schools with digital education through Google for Education's shareable devices and collaborative tools. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Google + Telangana = an MoU for bringing the benefits of digital economy to the youth & women entrepreneurs
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998

41. On April 27, NTPC signed an MoU with Energy Vault to formalise a long-term strategic partnership for deploying the Energy Vault's gravity-based energy storage technology and software solutions to support the state-run power genco's clean energy transition. The technology also offers beneficial utilisation of coal ash for manufacturing of composite blocks for Energy Vault's gravity-based energy storage system. Moreover, NTPC invited global bids for selecting companies who will assist NTPC's renewable energy (RE) arm with electrolyser technology for a period of two years with which the company intends to participate in upcoming tenders on green hydrogen. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NTPC + Energy Vault = an MoU for deploying energy storage technology and software solutions
- NTPC Renewable Energy – invited global bids for selecting companies for electrolyser technology for two years
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh | Founded in – 1975

42. The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) entered into an MoU with the National Insurance Academy (NIA) for capacity building and providing skilled talent pool in the insurance sector in International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs). To address needs of IFSC Insurance entities, IFSCA had already executed an MoU with Insurance Institute of India (III). IFSCA aims to develop a strong global connect and focus on the needs of the Indian economy as well as to serve as an international financial platform at regional/ global level. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IFSCA + NIA = an MoU for capacity building & providing skilled talent pool in the insurance sector in IFSCs
- IFSCA + Insurance Institute of India = an MoU to address needs of IFSC Insurance entities for the MoU with NIA
- HQs of IFSCA – Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman – Injeti Srinivas

43. On April 25, Flipkart signed an MoU with the West Bengal government to train and support local artisans, weavers and handicraft makers to leverage its e-commerce platform to scale up their businesses nationally. This partnership will enhance development of artisans, weavers, small businesses and MSMEs by providing access to opportunities that e-commerce enables. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Flipkart + West Bengal = an MoU to train & support local artisans, weavers & handicraft makers
- HQs of Flipkart – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal | CEO – Kalyan Krishnamurthy
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

44. On April 28, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) signed an MoU with Equinor ASA, the Norwegian state-owned multinational energy company. The MoU is valid for two years under which both companies have agreed to work together in the areas identified. As per the agreement, both ONGC and Equinor will collaborate with each other in the field of upstream oil and gas, midstream, marketing and trading, besides exploring further options in low carbon fuel, renewables, carbon capture storage (CCS) as well as carbon capture utilization and sequestration (CCUS) opportunities in India. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- ONGC + Equinor ASA (Norway) = an MoU to work in the field of upstream oil & gas, midstream, marketing, & trading
- HQs of ONGC – New Delhi | CMD – Alka Mittal (addi. charge)

45. On April 28, the Ministry of Railways signed an MoU with Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DoT) to establish a collaborative working partnership. The partnership entails coordination and resource sharing with respect to provision of telecommunication facilities in the delivery and implementation of C-DoT's Telecom Solutions and services in Railways. The MoU was signed in the presence of Rajkumar Upadhyay, Executive Director of C-DOT and Aruna Singh, Additional Member/Telecom/Railway Board. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Railways + C-DoT = an MoU to establish a collaborative working partnership
- HQs of C-DoT – New Delhi | Executive Director – Rajkumar Upadhyay
- Ministry of Railways: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Railways: Danve Raosaheb Dadarao & Darshana Vikram Jardosh

46. On April 28, IIM Kozhikode and African Asian Rural Development Organisation (AARDO) signed an MoU to promote and collaborate in research, consultancy, technical and knowledge support in promoting sustainable agriculture and rural development practices in the 33 members of AARDO. Both IIM-K and AARDO will endeavour to organise international, regional and on-the-spot or in-country training programmes, workshops, seminars to strengthen the institutional capacity of the member countries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIM Kozhikode + AARDO = an MoU to promote Sustainable Agriculture & Rural Development in 33 countries
- HQs of AARDO – New Delhi | Secretary General – Manoj Nardeosingh | Members – 33 countries

47. On April 28, Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) signed an MoU with France-based GE Power Conversion for the development of Integrated Electric Propulsion Systems for the Indian Navy. The signing of an MoU provided a boost to the indigenous capability in the field of advanced technology for Integrated Full Electric Propulsion System. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BHEL + GE Power Conversion = an MoU for the development of Integrated Electric Propulsion Systems for Indian Navy
- HQs of BHEL – New Delhi | Chairman & MD – Nalin Shinghal

48. On April 26, a proposal was discussed between India and Maldives to set up a transmission interconnection for transfer of renewable power between the two countries. Two MoUs on energy cooperation and on transmission interconnection under 'One Sun, One World, One Grid (OSOWOG)' were proposed during the meeting. The proposal was discussed during the meeting between Power and New and Renewable Energy Minister R. K. Singh and Maldives' Environment, Climate Change and Technology Minister Aminath Shauna. The meeting was held in Delhi. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- India + Maldives = to set up a 'Transmission Interconnection for transfer of Renewable Power' under OSOWOG
- Maldives – Male – Maldivian rufiyaa | President – Ibrahim Mohamed Solih

49. On April 27, the Union Cabinet chaired by the PM Narendra Modi, approved the signing of the MoU between India and Chile for cooperation in Disability Sector. It will strengthen bilateral ties between India and Chile. The year 2022-23 marks 73rd year of diplomatic relations between the two countries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Chile = an MoU for cooperation in Disability Sector
- Chile – Santiago – Peso | President – Gabriel Boric



Books & Authors

1. “Queen of Fire” by award-winning children’s writer and historian Devika Rangachari is a gripping novel in which she sheds light on the brave queen and fearsome warrior Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi. Published by Penguin Random House India in April 2021, Rangachari's book is meant for readers aged 13-17. It focuses on Lakshmibai’s journey as a queen, soldier, and statesman. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Queen of Fire” novel – authored by Devika Rangachari
- Published by – Penguin Random House India | About – Rani Lakshmibai

2. On April 27, Maharashtra BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis released a Marathi book on Union Home Minister Amit Shah. The book, titled “Amit Shah Ani Bhajapachi Vatchal”, documents the life and journey of Shah and his contribution in building the BJP and making it the world's biggest political organisation. The book, originally written by Dr Anirban Ganguly and Shivanand Dwivedi, has been translated into Marathi by Dr Jyostna Kolhatkar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Devendra Fadnavis – released a book “Amit Shah Ani Bhajapachi Vatchal” on life & journey of Home Minister Amit Shah
- The book originally written by – Dr Anirban Ganguly and Shivanand Dwivedi
- The book translated into Marathi by – Dr Jyostna Kolhatkar

3. A new book authored by Dr. Sreeram Chaulia, the Dean of the Jindal School of International Affairs of OP Jindal Global University, titled “Crunch Time: Narendra Modi’s National Security Crises” (Rupa Publications), was released at the India International Centre in New Delhi by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Meenakshi Lekhi. The central claim of the book is that India ceased being a ‘soft state’ since Modi came to the helm. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Crunch Time: Narendra Modi’s National Security Crises” book – authored by Dr. Sreeram Chaulia
- Book released by – Meenakshi Lekhi (MoS in Ministry of External Affairs)
- Published by – Rupa Publications

4. HarperCollins India proudly announced the release the “Tiger of Drass: Capt. Anuj Nayyar, 23, Kargil Hero” which is based on the life of Captain Anuj Nayyar and jointly authored by Meena Nayyar and Himmat Singh Shekhawat. The book captures Anuj’s journey of barely twenty-three years, during which he transformed from a reserved but righteous child to a gem of a military professional. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Tiger of Drass: Capt. Anuj Nayyar, 23, Kargil Hero” book – co-authored by Meena Nayyar & Himmat Singh Shekhawat
- Publisher – HarperCollins India

5. On April 6, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan released a book on the life of tribal freedom fighter Birsa Munda. The book titled “Birsa Munda - Janjatiya Nayak” is written by Prof Alok Chakrawal, Vice-Chancellor of Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- “Birsa Munda - Janjatiya Nayak” book – written by Prof Alok Chakrawal
- Released by – Dharmendra Pradhan

6. HarperCollins India released a book titled “The Maverick Effect: The Inside Story of India’s IT Revolution” written by NASSCOM’s founding member and its first elected chairman, Harish Mehta. The Maverick Effect is a definitive and authoritative biography of NASSCOM.

Key Points:

- “The Maverick Effect: The Inside Story of India’s IT Revolution” book – written by Harish Mehta
- ‘The Maverick Effect’ is a definitive & authoritative biography of NASSCOM | Publisher – HarperCollins India

7. Vinod Rai’s book “Not Just a Nightwatchman - My innings in the BCCI” has been published by Rupa Publications. The book discuss various cricket related events. It delves into intrigue in the women’s team, too. It also details the fallout of allegations of sexual harassment levelled against the then BCCI CEO Rahul Johri. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Not Just a Nightwatchman - My innings in the BCCI” book – authored by Vinod Rai
- Publisher – Rupa Publications

8. On April 13, K. Raju authored a new book titled “The Dalit Truth: The Battles for Realizing Ambedkar’s Vision”. The book offers a new critical framework to understand the involvement of Dalits within the Indian political, constitutional and social landscape, with a broader vision of social justice. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Dalit Truth: The Battles for Realizing Ambedkar’s Vision” book – authored by K. Raju

9. Rajesh Talwar authored a new book “The Boy Who Wrote a Constitution”. It is his sixth book for children. Rajesh Talwar has written 23 books, which include novels, children’s books, plays, self-help books and non-fiction books covering issues in social justice, culture and law. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Boy Who Wrote a Constitution” book – authored by Rajesh Talwar

10. On April 12, the book titled “December in Dacca: The Indian Armed Forces and the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War” by K. S. Nair was published by HarperCollins India. In ‘December in Dacca’, K. S. Nair writes about 15 December 1971, when the end of the war was in sight, but by no means certain. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “December in Dacca: The Indian Armed Forces and the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War” – authored by K. S. Nair

11. On April 18, Prem Rawat’s book titled “Hear Yourself: How to find peace in a noisy world” for the Indian sub-continent”, was launched for the Indian sub-continent. The book was earlier released in the United States in September, 2021. The book is also available in several other languages including French, Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese. The book is published by Harper Collins. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Hear Yourself: How to find peace in a noisy world” book – authored by Prem Rawat
- Publisher – Harper Collins



12. On April 22, Odisha's Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik released a coffee table book titled "The Magic of Mangalajodi", written by Avinash Khemka, a wildlife photographer and conservationist. Patnaik also released a book, "Sikh History of Eastern India" which is a rigorous research work of historian Abinash Mohapatra. Mohapatra, a scholar of Sikh history based in Odisha, has authored 38 books on Sikh history, theology and principles. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Odisha's CM Naveen Patnaik released two books:
 - "The Magic of Mangalajodi" – by Avinash Khemka
 - "Sikh History of Eastern India" – by Abinash Mohapatra
- [Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal](#)

13. On April 24, Laura T. Murphy authored the book titled "The Story of a 21st Century Slave Revolt". This book is the story of a small group of enslaved villagers in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, who founded their own town of Azad Nagar - Freedomville. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "The Story of a 21st Century Slave Revolt" book – authored by Laura T. Murphy

14. A new book "Chinese Spies: From Chairman Mao to Xi Jinping" traces the history of the modern Chinese secret service. Published by HarperCollins India, the book was released on 29 April on Softcover. Written by Roger Faligot, the book gives a credible and accessible account of Chinese intelligence agencies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Chinese Spies: From Chairman Mao to Xi Jinping" book – authored by Roger Faligot
- Publisher – HarperCollins India

15. A book titled "Decoding Indian Babudom" was written by journalist Ashwini Shrivastava. The 168-page book touches on various aspects of Indian bureaucracy with major focus on what is ailing one of the largest civil administration systems in the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Decoding Indian Babudom" book – authored by Ashwini Shrivastava

16. A book titled "Leaders, Politicians and Citizens Fifty figures who influenced India's politics" is authored by Rasheed Kidwai and published by Hachette Pages. The book compiles stories of 50 personalities who influenced India's political landscape. The foreword of the book is written by Shashi Tharoor. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Leaders, Politicians and Citizens Fifty figures who influenced India's politics" book – authored by Rasheed Kidwai
- Publisher – Hachette Pages

17. On April 29, Governor of Andhra Pradesh Biswabhusan Harichandan released the book titled "Paramardham" written in Telugu by Sri KRBHN Chakravarthi, Secretary, State Election Commission at a programme held in Raj Bhavan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Biswabhusan Harichandan released a Telugu book titled "Paramardham" – authored by KRBHN Chakravarthi
- [Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan](#)



Obituaries

1. On April 2, A Pulitzer Prize-winning American poet Richard Howard died at age 92. Howard was a professor emeritus at Columbia University. He won the poetry Pulitzer in 1970 for "Untitled Subjects" and was a National Book Award finalist in 2008 for "Without Saying". His translation of Charles Baudelaire's "Les Fleurs du Mal" won the National Book Award (then called the American Book Award) in 1983. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Richard Howard (US) – a Poet – passed away (Pulitzer Prize in 1970 for 'Untitled Subjects')

2. PM Narendra Modi condoled the demise of Bilquis Edhi, a Pakistani humanitarian activist. Bilquis Bano Edhi passed away in Karachi at the age of 74 on April 15, 2022. She was a Pakistani nurse who helped save the lives of over 16,000 babies. Her lifelong dedication to humanitarian work touched the lives of people across the globe. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bilquis Bano Edhi (Pakistan) – a Humanitarian Activist & Nurse – passed away

3. On April 17, Popular Odia singer and Music Director Prafulla Kar passed away. He was 83. His songs enriched more than 70 Odia films over six decades. He received the State film award for a record six times. In 2015, he was conferred with Padma Shri award in the field of art. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Prafulla Kar – Odia singer & Music Director – passed away
- He received: State film award (6 times) & Padma Shri award (2015)

4. In April 2022, Indian table tennis player Vishwa Deenadayalan of Tamil Nadu, died in a road accident. He was 18. He was on his way to participate in the 83rd Senior National Table Tennis Championship in Shillong, Meghalaya. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vishwa Deenadayalan (Tamil Nadu) – a Table Tennis Player – passed away
- 83rd Senior National Table Tennis Championship – held in Shillong, Meghalaya

5. On April 23, Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta announced the death of former President Mwai Kibaki died at the age of 90. Kibaki served two terms as president of the East African country, ruling from 2002 to 2013. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mwai Kibaki – Former President of Kenya – passed away (ruled from 2002 to 2013)
- Kenya – Nairobi – Kenyan Shilling | President – Uhuru Kenyatta

6. On April 24, Eminent Odia litterateur Binapani Mohanty passed away. She was 89. She was awarded with several prestigious literary awards including Atibadi Jagannath Das award, Sahitya Akademi Award and Sarala Samman. Her literary career began with the publication of 'Gotie Ratira Kahani' in 1960. Her short story 'Pata Dei' won her the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1990. She was conferred Padma Shri in 2020. She was the founder of the Odisha Lekhika Sansad, an organisation for women writers. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Binapani Mohanty – Odia litterateur – passed away
- Awards: Atibadi Jagannath Das award | Sahitya Akademi Award | Sarala Samman | Padma Shri (2020)

7. Veteran statesman and former Chief Minister of Meghalaya James Dringwell Rymbai died at the age of 88. In 1982, Rymbai had entered into electoral politics and was voted as a member of the Meghalaya assembly from the Jirang constituency on an Indian National Congress ticket. The veteran politician became the CM on June 15, 2006 and served till March 2007. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- James Dringwell Rymbai – former Chief Minister of Meghalaya – passed away
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

8. Eminent structural biologist Mamannamana Vijayan, DAE Homi Bhabha Professor at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), passed away in Bengaluru. Prof. Vijayan, who was instrumental in the development of ‘macromolecular crystallography’ in India, was 80. Prof. Vijayan was presented the first ‘Kairali Global Lifetime Achievement Prize’ instituted by the state government in 2019. He also received ‘Padma Shri’ in 2004 for Science & Engineering and ‘Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize’ for Science & Technology in 1985. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- M. Vijayan – a structural Biologist – passed away
- He played a major role in the development of ‘macromolecular crystallography’ in India
- Awards: Kairali Global Lifetime Achievement Prize (2019), Padma Shri (2004), Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize (1985)

9. On April 27, Former Indian women’s hockey team captain Elvera Britto passed away due to old age related problems. She was 81. Elvera, the eldest of the three famous Britto sisters (others are Rita and Mae), ruled the domestic circuit from 1960 to 1967, guiding Karnataka to seven national titles. In 1965, Elvera became only the second woman hockey player to be conferred with the ‘Arjuna Award’ after Anne Lumsden (1961). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Elvera Britto – Former Indian Women’s Hockey Team Captain – passed away (‘Arjuna Award’ in 1965)



Persons in News

1. On April 9, American Actor Will Smith was banned by the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts & Sciences from attending the Oscars for 10 years. This was done as a disciplinary measure after the actor Will Smith slapped Chris Rock at the 94th Academy Awards 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Will Smith – banned by the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts & Sciences from attending the Oscars for 10 years
- Reason for ban: Will Smith slapped Chris Rock at the 94th Academy Awards 2022

2. In April 2022, Bloomberg Billionaires Index reported that Gautam Adani's net worth had reached \$100 billion, an accomplishment that made the industrialist the only Indian member of an exclusive global group called the "Centibillionaire's Club". The club refers to people whose net wealth is \$100 billion or above. Amazon's founder Jeff Bezos, who increased his wealth to \$112 billion in 2017, is the world's first centibillionaire. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gautam Adani – became the only Indian member of an exclusive global group called the "Centibillionaire's Club"
- Jeff Bezos is the world's first centibillionaire (in 2017)



Science & Technology

1. On April 1, Indian space-tech startup Pixxel successfully launched its first fully-fledged commercial satellite called “Shakuntala” with SpaceX’s Falcon-9 rocket. Shakuntala (TD-2) is one of the highest resolution hyperspectral commercial cameras ever flown to space, bringing it one step closer to building a 24x7 health monitor for the planet. The satellite was launched aboard SpaceX’s Transporter-4 mission from Cape Canaveral in the US. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pixxel – successfully launched its first fully-fledged commercial satellite “Shakuntala” with SpaceX’s Falcon-9 rocket
- HQs of Pixxel – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Founder & CEO – Awais Ahmed

2. On April 6, Amazon signed agreements with three companies - Arianespace, Blue Origin, and United Launch Alliance (ULA), to deploy satellites for its ‘Project Kuiper’ that aim to provide high-speed, low-latency broadband to a wide range of customers across the globe. Amazon has secured a total of up to 83 launches over a 5-year period. Amazon’s Project Kuiper was approved by the U.S. Federal Communications Commission in July 2020, with a constellation of 3,236 satellites in the low Earth orbit (LEO). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amazon signed agreements with Arianespace, Blue Origin & ULA – to deploy satellites for its ‘Project Kuiper’
- HQs of Amazon India – Hyderabad, Telangana | Country Head – Amit Agarwal

3. On April 6, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) signed an MoU with Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) to convert civil (passenger) aircraft to multi-mission tanker transport (MMTT) aircraft in India. HAL will convert pre-owned civil aircraft into air-refuelling aircraft with cargo and transport capabilities under this pact. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HAL + IAI = an MoU to convert civil (passenger) aircraft to multi-mission tanker transport (MMTT) aircraft in India
- HQs of HAL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Amitabh Bhatt | Chairma & MD – R. Madhavan
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Isaac Herzog | PM – Naftali Bennett

4. On April 2, Researchers from Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), in collaboration with those from France, have discovered a faint star-forming galaxy around 136 light years away, using the Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope (UVIT) on-board India’s only space observatory Astrosat. The galaxy is named “UVIT J2022”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIA (India) + France = discovered a faint star-forming galaxy named “UVIT J2022” using ‘Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope’
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Jean Castex

5. On April 8, SpaceX launched “Axion-1(Ax-1)” to the International Space Station (ISS) through its Falcon 9 rocket. It’s the first-ever fully private crewed mission to launch to the orbiting lab. This is also the first commercial mission to the ISS. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- SpaceX – launched “Axion-1(Ax-1)” to the International Space Station (ISS) through its Falcon 9 rocket
- HQs of SpaceX – California, U.S. | Founder & CEO – Elon Musk | Founded in – 2002

6. Researchers at the IIT Madras launched India’s first polycentric prosthetic knee named “Kadam”. It is the indigenously developed prosthetic knee aims to improve the quality of life of above-knee amputees. The product was developed by a team at TTK Center for Rehabilitation Research and Device Development (R2D2) at IIT-M, in association with the Society for Biomedical Technology (SBMT) and Mobility India. Kadam will help above-knee amputees to walk with a comfortable gait, provides stability reduces risk of stumbling. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Madras – launched India’s first polycentric prosthetic knee named “Kadam”
- Jointly developed by = IIT-M + SBMT + Mobility India
- Director of IIT Madras – V. Kamakoti

7. On April 8, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully flight tested Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) booster at the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Odisha on April 08, 2022. The SFDR-based propulsion enables the missile to intercept aerial threats at very long range at supersonic speeds. The range of SFDR is 350 Km whereas its maximum speed is Mach 4.5. The SFDR has been developed by Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL), Hyderabad in collaboration with other DRDO laboratories. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DRDO – successfully flight tested Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) booster at the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur
- Range – 350 Km | Maximum speed – Mach 4.5 | Developed by – DRDL-DRDO
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in – 1958

8. On April 7, China successfully launched “Gaofen-3 03” - a new Earth observation satellite which will become part of its land-sea radar satellite constellation and capture fine-resolution images to help Beijing safeguard its maritime rights and interests. The satellite was launched from Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre by a Long March-4C rocket. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – successfully launched “Gaofen-3 03” - a new Earth observation satellite
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

9. On April 11, the rare butterfly ‘Palmking’ was spotted for the first time in Tamil Nadu by the members of the Rhopalocera and Odonata Association of Rajapalayam (ROAR). The unique woody species was earlier seen only in Kerala. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘Palmking’, a rare butterfly – spotted for the first time in Tamil Nadu
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi



10. On April 13, the Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) “Helina”, the helicopter-launched version of the ‘Nag’ missile, was again tested, this time in the northern high altitude mountain regions in the desert regions of Pokhran. This third generation ‘fire-and-forget’ class missile is developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). The test was jointly conducted by the DRDO, Indian Army & Indian Air Force. The missile has a maximum range of 7Kms. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Helina” an Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) – flight-tested by DRDO, Army & IAF in Pokhran, Rajasthan
- The missile is developed by – DRDO | maximum range – 7 km
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in – 1958

11. On April 8, SpaceX made history by launching the “Axiom Mission 1 (Ax-1)”, the first all private astronaut mission to the International Space Station. A ‘SpaceX Falcon 9’ rocket propelled the Dragon Endeavour spacecraft carrying 4 members of ‘Ax-1’ into orbit. Axiom Space astronauts lifted off from NASA’s Kennedy Space Center in Florida. Axiom Space astronauts are expected to spend about 10 days in orbit before a return to Earth. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SpaceX – launched the “Axiom Mission 1 (Ax-1)”, the first all private astronaut mission to the ISS from NASA’s Kennedy Space Center in Florida, US
- HQs of SpaceX – California, U.S. | Founder & CEO – Elon Musk | Founded in – 2002

12. In April 2022, in a latest discovery it is found that it is possible to use light as a fuel to move microbots in real-body conditions with intelligent drug delivery that is selectively sensitive to cancer cells. These microbots are referred to as ‘microswimmers’. These microbots are made from the two-dimensional compound poly (heptazine imide) carbon nitride (aka PHI carbon nitride). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- It is possible to use light as a fuel to move microbots in real-body conditions with intelligent drug delivery
- These microbots are referred to as – ‘Microswimmers’

13. On April 15, Israel successfully tested its new laser missile defense system called “Iron Beam”. It is designed to complement a series of aerial defense systems, including the more costly rocket-intercepting Iron Dome. This is the world’s first energy-based weapons system that uses a laser to shoot down incoming UAVs, rockets & mortars at a cost of \$3.50 per shot. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Israel – successfully tested new laser missile defense system called “Iron Beam”
- It is world’s first energy-based weapons system that uses a laser to shoot down incoming UAVs, rockets & mortars
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Isaac Herzog | PM – Naftali Bennett

14. On April 14, the Indian Air Force (IAF) and IIT Madras signed an MoU for technology development and finding indigenous solutions towards the sustenance of various weapon systems, as part of IAF's indigenisation efforts for achieving ‘Atmanirbhar Bharat’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IAF + IIT Madras = an MoU for Technology Development & finding Indigenous Solutions
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari | Vice Chief – Air Marshal Sandeep Singh
- Director of IIT Madras – V. Kamakoti

15. On April 12, the IIT Guwahati partnered with NTPC Limited to design and develop a highly energy-efficient plant for capturing CO₂ from power plants. This technology works on flue gas using a newly activated amine solvent (IITGS). This indigenous technology was developed by a research team led by Professor Bishnupada Mandal, Department of Chemical Engineering, IIT Guwahati. It has the potential to save a lot of foreign exchange for the nation. The outcome of this project will benefit oil, natural gas, biogas industries, and petroleum refineries. The next phase of the study will involve the testing of pilot-plant using industrial flue gas. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Guwahati + NTPC = partnered to design & develop a highly energy-efficient plant for capturing CO₂ from power plants
- The technology developed by – a research team led by Professor Bishnupada Mandal (IIT Guwahati)
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh | Founded in – 1975
- Director of IIT Guwahati – Dr. T. G. Sitharam

16. On April 15, National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Hubble Space Telescope has confirmed that the huge 'Bernardinelli-Bernstein' comet is indeed the largest icy comet nucleus ever seen by astronomers. Officially called the "C/2014 UN271", this comet has an estimated diameter of almost 129 kilometres. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NASA's Hubble Space Telescope – confirmed the huge 'Bernardinelli-Bernstein' comet as the largest icy comet nucleus
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., US | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded on – July 29, 1958

17. On April 18, a classified satellite for the U.S. National Reconnaissance Office named "NROL-85" was launched into space from California. The satellite lifted off from Vandenberg Space Force Base aboard a two-stage 'SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket'. It was the first mission by the NRO to reuse a SpaceX rocket booster. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A classified satellite for the U.S. National Reconnaissance Office named "NROL-85" was launched into space
- The satellite was launched aboard 'SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket' from California, US

18. On April 18, China successfully launched a new satellite named "Zhongxing-6D" into space from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in southwest China's Sichuan Province by a Long March-3B carrier rocket. This launch marked the 415th mission for the Long March series carrier rockets. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – successfully launched a new satellite named "Zhongxing-6D" aboard 'Long March-3B' carrier rocket
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

19. On April 17, Scientists from the ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources (NBFGR) discovered a new species of shrimp named "Actinimenes Koyas". The species was collected at a depth of 1.0–2.0 m from the coral atoll of Agatti Island, which is part of the Lakshadweep islands, Arabian Sea. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICAR-NBFGR – discovered a new species of shrimp named "Actinimenes Koyas" – in Agatti Island, Lakshadweep islands
- ICAR-NBFGR – located in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

20. A group of Indian scientists discovered a new species of eel (fish) from among specimens collected from the Kalamukku and Digha Mohana fishing harbours in Kerala and West Bengal respectively. Their study was published in the Journal of Fish Biology. The newly discovered eel belongs to the Congrid eels group and has been named 'Ariosoma indicum'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian scientists discovered a new species of eel (fish) named 'Ariosoma indicum' from Kerala & West Bengal
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

21. On April 16, three Chinese astronauts returned to Earth safely, after spending 6 months aboard China's new space station. The 'Shenzhou-13' crew safely returned to Earth after their epic 6-month orbital trip. Last year in 2021, three Chinese astronauts had completed their 3-month Shenzhou-12 mission and returned to Earth safely. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 'Shenzhou-13' crew comprising 3 Chinese astronauts safely returned to Earth after spending 6 months in Space
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

22. On April 21, Russia tested its new Inter Continental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) "RS-28 Sarmat" (NATO name Satan-II). It was launched from Plesetsk in North West Russia with the intended target in the Kamchatka peninsula almost 6,000 km away. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Russia – tested its new Inter Continental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) "RS-28 Sarmat" (NATO name Satan-II)
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

23. Archaeological enthusiasts from Tiruppur recently discovered three hero stones likely from the 11th or 12th century CE, during the rule of Kongu Cholas, at Annur in Coimbatore district of Tamil Nadu. The team from Virarajendran Archaeological and Historical Research Centre, led by the organisation's director S. Ravikumar, found the stones near the Manneeswarar Temple in Annur in September 2021. The team managed to restore the three hero stones and place them on the premises of Dharmaraja temple in Annur on March 16, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Archaeologists from Tiruppur discovered 3 hero stones at Annur in Coimbatore district of Tamil Nadu
- These stones are likely from the 11th or 12th century CE, during the rule of Kongu Cholas
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

24. Researchers from the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have developed a way to make bricks from Martian soil with the help of bacteria and urea. These 'space bricks' can be used to construct building-like structures on Mars that could facilitate human settlement on the red planet. Their research was published in the peer-reviewed open access scientific journal, PLOSOne. The slurry-casting method, used to develop bricks, was developed with the help of Koushik Viswanathan, assistant professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, IISc. The team has also developed a lab-on-a-chip device that aims to measure bacterial activity in micro-gravity conditions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ISRO + IISc = developed bricks from Martian soil with the help of Bacteria & Urea
- The method was developed by Koushik Viswanathan, assistant professor in Department of Mechanical Engineering, IISc
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969
- Director of IISc, Bangalore – Govindan Rangarajan | Established in – 1909

25. On April 2, NASA's Perseverance Mars Rover captured a solar eclipse from the surface of Mars. The martian solar eclipse took place after Mars's one of the moons, Phobos, came in between the Sun and the planet. Phobos is 157 times smaller than Earth's moon. The footage was captured by NASA's Perseverance Mars rover using its Mastcam-Z camera. It will help scientists in better understanding of the Martian moon's orbit and how its gravity affects the interior of Mars, including its crust and mantle. The eclipse lasted for about 40 seconds. The Perseverance Rover landed on Mars in February 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Perseverance Rover (NASA) – captured a solar eclipse from the surface of Mars using its Mastcam-Z camera
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., US | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded on – July 29, 1958

26. On April 28, the ISRO finalised the launch of the first uncrewed mission or G1, planned for 2023, which will propel the orbital module into a 170×408-km orbit. The G1 mission will be followed by G2, the second uncrewed mission, both of which are precursors to the eventual human/crewed mission or H1 as named by the ISRO. Just as H1, the G1 too will be launched by a human-rated GSLV-Mk3 or the HRLV (Human-Rated Launch Vehicle). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ISRO finalised the launch of the first Uncrewed Mission or G1 in 2023 (to be launched by GSLV-Mk3 or HRLV)
- G1 mission is precursor to the eventual human/crewed mission or H1

27. On April 28, an anti-ship version of the BrahMos Supersonic Cruise Missile was successfully test-fired jointly by the Indian Navy and the Andaman and Nicobar Command. The Andaman and Nicobar Command is the only tri-services command of the Indian armed forces. BrahMos Aerospace, an India-Russian joint venture, produces supersonic cruise missiles that can be launched from submarines, ships, aircraft, or land platforms. BrahMos missile flies at a speed of 2.8 Mach or almost three times the speed of sound. The range of the advanced version of the missile is learnt to have been extended to around 350 km from the original 290 km. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Navy + Andaman & Nicobar Command = jointly test-fired anti-ship version of BrahMos Supersonic Cruise Missile
- Andaman & Nicobar Command – the only tri-services command of the Indian Armed Forces
- BrahMos missiles – developed by BrahMos Aerospace - a JV between DRDO (India) & Mashinostroyeniya (Russia)
- Extended range of the BrahMos missiles – 350 km | Speed – 2.8 Mach
- HQs of BrahMos Aerospace Pvt Ltd – New Delhi | DG – Atul Dinkar Rane



28. In April 2022, the NASA released an 'Equity Action Plan' to make space more accessible. NASA's equity action plan is a response to the U.S. government's 2021 executive order aimed at advancing racial equity and support for underserved communities. Under this plan, NASA plans to identify and eliminate systemic barriers and ensure representation. The space equity action plan lists four focus areas for underserved communities. By the fiscal year 2029, NASA aims to increase the number of outreach events for underserved communities by 50%. NASA will make its 50 most-requested environmental data sets of last year available on the internet, and the full transfer of NASA Earth science data to the cloud will be complete by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NASA – released an 'Equity Action Plan' to make space more accessible
- NASA – to increase the number of outreach events for underserved communities by 50% by the fiscal year 2029
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., US | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded on – July 29, 1958



Ordinance, Bills & Acts

1. In April 2022, the Union Cabinet approved the draft legislation “Indian Antarctica Bill” to provide a regulatory framework for India’s research activities in Antarctica and protect the environment in the icy continent. The Indian Antarctica Bill is piloted by the Ministry of Earth Sciences. Antarctic Treaty was signed in 1959. The Indian Antarctic programme, which began in 1981, has completed 40 scientific expeditions and built three permanent research base stations in Antarctica - Dakshin Gangotri (1983), Maitri (1988) and Bharati (2012). Currently, Maitri and Bharati are fully operational. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved “Indian Antarctica Bill” to provide a regulatory framework for India’s research activities in Antarctica
- ‘Indian Antarctica Bill’ is piloted by – Ministry of Earth Sciences | Indian Antarctic programme began in – 1981
- India’s 3 permanent research base stations in Antarctica: Dakshin Gangotri (1983), Maitri (1988) & Bharati (2012)
- ‘Antarctic Treaty’ was signed in 1959

2. On April 4, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) entered into a strategic partnership with ‘Payments Canada’ to transform its payment system operations and help implement the Real-Time Rail (RTR), the new real-time payments system that will allow Canadians to initiate payments and receive irrevocable funds in seconds, 24/7/365. TCS will leverage its deep knowledge of the Canadian payments industry and extensive experience in designing and implementing large payment systems for its Canadian financial services clients to help Payments Canada create and execute an integration roadmap for the RTR. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- TCS + Payments Canada = partnership to transform Canada’s payment system operations & help implement the RTR
- HQs of TCS – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Rajesh Gopinathan | Founded in – 1968
- Canada – Ottawa – Canadian Dollar | PM – Justin Trudeau

3. On April 17, the central government has amended rules of the “Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 2019”, paving the way for up to 20% foreign direct investment in the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC). The government is planning to dilute its stake in LIC through the Initial Public Offering (IPO). Foreign investment in LIC shall be subject to the provisions of the “Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956, (LIC Act)”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central Govt amended rules of the “Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 2019”
- 20% FDI is allowed in LIC
- HQs of LIC – Mumbai | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Founded in – 1956 | Tagline – “Yogakshemam Vahamyaham”

4. On April 18, President Ram Nath Kovind gave his assent to the “Criminal Procedure (Identification) Bill, 2022” which empowers police to obtain physical and biological samples of convicts and those accused of crimes. The new Act replaces the “Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920” and was passed by Lok Sabha on April 4 and Rajya Sabha on April 6. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- President Ram Nath Kovind gave his assent to the “Criminal Procedure (Identification) Bill, 2022”
- “Criminal Procedure (Identification) Bill, 2022” replaces the “Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920”

5. In April 2022, Parliament passed a bill for the inclusion of the Darlong community as a sub-tribe of Kuki in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Tripura. Rajya Sabha passed the “Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2022”. While Lok Sabha had cleared the bill on March 28. Kuki is one of the main tribal communities in Northeast India and the Darlong community in Tripura will become its 18th sub-tribe. There are 427 tribal communities in the country, of which 130 major categories are from the Northeast. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Parliament passed a bill to include Darlong community as a sub-tribe of Kuki in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Tripura
- ‘Darlong’ community in Tripura will become 18th sub-tribe of Kuki
- [Tripura: Capital – Agartala | CM – Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya](#)

6. On April 19, the legislation amending the laws governing Chartered Accountants, Cost Accountants and Company Secretaries has received the assent of President Ram Nath Kovind. The bill, which provides for substantial changes and ensures more transparency with respect to the functioning of the apex institutes of the three professions, was cleared by Parliament on April 5. It has amended the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949, the Cost and Works Accountants Act, 1959, and the Company Secretaries Act, 1980. The three institutes - Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), Institute of Cost Accountants of India (formerly known as ICWAI) and Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) - will continue to have the authority for qualifying and licensing people and regulation of their conduct. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- President Ram Nath Kovind gave his assent to a bill amending:
 - Chartered Accountants Act, 1949
 - Cost & Works Accountants Act, 1959
 - Company Secretaries Act, 1980
- ICAI + ICWAI + ICSI = will continue to have the authority for qualifying and licensing people

7. On April 30, European Parliament and European Union (EU) Member States had reached a political agreement on the Digital Services Act (DSA), a landmark legislation to force big Internet companies to act against disinformation and illegal and harmful content, and to provide better protection for Internet users and their fundamental rights. The Act, which is yet to become law, was proposed by the EU Commission (anti-trust) in December 2020. The proposed Act will work in conjunction with the EU’s Digital Markets Act (DMA), which was approved in March 2022. The DSA will tightly regulate the way intermediaries, especially large platforms such as Google, Facebook, and YouTube, function when it comes to moderating user content. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- European Parliament + European Union (EU) = reached a political agreement on the “Digital Services Act (DSA)”
- DSA – provide better protection for Internet users and their fundamental rights
- DSA – will tightly regulate the way intermediaries, especially large platforms such as Google, Facebook & YouTube
- [HQs of EU – Brussels, Belgium | Member Countries – 27](#)
- [President of European Parliament – Roberta Metsola](#)
- [President of European Council – Charles Michel](#)
- [President of European Commission – Ursula von der Leyen](#)

Arts & Cultural Affairs

1. On April 21, OneWeb, a company backed by the Bharti group, and New Space India Limited (NSIL), the commercial arm of the Indian Space Research Organisation, have inked an agreement for satellite launches. New Space's first launch is anticipated in 2022 from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) in Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh. The launches will add to OneWeb's total in-orbit constellation of 428 satellites to build a global network that will deliver high-speed, low-latency connectivity. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- OneWeb (Bharti group) + NSIL (ISRO) = an agreement for satellite launching
- HQs of OneWeb – London, UK | CEO – Adrian Steckel | Executive Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal
- HQs of NewSpace India – Bangalore, Karnataka | CMD – G. Narayanan | ED – Radhakrishnan Durairaj





Smartkeeda

The Question Bank

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